

Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies

Views from Ventura Valley

VOL. XLI

March - April 2019

Issue 3

Leaders for 2019



Views from Ventura Valley, the Ventura County Scottish Rite News, Volume XLI, Issue number 3. Published 5 to 6 times a year by the 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 805-415-3776.

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

Pictured on our cover are the new Heads of the Bodies: Venerable Master Steven Goad (TL), Wise Master Ryan Phillips (TR), Commander James Craig (BL), and Master of Kadosh Roy Price (BR).

Upcoming Events

Our next stated meeting will be on March 11th. This is when we traditionally hand out 25- and 50-year awards. Program is to be announced. This will also be the last meeting to turn in petitions for the Spring Class. We already have two petitions and are hoping for more. If you will be joining us for dinner, reservations are required; contact Sir Knight Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH, at

hbogner@smartsourcellc.com

or (805) 218-1648, no later than Thursday, March 7th. Cost is \$15 per individual or \$25 per couple.

We will observe Remembrance of Renewal on March 25th. Come

out and participate in the Mystic Banquet, the Remembrance of Departed Brethren, and the Extinguishing and Relighting of the Lights. If you will be joining us for dinner, reservations are due to Harold by Thursday, April 4th (see address above). Cost is \$15 per individual or \$25 per couple.

Our Spring Class will begin on Saturday, April 6th at 8:00 am, with the 4th, 14th, and 18th Degrees conferred. As in the past we will set up and practice on the evening before. We need help with cast and stage craft; please come out and give us a hand if possible, or just come observe the degrees again.

Our April stated meeting will be on April 8th. Program is to be announced. If you will be joining us for dinner, reservations are due to Harold by Thursday, April 4th (see address above). Cost is \$15 per individual or \$25 per couple.

Our highway cleanups will be on Saturdays, March 16 and April 20. Meet at the Café 126, 11033 Citrus by Wells Rd., Saticoy, at 7:00 am for breakfast.

From the PR's Quill

Jerry E. Gonzales, 33°

Greetings to our Scottish Rite family!

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and in good health. Although the weather has been a bit wet and cold our Valley is off to a grand start. With our Installation completed and a late installation for our new Wise Master I am happy to say we are off and running. In the month of February, we had the honor of not only welcoming our ladies for Valentine's Day dinner but we had a special Couple join us, our Sovereign Grand Inspector General Frank Loui and his lady Jeanie. As this was our first business meeting for the year it was a busy one; with the approval of our annual budget, completion of old business, and the election of two new brothers to receive the Scottish Rite Degrees. We also received our completion letter along with a date plate for the Plaque, for our Valley Membership Achievement Project for 2018. I would like to thank all those who assisted but especially Brother Raul Cifuentes who has been our Chairman for this program from its conception and has led us through two competitive years of completions.

We have many items of interest in the coming months, and I hope you will all take time to participate in them. In March we will have our normal dinner meeting followed by our Remembrance and Renewal Dinner program, followed by our



Spring Class in early April, and then right after our Cinco De Mayo/Mother's Day Dinner meeting, we will begin our ticket sales and promotion for the July New England Picnic. I hope you are ready for a busy coming few months. A special note: it is still not too late to get your petitions in for the Spring Class but March Stated meeting may be the deadline so please do not delay if you have a Master Mason interested in Further Light.

On a darker note, we will be looking for suggestions or ideas on how to either keep the valley a working function, downsizing to a smaller entity, becoming a Scottish Rite Club or Closing the Valley and incorporating with another one. This is a serious issue and one that needs some serious thought and input. I will be putting out a survey soon as well as calling a special meeting to
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PR's Quill

(continued from page 3)

discuss the matter, but it is up to you, the members, if the Valley of Ventura will remain as a Valley or not. We have been too long only filling the top chair of our bodies with most requiring 5 or more persons per body. Our SGIG addressed this at the past stated meeting and now is the time for action on our part if we wish to remain a viable Masonic entity. I will look for your guidance, input and desires in the coming months as to this matter.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Rainbow Girls for their continued support, remember to Tip from your heart, and I thank Brother Ron Robinson for providing us delightful dinners at an affordable price. Please remember to RSVP by the deadline to keep our costs down for excess dinners.

Hope to dine with you soon!

III. *Jerry E. Gonzales* 33°
Personal Representative to
the SGIG

<http://www.venturascottishrite.org/>

<http://www.scottishritecalifornia.org/>

News of the Valley

On January 14, 2019, we held our 40th Annual Installation of Officers. Our installing team, Ill. ∴ Fred 'Tiny' Potter, 33°, as Installing Officer, Ill. ∴ Tom Melugin, 33°, as Master of Ceremonies, and Sir Knight Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH, as Chaplain, did an outstanding job. The new Heads of the Bodies are pictured on the cover. As in the past, Anacapa Lodge #710 served the Installation Dinner, which everyone enjoyed.

At our February stated meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming Ill. ∴ Frank Loui, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the Orient of California, and his wife Jeanne.

Ill. ∴ Frank discussed various issues with our Valley and its possible futures. For details please see discussion on page 3.

Last year we again qualified for Supreme Council's Valley Membership Achievement Project. Congratulations to Sir Knight Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH, for managing this effort. We are already making plans for the current year with Raul's guidance.

Congratulations to Brother Hector Lopez, 32°, who has been installed as Senior Warden of Mosaic Lodge #184, AF&AM, in Eastlake, Colorado.

Our former tiler, Brother Robert Kennedy Jr., 32°, has now relocated to Idaho, and reports that he is doing fine there.

Scottish Rite Honours

Since honours will be awarded this year it seems like an appropriate time to review them. In the odd numbered years such as this year the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., confers recognition upon brethren for outstanding service. Honours (The Scottish Rite uses the English spelling “honours” rather than “honors”) are conferred by a unanimous vote of the Supreme Council. Here is how that works.

The rank of **Knight Commander of the Court of Honour** (“Red Hat”) is not a degree but an honour bestowed upon members who are deserving of recognition. The respective Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals or Deputies likewise nominate members for this honour. This investiture is a prerequisite to receiving the Thirty-third Degree, but is not meant to imply that the recipient will ever receive the Thirty-third Degree.

The rank of **Inspector General Honorary of the Thirty-third Degree** (“White Hat”) is an actual degree. Before the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council, the Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals and Deputies nominate a small number of members to receive this honour.

The honours may be bestowed/conferred in Washington, D.C. during the Supreme Council Biennial Sessions in August for those attending. Others from Southern California will receive their honours on September 21, 2019, in San Diego.

Regarding obtaining Scottish Rite Honours, first understand that neither the Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH) or the Inspector General Honorary of the Thirty-third Degree (33°) can be applied for, and if a person asks for the Investiture or Honour, it must be refused.

You must have been a 32° Scottish Rite Mason for a period of 48 months to be eligible to be considered to receive the Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH).

Sometimes there is confusion as to how someone “gets to be a 33° Mason”. Before each Biennial Session, each Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy receives nominations of men in his Orient from their Personal Representatives as recommendations only. These nominations must be approved by the Supreme Council without a dissenting vote. A Brother must have been a Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH) for 46 months before he can be elected to receive the Inspector General Honorary of the Thirty-third Degree (33°). It is given for service to the Scottish Rite, to Masonry in general, or civic service.

It is often said that we receive honours for what we are going to do, not for what we have already done.

The number of honours awarded has been declining in recent years and we expect that trend to continue this year.

From The Kitchen Staff

Dinner Reservations

2019 Dinner Reservation Policy:

Prorated Annual Reservations for the remainder of 2019 are available at the rate of \$15.00/\$25.00 per remaining dinner meetings. At the time of this writing there are 9 remaining dinner meetings.

This reservation will include dinner for all (9) stated meeting dinners and (1) Remembrance & Renewal Dinner, for the year. It will not include any Special Dinners such as the dinner for our Annual Installation of Officers which is a special catered Event.

If you choose to pay monthly; the fee will be \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple, paid at the door, with a reservation in place, made 4 days in advance.

If you make a reservation and fail to attend, the appropriate thing to do is send your money to the Valley or be prepared to pay at the next meeting you attend, as we will have paid for your dinner reservation in advance.

As always Widows are guests of the Valley with or without reservations!

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

Be sure to make your reservations with Harold Boqner, preferably by email to hboqner@smartsourcellc.com, otherwise (805) 218-1648 (leave a message).

