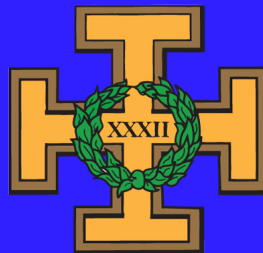
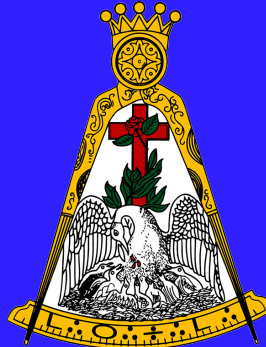
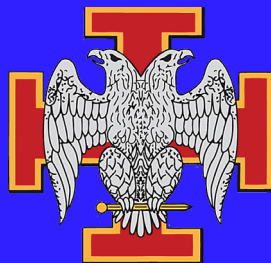




**Ill.: John A. Schneidmiller, 33°**

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



**Ill.: Frank 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

Hello, brethren! Wishing you all a warm and sunny spring! How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity even if it is by Zoom....and soon in person again! I cannot wait to shake a brother's hand, fist pump or just to greet everyone in person.

I hope most of you were able to see the Extinguishing and Relighting of the lights. Again, great job by the Wise Master and officers of the Chapter of Rose Croix along with two great speakers. Hon. Thomas Handell, KCCH and our Senior Grand Warden, Ill. Randy Brill, 33°. Of course, there is Hon. Doug Ford, KCCH, who put in a lot of hours putting it all together. Hands down, it was a great job by all.

Grand Master Art Weiss had his town hall meeting on April 13th and things are sure looking better and brighter. That light at the end of the tunnel is looking better and better. An email went out on April 14th with Grand Master Art Weiss' directives about the reopening of lodges, which could be started on April 15th. A few of the highlights are as follows:

1. Indoor private events and meetings are not permitted in counties assigned to the purple tier.
2. The facility must create and implement a COVID-19 site prevention plan.
3. There must be a guest list and a seating chart for any meeting or event.
4. Attendees must show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test within the last 72 hours.
5. Under the California mask mandate, attendees must wear a face mask unless they are specifically exempted under the mandate.

Though this is a start, there is still a lot of work to be done to accomplish these goals. These also include state and county restrictions. Please remember: "Time, Patience, and Perseverance will accomplish all things."

A few things to remember for May are:

- Stated Meeting on May 5th (still through Zoom)
- Mother's Day on May 9th (remember to tell her thank you and you love her, give flowers and most of all, say a prayer for her)
- Armed Forces Day May 15th
- SGIG Advisory Conference on May 26th
- Memorial Day on May 31st (Scottish Rite office will be closed. A time to honor and mourn the Military personnel serving the United States Armed Forces).

Let us not forget the Perfect Donor Program, which helps the Childhood Language Center. All donations are welcomed and are very much appreciated.

Thank you again for your support. Be safe and stay healthy. Wear your mask and practice social distancing.

God Bless!

Hon. Michael T. Sherman, KCCH  
Venerable Master

# *Scholarship Program*

Each year, the San Diego Scottish Rite Community Foundation awards scholarships to one or more eligible seniors who will graduate from a high school in San Diego County or Imperial County.

Scholarship recipients are chosen based on a variety of factors, including academic achievement, leadership, character, capability, citizenship, and need.

Eligibility:

- The program is open to all students who have attained senior standing in and are graduating from high schools in San Diego or Imperial Counties.
- Applicants must be planning to enter an accredited four year college or university, two year community college or professional school
- Sponsorship by a member of the San Diego or Imperial Valley Scottish Rite Bodies is required.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following:

- JoJo Quimpo, General Secretary of the Scottish Rite Bodies (619-293-4888)
- Keith Meeker, Chairman Scottish Rite Community Foundation Scholarship Committee (619-972-7106)

Application forms are available through the San Diego Scottish Rite website:  
( <https://www.scottishritesandiego.org> ) .

If you are interested, download the application, complete the application form, and follow the directions to submit the application package.

