



Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard



January-February 2005

ORIENT OF LOUISIANA

Volume 7 Issue 1

Scottish Rite

THE TIME IS NOW

Reprinted by Permission from Heredom Volume 6

The Scottish Rite Research Society

FROM THE EDITOR

“And any other duties that might be assigned”

Job vacancies on the railroad were advertised and posted in bulletin books for the various crafts to view. Bidding took place and the job was awarded to the senior employee making the application. The advertisements told of the starting hour, location, pay rate and a brief description of the position. There was always one caveat that was typed at the end of the requirements. The catch all: *“And any other duties that might be assigned”*. That sentence told the employee not to be surprised by any additional work required of him or might be assigned to him in the future.

I was raised a Master Mason in the month of March. I was appointed to Assistant to the Secretary in June and in December I was elected Secretary of Joppa Lodge #362. I saw the garden path but didn't smell the roses. I left the East at Joppa last year and returned to the Secretary's station, thankfully. I never thought I would say Secretary and thankfully in the same sentence.

During this same year, I was a member of the Scottish Rite class when the reunion was held in Marksville, during the month of April. Sometime prior to the Shreveport Valley holding the fall reunion, I was given two scripts, one from the Fourteenth Degree and the other of the Eighteenth Degree, and told to learn speaking parts in each. It might have been during this reunion or possibly the next that I found myself holding additional scripts from Seventh, Twentieth and Thirty Second Degrees and told to learn the parts before our next reunion. I kept remembering that someone from the Scottish Rite, in the upper echelons, had said that Degree cast members would only work in a maximum of two degrees and preferably just one. No really, I distinctly recall that being said to someone who repeated it to someone else who then told...I can't remember right now. I must have stepped out on the garden path when it was mentioned this was all voluntary.

I was blessed to have received Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in November of 2003. I remember the ceremony distinctly. My Wife, Mother and Father were there. I had gotten out of the hospital nine days earlier after cancer surgery-a five day stay, followed by a subsequent visit of ten more days. I was released looking as though I had suffered the penalties of the Master Mason obligation

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PERISHING ON THE RISE
Old Jephtha Hoys had drilled his boys
With gavel, plumb and square, sir;
Till every craft a perfect shaft
Stood Perpendicular, sir.
Each Friday night 'twas his delight
To call them to the hall, sir;
And catechise the willing boys,
Till each could “cut and call,” sir.
One evening late it was his fate,
In leaning back his chair, sir;
The window glass right through to pass,
And push the thing too far, sir;
In fact, he fled, heels over head,
Clear down unto the ground, sir;
With mighty noise old Jephtha Hoys
A broken neck had found, sir.
The neighbors there, with tender care,
Prepared him for the tomb, sir;
And on the way, a long array
Went out with grief and gloom, sir;
Yet many said, with whispering dread,
“No Mason here is seen, sir!”
Strange to declare, not one was there,
To cast the mystic green, sir!
I'll tell you where those Masons were,-
Prepare for much surprise, sir;-
When Jephtha Hoys forsook his boys,
He left them on the rise, sir!
The Brethren stood straight as they could,
Till he should bid them sit, sir;
And as he's gone with no return,
Why there they're standing yet, sir.
The Tyler bore, outside the door;
The pangs of cold and thirst, sir;
The Wardens twain do still remain,
And will till they are dust, sir;
The Deacons stand with rod in hand,
Not one will budge the least, sir;
And strange to own, each skeleton
Is facing to the East, sir.
Then be my task humbly to ask
each Master this to read, sir;
And beg and pray to them, that they
The moral well may heed, sir;
When calling up the mystic group,
To stand and catechise, sir;
think of those boys of Jephtha Hoys,
Who perished on the rise, sir.

Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard

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P. O. Box 64 Shreveport, LA 71161

Editor

Steve Pence, 32°-KCCH
105 Bay Hills Drive
Benton, LA 71006
Tel: H: 318-965-9977

E-mail: storm52@bellsouth.net

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Editorial Staff

Editor:

Steven A. Pence, 32° KCCH

Valley of New Orleans:

Cornelius E. "Neal" Gorman, 32° KCCH

Valley of Shreveport:

John L. Atkinson, 33°

Valley of Lake Charles:

John Butterick, 32°

Valley of Monroe:

Beryl C. Franklin, Ph.D., 33°

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 House of the Temple, Washington, D.C., of which

III. Ronald A. Seale, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander
and

III. William J. Mollere, 33°,

Deputy in the
Orient of Louisiana

III. Charles McCarty, 33°

Personal Representative for Valley of New Orleans

III. Ballard Smith, 33°, PGM

Personal Representative for Valley of Shreveport

III. Richard B. Smith, 33°

Personal Representative for Valley of Lake Charles

III. Calvin L. Elliott, 33°

Personal Representative for Valley of Baton Rouge

III. T. Scott Strickland, 33°, PGM

Personal Representative for Valley of Monroe

M.W. Neil R. Crain, 33°

Grand Master of Masons in Louisiana

From the Editor

continued from page 1

and feeling the same. Brother Naresh was thoughtful enough to include the picture of my family and me in the Trestleboard's January-February 2004 issue. I had asked him if that picture was the best of the worse and he replied that unfortunately it was. As I was leaving the Temple, I was approached by two friends that were KCCH brethren. I was passed a script for the Rose on the Altar and told to learn a few parts to be a stand in for any member that might be unable to attend scheduled performances. They also practiced on the second and fourth Mondays of every month as well as prior to the performances. I don't remember everything that was said. I was still under doctor's care and heavily medicated. I might have been in the middle of being led down the garden path.

