

Pensacola Masonic Center
A&A Scottish Rite
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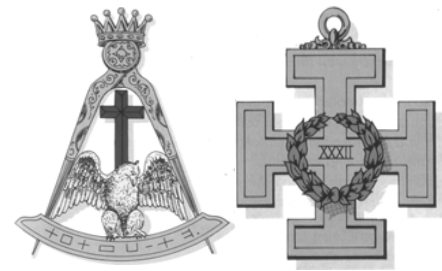


The Outlook

Valley of Pensacola, Orient of Florida

September—October 2013

ISSUE NO. 48



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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.

Send all general Valley email to:

pcolascotrite@pensacolascottishrite.org

Others: Harry K.: prsgig@pensacolascottishrite.org

Fred Hurd: gentreas@pensacolascottishrite.org

Diane: secretary@pensacolascottishrite.org



“Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother”

Brother	Marion	Wallace	Arrington	26-Feb-13
Illustrious	Lawrence	Joseph	Krawitz	31-May-13
Brother	Daniel	Arthur	Willis	21-Jun-13
Brother	Malcolm		Garrett	02-Jul-13
Brother	Luther	Ashby	Reedy	30-Jul-13



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

CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

III. Kurt P. Larson, General Secretary

On my office wall there is a simple 8 ½" X 11" piece of paper. On it is written:

“Press On! Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan Press On! has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.” — Calvin Coolidge

Yet in my travels, especially among those in Masonry, there is a desire for something more. A better world or something greater than self. A chance to be rich, a chance for love, a chance to make a difference in someone’s life – whatever it is. But it just doesn’t happen. There has to be a motivator. Is that motivator like what you would read in *Frontline Heroes* – a person’s desire to have purpose, do worthwhile work and make a difference? Or is the motivator simply the desire? Each of us will be different.

Mario Andretti, a very successful world-class race car driver says “desire is the key to motivation, but, its determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of your goal – a commitment to excellence – that will enable you to attain the success you seek.” It worked for him, but can it work for you?

I think both President Coolidge and Mr. Andretti are right. The first thing you must have is motivation. After you have the motivation the world is at your feet. If you have motivation, the mind will find a way for you to succeed. But this is a topic for another column. Yet motivation without persistence and determination will simply “die on the vine.” In this issue, I want to delve into *Can We Make A Difference?*

As I have worked, laughed, and played in this community and others, I have attended leadership seminars, presentations, keynotes, clubs, and even found leadership lessons in some of the strangest places. While they are each called leadership, they could all be classified as making a difference. Does it make a difference whether it is called the Passport to Wealth or How To Lead Effectively? Is the audience the same? When you peel away the layers of the onion, each of us is involved in leadership. The plumber utilizes his critical thinking skills to diagnose the cause of the clogged pipe which is producing undesirable consequences for the building owner. The surgeon utilizes his leadership in guiding the team through a procedure to save a person’s life or limb. The store clerk utilizes the concepts in providing the best customer experience possible within his store. We are not limited by the title – leader. Yet each of us as leaders need to find inspiration.

Many of you know of my background in the emergency services. People say that we don’t really do anything except react to the situations we encounter. This is partially true. We react. Only in our prevention activities do we lead people to change behaviors. When we do react, however, we also provide hope. It is this hope that makes it possible for them to make a difference. To help the patient or patient’s family in a time of crisis by providing hope to experience another precious moment. To help the family while their memories are being washed away in a flashflood, giving them hope by salvag-

ing whatever items they can from a storm ravaged home. Giving them hope by a kind word or touch when they are at their worst.

It’s not easy to pass your firefighter certification. It takes dedication and persistence. What motivated me was to provide the best care anywhere. It took determination and persistence as evidenced by studying, practicing, continually learning, testing and challenging that allowed me to be recognized by my peers with awards and honors.

As you reflect upon your own circumstance or profession, peel away another layer. This time let’s look at the layer of your Masonic involvement. Are you proud of the membership, heritage, and history it represents? Or are you a closet Mason?