**Note: Applications must be received by Friday, May 28, 2021.**

# Who Are You?

**Can you name this Scottish Rite Mason?**



**Last month's picture was:  
Bro. Gary Creason, 32°!**

If you would like to submit younger pictures of yourself for this fun section of the Bulletin, please send them to:  
JoJo Quimpo - Email: [jojo@sd-src.org](mailto:jojo@sd-src.org)

## 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.

### Thank You To Our March 2021 Donors

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San Diego Lodge #35

*News From the Center*  
From Tina Burns, M.A., CCC-SLP

## And the Successes Continue!

Congratulations to our most recent graduate, Maggie! Maggie started at our Center at the age of six and a half years old. After having some prior speech therapy services, Maggie still had difficulty with her speech sound production. From the moment Maggie started at our Center, everyone knew her and loved her. She was sweet, happy, kind, and full of excitement. Maggie brought a smile to everyone's face each week. She worked hard during her sessions, with her grandparents listening in and reinforcing the skills at home. When services were transitioned to telepractice due to COVID-19, Maggie participated in her teletherapy sessions with the same hard work and enthusiasm. At the age of 8, Maggie now has met all of her speech-language goals. She has no remaining speech sounds to target and she is ready for graduation.

Here is a message from Maggie's grandmother:

It has been a long road for Maggie's speech! We appreciate everything Rite Care and you have done for her! I think she will be good from here and into her future! I'm so happy for Maggie!!! Thank you so very much!!! What you do is wonderful!!! Blessings, Maggie's Grandmother

# SCOTTISH RITE LEADERSHIP IN THE 1820s AND 1830s

BY JEFFREY CROTEAU, DIRECTOR  
OF THE VAN GORDEN-WILLIAMS LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

## Are you curious about what Scottish Rite leadership looked like nearly 200 years ago?

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library recently digitized and made available a selection of letters on its digital collections website that gives insight into the concerns of the leaders of the Scottish Rite's Southern Jurisdiction (SJ) and Northern Masonic Jurisdiction (NMJ) during the early days of these organizations.

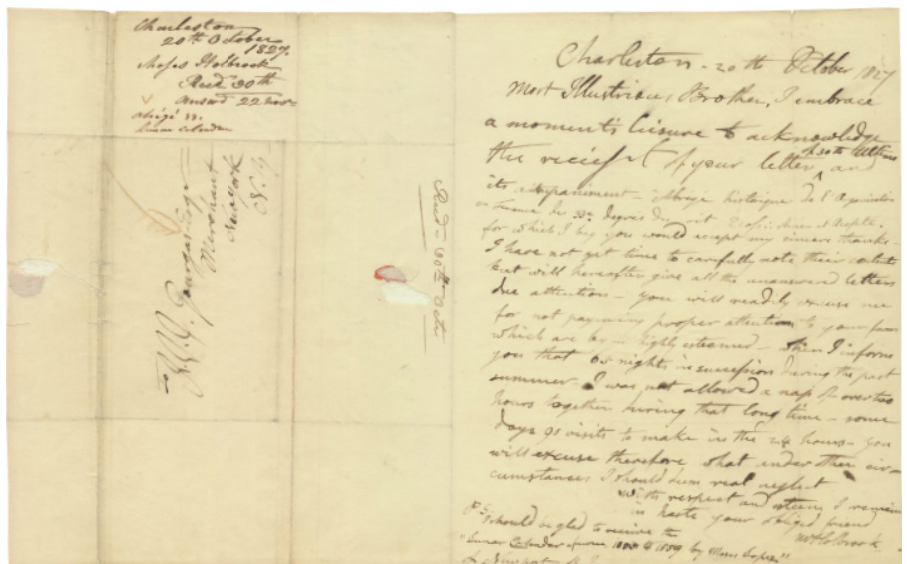
In the 1820s and 1830s, the Southern Jurisdiction's Sovereign Grand Commander, Moses Holbrook (1783-1844), began corresponding with the NMJ's John James Joseph Gourgas (1777-1865). Gourgas held the role of the NMJ's Grand Secretary General from its founding in 1813 until 1832. He later served as the Sovereign Grand Commander from 1832 until 1851. Holbrook was the Sovereign Grand Commander of the SJ's Supreme Council from 1826 until 1844. He became the SJ's chief officer in October 1826, just as an anti-Masonic social and political movement was gathering steam in the wake of the Morgan Affair.

