

Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard



DECEMBER 2014 - JANUARY 2015

ORIENT OF LOUISIANA

Volume 16 Issue 6

Scottish Rite FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

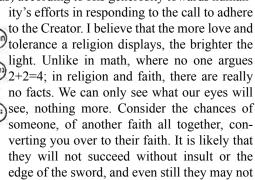
Tolerance Toward The Faith Of Others

by J. Quincy Gotte, 32°

"Masonry does not teach the falseness of any faith - all are equally respected and honored by the Fraternity. Each candidate is expected to reserve unto himself the tenets and teaching of his faith, and, most importantly, to live them."

Rex R. Hutchens A Bridge To Light

One of the reasons I joined Freemasonry was the fact that I believed that it respected all Faiths that practiced benevolence and held a belief in a Supreme Being, and that it encourages its members to practice their Faith. My personal belief is that religions are polarized lights that emanated from God, Blessed be He, given to us (interpreted by us) according to His generosity towards human-



succeed; yet they feel just as strongly about the faith they were raised with as you do yours, and see it just as clearly as you with the same claim to Divine insight.

It is interesting how science has revealed that there are elements of light even in darkness, but we can't see it because the wavelength it is traveling on cannot be detected by our natural eyes. Perhaps if we could squeeze or expand the wavelength dramatically, our eyes could detect where it starts and ends. Equally interesting, if we all want to be honest, every good deed has a bit of selfishness in it and every selfish deed has a bit of good in it. I believe that no human can be pure good or pure evil, so our actions and faith have the same restrictions. No human can fathom pure good or pure evil, but even this thought can be argued.

In ancient societies, some used the sun as a symbol of God, Blessed be He, because it was the most powerful natural source that could be seen and related to; our life and existence then and now depends on the return of the sun each day. With that in mind,

some may have lost sight of the Creator by focusing on the sun and began to worship the sun itself; and/ or some outsiders, not understanding the symbolism, accused them of worshipping the sun because the outsiders were not privy to the rituals and what



the symbol meant. So, some people worship symbols, and some are wrongfully accused of worshipping symbols. Only you can know if you are wrongfully accused. As to what is truth and what is a lie, I wish it were as easy as 2+2=4.

As Masons, we all agree and have expressed our faith and belief in a Supreme Being, and the Degrees we work through teach us of tolerance towards other Faiths. We all build our faith in God, Blessed be He, and religion by accepting Truth by way of authoritative learning; meaning we accept guidance through a man or woman we hold in high regard. This foundation is followed



through in our quest for more Light. In spite of all this authority, power, and trust that is given to and required of imperfect man, I am convinced that the Grace of God, Blessed be He, is sufficient to "cover a multitude of sins" (I Peter 4:8). The thought is, no matter how many stones we turn over in search of the Truth, we as

individuals will never live long enough to weigh in the differences and judge which religion is "right" out of all the religions we know anything of. We all settle with the acceptance of what we are able to comprehend based on our culture and values that we have been raised up with. My belief is that Truth will stand or be found, if sought after in purity of heart; and that God, Blessed be He, will provide the discernment to the genuine seeker. The fact is that religion is merely a venue by which an individual and community can perfect their Faith in the Creator and work towards the correction, and should not be discouraged or belittled. To argue religion is to take on the characteristics of the enemy and spurn doubt by asking: "Did God truly say?" (Genesis 3:1)

Fraternally, Quincy Gotte Valley of Lake Charles



Scottish Rite

FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard

Published bimonthly by the Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation P. O. Box 64 Shreveport, LA 71161

Editor

Steve Pence 105 Bay Hills Drive Benton, LA 71006 Tel: (318) 965-9977

E-mail: storm52@bellsouth.net

Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard is published bimonthly by the Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation. Any article or views expressed in this publication are those only of the writer and do not reflect the official position of the Louisiana Scottish Rite. The editorial policy of this publication grants free reign to the Editor, within the lines of Masonic principles and teachings. Articles and pictures submitted become the property of this publication.

Permission is granted to use contents of this *Trestle-board* for Masonic purposes, as long as credit is given to the source.

Editorial Staff

Editor:

Steven S. A. Pence, 33°

Valley of Baton Rouge:
Christopher J. Adams, 32°

Valley of New Orleans:
Ion Lazar, 33°

Valley of Shreveport:
Troy J. Jones, 32°

Valley of Lake Charles:
Gerald H. Houston, 32° KCCH

Valley of Monroe:
H. Glenn Jordan, Ph.D., 32° KCCH

Allegiance

The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Orient of Louisiana, acknowledge and yield allegiance to The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America (Mother Supreme Council of the World) whose See is at Charleston in the State of South Carolina, and the House of the Temple, Washington, D.C., of which

Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander and

Ill. William J. Mollere, 33° Grand Orator, DGM

Sovereign Grand Inspector General Orient of Louisiana

Ill. Clayton J. "Chip" Borne, III, 33° PGM

Personal Representative for Valley of New Orleans

Ill. Warren A. Hintz, Jr. 33°

Assistant Personal Representative for New Orleans

Ill. Ballard L. Smith, 33° GC PGM

Personal Representative for Valley of Shreveport

Ill. Richard B. Smith, 33°

Personal Representative for Valley of Lake Charles

Ill. Jimmie Dean Dunkin, 33°

Personal Representative for Valley of Baton Rouge

Ill. Travis M. Holley, 33°

Personal Representative for Valley of Monroe M: W: Earl J. "Mickey" Durand, 33°

and Grand Master of Masons in Louisiana

Master Craftsman Program

The following members have recently completed Master Craftsman Course I, II or III and have received or should shortly receive their certificates and lapel pins.

