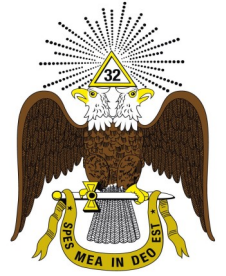




Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia  
 AlexandriaScottishRite.org

# Scottish Rite Bulletin

July—August 2023



## Master of Kadosh's Message

Ronald E. Craft, Jr., Master of Kadosh, Alexandria Consistory

In our May stated, the Consistory hosted the speaker for our Ladies Appreciation and Widows Recognition Dinner. Worshipful Brother Daniel E. Froggett, 32° gave our ladies and guests an informative presentation on 18<sup>th</sup> century domestic arts and the founding mothers of our country. WB Froggett also displayed a water color painting entitled The Butterfly by Martha Washington, which came from the archives of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No.22.



July is a busy month for the Valley! There are volunteering opportunities which will be held around the Valley, as well as opportunity to attend a family polo event which benefits our Scottish Rite charities. As all Virginia Masons are encouraged by the Grand Master of Virginia to complete charitable outreach to our communities, I am seeking volunteers to assist with two upcoming events at the Willing Warriors Retreat in Haymarket, Virginia. Masons of all lodges and their Valleys, as well as friends and family are welcome to join us.

Saturday July 8, 2023 - "Beautification Day" - We will assist with work around the grounds. This could include some labor, but could also be cleaning or light repair work.

Saturday July 15, 2023 - "Vettes for Vets" car show. We have been asked to assist with the car show, which will include tasks such as directing traffic, set up, cooking, etc.

Lunch will be included in these events and both will take place on Saturday mornings from approximately 8a.m. to noon, although additional information will follow. If you are interested in assisting us with this worthy endeavor, please respond to me at [ronc2011@gmail.com](mailto:ronc2011@gmail.com) and let me know which day you will attend (or both days.) I need to get a headcount for food, and to sign you up with the staff. See the link below for additional information, but let me know if you have questions or concerns.

Willing Warriors is located at:

16013 Waterfall Road  
 Haymarket, VA 20169-2126  
<https://www.willingwarriors.org/>

Also, on Saturday July 22, 2023 the Alexandria Scottish Rite Philanthropy Committee is hosting up to 50 guests for Family Polo Night, at Twilight Polo in The Plains, Va. This is the 3rd year we have put on this event; it is a good time and we will have excellent covered VIP seating, right on the side of the polo field. This particular night is especially family friendly, as it is Disney night. Kids (or grownups) are encouraged to dress as their favorite Disney, Star Wars, or Marvel character. Masonic polo shirts are fine as well! We will provide food, non-alcoholic drinks, and wine. Proceeds to this event will benefit children with communication challenges. Tickets are \$100 per adult and children under 16 are free. Follow this link to pay:

<https://www.biddingforgood.com/auction/auctionhome.action?auctionId=341706410>. If you have questions or need to make alternative payment arrangements, reach out to Brothers Ron Craft or Brian M. Williams at [ronc2011@gmail.com](mailto:ronc2011@gmail.com) or [BrianMWilliams@icloud.com](mailto:BrianMWilliams@icloud.com).

Location:

Twilight Polo  
 5089 Old Tavern Rd.  
 The Plains, VA 20198  
**Gates Open at 5:30pm**



Finally, in our August stated meeting, the Consistory's presenter will be Brother Jonathan Oggiono, 32° from the Scottish Rite in the District of Columbia. Brother Jonathan's presentation is entitled The Hidden Symbols of King Solomons Temple and should be very interesting.

## ***Master of Kadosh's BIO***

Brother Ronald Earl Craft, Jr., 32° was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona. Ron was attending a local community college when the events of September 11, 2001, prompted him to join the United States Navy. In the Navy, Ron served aboard the U.S.S. Harry S. Truman, where he was a parachute rigger working with ejection seats and other aviation survival equipment. While deployed, Ron was able to travel throughout Europe and the Middle East, which inspired him to his future studies. Ron was later transferred to Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California where he met and married Sarah in 2007.

