

Ventura Lodge of Perfection in the Orient of California, Valley of Ventura, Scottish Rite

Views from Ventura Valley

VOL. XXXIV

January - February 2012

Issue 2

In Memoriam



Christian Frederick Kleinknecht, Jr., 33°
Past Sovereign Grand Commander

2012

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January - February

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Views from Ventura Valley, the Ventura County Scottish Rite News, Volume XXXIV, Issue number 2. Published 5 to 6 times a year by the Ventura Lodge of Perfection in the Orient of California, Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies, 487 Appletree Ave, Camarillo, CA 93012-5148. This publication is distributed free of charge to all members. For further information call 805-484-5222. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the address above.

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite sitting in the Valley of Ventura, Orient of California acknowledge the authority and yield 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 of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

Cover:

It is with great sadness that we report the passing on December 1, 2011, of C. Fred Kleinknecht, who served as Sovereign Grand Commander from 1985 to 2003.

Ill.: Kleinknecht was born February 14, 1924, in Washington, D.C. During World War II he served in the Navy. In 1947 he took a job at the House of the Temple. In 1949 he became a mason and in 1950 he joined the Scottish Rite. He held a number of positions at the House of the Temple, being named Assistant to the Grand Commander in 1966 and Acting Grand Secretary General in 1967. He was instrumental in building the Rite's endowment infrastructure.

His leadership and influence left a big imprint on the Scottish Rite and his presence will be missed.

Officers for 2012

On January 9, 2012, our Valley will hold our annual Installation of Officers. Brother Robert L. Sills, 32° KCCH, will serve as Installing Officer, Ill.: Frederick J. Potter, 33°, as Master of Ceremonies, and Ill.: Ted C. Whitacre, 33°, as Chaplain.

The following officers will be installed to serve our Valley this coming year. Please give them your support.

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master ..Thom K. Piper, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden J. Raul Cifuentes, 32°
Junior Warden..... Augusto Garcia, 32° KCCH

Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master Paulo Santos, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden Eduardo M. Austria, 32°
Junior Warden..... Thomas E. Fanslow, 32°

Council of Kadosh

Commander Antonio C. Ramos, 32°
1st Lt. Cmdr Daniel C. Poff, 32°

Consistory

Master of Kadosh... Ill.: E. Floyd Griffin, 33°

Officers of All the Bodies

Treasurer Roger Rider, 32° KCCH
Secretary Ill.: W. Andrew Little, 33°
Almoner Walter W. Bragulla, 32° KCCH
Orator Robert L. Sills, 32° KCCH
Prelate Charles P. Batterson, 32° KCCH
Tiler Thomas E. Fanslow, 32°
Class Director John A. Argue, 32° KCCH
Asst. Class Director ..Thomas E. Fanslow, 32°
Historian Ill.: Orvene S. Carpenter, 33°

Women's Association

President Mary Elizabeth Sharp
Vice President Lynn Piper
Secretary Nola Bragulla
Treasurer Ires Sutton
Member at Large Lois Marrs

Upcoming Events:

Our Installation of Officers will be on Monday, January 9. Anacapa Lodge #710 is preparing a Filipino dinner for us. They always provide a delicious meal. Come out and show your support for our new officers.

If you want to take advantage of our yearly standing reservation for dinner the deadline is January 31st. This includes 9 stated meeting dinners (but not Installation of Officers) as well as Remembrance and Renewal, all for a cost of \$100, which also frees you from the hassle of making monthly dinner reservations. If interested please contact Brother Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH, (harold55@juno.com, or 484-7657).

Our calendar for the year is now set. See pages 7 and 8 for details.

Our next stated meeting is February 13th. At that time we will make final plans for the year 2012.

Our next highway cleanups are scheduled for Saturday, January 14th, and February 18th. Meet at the Café 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd., Saticoy, at 7:00 AM for breakfast. Newcomers are always welcome.

