

**July  
Newsletter**



*Venerable Master, San Antonio  
Lodge of Perfection*

*Nick R. Ramos, 33°*



*Venerable Master, Rio Grande Valley  
Lodge of Perfection*

*Jay Alvarez, 32° KCCH*



*Wise Master,  
San Antonio Chapter of Rose Croix*

*William M. Gerhardt III., 32° KCCH*



*Commander,  
San Antonio Council of Kadosh*

*Stuart D. Shaw, 32° KCCH*



*Venerable Master of Kadosh,  
San Antonio Consistory*

*Oscar Flores, 32°, KCCH*

*Almoner*

*James W. Todd, 33°*

*Phone: 210-222-0133*

*Secretary, Recorder and Registrar*

*Ronald G. Havens, 32° KCCH*

*Phone: (210) 222-0133*

*Treasurer*

*Stuart H. Simms, 32° KCCH, PVM*



**VALLEY OF SAN ANTONIO**

**NEWS!**



**NEWS!**

**SCOTTISH RITE**

**“THE UNIVERSITY OF FREEMASONRY”**



**Bring  
Some**

**Brothers!!**

**To The Scottish Rite Cathedral**

**\*\*\*August 17th 6:30 PM\*\*\***

**One Night Only**

**Tour and Information Session**

**All Master Masons Welcome**

**Let them see what the Scottish Rite is all about!!**



**PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY BY AND  
FOR THE SAN ANTONIO SCOTTISH  
RITE BODIES OF THE ORIENT OF  
TEXAS**

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The San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies meet jointly on the first Thursday of each month. All correspondence and business pertaining to the Valley of San Antonio should be addressed to the Secretary, San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies.

**ALLEGIANCE**

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry sitting in the Valley of San Antonio, Orient of Texas, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon, of the Thirty Third and Last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose See is at Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, now sitting at Washington, D. C..

*Sovereign Grand Commander*

*RONALD A. SEALE, 33°*

*Deputy of the Supreme Council in Texas*

*MICHAEL L. WIGGINS, 33°*

*Chairman, Executive Committee and  
Personal Representative of the Deputy  
of the Supreme Council in Texas*

*ROBERT C. MADISON, 33° PVM, PC*

**Fourteenth**



**Degree**

**"Perfect Elu (Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason)"**

In the degree we learn to reflect and look into ourselves. We should strive to be true to ourselves and our God.

**8/24/2017**

**7PM at the Cathedral**

**Continuing Masonic  
Education Series**

**Upcoming Events to Remember!!!**

**Three Month Calendar**

**August 3rd – Stated Meeting**

**August 23rd – Executive/Advisor meeting (6:30 PM)**

**August 24th – Continuing Masonic Education**

**September 7th – Stated Meeting**

**September 27th –Executive/Advisor meeting (6:30 PM)**

**September 28th – Continuing Masonic Education**

**October 5th – Stated Meeting**

**October 20&21– Fall Reunion**

**October 25th – Executive/Advisor meeting (6:30 PM)**

**October 26th – Continuing Masonic Education**

**Blue Lodge Education Program**

Masonic Education Programs Available for Stated or Called Meetings

E-mail kohanke@sbcglobal.net

**Thanks to Kendall Lodge for hosting a  
Masonic education program in July.**

**Illustrious**

**Robert C. Madison 33°**

**Personal Representative of the  
Deputy of the Supreme  
Council in Texas**



Greetings from your Chairman:

I hope you all had a great Independence Day holiday!

As we begin the second half of 2017, I want to remind you of some important dates and events coming up in September and October. Please attend as many of these events as you can. They are:

***September 9, 2017 – Honors Day in Dallas, Texas***

The San Antonio Valley received seven honors this Biennial: two 33<sup>rd</sup> degrees and five 32<sup>nd</sup> degree KCCHs. The Brothers who will be receiving the honors, and I, would really appreciate your attendance--to show our support and to congratulate our Brothers for their achievements in Scottish Rite Freemasonry, as represented by these Honors. ***Please make your reservations now.***

***September 22 and 23, 2017 – Rio Grande Lodge of Perfection Reunion in the Rio Grande Valley***

Please consider attending this Reunion. I would especially like for the elected and appointed officers, as well as members, from all of the San Antonio Valley to be well represented at the event. I know that it is a long drive for many of us, but if you share the driving with a few of your Brothers, the trip can be a great opportunity for even more fellowship and fun!

***October 7, 2017 – 150th Anniversary Celebration of the Scottish Rite “Mother Consistory of Texas” in Galveston, Texas***

This event is NOT to be missed; however, you should MAKE RESERVATIONS AS SOON POSSIBLE, because space is limited. The key speaker will be the Sovereign Grand Commander, Illustrious Ronald A. Seale 33°; The guest speaker will be our own Deputy in Texas, Illustrious Michael L. Wiggins 33°. The event schedule is posted elsewhere in this Newsletter.

In addition to the above events, please do not forget our next Continuing Masonic Education night on Thursday, August 24, 2017; and remember, “if you snooze, you lose.” So, please join us for a very educational evening at 7:00PM in the Albert Pike Lodge room. See you there!

Now for an update on OUR fantastic building: We have recently hired a “Public Adjuster” to aid us with our insurance claim regarding roof and water damage. Even so, the monies we receive may not be sufficient to cover all costs to replace the roof and make related water damage repairs, and there are other needs for which we require funds.

