Dinner Program Celebrates Scottish Rite Play-Rites

Masonry has labor and work; Scottish Rite has knowledge and education. Degree work has both: rehearsing, working through revisions, rehearsing the changes -- perhaps even many times over and again -- in an effort to continually improve communicating invaluable lessons by acting out a story.

It has become tradition at the Fort Worth Scottish Rite to honor members of its Degree Teams who dedicate much time and effort to portraying each of the twenty-nine degrees at our Reunions both Spring and Fall. We call these participants Play-Rites.

Many among the Degree Teams will also tell you how much fun they have, despite the hard work. These participants we lovingly call hams.

On September 16, during a celebration themed “In the spirit of the incomparable Indiana Jones,” degree team Directors and Actors (team Masters and Members) were recognized and presented with a token which they can add to their regalia.

The stabilizing force of the degrees is the Play-Rite Officers. Each year the new officers are selected to continue the leadership. 2016 President Rick Montey, 32º KCCH, Vice President Joe Spencer, 32º KCCH, and Secretary David Conte, 32º heard a robust round of applause in appreciation of their leadership and accomplishments over the past year. These leaders passed the positions to the 2017 officers who were then installed: Joe ascends to the office of President, David to Vice President, and Jim Rogerson, 32º will be serving as Secretary.

The top award as Distinguished Play-Rites was presented to David Sebastian, 33º. Reunion Coordinators Chairman Mark Paris, 32º KCCH received the “Crack the Whip” award for keeping his co-workers on time and in line. Mel Hagood, Chairman of the Special Parts Committee, was recognized with the “Lost Treasures” award for his many years of service and support.

There can be no doubt that the Fort Worth Valley of Scottish Rite has many good reasons to be proud of its Play-Rites. And, no stage activity would be as great as it is without all who support their presentations: Sound and Lighting, Stage and Prompting, Multimedia, and Wardrobe. It is by their collective dedication that we are continually improving the message of, and lessons to be learned from, each of the twenty-nine degrees.
**FWSR to Honor the Order of DeMolay at the 2016 Fall Reunion**

The Fort Worth Valley of Scottish Rite has been blessed by having several Senior DeMolays join its ranks over the years, and its 2016 Fall Reunion will honor the Order of DeMolay.

It often seems many Master Masons know little to nothing about DeMolay. Senior DeMolays have knelt at an Altar and taken upon themselves Obligations to be better sons, men and citizens of our country.

In 1919, Frank Sherman Land created the Order of DeMolay especially in support of young men who lost their fathers in the Great War. From its humble beginning with Dad Land and eight young men, the Order of DeMolay has grown to well over a million members, all over the world. Former members from the United States have distinguished themselves by walking on the Moon, becoming among America’s best known and loved motion picture Actors, Radio and Television journalists, and even Presidents of our great nation.

*Whether you have never seen the DeMolay Degree, or have seen it before many times, you owe it to yourself to come and see a delegation of these fine young men perform a piece of their Ritual Work at this Reunion. Consider it an investment in their future - an investment of appreciation and acknowledgment which may, one day, encourage them into Lodge membership and a career in Freemasonry.*

The DeMolay degree is scheduled November 5, at 12:45pm. Hope to see you there!

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**Fort Worth First Responders Enjoy Breakfast Courtesy of Fort Worth Scottish Rite**

On September 24, the Fort Worth Scottish Rite served breakfasts to over 125 Police, Sheriff, Fire, and Ambulance personnel in a show of appreciation for their service and dedication. Some came by the Fort Worth Temple taking advantage of dine-in or carry-out. New this year, we delivered to offices of Dispatch personnel, i.e., the 911 operators who take that first call for assistance.

*Many thanks to Ricky Cliatt, 32° and the group of volunteers who made this effort a tremendous success.*

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**UPCOMING EDUCATION EVENTS**

**Masonic Education Program**

October 27, 2016   6:30pm   Fort Worth Temple


**Masonic Education Programs**

November 19, 2016   10:00am   Gainesville Lodge #210

and January 21, 2017   10:00am   Stephenville Lodge #267


Gainesville attendees desiring meal should call 817/335-6004 by November 16.

