



The **COMMUNICATOR**

**The Seattle Valley
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry**



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Welcome Brothers,

Chilly days and nights and the threat of precipitation, even snow, will be with us for some weeks to come. As you come to our scheduled meetings and degrees use care and be safe in your travels.

The busy month of January has come to a close and the 2012 year is well on its way as we begin the first of our terminal degrees, the 4th, with a new class of Scottish Rite petitioners. The month was a busy one for Masons as many blue lodges were holding installations to begin their new Masonic year. These installations will have culminated by the time this Communicator is printed and distributed. Many of our Scottish Rite members supported their blue lodges and were involved in these installations.

Our building is becoming a truly Scottish Rite building. Original charters were discovered in the archives and are now mounted in frames on the second floor. Some bear the signature of Albert Pike. We have made substantial progress within the Scottish Rite building these recent months to make it a center of fellowship for its members. All Scottish Rite members and their families are invited to drop by and tour the building to see the improvements.

As the article is being written, our planned special Grand Masters' Reception of the Worshipful Masters of lodge in the area covered by the Valley of Seattle as well as our stated meeting for the month of January were both cancelled. Both of these activities had been scheduled in the same week when Western Washington was the victim of Arctic temperatures from the North and moisture-laden clouds from the Pacific, resulting in record snow levels, freezing temperatures, and followed by freezing rain. We will be trying to reschedule the Grand Masters' Reception if an open date can be found on his busy schedule

Do not forget that our new officers for the four bodies stand ready to answer questions about the activities being planned by their bodies. Many thanks to Venerable Master George Loftus of the Lodge of Perfection; Wise Master Phil See of the Rose Croix, Robert George Commander Council of Kadosh, and Jeff Lane Master of Consistory for having stepped forward with new initiatives.

On a different note, we have numerous openings for the degree casts in our four bodies, as well as on working committees within the valley. Recent Scottish Rite members who have joined us in the past several years and remain uncommitted, we need your support and assistance in many of these area. If you wish to become involved contact the office at 206-324-3330 and talk with the General Secretary. We need you!!

The 4th degree is planned for February 11. The cast has been rehearsing and it should be an outstanding degree. Be sure to attend and support the new candidates and the cast. Our stated meeting will be held on February 21; join us for dinner and an evening of fellowship.

Ill. Bro Sat Tashiro 33°
Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G.

Scottish Rite Communicator Valley of Seattle

www.seattle-scottishrite.org

SCOTTISH RITE OFFICERS

Ronald A. Seale, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander

William R. Miller, 33°

S. G. I. G., Orient of Washington

wasgig@comcast.net

Sat Tashiro, 33°

Personal Rep. of S. G. I. G.

stashiro@comcast.net

Greg Goodrich 32° KCCH

General Secretary

secretary@seattle-scottishrite.org

Norman Miller, 33°

Treasurer

colmiller@comcast.net

Charles Olmstead , 33°

Almoner

Robert George, 32° KCCH

Editor, The Communicator

robert.george@frontier.com

PRESIDING OFFICERS

George Lofthus, 32° KCCH

Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection

georgelofthus@hotmail.com

Phillip See, 32°

Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix

PSee@phillipsee.com

Robert George, 32° KCCH

Commander, Council of Kadosh

robert.george@frontier.com

Jeff Lane, 32° KCCH

Master, Seattle Consistory

jeff@lanehardwoodfloors.com

Jeff Craig, 32° KCCH

Chief, Knights of St. Andrew

ejcraig@earthlink.net

Scottish Rite Masonic Center

1207 N 152nd St

Seattle, WA 98133-6213

206 324-3330 *voice*

206 324-3332 *fax*

Brian Lorton

Building Manager

brian@seattle-scottishrite.org

Lorna Tashiro

Administrative Assistant

lorna@seattle-scottishrite.org

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Prelate's Corner

*Greetings! In the consciousness
of the Supreme Architect
of all that is!*

I have a choice about today

I woke up early today, excited over all I get to do before the clock strikes midnight. I have responsibilities to fulfill today and I am important. My job is to choose what kind of day I am going to have.

