

Scottish Rite Bulletin

May – June 2010

Alexandria, Virginia Bodies

Building Fund Essential to Temple Maintenance

The Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple is a source of pride to our members, and rightly so. Designed to support the specific requirements of our dynamic Rite, our building is beautiful, inspirational, and functional.

It is a tribute to our past and present leaders that provisions have been made to maintain the facility at a level that fulfills its mission today as well as it did when it was dedicated. Our annual budget includes funding for on going maintenance and repairs. To pay for the kind of major work that a building such as ours demands every decade or so, a Building Fund is in place. Examples of the projects that were paid for by the Fund include the \$200,000 roof replacement and the resurfacing of the parking lot.

The Fund has been built over the years by members' contributions, even though such contributions are not tax deductible. Contributions have ranged from

\$5 to \$1,000. Every contribution – large or small – has been greatly appreciated.

We give special recognition to those who donate \$100 or more by listing their names on one of the plaques in the main lobby. Send your check payable to Alexandria Scottish Rite today while you have it in mind. Help make 2010 a banner year for the fund. Simply write "Building Fund" in the memo section of your check and mail it to the Alexandria Scottish Rite, PO Box 175, Alexandria, VA 22313. Watch for your name in a future issue of the Bulletin. The following members have made contributions to the Building Fund since we last published such a list in November of last year:

S. WOODRUFF BENTLEY, SR.
NELSON R. BULLOCK

EDMUND COHEN
JAY E. PATTERSON

Thoughts on the "Companionship of Good Men"

Goethe*, a great Mason, said that talent may develop in solitude, but character is created in society. It is the fruit of fellowship. Genius may shine aloof and alone, like a star, but goodness is social, and it takes two men and God to make a Brother. We are tied together, seeking that truth which none may learn for another, and none may learn alone. No one of us is strong enough not to

need companionship of good men and the consecration of great ideals. Here lies, perhaps, the deepest value of Masonry: It is a fellowship of men who seek goodness, and who yield ourselves to its influence. To be drawn into its spirit and quest, is to be made better than ourselves.

The Scottish Rite owes its loyalty to the fundamental purpose and principles of Freemasonry that is expressed in this quest "to be made better than ourselves." It seeks to

strengthen the community. It believes that each man should act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.

Editor's Note: I asked Ill. Roger M. Firestone, 33° to indicate the source of this often quoted article. His response follows:

"Some of this seems to be paraphrased from a book by Bro. Joseph Fort Newton, 'The Religious Basis of a Better World Order: An application of Christian Principles to World Affairs.' It is cited in the MSA's SHORT TALK BULLETIN - Vol. I October, 1923 No. 10 as 'Master's Piece' by Unknown. Newton's original phrase was 'goodness is community', not 'goodness is social'."



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www.alexandriasscottishrite.org

*Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832)

Personal Representative's message

Brethren, let me start by telling you a little about the dinner we had to honor Ill. Walter Scott Downs, 33°, Grand Cross. We had over 200 in attendance to help thank Ill. Downs for his many years of service as Secretary and Personal Representative. I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this event a great success, to thank everyone who was able to attend, and all who contributed to the gifts we gave Ill. Walter, even though some of you could not attend.



Ed Cohen, 33°

*Personal Representative
of the SGIG in
Alexandria*

PersonalRepresentative
@alexandriascottishrite.org

There were gifts from the Potentate of Kena Shrine; from the Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic Memorial; from the Al Manarah Court No. 50, Ladies of the Oriental Shrine, who made a very significant donation to RiteCare in Walter's name; a proclamation from the City of Alexandria proclaiming March 6, 2010, as Walter Scott Downs' day; and a plaque from a co-worker at the Pentagon.

The Valley gave Ill. Walter a computer and associated software, a printer, a computer table, and paid for two years of Internet connectivity. We also gave him a truly spectacular, one-of-a-kind work of art which we had commissioned RW Grant Patton to create. It is a beautiful large clock surrounded by leather tooling celebrating Ill. Downs' Masonic life.

Ill. Dave Smith and I made remarks, and in addition, our SGIG Ill. Jim Cole appointed Ill. Downs Secretary Emeritus of the Valley. Grand Master Bill Rorer, after giving a wonderful talk about Walter's contribution to Freemasonry, presented him with a Grand Lodge Certificate of Appreciation. Sovereign Grand Commander Ron Seale gave an eloquent talk generous in its praise for all that Ill. Downs has done in the past, but also making it clear that the Supreme Council would be utilizing his services in the future. Despite the quality of the speakers, Ill. Downs' concluding remarks were the highlight of the evening.

