

The Scottish Rite Reporter  
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# THE SCOTTISH RITE **REPORTER**



Vol. XXXVII Published Monthly

April 2009

## 2009 Long Beach Scottish Rite Installation



*Pictured from left to right are: Ron Dudeck, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:, Secretary of the San Bernardino Scottish Rite and current Master of Moreno Valley Lodge #804, Ill.: Joseph W. R. Ashwill, 33°, Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Supreme Council in California, and Harold Kennedy, 32°, newly installed as Expert of the Long Beach Chapter of Rose Croix.*

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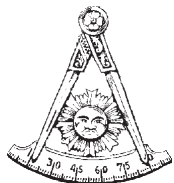
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Ron Schemm, M.D., President

Preston Jones, Secretary, 562-596-3869



## Notes from the Personal Representative

Ill.: Joseph W. R. Ashwill, 33°

Personal Representative of the Sovereign Inspector General in CA

"An optimist sees an opportunity in every calamity, a pessimist sees calamity in every opportunity." Sir Winston Churchill.

Opportunity abounds in our Long Beach Scottish Rite for those willing to dedicate and make a commitment to its present and future activities. I am pleased that two of our new members have stepped forward to fill important positions in our Sound Department. These Brothers; Paul Burgos, 32°, and Jorge Cabradilla, 32°, joined in the November 2008 Reunion Class and we appreciate their eagerness to be a part of our future. There are many opportunities, in a variety of areas that need your assistance, for our upcoming SWRRC meeting in June, and hopefully those contributing to this event, will continue to serve our Valley in these very important positions upon it's conclusion as well.

Speaking of the Southwest Regional Reunion Class IV, we are moving forward with our co-host the Los Angeles Scottish Rite and their representatives, who are contributing great effort towards the successful planning and execution for a successful presentation June 10 – 14 at our Valley. You can check into our current activities, schedule, registration form etc. at the web site, [www.srrr.org](http://www.srrr.org) as it is updated weekly.

Make a note for our April 3, Ladies Night Dinner, meatloaf with all the trimmings and very special entertainment which I know you all are going to enjoy. Where can you go for dinner and entertainment for a mere \$15.00 and enjoy it among Brothers and friends, try your Long Beach Scottish Rite and you won't be disappointed, trust me.

The Honor Men especially need to remember that we will be celebrating our regular Maundy Thursday Luncheon on Thursday, April 9 at 12:00. Therefore, please make your reservations so that we will know how many we will be serving a sumptuous Swiss steak repast. The Honorees are listed in the regular schedule.

Speaking of Honors, I have been remiss in not making mention of our Brother Richard H. Mullard, 32°, who was one of four Masonic Brethren that were presented The Grand Masters Youth Award at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California in September. Our heartiest congratulations go out to Brother Mullard for his extraordinary achievement among his brothers and fellows. It takes a very special person to work with the youth of today and we are proud to have him so engaged with our future leaders.

Until next time, God Bless 🙏

## THE DOUBLE-HEADED EAGLE

Submitted by Ill.: Joseph W. R. Ashwill, 33°

Personal Representative of the Sovereign Inspector General in CA

The double-headed Eagle of Lagash is the oldest royal crest in the world. It is a Symbol of power more than two thousand years before the building of King Solomon's Temple. No other heraldic bearing and no other emblematic device of today can boast such antiquity. It was in use a thousand years before the exodus from Egypt, and has been a Symbol for fifty centuries.

That being so, how did it come into possession of the Scottish Rite? Why was it adopted as a Symbol of the Rite, and by what Authority do we use it? What is its significance?

The Eagle was an ensign of the ancient Kings of Persia. In Egypt and Greece, it was a bird sacred to the sun. It was an emblem of Jupiter, and with the Druids a Symbol of the Supreme God. Marius, Consul of Rome in 102 B.C., ordained that the Eagle should be the only designation as the ensign of the legions, and the single-headed Eagle thereby became the emblem of the imperial power of Rome, and remained so ever after. After the division of the Roman Empire into the East and West, the Emperors of the West used a black Eagle; those of the East a golden one. Since that period, Austria, Russia, Greece, and Poland, when they were individual nations, used the Eagle as their royal emblem.