News of the Valley:

We welcome our newest member, Brother Earl Williams, 32°, who received his degrees courtesy of Long Beach Scottish Rite on November 12th.

At our December stated meeting we were entertained by the music of Frank E. DelMonico. Thank you,

Ted and Evelyn Whitacre, for making the arrangements. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the show.

At the meeting we held our annual election of officers.

Scholarships

The California Scottish Rite Foundation awards a number of scholarships each year. Last year they awarded 70 scholarships with a total value of \$137,755. The Foundation also handles funds for an additional 48 scholarships given by individual valleys.

Scholarship applications are available at

http://www.casr.foundation.org.

In selecting the recipients the committee gives extra points to members of Masonic youth groups (DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls). Last year they only had six applicants from these organizations, five of whom received scholarships. One scholarship is reserved for a member of the Order of DeMolay. It was not awarded because there were no eligible applicants.

This seems like a missed opportunity. If you know of a young person who will be starting college next year, particularly one who is a member of one of our youth groups, please make them aware of these scholarships and urge them to apply. Likewise please spread the word to those who work with our youth groups.

From the PR's Quill

Jerry E. Gonzales, 32° KCCH

Greetings and hoping everyone has had a joyful holiday season. WOW, another year come and gone, where has it gone; as I reflect on the past year I wonder what happened, but one thing is for sure, we are moving forward no matter how much we like or dislike the idea. I must say my first year as the Personal Representative for our Valley has been a year with many experiences and much learning on my part. I sometimes wonder how anyone understands the complexity of the Masonic System, but with the help of many I have managed to stumble along in fine form. To those who have offered their assistance and guidance I say thank you, and please do not fear, I will still need your continued support in the upcoming year. I would also like to thank all the officers who have worked hard to lead our Valley through the past year, and I am also most grateful to the Ladies Association, who always brings brightness into the Lodge and keep us men on track. Again Ladies: "Thank You" for all you do!

Enough about the past, as all good things come to an end, so must we look to the future as a



bright and prosperous venture! The end of the past Masonic year brings new blood and further light to our body, and I am pleased and thankful to those who have stepped up to the plate to serve as officers for our upcoming year. Some of you are new, for the first time in a Chair in Scottish Rite Masonry, and some of you have been here many times before. Whatever your status I thank you for taking on the challenges that lie before you and for your guidance and support of our Great Valley. Our upcoming installation of officers will be following the normal stated meeting dinner on Monday the 9th of January. I

hope all of you will join us for this Festive Celebration. I will remind you that as this is a special dinner you must make reservations, and pay your fee at the door.

Lastly, I will mention some housekeeping rules, please note as posted elsewhere in the bulletin reservations are mandatory for all dinner meetings, and if you so desire you may make a standing reservation for the full year no later than January 31, 2012 for a mere fee of \$100.00; otherwise please be sure to make your reservations monthly in advance as per the instructions. I thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Lastly I would like to leave you with a thought or reflection on Charity or Service to Others:

OBSERVATION: *Find personal joy and fulfillment in service. "I slept and dreamt that life was all joy, I awoke and understood life was but service, I served and realized service is joy." – Rabindranath Tagore*

"In about the same degree as you are helpful, you will be happy." – Karl Reiland

A common delusion is to think of service only in terms of sacrifice. Service is a reliable road

to a series of emotions that enlarge our lives and uplift our spirits – satisfaction, pride, worthiness, fulfillment, and even outright joy in seeing our efforts improve someone else's life. If you haven't made the time (you'll never "find" it.) or haven't felt the inclination to help, please try it. You will be astounded to discover how good it feels and how much you have been missing.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

I hope you will cherish this thought as much as I have, and respect those who so willingly give of themselves. We are a Masonic family; one of brothers whose duty it is to serve one another, but we sometimes lose sight of our goals. I encourage each of you to look at yourself and see if you are living up to your own personal standards.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Annual Installation of Officers.

