

1910, 1925, & TODAY



THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY FOR THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE IN THE ORIENT OF CALIFORNIA

THE RITE WORD

SEPTEMBER 2017

Volume 11, Issue 9



From the Venerable Master

My Brothers.

I'd like to take a concept from one of the 29 Scottish Rite Degrees and make note of its philosophical importance in our lives. This month I will focus on the closing of the 29th Degree.

The Venerable Master says, "Wrong and error rule over the world and it is only here and there that truth and right are conquerors. But morning ever comes at last after night, and no true Mason despairs of final victory,"

As I think through my life and of those I knew best, I find truth in this. How many times have we been fooled, swindled, manipulated or influenced by the ego, not the intelligence, of another or ourselves. And did we lead ourselves down the wrong path because of any of this misleading. In the end each of us would find that we misled ourselves out of falsehood and can blame no one other than ourselves. Focus on the final victory through truth and right is the only way out of the spiral created by wrong and error.

This statement by the Venerable Master of the 29th Degree is a charge to examine everything in the Light to see that it possesses the qualities of truth or right. We must be prepared for the final victory through this process. The final victory is a personal one on the road we travel from birth to death.

MARTIN MAXEY

VENERABLE MASTER



PLEASE NOTE — NEW HOURS OF OPERATION at Scottish Rite!

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday — 9am to 5pm

Monday and Wednesday — CLOSED

A SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE PUBLICATION
HOME OF THE ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
OF THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE



From the Clinic



Kian is a shy and playful 3 year old boy who has been attending speech therapy services at the San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders clinic since December 2016. He was referred to this clinic by his pediatrician due to speech and language delays associated with his diagnosis of Fragile X syndrome.

Kian's mother reported that with the exception of saying "I want _____," he was mostly speaking in single words and using very few multi-word phrases. Kian is now beginning to use more multi word phrases. He enjoys targeting his language skills including imitation and utterance expansion while playing basketball, soccer, finding objects in the bean box, and building towers. Kian's therapy was focused on improving his ability to identify body parts, colors, and to follow one-step directions. He is now ready to target producing longer utterances and questions and to address some articulation concerns. Kian is becoming more independent with following routines and with initiating requests for preferred activities. He has also become more independent and friendly with the other children and family members at the clinic and is initiating greeting or interacting with them.

Kian's parents say that they are very grateful that the clinic exists and that they were able to have these services available to him so that there was not a gap in speech therapy services after he was no longer eligible for services through Early Start after turning 3 years old. We are so happy to have Kian and his cheerful smile here with us!

Thank You
for Your Donations !

Mrs. Tina Ude

*

Mr. Richard Fisher

In Honor ofThe New KCCH's and

THIRTY THIRD DEGREES



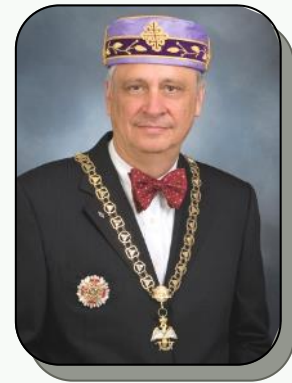
We, the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation(TIN 94-2541623), hereby certify that all funds received on the behalf of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation, The Children's Language Disorders Clinic, and/or the San Jose Scottish Rite Scholarship funds are used for charitable purposes only and the donor receives no goods or services in return for their donation.*

San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

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Captain of the Host	Bro. JR McGovert, 32°	408-258-3700
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Wise Master	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Senior Warden	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
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**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° P.G.M.
Sovereign Grand Inspector
General in California,
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Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.**

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Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Director (exp 9/30/2019)	Bro. Garrett Burrow, 32°	408-891-6746
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Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
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Wise Master	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Commander	Bro. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Asst. to the Personal Rep.	Bro. H. Bud Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of San Jose, in the Orient of California, acknowledge and yield all allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty Third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

