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[DON'T FORGET TO
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COMING TO VISIT?

DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD!

EVENTS THIS MONTH



Thursday October 1st - 15° & 16°



Saturday October 3rd - Feast of Tishri
& Kadosh Feast



Tuesday October 6th - KSA, Heads of
Bodies, & Lodge of Perfection



Thursday October 8th - 17° & 18°



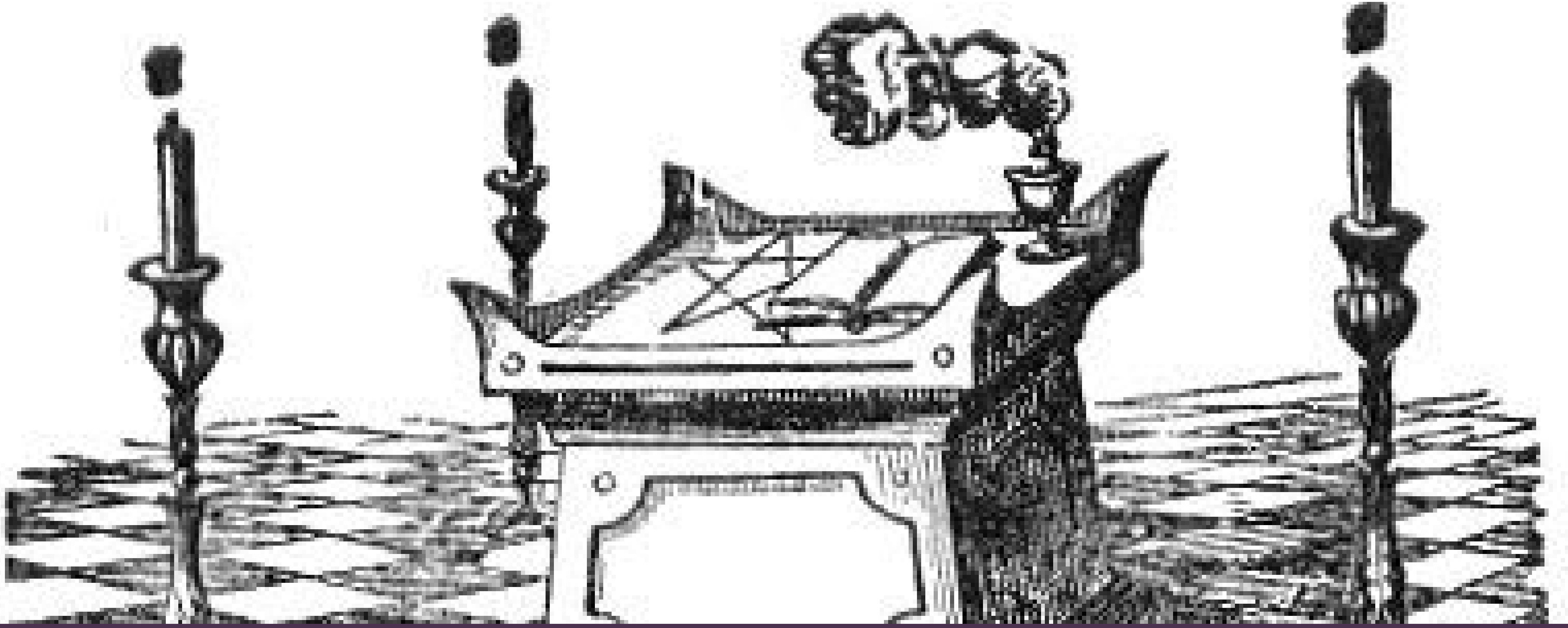
Thursday October 15th - 19°, 20°, &
3rd Thursday Social



Thursday October 22th - 21° & 22°



Thursday October 29th - 23° & 24°



SEPTEMBER HOB

At the September 1, 2026, Heads of the Bodies meeting for the Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite, leaders reviewed facility needs, committee work, and upcoming events. The building committee reported that the boiler passed inspection, while the air-conditioning unit in the 33rd Degree room is no longer functioning. The KSA did not meet but continues to support other committees and improve communications. RiteCare announced that flyers are being prepared for the March 13, 2027, gala, and the Building and Museum Foundation is stocking its merchandise cabinet while seeking volunteers to staff the booth.