Today I can complain because the weather is rainy or I can be thankful that the grass is getting watered for free.

Today I can feel sad that I don't have more money or I can be glad that my finances encourage me to plan my purchases wisely and guide me away from waste.

Today I can grumble about my health or I can rejoice that I am alive.

Today I can lament over all that my parents didn't give me when I was growing up or I can feel grateful that they allowed me to be born.

Today I can cry because roses have thorns or I can celebrate that thorns have roses.

Today I can mourn my lack of friends or I can excitedly embark upon a quest to discover new relationships.

Today I can whine because I have to go to work or I can shout for joy because I have a job to do.

Today I can complain because I have to go to school or eagerly open my mind and fill it with rich new tidbits of knowledge.

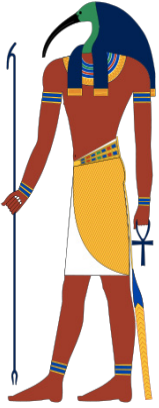
Today I can murmur dejectedly because I have to do housework or I can appreciate that I have a place to call home.

Today stretches ahead of me, waiting to be shaped. And here I am, the sculptor who gets to do the shaping.

What today will be like is up to me. I get to choose what kind of day I will have!

Have a GREAT DAY ... unless you have other plans and please remember, a 'Smile' will make the days go better.

Bro. Jeff Craig, Prelate of the Seattle Valley



From Our Secretary

Greetings brethren,

As you may already know we had to cancel two events (GM reception & Stated) in January. Mother Nature decided January was the month for a nice little snow storm and we struggled with the decision to cancel these events, but we were glad we cancelled in the end for the safety of our members. I received several emails from our members throughout the Puget Sound area and many could not even get out of their driveways. Safety is priority number one and I hope everyone made it through the snowstorm without too many issues.

On another note we are ramping up for the 4th degree on February 11th followed by our stated meeting on the 21st. I know our degree teams are working hard to put on a great presentation for our new soon to be Scottish Rite Masons. Please come out and support our new brethren on their journey.

Lastly, we have finished about 98% of the Hall of Honour, so I encourage you to stop by and take a look for yourself. We have had a good response so far for donations and I am proud to say at least 50% of the 33° members have contributed. I also need to give thanks to our Brother Jeff Lane, 32° KCCH who's company (Lane Hardwood Floors) installed the wood floors for us at cost. Without generous support from brothers like Jeff we could not have done it. Thanks again to all who have contributed to this project so far, it will be a feature that our brethren will enjoy for many years to come. Don't forget you only need to donate \$100.00 to get your name on the plaque and you still have time.

See you in February!

Gregory J. Goodrich, 32° KCCH
General Secretary

The Paths of Union (Yoga)

Yoga is a physical, mental, and spiritual discipline, originating in ancient India. The goal of yoga, or of the person practicing yoga, is the attainment of a state of perfect spiritual insight and tranquility while meditating on the Supersoul. The word is associated with meditative practices in Hinduism, Jainism, and Buddhism. The main philosophy of yoga is simple: mind, body and spirit are all one and cannot be clearly separated. Central to the philosophy of yoga is the universal spiritual concept of reaping what you sow: the law of Karma. Karma is the future consequences of one's current intentions, thoughts, behaviors and actions. While the Karma you currently create is the seeds that present future life experiences, your Karma is not your fate. You have the ability to consciously choose how you respond and react to Karmic generated events, thus reducing the current impact of your Karma and reducing or eliminating future Karma. This is both a psychological and physical practice, with the mental attitude much more powerful than the physical deed.

