

VENERABLE MASTER'S MESSAGE

Doyle Miller, 32°, KCCH

Another Month has come and gone. There were a lot of activities going on throughout the Month of February. One of the biggest events that took place was the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the corner stone laying at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. I hope that each of you, who had time, were able to attend this event. March 20th will begin the start of spring and I hope a renewed interest for Scottish Rite Masonry

April will bring, not only showers, but our spring reunion on April 15. Brethren, we need to do our best to inform the blue lodges just what Scottish Rite masonry has to offer. April will also bring the ODC for the blue lodges in the State of Virginia. Our Grand Master hopes to raise 1200 new masons at these District level events. That is good news for Masonry, and potentially, future new members for the Scottish Rite. We have a lot of work still to do in the Richmond valley, but I know with hard work we will prevail in making this valley great again.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Tom Varner, 32°, KCCH

One of my favorite parts of the Old Testament is when the Israelites were wandering in the wilderness. They traveled by following a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. And yet with God right there leading them, again and again, they would lose faith, begin to despair, worship false idols, reject God, and act no better than heathen. Then, Moses would pray to God, ask Him to forgive and heal his people, they would repent, and their fellowship with God would be restored. So it is with us human beings, who live imperfect lives, who sometimes turn from God, and need His assistance and guidance in acting according to His will.

Our 25th Degree, the Knight of the Brazen Serpent, memorializes one of these events. Taken from the Book of Numbers, it shows how the Israelites rebelled once again by saying "Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we are disgusted with this miserable food." So, the Lord sent fiery serpents among the rebellious Israelites and caused them to repent their sins and ask Moses to intercede. He prayed and was told to put a fiery serpent upon a pole and that those who looked upon it, when bitten, would live. He made a serpent of brass, set it upon a pole and every person who looked on it, when bitten, was saved from death. This was also mentioned in the famous sermon in the third book of John, when Jesus makes reference to Moses lifting up the brass serpent in the wilderness. Those Israelites, who had been freed from bondage in Egypt, who were given streams of water from dry rocks and manna from heaven, demonstrated their ingratitude and lack of faith by giving up at the first sign of difficulty.

As Scottish Rite Masons, what can we learn from this degree? How does it help us grow in knowledge and wisdom? First it teaches that no matter our transgressions, God still loves us and wants to draw us to Him. As Grand Commander Henry Clausen wrote many years ago, "We stress that it is God who gives us good, freedom, love, reason, moral choice, and identity. Those are things for which we can ask and pray. It follows then that if we have faith in those basic characteristics of God, if we reflect them in our lives, and if we think those thoughts and exclude from our consciousness the opposite, we have within us an infinite, unlimited source of power." We learn from this, as well as many other Masonic degrees, that our basic purpose in life is to work and struggle to overcome our many faults, to find the spiritual nature within ourselves, to reject the evil, and to embrace the good.

Just as the Israelites eventually found their way to the Promised Land, so shall we, with God's assistance, find our way to become the men and Masons that we were meant to be. With God, all things are possible.

**SCOTTISH RITE
MEETING SCHEDULE**

Monday, March 27, 2023

5:30 PM.....GUARD MEETING
6:00 PM.....Business Meeting
7:00 PM.....Dinner
Installation of Officers
Cost \$15.00
(\$20 without reservation)

Monday, April 24, 2023

5:30 PM.....GUARD MEETING
6:00 PM.....Business Meeting
7:00 PM.....Dinner
Program to be Announced
Cost \$15.00
(\$20 without reservation)

**SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS**

Are available NOW in the office or on the website. Take advantage of the educational help provided by our Library and Scholarship Fund. Get an application for your high school senior or college student and take steps to assist them in their education. The application is available on the website, richmondscottishrite.org, or in the office.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Lambros Deligan, 32°, KCCH



It's only February but it feels like Spring has arrived. I wonder if that is the calm before the storm. After all we have had some heavy weather in March in years past. Well, as we arrive at April, could the prediction, "April showers bring May flowers", come true? Regardless, Spring represents a new beginning for the Richmond Scottish Rite. We will be planting flowers, doing yard work, going out on the golf course, and renewing our commitment by coming together to our stated meetings. I look forward to seeing you there and enjoying your company.