Please consider donating to the Scottish Rite Building, Library and Museum Corporation, and the Learning Center. Both entities are 501c3 corporations, making your donations tax deductible if you are able to itemize on your federal income tax return. No amount is too small (or too big J); one-time and recurring donations, as well as inclusion in your will, would be most appreciated.

Ill. Robert C. Madison, 33°

# San Antonio Consistory



Venerable Master  
of Kadosh  
Oscar Flores

Brethren,

I hope that everyone is having a great summer. With the temperature rising everyone should stay inside and keep cool.

Save the dates:

- A. Bring a Friend/Brother Conference –August 17th. This conference is one every Brother should attend. How great it was that In the spring a brother and a brother in law shared the great experience of attending this conference.
- B. Fall Reunion-October 11th. & 12th. Again, I am proud to have another member of Cibolo Lodge be part of this Reunion. Our Jr. Past Master will be in the reunion.
- C. Stated Meeting-August 3rd. We will meet at Good Time Charlie's Bar and Cafe on Broadway (across from Kiddie Park) for dinner at 6:00 PM.
- D. University of Freemasonry - If your lodge has not contacted one of the University of Freemasonry speakers, it is something that you will deeply regret. These Brethren do an excellent job. Call them, you will not be disappointed.
- E. CME Classes (August 24th) - these classes are doing great. I am hearing amazing things about these classes. Plan on attending the CME Classes.

Until next month. God bless!

Fraternally,

Oscar Flores, 32 KCCH

## *Famous Freemasons*

"I was fortunate to be born into a family of Masons. Indeed, my older sister Audrey was Grand Matron of the Order of Eastern Star in Illinois. My DeMolay experience came very naturally because of my father and brothers. Thus was my youth enhanced."

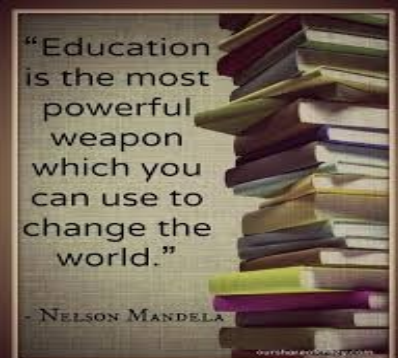
—Bro. Burl Ives, 33°





**Albert Pike's**  
**"String of Pearls"**

Every Masonic Lodge is a temple of religion; and its teachings are instruction in religion. For here are inculcated disinterestedness, affection, toleration, devotedness, patriotism, truth, a generous sympathy with those who suffer and mourn, pity for the fallen, mercy for the erring, relief for those in want, Faith, Hope, and Charity. Here we meet as brethren, to learn to know and love each other. Here we greet each other gladly, are lenient to each other's faults, regardful of each other's feelings, ready to relieve each other's wants. This is the true religion revealed to the ancient patriarchs; which Masonry has taught for many centuries, and which it will continue to teach as long as time endures. (13th Degree Lecture)



# The Lodge of Perfection

**Brethren: Hope everyone had a great Fourth of July, and are enjoying the rest of the month off.**

**It is with sadness that I have to report that Brother Reid A. McLeod pass away July 1<sup>st</sup>, he was the Expert in the Lodge of Perfection, please keep him and his Brother Ralph A. McLeod and his family in your prayers.**

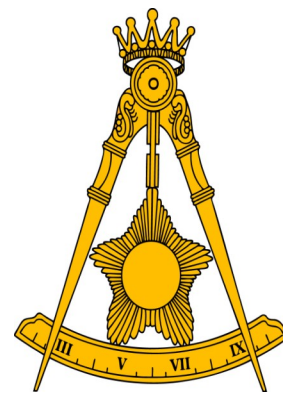
**My congratulation to Jesus J. Alvarez and Edward V. O'Banion on being elected 33° IGH.**

**And to Terry E. Littlepage, Ralph E. Nelson Sr., James E. Harrell, John K. Walters Jr. and James C. Williams IV on receiving the Decoration of KCCH.**

**Again my congratulations for your well-deserved preferment on this occasion.**

**Looking forward to seeing you all at our August Stated Meeting.**

**Ill. Nick R. Ramos, 33°**



Nick Ramos  
Venerable  
Master

Message from PVM J A Avalos,

I hope all my fellow fraters and their families had a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday, I have been on hiatus for the past several months and I also have been unable to attend the CME classes but I have been following the work on my own with my annotated copy of Morals and Dogma. I would like to expound on what I was significantly attracted my attention in the 12<sup>th</sup> degree Grand Master Architect. The most important parts of what Pike took from Dewey's on human life is "life and the world is what we make them by our social character..." We as freemasons must make the most of our lives to help shape the world around us and the future of our loved ones and the fraternity in all its parts. There is a certain part of our belief in God that must give us confidence in our daily tasks that we must understand that the we in all ways are cared for and that our religious fate must be unshakeable. This degree is going back to the basic teachings of architecture and how they relate to the three great lights in masonry and teach us the importance of the symbolism of the Power, Wisdom and Beneficence of the Deity the Great I Am... Have a wonderful summer and I will see you in the quarries! Fiat Lux!

Fraternally yours,  
J A Avalos 32 KCCH

## Laughter in the Rite

A big game hunter went on a safari with his wife and mother-in-law.

One morning, while still deep in the jungle, the hunter's wife awakened to find her mother gone.

She woke her husband, and they both set off in search of the old woman.

In a clearing not far from the camp, they came upon a chilling sight. The mother-in-law was standing face-to-face with a lion.

"What are we going to do?" his horrified wife asked.

