

Personal Representative's Message

Edmund Cohen, 33° — Personal Representative of the Deputy in Alexandria

Why Should I Be Active in the Alexandria Scottish Rite?

As I think about our Scottish Rite at the conclusion of another Reunion, and all of the work that goes into a Reunion, I am conscious of the fact that there are just 24 hours in the day and many competing demands on our time. It is very encouraging, therefore, that so many of our members have seen Scottish Rite as sufficiently relevant and purposeful to induce them to spend their precious time supporting our Valley so well and so faithfully for so many years.

Important to our success has been what I would call generational turnover with younger members stepping into leadership positions on our Committees and in the elected and appointed line in our four Bodies. I mention this to welcome and encourage all of our newer members to get active. You are the future of our organization, so please don't think you are either too new or too young to play a significant role in your Scottish Rite Valley. We encourage you to become more familiar with what we do and select an activity you will enjoy.

If you love ritual, there are 29 degrees to get involved with either as part of a Degree team, the Degree Communications team, or the Prompting team. If you prefer to play a role behind the scenes, there are positions on the stage crew, and working with sound, lights, wardrobe, and helping with the Zoom component of our meetings.

If you are into Masonic research, there are articles you can draft for our Alexandria Scottish Rite Bulletin. If you also like speaking, you can give talks at our meetings.

If you want to be part of our activities supporting our youth, you can join our scholarship committee, and our ROTC and JROTC programs. You

also can help with our RiteCare childhood language programs and our autism projects. And you know we are helping in the community. We can be very proud of collecting in a short time over \$5,000 to add to the \$1,500 the Valley normally gives to the persons or organizations selected to receive our Community Service award. This allowed us to support three organizations that do so much to assist those in our community who do not have enough money to buy food for themselves and their children. Our philanthropic activities are really important, and it warms my heart that we are able to make a difference in the lives of others.



But it is not only the membership residing close to the building who can play a meaningful role in our activities. You don't have to live in Alexandria to be able to participate in our Master Craftsman study groups. You don't have to live in Northern Virginia to serve on one of our Committees or project teams, or write an article for our Bulletin, or give a talk at our meetings. And from wherever you live, you certainly can play a role in our member outreach program and our charitable efforts. Just contact me, the General Secretary, the head of one of the Bodies, or one of the Committee Chairs to see how you can join in these efforts.

Having found that so many of our members who ordinarily could not attend our meetings because of distance, inability to travel at night, or other reasons, could be a part of our Zoom meeting, we want to continue using Zoom to accommodate these members even when it is safe to have in-person meetings. I greatly value the meals, the camaraderie, and the face-to-face interaction that is an essential aspect of our Masonic Fraternity.

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But it should not be either-or, that is, either you come to our Temple building or you are left out in the cold. Most of the meeting, the main speaker, the educational programs, the committee reports, the announcements, and going around the room to share experiences, can be done on Zoom, and we intend to have a Zoom component to our regular in-person meetings. Similarly, we can have our Executive Council meetings both in-person and on Zoom.

My point is that we want all of our members to be actively engaged with our Valley. And we want to continue to make Scottish Rite of such relevance that it remains worthy of your time. In addition to having short, effective meetings with good programs, which we hope meets and even exceeds your expectations, we provide educational and leadership opportunities that allow you to shape

the direction of the Valley and make meaningful contributions to Freemasonry and the larger community. We hope joining in these activities and taking advantage of these opportunities can also help you to grow intellectually and spiritually. In sum, the Alexandria Valley is not a closed shop. Many of the projects we undertake and many of the procedures we follow are a result of your suggestions. Organizations either grow or decline, either innovate or lose ground, and so we are not satisfied, even with our successes. We want to do more and do better and are interested in you, your ideas, suggestions, participation, and willingness to bring new members to our Valley.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Ed Cohen

The Origins of the Knights of St. Andrew

Mark Coldren, KCCH

One of the origin stories about the Knights of St. Andrew concerns Robert the Bruce and the Battle of Bannockburn, and draws a connection between the Knights of St. Andrew and the historic Order known as the Knights Templar.

The Knights Templar: Around 1118 a French Knight Hugues de Pyens founded a military order along with eight of his relatives and acquaintances. The order was called the Poor Knights of the Temple of Solomon, which later became known as the Knights Templar. Sir de Payens founded this order to protect Christian pilgrims who traveled to Jerusalem after the first Crusade, many of whom were killed while traveling through Muslim controlled regions during their pilgrimage. With the support of Baldwin II, King of Jerusalem, the Poor Knights of the Temple of Solomon established a headquarters on the sacred Temple Mount and pledged to protect all Christian visitors to Jerusalem. The Knights received formal endorsement by the Catholic Church in 1129, after initially facing criticism by religious leaders.

Over time the Knights Templar accrued much land and great wealth, which was coveted by king and Pope, and on Friday, October 13, 1307, King Philip IV ordered the Templar Grand Master Jacques de Molay and scores of other French Templars to be arrested. According to some historians, King Philip IV had the Templars arrested and their assets seized because he was deeply in debt to the Templars due to his wars against the English. After several demands from King Philip and threat of military action, Pope Clement V, on November 22, 1307, issued a papal bull instructing all Christian monarchs in Europe to arrest all Templars and seize their assets.

