Pasadena Scottish Rite Bulletin



Cast and Crew of Living Constitution Valley of Pasadena - November 2025

Pasadena Scottish Rite Bulletin

(USPS 422-600)
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Official Publication of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite
of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA, Valley of
Pasadena and Coordinate Bodies
Periodical Class Postage Paid at Pasadena California

Periodical Class Postage Paid at Pasadena, California and at additional mailing offices. No Subscription Price Published Monthly Except July/August Combined

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Editor Mail Manager

Change of Address

Please notify the Secretary's Office of your correct mailing address including ZIP CODE when moving. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Scottish Rite Bulletin. 150 North Madison Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101-1710

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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John S.C. Thorpe, 32⁰ Wise Master Chapter of Rose Croix





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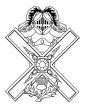




Leonard Manoukian, 32° KCCH

Master of Kadosh

Consistory





Wayne R. Sauer, 32º KSA First Knight Knights of Saint Andrew

John S.C. Thorpe, 32°

Wise Master Chapter of Rose Croix

Honoring the Past, Forging the Future: The Pasadena Scottish Rite's Centennial Legacy

As the Pasadena Scottish Rite prepares to mark the 100th anniversary of its magnificent Cathedral at 150 North Madison Avenue in 2025, it is a moment not just for celebration, but for profound reflection on the enduring legacy of the Masons who came before us.



A Century of Dedication

One hundred years ago, a dedicated group of Scottish Rite Masons laid the foundation and dedicated this very building, crafting a stunning edifice that has served as a beacon of Light, Learning, and Fraternity. They poured their hearts, their labor, and their treasure into creating a space not merely for meetings, but for the dramatic and moral instruction of the Degrees—a true Cathedral of the Scottish Rite.

We stand on the shoulders of these pioneers. We owe them a debt of gratitude for their vision, sacrifice, and commitment to the principles of Freemasonry. Their names may not all be known to us, but the result of their faith is felt every time a Mason walks through the doors, looks upon the stage, or gathers in fellowship. This anniversary is our solemn opportunity to give thanks to the Brethren of 1925, whose dedication made our present possible.

The Time Capsule: A Message Across Time

In a tangible link between generations, the preparation of a new time capsule—or the sealing of an existing one—serves as a powerful act of preservation and hope. The items being carefully placed within this vessel are more than mere artifacts; they are a voice speaking to the future.

Wise Master, Continued...

- * A Snapshot of Today: The contents—perhaps membership rolls, photographs of current leaders and Degree teams, a message from the Venerable Master, or even everyday items that define our era—will provide a vivid, firsthand account of life and Masonry in 2025.
- * An Undeniable Legacy: When the next generation of Pasadena Scottish Rite Masons opens this capsule, they will not just be reading history; they will be connecting directly with us. It is our chance to pass on the core values, the current endeavors, and the spirit of our Valley, ensuring that the torch of knowledge and charity remains brightly lit.

Beyond the Stones: The Eternal Legacy

While we honor the physical structure—our beautiful Cathedral—the true legacy of the Pasadena Scottish Rite is not contained by its walls. It is a tradition that must be pushed beyond the building and into the hearts of every Mason.

- * Commitment to Principles: The work of the Scottish Rite—teaching lessons of ethics, morality, service, and benevolence—must continue with renewed vigor. The principles taught in our Degrees must be reflected in our lives, our communities, and our service to the world.
- * Investing in the Future: Now is the time to look forward—to dedicate ourselves to supporting the Pasadena Scottish Rite's charitable missions, such as the Childhood Language Center, and to mentoring the next generation of leaders.

The Brethren of 1925 secured our first century; it is now our sacred duty to secure the next. Let us use this centennial moment to rededicate ourselves to the work of the Craft, ensuring that the legacy of the Pasadena Scottish Rite lives on, not only in the grand architecture of our home but, more importantly, in the hearts and actions of all Pasadena Scottish Rite Masons for all Generations.