After six years, Ron left the Navy to go back home and attend Arizona State University, where he studied both political science and the Arabic language; receiving his Bachelor of Science in 2009. Afterwards, Ron attended graduate school at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. While he primarily studied national security, Ron was exposed to political philosophy and comparative religion, which he found the most interesting. While in Monterey, Ron also worked at the Defense Language Institute as a contractor. Ron, his wife Sarah, and two children moved to Virginia in 2016 where he began working as an analyst for the Department of Homeland Security dealing with national security issues and counter proliferation.

In 2018, Ron was raised as a Master Mason at Henry Lodge, No. 57, and is currently the Junior Deacon at Alexandria-Washington Lodge, No.22. Ron joined the Alexandria Scottish Rite in 2019, where he is currently the Master of Kadosh of the Consistory. Ron is also the Past President of Old Dominion Chapter, No. 364, National Sojourners Inc., a member of Mount Vernon Royal Arch Chapter, No.14, and Columbia Commandery, No.2. Ron is interested in philosophy and esoteric teaching in Masonry and promotes interest in Masonic symbolism and ritual. Ron assists with education in his lodge and he leads the Master Craftsman study group for the Alexandria Valley.

## ***Summertime and the Living is Easy***

*Ill. Norman L. Hoff, 33°, Assistant Personal Representative of the SGIG in VA*

Summertime and the living is easy. Many Valleys are dark (meaning no meetings) in the summer months to provide families with time away from their normal work and school routines when the weather is warm and we yearn to be at the beach, perhaps in the mountains or away on a “bucket list” vacation. The Statutes of our Supreme Council even accommodate a partial summer hiatus, where it states in Article XV, Section10: “... a Chapter of Rose Croix and a Council of Kadosh, [must meet] at least once in two months, except during the months of July, August and September.” Although the Lodge of Perfection gets no summer break, the Statutes do go on to state, “A Consistory must hold regular meetings at least once every three months” — and that, too, allows a summer break if timed prudently. Alexandria Valley previously followed this prescribed schedule, but a decade or so ago we were granted a waiver to permit our current schedule which accommodates our ladies and guests at special dinner programs for Awards Recognition in January, Ladies Appreciation in May, Outstanding Teachers in June and for the Feast of Tishri in September. We also adjust our normal meeting agenda to include only a brief Lodge of Perfection stated meeting following each of these special dinner programs to minimize time away from our dinner guests.

Our summer schedule continues our normal busy level of activity. July typically holds our annual visit to the JMU's David Kruger Scottish Rite Summer Speech and Language Clinic, our Kena Shriners & Alexandria Valley joint family picnic, and even a fun trip to the polo matches to raise funds for our Valley's philanthropies. The big event in August is the Supreme Council's Biennial Session, to which we are all invited and for which we are often asked to provide support. September is a “back to school” month for many, but it also brings us to the Scottish Rite Conference of VA where we not only greet and enjoy our Brothers from around the Orient, we also learn more about our Fraternity and celebrate our new Honourmen and experience their KCCH investiture. Brother Allen Beckner, KCCH, Conference President, with his wife, Linda, and many other volunteers are working tirelessly to make this year's 28-30 September event a memorable experience that we and our wives will all enjoy.

*(Continued on Page 3.)*

All this activity makes it obvious that our Scottish Rite is not an organization to which one pays dues and then attends just a few meetings throughout the year. This Valley is constantly alive, active and productive with Valley Officers, Committees and volunteers meeting, planning, and arranging activities for us on an almost daily basis. For example, our Education Committee members are planning and coordinating meeting presentations to further our pursuit of light, while the Philanthropic Committee is either planning fund raising activities to support our many charitable pursuits or managing our academic scholarship applications and awards. Look in our Reunion Booklet for a listing of all those involved in our five standing committees as well as a dozen or so additional committees and assignments such as those for ROTC/JROTC Outstanding Cadet Recognition awards, Strategic Planning updates, and Knights of St. Andrew social and service activities — just to name a few. All this and I haven't even mentioned all the cast members and supporting and technical roles required for each of our Reunions and all the degrees conferred and communicated, nor have I acknowledged the vital work of our Valley Scottish Rite Representatives to our area's 42 Blue Lodges from which we draw our members... I'm sure there are more that I should mention, but you get the idea.