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**Proposed By-Laws Change
to add Dues Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
See article on Page 14.**

The Origins of the Knights of St. Andrew

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Pope Clement V eventually agreed to have the Order officially dissolved. Many Templars were tortured and forced to give false confessions. De Molay and dozens of Templar Knights were burned at the stake in Paris.

Many Templars fled France and traveled to other parts of Europe, and legend has it that 63 Templar Knights found refuge in Scotland.

The Battle of Bannockburn: In 1306 Robert the Bruce seized the Scottish throne which rekindled the Scottish Wars of Independence. After the death of Edward I, also known as Edward the Long Shanks, Edward II ascended to the English throne. Edward II was not the shrewd and ruthless king his father was and was not capable of providing the leadership needed to keep English positions in Scotland.

In 1313, Robert the Bruce demanded the allegiance of all remaining supporters of the former Scottish King John Balliol and threatened to strip them of their land and titles. In addition to this, Robert the Bruce demanded the surrender of the English garrison at Stirling Castle which was one of the most significant castles held by the English in Scotland. In 1314, when the English failed to remove their garrison from Stirling Castle, Robert the Bruce's younger brother Edward led the Scottish Army and surrounded the castle. The English agreed to surrender the castle if reinforcements were not sent by mid-summer. Edward II could not ignore this and requested 2,000 heavily armored cavalry and 25,000 infantrymen and invaded Scotland. It is reported that only about half of the infantry requested made it to Scotland. Even though, it was the largest English army to invade Scotland to that point.

The Battle of Bannockburn was fought over two days - June 23 and 24, 1314 - and legend has it that at a critical point, the 63 Templar Knights joined the battle and helped Robert the Bruce and the Scots defeat the English. On the first day of the battle, Robert the Bruce killed Sir Henry de Bohun and the English were forced to withdrawal for the night. That night Sir Alexander Seton, who was a Scottish noble serving in the English army, defected and told Robert the Bruce the location of all of English positions and informed him of the low English morale. On June 24, 1314, Edward II fled the Battle of Bannockburn with his personal body guard. Fear and panic spread throughout the English ranks and turned their defeat into a complete slaughter. Historians believe approximately 11,000 of 16,000 English infantrymen who arrived at the Battle of Bannockburn were killed during the battle. The English lost 34 barons and knights and another 20 plus were captured.

As a sign of his gratitude, Robert the Bruce created and bestowed upon these 63 Templar Knights the Order of Saint Andrew du Chardon (of the Thistle) of Scotland. Robert the Bruce reserved the title of Grand Master for himself and his successors. Prince Charles Edward Stuart was the last Grand Master of the Scottish Order and exercised his powers by establishing a Chapter of Rose Croix at Arres, France. The motto of the Alexandria Valley Knights of St. Andrew is "To the 63" in honor of those 63 Knights Templar who helped the Scots win at Bannockburn.

The Battle of Bannockburn is considered to be the most celebrated victory against the English in Scottish history and one of the most significant battles of the Scottish Wars of Independence. However, Scottish independence was not officially recognized until after the death of King Edward II in 1328 by Edward III some 14 years later.

The Knights of St. Andrew: Today the Knights of St. Andrew is an organization within the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite made up of 32nd degree Masons.

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The Origins of the Knights of St. Andrew

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In 1993, the late Illustrious Weldon Good, 33°, of the Tulsa Valley in Oklahoma, recognized a need for assistance during Reunions. Ill. Brother Good also noticed that many Masons who joined the Scottish Rite were not returning to assist or participate in Reunions. To address this he created the organization known as the Knights of St. Andrew as a service organization to the Valley. The original by-laws stated that the Knights of St. Andrew would be a “black cap” organization and the duties of the Knights of St. Andrew would be to assist as needed during Valley Reunions and to be available to the Valley’s General Secretary for any assigned duties.

Due to the overwhelming success of the Knights of St. Andrew in the Tulsa Valley, and with the approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, Ill. Brother Good offered to charter chapters of the Knights of St. Andrew in the Valleys of Guthrie and McAlester in October 1993 and early 1994. In October 1993, there were over sixty Guthrie Scottish Rite members ready to join the Knights of St. Andrew. When they were told that only black caps were eligible to join the Knights of St. Andrew and they would have to provide service to the Valley by working at Reunions and for the Valley General Secretary, half of them left the room and the Tulsa Knights of St. Andrew initiated 32 charter members of the Guthrie chapter. Today there are approximately 145 chapters of the Knights of St. Andrews operating within the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite and 23 in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.



The Alexandria Knights: The Alexandria Valley chapter was formed in 2014 with the initial cadre installed by Ill. Edmund Cohen, Personal Representative in Alexandria, at a special, well-attended ceremony on October 10, 2014. Ill. Cohen noted that in forming, the Alexandria Knights of Saint Andrew, the Valley intends to give further expression to those great knightly virtues of the Knights Templar, but today our quest is quite different. It is to liberate ourselves from the bonds of intolerance, prejudice, and ignorance. He noted that the core mission of the Alexandria Knights would be to assist the Personal Representative and General Secretary, and this service includes presenting the Colors, serving as an honor guard for dignitaries and special guests, aiding the Valley during special functions, and escorting the Reunion Class as they move from the Degree conferrals to the Degree communications.

