CONGRATULATIONS
Honour Men of 2015

INSPECTORS GENERAL HONORARY
Paul Ralph Evancoe, 33°
Oral McNeil Marple, 33°
James C. Anagnos, 33° (Baltimore)

KNIGHTS COMMANDER OF THE COURT OF HONOUR
John Torstan George Aakesson
William James Baumbach II
Harold Allan Chadsey
Anthony Joseph Fasano
Peter Stuart Jensen
Bernard Richard Laaken
Peter Edward Terrill
Gregory Martin Valker
Joel David Ratliff, Sr. (Martinsburg)

2015 Virginia Scottish Rite Conference
Ill. William L. Alexander, Conference President

PLAN TO ATTEND

WHEN: September 25-26, 2015

WHERE: Hilton Alexandria Mark Center,
5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22311

Alexandria Members—the only cost to attend is your room at the Hilton Mark Center if you stay overnight; otherwise, there is no cost in attending the Conference. If you attend the Conference and plan to attend the banquets, you must make a reservation/notify our Secretary, Ill. David C. Morris, at 703.998.9044 or via email at: secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org to ensure your seating and what type of meal you and/or your lady would like; chicken, beef or any special needs meal.

CONFERECE SCHEDULE

Friday, September 25, 2015
8:30 AM  Registration – Plaza Ballroom Foyer
11:00 – 1:00 PM  Lunch – Alexandria Hospitality
1:30 - 3:30 PM  Educational Topics
(Each Repeated – 50 minutes)
  Session 1: New Education in Alexandria
  Session 2: Developing Officer Position Descriptions
3:30 PM  SR Foundation of VA, Directors only
3:30 PM  Knights of St. Andrew meeting
3:30 PM  President/Vice Presidents meet
4:00 PM  SGIG meets with Personal Reps, Secretaries, Treasurers & Assistants
6:00 PM  Banquet – Terrace Room

Saturday, September 26, 2015
8:00 AM  Registration – Plaza Ballroom Foyer
8:30 AM  Ninety-First Session Virginia SR Conference
10:30 AM  Break
10:50 AM  Reports of Valley Vice Presidents
11:00 AM  Annual Meeting SR Foundation of Virginia
11:30 AM  Ladies Luncheon
  Noon  Lunch on your own
2:30-4:30 PM  KCCH Investiture – Alexandria Valley SR
  1430 W. Braddock Rd.
6:00 PM  Banquet – Terrace Room
The Scottish Rite supports public education and, as one part of that support, our Valley holds an annual dinner to honor three of the teachers who received the Agnes Myers Outstanding Teacher Award that year. We also invite them to bring their principal or supervisor or fellow teachers. At the dinner, we present them with a certificate and a $500.00 check and invite them to say a few words.

It is inspiring to listen to what they and their supervisors tell about the job they do for our children. Some of our Brethren were unable to attend the dinner and hear directly from the teachers, so in this issue of the Bulletin we present the words of one of the teachers we honored this year. Clearly, this is the kind of teacher we hope our children will have.

Hello, my name is Maria Magallanes, and although I have a Spanish name, I do not speak Spanish. My mother and father spoke Spanish, as did my grandparents, but my father had a hard time in school, so he decided that for my sister and I to be successful in school, he would not teach us Spanish. Little did he know that today being bilingual would have been extremely helpful.

I’d like to thank you for having me here tonight to honor teachers. Teaching is a very important profession that sometimes is not recognized or celebrated as much as it should be. So thank you for having this dinner in honor of teachers -- it means so much.

There are 20 teachers in my family and I would like to share why I decided to follow in their footsteps, and what led me to pursue the position of a Reading Specialist.

My heart fills up every time I think of my family. I was fortunate enough to have my maternal grandparents in my life while I was growing up. I start with them because they had such a huge impact on all of us. My Grandpa Chris and Grandma Eloyda had eight girls and one boy. My Grandpa worked in the fields, he hopped trains for work, was a carpenter, helped build some of the buildings where I attended college, and also helped build the barracks in Las Alamos during the Manhattan Project. Being a carpenter he developed exceptional math skills. He was witty, had proverbs memorized and spoke in riddles. He was someone that you would seek out for his advice. He loved to read, and when his eyesight failed, he continued to listen to books on tape. He was an amazing man.

My grandma Eloyda was such a beautiful person. She always saw the best in every situation and everyone. She was always singing or humming or reciting poetry like Longfellow’s poem The Village Blacksmith and Barefoot Boy by Whittier. I have not met another quite like her. My Grandmother only completed the 11th grade, my Grandfather completed the 9th grade, but both of them instilled the love of learning in their children and in us their grandchildren. My grandpa symbolized hard work and perseverance, and my grandma would always remind us that “Education was the one thing no one could take from you.” This has always resonated with me. She always stressed the importance of education.

All of their children became involved in education; a college professor of nursing, guidance counselors, high school math and science teachers, high school history teachers, and elementary teachers. My Aunts and Uncle to this day love to challenge themselves with crossword puzzles, Trivia Pursuit, Jeopardy, and Scrabble. If you go to my grandmother’s house in the afternoons, you can find them sitting and playing scrabble. Their love of learning continues to this day. They constantly discuss current events and are always reading, reading, reading.
I always wondered what my grandparents might have become had they completed school and had gone to college -- Doctors? Writers? Engineers? Inventors? Architects? Teachers? They were such intelligent, courageous, hardworking, kind people. The possibilities were endless. Their impact on this world could have been huge. But actually their impact was huge and still is because their children and grandchildren became teachers who have instilled the love of learning and have given their many students the one thing no one can take from them -- and that is Education.

Because of my family’s love of learning and of helping others, and because I grew up surrounded by teachers, I grew up wanting to help children love to learn, to be confident in themselves, and to value the importance of education.

I was lucky to have so many teachers in my family because when I began as a first grade teacher in Santa Fe, New Mexico, they provided me with resources and ideas to begin my career. One of my Aunts gave me a letter she would share with the parents on the first day of school, and I also followed that tradition of reading this letter to parents on the first day of school.

It was about a mother’s thoughts on her son’s first day of Kindergarten. She sends him on the bus and thinks at last she can read the newspaper and enjoy her cup of tea in peace and not worry about sticky floors or a messy house. But instead she cries because she realizes that for the first time she cannot follow her son. She wants to make sure he has not gotten knocked down by bullies and has remembered to take his lunch. But above all she wants to look into the teacher’s classroom. She does not want to see the teacher’s lesson plans or the bulletin boards, but rather to see into the teacher’s soul. She wants to find some hint of assurance that the teacher is worthy to continue what the mother has started these past years. She realizes when each of her children turned five they were snatched away from her. Up to then, she had been the overwhelming influence in their development. Their values were her values; their world was shaped by what she wanted them to see. All at once a teacher, a stranger, was taking her place. So she cries because her child is entering a world into which she cannot. She cries because a stranger is taking over the job, not simply of teaching her child math or reading, but of nurturing his development of self. And she wonders if the teacher will do it with the dedication required. Will the teacher notice he is not just one of a sea of little bodies -- He is special, he is hers! Would she be kind and get to know his complex personality, his weaknesses? Would she try never to humiliate him? Would she notice his bad days, and on those days treat him ever so gently?

The mother cannot dictate caring to every teacher her children will encounter. She can only hope that each one of them will know that for all the fantastic educational tools a teacher must use and for all her mastery of the subject matter, her exciting lesson plans, and her intelligence, her most basic responsibility will be unfulfilled if the element of caring is missing. And the key to that, in the mother’s mind, lies in seeing each pupil as somebody’s precious child. So she sits on her back porch crying and hoping that her children’s teachers see him as a unique, complex, fragile, vulnerable being. And she hopes the reason they are teachers, after all, is to bring each student ever closer to his potential, not just in mind, but in heart and soul as well.

I get choked up when I read this letter because I can feel what this parent is feeling. I share parts of this letter with you because teaching is not just some job you get up in the morning to do. You are entrusted with someone’s most precious child. Parents cannot go with their children, but every day they send their children to school with all their hopes and dreams. And we as teachers have the important responsibility of recognizing student’s strengths and weaknesses and helping them grow and love to learn.
I recently had the privilege of spending some time crossing the Atlantic on a Cunard Line ship, the Queen Mary 2. The passengers were from over 40 countries, the crew from over 50 countries. All got along brilliantly, as the British would say. There also was a Masonic gathering sponsored by the ship so that the Masons on board could get together. A number of us arrived at the meeting room at the appointed time, coming from several U.S. and foreign Grand Jurisdictions, and as is the case when Masons assemble, conversation came easy and friendships were made.

All of this affability contrasted with what we read in the ship’s daily printed news service: the USA Times for the Americans and the Daily Mail and Britain Today for the English guests, and what we saw on the 24-hour news cycle available on our cabin television. There we were treated to stories of strife and conflict in virtually every corner of the world. Clearly, outside of our little oasis of goodwill on the high seas, and in our Masonic meetings, political, religious, and cultural differences were not appreciated and generally led to discord and outright hostility.

It seems a pity that we cannot replicate the harmony that exists amongst passengers from various countries and cultures while they are on a cruise and among Masons throughout their lives. Why is it that people are successful in achieving this level of amity and friendliness in these circumstances but not in others? From a Masonic perspective I think it is because we cultivate the 3 Rs. Not the “reading, writing, and arithmetic” important to early childhood education, but another set of 3 Rs that should be a required part of adult education. These are respect, responsibility, and relationships.

Central to our Masonic values is treating others with courtesy, most especially our Brothers. We do not talk about politics or religion in Lodge because these are topics more apt to divide us than to bring us together. That said, it is not the case that Masons outside of Lodge do not have serious discussions about the affairs of the day and the issues affecting our country and the world. But we are able to have these discussions without jeopardizing our friendships or weakening our fraternal ties because we are willing to listen to each other, and to learn from each other. We may, over time, come to see the flaws in our argument or the merits in another’s view, but our objective is to have an honest discussion, not to disparage or convert our Brethren to our beliefs or views. It is a matter of respect for our Brother and respect for the opinions of others.

The second of this set of 3 Rs is responsibility. To perpetuate the Masonic approach to life requires more than respect, it requires us to set a tone in our dealings with others. This requires us to speak up in the face of bigotry and intolerance, but also in the face of the kind of shrill and intemperate political and social discourse which is all too prevalent in political campaigns, on talk shows, and in the social media.

There is nothing wrong with political debate and the frank exchange of ideas. But current practice at best often consists of a diatribe from one side followed by a similar broadside by the other, with each side sticking to its own talking points. Neither side is really listening to what the other side is saying, they are simply waiting their turn to speak. At worse, the practice is not even to wait until the other side has finished before interrupting, and then, rather than engaging on any of the ideas presented, they ascribe any difference in viewpoint to the nefarious and unpatriotic motives of their opponents.

Engaging in personal attack and repeating well-rehearsed sound bites is no substitute for intelligent discussion. Masons oppose a style of debate which consists principally of each side shouting over each other and trading insult and invective. Rather, it is our responsibility to promote the calm and rational discussion of the issues which an informed citizenry should expect in a democratic society.

(Continued on Page 5.)
The third R is relationships, and this is central to Freemasonry. If we show respect for others and take the time to really listen to others when they are speaking about their life, their fears, their successes and challenges, we will have meaningful conversations which will develop into real relationships. The people we meet have a lifetime of experiences and insights, as do we. We have much to learn and much to share, and through this sharing we can develop a rapport that can be a particular benefit to both parties. Each of us has a unique opportunity to get to know our Lodge Brethren better, and we can grow those superficial interactions we so often have into the kinds of relationships that lead to friendships that will enrich our lives.

I hope to see you at the various meetings, events, and conferences you will read about in this issue of the Bulletin, and I hope to get to know many of you better than I do now.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

*Ed Cohen*

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**Commander’s Message:**

**Tishri – A Month, A Feast, A Law? No — So Much More!**

Thomas G. Little, KCCH, Commander, Alexandria Council of Kadosh

I used to see a description of a famous man that used the phrase, “The Man, The Myth, The Legend.” There is even the acronym “TMTMTL.” They are doing a film about Hemingway using that title. Tishri seems to have some of the same identity crisis. Just what is it? In what context is it being used? I used the descriptor above: “A Month, A Feast, A Law”. But, I really believe it is all that and much, much, more.

Tishri is a “Month”. It is the seventh month in the Jewish ecclesiastical calendar, and the first month of the civil year. It occurs during our calendar’s September-October time frame.

It is a “Feast.” It is the feast of Sukkoth (also spelled Succoth), and also called the Feast of Booths or Tabernacles. This feast celebrates the harvest and it commemorates the wilderness period when the Jews were wandering and living in huts or tents. It has sometimes been related to our Thanksgiving, when the harvest is celebrated with prayer and thanksgiving. When I was growing up in the mountains of North Carolina, we always had a large celebration at church, a homecoming. It occurred every fall and was a time when we got together with our members. Many people who had moved away would come back for the day and enjoy the bounty of the harvest that the Lord had provided.

It is a “Law.” Under the Statutes of the Supreme Council, the feast of Tishri is considered an obligatory observance.

But it is much, much, more. According to the Book of Forms and Traditions of the Scottish Rite, the origins and significance of the Feast of Tishri “make it the most Scottish Rite of festivals.” Although it was originally celebrated as a harvest and in-gathering festival, no other occasion epitomizes the character and purpose of the Scottish Rite more wholly than this historic celebration. It is held in conjunction with the dedication of King Solomon’s Temple (you can read about this in 2 Chronicles 7:8-10). To come and celebrate this feast is to really celebrate what Masonry is all about. The Feast of Tishri is a time when we gather together our Scottish Rite Family. Our wives accompany us to the Feast, and we share good food, good times, and good fellowship. We follow this up with an inspiring program about the Feast of Tishri. In sum, we use this feast to share our fraternal spirit.

(Continued on Page 6.)
Teaching: A Calling not a Job.

When I look at my students I see my own kids and, and as I would want the very best for them, I want the very best for the students I teach. And if my best is not good enough, I will find the best for them. I genuinely see my students as my kids because I think of the letter I read at the beginning of the year and because I know I only have a certain amount of hours in the day to help them grow and be confident in themselves, and to instill in them the love of learning.

One year while teaching 2nd grade in Colorado, I had the pleasure of teaching one particular child. He was a smart boy, always happy and kind to others. His mother worried about his reading. He struggled in reading and I told her I would do my best to help him. That year I tutored him after school, had him attend two reading groups during the day and also recommended an outside tutor who specialized in reading. As I watched him throughout the year he became frustrated when reading, didn’t want to read, and one day when I was administering our district reading test...he cried. He was not confident in his reading.

Nevertheless, at the end of the year his mother wrote me this note:

Dear Ms. Magallanes, I remember the letter you read on the first day of school. I left with tears in my eyes but a very happy heart. I knew that for you to even read that letter, you were the person I was ok leaving my son with. And you have proved it over and over this year. You are one of the best – someone who teaches with her soul. My son has been the lucky beneficiary of that. I see the love for learning that you have helped him find and I thank you, because to me that is the point of school. So now, on the last day of school I leave with tears in my eyes again because words just can’t say how in debt we are to you for being the best teacher he has ever had.

I felt like I failed her son that year because I couldn’t unlock his ability to read. I wish I could have done more, and this is when I knew I wanted to pursue my Master’s Degree in reading. I will always remember him, and it became my personal quest to help as many students as I can to read, and grow confident in themselves as learners and as readers.

So let me conclude as I began by thanking you for supporting teachers. You know, as I do, that our children are the future.

Tishri – A Month, A Feast, A Law? No — So Much More! (Continued from Page 5.)

Some of our Brethren do not attend the Feast, but, the current Council of Kadosh is working hard to bring them back to the fold, back to the family. Come out on September 11, 2015 and celebrate the harvest, the thanksgiving, and the fellowship that is the Feast of Tishri.

A month later we will have the 2015 Fall Reunion. It takes place on the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of October (the 17th and 24th). We still have plenty of time to get our petitions in for the Fall Reunion, but don’t wait too long; we don’t want any brother to miss another year before becoming a part of the Scottish Rite. It would be great to have a large class of Brethren to join the Rite. This year we have invited all the five-year cohort reunion classes—(2010, 2005, 2000, 1995 (my class), 1990 and so forth—to attend and get a special pin to commemorate the anniversary of their reunion. If you are part of one of those five-year cohort reunion classes, come join us, attend the lunch, and let us thank you for your attendance and support. If this isn’t your year to get a special invitation, let me invite you right now. Come on out and spend time with us. Come to the Reunion and be with the new men joining the Rite. Come and support the cast of the degree teams. Everyone works very hard to put on a great Reunion for our candidates. It is always encouraging to see a large group of Scottish Rite members just there to watch the degrees. Come and join us for lunch. Come and let us fellowship together. We look forward to seeing you at this and many other Scottish Rite events.

Fraternally,

Thomas
Membership - Follow Me, I’m Right Behind You

III. Paul Evancoe, 33° & Ill. Jim Loudermilk, 33°

Membership is the lifeblood of all volunteer organizations. The key to the successful recruitment of new Scottish Rite members today is influence, not authority. We are, after all, an all-volunteer fraternity. None of us can be made to do anything we don’t want to do. With that in mind and in view of today's rapidly evolving society, all the Rite’s members must work harder than ever to influence and engage other Brothers if we are to preserve our existing membership and add new members to our total numbers.

We have all seen those who exhibit the “Follow me, I'm right behind you” style of leadership. Leading from behind does not work, it never has worked, and it never will work when it comes to most everything important in this world, especially when maintaining and increasing an organization’s membership. Don’t be one of those.

Historically, great leaders consistently inspire others by igniting the fires of optimism and demonstrating, by example, their willingness to serve in a complex and challenging cause greater than themselves. Scottish Rite Brethren today need to vigorously influence, energize, and engage non-Scottish Rite Brothers about joining the Rite.

But what are the tools? In our opinion they are humor, insight, and inspiration. We must lead by example and we must lead from the front. One might better define this process as a lively, interactive method that inspires a spirited and resilient membership that stays focused and productive. To this end, we have an Alexandria Valley Brother at almost every one of the Blue Lodges in our area who acts as our membership representative. We also have an outreach committee of speakers who will gladly provide talks in your Blue Lodge about Rite membership, other Masonic topics, and even general topics unrelated to Masonry.

Forty-four Blue Lodges are within the Valley of Alexandria’s area of jurisdiction. The Alexandria Scottish Rite has a membership of about 1,500. Our annual member deaths average around 50. Over the past number of years, our Reunion classes have averaged around 15-20 Brothers per class – adding about 35 new members a year. The math is simple. We have not been replacing those departed Brothers with enough new Brothers to maintain our membership rolls. We need to turn this around to ensure that our organization continues to be strong; so that we can continue to have the great social events and fellowship we now have, and are able to maintain our many philanthropy programs that include scholarships, awards, and community outreach.

This requires that each of us makes a concerted effort to aggressively recruit new members. Since our Valley draws upon some 44 Blue Lodges, if we could average two petitions from each of these Lodges each year we would reverse our membership decline and slowly grow.

The future of our Valley is up to each of us – that means you and me!

The bottom line is simple – you have a choice. Will you lead from behind and leave it to others, or will you play your part and lead from the front?

The next Reunion is October 17 and 24. **We need petitions.** Ask a Brother to join and sign a petition. And please come to the Reunion yourself and renew your experience and support our Reunion class! In that regard, your Valley is slowly but surely doing a number of things to improve the Reunion experience. We replaced the stage curtains and added mechanical equipment to accelerate backdrop changes. We replaced the 40-year-old sound system with a modern system, so the occasional feedback whines, static, garble, and dropouts in the sound will soon be a thing of the past. And to enhance the Reunion experience, we have been adding degrees that have not previously been conferred. We are doing our part – please help by doing yours.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Paul and Jim
Alexandria Valley Support for Kids with Language and Speech Disorders.

In July, a number of the Brethren and their Ladies visited James Madison University (JMU) to see our RiteCare contributions in action. As you know, for over 30 years the Valley through the Scottish Rite Foundation of Virginia has supported the JMU summer clinic and also funds a Doctoral fellowship and a number of undergraduate scholarships for students studying to be speech clinicians.

These annual visits have always been very informative and rewarding, and each year we learn more about the program. This year was no exception. In addition to seeing the clinicians working with the little boys and girls, we got to hear about the audiology program – which is important because many of the speech issues can be traced to hearing problems or have a hearing impairment component.

The big surprise, however, was about the overall value of the summer program. We have often said that the clinic is important because without it the children with language and hearing problems who get help during the school year would regress without this additional support during the summer. But we learned that the summer program is far more important than that!

Apparently, throughout the school year many of these kids receive from their school only about 20 minutes of specialized help a week. At the JMU summer clinic, they get intensive individualized support four hours a day four days a week, and they make more progress in the summer clinic than they make during the rest of the year. So by supporting the JMU summer clinic we are doing more than ensuring that the children don’t lose ground during the summer, we are actually helping them make major progress that they can then build on during the school year.

We all can be very proud of what we are doing to help these kids, and we need to try to do even more in the future so the program can reach even more children each summer. We hope that you and your Lady will be able to visit James Madison University next year and see for yourselves what we are accomplishing and how we are making a real difference in the lives of these kids and their families.

Additional photos of the JMU visit can be seen on pages 13 and 14 in the online version of the Bulletin at alexandriascottishrite.org.
Many of you have heard a lot of talk about the Valley Membership Achievement Project (VMAP), which was rolled out by the Supreme Council at the beginning of this year. The intent of VMAP is to provide a useful tool for planning and promoting activities to better engage members and increase participation. Valleys must submit an application to participate at the beginning of each year, and then work to complete a minimum set of requirements by the end of the year to receive an achievement award from the Supreme Council.

VMAP requirements are broken into the following 10 subject areas which cover the full scope of the Scottish Rite experience:

1. Membership Recruitment
2. New Member Engagement
3. Degree Conferral Proficiency
4. Reunion Experience
5. Scottish Rite Education for Candidates
6. Scottish Rite Education for Members
7. Officer Responsibilities & Engagement
8. Philanthropy & Public Image
9. Membership Retention
10. Valley Organizations

To date, the Alexandria Valley has made significant progress across all of these areas, and we expect to submit a certification of completion to Ill. and MW Jim Cole, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Virginia, prior to the Scottish Rite Conference in September.

Areas #6, #8 and #10 required no further actions to complete beyond what the Valley already has in place. Alexandria has a robust education program, led by our Education and Americanism Committee, and we have a strong pipeline of members involved in the Master Craftsman I, II, and III courses. Our Valley also has a rich set of community and charity activities currently (ROTC/JROTC, scholarships, teachers’ recognition, etc.), and there is an established set of Valley organizations, clubs, and committees for members to participate.

Areas #3, #4, and #5 (regarding our Degrees and Reunion productions, including candidate education) required some new actions for our Valley to meet the requirements of VMAP. At the Spring Reunion we added the 6th Degree, and at the Fall Reunion we will be enhancing our new member survey to augment the information collected from our candidates. This will help us determine what our new members are looking for in the Scottish Rite and how our Valley can create further opportunities for them to engage. The Valley also will be instituting a ceremony where our new members (and their spouses) can be recognized each year, and even be presented with their caps, rings, and patents.

Area #7 required relatively minor actions for our Valley to meet the requirements. Thanks to the fact that Alexandria Valley already observes the statutorily required annual Feasts and the Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal, we did not have far to go. The most notable accomplishment in this area was the creation of job descriptions for our elected and appointed Valley officers, which most of you will remember was the work of a committee spearheaded by Ill. Norm Hoff last year. Also being implemented this year is an enhanced opening of each Reunion by the Presiding Officers of all Four Bodies.

(Continued on Page 10.)
Areas #1, #2, and #9 address membership recruitment, engagement, and retention, and it is in these areas where most of our VMAP efforts were focused this year. One major initiative involved a re-look at the way the Valley utilized its Scottish Rite Representatives, and ways that we could empower the Representatives to be our informed spokespeople in their respective Blue Lodges. Part of this involved creating a job description and duties for the Representatives, and creating targeted, informative communications for them so that they could be effective ‘front line’ ambassadors for the Scottish Rite.

Also being implemented this year: a job description for top-line signers (approved at our July Executive Council meeting); a listing of Valley jobs and opportunities, to be included in our candidates’ new member folders; a job assignment for new members, and more ways of reaching out to our delinquent and seldom-seen members. All of these membership-related actions will be part of a membership ‘campaign’ that the Membership Committee plans to spearhead in the coming months.

**SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS**
The Alexandria Valley Brethren have supported these clubs by attending their monthly dinner/meetings, and broadening our friendships. Our attendance fosters a closer connection and participation with the Alexandria Valley and Scottish Rite Brethren residing in at some distance from our Temple. These clubs help to spread interest in the Scottish Rite in distant areas of the Commonwealth. We encourage Alexandria area Brethren (and their ladies) to join in on these monthly gatherings.

New Officers were installed at each Club in July.

**BLUE RIDGE CLUB MEETINGS.** This club’s next meeting will take place on Monday, September 21, at the I-HOP Restaurant in Culpeper. The October 19 meeting will also be held at the I-HOP Restaurant. Reservations are not required.

**SHENANDOAH VALLEY CLUB MEETINGS.** These are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month, except in November and December - to avoid conflicts with the holidays. The Sept. 23rd dinner at 6:30 and meeting will be held at the Spurmont Lodge No. 98, Strasburg. The Oct. 28th dinner/meeting will be held at Cassia Lodge No. 142, Woodstock, with the usual dinner at 6:30 and meeting to follow. RESERVATIONS are required at both locations.

To make reservations or for additional information, contact either: Ill. David Morris (703-998-9044; secretary@alexandriascottishrite.org), or Ill. David Smith (703-866-0345; dhsmith33@gmail.com).

**OFFICERS (Left to Right)**
- President: Paul R. Klamer, KCCH
- Secretary: Darryl Evans, KCCH
- Treasurer: Glenn Fry
- 1st Vice President: Willis (Buddy) Snoots

**OFFICERS (Left to Right)**
- President: Charles Fansler
- 1st Vice President: Bill Comeau
- 2nd Vice President: William Hull
- Secretary: Charles McIlwee
- Treasurer: Jerry Begley
SPRING & PREVIOUS CLASS MEMBERS
Your rings, patents, caps, & cap boxes are in and you can pick them up at your convenience. Call me or see me or the Tiler at one of our meetings.

NOW MAY BE THE TIME -- For Your Life Membership
A dues increase is a good time to think more about life membership. If you are current and have paid your 2015 dues, the cost for life membership is still $1,275.00 until the end of 2015. Once you have a life membership you never have to worry about a dues increase – or being suspended for non-payment of dues. And you will be leaving a lasting legacy for your Valley.

FALL REUNION
Fall Reunion will soon be upon us. Blank petitions can be found on the Valley’s website at alexandriascottishrite.org.

CONGRATULATIONS
Let me add my congratulations to our new 33°, Inspectors General Honorary and Knights Commander of the Court of Honour.

SCOTTISH RITE CONFERENCE of VIRGINIA
There still time to join us for the Conference and for you and your lady to be our guests at the dinners on Friday, September 25th and Saturday, September 26th. Contact me to ensure your seating and what type of meal you and/or your lady would like; chicken, beef or any special needs meal.

Pictures from the Teacher of the Year Dinner and Program
(Photos taken by Ill. Michael R. Aulicino)

Outstanding Teachers
(Left to Right)

Dawn Blevins
Guilford Elementary School, Loudoun County Public Schools

Maria Magallanes
Cora Kelly School of Math, Science and Technology, Alexandria City Public Schools

Dr. Arvinder Johri
New Directions Alternative Education Center
Prince William County Public Schools

Ill. Loyd Davis
Program Coordinator

See more pictures on pages 15 and 16 of the on-line version of the Bulletin at alexandriascottishrite.org
Scottish Rite Bulletin  
ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH RITE BODIES  
Post Office Box 175  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-0175  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Calendar of Upcoming Events

**SEPTEMBER 2015**

**September 9 – 7:00 p.m.**  
Master Craftsman I  
Dining Room Area

**September 11 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Feast of Tishri  
(reservations by Sept. 8)  
Valley Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
(Lodge of Perfection)

**September 21 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Blue Ridge Club Meeting—Culpeper  
(Meets at the IHOP)

**September 23 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Shenandoah Club Meeting—  
Spurmont Lodge—Strasburg  
(reservations by Sept.18)

**September 24 – 1:30 p.m.**  
VA. SR Conference Golf Outing  
Greendale Golf Course  
Alexandria, VA

**September 25 — Starts 1:00 p.m.**  
VA Scottish Rite Conference  
Education Programs – 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Banquet – 6:00 p.m.  
Hilton Mark Center, Alex., VA

**September 26 – 9 a.m.**  
VA Scottish Rite Conference  
Conference Convenes 8:30 a.m.-11a.m.  
Banquet – 6:00 p.m.  
Hilton Mark Center, Alex., VA

**October 9 – 6:00 p.m.**  
Executive Council Meeting  
Valley Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
(Consistory & Lodge of Perfection)

**October 17 – 7:15 a.m.**  
FALL REUNION

**October 19 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Blue Ridge Club Meeting—Culpeper  
(Meets at the IHOP)

**October 24 – 7:15 a.m.**  
FALL REUNION

**October 28 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Shenandoah Club Meeting—Cassia Lodge -Woodstock  
(reservations by Oct. 23rd)

**NOVEMBER 2015**

**November 6 - 7**  
GRAND LODGE of VIRGINIA  
Richmond, VA

**November 11 – 7:00 p.m.**  
Master Craftsman I  
Dining Room Area

**November 16 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Blue Ridge Club Meeting—Culpeper  
(Meets at the IHOP)

**MEETING DATE CHANGE**

**November 20 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Pre-meeting Dinner  
(reservations by Nov. 10)

Valley Meeting – 7:30 p.m.  
(Council of Kadosh, Rose Croix  
& Lodge of Perfection)

**OCTOBER 2015**

**October 7 – 7:00 p.m.**  
Master Craftsman I  
Dining Room Area

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Update your calendars  
don't miss these events!
Ray Varner, Christina Luckey and Alicia Luschei
Recipients of this year’s scholarship grants.

Dr. Susan Ingram and Susan Shepherd, student clinician, accepting donation from Ill. James D. Cole and the SR Foundation of VA.

Banner and t-shirts designed by: Ms. Peyton O’Donoghue, the daughter of JMU Academic Unit Head, Dr. O’Donoghue
Additional Pictures from the Teacher of the Year Dinner and Program
(Photos taken by Ill. Michael R. Aulicino)
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(Photos taken by Ill. Michael R. Aulicino)

Teacher of the Year

Catered by — Al Manarah Court #50, Ladies Oriental Shrine of NA