

# Pasadena Scottish Rite Bulletin



2025 Chapter of Rose Croix Officers  
Valley of Pasadena - April 2025

**Pasadena Scottish Rite Bulletin**

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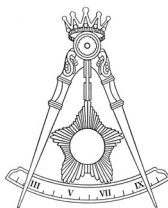
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**Allegiance**

The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite sitting in the Valley of Pasadena, Orient of California acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspector General Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-Third and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the United States of America.



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*Venerable Master  
Lodge of Perfection*



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*Wise Master  
Chapter of Rose Croix*



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# John S.C. Thorpe, 32°

*Wise Master*

## Chapter of Rose Croix

Remembrance and Renewal of the Scottish Rite  
& The Importance of Youth Organizations in  
Freemasonry and Scouting



The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, with its rich history and deep traditions, represents a unique aspect of the Masonic journey. Founded on principles of brotherhood, moral development, and enlightenment. With a history spanning over centuries, the Rite is rooted in deep symbolism, philosophical teachings, and a commitment to personal and moral development. As Freemasons gather to remember the past and reflect on the teachings of the Scottish Rite, it is also a time for renewal—renewing both the Rite itself and the commitment to its principles.

Remembrance in the Scottish Rite is not simply about looking back at the history of the organization. It is about acknowledging the men and leaders who have shaped its growth, the sacrifices that have been made, and the ideals that have been upheld throughout the years. The Rite encourages members to reflect on the lessons passed down through generations—lessons of brotherhood, charity, justice, and wisdom.

However, remembrance alone is not enough. Renewal is essential to ensure the continued relevance and vitality of the Scottish Rite. This renewal comes in many forms. It involves strengthening the connections between Masons, deepening their understanding of Masonic teachings, and fostering a sense of purpose in both their personal lives and their communities. Renewal also means adapting to the needs of modern society while maintaining the traditions and values that have made the Scottish Rite a beacon of moral integrity and enlightenment.

As Freemasons embrace both remembrance and renewal, they ensure that the  
Continued on next page

## Wise Master, Continued...

Scottish Rite remains a dynamic force for good, continuing to inspire future generations with its timeless principles. It is a commitment to preserving the Rite's legacy, while keeping its teachings vibrant and meaningful in today's world. Through this balance of remembrance and renewal, the Scottish Rite will continue to guide individuals toward lives of greater knowledge, compassion, and service to humanity.

As we remember the core values of the Scottish Rite, it is also important to reflect on the need for renewal with the youth. This renewal involves not only sustaining the traditions of Freemasonry but also fostering the next generation of Freemasons and community leaders.

Youth organizations like DeMolay International, Job's Daughters and Rainbow for Girls, the youth orders, along with the broader Scouting movement, play a crucial role in shaping the future of Freemasonry. These programs provide young people with opportunities to build character, learn leadership skills, and engage in community service—values that resonate deeply with the core tenets of the Scottish Rite.

For Freemasonry, ensuring the growth and vitality of these youth organizations is essential. They are a training ground for tomorrow's leaders, providing them with the tools they need to contribute meaningfully to society. Through these programs, young individuals learn the importance of respect, responsibility, and charity—principles that are central to the Scottish Rite and Freemasonry as a whole.

Similarly, Scouting, with its emphasis on moral development, self-reliance, and service to others, mirrors the values of Freemasonry. By guiding young people in these organizations, we can instill a sense of purpose and community that will last a lifetime.

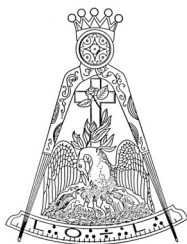
As we remember the Scottish Rite's rich legacy, we must also renew our commitment to its future by supporting youth organizations that cultivate the leaders of tomorrow. Through these programs, we ensure that the light of Freemasonry continues to shine brightly for generations to come.