Ill. Cohen added a second mission, to pursue activities that generate opportunities to enhance the esprit de corps and fellowship of the entire 32° membership, and promote opportunities for increased participation. In this regard, he charged the Knights to have wholesome functions directed toward fun and fellowship for the Knights and their ladies.

In my view, the Knights have lived up to this charge and have played an ever increasingly important role in the life of the Valley. Indeed, in 2016, the Executive Council voted to present a special award to recognize the outstanding contributions of the Alexandria Valley Knights of Saint Andrew in supporting the Valley at its meetings, Reunions, and other events.

The Alexandria Valley Knights of St. Andrew have served not only the Valley but the Scottish Rite by assisting in numerous events. The Knights have assisted with every aspect of the Valley’s Friends and Family Dinner to promote Rite Care and raise funds to assist children with speech disorders. The Knights have assisted with the Southern Jurisdiction’s Biannual Session in 2017 and 2019, and at Celebrating the Craft events both at the House of the Temple and at the Alexandria Valley. The Knights have also helped serve Virginia Masonry by preparing breakfast for the Grand Lodge of Virginia’s Division Leadership Conference held at the Alexandria Valley. We also participated in the Alexandria Christmas Walk. Two of the events that the Knights are most proud of are laying wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery and at the Alexandria National Cemetery – which is one of the 14 original national cemeteries established in 1862.

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The Origins of the Knights of St. Andrew

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One of the Knights core missions is fostering fellowship through social gatherings. After all of our events, the Knights strengthen their bonds of friendship and enjoy each other's company over food and drink. The Knights hold a social gathering at least once a month, and these gatherings are open, not just to the Knights, but to all Masons and non-Masons. In the past, the Knights and their families have attended baseball games, and one of the most recent social gatherings was a scotch and cigar event held to support the Friends and Family Dinner.

The Knights want to extend a special welcome to our newest members. We cannot wait to meet you and personally welcome you into the Valley. We hope that you will join us for fellowship after the Valley meetings and, if you are interested, consider joining the Knights of St. Andrew. If you have any questions about the Alexandria Knights do not hesitate to ask one of our members who can be identified by the glengarry or the St. Andrew's cross medallion that many of us wear. Welcome and I hope to see you soon at the Valley.

References

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<https://www.knightsofstandrew.info/history/origins-of-the-order/>
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Frank Anthony, KCCH Jason Himsey, KCCH,
Rick Cady, and Sam Turner



Commander's Message

Kevin Homan, KCCH, Commander, Alexandria Council of Kadosh

Brethren, while we, of course, celebrate the New Year in January, spring to me has always felt like a transition point as well, and this year and this spring certainly seems to be a bigger transition than most. By now I am sure you are aware of updated Virginia and Grand Lodge of Virginia meeting guidance allowing indoor meetings with up to 50 people in attendance. With vaccinations continuing to ramp up, case numbers hopefully continuing to drop, I am hopeful that we are looking at the backside of this pandemic.

It has been an interesting year or so, one that has made its impact on Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite. If there was one word that could sum up 2020 that wasn't coronavirus and covid, it would be Zoom. Zoom has been a great benefit to Freemasonry. It allowed us to continue meetings, fellowship and education at a time when things were shut down. Without it, we would have gone over a year without meeting. Instead, we were able to have our meetings, have two Zoom Reunions and bring in new members, and we were able to see and talk with each other. In addition, groups like Refracted Light sprang up on Facebook, offering virtual education that united Masons across the country. Going forward, I hope this is something Masonry keeps in its arsenal of outreach. There are amazing Masons, with amazing programs and presentations all across the country. In the past we would have had to pay transportation and lodging for a special speaker. Now, we can invite them to join us on Zoom, and they can educate and inspire our members both on Zoom and in our Lodge building. In addition, having a Zoom component to our in-person meetings allows Brethren who otherwise wouldn't be able to attend our meetings to participate virtually. I hope we can see the value in what Zoom has to offer us and figure out ways to keep it around. Used correctly it has the power to make us a better organization.

But Zoom has also lessened our personal contact, and as much a proponent of Zoom as I am (and I'm one of the biggest) I look forward to again seeing my Brethren, ALL my Brethren, in person very soon. Nothing can and will replace the in-person experience. In this regard, I also would note that one of the big challenges of 2020 and this pandemic has been the mental health implications that have befallen so many Americans, largely due to a lack of personal contact. While Zoom has been a great way to stay in touch with family, friends and Masons alike, it just doesn't replace that personal one-on-one or group feeling. This obviously isn't the fault of Zoom, of course, but I did want to highlight that there are MANY people out there who have been very negatively affected by this past year. It is our job as Masons to reach out and try to help if and when we become aware of a need.

The Alexandria Council of Kadosh has already held one meeting in February and a second in April. We strive to bring you something very worthwhile and interesting each time we meet. Our remaining two meetings are in July and November. I look forward to seeing you at these meetings in-person or on Zoom.

Brethren, thank you again for your trust. Remember to keep an eye on our Brothers, families and friends. This year has been a tough one, but we can overcome these challenges if we put Masonry front and center and make it the basis of our personal interactions!

Fraternally,
Kevin Homan

Commander's Biography

Brother Kevin Homan was raised a Master Mason in August of 2007 at Olive Branch Lodge in Leesburg, VA, and has since become active within his Lodge, and in the various Appendant Bodies of which he is a member. He has served as Worshipful Master several times.

