



**Palm Springs Valley of the Scottish Rite**

# **Scottish Rite News**

**Volume 2 Issue No. 5**

**Newsletter Date May 2021**

**The Voice**



**House of the Temple, Washington D.C.**

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## ***Palm Springs Scottish Rite Officers for 2021***

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Sovereign Grand Commander



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° PGM**  
SGIG Orient of California



**Ill. John R. Heisner, 33° PGM**  
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Valley of Palm Springs



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General Secretary

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**Hon Arman Ordian, 32° KCCH**  
Asst. to the Personal Rep.



**Roy Pool, 32°**  
Venerable Master



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Kurt Handshuh, 32°.....Chaplain  
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Hon. Nick Seneca, 32° KCCH..Director of the Work

**Palm Springs Valley Scottish Rite office: 51-100 South Jackson, Indio, CA 92202**

**Hours: Monday - Friday 10am-4pm**

**Voice (760) 777-0796**

**The Valley of Palm Springs, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
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**Bro. Kurt Handshuh, 32°, Editor. (760) 333-4410, email: [kurtlends@psscottishrite.org](mailto:kurtlends@psscottishrite.org)**

**All articles must be submitted prior to the 1st of the month.**

## Venerable Master



Greetings Brethren:

By now I am sure everyone is aware that Most Worshipful Arthur Weiss, Grand Master of Masons in California issued a new Directive giving permission to hold ***In- Person Meetings and Events*** beginning April 15th. On Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup>, Most Worshipful Weiss scheduled a virtual Town Hall Meeting to provide guidance for reopening Lodges, Masonic Organizations and Halls. There will be several steps to take to ensure the continued health of all members. The first requirement will be a **Written Site – Specific Covid-19 Prevention Plan**. Hall Associations, in partnership with the Lodge, must prepare this plan and have it approved prior to resuming **IN-PERSON MEETINGS**.

**The State Reopening Guidelines** for IN- PERSON MEETINGS are posted on the **Grand Lodge web site at [w.w.w.freemason.org/covid19](http://w.w.w.freemason.org/covid19)**.

**IN- PERSON MEETINGS are OPITONAL.** Masonic Lodges and Masonic Organizations may continue to meet virtually if they chose, in which case a plan is not required.

Before Palm Springs Scottish Rite can meet in person, we are required to have a copy of the approved plan and have trained our members in the requirements/ guidelines of the plan. **We will also need the approval of both, the S.G.I.G. Illustrious Frank Loui 33<sup>rd</sup> PGM and Illustrious John R. Heisner 33<sup>rd</sup> PGM. Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G.**

**\*\*\*\*\*UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE WE WILL CONTINUE TO MEET BY “ZOOM”\*\*\*\*\***

Monday May 31<sup>st</sup> is Memorial Day, a National Holiday to honor and morn the military personnel, men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the performance of their military duties. In 1917 a great American, John Jay Daly wrote a poem- “TOAST TO THE FLAG”.

In honor to the men and women of our Armed Forces I am posting his moving words:

“Here’s to the red of it- there’s not a thread of it, No, not a thread of it in all the spread of it from foot to head, But heroes bled for it, Faced steel and lead for it, Precious blood shed for it, **Bathing it Red!** Here’s to the white of it - Thrilled by the sight of it, Who knows the right of it But feels the might of it Through day and night? Womanhood’s care for it, Made manhood dare for it, Purity’s prayer for it **Keeps it so white** Here’s to the blue of it- Beauteous view of it, Heavenly hue of it, Star-spangled dew of it. Constant and true; Diadems gleam for it, States stand supreme for it, Liberty’s beam for it **Brightens the Blue!** Here’s to the whole of it- Stars, stripes and pole of it, Body and Sole of it, O, and the roll of it, Sun shining through; Hearts in accord for it, Swear by the sword for it, Thanking the Lord for it, **Red, White, and Blue!**

Stay safe, God bless you and your Families

Sincerely and Fraternally

**Roy R. Pool, 32\***

Venerable Master

Palm Springs Lodge of Perfection

## Senior Warden



Hope all is well with you and your family. I am sure that we all are tired of these crazy times that we are living through. But at least we can see some light at the end of the tunnel! I know that my patience has been tested. As things progress the Venerable Master, Roy Pool will keep us updated. It will be a very complicated process to re-open with in person meetings.

