



# Valley of San Diego Bulletin

Ancient & Accepted  
Scottish Rite of  
Freemasonry

August 2020

Volume 79

Issue 08



Ill.: John A. Schneidmiller, 33°

*Personal Representative of the  
Sovereign Grand Inspector  
General of the Supreme Council  
in California*



Ill.: Frank S. Loui, 33°

*Sovereign Grand Inspector  
General of the Supreme Council in  
California Ancient and Accepted  
Scottish Rite of Freemasonry,  
Southern Jurisdiction*

## Venerable Master's Message

WOW!!! I would have thought that we would have the chance to gather by now. It has been 5 long months of not having any Scottish Rite meetings and functions. How much longer will this go on? This summer is unique because of all the restrictions that have been placed for our safety. You can still, however, enjoy the beach and walking trails. Make sure that you always maintain social distancing and wear a face mask. I can tell you that I personally hate wearing the face mask, but for the benefit of everyone's health and safety, I wear it in public. I hope that you would do the same. We are all in this together and I am hoping that soon we can all go back to how we used to be. Hang in there, folks!

Unfortunately, with these conditions and based on the state-reported statistics, it is too risky for you, our members, to get together in one room. The state and county officials have been setting the guidelines on how we can practice our usual affairs. Please hang in there as we should have more leniency in the immediate future. It is most important for us to ensure that you all stay well.

Around the third week of July, there was an article that came out from the local newspaper regarding our Scottish Rite development project and I guess San Diego is now aware of it. Please pray that we would have a

smooth permitting process and that our goals and the future of our Valley would be secured. Thanks to all our Committeemen and the leadership of our Personal Representative, Illustrious John Schneidmiller, that in one way or another assisted and worked to make this a reality. There is still a bit more work to do, but we will get there.

As you are all aware, we continue to serve our clients at our San Diego RiteCare Childhood Language Center. Please keep our charity in mind. We continue to raise funds to serve these children so please support the Lodge of Perfection's **"Perfect Donor Program"**. Be a **"Perfect Donor"** by donating \$365.00 or more to the CLC. Please write your check payable to **"Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite"** and please write **"For Perfect Donor Program"** in the Memo Line. There have been a few of you that have sent in your donations and I would like to thank you for doing so. Those of you who become **"Perfect Donors"** will be honored the next time we meet. Thank you again for all your support.

Again, I miss you all, and I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

The year is 2020, what came you here to do?

Hon. Nathaniel "Chino" Torres, KCCH  
Venerable Master

## SCOTTISH RITE POCKET PETITION

I respectfully petition your Valley for membership.

### ***My full name is (please print)***

First: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle: \_\_\_\_\_

Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***My mailing address is***

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***My employer information***

My occupation is: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

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### ***My contact information***

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Other information***

Wife's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Lodge name: \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Lodge number: \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Lodge City/St: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Recommended By: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Recommended By: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* By endorsing this petition, you are making a commitment to attend this candidate's degrees.**

I certify the above to be true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application fee for 2020  
is \$200.00. Date is TBD.**

If more information is needed please call:  
(619) 293-4888

Return this petition along with a check for the application fee to:

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite  
1895 Camino Del Rio South  
San Diego, CA 92108-3601

## San Diego Scottish Rite Covid-19 Update

Brethren and Friends,

After another month of closure, it is my sad duty to announce that the San Diego Scottish Rite Masonic Center will remain closed for the month of August or until such time we are allowed to open by the powers that be, namely, the state, county, and local governments. In addition, our Grand Master has emphasized that his directive, last March, prohibiting any Masonic gatherings of any kind in California remains in effect until further notice from him.

On another note, we have received information from our SGIG, Ill.: Frank Loui, 33°, that we will need to plan for a Fall Class Reunion. We have received confirmation from the Supreme Council that we can *communicate* degrees instead of *exemplifying* them due to COVID-19 restrictions in place. The only requirement is that the 5 obligatory degrees will be *communicated* by the SGIG. This means that we can have a virtual Fall Class Reunion and we can have the opportunity to bring in new members!!!

**How is this going to work?** Well, the SGIG is planning to have an orient-wide Fall Class Reunion sometime in the September--November timeframe. It is now being planned and once we get the details, we will make sure you are informed.

**What does this mean for you?** We need candidates! We are asking that you "beat the bushes" now and get as many candidates as you can to sign up for this upcoming class. It will be a historical event and it will actually be an easy way to join. *Communicating* a degree is a much shorter proposition than a full-on *exemplification* of that degree. Please start looking at your area of influence and start identifying your possible candidates.

Also, please be on the lookout for invitations to attend virtual meetings. The San Diego Scottish Rite Valley has procured a subscription to Zoom, the widely-used virtual meeting tool. We plan on starting these virtual meetings in August.