Sometime in October of last year our beloved Bro Naresh Sharma announced that he was going to India to spend time with his family and aging Mother. His job as editor was now vacant. I was given a cautionary telephone call by a true and trusted Brother that my name had been mentioned as a possible candidate to follow in such enormous shoes as Naresh. I had prior knowledge! Armed with this information, I was steadfast in my decisions to screen calls with Caller-ID, be ever vigilant so as not to be approached by anyone that may be affiliated with the selection and resolved to practice Nancy Reagan's slogan: "Just Say No"! I was prepared this time. No, nada, Noway Jose! Thank you for your good wishes, congratulations and confidence you have bestowed on me after it was announced that I was appointed Editor for this publication. Many of you knew of the appointment weeks prior to me knowing. I'm still not sure how it happened. I am certainly not an editor nor much of a writer. Bro Ray Burgess, PGM can attest to that. Of the many articles that I have submitted to the Louisiana Freemason, none of them have been published exactly as they were submitted. History answers many

continued next column

of today's questions. I have a question that historians have been unable to answer to my satisfaction. Why books, published with a blank page, have the sentence: *This Page Intentionally Left Blank*. Does it help to explain to the reader that his copy with the blank page is not missing anything and the book was complete? If you omitted the disclaimer, would anyone notice the page was blank? I am not real sure as to the proper use, but I intend to use *This Page Intentionally Left Blank* in future issues.

I looked through Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite petitions and neither had *And any other duties that may be assigned*. Possibly it was in one of the lectures that I missed while trying to elude the guys trying to hand me more scripts and while falling off the garden path.

On a brighter note, I was told the pay is not commensurate with the position or well maybe it is. Either way, with the Stelly Plan, I can ill afford the extra income.

To Naresh: A family friend, teacher and Brother, may the time with your Mother bring as much peace and joy to her as well as to you, as you have bestowed on me. Oh, the job is yours on your return! I know where you live.

To Dad: I will try not to embarrass you too much. We can still deny any mutual kinship.

One last thought. To a wonderful friend that told me, upon hearing of my appointment, "Don't strive to do things better than they are, but strive to be as great as your predecessor. A very daunting task. Thanks Kat.

Upcoming Events

January 22nd-Leadership Conference

New Orleans

February 13-Honors Luncheon

Alexandria

February 14-15 Grand Lodge Session

Alexandria

Scottish Rite Foundation News

Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation

The Foundation completed the fiscal year on June 30, 2004. Smith Pugh & Company,

LLP, Certified Public Accountants are in the process of conducting the annual audit. Expenses for the year are as follows:

Speech Clinics	\$53,060.00
Scholarships	\$27,292.00
Management in General	\$24,501.00
Trestleboard Expenses	
Contributions	\$21,650.00
Expenses	
Postage	\$6,550.00
Printing	<u>\$14,004.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$20,544.00
Net Income	\$1,096.00

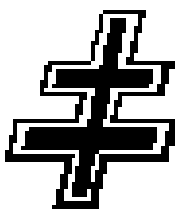
Copies of completed audit will be provided for all Valleys and other interested parties.

John L. Atkinson, 33°
President

FOUNDATION MEETING

The annual meeting of the Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc., has been scheduled for 2:00 P.M., Sunday, February 13, 2005, at the Louisiana Convention Center, Alexandria, Louisiana.

This will be during the Grand Lodge Session and all Scottish Rite Members are welcome to attend the meeting.



Ms. Norma Johnson, Clinic Coordinator, Admiral E. A. Barham Speech and Lantage Clinic, requests families complete a survey at the end of the semester and following is the result of the latest survey conducted:

At the end of each semester at the Admiral E. A. Barham Speech and Hearing Clinic, families are asked to complete an evaluation rating the services provided. The surveys collected this semester continue to rank our student clinicians, supervisors, facilities, as well as evaluation and intervention services in the Excellent range. Families appreciate the convenience of the location of our facility, as well as the after school timeslots. They often comment on the warm atmosphere at the lodge, which includes the smiling faces of the members and the tempting aroma of whatever's cooking. The only suggestions made to improve services dealt with requesting even more time for services for a child and expanding our limited parking in front of the building as some clients are leaving and others arriving.

Some of the quotes from the comments written by parents in response to what they liked about the Clinic in Monroe include:

"The wonderful relationship that developed between the student clinician and my child."

"My child enjoyed going and benefited from the services."

"Positive attitude of clinicians and supervisors."

"Concern shown by my child's clinician and supervisor."

"The ULM clinicians (and supervisors). I have truly seen results in my child's speech!"

Our graduate student clinicians, Betsey Holloway and Leslie Trahan, who did an excellent job this semester will soon begin their ULM off-campus internships at Mon

roe Schools and hospitals and are schedule to receive their Master's Degrees in May. We wish them the best. Our thanks to Mrs. Amy Johnston for serving as their supervisor for ULM this semester also.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

It is always a pleasure to receive letters of thanks for scholarship recipients.

