

*Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies*

# *Views from Ventura Valley*

VOL. XXXIX

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Issue 4

## Spring Class



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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

Our cover shows our Spring Class along with the cast of the 18<sup>th</sup> Degree. It includes our four candidates, Michael Anatole, Ben Bengtsson, Erik Cortez, and Roy Price, along with four courtesy candidates from the Valley of Santa Barbara. We welcome them all to the Scottish Rite.

## Upcoming Events

Our next stated meeting will be May 8<sup>th</sup>. The program topic is "The 47<sup>th</sup> Problem of Euclid" and will include a video. We will celebrate Mother's Day with a complementary dinner for all of our ladies present, but you **MUST** still make reservations. If you will be joining us for dinner we need your reservations by May 4. Contact Sir Knight Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH, at (805) 218-1648 or [hbogner@smartsourcelc.com](mailto:hbogner@smartsourcelc.com).

On the morning of May 20 we will take our candidates to Pasadena Scottish Rite to receive their 30<sup>th</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> Degrees. Other members are invited to come along. The Valley of Pasadena always does impressive work.

On the evening of May 20 the Supreme Council will host their

annual Celebrating the Craft webathon, from 3:00 to 9:00 PM our time. See details on page 8.

Our following stated meeting will be on June 12<sup>th</sup>, with dinner reservations needed to Harold by June 8<sup>th</sup>.

On July 10<sup>th</sup> we will hold an informal planning meeting at 6:30 PM to coordinate the New England Summer Picnic. Everyone, including the ladies, is invited. Pizza will be served.

This year's New England Summer Picnic will be on Saturday, July 29, at Camarillo Grove Park as last year. Serving time is 12:00 noon. This is our biggest event of the year so plan to attend. If you have donations for the raffle please contact Erik Cortez at 760-5085 ASAP. See details on page 7.

We will be dark in August.

Note an additional schedule change: our Fall Class will start on September 16<sup>th</sup> so as not to conflict with the Honors presentation in San Diego on September 23<sup>rd</sup> or religious holidays on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Our highway cleanups will be on Saturdays, May 13<sup>th</sup>, June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, and August 19<sup>th</sup>. Meet at the Café 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd., Saticoy, at 7:00 AM for breakfast. Newcomers are always welcome.

## Mission Statement

At our March Stated Meeting our members adopted the following Mission Statement for our Valley:

*It is the mission of the Ventura Valley of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry to improve its members and enhance our community by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.*

*We achieve this mission by providing further enlightenment to our members through educational opportunities, our philanthropic efforts, and our involvement with the brethren of our Masonic lodges.*

## News of the Valley

At our March stated meeting we conferred 25 and 50 Year awards on those members who have achieved those milestones. Ill. : Harry Maynard, 33°, presented the awards. Honored for 50 years were Ill. : E. Floyd Griffin, 33°, and Ill. : Fred 'Tiny' Potter, 33°. Unable to attend was Brother Paul D. Brakebill, 32°. Honored for 25 years were Sir Knight Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH and Ill. : W. Andrew Little, 33°. Unable to attend were Ill. : Russell E. Charvonia, 33°, and Brother Irman M. 'Skip' Evans, 32°.

On March 27 we observed our annual Remembrance and Renewal

Celebration including the narrative of the Passover and the Last Supper, the remembrance of departed brethren, and the extinguishing and relighting of the lights.

At our April Stated Meeting representatives of the Santa Barbara Language Clinic gave us an excellent presentation on their valuable work. Also we were honored to have our Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Ill. : Frank Loui, 33°, and his lady pay us a visit.

On April 22 we exemplified the 4<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> Degrees for four candidates, Michael Anatole, Ben Bengtsson, Erik Cortez, and Roy Price, as well as four courtesy candidates from the Valley of Santa Barbara. In spite of several last minute substitutions everyone in the casts and stagecraft did a great job.

## On Reading Masonic Books

When a brother reaches the point in his Masonic study where he desires to read Masonic literature, he not only adds to his knowledge, he is then in position to enlighten others.

Thousands of books and pamphlets have been written on the philosophy, history, and symbolism of Freemasonry. However, the brother who purchases some eight, or ten basic books and reads them over and over again, can acquire a good working knowledge of Masonry.

