



The Rite Word

From the Venerable Master

Brethren,

September – month of the autumnal (fall) equinox. The word equinox comes from the Latin words “aequus” (equal) and “nox” (night), literally meaning that day and night are equal. While the vernal (spring) equinox is associated with rebirth, the autumnal equinox is associated with old age, but also with harvest and preparation for the winter.

For the farmer this is the time of harvesting the fruits of the hard labor in spring. Hopefully the crop turned out well, and the labor is rewarded. For California wineries, it is hoped to be a good year, with moderate rain this year. Dry farmed and temperature stressed vines concentrate the flavor of the grapes, so many are hopeful for a great vintage 2020.

This and the next following months throughout the year are named after the over 2000 years old Roman 10 months calendar – latin “septem” - seven. A bizarre and amusing fact, demonstrating traditions being preserved for long times in human society and decoupled from their actual meaning in our language.

And it is the month when the young get back to school after a summer break. Well, back in front of the computer with virtual sessions. Many school districts, col-



leges and universities have now mastered the art of virtual classes and meetings. This may lead to a transformation of the educational system, as you can take classes from anywhere in the world. Yale for example has a series of free courses at <https://oyc.yale.edu>. Back to school, anyone?

Speaking of virtual meetings, we did have a very nice Stated Meeting via a Zoom virtual meeting session. We were able to conduct necessary business and update everyone on the progress of the building renovation, followed by a social and dinner hour with our ladies and guests. We did have a BBQ theme, and a few of us got bragging time over what they cooked to eat during the virtual dinner. We opened and closed with prayer, did Pledge of Allegiance, had several formal toasts, to the Craft, the Grand Master and the Leaders of the Scottish Rite, and lots of time to chat and socialize. It was a very nice experiment, based on comments made at the end.

Happy September,

Dues Cards are being mailed with Dues Notices this year, so just having a Current Card no longer means you are in Good Standing. Please remit your dues as soon as you get the notice and Card.

2020 Honor Roll

Bro. Art Pasquinelli 32°
Hon. Virgilio Quina 32° KCCH
Bro. Jim Ward 32°
Bro. Jonas Pauliukonis 32°
Hon. Dell Bleiler 32° KCCH
Ill. Richard Fisher 33°
Bro. John Absalon 32°
Hon. John Unger 32°
Bro Ion Vasilescu 32°
Bro TJ Jackson 32°
Bro. Estil Johnson 32°
Ill. Dee Ayre 33°
Hon. Richard Rosenberg 32°KCCH
Bro. Dennis Griffin 32°

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. William Provence 32°
Bro. Dana Dana Ditmore
Bro. Thomas Buntin 32°
Hon. Tom Tefft 32° KCCH



Called From Labor

Bro. Virgil Wimberly 32°
October 2, 2019

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

Sick or Distressed

Ill. Leo B. Mark 33°
408-838-4764
Calls/Visitors Welcome



2020 - Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
Senior Warden	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Junior Warden	Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Naresh Rampershad 32°	408-660-0121
Captain of the Host	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805

2020 - Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408-483-9361
Senior Warden	Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831-402-4903
Junior Warden	Bro. Timothy Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
Master of Ceremonies	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408-755-0079

2020- Council of Kadosh

Commander	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
1st Lt Commander	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
2nd Lt Commander	Ill. Jack Harris 33°	408-275-6326
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Toby Vanderbeck 32°	650-722-1669
Lt of the Guard	Bro. David Kampschafer 32°	408-568-0978

2020 San Jose Consistory

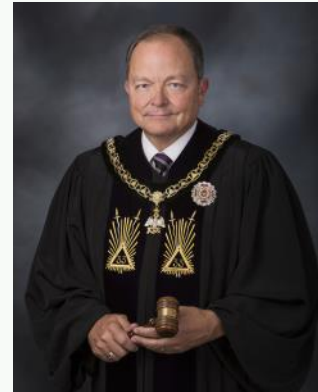
Master of Kadosh	Hon. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Prior	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909-660-9983
Preceptor	Hon. John Unger 32° KCCH	408-489-8128
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Captain of the Guard	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408-230-6088

