18 New Members Join During the Fall Reunion

The Valley of Fort Worth concluded the Fall 2018 Reunion on October 27. Those in attendance had an opportunity to gain much Masonic insight and everyone celebrated in the conferral of 18 new Scottish Rite Masons.

The new members of the Scottish Rite Fort Worth Valley are: Tim Adams, Mark Bridges, Martin Dalby, Todd Dickson, Rodney Dunn, Willard Edwards, Chris Farris, Rich Frolich, Jim Godsey, Curtis Graves, Hector Madrigal, Kevin Moss, Rich Owen, Tom Ridl, Ron Rohan, Austin Wagner, Clayton Watson, and Larry White. The first of two capping ceremonies was held at the conclusion of the degrees for eight of the members from outlying areas of the Valley. The second ceremony was held during the dinner program at the November Stated Meeting.

All the Degree teams performed outstandingly and were assisted by the excellent work of the production committees. Once again the Rainbow girls provided a delicious breakfast.

Much appreciation is extended to all involved for all the work involved with presenting the Reunion.

Stated Meeting & Dinner Changes

We are returning to 6:00 PM Meeting and 7:00 PM Dinner for 2019.

Also, due to Grand Lodge, our January meeting/dinner will be held on the 4th Thursday (January 24th).

<< Also see Page 6 for Additional Important Information >>

50 Year Member of Fort Worth Scottish Rite Honored Long-Distance

Joseph (Joe) Klein, 32º is a 50 year Scottish Rite Mason of the Fort Worth Valley who now calls California home. He was presented his blue 50 year member’s hat and certificate courtesy of the Valley of Pasadena, on July 6, 2018. Joe has been attending monthly dinner and meetings with his son Steven for a year now and is a familiar figure there. Making the event extra meaningful is that the presentation was made by Frank Loui, SGIG for California. Joe’s son, Steven (seen taking photos), made this event possible by attending to all the arrangements for this presentation. Photos are courtesy of his daughter-in-law Fidelia. Joe stated, “that it was an awesome and wonderful occasion” and wanted to thank the ladies in the Fort Worth office for sending his 50 year card, cap and certificate to California.
Scottish Rite 4th Degree — Secret Master

The principal teaching of this degree is that of duty. The duty to our mission in life which is:

- To serve our fellows
- Your country
- Your faith
- And the nine Masonic virtues

This duty teaches us to work for the work’s sake, without desire for praise or reward.

What are the three duties of the Secret Master’s obligation? Why are they important?

Silence – This Duty is important because sometimes helping a truly needful brother goes far beyond simple human charity and you must be silent about the help you provide.

Obedience – This is not a blindness to tyranny, rather it is the proper submission of the individual will to the necessary demands of living in a society.

Fidelity – This is one of the highest virtues. We must always strive to keep faith with God and our fellows, otherwise our obligations are meaningless and our words are snares for the simple minded.

The concept of duty in Scottish Rite Masonry demands attention, reflection and understanding. Since the 4th Degree is the first degree of the Lodge of Perfection, it lays the foundation for the succeeding degrees and provides instruction on specific virtues. Pike’s says:

“Duty is the one great law of Masonry”

Why does the 4th degree not have a plot or story in the sense the other degrees do?

- The purpose of this degree is not to illustrate the virtues we’ve discussed, rather to lay the foundation for the entire Scottish Rite degree system. Duty and its importance in Scottish Rite Masonry is stressed in the ceremony.
- The duties of a Scottish Rite Mason are not to be performed in the hope or expectation of earthly rewards or honors, but in the simple expectation of personal satisfaction.

How does Proverbs 25:2 relate to this degree?

“It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter.”

(Continued on page 6)

64th Annual Grand Annual Banquet a Night of $103,000 in Giving

The Fort Worth Scottish Rite Foundation’s 64th Grand Annual Banquet was held on Saturday, June 9th at the Fort Worth Masonic Temple. The evening’s festivities began with a reception in the Commandery Asylum to honor the Foundation’s scholarship recipients and the Anson Jones Award recipient.

