



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF DELAWARE

Northern Masonic Jurisdiction



Newsletter

May 2025

Vol. 4 No. 05



32nd Degree & COD

May 10, 2025

2025 Council of Deliberations and Installations

The Delaware Scottish Rite 2025 Council of Deliberations met at Clayton Fire Hall in Clayton, DE to Install into Office next year's officers in the following bodies:

Valley of Wilmington

Lodge of Perfection

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Thrice Potent Master | Greg Correll, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Deputy Master | James Hanby, 32 ^o |
| • Senior Warden | Steve Savatelli, 32 ^o |
| • Junior Warden | Marc Koble, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Orator | James Seager, 32 ^o |
| • Master of Ceremonies | James Alexander, 32 ^o |
| • Captain of the Guard | Robert Geesaman, Jr., 32 ^o |

Council of Princes of Jerusalem

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| • Sovereign Prince | III .: Mark K. Button, 33 ^o , MSA ° |
| • High Priest | Steve Savatelli, 32 ^o |
| • Senior Warden | Scott Christensen, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Junior Warden | Christopher Wessells, 32 ^o |
| • Master of Ceremonies | George Skinner, 32 ^o |
| • Master of Entrances: | Jason D. Crook, 32 ^o , HGA |

Chapter of Rose Croix

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| • Most Wise Master | Robert R. Dion, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Senior Warden | Steve Bush, 32 ^o |
| • Junior Warden | Charles M. Porter, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Orator | James Fields, 32 ^o |
| • Master of Ceremonies | Michael Barnard, 32 ^o |
| • Captain of the Guard | James McClain, 32 ^o |

2025 Council of Deliberations and Installations (cont.)

Valley of Wilmington

Consistory

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| • Commander in Chief | III ∴ John Eberly, 33 ^o |
| • 1st Lieutenant Commander | III ∴ Ronald P. Ferraro, 33 ^o , MSA |
| • 2nd Lieutenant Commander | III ∴ John Foreaker, 33 ^o , MSA |
| • Grater | III ∴ Mark K. Button, 33 ^o , MSA |
| • Chancellor | Marc R. Koble, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Master of Ceremonies | Joseph R. Rodgers II 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Engineer and Seneschal | Scott Christensen, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Standard Bearer | Eric Evans, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Color Bearer | III ∴ Fred Palmer, 33 ^o , MSA |
| • Captain of the Guard | Michael Swain, 32 ^o , MSA |

Knights of St. Andrews

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Chief | James Alexander, 32 |
| • Chieftain | Steve Savatelli, 32 |
| • Headsman | Jason Crook, 32 ^o |
| • Secretary/Treasurer | Don LeMasters, 32 ^o |
| • Chaplain | Steve Bush, 32 ^o |

Valley Officers

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| • Secretary | III ∴ Stephen M. Tucker, 33 ^o |
| • Treasurer | Robert Dion, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Chaplain | Eric Evans, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Tiler | Stefan F. Darczuk, 32 ^o , MSA |

2025 Council of Deliberations and Installations (cont.)

Valley of Lower Delaware

Lodge of Perfection

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| • Thrice Potent Master | Roger Willey, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Deputy Master | Gregory M. Vernicek, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Senior Warden | Harold Hess, 32 ^o |
| • Master of Ceremonies | Peter Pagani, 32 ^o |
| • Captain of the Guard | Jay Jimenez, Jr., 32 ^o |

Council of Princes of Jerusalem

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Sovereign Prince | John Turansky, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • High Priest | James Lawrence, 32 ^o , MSA |

Chapter of Rose Croix

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| • Most Wise Master | Roland Cohee, Jr., 32 ^o |
| • Senior Warden | Joseph Rogers II, 32 ^o , MSA |

Knights of St. Andrews

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Chief | Gregory M. Vernicek, 32 ^o |
| • Chieftain | Roland Cohee, Jr., 32 ^o |
| • Headsman | Roland Cohee, Sr., 32 ^o |
| • Secretary | Jack McDuff, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Treasurer | Arthur Sutton, 32 ^o |

Valley Officers

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| • Secretary | Jack McDuff, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Treasurer | Pat Shearon, 32 ^o , MSA |
| • Tiler | Geoffrey Fox, 32 ^o |

