

Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard



June - July 2017

ORIENT OF LOUISIANA

Volume 19 Issue 3

Scottish Rite FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

Moving Beyond The Polarization of Religion

by

J. Quincy Gotte, 32°

The Importance & Relevance of Religion's Part in Our Growth

"The mysteries of the Great Universe of God! How can we with our limited mental vision expect to grasp and comprehend them!" (Albert Pike-Morals & Dogma)

The awesome mysteries of the Deity and Universe are not found within the confined walls of religion. Although religion is an extremely important foundation for any society and culture, and should be respected and valued as such, it is merely a base or starting point that is provided to us in order to give us the hope and the courage to seek out and discover the mysteries of the "Great Universe of God"; but we are limited by our ability to comprehend them. Therefore, we are all still somewhat in the dark around much of what we believe religion is supposed to offer, and we often expect too much from the religions of the world. To know our religion is to know ourselves; and to begin to know ourselves is to understand how we construct and conclude our thoughts and perspectives.

There are many great discoveries and theories around how the human mind works, yet human behavior is so complex and diverse that there is still much to be discovered around how one learns, accepts and interprets their individual truths.

"Train a child up in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

This quote implies that our early development is strongly made up of authoritative learning, which suggests that we may be most comfortable accepting something as truth from someone we hold in high regard. This type of learning is needed for setting a foundation around a topic that is somewhat or completely unknown to the student, and the student is completely under the power of the authority that holds sway over them. At some point in time, a good teacher expects the student to move beyond the "authoritative learning" process and use their knowledge toward "scientific learning." In doing so, one can analyze and build a hypothesis based on the knowledge and facts at hand, which empowers one to gain an understanding of something that is considered to be a mystery. The failure to move forward to the next level of learning will stifle the growth process; this is true in academia, and in my opinion is true in religion and spirituality as well.

Some may interpret the verse in Proverbs 22:6 to imply that we are imprisoned by how we were raised, or that our adherence to our "faith" or "religion" is hinged upon the solidarity of our upbringing. I personally do not interpret the aforementioned quote to say that if one raises their children in a particular religion that they

will not convert to some other religion, or that they will remain "faithful" to the one they were raised in. I believe it is telling me that the morals, values, hopes, and fears (or the lack there of) that are instilled within us from childhood will remain with us always. We may attempt to fight them or exchange them, but ultimately they will never be completely removed from the vault of our mind; they will ever remain in some degree a rule by which we measure our thoughts, intentions, ideas, and our perception of others as well as ourselves. But this doesn't mean that we become imprisoned by them and they become walls impossible to scale; they only become walls when we become imprisoned by our complacency, our lack of interest in growth and our failure to move beyond authoritative learning.

The Importance of Personalizing Our Religion

Religion should be a very personal aspect of one's life, but too often it may only be in reality a social one mistaken to be personal. Some may become enslaved by the authoritative portion of their religion due to their complacency or lack of interest in seeking the Truth that is found within and beyond its foundation. This complacency offers only a measure of security that is found in trusting the authority of one's lineage; then when faced with a difficult and complex circumstance, which requires more insight than what has been given by authority, strife and anxiety are experienced and one is tempted to resort to blind faith in the word of their lineage rather than in the Word of Truth - which can only be found by a deep and personal search and application.

First, we must understand that there may be certain details within our religion that we may not agree with, but this doesn't mean we need to change our religion or find a new one; we just need to determine if we are able to understand the differences and accept them without stifling growth. Every religion is made up of various denominations. These variations are derived from the maturity, experiences and values of the congregation as a whole. One denomination may view wine as a spiritual drink when used accordingly; yet another denomination within the same religion may view drinking wine in any measure to be sinful. Now, both denominations believe in the same Deity and worship that Deity passionately within their shared faith, yet they are restricted by some degree from congregating due to conflicting views, and may even become hostile towards one another as a result of their intolerance. It is not necessary to explain this division on the scale of different religions, it is exactly the same.

"But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil." (Hebrews 5:14)

We are all designed to accept a certain measure of convictions taught to us by the authority figures in our life; and for most, only a few of those convictions - along with our own newly found personal convictions - are developed through personal reflection,

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Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard

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Allegiance

The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Orient of Louisiana, acknowledge and yield allegiance to The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America (Mother Supreme Council of the World) whose See is at Charleston in the State of South Carolina, and the House of the Temple, Washington, D.C., of which

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and

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Grand Master of Masons in Louisiana

Master Craftsman Program



The following members have recently completed Master Craftsman Course I, II or III and have received or should shortly receive their certificates and lapel pins.

<u>New Orleans</u> Michael D. Bernard - Level II



www.louisiana-sr.org



Jurisdiction Supreme Council

The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council includes all the territory over which the United States of America exercises domain of powers of government, except the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, which were apportioned by this Supreme Council to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States. The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council also includes those countries where it has established, or may hereafter establish, Bodies of the Rite, and over which countries no regular Supreme Council has acquired jurisdiction.

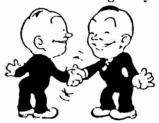
Red River Scottish Rite Club



Brother Gar Pickering has started the Scottish Rite Club in Alexandria. Called "Red River Scottish Rite Club at Alexandria", it will serve as a recruitment tool for the Orient when fully developed. It has started as an informal study group until there are members who want to develop it further. It is open to all Masters of the Royal Secret who live in and around Alexandria; who want to study together; hold obligatory meetings together and fellowship together.

www.redriverscottishriteclub.wordpress.com

Someone is waiting for you



to invite him to become a Scottish Rite Mason . . . Don't disappoint him.

