



Orange County Valley of the Scottish Rite

Scottish Rite News

Volume 4 Issue No. 2

Newsletter Date February 2018

Venerable Master



Greetings Brothers and Welcome to February!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as Venerable Master this year! I didn't get a chance to say much being that I had lost my voice, but I am really excited about this year. Having our installation at the DeMolay Center in the big lodge room had a lot of meaning to me, as some of you know that room is where my Masonic journey began. My grandfather, Ill. George Proper 33°, was not only one of the best men I have ever known he was extremely involved in many branches of Masonry. He was my first glimpse into this fraternity that is so dear to us all. Some of my earliest memories include events held at my grandfather's Lodge. I vividly remember being a small child and sitting on Santa's lap when we attended Azure (Consolidated into Anaheim 207) Lodge's annual holiday party which always took place right in that room, my grandparents names are on two of the chairs there. These fond memories are what drew me back to masonry as an adult and will be part of the inspiration that I will look to throughout my year as Venerable Master.

Orange County Scottish Rite can only be as good as we the members make it. We have a lot of cool things going on this year especially the Orient Reunion Class taking place in Oakland the weekend of June 29th. At this Reunion class valleys from all over California will come together to put on all 29 degrees in one weekend. Please consider joining us. I know we are still looking for cast members and I would love to see us have a large group of brothers AND candidates come up with us!

Now for this month's Masonic tidbits; February 9, 1909, Harry S. Truman received his 1st degree in Belton Lodge #450 Missouri 36 years prior to becoming our 33rd president. On February 18, 1909, our 27th president, William Howard Taft, received his 1st degree in Kilwinning Lodge #356 Cincinnati, OH. On February 23, 1887 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, received his 2nd degree. And finally, on February 11, 1988 the Grand Master of Washington D.C. met with then President Ronald Reagan and presented him with a "Certificate of Honor" which said that his life was a testament to his firm belief in the three principal tenants of freemasonry, brotherly love, relief and truth. This certificate also stated that his service to the public has broadened the applications of temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice to the benefit of all mankind. This "Certificate of Honor" was given to him as an acknowledgement of his life's work, but obviously did not make the President a Mason. However, due to this and similar certificates presented to him

(continued on page 4)

Be sure to visit our new Scottish Rite web site at OCSCOTTISHRITE.ORG!

We need your email address so we can electronically send you the Scottish Rite News. Call the office at 714 543-7277 and give it to our Secretary or leave a message. Thanks!

Orange County Scottish Rite Officers for 2018

Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander



Ill. Frank Loui, 33°
SGIG
Orient of California



Ill. Rick Wood, 33°
Personal Representative of the
SGIG of the Orient of California
(909) 861-3329
richardbwood33@gmail.com



Ill. Bob McNamara, 33°
Asst. Personal Rep.
General Secretary



(714) 970-6555
macsquest@aol.com

Hon. Dave Price, 32° KCCH
Asst. Personal Rep.



dprice@ocscottishrite.org

Hon. Scott Davis, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master



(714)457-7644
scott.davis@veritaslodge.com

Philip Liu, 32°
Wise Master



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David Frias, 32°
Commander



dvfrias@yahoo.com

Brandon Cook 32°
Master of Kadosh



brandon.m.cook@gmail.com

Hon. Shawn Smith, 32° KCCH.....Treasurer
Ill. David J. Kussman, 33°.....Chaplain
Mark S. Hoage, 32°Asst. Secretary
Ill. Lloyd Clayton, 33°. Almoner
Ill. Bob Hjorth, 33°.....Director of the Work

James Cervantes, 32°.....Dir. of Ritual
Hon. James McCallion, 32° KCCH.....Classroom Dir.
Vacant.....Dir. Props and Costumes
Larry Griffin, 32°.....Photographer
Hon. Jack Alastuey, 32° KCCH.....Tiler

Orange County Valley Scottish Rite office: 801 N. French Street Santa Ana, CA 92701

Hours: Monday 10-2, Wednesday 10-2, Friday 10-2, Closed Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

Voice (714) 543-7277, Fax (714) 543-9754

**Stated Meetings First Monday of the month, 6:30 pm, dinner follows @ 7:15 pm (reservations requested)
Anaheim DeMolay Center, 303 W. Lincoln Ave. Anaheim, CA 92805**

**The Valley of Orange County, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America,**

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Bro. Mark Hoage, 32°, Editor. (951) 898-9335, email: mshusaac@charter.net or sasrnewsbulletin@gmail.com

All articles must be submitted prior to the 15th of the month.