2025 Council of Deliberations and Installations (cont.)

OFFICERS 2025 - 2026

Ricky L. Swalm, 33° Commander-in-Chief
 Herbert J. Atkinson, 33° Commander-in-Chief, Emeritus
 Stephen J. McCarthy, 33° 1st Lieutenant Commander
 William R. Stevens, Jr., 33° 1st Lieutenant Commander, Emeritus
 William J. Shaw, 33°, MSA 2nd Lieutenant Commander
 Glenn F. Davis Sr. 33° Minister of State
 Kennard E. Brown, III, 33° Chancellor
 David Laucius, 33° Prior
 Cesar E. Aniceto, 33° Treasurer
 Ronald P. Ferraro, 33°, MSA, SRMOY Secretary
 William F. Huxtable, Jr., 33° Secretary Emeritus
 Mark K. Button, 33° Master of Ceremonies
 David Walters, 33°, HGA, MSA Hospitaler
 Patrick L. Shearon, 32°, MSA Seneschal
 Fred M. Palmer, 33°, MSA, SRMOY Standard Bearer
 James M. Brady, 33°, MSA, SRMOY Captain of the Guard
 John Badeen, 33°, MSA Sentinel



Be Part of our Dramatics Group

One of the premiere, growth opportunities fairly unique to the Scottish Rite is the experience of performing on stage to teach our core values: Reverence for God, Integrity, Devotion to Country, Justice, Tolerance, and Service to Humanity. Next fall, Delaware will be given the opportunity to perform the 15th degree and to have it recorded to be played back during a Thursday Night at the Rite in the Spring of 2026. This is a great opportunity for Delaware to shine in front of the entire Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Don't let this exciting experience pass you by. We would love to be able to fully cast this degree including all the supporting roles. Please consider getting involved and being a part of history for Delaware Scottish Rite. This will be a truly memorable experience.

Contact [Bro. Greg Correll](#) and let him know your interest in joining in on the fun. Whether it is a non-speaking part, a few lines, a major roll, or behind the scenes, it is as they say, "there are no minor rolls in theater". This is one of those "Making Good Men Better opportunities that masonry is all about. Come on out and make new friends.



October 2025 Reunion

15th Degree performed for Thursday Night at the Rite





FROM THE SOUTH . . .

At our last business meeting for the VOLD before the summer break, we installed a few brothers in various officer positions. Illustrious Ricky Swalm, Deputy for Delaware, was present to do the honors. He installed Roger Willey, 33°, as Thrice Potent Master and Knight Jay Jimenez as Headsman of the Knights of St. Andrew. In addition, KSA Chief, Greg Vernicek, initiated Brother Gary Hartman and his companion, Harley as Squires in the KSA. Many thanks to Illustrious Ricky Swalm for doing the honors with little preparation time. Squire Gary Hartman, along with his companion, are a welcome addition to the KSA and I'm sure will serve in that capacity with zeal and devotion as they proceed on their journey to knighthood. We are always looking to recruit new members to our clan. If there are any "black hat" brothers desirous of joining our ranks, I would love to hear from you. Wishing everyone a relaxing and fun-filled summer, and looking forward to seeing everyone in September, if not sooner. Don't forget to begin or continue your Pathfinder journey. Feel free to contact me with any questions or if I can be of any help.
Dolphinchef@aol.com

Love and Service, Greg Vernicek, VOLD KSA Chief 917-816-1042 Dolphinchef@aol.com



Even though our Masonic year is winding down, there are still many events that are on the schedule in which the Knights of St. Andrew are asked to participate in. One of those events was the Order of the Easter Star's installation. As a result of participating in last year's events, we were once again asked to assist in the festivities of the 104th. Grand Chapter of Delaware Order of the Easter Star Installation of Grand Officers, which occurred on May 13, 2025. Many thanks to the outgoing Grand Matron, Rosen Shearon, for her continued support, and congratulations and best wishes to the incoming Worthy Grand Matron, Christine Cannon and the Worthy Grand Patron, Stephen Tolbert, PGP for a successful year.

The KSA have already been asked to assist with next year's installation. In addition, on Monday, as part of the OES Grand Chapter; Knight Jay Jimenez was asked to sing the Star-Spangled Banner as well as the Canadian national anthem, O Canada. He surprised the audience by singing it in French, which totally impressed everyone. Once again, my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Knights who participated. It looks like we may have started a new annual tradition, so far as the Order of Easter Star goes.

In love and service, Greg Vernicek KSA Chief, VOLD





For those who have already started their Pathfinder journey, or for those interested in beginning their path, there are 6 Waypoints that help one progress through the program with numerous Mile Markers under each Waypoint that will guide you in learning all about our Rite in general and your Valley in particular.

The Six Waypoints are: Organization, Self-improvement, Valley Life, Enrichment Programs, Service and Philosophy, and Choice. Under Organization, there are 18 Mile Markers of which you need to complete 6. Under Self-Improvement, there are 22 Mile Markers of which you must complete 6. Under Valley Life, there are 24 Mile Markers of which you must complete 6. Under Enrichment Programs, there are 14 Mile Markers of which you must complete 6. Under Service and Philosophy, there are 27 Mile Markers of which you must complete 6. Under Choice, you may go back and complete any two additional Mile Markers from any of the Waypoints.

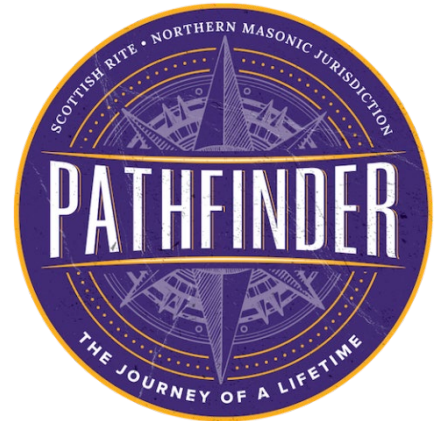
There are Field Guides and Workbooks you can use to keep track of your progress, BUT there is also a Pathfinder Digital portal on-line where you can track your progress electronically.

Some of the following information might prove helpful in getting you started:

Have you started your “Journey On” with Pathfinder yet? Now is a perfect time to get started.

Where can I get more information on the Pathfinder Program?

<https://scottishritenmj.org/pathfinder>



If you were traveling along your pathfinder program with me you should need two more mile markers to complete your program. Here they are. Congratulations !!

PF-ORG_15: What are the official caps worn within the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction? What are their colors and what do they represent? Record your findings in your Field Book entry.

Answer: Black caps represent 32nd degree master masons and the general membership of the Scottish Rite

Blue Caps represent Aids or a member of the service group

Yellow Caps denote that one is a live officer in either the Lodge of Perfection, Council Princes of Jerusalem, Chapter of Rose Croix, or one's Consistory.

Red Caps are members selected for the Meritorious Service Award denoting a member's hard work and dedicated service to the Rite

White Caps are members selected to be Honorary Members of Supreme Council and denote extra ordinary service and leadership in a Valley

Purple Caps are Active Members of Supreme Council and are responsible for overseeing Valleys and representing Supreme Council in those Valleys as well as serving on committees out of Supreme Council.

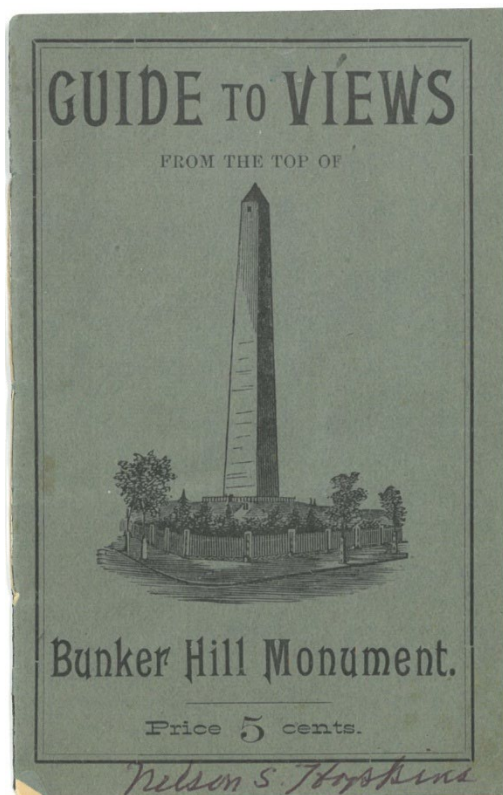
PF-VL_018: What is the Feast of the Paschal Lamb? Attend a Feast of the Paschal Lamb service in your state. Reflect and record your experience in your Field Book entry.

Answer: It is the annual Scottish Rite Memorial Service honoring those who have passed to the Lodge Eternal and performed by the Chapter of Rose Croix. It is based on the belief that Christ died for our sins representing the Passover Lamb commemorating both Easter and the Passover ever reminding us that the soul is immortal and the bonds of fraternal love cannot be severed by the passing of time.



Remembering the Battle of Bunker Hill:

By Jeffrey Croteau, Director of Library & Archives



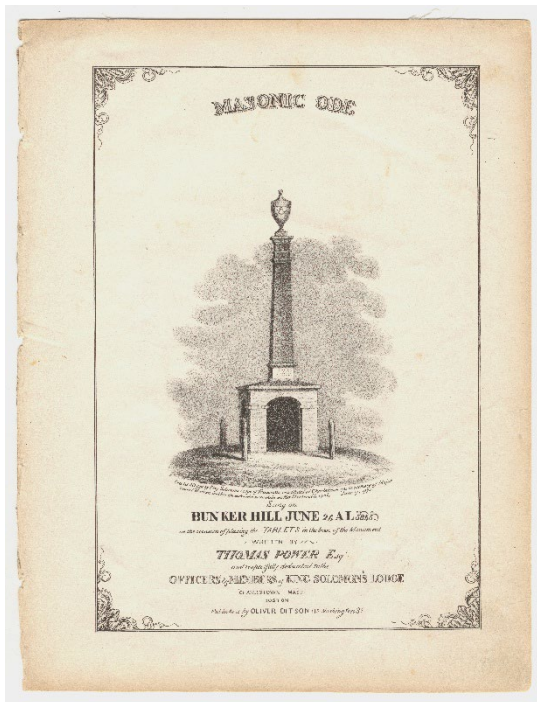
This pocket-size booklet was intended for tourists visiting the monument. While still a memorial to the battle, the Bunker Hill Monument also functioned, as it does today, as a tourist attraction, affording those who climb its 294 steps expansive views of Boston, Charlestown, Cambridge, Malden, Chelsea, and Lynn.

Guide to Views from the Top of Bunker Hill Monument, 1892. Gift of Nelson M. Hopkins, F62.3 .B9 1892.

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill and the 200th anniversary of the laying of the Bunker Hill Monument's cornerstone. To commemorate this event, the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library's Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is featuring a small exhibition in its reading room, with objects related to memorializing the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The Battle of Bunker Hill took place on June 17, 1775. Despite the name of the battle, most of the action took place on nearby Breed's Hill. Combatants fought the battle to solidify which side controlled Boston Harbor. To this end, the hills in and around Boston were tactically important to both British and colonial forces. The American's newly formed Continental Army sought to limit the supplies that the British army could bring into Boston via the harbor.

Objects on view in "Remembering the Battle of Bunker Hill" include a nineteenth-century scale model of the original 1794 monument erected by King Solomon's Lodge of Charlestown,



Masons representing Grand Lodges and other Masonic organizations throughout New England and beyond gathered on June 24, 1845, for the dedication of a scale model of the original 26-foot tall 1794 monument. Freemason Thomas Power – a musician, music critic, and one of the earliest members of the Handel and Haydn Society – wrote this ode, which was sung as part of the ceremony. An illustration of the original monument adorns the cover of this sheet music.

Masonic Ode, 1845. Museum Purchase, 85-126.

Massachusetts. Lodge members dedicated the monument to the memory of Revolutionary War hero and organizer Joseph Warren, who was killed in the battle. Other objects on view include two pieces of sheet music related to dedicatory events surrounding the Bunker Hill Monument, including a “Masonic Ode” composed in 1845, as well as seeds used in the Masonic cornerstone laying ceremony for the Bunker Hill Monument in 1825.

While still a memorial to the battle, the Bunker Hill Monument also functioned and continues to do so today—as a tourist attraction. A climb up its 294 steps affords visitors expansive views of Boston, Charlestown, Cambridge, Malden, Chelsea, and Lynn. Two nineteenth-century booklets, both intended for tourists visiting the monument, are also on view in the exhibition.

“Remembering the Battle of Bunker Hill” will be on view in the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives’ reading room through October 3, 2025.





“50th Anniversary of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library”

On April 13, 2025, the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library launched a year of celebratory anniversary programming, including special gallery talks, engaging lectures, and two new gallery exhibition



By joining the 1975 Club,

you become a vital part of the enduring legacy we honor during the 50th Anniversary of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library. Join today, and together, we can build a foundation that inspires and preserves for the next 50 years and beyond.

Members to the 1975 club will commit to a monthly contribution of \$19.75, totaling \$237 a year. The 1975 Club will help create long-term, sustained support for the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library.





