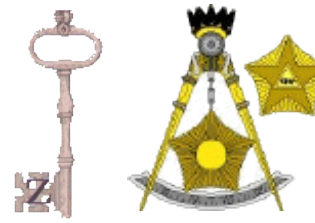


Pensacola Masonic Center  
A&A Scottish Rite  
189 W. Airport Blvd.  
Pensacola, FL 32505

SUPPORT THE SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF FLORIDA

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



# The Outlook

Valley of Pensacola, Orient of Florida

APRIL—JUNE 2021  
ISSUE NO. 91



Return 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.



NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.



### “Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother”

Bro. Bruce Harold Boyle	09-May-20
Bro. Arthur Lee Cook St.	01-Jan-21
Bro. Robert Winston Dennard	17-Jan-21
Bro. Odie McClane Eddins Jr.	09-Jan-21
Bro. Ronald Jackson Franklin	11-Mar-20
Bro. Richard Charles Fulford	24-Nov-20
Bro. Jack Allen Furgye Sr.	25-Feb-20
Bro. Glen E. Harris	24-Mar-20
Bro. George P. Hayes	29-Nov-20
Bro. Wizie Dodson Justice	23-Apr-17
Bro. Herman Kenneth Keenan	07-Jan-21
Bro. Louis Bernard Lamolinara	09-Mar-20
Bro. Alfred Devane Marsh	02-Aug-19
Bro. Douglas Wayne Mayne	03-Jan-20
Bro. George McNeely	06-Jan-20
Bro. Clarence Johann Nylund	19-Dec-20
Bro. James David Redmond	07-May-20
Bro. Gerald Wayne Stanfill	27-Jan-21
Hon. Cris Lazo Villanueva	02-Jan-21
Bro. Walter Graves Wallace	20-Nov-20
Bro. J. T. Wilson	28-Jan-21
Bro. Robert L. Wiscombe	29-Jun-20

### 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.

### SCOTTISH RITE OUTLOOK

Published Quarterly  
Pensacola Scottish Rite Bodies  
189 W. Airport Blvd.  
Pensacola, FL 32505  
Phone (850) 494-0801 / Fax (850) 476-0120  
E-mail: gensec@pensacolascottishrite.org

Editor in Chief  
Ill. Kurt P. Larson, Personal Representative  
Publications Committee  
Hon. James A. Gazaway, Master of Kadosh  
Hon. Alan B. Cox, Commander  
Bro. Shawn D. Johnson, Wise Master  
Bro. William R. Paulchek, Venerable Master  
Managing Editor  
Hon. James A. Salisbury, Jr.  
Creative Director  
Diane Palermo

All views expressed in *The Outlook* do not necessarily reflect those of the Valley of Pensacola. © 2021 Valley of Pensacola

### Notes from the General Secretary

Hon. James A. Salisbury, Jr.

### What is being a Mason all about?

Why did you join the Scottish Rite or become a Mason? This is a question I would bet we have all asked ourselves at one time or another, or we have been asked by family and friends. Was it for the Fellowship? Was it to learn about the history of our Fraternity? Was it to assist others? Was it to serve our fellow man? Was it to be with like-minded men? There are many more questions that we could ask ourselves. We all have different reasons for joining this awesome group of men.

A question that seems to arise every couple of years has to do with Awards of some kind with the different programs within our Fraternity. Many members seem to be preoccupied with these trappings, like their very lives depended on getting them. Remember this, if your reason for joining or going to a meeting is to earn points, earn a Gold Badge, earn a Ribbon, or to achieve a different colored hat, then you are in the WRONG PLACE for the WRONG REASONS. You need to reevaluate your reasons. We are not here for selfish purposes. You may even need to think about why you become a Mason. This is an answer that only we can answer ourselves. You must search your own soul and heart to find that answer.

To add to this, were you aware that you can earn one point for every dollar donated, whether to the Scottish Rite Foundation, the Building Fund, or to the General Fund. They are more ways to earn these points than maybe you know.

**One final thing I promise, we will be having our BBQ Sandwich Fundraiser this year. Prep day is June 10, 2021 and sale dates are June 11 and June 12, 2021.** Please do help out here. It is an awesome event for the Foundation. This year the cost of the meal will be \$7.00.

