

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

Views from Ventura Valley

VOL. XXXIV

March - April 2012

Issue 3

Remembrance and Renewal



March 26, 2012

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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.

Upcoming Events:

At our March 12th stated meeting we have several important presentations. Two members will be receiving their 50 year hats, pins, and certificates: Brother Raymond L. McCalister, 32°, and Ill.∴ Harry L. Maynard, 33°, Past Grand Master of California and Hawaii and former Personal Representative for our Valley. Ill.∴ Fred 'Tiny' Potter is scheduled to make the presentations.

We will also be presenting Brother Gonzalo Hernandez with his 25 year pin and certificate.

Following the longevity presentations to these members, next we will hold a Cap and Ring ceremony for our newest member, Brother Earl Williams, 32°.

Please come out and congratulate these brethren on their achievements.

At our stated meeting our orator, Brother Bob Sills, 32° KCCH, will give a presentation on Hats, Signs and ?. (Come learn what the question mark stands for.)

We will hold our annual Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony on March 26, beginning with dinner at 6:30 followed by the Last Supper Tableau, the Remembrance of Departed Brethren,

the Mystic Banquet, and the Extinguishing and Relighting of the Lights. Come partake in this moving ceremony.

Our stated meeting for April will be on April 9th. Our orator, Brother Sills, will give a presentation on "The Rite Structure: The Valley, Southern Jurisdiction, and ? Again if you want to know what the question mark stands for, you need to attend.

Our next highway cleanups are scheduled for Saturday, March 17th, and April 14th. 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 held our annual Installation of Officers on January 9. Our new officers enthusiastically entered into the performance of their duties for the coming year.

On February 13 we held our Sweethearts Night in honor of our Ladies. We were entertained by the Channel Island Clippers, a barbershop quartet. Brother Bob Sills, 32° KCCH, gave an interesting talk on the history of Valentine's Day. The ladies were presented with roses. We had a very large turnout for this event.

Change to the Newsletter

This month we are trying something new for our newsletter. Instead of stuffing envelopes we are having a commercial company print the newsletter and prepare it for mailing. This follows changes to the requirements for closure tabs on publications in our format, and to the closure of the bulk mailing facility in

Oxnard, requiring us to either pay a higher postage rate or mail it in Santa Barbara. We are hoping that this change will result in a higher quality publication that will reach our members in a more timely manner. Of course with any change there is a risk of glitches so please be understanding if everything does not go as planned.

Further Light in Masonry

March Stated

“The Rite Stuff: Hats, Signs and ?”

April Stated

“The Rite Structure: The Valley, Southern Jurisdiction and ?”

Remember if its right its rite!

THE FATHER OF MODERN SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY

(The following is from a series of interesting articles recently sent to me over the internet.)

The Rev. Dr. John Theophilus Desaguliers, LL.D., F.R.S. (1683-1744) (pronounced Day-za-güly-ay) was elected the third Grand Master of England in 1719, Deputy Grand Master in 1723 and 1725.

Desaguliers was a zealous collector of early Masonic manuscripts. Although attributed to Dr. James Anderson (c. 1680-1739) the General Regulations found in the first edition of the Constitutions were compiled under the supervision of Desaguliers, who was a member of the Royal
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From the PR's Quill

Jerry E. Gonzales, 32° KCCH

Greetings to our Scottish Rite Masonic family, I hope you have enjoyed the opening of our New Masonic Year; we had a very nice installation of officers and one of the best attended dinners in February as we have had in a very long time. I thank all of you who joined us for our Sweethearts Valentine Dinner. To our Ladies thank you so much for your support, we hoped you enjoyed the entertainment and flowers as well as one of the best Prime Rib Dinners I have had in a long time.

Time is moving quickly, as we move into the month of March; we will be busy, from 25/50 year awards to our Cap & Ring Ceremony for Brother Earl Williams. I hope you will join us this coming March 12, for both of those events in one night. Please do not forget our Remembrance & Renewal Dinner this month as well on the 26th of March. I would remind all of you this is an obligatory function for ALL Scottish Rite Masons. As always please remember to make your reservations for both of these events with Sir Knight Harold Bogner. He is doing a great job at accommodating this function as well as sending out reminder



notices to all of us.