Stephenville attendees desiring meal should call 817/335-6004 by January 11.

Additional meals will be available on first come, first served basis. Donations accepted.

**Masonic Study Group**

January 26, 2017   6:30pm   Fort Worth Temple

Annual Christmas Party for Kids
Sunday, December 4, 2016, 1pm to 4pm
Come and Go at the Masonic Temple.

All Masons Welcome.
Bring the Entire Family.
Fun For Kids of All Ages.
Pictures with Santa Claus.

Admission is Free.

In the spirit of the season, consider bringing a new unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots program sponsored by the United States Marine Corps.

Other Opportunities for Masonic Education

The 32 Secret Paths Of Solomon:
A New Examination Of The Qabbalah In Freemasonry
By V. W. Bro. Timothy Hogan

The 32 Secret Paths of Solomon is a new examination of the role of Qabbalah in Freemasonry. This book explores how Freemasonry holds certain keys which reveal a completely new perspective to the Qabbalistic science. Qabbalah is mentioned many times in the degrees of Freemasonry, and this book explores why an understanding of Qabbalah is important in order to truly understand Masonic ritual. This book also publishes for the first time gematria correspondences which are found within Masonic ritual, and it demonstrates how Freemasonry holds the keys to understanding a different layout of the Qabbalistic Tree than has ever been published before. This book will be of value to both the new and old student of the Qabbalistic science.

The 29 Scottish Rite Degrees

The preeminent learning experience for Masons are the twenty-nine Scottish Rite Degree. All twenty-nine degrees will be presented during the three weekends of the Fall Reunion, October 22, 29, and November 5.

The Scottish Rite Degrees are one-act plays often staged with costume, scenery, special effects, and the full rigging of any production. Their purpose is to examine different philosophies, ancient religions, and systems of ethics. Through all of these, people have tried to answer certain universal questions. The Degrees of the Rite do not tell a person what he should think about these questions. Instead, they tell him about what great thinkers and civilizations of the past have thought, and they try to create a situation in which the candidate or Brother can gain insight. Agreeing with Socrates that the unexamined life is not worth living, the Rite helps with this self-examination by providing reference points.

The degrees are of equal importance to Scottish Rite Masons and candidates receiving the degrees for the first time. While each degree is complete within themselves, Class Directors serve to amplify and explain the degrees as they are presented. Each degree is intended as a platform for discussion and continual education.
INTENDANT OF THE BUILDING - EIGHTH DEGREE

Masonry reduces to practice the great principles of God's inherent love, charity, morality and kindness. But many times the symbols and the ceremonies deliberately have multiple meanings. The truth then is concealed in hints and allusions that are designed for discovery only in stages and through organized and systematic reflection and study. It is futile to advance unless we learn the lessons already given in work and ceremonies and communications and the related jurisprudence. Thus, we proceed toward our ultimate goal of Perfection, the name of our first eleven degrees. But the Scottish Rite is practical. The world itself is God's handiwork and hence essentially good. In truth, it is the beginning of heaven and part of immortality. We should weigh the world's evil against the good; the misanthropy, the melancholy and the despair as opposed to the contentment, the blessings and the happiness. Compare our afflictions with those of they who are less fortunate. Our faults are more truly reflected in the mirror of enemies than that of friends. We have high duties to perform and an inspiring destiny to fulfill upon this earth as a noble field of action.

