



Chapter Rose Croix



Knights Kadosh



Consistory



Lodge of Perfection



KSA



KCCH



33° IGH

## *Elections & Installations this month, see you there*

My Brethren,

Our Holiday Season of Christmas, and Hanukkah has once again come and gone and I hope everyone enjoyed a joyful celebration with your families and friends. We rang in the New Year in fine style and with the hope and cheer for an even bigger and brighter 2017. With these events comes our new Scottish Rite year. This is an exciting time of officers progressing and new officers entering new post. It is also a time for the outgoing officers to pause and reflect. When looking back at 2016, and see all we've accomplished, I realize two very important things. First that our Craft is continuously under construction and our task as officers is to complete this particular building block so that those who succeed us can rise to new heights and reach new goals. It is hoped that I have accomplished that this year. The second being that nothing is done without you. You my Brethren, Ladies and friends are the one means by which all is accomplished. Thank you from the depths of my heart for your support, dedication and participation this year. Thank for the opportunity to have served the Richmond Valley as Venerable Master this year. In my forty-three years in Masonry I have experienced no greater honor. This year I felt an element of excitement and enthusiasm building in the projects we took on and I know that you will continue to build on this momentum as we move into 2017.

Brethren thank you for coming out, taking part and I know you will continue in 2017 to help write the history of our Scottish Rite.

*Robert C. Eades, 32°, KCCH, Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection .:*

### **2016 Lodge of Perfection Wardens - - message to the Brethren**

Following the natural progression and the will of the Brethren I should be advancing to the East in the Lodge of Perfection for the 2017 Year. I have asked to remain in the West, and for Illustrious Brother Moring Gravitt to advance to the East. The reason centers on several factors to include significant changes and responsibilities as a Board Member for the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center.

The Center is in a period of transition. I am on the team to search for a new Center Director. During this interim period, the search team will also help oversee day-to-day Center activities. We will ensure continuity of operations, and assist the Center's very fine staff as they provide high quality treatment to children with speech, language and hearing difficulties. It is believed the search process and management duties during the interim period will take anywhere from four to six months, and given all the moving parts involved, require substantial time and attention. Considering my responsibilities as a Grand Line Officer, the necessary and important demands of family plus everyday life, it is felt best for me to postpone advancing to the East in the Lodge of Perfection. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and hope you will understand this decision.

I want to congratulate our outgoing Venerable Master Rob Eades for a job very well done! He provided outstanding programs and leadership all the while keeping us focused on the very important task of membership growth in the Richmond Valley. I want to thank my friend and good Brother Illustrious Brother Moring Gravitt for stepping ahead to the East and allowing me to remain sharply focused on operations at the Language Center.

*Douglas Vernon Jones, 32° KCCH, Grand Junior Deacon*

Brother Doug and I have worked together closely for the past several years. When he was tapped by Illustrious James E. Litten to be a Grand Deacon nominee for the Grand Lodge of Virginia, the two of us were constructing the DDGM work book for Brother Stuart Cook. R.: W.: Doug's advancement in the Grand Line came ultra quickly. He stepped into the Grand Senior Deacon spot right away. He serves as Grand Junior Warden now. During the time Doug was offered to move ahead one chair in the Lodge of Perfection. This was thought a good option for Brother Doug, me and the Valley. The membership agreed, thus we switched Wardens chairs for the Lodge of Perfection.

Current circumstances necessitate a reversal of that switch. If it is the will of the Brethren, we will again swap chairs for the 2017 Lodge of Perfection.

Doug is a very devoted Mason putting the Craft, Grand Lodge, and the Childhood Language Center ahead of himself. He is currently serving as personnel director, and on the search committee for the CLC. He will continue to serve the Grand Lodge, Valley, and the CLC in his usual excellent manor.

Doug and I have a big set of shoes to fill following our Venerable Master, Rob Eades. We have worked together to come up with an excellent group of officers, and committee chairs to lead the Valley in 2017 and 2018. We have a super group of programs lined up. The future of the Richmond Valley is bright. Doug and I look forward to serving you.

