

# C HATTIESBURG VALLEY COMMUNICATOR

September 2023

## Master Calendar

- 1.6.23 — KSA Meeting #1/ Ex. Bd
- 1.24.23 — Degree Team Conferral of MM (See Jason)
- 2.3.23 — Robert Burns Dinner / Meeting of 33rds
- 3.3.23 — 14th Degree
- 4.1.23 — Gulfport Spring Reunion
- 4.7.23 — Cerm. of Rem. and Renewal
- 5.5.23 — Black Hat Ceremony / KSA Meeting #2
- 6.2.23 — Fst. of Consist / Ex. Bd
- 7.7.23 — Gordian Knott Bus. Meeting / KSA Meeting #3
- 8.4.23 — Fst. of Manifesto
- 8.21-23.23 — Biennial Session — Washington DC
- 9.1.23 — Guest Speaker / Proposition Night
- 9.8-9.23 — Honors Weekend - Tupelo
- 10.6.23 — Feast of Tishri / KSA Meeting #4
- 10.7.23 — Gulfport Fall Reunion
- 11.3.23 — Election / Black Hat / Annual Awards
- 12.1.23 — Installation / Christmas

## Sickness and Distress

- Bro. Freddie Zehner – arthritis and pain
- Bro. Michael Baker's wife - lung transplant
- Unspoken Bro. - undergoing cancer treatment
- Bro. Paul Williams – broken leg

*Please contact Chaplain Gerald Griffin with any reports. 601-543-7219*

**MASONIC EDUCATION**  
GUEST SPEAKER - SEPTEMBER 1, 2023  
HATTIESBURG SCOTTISH RITE

**ILL. WAYNE SIRMON, 33°**  
AUTHOR & ADJUNCT PROFESSOR  
UNIV. OF MOBILE IN ALABAMA

## At a Glance

*Guest Speaker – Bro. Wayne Sirmon  
&  
Proposition Night*

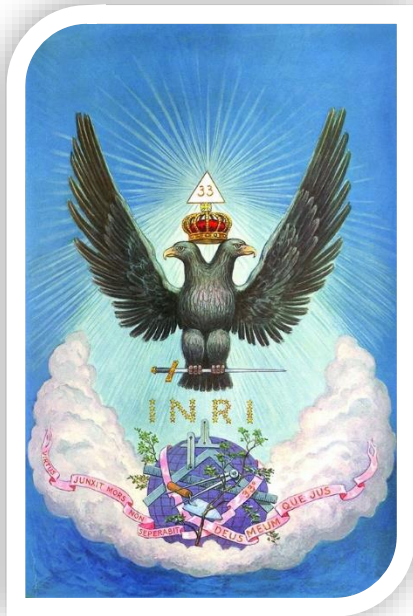
## Lost in the Quarry

We have not seen or heard from you and miss you! If you have any information about these Brethren, please contact the Secretary.

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| David Bassett   | Victor Mann        |
| Ryan Boyd       | Joe Parkman        |
| Wayde Byrd      | Paul Jones         |
| Brian Childs    | David Schwandt     |
| Mark Forte      | Tim Schwandt       |
| Joseph Galey    | David Earl Stewart |
| Russell Hembree | Harold Whiteman    |
| Stacey Williams |                    |

## Birthdays

- |                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Randy Grant Pierce      | 4-Sep  |
| Michael Mapp            | 4-Sep  |
| Robert Mathis Stone     | 5-Sep  |
| John Girard Guthrie     | 6-Sep  |
| Lewis R Zehner          | 6-Sep  |
| Ronald Maurice Fairley  | 7-Sep  |
| Semmes Stacey Williams  | 10-Sep |
| Michael Franklin Hilbun | 10-Sep |
| James Monroe Howard     | 12-Sep |
| Robert Harvey Blanton   | 13-Sep |
| Cassie Morris Watts     | 13-Sep |
| James Kevin Lecount     | 14-Sep |
| Vaughn Raymond Martin   | 18-Sep |
| Jimmy Dale Williams     | 20-Sep |
| Michael Andrew Ward     | 20-Sep |
| La-Dean Anthony Byrd    | 20-Sep |
| William Logan Pruitt    | 22-Sep |
| James Rayburn Williams  | 24-Sep |
| Jeremy Scott Welford    | 26-Sep |
| Herman Ray Howard       | 29-Sep |



