

# Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Myers



## ORIENT OF FLORIDA

WWW.SCOTTISHRITEFORTMYERS.COM



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

**SPRING 2020**

### IMPORTANT CONTACTS

#### III. James D. Cole, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander of Scottish Rite  
Southern Jurisdiction

#### III. Richard G. Hoover, 33°

Deputy for the Supreme Council  
Orient of Florida

#### III. 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—Serving Deputy & All Bodies  
ph: 239-675-6503  
email: [Wright-Fred@comcast.net](mailto:Wright-Fred@comcast.net)

#### Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH

General Treasurer—All Bodies  
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#### III. 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 of Florida  
ph: 410-739-5080  
email: [ken4kaps4kids@aol.com](mailto:ken4kaps4kids@aol.com)

#### III. David Wolffe, 33°

Organist Serving all Bodies  
ph: 239-246-2748  
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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Wednesday, March 18th, 6:30 p.m.

Consistory  
*Double Eagle Awards Night*

#### Saturday, March 21st, 7 a.m.

*2020 Fall Reunion Day 1*

#### Saturday, March 28th, 7 a.m.

*2020 Fall Reunion Day 2*

#### Wednesday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.

Chapter of Rose Croix  
*Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal*

#### Wednesday, May 20th, 6:30 p.m.

Consistory

#### Wednesday, June 17th, 6:30 p.m.

Council of Kadosh

#### Wednesday, July 15th, 6:30 p.m.

Consistory

#### Wednesday, August 19th, 6:30 p.m.

Consistory

#### Wednesday, September 16th

6:30 p.m. Consistory

#### Wednesday, October 21st

6:30 p.m. Lodge of Perfection

### MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Hello Brethren,

Our Valley is the largest (by membership) of all the masonic organizations in Southwest

Florida. This is a circumstance you can enjoy - be proud to be a member of Scottish Rite.

Please come out to our communications and be an active participant in this vibrant Masonic organization. Think back to when you became a Master of the Royal Secret. Come to the reunion just around the corner, and get a refresher course on what fascinated you when you went through the 29 degrees of the Scottish Rite.

Don't forget to attend your home Blue Lodge, or if you are visiting the area, find the closest Lodge to you and visit it. Aim high with your masonic brethren. Be a Mason of the highest caliber, and come enjoy the fellowship which accompanies all Masonic gatherings.

Fraternally,

#### III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°

Personal Representative  
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite  
Valley of Ft. Myers, Orient of Florida

Cell: 239-693-1332 (weekends all day, and weekdays after 5 pm, please)

### 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.



# 2020 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)

## Chairman - Personal Representative

Ill. Clay W. Taylor, 33°  
Phone: 239-693-1332  
Email: 29ddgm2016@gmail.com

## Consistory



Master of Kadosh\*

Hon. Harold Simpson 32° KCCH  
Phone: 239-560-7423  
Email: [haroldsimpson412@yahoo.com](mailto:haroldsimpson412@yahoo.com)

Prior*	Bro. Jim Hogg 32° KSA
Preceptor*	Bro. Chuck Tanner, 32°
Chancellor*	Bro. Chuck Machell, 32°
Minister of State*	Hon.. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH
Prelate	Ill. Ken Herald, 33°
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Sam Scardina, 32° KCCH
Expert	Ill. Harold Abelson, 33°
Assistant Expert	Ill. Frank Logan, 33°
Captain of the Guard	Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH
Color Guard	Bro. Wilhelm Llanillo, 32° KSA
Tiler	Bro. Tom Knafel, 32° KSA

## Council of Kadosh



Commander\*

Hon. Jeff Zimmerman, 32° KCCH  
Phone:  
Email: [1.jeff.zimmerman@gmail.com](mailto:1.jeff.zimmerman@gmail.com)

1st Lt. Commander*	Bro. Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA
2nd Lt. Commander*	Bro. Fred Natoli, 32° KSA
Chancellor*	Bro. Acey Edgemon, 32° KSA
Orator*	Hon. John Herman, 32° KCCH
Prelate*	Bro. Bob Zimmerman, 32°
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Gordon Paltza, 32°
Turcopolier	Hon. Ed Lanham, 32° KCCH
Draper	Bro. Tom Knaffel, 32°
1st Deacon	Bro. Scott Peacock, 32°
2nd Deacon	Bro. Mark Stewart, 32°
Bearer of the Beauceant	Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH
Bearer of the White Standard	Hon. Mark Stewart, 32°
Bearer of the Black Standard	Bro. Aldo Vargas, 32°
Lieutenant of the Guard	Bro. Chance Wunderlich, 32°
Sentinel	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA

## Chapter of Rose Croix



Wise Master\*

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

Senior Warden*	Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH
Junior Warden*	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
Orator*	Bro. Bob Zimmerman 32° KSA
Prelate	Bro. John Troia, 32°
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Vincent Abbatiello, 32°
Expert	Bro. Aldo Vargas, 32°
Assistant Expert	Bro. Kit Weber, 32°
Standard Bearer	Hon. Jeff Nowak, 32° KCCH
Guardian of the Temple	Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH
Tiler	Bro. Corbin Kidd, 32°

## Lodge of Perfection



Venerable Master\*

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

Senior Warden*	Bro. Scott Peacock, 32°
Junior Warden*	Bro. Mark Stewart, 32°
Orator*	Bro. John Troia, 32°
Prelate	Bro. Bob Zimmerman, 32°
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Gordon Paltza, 32°
Expert	Hon. Jeff Zimmerman, 32° KCCH
Assistant Expert	Hon. George Balliotis, 32° KCCH
Captain of the Host	Bro. Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA
Tiler	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA

## Knights of St. Andrew



First Knight\*\*

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

Knight Grand Councilor**	Bro. Acey Edgemon, 32° KSA
Knight Chief of Staff**	Bro. Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA
Knight Bursar**	Bro. Alan Goldstein, 32° KSA
Knight Keeper of the Realm**	Bro. Fred Natoli, 32° KSA
Knight Grand Orator	Bro. Hugh Forrester, 32° KSA
Knight of the Watch	Bro. Adam Saucier, 32° KSA
Knight of Merriment	Bro. Richard Keyes, 32° KSA
Keeper of Heraldry and Regalia	Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA
Sentinel	Bro. Clinton Larkins, 32° KSA

## Knight Commander of the Court of Honor



Commander\*\*

Hon.. Jeff Zimmerman, 32° KCCH  
Email: [1.jeff.zimmerman@gmail.com](mailto:1.jeff.zimmerman@gmail.com)

1st Lt. Commander**	Hon. George Balliotis, 32° KCCH
Secretary/Treasurer**	Hon. Fred Wright, 32° KCCH

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

## FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK



My Brothers, I hope all is well and God's grace is on you and your family. Your valley lost 19 members to the Supreme Architect last year.

An applicant for the 29 degrees in the Scottish Rite must be and remain in good standing as a Master Mason in a regular symbolic blue lodge to receive the degrees.

Fees for the degrees are \$350.00, which includes the year's dues (which are \$150.00), a patent, Bridge to Light book, Pyramid, plus all meals and untold wealth of knowledge from the cast of talented and superb fellow Scottish Rite masons. Dues are payable in advance on or before the first day of January each year. A member who has been suspended in his blue lodge is automatically suspended from the Scottish Rite. Please notify the General Secretary of any change of residence so that the Valley communications may reach you promptly.

The Valley of Fort Myers Orient of Florida is one of 217 in the Southern Jurisdiction. I have the pleasure of listing the names of the candidates for the Spring class in honor of Richard T. Nelson they are as follows:

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Lodge</b>
Chris Geraci	Tropical
Paul Puletti	LaBelle
Roger Setter	Cypress
Osvaldo Santa Maria	Cypress
Klitton Golli	Cypress
Lou Kenyon	Cypress
Rueben Johnson	Peace River
John Brownell	Henry Lodge - Fairfax, VA

An agenda for the Spring reunion will be in the booklet with the beginning times both days, starting with breakfast at 7 am. Please wear business casual, yet comfortable clothes as the days will be mixed with both classroom and dramas portrayed of the degrees. You will be impressed. Thank you for choosing the Scottish Rite to further your masonic education.