"Nothing," her husband replied, "That lion got himself into this mess, let him get himself out of it."

### Quotable:

A good life must have communion with the inner parts of itself. It is right and proper that we should cultivate quietude and set aside some part of our time to gentle reflection. I believe that the eternal being within us makes known its purposes most immediately and fully through the peaceful heart and the quiet mind. It is, therefore, of the greatest utility to experience the presence of the Eternal Good as a benediction upon the spirit, inclining us naturally to peace of soul. There can be no peace without faith, for through faith alone do we discover the truth and reality of peace.

Manly P Hall -

# Continuing Masonic Education Continues!!!



**Much more Light! Different perspectives! Sharing truths!**

Our interactive approach to Masonic Education not only increases the amount of knowledge presented, but also allows the free exchange of ideas and perspectives. It is not a lecture but a co-operative leaning experience. If you haven't had the pleasure of attending one of these unique and fun educational programs, then consider this your personal invitation to join us at our next Continuing Masonic Education class on August 24th at 7PM at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in the Albert Pike Lodge Room. Hope to see you there!!

## Masonic Trivia

From the book Masonic Trivia: Amusements and Curiosities by Peter Champion

**Well-known Masonic author Harold Van Buren Voorhis' fraternal affiliations included memberships in 21 national, 3 state, and 11 local appendant and concordant Masonic bodies. These were in addition to his term as Master of Mystic Brotherhood Lodge #21, of Red Bank, New Jersey, in 1937.**

**W. Bro. Voorhis had a life-long passion for amateur radio, beginning in 1915 as a charter member of the Radio League of America. His "ham" radio experience gave him years of practice with tape recordings.**

**He put this experience to good use by recording his own Masonic funeral for both a church service and a graveside service. He also included the rendering of his own prayers.**

**With a voice from beyond the grave, W. Bro. Voorhis conducted his own funeral service in 1983.**

*Scottish Rite*

*Helping Children since 1985*

# **Learning Center of South Texas**

*A TEXAS Non-Profit Corporation*

July 21, 2017

To All Brethren Wherever Dispersed:

I am writing to you today because we need your help. We have all heard about, and many of us contribute to the Shrine Hospitals and Scottish Rite Hospital for children. These are very worthy causes and help so many families across the State. However, did you know that there is another vitally important facility for children sponsored by Freemasons right here South-Central Texas?

The Scottish Rite Learning Center of South Texas has been helping children with dyslexia since 1985. Dyslexia is a learning disability that makes it difficult for children to decode letters and numbers. It is a neurological “glitch” that is never out-grown. It can affect a child’s ability to read and write, and can ultimately lead to low self-esteem and feelings of failure. The good news is that the Scottish Rite Hospital has developed a curriculum that has proven very successful in helping children to overcome this disability. The classes are provided at no charge to the families and are funded by Brethren like yourselves, who want to provide these kids with an opportunity for success. Our curriculum has been recognized as the most effective way to teach kids how to overcome this disability, and School Districts across the State are sending educators to learn our program for use in their own Special Education Departments.

But again, we need your help. For the last 3 years our Center has operated at a loss. Please help us to continue providing this essential resource to the children and families of South-Central Texas. Whatever your Lodge, or you as individuals can afford to donate would be very much appreciated. The Learning Center is a tax-exempt 501c3 charitable organization and your donations are tax-deductible.

Please make checks out to the Scottish Rite Learning Center, and send them to my attention (Bradley Kohanke) at: 337 Rio Vista Dr., Cibolo, TX 78108. Thank you so much for your support!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
*Bradley E. Kohanke*

Bradley E. Kohanke  
Board Member – Scottish Rite Learning Center

# LIGHT REFLECTIONS



An “Opinion” offered by  
Brother Bradley Kohanke, PM

It’s been a little over a year since my last article, and reading through some of the old ones reminded me how much I enjoyed sharing some of the things I’ve experienced in my Masonic journey or some of the topics that have interested me during my studies. Over the next several months, I’d like to focus on the latter. Those of you that know me, know that I have a passion for religious and philosophical studies. This passion has resulted in a lot of benefits, burdens, and banalities. For instance, on July 9, 2010, I received my Credentials of Ministry and was Ordained as a Unitarian Minister. I am still very interested in these topics and am pursuing graduate studies in Comparative Religion and Philosophy. I tell you these things only because I want you to understand that through these studies, I have been exposed to a large number of religious and/or philosophical schools of thought. I want to share some of my observations with you, but I want to stress the fact that these are merely my observations. Although I may have drawn some of my own conclusions on a few of these topics, I will not try to influence or persuade you in any way, shape, or form. I will present these observations in an objective manner and allow you to draw your own conclusions...or not. Also, given the limited length of my article, the information I present will be a very abridged representation of any given topic, and will primarily focus on things that may sound familiar or appear similar to our own Masonic rituals and practices. If one of them interests you, I encourage you to do your own reading and research in order to further your knowledge and understanding.

Ok, with that HUGE disclaimer out of the way, this month I’d like to share some aspects of Mithraism or the Mithraic Mystery School of ancient Rome that I found very interesting. The Roman version of the worship of Mithras is said to have begun anywhere between the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC and the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. There are some that claim its teachings go as far back as 1,400 BC, to the Persian or Indo-Iranian god Mitra or Mithra. However, I have seen very little information on this old religion that relates to the Romanized version. In many books and essays on Mithra, it is claimed that his birthday was December 25<sup>th</sup>, and since the religion was a contemporary of early Christianity, many people point to this as evidence of cross-pollination between the two worship systems. However, it seems much more likely that followers of Mithra (along with most other followers of the Pagan religions of the time), celebrated a very important feast day on or around December 25<sup>th</sup>. This was a celebration or festival of the sun, and corresponded with the increasing length of days, or the winter solstice. The followers of Mithras also appear to have celebrated a feast day on June 26, near the summer solstice, to celebrate the sun when daylight was at its longest. It is interesting to note the proximity of the dates to the feast days of the Saints John (December 27<sup>th</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup>).



Meeting places for the Mithraic Mystery School were called Mithraeum. These were relatively simple compared to the grand temples of other Pagan religions, and would accommodate only 30-40 members. Most Mithraeum were underground and were all constructed after the same pattern. The room was rectangular in shape and had no windows. Entrance was made through an ante-room at the west side, and a statue or representation of Mithras was situated at the far east end with an altar in front of it. The room was lined on either side (north and south) with seating for the members and it had a vaulted ceiling. Feasting during the meetings seemed to be a regular occurrence because archeologists have discovered food remains in the Mithraeum that are still being excavated today. Estimates put the number of Mithraeum within the city of Rome itself close to 700. Additional small rooms near the entrance appear to have served as food preparation rooms, and perhaps candidate preparation rooms as well. For the most part, this was an orally transmitted school of instruction and very little of the actual written practices remain, however enough remains to get a general idea. Membership in the Mystery School was limited to males only, and each Mithraic initiate had to swear an oath of secrecy. Progression in the mysteries was done through initiation into various degrees of learning. There was a total of 7 Degrees, the first 4 of which were for the general membership, with the final 3 being for those who progressed into positions of authority. Each Degree had an initiation rite, a required memorization of questions and answers pertaining to that initiation rite, and symbols representing each level. The Degrees and corresponding symbols were:

1<sup>st</sup> Degree – Corax (raven or crow)      Symbols – beaker, caduceus (snake on staff)

2<sup>nd</sup> Degree – Nymphobus (bridegroom)      Symbols – lamp, bell, veil

3<sup>rd</sup> Degree – Miles (soldier)      Symbols – helmet, lance, drum, belt

4<sup>th</sup> Degree – Leo (lion)      Symbols – laurel wreath, thunderbolts, spade

5<sup>th</sup> Degree – Perses (Persian)      Symbols – Phrygian cap, sickle, crescent moon

6<sup>th</sup> Degree – Heliodromus (sun-runner)      Symbols – torch, sun, whip

7<sup>th</sup> Degree – Pater (father)      Symbols – shepherd staff, Persian cap, sword

The 7<sup>th</sup> Degree was reserved for the leader of the group, who was referred to as Pater (or Father) during the meetings. From the inscriptions left on cups and pottery from the time, it appears that each of these initiation ceremonies involved the re-enactment of one of the episodes in the life of Mithras, and carried with it certain moral lessons that were explained to the initiate at the time. The Lion Degree seems to have been the pinnacle Degree for the general membership, and those initiated into this Degree had to adhere to a very strict moral and ethical code. Once a man had attained this level, he and his fellow Lions referred to themselves as “Syndexioi,” which translates as “those united by the handshake.” Images of Mithras are still being found throughout the old Roman Empire, and there are 4 representations; birth from a rock, killing the sacred bull of heaven, feasting with Sol Invictus, and the lion-headed figure of the adept – Leo. Two of these are pictured here simply because of their similarity to our ashlar and the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.



If you decide to investigate Mithraism further, you will no doubt uncover other similarities to Freemasonry, however you will find much more that is unfamiliar. Again, I am only trying to stimulate your interest in these topics



# 150th ANNIVERSARY

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite in Texas  
October 7th, 2017



key  
speaker  
**Ronald A.  
Seale 33°  
S.G.C.**



guest  
speaker  
**Michael L.  
Wiggins 33°  
Deputy in Tx**



**SAVE THE DATE**

## EVENT SCHEDULE

**PUBLIC INVITED**

**10/6 Double Tree Hotel** (two night minimum)

1702 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX ph. (409) 762-4141

Book at [Galveston.doubletree.com](http://Galveston.doubletree.com) (Code: Blu-scottish rite bodies)

**10/7 Reception & Tours 3:00PM - 5:00PM**

at Scottish Rite Cathedral, 2128 Church St, Galveston, TX 77550

Free Parking, 22nd & Ball St - Paid Parking, 21st & Market St

Dress Code: Sunday best or black tie

**10/7 Black Tie Social Hour & Dinner 5:30PM - 8:30PM**

at Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant, 2100 Harborside Dr.

Restaurant validates parking in adjacent lot

Dinner Ticket: \$90 before 9/1/17; afterwards \$100 (first come)

Online, Check, or Money Order payable to Galveston Scottish Rite

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FOR MORE INFO OR TO RESERVE BY PHONE **409-267-5251**  
DETAILS, BOOK HOTEL, RSVP & PURCHASE TICKETS AT  
**[www.GalvestonScottishRite.org](http://www.GalvestonScottishRite.org)**

# Freemason Wisdom: Joseph Fort Newtown

by *Midnight Freemasons Founder*  
**Todd E. Creason, 33°**



**"But the real Home of the Soul cannot be built of brick and stone; it is a house not made with hands. Slowly it rises, fashioned of the thoughts, hopes, prayers, dreams, and righteous acts of devout and free men; built of their hunger for truth, their love of God, and their loyalty to one another."**

*~Joseph Fort Newton (1880 -1950)*

There are few Masonic writers whose work has stood the test of time as well as R. W. Brother the Reverend Doctor Joseph Fort Newton, 33°. His best known volume "The Builders" is still considered required reading for any Mason interested in learning more about Freemasonry. It was amongst the first books I read on the subject. I recently acquired a 1951 reprint of that book, and there was an interesting story about one of Newton's early childhood memories and one of his first contacts with the Brethren of a Masonic Lodge.

