

1910, 1925, & TODAY



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

THE RITE WORD

DECEMBER 2015

Volume 9, Issue 12



My Brothers and their Ladies,

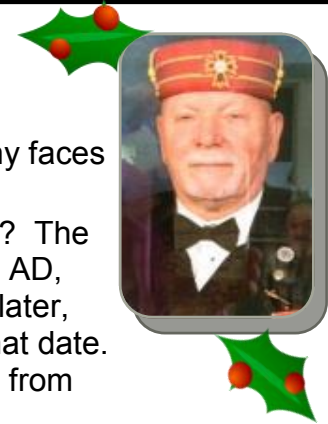
Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy New Year! This is the time when families come together to celebrate the many faces of this holiday season.

Have you ever wondered why we celebrate the 25th of December as Christmas? The first recorded date of Christmas being celebrated on December 25th was in 336 AD, during the reign of the first Christian Roman Emperor Constantine. A few years later, Pope Julius I officially declared that the birth of Jesus would be celebrated on that date. Some Orthodox churches celebrate Christmas on January 7th due to the switch from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar which caused a loss of ten days.

Do you know the origin of kissing under the Mistletoe? In Norse mythology, it was a symbol of love and friendship. During the Medieval period, people believed mistletoe could bring good luck during December and ward off evil spirits. By the way, the name mistletoe derives from two Anglo Saxon words – “Mistel” meaning dung and “Tan” meaning twig, otherwise “poo on a stick”. Not quite as romantic when you know that.

**Remember there will be a Night of Instruction on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 6:30pm.
Please make reservations now!**

. Fraternally, **JACK HARRIS - VENERABLE MASTER**



The Legacy

The Future of Scottish Rite Masonry rests in the hands of its Members. It will be what we make of it; an Institution of Moral Leadership, Educational Advancement and Philanthropic Endeavors—or—merely a social club with empty titles and vain pretensions. To achieve the former, requires the combined and concerted effort of a great many of us and a renewed commitment to Learn and Live — First: Learn the Sublime Teachings of Religious Philosophy. Then: Live Them; that our Light may so Shine before men that they will continue to desire our Fellowship and join in our Assemblies.

The seed is self-improvement and the fruit is moral progress. Each of us must become the Magister Interior, the Inward Master, for until we have mastered ourselves, our influence over other men can bring no good results.

Good Men; Better Men. We Seek no More; we Offer no More. It is enough.

A SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE PUBLICATION

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



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2015 Honor Roll Board

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.

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Get your annual gift in for your early chance to get on 2016 Honor Roll

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



San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

2015 ~ Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Bro. Jack Harris, 32° KCCH	408-314-6124
Senior Warden	Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32°	408-985-5996
Junior Warden	Bro. Martin Maxey, 32°	831-402-4903
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Captain of the Host	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32°	408-656-2459

2015 - Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Bro. Cordell H. Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Senior Warden	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696
Junior Warden	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Charles Cowden, 32° KCCH	831-685-3416
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Kerem Kapkin, 32°	831-334-4041

2015- Council of Kadosh

Commander	Bro. Will Montoya, 32°	408-274-1137
1st Lt Commander	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
2nd Lt Commander	Bro. Richard Bartlett, 32°	831-331-3342
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Charles Colman, 32°	408-972-5101
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Palmer Kain, 32°	831-247-0379

2015 San Jose Consistory

Master of Kadosh	Bro. H. "Bud" Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730
Prior	Bro. JR McGovert, 32°	408-258-3700
Preceptor	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408-230-6088
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Oscar James, 32°	408-644-1023

2015- General Officers

Personal Representative	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Assist. to the Personal Representative	Ill. Richard A. Meyers, 33°	408-264-0277
General Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Prelate	Bro. Mike Sloan, 32°	408-365-8266
Almoner	Bro. Jerry Best, 32° KCCH	408-712-5370
Orator/Librarian	Bro. David Kimball 32° KCCH	408-836-6792
Tiler	Bro. Tom Tefft, 32°	408-229-9460
Club Liaison	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
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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. Jason Barnett 32°	408-621-4211