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\$100.00	

[< PREVIOUS STEP](#)

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By enrolling in Auto Pay, you authorize storage of your payment method, and allow Scottish Rite, NMI to charge it annually for membership fees and donations. You may cancel Auto Pay at any time by deleting your subscription.

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Accessing your membership card has never been easier! Here's how to pull up your card using your phone:

- 1.) Log in to your Member Center account at MyNMJ.org. If you haven't previously registered, you can create a free account using your Member Number (<<MemberID>>) and birthdate.
- 2.) Click on the link that appears on your dashboard that reads "Create Mobile Member Card."
- 3.) A black strip will appear with a link inside it that reads, "Click here to download your mobile member card" – Click the link.
- 4.) Follow the on-screen instructions for adding your card to your mobile device (available in Apple Wallet and Google Wallet).
- 5.) Click on the video below to watch how to do it.



LOCATION**LODGE NAME****AMBASSADOR**

Wilmington	Washington #1	Darin Lorenzen
Wilmington	Temple #11	Michael Rodgers
Wilmington	Lafayette #14	Clinton D. Lemaster
Wilmington	Eureka-Dupont #23-29	David Russ
Talley	Granite-Corinthian #34	Kenneth J. Musto Jr./James A. McClain Jr.

DISTRICT #2

New Castle	St. John's #1	Frank E. Hartsell
Middletown	Union #5	Lawrence H. Biederman
Smyrna	Harmony #13	Kevin Musto
Delaware City	Jackson #19	David Walters
Newark	Hiram #25	Lee Gray
Newport	Armstrong #26	Byrom I. Price
New Castle	Ionic #31	Michael Swain
New Castle	Christiana #35	Thomas Sullivan
Newark	Solomon #36	Steve Salvatelli
Newark	High Noon Lodge #38	Darin Lorenzen

DISTRICT #3:

Laurel	Hope #4	Jack McDuff
Dover	Union #7	Maurice W. Little
Milford	Temple #9	Jack McDuff
Georgetown	Franklin #12	James M. Locklear
Lewes	Jefferson #15	Eric Evans
Milton	Endeavor #17	Jim Coulbourne
Seaford	Hiram #21	Jack McDuff
Reliance	Gethsemane #28	Jack McDuff
Millville	Doric #30	Greg Vernicek
Dagsboro	Delaware #37	Jim Lawrence

Our May Birthdays

happy birthday

Adkins	Andrew	Giusto	Phillip	Milewski	Ricky
Albrand	John	Greene	Andrew	Miller	Eric
Baker	William	Groff	Kenneth	Orner	Fred
Bergstrom	Jay	Groundland	Martin	Pagani	Peter
Biederman	Lawrence	Gustin	Michael	Perry	Robert
Binasiewicz	Edward	Haass	Jeffery	Petro	Kenneth
Bleacher	Barry	Hargis	Omar	Purnell	Gerald
Blumberg	Stephen	Hobart	David	Reed	Earl
Boothe	Alex	Hopkins	Walter	Reed	Justin
Bush	Stephen	Houseman	Edward	Rodgers	Richard
Butler	Wilbur	Hutchinson	James	Saville	John
Carmine	Robert	Irwin	John	Shaw	William
Cathell	Eddie	Jamison	Ronald	Sheehan	Eric
Cave J	effrey	Jimenez	Oscar	Siple	Mark
Chullin	Robert	Johnson	Eric	Skotnicki	Craig
Cobb	Goodwin	Kelly	Ruben	Snyder	Alfred
Cochran	John	Kelly	William	Spence	Walter
Columbia	Robert	Kester	Lewis	Spruill	William
Cosden	Marvin	Lank	Jeffrey	Steele	Paul
Cristando	Ronald	League	Clinton	Stein	Edwin
Cropper	Elisha	Lester	Claude	Stevens	Scudder
Dickerson	Taylor	Light	Patrick	Strain	William
DiOrrio	Ralph	Lorenzen	Darin	Timmons	Clarence
Ertwine	Bruce	Lutz	Trevor	Townsend	Chester
Forbes	Mark	Madden	Heath	Viridin	Kenneth
Fox	Geoffrey	Malmstrom	John	Wheatley	Tenney
Gibbons	Robin	McGahan	William	Wilson	Charles













Leave them Laughing

A Little Bit of Larson



“Good heavens! Pablo got an ‘F’ in art! ... Well, I’m just going to go down to that school myself and meet this teacher face to face.”