

Knights of St. Andrew of Bremerton Scottish Rite

-- BY-LAWS --

Preamble

As it is the stated purpose of the Knights of St. Andrew to work diligently for our Brethren of the Scottish Rite Bodies and Temple organizations, we, the Charter Membership of the Knights of St. Andrew of Bremerton, WA., Scottish Rite, declare that the Constitution, By-laws, and purposes must always conform to and never be in violation of the Constitution and Code of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Washington or the statutes of the Supreme Council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America. .

The formation of the Chapter of the Knights of St. Andrew within the Valley of Bremerton, Scottish Rite is to facilitate the following.

1)

The KSA is being chartered with the understanding that it will be a source of labor for the functions of the Valley. To assist the Personal Representative of the Valley, the General Secretary and the Director of the Work with their duties and work during the year and during the Reunions. To provide a dedicated group of Brothers who will assist with the necessary work of the Valley.

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2)

The KSA Chapter will Allow for and encourage the Black Hat 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Brothers to participate in the Valley and belong to a body that will specifically be built to give them a place to volunteer and get involved. It will be a primary duty of the Chapter to connect with the newly made 32nd Degree members of the Valley after the Reunions and get them involved in our work and our Valley's program for immersing the brothers into the fraternity of the Scottish Rite as outlined by the Personal Representative and General Secretary.

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3)

The KSA will also assist the membership committee with recruiting new members for the Valley and to get them to and from the Reunion. To provide a welcoming atmosphere at the Reunions and also at the stated meetings.

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The KSA Chapter Valley of Bremerton will adopt the following instruction from Albert G. Mackay, from The Symbolism of Freemasonry as **Our Motto**:

“Now, this doctrine, that labor is worship, is the very doctrine that has been advanced and maintained, from time immemorial, as a leading dogma of the Order of Freemasonry. There is no other human institution under the sun which has set forth this great principle in such bold relief. We hear constantly of Freemasonry as an institution that inculcates morality, that fosters the social feeling, that teaches brotherly love; and all this is well, because it is true; but we must never forget that from its foundation stone to its pinnacle, all over its vast temple, is inscribed, in symbols of living light, the great truth that labor is worship.”

Brothers we are here to labor and to improve ourselves and our Valley thereby.

ARTICLE I - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Membership as an active member of the Knights of St. Andrew shall be made by written application to the Chapter Scribe, Bremerton Valley Scottish Rite KSA. Upon receipt of written application for membership, the KSA Chapter Scribe shall transmit the same to the Valley General Secretary to verify the status of the candidate as to his being a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason within the Valley of Bremerton, Orient of Washington of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Active membership is only open to qualified 32nd degree Masons of above mentioned Valley. Presentation will be made to the membership at the next stated or special meeting of the KSA. The Scribe shall read the name of such applicant to the membership, together with other pertinent information as such application may contain. The Chief shall then call for a secret ballot; such application shall be balloted upon by the Active Membership upon secret ball-ballot, as is customary in the fraternity. Three black balls shall be sufficient to reject the applicant for membership upon his said application. No rejection for membership shall prejudice such applicant from again submitting an application for membership in the Knights of St. Andrew to the Chapter Scribe. Following the ballot, the applicant will be initiated in the Knights of St. Andrew at that same stated meeting. All initiation fees and subsequent dues must accompany said application for membership.

Section 2.

Novitiates will be inducted as Squires. As such, they will be required to perform a minimum of six hours of service to the Chapter. Recording such service will be the responsibility of the Scribe with the assistance of other Knights. Following the completion of the required service, the Squire may be elevated to Knighthood at the Chapters Knighting Ceremony.

Section 3

Elected officers of the Chapter shall include: Chief, Chieftain, Knight Sacristan, and Scribe. The offices of Scribe and Treasurer may be filled by the same person with agreement by the Chief and the member standing for election to each office.

Section 4

Application for Membership in the Chapter is open to 32nd Degree "Black Hat" Masons only. If a 32nd Degree, Black Hat KSA member receives the honor of KCCH and/or receives the Honor of the 33 Degree, his status will become that of Emeritus member and he may no longer hold office within the Chapter nor be an Active member of the Chapter but shall be an esteemed Emeritus member.

ARTICLE II - STATED MEETINGS

Section 1.

