



**PALM SPRINGS VALLEY SCOTTISH RITE**

# SCOTTISH RITE

Volume 4 Issue No. 09

Newsletter Date: November 2024

## The Voice



# Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite Officers for 2024



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



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° PGM**  
SGIG Orient of California



**Ill. Arman Ordian, 33°**  
Personal Representative of the  
SGIG of the Orient of California, The  
Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite



**Raffi Hovhannisyan, 32°**  
General Secretary



**Stu Ryan, 32°**  
Venerable Master



**Bon Munar, 32°**  
Wise Master



**Dave Hertzog, 32°**  
Commander



**Clint Atherton, 32°**  
Master of Kadosh

- Hon. Daniel Oates, 32° KCCH.....Asst. Secretary
- Hon. Shane DaCosta, 32° KCCH.....Asst. Treasurer
- Hon. Mark Flint, 32° KCCH.....Almoner
- Hon. Kurt Handshuh, 32° KCCH.....Captain of the Host

**Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite office: 51-100 South Jackson, Indio, CA 92202**  
**Hours: Monday - Friday 10am-4pm**  
**Voice / Text: (818)515-6008**

**Valley of Palm Springs, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry**  
**Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, the Scottish Rite News monthly. No Subscription Price.**

**Raffi Hovhannisyan, 32° Editor, (818)515-6008, Email: PSSRSecretary@gmail.com**

# Personal Representative



Brethren,

Season of Gratitude and Giving

As the vibrant colors of autumn fade into the crisp embrace of November, we are reminded that this month is more than a transition to winter—it’s a time to give thanks and give back. November sets the stage for gratitude, with Thanksgiving at its heart, encouraging us to reflect on the blessings in our lives and extend kindness to those in need.

Giving is not just about material contributions; it’s about sharing time, love, and support. Whether it’s volunteering, donating to our charity, or simply lending a helping hand to a neighbor, every act of generosity counts. The spirit of giving fosters community and connection, reminding us that we are all part of something larger.

As we navigate this month, let’s carry the spirit of November with us—celebrating gratitude not only in words but in action. Together, we can make this a season of warmth, hope, and compassion.

As Masons we should always remember that in giving, we receive the priceless gift of fulfillment, knowing that our efforts can brighten someone else’s life.

**With Fraternal Love,**

**Ill. Arman Ordian, 33°  
PR of the SGIG of the Orient of California**





# Venerable Master



Greetings Brothers,

Congratulations to our newly elected brother to the Ancient and Accepted craft. I hope your Masonic journey leads you to enjoy the teachings of the Scottish Rite. To the brethren take time to review your obligations, remember we meet on the level as brothers. With the Feast of Tishri behind us, I want to thank all who took time out of the personal time to help with setup and clean up. Special thank you to our General Secretary and wife Naira who travel far and set the dining room decorations, brother Hector who help to make the night memorable.

With the holidays fast approaching I ask the brethren to help me with December 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas luncheon or dinner. I am asking for gifts either for seniors in the homes or gifts for the mission. I have asked a brother from Coachella to assist with Santa Claus role. It is hope that the brethren will support this charitable event.

Need volunteers with food dishes (salads, desserts and such). Any suggestions are welcome.

**Stuart (Stu) Ryan, 32°  
Venerable Master**





## General Secretary



Brethren of Palm Springs Scottish Rite Valley,

Brethren, this is that time of the year and the month when we say Thank you....

Thank you for your service to Our Veterans.

We value your presence and are proud to have each, and every one of you as part of Our Valley, I want to wish each, and every one of you a wonderful Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our, spouses, girlfriends and significant others, for being there next to us and supporting us when we're taking time away from family and being at the Valley, either during meetings, preparations for events and our events.

I also want to say a special thanks to my Beautiful Wife of 25 years, "Naira" who is always next to me and supporting me with our Valleys events, she takes time off from her work (she is a teacher) to be here at the valley and help us with the events, big or small, she takes on the decoration of the dining hall and makes sure all details are done perfectly.

