

Valley of San Diego Bulletin

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

July 2021 Volume 80 Issue 07



Venerable Master's Message

Greetings Brethren!

I hope you all are enjoying the heat in San Diego. In Hemet it has been $102^{\circ}F - 106^{\circ}F$ lately. I also just had to replace my A/C compressor. I knew it was going to happen and have been saving for two years (thank goodness). So many of us put off those preventive maintenance projects and we just need to get them done.

It is with a heavy heart that we report some bad news about our Scottish Rite Masonic Center. On Saturday, June 12th we had an old water pipe under the north-west corner of the building break, which flooded a major portion of the building. All lodge offices and rooms in the lower level, from the Morrison Room to the Corinthian Room, were flooded. In addition, the library, the CLC offices, and the CLC therapy rooms in the upper level were damaged. You can follow the progress of this "new project" in our website: https://www.scottishritesandiego.org Click on the underlined phrase: "follow the progress of the restoration here." on the first page.

We are now in the process of mitigating any more damage to the building and working with the professionals in cleaning up the building. The lodges and organizations affected have been working hard with these professionals to take care of their personal belongings and cleaning up their offices. At this time, we do not know the full extent of the damages and how long it will take to fix or replace them. Rest assured that we are doing the best that we can to get us back up and running again as soon as possible. I want to thank those that have helped in the removal and storage of items that were affected by the water damage this past month. It was/is greatly appreciated.

So, due to this unforeseen circumstance we will still be doing Zoom meetings for a while longer.

Please remember the Perfect Donor Program. The Child-hood Language Center deeply appreciates all donations. As of date I believe we are at 24 donors. I deeply appreciate all your help and support with this program.

In July we have Independence Day (remember to wear your Red, White and Blue). I am sure there will be fireworks somewhere in the county for you to view. Be sure to be safe when celebrating. Enjoy your family and friends but most importantly **PLEASE DO NOT DRINK and DRIVE**.

I want to thank you all for your support and assistance through these hard times that we have/are going through. Because of you **WE WILL SURVIVE.**

Take care and God Bless.

Hon. Michael T. Sherman, KCCH Venerable Master

Congratulations To Our 2021 Scottish Rite Honourmen



33°, Inspector General Honorary, Elect:

Nathaniel Michael "Chino" Torres



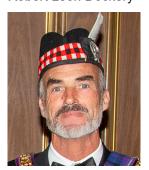


32°, Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, Elects:

David Fairchild Bean



Robert Leon Dockery



Who Are You?

Can you name this Scottish Rite Mason?







Last month's picture was: Bro. Bill Stokes!

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

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 May 2021 Donors

365 Club

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In Honor of Jeanne's 100th Birthday

Sustaining Member

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

Dinosaurs Come Alive

We recently had dinosaur week during our speech-language therapy sessions. The younger children played with toy dinosaurs. They described their different features, matched similar dinosaurs, and talked about their actions during play. We read the online story How to Catch a Dinosaur, and even created our own dinosaurs using an online activity. I also gave the families activities for hiding dinosaurs around their houses, having the children find them, and then describing where they were located using location words.

Our weekly themes allow the parents to prepare for the sessions in advance with toys and materials available for their children to be actively engaged in the therapy sessions. Below is one of our clients ready for dinosaur week!





The Scottish Rite headquarters at the House of the Temple is steadily working to catalogue and documents its vast collection of Masonic memorabilia. In addition to United States Freemason pieces, we are discovering interesting and unique objects belonging to international bodies. These objects have histories that shed light on the dynamic nature of Freemasonry through the years. We recently found a small glass vial filled with salt among the large collection of medals, badges, pins, and jewels at the Temple. It is ceremoniously wrapped in red, pink, and gold silk ribbons. There are four small brass bells tied to the ribbons. It is a unique piece unlike anything we have previously come across in our cataloging. Deeper research was required to understand how it relates to Freemasonry. The history of humans and salt is a long one. It is theorized that the earliest human sites were determined in part by the proximity of natural salt deposits; this essential nutrient that had been obtained from a meat-heavy diet was lacking in the domesticated grain-based diet of settlements. Immediately, salt was a valuable commodity, and the demand for it was insatiable.