Generally, four yoga traditions are described (with the remainder falling into subgroups of these), and the type of personal temperament that is attracted to that specific tradition:

- Jnana (or Gyan) Yoga - philosophical and intellectual temperament
- Bhakti Yoga - emotional and devotional temperament
- Raja Yoga - mystical and scientific temperament
- Karma Yoga - active and physical temperament

It is very common that all the yoga traditions are described as spokes of a wheel that all lead to the same hub (spiritual enlightenment). As a Scottish Rite mason it may very well be of considerable value to you if you decided to explore one of these disciplines.



An Editorial From The Commander of Kadosh One of Our Most Important Degrees Contains a Serious Error!



It states: "...the enemies of our Order have largely changed their character. They no longer pose the threat against freedom..." This is a serious error! Our enemies have never changed their character, only their tactics, and the type of dupes and thugs they employ.

**The war to protect your freedoms is never over!
The work to protect your rights is never finished!**

For thousands of years a small minority has always claimed a divine right that placed them above their brothers and sisters. They see themselves as a superior species. They have been kings, queens, dictators and pontiffs. Today they include self-serving elected officials who see themselves as the favored magistrates of the new kings and queens.

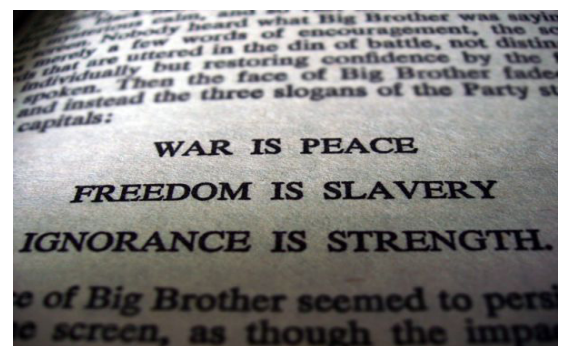
Fear is their main weapon. First fear of foreign others and then fear of domestic others. They use fear to create conformity among the masses and then use conformity to create mindless obedience. They build upon carefully constructed lies and illusions and call it truth! Ignorance and Complacency are their tools. They take from the many and give to themselves all wealth and power. They encourage hatred and biased judgement among individuals and groups to create separation between people so that attention will be directed away from them. They create a sense of helplessness in individuals.

Knights Kadosh Are Their Enemy!



Our Elected Officials Have Adopted New Personal Role Models. They And Their Backers See Themselves As A Good Bit Better And More Important Than The Rest Of Us.

Oh, They Also Want To Redefine A Few Terms.



So Where Do You Stand?



Pike's Place

“Hell is impassable for those only who know not how to turn back from it.
We free ourselves from its bondage by audacity.” p 592

“Remember also, as another shoal on which States are wrecked,
that free States always tend toward the depositing of the citizens in strata,
the creation of castes,
the perpetuation of the “jus divinurn” to office in families.” p 39

“The onward march of the human race requires
that the heights around it should blaze with
noble and enduring lessons of courage. Deeds
of daring dazzle history, and form one class of
the guiding lights of man.” p 3



Some Quotes of Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) One of the Original American Troublemakers!

“Experience hath shown, that even under the best forms of government those entrusted with power have, in time, and by slow operations, perverted it into tyranny.”

“The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government.”

“I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.”

“A free people claim their rights as derived from the laws of nature, and not as the gift of their chief magistrate.”

“An elective despotism was not the government we fought for.”

“If there is one principle more deeply rooted in the mind of every American, it is that we should have nothing to do with conquest.”

“All tyranny needs to gain a foothold
is for people of good conscience to remain silent.”

KOYAANISQATSI*

* Look this up!

The Next Few Pages May Continue To Be A Bit Unsettling. Especially if you did look up the above and watched it!



THE HUMAN TUMOR

As some of you might know, I have a doctorate in chemistry and I work in the biotech industry, more specifically in cancer research. Being also a Scottish Rite Mason, I like to ponder about the meaning of life, the Hierarchy and the Great Architect. It sometimes leads to interesting thoughts. A little while ago, I had an epiphany as I was walking in the forest: humans are like a tumor on the surface of the earth.

