



# VALLEY OF BREMERTON, SCOTTISH RITE, AASR Gathering of the Knights

# Spring Reunion Degree Ceremony 2017

# Saturday's in May- May 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>



# Will you join us?

# How to Join the Rite

Contact Bill Hubbard, Membership Chair, 360-316-9237 email hubbardcrew@msn.com

Contact Valley Secretary, Chuck Compton 360-981-7689

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

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#### 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  $(31^\circ 32^\circ)$ .

The Supreme Council confers the 33rd Degree of Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

### Contact Us

For More Information about Joining the Scottish Rite

www.bremertonvalleysr.org

www.scottishrite.org



## **Feast of Remembrance and Renewal**

Brethren,

This month, at the second Wednesday in April, the Bremerton Valley of the Scottish Rite will be celebrating one of the more important events of our Scottish Rite year, the Feast of Remembrance and Renewal. It will begin at 6 PM on Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6 PM in the small lodge room. We will call to order and close the Chapter of Rose Croix and then retire to the banquet hall to celebrate the Mystic Banquet for this year. This will be followed by the ceremonies of Tenebrae and Lux, during which we will remember our Brethren who have passed from our midst this past year. The Knights present will then retire to open the Chapter of Rose Croix and then call refreshment.

This is lot of activity, but much of it will include our friends and members of our family who may choose to join us. To our Jewish Brethren, the Mystic Banquet alludes to the Feast of the Passover when the Angel of Death "passed over" the first born of the children of Israel in exile in Egypt. To our Christian Brother this may remind us of the sacrifice of the Messiah who gave his life to save us all. To all of us as Knights Rose it is at least an obligatory sharing of bread and a roasted lamb as we remember those who have gone to rest and those whom we would seek to advance in our purposes as Scottish Rite Masons.

Brethren, please make this a priority. While the ceremonies are no longer mandatory, they are none the less highly encouraged as part of your commitment. I look forward to seeing you as we renew the purposes of our Order in your life and in mine.

Thanks Jimmy Reid, Personal Representative

# Prelate's Thoughts



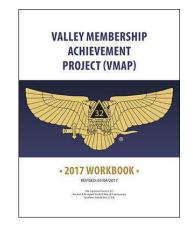
Brethren as we continue through Lent leading to the Resurrection of the Christian Saviour, Jesus Christ, we need to think of the inevitability our own death and how we would like to be remembered at that coming point in our own personal journey.

During the upcoming Feast of Tishri there is a time of Remembrance dedicated to the Scottish Rite brothers who have passed away in the preceding year. This is a time for reflection about our distinguished brothers upon whom our foundation as a Fraternity is built.

During the Feast of Tishri, we will be observing the Rose Croix Funeral Service, which is dedicated to these Brothers who have passed beyond the veil. This is one of the most beautiful but profoundly simple services that you will ever see. It is recommended all Brothers to be sure to attend the Feast of Tishri so that they may participate and observe this solemn ceremony of our Rite.

Finally, please remember that all Scottish Rite Brothers are entitled to this ceremony but it is important that you make it known to your family. The Rose Croix funeral team will do all in our power to make sure this happens for you as well upon your passing through the eternal veil.

#### Richard L. Dexter, 33, IGH, Prelate, Valley of Bremerton Scottish Rite.





# Scot Sageser, KCCH, Chairman VMAP



VMAP Working Tools Your Guide to News & Best Practices

### VMAP—What's Your Plan for 2017?

# Quests of the Scottish Rite

When a man joins the Scottish Rite, when he approaches the degrees for the first time, or returns to enjoy a reunion with other men, he is participating in a most ancient tradition. He is actively engaged in the eternal quest for a higher awareness; he is reaching across the generations to join his brothers, both living and dead, in the timeless pursuit of that which is noble in man.

That pursuit begins in the Blue Lodge. There, he learns that all degrees in Freemasonry represent a journey. He is taught in the Entered Apprentice degree that the lodge is a representation of the world, and that our journey through it is a representation of our own life's journey. He learns the importance of his outward relationships with others, and with the institutions of his society. In the Fellowcraft, or second degree, he is taught that it takes a combination of intellect, experience, intuition, feeling, emotion, and education to make real progress in life. He discovers his dual nature; there is a spirit within him which can lead him to self-improvement. In the third degree of Masonry, called the Master Mason, he turns inward, and comes face to face with his own worse enemy-his ego; and then he is given the opportunity to transcend his passions and prejudices, and become true to who he is.