Thanks again,

Hon. Fred Wright, 32° KCCH  
General Secretary  
Cell: 239-675-6503  
Personal Email: [Wright-Fred@comcast.net](mailto:Wright-Fred@comcast.net)

## SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE



### RE: 6 MONTH REPORT

Brethren, I am proud to report to you, as your Representative/Trustee of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida, the progress of this year's ongoing donations for our number one charity, the Johns Hopkins All Children's Clinics here in Florida. At the end of January we have accomplished a rather pleasing 50.05% of the goal set for us of \$18,900 for the 2019-2020 year. At the time of this writing, this amounts to approximately \$9,544, which to me is fantastic! I, along with the Executive Board, thank each one of you for your generous donations so far this year. It's rewarding to know that we are currently ahead of our goal of last year by 25%. However, we only have five months to achieve our goal of 100% and reach the \$18,900 which has been rather difficult for us to obtain in the past. Given the fact that, last year, we only had 118 brethren donate to our cause and very few other donors, we must reach deeper into our pockets to come up with the remainder of our goal which is approximately \$9,366.

With the knowledge of only having 118 brethren who are willing or able to contribute, I would like to propose a way that we may achieve our goal. Let's say we can get 125 (out of 625) to commit to contribute \$75 over the next five months. If we just commit to contribute a minimum pledge of only \$15 each month for five months, it will put us right where we need to be. We need our perpetual members to help contribute a little more than you have in the past. I will commit to this contribution! Will you? Sure, you will. Why not?

We now have the bulletin board up with the Double Eagle Award points displayed (plus the bonus points) for all to see just where you are in the standings to become a member of the "Billionaire Club." I'm excited about some of you getting extra bars to attach to your Double Eagle Medallion, get a lapel pin with a stone and your name plate for the wall plaque. The wall plaque will arrive shortly and it would please the Executive Board to see all our brethren with their names on the beautiful wall plaque for all to see. Please, if you have any questions about the Double Eagle awards or questions about the "bonus points," feel free to ask me or Brother Bob Zimmerman.

REMEMBER our obligation... "HELP CHILDREN COMMUNICATE."  
They depend on us.

Hey! WE CAN DO THIS. In fact, why don't we "SIMPLY DO IT"?

God bless all of you for what you do for our Fraternity.

Fraternally,  
Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH  
Representative/Trustee—Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida

## MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER



Brothers: This past year has been a vast improvement of the previous couple of years. Along with the necessary task of increasing the yearly dues, we have strived to reduce our expenditures, mainly by undertaking in-house printing of the various brochures, handouts etc. A special thanks should go to George Baliotis who has taken on this monumental task of printing, collating, folding and stapling literature we have published over the past year.

We also recognize the Brothers who have diligently fed us at our Consistory and Reunion meetings by serving more economical meals, Jeff Nowak and Bobby Lippek, with the help of the KSA who are always in attendance.

As I reported last year, we as a body withdrew \$36,000 from our savings. This past year we only needed to withdraw \$6,000. Congratulations to the fraternity for stepping up, paying your dues on time and contributing to the financial welfare of the Valley.

### To our Perpetual Brothers

We are happy to report to the fraternity that the Perpetual and Life Members have voluntarily increased the donations made toward the Per Capita Taxes. For those who donated this last year we thank you for your loyalty.

Kindest Fraternal regards to all,  
Hon. Peter Kolthammer, 32° KCCH  
Commander—Council of Kadosh and Treasurer

## CONSISTORY

### MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER OF KADOSH



I hope everyone enjoyed the February meeting! Thanks to Illustrious Harold Abelson, 33° for his great esoteric talk about Freemasonry—know thyself.

Don't forget our Spring Reunion is coming up on the last two Saturdays at the end of March. I hope to see everyone there.

Also, in April, the KCCH will be performing the Remembrance and Renewal ceremony in honor of our brethren that have departed us over the past year.

Fraternally,  
Hon. Harold Simpson, 32° KCCH  
Master of Kadosh—Consistory



## LODGE OF PERFECTION

### MESSAGE FROM THE VENERABLE MASTER



It is my wish that this message finds all Scottish Rite Brothers and their families in good health and good spirits in 2020. Time, as always passes quickly for busy Masons and 2020 is no different. This Spring Reunion on Saturday March 21st and March 28th comes at the end of the first quarter of the year. Before we know it, we will be planning for the Fall Reunion on October 3rd and 4th 2020.

This March will be another special month for the Valley of Fort Myers Scottish Rite, as we will welcome eight new brothers into our Scottish Rite Fraternity. Hopefully you all will join me in greeting them when they continue their journey towards more light.

Me being a first time Venerable Master, responsible for the overseeing of the 4th-14th degree, I want to thank in advance all the cast members for preparing and participating in the four degrees we present. Leaders are permitted to do so by the support of their charges, that being said, I am particularly grateful for the support of the other three Degree Masters. Joining me as the Degree Master for the 5th degree is 4th Degree Master Thomas Elliot, 32° KCCH, 8th Degree Master Bill Jones, 32° KCCH and 14th Degree Master Jeff Zimmerman, 32° KCCH.

One of the significant events that the Venerable Master from the Lodge of Perfection coordinates is the Feast of Tishri. The Feast of Tishri symbolizes Scottish Rite Masonry's dedication to brotherly love and human progress. I look forward to working with Brother Rabbi Diamond to bring this event to our consistory in October 2020.

By definition the first portion of the Scottish Rite system of degrees is called The Lodge of Perfection. This series of degrees includes the 4th° through to the 14th° and are referred to as the ineffable degrees. Ineffable comes from the Latin ineffibilis which means something that should not be spoken. Some of the key words or lessons that are expanded upon and taught within the ineffable degrees and should be spoken are: Duty, Service, Industry, Honesty, Benevolence, Charity, Sobriety, Temperance, Punctuality, Industry, Honor and Integrity. It is my hope that the members of this Lodge of Perfection can emulate these prized jewels and shine their brilliance with the world.

Fraternally,  
Bro. John Reilly, 32° KSA  
Venerable Master—Lodge of Perfection



## CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

### MESSAGE FROM THE WISE MASTER



The Officers and appointed Officials of the Chapter of Rose Croix wish you all well. We are excited for the spring reunion and hope to see you there.

The Chapter of Rose Croix is not just the middle child in the Scottish Rite, in between the Lodge of Perfection and Council of Kadosh and Consistory. We bring you degrees 15° thru 18° and with the assistance of the KCCH, the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal.

Only the 18th degree is exemplified in the Valley of Ft. Myers. However, these degrees cover an important time historically and spiritually. From the rebuilding of the Temple in the time of John the Baptist thru the time of Jesus, there are many lessons to learn. Following is the list of degrees and the main lesson:

15°. Knight of the East, of the Sword or of the Eagle: Fidelity to trust, honor and duty. Perseverance and constancy under difficulties and discouragements.

16°. Prince of Jerusalem: Build Temples of the Living God in our Hearts by following Masonic Truth, justice, equality, morality, wisdom, labor, fidelity, and brotherhood to achieve immortality.

17°. Knight of the East and West: An army of martyrs have offered up their lives to prove their faith or benefit mankind.

18°. Knight of the Rose Croix: We should have faith in God, mankind and ourselves. We should have hope in the victory over evil, the advancement of humanity, and the hereafter.

Charity is relieving the wants and toleration of errors and fault of others. It is my hope can make it, if not we will miss you.

Blessings and May the Grand Architect be with you.

Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH  
Wise Master—Chapter of Rose Croix



## COUNCIL OF KADOSH

### MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



Thank you all for the confidence when electing me to serve our Valley. It is very exciting to be involved in such a dynamic and growing organization.