Cancer is a form of deregulated growth that occurs when a small population of cells in an organism are focused in only one goal: growing as much and as fast as possible. To optimize their growth, cancer cells have evolved distinct characteristics:

1. They ignore growth signals, which are molecules telling the cells when to replicate and when to stop.
2. They avoid natural death, or apoptosis.
3. They replicate indefinitely, as opposed to normal cells that can replicate only a certain number of times.
4. They create their own blood vessels to bring nutrients to the tumor and eliminate waste.
5. They invade other tissues, a process called metastasis.

By these mechanisms, the cancer hijacks the resources of the body to promote its own growth. I will now proceed to describe how humans act like a tumor on the surface of the earth.

THE EARTH AS A LIVING BEING

The human body is a complex system where homeostasis is maintained by complex networks and regulated by feedback loops. It is a fertile ground for smaller organisms and miniature ecosystems. We might see ourselves as a single organism, but we have 10 times more foreign cells than human cells in our bodies. The basis of the meta-organism is better understood by looking at how unicellular organisms started to cooperate to form complex eukariotic cells, a theory called endosymbiosis. One cell engulfed other ones and somehow convinced them to perform specific functions such as energy production. Some of those cells became what we now call the mitochondria and chloroplasts.

The idea of the earth as a living being dates as far back as Pythagoras. It was revived in the '60s as the Gaia Hypothesis gets its name from the Greek goddess personifying the earth. It portrays our planet as a living organism, where homeostasis is maintained by an array of complex networks, the ecosystem. This is analogous to the interplay of the nervous, circulatory and muscular systems by which our bodies are kept alive. For millions of years, the creatures of the earth have balanced each other out by predator-prey mechanisms, symbiotic relationships and competition for resources. The sun, the air, the oceans, as well as plants and animals reached a dynamic equilibrium on top of which life and evolution would prosper.

Considering the earth as a living being can be a stretch for many. I remember being thought that living organisms undergo metabolism, maintain homeostasis, grow, respond to stimuli, adapt to their environment and reproduce. However, this definition has become inadequate as it fails to include lower forms of life such as viruses. I would argue that the main characteristics of life are self-preservation and reproduction. From our perspective, the earth does appear to self-preserve and it is beyond our capacity to assess if it is capable of reproduction or part of a system that can.

HUMANS AS A TUMOR

While most other species live in harmony with Nature, we coerce Nature to fit our needs. We use up its resources to support our explosive growth, with little consideration for the other species. The way we accomplish this is through essentially the same strategies that cancer cells use.

We disregard growth signals. Our environment used to tell us where to live. Technological advances such as industrial farming, green houses, canning, preservatives and refrigeration systems granted us independence over the local availability of food. The accumulation of pollution, by rendering the environment toxic, should theoretically slow our expansion. However, when the environment becomes too toxic, we confine the waste to dedicated areas or ship it somewhere else, where population is less dense or environmental laws more lax. Like cancer cells, we disregard the natural limitations to our expansion.

We postpone natural death. A thousand years ago, the average human lived 25 years. Through science and medicine, life expectancy was extended to 50 years a hundred years ago and is now just shy of 80 years. The net result is that the average human spends more time on earth and the population growth rate is increasing. We live longer, and extended lifetime has the interesting side effect of increasing reproduction opportunities. Men can reproduce at 70, an age which they were not even expected to reach a century ago. New advances in fertility treatment have become available for couples having difficulty conceiving. More people are procreating than ever before.

Like a tumor can make its own blood vessels, we developed systems to bring nutrients and remove waste to support our growth. For thousands of years, life was concentrated in the vicinity of fresh water. We then devised irrigation systems to bring water where it would not flow. By building roads, we could travel to the water and bring back the food harvested there. Certainly, small populations have lived in deserts and other hostile lands. However, they remained fairly small. Las Vegas would look very different without highways, airplanes, refrigeration systems and overnight delivery.