He was at his father's funeral as a boy, and he remembered the Masons were there to do the last rites. The Master in his tall hat, and the Brethren standing in a square around the grave, each wearing white aprons. Each of them dropped a sprig of evergreen into the open grave as they walked past. He learned that his father had served as Master of that Lodge of Masons.

And there was another interesting story he learned about his father. His father had served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. His life had been saved by a Union Officer, a Freemason, who recognized him to be a Freemason as well. Both of those impressions stuck with young Joseph, and years later in 1902, he was raised in Friendship Lodge No. 7 in Dixon, Illinois.

We've all heard stories like that before. It reminds us that what we do each day doesn't always have an immediate impact. When we attend a Masonic Funeral Rite, that impression of what we do may very well stick with some member of that Mason's family and may one day lead him to a Masonic Lodge. That Union Officer was just doing the right thing, and he had no idea that the son of the Mason he saved would one day be prompted to join a Lodge, possibly, in part because of that story of his kindness in a time of war, and would become an influential and respected voice in Freemasonry.

It's often not the big things we do in life that have the greatest impact. Sometimes, it's those small incidental things that we don't even give great consideration to that hold the power to change the course of a life . . . and as a result, add a little more light to the world.

## Honors Day in Dallas 9 Sept 2017

Costs:

### **Honors Day Luncheon September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the luncheon \$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_ My lady will attend the luncheon \$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of additional guests that will join you at the luncheon \$35.00 each

### **Honors Evening Banquet September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the banquet \$50.00

\_\_\_\_\_ My lady will attend the banquet \$50.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of additional guests that will join you at the banquet \$50.00 each

## Schedule For Honors Day

September 9, 2017

7:00 A.M. – 7:45 A.M. 33rd Registration  
7:45 A.M.– 8:00 A.M. Open 33rd Degree Council  
8:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. 33rd Degree Conferral  
11:30 A.M. – 12:15 P.M. 33rd Group Picture  
12:15 P.M. – 1:30 P.M. Lunch (Formal- Ballroom)  
10:00 A.M. – 11:00 P.M. KCCH Registration  
11:00 A.M. – 11:45 A.M. KCCH Closed Session  
11:45 A.M. – 12:15 P.M. KCCH Move to Ballroom  
12:15 P.M. – 1:30 P.M. Lunch (Ballroom Formal)  
1:30P.M.–1:45P.M. KCCH Investiture/Auditorium  
1:45 P.M. – 4:15 P.M. KCCH Open Session  
4:15 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. KCCH Group Picture

**YOU MUST RSVP!!! by 5 August 2017**

**And have the money at the Scottish Rite by that date.**

**NO TICKETS WILL BE FOR SALE IN DALLAS. PERIOD!!!!**

**Call the Scottish Rite at 210-222-0133 for credit card payment**

### Downtown Dallas Hotels

Here is a brief list of potential hotels in the downtown area close to the Dallas Scottish Rite Cathedral. Attendees for Honors Day on September 9, 2017 are responsible for arranging their own accommodations and no rooms have been blocked for this event. Please note that hotel rates vary based on weekend activities and proximity to area attractions.

Hotel Indigo Dallas Downtown, 1933 Main Street, Dallas, TX 75201...Typical Weekend Rate: \$140/night plus taxes

Hampton Inn Dallas Downtown, 1700 Commerce Street, Dallas, TX 75201...Typical Weekend Rate: \$180/night plus taxes

Dallas Marriott Center, 650 N. Pearl Street, Dallas, TX 75201...Typical Weekend Rate: \$170/night plus taxes

Sheraton Dallas Hotel, 400 N. Olive Street, Dallas, TX 75201...Typical Weekend Rate: \$190/night plus taxes

Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, 1600 Pacific Avenue, Dallas, TX 75201...Typical Weekend Rate: \$200/night plus taxes

Westin Dallas Downtown, 1201 Main Street, Dallas, TX 75202....Typical Weekend Rate: \$190/night plus taxes

Adolphus Hotel, 1321 Commerce Street, Dallas, TX 75202...Typical Weekend Rate: \$195/night plus taxes

Aloft Dallas Downtown, 1033 Young Street, Dallas, TX 75202....Typical Weekend Rate: \$200/night plus taxes

Omni Dallas Hotel, 555 S. Lamar Street, Dallas, TX 75202....Typical Weekend Rate: \$230/night plus taxes

Hyatt Regency Dallas, 300 Reunion Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75207...Typical Weekend Rate: \$190/night plus taxes

There are other downtown hotels and less expensive accommodations may be located outside the city-center.