Just a bit of Masonic Education. Have a Blessed Day.

On Thursday, March 4, the Valley had the honor and pleasure of welcoming the Deputy of the Supreme Council in Florida, Ill. Richard G. Hoover, 33°, for his official visit. He was received with the “Arch of Steel” from the KCCB and KSA Honor Guard into the Lodge Room. In the dining room, he enjoyed a wonderful dinner of baked fish; afterward, the Personal Representative presented Ill. Hoover a Congressional Certificate for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, signed by Representative Matt Gaetz of the First Congressional District of Florida. Ill. Roger White, Trustee of the Scottish Rite Foundation, presented Ill. Hoover with a check for the Foundation from the Valley of Pensacola. Ill. Hoover also received a honorary membership from the Grotto. He presented Millionaire Certificates to Ill. Roger White and Hon. Alex Carambas and his wife Evelyn. ✘



### Words Have Power (Part 1)

Ill. Kurt P. Larson, Personal Representative

“Words are singularly the most powerful force available to humanity. We can choose to use this force constructively with words of encouragement, or destructively using words of despair.

“Words have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate and to humble.” Yehuda Berg

Considering the ‘powerful force’ of the words we utter, we should discipline ourselves to speak in a way that conveys respect, gentleness and humility. Perfecting our speech is one of the keystones of people. Before speaking take a few moments to contemplate what you will say and how you will say it; while considering the impact they will have on the listener. Will you be kind to all and speak words that are beacons of inspiration, enthusiasm and encouragement to all? Kind and sweet words are always music to the ears of the listeners. Whether or not you want to admit it, some of this is in our Ritual and our every day association as part of the Scottish Rite family.

Many people are compelled to give voice to any passing feeling, thought or impression they have. They randomly dump the contents of their mind without regard to the significance of what they are saying. When we talk about trivial matters as in gossiping about others, our attention is wasted on trivia. When we speak we should speak with mindfulness, in a way to solidify peace and compassion in our characters. Not only do our words matter, but also the tone which we use has a huge impact. There are certain rules that should guide all our communication with others. Always speak the truth, avoid exaggerations, be consistent in what you are saying, don’t use double standards in addressing people, don’t use your words to manipulate others, and most importantly do not use words to insult or belittle anyone.

As you know, I started this year writing about Gratitude. While I haven’t listed all those I personally am grateful for, there are many who need to hear simply the thank you for making me better than I was before I met them. So please don’t take offense if you’re not listed here. It is not a slight. I had to narrow the list to get my point across.

First off, let me thank Personal Representative Emeritus Harry Kuchenbrod. Not only did he set the Valley on a path to greatness, he instilled to wayward Masons just how important a good Scottish Rite education is. I can tell you I would never have thought of being the Director of Scottish Rite Education, much less all the research it took to make it successful. Then there is Hon. Bobby Kickliter and Hon. James Gazaway. You took a small program and made it an essential part of our entire experience.

Ill. Larry Thomas taught me the ritual and its importance. Even though I thought I had learned that from Ill. Jess Gern, SGIG of Colorado – Larry taught me the practicality of reading between the lines and how important an inflection, pause, and tonal change can change the meaning of the lecture. Ill. James Cole, the sitting Sovereign Grand Commander taught me the humility and understanding to seek wise counsel among my Brothers. I think that is one of the reasons that VMAP is successful and I am truly proud to have represented the Scottish Rite and our Valley in the process. Ill. Bill Sizemore for reminding me nobody cares what you have to say until you show them you care. All the Brothers and their wives who’ve supported this Valley – even putting up with a crazy kid who wanted to make the sandwich sale bigger and better – more than just a bag with a sandwich.



Ill. Johnny Gaither for taking on the behemoth we created and making it consistent and great.

