



Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia
AlexandriaScottishRite.org

Scottish Rite Bulletin

May—June 2023



Commander's Message

Dylan M. Phillips, Commander, Alexandria Council of Kadosh

I would like to take this opportunity as a new Officer to introduce myself to the larger Valley Body by sharing some thoughts I have regarding the purpose and value of being a part of the Masons and the Scottish Rite. While ritual is an integral part of what has kept our organization lasting and thriving for centuries, reciting lines and showing up for stated meetings/one-day conferrals is not what makes us a brotherhood. Rather, I would like my fellow brothers to take some time to reflect on why we are Masons and the obligations we now have from being conferred with such a great and important privilege as being a member of the Fraternity.



The Masons are a secretive, but not so secretive organization. We Masons are often thought of as a secretive organization with some sort of hidden agenda. We do keep some rituals hidden from the public eye; however, throughout the history of the Fraternity, its most important aspects—which are often thought to be kept secret from outsiders—are not only not secretive, but also the dissemination of the message of such to the public is one of the Fraternity's goals.

So what are the Fraternity's most important aspects? Those are best demonstrated by the delineation of the Fraternity's history.¹

The exact details of the formation of the fraternity in terms of why, when, and by whom it was created are still up for debate but the history of the Fraternity still sets forth a clear pattern for why it began and continues to exist. The oldest known document of Masonic origin is the Halliwell Manuscript, also called Regius Poem, which is thought to date back to 1390.² It is essentially a direction as to how society can be best governed through the promotion of good governance.³ This good governance concerns peoples' moral behavior, regularly showing respect to a higher power, and how to perform work at a building site.⁴

Master Masons are not documented as coming into existence until the early 1700s.⁵ As early as 1733, "Scotch Masons' Lodge" was documented as existing.⁶ The "Scotch" or "Scottish" designation refers to the conferral upon certain Master Masons of ethical teachings and philosophy as to how to essentially be a more valuable contributor to society.⁷

Despite the name of the degrees, the concept of the Scottish Rite as a compilation of these earned Scotch designations was a creation thought by historians to have originated in Paris, France.⁸ Around the same time as the origin of the Scotch degrees, Masonic ideas began to spread in America, beginning in Boston, Massachusetts, which promoted notions of civic responsibility and ethical behavior.⁹

The American Revolution was then fought until 1783 when Britain accepted defeat by the Colonies through the virtue of the Treaty of Paris.¹⁰ The Masonic lodge, known as Alexandria Lodge No. 22, then attracted many of the Revolutionary War's officers, and by 1788, these officers elected George Washington to become their founding Master.¹¹ George Washington then rose to become one of the most prolific Masons in the organization's history alongside other members of his lodge who were greatly influential in establishing our Republic.

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Commander's Message

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George Washington described the object of Masonry as follows:

To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy of the benevolent design of a Masonic institution; and it is most fervently to be wished, that the conduct of every member of the fraternity, as well as those publications, that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.

George Washington, *Letter to the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts* (January 1793).

To date, the ideas of Masonry have remained consistent. The Scottish Rite Creed currently provides that "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."¹² Nothing about this creed is meant to be kept secret.

The history of Masonry consists of many extraordinary individuals and secretive rituals, but the goal of our organization is simple and has always been kept open to the public; that being the goal of progressing society as a whole by each individual promoting his fellow man. Masonry provides certain non-public rituals for advancing the ethical guidance that advocates for one's self-improvement for the attainment of this goal. Nonetheless, the most important aspects of the Fraternity regard altruism and remain encouraged to be spread to the public, rather than kept secret.

As we continue to progress throughout this year, I ask that every brother introspectively consider and/or vocally express whether there is anything he can do as a member of the Valley to advance this goal.

I look forward to being with you at our Council of Kadosh meetings as well as at the coming meetings of the other Bodies. Our Valley will have some special programs in the coming months and I hope to see you at them.

