# THERITEWORD



A SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE PUBLICATION HOME OF THE ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY December 2008

## From the Personal Representative:

B rethren and friends, when I joined Scottish Rite thirty years ago, I never dreamed I'd have the delightful experience I enjoyed with others of our valley a few weeks ago at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the California Scottish Rite Foundation. Bob Rowan 32° KCCH, Dick Myers 32° KCCH, Hal Leister 32°, Rachel Sense, one of our Language Center Clinicians, and I had the pleasure of attending the November 14 event, and were highly impressed at the presentations made that evening.

In addition to the address by Ill. Ron Seele 33°, Grand Commander, and the words of Ill. Bill Stovall 33°, SGIG for California, we were entertained by an inspiring group of students who are scholarship recipients, and several people who related the experiences they had with our language centers. It is obvious that the vision of the founders of our Speech Therapy Program was phenomenal. The motto of our own Brother Henry J. Kaiser 33°, who is the founder of Kaiser Permanente and Kaiser Industries, was "Find a Need and Fill It" and that motto is no more pertinent than our work in children's speech therapy.

One of the speakers, a mother with a 6 year old son told of bringing her son to the local clinic, and at the time of his graduating from the program, she was so impressed with their program that she went to work for the clinic and she related incident after incident of the "miraculous work" of the clinicians in correcting the speech problems of children.

She described a father, whose daughter at 2 ½, could only speak at a level generally associated with a child of ten or eleven months. The father was surly and withdrawn, projecting the feeling that he blamed himself for his daughter's speech difficulties. The child, though when



alone was cheerful and happy, when she tried to communicate, became frustrated and angry. She was afflicted by an impediment that is rare but fairly well known by speech pathologists, and which I couldn't remember, much less pronounce. This was no comfort to the father; he was unmoved. Under the care and treatment of the clinician, as the little girl's speech improved, so did her

outlook on life, and so did her father's attitude. As she blossomed, so did his personality, and at her graduation from the program, they were both the epitome of a bright happy father-daughter combination.

One of the scholarship recipients, a senior DeMolay reflected such gratitude that his attitude was infectious. He told us that the funding from the scholarship was just enough to free him from the necessity to take a part time job in order to stay in school, allow him to concentrate on his studies, and maintain a GPA of over 3.5.

I am often asked the question, "Is Freemasonry relevant in today's world?" To these students and to these young children, Masonry is not only relevant, it's vital to their ability to succeed in life. Grand Commander Seele noted, in his address that we are instrumental in giving young people, "the ability to proceed with a life that is not defined by their manner of speech or their ability to communicate, but by their desire to succeed and to make a contribution to their world".

As I sat there and listened to those testimonials to the effectiveness of our efforts and the difference we have made in the lives of so many people, I couldn't help but reflect on what a tremendous privilege and honor it was for me to be in that place. Also, my mind went to the question of how important it is that we, as Scottish Rite

The "*Rite Word*" is an expense borne by the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies and <u>not</u> the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation. It is therefore not tax deductible as are contributions to the Foundation which is a 501 (C)(3) tax exempt organization.

#### **Rite Word Support for 2008**

Please add your name to the list

Mrs. Ruth Zanger Bro. Egon Jensen Bro/M Richard Fisher Bro. Charles Cowden Mrs. Shirley Gross Bro/M Lowell Johnson Bro. Alex Teodoro Mrs. Nancy Kell Bro. Buck Ballard Bro/M Tony Mariani Mrs. Grace Stephens Mrs. Flo Henick Bro. Robert Laws Bro/M Larry Pedersen Bro. Mason Peters Bro. Estil Johnson



Make your contribution to the <u>San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies</u> and have your name on the "<u>Honor Roll</u>". Your gift of \$100.00 or more will help the San Jose Lodge of Perfection, Chapter Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and Consistory reach the level necessary to provide quality events for our future success. Incremental gifts welcome too.

#### 2008 Honor Board

<u>Support</u> Members

Bro/M Tony Mariani Bro. Egon Jensen Bro. Ronald Fudala Bro/M Robert Laws Bro/M John Eastus Bro. Gene Whetstone Bro. Buck Ballard Bro/M Larry Pedersen Bro. William Hershberger Bro/M Lowell Johnson Bro/M Richard Fisher Bro. Estil Johnson

Thank You for Your

<sup>su</sup>PPort!