<u>Shreveport</u> W. James Hill, III - Level III

<u>New Orleans</u> Michael B. Steffensen - Level I

<u>Baton Rouge</u> A. Nicholas Auck - Level III Jeffrey D. Maynor - Level III

<u>Lake Charles</u> Lynwood C. Burkhalter - Level I





www.louisiana-sr.org

- Ste

Jurisdiction Supreme Council

The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council includes all the territory over which the United States of America exercises domain of powers of government, except the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, which were apportioned by this Supreme Council to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States. The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council also includes those countries where it has established, or may hereafter establish, Bodies of the Rite, and over which countries no regular Supreme Council has acquired jurisdiction.

A Masonic Philosophical Meandering

by Robert L. Rowe, II

All serious students of Masonry have heard or read the ancient axiom, "When the Student is ready, the Teacher will appear." This of course is an allegory one might apply to initiation or an advancement to a higher level of divine awareness or wisdom.

Further on, we acknowledge the axiom: "The Student always assassinates his Instructor." We would like to think that it is this saying that obsesses some to not teach others, but it is not. Methaphorically speaking, we may associate that axiom to the bittersweet moment in Masonry when the Student becomes as knowledgeable or proficient or even surpasses the level of knowledge or proficiency of his Instructor.

This is why we as Masons should be Instructors and teach above all else Virtue and Loyalty to the Divine Spirit of the Great Architect through the discipline and practice of the Golden Rule.

Thus, if we are not being Instructors and teaching, we are not ascending or advancing in Masonry, and in reality, we are falling behind. This is the only way Masonic Bodies, especially Lodges, can grow. If we are not being Instructors and teaching for advancement, we remain stationary. When we remain stationary, we prevent growth—we are standing in the way of some other Brother who seeks to advance in knowledge—and some may actually wonder why our number of Brothers declines.

If we practice the Golden Rule, it is logical that we would not be standing in anyone's path because we would not want anyone standing in our path. The question is this: where are you standing? Let us hope that we are all being Instructors and teaching and advancing and are not in the path of a Student, a replacement, who we should be teaching and training, and who by us doing so helps us advance also, and will in time himself become an Instructor.

Fraternally, Robert Rowe, 32° Valley of Shreveport



The Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation

2014 Officers Foundation

President: S. Bruce Easterly, 33°
Vice President: William V. King, 32° KCCH
Secretary: Robert C. Joyner, 33°
Treasurer: E. Louis McGee, 33°

Ex-Officio Officers

Chairman of the Board: William J. Mollere, 33°
Board Member: Ralph H. Owens, 33°
Board Member: I. C. Turnley, Jr., 33°
Board Member: Ben F. Melancon, 33°
Board Member: Neil R. Crain, 33°

Elected Members

James H. Morgan, III Jeffery D. Maynor
Harry C. Northrop, III J. F. "Jeff" Webb
Woody D. Bilyeu Robert C. Joyner
Clayton J. Borne, III Martin J. Reinschmidt
Samuel B. Owens M. Darin West

Appointed Members

C. Lenton Sartain-Chairman Emeritus
Richard B. Smith Charles H. Penn, III
Lloyd E. Hennigan, Jr. Joseph S. Monaghan, Jr.
Jay W. Owensby Gary L. Gribble
Roy B. Tuck, Jr.

Investment Committee

Jason K. Rigsby
Richard B. Smith
Woody D. Bilyeu
Clayton J. Borne, III
Ballard L. Smith
John L. Bilisoly
J. F. "Jeff" Webb
Charles H. Penn, III
Ion Lazar
H. Edward Durham



Southeastern Louisiana Regional Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

The clinic has treated 18 clients with speech and language deficits in 2014. Therapy services have included individual and group therapy, focusing upon early intervention. The clinic has taken a whole language approach to treating varied disorders, and has seen great outcomes for children with speech and language deficits, including children on the Autism Spectrum. Animal Assisted Therapy, led by Dr. Rebecca Davis and Clinical Director Aimee Adams, MA, CCC-SLP, has also been used to bring a new, innovative approach to therapy. The summer program included thematic language therapy provided in a group "camp" format that was conducted over 4 weeks. The children explored creative movement, outside play, music, pre-literacy activities and received individualized treatment during the camp. Thirty-six hours of intervention were provided by the clinic in a three weeks span, resulting in terrific gains in communication for the children. In addition, the Scottish Rite Foundation has provided 4 full tuition scholarships to graduate student clinicians pursuing Master's Degrees in Speech-Language Pathology. The students were Amanda Lambert of Metairie, LA, Kathryn Regard of Baton Rouge, LA, Iris Cortez of California and Kristi Champagne of Hahnville, LA.

Sincerely, Aimee Adams Center Coordinator

The following pictures are of the Southeastern Louisiana University Learning Center's clinicians and the Center's children.











Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

Olivia Newton and Janie Reese are our two dedicated graduate students that conduct clinical work for our children.

Olivia Newton is a first year graduate student in Speech-Language Pathology at LSU. A Shreveport native, Olivia earned a Bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Linguistics from LSU-Baton Rouge, in May 2013. Olivia has enjoyed providing speech services to clients in the LSU Speech Language Hearing Clinic and this summer at a private practice working with children with reading and language disorders. Each experience has motivated her in her career and she is excited for every new experience helping children and adults communicate. She is looking forward to working with the staff and families at the Scottish Rite.



