

# The Valley of Newport News Scottish Rite Quarterly Newsletter



**October - December 2022**

Volume 8, Issue 4 Valley of Newport News, Orient of Virginia, AASR



## WALK OF TERROR 2022

Oct 14, 15 & 16  
Oct 21, 22 & 23  
Oct 28, 29, 30  
....and Oct 31 !!

Fridays & Saturdays  
7pm - midnight  
Sundays & Halloween  
7pm - 10pm

65 Saunders Rd  
Newport News, VA  
[walkofterror.org](http://walkofterror.org)



# Valley Happenings

**Valley of Newport News**

- Ill. Janes D. Cole, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Commander
- Ill. Alan W. Adkins, 33°, GC**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
- Ill. Jack L. Smith, 33°, IGH**  
Personal Representative of the SGI in Virginia
- Ill. Bruce L. Edwards, 33°, IGH**  
Assistant Personal Representative
- Bro. Steven F. Dowd, 32°, KCCH**  
Secretary for the Valley of Newport News
- Ill. David A. Burkus, 33°, IGH**  
Assist. Secretary for the Valley of Newport News
- Ill. J. Richard Rawls, 33°, IGH**  
Treasurer for the Valley of Newport News
- Bro. Robert R. Jones, 32°, KCCH**  
Almoner for the Valley of Newport News
- Ill. Page S. Neale, Jr., 33°, IGH**  
Chairman of the Trustees
- Newport News Lodge of Perfection**  
**Ill William E. Rorer, Jr., 33°, IGH**  
Venerable Master
- Newport News Chapter of Rose Croix**  
**Bro. Patrick C. Murphrey, 32°, KCCH**  
Wise Master
- Newport News Council of Kadosh**  
**Ill. Page S. Neale, Jr., 33°, IGH**  
Commander
- Newport News Consistory**  
**Ill. William E. Rorer, Jr., 33°, IGH**  
Master of Kadosh
- Knights of St. Andrew**  
**Bro. Charles Thomas Dubose, 32°**  
Venerable Master

**Upcoming Activities**

- October 7-8**  
Orient of Virginia's Fall Conference in Virginia Beach
- October 14-16, 21-23, & 28-31**  
Walk of Terror 2022
- October 26**  
Valley of Newport News Stated Meeting  
Meeting at 7:30 PM (Dinner @ 6:30 PM)  
Speaker: Bro. M. Kent Brinkley, 32°, KCCH
- November 9**  
Valley of Newport News Stated Meeting  
Meeting at 7:30 PM (Dinner @ 6:30 PM)  
Speaker: TBD
- December 14**  
Valley of Newport News Stated Meeting  
Meeting at 7:30 PM (Dinner @ 6:30 PM)



Our stated meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM with the exception of meeting on the second Wednesday in November and December. A deliciously prepared Dutch Treat dinner is served at 6:30pm prior to all meetings.

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

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

Greetings Brethren,

We are now entering the 4th quarter of 2022. our Assistant Secretary and public relations chairman, Ill. David Burkus, 33°, IGH, is requesting articles and comments for our quarterly newsletters. I commend Ill. Burkus for his diligence in maintaining our website. It is my goal to keep you informed of your Valley's goals, objectives, and many activities currently being pursued throughout the valley.

We are presently in the process of setting up for our Haunted House fundraiser scheduled to commence on Oct 14 and be open on the last three weekends of October ending on Halloween night. This effort requires enormous support to, not only, construct the props, but to staff the nightly event. At present, there are positions available on many different nights. If you would like to participate in this event, please call Nancy Belew at 757.272.5671 and sign up. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Following the Haunted House fundraiser in October, our sausage sale will take place. If you have enjoyed our sausage in the past or if you are a new customer, we invite you to place your order in advance by calling Ill. Bruce Edwards, 33°, IGH, at the Valley's phone number: 757.599.6617.

Our third major fundraiser is our Golf Tournament held in June of each year. Our Golf Committee meets regularly, planning, and soliciting players well in advance of the event. If your forte is golf, then this is the place for you! The Committee would welcome you with open arms. Interested brethren should contact Ill. Page Neale, 33°, IGH, or Bro. Richard Russell, 32°, KCCH, Co-Chairman of this Committee.

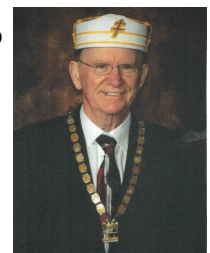
I have covered the three planned fundraisers presently utilized within the Valley. Unplanned events include Facility Rentals for wedding receptions, retirement & anniversary functions, Masonic Leadership events, etc... Reservations for this type of event are made by calling our Valley Planning Coordinator, Mrs. Nancy Belew at 757.272.5671.

In addition, our Community Medical Equipment Outreach Program continues to support the Community by loaning out Medical Equipment to those in need at no cost. Equipment includes wheelchairs, walkers, beds, crutches, canes, and many other items. The Valley Medical Equipment Center has loaned approximately over 200,000 dollars' worth of equipment each year. Our Center is manned by one individual, Bro. George Winslow, 32°, KCCH. Bro. Winslow is in dire need of manpower to assist with the daily operations of the Center. If you have some free time and would like to donate it to doing good for others, please contact Bro. George at 757.968.8815 or call the office at 757.599.6617.

Our Grounds Committee Chairman, Bro. Vince Mundie, 32°, KCCH, has informed me he will retire as chairman at the end of 2022. Bro. Robert Jones, 32°, KCCH, will remain as the sole grounds committee member, responsible for eight acres of grass cutting, plant trimming & grooming, tree maintenance, landscaping, mower maintenance, and many other activities. If you have an interest in staying young and healthy while experiencing the great outdoors as a team member, give Bro. Jones a call. Step up and be counted. Bro. Jones can be reached at 757.880.8749.

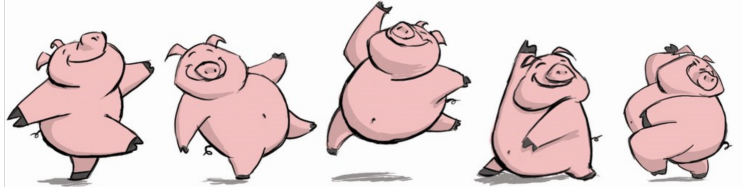
Brethren, in conclusion, these are just a few of the many activities undertaken to keep your Scottish Rite viable. We would like to have each of you become active in one of the many functions associated with your Valley. Enjoy the fellowship and comradery, while being a part of something greater than ourselves.

*Sincerely & fraternally,  
Ill. Jack L. Smith, 33°, IGH  
Valley Personal Representative*



Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation

# FRESH SAUSAGE SALE



Your choice: **Mild** or **Spicy**

Pick up orders November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>  
from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
65 Saunders Rd, Newport News  
PLACE ORDERS – 757-599-6617



This fundraising effort supports our Scottish Rite Charities:  
the Medical Equipment Center for the community  
and the ODU Childhood Speech and Learning Center



The Statement of Unity, signed by the Sovereign Grand Commanders of the Supreme Councils and United Supreme Councils of The United States of America: SGC James D. Cole, 33<sup>o</sup>, SJ, USA; SGC Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., 33<sup>o</sup>, USC, PHA, SJ, USA; SGC Peter J. Samiec, 33<sup>o</sup>, NMJ, USA; and SGC Dr. Melvin J. Bazemore, 33<sup>o</sup>, USC, PHA, NJ, USA, Inc.



*Assistant Valley Representative - Ill. Bruce L. Edwards, 33°, IGH*

Brethren,

As we are about to enter the fourth quarter of 2022, I hope every one of you are healthy, wealthy, and wise. Wealth can be measured in many ways. Financially, we have had a very rough year. With inflation rising, the stock market falling, and our 401K retirement savings falling in value; we are all faced with tough decisions. Decisions that are particularly hard, if you are on a fixed income or relying on your savings to supplement your income. As Masons, we are charged with being charitable to those in need. Many of us do this by contributing to a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. As you consider your finances at the end of 2022 and plan for 2023, please consider the Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation. As many of you know, we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Our Foundation helps support the Old Dominion Childhood Speech and Learning Facility (Rite Care) and our NNSR Medical Equipment Center. Our medical outreach program provides free, used, medical equipment to the community. In the first three quarters of 2022, we have provided about \$319,000 of equipment. This is an **OUTSTANDING** accomplishment for our Valley and Bro. George Winslow, 32°, KCCH, our medical equipment manager. Brethren, as we close out this year and look forward to 2023, please consider the Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation when making your charitable contributions.

We have two more major fundraisers for Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation this year. Our Haunted House, “**Walk of Terror**”, will be held October 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, and 31 (Halloween). The success of this event depends on us. It takes approximately 40 volunteers each night to operate the “Haunted House”. For the ten days, we will be open, that’s 2,000 manhours. Please go to [walkofterror.org](http://walkofterror.org) to volunteer and get more information. Maybe your children or grandchildren may want to be part of the fun. Please share our event on social media.

Our last fundraiser for the year will be our sausage grind and sale on November 16 and 17. This has always been a fun day with great fellowship. Please mark it on your calendars. We can use help making and selling sausage.

Brethren, it is always my pleasure to serve you and the Rite. Stop by any day to visit on Monday through Thursday (9:00 AM till noon), have a cup of coffee, and fellowship. I look forward to seeing you at our fundraisers and stated meetings.

*Sincerely & fraternally,  
Ill. Bruce L. Edwards, 33°, IGH  
Asst. Valley Personal Representative*





## Start Your Week With More Light In Masonry!

Each of our many Scottish Rite Degrees is full of symbolism and wisdom; too much to absorb at any one time. *Monday Morning Masonry* is a series of weekly emails that offers brief Scottish Rite reflections for the week, moving progressively through the degrees each week.

These emails will create a positive direction for your entire week by giving you a single Scottish Rite lesson to consider. There will also be exclusive extras and bonus features along the way. This program is **ONLY** for Scottish Rite Masons.

To sign up, simply fill out the [link](#) below and you will begin receiving your emails on Monday!

<https://sms.scottishrite.org/MMM>



*Valley Secretary - Bro. Steve F. Dowd, 32°, KCCH*

First off, I want to welcome Ill. Dave Burkus, 33°, IGH, to the office. He agreed to come on board as the Assistant Secretary in May and has been doing a tremendous job. Ill. Dave has taken over the Valley and Orient webpages, reinstated the document you are reading, and is leading the efforts in the kitchen, just to name a few things.

This year has gone by so fast and now we are looking at “dues” time. Membership cards, along with dues notices, were mailed to you by Supreme Council in early September. I would like to thank those who have already mailed in their 2023 dues payments and encourage others to send in their 2023 dues prior to December 31, 2022. If you have any questions concerning your dues, please contact myself or Ill. Dave, so we can either help you or correct any mistakes in your dues. Remember, without your dues, the Newport News Scottish Rite could not function. Again, thank you for paying your dues, before December 31st.

Those of you who are LMIP or 50 Year members, you should have received a letter from Ill. James Dean Cole, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, with your dues card showing a zero balance. This was done to give you a chance to donate to our Building Fund, the Almoner’s Fund, or the Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation.

Speaking of the Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation (our 501(c)(3) non-profit organization), it supports and enhances the Hampton Roads community in which we live. The Valley Foundation’s philanthropic endeavors include the Scottish Rite Childhood Speech & Language Program (SRCLP) locally operated at Old Dominion University (ODU), and the Valley’s Medical Equipment Center, here at the Masonic Center. As the end of the tax year approaches, please consider the Newport News Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc, as a recipient for potential 401K / IRA Mandatory Distributions. For additional information on Planned Giving, see our website at: <https://www.nnscottishrite.org/planned-giving>

The Scottish Rite office is opened, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:00 AM to Noon. Our office phone number is 757-599-6617 and e-mail is: [nnsrtemple65@gmail.com](mailto:nnsrtemple65@gmail.com).

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for your support this year as I am learning all the intricacies of being a Valley Secretary.

*Sincerely,  
Bro. Steve F. Dowd, 32°, KCCH  
General Secretary of the Four Bodies*



*Conference Vice President - Ill. J. Richard Rawls, 33°, IGH*

The 2022 Annual Conference of the Orient of Virginia was held on October 7-8 in Virginia Beach and was hosted by the Valley of Norfolk. Attendance was good considering we are still coming out of the COVID-19 Pandemic. It was my impression that everyone had a good time and enjoyed seeing each other.

Probably the best discussions occurred outside the meetings and during the evening socials. Various presentations were provided all addressing membership of the Scottish Rite. As membership levels have dropped over the years, it is important we direct our focus on our current members and reach out to prospective new members. A good time was had by all who attended and if you were not able to attend, I would suggest you strongly consider attending in future years.

Several Orient of Virginia dates for you to mark on your 2023 calendars include:

**Orient of Virginia Scottish Rite Spring Workshop:** March 25, 2023, at the Acca Shrine Temple in Richmond.

**Orient of Virginia Scottish Rite Conference:** September 28-30, 2023, at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria, VA.

As more information is provided, I will do all I can to keep you informed. Again, thanks to all the members of the Valley of Newport News who were able to attend the recent Orient of Virginia Conference in Virginia Beach.

Fraternally,

*J. Richard Rawls, 33°, IGH  
Conference Vice President*





***The Key***  
***By Bro. Gerald L. Frey, 32°, KCCH***  
***(Presented at our September meeting)***

This evening it was suggested that the topic should be education, more pointedly, Scottish Rite education. Within Scottish Rite Masonry, we are by far and away the best served of any of the other bodies with education, resources, and Mentors. They start from the top and if we work with them, they, work for us.

There is no other organization that makes available such a breadth of material than the Scottish Rite. This is likely due to their professional staff and dedication to scholarship. This scholarship is not inclusive alone, any type of Masonic occurrence or development is studied in several different manners. We also receive the benefit of updates and revisions, while other bodies are regrettably slow to accomplish the same.

Here is the sticking point. Every Masonic survey tells us there are two things Masons want: number one is fellowship and close behind is number two which is education. Some say feed them and they will come. Perhaps we might add, if you educate them, they will stay. It may seem obvious that we will make better, more long-lasting decisions if we have the facts. Again, the feeding has to be appetizing. Just as our stomachs have a capacity for hunger, being full, and being too full, so do some of the other parts of the body, when it comes to learning. Sitting too long and not having ideas of relevance can keep the mind from comprehending the message.

Having an opportunity to reference the “old” and to some, the outmoded books of our past Scottish Rite leaders, they all say the same; WITHOUT EDUCATION THERE CAN BE NO DEDICATION. Inevitably, it follows that THERE IS NOTHING MORE EXPENSIVE THAN IGNORANCE. The author of these simple phrases makes this prediction, “Unless there is a drastic change within the Craft there will be no recognizable Freemasonry,” so says Allen Roberts. Others have echoed these sentiments for generations.

It is not for lack of Masonic material, more specifically Scottish Rite material that members drift off, however, it is often the lack of information about our Rite that makes them wonder what is the use and purpose. Some indicate it is obvious by all of the good and great things we do for our communities and charities. Here the point is missed. For many of the years, I have been a Mason I could not explain how to get into the Masonic Home. Obvious? Hardly, this last blast of correspondence and their required reading in each Lodge proves the point from a Past Grand Master to the Lodge to individual Masons. It was not clear. Right Worshipful John Malliarakis has given the finest explanation I have ever heard in a compelling and thoughtful way. If our Crown Jewel cannot be understood, care should be taken to make it clear. If our ritual is, to some, a word salad, care should be taken to make it clear. And if Scottish Rite membership is unclear about what and who we are, special care should be taken to make it clear.

Who is to blame? Everyone and no one. Truth be told, education, learning, and teaching require effort, and yes, commitment. Our efforts are to take the remarkable resources available to Scottish Rite Masons and maximize them whenever possible. Sometimes during our meetings, a short reading or program would fill the “dead time.” Then there are those periods between degrees that we have time to do more than just stretch our legs for brief talks and discussions on our Rite.

With Masonic education the Craft often seems to be spinning one of the great game show roulette wheels, trying the latest in a long line of methodologies, each new, improved, modern, and of the age. When it comes to Scottish Rite masonry it is easy to overlook that this is adult education. Sound too academic? Adults learn differently than children for a variety of reasons: experiences, occupations, changing careers, relationships, etc. And straight lesson plans require more or perhaps less depending upon your point of view when it comes to adult

***Continued on Page 10***

***The Key***  
***By Bro. Gerald L. Frey, 32°, KCCH***  
***(Continued from Page 9)***

The word “team” might not have an “I” in it but almost everything in education does (history, science, mathematics, English, philosophy, and, yes, ritual, etc.). For all of us, education is a personal expansion, or should be distinct and a conscience decision to learn about the Fraternity. However, that is only the first step in Masonic education. Next is selecting from an array of materials, some being formal (correspondence courses) and others self-directed. Why wide array? For those that undertake the self-directed way, and at some point, you will if you choose to advance in the knowledge of yourself and Masonry’s many facets.

Let us begin with the formal pathway, which courses do you choose from? Scottish Rite Master Builder program comes to mind, which is new and improved. Before these courses were developed there was and is the Scottish Rite Research Society with both the *Plumblin*, *Heredom*, and the *Scottish Rite Journal* (book reviews), and several other publications either directly or indirectly managed by the Supreme Council. Not a dud in the bunch.

What then is the solution? Could it be as simple as feeding them and they will come, education and they will stay? I firmly believe this to be true. To add to this belief, it is how we make good men better. If the Masonry needs a key to move forward successfully rather than simply survive, our Scottish Rite has that key.



On September 23 and 24, 2022, the Valleys of Newport News and Portsmouth held a joint Fall Reunion for new candidates. The Reunion was held in honor of Illustrious Billy Maurice Brady, 33°, IGH, who passed away on April 29, 2022.

Our Valley brought in three new members: Brothers Carlin Drew Carpenter, Jimmy Joe Frurear, and Clifton Michael Trinidad.

# The Scottish Rite Double Headed Eagle



The symbol most widely recognized by Scottish Rite Masonry is the Double-Headed Eagle of Lagash. It is one of the oldest Royal Crests in existence. This symbol has been in use at least a thousand years before the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt and more than 2,000 years before the building of King Solomon's Temple

Records indicate that in the early days of modern Freemasonry, the Double-Headed Eagle was first used around 1758 by a Masonic body in Paris. That Masonic body was known as "The Emperors of the East and West" and controlled the advanced Degrees then in use. These degrees became a precursor of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

Our Double-Headed Eagle features the orange-ribboned motto, pendant from the hilt of the sword to the point, and displays the Latin "**SPES MEA IN DEO EST**", which translates "My Hope Is in God". As a Scottish Rite Mason, you will recognize this phrase from the lessons taught in the 31°.

Generally, the symbolic meaning of this symbol in the Scottish Rite is that of duality contained in or resolving itself, in unity. Among other things, it reminds us that as a man we are composed of both body and spirit, that he is both temporary and eternal; that both good and evil exist in the world, and we must perpetually espouse good while opposing evil. It also reminds us knowledge comes both from study and insight, and our obligations are both to ourselves and to others; that both faith and reason are necessary.

*Editor's Comments*

The Valley has been very busy this past summer. Most of it seems like it is related to our “Walk of Terror” Fundraiser, which is starting this Friday (October 14th) at 7:00 PM. Many people have spent lots of hours working on the building and setting up of the “House”. I love the entrance into the “Hall of Clowns”.

We have been lucky to have our Sovereign Grand Inspector General (SGIG), Ill. and M. W. Alan Wayne Adkins, 33°, GC, visit during the June stated. He presented a very informative program on the status of the Scottish Rite in the Orient of Virginia. In August, we were very honored to have the Supreme Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, USA, Southern Jurisdiction, Ill. And M.W. James Dean Cole, 33°, visit and present a program on the status of the Scottish Rite around the world. The Southern Jurisdiction is considered the “Mother” Lodge of the Scottish Rite throughout the world and about 75 Supreme Councils fall under its guidance for recognition and disputes.