John S.C. Thorpe, 32°

Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix

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## Meet the Wise Master



**John S.C. Thorpe, 32°**

***Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix***

John S.C. Thorpe was born in Montebello, California. He presently resides in Upland with his wife, Ashley and his son Randall who is 6. John lived in Basset, California till his teens, moved to West Covina then went to college to pursue a Master Degree of Science in Technology Graduating with Honors and inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and is a life member.

John met Ashley in Stockton, California while attending San Joaquin Delta College while working on his Associates Degree in the Caterpillar ThinkBig program who he was sponsored to attend by Quinn Company. Ashley would tutor John in Math and became best friends, a year after. John married his beautiful best friend in June of 2016, two years later they had a wonderful handsome son Randall who brings them lots of joy.

John applied to be a Mason June 3rd, 2010 and Raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 17th, 2011 at West Covina Lodge #446. John then affiliated with Archimedes Lodge #871 December 26th, 2018 under dispensation at the time. Became Master of Archimedes Lodge #871 in 2024. John joined the Pasadena Scottish Rite in fall of 2017 and is a Life Member. John is a life member of the Scottish Rite Research Society, and the Grand College of Rites.

John works on Class 8 electric Vehicles which are Tractor Trucks. John is currently active with his Community by being a leader in his Son's Cub Scout Pack 602 in Upland as the Assistant Cubmaster and Den Leader.

## April Dinner Menu

### Stated Meeting on April 4th

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Salad with Ranch Dressing

Chicken California w/Avocado, Tomatoes & White Wine Sauce.

Rice & Mixed Vegetables

Rolls & Butter

Limoncello Cake

Last day for reservations: Wednesday, April 2nd at 2pm

Number of Reservations at \$20.00 Per Person.....

**Fish or Vegetarian on request only when making reservation.**

*Remember - a reservation made is a reservation paid.*

*RSVP@pasadenascottishrite.org or 626-795-4213 Ext: 101*



Visit us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/PasadenaAASR>

## Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, to improve it members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

## Strategic Objectives

Fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.

Build a Positive Public Image of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite.

Support and expand our philanthropic activities.

Provide a framework for effective leadership to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.

Provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity

## 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.

## The Secretary's Desk

III. Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33°

We had over 100 Master Masons from all over Southern California attend our Spirit of Hiram in March.

Last month we voted on 7 petitions for the degrees and 1 for affiliation, and I have 3 more in the pipeline to read and vote on in April which brings us to 21 candidates for our upcoming reunion in May.



We still have 35 membership patents and 7 caps from the 2023 & 2024 membership classes, if you have not picked up your patents or caps yet please stop by the office the next time you attend a meeting at the Rite.

Fraternally,

Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33°  
General Secretary

### Daily Recap of Membership

Recap data generated: 3/29/2025 2:01:48 AM

● Valley of Pasadena ○ Orient of California ○ Southern Jurisdiction

	Begin	Initiations	Affiliations	Reinstatements	Deaths	Demits	Susp.NPD	Susp.Other	Expulsions	Ending
Pasadena / Lodge	656	0	2	3	3	1	0	1	0	657
Pasadena / Chapter	657	0	2	3	3	1	0	1	0	657
Pasadena / Council	654	0	2	3	3	1	0	1	0	655
Pasadena / Consistory	652	0	2	3	3	1	0	1	0	653

### Current Dues Statistics

Accurate As Of: 3/29/2025 5:01:29 AM

	Count	% of Total	Orient Wide Avg.	Jurisdiction Wide Avg.
Active Members with Dues Paid in Full:	323	49.2%	45.2%	50.4%
Active Members with Current Dues Balance:	99	15.1%	9%	8.2%
Active Members with Arrears Dues Balance:	73	11.1%	16.8%	9.1%
Active Members that are Dues Exempt (A,L,R):	70	10.7%	10.9%	10.7%
Active Paid Life Members (E):	92	14%	18.1%	21.6%
Total:	657			



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## The P.R.'s Corner

Ill. Gregory J. Gabriel, 33°

### April Showers

I don't know how much rain April will bring, but I do know that I must thank and congratulate everyone who had anything to do with our production of The Spirit of Hiram. We all pulled together to make the evening a total success! I've heard nothing but compliments from our visiting brethren. Everything from food to production to fellowship, it all came together for a wonderful evening.