I was once told by a new Valley Brother, that we put too much pressure on the new members to get involved in Valley activities. That very Brother is now one of our more active and productive members, and seems to be enjoying every part of it. With any association, a member's understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the group grows with involvement and shared experiences. That comfortable sense of belonging that we gain through study of the group's history and its goals, through participation in its activities, and through personal interaction with its other members is essential to the richness of our perceived value of the group.

Brethren, I hope you're enjoying your Scottish Rite Valley and if you are one of our many members who have moved away from our Northern Virginia area, I hope you will visit when you are back home with us, and that you will still continue your Scottish Rite experience at a Valley near you.

Fraternally,

*Norm*

## Current Year Membership Statistical Changes

Accurate As Of: 06/12/2023 7:12 PM

Begin	1094
Gains	23
Losses	15
Current Lodge Membership	1102

## 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



## ***Etymology of the Word “Orator”***

Kevin J. Hall, 32°, Orator, Chapter of Rose Croix

As Orator for the Alexandria Valley Chapter of Rose Croix, one of my responsibilities is to write an article for the bulletin. While contemplating various topics, it occurred to me that I should dig deeper into the definition and meaning of ‘orator’.

From the Miriam-Webster dictionary:

Orator – one who delivers an oration; one distinguished for skill and power as a public speaker  
Oratory - an elaborate discourse delivered in a formal and dignified manner

The etymology of the word was first recorded in English circa 1374, with a meaning of ‘one who pleads or argues for a cause’. It appears to be derived from the Anglo-French word *orateur*, the Old French word *orateur*, and from Latin, *orator* (‘speaker’) and *orare* (‘to speak before a court or assembly; plead’).

In ancient Rome, the art of speaking in public (*Ars Oratoria*) was a professional competence especially cultivated by politicians and lawyers. As the Greeks were still seen as the masters in this field, as in philosophy and most sciences, the leading Roman families often either sent their sons to study these things under a famous master in Greece (as was the case with the young Julius Caesar), or engaged a Greek teacher (under pay or as a slave). In the young revolutionary French Republic, *Orateur* (French for ‘orator’, but compare the Anglo-Saxon parliamentary speaker) was the formal title for the delegated members of the *Tribunat* (the body that proposed and debated) and to the *Corps Législatif* (the body which enacted or rejected proposed legislation) to motivate their ruling on a presented bill.

In the 19th century, orators and historians and speakers such as Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, and Col. Robert G. Ingersoll a popular politician and speaker best known for promoting critical thought were major providers of popular entertainment. A pulpit orator is a Christian author, often a clergyman, renowned for their ability to write or deliver (from the pulpit in church, hence the word) rhetorically skilled religious sermons. In some universities, the title ‘Orator’ is given to the official whose task it is to give speeches on ceremonial occasions, such as the presentation of honorary degrees.

This background and history led me to the Procedures Manual for the Valley of Alexandria, where the Job Description for Orator (and all of the Officers of the Valley) are outlined. The manual says, “*The Orator’s title is descriptive of his function. It is his duty, when requested by the (Presiding Officer of the Body), to present a lecture upon the history, philosophy, or symbolism of the Order.*” Three of the four bodies have an Orator (Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, and Council of Kadosh). In the Consistory, a similar duty is fulfilled by the Minister of State. Perhaps not surprising given the job description, the Supreme Council also has a Grand Orator, Illustrious David O. Martinez, 33°. Ill. Martinez is also the Sovereign Grand Inspector General (SGIG) in Nevada.

In the Chapter of Rose Croix, I believe the role of Orator is best illustrated in the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal which is conducted each March. The ceremony is a memorial service honoring the Knights of their Chapter who have passed on during the preceding year. This observance strengthens the ties of brotherly love, past and present. The ceremony consists of four parts, Part One - Remembrance of Recently Deceased Brethren; Part Two - Mystic Banquet, Part Three - *Tenebrae*, Extinguishing of the Lights, Part Four - *Fiat Lux*, Relighting the Lights. It is in Part Three that the Orator has the most powerful message as that section is closed out. Immediately after the extinguishing of the final light, the Orator says,

“In all ages, mankind has brutally murdered its liberators, reformers, and best exemplars. To us, in this season, we need look no further than the Apostle of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity who was crucified 2000 years ago for proclaiming the Law of Love. No greater law has been uttered than His simple words,

(Continued on Page 5.)



