

Volume XII, Issue 2

Summer 2021





Deputy Of Supreme Council In Virginia Illustrious Alan W. Adkins, 33°GC

Attitude

My Brethren,

The vote in Recess for the 2021 Class of Nominees for Honours has been affirmed by the Supreme Council. I received a communication from the Sovereign Grand Commander announcing the results for the Orient of Virginia. I am pleased to confirm that fifteen members will receive the 33rd Degree, Inspector General Honorary, and twenty-seven members will receive the KCCH (Knight Commander Court of Honor). Both ceremonies will take place at the Scottish Rite Conference being hosted by the Valley of Roanoke in September. The 33rds will receive their degree on Thursday, September 23 at 7:30 PM. The Valley of Alexandria will confer the Degree. The KCCH ceremony will take place on Saturday, September 25 at 2:00 PM. The Valley of Norfolk will the confer this Degree. A full listing of the nominees from all Orients under the Southern Jurisdiction will be posted to the House of the Temple website by July 15, 2021. I hope to see you at the Scottish Rite Conference in Roanoke in September. The Valley of Roanoke has put a great deal of effort in planning this conference.

In this message to you as Deputy, I want to talk about "Attitude." A famous writer was in his study. He picked up his pen and began writing: "Last year, my gallbladder was removed. I will be stuck in bed due to this surgery for a long time. The same year I reached the age of sixty and had to give up my favorite job. I had spent thirty years of my life with this publishing company. The same year I experienced the death of my father. In the same year my son failed in his medical exam because he had a car accident. He had to stay in the hospital with a cast on his leg for several days. And, the destruction of the car was a second loss." His concluding statement: "Alas! It was such a bad year!"

When the writer's wife entered the room, she found her husband looking dejected, sad and list in his thoughts. She carefully and surreptitiously read what he has written, and silently left the room and came back shortly with another piece of paper on which she had written her summary of the year's events and placed it beside her husband's paper. When her husband saw that she had written something in response to his account of the year's events, he read: "Last year I finally got rid of my gallbladder which had given me many years of pain. I turned sixty with sound health and retired from my job. Now I can utilize my time to write better and with more focus and peace. The same year my father, at the age of ninety-five without depending on anyone and without any critical conditions, met his Creator. The same year, God blessed my son with life. My car was destroyed, but my son was alive and without permanent disability." At the end she wrote: "This year was an immense blessing and it passed well."

What is the moral of this story: In our daily lives we must see that it is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy. There is always, always, always something to be thankful for. Attitude is everything and is the one thing that we always, in every circumstance, have control over.

In closing, I want to say how thankful I am that the pandemic is dissipating, and the Valleys can resume their stated meeting and in-person reunions. Many of our members did survive the impact of COVID-19, but several did not weather the storm. Please keep them and all of our Masonic family in your daily thoughts and prayers.

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

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Illustrious Alan W. Adkins, 33° GC Deputy Of Supreme Council in Virginia

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Deadline for next issue: August 1, 2021

Together on a Trampoline



James D. Cole Grand Commander Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Southern Jurisdiction

The other night I heard the distinctive chirp from my wife's tablet computer indicating a video call was arriving. Soon I heard my three-year-old grandson call out, "Where's Papaw?" I walked into the room and learned that he wanted to share with me the news that he and his older sister were going to the trampoline park the next day.

I fondly remember the times when, while watching them bounce on a trampoline, a smile broke onto my face in response to their laughter and joy. It occurs to me that, like in a lot of beautiful scenes, I can use teachings from Freemasonry to "see more." After all, in Freemasonry we try to derive valuable life lessons from everyday situations and objects.

Consider the lowly trampoline, composed of fabric stretched very tightly across an elevated space and connected by springs to a sturdy frame, creating a surface upon which children (and even adults) can entertain themselves by jumping and bouncing.

On a trampoline, one cannot walk easily from one side of the trampoline to the other; the surface is simply too elastic. It is even harder for two or more, as each person's movements affect the balance of everyone else on the trampoline.

As we look around at a world impacted so significantly by a virus, each reader of this article might well agree that we can easily feel out of balance even during a simple walk through our daily lives. More importantly, the fabric of our society seems to be stretched as tightly as the trampoline's surface. If this is true, then each step we take can affect the balance of everyone near us.

Upon reflection, perhaps this is one thing civilization may have forgotten. Might we now fail



to realize that each step we make, each word we speak, each stance we take, impacts someone else?

Do I prefer to prove to someone that " am right," or do I prefer to make someone feel just a little better? In my mind, I think the Supreme Architect prefers that we choose to try to improve another person's feelings or conditions in life.