### Education Presentations

January	Lamar Sullivan
February	Other Activities
March	Substitute
April	Christopher Rounsevell
May	Lester Ivy
June	Other
July	Other
August	Matthew Clark
September	Wayne Sirmon
October	Arthur Patrick
November	Mike McKenzie
December	Gabe Churchwell



### Message from the Venerable Master - Masonic Labor

In Masonic circles we constantly here the word Labor. What is Labor? One definition says that having difficulty in doing something despite working hard is labor. Here it is September eve, farmers will be laboring for the winter months ahead, children will be laboring with their school assignments, and we as Masons with continue with our Masonic Labor.

We have all seen it written that Masonic Labor is a labor of love. Those who expect wages of silver and gold will be disappointed. Our wages are earned by our dealings with each other. Sympathy begets sympathy, kindness begets kindness and helpfulness begets helpfulness.

The XXIX Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite portrays the Symbolism of Labor. It is one of the most beautiful features of the Masonic Institution that it teaches not only the necessity, but the nobility, of labor. Among the earliest of the implements in whose emblematic use it instructs its neophytes is the Trestle Board, the acknowledged symbol of the Divine Law, in accordance with whose decree 199 labor was originally instituted as the common lot of all; and therefore, the important lesson that is closely connected with this symbol is, that to labor well and truly, to labor honestly and persistently, is the object and the chief end of all humanity.

To work out well the task that is set before us is our highest duty, and should constitute our greatest happiness. All men, then, must have their trestle boards; for the principles that guide us in the discharge of our duty--the schemes that we devise--the plans that we propose--are but the trestle board, whose designs we follow, for good or for evil, in our labor of life. Earth works with every coming spring, and within its prolific bosom designs the bursting seed, the tender plant, and the finished tree, upon its trestle board.

Old ocean works forever--restless and murmuring--but still bravely working; and storms and tempests, the purifiers of stagnant nature, are inscribed upon its trestle board.

And God himself, the Grand Architect, the Master Builder of the world, has labored from eternity; and working by his omnipotent will, he inscribes his plans upon illimitable space, for the universe is his trestle board.

Be diligent in the pursuit of building your own spiritual temple. The plan laid on the trestle board reflective of the Supreme Architect is irrelevant without the fine work of its craftsmen. To capture the full beauty of your creator's design, one must meticulously and faithfully apply each lesson to their life. Only then, can a Mason relish in the true glory of our fraternity and brotherhood.