## THERITEWORD

(Continued from page 1) Personal Representative's Message

Masons, intensify our efforts to support the work of our own clinic and scholarship programs.

At San Jose Scottish Rite, I am proud to say that we take second place to no one in our excellence in the field of charity, but we must not rest. We must strive to be better than ourselves, and better than our efforts of yesterday, noble though they may be.

Am I asking for money? In a way, yes, but I am asking you to give something more important than that. I am suggesting that we all redouble our efforts to add new members to our ranks. With numbers comes financial support, and we have one of the greatest charitable programs in existence that generates a sense of fulfillment in all who participate. We add ten or fifteen men to our rolls each year and lose twenty or thirty. Our funding program is great, but the needs of the community are greater. We have thirty or forty brothers that work hard for the organization, but we need a hundred.

Do what you can, my brothers. The rewards are great and clear. It is the satisfaction of people helping people, a rare commodity in today's world.

Round S. Winite

The Rite Word is an official publication of the Valley of San Jose, Orient of California of the A.A.S.R. of Freemasonry, published monthly except July and August, at the San Jose Scottish Rite Center, 2455 Masonic Drive, San Jose, CA 95125. Phone # 408-978-7483

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.



III. William F. Stovall, 33° P.G.M. S.G.I.G. Supreme Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite for California



Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33° Sovereign Grand Commander

Supreme Council A.A.S.R. Washington, D.C.

## San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies

#### Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

	2008 - Lodge of Perfection		From our new Web-Site:	
Venerable Master	Bro. Bud Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-224-9431	_	
Senior Warden	Bro. Richard Fisher, 32° KCCH	408-779-4088	(Check it out @ www.sanjosescottishrite.org)	
Junior Warden		400.050 (050		
Prelate	Bro. Durward C. Ayre, 32° KCCH			
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Robert De May, 32°	408-379-7306	Welcome to the San Jose Scottish Rite	
Expert	Bro. Nick Muhlhauser, 32°	408-395-6746	Freemasonry has been a part of San Jose for	
Assistant Expert	Bro. Will Montoya, 32°	408-274-1137		
Captain of the Host	- vacant -		over 150 years. San Jose Lodge #10 (a blue	
Wise Master	2008 - Chapter of Rose Croix Bro. Harold Leister, 32°	408-846-9788	lodge) was issued a dispensation to operate	
Senior Warden	Bro. Monte Bishop, 32°	408-268-4212	on 11 July 1850. The first recorded commu-	
Junior Warden	Bro. Bryant Day, 32°	408-266-8184	nication of degrees of Scottish Rite Masonry	
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. John Unger, 32°	408-269-4418	was on 16 May 1883 by Albert Pike and the	
Expert	Bro. Jack Harris, 32°	408-275-6326	San Jose Lodge of Perfection #13 (a part of	
Assistant Expert	Bro. Dan Brothers, 32°	408-687-3428		
Captain of the Host	510. 5an 51001015, 52	100-007-3420	Scottish Rite masonry) was organized on 10	
captain of the nost	2008 - Council of Kadosh		March 1885. The Ancient and Accepted	
Commander	Bro. Eldred LeHeup, 32° KCCH	408-379-2493	Scottish Rite has maintained a temple in Sar	
1st Lt Commander	Bro. Ross Fuller, 32° KCCH	408-243-4436	Jose since 1909 and we have been at our	
2nd Lt Commander	Bro. Gregg Hall, 32°	408-778-4805	current location since 1984.	
Chancellor	Bro. Robert Ahrens, 32°	408-365-0115		
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Dan Manuto, 32°	408-528-0529		
First Deacon	Bro. Gene Meyer, 32°	408-377-8580	In addition to being a fraternal organization	
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Bobbie Byers, 32°	408-736-2958	that attracts the best and most respected	
	2008 San Jose Consistory		men from the community, the San Jose Scot-	
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Charles Cowden, 32°	831-685-3416	tish Rite supports many public institutions	
Prior	Bro. Dan Doornbos, 32° KCCH	408-263-2165	including police and fire departments.	
Preceptor			including police and in e departments.	
Chancellor	Bro. Ken Justus, 32°	831-726-1542		
Minister of State	Bro. Randy Downey, 32°	408-255-3719	When our facilities are not being used for	
Marshal of Ceremonies	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470	Rite functions, we make them available for	
Prelate	Bro. Gerald Best, 32°	408-559-3102	rental. Social & religious gatherings, wed-	
Expert	Bro. Joseph DaSilva, 32°	831-479-4381	dings, conventions, reunions and educa-	
Assistant Expert	Bro. Kerem Kapkin, 32°	831-334-4041	tional events are all welcome at our facili-	
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Billy Uber, 32°	831-724-2167		
	2008 - General Officers		ties.	
Personal Representative	Ill. Robert Winter, 33°	408-848-1242		
General Secretary	Bro. Robert Rowan, 32° KCCH	408-945-5941	Our charity work is focused primarily on	
Clinic Director	Bro. Ed Clarke, 32° KCCH	650-949-2029	helping children with language and speech	
Club Liason	Ill. Robert Winter, 33°	408-848-1242	disorders. We maintain a clinic on our	
Treasurer	Bro. William Mundy, 32°	408-297-3741	grounds where children receive treatment	
Almoner	Bro. Herb Dallas, 32° KCCH	408-268-9472	5	
Orator/Librarian	Ill. Maury Dunbar, 33°	408-773-9813	free from charge.	
Organist Emeritus	Ill. Carl Miescke, 33°	209-474-6235		
Tiler	Bro. Bryan Holmberg, 32°	408-813-3869		
Director of Ceremonies	Bro. Harold Leister, 32°	408-846-9788		
Assistant Director of Cere	monies Bro. Charles Cowden, 32°	831-685-3416		
			-	

