



SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

BULLETIN

VALLEY OF WASHINGTON • ORIENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FALL 2020

THE CAPITAL CROSSES

PROFILES OF THE GRAND CROSS RECIPIENTS
IN THE VALLEY OF WASHINGTON



Original Painting by Bro. Robert H. White, 32°
from the Hall of Scottish Rite Regalia,
House of the Temple, Washington, D.C.
Courtesy the Supreme Council, 33°, S.J., U.S.A.

Special Commemorative Edition
Sesquicentennial Reunion
Nov. 7, 2020

SCOTTISH RITE CALENDAR • November 2020 through February 2021

Please note that the dates, times, locations and formats of all meetings and events listed below are subject to change in accordance with the directives issued by local masonic and/or civil authorities. The most current information may be found by visiting the Valley's website at DCSR.org. PLEASE CHECK MEETING STATUS ON WEBSITE.

NOTE: In response to conditions related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, schedules are subject to change and meetings may be cancelled or replaced with virtual online formats. Visit DCSR.org for the latest updates.

NOVEMBER 2020

7 FALL REUNION

- 10 DCSR Virtual Meeting (Mithras Lodge)
Speaker: Ill. Art de Hoyos, 33° G.C.
*Program: A new edition of Albert Pike's book **Magnum Opus***
- 11 VETERANS DAY – DCSR OFFICES CLOSED
- 24 Virtual – Education and Community Service Awards Program
- 26 THANKSGIVING DAY – DCSR OFFICES CLOSED

DECEMBER 2020

- 15 DCSR Virtual – Sesquicentennial Special Event
- 24 CHRISTMAS DAY (Observed) - DCSR OFFICES CLOSED
- 28-31 WINTER RECESS – DCSR OFFICES CLOSED

JANUARY 2021

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY – DCSR OFFICES CLOSED
- 18 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., DAY – DCSR OFFICES CLOSED
- 26 DCSR Virtual Meeting (All Bodies Elections)

FEBRUARY 2021

- 2 DCSR Virtual Meeting (Installation of 2021 Officers)
- 15 PRESIDENTS' DAY – DCSR OFFICES CLOSED
- 16 DCSR Virtual Meeting (Mithras Lodge of Perfection)



Scan this QR Code with your Android or iPhone
to access the SR mobile website.

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PUBLISHER

Ill. Leonard Proden, 33°

EDITOR

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This *Bulletin* is published twice a year for members of the Valley of Washington, Orient of the District of Columbia, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America. 2800 16th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009

SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



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BY ILLUSTRIOUS LEONARD PRODEN, 33°

SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE
SUPREME COUNCIL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

My Scottish Rite Brethren:

On behalf of the officers and members of the Valley of Washington, I welcome all our candidates for conferral of the Scottish Rite Degrees. This special 150th Anniversary Reunion attempts to duplicate the one-day form of the Centennial Reunion of 1970. However, due to the restrictions of the coronavirus and directives of the D.C. Government your Reunion will be unique. You will observe presentations of the 4°, 14°, 18°, 30° and 32°. I urge you to carefully observe, listen and learn the lessons of each of the degrees presented and as you leave our building as a Master of the Royal Secret (32°)—you will think, reason and reflect on the presentations you have witnessed and will in some way be provided an enhanced framework for clarity in your Masonic life.



Ill. Leonard Proden, 33°

As we celebrate and acknowledge the Sesquicentennial of our Orient, I reviewed the 1970 Reunion Bulletin to see what the then Deputy to the Supreme Council in the District of Columbia, Ill. Renah F. Camalier, 33°, G.C., had to say to the 467 candidates that filled our auditorium that Fall. It reads – *“Welcome Candidates. You are about to begin your pilgrimage through the Scottish Rite Degrees, and may it become to you one of the greatest and most inspiring experiences of your life. If you become a Master of the Royal Secret by receiving the Thirty-second Degree and are no better or wiser than when you began your journey, your investment of time and money will have been in vain. If, however, you bring a receptive mind and a sensitive heart to these Degrees, you will indeed be a wiser and better man. It is the hope and prayer of the Deputy and the brethren that your experience may be rich, significant and profitable.”* – words still relevant 50 years later.

