



## The Rite Word

### From the Venerable Master

Brethren,

October is here, already. You may ask yourself: where did the year go? Sometimes it feels like a big blurr without major milestones. Well, a lot of things changed, a lot of things were impacted. This is like a year that will make its mark in the books of history, and leave permanent changes in how we conduct our social life.

The Oktoberfest in Munich would have just ended. An event that has happened for 210 years, except for years of serious distress. This year is one of those now 25 times that the event had to be cancelled. Some due to wars such as the Napoleonic War, wars against Prussia, WW I and WW II. Covid-19 is in company with Cholera epidemics in 1854 and 1873. Given attendance of 6 to 7 million people from all over the world, it was the smart thing to do, although Europe has way better virus statistics and it is now possible to travel fairly easily within Europe. My bet: this one will be back after this Pandemic, with little changes.

I've seen more and more restaurants here now introducing new methods of how to order. Ask for a table, scan in a QR Code from your phone to see the menu, then agree to open a tab online via electronic payment of choice, order your dinner, and voilá, tax and tip is added and you are all set. You'll see your waiter just at the beginning or after your orders are ready to be served. Systems like this will likely stick around and grow more and more.



Some of my neighbors are getting ready for Halloween, one of them almost done with decorations. It is good to see traditions being maintained, specifically in times of distress. As for the trick-or-treat experience, we'll have to await further guidance. Thanks to the enthusiastic neighbors, I usually get fleets of mini-vans come in. I usually have friends over on my porch, one of them counting kids and others handing out candies. Last year: 392 kids. All candies being sealed, they may be safe after a few days, but social distancing could be a challenge. We'll have to see.

We will continue with our virtual meetings for the time being. If you know of brethren that have not been able to participate in person, due to reasons like distance or health, please invite them to our meetings. Same holds true to potential candidates. Our social hour may convince them about Scottish Rite's friends and family oriented character of events, and to ask more questions about the degrees and topics touched on for further light in Masonry. While we will not have a in-person Reunion this year, we will have a virtual Reunion to onboard our interested brethren. We can help them feeling welcome by inviting them to our virtual meetings. Please reach out to your Lodge. The timeline is tight, as the event will be on November 7<sup>th</sup>. For event login, please see emails from our Secretary, Gregg Hall. Please DO NOT post event information on public facing social sites, though – i.e. no Facebook, Twitter, blogs, ...

Happy October,

**You should have received your Dues Notice and 2021 Dues Card in the mail by now. Please pay your dues as soon as possible. Even though we are currently unable to meet, the bills continue on.**

## 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°  
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Bro Ion Vasilescu 32°  
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Bro. Estil Johnson 32°  
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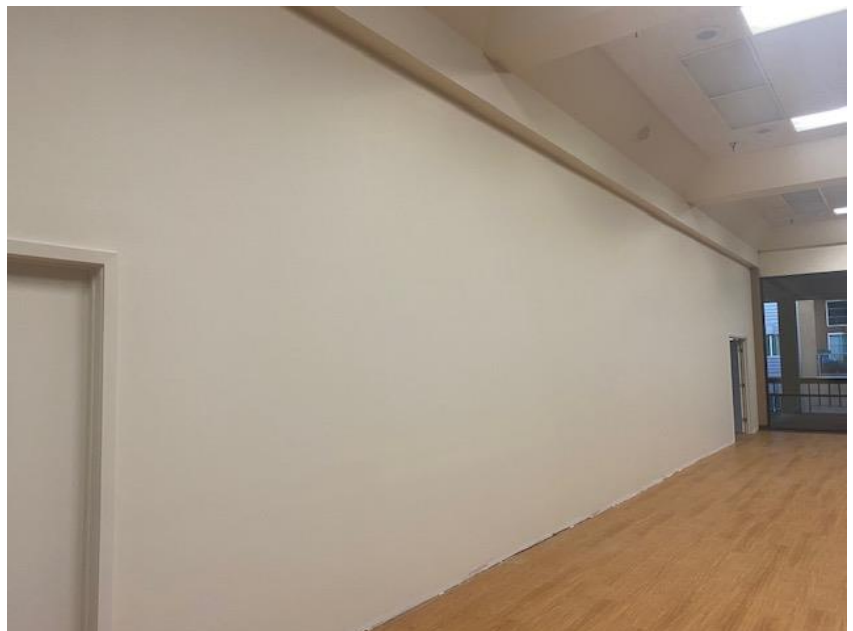
Make an annual Donation to the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies in the amount of \$100 or more and have your name included on the "Honor Roll" Your gift allows the San Jose Bodies to provide the quality events that you deserve.

## Donations

Bro. Roger Baird 32°

For Clinic Testing Supplies  
Mrs. Kathrine Runcie

The new wall separating auditorium from the dinning room



## Called From Labor

No Deaths Reported

"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**

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

**2020 - Chapter of Rose Croix**

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<b>Senior Warden</b>	Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831-402-4903
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Bro. Timothy Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
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<b>Commander</b>	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
<b>Master of Kadosh</b>	Hon. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
<b>Asst. to the Personal Rep.</b>	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730



**Ill. James Cole 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Commander  
Supreme Council A.A.S.R.  
Washington, D.C.



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° P.G.M.**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector  
General in California,  
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

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

**From the Wise Master**

My Brethren, It feels like years not months that we have not been able to meet. It still looks like months away before this will happen. We will survive. Looking forward to the time when we will be able to break bread together.



Back in January of this year, when I was installed as Wise Master, I thought that at some point I would write a brief article about Masonry in Italy.

I am not going to trace the history of Masonry in Italy, but concentrate on one Lodge located in Venice. Venice is an area close to where my parents were born.

The lodge is called Amore e Psiche Lodge No 110 of Venice, and this is on their Web Page. It should sound familiar.

We welcome you to the website of Amore e Psiche Lodge no 110 of Venice, belonging to the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy, the only Italian Masonic Obedience recognized by the United Lodge of England.

What is freemasonry?

It is an association of men who join together in order to pursue their own moral and spiritual improvement, each in the context of their own religion, using the tools and symbolic teachings of the ancient masonic tradition.

These teachings encourage the Freemasons to put in front of all their duties to the God in which each of them believes, and to their family; into submission with respect to the laws of the country in which they live; to live their life according to Truth and to cultivate the Brotherly love and Charity, both among themselves and against the Whole World.

The primitive and the original Freemasonry, the kind we practice, has no other purposes than these.

May you always have Love to share, Health to Spare, and Friends who care. May you be blessed.

**From the Commander of Kadosh**

The Scottish Rite has an annual observance tied to the spring or Vernal Equinox, Maunday Thursday. Other cultures and religions, in the Northern Hemisphere, also have special observances and celebrations connected to the Vernal Equinox.



The Autumnal Equinox almost seems left out. This occurs on September 22 when light and dark are in balance, in equilibrium. There are celebrations and observances at this time also but do not seem as well recognized.

In pagan mythology the feast of Mabon or the second harvest was observed at this time of the year. It gave thanks for summer and was a tribute to the coming darkness. The Catholic Church holds the Feast of the Archangel Michael, Michaelmas, on September 29. It was believed the timing of this feast was to keep the faithful from being drawn to pagan celebrations.

In China and Vietnam this is the time for the Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn Festival held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the lunar calendar's 8<sup>th</sup> month. Japan observes the week around both Equinoxes as a time to visit the graves of one's ancestors. The English Druids and Central American Mayans celebrated it as an indication of the harvest season. On the Equinoxes the sun strikes one of the stairways, on the pyramid Chichen Itza, making it appear that a snake is slithering down the side.

The French Revolution saw a new calendar developed, along with a new system of measure (metric). It was called the Revolutionary Calendar and the first day of the first new year was September 22, 1792. The intent was to rid the country of all the trappings of the old Monarchy.

The Autumnal Equinox was the birthday of the famous scientist Michael Faraday, in 1791. The day after the Equinox, September 23, 1838, was the birthday of Victoria Woodhull who ran for President of the United States in 1872.

Today we have no general observances connected to the Autumnal Equinox. There are fairs, harvest festivals and Labor Day that quietly signal the end of summer and long days of light and the coming of winter and long days of darkness.