Calendar of Events

Supreme Council

Biennial Session *Washington, D.C.*

August 19-21

Orient

Honors Luncheon July 2

Grand Session - Alexandria

Conference of the Orient November 10

Honors Day November 11

Shreveport

Grand Lodge

Quarterly Meetings June 17 Grand Session June 30-July 2 Alexandria

Reunions

Shreveport August 12-13
Monroe October 28
Lake Charles September 9-10
Baton Rouge TBA
New Orleans TBA

The Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation

Scholarship Awards

The Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation is proud to announce that the following Scholarships have been awarded:

Speech and Language Scholarships

Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge

Caroline Broussard Amanda Kuylen

Southeastern Louisiana University

Heather Schieffler Jenna Lauren Tynes



2016-2017 Officers

Foundation

President: S. Bruce Easterly, 33°
Vice President: William V. King, 33°
Secretary: Oma Frank Lee, 32° KCCH
Treasurer: E. Louis McGee, 33°

Ex-Officio Officers

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Appointed Members

C. Lenton Sartain-Chairman Emeritus
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Engineering Scholarship Committee

Charles D. Smith Richard B. Smith-Chair Neil R. Crane Ralph H. Owens E. Louis McGee Bernard L. Gould, Jr.

D. Walter Jessen, Sr.

Engineering Scholarship Award

The Scholarships were established by the five Scottish Rite Bodies of Louisiana in honor of D. W. Jessen, Sr., Past Grand Master and Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Scottish Rite Masons in the Orient of Louisiana, at his mandatory retirement at the age of eighty (80) years.

The Scholarships, a grant of \$2,000.00 each, are awarded annually to rising Junior or Senior students enrolled in an accredited Civil Engineering curriculum at a Louisiana college or university. Each grant is awarded to a student who is in the upper half of his or her class, has demonstrated leadership capabilities through involvement in engineering college and campus activities, and shows potential for development into a motivated, innovative, well-rounded and successful practicing professional engineer. Financial need is a significant determining factor. The students submit a 300-500 word essay explaining how his or her leadership role in college will help in attaining those goals and objectives as a practicing engineer.



2017 Scholarship Awards L: R - Cameron T. Broussard, Dr. Heath Tims-Associate Dean Undergraduate Studies College of Engineering and Science, and Blaine C. Roussell.



continued from front page 100 Year Old Receives Facelift:

study, and prayer. If we do not contribute enough time and effort to personal reflection, study, and prayer around our convictions, they may remain authoritative - making it difficult for us to be able to experience the guidance and protective power of a personal conviction. If we are bound by a conviction we have little or no understanding of, we may be tempted to allow a larger measure of leniency for ourselves in the offense that the conviction is designed to prevent – regardless of the authority behind it - and ultimately find ourselves consumed by evil and in need of deliverance while failing to acknowledge our descent because we are blinded by our lack of understanding – leaving us confused, discouraged, and defeated.

The Need for Restriction& the Familiar

We are all created with restrictions. Our existence as we know it depends upon gravitational pulls and limitations; therefore, we find our security within boundaries. Even within the womb we stretched and kicked until we found our limits, and we grew stronger because of it. When we outgrew and were delivered from the limits of the womb, we were not secure until we were cradled within the embrace of the authoritative figure from this "new world" who wrapped us tightly in a blanket providing us with that familiar sensation of the previous world, and now we must adjust to a new set of restrictions, freedoms, responsibilities and wonder.

We are constantly curious and testing our own limits, yet cling to what is familiar. In space, where the environment is somewhat different from earth's, we long to venture out so that we can learn from it and unlock its mysteries; yet we refrain from subjecting ourselves to completely abandoning the security of being able to return home, even though space is part of our home. We all recognize the need to cling to what is known, and there is nothing wrong with this - it is completely natural, but expansion and growth is not obtained when we imprison ourselves by the familiar.

"We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard..." (President John F. Kennedy)

So, it is not common for anyone to intellectually question or move beyond the religion they have accepted; many feel that doing so would cause a level of insecurity that they are not comfortable with or willing to endure. Some may feel obligated to preserve their religion by exercising their Faith within the boundaries of the religion it rests in. I believe that sometimes we may confuse the practicing of our morals and values as exercising our Faith; and we may sometimes interpret our zeal and intolerance as being true to our religion and Faith - when in reality it may actually reveal a deficiency. If we do not intuitively question the practices, ceremonies, and rituals within our own religion and stretch our minds beyond our comfort zone, we will never be able to fully understand and appreciate them in a way that contributes to personal growth, which can only be experienced from a deeper level of thought. We must move beyond the "authoritative learning" without abandoning its foundation.

The Need for Tolerance

"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere." (James 3:17)

Some may gain a sense of false security within their own re-

ligion by acquiring a sense of "confirmation" through converting another from their own religion. This type of confirmation is only supported by numbers and not Truth found within the religion. Some feel obligated to convert all souls due to the authority they have given to their religion; however, this often prevents sincerity, and usually spurns intolerance. An attempt to convert a person from their religion ultimately insults the lineage and culture of both parties involved. A conversion should only be initiated by the Spirit that calls upon them from within, if it is even needed, and that voice is never the voice of a stranger. We should encourage one another to practice, know and understand one's religion so that one may perfect it; and we would all do well to be inspired and learn from the religion that is practiced by others that are within our communication. Indeed, it does the soul good to understand and relate to the religion of one's neighbor.

One should never confuse one's religion with Truth, or feel that Truth can only be found through their religion alone; therefore, tolerance should never be mistaken to be a weakness – it is a reflection of Understanding and Wisdom, which comes from Truth. I believe that much of the intolerance experienced can be attributed to the retardation of one's personal growth by remaining in a state of "authoritative learning." Religion is merely a vehicle by which an individual or community can perfect their Faith, not define it.