The following was received from Ms. April Stacey Manint, a senior at Louisiana Tech majoring in Civil Engineering.

Dear Mr. Atkinson, 11/28/04
 I just wanted to thank you + your organization so much for the scholarship you are providing me with this year. I didn't occur to me that I had forgotten to send you a thank you note until school finally slowed down! (I was trying to balance playing soccer for Tech while taking my engineering classes, and it proved to be quite a challenging task!) However, I just wanted to let you know that I am so appreciative of what the Scottish Rite Foundation has done for me. I know that money does not come easily to anyone, and I hope that one day I will be able to help students just as you all have helped me.
 With my sincerest thanks,
 April Manint

Valley of New Orleans News

The Oldest Scottish Rite Valley in the World - Chartered April 7, 1811
 Albert Pike was Grand Commander of Grand Consistory of Louisiana
 From April 1857-January 1859
 Meets on first Wednesdays of every month



New Orleans Scottish Rite Temple

619-621 Carondelet Street
 New Orleans, LA 70130-3503
 Secretary: Lloyd Hebert, 33°
 Tel: 504-522-3789, Fax: 504-527-5892

CALENDAR OF EVENTS-2005

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2005

Election of Officers & Past Venerable Masters address

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Valentine Program for the Ladies

Wednesday, March 2, 2005

Maunday Thursday Ceremony & Guest Speaker

Wednesday, April 4, 2005

All Bodies to Open & Guest Speaker

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Stated Communication & Guest Speaker

Saturday May 14, 2005

Spring Reunion

Wednesday, June 1, 2005

Masonic Celebrity Chef's Night

Wednesday, July 6, 2005

4th of July Celebration & Patriotic Music Program

Wednesday, August 3, 2005

Stated Communication & Guest Speaker

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Feast of Tishri Celebration & 14° Ritual Opening

Wednesday, October 5, 2005

October Fest Celebration & entertainment

Saturday, October 15, 2005

Fall Reunion

Wednesday, November 5, 2005

Stated Communication & Guest Speaker

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Jerusalem Temple Shrine Center Orchestra

Louis Stern, 33° Chairman

Valley News

The Valley of New Orleans celebrated the final meeting of 2004 on Wednesday, December 8, 2004.

Prior to the regular meeting, the members and many wives and friends were treated to the seasonal musical delights of the Jerusalem Temple Shrine orchestra. As always, our musical director and coordinator, Louis Stern, KCCH, outdid himself once again. When it comes to matters musical, Br. Stern competes with the best. Everyone present enjoyed the "Big Band" sound exclusive to one of the most active and loyal group of Masonic musicians in the country. Those countless hours of practice told a synopated tale flavored from Largo to Andante. One multi-lingual student of fine music was overheard to say "La musica è molto bella" while another of Cajun heritage exclaimed, "Quelle musique fabuleuse et belle danser à. It was wonderful to hear such appreciation for the orchestral arrangements. Each was vigorous in their applause and from the back of the room a long time member was heard to say, "Großartige Musik, ideal für die Weihnachtsjahreszeit." All agreed that this was indeed a grand musical presentation and absolutely perfect for the Christmas season.

Venerable Master Patrick C. Kelley, 33°, PGM, spoke glowingly of our Scottish Rite dignitaries. Past Grand Masters present were feted and special appreciation for our personal representative to the Valley of New Orleans, Charles McCarty, 33°, was made known. Naturally, due appreciation and concern was given for our infirmed brothers and family.

Lloyd Hebert, 33°, esteemed secretary, announced committee nominations for the year 2005. Our upcoming election will be held Wednesday, January 5, 2005. The outgoing Venerable Master explained that the membership would receive his summary of year 2004 events prior to the investiture of the incoming Venerable Master R:W: Clayton J. Borne, III, GSW.

Lloyd A. Hebert, 33°, was pleased to advise his correspondent that the Valley of New Orleans motor coach trip to Branson, Missouri, was very well accomplished. Bro. Hebert indicated that "it was a fun time, the shows were spectacular and the shopping was enjoyable. Tremendous fellowship among those attending was enjoyed and I would like to encourage others to begin thinking about joining us on the same trip in 2005." He indicated that the 2005 Branson trip will probably take place in November. Scottish Rite members and non-members will be invited. Please watch the Treastleboard for updates.

Your correspondent also wishes to report that Venerable Master Pat Kelley, Personal Rep Charlie McCarty, all of our past Grand Masters and ranking officers closed out the year 2004 by wishing one and all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our Scottish Rite Ladies Club made available highly entertaining and futuristic stocking caps for seasonal revelers. With the complete membership in mind, your editorial staff reiterates that same heartfelt message, i.e., Buon Natale, Joyeux Noël, Feliz Navidad, Fröhliche Weihnachten, Feliz Natal, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and all the best for the New Year!