## ***Etymology of the Word “Orator”***

Kevin J. Hall, 32°, Orator, Chapter of Rose Croix

(Continued from Page 4.)

“Love one another.” At the very least, He was a great teacher of mankind, and whatever our private views may be beyond that, none can dispute the wisdom of the New Law. The Great Architect mercifully hides from our vision what is to befall us in the future. We know not what tragedies await us on the morrow. For this reason, let us work while it is yet day, and let us endeavor to fulfill our duties and dispel the darkness which you see here represented. Let each of us bring light to the world by the practice of virtue, and let us labor for its own sake, knowing that he who sows does not always reap. But rest satisfied, my Brethren and Knights, that you labor not in vain, for if one life is benefited or improved by your own, you have done well. With whom do you stand my Brethren? Are there faces in this group which you will not see next year? Will you lay a friend and Brother to rest? Let us, henceforth, celebrate the lives of our Brethren who have passed on, keeping them ever with us while we live. Remember, no man is ever truly dead as long as he lives in the hearts and memories of his friends and loved ones, and if his influences continue to act for good. So may it be with each of you. So mote it be.”

Finally, as Orator of the Alexandria Valley Chapter of Rose Croix, I wish to remind you that all Good Knights are to practice Charity in all its aspects and as they derive strength to labor in the cause of Humanity from Faith and Hope.

Fraternally,

*Kevin*

## ***Master Craftsman Study Group***

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

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

The Alexandria Scottish Rite Education Committee has started the Master Craftsman Study group. 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 through Amazon. Contact Brothers Ron Craft, 32° or Mike Taldo, KCCH at [education@alexandriascottishrite.org](mailto:education@alexandriascottishrite.org) for more information or to sign up for the study group.

## 2023 Teacher of the Year Awards

*Ill. Norman L. Hoff, Jr., 33°, Assistant Personal Representative of the SGIG in VA*

The Washington Post Educational Foundation annually selects one Principal and one Teacher from the District of Columbia, plus the ten Virginia and eight Maryland public school districts nearest to Washington, D.C., as finalists for their Principal and Teacher of the Year Awards. The Post also reviews private school nominations to select a single finalist for consideration. Following the selection of one Principal and one Teacher finalist from each of the eighteen school districts, DC and all private schools, the Post announces its selection for Award of the region's Outstanding Principal and the Outstanding Teacher of the year. Our Scottish Rite fully agrees with the Post's Educational Foundation's stated position that quality education is essential to the wellbeing of our society, and good teachers are the foundation of our educational system.

On 9 June, we held Alexandria Valley's 24th annual Outstanding Teacher Recognition banquet. In each of those 24 years since 2000 when we began, we have invited three teachers, selected on a rotational basis from the ten school districts in our Northern VA area, to be our honored guests at our Recognition and Awards banquet, and to receive a Certificate of Appreciation and a \$500 check from the Valley. Our invited honorees are also encouraged to bring their family members, colleagues and school leadership with them to share in the celebration of their achievement. Our Venerable Master, Brother Mike Taldo, KCCH, began the banquet and later turned the ceremony over to Ill. Phil Rhodes, 33°, for the awards presentations.

Our three 2023 Outstanding Teachers invited to this year's Awards Banquet were Kathleen Jacoby, the Herndon High School band director from the Fairfax County Public Schools District, Nathan Hershberger, a 5th grade math and science teacher from George Mason Elementary School of the Alexandria City Public Schools, and Julia Noble, a 1st grade teacher at Mount Daniel Elementary School in the Falls Church City Public Schools District.

Ms. Jacoby brought her husband, daughter, colleague, County Music Supervisor, and assistant School Principal, all of whom were also musicians - it was indeed "a joyful noise." Mr. Hershberger, whose wife had delivered a baby daughter only hours prior, was understandably otherwise engaged but was ably represented by his school Principal, Dr. Seazante Oliver, who will convey the certificate and check to him. Ms. Noble was preempted by an emergent conflict and her certificate and check will be delivered to her at a later date.

Ms. Jacoby and Dr. Oliver were each offered an opportunity to respond, and each expressed gratitude for the Valley's recognition and support of public education and its dedicated educators. It was, as it is every year, a rewarding and enjoyable event - one you should all plan to attend next year.



