



Volume XVI, Issue 3

Fall 2023

*Scottish Rite Conference
September 28-30, 2023*

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Sovereign Grand Inspector General Orient of Virginia

Illustrious Alan W. Adkins, 33° GC Is It Worth Remembering?

The measure of life's value to the individual is a purely personal private consideration. What does life hold for you, and how does it look to you?

Then we may ask ourselves, "Is it worth remembering?" Have we done something that will mean joy in remembering a week to a year later? Have you been successful in doing something for your neighbor, in the office, in the community or in the church?

Your day will be worth remembering if you have helped someone out of difficulty, given freely of your time, effort, or consideration, without thought of personal gain.

Then, each new day becomes a challenge, and you awake in the morning to ask, "What is on the book for you today?" What new opportunity for service to fellow man or neighbor, and how can I help make this a better, happier, and more meaningful world for all of us? This viewpoint keeps despair, disillusionment, and sadness at bay.

This seems to me, the secret of an important and meaningful life.

The Biennial Session of the Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America was held in Washington, DC on September 20-22, 2023, with over eight hundred in attendance. The public session was held on Monday morning, which was live streamed to over eighty thousand viewers. Another highlight of the session was the conferral of the 33rd degree on Tuesday morning at the Valley of the District of Columbia. The Orient of Virginia had thirteen candidates attend the ceremony. Kudos are extended to the DC conferral team. Virginia will have the opportunity to demonstrate its ritualistic excellence at the 2025 Biennial Session.

Please continue to remember the Orient of Hawaii as they deal with the devastation and tragedy of the Maui wildfire. In addition to the many prayers offered and the daily thoughts, I encourage each Valley to make a much-needed donation to assist the recovery efforts.

The Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia is scheduled for September 28-30, 2023. The Valley of Alexandria has put together a very busy but informative schedule. In addition, the Valley of Norfolk will be conferring the KCCH ceremony on Saturday afternoon for thirty-two candidates. Looking forward to seeing you there!



The Virginia Light©
Published quarterly for the
Brethren in the Orient of Virginia

Illustrious James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
of the Supreme Council, 33°,
Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite, SJ, USA

Illustrious Alan W. Adkins, 33° GC
SGIG Orient of Virginia

Bro. Gerald L. Frey, 32° KCCH
Virginia Light Editor

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virginialighteditor@gmail.com

**Deadline for next issue:
November 1, 2023**

“Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia”

Illustrious Allen D. Beckner, 33°
2023 Conference President

We have planned an exciting Conference with an added special event. Take a three-hour scenic sunset cruise aboard the Cherry Blossom stern-wheeled riverboat on Thursday, September 28. This dinner cruise includes hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner, desserts, beer, wine, and soft drinks, coffee, and fellowship. Free transportation to and from the Hilton and the Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple is provided. Reservations and payment (\$150 per person) for this special event aboard the Cherry Blossom must be made by contacting Brother James D. Baker, 32°, KCCH, at jamesdbaker13@hotmail.com. Spaces are limited, so get your reservations and payment in early and NLT September 1st. Business casual attire is recommended for this special event.

On Friday, September 29, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM we invite all Brethren and Ladies to drop by the Presidential suite on the 30th floor of the Hilton for a “grab and go” bag lunch catered by The Italian Store of Arlington.

Lunch will be followed at 1 PM by two outstanding educational sessions held on the Hilton's lower level. Brother Tim Shrum, 32°, KCCH, and his extraordinary Philanthropy Committee will present “Building a Successful Philanthropy Program” and the second session will be “The Masonic Roundtable” hosted by Jon Ruark, Jason Richards, Nick Johnson, Juan Sepulveda, and Robert Johnson with guests Most Worshipful and Illustrious Alan Adkins, 33°, Grand Cross, SGIG of Virginia, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA, and Grand Master Donald E. Strehle, 33° (Elect). We hope everyone will come out to support our Brethren and benefit from these interesting and informative talks.

After the educational sessions have adjourned, there will be separate meetings in the lower level of the Hilton for the SGIG/Secretaries/Treasurers/Personal Reps, the SR Foundation of VA (Directors only), the Conference President/VPs, and the Knights of St. Andrew (members only). There will also be Prelate Training provided by Brother John T. Tillery, 32°, KCCH, Conference Chaplain. Brethren not engaged in any of these meetings or training will have free time prior to the Friday evening banquet.

