



The Rite Word

From the Venerable Master

Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.—
Marie Curie

This month we continue our plans within the Valley and Society of opening back up and moving to what we are euphemistically calling the **New Normal**. Not a day goes by now when I hear of a friend and even a few family members finding a way to get the shot and providing them with the opportunity to feel like they can move through their lives again without worrying about either getting sick or dealing with the continuing of rhetoric of if the vaccination is necessary, a hoax or the mass indexing of society. Not all pretty stuff, but progress. There is even talk with the Grand Lodge that Masonic Bodies may meet in person again soon. This is good news indeed. We can all use the time together to continue to the work of being together, helping others and the edification of truth.



Russ Charvonia PGM. I would highly recommend this to anyone looking for more light and a way to find more light, contribute to our great society and give yourself some time in search of the truth in thought.

This Month – What We Do and Why



This month is the annual change to daylight savings time is on Sunday March 14th 2021 at 2:00 AM. First proposed 1895 as by George Hudson, a New Zealand engineer it was not universally recognized by most of the world. As is more than often is the case, Sunrise and Sunset are the markers of the day. The practice is however was embraced by industrialize countries as it contributes to the effectiveness use of the worker and their time at work. As such, it was often caricaturized as an exploitation of the working class.

Getting is start with the implementation in Germany, Austria and Hungary in 1902, the first countries to use it nationwide, many countries have followed at various times since then, particularly since the 1970s energy crisis. DST is generally not observed near the equator, where sunrise and sunset times do not vary enough to justify it. Some countries observe it only in some regions; for example, parts of Australia observe it, while other parts do not, and the United States observes it, except Arizona and Hawaii, which do not. Only a minority of the world's population uses DST; Asia and Africa generally do not observe it

The thought of truth all ways has intrigued me, what is it anyway? Often it is described as the property of being in accord with fact or reality. In everyday language, truth is typically ascribed to things that aim to represent reality or otherwise correspond to it, such as beliefs, propositions, and declarative sentences. I would think though, that often this is a matter of individual perception or beliefs. And with that, is where the rub can form, individual perceptions. For me, these is where we learn to communicative, to not only talk to others but to listen to what they have to say, to be open to considering the opinions of others in forming our own. Also I think this is where the concept of Civility comes in . From the Latin ‘Civis’ or Citizen or member of Society, historically, civility means a training the humanities, a staircase we have all been up. Last week I had the opportunity to catch the Masonic Speaker Series from the Grand Lodge ‘Our Role in Restoring Civility to Society’ , hosted by MW

Brother Winston Churchill argued that it enlarges "the opportunities for the pursuit of health and happiness among the millions of people who live in this country" and pundits dubbed it "Daylight Slaving Time". Retailing, sports, and tourism interests have historically favored daylight saving, while agricultural and evening entertainment interests have opposed it; its initial adoption was prompted by energy crises and companies that make BBQ grills

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2021 Honor Roll

Bro. Neofito Santos 32°

Ill. Richard Fisher 33°

Ill. Durward Ayre 33°

Bro. Lewis Bisconer 32°

Bro. Estil Johnson 32°

Bro. Dennis Griffin 32°

Hon. Bennie Cooper 32°

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

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Betty Wong

Ill. Roger Bibb 33°

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Betty Wong

In Memory of Ill. Hershel Amos 33°

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November 19, 2018

Bro. William Sloan Jr. 32°

July 21, 2020

Bro. Stephen Wright 32°

August 12, 2020

Bro. Edwin Pearce 32°

March 12, 2020

Bro. Wayne Jesnen 32°

January 22, 2020

Ill. Ernest Binsacca 33°

January 14, 2021

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

2021 - Lodge of Perfection

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Venerable Master | Bro. Mark Burger, 32° | 831-373-1094 |
| Senior Warden | Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH | 408-763-7696 |
| Junior Warden | Bro. Naresh Rampershad 32° | 408-660-0121 |
| Master of Ceremonies | Bro. Sean Patrick 32° | 505-400-5805 |
| Captain of the Host | Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32° | 408-483-9361 |

2021 - Chapter of Rose Croix

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Wise Master | Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH | 831-402-4903 |
| Senior Warden | Bro. Timothy Lynch 32° | 408-386-2746 |
| Junior Warden | Ill. Randy Downey 33° | 408-674-8341 |
| Master of Ceremonies | Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32° | 408-755-0079 |
| Guardian of the Temple | Bro. Alan Worley 32° | 650-281-1574 |

