

# Valley of Fort Myers Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite



WWW.SCOTTISHRITEFORTMYERS.COM

ORIENT OF FLORIDA

## SUMMER 2026



Physical Address:  
10868 Metro Parkway  
Fort Myers, FL 33966

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 60691  
Fort Myers, FL 33906

Office: (239) 332-2311  
[secretary.vofm@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.vofm@gmail.com)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



One of the greatest strengths of the Valley of Fort Myers has always been its commitment to providing members with experiences that are both meaningful and worthwhile. While fellowship remains at the heart of what we do, our meetings have also become an opportunity to learn something new, hear a fresh perspective, and leave with ideas that can be applied both within and beyond Freemasonry.

Each month, we welcome speakers and presenters who share their knowledge, experience, and passion on a variety of topics. Whether the discussion focuses on Masonic education, leadership, community service, history, or personal development, every presentation is chosen with one goal in mind—to provide our members with something of lasting value.

These programs do more than fill an agenda; they spark conversations, encourage fellowship, and remind us that learning is a lifelong journey. Members often leave with a greater appreciation for our fraternity and a renewed enthusiasm for becoming more engaged in the Valley and their own communities.

The Valley of Fort Myers is proud to continue investing in quality programming that enriches the member experience. By bringing together knowledgeable speakers and Brothers eager to learn, we are building meetings that are informative, enjoyable, and rewarding—ensuring that every gathering offers another reason to be proud of being part of our Valley.

**Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH**  
Personal Representative—Valley of Fort Myers AASR



## UPCOMING EVENTS



|                                                       |                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>August 19</b><br>7:30 pm       | <b>Consistory</b><br>Special Presentation (OPEN)<br>Lee County Sheriff Dept.              |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>Sept 16</b><br>7:30 pm         | <b>Consistory</b><br>21° Noachite or Prussian Knight<br>Exemplified Degree (TILED)        |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>Oct 3 &amp; 4</b><br>7-5 am/pm | <b>2026 Fall Reunion</b><br>4th thru 32nd Degrees (TILED)<br>Communicated and Exemplified |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>Oct 21</b><br>7:30 pm          | <b>Lodge of Perfection</b><br>Feast of Tishri (OPEN)<br>Ceremony                          |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br><b>Nov 18</b><br>7:30 pm          | <b>Consistory</b><br>9° and 10° Degrees (TILED)<br>Exemplified in Spanish & English       |

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH**  
Personal Representative  
phone: (239) 571-0935  
email: [ddgm292013@aol.com](mailto:ddgm292013@aol.com)

**Hon. Tim Eckert, 32° KCCH**  
General Secretary  
phone: (717) 519-7034  
email: [secretary.vofm@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.vofm@gmail.com)

**III. Peter Kolthammer, 33°**  
Treasurer  
phone: (239) 443-0193  
email: [pmkolt22@gmail.com](mailto:pmkolt22@gmail.com)

**Hon. Robert Zimmerman, 32° KCCH**  
Almoner  
phone: (480) 600-3100  
email: [bobzimm@comcast.net](mailto:bobzimm@comcast.net)

**Bro. Kenny Vince, 32°**  
Scottish Rite Foundation Representative  
phone: (239) 292-9593  
email: [kennyvince79@gmail.com](mailto:kennyvince79@gmail.com)

**III. David Wolfe, 33°**  
Organist  
phone: (239) 246-2748  
email: [davewolfe3327@gmail.com](mailto:davewolfe3327@gmail.com)

**Hon. Kevin Gourley, 32° KCCH**  
Social Media & Web / Digital Communications  
email: [KLGourley1971@gmail.com](mailto:KLGourley1971@gmail.com)



## FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK



Summer is a busy season, not just in the Masonic realm, and I hope you are finding time to enjoy it with your family, Brothers, and friends. Freemasonry in general is vibrant and growing in Southwest Florida.

The Master of Kadosh has set us up with some really interesting programs for the year, many of which are open to friends and family. For example, earlier this month, we had Bro. John Reilly present some great emergency first aid tips to those in attendance.