Humans are known to “metastasize” when they feel too tight together. Countries have established new colonies in hope of amassing exotic spices and precious metals. Others invaded their neighbors in their greed. On a smaller scale, when the city feels suffocating, we move to the suburbs.

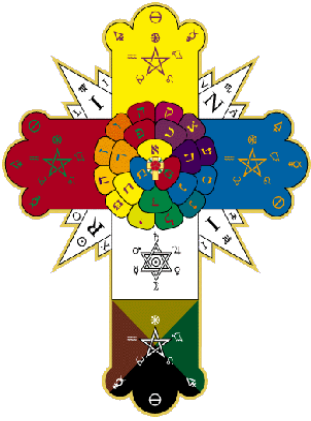


CONCLUSION

It appears that cancer cells are disconnected from the rest of the body; they stopped working as a unified system and the symbiotic relationship is falling apart. Their greed and selfishness is damaging the rest of the body. By ultimately killing their host, they will die too. Is there a way to reconnect the tumor with the rest of the body? How do we restore consciousness and awareness to the tumor? Is there an empathy pathway that can be manipulated so that those selfish cells cooperate with the rest of the body again? I am hoping that this thinking exercise might lead the way to new therapies in the future. Instead of killing the cancer cells, how about changing their behavior?

Armed with the knowledge that we act like a large tumor on the surface of the earth and that it does not benefit anybody in the long-term, are we willing to change? We are using up precious resources at an un-sustainable rate. Other species are disappearing faster than ever. Oil is the big enabling factor of our growth and there is a chance that it will run out before the earth becomes too toxic for us. It will be a catastrophe for our lifestyle, but that might be our saving grace. Why are we reluctant to be in touch with our environment, to live in harmony with other species and to pass down a cleaner planet to our children? Is it some kind of sickness that we have? Maybe it is time to ask ourselves why do we want to live longer. Is it so we can retire from a job we hate and enjoy more years of playing golf and watching TV? Should we not aspire to live more meaningful lives instead of longer ones? Are we growing and replicating like cancer cells, just so we can get bigger?

Even among environmentalists, few people genuinely worry about the earth itself. The real concern is that human life might cease to be supported on it. Our planet has been around for 4.5 billions of years. It has seen the dinosaurs rise and fall. It would not be the first time that the planet starts over. If a catastrophic event was to destroy all higher organisms, it would take only a few million years to evolve something as complex as we are. It would be a setback for the earth, but also an opportunity to come up with something better. It is up to us to prove that we are worth keeping.



Fama Fraternitas - 1980's Style

The Georgia Guidestones

By the 1600's Europe was on the verge of a transformation of spiritual and intellectual thought. In contrast to and in opposition of this transformation was the Establishment that was very much in control and was dedicated to maintaining the status quo and their own personal system of power and wealth.

In Kassel, Germany in 1614 and 1615, respectively, two documents mysteriously appeared, The Fama Fraternitatis and Confessio Fraternitatis. To this day no-one knows who was behind them. The Manifestos purport to announce the existence of a two hundred year old secret order founded by the mysterious figure of Christian Rosenkreutz (Christian RosyCross in English). This order was described as consisting of a group of learned men dedicated to the wellbeing of mankind who would travel the world healing and teaching. Over the next two hundred and fifty years Europe continued a major social transformation which is now known as the Renaissance.

Fast forward 400 years! We are now in the age of Aquarius. For the last century the world has been on the brink of another transformation. Again it is a spiritual evolution and it is strongly resisted by the same types of vested interest that controlled society in the 16th and 17th centuries. Just as the royal houses and the churches waged relentless wars in the past, our own age and our own country has seen nearly non-stop armed conflict for the past century over economic systems and political philosophy. As always it is the poor and uneducated who suffer the most.

As usual it is the vested interests that attempt to undermine the real peace and find enemies under every rock and behind every tree. If they can't actually find real antagonists they create them, package them, sell them, and profit from fighting them using our sons and daughters to die in the "holy cause", oh yes and they use our taxes too.

We can never seem to find money for the betterment of the people like good education, health care, or research but we can always find money for a new war! And we can always find money to bail out the rich. We never seem to have time to think about any of the bigger questions but we always find time for another TV program. We all need to wake-up!

In June 1979, an unknown person or persons under the pseudonym R. C. Christian hired the Granite Finishing Company in Elbert County GA to build a very unique structure. The structure is sometimes referred to as an "American Stonehenge." The monument is 19 feet 3 inches (5.87 m) tall, made from six granite slabs weighing more than 240,000 pounds (110,000 kg) in all. One slab stands in the center, with four arranged around it. A capstone lies on top of the five slabs, which are astronomically aligned. An additional stone tablet, which is set in the ground a short distance to the west of the structure, provides some notes on the history and purpose of the Guidestones.

Why? Why would a person or a group do such a thing? No one really knows. But there is a parallel from the past that somehow gets brushed aside. Perhaps there is a fellowship or a brotherhood that does care about mankind. Perhaps they are wise enough to see that certain lessons need to be recognized and carried forward.

If we could only raise our eyes a little higher and get our minds out of the "cave of illusions" created by all the easy pre-packaged definitions and answers that we are handed for easy interpretation of our world; maybe we could begin to see new alternatives. Perhaps there really are more things in heaven and on earth than are dreamt of in the daily "sound bites" of our highly architect-ed news stories, social crisis announcements and information commercials.

Don't forget who created the concepts of "spin control", "sheeple" and "mis-information?". We elected them!

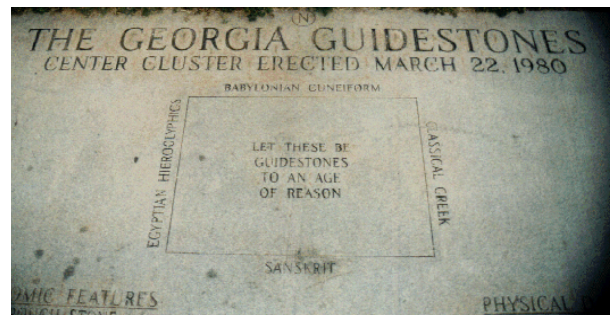
Don't forget who always profit from all the wars and misuse of tax dollars. We bailed them out again.

No, it was not the Rosicrucians.



The Georgia Guidestones is a large granite monument in Elbert County, Georgia, USA. A message comprising ten guides is inscribed on the structure in eight modern languages, and a shorter message is inscribed at the top of the structure in four ancient languages' scripts: Babylonian, Classical Greek, Sanskrit, and Egyptian hieroglyphs.

A personal conjecture question - since these languages are not well known today even among most scholars, let alone the populous, who can they be directed toward after a future cataclysm?



The intersection of three worlds - human, terrestrial and cosmic - the Guidestones are built to survive the apocalypse, yet are not merely instructions for the future—the massive granite slabs also function as a clock, calendar, and compass allowing them to be used today and to date their construction for future anthropologists.

The monument sits at the highest point in Elbert County, Georgia and is oriented to track the sun's east-west migration year-round. On an equinox or solstice, visitors who stand at the west side of the "mail slot" are positioned to see the sun rise on the horizon. An eye-level hole drilled into the center support stone allows stargazers on the south side to locate Polaris, the North Star. A 7/8-inch hole drilled through the capstone focuses a sunbeam on the center column and at noon pinpoints the day of the year.

THE MESSAGE OF THE GEORGIA GUIDESTONES

A message consisting of a set of ten principles is engraved on the Guidestones in eight different languages, one language on each face of the four large upright stones. Moving clockwise around the structure from due north, these languages are: English, Spanish, Swahili, Hindi, Hebrew, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian. Interesting choices!