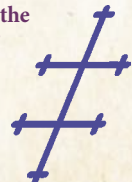
This *Bulletin* is our biannual publication distributed to members and candidates of our Orient prior to each Reunion. It provides our current organizational structure, calendar of events, directory of key individuals, listings of officers, committee assignments and other general information. **To our current members it has been my clarion call for you to attend our Reunion, but not this time! Due to the aforementioned coronavirus restrictions, you will not be able to attend this Reunion or enter the building.** We are limited as to the number of men/candidates allowed in our building and to ensure their health and safety, we will enforce all public safety protocols.

As we have yet to meet in person and our in-house meetings are cancelled until the end of the year, I suggest you join us for via zoom.us. Visit our website: www.dcsr.org for instructions to access our programs via **Rite@Home**.

As we look back 150 years it was decided that we should recognize the luminaries that contributed to the success of our Valley. These 27 Illustrious Brethren have received the rank and designation (not a degree) of the Grand Cross of the Court of Honor and have been members of our Orient. It is denoted by 33° G.C. following their name. I find it best described by Ill. Arturo de Hoyos, 33° G.C.:

“The Scottish Rite’s answer to the “hall of fame” is the Grand Cross Court of Honor. It is the highest honor that the Supreme Council can bestow on a member, and it is reserved for those who have performed exceptional, extraordinary and prolonged services to the Fraternity and or humanity. To put a finer point on it, in terms of numbers, there are currently only 92 men in the world who hold this honor, which is often called the greatest honor in Freemasonry.”

Thank you for being a Scottish Rite Mason.



THE CAPITAL CROSSES:

PROFILES OF THE GRAND CROSS RECIPIENTS IN THE VALLEY OF WASHINGTON



by B. Chris Ruli, 32°
Historian, DC Scottish Rite

On June 8, 1870, the Supreme Council voted to establish a “Court of Honour” to identify and recognize certain Scottish Rite Masons for their exemplary service. Two ranks were established within the court, the Knight Commander and the Grand Cross. Eventually, the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour (KCCH) became a prerequisite to obtaining the Thirty-Third and Last Degree of the Scottish Rite. The Grand Cross, meanwhile, remained relatively unaffected and awarded only to a select few who went above and beyond their obligations. Inductees into the “Court of Honour” received a special jewel and honorific after their name. Early KCCHs were also eligible to wear a special red sash around their torso. (See picture) Caps, red for KCCH and white/blue for Grand Cross recipients replaced sashes when the Supreme Council adopted the cap system at the turn of the twentieth century.

The Grand Cross cap is white with a blue band. On the front is a replica of the Grand Cross jewel, which is composed of a Teutonic Cross with an embroidered crimson rose with green leaves at its center.

The Grand Cross jewel has as its foundation the Teutonic Cross of the 32° and 33° resting on a wreath of gold oak leaves, emblematic of strength of purpose in the service of humanity and the Rite. In the center is a gold circular plate with a blue enameled border containing the gold letters: “GR. CROSS COURT OF HONOUR”. In the center of the plate is an enameled crimson rose with green leaves on a white background. The red rose recalls the imagery of the 18°, Knight Rose Croix, where the flower represents renewal, as a recipient of the Grand Cross is forever renewing his efforts to serve.

The following is the first comprehensive list published of the twenty-seven brothers who received the Supreme Council’s highest honor and are members of the Valley of Washington. The list spans across two centuries and is composed of a select few who helped shape our Valley, the Supreme Council, and Scottish Rite Freemasonry. Early recipients helped form the DC Scottish Rite, assisted the Supreme Council in various capacities, and stewarded the fraternity through great expansions. Curiously, no investitures occurred from the Valley between 1890 and the 1950s, until Past Grand Master Renah F. Camalier received the honor in 1957. Those who followed Camalier continued the tradition to make notable contributions to the Scottish Rite, Freemasonry, and beyond.



WILLIAM M. IRELAND, INVESTED 1874



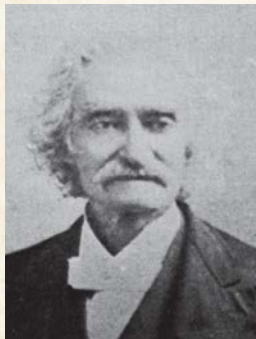
Born on May 12, 1834 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ireland joined Freemasonry in his home state in 1856. He moved to the District and received the Scottish Rite degrees personally through the District's First Sovereign Grand Inspector General (SGIG), Benjamin B. French. Ireland served as Mithras Lodge's first Venerable Master, third SGIG, and later appointed by Grand Commander Pike as the Supreme Council's Secretary-General following Dr. Albert Mackey's death. Professionally, Ireland worked in the Post Office Department. President Lincoln appointed Ireland as a Chief Clerk to the Third Assistant Post-Master General in 1864. He died on December 24, 1892.

