



Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia
AlexandriaScottishRite.org



Scottish Rite Bulletin

September – October 2025

CONGRATULATIONS Honour Men of 2025

INSPECTOR GENERAL HONORARY



James D. Baker

Michael P. Bible

Knight Commander Court of Honour



Eric James LeHew

Terence Maurice Smith

Jeffrey Lynn Sparrow

Philip Arthur Shortt



My appreciation to the Valley of Alexandria on the outstanding performance at yesterday's 33° conferral. As the expression goes "you done good!" Illustrious Alan W. Adkins, 33°, G.C., SGIG

Court of Honour

Illustrious Norman L. Hoff, Jr., Personal Representative Message

Brethren,

On the front page of this Bulletin, you see the names of our Alexandria Brothers who were elected to receive the rank and decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH), or the 33° with the rank and dignity of Inspector General Honorary and Honorary member of the Supreme Council. Our recent Jul-Aug Valley Bulletin reprinted an excellent summary of the Supreme Council's Statutes as they relate to the Court of Honour. The article was written in 2023 by our Brother Jason Lotz, KCCH, describing the qualifications and many considerations that are addressed in the Honours election process. While our Valley always proposes many additional well qualified Brothers, the Supreme Council determines the final number they will ultimately elect for the Biennial Session.



I hope you were able to attend the Supreme Council's August 2025 Biennial Session - either in-person or virtually. While the session presents opportunities to greet old friends and to receive much new information from the Supreme Council Committees and other speakers, this was also an opportunity to hear directly from the Sovereign Grand Commander about his thoughts on his own Masonic origins, the major influences in his journey, and the importance of a primary lesson taught in our closing charge: "Do good unto all." Additionally, this was an opportunity for your Alexandria Valley's 33° Degree team to take their turn in conferring, on behalf of the Supreme Council, the degree on those attendees who had been elected from across the Southern Jurisdiction.

Our two newest Inspector General Honorary Brothers, Ill. Michael P. Bible and Ill. James D. Baker were crowned with their caps and decorations at the Biennial Session's conferral on 19 August at the Valley of Washington, D.C. Alexandria Valley's Degree Master for the 33° conferral was Ill. David Smith, who organized and has led the degree conferrals over past years as well as many rehearsals over the past 12 months leading to this August's conferral. Ill. Dave has consistently produced an exemplary degree performance of which every Alexandria Valley member should be proud.

Our 32° Brothers Terence M. Smith, Jeffrey L. Sparrow, Eric J. LeHew and Philip A. Shortt were elected and will be Invested with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honour on Saturday, 27 September. The Ceremony of Investiture will be held during the 101st Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia and will be open to all Scottish Rite Brothers, their wives and guests. The 25-28 September conference will be hosted by the Valley of Portsmouth at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center at 5655 Greenwich Rd. Virginia Beach, VA. I encourage you all to attend both the Conference and the Investiture - be sure to notify our Secretary of your intent to attend.

My remarks about the 33° and the KCCH Honours designations must also note that even though the elections for these awards are based on past services to the Valley, Freemasonry, and society, they are not given solely as a reward for that past performance. We should think of these selections as qualifying gates for responsibilities and duties yet to be assigned, for it is from the KCCH members that we obtain the leadership of our key Valley positions. Further, it will be those KCCH members who demonstrate their capacity for additional and increased responsibilities, who may eventually be nominated for election to 33°, Inspector General Honorary, and for the additional responsibilities attendant thereto.

Please join me in congratulating our newest KCCH and 33°, IGH Brothers. We look forward to all they will accomplish in their future service to the Scottish Rite.

(Continued on Page 3.)

Court of Honour

(Continued from Page 2.)

Brethren, before I close, I want to acknowledge my appreciation for the privilege of knowing and working with my recently deceased predecessor, Edmund Cohen. He was Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia, and Illustrious Past Personal Representative of our SGIG in Virginia. Ed was an overachiever on every task he assumed. I knew Brother Ed from the first day of my Masonic experience and he was a constant North Star on my Masonic Journey. He will be missed by us all.



Fall Reunion Reminder

Mark Cummings, KCCH, Membership Chairman

The autumn winds will blow. The Fall Reunion will come. It is set for Saturday, October 18th and Saturday October 25th with stage practices being held on Saturday, October 11th and Sunday, October 19th. Our members should fill the auditorium seats to support the new men with our attendance.

Now is the time for action. Speak to your lodge Brothers to let them know either to attend as a Scottish Rite Brother or direct them to the Valley's website to fill out a petition. The ASR Valley website has two options (1) Petition QR code or (2) click the "Petition" button on the top of the webpage:

<https://www.alexandriascottishrite.com/>.