As to these special programs, prior to our Valley Meeting on May 12, 2023, we will again welcome our Ladies and the Widows of our departed Brothers at dinner to express our appreciation of them and their support of their husbands' interest in the Scottish Rite. A special program is planned by Brother Daniel E. Froggett, 32° to display and discuss the Butterfly painting by Martha Washington that is currently in the possession of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. Our guests, as well as we will all enjoy seeing and learning about this piece by the wife of our Brother and first President. Please encourage your lady to attend, as this will be an interesting and insightful presentation.

The next month's meeting on June 9, 2023, will be another opportunity for our wives and guests to join us for our annual Outstanding Teachers Recognition dinner prior to our Valley meeting. We have enjoyed conducting this program annually for the past twenty-three years to recognize and present gifts to three outstanding Teachers from our Valley's area. The Scottish Rite supports liberty of thought and freedom of conscience, and particularly relevant to this occasion, it supports the American public school system as a non-partisan, non-sectarian, democratic institution providing equal educational opportunity for all our children.



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Commander's Message

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¹My research on the history of the Fraternity will hopefully provide you with some insight as to what my personal stance is on the purpose and meaning of being a Mason. However, as a preface to the following, I am not a historian and have substantially relied upon information from secondhand sources.

²See *The Old Charges: The Regius Manuscript ca. 1390*, available at: <http://www.durandlodge.com/books/RegiusMs1390.pdf>.

³See *id.*

⁴See *id.*

⁵See *History of the Rite*, SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, SJ, <https://scottishrite.org/about/history/> (last visited Feb. 28, 2022).

⁶See *id.*

⁷See *id.*

⁸See *id.*

⁹See *Early Freemasonry in North America*, GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON A.F. & A.M. (Feb. 13, 2009), <https://freemasonry.bcy.ca/history/first.html>.

¹⁰See History.com Editors, *Treaty of Paris*, HISTORY (Jan. 10, 2023), <https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/treaty-of-paris>.

¹¹See Hilary Anderson Stelling, *The Masonic Hall of Fame: Extraordinary Freemasons in American History*, ALEXANDRIA-WASHINGTON LODGE No. 22 (Feb. 22, 2022), https://nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com/library_and_archives/george-washington/; History.com Editors, *George Washington Becomes a Master Mason*, HISTORY (Aug. 3, 2021), <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/washington-becomes-master-mason>.

¹²*Our Creed & Mission Statement*, SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, SJ, <https://scottishrite.org/about/our-creed-mission-statement/> (last visited Feb. 28, 2022).

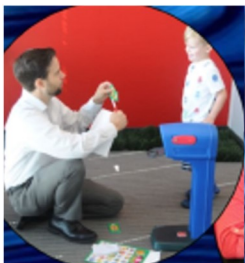
Commander's BIO

Brother Dylan Phillips was born and raised in Northern Virginia. Recently, he moved to a new home in Reston, Virginia.

When Dylan was in college, he studied Computer Information Systems and European Business. Afterward, he started his career in which he consulted Fortune 500 companies and public entities on matters pertaining to financially significant technology and corporate compliance. After several years in that line of work, Dylan then went to law school. Dylan currently practices law in Fairfax, Virginia, at a boutique firm that specializes in civil litigation. Dylan has published several works in topics related to litigation, technology law, and white collar crime.

In his spare time, Dylan enjoys seeing live music (especially the Red Hot Chili Peppers), is trying to become a pilot, regularly enters running races, and is an avid traveler. Dylan has been to over 40 countries and is working on finishing visits to every state by the end of this year.

Dylan first became a part of the Masons in 2014 by joining Rockingham Union Lodge No 27 in Harrisonburg, Virginia. After moving back to Northern Virginia, Dylan then joined Concord Lodge No. 307 in Vienna, Virginia. At Concord, Dylan currently holds the position of Senior Deacon. Dylan joined the Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite in 2017. There, he has joined the 7th and 32nd Degree cast. Dylan currently holds the position of Commander of the Council of Kadosh.



