



The Rite Word

From the Venerable Master:

August is a strange month. To begin, it is one of the months, with July, which was added to the calendar late in the history of Rome, to honor Julius and Augustus Caesar, but which forever plunged the remaining months into confusion. September through December, as their name roots imply, were the seventh through the tenth months – and now they suddenly found themselves displaced becoming the ninth through the twelfth – which makes no sense at all.



But in a more contemporary context, we find that August is that month between the height of summer in July, when Masonic bodies seem to go into hibernation, and that very busy month of September, when real life lurches back into normalcy.

July is the time for vacations, for picnics, barbecues, Independence Day celebrations, and in general, taking it easy. September, as many of us remember from those golden days of yesteryear, was when reality hit us. The new fall TV lineup debuted in September. School started up again, the new car model year was launched, and it signaled the return of the daily grind.

August is that time in between. We have never known what to do with August. Today, things are somewhat different. A lot of school years now

begin in August. There is no real TV debut season, and heaven knows what the car manufacturers are doing. But August is still that awkward month, and that's not likely to change anytime soon.

But rest assured, your brothers at the Scottish Rite are here, as we are month after month. We look forward to seeing you among us. Remember that for our August stated meeting, we revert to casual dress. That does not mean, by the way, blue jeans or shorts. Might I suggest a pair of slacks and a polo shirt. Please join us in August and enjoy the fellowship.

Randy Downey



Our New Conference Room

2019 Honor Roll

Hon. Bob Laws 32° KCCH
Ill. Durward Ayre 33°
Bro. Estil Johnson 32°
Ill. Richard Fisher 33°
Ill. Hershel Amos 33°
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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.

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July 13, 2019



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408-656-5572
NEW ADDRESS
34400 Mission Blvd, Union City, CA 94587
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Senior Warden	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
Junior Warden	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Captain of the Host	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696

2019 - Chapter of Rose Croix

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Senior Warden	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408-755-0079
Junior Warden	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408-483-9361
Master of Ceremonies	Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831-402-4903
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1st Lt Commander	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
2nd Lt Commander	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
Marshal of Ceremonies	Hon. Jack Harris 32° KCCH	408-275-6326
Lt of the Guard	TBD	

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Prior	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408-230-6088
Preceptor	Hon. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
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Director (exp 2021)	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
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Venerable Master	Hon. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Wise Master	Bro. Kerem Kapkin, 32°	831-334-4041
Commander	Bro. Naresh Rampershad, 32°	408-660-0121
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Richard Rosenberg, 32°	650-494-8792
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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.

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of San Jose, in the Orient of California, acknowledge and yield all allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty Third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

From the Wise Master

As we move in hot days of August, I wish you safe and happy summer days whether in vacation, work or at home. I want to share an important date; August 4th 1753, Saturday, 266 years ago.

On August 4, 1753, George Washington, a young Virginia planter, became a Master Mason, the highest rank in the Fraternity of Freemasonry, in his hometown of Fredericksburg, Virginia. The ceremony was held at the Masonic Lodge No. 4 in his home town. The twenty-one-year-old young man would soon hold his first military commission.

For George Washington, joining the Masons was a rite of passage and an expression of his civic responsibility. After becoming a Master Mason, Washington had the option of passing through a series of additional rites that would take him to higher “degrees.” In 1788, shortly before becoming the first president of the United States, Washington was elected the first Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22.

Some quotes from our Brother George Washington:

“It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one.”

“If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.”

“My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her.”

“A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the country?”

“A free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined; to which end a uniform and well-digested plan is requisite; and their safety and interest require that they should promote such manufactories as tend to render them independent of others for essential, particularly military, supplies.”

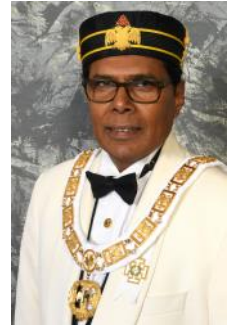
“In politics as in philosophy, my tenets are few and simple. The leading one of which, and indeed that which embraces most others, is to be honest and just ourselves and to exact it from others, meddling as little as possible in their affairs where our own are not involved. If this maxim was generally adopted, wars would cease and our swords would soon be converted into reap hooks and our harvests be more peaceful, abundant, and happy.”