The group approved building use for Minneapolis 19 on September 19, including the Red Room, dining room, and adjoining hall, as well as a May 9 Doors Open event. Members also noted that the Scotty Awards drew more than 90 attendees, with a financial breakdown requested for review. As part of new business, the Valley will conduct a short trial period without parking lot security. The meeting concluded with thanks for a productive discussion and an announcement that the biennial session is scheduled for August 22 through 24, 2027.

This article was generated with AI based on the HOB Minutes and verified by the Editor.



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings Scottish Rite Brethren!

If you have not been to the Rite in awhile, you really should find a Thursday to head down. Peg & Jerry Oliver have been cooking excellent meals, and we have returned to some of the decorum during mealtime that we have not seen since Covid.

In the education room, Justin Thompson, 32° K:C:C:H: and crew are facilitating thought-provoking discussion around each of our degrees. If you went through the degrees prior to 2020, I would highly recommend sitting in during these sessions.

While you will always find some of us heading to “Outer Lodge” on Thursday, make sure to stick around on the 3rd Thursday every month for our social hour.

Finally for some housekeeping. Due to the timing of events the article regarding the Council of Kadosh installation last month will appear in the November issue.

See you at the Rite!

Mark Evan Prewett, 32° K:C:C:H:
Editor for the SUN



RITUAL CORNER

Greetings Scottish Rite Brethren,

The degrees for the Fall Class have been fantastic! The Class has recently completed the Lodge of Perfection Degrees, each becoming a Perfect Elu with the conclusion of the 14th degree. I look forward to participating in the coming degrees as the Class continues their journey to becoming a Master of the Royal Secret. Let us review the 14th degree, Perfect Elu, to learn what it can teach us.

The 14th Degree is styled the Degree of Perfection, as it is the culmination of the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge. One of the lessons taught in the degree is that Perfect Elu's are both bound and free: bound by their obligation and free from prejudice, intolerance, and envy. Some of the duties we learn are to assist, encourage, and defend the brethren. Protect the oppressed and relieve want and distress. Albert Pike writes, "Perfect truth is not attainable anywhere...Yet we are not to relax in the pursuit of truth, nor contentedly acquiesce in error...thus Masonry is a continual struggle toward the light. (pg. 223 Morals and Dogma).

Let us try to incorporate these lessons and practice these duties in our own journey toward Masonic Light. They can help us as the journey through the Scottish Rite degrees continue for the Fall Class. Join us on Thursday evenings at the Minneapolis Valley to learn more lessons and duties that help us become better Men and Masons.

Fraternally,

Lee E. Kielblock, 33° I.:G.:H.:
Ritual Director
Minneapolis Valley



HONORARY DEMOLAY

They came, they saw, and they were impressed. Minnesota now has 25 “Honorary DeMolays.” On September 12, Master Masons from across the state participated in the Initiatory and DeMolay Degrees presented by members of Minnesota DeMolay and sponsored by the Excalibur Priory. The DeMolay members took pride in their ritual work, and the Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota called the presentation “the best” he had witnessed in years, noting that it compared favorably with the work of some of Minnesota’s finest Masonic ritualists. Fees collected will support individual Chapters or Minnesota DeMolay as a whole. The next Degrees will be held in December to honor the Grand Master in Minnesota. Before then, DeMolay Chapters will conduct installations at Duluth, Anoka, and Lincoln. October will also feature airsoft, following a successful summer kickball game with the Masons of Anoka Lodge. These activities combine fun and brotherhood with leadership skills and character development. Learn more at mndemolay.org and on Facebook. Minnesota DeMolay members would be glad to welcome you, and your involvement could make a meaningful difference.

Mark Hailer, 33° I.:G.:H.:



2026 SCOTTIE AWARDS

The annual Scottie Awards dinner and presentation took place this year on August 27th at the Zuhrah Shrine Center in Minnetonka. The Scottie Awards are presented each year by the Consistory to recognize the dedicated Brothers of the Minneapolis Valley who present the Scottish Rite Degrees twice a year for the new members of the Scottish Rite. It is always a fun event, and this year was no exception.

This year's Scottie Awards event was one of the largest in recent years with approximately 90 members of the Rite, their families and other guests in attendance. These included Tony R. Krall, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Orient of Minnesota of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction and David Kampf 33°, Personal Representative for the Minneapolis Valley. Other attendees included the Heads of Bodies and representatives of the various valley committees. All were treated to a fabulous dinner provided by Jerry and Peg Oliver and their crew of helpers.

