



The Rite Word

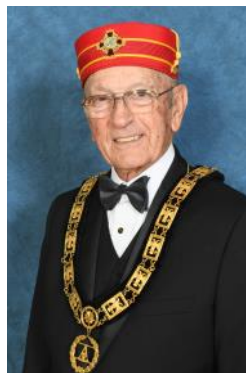
From the Venerable Master

I will start by saying Hi, and hope that I find everyone in good Health. I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. I also wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I pray that 2025 be a very Healthy year for everyone.

The Month of November as of this writing was a very busy Month. Our Stated Meeting was very attended. We had a capping ceremony where several candidates received their 32nd degree Scottish Rite Cap. We also had our Military Night Observance where we recognized the Army ROTC from Santa Clara University, and the Junior ROTC from Soledad California. It was a good night had by all. A reminder my Brethren that you need to reserve Dinner Reservations for our Stated Meetings at least the Friday before the Meeting. Our Smoke Room is coming almost to completion. Painting, Walls, Tile and Lighting have been completed. T.V. has been installed and working. It looks great. I know it will be enjoyed by many Brethren.

My Congratulations to Honorable Brandon Duenas, KCCH on being Elected and Installed as Pharaoh for all Sciotoy. Congratulations also to Bro. Kaleo Gagne on being appointed as Supreme Neokori.

In this Month's Rite Word, I am quoting an article on the Lost Word. It was taken from an article from a book called Masonry Defined.



The mythical history of Freemasonry informs us that there once existed a Word of surpassing value, and claiming a profound veneration; that this Word was known to but few; that it was at length lost; and that a temporary substitute for it was adopted. But as the very philosophy of Masonry teaches us that there can be no death without a resurrection---no decay without a subsequent restoration---on the same principle it follows that the loss of the Word must suppose its eventual recovery.

Now, this it is, precisely, that constitutes the myth of the Lost Word and the search for it. No matter what was the word, no matter how it was lost, nor why a substitute was provided, nor when nor where it was recovered. These are all points of subsidiary importance, necessary, it is true, for knowing the legendary history, but not necessary for understanding the symbolism. The only term of the myth that is to be regarded in the study of its interpretation, is the abstract idea of a word lost and afterwards recovered. But there is a special or individual, as well as a general interpretation, and in this special or individual interpretation the Word, with its accompanying myth of a loss, a substitute, and a recovery, becomes a symbol of the personal progress of a candidate from his first initiation to the completion of his course, when he receives a full development of the mysteries.

May you always have Love to share, Health to spare and Friends who care. May you be blessed.

Art Pasquonelli

December is our Annual Election of Officers. If you are interested in joining one of the lines, please talk to one of the presumptive Masters.

2024 Honor Roll

Bro. David Pratt 32°
Bro. John Kirk 32°
Hon. David Driesbach 32° KCCH
Bro. Peter Biggam 32°
Ill. Bennie Cooper 33°
Bro. Bobbie Byers 32°
Bro. Douglass Picard 32°
Bro. John Kirk 32°
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Ill. Chuck Cowden 33°
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Bro. Jason Fagan 32°
Ill. Dee Ayre 33°
Bro. Robert Allen 32°
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Bro. Lee Blankenship 32°
Ill. Bennie Cooper 33° (2025)
Bro. Rich Johnston 32° (2025)
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Bro. Harry Moore 32° (2025)
Bro. James Leggate 32° (2025)
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Bro. Mark McEuen (2025)

Make an annual Donation to the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies in the amount of \$100 or more and have your name included on the "Honor Roll" Your gift allows the San Jose Bodies to provide the quality events that you deserve.

