

# Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Myers



**ORIENT OF FLORIDA**

**SPRING 2022**

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



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Hello Brothers!

2022 is starting to roll at the Valley of Ft. Myers. For news of the Spring Reunion, please see the Secretary's contribution to the newsletter. Congratulations in advance to all those Brothers who will be going up to Tampa to see or participate in the Spring Reunion. At the Valley, Hon.

Peter Kolthammer, our Valley Treasurer, has graciously assisted Hon. Tom Elliott, our Master of Kadosh, in creating a great line-up of degrees not seen in the Valley of Ft. Myers in many years. Thanks to all Brothers participating in these Degree presentations being conferred in tyled meetings for your fellow Scottish Rite Freemasons.

We are working with Tropical Lodge in a spirit of cooperation and brotherhood. I encourage all Scottish Rite Masons to attend their Lodges whenever possible. We can not grow our membership without supporting our Blue Lodges. Help them find qualified candidates for the 3 Masonic Degrees, and help bring our Fraternity back to a new heyday.

The Valley over the past few years has seen a lot of familiar faces in new roles. We now have a couple years experience in our Director of Work, our Classroom Director, and our Backstage Crew (but we are always in need of new blood). Their experience and dedication continues to have things ready right on time.

Our kitchen crew is always flexible and prepared, knowing that a Valley is always more successful if its members' stomachs are happy. Thanks to all our members who continue to make coming to a Consistory meeting a true pleasure!

Fraternally,

**III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°**

Personal Representative

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite

Valley of Ft. Myers, Orient of Florida



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wed, March 16 7:30 pm	Consistory Double Eagle Awards
Wed, Apr 20 7:30 pm	Chapter of Rose Croix Remembrance & Renewal by KCCH
Wed, May 18 7:30 pm	Consistory 9th, 10th & 11th Degrees
Wed, Jun 15 7:30 pm	Consistory Flag Building Presentation
Wed, July 20 7:30 pm	Council of Kadosh 21st Degree
Wed, Aug 17 7:30 pm	Consistory 6th & 7th Degrees

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**III. Clay W. Taylor, 33°**

Personal Representative

ph: 239-693-1332

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**III. Fred Wright, 33°**

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)

**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

ph: 410-739-5080

email: [ken4kaps4kids@aol.com](mailto:ken4kaps4kids@aol.com)

**III. David Wolffe, 33°**

Organist Serving all Bodies

ph: 239-246-2748

email: [davewolffe3327@gmail.com](mailto:davewolffe3327@gmail.com)

### 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



Fraternal Greetings from your General Secretary, Ill. Fred Wright, 33°. I hope you are all doing well and in good health.

The 2022 Spring Reunion has been approved to be at the Masonic Center in Tampa on March 19th beginning at 7am located at 5500 Memorial Parkway. An agenda will be in the newsletter. We are excited to announce that 15 candidates will be attending this very special and memorable reunion. It will be consecrated by Supreme Commander Ill. James D Cole, 33°. The list of candidates are as listed:

- Ryan Danis (Ft Myers Beach)
- Robert Gaitens (Englewood)
- Reuben Johnson (Peace River)
- Garrett Melton (Ft. Myers Beach)
- Charles Nunez (Ft. Myers Beach)
- Kenneth Vince (Ft. Myers Beach)
- John Yates (Cypress)
- David Preston (Cypress)
- Dustin HC Feindel (Punta Gorda)
- Erick Garcia (Cypress)
- Kyle Lambert (Ft. Myers Beach)
- Patrick O'Toole Rodriguez (Ft. Myers Beach)
- Andrew Silvia (Tropical)
- Brian Wight (Ft. Myers Beach)
- Eric Strautins (Cypress)

Thank you all for choosing the Scottish Rite for your Masonic career. The valley has a lot of degrees planned this year. Try not to miss the third Wednesday of the month. This is your day for the meetings, so please come out and support your valley.

May God bless us all! Happy and safe trails!

Ill, Fred Wright, 33°  
General Secretary

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## FROM THE TREASURER



Brothers: Exciting news this year. The Executive Board decided to take advantage of an opportunity offered us by the SGIG of Florida Ill. Rick Hoover last year. We took full advantage of more aggressive investment vehicles. The results of the new investments returned to the Valley just over \$32,000 as compared to last year's return of just over \$12,000.

We decided to retain \$25,000 in our operating account, and reinvest \$7,000 in the Valley of Fort Myers savings account. With this increased deposit we are now self-sustaining and taking advantage of investing for the future of the Valley.

Now the big "IF"... If the Stock Market maintains this current trend we are anticipating an annual return this year (2022) of over \$40,000 which will relieve the financial pressure on the Valley.

