



## The Rite Word

### From the Personal Rep

Well, we did it! We successfully navigated through 2021.....

Happy New Years to all and welcome to a new adventure.

I Hope it's not a new normal, but we are getting back to a normal routine. I hope each of you that has stayed a way from the Rite for a while, will come back to experience what the Rite has to offer.

Our Valley started this past year the same as we ended 2020. We had the Installation of new officers, but like most other events it was by Zoom conference, Who would have thought that Zoom would have a different meaning than just going fast. We remained in a lockdown situation until the Grand Master opened the state regarding Masonry in mid-June. We slowly came back taking great precautions to keep our members safe, and things started to happen. All in all, it was a strained year, but one I can honestly say was also a very successful year for our Valley.

We had many successes. Not enormous victories, but successes just the same:

Our clinicians continued to give valuable care to our children in their speech therapy, but most was through video therapy. With parents having to be more involved, in many cases more productive therapy was the bi-product. Slowly over the last 6 months, our clinicians have started bringing some of their kids back into the building working a few



days a week in the clinic. Others though are still being treated through the teletherapy mode. But bottom line, kids are being treated, and we could not be more proud of what is being accomplished in their treatment.

We were able to initiate 3 new members this past Fall. And we conferred the Reunion live and in person. It was a small class, but it was still a starting point and the Reunion was tremendously successful.

We were able to recognize another graduating senior and again awarded a \$10,000 four-year scholarship to her. We feel good that we are able to help effect lives with our Foundation dollars.

We renewed our contract with Amazon for another year, leasing our parking lot to them for their delivery vans and employee parking. The half million dollars derived from this contract is almost 2 ½ times what we could bring in with our normal rental program in the building. And we don't need extra manpower, janitorial supplies or wear and tear on the building. We just stay out of their way and continue to collect rent checks. Our hopes are they will extend the lease for another few years. A real financial boon for our Foundation.

Our Building Fund Campaign has come to a close. And the three-year campaign, was a huge success. We reached our initial goal, and many thanks go to all who generously contributed to this cause. The building looks fantastic; it is more efficient and will house our Valley in good stead for many years to come. Although we reached our initial goal, there are still other things we have on the drawing board,

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## 2022 Honor Roll

Bro. Neofito Santos 32°  
Ill. Chuck Cowden 33°  
Ill. Durward Ayre 33°  
Ill. Richard Fisher 33°  
Hon. Arthur Pasquinelli 32° KCCH  
Hon. Richard Rosenberg 32° KCCH

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.

## Donations

Bro. David Tavernetti 32°  
Bro. Val Pasqual 32°  
Bro John Casey 32°  
Bro. Tom Dunn 32°  
Bro. James Bell 32°  
Bro. John Dods 32°  
Bro. Lee Milde 32°  
Hon. Arthur Pasquinelli 32° KCCH  
Hon. Richard Rosenberg 32° KCCH  
Bro. Ronald Chambliss 32°  
Bro. Tim Lynch 32°  
Bro. Robert Ahrens 32°  
Bro. John Bannister 32°  
Bro. Jim Arnold 32°

### In Memory of Ill. Dan Mc Daniel 33°

Ill. Richard Fisher 33°

## Called From Labor

Ill. Dan Mc Daniel 33°  
November 14, 2021  
(correction from last month)

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



### Treasurer

We need a new Treasurer. The job entails about 2 hours a month and attendance on a quarterly basis at the Stated Meeting and Foundation Meeting.

You will review the actions of the Secretaries office regarding expenditures and recording of income. You may also be called upon to sign checks on an as needed basis, when the PR is unavailable.

You do not have to be a professional finance person, but you should have a solid understanding of budgeting and accounting.

If interested please speak to either Ken or Gregg.