Called From Labor



Bro. Jay Skiles, 32°
October 23, 2024

Bro. Fred Wool Jr 32°
September 14, 2024

Bro. Richard Roduner 32°
September 15, 2024

Bro. William Kauffman 32°
August 13, 2024

Bro. Jay Skiles, 32°
October 23, 2024

Bro Gerald Hatfield 32°
November 1, 2024

Bro. Warren Williams 32°
October 30, 2024

"Soft and safe to thee,
my Brother, be thy resting place"

Donations

Bro. Neal Snyder 32°
Hon. Richard Rosenberg 32° KCCH"
Bro. Neofito Santos 32°
Bro. Philip Bates 32°
Bro. Robb Walker 32°
Bro. Patrick Van Cleemput 32°

2024 - Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Hon. Art Pasquinelli, 32° KCCH	408-483-9361
Senior Warden	Hon. Richard Rosenberg 32° KCCH	650-885-5469
Junior Warden	Bro. David Kampschafer 32°	408-568-0978
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Timothy Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
Captain of the Host	Bro. John Absalon 32°	909-660-9983

2024 - Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Hon. Mark Burger, 32° KCCH	831-373-1094
Senior Warden	Bro. Chris Boyes 32°	925-200-9864
Junior Warden	Bro. Chris Mays 32°	650-773-7995
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Oscar Arguello, Jr 32°	408-834-6671
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Tom Thiel 32°	831-596-0506

2024- Council of Kadosh

Commander	Bro. Peter Cardilla 32°	831-214-9012
1st Lt Commander	Bro. Max Mora 32°	408-259-8306
2nd Lt Commander	Bro. Mike Dremel 32°	831-383-9971
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Andrew Litfin 32°	408-832-5846
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Cesar Otero 32°	650-799-9763

2024 San Jose Consistory

Master of Kadosh	Bro. Helmuth Litfin 32°	408-421-9381
Prior	Bro. Eddie Hermano 32°	408-910-9868
Preceptor	Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
Marshal of Ceremonies	Hon. Naresh Rampershad 32° KCCH	408-660-0121
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Allen Diamond 32°	408-550-5039

2024- General Officers

Personal Representative	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Asst. to the Personal Rep.	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730
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Tiler	TBD	TBD
Director of Ceremonies	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
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Directors of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation

President	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
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Treasurer	Bro. Joe Campbell 32°	408-234-5447
Director (exp 2025)	Bro. Tim Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
Director (exp 2025)	Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
Director (exp 2026)	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909-660-9983
Director (exp 2026)	Bro. Eddie Hermano 32°	408-910-9868
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Wise Master	Hon. Mark Burger, 32° KCCH	831-373-1094
Commander	Bro. Peter Cardilla 32°	831-214-9012
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Helmuth Litfin 32°	408-421-9381
Asst. to the Personal Rep.	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730



Ill. James Cole 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council A.A.S.R.
Washington, D.C.



Ill. Frank Loui, 33° P.G.M.
Sovereign Grand Inspector
General in California,
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

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.

From the Wise Master

As of this month, my time in the East as the Wise Master comes to a close. As I leave the Chapter of Knights Rose Croix in the capable hands of Brother Chris Boyes, I want to thank everyone in the Valley for an exceptionally transformational year for both myself and our Valley. We have seen an interesting year in our society, additions to our facilities, powerful Reunions, financial growth and several memorable events and occasions for me personally.



These times we live in are ever more challenging, both locally in our homes and towns but nationally as we continue to find our way and continue to build our country, find our place in the world order, and contributing to mankind across the globe in our never-ending effort to create peace, prosperity and tranquility for all. These are no better times for the practice of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

That being said, fall and the holidays is one of my favorite times of the year and a great way to accomplish our Masonic values. I am looking forward to getting together with brothers, friends and family, to break bread and take a break from the world, attend holiday meals with all the various organizations I spend my time with, both Masonic and Social. I think there is at least one holiday dinner a week and often two for all of December. I heard once “À table, personne ne vieillit, A Tavola nessuno invecchia” (At the Table, no one grows old).

I would like to thank the Valley for the opportunity to once again to sit in the East. I look forward to continuing to serve the Valley in the Council of Kadosh. I cherish the Scottish Rite and the people in it. It is a great opportunity to experience and contribute to my life and the lives of others, to learn and grow as a person as well as to share time with others and continue to contribute to Society. I think that Brother Theo Roosevelt said it best, “Order without liberty and liberty without order are equally destructive.”

Lastly, I wish all of you and your families a prosperous, happy and healthy New Year.

