



Orange County Scottish Rite

ORIENT OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN JURISDICTION

Volume 46, Issue 05

May 2026

May at the Orange County Scottish Rite



**There are great things happening at YOUR Scottish Rite!
Come to our Roaring 20s Casino Night! Read about it inside!
Our next meeting is on **Monday, May 25th**. See you there!**



**ROARING 20s
CASINO THEMED NIGHT**

A fundraiser benefiting the RiteCare Childhood
Language Center of Orange County

Hosted by the Orange County Valley Scottish Rite

◆ **GAMES! FOOD! DRINKS!** ◆

**Saturday, May 23, 2026
6PM-10PM**

Orange Grove Masonic Lodge
71 Plaza Square, Orange, CA 92866

Enjoy delicious food, a no-host bar, and
an exciting auction filled with incredible
items to bid on!

Net Proceeds benefit the California Scottish Rite Foundation's
RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Orange County.
Your gift supports children in Orange County
who need speech-language services.

\$100 Suggested Donation

Games are for entertainment only



Be the Welcome: Reviving a Meaningful Tradition

Larry Griffin, 32° KSA
Venerable Master

Greetings Brothers,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our 15 newest Brothers in the Valley. Please join in and be a part of the Valley. While I could elaborate further on the Reunion, our Commander of Kadosh, Joshua Price, has already expressed it beautifully in his article.

We recently enjoyed a fantastic Reunion, and the ritualistic team performed magnificently. I want to thank each of you for your hard work, time, and dedication, which made everything run so smoothly.

Looking ahead, I invite all our members to serve as ambassadors for the Valley by greeting each newly raised Brother and presenting them with a gift from the Valley. When I was raised, this gesture was my first introduction to Scottish Rite Freemasonry. It's a tradition we haven't seen in some time, and I believe it's time to bring it back. We will provide all the working tools you need to make this happen, and I am counting on each of you to help continue this meaningful tradition for our Valley.

Orange County Scottish Rite is warm and welcoming, but it all starts at the Lodge level, so invite you brother to come to one of our events and see what we are all about. We have Casino Night, Fellowship Breakfast, and a family picnic coming up that all is welcome to join in.

SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

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All articles for publication must be submitted by the second Sunday of the month.



Renewal, Reception, and the Knight Kadosh

Joshua S. Price, 32° KSA
Commander of Kadosh

Brethren and Valley Family,

May stands as a month of accomplishment, renewal, and continued forward momentum within the Orange County Scottish Rite.

Our recent Spring Reunion was not only memorable in its execution, but deeply meaningful in what it represents for the strength and future of our Valley. It was my distinct honor to help welcome 15 new brethren as Perfect Elus, Knights Kadosh, and Masters of the Royal Secret into this profound chapter of their Masonic journey.

To each of these new brothers, I personally extend our sincere congratulations.

What you have undertaken is not simply an expansion of knowledge, but an invitation into deeper responsibility, sharper reflection, and greater service. The lessons conferred are intended not merely to inform, but to refine, strengthening both character and purpose.

I look forward with genuine excitement to the good work these new brethren will undoubtedly accomplish, and to the deeper understanding they will continue to gain as they further immerse themselves in the labor we all love in the higher degrees of Freemasonry.

As always, continued participation remains essential. We encourage all brethren and their families to join us for our RiteCare Childhood Language Center Fundraiser and Roaring 20s Casino Night on Saturday, May 23rd, at the Orange Grove Masonic Center. We also look forward to celebrating our newest brethren and their families at the Cap and Ring Ceremony during our June Stated Meeting on Monday, June 22nd.

Additionally, we are proud to help launch the first of our three Fellowship Breakfast and Masonic Bazaar events on Saturday, June 13th, at Garden Grove Lodge, an important new initiative aimed at strengthening valley wide fellowship, charity, and engagement.

May also offers an appropriate opportunity to reflect upon the deeper symbolism of the Knight Kadosh and the enduring lessons of the 30th Degree.