Until we see you again, continue to watch out for one another, read the monthly bulletin or visit our website for the latest news. Stay safe.

Sincerely and fraternally,

JoJo Quimpo, 33°  
General Secretary

## San Diego RiteCare Childhood Language Center

Director / Speech Pathologist: Tina Burns  
Office Manager: Sharon Bullard  
www.sdritecare.org

Donations may be made by a group, an organization, a couple or an individual, and may be made in honor of, or in memory of someone held in particular esteem by the donor. All donors are recognized in the Bulletin.

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## News From the Center

From Tina Burns, M.A., CCC-SLP

## Sun, Fun, and Learning at the Beach

With all of the beautiful weather we have been having lately, I thought it was the perfect time to do the "beach" as our weekly theme. This week in therapy, we dressed up my teddy bear, put on some sunscreen and sunglasses and took him to our pretend beach. The children helped me dig in sand to spy some objects you might find at the beach; including shells, sand dollars, and toy crabs. They worked on speech sounds in between looking for objects, they learned new vocabulary words related to the beach, they followed directions while playing with their beach toys at home, and they worked on expressive language as they gave me instructions for what to do with my bear and where to look in the sand. We also read some online books and created a beach picture scene using a website. I hope you are all doing well and are able to enjoy some San Diego sunshine while staying safe!

### CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Allen, James W. "Bill"  
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Lipa, Joseph B.  
Markson, Richard E.  
McMillen, Kenneth  
Parker, William H.  
Rash, Ronald R.

If you would like to contact any of these brethren and need more information concerning condition, addresses, and telephone numbers, please contact the office staff at (619) 293-4888.





# How Long Must I Haul These Ruffians Around With Me?

By: Ill.: Robert G. David, 33°

The degrees of Freemasonry are built on the clear understanding that men need to be engaged in a quest for self-improvement. But a lot of guys out there are not on board with the quest. They don't know who they are or where they are going with their life. They are confused and often misguided by their primitive instincts. They are full of media defined ideas about masculinity, and their social conditioning has been based largely on physique, sex, wealth, and conquest. They may seem very successful in appearances. Yet, be wholly at sea in knowing what self-improvement means, where it comes from, and how one accesses it.

Nevertheless, for most men, life is seen as a journey. Men intuitively know there will be some kind of initiation in store for them on their way to manhood. They just don't know where it will occur, what it will look like, or how the results will turn out for them.

Even in Freemasonry, where the quintessential initiation takes place in the Blue or Symbolic Lodge, it is important to grasp that this is only the beginning of one's journey. It is there that we learn of the importance of our outward relationship with others and the institutions of our society. It is there that we are taught it takes a combination of intellect, experience, intuition, feeling, emotion and education to make real progress in life. And it is there that we discover our dual nature. We come face to face with our own worst enemy—our ego. We are given the opportunity to transcend our passions and prejudices and become true to who we are.

However, we are left to our own resources as to how we are supposed to proceed with this profound quest. We are still at sea with embracing the path of self-improvement. In the nomenclature of our pri-

vate association of men, this is part of the meaning of the Lost Word. As Master Masons, we still have a mountain of self-discovery to climb. It is at this very point that every initiated man either becomes ready for the higher teachings of Freemasonry, or he remains content to enjoy his title as Master Mason and relish in the attitude that his association with good men will bring him improvement enough.

To a large extent, the higher degrees of Masonry are engaged in completing this drama—completing the quest—completing the process of becoming a man. For example, the degrees or teachings of the Lodge of Perfection in the Scottish Rite (4° - 14°) explore in depth the shadow side of our own existence—the unfinished business we have with ourselves—our ruffians within. We all have the arduous task of overcoming ourselves. And it will prove the hardest journey of our life.

At least one aspect of our ruffian nature is revealed in each of the 4th through 10th degrees. Bringing these to the surface facilitates our own awakening of consciousness. For instance, the 4° informs us that the mysteries of our own being are not easily revealed to us—our inadequate understanding of things; our ignorance and short sidedness; passions and prejudices; selfish motives and lazy approaches to learning. In the 5°, we are warned of our selfish interests, our idleness and non-committal approach to a genuine interest in others; our unearned privileges, and lack of concern for equity and fairness. In the 6°, our ruffians become our hasty judgments; our inability to separate perception from reality; our “me-first” attitudes; our prejudices and fears.

You get the idea. Our life is like a stream of water running from the past to the present, having its roots in ignorance, idleness and intolerance.

*The degrees or teachings of the Lodge of Perfection in the Scottish Rite explore in depth the shadow side of our own existence.*

By revealing our failings and inadequacies, we are able to address these in the light of our new knowledge, and change ourselves for the better. As these stumbling blocks to personal affirmation are collectively projected across the many aspects of our society, the overall work of the Lodge of Perfection becomes a kind of knighthood aimed at eliminating ignorance, tyranny and fanaticism.