I think the most impressed were the photographers from the California Freemason Magazine. They were there to document an article they are working on for the summer edition. I heard that we could be on the cover and be the focus of the main story inside. It's all up to the editor, but what a great public relations tool it could be for us.

This April brings us to our annual observance of Remembrance and Renewal. I hope you, your family and friends, will join us for this celebration of life and the promise of a brighter future. If you can't join us at the Rite, please take a few moments to remember those you lost over the past few years. They are never really gone as long as we remember and honor them.

Finally, I have appointed Sir Knight Randy Marsh, 32° KSA to lead our Ambassador Program. As we revamp and revitalize this committee, Randy will be looking for brothers who are willing to serve as Scottish Rite Ambassadors to their local lodges. The time it takes to be an envoy from our Valley is minimal since you go to your lodge already. All we ask is that you spread the word about Scottish Rite Freemasonry and invite your lodge brethren our events when applicable. And maybe hand out a membership application or two. You are the conduit between the Valley and the lodge, and your participation will be greatly appreciated. More information will be rolling out as Sir Knight Marsh prepares his agenda.

Gregory J. Gabriel, 33°

Personal Representative in the Valley of Pasadena

DO IT RITE!



Master Craftsman Online College & Leadership Academy.

<https://mastercraftsmancollege.org/>

That's right: Master Craftsman is now ONLINE! Since its inception in 2009, the Scottish Rite Master Craftsman education program has been a leading source for Masonic education, not only here in the Southern Jurisdiction, but also across the globe.



SCOTTISH+RITE  
MASTER+CRAFTSMAN

## Projected Dates

### 2025 Reunion

#### Ill. Harry R. Sprague, 33° Memorial Class

##### Phase 1

4th thru 6th degrees    Friday, May 30, 2025

7th thru 16th degrees    Saturday, May 31, 2025

##### Phase 2

17th thru 22nd degrees    Saturday, June 28, 2025

##### Phase 3

23rd thru 29th degrees    Saturday, July 26, 2025

##### Phase 4

30th thru 32nd degrees    Saturday, August 23, 2025

### Acacia Guild

This program recognizes all Scottish Rite, SJ, members who join by making a \$1,000 cash contribution in the Acacia Guild. This gift can be made in a single payment or can be made by contributing \$83.33/month for twelve months by credit card or ACH withdrawal from a checking or savings account. The \$1,000 gift will be split: one half will go to the House of the Temple Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc. to help with our Rebuilding the Temple Campaign and to support Temple maintenance; and the other will go to the Scottish Rite Foundation, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A, Inc., to assist with the RiteCare Scottish Rite Childhood Language Program, scholarship programs, and other worthy activities.



### Guild Benefits

Scottish Rite brethren who make a donation will receive an impressive award made of sterling silver hanging from a purple ribbon featuring the words "Acacia Guild" with an acacia branch prominently displayed. Each award also will be serially numbered on the back. Members of the Acacia Guild also will be able to participate in private, live discussions via the internet with the Grand Commander, attend a special reception at the Biennial Session, and enjoy other special limited benefits.

### Why "Acacia Guild"?

The name was selected for specific reasons. First, the acacia plays a central role in Masonic lore and represents immortality. Secondly, as the original Freemasons belonged to guilds, it seemed appropriate that brethren who supported our philanthropies should be united in a similar body. Your gift in becoming a part of the Guild shows your dedication to the future of our philanthropies. You will be making a financial investment that will aid with our philanthropic challenges for years to come

More information regarding the Acacia Guild can be found at...