I recently read a book titled *Wooden’s Words*. It’s a book about John Wooden. For basketball fans, he was the greatest coach of the 20th century. For his players, he was a devoted leader, motivator, role-model, and inspirer. For his family, he was a devoted husband and father. There are many books dedicated to the wisdom of this coach. Yet it is the biography of the man which motivated me to write this column. There are so many pearls of wisdom that he is known for; yet, he would say all he did was distill what was out there and reword it so that his players would take them to heart.

So here I present some of them so that we can take them to heart as we determine *Can We Make A Difference?*

- Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to become the best you are capable of becoming.
- Failure to act is often the greatest failure of all.
- It is so easy to quit, to turn back, to give in. Never do so. Try again, and again. Try harder, smarter, but try again.
- If you’re not making some mistakes, you’re not doing anything – not trying to make things happen.
- Prepare, plan, practice hard, and then execute without thought of failure.
- Perfection is impossible. Capitalizing on imperfection – mistakes – makes all the difference.
- Your opinion, if you are respected, will often carry more weight than your advice
- Saying bad things about others is a bad habit. For all the shortcomings you see in others, keep in mind that your own failings are many.
- Listen with your eyes, not just your ears.
- It takes less than one second to say thank you. The rewards last much longer.
- The more concerned we become over things we can’t control, the less we will do to improve those things we can control.
- The past is for reference, the future for dreamers; the present moment is where you create success.
- Seek those moments when you can offer a sincere compliment to those who don’t get many compliments.

After all that was said above, let’s refer back to the 32nd degree - Master of the Royal Secret – wherein the lessons of the degree are that "genuine brotherhood requires mutual regard, opinion, esteem and charity." We always look for the good in all, make allowances for other's

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S RAMBLINGS

Ill. Harry C. Kuchenbrod

Reunion. How many remember your high school reunion? I'll bet there are some who are reading this that don't. Either because it has been so many years, or you simply did not want to relive the experience of high school. Yet it is that time again for us to hold a Fall Reunion—October 12th and 26th. Are these special dates? You bet. They are special for those who will be receiving the degrees of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. They are special for those who will be creating an environment of education, fellowship, brotherhood, and philosophy. They are special to those who have worked tirelessly to give each member an experience they will never forget. But, what is a reunion?

According to Webster a reunion is 1) a. The act of reuniting. b. The state of being reunited. 2) A gathering of members of a group who have been separated. Well ol' Mr. Webster tells us what we do twice a year is exactly what we have been trying to do since 1801. When we bring in new members it is like a graduating class. How many of you graduated from receiving your 32nd degree 10, 20, or 50 years ago this fall? You need to attend this reunion so that we can honor you. Things have changed in the Scottish Rite, Masonry, and even the world since many of you became a Master of the Royal Secret. There is a greater need for Scottish Rite Masonry today. If you don't believe it, why are people seeking more light after fighting in wars, dealing with poverty, and reaching out to make this world a better place?

So let me ask...what will it take to get you to attend a reunion? Transportation provided by a brother? A great meal prepared by our outstanding kitchen crew? One-on-one education session with our Director of Education and our General Secretary to make you feel comfortable with signs, passwords, and names? You tell me! Without you this Fraternity ceases to exist. We are not so tied to one process or another. We want this to be your reunion. So I'm asking, what will it take?

This year, I'd really like to invite anyone who celebrated a decade or more to attend. If you received your degrees in the fall of 2003, 1993, 1983, 1973, 1963 or more to come sit with me and watch the 32nd degree. It is well rehearsed and the true beauty comes and touches each in its own way. Immediately following, we will welcome our new Masters of the Royal Secret. Come join me in shaking the hand of the future of our Rite.

This is a busy time of year for us. As we recover from the activities of the summer and prepare for the cool winds of fall, we can't forget our obligations to our fellow man. The Almoner in coordination with our brethren sent a check to the relief of those impacted by the tornadoes in Oklahoma. The Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida received a check from the BBQ Sandwich sale and other activities we have held this year. This is just money. What are we giving back to our families, friends, and brothers? Someone once asked, what's the point of a Fraternity?

I had to think about it for a moment. Then it came to me. The point is we offer something you can't get anywhere else. You can't touch it but it touches you. You can't hold it in your hand but you can feel it. It's like nothing else in this world; people have tried to explain it but they end up stumbling with the words and say you just have to experience it. I guess that sums it up. You have to be there in the present to understand the present you have been given.