John S.C. Thorpe, 32° Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix

The Secretary's Desk

Ill. Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33°

At the dinner before the stated meeting this month we will be handing out the patents for the members of the Ill. Harry R. Sprague, 33° Memorial Class who completed thier degrees on August 23rd. After dinner the Knights of Saint Andrew will be having a Knighting Ceremony in the Auditorium which will be followed by the Stated Meeting.



The summary below shows that we currently we have 134 members who have yet to pay thier dues for 2025, if you are one of them please take care of it ASAP, or contact the office if you need to make other arrangements.

Fraternally,

Ronald W. Alcorn III, 33° General Secretary

Daily Recap of Membership										
Recap data generated: 10/30/2025 2:02:29 AM										
■ Valley of Pasadena Orient of California Osouthern Jurisdiction										
	<u>Begin</u>	Initiations	Affiliations	Reinstatements	Deaths	Demits	Susp NPD	Susp Other	Explusions	Ending
Pasadena / Lodge	656	29	4	17	18	7	0	1	0	681
Pasadena / Chapter	657	28	4	17	18	7	0	1	0	680
Pasadena / Council	654	29	4	16	18	7	0	1	0	678
Pasadena / Consistory	652	29	4	16	18	7	0	1	0	676

Current Dues Statistics							
Accurate As Of: 10/30/2025 5:01:36 AM							
	Count	% of Total	Orient Wide Avg.	Jurisdiction Wide Avg.			
Active Members with Dues Paid in Full:	121	17.8%	23.6%	27.8%			
Active Members with Current Dues Balance:	272	39.9%	26.2%	27.2%			
Active Members with Arrears Dues Balance:	134	19.7%	21.4%	12.9%			
Active Members that are Dues Exempt (A,L,R):	63	9.3%	10.8%	10.4%			
Active Paid Life Members (E):	91	13.4%	18%	21.7%			
Total:	681						

The P.R.'s Corner

Ill. Gregory J. Gabriel, 33°

A Time to be Thankful

As we enter into the holiday season, the first big holiday is Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, it seems like many of us are more concerned with stuffing ourselves and watching football games rather than reflect upon the reason for the festivity.



Originally, the first Thanksgiving was to praise God for a bountiful harvest and to celebrate the pilgrim's new home, peace with their new "neighbors" and the freedom to worship as they pleased. Although the first several years were harsh and the crops sparse, they never lost their faith in Lord Almighty, and continued to fight and survive for what they believed in.

This concept is not just relegated to America. Many other countries have similar holidays to express gratitude. Japan celebrates Kinro Kansha no Hi the rice festival. On November 23 of each year, the rice harvest is cause for celebration and thanks to the gods. Germany has Erntedankfest meaning "thanks for the harvest". A fattened chicken is the main event along with many other local dishes. Everyone comes together to eat, drink and be merry.

The island of Barbados holds its Crop Over Festival in midsummer to commemorate the sugarcane harvest. A multi-day event which includes parties, events, street fairs and non-stop fun. It also celebrates the end of slave labor in Barbados. There are many other countries with similar traditions, but you get the idea.

So, this Thanksgiving Day, take a moment between the turkey and the opening kick off to thank the Great Architect for the generous gifts He has presented to you over the past year and honestly share your innermost feelings of

The P.R.'s Corner, continued...

joy and grateful resolve with those who mean the most to you. As masons, we promise to be better men and members of society. Show the world we practice what we preach. Openly share your love for others and give thanks to all who love you. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Gregory J. Gabriel,33°
Personal Representative of the Deputy in the Orient of California DO IT RITE!



Dinner Menu

Stated Meeting on November 7th

Green Salad
Festive Turkey
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Roasted Sweet Potatoes
Maple Glazed Baby Carrots, Cornbread Stuffing
Cranberry Sauce
Pumpkin Pie

Last Day for reservations: Wednesday, November 5th at 2pm

Remember - a reservation made is a reservation paid. RSVP@pasadenascottishrite.org or 626-795-4213 Ext: 101

Treasurer's Report

Miles H. Bresee III, 32° KCCH

Greetings, Brethren... Well, the 3rd Quarter ended September 30th, and I'd like to provide a look at our financials, including our investment portfolios. I intend to provide this report in several 'sections', if you will. The are: Lodge of Perfection Audit, Cash Balances, 3rd Quarter Budgets vs Actuals for the Cathedral Association and Lodge of Perfection, and finally, Investment Performance.



