

# Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Myers



**ORIENT OF FLORIDA**

**FALL 2021**

[WWW.SCOTTISHRITEFORTMYERS.COM](http://WWW.SCOTTISHRITEFORTMYERS.COM)



10868 Metro Parkway  
Fort Myers, FL 33966

Office: 239-332-2311  
Secretary: 239-675-6503

[ScottishRite.ValleyofFortMyers@gmail.com](mailto:ScottishRite.ValleyofFortMyers@gmail.com)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Hello Brethren. Our Valley has many younger Brothers and quite a few more experienced Brothers with a plateful of positive energy, which is vitalizing everything Scottish Rite from our Degree Teams to the meetings to the valley leadership.

We have a celebration of infrequent occurrence and profound significance coming very soon which will help show our young blood what can be achieved over time within the Scottish Rite. Please join us on the third Wednesday of November (11/17/2021) as we gather at 6 pm with Ill. Rick Hoover, 33rd, SGIG of the Orient of Florida, as we present our Golden Double-Headed Eagle Diamond Pin awards to 21 deserving Brothers. We will enjoy a lasagna competition with seven contestants, followed by our presentation ceremony, an update on the official charity of the Scottish Rite Valley of Ft. Myers - The Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, and of course, some words of wisdom from our new SGIG.

If you have any presentations to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, please make plans to present them to Ill. Hoover near the conclusion of our meeting. Please join us for this very positive, enlightening and entertaining evening of great food, great fellowship, and great support for the Scottish Rite. We may even have a couple surprises of which you may not be aware. I am so proud of the Valley of Ft. Myers and our membership. Please come out and celebrate with us!

Next year's potential Master of Kadosh has almost completed his plan for upcoming programs, and it appears that we will have a different and exciting year ahead of us!. We will be reviewing this plan with the Valley prior to year end.

Fraternally,

**Ill. Clay W. Taylor, 33°**  
Personal Representative  
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite  
Valley of Ft. Myers, Orient of Florida



### 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.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, Nov 17 6:00 pm	Consistory GOLDEN DOUBLE- HEADED EAGLE DIAMOND PIN AWARDS
Wednesday, Dec 15 7:30 pm	Consistory Elections
Wednesday, Jan 19 7:30 pm	Consistory 2022 Officer Installation
Wednesday, Feb 16 7:30 pm	Consistory
Wednesday, Mar 16 7:30 pm	Consistory

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**Ill. Clay W. Taylor, 33°**  
Personal Representative  
ph: 239-693-1332  
email: [29ddgm2016@gmail.com](mailto:29ddgm2016@gmail.com)

**Hon. Fred Wright, 32° KCCH**  
General Secretary  
ph: 239-675-6503  
email: [Wright-Fred@comcast.net](mailto:Wright-Fred@comcast.net)

**Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH**  
General Treasurer—All Bodies  
ph: 239-282-9427  
email: [pmkolt22@gmail.com](mailto:pmkolt22@gmail.com)

**Ill. Ben Flynn, 33°**  
Almoner—Serving Deputy & all Bodies  
ph: 239-275-0021  
email: [bflynn1073@aol.com](mailto:bflynn1073@aol.com)

**Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH**  
Representative—Scottish Rite Foundation  
ph: 410-739-5080  
email: [ken4kaps4kids@aol.com](mailto:ken4kaps4kids@aol.com)

**Ill. David Wolffe, 33°**  
Organist Serving all Bodies  
ph: 239-246-2748  
email: [davewolffe3327@gmail.com](mailto:davewolffe3327@gmail.com)

## FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK



Hello, my Scottish Rite Masonic Brothers and Fraternal Greetings! I hope you and your family are doing well.

It has been an exciting year dealing with the speed bump of the China virus we want to wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas- YEP that's right Santa Claus is coming to Ft. Myers.

The Fall Reunion was a success even though we had 8 signed up and only 4 was able to complete the Class—sickness and work kept the other candidates until the spring. The reunion was in honor of Illustrious Vern Ellis . Jason Sisson was chosen as Class President; he is from Englewood. The other new members were Josh Calero & James Rider from Ft Myers Beach and Charles Sabiston of Cape Coral.

Charles has started attending the Executive Board Meetings. All members are invited to attend the meetings which are held up stairs in the classroom - I am sure you remember where that is. We welcome new ideas and members wanting to get involved. At our previous executive board meeting SGIG Illustrious Rick Hoover announced the closing of the Valley of Tampa as they are building anew and this will be the last class held at this location; it will be a memorable event with the 5 mandatory degrees being conferred. More information will be forthcoming - STAY TUNED!

My fellow Scottish Rite brothers we have had 43 members pass to the Great Architect in the Sky. So, if you know of any blue lodge brother anxious to receive the remaining 29 degrees in the Scottish Rite Masonry call me for a petition or print one off the website.

