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February 2023



Fresno Scottish Rite Bulletin



*Happy
Valentine's Day!*

Please join Fresno Scottish Rite

For our

Annual Sweethearts Dinner

February 20th, 2023

Reservations Required

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The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. Permission is granted to Masonic publications to copy.

Allegiance:

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in The Valley of Fresno, Orient of California, acknowledge the authority of 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 for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.



Ill. James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Washington D.C.



Ill. Frank Loui, 33°
Sovereign Grand
Inspector General
in California



Ill. Michael Nella, 33°
Personal Representative
of the
SGIG Advisory Conference

The Personal Representative's Message



Brethren and friends,

The new year has begun with a promising look towards what I hope is "growth." Stated meeting dinners seem to be on an increasing trend and I hope it will continue. However, the attendance at the stated meeting is of a concern to me. Brethren, your attendance is desperately needed as it is crucial in the growth of our valley. The meeting itself is not lengthy, however it is extremely important to the operation and management of the Valley's infrastructure. Please plan to attend in the future to keep our Valley strong.

The spring reunion is approaching, and I am hoping for a good sized class of aspirants to make it a complete success. Please make it a point to invite your Lodge members to consider seeking the light that the Scottish Rite offers as an enhancement to their Masonic journey.

I wish to commend all who are involved in the Language Center for their efforts and labor which has made our center the best in the Orient, hands down!

I "WILL" see you all next month for our dinner/meeting.

Michael Nella, 33°
Personal Representative



Fresno Scottish Rite Clinic Board



Brethren and Ladies,

Back in the days of our fishing derby we would go around to different stores and put out posters and ask for donations of money or fishing equipment to auction to help us raise funds for the Clinic. We often ran into someone who had been to the clinic and knew what we do to help kids. We have helped them to stay in school and keep up to grade level. All the kids we have helped were now successful in what they were doing. Either working or going on to higher education and graduated from college.

Celebrating Success is the theme for the 2023 Dinner Auction. We will be celebrating the success we have heard about from parents whose Children we have helped.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 12, 2023 at Pardinis in Fresno for the Dinner Auction, and please plan on donating and participating so we can make more success stories.

James Wilson II, 33^o
Clinic Board Chairman



Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection



Brothers,

As you know, the spring re-union is right around the corner, and during these gray winter days would be a great time to study your parts for the upcoming degrees. Also, if you happen to know, a Master Mason, who would be interested in joining our ranks, please hit him up and let him know that he would be welcomed here.

The Almoner's closet is in need of wheel-chairs, shower chairs, and of course, cash is always needed and appreciated.

On behalf of our overworked kitchen crew, I would like to encourage everyone to please RSVP and cancel if you cannot attend. It will help to save on wasted food and effort.

Just a reminder dues for 2023 are due.

Fraternally,

Michael Scrivner, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master

The Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix

Brothers,

Spring is upon us, and we are getting a running start on our work. I understand that our Blue Lodges are busy making new Master Masons, and some should be ready for our spring reunion class. We currently have four new members for the class. My home lodge in Sanger anticipates two additional applicants. I will confirm this with our newest Master Masons when raised. I challenge each lodge to provide at least two applicants for our spring class. Covid took its toll and many new Scottish Rite Masons are not attending lodge. Please remind your members at lodge that we meet the third Monday of the month. Our dinners are a feast fit for a king. Increasing and sustaining our participation numbers will help us to continue providing delicious dinners at reasonable cost.

Our lodges must have member participation in greater numbers than covid has left us with. I encourage all who have been unable to attend to make a special effort to be present at our meetings/dinners. Feel free to bring your wife/girlfriend and children as family is always welcome. I am looking forward to becoming friends with the many new members who recently joined, and the new class. Your help would be greatly appreciated during the reunion. I would like to see several communicated degrees return to a performance. This is only possible with improved attendance and participation. Participation, the root of success. Thank you and God bless,

Mark Allen, 32° KCCH
Wise Master



The Commander of the Council of Kadosh



Brethren,

A new year always brings new projects, goals, and reflections. There are the tangible projects, like cleaning the garage, or fixing all of the sprinkler heads; Goals like reading more and eating out less; and Reflections, like journaling, meditating, or even budgeting. While these habits are (sometimes) easily implemented in our daily life, I encourage you to look beyond the mundane and find practices as taught in our degrees. How can the lessons help me reach my goals? How can they help me become a better man at home, work, and in the world?