**2022 - Lodge of Perfection**

<b>Venerable Master</b>	Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
<b>Senior Warden</b>	Bro. Naresh Rampershad 32°	408-660-0121
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Hon. Art Pasquinelli, 32° KCCH	408-483-9361
<b>Captain of the Host</b>	Hon. Richard Rosenberg 32° KCCH	650-494-8792

**2022 - Chapter of Rose Croix**

<b>Wise Master</b>	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
<b>Senior Warden</b>	Bro. Timothy Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Hon. Mark Burger, 32° KCCH	831-373-1094
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Bro. Alan Worley 32°	650-281-1574
<b>Guardian of the Temple</b>	Bro. Bengie Vergara 32°	408-834-6786

**2022- Council of Kadosh**

<b>Commander</b>	Ill. Jack Harris 33°	408-858-9054
<b>1st Lt Commander</b>	Bro. David Kampschafer 32°	408-568-0978
<b>2nd Lt Commander</b>	Bro. Toby Vanderbeek 32°	650-722-1669
<b>Marshal of Ceremonies</b>	Bro. Peter Cardilla 32°	831-214-9012
<b>Lt of the Guard</b>		

**2022 San Jose Consistory**

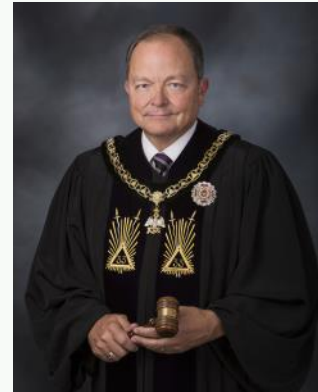
<b>Master of Kadosh</b>	Hon. John Unger 32° KCCH	408-489-8128
<b>Prior</b>	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
<b>Preceptor</b>	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
<b>Marshal of Ceremonies</b>		
<b>Captain of the Guard</b>		

**2022- General Officers**

<b>Personal Representative</b>	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
<b>Asst. to the Personal Rep.</b>	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730
<b>General Secretary</b>	Ill. Gregg Hall, 33°	408-656-2459
<b>Treasurer</b>	TBD	
<b>Prelate</b>	Bro. Mark McEuen, 32°	408-251-3086
<b>Almoner</b>	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	669-888-6423
<b>Orator/Librarian</b>	Hon. David Kimball 32° KCCH	408-836-6792
<b>Tiler</b>	Hon. Tom Tefft, 32° KCCH	408-465-2585
<b>Director of Ceremonies</b>	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
<b>Chief Knight KSA</b>	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	669-888-6423

**Directors of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation**

<b>President</b>	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
<b>Secretary</b>	Ill. Gregg Hall, 33°	408-656-2459
<b>Treasurer</b>	TBD	
<b>Director (exp 2022)</b>	Bro. Garrett Burrow, 32°	408-891-6746
<b>Director (exp 2022)</b>	Hon. Jeffory Toone, 32° KCCH	408-390-5016
<b>Director (exp 2023)</b>	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909-660-9983
<b>Director (exp 2023)</b>	Bro. Toby Vanderbeek 32°	650-722-1669
<b>Director (exp 2024)</b>	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
<b>Director (exp 2024)</b>	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
<b>Venerable Master</b>	Hon. Brandon Duenas 32°KCCH	408-763-7696
<b>Wise Master</b>	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
<b>Commander</b>	Ill. Jack Harris 33°	408-858-9054
<b>Master of Kadosh</b>	Hon. John Unger 32° KCCH	408-489-8128
<b>Asst. to the Personal Rep.</b>	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

I would like to share with you a charge from a 1906 ritual that was given by the Master of a lodge in Texas at the opening. To me it says a lot and I find it odd that charges like this have disappeared from our work in the lodge. Some of these charges still exist in the York Rite from which our blue Lodges sprang.

“The ways of Virtue are beautiful. Knowledge is attained by degrees. Wisdom dwells with contemplation. There we must seek her. Let us then, my brethren, apply ourselves with becoming zeal to the practice of the excellent principles inculcated by our Order. Let us ever remembering that the great objects of our association are the restraint of improper desires and passions, the cultivation of an active benevolence, and the promotion of a correct knowledge of the duties we owe to God, our neighbor, and ourselves. Let us be united, and practice with assiduity the sacred tenets of our Order; ever remembering that where brethren are, there should be peace and harmony, and each should wish for the good of the whole.”



### From the Commander of Kadosh

As this is my final article, I thank all the officers of our four bodies for their excellent leadership in 2021. I wish the officers of 2022 even greater success as they assume their responsibilities as our leaders for the ensuing year.

As I trust you will recall, the continuous central theme of my articles was the Masonic Initiation in which I relied heavily upon the writings of our Brother W. L. Wilmshurst. As the sands of my hour glass are quickly running out I leave you with these final thoughts to ponder.