Ill. Norman L. Hoff, Jr., 33° and  
Mrs. Kathleen Jacoby



Photos by Ill. Michael R. Aulicino, 33°

## *New 50-Year Members*

Following the recent Spring Reunion, five more of our members have attained this milestone of membership. At our July 14 meeting, we will pay tribute to the members listed below. Some of these brethren may not be able to be present because of their distance from Alexandria or other limitations, but we want to share with them their personal happiness of attending this milestone.

Henry L. Clark  
John C. Estep  
John E. Foor

William J. Grupe  
Joseph H. Haubenstein

## *2023 Alexandria Scottish Rite and KENA Shriners Masonic Family Picnic*

On Saturday, July 22 Alexandria Valley Scottish and Kena Shriners will hold their annual Masonic Family Picnic. The event will feature food, fun and fellowship. Most importantly it is FREE! Bring your Masonic brothers, sisters and their families. Menu: Hamburgers, hot dogs, corn and sides. Entertainment: Moon bounce for the kids, dunk tank, cornhole and more!



## *ROTC and JROTC Recognition and Awards*

Rob Worthington, 32°, Chair ROTC Committee

The Alexandria Scottish Rite ROTC Committee serves the Valley by coordinating and presenting awards to ROTC and JROTC Units across Northern Virginia. For the 2023 school year the Committee presented 19 awards, 18 to various High School JROTC and 1 to James Madison University ROTC. Many thanks to the Valley members that assisted in presenting this year's awards; it is a very rewarding group to work with and certainly something many of our Military Veteran members can appreciate. The Valley is in need of a new head for this Committee to take over and execute for the 2024 year. If you can fill this vacancy, please let the Valley Secretary know of your interest.

## **Supreme Council Meets in August**

The every-other year session of the Supreme Council will have its formal opening at 9 a.m. Monday morning, August 21 in at the Washington Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C. Standing committees will have previously met during the latter part of the preceding week. Active Members of the Supreme Council will meet in Executive Session just before Noon on Monday and announce their selections of those to receive the KCCH and honorary 33<sup>rd</sup> degree honors throughout the Southern Jurisdiction.

On Tuesday, August 22 morning at 10:30 a.m. the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree will be conferred on selectees from various states (all of Virginia's 33<sup>rd</sup> designates will be in this group) at the Washington DC Valley.

The KCCH investiture for Virginia selectees will be held at the Alexandria Scottish Rite on Saturday, September 30 at 2:30 p.m. in conjunction with the Virginia Scottish Rite Conference. This will be an open ceremony.



# ALEXANDRIA VALLEY AT WORK AND PLAY 2023 OUTSTANDING TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS AND DINNER



Ill. Phil Rhodes, 33° with Dr. Seazante Oliver, Principal, accepting award on behalf of Nathan Hershberger



Ill. Norm Hoff, 33° with 2023 Outstanding Teacher of the Year Kathleen Jacoby



Various Pictures taken from the 2023 Outstanding Teachers of the Year Awards Dinner





# Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia

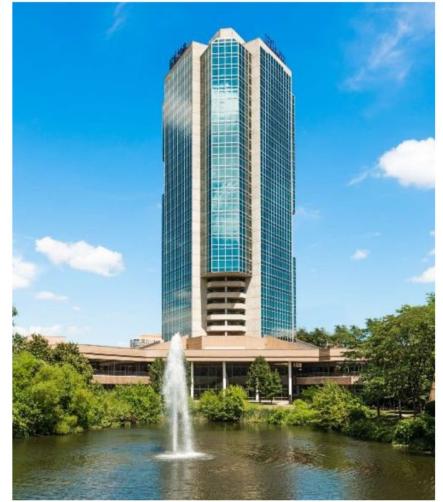
September 28-30, 2023

## 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. 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm



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

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



### 99<sup>th</sup> Scottish Rite Conference – Friday/Saturday, Sept. 29-30<sup>th</sup>

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

# SCOTTISH RITE CONFERENCE OF VIRGINIA

<https://www.vascottishrite.org/>

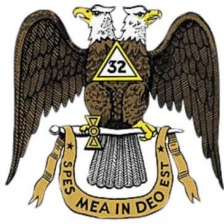
September 28 – 30, 2023

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22311

**REGISTRATION - ALEXANDRIA VALLEY ONLY**

**[Return completed form to the Secretary, NLT August 25<sup>th</sup>.]**



I will attend the Conference. Please register me for the following:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LADY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Cherry Blossom Cruise

Thursday, September 28 at 6 PM – Three hour cruise down Potomac. Cost is \$150 each and includes a buffet dinner, unlimited drinks, entertainment and lots of fun.

