

Pensacola Masonic Center  
A&A Scottish Rite  
189 W. Airport Blvd.  
Pensacola, FL 32505

SUPPORT THE SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF FLORIDA

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PENSACOLA, FL  
PERMIT NO.126

Address Service Requested



«AddressBlock»

### 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](mailto:pcolascotrite@pensacolascottishrite.org)

**Others:**

Jim Durham: [jdurham653@aol.com](mailto:jdurham653@aol.com)

Roger White: [treasurer@pensacolascottishrite.org](mailto:treasurer@pensacolascottishrite.org)

Diane: [secretary@pensacolascottishrite.org](mailto:secretary@pensacolascottishrite.org)

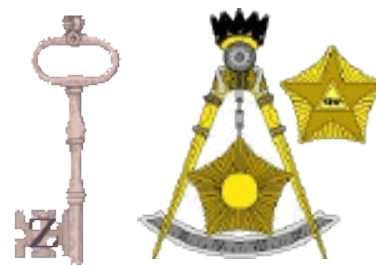


“Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother”

Bro. Dana Ralph Pritt	2-Feb-17
Bro. Leroy Rigby	6-Feb-17
Hon. Isaac Bradley Wallace	7-Feb-17
Hon. Edward Sykes Wright	6-Dec-16



**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



# The Outlook

Valley of Pensacola, Orient of Florida  
March—April, 2017  
ISSUE NO. 69



## THAT'S NOT HOW HARRY DID IT!

by Kurt P. Larson, General Secretary

That is really not how I wanted to begin this story – such as it is. When I first took the reins for Harry Seibert, I continually heard – “that’s not how Harry did it!” At first I felt a little push back. Then I’d remember what I had walked into. You see, Harry was a fixture around this place. He knew where the skeletons were hidden (literally), whom to trust and not to. He kept the complainers at arm’s length, and the supporters close. He must have lived in this building. There are times when I hear things that just don’t seem right and know it must be Harry rattling around.

He had been Secretary here for going on 10 years. He was the Secretary of Pensacola 42, Secretary of the York Rite and engaged in all things Masonic. In fact, he is the 4<sup>th</sup> longest serving Secretary in the Valley’s 112 year history. Considered there are only 9 that says a lot. And that’s what I got to follow. Sure things were different. Not to mention I was twenty years younger. So my thoughts about what needed to be done were a little different. Notice, I didn’t say right or wrong – just different.

Fortunately, this “three week” job while Harry was recovering allowed me time to do the job, without much of the “*Harry did it*” as I was only temporary. I’m still temporary. Because I know I work for the best interests of the Valley and for that I am grateful. I say that because so many people have helped me along the way. Diane, our ever trusting and hardworking administrator, she really is the heart and soul of this office. My goal is to keep her as long as we can – she is a treasure. Sam Fisher from Panama City, he showed me what was important to each and every Valley. David Yarborough from Jacksonville Scottish Rite, and Mike Cribbet, from Lake Worth, these men showed me it is more than just the Scottish Rite experience – it’s about Freemasonry. Richard Lynn who helped me understand Florida Masonry. Yes, it is different from other Grand Jurisdictions. And our SGIG, Dale Goehrig, who allowed me to learn the job and make mistakes and try to live up to our Valley’s potential.

So now we have a new Master of Kadosh. Right from the beginning he has challenged why we do some things that we do. I am grateful for this and wary at the same time. Change can be good, and change can be bad. Diane gave me some sage advice when I started here. “*Don’t make too much change. Change it for the right reason.*” And that is what this column is about.

A story is told of a bishop who was touring a newly constructed church building. The church’s pastor took the bishop into the sanctuary. Above the door was painted a verse of Scripture that said, “*My house shall be called a house of prayer.*” Next, the pastor took the bishop into the kitchen where the following scripture from the Gospel of Matthew was painted above the door “*I was hungry, and you fed me.*” The bishop was impressed by this congregation’s commitment to the Scriptures. Then, as he entered the nursery he saw these words from the New Testament, “*We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.*”

Indeed, we shall all be changed. In fact, the art of Freemasonry, in general, Scottish Rite in particular, is the practice of intentional change. Freemasonry changes a man from profane, to Apprentice, to Fellow, to Master, over a period of time, through a course of allegorical moral instruction. Freemasonry teaches that life is ABOUT change. We learn in our Craft that men advance through life in three principle stages of change, namely youth, manhood and age. Additionally, Masons are taught that we are always undergoing the process of change via the use

of our working tools as we seek to change ourselves from rough to perfect ashlars, better fit for the Builder’s use.