2021- Council of Kadosh

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Commander | Ill. Charles Cowden, 33° | 831-685-3416 |
| 1st Lt Commander | Ill. Jack Harris 33° | 408-858-9054 |
| 2nd Lt Commander | Bro. Toby Vanderbeek 32° | 650-722-1669 |
| Marshal of Ceremonies | Bro. David Kampschafer 32° | 408-568-0978 |
| Lt of the Guard | Bro. Peter Cardilla 32° | 831-214-9012 |

2021 San Jose Consistory

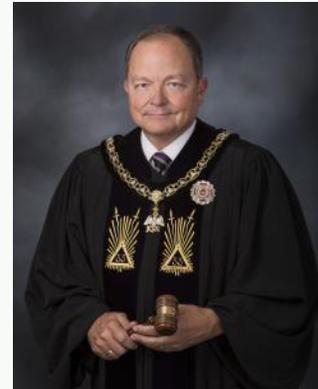
| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Master of Kadosh | Bro. John Absalon, 32° | 909-660-9983 |
| Prior | Hon. John Unger 32° KCCH | 408-489-8128 |
| Preceptor | Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32° | 408-371-7172 |
| Marshal of Ceremonies | Ill. Richard Fisher, 33° | 408-779-4088 |
| Captain of the Guard | Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH | 408-505-1822 |

2021- General Officers

| | | |
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| Asst. to the Personal Rep. | Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33° | 408-838-3730 |
| General Secretary | Hon. Gregg Hall, 32° KCCH | 408-656-2459 |
| Treasurer | Bro. Rick Qiu 32° | 408-420-8173 |
| Prelate | Bro. Mark McEuen, 32° | 408-251-3086 |
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| Orator/Librarian | Hon. David Kimball 32° KCCH | 408-836-6792 |
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| Director of Ceremonies | Ill. Charles Cowden, 33° | 831-685-3416 |
| Chief Knight KSA | Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32° | 669-888-6423 |

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| | | |
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| President | Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33° | 510-468-9864 |
| Secretary | Hon. Gregg Hall, 32° KCCH | 408-656-2459 |
| Treasurer | Bro. Rick Qiu, 32° | 408-420-8173 |
| Director (exp 2022) | Bro. Garrett Burrow, 32° | 408-891-6746 |
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| Venerable Master | Bro. Mark Burger, 32° | 831-373-1094 |
| Wise Master | Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH | 831-402-4903 |
| Commander | Ill. Charles Cowden, 33° | 831-685-3416 |
| Master of Kadosh | Bro. John Absalon, 32° | 909-660-9983 |
| Asst. to the Personal Rep. | Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33° | 408-838-3730 |



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



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

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

From the Wise Master

I find it interesting that we have tools and implements of building in our Masonic tool kit. Much like the mystic Kabbalah, Masonic teaching asks us to turn our focus toward God. Now, here I have mentioned another tool that is used to find the moral balance of where a thought came from or how it is projected; primarily in terms of the ten utterances from God. The Kabbalah



Do my thoughts and actions project a higher nature or do they reflect me as a person who comes from lower thoughts, blame, recklessness, fear, and lack of faith. Do I strive to keep my ego in check and do I have the integrity to show others a moral way of life: Keeping my passions within due bounds towards everything: People, places, animals. Anything connected to a consciousness will feel our actions; whether benevolent or destructive.

Although the Kabbalah is a great tool to learn of the history of Judaism and the pathways of thought; one would have to study it in detail to gain insight from it.

Our Masonic tools have the capability of teaching many of the same lessons but to a smaller degree. I keep in mind that not all of our tools are tangible items but rather philosophical ones that we must study in order to have a better understanding of ourselves. We can best deliver that which we understand.

The square, compass, bible, lambskin apron, the 24 inch gauge, the common gavel and the point within the circle supported by two perpendicular lines with the holy writings resting on top. These are all first degree tools that we can use to judge ourselves. If we can learn to project ourselves better through dismissing bad thoughts and irrational thinking others will see you as one who projects the work of God

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From the Commander of Kadosh

From Darkness to Light

As a Mason, and not before, I became most interested in the process of initiation or the initiatic process as it explains and can enable human evolution. Sadly, as I came to this late in my Masonic travels, it has been necessary to focus my study. With the assistance of Brothers far more enlightened than myself Brothers W.L. Wilmshurst and Manly P. Hall were brought to my attention. Their writings along with our own masonic initiation ritual have provided much for me to consider and try to digest.