**My Brethren, At the request of Illustrious Robert C. Madison, over the next 12 months I am going to share with you the story of the beginnings of Scottish Rite Masonry in San Antonio and the creation of our unique Scottish Rite Temple. It is a very interesting story and features many Brothers whose names many of you will readily recognize. We are very fortunate to have such a grand edifice dedicated to Scottish Rite and all Freemasonry in and around San Antonio. I think you will agree that the history of the Scottish Rite and our beautiful Temple is a story that we all should know.**

## A History of the San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies to 1967

by Clinton Stanley Banks, 33°

(continued from July)

### **Formation of the Consistory: 1916**

In October, 1915, the Supreme Council at Washington, D. C., granted a permanent charter to Travis Council of Kadosh, and at the same time granted the San Antonio brethren Letters Temporary for the institution of a Consistory with full power to confer the thirty-first and thirty-second degrees.

On Saturday, February 12, 1916, Inspector General Cochran again visited San Antonio; this time it was for the dual purpose of presenting to the Council its permanent charter and constituting it and its officers under the same; and at the same time instituting San Antonio Consistory and setting it to work.

Both ceremonies were held in the afternoon, with the ceremonies of the Council taking place at two o'clock, and those of the Consistory taking place at five o'clock. A large group of fraternal delegates from other Councils over the State were present at the Council ceremonies and acted as provisional officers in setting up the permanent organization.

The ceremonies of the afternoon were concluded by the Inspector General reading an Allocution, written by the late Albert Pike, which was in the nature of a charge to the new officers. The ceremonies instituting the Consistory were likewise attended by a number of fraternal delegates from the other Consistories of the State who assisted as provisional officers.

The Inspector General, after his opening address, announced the appointment of Jewel P. Lightfoot, 33°, of Austin as Grand Marshal of Ceremonies. The following brethren, who had previously been chosen to be the first officers of the Consistory, were then introduced and inducted into their respective offices:

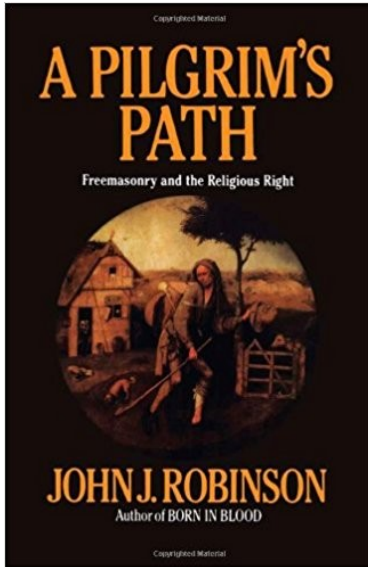
WILLIAM SEAT FLY, 33°, Master of Kadosh.....NATHAN MOSES WASHER, 33°, Prior  
ROBERT . BALL, 32° K.C.C.H., Preceptor... JAMES A. PATTERSON, 33°, Chancellor  
JOHN H. HAILE, 32° K.C.C.H.,Min of State...LEONARD A HEIL, 32° K.C.C.H., Almoner  
PUTT D. MATHIS, 32°,K.C.C.H., Registrar....SAMUEL L. HARRIS, 32° K.C.C.H. Treasurer  
WILLIAM M. PARDUE, 32°, Prelate ..... FRED A BURNS, 32°, Marshal of Ceremonies  
FRANK NEWTON, 32° K.C.C.H., Ass. Exp .NORMAN MACLEOD, 32°, Capt. of the Guards  
STEPHEN GOULD, 32°, K.C.C.H., Tiler William Ward Boyce, 32° K.C.C.H., of Runge,  
Texas, who had been chosen Expert, was absent on account of illness and was inducted  
later.

There was no withholding of emotions on the day the Consistory was instituted. The San Antonio Express in an article on February 12, 1916, made the statement that "establishing the Consistory in San Antonio places the Bodies in this city on an equal footing with other Scottish Rite Centers of Texas." A few days later, on February 25, 1916, Nat M. Washer (Nathan Moses Washer), 33°, stated: "Through years of patient waiting, with hope to cheer, necessity to stimulate and courage to dare, have we labored earnestly and prayed sincerely for the arrival of this good hour, oftentimes with the feeling that we stood even as Moses did upon Mount Nebo, glimpsing the promised goal with only a distant and uncertain hope of enjoying its full fruition. Today however, victory has perched upon our banner, and, like the Psalmist of old, we can be glad and rejoice for "our cup of happiness is full, yea it runneth over." The measure of joy in this consummation is intensified by the knowledge of possible achievement, for here in this Valley time and opportunity are pregnant with great results because of the influence for good which our beloved Rite must and shall exert in the prolific field which lies about us. Our labors have only begun, but fired with enthusiasm for the cause, and thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the Rite we will mount to the summit peak of accomplishment, for, exalting men to the dignity of .. Master of the Royal Secret," we shall raise and improve the standards of citizenship as we bring them to a better understanding of reverent devotion to Deity, unselfish attachment to fellow-man and patriotic duty to free and popular government as it exists to-day in our beloved country and to the continuance of which as loyal Americans, we are unalterably and irrevocably pledged"...Nat M. Washer, 33°, has been quoted frequently in this history for the reason that he was gifted both in speech and writing, and his articles and comments on early Scottish Rite Masonry in San Antonio are available today. (to be continued next month)

**\*\*\*\*\* Brethren, I include the following article taken with permission from the Trestleboard of Kendall Lodge #897. This article was written by the Lodge Senior Warden, Brother Matt Archilla. When I read it, I knew I wanted to put it in the newsletter for all of you to share. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.**