2020- 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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Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Prelate	Bro. Mark McEuen, 32°	408-251-3086
Almoner	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	669-888-6423
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Assist. DoC	Hon. Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCH	831-635-9749
Chief Knight KSA	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	669-888-6423

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President	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Secretary	Hon. Gregg Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Director (exp 2022)	Bro. Garrett Burrow, 32°	408-891-6746
Director (exp 2022)	Hon. Jeffory Toone, 32° KCCH	408-390-5016
Director (exp 2020)	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
Director (exp 2020)	Bro. Toby Vanderbeck 32°	650-722-1669
Director (exp 2021)	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
Director (exp 2021)	Hon. Brandon Duenas 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
Venerable Master	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
Wise Master	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408-483-9361
Commander	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
Master of Kadosh	Hon. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
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

My Brethren, August sees us still sheltered in place. No meetings yet, could be months away. As I was sitting at my desk, I started to reflect back on my years in Masonary. In February 1968 I was made a Master Mason. That night I was presented with a Masonic Bible. I was told that after the meeting the Brethren in attendance would all sign the Bible.



Since that night I have come across an article that can be recited to the candidate on his receiving a Holy Bible. I would like to share this article with you.

The Great Light Of Masonry

Brother. It is my pleasant duty this evening to present you your own volume of Sacred Law; that Great Light in Masonty. Before doing so, however, I have certain observations to make concentering this Holy Book to which I trust you will pay strict attention.

The Holy Bible is commonly thought of as one Book, because it is contained between two covers. It is in reality a library of 66 books, 39 of which are found in the Old Testament, 27 in the New Testament. These books represent the sacred literature of the Hebrew race and are the product of many centuries of varied authorship and subject matter. They combine law, history, poetry, philosophy, biography, ethics and the revelation of the Divine Truth and Light.

Diverse as the subjects and authors are; remote as the legend types and styles of expression are, the intelligent reader discovers an ever increasing purpose running through the pages like a silver thread through a darker fabric. Veritable flashes of Truth and Light reveal the true character and mind of God; and His never failing love towards all mankind.

The Holy Bible is the world's supreme record of man's experience with faith. It is the Mason's trestle board in character building, that important duty to which you have dedicated yourself this evening and have been emblematically presented the tools of the degree.

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From the Commander of Kadosh

September is the Scottish Rite's Constitutional Observance month. The actual observance date is September 17. At the time the Constitution was signed, one gentleman proclaimed that the signing would be celebrated with parades, bonfires, picnics and illuminations. Little did he realize the celebrations would be usurped by the date of the Declaration of Independence's signing, July 4th.



One important element of our Constitution is that it protects citizens from certain actions of the government.

When the founders of our Country were deciding on what form the new government should take, most existing governments were headed by Kings, Emperors and Potentates. It has been said our form of government was based on Masonic principles.

In 1754 the then Board of Trade called a meeting known as the Albany Congress. This Congress decided a union of the colonies was desirable for trade with the Indians and to defend against the French. Brother Benjamin Franklin was part of that Congress. On the way to the Congress, he drew up what was called Franklin's Albany Plan.

The basis for the Albany Plan was Reverend James Anderson's 1723 Anderson's Constitution which defined the powers and relations of England's Masonic Grand Lodge with Lodges and individual Masons. Franklin was familiar with this Constitution as he reprinted it in 1734 for use by American Masons. Anderson's Constitution set out a federal system where local Lodges retained control of local matters and the Grand Lodge handled the Order's general affairs. It included majority rule, terms of office and checks and balanced by reserving the power to impeach the chief executive officer.

Franklin's Albany Plan called for a president-general appointed by the English Crown and a grand council elected by the colonial assemblies. Franklin's plan was rejected however he presented it again in 1775 when the Articles of Confederation were being drawn up. While it was again not accepted, some elements are in our Constitution. It has been said had the plan been adopted there would not have been a Revolutionary War.

Bill M. Friel

From the Master of Kadosh

In my article this month, I want to mention “remembrances” of the past and also “remembrances” of the future. So, there I was resting at the San Jose Apartment after my annual heart valve checkup and there is this great little video system and screen to watch. I am not yet with an internet video service at home in the north so this was a real treat.

