



Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia
AlexandriaScottishRite.org



Scottish Rite Bulletin

November – December 2025

Moving On

III. Norman L. Hoff, Jr., Personal Representative of the SGIG in VA

As I prepare for my “retirement” as our SGIG’s representative at Alexandria Valley, I will summarize what I have found to be an enormously rewarding experience. My role of representing our SGIG and keeping him informed of our Valley’s activities, also included a focus on the current and projected health of our Valley. I’m pleased to report that our Valley’s health is excellent, and we are indebted to all those who demonstrated the willingness and ability to carry on with the old while creating and doing new things.



Valley leaders have worked to excite the Brothers - to communicate to them thoughts on the joys and rewards of Masonry, the Rite and our Brotherhood. Our Brothers are easily enjoyed - they have amazing talents, interests, and abilities. Many have leapt at the opportunities presented to shine and to share with others their many gifts. I have relied on our KCCH Honourmen, who have demonstrated not only their abilities but their concern for the Valley and for the Rite, and sought to identify those newer Brothers who have looked for opportunities to contribute their time, skills and enthusiasm. It has been especially gratifying to see so many step forward and assume new tasks and responsibilities. I also value and have relied heavily on our Valley’s senior leadership - those Illustrious Brothers who have demonstrated their unwavering interest in and dedication to Scottish Rite Freemasonry over the years.

At this point on the calendar, it is always good to look back on our activities. I find, in retrospect, many good things and, while there might always be opportunities for even greater success, this past year has been an outstanding one. Consider the following notes selected from among many more:

- In **January**, Bro. Bob Tallent, 32°, crafted, introduced and has since, maintained the Knight of the Double Eagle Award (KDEA) program promoting participation in Valley activities. Quite a few of our members have qualified for initial awards and will be so recognized at our Annual Awards Dinner in January 2026.
- In **February**, Brothers Mike Bible, then KCCH/now 33° and Ralph Sheppard, KCCH, along with DC Valley’s Brother Milos Jankovic, 32°, conducted a 50 year Veteran’s Award hospital bed-side presentation to Brother David Vuich, KCCH, as a courtesy to the Valley of Los Angeles, CA. Bro. Vuich was noted for his recognition in his native Serbia, as well as in the U.S. as a Serbian participant in the Apollo space mission and as a NASA Project Coordinator. Bro. Vuich laid down his working tools soon following the Veteran presentation.
- In **March**, Bro. Tyler Vanice, 32°, coordinated the renewal, reorganization and growth of our library holdings, including the significant acquisition of some 600 books from Mt. Wor. and Ill. Jim Golladay’s donation of his personal Masonic library.
- In **April**, as the coordinator of our 2025 College and Trade School Scholarship Awards, Bro. Eric LeHew, KCCH, oversaw our Valley’s scholarship selections of **11** Award Recipients, plus an additional **ten** awards funded separately in support of the Grand Lodge of Virginia’s scholarship program.

(Continued on Page 2.)

Moving On

- In the **April-May** timeframe, Bro Aaron Irving, 32°, our ROTC/JROTC Coordinator completed coordination with the participating schools and aligning eight Brothers with 14 Outstanding Cadet Award presentations. Thanks go to Brothers Jay Patterson, KCCH, Jim Kraut, KCCH, and 32° Brothers Bob Tallent, Tony LaCava, Erik Schultz, Clayton Mitchel, Peter Aliferis and Aaron Irving for making the formal presentations.
- Also In **April**, Bro. Ron Craft, KCCH, led our Valley's contingent of eight Alexandria members plus two of our Valley's petitioners for the degrees to witness the theatrical conferral of all 29 degrees at the Spring Reunion of the Valley of Guthrie, OK.
- First in **April** and later in **October**, Mark Cummings, KCCH, and his Membership Committee, plus our Director of Work, Ill. Scott Springer, 33°, and all the reunion production/stage and Cast members, but most especially all those members who were responsible for signing, supporting and mentoring the combined Spring and Fall Reunion classes added **40** new Brothers to our Valley membership roles.
- In **June**, Ill. Phil Rhodes conducted our annual Outstanding Teacher Awards Banquet with the presentation of Certificates of Appreciation and \$500 checks to the three recipients, as selected by their respective school districts and the Washington Post Educational Foundation.
- In **July**, our new Philanthropy Committee Chair and volunteer "bus driver" Steve Banowit, KCCH, transported most of our 15 Valley attendees to the 2025 David Kruger Childhood Language Disorders Summer Clinic at James Madison University to join our SGIG as well as Richmond, Lynchburg and Shenandoah Valley attendees for our Scottish Rite visit to the Clinic.
- In **August**, we applauded the receipt of their Shenandoah Valley Lodge of Perfection Charter at the 2025 Biennial Session of the Supreme Council. Many of their current Lodge of Perfection Brothers received the 32° at our Alexandria Valley, and until their Valley grows to include additional Bodies, their new members can continue to become Masters of the Royal Secret at Alexandria.
- Also in **August**, Ill. David Smith's leadership of Alexandria's 33° team yielded an outstanding degree conferral on the newly elected Inspector Generals Honorary at the 2025 Biennial Session. The Team's conferral was rewarded with a standing ovation by the Supreme Council and others present.
- In **September** at our 101st SR Conference of VA, we reported that our average meeting attendance had increased from 42 in 2024 to **48** in 2025. While this is still evolving data, the improvement is thought to be attributable, in part, to the new 4th Tuesday meeting night schedule; KDEA participation incentives; and special programs such as the July program by Ill. S. Brent Morris, 33°, G.C., on the cryptanalysis of *The Folger Cipher*, and the October program yet to be presented by Bro. Josef Wages, 32° on **Masonic Scholarship** (both Ill. Morris and Bro. Wages are published Masonic authors, Directors on the SRRS Board and members of the Society of Blue Friars).
- While our October through December activities are still in the future as I write these notes, I have no doubt that equally enjoyable events await our pleasure.