From the Commander

The Six Major Themes of the Scottish Rite

By: Robert G. Davis, 33*,
Grand Cross



We often get so wrapped up in the minutia of the lessons which are taught in the Scottish Rite Degrees that it is easy to overlook the over-riding themes which are presented in the Rite. Almost every Mason knows that the Degrees of Freemasonry represent the journey of a man’s life. For example, it is often said that the Entered Apprentice Degree represents the journey of youth; the passage a young man takes as he begins to consciously weigh the differences between right and wrong, ignorance and knowledge, good and evil, and starts to mold the character he will fashion for himself, using the influences of his life as his guide. He has, in a real sense, been initiated by the circumstances of his life; for good or bad. Freemasonry provides him a stable image for life building, and admonishes him to start over if his first attempt didn’t go so well. Likewise, we think of the passage of the Fellowcraft as one where the initiate takes stock of his progress in life; a kind of a review of what he knows, and doesn’t know, what has worked for him, and what still remains to be done. He makes an accounting of what he has learned from his experience, his upbringing, friends and acquaintances, education, culture, and community. If he is like most men, he reaches a point where he has studied just about everything in his life but himself. He becomes consciously aware that life is not just about outward appearances, tasks, money, and relationships. He feels a hunger for additional meaning. Masonry informs him that, to feel complete, he ultimately has to affirm himself. This requires a different kind of journey all together. In Masonry, we think of this more intimate and deeply engaging step in the journey to manhood an important awakening for each man. In ritual terms, it is called “passing the outer door of the temple.” As one of the oldest institutions serving men today, we also know this is a stage of the journey that four-fifths of the male population in the world will never choose to take. Yet the consequences of not knowing oneself are staggering. One of the goals of Freemasonry is to help men take this most significant step forward with their own life.

The journey to mature masculinity doesn’t stop for the rest of us just because some guys choose to exit the train. For the man who sincerely sees

From the Master of Kadosh

Our Scottish Rite facilities are being redone, remodeled & repurposed with your help in supporting the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation. More changes are on the way including expanding our Childhood Language Clinic. The down stairs will soon have a modern meeting facility that we will all be proud of. Come, visit and be impressed by the room and the changes.



Masonry is moving ahead. I just had the opportunity to visit Grand Lodge in San Francisco. A new beautiful Lodge room, with dining and meeting areas is almost complete. It is located on the exhibit floor. Eight Lodges have already expressed an interest in putting on a degree there.

Masonry is moving forward with a purpose, and we are showing the community that we are a vital link on our society. Come to our meetings and enjoy the good friendship, see where we are going.—Looking forward to our future. We have much to offer.

Richard Rosenberg

San Jose Auto Show

The 19th annual Antique Autos in History Park, presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club and History San José, will take place on Sunday, September 22, 2019 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This event fills History Park (Kelley Park, 635 Phelan Ave., San Jose, CA) with period-correct pre-1946 vehicles, fire equipment, bicycles and motorcycles.

The featured vehicles this year are Durant Motors Inc. (1921 -1932), Star, Durant, Flint and Locomobile.

In addition to many antique vehicles, there will be participation by the Early Day Gas and Tractor Association, displays of Early Crafts and Antique Collectibles, a Dixieland Band, Dancers, Barbershop Quartet, Blacksmith Shop Demos, Trolley Rides, History San José Open Houses, Kids Activities, Food and more. Bring the family for a day of viewing, entertainment and fun.

General Admission to the event is \$5 (for age 3 years or older) and free for participants and HSJ members.

The Fourteenth Degree, Perfect Elu. Also known as Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Mason.

