

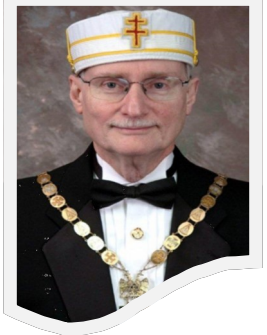


## *Personal Representative's Message*

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

### **What is Freemasonry Worth?**

Let me start by thanking all of you for your prayers, cards, and emails. I had the Covid vaccine, but it was my ulcerative colitis that put me in the hospital. When I became aware, I thought that a weekend or a week had passed; and I was amazed that it had been over three months. I must also thank my wife Gwen for all her support during this period, and we both thank the Masons who helped her during this trying time.



From both a personal standpoint and more broadly, I must say that both 2020 and 2021 have been extremely challenging. However, in spite of all of the problems we have faced these past two years, and all of our concerns looking forward, we need to be thankful for our blessings. When I think of all the places I could have been born and all of the countries in which I could have been living, I am so grateful to be an American. I do not want for food. I have clean drinking water, a comfortable place to live, and sufficient money for my needs – and many of my wants. I have my freedom, a loving family, good friends, and the support of my Masonic Brethren. I am truly blessed.

In spite of this, I sometimes find it easier to focus on the annoyances and hassles of everyday life rather than to be thankful for all I have, and to allow minor irritations and frustrations to tempt me to lose sight of the larger picture. It is at such times that Freemasonry shows its value by encouraging me to try to improve myself rather than complain about problems, to be more concerned about others, and to be of service to my Brethren and my community.

The key point is that Masonry does not just happen in the Lodge room – it is a way of life. Each of us has a choice to make. We can sit back and observe or act as a force for good. This is an important individual responsibility because there are serious economic, social, and political issues that need to be addressed, and the Masonic way is to see how we can help make things better. Whatever our circumstance, if we take the time to look around us, we will see others who need our help. There are Brethren who are isolated with health issues who need, at a minimum, encouragement and moral support. There are neighbors who are having economic difficulties who can use some help – and just a few dollars, that each of us would hardly miss, can really make a difference in their lives.

I came across a quote from a famous pastry chef, Dieter Schorner, recently deceased, that is relevant to Freemasonry. He said, “If you want one year of prosperity, grow grain, if you want 10 years of prosperity, grow trees. But if you want 100 years of prosperity grow people.” This is what Freemasonry is all about, and we need to be more aggressive in getting our message out about all the good that Freemasonry has done and is doing. There are many men, young and not so young, who share our values and would benefit from membership – and we need to let them know more about our Fraternity. It is not our so-called secrets but rather our philosophy and values, what we do and what we stand for, that will encourage these men to petition. Attracting these men to the Fraternity will be a service to them, will work toward the betterment of our community, and will be important to the future of our great Fraternity.

*(Continued on Page 2.)*

## *Personal Representative's Message*

*(Continued from Page 1.)*

I am convinced that Freemasonry has value to the individual in helping each of us to build our spiritual temple. We also help our Brethren in times of need, and our elderly members and their wives and widows in their senior years. But our concerns go beyond our own. We add value to the community by being a force that helps kids by providing scholarships; and, through our participation in our youth groups, wholesome and character-building opportunities to develop into responsible adults. We are in the forefront in assisting on medical issues, supporting by our donations a myriad of charities to treat and find cures for maladies that affect so many people – and we are generous in donating blood that keeps so many of our fellow citizens alive. And we do so much more.

It has been said that the biggest driver of motivation is the chance to serve a larger purpose beyond our careers and ourselves, and thinking about all that our Fraternity stands for and does should give each of us a sense of purpose and make us feel good about being Freemasons. In this regard I am reminded of a short poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

Kind hearts are the gardens,  
Kind words are the roots,  
Kind thoughts are the flowers  
Kind deeds are the fruits.


Take care of your garden  
And keep out the weeds;  
Fill it with sunshine,  
Kind words and kind deeds.