The Scottish Rite is a prime opportunity for any good Mason looking for further light. We as a Valley must hold ourselves to a high standard—I am speaking to myself here too. We have twenty-nine meaningful degrees that teach a variety of important life lessons and volumes of literature that shed even more light on that ritual. Let us muster renewed enthusiasm and work together to grow this Valley, to do quality ritual work, and more importantly to build a strong community of Masons in Southwest Florida and beyond.

As always, please reach out if any of your information has changed, dues questions, or if you just want to chat about life and what's going on in the Valley. God bless you, my Brothers.

**Tim Eckert, 32° KCCH**  
General Secretary—Valley of Fort Myers AASR



## CONSISTORY

ELECTED  
APPOINTED

**Master of Kadosh** Bob Zimmerman, 32° KCCH

**Prior** John Herman, 32° KCCH

**Preceptor** Jeff Zimmerman, 32° KCCH

**Chancellor** Bill Maddox, 32° KCCH

**Minister of State** Mike Meehan, 32° KCCH

**Prelate** Kevin Gourley, 32° KCCH

**Master of Ceremonies** Robert Graham, 32°

**Expert** Rafael Morales, 32°

**Assistant Expert** Bob Bennett, 32°

**Captain of the Guard** Luis Tulier, 32°

**Color Guard** George Benjamin, 32°

**Tyler** Keith Carrington, 32°

## 2026 Fall Reunion



**October 3rd & 4th**  
**Saturday & Sunday**

## Turn In those Petitions!

We're eagerly looking for candidates to attend the 2026 Fall Reunion. If you're sitting in Lodge with a Brother, let's get him interested in Scottish Rite. They can [petition directly from our website](#).

## CONSISTORY / MASTER OF KADOSH



We have passed the halfway mark and it is exciting to me to see the Valley continuing to evolve and improve. We are continuing to take a serious look at our finances, and the E-Board is preparing changes to how we handle our investments. Additional fund raising efforts will be announced in the near future.

In discussions with Tropical, we have been told we will have the building ready for our reunion in October. I am requesting that our degree directors submit to Ill. George Baliotis a list of those degree members that needed to be replaced at the last reunion. At the same time, I am requesting our members who are not in a degree but are willing to be, to please contact Ill. George. Our reunions and the degree presentations are one of the best ways to obtain more Light that we all are seeking. If you are interested in a role now is the time to get involved, practices will soon be starting. It is also an amazing example of fraternity and Brotherly love that we can participate in.

Our Valley is aging and we must transfer the reins to our younger members. If you know a Brother that you feel would be a valuable addition to our Valley please reach out to them and inquire to their possible interest in joining our excellent Valley.

Have you attended our fine Executive Board? We meet the first Wednesday of the month and you don't need to be an officer in one of our Bodies to attend and participate in making decisions for our Valley. Drop in the first Wednesday in August and let your voice be heard. Truly make it *your* Scottish Rite.

Finally, any suggestions, questions or concerns that need to be addressed by Hon Jeff should be communicated to him or to any other officer to bring it to his attention. It is your Scottish Rite and we want it to be addressing your needs.

**Bob Zimmerman, 32° KCCH**  
Master of Kadosh—Consistory

**31° & 32°**

## TENNESSEE TRAVELING MAN



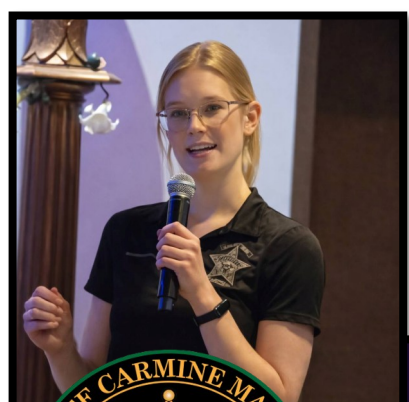
Our good brother, Illustrious Fred Wright, 33°, had the opportunity to visit the Corinth Valley Scottish Rite in the Orient of Mississippi recently during their reunion.



