

SCOTTISH RITE **Bulletin**

VALLEY OF TAMPA — ORIENT OF FLORIDA

Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
5500 Memorial Highway • Tampa, FL 33634-7336 • 813.886.0578
Meets 2nd Monday of Each Month

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srtampa.org

helpforkidspeech.org/sr

Scottish Rite Youth Month Proclamation

Whereas, the members of the Order of DeMolay, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Jobs Daughters, are young Americans who we, we as Scottish Rite Masons in the Orient of Florida, recognize and acknowledge as highly destine youth who have demonstrated clearly, by word and deed, their entitlement to their complete and continuous support by our generous financial donations, and an expression of our sincere interest in them as individuals, and in their activities represented by planning visitations to their regular meetings and events.

Whereas, these youth groups, representative of the finest and best youth of America are the potential future leadership of this great country, and the future preservers of the American way of life. They are among the ones whose responsibility it will be to speak out for our precious freedoms and to safeguard the rights granted to us under the constitution.

Now therefore, I do proclaim and direct that the month of September, 2009, be designated as “Scottish Rite Youth Month” for all Scottish Rite Masons in the Orient of Florida, and request that each Scottish Rite Valley emphasize our youth groups in meetings, newsletters, and when possible, local electronic and printed news media. I further encourage financial contributions to those most worthy youth groups as often as possible, particularly during this designated month.

Be it further proclaimed that this Proclamation be read at each meeting of the Scottish Rite Consistories throughout September 2009.

Signed and dated at Jacksonville, Florida this 9th day of July, 2009.

Robert L. Goldsmith
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Florida



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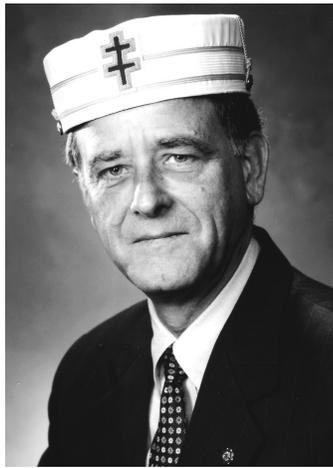
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hope that you will consider this request very seriously and contribute to this project.

I look forward to seeing you in the Valley soon.

Personal Representative

III. Russell B. Glendinning, 33°

The Time Has Come!!

After 35 years, it is time to replace the lower roof on the Consistory building. As you can imagine, this will be an expensive undertaking for your Valley. The Executive Committee has reviewed 5 different proposals and made their selection at their August meeting. The cost of this project will be \$108,000.

In the very near future you will receive a request to help pay for this very needed repair. I

During the 2009 Imperial Council Session, held in San Antonio July 5-9, Jack H. Jones of St. Petersburg, Fla., was elected the Imperial Potentate of Shriners International, making him the highest-ranking Shriner in the world. In this role, he serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children. Jones served as Imperial Recorder, part of the 13-member body that helps govern the Shriners fraternity, for the past 30 years.

Jones served on the Elected Divan of Egypt Shriners in Tampa, Fla., prior to being elected Imperial Recorder in 1979. As Imperial Recorder, he served on the Board of Directors for the fraternity as well as Shriners Hospitals for Children; a part of his responsibilities included liaison to Masonic-related groups. Jones is a recipient of several Grand Lodge awards: the Benjamin Franklin Medal from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the Andrew Jackson Medal from the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.

His Masonic affiliations include Egypt Shriners, Hillsborough Lodge #25, F.& A.M., Tampa York Rite, Tampa Scottish Rite, Red Cross of Constantine, Royal Order of Jesters, Order of Quetzalcoatl and National Sojourners. He is a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, Inspector General Honorary and a recipient of the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor. He is an emeritus member of the DeMolay International Supreme Council and a recipient of the DeMolay Grand Cross. In 2006, he was presented the Imperial Potentate's Award of Merit, which is the highest honor in the Shriners fraternity.



The 273rd Reunion
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite
Of Freemasonry
Memorial Class Honoring
Illustrious William R. McKee
October 24th & 31st, 2009



Illustrious Brother William R. McKee was born in Logan, West Virginia on February 10, 1927 and moved to St. Petersburg in 1962 from Portsmouth, Ohio. He was a World War II Navy veteran and served in the South Pacific. After discharge he graduated Portsmouth Interstate

Business College with a degree in Accounting and Business Administration. He was a retired store manager for Ace Hardware Company. He was employed as an administrator of Security at Bayfront Towers in St. Petersburg Florida.