Dinner Menu

March 11, 2019, Stated Meeting Dinner

Corned Beef & Cabbage

Carrots

Steamed Potatoes

Sourdough Bread

Cookies

Cost \$15.00/Individual or \$25.00/Couple
RSVP by Thursday, March 7th, 2019

Please note we will not take any reservations after this date!

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner, preferably by email to hbogner@smartsourcellc.com, otherwise (805) 218-1648 (leave a message).

March 25, 2019

Remembrance & Renewal

Baked Chicken
Seasoned Rice
Mixed Vegetables
Chocolate Cake

Cost \$15.00/Individual or \$25.00/Couple
RSVP by Thursday, March 21th, 2019

Please note we will not take any reservations after this date!

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner, preferably by email to hbogner@smartsourcellc.com, otherwise (805) 218-1648 (leave a message).

April 8th 2019, Stated Meeting Dinner

Baked Ham
Sweet Potatoes
Succulent Corn
Assorted Pudding

Cost \$15.00/Individual or \$25.00/Couple
RSVP by Thursday, April 4th, 2019

Please note we will not take any reservations after this date!

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner, preferably by email to hbogner@smartsourcellc.com, otherwise (805) 218-1648 (leave a message).

Honorary DeMolay Degrees



The Order of DeMolay is currently in its 100th year of existence.

During that time thousands of young men have come through its doors. Some of its senior members are even sitting in our lodge rooms. In celebration of this milestone Southern California DeMolay is excited to honor their 100 years by conferring **Honorary Degrees for Masons**.

Master Masons have the opportunity to witness both the 1st and 2nd degrees of DeMolay on Saturday, April 13, at Channel Islands Lodge in Ventura. This will give you a chance to see DeMolay through the eyes of a young man who is just joining its ranks. It is an amazing experience that you will never forget. You are personally invited to join us for these degrees and watch as the young men from Southern California DeMolay perform the ritual work that they all take pride in.

Dinner will be at 6:00 PM, with the ceremony beginning at 7:00.

You can register for this event at

<http://scjdemolay.org/event-registration/?ee=50>

Cost: \$150 for a meal and the Degrees / \$200 for 2 meals and Degrees (this is for a significant other to also attend). Senior DeMolays may join for the meal and observe the degrees for \$50.

Attire: Suit and tie for men and dress or pant suits for ladies.

The proceeds from these degrees will help support the membership program for Southern California DeMolay. This will help ensure the Order is around for many more years to come, helping more young men have the opportunity to learn more about our fraternity. After witnessing both degrees there will be a performance of the Ceremony of Light. You will also receive a challenge coin and certificate to commemorate the day. Your significant other is welcome to join us for this event.

The Spirit of Hiram

Pasadena Scottish Rite, 150 N Madison Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101, invites all Master Masons their annual Spirit of Hiram presentation. This is a dramatization of the Master Mason Degree, presented on stage and in costume. Pasadena Scottish Rite always does an outstanding job with this performance. This is an excellent event to which to invite newly raised Master Masons. Following is their invitation:



The Spirit of Hiram
Returns Friday March 8, 2019, 8pm
Pasadena Scottish Rite Cathedral

The Spirit of Hiram is a dramatic presentation of the Master Mason Degree. It has been performed by the Pasadena Scottish Rite for decades and will return to our stage for one night. It is a tiled performance for Master Masons only - please put this on your calendars and help us spread the word by announcing it at your lodges and appendant bodies. There is a free spaghetti dinner at 6.00pm. We look forward to your attendance.

DUES CARD REQUIRED FOR ADMITTANCE • 5P1R1TOVH1RAM@GMAIL.COM

Brethren,

We invite all Master Masons to attend. Please contact a brother Master Mason or more and join us for an evening of Brotherhood. Free spaghetti Dinner (with Caesar Salad, Meat Sauce or Marinara Sauce, and Garlic Bread) from 6 PM to 7:30 PM. Dessert after the performance. No reservations required, first come first served until we run out.



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, (805) 642-6621
John Klopstein, (805) 486-0602
William R. Wood

Please give these people 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 the Secretary (alittle93012@gmail.com, (805) 415-3776) 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.*

(Fortunately, we have nothing to report here.)