The Dining Hall: We are following up on member suggestions about enhancing the ambience of the dining hall. First, we are arranging the tables differently to create a more pleasant and social setting. We will have more room between tables, and change from our current rectangular tables to round tables which are more conducive to conversation.

The cost of the new tables will be \$250 per table, and we will need 20 tables. We are asking Brethren to sponsor a table, and we will put a brass plate on each table recognizing the sponsoring Brother, Lodge, Degree Team, etc.

Second, a number of the Brethren have pointed out that the bare walls of the dining hall are not very attractive and suggested that we decorate the room with a number of large Masonic pictures. Possibilities include the Lodge over the store series, the Octagon House series, the Scottish Rite apron series, etc. Ill. Matt Szramoski has already given the Valley one framed picture and may be able to obtain a number of other prints that will need to be framed. We estimate the cost per picture to be about \$200, and we will need 20 pictures to cover three sides of the room, leaving the area behind the podium as it currently is. Brethren sponsoring a picture will be recognized with a brass plate under that picture.

The Strategic Plan: We gave copies of the draft Strategic Plan to Brethren at the February and March meetings and also invited them to review it on our Internet website. We have gotten some comments, and we will be posting the final version of the Alexandria Scottish Rite Strategic Plan on our website.

The Website: Please get into the habit of visiting our website to keep up with events (www.alexandriascottishrite.org). In addition to the public areas of the website, there also is a "members only" section where we have posted the Strategic Plan and the charters for many of our committees. In the future, each committee will have a space on the "members only" section to post material. Keep an eye out for some very important and useful material that the Education Committee will be posting.

By-Laws: We are in the process of updating our By-Laws. They were read at the April meeting, and are included in this issue of the Bulletin and will be posted on the "members only" section of our website. We will discuss and vote on the By-Laws at the May meeting.

Getting Involved: As you look at our Strategic Plan and the Committee Charters, you will see how much the Valley is doing in addition to our Reunions. There are opportunities for all of you to participate, and there should be no problem matching your particular interests and skills to the large number of actions we will be taking to meet our objectives and achieve our goals. Call a Committee Chair and see how you can be a part of what we are trying to achieve. If you are not sure what you want to do or how you can best contribute, feel free to call or e-mail me, and we can discuss various options. I also welcome your ideas and suggestions. We are paying attention, and you can really make a difference.

David Kruger RiteCare Program celebration to be held at JMU on June 29

SGIG James D. Cole, 33°, has confirmed arrangements for the James Madison University (David Kruger RiteCare Program) Celebration.

We will begin at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, June 29, in the Center's Health and Human Services (HHS) building located on the JMU east campus. (Visit our Valley's web site at www.alexandriascottishrite.org for driving directions.)

Dress is CASUAL this year. Please, no ties, no caps. If you have one, wear a Scottish Rite polo shirt. (Check out the shirts available from www.scottishritestore.org). We will tour the classrooms and conclude with a picnic-style



*"We also gave him a truly spectacular, one-of-a-kind work of art which we had commissioned RW Grant Patton to create. It is a beautiful large clock surrounded by leather tooling celebrating Ill. Downs' Masonic life."**

**Ed Cohen commenting on this unique gift presented to Walter Downs at his Recognition Dinner. (See PR's Message on page 2 of this issue).*



luncheon with the families and students. Everyone can plan on being on the road by 1:00 PM.

This year, we will have a hands-on approach. JMU has agreed to have volunteers participate in the morning classes. A total of nine volunteers from the Valleys of Alexandria, Lynchburg, and Richmond will take part in the morning classes and then share their experiences at the picnic. The volunteers need to arrive by 9:00 AM.

Contact Alexandria SR Secretary Ill. David C. Morris, 33°, if you want to volunteer for the hands-on portion of the program.

There is no fee for participating in this Celebration, but **reservations are an absolute necessity**. Deadline for contacting the Alexandria SR office is June 20, 2010.

Please remember, only the nine volunteers need to arrive at 9:00 A.M. All others should plan to arrive at 10:10 A.M. Bring wives, families and friends.

SR Spring Workshop held

The SR Spring Workshop was held as scheduled in Richmond on Saturday, March 27. The conference President for 2010, Ill. Steven Arthur Moss of the Valley of Danville, presided. Ill. Dave Morris, 33°, newly appointed Secretary of the Alexandria bodies, represented the Alexandria Valley. It was impressive to see that all of the Grand Lodge of Virginia line officers were present, thus underlining the close working relationship between the Orient of Virginia and the Grand Lodge.