Illustrious Brother McKee began his Masonic career in Ohio at Arora Lodge #48 in November 23, 1957. In 1980 he served as Worshipful Master of Nitrant Lodge #88 in St. Petersburg, Florida. He was a life member of the Masters and Wardens Association of the Nineteenth Masonic District. On April 23, 1960 he became a member of Tampa Scottish Rite and served as Master of Kadosh in 1987. In 1985 he served as President of the Pinellas Park Scottish Rite Club. He served as a member of the Egypt Shrine since June, 1976 and was a member of the Egypt Temple Past Masters' Club. He was a charter member of the Peninsula Shrine Club. On June 28, 1980 he became a member of the York Rite Bodies of St. Petersburg, Florida. In 1986 he served as High Priest of the St. Petersburg Chapter #31 Royal Arch Masons. In 1987 he served as Deputy Master of St. Petersburg Council #14 where he held a life membership. In 1987 he served as President of the Scottish Rite Temple Association.

(Continued on page 6 - 273rd Reunion)

General Secretary

Paul N. Bardua, 33°

At my stage of life, many of the people that I'm meeting say they realize that they have pretty much reached the top of their particular ladder of choice only to find that the ladder is resting against the wrong wall. At this realization many individuals alter their goals from material intention to an internal or deeper purpose. This reassessment dramatically shifts one's goals, and relationships.

The understanding that there is a higher purpose in all things and that universal principals direct and control personal action promotes the contemplation of reality that leads to a personal consecration that brings out the greatest ideals of oneself.

As we live up to the best that we know, we observe how easily problems appear to resolve. The source that leads to all truth and inspiration is within encouraging self-improvement to overcome the resistance of the outer personality.

Self-improvement does not require the condemnation of one's own mistakes, faults, failures, or ignored opportunities, but the change of focus of the mind.

That upon which we focus our attention becomes our reality, and that upon which we remove our attention, ceases to exist. Whatever we do is measured on the scale of universal principles. Divine Law serves no individual, but all life serves Divine Law -- the Will of the Great Architect Of The Universe.

Our inward nature abides with this principal. It is only to the degree that his outward senses obscure this fact that his mind dwells in uncertainty. Of all the arts and sciences, the art of living is the most important. By understanding our own nature, we gain the reason, which bestows the courage and integrity necessary for high accomplishment. Reason aids the enrichment of character, deeper perception and understanding of life.

To the degree that man improves, he will find increased opportunity. Many fail in their problems, but this failure is not due to any lack of their possessing the potential to succeed. Man stands in his own light, between himself and his highest ideals.

Man's internal environment is yet imperfectly con-



(Continued on page 6 - Bardua)

273rd Reunion

Saturday, October 24, 2009

- 6:30 AM - Class Registration
- 7:15 AM - Class Assembly, Opening Ceremony
- 8:00 AM - 4° - Secret Master - Conferred
- 8:40 AM - 5° - Perfect Master - Conferred
- 9:45 AM - 6° - Intimate Secretary - Conferred
- 10:15 AM - Break
- 10:30 AM - 7° - Provost & Judge - Conferred
- 11:35 AM - 8° - 12o – Communicated
- 12:00 AM - 13° - Royal Arch of Solomon - Conferred
- 12:40 PM - Lunch
- 1:10 PM - Class Photo
- 1:40 PM - 14° - Perfect Elu – Conferred
- 3:00 PM - Break
- 3:15 PM - 15° - 17° Communicated
- 3:30 PM - 18° Knight Rose Croix - Conferred
- 4:50 PM - Close

Saturday October 31, 2009

- 7:30 AM - Class Assembly
- 7:45 AM - 19° - 20° - Communicated
- 8:00 AM - 21° - Noachite or Prussian Knight - Conferred
- 8:50 AM - Break
- 9:05 AM - 22° - Prince of Libanus - Conferred
- 10:00 AM - Break
- 10:15 AM - 23° - Communicated
- 10:20 AM - 24° - Prince of the Tabernacle - Conferred
- 11:20 AM - 25° - 27° - Communicated
- 11:45 AM - Lunch
- 12:30 PM - 28° - Communicated
- 12:35 PM - 29° - Scottish Knight of St. Andrew - Conferred
- 1:40 PM - Break
- 1:50 PM - 30° - Knight Kadosh - Conferred
- 3:10 PM - Break
- 3:20 PM - 31° - Communicated
- 3:30 PM - 32° - Master of the Royal Secret - Conferred
- 4:50 PM - Break
- 5:00 PM - Consecration of Class & Closing Ceremony

Support your Scottish Rite Club

Scottish Rite Foundation

“What is Happiness”

What is happiness? For most of us, happiness rests in our job, which too often we lose, in our loved ones, who the Great Architect calls to rest, in our health, which ultimately fails us.