JOSEPH T. BROWN, 1874



Joseph T. Brown joined Freemasonry through Federal Lodge No. 1 in 1864 and later served as their master. Two days after receiving the 32° through SGIG French, he accepted French's invitation to serve as his deputy. When French passed in August 1870, Grand Commander Pike appointed Brown as French's successor. A banker by profession, Brown helped finance the Union's efforts during the Civil War. He moved to New York City in 1873 but often returned to D.C. on business and to attend Supreme Council sessions. He died on June 25, 1918.

CLEMENT W. BENNETT, 1876



Born on April 21, 1820 in Penn Yan, New York. Bennett succeeded his father as publisher of the Penn Yan Democrat, attended law school, and later moved to Washington, D.C. to serve in the House of Representatives. He found work as a clerk in the Treasury Department after his term in Congress ended and later entered private practice. While Bennett received the craft and Scottish Rite degrees in New York, he helped organize the Scottish Rite bodies in the District and served in various assignments and committees. He died on October 17, 1869.

EDWIN B. MACGROTTY, 1876

Born on July 31, 1828 in Calais, Maine. MacGrotty spent his youth traveling the world on merchant ships. He returned home, moved to D.C. to accept a civil appointment in the War Department, and later transferred to the Treasury Department. He joined La Fayette Lodge No. 19 in 1864 and received most of the Scottish Rite degrees through SGIG Ireland between 1873-1874. MacGrotty served as the Supreme Council's Assistant Secretary for many years and helped develop the degree signs and symbols used in Supreme Council ciphers and lithographic plates. He died on March 11, 1899.



BEN. PERLEY POORE, INVESTED 1876

Born on November 2, 1820 in Newburyport, Massachusetts. Poore received the craft degrees in Athens, Georgia and the Scottish Rite degrees in Paris while serving as the secretary to the American Minister to Germany. He moved to Washington, worked as a journalist, and later appointed clerk to the Senate Committee on Printing, a position he held until his death on May 29, 1887. Poore assisted SGIG French to establish the first local Scottish Rite presence on June 22, 1860 and Mithras Lodge, a decade later, on December 16, 1870. In 1885, Poore organized the Gridiron Club and served as their first president. The annual Gridiron Club dinner continues to be a popular D.C. event that features satirical songs and skits performed by Washington's leading journalists. He died in Washington, D.C. on May 29, 1887.



JOSHUA O. STANTON, 1876

Born on October 22, 1837 in New Hampshire. Stanton moved to Washington, D.C. in 1861 and later served as a surgeon during the Civil War. He received the craft degrees in Pentalpha Lodge No. 23 in D.C. and the Scottish Rite degrees through SGIG French in 1868. Stanton served as the first Wise Master of Evangelist Chapter Rose Croix from 1872 to 1875. He was well-known as a physician in Washington, and was even called upon to care for Albert Pike during his final months. A week after Albert Pike's death, on April 8, 1891, Dr. Stanton lost his own life due to pneumonia. He was 53 years old.

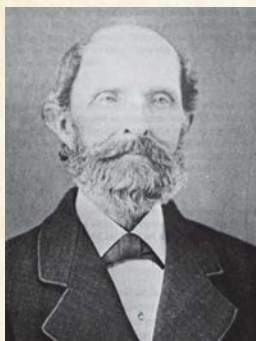


WILLIAM R. SINGLETON, 1878



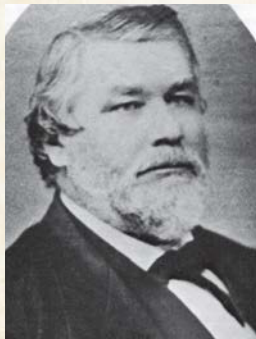
Born on October 24, 1818 in Norfolk, Virginia. Singleton moved to Missouri and received the craft degrees through Naphtali Lodge, No. 25 in St. Louis. He relocated to D.C. and affiliated with Osiris Lodge No. 23 and received the Scottish Rite degrees between 1871-1874. In addition to his long tenure as Secretary of the Scottish Rite bodies, Singleton was appointed as the Supreme Council's Tiler in 1878 and remained in the position until his death on February 23, 1901.

