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THE SCOTTISH RITE
REPORTER



Vol. XXXVII Published Quarterly

January, February, March, 2014



*VALENTINE'S
Day*

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER BY DECEMBER 31st

Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander
Ill. Frank Loui, 33°, S.G.I.G.

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The views expressed in the *Reporter* 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.

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From the Desk of the Personal Representative

Due to the fact that the Long Beach Scottish Rite Bodies is catering all the meals for its functions, the following is in effect and mandatory!

EVERY FUNCTION and for EVENTS WITH A MEAL WILL REQUIRE AN RSVP. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS**, no RSVP, no meal!

Ill. Tim Cable, 33°

Personal Representative for the Valley of Long Beach 

A Passover Message, the Liberty of Law *(Continued from Page 17)*

which sealed the transformation of Egypt's slaves into a free people, the liberty which came to full flower at the foot of Mt. Sinai—the liberty of law.

Writers are fond of saying that it was ancient Rome which gave the world law. Rome did, but long before that so had Israel in the basic laws of the Ten Commandments accepted at Sinai and in the expanded law of the Five Books of Moses.

That law commanded love for one's neighbor, care for the poor, consideration of one's employees, and the discouragement of slavery. The essence of that law is that there is no hierarchy of peoples, that all men and women have the same rights under a universal God. This great message cannot be repeated too often or too strongly. It goes to the very heart of the world's ills today, to the future of civilization, of human life itself on this distraught planet.

Are the peoples of the world ready to declare that ALL men and women should be free? Man must destroy war, or war will destroy man. Which path shall be chosen? Will we continue to careen heedlessly down the reckless road to global annihilation? Or will we heed the same law which proclaims in Deuteronomy: *"I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse, therefore choose life, that thou mayest live, thou and thy seed."*

Man's choice will be determined by his reaction to the challenge and the promise of the Passover message of freedom, for freedom is life, and enslavement of any sort is death, intellectually, spiritually, and physically. As Americans, our tradition point in one direction which is inscribed on our Liberty Bell, in words again taken from the law, Leviticus 25:10, *"Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."*

America's first task is to establish liberty completely at home. But after that, her task is to persuade people of the world to establish liberty everywhere else. That way lies peace and achievement, the true humanity that approaches divinity. God grant that we accept the challenge of Passover and fulfill its promise of liberty under law. 🇺🇸

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THERE IS A BENEFIT TO THE WEBSITE OPTION
BECAUSE YOU CAN
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Notes from the Personal Representative

Ill. Timothy Cable, 33rd
Personal Representative of the
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in CA

Hello Brethren,

I hope this message finds you all well and that you've had wonderful and very happy holidays. That being said, it's time to get back to work. As most of you know we have a two story building located at the corner of 8th street and Elm which has sat vacant for many years now. The outside, including a new roof, has been restored but the inside is to say the least in pretty bad shape. I am asking for your help. We could get a group of brothers together with backgrounds in construction to refurbish the inside and bring it up to the standards allowing us to find a renter. We can sure use the income and just to let it sit is a shame. We're also trying to obtain grants to help cover the costs. We've had several suggestions as to what use we could do with the building including moving the clinic over there which would allow them to operate 5 days a week instead of the 4 days they operate now. It would also allow us to save on office staff costs as we need someone there just to open the front door to allow our kids and their parents in. The building could also be used for the home of the Long Beach Historical Society or even a Masonic club of sorts. So, please if you have the time and the skills to help us with this project and even if you don't have the skills but the desire to help in any way, please contact Ill. Chuck Bruggeman or Brother Christ Kallas at the Rite.

On yet still another note, we'd also like to enlist your help over a weekend to clean out the old membership office located above stage left in the theatre. We plan to convert the area to an additional dressing room, for stage productions. I am very squeamish in allowing anyone in our robbing room for obvious reasons. We are losing a very valued member of our office staff the end of February. We will miss her terribly, Give Vivian a call and wish her the best on her retirement. We love you Viv and remember you are always welcome to visit us anytime you like. As a token of our appreciation, we would like you to attend any event or diner here at our expense. Further, that should you need any assistance, for any reason, please remember we're here to help.

With the installation of officers next on our agenda on January 11th at 7:30 P.M., Ill. Frank Loui, S.G.I.G. in California has graciously accepted the role of installing officer. Social hour is at 5:30, diner at 6:30 with entertainment.

