



Orange County Valley of the Scottish Rite

# Scottish Rite News

Volume 5 Issue No. 10

Newsletter Date October 2019

## Senior Warden



Brethren,

I trust this article finds everyone healthy, happy, surrounded by pumpkin spiced anything and generally enjoying the change of seasons. Yes, when the trees here in sunny Southern California go from a shade of brown to a different shade of brown. It's also the season for reunions! Just as the kids go back to school, so too, do we as Scottish Rite Masons gather in reunion to our own sort of school. Some will be learning the lessons for the first time. Others go to remind themselves of the important lessons contained in our degrees. So make sure you join us on October 25 and October 26 for our class.

I would like to announce that I am stepping into the role of interim First Knight of The Knights of Saint Andrew for our Valley and will be holding a knighting ceremony soon for our new members. For those who haven't joined the ranks, the Knights offer opportunity for further involvement in our Valley, so please consider joining!

And finally, a very special congratulations to our newest Honormen! Of course Illustrious Frankie Rosario, 33° IGH received his 33° in Washington D.C. during the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council. Additionally, just a few weeks ago both Honorable David Frias, 32° KCCH and Honorable Ted Segerstrom, 32° KCCH received their honors in San Diego on September 21st! All three have served and continue to serve masonry and mankind in their own ways and have very deservedly been honored as a result. So remember to reach out and offer not only congratulations, but thanks for all they've done for us the next time you see them!



Left to right: Ill. David Kussman, 33°, Hon. David Frias, 32° KCCH, Hon. Ted Segerstrom, 32° KCCH and Ill. Frankie Rosario, 33°

**James Cervantes, 32°**  
Senior Warden  
Director of The Work

Be sure to visit our new Scottish Rite web site at [OCSCOTTISHRITE.ORG](http://OCSCOTTISHRITE.ORG)! We need your email address so we can electronically send you the Scottish Rite News. Call the office at 714 543-7277 and give it to our Secretary or leave a message. Thanks!

# Orange County Scottish Rite Officers

**Ill. James D. Cole, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Commander



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SGIG Orient of California



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Larry Griffin, 32°.....Photographer  
Hon. Jack Alastuey, 32° KCCH.....Tiler

**Orange County Valley Scottish Rite office: 2001 E. 4th St. Suite 202, Santa Ana, CA 92705**  
**Hours: Monday 10-2, Wednesday 10-2, Friday 10-2, Closed Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday**  
**Voice (714) 543-7277, Fax (714) 543-9754**

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

**The Valley of Orange County, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry**  
**Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America,**  
**Office: 801 N. French Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701, publishes the Scottish Rite News monthly. No Subscription Price.**

**Bro. Mark Hoage, 32°, Editor. (951) 743-3742, email: mhoage@ocscottishrite.org**  
**All articles must be submitted prior to the 15th of the month.**

## General Secretary



Brethren:

September was an outstanding month in our Valley. The Distinguished Speaker event on Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> featuring Illustrious R. Stephen Doan 33<sup>o</sup> speaking about the AASR degrees in our tiled meeting was well attended and exceptionally informative. Not only were OCSR Brothers present in good numbers, Brothers from other local Valleys showed up as well. We thank Illustrious Doan 33<sup>o</sup> for his thought-provoking talk. October promises to be another great month with major activities in our Valley.

Our Fall Super Breakfast is on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12pm at the DeMolay Center in Anaheim. This gastronomic extravaganza is a favorite among the Brethren and a major fundraiser for our Valley. We thank the many Brothers who have already sent their ticket orders into the office. If you did not receive an invitation in the mail, please contact us here at the Valley office.

Our Fall Reunion will begin on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The first day will likely conclude before 10pm. Our second day of the Reunion starts at 8am on Saturday and concludes in the early afternoon. Both days will be at the DeMolay Center. Please come by on one of the days and welcome our newest members. These new Masters of the Royal Secret are the future of our Valley. Also, you can see the superb ritual performed by your Brothers in our degree teams.