We each have an awesome power. The power to make things better and to make a difference. We will be remembered by our actions and how we help and inspire others. But this is a choice and an opportunity we must seize, because it is always easier to do nothing than to become engaged. Although Masonry is in many respects an individual endeavor as we seek to improve ourselves, let us not forget that we are joined together in Lodges and Grand Lodges, Chapters and Grand Chapters, Valleys and Orients, and that through our Lodges, Chapters, and Valleys we can accomplish even more by working together on programs and projects that can have greater impact and a more significant effect than our individual efforts. And from an Alexandria Scottish Rite perspective, we can be proud of the initiatives of our Philanthropic Committee.

Let me conclude that, in addition to a greater focus on kind words and kind deeds, and promoting Freemasonry to our friends and colleagues, the Scottish Rite offers our Brethren an opportunity to delve more deeply into the mysteries and to explore Masonic philosophy. This can be achieved by attending our meetings in person or on Zoom, participating in our Reunions, and taking the Master Craftsman courses.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Ed Cohen*



“Tomorrow is the most important thing in life.  
Comes into us at midnight very clean. It’s  
perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our  
hands. It hopes we’ve learned something from  
yesterday.”

*John Wayne*

## *Albert Pike's Interpretation of the Square and Compasses*

Ron Craft, 32°, Minister of State, Alexandria Consistory

The Square and Compasses are likely the two most recognized symbols associated with Freemasons around the world. The Square and Compasses ornament Masonic Lodges and can be found on public buildings, including some that have never been Lodges. Many of us proudly display the symbols on rings, shirts, hats, and even our cars. Brothers, over many generations, have chosen to have them inscribed on their tombstones so that anyone who walks past that grave will know that this man was a Freemason. As new Masons, we first learn about the significance of the Square and Compasses in our catechism, as they, along with the Holy Bible, represent the three great lights. As a catechism coach for my Blue Lodge, I go through these explanations time and time again. The new Brother learns that the Square symbolizes virtue while the Compasses are to remind him to keep his passions within due bounds. Recently, however I was reading some of the works of Albert Pike, particularly *Esoterika: The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry*, where I found that Pike's interpretation of the Square and Compasses differs from that which we learn about in our catechism.

The traditional explanation in many Masonic texts and generally agreed on by Masonic scholars is that the Square and Compasses has its origins in the stonemason's guilds in the Middle Ages.<sup>1</sup> In his *Lexicon of Freemasonry*, Albert Mackey explains that "by the square, a stone is tried and proved. To the speculative, the square applies to the principles of morality; each action of human life is judged, and approved or condemned."<sup>2</sup> As related in the ritual, Mackey also says that a Freemason is to square his actions by the Square of Virtue, which inculcates lessons of morality, truthfulness, and honesty while using the Compasses to circumscribe his desires and keep his passions within due bounds.<sup>3,4</sup> Certainly, these are important lessons for Freemasons to live by, as we should exemplify morality and virtue, as well as keep our emotions and actions measured.

Pike's research however, provides a somewhat different explanation of the Square and Compasses. Essentially, Pike believes that the Square and Compasses symbolize man's state as an eternal soul manifesting in a temporary body. Pike came to this conclusion while studying hermetic texts such as *Azoth*, published in 1613 by Basilus Valentinus. In *Azoth*, Pike focuses on a particular illustration called the Rebis, which is rich with deep symbolism, among which is a human body with the head of both a man and woman. Pike found that the two headed body represents the dual nature of humans which are part animal and material as well as part intellectual and spiritual.<sup>5</sup> Essentially, a human is differentiated by other animals with the gift of a soul. The female side of the figure is holding the square, a tool that is applied to level surfaces and rectilinear angles. Because the ground we walk on is basically level and anciently believed to be flat, the Square represents the Earth. The male side of the figure is holding the Compasses, which is used to create circles and deals with spherical trigonometry, represents the sky or Heaven.<sup>6</sup>

Because the square is an emblem which represents the earth and the body, its two points represent animal appetites and passion. The compasses, or the emblem of the spiritual soul also has two points which represent morality and reason. Therefore, to pass from the square to the compasses means to gain control over one's animal passions into what makes us human: morality and reason. This concept should be familiar to most Freemasons. As we progress through each of the three degrees, we gain greater knowledge and mastery over our animal instincts and smooth out the rough ashlar and come closer to Deity.

