

# Richmond Double Eagle

February 2017



Chapter Rose Croix



Knights Kadosh



Consistory



Lodge of Perfection



KSA



KCCH



33° IGH

## George Washington Bible at our February stated

Brethren of the Richmond Valley,

We begin the 2017 Scottish Rite year with the **Bible of George Washington** on display in the Richmond Valley. Worshipful Dan Thompson, 32° KCCH, is presenting a program on the early years of young George Washington. What could better compliment this program than have the Bible on which Brother George took his Masonic obligations, and on which he later took the oath of office as our first American President?



Spread the word to Brethren in the symbolic Lodges.

March 11, 2017, is the Friends Dinner and Auction. The location is the Wyndham Crossings Conference Center, 2300 Virginia Center Parkway, Glen Allen, VA. There are a few other surprises as well. Contact the SR office for your tickets. 804.264.2050

March 25, 2017 is the Scottish Rite Spring Workshop here in Richmond. Uniform attire is blue blazer, gray trouser, shirt and tie. Let's be a **Force for Good**, in high numbers for the Richmond Valley.

March 27, 2017, Bring A Friend/Mason Night. Solicit your Blue Lodge Brethren; invite them to this gala evening. Make their dinner reservations (husband and wives) early with the SR office and their meal is on us! The Knights of Saint Andrew will have several Knights in *class A uniform* to meet and greet them starting at 5:30 PM. The SR Temple will be open for tours. The SR Childhood Language Center will be open, several Directors will conduct tours. The uniformed Scottish Rite Guard will present the United States Flag through an arch of steel. Dinner is 7:00 PM, the featured speaker is Illustrious Brother Matt Szramoski, 33°, from the House of the Temple.

*Moring E. Gravitt, 33° IGH, Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection .:*

The *Valley Membership Achievement Project (VMAP)* has been submitted for 2016. Our Valley did very well again especially with the Reunion-Conferrals and Philanthropy. Our goals for 2017 are for continued growth in Technology, Membership and Education. Please familiarize yourself with the VMAP program by visiting the [scottishrite.org](http://scottishrite.org) website. If you have any suggestions or wish to volunteer to assist with any area, please contact our Valley leadership. Thank you for the hard work that goes into making our Valley successful.

S & F,

*Lin Spears, 32° KCCH, VMAP Chairman*

## Friends **CHARITY** Dinner Update

NOW IS THE TIME TO COME TO THE AID OF THE FRIENDS DINNER AND **BUY A TICKET!!**

MARCH 11, IS THE DAY.

WYNDHAM IS THE PLACE.

BLACK TIE OPTIONAL, or Business suit and Sunday attire.

### **FLASH NEWS:**

The AUCTION will INCLUDE:

A MASONIC **HENRY** RIFLE with all the emblems, Norman Rockwell work and other. Nothing but the finest for our Brothers. A perfect gift and a great way to donate to our Scottish Rite Charities.

Other items are being collected now. IF YOU want to donate, you can call Bro. Herb Turner. We are looking for items for both the silent and live auctions. Please help if you can.

Also, you can make a generous donation starting at \$100 as a sponsor.

Tickets are \$75 each. Not bad for a nice night on the town with your lady and having a little fun. Maybe even DANCING!!!

**Get your friends together and order your tickets NOW!!!**

**Sponsorships and/or Tickets may be ordered by sending payment to:**

**Richmond Scottish Rite PO Box 9136, Richmond, VA 23227 [rssecy@verizon.net](mailto:rssecy@verizon.net) 804.264.2050**

For additional information contact Herb Turner (804) 920-6986

### **Richmond Valley Leadership for 2017**

Moring E. Gravitt, 33° IGH ó Venerable Master

Gary Hutchinson, 32° - Wise Master *(arranges Ceremony of **Remembrance and Renewal** in April)*

Shelby Chandler, 32°KCCH -Commander *(arranges the **Feast of Tishri** observance in September)*

Whitney Hanscom, 32° - Master of Kadosh *(arranges **Family Night** event in August, business casual)*

Charles Robinson, 32°KCCH- Honour Court President *(arranges programs for Honour Court)*

Mack Thomas Ruffin, III, 33° IGH ó Commander - Scottish Rite Guard, formed March 1919

