

July 2026



July Events

Tuesday 7 Tacoma Preceptory
No. 4 (30°)
7:30 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
RSVP required
Dress Code - Business Casual

Tuesday 15
Scottish Rite Degree Practice
or Rose Croix Funeral Practice
6:30 pm

Tuesday 28
Tacoma Scottish Rite Officers
Tacoma Lodge of Perfection
Lead
Meeting 7:30 PM
(All Elected Officers from our
four Bodies and Committee
Chairs are required to attend)

**Your Attendance To
our Valley's Events
Helps All of US
and Shows Your
Continued Support
to Our Valley and
Brethren**



**Scottish Rite
Orient of Washington**

THE TROWEL



DUES IMPORTANT NOTICE

In 2025, our membership approved that our dues would be based on triple the Supreme Council's per capita.

In 2026, the Supreme Council's PerCapita was \$33.00. Our 2026 Dues were \$99.00.

In 2027, the per capita will be \$34.00, making our 2027 dues \$102.00. This will be reflected in your 2027 dues notice from Supreme Council.

Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

Remember Life Membership is \$1000.

NORTHWEST LUAU

TACOMA SCOTTISH RITE

Menu



HULI HULI CHICKEN



VEGETABLE PANCIT



MAC SALAD



RICE



SWEET ROLL



GUAVA CAKE

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2026 AT 6:30 PM

**SPEAKER ON AMERICANISM:
ILL. RIDGELY GILMOUR, 33°
DIRECTOR OF AMERICANISM FOR
THE ORIENT OF WASHINGTON**

**RSVP IS NEEDED. PLEASE DO YOUR RSVP AT:
[HTTPS://WWW.COGNITOFRMS.COM/TACOMASCOTTISHRITE1/
TACOMASCOTTISHRITEJULY2026TACOMALUAU](https://www.cognitofrms.com/tacomascottishrite1/tacomascottishritejuly2026tacomalua)**

**DONATIONS WILL BE AT THE DOOR.
NO MEETING JUST FELLOWSHIP.
DRESS CODE: CASUAL.**

**TACOMA SCOTTISH RITE
817 S. VASSAULT ST. TACOMA, WA.**

TACOMA SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER EVENTS

Every Monday - 6:00 PM - Hawaiian Ukulele Group

Monday 6 - Ivanhoe Commandery Stated Conclave 7:30 PM Dinner

Ben Dews Rest. 5:00 PM

Wednesday 1 & 15 - Tacoma Kendrick Rainbow - 6:30 PM

Friday 10 - Lifeline

Saturday 11 - Tentative FW 82 Event

Tuesday 14 - Fairweather Lodge 82 Stated Meeting 7:30 PM

Dinner 6:30 PM

Thursday 16- Christopher Columbus Society Meeting 7:00 PM

Dinner at 5:30 PM

Saturday 25 - Rental Natural Allah

Events in July 2026



Tacoma Kendrick Chapter

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday

**Tacoma Scottish Rite
817 S. Vassault St, Tacoma, WA**

Brethren, come out and support them .
Our young ladies are the future of our society.
The invitation is open for all our Masonic
brethren.

MEETINGS in July

Wednesday, July 1, 2026 - 6:30 PM

Wednesday, June 15, 2026 - 6:30 PM

**WA/ID Rainbow Grand Assembly
July 10-12
HAPO Center
6600 Burden Blvd. - Pasco, WA**



National Parent's Day July 26, 2026

Masonic Mysteries

Back in the Old West, a man was convicted of a crime and sentenced to be hanged. Just before the hood went on, the hangman asked if he had any last words. "I hate the Masons!" he growled.

"Why?" asked the puzzled hangman.

"They're the reason I'm in this mess! The sheriff who arrested me was a Mason, the prosecutor was a Mason, the judge was a Mason, and every single person on the jury was a Mason!"

The hangman nodded in understanding, pulled the hood over the man's head, and said, "Fair enough. Now step off with your left foot."