One of my personal goals for the year is to better understand our Masonic teachings, so that I may strive for them in daily life. Of course, this is a lifelong ambition! I'm finding that Brother Rex Hutchen's "A Bridge to Light" is an excellent resource for concise information, making it easy to digest the degree's main points. I invite you to make it a practice to crack open the text and review the degrees. Specifically looking at the listed *Duties, Lessons, and Reflection* for each degree. These simple categories are great for frequent consideration and practice.

"For Masonry to provide the fertile ground upon which to develop a philosophy, we must learn through study, reflection, and attendance at the Reunions."

-Brother Rex R. Hutchens, "A Bridge to Light" pg. 150

Cactus S. Harris, 32°
Commander

The Master of Kadosh Fresno Consistory

Brethren,

As our year progresses, we are reminded of the responsibility we have to the youth of our country. One of the services that Fresno Scottish Rite has, specifically the Consistory, is the acknowledgment of the ROTC programs at Fresno State and the JROTC at the high school levels in our extended area. ROTC stands for Reserve Officer's Training Corps which is the college level and JROTC is for the high school level. The cadets are given credit in the US military for their completion of these programs.

The commanding officers of these school programs submit names and rank of their programs most outstanding cadets and honor them with awards. Scottish Rite bestows a medal and certificate. We also produce the certificates for the Reserve Officers Association, National Sojourners Association, and the Association of the United States Army.

Starting this year Erik Skidmore, 32° Preceptor in the Fresno Consistory will be heading the program. Most of the awards are presented between April and June. If you are interested in making these award presentations, please contact Brother Skidmore or the SR office. You do not need a military background to make the presentation. I am sure every recipient of these awards will remember Scottish Rite.

Zograb Tsolokian, 32°
Master of Kadosh



Attention all Ladies!!
Please mark your calendar!
February 20, 2023

There will be a short meeting for all ladies that are interested in helping with our Annual Dinner Auction Fundraiser “Celebrating Success” on August 12, 2023. Our first meeting will precede the Scottish Rite stated meeting dinner on **February 20, 2023.**

We will meet in the downstairs lounge, **5:00 pm to 5:45 pm.** Please bring your ideas, questions and comments.



Thank you
Carol Pitts

Sweethearts Dinner Menu
Monday February 20, 2023

Appetizers at 6:00 pm
Dinner served at 6:30 pm

Sausage Lasagna Rollatini
Oven Roasted Asparagus
Italian Arugula Salad
Garlic Bread
Dessert

Reservations are required
please respond to the email.
Price \$20.00 per person
Widows are always our guests.

MASTER CRAFTSMEN

FIRST MEETING REPORT

Greetings Brethren!

It is my pleasure to report that our first Master Craftsman's session was a success! We had a nice turnout and were able to go over a wide array of Masonic topics. It being the first session, we discussed necessary materials and course expectations in line with the requirements of Supreme Council, and from there the format shifted to an open and relaxed discussion/discourse. Some of the topics discussed are:

- Who the “Ruffians” are, and how their characters and actions have symbolic meanings applicable to our current lives.
- Historical account of the Templars as well as the Templar Legend contained within Freemasonry.
- Geometric and Mathematical explanations of many Scottish Rite symbols such as the Pentagon and Nonagon.
- Astronomical applications of the Mathematics and Numbers contained within Freemasonry as well as how these apply to planets such as Venus.
- Expanded history of some Anti-Masonic organizations, their accusations, the validity of said accusations, and how this impacted the Fraternity throughout history.

Come join us in our next session, which will take place at the Fresno Scottish Rite on February 25, 2023, starting at 10 am and going until 2 pm. The Sessions will take place the THIRD SATURDAY (the Saturday after the Stated Meeting) into the foreseeable future. Hope to see you there!

