



Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite

Taipei Bodies News

Orient of Taiwan, on which the sun never sets

Newsletter #36, January 2020

A word from the Venerable Master

Dear Brethren,



This month started in sorrow in the Taipei valley with the departure of Illustrious Kok Cheong Cheah a high figure in Malaysian Freemasonry. I present my sincere condolences to his family and to all Malaysian brothers. We shall miss him.

Life continues and we are preparing the Spring Reunion in Kuala Lumpur, an opportunity to pay a last homage to KC. I hope to see you there.

We are at the eve of the Year of the Rat, and I wish you and your family an Happy and prosperous New Year

Fraternally yours,

Charles Teng,
Venerable Master

The Year of the Rat

The first animal who arrived was the Rat

The Rat is the first of all zodiac animals. In Chinese culture, rats were seen as a sign of wealth and surplus. Because of their reproduction rate, married couples also prayed to them for children. Rats are clever, quick thinkers; successful, but content with living a quiet and peaceful life.

The Rat is the resourceful leader of the pack. As the Chinese say, even in times of scarcity, Rats somehow always know where sacks of grain can be found. They are intelligent, energetic, and can adapt to any situation, solving each problem with



ease. It is no wonder that these remarkably resourceful creatures are the supreme opportunists and arch survivors of the Animal Signs.

People born in the year of the Rat like to be ahead of the game. They are restless and inquisitive, and their minds are constantly on the go. They are also happy homemakers. They put the comfort of themselves and their families above fashions and the latest trends. They rejoice in their family and home. Blessed with inventive minds, they are known for living by their wits. Whatever they do, the members of the Rat Sign will bring innovation and fresh insight to their work.

The year of the Rat is auspicious for all new beginnings. It is a time to turn over a new leaf and take a fresh look at the world. Spirits rise and market economies begin to show an upward turn. Let us all gear for another successful year of our lives!

Scottish Knight of St Andrew

Death before dishonor



This degree is the second of Chivalric order, and prepare the 14th degree, Knight of Kadosh. It emphasizes the knightly and heroic virtues: humility, patience, self-denial, charity, clemency, generosity, virtue, truth and honor. These are the nine great lights which distinguish the Scottish Knight of St Andrew. The degree features the end of the Templar order, describing the arrest of Templars in 1307, their escape to Scotland, and participation to the battle of Bannockburn between Scots and English, in 1314, while the same year the Grand Master Jacques de Molay was burned alive.

The King Robert Bruce created the Order of St Andrew to receive the remaining knights Templars.

The main symbol of this degree is the X-shaped Saint Andrew Cross. According to the legend St Andrew did not want to suffer his martyrdom on the Latin cross as Jesus.

Spring Reunion 2020

The 2020 Spring Reunion is fixed on May 1st and 2nd in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The venue selected by or Malaysian Brothers is Royal Chulan Damansara Hotel. Detailed information will be communicated in due time.

- 4th Degree	- Malaysia (East) Malaysia - David Shen
- 14th Degree	- India / Singapore / Malaysia - Umashankar
- 18th Degree	- Malaysian / Hong Kong (West Malaysia) -
Lee Kok Choong	
- 29th Degree	- India - Umashankaer
- 30th Degree	- India / Malaysia - Bharat Epur
- 32nd Degree	- Thailand confirmed - Christopher Moore

Dues 2020

Still 242 members are late in Dues payment, 73 for 2020 (payable before end of 2019), and 169 with more arrears.

Payment can be made

- Online in US\$ only, the best way (<http://scottishrite.org/Pay your Dues>) **the best way**, or
- by bank transfer to the following account
Megabank International Commercial Bank
Account Holder: Claude Robert Soucaille
Account Number: 021-10-42184-9
Swift Code: ICBCTWTP021
- or in cash.

We are sorry not to accept any more payment by check as they are rejected by our US bank.

Goodbye



We are sad to announce the departure for the Grand Lodge above of our Illustrious Brother Cheah Kok Cheong. He was a very important member of the Malaysian Freemasonry. He joined the Taipei Valley in 1982, was invested Knight Commander Court of Honour in 1993, and coroneted Inspector General Honorary in 1997. He played a great role in our Reunions and was very instrumental for hosting our next one in Kuala Lumpur.

Our heartfelt condolences to the family and love ones on this sudden departure. His absence will be sadly missed by many.

Contribute to our letter

Contribute to the life of our Valley, send your contribution to
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