Mark Burger

From the Commander

The 29th degree, Scottish Knight of St. Andrew is one of the most distinguished degrees in Masonry. The kilt and glengarry hat mark with distinction those who make up the active body of the group. The Knights of St. Andrew, are, in Masonic lore, said to be the final bastion for the remnant of the Knights Templar, and to carry on that storied legacy.



As the legend goes, the Knights Templar were double-crossed by Pope and King, their wealth stolen and their honor indicted. After the executions of its prominent members, the surviving portion dispersed into hiding across Europe. Those arriving in Scotland joined the army and, helping the Scottish King defeat his English rival, were formed as an order under the name of Scotland's patron saint, the Knights of St. Andrew.

Truth or legend, the Knights and chivalry in general are symbols to us. The battle we wage is no longer against national, religious, or political enemies, but against vice and corruption. The armor we wear is our own virtue, that which “we cannot lose, unless we be false to ourselves.” The duties we assume in this degree, are expressed in *Morals & Dogma* and echoed in *A Bridge to Light*; to “lay aside all uncharitable feelings” and to have contempt for “the vices, and not the vicious.” This same sentiment is commonly expressed in churches and temples across the world where congregations are reminded it is *the sin* which is evil, not *the sinner*.

Our Scottish Knights of St. Andrew, and indeed all Masons, are bound by obligation to forgive, to “lay aside all uncharitable feelings.” This is something Freemasons must, and should with happiness, do, not just for each other and our families, but for everybody; our friends, co-workers, and fellow citizens. While this message is communicated clearly and repeatedly throughout the degrees of Masonry, it is one that many still find difficult to embrace. Putting aside our feelings, particularly negative feelings of anger and frustration, and replacing those with kindness and understanding is not easy; that is why we call it work.

The work is difficult and often the reward seems little to ourselves. However this is the work we've accepted and our good word depends on our earnest efforts to perform it to the best of our abilities. The Great Architect will ultimately see that you are paid all the wages which are due to you. A Mason, as the lecture of this degree reminds, is not what he says but what he does. “Men are not born, some with great souls and some with little souls. ...By an act of will, he can make himself a moral giant or dwarf himself.”

Peter McTearney

From the Master of Kadosh

When I started writing these articles, I thought that I would shy-away from biographies and concentrate on Geometry (as most of the articles have). This month, however, being a big space-buff, I make an exception and present one of the more interesting astronauts from long ago. Of the original "Mercury 7" astronauts, 4 were Masons: Virgil Ivan "Gus" Grissom, John Herschel Glenn Jr., Walter Marty "Wally" Schirra Jr., and Leroy Gordon "Gordo" Cooper Jr., the last American to fly into space solo.

The following is excerpted from Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gordon_Cooper .
<excerpt>

Leroy Gordon Cooper, Jr. (March 6, 1927 – October 4, 2004), also known as **Gordon Cooper**, was an American aeronautical engineer, test pilot and one of the seven original astronauts in Project Mercury, the first manned space program of the United States.

Cooper piloted the longest and final Mercury spaceflight in 1963. He was the first American to sleep in during that 34-hour mission and was the last American to be launched alone to conduct an entirely solo orbital mission.



In 1965, Cooper flew as command pilot of Gemini 5.

Early years

Cooper was born and raised in Shawnee, Oklahoma. He attended Shawnee High School and participated in football & track. During his senior year his father, Leroy G. Cooper, was called back into military service and the family moved to Murray, Kentucky, where he graduated from high school. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America and achieved the second highest rank of Life Scout. In

1945 Cooper turned down the possibility of a football scholarship to enlist in the United States Marine Corps, but was too late to see combat in the Second World War. After completing three years of coursework at the University of Ohio he received a United States Army commission. Cooper met his first wife Trudy while in Hawaii, and they married in 1947.

Military career

Cooper transferred his commission to the United States Air Force in 1949, was placed on active duty and received flight training at Perrin Air Force Base, Texas and Williams AFB, Arizona.