Olivia Newton

Janie Reese was born and raised in Baton Rouge and attended the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for her first year of under graduate school before returning to Baton Rouge and earning her bachelor's continued page 4

Scottish Rite

FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

continued from page 4 Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation Baton Rouge Learning Center:



Janie Reese

degree in communication disorders from LSU. She majored in interior design and architecture for 2 years before realizing her passion for speech-language pathology. She believes her interest in art and design will help her to better serve her future clients. Janie is currently pursuing her master's degree in communication disorders at LSU and plans to graduate in May of this year.

Fraternally,

Joe A. Stroud, 33° Center Administrator



Words From A Member

The following letter was received from Brother Edwin "Ed" E. Evans, a member of the Shreveport Valley since 1956. Brother Evans was raised at Temple Lodge #448 when it met at the Scottish Rite Temple. True Masonry reveals itself in Ed's words.

Brethren:

My memory and vision are becoming a problem for me at my young age of 83 years. However, I have tons of memories of my 4 years at Barksdale Air Force Base (less 1 year hospitalization in New York City) 1952-1956. Some of the absolute best people I have ever met - so many wonderful friends from the state of Louisiana. I have never known any better people anywhere!.

In <u>our</u> Temple - I was initiated, passed and raised, went on to the 32° and through El Karubah Temple - all in our beautiful Temple. This is all to the best of my memory. Brother B B Rhoades (sic), in 1956, was the Worshipful Master at our Temple Lodge in the Temple. If I was not the first initiated in Temple Lodge, then I must have been one of the first at Temple Lodge #448. (Editor's Note: Temple Lodge #448 was chartered on January 23, 1956) I know Temple

Lodge moved later on to Bossier City. (1968) I was installed as Worshipful Master of Aomori Lodge No. 10 in Misawa, Japan in 1962, but was transferred back to the United States and did not complete my year. I had some super good times while in Japan. I was in the chairs when we transferred from the Grand Lodge of the Philippines to the Grand Lodge of Japan when it became Aomori Lodge No. 10.

Please excuse my penmenship - writing is becoming very difficult for me. My vision is also becoming a problem and writing and reading are real tasks.

I hope you will get the Temple prepared and again in wonderful shape.

Fraternally & Sincerely Ed Evans

P.S. Please give my best regards to my wonderful Lodge Temple #448.



The Authority Of The Old Charges

The following article appears in the current Philatethes Society quarterly mailing and is reprinted with the Society's permission. It was originally published in The Philatethes in 1954.

Little was known about the history of Masonry until late in the nineteenth Century, for our oldest document, known as the Regius Manuscript, was not discovered until A. D. 1838, and was not published until 1840. That manuscript was probably written in A. D. 1390, and it was thought to be a copy of a document which had been compiled about 1350 but had become lost. It is true, however, that the information contained within the written record of the Regius Manuscript has existed in the form of Masonic Tradition for many years previous to A.D. 1350. After that date, we have evidence to show, Lodges based their authority on written documents which we now refer to as the Old Charges.

In the Masonic Edition of the Holy Bible, published by the Masonic History Company of Chicago, Brother H.L. Haywood writes about the Old Charges as follows:

"A body of men in the Middle Ages could not legally exist or work unmolested unless it had a charter or some similar document of authorization given and sealed by the authorities of the borough or else by the King or one of his officers. The Freemasons claimed that they belonged to a Fraternity which had received a royal charter from Prince Edwin at York in Athelstan's time, and held that this was sufficient authorization for their holding a permanent Lodge. This claim was made in the middle of the Fourteenth Century."

"In substance the Old Charges consist of three parts: first, a statement of the grounds on which a charter had originally been issued; second, the claim to a written charter from a Prince Edwin, said to have been a son of King Athelstan; third, a set of rules and regulations, called 'points', under which Lodge members were governed."

Valley of New Orleans News Chartered April 7, 1811

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month



New Orleans Scottish Rite Temple

619-621 Carondelet Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-3503
Secretary: Martin J. Reinschmidt, 32° KCCH
Tel: 504-522-3789 Fax: 504-527-5982
Email: nosrt@bellsouth.net
WebSite: www.nolascottishrite.com

2015 Membership Fees are due!

Calendar of Events

Stated Communications

7:30 PM

Wednesday, December 3rd

Annual Christmas Program

Wednesday, January 7th

Annual Election & Installation of Officers

Wednesday, February 4th

Annual Valentine Day Program

Wednesday, March 4th

On The Road

Wednesday, April 1st

Service of Remembrance

Location to be determined.

From The Secretary's Desk

Brethren, you will be receiving your dues notice from the Supreme Council. When you send in your payment, we will send you a "2015" peel and stick label to place over the 2014 on your plastic dues card. If for some reason you did not receive a plastic dues card in 2014 and were issued a paper dues card, please contact me. I will get one ordered for you. We have tried to keep a list of those needing a permanent card, but someone may have slipped through the cracks. If you have lost your dues card and need a replacement, contact me. There will be a slight fee for a replacement card.

Joint 2014 Fall Reunion



Front Row L:R - Clayton J. Borne, III 33° Personal Representative Valley of New Orleans, Thomas Seeger, Christopher Lagarde, Caleb Frank, Shelby Lasalle, Stuart Smith, William Womack and Jimmie Dean Dunkin, 33° Personal Representative Valley of Baton Rouge & General Secretary.

Back Row L:R - James Baum, Aaron Lalonde, William Caladona, Joseph Lancaster, Joey Gatureaux, Ashley Hebert, Martin Reinchmidt, 32° KCCH General Secretary and Danny Garcia.

Note: Brothers Baum, Lancaster, Hebert and Womack are new Baton Rouge Valley Members. The remainder of the class belong to the Valley of New Orleans.

We still have a few 2014 cards waiting to be adopted. Check your wallet and if your dues card does not have 2014 on it, one of these lonesome cards belongs to you and is calling your name. Don't you want to give it a good home?

Yes, I know the above two paragraphs were in the last edition, but this is still a pressing issue. As of September 30, we have approximately 8% of our membership who have not paid their 2014 dues. To my brothers that have not paid your 2014 dues, if you are having a problem, please call me, so we may discuss this in one on one.

Brethren, if you know another brother that has not paid his 2014 dues, please talk to them, and if necessary have them give me a call. Some of these members have been with us a long time and it would be a shame to have to suspend them.

Our December meeting will be on the 3rd and it will be our Annual Holiday Celebration. We would like to have a big turnout for this event. Our ladies are invited and we will spend the evening socializing in the dining area. Brother Lee Sands will once again prepare the food for the evening. As always we will start at 6:30 P.M.

Our January meeting will be our Annual Election of and Installation of Officers. As such, it will be a closed meeting. Sorry ladies, but sometimes we have to get together without you. But don't worry ladies we will have you back in February for our

annual Valentine Day program!

Fraternally, Martin Reinschmidt, 32° KCCH General Secretary

Venerable Master's Message

Since we last spoke the Valley of New Orleans has initiated 10 new members to our fraternity. Many thanks go out to the continued page 10

2014 Officers

Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master: Leon T. Roberts, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden: Warren A. Hintz, 33°
Junior Warden: Clayton A. Wolfe, 32° KCCH

Pelican Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: Klaus J. "Joe" Kuech, 32° KCCH Senior Warden: Donald E. Freeze, 32° KCCH Junior Warden: Kenneth K. Bell, Jr., 32°

Eagle Council of Kadosh

Commander: Eddie A. LeBoeuf, III, 32°

1st Lt. Commander: Kenneth K. Bell, 32°

2nd Lt. Commander: Garland M. Gisclair, 32°

New Orleans Consistory

Master of Kadosh: Donald E. Freeze, 32° KCCH
Prior: Michael W. Nastasi, 32° KCCH
Preceptor: John C. Miller, 32°

Treasurer All Bodies

Ion Lazar, 33°

Secretary All Bodies

Martin J. Reinschmidt, 32° KCCH

In Memoriam

Ignace J. Adams John S. McDowell Andrew V. Petit Claude R. Seago

Valley of Shreveport News

Chartered October 26, 1913

Meets on the second Tuesday of every month



Shreveport Scottish Rite Temple

725 Cotton Street

Shreveport, LA 71101-9713
Secretary: Gary L. Gribble, 33°
Tel: 318-221-9713 Fax: 318-226-0843
Email: brosecssr@gmail.com
Web: www.shreveportscottishrite.com

Donate to the <u>Shreveport</u> Scottish Rite Foundation Now accepting MC & Visa!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, December 9th

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM

Tuesday, January 13th

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM

Note: Advisory Conference meets at 5 pm before each meeting.

The KCCH Club meets during the same months as the 1st District Lodge (January, April, July & October) at 5:30 pm.



KStA 2015 Officers

Knight Commander: Knight Warder: Knight Captain: Knight Recorder: Stephen C. McLellan W. Robert Laurents John C. Sharlow W. James Hill, III

Knightly News



Knight Commander (L) with assistance from Knight Recorder Jim Hill (R) presents new Knights Leslie Fife and Al Simms with their Knights of St. Andrew Certificates.

2014 Officers

Shreveport Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master:S. Bruce Easterly, 33°Senior Warden:W. James Hill, III, 32°Junior Warden:M. Darin West, 32°

Shreveport Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: Frederick J. McAnn, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden: Carey C. Allison, 32° KCCH
Junior Warden: Samuel B. Owens, 32°

Shreveport Council of Kadosh

Commander: Larry W. LaBorde, 32° KCCH

1st Lt. Commander: Steven S. A. Pence, 33°
2nd Lt. Commander: John T. Dark, 33°

Shreveport Consistory

Master of Kadosh: Samuel B. Owens, 32°
Prior: John F. Knox, 32° KCCH
Preceptor: Kenneth R. Fuller, 32° KCCH

Treasurer All Bodies: E. Louis McGee, 33°

E. Louis McGee, 55

Secretary All Bodies: Gary L. Gribble, 33°

Help, Aid & Assistance

Antoinette Johnson, of Johnson Consulting, is a historic interior designer working on a book about the original interior decorator of our Shreveport Scottish Rite Temple. She has asked for help in locating photographs of the interior before the first remodel or painting.

If you have any photos or know of a source to provide the same, please contact Ms. Johnson at (501) 350-5931 or email her at ajohnsonconsultant@yahoo.com.

- ste

The Ballot

The concept of the ballot box as an integral part of the lodge cannot be ignored. The brother who casts a ballot has tremendous power. With a single motion, he can assist in electing or single-handedly reject a petitioner. So often in our Craft, we get tied up with how to do something the BEST way, the RIGHT way, the OLD way and some aren't shy in speaking up to correct an erring brother. In doing so, we lose the reason WHY we do something a certain way and most often lose the meaning and the substance behind the act. In balloting, we exercise a voice regarding a candidate's worthiness to enter our ranks.

