

Pensacola Masonic Center
A&A Scottish Rite
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**Mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
In the Orient of Florida**

IS TO BE THE PREMIER FRATERNITY OF MEN OF INTEGRITY AND GOOD CHARACTER BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL GROWTH, LEADERSHIP SKILLS, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL INTERACTION BASED ON THE VALUES OF FRIENDSHIP, CHARITY, PATRIOTISM, TOLERANCE, INTEGRITY AND BELIEF IN A SUPERIOR BEING. TO THAT END, WE COMMIT TO MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON HUMANKIND, PROMOTING OUR COMMUNITY AND PROVIDING A VALUE TO THE MASONIC FRATERNITY.

The Scottish Rite Creed

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



NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.



“Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother”

Bro. Raeburn Lamar Fillingim	13-Jun-23
Bro. John Carlton Franklin Jr.	18-Feb-23
Bro. Stephen Kodak, Jr.	28-Aug-23
Bro. Jack Calvert McCombs	21-Jun-23
Bro. Richard Ray Opiela	06-Feb-23
Ill. Lewis B. Pollak	21-Jun-23
Bro. Clarence Leslie Quigley	17-Aug-23
Bro. James Nelson Whaley	28-Jun-23

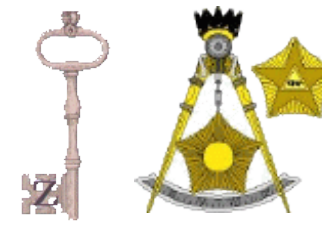
Attention wives, family and care-givers:

Should the person to whom this newsletter is addressed be ill or in some difficulty, please call 850-494-0801

Send all general Valley email to:
gensec@pensacolascottishrite.org

Others:

Kurt Larson: prsgig@pensacolascottishrite.org
Bobby Kickliter: treasurer@pensacolascottishrite.org
Diane: admin@pensacolascottishrite.org



The Outlook

Valley of Pensacola, Orient of Florida

OCT-DEC, 2023
ISSUE NO. 101



NOTES FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Ill. James A. Salisbury, Jr.

As I write this, we are in the Dog Days of Summer, and I am sure that I am not the only one who is looking forward to Fall and cooler weather. Please take those extra precautions and stay cool.

On to better news. Honors were announced a few weeks ago, and we have a new Inspector General Honorary, Carl G. Kirtley; also, three new Knights Commander Court of Honour: Ben Quinto, Dwight Wilson and Shawn Johnson. When you see them, please congratulate them on their Honors. They will travel to Tampa over Veterans Day weekend to receive these Honors. Ill. Larson, in the April-June 2023 issue of *The Outlook*, explained the process and how the numbers work for recognition for Honors. An example is the Valley of Tampa has almost 2200 members, they received 3 White Hats. The Valley of Pensacola has just at 500 members. Enough said there.

The Valley had two successful fundraisers: the BBQ Sandwich sale benefiting the Speech and Language Center at Baptist Hospital, and the fireworks tent benefiting the Valley. I wish to thank all who assisted in these functions. Hopefully, we will be able to work the Blue Angels Air Show in November and fireworks over New Years.

On September 30, 2023 there is an Officers Retreat scheduled for the incoming officers for the next year. If you are in the line of the four bodies, I strongly encourage you to attend. This is where you will look to your upcoming year and to work with the other bodies on your fundraisers.

On a final note, as of today, we do not have any petitions for the Fall Reunion. See what magic you can work. ✂

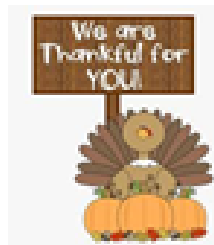
Special congratulations to our 2023 50/25 year members. Well done!

2023 50-yr members

Hon. Richard	Leon	Cannon
Bro. John	Henry	Davis III
Hon. Henry		Dittman
Bro. James	William	Burt Evans
Bro. James	Curtis	Gay
Bro. Peter	Robert	Resedean
Bro. Eustice	Myrl	Shiver

2023 25-yr members

Bro. Marshall	O	Carpenter III
Bro. Vernon	Jerry	Covington
Hon. Herman	Morris	Davies
Bro. Joseph	Rosenthal	Davies
Hon. Phillip	Levy	Davies
Bro. Charlie	Dewayne	Donaldson
Bro. David	Edward	Emmons
Bro. Jeffery	Keith	Engle
Bro. Scott	Edward	Fisk
Bro. Dannie	Michael	Henderson
Bro. Joseph	Ray	Miller
Bro. Charles	E	Page
Bro. Richard	Gene	Sharpless
Bro. Preston	Walter	Sinon Jr



DUTY

Hon. Bobby Kickliter, Treasurer

I've been pondering on this subject for quite some time. I believe it's one that doesn't get enough attention but it's one of the most touched on throughout our ritual work in both our Rites and in Symbolic Masonry as well and that is the subject of *Duty*.