Brother Wilmshurst provides his wise insight and understanding of initiation in his 1924 publication *The Masonic Initiation* and Brother Hall's books *The Lost Keys of Freemasonry* and *Freemasonry of the Ancient Egyptians* provided further food for thought on the subject.

This month I want to share with you just a small portion of Brother Wilmshurst's wisdom on bringing one from darkness to light.

Wilmshurst asks if it is possible to expedite the long, slow process of human evolution? "Is there a method of intensive culture that can be applied to man which will more quickly lift him above his present level and transform him from the sensual human animal into a more illuminated godlike being"?

The ancient mysteries answered these questions yes! If not in mass certainly in "suitable" individuals. The work and objective of the ancient mystery schools was one of perfecting or a work of initiation which revealed to man a new order of life. Thus providing a philosophy to make imperfect men whole and perfect by completing their "evolutionary" possibilities. The Greek word for this is teleo. The twofold meaning being "to make perfect" and "to initiate." Sound familiar?

During our year, I plan to say more about initiation and transformation. But for now I hope to have piqued your interest in the subject and in the writings of two of our Masonic philosophers who have much to give us on transformation from darkness to light.

The Grand Lodge Speaker Series has been a wonderful way to add light to the darkness over this period of "Masonic Isolation" due to the Covid. If you have not tuned in via zoom for these learned presentations from scholars around the globe,

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From the Master of Kadosh

On behalf of the Consistory, I wish all the brothers and their families are going to stay in good health. I've just heard some news from my lodge stated meeting that the future might be brighter for all us sooner than anticipated, where we would be able to hold actual stated meetings again, as soon as the Grand Lodge and the health sector allows it. Although we would only be able to convene for the purpose of the business meetings. The dinners and refreshments and as well as for degrees/reunions are still going to come a little bit later than the business meetings. We would also be required to wear masks and gloves and also practice social distancing once they allow us to hold said meetings. We are going to take small steps towards normalcy.



Summer Solstice is fast approaching and it reminded me of the times when everyone was able to book a flight, pack a bag, and travel anywhere around the world with loved-ones or just by themselves to see the glorious sites, or maybe just simply having their feet on a sandy beach somewhere. I've always been fascinated by the ancient sites such as the Pyramids on the Giza plateau in Egypt, monolithic Stonehenge in England, to the ancient sites of Teotihuacan in Mexico. What piques my interests the most are the ancient sites that hasn't been fully investigated, the ones that is less talked about, where mankind has yet to fully discover all of it's secrets behind the veil of mystery, one of these sites is Gobekli Tepe. Join me as we take a glimpse at this ancient wonder.

Gobekli Tepe is an ancient archaeological site located in the southeastern Anatolia region of Turkey, about 19 miles from the city of Urfa, officially known as [Sanliurfa](#). Gobekli Tepe translates to "Potbelly Hill", which was the name marked on ancient maps. Some archeologist say the the mound appears to be artificial in nature, meaning that the possibility of this formation would be impossible to occur naturally, hence, it is man-made, or in this instance, manipulated by man. In 1983, the newly-graduated German guy named Klaus Schmidt was in Turkey for his post-doctorate dig at Novali Cori, an ancient stone-age village located in the Southeastern part of the country. He spent several years on and off the site excavating until 1991 when a reservoir submerged it completely with water. Instead of going back to Germany he decided that he was going to stay in Turkey, participating on other minor digs going on during that time until he read about

Gobelki Tepe from an old document coming from a team of archaeologist at the University of Chicago in 1963. It was briefly mentioned in the said paper that Gobekli Tepe is no

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From the Secretary

Another month has come and gone without us being able to meet. We keep hoping that things will open up soon, so we can once again get together as brothers and friends. We are working on a hybrid solution where those who are still wishing can participate remotely as a middle step.



We are now down to less than 100 members who still owe dues. The national office has recently mailed out dues remainders. If you get one and you have paid, it simply means that your payment was received after they had the cut off. It takes well over a month to process and mail out the notices for all the Valleys across the country. However if you get one and you haven't paid, please do so or give me call and let me know that you need us to give you a hand, that is what we do for our brothers when needed.

I have also been going through our members lists and have found several that have passed away, but yet we were never notified. Please talk to those you need to, so that they know what they should do when you pass on to join the Great Architect. I get several calls every year from family who want to know what to do with hats or aprons etc. Spend some time and make arrangements so that your loved ones aren't having to figure things out that they should have known.