One of the givens in this life is that we make mistakes or take roads that we discover were not right ones for us. But I am convinced that we do not have to endure life as if it is a long race we have no choice in running, but life can be lived with a sense of joy, freedom, and happiness.

Happiness is a belief that he/she is part of a process or plan that extends beyond one's own needs and goals, that will have a positive impact on other people's lives, and will continue after death.

Happiness in my opinion, requires the need to belong to something greater than ourselves. It could be faith in God, or a social or political movement, or an organization like Scottish Rite, which gives the feeling of being part of something greater than ourselves.

I am convinced that happiness comes when we move beyond meeting our own needs, when we give to others a part of ourselves. Belonging to and giving to the Foundation for the needs of our children to help eliminate language and learning problems makes us feel connected to something greater than ourselves.

To know that what we do will have an impact far into the future, it is our desire as Freemasons to make a difference by leaving this world in better shape than when we found it.

My Brothers please continue to make a difference in a child's life by supporting the Foundation.

Remembering the children are counting on us.

Louie King, 33°, Foundation Trustee

One Nation Indivisible



Placing the Scottish Rite Degrees into perspective with the Craft degrees as conferred today in the United States.

Everyone involved in the Scottish Rite, from the officers and teams conferring the work to the Candidates who are observing the work, need to be aware of an important fact concerning the Scottish Rite hierarchy of degrees. In the words of Jim Tresner, 33°, Grand Cross, who is the Director of Work of the Valley of Guthrie, Oklahoma: “[You all need to know that there is a serious disconnect when you watch the Fourth Degree, because they’re talking about the fact that nobody knows who killed the Master. And your reaction is; ‘hey, I saw that – they took care of that in the Third Degree.’ But, not in the Scottish Rite. The Scottish Rite is a separate system of degrees. In our degrees, we don’t take care of them until the Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Degrees. So everything in the Fourth through the Eleventh takes place between the murder of Hiram and the punishment of the ruffians.” This is now explained as follows:

Many people do not realize that there are many versions of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason Degree in existence that are in the Scottish Rite tradition. Scottish Rite versions of the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry exist today in Europe, Central and South America, as well as in other parts of the world. If you travel Masonically here in this part of the world, you will find Scottish Rite versions of the craft degrees currently being worked in the Spanish language in Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba, just to name a few places close by. There are various locations within the United States where the Scottish Rite version of the craft degree ritual is being worked, however, it is usually being conferred in either Spanish, Italian, or French. The only place in the United States where one will find the Scottish Rite version of these degrees being worked today in the English language is in the 15th Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, a district comprised of several lodges in the greater New Orleans area.

Now, let’s return to the Master Mason Degree in the Scottish Rite tradition and explain the important distinction between it and the Preston/Webb versions of the degrees in use today throughout the United States. The three Craft Degrees of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite were born in France sometime in the early 19th century. They apparently were written by the founders of the two Supreme Councils in

France and the U. S. to provide a solution to the work that comprised the higher degrees of perfection. Before 1800, Masonic lodges in France used an adaptation of the rituals in use in London at the time.

Albert Pike wrote a book consisting of the rituals for Scottish Rite version of the three craft degrees as he would have liked for them to be conferred. Pike’s *Porch and the Middle Chamber: BOOK OF THE LODGE* was not intended to be a set of degrees to be conferred in a Masonic lodge. He wrote this material as an instructional tool only; a work meant to be studied thoroughly before a candidate presented himself for investiture with the Fourth Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

In the Hiram Legend portion of the Master Mason Degree according to Pike’s version of the rituals, one finds language to the following effect concerning the ruffians: After a day’s journey, the three Fellow Crafts met a wayfaring man who encountered three men meeting the description of the fugitives, appearing to be laborers, en route to Joppa to leave by vessel. When they were informed that no vessels were scheduled to sail, they became troubled, and with many expletives, turned toward the country of Samaria. The three Fellow Crafts then decided to travel after them hoping to find them. After traveling that night and the next day and stopping at nightfall near the mountains, they heard voices emanating from a nearby cave. After listening to the conversations emanating from the cave, they discovered that these voices belonged to the three fugitives they were seeking. It was decided that they would enter the cave and attempt to capture the fugitives in spite of being foot sore, faint, and weary from their long travels. Upon entering the cave, which was dark, rough and rocky, one of the three stumbled and fell. Upon hearing this noise, the fugitives then made their escape through the myriad of labyrinths within the cave, evading their pursuers.