Life is not always an easy walk. In these times, our gaits might be more unsteady than usual. If we jump up and down in a tantrum, the result might be like my grandson's jumping when his sister is on the trampoline with him: she might fall. One person's tantrum might lead to the fall of his friend, neighbor, or Brother.

Sometimes my grandchildren hold hands on the trampoline and jump together. Holding each other seems to help them avoid falling. We can learn a lot from children. We can realize, or maybe remember, that our steps, actions, and especially our words can affect someone else ... and we can remember that holding on to one another can prevent falls.

Our world, our days, and our nerves are stretched in such a way that we need to remember we are still living together on this big trampoline. We need to think about one another.

97th Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia Friday, September 24, 2021

9:00-4:00 AM	Registration Main Lobby	
10:00 AM	Program "Calling All Brethren".M.W. and Ill. Lewis Kerford Campbell BALLROOM C, D, E	
10:30 AM	Program "The Ages of Man," Ill. Samuel G. Welty, 33 ^o BALLROOM C, D, E	
11:00 AM-12:30	PM Lunch Hospitality Suite TBD	Thursday-Sunday, September 23-26, 2021 at:
12:45-1:30 PM	Program Ballroom C, D, E.	Holiday Inn-Tanglewood
1:45- 2:30 PM	Scottish Rite Foundation of Virginia (Directors) Philip N. Rhodes, KCCH, President Ballroom C, D, E	RT. 419 & I-81 4468 Starkey Road Roanoke, VA 24018
2:45-3:30 PM	Presidents/Vice Presidents/Nominations - William A. Parks, Jr.33 ^o Ballroom C, D, E	
3:30-4:15 PM	Secretaries, Treasurers, Personal Representatives Ill. Alan Wayne Adkins, 33°, G.C. Deputy in Virginia Ballroom C, D, E	
4:15-6:00 PM	Social Hour Hospitality Suites	
6:00 PM	Banquet Ballroom A, B, C	
6:15 PM	Welcome by Conference President - William A. Parks, Jr.33 ^o Invocation TBD	
Presentation C	of ColorsPatrick Henry High Scholl Junior ROTC, Ill John F. Hartsock, 33 ^o Dinner	
Intro Introducti Collecti	Introductions - William A. Parks, Jr, 33° etion of the Sovereign Grand Commander, Southern Jurisdiction, AASR William A. Parks, Jr.,33° duction of Distinguished Guests - Ill. Alan Wayne Adkins, 33°, G.C. on of Ill. Mark A. Tabbert, 33°, B.F., Director of the Library and Museum ons of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association Benediction - TBD Casual Dress for Friday's Proceedings/Coat & Tie for Banquet	

Hospitality Rooms Open

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97th Annual Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia Golf Outing

Thursday, September 23, 2021

Hanging Rock Golf Course 1500 Red Lane, Salem, VA 24153

Tee Time: 1:30 PM followed by Lunch

Format: 4-ball Scramble, Captain's Choice

\$75.00 includes Lunch, Golf, and Prizes Contact: Steve Willis, KCCH540-389-7275, swillis616@gmail.com

Mail Check payable to: Roanoke Valley Scottish Rite 628 Campbell Avenue SW Roanoke, VA 24016





Continued on page 5.

Approaching Our Nation's Birthday, July 4 An Historic Message About Patriotism

On September 13, 1814, U.S. soldiers at Baltimore's Fort McHenry withstood twenty-five hours of British bombardment. Early the next morning, they hoisted a gigantic flag over the fort, marking a crucial victory and a turning point in the War of 1812, often considered a second war for America's independence.

Francis Scott Key, a Maryland-born attorney, with a successful law practice, watched the bombardment from a ship in the Baltimore harbor. He had been in the harbor negotiating the release of an American civilian, Dr. William Beanes, who had been captured in an earlier battle. As a condition of the release, Key and other Americans, were ordered by the British not to return to shore during the attack on Baltimore.

From aboard a ship he watched through the night and into the morning as the bombardment of Fort McHenry continued. Picture in your mind what he was watching all night and as the sun rose and skies cleared in the morning.

Oh. say can you see, by the dawn's early light. What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose board stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there. Oh. say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep, Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes, What is that which the breeze, o'er towering steep, As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses? Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam, In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream. 'Tis the star-spangled banner: Oh. long may it wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.



Key wrote the initial verse or two on the back side of a letter. Back in Baltimore that morning, he continued working, finishing the other stanzas. The poem was printed on handbills the next morning, which originally called the work, "The Defense of Fort McHenry," and distributed them in Baltimore. Two Baltimore newspapers printed it, and it spread quickly to various cities along the East Coast.