IN MEMORIUM

Leo W. Brown, 32°
 Stanley Cohen, 32°
 Theodore W. Kiern, 32°
 Douglas V. Levy, Sr., 32°
 William A. Morriss, 32°
 Sylvan B. Pendley, 32°
 Harold Peppitone, 32°
 Harold S. Redding, 32°
 Gregorio Sanabria, 32°
 Charles L. Smith, 32°
 Clarence W. Springer, 32°
 Roy I. Youngblood, 32°

Valley of Shreveport News

Chartered October 26, 1913

Meets on second Tuesdays of every month



Shreveport Scottish Rite Temple
 725 Cotton Street
 Shreveport, LA 71101-9713
 Secretary: John L. Atkinson, 33°
 Tel: 318-221-9713 Fax: 318-226-0843
 email: atkinson@shreve.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2005

KCCH Club Meeting: 5:30 P.M.
 Dinner: 6:00 P.M.
 Regular Meeting: 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2005

Dinner: 6:00 P.M.
 Regular Meeting: 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2005

Dinner with Ladies: 6:00 P.M.
 Open Meeting & Program: 6:30 P.M.
Note: Advisory Conference meets at 5:00 P.M. before each meeting.

Shreveport Speech and Language Clinic

The Shreveport Valley Scottish Rite Children's Speech and Language Clinic continues its' tradition of quality service. Since inception in September 1998, the clinic has served the needs of 848 children. The Clinic has also served children at Alexandria, Leesville and Lake Charles. Ms Sandra Pruettt Hayes is our Clinical Coordinator, in conjunction with Shreveport's LSU-HSC, School of Allied Health Professionals. Sandra was one of the first of our scholarship clinicians in 1998 and became Clinical Coordinator in 1992. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate.

*Thomas F Murphy 33°
 Clinic Administrator*

Election and Installation of Officers for 2005

On Tuesday, December 14, 2004 the following members were elected to serve as officers of the Shreveport Scottish Rite Bodies:

Shreveport Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master Billy J George 33°
Senior Warden Roy E May 33°
Junior Warden Roy B Tuck 33°

Shreveport Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master Billy J George 33°
Senior Warden Robert E Bazzell 32° KCCH
Junior Warden Thomas F Murphy 33°

Shreveport Council of Kadosh

Commander John M Dark 33°
1st Lt Commander George A McCann 33°
2nd Lt Commander Frank H Falkenberry 33°

Shreveport Consistory

Master of Kodosh Stanford L Jensen 33°
Prior George A McCann 33°
Preceptor Frank H Falkenberry 33°

Following the election Ballard L Smith 33° and E Louis McGee 33° installed the elected and appointed officers of the four Bodies.



Billy J George, 33°

Billy J George, 33°, was born on December 23, 1936 in Union, South Carolina. He retired from the United States Air Force and is owner of a successful pest control business. He became a Master Mason at Enterprise Lodge #70, while stationed with the Air Force in California. He is now a member and Past Mas

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Fifty-Year Members Honored

Members completing fifty years of service this year were honored at a recent meeting for their many contributions to Scottish Rite Masonry. Brother Ballard L Smith, 33°-PGM presented those in attendance with their Fifty-Year Certificate and lapel pin. Those members receiving the honor were:

- Ledolph Baer, 32°*
- George F Berlin, 32°*
- Elton A Bruner, 32°*
- Howard G Moore, Jr. 32° KCCH*
- John C Mosley, 32°*
- Paul W Reinowski, 32°*
- Howard T Shafer, 32°*
- Henry E Turner, 32°*



IN MEMORIAM

- James Andrew Banefield, 32°
Bentont, La
- William Birch Carter, 32°
Bossier City, La
- Louis Kenneth Beatty, 32°
Shreveport, La
- August Charles Shaw, 32°
Heflin, La
- William Monroe Dowden 32°
Shreveport, La
- Calvin Wesley Hall, 32°
Mansfield, La
- Myron Edward Melton, 32°
Shreveport, La
- Jimmy Lee Rogers, 32°
Shreveport, La
- Alan Williams, 32°
Ball, La

Valley of Lake Charles News

Chartered October 16, 1923

Meets on third Wednesday of every month



Lake Charles Masonic Temple
 717 Hodges Street
 Lake Charles, LA 70601
 Secretary: Charles Callahan, 33°
 Tel: 337-436-1676 Fax: 337-436-1673
 e-mail: lscotti@structurex.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 19, 2005

Dinner with guests: 6:30 P.M.
 Regular meeting
 Installation of Officers: 7:30 P.M.

Wednesday, February 16, 2005

Dinner with guests: 6:30 P.M.
 Regular meeting: 7:30 P.M.

Meeting Notes

At the November Stated Meeting, there was a special ceremony giving DeMolay Lifetime Achievement Awards to 4 outstanding members. The ceremony was conducted by Bro. John Belanger of Baton Rouge. The Red Award was for former DeMolay members and the White Award is designated to non-Demolay. The recipients this year were:

*M:W: Neal R. Crane, GM -White Award
 Bros. Fred Rau, Steve Breaux and Greg Bruce-Red Award.*



L:R: John Belanger, Fred Rau, Neil R Crane, GM, Steve Breaux, and Greg Bruce

The following Brethren, on recommendations by the Nominating Committee, were elected to the following Offices:

Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master Harold Elliott, 32°

Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master Bill Bailey, 32°

Council of Kadosh

Commander Herrin Ducote, 32° KCCH

Consistory

Master of Kadosh Allen Fruge, 32° KCCH

Also during the December Stated Meeting the special program was a presentation by Eloise Moses, wife of the Venerable Master Ray Moses, 32° KCCH. This was an enactment of the *Lord's Prayer* with responses and explanations. The *Voice from Above* was provided by Brother Moses. The program was very well received.



Eloise Moses performing the Lord's Prayer.

Knights of St. Andrew

The Knight's of Saint Andrew met at their usual time directly following the Stated Meeting on December 15th. Nominations were received and elections held for the ensuing Masonic Year. Jimmie Leger, 32° KCCH and Kof S A Emeritus installed the following officers:

*Venerable Master John Butterick
 Senior Warden Richard Fox
 Secretary/Treasurer Jim Golding*

Will Houston will be installed as Junior Warden at the next meeting.

During the January meeting copies of the 29th Degree and copies of the Squiring and Knighting ceremonies will be distributed and Degree parts assigned for the Spring 2005 Ceremonial to be held on April 8-9 in Lake Charles.

The Knights of St Andrew are 32°-Black Hat volunteer group of dedicated Scottish Rite Masons. Applications are being accepted for the Squiring Ceremony which will be held concurrent with the 29th Degree. In other Valleys, this group has been chosen to participate in Opening Ceremonies and parades with Drum and Bagpipe Corps. We are searching for any Scottish Rite brother that plays or would consider learning how to play the 'pipes' or drums.



IN MEMORIAM

Harry M. Everett, 32°
 Westley Ray Dyer, 32°
 Orde R. Evans, 32°

Valley of Baton Rouge News

Chartered October 20, 1955

Meets on second Monday of every month



Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Temple
 14598 Florida Boulevard
 Baton Rouge, LA 70819
 Secretary: Lloyd G. Pence, 33°
 Tel: 1-800-643-3677, 225-275-0668
 Fax: 225-273-0750

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, January 10, 2005

Dinner: 6:30 P.M.
 Installation of Officers: 7:30 P.M.

Monday, February 21, 2005

Dinner: 6:30 P.M.
 Regular Meeting
 Sweetheart Night 7:30 P.M.

Monday, March 14, 2005

Dinner: 6:30 P.M.
 Maundy Thursday 7:30 P.M.

April 2-3 Spring Reunion

Advisory Committee meets at 6:30 P.M. on the Wednesday before the regular meeting.



Election of Officers for 2005

On Monday, December 13, 2004 the following members were elected to serve as officers of the Shreveport Scottish Rite Bodies:

Baton Rouge Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master B. J. 'Bev' Guillot 32° KCCH
Senior Warden James Grady, 32°
Junior Warden James Wingate, 32°

Shreveport Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master Larry H. Moore, 33°
Senior Warden James Grady, 32°
Junior Warden Ben F. Melanson, 32° KCCH

Shreveport Council of Kadosh

Commander Joseph G. Richard, Jr., 32°
1st Lt Commander James P. Allen, 32°
2nd Lt Commander Keith A. Duncan, 32°

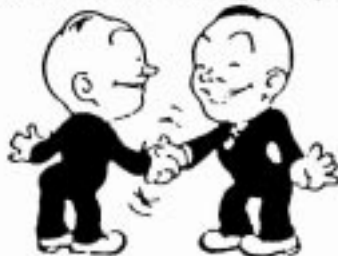
Shreveport Consistory

Master of Kodosh Kenneth R. Garber, 32°-KCCH
Prior Robert J. Knight, 32°
Preceptor Michael D. Hawkins, 32°

These Officers will be installed during the regular meeting on Monday, January 10th.



Someone is waiting for you



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



Venerable Masters Message

I would like to take this opportunity for having been allowed to again serve the Baton Rouge Valley as its Venerable Master. I must thank Brothers Cal Elliott 33° Personal Representative, Lloyd Pence 33° Secretary, Joe Stroud 33° Treasurer and all the officers and members of the valley for their effort. Although I sat in the Venerable Masters chair, they did all the work and should be commended for their effort.

A new year is now upon us and the officers for 2005 have been elected and installed. My congratulations and thanks to all these brethren who have volunteered to serve. Brother Bev Guillot 32° KCCH, has again agreed to serve as Venerable Master and we all know how dedicated Bev is to the Scottish Rite and masonry in general. The Baton Rouge Valley is blessed to have him and know the valley will flourish under his and Cal's leadership. There is a lot of work to be done and all of you know they can't do it alone, so step up and make your presence felt and I'm sure it will be appreciated.

Remember, we meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 PM. Come out and enjoy the fellowship.

Robert J. Hutchinson, 33°



IN MEMORIAM

James Franklin Terrell, Jr., 32°
 Joseph Lathie Rye, 32°
 Andy Carlton Wedman, 32°
 Benny Cecil Walker, 32°
 Howard Oliver Williams, 32°

Valley of Monroe News

Chartered November 13, 1971

Meets on first Thursday of every month



Monroe Scottish Rite Temple
 205 University Avenue
 Monroe, LA 71203-3701
 Secretary: Robert Joyner, 33°
 Tel: 318-343-6388 Fax: 318-343-5492
 email: msrb32@juno.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Dinner with Ladies: 6:00 P.M.
 Meeting & program: 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, February 3, 2005

Dinner with Ladies: 6:00 P.M.
 Meeting & Program: 7:00 P.M.

Saturday, February 26, 2005

Master Mason's Night: 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Dinner with Ladies: 6:00 P. M.
 Meeting & Program: 7:00 P. M.