And this English Historian was describing how he had spent the last 1 1/2 years documenting about the development and original use of the Atomic Bomb. I was only a small boy when it was all taking place and my folks never let me know what was happening, but I have always been very interested and knowledgeable in my adult years. His detailed description and input from all persons and events involved is outstanding and he finally gave in to all the pressure on him to document and publish his book, some of which is heart-wrenching. His in-process book and its historical content and descriptions are very applicable to world events still taking place today.

On a similar vein, and a short time following, another TV program was showing ant it was about our world and planetary events that are happening with increasingly greater damage and which affect all of us, especially planet Earth now and in the future

I also remember an event as a boy when I was at home in the sun-room swinging my new baseball bat. There was a storm outside blowing fiercely and all of a sudden the window crashed open and deposited glass particles all over my little sister sleeping on the couch. It was the big east coast hurricane that is still talked about to this day. Well my mother, thinking I broke the window, took the yardstick and meat the heck out of me. But when my father came home he pointed out that the violent storm caused one of the big poplar trees outside to be uprooted and crashed and broke the window.

Similar weather related events ‘en-masse” are taking place worldwide today. The 3 hour program described them all and things I thought about for years suddenly came into focus and hit me all at once between the eyes. Global Warming is heare and getting worse. It means that our “home” is now about to reach the tipping point.



From the Secretary

Work continues at your Scottish Rite. We are currently in the process of building a new wall, which will separate the Dinning Room from the Auditorium. (See Pictures elsewhere). When finished, the next project will be to build out some stadium seating to make the Auditorium more of an intimate venue. This will provide a better experience during our degrees and also will set us up for future endeavors such as hosting comedy shows.

We still have plans to refurbish the bathrooms, but that will likely not start till the end of the year to the beginning of the new year..

In other news we are down to 27 that have not paid or made other arrangements for their 2020 dues. If this is you please take care of it soon.

You should be receiving your dues notices for 2021, this year Supreme has decided to mail out dues cards with the notices, this means you may have a dues card but still not be in good standing. Please take care of your dues as soon as you receive the bill so that we can avoid issues. (f you need assistance with your dues then just call me).

We are very happy with the way the building is shaping up, so if you are in the area stop by during the week and check it out.



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The 23rd Degree — Chief of the Tabernacle

An organization of Chiefs of the Tabernacle is called a Court. The presiding officer is the Venerable High Priest. He is dressed like the High Priest that served in the Tabernacle of Moses and the Temple of Solomon, with the distinctive blue ephod (robe), breastplate with 12 stones, and blue mitre (it was actually a turban) on his head, with the motto, "Holiness to the Lord". There are two Wardens, similarly dressed in white robes, without ephod or breastplate. You can read more about them in Exodus chapter 28.

The other officers wear the apron of this degree and a red belt, from which hangs the jewel of this degree. We describe these items later.

The Court is set up to resemble the Tabernacle (Hebrew: mish-kān) or Tent of the Congregation (Hebrew: ōhel mō'êd) and its furnishings and surrounding compound, like the one described in the Bible, Exodus chapters 25 through 27. If you prefer faster understanding with less effort, consult a Bible dictionary or commentary, or just look it up on Wikipedia.

The script for this degree gives detailed description of how to build a ten-foot-tall tent, and the two altars, bronze basin or brazen laver, seven-branch candelabrum (originally an olive oil lamp), table of the showbread or presence, and a replica ark of the covenant.

Banners Representing the Tribes

Around the edges of the Court are banners representing the tribes of ancient Israel, each with its own color and device. In the east, a crimson banner with a crouching lion for the tribe of Judah, a light green banner with a ship for Zebulon, and a yellow banner with an unsheathed sword for Simeon.

In the south there is a brilliant crimson banner with the image of a man for tribe of Reuben, a blue-green banner with a field of stars for Gad, and a multicolor banner with a vine running over a wall for Manasseh.