Following the training and meeting sessions, the three Valley hospitality suites will be open both before and after the banquet.

The Friday evening banquet at 6 PM in the Plaza Ballroom will feature a harpist, then a presentation by Most Worshipful and Illustrious James Dean Cole, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA. Banquet attire is: coat and tie for men, and; dress or pantsuit for ladies.

On Saturday, September 30 at 9 AM the 99th Annual Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia will open. We will hear comments from Most Worshipful and Illustrious Alan Adkins, Most Worshipful and Illustrious, Grand Master, Donald E. Strehle, 33°. Reports will be presented by each Valley Vice President as well as a Financial Report from the Scottish Rite Foundation of Virginia. In addition, new Conference Officers will be elected and installed as well as new Directors of the Scottish Rite Foundation. A Necrology Service will also be provided for our departed Brethren.

The business session will conclude at noon. Lunch for Brethren will be “on your own” or available in the Alexandria/Richmond Valleys' Presidential Suite. With seating beginning at 11 AM, our Ladies Luncheon will feature live entertainment from the award winning Bella Nova Chorus, followed by a drawing for a special gift basket.

Continued on page 4.

“Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia”

Continued from page 3.

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Saturday afternoon at 2:30 PM will feature the investiture of the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour (KCCH) at the Alexandria Valley Temple, 1430 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. This investiture is being performed by the Norfolk Valley and is open to all Brethren and Ladies. Investiture attire is: Tuxedo for KCCH elects and new 33rd and coat and tie (with Caps) for all others. Plan to support our new Honourmen and congratulate our new KCCHs and our new 33° Brethren who were coroneted at the 2023 Supreme Council Biennial Session held in Washington, DC.

As always, the three hospitality suites will be open both before and after the banquet for refreshments.

The Saturday evening banquet at 6 PM in the Plaza Ballroom will feature a pianist and our guest speaker will be Illustrious Gene Calonge, 33°. Banquet attire is; tuxedo for new KCCH elects and new 33° I.G.H. and; coat and tie for all other gentlemen; cocktail dress, or evening gown for ladies.

After the banquet, the Alexandria Valley will host an ice cream social in the Presidential Suite on the 30th floor.

We hope to make this Conference one of the most exciting and enjoyable for our members, Brethren, and everyone. If you would like to volunteer and to assist in any capacity, please contact Illustrious Peter Terrill, 33°, Assistant Vice President of the Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite Conference of VA. His email is: mohrscircle73@gmail.com.

We encourage you to attend the any or all the above Conference events to enjoy good old-fashioned fun, fellowship, and hospitality!

Following the training and meeting sessions, the three Valley hospitality suites will be open both before and after the banquet.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023	
8:30am-4:30pm	Registration Open
11:30am-1:00pm	Lunch for All
1:00pm-2:00pm	Education Session #1
2:00pm-3:00pm	Education Session #2
3:15pm-4:00pm	SGIG/PRs/Secretaries/Treasurers
3:15pm-4:00pm	SR Foundation Directors
3:15pm-4:00pm	Knights of St. Andrew
5:00pm-6:00pm	Social Hour
6:00pm-7:30pm	Banquet
7:30pm-	Hospitality

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023	
8:00am-1:00pm	Registration Open
9:00am-10:00am	SR Conference of VA
10:00am-10:15am	Break
10:15am-11:30am	SR Conference of VA (cont.)
11:30am-11:50am	SR Foundation Annual Meeting
11:30am-1:00pm	Ladies’ Lunch
2:30pm-4:00pm	KCCH Investiture
5:00pm-6:00pm	Social Hour
6:00pm-7:30pm	Banquet
7:30pm-	Ice Cream Social & Hospitality

Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia

September 28-30, 2023

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center

5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22311

<https://www.vascottishrite.org/va-conference>
(check website for most current information)

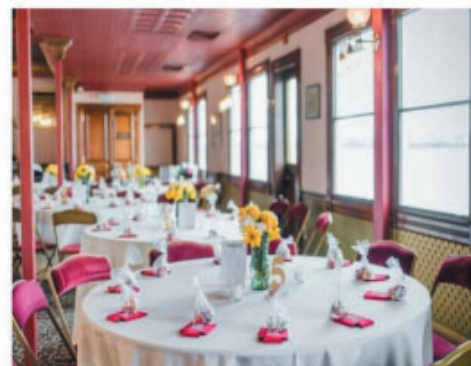


Special Event!! - Thursday, Sept. 28th @ 6pm



"Cherry Blossom" Stern-wheeled Riverboat
Ticket prices and sales to be announced

- Take a sunset scenic cruise down the Potomac enjoying drinks, dinner, and fellowship!
- Transportation provided from the conference hotel to/from Alexandria City Dock