### **Knights of Saint Andrew**

Honorable Gary Clayton Bonner, 32° KCCH ~Knight Commander  
Hon. John Bradford oBradö Mena, 32° ~ Chief Knight (Rappahannock Clan)  
Hon. Aubrey Fones, 32° ~ Chief Knight (Piedmont Clan)  
Hon. Matthew John Johnson 32° ~ Chief Knight (Capital Clan)

### **Richmond Valley Scottish Rite Clubs**

Linda Absher ~ President - Scottish Rite Womanø Club  
Eugene Goin, 32° ~ President - Harold R Stephenson Club  
George Schneider, 32°, KSA ~ President - Fredericksburg Association

### **Committee appointments Richmond Valley AASR 2017**

#### **Appointed by SGIG**

Personal Rep.           Vernon Stuart Cook  
Gen. Secretary:       Robert Wales Carpenter  
Treasurer:           Herbert Hobson Eades, Jr.

#### **Appointed by Personal Representative**

**Trustees;**                           Oversee the Trustees~  
James Henry Atkinson, Jr.       Cook, Carpenter, James D. Cole  
Dale Edward Wright, Sr.  
Terry Francis Hilton

#### **2017 Statutory Committee Chairs Appointed by Personal Representative**

Director/general works:       Edward Francis Swansey, Jr., 33° IGH  
Friends Fundraiser:       Herbert Griffith Turner, Jr., 32° KCCH  
Public Relations/RDE:       Moring Elbert Gravitt, 33° IGH  
VMAP:                       Linwood Ray Spears, 32° KCCH

#### **2017 Committee chairs appointed by Venerable Master**

Americanism/Patriotism	Michael Atkins, 32° KSA	Nelson Trinkle, 32° KCCH
Audit	John W. Iman, 33° IGH	
Blue Lodge Assistance/ Degree team	Robert C. Eades 32° KCCH	Robert W. Carpenter 33°IGH
Budget/Finance- - - read at Installation	Barry Coleman Faison 32° KCCH	
Building & Grounds	Gary Eugene Hutchinson 32°	
Celebrate the Craft	Terry F. Hilton 32° KCCH	
Dinner tickets ó	General Secretary	
Editor Scottish Rite News	John W. Inman, 33°IGH	
Education	Robert R. Siegel, 32° KCCH	
Fellowship	Charles W. Seward, 33°IGH	
First Response	John M. Parrish, 32°	
Library	Barrye L. Abshure 32° KCCH	
Master Craftsman	Terry Francis Hilton, 32° KCCH	
Membership	Charles Albert Robinson, Jr., 32° KCCH	
Retention	Harvey L. Fleshman, 32° KCCH, KSA	
Photographer	David P. Clifton, 32° KCCH	Dennis Wayne Berry 32°
Reception	Whitney E. Hanscom 32°	
Security	Michael Leroy Bryant, 32°	
Scholarships	Richard T. McGrath, 33°IGH	
Speakers	Daniel W. Thompson, 32° KCCH	
Stewardsóco-chairs	John D. Runnett, 32°KCCH	Ronald E. Butler, Sr., 32° KCCH
Youth	Wayne Alfred Robison, 33° IGH	
Director of Works appoints:	Class Custodians, Lighting & Sound co-chairs,	Stage chair, and Wardrobe/Make up chair.

## Message from our Membership chair

Brethren, How many of you watched the movie National Treasure? How many like me, watched it a second time to see how much you had missed? Did that movie help open your eyes to the many signs and symbols that are all around us every day? Do you make the effort to even notice, and talk about what you see with your Brothers and friends?

On a recent vacation, I ran across the items pictured.



When you run across something of this significance, use it as an opportunity for discussion. You never know who might be listening. Many Brethren love learning about the history of our gentle Craft. Some have never been offered an invitation to join our beloved Scottish Rite.



Don't let a chance like this pass you by. Having a petition on you at the time works best, but you can always get it later.

*Charles Robinson, Jr., 32°, KCCH*



Greetings My Brethren,

On behalf of all your officers for the Richmond Chapter of Rose Croix for 2017, I would like to express our gratitude for providing us this wonderful opportunity to serve the Valley, and you this year.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Gary E. Hutchinson, 32° Wise Master*

"Brethren,

I am very excited to serve you this year as Commander of the Council of Kadosh. We have a special and unique year ahead of us in that our SR Valley Personal Representative, and Grand Master of Masons in Virginia is the same person! Illustrious and Most Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook will be leading the way in both our Valley Scottish Rite and Blue Lodge Masonry in Virginia. We owe Brother Cook our undivided attention and commitment to our duties, attendance and fraternal obligations in this most special of years.