JOSIAH ESSEX, 1880



Born on August 27, 1802. Essex worked as a carpenter at the US Naval Observatory. He joined Federal Lodge No. 1 and served as their Master in 1856. He likely received the Scottish Rite degrees through Benjamin B. French and participated in the formation of the bodies in 1860 and 1870. According to Albert Pike, Essex was "a faithful and devoted Mason, always regular in attendance in the Bodies of the Rite when the infirmities of age permitted it [...] a man who had lived by the labor of his hands until he honestly accumulated a competency; and died at an advance age, respected by all who knew him, a worthy upright man of impeachable integrity and truth." He died on May 22, 1883.

JAMES B. GIBBS, 1880



Born in July 1811 in Charleston, South Carolina. Gibbs graduated from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery in 1850 and settled in Georgetown, D.C. in 1852. He received the first three Degrees in Williamsport but later affiliated with Washington's Potomac Lodge No. 5. Gibbs received the Scottish Rite Degrees through SGIG Benjamin B. French in 1870 and participated in the formation of the DCSR bodies. He died on June 3, 1884.

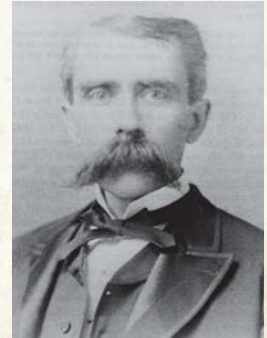
LUTHER H. PIKE, 1880

Born on August 20, 1838 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Albert Pike's eldest son, Luther, likely received the Scottish Rite degrees in Arkansas. He moved to D.C. to join his father's law practice and affiliated with Mithras Lodge in 1871. Luther participated in the formation of the remaining DCSR bodies and served as Evangelist Chapter's second Wise Master from 1875 to 1878. At Luther's request, Robert De Bruce Knights Kadosh served as honor guard and performed his father's funeral service in April 1891. Luther died on January 9, 1895.



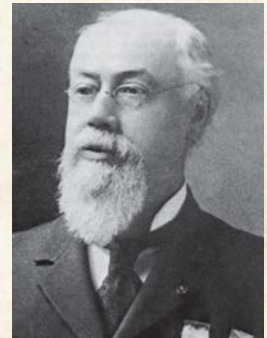
WILLIAM O. ROOME, 1884

Born on August 9, 1839. Roome received the masonic degrees in New York. He later moved to Washington, D.C. and helped charter Osiris Lodge No. 26. In addition to his service as head of the Scottish Rite bodies, Roome served as chairman of the DCSR committee that acquired their cathedral on 1007 G Street, N.W. His company, the American Savings Bank, occupied the cathedral's ground floor. Roome married Lilian Pike, Albert Pike's daughter, in 1903. He died on February 3, 1922.



ALEXANDER H. HOLT, 1890

Born on September 9, 1838. Holt spent his early career in the military and moved to Washington, D.C. to work as a clerk in the Treasury Department's audit division. He affiliated with Acacia Lodge No. 18 on October 12, 1886 and the DCSR in 1877, where he served as secretary for several bodies. Holt was an active and dutiful assistant to the Supreme Council and recognized by Grand Commander Pike for his service. He died on January 15, 1918.



NO GRAND CROSS RECIPIENT FOR THE NEXT 67 YEARS.

RENAH F. CAMALIER, 1957



Born on October 8, 1890. Camalier received the first three masonic degrees in Benjamin B. French Lodge No. 15 in 1922. Camalier began his employment as a clerk in the D.C. Water Department. In 1906, served as secretary to Franklin D. Roosevelt while he was Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and was twice secretary to Colorado Senator Alva B. Adams. He received a law degree from the old National Law School, and after a stint as assistant U.S. Attorney, went into private practice. Prior to home rule, the District was governed by a three-member Board of Commissioners, and President Truman appointed Camalier as a member of that board in 1952. In 1962, following the death of SGIG William E. Schooley, Camalier was appointed Deputy to the Supreme Council and served in that role until his retirement in 1977. Renah was a close friend of Missouri Past Grand Master and

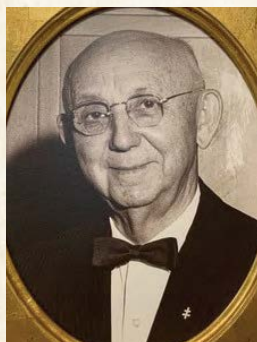
U.S. President, Harry S. Truman, and was appointed by him to distribute over 100 marked masonic stones discovered during White House renovations between 1948 and 1952. He died on June 14, 1978.