General Secretary



SECRETARY SEZ—

Congratulations to the new officer corps! This is an outstanding group of Scottish Rite Masons. Under the leadership of Honorable Scott Davis, 32° KCCH, I am hoping for a year to build on the previous ones. The installation was well done and thanks to those that participated.

Our Personal Representative has said that “Communication” is the theme for this year. This is a subject that will help everybody. I know that it will help in the Secretary’s Office. The new hours for the office are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 2 pm.

Now for the routine stuff. Check to see if you have paid you 2018 dues. They are coming in but there are a number of Brothers who still owe dues for 2017. Please find it in you heart to become current. All Brothers are important to us! If you need help with your dues or anything else, let the almoner know. He is in the office on Fridays. And remember that petitions are available at all meetings and we need to grow!

Best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Ill. Bob McNamara, 33°

General Secretary

Editor



Greetings Brothers,

Well all of the pictures have been updated and new Officers have been inserted so now all of the first of the new year tasks are accomplished. I look forward to receiving new material from our new Officers and preparing it for inclusion in our OCSR Newsletter. Please take your next opportunity to greet and get to know our new 2018 Officers. Each of these men have wonderful things to bring to our Valley. I wish each of them good luck with their endeavors this year.

Please submit any new contributions for the OC Scottish Rite Newsletter to me by the 15th of the month at mshusaac@charter.net.

Fraternally,

Mark Hoage, 32°

Editor

Venerable Master *(cont. from page 1)*

by the Scottish Rite and Shrine, which gave him “honorary membership” have led to many conspiracy theories that President Regan was a Mason.

Please feel free to reach out to me any time at scott.davis@veritaslodge.com

Scott Davis, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master

Senior Warden



Membership Has Its Privileges

I would like to thank all of the members of the Valley of Orange County for electing me to serve as Senior Warden for the Lodge of Perfection this year. I am truly humbled to serve the Valley that has given me so much over the years. I would like each and every one of you to talk with any of the officers, appointed or elected, during the year and offer your suggestions and ideas of how we can make our Valley better.

As some of you know, I serve as Secretary of my Blue Lodge. In this position, I have occasion to communicate with each member of my lodge over the course of the year. I talk with a lot of brothers. A lot of them ask me if I belong to any other organizations within Masonry. The truth is that I don't. I am a member of my Blue Lodge and the Scottish Rite. I have my reasons, but mainly I had to choose just one other organization, other than my blue lodge, where I could expand my understanding and knowledge of our fair craft. After careful consideration, I chose the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

Many of you belong to other organizations as well, but you all chose to join the Scottish Rite too. Why? That question always seems to come up when talking with non-Scottish Rite masons. We should all know how to answer that. I encourage you to think about your own reasons for joining and how you have benefited from your experience. Was it the opportunity to serve our wonderful charity, the Childhood Language Center? Was it expanding on the lessons of the blue lodge with the beautiful degrees of the Scottish Rite? Was it to meet more like-minded men with similar values outside of your blue lodge? All of these are great, valid reasons for joining our Valley. Some people call this an elevator speech. Can you describe the Scottish Rite experience in 30 seconds? I think it should be more personal. Tell them why YOU joined the Scottish Rite and how YOU benefit from the experience. For me, I relate my Scottish Rite experience to those truly Masonic Ornaments of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. I get to exercise Brotherly Love by expanding my own Masonic Footprint and engaging with Masons I wouldn't normally get to engage with. By Relief, I have an opportunity to support a fantastic Charity - our Childhood Language Center. By Truth, I have the opportunity to study the ritual and history of the Scottish Rite Degrees and further my own light in Masonry. Think about it, membership has its privileges!