Our SGIG's January 2025 appointment of Ill. Peter Terrill, 33°, as his Assistant Personal Representative at Alexandria Valley, culminated in his stated intent to elevate Ill. Peter to become his Personal Representative upon my retirement effective on the date of our first Valley meeting in January 2026. I know that Ill. Peter will continue to look to our Supreme Council and its SGIG in Virginia for guidance, and I am also confident that he will value and continue to encourage the growth of our Valley leaders and members in our Alexandria Scottish Rite Valley.



Sands of Time

Richard E. Saunders, KCCH, Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection

The sands of time for 2025 are running low. The holiday season is upon us. There are only a couple pages left in the calendar, and my year as Venerable Master is quickly coming to an end. I want to thank the brethren of the Alexandria Valley for giving me the privilege and honor of serving in this leadership position this year. And I especially want to thank the officers of the Lodge of Perfection for all they have done to help make this year a success. Indeed, each of our four bodies has excellent officers that have all worked together to make this year a great one.

As I reflect on 2025, I am pleased by what I have seen in our Valley. This is the first year that we have met on Tuesday nights for the entire year, and our monthly attendance has increased by better than 14% during that time.

Since the Reunion numbers are now in the past, we can say, "Well, you guys beat that with 31 candidates joining our Valley followed by another nine at the Fall Reunion. Our membership is doing well, but we still have room to grow, so continue sharing the news about us to your Blue Lodge brethren.

This year, we began the Knight of the Double Eagle Award, to recognize ASR members for their active participation in the Scottish Rite. Bro. Robert Tallent, 32° is the chairman for this program, and he has announced that several members have already qualified to receive this award when the first ones are presented in 2026.

The LOP officers and I were able to refresh our widows list, and we made an effort to contact as many of them as possible this year. We will continue to do so in the coming year.

In August, we had our first (at least to my knowledge), Polo Shirt Night, where we got to show off our new Lodge Polo's and have a casual summer meeting.

Our main program for our September stated was the annual Feast of Tishri, and we had Bro. Thomas Little, KCCH present an outstanding program in which we not only celebrated our thanksgiving for our blessings, but he offered up a special time for us to be thankful for all of our brethren and ladies who do so much to help us to succeed.

We ended September with a successful Scottish Rite Conference in Virginia Beach, where our Valley's new Conference Vice-President, Frank Anthony, KCCH, got to jump into his new role right away after being elected to fill that position in August.

Brethren, as I already mentioned, the year is quickly coming to an end. At this time of the year, it becomes easy to start focusing on year's end and getting ready to start over again. But that is not the mindset that we should have. Instead, we need to work together to finish strong, not coast the rest of the way. After all, it is not how we start, it is how we finish that is important. In a race, it doesn't do any good if we are in first place for nine-tenths of the contest and then fall behind at the end.

I look back fondly on my year as Venerable Master. I've seen the hard work and dedication of the brethren of the Alexandria Scottish Rite in action. But as nice as it is to look back, I believe that the Great Architect of the Universe wants us to look to our future with hope and trust in Him as we move forward. We started this year strong, so let's finish strong; serving with the same enthusiasm that we had at the beginning of the year.