## From the Master of Kadosh

This month I have another remembrance type article. It's about my good and dear friend Bro. Spyro Paxinos who recently passed away and also for our SR members who may not have had the pleasure of knowing him. Spyro was born in Greece on the island of Ithaca with much family history where they owned several houses and lots of land.

After growing up, he made his way through Europe and South Africa to Perth Australia, where he met a friend there who was a well known Mason and a Lodge Officer of the Craft. After returning to California and more studies Spyro earned a BS in Electrical Engineering and worked in an industry and company specializing in testing of high reliability components for the U.S. Military and space programs. Spyro was a member of Mountain View Lodge #194, a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a Shriner. He was well liked and knew everybody in the electronics industry, in church and in Masonry and other organizations.

In the early '80s, when the Lodge was having problems, he called me and said they wanted to put him "in the line" to become Master and help out; and he wanted me also to serve as an officer. I had previously only done the degree charges and Blood Bank for some years, but would I also help? I did; This took a tremendous amount of memory and presentation work on my part, but it was a wonderful experience. Spyro was Master in 1987 and I followed him as Master in 1989. We had a great time. It enabled Spyro and myself to become members of the Central California Past Master's Association and to participate in its annual Convocation at Morgan Hill Lodge.

In the years following, Spyro had an opportunity to actually purchase the testing company. He did and he renamed it General Test Laboratories, Inc. In Sunnyvale, CA (GTL). About this time I was finishing up a ten year system engineering contract stint on the MX missile Launcher and Spyro asked me to come on board his technical staff and do equipment trade studies and prepare some procedures for the D.I. high purity water system. This came as a blessing for me, financially, as well as the ability to visit other companies with him locally, including memorable trips to JPL down south to see how they put the orbiting satellites together.

Spyro passed away very suddenly August 21, 2020. The funeral was in the Greek part of the cemetery on Win-



## From the Secretary

The Wall is now finished and painted, the floor company will be in sometime this week to fix the baseboard. Also the Installation is finally completed on the New Dishwashing machine. The old one needed more in repairs than it cost to replace it.



You should have all be now received your Dues notice for 2021. It also contained your dues card. That does not mean you have paid your dues. We need to get dues in so we can pay our bills, even though we are not meeting the bills continue.

I will still offer anyone that wants a life membership we can apply this years dues to the total if you purchase it prior to the end of the year and it will be at the old price.

Since we can't meet the SGIG has decided we will have a virtual reunion. All degrees will be communicated via a zoom call on Friday Nov 6 and Saturday Nov 7th. We need candidates, please get their forms in as soon as possible. The candidates will then be expected to attend the next reunion to see the degrees.

We will begin locking our gate on October 1st. If you need to have after hour access please see me to get a key. Now that Amazon is reenting the parking lot and they have their own access point we no longer need to have the exposure of the gates being open in the evening and weekends.

Finally the Grand Commander's visit has been moved to October 12, 2021, But if he is available he will join our zoom call in November.

*Greg Hall*

## Twenty Fourth Degree, Prince of the Tabernacle

Last month, we looked at the 23rd Degree, Chief of the Tabernacle. In the 24th Degree, we physically stay with the same tabernacle while departing philosophically to consider the common features of some of the world's mystery schools.

At the heart of the 24th Degree is initiation as a symbolic death and rebirth, an experience both political and religious, intended to purify men and women, and garner favor with deities of each particular culture.

Mystic initiation is a step beyond common religion. It requires a sound classical education, an active mind, and the ability to perceive of the divine-human relationship in new ways. Unfortunately, few people today ever received much classical education, so we have pursue some additional study. Some helpful links appear at the end of this article.

The organization of the 24th Degree is a Court with two apartments. They feature the Hebrew letter Yod in place of a G, a scroll on the altar in place of a Bible, a pentagram (five-pointed star) with the Greek letters Alpha and Omega is suspended in the East.

The presiding officer of the Court is the Honored Leader, who sits in the East but has no spoken part in the ritual. Beside him are the Venerable High Priest (VHP), Senior Excellent Priest (SEP) and Junior Excellent Priest (JEP).