J. EDGAR HOOVER, 1965



Born on January 1, 1895 in Washington, D.C. Hoover joined Federal Lodge No. 1 in 1920. Following his graduation from George Washington University's Law School, Hoover accepted a position in the Justice Department and later the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He rose through the ranks of the department and, on May 10, 1924, President Calvin Coolidge appointed him the fifth director of the Bureau of Investigation. Two years after being appointed the new FBI director, he helped charter Justice Lodge No. 46 on December 15, 1926. He received the Scottish Rite degrees during a special ceremony on December 6, 1954. He died on May 2, 1972.

CHRISTIAN F. KLEINKNECHT, SR., 1969



Born on April 25, 1889. Kleinknecht received the craft degrees in Silver Spring Lodge No. 215. He received the Scottish Rite degrees through the DCSR in 1921. In March 1919, John H. Cowles, then serving as Secretary-General, hired Kleinknecht for several clerical positions across the House of Temple. He was appointed on several occasions as Acting Secretary-General and later as permanent Assistant Grand Secretary-General. Kleinknecht's son, C. Fred Kleinknecht, Jr., served as Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite - Southern Jurisdiction. He died on August 11, 1970.

MARTIN D. CARLIN, 1989

Born on September 19, 1916. Carlin moved to Washington, D.C. in 1942 during the army draft and was honorably discharged in 1946 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He remained in Washington and accepted a position in the Veterans Administration, where he served with distinction for 39 years. Carlin joined Federal Lodge No. 1 in 1951 but later transferred his membership to Albert Pike Lodge No. 33. He received the Scottish Rite degrees in 1981. In 1987, Carlin was appointed Project Manager to oversee construction of the Scottish Rite Center for Childhood Language Disorders in Washington, D.C. In 1988, he was elected to serve as Secretary of the Scottish Rite Bodies and the District's Scottish Rite Foundation, which he performed until his retirement on June 1, 1995. Carlin died on October 20, 2005.



WILLIAM GENE SIZEMORE, 1989

Born on August 4, 1927 in Chauncey, Illinois. Sizemore was raised a Master Mason in 1948 in Edwin Dobbins Lodge, No. 164 in Illinois. He affiliated with the DCSR on January 14, 1986. Sizemore first served the Supreme Council as Director of Education and Americanism in 1983 and became Assistant Grand Secretary General on July 19, 1989. The position's title later changed to Grand Executive Director. At the 2013 Session, the Supreme Council invested Ill. Sizemore a Past Sovereign Grand Commander honoris causa, the first such creation in the 212-year history of the Southern Jurisdiction. Sizemore spent most of his career in the Navy and retired with distinction with the rank of Rear Admiral.



MARVIN FOWLER, 1993

Born on October 12, 1904 in Salisbury, Missouri. Fowler moved to Washington, D.C. to join the Department of Agriculture, Forest Pathology division. He affiliated with LaFayette Lodge No. 19 in 1929 and served as Grand Master of D.C. in 1950. Fowler received the Scottish Rite degrees in 1932 and would eventually serve as the presiding officer for all four bodies. He has been recognized in the District and across the country for his service and dedication to Freemasonry. His affable spirit, intense dedication, and fraternal excellence will be long remembered and deeply missed.



CHARLES R. RICHEY, 1993



Born on October 16, 1923 in Logan County, Ohio. Richey served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during the second World War and later went on to receive his law degree from Case Western Reserve University Law School in 1948. Richey moved to Washington, D.C. and entered private practice from 1949 to 1971. On April 4, 1971, President Nixon appointed Richey to serve on the United States District Court of D.C. Raised a mason in Hiram Lodge, No. 18, Delaware, Ohio, Richey was a member of the Columbus, Ohio Scottish Rite Bodies, attaining the rank of 33°, IGH in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, before affiliating as a dual member with DC Scottish Rite Bodies. He died on March 19, 1997.

STEPHEN J. TRACHTENBERG, 1997



Born on December 14, 1937. Trachtenberg received the first three degrees of Freemasonry in Benjamin B. French Lodge No. 15 and the Scottish Rite degrees in the DCSR in 1990. He later affiliated with the Colonial Lodge No. 1821. Trachtenberg served as the 15th President of George Washington University between 1988 and 2007. He retired, taking on the title of President Emeritus and served as a professor of public service. In 2007, GWU Board of Trustees voted to rename the School of Public Policy and Public Administration after Trachtenberg in recognition for his distinguished service.

