

Pasadena Scottish Rite Bulletin



Newly Renovated Dining Room
Valley of Pasadena - December 2024

Vol. 87

No. 11

Pasadena Scottish Rite Bulletin

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Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33°

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150 North Madison Avenue, Pasadena, CA
91101-1710**Allegiance**The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite sitting in the Valley of Pasadena,
Orient of California acknowledge and yield
allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother
Council of the World) of the Inspector
General Knights Commander of the House
of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-Third
and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite of the United States of America.

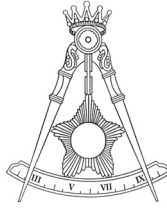
James D. Cole, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander

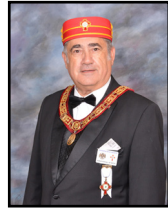
Frank Loui, 33°

Sovereign Grand Inspector General
in the Orient of California

Gregory J. Gabriel, 33°

Personal Representative of
the Sovereign Grand Inspector General
in the Orient of California

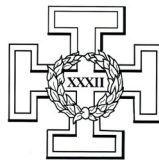
Robert S. Artinian, 32° KCCH

*Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection*

B. Benjamin Masoyan, 32° KCCH

*Wise Master
Chapter of Rose Croix*

Narbeh Bagdasarian, 32°

*Commander
Council of Kadosh*

Joel E. Castro, 32° KSA

*Master of Kadosh
Consistory*

Herair A. Rostamian, 32° KSA

*First Knight
Knights of Saint Andrew*

Narbeh Bagdasarian, 32°

Commander

Council of Kadosh

My Brothers,

This being my third and last message as the Pasadena Valley Commander of Council of Kadosh, I will continue with the ongoing theme which I introduced in my first message, i.e., the influence of Scottish Rite of Freemasonry on the members. In my earlier messages, I discussed the importance of Scottish Rite Degrees and how the Degrees benefit our Fraternity in general.



The extent and depth of symbolism and esoteric teachings in each Degree of Scottish Rite are so deep and advanced that allow different individuals or scholars to interpret the main message or meaning of each Degree differently. It is impractical, almost impossible, to limit the meaning of each Degree to a single idea, concept or message.

Allow me to explain this in an example. One of the most beautiful and impressive Degrees in the Scottish Rite is the 18th Degree, Knight Rose Croix. Its philosophical and moral lessons make it one of the milestones of the Scottish Rite journey. There has been a great deal of discussion, research and analysis about this Degree, and there are several authorities that have interpreted or explained the meaning or the main message of the 18th Degree. Interestingly, their conclusions are different! Different scholars and historians offer distinctly different interpretations as to the main message or meaning of this Degree.

Some Masonic scholars believe that the 18th Degree's main focus is on faith in God, mankind and ourselves. There are others who believe that the main lesson in the 18th Degree is philanthropy as it teaches us an endless

Continued on next page

Commander, Continued...

munificence toward all men, especially the needy and defenseless. There are some who opine that the Degree teaches us to be tolerant of the faith and creed of others; while the Degree has a deeply religious background, specifically Christianity, the Degree teaches the broad principles of universality and tolerance. Some scholars, focusing on the Egyptians mythology and history, believe that the Degree is centered on the concept of wisdom, particularly the infinite Supreme Reason or Intelligence. Rooted in Greek mythology, other historians claim that the core teaching of the Degree is about resurrection and the renewal of life, and therefore immortality.

Those who are familiar with the 18th Degree ritual and studied it closely will agree that all the above-mentioned concepts and notions are reflected during the Degree ritual. While there are various references to all these lessons or ideas, it would be impossible to limit the meaning of the Degree and its teachings to a single concept or notion or idea. The rich lessons inculcated in the 18th Degree thus allow each person to learn something special or unique about the ritual. Twice I have personally participated in the exemplification of the 18 Degree as the Wise Master. I must admit that each time, I learned something new about the beautiful aspects of this Degree.

As in the 18th Degree, every other Degree in the Scottish Rite provides us with a variety of lessons and ideas. Each one of us, based on our own experience, knowledge and expectations, may learn something new or different from the Degrees of the Scottish Rite. To me, that is the most beautiful and attractive aspect of the Scottish Rite Freemasonry, one that makes the Rite a treasure of endless lessons and valuable teachings that can guide us to personal growth and intellectual advancement.

