

# Richmond Double Eagle

May 2017



Chapter Rose Croix



Knights Kadosh



Consistory



Lodge of Perfection



KSA



KCCH



33° IGH

## Celebrating the Craft 5/20 baseball @ Diamond

**Celebrating the Craft** is observed 5/20/2017 worldwide. Our Valley will be celebrating at the Diamond with a family gathering of baseball and fireworks show. Contact Terry Hilton for tickets. This is a day to set aside to aid Richmond Valley charities, and assist in rebuilding the House of the Temple. Please make a check to the House of the Temple (HOT) in any amount, send it in or bring it to the May meeting. Best of all, ½ of the donation comes back to Richmond Valley charities. Watch the podcast from 6pm to midnight 5/20/2017.

<https://scottishrite.org/development/giving/celebrate/>

May 22, our dinner speaker will be an author, artist, and reenactor of 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Civil War battles, Mr. Henry Kidd. His artwork has appeared in documentaries, on covers of books and magazines. He raised \$25,000 for September 11<sup>th</sup> victims through the sale of his artwork, *'America's Heroes'* and was recognized by Virginia General Assembly, with a Joint House and Senate Resolution, for artwork and efforts aiding September 11<sup>th</sup> victims. Henry will present a program on the ***Battle of the Crater***.

Art, and books signed by author will be available for purchase.

*Moring E. Gravitt*, 33° IGH, Venerable Master ∴ Lodge of Perfection  
(804) 748-7942 h/o (804) 651-7942 c [moringgravitt@comcast.net](mailto:moringgravitt@comcast.net)

Brethren, there is much to be pleased about as we move forward in the Season of Spring! We have six (6) new members of the Royal Secret and we are very appreciative of the Valley of Alexandria for allowing our candidates to participate in their spring Reunion where the degree work was performed in an exemplary manner on April 29<sup>th</sup>. In addition to this good news Brothers Gary Hutchinson and Bob Carpenter have been working closely with the contractors and the first stage of work on removing the disturbed asbestos in our building has been completed. Parts of our building that were previously closed for this work is now open and operational again.

As we begin to move forward into the spring and summer months, we need everyone's help in bringing in petitions for our fall Reunion. Our Venerable Master and the Degree Master have been working on plans to take the degrees on the road in order to make it more convenient for Brothers who live in outlying distances from our Valley. It sure would be nice to have 30-40 new petitions in hand for our fall class and while this is possible, it will not happen without your support. Each of us knows someone who is not yet a member of our Valley. We can change this just by reaching out and having one on one conversations about the benefits of becoming a member. Make it Happen!!

Thank you for your contributions to our Valley and lets all do just a little more in the coming months.

S&F, Brother *Stuart*, PR, 33° IGH, Grand Master ∴ of Masons in Virginia

## **Scottish Rite is Celebrating the Craft, May 20**

CTC and the FLYING SQUIRRELS, Come one come all!! **Take Me out to the Ball Game!!!!!!!**

Ladies and Gentlemen: The Scottish Rite is going to the BALL GAME on MAY 20. IT will be great. If you haven't already signed up, you have until Monday, May 15. Please call Terry Hilton at 804-794-1329 ASAP so we can get your tickets at the group rate of only \$8 in advance. Tickets will be at least \$10 at the gate and you might not get to sit in our section.

2 HOT DOGS, CHIPS, and a Coke for \$5 will be served at the SR Temple at 5:30. As soon as we eat, we can head over to the game in car pools. Parking is \$10. I can only make hot dogs if you sign up in advance so please let me know.

Please keep in mind that we are supporting the *House of the Temple* and the *Childhood Language Center*. Donations are still being accepted. IF you haven't sent in your check yet, please do. THANKS to all of those who have donated already to this great campaign of *CELEBRATING THE CRAFT*, version 2017!

Thank you,

*Terry Hilton*, 32° KCCH, Chairman CTC [terry4tees@gmail.com](mailto:terry4tees@gmail.com)

### ***Message from our Membership chair***

I know by reading this, you have an interest in your Scottish Rite. I also know when we all joined, we were charged with replacing ourself plus one. Many have not only lived up to that obligation, but have gone above and beyond. NOW, OUR SCOTTISH RITE IS IN TROUBLE! We all need to go back and replace ourselves again. However, this may only be a temporary fix. What about the 1,000 or so members that aren't active? We must get them involved in some manner before they lose interest and go away. If I knew what the answer was, I would try to fix it. But I don't!