Last month our General Secretary wrote it's time to stand up and take control of what it is we want and need. It's also time for us to stand up and show our support to the organization to which many of us have belonged for decades—the Scottish Rite. Our temples are not built as buildings, they are built in the hearts and minds of men. But a temple needs tender loving care to keep it strong and free. So look at this as simple maintenance. A fun way to maintain those connections from years ago. A great way to make some new connections for the next few decades. So come back and join us for the 211th reunion at the Valley of Pensacola. You'll be glad you did. ✘

DOUBLE EAGLE AWARDS

Hon. Jack A. Crooke

This is a short primer for the Double Eagle Awards program. Simply stated, the Double Eagle Program is a series of sequential awards members earn for attendance at meetings or events and service to the Valley of Pensacola.

The initial award is a double eagle medallion suspended from a black ribbon when the individual has earned 500 points. As the individual earns additional points, he is awarded a colored bar for the medallion, a scroll, or a different colored ribbon to add to the initial Double Eagle medallion. The points are accumulated by the individual over multiple years and receive the appropriate award only during an award ceremony the following year.

Points are accumulated on an annual basis from December 1st through November 30th. The points vary for each activity depending upon several factors including how much time is required, how many resources you dedicate and so on. For instance, did you know that if you attend just one of the stated meetings and place your name on the attendance sheet, you will be awarded 25 points toward the next level in the Double Eagle program? There are many more activities—too many to list here. However, when the books are closed a report is prepared for the General Secretary who will then compile the list and order the awards. The Personal Representative will award or consecrate each Knight of the Double Eagle in an open meeting.

To alleviate confusion on what levels the awards represent, we have listed them below. To receive the:

Initial medallion—500 points is needed. The next is the:	
Red bar attachment	1000 points
White bar attachment	1500 points
Blue bar attachment	2000 points
Gold Scroll attachment	2500 points
Red neck ribbon	5000 points
White neck ribbon	7500 points
Blue neck ribbon	10,000 points
Gold neck ribbon	15,000 points
Red-white-blue neck ribbon	20,000 point

The Double Eagle award is cherished throughout the Orient of Florida. Members are encouraged to wear their awards at any meeting where the Sovereign Grand Inspector General has authorized the wearing of Scottish Rite regalia. This is an outward expression of the pride the Valley has in your services and should be worn with pride as this award represents a great accomplishment. ✘



REMINDER:

As we enter the fall months, the dress code for Stated Meetings is more formal. Proper attire for men is coat and tie or "business" attire, shoes, slacks as appropriate, hat and Double Eagle award if appropriate. ✘

SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF FLORIDA, INC.

10 STARS PROGRAM

MILLIONAIRES/BILLIONAIRES

Ill. J.D. Epperson

As you read this, we will be near the end of summer and the opening of Autumn. I will be glad for some of the heat to go away. School will have started again and many of the children will be on their way to regular learning. But a fair number who have learning disabilities need our help. This is why we make the effort to support the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida and the Childhood Language Disorders Clinics, one of which is here at Baptist Hospital. Without our continued support, this clinic would be unable to continue this program as we would like it. Sadly, our financial support has dwindled in the past couple of years, and we need to make a supreme effort to increase our support.

There are several ways to meet this goal. The 10 Stars Program and Pennies from Heaven jars are just two of the ways you can help. It pleases me to note that there are four new names on the Millionaire/Billionaire board in the dining room. It would be wonderful to see your name there also.

For further information and assistance, contact the Assistant Personal Representative at the office—494-0801. ✘

The names below contributed more than \$515 since our last report:

Bingo Paradise	Arthur C. Bjorkner
Jimmy Lindt	Ed Scheye
Willie R. Thomas	Thomas L. Trull

Thank you one and all.

SCOTTISH RITE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

President, Milda Castleberry

By the time you read this, we will have hosted our annual Scottish Rite Women's Association night at the August stated meeting. Our guest speaker Don Parker, once a member of the Valley, has gone on to host his own morning show on WCOA. While not as old as the radio station he works for, his insights into the history of Pensacola and his involvement in the community really showed us how interesting the Pensacola area is and what a beautiful place we live in. And it really shows us just some of the many ways the Scottish Rite Women's Association makes a difference in what is happening here in the Valley. Really this is because of you our members. Did you know, our contributions to the Memorial fund helped put us over the top for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida?

Now is the time to help us decide our future. We have elections coming up in November. A lot of great things have been done in recent years and the activity of the Scottish Rite Women's Association has definitely increased. We have had a lot of fun in our projects, and have enjoyed your company along the journey. If you're not involved in this organization and are a lady—either spouse of a member, mother, daughter or sister—we are the group for you. Won't you join us for experiences you will never forget? ✘

SCOTTISH RITE OUTLOOK

Published BiMonthly

Pensacola Scottish Rite Bodies

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Pensacola, FL 32505

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FALL REUNION SCHEDULE

Hon. Herman Davies

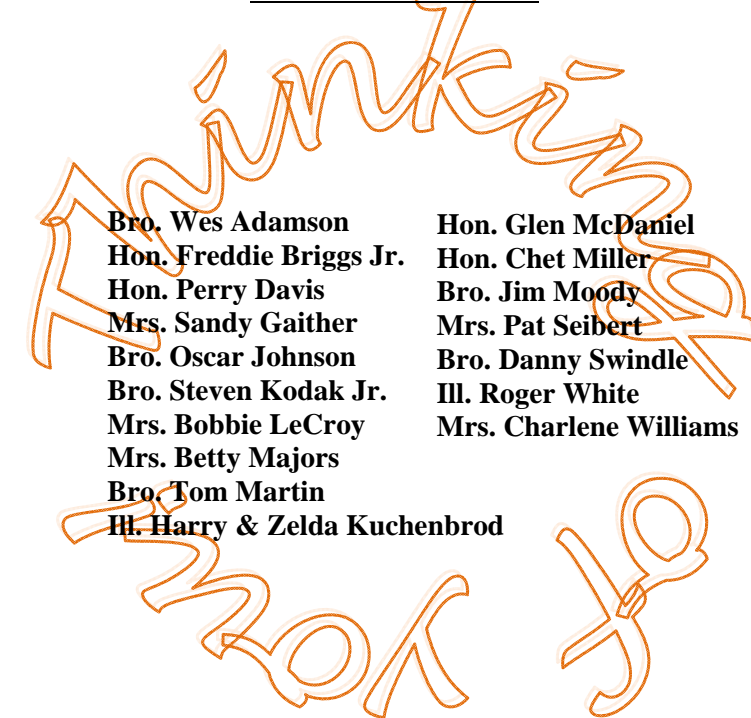
Saturday, October 12, 2013

7:00 AM	Candidates report to Class Director/Coffee & Donuts
7:45 AM	Opening of the Consistory
8:00 AM	4° Secret Master
8:30 AM	5° (Power Point) Perfect Master
8:50 AM	7° Provost and Judge
9:20 AM	6° (Power Point) Intimate Secretary
9:40 AM	8° Intendent of the Building
10:00 AM	16° (Power Point) Prince of Jerusalem
10:20 AM	Break
10:35 AM	9/10° Elu of the Nine and Fifteen
11:20 AM	17° (Power Point) Knight of the East and West
11:40 AM	11° Elu of the Twelve
Noon	Lunch
12:45 PM	CLASS PICTURES (<u>Coat and tie for photo</u>)
1:00 PM	12° Master Architect
1:40 PM	13° (Power Point) The Royal Arch of Solomon
2:00 PM	14° Perfect Elu
3:50 PM	15° Knight of the East

Saturday, October 26, 2013

7:00 AM	Candidates report to Class Director/Coffee & Donuts
7:20 AM	Opening of the Consistory
7:30 AM	18° Knight Rose Croix
8:30 AM	19° Grand Pontiff
9:10 AM	20° (Power Point) Master of the Symbolic Lodge
9:30 AM	29° Scottish Knight of Saint Andrew
10:50 AM	21° (Power Point) Noachite or Prussian Knight
11:10 AM	30° Knight Kadosh
12:10 PM	Lunch
12:55 PM	32° Master of the Royal Secret
2:00 P.M.	Presentation of the Class to the Valley

CIRCLE OF CONCERN



- Bro. Wes Adamson
- Hon. Freddie Briggs Jr.
- Hon. Perry Davis
- Mrs. Sandy Gaither
- Bro. Oscar Johnson
- Bro. Steven Kodak Jr.
- Mrs. Bobbie LeCroy
- Mrs. Betty Majors
- Bro. Tom Martin
- Ill. Harry & Zelda Kuchenbrod

- Hon. Glen McDaniel
- Hon. Chet Miller
- Bro. Jim Moody
- Mrs. Pat Seibert
- Bro. Danny Swindle
- Ill. Roger White
- Mrs. Charlene Williams

Please remember our Brothers 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.

short comings. We trust the Supreme Architect to lead us to friendship, morality and brotherly love.

So, how do you wake up each morning? OK...besides the moans and groans; snap, crackle and pop; how do you wake up? Do you wake up each morning with determination and go to bed with satisfaction? We need to take a long hard look at ourselves. That means self-reflection. Are we happy with the person we are? Do we make daily advancement in our lives? Do we enrich the lives of others? Once you have asked and answered that question – only then can we move on to *Can We Make A Difference?*

Can We Make A Difference? You bet. Each of us has special talents and interests. What is boring to one person is fascinating to another. For instance, having someone describe the personal interaction between Mr. X and himself to me is quite boring. If you remember the neighbor Mrs. Kravitz from *Bewitched* played by Sandra Gould, she would be in seventh heaven to hear the story and then spread the word. Yet we don't always recognize the differences we each bring to the game. As Coach Wooden told his players, it is the team that succeeds not the individual. It is because each player brings something special to the team to go beyond the bonds that have tied it to its present circumstances.

Our team, the Masonic one, strives to make good men better. But, I say we don't do that...as Masons, we strive to make mankind better. But not simply through membership in our lodges, Valleys, Orients and Jurisdictions. We do it through outreach in scholarships, ROTC/JROTC awards, RiteCare programs, involvement in our community in civic or religious groups and organizations. We try to make whatever we touch better. That is part of our learning, our mission and existence. I am proud to say that this is the only organization, secret or otherwise known to man, that strives daily to put man and mankind first and foremost.

Can We Make A Difference? We make a difference everyday whether or not you realize it. Funds that are raised by Masons help kids to speak, help kids to walk, and help those who need a helping hand gather enough strength to make it another day. The encouraging word you give to the waiter or waitress helps them have a better day. The time in personal conversation with someone at the water cooler at work, by allowing the inner glow to shine through, lets people know you are a good and honest man. It doesn't take lapel pins for people to know. It shows in your face, in your countenance, and in your actions. While the material things such as funds to hospitals and charities, Masonic edifices or memorials, etc. allow the outside world to know we exist, it is the personal interaction we have with the world that shows others what kind of team we are.

Coach Wooden had very strict rules and how he wanted his players to act and dress. He controlled how his players were perceived. But as Masons we really cannot control the millions of members nor watch the multitude of things they do. We can only do as a parent, coach, or teacher does...and hope that we have given them the tools, understanding, and respect to go out in the world and represent us well. Coach Wooden probably had players who weren't always the best representatives of the team, and so do we. But we, as a team, need to get our focus on what we can do to help mankind.

Can We Make A Difference? You can if you:

- Are true to yourself.
- Help others.
- Make each day your masterpiece.
- Make friendship a fine art.
- Never try to be better than somebody else, but never cease trying to be the best *you* can be. You have control over that. Not the other.
- Take what you can use right now, save the rest for a rainy day and get ready to live the life you dream of. Be inspired, be motivated, and set your goals.

Well, after this motivation we should put down this newsletter, stare in the mirror for a while, get a really good look at our inner selves and think of ways that we can help others. Are we happy with the person we see? Are we doing what we can to better ourselves and help our neighbors? *Can We Make A Difference?* You bet we can! ✖

AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

You may notice in the next few months, we have a white box hanging on the wall and wonder what it is. Well, it is an Automatic External Defibrillator or better known as an AED. This was the result of a fundraiser held by the KCCH in 2012 and a large donation by a generous Brother (to get his name, you'll have to find the box on the wall). Once placed into service, it is designed to help an individual who has a heart attack and their heart stops beating.