Thirty of the fifty-one area high school seniors and the TCU student who were awarded $1,500 scholarship in 2018 were present and recognized at the dinner. A charitable donation was made to the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in the amount of $15,000, and the $10,000 gift made earlier this year to TCU’s summer camp for children with speaking and hearing disabilities was announced.

Our special guest for the evening was NBC 5’s Senior Meteorologist, David Finfrock, who was the recipient of the Anson Jones Award. Mr. Finfrock, a long time meteorologist and television personality in the Fort Worth / Dallas area, gave a short acceptance speech, then proceeded to entertain the audience with stories from his long, illustrious career, and closed with words of encouragement for the students. It was an enjoyable evening for all in attendance.
First Responder Breakfast

The fourth annual First Responder Breakfast was held Saturday October 20th at the Masonic Temple.

A delicious breakfast of egg, bacon, sausage, biscuits, sausage gravy, pancakes, coffee, milk, orange juice, and fruit was served buffet style in the basement dining room – no one went away hungry.

Approximately 125 responders and support personnel representing, police, sheriff, fire, and EMTs were fed on site. 45 meals were delivered to dispatchers, and another 4 to a nearby fire hall. **Many thanks to the volunteers who showed up at 5:30 AM to help make this event a success.**

All in all the event was a great success in showing the gratitude of the Fort Worth Scottish Rite to our first responders.

Ricky Cliatt, Chairman of the Americanism Committee, is the event founder and organizer. He shared that with all the division and civil unrest in our communities he wanted some way for the Fort Worth Scottish Rite to give back and show how much it appreciates those who protect us.

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Valley of Dallas Scottish Rite Stated Meeting June 18th, 2018

A delegation from the Fort Worth Scottish Rite attended the June stated meeting at the Temple in Dallas on June 18th.

The featured speaker was Arturo de Hoyos, K.Y.C.H., Grand Archivist and Grand Historian of the Supreme Council, 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, and director of Education and Heritage at the House of the Temple. Brother de Hoyos directs and supervises all operations of the library, museum, archives, education programs, and Scottish Rite Research Society within the House of the Temple.

The collection housed at the Temple is comprised of over one million documents and photographs, which is one of global Freemasonry’s largest private resources. It includes original holographs by George Washington, Paul Revere, Lafayette, and other notable Freemasons, as well as our substantial collection of manuscript proceedings, rituals and other rare items.

Bro. de Hoyos spoke on the rituals utilized in the Masonic Degrees both past and present highlighting the similarities and differences between the two. The talk also touched on the Degrees currently conducted between different states in America today. There was also a Q & A after his presentation which was very enlightening.

The Valley of Fort Worth Scottish Rite, Order of the Thistle, participated with the Dallas Order of the Thistle with the presentation of the Consistory Banners and American and Texas flags to begin the evening’s events. With close to two hundred attendees this was one of the largest gatherings at the Dallas Temple in many years.
Robert Burns, Scotland’s Poet Laureate

Born on 25 January 1759, Robert Burns was also known as the Bard of Ayrshire. He is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland and is celebrated worldwide. He is the best known of the poets who have written in the Scots language, although many of his writing are also in English and a light Scots dialect.

He is regarded as a pioneer of the Romantic Movement, and after his death, 21 July 1796, he became a great source of inspiration to the founders of both liberalism and socialism and a cultural icon in Scotland and among the Scottish diaspora around the world.

Robert Burns was initiated an Entered Apprentice in Lodge St. David, Tarbolton on 4 July 1781 at the age of 23. His initiation fee was 12s 6d, and paid on the same date. Burns came into the Lodge amidst a controversy. Originally, there had been only one lodge in Tarbolton, chartered in 1771 from the Kilwinning Lodge, which is said to be the oldest lodge in the world. In 1773, a group broke away from the Lodge, forming Lodge St. David No. 174, and the original Lodge became St. James Tarbolton Kilwinning No. 178, only to be reunited in 1781, 9 days before Burns' first degree. However, while St. James was clearly the older of the two lodges, St. David's name was used, and the seeds were sown for further dissension. Burns in the meantime was passed to the degree of fellowcraft, and raised to the degree of Master Mason on 1 October 1781.