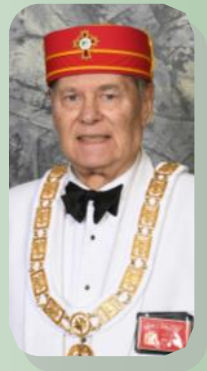
It was a “long weekend”—but it turned out just fine. Beginning that Friday morning with many of our Scottish Rite family arriving at the San Jose Masonic Center to help with the lodge-room set-up for the evening Cornerstone Awards Ceremony. San Jose Pyramid No. 9 Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots hosts this annual event. And I’ve got to tell you the work that Randy Downey, Gregg Hall, Brandon Duenas, Chris Hall and Alan Porjesz, plus the Awards Committee, do in putting on an event like this is most outstanding. From the getting all the paraphernalia, cornerstones, awards, tables, seating, posters, pictures and programs, etc.—year after year—really takes noteworthy skill and dedication. Then comes the cooking and preparation of meals for some 130 attendees plus the seating and setup of the 16 tables with chairs.

This was the first year in the last twelve that all of the Santa Clara Valley Lodge Masters and each of their award recipients were present together for this award ceremony. The Lodge-room was packed and Randy conducted the show in his inimitable style. It went off without a hitch.—joyful, fun and spectacular, yet solemn and sincere to show our appreciation to all eleven of the Masonic Cornerstone Award recipients. Then of course came the clean-up and put away detail.

Next on Saturday morning was a formal Sciots Meeting which included a reception for Bro. Charles Schuert “The Supreme Pharaoh of All Sciotry”. He filled us in on the latest Sciots events including the news that “our Cornerstone type Awards Ceremony” was also being established at a Sciots Pyramid in Southern California.

On the agenda after lunch was a visit to the San Jose Rosicrucian Museum to see and explore many ancient Egyptian artifacts and exhibits including a replica of King Tut’s tomb. We also visited the Rosicrucian Planetarium next door and viewed a movie show depicting “our” sun and solar system, the Milky Way Galaxy and other galaxy(s), including the rest of the “known universe” (and the universe is BIG. . . . really BIG). Our Sciots weekend was topped off with the Supreme Pharaoh and San Jose Sciots and friends at a semi-buffet style dinner at Harry’s Hofbrau. Yes! This was a “full form’ fraternal fun week-end. For those who have not yet attended a Cornerstone Awards Ceremony perhaps it will be on your schedule for next year.

Dell Bleiler, Commander of Kadosh



From the Secretary's Table.

My Brothers,

I want to thank all of you who have paid your 2017 dues, not to mention the very generous donations you have made to our Clinic and Foundation. It is due in no small part to your gifts that our Clinic has been named as one of the BEST Language Disorders Clinics in all of California and in the US! For you who have not yet paid your 2017 dues, please do so immediately and don't risk being suspended for non-payment. If you're not sure, look in your wallet right now and see if your card has a 2017 on it. If it doesn't— then you're delinquent. You can pay by credit card by calling the Office at 408—978-6208. If you are having any problems or issues with paying, call the Office, ask for me and let's discuss. And, Supreme will be mailing out 2018 Dues Notices in mid Sept. Keep your eye out for it and please send it in with your check as soon as you can.

Lastly, I know that every month several of you move to new lodgings. When you do—PLEASE call this office and let me know! Every month I get 6-10 Rite Words or Birthday Cards returned with “Moved— Cannot Forward.” Not only does it mess up our database and cost us return postage charges, but you don't get your mail. Please help me on this and let our office know when you move., or change phone numbers or email addresses. I'd really appreciate it!

WITH FRATERNAL BEST WISHES, HANK VLCEK, GENERAL SECRETARY

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<i><u>Leo B. Mark</u></i>	Westgate Villa, Room 29 5425 Mayme Avenue, San Jose, CA.	408-838-4764 Cell Calls & Visitors Welcome!
<i><u>Herb Dallas</u></i>	1373 Echo Valley Drive San Jose, CA. 95120	408-268-9472 Calls & Visitors Welcome!

Called from Labor...