The Feast of Tishri and the Scottish Rite Relationship

Michael D. Taldo, 32°KCCH,

The Feast of Tishri holds spiritual and cultural importance for Jewish communities worldwide. The Scottish Rite imparts esoteric teachings and allegorical lessons, and Scholars and Masonic writers alike have speculated on potential symbolic links between the two. We will explore these speculative relationships and examine how the themes of the Feast of Tishri relate to the degrees of the Scottish Rite; this may also illustrate why the Scottish Rite recognizes the Feast. Before we begin, a summary of the Feast of Tishri will remind us of its significance:

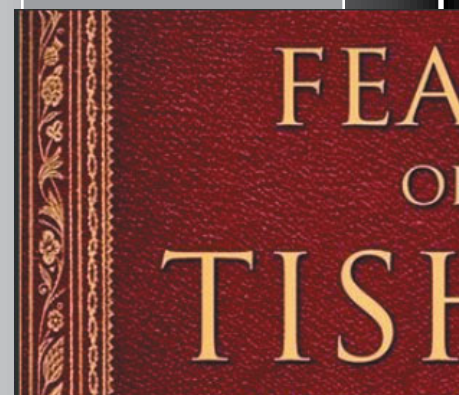
1. Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, marks the beginning of the High Holy Days. Usually observed on the first and second days of the Hebrew month of Tishri, it is significant in Jewish tradition. It is a time for reflection, prayer, and self-examination, as individuals assess their actions and seek forgiveness from God and one another. It is also a time to celebrate and acknowledge the creation of the world and God's sovereignty over it. The sounding of the shofar (a ram's horn) is a distinctive element of the observance, serving as a call to repentance and a reminder of God's presence.
2. During the Ten Days of Repentance or the Yamim Nora'im, individuals engage in acts of repentance, prayer, and charity, aiming to restore harmony and balance in their lives.
3. Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement is the most solemn and holiest day of the Jewish calendar, falling on the tenth day of Tishri. On Yom Kippur, they fast from sunset to sunset, engage in prayer, and seek forgiveness for sins. The day is dedicated to atoning for past wrongdoings, reconciling with others, and renewing one's relationship with God.
4. The Sukkot follows, beginning on the 15th day of Tishri. The Sukkot represents shelter, humility, and thankfulness. The week-long holiday is sometimes called "the Harvest Festival" or the "Festival of Booths."
5. The Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah marks the conclusion of the holiday season, celebrating the completion of the annual Torah reading cycle.

Let's now examine a few themes that show a convergence between the Feast of Tishri and Masonry.

1. Esoteric Symbolism in Masonry and Judaism

The Scottish Rite uses esoteric symbolism to impart moral and philosophical lessons. Masonic degrees and rituals are replete with symbols that represent various virtues, moral principles, and spiritual truths. Similarly, Jewish tradition contains a wealth of symbolic rituals and teachings to impart its teachings and traditions.

The Torah and other Jewish scriptures contain layers of hidden meanings. For example, the Star of David, a hexagram formed by two interlocking triangles, represents the harmony between divine and human forces. The Menorah, a seven-branched candelabrum, symbolizes divine light and wisdom. Passover, one of the most important Jewish festivals, employs symbolic elements like matzah (unleavened bread) and the Seder plate to convey the themes of liberation and spiritual renewal.



Duty, in the context of the Feast of Tishri, relates to the moral and ethical obligations that individuals have toward themselves, their fellow human beings, and their Creator. During this time, they are encouraged to reflect on their duties and responsibilities in life, and to seek to improve themselves by adhering to higher moral standards.

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The Feast of Tishri and the Scottish Rite Relationship

Continued from page 6.

In Masonry for instance, the Square and Compasses represent moral integrity and spiritual guidance, respectively. The Working Tools of each degree are used as symbols of its teachings and virtues. The symbolism of light, darkness, and the journey from ignorance to knowledge is a recurring theme throughout Masonic degrees. In the 4°, Secret Master, the degree's symbolism has connections to the secret and hidden aspects of religious practices, echoing the mystical elements found in the Feast of Tishri.