As a refresher: the title “Kadosh,” derived from the Hebrew word for “holy” or “consecrated,” speaks not to status, but to obligation. The degree itself represents a moral and philosophical culmination of chivalric principles: fidelity to truth, resistance to tyranny, and the disciplined pursuit of justice.

Within the Knight of the Black and White Eagle, we encounter one of the Rite’s most powerful symbolic dualities.

The black eagle serves as a reminder of the realities of persecution, human imperfection, and the ever present struggle against oppression.

The white eagle reflects purity of conscience, spiritual aspiration, and the unwavering pursuit of moral truth.

Together, they symbolize balance, the necessity of confronting darkness while remaining governed by light. This is the essential labor of the Knight Kadosh: not vengeance, as often misunderstood through purely historical lenses, but principled vigilance.

The 30th Degree challenges us to become men capable of defending what is right, not through impulse or pride, but through wisdom, discipline, and honor. Its lessons are rooted in historical allegory, particularly the memory of the Templar tradition, yet its practical application is timeless.

To be a Knight Kadosh is to recognize that truth requires defenders, justice requires courage, and leadership requires sacrifice.

For our newly invested brethren, this journey does not culminate with reception, it begins there.

May each of us continue striving to embody those principles with greater clarity, humility, and unwavering purpose.

ORANGE COUNTY SCOTTISH RITE
2026 Fellowship Breakfast & MASONIC LAPEL PIN BAZAAR
 ★ SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2026 ★
 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
 GARDEN GROVE LODGE No. 351
 11270 Acacia Parkway • Garden Grove, CA 92840

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$25 PER PERSON | **KIDS EAT FREE! 12 & UNDER**

- ALL MASONS, FRIENDS & FAMILY WELCOME
- ENJOY A DELICIOUS BREAKFAST BUFFET
- EXPLORE THE MASONIC LAPEL PIN & CURIOSITIES BAZAAR
- JOIN IN FELLOWSHIP & GOOD CONVERSATION

THE BAZAAR IS FUELED BY YOU!
 Bring all your Masonic pins, curiosities, and conversation pieces that apply to Freemasonry or the Scottish Rite.
 Your items, your stories, and your participation make our bazaar a success!

★ **SAVE THE DATE!** ★
<https://www.ocscottishrite.org/>
 For questions, coordination, or if you want to help with cooks, coffee, or supplies:
 Joshua S. Price, 32° | Mastermason137@outlook.com | (949) 371-7171



From the General Secretary

Jamie Hopkins, 33^o
General Secretary

Brethren:

Welcome to May in the Valley of Orange County. In late April, we held our Spring Reunion where we initiated 15 new Brothers as Masters of the Royal Secret. This was the largest Reunion Class for OCSR in over a decade. This follows our excellent Reunion class of 12 new Brothers from our Fall 2025 Reunion. These new Brothers are interested in the Master Craftsman program from our Supreme Council. Over half of the class has already registered for the Ivory Key course. Members have also shown enthusiasm for becoming involved in degree work. Please welcome the newest Brothers and encourage and assist them in becoming involved with the Rite. In my 14 years as a member, this is the strongest momentum and enthusiasm seen in our Valley. Many thanks to the Brothers who came to the Reunion to work in degrees (both exemplification & communication), and other needed jobs. Also, we appreciate the Brothers who came to observe degrees and support our Valley. If you didn't attend, you missed a worthwhile event.

Our May Stated Meeting is on Monday, May 25th at 6:30 pm at the Orange Grove Lodge. Since this is Memorial Day, we will be having a barbeque after a short, Stated Meeting and dress will be business casual. This will be a relaxed, fun evening. If your holiday weekend is open on Monday, please come join us. Please email me at gensec@ocscottishrite.org if you have any questions about your membership. Have an outstanding May.

2026 Orange County Scottish Rite Calendar

Stated Meetings are held monthly, Fourth Monday of the month, 6:30pm – 9:00pm
Pre-Meeting Social Mixer starts at 6:00pm – come by early!

Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Orange Masonic Center, 71 Plaza Square, Orange
Our Stated Meeting Meals are \$25 per person

April 24 and 25 - Reunion Class
April Stated Meeting - Philanthropic discussion
May Stated Meeting - Cap and Ring Ceremony
June 13 - Fellowship Breakfast at Garden Grove Lodge
June Stated Meeting - DGM Visit / Jeopardy!
July Stated Meeting - Discussion with the Deputy
August 2 - Family Picnic With El Bekal Shrine at KiwanisLand
August 21 through 23 - Orient Reunion at Pasadena Scottish Rite
August Stated Meeting - Selected Degree Recap
September Stated Meeting - Feast of Tishri / Cap & Ring Ceremony
October Stated Meeting - Scottish Rite Overview
November Stated Meeting - Thanksgiving Feast
December Stated Meeting - Christmas Party for CLC Families



From Reunion to Investiture: Celebrating Our Newest Masters of the Royal Secret

III. Ralph C. Shelton II, 33°

At our spring reunion, we welcomed 15 new members. Yes, we've added 15 Masters of the Royal Secret, More in a single class than in any class since 2017.

Please join us at our June meeting for the Cap and Ring ceremony, when we invest the following new brothers with the regalia of their rank:

Froilan Diaz	Ashkan Mani	Jonathan Tierney
Pilardo Espinosa	Foad Manshori	Michael Valdez
Custodio Gomex	Martin Murphy	Jeff Van De Veere
Daniel Li	Bryan Roig	Cole Veit
Eric Liebert	Corey Sajous	Chris White



Blooms, Bookmarks & Bon Voyage!

Erin McKinley

Hello lovely ladies of the Blue Slipper Club! We are only two weeks away from our Ensenada Cruise. We can't wait to share photos and stories of our adventures at our meeting at the end of May.

For our meeting this month, in celebration of Spring, we will be making dried flower bookmarks. Please join us for some fun and florals!



Personal Representative of the SGIG Orient of California

III. Ralph C. Shelton II, 33°

Our next two meetings will be different than most, giving on to some exciting activities to follow.

In May, with our meeting falling on the Monday of Memorial Day weekend, the Valley will have a Family BBQ. We'll be gathering early – around 4pm – at Orange Grove Masonic Center, firing up the grills downstairs, and preparing a springtime holiday feast. At the usual time, officers and members will adjourn for a brief meeting to handle our usual business, and return to the festivities. This is a great opportunity to bring the family to a meeting or invite Masonic brothers who are not yet members of our Valley.

In June, we will be visited by our Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Ara Maloyan, who will favor us with his remarks and join us for our Cap & Ring Ceremony – when we invest our new Masters of the Royal Secret with the regalia of the 32°. Again, families are encouraged to attend the ceremony, and you all will want to be present to meet and greet RW Maloyan.

As summer progresses, we have the opportunity to enjoy the Orient-wide Reunion, being held at the Pasadena Scottish Rite. This biennial event is a very special opportunity to witness the theatrical presentation of all 29 degrees over the course of three days, and especially to support our degree teams, who will be presenting two of the degrees that weekend.

It's a good time for you to plan ahead to September, when the California Scottish Rite Foundation will host the RiteCare Conference in San Diego. This conference gathers speech and language professionals, students and supporters from around the nation to participate in seminars and presentations, learning and updating the skills needed to help children find their voice through our RiteCare Speech and Language programs and centers. RiteCare is Scottish Rite philanthropy at its best, changing the lives of children and families and doing what Masons do – making the world a better place. Every California Scottish Rite member has an opportunity to attend and assist with the presentation of this conference, and there are many volunteer opportunities – contact me or our language center chairperson, Kat Price, for details on how you can play an important role in this event.

Yes, it's a busy time filled with opportunities for service and growth – for ourselves and our Valley. 15 new members, events to celebrate and recognize success, and opportunities to serve come together for a truly festive mid-year. As always, I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting, and every meeting that follows.