I think one of the reasons why this topic is avoided so often is that anyone who speaks of duty is inherently accusing, through passive aggressive means, another of not doing theirs. I would hope that this dialog that I'm presenting can be taken for what it is and not read into it as anything other than a new perspective on the purpose of duty and what it means to us as Masons.

We are first introduced to the concept of having a duty in the Entered Apprentice Charge, where we are admonished to practice our duty to God, to our Neighbor, and to Ourselves. First, to God we are duty-bound to revere Him, His name, and His creations and to seek His aid in all of our trials, troubles, and tribulations through life. Secondly, to our Neighbor we are duty-bound to "do unto others as we would have them do unto you;" this is the Golden Rule that is presented by nearly every religion or ethical society in some form or another. And finally to yourself, in avoiding irregularities and intemperance; in other words, as my dad would say: "keep your nose clean and stay out of trouble."

This might seem simple enough on the surface and well establishes Masonry as a system of morality. This ideal of Masonry attempts to establish or reinforce an ethos on society; an expectation that we all understand the difference between right and wrong but more importantly than all of that, it demands that we act upon it. It is not enough to pay lip service to words and sentiments, but we must constantly do that which we profess in our words.

In the eighteenth degree of the Scottish Rite and in the lecture of the Entered Apprentice, we learn about the principles of Faith, Hope, and Charity. This instruction teaches us that while faith and hope are strongly valid sentiments, they are just matters of contemplation. Charity is action and the first great law of a Mason. This charity is our duty to God, to society, and to ourselves; we must give charitable praise and faith in our Creator; charity to our neighbors in the form of aid, alms, advice, and good cheer; and to ourselves in allowing for constructive growth, having grace and humility, and to love.

In both the Scottish and York Rites, and I'm sure there are such in other appendant bodies of which I am not familiar, there are multiple degrees or rituals which professes that we should do our duty "without hope of fee or reward;" that we are to do our duty "because they are duty, without regard to the reward, and (we should be) satisfied with the esteem of (our) conscience alone."

This concept can be an easy one to understand but is a hard one to practice because we are constantly taught in our capitalist society, that we are to do nothing for free. How often do you work at your job for free? Some of us will offer to do things for free, or a favor, with the expectation that something is done for us later or in trade. I am not suggesting that we need to give of our lives and skills without compensation but there are times and instances where it is appropriate. One phrase that hits home for me on this subject is: "if your neighbor's house is on fire, you don't haggle over the price of the garden hose."

Laboring for the cause of your Lodge, or your Valley, or shrine, or whatever chapter, council, or commandry you might belong to is not a wasted effort. But I should remind you that Masonry does not have "rank" or "elevation." Once you have become a 3rd degree Master Mason, you will, henceforth, be no less and no more a Mason

SCOTTISH RITE OUTLOOK
Published Quarterly
Pensacola Scottish Rite Bodies
189 W. Airport Blvd.
Pensacola, FL 32505
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than any other brother in the world, including the Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Commander, or Grand Monarch or any other head of the various appendant bodies of this fraternity. These men are your brothers, first and foremost, but they are also considered to be Chiefs among their equals. They may have accepted the burden of leadership, or stepped up to serve in an area of their own interests or expertise but they did so (or should do so) to serve the craft and not in expectation of any higher respect, an enriched title, or some elevated status. That will come naturally and commensurate with the manner in which he discharged his duty.

As a fraternity, we have chosen to construct systems of Honor to recognize and thank those brothers for their efforts. We recognize and appreciate them for what they have performed in their duties, but we do not elevate them or rank them above or below any other brother. This should be remembered when you ask yourself why you are laboring in the cause of your Lodge or other body. It should be for your brothers and for the fraternity and not for yourself. There should be no expectation or demand of “getting a red hat” or any other honor we might choose to bestow upon you; if you sincerely think there should be such expectations, I urge you to consider why you became a Mason in the first place.

Genesis 1:28 says “God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.’” While the ‘multiply’ part has been way overdone, the ‘fill the earth’ part is what I’m looking at. This passage says that He put us on this earth to Labor; to ‘fill the earth’ with our creations. We are to labor so that we can come to realize our own potential: whether for greatness or for destruction; it can certainly be agreed that we have seen evidence of both in our history. I feel like we have so much more potential within us as a society of Friends and Brothers. It is by doing our duty that we realize our potential as men, husbands, sons, and servants and as a society we can achieve great things for global morality, equality, and upright conduct.