Cooper's first flight assignment came in 1950 at Landstuhl Air Base, West Germany, where he flew F-84 Thunderjets and F-86 Sabres for four years. While in Germany he also attended the European Extension of the University of Maryland. Returning to the United States, he studied for two years at the Air Force Institute of Technology in Ohio and in 1957 completed his bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering. Cooper was then assigned to the Experimental Flight Test School at Edwards Air Force Base in California, and after graduation was posted to the Flight Test Engineering Division at Edwards, where he served as a test pilot and project manager testing the F-102A and F-106B. Cooper logged more than 7,000 hours of flight time,



From the Chief Knight

Congratulations to all of our newest 32nd degree Scottish Rite masons and we hope you will feel welcome and right at home in our valley. I hope everyone is doing well and keeping warm this holiday season. Our Valleys chapter of the Knights of Saint Andrew is doing well this year and has seen some growth. We have welcomed five new members into our ranks this year, with one more interested brother who was just capped and came charging right in with interest to get more involved with the KSA.



I am proud of the continued efforts that our KSA team has put into this year and am excited to see what the following years bring. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as the Chief knight this year; thank you to everyone that helped make this year happen and all those behind the scenes that helped with good council and guidance.

If any brother in the valley is interested in getting more involved with helping out the valley during meetings, reunions and other events, and/or if you would like to join us in representing our valley at outside ceremonies and events, find a member and ask, or feel free to come out and join us for one of our meetings. We normally meet in the conference room right here in our building, 3rd Sunday of the month, at high-noon. Kilt not required.

Did you know that the emblem we wear on our garb comes from; the emblem you see on things like our glengarry and balmoral hats, our sashes and sometimes as broaches, or simple designs on shirts? It comes from Scotland's patron saint.

Scotland's patron saint Andrew refers to Andrew the apostle. He became the patron saint of Scotland in 1320. When the apostle Andrew died, he was crucified on an X-shaped cross, and that symbol was adopted and used in many ways, including the white X on the Scottish national flag, and it is why we have the same X adapted into the symbols of the Knights of Saint Andrew.

Michael E. Hammer

Abram's Adventures Continue

Last month, we met Abram, a descendant of Noah's son Shem. At God's direction, Abram and his family left their home in the Sumerian city of Ur and traveled north-westward to Haran and then south-westward to the land of Canaan. Abram and family settled in Mamre, near modern-day Hebron, where the famous terebinth trees grew.

As we move ahead to Genesis Chapter 14, we read about a mysterious battle between the cities of the Jordan River against by rule kings in Mesopotamia (modern Iraq). Sorting out all the names of kings, cities, and people in this account can be very challenging and confusing. So we will paraphrase the account, rather than citing the Bible passages.

The Jordan River cities and their kings were: Sodom under K. Bera, Gomorrah under K. Birsha, Admah under K. Shinab, Zeboiim under K. Shemeber, and Bela under K. Bela. These city-states were tiny kingdoms, which often organized themselves by culture, language, or geographic region for mutual support and defense. Today, we would think of these cities as villages, and of their kings as tribal chieftains.

The story took place in the Valley of Siddim, near the "Salt Sea" better known as the "Dead Sea". Why is it called dead? Because the accumulation of salt and minerals flowing down the Jordan River became so concentrated that nothing can live in the water. The valleys mountains near the Dead Sea can support life, at least when the rains fall.

At issue was foreign rule, in this case by the city-state of Elam, where Chedorlaomer was the king. After 13 years of living under Elamite rule, the Jordan River cities rebelled. The rebellion consisted of refusing to pay tribute to Elam. Tribute was the money a captive territory was required to pay to the city or kingdom that captured it. This arrangement was better than destroying the captured city because it provided a regular annuity to the conquerer.

Responding to the drop in cash-flow, King Chedorlaomer of Elam, got assistance from King Amraphel of Shinar, King Arioch of El-lasar, and King Tidal of Goyim. Maybe the Elamite army was not large enough to ensure a decisive victory. So they brought the neighborhood allies.

King Amraphel may actually refer to Nimrod, the great warrior and real estate developer. We learned about him in a previous article. Another theory says King Amraphel might have been Hammurabi, king of the Old Babylonian Empire, known for his code of 282 laws. Hammurabi and Moses are widely recognized as the great lawgivers of history.

The word "goyim" is the plural of goy, the Hebrew word for other nations and non-Jewish people. Was there ever a town by that name? The archaeologist haven't found such a place. This may be a reference to Hittites, Hurrians and other groups from central Anatolia, also known as Asia Minor or Turkey.

