

# *The Valley of Newport News Scottish Rite Quarterly Newsletter*



## **April - June 2019**

**Volume 7, Issue 2 Valley of Newport News, Orient of Virginia, AASR**

***Valley Personal Rep - Ill. Jack L. Smith, 33° IGH***

Greetings Brethren,

Brethren, as we move into the second quarter of the year, I am saddened to report the passing of our Valley Treasurer, Ill. Gerald Edward Burks, 33° IGH. Brother Burks served the Valley with distinction for many years and will be missed by all who knew him. Brother Richard Rawls, 32° KCCH, Assistant Treasurer, has been appointed by Ill. James Dean Cole, 33° SGIG in Virginia, to fill the position of Treasurer for the Valley of Newport News. Please join me in giving Brother Rawls our support and vote of confidence as he undertakes this most important and responsible position.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Orient Conference President, Brother Page Neale, 32° KCCH, for an excellent Conference Workshop held in the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, Richmond Virginia on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Valley of Newport News had 18 brethren in attendance; the program, food and fellowship were excellent and enjoyed by all.

As we move forward into the second quarter of the year, I would be remiss if I did not update you on the progress your Valley is making. Our handicap equipment Center is running at maximum capacity. Request for Handicap equipment is growing daily and often from long distances. There is no doubt that our services are appreciated and beneficial to the public. The Center is now under the umbrella of our Foundation and managed by Brother George Winslow, 32°. Unfortunately, Brother George has only one individual to assist him with equipment repairs, receiving and issuing equipment, etc. His assistant is a handicapped non-Mason who volunteered to assist in this public service activity. Brethren if you have a couple of hours a day, one to four days a week to contribute in support of the Center, we would be eternally grateful.

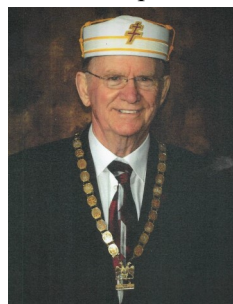
Our Facility Lighting Project is approximately 75% complete. Thanks to the dedicate efforts of Brother Leonard Mayo, 32° KCCH who has contributed his time and resources to making this effort possible. We have the parking lights to convert to LED lighting. This final phase will be contracted to an electrical company with the proper ground equipment to perform the task.

Our Facility Rental Program and other fund-raising activities under the direction of Brother Bruce Edwards, 32° KCCH, Assistant Personal Representative for the Valley, are doing exceptionally well. Rentals are increasing to a point where our operating Fund shortfall has been reduced significantly. Thanks to all who support our fund-raising activities.

In an effort to improve on our Reunion experiences, for both for the Candidates' as well as our members, we are modifying the time element for degree performance. Briefly, we are establishing a mid-week work night to confer the 4-14<sup>th</sup> Degrees, allowing the Candidates to participate in Lodge of Perfection activities while waiting on subsequent Degree scheduling. The 18<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> degrees to be performed by the Valley of Portsmouth in their Masonic Center as scheduled. The final Degree will be performed in the Valley of Newport News. The change will afford some flexibility for our Degree Teams and Candidates. We also intend to minimize the time frame between Reunions, rather than have a candidate wait six months between Reunions, we can and will schedule Degree conferrals as often as candidate availability dictates. Your support of this initiative is paramount for success. Our first work Night for our Reunion will be held on April 23, 2019.

In summary, our Valley is productive, harmony and fellowship are exceptional. I thank all for the team spirit and commitment to the betterment of our Fraternity.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
Ill. Jack L. Smith, 33° IGH