Most certainly, Burns' commitment to the ideals of the Enlightenment came from his membership in the Masonic Lodge, much praised and damned for its equality, both in political and religious matters, among its members. But besides these lofty ideals, the lodge also appealed to Burns for other reasons; the camaraderie and spirit of brotherhood that prevailed in the lodge room and the charity towards the widow and orphan. According to William L. Fox in "The Near Miss of Robert Burns", "He found in the experience [of being a Freemason] something unlike the political and religious institutions that had kept his father in a state of perpetual frustration". For Burns, Freemasonry was one of the cures for his society's numerous social ills.

Burns Suppers

Burns Night, in effect a second national day in Scotland, is celebrated on or near Burns' birthday, 25 January, with suppers around the world and is more widely observed in Scotland than is the official national day, St. Andrew's Day. The first Burns supper in The Mother Club in Greenock was held in 1802 on what was thought to be his birthday of 29 January. In 1803 the day was changed to 25 January after the correct day of his birth was discovered in the Ayr parish records. Aside from that change, little about today's celebration is different from those early events. The basic format starts with a general welcome and announcements, followed with the Selkirk Grace. After the Grace comes the piping and cutting of the haggis, when Burns' famous "Address to a Haggis" is read and the haggis is cut open. The event usually allows for people to start eating just after the haggis is presented. At the end of the meal, a series of toasts, often including a 'Toast to the Lassies', with replies, and a toast to "the immortal memory" of Brother Burns. The event usually concludes with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne".

The Valley of Fort Worth Scottish Rite Order of the Thistle will be hosting its annual Robert Burns Supper on 9 February 2019 at the Fort Worth Masonic Temple. Proceeds from this charitable event help provide for grants made to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, for college scholarships, and to TCU's Summer Speech and Language Clinic for children (soon to become known as The Scottish Rite Clinic for Hearing and Learning Disabilities). Reservations are currently being accepted. $75 per Person.

For more information: watch your e-mail, visit our Facebook page or call the office.
The Almoner’s Fund

We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members

All money in the Almoner’s Fund comes from the generous donations of Scottish Rite Masons. Scottish Rite Masons are committed to making a difference in the lives of our Brothers. The recipient is never aware of the source of the aid. True charity happens without fanfare or recognition of the source. The various expenditures are an investment made to assist the family, providing a bit of security in times of uncertainty and a comfort in the knowledge that someone cared enough to give of themselves to help relieve the burdens of another.

Maintaining the Almoner’s Fund is the duty of each member of the Scottish Rite and exemplifies the three principle tenets of Masonry – Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. When attending meetings no Brother is expected to leave without making his contribution. If he is at the meetings, he will hear the injunction by the Almoner regarding the contributions. This is in no way intended to embarrass a Brother, but to remind him of his duty. Many Brethren who are unable to attend Lodge meetings do not overlook this important Masonic duty by including a contribution for the Almoner when they pay their dues. The fund is also supported by the proceeds of the annual Festive Board. The generosity of the Brethren giving these donations makes it possible to provide assistance to those in need of emergency assistance and perhaps even the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter.

If you are aware of or are a Brother in need, you can contact the office at (817) 335-6004 and ask to be put in touch with the Almoner. The identity of anyone requesting assistance from the Almoner is held in the strictest confidence and will never be made public.

The Scottish Rite Creed
Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal.

Valley of Fort Worth Officers - 2018

Ill. Ken Curry, 33°, Chairman
Hon. Robert L. Goode, Jr., 32° KCCH, General Secretary
Ill. Sonny Tull, 33°, General Secretary Emeritus
Hon. Jeffrey C. Billington, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection
Hon. O. Earl Sadberry, Jr, 32° KCCH, Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix
Hon. Charles H. Farmer, 32° KCCH, Commander, Council Of Kadosh
Hon. Joseph Spencer, 32° KCCH, Master of Kadosh, Consistory

To submit ideas, articles and pictures for the Double Eagle, please contact:

Jon Wych, 32° (817-692-9123; jonkw1@sbcglobal.net), or
Billy Hamilton, Jr., 32° (214-998-9699; billy.j.hamilton@verizon.com)

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

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

Regular Business Hours: Tuesday—Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm
Beginning in 2019, price increases for the Stated Meeting Dinner Program go into effect and Reservations are being Requested

Traditionally, we have lost money on these meals. One contributing factor is an inability to accurately predict how many meals may be needed. Another has been our desire to keep member costs down even in the face of rising prices for meal service.