# Recent Happenings in the Valley

## Active Shooter Presentation

**MAY 20th:** Victoria Staryk, Crime Preventive Specialist from the Lee County Sheriff Office, gave an outstanding presentation on how to conduct yourself in an active shooter situation.



**ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE**  
Lee County Sheriff's Office  
Community Response Unit (CRU)

VICTORIA STARYK- LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## Stop the Bleed Presentation

**JULY 15th:** Brother John Reilly, 32° KSA. Is a retired Paramedic and Fire Instructor. He provided some crucial life saving information for treating bleeds of various types to buy time before EMS arrives. Other topics touched on treating burns and choking.



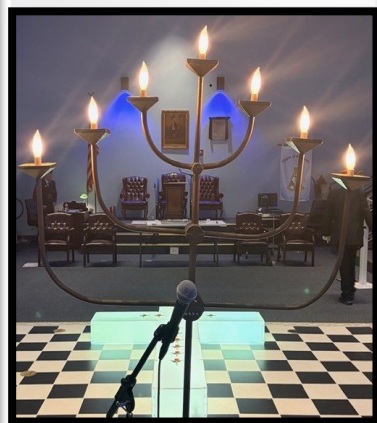
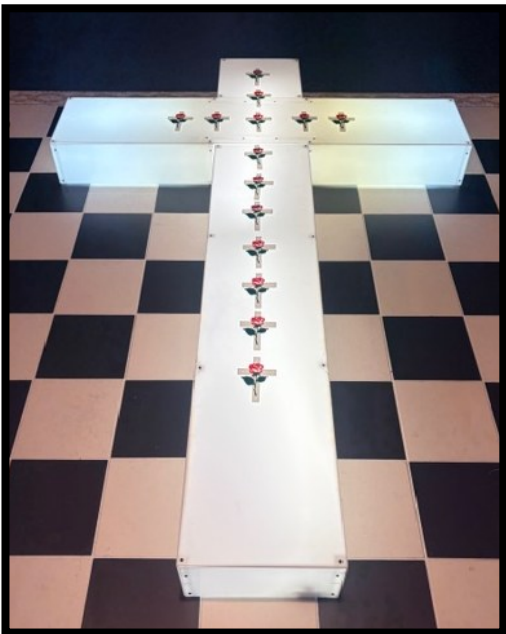
[www.stopthebleed.org](http://www.stopthebleed.org)



**STOP THE BLEED®**  
is an official program of the  
U.S. Department of Defense

## Remembrance and Renewal

**APRIL 15th:** Our annual Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony was performed by our KCCH in honor of the following Brothers who left us last year.