**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.**

Directors of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation

President	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Director (exp 9/30/2016)	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
Director (exp 9/30/2016)	Bro. Jerry Best, 32° KCCH	408-712-5370
Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32°	408-656-2459
Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32°	408-505-1822
Director (exp 9/30/2015)	Bro. Wayne Rose, 32°	408-266-4184
Director (exp 9/30/2015)	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Venerable Master	Bro. Jack Harris, 32° KCCH	408-314-6124
Wise Master	Bro. Cordell Bleiler 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Commander	Bro. Will Montoya, 32°	408-274-1137
Master of Kadosh	Bro. H. "Bud" Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730
Assist. To the Personal Representative	Ill. Richard A. Meyers, 33°	408-264-0277

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 Commander of Kadosh

Brethren,

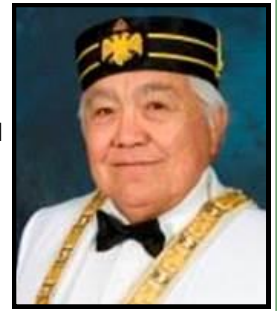
The Fall Reunion has come and gone. All the hard work of practice and set-up paid off. I hear that all the Rituals were well done and most appreciated. I am sorry that I was not able to attend the latter half of the program, but a prior commitment took me out of the state for that week. I am, however, very happy to say that I now have 13 new Scottish Rite Brothers and that many of those are from my own Blue Lodge. I was even happier when I was given the honor and privilege of presenting the caps and pins to our new Brothers. As my family grows, so does the good feeling in my heart.

By the time you get to read this article, Thanksgiving will have passed and I hope that it all went well with you. Thanksgiving is a special day of the year where we are reminded of that which should be done on every single day of the year. That is to GIVE THANKS to the Supreme Grand Master for all the Love and Benefits that HE has bestowed upon us. It is an extra opportunity to show our brothers and sisters how much they mean to us, and to share with those that are in need.

The mad rush to do our Christmas shopping is now in progress—to find the right gift for that special someone, to put up the usual decorations and Christmas tree. Be careful out there! Not everyone is in that giving spirit. Watch your wallets, purses and handbags—which seem to ‘walk away’ more so in this season. And especially be careful on the road when that special ‘spirit’ takes over the driving ability of some drivers. Be well, have a GOOD and MERRY CHRISTMAS, and a GREAT, HAPPY and SAFE NEW YEAR!! I would like to see your happy faces again next year.

Remember — YOU are my FAMILY! Be well and GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

Will Montoya, Commander, Council of Kadosh



Tianna is a sweet 9 year old girl who is seen once a week for speech and language therapy at our clinic. She has been seen for the last three months after waiting for some time on the clinic waitlist. She is currently in the third grade at Discover 2 Charter School. Tianna enjoys computer games, science and music. She participates in a pre-public speaking class on Saturdays to help with her speech and language skills and confidence. She recently dressed up as Maleficent from Sleeping Beauty for Halloween. Tianna is a sharp and competitive game player and usually beats her clinician on a weekly basis during treatment sessions!



Tianna's mother was referred to our clinic by San Jose State University. She was concerned about speech sounds that were unclear and other sounds that were omitted. Her mom felt that Tianna was losing confidence when speaking to adults because she often had to repeat herself.

Tianna has been working on her articulation, focusing on /r, l, th, er and r blends like br/ as well as age appropriate grammar skills. During her short time in treatment, she has made great progress. She went from being unable to produce the sound /th/ to producing it in words with nearly 80% accuracy. Tianna's mother is very dedicated to continuing her treatment at home and it really speeds up development and progress.

Since treatment began, Tianna's mother reports, "The one on one sessions have increased her confidence, improved pronunciation of certain sounds and made Tianna feel happier. In just 5 minutes per day of home practice, a big difference is noted." That home practice really does make a difference that her therapist sees as well. Tianna's mother feels that the one on one service, noted gains in her speech sounds and helpful and well trained therapist are very rewarding.

Even after waiting nearly 3 years on the waitlist, Tianna's mother reports, ". It is the best investment you can make for your child. I'm grateful and feel blessed to be getting awesome service. We are very happy and it was worth waiting for—the very excellent speech therapy that normally we wouldn't be able to afford, from a great staff who are well trained and kind."



