

# MINNEAPOLIS SUN

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**\*Every first Tuesday of the month is the Heads of Bodies and Knights of Saint Andrew meetings**

**\*\*Dinners are every Thursday before the degrees. You can RSVP and pay for your meal by [clicking here](#)**

**[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL CALENDAR](#)**



**Albert Pike**

VALLEY OF MINNEAPOLIS  
ORIENT OF MINNESOTA

VALUED MEMBER SINCE 1873

2011 Dupont Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55405

MEMBER NO. 00001



2022

**COMING TO VISIT?**

**DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD!**





# Minneapolis Scottish Rite Building & Museum Foundation

## Guardian of the Temple

A Monthly Giving Society



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\$25



\$50



\$100



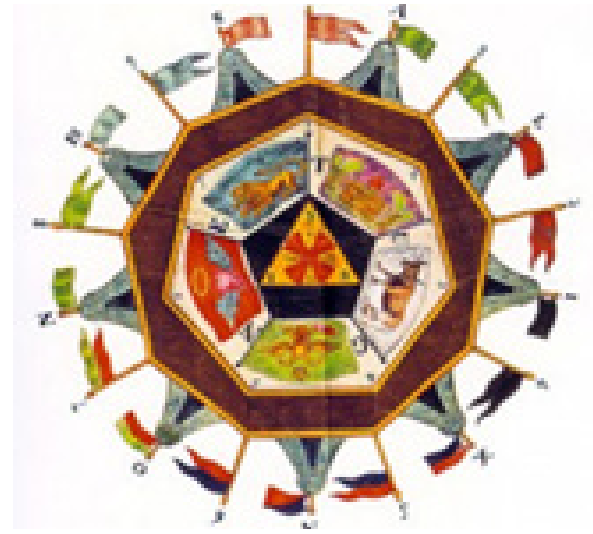
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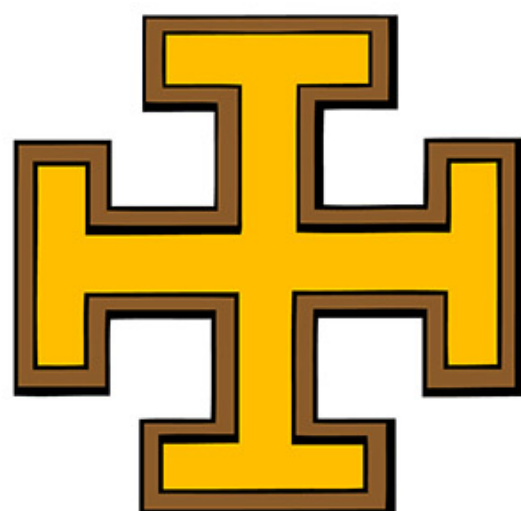
# EVENTS THIS MONTH



December 2 - Heads of Bodies & Lodge of Perfection Meetings



December 4 - 30°



December 11 - 31°



December 13 - 32°



## NOVEMBER HOB

The November meeting of the Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite was called to order at 7:19 p.m. by the Heads of Bodies, including Scott Wood, David Graham, Tim Bocce, and Mike Miller. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved, with an amendment to correct the date. Committee reports highlighted several completed building projects, such as the finished wall and auditorium ceiling repairs, and noted the operational status of the building use form. The Building & Museum Foundation reported a steady monthly income, and upcoming building uses were approved for various groups, including Compass Lodge, MPLS 19, Cass Lodge, Daytripper Theater, and the Apollo Men's Choir.

The Knights of St. Andrew (KSA) announced a knighting ceremony and their ongoing support for social events, including a \$250 donation for an October gathering. They also requested assistance with doors for upcoming events. Rite Care sent out an appeal letter and expressed gratitude for anticipated support. The Membership Committee had no new updates, while the Double Eagles were reminded to pick up their patents at the office.

In new business, the group discussed plans to replace the ovens, with further details to be provided at a later date. The meeting concluded with a brief PR report from Dave Kampf, who thanked everyone for their participation. The session was adjourned at 8:25 p.m., marking another productive gathering for the Valley.

This summary was generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence and reviewed by the editor.





# **REMEMBRANCE & RENEWAL CEREMONY AND MYSTIC BANQUET**

## **SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday March 21,  
2026







# KCCH INVESTITURE

Brethren,  
Every two years, Brothers from all over the Orient of Minnesota convenes on Plato Blvd, to invest and celebrate the new Knight Commanders of the Court of Honor. Saint Paul Valley was packed with a sea of red and white hats, to welcome and congratulate these Brothers.