S. BRENT MORRIS, 1999



Born March 28, 1950, Brent was the first American to be elected as the Worshipful Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, the oldest Masonic Research Lodge in the world, serving in that capacity from November 2007 to November 2008; recipient of PhD in Mathematics from Duke University; Past Chairman of the Membership Committee of the Supreme Council AASR, SJ (USA); author of *The Complete Idiots Guide to Freemasonry for Dummies*; Executive of the Cryptologic Mathematician Program at the National Security Agency; U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in the area of computer security; teacher of mathematics, computer science, and cryptanalysis at Duke University, Johns Hopkins University, and the National Cryptologic School; nominated by The Mathematical Association of America to be one of the USA Science and Engineering

Festival's Nifty Fifty Speakers.

HENRY O. DORMANN, 1999

Born March 5, 1932. Having received his degrees in Long Island, New York, Dormann submitted his petition for affiliation to the DCSR in June 1978 and the following year elected a 32° KCCH. Four years later he was elected and coroneted a 33° IGH. Dormann was not an active member in the District bodies as he still retained his residence in New York City. Professionally, Dormann received notable acclaim for his interviews and relationships with Presidents of the United States and foreign leaders. He died on May 11, 2018 in New York.



WILLIAM K. LYONS, JR., 2001

Born on May 30, 1946. The Reverend William K. Lyons, Jr. received the craft degrees in Potomac Lodge No. 5 and Scottish Rite degrees in 1973. He served with distinction on several committees alongside his father, William Lyons, Sr., a fellow DCSR mason. The Supreme Council elected Lyons an Assistant Grand Chaplain in 2000 and their Grand Chaplain in 2001, which he currently serves to this day. Lyons continues to serve his community as a pastor of Etchison-Mt. Tabor for over 50 years and has been recognized in dozens of fraternal, civil, service, and faith-based institutions for his outstanding service and achievement.



SEAN D. GRAYSTONE, 2001

Sean David Graystone was born on August 7, 1956. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees in Sante Fe, New Mexico in 1986. Originally hired as an independent consultant to evaluate the condition of the House of the Temple, Graystone accepted a full-time staff position as the superintendent of the building in 2007. He affiliated with the D.C. Scottish Rite bodies on October 1, 2009. Ill. Brother Graystone is a founding board member of the Scottish Rite Research Society and served as the Grand Chancellor of the Grand College of Rites of the United States in 2019.



EARL E. IHLE, JR., 2005



Born on October 14, 1952. Ihle received the craft degrees and later served as Master (1978) of Lafayette Lodge, No. 111, Baltimore Maryland. He received the Scottish Rite degrees in 1974 through the Maryland Scottish Rite bodies and later affiliated the DCSR. Ihle served the Supreme Council with distinction as the Director of Major Gifts and developed the Scottish Rite Donor Recognition Program.

GEORGE ADAMS, 2007



Born on September 23, 1938 in Baltimore, Maryland. Adams attended schools in Wyoming and was an outstanding multi-sport athlete that allowed him to attend the University of Colorado as a full scholarship football player. After graduation from Creighton Law School Adams moved to D.C. in 1962 after concluding his military service. He received the craft degrees in Benjamin B. French Lodge No. 15 and was later elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of D.C. for 1993. His masonic memberships and affiliations are numerous. Adams joined the DCSR in 1971. Following the retirement of SGIG Charles Iversen in 2000, Adams was appointed Deputy of the Supreme Council on January 1, 2001. He served in that role until 2005. He has over 50 years of trust and estate experience and has sat on numerous Boards and Foundations. Adams is a published author and a frequent contributor

to the Scottish Rite Journal and volunteered his services to several professional and community groups in the jurisdiction and abroad.

