



Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia
AlexandriaScottishRite.org

Scottish Rite Bulletin

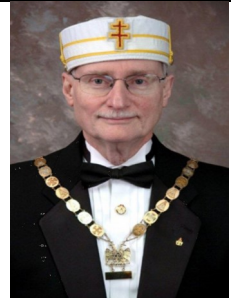
September–October 2020



Personal Representative's Message

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

I was recently reading a book called “Sapiens,” by Yuval Noah Harari, a self-described historian/philosopher who describes the progress of our species from a 10,000 foot view by organizing history into three important revolutions that shaped the course of history: the Cognitive Revolution, the Agricultural Revolution, and the Scientific Revolution, beginning respectively 70,000, 12,000, and 500 years ago. Unlike the type of historical treatment we were exposed to in most of the history courses we took in school that covered the minutia of particular people or events, Harari examines human progression over all other lifeforms from the perspective of such developments as fire, agriculture, towns, the wheel, and writing.



He uses the concept of “fictions,” I would call them concepts, such as nations, companies, money, and philosophical ideologies that allow people to come together with others who they may not personally know. He cites, for example, co-religionists, fans rooting for the same team, professionals, and members of large corporations or organizations, who work together on projects because they share the same customs, beliefs, and rituals.

Whatever you think about Harari’s global sweep through history and his overall thesis compared to the traditional great man or big event approach that focuses on the rise and fall of particular governments and countries, political and religious wars, migrations, and economic, social and natural disasters, it is also useful to **view history at the ground level – how it affects you and me.**

There are, of course, significant exogenous forces that have an impact on us – the Corona virus is the most recent example – along with its influence on the economic conditions that affect our income, job prospects, and ability to earn a living. There is also the degree of social cohesion or unrest that either ties or rends the fabric of our society and the health of our communities. There are environmental and climate issues that affect the quality of the air we breathe, the water we have available to drink, and even the safety of our homes and neighborhoods. Those larger trends and events play an important role as a backdrop against which we live our individual lives, but it is often our day-to-day interactions with family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and our Masonic Brethren, that heavily influence the trajectory of our lives, and help to determine how well we are able to deal with failure and tragedy and cope with the obstacles, setbacks and disasters we may face.

Many would characterize our current environment as one in which the moral core is often missing, corruption and fraud seem to be flourishing, greed is rampant, and fewer are stepping up to pay their fair share – think of the current tax code. In such an environment, we need to tamp down the growing sense of outrage and alienation, and the “we-versus-them” mentality, in order to promote a more cooperative and collaborative mindset where we make a greater effort to listen to and understand each other, all of which aligns with our Masonic values.

It is particularly important in our rapidly changing economy, with almost exponential technological advances, that we ensure our children are well-trained to perform the skilled jobs that are being created. Without losing sight of the advantages of global trade, in my view, we need to ensure that high-skilled jobs and certain manufacturing capabilities reside within our borders both to protect our national security and to provide economic opportunity for our citizens.

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Personal Representative's Message

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Investing in the education of our children and grandchildren, while not inexpensive, is win-win. Those qualified for these well-paying jobs will move into a middle-class life style with stable families and make a contribution to our society. The taxes these workers will pay will more than pay back the investment in their education. The alternative is a nation of poorly educated, ill-trained citizens who will live in poverty, with broken homes, crime, and the resultant costly incarceration, which is not only a tax drain, but erodes the economic strength of our nation.

Throughout our Scottish Rite degrees and a key part of our moral philosophy are the requirements to promote justice, equality of opportunity, and education. As Scottish Rite Masons we have opportunities to set an example by being faithful to these values and by working in our communities to support just solutions, better educational opportunities, and policies that will lift up our citizens. We can be proud of, and I encourage renewed support for, our Valley scholarship programs and our charitable efforts to help children affected by language and autism issues. We can be equally proud of our Brother-to-Brother outreach efforts to keep in contact with each other, offer our friendship, our encouragement, and our assistance. Each of us should be calling Brethren to check on them, and I hope all of the Brethren feel comfortable calling me, our General Secretary, or our Almoner for help.

God Bless.