MASTER ARCHITECT - TWELFTH DEGREE

There is instinctive in every human breast at least a modicum of faith in moral principles, in virtue, and in God. This is as real as the instinct which guides an animal. Hence, this faith, being inherent in human nature, has a mission in our divine guidance as truly authentic as an animal's instinct. Faith leads to a feeling that the human soul travels toward this Deity. We are possessed of powers that include those of which we are but dimly conscious. Masonry strives to develop the instinctive and God-given traits and to accept as a guide their half conscious promptings. Life is what each man makes it; the optimist turns a trial into a blessing, the pessimist sees only ruin and disaster. Faith in our fellow men is the basis of our earthly transactions and institutions, but, more important, faith is belief in the spiritual powers of a just, wise and beneficent Supreme Being.

ROYAL ARCH OF SOLOMON - THIRTEENTH DEGREE

The Royal Arch of Solomon forms a part of Ineffable Scottish Rite Masonry. For centuries the Hebrews were forbidden to pronounce the sacred name of God, considered it magic and sacred and, where it occurred, they read instead the name "Adonai." A knowledge of the true pronunciation was withheld from the common people, and was supposed to give the favored few supernatural powers. The conception of the Deity varied according to intellectual capacities; among the ignorant He was invested with the lower attributes of humanity, among the intellectual spiritual, He was a Being, Pure and Holy. Our Scottish Rite dispels the dark clouds and mists that theretofore veiled the sacred mysteries. The allegory of the Lost Word and other esoteric truths are explained. The true knowledge of the One Supreme Deity is given. A glorious dawn illuminates the East and the light enters into dark and hidden places. So the Royal Arch of the sacred Temple of Liberty is revealed as a fundamental expression of the people, embodied in a written instrument that cannot easily be changed or violated with impunity. It is not enough that the people gain liberty. They must keep it, and not entrust it to the keeping or pleasure of one man.
Help Decorate a Christmas Tree With Gifts for the Children at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital

The Ladies Auxiliary has been invited to the Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas on December 1st to participate in the “decorating” of the Christmas Trees. They will be decorating a tree designated for the FWSR auxiliary with donated scarfs, hats, and toys. These items will be given to the children at the Scottish Rite Hospital. The Ladies Auxiliary is accepting donated items to decorate the tree and put under the tree. Monetary donations can be clipped to the money tree in the FWSR Office anytime during the year. Those funds are designated to go to a special account at the hospital that provides gifts for the children with special needs.

Elected Officers of the Bodies

To be considered for service as an Elected Officer of one of the Bodies a recommendation of the proposed officer must be received by the Valley Chairman. The recommendation may be submitted by any member of the Valley or by the proposed officer. The recommendation should state the name of the proposed officer, the body for which he should be considered and why the proposed officer should be elected.

Generally, the areas of responsibility of the bodies are:

- **Lodge of Perfection** - Degree preparation and presentation and Reunions;
- **Chapter of Rose Croix** - Member support programs, community relations, and fraternal efforts;
- **Council of Kadosh** – Education programing for members and Masons and the provision of refreshments;
- **Consistory** - Membership recruitment and retention.

The only restriction upon service as an elected officer is that a member may serve in only one elected office at a time. Members may repeat service in a line of officers and may serve in more than one body. The Executive Committee will consider all letters and recommendations and determine their nominations for presentment to the Bodies. Nominees will be voted on at the November stated meeting.

Foundation Completes Its 2016 Donation to Law Enforcement

On September 27, 2016 the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Foundation made a $4,000.00 donation to the Haltom City Police Department to help pay for a SWAT team vest and panel replacements for expiring vests.

John Allen, 33ᵉ is pictured holding a vest, and is joined by (left to right) Sgt. Kyle Barton, Chief Cody Phillips, and SWAT officer Andy Whitley, who received the gift on behalf of the Police Department.

Many thanks to John, Hal Ray, 32ᵉ KCCH and Dan Gilbert 33ᵉ for coordinating this year’s award.