At our Foundation Board meeting we are having on the 23rd of February, we are going to discuss the bid for remodeling the bathrooms, which we plan to start in March. This is a project that is long over due and while it is going to cost a significant amount of money we feel that it will pay dividends for years to come.

I would also like to acknowledge Brother Joseph Schmidt, he was a member of Friendship #210 and our Valley and when he passed he left a significant amount of his estate to our Valley. We have known that the bequest was coming and that along with your generous donations to the rebuilding the Temple fund is what has allowed us to do all these much needed renovations to our building.

Finally, Please see the information on the last page about the upcoming Maundy Thursday (being held on Wednesday March 31, 2021)

Twenty-Seventh Degree — Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept

We have so many degrees in the Scottish Rite that we keep track of them by numbers rather than by their names. It's much easier to remember sequential numbers than various kinds of Masters, Elus, Knights, and Princes; plus Secretary, Intendant, Architect, Judge, and Inspector.

Unfortunately, the denomination-by-number method is both incorrect and potentially confusing. Masonic degrees consist of rituals, dialogs, and lectures designed to transmit specific lessons. Each degree had specific teachings and a unique name.

Masonic degrees are designed to be given in a certain sequence. Like any educational system, it starts with the basics and then builds upon them. For this reason, the Scottish Rite applied numbers to each of its degrees. But the sequence is subject to change. In *Morals and Dogma*, the Knight Commander of the Temple degree is the 27th, while the Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept degree is the 28th.

When the Supreme Council revised the degree rituals in 2004, it reversed the order of these two degrees. Why? As we explore these degrees, we will discover the reason. The Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept degree, like the Fellowcraft degree, is primarily instructional. The Knight Commander of the Temple degree, like the Master Mason degree, is more dramatic. The drama is where you put the moral teachings to practical use.

The Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept degree has perhaps the most instruction of any degree you are likely to experience. Referring again to *Morals and Dogma*, Pike's discussion of this degree takes 220 pages, about one-fourth of the book. We learn about the gods as expressions of nature, the concept of the dying-and-reviving god, the philosophy behind world religions, the power of divine names, transmigration of souls, mystery religion, Kabbalah, numerology, astronomy, symbolic geometry, meditation, metaphysics, mythology, symbology, philosophy, the world soul, moral agency, the nature of philosophy, human consciousness, and communion with God.

In the ritual of the Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept degree, we encounter a compressed survey of these teachings and concepts. The presentation of this degree is a series of brief lectures given team of illustrious teachers. The lectures include displays and interaction of various symbols and geometrical figures, some familiar, and others that might be new to you.

The Council

A body of Knights of the Sun or Princes Adept is called a Council. The presiding officer is "Father Adam", dressed in a brown robe, symbolizing the earth he came from. Father Adam wears a white lambskin apron embroidered with green fig leaves, symbolizing the mortality that the man Adam brought to mankind. You can read the original story in Genesis chapter 3.

In his right hand, Father Adam holds a scepter with a golden

globe on top, marking him as patriarch of the human family. In his left hand, he holds a red apple wrapped in a green cloth. The jewel of this degree is a golden sun on one side and a hemisphere showing the northern half of the ecliptic and zodiac.

The ecliptic is an imaginary line on the sky that marks the annual path of the sun as seen from earth. The zodiac refers to a set of 12 major constellations, more or less evenly spread over the night sky. Each member of the zodiac is said to rule its area of the sky.

Constellations are groups of stars, that, when you look at them from the earth, form shapes that suggest familiar objects. The ecliptic and zodiac are a means of applying a map to the night sky, especially in the days before precise geometrical measurements were possible.

There is one Warden in the Council, who goes by the name "Brother Truth". He wears a white robe embroidered with a black infinity symbol, which represents the eternal nature of truth. Brother Truth wears the same jewel as Father Adam, but he does not wear an apron. Brother Truth carries a white rod with a golden eye at the tip. The eye is a familiar symbol representing awareness in general and the deity's precise and comprehensive observation of each human being.

There are seven other officers in the Council, referred to collectively as the "Malakoth". The correct word is actually "Malakhim", meaning angels or messengers. In the Hebrew language, the -IM suffix is the plural for masculine nouns, while -OT is the suffix for female nouns. Malakh happens to be a masculine noun. Some people confuse Malakoth with Malkuth, the bottom sephira on the Kabbalistic Tree of Life.