*Fraternally,*

*Moring Elbert Gravitt, 33° IGH*

### **Commander Knights of Kadosh - Council Knights Kadosh 2016**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Brethren for their support this year. It has been a real honor to serve as Commander of the Council of Kadosh. I look forward to serving the Richmond Valley in all of its endeavors in the future. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas or a Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

*Ronald Butler, 32° KCCH*

### **Master of Kadosh - Consistory 2016**

Fraternal Greetings Brethren, Thank each of you for allowing me to serve as Master of Kadosh this past year. You have lent support, guidance, friendship, and love. I am truly grateful. Serving this Valley in whatever capacity possible has made me a better person, and given experiences to meet many Brothers I would not have met otherwise. I will continue to be active in other capacities, mostly out of the spotlight and certainly behind the scenes. You have given a high honor by allowing me to serve. At the January Stated Meeting the election will most likely give Shelby Chandler, KCCH the reigns to lead this Consistory forward, with Jerry Camp as #2. The Lodge will also bring in Jimmy Creech to serve the line. I urge everyone to be as involved as you can. The Richmond Valley needs active members! We need to care for the building and the people that visit, searching for something they can't explain... more light. Between Lodge meetings, District meetings, Youth Group meetings, Official Visits, Conferences, Fund-raisers, outside rentals and our own Scottish Rite meetings thousands of people walk our floors. These events do not happen by themselves on auto-pilot. WE must make them happen. There are many tasks, jobs, or things we can busy our hands with, but few that can impact as many people as the work you could be doing at YOUR Scottish Rite.

MAY GOD BLESS OUR GENTLE CRAFT AND THESE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

S & F, *Johnathon Edward Turner, 32° KCCH*

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

I hope the Holidays went well for everyone. When you made your New Years Resolutions, did you remember to make a couple concerning Your Scottish Rite?

The 1st resolution should have been to be more active this year, for 2 reasons. We all know that the more you put in, the more you get out, and secondly, OUR fellowship experience is enhanced when YOU are with us. The 2nd resolution should be to offer our Blue Lodge Brethren the opportunity to become a Master of the Royal Secret.

We had a good year last year, let's keep up the momentum! April 22 is the date of our Spring Reunion, which is in memory of Ill. George Page, 33°, IGH, and it will be here before you know it. Petitions can be picked up at the Temple or printed off the Web site. Just as important as new members, is retaining our current members. Now is the time to check those dues cards and ensure they have 2017 on them.

We look forward to seeing YOU.

*Charles Robinson, Jr., 32°, KCCH*

### **SCOTTISH RITE CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE CENTER**



The Center is progressing nicely. Robin Olivier resigned after over 23+ years with the Center. The clinicians are helping children, taking on more responsibilities, and assist with the daily operations of the Center. Your Board of Directors is busy with this challenge. Operations are going smoothly.



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

***Harold R Stephenson*** of Fork Union, President 2017 - Eugene Goin 32°

The H.R Stevenson Scottish Rite Association meets at *Tavern on the James* in Scottsville. The meal and meeting begin at 6:30 pm. Please contact me with your questions and reservations at 434.989.6290 or [neggoin@gmail.com](mailto:neggoin@gmail.com).

***Fredericksburg S. R. Association*** ó President 2016 óGeorge Schneider, 32° - no report

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

Dear Ladies,

Happy New Year. I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season, rich with traditions, shared with family and friends.

I am looking forward to our first 2017 SRWC meeting Monday, January 23, at 6:00 pm.

We mentioned the need for volunteers to make some baskets for the SR Friends Dinner and Auction during the November meeting. These baskets can be created by one or more persons, or perhaps you would rather donate money for their construction. One of our members can then purchase items to create a basket for you. Please let me know at our January meeting, or email me that you are willing to help with this need.

The SR Dinner and Auction is Saturday, March 11.

This is just a reminder to remit your \$8.00 2017 dues to Sandra Blanchard, Treasurer.

Please include the information form received, so that we can verify or update your information.

Please put April 1 on your calendar (*no fooling*) for our Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show.

*Linda Absher, President, SRWC*  
[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

Your Knights of Saint Andrew are very active. We held a knighting Ceremony in November and Knighted two Squires. Gary Bonner was elected Honorable Knight Commander. HKC Gary will lead the Knights in all the requests for assistance received from the Valley Secretary. If the Knights can help your group or event, please contact Ill. Bob Carpenter, General Secretary.