Some of the finest examples of the English language are found in Masonic writings. By reading such books, one can improve in the art of writing and speaking.

"One is never alone with Masonic books. They serve as good friends."

– The Pennsylvania Freemason

## From the Secretary's Quill

*W. Andrew Little, 33°*

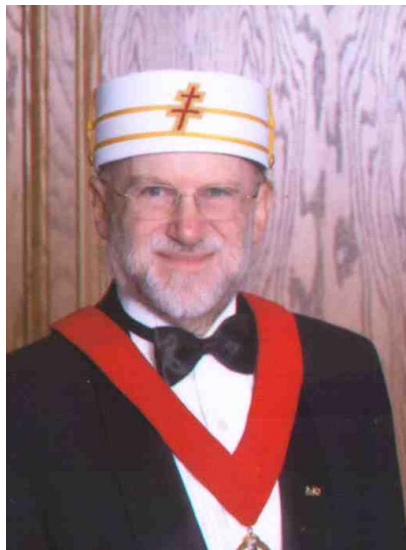
**G**reetings to our Scottish Rite family!

Illustrious Jerry is attending to an urgent family matter so I am substituting for him this month.

The last couple of months have been quite busy for us. In March we handed out 25 and 50 year awards. Congratulations to all the recipients. On March 27 we held our annual Celebration of Remembrance and Renewal. A big Thank You to all who participated in this inspiring program. In April we had a presentation on the Santa Barbara Childhood Language Clinic. One of their clinicians, Summer, gave us excellent information on their program.

On April 22 we held the first part of our Spring Class, conferring the 4<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> Degrees. A big Thank You to the many people who helped put on the degrees, many with short notice because we had a number of late cancellations. We initiated four new members, Michael Anatole, Ben Bengtsson, Erik Cortez, and Roy Price, along with four others for the Valley of Santa Barbara. On May 20 we will take our new members to Pasadena to receive the rest of their degrees. Everyone is invited to join us.

Plans are coming along nicely for the New England Summer Picnic, which will be on July 29, at Camarillo Grove Park, same as last year. This is our big fundraiser to support the excellent work being



done at the Santa Barbara Language Clinic. Please plan to come and bring your friends. We need everyone's help to make this a successful event.

Also please try to attend our planning meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, where we will make detailed plans for the picnic and possibly other events. Pizza will be served but you are also welcome to bring food to share.

We look forward to dining with you and for your continued support of the officers of the Valley.

God Bless You All Through the Year.

**III. W. Andrew Little, 33°**

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

# From The Kitchen Staff

## Dinner Reservations

### 2017 Dinner Reservation Policy:

Prorated Annual Reservations are available at the rate of \$15.00 for individuals or \$25.00 for couples per remaining dinner meetings. This reservation includes all remaining dinners for the year (7 if starting with the May stated meeting, 6 if starting June).

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 late reservation, the fee for dinner will be \$20.00 per person.

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 attended meeting, as we will have paid for your dinner reservation in advance.

As always Widows are guests of the Valley!

*(Special Guests and Visitors are exempt from non-reservation price.)*

Be sure to make your reservations with Harold Bogner, preferably by email to [hbogner@smartsourcellc.com](mailto:hbogner@smartsourcellc.com), otherwise (805) 218-1648 (leave a message).

*(continued on page 6)*

## Dinner Menus

(continued from page 5)

### May 8<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day Stated Meeting Dinner Menu

Chicken Enchiladas Casserole  
Mexican Rice  
Refried Beans or Black Beans  
Mixed vegetables  
Pound cake

Cost \$15.00/Individual, *Ladies Complementary*  
RSVP by Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

*Late reservations after this date will be \$20.00 Per Person!*

*Please note we will not take any reservations after March 12<sup>th</sup>!*

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner (see above).

### June 12<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting Dinner Menu

Broiled Montreal Steak  
Garlic Potatoes  
Peas and carrots  
Brownies

Cost \$15.00/Individual or \$25.00/Couple  
RSVP by Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

*Late reservations after this date will be \$20.00 Per Person!*

*Please note we will not take any reservations after April 9<sup>th</sup>!*

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner (see above).

