



THE RITE NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE STOCKTON SCOTTISH RITE BODIES

Volume 60 /3

Stockton, California

MARCH 2009

SPRING DEGREES

MARCH 27-28TH, APRIL 4TH

Applications should be read at the March Stated Meeting, but exceptions can be made, by The Masters, up to March 25th

It is with sadness that I report that our General Secretary, Jim Allen, KCCH, fell victim to an apparent stroke on Friday, February 6th. Brother Jim is in the intensive care unit at St. Joseph's Hospital. According to the hospital staff, his recovery has been a very difficult one. At this time he cannot have visitors other than his immediate family. We are in contact with the family and they are keeping us up to date on his progress. Please contact the office for updated information.

Brother John Bolt, KCCH, is in the process of contacting the degree directors to work out a practice schedule. The degrees are scheduled for March 27th (4th deg), March 28th (14th & 18th degs), and April 4th (30th & 32nd degs). We have six candidates signed up at this time to become 32nd degree Masons. Please mark your calendar as we are in need of a good member turnout to support our new members.

I am looking forward to a good turnout at our stated meeting on March 4th. Our acting secretary will be Brother John Baker, KCCH, who has volunteered to fill in at the stated meetings until Brother Jim returns.

Tod Ruse, 33°, Personal Representative

WHAT IS THE DOUBLE HEADED EAGLE?



The Double-Headed Eagle of Lagos is the oldest Royal Crest in the World. Nor heraldic bearing, no emblematic device of today can boast such antiquity. It was in use a thousand years before the Exodus from Egypt, and more than 2000 years before the building of King Solomon's Temple. The Double-Headed eagle was first used in Freemasonry in 1758 by the Masonic Body in Paris known as the Emperors of the East and West which controlled the advance degrees then in use and was the precursor of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.



The Rite News is the official publication of the **Stockton Bodies**, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. The Rite News is published monthly at:

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Chapter Rose Croix

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Council of Kadosh

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Scottish Rite Ladies Association

Marlene Von Berg President

The views expressed in the Rite News are not necessarily those of the Scottish Rite Bodies. Submission of articles are welcome and due by the 15th of the month preceding the publication. All articles or ads will be placed in the Rite News at the discretion of the Editor or Pers. Rep. due to space limitations and/or content. Articles may be submitted by email, disk or CD (MS Word or compatible format), or typewritten. The Rite News accepts no responsibility for typos and, if accepted, articles will be published as received. Only articles of four or less columns will be considered and may be split into two publications. For more information contact the Editor or Gen. Secty. At (209) 466-3391

The Bodies of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Stockton, Orient of California, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspector General Knights of 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 the Grand Orient of Charleston, in the state of South Carolina.

Ronald A. Seale, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

William F. Stovall, 33°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General

R. Tod Ruse, 33°
Personal Representative of the

FROM THE SCOTTISH RITE LADIES ASSOCIATION

The ground hog has seen his shadow and it looks like we are going to have another six weeks of winter. Bundle up and don't start planting those spring flowers quite yet.

At our February meeting the new directory was distributed. This includes our current by-laws and, as current as possible, membership list with addresses and phones. Please bear with me if there are some errors; however, this was printed with the information that was available at the time of printed. If you were not at the meeting and would like a copy, please give the office a call and I will see that you get one.

First topic of discussion is the Easter Breakfast. Ida Evans and Billie Beard will be chairing that event. The Easter Breakfast will be April 12, 2009 and more details will be available as the time becomes closer. The ladies have agreed to spend \$30 on Easter favors for the little ones. ***Reservations are necessary as per the Easter Bunny!***

A report from Shirley Davis was given on the Luncheon/Fashion Show. Currently she has 8 tables spoken for and her goal is to have 15. Coldwater Creek has agreed to provide fashion for 5 models with 2 outfits each. I am still waiting to hear from Linda at Drapers and Damons to see if they would also be interested. It is still being considered whether a hot dish will be provided by the organization and the ladies' compliment this with their outstanding salads. A theme has been set: AUTUMN LEAVES. I can vision the rich and beautiful fall colors.

Even though we are a relatively small group, it would probably be a good idea to have a budget. Ida Evans, Shirley Smith, and myself will be working on a draft to submit to the membership by the April meeting.

REMINDER: The March Stated Meeting will be in Modesto. If transportation is a concern, please give the office a call and drivers will be available.

Marlene Von Berg, President

LANGUAGE CENTER NEWS

Our fall semester came to a close in December. Eighty-two children with speech and language needs received services on a weekly basis over the course of the semester. In addition, 37 children were evaluated.

The semester ended with a "Winter Festival" in recognition of the Center's students hard work and accomplishments. The University of the Pacific, senior class of clinicians in the Speech-Language Pathology Program, planned the Festival.

They collaborated to plan fun and creative activities that would target a variety of speech and language goals.