Lodge of Perfection Audit

Earlier this year, our Venerable Master, Hon. Jeff Yates had as an agenda item for his year, to commission an outside audit of the Lodge of Perfection's financial books and records. The audit period covered the period of 2022 through June of this year, and encompassed payroll and payroll taxes, accounts payable (our bills), credit card statements, and LOP budgets. The audit was conducted by Wor. Jerry Laiblin, whose reputation for thoroughness and attention to detail is widely known and respected. Wor. Jerry completed the audit in mid-September, and found no discrepancies' in our accounting records. His only observation was that 'There should be recorded in the minutes if there is a possible shortfall of budgeted income or a rise in expenses'. He was unaware of our published quarterly financial reports in the Bulletin, as well as budget summaries presented during Stated Meetings. Full credit for our clean audit and keeping well organized and complete financials, goes to our Valley's Accountant, Dolores Pashby. Pasadena is extremely fortunate to have Dolores, who by the way has an Accounting Degree, on our staff! Thank you, Dolores!

Cash Balances, are primarily in checking accounts as of September 30th. The Cathedral Association's October's beginning balance was \$84,034.05, and ending balance was \$101,609.45, and its related operation...the Event Center's October beginning balance was \$65,053.68 and ending balance was \$70,278.45, with several rentals being booked. The Lodge of Perfection's beginning balance was \$25,928.38; and ending balance was \$52,891.13, which reflected the \$30,000 authorized transfer from its investment account at September's Stated Meeting.

Budgets versus Actuals - Cathedral Association

As mentioned in previous articles and during our Stated Meetings, after the majority Continued on next page

Treasurers Report, Continued...

of our building's repairs, maintenance and improvements have been made at the end of last year, the Cathedral Board has made a conscious effort not to expend or tap investment funds; but instead, accumulate cash in our checking account. This was done by putting off some repairs and improvements until we had enough cash on hand to pay for them. During recent months, one of our hand painted stage drops ripped and needs repair. A list of both 'Degree' and Living Constitution costumes for either major repairs or replacement has been submitted. Commencing in the next months, a long overdue request for HVAC in the Wardrobe and Makeup areas which will also include repairing plaster, painting, lighting, new wiring, and returning the two bathrooms to use. For next year's projects, our Event Center Manager, Hon. Ben Masoyan has identified the Ladies Lounge adjacent to the Dining Room as an important project to update. His thinking is to make it more attractive to prospective renters. Also, for next year, planning is underway by the Cathedral Board for Auditorium improvements, as we will host the Statewide Reunion. Part of this effort will involve removing the two sets of 3 row auditorium chairs on the floor nearest the stage, and replacing them with removable chairs... similar to those at Grand Lodge.

As far as the 'numbers' go...our Income thru September 30th was \$290,427.31; or 86% of budget. Slightly ahead of budgeted. Our Expenses were 189,806.02; or 98% of budgeted. The primary reason for this, as mentioned previously, is \$46,190.65 representing contractor payments for completion of the Dining Room were made earlier this year. Had we been on an 'accrual' accounting system, instead of a 'cash basis', they would have been reflected in 2024's numbers. Without the \$46,190.65 having been paid this year, our expenses would have been at 75%. On target.

Budgets versus Actuals - Lodge of Perfection

Income for the Lodge of Perfection primarily comes from Dues, Investment account transfers, Dining Room (Stated Meeting and other special events) receipts, and Candidate Fees. Our Income of 213,596.70 through September 30th was 65% of budget. Much like our Blue Lodges, the Lodge of Perfection relies upon dues payments. According to our General Secretary's September report, 105 or our 681 members have their dues paid in full. 287 have a current balance, 135 members are in arrears, with 91 Life Members paid. Simply taking our members with current balances and those in arrears...this is \$86,510 that has to be made up 'from somewhere'. If those dues were paid, our budget vs actual would be closer to 90%.