I had the honor and pleasure of attending the Scottish Rite Foundation Meeting this past weekend, and found it to be very enlightening, as well as educational as to the operations of our Language Clinics and all that is involved with this major undertaking. We have adopted some new items for the foundation and reviewed all the annual statements for the Foundation operations. I for one did not realize how big this operation is, and the fact that it is managed as a corporation. Thank God most on the board are Lawyers and Accountants, or so it

seems, all much more versed in these types of things than myself. At any rate it was very interesting to learn about this program, and I will be happy to share some of what it is about if any of you have an interest.

As many of you have noticed we have recruited some assistance for the Rainbow Ladies who serve us at dinner, as our numbers are growing we felt they were a bit short handed and have asked the Pt. Hueneme Academic Ambassadors for Hueneme High School to assist as well in both the kitchen and in serving. This group works for Community service credits as well as fund raising for their club, so we hope if you enjoy their service you will give with your hearts, in the tip

baskets provided at your dinner table.

Finally I wish to thank the Kitchen crew and all those who help make our meeting warm, friendly and a success. You are the ones who make my undertakings worthwhile. I again encourage you to come and join us for dinner, and by all means please make a reservation. Our kitchen crew was caught off guard with the large numbers last month but thanks to the reservation process they were able to make adjustments and provide a quality meal for all in attendance. Looking forward to your warm, smiling faces at our next dinner meeting.

Jerry E. Gonzales, KCCH

Desaguliers

(continued from page 3)

Society of London beginning 29th July 1714.

Of all those in England who were engaged in the revival of Freemasonry in the beginning of the 18th century, none performed a more important part than The Reverend John Theophilus Desaguliers to whom may well be applied the epithet of 'The Father of Modern Speculative Freemasonry', and to whom, perhaps, more than any other

person, is the present United Grand Lodge of England indebted for its existence. A sketch of his life, cannot fail to be interesting to the student of Masonic history.

Desaguliers, was born on 12th March 1683, at La Rochelle, in France. An immigrant to England he was the son of a French Protestant clergyman; and, his father having moved to England as a refugee on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, he was educated at Christ Church College, Oxford, where he took lessons of the

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Desaguliers

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celebrated Keill in experimental philosophy. In 1719 he received the Degree of Master of Arts, and in the same year succeeded Doctor Keill as a lecturer on experimental philosophy at Hert Hall (now Hertford College). In 1713 he moved to Westminster, London, where he continued his course of lectures, being the first one, it is said, who ever lectured upon physical science in the metropolis. At this time he attracted the notice and secured the friendship of Sir Isaac Newton. His reputation as a philosopher obtained for him a Fellowship in the Royal Society. He was also about this time admitted to clerical orders in the Church of England, and appointed by the Duke of Chandos his Chaplain, who also presented him to the living of Whitchurch. In 1718 he received from the University of Oxford the degree of Doctor of Civil Law, and was presented by the Earl of Sunderland to a living in Norfolk, which he afterward exchanged for one in Essex. He maintained, however, his residence in London, where he continued to deliver his lectures until his death in 1744.

His contributions to science consist of a Treatise on the Construction of Chimneys translated from the French, and published in 1716; A System of Experimental Philosophy, of which a second edition was issued in 1719;

A Course of Experimental Philosophy, in two volumes, published in 1734; and in 1735 he edited an edition of Gregory's Elements of Catoptrics and Dioptrics. He also translated from the Latin Gravesandes Mathematical Elements of Natural Philosophy.

In the clerical profession he seems not to have been an ardent worker, and his theological labors were confined to the publication of a single sermon unrepentance. He was in fact more distinguished as a scientist than as a clergyman, and Dr. Priestly calls him "an indefatigable experimental philosopher."

It is, however, as a Freemason that Doctor Desaguliers will most attract our attention. But nothing is known as to his connection with Freemasonry until 1719, when he was elevated to the throne of the Grand Lodge, succeeding George Payne, and being thus the third Grand Master after the revival. He paid much attention to the interests of the Fraternity, and so elevated the character of the Order, that the records of the Grand Lodge show that during his administration several of the older Brethren who had previously neglected the Craft resumed their visits to the Lodges, and many noblemen were initiated into the Institution.