The churches may be left to continue to discharge their proper ministry, while those who feel the need for an alternative or just another fare may find the “ancient gnosis” (knowledge) for which our Craft serves as a place to start. Following the Masonic path, one may find a deeper knowledge of themselves and the mystery of their own existence and being. This is the end and the only true destination for which Freemasonry was imagined and designed. This is the goal of our Masonic initiation, those travels we begin as a candidate in the First Degree, and continue to pursue as our ceremonial/ritual initiation progresses by degrees. Beyond our degrees we are charged to continue this search for wisdom, knowledge and understanding while applying the lessons we learn in the Temple, in our day to day lives in the world. The True Mason’s search for what he seeks is a never-ending one.

“The dramatized quest for Light and the Lost Word may result in a blessed finding of that which they profess to seek, and what they find themselves they will become able to communicate to other seekers, until the Craft is justified of all its children, and itself becomes – as it was intended to become- a great light in a dark world.” (W. L. Wilmshurst)

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year. God bless.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark M...".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles B. Coe".

### From the Master of Kadosh

I hope everyone is in good health and doing well. On our Stated meeting last December 14<sup>th</sup> last year, we've elected our new line of officers of our Valley for the ensuing Masonic year, and I wish that we continue on working together as a community.



I am truly thankful and humbled to be a part of an amazing core of officers for the past few years. I have met a lot wise and charismatic leaders who ended up becoming my mentors throughout my journey through the Officer's line. I have learned valuable lessons from them in and out of the lodge room, lessons that could only be taught through their extensive experiences. I have also gained some exceptional organizational and management skills while working with all of the officers. It was such an amazing ride of a lifetime, and if I were given the chance, I would do it all over again.

I would also like to thank everyone for joining me on exploring the enigmatic ancient sites scattered all throughout the globe, even if it was only through words written on a piece of paper. There are more discoveries being made every single day about our ancient past, from newly discovered ancient literatures, to precision-cut megalithic stone architectures, as well as ancient mega metropolis sites, the world never ceases to astound the inquisitive mind.

*The modern man is often times too arrogant to acknowledge the achievements of the ancient past and often impose their will unto others. They ceased to wear their prosperity with moderation, and the universe struck them down.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. ...".

### From the Venerable Master

The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty. —Winston Churchill

As of this month, my time in the East as the Venerable Master comes to a close. As I leave the Lodge of Perfection in the capable hands of Brandon Duenas, I want to thank everyone in the Valley for an exceptionally transformational year for both myself and our Valley. We have seen waning and eventual waxing of the pandemic, a complete update of our facilities, good Reunions, financial growth and several memorable events and occasions for me personally.

The pandemic provided the backdrop for my ongoing experience of what it takes to create and maintain a great society such as ours. One that contributes to the ongoing welfare of its population, the concept and context of civility in living in such a society as well as the never greater opportunity of Freemasonry to contribute to everyday lives of members of such a society and the growth of opportunities & achievements of both our great society and the people that build it every day.

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.

I would like to thank the officers of the Lodge of Perfection for all of your help and support with our duties this year, Gregg our General Secretary for his patience with all of my questions and timeliness (or lack of) with my articles, and finally, Ill Ken for his support and guidance. Most of all, I thank the Valley for the opportunity to serve you and in the process to meet and dine with two Grand Masters, the Grand Commander and a number of Masons whom I admire and respect. These were exceptionally humbling moments for me, things I never thought I would do and have contributed to me as a person and a Mason. I look forward to continuing to serve the Valley in the Chapter of Rose Croix.



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## Thirty-first Degree, Inspector Inquisitor, Part 2

In the previous article, we encountered the opening scene, where the Knight Templar Seneschal and a Squire are contemplating and discussing drawings and hieroglyphics on the wall of a cave. The lights go down and the next scene opens.

### Reception in the Hall of Justice

The candidate represents the soul of Cheres (pronounced KEY rees), an architect from the land of Chemi or Khem. In the preparation room, they remove the candidate's outer garments, including his shoes and socks, and cover him in a loose fitting white cotton sheet, with a cord around his waist. They place a skullcap over his head, covering his hair and ears. There is no blindfold, the candidate enters the Hall of Justice with eyes open.

The Hall is dimly lit. There is a large balance-beam scale, representing the scales of Maat, an altar with a closed Book of Constitutions on top. Nearby is a life-size representation of a mummy, which represents the dead and embalmed body of Cheres. In each corner of the Hall is a small altar with a censer for burning incense.