Duty is a journey and what most fail to realize, it is the journey that changes us, not the destination. We are all travelers upon the level of time going toward that undiscovered country. We cannot simply coast along and watch, we must engage and labor for that journey; otherwise, life becomes something that happens to us rather than us living it. It is the journey, the environments through which we travel and the people that we meet along the way that are more important. Remember that the final destination is eminent, spared for no one, and has no regard for station, wealth, honor, or reputation; so don’t focus on the ending that you overlook or gloss over the journey which is happening to you now.

Another concept to be wary of: “Don’t confuse Movement with Progress.” I see this so much in my own workplace. There is a lot of expended energy and work effort, but it is, at times, very inefficient and pointless and, at the end of the day, leaves us no better off than we started. Taking you back to high school physics, the term “Work” is defined as the measure of “Force” exerted times the “Distance” traveled. If we labor all day to push a boulder and it doesn’t move an inch, we may be worn out and tired, but we have not worked. Movement is just expended force, and oftentimes that force is either directed at immovable objects (or ideals) or so scattered as to dissipate into nothingness. Progress occurs when that force is focused and properly applied as to exert some kind of change.

Scottish Rite teaches that Duty is a broad highway which leads to Truth. Do not try to fool yourself to thinking that we can make shortcuts or detours or otherwise stray from that path in search of greener pastures or some other misguided notion of ease or quick fortune. You will lose yourself in a labyrinth of your own design; a quicksand pit of despair and hopelessness that leaves many in a state of desperation and constant anxiety. Stay the path, find out where it leads, you may be surprised what you find.

Lastly, I would leave you with this: Ritual work in Masonry is a powerful mechanism. It is by learning the ritual work, memorizing the various charges and lectures, that we begin the process of indoctrinating those virtues and ideals of ethics and morality into our psyche; that we become Masons. I cannot tell you how much I learned in memorizing the Fellow Craft Lecture as compared with everything I learned before it. When we at least become familiar with the ritual work (although memorizing it helps) we begin to exemplify Masonry in our character until it becomes an involuntary and subconscious rather than selective or conscious. I encourage you to read the rituals of the various degrees of the

various bodies, compare those lessons, read the lectures, memorize a charge or two, and your quiet thoughts will be filled with questions and answers and posits and proofs. This will help us when faced with snares and challenges of our daily lives outside of the Lodge as we practice within it. ✖

**Master of Kadosh
Hon. Gene P. Bodkin**

Welcome to the end of summer, and we only have three months left in this Scottish Rite year. Just think, officers will move forward to a new or different position, and we will start a new year again. One fundraiser is left for two of our bodies and will be a joint venture between them. We have had different types of fundraisers this year, with excellent amounts of funds being raised. One community event will be the Salvation Army Christmas bellringing at the Mall in November. The sound resonates for many great causes in our community: comfort, help, and hope.

As a reminder, there is a Royal Order of Scotland meeting at La Hacienda on North Davis on Saturday, September 30, at 6:00 p.m. for those members. We still have our education get-together on the fourth Thursday of each month. This is taught by Brother Josh Schutts. He has taken over for Brothers Bobby and Jim. The pre-class refreshment is excellent, and the degree teaching is outright awesome. Since this has been moved to the fourth Thursday, attendance has increased. Please come and enjoy the teachings of each degree. Even though we witnessed them initially, that was many moons ago for some of us. All of the degrees are taught in a 30-minute session for each.

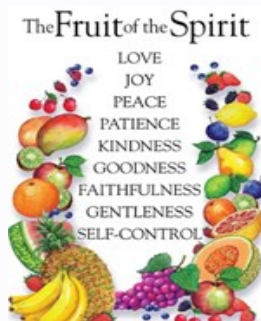
I want to add a little history for old-time sake. *The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry*, what does this mean? I read this information in an article but do not remember when or where. This is just one of many Rites of Freemasonry. What is a Rite? It’s a series of degrees conferred by various Masonic organizations or bodies. We just know it as the Scottish Rite. In England and Australia, it’s called Rose Croix. It is just one of the appendant bodies of Freemasonry where one must be a Master Mason to join. Hopefully, this has a small meaning for everyone. ✖



Devotional

A Masonic Example.