The Battle of Siddim (valley) resulted in disaster for the local guys. The Mesopotamians killed the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah and confiscated all their food.

Abram and Lot

In Genesis chapter 13, we read about how Abram and Lot's respective flocks, herds, and workers were both so big that they could not live in the same place. So Abram settled in the territory west of the Dead Sea while Lot settled the territory east.

That arrangement placed Lot somewhere near the city of Sodom. Lot may have fought with the local forces in Battle of Siddim. He was captured by the Mesopotamians who seized all his goods. Considering the size of Lot's flocks and herds, that must have been quite a haul.

An escapee from the battle informed Abram that his nephew Lot had been captured.

After receiving the news, Abram armed 318 of his trained servants, pursued the Mesopotamian forces "unto Dan". Aner and Eshcol, Abram's neighbors in Mamre, join the force with their servants. Abram was the force commander.

Dan was one of the tribes of Israel. When the Israelites entered the Promised Land, Dan received a rather small allocation of land in the west, near the Philistines. Due to ongoing problems with the Philistines, the Dan tribe was forced to move to the north, near Mount Hermon.

When Abram and his army arrived in Dan, he split his forces and attacked the Mesopotamians during the night. The pursuit continued to the cities of Hobah and Damascus. Damascus is the capital of Syria today. The historians don't know for sure where Hobah was located.

Abram's force defeated the Mesopotamians, killed King Chedorlaomer of Elam, and took back all the goods they had taken from the five Jordan River cities. And Abram's nephew Lot. On the way back home, Abram and his contingent passed by a place called the Valley of Shaveh or the king's dale.

It was there that Abram met the king of Sodom. This must be a new king of Sodom because the previous king, Bera, was killed during the Battle of Siddim. We do not know the new king's name.

The Valley of Shaveh was located near the city of Salem, which city will later be known as Jerusalem. At that point in time, Salem was a small village by modern standards.

Abram meets Melchizedek

This part of the story is even more mysterious than the aforementioned battle. The text says:

"And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

"And he (Melchizedek) blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

"And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine (Abram's) enemies into thy (Abram's) hand. And he gave him tithes of all." (Genesis 14:18-20)

English speakers pronounce the name: mel KIZZ a deck.

Most readers assume that Abram is paying tithes of the goods he recovered from the Mesopotamians to Melchizedek, based on the text of Hebrews 7:2 (in the New Testament). Unfortunately, the Genesis text leaves us guessing about who gave the tithes, who received them, and what the tithes were.

Religious people are familiar with the concept of tithing in the form of cash given to their religious organization. But this situation is different because we are dealing with goods, rather than money, and there is no religious organization.

The text says Melchizedek was the king of the city of Salem. And that he is the priest of the most high God. The name Melchizedek is composed from the two elements: melek = king and tsedek = righteousness, thus his name meant "the righteous king".

The role Melchizedek held is what historians call a "priest king". In a small town, even today, it is conceivable that the local preacher could also serve as the town mayor.

Most High God

What is meant by "the most high God"? The Hebrew phrase El Elyon is translated God Most High. He went by other names, but we will focus on this name here.

Throughout most of human history, most of the humans believed in the existence many different gods. The gods typically formed some kind of hierarchy and they were connected to specific geographical places. We will soon learn about the Ten Commandments, one of which is:

"I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:2-3)

This directive assumes that multiple gods exist. The Israelites were rescued from slavery in Egypt by a deity more powerful than Pharaoh and the Egyptian gods. This deity claims to be the boss. Does anybody want to argue that claim? This Being is the most high God.

In modern times, the three religions that trace back to Abram (later Abraham) Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, all teach that there is only one God. This is the Being originally known as the most high God.

How many priests did the most high God have? In Abram's time, maybe there was just one, Melchizedek. He is the only such priest named in the Bible. Melchizedek is mentioned in Psalm 110:4 and Hebrews chapters 5, 6, and 7.

Dividing the Spoils

"And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself." (Genesis 14:21)

Who are those persons? Captured Mesopotamians? What does the king of Sodom plan to do with them? Maybe commit them to forced labor?