We ballot to demonstrate equality. It is

our duty. We ballot to show solidarity and unanimity. It is with pleasure we enjoy that freedom. We ballot to keep harmony. It is an honor. The words Faith, Hope, and Charity are prevelant in our lectures however; many times when we enter the lodge room, and reach into that ballot box, we forget them. Faith that the man who comes to us is seeking light, hope that we are of good enough character to ballot honestly no matter our relationship, and charity for those who may fall short of the mark we hold ourselves to. The conclusion of the matter is this. After a petition, which requires two, and an investigation which requires three, the safeguard is still set forth upon us ALL as brethren of a lodge to come together and reach forth our hands to aid and assist the candidate in being brought to light. Throughout the degrees, there's a lot of stretching forth of hands. Perhaps you will have Faith, Hope, and Charity in mind the next time you stretch forth yours.

Fraternally, Troy J. Jones, 32°



Highlighted by Pictures



Ballard L. Smith, 33° G.C. Personal Representative presents Gary T. Rushworth, Sr., 32° KCCH with his Master Craftsman Level III Certificate

In Memoriam

Jesse Boyd, Jr.
Estis L. Dean
Marham A. Dickson
Hugo A. Holland
Theodore Holloway
J. Douglas Lea
Bobby F. Wilson
Michael L. Zanetti

Valley of Lake Charles News

Chartered October 16, 1923

Meets on the third Wednesday of every month



Lake Charles Masonic Temple

717 Hodges Street Lake Charles, LA 70601 Secretary: D. Blake Ford, 32° KCCH Tel: 337-436-1676 Fax: 337-436-1673 Email: lcscotti@structurex.net

2015 Membership Fees now due!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:00 Wednesday, December 17th

Election of Officers Christmas Program

Wednesday, January 21st Feast of Kadosh

Back Door Lunch: Last Friday of every month. Except in November & December



As we enter into this holiday season, it is important to reflect upon the past year. 2014 has been a good year for Masonry in Southwest Louisiana, as more and more area Blue Lodges are receiving petitions for the degrees from men in the 18 to 40 years of age generation. The number of degrees and candidates learning their catechisms is very encouraging in that this next generation of men will carry Masonry into the future.

One of the most forward thinking products devised by this new generation of Masons is that of the Valley Membership Achievement Program or VMAP. This program is composed of ten (10) subject matter areas that encourage Scottish Rite Masons to recruit, engage, learn, grow, give, nurture, and sustain each other in a

Each of the ten subject matter areas has one or two required tasks, and a list of optional tasks designed as the framework to guide meaningful implementation of activities essential for a successful membercentered organization. To fully implement the program, the Valley membership must select a minimum number of optional tasks under each subject matter area to supplement the required task(s) in that area.

This is a voluntary program for each Scottish Rite Valley to consider. The Valley of Lake Charles will participate in VMAP starting in 2015. At meetings of Valley leaders in October, November, and December of 2014, the subject matter areas were reviewed, and divided into priorities. The plan is to launch three subject matter areas in January so that we can get teams started doing the work for required tasks for these areas, then add two or three more subject matter areas in April, July, and October so that additional teams can be assigned to each subject matter area with the program fully implemented by yearend.

The goal is for the Lake Charles Scottish Rite Bodies to continuously improve our focus on and activities in being the premiere men's fraternity. We will do this by meeting the needs of our members by providing opportunities for growth, networking, learning, and leadership. If you are called on to serve, please answer the call. Remember that this is YOUR Scottish Rite, and you will only get out of it, that which you put into it.

Fraternally, Richard B Smith, 33°

Valley News

Our Valley will celebrate the Feast of Kadosh at our stated meeting on Jan 21st. The Feast of Kadosh allows us the opportunity to review the meanings of the Council of Kadosh's Degrees - the 19th through the 30th. The word "Kadosh" is the Hebrew translation of "Holy". Within these Degrees, we are taught several lessons including the path of Mankind's eternal Soul; God rewards Patience; arrogance and coward-

fraternal setting for men in and of the 21st ice are not traits any Mason should have; the thoughts of today become the Laws of tomorrow; real knowledge is acquired through your own efforts; and the values of Knighthood and the Code of Chivalry. We celebrate the Feast of the Kadosh in recognition that life is a battle for good and to fight that battle heroically is the great purpose of Man's existence. We all progress upward toward perfection through the same life struggle. Our goal is to live up to the promise that we will use knowledge, reason and insight to become enlightened men. This is the essence of true Masonic knighthood. The installation of officers for the ensuing year will be held after the reflective repast.

Sincerely and Fraternally, Gearld H. Houston, 32° KCCH



2014 Officers

Lake Charles Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master: Thomas L. Kussmann 32° KCCH Senior Warden: Gerald H. Houston, 32° KCCH James R.B. Golding, 32° KCCH Junior Warden:

Lake Charles Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: Oscar Abshire, 32° KCCH Senior Warden: Elmer L. Edwards, 32° KCCH Junior Warden: Mount W. Newby, 32°

Lake Charles Council of Kadosh

J. Braxton Cole, 32° KCCH Commander: 1st Lt. Commander: W. David McCoy, 32° 2nd Lt. Commander: David W. Scritchfield, 32°

Lake Charles Consistory

Master of Kadosh: William W. Bailey, 32° Prior: Lynwood C. Burkhalter, 32° Terrell D. Fowler, 32° KCCH Preceptor:

Treasurer All Bodies:

J. Quincy Gotte, 32°

Secretary All Bodies: D. Blake Ford, 32° KCCH



In Memoriam Cecile Musgrove Murphy O'Banion

Valley of Baton Rouge News

Chartered October 20, 1955

Meets on the second Monday of every month



Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Temple

14598 Florida Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70819 Secretary: Jimmie D. Dunkin, 33° Tel: 225-275-0668 Fax: 225-273-0750 Email: BRSR1@bellsouth.net

2015 MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE **NOW DUE**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dinner 6:30

Meeting 7:30

Monday, December 8th

Feast of St. John the Evangelist Election of 2015 Officers

Monday, January 12th *Installation of Officers*

Monday, February 16th

On The Road - Humble Cottage Lodge

Monday, March 9th

14th Degree-Pefect Elu

Advisory Conference meets at 6pm on regular meeting days.



Baton Rouge Lodge of Perfection

Jeffery D. Maynor, 32° Venerable Master: Senior Warden: A. Nicholas Auck, 32° KCCH Junior Warden John L. Belanger, 33°

Baton Rouge Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: Richard L. Fox, 32° Senior Warden: H. George Scanland, 32° Junior Warden: R. Shane Marchand, 32°

Baton Rouge Council of Kadosh

James E. Wingate, 33° Commander: 1st Lt. Commander: J. Andrew Owen, 32° 2nd Lt. Commander: Chester L. Finley, 32°

Baton Rouge Consistory

Charles M. Powell 32° Master of Kadosh: W. Brian Harris, 32° Prior: Frederic D. Denham, 32° Preceptor:

> Treasurer All Bodies: Ben F. Melanson, 33°

Secretary All Bodies: Jimmie D. Dunkin, 33°

From The Secretary's Desk

Another year has passed and the hourglass of time has run its course. The office staff would like to extend to all our members as well as their families a very Happy Holiday Season. In keeping with the season, the Stated Meeting for December will have a Holiday theme.

The Council of Kadosh will preside over the December meeting during which we will have our annual election of officers for the upcoming year. After the election, we will have a special presentation for observance of the Feast Day of St. John the Evangelist.

January will kick off our year-long, 60th Jubilee Celebration with the Installation of Officers. On the Twentieth day of October, in the year of 1955, the Charters for the four bodies forming the Valley of Baton Rouge were presented. Look for information through out the year announcing events surrounding this historical milestone.

ROAD TRIP!!! Plans are in the making for a road trip to Humble Cottage Lodge #19, in Opelousas, for a presentation of the 12th Degree. More information about this event will be given at the January Stated

In March, we return to the Temple for a presentation of the Perfect Elu Degree and the 14th Degree Obligation.

Spring boarding from the Fall Reunion's success, our Reunion Director is already making plans with the Valley of New Orleans for a Spring Reunion in Houma. Additional details will be forthcoming as they develop.

As you see, there are a lot of things on the horizon in our Valley as well as in the State in 2015. Be a part of these activities. Come to a Stated Meeting. I look forward to seeing you there. They are held on the Second Monday evening of each month at 7:30 pm. Join the Brethren for fellowship before, during and after the meeting. And as always, there are refreshments before each meeting. Remember to bring your current dues cards with you.

> Fraternally. Jimmie Dean Dunkin, 33° General Secretary-Personal Representative

Venerable Master's Message

Each generation complains that life is speeding up and there isn't time for everything that needs to be done. While each older generation looks at that generation and remarks that "those kids" are in too much of a hurry. They feel the youth should slow down and enjoy the moments of life. All the while forgetting that they too were the younger generation not that long ago and the same things were said about them!

In today's world, with its omnipresent technology and faux inter-connectivity, everything gets boiled down to the shortest possible snippet. We talk about making the 30-second "elevator pitch" because everyone is just too busy to listen to anything longer. Twitter forces us to boil our thoughts down to a mere 140 keystrokes. The letters "TLDR" (Too Long, Didn't Read) seem to accompany any magazine or news article containing more than 1000 words.

Yet there are a few who are looking for time and thoughtfulness. An example is a subset of today's "slow food movement". They believe dining is an experience that should be enjoyed and savored. They feel we should linger over our meals, enjoy the conversation and challenge us to be present in that moment.

I believe Masonry, especially Scottish Rite Masonry, stands for a more thoughtful way of living. We stand for a time when oratory was a prized skill and great orators were some of the most famous people on Earth. We stand for a time when the simple joy of sharing a good friend's company was all the connection one needed.

I hope that Masonry will always continue to provide that path and guidance to men for generations yet to come. Providing a space to have thoughtful conversations lasting longer than 140 characters that will be of benefit to all men.

We recently celebrated the Feast of Tishri in Baton Rouge. By the time you read this we will have celebrated the yearly continued page 10

In Memoriam

James Nelson Lee John Victor Parker Joseph Gordon Thompson

Valley of Monroe News

Chartered November 13, 1971

Meets on the first Thursday of every month



Monroe Scottish Rite Temple

205 University Avenue
Monroe, LA 71203-3701
Secretary: Oma Frank Lee, 32° KCCH
Tel: 318-343-6388 Fax: 318-343-5492
Email: msrb33@bellsouth.net

2015 Membership Fees are due!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dinner with Ladies 6:00 PM Program 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 4th - Cancelled

Friday, January 9th

Installation of Officers

Thursday, February 5th

Regular Meeting

Saturday, February 28th

Master Mason of The Year

The Advisory Conference meets on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm.