The Valley is very active with the pursuit to get the Lake "O" club, as well the Punta Gorda club. Call me with any suggestions or ideas please at 239-675-6503. The club in Naples is 2nd Wednesday of 6pm at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road.

We want nothing but Blessings for a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. GOD Bless us all.

Hon, Fred Wright, 32° KCCH  
General Secretary

## FROM THE TREASURER



Brothers: I am happy to report that our financial condition has stabilized, and we are maintaining a balanced budget.

The good news I have to pass along is that in 2021, Ill. Rick Hoover 33° SGIG of The Orient of Florida, gave the Valleys within the Orient permission to work with Wells Fargo Advisors in reallocating our Perpetual Fund accounts into more aggressive Investments. Based on the SGIG's directive the Executive Board approved the redistribution of the Perpetual Funds, along with a new investment strategy for the Valley's non-Perpetual Fund Investments. This new account was made up by closing the Raymond James investment account as it was not achieving our financial requirements, due to mediocre performance and along with the Executive Board's approval for investing part of the monies from the sale of the Slater Road property. This money was combined creating a new Valley

Investment Fund of \$275,000.

The purpose of the reallocation of both investment accounts was to generate an income from the Valley's Investments accounts, Our desired goal was to raise our yearly income return from the Perpetual Fund of \$12,000.00 to \$30,000.00 using both accounts.

In July we repositioned our investments with "Wells Fargo Advisors". Maintaining the current Perpetual Fund but in a more aggressive account and opening the Valley Investment account from the combination of Raymond James and the Slater Road Property sale.

Since July when the reallocation took place our investment returns through the end of October 2021 are just over \$18,000.00. Which after 10 months in the new investment strategy, has improved by \$6,000.00 over last year,

If the Stock Market maintains this current trend we are anticipating over \$20,000 returns this year. This will relieve the financial pressure on the Valley, which it has been experiencing with the passing of 43 members this year. On the brighter side the Valley has gained 28 new members bringing this current census to 586 members.

As reported last year, this year will see the increase in Per Capita Tax to \$30.00. This will bring our Per Capita Tax for 2021 to approximately \$17,850.00.

**To our Perpetual and Life Members:** Once again, the Executive Board will be reaching out to you to voluntarily donate toward the Per Capita Taxes. For those who have donated over the years we thank you and look forward to your continued loyalty and support..

Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH  
Treasurer

## CONSISTORY — MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER OF KADOSH



Well, here it is; my final message as Master of Kadosh of the Consistory in Fort Myers. This is the culmination of my 40 years as a Scottish Rite Mason, who joined way back in October, 1981. Wow! Has time really flown by!

Hopefully, you all have had a better year this year than last. Covid really threw sand into the gears of many Masonic organizations. We coped this year by keeping our eye on the ball and having sensible gatherings. We resumed holding reunions and have had many interesting meetings. So, if you have not been out to see us in a while, please know that we are not doing the same boring reading of minutes and paying of bills. Rather, we have exemplified degrees and held special programs throughout the year.

Our November meeting will hold a very special function: An awards ceremony and a lasagna cook-off to raise money for the foundation. The award will be THE GOLDEN DOUBLE-HEADED EAGLE DIAMOND PIN AWARD, and so you know, I cut/pasted this here from another document because I can NEVER get it right!!! So, please come out and support us that evening. This is a program that has never been done before and it promises to be a biggie. Our very own Illustrious Rick Hoover, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Florida for the Supreme Council in Washington will be here with us.

December is when we hold election of officers and you are encouraged to attend. We look forward to seeing you.

A reminder: We are serving dinners again, however, we are NOT doing a buffet line any more. We are serving up pre-prepared plates instead. This is being done for health safety. So, do not be afraid to come out for dinner.

We've had a good year, much better than 2020. To those who have supported us throughout the year, thank you for all the things you do! Let's make 2022 another successful year for Scottish Rite.

Bro. Jim Hogg, 32° KSA  
Master of Kadosh



## COUNCIL OF KADOSH — MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



As this year is flying by, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Brothers of the Valley of Fort Myers ASSR. This year continued to present many challenges to the various blue lodge and to the Scottish Rite. In order to keep things going, it took the dedication of several fine men and Masons. This hard work and dedication is truly a reflection of your character. I also would like to thank you all for electing me to this office for the year.

Next year, we as the Valley of Ft. Myers are going to exemplify some degrees that we have not done in many years. One of these degrees is part of the Council of Kadosh. We are scheduled to do the 21st Degree — "Noachite or Prussian Knight" — in July. To peak your interest this degree teaches: *Duties: Be Humble and Modest, Trusting in God. Be Steadfast and Courageous in the Face of Adversity*

There are three major lessons in this degree. First, that the downfall of evil is certain. Secondly, that a free and independent judiciary is necessary to human progress. Thirdly, that journalism should be fair, just and responsible. We are further taught that arrogance, defamation and cowardice are unworthy attributes of a Mason and that humility, modesty and courtesy are the true virtues of men and Masons.