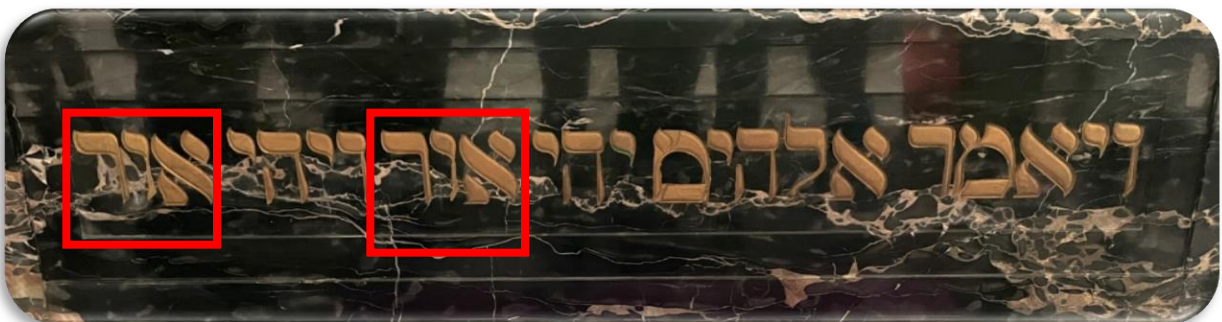
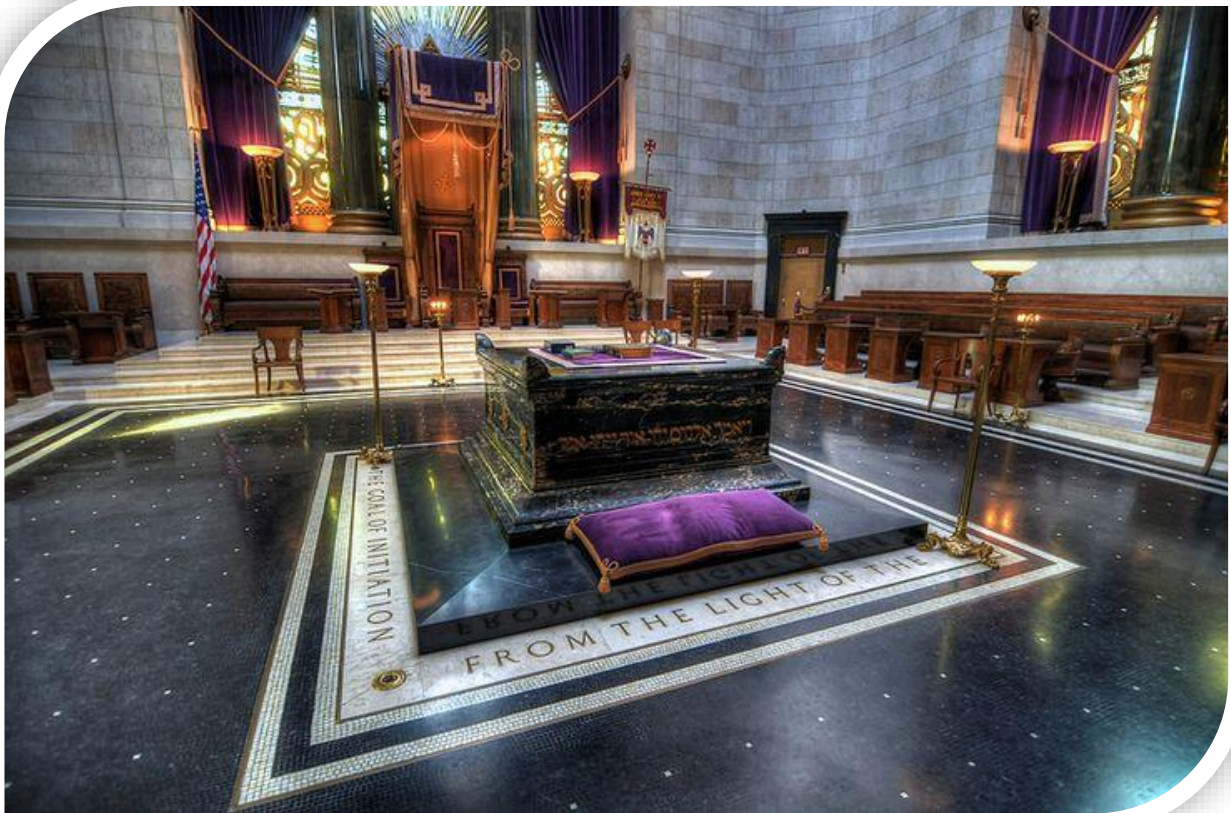
S&F,  
Arthur Patrick  
Venerable Master



Educationally Speaking



Do you know what is written in Hebrew on the altar of in the Temple Room at the House of the Temple?



<https://scottishrite.org/blog/virtualtour/temple-room/>

## Kabbalah Corner

### On the Hebrew word “light” from Genesis 1:14

(Elohim) in the name יהוה (YHVH), realizing they are one, indivisible. This is the mystery written: *Let there be מארת (me’orot), lights, in the expanse of heaven to shine upon earth* (Genesis 1:14–15), that the two names be one, with absolutely no division—that מארת (me’orot), lights, spelled deficiently, merge in the name of heaven.<sup>636</sup> one together and indivisible, black light with white light,<sup>637</sup> indivisible, and all is one. [12b] This is the white cloud of day and the cloud of fire in the night,<sup>638</sup> as they have said: ‘Quality of day and quality of night’<sup>639</sup>—to be arrayed by each other to shine, as is said: *to shine upon earth.*

84

633. *Let the earth sprout vegetation* The verse continues: —*seed-bearing plants, fruit trees of every kind on earth bearing fruit with the seed in it.*

634. *fourth commandment* Linked with the fourth day of Creation, on which God said *Let there be lights in the expanse of heaven* (Genesis 1:14).