I want to take this opportunity to Thank Honorable Jonathan Dilley, Brother Raymond Louison, Ill. Michael Stovall and Honorable Lee Cleveland for their service to our valley as heads of our bodies. At the same time I look forward to welcoming in the new officers and look forward to working with them in 2014.

This year is going to be an exciting one as our new marketing manager is busy booking new and various forms of events, ones I'm sure you're not going to want to miss out on. Check our website calendar often to see what's coming. We also hope to perform 17 full degrees in a long class which will start in February. 🇺🇸

Notes from the Secretary

Hon. Charles Bruggeman, 32°, K.C.C.H.

POLITICAL WARNINGS OF THE ELU DEGREES NINTH, TENTH AND ELEVENTH DEGREES

From Great Falls, Mt, Leonard Beymore, 32°. We like to refer to these degrees as prophetic degrees, not because of their ability to predict the future, but for the idea that history will repeat itself if the ELU (Elected Governing Elite) remain in the dark about their duties in these degrees. Too many times, as Scottish Rite Masons, we fall into a state of inured habitation by repeating and communicating degrees year-in and year-out and losing sight of the relevance to the actual manifestation of what the content of the degree is warning against.

The three ELU Degrees — Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh — are strongly linked in theme and symbolism; effectively together, they form a three-act play. For the sake of clarity, in this presentation, we will combine all three degrees into one act, and extract at least one of the primary meanings using symbolical representations.

The first symbol is the Cavern, which represents intellectual darkness where ignorance resides. The second symbol is represented by *three assassins*, which are exemplified by ignorance, ambition and fanaticism; or a second interpretation is the stages an progresses through — Hell, hunger and animal instincts — the evil paths of man's life and actions. These three assassins, as exemplified by the six ideas of the second symbol, delivered the first blow to the mouth of Hiram, destroying free speech which questions law and authority. The second blow was to the heart to control the seat of emotions. The third blow was to the head to destroy the seat of intellect. If we were to build a house of corruption, the foundation would be ambition and the walls fanaticism. Our founding fathers alluded to the fact that 95% of all governments are corrupt. From ancient times to the contemporary lives of today, we the people still are assaulted by the self-serving ambitions of kings, emperors, politicians and others who would conceal themselves in the shadows. The great irony is that men are mesmerized by the physical world. In addition, knowledge, when freely available, can have catastrophic effects for the indoctrination of the whole world's economic, political, industrial and military systems. The implications are self-evident. A major characteristic of most despots is that sooner or later, they will always turn on their supporters, which brings us to a critical lesson and the warning symbolism pharos, who brings knowledge or jubelum to satolkinand yehu-aber, signifying the importance and representation of a *free press*. When transferred into our real day-to-day lives, the notion of a free press is an illusion, and that is the warning to the ELU of all ages.

(Continued on Page 6)

A Passover Message, the Liberty of Law

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.C.C.H.

Passover is an ancient festival, perhaps 3500 years old, yet the passage of millennia has not dimmed its vitality. Indeed, its advent brings a timely, imperative and hopeful message to the world today. That message is one of freedom, of man's irrepressible yearning for liberty, of the tyrant's inability to crush that desire, and of the nature of real freedom.

Passover's message is timely because of the moral vision of mankind, forever fastened on the principles so strongly and beautifully expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America. The relevance of Passover is all the more evident because these principles are challenged in many countries today and even in parts of our own.

What was so cherished as the cornerstone of a good society—namely, freedom of the individual to speak out, to worship as they desire, to assemble peacefully, to publish his own views, to be free of censorship, to have dominion over his own property—all this has been challenged in too many places.

Against this bleak scene, the summons of Passover comes as a clarion call. It proclaims "*Liberty is Everything. The people would rather starve in the desert as free men than cluster about the fleshpots of Egypt as slaves.*" That was the spirit of the Exodus, a forsaking of security and serfdom for adventure, hardship, and most of all, liberty.

The ancient Israelites had no illusions about the consequences of their choice. There was no normal weakness in that epic decision, a decision which changed the course of history. The people as a whole had faith in themselves, in their future, in Moses, their divinely inspired leader. All of this means they had faith in God. Is there any belief the world needs more today than this message of Passover? Are there any other ideals timelier than this emphasis on liberty in human life and the dominion of God in the affairs of men?