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While the specific symbols may differ, the use of allegory and hidden meanings is a common thread. Members of both are encouraged to delve into the symbolism's deeper significance, leading to personal and spiritual growth.

2. Theme of Moral and Ethical principles

The themes and teachings embedded in the Feast of Tishri's observances emphasize the pursuit of virtuous behavior, humility, and compassion. The Feast of Tishri serves as an opportunity for spiritual reflection and moral development, providing a path towards greater freedom from harmful biases and attitudes.

In The 14°, Perfect Elu, we are both bound and free by our obligation and supposed to be free from prejudice, intolerance and envy. We meet on the level because in our lives authority and liberty are supposed to be in equilibrium.

During Rosh Hashanah, the emphasis on repentance and seeking forgiveness underscores the importance of letting go of grudges and animosity, fostering an atmosphere of reconciliation, and understanding.

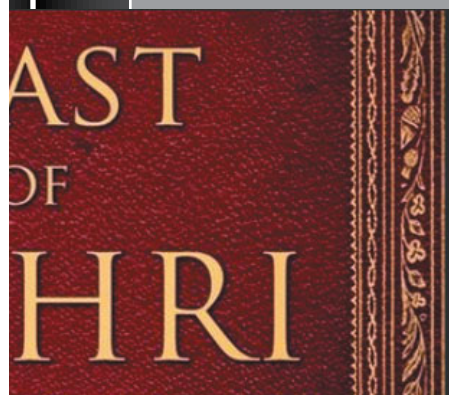
Yom Kippur emphasizes the importance of acknowledging one's faults and wrongdoings, and committing to change and self-improvement.

The Sukkot or the Feast of Tabernacles, is a festival of thanksgiving, commemorating the time when the Israelites wandered in the desert, and lived in temporary shelters. The holiday encourages humility and gratitude, reflecting on the transient nature of material possessions and worldly desires. Such reflection can foster freedom from envy, as individuals are reminded to appreciate what they have and refrain from coveting others' possessions or successes.

The Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah marks the conclusion of the reading cycle. Thus, by fostering a sense of shared purpose and camaraderie, these holidays promote freedom from prejudice, and intolerance, encouraging individuals to embrace the diversity of their community and celebrate together.

3. Theme of seeking spiritual renewal and reflection:

Continued on page 8.



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The Feast of Tishri and the Scottish Rite Relationship

Continued from page 7.

The 18°, Knight, Rose Croix, emphasis on faith in God, hope in the victory over evil, and charity, relieving the wants and tolerating the errors and faults in others appears to be connected with the Feast of Tishri.

Faith (Emunah): Emunah encourages us to trust in God's guidance, have confidence in His wisdom, and place our hope in a better future.

Hope (Tikvah): Rosh Hashanah is a time of hope and optimism for the future. The holiday's themes of repentance and forgiveness inspire hope for spiritual growth and a renewed connection with God and others.

Charity (Tzedakah): The concept of Tzedakah is an essential element of the Feast of Tishri. We are encouraged to engage in acts of charity and benevolence. It is not just about giving monetary assistance but also about promoting justice and helping those in need, reflecting the value of compassion and kindness in Jewish tradition.

In the Jewish tradition, faith, hope, and charity are considered fundamental virtues that align with the values of Rosh Hashanah and the Ten Days of Repentance. By embodying these principles, individuals seek to strengthen their spiritual connection with God, renew their commitment to ethical conduct, and foster a sense of responsibility towards others and the world at large.

4. The Pursuit of Judgment and Righteousness:

The 31°, Inspector Inquisitor, use of the symbolism of vigilance and justice can be connected to the themes of judgment and righteousness during the Feast of Tishri. The Feast of Tishri, particularly during Rosh Hashanah and the Ten Days of Repentance, considers justice and mercy as essential components of its teachings in the Jewish tradition.

Justice: The focus on justice underscores the importance of personal accountability and responsibility for one's actions. We are encouraged to recognize any harm caused to others, seek forgiveness, and make amends for our wrongdoings.

Mercy: The Feast of Tishri emphasizes the attribute of divine mercy and forgiveness. While acknowledging human imperfections and sins, the Jewish seek God's mercy and compassion during this period. The belief in God's capacity for forgiveness and willingness to grant mercy to those who repent is a central theme during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Repentance and Compassion: During the Ten Days of Repentance, we are encouraged to practice compassion and empathy towards others. This includes granting forgiveness to those who sincerely seek it, as well as displaying kindness and understanding towards fellow human beings.