The double-headed Eagle first originated in the mighty Sumarian city of Lagash. From cylinders taken from the ruins of this ancient city the double Eagle seems to have been known to the Kings of that time as the storm bird. From the Sumarians this Symbol passed to the men of Akkad; from them to the Hittites; from Asia Minor to the Seljukian Sultans, from whom it was brought to the Emperors of the East and West by the Crusaders.

The Eagle of the Eastern Empire, united with that of the Western, typified the Holy Roman Empire when ancient Byzantium, later Constantinople, shared with Rome the honor of being the capitol of the Empire. Charlemagne first made use of the double-headed Eagle when he became Emperor of the West, by adding the second head, thereby denoting the union of Rome and Germany, in A. D. 800.

There seems to be some who believe the double-headed Eagle may have been a Masonic Symbol as early as the beginning of the twelfth century, at the time of the second crusade, but it probably was first known to Freemasonry in 1758, upon the establishment of the Council of Emperors of the East and West, in Paris in that year. This was a part of the Rite of Perfection, a rite of 25 degrees, from which was evolved a large part of the present system of the Scottish Rite. The Supreme Council of the 33 degrees, has through custom and long usage, adapted the double-headed Eagle of the Council of Emperors of

*(Continued on Page 13)*

## Scottish Rite Word Search

By DR Rawson, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:

We know that there are many of you who enjoy these types of puzzles. So, here's what we have done. The puzzle below contains words that were used in a previous *REPORTER*. We hope you enjoy this, please let us know. Good hunting!

C D R N T G V K N L Z M L K R N H H T  
V Q L T Y N N H H M L A B Q N J A T N  
D P R Z P P B R B M T R K Z N Y N P O  
R R M O D F T J U I E A Q J B D C P I  
N M W T S F K R P T D T W C Z F O V T  
C Y M R A E T S P O A R H V R T C R C  
R M L D R C O A S R H R M N O J K E I  
O H T W E H H H D Q C C M M T K B E D  
I Z V P V C B F M K R D A S K B R R S  
X W S H E K I N A H A C F C T H B G I  
M L Y H C D E E R C E Q T N K E B E R  
C H A U F F E U R M S J Z U M V A D U  
X F R F F D T Q N K E V L M R Y P D J  
W C M L K P G H R O R N K Z W K Y J R  
F T S R O N O H L A I N N E I B E J E  
Y R O T S I S N O C H N T O R T J Y H  
P E N N S Y L V A N I A U J I L Y N T  
L J W Q J Y L D V N R L D E L N V H O  
Q C G N I V I G S K N A H T R M U G M

ARMSTEAD, ARMY, BIENNIALHONORS, CHAPTER, CHAUFFEUR, CONSISTORY, CREED, CROIX, DEGREE, HANCOCK, HOSPITAL, KADOSH, MOTHERJURISDICTION, PENNSYLVANIA, POTOMAC, RESEARCH, REUNION, ROSE, SHEKINAH, SPECTRUM, THANKSGIVING, TURKEY



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## Library Corner

By Matthew T. Marfield, 32°, K.C.C.H., Librarian

### Our Rite

I made a quick visit to Los Angeles Scottish Rite a few weeks ago. I had never been there before, let alone when it was bustling with Masonic activities, and I'm not sure what I expected when I was ushered in through the rear entrance into the foyer. It was distractingly quiet; it seemed as if the building was overcome with an uneasy restraint, a facade that it wasn't built to maintain, the antithesis of the money, sweat, and dedication that was poured into it through the years. Yet, this was so.

I wanted to go exploring the various rooms, as I have many times at the Long Beach Scottish Rite; I wanted to open lost and forgotten boxes, unearth treasures from the past, find exciting new books to offer up to the Membership.

I brought back a *couple of cases of books* in their original cardboard sleeves that will find homes at the Library, and perhaps yours, as well. The books are gratefully accepted with open arms, and I do not have adequate Thanks to convey to those of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite that made it possible.