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## Celebrating the Craft



Above: Scottish Rite Has Talent finalists and guests perform the finale for the 2016 Celebrating the Craft

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

3 PM to 9 PM Pacific Time

WATCH HERE: [www.scottishrite.org](http://www.scottishrite.org)

This is the Supreme Council's annual webathon, which includes a talent show and which raises funds for Rebuilding the House of the Temple, and for our Childhood Language Centers.

Plan to watch the program on May 20 and see all our talented members!



## WORKMAN UNASHAMED

*(This is from a book review long ago of a book that has since become a Masonic classic.)*

Over the years I have repeatedly been asked to define terms such as Religion, Religious, Christian, and correlate them to Masonry.

As a senior pastor of my church for over 36 years, as Master of my Lodge and as Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of California, I have been the target of inquiries by those who really wanted to know as well as those whose opinions had long since been cast in bronze.

Despite the fact that much literature has been written on the subject, from obscure articles through pamphlets to literary tomes (I even wrote a position paper for the Grand Lodge of California), no one single volume, regardless of size, seemed adequate in addressing the controversial subject.

Most authors have limited scopes of knowledge or preconceived opinions which preclude a full discussion of the subject.

Christopher "Kit" Haffner, the author of *Workman Unashamed*, printed by Lewis Masonic (England), has given us a book that is unique in a plethora of ways.

He is a Master Mason, an Anglican with extensive knowledge of the Roman Church, yet is conversant with the doctrines and practices of Methodists, Baptists, Plymouth Brethren, and the Charismatics.

He has worshiped with them all and studied their points of view with an open mind. So open, in fact, he has discovered just how much of an organized religion's problem has to do with semantics, terms, individual vocabularies and communication in general.

Through his research, seemingly a life-long project, he has assembled a compendium of fact, knowledge, logic and general information on a multitude of religious and Masonic subjects, from Deism through Agnosticism to Satanism.

I first read the book when it was loaned to me by a friend. I thought so much of the publication I purchased a copy for my library. I never want to be caught without a copy to loan to an inquisitive friend or brother.

The author doesn't ask you to agree with him. Neither do I! But his mind is so pregnant with information, his soul so eager to communicate, and his attitude so open and unaggressive, he is compelling.

At last, I have a single volume I may suggest for those who really want to know as well as those who would like to be able to explain their point of view to another.

I highly recommend the book to my "Fellows of the Craft."

Robert E. Winterton, Sr.  
638th District Inspector

*(Ill ∴ Winterton is a former Personal Representative for the Valley of San Diego.)*



# 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.*

<b>Donald Wright, 642-6621</b>	<b>John Klopstein, 486-0602</b>
<b>Dwayne Marquardt</b>	<b>William R. Wood</b>

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 our Prelate, Chuck Batterson, 32° KCCH, (746-0844 or nereus2006@sbcglobal.net) 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.*

**Houston Lindsay Stacey Jr crossed on 1/19/2017**



## 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° .....	986-3656.....	<a href="mailto:jeg522@yahoo.com">jeg522@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary / Treasurer.....Ill.:	W. Andrew Little, 33°.....	415-3776.....	<a href="mailto:alittle93012@gmail.com">alittle93012@gmail.com</a>
Almoner.....	David A. Beaver, 32°.....	535-8028.....	<a href="mailto:davidabeaver@yahoo.com">davidabeaver@yahoo.com</a>
Asst Almoner Thousand Oaks.....	John A. Argue, 32° KCCH .....	498-4831.....	<a href="mailto:mayfieldpark@aol.com">mayfieldpark@aol.com</a>
Asst Almoner Santa Paula.....Ill.:	E. Floyd Griffin, 33° .....	525-5932.....	<a href="mailto:efgriffin@verizon.net">efgriffin@verizon.net</a>
Asst Almoner Camarillo .....	William F. Campbell, 32° KCCH .....	482-7523.....	<a href="mailto:bncampbell@verizon.net">bncampbell@verizon.net</a>
Orator.....	J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH .....	241-6968.....	<a href="mailto:jrcifuentes@hotmail.com">jrcifuentes@hotmail.com</a>
Prelate.....	Chuck P. Batterson, 32° KCCH ..	746-0844.....	<a href="mailto:nerews2006@sbcglobal.net">nerews2006@sbcglobal.net</a>
Director of the Work.....			
Class Director, Historian.....Ill.:	Fred 'Tiny' Potter, 33° .....	484-4150.....	<a href="mailto:fred_pttr@yahoo.com">fred_pttr@yahoo.com</a>
Tyler .....	Robert S. Kennedy, Jr., 32° .....	987-2164.....	<a href="mailto:robertk@cipcug.org">robertk@cipcug.org</a>

#### Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master .....	David Del Dosso, 32° .....	492-6284.....	<a href="mailto:dave.pm01@gmail.com">dave.pm01@gmail.com</a>
Senior Warden .....	Steven R. Goad, 32° .....	(760)608-1585.....	<a href="mailto:steve.goad9@gmail.com">steve.goad9@gmail.com</a>

#### Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master .....	Harold W. Bogner, 32° KCCH....	484-7657.....	<a href="mailto:harold55@juno.com">harold55@juno.com</a>
Senior Warden .....	Ill.:	Fred 'Tiny' Potter, 33° .....	484-4150.....

#### Council of Kadosh

Commander .....	Ryan A. Phillips, 32° .....	443-2906.....	<a href="mailto:ryan.phillips138@yahoo.com">ryan.phillips138@yahoo.com</a>
Senior Warden .....	James L. Craig, 32° .....	525-7780.....	<a href="mailto:jlcraig19@gmail.com">jlcraig19@gmail.com</a>

#### Consistory

Master of Kadosh.....Ill.:	Jerry E. Gonzales, 33° .....	986-3656.....	<a href="mailto:jeg522@yahoo.com">jeg522@yahoo.com</a>
Senior Warden .....	John Argue, 32° KCCH.....	498-4831.....	<a href="mailto:mayfieldpark@aol.com">mayfieldpark@aol.com</a>

#### Other Workers

Dinner Reservations.....	Harold W. Bogner, 32° KCCH....	484-7657.....	<a href="mailto:harold55@juno.com">harold55@juno.com</a>
Membership, VMAP Chair.....	J. Raul Cifuentes,, 32° KCCH .....	241-6968.....	<a href="mailto:jrcifuentes@hotmail.com">jrcifuentes@hotmail.com</a>
Highway Cleanup .....	Jim R. Deardorff, 32° KCCH.....	643-6905.....	<a href="mailto:deardorff@dslextreme.com">deardorff@dslextreme.com</a>
Stagecraft .....	Michael Metzler, 32° KCCH .....	524-3362 .....	<a href="mailto:mzmetzler@aol.com">mzmetzler@aol.com</a>
Asst. Stagecraft .....	Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32° .....	649-8177.....	<a href="mailto:sjl273prez@hotmail.com">sjl273prez@hotmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor .....	Ill.:	W. Andrew Little, 33° .....	415-3776.....

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

You can email us at [vcscottishrite@gmail.com](mailto: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 Lodge of Perfection  
in the Orient of California  
487 Appletree Ave  
Camarillo, CA 93012-5148

2017

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May - August

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## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## Mark Your Calendar

For Reservations email [hbogner@smartsourcelc.com](mailto:hbogner@smartsourcelc.com), or call (805) 218-1648

Mon May 8 (Mothers Day) Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (Reservations by May 4), Program 7:30 PM, Stated meeting following (WM)  
Sat May 13 Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126  
Sat May 20 Celebrating the Craft Webcast, 3:00 – 9:00 PM PDT  
**Sat May 20 SPRING FAST CLASS (part 2), in Pasadena.** (Pasadena will also be doing degrees on May 12, May 13, and May 18 which we may attend but these are not mandatory for our candidates.)  
Mon Jun 12 Social 5:30 PM, Flag Day, Dinner 6:30 PM, (Reservations by Jun 8), Program 7:20 PM, Stated meeting following (VM)  
Sat Jun 17 Highway Clean-up  
Mon Jul 10 Pizza Dinner 6:30 PM, Planning  
Meeting for NESummer Picnic  
Sat Jul 15 Highway Clean-up  
**Sat Jul 29 New England Summer Picnic,**  
**Camarillo Grove Park, Serving**  
**12 noon – 1:00 pm**  
Mon Aug 14 **DARK**  
Sat Aug 19 Highway Clean-up