Space in the Rite Word can be available to you for business-card sized advertising at very reasonable rates.

If you are interested, call our Brother Secretary to reserve your space.

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## THE RITE WORD

## From the Secretary's Table:



#### Brethren,

H ow very quickly the lapse of time makes itself known to each of us. I could have sworn that yesterday was the first day of 2008.

We are soon to be finished with all our efforts in 2008 and will embark upon the travels expected of us as we travel "through this veil of tears."

Here at San Jose Scottish Rite, we have successfully completed nearly all tasks assigned us for this year and are looking forward to our next journey.

Most of you are aware that we lost another valued member to the Great Architect in November. We will all miss Bro. Larry Pedersen and extend our sympathies to his family and friends.

Many times I have spoken about my love of reading and I came across an article in the Southern California Research Lodge October publication that I should like to share with you. You may find it valuable for your personal responses about Masonry.

#### \* \* \* \* \*

#### MASONRY IN PLAIN LANGUAGE

Doug Price, PM, Grand Lodge of Kansas, had this to say about Masonic Language:

"I love the Craft, and one thing I particularly treasure is the language of the ritual, the lectures and the charges. It is rich, literate English such as one rarely encounters today. However, one area where I think we need to modernize our language is when we talk about Masonry to others, especially men considering joining. Too often I have seen Masons unable to explain in plain language what it is we believe in."

He proposes 18 principles in modern English:

- 1. Serve God as you understand him to be.
- 2. Expect good things in life and live like you do.
- 3. Be generous to people in need.
- 4. Keep your promises.
- 5. Be industrious, and improve your mind.
- 6. Remember that there is a life to come, and act with that in mind.
- 7. Take care of your family.
- 8. Be tolerant of the honest opinions of others.
- 9. Keep yourself morally clean.
- 10. Help your Brother Masons

- 11. Learn the ritual work and be active in Lodge.
- 12. Protect your own physical and mental health.
- 13. Be strong in the face of adversity.
- 14. Make your decisions in a calm frame of mind.
- 15. Always treat other people fairly.
- 16. Be proud to be a Mason, but modest in expressing it.
- 17. Watch for good men seeking what Masonry offers, and assist them within the rule.
- 18. Be happy and enjoy life.

[Beacon, publication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, September/October 2008]

\* \* \* \*

If you are not a member of the Southern California Research Lodge, you should consider becoming one. Their monthly messages are a source of much education and enjoyment.

In closing for this month, the entire staff at San Jose Scottish Rite, wishes the very best for each of you and your families for the Holiday Season. Enjoy!

General Secretary



#### **Christmas Shopping?**

If you are looking for some stocking stuffers or an inexpensive little gift for that special

Mason on your list, we have some very nice little items on display in our office like Masonic Cuff Links or tie bars; belt buckles;

books or a variety of other things.

A San Jose Scottish Rite polo shirt is available as well. Stop in and browse!



## VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12

## Page 5

#### 50 Years in Scottish Rite



Ill. Bob Winter had the pleasure of presenting 50 year caps to Bros. Marty and Bob after our November Stated Meeting Dinner.