As I look at the officers of the Lodge of Perfection behind me in line, as well as those in the other bodies, I am confident that our Valley is in good hands, and I look forward to seeing continued growth and success as we all continue serving together.

Fraternally
Rick Saunders

A Picnic to Celebrate the Fall Reunion



Reinvigorating the Scottish Rite in the Age of Noise

John M. Suit, KCCH, Master of Ceremonies, Lodge of Perfection

One of the reasons I joined Masonry—and the Scottish Rite in particular—was because I wanted a circle of men I could talk to about the big questions. Why are we here? How did we get here? What are we here to do?

I'd always been drawn to the esoteric side of things, the parts of life most people don't talk about over lunch or at work. I was looking for a space where I could share ideas about consciousness, the unseen forces behind reality, and the meaning of our journey here on earth—without feeling judged or out of place. I found that space in Masonry. And I found it more deeply, more clearly, in the Scottish Rite.

Inside the Rite, you quickly learn that every conversation, every symbol, and every degree is an invitation to explore those big questions together. The world outside our temples can be loud and fragmented filled with notifications, opinions, and arguments. But when you step inside a Scottish Rite meeting, that noise fades. The focus shifts inward, toward Light, reflection, and fellowship that goes beyond the surface.

Speaking the Language of Light

Today I serve as the Chairman of the Communications and Outreach Committee and Director of the Speakers Bureau for the Alexandria Valley. In those roles, I've had the opportunity to visit Blue Lodges across Virginia and Maryland to share what the Rite offers and to listen to what Brothers are looking for. One thing stands out everywhere I go: men are hungry for connection—but not just the digital kind. They want to feel part of something real. They want conversations that go deeper than a Facebook thread. They want brotherhood with meaning.

That's where the Scottish Rite comes in. Communication, for us, isn't just about announcements or social media posts. It's about sharing Light. It's about building bridges—between lodges, between Brothers, and between the outer world and the inner self. When a Scottish Rite Brother stands up in a Blue Lodge and speaks from the heart about what the Rite means to him, it plants a seed. It reminds others that there's more to Masonry than minutes and motions—there's mystery.

What Happens When You're Part of the Work

I've noticed something over the years: when you take part in conferring a degree, it changes how you understand it. I serve as Degree Master of the 13th Degree, and every time I help confer it, I see and feel something new. You start to recognize layers of meaning that only open when you're inside the work, not just watching from the sidelines.

(Continued on Page 5.)

Reinvigorating the Scottish Rite in the Age of Noise

(Continued from Page 4.)

That deeper experience naturally shows up when you talk with other Brothers. The enthusiasm isn't forced—it's genuine. When I visit Blue Lodges and share what I've seen and felt through being part of the degrees, it resonates. It's not about recruitment; it's about sharing an experience that's shaped me. The more we take part in the degrees, the more alive the Rite becomes in us, and the easier it is to communicate that Light to others.

Finding Fellowship in a Distracted World

We live in a world that's always on. Phones buzz, screens flash, and attention is constantly divided. It's easy to feel connected but not fulfilled. Inside the Scottish Rite, we do something very different—we unplug, slow down, and turn inward.

Every meeting, every conversation, is a reminder that Masonry is about something timeless: men gathering to seek truth together. In that quiet space, we find real fellowship. I've seen Brothers come to a reunion or a dinner after a long day in the digital storm and just exhale—as if they've come home.

When we go out to Blue Lodges, that's really what we're inviting them to experience. We're saying, *Come see what it feels like to sit with men who aren't trying to win an argument or post a comment, but who are trying to understand life itself.*

From Connection to Communion

Our challenge today isn't that we lack ways to connect—it's that we've forgotten how to commune. Connection is quick; communion takes time. Connection is made with a device; communion is made with presence.

When Scottish Rite Brothers visit Blue Lodges, we're offering communion: shared reflection, shared Light, shared purpose. We're giving something the world desperately needs but rarely finds.

That's why I believe every member of the Rite has something to say—something worth sharing. If you've taken part in the degrees, you carry that experience within you. Speak about it. Visit a Blue Lodge. Tell your story. Let other Brothers see what you've found here. You never know whose path you might illuminate just by being willing to speak.

Bringing the Quiet Work Back into the World

The world outside our temples will always be noisy. That's fine—it's the nature of the world. But we can bring a little of the stillness we find inside the Rite back into that noise. We can listen more, speak more thoughtfully, and treat our words as acts of Light.