The Malakhim wear white aprons with a vermilion (scarlet) colored pentagram (five-pointed star). Each angel wears a robe representing one of the colors of the rainbow. Each has a square banner with a specific color and sign corresponding to one of the seven planets, as the ancients perceived them

An Introduction to Angels

Let us turn our attention now to the topic of angels. In the Hebrew tradition, a malakh is a messenger, either human or divine. The word is derived from the verb for "to send with a message". When the Hebrew Bible was translated into Greek, the messenger became an "aggelos", in the plural "angeloi", and from there into English as "angel". By the time English speakers put the word "angel" into use, it referred to a divine being only.

In later Hebrew writings, a few angels have names. In the book of Daniel, for example, we learn of the Michael, one of the "chief princes" who helped the Israelites deal with

aggressive Persians. And Gabriel, appearing as an ordinary man, helps Daniel understand his visions. In the Christian (New Testament) writings, Michael appears as a military leader (Revelation 12:7), while Gabriel continues to serve as a messenger (Luke 1:19 and 26). Around that time, in the Talmud, Michael, Gabriel, Uriel, and Raphael are named as the four angels that surround God's throne.

In the Hebrew Bible, there are two primary classes of angels: Cherubim (cherub is the singular) and Seraphim (seraph is the singular). A cherub functions primarily as a guardian, over the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) and the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:20). In Isaiah chapter 6, seraphim are described as having six wings, two for covering their faces, two for covering their feet (a Hebrew idiom for private body parts), and two for flying. They announce the holy nature of YHVH (the Lord) from overhead. One seraph purifies Isaiah's unclean lips with a hot coal. In both cases, the angels seem to possess a human-like anatomy.

In Ezekiel chapter 1, we read about four creatures that look like humans, but each one has four faces: a human, a lion, an ox, and an eagle. And they had four wings, two for flying and two for modesty. And they had feet like a calf. These guys eventually acquire the name "hayyoth ha Kadesh", which means "holy living creatures". In the Zohar, the king of these goes by the name Metatron.

Ezekiel goes on to describe another class of creature that looks like a wheel. They move in any of four directions [the idea of "four directions" reflects the author's two-dimensional way of thinking] and are covered with eyes. These fellows eventually acquire the name "ophanim", which means "wheels".

Other classes of angels include:

Elohim – Originally the word for "the most-high God" but came to mean "godly beings"

Bene Elohim – Includes the mischievous "Sons of God" who married mortal women and produced giants, described in Genesis 6:1-4. Also Job 1, Psalm 89:7 and 29:1

Ishim – Originally meaning simply "men" but later came to mean "manlike beings" referring to the three mysterious men who visited Abraham and promised that he and Sarah would have a son in Genesis 18

Still, keep in mind the passage from Hebrews 13:2, "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Hermeticism

The Reception of the 27th Degree consists of an explanatory lecture by Brother Truth and says the doctrine of this degree derives from Kabbalistic and Hermetic teachings. We have already learned something about the Kabbalah.

Hermeticism refers to a philosophical system primarily based on

the purported writings of Hermes Trismegistus (thrice great). He is the legendary Hellenistic combination of the Greek god Hermes and the Egyptian god Thoth. These documents include the *Corpus Hermeticum*, written between 100 and 300 CE, and the legendary Emerald Tablet, said to be the foundation of the art of alchemy.

Why is Hermes thrice [3 times] great? Because Thoth was the god of (1) wisdom, (2) learning, and (3) literature. Some of the Greeks equated Hermes with Thoth, so Hermes has all of Thoth's characteristics.

The Emerald Tablet itself is legendary. That means there are no photos and you won't find it on display in a museum. The earliest known version is an Arabic translation, supposedly from Greek, that was included in a work called *The Secret of Creation and the Art of Nature*, by pseudo-Apollonius of Tyana.

Apollonios of Tyana (3 BCE – 97 CE), was a Greek Neopythagorean philosopher from the town of Tyana in Anatolia (modern-day Turkey). When you see "pseudo" before somebody's name, such as pseudo-Apollonius, it means the author used Apollonius's name rather than his own, a common practice in classical times.

The best-known teaching of the Emerald Tablet is the concept, "That which is above is like to that which is below, and that which is below is like to that which is above." Or "as above, so below" for short.

However, the original Arabic in the earliest known translation presents the concept as, "The above from the below, the below from the above – the work of the miracle of the One". Meditate on that for a while.

Astrology explains this to mean that the visible stars (and planets) in the sky are linked to life on earth, and that the microcosm (human beings) and the macrocosm (the universe) are connected. The later science of astronomy omits the idea that stars have any link to humans and instead focuses on mathematics, physics, and chemistry in the study of planets, moons, stars, nebulae, galaxies, and comets.