Our next major outing will be March 7, 2020 @ 7pm. It is the 3rd Annual Freemason Hockey night at Hertz Arena. Once again our friends at Hertz Arena and the Florida Everblades have extended their hospitality to us. Not only have tickets been discounted from \$22 to \$15 dollars, but \$5 from each ticket sold will benefit the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. The AASR uses this charity to support the Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital right here in Ft Myers. Please share this event with your lodges, friends, & families. Tickets can be purchased by following this link: <https://everblades.spinzo.com/everblades-vs-greenville-swamp-rabbits-2020-03-07-PMKKH?group=scottish-rite-foundation-e7c6>

Tickets cost \$15 and \$5 from every ticket purchased goes to benefit the Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida. Please buy your tickets now, this will be a FUN night and a great way to support our charity.

Thank you again, Brothers. If there is ever a way I can be helpful to you, please let me know. I am looking forward to seeing you at our next consistory meeting.

Hon. Jeff Zimmerman, 32° KCCH  
Commander—Council of Kadosh



## THE KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW

### MESSAGE FROM THE 1ST KNIGHT OF THE COUNCIL



Dear brothers all,

Well, here we are at the beginning of March, where we will be hosting our Spring Reunion on March 21 and March 28, which are both Saturdays. This is an excellent opportunity for everyone to come out and renew friendships and help out where needed during the degree work or the administrative activities of the reunion. I hope you all can find it within your hearts to come down and see us -- even if it's just for a short visit or for one of the meals. Of course, we can always use help in various areas on an ongoing basis.

To our Knights of St. Andrew especially: We need your help with some of the administrative things that must be done at the reunions. We always need kitchen help (both cooking and clean up), making sure the dining area is kept free of litter, brothers to both sell meal tickets and collect them at the beginning of the meal line, support for the back stage crew when they run short handed, filling in minor degree parts when there are unexpected cast absences, and so on. These are just some of the reasons why we need you to be with us.

Unfortunately, my schedule this month is particularly crazy. This Tuesday, I fly to Anchorage, Alaska, for a week. Once there, my duties will include running jurisprudence for all three Alaska Grand York Rite Bodies and presenting re-written Grand Constitutions and Rules for each Grand Body for formal adoption. This was a formidable authorship task, which I was pleased to perform for them. I also expect to be elected one of their Grand Presiding Officers for 2020/2021.

A week after I return from Alaska, I will be flying to Manchester, England, for official Masonic visitations. These activities will cause me to miss the monthly Scottish Rite meeting and the first day of the Spring Reunion. I will, however, be present for the second reunion day and will fulfill my responsibilities education-wise and degree cast participation-wise that day.

In the meantime, I continue to recover from an episode of the flu, which was also a weird experience. I got it at the Edison Parade and I shook the flu within 3 days of contracting it. That was the good news. However, the Tamiflu product I took had the side effect of intense abdominal pain on the level of a kidney stone, which lasted a good five days! I mention this to you all so that you understand that sometimes, the cure is ten times worse than the cause. I was one of the "lucky" 10% of the population experiencing that kind of a very bad side effect reaction to Tamiflu! Make sure you cover side effects with your physician when you are prescribed drugs!!!

So, let's make this a successful month for Scottish Rite and have a great reunion. I will see you all on Saturday, March 28th. Until then, be good.

Fraternal regards to all,  
Bro. Jim Hogg, 32° KSA  
1st Knight of the Council—KSA

### SOCIAL MEDIA & WEB



Greetings, Brothers! I've been in the process of doing some "housekeeping" with the Valley of Fort Myers email list. Over the past couple years, some email addresses are being reported to me as *Address Not Found*. In most cases, this is because you may have disabled a previous email account and switched to a different provider, or your previous email account was associated with a Webpage/URL that is no longer in use. If you have not received an email message from us in a while and would like to have future newsletters sent to your current email address, please send me a message at [scottishrite.valleyoffortmyers@gmail.com](mailto:scottishrite.valleyoffortmyers@gmail.com) so I can add you to the list.

Fraternally,  
Bro. Kevin Gourley, 32° KSA  
Social Media & Web



**SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY OF FORT MYERS  
2020 OFFICERS**