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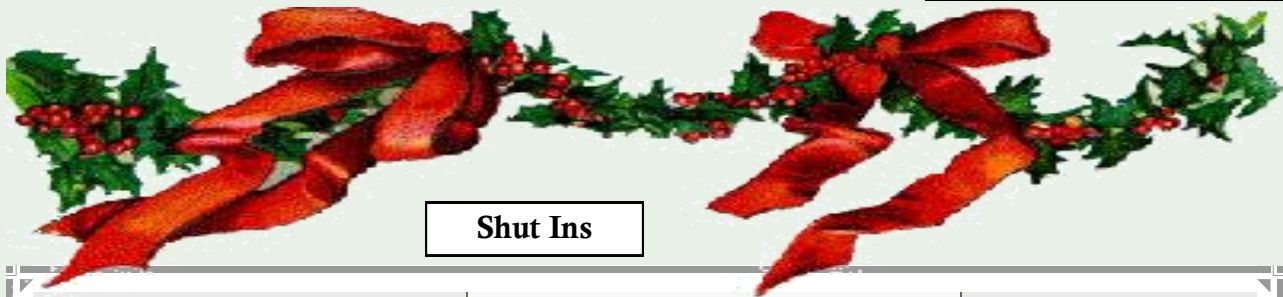


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IMAGINE LIVING THE DREAM



Shut Ins

<u>Raymond Ruhland</u>	5068 Trenary Way, San Jose, CA. 95118-2626	408-267-5569 Visitors most welcome!
<u>Franklin Wong</u>	439 Dardanelli Lane Los Gatos, CA. 95032	408-656-5572 Calls/visitors Welcome!
<u>Jack Harris</u>	1066 Camino Ramon San Jose, CA. 95125	408-314-6124 Calls/visitors Welcome!



Bro. Herb Dallas
32° KCCH



From all of us at Scottish Rite,
We would like to wish you a
speedy recovery.
You have been sorely missed by all of us !

**GET WELL SOON
&
HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!**



“Called from Labor:“

**Bro. William P. Duncan 32°
August 15, 2015**

**Bro. Ralph V. Sharp, Jr. 32°
August 31, 2015**



P lease remember to notify us when a fellow Brother is ill,
in need, or has passed to the other shore.
We are not always contacted in a timely manner.
Scottish Rite is here to assist!
Please feel free to call anytime!
(408) 978-7483



Please remember those brothers that are shut in. A friendly call or note from a fellow brother would be a warm and appreciated gesture. Though, they cannot always be present, they are certainly not out of mind. We wish them all the best. God Bless.



Tuesday, December 8th, 2015

Assorted Appetizers

Roasted Pork Loin - *with an Apple, Brandy & Raisin sauce*

Special Vegetables

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Mixed Green Salad

Rolls and Butter

Dessert

\$15.00 per person

Reservations Required!!!

Vegetarian Entrée must be requested in advance!

Be sure to make your reservations!!!

#408-978-7483 or

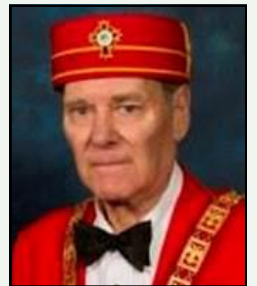
Email Angela

adathans@gmail.com



From the Wise Master

In the last two Rite News Articles I was able to mention “How San Jose Scottish Rite got to both California and to San Jose”. For this month’s issue I was planning to mention “How the whole San Francisco Bay Area got Here”, but I have just about run out of this year’s Masonic time. The S.F. Bay Area story will have to wait for another news article. So, I am just going to wing it here and tell you about my life, both as Wise Master of San Jose Chapter Rose Croix and associated events.



I first want to say how proud I am to have been called to serve this office at San Jose Scottish Rite. When I received my First Degree at Washington Lodge in Lexington, Massachusetts a million years ago, I remember that right next door was the Scottish Rite headquarters for the Northern Jurisdiction of the USA. And I didn’t know much about Masonic Lodges, let alone the Scottish Rite, except that many of my teachers who wore the ring were really good guys—and I wanted to be part of that group and perhaps even to be able to contribute, in a small degree at least. Imagine, this no-account kid from Boston to have ended up here.

Was it just good luck or perhaps a guiding hand! California—I didn’t even know where that was.

So lucky—to be a member of Mountain View DeAnza and Los Altos Lodges as well as Eastern Star, Past Masters, Sciots, Scottish Rite and S.C. Valley Officers Association. And I have been able to participate in the great aerospace and defense industry and travel all about the Bay Area, the Grand Lodge, the whole state, the country, and to Japan. What a ride!

But I’ve got to tell you it’s been a push, especially this year, and I did it because I wanted to tell myself that I am still alive and to try and make up for lost time. There are really great guys coming up in this officer’s Rose Croix Chapter and in the several other bodies as well to do the Work and to carry the banner. It probably won’t take them as long as it did me to learn the words, but I don’t forget them. And I would caution them not to get overly extended in associated officer’s positions lest they try to fly too close to the sun. With the latest up-surge in the economy, just the traffic alone is a difficult barrier to overcome.

Thank you Lorrie, and thank you all for lending me a helping hand this year and I look forward to continue serving for the next million years (geologically speaking, of course).

~~Doll Beiler, Wise Master

Greetings Everyone!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Joyful holiday to all. We successfully completed our Fall Reunion and my compliments to all who took part. The Degree Teams did well and it was nice to have so many of you on the side lines. I think the candidates experienced well-presented degrees and gained a lot from the experience.

Again I offer a bit of Masonic history/trivia for December. On December 4th, 1730, Benjamin Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* included news about several Lodges of Freemasons meeting in the "province" and he was not a Freemason yet. On December 9th, 1999, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of D.C. voted to recognize the Grand Lodge of D.C. On December 14th, 1994, the United Grand Lodge of England issued a statement that it found the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (the source of all Prince Hall Masonry in the United States) to be regular and deserving of recognition. In the month of December the following Grand Lodges were formed: Washing State in 1858, North Carolina in 1787, Wyoming in 1874, Georgia in 1786, Idaho in 1867, New Jersey in 1786, Wisconsin in 1843, South Carolina in 1783, Louisiana in 1813, and Texas in 1837. A good month for Freemasonry. On December 26th, 1972, Harry S. Truman, former President of the United States, Past Grand Master of Missouri, and a very active Freemason, died. He had requested a Masonic funeral, but instead the government, which handled the details, permitted a short Masonic ceremony during the funeral service. As before, there are other Masonic events of note that happened in December but I hope the one's that I chose were of interest to you.

Having completed our Reunion, we should be taking the new Scottish Rite Masons under our wing to guide and assist them in their search for light. I want to share with you the following story:

Two Horses by An Unknown Author

Just up the road from home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse. If you get a closer look you will notice something quite interesting...one of the horses is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has given him a safe and comfortable barn to live in. This alone is pretty amazing.

But if you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell. It is coming from a smaller horse in the field. Attached to the horse's halter is a small, copper-colored bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is, so he can follow.

As you stand and watch these two friends you'll see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell and then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting he will not be led astray. When the horse with the bell returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, he will stop occasionally to look back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.



Like the owners of these two horses, the Great Architect does not throw us away just because we are not perfect. Or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others in to our lives to help us when we are in need.

Sometimes we are the blind horse, being guided by the little ringing bell of those who the Great Architect places in our lives. And at other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way. Let's work together to give and receive guidance from one another. See you at our Tuesday night meeting and dinner! I wish you blessings of the season!

Bud Ramsey, Master of Kadosh



Knights of St. Andrew" Cabaret Night" **Great Company !**

Great Food ! Great Show !

Thanks to all who attended !



Clinic Christmas Party

Saturday, December 12 * Runs from Noon to 4pm



BROTHERS! Please come by for an hour or the whole afternoon.



See what a difference our Foundation and Clinic are making to the children and families of our community! Have a hot dog and THANK our wonderful Clinicians! Special Activities: Petting Zoo, Face Painter, Balloon Animals, Jumpie House, Lunch, Santa Visit and more!