Valley of Fort Worth Officers - 2016

- **Ill. Ken Curry 33ᵉ, Chairman**
- **Ill. Sonny Tull, 33ᵉ, General Secretary**
- **Hon. Kevin M. Caraway, 32ᵉ KCCH, Venerable Master, The Lodge of Perfection**
- **Hon. Michael A. Haverland, 32ᵉ KCCH, Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix**
- **Hon. Ernest L. Runyon, 32ᵉ KCCH, Commander Council Of Kadosh**
- **Hon. Amarnath S. Murthy, 32ᵉ Master of Kadosh, Consistory**

Office Administrators: Ms. Linda Allen, Ms. Laura Reed

To submit ideas, articles and pictures for the Double Eagle, please contact the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Office or submit them to fwsroffice@fortworthscottishrite.org

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**Editors:** Hons. Jeff Baldwin, 32ᵉ & Steve Maxwell, 32ᵉ KCCH

Please notify the office with any change of mailing address, phone number or e-mail address.
A Brother Shining Bright

Paul Solomon, 32° KCCH was born April 18, 1945 in Conway, South Carolina. He began his working career in his family’s retail store, and worked in that business over many years in various localities throughout the country. He left the retail business and became a Paralegal when he moved to Texas in 1981, working twenty-five years in that field until retirement.

Paul was married to Carolyn, who passed away in the early summer of 2016. He has 2 sons, Andrew and Josh, and 7 grandchildren.

His Masonic career began in 1972 when he was initiated an Entered Apprentice at Raeford Lodge #308 in Raeford, North Carolina. He was passed to a Fellowcraft Mason September 26, 1972, and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason October 31, 1972. Paul joined the Scottish Rite in October 1973 in the Valley of New Bern, North Carolina.

After his move to Texas, Paul joined the Julian Field Lodge #908 in 1999. He served as Worshipful Master in 2004 and has held the office of Lodge Secretary since 2009. Paul holds a Class B Certificate as an instructor in the Esoteric Work in Texas, and is well known as a top notch instructor in the 64th District of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

He joined Moslah Shrine in 1999, is a life member of the Shrine Band and served as its President in both 2004 and 2010.

1999 is also the year Paul joined Fort Worth Scottish Rite. For many years, he has served as a Degree Master. In 2013 he was made Chairman of the Mentor Committee. Paul was awarded the Knight Commander of The Court of Honor in 2015. In recent years he has often accompanied the National Anthem, playing his trumpet, at many of our programs and events.

Appointed into the Officer’s Line in the Chapter of Rose Croix as Assistant Expert in 2012 then Expert in 2013, he is currently serving as Preceptor of the Consistory 2016. Paul joined the Knights of Saint Andrew in 2012, and during that first year in service, worked with the committee that developed and initiated the Robert Burns Dinner and Celebration in the Fort Worth Valley which has become a February tradition in our Valley. Paul also served as Venerable Master of the Knights of Saint Andrew in 2015, and in that year also joined the York Rite, Texas Chapter and Council.

Paul shared that the wellbeing of his family, service to community and his Brothers in Masonry are foremost in his thoughts. Those who know him well agree he constantly exemplifies the characteristics of a true and honorable man, well-deserving of the title of Knight, and reliable Companion. Truly, a Brother Shining Bright.

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**2017 Dues Now Payable**

Annual statements for dues were mailed in September.

If you have not received your statement, please call the Office (817/335-6004) so the oversight can be corrected. Do not hesitate to call the office should you need assistance paying your dues.

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**Two Scottish Rite Cruise Opportunities in 2017**

Western Caribbean: April 30 - May 7, 2017
Alaska, the Inside Passage: September 17-24, 2017

Flyers available in the SR Office, or contact Funtyme Travel at 817/484-2900.

A portion of each cabin booked is donated to the Fort Worth Scottish Rite Foundation.
The big world through the eyes of a small boy ... by jeff baldwin, 32°

When I was a young boy, I would look up to the sky and tried to count the stars. Later I was told that there were more stars in the heavens than there were grains of sand on all the beaches on Earth. I felt very small in the world! A single, small boy in a very big world, How could I ever make it in life?