The bottom line is that the foremost goal of human life is the quest for spiritual enlightenment. Self-improvement is only achieved through higher, more refined levels of awareness brought about by concentrating one's mind on one's innermost self—our essential center of being. This cannot be achieved as long as ignorance, tyranny and fanaticism linger in our minds. But the solution requires a little explanation.

The problem of toleration is remarkably difficult for most everyone because it is so easy to feel good about being intolerant. The highest price we are called upon to pay for freedom is not in taxes to defend the country, nor even on the battlefield. The highest price we must pay for freedom is to allow others to be free.

Religious toleration means that we must allow others the same right to freedom of worship we demand for ourselves, even if we find their practices wrong or repugnant.

Intellectual toleration means that we must allow the free and full exploration of every idea, even if we think it wrong or dangerous.

Social toleration means that we must allow others to live lifestyles we may find strange or uncomfortable, whether in a commune or in a same sex relationship.

Of all the lessons a man or a woman must learn to be truly human, toleration may well be the hardest.

Tyranny is another form of intolerance. Tyranny does not equate to authority, but with attitude. We don't call the skilled and caring teacher who maintains order and discipline in his or her class a tyrant, nor the nation which offers protection to another nation while carefully not interfering with the nation so

helped, nor the husband or wife who discharges the affair of the household with authority but also love and concern.

The essence of tyranny is selfishness. And if tyranny is selfish in the world of material things, fanaticism is selfishness in the world of ideas and beliefs. Fanaticism is the sort of selfishness that says "I am right. If you do not agree with me, you are wrong, and I have the right to hurt you."

It is ignorance that allows both tyranny and fanaticism to flourish, for only an informed populace can form the basis of freedom. Ignorance is the primary weapon of the tyrant and the fanatic. Both can give good reason why just a little bit of censorship is needed, or why we should control what people think or what they read because otherwise they may ask questions and lose the true faith. The fanatic always wants to benefit others. All he asks in return is your mind and soul.

We are admonished in the Scottish Rite to be always actively involved in the government of our country. Unjust taxes, government bureaucracies which are more concerned with self perpetuation than with service; creeping limitations on the freedom of the people—in the name of expediency, or of conformity, or the greater good--these things are not new. To truly be champions of the people, as Masonry calls on us to be, we must be concerned with every miscarriage of justice, every unreasonable limitation of liberty, every arbitrary act of court or state house or capital.

And our special concern has to be with those who do not have access to the courts, nor the ear of those in power, nor influence with city hall. Their very powerlessness creates a binding obligation on every good brother to promote human equity and impartiality.

Yes, it would be far easier, and far more comfortable, to just chill out. Most men do. But our duty is to be aflame. That is how we conquer the ruffians.

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*A Fund Raising Program under the  
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To become a **Perfect Donor**, all you have to do is donate \$365.00 or more during this year. This translates to \$1.00 a day for the whole year and makes it a **Perfect** donation made through the Lodge of **Perfection**. This year, the Lodge of **Perfection** is designating the San Diego RiteCare Childhood Language Center as the recipient of all monies received from this program. Your donation is tax deductible.

As a **Perfect Donor**, you will be recognized at a Stated Meeting dinner and receive a commemorative Scottish Rite Double-Headed Eagle Perfect Donor Pin and a certificate attesting to your participation in this program. Also, your name will be published in the San Diego Scottish Rite Bulletin. Please consider participating in this new program. You can write your check payable to "Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite". Please write "For Perfect Donor Program" in the Memo Line.



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To learn more about the CGA Program, please contact Major Donor Officer Donald W. Heath, 33°, CFP at 1-858-335-2070 or dheath@scottishrite.org.

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**PRELATE'S MESSAGE**

All Knowing and Powerful Lord,

We come with humility to offer our devotion to You and appreciation for life in this world. As we strive to maintain our health and safety during this dangerous pandemic, we implore Your mantle of protection.



Help us to use the knowledge and talents of our Scottish Rite heritage to provide leadership and to share compassion with everyone around us.

Amen.  
**Hon Davis Winesett, KCCH**

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**August**

**CLOSED**

**September**

Wed 2 Stated Meeting (6:00 PM)

**ALL MEALS REQUIRE A RESERVATION  
WHICH CAN BE DONE THROUGH THE WEB SITE  
[www.scottishritesandiego.org](http://www.scottishritesandiego.org)**

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Should the person to whom this newsletter is addressed  
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The Bodies of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of San Diego, 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 Degree of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose See is at Charleston, in the state of South Carolina.

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Sovereign Grand Commander**

**III.: Frank Loui, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General  
of the Supreme Council In California**

**III.: John A. Schneidmiller, 33°  
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