As the candidate enters the Hall of Justice, Horus, the falcon-headed god, greets him: "O soul of Cheres, you have come to the Court of the Dead, where you body lies before the judges, waiting to have your interment granted or denied. You shall be judged according to the deeds performed while you were yet in the flesh, rendered according to the will of the gods of Egypt."

Isis, queen of the afterlife appears, holding her scepter and an ankh (see the discussion of the ankh at the end of this article). She asks "What soul is this, O Horus whom you bring into the Court of the Dead?" Horus answers that the soul belongs to Cheres, an Egyptian, who recently died.

Suddenly there is a flash of brilliant light, after which the Hall seems almost completely dark. Then Duamutef, the jackal-headed son of Horus, states for the record, "To those who receive favorable judgement here, the great god speaks, and they speak to him. He refers to the supreme deity, Amun-Ra.

Kebehsenuf, the falcon-headed son of Horus, states the alternative, "To those who receive unfavorable judgement here, they do not behold the great Amun-Ra. Their eyes shall not receive the rays that flow from his being nor shall they hear his voice. Their souls shall not be manifested or made illustrious in the world.

Isis commands, "Let him approach the scales and remain near the body (Cheres's mummified corpse). Horus conducts the candidate near the mummy. There is another flash of dazzling light.

Atum, the creator god and solar deity, asks, "Who is this soul that stands by his body, to be tried by the Court of the Dead?" Horus responds, "O Atum! This is the soul of Cheres, an Egyptian, a builder of the city of Memphis, who recently died there. Atum asks, "What does he answer for himself?"

Horus, speaking for the soul of Cheres, says, "I have obeyed the laws of the land of Egypt... I have not neglected the worship of the

gods... The contracts that the law requires me to keep, I have kept... I have restored whatever was entrusted to my keeping..."

Atum asks, "Who can vouch for Cheres's word or does anyone accuse him of lying?" Imsety, the human-headed son of Horus, responds that Cheres told the truth and there are no grounds to condemn him for any offense. Atum asks whether the strict rule of law was Cheres's only motivation. Imsety says it might be true, and if so, it reflects less merit in Cheres's life.

Hapy, the hippo-headed son of Horus, describes Cheres's life of zealous religious observance and his sober and virtuous life. Maat, the goddess of truth, asks whether Cheres's observance happened only when it was convenient for him or was he regular and consistent. Hapy does not know but if his observance was irregular, Cheres's soul is in great danger.

Duamutef testifies of Cheres fulfilled his contracts, paid his taxes on time, and did not overcharge his customers. Atum asks whether Cheres was just following the letter of the law. Duamutef does not know, but he says the balance (referring to the scales of Maat) will tell.

Kebehsenuf testifies answered truly and had the character of an orderly, honest, and reputable citizen. Maat asks whether Cheres was just doing his civic duty without being merciful and generous, and did he seek the praise of men rather than care for the widows and fatherless children. Kebehsenuf replies that such is often the case with men.

Atum calls out to Thoth, the ibis-headed recorder of the gods, "O Thoth, have you the account of the deeds of his life which will truly answer the questions about Cheres?" Thoth replies, "O Atum! It is written." So Atum commands, "Then weigh in the scales of truth (the scales of Maat) all the goodness of his soul."

### The First Verdict

At this point, Anubis, the jackal-headed god in charge of the dead, places a few small weights onto one side the scale, causing the other side to rise. Then he reports, "O Atum and Maat, the goodness of his soul does not suffice for the demands of the justice of the gods." Needless to say, this is bad news for Cheres.

Atum comments that the justice of the gods is not fallible and imperfect like human justice. Obeying the law and the king, refraining from crime and fraud, complying with outward religious observance, and living properly and soberly are all good things, but they are not enough to earn the favor of the gods.

Maat adds, "And one may so live his whole life and yet be unfit to have lived at all. There are foul deeds that no human laws punish and good deeds that no human law requires or

rewards. Strict outward religious observance duty may be just a mask. An outwardly pious life may be coupled with selfishness and heartless indifference to the welfare of others. A spotless reputation may cover up an uncharitable heart, hated, malice, and envy."

### **Cheres Appeals to Amun-Ra**

Horus asks, "O King Osiris, the soul of Cheres desires to be questioned further, and to abide the judgement that shall be given." This proposal is like appealing to a higher court. At this juncture, the gods and goddess assume different positions around the Hall, and Horus conducts the candidate to the altar in the northeast corner.