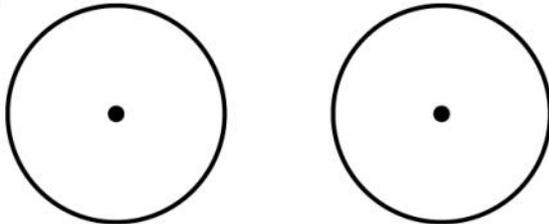
Next, Father Adam discusses how the purpose of this degree is to introduce you to the nature of symbols, what they are and how to read them. He reaches toward the altar and picks up an object wrapped in a cloth. He removes the cloth to reveal an apple, and states that for some people, the apple is a symbol for the knowledge of good and evil. That takes us back to the Garden of Eden story in the book of Genesis. The Bible account does not name the fruit in question but when the story was translated into Latin, the scholars chose the word "malum" for apple. Malum is also the Latin word for evil, disaster, harm, and mischief. When Adam and Eve eat the apple, they bring evil into the world, or so the explanation goes.

Father Adam retires.

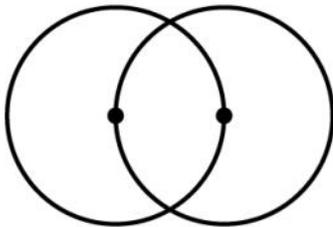
Cassiel's Lesson

A brother in a red robe enters and identifies himself as Cassiel, whose specialty is geometry, which originally referred to measurement of the earth. Cassiel explains how Hermetic philosophers used the process of analyze and synthesize, which refers to taking something apart and reassembling it in a new and useful way. He goes on to review geometry from the Fellowcraft degree, from a point to a line, to a superficies (a two-dimensional area or surface), to a solid. He goes on to demonstrate what you can do with circles and pentagrams (five-pointed stars).

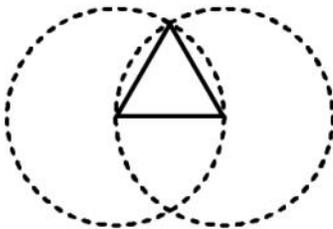
Figure 1



Start with two circles. Mark their center points.

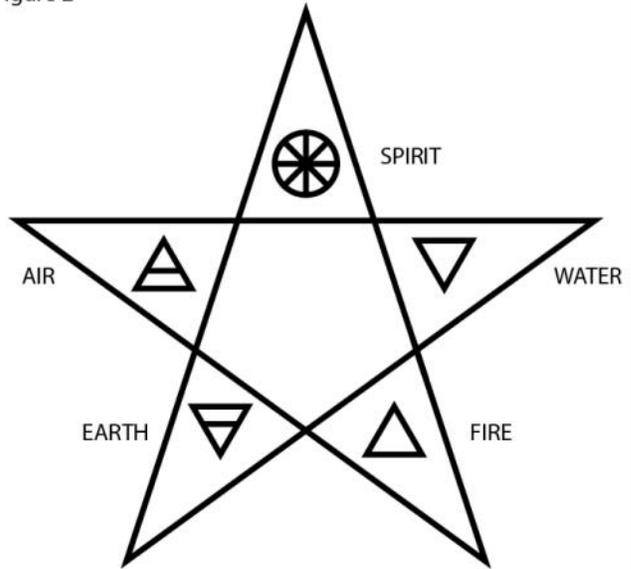


Overlap the circles so the center point of one touches the edge of the other.



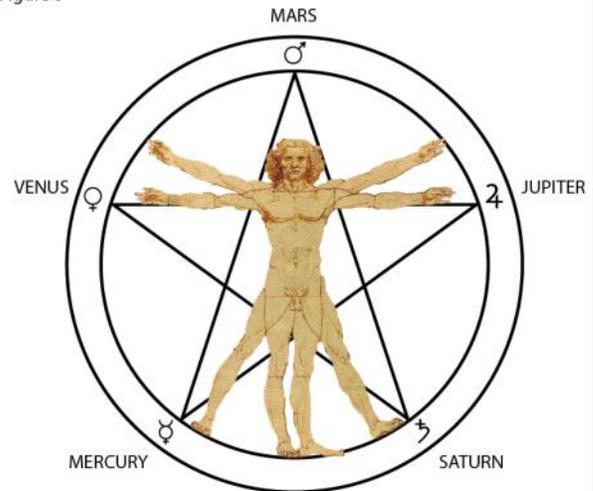
Draw a line connecting the two center points and the point where the edges intersect to form an equilateral triangle

Figure 2



A Pentagram with an elemental sign at each point.