Pike believed that the Square and Compasses were more ancient than middle age stonemasons, which, as mentioned previously, were used in the hermetic texts published a least 100 years prior to the Grand Lodge of England. Pike further points out that the hermetic texts came from philosophical teachings established years prior to the 1613 publication of *Azoth*, making the symbols even older. Hermeticism itself is a philosophical system based on Greek and Egyptian teachings dating from 300 B.C.E. to 1200 C.E.<sup>7</sup> The Square and Compasses also were used in Confucius philosophy, most notably that of Mencius who lived in 371-289 B.C.E.

*(Continued on Page 4.)*

## *Albert Pike's Interpretation of the Square and Compasses*

(Continued from Page 3.)

While making many references to the tools, Mencius tells us "The Master Mason in teaching his apprentices, makes use of the Square and the Compasses. Ye who are engaged in the pursuit of wisdom must also make use of the Square and the Compasses."<sup>8</sup> This is not to say that the origin of Freemasonry is thousands of years old, but instead Pike was likely correct in believing that the use of the Square and Compasses as moral symbols predates the Middle Ages.

This is not to say that the conclusion that Mackey and others have taught are incorrect. In fact, Mackey dives further into many symbols in other works that is very interesting and worthy of every Freemason's consideration. Pike simply sought a deeper meaning to the symbolism of the Square and Compasses and did not rely solely on the belief that stonemasons alone came up with descriptions of how their working tools could relate to their spiritual lives. The ritual in the symbolic Lodge can easily lend itself to both explanations. It seems that within Freemasonry, there are multiple levels to the symbolism, and it is incumbent on each of us to seek out further light and share that light with our Brethren. The research Pike has done should better enable us to apply the hidden lesson of the Square and Compasses to our everyday lives; allowing us to smooth out the edges to our rough ashlar.

<sup>1</sup> *The Origins of the Square and Compasses*. (2019, April 5). <https://scottishritenmj.org/blog/the-origins-of-the-square-and-compasses>

<sup>2</sup> Mackey, Albert Gallatin. *Lexicon of Freemasonry: Containing Definitions of All Its Communicable Terms, Notices of Its Traditions and Antiquities, Together with an Account of All the Rites and Mysteries of the Ancient World*. Barnes & Noble, 2004. P. 450-451

<sup>3</sup> Mackey, Albert Gallatin. *Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry Volume 2* (Revised and Enlarged with Illustrations and Descriptive Index by Robert Clegg). The Masonic History Company, 1946. P. 963

<sup>4</sup> Mackey, Albert Gallatin. *Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry Volume 1* (Revised and Enlarged with Illustrations and Descriptive Index by Robert Clegg). The Masonic History Company, 1946. P. 236

<sup>5</sup> [Pike, Albert. Esoterika: The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry \(Transcribed and Annotated by Arturo De Hoyos\)](#). The Scottish Rite Research Society, 2005. P. 93

<sup>6</sup> Pike, Albert. *Esoterika: The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry (Transcribed and Annotated by Arturo De Hoyos)*. The Scottish Rite Research Society, 2005. P. 95-96

<sup>7</sup> *Hermeticism*. (n.d.). <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermeticism>.

<sup>8</sup> *Square and Compasses*. (n.d.) <https://www.Masonic-Lodge-of-education.com/square-and-compasses.html>

### *Venerable Master's Message*

Ill. Peter Terrill, 33° Venerable Master, Alexandria Lodge of Perfection

Greetings, Brethren!

I'm happy to say that our year ended on a much more positive note than it started. The hope and faith that we had all through the dark days of last winter paid off, to where we have resumed our in-person meetings and activities of the Valley. I'd like to think that because we were forced to find new and creative ways to maintain our fraternal bond as Masons we emerged even stronger as a Valley.

Our year started out as a purely virtual enterprise, conducting our meetings via Zoom as we had in the latter half of 2020. Despite the virtual-only format we were able to install our new officers, conduct necessary business, and keep our membership engaged through the presentation of excellent education programs, with robust attendance from both our local Brethren and our Valley's far-flung diaspora. We were also able to hold a virtual Reunion in April with 13 candidates receiving the Degrees. Credit should be given to our Director of Work, Ill. Jim Loudermilk, 33°, our head of Degree Communications, Ill. Shelley Richman, 33°, and Ill. Dave Smith, 33°, and Bro. John Suit, KCCH, who mastered the technology to make the virtual format possible. Our two virtual Reunions (held in December 2020 and April 2021) together added 49 new members to our Valley.