Register at <https://www.alexandriascottishrite.org/charity>

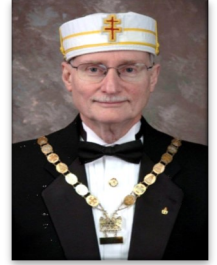
FRIENDS & FAMILY CHARITY EVENT MAY 6, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Donations are tax deductible: 501(c)(3) 54-6048101

Personal Representative's Message

Ill. Edmund Cohen, 33°, Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Alexandria

Great minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, and small minds discuss people. We see this in our magazines. The Wilson Quarterly and Lapham's Quarterly, for example, with a relatively small but elite readership deals with ideas; Time and Newsweek with a larger audience deals with events and people.



So it is in our growth as men and Masons. As Entered Apprentices or rough ashlar, we focus on people. This is both good and bad. On the positive side we talk about each other's daily doings and on the less positive side tend to gossip. As Virginians we know that "bless his heart" is the introduction to some negative comment.

As Fellowcrafts, we move on to talk about events, something that we have been accomplishing in our personal and business lives and events in our community and news reports from around the world.

Then, as Master Masons, we make use of the trestleboard to lay out our designs and think about the great issues of our time and how we might influence or impact them. And here, in the Alexandria Scottish Rite, as Master Masons, and even more as 32° Degree Masons, we contemplate the meaning of life itself and the role we might play in shaping events. In the current climate – and we talk about "climate" both literally and figuratively – there is much to be concerned about.

We, as Masons, have lamented the lack of civility in our society, the divisiveness, the fracturing of what used to be a national consensus, and the pettiness and mean spiritedness in our interactions with each other. But as our Grand Master MW Donald Ellis Strehle has said, it is our mission to counter these trends. It is Freemasonry's sacred duty to make sure our Lodges play a positive role in the Community. We want to be remembered for our acts of service. So we need to have our Lodges go into our communities and provide things that are needed by parents and children, and by our friends and colleagues. We should be providing food for those children and families who have to choose between getting the medicines they need or the food they should have. We should be giving clothing and backpacks to school children, and providing counselling and guidance for adults who have issues they are unable to deal with. We should be giving our loved ones a big hug and telling them how much we love them while they are still here to enjoy us saying this to them.

Let the world know we are Masons and are willing to provide, not only to members of our Fraternity, but to the world at large, a smile, a word of encouragement and other acts of kindness. These actions will long be remembered and Freemasonry will be seen as a force for good in a world which is too often divided along partisan lines.

None of this will occur by accident. Things don't just fall into place, they depend on the team we put together to take the lead and to take the steps necessary to make things happen. Our team must take the actions needed to mobilize the Brethren who are waiting for a call to action to do what has to be done. We need to go from being a follower to being a leader and it takes a real man to step up to the plate; to stop being one of the boys, and instead to set an example by saying the things that need to be said, even when that makes him unpopular.

In this context, some might suggest that after George Washington, two of the most significant Americans are Frank Sinatra and Johnny Carson. This is because a majority of American families turned in to listen to them on the radio or watch them on TV and we felt united as a country listening to them sing and tell jokes. We also would march around the breakfast table with Don McNeal in the morning and watch the Ed Sullivan Show at night and share a warm feeling that all was well with our nation. I would add to this list the two Roosevelts, Teddy and Franklin, using the bully pulpit of the Presidency in the context of their fireside chats to talk to us about the issues of the day and how they would affect us as a nation.

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Personal Representative's Message

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Today, we live in a very different world, one that is fractured. We get our news from sources that tend to reflect and reinforce our existing views and we do not listen to the other side of any issue. But Freemasonry works to join men of all nationalities, religions, political persuasions, and social and economic groups in an environment where we can learn from and support each other. So now is the time for Freemasonry to step up to the plate and play a larger role in reestablishing civility and bringing a renewed sense of order, stability, and unity to our great nation. We in the Alexandria Scottish Rite need to bring our message, and the message of Freemasonry, to our community and become the force for good that we were always meant to be.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Ed Cohen

Master Craftsman Study Group

Ronald E. Craft, Jr. and Michael D. Taldo, KCH, Education Committee

The Alexandria Scottish Rite Education Committee: Summer Symbolic Lodge Study Group