Pursuit of Justice and Tikkun Olam: The concept of "Tikkun Olam" or "repairing the world" is a core value in Judaism, emphasizing the responsibility to work for justice and social equity. They are called to seek justice and alleviate suffering, addressing societal imbalances and advocating for the well-being of all individuals.

5. The theme of Equilibrium and Balance

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The concept of "Avodah" in Judaism encompasses both the act of prayer (divine service) and meaningful labor (human service). It highlights the understanding that both forms of service are essential and can be considered acts of worship when approached with the right intention and dedication.

The Feast of Tishri and the Scottish Rite Relationship

Continued from page 8.

The concept of equilibrium is woven throughout Feast of Tishri observances, particularly during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The process of achieving equilibrium helps individuals realign themselves with higher spiritual values, fostering a sense of harmony, introspection, and moral growth. In this context, it refers to the idea of restoring balance and harmony within oneself and the broader community, both spiritually and morally. In Judaism, the idea of sanctifying one's daily activities, including work, is emphasized. The belief is that all aspects of life can be infused with spiritual significance, and acts of goodness and righteousness can be considered forms of worship. This concept aligns with the notion that one can express devotion to God not only through prayers and rituals but also through ethical behavior and positive contributions to society.

The concept of "Avodah" in Judaism encompasses both the act of prayer (divine service) and meaningful labor (human service). It highlights the understanding that both forms of service are essential and can be considered acts of worship when approached with the right intention and dedication.

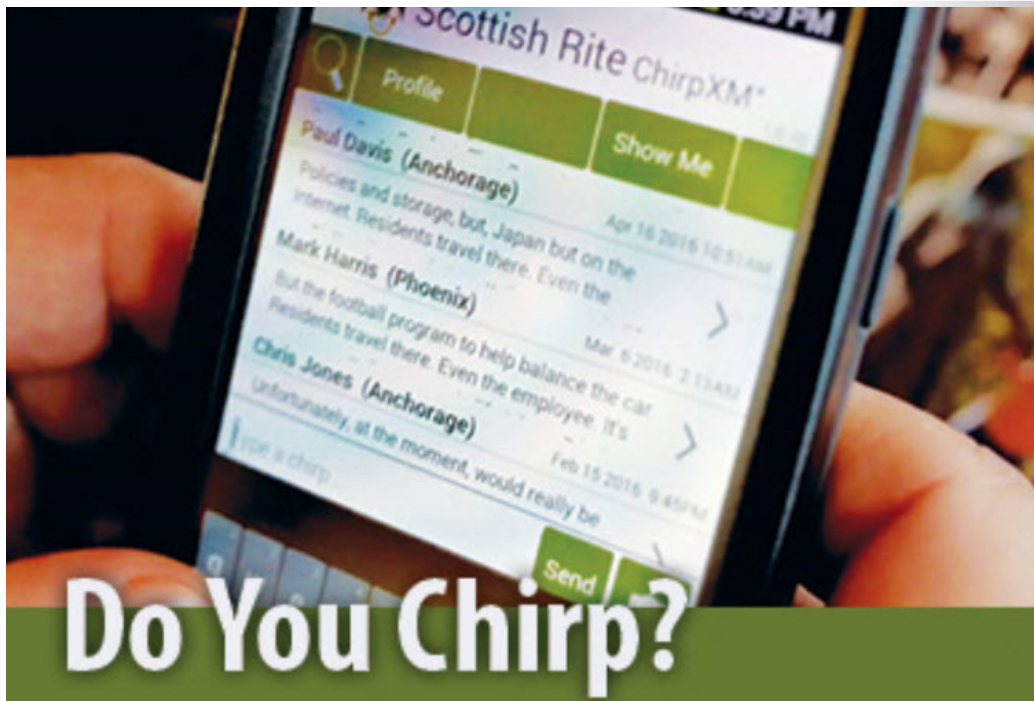
The 32°, Master of the Royal Secret, encompasses the culmination of Masonic knowledge and spiritual understanding. This finds connections to the profound spiritual insights sought during the Feast of Tishri. That man is ever interlaced with the Divine. That only doctrines, faith or knowledge which bear in action are of value and that to work is to worship.