**Valley of Newport News**

**Ill. James D. Cole, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General of Virginia

**Ill. Jack L. Smith, 33° IGH**  
Personal Representative of the SGIG in Virginia

**Bro. Bruce L. Edwards, 32° KCCH**  
Assistant Personal Representative

**Ill. Adrian L. "Pete" Eure, 33° IGH**  
Secretary for the Valley of Newport News

**Bro. Steven F. Dowd, 32°**  
Assist. Secretary for the Valley of Newport News

**Bro. J. Richard Rawls, 32° KCCH**  
Treasurer for the Valley of Newport News

**Ill. Harold C. Joyner, 33° IGH**  
Almoner for the Valley of Newport News

**Bro. Page S. Neale, Jr., 32° KCCH**  
Chairman of the Trustees

**Newport News Lodge of Perfection**  
**Bro. J. Richard Rawls, 32° KCCH**  
Venerable Master

**Newport News Chapter of Rose Croix**  
**Bro. Bruce L. Edwards, 32° KCCH**  
Wise Master

**Newport News Council of Kadosh**  
**Bro. William Overbay, 32° KCCH**  
Commander

**Newport News Consistory**  
**Bro. J. Richard Rawls, 32° KCCH**  
Master of Kadosh

**Knights of St. Andrew**  
**Bro. Hilton Maney, 32°**  
Venerable Master

**Chartered October 12, 1912**

Our stated meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm. A deliciously prepared Dutch Treat dinner is served at 6:30pm prior to all meetings w/e of July & August. The Ladies of the Scottish Rite meet at all meetings w/e of the July & August Stated meetings.

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**Please support your Blue Lodge, your  
Scottish Rite and all other Masonic Bodies  
you are a member of.  
They all need your support.**

**Upcoming Activities**

**April 23**

Valley of Newport News SR Degree Conferral 6:30pm  
(4th-14th Degrees)

**April 24**

Valley of Newport News SR Stated Meeting  
Dinner at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:30pm

**April 30**

Knights of St. Andrew Annual Meeting at 7:00pm

**May 22**

Valley of Newport News SR Stated Meeting  
Dinner at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:30pm

**May 31, 2019**

Valley of Norfolk Gala "Beach Party"

**June 6, 2019**

17th Annual Ill. William M. Johnson, 33°  
Memorial Golf Tournament

**June 26**

Valley of Newport News SR Stated Meeting  
Dinner at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:30pm



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***Comments from the President of the 2019 Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia;  
Brother Page S. Neale, Jr. 32° KCCH***

Greetings Brethren:

The ninety-fifth annual meeting of the Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 27 and 28 at the Holiday Inn, Newport News - Hampton (formerly the Omni Hotel), located at 980 Omni Boulevard, Newport News, Virginia 23606, telephone number (757) 223-2110. With exception of the Thursday afternoon golf outing at Kiln Creek Golf Club and the KCCH Investiture which will be held at the Valley of Newport News Scottish Rite/Masonic Center on Saturday afternoon, all other Conference Activities will be held at the hotel.

A room block has been reserved for the Conference. Be reminded that each Valley/Brother is responsible for making reservations with the hotel for their required rooms. You may call the Holiday Inn Newport News-Hampton at (757) 223-2110 to make your reservation. Please refer to the **group code -SRC**. The cost per room is \$114.00 plus city and state taxes and a \$1.00 fee which brings the total to \$130.86 per night. The room block will be held until the cutoff date of August 25, 2019, at which time any rooms not reserved will be released.

Hospitality suites: there are four groupings of attached rooms which are sleeping rooms with the beds removed and have been assigned as follows:

Valley or Newport News	902-903-905-906
Valley of Norfolk/Portsmouth	910-911-912-914
Valley of Danville/Roanoke/Lynchburg	402-403-405-406
Valley of Richmond/Alexandria	416-417-418-420

A golf outing will be held at Kiln Creek Golf Course, 1003 Brick Kiln Blvd, Newport News, on Thursday afternoon preceding the Conference with tee time at 1:00 p.m. Lunch is on your own but they do have a nice Bistro across from the Pro Shop that sells great sandwiches and libations and is called "The Nest". The format will be Captains choice best ball and the fee for a round of golf with electric cart is \$35.00 per player and you will pay at the Pro Shop on the day of the outing. For registration, however, please contact Ill. Adrian (Pete) Eure, Newport News Valley Secretary (757) 599-6617 to be placed on the list of participants so that the Golf Pro can prepare accordingly. Please make your reservation no later than August 25, 2019 if at all possible.

Our Knights of Saint Andrew will be available on your arrival at the hotel to assist you with your luggage, registration, and getting you settled into your room.