SCOTTISH+RITE
MASTER+CRAFTSMAN:
SYMBOLIC+LODGE

The Alexandria Scottish Rite Education Committee will be starting the Master Craftsman Study group on May 21, 2023. This virtual study group will cover the online **Master Craftsman Symbolic Lodge** course provided by the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction. This course focuses on developing an understanding of the Blue Lodge symbolism and its deeper meaning using Albert Pike's book, *Esoterika*. Over approximately six months, the group explores the early history of Masonry, reads early ritual exposes, and examines their development over time. The course also examines many of the deeper meanings behind symbols used in the Blue Lodge. To participate in the ASR Study Group, you must create an account on the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction website

<https://scottishrite.org/> and purchase the virtual course, which consists of the quizzes and other study material. The **Master Craftsman: Symbolic Lodge** (\$40.00) and the book, *Esoterika: The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry* (\$52.95) can be purchased here:

<https://mastercraftsmancollege.org/courses>. There are other *Esoterika* options available for Kindle or Audible which can be purchased though Amazon. There will be a virtual kick off meeting on May 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM to answer questions about the material. Contact Brothers Ron Craft, 32° or Mike Taldo, 32° KCCH at education@alexandriascottishrite.org for more information or to sign up for the study group.



Register at <https://www.alexandriascottishrite.org/charity>

2023 Alexandria Scottish Rite

FRIENDS & FAMILY CHARITY EVENT MAY 6, 2023 7:00 P.M.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial

101 Callahan Dr, Alexandria, VA 22301



The Sefer Yetzirah and the Scottish Rite

Brian Walaszczyk, 32°

The Sefer Yetzirah, also known as the Book of Formation or Book of Creation, is a foundational text for those seeking to further understand some of the keys to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite ritual. It is one of the oldest known Kabbalistic texts. Its first commentaries were written in the 10th century. It was quoted as early as the sixth century, referenced in the first century, and Jewish tradition claims it was used in Biblical times (Kaplan, 1997). An examination of the text's mystical ideas provides further light of its symbolism and influence within the Scottish Rite degrees.

Influence of the Sefer Yetzirah

Within Freemasonry's higher degrees, the veil of the Kabbalah and the Sefer Yetzirah's symbolism begins to be lifted. The 4°, Secret Master, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction (AASR SJ), begins with an introduction and explanation of the importance of the Kabbalah. In this degree, the Junior Warden states, "...the early ritualists, whoever they were, adapted the symbolism of this system [Kabbalah] and used it to conceal some of the deeper truths which lie within the fertile fields of masonic thought. They borrowed so heavily from this tradition that a complete understanding of Freemasonry is impossible without some familiarity..." The degree then goes on to discuss the tree of life, and states it is supported by "those familiar Masonic pillars of Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty." (Arturo De Hoyos 3. G., 2010)

Albert Pike clearly describes the importance of Kabbalah in the AASR degrees and the development of its rituals. In *Morals and Dogma*, Pike comments on the 28°, Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept, writing, "All truly dogmatic religions have issued from the Kabalah [sic] and return to it... all the Masonic associations owe to it their Secrets and their Symbols." Furthermore, in the same commentary, Pike goes on to discuss the concepts of the Sefirot contained within the Sefer Yetzirah. (Arturo De Hoyos 3. G., 2013) In his *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, Albert Mackey writes of Kabbalah, "Much use is made of it in the advanced degrees, and entire Rites have been constructed on its principles. Hence it demands a place in any general work on Freemasonry... The account of the creation and arrangement of the Sephiroth forms the most important portion of the secret doctrine of the Cabalists [sic] and has been adopted and referred to in many of the high philosophic Degrees of Freemasonry. Some acquaintance with it, therefore, seems to be necessary to the Freemason who desires to penetrate into the more abstruse arcana of his Order." (M.D., 1916)

We see the Sefer Yetzirah's most profound influence of the AASR system of degrees in the 32°, Master of the Royal Secret, where the candidate is provided the capstone of the entire rite, the Royal Secret. Here it is revealed that the Royal Secret is contained within the mystery of the tree of life, the Sefer Yetzirah's chief symbol, represented by three pillars. The degree notes, "Every man has within himself the same opposites, such as good and evil, virtue and vice. Your task is to reconcile those parallel forces, and, in so doing, you become the middle pillar." (Arturo De Hoyos 3. G., 2010)

32 Mystical Paths of Wisdom

In order to begin to associate the secrets contained within the Sefer Yetzirah with the Scottish Rite, its basic principles should be explored. One of the core concepts contained within this mystical document is the notion of the 32 Mystical Paths of Wisdom. This forms the tree of life, which is composed of 10 Sefirot globes and the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet: Three Mothers, Seven Doubles, and Twelve Elementals.

