

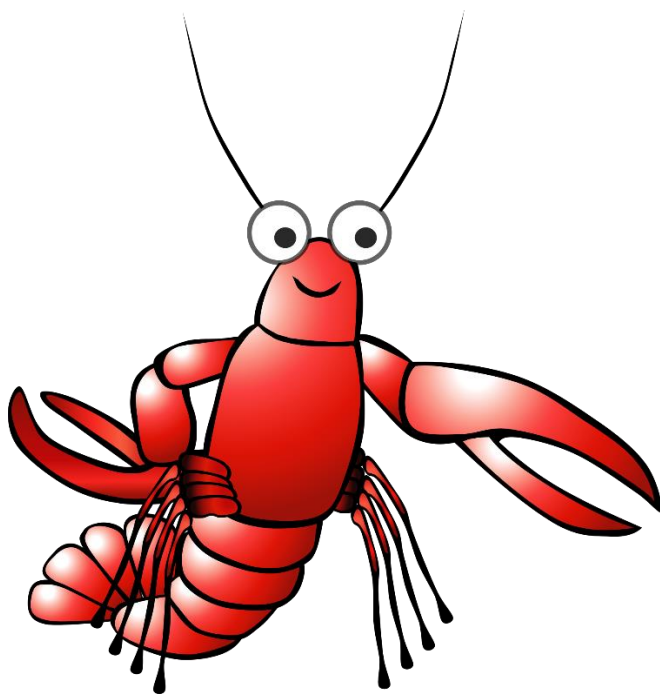
Ventura Valley

VOL. XLIV

May - July 2022

Issue 4

We're BACK!



New England Summer Picnic
July 16, 2022

Views from Ventura Valley, the Ventura County Scottish Rite News, Volume XLIV, Issue number 4. 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

Announcing the 30th Annual New England Summer Picnic, after a two-year interruption due to the pandemic. Held at Camarillo Grove

Park, as in recent years. See flier on page 7.

We hope to see you there!

From the Secretary

If you are suffering from financial stress (as we know many of you may be), let us know and we will make accommodations.

If you need help, please *do not*

hesitate to contact one of us. We are all here to support each other.

Please keep us updated on your contact information. We don't want to lose track of you.

News of the Valley

(We delayed the newsletter to make sure we had all the information on the New England Summer Picnic.) Our May stated meeting was held on May 9. At that time, we honored two of our 25-year members, Wr. Westel R. Reed, 32°, and Brother Terry R. Holtz, 32°. Another, Brother Tyron Kiunke, 32°, was unable to be with us that evening.

On May 18 Oxnard Lodge #341, Anacapa Lodge #710, and Channel Islands Lodge #214 held a joint meeting in Oxnard. After a social hour all Master Masons present retired to the lodge room and were

re-obligated on the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason Degrees, by the sitting masters of the three lodges. The program also contained a lot of Masonic education.

Our stated meeting for June will be on June 13. 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

Friday, June 10. Cost is \$20. See menu at the bottom of this page.

We celebrated Remembrance and Renewal on March 21. It was great to be able to hold this impressive ceremony in person this year, after two years of observances over Zoom.

This year the International Conference on Freemasonry was held over Zoom. The program, subtitled "The View from Here: The Masonic World Through North American Eyes," is now available for on-demand viewing. The link is:

https://mailerlite.freemason.org/link/c/YT0xOTUzMzE2NjQ4NTU1Mzg3NDQxJmM9aDZ6OCZlPTAmYj05NzEyMTUyNjlmZDIhMm42azBr.aLJ6Jx0Yb5w8XO_OWDI5Jt6pm-rE7TPcHsNg_phEnlw

World class speakers cover a variety of fascinating subjects.

Don't forget the **New England Summer Picnic** on July 16. Cutoff for Ticket sales is July 8!

From The Kitchen Staff

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

Dinner Menu

May 9, 2022, Stated Meeting Dinner

Chicken Enchiladas Casserole, Mexican Rice, Refried Beans or Blk Beans, Mixed Vegetables, and Pound Cake

Cost \$20.00, RSVP by Friday, May 6th, 2022

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner (see above)

June 13, 2022, Stated Meeting Dinner

Broiled Montreal Steak, Garlic Potatoes, Peas and Carrots, Brownies

Cost \$20.00, RSVP by Friday, June 10th, 2022

Please make your reservations with Harold Bogner (see above)

From the PR's Quill

Ill John F. Lowe, 33°

To the Members of Scottish Rite:

As we move towards summer of the year, we have begun the planning for the traditional New England Summer Picnic that was unfortunately cancelled the past two years due to the Pandemic. This year we bring it back as our main fundraising event supporting the RiteCare Childhood Language Center in Santa Barbara. The children with language disorders in our area deserve the profound treatments offered by RiteCare, and our support is crucial and important. You will find details for the picnic in this issue.