(Continued on Page 5.)



## *Venerable Master's Message*

*(Continued from Page 4.)*

Owing to the popularity and success of our virtual meetings we elected to install cameras and video conferencing equipment at our Valley to offer a Zoom option for remote members to participate in our renewed in-person meetings. By June we were back to opening our Valley meetings on site and conducting our business and programs in a hybrid format, despite a few technical hiccups. June also saw a successful Outstanding Teachers' Award program, hosted by Ill. Phil Rhodes, 33°. As always, the Brethren in attendance were inspired by the stories our honorees told and the passion they clearly bring to their jobs.

By July our in-person Executive Council meetings resumed, and we also conducted highly successful business meetings in July and August, thanks to technology and process improvements implemented by some of our tech-savvy members under the direction of our newly-appointed Assistant Personal Representative, Ill. Norm Hoff, 33°. The joint picnic with the Kena Shriners was a great success, with a dunk tank, corn hole, great food, and great weather. And, although we couldn't hold our annual Friends and Family Event this year, Bro. Tim Shrum, KCCH, and his Philanthropy Committee did a great job holding several smaller events, such as a polo match, bourbon and cigar tasting, and t-shirt sales, all of which supported our Valley charities.

The main program of our September stated was the annual Feast of Tishri, and we were honored to have as our main speaker Ill. James Dean Cole, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction. The meeting was preceded by an excellent Thanksgiving-style dinner, provided by the Al Manarah Court No. 50, Ladies' Oriental Shrine, and chef Bro. Rob Worthington. The month wrapped up with a highly successful Scottish Rite Conference in Roanoke. As always, our Alexandria Vice President, Bro. Allen Beckner, KCCH, was a great representative for our Valley, and his Lady Linda Beckner, with the assistance of Bro. Mike Taldo, KCCH, really raised the bar on hospitality. We were also especially proud of our new Knight Commanders of the Court of Honour (there were five!) who received that rank and decoration from our newly elevated Sovereign Grand Inspector General, with the Sovereign Grand Commander in attendance.

## *Request for Nominations for the 2021 Alexandria Scottish Rite Awards*

Ill. Edmund Cohen, 33°, Personal Representative of SGIG in Virginia

As usual at our December Executive Council meeting we consider your recommendations as to which Brethren should receive the Certificate of Appreciation for their exemplary service to the Valley in 2021 and which Brethren should receive the Certificate of Merit to recognize long term service to the Valley. We also select a person or organization to receive the Community Service Award.

Communicate your recommendations to the Personal Representative, Assistant Personal Representative, the General Secretary, or the Head of one of the four Bodies before the December 10 meeting.

These awards will be presented on 14 January 2022, at our dinner before the Installation of Officers and the Valley meeting.

Fraternally,  
*Ed Cohen*



## Keeping Our Valley Strong

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

Brethren, your efforts to share with your Lodge Brothers the many social, fraternal, charitable and educational benefits of Scottish Rite membership resulted in 16 new Masters of the Royal Secret at our Fall Reunion. In our previous Bulletin you saw a table showing the number of Valley members at the beginning of this year, followed by the gains and losses realized up to the time when the Bulletin was going to print. We saw that we had, at that point, *exceeded by just one member*, the year's losses caused primarily by the unfortunate deaths of some of our Brethren. Since that time in August, we have lost too many more of our older members, and we are again reminded that we are engaged in an unending contest with the inevitable force that will eventually claim each of us. For this reason, we can now rejoice with our new members, not only in their choice to join us, but also to celebrate that you and they are continuing to grow the Scottish Rite. Bottom line, now is the time to be recruiting candidates for our next Reunion!