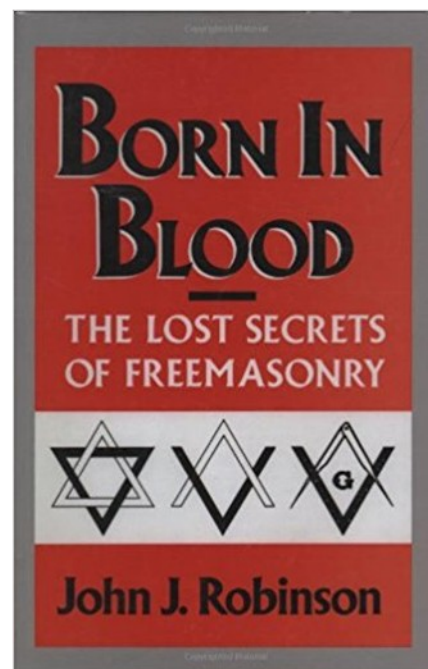
“It was a pleasure serving the lodge in the capacity of Junior Warden this past Masonic year. I have learned a great deal during this term, and look forward to continuing to serve the lodge and our community. As this year comes to an end, thus our journey through the various religions and their respective virtues comes to a close. If you followed my articles throughout this year you may have asked the question “what does this have to do with Masonry?”; well brethren, I am about to wrap up a very long and drawn out point to which I urge you to deeply consider. At the beginning of the year I wrote about various systems of morals in which I argued that our system of morals was one concerning virtues, of which we subscribe to four: temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice. Without rehashing that entire article, a moral system based on virtues is solely interested in the development of an individual which is in contrast to most of the other moral systems that are seemingly more interested in the development of society and “the greatest good” for such. In virtue based moral systems there is a consistency in what is moral and immoral whereas in other systems based on “the greater good” of society argument, morals change with the ebb and flow of emotions (and profits). To illustrate this point we have all seen the “norms” within society change from time to time, what is right today could be wrong tomorrow, and the other way around. Moral virtues prepare an individual to be a self-governing, self-responsible member of society (to act with virtue), while the latter would prepare an individual to be governed by the emotional dictates of an ever-changing society. One creates independence while the other creates dependency. Throughout the last year we journeyed through many religions exploring the virtues within to show that all the religions teach individual virtues. It can therefore be surmised that religions, in their most basic form, inherently subscribe to the theory of moral virtue. That they hold the development of individual moral character in the highest esteem is very clear. Additionally, if you followed the articles, no matter what religion is being covered it echoed, or expanded on the virtues of the last. It quickly became apparent that, although differing in their respective dogma, every religion teaches and holds sacred the same moral laws and principles. The question then arises, if that’s the case, why is our society or for that matter, the world, seemingly spinning out of control. Seems pretty clear, at least to me, that mankind is the problem at least in the sense that individual interpretation, which inherently carries with it personal agenda, and the perpetuation of dogma, usually devoid of natural moral laws, is the ultimate problem. The moral virtues taught within each and EVERY religion serves the purpose to develop an individual with moral virtue, and to prepare each to act according to the ultimate virtue of the golden rule. As the saying goes, “Masonry is not a religion, but a society of religious men”, joined together in universal brotherhood for the betterment of society and each other. To accomplish this, I would argue, Masonry employs a system of morals which subscribes to virtues, not just any virtues, but the most practical ones found in common with every religion which allows us to dwell together in unity despite our diversity. Hold fast to the virtues within your chosen religion, disregard the dogma, extremism, and the lackadaisical attitudes in practices we all see within each, and allow the light to shine in allowing us to see we are all not so different after all. Practice those most sacred virtues taught to you as an Entered Apprentice, no matter how much knowledge you may obtain never stray from the basics. Maybe then we can all live up to the greatest virtue of all, to do unto others as we wish done unto ourselves.

# CONSIDERED READING


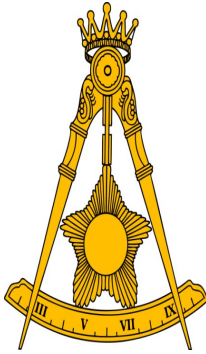





Freemasonry has never lacked for detractors. Enemies of the organization have included the Roman Catholic Church, the Communist Party, and the Nazis. It has been denounced by popes and kings, by the ignorant and by those who felt threatened by the fraternity's reputation for secrecy. Unfortunately, because it has a long history of never answering critics, Freemasonry makes a wonderful target for bigotry. Now, a group of religious fundamentalists has managed, after years of struggle, to take a controlling position in the largest Protestant denomination in the United States. It has launched what is potentially the most damaging assault on Masonry in the past century. In *A Pilgrim's Path* John J. Robinson relates the history of the attacks against the organization and the motives behind the attacks. In doing so he discusses the origins of Freemasonry, its tenets, and its goals. Then he takes on the anti-Masonic evangelists who currently seek to destroy Freemasonry. Defusing and refuting fabrications and misstatements of Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, and Dr. James Holly, Robinson makes an eloquent plea for an end to their kind of hatred.

Unlike most of its five million members, including many world leaders, who believe that the Freemasons, the world's largest fraternal organization, evolved from the guilds of medieval stonemasons, historian Robinson persuasively links Freemasonry's origins and goals to the once powerful and wealthy Knights Templar order. Banned and persecuted by a 14th-century papal bull, he claims, the Knights were forced to form an underground society. The author combines scholarly research and entertaining storytelling in tracing Freemasonry as a worldwide political, religious, economic and social body dedicated to self-improvement and charity while governed by secret rituals and symbols (explained here in detail).