"No man is truly wise who is not kind and courteous, charitable in his construction of men's motives, lenient and distrustful of his own abilities to resist the allurements of temptation, and afraid of the mighty influences of prejudice and passion." (31°-Inspector Inquisitor)

True Worship Levitates Above Religion

The beauty in Freemasonry is that it does not leave us to the vices and misinterpretations of our upbringing (and we all have them), but it provides a venue by which we may overcome them, and further master and share our strengths and support with one another. We all bring into our Craft the successes and failures of our tutelage, our interpretations of our religions, and our opinions of what makes one noble. We then compare those things against all the great teachings and philosophies that Freemasonry has brought together from around the world and from age to age throughout the centuries, and we begin to identify with the brightness that is within us all which is provided to us by the Deity and developed by our experiences, morals, values, and faith; we also begin to identify with the dullness that is within us all which is caused by our instilled or learned prejudices, fears, and our short sightedness. As we humble ourselves by the light of these teachings, we patiently begin to realize that the mastering and bridling of the ego is essential to enlightenment.

"Masonry is a worship; but one in which all civilized men can unite; for it does not undertake to explain or dogmatically to settle those great mysteries that are above the feeble comprehension of our human intellect." (Albert Pike-Morals & Dogma)



Fraternally yours, J. Quincy Gotte. 32° Valley of Lake Charles

Valley of New Orleans News

Chartered April 7, 1811

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month



New Orleans Scottish Rite Temple

433 Metairie Road - Suite 206 Metairie, LA 70005 Sect'y: Martin J. Reinschmidt, 32° KCCH Tel: (504) 835-3780 Email: nosrt@bellsouth.net WebSite: www.nolascottishrite.com

2017 Membership Fees are due!

Calendar of Events

7:30 PM **Stated Communications** 6209 3rd Street Harahan, LA 70123 (Louisiana Lodge #102) Wednesday, June 7th

Chris Mabry-Guest Speaker Wednesday, July 5th

Patriotic Program

Tuesday, July 25th Advisory Conference - Office

5:30 PM

Wednesday, August 2nd Regular Business Meeting

Wednesday, September 6th

Regular Business Meeting Wednesday, October 4th

Feast of Tishri

Tuesday, October 24th

5:30 PM Advisory Conference - Office

Wednesday, November 1st

Business Meeting

Nomination and Election of Officers

Wednesday, December 6th Holiday Celebration



2017 Officers

Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master: Bernard L. Gould, Jr. 32° KCCH Senior Warden: K. Joseph Kueck, 32° KCCH Junior Warden: Kenneth K. Bell, 32°KCCH

Pelican Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: Michael W. Nastasi, 32° KCCH Senior Warden. Dave H. Krasner, 32° Junior Warden: Nelson J. Ardoin, 32°

Eagle Council of Kadosh

John C. Miller, 32° Commander: 1st Lt. Commander: Stephen M. Byrant 32° 2nd Lt. Commander: Ion Lazar, 33°

New Orleans Consistory

Master of Kadosh: Eddie A. LeBoeuf, 32° KCCH Adam G. Krolikowski, 32° Prior: Preceptor: Stuart M. Smith, 32°

> **Treasurer All Bodies** Ion Lazar, 33°

Secretary All Bodies Martin J. Reinschmidt, 32° KCCH



Venerable Master's Message

At this reading my year as Venerable Master will be half over. Time has surely gone by fast. Summer time has arrived. If you are working outdoors, remember don't get overheated, stay hydrated and use sun screen. Also, the hurricane season is fast approaching, make plans for your safety, have prescriptions filled if you need to evacuate, be prepared and most of all use good common judgement and keep you family safe.

At our May 3rd meeting, which was well attended despite the bad weather, we were treated to a dessert cook off by several of our "Valley Girls". I can gladly report that all of the desserts were very delicious and well appreciated. This can be supported by the fact that several of our members walked out of the meeting with a "glazed look on their faces".

Congratulations to Brother Dave Marshall whose ticket was drawn to win the Henry Golden Boy Masonic Rifle. Thanks to all who purchased tickets to support the Valley.

Our Valley has had some interesting programs so far, this year, but we still have more to come. We have our joint reunion with the Valley of Baton Rouge coming up on July 8, 2017 at Unity Lodge in Houma, La., a shrimp boil planned for mid-summer, A baseball outing with the New Orleans Baby Cakes, a very special 4th of July program, the first annual Valley luau, Honours Day in Shreveport, La. (November 11th) and more exciting events. Brothers it is not too late to recruit candidates for our upcoming reunion. Let's get busy, get some petitions filled out and make this reunion a huge success. WE DO NEED MORE NEW **MEMBERS!**

Brothers when we have newly initiated we are always there to support them and participate in the degrees. When the call goes out to help send our Brothers to their final reward, please, please come out and show support to the family and remember our departed Brother.

Our first six months have been fun and exciting, our Valley Girls have been active and the next six month will prove to be entertaining for all. We still meet on the first Wednesday of each month at Louisiana #102 Lodge, so grab your lady, come out and show support for your Valley.

> Fraternally yours, Bernard L. Gould, Jr., 32° KCCH Venerable Master



From The Director of Work

Our next reunion will be on Saturday July 8th at Unity Lodge in Houma, LA. This will be a joint reunion with our brothers in the Valley of Baton Rouge. Why are we holding it in Houma you ask? Well the Houma area is split between the Valley of Baton Rouge and the Valley of New Orleans. Both valleys have numerous members that reside in the Houma area and by holding a joint reunion in that area, we offer those members of both valleys, who have not attended any Scottish rite activities in a while a chance to come out and

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In Memoriam

Raymond A. Ficaro, Sr. Eric Simmons Daniel F. Thomas Daniel B. Alexander Robert E. Bulmer Bernard J. Lyons

Valley of Shreveport News

Chartered October 26, 1913

Meets on the second Tuesday of every month



Shreveport Scottish Rite Temple

725 Cotton Street
Shreveport, LA 71101-9713
Secretary: Gary L. Gribble, 33°
Tel: 318-221-9713 Fax: 318-226-0843
Email: brosecssr@gmail.com
Web: www.shreveportscottishrite.com

Donate to the <u>Shreveport</u> Scottish Rite Foundation accepts MC & Visa!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, June 13th

21° and 24° Degree Conferral 6:00 PM

Tuesday, July 11th

26° Degree Conferral 6:00 PM

Tuesday, August 8th

Regular Business Meeting 6:00 PM

Summer Reunion August 12-13

Tuesday, September 11th

Feast of Tishri

Tuesday, October 10th

29 and 31° Degree Conferral 6:00 PM

Tuesday, November 14th

50 Year Member Awards 6:00 PM

Veterans Day Recognition

Tuesday, December 12th

Election & Installation of Officers 6:00 PM The Advisory Conference meets at 5 pm before each meeting.

