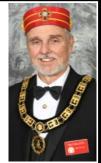


#### From the Venerable Master

Have you ever stopped to wonder what led you to join Scottish Rite? Maybe you have, or maybe you've known all along exactly why you decided to invest your time and money in the organization.



But if you haven't thought about it for a while, especially if you haven't attended in some time, then I ask you to talk a few moments and ponder. Go ahead, we'll wait.

So do you remember? Chances are, whatever the reasons were, the same is still true today. The lessons taught in our degrees are the same. The fellowship we enjoy at each of our meetings is still there. The collective Masonic knowledge of our members is probably greater than ever before.

As with any Masonic organization, the beauties contained in our body are derived not only from its principles, ideals, and philosophies, but from its members. That means that you and I change the organization and make it better simply by being there and participating. And as we've already seen, the reasons to participate are the same as when you joined.

The Scottish Rite has so much to offer Masonry and the world at large, but it functions best through our interaction with each offer. We draw from one another. We learn, grow, and become better together. The more of us there are, the better we become, not only as a body, but as individuals. We want you be a strong & vibrant part of what we do, so that we can become better.

We're looking forward to our statewide reunion, taking place in Oakland on June 29 and 30, and July 1. This unique event hasn't been seen in California in decades. I hope you will make plans to be there. More importantly, talk to your Masonic brethren, and encourage them to a part of this very special class of candidates. What an exciting weekend that will be.

This year, the Lodge of Perfection is sponsoring a day in San Francisco, including a trip to Alcatraz, and an optional ride on the Rocket Boats. A sign-up sheet is available in the office at the Scottish Rite. You can talk to me directly if you would like details. I hope to see you all soon.

### Randy Downey, Venerable Master

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

#### From the Commander

Greetings friends, and hope you all are well. Wrapping up the end of the month with what was a first class job done by the Maundy Thursday cast. It gives time for much reflection on what is important. When we break down what is needed to live, up towards the top of the list would be breathable air. We often hear of the Cedars of Lebanon throughout masonry in their use to build, by Solomon and Zurubbabel. There is a grove that goes by the name "Cedars of Lebanon". There are several hundred trees living there including several old trees. In the 1500's there was about 28 old trees, and in the

1700's around 15 were counted. In the 1800's someone began to take notice of a need, and he was J. Sterling Morton. April 27th marks an important day, which often gets passed over, but here's why the date is a notable one. J. Sterling Morton, and his wife moved from Detroit to Nebraska, but were longing for something. He, and his fellow pioneers were missing their trees. The seed was planted and from then on he wrote magazine articles, and sparked something among friends and neighbors. This idea grew, and on January 4, 1872 Morton proposed a day that put the thoughts of those to come after him in everyone's mind. Arbor Day was born on April 10, 1872, and an estimated I million trees were planted on the first day. We may not all be able to plant a tree, but if we look past the trees and focus on his message, it leaves possibility for all of us to make a change. With each action we take, and decisions we make that will benefit future generations, we are planting seeds that will ensure success for those that follow.

"Each generation takes the earth as trustees."- J. Sterling Morton

Brandon Heath Duenas

Commander of Kadosh



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

We are wishing you a Very Happy New Year!