Holbrook's letters contain news and opinions related to Freemasonry, the Scottish Rite in particular, and the world beyond. For example, he often discusses with Gourgas how best to deal with the Supreme Council headed by Joseph Cerneau, which both the NMJ and the SJ viewed as illegitimate. He also writes to Gourgas about the workings of the SJ's Supreme Council, including the fees charged to candidates and the effects of anti-Masonry in both New York and South Carolina. Holbrook, a physician by training, reports about treating his patients who had contracted yellow fever and frequently mentions his own bouts of dengue fever. He also shares his thoughts about national politics, ranging from the nullification crisis of the early 1830s (a states' rights standoff between South Carolina and the federal government) to references to Martin Van Buren, then-U.S. Senator from New York and eventual President of the United States, whom Holbrook unfavorably compares to William Morgan (1774 – c. 1826), the infamous Freemason who threatened to publish a ritual exposé. Morgan's subsequent kidnapping and presumed murder ignited the anti-Masonic movement.

The letters exchanged by Holbrook and Gourgas show the cooperation between the two Councils. An 1819 fire destroyed many of the SJ's Supreme Council's records and papers. The fraternal working relationship between Holbrook and Gourgas helped to restore some of the basic material that the SJ needed to function. The letters reveal that during this time, Gourgas sent manuscript Scottish Rite rituals (there were no printed versions during this early period) down to Holbrook. He, in turn, copied them for the SJ's use before returning them to Gourgas.

On October 20, 1827, Holbrook penned the letter to Gourgas shown here. In it, Holbrook acknowledges the arrival of Gourgas's letter of September 30 and thanks him for a copy of a book about the Scottish Rite in France, *Abrégé Historique de L'organisation en France*. Holbrook also paints a picture of his arduous work as a medical doctor during an outbreak of yellow fever in Charleston, reporting that for "65 nights in succession during the past summer I was not allowed a nap of over two hours." He further states that on "some days [I have] 90 [medical] visits to make in" 24 hours. Holbrook's correspondence with Gourgas shows that, in spite of the many pressures of daily life, both men were dedicated to a collaboration that built and sustained the Scottish Rite during its formative years. A selection of the Moses Holbrook letters to J.J.J. Gourgas can be accessed at the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives Digital Collections website.

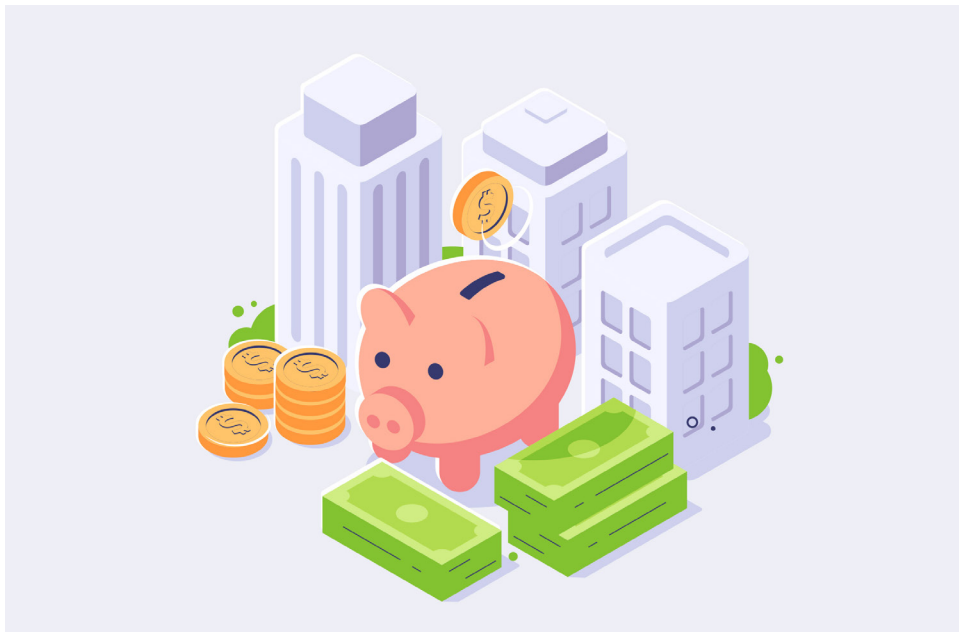
They are part of the Scottish Rite Documents collection available at <https://digitalvgw.omeka.net/collections/show/7>.