"And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand (that is, promised) unto the Lord, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

"That I will not take from a thread even to a shoe-latchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine (belonging to the king of Sodom), lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

"Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and (the people of) Mamre; let them take their portion." (Genesis 14:22-24)

Why does Abram care about the king of Sodom claiming that he (the king) made Abram rich? According to the previous chapter of Genesis, Abram is already rich.

The goods in question originally belonged to the five Jordan River cities. By right of victory, they now belong to Abram. But Abram does not need or want them. Instead, he proposes giving the goods to Aner, Eshcol, and people of Mamre. After all, they aided in the pursuit, struggle, and victory.

David Brown

Our newest Scottish Rite Members at the capping ceremony



with 4,000 hours in jet aircraft. He flew all types of commercial and general aviation airplanes and helicopters.
NASA career - Mercury

While at Edwards, Cooper was intrigued to read an announcement saying that a contract had been awarded to McDonnell Aircraft in St. Louis, Missouri, to build a space capsule. Shortly after this he was called to Washington, D.C., for a NASA briefing on Project Mercury and the part astronauts would play in it. Cooper went through the selection process with the other 109 pilots and was not surprised when he was accepted as the youngest of the first seven American astronauts.

Each of the Mercury astronauts was assigned to a different portion of the project along with other special assignments. Cooper specialized in the Redstone rocket. He also chaired the Emergency Egress Committee, responsible for working out emergency launch pad procedures for escape. Cooper served as capsule communicator (CAPCOM) for Alan Shepard's first sub-orbital spaceflight in Mercury-Redstone 3 (Freedom 7) and Scott Carpenter's flight on Mercury-Atlas 7 (Aurora 7). He was backup pilot for Wally Schirra in Mercury-Atlas 8 (Sigma 7).

Cooper was launched into space on May 15, 1963, aboard the Mercury-Atlas 9 (Faith 7) spacecraft, the last Mercury mission. He orbited the Earth 22 times and logged more time in space than all five previous Mercury astronauts combined—34 hours, 19 minutes and 49 seconds—traveling 546,167 miles (878,971 km) at 17,547 mph (28,239 km/h), pulling a maximum of 7.6 g (74.48 m/s²). Cooper achieved an altitude of 165.9 statute miles (267 km) at apogee. He was the first American astronaut to sleep not only in orbit but on the launch pad during a countdown.

Like all Mercury flights, Faith 7 was designed for fully automatic control, a controversial engineering decision which in many ways reduced the role of an astronaut to that of a passenger, and prompted Chuck Yeager to describe Mercury astronauts as "Spam in a can".

Toward the end of the Faith 7 flight there were mission-threatening technical problems. During the 19th orbit, the capsule had a power failure. Carbon dioxide levels began rising, and the cabin temperature jumped to over 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38°C). Cooper fell back on his understanding of star patterns, took manual control of the tiny capsule and successfully estimated the correct pitch for re-entry into the atmosphere. Some precision was needed in the calculation, since if the capsule came in too steep, g-forces would be too large, and if its trajectory were too shallow, it would bounce off the atmosphere and be sent back into space. Cooper drew lines on the capsule window to help him check his orientation before firing the re-entry rockets. "So I used my wrist watch for time," he later recalled, "my eyeballs out the window for attitude. Then I fired my retrorockets at the right time and landed right by the carrier." Cooper's cool-headed performance and piloting skills led to a basic rethinking of design philosophy for later space missions.
NASA career – Gemini

Two years later (August 21, 1965), Cooper flew as command pilot of Gemini 5 on an eight-day, 120-orbit mission with Pete Conrad. The two astronauts established a new space endurance record by traveling a distance of 3,312,993 miles (5,331,745 km) in 190 hours and 56 minutes, showing that astronauts could survive in space for the length of time necessary to go from the Earth to the Moon and back. Cooper was the first astronaut to make a second orbital flight and later served as backup command pilot for

Gemini 12.