Expenses for the Lodge of Perfection were \$175,409.14; or 53% of budget. A Continued on next page

Treasurers Report, Continued...

regrettable large part of this under run was due to our Secretary, Mary Masoyan's injury and absence from work.

Investments

A year-to-date summary of our investment account balances from the beginning of the year to the end of the 3rd Quarter (Sep 30th) is provided below:

		(Comparison)		Change from		
Account	12/312024	12/31/2023	9/30/2025	Dec 24 to Sep 25		
Life Membership	\$284,281.76	\$251,366.27	\$311,169.88	26,888.12		
Almoner	25,061.83	22,679.22	23,586.18	- 1,475.65		
Cathedral Assoc. Trus	st. 363,649.67	339,685.11	369,257.68	5,608.01		
Lodge of Perfection N	Iain 853,622.19	1,297,665.78	795,121.31	-58,500.88		
AT&T Buy out	19,604.72	15,909.37	22,337.71	2,732.99		
	\$1,546,220.17	\$1,927,305.75	\$1,521,472.76	(\$24,747.41)		

- 1) Almoner Transfer to Almoner checking account to replenish funds
- 2) LOP Transfers to fund Lodge of Perfection operations

On Wednesday evening, October 8th the Finance Committee met with our Investment Manager, Bob McClure to review our portfolio. In attendance were: Gregory Gabriel, Ron Alcorn, III, Leonard Manoukian, Jeff Yates, Hovig Antabian, Tim O'Hair, in addition to the Treasurer.

Bob started the meeting by commenting on the large presence of 'Tech Firms' focused on AI and their dominance within the S&P 500, with a 40% share of it. These firms have affected other resources needed, such as drawing upon large quantities of real estate and energy consumption for their data centers. This discussion became more apparent as he discussed our portfolio performance as measured against the Barclay's 60/30/10 benchmark provided below:

	Period Rtr	3Mos	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs	ITD*
Combined Investment Accounts	7.05	3.88	8.58	5.72	13.17	9.64	7.05
Barclay's 60/30/10 Benchmark	9.17	5.71	10.78	11.15	16.52	9.60	9.17
*12/31/2017							

Our current mutual fund portfolio is approximately 65% US Stock, 28% Bonds/Fixed Income, and 7% Cash/Equivalents. This portfolio is slightly greater than the

Treasurers Report, Continued...

Barclay's 60/30/10 benchmark.

As can be seen, our portfolio has 'lagged' the benchmark for the relatively near term to 3 year period; and more in line at the 5 year mark, and slightly behind Inception to Date. Our investments, are guided by our Investment Policy Statement as approved by not only the Investment Committee, but also by our Valley members. It generally follows investment guidelines of those of Grand Lodge, found in the CMC. The main difference, is our portfolios may only utilize mutual funds, and not individual securities. The reason for this, is to reduce exposure to any single security vs having many securities of similar types in a mutual fund.

Within our mutual funds, we are significantly 'under weight' in technology (as reflected in the S&P 500..15% versus 35%). Conversely, we are slightly 'over weight' in industrials and healthcare. Bob discussed the risks of the tech sector and 'AI' in particular, and with our less exposure to it (and it being a factor that our returns lag somewhat), feels we are better protected should there be a market selloff of tech companies.

The Finance Committee members asked if we should consider increasing our portfolio for more 'growth', in an effort to bring returns closer to the benchmark. In view of recently enacted tariffs which haven't fully worked their way thru the economy, potential for greater inflation, potential interest rate changes, and unemployment (generally, a lot of 'unkown's), we should leave our portfolios as is. We are monitoring our finances closely.