If Freemasonry is such a progressive order, why then is the new master of a lodge, who seeks to bring about some positive change, so often met with the words, “*That’s not how we did it in MY year!*”? I propose that there are three major reasons that they say those words: insecurity, ignorance, and impotence.

**Insecurity:** Have you ever heard that the only person who likes change is a baby with a dirty diaper. And, frankly, I have seen some of them who didn’t much care for it either. One of the principal reasons that humans are uncomfortable with change is because, by definition, it is insecure. We are comfortable with what we know. The familiar seldom surprises us. It is important that we realize that one of the aims of Freemasonry is to provide stability. Indeed, there are few human creations more stable than the great cathedrals constructed by our operative relatives. So then, how do we foster security while at the same time maintain needed change? The answer requires us to have a firm grasp of what Freemasonry truly is and what it is not. Freemasonry is a course of moral instruction. Masons are good men who seek to become better men through the application of Masonic principles in their lives.

Therefore, some things about Freemasonry must never change or Masonry will cease to exist. A few examples of these unchangeable things are: solid character of our proposed members, the Masonic tradition of initiating, passing and raising men in our ancient ritualistic tradition, the moral teachings of the fraternity and the expectation of high moral conduct from all Freemasons.

However, many things in our lodges and Valleys, not only may change, but also should change. For instance, the meeting time; the attire expected of its members; the food eaten by the members and guests, or the lack thereof; the day(s) that the degrees are scheduled; whether the Valley reads its minutes aloud or prints them for the members to silently read; are all things that are open to change to meet the cultural expectations and needs of the membership. Once an understanding of what things are changeable and what things are not changeable has been arrived at, then one may safely go about the business of making needed changes. When the changes are being announced and implemented, it is important to emphasize first the things that will be staying the same. Often times, a new master, secretary or even personal rep is so excited about his idea that he forgets to present them with tact and humility. Consider these two differing examples:

**1:** “*Brothers. We waste a lot of time in this Valley reading the minutes of previous meetings aloud each month. It is boring and stupid. From now on they will be typed out and handed to you as you come in. Read them silently then we will approve them and get down to the good stuff.*”

**2:** “*Brothers. It is important to make sure that our business is accurately recorded and that all of the brothers are aware of what happens in our Stated Meetings. Our secretary and Past Masters have all done a good job of doing that by reading the minutes out loud each month. From now on, however, we will accomplish that same goal differently. The minutes will be in printed form and personally given to each of you as you enter the lodge room. The same attention to accuracy and detail will be preserved. But, it is hoped that this change will allow our meetings to be slightly more efficient.*” This could also say emailed, posted on the website, or even posted on the bulletin board in advance of the meeting.

The second example does not negate the work of past generations.

Yet, it effectively brings about the needed change. By emphasizing the fact that the truly important goal of the minutes will be maintained, the member's sense of security is less threatened by the new change. Hence, the new man in the East is less likely to hear, "That's not the way we did it in MY year!"

Do you know the "why" meeting minutes were read in the first place? Back in the time of the first lodges, most people could not read. They were not taught this skill. It was only for the educated—who generally were those who were in the upper crusts of society. So, to ensure accuracy and understanding within the lodges, the minutes were read. Today, 96% of the populace can read. Times have certainly changed.

**Ignorance:** Our Brother Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain] once said that travel is the natural enemy of ignorance. Indeed, Masons who have traveled to lodges other than their own quickly learn that there are many good and equally Masonic ways for a body to function. Unfortunately, many of our members are only familiar with the traditions and practices of their own individual Valley. Therefore, when a well-informed Master attempts to improve his Valley by borrowing ideas learned from others, he is met with opposition from less informed brothers who consider his ideas foreign to Freemasonry.

While the new Master of his lodge could compel his members to visit other lodges and expand their personal understanding of our Craft, this is not true in the Valley setting. Yet, we face the same issue. The best thing is for him to educate his members about the practices of other Valleys. By informing them that some of his new ideas are not really new at all, but rather have a proven record of success in other Valleys, he will likely meet with less opposition from the less informed members of his lodge than he otherwise would.

**Impotence:** In his play "Death of a Salesman," Arthur Miller tells the story of Mr. Willy Loman. During his prime, Willie had been the best salesman around. He knew everyone and everyone loved him. Over time however, Willie's friends retired or died. Willy found himself surrounded by people who did not know him. Instead of being viewed with great respect and awe by those he worked with, his new co-workers viewed him with impatience and disrespect. They wished that he would get out of their way and stop talking about the good old days. They had a business to run. Willy just wanted to be treated with the respect and admiration that he had grown accustomed to in his prime. At the same time, he was frustrated with his own decreasing ability to perform. *Our Valleys are filled with Willy Lomans.*

Many elderly members are having a difficult personal struggle dealing with their loss of status and power. They have retired from jobs where they were once respected leaders. The children who respected and obeyed them have now grown and moved away. As they look around society, they see people young enough to be their grandchildren in positions of power and prominence. They feel impotent and used up. Therefore, in the Valley, the last place where they still feel a sense of power, they often go too far in their attempt to have influence and control.

As frustrating as this reality may be to the new Master, he would do well to recognize the base cause of these brothers' behavior. The wise Master will do all in his scope of influence to show the elder members true respect. He will appoint them to work that they are capable of excelling in, and frequently praise and thank them for their efforts. When these brothers are busy with tasks such as organizing the Valley's fundraising, overseeing the mentoring committee, producing the newsletters, on the social outreach programs, etc., they will be less likely to oppose the new Master's plans with the words "we've always done it that way!" because they will feel that they still have a sense of belonging, purpose and power.

Finally, while the new Master will do well to recognize the points made in this column, he must always remember that it is HE who is Master of his body. While he rules the Valley with brotherly love and concern for his members' personal well-being, he must also govern with the good of his Valley in mind. And, while he will inevitably hear the words, "we've always done it that way!," at some point, he can take solace by silently thinking to himself the response "and that is exactly why we are doing it like this now!" ❄

\*\*\*\*\*

**HEROES AMONG US**  
 Ill. Kurt P. Larson, General Secretary

Each year, several of our Brothers find themselves in a position that makes paying dues difficult. This has an enormous impact on Blue Lodges, the Valley and everyone who depends upon dues to keep our doors open. The program "Pay a Brothers Dues" has allowed us to make choices simpler for those who are having trouble financially. Whether it is due to the choice of dues verses medications, dues verses electricity, it doesn't matter. Only that a Brother needs help. By marking that simple, little box on your dues statement allows you to contribute to the relief of a Brother.

What if you had to choose to support your family or pay dues—which would it be? The challenges go on.

Yet, Brothers have felt this Fraternity is important beyond simply paying their own dues alone. They gave so that another could retain his membership. I'd like to thank those unsung heroes of our Fraternity. You have displayed the meaning of Brotherhood through your actions. For that, all I can simply say is—Thank You.

Contributors in 2016 are:

- |                          |                        |                     |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Gail L. Albertson        | Oscar R. Ferrell       | Tom Mayhugh, Sr.    |
| Frederick Banfell        | James A. Gazaway       | Jack C. McCombs     |
| Terry Blackmon           | Oliver C. Gore         | James A. Salisbury  |
| Donald E. Blish          | John I. Gray           | Billy G. Salter     |
| James F. Bomar           | Russell W. Jones       | Edward Scheye       |
| William J. Bonifay, Jr.  | Theron W. Jones        | Tracy L. Sharp      |
| John E. Brown, Sr.       | J. Bobby Kickliter     | Joseph J. Sodomka   |
| Marshal O. Carpenter III | Ronald B. Killary      | Walter L. Stafford  |
| J.R. Carroll             | Edward A. Kritzmire    | Joe W. Stanton      |
| L.E. Castleberry         | Harry Kuchenbrod       | Jack L. Stewart Jr  |
| Ronald L. Chavers        | Joel T. Lalas          | Ralph A. Stewart Jr |
| Walter K. Coggin         | James W. Leath         | Otto E. Thiergart   |
| John J. Connell          | Jimmy L. Lindt         | Carl A. Townson     |
| Alan B. Cox              | Kurt P. Larson         | Wm. Van Der Horst   |
| Boyce Cropper, Jr.       | Richard Loverne        | Gordon F. Vannoy    |
| Charlie D. Donaldson     | William T. Lyford, III | Wood D. Waits       |
| James R. Dunn            | Bobby G. Lynch         | Roger D. White      |
| James A. Durham, Jr.     | Brunner H. Manning     |                     |
| Morton A. Eckhouse       | Thomas H. Martin, Jr.  |                     |
| Joel K. Fairbanks        | Robert A. Matteson     |                     |
| Joao Ferreira            | Jerry L. Maygarden     |                     |