The jewel of this degree is the Phoenician letter Aleph, suspended from a short color of watered (an effect to make the color look runny) violet ribbon. The character shown in the ritual books is actually a 13th-century Samaritan Aleph but few members would notice such a minor detail.

Except for the four in the East, the Officers wear a watered scarlet sash over the right shoulder, with these symbols on it: a winged globe, a scarab (dung beetle), and a butterfly, which are all symbols of immortality. They also wear a light-green leather girdle or belt, with the silver censer from the 23rd degree and a gold letter Aleph that matches the jewel. The apron is white lambskin lined with scarlet, bordered with light green, and a light-blue flap. On the body of the apron is the painted image of an Arabian tent and on the flap is a myrtle tree.

### Introduction to Initiation

The Candidate is dressed in a white tunic and stands just off stage with the Expert. The ritual begins with they enter the room and walk to the seat of the Master of Ceremonies (MC).

The MC arises and explains that this degree is intended to illustrate the common features of some of the world's major religions. This experience is purely educational. Nobody is looking for a religious conversion. To know the mysteries, one must stand face-to-face with God and nature.

The MC has the candidate kneel for silent prayer. When the candidate is done, he rises and the MC continues explaining that the true initiate is a man of reason, knowledge, and faith, which form three sides of an equilateral triangle. Faith is the greatest of the

three. Reason is a ray of divine intellect. Science is what you have to learn. Liberty is offered to all of us but few have the power to be free. That is something one must conquer.

He goes on speak of attaining the Holy Empire, the science and power of the Magi. To do that requires four characteristics in the initiate: intellect enlightened by study, unchecked audacity, unconquerable will, and incorruptible discretion. In other words, to know, to dare, to will, and to be silent.

The MC next distinguishes between the mysteries and mysticism. Through your initiation, you lay aside doubting hopes and irrational fears. You know what you can and cannot do, how to make use of your weaknesses, and keep your intentions to yourself. You understand symbols and what your worship, and dare to undergo your practice without hypocrisy or impiety.

Next, the Orator stands and explains the analogy of contraries and the balance of forces that results in equilibrium. This equilibrium is the will of God and liberty in mankind. This equilibrium is the idea of wisdom, power and harmony, the three pillars of our Temple.

He goes on to explain that two forces balance the universe: one attracts, the other repels. He warns not to mistake the shadow for the reality, something vulgar people people do habitually. They turn their backs to the light and then wonder at the obscurity that the project. This idea comes from Plato's allegory of the cave.

Then the Assistant Expert, standing in the West, admonishes the candidate to interpret our symbols for himself. For example, a rough ashlar conceals a perfect cube. The rough ashlar is the symbol, the perfect cube is the meaning. Allegory substitutes the shadow for reality. The idea is to recognize and understand the difference.

Symbols are the way both nature and Masonry teach. Failure to understand that difference between symbols and reality has resulted in much superstition and misunderstanding. The "most monstrous faiths" have resulted when symbols of the sages were subject to fancies and personifications of the poets.

### Passing the Elemental Tests

One prepares for admission to higher mysteries by going through tests. The Assistant Expert holds a candle near the Candidate's hand, representing the test of fire. He recalls the fate of Nadab and Abihu who, contrary to instructions, brought "strange fire" to the holy altar, after which God cremated them up with divine fire. See Leviticus 10:1-3.

The MC takes the candidate to the Treasurer, standing in the North, who pours a small amount of water on the candidate's head and says, "I test you with water, to remind you that none by the pure-of-heart can be admitted to the mysteries."

The MC takes the candidate to the Secretary, standing in the South, who has the candidate kneel onto a spot of sand and gravel, the test of earth, saying earth is the common mother and to it our frail bodies return. It is good to kneel upon its bosom when we implore the mercy and forgiveness of God. Let the beneficence of the earth teach you generosity, an open hand is the fit companion of a pure heart.