I wish to bring to your attention a joint Statement of Principles signed by James D. Cole (our Sovereign Grand Commander), Peter J. Samiec (Sovereign Grand Commander, Northern Jurisdiction), and William S. Bailey (Imperial Potentate, Shriners International):

The Southern Jurisdiction and Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, along with Shriners International, were founded as appendant bodies of symbolic Masonic



Lodges. These Lodges are chartered and governed by their applicable Grand Lodge. Each of our members are and must remain, members in good standing in a Lodge existing within a recognized Grand Lodge. Our organizations believe that Masonic principles as identified through Grand Lodges are foundational, not merely optional, principles upon which we build to provide further light.

As appendant bodies of the Grand Lodge system, our organizations operate in a manner consistent with the basic principles of Freemasonry. Inherent in these principles is that our members should be seen as good men, continually striving to

improve themselves, their character, and their actions, so that we can collectively extend a positive and benevolent influence on the world at large.

We believe the Masonic principles that guide our members' lives have been proven, over centuries, to improve their character and perspectives. As Masons or Masonic organizations, our failure to meet the exceptionally high standards of conduct expected of us is almost always the result of our failure to understand or apply the Masonic principles we have been taught. When we fail to meet the standards of conduct required of Masons, our response is to correct and remedy that failure, not to lower our standards.

We recognize that all humans are fallible and at times, the actions of a member may fall below the high expectations of our Fraternity. We further recognize that, in those cases,

Lodges, Grand Lodges, and our own organizations may, of necessity, be required to investigate, and, within established practices, take appropriate disciplinary actions against individual Brothers. We support these actions, in the longstanding belief that such efforts will result in an improvement both within the individual and within our Fraternity at large.

Our interest in adhering to Masonic principles relates not only to improving our members but also specifically to continuing to enjoy an outstanding reputation for integrity and service within our communities.

May your health allow your desire for fellowship and fraternal bonds to bring you back to our regular meetings.

Salve Frater,
John

"TRUE FAITHFULNESS"

A Mason has carried out his responsibilities of citizenship when he has kept faith with his fellow men, with himself, and with his God; in his hand a sword for destroying evil; in his heart the gladness of song; in his mind the purest and noblest thoughts that warm the breast and elevate the soul. When he has shown the world that he is a man of honor and reputation, preferring his duty and the dignity and honor of his country to any degree of popularity and personal advantage. When, by his exemplary character, both in public and private life, he has convinced mankind of the goodness of our gentle Craft.

The Brother who carries his Masonry into the outer world and expresses its tenets in his daily life, is the man who will be most useful in promoting effectively the great ideals we cherish.

– *From the Grand Lodge of Minnesota*

Invitation from Brother Mark Torrez:

Please see the flier below. This should be a memorable evening of fellowship, inspiration, and education.

CEREMONY OF OBLIGATION RENEWAL FOR MASTER MASONS
MAY 18TH

Performed by
Lodges
214, 341
&
710
of the
548th
Masonic
District

Social hr at 6pm open to all degrees and prospects
7pm ceremony Master Masons
8pm lecture, open to all

Educational Lecture by
Bro. Emilliano Noriega
from
Whittier
Lodge
323

Lecture
"How the bible was created"
"A quick look at the many paths of masonry"

OBLIGATIONS
W.M. Dante Salonga 1st*
W.M. Nathaniel Beavers 2nd*
W.M. Mark Torrez 3rd*

Chicken, pizza "DRINKS" and more
location 341 s kst oxnard ca 93030

BYOB

NARD
New party now

For Information & Tickets

Cut-off date for tickets – July 8, 2022

Checks can be made out to: Ventura County Scottish Rite
Salvador Lopez, 32" 805/746-1651 (Please Leave a Message)