Mike Gowder, 32° KCCH
Senior Warden
Orange County Lodge of Perfection

Wise Master



Brethren,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Wise Master. We had a great year for our Valley and Chapter, and I will work diligently with my line officers to make 2018 a great year as well.

First, I want to thank our 2017 Wise Master, Brother Jay Webb, 32°, for the great job he did for us last year. We were very lucky having you as our leader. Then I want to thank Illustrious Bob McNamara, 33°, Illustrious David Kussman, 33°, Illustrious Lloyd Clayton, 33°, Honorable Shawn Smith, 32° KCCH, Honorable Jack Alastuey, 32° KCCH, Brothers Sean McCuen, 32°, and Charles Reeves, 32° for serving the Chapter of Rose Croix with me this year.

One of the most important events for our Chapter is the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal, which will be on Monday, April 2nd as part of our Stated Meeting. Please save the date and join us to honor the memory of all of the Knights of Rose Croix who died during the year.

Have a great February and I look forward to see you in the meetings and events!

Yungfan "Philip" Liu, 32°

Wise Master

Commander



Greetings Brothers,

This is my first article as Commander, so I would like to say "Thank You" to the Valley for giving me this opportunity to serve this year. I really enjoyed our Installation ceremony on January 14th. Illustrious Raymond Godeke, 33° as the Installing Officer and Illustrious Melvyn B. Stein 33° as the Master of Ceremonies did a great job. Illustrious David Decker 33° led us in prayer and provided us with a special benediction. Honorable Steve Miller, 32° KCCH provided our music and Illustrious Randy Brill 33° played the bagpipes. We should all be very grateful to Illustrious Rick Wood, 33° and Honorable David Price, 32° KCCH for all the leadership, preparation and coordination to make this event so successful. Thank you to all the other Brothers who were involved in the ceremony as well.

Brother Larry Griffin, 32° was on hand to take portraits of all the participants. He keeps these pictures, as well as pictures from other events, online at <https://griffinphotography.smugmug.com/SAVSR/>. He will be uploading the 2018 Installation photographs soon so check out his site.

Our next Super Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday March 25th at the DeMolay Center in Anaheim starting at 9:00am. Please mark you calendars and purchase your tickets as soon as they become available.

David Frias, 32°

Commander

Master of Kadosh



Greetings Brethren,

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the Brethren, Honorable and Illustrious Sirs for your confidence in me serving as Master of Kadosh for the ensuing Consistory year. Two thousand and eighteen is shaping up to be an incredible Masonic year for me personally but also for our Venerable Valley. Honorable Scott Davis, 32° was the Master at Veritas 855 during the same year I had the honor of serving Anaheim Lodge 207 in the East and we have a solid foundation of respect and partnership. I am also very involved in our great Fraternity and currently serve as a Head of several other bodies, including both the York and Scottish Rites. This effort will undoubtedly continue to expand my abilities in leadership, which I am extremely grateful of having the opportunity to employ. I'm reminded of the old Yiddish proverb, "Man plans and God laughs." Regardless, I would like to ensure the Brethren that I am fully committed to the duties of my office and I fully intend to serve with perseverance.

It is also true that I was raised and initiated into Freemasonry by way of Boston, MA and my first experience of the Scottish Rite was via the Northern Jurisdiction. That experience has offered me the benefit of being a part of several distinct degrees of our respective Orders as well as offering me an expanded toolset of our very precious ideals. I'm reminded of the very first issue of the newly installed Sovereign Grand Commander David A. Glattly, 33° (NMJ) who, in an effort to build a stronger bridge, offered our own Sovereign Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale, 33° (SMJ) a place in his introductory kick off message, an example my brethren, worthy of imitation. I look forward to building a bridge with you!

My wife Nastasia and our two year-old son Quinn say hello.

Fraternally & Sincerely,

Brandon Cook, 32°

Master of Kadosh

Master Craftsman Changes

Our program director, Honorable James McCallion, 32° KCCH requested that the Master Craftsman Program be handled thru the OC Scottish Rite office. Please send all of your future submissions of your testing material to the OCSR office. Members of our office staff will review your submissions and forward them to Supreme for final adjudication and recording. The office staff will be available for questions by phone: (714) 543-7277 or email at: ocscottishrite.org and can set up seminars if needed. Hon. McCallion is transferring all the program information to the office so we will be able to immediately check it and send it on. The OCSR office address is: **801 French Street, Santa Ana CA 92701.**

Language Center News



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

Executive Director:

Dr. Judy Montgomery, Chapman University

Speech Language Pathologies:

Leslie Sierra-Guzman, MA CCC-SLP Chris Switzer, MA CCC-SLP

Laura Garcia-Maxey, MA CCC-SLP

www.OCLanguageCenter.org

Please support your Orange County Childhood Language Center by making an individual, group, or company donation.

Support our Center by becoming a member:

- President's Circle: A donation of \$500 or more each year
- 365 Club: A donation of \$365 each year
- Center Club: A donation of \$100 each year

Supporters of the OC Childhood Language Center for 2018



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- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ill. Rick Wood, 33° | Ted Segerstrom, 32° |
| Ill. Bob McNamara, 33° | Samuel Brandes, 32° |
| Ill. Donald Tapia, 33° | Mike Selix, 32° KCCH |
| Ill. Pete Jantz, 33° | Cynthia Olsen & Michele Bakkila |
| Ill. Ray Godeke, 33° | Tom Olsen, 32° |
| Robert & Kathy Olsen | Art Salazar, 32° KCCH |
| Jim Andronaco, Sidepath | Nick Villasenor, 32° |
| Ill. James D. Nyfeler, 33° | David Kussman, 32° KCCH |
| Frankie & Cristi Rosario | Anne Hertz |
| Sylvia & Jim Garrett | David & Deni Frias |
| Dr. Judy Montgomery | Ted & Elaine Olsen |
| Joe Manning, Manning Law | Robert Pickell, 32° |
| James McCallion, 32° | Chase May 32° |
| Dr. Mary Kennedy | Alfredo Molina 32° KCCH |
| Orange County Masonic Memorial Foundation | |

365 Club Members

Center Club Members

For Information Please Contact - President

Frankie Rosario, 32° KCCH

Cell: 714-600-6914 - Email: president@oclanguagecenter.org

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OC CLC

Communication

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy 2018!

To join the 2018 President's Circle, please send a \$500 check to our Center or join on-line by visiting our site

www.OCLanguageCenter.org

clicking on the "Donate Online!"

button and selecting Option 4,

President's Circle.

Or choose "Donate Online!" and donate an amount you feel comfortable with, as any contribution received makes a big impact in our Center.

Visit www.oclanguagecenter.org if you want to donate.

OC Childhood Language Center

Office: 714-972-2646

Email: info@oclanguagecenter.org

Language Center News



Happy New Year

Our best wishes from the Orange County Childhood Language Center. Last year was a very busy and successful year for us. To celebrate the holidays, in December the Center operated on a reduced schedule but so far, we have performed 25 new evaluations, sustained an average of 60 kids per month and have provided over 510 hours of FREE speech services.

President's Circle Returning Members

The President's Circle is proud to welcome back Illustrious Don Tapia, 33°, Brother Chase May, 32°, Brother Ted Segerstrom, 32° and friend Jim Andronaco to the 2018 President's Circle. By joining or renewing your membership to this inspiring Club, you guarantee that a child will receive the therapy needed to overcome their speech challenges. These gentlemen understand how important it is to invest in our children, so thank you once again for your generosity and continued support in 2018.

More Graduations

December was a busy month at the Orange County Childhood Language Center. The Chapman University graduate students finished their semester, graduating six CLC clients who had met their speech and language goals!

The Chapman graduate students and their clients made tremendous growth in their skills. Ahead is a picture of one of our happy kids proudly holding her graduation diploma!

What a great gift and sound to hear during this very special holiday season.