2014 Officers

Monroe Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master: H. Glenn Jordan, 32°KCCH Senior Warden: Richard D. Mahoney, 32°KCCH Junior Warden: Leroy G. Stenzel, Jr., 32°KCCH

Monroe Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: C. Marcus Bailey, 32° Senior Warden: Scotty D. Adams, 32° Junior Warden: Oma Frank Lee, 32°KCCH

Monroe Council of Kadosh

Commander: Will P. Gray, 32°KCCH

1st Lt. Commander: E. Felton Vickers, 32°

2nd Lt. Commander: Richard L. James, 33°

Monroe Consistory

Master of Kadosh: W. Bryan Price, 32°
Prior: Preceptor: Prentice L. Wallace, 32°
James Paul Smith, 32°

Treasurer All Bodies:

Roy McDuffie, 33° PGM

<u>Secretary All Bodies:</u> Oma Frank Lee, 32° KCCH On October 13th, the Monroe area was hit by an EF2 tornado. The storm caused severe damage to the Scottish Rite Temple's meeting room. The members of the Monroe Valley are directing all of their efforts toward repair and rebuilding. The staff and officers were unable to provide their articles in time for this publication.

Our prayers and thoughts are with not only our Scottish Rite brethren, but the families that suffered similar losses in this area.

Valley News

The December meeting is cancelled, along with the Advisory Conference. The offices will be closed the week of December 22nd for the Christmas Holiday. The office will again close on January 31st for the New Year's Holiday. Our next meeting will be held on **FRIDAY**, **January 9th**.

In MEMORIAM
Earnest Richard Hawkins

Scottish Rite FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

continued from page 8

Baton Rouge Valley-Venerable Master's Message:

feast of American Thanksgiving. Whether it is the feast of pioneers giving thanks for surviving a harsh year in a new land or a feast of the Jewish nation celebrating and giving thanks for the completion of the Temple, mankind has always has had within itself a deep need to offer thanks to something greater than itself for the blessings and mercies in each person's life.

I hope this season of Thanksgiving was good for you and your families. I hope you found time to offer thanks for those blessings and mercies in your life. To the members of the Valley of Baton Rouge who shared the things for which they were thankful this past year at our Feast of Tishri, I offer each of you my deepest and heartfelt thanks. You were responsible for one of the most wonderful Masonic evenings of Fellowship of which I have ever been privileged to be a part.

Fraternally yours, Jeffery D Maynor, 32° Venerable Master - Lodge of Perfection



continued from page 5

New Orleans Valley Venerable Master's Message

members of the 14th, 15th, and 18th degree teams that traveled to the Valley of Baton Rouge on Saturday October 11th to take part in the first Joint Reunion between the Valley of Baton Rouge and New Orleans. We should be proud of the work that these brothers did and you can tell that they put a lot of time and practice in to make the degrees flow smoothly. Now don't get me wrong, the members of the degree teams from the Valley of Baton Rouge did an excellent job as well, but they were playing on their home field, and had the home field advantage. All in all the reunion was a complete success and we look forward to possibly doing this again next year, this time on our "home field". Well done everyone!

Many of our older brothers remember Ms. Cathleen Whigham who was the assistant to the Valley Secretary for more than 50 years. I must report to you that Ms. Whigham passed away on Sunday October 26, 2014 in Tucson, Arizona. Ms. Whigham began her career here in the Valley of New Orleans in 1946 worked along with the following secretaries: Edward A Cunny, 33°, Thomas Wilson, 32° KCCH, Earl H. Smith, 33°, Phil Walker, 33°, Joseph Monaghan, 33° David Dyer, 33° and Lloyd Hebert, 33°. She left New



Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and relocated to Tucson, AZ, but only at the insistence of her family. May she Rest in Peace.

As you know, from the letter you received from the New Orleans Scottish Rite Foundation, the Scottish Rite Temple Building and the Annex Building are present listed "For Sale" with Corporate Reality of New Orleans. At our September meeting the entire NOSRF board was in attendance and President Frank Silva, 33° gave a very informative presentation on why this decision was

continued from page 5

New Orleans Valley Venerable Master's Message

made. So far we have had many people come look at the building but so far no offers have been made. Stay tuned for more information on this subject.

> Fraternally, Leon T. "Lee" Roberts, 32° KCCH Venerable Master



continued from page 6 Shreveport Valley Highlighted By Pictures:



During the open meeting in November, Ballard L. Smith, 33° G.C. Personal Representative presented 50 Year Certificates and lapel pins to Gayle Hamilton, 33°, Harold Smith, 32° and Ed Durham, 33° PGM.

New 50 Year members unable to attend were John W. Adkins, Harold F. Carlisle, James M. Deal, Binom R. Jenkins, Willis N. Ross, Alfred S. Theriac and Bill H. Woodward, Jr.

Someone is waiting for you



to invite him to become a Scottish Rite Mason . . . Don't disappoint him.

THE FINALWORD



Ill. William J. Mollere, 33° Sovereign Grand Inspector General "SHEPHERDS"

Let me first wish all of you a Sacred and Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a Joyous, Prosperous and Happy New Year. May your 2015 be blessed, healthy and the best year of your life.