The MC takes the candidate to the Orator, standing in the West, who fans the candidate in the test of air, which is the life of all men and the free and inestimable gift of God. Like Him, the air is mighty but invisible. Be liberal and generous as the air, for as God freely gives you light and air, asking for nothing in return but gratitude and whispered thanks, you should share your plenty with the destitute, afflicted, and unfortunate.

### The Candidate's Journey

Next, the Orator asks the MC, "Whence come you?" He answers, "Out of darkness." "And where do you go?" "From the high place of Gabaon, the location of the Tabernacle in the time of David, to the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, the site of the Temple."

In the Bible account, when the Israelites entered the Promised Land, they eventually placed the Tabernacle at Shilo. Some 300 years later, the Philistines came and stole the Ark of the Covenant. So they moved the Tabernacle to the "high place" in the ancient Canaanite city of Gabaon (or Gibeon), a little north of Jerusalem. By the way, the Philistines returned the Ark in short order. See I Chronicles 21:29 and I Samuel chapters 4 through 6.

A "high place" refers to a local outdoor place of worship atop an artificial mound.

Hebrew word for a high place is "bamah". Today, Jewish synagogues have a "bimah", elevated platform where you stand while reading from the Torah. It is similar to the pulpits you find in Christian churches.

David later took the Ark to Jerusalem, and kept it at the threshing floor he purchased from Ornan the Jebusite, atop Mount Moriah, site of the future Temple [of Solomon]. See I Chronicles 21:18-28, and 22:1.

Then the Orator asks what the Brother (the Candidate) desires. The MC responds, "To go the way that we have gone before him." Addressing the Candidate, the Orator explains that every man who thinks is an Oedipus, fated to determine the enigma of the sphinx. Every initiate should be a Hercules, completing his 12 labors. In other words, an initiate is a thinking man and a problem-solving man.

The Orator asks whether the Candidate is capable of making the necessary sacrifices of the heart and of life that he might come to understand the truth. The MC responds that he is.

Silence prevails for a few moments, then we hear the sound of mournful voices recounting a selection of ancient myths:

1. The Egyptian story of Osiris slain by Set.
2. The Hindu story of Cama, the Indian version of Cupid, is slain by

Sambara.

3. The Persian (Zoroastrian) story of how Ahriman the devil prevails over Ahura Mazda the creator.

4. The Phrygian (ancient Turkey) story of how Attis, the eunuch god of vegetation, is slain by a wild boar.

5. The Phoenician story of how Tammuz, god of fertility, is killed by his lover Astarte.

6. The Greek story of how Dionysus (aka Bacchus), god of fruitfulness and vegetation, is slain by the Titans.

At this point, the VHP rises and discusses the cyclical patterns of nature, such as the seasons and cycles of vegetation, and how summer days are much longer than those of winter. For people today, these phenomena are well understood. For the ancients, the arrival of winter was a frightening event, and induced them to plead with the mysterious forces of nature (the gods) to return to a time of warmth, long hours of daylight, and a bountiful crops.

### Reenacting the Story of Osiris

Cast members place the Candidate, who now represents the Egyptian deity Osiris, into an open coffin. The coffin is not buried, it just remains on the ground under a simulated tamarisk tree.

The tamarisk is significant because the tree secretes salt through its leaves during the heat of the day. At night, the salt absorbs water from the air. Then in the morning, the water evaporates creating a sort of natural air-conditioning. This unusual characteristic makes the tamarisk a popular shade tree in hot climates.

The VHP sends out nine brothers, three East, three West, and three South to search for the body of Osiris, while continually fasting and praying for success. They find his body by the seashore at the city of Byblos, known as Gebel in the Bible, located on the Phoenician coast.

The nine brothers return and report their find. Then the officers form a procession and walk a circuit around the room to simulate going back to the gravesite. Upon arrival, they form a circle around the coffin.

The VHP verifies that this is Osiris's body and laments that no human has power over the spirit, even on the day of death. There is no escape from that conflict (death). Man comes in vanity, departs in darkness, and his name is soon forgotten. Then he asks whether the body can be raised to a new life by the grip of an Apprentice.

The JEP replies that it cannot, noting that science is unable to discover whether a soul exists, much less its immortality.