In the west, there is a multicolor banner with the image of a bull for tribe of Ephraim, a violet banner with a wolf for Benjamin, and a blue banner with a tree for Asher.

In the north, there is a golden banner with the image of an eagle for the tribe of Dan, and a blue-green banner with a running deer for Naphtali. For some reason, the script lists no banner for the tribe of Issachar. Based on tradition, the banner would be deep blue. And based on Genesis 49:15, the device would be a donkey.

The tribe of Levi doesn't have a banner, either. The men of the tribe of Levi were set apart to religious, political, and educational duties. They were not allowed to be landowners. They were supported by tithes from the other tribes. And they were forbidden to serve in the military. By the way, the name is pronounced like "levee", rather than the commonly heard "LEE vie".

Moses, the great deliverer and prophet of Israel, and his brother Aaron, the first High Priest of Israel, were from the tribe of Levi. If

your father was a Levite, so were you and your career was predetermined. If your father was a descendant of Aaron, you could be ordained a Priest (Hebrew: Cohen). Priests directed the religious services.

If you were not a Priest, just a regular a Levite, you were assigned tasks such as singing and playing music, serving as a guard, and "carrying", which meant any kind of physical labor related to the Tabernacle. Trading assignments with somebody else was a capital offense. The same penalty befell the member of any other tribe who dared approach the Tabernacle compound. See Numbers chapter 1, verses 49 through 53.

Opening the Court

The Court opens by the Wardens reciting the letters of the Tetragrammaton, the sacred name of God in the Hebrew letters: yod, heh, vav, heh. Then the High Priest says, "Great is Adonai Elohim (English: the Lord God) who was known to our fathers (Abraham, Issac, and Jacob/Israel) as El Shaddai (English: God Almighty or God Most High)—the only true God, Who is that which He was and shall be!" With a series of raps, the Court is open.

At this juncture, the Expert brings the candidate to the door and gives the battery of 2, 2, 2, and 1. The Assistant Expert answers, and asks, "Who comes here?"

It is a man named Elias (the Greek form of Elijah) who desires to perform the service to the people of the Lord in the Tabernacle of the Congregation. This privilege is his right as a Levite, for the Lord called Aaron and his sons to administer among the Children of Israel. That explanation satisfies the Assistant Expert.

Blast from the Past

Suddenly, we hear a voice off-stage, "Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, and their company, put strange fire in the censers and stood at the door of the Tabernacle, before the Lord, and the Lord opened the mouth of the earth and swallowed them up."

A second off-stage voice says, "Flee, children of Israel, for there has come a fire from the Lord and consumed 250 men."

Then a third off-stage voice says, "The children of Israel murmured against the Lord, and against Moses and Aaron, for the death of Korah and his company; and He has send a plague upon them, and the whole people is about to be destroyed!"

There is silence, then the lights go out. A gong sounds once, then it sounds again. Chains rattle. Then we hear groans and cries of people in extreme agony, followed by silence. Then the lights come back on.

Those voices and sound effects recount the incident from Numbers chapter 16, where Korah and his gang of 250 men revolt against Moses and Aaron for allegedly exalting themselves above everybody else. And they make the oft-repeated complaint that "Moses has led the Israelites out of Egypt, a land of plenty, to starve and die in the wilderness".

Moses tells Korah and his followers to bring fire in their censers the next day and come to the Tabernacle. Since the fire in their censers did not come from a sacrifice on the outside altar, it was "strange fire" and a serious violation of protocol. The Lord told Moses to separate the other people from Korah and his guys, as well as from the tents in which they dwelt. Then the Lord sent an earthquake, the ground opened up, Korah and his family fell in, and the earth closed up over them. Then the Lord sent fire from heaven and burned up Korah's 250 followers.

The next day, all of the Israelites are angry at Moses and Aaron, as if they were the ones who caused the earthquake and fire. The Lord threatens to burn them up, too. But Moses prays for mercy, with the result that a plague arose and killed 14,700 rebellious Israelites. Then things got back to normal for a while.