### Current Year Membership Statistical Changes

Accurate As Of: 10/07/2021 10:10:00 AM

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| January 1 Total          | 1155 |
| Gains                    | 36   |
| Losses                   | 43   |
| Current Lodge Membership | 1148 |

### Alexandria Valley Scholarship Program

Tim Shrum, KCCH, Chair Alexandria Valley Philanthropic Committee

Despite the pandemic and our inability to have our usual fundraising gala this year, our Valley has not forgotten the need to help the kids. Our Masonic shirt project has already raised \$2,200 thus far. In addition, we had our inaugural polo fundraiser at Great Meadow in The Plains, Va. (the same Location as the Gold Cup) on Saturday August 28, 2021. At this beautiful location attendees enjoyed food, wine, cigars while socializing and watching polo on a beautiful entertainment deck. While having a great time, we raised \$3,000 for our Philanthropy efforts. A special thanks to Illustrious Jim Anagnos for donating the wine, Brother Mike Huff for donating Cigars, Illustrious Ray Steele for donating an item to be auctioned off and Brother Ron Craft's wife (Sarah) for donating dessert. Also, thanks to Brother Ron Craft for helping me coordinate the event. Brother Craft will be the Chair of next year's "A night at Polo" in the fall of 2022. Below are picture(s) of the event. We also gave out 20 scholarships.

S&F

Tim Shrum



# 2022 Proposed Valley Budget

Ill. J. Patrick Weyant, Jr., 33°, Chair, Valley Finance and Budget Committee

## Alexandria Scottish Rite Proposed Operating Budget



### A LOOK at the BUDGET

Here is the draft budget for next year that was presented at the October meeting and will be voted on at the December meeting.