As this is my last message, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to this year's officers of the Council of Kadosh and also to the Pasadena Scottish Rite Valley's administration. They, especially Brother Dru Wood, helped and assisted me in my duties this year.

Narbeh Bagdasarian, 32°
Commander, Council of Kadosh

The Secretary's Desk

Ill. Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33°

We will be having our December Dinner honoring local first responders in the newly renovated dining room, yes you read that right... no more eating outside folks.

After dinner we will be presenting membership patents to the members of the Rees Padfield Memorial Class.



As General Secretary I had the unplesant duty last week of sending pending suspension letters to members who are 2 years or more behind in thier dues. If you are one of those members please reach out to me to work out payment or talk about other possible options to keep you in good standing with the Valley of Pasadena. We would hate to lose any of you as members.

Fraternally,

Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33°
General Secretary

Daily Recap of Membership

Recap data generated: 11/22/2024 2:01:47 AM

Valley of Pasadena Orient of California Southern Jurisdiction

	Begin	Initiations	Affiliations	Reinstatements	Deaths	Demits	Susp.NPD	Susp.Other	Expulsions	Ending
Pasadena / Lodge	688	38	2	9	22	7	46	1	0	662
Pasadena / Chapter	686	41	2	9	22	7	46	1	0	662
Pasadena / Council	685	37	2	9	22	7	46	1	0	658
Pasadena / Consistory	683	37	2	9	22	7	46	1	0	656

Current Dues Statistics

Accurate As Of: 11/21/2024 5:01:34 AM

	Count	% of Total	Orient Wide Avg.	Jurisdiction Wide Avg.
Active Members with Dues Paid in Full:	161	24.3%	28.8%	33.6%
Active Members with Current Dues Balance:	211	31.9%	22.7%	22.1%
Active Members with Arrears Dues Balance:	101	15.3%	19.3%	12.5%
Active Members that are Dues Exempt (A,L,R):	96	14.5%	11.1%	10.5%
Active Paid Life Members (E):	93	14%	18.1%	21.3%
Total:	662			

The P.R.'s Corner

Ill. Gregory J. Gabriel, 33°

The True Spirit of Freemasonry

As many of you know, I was unable to make the November meeting due to a family emergency. For several days my “beautiful bride, my love and my pride”, Weynitru, was experiencing abdominal pain. On the day of the meeting, the pain was so intense that she finally conceded and off to the emergency room we went.



After 12 hours of waiting and a battery of tests and scans, we finally received the diagnosis from the experts. Diverticulitis and intestinal inflammation were the culprits. After some pain medications and a regiment of antibiotics, the pain subsided, and things began to return to normal.

What surprised me was the amount of well wishes we received while we were sitting in the waiting room. The outpouring was tremendous, and I tried to respond to each one as the texts came in. Even into the next day, brothers and friends were texting inquiring how Weyni was feeling. Fortunately, she is feeling much better, and we will continue to follow the doctor's instructions.

Texting has brought us together as instant communication keeps us in touch with one another in real time and I am sure that this will evolve even more as technology improves. What will never change is the True Spirit of Freemasonry. The love and support, the brotherhood and the bonds, the concern for the well being of each other and for those around us. These are constants of the principals of our craft, and the ties that bind us. This is a fine example of what masonry is all about.

Weyni and I thank you all for your thoughts and prayers, your texts and calls.

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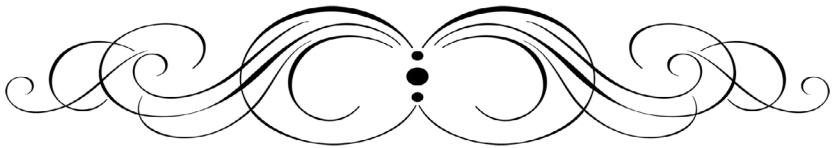
The P.R.'s Corner, Continued...

It is such a wonderful feeling to know that there are friends and brothers that truly care for one another. In a world that seems to be divided, freemasonry is the cement that unites us together. On behalf of Weyni and myself, thank you and bless you all.