You ask how to help? It is a fair question. We have an opportunity this year to have more Brother's join the Valley than those who have departed. A modest goal of at least one candidate per lodge is easily within our reach. Remember, our Valley, like Solomon's Temple, wasn't built in a day. It took the dedicated efforts of many Brothers. Now it's our turn to continue that endless work, day in and day out.

The easiest way to help is to sit in the audience. To simply be there. It makes a fine impression. The new Brother's will see a full hall. They see a healthy Valley. A vibrant one. This will make them stay. They will realize they are a part of something good. If you are in a degree, come early. Stay late. Sit and watch. It is a simple thing, but it is important.

All of this is necessary. Those who do not always participate must find a way. They must join the work. It is rewarding. It brings camaraderie. It brings fellowship. Those who do not join the work miss out. The greatest benefits are found in the work itself. Do not miss out.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Mark Cummings, KCCH

Legend of the Thirty-third degree picture on page one:



Left to Right:

III. Norman L. Hoff, Jr., III. Earl R. Jones, III. Allen D. Beckner,
III. Scott C. Springer, III. Peter E. Terrill, III Sheldon Richman, III. David H. Smith, Sr.,
III. Linwood R. Spears, exemplar, III. Donald E. Strehle, III. James C. Anagnos,
III. Granville C. Canard, Jr., III. Generoso G. Calonge, III. Steven M. Hicks,
III. Donald L. McAndrews, and III. Michael R. Aulicino.

Knight of the Double Eagle Award

Robert Tallent, 32°, Program Chairman

This is a reminder about the Knight of the Double Eagle Award (KDEA), a new program for the Alexandria Scottish Rite, Orient of Virginia, launched in January 2025. Quite a few Brothers have already qualified for their initial award.

The KDEA program was created to recognize Alexandria Valley members for their active participation and involvement in the Scottish Rite.

How it Works

All Alexandria Valley members are eligible to earn a KDEA medallion by accumulating points for their reported involvement in activities and events sponsored by the Alexandria Valley. Points are assigned to various categories, including:

- ❖ Membership
- ❖ Service
- ❖ Events

Your participation in these areas contributes to your point total, bringing you closer to earning the KDEA medallion.

The purpose of the KDEA is to honor those who are dedicated and engaged in our Rite. We encourage all members to get involved, participate in events, and earn your recognition.

Points accumulated for the KDEA are on a calendar year basis (January 1st through December 31st). Any points received after the December 31st cut-off date will be applied to the following calendar year. The KDEA will normally be presented at the Awards Dinner in January of each year. Individuals or activity/committee chairmen may report names of members who attended a meeting or event to ensure KDEA credit is received.

For more details on how to report your involvement and track your points, please contact the Alexandria Valley Secretary or visit the ASR Valley website: <https://www.alexandriascottishrite.com/kdea>

Fraternally
Bob Tallent, 32°



Join Us for the 101st Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia

Frank Anthony, KCCH

Get ready to connect, learn, and celebrate at the 101st Anniversary of the Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia, from September 25-27, 2025. This year's conference promises to be a memorable event, bringing together members and their families for three days of fellowship, education, and special events.

The Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center at 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

Registration and Lodging

Initial attendee lists have already been submitted for meal planning purposes, but stragglers might still be able to register. In this case, do not delay contacting Ill. Mike Bible, 33°, our General Secretary, by emailing him at secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org. The Alexandria Valley covers the cost of meals for the attendees and ladies.

Attendees are responsible for their own hotel reservations. Be sure to mention you are attending the Scottish Rite Conference when you book. You can reserve your room by calling 1-888-HOLIDAY (1-888-465-4329) or the front desk directly at 1-757-499-4400.

Conference Highlights

Thursday, September 25: Casual Fun at Topgolf

The conference kicks off with a casual evening of fun at Topgolf from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Enjoy an evening of interactive golf games, good food, and great company. The cost is \$50 per person.

Friday, September 26: Education, Fellowship, and the RiteCare Banquet

Friday is packed with opportunities to learn and connect. Registration will be open throughout the day, followed by educational topics, and breakout sessions for various groups including the Secretaries, Treasurers, Personal Representatives, and more.

The evening culminates with the RiteCare Banquet, a special night dedicated to highlighting the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Program. The banquet will feature a program from representatives of the Old Dominion University Speech and Hearing Center. See Ill Mike for RSVP. Attendees are invited to wear their Valley Polo Shirts or business casual attire.

Saturday, September 27: Annual Session, Ladies' Luncheon, and Conference Banquet

Saturday begins with the formal Annual Session of the Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia. This session will include an introduction of distinguished guests, and remarks from our Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful and Illustrious Matthew Szramoski. The morning will also feature the election and installation of the new 2026 Conference officers and the Annual Meeting of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Virginia. The dress code for the proceedings is coat and tie.

A separate Ladies' Luncheon will be held at the Chrysler Museum. The ladies will be transported to the museum for a catered brunch and a live glass-blowing demonstration.