That is this quarter's Treasurer's report. If you have any questions or desire to see any of the reports, please contact the Office, or your truly. I'm not hard to find, and generally reply promptly: miles.bresee@pasadenascottishrite.org, or 626 483-1342

Fraternally,

Miles H. Bresee, 32° KCCH Treasurer

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.



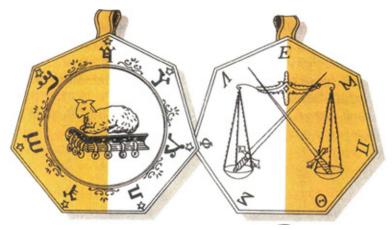
Visit us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/PasadenaAASR

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.

Library Treasures.

KNIGHT OF THE EAST AND WEST SEVENTEENTH DEGREE



LESSONS

An army of martyrs have offered up their lives to prove their faith or benefit mankind.



The jewel is a heptagonal (seven-sided) medal, half gold and half silver or mother of pearl. These two colors are emblems of the sun and moon, themselves symbols of the Egyptian deities Osiris and Isis, who represent the generative and productive powers of nature, illustrated in Masonic symbolism by the columns Jachin and Boaz as the active and passive forces manifested in nature (Morals and Dogma, p. 202). On one side are engraved, at the angles, the same letters as are on the capitals of the columns in the ceremony and possessing the same meaning, that of the last seven of the Sephiroth of the Kabbalah. A star is over each. In the center, on the same side, is a lamb, lying on a book with seven seals, on which seals are, respectively, the same letters, though shown in this representation as the Roman equivalents. On the reverse side are two crossed swords, points upward; their hilts rest on an even balance. In the corners are

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Library Treasures, continued...

the initials in Greek of the names of the Seven Churches (Revelation 2 and 3).



FOR REFLECTION

Can Masonry teach religion without being a religion?



Bibliographical source:

A BRIDGE TO LIGHT: The Revised Standard Pike Ritual. By Dr.RexR. Hutchens, 33°. The Supreme Council, 33°. Washington, D.C. Fourth Edition, Third Printing, November 2014 (Pages 124 - 125).

Color illustrations of aprons, cordons, and jewels by Great Scott Design and Kerry Hannon Stratford

Research, Summary by: Bro. Oliver A. Torrealba, 32° KSA. Knight of the Council of Nine, KSA-Pasadena Scottish Rite & Past-First Knight KSA-LBSR.



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

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 October 2025 Donors

365 Club

Frank Barbano, William Rook, Jack Carlson

Memorials

Jack Carlson in memory of Robert M. Carlson, PM

In Honor of

Friends of the Center

Anonymous, Ernest Barber, Sergey Galstyan, Wilfredo Sia, Charles Foster, David Tadevosian, Antonio Ruiz, Robert Kelley, Denis Osmanbegovic, Robert Calderson, Ricardo Cervantes

Donations paid through the valley office, online with your dues or mailed to our office are listed.

All donations paid directly to California Scottish Rite Foundation for Pasadena Rite Care may not be listed above.

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

Official Publication of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA, Valley of Pasadena and Coordinate Bodies

Gregory J. Gabriel, 330 Personal Representative

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Scottish Rite Calendar

Keep Friday Nights for Scottish Rite Dress is Coat and Tie

NOVEMBER

Friday, November 7

3:00PM Library Open

5:00PM Cathedral Board

6:00PM Social

6:30PM Dinner

Reunion Patent Presentation KSA Knighting Ceremony

8:00PM Stated Meeting

Chapter of Rose Croix in Charge

Womens Association

Saturday, November 8

9:30AM Knights of Saint Andrew

Saturday, November 22 10:00AM Discussion Group

Monday, November 24

5:00PM Rite Care Board - on Zoom

Thursday, November 27 Happy Thanksgiving

Thursday-Friday November 27 & 28 Office Closed due to holiday.

SAVE THE DATE

December 5 - Stated Meeting January 2 - Stated Meeting January 23 - Installation





Periodica

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite 50 North Madison Avenue

Fime dated material