Passover also proclaims a message of hope, that in the long run the tyrant is weaker than his victim. If history has any meaning, it is this. From Pharaoh to Castro, the despot's success, brief or extended, has been temporary. Liberty, like truth, though crushed to earth for a time, will rise again. Why? For the simple reason that liberty and truth are the same. They are the indispensable climate for the soul of man.

The tragedy of human history is that this truth has had to be proved on so many occasions, that the warning signs of the despot's ambitions have been so casually dismissed. Eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty in Europe, Asia, or America—abroad or at home.

And lastly, what is the liberty stressed in this message? It is not the liberty of license, of freewheeling through society without consideration of the rights of others. It is the liberty which crowned the miracle of the Exodus, the liberty

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THE PROBLEM SOLVER

(Continued from Page 10)

Relish the moment is a good motto, especially when coupled with the beautiful words of the Psalms: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the burdens of today that drive a man mad. It's the regrets over yesterday and the fear of tomorrow, Regret and fear are twin thieves who rob us of our today.

So, my Brothers, put a stop to pacing the aisles of the train and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, and cry less. Indeed, life must be lived as we go along each day. The station will come soon enough.

Let us continue on a journey of life, facing all of the problems that have come before us, facing them squarely and meeting them proudly. Be the problem solver each of us can be. 🍷

Bible Presentation

Submitted by Harold Kennedy, 32°, K.C.C.H.

It is an honor to place into your hands this Volume of the Sacred Law, the most priceless gift our Lodge can bestow. For as you have learned from the lectures of the three degrees, without it, the flaming spirit of Freemasonry would be extinguished – and we Brethren denied of the true happiness of a Masonic fellowship the joyful sharing of that bright glow of this Holy Book and the continual shedding of its light on our white lamb-skin aprons, jewels, and working tools. Therefore, my Brother, as this Sacred Volume is indispensable to the life of the Craft, so it is to yours – as light is to your eyes.

When you turn and read its sacred pages, you will hear the voice of the Almighty talking to you. Don't hesitate to lift up your hands and earnestly pray for more enlightenment of what He says. God's Spirit shall commune with yours and you will receive the gift of light, of understanding. You will then know the exact duties you owe to Him, your fellow man, and yourself. And thus shall you neither grope nor stagger nor fall in the darkness of the night.

Diligently read this Book upon which you laid your hands and gave the "due guard" of a Mason. And read the history of God's people who promised, almost swore, to Him that all His commands they would obey but didn't. And read the horrific account of the "signs" of their disobedience – fire, blood, destruction, exile, and slavery.

Take this Holy Book, therefore, to teach you and your children faith, hope, justice, charity and love – agape love that is. It will teach you to chip off and make straight the rough ashlar of your human nature and thus make you fit as the perfect stone for that Grand Temple which He Himself assured us is more glorious than the former. For Therein God will dwell with you as His glorified son – forever.

[Antonio A. Apostol, Jr., P.M., Temescal Palms Lodge 314] 🍷

"RENAISSANCE IV"

By Ill. James Sunseri, 33°

WE ARE ON A ROLL! The Reunion Class of November 22nd and 23rd, 2013, was a great success with a very attentive and excited class that thoroughly enjoyed their two-day experience at our "Happy Valley." The "Entire Gang" [Stage Crew, Sound Crew, Lighting Crew, Robing Team, Actors, Purveyors, Classroom Staff, Office Staff, etc.] were superb in every aspect. Many Masons hailing from near and far attended our venerable Cathedral and received the Mandatory Degrees, which were all performed with great feeling and skill. The Class members were suitably impressed and entertained by our presentations and productions. I personally introduced two of the class to Illustrious Brother John Reynolds, 33°, who had asked for volunteers for his Fourth Degree. These two young and enthusiastic Brothers spent time speaking with him in the Ladies Lounge during a break in the Conferrals, and I learned from them that they would immediately begin working on their newly-assigned roles in the Fourth Degree! What a wonderful sign of Renewal and Renaissance for our Dear and Venerable Valley!

The 2014 Long Class will feature performances of the following Degrees: 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 12th, 14th, 18th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 27th, 28th, 30th, 31st, and 32nd. The 4th, 6th, 8th, 12th, 14th, 18th, 20th, 22nd, 28th, 30th, and 32nd Degrees have complete casts, but each could use another one or two members to prepare to take over for certain brothers who may not be able to continue in their parts. For those of you who would like to participate in any of those degrees, as an understudy for now (and, most likely an active role early next year), please contact me at the phone and e-mail address noted at the end of this article.