The KCCH Club meets during the same months as the 1st District Lodge (January, April, July & October) at 5:30 pm.



From The Secretary' Desk

Our degree series is six months in and can be deemed a success. Our new Masters of the Royal Secret have returned each meeting and the bonds of fellowship these members have established with each other is strong. Our June meeting will feature the Twenty-first Degree-Noachite or Prussian Knight and the Twenty-fourth Degree-Prince of the Tabernacle. In July the Twenty-sixth Degree-Prince of Mercy will be exemplified.

To the delight of a few of our seasoned members, we will hold a regular business meeting on August 8th, followed by our two-day reunion beginning on Saturday, August 12th.

In September, the Shreveport Chapter Knights of St. Andrew will conduct the Feast of Tishri. As you will recall, 450 years after its origin, the Feast of Tishri was utilized in dedicating the newly completed King Solomon's Temple, and this association led to its adoption by Scottish Rite Masonry to symbolize our dedication to brotherly love and human accord in a peaceful world. Association of the Feast of Tishri with the dedication of the Temple of Solomon led to it being also known as the Feast of the Tabernacle. The Feast of Tishri thus epitomizes the character, principles and purposes of Scottish Rite Masonry, all being consistent with the dictates of the God who spoke it into existence.

John Sharlow, 32° KCCH made several presentations of the Scottish Rite JROTC Education and Americanism awards at our local high schools. Thank you John!



L:R - John Sharlow, Cadet Ethan R. Arbuckle and Cadet Alexandra K. Prymek-Caddo Magnet High

2017 Officers

Shreveport Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master: Stephen C. McLellan, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden: Christopher E. Cannon, 32°
Junior Warden: Joseph R. Patterson, 32°

Shreveport Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master:

Senior Warden:

M. Darin West, 32°

Kenneth M. Hamm, 32° KCCH

Junior Warden:

Albert G. Simms, Jr., 32°

Shreveport Council of Kadosh

Commander: Robert E. Bazzell, 33°
1st Lt. Commander: E. Allen Kelly, 32° KCCH
2nd Lt. Commander: David L. Culligan, 32° KCCH

Shreveport Consistory

Master of Kadosh: Troy J. Jones, 32° Prior: J. David Maxey, 32° Preceptor: Stephen C. Caskey, 32°

> <u>Treasurer All Bodies:</u> E. Louis McGee, 33°

E. Louis McGee, 33

Secretary All Bodies: Gary L. Gribble, 33°

2017 Knights of St. Andrew

Knight Commander: Knight Warder: Knight Captain: Knight Recorder: Joseph R. Patterson John R. Cunningham Albert G. Simms, Jr. M. Darin West

The cadets must have contributed the most among cadets on campus to encourage and demonstrate Americanism by deeds or conduct during participation in extracurricular activities or community projects.

dost of the same

Finally my Brethren, remember in your prayers the families represented below In Memoriam. Also, remember our brethren and their families who are suffering from the ravages of incurable disease.

Fraternally yours, Gary L. Gribble, 33° General Secretary

In Memoriam

Leon Abramson
Fred C. Coday
William H. Causey, Jr.
James G. Coleman
Frank H. Epps
Raymond A. Ficaro, Sr.
Dale E. Jacks
Albert D. Riser
Arleigh C. Stanley
Vernon L. Stephenson
James L. Taylor
Edward L. Terry
George K. Winham

Valley of Lake Charles News

Chartered October 16, 1923

Meets on the third Wednesday of every month



Lake Charles Masonic Temple

717 Hodges Street
Lake Charles, LA 70601
Secretary: D. Blake Ford, 33°
Tel: 337-436-1676 Fax: 337-436-1673
Email: lcscotti@structurex.net

2017 Membership Fees are due!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dinner 6:30 Meeting 7:00
Spring Reunion April 1-2
Wednesday, June 21st
Recognition of First Responders

Wednesday, July 19th

Patriotic Program

Wednesday, August 16th On The Road - Hope Lodge #145

ULL Childhood Language Center

Fall Reunion September 9-10
Wednesday, September 20th
Feast of Tishri

Wednesday, October 18th McNeese State University update

Wednesday, November 15th

Veterans Day Program

Wednesday, November 29th KCCH Dinner

Wednesday, December 20th

Election of Officers Christmas Program

<u>Back Door Lunch</u>: Last Friday of every month. Except in November & December



Personally Speaking

As the year approaches its midpoint, Lake Charles Scottish Rite Bodies are having a great year. We continue to add degrees to our reunions by building new degree teams for degrees that have not been conferred in years. Most recently, the Thirty-First Degree - Inspector Inquisitor degree was conferred at the Statewide Scottish Rite Passport Reunion in Monroe. This degree requires a cast of fourteen dedicated brethren to learn intricate parts to what many consider one of the most profound and beautiful degrees in Masonry. This degree team did an excellent job conferring the degree and are to be commended for their dedication and devotion to our Fraternity.

Looking into the month of June, our regular stated meeting will have two programs. First, for our open program we will honor our First Responders. Our Venerable Master, Brother Richard Morgan will host this program to recognize our unsung heroes that serve our community doing dangerous and important jobs every day. Then in our closed meeting, Brother Joe Vincent will have a short educational program on the anniversary of the founding of the Consistory. This will be on Wednesday, June 21st.