We at the Long Beach Scottish Rite have a lot going for us: our building is a state landmark, number eight, I believe; we also have a large membership, and income from various groups that use our halls and Sanctuary. We also have a long standing tradition of working ALL of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in FULL, which attracts Masons eager for more light. This is where you can really express yourself in Freemasonry, and know in your heart that you've made a difference.

As great or humble as every human action is, every action effects change: every stone thrown into a pond, great or small, sends out ripples to the farthest corners. So it is in Freemasonry, as well.

Here at the Long Beach Scottish Rite, you can explore the frustrated thespian within; indulge a culinary whim in the kitchen with those great Purveyors; work behind the backdrops, or in the Robing Room, Lighting, Sound. All of this for Degrees *hundreds* of years old that you will help pass on to those Masons of the future; and all of those stones cast into the timeless pool of Freemasonry will be their foundation stones. Every effort you make for the Scottish Rite effects change; reach out your hand, and be part of history!

Don't forget to come and visit the Quarries of your Scottish Rite Library; I'll see you there! 🏰

### "THAT RAGGED OLD FLAG"

Submitted by Charles H. Bruggeman, 32°, K.C.C.H.

I walked through a County Court House square  
On a park bench an old man was sitting there  
I said "Your old Court House is kinda run down."  
He said, "No, it will do for our little town."  
I said, "Your old flag pole is leaning a little bit,  
And that's a ragged old Flag you've got hanging on it."

He said, "Have a seat," and I sat down.  
"Is this the first time you've been to our little town?"  
I said, "I think it is."

"Well," he said, "I don't like to brag,  
But we're kinda proud of that ragged old Flag  
You see, we got a hole in that Flag there,  
When Washington took it across the Delaware,  
And it got powder burns, the night Francis Scott Key  
Sat watching it, writing 'Oh, Say Can You See.'

And it got a bad rip at New Orleans  
When Packingham and Jackson took it on the scene.  
And it almost fell at the Alamo beside the Texas Flag.  
But she waved on through.

She got cut with a sword at Chancerville,  
And she got cut again at Shilo Hill.  
There was Robert E. Lee, Bouregard and Bragg,  
The South wind blew hard on that ragged old Flag.  
On Flanders Field in World War One  
She got a big hole from a Bertha gun.  
She turned blood red in World War Two,  
And she hung limp and low a time or two.

She was in Korea and Vietnam,  
She went where she was sent by her Uncle Sam.  
She waved from our ships upon the briny foam,  
Now they've about quit waving her back here at home.

In our good land here she's been abused;  
She's been burned, dishonored, denied, and refused.  
And the Government for which she stands  
Is scandalized throughout the land.

She's getting threadbare and she's wearing thin,  
But, she's in good shape for the shape she's in.  
Because she's been through the fire before,  
I believe she can take a whole lot more.

So we raise her up every morning, and we take her down every night,  
We don't let her touch the ground, and we fold her up right.

On second thought, I do like to brag,  
Because I'm mighty proud of that Ragged Old Flag. 🏰

# SYMBOLS

By Harold Kennedy, 32°, Expert - Chapter of Rose Croix

Webster's Dictionary defines a symbol as "something that represents or stands for something else, as by resemblance or association." Symbols are present throughout all aspects of Freemasonry. They are present in the three degrees of the Blue Lodge, the York and Scottish Rites and in other bodies.

We live in an age of images. A symbol is a sign which when viewed leaves a lasting impression upon the individual. When we look at our National Flag we think of Patriotism and love of country. Similarly, when we are viewing Masonic Symbols, we are being instructed in greater personal development.

Masons learn how to manage their time, build greater personal character, treat others in an equal manner, spreading Masonic Principles around them. This is all due to symbolism. This method of instruction is one of the primary tools taught in every Masonic Lodge. Freemasonry teaches us to build on our personal character by giving each Mason a series of ethical lectures that he in turn can utilize in his daily interactions of life. What is learned in degree work can then be transmitted in all facets of social contact. As Masons we are able to bring about true moral behavior within society.