Brother Eric Madison, 32°

August 19, 2017

Please remember to notify us when a fellow Brother is ill, in need, or has passed to the other shore.

We are not always contacted in a timely manner. Scottish Rite is here to assist! Please feel free to call anytime!

(408) 978-7483

2017 HONOR ROLL

Ill. Durward Ayre 33°

Ill. Richard Meyers 33°

Ill. Richard Fisher 33°

Bro. Estil Johnson Jr 32°

Bro. Wallace Currey 32°

Bro. Patrick Judge 32°

Bro. Dave Kimball 32°

Bro. Robert Laws 32°

Bro. Hank Vlcek 32°

Bro. Franklin Wong 32°

Bro. Robert G. Allen 32°

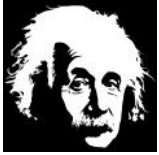
Bro. Bennie Cooper 32°

Bro. Herb Dallas 32°

Make your contribution to the
San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies and have your name included
on the "Honor Roll".

Your annual gift of \$100.00 or more will help the San Jose Lodge of Perfection, Chapter Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and Consistory reach the level necessary to provide quality events for our future success.

**Send your annual gift of \$100.00 to Scottish Rite and have your name on
The "2017" Honor Roll**



**Out of the clutter, find simplicity. From discord find harmony.
In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity. ~ Albert Einstein.**

I love quotes, they cover so much so quickly, in just a moment, I think they can do what communication is really supposed to do, provide people with the opportunity to think and form an opinion, not just a reaction. Like moments of time just for ourselves, miniature time outs we give ourselves on our lives or small opportunities to think about something without having to comment on it or respond back.

I have a few of my own quotes, one being 'If our lives were a book we write in each day, occasionally as one page turns to the next, if we can, we can balance on the edge of the page, looking around with no one noticing, and looking about at what we experience'. This is about that.

Part of why quotes work for me, is that they *don't* require a response. They don't require you agree, disagree or even respond, they just are what they are. I think that because when you hear or read a quote, it doesn't contain the usual implied responsibility to respond, like a question you get or a response you make to someone else's question. It transcends that. As such, you get this moment to yourself, to refine your opinions on a giving topic, or consider something new. This is true whether the quote is part of another work, as the quotes in this article are, or if they just randomly come to you, perhaps as a "Quote of the Day" on your phone or in the newspaper.

I used to think that Twitter was just for kids.

I have long been interested in communication; certainly quotes for example, but also look how we use letters, email, cell phones, texts and websites. A hundred years ago, the only way to communicate an idea, other than to say it, was a letter, or the newspaper. Radio was just getting started then, with TV to follow. Still, these were a slow digestion process, the reader or listener would get the communication content and then, perhaps respond in kind, like writing a letter back. In the case of radio or TV, the concepts or communications would become part of a person's awareness of the world, that they could respond back to others in their life, but rarely to the writer or origin of the original communication.

Later as technology expanded you get a situation where information and ideas are communicated to lot of people at once or a between specific individuals. Like how the fire department uses radios instead of cell phones for some times of communication. Think about it, they both do the same thing, facilitate a conversation with someone that isn't right in front of you. The difference is that a radio is being heard by a number of people, even though only one or two are speaking at a time. This facilitates a type of 'hive mind' where everyone can understand something quickly, and have an opportunity to participate as necessary, moving a lot more information to a lot more people much more quickly. I think that twitter has become like this, creating a massive hive mind of our national consciousness. Like our own mind, thoughts, considerations, actions, come and go, are considered and reconsidered but together like the water running off a mountain, trickling down in a million strands eventually become streams, that pour in to rivers and ultimately back to the ocean.

Now days we have emails, replacing snail mail written letters, where we don't have to wait for posts to arrive once a day in the mailbox in front of our home or office. They get to us an instant after they are written, on our desk or phone. The longest part of our response is the time it takes us to read and write it. And from that comes texts, even faster, shorter bursts of thoughts, ideas, and communications. A hybrid of texting is tweeting. At a moment's notice, you get a thought from someone, a comment, a barely composed shred of what they are thinking, perhaps not even fully formed concept, hopefully using enough grammar that you can understand it, but often using its own concatenation of language. And then consider the senders reach and response. Millions of one's 'followers' become aware instantly of their thoughts, almost before they have thought them thought themselves. Like the two way radio, but much more powerful as you don't have to actively hear it, it is just suddenly placed in the palm of your hand.

So how we to make sense of this, these thoughts that are thrown at us, and then republished, re-tweeted and commented on in the main-stream media? Occasionally though, as odd as this new hive mind is, it seems like it works. The thoughts of our national concernedness like one giant brain, consuming and considering what it thinks, can derive a thought, an opinion and then validate it by repeating it, saying it again, re-tweeting it. So it was interesting in the news the other day when a tweet of a quote (remember quotes, those single moments of consideration?), broke a Twitter record, with a quotation of Nelson Mandela in the wake of the Virginia rally violence became the most-liked tweet of all time. That tweet, had garnered more than 3.1 million likes. It also had more than 1.3 million re-tweets. Think of it, a single tweet, a thought, a comment, a quote.

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin or his background or his religion... People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love....For love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." - Nelson Mandela."

A simple quote, yet it can be so powerful. In a blink of an eye we are provided without the responsibility or necessity to answer anyone, the opportunity to consider how we conduct ourselves in society.

Wisdom is when you don't have to agree with someone's opinion—only to consider it. ~Author unknown.

So, hope you like some of this....or not, just consider it.

Mark Burger. Master of Kadosh



Fall 2017 Reunion

My Brothers,

Our Fall 2017 Reunion is less than 2 months away! Do you have the dates entered in your calendar or datebook, and are you planning to attend? If you don't reserve the dates now, you'll for sure book something else on them between now and then. The dates are: OCT 20-21 (Fri-Sat); OCT 28 (Sat); NOV 7 (Tues). Enter them now!

(More details on the schedule of events next month.)

This is also the perfect time to start talking with the Master Masons in your Blue Lodge about the meanings, lessons and benefits of going through the Scottish Rite Degrees. Don't procrastinate and say you'll wait until next week or month to talk to people. By then, they'll have booked something else into those dates and be unavailable. Talk with them **NOW**, and tell them how much the Scottish Rite has meant to you, and why you think they would benefit equally by going through the Degrees. Make sure you have an application handy, like the one inside the back page of this Rite Word. If you need more—call or email the Office and we can send you as many as you need. Our last couple Reunion Classes have been smaller than in past years, and we'd really like to see a few dozen Candidates in the Fall. Each of you must know at least **ONE** Master Mason who would be a good Candidate. Do him a favor now by inviting him to join our Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. You'll be glad you did — and so will he!



Ill Chuck Cowden is Coroneted as a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary at the Biennial Session in Washington DC Aug 21. Congratulations Chuck!



Brother John Absalon receives his 32nd Degree Patent from Ill Ken Nagel. Bro John was a member of the Spring 2017 Reunion Class. Congratulations Bro John!



MENU

Tuesday, September 12th, 2017

Assorted Appetizers
 Yankee Pot Roast
 Mashed Potatoes
 Caesar Salad
 Fresh Rolls & Butter
 Dessert

Vegetarian Entrée **(Must be requested by 9/8/17)**

\$15.00 per person. Call or email your reservations **NOW!!**

New Reservation Hotline

We have started a new Reservation Email Hotline, effective immediately.

While we still encourage phoned in reservations, with this hotline you will have a record for yourself that you DID make a Stated Meeting Dinner or other event reservation. And, as much time as many of you spend online, this might also be easier & more convenient for you. The email address is:

reservations@sanjosescottishrite.org

You will get an email back within 24 hours confirming your reservation.

Just write: John Doe—1 for Std Mtg dinner and send. Try it—please.