#### Attention all 32° Masons Are you a 32° Scottish Rite Mason?

# If so, why not join the **KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW ?**

**Interested?** Please send information to:

John Unger, Secretary 4609 Hampton Falls Place, San Jose, CA 95136-2678 *or* e-mail johnp4609@yahoo.com. Please include your name, address, phone (home, work, cell <whatever you want listed>) and e-mail address if you have one.

For the Sadies

Ladies,

I hope that you each can find time to enjoy the gifts of the season; time with family and friends, listening to wonderful music, sitting by a warm fire, drinking hot chocolate, sampling all the delicious food and enjoying memories of past holidays.

The Children's Christmas Party will take place on Saturday, December 6, 2008. It looks like it is going to be a fun day filled with music, crafts, food and a visit by Santa. I am grateful for all the people that are giving of their time, energy and talent to make this party possible. I appreciate those who are showing up to help put up the decorations and trim the trees as well as those who are coming to help out during the party. I want to thank the ladies who are baking those delicious cookies. I am sure the children will love them. A special thank you needs to be given to Helen McDaniel, Mary Lou Johnson, Ruth Roberts, Melissa Williams, Ken Zuhr and the San Jose Rainbow Girls.

At our December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be doing a cookie exchange. Please bring three dozen of your favorite cookies along with several copies of the recipe. And, don't forget to bring along a container to take your samples home. During dinner, the "Mason of the Year" awards will be presented to several of the men. It should be a special evening as well as a time to gather with friends.

Augusta E. Rundell said, "Christmas--that magic blanket that wraps itself about us, that something so intangible that it is like a fragrance. It may weave a spell of nostalgia. Christmas may be day of feasting, or of prayer, but always it will be a day of remembrance--a day in which we think of everything we have ever loved."



God Bless - SUSAN RAMSEY



# From the Clinic!!!

#### A note from the clinicians:

A s the 2008 year comes to a close, we would like to express thanks to our generous donors for the opportunity to help children and families who are in need of speech and language services. The California Scottish Rite Foundation celebrated 50 years of service last month, and we are so grateful to be part of an amazing program that touches the lives of so many people in our community. Thanks to the generous funding by the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation and donations from private individuals, we are able to keep the doors of our clinic open. Without your ongoing support, we could not provide services to children and families who are in need.

The San Jose Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Clinic give us as clinicians the very rare opportunity to serve families and children who may otherwise go untreated. During the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration several parents gave speeches about how our philanthropy changed their lives and the lives of their children. Before starting services, these parents felt hopeless. They worried about what was wrong with their child. They worried about how to pay for services. They worried about what would happen to their child if they did not get treatment. They worried about their child's future. One parent spoke of her two year old son who was only using a few words and could not tell her what he wanted, resulting in tantrums and leaving her with a feeling of helplessness. Yet, once treatment started at the Scottish Rite her burden was lifted. Little by little her son acquired language, which gave her hope for her child's future.

Why does our clinic give hope to parents? Public schools are overwhelmed and burdened with large numbers of children who need speech and language treatment. Many children that need services are turned away. While some families are fortunate to have health insurance that covers speech and language treatment, many families cannot afford the typical insurance co-payments for multiple treatment sessions per month. More often than

not, families do not have health insurance that covers any speech and language treatment. They cannot afford the expense of weekly or bi-weekly therapy sessions for months on end which can cost on average \$135 per treatment session and hundreds of dollars for testing services at a private clinic. Thanks to the Foundation and your support, our therapy sessions and diagnostic services are free. We cannot express what a blessing it is to focus on a child's treatment and the needs of the parents without worrying that a family cannot afford our services.

As clinicians, we feel blessed to work at the San Jose Scottish Rite Speech and Language Clinic. With the large number of children served and the many others that patiently await services, our clinic is always in need of donations. Thanks to your continued support, we can give hope to families who might otherwise have none.

Many of the children, their parents and some who are on the Clinic waiting list will be attending the Christmas Party on December 6th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Please join us!

Are you aware that your donation to the Clinic could be worth twice as much? Many companies will match their employees' gifts to charitable organizations. To find out more, speak with your employer or our General Secretary. One or the other can get you the information you need.