Also, Saturday afternoon will feature the Investiture of the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour (KCCH) to be performed by the very capable investiture team from Norfolk Valley.

The weekend concludes with the formal Conference Banquet. The evening will be enhanced by the musical entertainment of "Strolling Strings," and will feature a keynote address from our Deputy Grand Master. Dress for the banquet is a dark suit or cocktail dress, with tuxedos for the Head Table, Conference Officers, and new Honourmen.

We look forward to seeing you in Virginia Beach for this landmark event. If you have any questions, please contact Ill. Mike Bible, 33° at 703-998-9044 for reservations.

Loss of Two Illustrious Brethren

Most Worship and Illustrious Edmund Cohen - September 18, 1940 - August 6, 2025.

Edmund Cohen, 84, passed away peacefully at his home in Ashburn, Virginia on August 6, 2025. Preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Adele Cohen, and his sister Robert Monokrousos, and survived by his wife of 42 years, Gwendolyn May Cohen, his stepdaughter, Alyssa Duvall (Thomas Winship), his granddaughter, Alexandra Winship, and his nephew, Dennis Monokrousos (Jessica). Bro. Cohen grew up in the Bronx, NY, graduating from Theodore Roosevelt High School in 1958. He went on to attend The City College of New York, Columbia University, and American University where he earned his Juris Doctor in 1973. Known for his wit, Ill. Brother Cohen was a great orator, gifted wordsmith, and had clever turns of phrase to share. Always in pursuit of knowledge, he was famous for his book collection which spanned over 18,000 titles. Judaism was an important part of his heritage being foundational in his belief system and his approach to life, plus he donated a sizable portion of his book collection to Temple Rodef Shalom. An accomplished attorney and manager, Bro. Cohen had a distinguished career with the Central Intelligence Agency. During his 40 years with the Agency, Mr. Cohen earned the CIA Distinguished Career Intelligence Medal and retired in 2008 to become the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. Later MW Cohen worked an additional 12 years as an independent contractor. Beyond his career and rich personal life, Ill. Cohen was a dedicated Mason, and his legacy of service spanned decades, from his early days in Henry Lodge No. 57, through countless roles in the Grand Lodge, Scottish Rite (Personal Representative of the SGIG), Royal Arch (Grand High Priest), and Shriners. He was proud of his involvement in the world's oldest and largest fraternal organization. Ill. Cohen was generous with his time, money, and wisdom, sharing all of these with his family, friends, and coworkers.



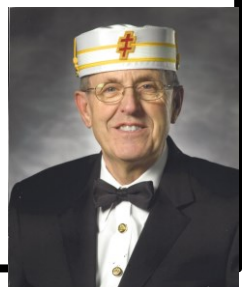
Illustrious Norman Alfred Mayo - October 30, 1937 - August 9, 2025.

Norman Alfred Mayo was born in Manchester, New Hampshire on October 30, 1937, and spent his formative years in South Berwick, Maine. He graduated from Berwick Academy in June 1955, as the Salutatorian of the Class, and subsequently entered the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD where he graduated in 1959 with a commission as Ensign.

Over the next 27 years in the Navy, Norm spent a total of 14 years at sea, in the Destroyer Fleet. During one of his shore assignments, he received his Master's degree at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. Norm advanced to the rank of Captain. His last duty assignment was on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, and by the time of his retirement in 1986, he had received several highly recognized awards and decorations for his outstanding service. Following retirement, he continued to support the U.S. Navy as a civilian contractor in support of the Pentagon Renovation Program.

Brother Mayo became a Master Mason in 1988 in Concord Lodge No. 307, subsequently served as Master in 1992, and later as Lodge Secretary. He became a Master of the Royal Secret at Alexandria Valley's Spring 1991 Reunion, received the KCCH honor in 2001 at the Supreme Council's special Biennial Session in Charleston, SC - held there in recognition of the 200th Anniversary of the Scottish Rite. Brother Norm served as the Alexandria Valley's Venerable Master in 2003, and subsequently received the rank and decoration of 33° Inspector General Honorary in 2007. During his Masonic career, Norm was also a member of the Eastern Star, Shrine, Research Lodge, and Scottish Rite Research Society.

Illustrious Brother Norm Mayo died on August 9, 2025. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, one son, two daughters and one grandson.



Installation of Officers for the Shenandoah Scottish Rite Club



2025 - 2026 Scottish Rite Club Officers

Left to Right: Installing Officer, Ill. David H. Smith, Sr., President - Wayne Barringer, KCCH, 1st Vice President - Mark Lentz, KSA, 2nd Vice President - John Norton-Miles, KSA, Secretary - Scott Truax, KSA, and Treasurer - John Peck, KSA

SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

To foster a closer connection and participation with the Alexandria Valley, Scottish Rite brethren residing in distant areas from the Temple sought approval to establish Scottish Rite Clubs in their geographical areas. This was done in the Shenandoah Valley area in 1979. We in the Alexandria area support these clubs by attending their monthly dinner/meetings, and broadening our and their friendships. In turn, they help spread an interest in the Scottish Rite. We encourage Alexandria area brethren (and their ladies) to join in on these monthly gatherings.