It is when he has thus prepared himself that he is ready to advance to the higher awareness which can be discovered in his journey through the Scottish Rite. The progressive degrees of the Rite are designed to carry the man to a new level of insight. Each degree contains a lesson, a time context, a grouping, and a historical association. Each degree explores a specific set of ideas, has an overall theme, and comprises a guidepost, or marker, which gives him personal insight about his own journey, or quest, in life.

The Scottish Rite takes the form of four quests; with each of the four Bodies of the Rite concerning itself primarily with one of these quests. The quests never end. They continue throughout our lives. Taken together, they are profoundly important to who we are capable of becoming.

SR Body	QUEST	
Lodge of Perfection	The quest for Light and the awakening of one's personal spirituality.	
Chapter of Rose Croix	The quest to purify and strengthen that light and to make it the guiding force in a man's life.	

Council of Kadosh The quest to find ways to express that strengthened light in the matters and affairs of the world.

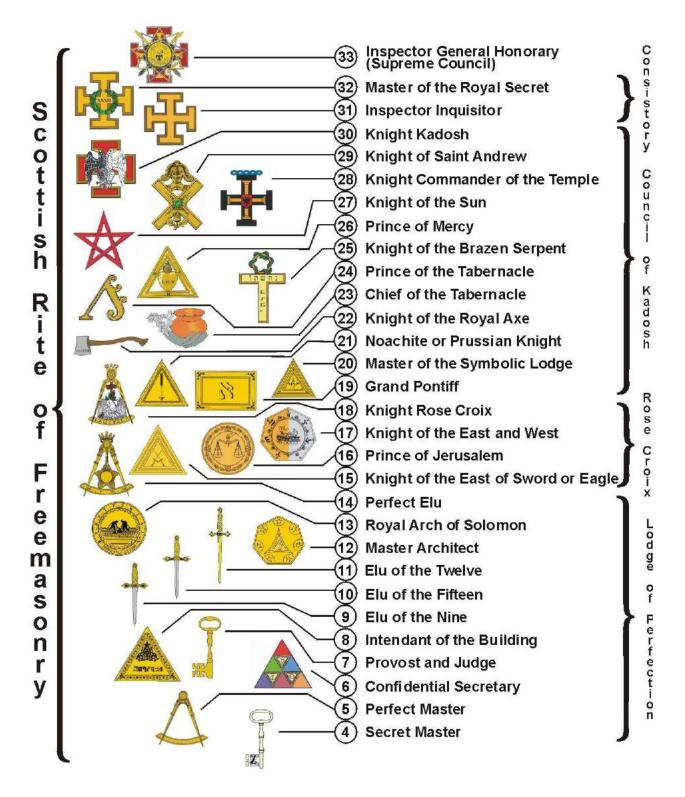
Consistory the quest for self-examination and empowerment which completes the process.

In the Scottish Rite, we learn that we do, in fact, create our own future by our actions, and every action we take–or fail to take–has consequences which echo unto the end of time. What we build matters. There is no such thing as an unimportant action. We build ourselves. The Scottish Rite gives us the tools to have whatever life we want. We need only to select well, examine carefully, decide fairly, live spiritually, and love mightily.

#### (source; Valley of Guthrie Scottish Rite, <u>www.guthriescottishrite.org</u>)



# **Degree's of the Scottish Rite**



# Recommended Reading List for Masons

This web page is designed to assist members of the Masonic Fraternity in selecting books which will make worthwhile additions to their Masonic library. It is not intended that these be viewed as a "top ten" list; rather that the books listed here are generally accepted by Masonic scholars to be reliable guides to Masonic knowledge. For the most part, they can also still be found on the Internet, Masonic Supply companies, and/or regular bookstores.

#### **Origins of Freemasonry**

The Origins of Freemasonry: Scotland's Century 1590-1710, David Stevenson, Cambridge University Press, 1988

The Rise and Development of Organized Freemasonry, Roy A. Wells, Lewis Masonic Press, London, 1986

The Golden Builders: Alchemists, Rosicrucians, the First Freemasons, Tobias Churton, Weiser Books, 2005

#### **History of Freemasonry**

A Comprehensive View of Freemasonry, Henry Wilson Coil, Macoy Publishing, 1954

American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities, Mark A.Tabbart, New York University Press, New York, 2005

*Living the Enlightenment: Freemasonry and Politics in Eighteenth Century Europe*, Margaret Jacob, Oxford University Press, 1991