Personal Representative on the Mend

Personal Representative of the Deputy to the Supreme Council for the Monroe Scottish Rite Bodies is recovering from a serious infection as of this writing (November 17). Dr. T. Scott Strickland 33° had a very 'rough' time and has been hospitalized since October 6th. We are glad he is finally "out of the woods" and headed for complete recovery. This does not imply that he will be different from his usual self which can not be accurately described here for fear of retribution.

HORSE SHOW NEXT!

This year the Monroe Scottish Rite Bodies will again corroborate with the Louisiana Walking/Racking Horse Association on their annual Jubilee Charity Horse Show. It is scheduled for March 4th and 5th at he Ike Hamilton Exposition Center in West Monroe. This represents the Monroe Bodies main effort to raise funds for the Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation, supporting the four Rite Care Clinics in Louisiana.

Please make plans to attend one of the two performances and show that Scottish Rite Masons Care by "Helping Children Communicate". This is an opportunity to observe some splendid animals and their elegant riders perform.

Another way you can show your support is to simply send a check marked for the Foundation or Horse Show and it will be dedicated to our charity. If you haven't paid your dues yes, include a donation to the Foundation with your remittance.



NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

Have you made a list of New Year Resolutions yet? Think about it...lose weight, start exercising regularly, more helpful to your spouse, attend Blue Lodge, be a better neighbor...and one I really need to work on...attend Scottish Rite meetings on the first Thursday of every Month! Remember the good fellowship you and your wife enjoyed. The nice warm feeling you experienced while sharing the light supper with your Brethren and their wives once a month. Give your wife a night out, where you can both enjoy a nice fellowship and variety of programs. Start the New Year off on the right foot. You will be glad you did, even if you don't lose weight and start an exercise program!

DINNER HONORING VETERANS

The Monroe Valley of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry stated the Annual Dinner honoring Veterans of Military Service on Saturday, November 13th. It was indeed a rousing success!

There were 128 people present who enjoyed the culinary feast prepared by our excellent Kitchen Crew.

The program began with the Master of Ceremonies, Brother and Colonel John Baker introducing the Venerable Master of the Monroe Lodge of Perfection, Brother Edwin Collins 32° who welcomed those in attendance. Brother Carlton Yeager 32° gave the invocation followed by Brother Beryl Franklin 33° leading the assembly in the Pledge. Everyone joined Bro Yeager in singing *God Bless America*.

Bro Collins introduced Colonel Murphey Neal the evening's speaker. Colonel Jones talked of his 6 1/2 years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam at the Hanoi Hilton. After being shot down and suffering a broken arm, it was 2 years before his captors gave him medical attention. Colonel Jones recalled incidences of inhumane treatment, he and comrades had suffered. It was a very somber and chilling remembrance that instilled renewed patriotism in the audience.

Our group included group residents from the NE Louisiana War Veterans Home, Members of the VFW, American Legion and Military Order of the Purple Heart. Bro Cliff Hall 32° Commander of the MOPH #331 presented the Monroe Bodies with a beautiful plaque in appreciation of the annual recognition of the Veterans in this area.

IN MEMORIAM

- Johnnie Ware Allen, 32°
- Carl Lee Brazell, 32°
- William Daniel Holder, 32°
- Lawrence Robert Holman, 32°
- Jack Kelly, 32°
- Joe Larson Ragland, 32°
- Lynn Edward Taylor, 32°
- William George Walmsley, 32°

A VISIT WITH ALBERT PIKE

The following is excerpted and reprinted by Permission from Heredom Volume 10

The Scottish Rite Research Society

Contemporary Mason: ...I live in the twenty first century, so much has changed. Can any of this (Pikes Morals and Dogma) still be relevant to my world?

Albert Pike: The world has changed more in government, in society and in science during my lifetime than in centuries before. But let me ask about your world. Is there no more poverty?

Contemporary Mason: We still have poverty.

Albert Pike: Is every boy and girl educated to their full potential?

Contemporary Mason: No, in many ways our academic standards are much lower than they were in your time, much lower.

Albert Pike: You sadden me sir. An ignorant populace is despotism waiting to happen. Have women been allowed to reach their full potential?

Contemporary Mason: That is nearer, but we have done it by pretending there are no differences between men and women.

Albert Pike: That is shocking! Those differences are the glories of both the sexes. Even in my time, those talented and gifted women were taking their places beside men as doctors, scientists, as businesswomen, as teachers, never forgot that they were women...You had asked if the Rite were meaningful in your world. In your world is there no longer exploitation of the working men and women.? Do employers look after the welfare of their workers as they do for their own?

Contemporary Mason: It is better, but it is not as good as it should be.

Albert Pike: Do all men practice the highest standards of ethics? Do men in positions of power refuse to lie, even if doing so is to their advantage? Have men and women learned not to judge each other, but to accept differences as strength?

Do men no longer feel superior to those who have fallen into trouble with the law or into public disgrace? Do they understand that if they themselves have not fallen, it is only because sufficient circumstances and temptations have not come to them?

Contemporary Mason: No, all of that is still with us.

Albert Pike: Ah. Perhaps most important, are religious fanaticism and intolerance gone from your world? Do men no longer attack others because of religious differences. Is each person now willing to let the other find God in his own way and follow the dictates of his own heart and conscience?