635. יהוה (YHVH) is האלהים (ha-Elohim), God Rabbi Shim’on is alluding to the first line of the *Shema*, discussed above, which contains both these names and concludes with the word *one*. In rabbinic literature the two names represent the divine qualities of compassion and justice, respectively. See *Sifrei*, Deuteronomy 26; *Bereshit Rabbah* 12:15; 33:3; and 13:3, where יהוה (YHVH Elohim) is called “a complete name.”

In Kabbalah the two names often designate *Tiferet* and *Shekhinah*, who are essentially one and should not be separated. See *Zohar* 1:4a, 20a, 48b, 91a; 2:161a, 229a; 3:138b (IR); ZH 70d (ShS).

636. מארת (me’orot) ... deficiently ... In Genesis 1:14, the word מארת (me’orot) is written without vavs, the vowel letters. This deficient spelling is interpreted as alluding to *Shekhinah*, the moon, who is incomplete without Her partner, *Tiferet*, sun or heaven.

See Proverbs 3:33; JT *Ta’anit* 4:4, 68b; *Pesiqta de-Rav Kahana* 5:1; *Soferim* 17:4; Rashi and *Minhat Shai* on Genesis 1:14; *Zohar* 1:1a, 19b, 33b.

On the diminution of the moon, see BT *Hullin* 60b: “Rabbi Shim’on son of Pazzi pointed out a contradiction. ‘It is written: *God made the two great lights* (Genesis 1:16), and it is written: *the greater light... and the lesser light* (ibid.). The moon said before the blessed Holy One, “Master of the Universe! Can two kings possibly wear one crown?” He answered, “Go, diminish yourself!” ...”

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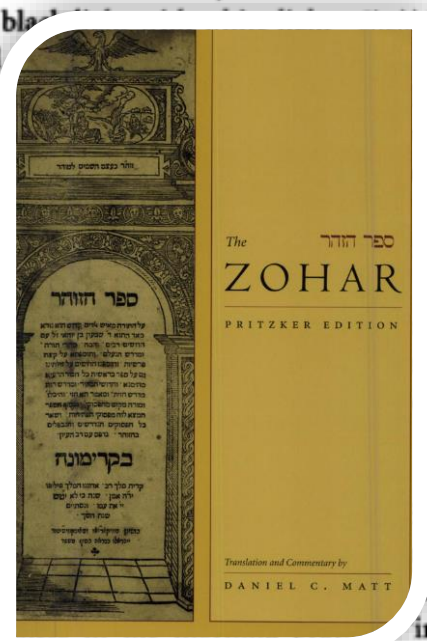
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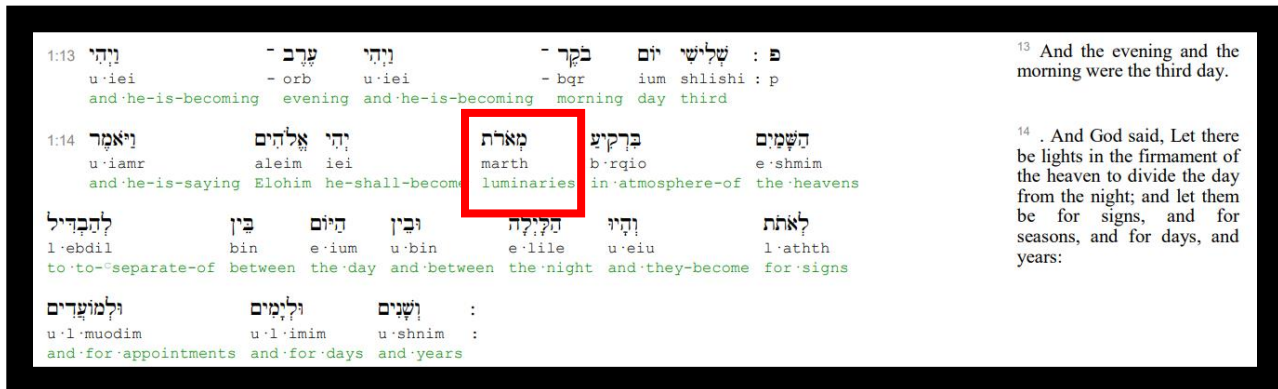
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*Berakho*