There are so many more. But sadly I don't have room here. Just know your in my thoughts and prayers daily. I can't say thank you enough. I told that to Hon. Jerry Garner, and I'm not sure he believes me – but, I could not have kept it together without a lot of help from him. To all you unsung heroes...THANK YOU. ✘

\*\*\*\*\*

**Hon. Bobby Kickliter  
Treasurer**

My brothers, I am going to take this opportunity to step out from behind the Valley Treasurer's Podium and speak to you plainly. I want to offer you a "perspective" that may be helpful to us all in the current social climate. Feel free to take from it what you will.

I want you to engage in a little experiment with me. This will not work if you just read this article; I need you to actively imagine the picture I am asking you to paint.

Conjure up, if you will, a precious jewel. It needs to be big, bigger than a basketball but smaller than you are tall. I want you to walk around this jewel. Notice the facets that are all over it, perfect planes that shimmer and glint; some areas of it may be raw and uncut. As you walk around this jewel, notice that there is something embedded in the middle of a jewel. It is a statue of some form.

As you walk around the jewel to get a better view, you notice that the facets on the jewel bend and twist and refract and mirror your perspective of the statue or a sculpture. After spending some time looking at it from different angles, you start to develop a mental image of exactly what this statue really looks like. After all your trying, you can never get a clean, clear viewpoint looking directly at the statue because the jewel distorts it no matter which way you look at it.

Now you must build, in your mind's eye, a vision of what the statue REALLY is. You would like everyone to know what you have learned so you talk to your Brother. After explaining to him what it is you see, he looks at the statue through the jewel and says that this is nothing like what he sees. What he sees is a statue of a different shape, a different color, a different size, and there are flecks floating in the jewel that obscure his view of the statue. Now the frustration mounts, you see one thing, and he sees something else entirely, but you are BOTH looking at the same object. You ask another brother to do the same thing and you find there is a third description of the statue. As the three of you explore each other's perspective you find there are some details that ARE alike and that you three can agree upon.

But which of you has the one true perspective? None of you can look upon the statue unaltered, in its purest form because of the jewel. You can only describe it based on the myriad of perspectives and viewpoints that you can attain. Which one of you is seeing the statue CORRECTLY? Surely, it must be you and you brothers just need to be convinced they are not seeing things clearly. And if that is the case, just how far do you go to convince them otherwise? Patient counseling? Bullying and Shame? Indoctrination? Torture on physical, emotional, spiritual levels? Threat of Death? Genocide? At one point do we just sit back and accept they have an opinion and that is OK. You might not agree with them but that is OK too?

The symbolism of this little exercise is as follows: The Jewel is how you look at the world around you. You see things in a certain light based on what you have been taught and your personal experiences through life. For some of us, the jewel is a diamond; for others, a ruby; still others, an emerald, or a topaz. Each of these distort the focal point of what we are looking at, by color, occlusion, or refraction.

The statue is the symbol of Truth. We are all searching for the truth in some thing or another. We all have our perception on the truth about what Love is, what awaits us after Death, the Loch Ness Monster, JFK, and the existence of life on other planets. Because of our Jewels, we all have our personal interpretations of the Truth.

It is also because of our Jewels that we never get to see the Truth unaltered because of the way we are made to look at it. This circumstance may well be by design of the GAOTU; that we are not MEANT to see the Truth unaltered. We are supposed to share our perspectives with one another, and by doing so, together we learn more about the Truth that we would ever discover on our own. To do this, we must adopt the virtue of TOLERATION. Without it, we cannot continually learn from each other in peace, love, and unity.

Could it be possible that EACH of us is correct about our perspective of the Truth? And if we just talk to each other, maybe, just maybe, we can reach an understanding of the Truth that is deeper to the heart of what it really is? Remember, the Truth is not in the center of the jewel, just the SYMBOL of it. The Truth resides within your mind and within your heart; because of that, it can be molded, changed, and influenced by choices you make to accept what others "know" of the Truth.

Is it our responsibility to change someone else's version of the truth so that it matches ours?

