

# 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2018 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: SCOT SAGESER, KCCH, ASST. JOHN LAMBERT 32ND



**VALLEY OF BREMERTON, SCOTTISH RITE, AASR**

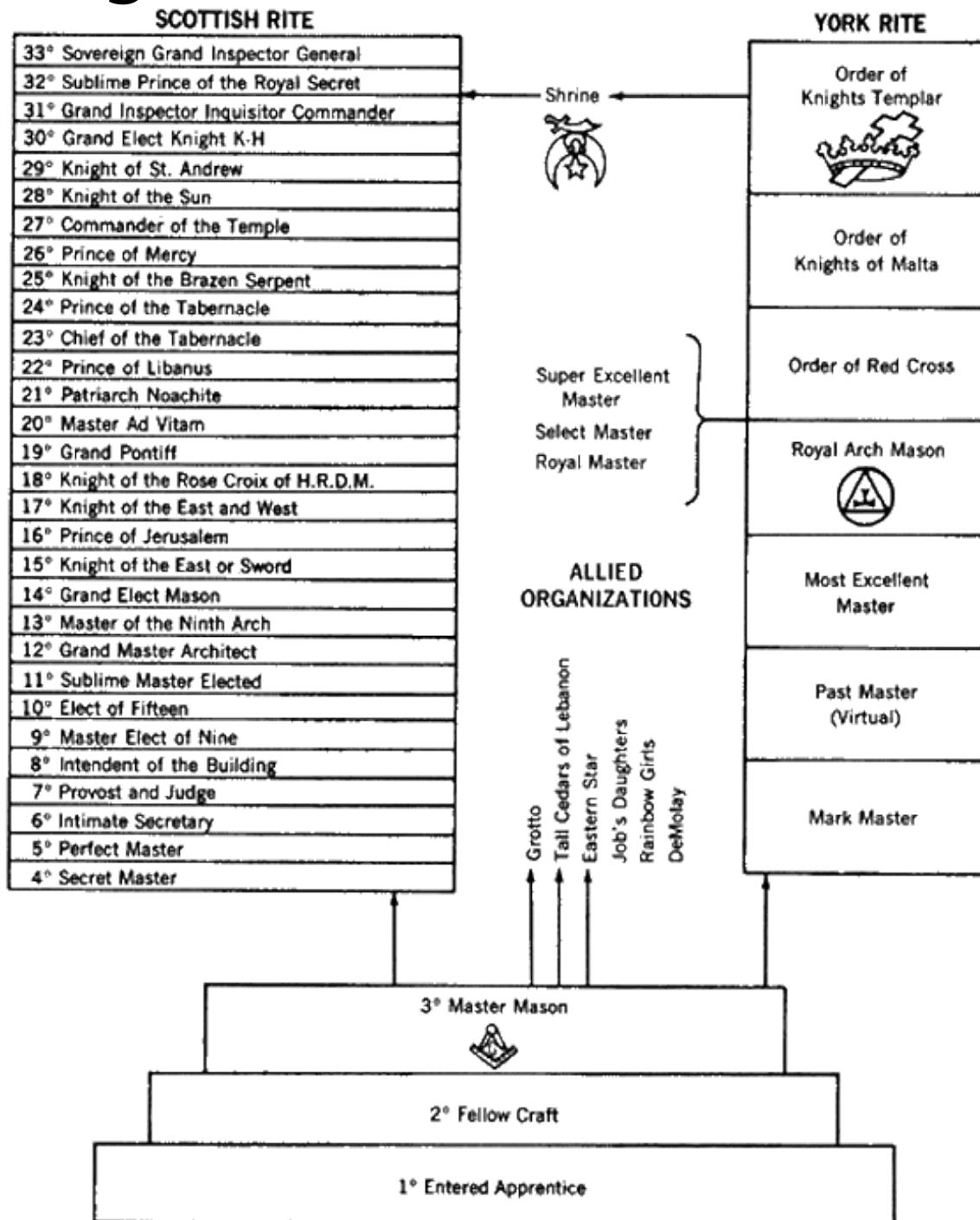
## Let the Degree's Begin!