Our July stated communication will feature a Patriotic Program that our Senior Warden, Brother Brack Cole will host. This year our nation celebrates 241 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We as Scottish Rite Masons believe that love of flag and country are not outmoded nor outdated, and proudly demonstrate that love and patriotism. We know that freedom does not give us the right to do wrong, but is an obligation to do right. This program will serve as a reminder that we have much to be thankful for and that we should not forget our obligations to God, our nation, our family, our neighbor or ourselves. This will be Wednesday, July 19th.

On August 16th, we will move our charter to Hope Lodge #145 in Lafayette for our annual out of town meeting. As we will be in Lafayette for the meeting, we

will arrange with Julie Andries and her staff to tour the Rite Care Scottish Rite Speech Hearing, and Language Disorders Clinic at the University of Louisiana – Lafayette. If you would like to ride the bus leaving from Lake Charles and travelling the I-10 corridor, please contact the office at (337) 436-1676 or lcscottishritebodies@yahoo.com.

Be on the lookout for Master Masons needing more light. Talk to them about joining the Lake Charles Scottish Rite Bodies at our Fall reunion, September 9 & 10. Top line signers who bring in one new member to this reunion will receive an embroidered Scottish Rite baseball cap and top line signers bringing in a second new brother will receive a matching embroidered polo shirt. Ask a brother to join as we have plenty of room for more active and interested members. Enjoy the summer and think Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Fraternally, Richard B Smith, 33° Personal Representative



2017 Officers

Lake Charles Lodge of Perfection

 Venerable Master:
 Richard D. Morgan, 32° KCCH

 Senior Warden:
 J. Braxton Cole, 32° KCCH

 Junior Warden:
 Elton J. Blanchard, 32° KCCH

Lake Charles Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: Donald G. Head, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden: Jeffery S. Haley 32°
Junior Warden: Steven L. Jennings, 32°

Lake Charles Council of Kadosh

Commander: Kirby O. Vinson, 32° 1st Lt. Commander: Charles G. Callahan, 33° 2nd Lt. Commander: Harry C. Northrop, III, 33°

Lake Charles Consistory

Master of Kadosh: Thomas E. Boggan 32° KCCH
Prior: Harold H. Young, 33°
Preceptor: Max P. Adame, 32°

Treasurer All Bodies:

J. Quincy Gotte, 32°

Secretary All Bodies: D. Blake Ford, 33°

In Memoriam

Donald R. Buxton Rex Dansby Charles L. Oakley Robert G. Rivers Billy B. West

Valley of Baton Rouge News

Chartered October 20, 1955

Meets on the second Monday of every month



Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Temple

14598 Florida Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70819 Secretary: James E. Wingate, 33° Tel: 225-275-0668 Fax: 225-273-0750 Email: BRSR1@bellsouth.net

2017MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE!!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dinner 6:30

Meeting 7:30

Monday, June 12th
Regular Meeting

Monday, July 11th Regular Meeting

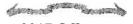
Monday, August 14th Regular Meeting

Monday, September 11th Regular Meeting

Monday, October 9th

Regular Meeting

Advisory Conference meets at 6pm on regular meeting days.



2017 Officers

Baton Rouge Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master:Chester L. Finley, 32°Senior Warden:R. Shane Marchand, 32°Junior Warden:Richard W. Black, 32°

Baton Rouge Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: J. Andrew Owen, 32° Senior Warden: Stuart R. Averitt, 32° Junior Warden: V. Eugene Dawson, 32°

Baton Rouge Council of Kadosh

Commander: Jason K. Rigsby. 32°
1st Lt. Commander: Glenn L. Juneau 32°
2nd Lt. Commander: W. Dale Artigue, 32°

Baton Rouge Consistory

Master of Kadosh: Tmothy E. Ackermann, 32° KCCH
Prior: Timothy P. Sibley, 32°
Preceptor: James M. Stockner, 32°

<u>Treasurer All Bodies:</u> Ben F. Melanson, 33°

<u>Secretary All Bodies</u>: James E. Wingate, 33°

Personally Speaking

On my most recent trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, I reflected on what an honor it is to first be an American, secondly a Louisianian, and thirdly to be a Mason in the Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Valley. To be able to stand in the same room, where George Washington and Benjamin Franklin stood, was very heart warming. I get the same feeling when I attend a Masonic meeting of any sort. To know that I am kneeling where others have knelt, keeps me focused on the "Great Light In Masonry". To restore peace and relieve distress is the Great Aim that we all have or should have in view.

Every Brother in our Valley knows something that no one else knows, so always come out to our meetings and share your knowledge and expertise with all of the Bretheren. Everyone benefits from bringing together this vast commonwealth of knowledge. By attending your Meetings on a regular basis, we can ALL become better men and Masons. The Valley of Baton Rouge meets on the 2nd Monday at Trinity Union Lodge #372 at 3950 Florida Blvd. Bring another Scottish Rite Mason with you and enjoy the Fellowship.

Fraternally yours, James E. "Buddy" Pearce, Sr, 32° KCCH Personal Representative



From the Venerable Master

With all the work that has been being done at the Temple Annex Building and Learning Center, I have been thinking about the concept of "service". This word has multiple meanings, even in the Masonic definition. We all consider the Funeral "Service", "Serving" as an officer, and even being of "service" to a brother. However, if we look within the most noble of masonic endeavors, which is charity, we again find this multi-meaning word "service". When we come to the aid of worthy individuals. we are not instructed to give them money, but to contribute to their relief. Regardless of which masonic organization you are working in, you are directed to build your life on the principals of Moral Integrity. Through this "service" to others, whether through charitable acts or by direct involvement, we have dedicated ourselves to the prosperity of mankind. Since the flood, I have seen multiple acts of "service". Frequently by those who were spared the hardship of this disaster, but also by those who endured the hardship, yet still found within their hearts the ability to be of "service" to others. By "serving" to promote brotherly love, we all are actively involved in extending charity and benevolence to meet the needs of those in the most need in society.