The 7th, 24th, 27th, (old 28th), 29th, and 31st Degrees need actors. The 7th degree is called "Provost and Judge," and teaches us how to be a judge of ourselves and our actions. The 24th Degree is called "Prince of the Tabernacle" and introduces us to the "Greater Mysteries." The 27th Degree is called "knight of the Sun," and presents us with a glimpse of the great and noble lessons of the ancient sages. The 29th Degree is called "Scottish Knight of St. Andrew," and teaches us that humanity is sovereign over institutions. And the 31st Degree is called Inspector Inquisitor, and teaches us to seek to achieve perfect justice, and to consider the external objective acts and the internal subjective motives.

The 7th and 24th Degrees need casts right away as they will be presented in the first 6 months of the new year; these are relatively short degrees with only 5 to 7 speaking parts. The 27th, 29th, and 31st degrees are quite a bit longer and require many actors (15 to 20)); these will be staged in September and October, and there is still time to fill and master these degrees.

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Notes from the Secretary

(Continued from Page 4)

A famous long-time editor of the prestigious “New York Times” is purported to have made this speech to his staff during his retirement speech:

There is no such thing as a free press. You know it and I know it. There is not one of you who would dare write honest opinions. The business of a journalist is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to vilify, to fawn at the feet of mammon, and sell himself, his country and his race for his daily bread. We are tools and vassals of rich men behind the scenes. We are jumping jacks; they pull the strings, we dance our talents, our possibilities and our lives are the property of these men. We are intellectual prostitutes.

Lesson: Ignorance is the principle enemy of human freedom. A free press is indispensable to true liberty. Fanaticism in government create intolerance and persecution. We can view the current state of affairs of how the government is now persecuting the press, who have supported their masters because of their own ambition and hunger for power. The press has supported the powers under the auspices of one rule. The rule is as follows: In order to put public opinion into our hands, we must bring it into a state bewilderment by giving expression from all sides to so many contradictory opinions, and for such a time as will suffice to make men lose their heads in the labyrinth and come to see that the best thing to do is turn over all hopes and expectations political or otherwise to others in hopes of salvation.

The circle is almost complete except for the understanding of the symbols of our owls. The owl has a dual symbolic characteristic; it has a direct representation of freedom and conation, exemplified in these degrees. On one side, it stands for wisdom, foresight and sacred knowledge. On the other side, other men know it as “The Cat With Wings” representing silent observation, power and having the knowledge of hidden truths not generally understood or known. The owl is recognized as the holder of knowledge and vision of the truth of events, people, and circumstances; and lastly, the keeper of souls, since the owl can see in the dark without the light.

The ELU degrees nine through eleven are showing us one of the best contemporary examples of ignorance and how elite — yet rather small groups — can be above the law, and can influence the very lives of people in any country in the world, they are movers of the chessboard pawns. Men who are ignorant, and not wise, are nothing more than spectators of the game. 🦉

**FREEMASONRY— TO ENJOY LIFE
AND SERVE MANKIND**

Clothing

Submitted by Barbara Ashwill

Find and circle all of the clothing items that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell an additional piece of clothing.

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

BELT, BLOUSE, BOOTS, CARDIGAN, CORDUROYS, DRESS, GLOVES, HAT, JACKET, JEANS, MITTENS, OVERALLS, PANTS, PARKA, ROBE, SANDALS, SCARF, SHIRT, SHOES, SHORTS, SKIRT, SLIPPERS, SOCKS, SUIT, SWEATER, TANKTOP, TIE, UNDERWEAR, VEST

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(Continued on Page 13)

JANUARY CALENDAR

(Closed on Mondays)

LBSR CATHEDRAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11th
5:30 P.M. — SOCIAL HOUR
6:30 P.M. — DINNER
7:30 P.M. — INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14th
7:00 P.M. — STATED MEETING

JAN./FEB. CALENDAR

(Closed on Mondays)

LBSR EVENT CENTER

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29th — WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5th
3:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. — RENISSANCE SCHOOL
OF ARTS DANCE REHEARSAS

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6th-8th
5:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M. RENISSANCE-DANCE SHOW