4<sup>th</sup> Degree March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Illustrious James N. Reid Jr. 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Personal Representative

# Degree's of the Rite's



*The Masonic structure.*

# Prelate's Thoughts



Brothers,

As we are beginning the process of transitioning from winter to an expectant spring, I would remind you to remember those less fortunate within our community. We are enjoined to not only to say a quick prayer for those down on their luck, but also to actively participate within our communities to help those in need. I would remind you that these acts of kindness and benevolence are the actions that are part of our mandate as Mason's. I would encourage you to be an active participant in the necessary work within your community to make life a better place to be for all.

Ill. Richard L. Dexter 33<sup>rd</sup> IGH

# VALLEY NEWS!!

**THE VALLEY'S HONORED MEN FOR CURRENT BIENNIAL:**

*BR. TOM DANGELO- 33<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE HONORS*

*BR. WILLIAM HUBBARD - KCCH*

*BR. JAMES KENDALL - KCCH*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE FINE MEN!!**



**THE VALLEY COMES TO LIGHT** ON March 7<sup>th</sup> WITH OUR Stated Meeting for the Month of March, Dinner 6:30pm/Lodge 7:30 pm



Spring REUNION STARTS ON March 21<sup>st</sup> WITH THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE, DINNER AT 6:30, PRE DEGREE AT 7PM



**BREMERTON VALLEY WILL START NEW CLINIC WITH EARLY LIFE SPEECH AND LANGUAGE IN BREMER TON IN 2018!!! STILL MUCH WORK TO DO CONTACT RICHARD MASCH TO VOLUNTEER.**



**VALLEY OF BREMER TON VMAP CHAIRMAN SCOT SAGESER, KCCH, SELECTED TO SERVE ON THE SUPREME COUNCIL VMAP COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON D.C., CONGRATS SCOT!!!**



**BREMERTON VALLEY TO EXPAND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PARTNERING WITH STATE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION.**

# Were Looking for a Few



# Good Masons!!

Contact Robert Gunther [gunthers27@gmail.com](mailto:gunthers27@gmail.com) 206-782-8081

Contact Valley Secretary, Chuck Compton 360-981-7689

[sectybvsr@gmail.com](mailto:sectybvsr@gmail.com)

## If You Are Not a Mason

Before you can join the Scottish Rite, you first must become a Master Mason in a Lodge under a Grand Lodge that belongs to the Conference of Grand Masters in North America (COGMINA) or to a Grand Lodge *recognized* by a COGMINA Grand Lodge. For further information, contact [your local Scottish Rite Body](#) who can in turn assist you in finding the Masonic lodge nearest you.

## If You Are a Blue Lodge Mason

### Interested in Learning about More Light in Masonry?

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is commonly known as the *Scottish Rite*. It is one of several groups that are part of the worldwide fraternity known as Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite is the largest and most widely practiced Masonic Rite in the world and employs a Lodge system.

It is our mission to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

## There is a lot More.

While there is no Masonic degree more important than that of Master Mason, there is a long tradition—almost as old as Freemasonry—of “high degrees” that expand upon and elaborate the teachings and lessons of the first three degrees. The Scottish Rite degrees teach a series of moral lessons culminating in the 32°, Master of the Royal Secret. The Scottish Rite continues a Master Mason’s education in many ways:

- 4°-32° Degree work
- Speakers at meetings
- Leadership conferences
- [Scottish Rite Journal](#)
- Publishing Masonic books
- [Scottish Rite Research Society](#)
- 

## To join the Scottish Rite you must:

- be a Master Mason in good standing in a regular lodge;
- complete a petition and include the appropriate fee;
- attend a “Reunion” where the Scottish Rite Degrees are conferred.
- 

## What are Supreme Council, Orients, and Valleys?

The governing body of the Scottish Rite is the Supreme Council. It is composed of active and deputy members of the 35 states and several overseas jurisdictions that make up the Southern Jurisdiction. Each state or jurisdiction that belongs to the Southern Jurisdiction is called an Orient. The local Scottish Rite body is called a Valley. Each Valley has up to four Scottish Rite bodies, and each body confers a set of degrees in the Southern Jurisdiction these are:

- Lodge of Perfection (4°–14°)
- Chapter of Rose Croix (15°–18°)
- Council of Kadosh (19°–30°)
- Consistory (31°–32°).

# VALLEY MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT PROJECT (VMAP)



## • 2018 WORKBOOK •

REVISED: 11/01/2017

Valley of \_\_\_\_\_

The Supreme Council, 33°  
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry  
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

## Meetings and Workshops



## 2018 Scottish Rite Workshops

ALL Scottish Rite Masons are invited and encouraged to attend these workshops.

We will update this page as information becomes available. Please follow [our Scottish Rite Twitter & Facebook accounts](#) (#2018SRWorkshops) for the latest news & updates.

### Dates & Locations

- **March 23–24** | Seattle, WA
- **April 6–7** | Omaha, NE
- **April 20–21** | Atlanta, GA

### Registration

**Online registration is OPEN!**

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

VMAP Q & A





## Master Craftsman Promotes Further Light

Brethren, several members of the Valley have recently completed the Supreme Council's "Master Craftsman: Symbolic Lodge" self-study program, I must say the results have been impressive.

There are three segments to the Master Craftsman series, and those of us who have taken part to any degree are looking forward to our continuing studies this coming fall. Brother Hank Carmen has taken the lead on this study effort, and he is doing a great job getting us together at least monthly for open discussion and materials review. We have been doing this virtually at no cost to the participants. We hope to repeat this year's study next fall, perhaps by holding study sessions in various parts of our Valley which will be selected based on interest. The "Symbolic Lodge" study is based on the relatively recent publication of Pike's "Esoterika", Pike's account of the symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry. Pike wrote the text anticipating his death and his concern that his ideas should continue to enlighten the Craft well into the future. Indeed, all of us who participate in the study-either in the groups or as individuals-have come away with a much clearer understanding of Masonic symbolism as related to the first three (or should I say, two?) degrees of our Fraternity. More on this later, Brethren. As Brother Hank puts his plans in place for next fall, you will receive notice of when and where to be.

On a related topic, there were two topics covered in "Esoterika" that are of particular interest to Scottish Rite Masons, the origins of the legend of Hiram Abiff (the emergence of the third degree in Freemasonry); and the 47<sup>th</sup> Problem of Euclid as a component of Masonic symbolism. Our studies of these topics were both informative and challenging. I was therefore particularly pleased when I received the most recent "Transactions" of Walter F. Meier Lodge of Research No. 281 (Vol. 22, 2015) and discovered two closely related articles. The first is a study by Ill. Brother Brian Thomas entitled, "The 47<sup>th</sup> Problem of Euclid-Why is it use as Masonic symbol?". The second is an article by Ill. Bro. Richard Novak entitled "The Origin and Genesis of the Hiram Abiff Drama in the Master Mason Degree". You may remember Brother Novak who portrayed Robert the Bruce for our Valley last year. Both of these articles were well worth a close reading, and I recommend them to you.

Copies of the Walter F. Meier Transactions, especially volume 22, are available in the Masonic Library at 5<sup>th</sup> and Warren. If you are a member of Walter F. Meier Lodge, you have already received your own copy of this volume and I would ask you to do two things: first, read these two articles as well as Pike's topical studies in "Esoterika". Second, make your copy of the Transactions available at our stated meetings in August or September. This will prove to be very special reading. Let me know what you think.

**Ill Jimmy Reid, 33<sup>rd</sup> IGH Personal Representative.**



# Degree's of the Scottish Rite



PLEASE SEE THE CALENDAR AT [WWW.BREMERTONVALLEYSR.ORG](http://WWW.BREMERTONVALLEYSR.ORG)



# SCOTTISH RITE DEGREE'S

The Spring Reunion Starts March 21st!!!

**THE GATHERING OF THE KNIGHTS**

Want to know more??

Contact VMAP & PR Chair: Scot Sageser 360-525-0029 or visit

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

[Email: ssageser@gmail.com](mailto:ssageser@gmail.com)

# TAKE THE SCOTTISH RITE DEGREE'S

[\(It's the further light in Masonry you've heard about\)](#)



## BREMERTON TO OPEN NEW CLINIC IN 2018!!

### *THE THERAPY FOR CHILDREN AGES 2-7*

Early Life Speech & Language provides research-based [speech therapy](#) for children and toddlers aged two to seven who exhibit communication delays. Our free, 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. We work with kids who are not meeting specific [speech and language developmental milestones](#). Formerly known as RiteCare of Washington, Early Life Speech & Language has been providing clinical services for children in Seattle, Spokane and other locations in Washington state for more than 30 years, with the generous support of [Scottish Rite Masons](#) and our community of donors.