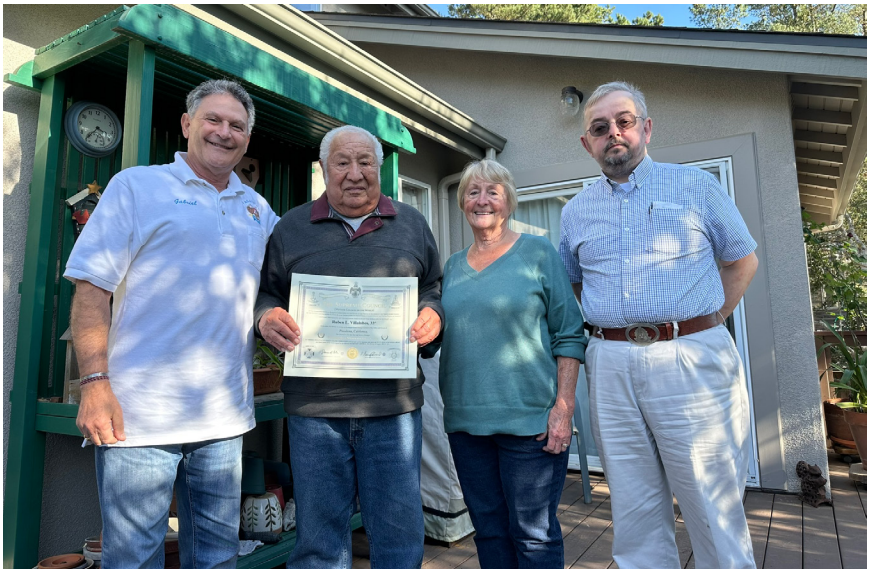
Gregory J. Gabriel, 33°

Personal Representative to the S.G.I.G. in California

DO IT RITE!



On the way back home from the Annual Communion in San Francisco the Personal Representative, Ill. Gregory J. Gabriel, 33° & General Secretary, Ill. Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33° took a detour to Cambria to present Ill. Ruben L. Villalobos, 33° with a certificate and pin for his 50 years of membership in the Valley of Pasadena.



l to r Greg Gabriel, Ruben and Bonnie Villalobos, & Ron Alcorn III

Dinner Menu

Stated Meeting on December 6th

Chicken Vegetable Soup
 Green Salad
 Beef Brisket
 Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
 Mixed Vegetables
 Apple Pie

Last Day for reservations: Wednesday, December 4th at 2pm

Number of Reservations at \$20.00 Per Person.....

Fish or Vegetarian on request only when making reservation.

Remember - a reservation made is a reservation paid.

mary@pasadenascottishrite.org or 626-795-4213 Ext: 101

IN MEMORIAM

Wendell Tet Ching
 La Fayette Lodge No. 652 Pennsylvania
 July 21, 2020

Clarence H. Appleford
 Oxnard Lodge No. 341
 August 30, 2023

May Almighty God, in his infinite mercy,
 Grant that we may meet again, to part no more.

PASADENA SCOTTISH RITE
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

Building Centennial
FESTIVE BOARD

Friday, February 21, 2025
6:00PM social | 7:00PM dinner & program

With Special Guests

ILLUSTRIOUS
JIM COLE, 33° SGC

ILLUSTRIOUS
FRANK LOUI, 33° SGIG

MOST WORSHIPFUL
ARTHUR L. SALAZAR, JR.

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN CALIFORNIA

In the newly-remodeled ~Rees Padfield Dining Hall~
at 150 N. Madison Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101

Dress code:

PSR Officers & Grand Officers: Tuxedo, Others: Appropriate evening wear

\$100

Advance purchase required, limited seating.

Go to: PSR100year.brownpapertickets.com

Contact: Chris Lebedeff - 818-642-3526

GREAT FOOD, DRINKS AND FELLOWSHIP!