To conclusion, by exploring aspects of the Feast of Tishri and incorporating specific references to Scottish Rite degrees, we can see how the two are often closely aligned. The connections between the two provide a richer understanding of both the Feast of Tishri and the Scottish Rite, highlighting the profound teachings and wisdom within each. It invites contemplation and appreciation for the unique contributions of both the Jewish and Masonic traditions to the human quest for moral and spiritual growth. It illustrates why the Scottish Rite takes time to recognize the Feast of Tishri each year.

During Rosh Hashanah, the emphasis on repentance and seeking forgiveness underscores the importance of letting go of grudges and animosity, fostering an atmosphere of reconciliation and understanding.



Scottish Rite Chirp



The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction is making a new tool available exclusively to Scottish Rite Masons, known as SR Chirp. This is a personal communication and messaging utility which operates as a mobile phone application and is unique to the Scottish Rite.

Maintaining meaningful personal communications in today's fast-paced and technology intense day can be challenging. Smartphones are everywhere, and a variety of services including Facebook, Twitter, and text messaging make keeping in touch possible using many different methods.

Each popular technology provides benefits as well as challenges. With so much information available to us, it's often hard to keep track of some of the messages that are most important.

The name "Chirp" was selected by the application's developer, which has other business-to-consumer projects apart from the Scottish Rite. SR Chirp messages are known as "Chirps."

Using the application, Scottish Rite members may to "Chirp" to each other and share their experiences, day-to-day interactions and thoughts, updates from their local Valleys and Orients, or simply stay connected throughout the jurisdiction.

The application enables Scottish Rite Masons to quickly and conveniently communicate and interact. Although SR Chirp is similar to text messaging in some ways, because SR Chirp is usable only by Scottish Rite members, it becomes simple to separate communications with brothers from the sometimes overwhelming number of messaging that are part of our personal and business lives.

The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry—Southern Jurisdiction is making a new tool available exclusively to Scottish Rite Masons, known as SR Chirp. This is a personal communication and messaging utility which operates as a mobile phone application and is unique to the Scottish Rite.

SR Chirp is a Smartphone app that enables Scottish Rite Masons to communicate quickly and conveniently.



Certain faculties of man are directed toward the Unknown-thought, meditation, prayer. The unknown is an ocean, of which conscience is the compass. Thought, meditation, and prayer, are the great mysterious pointings of the needle. It is a spiritual magnetism that thus connects the human soul with the Deity. These majestic irradiations of the soul pierce through the shadow toward the light. Arturo de Hoyos, Ed., *Albert Pike's Morals and Dogma*. (Washington D.C.: The Supreme Council, 2011), 77

The Scottish Rite Research Society

The benefits of membership in the Scottish Rite Research Society are many. Some are intangibles, such as the potential for interaction and discussions with the brightest minds in contemporary Masonic philosophy and debate. The most important benefit is the availability of what we all came here for, which is more light in Masonry. This is manifest most particularly in SRRS publications and Masonic conferences.

The tangible benefits of membership in the SRRS include:

- Access to some of the most thought-provoking ideas in contemporary Masonic research
- A 10% discount on Society books and certain items bought at the House of the Temple or via the on-line Store
- The annual hardback volume of *Heredom*®, the preeminent publication of scholarly Masonic research
- The Society's quarterly research journal, *The Plumblin*e®
- Early notice for upcoming conferences and meetings on issues of Masonic importance
- Your SRRS membership card and lapel pin SRRS Members may also receive:
- Special discounted offers on advanced sales throughout the year
- A bonus book or other item

TO JOIN

There are two levels of membership in the Society.
Annual membership \$52.00 or Life membership available for \$1,300.

In addition to receiving *Heredom*, *The Plumblin*e, and discounts on Scottish Rite merchandise, SRRS members who pay their dues before the end of the year they are due occasionally receive an extra "bonus item" produced for that year. This is our way of saying "thank you" to members who stay dues-current.

Remember to visit the Scottish Rite Research Society section of the Store to see what products are available with your membership discount.

On-line

Join us via our on-line Store and click on "Scottish Rite Research Society."

By Telephone

Call the Scottish Rite Store toll-free at 1-866-445-9196, Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Please have your credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover) information ready.

On-line

Join us via our on-line Store and click on "Scottish Rite Research Society."

It Is That Time Of Year Again

Gerald Frey, 32° KCCH

It is that time of year again, Reunion is here.