ROBERT DRECHSLER, 2011



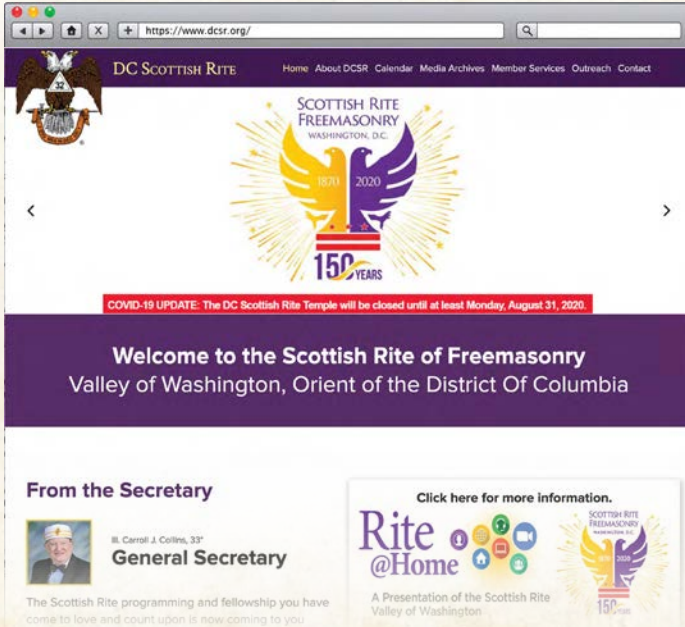
Born on April 9, 1933 in the nation's capital, Drechsler was raised at the old German Orphan Home on Good Hope Road SE in Washington, D.C. He graduated from the University of Maryland with a B.A. in floriculture and served in Third Army Band of the US Army. Professionally, Drechsler helped to assemble and served as the first curator of the National Bonsai Collection and Penjing Museum of the National Arboretum. An active DeMolay in his youth, Drechsler received the Craft degrees in Anacostia Lodge No. 21, served as its Master in 1969, and served as Grand Master of Masons and of the Grand Lodge of D.C. in 1997. A life member of the Scottish Rite bodies in Washington, D.C., Drechsler was invested as a KCCH in 1975 and coroneted a 33° in 1983. For many years he chaired the Rite's Special Projects Committee and served as Stage Director for 15 years prior to his retirement in 1996,

when he was named Stage Director Emeritus. Drechsler was awarded the Rite's highest honor, the Grand Cross of the Court of Honour, in 2011. Never one to seek limelight or accolades, Illustrious Drechsler personifies the notion that the best leaders are often found working behind the scenes.

Did you know that the DC Scottish Rite has a newly refreshed website?

Connect with us to stay up to date with what's going on at the Rite!

<https://www.dcsr.org/>



Are you following us on Facebook?
Have you downloaded our app?



DCSR - Orient of the District of Columbia, Valley of Washington Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DCScottishRite/>

DCSR App available
on the App Store or Google Play



ORIENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



General Guidelines

Stay informed with calendar updates at the newly refreshed [DCSR.org](https://www.dcsr.org) and the *Scottish Rite Progress*.

Scottish Rite Office Hours

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Closed Friday

SGIG's Office (1st Floor, southeast quadrant)

General Secretary's Office (1st Floor, northeast quadrant)

Monthly Meetings of Four Bodies

(except during Summer and Winter recesses, or as otherwise noted)

7:30 - 8:30 p.m., 2nd Floor Lodge Room

1st Tuesday – Mithras Lodge of Perfection

2nd Tuesday – Evangelist Chapter of Rose Croix

3rd Tuesday – Robert de Bruce Council of Kadosh

4th Tuesday – Albert Pike Consistory

PLEASE NOTE: In response to conditions related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, schedules are subject to change and meetings may be necessarily cancelled or replaced with virtual online formats. Visit [DCSR.org](https://www.dcsr.org) for the latest updates or contact the staff at whoenes@dcsr.org or jdholt@dcsr.org.

Recesses

Winter Recess: December 16, 2020 – January 18, 2021

(Meetings resume – Tuesday, January 26, 2021)

Summer Recess: July - August 2021

(Meetings resume Tuesday, September 7, 2021)

College of History – Master Craftsman Program

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:40 p.m. in the Conference Room, 1st Floor

Open to all members

College of Philosophy – Teaching of Degrees

Every 3rd Tuesday at 6:45 p.m. in the Conference Room, 1st Floor

Open to all members

Refreshments

Meals will be served before all four monthly meetings

Dinner: 6:00 p.m., Lower Level Refectory





**Most Worshipful Brother
Michael D. Nicholas, Sr., 32°
KCCH**

2020 Grand Master of Masons
Grand Lodge, F.A.A.M. of the
District of Columbia

Most Worshipful Brother (MWB) Michael D. Nicholas, Sr. was raised in Ocean City, New Jersey. After graduating high school, he matriculated at the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering in 1977.

After graduation, he immediately began his service as an Airborne Ranger-qualified Armor Officer, serving in various United States Army tank and Armored Cavalry leadership positions. In 1985, he transitioned his service to the Army Reserves until 1997, when he was honorably discharged and continued in civilian life as a Professional

Project Manager for commercial and Department of Defense IT projects. He was assigned to Pentagon Operations during the tragedy of 9-11 and worked as part of the recovery and rebuilding efforts at the Pentagon.