Around the age of 60, I began to get some answers. By then I learned of light-years and the creations of the earth and the heavens. Added to that was life, love, marriage and children. But in almost everything, I was still small – only a number on some payroll form or my id number with IRS.

This year my wife and I went to Ireland. What a place – friendly, green, very English, most enjoyable, wanting to go back.

Eternal Knights of the Rose Croix

Brothers we cherished, Brothers we will dearly miss.

Bruce R. Carter, 32°, June 5, 2016
John A. Efird, 32° KCCH, July 2016
Robert E. Griffin, 32°, October 25, 2012
O.C. Harper, 32°, November 4, 2013
Bobby F. Herndon, 32°, November 2014
Lee A. Herring, 32°, August 2016
Buford E. Jordan, 32°, August 2, 2016
Gary Kaftan, 32° KCCH, August 23, 2016
James C.L. Kirkland, 32°, May 4, 2016
Kenneth D. Klein, 32°, date unknown
Billy J. Knight, 32°, Jun 16, 2015
John T. Knight, 32°, April 14, 2016
Frank E. Kruse, 32°, August 6, 2016

S. Douglas Lamb, 33°, July 5, 2016
David E. Lucas, Sr., 32°, Aug 13, 2016
Arthur L. Manning, 32°, May 25, 2016
Paul H. McCament, 32°, August 3, 2016
A.L. McFadden, Jr., 32°, February 25, 2016
Tom W. Neal, Jr, 32° KCCH, June 23, 2016
Ollie C. Oringderff, 32° KCCH, August 7, 2016
Howard W. Payne, 32°, June 2, 2015
Douglas D. Powell, 33°, August 12, 2016
Joseph W. Shelton, 32°, July 10, 2016
H.D. Smith, 32°, August 4, 2016
Charles B. Walker, 32°, January 14, 2016
John P. Watson, Jr., 32°, July 28, 2016

We went to the Grand Lodge of Ireland – wow!! To walk in a building almost as old as America. I began to feel a little bigger.

What I am saying is that even in a big world, a small group of Brothers named ‘Masons’ – local, state, national or international make the world smaller, addressing the needs of honest, caring men. We are all Brothers using the same rules, obligations, standards, finding our place in the world and sharing that understanding and pride with each Brother.

I am no longer a little boy looking at the stars, but now a man with a purpose... I AM A MASON!
In this Issue:

-- Play-Rites Banquet
-- Fall Reunion
-- First Responder Breakfast

-- Christmas Activities

-- A Brother Shining Bright

-- Educational Articles, Resource Listings and a Detail Calendar

And more....

Also visit our website at www.fortworthscottishrite.org

Calendar of Events

Oct 12  BBQ Lunch Club , 11:30am, Riscky’s BBQ, Camp Bowie Blvd.

Oct 20  Stated Meeting, 6:00pm. Dinner 7:00pm, Temple, Feast of Tishri, everyone welcome

Oct 22, 29, and Nov 5  SCOTTISH RITE FALL REUNION
 Degrees begin 8am each day

Oct 27  Education Program, 6:30pm, Temple

Oct 29  Thistle Stated Meeting

Nov 9  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am, Location TBA

Nov 3, 4, 7 and 9  Hearts & Hands Holiday Bazaar at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital

Nov 17  Stated Meeting, 6:00pm - Election of Officers; Dinner 7:00pm, Temple - Honoring Military Veterans, everyone welcome

Nov 19  Education Program, 10:00am, Gainesville

Nov 24 and 25: Fort Worth SR Office Closed

Dec 4  Christmas with Santa, 1pm to 4pm, come and go at the Temple Ballroom

Dec 14  BBQ Lunch, 11:30am, Location TBA

Dec 15  (No Stated Meeting)

Dec 22  (No Study Group)

Happy Holidays!

Dec 26 through January 1  Fort Worth SR Office Closed

Jan 21  Education Program, 10:00am, Stephenville

Jan 26  Study Group, 6:30pm, Temple