Lets all rally with the common goal of SAVING OUR SCOTTISH RITE.

*Charles Robinson, Jr.*, 32°, KCCH, Chairman Contact information: (804) 730-0191 [carsdr@comcast.net](mailto:carsdr@comcast.net)



We have received excellent feedback from those who attended this year Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal this year. As the Wise Master of this Chapter of Rose Croix I would like to offer a thank you.

First, to all the 2017 officers for their unconditional support and earnest cooperation in making this years' Ceremony not just different, but more moving to the Brethren and guest who attended, as well as deeply respectful for our Brethren who have gone on before us.

While too often left unsaid, we owe a huge 'thanks' to those Brothers who, while remaining in the background, worked so professionally to help with preparing the programs handed out, the staging, sound, lighting and our costumes. For without any one of these items this year's ceremony could not have been presented or received as well.

In addition, we must offer a very special 'Thank You' to Reverent Jay Carey, who did a superb job as our narrator and even better job as our dinner speaker. I can't tell you how many Brethren has told me how much they enjoyed his presentation and how they could have listen to him speak longer. How blessed are we at Bethia United Methodist to have Jay most every Sunday!

And lastly, but far from least, we want to thank all the Brethren and guest who by their attendance helped make this years' Ceremony so special, and who have remarked how well both the remembrance and renewal portions were received.

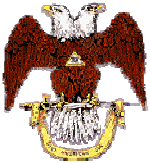
The reading of our departed Brethren names is reminiscent of an ancient Sanskrit injunction: "Lead us from the unreal to the real, from darkness to light, from death to immortality." As Masons, we are traveling together on a mystic journey, a journey toward greater and greater light. "The Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal" is a celebration of our Masonic bonds, an opportunity to remember our Brothers who have journeyed on before us, and a time to reflect upon our own individual quest.

In closing, I believe this Chapter of Rose Croix accomplished our goals for the 2017 Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal:

We respectfully and meaningfully remembered our brothers who have journeyed to the Celestial Lodge. We renewed our commitment to our life journey. And more specifically, we celebrated and renewed our Masonic bonds and commitment to our Masonic journey.

We hope you agree!

*Gary E. Hutchinson*, 32° Wise Master ∴ Richmond Chapter of Rose Croix  
Contact information: (804) 382-7547      [u2r Irish@msn.com](mailto:u2r Irish@msn.com)



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

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

The next meeting of the H.R Stevenson Scottish Rite Association is 27 July at 6:30 pm. We will be having a picnic at Glenacres farm on Route 53. We invite all Scottish Rite masons and their families to attend. For more information or rsvp to Eugene Goin. Contact information: (434) 989-6290      [neggoin@gmail.com](mailto:neggoin@gmail.com)

***Fredericksburg S. R. Association*** ó President 2017 ó George Schneider, 32°

- no report

Contact information: (540) 498-6259      [georgeoschneider@yahoo.com](mailto:georgeoschneider@yahoo.com)

### ***Scottish Rite Woman's Club*** ó

Our soon-to-be installed President is Valerie Layman. Her email address is [Valerie.layman99@gmail.com](mailto:Valerie.layman99@gmail.com).

This is my last submission as President of the SRWC, and I really thank you for your patience, understanding, and assistance. Please don't forget that the SRWC is here to assist in anything that we can.

Dear Ladies,

Thank you for the phone calls and emails in response to the letter recently mailed to the SRWC membership. Good news - we now have a full slate of officers to be installed at our May 22nd meeting at 6:00 pm. Those to be installed are Valerie Layman, President; Anna Margarett Prieze, Vice President; Robyn Hilton, Secretary; Sandra Blanchard, Treasurer; and Cricket Bryant, Assistant Treasurer. These ladies will provide wonderful leadership for the 2017-2019 term.

The SRWC Scholarship Committee will make its report about the recipient of the \$1000 scholarship to be awarded at the Education Night Dinner on June 26th. Don't forget to make dinner reservations. Another item on the Agenda to be discussed is whether to have another Ice Cream Social and Sing-a-Long at the Masonic Home like we did last August. The Residents had a wonderful time, as

did the members of the SRWC who were in attendance. You will be notified of the time and date if we vote to move forward with this fun event. Please consider attending and sitting at the tables with the Residents as they enjoy the ice cream and musical treats. They love to talk, so we can easily fill that role.

The Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center Spaghetti Dinner date has been changed from June to October 28th. The SRWC members are always so faithful about donating a cake, and helping slice and plate the cakes. You can pull out that favorite cake recipe that you haven't made for years and just needed a good reason.

Ladies, it has been an honor and pleasure to have served as your President for the past two years. I want to thank you for your continued support of all SRWC efforts. So many of you are unable to make the meetings for various reasons, and we understand. Please know you are still an important part of this Club, and we need you to stay as involved as you are able. I know our new officers need as much support as you can give them. Just a reminder that we do not meet in June, July, or August. Enjoy your summer with family and friends. Stay safe.

*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

- no report

**Knight Warden** – Jonathan Turner **Knight Captain** – Sam Gomez

It is spring, and the KSA has been busy. Working with the ladies for their Spring fashion show, that was an interesting experience. We were taught by a taskmaster how to set up a plate for presentation, flowers and all.

We have escorted Masons, showing them the Temple and proving a brief presentation on Scottish Rite Masonry. We have been involved in some minor Temple repairs. We continue to be available for other jobs, for the Scottish Rite.

You can get help by getting in touch with Ill. Carpenter, Bro. James Dean, or me, Knight Commander Gary Bonner. We are under the black Glengarry.

Contact information: (804) 221-6030 [niffler53@gmail.com](mailto:niffler53@gmail.com)

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

- no report

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

*Brad Mena, 32° KSA* óChief 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

As of this writing, we still have 67 members whose dues are delinquent and are subject to suspension. Please check your dues cards. If your dues are current, you will have a 2017 card. Dues are one way of showing your support for your Valley. Your membership is very important to the Valley and you are encouraged to make those dues payments today.

Our membership stands at 1447. Just think, only 15 years ago, our membership stood at 2998. That is a loss over the last 10 years of over 1550 brethren. That is over 50% in just 15 years.

We all need to work to increase our membership now. New Petitions – Affiliations – Retentions – and Reinstatements. Petitions are now available for the Fall Reunion on Saturday, October 21, 2017. Please encourage your Blue Lodge brethren who are not Scottish Rite Masons, to take advantage of our one-day educational and thought provoking Conferral. Brethren, we all need to replace ourselves at least once. Let's do it this year.

Dinner reservations are a must. In order to adequately prepare our menu and purchase the food, we need to know how many are going to be in attendance. We prefer a week in advance, but if you call no later than the Wednesday before the Stated Meeting we can hold your cost at \$8. Reservations received after that Wednesday will be \$10 each.

*Bob Carpenter, Jr., 33°, IGH, General Secretary Contact information: (804) 264-2050*

Respected Brethren of the Richmond Valley,

Would you know what to do if a loved one were to drop from cardiac arrest? Well... we know to call 911, but then SOMEONE should start CPR. What if you were alone? Would you know what to do?

Do you give 30 chest compressions, then two rescue breaths? Or was it 15 chest compressions, and two rescue breaths? Over the last 5 years, the American Heart Association realized that the guidelines for CPR was overly complicated, and that the current research on cardiac arrest began showing less of a need for the traditional "rescue breaths".

So what is the current guideline for CPR? It is now an easy two-step process:

**1 – Call 911**

**2 – Push Hard & Fast**

This simple form of "hands-free CPR" can triple the victim's chances of survival! After you call 911, you just need to perform chest compressions at the rate of 100-120 beats per minute. You simply continue the chest compressions until EMS or First Responders arrive. There is no longer any need to stop CPR in order to perform rescue breathing. We must all realize that CPR is nothing for us to fear. Rather, it is an easy-to-use tool that can save the life of a loved one!

With the utmost fraternal respect,

*John M. Parrish, 32°, First Response Team Chairman*

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

Ed Swansey, Director General of Work, (804) 337-3591 (C); email: [swansey@gmail.com](mailto:swansey@gmail.com) - no report  
Charles Robinson, Asst. Director Gen.of Work, (804) 730-0191 (H); (804) 751-3132 (C); [carsdr@comcast.net](mailto:carsdr@comcast.net).