Lastly, many of you have received your 2020 dues notices and have sent in your dues payments. Thank you. If you have not received your dues notice and wish to make your payment, you can pay it online through our OCSR website, [ocsrscottishrite.org](http://ocsrscottishrite.org). Just hit the membership tab on the start page and select pay dues online from the drop-down menu. Also, you can send your check for \$105 dues to the Valley office at our new mailing address listed on page 2. Any questions, please call us at the office at 714-543-7277. If the office is closed, we will receive your voicemail and respond. Have an outstanding October.

Fraternally,

**Jamie Hopkins 32<sup>o</sup>**  
General Secretary  
714-543-7277

## Editor



Greetings Brothers,

Please let me know if you or someone you know has an interesting article to include, we need new material. Remember the publication deadline each month is the 15<sup>th</sup>, so let's hear from you authors out there.

Send all submissions to: [mshusaac@charter.net](mailto:mshusaac@charter.net).

Fraternally,

**Mark Hoage, 32<sup>o</sup>**  
Editor

## Venerable Master



Fraternal Greetings,

As I write this article, I am still contemplating the presentation given by Most Worshipful and Illustrious R. Steven Doan at our last Stated Meeting. It was a very compelling and fresh look at the Scottish Rite story under a new light. I especially liked how he grouped the degrees and compared them to other bodies that confer similar teaching. Most of the direct feedback I heard was that he caused the brothers to think about the degrees again. What a great gift to us! Thankyou Bro. Andrew Todd for organizing the series of speakers this year. I am sure your hard work is sowing valuable rewards.

As a student of Masonry I try very hard to apply the tools given to me in the ritual to my everyday life. This is an ongoing challenge. Sometimes I fail and sometimes I succeed, but I am committed to trying to be better. I seem to return to the four cardinal virtues a lot. In difficult dealings, I find myself reciting that part of the First-Degree Charge - Let Temperance chasten, Fortitude support, and Prudence direct you, and let Justice be the guide of all your actions. I am an emotional being, so Temperance and Prudence are the most challenging. I try to make a conscious effort to meet all my brothers on the level, act by the plumb and part by the square even if I am not given the same courtesy. It can be humbling but the process is important.

We have our Fall Reunion class coming up on October 25th/26th. Please try and come out and support our new brethren on the quest for further light. Even if you can only stop by for an hour or so on Friday night or Saturday morning, your support is truly needed.

Before the Fall reunion, we have our Fall Super Breakfast on Sunday October 6th. Great food, great company and a great way to support your Valley. Come on down for a waffle or a custom omelet and of course, the ever-present bacon.

Fraternally,

**Mike Gowder, 32°, KCCH**  
Venerable Master  
Orange County Lodge of Perfection

## Wise Master



Brothers,

We find ourselves in the glorious month of October, which in fact used to be the eighth month of the year. October is derived from octo, which means eight in Latin. It dates back more than 2000 years to the ancient Roman Calendar, which was replaced by the Julian Calendar in 45 BCE.

This month is home to the Halloween celebration. The days are shorter, night falls more quickly, and the darkness she provides lasts longer and longer. The mighty Sun begins to succumb to the powers of winter's fast approaching darkness. The kiddos don awesome Halloween costumes and hit the neighborhood to greet the community and receive all the sweets they could ever dream of. Recently I've been reading a book regarding ancient practices of European tribes. It seems that the teenagers of that time and place did not have it so easy. The fall festival was looked upon as the moment when the fabric between our world and the world of the ancestors was most thin. This was the opportunity for young people to earn the right of adulthood. A village festival was held, where sacrifice would take place. A prominent woman of the tribe, wearing only a bear skin, would lead the hopeful kiddos to the burial mounds of the ancestors who were worthy of reincarnation. The children would stay up very late with the woman, who was known as the "She Bear". She would educate them with parables and test them with riddles. At dawn, the children would be armed with a weapon that was inherited from the honorable ancestor. They were then set loose in the wild. Their mission was to kill a predator. Bear, Wolf, Mountain Lion. They had seven sun rises to accomplish this task. If they failed, they would have to wait another year. That is if they weren't killed trying. If, however, they were successful, they would return with the thigh bone of the animal and the skull of the ancestor. The thigh bone represented the life force and the skull represented the consciousness of the worthy ancestor. The child would then change their name to include the ancestors. They would don clothes that would help represent the ancestor. To finalize the transformation, they would go to each neighbor's house and introduce themselves as the new adult and name. The neighbors would honor them by giving them food and gifts. The skull and thigh bone are seen throughout history.