The VHP exclaims "Oh Lord my God! Science fails us. I fear the Master's Word is forever lost." Then he asks whether the body can be raised to a new life by the grip of a Fellowcraft.

chester Blvd in San Jose on August 31, 2020. It was attended at the families request to wear breathing masks. It was a graveside service with family, friends and former employees. I cam prepared to do a full Lodge Masonic funeral Service, but Esther indicated that would have to come later. I did manage to do a full committal though. My last words to the family, "anthing you need, Anything; just Call me" As I was finishing these words for this month's acritical I noticed several drops of water on the paper page and wondered where they came from, then I knew.

Amazon Vans starting to fill the parking lot.

*Dell Bleiler*



**Let's Be Healthy Together!**



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, is pleased to offer a preventive health event at San Jose Scottish Rite Center on 10/6/2020. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **There are three ways to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call toll-free 1-888-653-6441 or visit <http://lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle> or text the word circle to 797979**



Daylen is an amazing 11-year-old boy who graduated recently from speech and language services at the San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Clinic! Daylen is a smart, charismatic and athletic kid. He participated in the Junior Olympics track team and last January made a speech in front of hundreds of people about Martin Luther King, Jr. Daylen is kind-hearted and a hard worker and has been an absolute pleasure to work with. His family has been committed to Daylen's therapy and has even included his grandparents in the weekly homework and helping Daylen accomplish his speech and language goals.



Daylen was diagnosed with an articulation disorder that was characterized by multiple phoneme errors and a frontal lisp that impacted his intelligibility. With the help of his Speech and Language Pathologist (SLP), Dylan used programs such as SATPAC, PROMPT and traditional types of articulation therapy to remediate his errors. His family is particularly grateful for the San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Clinic as his school district discontinued therapy services for Daylen before he had met his goals. During our therapy time together Daylen worked diligently and continued to do so even with the onset of COVID-19. As he practiced more at the conversation and carryover level, Daylen would make videos pretending to be a TV Chef and make different recipes that he found on-line during sessions with his SLP. We had fun with Daylen and he will be missed! Congratulations on a job well done, Daylen!



**PS Form 3526 Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)**

1. Publication Title SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE RITE WORD (THE)	2. Publication Number 3043	3. Filing Date 05/25/2020
4. Issue Frequency MONTHLY	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 12	6. Annual Subscription Price \$ 0.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication 2455 MADONIC DR SAN JOSE, SANTA CLARA, CA 95125-2036		
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher 2455 MADONIC DR SAN JOSE, CA 95125-2036		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor		
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Gregg Hill 2455 MADONIC DR SAN JOSE, CA 95125-2036		
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Gregg Hill 2455 MADONIC DR SAN JOSE, CA 95125-2036		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Gregg Hill 2455 MADONIC DR SAN JOSE, CA 95125-2036		
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Full Name San Jose Scottish Rite Foundat 2455 MADONIC DR, SAN JOSE, CA 95125-2036		
Gregg Hill 2455 MADONIC DR, SAN JOSE, CA 95125-2036		
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13. Publication Title SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE RITE WORD (THE)	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 05/25/2020	
15. Extend and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Numbers of Copies (Net press run)	790	753
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Mailed Outside County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	450	432
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	311	216
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mail (Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS)	0	0
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), (4))	761	733
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside County Copies (Included on PS Form 3541)	0	0
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)	0	0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), (4))	0	0
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)	761	733
g. Copies not Distributed	19	20
h. Total (Sum of 15f and 15g)	790	753
i. Percent Paid (15c / 15f times 100)	100.00 %	100.00 %
16. Total Circulation Includes electronic copies, report the circulation on lines below:		
a. Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
d. Percent Paid (Both Print and Electronic Copies)	0.00 %	0.00 %
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that 25% of all my distributed copies (Electronic and Print) are paid above a nominal price.		
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 10/01/2020 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.		

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner	Title	Date
Gregg Hill	General Secretary	05/25/2020 13:50:14 PM
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).		

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The SEP replies that it cannot, noting that logical formulas cannot demonstrate whether a soul exists, much less its immortality. Like science, logic leads only the skepticism and substitutes words for thoughts.