Let's all give a big Thank you to Our own Bro Leonard Kienzle 32°, for organizing and make it happen with the Feast of Tishri, he has become a professional at this, My Cap goes off at you, thank you for all you do for the Valley of Palm Springs Scottish Rite.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

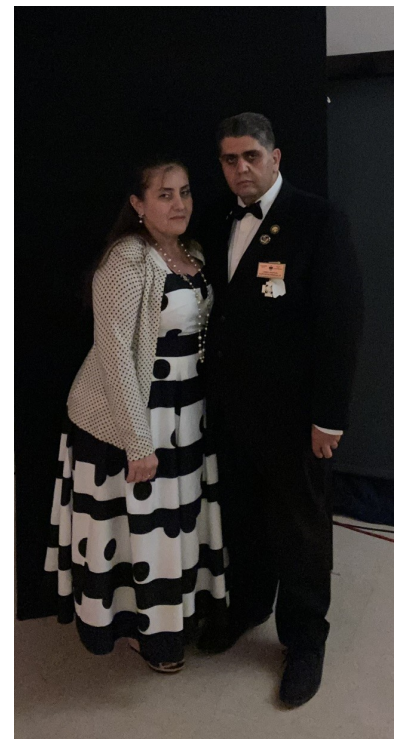
**With Fraternal Love,**

**Bro Raffi Hovhannisyan, 32°**

**General Secretary**

**Direct cell: (818) 515-6008**

**Email: [PSSRSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:PSSRSecretary@gmail.com)**



## Commander



As the year is closing and we are looking to the holidays, we look for joyous times with our families as well as our Masonic brethren. We have the 31<sup>st</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> degrees for your review.

### 31<sup>st</sup> Degree Inspector inquisitor

The title of this degree conveys the thoughts of self-examination. Every man, and more specifically every Mason, should meditate prayerfully, and soberly on his thoughts and act of the day. The wrongs of today must not be repeated on the morrow, for each day should add some light and truth for our guidance for the next, and then as time goes by, our characters should be so far above reproach, so filled with the love of our fellowman, that the world would instinctively say, "There is a good man, for he is a Mason." To correct the faults of others, to admonish with love and forbearance, is a duty we owe each other, but never to judge, for that is a divine prerogative alone.

### 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree prince of the Tabernacle

In this degree the crowning point is reached by those who have studied and thought. The Royal Secret, like the occult science of the ancients, is concealed even here – but remember; Faith begins where Reason sinks exhausted. "Magic, contrary to the belief of many, is but the absolute science of nature and its laws, hence the Star of Hope shines for us as truly as it did for the Wise Men of the East two thousand years ago. Today, as in the first days of the creation, the universal equilibrium still retains its predominant position in the eternal plan of the Omnipotent. Good and evil, right and wrong, justice and mercy, attraction and repulsion balance each other to teach us to remember ourselves as immortal souls, retaining for each other respect and charity and remembering always that each is slowly climbing to that state of perfection, the final goal of all.

Have a great Thanksgiving.

**Commander of Kadosh**

**Dave Hertzog**







## Greater Coachella Valley Childhood Language Center



Dear Brethren,

On behalf of the RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Coachella Valley Board of Trustees, we thank you for your generous contributions throughout the year.

Your continued financial support helps make it possible to keep our doors open and fund Ms Jessica, our new Speech and Language Pathologist serving youngsters who need our help.

Thanksgiving is a perfect time to remember our Language Center in your year end contributions and donations.

Please reach out to me to answer any questions regarding donations to our language center. Donations should be made out to the California Scottish Rite Foundation. Please remember to write RiteCare CLC of CV on the memo line so your donation goes to the correct location.

We are all volunteers in our quest to support our RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Coachella Valley.

Sincerely,

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Hon. Mark A. Flint, 32° KCCH,  
Chairman RiteCare CLC of CV  
Cell: 818 640-3014  
E-mail: [mflint49@yahoo.com](mailto:mflint49@yahoo.com)



# Application

**PETITION  
FOR  
DEGREES**

P.O. Box 3996  
Palm Desert, CA 92261  
DUES \$130.00/YR



**Palm Springs Valley  
Scottish Rite Bodies  
Serving the Coachella Valley  
and High Desert Areas**

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

ACK: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 READ: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ELECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

Do Not Send Money with this application  
**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT**

APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

Wife's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Middle Last

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street City State Zip

Blue Lodge & No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Raised: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (be specific): \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street City State Zip

Telephone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Business Mobile

I have resided in California for \_\_\_\_\_ years Cap Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Ring Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever petitioned for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees? \_\_\_\_\_

**I approve wholeheartedly of the following fundamental principles of the Supreme Council:**

“The inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to the principle of civil and religious liberty as set forth in the Constitution of the United States”

“The entire separation of Church and State and the opposition to every attempt to appropriate public monies – federal, state or local – directly or indirectly for the support of sectarian or private institutions.”