Isis directs the soul of Cheres swear to the great god Amun-Ra to answer truthfully. Atum notes that the gods will know. Maat expands on it, saying that the gods have known all that he (Cheres) has done, said, and thought throughout his life.

Kebehsenuf lights the fire in the censer near him and says, "This human soul (referring to Cheres), naked before the just gods, invokes the great god Amun-Ra to hear, and unto him does sacrifice and swear that he will answer truthfully." Prompted by Horus, the candidate says, "King Amun, hear me! I will answer truly, so help me all the gods!"

There is a sudden blast of light. Then Kebehsenuf throws incense onto the fire. Isis states, "Amun is light. He hears, O soul of Cheres! Speak the truth and if there are reasons why the wrong or error should be overlooked or deemed atoned for, make them known. This is no idle examination. You are required to make a clear and honest reply to each question."

1. In your life, have you ever tempted anyone to do something wrong or dishonest? 2. Have you ever bought judgment or favor with money, or perverted it by influence or deceit? 3. Have you ever sold or abused your talent to help the wrong to succeed against the right? 4. Have you sold and unsound or inferior thing by falsely representing its quality? 5. Have you said unkind words of any, to whom you have made vows of brotherhood?

Isis adds, "No man is always free from sin and error, performs every duty, keeps ever promise, and fulfills every vow. The gods know how weak and prone to error men are. If you wish to change or add to any answer you have made, to extenuate any ill act done, or to show that you have repented of, atoned and made amends for any wrong that you have done, the gods will hear you patiently." At this point, the candidate is free to answer or remain silent.

Isis checks with Thoth, the ibis-headed god and recorder of the court, to verify he has written all of Cheres's answers. Thoth responds that he has. Then Isis says, "Let the soul of Cheres answer at the altar of the great god Kneph, the spirit of the universe." Horus conducts the candidate to the altar in the northwest corner.

### **Cheres Appeals to Kneph**

Nephthys, the savior sister goddess, directs the soul of Cheres swear to the great god Kneph to answer truthfully. Duamutef lights the fire in the censer near him and says, "This human soul (referring to Cheres), naked before the just gods, invokes the great god Kneph to hear, and unto him does sacrifice and swear that he will answer

truly." Prompted by Horus, the candidate says, "O Kneph, hear me! I will answer truly."

Suddenly a gong sounds followed by a vivid blaze of light. Duamutef throws incense onto the fire. Nephthys states, "Kneph is the spirit of the universe, the intellect that becomes the word. You cannot deceive him, O Cheres!"

1. Have your preaching and your practice every been contrary to each other? 2. Have you made the law the measure of your morality, and thought that if an act was exempt from punishment, it was justifiable? 3. Have you had your religion for the temples and for public display, and laid it aside in your dealings with men, in your disputes, and your pursuit of pleasures? 4. Have you thought it sufficient to believe devoutly whatsoever is said in the holy writings and by the priests, and that faith alone would atone for failure to live well, as the holy religion requires? 5. Have you prayed to the gods for forgiveness, while yourself being unforgiving or ungrateful?

Nephthys checks with Thoth to verify he has written all of Cheres's answers. Thoth responds that he has. Then Nephthys says, "Let the soul of Cheres answer at the altar of the great god Khem, the procreator." Horus conducts the candidate to the altar in the southeast corner.

### **Cheres Appeals to Khem**

Isis directs the soul of Cheres swear to the great god Khem, the renewer of life, to answer truthfully. Insety lights the fire in the censer near him and says, "O Amun Khem, the victorious, this human soul, naked before the just gods, invokes you to hear, and sacrificing to you swears he will answer truthfully." Prompted by Horus, the candidate says, "O Amun Khem, hear me! I will answer truly!"

There is a sudden burst of light. Then Insety throws incense onto the fire. Isis states, "You have your life from Khem, O son of Suphis (referring to Cheres)! If you lie to him or equivocate, He will put that life out."

1. Have you failed to keep promises in the spirit, while keeping them in the letter? 2. Have you been a false friend or treacherous enemy to anyone? 3. Have you taken advantage of a fraud or mistake that was unknown to another, and made gain thereby? 4. Have you kept from anyone that which you could keep by law, but which in equity or good conscience was not rightfully yours? 5. Have you, in the interest of respectability, been relentless in condemning and swift to punish those who have erred and gone astray?