LBSR CATHEDRAL

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11th
7:00 P.M. — STATED MEETING

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15th — LONG CLASS
BEGINS

6:30 A.M.— REGISTRATION/COFFEE
7:30 A.M.— LECTURE
8:15 A.M.— 4°
9:15 A.M.— 6°
10:15 A.M.— 7°

LBSR EVENT CENTER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15th
5:00 P.M.-12:00 A.M. — GONZALEZ SWEET 15 -
TENTATIVE

LBSR CATHEDRAL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd
CAP & RING CEREMONY
5:30 P.M. — SOCIAL HOUR
6:30 P.M. — DINNER
7:30 P.M. — PRESENTATION OF CAP & RING

MARCH CALENDAR

(Closed on Mondays)

LBSR EVENT CENTER

SATURDAY, MARCH 1st
5:00 P.M.-15:00 A.M. — WALENZK SWEET 15

LBSR CATHEDRAL

MONDAY-THURSDAY, MARCH 3rd-6th
6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. — REHEARSALS FOR THE
PLAY NUNSENSE (BY TIM CABLE)

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 7th & 8th
8:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M. — NUNSENSE PLAY
(BY TIM CABLE)

SATURDAY, MARCH 8th — LONG CLASS CONT.

7:00 A.M.— COFFEE
7:30 A.M.— LECTURE
8:15 A.M.— 8°
9:15 A.M.— 12°

SATURDAY, MARCH 9th MATINEE
2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. — NUNSENSE PLAY
(BY TIM CABLE)

TUESDAY, MARCH 11th
7:00 P.M. — STATED MEETING

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 14th & 15th
8:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M. — NUNSENSE PLAY
(BY TIM CABLE)

SUNDAY, MARCH 16th — MATINEE
2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. — NUNSENSE PLAY
(BY TIM CABLE)

TUESDAY-THURSDAY, MARCH 18th-20th
6:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. — SOUTH COAST
CHORALE REHEARSALS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 21st & 22nd
8:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M. — SOUTH COAST
CHORALE PRESENTS (THE LION QUEEN)
SHOW

SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd — MATINEE
2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. — SOUTH COAST
CHORALE PRESENTS (THE LION KING)
SHOW

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS
OFFICE WILL REOPEN ON
THURSDAY, JANUARY 2nd

LANGUAGE CENTER DONATIONS

LANGUAGE CENTER DONATIONS WITH DUES

(Cont.)

Edward L. McCain, Jr.
Renato Conley
Dale F. Closson
James Bledsoe, Jr.
Jack E. Doughty, Jr.
Benjamin Hamilton
Raul Harper
Frederick Howard
Connie Jarvis
Loren Neely, Jr.
Davinder Singh
William S. Swan
Merle S. Thomas
Gary Wallace
Richard Watson

LANGUAGE CENTER DONATIONS/LIFE MEMBER

K. L. Allen
Norman L. Huston
James J. Ryan
Murray E. Cooke
Jack U. Copeland
Lewis L. Main, Jr.
Kenneth B. Gerenraich
George A. Anderson
Mike . Winford
Rames Allen
Robert G. Keezer
John McKenzie
Roy E. Steinfeld
Lawrence E. Yoder
Benjamin A. Navarro
Wayne Butterbauh
Max E. Stanger

BLDG & ALMONERS DONATIONS WITH DUES

Murray Cooke
Raul De Diego
John McKenzie
Erik Berg
Robert Moss
Howard Resmussen
Gonah Schreckengast
George Cesped, Jr.
Frank Drake

(Continued from Page 7)

BLDG & ALMONERS DONATIONS WITH DUES

(Cont.)

Howard Howser
Myron Macy
David Moulton
Thomas Roebuck
Thomas Simpson
Hwoard Bleakly
Andrew Berni
Jack Copeland
Robert Keezer
Ronald Dulin
Stuart Williamson
Gary Fishbeck
Lawrence Yoder
Elvis Walls
Leroy Black
Thomas Blackman
Mark Menier
Jeffreu Slomann
Ronildo Dimatulac
Max Stanger
James Bledsoe
Benjamin Hamilton
Elwood Holt
James Ireland
Armen Metzolan
Dale Quelle
Merle Thomas
Robert Jurgensen
Dale Mack
Herman Huston
Ivin Cross
Richard Barber
Albert Shiffert-Mencher
Benjamin Navarro
James Dykes
Michael Zamperini
Richard Schott
Orman Jorgensen
Dale Closson
Donald Williams
Erwin Malabanan
Michael Winford
Henry Gillespie
Raul Harper
Clifford Hoppus
Connie Jarvis
Robert Muenzer
Carl Stahlecker
Gary Wallace



Long Beach Scottish Rite Language Center

Give children the freedom to communicate. Support our center with a simple \$3.00 donation and receive the pin shown on the left. If you want it mailed to you, please add \$.50 per pin.