This year's Conference will be at the Holiday Inn Select in Lynchburg, September 24-25. Danville is the host Valley.

Wm. Larry Alexander, 33°
Conference Vice President

Venerable Master's message



We are heartened in this beautiful season by the timely insights delivered April 9th by our Prelate, Rev. Bro. Richard Saunders, shortly after returning from a Holy Land Pilgrimage sponsored by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar.

A particularly salient highlight from Brother Rick's program was his account of learning that brothers from Masonic lodges of differing faiths in today's Israel regularly exchange fraternal visits. Those brothers put aside politics and religion to practice the Masonic tenets of toleration and brotherly love during each visit. Brother Rick is convinced that the practice of those tenets of Freemasonry in Israel today demonstrates that Masonry is as relevant in today's world as at any time in history.

In closing, I offer congratulations and welcome to each new Master of the Royal Secret from our Spring Reunion Class. May you find great joy in your continued pursuit of Masonic light.

Michael A. Riley, KCCH

Venerable Master
Lodge of Perfection
VenerableMasterLodgeofPerfection@
AlexandriaScottishRite.org



Bro. Michael A. Riley, KCCH, is a Security Team Leader with QinetiQ North America Mission Solutions Group supporting the Missile Defense Agency. He grew up on the family farm in Northwestern Erie County, Pennsylvania, and holds BS and MA Degrees from Kent State University in Ohio. He is also a USAF retiree with overseas tours in Thailand



Michael A. Riley, KCCH

and Spain and stateside tours as a pilot and public affairs officer among others.

Mike was raised a Master Mason in Elmer Timberman Lodge #54 in Annandale, VA, in 1997, and in 2001 served as Worshipful Master. He currently serves as the Masonic Home of Virginia Northeast Regional Ambassador on the Grand Lodge of Virginia Committee on Masonic Home Ambassadors.

Brother Riley became a member of the Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite during the Spring Reunion of 1998, and he has participated as a cast member for nearly ten years. He currently is in the 21st, 29th, and 32nd Degrees. Brother Riley was appointed Captain of the Host in the Lodge of Perfection by Ill. David H. Smith, 33°, in 2005 and invested with the KCCH in 2007.

Brother Riley is also active in the York Rite and serves as the Commander of Arlington Commandery #29, Knights Templar.

Mike also is a member of Kena Shrine Center and a member of the Greeters and the Ritualistic Divan.

May - June 2010

Alexandria Education and
Americanism Activities

Banquet to be held
prior to June SR meetings

**Alexandria Valley Continues ROTC and
JROTC Award presentations**

In support of our twin objectives of supporting public education and Americanism, the Scottish Rite presents an award for scholastic excellence and demonstrated ideals of Americanism to outstanding college Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and High School Junior ROTC Cadets. Alexandria Valley, under the lead of Ill. John Shroeder, 33°, recognizes the selected Cadets with the presentation of a DoD-approved Scottish Rite medal and service ribbon to be worn on the cadet uniform, a certificate of award, and a booklet of American heritage documents, including the Declaration of Independence and our U.S. Constitution.

Alexandria Valley supports the ROTC program at James Madison University and JROTC programs at 27 high schools and military academies. These institutions have a geographic coverage from Harrisonburg to the west, Arlington Career Center to the north, and King George to the south.

We rely on our Valley volunteers to attend the schools' awards ceremonies where they make the presentation on behalf of the Scottish Rite. If you would like to accompany a presenter to one of the ceremonies or take photographs at one of the presentations, please send an e-mail to Ill. John Shroeder, 33°, at CMDRShroeder@aol.com to volunteer.

**2010 Outstanding Teacher Award
recipients announced**

Ralph Smith, KCCH, Coordinator of our annual Outstanding Teacher Recognition program has announced the 2010 honorees. They are Jennifer A. Williment (Alexandria), Maryel Barry (Falls Church), and M. Tate Kenneally (Prince William County).

Our Scottish Rite supports the American public school system as a non-partisan, non-sectarian, democratic institution providing equal educational opportunity for all our children. Our public recognition of our teachers and celebration of their achievements demonstrate our support and contribute to the public school teachers' vital role in ensuring our Nation's well being.

Three teachers from our Valley's Northern Virginia school districts were selected from the recipients of the 2010 Washington Post Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award.