For me, that's what the Scottish Rite is really about. It's a reminder that wisdom and fellowship aren't things you find once and forget—they're practices, lived out day by day.

So, as we continue visiting lodges and reaching out to Brothers, let's remember why we do it. We're not just connecting—we're inviting communion. We're reminding men that Masonry, and especially the Scottish Rite, is still one of the few places left where you can ask the big questions, speak from the heart, and be met with understanding.

And in a world that never stops talking, that kind of silence speaks volumes.

John M. Suit, 32° KCCH, serves as Chairman of the Communications and Outreach Committee and Director of the Speakers Bureau for the Alexandria Valley, Orient of Virginia. He is Degree Master of the 13th Degree, Past Commander of the Council of Kadosh, and current Master of Ceremonies for the Lodge of Perfection. Brother Suit regularly visits Blue Lodges throughout Virginia and Maryland, sharing the Light, fellowship, and deeper teachings of the Scottish Rite.

A Pontiff's Reflection on the 19th Degree

Coron Marshall, 32°, 2025 Spring Reunion Class Member



Author's Note: *The Alexandria Scottish Rite Education Committee has been hosting a virtual study group focused on Morals & Dogma. In September, the group discussed the 19th Degree, known as the Grand Pontiff, which marks the beginning of the Council of Kadosh. The concept of the pontiff as a "bridge builder" underscores a Mason's role in connecting the mortal world with the divine through moral and virtuous conduct. This degree emphasizes the ultimate triumph of good over evil, highlights the limitations of human intellect in contrast to divine understanding, and conveys the idea that living a righteous life serves as a "bridge to eternal life."*

For many years, I found myself wrestling with a profound question—one that echoed quietly through the rhythm of daily life: *Is there more to this existence than what is seen?* I longed for deeper meaning, a spiritual connection that reached beyond the material world. That search eventually led me to Masonry. Through its teachings, symbols, and timeless principles, Masonry provided more than just moral guidance, it offered a spiritual path. It illuminated my desire for purpose and brought me closer to the Supreme Architect of the Universe. In many ways, the Craft helped reveal a life of intention, rooted in brotherhood, self-reflection, and reverence for the divine.

In that same spirit of reflection, I've come to reconsider how we define "bad" actions. Often, when someone commits a wrong—be it theft, dishonesty, or betrayal—they're quickly met with remorse. That regret becomes a powerful teacher, pushing them to reflect, to grow, and to strive toward becoming a better version of themselves.

But what if we viewed these "wrong" actions not as purely negative, but as opportunities for transformation? Perhaps they serve a higher purpose—urging us to confront our imperfections and seek the guidance of the Supreme Architect in our pursuit of moral and spiritual evolution.

Take, for instance, a simple but impactful scenario: imagine someone successfully stealing a wallet from an unlocked car and managing to escape without being caught. Initially, the thief might experience a rush of adrenaline, a fleeting sense of victory, or even pride in their ability to pull off the act.

Meanwhile, the victim returns to their vehicle only to discover the wallet—and everything inside—is gone. They are hit with a wave of frustration and distress, realizing that the contents of that wallet were not just financial but deeply intertwined with their daily life. The inconvenience begins: canceling credit cards, waiting for replacements, contacting subscription services, perhaps losing irreplaceable personal items, and making dreaded visits to the police department and DMV. To make matters worse, they endure the nagging reminder from a significant other who seizes the opportunity to say, I told you to stop leaving your personal belongings in the car. However, from this unpleasant experience there comes an important lesson. The victim learns, in a very personal way, never to leave valuables in the vehicle again. They may then share this lesson with friends, family, and loved ones—warning them so that they, too, can avoid the same mistake. In this way, the pain of the initial wrongdoing ripples outward, offering wisdom and protection to many others.

So, we must ask: was that act purely negative, or did it spark a ripple of awareness and caution that ultimately served the greater good? This perspective invites us to look deeper, to find meaning even in hardship, and to recognize that growth often comes wrapped in difficulty.

This reflection brings me to the 19th Degree of the Scottish Rite, where emphasis is placed on the word *Pontiff*—from Latin, meaning "bridge builder." While traditionally reserved for religious leaders, the esoteric meaning speaks to something broader. Are we, as Masons, not all called to be bridge builders—connecting ignorance to wisdom, ego to humility, and chaos to order?

(Continued on Page 7.)

A Pontiff's Reflection on the 19th Degree

(Continued from Page 6.)