In July we had 13 people attend a CPR/AED training class to operate the device and provide lifesaving cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Remember, we have placed the welfare of our Brothers and Sisters high on our priority list and felt there could be no greater investment in them than the opportunity to save a life. It is our fervent hope that this device hangs on the wall and is never used. If you would like to attend a CPR/AED class in the future, let us know. We're ready to help. ✖

RUBY TUESDAY PROGRAM

This year, we have partnered with Ruby Tuesday during the holiday season to raise funds for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. What better way to give back than to have a quality meal and not have to do the dishes? More information and a flyer will go out in our next edition of *THE OUTLOOK*, but we wanted you to put it on your calendar to take your honey out and support the clinic at Baptist Hospital at the same time. ✖

ENJOY A MEAL WITH US AND WE'LL GIVE BACK.

Ruby Tuesday

COMMUNITY **GiveBack** PROGRAM

100% OF THE GIVEBACK AMOUNT IS DONATED DIRECTLY TO THE ORGANIZATION.

Ruby Tuesday is extremely proud to be part of your hometown and believes in giving back. As a fellow member of the community, we invite you to participate in...

Ruby Tuesday's Community GiveBack Program.

Grab your family and friends and join us at the 6640 PENSACOLA BLVD.

location on the dates listed below. Please present this flyer to your server, and we will give back **20%** of your purchase to the organization.

(We apologize but we cannot accommodate coupon usage or other discounts in conjunction with our GiveBack Program.)

To make a reservation, call us at 850-477-2025 or visit us online at rubytuesday.com

Organization's Name: SCOTTISH RITE

Event Name: HELPING CHILDREN COMMUNICATE

Date(s) of Visit: 11/8/2013 11/9/2013 11/22/2013 11/23/2013
12/7/2013 12/9/2013 12/21/2013 12/22/2013

For directions to the restaurant or a peek at the menu, visit rubytuesday.com

Ruby Tuesday

6640 PENSACOLA BLVD.,
PENSACOLA FL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sep 3	Executive/Directors Committee Meeting	5:00 PM
Sep 4	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM
Sep 5	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:45 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:30 PM
	Dinner	6:15 PM
	Program – Masonic Youth / Ring & Patent Honor 25 & 50 Year Members No Stated Communication	
	Host – Master of Kadosh, Consistory	
Sep 14	Honors Dinner—Francos Italian Restaurant	6:00 PM
	By invitation only	
Sep 17	Monthly Fellowship Luncheon	12:00 PM
Sep 19	N.E.C.S.R.C. Meeting, Fran's Diner, Molino	6:00 PM
Sep 26	C.S.R.C. Meeting, Ryan's, Crestview	6:00 PM
Oct 1	Executive/Directors Committee Meeting	5:00 PM
Oct 2	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM
Oct 3	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:45 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:30 PM
	Dinner	6:15 PM
	Program – Feast of Tishri No Stated Communication	
	Host – V.M., Lodge of Perfection	
Oct 12 & 26	211 th Fall Reunion	
Oct 15	Monthly Fellowship Luncheon	12:00 PM
Oct 17	N.E.C.S.R.C. Meeting, Fran's Diner, Molino	6:00 PM
Oct 24	C.S.R.C. Meeting, Ryan's, Crestview	6:00 PM
Oct 31	KSA Knighting Ceremony	6:00 PM

GOOD OF THE ORDER

On Thursday, July 18th, the SGIG in Florida announced that the Supreme Council in Washington, D.C. had selected four individuals from the Valley of Pensacola to either be coroneted as a 33° Inspector General Honorary or going through an investiture as a 32°, Knight Commander of the Court of Honour (KCCH).

