



**The Ancient and
Accepted Scottish Rite
of Freemasonry Southern
Jurisdiction, United
States of America,
Orient Of Georgia,
Knights of Saint Andrew
Valley Of Augusta**



*By-Laws of The Knights of Saint Andrew
Valley of Augusta*

Preamble

Under the authority of the constitution of The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta, these By-laws are hereby established for its governance and to further detail the specifics of membership, meetings, officers, method of operation and such other matters as may be deemed reasonable to guide and support The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta in its quest to be of service to the consistory.

Article I — Name

The name of this organization, which is chartered and authorized through the Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Orient of Georgia, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America shall be known as: The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta.

Article II — Mission-Purpose

Section 1 - *The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta, hereinafter referred to as the Knights, exist for the purpose of being a service organization to the consistory, as they promote the heritage of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, Masonic good will, fellowship of congenial fraternal relationships between them and other Freemasons, provide education opportunities for extended Masonic enlightenment, encourage regular formal and informal social interaction among members, promulgate a positive public image of*

the Scottish Rite, and work to ensure regularity and continuity in the valley's fiscal and fraternal affairs.

Section 2 - *The Knights are also under the immediate supervision of the Secretary of their Scottish Rite Consistory and will provide services where they are needed. This includes, but is not limited to, aiding the Tyler, acting as greeters, providing escort services to other dignitaries or special events, serving as guides, assisting at the Scottish Rite Reunions, working in the 29th Degree and other Degrees, and helping present the Colors when called upon.*

The Knights may also assist in the calling committees, participate in civic activities, promote fund-raising events, aid in any special event, and take responsibility for monitoring or maintaining various operations of their Scottish Rite Center as requested by the Secretary of the Consistory. This is an open ended charge and will continue to be developed as new ideas and concepts are presented to meet needs and goals.

Section 3 - *The Knights dedication, flexibility and enthusiasm make them one of the Valley's most active and desirable organizations. It encourages, nurtures, and develops future leaders as they hone their organizational and leadership skills, explore the inner structures of their Scottish Rite Centers, and thus gain a deeper admiration for our chapter and brethren who work in Freemasonry as a whole.*

Article III — Statement of Allegiance

Section 1 - *The Knights declare that their By-Laws and purposes must always conform to and never be in violation of the statutes of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.*

Any portion of these By-Laws found to be in conflict with the Constitution of The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta shall be null and void. In addition, any portion of these By-Laws found to be in conflict with the Constitution and Code of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Georgia, shall be null and void.

Article IV — Membership Categories

Section 1 - *Charter Membership - 32° Scottish Rite Masons of the Valley of Augusta participating in the organizational meetings and becoming members shall be identified as Charter Knights. While these original members are to be listed as Charter Knights hereinafter, they are to receive no other form of distinction or preference based on their status as Charter Knights.*

Charter Knights who are in good standing at the time that the Charter of the Chapter is approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the Orient of Georgia shall have the right to wear a special ribbon or other regalia designating them as such.

Section 2 - Regular Membership – Shall be known as Knights and shall be selected exclusively from the membership of the Valley of Augusta Scottish Rite who are 32° Scottish Rite Masons and have not been invested with the Knight Commander Court of Honour.

Knights in good standing shall count toward a quorum at the annual, stated or called meetings of The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta, shall be eligible to vote on all matters, are eligible to hold an elected office and participate in all activities.

Section 3 - Companion Membership – Knight's who receive the Knight Commander Court of Honour, shall become Companion Members identified as Knight Companion. The Knight Companion remains a principle advisor to the Knights but is removed from voting status and officer positions.

Section 4 - Honorary Membership – Honorary members shall be called Knight Chevalier and include the Grand Knight and designees. The Knight Chevalier is a principle advisor to the Knights and has no voting privilege.

Article V — Nomination for Membership

Section 1 - The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta generates its membership from the members in good standing of the Scottish Rite Valley of Augusta. Said members further pledge to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta.

Section 2 - The Knights membership is by invitation only. All potential candidates for membership must be proposed and nominated in writing by a Knight on a form designated for the purpose and provided by the Knight Secretary.

Section 3 - Upon receipt of candidate proposal form(s) for membership, the Knight Secretary shall present the proposed nomination(s) to the membership for their consideration at the next stated meeting.

Section 4 – Membership of the Knights will be limited to 32 members.

Article VI — Election and Reception of Knights

Section 1 - Completed candidate proposal forms shall be presented to the membership at the next stated meeting of the Knights.