\$3.00 per pin

The profit of \$1.00 goes to the Clinic.

Send your money to: Long Beach Scottish Rite, Clinic donation. You will be mailed your pin in 5 to 7 days. On behalf of the children, THANK YOU!

OVER 80 LIFE MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION

Be it known that there has been a misunderstanding for those over 80 years of age concerning dues payments.

Therefore, as membership Chairman of the long Beach Scottish Rite, Valley of Long Beach, Orient of CA, I propose a special Life Membership for those who have attained the age of 80 years to be charged the fee of \$475.00 which will be payment in full for their Life Membership.

When you purchase the Life Membership for \$475.00, all past dues in arrears are forgiven. Without payment of the Life Membership, all past dues would be due and payable to retain current membership

 Ill. Lewis L. Main, Jr., 33° 
 General Membership Chairman
 Valley of Long Beach
 Orient of California

Moved to Accept: Ill. James Scribner, 33°

2nd by: Florian Zukas, 32°

Passed Unanimously

Stated Meeting 06-05-12

Cash or charge the fees on your Visa or MasterCard; and please complete the following:

Charge \$ _____ to my _____ Number _____
 Name of Credit Card

Print Name _____ Phone # _____

Signature: _____

Life Membership Program Long Beach Scottish Rite

Under age 49, 21 times annual dues \$1995.00
 50 to 54 Inclusive, 19 times annual dues \$1805.00
 55 to 59 Inclusive, 17 times annual dues \$1616.00
 60 to 64 Inclusive, 14 times annual dues \$1330.00
 65 to 79 Inclusive, 11 times annual dues \$1045.00
 Over 80 \$ 475.00

Membership Chairman
ILL. LEWIS L. MAIN, JR., 33°
 855 Elm Ave.
 Long Beach, CA 90813-4491
 Morning – (562) 436-3983
 (714) 633-1920
 Afternoon – (562) 598-6246 (H)
 (562) 500-6246 (Cell)

 Ill. Lewis L. Main, Jr., 33° 
 General Membership Chairman
 Valley of Long Beach
 Orient of California

Forgiving Without Condoning or Forgetting

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.C.C.H.

As Scottish Rite Masons we are taught to aspire to higher Morals and Ethics. However, what if a Brother or a friend does not live up to our expectations? Well, in my opinion we should forgive without condoning or forgetting. I suspect all of us have been hurt in deep and lasting ways by the words or acts of another. It's normal in such situations to feel hostility toward the person who hurt us. If we allow the offense to linger, we may carry the hurt and resentment in the form of a grudge. Usually this causes more unhappiness for us than for the person we're mad at.

Some religions speak of forgiveness as a moral duty, others as a worthy virtue, and still others impose preconditions on the wrongdoer before he is entitled to be forgiven. Whatever your religious views, psychologists say the ability to forgive is closely correlated to happiness and mental health. Some people refuse to even entertain the idea of forgiveness because they didn't think the person they resent deserves to be forgiven. Others don't want to appear to condone or excuse the conduct and certainly don't want to reconcile with the person.

The essence of forgiveness is a voluntary decision to abandon continuing resentment, to let go of anger, and to move on. It doesn't require or imply condoning, excusing, or forgetting. Nor does it require that the forger re-establish a relationship with the wrongdoer.

According to Dr. Ben Dean, the capacity to forgive is related to the character strength of empathy. People who can empathize with an offender and see things from that person's perspective are much better able to forgive. He also says that the older we get, the more forgiving we're likely to become.

So with the New Year upon us, let's find forgiveness in our hearts. Hmmm, as we get older we usually also get wiser. So maybe it's wise to forgive. 🙏

BROTHERS:

We would like to add some new names to our list of those submitting articles to the *Reporter*. Articles submitted are appreciated and this is an invitation to any brother to send in an article we can use, as well photographs of Masonic events, all articles should be optimistic. Even articles to share, that absent brothers can send on their thoughts and travels are welcomed. Remember this is YOUR news publication.