Upon hearing the report, King Solomon ordered that the twelve Fellow Crafts travel as before with instructions to find the body to give it a proper Masonic burial and to apprehend the fugitives so that they may be executed by the words they were overheard to have spoken in the cave. Although the body was later found, the ruffians remained at large.

Other Scottish Rite versions of the Master Mason Degree are completely silent as to the disposition of the ruffians. Also in these versions, no mention of them is made after the Master Mason is “raised” dur-

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(Bardua - Continued from page 3)

trolled by his will and consciousness; it is erratic and inconsistent. Imperfections of the lower self impede the natural flow of his spiritual nature. The purpose of self-discipline is to order and reform the lower self, that it may no longer be an obstacle to the purpose of his highest ideals.

The mind with its thoughts and the emotional nature with its feelings and impulses should proceed harmoniously from one human activity to another. There should be no breaks in the tempo or temper of living.

Let us accept interruptions and changes as a phase of universal discipline and refuse within ourselves to be moved from our foundation of balance. All action is necessary, useful, and expedient – if it is pleasant or not. And let us resolve to adjust to expected and unexpected conditions with equal placidity.

(273rd Reunion—Continued from page 3)

Ill. Brother McKee was a Deacon of the Disciples of Christ Christian Church for eight years and usher for five years. He received the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor on March 2, 1988, and was elected Eminent Commander in Sunshine Commandry #20 in 1989. Ill. Brother McKee received the Knights of York Cross of Honor in February 24, 1990. He served as District Deputy Grand Commander, 3rd Chivalric District; received the Red Cross of Constantine, and became a fellow of the Order of the Purple Cross on July 27, 2002.

Ill. Brother McKee was Coroneted Thirty-Third Degree, Inspector General Honorary on October 13, 2001 and was a Perpetual Member. Ill. Brother William R. McKee passed to the Celestial Lodge on High on December 13, 2004.



(Continued from page 5)

ing the Hiram Legend portion of the degree. This is certainly true, for example, in the Louisiana version of the Scottish Rite Craft Degree ritual that is being worked today in the greater New Orleans area.

It is important for the candidate of the Rite to be aware of this information because this knowledge is necessary to enable him to receive the richest possible experience from his journey through the Scottish Rite Degrees.

1. Spoken to the class of candidates during the fall, 2008 Reunion in Guthrie, Oklahoma.

2. The author gratefully acknowledges Michel Singer and Michael Segall, both from France, for contributing this helpful historical information.

3. See: Albert Pike. *Porch and the Middle Chamber: BOOK OF THE LODGE*. (New York: Macoy, 1872). Note: this work was re-published as an undated paperback reproduction by Kessinger Publishing and is commercially available, although the quality of the printing is poor. The Kessinger work includes 67 pages immediately before Pike's work titled "The Porch and Middle Chamber -- Book of the Lodge Secret Work."

4. See: *Ritual of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason Degrees for Exclusive Use of the Scottish Rite Blue Lodges F. & A. M. Prepared and Printed by and Under the Auspices of Kosmos Lodge No. 171, Union Lodge No. 172, Albert Pike Lodge No. 376, Paul M. Schneidau Lodge No. 391 Working Under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana*. This work was published privately in New Orleans in 1932, and revised in 1963, for the exclusive use of certain lodges in Louisiana.

James W. Hogg, 32°, Perpetual member of the Valleys of Tampa, Florida and Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Affiliations and Reinstatements

We extend a hearty welcome and a warm hand of fellowship to those Master of the Royal Secret who has joined us by Affiliation and Reinstatement since publication of our last bulletin. Scottish Rite Freemasonry welcomes all its members and visitors within its portal – visit us as often as time permits, we guarantee good fellowship, new friends and an opportunity to work with us for the benefit of Freemasonry and Scottish Rite in particular.

Affiliations

Juan F. Alayon, 32° Nick Paull, 32°

Reinstatements

Max V. Bethune, 32° Harry S. Clark, 32°
Clyde J. Walters, Sr., 32°



DIRECTOR OF WORK

Ill. C. Donald Prosser, 33°

Brethren, the Fall Reunion is fast approaching on October 24, and 31. Many Lodges are dark during August, but this is a good time to approach any Brother about becoming a Scottish Rite Brother. If you do not have petitions or the latest invitation brochure, both may be obtained at our Building or by request of the General Secretary at 813.886.0578. If your Lodge is dark during August, upon going from "refreshment to Labor," I ask each of you to contact any Brother not a Scottish Rite member and just ask him to become a member of the Fall Class of the College of Freemasonry, to "FURTHER HIS LIGHT" in Freemasonry.