A few days later, actor Ferdinand Durang sang "The Star-Spangled Banner," in Baltimore to the tune of an old English drinking song called, "To Anacreon in Heaven," written in 1775 by John Stafford Smith, to honor the ancient Greek poet Anacreon, a lover of wine. The drinking song melody had a track record in the United States and thus was well known.

Although Durang's performance marked the first time the anthem was sung in public, it became popular immediately, and three months later was played during the Battle of New Orleans.

By the time "The Star-Spangled Banner" officially became America's national anthem in 1931, it had become one of America's most popular patriotic tune for more than a century. At first, it trailed only "Yankee Doodle," and "Hail Columbia" in popularity among 19th-century patriotic tunes.

Continued on page 9.

As author Key was observing the battle from a ship in the harbor, it was still in question if the flag would continue to weather the bombardment.

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 Plumbline®
- 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 Plumbline*, 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."



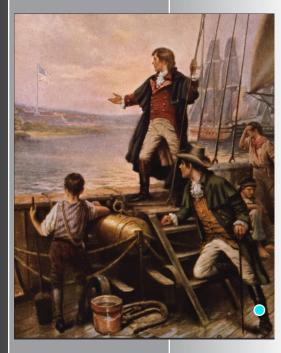
Certain faculties of man are directed toward the Unknownthought, meditation, prayer. The unknown is an ocean, of which conscience is the compass. Thought, meditation, and prayer, are the great mysterious pointings of the needle. It is a spiritual magnetism that thus connects the human soul with the Deity. 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

Approaching Our Nation's Birthday, July 4 An Historic Message About Patriotism

Continued from page 9.

But during and immediately after the Civil War, Key's song gained a deeper meaning, as the American flag became an increasingly powerful symbol of national unity. By the 1890s, the U.S. military had adopted the song for ceremonial purposes, playing it to accompany the raising and lowering of the colors.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed an executive order designating it "the national anthem of the United States." Finally, in 1931, more than one hundred years after it was composed, Congress passed a measure declaring "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the official national anthem.



Today, most Americans are familiar with the words of the initial verse of the national anthem, which basically described a battle scene, with the flag still flying. It is played to start many athletic events and musical ceremonies.

However, the words of the normally unknown fourth verse have much more meaning to the nation today, and perhaps should be sung more often. In fact, several Grand Lodges during their official ceremonies sing both the first and fourth stanzas. Here is the fourth verse of our National Anthem:

> Oh. thus be it ever when freemen shall stand Between their loved home and the war's desolation, Blest with victory and peace, may the Heav'n-rescued land Praise the Pow'r that bath made and preserved us a nation. Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just, And this be our motto, "In God is our trust." And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Francis Scott Key died in 1843 at the age of sixty-three. By government permission, the United States Flag flies continuously over Key's grave at Frederick, MD, and over Fort McHenry.

A final note about punctuation. Please observe that the first stanza on our anthem ends with a question mark. As author Key was observing the battle from a ship in the harbor, it was still in question if the flag would continue to weather the bombardment.

But as morning arrived, the flag and what it stands for, survived. The second verse ends with an exclamation point.

But the fourth verse ends with a period, following a statement of expectation and confidence about the foundation of our nation and its future.

MSA Short Bulletin



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 or 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.

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Scottish Rite Chirp

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SR Chirp users also customize the messages that they desire to see. A user might elect to view only messages from his own Valley, or might decide to reach out to another Valley where he is traveling. Because the application is location-aware, users can elect to see messages and interact with other users easily and conveniently wherever they are—and not see messages from locations or Valleys that are not of immediate interest.

SR Chirp is available as a free download on Android mobile platforms and coming soon for Apple devices.

Installation is simple and registration requires only that you confirm your membership and create a user ID through the my.scottishrite.org portal if you have not already done so. Activation instructions are included with the application installation.

Please download SR Chirp and be part of the online and mobile community. We're looking forward to getting acquainted!

SR Chirp is available as a free download on both Apple iPhone and Android mobile platforms. Here are the mobile links to download the free app from your phone.

Apple: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sr-chirp/id911534384?ls=1andmt=8

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.scottishrite.srchirp

The universal link will route your phone to the appropriate store when clicked from your phone.

http://qrs.ly/gr49ng2

You can scan the QR code to take to either store your phone supports as well.



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VMAP Working Tools Your Guide to News & Best Practices

From the VMAP Committee Chairman

Greetings Brethren! Welcome to VMAP 2020 and the return of the VMAP Working Tools newsletter!

The 2019 VMAP workbook is available for download. Based on the feedback from members at the 2019 Workshops some significant changes have been made to improve program for all Valleys, regardless of size.

A new workbook means a new Working Tools. The

newsletter will be a bimonthly event. The first issue of each month will share news from around the Jurisdiction about how VMAP is being implemented in, and impacting, local Valleys.