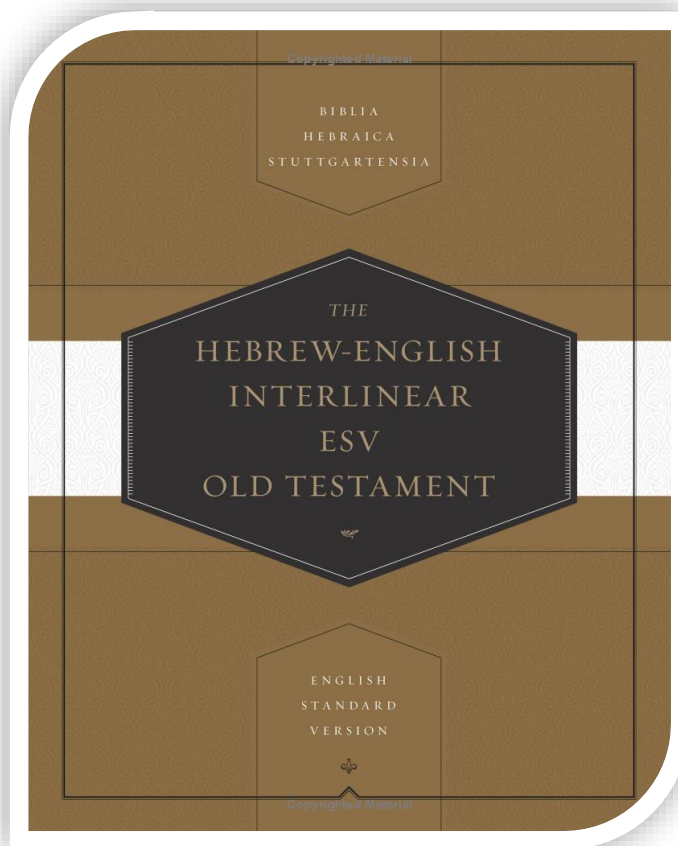
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There are several resources available online and in print that can aid a student of the Bible in delving deeper into the actual Hebrew text of scripture.<sup>1</sup> Even without a background in Hebrew, an interlinear Bible can help with a better understanding of what is being said. For example, while an English Bible may simply say “God said,” with an interlinear Bible, one can see whether it is El, Elohim, or YHVH speaking. Here is a popular print Bible available on Amazon that preserves the right-to left reading of the Hebrew with a modern ESV translation on the right margin.



<https://a.co/d/768nPjF>

<sup>1</sup> The Old Testament shown above is available for free here - [https://www.scripture4all.org/OnlineInterlinear/Hebrew\\_Index.htm](https://www.scripture4all.org/OnlineInterlinear/Hebrew_Index.htm)

**Message from the Personal Representative to the SGIG,  
Hattiesburg Valley, Lane Dossett, 33°**



The Biennial Session of the Supreme Council in Washington D.C. was truly an amazing time! Words cannot express the amount of fun, fellowship, and education our Valley enjoyed. I am pleased to report that our Valley had the most members present out of the whole Orient! This year was also the best attended for the Orient in known history! As far as I know, everyone from Hattiesburg had a very memorable experience, and they plan to go back again. Hopefully, our participation will only grow from here. I wish to express appreciation for the Valley in assisting with the registration fees for those that attended by helping with the Valentine's Day Auction and to our SGIG, Ill. Bill Sloan, and his Lady, Karen, who were excellent hosts and ensured that a good time was had by all. Here are a few pictures from the session.