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

USUAL SIGNATURE

**Recommenders:**

(Two members of the Palm Springs Bodies in good standing who must personally sign the petition)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Address Address

Please send check with the amount of \$225.00 payable to:

Palm Springs Scottish Rite  
P.O. Box 3996  
Palm Desert, CA 92261

INITIATION FEES ARE: \$225.00

Events

FEAST OF TISHRI 2024





# Events

## FEAST OF TISHRI 2024



## Events

### FEAST OF TISHRI 2024



Events

FEAST OF TISHRI 2024





## Scottish Rite Dates 2024

Brethren, we have a New website [www.psscottishrite.org](http://www.psscottishrite.org) please check it out we will always have our latest "Voice" publication on the site. With all the activities we have planned for the year and much more.



January	24th - Installation of Officers 2024
February	18th - Sweethearts Lunch 28th - Stated Meeting
March	20th - Stated Meeting 27th - We will have a Remembrance and Renewal ceremony. This event is open to the public. And Reception of the Grand Master
April	6th - International Potluck Day 24th - Stated Meeting
May	22nd - Stated Meeting, Reception of Ill. Frank Loui, 33° PGM, SGIG Orient of California
June	22nd - BBQ Hamburger and Hot Dog Family Day (OES & Blue Lodge) 26th - Stated Meeting
July & August	- Dark
September	25th - Stated Meeting
October	19th - Feast of Tishri 23rd - Stated Meeting 24-26th - Grand Lodge Communications
November	9th - Thanksgiving Dinner (Include All Concordant Bodies) 20th - Stated Meeting (Nominations)
December	18th - Stated Meeting 21st - Christmas Party



# Language Center News



**Send Checks to:**

**42600 Cook Street, Suite 210  
Palm Desert, CA 92211**

## **RiteCare Childhood Language Center of Coachella Valley**

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

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

### **2024 SUPPORTERS**

#### **5 Star Club \$10,000 or more**

#### **3 Star Club \$5,000 or more**

- Palm Springs Valley Scottish Rite
- Desert Daylight Lodge #873

#### **1 Star Club \$1,000 or more**

- Gary Okamoto, DMD

#### **Grants**

- City of Indian Wells
- City of La Quinta

#### **President Circle Members**

**(A Donation of \$500 or more per year)**

- United Excavation Company

#### **365 Club Members**

**(A Donation of \$365 per year)**

- Dave & Terry Hertzing
- Arman & Ofelia Ordian

#### **Center Club Member**

**(A Donation of \$100 per year)**

- OES Chapter #360  
(In Memory of Jim Ridley 32°)
- Ill. Stuart Wright PGM
- Alex Vallejos
- Mark Flint
- Roy Pool
- Tiffany Wade
- Raffi & Naira Hovhannisyan
- Stu Ryan
- Roger Roberts

**There are two words that come from the board but even more so from the Children: THANK YOU!!**

# Happy Birthday!!

## November Birthday's

Gary Uichi Okamoto	6th
Randal Viscovich	6th
David Benton Whittaker	10th
Hector R. Minon, Jr.	12th
Major Frank Warren	13th
Roger Roberts Glen	14th



**We are always open to welcoming new candidates to the Valley of Palm Springs. Interested Masters Mason can contact me directly or let one of you know of their interest.**



## Message from Almoner

Dear Brethren,

It has been my honor to serve as your Almoner this past year.

Thank you for your continued support for Your Almoner Fund.

Your contributions, keep our Almoner Fund at the ready, to aid and assist those in financial hardship and distress.

At our October Stated Meeting, we collected \$57.00 for our Almoner Fund, which was deposited into our account.

Please reach out to me if I may be of assistance. All referrals to the Almoner Fund are completely confidential.