I look at my own life, particularly during my youth, I occasionally strayed into delinquent behavior. Nothing so grave as to provoke more than the kinetic consequence meted out by the loving yet firm hand of my mother—but mischief, nonetheless. As I entered young adulthood, I fell victim to a different kind of folly: imagining myself a ladies' man, juggling multiple relationships at once, unaware—or perhaps unwilling to see—the emotional, physical, and financial costs such choices carried. These behaviors, while no longer part of the man I am today, were integral to the shaping of that very man.

Through time and maturity, I outgrew those behaviors. But I never erased them. I embrace them for the lessons they taught me. They are the very stones I now use to build bridges, sharing my experiences not to boast, but to help others avoid the same pitfalls. In this way, every mistake becomes a tool for teaching, a resource for building, and a testament to growth.

If even one person finds firmer footing through what I've shared, have I not done my part in constructing the bridge to something higher? And if that is true for me, then it is true for all who do this sacred work. All who labor to shed light in darkness, to guide instead of judge, to lift instead of condemning—we are all builders of bridges.

As Masons, this is our duty and our privilege. We are not merely students of truth, but architects of transformation. Through our words, actions, and examples, we help others—and ourselves—cross the thresholds between who we were and who we are meant to become.

And that, indeed, is sacred work.

101st Virginia Scottish Rite Conference Reflection

Frank Anthony, KCCH, Alexandria Valley Conference Vice President

The Valley of Portsmouth did an outstanding job hosting this year's 101st Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia in Virginia Beach, VA on September 25-27, 2025.

The conference offered a packed schedule of engaging events and activities. Starting Thursday night with a Top Golf outing. On Friday, we kicked off lunch with some delicious BBQ, followed by two educational sessions. The first explored the differences between the Scottish Rite-based Craft Degrees (1st through 3rd), known as Red Lodge degrees and the second delved into the teachings of Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite and Thomas Aquinas, using the Knights Commander of the Court of Honour (KCCH) investiture as the foundational premise.

Friday evening featured the RiteCare Banquet, which highlighted the work of the Tidewater Scottish Rite Foundation. An Old Dominion University Professor was the guest speaker, and five scholarship students shared their impactful experiences teaching children communication skills during the summer program.

On Saturday morning, the Annual Conference Session featured reports from each Valley on their 2025 activities, a Necrology Service honoring Brethren lost over the past year, remarks from the 179th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia and our SGIG, and concluded with the election and installation of the 2026 Conference Officers. Immediately following, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Virginia held its Annual Meeting, where financial holdings and the distribution of Foundation funds were reviewed. At the same time, the ladies enjoyed a catered brunch and a glass-blowing demonstration at the Chrysler Museum's Glass Studio.

(Continued on Page 8.)

101st Virginia Scottish Rite Conference Reflection

(Continued from Page 7.)

In the afternoon, the KCCH Investiture was conducted by the capable investiture team from Norfolk Valley. The conference concluded that evening with the Conference Banquet, featuring a performance by the "Strolling Strings" high school string ensemble and keynote remarks from RW and Ill. Matt Szramoski, Deputy Grand Master.

The 2026 102nd Scottish Rite Conference will be hosted by the Valley of Danville from September 27-29, 2026, at the Caesars Virginia Danville Casino.

Lastly, a heartfelt thank you to the large contingent of Alexandria Valley Brothers and Ladies who attended and supported the Conference. Your presence helped create one of the most lively and welcoming hospitality rooms, contributing to a relaxed atmosphere where everyone could truly enjoy themselves the entire weekend.

Petition Signer Awards



Ill. Alan W. Adkins, 33° G. C., SGIG in Virginia, presented these brethren with a tie for signing 5 or more petitions. Ill. Philip N. Rhodes, 33° was the top signer with 10. Left to right: Michael D. Taldo, KCCH, Philip N. Rhodes, 33°, Michael P. Bible, 33°, Ill. Alan W. Adkins 33° G. C., Ronald Craft, KCCH, Ill. Norman L. Hoff, Jr., 33° and Ill. Peter E. Terrill, 33°.

THE CORRECT POSITION DURING SCOTTISH RITE PRAYER

Predicated upon its basic foundation of belief in a personal God, the Scottish Rite gives primary importance in its Degrees and at its meetings to prayer. While there is an established position and sign to be used by all Scottish Rite Masons during prayer. this position and sign are sometimes not uniformly practiced. Scottish Rite Masons (except when engaged in ritual at the altar) stand during prayer, with caps remaining on the head as part of a uniform. So much is known and done. What is also required is giving the accompanying "Sign of the Good Shepherd." This is done by folding the arms, the left over the right, with the outstretched fingers touching the shoulders. This position is comfortable and easily remembered if it is realized that the sign represents the Good Shepherd carrying a lamb around his neck and holding its feet by his crossed hands. During the prayer, in this position, the head is slightly bowed.