## October Donations:

In Memory of: Lowell Johnson Mrs. Mary Lou Johnson Bro/M Jerry Boxer Bro/M John Unger Mrs. Sophie Birk Mrs. Grace Stephens Bro/M Robert Schmidt Mrs. Grace Wallis Mrs. Ruth Roberts Bro. Fred Jones In Memory of: **Bill Roberts** Bro/M Jerry Boxer In Memory of: James Allen Rod Reuting Bro/M Jerry Boxer In Memory of: William Leutz James Allen **Rod Reuting** SLO Area Club In Memory of: **Jack Abrams** Mrs. Estella Abrams

#### October Donations: Cont'd

#### **Clinic Continued**

National Semiconductor Kirk Hall United Way Silicon Valley Mrs. Kelly Swenor-Kropff In Honor of: Sean Bro. Lee Cornell Bro/M Carey Atwood Bro. Clifford Allen Bro. Dominic Di Coio Tansie Iwafuchi **Bro/M** John Eastus Bro. Arvid Stenstrom Bro. Larry Furlow Bro. Harold Hagaman Bro/M Art Pasquinelli Bro/M John Tyson Bro/M Peter Saad **Bro/M** James Dingman Bro/M Max Timmons Bro/M Errol Bennett Bro/M Thomas Tefft Bro/M Richard Johnston Bro. Buck Ballard Bro. Robert Shannon Bro/M Richard Medefesser Bro/M Edwin Pearce Bro. Daniel Mc Diarmid Bro. Ken Crandall Bro/M Harry Moore Bro/M Dan Wasson **Bro/M** Timothy Gathers Bro/M James Bell Bro/M Lyle Bird Bro. Francis Conyers Bro. William Cook Bro. Bill Forester Bro. William Thorndike Bro/M Ken White Bro. Estil Johnson **Bro/M Paul Hopkins** Bro. Milo Reisner Bro. Stephen Wright Bro. Melvin Reabold Bro. Francis Convers Bro. John Curtis Bro. Tony Arnedo Bro. Thomas Dunn

#### Foundation

In Memory of: Lowell Johnson Bro/M Robert Rowan Bro/M Roger Bibb Bro. Estil Johnson Bro/M Paul Hopkins Bro/M Kenneth Zuhr Bro/M Carey Atwood Bro. Clifford Allen Bro. Dominic De Coio Bro/M John Eastus Bro. Arvid Stenstrom Bro/M Peter Saad Bro/M Homer Ledford **Bro/M** James Dingman Bro/M Richard Johnston Bro. Buck Ballard Bro. Robert Shannon Bro/M Edwin Pearce Bro. Daniel McDiarmid Bro. Ken Crandall Bro/M Harry Moore Bro/M Dan Wasson **Bro/M** Timothy Gathers Bro. Carl Kaiser Bro/M Johnie Thomas Bro. Stephen Wright

#### San Jose Bodies

Bro/M Kenneth Zuhr Bro/M Carey Atwood Bro. Doninic Di Coio Bro/M John Eastus Bro. Arvid Stenstrom Bro/M Peter Saad Bro. Lee Trustv Bro. Robert Shannon Bro. Daniel McDiarmid Bro. Ken Crandall Bro/M Harry Moore Bro/M Dan Wasson **Bro/M** Timothy Gather Bro/M Kenneth Stroud Bro. Elias Zasloff Bro/M Paul Hopkins Bro. Stephen Wright

> Thank you for your <sup>suppor<u>ti</u></sup>

If you know of anyone who is ill, please call the office at 408-978-7483!

#### Shut-Ins

Jack Cooper	1861 Geneva St., San Jose, CA 95124-2110	408-559-0733
Wally Henwood	104 Milmar Way, Los Gatos, CA 95032-3830	408-356-1338
	Permanent Shut-Ins	
Charles Boyd	18760 McFarland Ave., Saratoga, CA 95070-4626	408-370-9619
Bill Nelson	Care Center, Los Gatos Meadows, 110 Wood Rd., Los Gatos, CA 95030-6799	408-399-1787
Robert Gass	VA Nursing Home Care, Rm.258, 4951 Arroya Rd. , Livermore, CA 94550-9650	
Walt Buescher	Pleasant View Conv. Hosp., 22590 Voss Ave., Cupertino, CA 95014-2627	
Marty Marshall	1425 St. Francis Dr. , San Jose, CA 95125-5247	408-266-6362
John Knight	3400 Paul Sweet Rd. #C-129 - Santa Cruz, 95065-1537	
Wyatt Sawyer	14500 Fruitvale Ave. #2253 - Saratoga 95070-6179	408-741-7306
Wendell Peterson	8370 Carmel St., Gilroy, CA 95020-4340	408-847-4913

## THE RITE WORD

## From the Wise Master

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#### FALL REUNION

The first phase of our Fall Reunion was conducted on Saturday, 25 October, with a most outstanding Fourth Degree performance! The Degree Director, Bro.