Revolutionary Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transformation of the American Social Order, 1730-1840, Steven C. Bullock, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, NC 1996 *Freemasonry: A Celebration of the Craft*, John Hamil and Robert Gilbert, World Publications, 1999

Lodge of the Double Headed Eagle: Two Centuries of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in America's Southern Jurisdiction, William L. Fox, University of Arkansas Press, 1997

Valley of the Craftsmen, A Pictorial History: Scottish Rite Freemasonry inAmerica's Southern Jurisdiction, 1801-2001, edited by William L. Fox, Supreme Council, S.J., A&ASR

Inside Prince Hall, David L. Gray, Anchor Communication, LLC, Lancaster, VA 2004

100 Years of Scottish Rite Masonry in the Valley of Guthrie, Robert G. Davis, Cowen Printing, Oklahoma City, 1999

*Rose Croix: A History of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in England and Wales,* A.C.F. Jackson, Ian Allan Publishing, Ltd, 1980

#### **Symbolism**

Symbolism in Craft Masonry, Colin Dyer, Macoy Publishing, A. Lewis Press, London 1976

Freemasonry: A Journey Through Ritual and Symbol, Kirk MacNulty, Cambridge University Press, 1991

Way of the Craftsmen: A Search for the Spiritual Essence of Freemasonry, Kirk MacNulty, Central Regalia, Ltd, 2002

Sources of Masonic Symbolism, Alex Horne, Macoy Publishing, 1981

Meaning of Masonry, W.L. Wilmshurst, Gramercy, 1995

Symbols of Freemasonry, Daniel Beresniak, Assouline, 2000

*Vested In Glory,* Jim Tresner, Scottish Rite Research Society, Supreme Council, SJ, A&ASR, 2000

#### **Mythology**

The Hero With a Thousand Faces, Joseph Campbell, Bollingen Series, 1972

The Myth of the Eternal Return, Marcea Eliade, Pantheon Books, 1955

Myths to Live By, Johnson E. Fairchild, Penguin, 1993 🔣

#### Philosophy

Stridge to Light, Rex Hutchens, Supreme Council, SJ, A&ASR, Washington, DC

*Pillars of Wisdom: The Writings of Albert Pike*, Rex Hutchens, Supreme Council, SJ, A&ASR, Washington, DC

Hidden Wisdom, A Guide to the Western Inner Traditions, Richard Smoley & Jay Kinney, Penguin, 1999

#### General

Freemason's Guide and Compendium, Bernard E. Jones, Chambers Harrap Publishers, 1991

The Freemason At Work, Harry Carr, Lewis Masonic, 1981

*Freemasonry Universal, A New Guide to the Masonic World, Vol's 1 and 2*,Kent Henderson & Tony Pope, Global Masonic Publications, Australia, 2001

Understanding Manhood in America: Freemasonry's Enduring Path to the Mature Masculine, Robert G. Davis, Anchor Communications, LLC, Lancaster, VA 2005

Albert Pike: The Man Beyond the Monument, Jim Tresner, Scottish Rite Research Society, Supreme Council, SJ, A&ASR, 1995

A Life of Albert Pike, Walter G. Brown, University of Arkansas Press, 1997

Coils Masonic Encyclopedia, Henry Wilson Coil, Macoy Publishing, 1995



# **Dates to remember**

1ST WED	5	6:30 PM	LOP STATED MEETING AND DINNER			
2ND WED	12	6:30 PM	FEAST OF REMEMBRANCE AND MASTER CRAFTSMAN STUDY GROUP	DINNER BY JW OF ROSE CROIX, SEDER PLATE		
	15		CUT OFF FOR DEGREE SCHEDULE FOR MAY			
EASTER SUNDAY	16					
3rd Wed	19	6:30 PM				
4TH WED	26	6:30 PM				
MAY						
1ST WED	3	6:30 PM	LOP STATED MEETING AND DINNER, 7TH-8TH DEGREE	7TH - 8TH DEGREE ORATORS REPORT		
SAT	6	6:30 PM	REUNION 4-14TH DEGREE			
2nd Wed	10		MASTER CRAFTSMAN STUDY GROUP			
SAT	13	6:30 PM	18TH DEGREE			
3rd Wed	17	6:30 PM				
SAT	20	6:30 PM	30-32ND DEGREE			

SATURDAY	20	3 РМ то 9 РМ РDT	CELEBRATE THE CRAFT 2017, CLICK HERE			
4th Wed	24	6:30 PM				
SATURDAY	29	9AM	LOGGERS DEGREE QUILCENE			
MONDAY	31		MEMORIAL DAY			
JUNE						
1ST WED	7	6	12TH DEGREE			
THURS-SAT	9тн- 10тн		GRAND LODGE OF WASHINGTON ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE</u>	YAKIMA CONVENTION CENTER, 10 NORTH 8TH STREET, YAKIMA, WA 98901		
2ND WED	14	8:00 AM	SUMMER BREAKFAST			
3rd Wed	21	6:30 PM				
4th Wed	28					



PLEASE SEE THE CALENDAR AT <u>www.bremertonvalleysr.org</u>



# **SCOTTISH RITE DEGREE'S**

### **The Spring Reunion Starts in May!!!**

THE GATHERING OF THE KNIGHTS

Want to know more??