Make reservation with James D. Baker, KCCH, at [jamesdbaker13@hotmail.com](mailto:jamesdbaker13@hotmail.com).

**Meals** - If you attend the Friday and Saturday sessions, the Valley will pick up the meal cost; however, if you make a reservation and **do not come, you pay**.

Friday, Sept 29 <sup>th</sup> (Choose One Entrée) Plated Dinner	Brother's Choice	Ladies Choice
1. Roasted Chicken Breast w/asparagus & red bliss potatoes		
2. Beef Stir Fry with Jasmine rice and baby choy		
3. Vegetable Stir Fry with tofu		
Saturday, Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> (Choose One Entrée) Plated Dinner		
1. Grilled Chicken Breast, mashed potatoes/veg		
2. Beef Medallions with red wine sauce, potatoes and veg		
3. Vegetarian Vegetable and Phyllo		
Saturday, Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> Ladies Luncheon (Choose One Entrée) Plated Luncheon		
1. Chicken Breast Stuffed with Asparagus and Cheese		
2. Cheese Ravioli in Marinara Sauce		

You **MUST** make you own Hilton Alexandria Mark Center reservation. Room rate is \$119 a night. To book rooms, go to:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SCOTTISHRITECONFERENCEOFVA23>

## Assistant Secretary's Corner

Ill. David H. Smith, 33<sup>o</sup>, Assistant Secretary

On Ill. David C. Morris' improving health from his daughter, Donna. He is awake, alert, and is able to answer questions. He is beginning physical therapy with limited walking. Dave is expected to be transferred from Trauma ICU down to Intermediate ICU still on South 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Fairfax Hospital. Dave is definitely getting better and appreciates your wishes. Please continue to pray for his progress in recovering. We're thankful for Dave's improvements and pray for his prompt recovery.

### **ALEXANDRIA VALLEY OFFICE**

Our adjusted office hours are Tuesday-Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. If you plan on stopping by, please call first at 703 998-9044, we could be out getting the mail, going to the bank, etc.

### **CAPS, RINGS, Patents and Cap Boxes all Reunions**

Yes, the Spring Reunion class items are in the office and ready for pickup. So too, are many previous class members items. **You are encouraged to pick them up – you paid for them.**

**SPECIAL REQUEST:** If you were a member of the **2020 Virtual Reunion Class**, please contact the Secretary. We need to verify our information in the system. Thanks.

### **VALLEY ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

Our Valley ties are back in stock - the cost remains \$30.00 each.

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.

**SR Conference:** We will begin to accept SR Conference registrations in July. See the form on page 10. Complete the form and get it to the office. You **MUST** make your own hotel reservations.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### **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 18— JMU Visit**



**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

### **AUGUST 2023**

**August 11 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Executive Council Meeting**  
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
(Consistory, &  
Lodge of Perfection)

**August 16 – 7:30 p.m.**

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

**August 23 – 6:30 p.m.**

Shenandoah SR Club  
Cassia Lodge, Woodstock, VA

### **SEPTEMBER 2023**

**September 4– LABOR DAY**  
**HOLIDAY**

**September 8 – 6:30 p.m.**

**FEAST OF TISHRI**  
Pre-Meeting Dinner  
Valley Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
(Lodge of Perfection)

**September 20 – 7:00 p.m.**

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

**September 27 – 6:30 p.m.7**

Shenandoah SR Club  
Spurmont Lodge, Strasburg, VA

**September 28 — 6:00 p.m.**

**Cherry Blossom Cruise**  
(see page 9 for details)

**September 29—30**

**VA Scottish Rite Conference**

Alexandria is Host Valley  
Hilton Alex Mark Center  
(see page 10 for reservation info.)

Update your calendars  
don't miss these events!





**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