**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 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



Thank you for electing me Venerable Master of Kadosh for Consistory this year. It is an honor I am not going to be taking lightly.

We have we a number of new things planned for this year. Those who are responsible for those new degrees please be getting ready as they are coming up very quickly within only a few months. If you are unable to do your part in one of the upcoming degrees, please find somebody who can or let the Degree Master know ahead of time if possible to find a replacement.

I'm hoping to have an exciting program this year and would like you're involvement. The thing we hope to do is increase our membership. Let us all try to bring one new member into our ranks.

Yours in the faith,  
Hon. Tom Elliot, 32° KCCH  
Master of Kadosh



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## COUNCIL OF KADOSH — MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



My Brothers, I would like to thank the members of the Valley for allowing me the privilege of serving as Master of Kadosh for 2022.

"The word "Kadosh" is a Hebrew word meaning Holy. Although Pike identifies the degrees of the Council of Kadosh as chivalric and philosophical, they are all intensely mystical with respect to the lessons conveyed and symbols employed." —VoFM.

The Council of Kadosh hosts the 19th degree through the 30th. This year we will be attending the Valley of Tampa for our Spring Reunion.

In closing, the last two years have been exceptionally difficult for everyone. We are living in very "interesting" times. Perhaps there is no better time to review our Scottish Rite degrees and the moral teachings within them.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings, especially our meals!

Hon. Bobby Lippek, 32° KCCH  
Commander



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## LODGE OF PERFECTION — MESSAGE FROM THE VENERABLE MASTER



Greetings from the Lodge of Perfection. This is my first newsletter since 1989.

We in the Lodge of Perfection do not have anything going on at this time. The stated meeting that we will be conducting is in October. That will be The Feast of Tishri. Hopefully we will have a traditional Jewish meal that night cooked by Honorable Bobby Lippek. More news will follow on the night's activities the closer we get to October.

Myself and Bill Maddox have been attending meetings, but I would like to see all officers attend meetings so we can all get to know each other.

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



**CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX — MESSAGE FROM THE WISE MASTER  
KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW (KSA) — MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST KNIGHT**



The degrees of the Chapter of Rose Croix are known as Philosophical Degrees. They do not use Historical or Biblical scenes to convey their Lessons. Instead, these degrees encourage a Scottish Rite Mason to examine his own life to find and apply the major truths outlined in the Bible.

Every year in April the Chapter of Rose Croix, with assistance from the KCCH, recollects the moral values taught to us by the Great Teacher of Nazareth. The teaching of the Rose Croix degrees are perpetuated at a Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal for departed Brothers who have gone this way before us and who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above during the preceding year.

The Rose Croix degrees are the spiritual center and among the most important in the whole body of Freemasonry. I Hope to see you all in April to honor all those departed Brothers.



What are the Knights of St Andrew? The origins of the Order date back to the period of 1220-1232 A.D., when a Confraternity was established in the City of Acre and its purpose was to “Protect Public Safety”. The Knights of the Order of Saint Andrew, or KSA, is a group of Masters of the Royal Secret (32°) dedicated to serving the Valley of Ft Myers. The KSA provides critical support to all of the committees of the Valley, assists at events when and as needed, and promotes active membership in the Valley. Currently, there are 145 KSA Chapters operating in the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. The best way to describe a KSA member is that they are the worker bees of the Valley. So, if you like help out, KSA may be the place for you.

Faternally,

John Reilly, 32° KSA  
Wise Master of Rose Croix & First Knight of the Council for Knights of St. Andrew



**KNIGHTS COMMANDER COURT OF HONOR (KCCH)**



Brothers all, I bring you greetings from your Fort Myers Knights Commander Court of Honor. In January we elected the officers for 2022. They were installed at the February Consistory.

We have other committees that still have to be filled.

A special thanks to Ill. Clay Taylor, Hon. Peter Kolthammer, Hon. John Herman and myself for getting all the letters and bylaws rewritten and prepared for the SGIG to sign. In April the KCCH will again put on the Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony for the valley. I hope all can attend.

Yours in Faith,  
Hon. Eduardo Sanchez, 32° KCCH  
Commander



**ELECTED:**

**Commander**  
Hon, Eduardo (Eddie) Sanchez

**Lieutenant Commander**  
Hon. John (Whitey) Herman

**Secretary**  
Hon. Jeff (The Chef) Nowak

**APPOINTED:**

**Chaplin**  
Hon. Kurt Wagner

**Foundation & Events**  
Hon. Ken Jordan

**Ambassadors**  
Hon. Edgar Lanham & Hon. Acey Edgemon

**Delinquencies (to assist the valley)**  
Hon. Bill Jones & Hon. James Hogg

**Sickness & Distress (to assist the valley)**  
Hon. Kurt Wagner

**Social Media and Communications**  
Hon. Kevin Gourley

**Rituals**  
Hon. George Baliotis & Hon. Peter Kolthammer

## SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE



I thought I would do something a little different in my article this month and entertain you with a few quotes from some distinguished people. However, before I do so, allow me to inform you of the good news.