Now that the COVID-19 pandemic is pretty much over and we are having meals again before our meetings, we are hoping maybe we can get our Newport News Scottish Rite Ladies to form up again. We are inviting all members to bring their wives to our next meeting on October 26 to have dinner with their husbands. You never know what can happen.

Planned meals will be centered around:

- October – Country Fried Steak
- November – Pork Loin
- December – Steak and baked potatoes (or mashed potatoes)

Plans are being made to have a workday on a weekend in November to spruce up our grounds with raking leaves and various other items. We plan on starting at 9:00 AM with coffee and donuts at 8:30 AM. The tentative days are Friday, November 25 (Black Friday) and Saturday, November 26. Hopefully, we can get most of it accomplished.



Ill. James Dean Cole, 33° SGC, Ill. Alan W. Adkins, 33°, GC, SGIG in VA, and Ill. Clifford A. “Skip” Parker, 33°, IGH.



Entrance to the Clown Alley



# STATEMENT OF UNITY

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

The Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction; United Supreme Council, 33°, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA; the Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction; and the United Supreme Council, 33°, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction of the USA, in unity and harmony, declare the following statement of principles.

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry began in 1801 in Charleston, South Carolina. Our Councils recognize one another as the sole and legitimate conservators of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite within our recognized jurisdictions, which together compose the entirety of all lawful and recognized Scottish Rite activity within the United States of America and its territories.

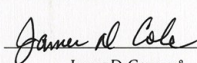
We agree that the Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry were founded as appendant bodies of symbolic Masonic Lodges. These Lodges are chartered and governed by their applicable Grand Lodge. Each of our members are, and must remain, members in good standing in a Lodge existing within a recognized Grand Lodge. Our organizations believe that Masonic principles as identified through Grand Lodges are foundational, not merely optional, principles upon which we build to provide further light.

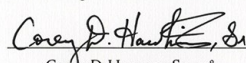
We agree and affirm that the local rules governing visitation among our Bodies and all membership activity shall be in accordance with the rules established by the applicable, recognized Grand Lodge within the state or territory.

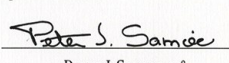
We agree and affirm that no other Supreme Council may be recognized or legitimately exist within the United States of America without the proper recognition of one or more of our Supreme Councils, in accordance with our rules and procedures for fraternal recognition.

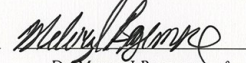
We pledge ourselves to support one another in the cause of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, that our members may enjoy the benefits of our kind and gentle craft and the world at large may be convinced of its good effects.

In token thereof, we affix our signatures as the Sovereign Grand Commanders of our Supreme Councils.

  
 JAMES D. COLE, 33°  
 Sovereign Grand Commander  
 Supreme Council, 33°  
 Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, SJ

  
 CORY D. HAWKINS SR., 33°  
 Sovereign Grand Commander  
 USC, 33°, A&ASR of Freemasonry  
 PHA, SJ, USA

  
 PETER J. SAMIEC, 33°  
 Sovereign Grand Commander  
 Supreme Council, 33°  
 Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, NMJ

  
 DR. MELVIN J. BAZEMORE, 33°  
 Sovereign Grand Commander  
 United Supreme Council, 33°, A&ASR  
 (PHA) NJ, USA, Inc.



**Bro. Arizona White, 32°**  
*August 7, 2020*

**Bro. Herbert Preston Belvin, Jr, 32°**  
*February 21, 2021*

**Bro. Charles Hubert Capps, 32°**  
*June 12, 2021*

**Bro. Louis Joseph Richman, 32°**  
*November 3, 2021*

**Bro. Julian Rudolph Roberson, 32°**  
*January 1, 2022*

**Bro. James Grant Wilson, Jr., 32°**  
*April 3, 2022*

**Bro. Herbert William Wright, 32°**  
*July 3, 2022*

**Bro. Edward Keith Winder, 32° KCCH**  
*August 19, 2022*

**Bro. Edward Van Wilson, 32°, KCCH**  
*October 11, 2022*



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