Fraternally,
Ed Cohen

The Orator and the Search for Light

Michael D. Taldo, KCCH, Orator, Alexandria Lodge of Perfection

This year I am serving as the Orator in the Lodge of Perfection and was motivated to delve more deeply into the meaning and significance of this position. But my interest in this position was first peaked when I joined the Valley and John Suit, KCCH, the Degree Master of the 13th degree, asked me to play the part of Orator in that degree. As I memorized the part and began to think about the deeper meanings of the degree, I realized that a great deal of important information imbedded in that degree comes from the Orator. He ties seemingly loosely related topics into a coherent whole and, when presented with both passion and eloquence, gives meaning and context to the degree. Participation in, and observation of, the Orator's role in other degrees led me down the same path to understanding the material in those degrees.

As you know, the Lodge, Chapter Rose Croix, and Council of Kadosh each have an Orator, and the Consistory has an equivalent officer called the Minister of State. In the installation ceremony these officers are admonished as follows: "Brothers Orator, the title of your office is descriptive of your function. It will be your duty, when requested by the Master of your Body to present a lecture upon the history, philosophy, or symbolism of the Order. It is indispensable, therefore, that you should make yourselves familiar with these subjects, so that you may be able to instruct and enlighten the Brethren and that your addresses may be worthy." "Brother Minister of State, you, also, are a councilor to the Master of Kadosh. It is your province to pronounce discourses upon such subjects and on such occasions as may be directed by competent authority. I need not enlarge upon the necessity of diligence and study. The symbols of Masonry are not fixed dogmas, but images of infinite interpretation."

But what is an orator? Where does the term come from and what is its significance? Depending upon what sources you consult, the orator was the inventor of letters and oratory, or the master of learning. He was the winged messenger of the gods, bearing the Caduceus wreathed with serpents.



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The Orator and the Search for Light

There are many orators in mythology and at least one, Thoth, the Egyptian god of writing, magic, wisdom, and the moon is featured in our degree work. Thoth was one of the most important gods of ancient Egypt but was also known as the "lord of divine words" and as a just and incorruptible judge.

In the past, "orator" was a respected position and well regarded in society, from ancient Greece to modern America. Rather than simply being informational or entertaining, the purpose of the orator was to be persuasive with the goal of changing human behavior and strengthening convictions or attitudes. Orators use argument and rhetorical devices, lines of reasoning, and appeals that support their position. Exposition is employed to clarify and enforce the orator's propositions, and anecdotes and illustrations are used to heighten response. Oratorical greatness is invariably identified with strong emotional phrasing and delivery. An equilibrium between these several skills is needed, why you may ask? Can you see it? It is visible in today's society; a lack of equilibrium generates the two following states:

- when the intellectual qualities dominate, there is a relative absence of the affective appeals,
- and when emotion sweeps aside reason, the result is the same.

The orations just fail. No one listens. Without balance, the Orators of the respective positions no matter how many there might be would be better served to "yell into space."

Oratory has traditionally been divided into legal, political, or ceremonial or, according to Aristotle, forensic, deliberative, or epideictic. Let me give two examples:

1. Demosthenes, the Athenian lawyer, soldier, and statesman, was a great deliberative orator, most famous for running his biggest rival out of town and standing up to Alexander the Great. A few select quotes:

- i. Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises.
- ii. Beware lest in your anxiety to avoid war you obtain a master.
- iii. Nothing is easier than self-deceit. For what each man wishes, that he also believes to be true.

2. Daniel Webster, the 19th-century American speaker was a Congressman, constitutional lawyer, Senator, and Secretary of State. He brought more than 150 pleas before the U.S. Supreme Court and excelled in all three major divisions - forensic, deliberative, and epideictic oratory. A few selected quotes:

- i. Secession! Peaceable secession! Sir, your eyes and mine are never destined to see that miracle. The dismemberment of this vast country without convulsion! There can be no such thing as a peaceable secession. Peaceable secession is an utter impossibility. We could not separate the states by any such line if we were to draw it. (March 7, 1850 A Plea for Harmony and Peace)
- ii. Labor is the great producer of wealth; it moves all other causes.
- iii. Concerning America, God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it.