We see it again in the Middle East, where burial ossuaries were used. The small bones of the body would be laid inside. The long thigh bones placed next in an X formation. Then the skull would be placed on top before the box was sealed. Possibly some connection to the skull and crossbones flag that was made famous by the Knights Templar Navy. Either way, the kids of today have got it a lot easier than their ancestors did.

Fraternally yours,

**Shawn McCuen 32°**  
Wise Master.

## Master of Kadosh



Greetings Brethren,

Fall and the month of October is upon us, the reunion will be taking place here in October. The Cap and Ring Ceremony will be taking place at the November Stated Meeting. “O hushed October morning mild, Thy leaves have ripened to the fall; Tomorrow’s wind, if it be wild, Should waste them all. The crows above the forest call; Tomorrow they may form and go. O hushed October morning mild, Begin the hours of this day slow. Make the day seem to us less brief. Hearts not averse to being beguiled, Beguile us in the way you know. Release one leaf at break of day; At noon release another leaf; One from our trees, one far away. Retard the sun with gentle mist; Enchant the land with amethyst. Slow, slow! For the grapes’ sake, if they were all, Whose leaves already are burnt with frost, Whose clustered fruit must else be lost—For the grapes’ sake along the wall.” -*Rober Frost, “October”*

I would just like to touch on this topic of the Knights of St. Andrew (KSA). For those brothers who do not know what the KSA is or does. The KSA does the little things around the valley from cleaning up after stated meetings to helping at Reunion classes to just overall service to the Valley. Brother Cervantes was elected as our First Knight. I am the Secretary of the Knights, so I would just like to extend a warm welcome to those brothers who may be interested or would like to return. Please feel free to reach out to me or Brother Cervantes about how to become a member or how to get involved again and we can provide further details or answers to any questions, you may present to us. I will be mentioning this message on the KSA each month.

*(Continued on Page 9)*

## Director of Masonic Education



Many thanks to Most Worshipful Brother R. Stephen Doan for taking the time to speak to us in the second installment of our Distinguished Speaker series. His talk on “The Scottish Rite Ritual and Its Historical Context” was both interesting and enlightening. We are very fortunate to have a mind like Most Worshipful Brother Doan in our midst, and the opportunity to hear him speak was a great honor.

Thanks also to the brothers who attended this event. It is always good to see so many familiar faces in the lodge! I am working on getting another speaker before the year is through. Stay tuned for more information.

Also: A friendly reminder that we’re holding our Master Craftsman Study Group prior to each Stated Meeting at 5:30pm. This is your opportunity to enhance your understanding of the Craft, its degrees, and esoterica; and a chance to participate in true Masonic scholarship with your brothers. Brother James Cervantes has graciously volunteered to lead the activities and guide us on our path.

If you'd like to attend, please prepare by visiting the website for information about the books and other information to get you started: [www.ocscottishrite.org/master-craftsman-program](http://www.ocscottishrite.org/master-craftsman-program)

You can also reach out to me directly for information and access to our Facebook group.

I'll see you in the classroom!

**Andrew Todd, 32°**  
 Director of Masonic Education  
[atodd@ocscottishrite.org](mailto:atodd@ocscottishrite.org)  
 (949) 288-3739

## Language Center News



RiteCare® Childhood Language Center  
Orange County

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

**Speech Language Pathologies:**

Leslie Sierra-Guzman, MA CCC-SLP      Chris Switzer, MA CCC-SLP  
Laura Garcia-Maxey, MA CCC-SLP      Francine Wenhardt, CCC-SLP

[www.OCLanguageCenter.org](http://www.OCLanguageCenter.org)

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

**Support our Center by becoming a member:**

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

**Supporters of the RiteCare Childhood Language Center for 2019**



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**For Information Please Contact - Chairman**