A Musical Note

Thomas G. Little, Organist

At the July Meeting of the Alexandria Scottish Rite, I made a motion that was approved to replace our piano and organ in the large Lodge room with a Clavinova CVP. The Clavinova CVP is an 88 key instrument with various instrument voices and grand piano quality sound and touch.

This purchase would be accomplished via a fund raiser effort. This will allow us to have music at our monthly meetings, and it will also allow me to provide music for the degrees that are Conferred in the large Lodge Room.

I'm asking you to help with this project and contribute by sending your donations to the Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite. You may also bring them in person to our next meeting. Please note on your check, "Music Donation", and let the Secretary know if it's cash.

Any additional donations above and beyond those required for this project will be applied to the upkeep of our organ in the Auditorium.

A letter of appreciation will be sent for all donations and the name of any donor who contributes more than five hundred dollars (\$500) will go on the Music Program Donors Plaque.

These donations are for the upkeep of the Temple and are not tax deductible. Thanks for your help with this project.

Yours in the faith,
Thomas G. Little, KCCH, Organist



2026 DRAFT Budget

James B. Bartley, Finance Committee

Scottish Rite - Alexandria Valley				
2026 Budget				
	Budget	2025 Estimated Actual	Budget Minus Estimate	2026 Budget
Income				
Dues	\$ 110,883.00	\$ 105,568.13	\$ 5,314.87	\$ 118,397.00
Fees	\$ 5,625.00	\$ 12,370.51	\$ (6,745.51)	\$ 5,400.00
Rent	\$ 64,350.00	\$ 92,949.83	\$ (28,599.83)	\$ 115,480.00
LWIP Interest	\$ 21,817.00	\$ 22,165.33	\$ (348.33)	\$ 21,000.00
Dinner	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 2,386.00	\$ 914.00	\$ 3,300.00
Glass Fund Income	\$ 35,400.00	\$ 32,800.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ -
Bayliss Fund Income	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,408.00	\$ (408.00)	\$ -
Perm. Building Fund - Interest/Dividends (Cap. Improve.)	\$ 25,200.00	\$ 32,472.77	\$ (7,272.77)	\$ -
Perm. Building Fund - Interest/Dividends (Ops Supplement)	\$ 60,505.00	\$ 49,427.33	\$ 11,077.67	\$ 35,255.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 15,457.29	\$ (12,957.29)	\$ 2,500.00
Total Income	\$ 339,580.00	\$ 376,005.19	\$ (36,425.19)	\$ 301,332.00
Expenses				
Admin				
Salaries	\$ 47,800.00	\$ 50,000.10	\$ (2,200.10)	\$ 50,100.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,850.97	\$ (50.97)	\$ 3,862.00
Postage & Mailing	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 6,009.65	\$ (809.65)	\$ 6,000.00
Printing	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 14,626.60	\$ (426.60)	\$ 14,750.00
990 Tax Filing	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
Professional Fees	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 16,878.50	\$ (6,878.50)	\$ 5,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 719.39	\$ (719.39)	\$ 750.00
Office Supplies	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,654.63	\$ 345.37	\$ 4,000.00
Building and Operations				
Insurance	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,140.70	\$ 4,859.30	\$ 20,000.00
Taxes-Stormwater Utility Fee	\$ 16,200.00	\$ 16,942.55	\$ (742.55)	\$ 18,000.00
Phone/Internet + IT	\$ 8,900.00	\$ 9,028.22	\$ (128.22)	\$ 9,400.00
Communications	\$ 850.00	\$ -	\$ 850.00	\$ -
Phone for Elevator	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 2,060.66	\$ (460.66)	\$ 2,100.00
Utilities				
Electricity	\$ 19,100.00	\$ 18,588.75	\$ 511.25	\$ 19,100.00
Gas	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 9,563.37	\$ 936.63	\$ 10,500.00
Water	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 4,020.72	\$ (1,920.72)	\$ 3,000.00
Sewage	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 8,564.39	\$ (3,764.39)	\$ 5,000.00
Refuse Collection	\$ 520.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 500.00
Security & Fire	\$ 400.00	\$ 564.84	\$ (164.84)	\$ 500.00
Software and IT Equipment	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 2,800.24	\$ 299.76	\$ 3,000.00
Maintenance & Repairs				
Scheduled				
Elevator	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,422.44	\$ (422.44)	\$ 3,500.00
Kitchen	\$ 520.00	\$ 1,270.00	\$ (750.00)	\$ -
Cleaning	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 12,500.00
Cleaning Supplies	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 654.49	\$ 785.51	\$ 1,000.00
Lawn Service	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 12,825.00	\$ (4,325.00)	\$ 13,000.00
HVAC	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 4,384.00	\$ 4,116.00	\$ 10,000.00
Unscheduled				
Plumbing	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 88.21	\$ 2,111.79	\$ 2,200.00
Landscaping	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Roof	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
HVAC	\$ -	\$ 12,934.00	\$ (12,934.00)	\$ 10,000.00
Kitchen	\$ -	\$ 17,611.15	\$ (17,611.15)	\$ 1,500.00
Security System	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Flooring/Carpeting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Painting (Office)	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ -	\$ -
Library Improve.	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Parking Lot Lights	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 22,432.70	\$ (15,432.70)	\$ -
IT Upgrades	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,515.80	\$ (515.80)	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,200.00	\$ -	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00
Philanthropic				
Youth	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00
Grand Lodge (Bayliss)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Memorials/Other	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -
ROTC/JROTC (Glass)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Scholarships (Glass)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Teachers/Community Award (Glass)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Contributions & Fees				
Supreme Council - Per Capita	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 31,232.00	\$ (4,232.00)	\$ 32,000.00
Supreme Council - Candidates	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,327.00	\$ (527.00)	\$ 720.00
SR Foundation of VA (per capita)	\$ 7,300.00	\$ 7,750.00	\$ (450.00)	\$ 8,000.00
SR Conf of VA (fee)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
SR Workshop	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -
GWMNM	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Dinners/Refreshments				
Meetings & Installation	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,647.57	\$ 552.43	\$ 5,500.00
SR Conference & Workshop Meals	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 4,716.21	\$ 1,283.79	\$ 5,000.00
Feast of Tishri	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,122.03	\$ (622.03)	\$ 600.00
Reunions	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,861.14	\$ (1,361.14)	\$ 5,000.00
Ladies Night	\$ 600.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
Special Events - Picnic	\$ 800.00	\$ 776.56	\$ 23.44	\$ 800.00
General Items				
Degrees, Robes, etc.	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Reunion Expenses	\$ 600.00	\$ 566.68	\$ 33.32	\$ 600.00
33rd Degree & KCCH Institute	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 800.00	\$ -
SR Conference Host	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
14th Degree Rings	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 1,000.00
Bridge to Light	\$ -	\$ 636.85	\$ (636.85)	\$ 700.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 550.00	\$ (550.00)	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 339,580.00	\$ 375,538.11	\$ (35,958.11)	\$ 301,332.00