The Shenandoah SR Club will meet on Wednesday, September 24th, at Spurmont Lodge, Strasburg – dinner at 6:30 p.m., and a brief meeting thereafter. Reservations are required.

Contact our Secretary, Ill. Mike Bible (703-998-9044, secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org), or Ill. David Smith (703-866-0345; dhsmith33@gmail.com) to make reservations or for additional information.

Current Year Membership Statistical Changes

Accurate As Of: 08/25/2025

Begin		1000
Gains		34
Losses		18
Current Lodge Membership		1016



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

Our Visit to James Madison University David Kruger Scottish Rite Camp

Pictures by Ill. Michael R. Aulicino, 33°



Teachers Recognition and Award Dinner

Pictures by Ill. Michael R. Aulicino, 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.



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.



2026 DUES NOTICES

Dues notices have been mailed out recently by Supreme Council. You can pay your dues on our website by clicking the *Pay Dues* button, you can mail a check to the Alexandria Scottish Rite, 1430 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302, or you can call the Secretary and pay with a credit card over the phone. You can also sign up for the “**Automatic Renewal Program**” through the Scottish Rite portal if you pay online. You will get an email reminder a few days before payment is processed and you can opt out at any time.

101st VIRGINIA SCOTTISH RITE CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2025

Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA.
Please plan to attend the upcoming 101st Virginia Scottish Rite Conference hosted by the Portsmouth Valley. More conference/hotel information can be found on our Valley website at <https://www.alexandriascottishrite.com/2025vasrconferenceinfo>.

2025 FALL REUNION – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 and SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

The Fall Reunion is fast approaching. We have an opportunity to grow our overall membership numbers this year. Let's get those petitions in now and let's have a great Reunion!

OFFICERS FOR 2026

Would you like to serve as an Officer in one of our Four Bodies, for 2026?
Please contact the Valley Secretary secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org or one of the current Heads of one of the Bodies.

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!



The Scottish Rite Research Society® (SRRS) formed in 1991, is one of the most dynamic forces in contemporary Masonic research, pursuing a publication program that emphasizes quality—both in content and in physical form. Its publications share the distinction, with those of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076 (London), as having defined the standard of Masonic scholarship in the English language.

<https://scottishrite.org/media-publications/scottish-rite-research-society/>

Ivory Key Award Recipients



Illustrious Norm Hoff, 33^o, presents the Ivory Key award to the following new members of the Spring Class (alphabetical order):

James Hursch, Fernando Aquino Kaleniuszka, Anthony Keatts, Joshua Pelling, Mark Ruehs, Joe Spruill, Renz Oliver Tabil

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 2025

September 1- Holiday
Labor Day

September 17- 7:00 P.M.
Loudoun SR Club
Social Hour 6:30 P.M.
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

September 23- 6:00 P.M.
Feast of Tishri
(RSVP by COB September 17)
Valley Meeting- 7:30 P.M.
(Lodge of Perfection)

September 24- 6:30 P.M.
Shenandoah SR Club
Spurmont Lodge, Strasburg

September 25-27
VA Scottish Rite Conference
Portsmouth is Host Valley
Virginia Beach Holiday Inn
KCCH Investiture-Sat Sept 27 2 P.M.
All invited - wear caps to investiture.
<https://www.alexandriascottishrite.com/2025vasrconferenceinfo>.

October 2025

October 13- Holiday
Columbus Day

October 15- 7:00 P.M.
Loudoun SR Club
Social Hour- 6:30 P.M.
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

October 18- 7:30 A.M.
2025 Fall Reunion
First Day of Reunion

October 22- 6:30 P.M.
Shenandoah SR Club
Cassia Lodge, Woodstock

October 25- 7:30 A.M.
2025 Fall Reunion
Second Day of Reunion

October 28- 6:00 P.M.
Executive Council Meeting
Valley Meeting- 7:30 P.M.
(Consistory & Lodge of Perfection)

November 2025

November 4-9
Grand Lodge of Virginia
Grand Annual Communication
Hilton at Short Pump

November 11- Holiday
Veterans Day

November 25- 7:30PM
Valley Meeting
Elections in Council of Kadosh,
Chapter of Rose Croix and Lodge of
Perfection

November 27- Holiday
Thanksgiving Day



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.

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

Thomas G. Little, KCCH
Almoner

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Fax Number: (703) 778-2804

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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.
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, 32°
Commander

Alexandria Consistory

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



ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH RITE