**David Frias, 32°**

Cell: 714-600-8538 - Email: [dfrias@oclanguagecenter.org](mailto:dfrias@oclanguagecenter.org)

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**Santa Ana, CA 92701**

## OC CLC

## Communication

**A Special Thank you to every-  
one who attended our  
Gift of Voice  
Dinner and Auction  
to benefit the  
RiteCare Childhood  
Language Center of  
Orange County**

**RiteCare Childhood Language Center of OC**

Office: 714-972-2646

Email: [info@oclanguagecenter.org](mailto:info@oclanguagecenter.org)

# Language Center News

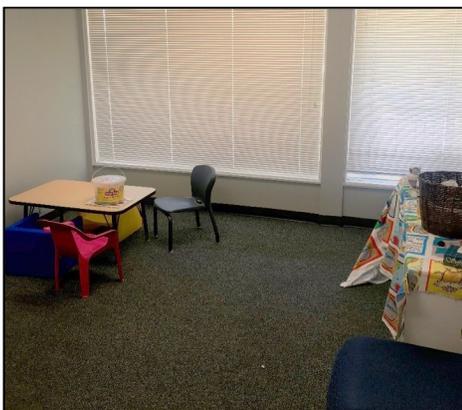
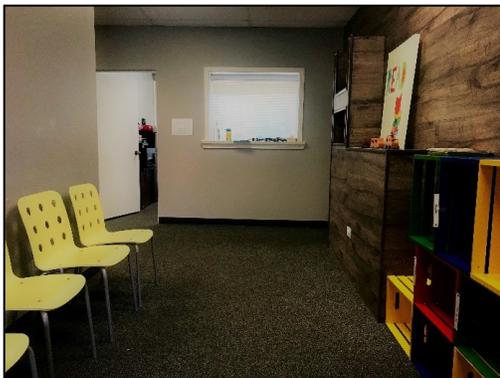
## Welcome from the RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Orange County!



This past summer was a very busy time at the CLC with the relocation of the office. Moving has been a great opportunity for us to review and refresh everything related to the center.

When you visit the CLC you won't see the big White House anymore but instead a professional looking office suite. We need to create a new sign to fit in the window by the door and facing the street which will be added soon.

Parents are greeted with a nice comfortable waiting room. This is also where we have relocated "Rachael's Corner" which is a library of children's books for everyone to enjoy.



We have three rooms that are arranged to be used for therapy sessions and new evaluations. These rooms are bright and welcoming for the children. Setting the mood is important so the children feel

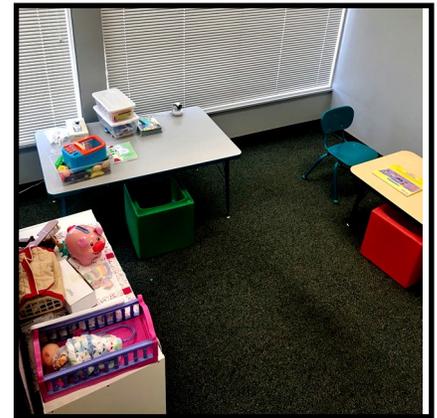
safe and welcome. This allows everyone to stay focused on the important work that needs to be done.



With every new semester at Chapman University we get a new group of grad student clinicians at the CLC. After a week of orientation, the clinicians are ready to meet

the children and start working on their individual therapy plans. The CLC is now filled with the great sounds of children learning to become great communicators.

With all of the changes this summer the Board of Directors has elected to change the name of our Language Center to better align our efforts with the Scottish Rite in California. We have always proudly carried the RiteCare brand and now we are putting



it right at the beginning where it belongs. The new name for our center is the RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Orange County.