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Commander's Biography

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Kevin joined the Scottish Rite at Alexandria Valley's Fall 2010 Reunion, immediately joining several Degree casts. Over the years, he has participated in the 4th, 30th and 32nd Degrees, and, in 2020, assumed the duties of the Degree Master of the 30th Degree. In 2016 Kevin was invested with the Knight Commander Court of Honour.

Brother Homan is also active on the York Rite side of Freemasonry. He is a member of Potomac Chapter No. 88, Piedmont Commandery No. 26 and several other York Rite Bodies. He served as Eminent Commander of Piedmont Commandery in 2019. Additionally, he is a founding member of the Mid-Atlantic Esotericon, an annual conference that brings together those interested in Esoteric topics for a weekend of fellowship, fun, and esoteric education.

Outside of the Craft, Brother Homan is a husband, father to three wonderful (mostly) children. He works in the information technology space for Peraton. He enjoys cars, to include driving fast cars on speed tracks, spending time at the beach with his family, and reading.

Scottish Rite Fellow's Update

Brian Walaszczyk, 32^o, 2020 Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite Fellow

I had the privilege to attend a Scottish Rite Fellows Zoom meeting on March 24, 2021 and wanted to share some of the information conveyed by our Sovereign Grand Commander III. James D. Cole, 33^o (SGC). He focused on seven topics.

Membership. III. Cole reported that the Southern Jurisdiction lost approximately five percent of its membership last year. He said this may seem high, but the loss had been estimated to be around 10% to 15%, and is on par with membership losses over the last 15 years. This is primarily due to age, with so many of our Brethren passing to the Celestial Lodge.

Strategic Planning: Strengthening our Valleys must be a priority. III. Cole stressed the need to develop a strategic mindset. He said it is necessary to take a Valley's short-term plans and develop them into a long-term strategic vision. This means analyzing what we are currently doing to ensure that we are focused on the right things and clearly understand where we want to be in the future. The purpose of a strategic goal is to get from point A to point B; so we need to examine our strengths and weaknesses and determine how to work them into a plan that gets us to where we want to go. Then we need to determine what activities and programs will align with and move us toward our goal.

Virtual Reunions: III. Cole said he was very pleased with the virtual Reunions, stating that they had had amazing impact and success. He noted that they had sparked increased enthusiasm. Members were excited and amazed at how much they had learned during the virtual Reunion, and several Valleys had their largest Reunions in decades. He said that virtual Reunions will continue to be available and authorized for use in the appropriate setting. III Cole concluded by explaining that this method of communicating all the degrees has been around for a long time and is what he likes to call the "Pike Approach." The only difference from the past is the use of Zoom technology to communicate all of the degrees in a virtual setting.

Temple Renovation: III. Cole spent some time talking about the various construction projects underway at the House of the Temple. One interesting fact is that the building has two moats. They wrap around the sides of the building and continue around the front. The moats are below the Sphinx and are 22' to 24' deep. There is no water. They are designed for drainage and natural air circulation. When all the doors and windows of the temple room are open, cool air is circulated in from the moat and hot air is expelled. One of the current projects is to make necessary repairs to the moat. Although social distancing rules are likely to remain in place, III. Cole is hopeful that the House of the Temple, like the Smithsonian, will be completely open by mid-Summer. (Continued on Page 8.)

Scottish Rite Fellow's Update

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Masonic Book Club: Ill. Cole reported that the Masonic Book Club is doing well with around 2,700 members. He encouraged everyone to sign up, noting that it is free and gives you advance notice of new publications and an opportunity to order them before they are published, so you are among the first to receive them. He noted that the first new book had already sold out with over 1,300 sales. He stated that the Supreme Council is focused on providing additional digital resources to our members, to include audio and eBooks. He reported that "*Forms and Traditions*" will be available on the Scottish Rite website in a pdf form, and also available in the member's section. "*Morals and Dogma*" is also available online to every Scottish Rite member in audio format. He urged everyone to sign onto the member's only section of the Scottish Rite website to see all of the educational videos that are available and he also urged members to follow his Facebook page and his video posts.

Master Craftsman Program: Ill. Cole reported that the Master Craftsman program is doing well with its new online format and that there has been an uptick in enrollments. He noted that Master Craftsman group studies PowerPoints were added to the website this week, and there are 29 separate PowerPoints you can use in a group setting or on your own. If you have not yet completed the program, I urge you to check this out. On a personal note, I just finished the final section and found the entire program to be great. You will not be disappointed in the amount of history, ritual, and philosophy that you learn.

Scholarship Program. Ill. Cole concluded by speaking about how the Supreme Council is expanding its scholarship program. Over the past 20 years, the scholarship program has been primarily funded by dues and gifts. Ill. Cole is now establishing a name scholarship program. You can make a gift to create an annual scholarship in honor of yourself or someone else. He reported that there already are several endowed scholarships in the works.

Fraternally,
Brian Walaszczyk, 32°

Report on the 20 March Scottish Rite Zoom Workshop

Allen D. Beckner, KCCH, Alexandria Valley Vice President of the SR Conference of Virginia (2016-2022)

Dear Brethren:

Thank you for your outstanding attendance and support of the Alexandria Valley at the Virtual Spring Workshop of the Orient of Virginia held on March 20, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Our Valley had 23 Brethren in attendance. The meeting was an enjoyable time to visit with Brethren from all the Orient of Virginia.