The question is the same as always, how to recruit new Scottish Rite Masons. We are taught that guarding the West Gate is every Master Masons responsibility. Not simply the job of background checks, investigation committeemen, it is each of our responsibility.

It is not any different with Scottish Rite Freemasonry. If anything, it should be easier, the candidates are all Master Masons, yet there is a difference. We still need to guard our Scottish Rite West Gate. Knowing the potential candidate is a must. Scottish Rite candidates should be those Master Masons that do what they say and say what they do. If they do not, we are not guarding the West Gate effectively.

Target acquisition is completely different for Scottish Rite candidates. The question is it numbers or quality? Taking a look at the Biennial Session just held in Washington, it is about quality. Quality attracts quality, and this is what adds to our membership numbers. Looking for quality is easier than numbers. Quality Master Masons are around us in every Lodge. They are the busy Brothers, indeed they are the ones getting things done. We must look for the best of our Brethren to join us in continuing to build its quality. These are our target candidates.

Why are they not already Scottish Rite Masons? I would submit they do not know what we do.

What are the potential candidates' interests? What is their profession? What is their family life like? These are the points that will enable us to talk to them about specific benefits for them to join our ranks. Scottish Rite Masonry has a wealth of benefits from which they can not only contribute but also to benefit from. Targeting their interests and showing them their life can be enhanced by being a Scottish Rite Mason is a bit trickier. Using tact and sharing our knowledge of Scottish Rite Masonry, specifically what your Valley in Scottish Rite does, is a vital element in combining their interests with our benefits.

Know this, it should not be about joining another appendant body, but an adding an opportunity. Not about another dues notice but another set of benefits. Taken together Scottish Rite Masonry offers more than any other appendant body. Here the old verse is correct, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7. To prove this it only takes a few minutes roaming the home page of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry website. It is completely professional, well managed, current, and more importantly easy to navigate. Compared to other Masonic oriented websites, well, there is no comparison.

Rite Care is another point we undersell. As a former corporate marketing and sales director, I was asked what the most difficult part of the job was. A job, by the way, which did not have an off switch. The answer was simple. There are two parts: knowing the product and letting the customers know about its features. The first was easy, some say the product sells itself, maybe. The second was the bear, repeating the same information hour after hour, day after day. The tricky part was saying with the same enthusiasm as you said it the first time.

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Why are they not already Scottish Rite Masons? I would submit they do not know what we do.

It Is That Time Of Year Again

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Here are a few questions to ask ourselves. Do we know our product, your Valley Scottish Rite Masonry, a medical equipment unit, Rite Care, to name a few? But wait there is more. Scottish Rite Masonry education provided by the Supreme Council: Masonic Book Club, Master Craftsman Online (especially the Master's Steps), podcasts, Scottish Rite Research Society, and more. Any of these items will interest a quality candidate to find time and effort to bring to Scottish Rite Masonry.

So, I conclude as I began. It is that time of year again. Reunion is here. The candidates are there, we know who they are, the question is do they know about us?

Know this, it should not be about joining another appendant body, but an adding an opportunity. Not about another dues notice but another set of benefits. Taken together Scottish Rite Masonry offers more than any other appendant body. Here the old verse is correct, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7. To prove this it only takes a few minutes roaming the home page of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry website. It is completely professional, well managed, current, and more importantly easy to navigate. Compared to other Masonic oriented websites, well, there is no comparison.

Danville Celebrates 100 years

Brother Bernard Baker, 32°

Danville Scottish Rite celebrated its 100th anniversary celebration.

About fifty members, friends and family members showed up at the Danville Masonic Center for the event. Scottish Rite Masonry was organized in Danville in April 1923. About forty Brethren signed an application requesting the formation of Danville Scottish Rite Bodies.

Lunch was served in the dining hall. Memberships brought all kinds of victuals. The favorite was pulled pork barbecue and barbecued chicken. A commemorative coin and membership pin were distributed.

The Scottish Rite Valley of Danville was honored by Illustrious and Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins, Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Scottish Rite in Virginia, and Illustrious and Most Worshipful Glover Hunter Jones, III. Illustrious and Most Worshipful Brother Adkins praised the Danville Scottish Masons for their hard work and growth in recent years.

The Danville Valley geographic area run from Patrick County to the west, south of Lynchburg and Chase City to the east.