In my view, the role of Orator is probably the most overlooked role within Freemasonry as a whole in the Scottish Rite. It is no secret that the future of the Craft critically depends upon its ability to attract members, and more importantly to inspire and retain them. One area of constant frustration is that new members expect to be TOLD the secrets of the Rite in plain simple language. Often, however, they are left bewildered and lost, groping for answers or asking other Brothers only to find out they, too, do not have a path to the light. This leads to less participation and eventually a short stay with the Fraternity and the Rite. There has been no formal place in Lodge business when the meaning of the ritual and its rich symbolism is explained and discussed.

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The Orator and the Search for Light

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It may be, that for the sake of the future of Masonry in general, the role of Orator should be resurrected in all Lodges as the officer whose role it is to provide an interesting and inspirational method of education to help spread that light for which so many of us are searching. This is not to say that we do not have Lodge and District Educational officers, but not many have the traditional skills of the Orator.

We, in the Alexandria Valley have been fortunate to have a strong focus on education at each meeting, and are fortunate to have an effective Education Committee chaired by Keith Gawrys, KCCH.

A focus on the role of Orator is not a radical idea. It may surprise you that long ago Lodges had an official Orator position. Historical records dating back to the mid 1700s, particularly in England, had the Orator as an appointed position. Indeed, in more recent time many Grand Jurisdictions have evolved the role of the Orator not only within the Grand Line, but and more broadly at the Lodge level. They have established a comprehensive system of presentations and education programs that all Lodges have access to in order to spread the light. The problem is that not all Lodges have taken up the challenge to get the material out in front of the Brethren.

I would recommend that, if we are looking to establish more light in our Lodges, we should consider institutionalizing the role of the Orator who would create and read an oration at each meeting, arrange and conduct Masonic education, arrange high-impact guest speakers, and maintain a list of suggested reading.

In summary, a good Orator is not an entertainer, but one who has as his purpose to influence people's behavior or cement convictions. This cannot be done in a dry and analytical way, but with the right mix of emotion and intellect. This point was known to those that created our degree work, and so one place to start looking for light in Masonry is to participate in the Reunions and, in particular, to listen carefully to the role of the Orator in each degree as an additional way to understand the inner meaning and significance of each degree. Finally, you can help in the search for more light in Masonry by helping to establish the role of Orator in your own Lodge. You don't have to be Daniel Webster, just bring a little passion to the work!

Sincerely and fraternally,
Mike Taldo



Head of Body Message

Ronald J. Leibfreid, Master of Kadosh, Alexandria Consistory

Greetings Brethren!

I hope that you and your families are well as we continue to navigate these strange times. Our Valley meetings continue to be virtual using the Zoom web conferencing platform, and we have enjoyed wonderful speakers and time with one another. Please be sure to join these Zoom sessions. We also are considering how to Zoom part of our in-person meetings when they resume in order to accommodate those who live in other areas of the country or who cannot travel at night. But whatever the venue, we want you to be involved and engaged with our Alexandria Valley and be able to interact with your Brethren.

My message today will begin by discussing a rather unexpected topic – but stay with me. I recently achieved something I never thought possible. I am immensely proud of this accomplishment and can't wait to share the details.

I got the stains out of one of my bathroom sinks. (it was actually my toilet bowl but I probably shouldn't divulge that)

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Head of Body Message

Did you have a chuckle? I hope so. I live alone and there are more toilets than people, so one of the toilets had accumulated hard water stains over the 20 years I've lived in my condo. During the lockdown I have taken on some small projects around the house, and I happened to come across a solution (a soft pumice stone with a handle) that cleaned the stains off beautifully. I'll spare you the pictures...

Anyhow, why would I share this with you? What does this have to do with anything? I believe this is symbolic of the persistent and nagging issues we each have in our lives. We know we need to address them and we do – but some will inevitably fall by the wayside since something bigger always demands our attention. It is very easy to let deprioritized items linger, until they fade from our awareness. We all strive to be better men, and the extra time that most of us have due to COVID can be used to that end. Try to think of something you've been meaning to take care of but simply haven't gotten to. Research and plan out how to address it. Maybe it's taking time to learn/teach something, or focus on family and loved ones, or just fix something around the house. At the very least it will get your mind off current events and help pass the time. At best it will reap a bounty of rewards.

Stay well!