Jerry E. Gonzales
KCCH

FROM THE KITCHEN STAFF

+

New number

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner, preferably by email to harold55@juno.com, otherwise 484-7657 (leave a message), no later than the Friday before the dinner.

January 9, 2012, Stated Meeting

Filipino Dinner

Catered by Anacapa Lodge #710
Price \$15, reservation required

February 13, 2012, Stated Meeting

Prime Rib

Twice Baked Potatoes
salad
vegetables
dessert

Price \$10 with reservation, \$15 otherwise

Policy for Dinner Reservations

Jerry Gonzales, 32° KCCH
Personal Representative of the SGIG

Annual Standing Reservations are available; for an advance fee of \$100.00 per person, paid by no later than January 31st of the effective year.

This reservation will include 10 dinners (all 9 stated meeting dinners for the year plus Remembrance and Renewal). It will not include the dinner for our Annual Installation of Officers which is a special catered dinner.

If you choose to pay monthly, the fee will continue to be \$10.00 per person, paid at the door, with a reservation in place, made 7 days in advance.

If you fail to make a reservation and wish to, pay at the door, the fee for dinner will be \$15.00 per person.

(Special Guests and Visitors will be exempted from non-reservation price.)

Ventura County Scottish Rite Schedule for 2012

Save this page for reference!

(Watch the newsletter for updates.)

Dates:	Events:
Mon Jan 9	Social 5:30 PM, Filipino Dinner 6:30 PM (Reservations), Installation of Officers & Program 7:30
Sat Jan 14	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Tue Jan 31	Deadline for 2012 Annual Standing Reservations for Dinner
Mon Feb 13	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following
Sat Feb 18	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 12
Mar 9-10	Scottish Rite Leadership Conference, San Diego, CA
Mon Mar 12	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (Reservations), 25 & 50 Year awards presented, 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following
Sat Mar 17	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Mon Mar 26	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (Reservations), Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony 7:30 PM (Open to all)
Mon Apr 9	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following
Sat Apr 14	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Sat Apr 21	Spring Fast Class (Part 1), 7:30 AM; Lunch 12:00 Noon
Sat Apr 28	Spring Fast Class (Part 2), 7:30 AM; Lunch 12:00 Noon
Mon May 14	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following
Sat May 19	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Mon May 28	Avenue of the Flags at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park Memorial Day, 10 AM, Laying of wreath by Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies
Mon Jun 11	“Flag Day” Social 5:30 PM, Flag Day, Dinner 6:30 PM, (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following
Sat Jun 16	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Mon Jun 25	Potluck dinner 6:30 PM, Planning Meeting for New England Summer Picnic and Child ID Program at Ventura County Fair
Sat Jul 14	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Sat Jul 21	New England Summer Picnic, (location TBA), Serving at 1-2 PM
Mon Aug 13	DARK
Sat Aug 18	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126

Sat Sep 8	Fall Fast Class (Part 1), 7:30 AM, Lunch 12:00 Noon
Mon Sep 10	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following
Sat Sep 15	Fall Fast Class (Part 2), 7:30 AM, Lunch 12:00 Noon
Sat Sep 22	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Mon Oct 8	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (Reservations), Feast of Tishri Celebration 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following, (Reobligation of the 14th Degree, Nominating Committee appointed)
Sat Oct 13	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Mon Nov 12	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (Reservations), Cap and Ring Ceremony 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following (Report of Nominating Committee)
Sat Nov 17	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126
Mon Dec 10	Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following, (<i>Election of Officers</i>)
Sat Dec 15	Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126

The Craft is Not for Everybody

(from a recent email)

The Craft offers a place and opportunity for like-minded men to gather and enjoy the company of each other. There is nothing wrong with rejecting candidates who do not possess the standard agreed upon by the members. It is wrong to disregard the rule in favor of the few who cannot clear the bar against the majority who were subjected to the same rule. Either the rule should be imposed or be replaced. Any watering down of the set standards to cater for those who have obviously shown inability to meet such requirement is one of the reasons why the Fraternity is not retaining and attracting those who it should be.