**FREEMASONRY BUILDS ITS TEMPLES IN THE
HEARTS OF MEN AND AMONG NATIONS.**

Useful Contacts

Officers of All the Bodies

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Personal Rep of the SGIG.....Ill.: | Jerry E. Gonzales, 33°..... | (805)986-3656 | jeg522@yahoo.com | |
| Treasurer | M.W. Russ E. Charvonia, 33° ... | (805) 258-1037 | rcharvonia@freemason.org | |
| Secretary | Ill.: | W. Andrew Little, 33° | (805)415-3776 | alittle93012@gmail.com |
| Almoner..... | Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32°..... | (805)649-8177 | slj273prez@hotmail.com | |
| Asst Almoner Thousand Oaks.. | John A. Argue, 32° KCCH | (805)498-4831 | mayfieldpark@aol.com | |
| Asst Almoner Santa Paula..... | Ill.: | E. Floyd Griffin, 33° | (805)525-5932 | efgriffin@verizon.net |
| Asst Almoner Camarillo | William F. Campbell, 32° KCCH | (805)482-7523 | bcncampbell@verizon.net | |
| Orator..... | J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH..... | (805)241-6968 | jrcifuentes@hotmail.com | |
| Prelate..... | Francis Villareal, 32° | (805)366-2924 | eo1.scw@gmail.com | |
| Director of the Work..... | | | | |
| Class Director | Michael D. Blodgett, 32° | (805)390-0114 | mdblodgett@gmail.com | |
| Historian | Ill.: | Fred 'Tiny' Potter, 33° | (805)484-4150 | fred_pttr@yahoo.com |
| Tyler | Mark T. Torrez, 32°..... | (805)290-3200 | mark.torrez0983@hotmail.com | |

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master.....Steven R. Goad, 32° (760)608-1585 | steve.goad9@gmail.com |

Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master.....Ryan A. Phillips, 32° (805)443-2906 | ryan_phillips138@yahoo.com |

Council of Kadosh

Commander Roy G. Price, 32°..... | (805)276-8946 | venturaprice@yahoo.com |

Consistory

Master of Kadosh.....James L. Craig, 32° KCCH (805)804-7247 | jlrcraig19@gmail.com |

Other Workers

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Dinner Reservations..... | Harold W. Bogner, 32° KCCH..... | (805)484-7657 | hbogner@smartsourcellc.com | |
| Membership, VMAP Chair | J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH..... | (805)241-6968 | jrcifuentes@hotmail.com | |
| Highway Cleanup | Jim R. Deardorff, 32° KCCH..... | (805)643-6905 | james.deardorff805@gmail.com | |
| Stagecraft..... | Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32°..... | (805)649-8177 | slj273prez@hotmail.com | |
| Stagecraft Emeritus..... | Michael Metzler, 32° KCCH | (805)524-3362 | mgmetzler@aol.com | |
| Newsletter Editor..... | Ill.: | W. Andrew Little, 33° | (805)415-3776 | alittle93012@gmail.com |

Recent changes are underlined. All phone numbers in area code 805 unless noted.
You can email us at vcscottishrite@gmail.com, or FAX us at (253) 276-4055.

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

**“WHAT WE DO FOR OURSELVES DIES WITH US. WHAT WE DO FOR
OTHERS AND THE WORLD REMAINS AND IS IMMORTAL.” – Albert Pike**

Ventura County
Scottish Rite Bodies
487 Appletree Ave
Camarillo, CA 93012-5148

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March - April

2019

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark Your Calendar

For Reservations email hbogner@smartsourcellc.com, or call (805) 218-1648

Mon Mar 11 Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm (Reservations by Mar 7), Program 7:30 pm, 25/50 Year Awards, Stated Meeting following. [CoK]

Sat Mar 16 Highway Clean Up, Breakfast 7:00 am, Café 126, 11033 Citrus by Wells Rd., Saticoy

Mon Mar 25 Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm (Reservations by Mar 21) Remembrance and Renewal. [WMM]

Sat Apr 6 Spring Fast Class (Part 1), (Setup at 7:00 pm Friday before),

8:00 am Saturday, Conferral of 4th, 14th, and 18th Degrees.

Mon Apr 8 Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm
(Reservations by Apr 4), Program 7:30 pm, Stated Meeting following. [MoK]

Sat Apr 20 Highway Clean Up, Breakfast 7:00 am