Section 2 - The Knight Secretary shall read the name(s) of the nominee(s) to the membership; together with other pertinent information as such nomination(s) may contain. Voting on nominees for membership shall be conducted by secret ballot at any stated meeting prior to the June annual meeting. All Knights present shall be required to vote.

Section 3 - In order to attain active membership, all nominated candidates must receive a simple majority vote of all active members present. No rejection for membership shall prejudice such nominee from again being nominated for membership in the Knights.

Section 4 - All accepted nominees will be considered as a Knight and shall be recognized by formal knighting during the June annual meeting.

Article VII — Fees and Dues

Section 1 - The Knights exist for the purpose of being a service organization and will not be assessed fees or dues.

Section 2 - The Knights will depend on fundraisers and donations to help defray the cost of the Knights basic regalia, operation cost, and other events.

Article VIII — Knight's Suspension or Expulsion

Section 1 - Knights may be suspended if they exceed three unexcused absences from any annual, stated, or called meeting during a one-year period. The Knight is to be excused an absence upon request stating just cause and being approved by the Knight Commander.

Section 2 - Any member who has been expelled from the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, shall also be expelled from the Knights.

Article IX — Officers and Elections

Section 1 - The Grand Knight shall be an ex-officio officer of The Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta.

Section 2 - The elected officers of the Knights shall consist of: Knight Commander, Knight Warden, Knight Captain, Knight Treasurer and Knight Secretary.

Section 3 - Each year, at the June annual meeting, new officers are to be duly elected by a majority. The Knight Commander leaving office will install the newly elected officers. All elected and installed officers will serve until the next Annual meeting.

Section 4 - The incoming Knight Chaplain, Knight Sentinel, Knight Historian, Knight Ritualist and any other officer stations are to be appointed and installed by the incoming Knight Commander.

Article X – Officers Duties

Section 1 - The Knight Commander is the chief executive officer of the Knights. His specific powers and duties include presiding at all meetings and rituals, serving as an

ex-officio member of all committees, appointing all appointed officers and overseeing the general affairs of the chapter. He has the primary responsibility for planning activities, leading the Knights in its endeavors and performing any other duties as might be required by the Grand Knight or his representatives.

Section 2 – *The Knight Warden is the second in command of the Knights. His specific powers and duties include assisting the Knight Commander, serving as acting Knight Commander in his absence, and such other powers and duties as may be required by the Knights or requested by the Knight Commander, the Grand Knight or his representatives.*

Section 3 – *The Knight Captain is the third in command of the Knights. His specific powers and duties include providing for the meals and other hospitality needs, planning for social events, serving as acting Knight Commander in the absence of the Knight Commander and the Knight Warden, and such other powers and duties as may from be assigned by the Knight Commander, the acting Knight Commander, the Grand Knight or his representatives.*

Section 4 – *The Knight Treasurer is the fourth in command of the Knights. His specific powers and duties include receiving monies from the Knight Secretary or any other Knight, submitting the same to the General Secretary, keeping a true account of the funds and other assets, providing regular reports of the same at the annual and stated meetings.*

Section 5 – *The Knight Secretary is the fifth in command of the Knights. His specific duties include keeping a true record of the business of the Knights as conducted at the annual, stated or called meetings, providing notices to the membership of any proposed amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws, keeping a current roster of the membership and such other duties as may be assigned by the Knight Commander, the acting Knight Commander, the Grand Knight or his representatives.*

Section 6 - *The Knight Chaplain, Knight Sentinel, Knight Historian, Knight Ritualist and any other appointed officer shall have such powers and duties as assigned by the Knight Commander or acting Knight Commander.*

Article XI – Vacancy, Resignation, and Incapacity

Section 1 - *Except as specified elsewhere herein, in the event that there are vacancies, in any of the elected officer positions within the year, the remaining elected officers shall fill the vacancies by vote, if at least three elected officers remain. If fewer than three elected officers remain, those remaining shall set a called meeting, for the purpose of filling the vacancies. If no elected officers remain, the General Secretary of the Valley of Augusta shall set the called meeting. Any vacancies thus filled shall be for the remainder of the term of the elected officer whose office was vacated.*

Section 2 - *In the event that any elected officer determines that he is unable or unwilling to fulfill the duties of his office and chooses to resign, he must provide written*

notice to the Knight Commander; turn over to said officer any assets, records or other materials belonging to the Knights and, if possible, serve until a replacement is elected.