SCOTTISH RITE OFFICERS

Valley of Tacoma

**Ill. James D. Cole, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander**

**Ill. Roger B. Nelson, 33°
Deputy Orient of Washington**

**Ill. Jim Mendoza, 33°
Personal Representative Deputy
Valley of Tacoma**

**Bro. David Aponte, 32° KCCH
General Secretary
Editor "The Trowel"**

**Bro. Martin Monk, 32° KCCH
Treasurer**

**Bro. Alexander Jordan, 32° KCCH
Almoner**

**Valley of Tacoma Scottish Rite
817 S. Vassault St. Tacoma, WA 98409**

**Office Schedule
Tuesdays & Thursdays
11:00 - 1:00 PM**

**Office Phone: (253) 565-0272
If no answer, leave a voicemail.**

**Office Email:
secretarytacomasr@outlook.com**

The Trowel is published monthly by the Valley of Tacoma Scottish Rite. If you prefer to receive a printed copy of this newsletter by mail, yearly subscription is \$12.00. Contact the office to subscribe or email us : vottrowel@outlook.com

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR
NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE: 18th of January**

The Valley of Tacoma meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month, unless indicated otherwise. Dinner is at 6:30 PM. Meeting is at 7:30 PM. RSVP needed for stated dinners. We are located at 817 S. Vassault St., Tacoma, WA. All Sojourning Scottish Rite Masons are welcome.

2026 Officers



Lodge of Perfection N° 9

Bro. Scott Thompson, 32° KCCH
Venerable Master

Bro. Danny Marsh, 32°
Senior Warden

Bro. Alex Kaeka, 32°
Junior Warden

Chapter of Rose Croix

Bro. Jonathan Davenport, 32° KCCH
Wise Master

Bro. John Yeager, 32°
Senior Warden

Bro. Cameron Taylor, 32°
Junior Warden

Tacoma Preceptory N° 4

Bro. Kenneth Cowen Jr., 32°
Commander

Bro. James Patterson, 32°
1st Lt Commander

Bro. Mike West, 32°
2nd Lt Commander

Tacoma Consistory N° 5

Bro. James Nero, 32° KCCH
Master of Kadosh

Bro. Jimothy Rogers, 32°
Prior

Bro. TomaHawk Pearson, 32°
Preceptor

Bro. Kevin Reid, 32°
Chancellor

Bro. Ryan Williams, 32°
Minister of State

Knights of St. Andrew

Bro. Danny Marsh, 32°
Venerable Master

Bro. Larry Shank, 32°
Senior Warden

Bro. Lawrence Lowery, 32°
Junior Warden

Bro. Mike West, 32°
Secretary/Treasurer

July 2026

Birthdays

Bro. David	A.	Aponte	32° KCCH
Bro. Julio		Aranda	32°
Bro. Branden	A.	Bede	32°
Bro. Jeffery	B.	Bede	32°
Ill. Larry	M.	Bitow	33°
Bro. Robert	E.	Carlson	32°
Bro. Robert	H.	Decker	32°
Bro. Gary	W.	Emmons	32°
Bro. Brian	S.	Garbinski	32°
Bro. Gerald	H.	Geisler	32°
Bro. Ronald	J.	Harris	32°
Bro. William	C.	Hewitson	32°
Bro. Gregory	M.	Hill	32°
Bro. Karl	J.	Ickes	32°
Bro. Clyde	M.	Lee	32°
Bro. Zane	P.	McCune	32°
Bro. Shane	D.	Metz	32°
Bro. William	C.	Miller II	32°
Bro. Chris	E.	Nielsen	32°
Bro. Donald	E.	Otto	32°
Bro. Robert	W.	Simmons	32°
Bro. Richard	H.	Taylor	32°
Bro. Julian	F.	Wheeler	32°
Bro. Ryan	R.	Wright	32°

ANNIVERSARY

Bro. Robert	W.	Bruneau	32° KCCH
Bro. Brian	S.	Garbinski	32°
Bro. Asif	R.	Khan	32°
Bro. Joey		Romero	32°

Sickness & Distress

Please place in your prayers for a quick recovery and healing for:

Ill. Karl Reith's Lady Janet Reith
Bro. Joseph P. Allan, and his Lady
Bro. Howard Cohen
Lady Gail Cohen
Bro. Kyle Foster's Lady
Ill. John Brett, 33°

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Valley Membership

7/01/2026 - 291

Degree Work

Bro. Gary R. Dodge - 31st Degree

Petitions

Brian B. Lee - Petitioner
Bro. Wayne



In Memoriam



Daughter of Ill. Karl Reith, 33°

PETITIONS PETITIONS PETITIONS

Remember our Blue Lodges are our Bloodline.

Show a Brother Mason how he can get further light and education through the Scottish Rite.