Brother Bill Robertson, Jr., KCCH, hosted the meeting as President of the 2021 Workshop. Bill's expression of appreciation for everyone working with him through all of 2020 and the spring of 2021 was well received.

After the invocation and pledge of allegiance, Brother Bill turned the meeting over to Ill. Alan W. Adkins, 33°, G.:.C.:., for the introduction of the Grand Master, M.W. Douglas Vernon Jones, 33°, for his remarks. He noted that our communities needed us even more than before the pandemic, and we need to step up to the challenge. He noted that "The Supreme Architect has given us the tools to transfer the ordinary to the extraordinary in the way we act out our lives in our communities."

Ill. Adkins, then introduced our guest speaker, M.W. & Ill. Terry L. Bowman, 33°, Supreme Council Deputy in Kentucky. Ill. Bowmans' topic was leadership which he admitted is difficult to teach.

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Report on the 20 March Scottish Rite Zoom Workshop

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Webster's Dictionary defines a leader as one who directs, and Ill. Bowman suggested that among the important traits that needed to be cultivated were good communications skills, an ability to properly describe the task that needs to be done, and taking the time to provide clear instruction about how to proceed. He also noted that a leader needs to be a good listener, able to absorb details, and then appropriately share his knowledge and expertise with the rest of the organization. The leader must be open to new ideas, adaptable, and able to build a cohesive team. Finally, a leader must think about succession planning and develop those with the skills to assume important leadership roles in the future. The best example of a good leader was Brother George Washington who was able to convince colonists to unite and repel, and even win, against the most powerful country in the world, and also to inspire the drafting and implementation of the most famous and important documents in American history. Ill. Bowman concluded by noting that in promoting Masonic leadership we need to adhere to the ancient lessons taught in our Craft.

Foundation President Philip Rhodes, KCCH and Ill. Leonard Rowe, 33°, Treasurer, gave the Scottish Rite Foundation Report. They reported that the Foundation is doing well financially and had received a recent bequest that will allow it to provide one additional \$5,000 RiteCare scholarship to a James Madison University student.

Ill. Alan Adkins introduced Brother Steve Doud, KCCH, as the webmaster and designer of the new website for the Orient of Virginia. The website is: VAScottishRite.org and is worth visiting. It contains a great deal of information about the Orient and will have up-to-date information about the Scottish Rite Conference in Roanoke.

Each of the Orient Vice Presidents introduced their respective Valley executive leadership and reported on the progress the Valley was able to make in spite of the pandemic.

Ill. Adkins installed the Valley Vice Presidents and Conference President for 2021.

Ill. William A. Parks, 33°, President of the 2021 Conference, announced that the Conference will be held on September 23 – 25 at the Holiday Inn Tanglewood in Roanoke, VA. Complete details and updated information will be provided on the Orient website. Ill. Parks commented that the Roanoke Conference will feature great food and entertainment, and will be a time for celebration and renewal of friendships disrupted by the pandemic.

After the benediction, the meeting adjourned shortly after 11:00 a.m.

Sincerely,
Allen D. Beckner

Plan Ahead

VA Scottish Rite Conference

will be held on September 23 – 25
at the Holiday Inn Tanglewood
in Roanoke, VA



Test Your Knowledge of the Scottish Rite and Early American History

The Answers

Norman Hoff, 33°, Mike Taldo, KCCH, and Roger Peak, KCCH

In the last issue we asked a series of questions. **Here are the answers.**

Q. What are the four Bodies of a Scottish Rite Valley?

A. *Lodge of Perfection (4°-14°), Chapter of Rose Croix (15°-18°), Council of Kadosh (19°-30°) and Consistory (31°-32°).*

Q. Which are the five mandatory degrees and why are they mandatory?

A. *4°, 14°, 18°, 30°, 32°. The Statutes of the Supreme Council of the 33°, Article III, Sec. 2. identifies these degrees as mandatory and states that they “shall never be communicated except by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, and then only in unusual circumstance.” The 4° is the introductory degree that will prepare the Candidate for what is to come, and each of the remaining four degrees is the highest, or capstone degree of each of the four Bodies of the Scottish Rite*

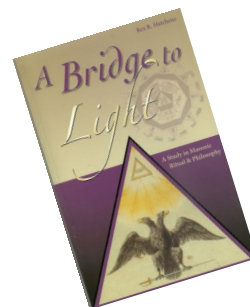
Q. Why is the Presiding Officer of the Council of Kadosh called “Commander” while, in the ritual, he is referred to as “Sir Preceptor”?

A. *First, the dictionary definitions of “preceptor” are “teacher” and “one who is in charge of a preceptor,” the “preceptory” is defined as a “subordinate house or community of Knights Templar.” The Scottish Rite Ritual, Monitor and Guide addresses the subject of Officers and Titles in the section on the 30th degree: “The elective Officers of a Preceptory are 1 - The Preceptor, 2 - The First Sub-Preceptor, 3 - The Second Sub-Preceptor. These Officers are spoken of outside the Body as: 1 - The Commander, 2 - The First Lieutenant Commander, 3 - The Second Lieutenant Commander. They are also so-called in the Register and wherever else the Body is called a Council.” The Monitor & Guide further explains that: “The word ‘Sir’ is prefixed to the title of each Officer when addressing him.” Thus, on a listing of Council officers, we would include “Commander,” while addressing him in the meeting as “Sir Preceptor.” This explains the use of two words for the presiding officer, but doesn’t address the use of only one title for the next two subordinate officers. (But “sub-teacher” wouldn’t be very impressive.)*

Q. What are the meanings of the Council of Kadosh officer titles: Turcopiler, Draper, Bearer of Beauseant, Bearer of White Standard, Bearer of Black Standard?

