



# Orange County Scottish Rite

## Orient of California, Southern Jurisdiction

### Director of the Work



Brethren: Two bits of exciting news. First off, as I write this, we just started production on the first cinematic reunion experience for the Orient of California. Since the Grand Commander has urged the S.G.I.G.s and Deputies to continue the virtual reunion experiences as an alternative (but not a replacement) to the in-person reunions we all love, our state has taken up that task and over the next few days a group of us (including several of us from the Valley of Orange County) are participating. I cannot wait for you all to see the finished product!

The second involves the Grand Commander.

Recently on an update with Ill. Jim Cole, he put out the offer that as time warrants, he would try to visit as many Valleys on their virtual meetings when and where possible. Well... I reached out... and he said yes. So I'm



*Ill. James Cole, 33°*

very, very happy to announce that the Sovereign Grand Commander for the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction will be in attendance for our June "Catching up with the Scottish Rite" call! Our Illustrious Brother will be joining us on June 7, 2021 at 5:30PM!

Hope to see all of you there!

**James Cervantes, 32°**  
Prelate, Director of the Work

## OC Scottish Rite 2021 Upcoming Calendar

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday<br/>May 3rd</b>  | Catching up with the Valley<br>Zoom meeting 5:30pm<br>In-person Stated Meeting, CANCELED |
| <b>Monday<br/>May 10th</b> | Master Craftsman Study<br>Zoom meeting 5pm - 6pm   |
| <b>Monday<br/>June 7th</b> | Catching up with the Valley<br>Zoom meeting 5:30pm<br>In-person Stated Meeting, CANCELED |



### SPECIAL HONORED GUESTS

**Ill. James D. Cole, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Commander  
for the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite,  
Southern Jurisdiction

**Ill. Frank Loui, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Orient of California

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## Wise Master



Family comes in some many different forms, with statuses and roles, with obligations, values and norms, devoted to achieving common goals and the greater good for generations to come.

As brothers with a special bond, we pave the way and trace a path as best we can, we teach our young the simple things, the old traditions, the rules and legal codes, that truth is just and love for all. From time to time, complex changes fast and furious they do come, but we adapt and overcome.

We teach familial ties are the true wealth of all mankind. Old principles new names, adjustments of concepts in a constant state of change, carrying on traditions and the work, no selfish ambitions, no breaking the bonds, only advancement for the soul.

Warmest fraternal regards,

**Anthony Arismendi, 32°**

Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix

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## General Secretary



Brethren: With the gradual relaxation of pandemic restrictions on gatherings, we hope to be meeting in person again in the near future. From the Valley office, we want to thank the Brothers for your annual dues payments for 2021. In a most challenging year for our personal incomes, our dues payments for the Orange County Valley have come in at a higher level than the previous year. Your commitment to our Rite is appreciated.

On the subject of dues, we have a new program for Brothers who bring new candidates to our Valley. In a calendar year, any Brother who is a top-line signer on petitions for 3 candidates will have his dues (\$105) waived in the following year. All of the candidates must pay their Reunion fee with their petition. This is a great opportunity to keep our Valley strong and interact with your Blue Lodge Brothers by presenting OCSR to them. And, your good efforts can earn a free year's membership for yourself. Any questions, please contact me at the Valley office.

Lastly, OCSR was well represented at a filming of the 29 Scottish Rite degrees that took place at the Long Beach Scottish Rite Center in late April. OCSR Masons gladly participated in the ritual work and activities.

In closing, may you and your families enjoy good health and prosperity for the remainder of 2021.

Fraternally,

**Jamie Hopkins 32°**  
General Secretary

## Language Center News



Welcome back to the RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Orange County. Our Language Center continues to provide excellent care for the children in our community who need help with their communication skills.

Spring is here and so it is graduating time at the Language Center. We are enjoying our spring break and celebrating our three graduates pictured below. Since we follow

Chapman University's academic calendar we are closed for a short time as one semester ends and will reopen soon for the Summer semester. A new group of student clinicians will join us to use their skills to help our children become strong communicators.

