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Orient of California

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October 2006

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The Days of Awe

By Ill. Melville H. Nahin, 33° PGM

On the first day of the seventh month, the month of Tishri on the Jewish calendar [usually coinciding with parts of September and October - this year Rosh Hashana on September 23 and Yom Kippur on October 2, 2006 - Ed.], people of the Jewish faith observe the beginning of the new year, Rosh Hashana, literally translated as the Head of the Year. It is a time for introspection and reflection, for it is said that on that day the Creator of us all writes in the Book of Life the story of what shall take place in the coming year, who will wax rich and who will be poor, who will be healthy and who will be ill.

And on the Day of Atonement which follows ten days later, the Book of Life for the forthcoming year will be sealed.

The period of ten days is often called the Days of Awe. They are the time for soul searching, for recognizing the sins which one has committed or omitted with respect to his relationship to his God... Forgiveness which is sought during these Days of Awe is a forgiveness from the Creator for the sins which we, as humans, have done to Him and in our

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Friday, October 13, 2006
Stated Meeting
Feast of Tishri and Lodge of
Perfection Festival

Dinner Reservations Required
1-323-937-2566

Tuesday, October 17, 2006
Advisory Conference
at Santa Monica

Feast of Tishri to be Featured

By Ill. William Nemo, 33°, Venerable Master

Under the direction of Sir Knight Ronald L. Koretz, 32° KCCH, Event Chairman, the annual Feast of Tishri will be celebrated. According to Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia, the Feast of Tishri corresponds to Thanksgiving and the Fall Harvest Festivals which have been held by many peoples throughout the ages.

Past Venerable Masters in atten-

dance at this meeting will be honored for their beneficial services to the Scottish Rite, SJ. Be sure to confirm your dinner reservations early.

As Edythe and I will be celebrating our 67th anniversary this month, we will be visiting our many friends in Honolulu, and take this opportunity to wish everyone "Much Aloha" for their best wishes and support.

This is a Mason's Work

By Ill. Sam Pitassi, 33°, P.R.

Although Masonic ritual varies between jurisdictions, a consistent message conveyed to every candidate is that charity is an essential part of Freemasonry. From this philosophy comes much of a 'Mason's Work', given freely and willingly. Charity comes in many forms, large and small, local and private.

Nowhere else is it more evident than at the Los Angeles Scottish Rite. On the last page of this Bulletin, you will find the names of Brethren and Ladies who donated to our local philanthropies - the Scottish Rite Museum, the Almoners Fund and the Childhood Language Disorders Clinic.

Donations to the Scottish Rite Museum maintain our Museum at our building at 4357 Wilshire Blvd. If you have not had the opportunity to visit, I hope you find time some day. We have had many artifacts donated over the years and you can see them all on display at the Museum.

The Almoner's Fund helps distressed worthy Brethren and their Widows in time of need. This we are

able to do through the donations of our members. The actions of the Almoner are private so the recipient feels no embarrassment.

There is no need to remind you of the great work of our CLDC. The amazing results achieved by this remarkable language clinic can be witnessed every time you visit. Please continue your support.

If you have not yet done so, please remember your Mason's Work and contribute what you can. Every penny goes to the philanthropy you choose. All are good

Friday, October 20, 2006
28°
Knight of the Sun
Old Ritual

Dinner Reservations Required —
1-323-937-2566

Friday, October 27, 2006
31°
Inspector Inquisitor

The Days of Awe

(Continued From page 1)

dealings with Him. We do not believe that He will cleanse the sins that we have committed against our fellowmen. In turn we must realize and rededicate ourselves to atoning for the sins of man to man by making retribution and dealing fairly with our own fellowmen by indeed being brothers to them.

Our own Masonic vows were given only after being assured that they would not interfere with the duty we owe to God, our country, our neighbour or ourselves. It is not easy to examine oneself and admit one's errors and to pray for forgiveness. Yet in the Judaic tradition, the privilege is given to us to strip ourselves of what we know is injurious and harmful to ourselves, our families and our fellowmen, and to return to a course of positive action that will give us in our own eyes, satisfaction and gratification.

Rosh Hashana, in the traditional

usage, is observed two days during which those of the Jewish faith gather in the synagogue or temple and by deep introspection realize the seriousness and the necessity of doing that which is right to one's fellowman and in keeping faith with Him who rules and guides our lives.