Brothers, the next time you attend a degree, pay close attention to the symbolism that is taught. And after the degree, ask the candidate his feelings about the symbols he just witnessed. Masonic education never ceases. 🏰

## The Old Masters Wages

Submitted by Bob Haynes, 32°

I Met a Dear Old Man Today Who Wore a Masonic Pin.  
 It Was Old and Faded like the Man, It's Edges Were Worn and Thin.  
 I Approached the Park Bench Where He Sat to Give the Old Brother His Due.  
 I Said, "I See You've Traveled East." He Said, "I Have, Have You?"  
 I Said, "I Have and in My Day Before the All Seeing Sun.  
 I Played in the Rubble with Jubala, Jubilo and Jubalum."  
 He Shouted, Don't Laugh at the Work My Son, It's Good and Sweet and True.  
 And If You've Traveled as You Said, You Should Give These Things a Due.  
 The Work, the Sign, the Token, the Sweet Masonic Prayer.  
 The Vow That You Have Taken. You Have Climbed the Inner Stair.  
 The Wages of a Mason Are Never Paid in Gold.  
 But the Gain Comes from Contentment When You're Weak and Growing Old.  
 You See I've Carried My Obligations for Almost 50 Years.  
 It Has Helped Me Through the Hardships and the Failures Full of Tears.  
 Now I'm Losing My Mind and Body - Death Is near but I Don't Despair.  
 I've Lived My Life upon the Level and I'm Dying on the Square.  
 Sometimes the Greatest Lessons Are Those That Are Learned Anew.  
 And the Old Man in the Park Today Has Changed My Point of View.  
 To All My Masonic Brothers the Only Secret Is to Care.  
 May You Live upon the Level and Part upon the Square. 🏰

# 10 CLUB MEMBERS

## Over 125

Main, Lewis Jr., 33° .....141

## Over 50

Hernandez, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.: .....51

## Over 25

Chastain, James A. Sr., 33° ..... 37	Lemons, H. Douglas, 33° ..... 25
Navarro, Benjamin E., 32° ..... 29	Anderson, Ian, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.: ..... 26
Bodnar, Bart, 33° ..... 26	Pontello, Frank, 33° ..... 25
Manoukian, Vartan, 32° ..... 45	Thompson, Charles, Jr., 33° ..... 25
Sunseri, James, 33° ..... 26	

## Over 10

Nomicos, Eugene N., 33° ..... 24	Johnson, Lester Jr., 32° ..... 19
Benton, Lowell E., 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.: 17	Lopez, John C., 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.: ..... 10
Benezette, Ben, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.: ..... 10	Lord, John, 33° ..... 15
Boyadjian, Sarkis, 32° ..... 10	Ludwig, Bob, 33° ..... 13
Corcoba, Axureliano, 32° ..... 14	Luben, Dougan, 33° ..... 15
Dukellis, Arthur F., 32° ..... 12	Palmer, John A., 33° ..... 15
Garcia, Danny, 33° ..... 10	Sargent, Terry, 33° ..... 16
Thagard, Raymond, 33° ..... 10	Van De Weghe, Bill, 32° ..... 12
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If you are a Masonic organization, the published rates are half of the rates shown.



**"No man is an island." We all need each other and Masonry can be the glue that binds us all. Do you know someone that should be a Mason?**

## Why 'TAPS' is played.

Submitted by John Moore, 32°

If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which Taps was played; this brings out a new meaning to it.

Here is something Every American should know...but most don't, until they read this:

We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, 'Taps.' It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes.

But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment.

When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted.

The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted.

The haunting melody, we now know as 'Taps' used at military funerals was born.

*(Continued on Page 15)*

## There Are No Senseless Acts of Kindness

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:., Commander of Kadosh

Within our tenets, Brotherly Love is always mentioned first and foremost. As such, kindness, I feel, is an integral part of Brotherly Love. I hope you agree with me, that we should practice kindness, patience, and forgiveness as part of Brotherly Love.