Sincerely yours,  
**David Frias, 32° KCCH**  
President, OC CLC Board of Directors

## OCSR 2019 Calendar

### 2019

- October** 6th—**Fall Super Breakfast** 9am-Noon  
Anaheim DeMolay Center  
7th—**Stated Meeting 6:30 pm**  
25th—**Fall Reunion Class** 5:00 –9:00pm  
26th—**Fall Reunion Class** 8:00am—  
4:00pm Anaheim DeMolay Center
- November** 4th—**Stated Meeting 6:30 pm**
- December** 2nd—**Stated Meeting 6:30 pm**

### October Dinner Menu

**Beef / Chicken Taco Bar**  
**With Rice and Beans**  
**Guacamole,**  
**Chips & Salsa**  
**Corn & Flour Tortillas**  
**Desert**

#### Reduced Dinner Prices

We are once again be back to our reduced meal cost for our Stated Meeting dinners. They are \$10 down from our regular \$14. How many other things in your life can you say the same thing about? Please be sure to call in your dinner reservations to the OCSR Valley office.

### Master of Kadosh *(continued from page 6)*

“They proved that it was possible to produce beauty in life by surrounding life with beauty. They discovered that symmetrical bodies were built by souls continuously in the presence of symmetrical bodies; that noble thoughts were produced by minds surrounded by examples of mental nobility. Conversely, if a man were forced to look upon an ignoble or asymmetrical structure it would arouse within him a sense of ignobility which would provoke him to commit ignoble deeds. If an ill proportioned building were erected in the midst of a city there would be ill-proportioned children born in that community; and men and women, gazing upon the asymmetrical structure, would live inharmonious lives. Thoughtful men of antiquity realized that their great philosophers were the natural products of the æsthetic ideals of architecture, music, and art established as the standards of the cultural systems of the time.”

— *Manly P. Hall, “The Secret Teachings of All Ages”*

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

**Jeff Kimble, 32°**

Master of Kadosh

## Masonic Enlightenment

### Keep the “Great” Lights in Sight

by Ed Halpaus

Some things we might think should be known by every Freemason aren't always as well known as we think. In the United States, and maybe some other countries, the Three Great Lights of Masonry are disposed upon an Altar in the center of the Lodge Room. Some are surprised to learn that the protocol of not walking between the Master of the Lodge and the altar, so as to even temporarily block his view of the Three Great Lights, is not always known by every Freemason. A Mason isn't likely to know this unless he is either very observant or he has a mentor to inform him of such things. Informing a Brother of what he should know about Masonry is very important. Just as it is important to inform a Brother about the rule of not walking between the altar and the Master when the Lodge is at labor it is also important to explain why there is this protocol.

The simple explanation is that the Master must keep the Three Great Lights in his view when he presides, so that he can draw inspiration and wisdom from them as he presides.

I often wonder what each Mason in the Lodge Room thinks of when he hears that short explanation and I also wonder if he gets the opinion that having the Great Lights in view is only important for the Master. What do we, as Brethren who attend the Lodge Communication, either as a side-liner, or an officer, think about having the Three Great Lights in our view? Do we think on those things, think enough to draw inspiration to assist us in subduing our discordant passions?

The design, or layout, of a Lodge Room for a communication as an Oblong Square with all the officers and Brethren arranged on the outside border of this oblong square we all have the Three Great Lights in view. And with but a few exceptions our view of the Three Great Lights is not interrupted, so we do know they are there and can look at them if we wish. We can, as the Master does, draw on the lessons of the Holy Bible, Square, and Compass, while we are in Lodge and have the opportunity to interact with our Brethren, as well as to keep the lessons of The Great Lights in mind when speaking and voting.

I once met a Mason who was wearing a Masonic ring that I thought was about the best Masonic ring I ever saw; it had The Three Great Lights on it: It depicted the Volume of Sacred Law open with the Square and Compass disposed upon it. I thought if I ever see one like that for sale I sure would be tempted to buy it, but I haven't ever seen one elsewhere, and I neglected to ask him where he got it. But a ring like that could serve a Mason well in continually reminding him of the important lessons contained in The Great Light, and in the symbolism of the other two Great Lights.

To me seeing the altar with The Three Great Lights disposed upon it, and seeing, in my mind's eye that ring, gets me to thinking about all there is to know about The Three Great Lights of Masonry. There is a lifetime worth of beneficial study for the Mason who wants to learn everything he can from these Three Great Lights. It's my opinion, and maybe mine alone, since I've never seen anyone else write about it, that all of us in the Lodge could look at the altar and The Three Great Lights, and think about them before we get up to interact in the Lodge.