The Valley attendance and meal registration form can be obtained from Ill. Adrian (Pete) Eure 33°, and must be completed and returned to him at 65 Saunders Road, Newport News, Virginia 23601, electronically or by regular mail, no later than August 25, 2019. Please enclose a check (made payable to the Newport News Scottish Rite) with your completed form to cover the cost of meals. Cancellations and/or additions for banquets and the Ladies Luncheon will be accepted until September 6, 2019. No refunds can be made for meals after that date. The cost of the dinner meal (per person) for Friday's banquet is \$37.00 and for Saturday's banquet is \$47.00. The Ladies Luncheon is \$23.00 each. Please include on your meal registration form, a listing of any dietary restrictions for your members/guests.

On behalf of the Officers and Members of the Valley of Newport News, I eagerly anticipate meeting and greeting all Conference attendees. We are looking forward to serving you and enjoying a great weekend of Masonic fellowship, education, entertainment, and fun.

With warmest fraternal regards,  
Page S. Neale, Jr. 32° KCCH  
2019 Conference President



***Valley Secretary - Ill. Adrian "Pete" Eure, 33<sup>o</sup> IGH***

Brethren,

I would like to thank the members who have paid their dues for 2019 and those who have paid delinquent dues. The Newport News Scottish Rite could not continue to operate, without your prompt payment of dues. Our last year was particularly successful because of the income we received from rentals. Brother Bruce Edwards, who handles our rentals, works overtime making sure our renters are treated justly and fairly. He has made many "friends" for the Newport News Scottish Rite. The many hours that Brother Edwards has given to the Newport News Scottish Rite cannot be measured. It is his devotion that has kept the Newport News Scottish Rite operating in the black. So, look at your dues card, if it does not have 2019 on it, please pay your dues. If you have any questions, about your dues, please call this office and let us assist you.

We just returned for the Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia Workshop in Richmond and our own Brother Page S. Neale, Jr., 32<sup>o</sup> KCCH, President of the Conference, conducted the meeting. Newport News Scottish Rite had 18 members present. The Workshop was a preview of the Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia to be chaired by Brother Neale. The Conference will be held in Newport News on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Holiday Inn – Newport News – Hampton. The Holiday Inn (formerly The Omni Hotel) is located at 980 Omni Boulevard, Newport News. We would like to encourage you to mark your calendars and plan to support Brother Neale and the Newport News Scottish Rite. More information will be coming. Contact this office for information concerning the Conference.

Our Assistant Secretary, Brother Steve Dowd's wife Patty fell and fractured her leg above the ankle and is at home recuperating. This office wishes Patty a quick recovery. Our prayers are for Patty and Steve.

This office also is praying for the family of Ill. Brother Gerald E. Burks, 33<sup>o</sup>, Treasurer for the Newport News Scottish Rite. Ill. Brother Burks passed away March 21<sup>st</sup>. We will miss him and all that he has done for the Newport News Scottish Rite. Please remember Brother Burks and his family in your prayers.

This office is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 9:00am to Noon, if we can be of assistance to you, please call us at 757-5909-6617.

Adrian "Pete" Eure, Secretary

***Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection - Bro. J. Richard Rawls, 32<sup>o</sup> KCCH***

Brethren,

The first quarter of the year has passed and with it, we have lost several members of the Valley to the Celestial Lodge Above. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers. We mourn the passing of Ill. Gerald Edward Burks, 33<sup>o</sup> IGH. He was a great ritualist, mentor, coach, source of financial information/assistance, friend and Brother. He will be missed by all.

The Valley of Newport News will be changing how we handle our Spring Reunion. We will confer the 4th-14th Degrees on Tuesday April 23rd, travel to the Valley of Portsmouth for the 18th & 30th Degrees on a date to be determined, and then return to the Valley of Newport News for the 32nd Degree on a date to be scheduled. This will allow our candidates to obtain their degrees sooner and allow them to participate in our Stated Meetings on the 14th Degree. Your help and support of this new format is very much appreciated.

Your help and support is requested of the Orient of Virginia Conference President, Bro. Page S. Neale, 32<sup>o</sup> KCCH, as he prepares for the Annual Conference which will be hosted by the Valley of Newport News. There is much work to be accomplished to provide a valuable conference for all attendees. Please reach out to Bro. Neale and offer your help. I feel certain that he would appreciate anything that you feel that you can do to help.

In general, the Valley of Newport News is looking forward to a busy and productive year and your participation in our efforts is appreciated. Thank you all for your support of the Valley of Newport News and I look forward to seeing you at our Stated Meetings, Degree work and special events.

Sincerely and Fraternaly, Richard





*Assistant to the Personal Representative*

*Bro. Bruce L. Edwards, 32° KCCH*

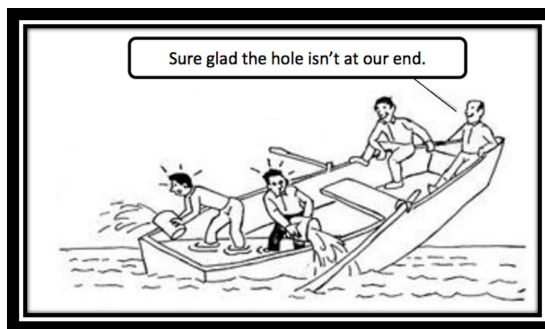
I would like to thank everyone who sold tickets and volunteered to help for the Virginia's Li'l Ole Opry performance Saturday, February 23rd. It was a great show and a successful fund-raiser for the Scottish Rite. If you missed it, you missed a good one!

I have included a flyer in this newsletter for Langley Raceway July 6<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebration. There will be Racin' & Fireworks. The Newport News Scottish Rite will be selling discount tickets for the race as a fund-raiser for our Valley. Please circulate the flyer to business, friends and family. If you would like to purchase tickets or help sell tickets please contact me or the office.

As you may notice our fund-raisers are open to the public, Masons and Non-Masons. Please be a participant, we need your help getting the word out, attending and helping to sell tickets.

Brethren, as many of you know your Scottish Rite facility is open for business Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. Come out and join us for a cup of coffee and volunteer a few hours each week or month. There is always something to do; work with the Golf Committee, building maintenance, hospital equipment, assemble the newsletter, event planning, kitchen help, lawn/grounds maintenance, VMAP, etc. We need your talents, work with us to support our Valley its great fellowship and fun.

Fraternally, Bruce



Brethren, it takes everyone to keep the boat afloat!!

*Golf Committee*

The 17th Annual Illustrious William M. Johnson, 33° Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on June 6, 2019 at the Riverfront Golf Club, 5200 River Club Drive, Suffolk, VA. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. As you know, this Tournament supports our Valley's Charity, the Language and Speech Center at Old Dominion University. If you have other golfing friends, please pass the word and encourage them to join us for a full day of fun, food and fellowship.

Contact the following for more information:

Richard Russell                      757-329-8517 (Cell)  
Page S. Neale, Jr.                      757-660-1158 (Cell)



*17th Annual Ill. William M. Johnson, 33<sup>o</sup> Memorial Golf Tournament*



# 17th Annual Ill. William M. Johnson, 33<sup>o</sup> Memorial Golf Tournament June 6, 2019

*Proceeds Benefit the Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Learning Center at Old Dominion University.*

**When:** June 6, 2019

**Where:** Riverfront Golf Club,  
5200 River Club Drive, Suffolk, VA

**Time:** 9:00am Shotgun Start

**Cost:** \$80 per player Fee includes Green Fees, Cart, Range Balls, and Dinner!

*Make checks payable and mail to:*  
Tidewater Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc.  
65 Saunders Road  
Newport News, VA 23601  
For Golf Course info visit:  
<http://www.riverfrontgolf.com>

*Helping Children Communicate*



**WHAT:** 2019 ANNUAL SCOTTISH RITE CONFERENCE OF VIRGINIA GOLF OUTING

**WHERE:** KILN CREEK GOLF COURSE  
1003 BRICK KILN BLVD., NEWPORT NEWS, VA.  
23602 PHONE: (757) 988-3212

**WHEN:** THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019  
TEE TIME: 1:00 P.M.

**LUNCH:** ON YOUR OWN; THERE IS A NICE BISTRO (THE NEST) LOCATED JUST ACROSS FROM THE PRO SHOP WITH GREAT SANDWICHES AND LIBATIONS.

**PRICE:** \$35.00 INCLUDES GREEN FEES AND CART: PAY AT THE CLUB HOUSE

CONTACT PETE EURE AT THE NEWPORT NEWS SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER AT (757) 599-6617 NO LATER THAN AUG. 25, 2019 TO ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST TO BE PROVIDED TO THE CLUB PRO.