Minneapolis Valley had a strong attendance, celebrating the following newly invested Brothers:

Joseph Jon Anderson  
Clinton John Christenson  
Brian Leo Dehler  
Matthew P. Lachner  
Clint Edward LaFave  
Arun Natarajan  
Nicholas David Oliveri  
Scott Ford Wood

Much like our degrees, one candidate was selected as principal for the ceremony. This year, that was Saint Paul Valley's Worshipful Brother Lloyd Cheney, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:..

On the next page we have our pictures of our Valley's newest Knight Commanders of the Court of Honor that were present at the investiture ceremony.





Joseph Jon Anderson



Brian Leo Dehler



Matthew P. Lachner



Clint Edward LaFave





Arun Natarajan



Nicholas David Oliveri



Scott Ford Wood





## Minneapolis Scottish Rite Building & Museum Foundation

# Online Store Now Open!!

### Lodge of Perfection T-Shirts - \$35.00



### Valley Polo - \$49.95 - 55.95



Scan the QR Code to purchase and then see the Valley Officer to get your item.

Available sizes are listed in the store.





# SPURIOUS SCOTTISH RITE BODIES

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

**H**ow familiar are you with the beginnings of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction? Our Brother Elting Comstock, mathematician and member of this Valley, has been publishing a series in our newsletter about the origins of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. It is a fascinating and provocative read and I hope that you enjoy it!

For more information on Cerneauism and the founding of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, I recommend checking out the following pages:

<https://scottishritenmj.org/history>

<https://scottishrite.org/scottish-rite-myths-and-facts/cerneauism/>

Mark Evan Prewett, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:



SPURIOUS SCOTTISH RITE BODIES  
SCOTTISH RITE SUN  
DECEMBER 1925

In the light of Scottish Rite history it seems peculiarly fitting that the founders of the Mother Supreme Council should have been adopted as one of their mottos, “Ordo ab Chao.” Bringing “order out of chaos” has been by no means the least of the problems confronting the Supreme Councils of both the Northern and the Southern jurisdictions.

Either directly or indirectly most of the spurious Scottish Rite bodies in the United States have, in some manner, been connected with the organization started in New York in 1807 by one Joseph Cerneau. On this account the term Cerneau Masonry and clandestine Masonry are commonly considered to being synonymous.

Joseph Cerneau was born in France in 1763. He was a jeweler by trade. He migrated to Cuba where he received the degrees with the Rite of Perfection from Mathieu Dupotet, Who had received his authority by direct line, originally emanating from Stephen Morin. The date of Cerneau’s patent is July 15, 1806.

A study of this patent reveals the fact that it certified Cerneau to be a Knight of the White and Black Eagle, the twenty-fourth degree of the Rite of Perfection, and a Deputy Grand Inspector for the Northern Part of the Island of Cuba. It is also granted him power to “initiate the Bros. Masons, whom he may judge (worthy), to promote them to the Sublime Degrees, from the 4th up to and including the 24th, provided, however, that these Masons shall have been officers of a Lodge regularly constituted and recognized, and in places only where there may not be found Sacred and Sublime and regularly constituted Asyla;- -we give him full and entire power to confer in the name of our aforesaid Grand Council the highest Degrees of Masonry on a Kt. Prince Mason, one only each year, whose virutes he shall recognize—” (emphasis added by author).

Armed with this patent he appeared in New York in November 1806 and set about organizing a Consistory which was accomplished in October 1807. “The Most Potent Sovereign Grand Consistory of the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies, of Supreme Chiefs of Exalted Masonry according to the Ancient Constitutional Scottish Rite of Heredom.” The exact form of the title was not consistent in various documents used, but until 1813 he made no use of any term indicating that his body was anything else than the Rite of Perfection of twenty-five degrees operating under the Constitutions of 1762. The fact, however, must not be lost sight of, that his



patent restricted his activities to the northern part of Cuba, which by no stretch of the imagination could be made to include New York, and furthermore that he was not empowered to confer the twenty-fifth degree on more than one each year.

In 1813 Cerneau announced the organization of a “Supreme Council of Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third Degree.” What is thirty-third degree was no one knows. He did not receive it from the Supreme Council at Charleston. The records of the Grand Orient of France and the Supreme Council of France proved that he did not receive it from them. The Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction was not organized until after the formation of his new body had been announced. Be that as it may, this Cerneau Consistory was very much alive and bitter controversies ensued with both the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions. Cerneau bodies were established in Charleston and New Orleans. Up to 1826 it was a thorn in the flesh to both legitimate Supreme Councils, as well as to many of the Grand Lodges, but the Anti-Masonic excitement put an end to its labors, as it did to most regular bodies. In 1827 the Supreme Council was dissolved, and Cerneau left for France, where he died in 1829.