Recently, I received word that Illustrious Brother Jimmie D. Dunkin, 33° was retiring as Secretary of the Valley of Baton Rouge. He is no stranger to "service" and has been the foundation of the valley for almost a decade. We thank him for his "service", and wish him well on what the future holds for him.

Fraternally yours, Chester L. Finley, 32° Venerable Master



Leadership Change

Illustrious Jimmie Dean Dunkin, 33°, General Secretary of the Valley of Baton Rouge, tendered his resignation effective April 30. Ill. Dunkin became General Secretary in 2008 when MW & Ill. Bev J Guillot, 33° & PGM, resigned after becoming Grand Junior Warden. Ill. Dunkin has performed many tasks at an exceptional level in the Valley and including holding Grand Lodge positions on the Committee on Work, including Chairman, Grand Senior Deacon, DDGM, Grand Lodge Session Chairman, in addition to continuing his many Scottish Rite duties for me. He was a Scottish Rite Fellow during the early beginnings of that successful program. Together with Family sadness, personal physical illness and surgery, and more recent total loss of his home during the Flood in August 2016, Ill. Dunkin has always continued to have continued page 10

In Memoriam

Henry Burr Betemps, Jr. Larry Houston Moore Dan Wilbert Bush Ollie Thomas Perry Jewel Jeremiah Smith, Jr.

Valley of Monroe News

Chartered November 13, 1971

Meets on the first Thursday of every month



Monroe Scottish Rite Temple

205 University Avenue Monroe, LA 71203-3701 Secretary: W. O. "Will" Cooke, 32° KCCH Tel: 318-343-6388 Fax: 318-343-5492 Email: monroescottishrite@icloud.com

2017Membership Fees are past due!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dinner with Ladies 6:00 PM Program 7:00 PM

Thursday, June 1st On The Road - Delhi

Thursday, July 6thOn The Road - Winnsboro

Thursday, August 3rd On The Road - TBA

Thursday, September 7th

Regular Meeting

Thursday, October 5th

Feast of Tishri

<u>Fall Reunion</u>
Thursday, November 2nd

1 nursaay, November 2na Regular Meeting

Thursday, December 7th

Remembering Pearl Harbor

Christmas Program

The Advisory Conference meets on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm.

October 28th



Personally Speaking

We recently had a great Reunion where we welcomed four new Masters of the Royal Secret; Parker Bahm, Brian Finley, Tommy Haire, and Scott Oglesbee. We conferred some good degrees and enjoyed some great fellowship. We also were graced with the presence of some visitors from other Valleys, one of which was Bro. John Johnston from the Valley of Little Rock who petitioned for plural membership in our Valley. When you see these new Brothers, either in their Blue Lodges or at the Scottish Rite, let them know of the great things that the Scottish Rite has to offer and encourage them to become active and stay active with us.

We also hosted our Statewide Conference of the Orient and Statewide Homecoming. Every member of the Scottish Rite leadership team got some great information and new ideas on how to grow Scottish Rite Masonry for the future. Ill. Bro. William J. Sizemore, 33°, G.C., the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council, gave us some invaluable advice and knowledge to aid us on our path to growth. As I am sure we can all agree, we need more active and involved members to do the great work of our Rite.

During the Statewide Homecoming, the Valley of Monroe conferred the 6°, Confidential Secretary; the Valley of Shreveport conferred the 12°, Master Architect; the Valley of Baton Rouge conferred the 27°, Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept; and the Valley of Lake Charles conferred the 31°, Inspector Inquisitor or Initiate of the Egyptian Mysteries. These degrees were enlightening, inspiring, and greatly enjoyed by all who attended. Our own Director of Work, Bro. Cash Melville, 32°, received the award for "Best Performance" for his role as Hiram, King of Tyre, in the 6°, and the Directors of Work presented the Valley of Baton Rouge with the award for "Best Degree Exemplification" for the 27°.

If you know of any Brother who has yet to join the Scottish Rite, encourage them to become part of the team and to help rebuild Masonry to its greatest point in history.

This is a very special year, as organized

Masonry is celebrating its tricentennial. On June 24, 1717, four London Lodges came together and declared themselves a Grand Lodge, and Anthony Sayer was elected and installed as their first Grand Master. All regular Masonic Lodges today can trace their lineage to this gathering, and we have these men to thank for that.

We are traveling to various Lodges across the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th Masonic Districts during the summer. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Fraternally, Travis M. Holley, 33° Personal Representative



2017 Officers **Monroe Lodge of Perfection**

Venerable Master: Richard L. James. 33°
Senior Warden: Will P. Grav. 33°

Senior Warden: Will P. Gray, 33°

Junior Warden: Michael A. Watts, 32° KCCH

Monroe Chapter Rose Croix

Wise Master: M. Cash Melville 32° Senior Warden: Bruce D. Osbon, 32° KCCH Junior Warden: William S. Blake. 32°

Monroe Council of Kadosh

Commander: Michael A. Watts, 32° KCCH
1st Lt. Commander: E. Orum Young, 32°
2nd Lt. Commander: Troy L. Lord, 32° KCCH

Monroe Consistory

Master of Kadosh: John A. Howard, 32°
Prior: J. Keith Gates, 32°
Preceptor: Patrick D. McHenry, Jr., 32°

<u>Treasurer All Bodies:</u> Roy McDuffie, 33° PGM

<u>Secretary All Bodies:</u> Wilson O. "Will"Cook, 32° KCCH



From the Secretary's Desk

What a great time in Masonry! This year is nearly half over with and things are chugging along nicely. Our RiteCare Clinicians are currently helping 6 children with their communication problems and doing a stellar job. These ladies are to be commended for their devotion.

We still have several members who continued page 10

In Memoriam

Joel L. Ambrose Charles Ray Bonner

continued from page 5

New Orleans Valley-From the Director of Work: meet some of their Scottish Rite Brothers and see the work.

The drive to Unity Lodge is about 1 hour and if you get a group together the time goes by quickly. We are looking for some degree team members, so if you wish to take part, we have speaking and non-speaking parts available. Please, give me a call at 504-913-4607 or email me at elmobarnes49@yahoo.com. I know we can put you to work.

Also, coming up on November 11th is our KCCH Investiture Ceremony in Shreveport, LA. I will be contacting the Investiture team short to start scheduling our practice sessions.

Also in the works is a plan to start communicating some of the degrees that we normally do not confer in our reunions. We can do this at our monthly meetings, so stay tuned.

Remember, you get out of Scottish Rite what you put in. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Fraternally, Elmo J. Barnes, Jr., 32° KCCH Director of Work



From The Secretary's Desk

By now those of you that have not paid your 2017 dues have received a second notice from the Supreme Council. How do I know this? Because several of you have called the office and stated that you have already paid your 2017 dues and have your dues card and ask why did I get a second notice. The second notices were generated by the Supreme Council back in February and mailed out in March, so if you paid your dues after February 2017 a second notice had already been generated and put in the mail stream to you. For those of you that have not paid your dues, your 2017 dues card is here at the office just waiting for you to adopt it and bring it to a good home. How can you adopt your dues card, simple, just mail a check for \$120.00 to the Valley office at 433 Metairie Rd Suite 206, Metairie, LA 70005. Once we receive your check we will place your card in the mail you that same day. And best of all we do not charge for shipping and handling!

If anyone is interested in taking part of our new quarterly dues payment plan, just give me a call at the office 504-835-3780

and I will be glad to discuss this with you.

As our Venerable Master said in his comments above, as your read this edition of the Trestleboard one half of the year will have gone by. So far, this year we have lost 12 of our brothers to the dread messenger of death. One of those who we lost was Illustrious Brother Daniel B Alexander, 33°. For those of you who knew Brother Dan, you know we lost a very knowledgeable brother and one who as always ready to share his knowledge with any brother who asked. A very large number of members assembled to bid Brother Dan a Masonic farewell, and the Alexander family truly appreciated the show of love and support for not only Brother Dan, but for the Alexander family as well.

Brothers, we all are happy and eager to attend the reunions to see our new brothers initiated into the Valley of New Orleans. However, when one of our brothers pass away and a notice of the funeral is sent out we have a very poor turn out at the Rose Croix Services. I know that many of our brothers are getting up in age, and some of you are still working, but brothers to have the same 6 or 8 members show up to perform these services is a very poor showing of the brotherly love that we have for each other.

Fraternally yours, Martin A. Reinschmidt, 32° KCCH General Secretary



continued from page 9 Monroe Valley - From The Secretary's Desk:

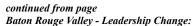
have yet to pay their 2017 dues. If you have not yet submitted your dues payment, please do so as soon as you can. We do accept credit/debit cards and will be happy to charge a portion each month to your credit/debit card to satisfy your dues. Please call or come see me and I will be happy to set that up.

We are gearing up, not only for the upcoming Grand Lodge Session, but our Summer meetings that will be held across the 4 districts under the umbrella of Monroe Scottish Rite. On June 1st, we will be traveling to Delhi Lodge #120 in the 7th District. I have spoken with the Master of Delhi Lodge and he has assured me that the program will be both entertaining and informative. On July 6th, we will make our way to the southern parts of the 4th District where we will gather in Winnsboro Lodge

#246 where, as rumor would have it, we will enjoy some of Franklin Parish's great catfish and all the fixin's. And then, we will congregate in Ruston Lodge #106 on August 3rd and enjoy some great fellowship with the brethren of the 3rd District. In September, we will be back home at the Scottish Rite Temple for our annual Feast of Tishri observance.

Please don't forget that Grand Lodge is coming up at the end of June. Please make sure you pre-register for Grand Lodge session and plan to stay for the whole session.

> Fiat Lux! W. O. "Will" Cook, 32° KCCH General Secretary



a smile and outgoing pleasant disposition. He and Miss Joanne will finally be able to move back into their home during the next several weeks. I can only say good things about my Brother and friend, and hope he will finally enjoy sitting back in his own recliner and being in his home again. He is a fine Mason, a great ritualist, Brother to many particularly in the 13th and 19th Districts, and having served the Valley of Baton Rouge well during some unusual and strange circumstances.

Ill. James "Jim" Wingate, 33°, has accepted the position as General Secretary in the Valley of Baton Rouge effective May 1. Bro Jim is well known across Louisiana as the "Secretary of Secretaries" as the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Secretary Training Program. He still serves as Secretary of East Gate Lodge #452, Secretary of the 13th District and Secretary of the Baton Rouge Relief Lodge. Bro Jim and his wife Jennifer, are very active in the Valley of Baton Rouge and Jim has headed the Kitchen Committee for many years. Also flooded and without his home since last August, Jim has recently been able to move back into his completely renovated home just in time to recover from major surgery. Jim is ready to get back into action. A retired law enforcement official, Jim is also very active in his Episcopal Church.

Please welcome Ill. Jim Wingate to our Leadership TEAM.

Fraternally yours, William J. Mollere, 33° Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Louisiana



THE FINALWORD



Ill. William J. Mollere, 33° PGM Sovereign Grand Inspector General Summer Again?

So what are you going to do this Summer? Take a real vacation to some place away from work, worries, cell phones, computers, all things electronic? Be with family for several days enjoying spouse, children, grandchildren, other family, maybe some friends? Hold a family or neighborhood cook-out? Maybe over-eat and not worry about how much everything is costing? It takes two to three days away, according to statistics, to really "get away", gear-down, slow down – and many can't. The other statistic is that most vacations are only four to five days long – really just an extended weekend. Americans cannot relax, sit back, enjoy being nowhere and doing nothing – can't do it! Our lives are too involved and intertwined in too much and in too many things.

My Lady Lydia and her cousin Gloria Jeanne (you have heard me talk about the dynamic duo before) took a three week cruise through the Panama Canal several Summers ago. She reported that after several days of being on that big ship, time became somewhat confused and each day as she went to the elevator lobby to go to her next adventure, she realized that a rug was in front of the elevator telling which day it was – Monday, Tuesday, etc – it dawned on her that she really had lost track of time – no cell phone coverage, no emails, no family crises, nothing but get up, go eat, go play, attend some shipboard activity, and watch the scenery. Glorious? By the end of the cruise, she was a caged animal! A little crazy is a nice way to phrase it. She had to get home and become involved again. She recovered nicely, thank you very much. I report this mainly to share with you our inability to relax in today's world. Going to the beach for a few days and sitting as the waves lap at your feet? You might get sunburned. Going to the mountains (what are those) and sitting in a cabin as a creek runs down below. Probably too many bugs. Headed to Disney-something with kids, grand kids and spending, well spending. Nice to be able to afford any of these and then really go, relax and spend some "me time". Have you sat and read a good book lately? That is a good way to "get away". Even with interruptions, reading has its joys and can relax you. So, what are you going to do this Summer? Have you planned yet?

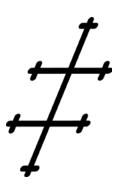
Masonry continues to function in our area all Summer – some states close down Masonically in July, August and September – our Grand Lodge has a provision that allows a Lodge to take a "vacation" for up to three months each year, if approved in its By-Laws. Scottish Rite in Louisiana has no such provision. Until recent years, Supreme Council always met in October every other year, due to Washington, DC being so hot and humid in the Summer, and the House of the Temple's main Temple Room was not air conditioned. The big side windows rotated open allowing a breeze

to help cool the packed meeting room. So weather can also control Summer vacation time and activities.

Remember Hurricanes begin. School is out, workplaces conduct modified business in Summer, so family vacation has traditionally been taken in June, July or August. Not in Scottish Rite. June and July allows Scottish Rite to hold family functions, personally contact those who have put off paying Dues, convince those considering joining to complete that Petition, and this year, a good group will gather up and head to Scottish Rite Session in Washington, DC in late August. It is a time to "move your Charter" to another location in your Valley – go out to where your members are; get out of your building. Visit each other, have a picnic on July 4th and celebrate America - hot dogs, hamburgers for all ages; the under-played Father's Day is in June – honor DAD! And this year, our Grand Lodge moves to the Summer – in or around St John the Baptist Day, June 24 – this year in Alexandria meeting on June 30 and July 1 & 2. Every Scottish Rite Mason needs to attend all or part of our Grand Lodge Session. We are "Blue Lodge Masons" first! Beyond having some good Summer time with family and fun events, every Valley should be preparing for Fall – Reunions, Feast of Tishri, great meeting programs, calling and checking on Brothers who have fallen away, checking on our Scottish Rite widows, helping fix-up our buildings and meeting places, and our RiteCare facilities for the Fall Session - so much to do, and Summer will slip by very quickly.

It is important to spend time with family and friends, and Summer is a good time to plan such activities. But you can also spend some quality time with your Scottish Rite Brothers and Family. A cook-out and picnic, a movie night – all including family, a road trip to visit another Valley. St Francisville's Feliciana Lodge hosts "The Day The War Stopped" every 2nd weekend in June and few events are better for fellowship and renewed understanding of what Masonry's true Brotherhood means – a great family event. We have many opportunities as Scottish Rite Masons to live the lessons of our beautiful Degrees, but Summer gives us those unhurried opportunities. Take advantage and enjoy your Summer, remember that Scottish Rite continues functioning and meeting, and a seat is waiting for you to fill it. Thank you for continuing to be an All Year Scottish Rite Mason.

Fraternally – Bill Mollere Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Louisiana



Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation Louisiana Scottish Rite Trestleboard

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Scottish Rite FULFILL-BUILD-PROVIDE

Did You Know?

In the early 1950s the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States initiated a program to help children with speech and language disorders. The results obtained from this program led to the establishment of RiteCare Scottish Rite Childhood Language Program clinics to provide diagnostic evaluation and treatment of speech and language disorders, as well as learning disabilities.

Today, there are SRCLP clinics, centers, and special programs operating or planned for children and therapists located throughout the United States. Each facility is staffed by speech-language pathologists or other trained personnel. Through the support of Scottish Rite members, these clinics, centers, and programs continue to increase. The value of this philanthropy has long been apparent. Tens of thousands of youngsters across the United States have been helped significantly. With the good work of dedicated clinicians and parents, the Scottish Rite has achieved successes that could only be imagined a few years back. Children who might have remained educationally behind for

a lifetime can now talk, read, and lead productive

Louisiana Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Centers

Baton Rouge Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

14598 Florida Blvd Baton Rouge, LA 70819 Telephone: (225) 275-0668

Admiral E. A. Barham, 33° Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

205 University Avenue Monroe, LA 71203-3701 Telephone: (318) 343-6388

Southeastern Louisiana Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

Southeastern Louisiana University Campbell Hall - Room 102 Hammond, LA 70402 Telephone: (985) 549-2214

Shreveport Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

Scottish Rite Temple 725 Cotton Street Shreveport, LA 71101 Telephone: (318) 221-9713

Southwestern Louisiana Regional Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Center

University of Louisiana-Lafayette 231 Hebrard Blvd Burk-Hawthorne Hall Lafayette, LA 70504

Telephone: (337) 482-6490

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.
- Build a Positive Public Image of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite.
- Support and expand our philanthropic activities.
- Provide a framework for effective leadership to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.
- Provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.