1. Maintain humanity under 500,000,000 in perpetual balance with nature.
2. Guide reproduction wisely - improving fitness and diversity.
3. Unite humanity with a living new language.
4. Rule passion - faith - tradition - and all things with tempered reason.
5. Protect people and nations with fair laws and just courts.
6. Let all nations rule internally resolving external disputes in a world court.
7. Avoid petty laws and useless officials.
8. Balance personal rights with social duties.
9. Prize truth - beauty - love - seeking harmony with the infinite.
10. Be not a cancer on the earth - Leave room for nature - Leave room for nature.

There are those who see this all as sinister satanic plot. Then there are those others who can actually think!
Learn if you can learn, think if you can think!

Bro. Robert George - The Editor

Important Messages

In Memorium

Brethren, please remember these our own and all our Brothers who have traveled beyond our physical borders to that undiscovered country.

Please keep them alive in your hearts and prayers.



Charles Goodwin 32°

Gordon Clinton 32°

Alfred Wold 32°



The Almoners have made a donation to Rite Care Seattle in memory of our departed Brethren listed above.

Your thoughts and prayers....

Illustrious Brother Delmer ‘Bud’ Robinson is currently at Issaquah Rehab Center on 805 Front Street S, telephone number 425-392-1271 recuperating from his recent illnesses. His many services to our Scottish Rite as our Prelate and Director of Works in the past years can never be forgotten. Please visit him or send cards to wish him well on his road to recovery.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Congratulations from your Scottish Rite brothers
to all members who have reached a very important birthday!**



Elwyn H. Weide 101
Abraham Searle 98
Gordon W. Renfro 96
Donald R. Edwards 95
Gust J. Doces 94

Robert S. Purvis 94
Marvin D. Suiter 91
Kenneth L. Kessler 90
John M. Moe 90
Willard A. Smith 90



Hall of Honour

Seattle Valley is in the process of creating our very own Scottish Rite Hall of Honour. The Hall of Honour is being created exclusively to showcase Scottish Rite Regalia and living 33rd degree members. It will be located in the existing hallway that separates the two lodge rooms. Many of you have probably already seen the hall in the House of the Temple (see image above) of which ours will be modeled on.

The Hall of Honour will consist of framed images of the 4-33rd degree aprons and jewels including the KCCH & Grand Cross. The aprons will be located on one side of the hall and all the living 33rd degree members on the other side. There will also be a plaque with the explanation of the hall and a list of members who have donated the funds for its creation.

If you would like to contribute to this project and have your name placed on the plaque and listed on the new 'Hall of Honour' section of our website, please remit a minimum donation of \$50.00 (website only) or \$100.00 (website & plaque) payable to Seattle Valley Scottish Rite. The deadline for this project will be March 1, 2013. We have already begun so get your donation in quickly to be a part of this unique and historic feature of our new Scottish Rite home.



Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
1207 N 152nd Street
Seattle, WA 98133

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Schedule of Events

February 2012

11-February 9:00 AM	Sat	Executive Council Meeting 4th Degree
21-February 6:30 PM	Tue	Dinner Stated Meeting

March 2012

10-March 9:00 AM	Sat	Executive Council Meeting 14th Degree
20-March 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Tue	Dinner Stated Meeting
23-March 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Fri	Dinner Meeting - Council of Kadosh

Executive Council Meetings are open to all Seattle SR Brothers

“You can never be happily married to another until you get a divorce from yourself. A successful marriage demands a certain death to self.”

Jerry McCant

Thoughts for February

“In the attitude of silence the soul finds the path in a clearer light, and what is elusive and deceptive resolves itself into crystal clearness. Our life is a long and arduous quest after Truth.”

Mahatma Gandhi

“Ignorance is the night of the mind, but a night without moon and star.”

Confucius

“I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.”

Albert Einstein

“Change is the constant, the signal for rebirth, the egg of the phoenix.”

Christina Baldwin