Sincerely and fraternally,

INSPECTOR GENERAL HONORARY
III. Ralph C. Shelton II, 33°
Personal Representative of the
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in California
In the Valley of Orange County

California Masonic Lodges from which our Orange County Scottish Rite Brothers Hail

Alhambra No. 322, Los Angeles County
 Anaheim No. 207, Orange County
 Anchor Bell No. 868, Los Angeles County
 Andres Bonifacio No. 879, Los Angeles County
 Angels Gate No. 198, Los Angeles County
 Ararat No. 848, Los Angeles County
 Arcadia No. 278, Los Angeles County
 Archimedes No. 871, Los Angeles County
 Artesia Sunrise No. 377, Los Angeles County
 Atwater Larchmont Tila Pass No. 614, Los Angeles County
 Barstow Boron No. 682, San Bernardino County
 Beach Cities No. 753, Los Angeles County
 Bellflower No. 320, Los Angeles County
 Beverly Hills No. 528, Los Angeles County
 Big Bear No. 617, San Bernardino County
 Black Mountain No. 845, San Diego County
 Blythe-Needles No. 473, Riverside County
 Brea No. 339, Orange County
 Burbank No. 406, Los Angeles County
 Chino Valley No. 427, San Bernardino County
 Chula Vista No. 626, San Diego County
 Claremont No. 436, Los Angeles County
 Clarence F. Smith Daylight No. 866, Los Angeles County
 Claude H. Morrison No. 747, San Diego County
 Coachella No. 476, Riverside County
 Consuelo No. 325, San Diego County
 Cornerstone No. 659, Orange County
 Coronado No. 441, San Diego County
 Culver City-Foshay No. 467, Los Angeles County
 Destiny No. 856, Los Angeles County
 Downey United No. 220, Los Angeles County
 East San Diego No. 561, San Diego County
 El Segundo No. 421, Los Angeles County
 Elysian No. 418, Los Angeles County
 Evergreen No. 259, Riverside County
 Fallbrook No. 317, San Diego County
 Fontana No. 653, San Bernardino County
 Fox-Coates Daylight No. 842, San Bernardino County
 Garden Grove No. 351, Orange County
 Gardena Moneta No. 372, Los Angeles County
 GAT Jose Rizal No. 882, Riverside County
 Glendale No. 368, Los Angeles County
 Glendora No. 404, Los Angeles County
 Golden Trowel Norwalk No. 273, Los Angeles County
 Granada Hills No. 378, Los Angeles County
 Greenleaf Gardens No. 670, Los Angeles County
 Heartland No. 576, San Diego County
 Hemet San Jacinto No. 338, Riverside County
 Hermes No. 891, Los Angeles County
 Hollywood No. 355, Los Angeles County
 Home No. 721, Los Angeles County
 Huntington Beach No. 380, Orange County
 International City No. 389, Los Angeles County
 Ionic Composite No. 520, Los Angeles County
 Irvine Valley No. 671, Orange County
 John D. Spreckels No. 657, San Diego County
 Joseph L. Shell Daylight No. 837, San Diego County
 Kapayapaan at Pagkakaisa No. 888, San Diego County
 La France No. 885, Los Angeles County
 La Jolla No. 518, San Diego County
 La Mesa No. 407, San Diego County
 Lakewood No. 728, Los Angeles County
 Lancaster No. 437, Los Angeles County
 Lautaro Lodge U.D. No. 2026, Los Angeles County
 Lemon Grove No. 736, San Diego County
 Lexington No. 104, Los Angeles County
 Liberal Arts No. 677, Los Angeles County
 Long Beach No. 327, Los Angeles County
 Los Angeles Harbor No. 332, Los Angeles County
 Los Angeles No. 42, Los Angeles County
 Los Cerritos No. 674, Los Angeles County
 Lux No. 846, San Diego County
 Magnolia Park No. 618, Los Angeles County
 Maya No. 793, Los Angeles County
 Menifee Valley No. 289, Riverside County
 Metropolitan No. 352, Orange County
 MW John R. Heisner No. 442, San Diego County
 MW Manuel Luis Quezon No. 874, San Diego County
 Newport Mesa No. 241, Orange County
 North Hollywood No. 542, Los Angeles County