This Degree is one of the five mandatory Scottish Rite degrees and the completion of your ritual experience in the Lodge of Perfection. It contains more substance than anybody can possibly absorb by watching the Degree once or twice. We will touch on the highlights in this article.

First of all, what does "perfect" mean? In general use, perfect means either flawless or complete. Flawless is an idea that many people aspire to but few, if ever, achieve it. Humans are very good at making mistakes and finding ways to make messes. In the context of the Scottish Rite, perfect means complete. The 14th Degree seeks to complete the 3rd Degree we received in Blue Lodge.

The 3rd Degree is just fine as we receive and confer it. It has no flaws, other than an occasional brain freeze on the part of a ritualist. That's because the 3rd Degree is not really about communicating secret construction techniques or passwords. Rather, it communicates, through suggestion, a key to the greatest mystery of human existence, death. What is death? Is it the concluding act of the human experience? Does something come after death? The answer is one of the secrets of a Master Mason.

The 3rd Degree presents a dilemma. King Solomon and Hiram King of Tyre find themselves unable to communicate "secrets of a Master Mason" to the candidate. That's because it takes three people to communicate and Hiram Abiff was recently assassinated. Why did he suffer such a vicious fate? Because he possessed personal integrity, and refused to compromise himself even at the peril of his life. In the lecture, we say his was "an example worthy of all imitation."

Faced with the roadblock to communicating the secrets, yet unwilling to accept failure, Kings Solomon and Hiram employ a substitute secret, "until future ages may discover the rite". Like announcing a sequel to your favorite movie.

The Scottish Rite gives an answer in the 14th Degree. Incidentally, the York Rite of Freemasonry also gives an answer in the Royal Arch Degree. The two answers are different, if you just look at the words. Yet both point you in the right direction. With a little study and thought about all of the clues given in the degree rituals, you can arrive at the definitive secret of a Master Mason.

Then what do you do with the secret? Keep it a secret, of course. And for good reason. Such information is only meaningful to those who have put in the effort to

Continued on Page 6

Continued from Page 5

discover and understand it. That's how mysteries work.

In beginning of the 14th Degree, we meet an old friend from the Bible, Moses. That's the guy who led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and, after 40 years of wandering in the desert, arrived at the Promised Land. Moses is also credited with writing the first five books of the Bible, which the Jewish folks know as the Torah, while the Christians call it the Pentateuch (Greek for five books).

Among these writings are the famous "Ten Commandments". Actually, there are a total of 613 Commandments. And they aren't really commands. The original Hebrew word is Mitzvoth. A Mitzvah (singular) is a duty or a good deed. Take a moment to contemplate the difference.

If you read the text of Exodus chapter 20 carefully, you find that God himself dictated the Ten Commandments. Whereas Moses dictated the remaining 603 under God's direction. That is why the first ten are considered the most important. And, it's easier to remember 10 items than 613. Also, many of those other Mitzvoth apply to forms of worship that we no longer use.

When people think of Moses, they often envision Charlton Heston from the epic film of 1956. Did Moses really look like that? No idea. But you can be sure he didn't speak English.

In the 14th Degree, a Scottish Rite brother playing Moses appears and quotes an edited version of the Ten Commandments. This is because the 14th Degree emphasizes each member's commitment to righteous living and service to mankind. The Venerable Master questions the candidate at the altar about his past life, particularly his life and conduct since he became a Mason.

The final question is whether, since becoming a Mason, the candidate has ever taken the name of God in vain. That's a scary one. Most of us have various ways of uttering expletives in a moment of stress, pain, or frustration. Exactly does it mean to "take the name of God in vain"?

Two things to know. First, to use God's name, you have to know what it is. Second, you must understand the concept of "in vain".

In the 2nd Degree, the Master says that the letter G, suspended in the East, is the initial of the name of the Supreme Being. That statement is not really accurate. The word god, with a lower-case g, is a being or object believed to have more than natural attributes and powers and that requires human worship. The word God, with a capital G, refers to a supreme being or an ultimate reality. Those are definitions or job titles, but not names.