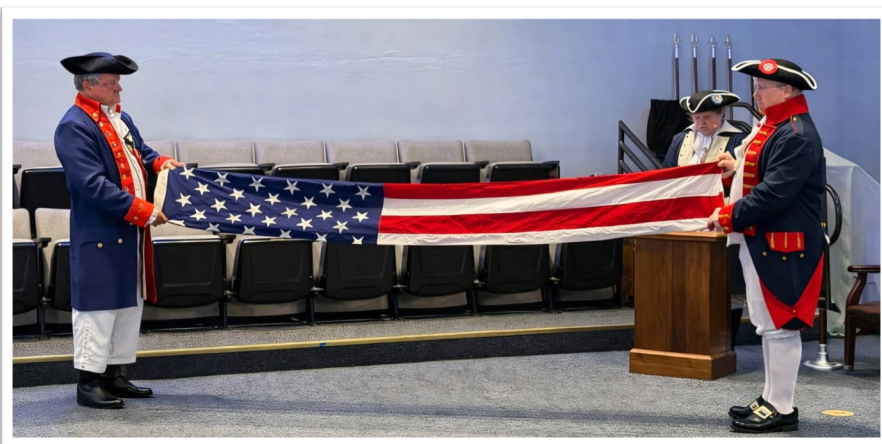


- Bro. Robert Comfort, 32° 2/5/2025
- Bro. John Cote, 32° 3/12/2025
- Bro. James Decker, 32° 12/10/2025
- III. Fred Fullerton, 33° 12/23/2025
- Bro. Frank Hardy, 32° 1/4/2025
- Bro. Keneth Herald, 32° 1/12/2025
- Bro. Donald Kiger, 32° 2/17/2025
- Bro. Phillip Kopp, 32° 1/23/2025
- Bro. Richard Latham, 32° 2/3/2025
- Bro. Agostino Luce, 32° 7/2 1/2025
- Bro. James Morris, 32° 11/16/2025
- Bro. Wilbert Needleman, 32° 7/21/2025
- Bro. James Nottingham, 32° 3/10/2025
- Bro. Howard Seaton, 32° 8/6/2025
- Bro. Millard Smith, 32° 3/20/2024
- Bro. Kenneth Tabler, 32° 7/25/2025



## Flag Folding & Etiquette

**JUNE 17th:** The Heroes of '76 from our local National Sojourners did a special U.S. Flag folding presentation at our Council of Kadosh meeting. Brothers Luis Tulier and J. Champion folded the flag while Hon. Kevin Gourley explained the complex symbolism behind each fold. Brother Tulier also provided everyone with some U.S. Flag etiquette and was followed up with Brother Gary Marvel entertaining by performing some military bugle calls.



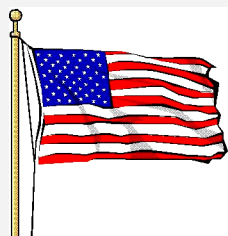


# The Mission of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the Orient of Florida

To be the premier fraternity of Men of Integrity and Good Character by providing opportunities for personal growth, leadership skills, education and social interaction based on the values of friendship, charity, patriotism, tolerance and a belief in a Supreme Being. To that end we commit to making a positive impact on mankind, promoting our community and providing value to the Masonic fraternity.

## Masonic America 250 Flag Program

Show your pride in Masonic America by purchasing [an American Flag](#) flown over the House of the Temple in Washington D.C. Proceeds from all purchases will go to the Scottish Rite Foundation, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Inc. to support philanthropic efforts such as the RiteCare Scottish Rite Childhood Language Program, grants, scholarships, and national disaster relief.



## KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE COURT OF HONOUR / COMMANDER Social Media & Web / Digital Communications



Brothers: Sometimes due to unforeseen circumstances we need to make last minute program changes. I try to make sure the most up-to-date information about our monthly programs is posted on the main page of our website at [Scottish-RiteFortMyers.org](#). In addition, we also have a Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/ScottishRiteFortMyers](#) where we are always posting information and promoting special occasions. Be sure to visit either of these options to stay informed on current happenings.

Also, if you are not receiving our quarterly newsletters, please send me a message at my email address below so I can add you to the distribution list. We now put out a Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter newsletter. These can also be found on our website above — past issues too.

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**Kevin Gourley, 32° KCCH**

Commander—KCCH

Social Media & Web / Digital Communications

Email: [KLGourley1971@gmail.com](#)



**Scottish Rite Foundation  
of Florida, U.S.A., Inc.**

## ESOTERIC STUDY GROUP



The Esoteric Discussion Group is on hiatus for the time being. We are currently exploring options to resume the group in the near future and will keep the Brethren informed as plans develop.

## Naples Scottish Rite Club

Meets 2nd Wednesday at 6 p.m.  
at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road in Naples.

President: Tom Budzyn, 32°

Email: [budzyn32@gmail.com](#)

## Punta Gorda Scottish Rite Club

Meets 2nd Monday at 6 p.m.  
at Punta Gorda Lodge.