MASONS & LADIES | 21+ ONLY

Knights of the Double Eagle Program

Points submitted and approved as of November 21st

Ron Alcorn III	6625	Timothy O'Hair	5050
Ohannes Antabian	7300	TJ Oliva	100
Giuseppe Ariola	3225	Ronald Perez	150
Robert Artinian	1800	William Rogers	1925
Rick Baca	350	William Rook	1150
Sebouh Badoyan	1150	Herair Rostamian	0
Joel Castro	0	Roland Sanchez	5375
Shaunt Der-Grigorian	1100	Michael Schneider	1275
Gregory Gabriel	75	Michael Smith	20600
Gallen Hernandez	0	John Thorpe	3550
Jaime Hoerricks	2250	Oliver Torrealba Torres	0
Scott Huard	0	Keith White	25
Steven Klein	425	Joseph Whittington	0
Keith Kramer	0	Bill Witten	1075
Ara Maloyan	3925	Zach Wolfe	0
Leonard Manoukian	0	Jonathan Dru Wood	4175
Simon McIlroy	700	Dennis Yen	0
Maxim Mironenko	150		

Please contact any of the committee members with inquiries:

Honorable Robert Artinian (robertartinian@gmail.com)

Brother John S.C. Thorpe (j.s.c.thorpe@gmail.com)

Illustrious Ron Alcorn (ron@pasadenascottishrite.org) and

Illustrious Gregory Gabriel (gregoryjgabriel@gmail.com),

<https://www.de32.org/>

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely & fraternally,

KDE Committee

The Librarian's Memo Pad

Ill. William F. Rook, 33°

Masonic Rosicrucianism and the Theosophical Manuscripts

Masonic Rosicrucianism and Theosophical Manuscripts intersect in their emphasis on spiritual enlightenment, esoteric knowledge, and the pursuit of truth. Both traditions draw from a rich tapestry of mystical, philosophical, and religious ideas.



Masonic Rosicrucianism

- **Origins:** Combines elements of Freemasonry and the Rosicrucian movement, which emerged in the early 17th century.
- **Philosophy:** Focuses on personal transformation, inner knowledge, and the importance of symbols and rituals.
- **Goals:** Promotes moral and ethical development, the understanding of universal truths, and a connection to a higher spiritual reality.

Theosophical Manuscripts

- **Foundational Ideas:** Founded in the late 19th century, Theosophy emphasizes the unity of all religions, the evolution of the soul, and the exploration of hidden knowledge.
- **Key Themes:** Karma, reincarnation, and the interconnectedness of all life. It seeks to unveil the deeper truths behind spiritual teachings across cultures.
- **Influence:** Theosophy was influenced by various philosophical traditions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and Western esotericism. Interconnections

Continued on next page

Librarian's Memo Pad, continued.....

- **Spirituality:** Both traditions emphasize the importance of spiritual growth and understanding the nature of existence.
- **Symbolism:** They utilize rich symbols and allegories to convey deeper truths and teachings.
- **Esoteric Knowledge:** Both advocate for the pursuit of hidden knowledge, encouraging followers to look beyond surface appearances. Exploring these connections can provide a deeper understanding of the spiritual landscape in which both Masonic Rosicrucianism and Theosophical thought developed. If you'd like to dive deeper into specific aspects or themes, research is available in our Pasadena Scottish Rite Library.

Fraternally,

Bill

A Sponsor's Responsibility

For every petitioner for the degrees of Scottish Rite Degrees there is a Scottish Rite Mason who is his sponsor on whom rests the responsibility for proper training of the petitioner. The Scottish Rite Mason who signs the petition has a responsibility that does not end with their signature on the petition. If you invited a guest to a gathering at your home, you make sure that he meets all of your guest and is made welcome and comfortable. Isn't the man whom you recommend Scottish Rite Freemasonry entitled to the same courtesy? As his sponsor, is it not your duty to assist him with his work and take an interest in his progress? It seems to us that it is, and that you should see to it that he fully understands the fine lessons of our degrees. If you recommend a man to the Scottish Rite, satisfy yourself that he is receiving that for which you recommended him. To do so is but a Masonic courtesy and it is your duty as a Scottish Rite Mason.

The Scottish Rite Research Society® (SRRS) was formed on May 8, 1991, when fourteen Scottish Rite Freemasons were granted a charter by the Supreme Council, 33°, S.J. The administrative offices of the SRRS are at the House of the Temple in Washington, D.C., under the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. Activities and publications of the Society are governed by a Board of Directors, who are all Life Members of the Society, representing Scottish Rite valleys across the country.