It is interesting how ideas for these articles come to me. Many times, it just happens as I sit in my home office at my computer and quietly think about writing something that will appear a month away, and how to word the article as if it were being written just prior to being read; something clever, hopefully memorable, and always timely - well, I try. This time, a good Brother by the name of Dean Alban handed me the idea during a phone conversation concerning distribution of membership statistics for our Scottish Rite Supreme Council. Brother Dean and I share the United Methodist denomination of Christianity, and often discuss our Sunday School Classes and Church Service topics. We were talking about a new men's group at his church and their purpose. The group was called 'The Shepherds' and the purpose was to reach out and find and bring back wayward United Methodists. The idea came to me of how Scottish Rite Masons are shepherds. Thinking back to my old Sunday School stories, the story of Abraham being a shepherd and taking Issac up Mt Moriah as a test of faithfulness, the story of Moses as a shepherd beholding the burning bush as a test of willingness, the story of the Twenty-Third Psalm and the calming shepherd's trust to rely on GOD, the story of the shepherds in the Bethlehem fields having the angels singing of Christ's birth as a test of anticipation and fulfillment, and the use of the term 'The Good Shepherd' as a test of acceptance and salvation – all biblically-related, and much of the lessons brought into our Scottish Rite ritually in the Knight of the Rose Croix, the 18°.

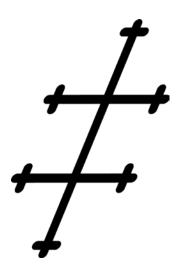
Having been a member of that 18° Degree Team in my home Valley from 1969-2003, the lessons were a part of my life, and still are. Twice each year our Degree Team gathered to exemplify to Candidates the great lessons of that beautifully meaningful Degree. The search for the Lost Word, the dark and terrifying Journey, overcoming dispair, doubt and skepticism, guided by three great lights - Faith, Hope and Charity – finding a bright and glorious morning, the lessons of loving my Brother, of not being better than someone else but being better than myself, and finding the

Lost Word and its meaning – being a Brother all of the time and being guided by those three Great Lights, especially Charity which became redefined as Love for one another – throughout the Degree of Knight of the Rose Croix, we were becoming shepherds: faithfulness to continue, willingness to advance, trust in our Conductor, anticipation and fulfillment in rediscovering the Lost Word, eagerness to practice the lessons and acceptance of the responsibilities of the duties upon being knighted.

Then, in the explanation of the 18° Degree, as Scottish Rite Masons, we were taught to always pray by crossing our arms across our chest as a symbol as though to hold the lost sheep around our shoulder and gently hold the legs with each hand to calm and protect it – we were and are Shepherds bringing home that lost sheep. The symbolism, especially during this time of the year, is too strong not to be realized that our prayers as Scottish Rite Masons are lifted toward GOD thanking our Supreme Architect and Master for our many blessings and remembering that we are to bring home those lost sheep. Yes my Brothers, membership has its place during these last weeks of 2014 and the beginning weeks of 2015 – we are supposed to look after each other, and remember those who need our help, our aid and our assistance – that Brotherly Love that we are to practice every day.

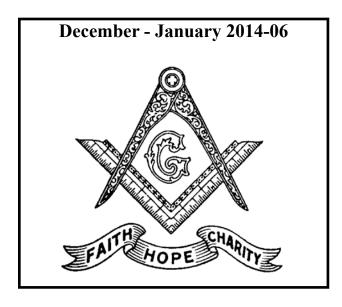
As we cross our arms over our chest to pray as Scottish Rite Masons, let us remember that the symbolism is to carry and bring back safely those who have wandered away, perhaps become lost, and need a Brother to find them, encourage them and guide them, even carry them, not just back to Scottish Rite, but by being a friend and always being a Brother. We can do no less, we must do much more. Thank you, my Brother, for being a Good Shepherd and continuing to be a Scottish Rite Mason.

Bill Mollere, 33° S.G.I.G.



Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard

Post Office Box 64 Shreveport, LA 71161 Tel: 318-221-9713 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Baton Rouge, LA Permit No. 2408



Scottish Rite FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

January 17

Calendar of Events <u>Supreme Council</u>

Biennial Session August 22-25 Washington D.C.

<u>Orient</u>

Conference of the Orient April 24

Baton Rouge

Homecoming of the Orient April 25

Baton Rouge

Grand Lodge

Quarterly Meeting

Alexandria
Grand Lodge Session January 30-Feb 1
Alexandria
Conference of GM February 14-17
Vancouver, British Columbia

Reunions

Shreveport April 4-5
Lake Charles March 7-8
New Orleans May 9
Baton Rouge TBA
Monroe March 14



Louisiana Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Centers Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

14598 Florida Blvd Baton Rouge, LA 70819 Telephone: (225) 275-0668

Admiral E. A. Barham, 33° Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

205 University Avenue Monroe, LA 71203-3701 Telephone: (318) 343-6388

Southeastern Louisiana Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

Southeastern Louisiana University Campbell Hall - Room 102 Hammond, LA 70402 Telephone: (985) 549-2214

Shreveport Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

Scottish Rite Temple 725 Cotton Street Shreveport, LA 71101 Telephone: (318) 221-9713

Southwestern Louisiana Regional Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

University of Louisiana-Lafayette 231 Hebrard Blvd Burk-Hawthorne Hall Lafayette, LA 70504 Telephone: (337) 482-6490

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.
- Build a Positive Public Image of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite.
- Support and expand our philanthropic activities.
- Provide a framework for effective leadership to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.
- Provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.