| Category                        | Approved            | Actual              | Projected           | PROPOSED            |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                 | 2021                | Thru 30 Sept        | (9+3)<br>2021       | BUDGET<br>2022      |
| <b>Estimated Income</b>         | <b>\$213,185.00</b> | <b>\$163,067.46</b> | <b>\$217,423.28</b> | <b>\$217,925.00</b> |
| Dues                            | \$101,360.00        | \$79,064.62         | \$105,419.49        | \$103,600.00        |
| Fees                            | \$ 8,525.00         | \$ 6,080.00         | \$8,106.67          | \$ 8,525.00         |
| Rent                            | \$ 78,000.00        | \$ 48,170.00        | \$64,226.67         | \$ 80,000.00        |
| LMIP interest                   | \$ 18,000.00        | \$ 23,582.84        | \$31,443.79         | \$ 18,500.00        |
| Dinner                          | \$ 3,300.00         | \$ 336.00           | \$448.00            | \$ 3,300.00         |
| Miscellaneous                   | \$ 4,000.00         | \$ 5,834.00         | \$7,778.67          | \$ 4,000.00         |
| <b>Admin. Expenses</b>          | <b>\$69,250.00</b>  | <b>\$52,203.60</b>  | <b>\$75,404.80</b>  | <b>\$76,000.00</b>  |
| Salaries                        | \$ 31,000.00        | \$ 25,214.46        | \$33,619.28         | \$ 31,000.00        |
| Payroll Taxes                   | \$ 2,600.00         | \$ 1,964.49         | \$2,619.32          | \$ 2,700.00         |
| Telephone + IT                  | \$ 8,500.00         | \$ 7,793.63         | \$10,391.51         | \$ 9,000.00         |
| Postage and Mailing             | \$ 2,200.00         | \$ 2,186.02         | \$2,914.69          | \$ 2,500.00         |
| Printing                        | \$ 12,000.00        | \$ 9,690.00         | \$12,920.00         | \$ 13,000.00        |
| Audit                           | \$ 3,300.00         | \$ -                | \$3,300.00          | \$ 3,300.00         |
| Miscellaneous                   | \$ 2,500.00         | \$ -                | \$2,500.00          | \$ 2,500.00         |
| Taxes-Storm Water Utility Fee   | \$ 7,150.00         | \$ 5,355.00         | \$7,140.00          | \$ 12,000.00        |
| <b>Building &amp; Operating</b> | <b>\$83,400.00</b>  | <b>\$69,252.56</b>  | <b>\$87,007.75</b>  | <b>\$83,800.00</b>  |
| Insurance                       | \$ 14,600.00        | \$ 15,987.00        | \$15,987.00         | \$ 16,000.00        |
| Utilities                       | \$ 30,000.00        | \$ 20,801.63        | \$27,735.51         | \$ 30,000.00        |
| Security                        | \$ 13,800.00        | \$ 6,825.00         | \$9,100.00          | \$ 13,800.00        |
| Maintenance & repairs           | \$ 25,000.00        | \$ 25,638.93        | \$34,185.24         | \$ 24,000.00        |
| <b>Philanthropic</b>            | <b>\$ 2,250.00</b>  | <b>\$ 301.00</b>    | <b>\$3,300.00</b>   | <b>\$ 2,250.00</b>  |
| Education                       | \$ 200.00           | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 200.00           |
| Teacher of the Year             | \$ 1,650.00         | \$ 301.00           | \$ 3,300.00         | \$ 1,650.00         |
| Members - dues remitted         | \$ 400.00           | \$ -                | \$ -                | \$ 400.00           |
| <b>Contributions &amp; Fees</b> | <b>\$31,325.00</b>  | <b>\$2,989.00</b>   | <b>\$30,935.00</b>  | <b>\$29,095.00</b>  |
| Supreme Council - Cap           | \$ 29,190.00        | \$ 2,604.00         | \$ 29,000.00        | \$ 27,170.00        |
| Supreme Council - Candi         | \$ 1,050.00         | \$ 385.00           | \$ 850.00           | \$ 900.00           |
| SR Conf of VA                   | \$ 900.00           |                     | \$ 900.00           | \$ 900.00           |
| GWMNM                           | \$ 185.00           |                     | \$ 185.00           | \$ 125.00           |
| <b>Dinners/Refreshments</b>     | <b>\$14,850.00</b>  | <b>\$8,364.49</b>   | <b>\$11,262.79</b>  | <b>\$14,450.00</b>  |
| Meetings & Installation         | \$ 4,500.00         | \$ 3,725.00         | \$4,966.67          | \$ 4,000.00         |
| SR Conf & Workshops             | \$ 3,000.00         | \$ 3,197.93         | \$4,263.91          | \$ 4,750.00         |
| Feast of Tishri                 | \$ 300.00           | \$ 300.00           | \$300.00            | \$ 300.00           |
| Blue Lodge Relations            | \$ 1,050.00         |                     | \$0.00              | \$ 800.00           |
| Reunions                        | \$ 5,000.00         | \$ 590.36           | \$1,180.72          | \$ 3,500.00         |
| Ladies Nights                   | \$ 500.00           |                     | \$0.00              | \$ 500.00           |
| Special Events - Picnic         | \$ 500.00           | \$ 551.20           | \$551.50            | \$ 600.00           |
| <b>General Items</b>            | <b>\$11,360.00</b>  | <b>\$4,544.16</b>   | <b>\$11,108.88</b>  | <b>\$12,000.00</b>  |
| Degrees, Robes, etc.            | \$ 1,500.00         | \$ -                | \$0.00              | \$ 1,500.00         |
| Transportation                  | \$ 4,800.00         |                     | \$4,800.00          | \$ 6,000.00         |
| 33° & KCCH investiture          | \$ 1,800.00         |                     | \$250.00            | \$ 1,800.00         |
| SR Conference Host              | \$ 700.00           |                     | \$0.00              | \$ 700.00           |
| 14th degree rings               | \$ 2,560.00         | \$ 4,544.16         | \$6,058.88          | \$ 2,000.00         |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>           | <b>\$212,435.00</b> | <b>\$137,654.81</b> | <b>\$219,019.22</b> | <b>\$217,595.00</b> |
| Income over Expenses            | \$750.00            |                     | <b>-\$1,595.94</b>  | \$330.00            |



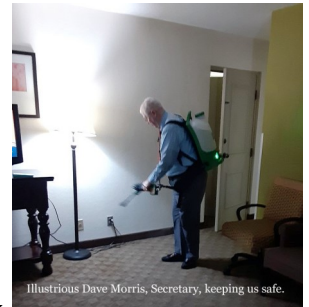
## The Scottish Rite Conference

After being sequestered for so long because of the pandemic, it was especially good to be back in person in Roanoke with our Scottish Rite Brethren from around the Commonwealth. There were 210 Brethren and wives in attendance - 44 from our Valley. We had good speakers to include our Grand Master MW and Ill. Douglas Vernon Jones; the Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill. and MW Jim Cole; our SGIG Ill. and MW Alan Adkins, and Ill. Mark Tabbert, the Director at the George Washington Memorial who is also a historian of note. In addition, Ill. and MW Kerry Campbell, Bro. Maurice Fisher, Pd.D. from the Valley of Roanoke, and Ill. Sam Welty from the Valley of Norfolk gave interesting presentations.