Contemporary Mason: We have fallen far, far behind in that. We call them "terrorists" and all over the world, they are

willing to kill because they hate those who do not see things they way they do.

Albert Pike: Then sir, you can answer your own questions. Is a fraternity which teaches men integrity and honesty and honor; which insists on fair and compassionate treatment for all in society, even the lowest and the most poor; which tells men that women are equal inability; which teaches each man that he has no right to feel superior to any other-especially a fraternity which teaches that each human being has an absolute right to independence in thought, no group of men has the right to say "Agree with us or suffer"-is there a need for such a fraternity in your world? Is it relevant?...

Contemporary Mason: ...But some people in my time wonder why, if we're not secretive, not up to doing something wrong, why we don't open our meetings to just anyone.

Albert Pike: Because they have not earned the privilege of being present. Or do people in your time think they should know everyone's private business just because they are curious?

Contemporary Mason: Many do.

Albert Pike: No! When you knocked on my door this evening, sir I greeted you as a Brother. I did not know you personally, but I knew critical things about you, before you entered this room. That ring with a Square and Compasses told me.

I knew that you had asked a Masonic Lodge for the privilege of membership and had filled out a petition.

I knew that at least three men who were already members of that Lodge met with you and talked with you. They spent enough time with you, probably on more than one day, to feel that they knew what kind of person you were and that you were an individual of integrity and honor.

I knew that all the members of the Lodge at the meeting when your petition was read and the Committee reported had voted on you in secret ballot.

I knew that you had passed through all three Degrees of the Blue Lodge. And then you had taken the Degrees of the Scottish Rite, so that even if you were at the beginning of your Masonic journey, you were committed to it.

Membership in Masonry is not a right to be exercised; it is a privilege to be earned. Your treatment as a Mason is not a right' it is a privilege you have earned by the promises you have made to treat others in the same way.

You have earned the privilege of telling me anything you want in confidence, knowing it will not be repeated, because you have promised to respect the confidences of Masons, myself included.

You have earned the privilege of coming to me for financial relief, to the extent that I can if your need is real, because you have promised to do that for other Brethren.

You have earned my trust and confidence because you promised never to cheat, wrong or defraud a Brother.

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*A Visit with Albert Pike
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But sir, the world at large has not made those promises, passed those investigations, proven themselves worthy. They have not earned the privilege, although the Lodge stands to welcome them, if they choose to earn that privilege.

Masonry is not secret; it works in the world to benefit all men and women. But its instruction, its ceremonies, the relationships it builds between Masons of all races, all nations, all walks of life, are private-the earned privilege of its members.

Contemporary Mason: Well yes, but...

Albert Pike: I suspect sir, from your speech and bearing, that you have attended an institution of higher education. Is that the case?

Contemporary Mason: Yes, I have a Master's Degree.

Albert Pike: And would you approve, sir, if your institution gave that same diploma to anyone who asked for it, even though they had never taken a class nor set for an examination?

Contemporary Mason: No, that would make it meaningless.

Albert Pike: You have earned that diploma. It has meaning because it attests to the preparation you have made and the knowledge and understanding you have gained?

Contemporary Mason: Yes.

Albert Pike: Then sir, as I used to say when arguing in court, I rest.

Contemporary Mason: I told you that I had not been a Mason for very long and have been a member of the Scottish Rite for even a briefer time. In my world, we don't seem to like to think that there is anything special about anyone, except maybe those we call "celebrities" or that one person is better than another. Is it really so special, being a Mason?

Albert Pike: Sir, if your world truly sees no distinction between a George Washing and a Benedict Arnold, or between a man who works to help the poor and the powerless, who is a friend and protector of those who have no other friend and protector, and the man who lines his pockets and increases his store of gold regardless of whom he may harm or impoverish, then I weep for what my world has become.

All men may be created equal, and all men should be and are equal before the law; but they are no means equal in what they become, in how they chose to develop, in their character, or in the ways in which they face the vicissitudes of fate.

To me sir, to be accepted as a Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite was the single greatest privilege and honor of my earthly life. Sir, the greatest and wisest men of our world have been members of our Fraternity. You and I are of one brotherhood with such men as Washington, Franklin, John Marshall, Sam Houston, Voltaire, Mozart, so many others. The skies of our world's firmament are illuminated by such stars as these and so many many more. And they glitter there because they, like you and me, swore upon God's sacred altar that they would

live lives of charity, trust, compassion, honor and integrity. To be considered worthy to be in a company of such men...that is very special indeed!

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Shreveport Valley News: Billy J George

ter of Hap Arnold Lodge #457. Bill joined the Shreveport Scottish Rite Bodes in October 1971. He is the Degree Master of the 30th Degree and works in several other degrees. He served as the Chairman of the Americanism and Patriotism Committee for several years. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honor on October 19, 1987 and coronated a Thirty-Third Degree of Inspector General Honorary on November 16, 1991. Bill also serves as the Wise Master of the Chapter of the Rose Croix. He is a member of the York Rite Bodies and Past Potentate of El Karubah Shrine Temple.