As a way of thanking them for their professional excellence and dedication to our children we will present each with a certificate of appreciation and a \$500 check. Our program speaker will be Dr. Vicki Reed from the JMU Childhood Language Disorders program.

After the banquet, we will excuse ourselves for a brief business meeting, while Jay Patterson, KCCH, entertains our guests and family members with a slide program on "Behind the Scenes at the White House". As an ABC News engineer, Jay has traveled with many U.S. Presidents and has great stories that our guests are sure to enjoy. Please use this form to indicate the number of tickets you wish to reserve for you and your family.



**John Shroeder,
Jr., 33°**

Member, Education
Committee

CMDRShroeder@aol.com



**Ralph W. Smith,
Jr., KCCH**

Member, Education
Committee

ralph.smith35@verizon.net

*The objective of the
Education & Americanism
Committee is to promote
Masonic education,
improve officer training,
and further our education
and Americanism objectives
through community
outreach.*

2010 TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

June 11, 2010 - 6:30 P.M.

Please reserve _____ dinners for the Teacher of the Year Program. Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$9.00 per person).

Name: _____

Daytime Phone No.: (_____) _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Alexandria Scottish Rite

SEND CHECK TO: PO. Box 175

Alexandria, VA 22313-0175

Reservation deadline is Monday, June 07, 2010. SORRY, NO PHONE RESERVATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED. No tickets issued, but all reservations will be checked in by name at the Dining Room entrances.

Bro. Jason Van Dyke from the Supreme Council to speak at May Meeting



Bro. Jason Van Dyke

Jay Patterson, KCCH, Commander of the Council of Kadosh, has announced the program for the May 14th Meeting of the Alexandria Scottish Rite Bodies. Bro. Jason Van Dyke is Director of the Master Craftsman Education Program and Special Assistant to the Sovereign Grand Commander at the House of the Temple in Washington, D.C. He will speak about these educational programs to which Scottish Rite Masons far and wide have subscribed in impressive numbers. When members present at the March meetings were asked to indicate if they were enrolled in or had completed one or both of the Master Craftsman programs, a majority raised their hands.

Jason Van Dyke was raised a Master Mason in Benjamin B. French Lodge, No. 15. Bro. Van Dyke is the current Senior Warden and a founding officer of The Colonial Lodge, No. 1821, a University Lodge associated with The George Washington University where he received his B.A. (Magna Cum Laude) in Political Communication and Advertising/Public Relations. He is the editor and chief writer for *Blueprints of the Master Craftsman*, the official newsletter of the Master Craftsman Program, and later this year will be a guest editor for a special issue of *The Scottish Rite Journal* focusing on education.

Our proximity to Washington, D.C. gives us a great opportunity to hear firsthand from the Scottish Rite Masons who produce this exciting Scottish Rite educational program. There will be a pre-meeting dinner held at 6:30 P.M. in the Dining Hall. **Reservations are required for the dinner**, but not for the meeting itself. To make a dinner reservation, call or e-mail the Secretary of the Alexandria Scottish Rite no later than Monday, May 10th. There is a modest fee of \$6 that can be paid at the door.

Jay E. Patterson, KCCH

Commander, Council of Kadosh

Jay Patterson grew up in Nashville, TN, and attended Middle Tennessee State University. Besides being a musician in Nashville, he worked at WTVF Channel 5 as a cameraman covering news and worked on such intellectual shows as *Candid Camera* and *Hee-Haw*.

Jay has been working for ABC News in Washington for the last 27 years and has covered news of all kinds for 20/20, World News, Nightline and Good Morning America, among others. He has won an Emmy, DuPont, and a Peabody for news coverage. Jay also works at the White House and has covered Presidential campaigns for Clinton, Bush, Dole and Gore. He has flown on Air Force One and followed Presidents around the world.

When he is not covering world events, he serves as Deacon at McLean Baptist Church and spends his free time, whatever is left, with his lovely wife Carol of 29 years.

Jay became a Mason in 1999 at Herndon Lodge # 264 and a 32° at Alexandria the same year. He received his KCCH at Alexandria in

2007. He was Worshipful Master in 2005 and elected High Priest of Loudoun RAC # 55 for 2006 and 2007, and served as District Deputy Grand High Priest in 2009. He is a member of three Grand Lodge committees, including the Masonic Herald. He also has membership to every Masonic body known to man.



Shown in this snapshot is Randolph-Macon Academy Cadet Jordan Rice, the 2004 recipient of the Supreme Council's JROTC Education and Americanism Award. Wayne E. Price, then President of the Shenandoah Valley SR Club, made the presentation. Shown displaying the presentation folder with Cadet Rice is Major General Kenneth M. Habgood, President of Randolph-Macon Academy.