Now, you and I are humans. But we don't say things like, "Good morning, human". We prefer to use names, like "Good morning, Jim". Ever since there was religion, people have addressed gods by their names. That's important in religious systems that employ multiple divine beings. In fact, in ancient times, people believed that if you knew a god's name, you could persuade the god to grant you favors. Everybody needs a little help, now and then, right?

Back to the Exodus story. Moses climbs Mount Sinai, also known as Mount Horeb, to investigate rumors of a being up there making lightning and thunder. And that's where Moses meets God. The God. The Being who will one day become the one single Deity of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths. God orders Moses to Egypt to free the Israelites, who have become slaves to the natives. Moses expects to tell the people who commissioned him in this monumental task. He knows the people will ask, "Who sent you? What is His name?"

While the Israelites are descendants of Jacob, whose name God changed to Israel, his descendants do not know Jacob's God. They are familiar with the many gods of Egypt. So they will want to know which of these many deities sent Moses. So Moses asks.

God responds, "I am that I am". That's an English translation of a Hebrew phrase. The Greek translation is actually more helpful, "Ego eime On" or "I am being", that is, "I am existence". That name is written in the original Hebrew Bible with the characters yod, hey, vav, hey. That is God's name. It's sometimes called the Tetragrammaton, which in Greek means four-letter word.

You will recall in the 13th Degree, the workmen discover a series of subterranean vaults. In the deepest one they found a cube with a triangle, and within it the Hebrew characters yod, hey, vav, hey. The workmen do not know what it means but they assume it must be important. In the 14th Degree, one of the workmen, represented by the candidate, comes seeking to learn what the mysterious characters actually mean.

The first thing we learn is that this name of God is ineffable. That means you do not speak it. And we are informed that the original pronunciation of the Name has been lost to time. That is probably a good thing, human nature being what it is.

How about "in vain"? In vain refers to futility or ineffectuality, without success or result, misuse or misapplication. Like calling down a curse upon the hammer that accidentally strikes your thumb. When you scream "godammit!", does God pay attention? I doubt it. The Big Guy has better things to do than spend all day cursing things. And I would imagine that He or She feels compassion toward the person whose sudden pain led to the irreverent outburst.

As the Degree progresses, the candidate undergoes a simple purification with water and is clothed in a white robe. Now he is ready to take his obligation, kneeling at the altar, holding the holy book of his faith to his heart.

After the obligation, the candidate receives a symbolic anointing and is presented the 14th-degree ring. He is told to wear that ring for the rest of his life. And it should only be replaced by the 33rd-degree ring, should he ever receive the 33rd Degree.

Continued on Page 8

2019 Honormen

Being an odd numbered year, it is once again time to honor some of our members for their service to our Valley and Freemasonry in general.

I am extremely pleased to announce that the Supreme Council has selected six of our members to be honored this year.

To be Coronated a 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary (White Cap): Wor. Jack Harris and Wor. Randy Downey.

Jack Harris was raised a Master Mason in Liberty Lodge #299 on July 26, 1963. He served as Master of the lodge in 1998 and again in 2008. He is a Golden Veteran's (50 year) recipient as well as a recipient of the Hiram Award. He served as Senior Grand Deacon for the Grand Lodge in 2010. He joined San Jose Valley Scottish Rite on May 17, 1975. He served as Wise Master in 2012 and Venerable Master in 2015. He was elevated to the rank of Knight Commander Court of Honor in 2009. Jack has been the 18th Degree Director for many years as well as participating in numerous other degree teams. He has served as a Director on the Foundation Board and has been a mainstay within our Valley.

