

# Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Myers



**ORIENT OF FLORIDA**

**FALL 2022**

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



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Hello Brothers! I cannot believe it is September already.

We had a fantastic experience at our Spring Reunion in Tampa, and we are anticipating a fantastic experience for all new members at our Fall Reunion Oct 8 and 9. We had to move our reunion dates due to a conflict with the Grand Master's official visit; our Valley is so responsive, we were able to seamlessly transition to another set of dates. That is no small feat when dealing with almost a hundred Brothers and their widely varied calendars. Thank you to all who have changed plans made in advance, sometimes long in advance, to make time to join us and participate in our Fall degrees and programs. Thank you also to your Valley workers who give of their time and make the extra effort to present an interesting weekend of Masonic Education and learning.

I have spoken to each class and found that self improvement and thirst for Masonic knowledge is paramount in their desires to become a Master of the Royal Secret. We intend to assist them in that desire. Our Treasurer has been key in providing the ability to present degrees not often seen in our Valley. Please watch the newsletter for their presentation. Thanks to the volunteers who take part in these degrees. I hope you continue to do so.

Please come to our meetings, as we have a wide range of entertaining, enlightening and useful speakers and presentations which are good for the mind, body, and soul.

We are in the process of selecting future officers, so if you desire to participate in the decision making arm of the Valley, please let me know so we can add you to our growing list of Brothers interested in joining our officer line. Join us at the Executive Board meetings (First Wednesday of the Month in the upstairs classroom at Tropical Lodge at 6:00pm).

**III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°**

Personal Representative

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept 21 7:30pm	Consistory Guest Speaker
Saturday/Sunday Oct 8 and 9 at 7:00am	Fall Reunion
Wednesday, Oct 19 7:30pm	Lodge of Perfection Feast of Tishri
Wednesday, Nov 16 7:30pm	9th, 10th, and 11th Degrees
Wednesday, Dec 21 7:30pm	Election of 2023 Officers
Wednesday, Jan 18 7:30pm	Installation of 2023 Officers

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°**

Personal Representative

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**III. Fred Wright, 33°**

General Secretary

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**Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH**

General Treasurer—All Bodies

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**III. Ben Flynn, 33°**

Almoner—Serving Deputy & all Bodies

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**Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH**

Representative—Scottish Rite Foundation

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**III. David Wolffe, 33°**

Organist Serving all Bodies

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### 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.

## FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK



My Brothers, I hope your summer was great. Please come to our Consistory meeting the third Wednesday of each month: 6:30pm for dinner then meeting at 7:30pm.

The dues for 2023 will be coming soon, seems the envelopes were in the middle of the ocean on a container somewhere. Get ready they are coming soon to your door. Please return dues payment as soon as you can.

We look forward to the Fall Reunion on October 8th and 9th. Please try to attend both days. A lot of work goes into the 29 degrees by the stage crew and cast members. Come out and help if you can.

The candidates for the Fall class are:

**Greg Geotz**

**John Connors**

**John Yates**

**Robert Yates**

**Robert Gaitens**

**Donovan Stokes**

**Thierry Carrascosa**

**Austin Williams**

A couple of others coming in late with transfers are **Joe McArthur**, **Javier Cuervo** and **Sergio Batile**. These members will be voted on at our September 21st meeting.

III. Fred Wright, 33°  
General Secretary



## FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER



Brothers: Much about the same as last Newsletter. As you are aware, the Stock Market has been going through a volatile period; one day up the next down. The only good news is that although the value of our investment has diminished, we are still making money. So far this year we have approximately \$32,048.73 in our cash accounts.

Apart from the Stock Market we are maintaining a positive cash balance in our operating account with a balance of \$59,173.20 thru the beginning of September.

Caps off to our chefs who have managed to provide us with good meals, while keeping costs at a reasonable level.