We should remember the darkest times in our human history to see where we forced our ideas and versions of Truth on others by Indoctrination, Torture, Threats, and Genocide and know there is a reason why they are the DARKEST times. Toleration should temper our desire to force the truth on others and remind us that we should be seeking light and consider ourselves blessed to receive it. How do we receive it? We ASK for it. But remember, we must keep an open mind within this friendly and social intercourse. We might not agree with what we hear, and that is OK; it is not a requirement to accept it. Maybe we ask a few more questions about those things we don't agree with and maybe those answers will help you to understand another's perspective, and it is that understanding that leads you to more light. If you should get asked for your opinion, know that you do not have to make them agree with you; but, if they are willing, you may help them understand and that may lead both of you to further light.

Whether you are Christian, Jewish, Muslim, American, French, British, Democrat, Republican, Pro-Life, Anti-Gay, Pro-Gun Control, or just plain Caucasian, we owe it to everyone in our lives to learn more about the Truth from each other. And though we might not agree with each other, we can at least attempt to understand what that person sees and how they came to their conclusions. I am quite certain that if we made an earnest effort to do this, we would find that name-calling, hate-bashing, ridicule, and oppression on social media or any other platform is unnecessary, unwarranted, and unworthy of us as human beings, and particularly of us as Masons. ✘

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ill. James A. Gazaway  
Master of Kadosh**

Introduction:

This is a not-so-brief opening, the first of a three-part series of articles. Some will like and agree with what it has to say, others will not. It is not written to create division or strife, but to present facts and offer ideas for discussion. Hopefully, a discussion that will lead to action in the near future. Regardless of how you receive these words, remember they are written to spark constructive discussion to help look for possible solutions to the current issues and problems Masonry is facing as a whole, and that we are facing locally. Thank you for your time and consideration as you read.

“Where there is no vision the people perish.”  
-- Proverbs 28:19

This is a statement that was written over 2500 years ago and it is still true today. Without a vision for the future, a hope to look forward to, a positive purpose to strive for, a reason to exist, then nations, businesses, civilizations, cultures, and even benevolent organizations cease to exist. The business world realized this in the 1980s and incorporated it into their management protocols. The corporate

mission statement was born. Well, it was not actually born then. The key truth behind it has been a part of the mental and psychological make-up of humanity since we were created. Big business just finally realized that truth in the 1980s and how valid it really was in making any organization work and succeed.

Today we hear the cries of the prophets of doom. We hear that the world is changing around us and changing for the worse. We are told by reporters and authority figures that the old way of doing things, the old values for life, and of government are fading away. Old organizations like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Rotarians, religious groups, are all failing, and society is turning away from them. Within Masonry, we are reminded of our declining numbers and we see it taking place with more and more local lodges merging or passing from existence. At one time, there were over 450 appendant bodies in Masonry. Today there are less than 100. What has happened to our membership? Have we failed? What are we doing wrong? Why is it that our numbers are dropping? In reality, we are only coming face to face with a pre-existing truth that is as old as humanity. The truth that the only consistency in life is change. The actual question here is will it be a good change or a bad change? The answer to that of course depends on where you find yourself and your beliefs on the continuum of human experience and what you are willing to do to help direct that change.

The basic structure and purpose of Masonry has been, and always will be, a part of the world. Any group that seeks truth, justice, knowledge, self-improvement, while supporting benevolence, mercy, and self-determination will always exist. If you look back at our traditions and rituals you see that oftentimes they refer to past organizations, societies, and cultures that no longer exist. We claim to have preserved the ideals and truths that they honored in our teachings and rituals. We became the change that incorporated their ideals and truths to keep them alive and active in society today. Yes, you can still find small groups around the world of Pythagoreans, Epicureans, Stoics, followers of the Roman and Greek traditions, as well as followers of Confucius, Zoroaster, Mithrandir, the gods of the Egyptians, Norse, Polynesians, and the old religions. In the existing religions of today, you can find over 45,000 different protestant denominations, plus different types of Catholics, multiple congregations of Orthodox Christians, dozens of sects of Muslims, multiple sects of Jews, over 33,000,000 Hindu deities with their followers, Bahia, New Age, Mystic and countless other faiths. Every year new religions and traditions are created by men as humanity continues to grow and change. In my lifetime I have seen the rise of the Church of Satan, The Atheist Church, the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, Kwanza, the season of Festivus, the rise of the Jedi religion, and much, much more. I am not saying that I condone all of these changes, especially regarding matters of personal faith and beliefs. I am just saying that this is the way of the world.

