

**Valley of Huntsville  
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite**

**Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at Solar Lodge #914  
3008 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Huntsville, 35805  
Refreshments at 6:00 PM, Meeting at 7:00 PM  
(256) 539-1300**



*"BEHOLD HOW GOOD AND  
HOW PLEASANT IT IS FOR  
BRETHERN TO DWELL  
TOGETHER IN UNITY"  
PSALM 133:1*

# **"THE ROSE"**

## **NEWSLETTER OF THE VALLEY OF HUNTSVILLE SCOTTISH RITE 4th Quarter 2018**

### **Huntsville Valley Reunion Fall Class 2018**



**John William Rodgers, Shane Frost, Doyle Gleim, John William  
Rodgers, Lee Gibson and Christopher Sibley  
Honorable David Lakin 32°KCCH (Red Cap)  
Illustrious Jamie Smith 33° (Purple Cap)**



## Wrapping up 2018

From the PR – Hon. David Lakin 32° KCCH

Congratulations and welcome to each of our newest Scottish Rite brothers. It's always exciting for me to take part in a SR Reunion. I especially look forward to working together with each of you and to getting to know you better!

It was a pleasure to have our Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Ill. Jamie Smith 33° and his wife, Betty, in attendance. I would also like to thank Ill. William J. "Doug" Burfitt, Jr. 33°, Director of Work, for managing the execution of the degrees; Ill. Eddie Brown 33° and Ill. William J. "Jerry" Burfitt, Sr. 33° GC for their administrative support, and the KSA and DeMolay for assisting with accommodating our brothers and guests. Of course, a huge Thank You must go out to the degree Masters and cast members who supported the effort, many on little or no notice. Thank you all!

Congratulations and welcome to the new Knights of Saints of Andrews brothers as well. I look forward to working together with you in service to the Valley. Your presence and participation is critical to our collective success.

Congratulations to Brother Mike Morgan 32° on completion of his Master Craftsman Course: Scottish Rite History & Ritual! I encourage you all to work through these courses. They provide enormous insight to the fraternity and have been a springboard in my personal path to become a better Mason. Brother John Meyers is forming a study group for the MCC. Contact him to participate or show up at 5 pm before stated meetings.

We recently met with Solar Lodge's building committee and ironed out the remaining issues. As a result, we modified our purchase offer to include a promise to give Solar the first right of refusal should we decide to sell the property in the next ten years. They will be offered the property at our original purchase price plus whatever we will have spent to add value. At a special meeting held 23 October, the Solar building committee recommended that SR be allowed to purchase the property. A meeting of Solar members is to be held on November 8 to vote on the proposal.

The nominating committee will present a proposed slate of officers for 2019 during the November meeting and we will vote in the December meeting. Installation of Officers will be open to the public and will be held on Dec 17, at 6:00 pm at Solar Lodge.

Finally, as we close 2018, your SR Valley has accomplished much this year, and next year will be even more exciting. It is my sincere wish that you will join us in whatever way is possible for you. We will have several open social events you can bring family to. We will have more teaching, more ritual, more laughter and more reasons for you to enjoy the fraternity. Come visit with us and see what you're missing.

We're getting better every day. I hope you will join us on the journey.

- Dave

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## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

In our Craft the whole of fraternalism is nothing other than the fellowship required by the forms of work, because the majority of them require men to work together in association, in stations and places, and therefore in co-operation.

**Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry**



# THE VOICE OF REASON FROM THE SECRETARIES

Office Hours: T-TH 0830-14:30, Phone: 256-539-1300



SECRETARY.  
ILLUSTRIOUS.  
EDDIE E. BROWN 33°. [EEBROWN5@KNOLOGY.NET](mailto:EEBROWN5@KNOLOGY.NET)



ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
ILLUSTRIOUS  
WM "JERRY" BURFITT  
33° G.C.  
[AASRHSV@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AASRHSV@GMAIL.COM)

**DUES** - Brothers, as we enter the fall season it is time to pay our 2019 dues, yes we pay in advance and they are due before December 31, 2018. Our current dues are \$100.00. You can pay online or send a check to the office. Thanks for starting early!

Brothers, are you aware of the Member Portal that allows you to keep your data up to date on the Supreme Council's data base called Sentinel? To set up your Portal log into <https://my.scottishrite.org> here you can set up your account and then review and update your contact information. If this is the first that you have updated, you will receive a free E-book by Arturo de Hoyos via email.

Then on the anniversary of your joining the Scottish Rite, you will receive a congratulatory reminder from the Supreme Council. If you respond to that E-mail and let them know how the Scottish Rite has made a difference in your life, the Supreme Council will send you an exclusive lapel pin for you to proudly wear.

We both wish you a happy holiday season from our families to each of your families. Please enjoy yourselves, but always have a Drive Plan. If you find yourself in despair do not drive drunk call our Holiday Drunk Line and one of our Volunteer Drivers pick you up and get you home. Call 256-539-1300 and help will be dispatched.

## From the Director of Work

Illustrious William J. "Doug" Burfitt, JR. 33°



The 2018 Fall REUNION was a success, I would like to thank all the Brothers who took time from their busy schedules and support this wonderful event. I know the candidates enjoyed the work as they all had nice comments after and I believe we will see them back in the future. We have three new Degree Team Masters, Brothers Roger Mullins 32° for the 18<sup>th</sup>, John Meyers 32° will assume duties for the 30<sup>th</sup> and Mike Morgan 32° for the 32<sup>nd</sup>. We have some refining to do as we adapt to working in the Solar Lodge with a little work we will have the lights and sound effects down to a science! Congratulations to Kevin Burns who will now be serving as the Assistant Director of Work!

I would like to thank all the Brothers who participated in both the Feast of Tishri and the Lodge of Sorrow. Both ceremonies were conducted with pride and honor. I would like to start working in new members who are interested as doubles and understudies to build depth so we are always prepared and we can share the wealth of the work! If you are interested, please contact either Kevin Burns 32° or myself at any time.

We are always looking for volunteers to assist with the cast, lighting, props, stage hands i.e. DUCKS etc., etc. Contact Illustrious William J. Burfitt, Jr. 33° or Kevin Burns 32°.

# THE LODGE OF PERFECTION

*Virtus Junxit Mors Non Separabit*

*Fides Servanda Est*

Venerable Master, Brother Kevin H. Burns, 32°

As my term as Venerable Master draws to a close, I look back on a busy and successful year. Since the last newsletter we have had a great Reunion, adding FIVE new Brothers to our ranks! This was our only Reunion this year and while it was a little rough around the edges, I feel we gave these gentlemen a great Reunion and a good start to their Scottish Rite journey. I want to personally thank everyone that participated. Some took parts in EVERY Degree! No one we asked balked at taking a part. Some had never even seen the script until it was thrust into their hands! This was my second Reunion as the 18th Degree Master and I feel we really knocked it out of the park. That being said, I will be stepping down as Degree Master as I take on the duties of Assistant Director of Work. While that saddens me somewhat, I know the new Degree Master, Roger Mullins, will be up to the task of continuing the success of the 18th Degree cast.



September also brought with it the observance of the Feast of Tishri. This year it fell to me to plan it and with the assistance of the Knights of Saint Andrew, who worked the serving line, the Illustrious William "Doug" Burfitt, who cooked and advised me as well as helped plan, the Illustrious Emory "Smoky" Ferguson, who headed up the degree team, as well as the Illustrious William "Jerry" Burfitt, Renee Burfitt and Tammy Burns who all provided a portion of the meal. I feel we had a great Feast and really enjoyed working with this fine group.



Lastly, I wish to address the new and incoming Officer Corps. As you read this, the nominations and possibly the voting will have taken place. Brothers, please take these responsibilities seriously. If you take a Chair, we expect you to fill it. Life happens, we understand. But communication is key. In this day of text, email, social media and cell phones, there is no reason to not let your Master know you can't make it. We will be trusting you to step up and lead us into the next year. We wouldn't place you in a chair if we didn't have confidence in your ability to handle it.

Brothers, thank you for having the confidence in me to let me serve as your Venerable Master of the LOP. Without your support this would have been an impossible task. Special thanks go out to Illustrious Brother Doug Burfitt for being my advisor in many things. Finally, it would be a travesty if I didn't thank my wonderful bride of 28 years, Tammy Burns. She has stood beside me and supported me in all my Masonic endeavors. Godspeed, Brethren!



[Click here to visit](#)

**Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite**  
**Orient of Alabama**



## CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

*Jesus Nazarenus Rex Iudæorum*

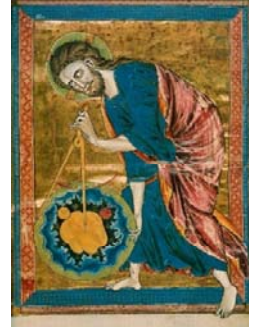
*Ormuzd--Ainsoph--Demiurgos*

Wise Master Honorable Joseph F. Zito, 32°KCCH



I would like to thank each of you my Brothers for your support through my year as your Wise Master! This indeed has been a wonderful year for us as we inducted five new members into the order.

A special thank you must go out to Doug Burfitt and Kevin Burns for the preparation of the wonderful food they prepared for the Feast of Tishri. It was wonderful to see the Knights of St. Andrews engaged in the kitchen, as well as greeting everyone in the line as servers. I always look forward to this celebration because of the special meaning it has to me. There was a good turnout of Brothers and Ladies and that is always appreciated!



Speaking of turn outs, I would also like to thank everyone who attended the Lodge of Sorrow. It is important to pay homage to those who have passed from this plane. They are sorely missed but will never be forgotten.

The holiday season will be on use before we know it. Enjoy the season with your family and take time to heal yourself and renew with the Grand Architect of the Universe.

## COUNCIL OF KADOSH

*Arche, Logos, Phos, Pneuma*

*Haikal Kadosh*

Commander Lawrence E. "Larry" Fouse, 32°



My Brothers, thank you all for your support this year as your Commander! I am sad to see the year coming to an end, but I will enjoy more time at home with my wonderful wife. Please continue your prayers for her.

The REUNION was a smashing success. Welcome to each of the new Brothers to both the Scottish Rite and the KSA. The Feast of Tishri was well done, once again and thanks to Kevin, and Doug for an outstanding meal! It was great to see all the folks out. The Lodge of Sorrow was well presented. and those Brother will be missed but we know they are all in a better place.

Please come out for nominations and elections as it is important to have Brothers who care and are committed to the work elected and sworn in to represent the Fraternity. Enjoy your holidays, be careful out there, and be right with God! **SO MOTE IT BE!**

## Knights of Saint Andrew

Knight Commander Brother Roger Mullins 32°



The Knights of Saint Andrew (KSA) is a service organization developed for 32° Black Cap Members. The principles goals of the KSA are to provide an opportunity for Black Cap members to play a larger role within the Consistory, to help members. Our main duties are to assist as needed during the reunion and to be available to the Valley's General Secretary for any assigned duties.

I would like to personally thank each of the KSA Brothers who supported the Fall Reunion! It is always a pleasure to work together in the 18<sup>th</sup> degree our new Brothers did a fantastic job. I am looking forward to taking the duties as the Degree

Master and continuing the KSA tradition providing an excellent 18<sup>th</sup> degree. Congratulations to our Newly Knighted Brethren, who were initiated on 1 October 2018. I would like to thank each of the degree team but especially Brother George Marshall for conducting the Knighting Ceremony!





Front Row: Jason Crowe, Samuel Curatola, John Cannon, Raymond Lamp, George Marshall, John Meyers  
 Back Row: Raymond Dunn, Brian Childs, Michael Brewer, Larry Fousse, Lee Gibson, Roger Mullins  
 Happy Holiday to each of you be safe and enjoy this time to renew with the LORD!  
 Please visit our website: <https://www.aasrhsv.org/knights-of-st-andrew>  
 Need gear? Start here and follow the links: <https://knights-of-st-andrew.org/>

## Robert Houston Anderson

An American Soldier, Anderson was born October 1st, 1835 in Savannah, Georgia. After attending local schools in Savannah, Anderson received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. He would graduate in 1857.

After graduating from West Point and prior to the start of the Civil War, Anderson was posted to duty in upstate New York. He would later serve in the Washington Territory at Fort Walla Walla.

In 1861, just before the official secession of his home state of Georgia, Anderson received a commission in the Army of the Confederate States of America (ACSA) as a Lieutenant. He would be appointed to be Assistant Adjutant General to the Head of the Georgia Militia.



Anderson would see battle throughout the Civil War as part of the Georgia Militia and as part of the Tennessee Army. He would be promoted to Brigadier General in 1864 and would lead his Brigade against Union Forces during Sherman's March to the Sea. He would also participate in the Carolina Campaign prior to the collapse of the Confederacy in 1865.

After the war Anderson would become the Police Chief of Savannah. He is still honored by the police of Savannah to this day.

Anderson passed away on February 8th, 1888. Brother Anderson was member of Ancient Landmark Lodge No. 231 and the Eminent Commander of Palestine Commandery, Knights Templar No. 7 both in Savannah, Georgia. (<http://www.masonrytoday.com/>)

# Valley Membership Achievement Project (VMAP)

Brother John C. Meyers

I would like to start off by thanking all the Brothers who spend time assisting me in documenting all the hard work and efforts this Valley did in 2017! This Valley is truly a blessing! It may not seem like it at times but when we add it all up together in the VMAP report it is amazing what we can do together. I am hoping we can do even more together in 2019.

I would like to provide a brief outline here to ask you to consider, "Where can I give a little time or effort to improve the Valley?" As we move in to the New Year please consider these areas and the overall direction of OUR Valley and where you can best assist.

The intent of VMAP is to help each Valley carry out its service to the Scottish Rite by providing the very best experience for its members. VMAP is divided into 11 sections:

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



We need your help – Please feel free to jump in and help! We need volunteers from each Lodge to represent the Huntsville Scottish Rite Bodies and when a Master Mason shows sufficient proficiency in the Master Masson Degree invite him to join our open events and experience the Scottish Rite.

I sincerely hope the Great Pumpkin is wonderful to you this year!! Happy Holidays to each of you and yours! Drink responsibly, and travel safely, I for one want to see you again next year!!

## Those Who Have Been Called Home

Almoner Illustrious Thomas A. "Tom" Paul 33°



Ernest G Stephens	January 4, 2018
William F Dendy	May 2, 2018
Howard E Dupree	May 14, 2018
Ernest W Harper Jr	July 11, 2018

"...and the lord said unto him, well done, thou good and faithful servant."

-Matthew 25:21

## Our Charitable Endeavors

The Valley of Huntsville continues to support the Alabama Scottish Rite Foundation.

### TEACHER AWARD

The Valley of Huntsville continues to support the wonderful Teachers of our State. There are two awards: The Alabama Teacher of the Year and The Teacher Hall of Fame.

### DYSLEXIA TESTING

The Valley provides the space for local testing and people such as Board Members and volunteers to support and serve the Foundation, which provides for free Testing of Alabama children between first and eighth grades.

Child must be at least 7 years old and half way through the first grade.

[www.alsrlcenter.org](http://www.alsrlcenter.org)





# The Flaming or Wavy Sword in the 33° Emblem as a Symbol

By ILLUSTRIOUS GEORGE L. MARSHALL, JR., 33°



The emblem of the 33° is a crowned double-headed eagle holding a sword in its talons. Although many renditions of the emblem show the sword as straight-bladed, historically it should have a wavy blade. Why is this?

We read in the Bible, (Genesis 3:24), English Standard Version: *He drove out the man, and at the east of the Garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.*

To the Christian, the Tree of Life is symbolic of the promise of eternal life that believers have in Jesus Christ, that his Cross represents that Tree.

To the Jews, it is symbolic of wisdom. Proverbs 3:18 says, *She is a tree of life to those who embrace her; those who lay hold of her will be blessed.*



First of all, we need to look at the word used for "Sword" in the original Hebrew. This word is *chereb* from the root word *charab*. The word *charab* can mean to "cut off and parch through a drought." It can also mean "to desolate, destroy and kill."<sup>6</sup> The Hebrew word *chereb* means basically a tool—usually a sharp edged one like a sword or knife, etc. — that has a destructive effect.

The next word that we can examine a little closer is from the flaming part of the sword. It can be defined in the original Hebrew as *lahahh*: "a supernatural weapon which could bring swift and deadly destruction." This word can also be defined as a fire, magic or enchantment that consumes, encircles or wraps up something.

Putting these two words together, you could create quite a few different graphic images of what was guarding the tree of life. When you look at it on the surface with all the fire, death, destruction, etc., you rather get the picture that someone would have to almost go through a living hell to get to the tree of life.

Putting a combination of these two words together to describe the "Flaming Sword" you could easily come up with the following interpretation: "Guarding every way to the Tree of Life--completely encircling it--is a supernatural being (cherubim) that makes use of powerful magic and enchantment to consume anything that tries to pass through the path it is guarding. Not only does it have the ability to deliver death, but utter destruction."



The French term *flamberge*, meaning "flame blade", is an undulating blade that is found on both long blades and rapiers. The term refers to the wavy blade which looks like a tongue of flame. When parrying with such a sword, unpleasant vibrations may be transmitted into the attacker's blade. These vibrations caused the blades to slow contact with each other because as additional friction was encountered with each wave. The unusual cross section of the blade would also inflict wider wounds with a thrust while still keeping the blade light.

According to Mackey, the Tyler's sword should traditionally be one with a "wavy" blade, to symbolize the flaming sword that was placed at the east of the garden of Eden, which turned every way to keep the way of the tree of life (Genesis 3:24). It should also never be sheathed, as it is the Tyler's duty to keep off, always, "cowans and eavesdroppers."



As applied to the 33°, the flaming or wavy sword may be symbolically interpreted as follows:

- The 33°, besides being the highest degree of the Scottish Rite, is also an administrative degree. Those who attain it must guard tenaciously the established government, customs, and usages of the Rite.
- Those holding this degree have received the full knowledge of the Rite. Thus, the sword acquires the meaning of spiritual power and a source from which all science emanates.
- The holder of the 33° is responsible for radiating the light that is emitted by the blade of the sword with its zigzag reflections over all the members of the Rite. This light which is emitted by the flame-bladed sword must reach all the corners of the world thereby spreading wisdom to oppose dogmatism and hypocrisy.
- There is an implication in ritualistic pursuits, of the attainment of a return to (attain) that state . . . that Unity with our Creator . . . in which we were before the 'fall from grace' in the Garden of Eden.

Thus, we see that the wavy sword, far from being just a mere addition to the 33° emblem, is susceptible of several symbolic interpretations which make it uniquely applicable to the status and responsibilities of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General. **GODSPEED.**

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## **MORALS AND DOGMA OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY**

1871

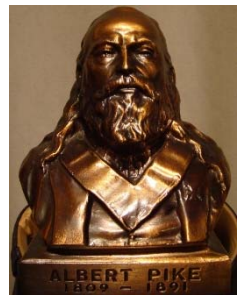
### **XIV.**

#### **GRAND ELECT, PERFECT, AND SUBLIME MASON.**

##### **Perfect Elu**



It is for each individual Mason to discover the secret of Masonry, by reflection upon its symbols and a wise consideration and analysis of what is said and done in the work. Masonry does not inculcate her truths. She states them, once and briefly; or hints them, perhaps, darkly; or interposes a cloud between them and eyes that would be dazzled by them. "Seek, and ye shall find," knowledge and the truth.



The practical object of Masonry is the physical and moral amelioration and the intellectual and spiritual improvement of individuals and society. Neither can be affected, except by the dissemination of truth. It is falsehood in doctrines and fallacy in principles, to which most of the miseries of men and the misfortunes of nations are owing. Public opinion is rarely right on any point; and there are and always will be important truths to be substituted in that opinion in the place of many errors and absurd and injurious prejudices. There are few truths that public opinion has not at some time hated and persecuted as heresies; and few errors that have not at some time seemed to it truths radiant from the immediate presence of God. There are moral maladies, also, of man and society, the treatment of which requires not only boldness, but also, and more, prudence and discretion; since they are more the fruit of false and pernicious doctrines, moral, political, and religious, than of vicious inclinations.

Much of the Masonic secret manifests itself, without speech revealing it, to him who even partially comprehends all the Degrees in proportion as he receives them; and particularly to those who advance to the highest Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. That Rite raises a corner of the veil, even in the Degree of Apprentice; for it there declares that Masonry is a worship.

Masonry labors to improve the social order by enlightening men's minds, warming their hearts with the love of the good, inspiring them with the great principle of human fraternity, and requiring of its disciples that their language and actions shall con-form to that principle, that they shall enlighten each other, control their passions, abhor vice, and pity the vicious man as one afflicted with a deplorable malady. <http://freemasoninformation.com/masonic-education/books/morals-and-dogma/grand-elect-perfect-and-sublime-maso>

# Calendar of Events

## November

- 06 5:00 pm Master Craftsman Study Group (Solar Lodge)  
6:00 pm Refreshments and Social hour  
7:00 pm **Council of Kadosh** (Consistory has refreshments - Preceptor)  
**Nominations are due** (All four Bodies - Venerable Master in Charge)  
**Budget due** (Finance Committee - Treasurer in Charge)  
19 6:00 pm **Advisory Conference**

## December

- 03 5:00 pm Master Craftsman Study Group (Solar Lodge)  
6:00 pm Refreshments and Social hour  
7:00 pm **Consistory** (Consistory has refreshments - Preceptor)  
Election of Officers and approve Budget  
17 7:00 pm **Installation of Officers - OPEN**



PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

# Scottish Rite Bodies

3008 9<sup>th</sup> AVE, Huntsville, AL 35805

256-539-1300



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Lodge & No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Lodge Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date Raised \_\_\_\_\_

*I, the undersigned, I have resided in this jurisdiction \_\_\_\_\_ years.*

**Have you ever petitioned for Scottish Rite Degrees before?** \_\_\_\_\_

***"I believe in the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order,  
and undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty,  
the entire separation of Church and State as set forth in  
the Constitution of the United States of America."***

***Wholeheartedly believing in the foregoing, I respectfully petition  
to receive the 4th through the 32nd degrees.***

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Initiation Fee is \$175.00, to be paid before initiation.  
A minimum of \$100.00 must accompany this petition.**

*To be completed by Secretary*

Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Read: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Voted: \_\_\_\_\_



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