The VHP exclaims "Oh Lord my God! Reason fails us. I fear the Master's Word is forever lost." Then he calls upon the assembled brothers to assist him in endeavoring to raise Osiris's body by the grip of a Master, also called the lion's paw or eagle's claw. This grip is a symbol of faith.

The VHP then explains that faith is the profound conviction that the intellect will live after the body dies. Though death divides the body and intellect, they will be one day reunited. It is a revelation from God. And we know it is true because God does not lie.

Then the JEP and SEP assist the VHP to raise the body by the Master's grip and on the five points of fellowship. You will recall something like that when you received your Master Mason degree.

Where science and reason fail, faith gets the job done.

While the VHP and Candidate remain standing together, the Orator rises and exclaims, "Osiris is risen again and prevails against the powers of darkness." The other deities lamented over earlier in the ritual are likewise restored to life.

The JEP stands and says, "The sun turns back from the South, and the darkness flees before him. Today is the great feast of the winter solstice."

The SEP stands and says, "The reign of light and life has recommenced... the constellations of the Bull (Taurus) and the Ram (Aries) lead the glittering constellations. Let the world rejoice!..."

In the northern hemisphere, Aries is most visible in December and Taurus in January, which is the period of the winter solstice, falling on or near December 21. Thereafter the days become longer, the temperature begins to rise, and deciduous plants begin to leaf out again. These phenomena seemed miraculous to the ancient peoples. Struggling home gardeners of our day have expressed similar feelings.

The Orator notes how a seed appears to die, then it spouts a shoot, such as a blade of wheat, producing 100 new seeds. The JEP notes how an insect larva appears to die wrapped in a cocoon, only to emerge as a butterfly. And the SEP notes how a snake sheds its old skin and presents a new one to the world.

At this juncture, the VHP releases the Candidate and talks about the three-fold nature of divinity. A member of the cast has the Candidate wash his hands and feet, and then has him sit down. The VHP recites the lecture of this degree, beginning with the subject of purification, immortality of the soul, the struggles in man's nature symbolized by the mysteries of the dualing deities, and how that mystery is reenacted for the Candidate when he receives his Third Degree.

### Consecration of the Candidate

Now the VHP pauses, and anoints the Candidates right ear, right hand, and right foot with simulated blood. This practice recounts

the consecration of Hebrew priests, as documented in Leviticus 14:28. He then explains the symbolism of the pentagram (five-pointed star) from the Gnostic mystery schools and the blazing star from Masonry, both are signs of intellectual omnipotence. And the Star of the Magi a symbol of the Word in Humanity, found in Matthew chapter 2.

The VHP says, "Brethren, behold a new Novice of the Mysteries (referring to the Candidate), to be instructed and prepared to fulfill all his duties of life, that he may be raised on that great day of account, a monument to God's glory."

### Closing

The closing ceremony cites the Norse myth of how the trickster Loki killed the handsome and just Balder by throwing mistletoe at him. Mistletoe was the only thing that could kill Balder, like kryptonite is the only thing that can kill Superman. And a myth about Ceridwen, the Welsh goddess of rebirth who slayed her husband Hu the Mighty, god of the sun, a story that only seems to exist in Masonic sources.

The successful initiate of the mysteries may one day join the immortals by taking his own journey, which is complete when he has passed from life, through death, to life again in a new, full, and everlasting existence.

### Recommended Reading

The concept of a dying-and-rising god is a characteristic feature of Ancient Near Eastern mythologies and the mystery cults that came from them. You can find a good introduction to this topic at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dying-and-rising\\_deity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dying-and-rising_deity).

Read more about the:

Magi at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magi>

Oedipus at <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Oedipus-Greek-mythology>

The 12 labors of Hercules at <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Heracles>

Other myths in this degree at [https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The\\_Golden\\_Bough](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Golden_Bough)

III. Daniel Doornbos 33°

**Virtual Degrees**

**Nov 6 and 7th, 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."**

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

**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

**Friday and Saturday November 6th and 7th Virtual Reunion**

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

Grand Commander's will join Zoom if available

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

Council Opens—Business Casual Dress