Despite my great admiration for people who are instinctively and consistently kind, kindness does not come naturally to me. Yet the older I get, the more I agree with Abraham Heschel, who said, "When I was young, I admired clever people. Now that I am old, I admire kind people." Henry James was more emphatic when he said, "Three things in human life are important: The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind."

In 1994, Dr. Chuck Wall, a professor of human relations and management at Bakersfield College in California, came up with a concept that turned into an influential movement. Weary of hearing about "senseless acts of violence," he began to teach and talk about "random and senseless acts of kindness." The idea was simple: the best response to a world coarsened by selfishness and cruelty was individual acts of kindness.

In 1999, Catherine Ryan Hyde wrote a novel called "Pay It Forward" (later turned into a movie) that builds on Dr. Wall's initial inspiration. It starts with a teacher's assignment to "THINK OF AN IDEA FOR WORLD CHANGE, AND PUT IT INTO ACTION." Trevor, the 12-year-old hero, comes up with an idea. If he does something "real good" for three people and asks in return that instead of them "paying him back," they "pay it forward" by doing a good deed for three other people, who are in turn asked to pay it forward, the math quickly shows that he could change the world.

Whether acts of kindness are random or spontaneous as advocated by Dr. Wall or premeditated as proposed by Ms. Hyde, acts of kindness are certainly not senseless. To the contrary, they're the best possible proof of good sense. Every single person can send forth ripples of kindness and compassion simply by being nice.

That kindness which every Scottish Rite Mason should demonstrate and practice each and every day. 🙏

---

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## APRIL CALENDAR

(Closed on Mondays)

FRIDAY, APRIL 3rd  
 6:00 P.M. — STATED MEETING  
 6:30 P.M. — LADIES NIGHT DINNER  
 MENU: MEAT LOAF/VEGETARIAN  
 CATERED BY ARNOLD'S  
 7:30 P.M. — ENTERTAINMENT — KERRY ROSS

THURSDAY, APRIL 9th  
 NOON — MAUNDY THURSDAY LUNCHEON  
 HONOR MEN (33°, 32°, K.-C.-C.:H.-) & THE THREE CLUBS, (L.B. MASONIC CLUB, L.B. SHRINERS & SIGNAL HILL HIGH TWELVE)

THURSDAY, APRIL 9th  
 11:30 A.M. — TALONS & TALONETS LUNCHEON MEETING  
 LONG BEACH PETROLEUM CLUB

FRIDAY, APRIL 10th — GOOD FRIDAY, OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, APRIL 11th  
 7:00 A.M. — COFFEE  
 7:30 A.M. — CLASSROOM  
 8:30 A.M. — 20°  
 9:15 A.M. — 21°  
 10:00 A.M. — 22°  
 11:00 A.M. — 23°  
 12:00 P.M. — LUNCH  
 1:00 P.M. — 24°

TUESDAY, APRIL 14th  
 7:00 P.M. — STATED & I.:G.:A.:C.: MEETING (REMINDER TO GET YOUR PETITIONS IN, WE ARE GETTING READY FOR THE SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL REUNION CLASS)

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th  
 10:00 A.M. — KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREWS MEETING

## MAY CALENDAR

(Closed on Mondays)

FRIDAY, MAY 1st  
 6:00 P.M. — STATED MEETING  
 6:30 P.M. — LADIES NIGHT DINNER  
 MENU: STUFFED CRANBERRY ORANGE CHICKEN/VEGETARIAN  
 CATERED BY ARNOLD'S  
 50 MEMBERS CELEBRATION  
 7:30 P.M. — ENTERTAINMENT — TO BE DETERMINED

SATURDAY, MAY 9th  
 7:00 A.M. — COFFEE  
 7:30 A.M. — CLASSROOM  
 8:30 A.M. — 15°  
 9:30 A.M. — 16°  
 10:30 A.M. — 17°  
 11:15 A.M. — 18°  
 12:00 P.M. — LUNCH  
 1:00 P.M. — 29°

THURSDAY, MAY 14th  
 11:30 A.M. — TALONS & TALONETS LUNCHEON MEETING  
 LONG BEACH PETROLEUM CLUB

SATURDAY, MAY 16th  
 10:00 A.M. — KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREWS MEETING

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## Passover-Easter Glow

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:., Commander of Kadosh

How sweet and meaningful are the first days of April to Christians and Jews of the world. Passover begins at sundown Wednesday, April 8th, 2009. It commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people from bondage at the hands of Pharaoh in ancient Egypt.