We are taught that during the Ten Days of Patience which take place from the first day of Rosh Hashana to the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, this evaluation must take place and in order to avert the punishment of God, we must repent, pray and do good deeds. We must in effect account for our souls,

On Yom Kippur, Jews traditionally fast, having no food or liquid from the sundown preceding the Holy Day, to sundown of the following day. This is not to say that if one does not fast, it would be a deep sin before our Maker; neither does it suggest that for one to fast will in effect give you a "star" next to your name. It is a belief, it is a selfdiscipline whereby we as individuals seek to recognize that we are involved in introspection and in rededication, It is a time when all earthly pursuits are put aside and if no other day in our lives belongs to our Deity, that day, Yom Kippur most certainly does.

Put very simply Rosh Hashana. is the anniversary of the creation of the world, and all its inhabitants are judged anew and given an opportunity to accept the Kingship of God for the years to come. But as serious, and oftentimes melancholy, as these Holy Days may be, they are indeed days also of happiness and fond memories, recalling to our minds the great traditions and hopes of our people, recalling to our minds our identification with the great Jehovah.

During the ceremonies of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, a ram's horn known as a shofar is blown pursuant to specific notes that our readers recite. It is the oldest, most primitive wind instrument. It reminds us of the biblical story of Isaac being placed on the altar by Abraham and his place as part of the sacrifice being taken by the ram furnished by the angel of God. It reminds us of the

giving of the Law at Mount Sinai which was punctuated by blasts of the ram's horn. The walls of Jericho tumbled, we are told, as the shofar waxed, and we in our Jewish tradition believe that the same holy notes will herald the final coming of the Messiah. The shofar calls to each and every one of us reminding us of our heritage and our strength...

Judaism takes for granted that all humans are prone to sin . . . But this does not mean that man is burdened with sin from birth. It implies, however, that when we fail to do right, we must make amends... In Hebrew there really is no word for sin. The word "het" which is utilized for the word "sin" translates as "distance." The word for repentance is "tshuva" which literally means "return."

So you made a boo-boo? Trespaced :the will of God? So you have

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**COURT OF HONOUR
DINNER**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

**Donation \$35
per Person**

**AT THE
SCOTTISH RITE
CATHEDRAL**


4357 WILSHIRE BLVD.

LOS ANGELES

RESERVATIONS

1-323-937-2566

**Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.**



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ALLEGIANCE

The bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of Los Angeles, Orient of California, acknowledge the authority and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon, of the Thirty-third and last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose See is at the Grand Orient of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, now sitting at Washington, D.C., of which Illustrious RONALD A. SEALE, 33° is Sovereign Grand Commander.

The Days of Awe

(Continued from Page 2)

created distance between you and God, God still loves you just as the parents still love the child who has committed errors in spite of the distance which he has created... He has also created us with weaknesses and has placed us in the cosmic gym designed to transform those weaknesses into strengths... If, after all this, we still make mistakes, we commit the same sins, we recognize still that God, among his other attributes, is act patient and he will wait for lie if only we try, if only we attempt to make amends. If we do not, if we make no attempt to sincerely repent our atonement, repentance is for naught.

As we think about it, there is a great similarity in this regard between the Jewish concept of atonement and the Christian of faith as the means of salvation. Adam and Eve fell not because they distanced themselves from God by error, but rather their fall was their failure to get back up again. Indeed, the lesson of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur is a simple one. Man is human. Man commits error. Therefore both God and his fellowman will forgive him if he seeks to make amends. But those amends must, indeed, be with a sincere effort to better oneself, to practice the law of his Creator.

Is this not also the teaching of our Masonic fraternity? As we think of each other's customs, we appreciate all the more how universal the philosophy of Freemasonry really is. And perhaps that's why we're all so very pleased and proud to be a part of it. We are indeed brothers, the children of the ever-living, Father. So may I say to you, as we of the Jewish faith say to one another at this Holy season, "May you be inscribed for a happy new year."

Think About It!

By Ron Koretz, 32° K.C..C.H.

A year ago, New Orleans was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. That tragedy was followed by an enormous outpouring of aid from Americans all over the country, particularly emergency aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA. In recognition of the first anniversary, the media has focused attention on the fraud that accompanied the doling out of the FEMA funds. We are reliving such stories as money being sent to prisoners or to people who used the money for seemingly unrelated and often frivolous reasons (e.g., sex-change operations, jewelry, vacations).

By and large the media has been very critical of the FEMA officials who "allowed this all to happen". While those officials do have to bear responsibility for their actions, I have been perplexed as to why there has been no commentary or investigation into another aspect of these events.

The media was able to find out about certain individuals who perpetrated these actions. Since they did, it would seem to me that, in most of these cases, other people who were acquaintances of the perpetrators also knew what was happening. My question to those people is why didn't they do something?

We live in a society that requires each of us to be responsible for making sure that that society works. The media regularly places blame on individuals who collaborate with terrorists (by hiding them, financing them, or simply by remaining silent about their future activities) in other parts of the world. Why are we (as reflected by our news media) tolerant of such behavior when it happens at home?

It does take some strength of character to "rat" on your "friends". However, if we fail to do so, we make the situation worse. The Unabomber, Ted Kaczynski, was finally brought to justice when his own brother turned him in. In order for society to work, it takes more

Calendar

VALLEY OF LOS ANGELES
Santa Monica Masonic Hall
 926 Santa Monica Blvd.,
 Santa Monica, Ca.
 Phone 1-323-937-2566

CALENDAR OF EVENTS October 2006

Friday, October 13, 2006

Stated Meeting and Feast of Tishri
 and Lodge of Perfection Festival
 Stated Meeting: 7 p.m. — Dinner: 7:30 p.m.
 (Reservations Required, cost \$12.50)
 Menu: TBA

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

LASR Advisory Conference
 Santa Monica Masonic Center
 "Riviera Room" — 7 p.m.

Friday, October 20, 2006

28° — Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept
 Dinner 7 p.m.
 (Reservations Required, cost \$7.00)

Friday, October 27, 2006

31° — Inspector Inquisitor
 Dinner 7 p.m.
 (Reservations Required, cost \$7.00)

Sunday, November 5, 2006

Court of Honour Dinner
 4357 Wilshire Blvd.
 (Reservations Required, cost \$35.00)

Friday, 10, 2006

Stated Meeting and Reception of Deputy
 Stated Meeting: 7 p.m. — Dinner: 7:30 p.m.
 (Reservations Required, cost \$12.50)
 Menu: TBA

Knights Of St. Andrew
Stated Meetings
 First Friday of the Month
 7 p.m. — Riviera Room
 Contact Jim Meyer —1-310-420-4320

than just doing the right thing ourselves. We have to hold others to the same standard and, when they fail, we need to whisper good council in their ears. That good council should be that we will not tolerate bad behavior from them.

Think about it.

CLDC CONTRIBUTORS

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Clinicians of our Language Center we express our heartfelt thanks to those who have helped to keep our center operating.

- Ralph Dunn & Ruth Benveniste in loving memory of Patricia A Hart
- Ralph & Vi Fellows in loving memory of Lester Bullock
- Ralph & Vi Fellows in loving memory of Charles Nemoy
- Melville & Alice Nahin in celebration of Michael Newfield's 70th birthday
- William & Edythe Nemoy in loving memory of Richard C Hart
- William & Edythe Nemoy in loving memory of Patricia A Hart
- William & Edythe Nemoy in celebration of Michael Newfield's 70th Birthday
- Donaldo E Robinson Sr in loving memory of Lester Bullock
- Donaldo E Robinson Sr in loving memory of Richard Hart
- William & Vi Rogister Jr in loving memory of Mary Brooks
- William & Vi Rogister Jr in loving memory of Wilma Hadsell
- William & Vi Rogister Jr in loving memory of E Dale Peck
- Phillip D Ahlgrim Murray Barnett
- Michael Bear Ralph S Dunn
- Robert L Exline Jack Jay
- Rodney W Lumm Everett W Maguire
- Curtis Mason Ronald R Sarlot
- Blackie Passarelli William Rogister Jr
- Donaldo E Robinson Sr Morris Stark
- George L Matuskey



Pictured with III. Bill Nemoy, III. Ron Hopkins and III. Sam Pitassi are the new members from the August 19, 2006 Reunion Class. Brandon Millan, Ashgar Partstabar, John Maraga, Amir Baeherezadeh, Mohamed Tehranirad, Brandon Davis, David Harvilicz, Richard Bird, Anthony Fox, Arshavir Grigorian, Ardeshir Haerizadeh.

Donations to Almoner's Fund

- Michael Bear Ralph M Fellows
- John L Holman Ira Kanarek
- Rodney Lumm Jack Jay
- Edward Parrott Donaldo E Robinson Sr.
- Robert A Roos Ronald R Sarlot
- William J Rogister Jr

Donations to the Museum

- Phillip D Ahlgrim Rodney Lumm
- Everett W Maguire Ronald R Sarlot
- Donaldo E Robinson Sr Jack Jay

IN MEMORIAM

- Donald Walton Bloeser 33°
- Richard Charles Hart 33°
- Everett Dale Peck 33°
- Robert Crigler 33°
- Jimmie Gust Beebe
- Milton Jacob Bronstein
- Ira Burton Carpe
- Irving Joseph Cohen
- Curtis Conway Gibson
- Asghar Homayounfar
- Joseph John Kollar
- Sidney Hyman Lavine
- David Theodore Schumacher
- Eugene Silver
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