2026	
Budget	
Philanthropy Trustee Funds - Expenses	
Glass Fund Dividends and Interest	\$ 3,000.00
ROTC/JROTC	\$ 20,000.00
Scholarships	\$ 1,500.00
Teacher of the Year	\$ 10,000.00
Bayliss Fund Dividends and Interest	\$ 34,500.00
Total	

2025

End of Year
Projected
Balance

Designate/Restricted Fund Account

Balances

Organ/Keyboard Replacement - Large Lodge Room	\$ 1,000.00
Library	\$ 2,000.00
2030 VA Scottish Rite Conference	\$ 2,000.00

General Secretary's Corner

Ill. Michael P. Bible, 33°, General Secretary

ALEXANDRIA VALLEY OFFICE

Our regular hours, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday – 10 a.m. -2 p.m.
Please call the office first at 703-998-9044.

NOVEMBER MEETING

There will **NOT BE** a pre-meeting dinner or refreshments following the November meeting.

DECEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGE

In compliance with our By-laws, our December meeting will be held on **Tuesday December 16th** at 7:30 p.m. There will be an Executive Council meeting immediately preceding the stated at 6:00 p.m.

AWARDS and RECOGNITION

At the January stated on January 27, 2026, we will recognize those brethren who have stepped up to do some extraordinary work on behalf of our Valley. We will consider those recommendations at our December 16th Executive Council meeting. If you have a recommendation, you will need to submit it to the Personal Representative, the General Secretary or the head of one of the four bodies before the December meeting.

IT'S DUES TIME!

Every member in good standing should have received his 2026 dues notice. If you are current in your dues for 2025, you should have also received your 2026 dues card. Please make your dues payment by December 31, 2025.