From the Chief Knight

Greetings Sir Knights and Family of the Valley,



Well, the end of the year is here, which as always has one asking - where did the time go? Did we accomplish all that we had hoped? For the KSA, almost. We had set out with some lofty goals and I believe we made a respectable dent in the work we endeavored on. Let's take a look at a few things. We had consistent and well attended KSA meetings, thanks to our past Chief Knights and core members who have been fixtures in our order for some time. We also had an increase in active new members who ignited a spark in the KSA, not only with attendance but with great ideas and work ethics. We assisted with both our Spring and Fall Reunions, held Knighting ceremonies for new members, and Elevation Knighting's for deserving Knights. Greeting and assisting you in various ways at our Scottish Rite events, drafting and adopting new bylaws, hosting two events - the Scottish Highland games trip in September and our latest successful event, our "Cabaret Night" dinner and magic show in November. Our Knights have created our KSA website that you can find on the Scottish Rite site. The Chief Knight article is a new addition this year as well as his contact info on the Officers page. A special thank you to Brother Hank Vlcek, Illustrious Ken Nagel, our four Officer Bodies and Angela Athans, for encouraging and showing support for our order, which of course is YOUR order. Did we serve you well? I hope so.

On December 1st we will be holding our annual elections which will usher in a fresh line of officers ready to serve you. All of our active members would like to thank you all for the privilege of serving this year. We are still not quite done - a few items left on our plate, continuing our momentum into the next year.

As Chief Knight, it was an honor to serve, and I will remain an active Knight of St. Andrew hopefully for years to come. From all of the Knights of Saint Andrew, THANK YOU!

Jason Barnett, Chief Knight 2015

THE TEST

Author: Unknown

Several years ago, the story is told of a Mason who always wore his Masonic ring and lapel pin when in public. On some occasions, he rode the bus from his home to the downtown area. On one such trip, he sat down and discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change.

As he considered what to do, he thought to himself: "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he thought: "Oh, forget it. It's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? The transit company gets too much money in fares anyway, and they'll never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet."

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, then he handed the quarter to the driver and said: "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver with a smile replied: "I noticed your Masonic ring and lapel pin. I have been thinking lately about asking a Mason how to join? I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. You passed the test. Can you tell me how to become a Mason?"

When the Mason stepped off the bus, he said a silent prayer: "Oh God, Grand Architect of the Universe. I almost sold you and my beloved Brother Masons out for a mere quarter."

Our actions are the only Masonic Creed some will ever see. This is a really almost scary example of how people watch us as Masons, and may put us to the test even without our realizing it!! Always be diligent, whether it be at the theatre, restaurant, grocery store, service station or just driving in traffic.

Remember — whether it be a ring, lapel pin or an emblem on your car, you carry the name of our great Fraternity on your shoulders whenever and wherever you call yourself a Mason. You can never tell who might be watching!

Good Men Search for Freemasonry. Freemasonry makes them Better.





RE-you-NION

Replace the 'U' with 'YOU'!

Join with your Brothers at the Fall 2015 Reunion!

April 22-23, 29-30 / May 2, 2016

Support San Jose Membership
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www.sanjosescottishrite.org

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)*

(Please print or type)

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-Mail address: _____

Mailing Address (If different from above): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth : _____

Present Blue Lodge: _____ Approx. Date Raised: _____

Location: _____

Name of Spouse: _____

Occupation (If retired, previous occupation): _____

Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Recommended by: _____

1: _____ 2: _____



SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
OF THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE

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Future Scottish Rite Events

Tuesday, Dec 1st ~ “**NIGHT OF INSTRUCTION**” *Guest Speaker—Ill. Danial Doornbos*

6:30pm ~ Social Hour 7:00pm ~ Speaker 7:30pm ~ Dinner

Tuesday, Dec 8th ~ **Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm**

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program—25/50 Year Pin Awards

Saturday, Dec 12th ~ **Clinic Christmas Party ~ Noon - 4pm**

Please come and spend some time with our Clinicians and their Students & Families. Food, Fun, Santa and Entertainment

Tuesday, Jan 12th ~ **Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm**

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program—Honor Blue Lodge Masters of 2015

Sunday, Jan 17th ~ **MONTHLY MASONIC GET TOGETHER - CASUAL DRESS!**

At the home of Wors Will Montoya, 2999 Bradbury Dr, SJ. Bring some snacks to share!

Tuesday, Jan 26th ~ **INSTALLATION of Scottish Rite Officers for 2016 @ 6:00pm**

Thursday, Jan 28th ~ **MONTHLY OAM MEETING - Host: Liberty Lodge #299**

6:30pm ~ Dinner 7:30pm ~ SOI—Reception of GL Officers, Jewel March, Calling Up, Rod Work

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