The Trowel

October 2026

Valley of Tacoma Scottish Rite



Meet our newest Scottish Rite Candidate

Brother Brian L. Lee began his Scottish Rite journey on September 15, 2026.

When you see make him welcomed to our Valley.

ELECTIONS for 2027 TSR OFFICERS - OCTOBER STATED MEETING

I f you have a desire to serve the Valley of Tacoma as an Officer, please contact Bro. Alex Jordan, 32° KCCH or the General Secretary for more information.

Observed Events in October 2026

- **Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples' Day: Monday, October 12, 2026 – A federal and state holiday where government offices and some businesses close.**
- **Halloween: Saturday, October 31, 2026**

NEW TACOMA SCOTTISH RITE WEBSITE

We are happy to announce the new website for the Valley of Tacoma, Scottish Rite. It will contain information related to our Valley, Scottish Rite, Freemasonry, and Rentals. It is still in its initial stages but we hope you enjoy it. Navigate to the following link to enjoy our new website:

https://www.votsr.org





From the desk of the Personal Rep

Many of our institutions of higher learning have begun instruction, which causes me to remember that the Scottish Rite is oft called "the university of Freemasonry". Like any good university, our Supreme Council offers an outstanding educational program called The Master Craftsman.

If you have recently received your 32nd Degree, the Master Craftsman Scottish Rite Ritual & History Course is made available to you as part of your initiation into the Scottish Rite. This course familiarizes you with the basic structure of the Scottish Rite as well as aspects of the rituals and symbols of the twenty-nine degrees (4°–32°) and honors of the Scottish Rite. Consisting of 6 lessons, it utilizes The Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide, third edition, by Arturo de Hoyos and A Bridge to Light, 4th edition, by Rex Hutchens as its textbooks.

You can enroll at https://www.mastercraftsmancollege.org/. Please submit your invoice to our Secretary for reimbursement.

Beyond the Scottish Rite Ritual & History Course, there is the Master Craftsman Online College & Leadership Academy.

This is a complete, online, multimedia learning system designed by Masons for Masons, and is similar to online learning platforms used by colleges and universities around the world. Through the Master Craftsman Online College & Leadership Academy you will be able to select from numerous Masonic Education & Leadership courses and track your learning progress through a fun and interactive learning system.

Happy Learning!

Warmest fraternal regards,
Ill. Jim Mendoza, 33°

Events at the Tacoma Scottish Rite Masonic Center

Tuesday 6
Tacoma Chapter of Rose Croix (18°)
Stated Meeting - 7:30 PM
NO DINNER
Dress Code - Business Casual

Tuesday 16
4th Scottish Rite Degree

Tuesday 20
4th Scottish Rite Degrees

Tuesday 29
Tacoma Scottish Rite Officers
Lead: Chapter of Rose Croix
Meeting 7:30 PM - Zoom
(All Elected Officers from our four Bodies and Committee Chairs are required to attend)

Every Monday at 6 PM Hawaiian Ukulele Group

Wednesday 7 & 21- Tacoma Kendrick Rainbow - 6:30 PM

Saturday 3 - District 14 & 15 Grand Master Visit 4PM

Monday 5 - Ivanhoe No. 4 KT Stated Conclave 7:30 PM

Dinner @ Ben Dews 5 PM

Thursday 8 - ZoraTemple No. 5 Stated Meeting 5 PM

Sunday 11 - Pacific Council #30 Meeting - 2PM

Tuesday 13 - Fairweather Lodge 82 Stated Meeting 7:30 PM Dinner 6:30 PM

Thursday 15 - Christopher Columbus Soicety Meeting 7:00 PM Dinner at 5:30 PM

Saturday 17 - Zora Temple Fall Luncheon

Saturday 24 - WA OES Grand Reception

October 2026



Bro.	John	R.	Adamson	32° KCCH
Bro.	William	B.	Bede	32°
Ill.	Jeffery	A.	Brunson	33°
Bro.	Lawton		Case	32°
Bro.	Howard	R.	Cohen	32°
Bro.	Charles		Collins	32°
Bro.	Rogelio		CortesJr.	32°
Bro.	Keven	M.	Davis	32°
Bro.	Donald	S.	Dodds	32°
Bro.	Christopher	J.	Ellis	32°
Bro.	Gary	E.	Gasaway	32°
Bro.	Matthew	A.	Hartmann	32°
Bro.	Raymond	T.	Lock	32°
Bro.	James	S.	Macfarlane	32°
Bro.	Virgil	G.	Maier	32° KCCH
Bro.	Christopher	G.	Mendoza-Truong	32°
Bro.	James	E.	Nero	32° KCCH
Bro.	Roy	J.	Pidcock	32°
Bro.	Rexford	R.	Pulfrey	32°
Bro.	John	W.	Rice	32°
Bro.	Daniel	L.	Rollins	32°
Bro.	Brian	N.	Stoll	32°
Bro.	Cameron		Taylor	32°
Bro.	Mark	W.	Thompson	32°
Bro.	Butch	V.	Trail	32° KCCH
Bro.	Harry	W.	Walter	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 and Lady Gail
Bro. Kyle Foster's Lady
Ill. John Brett, 33°
Bro. Caleb Dodge, 32°
Bro. Rob Thompson, 32°

In Memoriam

None

Valley Membership

10/01/2026 - 294

Degree Work

Brian B. Lee – 8°

Petitions

Jay K. Feriwaldt

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

SCOTTISH RITE OFFICERS

Valley of Tacoma

Ill. James D. Cole, 33º
Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill. Roger B. Nelson, 33º
Deputy Orient of Washington

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

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

Bro. Martin Monk, 32º 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 :
secretarytacomasr@outlook.com

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE is the *18th of the month prior to next month's issue.*

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 Nº 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. Jon Davenport, 32° KCCH
Wise Master

Bro. John Yeager, 32°
Senior Warden

Bro. Cameron Taylor, 32°
Junior Warden

Tacoma Preceptory Nº 4

Bro. Kenneth Cowen Jr., 32°
Commander

Bro. James Patterson, 32°
1st Lt Commander

Bro. Mike West, 32°
2nd Lt Commander

Tacoma Consistory Nº 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





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
Vacant - 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)
Bro. Rob Thompson, 32° - Member

Meeting on October 6th after the Stated Meetingf.

Currently, we are remodeling our kitchen. We thank you for your patience during this remodeling.

Wonderful things are yet to come.



Valley of Tacoma Scottish Rite

STUDY GROUP

October 12, 2026 7 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 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!

EDUCATION

What AI knows about the 27th Degree, Knight of the Sun/Prince Adept

The study of the ancient religions is of such vast proportions, that were one able to devote his entire lifetime to it, he could not hope to complete it. The worship of the sun and its planets, with more or less variations, was the most prevalent, although originally the planets, as well as fire, light and heat, were but symbols or rather the outward manifestations of the Supreme Being or Intellect. Almost every heathen nation, or at least all of whose mythology we have any knowledge, believed in one supreme God, whose name was never uttered. All rites and creeds, the evolution of some one or more of these ancient beliefs, have come down to us, sometimes purified by experience and added wisdom, but often a distorted vision has made what was once pure gold nothing but dross. This Degree especially was the real belief of our first Brethren, who lived long before the Pyramids of Egypt or the first Babylon.

Core Teachings & Philosophy
This degree is deeply philosophical and focuses on the study of nature, science, and truth.
The Core Lesson: Nature reveals a universal power and wisdom that continually points toward God. The visible world is a direct manifestation of the invisible divine.
Balance of Forces: The universe is sustained by the balance of two opposing forces.
Concept of Death: There is no true death in the universe, only continuous change and transformation.The Duty: To be an ardent lover of wisdom and to remain faithful to all promises made within Masonry.

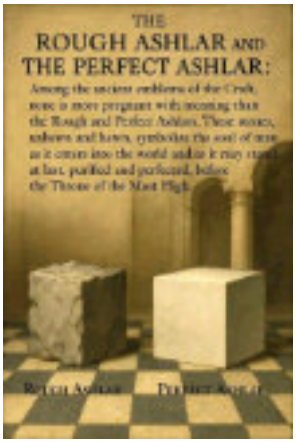
Regalia & Symbolism
The 27th degree is rich with solar, geometric, and hermetic imagery.
Apron: A plain white lambskin featuring a vermilion interlaced pentagram.
Collar: White, painted with a gold sun symbolizing the Deity.
Jewels: Officers wear a gold seven-pointed star or a gold sun (for the presiding officer), while members wear a gold five-pointed star.