IN MEMORY OF BRO. DAVID GIBSON
BY Mr. Lou Meyer

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Graham
Mrs. Ellen Gibson



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.\*

#### PAGE 3

San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

2018 ~	Lodge o	f Perfection
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Venerable Master	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Senior Warden	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH	408 ~656~2459
Junior Warden	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408~505~1822
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831~373~1094
Captain of the Host	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408~371~7172
	2018 - Chapter of Rose Croix	
Wise Master	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831~685~3416
Senior Warden	Bro. Kerem Kapkin, 32°	831~334~4041
Junior Warden	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408~755~0079
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408~483~9361
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831~402~4903
	2018- Council of Kadosh	
Commander	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408~763~7696
1st Lt Commander	Bro. Naresh Rampershad, 32°	408~660~0121
2nd Lt Commander	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408~781~6947
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Garrett Burrow, $32^{\circ}$	408~891~6746
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Nicholas Palomarez, $32^{\circ}$	650~644~6940
	2018 San Jose Consistory	
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Sean Patrick, 32°	505~400~5805
Prior	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408~230~6088
Preceptor	Bro. Richard Rosenberg, 32°	650~494~8792
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650~948~1400
Captain of the Guard	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909~660~9983
	2018- General Officers	
Personal Representative	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, $33^{\circ}$	510~468~9864
Asst. to the Personal Rep.	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, $33^{\circ}$	408~838~3730
General Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32° KCCH	408~757~1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408~832~1867
Prelate	Bro. Mike Sloan, 32°	408~365~8266
Almoner	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	808-699-0606
Orator/Librarian	Bro. David Kimball 32° KCCH	408~836~6792
Tiler	Bro. Tom Tefft, 32° KCCH	408~465~2585
Club Liaison	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408~371~0470
Director of Ceremonies	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831~685~3416
Assist. Director of Ceremonies	Bro. Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCH	831-635-9749
Organist	Bro. Richard Timmins 32° KCCH	408~899~2047
Chief Knight KSA	Bro. Naresh Rampershad, $32^{\circ}$	408~660~0121



Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 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.

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays & Wednesdays — Closed Tuesday, Thursday & Friday — 9am - 5pm

#### **Directors of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation** Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33° 510-468-9864 President Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32° KCCH 408~757~1774 Secretary Treasurer Bro. Carey Atwood, 32° 408~832~1867 408~891~6746 Director (exp 9/30/2019) Bro. Garrett Burrow, 32° Director (exp 9/30/2019) Bro. Jeffory Toone, 32° 408~712~5370 Director (exp 9/30/2017) Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH 408 -656-2459 408~505~1822 Director (exp 9/30/2017) Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH Bro. Wayne Rose, 32° 408~266~4184 Director (exp 9/30/2018) Director (exp 9/30/2018) Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32° KCCH 408~985~5996 Venerable Master Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH 408-674-8341 Wise Master Ill. Charles Cowden, 33° 831-685-3416 Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32° 408~763~7696 Commander Master of Kadosh Bro. Sean Patrick, 32° 505~400~5805 Asst. to the Personal Rep. Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33° 408~838~3730

he 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 Master of Kadosh

Fraternal greetings! The trip to Guthrie Oklahoma Scottish Rite reunion has been cancelled. However, we are planning a joint Scottish Rite Consistory, Knights of St. Andrew, Sciots, and Grotto social event at the Sunnyvale Art & Wine Fest on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June starting at noon. So, mark your calendars and plan to attend this fun and relaxing event!

I wanted to take a moment and thank Wor. Hank Vlcek for his many years of distinguished service to the Scottish Rite and Blue Lodge. Wor. Hank was a key person in my masonic journey and I had the honor of having him confer all of my Blue Lodge degrees at Golden Rule #479. He will be sorely missed! Arizona is gaining an amazing Masonic asset, and I wish him all the best in the next phase of his life's journey!

Continuing the discussion on the Seven Virtues from my previous two articles, I will now explore the potential connections between the virtues and the seven-step alchemical process.



#### Seven Virtues as They Relate to Jacob's Ladder and Alchemical Paths to Perfection

One might draw a connection between the Jacob's Ladder and the seven-step alchemical process. The seven-step alchemical process as it relates to the Seven Virtues, as expressed by Jacob's Latter, is as follows:

Calcination - Temperance

Dissolution - Prudence

Separation – Fortitude

Conjunction - Justice

Fermentation - Faith

Distillation - Hope

Coagulation - Charity

Calcination, as it relates to psychology, is the destruction of ego and attachment to material possessions. This relates to Temperance in abstaining from things which are not needed. Dissolution is the further breaking down of artificial structures of the Psyche to remove prejudices and conditioning as well as it works on the heart and Id to release buried emotions that conceal or distort our true nature. This relates to Prudence in that one must be wise and cautious in how they react to the exposure of their true nature. Separation is the stage where one has to truly confront their authentic feelings and not simply forgive or excuse particular personal attributes. This is related to Fortitude in that one must have courage in adversity or pain. Conjunction provides the inner space, or simmering, which is required for us to truly and honestly accept all aspects of our authentic self. This relates to Justice in that fair, equitable, and honest acceptance is required. Fermentation is the process of death and rebirth. The death of our old aspects of ourselves which no longer serve us and the rebirth or our new selves. This relates to Faith in that we must have complete confidence and trust that we will be reborn after the death of our old habits. Distillation is the purification of ourselves such that we constantly die and are reborn in the presence of the moment without reacquiring our previous bad habits or attributes. Hope is related to this state in that we must expect that we will continue to refine ourselves and not revert back to less evolved ways of life. Coagulation is the final phase in which we have become free from the mind and have allowed our consciousness or Soul to connect with the Materia Prima: The Spirit. Alchemy's ultimate goal is to create an interrelationship between mind and matter, between self and world, which is realized in this phase. This relates to Charity in that that a true state of Charity is one in which a person loves his brother as himself and has a proper relationship to himself and those in the world around him.

Therefore, the paths to perfection can be expressed in many ways, and they are interrelated. Exercising, internalizing, and exhibiting the Seven Virtues polarizes one towards the path of perfection and counteracts the Seven Deadly Sins. The Alchemical path to perfection is related to Jacob's Ladder and the Seven Virtues in a balanced and synergistic way.

Wishing you all well on your journey!

#### Fraternally, Sean Patrick, Master of Kadosh

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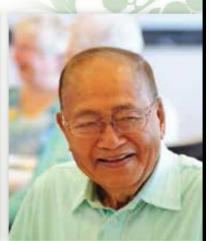
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<u>Leo B. Mark</u>	Westgate Villa, Room 29 5425 Mayme Avenue, San Jose , CA.	408-838-4764 Cell Calls & Visitors Welcome!
<u>Herb Dallas</u>	1373 Echo Valley Drive San Jose, CA. 95120	408-268-9472 Calls & Visitors Welcome!

**Shut Ins** 

## **Called From Labor**

Bro. William Tryphonas, 32° February 15, 2018 Bro. Alvin Johnson, 32° March 5, 2018

Page 6

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

Bro. Howard R. Kahn, 32° April 3, 2015 Bro. James E. Cupp, 32° September 14, 2017 Bro. Paul O. Wallace, 32° April 30, 2017

THE RITE WORD

# "2018" 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. Cirilo Paredes

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°** 

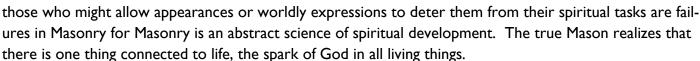
Make your contribution to the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies and have your name included on the "Honor Roll".

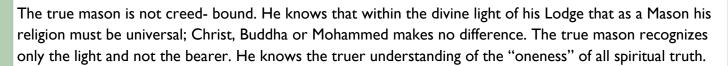
Your annual gift of \$100.00 or more will help the San Jose Lodge of Perfection, Chapter Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and Consistory reach the level necessary to provide quality events for our future success.

Send your annual gift of \$100.00 to Scottish Rite and have your name on The "2018" Honor Roll

I want to recommend a book by III Brother Manly P. Hall for your consideration; "The Lost Keys of Freemasonry". I consider this one of the best books written about Masonry. In Chapter VI, Brother Hall sets forth the attributes of a "true" Mason. I believe one can substitute Master for true and not change the essence of Brother Hall's thoughts. Here are just a few of his ideas on the qualifications of a Master Mason.

The true disciple of ancient Masonry has given up the worship of personalities. With his greater insight he realizes that all forms and their place in material affairs are of no importance to him when compared to the life which is evolving within him. Hall states that





The true Mason has the power of observation. He is a student of human nature and sees in those around him the unfolding and varied expressions of the connected spiritual Intelligence. He has sworn that in his everyday life he will use the life message he hears and build it as Temple to his God. He is a living instrument or tool in the expert hands of the Master Workman.

There are some six or seven more attributes identified by Brother Hall which I will address in another article. I think it is both important and interesting to point out that Brother Hall was 19 when he started writing this book. He was only 21 when it was published, and he was not yet a Freemason. It was from his study of comparative religion that he became aware of the secret philosophical schools and societies of the ancient worlds. This knowledge and the many books on Freemasonry that were readily available in the library led him to write "The Lost Keys of Freemasonry".

I hope you had the opportunity to join us for the Maundy Thursday celebration of Remembrance and Renewal. In my talk, I presented some thoughts on harmony with oneself, with others and nature. I intend to present elements of this talk in future Wise Master articles. See you in the Temple and I look forward to breaking bread with you.