Randy Downey and his cast, Bro. Bud Ramsey, Bro. Jack Harris, Bro. John Matteroli, Bro. Lee Milde, and Ill Bob Winter, have set us on a path to have an excellent Fall Reunion! Many favorable comments were made regarding the degree; many said that it was the best fourth degree that we have ever had!

Bro. Dan Doornbos did his usual outstanding discussions and conferral of the orally communicated degrees! Great support was received from Bro. Robert Rowan, Mary Lou Johnson, Ill. Roger Bibb, Bro. Ken Zuhr, Bro. Richard Fisher, Bro. Ken Justus, Bro. Jack Harris, Bro. Chuck Cowden and Phillip Martinez.

The degrees that are being given are the new degrees, which were revised for the following reasons:

- a. Preservation of the content of the Albert Pike ritual.
- b. Retention of historical and ritualistic validity.
- c. Deletion of repetitive passages.
- d. Clarity of meaning and purpose.
- e. Enhancement of dramatic impact.
- f. Ease of staging.
- g. Eloquent simplicity of sentence structure.
- h. Preservation of degree continuity and chronology.
- i. Logical transition from one Degree to another. Preservation of ritual's formal integrity.

The revisions introduce standardize slides and transparencies, as well as music!

According to early rituals, one of the passwords meant, "reunited to accomplish", which means a gathering of Scottish Rite Masons assembled to confer degrees. We use the word "reunion" to mean a gathering of Scottish Rite Masons assembled to confer degrees. We encourage members to faithfully attend our meetings and reunions, in order to refresh our memories of wise philosophy.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the pres-  $(\ensuremath{\textit{Continued on page 9}})$ 

## From the Master of Kadosh

I n my final message for 2008, I want to pass on more Masonic wisdom from Brother Manly P. Hall. I found this passage in his book, "The Lost Keys of Freemasonry".

#### Masons, Awake!



"Your creed and your craft demand the best that is in you. They demand the sanctifying of your life, the regeneration of your body, the purification of your soul and the ordination of your spirit. Yours is the glorious opportunity; yours is divine responsibility. Accept your task and follow in the footsteps of the Master Masons of the past, who with the flaming spirit of the Craft have illuminated the world. You have the great privilege – the privilege of enlightened labor. You may know the ends to which you work, while others must struggle in darkness. Your labors are not to be confined to the tiled lodge alone, for a Mason must radiate the qualities of his craft. Its light must shine in his home and in his business, glorifying his association with his fellow men. In the Lodge and out of the Lodge, the Mason must represent the highest fruitage of sincere endeavor."

This was written in circa 1922 and is just as pertinent and apropos in 2008. I trust you will find this alert from Brother Hall interesting and even helpful as you travel on your Masonic journey.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Chuck Cowden, 32 ° Master of Kadosh

#### Overheard recently:

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the infant Jesus. Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, "Mom, a Wise Woman would have brought diapers."

## VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12



From the Venerable Master

Brethren and Ladies -



Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year!!! I hope this season brings you joy and prosperity. This is also the time of year for Lodge Installations, gift giving, holiday parties, and so on. I want to thank my wife, Susan, for her efforts in putting to-

gether the Christmas Party for the children who have been involved in our Childhood Language Clinic. This is an event appreciated by all.

At our next meeting, during the dinner, we'll be awarding the "Mason of the Year" designated by each of the Lodges in the area and I want to encourage all of you to attend. This is our opportunity to recognize Masons who are being acknowledged by their own Lodge for their contributions. In addition to the usual good meal, this should be a fun event.

On October 25<sup>th</sup> we began our Reunion by conferring the new 4<sup>th</sup> Degree. Anyone in attendance will tell you that the Degree Team did an excellent job under the direction of Brother Randy Downey. I also want to commend our General Secretary, Bob Rowan KCCH, for the props, stage setting, slide work, and "special sounds" that contributed to the overall effectiveness of the degree. We received a lot of compliments with many saying it was the best they had seen.