Meanwhile we have a lot of things going on. Our committees working hard on their various projects assigned to them. We now have a plan for scholarships and working on our membership development plan. In the next two years (and beyond) we will increase our presence in all the lodges in our area. Of course we need all the help we can get from our members to facilitate our plans. If you have any suggestions, ideas or would like to help please contact me. We certainly can use anything that you may have to offer.

I would like to thank Wor. Kirk Weiss for taking over to production of our sixth degree. We hope to be conducting live degrees before the year is over. This is a big undertaking including a lot of practice to insure that the degree is presented properly. Our objective is to make our Venerable Master and all of our members proud of the excellent degree work that the Palm Springs Scottish Rite will be doing.

Be safe and take care of yourself and family,

.

Fraternally,

**Jim Ridley**

Senior Warden, 2021

Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite



## Palm Springs Scottish Rite New Website

Brethren, we have a New website [www.psscottishrite.org](http://www.psscottishrite.org) please check it out we will always have our latest “Voice” publication on the site. With all the activities we have planed for the year and much more.



### Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite

[Home](#) [Palm Springs Scottish Rite](#) [Education](#) [Reservations](#) [RiteCare Language Center](#) [Contact Us](#)



<https://www.psscottishrite.org/>

### Welcome



The Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, commonly known as the Scottish Rite, is one of several groups that are part of the worldwide fraternity of Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite is the largest and most widely practiced Masonic Rite in the world. Scottish Rite degrees expand upon the teachings and lessons of the first three degrees. The Scottish Rite degrees teach a series of moral lessons culminating in the 32° degree, Master of the Royal Secret. The Scottish Rite continues a Master Mason's education in many ways.

The Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite was Chartered on October 19, 1987. We invite all Blue Lodge Masons to join us and enrich your Masonic journey.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Illustrious John R. Heisner, 33°, Past Grand Master  
Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Supreme Council in California

## General Secretary



Brethren,

We still have 12 members who have current dues balance. Please take the time to take care of this if you can. If you need assistance please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. Thank you so much to the 51 members who have paid their dues in full.

Master Craftsman is now Online! Get started by going to <https://scottishrite.org/> and clicking on the "Masonic Education" tab.

### Happy Birthday!

Hertzing, David D.	May 4
Heisner, John R.	May 11
Bolton, Michael J	May 13
Kienzle, Leonard J.	May 15
Mirza, Jerry	May 15
Pritsker, Stephen R.	May 18
Bell, David E.	May 18
Conway, Jeffrey S.	May 21



I think we can all feel it now. We're getting closer to being able to meet in person. More and more businesses are reopening or increasing capacity. I know I'm looking forward to that occasion. By the time you read this article I believe we're going to have a pretty good idea of the when.

### Trivia

"The Character of a Freemason" From the Farmer's Almanac, 1823 Andover, Massachusetts

The real Freemason is distinguished from the rest of Mankind by the uniform unrestrained rectitude of his conduct. Other men are honest in fear of punishment which the law might inflict; they are religious in expectation of being rewarded, or in dread of the devil, in the next world. A Freemason would be just if there were no laws, human or divine except those written in his heart by the finger of his Creator. In every climate, under every system of religion, he is the same. He kneels before the Universal Throne of God in gratitude for the blessings he has received and humble solicitation for his future protection. He venerates the good men of all religions. He disturbs not the religion of others. He restrains his passions, because they cannot be indulged without injuring his neighbor or himself. He gives no offense, because he does not choose to be offended. He contracts no debts which he is certain he cannot discharge, because he is honest upon principle."