I ask all Degree Masters to set their degree practices for our Fall Reunion. If your Degree plans on practicing at our "Temple," please send me, our General Secretary, and Ill. Rusty Glendinning an e-mail verifying you have scheduled your practices.

To "ALL 33° Brethren," the Valley of Tampa, will again host the 33° Coronation Ceremonies, and we ask that you plan to attend those ceremonies as well as the 33° Banquet.

MONTHLY MEETING DINNER MENUS

September 14, 2009

Green Salad, Beef Stew, Mash Potatoes, Corn,
Fruit Pie

October 12, 2009

Green Salad, Chicken Salteado w/Chorizo, Onions &
Peppers, Mash Potatoes, Fruit Pie

Please note that reservations are required to properly plan the requisite quantity of food.

To make reservations, please call the Tampa Scottish Rite Office at 813.886.0578 by the Friday preceding the regular monthly meeting. You may also log onto the Tampa Scottish Rite website (srtampa.org) and click on "Make your dinner reservations" at the bottom of the Home Page.

Coming Events

Monday, September 14, 2009 & Monday October 12, 2009: Executive Committee Meeting

Continued next column near bottom

PRELATE

Ill. M. Dean Lovett, 33°

Live With Hope



Over the years of our lives, how many times have we heard people speak referring to something as being a "hopeless situation?" Maybe they were talking about someone who was gravely ill, or a man or woman torn by divorce, or a life in ruins because of alcohol or drug abuse.

As a minister, a great part of my life and ministry has been involved with people in these difficult times. I have found out one of the great things about trusting God in our everyday life is we don't have to be weighted down by hopeless situations. This doesn't mean our family member and friends won't get sick or even die. Nor does it mean people won't lose their jobs. There will still be marriages that end in divorce, but as we look to God for our answers, we become a people of hope. We have this hope because we find there is power in prayer. We can face the seemingly hopeless circumstances of life.

Let's not be too quick to call a problem "hopeless." God's word tells us in Hebrew 11:1 - "*Faith is the substance of things hoped for.*"

By faith together with hope we can see what we pray for worked out in God's will and time.

Continued from previous column

at 4:00 PM, Dinner at 6:00 PM & Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM. All Scottish Rite masons may attend the Executive Committee Meeting.

Saturday, October 03, 2009: Foundation Golf Tournament hosted by Sneaky's Sports Bar & Grill.

Saturday, October 24, 2009: Fall Reunion – Day 1.

Saturday, October 31, 2009: Fall Reunion – Day 2.

Saturday, November 07, 2009: KCCH Investiture.

Saturday, November 14, 2009: 33° Coronation.

To him in whom love dwells, the whole world is but one family. ~ Buddha

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IN MEMORIAM

“Sunset and evening star, and one clear call for me! And may there be no moaning of the bar, when I put out to sea, but such a tide as moving seems asleep, too full for sound and foam, when that which drew from out the boundless deep turns again home. Twilight and evening bell, and after that the dark! And may there be no sadness of farewell, when I embark; for tho’ from out our bourne of Time and Place the flood may bear me far, I hope to see my Pilot face to face when I have crossed the bar. - Tennyson



Olaf K. Becker, 32°
June 24, 2009

George H. Eason, 32°
June 6, 2009

William W. Moore, 32°
July 20, 2009

John C. Bickel, 32°
July 26, 2009

Royal K. Eden, Jr., 32°
July 14, 2009

Merle B. Pennington, 32°
July 12, 2009

Louis N. Brown, 32°
July 2, 2009

John J. Faircloth, Sr., 32°
August 4, 2009

Joe C. Price, 32°
April 7, 2009

Lenton A. Brunson, 32°
July 14, 2009

Donald G. Gessert, 32°
February 20, 2009

Charles A. Scott, 32°
June 8, 2009

Marlin W. Chapman, 32°
May 1, 2009

Lendon E. Hughes, 32°
June 11, 2009

Arthur R. Slade, 32°
July 5, 2009

Thomas Courtney, 32°
July 2, 2009

Milton Hyman, 32°
June 11, 2009

Douglas G. Wray, 32°
September 22, 2008

Rolland F. Dickensheet, 32°
July 11, 2009

Roy K. Ledwell, Sr., 32°
May 13, 2009