Stated meetings of the Knights of St. Andrew shall be held prior to the scheduled Stated meeting of the Valley, and the annual meeting shall take place during the last Bremerton Scottish Rite Reunion of each calendar year. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chief, Personal Representative, or the General Secretary of the Bremerton Valley, upon due notice given to the Active and Emeritus Membership. The Chief's presence is required at such meeting. Called meetings shall be held upon written request of ten (10) active Members. Upon receipt of a request for a called meeting, the Scribe shall transmit a copy of the same to the Chief and the General Secretary of the Bremerton Consistory who shall jointly determine the date, time and place for such

called meeting, whereupon the Scribe shall give due notice of such called meeting to the Active and Emeritus Members.

Section 1.1.

Special Meetings may be called by an Acting Chief. Should a vacancy occur, the next elected line office may serve as Acting Chief, until the next regular election, having all the rights and responsibilities of an elected Chief.

Section 2.

The annual meeting of the Knights of St. Andrew shall be held during the last Bremerton Scottish Rite Reunion of each calendar year. During such annual meeting, in addition to other business as may be properly brought before the Knights, the Active Membership shall elect officers for the succeeding calendar year and shall appoint such ad hoc committees as are deemed expedient by the membership. The elected and appointed officers shall be elected/appointed to a one year term.

Section 3.

A quorum for the transacting of business at any stated, special, or called meeting shall consist of at least seven (7) Active Members, one of whom must be either Chief, Chieftain, Knight Sacristan, or General Secretary of the Bremerton Scottish Rite.

ARTICLE III - APPOINTMENTS

Section 1.

The Chief shall appoint a Primate, Senior Knights Guard and Junior Knights Guard and Sentinel. All appointments, other than committee appointments, shall be taken exclusively from the Active Membership. Members of committees may include Emeritus Members, but the Chairman of every committee shall be an Active Member. The Chief and the General Secretary of the Bremerton Scottish Rite may appoint committees as are deemed expedient.

Section 2.

If an elected office becomes vacant for any reason, the Chief may, with the consent of the General Secretary, appoint a pro tem selected from the Active Membership to fill said vacancy for the remainder of the term. The pro tem will be responsible for and assume all duties of that office and be afforded all courtesies due him in that office.

ARTICLE IV - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1.

All meetings of the Knights of St. Andrew shall be conducted in accordance with prudent Masonic decorum, as is seemly for the behavior of all Master Masons.

ARTICLE V - INITIATION FEES AND DUES

Section 1.

Every member, Active Members, Emeritus Members, and Charter Members, shall pay annual dues to the Treasurer in an amount as shall be determined by the membership at each annual meeting. Emeritus Member dues shall be one-half of Active Member dues. Active Members dues are \$20 until such time that the dues are established otherwise at the annual meeting.

Section 1.1.

Annual Dues for all classes of membership are for the calendar year. Dues are considered due and payable at the beginning of the Fall Reunion and will be considered past due on January 1 of the effective calendar year.

Section 2.

Each member of the Knights of the Bremerton Valley, Active Members, Emeritus Members, and Charter Members shall pay an initiation fee prior to his initiation into the Knights in an amount as shall be determined by the membership at each annual meeting. The initiation fee is \$5 until such time that the fee is established otherwise at the annual meeting.

Section 2.1

Only Active Members may be inducted and therefore are the only membership group to be affected by the "initiation fee". The Initiation Fee must accompany the application for membership when submitted to the Chapter Scribe.

Section 3.

On or before the first stated meeting of each calendar year, the Chapter shall submit dues statements for the current calendar year to the General Secretary of the Bremerton Valley, Active Members, Emeritus Members,

and Charter Members. Members who have not remitted annual dues, except as may be modified in the next succeeding section hereof, by the annual meeting of each calendar year upon vote of the Active Members are subject to being suspended.

Section 4.

After investigation, upon motion and vote of the Active Members, remission of annual dues may be granted to any member.

ARTICLE VI - RESIGNATION

Section 1.

Any member may resign if, at the time his written resignation is submitted to the Scribe, he is clear on the books.

Section 1.1.

The resignation of any member will be accepted if he is in current, good standing, with the Chapter and the Valley of Bremerton.

ARTICLE VII - EXPULSION

Section 1.

If any member conducts himself in such a manner as to reflect discredit or create unfavorable criticism of the Knights or the Bremerton Scottish Rite, the Chief, upon receiving complaint because of such behavior, shall appoint a committee of three (3) active Members to investigate the conduct of such member, and such committee shall make a written report to the Chief, providing a copy to the Personal Representative and General Secretary of the Bremerton Scottish Rite.