Thanks to "THE TRESTLE BOARD" Cochran Masonic Lodge #217 F&AM Cochran, Georgia, USA

**Roger Roberts**  
**4196 Via Mattina**  
**Palm Desert, CA. 92260**

## Valley Membership Achievement Program (VMAP)



VMAP is a grassroots developed and driven project with the mission of helping each Valley ensure that every Scottish Rite Brother is provided with the best possible member experience and value for his membership. It was designed to provide every Scottish Rite candidate, member, and leader in the Southern Jurisdiction with a useful working tool for planning and promoting a well-rounded series of Valley activities to engage and involve every member in the life and work of their Valley. In other words, VMAP was and is designed to help every Valley provide its members with a superior Scottish Rite experience. VMAP is not a contest between Orients or Valleys, but is an opportunity for each Valley to describe their programs and tell how and why they work. The VMAP program is in its fifth year and the Valley of Palm Springs has been recognized as fulfilling the requirements of the program for each of the previous years. Our Valley's VMAP Chairman Ill. John R Heisner 33°, has done an outstanding job of keeping us on track and ensuring we focus on the proper areas to ensure that we complete each required task.

## Language Center News

### Special Recognition

*A Community Program of the Scottish Rite Foundation for  
Children with Speech and Language Challenges*

**[www.goldritecarecenter.org](http://www.goldritecarecenter.org)**

Please support your RiteCare Childhood Language Center  
by making an individual, group, or company donation

Support our Center by becoming a member:

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<b>365 Club:</b>	<b>A donation of \$365 each year</b>
<b>Center Club:</b>	<b>A donation of \$100 each year</b>
<b>Friends Club:</b>	<b>A donation of \$1 to \$99 each year,</b>

Supporters of the RiteCare Childhood Language Center for 2021



#### President's Circle Members

Mark Flint  
Bobbie Gold  
Randy Viscovich  
Dan & Barbara Oates 32°  
Robert Jacob, 32° KCCH  
Jim Kay, 32°

Jim Ridley, 32°

Gary Okamoto, 32°

#### 365 Club Members

David & Terry Hartzing

#### Center Club Members

Michael and Sheri Powell

Stephen Leazer

#### Friends Club Members

Gary Leavitt

Ricky & Kristi Wood

**For Information Please Contact - Chairman**

**Daniel Oates, 32°**

**Cell: 408-393-9284 - Email: [doates818@aol.com](mailto:doates818@aol.com)**

**Did You Know  
Donations to The  
RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Palm Springs  
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**Please Make Yours Today!**

**By visiting our Web Site**

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## Stan and Bobbie Gold RiteCare Childhood Language Center

**Please consider donating to  
our Language Center during  
the year. Remember "let's  
give a child a voice". We are  
very thankful for all your  
support this year.**



## Language Center News



### Stan & Bobbie Gold RiteCare Childhood Language Center



April is already half over; it has been windy and the temperatures mostly in the upper 80s and into the 90s. Seems to me we are supposed to still be in the low to mid-80s and not into the 90s before the end of the month. The one thing I have learned in the last thirteen years I have lived here, warm today, hotter tomorrow. Easter has come and gone, tourists are in town, and surprise upon surprise we have moved from the Purple Tier, stopping only shortly in the Red and are now firmly into the Orange Tier. Restaurants are open for inside dining, you can go to a movie if you wish, and best of all children are starting back to school, at least part-time. With the infection rate going down and vaccinations going up, with the usual precautions and care we may beat this pandemic yet! The Governor has said the state will reopen June 15 with none of the current limitations except the Mask requirement in public. He has further said he wants all schools open in the Fall for in-person classes. We have come a long way since March 13, 2020, when we were all told to stay home. Keep up the good work, stay safe, wash, wear a mask, social distance, and get vaccinated if you can. We will persevere!

I said last month that we were preparing for change at the Language Center and that we are. We have purchased the items needed for sanitizing and keeping our children and staff members safe. We did not know exactly when we would reopen, we do now. Art Salazar the Executive Vice President of the Scottish Rite Foundation which oversees the Language Centers, has announced we will reopen for in-person Therapy on July 1! A committee of therapists is setting up the minimum standard protocols we will work under. I know that all involved, children, parents, therapists, and your Board are incredibly happy with this announcement.

Fundraising, again I would like to thank those of you who responded to our letters requesting donations. I realize not everyone can donate, but if you can it will be appreciated. There will be other things we need in the future you may help with. Please do not forget my offer of a quick tour of our office to anyone who would like one. It will not take long it is a small space.

I end this short column with my usual monthly request. Please keep the Language Center in your hearts and minds. We always need your financial assistance; so, if you have not used it yet, do not throw those donation envelopes in the trash. Remember, no donation is too small, and none too large.

Respectfully,

Bro. Dan Oates, Chairman

Stan & Bobbie Gold RiteCare

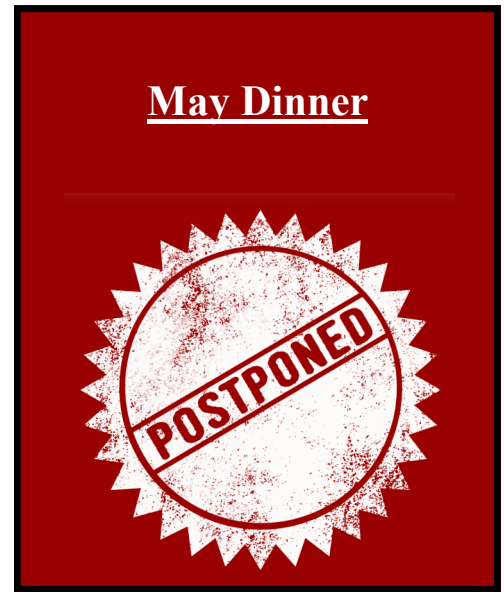
Childhood Language Center



## PSSR 2021 Calendar

<u>1-27-21 Wednesday</u>	Installation
<u>2-24-21 Wednesday</u>	Sweetheart Dinner
<u>3-24-21 Wednesday</u>	Remembrance and Renewal / St. Patrick's Day Dinner
<u>4-28-21 Wednesday</u>	Western Themed Steak Fry
<u>5-26-21 Wednesday</u>	Hawaiian Luau
<u>6-23-21 Wednesday</u>	Teachers of the Year Award
<u>7-28-21 Wednesday</u>	Masonic Leadership Night/Potentate of El Bekal Shrine
<u>8-25-21 Wednesday</u>	Frank Loui Reception
<u>9-22-21 Wednesday</u>	Cap and Ring
<u>10-27-21 Wednesday</u>	Feast of Tishri
<u>11-17-21 Wednesday</u>	Stated Meeting (week early for Holidays) Nominations/ Speaker TBA/ First Responders Award Night
<u>12-15-21 Wednesday</u>	Stated Meeting (week early for Holidays) Vote

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month  
6:30 Dinner / 7:30 Stated Meeting



Be sure to visit our new Scottish Rite website  
at [PSSCOTTISHRITE.ORG](http://PSSCOTTISHRITE.ORG)

We need your email address so we can  
electronically send you "The Voice"

Call the office at 760-777-0796 and give it to our  
Secretary or leave a message. Thanks!

## Palm Springs Reunion

### Virtual Reunion

This reunion was well attended by the Orient with well over a hundred new candidates!!

Welcome to our newest Brothers of the Valley of Palm Springs ∴ Orient of California



Bon Munar 32°



Clint Atherton 32°



Sergio Ramos 32°



Stu Ryan 32°

## Director of Masonic Education

### “EDUCATION ON THE RITE NITE”



If you have not visited an Education on the Rite Nite evening, we encourage you to do so. It is open to all Scottish Rite Masons. It is an opportunity for you to learn more about the Scottish Rite degrees in an informal setting and affords the listener the ability to ask questions and discuss the significant teachings and symbolism of the degree. If you would like to be added to the email reminder list, just let us know at [PSSR@scottishrite.org](mailto:PSSR@scottishrite.org)

If you'd like to attend, please prepare by visiting the website for information about the books and other information to get you started: [scottishrite.org/members/general-membership-information/masonic-education/srmc/](http://scottishrite.org/members/general-membership-information/masonic-education/srmc/)

A group setting is far and away the best way to learn and experience all that these programs have to offer. This is simply because Freemasonry is not a solitary pursuit, but rather a social experience we gather in Lodges together for a reason! In fact, social engagement while finding more light in Masonry can be (and often is) more rewarding than simply answering some questions about a reading assignment. This is because you are learning not only about yourself through the ritual and its symbolism, but about others and their unique relationship to the deep philosophies and mysteries that are contained in the material, too.