Retirement from astronaut corps

Cooper was selected as backup commander for Apollo 10 and hoped for an assignment as commander of Apollo 13. However, after a falling-out with NASA management, Alan Shepard was chosen instead (Shepard's crew was later moved onto Apollo 14, and the Apollo 13 command went to Jim Lovell). Having flown 222 hours in space, Cooper retired from NASA and the Air Force on July 31, 1970, as a colonel.
Later years

After leaving NASA, Cooper served on several corporate boards and as technical consultant for more than a dozen companies in fields ranging from high performance boat design to energy, construction, and aircraft design. During the 1970s, he worked for The Walt Disney Company as a vice-president of research and development for Epcot.

After divorcing his first wife Trudy, Cooper married Suzan Taylor in 1972. He had four daughters, Camala Keoki (Cooper) Tharpe and Janita Lee (Cooper) Stone (both from his first marriage) along with Elizabeth Jo and Colleen Taylor (from his second marriage).

Cooper received an honorary doctorate of science from Oklahoma State University in 1967. His autobiography, *Leap of Faith* (ISBN 0-06-019416-2), co-authored by Bruce Henderson, recounted his experiences with the Air Force and NASA, along with his efforts to expose an alleged UFO conspiracy theory. Cooper was also a major contributor to the book *In the Shadow of the Moon* (published after his death), which offered Cooper's final published thoughts on his life and career.

Death

Cooper developed Parkinson's disease late in life. At age 77, he died from heart failure at his home in Ventura, California, on October 4, 2004. His death occurred on the 47th anniversary of the Sputnik 1 launch and the same day that SpaceShipOne made its second official qualifying flight, winning the Ansari X-Prize.

He was a Master Mason (member of Carbondale Lodge 82 in Carbondale, Colorado), and was given the honorary 33rd Degree by the Scottish Rite Masonic body.

Cooper was a member of several groups and societies including the Society of Experimental Test Pilots, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Astronautical Society, Scottish Rite and York Rite Masons, Shriners, the Rotary Club, Order of Daedalians, Confederate Air Force and Boy Scouts of America.

</excerpt>

Helmut R. Kridner

From the Clinic

Meet Danny! Danny is a sweet and playful 6 year- old boy. He is the youngest of three children in his family. Danny received services at RiteCare Childhood Language Center of San Jose last year, and returned to resume clinic-based sessions beginning in August of 2024. His mom describes that, “Danny’s speech and language skills were limited prior to services at RiteCare Childhood Language Center”. Danny has been working hard to develop his speech, and learn how to understand and use language to communicate with others. He attends his sessions every week along with his mother who is an active participant. Danny receives some speech-language services at school, but they focus on classroom-based goals, and his mother cannot be a part of those services during the day. Danny comes to his weekly sessions at the RiteCare Center happy, enthusiastic, and eager to play. His favorite toys are vehicles, and he does not hesitate to ask for trains, cars, or trucks each visit! His mom diligently works and plays with him to encourage him to imitate her to help him learn how to combine words and express his wants, needs and fears. She takes the home program recommendations seriously and in doing so, the speech-language pathologist sees progress in his vocabulary development each and every week. Danny has a strong memory, which is a strength for him and it assists in his ability to develop his speech and language skills. Now, Danny can speak in sentences, and he can answer basic questions about himself and his family! Danny’s mom would tell other parents who may have concerns about their child’s speech and language development to “please bring your child here and get the help he or she needs!” We cannot wait to see what is ahead for Danny!



List of Requested Books for Clinic Library – Updated 7/23/24

Book Titles from www.socialthinking.com

Superflex takes on Rock Brain and the Team of Unthinkables

Superflex takes on Brain Eater and the Team of Unthinkables

Superflex takes on Glassman and the Team of Unthinkables

Superflex takes on One-Sided Sid, Un-Wonderer and the Team of Unthinkables

Superflex and Focus Tron to the Rescue!

Superflex and Kook Q. Cumber to the Rescue!

You are a Social Detective!