The Supreme Council has announced an increase in the Per Capita Tax of \$5.00 starting in January 2024, The increase will be spread over the following 5 years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 of \$1.00 per year. Our current Per Capita rate is \$30.00 per year.

### To our Perpetual and Life Members:

Once again, the Executive Board will be reaching out to you our Perpetual and Life Members of the Valley to voluntary, 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 VENERABLE MASTER**



It has been an honor and privilege to serve you this year. We started out with a bang; but unfortunately, as most of you now know, I fell ill some time back. As of this day, I still don't know exactly what the problem is; but I am sure glad I had an excellent back up team.

We are hoping that the agenda layout for the rest of the year goes smoothly. It is my hope that you give next year's team the same support that you have given me this year.

Thank you all for your support.

Fraternally,  
Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH



**COUNCIL OF KADOSH  
MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER**



Greetings Brothers all,

Welcome to the end of the year! It's time for the Fall Reunion to be held during October. This is a great opportunity to see the degrees, help out, and spend time with friends. We also have officer elections/

appointments coming. So if you are interested please make sure to attend the E-Board meeting held on the **FIRST** Wednesday of the month

I would like to remind everyone that the Valley of Fort Myers uses a meal RSVP account. This will enable our new Valley chef to better prepare meals. Please use [vofmrsvp@gmail.com](mailto:vofmrsvp@gmail.com) for all of your meal RSVP.

Have a great Holiday season!

Sincerely & fraternally,  
Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH  
Commander



**CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX  
MESSAGE FROM THE WISE MASTER**



From all the Scottish Rite Brothers of the Chapter of Rose Croix, we would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to you for deciding to join the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Myers.

Our Fall Reunion 2022 on October 8th & 9th is an opportunity for the Valley to illustrate a path for you to continue your journey to more light. The Chapter of Rose Croix is responsible for presenting the 15th to 18th degrees.

This year we will highlight the 18th degree which is called the "Knight of the Rose Croix", which is referred to as a Philosophical degree. We do not use Historical or Biblical scenes to convey this lesson. Instead, this degree encourages a Scottish Rite Mason to examine his own life to find and apply the major truths outlined in the Bible. The lesson we learn from this degree is that we should have faith in God, mankind and ourselves.

Pay particular attention to Degree Master Brother Harold Simpson and his degree team, for they will teach you how to maintain hope in your quest to triumph over evil, and contribute to the advancement of humanity by embracing love as the last and great commandment.

Fraternally,  
John Reilly, 32° KSA  
Wise Master



**LODGE OF PERFECTION  
MESSAGE FROM THE VENERABLE MASTER**



Greetings from the Lodge of Perfection. I hope everyone had a good summer. I would like and hope that you would put Scottish Rite on your agendas for the month.

The third Wednesday in October will be our turn to be in charge for the evening. Please **RSVP** if you are coming so I will know how much food to cook. I hope to see everyone October 19, 2022 at 6:30pm for dinner and 7:30 pm for the Feast of Tishri.

Stay Safe and God Bless,  
Bob Sweet, 32° KSA  
Venerable Master







Brethren: I am thoroughly excited to say the Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Myers successfully completed the past three years with super goal making and breaking of our allotted goals. All of you who donated and contributed one way or another to the foundation are to be highly commended for your excellent participation. Everything for the children, they need us.

I stated toward the end of last year that we were close to reaching our goal for the year 2021-2022. So, I promised I would slack off on being too adamant about donations. However, I did say, I would be back on your case for the next fiscal year starting July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022-2023.

Guest what? A little late, but here I am true to my promise. We are now into the third month and the donations are not on par for the beginning of the fiscal year. We are approximately 19% of our goal of \$15,000. We need to average around \$1,411 per month for the next eight months to achieve our goal.

This is very doable. Last year only 108 members donated a total \$19, 531.30 with four people making major donations. We need a simple donation of \$111 per 108 people or \$13 per member for nine months to achieve our goal for the fourth year in a row. We should not have to rely on a few to make major donations, although it is greatly appreciated. Remember, all overages of donations go directly to the Johns Hopkins All Children’s Clinic here in Fort Myers at Winkler and Colonial.