Back to the Candidate

The Master of Ceremonies (MC) asks the candidate, "Have you repented of your sins?" He answers, "I have". "Then pray for mercy and forgiveness," after which he allows the candidate a few moments of silence. Then he asks, "Have you prayed?" The candidate answers, "I have".

Then the MC explains what happens when people meddle with holy things, referring to Korah and his followers. To approach these mysteries, you must have clean hands, a pure heart, and a sincere desire to serve your fellowmen.

The candidate indicates that he is ready to proceed. The MC dips a branch with leaves into a bowl of water and sprinkles the candidate, explaining that this is a token of purity that must hereafter characterize a Levite without guile. Then he snips a small lock of the candidate's hair, explaining that he must divest himself of every selfish and impure feeling. Finally the MC clothes the candidate in a white tunic and places a white cloth over his head, covering his eyes. He conducts the candidate to the Assistant Expert.

The Assistant Expert opens the candidate's tunic, dips his finger in water, and then marks the letter L on the candidate's right breast, the letter V on his right his breast, and the letter X over his solar plexus. He explains, "Upon your entrance to this holy place, you are marked with a symbol of that light which shines in the darkness (LVX is Latin for light). It teaches you how insignificant is man, and how he must always humble himself in the presence of that Great Being who know his most secret thoughts. But the secret of the Lord is within them that fear Him and He will show them His covenant.

The Assistant Expert continues to explain that by receiving the Scottish Rite degrees, you have entered into a covenant. It is not like God's covenant with patriarchs of Israel. Instead, it is a mutual

agreement of privileges and responsibilities between the Rite and you as a Brother, to perform certain duties. Again, the covenant of this degree is not the same thing as God's covenant with the Israelites.

The MC conducts the candidate to the East, where the High Priest asks who this is. The MC says he has heard the thunder and earthquake of the Lord, and like Elijah, the still small voice (See I Kings 19:12). The "still small voice" is how God communicates with humans and why humans need to develop the ability to hear it.

The High Priest asks whether the candidate has been sprinkled with the water of purification and is he prepared to receive the mysteries. The MC says he has and he is.

Key to Understanding the Mysteries

The High Priest says to the candidate, "To enter here and know our mysteries requires clean hands and a pure heart, as well as a sincere desire to serve your fellowman. Are you willing henceforth to devote yourself to that service, to shun vice and practice virtue, charity, and truth?" He candidate says he is.

The High Priest has the candidate kneel to unite with the Court in reverent prayer. He removes the veil from the candidate's head, has him kneel on both knees and make the sign of the Good Shepherd. The High Priest grasps the corners of the altar and reads the following prayer:

"Almighty Unchanging Master, we bow down to you as the simple Absolute Omniscience, Who with a thought created all the worlds! Eternal Father, whose laws of harmony rule the heavens, You are in all, and by You all things exist. Guide and protect us, and lead us safely that we faint not by the wayside, nor wander into darkness like lost children. Amen and Amen." Everybody says, "So mote it be".

The High Priest asks the MC why he travels from the East to the West by way of the South. He answers that we follow the example of the sun in its beneficent course.

Then the High Priest says, "Arise and shine for the light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. (See Isaiah 60:1) It is the fountain of light, and an emblem of the kind beneficence of the Deity. Let this Candidate now rise, and purify himself in the brazen laver to be prepared to shine among men, blessing all, and returning good for evil."

The Expert conducts the candidate to the brazen laver and directs the candidate to wash his hands and feet. As the candidate washes his hands, the Expert says, "I will wash my hands in innocence, so I compass (form a circle around) your altar, O Lord." As the candidate washes his feet, the Expert says, "My foot stands in an even place in the congregations: I will bless the Lord." These sayings come from Psalms 26:6 and 26:12, King James Version.

It means that since the last ice age we were very good at what we did and now have to be as good enough again to survive. Our future will depend on Solar, wind, and batteries for energy. The days of burning fossil fuels is an issue, as are countries that allow massive deforestation and then burn all the cuttings. And the list includes ice sheet melting and ighter ocean water levels etc.

Dell Bleiler



Special Thanks to Craig Hall at Gray's Paint for donating and discounting the paint we have used in the building.

Illustrious James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Tuesday, November 10, 2020
San Jose Scottish Rite Center
2455 Masonic Drive
San Jose, CA

6:00 p.m. Members Only Stated Meeting
6:30 p.m. Member and Guest Social

Dinner Following Social
with Ill. James D. Cole, 33° Presenting

For Reservations Call or E-Mail:
(408) 978-7483 or ghall@sanjosescottishrite.org

THE SCOTTISH RITE MYSTERIES
AN ESOTERIC JOURNEY



September 11 & 12, 2020
VIA ZOOM

We will have Brent Morris present on Friday September 11 at 6PM CA time
Art De Hoyas will present at 11 AM CA Time on Saturday September 12th followed by
A special panel discussion with Brent Morris, Art De Hoyas, John Cooper and Steve Doan
Which starts at 1:30 Pm and ends at 3:30 PM
All Moderated by John Hesiner

Information: 916-452-5881 or E-mail Mario Balbiani:
MBALBIANI@SACRAMENTOSCOTTISHRITE.ORG



Wolfe is an inquisitive and sweet 6 year old boy who loves and has a great knowledge for all things related to dinosaurs and prehistoric animals! Wolfe enjoys incorporating his passion for dinosaurs with his speech activities. He has been receiving speech and language therapy services at the San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Clinic for a little over one year.



but most of all it's been most rewarding seeing him speak confidently with others without frustration.

Wolfe's mother describes their experience at the clinic and through teletherapy to be great. Wolfe has enjoyed his speech sessions and really loves his SLPs. She appreciates the detailed feedback she gets from his therapists about his progress and his speech development objectives.

Wolfe's mother mentioned that his preschool teacher suggested that they look into seeking services with Scottish Rite after hearing positive feedback from another student's family who was receiving therapy at Scottish Rite.

We are so pleased to hear that Wolfe's family sees steady progress in his speech development. We look forward to continuing his progress through teletherapy as it has been an effective and fun new way to learn.

Prior to services at the clinic he was also receiving services through his school district. His expressive speech was developing, but very slowly and his difficulty with articulation made it challenging for him to communicate with his teachers and peers effectively.

Since starting at Scottish Rite, his articulation has improved significantly and he has more confidence communicating with others.

Wolfe's mother reported that it's been wonderful to see Wolfe's speech improve and gain confidence speaking. It does require commitment to make it to sessions and practice exercises at home during the week, but we find it well worth it. It's been wonderful seeing Wolfe progress with his articulation and see him develop sounds that he previously struggled with,



The Expert reports to the High Priest that the candidate is duly purified. The High Priest asks the candidate what he desires. He replies, "Light." The High Priest exclaims "Light is the gift of God to all men. Be you henceforth a Son of Light!"

The Orator says, "God is one; single, eternal, and unchanging. In Him there is no darkness at all."

The Excellent Priest (a different officer than the High Priest) says, "The manifold (the many) is an infinite illustration of the One. The forces of nature are the laws enacted by the Absolute Uncreated Master. (The letters A, U, and M are bolded in the script. We will see them again in our Scottish Rite journey.) By the rays of His divine light, we become conscious of His being."

The High Priest adds, "The gods of the heathen (non-Israelite people) are false idols. There is but one true God, the Father, to whom it is not folly to pray."

The Orator explains, "The world is not God but proceeds from Him, our Creator, in whom we move and live and have our being... The universe is a great whole... a great harmony in which discords and concords resolve. Believe [that] God's laws of harmony govern all things."

Ceremonial Climax

Now comes the high point of the ceremony, when the High Priest puts his hand on the candidate's forehead and says:

"I accept and receive you, my Brother, as a Levite and Chief of the Tabernacle of revealed truth, and consecrate and devote you henceforth to the service of the Children of the Light. I now invest you with this belt, jewel, and apron. The jewel or censer of silver reminds you to perform good deeds and charitable actions dictated by a pure and upright heart."

High Priest's Lecture

"Josephus tells us that the mixture of materials in the curtains of the Tabernacle and clothing for the priests had a symbolic meaning... Scarlet was emblematical of fire, the linen from the flax of the earth, the blue of the air, and the purple derived from a mollusk of the sea."