Available to Members & Family & Friends

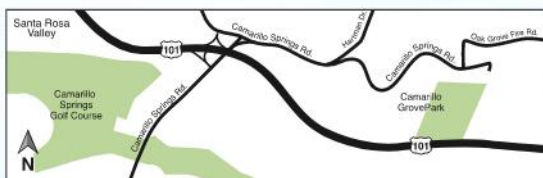
"No Refunds"

The Thirtieth Annual New England Summer Picnic Saturday, July 16th, 2022

Place: Camarillo Grove Park – 6968 E. Camarillo Springs Road
(101 Exit – Camarillo Springs Road)

Location of Event: Area #1 – Open around 10:00AM to 4:00PM

Parking Fee Paid

**"Bring Your Own Large Platters"****Serving Time:** 12:00PM to 1:00PM**Serving:** 1 ½ lb. Maine Lobster – Cost \$50.00**Serving:** 1 lb. New York Steak – Cost \$40.00**With:** Corn on the Cob, Coleslaw, Garlic Bread,
Mussels (if available), Free Hot Dogs for Kids
Coffee, Water & Lemonade**Entertainment:** DJ, Raffle & Bake Sale**Contact Erik Cortez ASAP 805/760-5085
to donate raffle prizes.****Sponsored by the
Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies**All profits go to the Santa Barbara Scottish Rite
"Childhood Language Center"santabarbararitecarecenter.org



JOINT MEMORANDUM

FROM THE OFFICES OF THE SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCILS, 33°, U.S.A.

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, NMJ
33 Marrett Road, Lexington, MA 02421

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ
1733 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

Monday, April 4, 2022

To All Scottish Rite Masons of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions, USA:

Greetings!

For more than two centuries, our members have benefited from the close ties enjoyed between our Supreme Councils. Our Brethren, during the past two years, have often been constrained by the restrictions of the pandemic and unable to fully enjoy the benefits of our in-person meetings and fraternal events.

As Sovereign Grand Commanders, we stand united in strongly encouraging our members, wheresoever dispersed, to once again partake of opportunities to meet with their Brethren. We emphasize that the doors of every Valley in both of our jurisdictions are open to Scottish Rite members in good standing, regardless of their jurisdictional affiliation.

Therefore, members of any Southern Jurisdiction Valley are encouraged to enjoy the fellowship and programs offered by any Valley event in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Likewise, members of any Valley within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction are encouraged to enjoy the fellowship and programs offered by any Valley event in the Southern Jurisdiction.

Should you receive an invitation from a Valley outside your jurisdiction, feel free to accept it and enjoy the visit. If you're traveling in an area where a Scottish Rite Valley is located, feel free to take advantage of any opportunity to attend an upcoming meeting or program.

Our Fraternity thrives on a longstanding tradition of reciprocal travel and visitation. We think the time is right for the Brethren of the Scottish Rite to take full advantage of any inter-jurisdictional opportunities to share the Brotherly love and affection we cherish.

Enjoy some time with your Brethren with our blessing. Regardless of where your Masonic journey began, remember, we are all fellow travelers upon the same level of time. Enrich your journey by enjoying Masonic light from another source whenever you can.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Peter J. Samiec



Sovereign Grand Commander
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.



James H. Cole



Sovereign Grand Commander
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

Statement of Principles

Issued by: Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction; Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction; Shriners International

The Southern Jurisdiction and Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, along with Shriners International, were founded as appendant bodies of symbolic Masonic Lodges. These Lodges are chartered and governed by their applicable Grand Lodge. Each of our members are and must remain, members in good standing in a Lodge existing within a recognized Grand Lodge. Our organizations believe that Masonic principles as identified through Grand Lodges are foundational, not merely optional, principles upon which we build to provide further light.

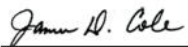
As appendant bodies of the Grand Lodge system, our organizations operate in a manner consistent with the basic principles of Freemasonry. Inherent in these principles is that our members should be seen as good men, continually striving to improve themselves, their character, and their actions, so that we can collectively extend a positive and benevolent influence on the world at large.

We believe the Masonic principles that guide our members' lives have been proven, over centuries, to improve their character and perspectives. As Masons or Masonic organizations, our failure to meet the exceptionally high standards of conduct expected of us is almost always the result of our failure to understand or apply the Masonic principles we have been taught. When we fail to meet the standards of conduct required of Masons, our response is to correct and remedy that failure, not to lower our standards.