MWB Nicholas was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at Lafayette-Dupont Lodge No. 19 in 2001. He served as Secretary of that Lodge from 2003 to 2008, and as Worshipful Master 2009 and 2010. He was appointed as Aide to the Grand Master in 2011 and Grand Marshal in 2012. The following year, he was elected Junior Grand Steward and subsequently elected Grand Master in December of 2019.

MWB Nicholas has a long resume of accomplishments as an active Mason in the District of Columbia, including service on the Boards of both the Masonic Foundation and the Masonic and Eastern Star Homes. He is also a member of several Masonic Bodies, including the Royal Arch, Scottish Rite (where he is a Knight Commander Court of Honor), Almas Shriners, and Red Cross of Constantine. He is a founding member of the Grand Chapter of the Widow Sons Motorcycle Club and the organizer of the Masonic Choir of Washington, D.C.

Married to his partner of 42 years, Maryann, Mike is the proud father of Michael Jr., and grandfather of two, Davis (8) and Lainey (5). In his somewhat limited spare time, he enjoys motorcycles, landscape and portrait photography, historical reading, genealogy research, playing the acoustic guitar, pistol-shooting, and playing some very poor golf.

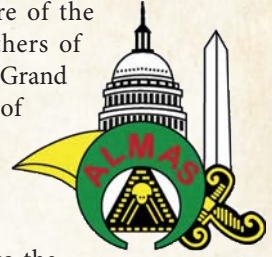


Illustrious Sir George E. Perez, 32° KCCH 2020 Potentate of Almas Shriners

Illustrious Sir George Perez, was Initiated, Passed, and Raised in 2012 at Potomac Lodge No. 5 by Worshipful Brother Robin Bodie. In the Fall of 2014, Ill. Sir Perez was accepted for affiliation to Justice-Columbia Lodge No. 3, and quickly became home to George; he was appointed as a Steward in 2015 and progressed up the line, serving as Worshipful in 2018 and 2019. Throughout his time with Justice-Columbia Lodge, George has been committed to rebranding and growing the Lodge.

George has also served as the representative from Justice-Columbia Lode to Masonic and Eastern Star Home (MESH) Charities since 2015, and has been elected as a member of its Board of Directors. He is proud to be able to provide

for the welfare and care of the needy Sisters and Brothers of the District of Columbia Grand Lodge, and the Order of the Eastern Star of the District of Columbia.



In the Spring of 2013, George was accepted into the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the Valley of Washington, Orient of the District of Columbia. That year, he became the Assistant Almoner and joined the Knights of St. Andrew, serving as Chieftain in 2016. George was Invested to the Knights Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH) in 2017, and served as the Venerable Master of Mithras Lodge of Perfection in 2019.

George is an active Companion of Columbia Chapter No. 1, Royal Arch Masons, and was an appointed Aide to the Grand Master of D.C. in 2019.

In June of 2016, Ill. Sir Perez became a Noble of Almas Shriners, and is a proud member of the Temple's Mini-Motors Unit. In an effort to raise awareness to the mission of the Shrine, George has participated in numerous parades and events throughout the D.C. metropolitan area. Ill. Sir Perez has also served as a Divan member for several years, culminating with his election as Potentate for 2020.

George lives in Northern Virginia with his wife, Lesly Sierra, and their two dogs. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and works in the Cyber Security field with the U.S. Government.

The Correct Position During Scottish Rite Prayer



Predicated on a basic, foundational of belief in a personal Supreme Being, the Scottish Rite gives primary importance to prayer in its Degrees and at its meetings.

While there is an established position and sign to be used by all Scottish Rite Masons during prayer, this position and sign are not uniformly practiced. All Scottish Rite Masons (except when engaged in ritual at the altar) stand during prayer, with caps remaining on the head as part of a uniform.

Scottish Rite Masons also give the accompanying "Sign of the Good Shepherd." This is done by folding the arms, the left over the right, with the outstretched fingers touching the shoulders. The position represents the Good Shepherd carrying a lamb around his neck and holding its feet by crossed hands.

During prayer, the head is slightly bowed.

The practice of this prayer position and sign, will add much to the meaningfulness of our devotion.

THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

HUMAN PROGRESS
IS OUR CAUSE,

LIBERTY OF THOUGHT
OUR SUPREME WISH,

FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE
OUR MISSION,

AND THE GUARANTEE
OF EQUAL RIGHTS
TO ALL PEOPLE EVERYWHERE
OUR ULTIMATE GOAL.



THE SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

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