*Jay E. Patterson,
KCCH*

*Commander
Council of Kadosh*

jay@jayspatterson.net



30° Knight Kadosh

*"We break together the
Bread of Fraternity and
drink from the same Cup of
Equality."*

THE SCOTTISH RITE BULLETIN
of the
Valley of Alexandria, Orient of Virginia

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All Scottish Rite Members whose names appear in this Bulletin are of the Thirty-second Degree, unless otherwise indicated.

The Secretary of the four coordinate Bodies is Illustrious David C. Morris, 33°. The mailing address is: P.O. Box 175, Alexandria, VA 22313. The Office Phone is: (703) 998-9044

secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org

The Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple is located at 1430 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please notify the Secretary immediately of any change of address. This is very important in order that you may receive The Scottish Rite Journal and other publications and correspondence without delay.

THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal.

ILLUSTRIOUS RONALD A. SEALE, 33°
is Sovereign Grand Commander

ILLUSTRIOUS JAMES D. COLE, 33°
is Grand Treasurer General and
SGIG in the Orient of Virginia

ILLUSTRIOUS EDMUND COHEN, 33°
is Personal Representative
of the SGIG in Alexandria

ILLUSTRIOUS WALTER SCOTT DOWNS, 33°, GC
is Secretary Emeritus

STATED MEETINGS

Alexandria Lodge of Perfection
Second Friday of each month
MICHAEL A. RILEY, KCCH
Venerable Master

Alexandria Chapter of Rose Croix
Second Friday
January, March, May, November
SHELDON B. RICHMAN, KCCH
Wise Master

Alexandria Council of Kadosh
Second Friday
January, March, May, November
JAY E. PATTERSON, KCCH
Commander

Alexandria Consistory
Second Friday
March, June, September, December
HEBER C. WILLIS, III
Master of Kadosh

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Master Craftsman & Master Craftsman II

The snows of this past winter have brought us more educated Masons. I don't really know if that is the reason or if it is just a thirst for more knowledge that has provided us with the following names of those who have recently completed the programs.

Master Craftsman

ROBERT M. COOPER
JAY GARBUS
ROY M. HEASTER
NORMAN L. HOFF, JR.
KERRY D. KIRK
CORY B. NELSON

Master Craftsman II

GENEROSO D. G. CALGONE
JOHN T. TILLERY

Administered by the Supreme Council, the courses are self-taught, work-at-your-own-pace opportunities to learn about Freemasonry and about our Scottish Rite, while not feeling driven to stay on any schedule.

We highly recommend that all brethren look into taking these worthwhile courses. For more information, view our Valley website at www.alexandriascottishrite.org or call the Supreme Council at (202) 232-3579.

DAVID C. MORRIS, 33°
Secretary of all Four Bodies

Club Meeting Reservations

Please call the Secretary's office by the Friday before the Club meeting so we can alert the host Club of the number to expect. Call: (703) 998-9044.

Dates to Remember

MAY 2010

Friday, 14th – 6:30 P.M.

Pre-Meeting Dinner

(reservations required by Monday, May 10)

Council of Kadosh - 7:30 P.M.

Chapter of Rose Croix

Lodge of Perfection



Monday, 17th – 6:30 P.M.

Blue Ridge Club Meeting

Meeting at Cochran Lodge, The Plains, VA



Wednesday, 26th – 6:30 P.M.

Shenandoah Valley Club Meeting

Meeting at Unity Lodge, Front Royal, VA

JUNE 2010

Friday, 11th – 6:30 P.M.

Teacher of the Year Banquet

Consistory & Lodge of Perfection and

Consistory Meetings to follow

(reservations required by Monday, June 7)



Monday, 21st – 6:30 P.M.

Blue Ridge Club Meeting

Meeting at Fairfax Lodge, Culpeper, VA



Wednesday, 23rd – 6:30 P.M.

Shenandoah Valley Club Meeting

Meeting at Cassia Lodge, Woodstock, VA



Tuesday, 29th – 10:30 A.M.

Visit to JMU RiteCare Clinic

Harrisonburg, Virginia

(reservations required by Friday, June 18)

For details of this year's visit, see the article on page three of this issue. Driving directions appeared in the June-July-August 2009 Bulletin on page five. To view, go to:

www.alexandriascottishrite.org/bulletins/2009/JunJulAug2009ASRBulletin.pdf