2017 Biennial Honors

Every other year, the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree, in special session, elects a number of Brothers from throughout the Southern Jurisdiction and acknowledges and recognizes them as dedicated workers in the vineyards of Freemasonry, who will consider this honor an opportunity and incentive for even greater service in the future.

This year, 6 Brothers in the Valley of San Jose have been selected to receive such Honors. 2 will have Conferred upon them the 33° White Hat and title of Inspector General Honorary. They are Brothers Chuck Cowden and Bud Ramsey. 4 will be Invested with the Red Hat and title of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor. They are Brothers Tom Bergevin, Martin Maxey, Tom Tefft and Hank Vlcek. The KCCH ceremony will take place at the Oakland Scottish Rite on Sept 16 at 4pm, followed by a Banquet at 6pm. Both are open to the public. If you would like to attend the Ceremony and/or Banquet, contact the Office for all the details and to make reservations.

Brethren,

I will continue sharing with you some quotes from our "Fathers":

Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pain to bring it to light.

George Washington

If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.

George Washington

America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms,
it will be because we destroyed ourselves.

Abraham Lincoln

My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth.

Abraham Lincoln

If the great American people will only keep their temper, on both sides of the line, the troubles will come to an end, and the question which now distracts the country will be settled, just as surely as all other difficulties of like character which have originated in this government have been adjusted.

Abraham Lincoln

With Malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds.

Abraham Lincoln

I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis.

The great point is to bring them the real facts.

Abraham Lincoln

In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all; and to the young, it comes with bitterest agony because it takes them unawares.

I have had experience enough to know what I say.

Abraham Lincoln

We can succeed only by concert. It is not, 'Can any of us imagine better,' but, 'Can we all do better?'

Abraham Lincoln

I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right; but it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and this nation may be on the Lord's side.

Abraham Lincoln

Let's have faith that right makes might; and in that faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.

Abraham Lincoln

I hold that while man exists, it is his duty to improve not only his own condition, but to assist in ameliorating mankind.

Abraham Lincoln

In great contests each party claims to act in accordance with the will of God. Both may be, and one must be wrong.

Abraham Lincoln

Important principles may, and must, be inflexible.

Abraham Lincoln

A house divided against itself cannot stand.

Abraham Lincoln



Tom Vasilescu
Wise Master





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Fee: \$150.00 *(must accompany this petition)*

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Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-Mail address: _____

Mailing Address (If different from above): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth : _____

Present Blue Lodge: _____ Approx. Date Raised: _____

Location: _____

Name of Spouse: _____

Occupation (If retired, previous occupation): _____

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Have you ever petitioned for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees?: _____

I believe in the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, the entire separation of church and state as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America. Wholeheartedly believing in the foregoing, I respectfully apply for membership with San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Recommended by:

1: _____ 2: _____



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Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events

Tuesday, Sept 12th ~ *Scottish Rite Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm*

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program - TBA

Saturday, Sept 16th ~ 32nd Degree KCCH Investiture and Banquet at Oakland Scottish Rite Center

KCCH Investiture at 4pm — Banquet at 6pm — Details inside the Rite Word

Tuesday, Sept 19th ~ Monthly OAM Meeting hosted by Golden Rule Lodge #479

6:30pm - Dinner ~ 7:30pm—Grand Lodge Preview; Masonic Funeral Service — All Master Masons welcome!

Sunday, September 24th ~ Monthly Masonic Get Together at 1:00—7:00pm

Host—Wors Will Montoya, 2999 Bradbury Dr, SJ - Bring a dish to share. Open to ALL Brothers

Tuesday, Sept 26th ~ Monthly All Officer Council Meeting at 7pm

Tuesday, Oct 10th ~ *Scottish Rite Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm*

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program - Feast of Tishri

Friday—Sunday, Oct 13th—15th ~ *Grand Lodge Communication in San Francisco*

Friday-Saturday, Oct 20—21 ~ *FALL REUNION 1st Weekend. See article inside Rite Word*

Saturday, Oct 28 ~ *FALL REUNION 2nd Weekend. See article inside Rite Word*

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