Fraternally, Chuck Cowden, Wise Master

### 2018 Orient of California-wide Reunion

ALL 29 Degrees will be Conferred! On June 29, 30 and July 1 of 2018, every Scottish Rite Valley in California will come together to host the first Orient-wide Reunion in California's Masonic history!! This historic gathering will be held at the beautiful Oakland Scottish Rite Temple, and will be a Once in a Lifetime event!! Talk to every Master Mason you know about the beauties of Scottish Rite Masonry, and give them a petition. Hope to see you all there!!



#### From the Clinic



Max is an athletic, easygoing nine year old boy who has been attending the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinic to remediate /r/. His parents had seen a number of SLPs to help Max with his speech and he had been in speech therapy for a long time before the Scottish Rite accepted him into the program. Max has been at the Scottish Rite for about a year and is now ready to be



discharged from services as he has met his goals! His family's dedication to Max's treatment program helped Max progress quickly. His mother reported, "We have all been a

part of Max's treatment as Max had homework he had to do each day, and sometimes we made it into a family game. They [the family] are all excited Max is nearing his goals as they have seen how hard he has been working." His parents are very proud of him and are thankful for the services that Max has received, "Seeing him finally progress has been most rewarding. We also had a great experience with his therapist, Rachel. It was much easier to go to speech after we made the switch to this clinic. Our experience here has been great! If we were unable to make a session, Rachel would try to fit us in later in the week. The emphasis on practicing everyday really helped with his progression. He got along well with Rachel and enjoyed his sessions with her. I would definitely recommend this clinic to others because it wasn't until we began [at] this clinic that we finally began to see progress with his speech." The clinic is very proud of Max and his hard work and that of his family too! Great job, Max!

#### Message from the Almoner:

When I think of my journey in Freemasonry, I think of my first three degrees with my mother lodge, and the moment I became a Scottish Rite Mason in Hawaii. I always think of the Brothers that have become part my life. Now, a new journey has begun in beautiful California...meeting new Brothers, and creating new memories. There is only one word to describe how I feel, and that is GRATITUDE!

I am grateful for my Masonic beginnings in Hawaii, and grateful for my continuing journey here in San Jose, California where I have joined such an amazing lodge which has taken me under their wing, and shown unconditional love for my fiancé and I, and for that I would like to say thank you!

I am grateful to continue my Masonic education by becoming a member of San Jose Scottish Rite Chapter, a member of Knight of Saint Andrew, and now, your Almoner. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, for all the trust that you have in me. With that being said, I want to thank each and every one of you that gives to the Almoner's fund at every Stated Meeting. Every dollar that is given, helps a Brother in need. I am grateful that these Brothers have all of you in their life, and this is all done by simply practicing brotherly love, relief, and truth!

If any of you know of any brother that needs support, please do not hesitate to give them my contact information.

Fraternally Yours, Kaleo Gagne, Almoner



#### **MENU**

Tuesday, April 10th,2018
Assorted Appetizers
Smoked Ham with Raisin Sause
Scalloped Potatoes Corn
Caesar Salad
Fresh Baked Rolls with butter
Dessert

(Vegetarian Entrée by REQUEST ONLY, prior to April 9) Call the Office <u>NOW</u> at 408-978-7483 & make your reservations!

The Personal Representative and Venerable Master

Invite all Scottish Rite Masons and other Brother Masons to

# A Night of Scottish Rite Instruction and Festive Agape

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Bro. MARK SCOGGINS, Past Master

San Jose Lodge # 10

Will present his Paper

"Hidden in Plain Sight"

6:30pm—Social Hour 7:00pm—Presentation 7:45pm—Festive Agape Dinner

Requested dress is white tie & tails, Tux or Dark Suit with Scottish Rite Cap. Reservations Required

Cost—\$25.00. Call SR Office at 408-978-7483 or email aathans@sanjosescottishrite.org to make Reservations



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#### From the Secretary's Desk.... FAREWELL

This is a hard article for me to write. As a number of you know, I will be resigning my office as your General Secretary effective April 23 and moving to Arizona. I never sought this office, but when circumstances called, I was more than willing to step up and give it my all. The first 6 months were a 'trial by fire', as I had no text-book or mentor to guide me, but with the encouragement of III Ken and many others, I finally got the knack of what needed to be done and how to do it. I especially want to thank Angela Athans for all her work in managing the office. I couldn't have done it without her. But - my greatest joy over the last four years has been knowing that every day when I came to work, I will be spending my time working on things that will help my Brothers. No other job I have ever had has been so personally satisfying! I will greatly miss all my Brothers in the Valley of San Jose, but will take with me many fond memories! THANK YOU ALL for your love and support over the last four years.