After his retirement from the office of Grand Master, in 1720, Desaguliers was three times appointed Deputy Grand Master: in 1723, by the Duke of Wharton; in

June of the same year, by the Earl of Dalkeith; in 1725, by Lord Paisley; and during this period of service he did many things for the benefit of the Craft; among others, initiating a scheme of charity known as the Fund of Benevolence and which was subsequently developed into what is now known in the United Grand Lodge of England as The Grand Charity.

After this, Doctor Desaguliers moved to the Continent, and resided for a few years in Holland. In 1731 he was at The Hague, and presided as Worshipful Master of a Lodge organized under a special Dispensation for the purpose of initiating and passing the Duke of Lorraine, who was subsequently Grand Duke of Tuscany, and then Emperor of Austria as well as of Germany. The Duke was, during the same year, made a Master Mason in England.

On his return to England, Desaguliers was considered, from his position in Freemasonry, as the most fitting person to confer the Degrees on HRH The Prince of Wales, who was accordingly entered, passed, and raised in an Occasional Lodge, held on two occasions at Kew, near London, over which Desaguliers presided as Master.

Desaguliers was very attentive to all his Masonic duties, and punctual in his attendance on the Communications of the Grand

Lodge. His last recorded appearance by name is on the 5th of February, 1742, a few years before his death.

In 1713, Desaguliers had married a daughter of William Pudsey, Esq., by whom he had two sons Alexander, who was a clergyman, and Thomas, who went into the army, and became a colonel of artillery and an equerry to HRH King George III. Bro. Desaguliers died on 29th February 1744, at the Bedford Coffee House, London, and was buried in the Savoy Chapel, London.

Very few Freemasons of the present day, except to those who have made Freemasonry a subject of especial study, is the name of Desaguliers very familiar. But they should know that it is to him, perhaps, more than to any other man, that we are indebted for the present existence of Freemasonry as a living institution, for it was his learning and social position that gave a standing to the Institution, which brought to its support noblemen and men of influence, so that the insignificant assemblage of four London Lodges at the Apple-Tree Tavern has expanded into a fraternity which now covers the entire civilized world. And the moving spirit of all this was John Theophilus Desaguliers.

SMIB

New England Picnic

SAVE THE DATE - July 14th, 2012

Location – Camarillo Grove Park
Area #1
6968 E Camarillo Springs Road,
Camarillo CA

Camarillo Grove Park is located off of Camarillo Springs Road near the base of the Conejo Grade.

We wanted to encourage the members of Ventura Valley Scottish Rite to think of friends and family that they can invite to the New England Picnic on July 14th, 2012. As you can see, we will be enjoying our time at Camarillo Grove Park, Area 1. The last time that we were out at Camarillo Grove Park, we were located in Area 2.

If you would like to work with the cooking crew, please contact Harold Bogner @ 805/218-1648 or Tom Melugin @ 805/395-0600. We always have a good time working together. If you would like to help with advertising to the different lodges, let us know. It takes a team to make this happen, we want you to be part of that team.

The whole purpose of this fund raising event is to support the center for childhood speech and language disorders in the Masonic Center in Santa Barbara. If you would like further information on the clinic – please call 805/962-8469 or visit www.sbspeech.com.

We will be working on getting the tickets out earlier this year. This event will only be as successful as the number of attendees. It is up to **US** as members of this Valley to encourage as many people as possible to attend and support the clinic.

You might want to start working on your appetites now, for some good lobster or some awesome steak.

FROM THE KITCHEN STAFF

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.

+

New number

March 12, 2012
Stated Meeting
25 & 50 Year Presentations
Cap & Ring Ceremony

St. Patty's Day Dinner
Corn Beef and Cabbage
dessert
Price \$10 with reservation, \$15 otherwise

March 26, 2012
Remembrance & Renewal

Pork Loin Roast
Potatoes au Gratin
vegetables, rolls
dessert
Price \$10 with reservation, \$15 otherwise

April 9, 2012
Stated Meeting

Salad Bar
dessert
Price \$10 with reservation, \$15 otherwise

Lodge of Perfection

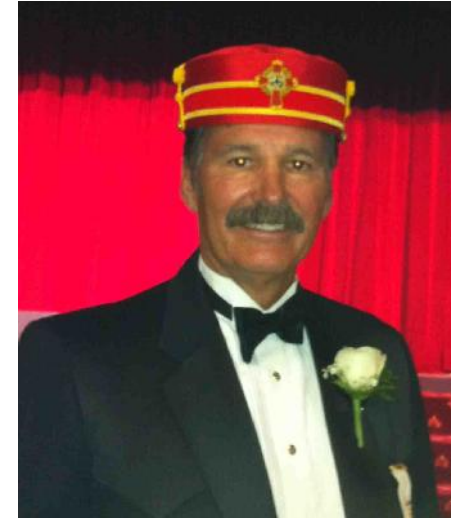
Thom Piper, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

WOW! What a great Valentine's Celebration; from the delectable prime rib dinner to the more than 60 attendees it was a splendiferous event. There is no doubt in my mind we have the best kitchen crew in all of Masonry and a heartfelt thanks goes out to you guys.

I cannot imagine attendance having been this good without the tremendous efforts of Harold Bogner. It was he who designed and sent the Valentine's Day postcard reminders. I'd be very interested in feedback as to whether those helped you remember to clear your calendar and if they enticed you to attend.

Brother Sills held our rapt attention both during his Valentine's Day Fun Facts and his presentation in the men's meeting. Somehow he always manages to come up with something for every occasion to keep it fresh and interesting.

The Ladies Association also met and I am given to understand we had 15 women in attendance. A much larger group than normal! I wish I had a chance to greet each of the Ladies. I hope to see them all in upcoming months so I may get to meet them. I heard President Lady Sharp had some ideas for upcoming service-related projects that the ladies may take on either to raise funds for their chosen charity or to provide surprises for local families whose fathers or mothers are away serving overseas. I applaud those ideas and



am happy to offer support if needed.

Our current agenda is as follows, please keep all these dates open and try to entice your ladies to join us:

- Monday, March 26th
Remembrance & Renewal
- Monday, May 28th at 10am
The Memorial Day laying of the Wreath at Avenue of the Flags (a family friendly & beautiful way to honor servicemen).
- July 14th The New England Picnic -possibly the most anticipated event of the year, this you do NOT want to miss.
- We will have our Fall Fast Class in September, date to be determined.

Hope to see EVERYONE at these upcoming events.

Brother Piper

Chapter of Rose Croix

Paulo Santos, 32° KCCH, Wise Master

I was barely 12 back in 1990 when I first entered a Lodge room. The place was unlike anything I've ever seen. There was a presence of an altar, pedestals, tools used in masonry, symbolic paintings, and a bunch of talented boys wearing black and white robes. They were so cool and looked like super heroes. That night was my older brother's DeMolay Degree, a night I will never forget.

A year after that, I joined DeMolay. I was very active from the day I became a member to the very day I became a Senior DeMolay. I served numerous offices in a span of 8 years serving as Master Councilor of my Chapter, Squire Commander of the Chivalric Knights of the Holy Order of the Fellow Soldiers of Jacques DeMolay (Order of Knighthood), and unexpectedly becoming the 6th National Master Councilor of Philippine DeMolay Congress of the Supreme Council of DeMolay, Philippines. An experience I will never forget.

In 2001, I left the Philippines and joined my Navy wife who was stationed in Italy. I thought I would never see a Lodge again. I was wrong. The next Lodge that I would actually enter again is where all my Masonic journeys would start. I was then Initiated, Passed,

and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at Harry S. Truman Lodge No. 649 (Naples, Italy) in 2002 where I served as its Master in 2005. I joined the Scottish Rite of Masonry (Orient of NATO) in 2003 and was elected to receive the Knight Commander Court of Honor in 2006. I was enjoying the fun and camaraderie that Masonry has given me like I once had during my DeMolay years. I wasn't looking forward to leaving again my comfort zone but I had to and so I did in 2007. An unforgettable moment I will never forget.

I remember it was sometime in March 2008 that I first visited Anacapa Lodge No. 710 and after a year long wait, the necessary correspondence was completed and my application for affiliation was accepted. I then visited a Scottish Rite meeting of the Ventura Bodies where I immediately applied for plural membership. A few months after, I was accepted. I felt home again. A feeling I will never forget.

In January of this year, the Brethren of the Valley agreed to elect me as Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix. An honor I'm sure I will never forget.

-Bro. Paulo Santos, KCCH

THE COUNCIL OF KADOSH

Antonio "Tony" Ramos, 32°, Commander of Kadosh

This Article was published by Ill Melville H. Nahin, 33°, of Beverly Hills, California.

I have a 3-year-old grandson. That should say a great deal to everyone is a grandparent or a parent of a 3-year-old child. It is undoubtedly the age when questions, more questions, and still more questions, and still more questions are constantly being asked. Although it's somewhat exasperating, I know my grandson is going through a learning process, and to a person learning there is no such thing as a stupid question.

Fortunately, most questions do have answers. Furthermore, what value would subjects such as the world and its history truly hold for mankind unless they were questioned? In fact, the ability to question is sacred, because it's the mark of a free human being. Slaves, for example, never question. Instead, they bite their tongues and obey their masters. In this country, at least, we have no masters but one, and that Master delights in inquiries and is saddened by apathy.

In our Masonic Ritual we recognize that the first words in the creation of the universe out of chaos are: "Let there be light." Therein lies the hope and faith of Americanism and, for that matter, of Freemasonry. It is the obligation of each of us to make the light of justice,

righteousness, and knowledge penetrate the darkness of our time until the prophesy of Isaiah 11:9 is fulfilled: That wickedness vanish "for the earth shall be filled of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

It is our obligation, as people who have lived and accumulated stores of wisdom and experience, to answer the questions of our youth. We must motivate the child who is not motivated to ask in order to share with him or her our lessons of the past and our visions for the future. Only then can we, as partners with our Great Creator, transmit the light of knowledge and understanding.

We were not born free men and women; we were not born believers in one God. We came from an ancestry of slaves and idol worshipers. Therefore, we must—in celebration of our freedom, our American way of life, and our Creator's gifts to us—daily celebrate not what we are or where we are from, but rather what we can become and what we can move towards.

We are a choosing people, as Freemasons and as Americans, and our choices have regrettably stemmed from tragic encounters with age-old superstition and political enslavement. However, as a choosing people, we have discovered the meaning of our choices, to be

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Scottish Rite Women's Association

Mary Elizabeth Sharp, President

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen of the Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies. I am so looking forward to our upcoming year and hope to see our Ladies Association grow and become more active in both our communities and the Scottish Rite Bodies. I am honored to be elected as the President for the ensuing term. I am also thankful to all the ladies who took an office because as we all know one can not do this alone.

Our gentle husbands have set a great example of brotherhood and the continued growth of education in the Masonic order. I hope that we as their ladies can follow their lead and maybe find some new ways to enrich our world. Our first meeting had a wonderful turn out and was great for brainstorming. It was so nice to hear the stories from the ladies

who have been members and supporters over the years to inspire us. We came up with some great thoughts on helping out the bases with their holiday celebration for the families that are apart at this time of year. We also set in motion some great ideas to help bring more fun and friendship to the upcoming New England Picnic. So ladies mark your calendars for the second Monday, March 12, 2012. Come enjoy a great meal and laughs with the Ventura County Scottish Rite Association and meeting with the ladies to follow. If you are not a member there is always room for more and dues are only \$5 for the year.

Hope to see you there.
Mary Elizabeth Sharp
President
Scottish Rite Ladies

Council of Kadosh

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witnesses to our Creator who calls upon us to mend the world and make whole the broken vessels of this

incomplete creation. Then indeed we may understand, whether it be a 3-year-old or the 103-year-old who is asking, that there are no stupid question.



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.*

Elmer Malvern Carpenter crossed on 12/22/2011



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

Useful Contacts

Officers of All the Bodies

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Lodge of Perfection

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 planetneverneverland@hotmail.com
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 Treasurer Ires Sutton 647-2364
 Member at Large Lois Marrs 642-4292

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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

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 Highway Cleanup Jim Deardorff, 32° KCCH 643-6905 deardorff@dslextrime.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

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in the Orient of California
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Camarillo, CA 93012-5148

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark Your Calendar

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

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, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd, Saticoy
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 (Re;
 Sat Apr 14 Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Bre;
 Mon May 14 Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (Re;
 Sat May 19 Scottish Rite Highway Clean-up, Bre;
 Mon May 28 Avenue of the Flags at Ivy Lawn Mer
 Rite Bodies
 Mon Jun 11 “Flag Day” Social 5:30 PM, Flag Day