Here is a message we received recently from a parent named Clara that warms our heart:

*Dear Francine, Charlotte, and Mady:*

*Thank you for the helpful and thorough Progress Report. Vincent and I had a wonderful semester thanks to you all. We learned so much and had a lot of fun during the process. We truly and sincerely appreciate all your time, guidance, and support. Thank you for being a part of our journey!*

*All our best,*

*Clara & Vincent*

Keep Saturday, November 6th open on your calendar!! The RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Orange County is planning a gala fundraising dinner on that evening and we want all of you to attend. More details to come soon.

Please celebrate these graduations with us and the families of these beautiful children. Congratulations to Ixchel, Mathew, Aayden!

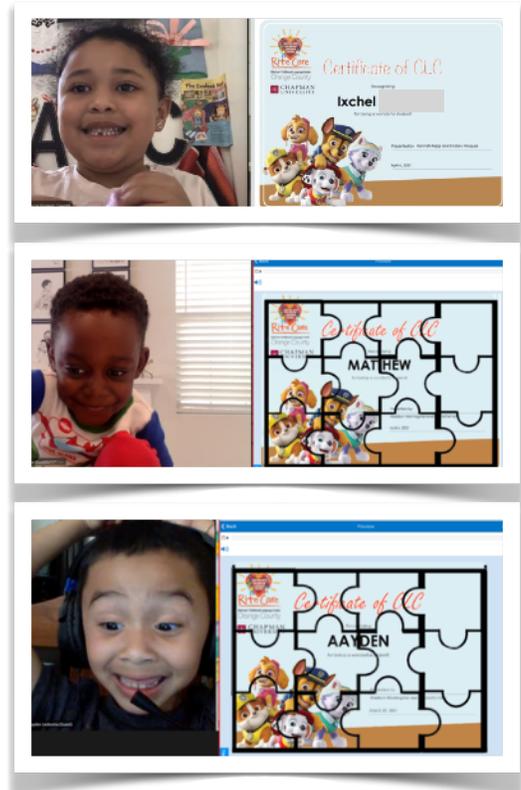
Thank you for all your support!

**David Frias, 32<sup>o</sup> KCCH**  
Chairman  
RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Orange County

### **Please Donate!**

If you have the ability to give, please consider donating to our Language Center during the new year. We are very thankful for all your support. To donate, visit:

<https://oclanguagecenter.org/donate>





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

## Speech Language Pathologists

**Leah Beekman**, PhD CCC-SLP

**Chris Switzer**, MA CCC-SLP

**Laurie Lennon-Thompson**, MS CCC-SLP

**Francine Wenhardt**, MS 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 supports one child at the center for a 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 2020

### President's Circle Members (\$500 or more)

Ted Segerstrom, 32° KCCH • Samuel Brandes, 32° • Ill. Donald Tapia, 33° • Mike Selix, 32° KCCH • Ill. Pete Jantz, 33° • Cynthia Olsen & Michele Bakkila • Il. Ray Godeke, 33° • Tom Olsen, 32° • Robert & Kathy Olsen • Ill. Art Salazar, 33° • Jim Andronaco, Sidepath • Nick Villasenor, 32° • Ill. James D. Nyfeler, 33° • Ill. David Kussman, 33° • Ill. Frankie Rosario, 33° • Cristi Shinn • Anne Hertz • Sylvia & Jim Garrett • David & Deni Frias • Dr. Judy Montgomery • Ted & Elaine Olsen • Joe Manning, Manning Law • Robert Pickell, 32° • Betty McMicken • Chase May, 32° • Dr. Mary Kennedy • Alfredo Molina, 32° KCCH • Daniel Dunn • Andrew and Palmera Todd • Karen Storaci • Jeff Tran • Ken Montgomery • Richard Dellar • Gil Estupian • Cathy & Jason Chrest • Frank Ciltadino • Raj Patel • Beth Bind • Drew & Teale Armenta

### 365 Club Members (\$365 each year)

Cliff Carpenter, 32°

### Center Club Members (\$100 each year)

Thomas Mathisen • Deanna K Zawistowski • David W. Lockwood, 32° • Frederick R. McCuistion, Jr • Nathan Fay • Richard Christy • Muthurangam Balasubramaniam

**For information please contact: Chairman David Frias, 32° (714) 600-8538, [dfrias@oclanguagecenter.org](mailto:dfrias@oclanguagecenter.org)**

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## Senior Warden



When I think of the rebirth or renewal my dad keeps popping into my head. I've been down all day thinking about this topic. I know that I'm probably getting these words confused with some other word, but I just keep thinking of my dad. My father was named Mike Daniel Frias and he died on April 2nd, 2000. I still miss him greatly. He taught me so much about how to be a good man. How to care for people and how to be kind. My dad also taught me how to fight and be tough when the time was right.