A. *Ill. Brother Arturo de Hoyos, 33° G.:C.:, writes, in Scottish Rite Ritual - Monitor and Guide, that “The titles of these offices are traditional, and originally reflected a very particular responsibility. For example, in the Council of Kadosh, which represents a Body of Knights Templar, the Turcopiler was the ancient title for the Commander of the Cavalry, while the Draper was in charge of the Templar vestments.” The Beauseant is a black over white Banner of the Order that is said to have been employed at the front of the charge to lead the Templars into battle. In the 30th Degree, the Bearer of the Beauseant sits in front to the right of the Commander near the Beauseant. The White and Black Standards were also carried into battle, and their design and meanings are provided in the description of the 30th Degree in the aforementioned Scottish Rite Ritual - Monitor and Guide.*

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Test Your Knowledge of the Scottish Rite and Early American History

The Answers

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Q. Which Body was the administrative forerunner of our current Orient and SGIG system?

A. *The Consistory. The Supreme Council restructured the Scottish Rite organization around 1842. The 31° and 32° were previously conferred solely by the “Grand Consistories of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret” which predated today’s Orients. On pages 64-65 of The Lodge of the Double-headed Eagle, William Fox quotes from a 1944 letter written by Grand Commander Cowles the following: “the original form of organization of the Scottish Rite was to have one Grand Consistory in each state or Orient or sub-jurisdiction, whatever you want to call it. Then these Grand Consistories would issue the charters of the Lodges of Perfection, 4° - 14°; for the Councils of Princes of Jerusalem, 15° - 16°; for the Chapters of Rose Croix, 17° - 18°; for the Councils of Kadosh, 19° - 30°, but the Grand Consistories retained the 31° and the 32°. The subordinated bodies would be scattered over the state, but the members would have to come to the Grand Consistories to get the 31° and the 32°.” Once reorganized, the SGIG Active Members replaced the Grand Consistory as the principal officers and administrative leadership of the Rite in their Orient, and the Grand Consistories became the Valley Bodies we have today, still responsible for the 31° and 32°.*

Q. What are the governing documents of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction?

A. *The Regulations of 1762, the Grand Constitutions of 1786, the Statutes of the Supreme Council of the 33° (updated periodically - last updated August 2019), the edicts and decisions of the Supreme Council, and the unwritten principles and Landmarks of Freemasonry constitute the law of the Rite in the jurisdiction of our Supreme Council.*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 184: In the Fourth Degree the true Mason is

A. (C) *Active*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 191: What virtues are peculiarly inculcated in the Fifth Degree?

A. (D) *Honesty and Industry*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 195: The name of the Sixth Degree is:

A. (B) *Intimate Secretary*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 207: In the Seventh Degree when should we judge another man?

A. (D) *Only when Duty mandates*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 210: The ancient first sign of the Eighth Degree was?

A. (C) *Sign of Surprise*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 227: In the Ninth Degree the wise and well-informed Mason will not fail to be the votary of?

A. (A) *liberty and justice*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 234: The biggest danger presented in the Tenth Degree is?

A. (D) *Lack of Tolerance*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 253: As presented in the Eleventh Degree, who is the great teacher?

A. (D) *Death*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 264: The Twelfth Degree teaches:

A. (C) *Necessity of Society*

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 277: In the Thirteenth Degree the Holy of Holies forming a cube and drawn on a plane surface has how many visible lines?

A. (D) *9*

(Continued on Page 12.)

Test Your Knowledge of the Scottish Rite and Early American History The Answers

(Continued from Page 11.)

Q. According to Morals and Dogma pg. 303: In the Fourteenth Degree - 72 is equal to?

A. (A) *The Great Name of God*

Q. How many Freemasons signed the Olive Branch Petition?

A. *Nine: Edward Biddle, John Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Joseph Hewes, William Hooper, Charles Humphreys, Robert Livingston, Jr., and Robert Treat Paine.*

Q. Which two founding documents did George Washington sign?

A. *The Articles of Association and the United States Constitution.*

Q. Which three founding documents did Benjamin Franklin sign?

A. *The Olive Branch Petition, the Declaration of Independence, and the United States Constitution.*

Q. Who assisted in drafting the Judiciary Act of 1789 that established the federal court system?

A. *William Paterson.*

Q. Who was captured, accused of treason, and was the only American citizen to be imprisoned in the Tower of London?

A. *Henry Laurens.*

Q. Who partnered with George Washington to build the canal known today as the Potomac Canal?

A. *Daniel Carroll*

Q. Who was one of five surgeons captured by the British at Fort Washington, New York?

A. *James McHenry*

Q. Who was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Delaware?

A. *Gunning Bedford, Jr.*

Q. Who was the first Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire?

A. *John Sullivan*

Q. Who was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia?

A. *John Blair, Jr.*

Q. For whom was General Cornwallis exchanged when he was released from parole after his capture by George Washington?

A. *Henry Laurens*

Membership Committee Update

Michael Bible, KCCH, Chairman, Membership Committee

Brethren,

The Membership Committee is working on an Alexandria Valley Membership Brochure which, upon completion and final approval, will be circulated among the Blue Lodges that we serve. I am looking for pictures of our Valley brethren, participating in various functions, fellowship, and working the reunions in their various capacities. Picture submissions should be submitted to Michael Bible, KCCH, at tinstar123@cox.net.