Randy Downey was raised a Master Mason in Downey Lodge #220 on January 22, 1979. He affiliated with Charity Jarman Lodge #362 (now Mt. Moriah Lodge #292) in 1999 and served as Mt. Moriah's Master in 2004. He affiliated with Santa Clara Daylight Lodge #844 in 2009 and served as its Master in 2015. He is a recipient of the Hiram Award. He served as Inspector for the Grand Lodge from 2007 to 2015. He was installed as Grand High Priest for the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California in 2017. As well he has been the presiding officer for many other organizations (too many to list). He joined San Jose Valley Scottish Rite on November 17, 2001. He served as Commander of Kadosh in 2014, Venerable Master in 2018 and Venerable Master again this year. He was elevated to the rank of Knight Commander Court of Honor in 2009. Randy has been the 32nd Degree Director for many years as well as participating in numerous other degree teams. He has served as a Director on the Foundation Board and has continually been a guiding force within our Valley.

To be Elevated to the Rank of Knight Commander Court of Honour (Red Cap): Brothers Brandon Duenas, Gerald Harbick, Richard Rosenberg and Jeff Toone.

Brandon Duenas is a member of South Valley Lodge #187 and Golden Rule Lodge #479. He joined San Jose Valley Scottish Rite on May 4, 2012. He served as Wise Master in 2016 and Com-

mander of Kadosh in 2018. He has also been the presiding officer in all of the York Rite Bodies. He is currently the Building Manger for the San Jose Masonic Center.

Gerald Harbick is a member of Thaddeus Sherman Lodge #196. He joined San Jose Valley Scottish Rite on November 15, 2003. He was Master of his lodge in 2008 and 2009 and received the Hiram Award in 2011. He has been a guiding force within our Scottish Rite Club in Paso Robles for many years and is a member of their 22nd degree team.

Richard Rosenberg is a member of Los Altos Lodge #712. He joined San Jose Valley Scottish Rite on November 21, 1992. He was Commander of Kadosh of the Consistory in 2003 and is currently the Master of Kadosh for 2019. He was Master of his lodge in 1984, 1989 and 1986 and received the Hiram Award in 2000. He is very involved with the Order of Eastern Star serving as Patron.

Jeffery Toone is a member of San Jose Lodge #10. He joined San Jose Valley Scottish Rite on May 5, 2015. Although a member for only four years, he has taken a role in many aspects of the Valley. A member of the Knights of Saint Andrew (KSA) in the early years of its existence, he has been a guiding force in making the unit successful. He served as Chief Knight for the KSA in 2018. He has also taken the lead of our technical team ensuring that our Reunions are top notch. His revamping of our computer scripts, visual presentations and sound management have been invaluable to the Valley.

I want to personally congratulate and thank each of our recipients. As an epitome of what Scottish Rite Masonry is about, each bring their own particular value to our Valley. I look forward to bestowing upon them their new caps on Sept. 14th at the Oakland Scottish Rite Center (more info to follow). The conferral of the KCCH degree is open to the public and I hope many of you will be in attendance to honor these well deserving Masons. The 33rd degree is a closed degree, but please help me congratulate Jack and Randy on their accomplishments and their coronation. To each of our recipients, "A Job Well Done"!!

Stated Meeting Menu

Tuesday

Aug 13, 2019

(Vegetarian Entrée by REQUEST ONLY,
by Aug 9th)



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

Assorted Cheese and Crackers
Chicken Drummettes
Fresh Watermelon
Smoked Chicken
Corn
Potato Salad
Mixed Green Salad
Garlic Bread
Dessert

Continued from Page 4

“However [political parties] may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely in the course of time and things, to become potent engines, by which cunning, ambitious, and unprincipled men will be enabled to subvert the power of the people and to usurp for themselves the reins of government, destroying afterwards

Continued from Page 6

What happens if you lose your 14th-degree ring? Or you just don't wear it? Experience shows that you can still be a good Scottish Rite Mason without it. But it can help to see that ring on your finger every day and be reminded of what it stands for.

Next is a brief bread-and-wine ceremony, which harkens back to ritual meals or celebratory feasts in the Bible. Thanksgiving dinner and the Passover Seder are modern examples of ritual meals. The Agape or love feast is another. They are popular events among Masonic organizations. Still another application is the Communion service you receive at church.