We hope our Scottish Rite brothers feel proud of their accomplishments.

As we all know, every Member of the Board of Directors for the

OC Childhood Language Center, and every OC Scottish Rite Valley member provides financial support to the OC CLC. What an achievement it is for us to say with pride that we have 100% participation in our charity. Nicely done my brothers! The support we provide has a direct impact on these young children, so thank you! By providing this service, our kids will realize a greater ability to use and understand language and to express themselves to the greatest extent possible.

Success because of you

Because of the financial assistance provided by the Orange County Scottish Rite Valley members and the overseeing of our Center by Chapman University, our program continues to be a total success. All of us together make this Center a very special place, so please keep up the good work!

If you are not a member of our President's Circle, please consider this investment in the life of a child today. It is only a \$500 donation per year and it is tax deductible! Please join today, as only YOU can help a child achieve this dream! To join our 2018 President's Circle, please send a check to our Center or join on-line by visiting www.OCLanguageCenter.org, clicking on the "Donate Online!" button and selecting Option 4: President's Circle.

Fraternally yours,

Hon. Frankie Rosario, 32° KCCH

Chairman, President of the Board of Directors
Orange County Childhood Language Center

OCSR 2018 Calendar

2018

February 5th—Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

March 5th—Stated Meeting 6:30 pm

25th—Spring Super Breakfast 9-12pm
DeMolay Center

April 2nd—Stated Meeting 6:30 pm
Renewal & Remembrance

Toys for Covina Program

At our June 2017 Stated Meeting we adopted the Child Advocacy Program at the Covina Masonic Home. In support of this action, Ill. Rick Wood has asked that each Brother bring a toy valued at \$10+ for kids ages 4-17yrs to the next few Stated Meetings.

February Dinner Menu

Roast Beef & Gravy

Roasted Garlic Potatoes

Steamed Vegetables

Dinner Rolls

Tossed Green Salad

New Dinner Fees for 2018

It was decided at the Quarterly Planning Meeting that the cost of Stated Meeting Dinners would increase to \$14.00 for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OC Scottish Rite Office at: (714) 543-7277.

DONATIONS WITH DUES 2018

The 2017 donations accompanying your dues submissions were very helpful for our Almoner, Language Center and Masonic Memorial Foundation. The amounts donated were to the Almoner: \$945.00, the OC Language Center \$2061.00 and to the Masonic Memorial Foundation \$1920.00. The amounts given for the Language Center (501 (c)(3) 94-6078728) and the Masonic Memorial Foundation (501 (c)(95-3804502) are tax deductible. There were a total of 69 Brothers that donated with their dues. The financial help is appreciated! Next year the names will be published in the OC News on a monthly basis.

Masonic Enlightenment

The Journey of the Stones

By Illustrious Robert G. Davis, 33 G.C.

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.”
Rev 3: 12

There are many references to stones in the lexicon of Freemasonry. The first tools given an Entered Apprentice are the twenty-four-inch gauge and common gavel. We are told the gauge is an instrument of time. We are instructed the gavel is used to hone rough stones into a state that can be made usable in building. The interpretation we are to draw from these tools is that there must be a relationship between time and building. In the attending historical lecture, we find that the stones prepared for Solomon’s Temple were hewn, squared, and numbered in such a way that, when fitted, each part joined together so precisely that they had the appearance of being the handiwork of God rather than man. Again, there is an implication that creating anything of beauty and stability requires an investment in time.

We are then admonished the movable jewels of the lodge are the rough ashlar, the perfect ashlar, and the trestle board. Once more, the teaching is that a thing of extraordinary beauty and excellence often begins in a rude and imperfect state and comes to perfection only after designs have been tested and laid down, using time honored techniques employed by master craftsmen.

In the subsequent degrees of Masonry, we encounter a variety of stones—the unhewn stone, the cornerstone, cubic stone, the pyramid, the stone of foundation, keystone, capstone, the stone that was rejected, the cube of agate. And just as each of these stones has a special meaning in actual building, or as metaphors for construction— each also contains a secret; and all are tied to time. Collectively, they represent the craftsman’s journey of life.