Many Brothers received nominations for their excellent work during the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 degrees. These included those in various acting roles, direction, and those committees who work behind the scenes to make the degrees possible. Of course, not all could win but all of the nominees were deserving of recognition.

Several of the Scottie Awards recognize exceptional performances by Brothers in acting roles. This year, the Best Actor in a Lead Role award went to Scott Wood, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.: for his role in the 14th Degree. Montie

Hadraba's role in the 15th degree earned him the Best New Actor award. Mike Van Peursem won the Best Supporting Actor in a Lead Role for his part in the 31st degree. The Best Supporting Actor in a Minor Role went to Earl Emrick for his part in the 24th degree. Finally, Sujit Varma won the Orator Award for his role in the 10th degree.

Other Scottie Awards recognize direction and the overall performance of the degree cast. Bryan Pope received the Best Director award this year for the 15th degree. The Degree of the Year award went to the 11th degree from the Fall of 2025.

There is a special Scottie Award for the Knights of St. Andrew to acknowledge their important contribution to the Scottish Rite by recognizing one Knight whose service has gone above and beyond even the KSA's high standard. This year, that Knight was Justus Pope, who received the KSA of the Year award.

The Rite Stuff Award was established to honor those who exemplify unwavering dedication and commitment to our fraternity. They are the backbone of our Valley, giving their all each week without hesitation. Whether stepping in to fill roles on degree nights, leading groups during the week, or diligently attending to Valley business, these individuals embody the true spirit of Scottish Rite masonry. This year, the Rite Stuff Award went to Peter Van Osdol 33° in recognition of his many contributions, but especially as the choir soloist in the 8th degree, Intendant of the Building, in the Fall 2025 degree cycle.

The Lodge and Double Eagle of the Year award recognizes engagement, outreach and mentoring efforts that grow the Rite's membership. This year the award went to Minneapolis Lodge No. 19, Master Alex Oftelie, and its Double Eagle, Kevin Hendrickson.

Perhaps the most prestigious Scottie Award is the Lifetime Achievement Award. It honors a Brother whose steady hand and steadfast heart have, over time, helped shape the very identity of the Minneapolis Scottish Rite. This year, the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Edwin A. Martini 33°, a past master of the Consistory, to recognize his lifetime of service and legacy of Masonic leadership.

Throughout the night, a good time was had by all. We hope you can plan to join us for the 2027 Scottie Awards next year, which will continue the tradition.

Paul Hodnefield, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:

Award Recipients

- Scott Wood, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.: (14°) — Best Actor in a Lead Role
- Montie Hadraba, 32° M.:R.:S.: (15°) — Best New Actor
- Mike Van Peursem, 32° M.:R.:S.: (31°) — Best Supporting Actor in a Lead Role
- Earl Emrick, 32° M.:R.:S.: (24°) — Best Supporting Actor in a Minor Role
- Sujit Varma, 32° M.:R.:S.: (10°) — Orator Award
- Bryan Pope, 32° M.:R.:S.: (15°) — Best Director
- 11° “Elu of the Twelve or Prince Ameth”— Degree of the Year
- Justus Pope, 32° M.:R.:S.: — KSA of the Year
- Peter Van Osdol, 33° I.:G.:H.: — The Rite Stuff Award
- Minneapolis Lodge No. 19 — Lodge & Double Eagle of the Year
- Edwin A. Martini, 33° I.:G.:H.: — Lifetime Achievement Award



WHAT CAN ONE BROTHER DO?

Working in Wardrobe and Make-Up provides many opportunities. One of these is a chance to listen to discussions while preparing for degrees. There are always interesting topics but one I hear often involves participation. If one is not acting in a degree that night the questions get asked “Why should I come in if I have no roles? What can one brother do?”

One brother can

1. simply have dinner with other brothers. The meals are delicious and social time is important. One can even check in on a brother you haven't heard from in a while and let them know you're thinking of them. The brothers can also let you know that they care about you and are happy to see you. It might be the therapy you both need;
2. volunteer to help backstage. The Properties, Sound, and Lighting Committees can always use help and will be happy to see you, the Choir can use your voice, the Tyler Committee would love if you helped greet, and the Knights of St Andrew to help around the Rite;
3. volunteer to take on a part in a degree. On the day of degrees, often there are needs and you can be a huge help. If a backstage committee member is filling a non-speaking role, taking that part may free them to provide needed technical support;
4. watch the degrees from the sidelines. It is more enjoyable for

actors to play to a larger audience, especially in the later evening degrees. After the degrees, offering encouragement means so much to the performers and sitting in with the class education discussion has a whole lot of meaning; and

5. help make the building better by assisting in cleaning, repair, and maintenance, even if it's just for one night. The House Committee and the Library would be delighted.