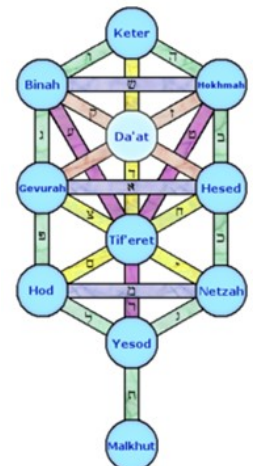


Figure 1

Tree of life based on the Bahir, showing both Keter and Da'ath

(Continued on Page 7.)

Note: Image obtained from Wikimedia.org (Eliyak, 2006)

The Sefer Yetzirah and the Scottish Rite

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The Sefirot each have an independent meaning. Keter is associated with Crown; Chakhmah with Wisdom; Binah with understanding; Daat with Knowledge; Chesed with Love; Gevurah with Strength; Tiferet with Beauty; Netzach with Victory; Hod with Spender; Yesod with Foundation; and Malkhut with Kingship. If you counted, there are eleven Sefirot in the above picture. This is because Daat is not a true Sefirot, but is sometimes included in depictions of tree of life.

The first three Sefirot also represent the three mother letters of the Hebrew alphabet, which are Alef, Mem, and Shin. One meaning associated with the three mothers is that they represent the three columns of the Sefirot. Chakhmah sits on top of the right column and is represented by Mem. Binah sits on top of the left column and is represented by Shin. Keter sits on top of the central column and is represented by Alef (Kaplan, 1997).

The three mothers are said to have a foundation of “a pan of merit, a pan of liability, and the tongue of decree deciding between them.” The Hebrew word for pan is Kaf. This word can denote a pan of a scale. Thus, we find a tongue of decree deciding between the outside pillars of merit and liability. Merit and liability could also be seen as a representation of the pillars of Severity and Mercy as Kabbalists have associated the outer pillars of the tree of life. In between these pillars sits the pillar of balance or harmony. (Kaplan, 1997).

In *Morals and Dogma*, Pike explains that Power [Strength] is Severity, Wisdom is Mercy, and infinite power and infinite wisdom, in equilibrium, produces beauty. Therefore, the three pillars of masonry may be viewed as a reflection of the three pillars of the tree of life. These form the triune support of the universe, for it is written that the foundation of all things is the Three. (Arturo De Hoyos 3. G., 2013)

The Elements

The classical elements of Fire, Water, Air, and Earth are alluded to in the *Sefer Yetzirah*. “Three Mothers, AMSh (אמ"ש), the Universe are air, water, fire. Heaven was created from the fire, Earth was created from water and Air from Breath decides between them.” (Kaplan, 1997)

The *Sefer Yetzirah* places the letters of the Tetragrammaton, Yud Heh Vav Heh, as parallels to the three Mothers and the elements. Yud is associated with Mem and water, Heh with Shin and Fire, and Vav with Alef and Air. According to Kaplan, the Tetragrammaton only relates to the ten Sefirot, and there was an aspect of creation that existed before the Sefirot known as the Universe of Chaos (Tahu). (Kaplan, 1997) The concept of order out of chaos can be seen in the Motto of the AASR, “Ordo Ab Chao.”