Spring also represents membership renewal through our Spring Reunion and Degree Conferral. This year it held in memory of Ill. Robert Wales Carpenter, Jr., 33°. Bob's dedication and service to the Richmond Valley, and Masonry in general, deserves holding a fine Reunion in his memory. Get those Petitions. Do it now! Do not wait until the last minute! Remember we need a minimum of ten (10) petitions to hold the Reunion.

Scholarship applications are available in the office or on the website and must be received in complete form no later than Noon, Friday, April 14, 2023. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Applicants selected to receive a scholarship are required to be present at the June Stated Dinner meeting.

Spring is, also, the time of year when we honor JROTC cadets from surrounding school systems. If you would like to participate in the presentation of these awards, please call the office.

The Chapter Rose Croix, under the leadership of Bro. Nicholas Brent Thruston, 32°, Wise Master, will present the annual Ceremony of Remembrance at the April 24, 2023, business meeting.

Brethren, please check your dues card. As of this writing, we have over 30 members who have not paid last year's dues and are subject to suspension. If your dues card is not a 2023 card, let's get together and take care of this matter. I realize that reminder notices may have already been received.

Last, please note this regarding our meals. The meal plan is no longer being offered. The cost of the meal is \$15.00 per person. Reservations are required by Monday, noon, of the week prior to the meeting. Reservations after the deadline cost \$20.00 per person.

MEMBERSHIP

Charles A. Robinson, Jr., 33° Chairman

April 15th is a date on everyone's calendar. Most of us cringe when we think about it. But this year there is a good thing happening. We will be having our spring reunion and it has been approved for us to present all 29 degrees, from the 4th through the 32nd, as a theater presentation. I personally have not seen them, but the feedback from those that have has been positive. The presentation is professionally done and is great.

Very few of us have ever had the opportunity to see all 29 degrees. Come join us we experience for the first time this new option we have been given for our Scottish Rite Reunions. Don't forget to bring a candidate with you for this historic event. Petitions can be obtained from our web site, RichmondScottishRite.org, or by contacting our office. As of this writing, we only have one petition. We need ten to proceed. This reunion will be in memory of our long-time General Secretary, Ill. Robert Wales Carpenter, Jr., 33°, IGH. He was a dedicated Mason and gave much of his time and his many talents to our Scottish Rite. Let's do our best to Honor him with a large class.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Sam Dunn, 33°

On behalf of the Richmond Valley, I extend a tremendous thank you and congratulation to all the 2022 Officers of our four Bodies that make up the Richmond Scottish Rite. Each of you did a wonderful job keeping our Valley moving in the right direction. A special thank you to Bro. Rob Eades, KCCH, for holding down the Lodge of Perfection as Venerable Master as Bro. Doyle Miller, KCCH, was addressing some health issues. We have elected and installed our Officers for 2023 and I am sure we are in for a great year. Please come out and support your Officers and your Rite as without you, it's just not that much fun.

We have two new committees that are working on some pressing issues. Committee # 1 is looking at where the Valley is headed, what the Valley should be focused on, our Charity, etc. Committee # 2 will be looking at what our future home should be, a new facility, refurb an existing building, continue to rent, location and tons of other question such as WHEN, WHERE and HOW. Committee # 1 is Co-Chaired by Bro. Dan Freye, KCCH, and Bro. Terry Hilton, KCCH. Committee # 2 is Co-Chaired by Bro. Gary Hutchinson, KCCH, and Bro. Whit Hanscom, KCCH. These two committees will meet on a regular basis and report back to the Valley at our stated meetings. This is your Valley and I ask that you participate and express your thoughts and opinions --- Remember if this Valley is to grow and prosper, it's up to you and me.

We will be having an Executive Council meeting in March. Our General Secretary will notify all voting members of the date and time. These meetings will be held at the new office and space is limited. Non-voting members, if you have a burning desire to attend, please call Lambros and we will accommodate if space is available.