I would also like to offer my sincerest congratulations, and good fortune to our new Venerable Master, Ill. Moring E. Gravitt, A.K.A. Ill. Grav. I can already tell that Ill. Grav is fully engaged in his new office and making significant strides to making this a memorable and most fraternal of years. Let's all commit to supporting Ill. Grav. with his efforts!

If there is anything I can do to help you in any way, please don't hesitate to contact me at 804-690-9172 or [wehanscom@yahoo.com](mailto:wehanscom@yahoo.com).

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Whit Hanscom, 32°*

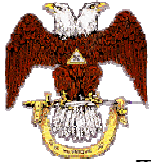


First off, I wish to thank Bro. Jonathan Turner for his excellent service to the Valley last year as Master of Kadosh. I am of the belief that the Consistory profited greatly from his leadership and am most grateful for being able to work with him.

With that said, I wish to thank the Brethren for entrusting me with the opportunity to serve them as 2017 Master of Kadosh. It is my hope that at the end of this year, the Brethren will find that their trust was well placed. At this time, the officers of the Consistory are informing themselves in the new responsibilities and are prepping themselves in ways that we can support our Temple.

August will be the Scottish Right Family Night, which will be sponsored by the Consistory. We are working on finalizing that night's program (which I will be reporting on shortly), but to make this program truly successful, I humbly ask that each of you consider having all members of your family attend this event. I will endeavor to make this night worth your family's attendance and will ensure that it will be both memorable and enjoyable.

I again thank you for this honor. May the Great Architect watch over you and yours. Fraternaly, *Shelby L Chandler*, 32°, KCCH, Master of Kadosh, Richmond Consistory



## **Richmond Scottish Rite Valley Clubs, or Associations, & KSA HAPPENINGS**

***Harold R Stephenson*** of Fork Union, President 2017 ó R.: W.: Eugene Goin, 32°

The regular scheduled meeting of the H.R Stevenson Scottish Rite Association was held at Theresa's place in Spouses Corner. Elections were held and officers were voted in. Dues will remain at \$10 per year. Fundraising ideas were discussed. Several brothers from the Lynchburg valley attended. They were welcomed and received petitions for membership.

The next scheduled meeting is April 27th. The association meets quarterly and raises money for the SR Language Center. Application for membership can be obtained from Rt . Worshipful Eugene Goin at 434.989.6290. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Contact information: 434.989.6290 or [neggoin@gmail.com](mailto:neggoin@gmail.com)

***Fredericksburg S. R. Association*** ó President 2016 óGeorge Schneider, 32°

- no report

Contact information: 540.498.6259 or [georgeoschneider@yahoo.com](mailto:georgeoschneider@yahoo.com)

***Scottish Rite Woman's Club*** ó President ó Linda Absher

Ladies, it looks like we're in for 6 more weeks of winter, since Punxsutawney Phil once again saw his shadow and retreated into his den for more naptime. He has only a 39% accuracy rate with his forecasts since 1887, so don't get too discouraged.

I'm hoping that we will see the return of our members to the monthly meetings. Our numbers of attendees is dwindling. It's difficult for just a handful of active members to find viable fundraisers for the \$1000 Scholarship in the Spring, and the \$1000 check presented to the outgoing Venerable Master in January (made out to the charity of his choice). We miss and need you. Please come back.



At the February 27th meeting, the Nominating Committee will be elected. Please consider filling the 2 year term for President, Vice President, Secretary, or Assistant Treasurer. A report will be made at our March meeting. Sandra Blanchard has graciously agreed to continue as our Treasurer. All of the current Officers have served our Club well, with only the good of the Club in mind. I thank each of you!

Linda Absher, President, SRWC Contact information: 804.512.5621 [nightingale\\_1950@hotmail.com](mailto:nightingale_1950@hotmail.com)

### Knights of Saint Andrew



Knight Commander ó Hon. Gary Clayton Bonner 2017

Knight Warden ó Jonathan Turner Knight Captain ó Sam Gomez

The year is starting off busy. We have requests for our assistance from the Rite for this stated meeting, and from the Ladies auxiliary for this year's fashion show. HKC Gary will lead the Knights through all the requests for assistance we receive from the Valley Secretary. If the Knights can help your group or event, please contact Ill. Bob Carpenter and he will get help on the way.