I hope all of you have a great holiday. This is also the time for a lot of good food. Dave Barry once said, *'I recently had my annual physical examination, which I get once every seven years, and when the nurse weighed me, I was shocked to discover how much stronger the Earth's gravitational pull has become since 1990."* Much like Dave, my understanding is that leaving Thanksgiving and heading into this holiday season is a time when the gravitational pull increases the most.

And as we approach the New Year, let's remember the words of Hal Borland who said, "Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us." Scottish Rite is full of rich experiences and sage wisdom if we take the time to study and live its precepts. See you at the next meeting!

## Bud Ramsey

Venerable Master

(Continued from page 8 Wise Master's Message)

entation of the Fourteenth Degree at our schedule meeting and dinner on 13 January 2009 and 15 through 32 Degrees on 20 and 21 February 2009. Dinner will be served on 20 February, breakfast and lunch will be served on 21 February and the Reunion will conclude with a formal banquet {including wives and friends} and capping and ring ceremonies.

We look forward to seeing you there.

My congratulations to the Fourth Degree Director and Cast for a job very well done!

#### Hal Leister, 32° Wise Master

	n Memoriam	
Albert O'Brien Bemiss	Yreka	August 21, 20
William David Dickerson	Loma, CO	October 8, 2008
Cleo Picquette	San Jose	January 19, 2008
Peter Ramirez	Hollister	October 22, 2008
Donald Christopher Stacy	Lockwood	November 24, 200
Larry Harold Pedersen	Los Gatos	November 14, 2008



## DO WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

The San Jose Scottish Rite is preparing an e-mail distribution list of members who would <u>prefer</u> to receive their Scottish Rite communications by e-mail. Interested? Please send your e-mail address and name to rdrowan@sanjosescottishrite.org.

(Check out our newly designed web-site! For those of you who have asked to receive communications by e-mail, we will soon be sending you an e-mail message to inform you that the "Rite Word" is available for reading or download. If you have not yet given us your e-mail address, please do so as soon as you can.) —**rr** 

## For the Lighter Side of things

Giving a sermon one Sunday, I heard two teenage girls in the back giggling and disturbing people. I interrupted my sermon and announced sternly, "There are two of you here who have not heard a word I've said." That quieted them down.

When the service was over, I went to greet people at the front door. Three adults apologized for going to sleep in church, promising it would never happen again.

Don't forget the Mason of the Year Celebration after our December Stated Meeting Dinner!

# VOLUME 2, ISSUE 12

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# Membership is always important:

PROPOSITION/PETITION ORIENT OF SAN JOSE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES Office of the Secretary (408) 978-7483 2455 Masonic Drive – PO Box 18220, San Jose, CA. 95158-8220
Fee: \$300.00 (must accompany this petition)
(Please print or type)
Full Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone: e-Mail address:
Mailing Address (If different from above):
Date of Birth:Place of Birth :
Present Blue Lodge: Approx. Date Raised:
Location:
Name of Spouse:
Occupation (If retired, previous occupation):
Name of Business:
Address:
Phone:
Have you ever petitioned for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees?:
I believe in the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, the entire separation of church and state as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America. Wholeheartedly believing in the foregoing, I respectfully apply for membership with San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies.
Signature: Date:
Recommended by:
1: 2:
Share your own enjoyment of Scottish Rite.
Invite a brother to make an application.

## Future Scottish Rite Events:

December 1, 2008 - Decoration of Building Party - Beginning at 11:00 AM

December 6, 2008 - Christmas Party for all Scottish Rite Masons, their Family members, and all Clinic Children and their Families

December 9, 2008 - December Stated Meeting & Dinner (Mason of the Year Program)

December 14, 2008 - Deadline for January "Rite Word" articles !

January 10, 2009 - Council of Masters meeting — 9:00AM (all officers should attend)

January 13, 2009 - January Stated Meeting and Dinner followed by conferral of the 14th Degree



January 27, 2009 - Annual Installation Officers - All are invited to attend!



We will be decorating our facility for the December 6th Christmas Party and the Christmas season on Monday, December 1st starting at 11:00 AM - Suitable refreshments will be available and we would welcome your help!



SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY

PO Box 18220 San Jose, CA 95158-8220

#### **Address Service Requested**

Phone: 408-978-7483 Fax: 408-265-4578 e-mail: mail@sanjosescottishrite.org Non-Profit U.S. Postage

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