Freemasonry is not about community building like Lions or Rotary Clubs, it is not business networking such as the Chamber of Commerce, and it is not a religious support group. While those activities are certainly worthy of their time and efforts, it is not the focus of the Craft. The spirit which drives a man to join those outstanding organizations is one of the lessons presented in our Order.

Freemasonry is about “that spiritual building, that house not made by hands, eternal in heavens.” A sticker that says, “The real secret of Freemasonry is to make good men better men” is a better “propaganda” slogan than 2B1ASK1. The former defines the mission statement or the purpose while the later is being “cute” in expressing a state of desperation. The Craft welcomes only interested men from the “exclusive” pool of good men. They are free to join and most certainly free to leave. **The Craft is not for everybody.**

Lodge of Perfection

Thom Piper, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

Congratulations to 2012's newly elected officers of the Valley of Ventura Scottish Rite. It is promising to be a great year. I am very humbled to have been offered a second term as Venerable Master, a position I take very seriously, and I will do my best to fulfill the obligation honorably.

As I make this commitment to give my all, I ask the same from each of you. Please recommit yourself to Scottish Rite in 2012 by attending regularly and supporting our fraternity wholeheartedly.

I was mulling over the brethren as I worked to find just the right person for the many different positions and it occurred to me how fortunate I am to have such a diverse group. Our body of men is not unlike our physical bodies. Our differences are our strengths. What good would it be if you were all legs? You could take me places but we couldn't do anything once we arrived; or all heads where we could think of wondrous things and talk about them but not have the ability to act on them. No, you are all



perfect, each in your own way, and while the heads, the arms, the legs, the eyes, and the ears may all perceive things differently, we would not be able to function as well without any of you. I see your value as I view you all as a group, or body, as it were, and I suggest you each look around and offer to shake the arm (or leg or ear) that is different from you but no less special.

In closing I give you my love for you as my brothers, no man has been gifted with better friends than I.

Thom Piper
Venerable Master



For Those Who Need our Prayers

*We seek in prayerful words, dear friend,
Our heart's true wish to send you,
That you may know that, far or near,
Our loving thoughts attend you.*

Donald Wright, 642-6621 Clarence Jackson, 658-4859
Jerry Carpenter, 419-4101 Gonzalo Hernandez, 485-0166

Please give these brethren a call, pay them a visit, or drop them a card or letter, to let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

If you know of a distressed brother, please contact our Prelate, Chuck Batterson, 32° KCCH, (nereus2006@sbcglobal.net or 647-8669) or one of the other officers.

For Those Who have Crossed the Bar

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call from me,
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea.*

*For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face,
When I have crossed the bar.*

William L. Donahoo crossed on 12/18/2009
Coleman C. Byrum crossed on 9/3/2011
Russell Edward Fox crossed on 9/12/2011
John Frederick Bewick crossed on 10/9/2011
William George Trevarthen crossed on 10/30/2011
Peter Bokron crossed on 11/24/2011
John Norman Dryden crossed on 11/27/2011



Freemasonry Builds Its Temples in the
 Hearts of Men and Among Nations.

Useful Contacts

Officers of All the Bodies

Personal Rep of the SGIG..... Jerry E. Gonzales, 32° KCCH 986-3656..... jeg522@yahoo.com
 Secretary..... Ill.: W. Andrew Little, 33° 484-5222..... alittle93012@gmail.com
 Treasurer..... Roger Rider, 32° KCCH 983-3025..... rider4sd@msn.com
 Almoner..... Walter Bragulla, 32° KCCH 644-2055..... nrbpq@sbcglobal.net
 Asst Almoner Thousand Oaks..... John Argue, 32° KCCH 498-4831..... mayfieldpark@aol.com
 Asst Almoner Santa Paula..... Ill.: E. Floyd Griffin, 33° 525-5932..... efggriffin@verizon.net
 Asst Almoner Camarillo..... William Campbell, 32° KCCH 482-7523..... bncampbell@verizon.net
 Orator..... Robert L. Sills, 32° KCCH 981-8262..... rlsills@rlsills.com
 Prelate..... Chuck Batterson, 32° KCCH 647-8669..... nereus2006@sbcglobal.net
 Director of the Work.....