Section 3 - *In the event that the Knight Commander or acting Knight Commander shall determine that any elected officer is no longer fit to serve, whether due to mental, physical or other disability, he may request that said elected officer resign. If such a request is refused, the matter of such disability shall be submitted to the executive committee.*

Article XII — Committees Or Project Teams

Section 1 - *There shall be such Committees or Project Teams as may be set by appointment of the Knight Commander and may include any class of member (Charter Knight, Knight, Knight Companion, or Knight Chevalier), with the provision that only Active Charter Knights or Knights shall be eligible for Chairmanship of any Committee or Project Team. The Grand Knight and Knight Commander are ex-officios members of any said Committee.*

Article XIII — Meetings And Communication

Section 1 - *The annual meeting commemorates the Battle of Bannockburn, fought on the 24th day of June 1314, and is to be held in June of each year. The annual meeting will take place no later than June 30 with the new-year starting July 1.*

Section 2 - *Stated meetings should take place quarterly on the second Saturday of the month. Special or called meetings will take place as determination of the Knight Commander of the Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta with general consensus of the officers and as business or special purpose need demands.*

Section 3 – *The Knight Commander and the Knight Secretary will jointly determine the date, time and place for called meetings, whereupon the Knight Secretary shall give due notice of such meetings to the active Charter Knights, Knights, Knight Companion, and Knight Chevalier via regular correspondence.*

Section 4 - *Communication with the Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta is to be maintained by the Knight Secretary for receiving and dissemination of information. Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta may be called upon to render service to the Valley at any time within the length of their cable tow.*

Section 5 - *Meetings of the Knights shall be held at the Scottish Rite Center Valley of Augusta or other announced locations if necessary.*

Section 6 - *A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual, stated, special or called meeting shall consist of at least seven active members, three of whom must be elected officers.*

Section 7 - *The Knight Commander shall be the Knights non-voting representative on the Executive Committee of the Scottish Rite Valley of Augusta. If the Knight Commander is not able to make the stated meeting for the Executive Committee he shall ask the Knight Secretary or another officer to take his place at the meeting and report on the current status of the Chapter.*

Article XIV — Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1 - *All meetings of the Knights shall be conducted in accordance with prudent Masonic decorum, specified within the Constitution and Code of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Georgia.*

Article XV – Dress Code

Section 1 – *The Knights dress code, to be adhered to by all Knights, Chevaliers, Companions, and any others associated with the Knights of Saint Andrew, for the purpose of uniformity and coordination of the organization for the various functions of service to the Scottish Rite Valley of Augusta. The dress code shall consist of informal and formal dress designated and approved by the Knights.*

Section 2 – *The Knight Commander shall designate the style of dress for the membership for most knight occasions with appropriate notice to facilitate proper preparation by the Knights. It shall not be inappropriate for Knights to wear a higher dress code in Scottish Rite Center meetings where the Knights are not participating as a body.*

Section 3 – *The Knights shall present themselves in a professional manner befitting the honor and integrity of the Scottish Rite Valley of Augusta. If found dressed in an inappropriate or unsuitable manner for any occasion in which a member of the Knights shall participate, he shall be asked to adjust to a more suitable appearance or may be retired from the activity.*

Section 4 – *The Knights adopt the following items of dress:*

Informal Dress – *Black shoes, black pants, long-sleeved white shirt, black or Royal Stewart tartan tie and glengarry. The sash is optional.*

Formal Dress – *Black low quarter shoes, black kilt hose, Royal Stewart tartan kilt, sash with sash pin, white long-sleeved ghilly/jacobite shirt, glengarry with bonnet badge. Accouterments such as sporrans, sgian dubhs, or Prince Charlie type formal apparel are acceptable.*

Section 5 - *The chosen tartan of the Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta is the **Royal Stewart Tartan**.*

Article XVI. Amendments

Section 1 - *These By-laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at any stated meeting, provided that notice in writing of the proposed amendment shall have been given at a preceding stated meeting, and that notice in writing shall have been mailed to the membership at least one month prior to the stated meeting at which such proposed amendment shall be considered.*

Section 2 - *Any proposed amendment to these By-laws must be submitted in writing to the Knight Secretary of the Knights in sufficient time to be placed on the agenda and in sufficient time to be communicated to the membership as stated herein. No amendment shall become effective until approved by the Grand Knight.*

These By-Laws are adopted by the Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Augusta and recommended to the Personal Representative of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the Valley of Augusta for approval this 2nd day of August, 2012.

Recommended
Jimmie Ray Kirkland 32^o
Knight Commander

By-Laws Approved
Ill. Ronny D. Lanham 33^o
Personal Representative
to the SGIG