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 Reunions, Conferences, Friends Dinner & Auction, Spaghetti Dinner, and when no one else sees us working.

We also held a Memorial Service for ILL. David Elam Amstutz, he had been Chapter Patron and very supportive of the KSA. Mrs. Mary Ann Amstutz and their son Alfred attended that service.

Knights are working on an incentive program to recognize those Knights that serve the Valley tirelessly. The hours the Knights work will be tracked, verified and tallied by the Honorable Knight Adjutant James Dean and reported to the Honorable Knight Commander.

The Glengarry will still be our best recognized headgear. Please ask a Knight to explain how each is different.  
*Gary Bonner, KC*

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

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

The quarterly meeting was held on October 13, 2016 at Castiglia's Restaurant in Fredericksburg. All officers of the clan as well as Honorable Knight Commander Harvey Fleeshman, 32° KCCH were in attendance. Fellowship and an excellent dinner were shared by all before the business meeting. Topic discussed were the 2016 fall reunion in Richmond and our support of the event. A Robert Burns dinner is in the planning stages and we continue to work with the Fredericksburg Scottish Society to make this event a reality within the next year. Our meetings are open to all Knights regardless of clan, all brother Masons and their families as well as guest who wish to learn about the Knights of St Andrew. Our next meeting is at Castiglia's, 325 William St in old town Fredericksburg on Thursday January 12, 2017.

S & F, *Brad Mena, 32° KSA* –Chief Knight

**Chief Knight (Capital Clan)** ó Hon. Matthew John Johnson, 32° KSA 2017

*James Dean, 32° Deputy Chief 2017, Richard Kidd, 32° Knight Busar*

- no report

**Chief Knight (Piedmont Clan)** - Hon. Aubrey Durwood Fones, 32° KSA 2017

*Ed Creasy, 32° Deputy Chief 2017, David Alvin Carl 32° Knight Busar*

- no report

## General Secretary scribbling

Our incoming Masters have been hard at work to prepare their programs for 2017. They will be communicating those plans during the coming months. The incoming Venerable Master will have announcements concerning his programs, and appointments at the January meeting. All officers will be expected to attend in order to be installed.

March 25 will again bring the Scottish Rite Workshop. Remember, it is open to all Scottish Rite Masons. Join us, hear our Grand Master's message and those of the speakers chosen for this year's Workshop.

In April, the newly installed Wise Master will present his program involving Easter and the celebration of the lives of our deceased members since the last Ceremony of Remembrance. His plans are still being formulated, but look for a memorable evening.

As we turn our attention to the coming months, we cannot forget our Spring Degree Conferral on April 22. This Conferral is in memory of Ill. George Abbott Page, 33°, IGH, who served the Valley as our General Secretary for almost twelve years. Our Membership Chairman is already working on plans for April and we hope that it will result in a sizeable class to honor George's memory. Give him all the help you can.

## **DINNER TICKETS IMPORTANT NOTICE**

In order to keep our meal cost at \$8 per person, you need to call in your dinner reservation one week before the Stated Meeting. There is **NO** dinner list unless you call to reserve, or have an annual dinner ticket. The 2017 ANNUAL DINNER TICKETS are on sale now. The cost for 10 meals, an \$80 value, is only \$72. Call or stop by the office. We accept cash, check or charge. Buy your tickets now so that you don't have to remember to call for a reservation every month. Questions, please call the office @ (804) 264-2050.

**PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!**

**REMEMBER TO MAKE YOUR DINNER RESERVATIONS**

**Meal cost without a reservation is \$10 per person.**

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

## **RICHMOND VALLEY UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **JANUARY**

Wednesday 11 - Honour Court  
Tuesday 17 - CLC Board *RiteCare*  
Monday 23 - Stated Meeting -5:30 Scottish Rite Guard, 6:00 Business meeting -Election 7:00 Dinner - Installation  
Wednesday 25 - Executive Council

### **FEBRUARY**

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  
March 21, CLC Board *RiteCare*  
March 24, DLC  
March 25, Spring Workshop in Richmond (Blue blazer & gray trousers are Richmond Valley attire)  
March 27, Bring A Mason Night Speaker—Illustrious Brother Matt Szramoski