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 <b>Stated Meeting</b>	4	5
6	7 <b>Albert Pike DeMolay 7:30 PM</b>	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 <b>Albert Pike DeMolay 7:30 PM</b>	15	16	17 <b>Bring A Brother Night/ Open House/Tour 6:30 PM</b>	18	19
20	21 <b>Albert Pike DeMolay 7:30 PM</b>	22	23 <b>Executive/ Advisory Board Meeting</b>	24 <b>Continuing Masonic Education 14th Degree</b>	25	26
27	28	29	30			

2016  
Ancient  
Petition  
FOR



San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies  
and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.  
for the Scottish Rite Degrees  
NEW MEMBERS ONLY



Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Print First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

To the Officers and Members of the San Antonio Consistory and Coordinate Bodies, and where applicable the Rio Grand Lodge of Perfection:

I the undersigned, a Master Mason an a member in good standing of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_ A.F.&A.M., Located at \_\_\_\_\_ under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of \_\_\_\_\_ I.D. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully petition to receive the Scottish Rite Degrees in your bodies, promising always to bear true faith and allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

As a basis for the consideration of this petition, I truthfully make the following statements:

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Employed by \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's name \_ \_\_\_\_\_ Length of residence in Texas \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently an American Citizen \_\_\_\_\_ Hat Size \_\_\_\_\_ Have you previously petitioned for any of the Scottish Rite degrees? \_\_\_\_\_ Have you passed examination in the M.M. Degree? (If Blue Lodge membership is in Texas) \_\_\_\_\_

1. The Supreme Council announces as fundamental principles the following: "The inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and the undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America." "The entire separation of church and state and opposition to every attempt to appropriate public monies, federal, state, or local, directly or indirectly, for the support of sectarian or private institutions." Do you approve wholeheartedly of these principles? \_\_\_\_\_ (yes or No)

2. Have you ever held or expressed opinions contrary to the forgoing or been affiliated with any organization which has? \_\_\_\_\_ (yes or no) (If you answered in the affirmative, give particulars)

Petitions Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recommender Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommender Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

At least \$80.00 must accompany the petition, with the remainder paid at the time of registration. Visa and Master Cards are welcome. Make checks payable to the San Antonio Lodge of Perfection, P.O. Box 2239, San Antonio, Texas 78298. Phone #210-222-0133, or toll free 1-866-222-9293, Fax #210-222-0136.

### **What is the cost?**

The initiation fee (the standard fee for the Orient of Texas) is \$500.00

(Installment payments can be arranged)

(See below for additional fee information)

This fee includes the members' cap, a 32° jewel, a 14° ring encased in a Lucite pyramid, automatic registration in the Master Craftsman Program, and a "starter library".

Cap cases, pins and other materials are available through the Secretary's office.

Join us at the Scottish Rite Reunion this year.

Check the Reunion Schedule below for Reunion dates.

### **Degree Fees for 2017**

Candidates age 31 and or less: Degree fee is \$250.00

Endowed Membership\* purchased at the time of initiation \$2,500.00

Total cost when purchased together is \$2,700.00

Candidates age 32 to 70, Degree Fees are \$500.00, Endowment \$2,500.00

When purchased together The Total Cost of Membership is \$3,000.00

Candidates 70 and older; Degree Fees are: \$250.00., Endowment \$2,500.00

Total cost when purchased together \$2,750.00

Endowed Memberships 75 years and over \$400.00

\*An "Endowed membership" is a permanent membership in the Scottish Rite. By purchasing an Endowed Membership, you are contributing to the support of the San Antonio Scottish Rite Bodies and you will never have to pay yearly dues again! An Endowed Membership may be purchased at any time for \$2,500.00 or if 75 years old or older \$400.00.

Reunion Schedule for 2016 (subject to change)

**San Antonio May 12– 13, 2017**

**San Antonio October**

*Candidates should arrive at 6:00 pm on Friday for registration at the San Antonio Reunions*

*Degrees start at 7:00 pm on Friday–8am on Saturday*

*Capping Ceremony at about 5:30pm*

# SCOTTISH RITE BLUE LODGE EDUCATION PROGRAM

**There is now no reason for Brothers to not have Masonic Education in their Lodges.**

**Your Scottish Rite Education Committee is doing Blue Lodge Masonic Educational programs in many Lodges in the San Antonio and surrounding areas and more Lodges are scheduling programs every month to give their Brethren more light!!**

**There are more than 30 programs available from symbolism to philosophy..... from history to Masonic themed entertainment and all but a select few are acceptable for all MM's, FC's as well as EA's.**

**Don't miss out. Call Brother Brad Kohanke at 210-789-9653 or e-mail [kohanke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kohanke@sbcglobal.net) to schedule a Masonic Educational program for your next meeting.**



San Antonio Commandery No. 7 has stated conclaves on the third Monday, in the months of February, May, August, October, November and December at 7:00 PM



San Antonio



Chapter No.381 and Council No.14

Meets the First Wednesday at 7:00 PM. March, June, September and December



Albert Pike DeMolay Chapter  
Meets every Monday @ 7:30



Omala Grotto

Meets on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Friday

At 7:30 pm



San Antonio Rainbow  
Assembly.

Meets on the Second and  
Fourth Mondays of Each  
Month at 7:30pm

*Masonic Lodges Who Meet in  
The Cathedral*



*Perfect Union Lodge # 10  
Stated Communication  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 7:30pm*

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*Alamo Lodge # 44  
Stated Communication  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7:00pm*

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*DeMolay Lodge # 199  
Stated Communication  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 7:00pm  
Meets Quarterly.*

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*Albert Pike Lodge #1169  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday , 7:30*