In order to reduce losses we are requesting that you register (i.e., make a reservation) for dinner and will prefer that you pay for your meal(s) in advance. This may be done by using the registration link in the e-mail or on the website, or by calling 817-335-6004.

The cost of the meal will be $13.00 with an advance registration (reservation) or $15.00 without (and subject to availability).

Questions? Comments? Call General Secretary Robert Goode at the office.
817-335-6004, Tue-Fri 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Upcoming Education Events. See Calendar of Events on the back page for additional future events; watch for postings on the website at FortWorthScottishRite.org; and watch for notices from Fort Worth Scottish Rite to your e-mail.

Masonic Education Program

January 12, Saturday – 9:00am – Stephenville Lodge #267, Stephenville.

The Rough Ashlar and the Entered Apprentice. Presenter is Hon. William G. (Bill) Crow. All Masons Welcome. Business Casual Dress. Coffee and Donuts at 9:00am, Program at 10:00am. (Location and Times subject to update).

Masonic Study Group

January 31, Thursday – 6:30pm—Fort Worth Masonic Temple.


Secret Master (Continued from page 2)

With the Lodge of Secret Masters representing the gathering of the Princes of Israel after Hiram’s death, the verse is quite literal. God has concealed the lost word with Hiram’s death, and this degree symbolizes us taking the first steps in our duty to search out the lost word.

What does the C.a.M. embroidered on the ribbon mean, and why is the jewel an ivory key with a Z on its wards?

The initials C. a. M. denote Clavis ad Mysterium, the “key to the mystery.”

The ivory key as the jewel of this degree symbolizes secrecy and serves as a reminder that we are the custodians of the True Word; it should be locked up in our hearts.

The significance of the letter “Z” is esoteric and thus not proper to be discussed here. It is the initial of the password of this degree.

What is the symbolism of the Holy of Holies behind the rail with the gate?

This was where Master Hiram was accustomed to offer up his devotions and pray for wisdom.

This symbolizes the most secret mysteries of Freemasonry, which are being sought by the candidate so that he may use the “Key to the Mysteries” to unlock them. Ω
Eternal Knights
of the
Rose Croix

Virtus Junxit Mors Non Separabit

Don C. Adams, 32º, July 18, 2018
Samuel J. Black, Sr., 32º, January 9, 2018
Henry W. Blackwell, 32º, May 26, 2018
Murriel M. Chester, 32º, February 2, 2018
W. W. Collins, 32º, January 13, 2018
Larkis J. Cooper, 32º, June 5, 2018
G. Wesley Coulter, 32º, July 17, 2007
Kenneth O. Culwell, 32º, March 23, 2016
Donald G. Davenport, 32º, January 18, 2016
Billie E. Davis, 33º, August 22, 2018
Donald W. Dollar, 32º, February 16, 2018
Alvin O. Eudaly, 32º, April 1, 2018
Jerry A. Gazaway, 32º, May 16, 2018
H. G. Gerhardt, Jr., 32º KCCH, April 29, 2018
Charles V. Gibson, Sr., 32º, January 4, 2018
LeRoy Griffin, 32º KCCH, June 23, 2018
C. Ralph Hammond, 32º, November 22, 2016
John L. Hargrove, 32º, April 15, 2017
Jimmy J. Harrod, Sr., 32º, February 21, 2018
Charles D. Hawkins, 32º, June 26, 2018
Charles M. Hutton, 32º, February 3, 2018
Jimmie R. Jenkins, 32º, January 2, 2017
Walter C. Johnston, Sr., 32º, December 18, 2017
Marvin D. Kays, 32º, November 18, 2017
John R. Kennedy, 32º, March 27, 2015
Sydney E. Key, 32º, January 31, 2018
Leroy Kinman, 32º, May 3, 2017
Loyd H. Laney, 32º, September 1, 2018
Wallace C. Larsen, 32º, July 4, 2018
Louis T. Latham, 32º, March 12, 2018
Kenneth A. Linoski, 32º, August 2, 2018
James B. Mason, 33º, September 13, 2018
Roy M. McClendon, 32º, December 18, 2016
Chester M. McKeen, Jr., 33º, September 25, 2018
Mark R. Medlin, 32º KCCH, September 2, 2018
C. L Mitchell, Jr., 32º, April 3, 2016
John M. Myers, 32º, June 9, 2018
Milton J. Newton, 32º, January 15, 2018
Billy S. Ottinger, 32º, March 1, 2017
Billy L. Page, 32º, May 26, 2018
Calvin C. Postoak, 32º, October 16, 2017
R. Sidney Powell, 32º, May 26, 2018
T. P. Reynolds, 32º, March 6, 2018
Finis R. Rogers, 32º, March 11, 2018
Ernest W. Rothfelder, 32º, June 9, 2018
James R. Russell, 32º, July 29, 2018
Roger W. Sargent, 32º, January 25, 2006
Ernest L. Shay, 32º, September 23, 2007
William L. Short, 32º, October 1, 2017
E. Montgomery Smith, Jr., 32º, June 5, 2018
V. E. Stephens, 32º, May 25, 2018
Charles T. Stewart, 32º, April 26, 2018
Bennie L. Stilley, 32º, September 26, 2018
John A. Townsend, 32º, July 28, 2018
Charles R. Tucker, 32º, February 17, 2018
Johnny H. Vinson, 32º, May 29, 2018
Grady C. Ware, 32º, November 16, 2012
Alfred T. Watts, 32º, September 15, 2018
E. DeWayne Whitsitt, 32º, June 12, 2018
John R. Williams, 32º, March 22, 2018
Joe E. Womack, 32º, May 31, 2018
David D. Wood, 32º, June 12, 2016
Billy J. Works, 32º, December 3, 2017

Please contact the Scottish Rite Office to report a death, sickness, or distress of any Scottish Rite Mason or family member.
817-335-6004 or fwsroffice@fortworthscottishrite.org
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Also visit our website at www.FortWorthScottishRite.org and follow us on Facebook @Fort Worth Scottish Rite

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Calendar of Events

Dec 11  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am, David’s BBQ, Pantego.

Dec 24 through Jan 1  Office Closed. Happy Holidays!

Jan 9  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am, Location TBA.

Jan 12  Masonic Education Program, Stephenville (more details inside).

Jan 24  Stated Meeting and Dinner, Fort Worth Temple. Meeting at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm. Installation 2019 Officers, Fort Worth Scottish Rite and the Ladies Auxiliary. (Note: 4th Thursday instead of 3rd).

Jan 31  Masonic Study Group, Fort Worth Temple (more details inside).

Feb 2  Spring Reunion Pre-Event; Meet and Greet.

Feb 9  Robert Burns Supper, Fort Worth Temple.

Feb 13  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am Location TBA.

Feb 21  Stated Meeting and Dinner, Fort Worth Temple. Meeting at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm. Recognition of 50 Year and New Degree Team Members.

Feb 28  Masonic Education Program, Fort Worth Temple. History & Development of the Masonic Degrees.

Mar 2 and Mar 9  Days 1 and 2 of the Spring Reunion. Fort Worth Temple.

Mar 13  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am, Location TBA.

Mar 21  Stated Meeting and Dinner, Fort Worth Temple. Meeting at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm. Program TBA.

Mar 23  Masonic Education Program, Wichita Falls. History & Development of the Masonic Degrees.


Apr 6  Day 3 of the Spring Reunion. Fort Worth Temple.

Apr 9  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am. Location TBA.

Apr 18  Stated Meeting and Dinner, Fort Worth Temple. Meeting at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm. Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal.

Apr 20  Masonic Education Program, Stephenville. History & Development of the Masonic Degrees.


May 14  BBQ Lunch Club, 11:30am. Location TBA

May 16  Stated Meeting and Dinner, Fort Worth Temple. Meeting at 6:00, Dinner at 7:00. Program TBA.

May 23  6th Annual Festive Board, Fort Worth Temple.

Jun 8  Grand Annual Banquet, Fort Worth Temple.