Applications to join the Knights of Saint Andrew are always available on the table in the vestibule before the dining room. If you have a **strong desire** to serve this Richmond Valley, we may be your avenue. We work at the Reunions, Conferences, Friends Dinner & Auction, Spaghetti Dinner, and when no one else sees us working.

We, Knights continue working on an incentive program to recognize those Knights that serve the Valley tirelessly. The hours Knights work will be tracked, verified and tallied by the Honorable Knight Adjutant James Dean, and reported to the Honorable Knight Commander. If you see or hear of a Knight who you feel needs special recognition, please send his name and a brief statement to either Brother Knight James Dean or myself Knight Commander Gary Bonner.

The Glengarry is our best recognized headgear. Please ask a Knight to explain how each is different.

*Gary Bonner, KC*

Contact information: 804.221.6030 [niffler53@gmail.com](mailto:niffler53@gmail.com)

Chief Knight (**Rappahannock** Clan) - Hon. John Bradford óBradó Mena, 32° KSA 2017

*Jeremy Utt, 32° KSA, Chief Deputy Knight 2017, Chad Tudor, 32° KSA, Knight Bursar*



On January 28, 2017 the Rappahannock Clan KSA was invited to share in the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Robert Burns supper as guest of the Fredericksburg Scottish Society. Deputy Knight Jeremy Utt and I attended and enjoyed a traditional Scottish meal, including haggis. Entertainment was provided by the Mary Washington University Pipe Band, Celtic folk band Dragonfyre, and traditional Scottish dancers. We hope to have a considerable turn out for our next meeting. The date of our next meeting is Thursday April 13, 2017. The location has changed however. The meeting will be held at Aladdin Mediterranean Bar & Grill located in the Greenbriar Shopping Center, 2052 Plank Rd in

Fredericksburg. All are welcome as the meetings are open.

S & F,

*Brad Mena, 32° KSA* ó Chief Knight

Contact information: 540.273.9798 [bradmene@hotmail.com](mailto:bradmene@hotmail.com)

Chief Knight (**Capital** Clan) ó Hon. Matthew John Johnson, 32° KSA 2017 - no report  
*James Dean, 32° Deputy Chief 2017, Richard Kidd, 32° Knight Busar*  
Contact information: 757.620.6819 [diannaj15@verizon.net](mailto:diannaj15@verizon.net)

Chief Knight (**Piedmont** Clan) - Hon. Aubrey Durwood Fones, 32° KSA 2017 - no report  
*Ed Creasy, 32° Deputy Chief 2017, David Alvin Carl 32° Knight Busar*  
Contact information: 804.338.0757 [foneszoo@verizon.net](mailto:foneszoo@verizon.net)

### **General Secretary scribbling**

March 25 is the Scottish Rite Workshop. It is open to all Scottish Rite Masons, kicking off with donuts and coffee. The 2017 President from Portsmouth is working diligently to acquire excellent speakers and topics. Join us, hear our Grand Master's message and those of the speakers chosen for this year's Workshop. Stick around for an excellent lunch after the workshop.

Richmond SR attire blue blazer, gray trouser, shirt & tie.

The 2017 ANNUAL DINNER TICKETS are on still sale this month. The cost is \$72. We accept cash, check or charge. Buy your tickets until the February dinner, and you don't have to remember to call for a reservation every month. Questions, please call the office @ (804) 264-2050.

**Meal fee without a reservation is \$10 per person**

*Bob Carpenter, Jr., 33°, IGH, General Secretary*

### **Help and assistance needed.**

Three (3) Scottish Rite Members are needed to serve on the Reception Committee on an ongoing basis. Duties include greeting members at the door at SR Stated meetings and functions, helping physically challenged members or guests get from their vehicles inside the building as needed. Not only is this an opportunity to help your Brethren and guests, but it is also a wonderful way to meet all of the attending members, get to know people, and have some fun. Attire is navy blue blazer with gray pants, business suit, or SR Guard uniform.

Please contact **Whit Hanscom**, 32° at 804-690-9172 or email [wehanscom@yahoo.com](mailto:wehanscom@yahoo.com).