Fraternally and Sincerely,
Bro.: David V. Jarvis II, 32°



Tom's Talks

This year's Dinner Auction theme is going to be about success. The funny thing about success is how do you know when you get there. Is it dollars raised, children served, families changed, lives redirected, buildings built, number of volunteers, or funds established for the future? Success ripples across our community like the waves from a pebble thrown into a pond. Scottish Rite Language Center has been more like rain on a pond sending waves resounding across our community. I want to share a true story about the connecting of success facilitated by you.

A gentleman became a Scottish Rite member out of his Father's tutelage. He was approached by a friend and asked to be on the Center board. He served for many years volunteering time and money. He never anticipated his family needing the services of the Center. His grandson had a learning disorder and the Center helped his grandson succeed in school. His son became a mason and wife shared with a friend about what the RiteCare Center had done for them. Her friend later had a child and at the age of three was not talking. She brought her son to the Center and in two years he was discharged speaking clearly and on age level. She joined the guild and is vital to their annual fundraiser for the Center. At Big Hat days she shared with parents about the Center. The mother brought her daughter for treatment at the Center. It is discovered that her grandfather worked with the gentleman the story started with.

Tom Tatum
Clinic Director

6-4-22

Date

Brother Rodney Horton 32°
Chapter of Rose Croix Wise MASTER
Fresno Scottish Rite

I thank you and the Brothers for
the good wishes and the card for
my ninety seventh birthday.

I spent the day with my daughter
I live in her house for the past
years. I do not get out or drive
She takes me where I go. I do
not go much for she is a very
busy person with the farm and
animals.

I am a very proud mason in
all the degrees since 1951.

If you or the Brothers are in
my neighborhood I would enjoy
your company.

I am in fairly good health
for my age.

In closing I wish a very wonderful
year and future for Masonry everywhere.

Sincerely
Brother Richard Dudley

The heartfelt letter above is a prime example of how important it is to keep in touch with your Masonic brothers. A phone call, a visit or a birthday\ holiday card are sometimes a valued lifeline to the Masonic fraternity. The core values of Masonry are Truth, Relief and Brotherly Love. Let us not forget the importance of living our Masonic pledge.



Contributions to the Childhood Language Center Fresno RiteCare

Donations

Richard & Judy
Hopper

Edward Kerber
*Robert & Denise
Crossland*

James “Jake” Marshall
*Robert & Denise
Crossland*

Memorials

William Hudson, 32°
Clinton Vance

Clinton Vance

Please consider making a **memorial donation honoring our members who have passed away**. The money is donated to RiteCare Fresno, our language clinic. A letter is sent to the family informing them that their **loved one was remembered and honored by their Masonic brethren**. Mail your contribution to Fresno Scottish Rite, 1455 L Street, Fresno, CA 93721. Please note the name of the honoree on your check. We also have memorial envelopes available at Scottish Rite.



Memorial



As we mourn the loss of this beloved Brother, let us cherish his virtues and his sincere attainment to those finer principles of life

David K. Durham, 32°

Coming Events

FEBRUARY

- 13 Monday Advisory Conference 6:00 pm
(Council Practice)
- 20 Monday Stated Meeting (Council Host)
5:00 pm Dinner Auction Meeting
6:00 pm Appetizers
6:30 pm Dinner
- 21 Tuesday Clinic Board 5:00 pm at Clinic

MARCH

- 13 Monday Advisory Conference 6:00 pm
(Lodge Practice)
- 20 Monday Stated Meeting (Lodge Host)
6:00 pm Appetizers
6:30 pm Dinner
7:30 pm Remembrance & Renewal
(Rose Croix)
- 21 Tuesday Clinic Board 5:00 pm at Clinic

APRIL

- 10 Monday Advisory Conference 6:00 pm
(Consistory Practice)
- 17 Monday Stated Meeting (Consistory Host)
6:00 pm Appetizers
6:30 pm Dinner
- 18 Tuesday Clinic Board 5:00 pm at Clinic
- 21 Friday Spring Class Register 6:00 pm
- 22 Saturday Spring Class Register 7:30 am
- 28 Friday Spring Class Register 6:00 pm
- 29 Saturday Spring Class Register 7:30 am

Fresno Scottish Rite

Louis W. Jelinek, Jr., 33° Secretary

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PERSON IS IN A HOSPITAL OR NURSING
HOME, HAS MOVED OR IS INCAPACITATED IN
ANY WAY. THANK YOU