Isis adds, "If you wish to explain any answer that you have made, or to extenuate, or to show that you have repented of, atoned for, what you cannot deny having done, the judges of the Court of the Dead will hear you patiently." At this point, the candidate is free to answer or remain silent.

Isis checks with Thoth to verify he has written all of Cheres's answers. Thoth responds that he has. Then Isis says, "Let the soul of Cheres answer at the altar of the great

god Ptah, the artificer of the world." Horus conducts the candidate to the altar in the southwest corner.

### **Cheres Appeals to Ptah**

Nephthys warns the candidate, "Ptah is the lord of truth and he punishes falsehood. So weigh well what you shall reply!"

Imsety lights the fire in the censer near him and says, " O Ptah, artificer of the world and lord of truth, this human soul (referring to Cheres), naked before the just gods, invokes you to hear, and sacrificing does and swear that he will answer truthfully." Prompted by Horus, the candidate says, "O Ptah, hear me! I will answer truly!"

1. Have you contributed to showy charities, the you might be named in the market places and the temples, while sending from your door the hungry and destitute whom the gods sent do test you? 2. Have you pretended to be devout, while being the slave in secret of some vice or sin? 3. Have you endeavored to raise the fallen, and been merciful and lenient to the erring? 4. Have you foregone revenge when you could have had it, and spared those you could have humbled, even when they had done you wrong? 5. Have you ever, in any considerable thing, preferred another's interest and profit to your own, or sacrificed your chances for preferment and honors within your reach, to serve and further a friend?

Nephthys gives the candidate the opportunity to explain any answer he has given, or to lessen, excuse, or extenuate any wrong he cannot deny having done. The judges of the Court of the Dead will hear him patiently. After a few moments, a gong sounds.

Nephthys checks with Thoth to verify he has written all of Cheres's answers. Thoth responds that he has. Then Atum says, "Then place in the scales what of good the soul of Cheres should have honor for, and what in justice and truth should weigh against it."

At this point, Anubis, places a few small weights onto the other side the scale, causing it to balance in the center. Then he reports, "O Atum, the good and bad are so nearly balanced that a little weight in either side of the scale will weigh it down." Atum reports the findings to King Osiris.

King Osiris replies, "Let the soul of Cheres (referring to the candidate) sit near his body alone. Return my sisters (Isis and Nephthys) to your thrones. Thoth and Anubis will now collect the opinions of the assessors (Egyptian gods watching from the sidelines)".

Horus conducts the candidate to a seat by the mummy. Meanwhile, Thoth and Anubis go around collecting opinions from each of the assessors. After they are done, Thoth reports to Osiris that a majority of the assessors think that the soul of Cheres should be judged to deserve the favor of the gods. Some of the assessors think he should be condemned and made to atone, until he is purged of his imperfections. None of the assessors think he should be condemned to eternal banishment.

King Osiris orders the sons of Horus (Duamutef, Kebehsenuf, Imsety, and Hapy) to consider the opinions of the assessors and give their conclusions to Atum and Maat. Thoth takes a scroll listing the opinions of the assessors to each of the four sons. Then each son approaches Atum and Maat, seated on their thrones, and gives his

opinion. Finally Atum arises and informs Osiris that three of the sons agree with the majority of the assessors, that the soul of Cheres deserves the favor of the gods.

However one of the sons agrees with the minority of assessors that Cheres was too lenient with himself, causing him to deny his unworthy motives and illegal actions during his mortal life. Thus, the soul of Cheres does NOT deserve admission to the realm of light. And Atum agrees with the dissenting son.

The Maat stands and expresses her agreement with the three sons and the majority of the assessors, adding that good men sometimes do bad things while bad men sometimes do good things. She finds that the soul of Cheres is neither bad nor base.

### **The Final Verdict**

Now the final decision is in the hands of King Osiris, who comments, "The strong who easily resist temptation are less deserving than the weak who struggle to overcome. To fall and rise again is more heroic than avoiding failure. To do wrong and then make amends, to sin and then repent, belong to a noble nature. The gods love mortals all the more because they are imperfect, even as parents love their children, despite their weaknesses and faults." Osiris raps his gavel three times. "My judgment upon the life and soul of Cheres is that he is worthy. Let his soul enter into the realm of everlasting light, rest, and peace. This trial has ended."