Figure 3



The Vitruvian man by Leonardo da Vinci inside a pentagram. The pentagram represents the human being. Planetary symbols shown with corresponding planet names.

Next, Cassiel talks about the ancient elementals: air, fire, water, and earth. When you add the quintessence ("fifth") element of spirit, you get a human being, as shown in the Vitruvian man diagram. He adds that this perfection or balance is the goal is the Scottish Rite Mason. Lastly, he shows how the first letter of the Latin words Flatus (air), Ignis (fire), Aqua (water), and Terra (earth) spell FIAT (pronounced FEE·aht, like the car), which is Latin for "Let it be". Cassiel sits down before a banner showing sign of the planet Saturn ♄.

Meet Alex! He is a delightful 10-year-old fourth grader who is so fun to work with! He loves to eat pizza, play videogames and golf! He even loves fishing and recently went on a fishing expedition with his Dad and Grandpa. If he could eat anything it would be Chick Fill-A while watching the *Mandalorian* or *Stranger Things*.



Alex has been working diligently for the past 6 months on his articulation. Before coming to the San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Clinic, his parents found that he was sometimes difficult to understand. His mother reported that his teachers and friends would often ask him to repeat himself and that “would make him feel bad and was starting to affect his confidence.” Since treatment, his parents have noticed a “huge improvement in his speech.” Alex is feeling better about his speech too and his mom stated that she is “noticing he feels more confident when speaking. Family members and teachers also compliment his improvement.”

His parents are so pleased and are “proud of Alex and how hard he [has] worked to correct his speech.” Alex’s parents commented, “We could not afford speech therapy and services are not offered at his school, so we are very thankful for Scottish Rite’s support and services. They have helped Alex and care about his success. Everyone at Scottish Rite is friendly and Alex always looks forward to his sessions with Rachel Sense. She is his tutor, but he also feels like she truly cares about him. She is very positive and encourages him during their time on Zoom. Thank you, Scottish Rite, for helping Alex. You have made a positive impact in his life.”



From the Venerable Master Continued

Finally Brother (and MW) Benjamin Franklin published the proverb “early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise”, and published a letter in the *Journal de Paris* during his time as an American envoy to France (1776–1785) suggesting that Parisians economize on candles by rising earlier to use morning sunlight. [



Also this month is St Patrick’s Day. Apparently it is the commemoration of Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. Saint Patrick was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. Much of what is known about Saint Patrick comes from the Declaration, which was allegedly written by Patrick himself. It is believed that he was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Romano-British family. His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church.

According to the Declaration, at the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland. It says that he spent six years there working as a shepherd and that during this time he “found God”. The Declaration says that God told Patrick to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest. Tradition states, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. The Declaration says that he spent many years evangelizing in the northern half of Ireland and converted “thousands”. Patrick’s efforts against the druids were eventually turned into an allegory in which he drove “snakes” out of Ireland, despite the fact that snakes were not known to inhabit the region. Tradition also holds that he died on 17 March and was buried at Downpatrick. Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland’s foremost saint.

Christians attending church services, and the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol are lifted for the day paving the way for, drinking alcohol – particularly Irish whiskey, beer, or cider – has become an integral part of the celebrations. The Saint Patrick’s Day custom of “drowning the shamrock” or “wetting the shamrock” was historically popular, especially in Ireland. At the end of the celebrations, a shamrock is put into the bottom of a cup, which is then filled with whiskey, beer, or cider. It is then drunk as a toast to Saint Patrick, Ireland, or those present. The shamrock would either be swallowed with the drink or taken out and tossed over the shoulder for good luck

Today’s Saint Patrick’s Day celebrations have been greatly influenced by those that developed among the Irish

Continued on Page 10

From the Commander Continued

missed some of the talks or want to hear them again they are available on demand on the GL website .

The officers of the Council look forward to “sitting with you in Temple” be it virtually or when the time soon comes that we can be together in person. God bless you.



From the Wise Master Continued.

During this year I will be writing about some of Masonry’s biblical connections and how some prophecies tie into our work.

I should hope that the opening of spring will bring us hope of meeting in person soon.