Let’s make it happen by all of us doing our part again and remembering our obligation to support our number one charity: The Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. The children really need our support.

“Helping children communicate” — this is our motto. Let’s live up to it.

God bless you all and God bless the children.

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



KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE COURT OF HONOUR (KCCH)



Greetings brothers all! I hope this finds you well. Fall is upon us and we can only wish for some cooler weather; this has been one hot summer.

As we prepare for the fall reunion I would like to ask if you have a part in a degree or if you are directing one? How about assisting the backstage crew or kitchen help? The Valley of Fort Myers is always in need of your assistance.

Are you getting your passport stamped? This year some degrees you normally don't see have been done at the monthly Consistory meetings. Did you see them? Your thoughts are always welcome as we need feedback.

As you walk around the Masonic Center and see those brothers with the red hats, remember we are here to serve you and the valley in any capacity we can. Attendance, Brothers, is the blood of our valley; without your participation it's impossible to have a strong valley. See you at the reunion

Yours In Faith,  
 Hon. Ed Sanchez, 32° KCCH  
 Commander



# 2022 Elected 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\***

**Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH**  
 Phone: (239) 793-3467  
 Email: [capttom3@aol.com](mailto:capttom3@aol.com)

Prior*	Hon. Kevin Gourley, 32° KCCH
Preceptor*	Hon. Acey Edgemon, 32° KCCH
Chancellor*	Ill. Chuck Machel, 33°
Minister of State*	Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH

## Council of Kadosh



**Commander\***

**Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH**  
 Phone: (239) 600-9084  
 Email: [24ddgm2021@gmail.com](mailto:24ddgm2021@gmail.com)

1st Lt. Commander*	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
2nd Lt. Commander*	Bro. Bob Zimmerman, 32°
Chancellor*	Bro. John Troia, 32°
Orator*	Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH

## Chapter of Rose Croix



**Wise Master\***

**Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA**  
 Phone: (239) 961-3104  
 Email: [j.reilly1956@live.com](mailto:j.reilly1956@live.com)

Senior Warden*	Bro. Mike Meehan, 32°
Junior Warden*	Hon. Ed Sanchez, 32° KCCH
Orator*	Bro. Jonas Seda, 32°

## Lodge of Perfection



**Venerable Master\***

**Bro. Bob Sweet, 32° KSA**  
 Phone: (239) 303-9989  
 Email: [Patandbob592@centurylink.net](mailto:Patandbob592@centurylink.net)

Senior Warden*	Bro. Daniel Van Alstine, 32°
Junior Warden*	Bro. Bill Maddox, 32°
Orator*	Bro. John Donohoo, 32°

## Knights of St. Andrew



**First Knight\*\***

**Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA**  
 Phone: (239) 961-3104  
 Email: [j.reilly1956@live.com](mailto:j.reilly1956@live.com)

Knight Grand Councilor**	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
Knight Chief of Staff**	Bro. Bob Sweet, 32° KSA
Knight Bursar**	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo, 32° KSA
Knight Keeper of the Realm**	Bro. Corbin, Kidd, 32° KSA
Knight Grand Orator	Bro. Barry Denton, 32° KSA
Knight of the Watch	Bro. Roger Geltz, 32° KSA
Knight of Merriment	Bro. Brian Ferdon, 32° KSA
Keeper of Heraldry and Regalia	Bro. Clint Larkins, 32° KSA
Sentinel	Bro. James Rider, 32° KSA

## Knight Commander of the Court of Honor



**Commander\*\***

**Hon. Ed Sanchez, 32° KCCH**  
 Phone: (239) 878-0341  
 Email: [esanch320@gmail.com](mailto:esanch320@gmail.com)

1st Lt. Commander**	Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH
Secretary**	Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH

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