We must remember the sacrifices and deeds of the Jewish people as they stood at the gates of the Egyptian's city they had built with their blood, and as they looked out over the seemingly endless sands of a barren desert. Their lives had been hard and cruel, but they had roofs over their heads and food for sustenance. It was the only life they had known.

Imagine walking out of those city gates, leaving this security behind, an existence of slavery though it was. On the sun-parched sands, they would have to rely on one man's word that God would provide all. They could not see and did not understand that a better way of life awaited them at the end of their long and difficult trek.

Anyone who has ever stood in the midst of a desert can only begin to understand how courageous an act was for these men, women and children. They embarked on an uncertain adventure, led by a man, whose name was Moses, who they hardly knew, led by the promises of a God who had left them for 400 years enslaved in Egypt.

They did not even know their destination. It was someplace called "The Promised Land." It was "over there" somewhere on the horizon, the land, supposedly, of their forefathers. They were not warriors. They did not know the art of war. They only had the word of a leader they had not chosen that this "land flowing with milk and honey" was theirs for the taking.

Liberation from Egypt was designed to free the slaves in order to serve God. Such higher servitude to the Great Architect of the Universe was the only guarantee they had against being enslaved to Egyptian masters of flesh and blood. More than 400,000 slaves massed under the banners that symbolized their "Tribes" and, as one people, awaited the sound of the Shofar (a ram's horn made into a trumpet like device) and the order to march.

Passover symbolizes the virtue of freedom in the world. It marks the birth of the Jewish people. It celebrates an act of tremendous courage, and it reminds the civilized world we must never forget to free those held hostage of whatever sort. Passover is celebrated not only of the Exodus but also as thanksgiving for the early grain harvest. It is a celebration of our commitment and loyalty to God.

On Sunday, April 12, 2009, my Christian friends and neighbors will celebrate Easter as a celebration of victory over death and an affirmation of the eternal life that is promised. It is recognition that God's love of His children is infinite and that true religion is to love our brother. These great truths rise like the blessed sun triumphantly from the darkness.

Easter and Passover, then, are symbols of freedom, brotherhood and peace. 🙏

## Why 'TAPS' is played

The words are:

Day is done ... Gone the sun  
From the lakes ... From the hills ...  
From the sky ... All is well.  
Safely rest ... God is nigh.  
Fading light ... Dims the sight ..  
And a star ... Gems the sky  
Gleaming bright from afar ..  
Drawing nigh ... Falls the night.  
Thanks and praise ... For our days.  
Neath the sun ... Neath the stars...  
Neath the sky ... As we go  
This we know ... God is nigh

I too have felt chills while listening to 'Taps' but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either, so I thought I'd pass it along.

I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before.

Remember those lost and harmed while serving their country and also those presently serving in the Armed Forces. 🙏

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## Did You Know?

*(Continued from Page 12)*

Delano Roosevelt established the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Comedian and Masonic Brother Eddie Cantor coined the phrase "March of Dimes" (playing on the popular newsreel feature "The March of Time"), appealing to radio listeners all over the country to send their dimes directly to the White House. The campaign proved to be hugely successful and has greatly influenced the reason why Brother Roosevelt's likeness is on the dime today.

## Did You Know...

Taps, the hauntingly beautiful Bugle call, which signals the end of day as well as the end of life for American Service men, was composed by our Masonic Brother General Daniel Butterfield of Civil War fame. It has become one of, if not the most recognized musical composition known world wide. He was a member of Metropolitan Lodge # 273, New York City, New York.