Perhaps this is why Freemasonry’s origins are often traced to the Medieval stone-guilds. The guilds were a stone working industry with built in quality control mechanisms that ensured all craftsmanship would be an earned right, rather than a bequeathed benefit. Craftsmanship was both an art and a science born from the labor of time.

Although the power of our operative ancestors eventually waned, and Freemasonry became an institution more concerned with moral development than physical building, the

methods of mentorship, secret instruction, study, and fraternal bonding bequeathed by our operative forefathers delivered a model for a different kind of learning, focus, and stewardship. We became a club for personal and spiritual development which uses stone working as a metaphor for life. Our peculiar group of men are to see their life as a stone to be carved and shaped into something deeply meaningful and beautiful, just as a sculptor finds an angel in a block of stone.

We start with the one “stone” in the quarry that we actually do have control of; we shape it and mold it and smooth it by the thoughts, actions and deeds of our life. Over time, we become better enabled to be the right exemplars of how men should think and act and live. We build a better world by first improving ourselves as individuals. Albert Pike said; “It is to single men that all the great works of man are owing.” What he meant was that the greatest achievements of history are often the result of the creative genius of single men from whose example the world desires to emulate, with deeds and progress.

This image of the ashlar is powerfully seen in many jurisdictions by the placement of a rough ashlar and a perfect ashlar in a visible place in every lodge. It is a reminder to each brother that he is a stone taken from the quarry of his own beginnings, and is fully capable of forming and improving himself in such a way that he becomes a part of, and an accomplished fit with a larger society that is itself improved by his example. This is how societal improvement comes to be. This is the aim of our society of men. The rough ashlar reminds us of who and where we are in life; the perfect ashlar shows us the refinement we are supposed to achieve with our life. The two together teach us that we have a job to do on ourselves; and that work can have enormous impact on our society and on building a more tolerant and loving world.

You see, terrorists, murderers, rapist, hate groups, and others who choose to commit inhumane acts against their humankind are not consciously shaping the building stones of their life, or their society. Rather, they are tearing down, stone by stone, life by life, doctrine by doctrine. Every day, such cruel and brutal examples of men engage in a battle of fear, ignorance, and intolerance within themselves and against others.

Masonry teaches that one does not erect a good life by choosing to always be a rough ashlar, to do nothing about ourselves and the human condition. Rather, we are to live an example that others will want to emulate; always taking con-

Continued on Page 11

Masonic Enlightenment (cont. from page 10)

concern for the one stone in the quarry that we can actually control and shape, slowly knocking off the corners with the common gavel as we shape our perfect ashlar, while allowing each to shape his own ashlar at his own pace.

This is the venue for toleration. It is not through might, but through education, instruction, contemplation and enlightenment that we can make fanaticism and intolerance powerless.

We are engaged in the work of life. Our life is supposed to be a profession of our Masonry. If we make it so, we will earn the good will of mankind—and our reward will be perpetually good.

This is how Masonry contributes to the world. When each Mason sees himself as a living stone in building an edifice whereby God and humanity can encounter each other; when each

Mason does his share to genuinely improve himself as a more enlightened human being; then our united efforts can change everything for the good.

It all begins with our own conscious awareness that we are building a temple of improvement within ourselves. It is a temple erected to God. Thus, it is worth our time to make sure we are shaping it well. It is the real purpose of our life.


As Masons, we are intended to be spiritual temples that will mirror the divine, eternal purpose of Solomon's temple. You see, the construction of our own temple, like the construction of King Solomon's temple, is a way of life. In fact, it is life itself.

And we are the living stones.

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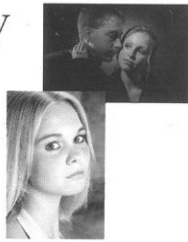
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 Publication to all interested Masons.
 Grand Lodge guidelines apply.

Business Card	\$20 per month	\$200 per year	1/2 page	\$80 per month	\$800 per year
1/4 page	\$40 per month	\$400 per year	Full page	\$160 per month	\$1600 per year