### **APRIL**

Saturday 1 - Woman's Club Fashion Show  
Wednesday 12 - Honour Court  
Sunday 16 - Easter  
Monday 17 - Office closed for Easter Monday  
Saturday 22 - Spring Degree Conferral  
Wednesday 26 - Executive Council

### ***First Aid Team being formed***

A first aid team is being formed for the events at our Scottish Rite Temple. We have 10 stated meetings, a spring workshop, a fund raising dinner, the spring and fall rituals, and occasionally other events may need to be covered. No one person will have to cover all the events.

Please submit your name to Brother **Jason D. Clemmer**, 32° [jason.clemmer@gmail.com](mailto:jason.clemmer@gmail.com) submit him your background in first aid. Jason will select and direct the team.

### ***Scottish Rite Temple Building and Grounds***

Have a knack for home repair, piddling, or little fix up projects? Want to serve the Richmond Valley? Can you screw in a light bulb, roll a little paint, refinish furniture, or clean an air duct grill? We have opportunities. Send me a note, text, or call, *Gary Hutchinson*, 804.382.7547 h/c, [u2r Irish@msn.com](mailto:u2r Irish@msn.com)

### **FRIENDS DINNER AND AUCTION**

This year the Scottish Rite Friends Dinner and Auction (SRFD) will be moving to a new location and different date. The SRFD will be held March 11, 2017 at the Wyndham Virginia Crossings Hotel & Conference Center located at 1000 Virginia Center Parkway, beginning at 4:30 PM.

It is the desire of the SRFD Committee to have the Dinner be a class event. It should also be a special evening to celebrate with friends and Brethren the wonderful work being done at the Childhood Language Center and through the Scottish Rite Charities. We are hoping to have our event covered in the Sunday Flair Section of the Times-Dispatch.

This year the attire will be %Black Tie Optional+. There will be a silent and live auction that adds to the fun of the evening. The auctions provide financial support to the CLC and House of the Temple. Wyndham Executive Chef Ivan Coleman will prepare a meal of herb roasted chicken and salmon.

The Richmond Valley and the Childhood Language Center are most grateful for the many ways you support the Scottish Rite Charities. I encourage you to plan to support the charitable work of the Valley. This can be done by purchasing a table, tickets, or making a contribution to the Friends Dinner and Auction. Tickets are now available for purchase.

Your early purchase of tickets will greatly assist the committee in meeting the bimonthly contract payments leading up the event.

Brethren, please remember this is a fund raising event. The committee has worked hard to plan an enjoyable evening of music, competitive bidding and a pleasant setting with good food and drink. Come join in this time of celebration and fellowship.

Please consider a purchasing a Platnum, Gold, Bronze. or Table Sponsor. Tickets are \$75 each and may be purchased by cash, check or credit card. A table sponsor of ten is \$700.

Please send ticket requests to: Richmond Scottish Rite, PO Box 9136, Richmond, VA 23227.

Herb Turner, 32°KCCH, Chairman

see next page for complete details

**INVITATION!**



# Richmond Scottish Rite Invites You To A *Charity Dinner & Auction*

Saturday, March 11, 2017

Wyndham Virginia Crossings  
Hotel and Conference Center  
1000 Virginia Center Pkwy.  
Glen Allen, VA 23059

Proceeds benefit Richmond Scottish Rite Charities which include -  
Richmond Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center  
Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships  
Historic Preservations

## Sponsorship Opportunities

### Platinum

\$5,000

Includes 8 seats and major listing  
on all publications

### Gold

\$2,500

Includes 4 seats and major  
listing on all publications

### Bronze

\$1,000

Includes 2 seats and listing on all publications

### Table

\$700

Includes 10 seats and listing as a table sponsor

Silent Auction & Social Gathering 4:30 PM

Dinner 6 PM

Live Auction 7 PM

## Ticket Price

**\$75 per person**

We look forward to counting you among the supporters of Richmond Scottish Rite Charities.

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

**Richmond Scottish Rite**

**PO Box 9136, Richmond, VA 23227**

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

*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

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