You can pay by:

1. <https://members.scottishrite.org/login/?redirect=https://members.scottishrite.org/members/profile/#mydues>
2. Call the office and pay by credit card 703-998-9044
3. Mail: Alexandria Scottish Rite, 1430 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302

If you have difficulty making your dues payment, please call the Valley Secretary to discuss options.

HAVE YOU MOVED OR CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS? I know it is easy to forget to update the office with new addresses, especially right after a move. Emails and phone numbers need to be updated when they are changed. Please let the Secretary know at secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org when this happens so that we don't lose contact with you!



Fall Class Members - Picture Legend (page 11): No particular order. Behul Turkezer, Ernesto P. Hernandez III, Serdar Senyurt, Ilias Farmakidis, Joshua B. Calonge, Matthew J. Downey, Erik C. Greer, Ronald J. Sherman, David E. Simcox

Fall Reunion Class Picture – Photo by Ill. Michael Aulicino, 33°



Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 2025

November 4-9

Grand Lodge of Virginia
Grand Annual Communication
Hilton Richmond Hotel & SPA at
Short Pump

November 11- Holiday **Veterans Day**

November 25- 7:30 p.m.
Valley Meetings – LOP, Chapter and
COK.

Elections of Council of Kadosh,
Chapter of Rose Croix Officers for
2026.

November 27- Holiday **Thanksgiving Day**



December 2025

December 16 – 6:00 p.m.
Executive Council Meeting
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m. – LOP and
Consistory
Elections of Consistory & Lodge of
Perfection Officers for 2026

December 25 – Holiday **Christmas Day**

Office Closed
Dec 25, 2025- Jan 2, 2026



January 2026

January 1- Holiday **News Years Day**

January 19 - Holiday **Martin Luther Kings Birthday**

January 21 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

January 27 – 6:00 p.m.
**Awards Dinner & Installation of
Officers for 2026**
Reservations by COB Jan 21

January 28 – 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah SR Club
Spurmont Lodge-
Spurmont, VA



**Happy
New Year**



Take the Next Step
**Petition the
Scottish Rite!**

Illustrious David H. Smith Sr., 33°, Editor
Editor@AlexandriaScottishRite.org
Gregory M. Valker, KCCH, Assistant Editor
Frank T. Anthony, KCCH, Content Coordinator

All Scottish Rite Members whose names appear in this Bulletin
are of the Thirty-second Degree,
unless otherwise indicated.

General Secretary of the Four Coordinate Bodies:
Illustrious Michael P. Bible, 33°
secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org

Assistant Secretary:
Illustrious David H. Smith Sr., 33°
assistantsecretary@alexandriascottishrite.org

Treasurer:
Illustrious James D. Baker, 33°
treasurer@alexandriascottishrite.org

Thomas G. Little, KCCH
Almoner

The mailing address is:
1430 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302
Office Phone: (703) 998-9044
Fax Number: (703) 778-2804

The Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple is located at
1430 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302.

CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Please notify the Secretary immediately of any change of
address, phone number, or email address. This is very
important so that you may receive The Scottish Rite Journal
and other publications and correspondence without delay.

THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our
supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the
guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our
ultimate goal.

ILLUSTRIOUS JAMES DEAN COLE, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

ILLUSTRIOUS ALAN WAYNE ADKINS, 33°, G.M.C.C.
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in
the Orient of Virginia

ILLUSTRIOUS NORMAN L. HOFF, JR., 33°
Personal Representative of the SGIG of Virginia Alexandria

ILLUSTRIOUS PETER E. TERRILL, 33°
Assistant Personal Representative of the SGIG of Virginia in Alexandria

STATED MEETINGS

Alexandria Lodge of Perfection

Fourth Tuesday of each month
Richard E. Saunders, KCCH
Venerable Master

Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix

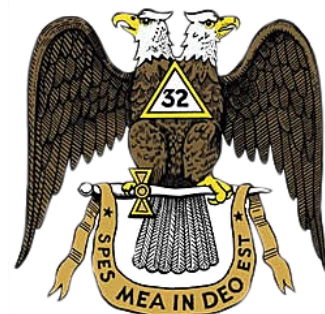
Fourth Tuesday
February, March, July, November
Frank T. Anthony, KCCH
Wise Master

Alexandria Council of Kadosh

Fourth Tuesday
February, April, July, November
Jeffrey L. Sparrow, KCCH
Commander

Alexandria Consistory

Fourth Tuesday
April, August, October, December
Jack W. Gibbs, 32°
Master of Kadosh



ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH RITE