He was always good for a hug and I never doubted that he loved me because he told me often. After taking care of the lawn on the weekend we would put on the boxing gloves and go a few rounds. I never won; he was always too fast. It was great fun.

My dad would have loved being a mason. This would have been a great activity for us to share. He had a standing golf foursome on Sunday morning with his work buddies. Sometimes I would get the call to join them because someone was unavailable. Spending time with my dad and his friends was the reason I would always go. I'm a terrible golfer. The point is he would have loved to come to the lodge and share this time with all of the great guys in our Valley.

I wish I had more time with my dad. Maybe renewal would give me a little more time so I could ask all the questions that I have but never thought to ask. I'm sure he would have the answers that I'm missing.

Maybe the point of rebirth and renewal for me is a reminder that we all have a beginning and we all have an ending. I need to make sure I get the most out of my time. That I share this time with the right people.

**David Frias 32° KCCH**

Senior Warden

Orange County Lodge of Perfection

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## Masonic Education ◦ Editor

### Master Craftsman Program



SCOTTISH+RITE  
MASTER+CRAFTSMAN:  
SYMBOLIC+LODGE

#### New Study Session Format

Starting in February, we're going to change the format of the Master Craftsman Study group a bit. Instead of meeting for ½ hour prior to the monthly "Keeping up" Zoom call, we're dedicating an entire hour the following week. **Master Craftsman Study sessions will now be held on the second**

**Monday of the month, from 5-6pm.** As in the past, these sessions will take place via Zoom.

Venerable brother **James Cervantes** and I are here to answer any questions and guide you. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to either of us by e-mail:

Andrew Todd, 32° :. [atodd@ocscottishrite.org](mailto:atodd@ocscottishrite.org)

James Cervantes, 32° :. [jcervantes@ocscottishrite.org](mailto:jcervantes@ocscottishrite.org)

If you'd like to participate or are looking for information about the program, please prepare by visiting the website for information about the books and other information to get you started:

<https://scottishrite.org/scottish-rite-master-craftsman-program/>

## The Master Craftsman Program

For those unaware, the Scottish Rite Master Craftsman (SRMC) program is an exciting, correspondence course designed and administered by staff at the House of the Temple in Washington, DC, under the guidance and leadership of the Supreme Council, 33°, of the A&A Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, USA. All three courses are available as mail-in courses or online.

Starting in February, we will begin covering the quizzes from both the **Symbolic Logic** and the **Scottish Rite History and Ritual** programs, alternating each month. This will allow you to get through both programs in a timely fashion, and help ensure that all bases are covered.

## Study with us on Zoom

We will be meeting in the “virtual classroom” on Zoom this month. **Join us on the second Monday of the month at 5:00pm** as we continue our progress through the Master Craftsman program. Stay tuned for an email invite, coming soon.



If you're just getting started we can also help you with Quizzes #1 - 4. You can also reach out to me directly for information and access to our Facebook group.

Thanks to all our brothers for your interest and participation. I'll see you in the classroom!

## From the Editor

I'd like to express my thanks again to the heads of body for contributing their excellent and thoughtful articles this month and for doing so in a timely fashion.



## Calling All Writers!

You don't have to be a head of body or a member of the line to contribute to this newsletter! If you have something to say from a masonic perspective — perhaps insights into your masonic ruminations, scholarly endeavors you'd like to share, or general news for the brethren — this newsletter is your conduit for those ideas. I encourage any and all brothers who'd like to contribute something to this newsletter to send their ideas to:

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[editor@ocscottishrite.org](mailto:editor@ocscottishrite.org)

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I'll work with you on getting your article together for the next issue.

Fraternally,

**Andrew Todd, 32°**

Editor, The Orange County Scottish Rite News  
Director of Masonic Education

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## Venerable Master



Greetings Brethren, I hope this message finds you and your family are doing well. I would like to personally invite you to attend our monthly “keeping Up” with the valley meeting each month.

Please join us on the first Monday of each month at 5:30pm.