<https://scottishrite.org/giving/ways-to-give/acacia-guild/>

## Good Cheer Report

Arthur Beddoe  
Hospital

*Please take a moment to call upon your distressed brethren.*



Cast and crew of the Spirit of Hiram performance held on March 14, 2025.

## A Sponsor's Responsibility

For every petitioner for the degrees of Scottish Rite Degrees there is a Scottish Rite Mason who is his sponsor on whom rests the responsibility for proper training of the petitioner. The Scottish Rite Mason who signs the petition has a responsibility that does not end with their signature on the petition. If you invited a guest to a gathering at your home, you make sure that he meets all of your guest and is made welcome and comfortable. Isn't the man whom you recommend Scottish Rite Freemasonry entitled to the same courtesy? As his sponsor, is it not your duty to assist him with his work and take an interest in his progress? It seems to us that it is, and that you should see to it that he fully understands the fine lessons of our degrees. If you recommend a man to the Scottish Rite, satisfy yourself that he is receiving that for which you recommended him. To do so is but a Masonic courtesy and it is your duty as a Scottish Rite Mason.

# The Librarian's Memo Pad

Ill. William F. Rook, 33°

Scottish Rite Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal

## A Deeply Symbolic Masonic Tradition

The Scottish Rite Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal is a profound and solemn tradition within the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. This ceremony serves as a reflective and introspective moment for members to honor the memories of brethren who have passed away and to renew their commitment to the principles and values of Freemasonry.



## Historical Context

The roots of the Scottish Rite Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal can be traced back to the rich history of Freemasonry, which spans several centuries. Freemasonry, a fraternal organization that emerged in the late 16th to early 17th century, is built on principles of brotherhood, moral integrity, and personal growth. The Scottish Rite, one of the appendant bodies of Freemasonry, further enriches this tradition with its additional degrees and intricate rituals.

The Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal embodies the essence of Freemasonry by providing a structured and symbolic way for members to pay tribute to those who have gone before them while simultaneously looking inward to reaffirm their own dedication to the Masonic ideals.

## The Ceremony Unfolded

### Remembrance

The ceremony typically begins with a period of quiet reflection and remembrance. Members gather in a solemn and contemplative manner,

Continued on next page

Librarian's Memo Pad, continued.....

often in a dimly lit room adorned with symbols of the Scottish Rite. The atmosphere is one of reverence and respect, as the brethren prepare to honor those who have passed on.

A key element of the ceremony is the reading of the Roll of Honor, which lists the names of deceased brethren. This act of remembrance is a powerful reminder of the continuity of the Masonic brotherhood and the enduring impact of each member's contributions. The Roll of Honor not only commemorates the lives of the departed but also inspires the living to uphold the values and principles that define Freemasonry.

## **Renewal**

Following the period of remembrance, the ceremony transitions into a phase of renewal. This part of the ritual is characterized by a reaffirmation of the members' commitment to the core tenets of Freemasonry, such as brotherly love, relief, and truth.

One of the central symbols in this phase is the ritualistic lighting of candles. Each candle represents a specific virtue or principle, and the act of lighting them symbolizes the rekindling of these values within the hearts of the members. The flickering flames serve as a visual and metaphorical reminder of the light of knowledge, wisdom, and enlightenment that Freemasonry seeks to impart.

## **Symbolism and Meaning**

The Scottish Rite Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal is rich with symbolism, each element carefully chosen to convey deeper meanings and insights. The use of light and darkness, for example, reflects the journey from ignorance to enlightenment, a fundamental theme in Masonic teachings. The candles, symbols of purity and clarity, illuminate the path toward moral and spiritual growth.

The ceremony also emphasizes the interconnectedness of past, present, and future. By honoring the memories of those who have passed, members acknowledge the foundation upon which their present endeavors are

Continued on next page

Librarian's Memo Pad, continued.....

built. The act of renewal, on the other hand, is a commitment to carry forward the torch of Freemasonry, ensuring that its light continues to shine for generations to come.