"To us, in the degree, the white of the apron is symbolic of the beneficence of God; the blue, of His profound and perfect wisdom; the scarlet of His glory; and the purple, of His power."

"The lamp with seven branches, upon the apron, wrought in gold, represents the seven planets of the ancient world: the sun in the middle, with Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn on one side, and Venus, Mercury, and the moon on the other. It also represents the seven archangels: Zerachiel, Uriel, Gabriel, Michael, Khamael, Raphael, and Tzaphkiel (The names of some archangels vary depending on whose list you have)... All of the seven are attributes of God."

"The number seven is a sacred number in many religions. It appears often in the Hebrew writings (the Old Testament) and in the Apocalypse (book of Revelation); and here particularly, in the seven lamps. Under the symbols of the seven planets, which it represents, the ancients figured the seven virtues."

"Faith—that aspiration toward the infinite, was represented by the sun; hope, by the moon; charity by Venus; fortitude—always victorious over

rage or anger, by Mars; prudence, by Mercury; temperance, by Saturn; and justice, by Jupiter."

"The world, the ancients believed, is governed by what the Hebrews called the seven Great Archangels. The seven planets also correspond to the seven colors of the prism, and the seven notes of the musical scale."

"Thus, we see in all this, the sanctity and perpetuity of a single idea, continually reproduced in the universal symbolism [found in] successive religions. We comprehend the revelation transmitted to man by the harmonies of nature."

"Finally, strive, my Brother, to be true and faithful to your covenants. Perform those duties which you, as a Levite, have assumed on this occasion. Honor your office by reverence in your service, and may you every say with us [at this juncture, everybody holds up their hands and exclaims]: Holiness to the Lord!"


A less impressive but more helpful translation of "Holiness to the Lord" might be "Consecrated to God".

And with that, the degree ends.

III. Daniel Doornboss 33°

In this Holy Book are laid down the principles for correct living. Its great men loom large upon the background of world history, they lived, they fought, they loved, they sinned, they repented; and they have left behind them here in this Holy Book, the testimony that the keeping of God's law and the doing of God's will are the only things in this life worth living for.

We need to know our Bible, to learn its precepts, to reverence it as our Great Book Friend. And my brother, that your feet may not stumble; and that your pathway through life may be well lighted, your brethren of this lodge have commissioned me to place in your hands this evening, your own volume of the Sacred Law, that Great Masonic Light, with the prayer that It may indeed be a lamp unto your feet and light unto your path. They bid you read It frequently, carefully and thoroughly; and urge you use It as a rule and guide in your earnest effort to become a better man and a better Mason; a credit to this lodge in particular and an asset to the community wherein you may at any time reside.



III. Roger Bibb 33° Class

Oct 13, 23,24, and Nov 3, 2020



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."

_____	Degree Fee	Spring	Fall
<i>Candidate's Signature</i>		\$150	\$150
_____	Annual Dues	\$50	\$0 (For Current Year)
1st Sponsor PRINTED NAME			
_____	Total Due:	\$200	\$150
<i>1st Sponsor Signature</i>			

2nd Sponsor PRINTED NAME _____ I hereby authorize the San Jose Scottish Rite to charge \$ _____
 to Credit Card # _____ CVC _____

2nd Sponsor Signature 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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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.*

"The Rite Word (USPS #3043) is published monthly by the San Jose Scottish Rite at 2455 Masonic Dr., San Jose, CA 95125. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Jose, CA. 95125 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **The Rite Word**, 2455 Masonic Drive San Jose CA 95125"

Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events

Tuesday September 8th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

Council Opens—Business Casual Dress

Saturday September 12th ~ The Scottish Rite Mysteries

Sacramento Scottish Rite

Monday September 21st ~ SCVOA Meeting 6:30 pm

Golden Rule Lodge #479

Monday October 12th ~ SCVOA Meeting 6:30 pm

Los Altos Lodge #712

Tuesday October 13th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

Consistory Opens—Octoberfest

Tuesday November 10th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

Grand Commander's Visit