See the Orient's website for more photos:  
<https://scottishritems.org/photo-gallery#9430767b-8a9b-44f4-828b-fbde0c4f6ac1>

### Valley Ambassadors

Beaumont	Art Patrick	601-508-2978
Bowie	Xerxes Herrington	703-341-9588
Bunker Hill	Larry Robinson	601-603-0139
Carly	Jiles Grice	601-731-2295
Ellisville	Duane Mitchell	601-433-5229
Enon	Shane White	601-689-7784
Fairmont	Lester Ivy	601-466-0678
Hattiesburg	Rex Hasty	601-658-2048
Hub City	Rex Hasty	601-658-2048
JM Bradley	Jason Jefcoat	601-580-4857
Leakesville	Chris Rounsaville	601-525-7697
Liberty	Kenny Willingham	601-600-5122
Lucedale	Dickey Dickerson	601-947-2293
Moses Cook	Joe Vawters	601-798-1501
Mt. Carmal	Jiles Grice	601-731-2295
Mystic Tie	Jay Morris	901-247-8028
Ovett	Jason Jefcoat	601-580-4857
Petal	Lane Dossett	601-543-5273
Richton	Shane White	601-689-7784
Sanford	Bobby Hebert	601-517-3261
Sherrard Byrd	Tom Cumberland	601-463-2485
St. Alban	Jiles Grice	601-731-2295
Summit	Kenny Willingham	601-600-5122

### Links

GroupMe Group Texting:

[https://groupme.com/join\\_group/68986319/OI4jIKX2](https://groupme.com/join_group/68986319/OI4jIKX2)

Valley Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/hattiesburgsr>

Orient Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/msscottishrite>

Orient Website

<https://scottishriteitems.org/>

Online Petition

<https://scottishrite.jotform.com/212843415672961>

### Volunteer Help Wanted

Social Media Manager / Content Creators  
Articles for Communicator

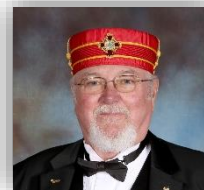
### Candidate Proposals

SEC. 7. Any qualified person residing within the territorial jurisdiction of this Supreme Council may be **proposed** at any Stated Meeting of a Body under its jurisdiction by proposition in writing, signed by one member and seconded by another, also in writing. Such proposition may be made without the knowledge of the person proposed. A Body may, by its bylaws, require candidates to apply for Degrees by petition in writing.

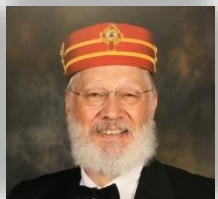
### Officers



Art Patrick, 32° KCCH  
Venerable Master  
601-508-2978



Larry Robinson, 32° KCCH  
General Secretary  
601-603-0139



Rex Hasty, 32° KCCH  
Wise Master  
601-658-2048



Lane Dossett, 33°  
Personal Representative  
601-543-5273

Dickie Dickerson, 32° KCCH  
Commander  
601-947-2293



Michael Baker, 32° KCCH  
Master of Kadosh  
601-323-6303



Xerxes Herrington, 32° KCCH  
Treasurer  
703-341-9588

## Upcoming York Rite Activities

- ~~2.11.23 – Festival in Tupelo~~
- ~~2.18.23 – Festival in Laurel (cancelled)~~
- ~~3.16.23 – Grand Lodge~~
- ~~4.29.23 – St. Jude RCC~~
- ~~5.19.23 – Grand York Rite~~
- ~~6.10.23 – SE YR Conference~~
- ~~(postponed) – Festival in Meridian~~
- ~~7.8.23 – Knight Masons in Gulfport~~
- ~~7.15.23 – YR College in Byram~~
- ~~7.23.23 – St. Jude RCC~~
- ~~8.23.23 – Festival in Gulfport~~
- ~~5.19.23 – Grand York Rite~~
- ~~6.10.23 – SE YR Conference~~
- ~~6.24.23 – Festival in Meridian~~
- ~~7.8.23 – Knight Masons in Gulfport~~
- ~~7.15.23 – YR College in Byram & St. Leonard RCC~~
- ~~8.23.23 – Festival in Gulfport~~
- **9.23.23 – Festival in Meridian**
- 9.30.23 – St. Jude RCC
- 12.2.23 – St. Jude RCC
- 12.16.23 – St. Leonard RCC