From the Venerable Master Continued

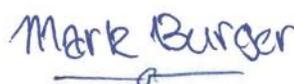
especially in North America. Until the late 20th century, Saint Patrick’s Day was often a bigger celebration here than it was in Ireland

As always, I have to say, much of this is from Wikipedia, but I would wonder, is it truth? It is surely common belief as it is edited by thousands from around the world, so perhaps on some level we can perhaps consider it cultural truth. Take a moment to consider this, then perhaps drown the shamrock.

Next month, Customs and Culture and the concept of Cultural Literacy

As always, I leave you with a quote:

The length of your education is less important than its breadth,
and the length of your life is less important than its depth.—
Marilyn vos Savant



From the Master of Kadosh Continued

more than a military outpost/graveyard from the Byzantine empire era. So in 1994, Klaus Schmidt found himself on top of a hill with his trained eye, he saw countless flint fragments therefore concluding that it was a stone-age work site. Armed with this staggering evidence, he was able to convince the German Archeological Institute to fund the dig.

In 1995, Klaus Schmidt broke the ground and immediately went to work. Beneath a few centimeters of soil, they found what appears to be the top part of the T-shaped standing pillars which today Gobekli Tepe is known for. In 2003, a geo-magnetic survey revealed that there are twenty separate ring-like structures, and rectangular structures that appears to be constructed at a later time. Radio carbon dating samples from the site suggests that the site was constructed around 10,000BC to 13,000BC. belonging to the Pre-pottery Neolithic period (PPN). To put this into perspective, the Great Pyramid of Giza was dated around 2,550 BC, pre-dating The Pyramid by a large margin. It also pre-dates other ancient site like the Stonehenge and Machu Pichu.

The pillars stood 5 meters and weighed from 5 to 12 tons depending on the width. There are about 200 pillars found so far dotting the ancient site. On each pillar, there were carvings of animals ranging from roaring lions, boars, hissing snakes, scorpions, foxes, gazelles, ducks, and extinct animals, and much more, along side some abstract and artistic shapes that adorn the pillars. The quality of the carvings varies from being simple to astounding even for today's modern standards of stone-cutting techniques. One of the most notable of the pillars is known in the archeological community as "Pillar 43", which has some carvings of what appears to be a depiction of an ancient extinction-level cataclysm that wiped-out animals and humans alike.

To this day, there is no definitive answer to what Gobekli Tepe was used for or what it truly is. Some people suggests that it was an ancient settlement, others suggests that it was a place of worship or a temple, other people also suggests that it was a memorial to record an ancient cataclysm. In 2018, UNESCO finally added Gobekli Tepe on the list of world heritage sites, sadly, Klaus Schmidt was not able to witness this glorious acknowledgment. Schmidt passed on July 20, 2014 in his home in Germany. For almost three decades, little is known about this ancient site, we might have to wait a couple more decades to unveil Gobekli Tepe's mysterious ancient past, and unlock the true origins of the Dawn of Civilization.



III. Roger Bibb 33° Class

TBD in 2021



ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY,
SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

Petition for Degrees

(Full) Name: _____
FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME LAST NAME DATE

Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Month, Day, and Year of Birth: _____

City, State, Country of Birth: _____

Are you a US Citizen? YES NO If "No", where are you a citizen? _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Wife/Partner's Name: _____

Years as M.M.: ____ Blue Lodge Name _____ No. _____

Lodge City and State: _____

Date and Place Raised: _____

Occupation: _____ Employer Name: _____

Have you ever previously petitioned for any Scottish Rite Degrees? YES NO

Hat Size: ____ (example: "7 1/8")

"I, the above named and below signed, confirm a belief in a Supreme Being, the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order, and an undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and the forbearance of a state sponsored religion, principles embodied by the Founding Fathers of the United States of America. I respectfully petition to receive the 4th through 32nd Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. I am currently a Master Mason in good standing."

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

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

2nd Sponsor Signature Expiration Date ____ / ____

(Return Petition to Valley General Secretary's Office)

Signature of authorized card holder



THE RITE WORD

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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 March 9th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens

March 31st ~ Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm

So we don't conflict with several lodge stated meetings we will hold Maundy

Thursday on the Wednesday before.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Mar 31, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Maundy Thursday (on Wednesday)

Free Meal for up to 2 people, \$5 per person for more, to be picked up at the

San Jose Scottish Rite on 3/30/21 or 3/31/21

You must register to get a meal by 3/29/21

Register in advance for this webinar:

[https://scottishrite.zoom.us/webinar/register/](https://scottishrite.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KRs49_KuTleWMIXKkgozaQ)

WN_KRs49_KuTleWMIXKkgozaQ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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

Lodge of Perfection Opens