The key with all of this is to have fun, and to engage each other about the meanings of Freemasonry and life itself. In fact, using that goal, finishing the programs becomes a distant second to connecting with other people who have similar interests and learning through more about each other through the shared experience of conversation and fellowship.

## 2021 Officers

### LODGE OF PERFECTION

Venerable Master Roy Pool, 32°  
 Senior Warden James Ridley, 32°  
 Junior Warden Hector Minon, 32°  
 Orator Nick Seneca, 32° KCCH

### CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

Wise Master Gary Okamoto, 32°  
 Senior Warden Robert Jacob, 32° KCCH  
 Junior Warden Bon Munar, 32°  
 Orator Nick Seneca, 32° KCCH

### COUNCIL OF KADOSH

Commander Kirk Weiss, 32°  
 1st Lt. Commander Warren Bachtel, 32°  
 2nd Lt. Commander Dave Hertzing, 32°  
 Chancellor Stu Ryan, 32°

### CONSISTORY

Master of Kadosh Mark Flint, 32°  
 Prior James Petersen, 32° KCCH  
 Preceptor Clint Atherton, 32°  
 Chancellor Randy Viscovich, 32°

### OFFICERS SERVING ALL BODIES

Personal Rep. Ill. John Heisner, 33° PGM  
 Asst. to the PR Arman Ordian, 32° KCCH  
 General Secretary Roger Roberts, 32°  
 Asst. Secretary Daniel Oates, 32°  
 Treasurer Michael Sekera, 32° KCCH

Almoner Arman Ordian, 32° KCCH  
 Captain of the Host Lenard Kienzle, 32°  
 Historian James Petersen, 32° KCCH  
 Tiler James Petersen, 32° KCCH





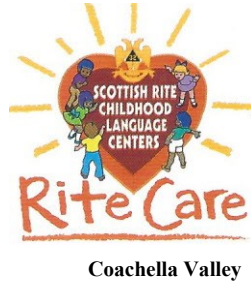
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Center Director

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1988	<b>*ILL. CURTIS PAXMAN, 33°</b>
1989	<b>*ILL. BEN HACKEL, 33°</b>
1990	<b>*ILL. JOHN MAULE, 33°</b>
1991	<b>*ILL. CHARLES AERY, 33°</b>
1992	<b>*JACK KARTZINEL, 32°</b>
1993	<b>*JOE LA COST, 32° KCCH</b>
1994	<b>*LEN LENHOFF, 32° KCCH</b>
1995	<b>ILL. NORMAN MANDEL, 33°</b>
1996	<b>*ED NORTON, 32° KCCH</b>
1997	<b>*ILL. LLOYD GRAY, 33°</b>
1998	<b>*ILL. DONALD SANDERS, 33°</b>
1999	<b>ILL. MARK GIBSON, 33°</b>
2000	<b>*HOWARD KOCHMAN, 32° KCCH</b>
2001	<b>*JOHN BOWLEY, 32° KCCH</b>
2002	<b>ILL. JOSEPH DiPUZO, 33°</b>
2003-2004	<b>ELBERT McKINNEY, 32° KCCH</b>
2005	<b>*HENRY KERCE, 32°KCCH</b>
2006	<b>ILL. JIM LEIGHTON, 33°</b>
2007	<b>*ILL. DAVE BERG, 33°</b>
2008	<b>* ILL. BILL HAWTHORNE, 33°</b>
2009-2010	<b>STAN ADAMS, 32° KCCH</b>
2011	<b>ILL. MICHAEL POWELL, 33°</b>
2012	<b>ARMAN ORDIAN, 32°, KCCH</b>
2013	<b>JAMES PETERSEN, 32°, KCCH</b>
2014	<b>KURT HANDSHUH, 32°</b>
2015 -2016	<b>SHANE DACOSTA, 32°, KCCH</b>
2017	<b>ROBERT JACOB, 32°, KCCH</b>
2018	<b>DANIEL OATES, 32°</b>
2019 - 2020	<b>MICHAEL SEKERA, 32° KCCH</b>
<b>*DECEASED</b>	