Brethren of the Richmond Valley,

We are excited to announce that we are starting a new venture in the Richmond Valley... the *First Response Team!* This team will serve a most important function for the Valley; to serve our Brothers at their most critical time of need. The role of this team is to ensure the rapid response of emergency services in any type of need. Do you have a past in law enforcement, the military, or FIRE/EMS? Do you know simple first-aid procedures? Do you know how to deploy a Band-Aid? Can you pull out your phone and dial 9-1-1? If so, we are in dire need of your help!

We are not looking for EMTs, or the next up-and-coming medical doctor... We are simply asking for able-bodied men who can commit to attending a Richmond Valley event (or two) throughout the year. Once the team is formed, we will hold a simple training session. No team member is expected to act outside of their level of comfort. Simply being that person responsible for picking up the phone to dial 9-1-1, could be the life-saving difference! If interested in helping, please reach out to me, by phone, text, or e-mail.

With the utmost fraternal respect,

*Jahn M. Parrish, 32°, First Response Team – Chairman*

Contact information : 804-400-0026 [jmparrish@liberty.edu](mailto:jmparrish@liberty.edu)

## RICHMOND VALLEY UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

Tuesday 14 - SR Trustee meeting - - Valentines Day  
Monday 27 - Stated Meeting -5:30 Scottish Rite Guard, 6:00 Business meeting, 7:00 Dinner - Speaker Dan Thompson

### March

Saturday 4 - Division Leadership Conference of GLoVA @ Scottish Rite Temple  
March 11, Friends Dinner & Auction doors open 4:30PM - tickets SR office  
March 21, CLC Board *RiteCare*  
March 25, Spring Workshop in Richmond (Blue blazer & gray trouser is Richmond Valley uniform)  
March 27, Bring A Friend/Mason Night Speaker-Illustrious Brother Matt Szramoski

### APRIL

Saturday 1 - Woman's Club Tea  
Wednesday 12 - Honour Court  
Sunday 16 - Easter  
Monday 17 - Office closed for Easter Monday  
Saturday 22 - Spring Degree Conferral  
Monday 24 - Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal ~ Wise Master-Rose Croix  
Cer. of Rem. - 5:30 P, Lodge of Perfection - 6:15 P, Dinner/program 7:00 P  
Wednesday 26 - Executive Council

### MAY

Sunday 14 - Mother's Day  
Saturday 20 - *Celebrate the Craft* Terry Hilton, 32° KCCH & team  
Monday 22 - stated - Dinner Speaker-Mr. Henry Kidd **"Battle of the Crater"**  
Monday 29 - Memorial Day

## ROTC & Jr. ROTC awards

It's time to begin planning and scheduling for our Valley's JROTC and ROTC awards Program. Your Committee will do like last year, as schools schedule their awards programs and we are sent the dates, we will post them in the Double Eagle. They will be sent out via the Valleys e-mail list, and be announced at our stated meetings.

Brethren please step forward and volunteer to be an awards presenter. These young people need to know that we support their efforts to become our Future Military members and leaders. This is a very rewarding thing to do and they really appreciate our support. It is also a great opportunity to show off our Scottish Rite.

We need someone to cover:

Hopewell High School, 400 S Mesa Dr., Hopewell, VA 23860

Contact is: LTC James McKayhan or 1<sup>st</sup> SG Evelyn Cabrera, Phone: [804-605-1844](tel:804-605-1844)

Presentation date is on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 6:00pm.

Please Brethren let me hear from you.

You can reach me at [ntrink64@gmail.com](mailto:ntrink64@gmail.com) or cell (804) 337-3069.





## 2017 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications are available at office by mail or email, or the Valley website at [richmondscottishrite.org](http://richmondscottishrite.org)

They must be received in the office **before Noon** on **April 20, 2017**

Only the 2017 application form is valid. Each application must be accompanied by an "official" transcript. Incomplete applications or applications on an **old** form **will not** be considered.

*Richmond Double Eagle* is produced by;  
*Richmond Valley Scottish Rite Public Relations Committee*

**Michael Atkins** 32°, KSA, [Michael.Atkins@richmondarc.org](mailto:Michael.Atkins@richmondarc.org) ~ distribution  
and

**Moring Gravitt** 33°, IGH, [moringgravitt@comcast.net](mailto:moringgravitt@comcast.net) ~ editor

Referred to as the George Washington Inaugural Bible. George took his obligations and the oath of office for POTUS on this Bible.

Come and see it, up close and personal at the stated meeting February 27, 2017.