**CONTACT ANGELIQUE LEONE- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR @ 206-324-6293 CELL 425-377-6066**  
**[www.ritecarewa.org](http://www.ritecarewa.org) email: [aleone@ritecarewa.org](mailto:aleone@ritecarewa.org)**

**CONTACT RICHARD MASCH 360-471-7972**



Contact Brother Scot Sageser: 360-525-0029

or

visit [www.srsfwa.org](http://www.srsfwa.org)

Bremerton Valley is Expanding our Local  
Scholarship Program in partnership with  
SRSFWA!!

**DID YOU KNOW???**  
**SRSFWA GRANTS OVER**  
**\$400,000 IN**  
**SCHOLARSHIPS**  
**ANNUALLY!!!**

# Master Craftsman Program



SCOTTISH+RITE  
MASTER+CRAFTSMAN

## HANK CARMAN, CHAIRMAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### Overview

The Scottish Rite Master Craftsman (SRMC) program is an exciting, by-mail correspondence course designed and administered by staff at the House of the Temple in Washington, DC, under the guidance and leadership of the Supreme Council, 33°, of the A&A Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, USA. Upon completion of each program listed below, the participant will be rewarded with a medal or pins to denote multiple completions. Currently, there are three programs that are meant to be taken in the following order:

- **Program I: *The Symbolic Lodge*** will familiarize students with aspects of the development of Blue Lodge Masonry and explore some of its developing symbolism. This will reveal that the “High Degrees” began to develop soon after formation of the Premier Grand Lodge (1717). Albert Pike’s book, *Esoterika: The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry*, along with Arturo de Hoyos’s *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide* (3d ed.) will be used to demonstrate a rational and philosophical interpretation for much of what is found in Craft Masonry.
- **Program II: *Scottish Rite Ritual and History*** consists of six lessons, utilizing the *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide* by Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, Grand Cross, and *A Bridge to Light* (4th ed.) by Rex Hutchens, 33°, Grand Cross, as its textbooks.
- **Program III: *Scottish Rite Philosophy*** uses *Albert Pike’s Morals & Dogma, Annotated Edition*, by Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, Grand Cross and returns to the ritual of the Scottish Rite to re-explore it on a deeper level, by looking for the moral lesson imparted in each degree and then applying that lesson to one’s everyday life. The course consists of 33 quizzes, grouped into 10 sections

# Suggested Order of Programs and Their Associated Texts

1. **Master Craftsman: The Symbolic Lodge**  
(1°, 2°, 3°, using *Albert Pike's Esoterika: The Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry*)
2. **Master Craftsman: Scottish Rite History and Ritual**  
(4°–32°, using the *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor & Guide* and *A Bridge to Light*)
3. **Master Craftsman: Scottish Rite Philosophy**  
(1°–32°, using *Morals and Dogma* and *A Bridge to Light*)

## Master Craftsman Group Study

A group setting is far and away the best way to learn and experience all that these programs have to offer. This is simply because Freemasonry is not a solitary pursuit, but rather a social experience — we gather in Lodges together for a reason! In fact, social engagement while finding more light in Masonry can be (and often is) more rewarding than simply answering some questions about a reading assignment. This is because you are learning not only about yourself through the ritual and its symbolism, but about others and their unique relationship to the deep philosophies and mysteries that are contained in the material, too. A group can be as big or as small as you like. There are no minimum requirements to start a study group, and anyone can be the catalyst that starts one up. You also set the pace. Go as fast, or as slow as you would like. You can meet once a week or once a month. Your schedules will dictate the best calendar. It can also be as formal or as casual as you'd like. Does there need to be set meeting dates, or will you meet whenever everyone has finished the next reading assignment/quiz? Your meeting place can be someone's house, a conference room, or a comfortable booth in the neighborhood diner or tavern. The key with all of this is to have fun, and to engage each other about the meanings of Freemasonry and life itself. In fact, using that goal, finishing the programs becomes a distant second to connecting with other people who have similar interests and learning through more about each other through the shared experience of conversation and fellowship. To help the interested group seeker or leader, we have put together a short Group Leader Guide that helps navigate the logistics and details of forming a study group. If you are interested in this, please contact us and we will be happy to share it with you free of charge, and to assist you in any way we can with the formation and operation of your own study group.

## Questions about the Program?

**Contact Brother Hank Carman 360-731-6620**

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