A high point of the Conference was a video presentation and talk from the Director of Radford University's speech program thanking the Scottish Rite of Virginia for contributing over a million dollars to the program, enabling it to help thousands of children and train so many speech pathologists. We also heard from a young lady and her mother, who movingly recounted how their lives had been turned around as a result of the help we provided the University. Our Orient is not only continuing its RiteCare support but has been able to increase the amount being provided.

A degree team under the leadership of Ill. Dave Smith did a superb presentation of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree, with our Past Grand Master Gary Wallace Taylor, the exemplar candidate. We again congratulate Ill. Don McAndrews, Philip Rhodes, and Peter Terrill who received the Degree. We also were privileged to witness the KCCH investiture ceremony, conducted by a team from the Valley of Norfolk. Ray Bacchus, Rick Cady, Ron Leibfreid, John Mitchell and Farley Warner received this honor.

In my view what makes these conferences so special is the opportunity to visit the various hospitality suites and socialize with the Brethren. We have to thank Alan and Linda Beckner for the magnificent job they did and thank Mike Taldo, KCCH for his support as bartender. As a result of their efforts, our hospitality suite was well run and, in addition to accommodating our Valley attendees, they warmly received so many of the Brethren from the other Valleys to include MW and Ill. Jones, James D. Cole, Alan W. Adkins, G.C., and Skip Parker.



The Scottish Rite Conference in 2022 (October 6-8) will be hosted by the Norfolk Valley and held in Virginia Beach at the Holiday Inn on Greenwich Road. And we are preparing for the 2023 Conference which our Valley is hosted under the leadership of our Conference Vice President, Alan Beckner, KCCH.

Fraternally,  
*Ed Cohen*



McAndrews



Rhodes



Terrill

2021  
Honour Men  
Congratulations



Bacchus



Cady



Leibfreid



Mitchell



Warner



# ASR Friends and Family Gala Update

Michael Taldo, KCCH

Brothers, it's that time of year for the first time in a couple years, to resume the planning for our 2022 Friends and Family Gala, in support of kids with speech defects. Having missed the opportunity last year because of COVID, the Philanthropy team is excited to get this off the ground, and as such, has been working diligently on finding a suitable location for our venue. Under consideration are two hotels, the Hilton Center Old Town Alexandria and the Crystal Gateway Marriott. Both fine locations, the selection of either of these hotels would allow us to have a similar experience as we have been able to provide in the recent past supporting up to 250 attendees. For a new experience, also under consideration are the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria and the Scottish Rite House of the Temple in D.C.. The Philanthropy team would like to have some feedback on these four location particularly, if there is a preference of one over another. Please feel free to check out this poll and pass us your opinion. <https://linkto.run/p/0Q9NIV5H>

Hilton Center Alexandria (Old Town)  
1767 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Crystal Gateway Marriott  
1700 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA

## Alexandria Valley Membership Brochure

Michael P. Bible, KCCH, Membership Committee Chairman

For the last several months your Membership Committee has been working on the new Alexandria Valley Membership Brochure. I am excited to tell you that we are ready to go to print and in the next few weeks, with the help of our Scottish Rite Lodge Representatives, you should see these brochures prominently located in your Lodges. We hope to accomplish several things with this brochure. We hope to tell the story, not only of the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, but also the history of the Alexandria Valley.

**SCOTTISH RITE PHILANTHROPY**  
The Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, through its various programs, provides educational and enrichment opportunities for children and youth. RitesCan, the Rite of Passage, and the Rite of the Sword are just a few of the programs that provide educational and enrichment opportunities for children and youth.

**SCOTTISH RITE HONORS**  
The Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction has been awarded numerous awards for its various programs. The Rite of Passage, the Rite of the Sword, and the Rite of the Crown are just a few of the programs that have been awarded awards.

**KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR**  
The Rite of the Crown is a program that provides educational and enrichment opportunities for children and youth. It is a program that has been awarded awards.

**33° DEGREE**  
The Rite of the Crown is a program that provides educational and enrichment opportunities for children and youth. It is a program that has been awarded awards.

**INSPECTOR GENERAL HONORARY**  
The Rite of the Crown is a program that provides educational and enrichment opportunities for children and youth. It is a program that has been awarded awards.

**GRAND CROSS**  
The Rite of the Crown is a program that provides educational and enrichment opportunities for children and youth. It is a program that has been awarded awards.

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

**Contact Us**  
The Alexandria Valley Temple  
1430 West Boulevard Road  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304-2100  
Phone: 703-998-0544  
<https://www.alexandriavalley.org>  
Special Meetings on the Second Friday of each month at 7:00pm.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF FREEMASONRY**  
Prepared by the Alexandria Valley Rite Membership Committee

We talk about the benefits of membership, what it takes to be a member, our philanthropic efforts, and some of the fun, and family activities of our Valley. On the back page of the brochure is a QR code that brings up the Alexandria Valley Membership Petition. It's all there.

So, there it is. Everything you need to tell our story, now all we need is you! We need you to make it personal, to put this in the hands of those who will benefit from all we have to offer as you share with them your own Scottish Rite story!



## *Feast of Tishri Photos*



Ill. James D. Cole, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander



## Secretary's Corner

David C. Morris, 33° General Secretary

### ALEXANDRIA VALLEY OFFICE

We are maintaining our regular hours of Monday--Friday, 10–3:30 p.m., but call 703-998-9044 first to be sure there is someone in the office.

### Do we have your EMAIL ADDRESS?

This is especially important for our monthly meetings on ZOOM and for email announcements. If you have not been receiving Email notices, we don't have a "Good" email address for you.



### OFFICERS FOR 2022

**Would you like to serve as an Officer in one of our Four Bodies in 2022?** Please contact the Valley office or the current Head of one of the Bodies.

### AUTOMATIC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FROM THE SUPREME COUNCIL

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

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

This may be the year for you to get your Life Membership in our Valley. There are ways to pay over a period of time.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### NOVEMBER 2021

November 3 - 7

**Grand Lodge of Virginia**  
Grand Annual Communication  
Richmond, VA

November 11  
**VETERANS DAY—HOLIDAY**

November 12 – 6:30 p.m.

**Pre-Meeting Dinner**  
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
**ELECTIONS in C of K & RC**  
(Council of Kadosh, Chapter Rose Croix,  
& Lodge of Perfection)

November 19 & 20  
**Grand Royal Arch Chapter**  
Williamsburg, VA



November 25  
**THANKSGIVING DAY—HOLIDAY**



### DECEMBER 2021

December 10 – 6:00 p.m.  
**Executive Council Meeting**  
Valley Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
**ELECTIONS in Consistory & Lodge of Perfection** (Consistory & Lodge of Perfection)

December 25  
**CHRISTMAS – HOLIDAY**



**Painting and picture by:**  
Mrs. Mary Ann Cole, bride of our  
Sovereign Grand Commander,  
Ill. James D. Cole, 33°

### JANUARY 2022

January 1  
**NEW YEARS DAY**



January 14 – 6:00 p.m.  
**Pre-Meeting Dinner**  
**INSTALLATION of OFFICERS**  
Valley Meeting – 8:00 p.m.  
(Lodge of Perfection)

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



January 26 – 6:30 p.m.  
**Shenandoah SR Club**  
Spurmont Lodge,  
Strasburg





**SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN**  
Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia

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

TBD, Content Coordinator

All Scottish Rite Members whose names appear in this Bulletin are of the Thirty-second Degree, unless otherwise indicated.

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Treasurer:  
Illustrious 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 correspondence without delay.

**THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED**

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal.

ILLUSTRIOUS JAMES DEAN COLE, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander

ILLUSTRIOUS ALAN WAYNE ADKINS, 33°, G.M.C.  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of Virginia

ILLUSTRIOUS 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  
PETER E. TERRILL, 33°  
Venerable Master

**Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix**

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

**Alexandria Council of Kadosh**

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

**Alexandria Consistory**

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