SCOTTISH RITE THE UNIVERSITY OF FREEMASONRY



**VALLEY OF TACOMA
ON-LINE PETITION**



The Jewish tabernacle was more symbolic than an ordinary reading of the Scriptures would indicate. Whether it was copied after other religions or not has never been settled to the satisfaction of the leading scholars. Josephus, the great Hebrew historian, says that in the construction of it, and its vestments and sacred vessels, the whole world was in some way represented. In this we again see the influence of the Egyptian teachings. The twelve loaves of shew bread signify the twelve months of the year and the candlestick the twelve signs of the Zodiac. Philo asserts that the cherubim represented the two hemispheres.

Symbols were the universal language of ancient theology. Symbolic instruction was the uniform usage of antiquity as a system of mysterious communication. The Mysteries were a series of symbols which strive to recall man to his Divine Origin, and point out to him the means of returning hither. The great science acquired in the Mysteries was knowledge of man's self, of the nobleness of his origin, the grandeur of his destiny, and his superiority over the animals, which can never acquire this knowledge. The human mind still speculates upon the great mysteries of nature, and still finds its ideals anticipated by the ancients, whose profound thoughts are to be looked for, not in their philosophies, but in their symbols, by which they endeavored to express the great ideas that vainly struggled for utterance in words, as they viewed the great circle of phenomena - Birth, Life, Death, and New Life out of Death - to them the greatest of mysteries.

The Lesson: This degree teaches the power of faith in the Deity and His promises, affirming the immortality of the soul.

The Principle: It reinforces the belief that there is one true God who is pure, absolute intellect and existence.

The Obligation: Masons are called to labor incessantly for the glory of God, the honor of their country, and the happiness of their brethren.

Apron: Typically made of white lambskin and bordered with scarlet, green, and blue. It usually features a violet myrtle tree and a golden representation of an Arabian tent.

Jewel: A gold Hebrew letter Aleph (א), which is suspended from a violet ribbon.

On the table, we see the Temple, symbolized by the 'chess' floor. This degree continues the story about the construction of the portable Temple, which was used by the Jews in the desert, called the Mishkan, or the Tabernacle, in the English tradition. It is worth mentioning that the word Mishkan, and the word Tabernacle, come from the word Shechinah, the Divine presence. To this extent the initiate ceases to be a Minister of Hiram, and becomes an independent architect. The moral lesson of this degree lies in the fact that true faith in the Great Architect of the Universe should link all of the people together in a Worldwide brotherhood. On the table we see the stylized letter 'L', stating that the initiate is a Levite, a member of the tribe of Levi, chosen by God to serve in the Temple. All Masons are a kind of Kohanim and are Levites of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Value of the card – Selfless service to the Common Cause, which one day bears fruit.

In the Minchiate Tarot, the card of the twenty-fourth degree corresponds to the Major Arcana of Earth. On the card, there is a tree growing on a hill, and at the top of the hill, a castle. This refers not only to the element of Earth, but also to the goddess of the Earth, Demeter. The source of wealth, including financial, as well as the philosophical and scientific activity.



24th
degree,
Prince of the Tabernacle.

TACOMA VALLEY BUILDING ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Board of Directors

Bro. Martin Monk, 32° KCCH (1 Year) - President
Bro. Alex Jordan, 32° KCCH (2 Years) - Vice President
Bro. John Yeager Jr, 32° KCCH (1 Year) - Secretary
Bro. Michael Riley, 32° KCCH (3 Years) - Treasurer
Ill. John Brett, 33° - Member
Ill. Chuck Brockway, 33° - Member
Bro. Scott Thompson, 32° KCCH - Member (LOP)
Bro. Danny Marsh, 32° - Member (LOP)
Bro. Alex Kaeka, 32° - Member (LOP)

Currently, we are remodeling our
restrooms and kitchen.

We thank you for your patience
during this remodeling.

Wonderful things are yet to come.



Valley of Tacoma Scottish Rite STUDY GROUP

**Will resume on the 2nd
Monday of the September
7:00 PM**

**Bro. Alex Jordan, 32° KCCH
(253) 565-0272**

**Need help with your
ritual Blue Lodge,
Scottish Rite, or York
Rite ritual.**

**Need to discuss
esoteric meanings or
need to find meaning in
the ritual mentioned
above.**

We are here to assist.



EARLY LIFE & SPEECH LANGUAGE

Speech and Language Therapy for Children Ages 2-7

Early Life Speech & Language provides intensive, individualized speech and language therapy to children aged two to seven who are not meeting specific speech and language developmental milestones.

All of our services are provided at no cost to families.

Our child-centered, family-friendly process involves parents as partners in each child's individual treatment for long-term success at home, in school and beyond.

Speech and Language therapy works...and lasts a lifetime.

For more information go to our website.