***Americanism, Master Craftsman Program, VMAP******Bro. Brian Croteau 32<sup>o</sup> KCCH*****Americanism**

Scottish Rite honors high school JROTC and college ROTC cadets for their contributions to their programs for Americanism, patriotism, and service to the community. The Valley of Newport News provides awards to three local colleges and thirteen high school programs. Often the ceremonies cluster together, requiring several Scottish Rite or other Masons to serve as presenters for these awards. The cadets we meet are the very best from their respective programs, and their list of service, participation, and performance is always impressive. The Valley of Newport News works hand-in-hand with Langley-Monroe Chapter 310 of the National Sojourners to provide these awards.

**Master Craftsman Program**

The Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Program has three different courses to offer to enrich your understanding and appreciation of philosophy, and lessons of our degrees, the history of the Scottish Rite, and even the structure and meaning of our Blue Lodge degrees – Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason.

We have just started a new course with the March meeting on the History and Philosophy of the Scottish Rite, the Master Craftsman II course. It isn't too late to join us, and you can easily catch up. We meet before dinner on our regular meeting nights, in the Library/Conference Room. See our Valley Secretary or Brian Croteau for more information or to sign up.

**VMAP – Valley Membership Achievement Project**

The Valley of Newport News has enrolled in VMAP for 2019, our third year participating. We successfully accomplished the goals for our 2017 enrollment, missed by just a little bit for 2018, and are renewing the effort for 2019. I have agreed to act as VMAP Coordinator for the Valley, with a strong supporting “cast of characters.” Our efforts to secure new members, get former or absent members to return, to increase our activities to enrich our understanding of our work, and to improve the quality of what we do are things ALL of us can do. Your help may be the “missing piece” to secure success in a particular area. When you are called upon, will you step up and help us?

***Valley of Newport News Scottish Rite Ladies******Mrs. Pam Neale***

Just a note to tell you that we are busy doing things for the Scottish Rite Conference to be held on September 27th and 28th, 2019. Lots of crafts and things to do. Also, we will be having a Preakness Stakes Party at Page and Pam Neale's house on June 1<sup>st</sup> (more to come later). Also, we will be going to Old Dominion University Speech and Language Center to see where the children and adults with hearing and speech problems are taught. June 12<sup>th</sup> we will meet at the Valley and carpool. More details later, if you are a woman and interested in joining our group, please call Pam Neale at 757-865-1119. We meet every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday while the men are in their meeting.

***Valley of Newport News Scottish Rite Work Party******Bro. Vince Mundie, 32<sup>o</sup> KCCH***

April 6, 2019 – Please mark your calendars and come to the Valley of Newport News Scottish Rite to lend a hand sprucing up our property and grounds. We need to pick up limbs, work our flower beds and simply perform a general cleanup of our grounds. We will start at 8:00am and end at 12:00 noon. The more folks that can come out and help the quicker the job can be completed. Should we experience bad weather on April 6th, we will reschedule this activity.



*Valley of Newport News Fund-Raiser*

SATURDAY JULY 6, 2019  
CELEBRATE OUR INDEPENDENCE  
WITH  
RACIN & FIREWORKS



*2PM GATES OPEN | 4:30PM QUALIFYING | 7PM RACING*

*Super Streets / proVA Sprints / twin six / kratz*

**\$10 DISCOUNT TICKET**

*AVAILABLE BEFORE JULY 4TH*

*NEWPORT NEWS SCOTTISH RITE*

*TICKETS CONTACT: NNSR 757-599-6617*

# Newport News Scottish Rite

Valley of Newport News  
Orient of Virginia  
65 Saunders Road  
Newport News, Virginia 23601

**Return Service Requested**

Nonprofit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Newport News, Virginia  
Permit No. 54

*Bro. Victor Alan Shumaker, 32<sup>o</sup>*  
*December 8, 2018*

*Bro. Michael Steele Hawks, 32<sup>o</sup>*  
*February 3, 2019*

*Bro. James Wickham Smith, 32<sup>o</sup>*  
*March 21, 2019*

*Ill. Gerald Edward Burks, 33<sup>o</sup>*  
**IGH**  
*March 21, 2019*



**Our Departed  
Brethren  
Their spirit to God,  
their memory in  
our hearts.**