The Seven Lower Sefirot and Double Letters

The seven lower Sefirot correspond to the seven double letters of the Hebrew Alphabet. This is due to the possibility of each letter having two possible sounds. The seven double letters have been associated with the seven planets, the seven colors of the rainbow, the seven virtues, and the seven days of the week (Kaplan, 1997). The letters are viewed as having opposing meanings as follows:

- Bet corresponds to the opposite Wisdom and Folly
- Gimel corresponds to the opposite Wealth and Poverty
- Dalet corresponds to the opposite Seed and Desolation
- Kaf corresponds to the opposite Life and Death
- Peh corresponds to the opposites Dominance and Subjugation
- Resh corresponds to the opposites Peace and War
- Tav corresponds to the opposites Grace and Ugliness

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The Sefer Yetzirah and the Scottish Rite

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The 12 Elementals

The twelve elementals: Heh (ה), Vav (ו), Zayin (ז), Chet (ח), Tet (ט), Yud (י), Lamed (ל), Mem (מ), Samekh (ס), Eyin (ע), Tzadi (צ), Kuf (ק) correspond to speech, thought, motion, sight, hearing, action, coition, smell, sleep, anger, taste, laughter. They also correspond to the twelve months of the year, twelve signs of the zodiac, and twelve tribes of Israel. (Kaplan, 1997)

Summary

The Sefer Yetzirah provides a deeper meaning to the ritual and symbols in the Scottish Rite. In order to lift the veil of these secrets, one who is seeking more light in the mysteries should familiarize himself with the concepts contained in this indispensable text. While it isn't the only key to unfold the deeper truths contained within the Scottish Rite, it is an important one for the serious student to understand, particularly the masonic scholar seeking to truly understand the origin and deeper meanings of many of the symbols contained within the craft.

References

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Assistant Personal Representative's Remarks

Norman L. Hoff, Jr., 33°, Assistant Personal Representative of the SGIG

As Freemasons, we all understand the value of our Role Models and Mentors. The highest paid job in our Craft is probably "Role Model" - and the next in line would be "Mentor." These two jobs are important to our Brothers who are the beneficiaries, but they also bring great Masonic wealth to those who perform those roles. We may only aspire to become a Role Model, since that is typically determined by others who decide whom they want to emulate, but being a Mentor is well within the grasp of each of us.

Soon after our Lodge initiation, we met our first Fraternal Mentor, our catechism coach, who not only prepared us to return an "almost perfect" account of the degree we had just received, but also explained what all the unusual words meant and what we were to gain from them. He also answered our questions about the Lodge, our Brothers and about Freemasonry. We all remember that first Mentor, usually with great affection. All that time working on the catechisms often led to a lifelong bond with that friend and Brother. Over the following years, most of us may have acquired additional mentors, on whom we could depend either for good guidance or for directions to the best source of the information we were seeking.

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Assistant Personal Representative's Remarks

Norman L. Hoff, Jr., 33°, Assistant Personal Representative of the SGIG

Our Spring Reunion was recently concluded. At the end of the day on 22 April, our Valley welcomed over 20 new Masters of the Royal Secret to our Bodies. Each one of them was eager to learn about:

- our meetings and procedures...such as how do I get past the Tyler; what is the password; what is the dress code; what do I need to know about the opening and closing so that I don't embarrass myself.
- They also had questions about upcoming events - our Ladies and Widows dinner occurred only three weeks after the Spring Reunion: their questions were: what time; what cost; what to expect; if I'm not married, can I still come; is there also a stated meeting and what does my wife do during that time?

You see where I'm going. Every question, in the new member's mind, might be a reason to not show up - and we are all about "showing up." I don't usually look to Woody Allen for personal guidance, but we've all heard his statement that "80% of success is just showing up." In our Scottish Rite, perhaps we can measure that "success" by how much we enjoy and appreciate our membership. Importantly, if the new member is not "showing up" and not enjoying or appreciating that membership, he may just decide to not continue when the next year's dues statement arrives.

Now why am I focusing on Mentors now that we have just finished the Spring Reunion? There are two obvious reasons: first, and foremost, we have our newest members who are enthused and hungry for information, and those Mentors who have volunteered to help them find their way into our Valley's meetings, events, and even operations will have a significant influence on their future involvement in, and enjoyment of the Scottish Rite. Secondly, we have our Fall Reunion already approaching, and we will have another group of new Scottish Rite Brothers joining us at that time. We want to provide them, and every other group that comes after them, an equally successful reception and introduction to our Valley. The best way to achieve that is with the assistance of the Mentors.