Fraternally,
Ron Leibfreid

The 2020 Alexandria Scottish Rite/Kena Shrine Family Picnic

Frank T. Anthony, KCCH – Picnic Committee Lead

Doesn't a picnic sound nice after months of cabin fever? This happened on Saturday, July 25, at the Kena Shrine in Manassas, Virginia, where the Alexandria Scottish Rite (ASR) and Kena Shrine held its annual family picnic. This was the ASR's first in-person event since the COVID-19 lockdown started, and so on a typical warm, muggy Saturday morning here in Northern Virginia, life started having a sense of normalcy in this cautious COVID-19 era. With over 60 ASR and Kena Shriners and family members in attendance, we saw fraternal brothers, family, and friends we have not seen in over four months, who were still recognizable although wearing a mask. We all had a splendid time enjoying some burgers and catching up and exchanging stories. Was everyone cautious, yes! However, we didn't let masks and social distancing get in the way of having a good time. This is because, we are a resilient group that adapted to the current circumstance.

Having received a significant number of inquiries from ASR members about the health concerns, the Rite and the Shrine took a series of steps to mitigate the health risks based on CDC and Virginia's COVID-19 Phase-3 guidelines. First, the RSVP's allowed us to get a headcount to ensure we adhered to Virginia's guidelines for private events allowing up to 250 participants. Second, we all wore masks, and Kena's Potentate made periodic announcements over the loud speaker to remind everyone to stay six feet apart, wear a mask, and use hand sanitizer. Everyone was respectful and did their part. Third, we reconsidered having a bounce house and dunk tank and cancelled both. The bounce house for the children could have become an inflatable petri dish, which we would have needed to sanitize after each use. Also, we didn't want to take an unnecessary risk with the dunk tank, considering the requirements for safe use of a hot tub and that most of the outdoor public pools were closed. Finally, we stressed that individuals in the high-risk category, or living with family members in the high-risk category should use their best judgment and probably not attend.

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The 2020 Alexandria Scottish Rite/Kena Shrine Family Picnic

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A big THANKS to Kena's picnic point of contact, High Priest and Prophet Tony "T.J." LaCava, who's also a 32° and founding KSA member, for laying out the mitigation strategy for social distancing, food preparation, and indoor seating arrangements. Also, special thanks to Ill. Dave Morris, 33°, Jason Lotz, KCCH, Tim Shrum, KCCH, Ron Craft, 32° & the Alexandria KSA for their significant help during the picnic.

Everyone had a great time at the picnic, even though it was a hot day – it was 81°F by 10:30 a.m. With the promise of a COVID-19 vaccine on the horizon, we are looking forward to future ASR events where all of us can get together for Fellowship.

Fraternally,
Frank T Anthony

A Report from Your Communications and Outreach Committee

John M. Suit, KCCH, Committee Chairman

The Communications and Public Relations Committee has an extensive portfolio under the general rubric of increasing awareness among the public and the Brethren about the work and value of Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Given that we are responsible to the Executive Council for communications with the Valley membership and for the Valley's web-based communication tools, we took as our first task designing and fielding an on-line, secure contact resource management portal for Valley membership outreach. The portal's primary function is to check with Valley members to see if there is anything they need help with and to get their suggestions about how the Valley can better serve their needs. In order to do this, the repository was designed so that members can easily be contacted via phone, email, or letter. Several of us have worked, and continue to work, in cyber security and specifically data protection, and we coordinated with our General Secretary, Ill Dave Morris, 33° to ensure that all data was both securely transferred and maintained. Once the data was transferred into the new portal, we created outreach elements that would allow Committee members and Officers in our four Bodies to annotate any information that Valley members would like included, such as updates to phone numbers, addresses, birthdates, spouses, etc. It also became important to implement a system that could track which Brothers had been contacted, how they were contacted, and by whom. Brothers Michael Bible, KCCH; Ill Norm Hoff, 33°; Tim Shrum KCCH; Jay Patterson KCCH; Philip Rhodes KCCH; Rick Cady 32°; and Ill Paul Evancoe, 33°, were exceedingly helpful in assisting the Communications and Public Outreach Committee in its efforts.