### **Impact on Members**

For many members of the Scottish Rite, the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal is a deeply moving and transformative experience. It provides an opportunity for personal reflection and growth, allowing members to reconnect with the core values that brought them to Freemasonry in the first place. The ceremony serves as a reminder of the higher purpose and noble ideals that they strive to embody in their daily lives.

Moreover, the ceremony fosters a sense of unity and solidarity among the brethren. By coming together to honor the past and renew their commitments, members strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and reinforce their collective dedication to the Masonic principles. This shared experience of reflection and renewal creates a strong sense of community and belonging, which is at the heart of the Masonic tradition.

### **Conclusion**

The Scottish Rite Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal is a poignant and meaningful tradition that encapsulates the essence of Freemasonry. Through the acts of remembrance and renewal, members honor the legacy of those who have gone before them while reaffirming their own commitment to the timeless values of brotherhood, integrity, and personal growth. This ceremony, with its rich symbolism and profound impact, continues to inspire and guide Freemasons on their journey toward enlightenment and self-improvement.

### **More**

More information is available in The Scottish Rite Monitor and Guide, 3rd Edition, De Hoyos, Appendix 18 Degree.

## **Pasadena Childhood Language Center**



Meghri Habashian  
Office Coordinator

Donations may be made by a group, an organization, a couple, or an individual. They may be made **In Honor of...**, **In Memory of...**, as a member of the **365 Club**, or as **Friends of the Center**. All donors are recognized in the bulletin.

Thank You to Our March 2025 Donors

### **365 Club**

Steven Klein

### **Memorials**

### **In Honor of**

Steven Klein in Honor of David Minas & Linda Larson

### **Friends of the Center**

Nelson Laracuenta

Jonathan Wood

Mitchell Lathrop

Curtis Atkins

Jason Taylorson

Elvan Moen

Anonymous

Remember when making donations please make checks payable to "California Scottish Rite Foundation" and put Pasadena on the memo line.



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Officers of the Pasadena Bodies

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Jonathan M. Wood, 32<sup>o</sup>  
*Commander*

Consistory  
Leonard Manoukian, 32<sup>o</sup> KSA  
*Master of Kadosh*

All Bodies

Jeffrey W. Yates, 32 <sup>o</sup> KCCH	Almoner
Miles H. Bresee III, 32 <sup>o</sup> KCCH	Treasurer
Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33 <sup>o</sup>	Secretary
Keith D. Kramer, 32 <sup>o</sup> KSA	Asst. to Secretary
Stephen R. Miller, 32 <sup>o</sup> KCCH	Organist
Wayne R. Sauer, 32 <sup>o</sup> KSA	Tiler

Scottish Rite Calendar

Keep Friday Nights for Scottish Rite  
Dress is Coat and Tie

APRIL

Friday, April 4

4:30PM Cathedral Board  
5:00PM Stated Meeting  
Rose Croix in Charge  
6:00PM Social  
6:30PM Dinner  
8:00PM Remembrance and Renewal

Sunday, April 12

12:00PM Knights of Saint Andrew

Saturday, April 26

10:00AM Discussion Group

Periodical

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
150 North Madison Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91101-1710

Time dated material

SAVE THE DATE

Stated Meeting, May 2, 2025  
Reunion 4<sup>o</sup> to 6<sup>o</sup> May 30, 2025  
Reunion 7<sup>o</sup> to 16<sup>o</sup> May 31, 2025  
Reunion 17<sup>o</sup> to 22<sup>o</sup> June 28, 2025  
Reunion 23<sup>o</sup> to 29<sup>o</sup> July 26, 2025  
Reunion 30<sup>o</sup> to 32<sup>o</sup> August 23, 2025

Living Constitution, September 27, 2025