In the second issue of each month members of the Supreme Council VMAP Committee will share a best practice or lesson learned from actual 2019 workbook submissions. These will be items that successful Valleys are using to improve their members experience and strengthen their Valley.

We hope that you will enjoy this new newsletter format, and we would love to hear your questions, stories, and feedback, so drop us a note at vmap@scottishrite.org.

If you have not turned in your 2019 workbook yet it's not too late, send that in ASAP!

> VALLEY MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT PROJECT (VMAP)



We want to hear from YOU. Do you have a story about how VMAP is working in YOUR Valley? Perhaps you have questions or need advice. Please send an email to vmap@scottishrite.org.

Rite Care Centers in the Orient of Virginia

Norfolk Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc. Norfolk, VA

Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center Richmond, VA

Scottish Rite Foundation of Virginia Shawsville, VA

Portsmouth Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc. Portsmouth, VA

Tidewater Scottish Rite Speech and Language Foundation, Newport News, VA

Roanoke Scottish Rite Language Disorder Clinic, Inc. Roanoke, VA

House of the Temple Historic Preservation Foundation, Inc. Washington, DC Imper/fimile amazon.com P
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You shop. Amazon gives.

1-Go to https://smile.amazon.com (You must always use this address instead of amazon.com. The Masonic Home of Virginia will not receive money if you do not.)



2-If you already have an Amazon login, log in here.



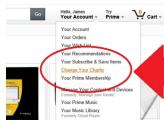
3-If you do not have an Amazon login, create an account by clicking on "Create an account."



4-Once logged in, click on "Your Account."



7-Click the "Search" button.



5-Select "Change Your Charity" from the dropdown window.



8-Make sure you choose a Rite Care by clicking the correct "Select" button.

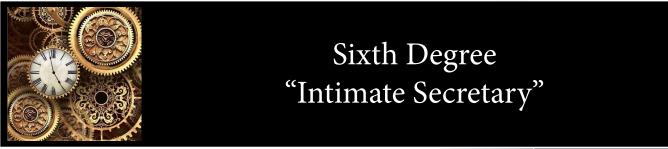
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6-Type in the blank, Masonic Home of Virginia, as illustrated.



- 9 -Verify your choice by looking at the "Supporting:" field near the top left of the page.
- 10-Remember. You must always log in to https:// smile.amazon.com in order for the Rite Care charity to receive funds.
- 11-This wonderful feature is being made possible by Amazon, at no cost to the buyer.



Summary

The principle lesson of this degree is that decisions should not be made only on appearances. To be curious is a good quality when directed toward the examination of social miseries, their reasons, and how they can be eliminated. A Mason should not remain detached from the world around him; he should not be an indifferent person. To keep and restore peace, he must be involved in the events of his world. It is the duty of a Mason to provide that men live in peace and harmony.



DUTIES: Be zealous, faithful, disinterested and benevolent. Act as a peacemaker.

FOR REFLECTION: Why act the peacemaker?

IMPORTANT SYMBOLS:

Triple-delta, King Solomon, King Hiram, the color crimson..



The apron is of white lambskin bordered in bright crimson; on the flap is an embroidered equilateral triangle. The designs on the flap are Phoenician letters; in the center are the two letters which are on the apron of the 5th Degree. Three additional letters at the upper corners and one at the center near the bottom are represented in English by 'B', 'N' and 'Sh'. These are the initials of words meaning a covenant, agreement or Divine Law; a vow; and, completion, performance, an offering in accomplishment of a vow, perfect, salvation. The Phoenician characters serve to remind us that the Master Hiram, though of a Jewish mother, was himself considered a Phoenician. He served a Phoenician king and presumably worshiped the Phoenician expression of the Deity.

Continued n page 15

Twenty-eighth Degree "Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept"



Continued from page 17.



The jewel is a triple-delta superimposed upon an equilateral triangle of gold. Each delta has a center design composed of one of the astrological signs for the Sun, Moon and Mercury. As explained in the degree summary, the form of the jewel is utterly derived from Pike's favorite source of Masonic Symbolism, the Pythagorean Tetractys.

Continued on page 19.

Sixth Degree "Intimate Secretary"

Lessons of the Degree

"Zeal and fidelity to duty are always rewarded."

Continued from page 15.

We read in the Holy Writings:

Now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar-trees and fir-trees and with gold, according to all his desire, that then King Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

And Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him; and they pleased him not (1 Kings 9:11-12)

Although the Biblical account ends as above, the story is allegorically extended here to provide certain lessons.

The focus of the story is an argument over this agreement between King Solomon and King Hiram of Tyre. (p.32)

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.

Softbound version; illustrated. 343 pages.