## Did you Know...

Brother Harpo Marx was born November 23, 1888 and died September 28, 1964. He was born Adolph, he changed his name to Arthur during World War II, but was known professionally as Harpo. The second oldest of the four Marx brothers comedy team, Harpo rarely, if ever, spoke while in character but was renowned as a mime and harpist. His ready wit was recognized with his inclusion as a member of the Algonquin Round Table in New York. He was a member of St. Cecile's Lodge, the actor's and musicians' Lodge, in New York City. 🙏



## Lodge of Perfection

By Chris Christopherson, 32°, Venerable Master

Brethren,

On Thursday, February 19th, I had the distinct pleasure of officiating as Acting Master at Brother Joe H. Rodriguez's Golden Veteran Award Ceremony at my blue lodge, Solomon's Staircase #357. Worshipful Merritt Read of the 729th Masonic District represented our Grand Master in making the presentation. Worshipful Merritt did an outstanding job. This auspicious ceremony took place only six days after my wife Sherri's funeral. Most of the living Past Masters of my lodge attended the funeral, along with many of our Hiram Award recipients, newly raised brethren, brothers from Anaheim #207, Huntington Beach #380, and Scottish Rite Brethren from both our Valley of Long Beach (including our PR Illustrious Joe Ashwill, and Classroom Director Illustrious Jim Sunseri), and brethren from the Valley of Santa Ana. I thank all of these brethren, and their ladies from the bottom of my heart!

In my opening remarks to the ladies and brethren who attended Joe's 50 year pin ceremony, I briefly mentioned what it takes to earn the Golden Veteran's Award, noting that this brother had been traveling on the level of time for over 50 years as a Master Mason, squaring his actions by the square of virtue, and walking uprightly in his several stations before God and man. During the ceremony for Brother Joe, I learned that he had been Degree Master for the 15<sup>th</sup> degree, and had played a role in many of the other degrees in our Valley. He also distinguished himself by coaching 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Degree candidates during his Masonic career, in addition to being one of the men who actually built the structure that now houses Solomon's Staircase #357 (then known as Buena Park #357).

As I reflected upon Joe's Golden Veteran Award ceremony, with all that he has accomplished in his lifetime, and my wife's untimely death at the age of 57, I realized that there were so many goals and ambitions she had for her life that now will never be attained. Brethren, we too need to reflect upon our commitments to our beloved fraternity, and see if we are doing all we can to ensure its success, and long term survival. From the 4th Degree, recall these words, "Remember, life is short, and in it there is much to do. Death approaches, and is nearer and nearer to us with every breath we draw; therefore, loiter not by the wayside, but press onward, up the slopes of the mountain, lest death overtake you, and smite you down before you reach its summit." Don't let any of your Masonic goals or ambitions go unattained. Thank you, brethren! 🙏

## What is the Meaning of the Symbols on Your Scottish Rite Ring?

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:., Commander of Kadosh

Have you ever wondered about that ring you received in the 14th Degree? In most cases, every Scottish Rite Mason is presented with the official Scottish Rite ring either when he receives the 14th Degree or at a Cap and Ring ceremony. There may be some individuals, however, who do not fully appreciate the significance or the symbols engraved on that ring.

Symbols, a universal non-verbal method of expressing ideas and concepts, have been used since the earliest history of man. They have the distinct advantage of being able to convey varying levels of information to the observer. Diverse cultures at various times have incorporated specific symbols to transmit traditional concepts. The two inscriptions on the 14th Degree ring, the Hebrew letter Yod and the triangle, exemplify this fact. Yod, the 10th and smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet, corresponds with the English letter J and is the initial of and is taken to connote the name of the Deity as revealed to Moses. The Scottish Rite ring shows the Hebrew letter Yod enclosed within an equilateral triangle, which is emblematic of the three essential attributes of Deity—omnipresence, omnipotence, and omniscience. Thus we have both alphabetical and geometric allusions to Deity. These extremely important symbols have been recognized around the world in other civilizations, in other climes, at other times, and they continue to be so recognized today. Therefore when a Scottish Rite Mason wears the 14th Degree ring, he is identified with and demonstrates his dedication to that highest and most universal human aspiration, reverence for and service to the Great Architect of the Universe, ideals which form the foundation of Freemasonry. 🙏