I wish all of you an a happy and joy-filled Holiday season and look forward to seeing you at the Valley of Fort Myers.

Thank you and God Bless,  
Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH  
Commander



## KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW — MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST KNIGHT OF THE COUNCIL



It has been an honor serving as the First Knight for the Knights of St. Andrew (KSA) of this Valley the past year. While my time with KSA is coming to an end, I look forward to continuing my service with the Valley of Fort Myers in the coming years, health and business permitting.

The KSA for the Valley for Fort Myers has a number of outstanding members and will be in good hands next year going forward. The 2022 Elected Officers for the KSA we are looking at are as follows:

**First Knight:** *John Reilly*

**Knight Grand Councilor:** *Adam Saucier*

**Knight Chief of Staff:** *Bob Sweet*

**Knight Bursar:** *Wilhelm Llanillo*

**Knight Keeper of the Realm:** *Corbin Kidd*

I hope everyone has a great Holiday Season and a very good start to the new 2022 year just around the corner.

Fraternally,  
Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA  
First Knight of the Council  
Social Media & Web Admin



## SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE



### A STORY ABOUT YOUR TEAM ACHIEVEMENT

Brethren: Most of you have heard about achieving our Valley's Foundation goal for the fiscal year of 2020-2021. Please allow me to honor you with some facts about what you, as a team for the Valley of Fort Myers achieved, over the past 3 and a half years. All of you, 118 plus donors, should be proud of yourselves. This may be a boring story for some. However, some will take pride in knowing the HUGH accomplishment which the Valley of Fort Myers has done this past year.

Back 3 and a half years ago, I was "voluntold" to assist the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. They appointed me to be the Representative/Trustee for The Valley of Fort Myers. The first year was extremely difficult for me to grasp what was expected of me. The Valley of Fort Myers' donation goals had not shown particularly satisfactory results for the past seven to twelve years. It seemed, to be a very difficult and impossible task to be accomplished. For the first three or four months I toiled, lost sleep, and mulled over what to do to motivate the Fort Myers Valley members. I would lie in bed and think about things to do to raise funds to support the Foundation's number one charity. There came a point where I had convinced myself there was no way to pull this situation out of the hole, so to speak.

One morning, about 2 a. m. while getting a glass of iced tea from the refrigerator I recognized a magnetic door sticker on the fridge of which I have had for over 50 odd years. It states: "THE PERSON WHO SAYS IT CANNOT BE DONE SHOULD NEVER INTERRUPT THE PERSON DOING IT". I thought to myself, you're a big dummy—you have been talking to yourself all along. If you think "it can't be done", you're correct, it can't be done. However, if you think we can do it, you would be correct again. Maybe, just maybe, it can be done.

So, I thought about it a lot. The Valley needs help so Let's put a team together. I went to the Valley's executive board meeting and asked the members for suggestions. There were a lot of suggestions. Travel to different lodges in the district, corporate donations, pledges, mailouts, golf tournaments, etc. All were great suggestions. Some were difficult to implement at first. But, we landed on mailouts, traveling and pledges mostly in the first two years.

The donations we received for the (2017-2018) year were only \$2,500 so we missed our goal of \$18,200 by \$15,900, only reaching 13% of our goal. The year I was "voluntold" to assist (2018-2019), the donations reached were \$13,280 — our goal was \$18,230, we missed the goal by \$4,848, only achieving 73% of our goal. The year (2019-2020) donations were \$16,549 — our goal was \$18,260, we missed it by \$1,711, reaching 90.5% of our goal. This was just at the Covid lockdown. The year (2020-2021) our donations were \$17,540, our goal was \$15,000, we went over our goal \$2,540, 14.5% over our goal of 100%. Think about this...the previous 4 years (2014-2018) a total of \$17,190 in donations were collected to support our number one charity. The total goal set over those 4 years was \$72,500, that is just 23.7% of a goal that was set over a 4-year period. Yet, over the past 3 years (2018-2021), we received \$47,369 and the total goal set at \$51,490 — we were only \$4,120 short over the last 3 years, an achievement of 92% of a 3-year goal (a little over \$1,373 a year under our goal).

All I can say is THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU and THANK YOU again for the Children that will benefit from all of you have done to support The Johns Hopkins Children's Hospitals and Clinics.

Let's do it again for the year (2021-2022). Don't forget then lasagna cookoff Nov. 17th, 2021 at the Scottish Rite. It is an open meeting at The Masonic Center 10868 Metro Pkwy at 6:00 p. m.