The 33° is conferred by the Supreme Council upon 32° KCCH members of the Rite in recognition of exemplary service to the Rite, or to humanity, or in public life, while practicing the principals taught in the Degrees. The Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor is conferred by the Supreme Council upon 32° Masons who have rendered commendable service to the Rite. This Rank and Decoration is not a degree and is not a stepping stone to the 33°, although a member must be a KCCH for at least 46 months before being eligible to be nominated to receive the 33°.

Those receiving honors are:

Hon. **Jimmy Lee Lindt**—Inspector General Honorary

Bro. **Oscar R. Ferrell**—Knight Commander of the Court of Honour

Bro. **William Jerald Garner**—Knight Commander of the Court of Honour

Bro. **James Robert Kickliter**—Knight Commander of the Court of Honour

In addition to those from the Orient of Florida, the Supreme Council will honor one more member of our Valley. The Grand Monarch of Grottos of North America, Brother **Otto Edgar Thiergart**, will be invested with Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

The Investiture/Coronation will take place in Tampa on November 9, 2013, at the Tampa Scottish Rite followed by a banquet at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay.

In the Pensacola State College Foundation's *Compendium* for the Summer of 2013, Illustrious Gene Rosenbaum was selected and quoted regarding First Generation Scholarships. His insights into the importance of a good education lend to our responsibilities as Scottish Rite Masons. Congratulations Gene on a great article. ❖

MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This edition of *Member In The Spotlight* looks at one of our 32° members who is not only active within the Valley, he is a prominent officer in another group in Masonry. This Brother was born on July 3, 1948. If only his mom held on for one more day...we could celebrate with him and our Country on the same day. He is one of six children. Charles, Marti, George, James and Bernard were his playmates and fellow workers on the family farm which was 35 miles west of Davenport, Iowa.

OK, we've held out long enough. This edition's spotlight is on Otto Thiergart. Otto was the third child of Walter and Connie Thiergart. As was the custom for younger siblings, Otto went off to find his fortune. He enlisted in the US Navy right out of high school. After electronics school and over three years of sea duty, Otto was assigned to NAS Pensacola in May of 1972. Within nineteen days he met the love of his life, Lois, and married her ten months later.

After the Navy he worked a year in sales and then went to work for the postal service. In 1978, he and Lois started buying rental houses. Lois has been the driving force in that part of the family business as the property manager. Otto continued to work for the postal service until his retirement after 30 years. At that point he decided to retire, travel and help Lois with the property management.

Lois and Otto have been dance partners, work partners, and have shared membership in Unity Church of Christianity for 38 years. Otto has served on the church board for 13 years and four of those a board president. All the while, they raised four children; Mark, Michael, Matthew and Lisa. Now they are the proud grandparents of six. Yes, six, and that doesn't include their great-grandson yet. While the family was growing, Otto returned to school and finished his Associates Degree from Pensacola Junior College.

Otto joined the Masonic Lodge at West Pensacola #296 in 1975. He went on to the Scottish Rite in April 1976, the Shrine in November of 1976 and the Zelica Shrine of the Grottos of North America in April 1990. Guess he was a little busy between 1976 and 1990. So after retirement, Otto got involved to some extent in the Grottos as an officer from 1993 to 1997, finally serving as Monarch in 1997. From there his road continued down the path of service to the Grotto as a member of the Florida State Grotto Association. In 2004, he served as the organization's president. In 2005, he also served as a member of the Southeastern Grotto Association eventually becoming its president in 2008.

Now while all this was happening, he was elected to the Grand Line of Grottos of North America in 2006. He served and enjoyed working on the Grand Line for seven years and was instrumental in raising needed funds for the George Washington National Masonic Memorial and the Humanitarian Foundation. Today, Otto is not quite done with his Grotto experience. He is currently the Grand Monarch of the Grottos of North America and will visit many new locations during the year spreading the word about Masonry. This will include a visit to the Supreme Council session of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in August 2013 in Washington, DC.

While the history is impressive, after all these years Otto is proud to say the things that bring him joy in life are Lois, his family, Church, Masonry, friends everywhere, dancing, playing cards, and watching sports. As editor, I can see the first four or five things, but I can't see how he has time to play cards or watch a sporting event. I guess that's what is possible when you continue to amaze those around you with your energy and thirst for new and exotic experiences. Congratulations Otto! ❖