### NOTICE!

Redondo Lodge #328 will be presenting Worshipful Bert Ferris, P.M., with the prestigious Hiram Award. The date will be Thursday, April 23, 2009. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., entertainment at 7:30 p.m. and the Hiram Award presentation will be at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is invited, all you have to do is let us know if you will be there. We need to know how much food we need. The dinner will be catered. You will love it. So, come down to Redondo Beach April 23, 2009. We will all have a good time. Call the Lodge at (310) 540 2051 or Stephen Parkinson, W.M., at (310) 316-7207, and let him know if you will be there and how many. Please call by April 2, 2009. No cost for the dinner. 🙏

## Did You Know?

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H.:., Commander of Kadosh

### *Did You Know...*

Lodge St. George in Bermuda has rented an old state house since 1816 from the Governor for the sum of “one peppercorn per year.”

### *Did You Know.....*

“To that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns,” was taken directly from Hamlet, Act III, Scene 1. The obsolete word bourn, means boundary.

### *Did You Know...*

#### **The Craft and the Law**

In Hammer v. State, 173 Indiana, 199 (1909), the Supreme Court ruled that it was a criminal offense to wear the emblem of any society or organization of which one is not a member. The court based its decision on the fact that the membership in such societies is the result of fitness and selection and that the wearing of such emblems by non-members is a deceit and false pretense.

In Robinson v. Yates City Lodge, 86, Illinois, 598 (1877), a court ruled that an expelled Mason was not entitled to the return of his degree fees. The court held that the plaintiff voluntarily paid the fees and the expulsion under the provisions of the rules of the organization does not constitute the rescission of a contract under which the fees were paid.

### *Did You Know...*

The term “sharp shooter” comes from the Sharps rifle, the famous breechloader of the Civil War invented by Brother Christian Sharps, Meridian Sun [Lodge #158, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.](#)

### *Did You Know...*

**“Change your thoughts and you change your world.”**

Brother Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, Author/Theologian (former Grand Chaplain - GL of NY.)”

### *Did You Know...*

Operative Lodge #150 in Aberdeen, Scotland is only open to operative stonemasons.

### *Did You Know...*

In January 1938, alarmed by decades of worsening polio epidemics and the terrible toll the virus was taking on America’s young, Brother Franklin

*(Continued on Page 15)*

## THE DOUBLE-HEADED EAGLE

*(Continued from Page 4)*

the East and West as their insignia.

The double-headed Eagle of Kadosh is a black and white Eagle. The head, neck, legs and tips of the wings are adorned with white feathers, while the body and wings are black. Its wings are extended, yet drooping; in its claws is a naked sword, one talon of the right claw clutching the hilt of the blade of serpentine shape, the left claw grasping the blade. The white ribboned motto pendant from the hilt to the point of the sword contains the words “SPES MEA IN DEO EST” in black.

It is also analogous to the Yang and Yin of the Buddhist teaching, which symbolizes the continual state of flux of the Male/Female aspect of the Soul in its creative work.

The Double-Headed Eagle represents the ability of the Brother wearing it upon his cap to see into the past (which is Symbolized by the Black Eagle), as well as into the future (represented by the White Eagle) at the same time; in such a manner that he would be able to render true judgment regarding anything brought before him for his consideration.

The emblematic Eagle of the Inspector General of the Thirty-Third Degree is similar to that of the Kadosh, except that gold takes place of the white and the ducal coronet surmounts the heads of the Eagle. The fillet of the crown of an Honorary 33° is crimson. The crimson or purple ribboned motto pendant from the hilt of the sword to the point contains the words “DEUS MEUMQUE JUS”.

In this year of the Bi-Annual season of Honors for Knight Commanders Court of Honor and the Inspector General Honoraries, something to remember as well as consider in their thoughts. 🦅

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