The 14th-degree bread-and-wine ceremony celebrates the con-

Continued from page 4

Freemasonry as a transformative art, everything it suggests to, and instructs him from that point in his life where he consciously decides to work on himself, has to do with his awakening consciousness.

The Scottish Rite knows this aspect of a man's journey well, as it is itself the product of the great movements in history which were all tied to the structure of consciousness. The point of awakening consciousness is precisely where the Scottish Rite joins each man's journey. The experience of the aspirant through the degrees of the Rite is supposed to be his journey to a higher awareness. It is designed to carry him to a higher level of insight. It is a progressive system of awakening consciousness. Its power lies in its ability to integrate its lessons into the psyche of each individual, meeting him on the level of his own experience, and giving him an opportunity to be transformed by the path of his own life. For men, life needs to be seen as a journey. Freemasonry is built on the clear understanding that men need to be engaged in their own quest for self-improvement. The Scottish Rite facilitates this fundamental psychological need in men.

To be continued
next Month

cept of a Messiah, an individual in the role of a great leader, savior, and deliverer. For some people, that means Jesus of Nazareth. For others, it refers to somebody for whom we are still waiting. People have never agreed on exactly what a Messiah is or what he is supposed to do. Consequently, there have been many disappointments and differences of opinion over the centuries.

No Masonic degree is complete without a lecture and the 14th is no exception. In this case, you don't listen to the lecture during the degree conferral. Instead, the Senior Warden directs the candidate's attention to the book, A Bridge to Light, written by Illustrious Brother Rex Hutchens.

The 14th-degree lecture in A Bridge to Light is simple and short, a good foundation for new members. You can find two, more comprehensive lectures in the Scottish Rite Monitor & Guide. Morals & Dogma, original or annotated version, has a detailed historical and educational discussion on the 14th Degree. Take the time to read these lectures. And look up the meaning of any words you do not understand.

Now pay attention. If you haven't read the 14th-degree lecture in A Bridge to Light, you have not completed your 14th Degree. The Senior Warden tells the candidates, "You are accepted here upon the condition that you will study the lecture carefully and learn its symbolic and allegorical meanings." Everybody gets their own personal copy of A Bridge to Light during the capping ceremony at the end of the Reunion. So there are no excuses.



Jenny's son was screened at our clinic in order to see if he had a speech delay in April of 2018 with Mrs. Cynthia under the supervision of Mrs. Jenna when he was almost two years old. He began

Treatment with Mrs. Jenna a few months later. Goals at the initiation of treatment were putting two words together and increasing his turn taking skills during play. He is now three and currently he is working on producing bilabials, putting three words together and making blend sounds at the beginning of his words. He enjoys playing with cars, flash light game, shape games, playdough and stamps with his clinician. He also loves swimming with his mother after speech therapy.

Jenny heard about our clinic from a friend who attended the Scottish Rite Clinic who had great success years ago with her daughter. Prior to speech service at the clinic Jenny's son was, "Very much delayed. My son was two years old and was very frustrated that he couldn't communicate with us. He could only say about 5-10 words at that time, and he would scream at the top of his lungs in anger because we could not understand what he wanted. The first three-four months at the clinic, my son learned slowly. He started to increase his verbal skills rapidly after four months of speech therapy. After six months of therapy, his language skills exploded and it has continuously increased ever since. This speech treatment has impacted our family immensely! As my son increased his

speaking skills, his frustration and anger reduced dramatically. He has not screamed at the top of his lungs in frustration in over six months. My son is now a happy kid who can communicate his needs easily. The most rewarding thing about receiving services here is Mrs. Jenna. She is supportive and caring with my son. She understands when to push him a little firmer and when to give my son grace. She is also inclusive with us as parents, involving us and giving us skills to help support our son. I have referred other parents to the Scottish Rite. Being a parent does not come with a handbook. But the Scottish Rite Clinic and the clinicians here gave us the resources to support our son and watch him thrive."