Join the Zoom Meetings using the link below: [https://scottishrite.zoom.us/j/9531283942?](https://scottishrite.zoom.us/j/9531283942?pwd=aVhXc1ZPcGU5RGVZdnJMZCtvU3JCQT09)

[pwd=aVhXc1ZPcGU5RGVZdnJMZCtvU3JCQT09](https://scottishrite.zoom.us/j/9531283942?pwd=aVhXc1ZPcGU5RGVZdnJMZCtvU3JCQT09)

The Meeting ID is: 953 128 3942 The password for entry is: Mason32

This month’s theme is family: A family doesn’t necessarily mean your parents, your siblings, or your immediate blood relatives. Family can mean your best friends, your classmates, team members, coworkers, even your pet. As you can see family can take on many meanings.

As you take your first step into a Masonic lodge, to receive your first degree in Masonry. Your Birth as a Mason begins, and with your obligation you become part of our Masonic family. With your obligation you develop a bond with your Masonic Brothers that will last a lifetime. As you advance to the degree of Master Mason, you have willingly spent many hours with your Masonic Brothers, practicing your obligations with your ritual coach, attending lodge, volunteering your time at your lodge events, and your local communities. With this time spent the bond with your Brothers grows even stronger.

Masonry has changed my life and my family’s life for the better. I truly feel honored to call you My Brother and enjoy every moment I get to spend with my brothers in fellowship.

My daughter Mariah asked me many years ago, shortly after joining Rainbow, Dad are all your Masonic Brothers, my Uncles? This question proved to me and made me realize the influence of Masonry, and our Masonic family has had in our lives. To this day, My Daughter Mariah refers to you my Brother, as her uncle. To me this is the true meaning of family.

**Mike Selix, 32° KCCH**  
Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection

## The Celestial Lodge

Please join our Valley in remembering the brothers we’ve lost this year. Though their presence will be missed, their legacies will not be forgotten.

<b>Illustrious Peter Henry Jantz, 33°</b> .....	February 15, 2021
<b>Jack Gordon Beers, 32°</b> .....	February 25, 2021
<b>Kermit E. Rosenthal 32°</b> .....	March 4, 2021
<b>Dennis William Morris, 32°</b> .....	March 14, 2021

Please also keep brother **Rob Rappaport, 32°** in your thoughts and prayers as they continue to fight their recents health issues.

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## Orange County Scottish Rite Officers



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



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General,  
Orient of California



**Ill. Francisco Rosario, 33°**  
Personal Representative of the SGIG,  
Orient of California  
frosario@ocscottishrite.org



**Jamie Hopkins, 32°**  
General Secretary  
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**Hon. Ralph Shelton, 32°**  
Assistant to the Personal Rep  
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**Hon. Mike Selix, 32°**  
Venerable Master  
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**Anthony Arismendi, 32°**  
Wise Master  
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**Stephen Carney, 32°**  
Master of Kadosh  
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**Diego Verduzco, 32°**  
Commander of Kadosh  
dverduzco@ocscottishrite.org

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## Orange County Scottish Rite Officers (cont.)

**Mark Pressey, 32°**  
Treasurer

**James Cervantes, 32°**  
Chaplain

**Lloyd Clayton, 33° IGH**  
Almoner

**Shawn McCuen, 32° KSA**  
First Knight

**Andrew Todd, 32°**  
Director of Masonic Education

**David Frias, 32° KCCH**  
Chairman of the Board, Ritecare Childhood Language Center of Orange County / Junior Warden

**James Cervantes, 32°**  
Director of the Work

**Vacant**  
Director of Ritual

**Vacant**  
Director of Props and Costumes

**Larry Griffin, 32°**  
Photographer

**Hon. Jack Alastuey, 32° KCCH**  
Tiler

### The Orange County Scottish Rite Valley

2001 East 4th Street, Suite 202, Santa Ana, CA 92705 • Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am-2pm  
Phone (714) 972-2646 • Fax (714) 543-9754 • [www.ocscottishrite.org](http://www.ocscottishrite.org)

Stated Meetings on the first Monday of the month, 6:30 pm; dinner follows at 7:15 pm (reservations requested) at the 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 publishes the Scottish Rite News monthly. No Subscription Price.**

Edited by Bro. Andrew Todd, 32° (949) 288-3739, [editor@ocscottishrite.org](mailto:editor@ocscottishrite.org). All articles must be submitted prior to the 20th of the month.

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**Larry Griffin**

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