Since its formation in 1991, the Society has become one of the most dynamic forces in contemporary Masonic research, pursuing a publication program that emphasizes quality—both in content and in physical form. The Society has grown to over 4,000 members worldwide since inception. Its publications have redefined the standards of Masonic scholarship. Anyone who is interested in deepening his or her understanding of Freemasonry would benefit from Society membership. One need not be a member of the Scottish Rite, or even be a Mason, to join the SRRS. Life Memberships are available by visiting <http://scottishriteresearch.com/membership-join/>.

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

Scottish Rite Creed

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal.



The Ivory Key

An introductory course in the basics of Scottish Rite history, structure and philosophy designed to help the Scottish Rite Candidate or newly-made Scottish Rite Mason get the most out of their reunion experience.

For over 223 years, the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry has been fulfilling the promise of more light in Masonry. But with such a long and storied history, a well-defined central structure and myriad symbols and lessons to absorb, often a new Scottish Rite candidate can feel overwhelmed. This short course will help Scottish Rite Candidates and newly made Scottish Rite Masons get the most out of their Scottish Rite Reunion experience.

Named for one of the significant early symbols in the Scottish Rite degree canon, The Ivory Key course contains several short videos, audio presentations and reading assignments that will allow candidates to have a more complete understanding the nature and structure of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. The course is divided into 4 sections, each with its own fifteen question quiz:

1. Scottish Rite History in Brief
2. The Structure of the Scottish Rite
3. Lodge of Perfection & Chapter Rose Croix Degree
4. Council of Kadosh & Consistory Degrees

There is also a short 4-question final exam.

COST: If you are a Scottish Rite Candidate OR have received your 32° within 60 days of enrollment, the course is FREE. Existing Scottish Rite Masons: \$33

Pasadena Childhood Language Center



PASADENA

Meghri Habashian
Office Coordinator

Donations may be made by a group, an organization, a couple, or an individual. They may be made **In Honor of...**, **In Memory of...**, as a member of the **365 Club**, or as **Friends of the Center**. All donors are recognized in the bulletin.

Thank You to Our November 2024 Donors

365 Club

Bill Rook, Frank Barbano

Memorials

In Honor of

Friends of the Center

Robert Kelley, Charles Pierce, Nazaret Dermendjian, James Callens,
Ygnacio Alva, Sergey Galstyan, Ernest Atuel

Remember when making donations please make checks payable to "California Scottish Rite Foundation" and put Pasadena on the memo line.

Official Publication of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA, Valley of Pasadena and Coordinate Bodies

Gregory J. Gabriel, 33^o Personal Representative

Officers of the Pasadena Bodies

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Narbeh Bagdasarian, 32^o

Commander

Consistory

Joel E. Castro, 32^o KSA

Master of Kadosh

All Bodies

Jeffrey W. Yates, 32^o KCCH

Miles H. Bresee III, 32^o KCCH

Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33^o

Keith D. Kramer, 32^o KSA

Stephen R. Miller, 32^o KCCH

Wayne R. Sauer, 32^o KSA

Almoner

Treasurer

Secretary

Asst. to Secretary

Organist

Tiler

Scottish Rite Calendar

Keep Friday Nights for Scottish Rite

Dress is Coat and Tie

DECEMBER

Friday, December 6

4:30PM Cathedral Board

6:00PM Social

6:30PM Dinner

8:00PM Stated Meeting

Council of Kadosh in Charge

Women's Association

Saturday, December 13

10:00AM Knights of Saint Andrew

Office is Closed

Tuesday, December 23 to December 27

No Discussion Group in December



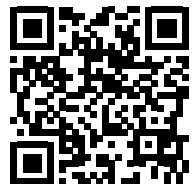
SAVE THE DATE

Stated Meeting, January 3, 2025

Installation of Officers, January 31, 2025

Cathedral Centennial, February 21, 2025

Spirit of Hiram, March 14, 2025



Periodical

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite
150 North Madison Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101-1710

Time dated material