President: Noah Parry, 32° KSA

Email: [noahsark24@gmail.com](#)

## BLUE LODGES IN THE VALLEY OF FORT MYERS

| LODGE                           | STATED COMMUNICATION       |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Tropical No. 56</b>          | First & Third Tuesday      |
| <b>Moore Haven No. 61</b>       | Second & Fourth Thursday   |
| <b>Peace River No. 66</b>       | Second & Fourth Tuesday    |
| <b>Punta Gorda No. 115</b>      | First and Third Thursday   |
| <b>Sugarland No. 281</b>        | First and Third Thursday   |
| <b>Cypress No. 295</b>          | Second and Fourth Thursday |
| <b>Noah No. 357</b>             | Second and Fourth Monday   |
| <b>Englewood No. 360</b>        | First and Third Tuesday    |
| <b>Fort Myers Beach No. 362</b> | First and Third Thursday   |
| <b>Cape Coral No. 367</b>       | Second and Fourth Thursday |
| <b>LaBelle No. 379</b>          | Second and Fourth Tuesday  |

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# SCOTTISH RITE *Foundation Cruise*



## FUNDRAISER

6 NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE

ABOARD

ROYAL CARIBBEAN  
**RADIANCE**  
*of the SEAS®*



RADIANCE OF THE SEAS®

**SAIL DATES:**  
**MARCH 20-26, 2027**



**\$500 DEPOSIT**

DEPOSIT ASAP

FOR BEST CABIN SELECTION!

**BALANCE DUE BY**  
**DECEMBER 15, 2026**

PRICING IS FOR TWO PEOPLE IN THE CABIN

### BALCONY



**\$2,007.56**

for two people  
in the cabin

### OCEAN VIEW



**\$1,673.56**

for two people  
in the cabin

### INTERIOR



**\$1,119.56**

for two people  
in the cabin

## ITINERARY

| DAY | DATE      | PORT                      | ARRIVE  | DEPART  | NOTES     |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Sat | 20Mar2027 | Tampa, Florida            | —       | 4:00 PM | Departure |
| Sun | 21Mar2027 | Cruising                  | —       | —       | Cruising  |
| Mon | 22Mar2027 | Cozumel, Mexico           | 7:00 AM | 5:00 PM |           |
| Tue | 23Mar2027 | Belize City, Belize       | 8:00 AM | 5:00 PM | Tendered  |
| Wed | 24Mar2027 | Puerto Costa Maya, Mexico | 8:00 AM | 5:00 PM | Docked    |
| Thu | 25Mar2027 | Cruising                  | —       | —       | Cruising  |
| Fri | 26Mar2027 | Tampa, Florida            | 7:00 AM | —       | Departure |

*Itinerary subject to change.*



*To make your reservation contact:*

**DIANA KREISLE**  
TRAVEL AGENT



**352-302-6190**



**Diana@LetsGoToday.com**







**Moore Haven F. & A.M. Masonic Lodge No. 61**  
200 J. Avenue, Post Office Box 1061  
Moore Haven, Florida



**\*\*\*GUN RAFFLE\*\*\***

# **9mm Sig Sauer P320 Kit**

**Includes Firearm, Case and Five Magazines**

**\$20.00 donation  
suggested per ticket**



**Winning Ticket Number to be the September  
11, 2026 Florida Lottery Mid Day Pick 2 Ticket  
Number. Winner need not be present.**



**Drawing Sponsor  
Green Beret Guns and Ammo**



Winner will be notified by phone. Winner need not be present to win. Prize purchased with Lodge funds and sponsor donation. Winner must be 21 years of age or older. All NFA Rules apply. Background check required. Firearm to be picked up from Green Beret Guns and Ammo, winner may arrange for prize to shipped to a cooperating FFL Dealer for pick up at winners cost.

FLORIDA REGISTRATION NUMBER: CH69974

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800) 435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."

Master Mason Association  
of Southwest Florida

# FIRST AID & FIRE SAFETY

*Essential Skills for Emergency Response*

Learn how to handle medical emergencies and fire hazards with confidence. This hands-on class covers basic first aid and the proper use of fire extinguishers. Perfect for individuals and workplace safety teams. This event is open to all, so bring your family and friends!

**REGISTER NOW**



**FREE  
ADMISSION**

## MORE INFORMATION

- Date: August 15, 2026
- Time: 9:00 AM - 10:30 PM
- Location: Tropical Lodge No. 56  
10868 Metro Pkwy  
Fort Myers, FL 33966



Please RSVP at:  
[mmaosf@gmail.com](mailto:mmaosf@gmail.com)