We have already reached out and connected with hundreds of our Alexandria Valley Brethren over the course of the last several months. The majority of this happened during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been personally gratifying to speak to Brothers I have never met, talk about the Valley, and listen to what they are doing and dealing with. The majority were fine and didn't need assistance, but they were very thankful that we reached out to them. Several of the Brethren had moved to other states and were particularly surprised – and pleased – that we called.

We have been updating the contact and personal information of each of the Brothers we have contacted and are providing this information back to Ill Dave Morris, 33° for inclusion in the most recent database of membership.

Another important function of the outreach portal is to inform and invite the Brethren to Valley events. A good deal of effort was put into this capability and will allow Committee members and Body officers the ability to see upcoming Valley events dynamically while contacting Valley members.

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A Report from Your Communications and Outreach Committee

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This system will also be used to remind users of on-line Zoom Executive Council and Valley meetings, and we hope to be able to use this system to encourage non-active members to attend Valley events of interest to them, on Zoom or at the Temple, as well as our Reunions, picnics, workshops, etc.

The next major effort by the Committee will be to review and update the Valley Procedures Manual and to restructure the Valley Website. We then want to focus on community outreach to bring Scottish Rite Freemasonry to the positive attention of the media and the public. I encourage any Brother interested in joining the Committee or even just assisting us to contact me at john.suit@gmail.com.

Fraternally,
John Suit

News about the Scottish Rite Workshop and Conference

Allen D. Beckner, KCCH, Conference Vice President from Alexandria

Dear Brethren,

I am writing to you thanking the Lord for His infinite wisdom, grace, and peace He gives to all, especially the brethren of our fraternity.

I am reminded of the beautiful Psalm 133 which reads:

“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!
It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!
It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life for evermore.”

The 2020 Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia originally scheduled for this Fall in Lynchburg has been cancelled. The Lynchburg Valley had prepared a great Masonic celebration for the first weekend in October; however, all is not lost. The 2021 Scottish Rite Workshop which traditionally is held in Richmond each Spring will be moved to Lynchburg and expanded into a mini Conference that will be hosted by the Lynchburg Valley. We should be receiving the details from Bill Robertson, Jr., KCCH, President of the 2020 Conference. Then in the Fall (1-4 October 2021), the Scottish Rite Conference will be held as scheduled in the Roanoke Valley, hosted by our 2021 Scottish Rite Conference President, Illustrious William Parks, 33^o.

So much time has passed since we have all been able to enjoy the fellowship of our brethren, but great times are ahead.

Please remember to check on your family, friends and brethren. Remember the greatest of all the Lord's commandments in the law,

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”

May the Lord bless and keep you until we meet again.

Fraternally,
Allen Beckner

Alexandria Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Program & Study Group

Michael D. Taldo, KCCH

COVID-19 has not stopped the Education Committee led by Brother Keith Gawrys KCCH. Currently, two Master Craftsman courses have completed within Alexandria Scottish Rite, meeting and discussing Freemasonry from February to June. They met on-line once or twice a month depending upon schedules.

Brother Farley led 10 Brothers through the History and Ritual course. Brother Farley has extensive knowledge of the degrees and symbolism of Freemasonry and it showed in the detailed information he conveyed. I sat in on a couple of the classes and the discussions were lively and pursued many paths with some degree discussions lasting an hour each. Many times, the question "why?" was asked and it led to some interesting conclusions.

Brother Mike Taldo led four Brothers through Esoterika, which is a study of the esoteric findings made by Albert Pike while researching Blue Lodge masonry. As part of the presentation of material, the group has covered one presentation on the tree-of-life and two presentations covering the I-Ching which also touched on the subjects of Tarot, Numerology, and Alchemy, one presentation covering Blue Lodge symbolism and another covering Meng-Tzu and ancient symbolism. Portions of the material were generously provided by Illustrious Walter Benesch of the D.C. Scottish Rite.

The Scottish Rite Master Craftsman program designed and administered by staff at the House of the Temple in Washington, DC, is now no longer only by-mail correspondence. It is now on-line. You can sign up and take it via your computer without mailing in the material. For the purposes of Brotherhood and exchange of ideas, Alexandria Scottish Rite will continue to offer the courses by study groups.