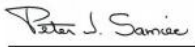
We recognize that all humans are fallible and at times, the actions of a member may fall below the high expectations of our Fraternity. We further recognize that, in those cases, Lodges, Grand Lodges, and our own organizations may, of necessity, be required to investigate, and, within established practices, take appropriate disciplinary actions against individual Brothers. We support these actions, in the longstanding belief that such efforts will result in an improvement both within the individual and within our Fraternity at large.

Our interest in adhering to Masonic principles relates not only to improving our members but also specifically to continuing to enjoy an outstanding reputation for integrity and service within our communities.

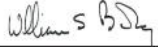
So Stated and Decreed by the Undersigned in April 2022



James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°
Ancient Accepted Scottish
Rite, S.J.



Peter J. Samiec, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°
Ancient Accepted Scottish
Rite, N.M.J.



William S. "Bill" Bailey, 33°
Imperial Potentate
Shriners International



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.*

John Klopstein, (805) 486-0602
Jim Daniels, (805) 984-7272

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.*

John Lawrence Schrock crossed on 1/23/2021



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

Useful Contacts

Officers of All the Bodies (as of our January 2022 Installation)

Personal Rep of the SGIG...Ill. ∴ John F. Lowe, 33°	(714)392-2692	johnflowe@verizon.net
Treasurer	<u>Tag Gilbert, 32°</u>	(805)558-8469 tag653@gmail.com
Secretary	Ill. ∴ W. Andrew Little, 33°	(805)415-3776 alittle93012@gmail.com
Almoner	Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32° KCCH	(805)649-8177 sjl273prez@hotmail.com
Orator.....	J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH	(805)241-6968 jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
Prelate.....	Fred Ervast, 32° KCCH.....	(805)389-0787 fastfinn@verizon.net
Director of the Work.....		
Class Director	Michael D. Blodgett, 32° KCCH..	(805)390-0114 mdblodgett@gmail.com
Historian		
Tyler		

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Roy G. Price, 32°	(805)276-8946 venturaprice@yahoo.com
Senior Warden	Pat Riggs, 32° KCCH.....	(805)984-1453 wpatrickriggs@verizon.net
Junior Warden.....		

Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master.....	Mark T. Torrez, 32°	(805)290-3200 mark.torrez0983@hotmail.com
Senior Warden	David Contreras, 32°	(805)201-5962 teslaslight@verizon.net
Junior Warden	Aaron Purther, 32°	(805)366-1648 clay909@gmail.com

Council of Kadosh

Commander	Steven R. Goad, 32° KCCH	(760)608-1585 steve.goad9@gmail.com
1 st Lt. Commander	Ray Broomfield, 32°	(805)482-6756 raybroomfield@msn.com
2 nd Lt. Commander.....		

Consistory

Master of Kadosh.....	Ryan A. Phillips, 32° KCCH.....	(805)443-2906 ryan.phillips138@yahoo.com
Senior Warden.....		
Junior Warden.....		

Other Workers

Dinner Reservations.....	Harold W. Bogner, 32° KCCH.....	(805)218-1648 hbogner@smartsourcellc.com
Membership, VMAP Chair.....	J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH	(805)241-6968 jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
Stagecraft	Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32° KCCH	(805)649-8177 sjl273prez@hotmail.com
Stagecraft Emeritus	Michael Metzler, 32° KCCH	(805)625-3296 mgmetzler@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Ill. ∴ W. Andrew Little, 33°	(805)415-3776 alittle93012@gmail.com

Recent changes are underlined.

You can email us at vcscottishrite@gmail.com.

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

2022

Views from Ventura Valley
May - July

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark Your Calendar

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

- Mon May 9 Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm, (*Reservations by May 6*), 7:30 pm Stated Meeting (VM)
Wed May 18 Ceremony of Obligation Renewal, Master Masons, Oxnard Masonic Ctr, Social 6:00 pm, Ceremony 7:00
- Mon Jun 13 Social 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm, (*Reservations by June 10*), 7:30 pm Stated Meeting (WM)
Thu Jun 16 California Masonic Symposium – The Spiritual Quest and Freemasonry, held online, 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
- Sat Jul 16 New England Summer Picnic, Camarillo Grove Park, serving 12 noon to 1:00 PM, cutoff for tickets July 8
Sun Jul 17 Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau Breakfast Reception for MW Jeff Wilkins, 8:00 am

(August we are DARK)