Brother George K. Fox, Jr.
The Man Who Saved the Loudoun County Records during the Civil War.

Mark E. Cummings, 32^o, Orator, Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix

Many Masons are leaders in their local communities. One such Mason was George K. Fox, Jr, who lived in Leesburg, Virginia, during the Civil War. Brother Fox was the Junior Deacon of Olive Branch No. 114 from 1864-1865, and its Secretary from 1865-1866. The book, *Loudoun County and the Civil War* proclaims: "HE SAVED THE COUNTY RECORDS".

Many Virginia counties suffered severe damage to their records when the court houses and clerk's offices were occupied by Union Army troops during the Civil War. In fact, of the commonwealth's 120 circuit courts, only five preserved all of their records through the Civil War. County records include property deeds, wills, tax rates, the names of those who lived and died, and a record of freed slaves. These records are not only vital to lawyers and landowners, but also to historians, as they contain the history of the County.

The story starts with a memorandum written by Brother Fox in the Loudoun County Minute Book: "Owing to the continuance of the War, no court was held in the county from February 1862 to July 1865." In anticipation of the Union Army's invasion and occupation of Leesburg, the County seat of Loudoun, the Loudoun Court, headed by Presiding Justice Asa Rogers, ordered County Clerk George K. Fox, Jr., to remove the records to a place of safety and to use his discretion about their preservation. Pursuant to these instructions, Mr. Fox loaded the records into a large wagon and drove south to Campbell County. During the next four years, Brother Fox moved his precious charge from place to place as danger threatened each refuge in turn. At one time, considerable public discussion went on over where the records were taken. Some local residents had heard they were taken to Campbell County; others maintained they went to Albemarle County. However, Brother Fox's travels from March 1862 to July 1865 remain undocumented.

After the war, when the newly-elected officers and justices met in July, 1865, they issued an order: "That George K. Fox, Junior, as Clerk of this Court, having removed from this County the records of the Court under an order heretofore made, is now ordered to return the records to the Clerk's Office of this Court as soon as possible at the expense of the County."

The August 9, 1865, issue of the *Democratic Mirror* (published in Leesburg) carried this news story: "George K. Fox, Junior, Esquire, late Clerk of the Court, reached home Friday from the Devil's Kitchen with the Records of the County which were removed more than three years ago by Order of the Court. They were returned in good condition without the loss of a single paper, or even a rubbing of the bindings of the books. The office is now in good running condition except for a few minor papers which were left behind."

The Court ordered Brother Fox to return the records on July 10 and he returned them to Leesburg by August 9. Devil's Kitchen is close to Goshen Pass in Rockbridge County, and considering the distance and the condition of the roads, this was a very prompt execution of the order.

Brother Fox is one of the unsung heroes of the Civil War in Loudoun County. Due to his singular efforts, Loudoun County has a complete set of Deed, Will, and Order Books from the formation of the county in 1757, including all the Revolutionary War records. The Minute Books date from 1820 when the Assembly of Virginia provided for the discontinuance of Order Books and provided for Minute Books. For his extraordinary care and diligence in keeping safe Loudoun County's entire history, the people of Loudoun are indebted to Brother Fox.

Brother George K. Fox, Jr. was born in Leesburg on August 14, 1832; he died in Leesburg at age 40 from typhoid fever on December 14, 1872; and is buried in Leesburg's Union Cemetery Plat A Lot 15 Site 9. Brother Fox was a great man, and a dedicated Mason who performed heroically for Loudoun County during the Civil War.

Bibliography

Loudoun County and the Civil War: A Country Divided. Text by John Divine, Wilber C. Hall, Marshall Andrews, and Penelope M. Osburn. Edited by Fitzhugh Turner. Published by the Virginia Civil War Centennial Commission 1961-1965. Also published by Leesburg Potomac Press 1961, pp. 59-61.

By-Laws Change to add Dues Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

Brethren:

In 2015 we realized that we could no longer continue to bridge the difference between income and expenses by dipping into our building fund. This was not an appropriate way to avoid raising our dues, and became unsustainable when we began working on significant building repairs and upgrades.

So far we remain in the black due to the care being exercised by our Valley Treasurer, Ill. Neil Marple; our General Secretary, Ill. Dave Morris; and the Chair of the Valley's Budget and Finance Committee, Ill. Pat Weyant. But the margin is growing smaller and we need to avoid repeating the errors of the past, so the Executive Council, after significant discussion, determined that the prudent thing to do is to add a cost of living clause to our dues to keep up with inflation.

This will not mean that in absolute terms we will be able to spend more, it simply will allow us to pay for the things we currently have to do.