When we enter the Oblong Square we know as the Lodge Room, it seems that it might be a good idea to leave the cares, and concerns of the everyday world outside of the Lodge Room door, and spend a few minutes in silence meditating on Freemasonry; the tenets and virtues might be a good place to start. Then when the opening ceremonies begin and the Great Lights are disposed maybe for the moments the others finish their duties we can view the Great Lights and be reminded of the lessons Masonry passes on to us about each one of them.

After we pray and conclude the final moments of the opening ceremony by the Pledge to the Flag, (at least here in the U.S.), if we do our best we might be able to keep the precepts enjoined by the Three Great Lights in mind as we proceed in all our doings. And if we're diligent the lessons and precepts of the Three Great Lights and the other lessons of Freemasonry will be in our minds and doings outside of the Lodge too.

A friend and Brother mentioned recently about some Lodge Communications when some important subjects were discussed that discussions became heated. We would all prefer to avoid heated discussions in Lodge as well as elsewhere, but being human beings we don't always do what we would prefer. However, the design of the Masonic institution can help us avoid heated discussions. Again if we keep in mind how the Lodge Room is laid out with one Mason (the Master) in charge, with all discussion directed to him, and The Three Great Lights in our view as we sit or rise to speak in Lodge, we might be able to keep any discordant passions from rising to the top.

Another important protocol to observe is that in Lodge we are not supposed to talk amongst each other; not even to answer a question that has been posed by a Brother sitting anywhere other than the Master's chair; when we rise to speak, we don't

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Masonic Enlightenment (cont. from page 10)

Speak until we are recognized by the Master, and when we are recognized we speak to the Master on the question or matter before the Lodge, not to another Brother. If we answer a question posed by anyone other than the Master we still address the Master to answer it. Speaking to the Master, (so all can hear,) helps us stay cooler than if we were to look at another Brother who we might not feel all that Brotherly towards at the moment.

Pondering and studying all that we can wonder and learn about in Freemasonry will help us become the better men we wanted to become when we began our Masonic journey. A truism that one can hear in many houses of worship is this: "If you can ignore something, you don't really know it, you don't really understand it, and you haven't really internalized it." As far as Freemasonry is concerned if this is the case, the Mason hasn't begun to have a learning make a positive change in his life: Masonry is a way of life, but to make it so we need to study it, know it, understand it, internalize it, so we can apply it to our life. Then the individual Mason will see some positive changes.

**"Those people who develop the ability to continuously acquire new and better forms of knowledge that they can apply to their work and to their lives will be the movers and shakers in our society for the indefinite future."**

Brian Tracy

For anything to become a way of life we don't study something just once and be set for life. The more time we spend studying and absorbing the underlying lessons available to the Mason from all the allegories and symbolism of the Craft, the deeper our awareness and understanding of them will become. And the deeper our awareness becomes, the more consistent we will be in reflecting that awareness in our actions.

Rabbi Yitzchak Berkowitz – paraphrased

**"I've never known any trouble than an hour's reading didn't assuage."**

Charles de Secondat

**"The doorstep to the temple of wisdom is the knowledge of our own ignorance."**

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

### Words to live by:

"The difference between a smart man and a wise man is that a smart man knows what to say, a wise man knows whether or not to say it."

Frank M. Garafola

### From volumes of Sacred Law:

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 1:7 Tanakh NASB

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

John 8:32 New Testament NASB

"Verily God is not ashamed to set forth as well the instance of a gnat as of any nobler object: for as to those who have believed, they know it to be the truth from their Lord; but as to the unbelievers, they will say, "What meaneth God by this comparison?" Many will He mislead by such parables and many guide: but none will He mislead thereby except the wicked,"

Qur'an 002:026 Rodwell Translation

"Better indeed is knowledge than mechanical practice. Better than knowledge is meditation. But better still is surrender of attachment to results, because there follows immediate peace."

Bhagavad Gita

**"Seldom if ever was knowledge given to keep, but always to impart. The grace of this rich jewel is lost in concealment."**  
Bishop Hall

### Seek to mentor a Brother Mason:

**It's good for him, it's good for you, and it's good for Freemasonry!**

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