## RICHMOND VALLEY UPCOMING EVENTS

### MAY

Sunday 14 - Mother's Day

Saturday 20 - *Celebrate the Craft*    *Baseball game at the Diamond*    *Web-a-thon*

Monday 22 - stated - Dinner Speaker—Mr. Henry Kidd    ***"Battle of the Crater"***

Monday 29 - Memorial Day (office closed)

### June

Sunday 18 - Fathers Day

Monday 26 - Stated meeting – Education night, Scholarships, and Teacher awards

### July

Monday 3 – Office Closed

Tuesday 4 – Office Closed – Independence Day

Tuesday 11 – Annual Visit to JMU

Richmond Valley Lodge of Perfection is dark in July

Wednesday 26 – Executive Council

### AUGUST

Monday 21 – Stated Meeting

Sunday 27 thru Wednesday 30 – Supreme Council Biennial Session – Washington, DC



### ROTC & Jr. ROTC awards

- no report

Nelson C. Trinkle, 32° KCCH

Contact information: [ntrink64@gmail.com](mailto:ntrink64@gmail.com) (804) 337-3069 cell, leave a message.

### *The Valley Membership Achievement Project (VMAP)*

The VMAP Program is a good tool to measure success and determine areas for improvement in our Valley. It is divided into eleven specific subject areas which cover the full scope of the Scottish Rite experience. These areas are:

Membership Retention/Engagement - - Scottish Rite Education of Members - - Membership Recruitment  
New Member Engagement - - Reunion Experience - - Scottish Rite Education for Candidates - - Philanthropy  
Public Image - - Degree Conferral Proficiency - - Officer Responsibilities & Engagement - - Valley Organizations

You will find support in multiple areas to assist with the VMAP Program.

**Scottishrite.org** has a special VMAP page. - - **Freemason Network** VMAP working Group Page

**SR Chirp** VMAP Channel will include content - - The Scottish Rite, Freemason Network and WSB Facebook pages and SR Twitter - - and The **"Tyler's Place"** podcast has a special VMAP minute.

Brother James Dean has volunteered to assist the program chairman with introducing the above programs. If you have questions, contact the Valley Leadership of the four Lodges or the VMAP Chairman.

*Lin Spears*, 32° KCCH, VMAP Chairman

Contact information: [spears7@rivnet.net](mailto:spears7@rivnet.net)

## ***Detailed Job Descriptions and Responsibilities Manual***

### Questions:

1. Which officer is responsible to provide when directed a Bulletin article or an educational program on the *Constitutions, Statutes* and/or Valley Bylaws? pg. 10
2. Which officer is required provide when requested a Bulletin/ Richmond Double Eagle article or educational program on the *Constitutions, Statutes* and/or Valley Bylaws? pg. 13
3. Which officer is required provide when requested an educational program on the Law of the Rite, symbols of Freemasonry and other subjects as required? pg. 13
4. Which officer is responsible to provide one feature article for the Newsletter or Richmond Double Eagle when directed by the Master of Kadosh? pg. 13

Answers are found in the *Detailed Job Descriptions and Responsibilities Manual*

If you do not have a manual, request one from the General Secretary, Venerable Master, Wise Master, Commander, or Master of Kadosh.

### ***What is with the Scottish Rite Temple building?***

Latter part of 2015 - Our HVAC system was reviewed because of being 48 years old.

Brother William K. Lampø firm was contacted to do a survey and plan an upgrade. This was to include change from an analog to an electronic digital system. Goal was to revamp the cooling system and switch from electric strip heat to boiler fired warm water. It was decided to do this major enhancement in three stages.

Brother Lamp did extensive work with existing drawings, and site evaluation.

2016, the findings were a real shock. When the new roof was put installed, some sprayed on asbestos above the lighting bridge was knocked loose. The lighting bridge is in the rear above the auditorium. F&R (Froehling & Robertson) were contracted to evaluate the entire building for asbestos. Armed with the proper information, WACO construction was employed to do the asbestos abatement. The auditorium was closed, sealed and the work began.

2017, OSHA came in to inspect the work and process. WACO finished the abatement. The entire auditorium was HEPA vacuumed, cleaned and spot lights were reinstalled on the bridge. OSHA signed off on the work. F&R screened the air, checked all areas and certified the air quality.

April 2017, the auditorium was put back into service.

Work has not yet begun on the HVAC upgrade. The asbestos abatement has used most of the phase one approved funds. We are regrouping before an upgrade can occur.

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

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and

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

Next issue **deadline** is Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 9PM. Shipping date is June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Richmond Scottish Rite Valley web site <http://www.richmondscottishrite.org/>