Those Valley Brothers from the petitioners' Lodges usually have the most frequent contact with and access to the potential new member and each should consider volunteering to Mentor the new Brother as soon as he has voiced interest in petitioning, and eventually begins his journey in the Scottish Rite.

The guidance we provide to the designated Mentor is a "checklist" of common-sense suggestions addressing those questions such as I previously mentioned about meetings, procedures, and so forth. The Valley guidance for the Mentor is good, but it alone doesn't constitute a successful Mentor program. The part that is missing is 'us,' you and me, and our Valley's future success is not helped by anything less than an enthusiastic attitude about Mentoring our new members.

Every one of us in our Valley is already qualified to be an excellent Mentor and to either answer questions or to help find the answer. We should never have to seek out Mentors for our newest Scottish Rite Brothers. If someone from your Lodge has submitted a petition, please don't wait to be asked to help. Instead, let our Secretary or our Mentor coordinator, Brother John W. Mitchell, Jr., KCCH (jwmitjr@aol.com), know that you want to be the Mentor for that Brother and to help him in his journey in our Scottish Rite.

FAMILY POLO NIGHT

JULY 22, 2023 - 5:30 P.M.

Bring the family - Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite Disney, Marvel, or Star Wars characters.

COST: \$ 100.00 per Adult.

Children under 16 are **free**.

<https://www.biddingforgood.com/vsrf/polo2023>

Twilight Polo
5089 Old Tavern Road
The Plains, Virginia 20198



Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia

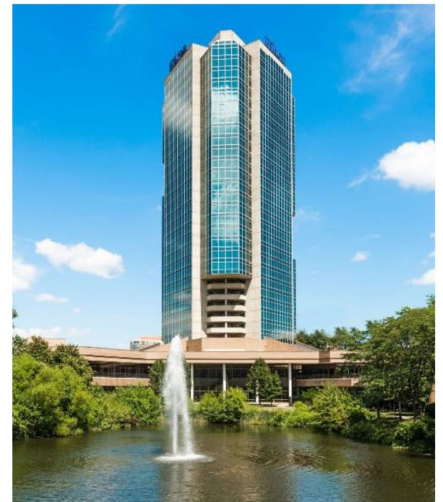
September 28-30, 2023

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22311

<https://www.vascottishrite.org/va-conference>

(check website for most current information)

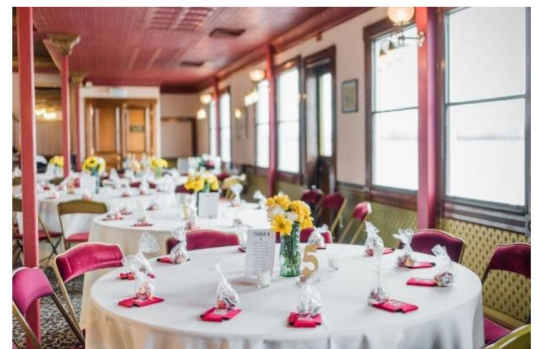


Special Event!! - Thursday, Sept. 28th @ 6pm



- Take a sunset scenic cruise down the Potomac enjoying drinks, dinner, and fellowship!
- Transportation provided from the conference hotel to/from Alexandria City Dock

“Cherry Blossom” Stern-wheeled Riverboat
Ticket prices and sales to be announced



99th Scottish Rite Conference – Friday/Saturday, Sept. 29-30th

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023	
8:30am-4:30pm	Registration Open
11:30am-1:00pm	Lunch for All
1:00pm-2:00pm	Education Session #1
2:00pm-3:00pm	Education Session #2
3:15pm-4:00pm	SGIG/PRs/Secretaries/Treasurers
3:15pm-4:00pm	SR Foundation Directors
3:15pm-4:00pm	Knights of St. Andrew
5:00pm-6:00pm	Social Hour
6:00pm-7:30pm	Banquet
7:30pm-	Hospitality

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023	
8:00am-1:00pm	Registration Open
9:00am-10:00am	SR Conference of VA
10:00am-10:15am	Break
10:15am-11:30am	SR Conference of VA (cont.)
11:30am-11:50am	SR Foundation Annual Meeting
11:30am-1:00pm	Ladies’ Lunch
2:30pm-4:00pm	KCCH Investiture
5:00pm-6:00pm	Social Hour
6:00pm-7:30pm	Banquet
7:30pm-	Ice Cream Social & Hospitality

Secretary's Southeast Corner

III. David C. Morris, 33° General Secretary



ALEXANDRIA VALLEY OFFICE

Our regular hours. M-F 10:30 am – 4:00 pm, Please Call the office first - 703 998-9044.