Salt is a preservative, allowing humans to store excess meat for when fresh meat is unattainable. It was not uncommon to be paid in salt, spawning the phrase "worth your salt" and forming the basis of the word salary. Salt was also used medicinally. Ancient Romans used the mineral as an antiseptic to clean wounds. The mineral naturally became imbued with perceived power. Symbolic elements were introduced to Masonic rituals in the 18th century. The Grand Orient of France began placing vials of salt in their Chamber of Reflection in 1785 because of its association with purification. The Scottish Rite, French Rite, and Brazilian Rite call for their potential members to spend time in a room known as the Chamber of Reflection. This room, often small and painted with black walls, is where petitioning members are asked to reflect on their character and intentions prior to their initiation. Traditional Chambers of Reflection can house ceremonial objects including a skull on crossbones, a piece of bread, a pitcher of water, a candle or lantern, an hourglass, paper, ink and pen, a wooden stool, wall paintings of a rooster and sickle, the acronym V.IT.R.I.O.L.(U.M.), and three alchemical elements: sulphur, salt, and mercury. Sulphur represents the spirit and masculinity, mercury represents light and femininity, and salt represents wisdom and gender neutrality. While these are the traditional objects, lodges may choose to modify them in some way.

And while we know much in general about how salt was used in Masonry, this vial in particular remains a mystery (among many) in our collection. It is part of Masonic tradition, but we don't know from what country or what rite it came. We don't know its owner or when it was used. It remains a mysterious and beautiful artifact of the Craft, awaiting the discovery of some identifying information while it silently tantalizes us.

Estate Planning for your Digital Assets

This past year might go down as the year of living virtually as we continue to grapple with pandemic-related restrictions. Increasingly, people use technology to shop, stay in touch, entertain, do business and even visit the doctor. Even though technology is increasingly embedded in our everyday lives, we rarely think about what happens to our various digital assets if something should happen to us.

Typically, when we think about estate planning, we think about who should inherit the family home, our prized collections, or other family heirlooms. We often overlook our digital assets. What happens to our social media accounts, email accounts, digital currencies, or even our cloud-based digital family album if we become incapacitated or pass away?

It is important that your estate plan properly accounts for digital assets to ensure that your loved ones can access family photos and videos, manage or close your social media accounts and receive all the funds you would like to provide to them.

What are digital assets?

Digital assets include anything of value that exists in a digital device or in cloud-based storage accounts. It can include files or information that is accessed through your device or is stored online. These items might include, but are not limited to:

- Digital photos
- Emails
- eBooks
- Home videos
- Artwork
- Manuscripts
- Cryptocurrencies (think Bitcoin and the like)
- Domain names for websites
- Intellectual property
- Social media accounts (especially if they are monetized)
- Online betting accounts
- Gaming accounts and avatar

Legal and Other Hurdles to Digital Access

The law along with social media and online service provider practices continues to evolve. Though, legally you can pass digital assets through your estate plan, gaining access to these assets is complicated for anyone other than the original owner. After someone passes away, family members typically face obstacles when trying to access their deceased family member's digital assets. If loved ones do not know a decedent's passwords, they may not be able to get information or property stored on devices, online accounts, or in cloud accounts. Therefore, it is important to make sure your estate plan gives your fiduciaries the permission they need to access any necessary digital data.

Steps to Take Now

By addressing these items through your estate plan, you can provide your loved one access to your valuable digital property. It is important to make sure your estate planning documents are up to date. Tresp, Day & Associates, Inc. is here to help you make sure your assets end up with whom you want. Contact us if you are interested in a consultation at (858) 755-6672.

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PRELATE'S MESSAGE

Lord of Light and Hope,

We look to the heavens for Your rays of light to shine down upon us, giving us hope and encouragement.



The months ahead offer a renewal of fellowship and sharing.

Let us be exemplary of the values we have learned from Scottish Rite Masonry Amen

Hon Davis Winesett, KCCH



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.

BENEFITS OF A CGA*

- · Fixed income for life
- Significant tax deduction
- Competitive rate of return
- Capital gains tax advantage * 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%	
AGE 60	4.7%	
AGE 70	5.6%	
AGE 80	7.3%	
AGE 90	9.5%	

These fixed rates, current as of 5/22/18, are for a single life Gift Annuity. Chart is for illustrative purposes only.



CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Balkin, Herschel Bauersfeld, Richard Crawford, James W. Domingo, Bernardo P. Heath, Donald W. Heisner, John Jones, Thomas E IV Markson, Richard E. McMillen, Kenneth Powell, Robert H. Rash, Ronald R. Smith, Robert Lowry Thomason, Michael H.

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.

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 **Perfect**ion. This year, the Lodge of **Perfect**ion is designating the <u>San Diego RiteCare Childhood Language Center</u> 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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July

Mon 5 Office Closed (4th of July)
Wed 7 Virtual Stated Meeting 7:00 PM

August

Wed 4 Virtual Stated Meeting 7:00 PM

ALL MEALS REQUIRE A RESERVATION
WHICH CAN BE DONE THROUGH THE WEB SITE
www.scottishritesandiego.org

Attention wives, family and care givers: Should the person to whom this newsletter is addressed be ill or in some difficulty, please call 619-293-4888.

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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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