 Novus Veteris No. 864, San Diego County
 Oasis No. 854, Los Angeles County
 Oasis of Light No. 893, Riverside County
 Oasis Of Mara No. 735, San Bernardino County
 Oceanside-San Dieguito No. 381, San Diego County
 Old West No. 813, Los Angeles County
 Ontario No. 301, San Bernardino County
 Orange Grove No. 293, Orange County
 Pacific Rim No. 567, Los Angeles County
 Palm Springs No. 693, Riverside County
 Palmdale No. 769, Los Angeles County
 Palos Verdes No. 883, Los Angeles County
 Panamericana No. 513, Los Angeles County
 Pasadena No. 272, Los Angeles County
 Phoenix Rising No. 178, San Bernardino County
 Pilaes Del Rey Salomon No. 886, Los Angeles County
 Point Loma No. 620, San Diego County
 Raven's Rock No. 870, Los Angeles County
 Redlands No. 300, San Bernardino County
 Redondo No. 328, Los Angeles County
 Reseda No. 666, Los Angeles County
 Rim of the World No. 711, San Bernardino County
 Rosemead No. 457, Los Angeles County
 Round Table No. 329, Los Angeles County
 S.W. Hackett No. 574, San Diego County
 Saddleback Laguna No. 672, Orange County
 San Diego No. 35, San Diego County
 San Dimas No. 428, Los Angeles County
 San Fernando No. 343, Los Angeles County
 San Marino No. 408, Los Angeles County
 Santa Maria No. 580, San Diego County
 Santa Monica-Palisades No. 307, Los Angeles County
 Gate Three Stars No. 296, San Diego County
 Solomon's Staircase No. 357, Orange County
 South Pasadena No. 290, Los Angeles County
 South West No. 283, San Diego County
 Southern California No. 529, Los Angeles County
 Sunnyside No. 577, Los Angeles County
 Sunset No. 369, Los Angeles County
 Temecula Catalina Island No. 524, Riverside County
 Temescal Palms No. 314, Riverside County
 The Downtown Masonic No. 859, Los Angeles County
 The Thirty-Three No. 878, Orange County
 Three Great Lights No. 323, Los Angeles County
 Torrance University No. 394, Los Angeles County
 Tujunga No. 592, Los Angeles County
 Upland-Mt. Baldy No. 419, San Bernardino County
 Van Nuys No. 450, Los Angeles County
 Veritas No. 855, Orange County
 Victorville No. 634, San Bernardino County
 Vista No. 687, San Diego County
 Wayfarers No. 889, Orange County
 West Covina No. 446, Los Angeles County
 Widows Sons No. 869, Riverside County
 William Rhodes Hervey No. 767, Los Angeles County
 Wisdom No. 202, Los Angeles County
 Ye Olde Cup & Ball No. 880, Orange County
 Yorba Linda No. 469, Orange County

Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Southern Jurisdiction



III. James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander



III. Arthur Salazar, Jr., 33°
Deputy in California
of the Supreme Council, 33°



III. Ralph Shelton, 33°
Personal Representative of the
Deputy in California



Jack C. Hennings Jr., 32°
Assistant to the Personal
Representative

Orange County Valley Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Lodge of Perfection	Chapter Rose Croix	Council of Kadosh	Consistory
Venerable Master Larry Griffin, 32° KSA	Wise Master Barry Mckinley, 32°	Commander Joshua S Price, 32°	Master of Kadosh Ross Hernandez, 32°
Senior Warden Alejo Valarde, 32°	Senior Warden vacant	1st Lieutenant Commander vacant	Prior vacant
Junior Warden Ehab Sheira, 32°	Junior Warden vacant	2nd Lieutenant Commander vacant	Preceptor vacant
Orator Christian DeDios, 32°	Orator Christian DeDios, 32°	Orator Christian DeDios, 32°	Minister of State Christian DeDios, 32°
Almoner Hon. Russ Hennings, 32° KCCH	Almoner Hon. Russ Hennings, 32° KCCH	Almoner Hon. Russ Hennings, 32° KCCH	Almoner Hon. Russ Hennings, 32° KCCH
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