CAPS, RINGS, Patents and Cap Boxes all Reunions

ALL Reunions – Ordered Items should be in for our July Meeting.

WERE YOU A MEMBER of the 2020 Virtual Class?

Have you been to the office for Registration?

VALLEY ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Our Valley Ties are back in stock. The Cost remains \$30.00.

We have New Valley Shirt order forms. To order fill out the form and send to the office.

All Shirt orders must be Pre-paid.

When paying your dues on-line, and you discover any problems with your payment amount or your card, PLEASE contact the Valley Office at 703-998-9044. We can help you solve the problem.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CHARITY EVENT

Don't forget to sign up and attend on May 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial. Lots of fun activities and good food. See article on page 5.

FAMILY POLO NIGHT

Plan to attend the **Family Polo Night** at Twilight Polo, 5089 Old Tavern Road. The Plains, Virginia 20198 on July 22, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. A fun activity for all. See details on page 9.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

MAY 2023

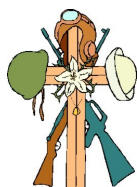
May 6 – GALA 7:00 p.m.
2023 Friends & Family Gala
GWMNM, Alexandria, VA

May 12 – 6:30 p.m.
LADIES NIGHT
Pre-Meeting Dinner
(Reservations by COB May 10)
(Lodge of Perfection)

May 17 – 7:30 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
Social Hour starts at 6:30 p.m.
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

May 24 – 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah SR Club
Spurmont Lodge, Strasburg

May 29 – HOLIDAY
Memorial Day



JUNE 2023

June 9 – 6:00 p.m.
TEACHERS NIGHT.
Pre-Meeting Dinner
(Reservations by COB June 7)
(Lodge of Perfection)

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

June 28 – 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah SR Club
Cassia Lodge, Woodstock



JULY 2023

July 4 – HOLIDAY
INDEPENDENCE DAY



July 14 – 6:00 p.m.
Executive Council Meeting
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
(Chapter Rose Croix,
Council of Kadosh, &
Lodge of Perfection)

July 19 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
Social Hour starts at 6:30 p.m.
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

July 22 – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
KENA and Alexandria SR Valley
JOINT FAMILY PICNIC
Held at KENA Temple, Manassas, VA

July 22 – 5:30 p.m.
FAMILY POLO NIGHT
Cost \$100.00 per person
Children under 16 - FREE
Twilight Polo, 5089 Old Tavern Road
The Plains, VA

July 26 – 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah Club Meeting
Spurmont Lodge, Strasburg

SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN
Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia

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

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.

Secretary of the Four Coordinate Bodies:
Illustrious David C. Morris, 33°
secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org

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

Treasurer:
Illustrious Oral (Neil) McNeil Marple, 33°

Thomas G. Little, KCCH
Almoner

Illustrious Norman A. Mayo, 33°
Almoner Emeritus

The mailing address is:
P.O. Box 175, Alexandria, VA 22313
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 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 correspond-
ence 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 EDMUND COHEN, 33°
Personal Representative of the SGIG in Alexandria

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

STATED MEETINGS

Alexandria Lodge of Perfection

Second Friday of each month
MICHAEL D. TALDO, KCCH
Venerable Master

Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix

Second Friday
February, March, July, November
MARK E. CUMMINGS
Wise Master

Alexandria Council of Kadosh

Second Friday
February, April, July, November
DYLAN M. PHILLIPS
Commander

Alexandria Consistory

Second Friday
April, August, October, December
RONALD E. CRAFT, JR.
Master of Kadosh