Submit to: Ben Ponder @

ben.ponder@dslextreme.com, send in word 97 – 2003 format.

“RENAISSANCE IV”

(Continued from Page 5)

If you would like to join one or more of these wonderful Degree Teams, and thereby become a major actor in the moving and spectacular plays that tell the stories and teach the truths of our Fraternity in the beautiful and poetic pageants that are the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, just contact me at the number/e-mail listed below.

The Renaissance is here, and its light and Lore will continue to grow and glow. Join us! 🦅

JIM SUNSERI

Cell: 714-717-1222

E-mail: jimsunser@verizon .net

In Memoriam

ILL. FATHER CHARLES ERNEST MAIER, 33°

DAVID L. CORBISER

EVERET A. BERQUIST

ILL. BERT R. FERRIS, 33°

RAY RICHARD MOORE

CALVIN D. DAVIS

ILL. JAMES A. CHASTAIN, 33°

ROBERT L. PAYNE

ELBERT LOWELL BENTON, 32°, K.C.C.H.

EUGENE E. PETERSON

SIDNEY A. BEACON

JOHN A. TURNER

ILL. BENJAMIN T. W. SUTHERLIN, 33°

NEIL DANIEL STARK

DONALD N. WYNN, 32°, K.C.C.H.

FRED FULD, JR.

ROLAND N. LAGERLOF

PAUL W. HOWARD, JR.

JOHN R. VAN VALKENBURGH

HAROLD L. KRANTZ

HERMAN W. TAUBE

JOHN T. FREEMAN

ROY COATS

EARL D. HARRIMAN

FRED A. SCHEIL

We Need Books

Hey Brother, can you spare a book or two? We need books to satisfy the minds of bright young Masons. (Please, books on Masonry only.) Thank you.



We Sell Books

Over the years we have collected multiple copies of books. When we sell these books, we raise money to purchase books we don't have. Contact Bro. Matt Marfield, 32°, K.C.C.H., at the L.B.Scottish Rite.

THE PROBLEM SOLVER

By Roy Ellis Steinfeld, 32°, K.C.C.H.

How often do we lie awake at night thinking of what has transpired during the day and considering the problems we have faced that day, as well as those problems we will tomorrow. How often do we look at others and think how nice it would be to live their kind of life, exchanging ours for theirs, but little realizing that each family, each persons harbors problems of his own, concerns to which each must address himself in his own way, solving those which he can and adjusting to those which he cannot.

Demosthenes was born with a speech defect but became the greatest orator in ancient Greece. John Milton, though blind, expressed in words what he saw in his head and became a great poet. Ludwig Van Beethoven, though deaf, continued to create great symphonies.

“Problems,” said positive thinker and Brother Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, a former Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of New York, “represent challenges that bring out the best in people. If you don't have problems, you should get down on your knees and pray to God to give you some.” Somewhere in the back of my mind I recall a story about a train ride and I thought how we might liken our lives and the lives of each other to this train ride.

Tucked away in our subconscious is an idyllic vision. We see ourselves on a long trip that spans the United States from coast-to-coast, traveling by train. Out the windows we drink in the passing scene of cars on nearby highways, of children waving at a crossing, of cattle grazing on a distant hillside, of smoke pouring from a power plant, of row upon row of corn and wheat, of flat lands and valleys, of mountains and rolling hillsides, of city skylines and village halls.

But uppermost in our minds is the final destination. On a certain day, at a certain hour, we will pull into the station. Bands will be playing and flags will be waving. Once we get there so many wonderful dreams will come true and the pieces of our lives will fit together like a completed jigsaw puzzle. How restlessly we pace the aisles, damning the minutes for loitering—waiting, waiting, waiting for the station.

“When we reach the station, that will be it,” we cry. “When I'm 18, when I buy a new 450SL Mercedes Benz, when I put the last kid through college, when I have paid off the mortgage, when I get a promotion, when I reach the age of retirement, I shall live happily ever after.”

Sooner or later we must realize there is no station, no one place to arrive at once and for all. The true joy of life is the trip. The station is only a dream. It constantly out-distances us.

(Continued on Page 16)