Rebuilding the Temple Program

When we started the building campaign earlier in the year, it was designed to bring in dollars that would eventually lead to fostering even larger funds to help treat the kids in our clinic. Although our clinicians are doing amazing work for the children they treat, we have another 95 kids on the wait list that may very well never get the treatment they deserve. To be able to bring in another 1 or 2 clinicians to take on a bigger load, and bring the waitlist down, we need the requisite dollars to pay them. We can only accomplish this by creating a more attractive building that will help bring in larger dollars through our rental program. We have a dozen or so projects that will do just that, but again, we need additional dollars to accomplish the projects.

A few months ago we refurbished the downstairs meeting room with new paint, a new easy-to-clean floor, all new LED lighting, new plugs and switches, and new window coverings. Originally, we could only rent the space for around \$500 a day. Today, we get \$1,500 a day, and the space has already been rented a couple dozen times. Also earlier in the year, we upgraded our sound system and speakers, which our customers tell us makes their events that much more pleasant to hold. Again, we are able to raise additional dollars through renting our audio system for music events and presentations during conferences. As this article is being written, we are in the last days of converting our old print and photo shop that was downstairs into a high end executive conference room, which the market tells us we will be able to rent for a \$1,000 a day. There are other projects on the drawing board, and as we complete one project, we commence the next. We estimate, to complete all the projects we envision, it will take approx. 2 years or so at a total cost of approx. \$250,000. It is a lot of money up front, but over the long term, will yield significant funds that will only enhance our clinic's potential.

That's the why. Now, an update to the how. As you are all aware, we started the campaign at the beginning of the year. It was envisioned as a 2 – 3 year campaign where we have asked each of you to assist by either contributing a one-time gift or a pledge donation where you can contribute in smaller payments over a period of months as you choose. We are about 20% of the way through the estimated time to complete the campaign and we are very pleased and thankful that we have surpassed the 20% mark in funds raised which have been either directly donated in cash or with pledges which are expected to come in over the next many months.



Total Goal \$250,000

Total Pledges
\$52,809

Total Cash \$30,161

Total Donors 47

Percent of Goal
21%

To date, we have received \$30,161 in direct donations, and another \$22,648 in long term pledges. This brings our total to \$52,809 or just over 21% towards our goal of \$250,000. These donations have come from 47 different donors. With a membership of 622 members, this equates to just under 8% participation. There is still plenty of time in our campaign to contribute, and we hope each of you see the need and the benefit in what we are asking. You don't have to make a large donation to make a difference. Every dollar is precious and will go a long way in accomplishing our goal. We ask only that you consider where we are headed as Scottish Rite Masons, and that you remember, "Each to his own ability". Give as you can, but please participate at some level. Think of the funds we could raise if every member contributed just a little. A large donation, or small, it doesn't matter. But please be a part of the solution.

I want to thank each of you who have so generously contributed thus far. As well, I want to thank in advance, each of you who makes a decision to come onboard and help us reach our ultimate goal. Our Valley is accomplishing amazing things. But, it is only because of you, our members, that we are so successful. You truly make the difference.

Reunion - Royce Ford Class

September 20, 21 and October 4, 5, 2019



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>			
_____	I hereby authorize the San Jose Scottish Rite to charge \$ _____		
2nd Sponsor PRINTED NAME	to Credit Card # _____		CVC _____
_____	Expiration Date ____ / ____		
<i>2nd Sponsor Signature</i>			

(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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PAID

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 August 13th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens — Business Casual Dress

Sunday August 11th ~Hirams Hackers Golf Tournament

Sunday August 18th~ Masonic Smoker

San Jose Scottish Rite

Thursday August 22nd ~SCVOA Meeting

Friendship #210 6:30 Dinner Program Following

Tuesday August 27th ~All Officers Meeting 7:00 pm

August 31 and September 1~ Highland Games

Pleasanton Fair Grounds

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

Lodge of Perfection Opens

Saturday September 14th~ Honors Presentation

Oakland Scottish Rite

Thursday September 7th ~SCVOA Meeting

Golden Rule #479 6:30 Dinner Program Following

Saturday September 22nd~ San Jose Auto Show