## *Estate Gift Tax Planning*

The present estate and gift tax exclusion amount — the amount a taxpayer may transfer without incurring estate or gift taxes — for 2021, is inflation-adjusted to \$11,700,000. The value of a person's estate and/or lifetime gifts exceeding the exclusion amount is subject to a 40% estate and gift tax rate. If a spouse dies after 2010 without exhausting his or her estate and gift tax exclusion amount, the surviving spouse may be able to use the deceased spouse's remaining exclusion amount.

Certain types of lifetime gifts do not reduce a taxpayer's applicable exclusion amount and are not subject to gift tax. The most commonly used method for tax-free giving is the annual gift tax exclusion, which, for 2021, allows a person to give up to \$15,000 to each person or organization without reducing the giver's estate and lifetime gift tax exclusion amount. A person is not limited as to the number of persons or organizations to whom he or she may make such gifts.



A person may not wish to make outright gifts to children or grandchildren, due to the loss of control over how they use the gift. Gifts in trust allow the trust creator, you, to determine when the beneficiaries receive the money and how it is used.

Charitable giving is a form of estate planning, because a gift to charity never will be subject to estate or gift tax, additionally it provides you as the donor with an immediate income tax deduction. If you are entertaining making a charitable bequest, (a gift from your estate upon death), ask your tax attorney or other tax advisor to crunch the numbers on making a current gift. Due to the deduction afforded charitable gifts, depending on your circumstances, a current gift, rather than a bequest, may be better for you ... and your charity.

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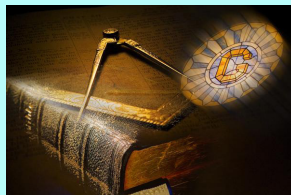
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## PRELATE'S MESSAGE

Gracious Heavenly Father,

How wonderful it is to see Your blessings unfold - providing us with hope for the months ahead to resume our meetings and activities missed during the past year. We are so grateful for the strength You have given us to survive the challenges that we faced.



As we emerge from the shadows of the pandemic, help us to shine the light of Scottish Rite Masonry for all to see and appreciate. Amen.

**Hon Davis Winesett, KCCH**



## Charitable Giving MADE EASY!

**Generate income for you and your family  
and help the charity of your choice through a  
Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).**

When you make a donation of \$5,000 or more to our CGA program, you will receive quarterly income based on your age and the corresponding rate as set by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

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\* Gift Annuities are not available in some states.

### CHOOSE YOUR CHARITY

- **Rebuilding the Temple Campaign**
- **Scholarships**
- **California Scottish Rite Foundation**

### EXAMPLE: \$10,000 GIFT ANNUITY

AGE 50	4.0%
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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.

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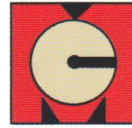
*Soft and safe to thee, my brother,  
be thy resting place.*

### The Perfect Donor Program

*A Fund Raising Program under the  
Auspices of the Lodge of Perfection*

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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**May**

Wed 5 Virtual Meeting 7:00 PM  
Wed 26 SGIG Advisory Conference  
Mon 31 **Office Closed (Memorial Day)**

**June**

Wed 2 Virtual Stated Meeting 7:00 PM

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

Attention wives, family and care givers:  
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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

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**III.: Frank Loui, 33°  
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