In 2016, we had 50 Brothers who faced the decision posed above. Thank you to those listed who made it possible to keep 46 members, who would have otherwise given up their membership due to the circumstances they are facing. I realize that each of us understands what we have gotten ourselves into with Masonry. But the actions of the men above and those who give regularly to the Almoner's fund, truly practice the spirit of Masonry in their lives. I only wish I could do more than say THANK YOU. ❄



Do you remember this? Can you name the people? What day was it? What did we celebrate? So many questions and no answers. If you don't know these people, a trip to the Scottish Rite on the first Thursday of every month would almost guarantee you'd see one of these guys hanging around.

How about answering this question? Where did we "dig" up the guy below. Answers can be found at our Stated Meeting.



**SCOTTISH RITE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**  
 Lois Thiergart, President

**Attention Scottish Rite Ladies**

Ladies, you are very important to the Scottish Rite Masons. If your man knew how important you are, he would want you to come with him to every meeting. I hope everyone had a great holiday.

The new year has begun, we want to renew old friendships and make new friends. You, women who have been so loyal and attended meetings, should be celebrated! I congratulate you and hope you will reach out to friends who have not been coming on the first Thursday of each month. New people bring new and wonderful ideas that would make meetings more interesting or fun. We should look forward to getting together. We have Mardi Gras and Valentine's Day that will be over by the time you get this message. Please bring things for the raffle table when you can and support your man in that way.

Let's make the New Year happy for our loved ones and productive for our Scottish Rite. If we work a little harder at getting Ladies to attend our meetings, we will succeed. Enjoying friends is a great source of happiness. I thank you for selecting me as your President!

Don't forget, my phone works too if you have suggestions on how to make this the best organization ever. My number is 850-453-6336.

**SCOTTISH RITE OUTLOOK**  
 Published Bi-Monthly  
 Pensacola Scottish Rite Bodies  
 189 W. Airport Blvd.  
 Pensacola, FL 32505  
 Phone (850) 494-0801  
 Fax (850) 476-0120

\*\*\*E-mail: [pcolascotrite@pensacolascottishrite.org](mailto:pcolascotrite@pensacolascottishrite.org)\*\*\*

**2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>Mar 1</b>	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM
<b>Mar 2</b>	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:30 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:30 PM
	Dinner	6:15 PM
	Program- TBD	
	KSA Honor Guard	
	Host – Commander, Council of Kadosh	
	Full Opening—COK followed by Stated Meeting	
<b>Mar 4 &amp; 18</b>	218 <sup>th</sup> Reunion – Spring	
<b>Mar 21</b>	Welcome to Spring Luncheon	12:00 PM
<b>Mar 30</b>	Knights of Saint Andrew Meeting	6:00 PM
<b>Apr 5</b>	Education & Sandwich Supper	5:30 PM
<b>Apr 6</b>	KCCH Meeting – Conference Room	5:30 PM
	KSA Meeting – Library	5:30 PM
	Dinner	6:00 PM
	Program – Renewal & Remembrance	
	KCCH Honor Guard	
	Host – Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix	
	NO Stated Meeting	
<b>Apr 18</b>	Newsletter Production	9:00 AM
<b>Apr 18</b>	Fellowship Luncheon	12:00 PM



**EBRATING THE CRAFT**

You can be a part of the program by skyping, tweeting, or viewing online. If you would like to host an event at the Valley, contact the General Secretary at 850-494-0801. Perhaps you may even see him lurking in the background on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 11 PM CT.

**CIRCLE OF CONCERN**

- |      |         |                |
|------|---------|----------------|
| Ill. | Gene    | Booker         |
| Bro. | Ed      | Cotten         |
| Hon. | Perry   | Davis          |
| Bro. | Steve   | Kodak          |
| Ill. | James   | Martin         |
| Hon. | Chester | Miller         |
| Hon. | Charlie | Perez          |
| Bro. | David   | Radford & wife |
| Ill. | Eddie   | Stewart Jr.    |
| Ill. | Edwin   | Stewart Sr.    |

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.