Eye Power/Learning to Use the Power of your Eyes Volume 1

Eye Power/Learning to Use the Power of your Eyes Volume 2

We Thinkers! Series Volume 2 Social Problem Solvers (5 books in series - Hidden Rules and Expected and Unexpected Behaviors, Smart Guess, Flexible and Stuck Thinking, Size of the Problem, Sharing an Imagination)

We Thinkers! Series Volume 1 Social Explorers Curriculum (5 books in series - Thinking Thoughts and Feeling Feelings, Body in the Group, Thinking with Your Eyes, Whole Body Listening, The Group Plan)

Other Book Titles (found on Amazon)

A Birthday for Cow by Jan Thomas

A Pest in the Garden by Jan Thomas

What Is Chasing Duck? By Jan Thomas

My Friends Make Me Happy by Jan Thomas

The Apple Pie Tree

Sheep in a Shop

Pirate Pete by Nick Sharat

There Was an Old Lady (any book from the series)

Love Monster

The Day It Rained Hearts

My Mouth is A Volcano

Bears Loose Tooth

Bear Wants More

Sneezy the Snowman

Bear Snores On

Where is the Green Sheep

Mr. Grumpy’s Motor Car

Stated Meeting Menu Tuesday

December 10th 2024

(Vegetarian Entrée by **REQUEST ONLY** call the office, by December 6th)

- Garden Salad
- Ham
- Potatoes
- Veggies
- Bread
- Dessert

We need you to make your reservations by the Friday before. No Exceptions.

Cost for Life Membership

Age	Factor	Amount
Under 49	21X	3297
50-54	19X	2983
55-59	17X	2669
60-65	14X	2198
Over 65	11X	1727

This is the current price. You can apply this years dues to this amount. There will be a slight increase for next year.

From the Secretary

This is my next to last article as your secretary. We will hold our elections in January and Ill. Bud Ramsey will be taking over as the Secretary effective with the installation in January.



We are nearing the end of the year. We sill have a few of you who have not paid your 2024 dues and will be subject to suspension at the end of the month. I will be calling you. If you need assistance, we can help, but your silence WILL get you suspended.

Thank you to those who have paid the 2025 dues already, if you haven't, they are due and need to be paid, Please take care of this now.

It is also not too early to start looking for candidates for our spring class, there is a hard copy petition in this Rite Word or you can scan the QR code below to take you to the online petition. Let's make this the biggest class we have had in years.

Finally the smoking room is functional and will be completed shortly. It is absolutely beautiful. It is open to lodges and members to use, you just need to contact the secretary to schedule.

Link to online petition



III. Bob Winter 33° Reunion Class

Spring Dates are TBD



ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY,
SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

Petition for Degrees

(Full) Name: _____
FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME LAST NAME DATE

Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Month, Day, and Year of Birth: _____

City, State, Country of Birth: _____

Are you a US Citizen? YES NO If "No", where are you a citizen? _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Wife/Partner's Name: _____

Years as M.M.: ____ Blue Lodge Name _____ No. _____

Lodge City and State: _____

Date and Place Raised: _____

Occupation: _____ Employer Name: _____

Have you ever previously petitioned for any Scottish Rite Degrees? YES NO

Hat Size: ____ (example: "7 1/8")

"I, the above named and below signed, confirm a belief in a Supreme Being, the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order, and an undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and the forbearance of a state sponsored religion, principles embodied by the Founding Fathers of the United States of America. I respectfully petition to receive the 4th through 32nd Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. I am currently a Master Mason in good standing."

_____		Spring	Fall
<i>Candidate's Signature</i>	Degree Fee	\$200	\$200
_____	Annual Dues	\$90	\$0 (For Current Year)
1st Sponsor PRINTED NAME	Total Due:	\$290	\$200

<i>1st Sponsor Signature</i>			

2nd Sponsor PRINTED NAME			

<i>2nd Sponsor Signature</i>			

I hereby authorize the San Jose Scottish Rite to charge \$ _____
to Credit Card # _____ CVC _____
Expiration Date ____ / ____

(Return Petition to Valley General Secretary's Office)

Signature of authorized card holder



THE RITE WORD

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San Jose, CA 95125-2036

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e-mail: mail@sanjosescottishrite.org

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Postage

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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.*

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Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events

Tuesday December 10th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens

December 24 to January 1 Limited Office Availability

Tuesday January 14th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens

Installation

Tuesday January 14th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens

Tuesday February 11th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens

Tuesday March 11th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Chapter Opens

Tuesday April 8th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Council Opens

Tuesday May 13th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

Consistory Opens