The lights go down and the final scene opens. We are back in the cave with the Seneschal and Squire. The Seneschal recounts the lesson of the court and gives the Squire a small statue he found to help him remember. The two leave the cave and return to their camp, and the degree is closed.



We would like to thank

III. Daniel Doornbos 33°

For spending so much time and effort in providing us with all of the informative articles he has been providing on our degrees.

We hope that you are reading and learning along the way.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2022 from the Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Disorders Clinic! We wanted to take an opportunity to thank each of the Scottish Rite members for their continued support of our clinic. We have serviced nearly 100 children and their families during the past year. Many of the kids we have provided speech and language therapy to do not have access to or have been denied services from their schools, government agencies, or health insurance. It is such an honor to be a part of a philanthropy whose outreach truly impacts individuals in their everyday lives. Thank you for supporting us with remodeling the clinic, reopening our doors, and keeping things moving forward despite the events of the past couple of years. We are persevering and we are looking forward to 2022!

Happy Holidays!

Alisha, Angela, and Rachel



Our Clinicians

Left Rachel

Above Angela

Below Alisha

Thanks for all you do



# Stated Meeting Menu

## Tuesday

### January 11th 2021

(Vegetarian Entrée by REQUEST ONLY call the office, by January 7th )

**Call the Office at 408-978-7483 & make your reservations!**

Assorted Appetizers  
Caesar Salad  
Chicken Piccata  
Rice Pilaf  
Vegetables  
Garlic Bread  
Dessert

#### From the Personal Rep Continued

and your financial support is always appreciated.

Financially, this past year could not have been better.

Despite the pandemic and losing half a year of operations, we were more than a quarter of a million dollars better to budget. This was due to many factors, but a gigantic win for the Foundation.

This past year being an odd-numbered year, we were also able to recognize a few of our brothers for their outstanding support to the valley, by elevating them to the rank of Inspector General Honorary or 33 Degree, as well as bestowing the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour or KCCH. Congratulations go to Ill Gregg Hall, our newest 33rd degree Inspector General Honorary and Honorable Art Pasquinelli and Honorable Mark Burger for attaining the rank of 32<sup>nd</sup> degree Knight Commander Court of Honour. Well deserved in all cases. Congratulations again.

And finally, I want to spend just a little time talking about our wonderful staff. In reality, they are not staff, but a huge part of our family. Ill Gregg, Angela and Monica are truly what makes our Valley what it is. Their daily routine is anything but routine. And they handle all obstacles with grace and ease. I can not thank them enough for their efforts and attention to detail. They make us all

look good. Thanks for everything you do.

And a huge thank-you to our four outgoing Masters, Brother Mark Burger (Venerable Master), Bro. Martin Maxey (Wise Master), Bro. Chuck Cowden (Commander of Kadosh), and Bro. John Absalon (Master of Kadosh of the Consistory). It was a different and tough type of a year, but they were successful, bottom line. They can all be very proud of how they helped lead our Valley.

But, with 2021 behind us, we look to a new year, and a new corps of officers who will be installed in just a few days on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, to take us to a new chapter in our history. Please come out and show your support for the new leadership team.

We're not sure what normalcy will look like or when it will actually occur, but we are moving forward with great vigor. And we need you to ride the waves with us. You are a valued member of our valley and we need your support. Please come out and help make the Valley as successful as it can be!

I look forward to seeing each of you over this coming year. Come on out and help make a difference!



#### From the Venerable Master Continued

I close out this year with a final quote:

To live is to choose. But to choose well, you must know who you are and what you stand for, where you want to go and why you want to get there. ~ Kofi Annan



### III. Hal Leister 33° Reunion Class

April 29,30, May 7th and May 31st



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."**

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

2455 Masonic Drive  
San Jose, CA 95125-2036

Phone: 408-978-7483

e-mail: [mail@sanjosescottishrite.org](mailto:mail@sanjosescottishrite.org)

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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 January 11th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm**

Lodge of Perfection Opens

Annual Installation of Officers

Dress is Formal Colors or Coat and Tie

### **Tuesday February 8th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm**

Lodge of Perfection Opens

Sweat Hearts Dinner

Dress is Colors or Coat and Tie

### **Tuesday February 22nd ~ Foundation Meeting 6:00 pm**

### **Tuesday February 22nd ~ All Officers Meeting 7:00 pm**

### **Tuesday March 8th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm**

Chapter Rose Croix Opens

Dress is Colors or Coat and Tie