If you choose to obtain the material on-line, you can find it here:

<https://scottishrite.org/members/general-membership-information/masonic-education/srmc/>
<https://www.scottishritestore.org/masonic-education/master-craftsman-program.html>

Join us, Brothers, in our continuing effort to expand our knowledge in Masonry.

As a tease and to stimulate discussion, here are some selected quotes from the first three degrees of the Scottish Rite that you might have encountered had you joined us in the Master Craftsman course.

1st Degree:

1. "The force of the people or popular will, in action and exerted, symbolized by the Gavel, regulated and guided by and acting within the limits of law and order, symbolized by the 24" gauge, has for its fruit Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.
 - a. Liberty regulated by law.
 - b. Equality of rights in the eye of the law.
 - c. Brotherhood with its duties and obligations as well as its benefits.
2. Pike states that "factions are blind" and that parties believe that they speak the ONLY Truth, and it is that which bring violence from false reasoning.

2nd Degree:

1. Liberty, Fraternity, and Equality "is" for all mankind.
 - a. "Man is supreme over institutions, and they are not over him."
 - b. "Man owed it to himself to be free."
 - c. "He owed to his country to seek to give her Freedom or maintain her in that possession."
2. "All the nations that have tried to govern themselves by their smallest, by the incapables, or the merely respectable, have come to naught. Constitutions and Laws, without Genius and Intellect to govern, will not prevent decay Life dies out of them by degrees."
3. "Pure Masonry, un-emasculated, bares the banner of Freedom and Equal Rites, and is in rebellion against temporal and spiritual tyranny."
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Alexandria Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Program & Study Group

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3rd Degree

1. "It is strange that reverence for Truth... genuine loyalty, scorn for unfair advantage, Faith... Godliness... and large heartedness should diminish among statesmen and people as civilization advances and freedoms become more general."

- a. "Reverence for greatness dies out and is succeeded by base envy."
- b. "Fraud, falsehood, trickery, and deceit in national affairs are the signs of decadence in States and precede convulsions and paralysis."

The classes are offered twice a year after each reunion.

Contact Brother Taldo, by email at taldomike@gmail.com, if you would like to sign up for either course.

Loudoun Scottish Rite Club

Tim Shrum, KCCH, Past President and Jeremy Chevrier, 32^o Assistant Secretary

The Loudoun Scottish Rite Club has as its primary the goal to bring the Scottish Rite to Loudoun.

Beginning in July 2019, the club set out to build upon the past and look to the future. To that end the club set an objective to have as its focus providing its members and in some cases the general public with learning opportunities and discussions. As you can see from the information below, I believe we have met that objective.

The club kicked off the year by inviting our youth organizations to the club, and we provided a nice meal and gave a program on the Philanthropy of the Scottish Rite. We wanted to offer the members of our Masonic youth visibility into how we assist the community-at-large and help them through scholarship opportunities.

The Scottish Rite Masons identified below provided the club with excellent programs this year – Brother Jeremy Anspaugh presented two programs one on the 25th degree and a program on King Solomon.

Brother Jeremy Chevrier presented a program on the five mandatory degrees of Scottish Rite.

Brother Tim Dahlman gave a presentation on the 12th degree.

Brother Keith Gawrys, KCCH, Chairman of the Alexandria Valley Education Committee, presented two programs on the location of Solomon's Temple.

Brother Gregg Schwarz, who had a distinguished career as a Supervisory Special Agent in the FBI, gave a special presentation focused on a drug informant who he worked with in Detroit, Michigan, during the 1980's. The program was open to the public. Brother Schwarz discussed the drug informant being caught with cocaine and receiving a mandatory sentence that was longer for a one-time offense than the drug king pins received for crimes much worse than those the informant committed. Brother Schwarz has been advocating for years on behalf of the informant, and finally after thirty years in the prison system, the drug informant is going to be released in July 2020. Brother Schwarz advocated for justice – a word we hear a lot in the Scottish Rite. There is a documentary movie about the drug informant called "White Boy Rick", and you can click on the following link to read the latest news.

https://www.deadlinedetroit.com/articles/25343/richard_wershe_jr_scheduled_for_july_release_from_florida_halfway_house

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Loudoun Scottish Rite Club

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The club also visited and took a tour of the House of the Temple in Washington, DC. The Club recently welcomed three new Scottish Rite Masons in the club, all of whom are on an Alexandria Scottish Rite degree team.