The proposal approved by the Executive Council and discussed at the April 9, 2021, Valley meeting is to amend Article IV, Section 1: Fees and Dues by adding to the Annual Dues subsection an additional sentence at the end. That language is shown below in red.

The revised fees subsection in its entirety would read as follows:

Annual Dues

Lodge of Perfection 14°	\$62.00
Chapter Rose Croix 18°	\$10.00
Council Knights Kadosh 30°	\$10.00
Consistory 32°	\$10.00

Total \$92.00 Plus the Supreme Council and Orient Per Capita

Assessments rounded up to the next whole dollar. **To keep up with inflation, dues shall be adjusted annually as determined by the consumer price index.**

Please review this change. We will bring this proposal to the May 14 Valley meeting for a final vote.

Thanks,

S&F,

Ed Cohen

RSVP

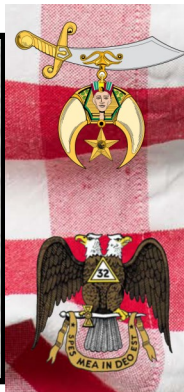
by

July 17, 2021

to

RSVP@Kena.org

or 703-573-4202



Kena Shriners & Alexandria Scottish Rite Bodies Family Picnic

**Food, Fun and Fellowship! IT'S FREE!
Bring your Masonic Brothers and their Families...**

Saturday, July 24, 2021

11a - 2p

Kena Temple, 9500 Technology Dr., Manassas, VA

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Corn, Cornhole, & other fun activities

To ensure we have enough food for everyone, please

RSVP by Saturday, July 17 to RSVP@Kena.org or call 703-573-4202.

Secretary's Corner

Ill. David C. Morris, 33° General Secretary

ALEXANDRIA VALLEY OFFICE

We are maintaining our regular hours: M-F 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. but first call 703-998-9044.

Do we have your EMAIL ADDRESS?

This is especially important now because of the COVID-19 virus and our use of Zoom for our monthly meetings. We look forward to your participation on our Zoom meetings, if you can't join us in person.



Caps, Rings, Patents, and Cap Boxes for FALL of 2020 Reunion

If you have completed your Registration, we have your items ready to be picked up. Please call the office to schedule a mutually agreeable time at 703-998-9044.

2021 MEMBERSHIP CARDS – YOU MUST HAVE A 2021 CARD TO ATTEND

We hope to be back to in-person meetings soon, and don't forget to bring your 2021 card to these meetings.

AUTOMATIC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FROM THE SUPREME COUNCIL

An optional "Automatic Membership Renewal Program" for paying Dues through the Scottish Rite Portal will be offered when paying online. You will get an email reminder a few days before a payment is processed, and you can opt out at any time.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

We will continue to have our meetings via Zoom as long as circumstances warrant and then will have these meetings in-person at our building with a Zoom component for those who live too far away to attend. As we get closer to the date of the meeting, we will advise you whether we are having a Zoom meeting or an in-person and Zoom meeting.

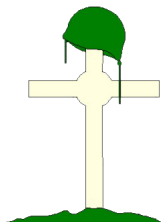
MAY 2021

May 14 – 7:30 p.m.
Valley Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
(Lodge of Perfection)

May 19 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
If in person 7:00pm @
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge
If ZOOM – 7:00pm

May 26 – 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah Club Meeting
Spurmont Lodge—Strasburg, VA

May 31
MEMORIAL DAY



JUNE 2021

June 11 – 7:30 p.m.
Valley Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
(Lodge of Perfection)

June 16 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
If in person 7:00pm @
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge
If ZOOM – 7:00pm

June 23 – 6:00 p.m.
Shenandoah SR Club
Cassia Lodge—Woodstock, VA

JULY 2021

July 4 – INDEPENDENCE
DAY - HOLIDAY
Observed on July 5th

July 9 – 6:30 p.m.
Executive Council Meeting
Valley Meeting - 7:30p.m.
(Chapter Rose Croix,
Council of Kadosh, &
Lodge of Perfection)

July 21 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
If in person 7:00pm @
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge
If ZOOM – 7:00pm

July 24 – 11 am – 2 p.m.
KENA -Alexandria Valley
JOINT FAMILY PICNIC
Held at KENA Temple, Manassas, VA
(See page 14 for details.)

July 28 – 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah Club Meeting
Spurmont Lodge, Strasburg, VA

SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN
Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia

Illustrious David H. Smith Sr., 33°, Editor
Editor@AlexandriaScottishRite.org

TBD, Content Coordinator

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Illustrious Oral (Neil) McNeil Marple, 33°

Thomas G. Little, KCCH
Almoner

Illustrious Norman A. Mayo, 33°
Almoner Emeritus

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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. L. C. C.
Deputy of the Supreme Council in
the Orient of Virginia

ILLUSTRIOUS EDMUND COHEN, 33°
Personal Representative of the Deputy in Alexandria

STATED MEETINGS

Alexandria Lodge of Perfection

Second Friday of each month
PETER E. TERRILL, KCCH
Venerable Master

Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix

Second Friday
February, March, July, November
JAMES A. LOUDERMILK, II, 33°
Wise Master

Alexandria Council of Kadosh

Second Friday
February, April, July, November
KEVIN M. HOMAN, KCCH
Commander

Alexandria Consistory

Second Friday
April, August, October, December
RONALD G. ELLIOTT
Master of Kadosh