How do you represent the Masonic family? Maybe you could give a few examples and show some pictures, but would it really be a good example? If we look at God’s Word, the examples listed there would be a perfect representation of how we should pattern our lives on a daily basis. Nine Listings! Nine examples of God’s desire for our lives that go hand and hand in Masonry. Why not read and contemplate on these “Fruits” of God and see how they fall in place as examples of a complete Mason. Bro. Bob Eckols, 32°, KSA



**Commander
Bro. Ben Q. Quinto, KSA**

Greetings from the Council of Kadosh,

It has been fun and fast times at the Pensacola Scottish Rite. We are down to the last quarter of the year, and so many things remain to be accomplished. Council of Kadosh and Chapter of Rose Croix are teaming up to raise funds for the Valley in the fall, date still to be determined. Plan is to have “song and dance” entertainment with eggrolls and pancit noodles to serve. So come on down, enjoy, have fun, and have fellowship with us, your brothers and sisters, especially during our monthly meetings and fellowship. Yours in good fellowship, Ben. ✖

**Wise Master
Bro. Scott Phillips, KSA**

Greetings and happy Fall to all of you from The Chapter of Rose Croix. I hope everyone is looking forward to some cooler weather.

We have a lot coming up at the Valley from the fall reunion to other activities. Due to scheduling issues, our fundraiser for Rose Croix has been postponed until November. We will be collaborating with Worshipful Ben, to make it an event to remember. I wish all of you the best and may God bless your family. ✖

**Bro. Bob Eckols
Chaplain**



As Masons, we are taught a great deal about the symbolism of the *Hammer*. Everyone at some time or other will have use of or need a hammer to complete a given project. Have we every REALLY thought about a hammer?

We use the hammer to hang that favorite picture; yet, at the same time that same hammer can cause us extreme pain and unhappiness when we hit our own thumbnail!

We are taught in our Masonic journey that the common gavel (hammer) is an instrument made use of by workmen to fashion and fit rough stones for the builders use. Symbolically, we are taught to use the gavel, in its symbolic application, to fashion our hearts and minds thus preparing our hearts, souls, and lives for the work of God and for the betterment of our fellow man.

Like a physical hammer, God’s Spirit moves upon our lives. God uses the power of His WORD to breakdown the superfluities and cares of life thus He fashions us into a better person. Granted sometimes it will hurt, just like when we hit our own thumb, but in the long run we have pleasure when we see the reward of God’s plan come into its final “picture.”

In the Book of Ezekial Ch36:26-27, we read about God’s desire for all men, “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgements, and do them.”

God has promised to remove our world hardened heart and replace it with a heart fashioned after His own. Remember this message the next time you reach for your hammer, Physically or Symbolically. ✖

Masonic Corner:

- Fellowship Breakfast, Ensley 278, biscuits & sausage gravy every second Wednesday of the month, 7:30 a.m.
- Fellowship Breakfast, Myrtle Grove 352, second Saturday of the month 7-9:00 a.m.



Do you have a clean driving record and criminal background? Are you interested in helping those in need? Would you like to be paid for this at the same time? Specialty Care Transporters may be what you are looking for. If you are interested, contact John Connell at 850-476-3599.

2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 5	Executive Meeting	4:30 PM
	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:30 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:45 PM
	Invocation followed by Dinner	6:00 PM
	Program – Feast of Tishri	
	KCCH Honor Guard	
	Host – Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection	
Oct 7 & 21	231 st Reunion – Fall	
Oct 9	Office Closed Columbus Day	
Oct 25	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM
Oct 26	Knights of Saint Andrew	6:00 PM
Nov 2	Executive Meeting	4:30 PM
	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:30 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:45 PM
	Invocation followed by Dinner	6:15 PM
	Program – Veterans Day Program	
	KSA Honor Guard	
	Host – Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix	
	Election of Officers	
Nov 14	Thanksgiving Luncheon	12:00 PM
Nov 22	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM
Nov 23	Office Closed Thanksgiving	
Dec 7	Executive Meeting	4:30 PM
	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:30 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:45 PM
	Invocation followed by Dinner	6:00 PM
	Pearl Harbor Observance	
	Mason of the Year Presentation,	
	Installation of Officers	
	Combined Honor Guard	
	Host – Master of Kadosh, Consistory	
	Newsletter Articles Due	
Dec 12	Newsletter Production	9:00 AM
Dec 27	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM

Office Closed December 18 thru January 2



Circle of Concern

- Hon. Gene Bodkin
- Ill. Bill Bonifay
- Bro. Fred Gassman
- Bro. Oscar Laurene
- Bro. Charles Nelson
- Bro. Don Odom
- Bro. Richard Sharpless
- Mrs. Glenda Smith

Please remember our Brothers and Sisters during their sickness and distress. Privacy issues prevent us from printing addresses and telephone numbers here. Please contact the General Secretary’s office for more information.