This brings me to point of these articles. Masonry will continue in the future, but it will only survive if we have and keep a positive vision for the future. It will survive if society sees its value and if the organization serves a public need or purpose. To do that, there must be some change. Our core values and teachings will not change, but as humanity and society change, we must change in our methods and presentations of those values and teachings. To take a page from big business: When a product has been on the market for a while, attention and followers fade with time. To revitalize their product, they keep the same product but put it into a new package and advertise what is new and good about that product. That was what Albert Pike did with his reworking of the Scottish Rite degrees. He changed the packaging to keep up with the times, but he did not change the core teaching and purpose of the organization.

Today we face the same challenge as Albert Pike did 150 years ago. To face that challenge successfully we need to do as he did. We need to look at society and see what its needs are and how we can address them. We need to discover or create a way to attract attention and provide society with what it is looking for in life. Humanity will always be asking the "Why?" question of what life is all about and looking for ways to make their lives happy, suc-

cessful, and fulfilling. So how do we show them what we have to offer in a way that they will want to seek and pursue Masonry? That is what the next article will look at. ✘

\*\*\*\*\*

**Shawn D. Johnson, 32°  
Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix**

I'm happy to announce a new fundraising program we are starting in our Valley. But first, I would like to go over the programs and fundraisers we still have in effect today.

- Millionaire-Billionaire Program: For every one-hundred dollars you donate, you receive a Millionaire Certificate and when you reach one-thousand dollars in donations, you receive a Billionaire Certificate.
- Pennies from Heaven Program: You're asked to save all your loose change in a jar and donate it each year.
- Childhood Languages Disorder Program: You're asked to donate \$10 to this program when you pay your dues.
- 10-Stars Program: There is a billboard in the lobby where your name is posted when your \$10 donations to the program reach \$100.
- Challenge Coins Fundraiser: Pretty self-explanatory, we are selling Challenge Coins for \$20.
- BBQ Fundraiser: Is our largest Fundraiser of the year in which we sell BBQ dinner plates.

These are great programs and awesome fundraisers. Now, let me ask: Do you know what they all have in common? All the proceeds go to the Scottish Rite Foundation, which in turn, gets distributed to a number of Speech and Hearing Clinics throughout the state. This is a great cause and supporting our charities is what Masons are about. However, if you have read the newsletters or attended a meeting in the past few months, you're aware of the Treasurer's report and where we stand financially. We have to come up with ways to help support our Valley.

This is where this new program can help. We are calling it the *GOLD BAR PROGRAM* and the one thing that makes this program different is all the proceeds stay in our Valley. This is how it works; every time you donate \$100 you will receive a *Gold Bar* lapel pin to wear on your Double Eagle Award lanyard or the lapel of your coat. When you donate \$500, you will trade-in your four *gold bar* lapel pins and receive a special "*500 Gold Bar Club*" lapel pin. Then you will continue receiving a *gold bar* lapel pin for every \$100 donated until you reach \$1,000 in donations, where you will trade-in your "*500 Gold Bar Club*" and four *gold bar* pins and receive a special "*1000 Gold Bar Club*" lapel pin. This process will continue and you will receive a special "*Gold Bar Club*" pin every time you reach \$500 increments in donations. There has also been some discussion on hanging a plaque in the building to recognize those names that have reached the different *Gold Bar Club* tiers. I feel this program is a great way to support our Valley, and I hope every Pensacola Scottish Rite Mason will support this program. ✘

\*\*\*\*\*

**William R. Paulchek, Sr.  
Venerable Master**

Spring is a time of rebirth and renewal, which is especially true this year as we have endured not only the cold of winter but also isolation due to the pandemic. We are still not back to normal, but we are a lot closer now than we were in December. Let us renew our vows to Masonry, in general, and the Scottish Rite, in particular, this spring so that the Valley of Pensacola becomes stronger and more vibrant. Join with us at our monthly meetings and events for fellowship and to renew old friendships and perhaps establish new friendships. I hope to see you all at the upcoming events in the Valley, and I wish you all a Happy Spring! ✘