<https://www.earlylifespeech.org>

Donate Today!



DONATION AL JORGENSEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

When donating with check:

Please make your check payable to the Scottish Rite Foundation, S.J.

Please note the memo line as follow:

Al Jorgensen Scholarship, Scottish Rite Foundation, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Inc.
(EIN 52-6054737).

It should then be mailed to:

**Supreme Council 33°
Attn: Development Office/Caitlyn Kent
1733 Sixteenth Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20009-3103**

When donating with Credit Card: You can make your gift by credit card by calling Caitlyn Kent at [202-777-3111](tel:202-777-3111)
(ckent@scottishrite.org).

Tell her the purpose of your gift and give her your card payment information to complete your gift. All information will be kept confidential.

2026 Officers

Bro. Danny Marsh, 32°

Venerable Master

Bro. Larry Shank, 32°

Senior Warden

Bro. Lawrence Lowery, 32°

Junior Warden

Bro. Mike West, 32°

Secretary/Treasurer

Knights of Saint Andrew

The Knights of St. Andrew (KSA) is a service organization to serve the Valley of Tacoma and are called to help set-up , tear down, to greet brethren and escort dignitaries, We also aid those who need assistance and any other thing that is required of us. If you feel you can help and assist us in these tasks, fill out the petition below. We are the few, the brave and the helpful.



Knights of Saint Andrew Valley of Tacoma - Orient of Washington Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite



The Motto of the KSA.... "Service and Leadership"

Petition for Membership

Print Full Name _____
Mailing Address _____
City, State, Zip Code _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email _____
Blue Lodge (Mother) _____

DECLARATION OF MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership in the Knights of Saint Andrew, Valley of Tacoma, Orient of Washington for the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite. Upon active membership, I will commit to service to the Valley as my cabletow permits. Furthermore, I swear I am in good standing with my Masonic Lodge as well as the Scottish Rite Valley, of which I am a member.

Full Signature of Petitioner

_____ Date _____

All Fees & Dues Payment MUST Accompany this Petition
Petition Fee \$100 + Current Year Dues \$20 = Total of \$120

Deliver or Mail Petition Payment to:
Knights of Saint Andrew, 817 S Vassault St, Tacoma, Washington 98465

Signature of Proposer

_____ Date _____

Official Use Only: Date Verified with Valley: _____
Date Application & Payment Received: _____
Petition Approval Date: _____
Date of Knighting: _____



There's something missing in this image for 2026.

YOU

We missed you at our stated meetings, degrees, and presentations in 2025.

You are and always will be an important part and valuable member of the Valley of Tacoma. Your journey still continues... What will it be in 2026?

Visit us on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Dinner at 6:30 PM RSVP needed.

Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Notify the General Secretary 3 days before the Meeting to RSVP for dinner if you are not able to RSVP on-line.

2026 is Your Year.

Come and Enjoy Good Fellowship with Your Brethren.

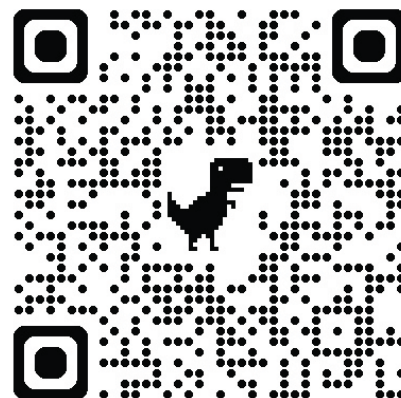
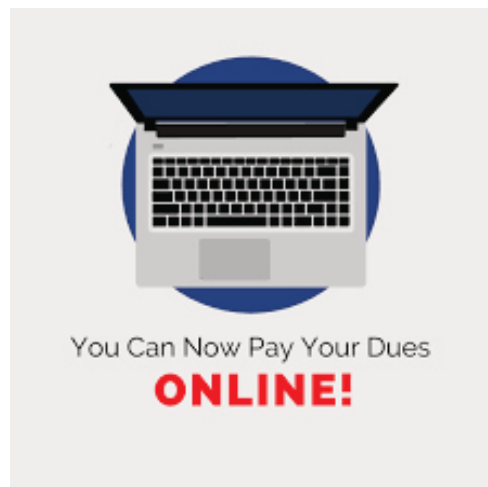
Assist Us in our Degrees.

Make It Happen.

2026 is the Rite Year For You To Become Active Again



Valley of Tacoma **Scottish Rite**



Aim your phone at the QR code.



An Active Valley Working to Support Freemasonry and our Community