The Eighth Degree “Intendant of The Building”

~ Summary ~

Benevolence and charity demand we correct our own faults and those of others. That which a man knows dies with him; therefore, transmit your knowledge. Labor is honorable if done with sobriety, temperance, punctuality, and industry.

“Intendant of The Building”

DUTIES:

Be benevolent and charitable.

FOR REFLECTION:

Is this life more than a portal to another?

IMPORTANT SYMBOLS:

Triple triangle, nine-pointed star, the colors crimson, green and white.



The cordon is a broad watered crimson ribbon, worn from right to the jewel is suspended from it by a green ribbon.

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The Eighth Degree “Intendant of The Building”

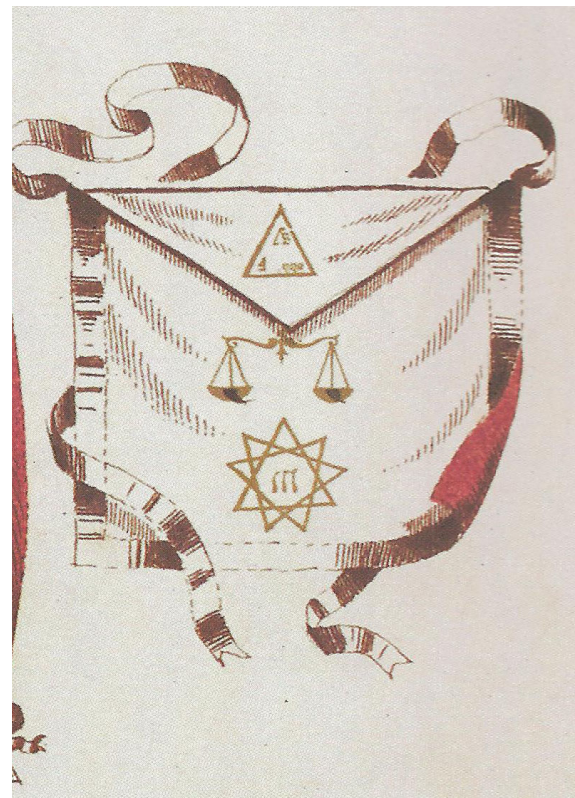


Continued from page 14.



The jewel is a delta of gold. On one side is engraved or enameled the words ben-khurim in Samaritan, or Hebrew, both meaning “nobles” or “freeborn.” On the reverse is the word achad in Samaritan or Hebrew, signifying “our only God, chief and source of all.” Pike derives this interpretation from its root which means “first.” The triangular shape is the most fundamental symbol of the Deity.

The apron is white, lined with red and bordered with green; in the center is an embroidered nine-pointed star, and over that a balance. On the flap is a triangle, with Phoenician letters at each angle. The three colors white, red, and green, the chief symbolic colors of Scottish Rite Masonry, teach us to imitate the purity of morals and zeal for the service of Masonry which have made our deceased Master immortal in the recollection of men.



Continued on page 16.

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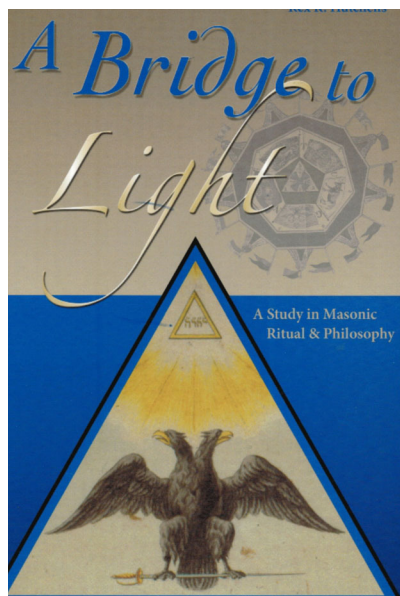
Lessons of the Degree

“Ignorance is the principal enemy of human freedom. A free press is indispensable to true liberty. Remorse and guilt are God’s punishment and more severe than that of man.”

Continued from page 15.

A Bridge to Light

Dr. Rex R. Hutchens, 33°, G.C.



An introduction to the Scottish Rite’s Degrees and symbolism, this book is the most popular exposition available, by one of the Rite’s most articulate philosophers and writers. The 4th Edition of this classic work includes the changes introduced with the adoption of the Revised Standard Pike Ritual; the official Ritual of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. Highly recommended by the Grand Archivist and Grand Historian.

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