John M Dark 33°

John M Dark, 33°, was born on August 11, 1922 in Dodson, Louisiana. John retired from the United States Air Force and Arkansas Equipment Company. John became a Master Mason in Pyrenees Lodge #77 of the National Grand Lodge of France, while stationed with the Air Force in Spain. He is also a mamber and Past Master of Joppa Lodge #362. He joined the Shreveport Scottish Rite Bodies in April 1979. He is the Degree Master of the 26th Degree and works in several other Degrees. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of a Knight Commander Court of Honor on October 21, 1985 and coronated a Thirty-Third Degree Inspector General Honorary on November 11, 1995. He is a member of the York Rite Bodies and El Karubah Shrine Temple.



Stanford L Jensen 33°

Stanford (Stan) L Jensen, 33°, was born on August 25, 1948 in Chicago, Illinois. Stan is President/Owner of Associated Data Products, Inc. He is a member and Past Master of Broadmoor Lodge #432. Stan joined the Shreveport Scottish Rite Bodies in September 1979. He is the Degree Master of the 19th Degree and works in several of the other Degrees. He was invested with the Rank and Decoration of a Knight Commander Court of Honor on October 17, 1983 and coronated an Inspector General Honorary of the Supreme Council on November 13, 1999. Stan is a member of the York Rite and President of the Ceremonial Cast Unit of the El Karubah Shrine Temple.

DEPUTY'S MESSAGE



III. William J. Mollere, 33°
Deputy in Louisiana

Leadership Time

Hopefully, each and every one of you had a wonderful Sacred Season of Christmas and an enjoyable Hanukkah. We enter a New Year with hope for Peace and good health and wishes for family and friends to be about us as often as possible. We have all had the experience of finishing 2004, and now attempting to write 2005 on all of our documents, checks, letters, etc. It is a retraining that we all go through each year - learning that new date. We practice writing that date by paying the Christmas bills as they arrive. It is an annual ritual.

Another annual ritual in Scottish Rite is the Installation of new officers in each of our Valleys. The Nominating Committees have examined the attendance rosters, looked over up-and-coming workers, contacted the potential officers, received assurances of faithful attendance and participation, and have placed the names on the floor for election, and now, the time for installation of officers.

Will each of these new officers be Leaders? That is what we elect - we elect our Leaders. Will these Leaders lead us? Too often we have advanced good men who have served "their time" coming up through the ranks, and who have no idea what is expected of them. The thought of an advanced calendar of events for the year, a system of working committees, a delegation of authority to watch how new members and interested members will perform for future opportunities to be elected an officer and lead is many times lost on the new Leader. He comes in and doesn't have a clue what is expected of him.

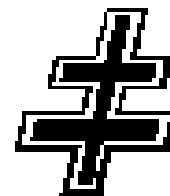
That is not his fault - that is the fault of the Leadership Team within each Valley - the Advisory Conference, the Nominating Committee, and yes, the Honor Men - those men who sit wearing red and white caps that were presented to them because of their efforts on the behalf of Scottish Rite. Each Honor Man earned leadership.

And, Leaders must constantly be allowed to draw on experiences from those who have gone before, who have already had experiences, who are willing to share and coach and teach and train and mentor, and who never give up on someone who is willing to try and improve.

One of the definitions of leadership is "the capacity to lead". Today, more than ever, we need Leaders in Freemasonry who have the capacity to lead. In Scottish Rite, we attempt to offer some of the opportunities for training our Leaders each year by gathering together the Venerable Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of the Lodges of Perfection, the Wise Master of the Chapters of Rose Croix, the Commander of the Councils of Kadosh, and the Master of Kadosh of the Consistories and giving them an intensive day of training in the basics of leadership. It has helped, but it is never enough. We have offered different levels of training too - Level 2 gives advanced training - Level 3 is a seminar for leaders. We have also opened the training program to any Scottish Rite members who feel that he wants to know more and who wants to become a leader within his Valley.

This year, the program will be in New Orleans on January 22, and Louisiana Scottish Rite will again gather our five Valleys' leaders, and hopefully present opportunities that will challenge and excite our leaders who will in turn offer you better programs, better ideas, and make Scottish Rite come alive for you. Leadership training is on-going and continual, and you, the member, must benefit.

Thank you for continuing to be a Scottish Rite Mason.



Someone is waiting for you



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

Did You Know?

“Special sessions may be called by the Sovereign Grand Commander to be held at such time and place as he may name in the call. It shall be his duty to call special sessions upon the written request of the majority of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General at such time and place as may be designated in their request. The date of a special session shall be not less than fifteen days nor more than sixty days after the date of summons except by unanimous consent, and notice of a special meeting shall be given by wire and followed immediately by formal written notice to each Sovereign Grand Inspector General.”



Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

P.O. Box 15766
Baton Rouge, LA 70895-5766
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

D. W. Jessen Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

Scottish Rite Temple
619 Carondelet Street
New Orleans, LA 70130
Telephone: (504) 522-3789

Shreveport Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

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



Did You Know?

Our Supreme Council extends to all of the states and territories of the US except for the 15 states that it gave over to the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. (These 15 states are: Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin.)

And what is interesting is that our Supreme Council, in its Mother Council of the World role, claims jurisdiction over any Bodies of the Rite established in countries where there is no regular Supreme Council. (Art. II § 2.)



**Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation
Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard**

Post Office Box 64
Shreveport, LA 71161
Tel: 318-221-9713

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