ARTICLE VIII - REINSTATEMENT

Section 1.

A member who has become suspended by reason of nonpayment of dues shall be eligible for reinstatement upon payment of dues owing at the time of such suspension, as well as the current year's dues, and written application made to the Chief. At the next Annual Meeting, the Chief shall present such application for

reinstatement to the Active Membership without investigation, and the Active Membership shall proceed to vote on the reinstatement of such suspended brother by secret ball-ballot. Three black balls shall be sufficient to reject the application for reinstatement but shall not prejudice such suspended member from making subsequent application for reinstatement.

Section 1.1

The vote on reinstatement of a former member shall be a show of hands with the decision based on a simple majority of the active members present.

Section 2.

Any brother who has been suspended from membership may make application for reinstatement; in the case of a definite suspension, following the period of such definite suspension, and in the case of indefinite suspension, following the expiration of three years from date of imposition of such sentence of indefinite suspension, and in both instances, by written application to the Chief and tendering of the current year's annual dues. At the next stated meeting, the Chief shall report the application for reinstatement by such suspended brother and shall then appoint a committee consisting of the General Secretary, as Chairman, and two Active Members who shall investigate such application for reinstatement and report the same to the Active Members at the next stated meeting of the Membership. At such next stated meeting of the Membership, the application for reinstatement shall be voted upon by secret ball-ballot by the Active Members. Three black balls shall be sufficient to reject such application for reinstatement, and such rejection shall prejudice such applicant for reinstatement, who shall then be ineligible to make subsequent application for reinstatement for a period of one calendar year from date of such rejection. Upon subsequent application for reinstatement, the same procedure shall be followed as set forth in this section. The Brother upon whom sentence of definite or indefinite suspension has been imposed may not make more than three applications for reinstatement, and Chief shall refuse to accept more than three applications for reinstatement from such suspended member, upon whom a sentence of definite or indefinite suspension has been imposed.

Section 2.1

The vote on reinstatement of a former member having been subject to suspension will be by a show of hands or, at the preference of the Chief, a written ballot whereon the active member may cast his vote by writing "Yes" for reinstatement or "No" for denial of reinstatement. The decision will be determined by a simple majority of the active members present.

Section 3.

If a Brother applying for reinstatement is rejected by the Members, the current year's annual dues tendered by the Brother shall immediately be refunded without approval of the membership.

Section 3.1.

If an application for reinstatement is denied by the Members, the funds tendered with the application shall immediately be refunded to the applicant without further financial approval by the Members.

Section 4.

Any member who has been expelled is thereafter ineligible to seek reinstatement.

ARTICLE IX - FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Section 1.

No debt shall be contracted in excess of the amount of cash on hand in the custody of the Treasurer at the time such debt is contracted, except on approval of the Advisory Conference (as established by the Personal Representative of the SGIG) of the Bremerton Scottish Rite.

Section 2.

Annual dues, application fees and Life Member contributions are to be deposited by the Treasurer in the general fund. Expenditures of general funds are, in accordance with Masonic tradition approved by the membership at special or stated meetings.

ARTICLE X - AUTHORITY OF Bremerton CONSISTORY MASTERS

Section 1.

The Advisory Conference (as established by the Personal Representative of the SGIG for the Valley) or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of Washington or His Personal Representative shall have the authority to remove from office and declare vacant any office when it shall be deemed for the best interest of Scottish Rite Masonry so to do. Such Advisory Conference of the Bremerton Scottish Rite or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of Washington shall have the authority to instruct the General Secretary to call a meeting of the Active and Emeritus Membership for the purpose of holding a special election to select any officer or officers to succeed any who may have been suspended from office by such Advisory Conference or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General. Such officers elected at such meeting called by the Advisory

Conference of the Bremerton Scottish Rite shall serve from their election and installation until the next annual meeting when their regular successors shall be elected and installed.

Signatures:



Illustrious Al Jorgenson 33, Sovereign Grand Inspector General Orient of Washington, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite



Illustrious James N. Reid 33, Personal Representative in the Valley of Bremerton



Lance Otis 32 KCCH, General Secretary in the Valley of Bremerton



Scot Sageser, 32, Director- Knights of St. Andrew in the Valley of Bremerton.