Please mark your calendar for the Scottish Rite Workshop scheduled for March 25, 2023, to be held at ACCA. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please call the Scottish Rite office by March 10, 2023, so we can have food enough for all. The meeting starts at 8:30AM with coffee and donuts and should be over by 12:00, with lunch to follow. Please plan to come out and support your Valley Conference Vice President Bro. Lin Spears, KCCH, and your Valley. This will offer you an opportunity to meet new friends from around the Orient, learn what is happening in other Valleys around Virginia and enjoy our world renown guest speaker Bro. Arturo De Hoyos, 33°, Grand Cross, KYCH, Historian for the Supreme Council SJ. There is no individual charge for this event as each Valley will cover the cost. THE EXPERIENCE IS PRICELESS!!!

Dress for Richmond Valley attendees is navy blue sport coat, tie and grey slacks (If you don't have these items, please wear coat and tie of your choice). It is the internal not the external that matters. Let's turn out in large numbers and show the other Valleys that the Richmond Valley is alive and well and full of spirit.

Don't forget the spring reunion scheduled for April 15, 2023. See our membership article for more details.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU, MAY GOD BLESS THE RITE and GOD BLESS THE CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE CENTER and THIS GREAT UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

RICHMOND VALLEY COMING EVENTS

— 2023 —

MARCH

Monday 27 Stated Meeting

APRIL

Sunday 9 Easter

Monday 10 Office Closed
for Easter Monday

Wednesday 12 Honour
Court

Saturday 15 Reunion

Monday 24 Stated Meeting

MAY

Sunday 14 Mothers Day

Monday 22 Stated Meeting

Monday 29 Office Closed
Memorial Day

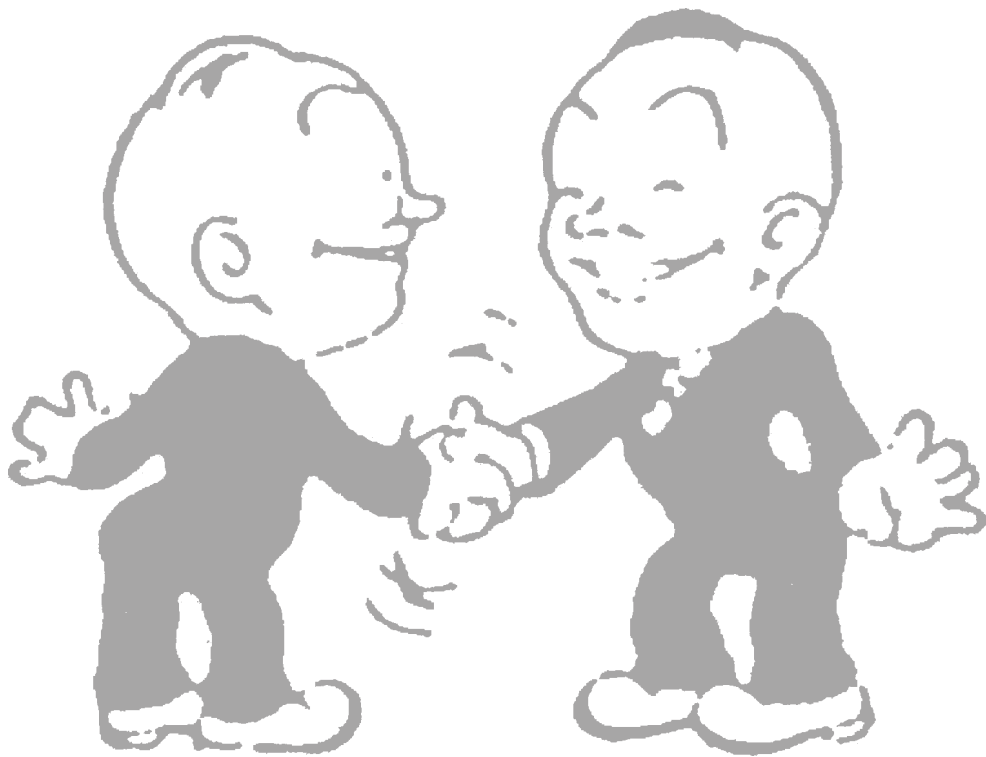
JUNE

Sunday 18 Fathers Day

Monday 26 Stated Meeting
Education Night



SOMEONE IS WAITING FOR YOU



TO INVITE HIM TO BECOME
A SCOTTISH RITE MASON. . .
DON'T DISAPPOINT HIM.



ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

SOUTHERN JURISDICTION

VALLEY OF RICHMOND, ORIENT OF VIRGINIA

PO Box 9581, Henrico, VA 23228-0581

EMAIL – srsecy@richmondscottishrite.org PHONE – 804-264-2050

2023 SPRING DEGREE CONFERRAL

IN MEMORY OF

Ill. Robert Wales Carpenter, Jr., 33°, IGH

PETITION

April 15, 2023

DEGREE FEE (includes 2023 dues) \$300.00

FEE INCLUDES A \$20.00 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
WHICH MUST ACCOMPANY THE PETITION

**PRINT ALL
INFORMATION**

NAME (In Full) _____ PREFERRED NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ PHONE: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ CELL: _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____ BIRTH PLACE _____

OCCUPATION _____ EMAIL _____

(If retired, show occupation at time of retirement)

EMPLOYED BY _____ WORK PHONE: _____

WIFE'S NAME: _____

I am now a Master Mason in good standing in _____ LODGE NO. _____

Located in _____

“THE SUPREME COUNCIL REQUIRES ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES:
The inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order, undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and
the forbearance of a state sponsored religion. Principles embodied by the Founding Fathers of the U. S. of America.”

APPLICANT SIGN HERE: _____

Recommended and vouched for by:
(Two SR Masons or Worshipful Master
and Secretary of Blue Lodge under seal)

(Attach a copy of your Blue Lodge dues card.)

1. **PRINT NAME:** _____ Phone _____

2. **PRINT NAME:** _____ Phone _____

OFFICE USE ONLY	
FEES	\$ _____
DUES	\$ _____
DEPOSIT	\$ _____
BALANCE DUE	\$ _____

You may pay by cash, check, or credit card: VISA MC DISC AMEX

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVC Code: _____

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THIS FORM VOID AFTER 4/15/2023

THE SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

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Monday -Thursday

Friday by Appointment

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Charles A. Robinson, Jr., 33°

Master of Kadosh, Consistory

CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

Nicholas B. Thruston, Wise Master

Greetings Brethren from your Richmond Chapter of Rose Croix! I cannot believe the crazy Spring weather we are having in February. The weather itself seems to be urging and prompting us along ahead of our normal schedule. Maybe it's a Season, or work and family needs, but I feel it can be all too easy to be pulled in directions we may not have intended to travel. That's why I really enjoy taking the time to step aside, slow down a bit, and reflect on the important things from time to time. One way that we all can achieve this together, is through our upcoming Ceremony of Remembrance.

In the rituals of our organization, each Mason is taught that so long as a man is loved, so long as he is remembered with love, he continues this way even in his grave. The Brethren we will remember at our April Communication, have decades upon decades of service and dedication to our Scottish Rite Bodies, and we are ever so grateful. Each and every one has helped to convey their own interpretation of the image of love, that always proves, hope is never lost.

Brethren I thank you all very much for allowing me to be your Wise Master of Rose Croix for 2023. I consider it a distinct privilege to serve the Valley in this way. I hope you can all set some time aside this April and join one another in celebrating and remembering those Scottish Rite Masons who were called by their Creator over these last twelve months. May we gather, remember and honor them during our Annual Ceremony of Remembrance.

Called from Labor

THOMAS KNIGHT DAUGHTREY, SR.
1933 - 2023

RICHARD FLOYD GILMAN
1941 - 2023

JAMES COSBY LIGHTFOOT
1938 - 2023

BOBBY CLARK MIDDLETON
1937 - 2022

Virtus Junxit-Mors non Separabit

"whom virtue has united, Death will not separate"

REQUESTED
ADDRESS SERVICE

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Henrico, Virginia 23228-0581

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