Derived from Albert Pike's Morals and Dogma, the degree outlines several foundational principles:
1. The Unity and Manifestation of GodNature as Divine Revelation: The visible universe is not random; it is a direct, tangible manifestation of an invisible, intelligent Creator.The Search for Truth: Truth is the ultimate light. While human philosophy is a continuous journey where we may never reach absolute perfection, a Mason must never stop seeking it.
2. The Law of Universal BalanceEquilibrium of Opposites: The universe is sustained and governed by the interaction of opposing forces. Harmony exists because these forces balance one another out (e.g., light and darkness, force and restraint).The Trinity of Divine Attributes: True wisdom manifests through the balance of three things: Wisdom (intelligence), Force (strength), and Harmony
3. The Illusion of DeathContinuous Transformation: There is no absolute destruction or true death in the natural world. What humans perceive as death is simply a transition, change, or transformation from one state of being into another.
4. Ethical and Practical DutiesDevotion to Wisdom: An initiate must active scorn ignorance, intellectual laziness, and selfishness.Fidelity to Promises: The moral obligations and vows taken within Masonry are sacred and absolute.Active Knightly Virtue: Philosophy must not be purely theoretical. Members are expected to actively apply charity, truth, honor, loyalty, and justice by protecting the helpless, poor, and infirm.



The Secretary's Desk

Bro. David A. Aponte, 32° KCCH



We hope this message finds you and your love ones well.
I would like the following brethren to contact the General Secretary as soon as possible:

Bro. Rexford R. Pulfrey, 32°
Bro. Rodd O'Day, 32°
Bro. Patrick J. Murray, 32°
Bro. Ian D. McKinney, 32°
Bro. Arthur E. Brown, 32°
Bro. Jason C. Felt, 32°
Bro. Hunter D. Henderson, 32°
Bro. Nathan D. Schepis, 32°

If any member of the Valley is in contact with these brothers, please inform them to reach out to the General Secretary. Thank you.



Bro.	Joseph	P.	Allan	32°
Bro.	Jason	E.	Bishop	32°
Bro.	John	J.	Brammer	32°
Bro.	Travis	B.	Brandt	32°
Bro.	Glenn	C.	Butler	32°
Bro.	Douglas	R.	Butler	32°
Bro.	Howard	R.	Cohen	32°
Bro.	Rogelio		CortesJr.	32°
Bro.	Keven	M.	Davis	32°
Bro.	Jason	C.	Felt	32°
Bro.	Renato		Fernandez	32°
Bro.	Carl	D.	Fortune Sr.	32°
Bro.	Kyle	S.	Foster	32°
Bro.	Baltazar		Ramirez-Gatan	32°
Bro.	Gerald	H.	Geisler	32°
Bro.	Aaron	C.	Gent	32°
Bro.	Kenneth	L.	Gibson	32°
Bro.	Anthony	R.	Gomez	32°
Bro.	Richard	H.	Green	32°
Bro.	Alexander	K.	KaekaSr.	32°
Bro.	Martin	E.	Monk	32° KCCH
Bro.	Robert	D.	Nelson	32°
Bro.	Todd	A.	O'Day	32°
Bro.	Gary		Parker	32°
Bro.	Frank	A	Peskin	32°
Bro.	Michael	J.	Riley	32° KCCH
Bro.	Nathan	D.	Schepis	32°
Bro.	Robert	M.	Schreier	32°
Bro.	Larry	R.	Shank	32°
Ill.	Miles	R.	Stover	33°
Bro.	Julian	F.	Wheeler	32°
Bro.	Muriel	E.	Wright	32°

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: _____

BRETHREN, MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

THE 2027

GRAND MASTER'S YORK RITE CLASS

HONORING

M.W. CHRISTOPHER C. HAYNES,

GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF WASHINGTON

DATES: FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2027
AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2027

LOCATION: SEATTLE SCOTTISH RITE
(1207 N 152ND ST, SHORELINE, WA)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

REGISTRATION WILL SOON BE PUBLISHED
ON OUR WEBSITE: YORKRITEWA.ORG

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 8, 2027

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL THE
GRAND SECRETARY/GRAND RECORDER AT:
GYRWA@GYRWA.ORG

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.
Suport our Masonic Youth, especially those that meet in our building.

MEETINGS in September

Wednesday, September 2, 2026 - 6:30 PM

Wednesday, September 16, 2026 - 6:30 PM

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. If anyone is having issues in paying their dues, please contact our General Secretary.

Remember Life Membership is $1000.





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

An Active Valley Working to Support Freemasonry and our Community