**Thank you,**

**Mark Flint, Almoner**

**Phone: 818 640-3014**

**E-mail: [mflint49@yahoo.com](mailto:mflint49@yahoo.com)**



**News from the Supreme Council**

**Master Craftsman Online College**

**[www.craftsmancollege.org](http://www.craftsmancollege.org)**

**Request Online Petition for your Valley**

**[www.scottishrite.jotform.com/](http://www.scottishrite.jotform.com/)**

**Scottish Rite Journal Podcast**

**Scottish Rite YouTube Channel**

**Scottish Rite Research Society**

**Scottish Rite Scholarship Info**

**2024 Officers**

**Palm Springs Scottish Rite  
2024 Officers**

Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G.

Ill. Arman Ordian, 33°

**LODGE OF PERFECTION**

Stu Ryan, 32°  
Thomas Johnson, 32°  
Leonard Kienzle, 32°  
Roy Pool, 32° KCCH

Venerable Master  
Senior Warden  
Junior Warden  
Orator

**CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX**

Bon Munar, 32°  
Richard Marrow, 32°  
Roger Roberts, 32°  
Robert Jacob, 32° KCCH (D)

Wise Master  
Senior Warden  
Junior Warden  
Orator

**COUNCIL OF KADOSH**

David Hertzling, 32°  
Nick Seneca, 32° KCCH  
Hector Minon, 32°  
Randy Viscovich, 32°  
Michael Gibson, 32°

Commander  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander  
Chancellor  
Orator

**CONSITORY**

Clint Atherton, 32°  
Daniel H Oates, 32° KCCH  
Gary Nersissian, 32°  
Ill. Mert Gayler, 33°  
Gary Okamoto, 32°

Master of Kadosh  
Prior  
Preceptor  
Chancellor  
Minister of State

**GENERAL OFFICERS SERVING ALL BODIES**

Raffi Hovhannisyan, 32°  
Daniel H Oates, 32° KCCH  
Michael J Sekera, 32° KCCH  
Shane DaCosta, 32° KCCH  
Mark Flint, 32° KCCH  
Kurt Handshuh, 32° KCCH

Secretary  
Asst. Secretary  
Treasurer  
Asst. Treasurer  
Almoner  
Captain of the Host

## PAST VENERABLE MASTERS

1984	*ILL. BEN LANE, 33°
1985	*Hon. RICHARD McDERMOTT, 32° KCCH
1986	*ILL. ALLAN CHAPNICK, 33°
1987	*ILL. HARRY ZEBRACK, 33°
1988	*ILL. CURTIS PAXMAN, 33°
1989	*ILL. BEN HACKEL, 33°
1990	*ILL. JOHN MAULE, 33°
1991	*ILL. CHARLES ASH, 33°
1992	*JACK KARTZINEL, 32°
1993	*Hon. JOE LA COST, 32° KCCH
1994	*Hon. LEN LENHOFF, 32° KCCH
1995	*ILL. NORMAN MANDEL, 33°
1996	*Hon. ED NORTON, 32° KCCH
1997	*ILL. LLOYD GRAY, 33°
1998	*ILL. DONALD SANDERS, 33°
2000	*Hon. HOWARD KOCHMAN, 32° KCCH
2001	*Hon. JOHN BOWLEY, 32° KCCH
2002	ILL. JOSEPH DiPUZO, 33°
2003-2004	Hon. ELBERT McKINNEY, 32° KCCH
2005	*Hon. HENRY KERCE, 32° KCCH
2006	ILL. JIM LEIGHTON, 33°
2007	*ILL. DAVE BERG, 33°
2008	*ILL. BILL HAWTHORNE, 33°
2009-2010	*Hon. STAN ADAMS, 32° KCCH
2011	ILL. MICHAEL POWELL, 33°
2012	ILL. ARMAN ORDIAN, 33°
2013	Hon. JAMES PETERSEN, 32°, KCCH
2014	Hon. KURT HANDSHUH, 32° KCCH
2015 -2016	Hon. SHANE DACOSTA, 32°, KCCH
2017	*Hon. ROBERT JACOB, 32°, KCCH
2018	Hon. DAN OATES, 32°, KCCH
2019-2020	Hon. MICHAEL J. SEKERA, 32°, KCCH
2021	Hon. ROY POOL, 32°, KCCH
2022	*JAMES RIDLEY, 32°
2023	HECTOR R. MINON Jr., 32°



\*DECEASED