God Bless you all

Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH  
Representative/Trustee for the Scottish Rite Foundation



# 2021 Elected and Appointed Officers for Valley of Fort Myers AASR

Executive Board voting members: Elected Valley Officers, Foundation Representative (unless otherwise included), and 4 elected general members, including KCCH Commander (unless otherwise included) and KSA First Knight (unless otherwise included)

## Consistory



**Master of Kadosh\***

**Bro. Jim Hogg, 32° KSA**  
 Phone: 202-241-6558  
 Email: [bosshogg55@yahoo.com](mailto:bosshogg55@yahoo.com)

Prior*	Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH
Preceptor*	Bro. Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA
Chancellor*	Bro. Acey Edgemon, 32° KSA
Minister of State*	Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH
Prelate	Hon. George Baliotis, 32° KCCH
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Carlos Valverde, 32°
Expert	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo, 32° KSA
Assistant Expert	Bro. Damian Perez, 32°
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Gerald Brosseau II, 32°
Color Guard	Ill. Rich Bayly, 33°
Tiler	Bro. Lou Kenyon, 32°

## Chapter of Rose Croix



**Wise Master\***

**Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH**  
 Phone: 239-571-0935  
 Email: [jeffthechef1@aol.com](mailto:jeffthechef1@aol.com)

Senior Warden*	Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA
Junior Warden*	Bro. Scott Peacock, 32°
Orator*	Bro. Mark Stewart, 32°
Prelate	Hon. George Baliotis, 32° KCCH
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Ken Herald, 32°
Expert	Bro. Kit Weber, 32°
Assistant Expert	Bro. Corbin Kidd, 32° KSA
Standard Bearer	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo, 32° KSA
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Errol Smith, 32°
Tiler	Bro. Bruce Rivera, 32°

## Knights of St. Andrew



**First Knight\*\***

**Bro. Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA**  
 Phone: 239-849-1534  
 Email: [KLGourley1971@gmail.com](mailto:KLGourley1971@gmail.com)

Knight Grand Councilor**	Bro. Jim Hogg, 32° KSA
Knight Chief of Staff**	Bro. Allan Goldstein, 32° KSA
Knight Bursar**	Bro. Hugh Forrester 32° KSA
Knight Keeper of the Realm**	Bro. Adam Saucier 32° KSA
Knight Grand Orator	Bro. John Reilly 32° KSA
Knight of the Watch	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo 32° KSA
Knight of Merriment	Bro. Clint Larkins, 32° KSA
Keeper of Heraldry and Regalia	Bro. Bob Sweet, 32° KSA
Sentinel	Bro. Corbin Kidd 32° KSA

## Council of Kadosh



**Commander\***

**Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH**  
 Phone: 239-410-3337  
 Email: [JHerman3@yahoo.com](mailto:JHerman3@yahoo.com)

1st Lt. Commander*	Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH
2nd Lt. Commander*	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
Chancellor*	Bro. Bob Zimmerman, 32° KSA
Orator*	Bro. John Troia, 32°
Prelate*	Hon. George Baliotis, 32° KCCH
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Kit Weber, 32°
Turcopolier	Bro. Gerald Brosseau II, 32°
Draper	Bro. Tony DeOliviera, 32°
1st Deacon	Bro. Jim Phillips, 32°
2nd Deacon	Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH
Bearer of the Beauceant	Hon. Fred Wright, 32° KCCH
Bearer of the White Standard	Hon. Harold Simpson, 32° KCCH
Bearer of the Black Standard	Bro. Aldo Vargas, 32°
Lieutenant of the Guard	Bro. John Green, 32°
Sentinel	Bro. Izzy Lopez, 32°

## Lodge of Perfection



**Venerable Master\***

**Bro. Mike Meehan, 32°**  
 Phone: 239-910-8764  
 Email: [mike@catsprn.com](mailto:mike@catsprn.com)

Senior Warden*	Bro. Luis Tulier, 32°
Junior Warden*	Bro. Daniel Van Alstine, 32°
Orator*	Bro. Bob Sweet, 32° KSA
Prelate	Hon. George Baliotis, 32° KCCH
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Carlos Valverde, 32°
Expert	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo, 32° KSA
Assistant Expert	Bro. Damian Perez, 32°
Captain of the Host	Bro. Gerald Brosseau II, 32°
Tiler	Bro. Lou Kenyon, 32°

## Knight Commander of the Court of Honor



**Commander\*\***

**Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH**  
 Phone: 239-410-3337  
 Email: [JHerman3@yahoo.com](mailto:JHerman3@yahoo.com)

1st Lt. Commander**	Hon. Robert Lippek, 32° KCCH
Secretary	Hon. Fred Wright, 32° KCCH
Treasurer**	Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH

\*Elected Valley Officers  
 \*\*Officers elected by the Group