Contact membership Chair: Bill Hubbard 360-316-9237 or visit

www.bremertonvalleysr.org Valley Secretary: sectybvsr@gmail.com

# TAKE THE SCOTTISH RITE DEGREE'S

(It's the further light in Masonry you've heard about)



### **Council of Kadosh, Degree Descriptions**

The Degree description below is reprinted with the permission of the Scottish Rite Journal.

# Twenty-seventh Degree

#### Knight Commander of the Temple



Jim Tresner, 33°, Grand Cross P.O. Box 70, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044-0070

#### Original oil painting by Robert H. White, 32°

This is one of the most powerful works of theatre among all the Degrees of the Rite. The primary story is found in the **Rubric**\* of the Degree and concerns Constans, a young squire who wants to become a knight. He is left alone to keep vigil over his arms and told to "let no consideration tempt thee to forsake thine vigil and leave this spot. If thou shouldst do so, thou shall be proven foresworn."

In a scene which reminds the viewer of T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*, although written long before Eliot's 1935 work, Constans is confronted with three temptations which represent (a) life with sensual pleasure but without any faith or spiritual component; (b) life based on the practical, economic realities of the world, in which everything becomes relative and there are no permanent spiritual values; and (c) life based on spiritual values only, without any true human experience or content. After struggle, Constans overcomes these temptations, but then is confronted not with a temptation but with a choice in reality. The city is attacked, and the invaders enter. The defenders are losing the battle. Constans is a young, highly trained fighting man. If he goes to the battle, he may make a major difference in the lives of many people, but, by leaving his vigil, he will do so at the cost of his personal honor, and he will lose all hope of ever becoming a knight. Torn by agony, not knowing what God's will is, he... Should you have forgotten the outcome of this dilemma, you will have to revisit the Degree to get what Paul Harvey would term "the rest of the story."

The apron of the Degree (see facing page) is of scarlet lambskin, bordered and edged in black. The flap is white. On the flap is the jewel of the Degree, a black Teutonic cross (a cross with arms of equal length, ending with a crossbar). On that is a Teutonic cross of gold, double potent (which is to say, having two crossbars at the end of the arm). In the center is a shield with a black, double-headed eagle. On top of the cross is a device of heraldry called a *chief*—in this case, a sort of blue cloud.

In the center of the apron is a black key, surrounded by a laurel wreath. The order or mark of distinction of the Degree is of white watered silk, with a red border, worn as a collar. Two gold Teutonic crosses are embroidered on the collar, and the jewel of the Degree hangs from the point. A second jewel of the Degree is described in the ritual as a gold triangle, bearing a word upon it in enamel.

As in earlier Degrees, scarlet represents zeal and determination. Black designates sorrow, death, and martyrdom. Green represents life and, in the form of the laurel wreath, honor. White represents purity-that purity of intention which was required of the knight. But it may possibly also represent transcendence, the condition of the knight who has met and overcome the enemy (in Masonic terms, one who has subdued his animal nature and made it subservient to his spiritual essence).

Though we are told very little about it, the key is interesting. It may be that the black color is intended to represent a key made of iron. We have seen keys as symbols before, most notably in the 4° where a key of ivory appears. In the ritual organization of the meeting room of the 27°, we are told that the key and a sword are placed, crossed, upon the central table amid other symbols of the Degree, such as the traditional working tools. It is very rare in Scottish Rite symbolism to cross a sword with anything except another sword. Possibly this crossing is an allusion to the obligations of the Templars, which included both the use of force to defend pilgrims and a vow of secrecy. Possibly, if we draw upon some of the earlier symbolism of the key in the Rite, it is a suggestion that a Knight is to use force moderated and directed by thought and reason.

The laurel wreath has its usual meanings of honor and valor, but here it takes on an additional meaning of union, reminding you that men who have accepted you as a Brother are entitled to wear the laurel wreath by virtue of their actions and their lives.

While circles do not play an important part in the regalia of this Degree, they appear strongly in the ritual setting of the chamber. The room is circular, or made to appear so with red and black hangings; light comes from circular chandeliers and from lighted globes. These symbolize unity and brotherhood.

This Degree, the first of the truly chivalric Degrees, alerts you that new and higher things will be expected of you. For a person of intellectual selfhonesty, the going gets rough here, but the potential for personal growth opens wider than ever.

The Scottish Rite Journal - November 2002



Jim Tresner 33rd

is Director of the Masonic Leadership Institute and Editor of The Oklahoma Mason. A frequent contributor to the Scottish Rite Journal and its book review editor, Illustrious Brother Tresner is also a volunteer writer for The Oklahoma Scottish Rite Mason and a video script consultant for the National Masonic Renewal Committee. He is the Director of the Thirty-third Degree Conferral Team and Director of Work at the Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple in Guthrie, Oklahoma, as well as a life member of the Scottish Rite Research Society, author of the popular anecdotal biography Albert Pike, The Man Beyond the Monument, and a member of the steering committee of the Masonic Information Center. Ill. Tresner was awarded the Grand Cross, the Scottish Rite's highest honor, during the Supreme Council's October 1997 Biennial Session.



CONTACT ANGELIQUE LEONE- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR @ 206-324-6293 CELL 425-377-6066 www.ritecarewa.org email: aleone@ritecarewa.org

CONTACT RICHARD MASCH 360-471-7972



# Contact Brother Scot Sageser: 360-525-0029 or visit www.srsfwa.org

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

### Master Craftsman Program



SCOTTISH + RITE MASTER + CRAFTSMAN

#### 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



#### MASTERCRAFTSMAN COURSE: MASTER CRAFTSMAN COURE IS UP AND RUNNING. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON THE SYMBOLIC LODGE PROGRAM: CONTACT BR. HANK CARMAN 360-731-6620

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF A DEGREE TEAM FOR THE UPCOMING REUNION PLEASE CONTACT TOM DANGELO 360-271-2055 OR CORTEZIT@REAGAN.COM

\*WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR INTERESTED BROTHERS FOR DEGREE PARTS. PLEASE REMEMBER THERE ARE MANY "NON SPEAKING" PARTS THAT NEED TO BE FILLED THAT DON'T REQUIRE A TON OF MEMORY WORK. THIS MAY BE A GREAT WAY FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE TO START OUT.

(BROTHERS WE NEED YOU TO SUBMIT INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE VALLEY AND THE SCOTTISH RITE FOR THIS SECTION OF THE NEWSLETTER, YES!!! THAT MEANS YOU!!!)

# VALLEY CONTACTS:

VALLEY ADDRESS: 878 5TH AVE. BREMERTON WA. 98337- WEBSITE WWW.BREMERTONVALLEYSR.ORG

SGIG AL JORGENSON 33RD - ORIENT WEBSITE: WWW.SCOTTISHRITEWA.ORG SCOTTISH RITE CHARITIES OF WA.: RITECAREWA.ORG SRSFWA.ORG

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: JAMES N. REID 33RD IGH: J.REIDJR@COMCAST.NET

GENERAL SECRETARY: CHARLES (CHUCK) COMPTON, KCCH: SECTYBVSR@GMAIL.COM TREASURER: LANCE OTIS, 33<sup>RD</sup> IGH: <u>LOTIS666@GMAIL.COM</u>

DIRECTOR OF THE WORK: THOMAS DANGELO, KCCH: CORTEZIT@REAGAN.COM

SCHOLARSHIPS BREMERTON: WILLIAM HUBBARD 32ND, HUBBARDCREW@MSN.COM

SCOTTISH RITE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION DIRECTOR: SCOT SAGESER, SSAGESER@GMAIL.COM

MEMBERSHIP CHARIMAN: BILL HUBBARD, HUBBARDCREW@MSN.COM, 360-316-9237

SUPREME COUNCIL AASR, SOUTHERN JURISTICTION: WWW.SCOTTISHRITE.ORG STORE: WWW.SCOTTISHRITE.ORG/STORE

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: - SCOT SAGESER 360-525-0029 – <u>SSAGESER@GMAIL.COM</u> VMAP PROGRAM CHAIR: SCOT SAGESER, <u>SSAGESER@GMAIL.COM</u>, 360-525-0029

# SAN FRANCISCO SCOTTISH RITE CENTER





WWW.SRKC.ORG