In 1832, there appeared in New York one Count de St. Laurent who gathered together some of the surviving members of the original Cerneau body and organized “The United Supreme Council for the Western Hemisphere of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General of the Thirty-third degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.” By some means Elias Hicks became Grand Commander and this organization has come to be known as the “Hicks body.” It existed for a few years when it was dissolved and its funds divided among the members.

Henry C. Atwood, who had been expelled from the Grand Lodge of New York, organized a rival Grand Lodge which was in existence from 1837 to 1850. In 1849, he organized a “Supreme Grand Council for the State of New York” and commenced conferring the thirty-third degree. This body also is short lived for it died in 1851.

Jeremy L. Cross was the next to set up a new body which he called “The Supreme Council of Grand Inspectors-General of the 33rd degree, for the Northern Hemisphere, Sitting in the Valley of New York.” He claimed to be authorized through a “Mr. Barker” who had been deputized “by the full Council of Charleston, while in session, to bring on with him to the North and deliver in person to Mr. Cross, a patent and charter, with full and ample power to preside over the Northern Hemisphere.” This patent and charter is still in existence. It was made out of a blank patent obtained in some manner from the Supreme Council at Charleston. It is dated June 24. 1824 and carries a signatures of Moses Holbrooke, Frederick Dalcho, Horace G. Street, Alexander McDonald and some



others. The surprising fact concerning this document is that it carries five seals of Cerneau bodies; that of the Supreme Council; that of the Grand Consistory of New York; That of the Sovereign Chapter of the Rose Croix de Heredom; that of the Grand Council of Princess of Jerusalem and that of the Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection. It was evidently a forgery, as the seal of the Supreme Council at Charleston is lacking; Its place being taken by the seals of five illegitimate bodies at New York. This new body had Cross as Grand Commander, Atwood as Grand Master of Ceremonies and Robert B. Folger as Grand Treasurer.

In 1852, a new council was formed. James Foulhouze of New Orleans who had received the 33rd degree from the Grand Orient of France visited New York and proposed a scheme for making the Supreme Council in every state of the union. This idea attracted the interest of Atwood and Folger and they together with some others organized what has been called the second Atwood body. Atwood himself was Grand Commander and Folger was Secretary General. The Cross body immediately declared this new body to be “illegal, clandestine and spurious” and for once we must agree with them.

Atwood died in 1860. The meeting held in October of that year, Edmund B. Hays produced a document dated in 1858 and signed by Atwood appointing Hays as his successor. In due time, the Supreme Council admitted the genuineness of Atwood’s signature and proclaimed Hays as Grand Commander. The next year they sent one of their members, Henry J. Seymour, to France to secure the recognition of the Grand Orient. This he succeeded in accomplishing. The letter to Seymour acknowledging this recognition specified the Supreme Council of the State of New York but after receiving it, they changed their name to the “Supreme Council, 33rd, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, for the United States of America, its Territories and Dependencies.”

About this time an unfortunate quarrel split the Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction and the two factions. The grand commander, Edward A. Raymond, assumed that the powers of Frederick the Great belonged to him as Grand Commander and not to the Supreme Council as a body. In accordance with his idea he began to disregard the actions of the Council. He conferred the 33rd degree on whomsoever he chose. At a meeting in August 1860, an open rupture occurred over the right of the Supreme Council to appoint its own committees. A motion was made which Raymond refused to put. A motion was then made to close the Council to be opened at 4:00 that afternoon. He also refused to put this motion and declared the Council closed until 10:00 the following morning. After the council was again opened and the minutes of the previous day read, he declared a Council closed sine die. Eight of the members opposing Raymond sought the advice of J. J. J. Gourgas, a former Grand Commander and acting on his suggestions,



five of them reopened the Supreme Council and proceeded with business. One of their acts was to elect Killian H. Van Rensselaer to the office of Lieutenant Grand Commander. They also adopted a resolution which removed Raymond from the office of Grand Commander. This action was entirely disregarded by Raymond. He and Simon W. Robinson proceeded to expel the five and fill their places by the election of others. Meetings were held by both factions, most of the subordinate bodies standing with the Van Rensselaer group. In 1862, Van Rensselaer was elected Grand Commander and Raymond and Robinson were tried and expelled.

On the 7th of February, 1863, the Hays body and the Raymond Supreme Council united under the name which had been used by the Hays body. In 1865, this Council changed its name back to the “Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic jurisdiction of the United States of America.” War waged between the two rival bodies until 1867 when they finally succeeded coming to an agreement and on the 17th of May 1867 they united, with Josiah H. Drummond as Grand Commander. By the terms of the union, they adopted the name, “The Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States;” Each of the two Councils gave up their former separate existence to become constituent parts of the new body. The effect of this has been for the Northern Jurisdiction to use 1867, the date of the union, instead of 1813, the date of the formation of their first Supreme Council by the Mother Council.

Elting H. Comstock, 33° I.:G.:H.: