

Ventura County Scottish Rite Bodies

Views from Ventura Valley

VOL. XL

September - October 2018

Issue 5

Orient-Wide Reunion



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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 the 131 members of the Orient-wide Reunion Class recently held in Oakland.

Upcoming Events

Our next stated meeting will be on Monday, September 10th. At that time, we will have a Cap and Ring Ceremony for the members of our Spring Class and the Orient-wide Class in Oakland. This will also be the last meeting to submit petitions for our Fall Class. Please make any members of your blue lodge who may be interested aware of that. Dinner reservations are required; contact Sir Knight Harold Bogner, 32° KCCH, at hbogner@smartsourcelc.com, or (805) 218-1648, no later than Thursday, September 6th.

Our Fall Class will begin on Saturday, September 15th, at 8:00 am, with the 4th, 14th, and 18th Degrees conferred on that day. We can use your help with the degrees, or you are invited to be part of our audience. The other mandatory degrees will be conferred in Pasadena (see below).

Our October stated meeting will be on October 8th. We will perform

the Feast of Tishri, commemorating the dedication of King Solomon's Temple, and will do the traditional toasts. If you will be joining us for dinner, reservations are due to Harold by Thursday, October 4th (see address above).

We will be taking our Fall Class candidates to Pasadena Scottish Rite to receive the 30th and 32nd Degrees, on Saturday, October 27. Any others who are interested in attending are welcome.

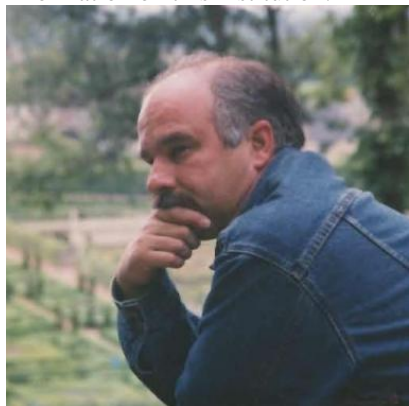
Our highway cleanups will be on Saturdays, September 22th, and October 13. Meet at the Café 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd., Saticoy, at 7:00 am for breakfast.

News of the Valley

At our May stated meeting Worshipful Jeriel Smith, Master of the Southern California Research Lodge, spoke on "*SCRL: Restoring Masonic Education and Observant Practices.*" He also provided information on Research Lodge membership and publications.

At our June stated meeting our own Brother John Slifko, prominent Masonic Scholar, gave a presentation on the Roosevelt Center for the Study of Civil Society and Freemasonry, of which he was a founder and co-

director. You may find it of interest to check out their web site at <http://therooseveltcenter.org> for more information on this institution.



Unfortunately, John passed away a few days ago following a long illness. He had a varied career which included urban planning, advising Congress on environmental technology issues, and working as a stock trader. He was involved with esoteric studies and for a time even served as personal secretary to Manly P. Hall. An excellent review of his life can be found at https://hedgemason.blogspot.com/2018/08/in-memorial-john-slifko_16.html.

Two of our members were honored at recent York Rite Grand Sessions. Brother Steve Goad, 32°, was elected Grand Lecturer for Grand Chapter. Roy Broomfield, 32°, was appointed Grand Captain of the Host for Grand Chapter.

On May 19 we took 5 members of our Spring Class to Pasadena to receive the 30th and 32nd Degrees.

June 29, 30, and July 1 found several of our members in Oakland for the Orient-wide Reunion, where all 29 Scottish Rite degrees were

conferred on 131 candidates. (See photo on cover.) Our degree team portrayed the 18th Degree at the event.

Then it was back home for the New England Summer Picnic. In spite of the heat wave everyone seemed to have a good time, and ticket sales were higher than we've seen in several years. A big thanks to the many brethren and friends who worked to make this event memorable. See pictures on pages 5 and 7.

Brother Bob Kennedy, Jr., who has served as our Tiler for the last few years, has decided to move to Boise, Idaho, to be near relatives. We will miss him.



Bob has donated a reproduction (see above) of Hieronymus Bosch's work titled *The Vagabond*, or *The Prodigal Son* or *The Wayfarer*. It was painted around 1510 and is believed to have Masonic significance as discussed by author John J. Robinson in *A Pilgrim's Path*. We are planning to hang it at the Oxnard Masonic Center.

From the PR's Quill

Jerry E. Gonzales, 33°

Greetings to our Scottish Rite family!

Hello brethren, friends, and families. Summer is coming to an end and we are moving on to the final part of our masonic year. The Grand Lodge Communication is approaching as well as many other events as the year ends. I hope the past year has been a pleasant one for all of you.

Recently we had our New England Picnic and I thank all who attended and supported this event. We had a great turn out and Brother Eric Cortez and Family did a great job with their auction event. I cannot thank you and your supporters enough for your efforts. Moe and the staff from the Clinic, thank you so much for attending and talking about your programs. To the Grand Lodge Family, always wonderful to have you attend and support. There are so many to thank for making this event happen, I am not going to attempt to list them here, but there are two key players who make this event happen and I feel it is my duty to mention them, ILL. ∴. Tom Melugin and Sir Knight Harold Bogner. These are the two men who make this event happen. To both of you and all the others who work to make this event a success, I commend your efforts. Thanks, for all of your support.

As this year comes to an end we still have much to do in the coming months. September we will be



having the Cap and Ring Ceremony for 6 of 7 of the Spring Class members, followed by a very short business meeting.

October we will celebrate the Feast of Tishri, as well as having a presentation by our SGIG Frank Loui.

Two sad notes: Brother Robert Kennedy is moving out of state and will be stepping down as our Tyler, and we could really use someone to step up and fill that position for the end of the year and perhaps next year. Also, Brother Evgeny (Mark) Pashkevich of Oxnard Lodge and a member of our Spring Class has moved out of state as well, and will be truly missed by both his lodge and the Valley. Brother Mark was always right there to help with anything that needed doing from the first day he walked through the door of the Lodge. Both he and Brother

Kennedy will be truly missed in our valley.

We will have a Fall Class starting on September 15th, finishing up in Pasadena later in the year. Still not too late to get a candidate in. If you have one, please bring your petition to the upcoming September meeting. I have two in hand to present for balloting and am looking for another.

We need your support for these events. The Nominating Committee is appointed in October, their recommendations are made in November and voted on in December. We are truly in need of men who desire to hold a chair in our bodies, not a lot involved but some effort and attendance is needed. Please think about taking a position in our line.

Finally, I want to thank Sir Knight Raul Cifuentes for heading up

our VMAP program and finalizing the report for the past year. Due to his diligent efforts last year we were honored with a plaque for our efforts and hope to receive another award in the coming year.

Our next meeting is approaching and I am looking forward to having dinner with all of you. I truly thank you for your continued support. Please, Please, Please remember to make your dinner reservations on time.

God Bless, and Hope to See You at Dinner!

III. *Jerry E. Gonzales* 33°

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

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

<https://scottishrite.org/>

<http://www.casr-foundation.org/>

New England Summer Picnic



from The Kitchen Staff

Dinner Reservations

2018 Dinner Reservation Policy:

Standing Reservations are available, for a rate of \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple per remaining dinner meetings of 2018. There are currently four remaining dinner meetings.

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, but no reservations will be accepted the day of the event!

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 (but reservations are required)!

(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

September 10th Stated Meeting Dinner Cap and Ring Ceremony

Shrimp Scampi
Parmesan Noodles
California blend Vegetable
Frosted Apple Sauce Cake
Soft Serve Ice Cream

Cost \$15.00/Individual

Cost \$15.00/Individual or \$25.00/Couple

RSVP by Thursday, September 6th, 2018

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

Please note we will not take any reservations after September 9th!

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

October 8th Stated Meeting Dinner Feast of Tishri

Roasted Pork

Bread Dressing

Pork Gravy

Steamed Peas

Apple Pie

Hot French Bread

Cost \$15.00/Individual or \$25.00/Couple

RSVP by Thursday, October 4th, 2018

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

Please note we will not take any reservations after October 7th!

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

New England Summer Picnic





Charitable Giving MADE EASY!

***Generate income for you and your family
and help the charity of your choice through a
Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).***

When you make a donation of \$5,000 or more to our CGA program, you will receive quarterly income based on your age and the corresponding rate as set by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

BENEFITS OF A CGA*

- Fixed income for life
- Significant tax deduction
- Competitive rate of return
- Capital gains tax advantage

* Gift Annuities are not available in some states.

CHOOSE YOUR CHARITY

- **Rebuilding the Temple Campaign**
- **Scholarships**
- **California Scottish Rite Foundation**

EXAMPLE: \$10,000 GIFT ANNUITY

AGE 50	4.0%
AGE 60	4.7%
AGE 70	5.6%
AGE 80	7.3%
AGE 90	9.5%

These fixed rates, current as of 5/22/18, are for a single life Gift Annuity. Chart is for illustrative purposes only.

To learn more about the CGA Program, please contact Major Donor Officer Donald W. Heath, 33°, CFP at 1-858-335-2070 or dheath@scottishrite.org.

Scottish Rite Workshop on Proper Philanthropic Planning

The Supreme Council's Development Office will hold a philanthropic workshop for members of the Orient of California. The workshop will be hosted by the Valley of Pasadena, 150 N. Madison Avenue, Pasadena, on Saturday, October 13, 2018, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The workshop will be presented by Brother Don Heath, 33°, the Major Donor Officer for the Western United States of the Southern Jurisdiction, AASR, who will explore "Proper Philanthropic Planning" with particular emphasis on the House of the Temple Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc., the Scottish Rite Foundation, SJ, USA, Inc., and the California Scottish Rite Foundation. The program is designed to give the Brethren information on how planned giving can be of benefit to them financially, as well as, enhancing their desire to fulfill their obligation for "Brotherly Relief" to those in need.

The various charitable gift plans available will be discussed in detail with explanation of the tax and income benefits of each. Case examples will be explored with hypotheticals designed to relate to the donor's circumstances and financial considerations. The details of Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts, and several other planned giving vehicles will be presented. The presentation will include information on giving to the California Scottish Rite Foundation. The Donor Recognition Program will be reviewed, as well as, the requirements for joining the Intendant of the Building Society and the Acacia Guild. There will be time for questions concerning how these gift plans might be tailored to the best advantage of the donor and the chosen beneficiary. A light lunch will be served.

There is no charge for this workshop. Any heart felt donations to the heart for the California Scottish Rite Foundation would be greatly appreciated. Please make your check payable to "The California Scottish Rite Foundation".

AGENDA AND SCHEDULE:

10:00—10:30	Registration
10:30—12:30	Historical Perspective – "Who we are" DVD—The Symbolic Journey The House of the Temple Foundation updates The Scottish Rite Foundations updates The California Scottish Rite Foundation updates The Vehicles/Benefits of Planned Gifts The Charitable Gift Annuity
12:30—1:00	Light Lunch
1:00—2:00	Other Types of Planned Gifts
2:00—2:30	Donor Recognition and Action Steps
2:30—3:00	Questions/adjourn

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
Robert S. Kennedy, Jr., (805) 987-2164
Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., (805) 649-8177
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 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.*

Roscoe Leon Stewart crossed on 6/21/2018
John Paul Slifko crossed on 8/15/2018

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. J. Jerry E. Gonzales, 33°	(805)986-3656	jeg522@yahoo.com
Secretary / Treasurer	Ill. J. W. Andrew Little, 33°	(805)415-3776	alittle93012@gmail.com
Almoner	Salvador J. Lopez, Jr., 32°	(805)649-8177	sjl273prez@hotmail.com
Asst Almoner Thousand Oaks..	John A. Argue, 32° KCCH	(805)498-4831	mayfieldpark@aol.com
Asst Almoner Santa Paula.....	Ill. J. E. Floyd Griffin, 33°	(805)525-5932	efgriffin@verizon.net
Asst Almoner Camarillo	William F. Campbell, 32° KCCH	(805)482-7523	bccampbell@verizon.net
Orator.....	J. Raul Cifuentes, 32° KCCH.....	(805)241-6968	jrcifuentes@hotmail.com
Prelate.....	Chuck P. Batterson, 32° KCCH.....	(805)746-0844	nereus2006@sbcglobal.net
Director of the Work.....			
Class Director, Historian.....	Ill. J. Fred 'Tiny' Potter, 33°	(805)484-4150	fred_pttr@yahoo.com
Tyler	Robert S. Kennedy, Jr., 32°	(805)987-2164	robertk@cipcug.org

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Ryan A. Phillips, 32°	(805)443-2906	ryan.phillips138@yahoo.com
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Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master	Steven R. Goad, 32°	(760)608-1585	steve.goad9@gmail.com
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Council of Kadosh

Commander	James L. Craig, 32° KCCH	(805)804-7247	jlrcraig19@gmail.com
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Consistory

Master of Kadosh.....	Roy G. Price, 32°	(805)276-8946	venturaprice@yahoo.com
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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	sjl273prez@hotmail.com
Stagecraft Emeritus	Michael Metzler, 32° KCCH	(805)524-3362	mgmetzler@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Ill. J. 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 Lodge of Perfection
in the Orient of California
487 Appletree Ave
Camarillo, CA 93012-5148

2018

Views from Ventura Valley
September - October

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Mark Your Calendar

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

- Mon Sep 10 Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM, (*Reservations by Sep 6*), Cap and Ring Ceremony 7:30 PM, Stated meeting following (CoK)
- Sat Sep 15 **Fall Fast Class, Part 1, Setup at 7:00 PM Friday, Sep 14, Class starting at 8:00 AM Sep 15**
- Sat Sep 22 Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM, Cafe 126, 11003 Citrus by Wells Rd., Saticoy
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- Mon Oct 8 **Social 5:30 PM, Dinner 6:30 PM (*Reservations by Oct 4*), Feast of Tishri Celebration 7:30 PM, Stated meeting following (*Reobligation of the 14th Degree, Nominating Committee appointed*)**
- Sat Oct 13 Highway Clean-up, Breakfast 7:00 AM
- Sat Oct 13 Philanthropic Planning Workshop in Pasadena
- Sat Oct 27 **Fall Fast Class (part 2), in Pasadena.**
(Pasadena will also be doing degrees on Oct 12, 13, and 26 which we may attend, but these are not mandatory for our candidates.)