Activities included making reindeers out of craft sticks, creating paper bag puppets, a bean bag toss, and several other arts and craft projects. The activities provided a way to help the children practice their speech and language targets in a more

natural setting with new people. It was a fun way to wrap up the semester.

Our spring semester began in January . We are serving 90 children.

Heidi Germino, Clinic Director





NOTICE!

Applications are now being accepted for the Stockton Valley Scottish Rite Baker and Stanley Funds.
NO-INTEREST, STUDENT LOANS.

The qualifications are, above a 2.5 GPA, graduating from and going to, a public funded school located in the Valley of Stockton Scottish Rite Area.

Application may be made through the Bank of Stockton Trust Department, 209 929-1500.

Any and all Masonic connections are taken into consideration by the Scottish Rite Selection Committee, but all students may apply. These loans are for the school year beginning, Fall 2009. There are no restrictions on the applicants for the use of the Funds.

Unpaid dues are now past due!

If you have not paid them, please do. If you have a problem, please call the Office at 209 466-3391 and lets work it out. Don't lose touch because of temporary problems. After all, we are Brothers!

IN MEMORIAM



**Irvin Paul Larsen, 32°
AASR Member since 1945**

**Robert Streeter Rathbone, 32°
AASR Member since 1979**

**Raymond Lee Devenport, 32°
AASR member since 1980**

**Charles Gerald Ericson, 32°
AASR Member since 1970**

*“Father,
in thy Gracious keeping leave
we now thy servant sleeping,
Amen.”*

DONATIONS

BUILDING FUND

SAMUEL BAYLE
VIRGILIO AMBIDA
CLAYTON BENTLEY
JAMES JENSEN

ALMONERS

VIRGILIO AMBIDA
CLEM LEE

LANGUAGE CENTER

SAMUEL BAYLE
DONALD BAKER
MILTON HEINS
VIRGILIO AMBIDA
RICHARD DAVIS

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Request to the family of the member whose name appears below:
Please notify us (address above) if our member is in a hospital or
nursing home, or is incapacitated in any way, or is deceased.

DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE DO NOT HOLD

Scottish Rite Calendar

MARCH - CHAPTER ROSE CROIX - TUXUEDOS

Mar. 4th – Stated Meeting Modesto/Extinguish Lights
Mar. 19th - Master Craftsman Workshop – Library 4-6 pm
Mar. 25th – Cathedral Board Meeting 6 pm/ Officers Conf.7 pm
Mar. 27th - 4° - DeVinci's macaroni & cheese
Mar. 28th - 14° & 18° - cold cuts - Actors Guild

APRIL - CONSISTORY - DARK SUITS

Apr. 1st - Stated Meeting/ Language Center Open House
Maundy Thursday Dinner/ Past Masters Night
Apr. 4th - SR Degrees (30th & 32nd)
Apr. 12th - Easter Breakfast/ Relight Lioghts
Apr. 16th - Master Craftsman Workshop – Library 4-6 pm
Apr 29th - Cathedral Board Meeting 6 pm/ Officers Conf.7 pm

NOTE: Dates, times and events are subject to change during the year.

Ancient Evidences

By G. W. Baird P.G.M., District of Columbia

The two Monoliths known as Cleopatra's needles had been brought to Alexandria in the time of the Caesars. They were originally in front of the University at Heliopolis, that great school where Moses, the law giver, was once a student. How long they were in Heliopolis no one knows, nor it is known when they were carved or erected.

One of these magnificent monuments was given to England, and the other to the United States. The latter was brought to this country by Brother Lieutenant Commander H. H. Gorringer, U. S. Navy. When Gorringer lifted the monument, for the purpose of shipping it, he was surprised to find, under its base, so many symbols which seemed clearly Masonic. The Grand Lodge of Masons in Egypt, among whom there was a number of Egyptologists and Archaeologists, sent a committee of its best men, at the request of Gorringer, to examine these emblems and give an opinion. They were unanimous in the opinion that the emblems were Masonic, and gave the following definitions. Gorringer had a drawing made, not only to show the emblems and their relative positions, but for use in replacing them when the shaft should be erected at New York.

A polished cube, of syenite, B. Polished square, of syenite, C. Rough and irregular block of syenite, D. Hard lime stone with trowel cemented to its surface, E. Soft lime stone, very white and entirely from spots, F. Axis stone, with figures, G. A marked stone, H. Corner stone, found under east angle of lower steps.

The block C was believed to be the rough ashler; A the perfect ashler; the square B is very distinct, and has been so identified with Masonry, in all ages, that its presence added great weight.

The Committee thought the stone, with figures, resembling snakes, was emblematic of Wisdom. They thought the "axis stone" represented the trestle-board and the marked stone bore the mark of a Mark Master. The two implements, the trowel and the lead plummet, are emblematic of Freemasonry; the white stone is the symbol of purity, as we have always understood it.

The Obelisk was brought to New York and erected in Central Park, where it now stands. The corner stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies in 1880, and the emblems were replaced exactly as they had been found at Alexandria.

Source, **The Builder, Jan.1915**