Just to let you know, once again, we have exceeded our allocated goal of \$15,000 for the fiscal year of 2020-2021. Not that we want you to cease giving donations though. Supporting our number one charity will always be ongoing. I thought it would be nice if I did not, “hammer” you as much, to reach our goal this year. Our 2021-2022 fiscal year officially ends June 30th, 2022, and our next fiscal year for 2022-2023 begins July 1st, 2022. At this time, we will be after you again.

We would like to keep all of you informed, even though we exceeded our goal, we must not stop donating. It is important to remember that any overage will go into a Johns Hopkins reserve, specifically for our Clinic, here in Fort Myers for future needs. No overage goes to any other clinic.

- “Success does not come from what you do occasionally, it comes from what you do consistently.”—Marie Forleo
- “Someday is not a day of the week.”—Janet Daily
- “You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream.”—C. S. Lewis
- “Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference.”—Claire Fagin
- “It’s how you deal with failure that determines how you achieve success.”—David Ferhety
- “Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.”—Franklin D. Roosevelt

Let’s remember our obligation, along with the “4 D” and continue to be successful in our support of our charity by achieving our yearly goals. We’re “happy and thrilled” that we achieved our goal, are you?

Today I say to you, “today is a good day to have a good day, so, have a good day today”, my brothers.

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



### DOUBLE EAGLE AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR MARCH 16TH, 2022:

- TIM ECKERT—BASE AND RED BAR
- BRIAN FERDON—BASE
- KEVIN GOURLEY—WHITE RIBBON
- JOHN HERMAN—BLUE RIBBON
- STEVE JONES—WHITE BAR
- NORM HOLCOMB—BLUE & GOLD BAR
- CORBIN KIDD—RED BAR
- BILL MADDOX—RED, WHITE, BLUE & GOLD, & DIA/ONYX BONUS BARS
- DAMIAN PEREZE—RED, WHITE, BLUE & GOLD BARS
- BRUCE RIVERA—BLUE BAR
- ILAN RUBINSTIAN—BASE
- CHARLES SABASTON—BASE
- ADAM SAUCIER—BLUE RIBBON
- JONAS SEDA—GOLD BAR
- EDUARDO SANCHEZ JR.—RED, WHITE & BLUE RIBBON
- ROBERT SWEET—RED & WHITE BARS
- JOHN TROIA—WHITE RIBBON
- KURT WAGNER—BLUE RIBBON
- CARLOS VALVERDE—BASE
- KIT WEBBER—BLUE & GOLD BAR



These recipients are due to receive an award at the stated Scottish Rite meeting scheduled for Wednesday March 16th, 2022. Please make the effort to be at this meeting to accept your award.

Also, it is important that you RSVP to the new Valley of Fort Myers RSVP email address at [vofmrsvp@gmail.com](mailto:vofmrsvp@gmail.com).



# 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°

## 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 Commanders 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



# ADDENDUM



## To all Scottish Rite Candidates going to Tampa:

This e-mail is to inform all of our new Scottish Rite Candidates that our semiannual Double Eagle awards dinner will be held March 16th at 6:00 p. m. at the Masonic Center located at 10868 Metro Pkwy. Dress is business casual. This is an open meeting for all Masons and their family and friends.

It is essential that you inform the Scottish Rite RSVP web site as to the number in your party so the kitchen will know how much food to prepare for the dinner guests. The e-mail address is:

[vofmrsvp@gmail.com](mailto:vofmrsvp@gmail.com)

Being the day before St. Patrick's Day, I was informed by persons unknown that there will be a corn beef and cabbage dinner prepared by two leprechauns, one large and one small.

If any candidate or any other brother is uniformed or unsure as to his transportation plans to travel to Tampa next weekend, March 16th, please do not hesitate to call Fred Wright at 239-675-6503 or Ken Jordan at 410-739-5080. Please do not wait until the last moment.

Today is a nice day, to have a nice day. So, have a nice day my brothers.

God Bless you.

Hon. Ken Jordan, 32° KCCH  
Representative/Trustee  
Scottish Rite Foundation of Florida  
Valley of Ft. Myers



Left: Scottish Rite House of the Temple in Washington, D.C. (March 2020)

Photo Courtesy of Hon. Kevin Gourley, 32° KCCH—  
Social Media & Web and  
Newsletter Editor