Because of health concerns during the pandemic, the club conducted its May and June meetings on Zoom. The June 2020 meeting included the election of new officers as shown below:

President	Tim Dahlman
1 st VP	Fred Kellner
2 nd VP	Jeremy Chevrier
Treasurer	Jeremy Anspaugh
Secretary	Bill Cavanaugh

A special thanks to Illustrious Norm Hoff, 33° the club advisor who continues to provide valuable insight to the club.

The club meets on the third Wednesday of the month except for November and December, and we welcome your attendance and participation. Should you desire additional information, please reach out to Brother Bill Cavanaugh. His email is wjcavanaugh3@gmail.com, or you can contact Brother Tim Dahlman at Timothydahlman@gmail.com.

ZOOM



Zooming is a great way to communicate and to stay in touch during these challenging times. The Valley has had four zoom meeting with great success. We averaged about 75 attendees per meeting. The meeting above was conducted for Lodge Ambassadors and was attended by 95 members throughout the Southern Jurisdiction.

An invitation email is sent to those members who have an active email address registered on the Supreme Council's website known as Sentinel. Sign in at <https://scottishrite.org/login/> and check your record; update the information displayed. Also, send an email to Secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org and/or assistantsecretary@alexandriascottishrite.org letting us know your new or updated email address.

Secretary's Corner

Ill. David C. Morris, General Secretary

Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite – Office

The Valley Office is “open” and we are maintaining our regular hours.
Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please call if we can help you at 703-998-9044.

CAPS, RINGS, Patents and Cap Boxes all Reunions thru FALL OF 2019

All items are in and ready to be picked up, please call the office at 703-998-9044.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS - ON-LINE “ZOOM” Meetings

Email is how we send invites to on-line meetings and keep our membership up to date on all the **Latest News**. Please be sure we have your current email address.

NEW 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.

2021 DUES UPDATE

For 2021, if you are current on your dues, you will receive your dues card along with your dues statement. Don't forget you still need to make payment by December 31, 2020.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Since February, our Executive Council and Stated Valley meetings have been virtual, on Zoom, rather than in person. We are closely monitoring the situation to determine when we will resume our meetings at our building.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: So far our Executive Council and Valley meetings have been virtual, on Zoom, rather than in person. We are closely monitoring the situation to determine when we will resume our meetings at our building, for example if we will have our usual Feast of Tishri in September or have an on-line variant. Stay tuned.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 2020

September 11 – 7:30 p.m.
Feast of Tishri
Valley Meeting
(Lodge of Perfection)
No Pre-meeting Dinner
In person or ZOOM TBD.

September 16 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
If ZOOM—7:00 p.m.
If in person—7:30 p.m. @
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

September 23
Shenandoah Club Meeting
No Meeting

OCTOBER 2020

October 9 – 6:00 p.m.
Executive Council Meeting
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
(Consistory & Lodge of Perfection)

October 12 – HOLIDAY
Columbus Day

October 21 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun S/R Club Meeting
If ZOOM – 7:00 p.m.
If in person 7:30 p.m. @
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

October 28 - 6:30 p.m.
Shenandoah S/R Club Meeting
Woodstock – Cassia Lodge
Installation of Officers
Dinner provided at no charge
(Reservation by Oct 23)



NOVEMBER 2020

November 11 – HOLIDAY
Veterans Day



November 13 – 7:30 p.m.
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
(Consistory & Lodge of Perfection)

November 18 – 7:00 p.m.
Loudoun SR Club
If ZOOM – 7:00 p.m.
If in person 7:30 p.m. @
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge

November 26 – HOLIDAY
Thanksgiving Day



SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN
Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia

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

Steven A. Hirschinger, 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°

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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.

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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
DONALD L. MCANDREWS, KCCH
Venerable Master

Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix

Second Friday
February, March, July, November
THOMAS E. GOOLSBY, KCCH
Wise Master

Alexandria Council of Kadosh

Second Friday
February, April, July, November
RICK A. CADY
Commander

Alexandria Consistory

Second Friday
April, August, October, December
RONALD J. LEIBFREID
Master of Kadosh