Fraternally, HANK VLCEK, General Secretary

#### From the Chief Knight

St Andrew is Scotland's patron saint, but who was he? What did he do that was so saintly? In addition, how did he get the honor of becoming Scotland's patron saint?

As we look forward to this year's St Andrew's Day celebrations, we thought it would be a good idea to give you a little peek into his life, his work and all the

things that made him such an impressive character, not just for Scotland, but also for countries all around the world.

St Andrew has been celebrated in Scotland for over a thousand years, with feasts being held in his honor as far back as the year 1000 AD. However, it was not until 1320, when Scotland's independence was declared with the signing of The Declaration of Arbroath, that he officially became Scotland's patron saint. Since then St Andrew has become tied up in so much of Scotland. The flag of Scotland, the St Andrew's Cross, was chosen in honor of him. In addition, the ancient town of St Andrews was named due to its claim of being the final resting place of St Andrew.

#### Popularization of St Andrew's Day

Despite the fact that St Andrew has stood as Scotland's patron saint for so many years, it wasn't until the 18th century that the popular celebration of his day became commonplace. What might surprise you even more is that the tradition of celebrating on November 30<sup>th</sup> was not even technically started in Scotland, but by a group of ex-pats in the USA who were keen to reconnect with their Scotlish roots.

It all began with the creation of the 'St Andrew's Society of Charleston' in South Carolina, which was founded in 1729 by a group of wealthy Scottish immigrants. The organization is actually the oldest Scottish society of its type in the world and was set up with one simple premise. Their goal was to adhere to St Andrew's philanthropic beliefs and they became famous throughout the region for their work assisting orphans and widows in that area.

Fraternally, Naresh Rampershad, Chief Knight

#### Membership is always important:



## RE-you-NION

Replace the 'U' with 'YOU'!

Join with your Brothers at the next Reunion!

June 29-30 & July 1, 2018 - ALL CALIFORNIA REUNION To be held at the historic Valley of Oakland Scottish Rite Temple Support San Jose Membership by sponsoring a new member! Application can also be downloaded from our website.

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#### PROPOSITION/PETITION

ORIENT OF SAN JOSE

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES Office of the Secretary (408) 978-7483 2455 Masonic Drive – PO Box 18220, San Jose, CA. 95158-8220

Fee: \$150.00 (must accompany this petition)

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Mailing Address (If different from above):			
Date of Birth:Pla	ce of Birth	ı :	
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 Sco		Degrees?:	
I believe in the inculcation of patriotism, rest the principles of civil and religious liberty, t forth in the Constitution of the United States foregoing, I respectfully apply for members	he entire s s of Ameri	separation of church and state as set ica. Wholeheartedly believing in the	
Signature:		Date:	
Recommended by:			
1:	2.		



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#### **Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events**

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

6: 30pm - Social Hour ~ 7: 00pm - Dinner ~ Program - 25 & 50 Year Presentations

Sunday, April 22 ~ Monthly Masonic Get Together from 1pm-7pm

Host—Wors Naresh Rampershad, 5802 Blossom Ave SJ Bring a dish to share Open to All Masons and Friends

Tuesday, April 24 ~ Monthly OAM Meeting hosted by Palo Alto Lodge #346

6: 30pm—Dinner 7: 30pm—Program: Ritual of the 2nd Degree

Tuesday, May 8th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm

6: 30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program - To be announced

Sunday, May 20th ~ Monthly Masonic Get Together from 1pm-7pm

Host—Wors Jason Hawkinson-Praeter Bring a dish to share Open to All Masons and Friends

Tuesday, May 22nd ~ SJSR Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting —6pm

Tuesday, May 22nd ~ Monthly All Officer Meeting —7pm

Wednesday, May 31st ~ Monthly OAM Meeting hosted by Willow Glen-Fraternity Lodge #399

6: 30pm—Dinner 7: 30pm—Program: Ritual of the 3rd Degree / First Section