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master..... Thom Piper, 32° KCCH 208-8004..... Thompiper2@aol.com
 Senior Warden..... J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° 241-6968..... jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
 Junior Warden..... Augusto Garcia, 32° KCCH 832 4389..... guspastmaster710@yahoo.com

Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master..... Paulo Santos, 32° KCCH 619-947-5530..... paw_nmcl0@yahoo.com
 Senior Warden..... Eduardo M. Austria, 32° 283-5966..... emaustralia@verizon.net
 Junior Warden..... Tom Fanslow, 32° 482-3604..... lakeside.thomas@gmail.com

Council of Kadosh

Commander..... Tony Ramos, 32° 488-3782..... tonybie70@gmail.com
 1st Lt. Commander..... Daniel C. Poff, 32° 241-8080..... danpoff@yahoo.com

Consistory

Master of Kadosh..... Ill.: E. Floyd Griffin, 33° 525-5932..... efggriffin@verizon.net

Ladies' Association

President..... Mary Elizabeth Sharp (661) 414-2987..... planetnevereverland@hotmail.com
 Vice President..... Lynn Piper 208-8004..... lynnapiper@aol.com
 Secretary..... Nola Bragulla 644-2055..... nrbpq@sbcglobal.net
 Treasurer..... Ires Sutton 647-2364
 Member at Large..... Lois Marrs 642-4292

Other Workers

1st Knight, Kts of St. Andrew..... Walter Bragulla, 32° KCCH 644-2055 nrbpq@sbcglobal.net
 Dinner Reservations..... Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH 484-7657... harold55@juno.com
 Programs, Social Events.....
 Membership..... Thom Piper, 32° KCCH 208-8004..... Thompiper2@aol.com
 Highway Cleanup..... Jim Deardorff, 32° KCCH 643-6905..... deardorff@dslextre.com
 Stagecraft..... Michael Metzler, 32° KCCH 524-3362 mgmetzler@aol.com
 Childhood ID Program..... Chuck Batterson, 32° KCCH 647-8669..... nereus2006@sbcglobal.net
 Widows Program..... Ladies' Association
 Newsletter Editor..... Ill.: W. Andrew Little, 33° 484-5222..... alittle93012@gmail.com

Recent changes are underlined. All phone numbers in area code 805.

You can email us at vcscottishrite@gmail.com, or FAX us at (253) 276-4055

Web site: <http://venturascottishrite.com>

“What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.” – Albert Pike

Ventura Lodge of Perfection
 in the Orient of California
 487 Appletree Ave
 Camarillo, CA 93012-5148

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark Your Calendar

For Reservations email harold55@juno.com, or call 484-7657

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|-----|-----|------|---|
| Mon | Jan | 9 | Installation of Officers: Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations required, NOT included in the Standing Reservation policy</i>), ceremony following. |
| Sat | Jan | 14 | Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd, Saticoy |
| Tue | Jan | 31 | Deadline for 2012 Annual Standing Reservations for Dinner |
| Mon | Feb | 13 | Stated Meeting, Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following |
| Sat | Feb | 18 | Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd, Saticoy |
| | Mar | 9-10 | Scottish Rite Leadership Conference, San Diego, CA |
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| Mon | Apr | 9 | Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (<i>Reservations</i>), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following |
| Sat | Apr | 14 | Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd, Saticoy |