While it is not always easy dealing with traffic and work stress, coming to your Minneapolis Valley helps you and helps the Rite. So even in what you might think are small ways, it is what one brother and all brothers can do.

See you here!

Brother Juniper, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:



A UNIQUE TYLER'S SWORD PT. 2

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

For the first time, we have a modern continuation to a newsletter article from a hundred years ago. If you have not read the first article, it is in the [last month's edition of the SUN](#).

A UNIQUE TYLER'S SWORD PT. 2

Finally, after half a week at sea, the weather turned. The long, slow swells of the Atlantic seemed almost glasslike beside the choppy, wind-driven waves of previous days. One hundred and thirty miles offshore, the deep underwater canyons of [Georges Bank](#) stirred unexpected eddies through otherwise calm water, but the weather above was more predictable, and nightly forecasts carried by a new device called *radio* proved a godsend. Captain James Hodgins manned the helm of his Gloucester “knockabout” schooner, his eye on the horizon and his ear tuned to the lookout at the masthead. With two masts, a gaff, and a crew of ten, she was modest beside the larger schooners. At the bow, the striker sat in the iron pulpit, a harpoon cradled in his arms as he watched the lookout and waited.



The lookout sprang to life, pointing across the water. “Finning! Starboard!” Excitement flashed below. The striker turned forward and rose, gripping the platform’s banister with one hand and the harpoon with the other. Hodgins swung the rudder and engaged the diesel auxiliary engine, another new invention, summoning the speed

and power needed to overtake their adversary. Smoke billowed as the engine came alive with a dragon's roar; sails tightened, and wind and fire drove the schooner through the water. Poised above the bow, the striker tensed for a moment, then cast the harpoon like a javelin. Strike! A flash of silver and a splash of red. The harpoon had driven into the broadside of the swordfish, but the fight was not over. Full-grown swordfish can swim up to fifty knots or more, and this one was above average in size, perhaps nine or ten feet long from rostrum to fin. A stout rope was tied to the harpoon and a barrel. The barrel will keep the swordfish from diving, and it will wear him out.



In the early 20s, this story would describe a typical swordfishing expedition. A nine-to-ten-foot swordfish would yield a three-foot rostrum or “beak.” Brother Hodgins would fashion this beak into the blade of a sword and use it as tyler of his Lodge in Rockport, Massachusetts. As we learned in last month’s issue, this sword would be presented to Joseph Gray, nephew of Brother Hodgins, in 1921 when

Red Lakes Falls Lodge No. 308 was chartered. This sword would be later presented to Most Worshipful Brother George W. Christie, Grand Master of Masons in Minnesota from 1952-1953, and the member of Minneapolis Valley who first introduced us to the swordfish sword in 1926. Today, WB Alan Swanson of Northern Lodge was able to provide these incredible pictures of the sword as it resides in Crookston Lodge. Enjoy these pictures and this fascinating connection with a piece of our Masonic history!





LODGE OF PERFECTION

As September rapidly comes to a close, we see daylight waning by the vernal equinox, the leaves beginning to turn and starting to notice a chill in the air. Additionally, we also come to the close of the ineffable degrees of Lodge of Perfection, the first of the four bodies of the Scottish Rite. Before we move onto the second body, the degrees of the Chapter Rose Croix, let us briefly recap the lessons we have received so far.

As we recall, the purpose of the degrees of the Lodge of Perfection is to discover and explore yourself, taking an honest stock of your own strengths and shortcomings. By critically examining your own vices, passions, and prejudices you can learn to apply the virtues and values installed in these degrees to offset your faults. In class, we prompt questions designed to get the candidates to discuss and interact so they can better reflect on their own beliefs.

This is the purpose of the Lodge of Perfection, to promote a well-structured and incremental means of “perfection.” By building meaningful steps upon a solid foundation, we can delve deeper into our own moral understanding. Of course, while perfection is the goal of this body of degrees, ultimately, we know that perfection is reserved only for the deity. But by beginning this journey, we can move forward on the path to a more enjoyable, rewarding and spiritually productive life.

M. Justin Thompson, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.: