



VOL. XXII NO. 4



June 2013

Fly the Flag of Freedom

June 14, Flag Day – July 4, Independence Day





Valley of Pittsburgh

Teaching children with dyslexia

The men and organizations pictured to the right are those who have made a \$10,000 or more commitment to support the Valley of Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center Endowment Fund.

As Freemasons, we have always been benevolent and charitable. For Scottish Rite Masons, our Charity is to teach children with dyslexia how to read. It is important in giving them social confidence.

The teaching method is the Orton-Gillingham program. It is a one tutor – one student ratio. This method is very expensive but extremely effective. It costs approximately \$5,000 a year for each child. Our goal is to raise \$2,500,000 to endow the Children's Dyslexia Center for the future.

To make it easier to make this commitment, you can spread out your \$10,000 donation over a ten year period. Call Bro. Ray Dietz, 33°, at 412-369-9500 for information. The future of our children is our most important mission. I encourage each of you to have your picture on this page and be a BUILDER of this Masonic benevolence.

Your donation is tax-deductible.

Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°

Active Member of Supreme Council



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I pledge the sum of: \$10,000 \$15,000
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With payments in equal installments over a period of:
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This pledge will be payable: Annually
Semi-annually Quarterly *Monthly

*Monthly payments may be made only by credit card.

First payment of \$_____ is enclosed.

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of
Pittsburgh

Valley
of
Uniontown

Builders Council

to read – one child at a time!



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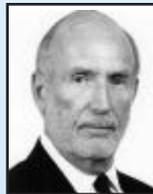
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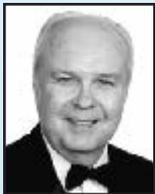
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Learning Center Report

"The life of a man consists not in seeing visions and in dreaming dreams, but in active charity and in willing service"

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

This has been quite a successful year for our Children's Dyslexia Center. Thirty-five students have been enrolled and are being tutored by the nineteen specialists that the Center has on staff.

Our Center has grown to become one of the most respected Dyslexia Center programs in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. Just like students in public and private schools, Dyslexia Center students are completing their final tests, and many will graduate, having returned their reading competencies back to grade level. I'm sure that this will be a happy and important milestone for both the graduate and their parents.

We, as Scottish Rite Masons in the Valley of Pittsburgh, should be especially proud of the reading success and accomplishments generated within the walls of our Learning Center. Students come to the Dyslexia Center encumbered by a reading disability that fosters frustration and failure. As a result of the expert instruction provided by our tutors, students discover the keys to reading and reading comprehension. The darkness of failure and disappointment is chased away by ever brightening rays of hope. Student self-esteem increases and thoughts for a promising and successful future, which may have already been abandoned, are renewed. Brethren, the Children's Dyslexia Center can and does make a positive change in the lives of dyslexic children every year.

Be proud of the many good works that we do as Scottish Rite Masons. You are the backbone and strength behind everything we accomplish. This summer, along with your dues notice, will be an appeal to consider a donation to the Children's Dyslexia Center. Thank you in advance for your continued support. ♦

Blessings to you and your families.

Fraternally,

Rich

Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33°
Chairman, Board of Governors
Children's Dyslexia Center

Fly the Flag of Freedom!

Flag Day, June 14



Independence Day, July 4

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The Rite News

VOL. XXII NO. 4

June 2013

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Commander-in-Chief's Message



Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33°
*Commander-in-Chief
 Pennsylvania Consistory*

Writer and Poet Anne Bradstreet reminds us, "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant."

This thought particularly rings true after the long, cold, and snowy season we just endured. I am especially looking forward to the coming warmer months as summer approaches. We all tend to marvel at the beautiful colors that burst forth from the flowers, trees, fields, and gardens as soon as the ice and snow have faded away. It is a cycle that has repeated itself for millions of years, but we always enjoy witnessing the Earth's annual springtime renewal.

The word renewal has so many connotations and meanings. It sometimes means to make something vibrant, fresh or new again like the springtime we were just talking about. We can renew our wedding vows, a magazine subscription can be up for renewal, or we can renew a library book that we haven't quite finished reading.

But how does the idea of renewal fit into a column about the Scottish Rite?

Maybe it's time for us as Masons, especially Scottish Rite Masons, to commit to renewing our appreciation for the principles of brotherhood that we so readily espouse within the Fraternity. To remember to look upon each of our Brethren as someone who is a bit special and set apart from the general crowd. Someone who vowed, just as each one of us did, to be honorable, trustworthy, and faithful. To remind ourselves of a promise to support our Brother's character behind his back as well as before his face. Of course, this is an ideal to aspire to, but too often words are heard by someone speaking about a Masonic Brother in a derogatory manner. Sometimes those negative comments may be

based in some truth, and the admonition possibly deserved, but as Scottish Rite Masons we should be finding ways to build up our Brother not tear him down. Kind words and genuine concern for one another do not cost us a single dime,

but may be the most valuable and priceless of all things that we can offer to our Brethren. If the Scottish Rite is to be renewed, let's start by remembering that our greatest strengths are the gifts of friendship and brotherly love that binds us together as Freemasons.

In June, those presiding officers, who have completed their terms will retire and pass the jewel of office to their successors. Please let me extend my heart felt appreciation and thanks to all of the officers for their time and efforts dedicated to improving this Valley year after year. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Finally, let me offer a special welcome to the more than 100 Brethren who joined the Valley of Pittsburgh at our Spring Reunion. This is now your Valley. From baseball games to a Walk-For-Dyslexia, an Oktoberfest, Christmas Party, Picnic at Kennywood, Motorcycle Rides, or a Car Cruise. We have five Stated Meetings that includes Dinner and Entertainment and your Lady is always invited. There are Reunions with opportunities to get on stage and do some ritual or maybe help out with stage crew, robing, or make-up. There are so many opportunities for participation. Please take time to check out what we have to offer. We are here for you. ♦

Fraternally and with God's Blessings

Rich

Spes Mea In Deo Est

June 14 - Flag Day - Fly the Flag

The Fourth of July was traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885.

B. J. Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as 'Flag Birthday'. In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as

'Flag Birthday', or 'Flag Day'.

On June 14, 1889, George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned appropriate ceremonies for the children of his school, and his idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York.

On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration, and on June 14 the following year, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution, celebrated Flag Day.

Following the suggestion of Colonel J. Granville Leach (at the time historian of the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of

the Revolution), the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on April 25, 1893 adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14th. Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as 'Flag Day', and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

Two weeks later on May 8th, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square. School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With B. J. Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day events and exercises.

On June 14th, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs. Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, delivered a 1914 Flag Day address in which he repeated words he said the flag had spoken to him that morning: "I am what you make me; nothing more. I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself."

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916.

While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after president Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3, 1949, that President Harry Truman, 33°, signed an Act of Congress designating June 14th of each year as National Flag Day. ♦



In Memoriam

*May it be his portion to hear from Him
who sitteth as the Judge Supreme*

"Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother"



Since our last issue, the following brethren have been called home.

Richard M. Cromie, 33°

Wayne T. Alderson
Thomas W. Angerman
Edward C. Banker
Francis Barber
Ralph H. Baumgartel
William L. Bell
Harry D. Betler
William M. Bowser
Larry L. Brock Sr.
Lawrence J. Cavanaugh
Kenneth Clugston
Glenn C. Clutter
Raymond D. Copeland Jr.
R. Scott Cornman
Theodore T. Eden
Donald C. Eichler
Charles R. Eland
Edwin G. Ernst Jr.
George M. Gernsback, MSA
Herbert L. Gibson
Richard A. Goyke
Charles G. Guca
Edward W. Gust
William R. Hajek
Donald L. Hazlett
David J. Heasley
George Henderson

Richard G. Hibbard
William T. Hirschfield
Robert E. Hoke
Robert M. Hornickel
Lawrence R. Howell
Harold L. Hughan
Richard F. Hummel
Clayton Humphreys
James E. James
Kenneth B. Jobes
Robert M. Karow
John R. Koontz Jr.
William T. Lang Jr.
Jack E. Livingston
Howard E. Maxwell Jr.
Everett R. McCall
Norman E. McIndoe
Donald U. Morris
Vernon W. Morton
Raymond Naccarati
Arthur F. Nass Jr.
Walter J. Norris Jr.
James C. Overholt
Carl A. Pepka
Leo H. Renz
Robert C. Rogers

William F. Saalbach
Duane R. Schmiedel
Gary E. Schoeppner
William G. Schossow Jr.
Terrance C. Seighman
Robert G. Shriver
Everett Stahl
Donald G. Stitt
John J. Storrick
Ronald L. Swink
Jack B. Townsend
Robert J. Unrath
William C. Van Druff
Joseph E. Vogrin III
Norman H. Wackenhut
Richard D. Walton
Charles O. Washburn
Lance O. Weaver
Walter H. Weaver Jr.
Carl L. Weiss Jr.
Robert H. Whitten
Robert E. Windon
John Youhas
William L. Young
Silverio A. Zinno
Paul Zuro



Sign Up Now!

GOLF



Join us for a grand day of Charity Golf at the annual Valley of Pittsburgh Golf Outing benefiting the Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center. The Golf outing will be held on **Monday, June 10, 2013** at Butler's Golf Course in Elizabeth, PA. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. with play beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The Player fee is \$90 which includes a golfer's gift, bag service, greens fees, cart, snack at the turn, dinner and awards.

For "non-golfers" wanting to attend the fellowship dinner, the cost is \$25.

We are limited to 120 Golfers, but unlimited as to Program Sponsorships or Charitable Donations in any amount.

The Children's Dyslexia Center is the only one of its kind in the Pittsburgh area offering **FREE** tutoring. To continue this magnificent program we must annually raise at least \$125,000 to cover material, and educational expenses.

The Valley's Children's Dyslexia Center is recognized by Penn State University as a student curriculum training program.

The Center opened in April 1999 and offers a dynamic reading program at **no cost** to the students family.

This program has had many inspiring success stories in bringing children, who could not read, up to their reading grade level and beyond. Currently there are 36 students enrolled in this 28 week (during the school year) reading/learning program and a long waiting list of children who can benefit from it.

Please share this information with those who might want to golf in this event, or be a Sponsor, or make a Donation to the Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center.

Golf and Dinner reservation deadline is June 4, 2013. Make checks payable and mail to: **Charity Golf Tournament**, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.



For questions about sponsorships, program advertising, or general information, please call or e-mail the Event Chairman:

David Morgans, Chairman
(412-728-6533)

dwmorgans@gmail.com
or

Donald Murphy, Secretary
(412-939-3579) aasr.pittsburgh@comcast.net

GET YOUR FOURSOME TOGETHER NOW!

Sponsorships Available for Charity Golf!

There are several levels of Sponsorships available for business and individual consideration:

- *Event Sponsor \$5,000
- Dinner Sponsor \$2,000
- Beverage Cart Sponsor \$2,000
- Photo Sponsor \$2,000
- Gift Sponsor \$2,000

Sponsorships include: Entrance of two golfers, golfer's gift, bag service, greens fees, cart, snack at turn, foursome photo, 1/2 page program ad, dinner, door prizes & Tee Sign.

*Entrance of 4 golfers.

Make checks payable and mail to: **Charity Golf Tournament**, Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

Other sponsorships that are available include:

- Flag Sponsor \$150
- Tee Sign \$75
- Full Page Ad/Tee Sign Combo . . . \$250
- Full Page Ad \$200
- Half Page Ad \$125
- Quarter Page Ad \$75

Deadline for Sponsorships, Golf and Dinner reservation is:

June 4, 2013

Questions? 412-939-3579

Benefits the Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center

Valley of Pittsburgh Charity Golf Tournament - June 10 Butler's Golf Course

800 Rock Run Road
Elizabeth, PA 15037



Registration: 10:30 a.m.

Play Begins: 11:00 a.m.

Cash Bar: 4:00 p.m.

Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

Fee: \$90.00 per golfer. Includes a golfer's gift, bag service, greens fees, cart, snack at turn, dinner, and door prizes.

Dinner Only: \$25.00.



- Charity Golf for Dyslexia Reservation Form -

Enclosed is my check, payable to **Charity Golf Tournament** in the amount of \$_____ for: Golf, \$90 per golfer Dinner Only, \$25 per person

Sponsorship \$_____ Donation \$_____

Please print Golfers Names

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Ph. () _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Ph. () _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Ph. () _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Ph. () _____

Mail reservations **NOW**, with check, to **Charity Golf Tournament**, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Questions? 412-939-3579.



The Modern Vitruvian

by P. J. Roup, 32°

Perspectives

A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances, but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes. ~ Hugh Downs

Dylan was excited to have finally joined Lodge. His fascination with the Masons began when he was in junior high school and saw the movie, National Treasure. Dylan never believed that he would someday guard an enormous stash of gold, but still there was something about the square and compasses, the feeling of belonging to a true family, and the antiquity of the order that beckoned him. He wasn't put off by the myriad of websites that said Masons controlled the media, faked the moon landing, knew the secrets of Area 51, or unknowingly worshipped the Devil. In fact, the idea that you could unknowingly worship the Devil made him laugh every time. He pictured unsuspecting men in their homes praying before they went to bed, while outside on the roof, evil Masons in their aprons hijacked the prayers as they rose to God and carted them off to the Devil.

Dylan was raised six months ago, and with few exceptions, Masonry was what he expected. He learned his work and attended the practices and meetings. Every chance he got, he told the guys about his ideas for making the meetings cool. He suggested having a really nice meal – surf and turf – before the meeting in June, since they were inviting the ladies.

Henry, one of the old Past Masters just laughed. It's strawberry night, he thought to himself. One other time, Dylan asked if they could act out one of the Masonic plays he came across in an old book in their Lodge library. "That's not a library kid, that's a bookshelf, and this isn't a theater, it's a Lodge," Henry said. And with that the debate was closed.

Dylan had no idea why Henry was like that. Henry reminded him of an old school teacher who kept punishing kids for even the smallest violation of the rules. Here it seemed, though, that those rules were a secret known only to Henry. Dylan was frustrated. Would it kill us to have dinner and strawberries? Why do I even bother with this bunch of old guys if they're happy just doing the same old tired things year after year? I can just as easily stay at

home if I want to feel ignored.

Henry was a Warrant Member of the Lodge. He was the second man to serve as its Worshipful Master. He remembered the years in the 60s and 70s when so many men joined that the Lodge could barely keep up with the work. Back then, they had so many active members that it took twelve years to become Worshipful Master.

When Henry's son turned twenty one, he handed Henry a petition. Henry signed it eagerly, his eyes pooling with the proud tears of a father. The most fulfilling moment of his life by far, though, was when he made his son a Master Mason. That excitement was short-lived, however, as his son didn't make the Lodge a priority. Henry joined after the war to keep sharing in the kind of Brotherhood he felt while he fought in Europe. Junior didn't care about that, and he preferred spending the little free time he had with his bowling league.

Henry was bitter, and that bitterness only deepened over the years. Sure, he had good friends who were Masons, but a lot of them were dead now. Lodge wasn't as well attended and membership was way down. Now this new kid wanted to get rid of strawberry night and replace it with a dinner that was going to bankrupt the Lodge. Plays? he thought. What is that about? What's wrong with having the game commissioner come in and talk about deer hunting? That always brought the guys out in the good old days.

The irony of the story is that Dylan and Henry, with their almost diametrically opposite views, are more similar than they appear. Their attitudes are shaped by their experiences. Dylan is the youngest of five. His brothers and sisters excel at everything they put their minds to. To the disappointment of his father, Dylan is more of a dreamer, and spends most of his time dreaming in the shade of his siblings' achievements. Lodge is supposed to be a place where he is an equal, and Henry's snide comments make him feel anything but. And though Henry will not admit it, he is heartbroken that his only son does not

see in the Fraternity what he sees. His son's departure coincided with the beginning of the Lodge's long and slow decline. Henry, though only subconsciously, marries the two into one problem.

Dylan sees Henry as a disappointed father. Henry sees Dylan as an ungrateful son.

Too often, our attitudes get in the way of good friendships.

If you have been in Lodge more than a couple of years, you know that guy. He may be a Henry that is so set in his ways that nothing new is worth considering, or he's a Dylan, and wants to turn everything on its ear. More likely than not, he is some shade of grey between those two extremes, but our own predispositions force him into one of those two categories.

As Modern Vitruvians, what are we to do when faced with those behaviors?

First, we should strive to come to a better understanding of the men we call our Brothers. Meeting on the level is more than forgetting class, rank or station when we are in Lodge. It requires us to try to see the world through the eyes of those with whom we interact. We need to walk a mile in their shoes, not as an offensive tactic where we put on their shoes, run over rocky terrain, and then mock

Continued on page 13.

Support Your
Valley of Pittsburgh
Social Events and
Special Activities!



Check out the
Calendar of Events
on page 27.



Ride for Dyslexia ^{5th Annual}

Sunday, June 30, 2013 11:30 a.m.



Sponsored by Hiram's Riders Motorcycle Club for the benefit of the Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center

KDKA-TV PERSONALITY

Jon Burnett

Honorary Ride Captain

Pre-Registration NOW!

Pre-Registration:

\$20.00 single - \$10.00 passenger
(includes luncheon)



Day of Ride
Ride Registration: 9 am to 11am

Free Coffee & Donuts
\$20 single / \$10 passenger
Ride: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 pm
Lunch • 50/50 • Chinese Auction
Door Prizes

Ride the beautiful rolling hills of Washington County

Hiram's Riders Ride for Dyslexia Registration Form

Sunday, June 30, 2013 - Departs from Steel City Harley at 11:30 a.m.

Pre-Registration Fee: \$20.00 per biker and \$10.00 per passenger (includes lunch)

Ride pin (Free to the 1st 50 pre-registrations) \$5.00 day of registration.

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____.

Liability Waiver:

I hereby release and agree to hold harmless, Hiram's Riders Motorcycle Club of the Valley of Pittsburgh, the directors, the sponsors, representatives, agents, volunteers, and employees of them all, of any and all liability, loss, claims, and demands, that may occur from any loss, damage, or injury (including death to my person or property) in any way resulting from, or arising in connection with this event, and whether arising while engaged in competition or practice or preparation therefore, or while upon entering or departing from said premises, from any cause whatsoever. I know and accept the risk and danger to myself and my property while upon said premises or while participating or assisting in this event, so voluntarily and in reliance upon my own judgment and ability, I hereby assume all risks for loss, damage, injury (including death to myself or my property) from any cause whatsoever.

Motorcyclist Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Email** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Passenger Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Email** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

I accept full responsibility for the motorcycle I have entered _____

(Motorcyclist / Owner)

I accept full responsibility for myself as a passenger _____

(Passenger)

Mail entry form with check payable to: **Hiram's Riders**, 3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

Questions / Information? Call 724-350-5955 or 412-576-5856. www.valleyofpittsburgh.org

Bro. Robert L. Holliday – A Quiet Hero

by Herb Wolstoncroft, 33°

“Heros are not known by the loftiness of their carriage; the greatest braggarts are generally the merest cowards.” – Jean-Jacques Rousseau



And so it is with a quiet hero living at the Masonic Village in Sewickley. Fellow residents and dinner partners never knew that Robert L. Holliday is a retired Air Force Lt. Colonel and a veteran of

instructor until his discharge in 1945. Hap then served in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard from 1946 until 1969.

Ten years ago Bob and Freda purchased a Villa at the Masonic Village in Sewickley where Bob continued to be active leading the R. L. Holliday Company, manufacturing non-destructive testing equipment, which he founded.

65 combat missions over Europe during World War II.

Bob or Hap as his Air Force buddies call him was born on July 28, 1916 in Butler, PA. Bob, whose parents were Charles Holliday and Edith Lewis, worked as a welder for Armco Steel in Butler. He became interested in flying and purchased a Piper Cub for the bargain price of \$500. He learned to fly and received a commercial pilot license.

Bob joined the Air Force in 1941 despite having a draft deferred job.

On June 27, 1942 Bob received his First Degree in Victory Lodge No. 794 in Butler, PA.

After learning to fly the Martin B26 Marauder in Dodge City, KS, in August of 1943 he was transferred to Avon Park, FL. While in route, Bob took leave to stop at home in Butler to marry his sweetheart Freda Albert, a union that produced two children, Richard and Joann.

While home on leave Bob completed his Masonic work by receiving the Second and Third Degrees by dispensation on August 27, 1943.

His missions were flown between March and November 1944 including D-Day and the air campaign afterward. Hap recalls the events of D-Day “We approached the French coast between 7,000 and 8,000 feet which kept us under what was now a solid overcast. The sight of all the boats firing their heavy guns and the troops on their way toward the shore was quite awesome and exciting”. After a successful bombing run he climbed into the thick overcast and barely avoided a mid-air collision by 50 ft.

On Christmas Day 1944 he returned to the United States and served as a training



On April 26, 2011 Freda passed on, ending their relationship of 68 years. Following Freda’s death, Bob donated a beautiful stained glass window to the Chapel at the Masonic Village in Sewickley.

On April 20th of this year, Bob was able to complete the final leg of his Masonic journey by becoming a 32nd degree Mason in the Valley Of Pittsburgh. While he was always interested, he never seemed to have time to join because of the demands of his business where he went to the office regularly until last year.

As he nears his 97th birthday, time is catching-up with the old warrior who no longer soars in the sky darting through the clouds but rather smiles and waves as he passes by in his motor scooter reliving the events of days gone by and the experience of becoming a Scottish Rite Mason.

When Ill. Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, Past Grand Master and Active for Pennsylvania, saluted him as a true American Hero at the Spring Class this past April, everyone spontaneously rose and applauded. ♦

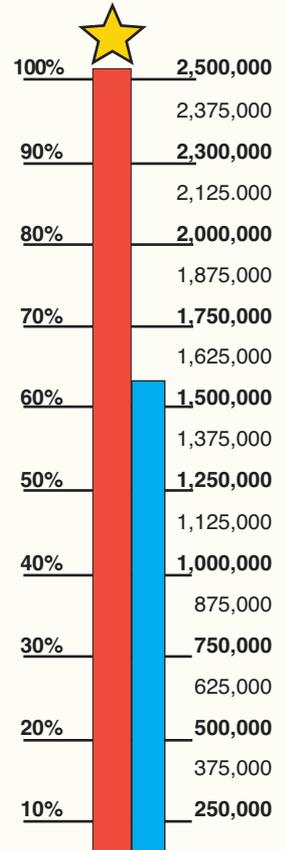


The Stained Glass Window, donated to the Masonic Village at Sewickley by Bro. Robert L. Holliday, 32°, in memory of his wife, Freda.

Help the Endowment Fund for Dyslexia GROW!

Make a Pledge or a Donation!

GOAL: \$2,500,000



GOAL \$2,500,000

***RECEIVED**

**from donations, bequests, pledges & fund raisers.*

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

– Bro. Winston Churchill

Take a look at the Valley’s New Website at:
www.valleyofpittsburgh.org



COME! CELEBRATE! Enjoy!

Syria Shrine & Scottish Rite

Western Pennsylvania



MASONIC FAMILY PICNIC

Michael S. Mammay
Potentate

Friday, August 2, 2013

Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

Kennywood

Come Early! 10:30 a.m. Stay Late! 11:00 p.m.

Bring Your Picnic Baskets

Door Prizes

Free Buttermilk / Chocolate Milk

Senior & Youth Games

Entertainment

The Grand Parade

Fireworks



For Group Reservations, call

Robert Plata, 412-241-8838



All
Masons,
Families,
Friends,
Make Plans
NOW!

Robert Plata, Chairman
bplata1019@aol.com
412-860-5299

How to purchase Kennywood Tickets over the Internet:

SAVE OVER \$16 OFF REGULAR \$39.99 ADMISSION

Use the exclusive **Promo Code** below to purchase a Shrine/Scottish Rite Day Ticket to Kennywood for only \$23.50. Senior tickets only \$16.00.

Code: **SHRINE2013**

- Go to www.kennywood.com from June 1st - August 2nd.
- Enter the promo code in box at the top of the screen and click GO.
- Enter the number of tickets you wish to purchase at the discounted price and click ADD TO CART.
- Click either CONTINUE SHOPPING or SECURE CHECKOUT and finish the transaction with your credit card information.
- Print out your tickets and bring them with you to the park.

Come for the Food! Come for the Rides! Come for the Fun! Come for the Day!

How to order by Mail:

Enclose your check payable to **Syria Shrine** in the amount of \$ _____ for Kennywood tickets as indicated below: **Questions? 724-274-7000.**

_____ Ride all Day, adult & child @ \$23.50 = \$ _____
_____ Senior Citizen, 55+ @ \$16 = \$ _____

Seniors age 70+ can send in for a coupon and purchase their ticket at the park for \$10. After 5 p.m., coupon can be used by anyone aged 3 to 54 to enter the park for \$18.

Name _____ Ph _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**PLEASE
Enclose A
Stamped
Self-Addressed
Envelope**

Mail To: Syria Shrine, 1877 Shriners Way, Cheswick, PA 15024



From the Secretary's Desk

Donald M. Murphy, 33°, Secretary



The 2011-2012 Scottish Rite year is nearly history. We have one more Stated Meeting, our Scholarship Dinner, graduation at the School for Dyslexia, a Car Cruise, Ride for Dyslexia, and two Baseball Games and the year will be complete.

This year has already provided several memorable moments. We have had two outstanding class experiences during the year. In those two classes we made 139 new 32nd degree masons.

If you have not attended any of our Stated meetings or other functions it is not too late. The June 6th Stated Meeting would be a perfect opportunity. Where else can you get dinner and a show for \$10? All we ask you to do is give us a call and make a dinner reservation if you plan to attend.

There are still some baseball tickets left but they are going fast. Call quickly if you would like to join in on the fun.

Our newly formed Car Club will have their first car cruise on June 9. Owners of Vintage and Classic

Cars are welcome to attend and display their work. If you simply want to attend and view the cars, come out and enjoy the day. Activities for the family will be available. Good weather is a "guarantee."

Our annual Golf Outing to benefit the Children's Learning Center will take place on June 10, 2013 at Butler's Golf Course near Elizabeth, PA. This will be a great time. If you are a golfer, come out and have an enjoyable day. Better yet, form a foursome and help to support our Learning Center. If you are not a golfer, we can also take dinner only reservations. All proceeds from the day will go to support our Learning Center.

Please note on your calendar that the September Stated Meeting of the Valley has been moved to August 29, 2013. We are planning a summer picnic for this meeting. Please try and attend a great end of summer outing.

Everyone is looking forward to a good summer. Why not join your Masonic Brethren and attend one or more of our activities? ♦

June Stated Meeting Entertainment Features Mikey Dee

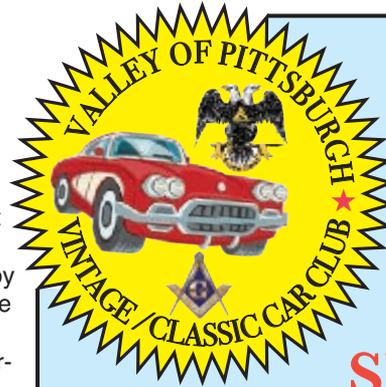
For the June Stated Meeting on Thursday, June 6, the Entertainment Committee has selected Mikey Dee to perform during dinner and the Stated Meeting.

Mikey Dee organized his own band "The Mikey Dee Band" in 1988. He has performed in many tamburitza bands through the years and played with the Penn Semblers under the leadership of Ron Rendulic. He has had his own Tamburitza band (Mikey Dee Tamburica Stars) since 2004.

In 2000 through 2012, Mikey Dee was the Entertainment coordinator and stage manager for the City of McKeesport's annual International Village festival, serving as Master of Ceremonies in 2004-2012.

Currently, Mikey performs everything from oldies to ballroom, polkas to tamburitza. ♦

The September Stated Meeting has been changed to Thursday, August 29 - 7:30 p.m.



Car Club CRUISE and SHOW

Sunday, June 9 ★ Noon - 4:30 p.m.
Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center

featuring

FOOD ★ FUN ★ FELLOWSHIP

Something for Everyone!

Registration is not required for car show/cruise
It is free to attend and participate

- HIGHLIGHTS -

- ★ Display of Classic & Antique Cars
- ★ Oldies DJ to Entertain You
- ★ Local Race Team Car
- ★ Area Car Clubs
- ★ Fire & Emergency Equipment on Display
- ★ Allegheny County Sheriffs Crime Prevention Unit will conduct Child ID fingerprinting. Allegheny County 911 Van will be present. Ross Township Police will control traffic.
- ★ Interested in becoming a member? See us at the Car Cruise and Show.



Also Featuring -

Hiram's Riders Motorcycle Club

- ★ Motorcycles on Display
- ★ Sign up for **Ride for Dyslexia** on Sunday, June 30.
- ★ Sign up for **Blue Ride** on Sunday, July 28.
- ★ Buy a fund-raising chance on the Harley-Davidson Bike (or \$17,000) for the Children's Dyslexia Center.

Hiram's Riders Questions? 412-683-0359

Car Club Questions? E-mail Bro. Robert Chambers at: valleycarclub@gmail.com

or phone Bro. Tom Fodor, 33°, Secretary at: 412-269-9753

*Valley of Pittsburgh Vintage/Classic Car Club
Premiere Event - All Masons & Guests Welcome*

T.T.G.O.T.G.A.O.T.U.

Thursday, June 6, 2013

7:30 p.m.

STATED MEETING OF THE FOUR COORDINATE BODIES

A Stated Meeting of the Four Coordinate Bodies of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the Valley of Pittsburgh, PA will be held at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on Thursday, June 6, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Business will be transacted in the Lodge of Perfection 14°; Council of Princes of Jerusalem 16°, Chapter of Rose Croix 18° and Consistory 32°.

Officers of Pennsylvania Consistory will preside.

Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°
Most Wise Master

Eric K. Cohen, 32°
Sovereign Prince

Jonathan D. Ballinger, 32°
Thrice Potent Master

ATTEST:

Donald M. Murphy, 33°
Secretary

4th Stated Meeting

of the 2012 - 2013
Scottish Rite Year

Ladies & Children Invited

Entertainment

Mikey Dee

will entertain during dinner

Enjoy a Fellowship Dinner
before the meeting!

\$10.00

Served from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Please make Reservations

412-939-3579



Bro. Edward H. Fowler Jr., 33°, Receives 60 Year Service Award

Bro. Jay W. Smith, 33°, *R.W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania* (center) presented Bro. Edward H. Fowler, Jr., 33°, *Past Grand Master* with his 60 year pin at ceremonies held at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center at the Stated Meeting of Avalon Lodge No. 657. Bryce B. Hildreth, 33°, *M.W. Grand Master of Iowa*, a friend of Bro. Fowler, flew in to participate in the presentation. ♦

Show You're Proud to be a Mason

Place a 'Masonic License Plate' on your car. (call 412-939-3579 for application)



Vinyl 3" fade resistant 'Car Badges.'
Six to a sheet in various colors.

\$10.00



Valley T-Shirt - all sizes
available - **\$14.00**

Proud to be
a Mason
Lapel Pin
\$5.00



When ordering individually,
add \$2 for mailing costs.

Save! Purchase Pin, Badges
& T-Shirt for \$25 Incl postage.
Send check payable to Valley
of Pittsburgh, 3579 Masonic
Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

Questions? 412-683-0359.



Valley Golf
Shirt all sizes
available -
\$30.00



**Pennsylvania Council
Princes of Jerusalem**
*Message from the
Sovereign Prince*
Eric K. Cohen, 32°



Brethren, as the end of our Scottish Rite year draws near, I find myself reflecting upon the past eight years. It has truly been an honor to serve the Valley on the Princes of Jerusalem line.

I can honestly say that my time spent with all of you has been some of the best in my Masonic career. I follow a long line of outstanding and dedicated leaders from whom I have gained so much. I would

also like to congratulate my fellow presiding officers on what was a great year.

I would also like to thank those who brought me into the Valley and took me under their wing. I am grateful to brother Ken Langlands for introducing me to the Valley and additionally I would like to thank brother Tony Genacarro for placing me on the line to be Sovereign Prince. Lastly I would like to thank all of the past Princes for their mentoring and support. I will continue to serve the Valley in every way that I can.

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is a true beacon of light and it has allowed me to grow as a mentor, a ritualist, and as a Mason. I would encourage any interested brother to become involved in the ritual, the charitable endeavors of the Valley, and the work as an officer, if they should so desire. Thank you all for allowing me the privilege to help guide this Valley. It has been an honor. ♦

Spes Mea In Deo Est

**Hiram's Riders Fundraiser
for Dyslexia**



2013 Harley Davidson
Electra Glide Classic
with Trailer to match
or \$17,000.00 cash!



Purchase of a \$10 ticket helps provide **FREE** tutoring of Children with Dyslexia. Go to our web site for details:
www.valleyofpittsburgh.org
or call 412-683-0359 or dwr47@verizon.net
for questions and/or information.

*We're making a difference
in the lives of kids with Dyslexia*

**The Modern Vitruvian
Perspectives**

Continued from page 7.

them for not keeping up, but rather as a sympathetic act where we seek to walk the peaks and valleys just as they have. Acting on the square means that we should extend grace in abundance, knowing that we, too, may be in need of it at some point. I've recently realized that trying to see things from another's perspective has often helped me to change my own attitudes. More and more I've been trying to see (or seek) the good in everyone. It is true that each of us in our turn requires varying amounts of seeking before the seeing can take place, but it's always there.

Secondly, we need to become more aware of our own attitudes. The words we speak (or fail to speak) and our tone of voice are obvious indicators of how we feel about someone. Posture, facial expressions, body language and general demeanor are more subtle, but easily discernible indicators of our feelings too. Sometimes changing someone's attitude toward you is as easy as changing your own. If you had a lousy day, remind yourself of how fortunate you are to be spending time with your Brothers. If you drive to Lodge exhausted and world-weary, make an effort to feel the energy of the group and let it heal your soul. You will be surprised at how much a positive mind-set can change you. Attitude is everything. Attitude is the difference between cleaning the litter box and raking the Zen garden.

So you're probably wondering about Dylan and Henry. They're going to be okay. They are reading this column right now – just like you. The next time they come together it will be with a new understanding – both of themselves and of each other. Dylan will ask Henry to help him plan some of his programs which he will gladly do. Henry will begin to see Dylan as the son that loves Lodge as much as he does. And Henry is going to bring his wife to Lodge for surf and turf (and strawberries, of course). They will have one of the most enjoyable night's that either can remember, and will be sure to tell Dylan just that. Dylan will be grateful for the affirmation.

As Modern Vitruvians, you will meet a Dylan or a Henry at some point. When you do, try to see the world as they do, rather than through the narrow keyhole of your own experiences. And remember to be positive. I promise you that next time I see you in Lodge I will smile, even if I had a lousy day. I will smile because, in spite of whatever life was giving me earlier, I am about to be blessed with the good fortune of spending time in a place of peace with you, my Brothers.

I shall close now, for I have other duties which call. I have to get the scoop, er, I mean rake. The cat is subtly reminding me that my Zen garden needs attention. ♦



The Valley of Pittsburgh now has its own Facebook page. Check us out at Facebook.com and search for the Valley of Pittsburgh. "Like" our page and become a fan. Not only will that make us feel special, but it will help you keep up-to-date with news, discussions, and events.



WELC

107 Members of the

Valley of P



Greater Pittsburgh Mason

Floor: Morris J. Miller, Peter D. Dochinez, James J. Karam, Max D. McKee, Kevin C. Tabor, Robert T. Gerst, Robert L. Holliday, Jeffrey M. W. K. Cohen, 32°, *Sovereign Prince*, Jonathan D. Ballinger, 32°, *Thrice Potent Master*, E. Rob Polacek, Corey M. McIntyre, Aaron M. Chamberlin, Richard R. Ramella, William C. Zickgraf, Raymond W. Sprowls Jr, Ralph W May, Michael D. Nath, David C. Runco, William T. Phillips, Robert Semko, Michael S. Wickerham, Dennis R. Jones, Corey E. Howell, Shawn M. Rudy, Alex L. Schmucker, Gregory S. Arthur, Richard F. Kucek
Row 4: Jeffrey A. Johnson, Jack M. Cant, Richard J. Fitzgibbons, Brian L. Weaver, Daniel M. Williams, Ethan F. Hayes, Daniel W. Hopkins, T. Eugene H. Heald III, Matthew M. Biernacki, George J. Burgman, Peter R. Schocker, Evan A. Dickson, Scott R. Carlson, Jon J. Stonestreet, M. Larson. **Row 6:** Floyd W. Dierker III, John A. Lesjak Jr, Frank E. Schiefer III, Timothy J. Troha, Anthony I. Sinatra, Charles L. Roka Jr., Jesse

COME

2013 Spring Class

Pittsburgh



Constitutional Center - April 20, 2013

Walter A. Underling, 33°, *Most Wise Master*, Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, *Active for Pennsylvania*, Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33°, *Commander-in-Chief*, Eric
H. D. Michael Tanner, Edward W. Dietz Jr. **Row 2:** Eric J. Bergfelt Sr, Joshua T. Caldwell, Shashi D. Patel, Thomas R. Maddox, R. Scott Miller,
Robert J. McKown, Kevin A. Stiffey, John F. Slater Jr., Ronald C. Blaze Jr, Nathan A. Baker, Cameron A. Cole. **Row 3:** Max D. Morgans, Todd S.
C. Bra, Patrick J. Eichensehr, Michael J. Martin, David R. James, Joseph M. Sepcic, William P. Freker Jr, Doyle W. Young III, Joshua A. Paslow.
Tyler S. Eberhart, Nicholas R. Holt, Robert G. Gratton Jr, Brandon S. Lichtman, Mark R. Grenadier. **Row 5:** Michael A. Maiolo, Carl W. Barker,
Kristin M. Douglas, James S. Bowen, Robert A. Sheets, Eric J. Willy, Michael J. Basalyga, Robert E. Ruehling, Richard J. Kessler, Shawn D.
E. A. Maund. **Row 7:** Samuel J. Franks, Timothy A. Krause, Jacque K. Hauser, Joseph C. Willis, Brett A. Roach II.



On the Square

by David W. Morgans, 32°, 2nd Lt. Commander

Every once in a while a seemingly routine event takes on special meaning.

This happened recently during an Extra Meeting of my home Lodge. We were about to confer an Entered Apprentice Mason's Degree and I was asked to sit in the Senior Master of Ceremonies' position for the degree. As we formed around the Altar for the degree I noticed that with my younger son, Zack, in the Senior Warden's position and my older son, Max, in the Senior Deacon's position and me in the Senior Master of Ceremonies' position we formed one angle of the Square about the Altar. With Zack to my left and Max facing me I became overwhelmed with thought.

My first thought was how proud and honored I was to be standing in this special Masonic square with my sons. But my pride gave way to a sobering thought as I recalled the meaning of the working tool known as the Square. I thought, "Have I raised my sons right, to be men who deal squarely with themselves and with others?" "Do I even live up to the lessons taught by the Square?" At that point my eye caught a glimpse of the open copy of the Volume of the Sacred Law centered on the altar. There before me was the rule of my faith and a guide to my actions. All my pride came tumbling down quickly and lay in a heap at my feet, for I knew that I did not live up to the standards by which God had given me to live. None of us do.

How my wife and I raised our children certainly helped (or hindered) certain aspects of their individual characters, but that night the men who stood next to me and in front of me were not just my sons, they were, and are, my Brothers. They, like all the men standing around that Altar and all the men in the seats in the Lodge room, and indeed, all the Masons throughout the world have all been given the

same things to enrich their lives. When we join a Masonic Lodge we each are encouraged to delve into our faith and to get to know the Volume of the Sacred Law, which instructs us and molds our faith in God. We are taught the lessons of the working tools; the Square, the Compasses, the Twenty-Four Inch Gauge, the Common Gavel, the Plumb, the Level, and the Trowel. How we make use of these is not based in our upbringing, it is based in our present and in our future.

The Volume of the Sacred Law and all the tools of Masonry teach us how to live upright lives but they mean nothing if we don't make use of them. Tools, in their simplest form, are devices we use in life to make our work easier and to help us accomplish tasks that cannot be done without them. Our Masonic tools can help us make the work of life easier when we are governed by their precepts.

However, just like regular tools that take time and effort to master so do our Masonic tools. In fact, they take a lifetime to understand and each of us will cross into that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns before we completely master the tools of our Craft.

My sons will become upright men and Masons if they make their faith the center of their lives as the Volume of the Sacred Law is centered in our Lodge rooms and if they learn to make use of the Masonic tools daily.

The journey to become better men is not always easy but it is very rewarding and we must always remember that we don't travel it alone. We have countless other Masons at our disposal from whom we can learn the lessons of life and the proper use of the Masonic tools. If we continue in this pursuit we will find that each day we practice the Masonic virtues, we become a little better. And at some point, after much practice, they will become such an integral part to the fabric of our lives that we may barely even recognize the men we used to be. ♦



It's A Baseball Night at the Ball Yard!

Pirates vs Dodgers

The annual Valley of Pittsburgh Baseball outing at PNC Park.

Friday, June 14, 2013

\$32.00 includes

Box Seat for the game.

Tailgate party begins at 5:30 p.m. at PNC Park parking lot.

T-Shirt Night - all fans receive a tee shirt courtesy of Allegheny Sports Medicine.



Questions? - 412-939-3579

Baseball Ticket Order

Enclosed is my check payable to **Gourgas Lodge of Perfection** for \$_____ for _____ tickets to the baseball game at PNC Park on Saturday, June 14, 2013 at 7:05 p.m.

Name _____

Phone () _____

Mail to: GPMC, 3579 Masonic Way, Pgh. PA 15237

Please include a *stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope* for return of game tickets and directions to the tail gate party.

HURRY, ALMOST SOLD OUT!




Message from the Most Wise Master
Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix
Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°



I sit in astonishment and wonder at where the Scottish Rite year has gone. It seems only yesterday we were preparing and planning at our annual retreat at Sandscrest.

Your Officers have worked very hard to improve your Valley and your Scottish Rite experience. During my journey I have developed an appreciation and great respect for my coworkers in the Valley. They are indeed a talented, passionate and driven group. By working with them, with an open mind, and paying close attention to their ideas (in many cases vastly different from my own), I have improved my own personal knowledge and skills and have grown because of them. However one individual stands above the rest of us. Ill. Bro Richard Rodibaugh, 33° has exemplified what a Commander-in-Chief should aspire to be. Not only has he worked tirelessly for the Valley, but also for the Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center. Huge footsteps indeed. We are fortunate to have him for another year.

In the October issue of this publication I wrote of the daughter of a coworker that was enrolled in the Children's Dyslexia Program, that often our philanthropy gives aid to people we have no contact with and how good it felt to touch lives so close to home. I recently had a conversation with her grandparents concerning her progress. They are amazed at the progress she has made, and are thrilled that she is graduating from the program this month. Our effort has not only changed her life, but also the lives of her loved ones. We have certainly made a difference. If possible please support the Golf Outing which will help continue this important mission.

Among the many successes of the past ten months was the Spring Class held April 28, 2013 when one hundred plus Masons continued their Masonic journey in the Scottish Rite. I offer a heartfelt welcome to each new member, and hope to personally meet you at one of our events. Your first opportunity to attend a Stated Meeting of the Valley will be Thursday, June 6th. There is always dinner and entertainment for ten dollars. Bring your significant other, or a friend, and give it a try. Please don't be shy, introduce your-

self and get involved. You have increased your Masonic network, and we are here to work with you. Only by working together as a true Fraternity will we perpetuate Freemasonry.

In this issue you will find many upcoming events that have been successful in the past. I would like to take this opportunity to promote two of them. The June Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be held at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on June 8th. If you never attend Grand Lodge please do so.

It is the privilege of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Jay W. Smith, 33°, to make a Mason at Sight. The candidate is Brigadier General James Haywood, United States Air Force. Unless I am mistaken, it

has only been done on four occasions over the last twenty years. It is your Grand Lodge and your support is always appreciated.

The other event I would personally invite you to attend is the Sixteenth Annual "Meeting in the Hills" which will be held Friday, June 28th near Dawson, Pennsylvania. This is a Special meeting of James Cochran Lodge No. 614. The program will be the presentation of the "Lincoln Degree". Dress is business casual. The meeting will be preceded by a Steak Fry and followed with Dessert. Call Ill. Brother Richard E. Bigley, 33° at (724) 547-2367 for tickets.

I have always tried to serve at your pleasure, and I do this work for you. If I can be of assistance in any way please let me know. I appreciate the opportunity you have afforded me and I know that I am a better person for having served. ♦

Best fraternal regards.

'Foot to Foot' Jeff

Spes Mea In Deo Est

An Evening of Fun Baseball
 WASHINGTON
WILD THINGS



Friday, July 19, 7:05 p.m.
Consol Energy Park, Washington, PA
Schaumburg Boomers vs
Washington Wild Things

Your ticket includes a pre-game tail-gate picnic from 5:30 p.m. 'til gametime, a reserved seat and a post-game fireworks display.

Send check, payable to Lodge of Perfection, to GPMC, 3579 Masonic Way, Pgh. PA 15237. Please enclose a stamped, #10 self-addressed envelope for return of tickets & directions.

Name _____ Phone () _____

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed for _____ tickets @ \$10. each.

Summer Happenings Around The Valley

North Hills Lodge No. 716

invites you to

BIKE NIGHT

Thursday, June 13, 2013

6:00 p.m.

*Hotdogs, Hamburgers, Kielbasa
Salad, Soft drinks*

Come out and see the Bikes on display!

Contact: Bill Trushel, WM
412.719.5390

billtrushel@verizon.net

54th Masonic District

invites you to a unique

GOLF OUTING

Brackenridge Country Club

Check District 54 Web Site for
complete details at:

padistrict54.org

Questions? P.J. Roup, DDGM
412.798.3732

pittmason@yahoo.com

Victory Lodge No. 694

invites you to attend their

GOLF OUTING

Saturday, June 8, 2013

Aubrey's Dredd Golf Course

8:00 a.m.

\$75.00

Questions? James L. Korn, Secretary
secy0694@pagrandlodge.org

Syria Shrine

invites you to the annual

SPORTS/GUN BASH

Saturday, June 15, 2013

\$25.00

\$30.00 at gate

Shrine Pavilion

Food & Refreshments Included

Questions? Syria Shrine office
724.274.7000

www.syriashriners.org

37th Masonic District

invites you to their

FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday, June 23, 2013

Festivities begin at 1:00 p.m.

The Lodge at Brady's Run Park

Contact: William A. Moisey, DDGM

DDGM37@pagrandlodge.org

James Cochran Lodge No. 614

invites you to the 16th

MEETING IN THE HILLS

Friday, June 28, 2013

\$25.00

A delicious New York Strip Steak Dinner is
served with all the fixin's at 6:00 p.m.
A great evening of fellowship attended by
over 500 masons. Call Rich Bigley, 33° at
724.331.2061 for tickets and directions or
email him at:

big@zoominternet.net

Syria Shrine

invites you to enjoy a

SMOKEY MOUNTAIN MUSIC VACATION

July 22 to 26, 2013

\$668 per person

double occupancy

Questions? Ardith Mammay
412.400.2900

www.syriashriners.org

Washington Lodge No. 164 Blue Knights Chapter XVI

invites you to the Charity Fundraiser

BLUE RIDE

Sunday, July 28, 2013

Registration: 9:00 a.m. - N. Strabane Twp.
Volunteer Fire Dept. on Rt. 19

\$20 single / \$30 couple

Lunch Following Ride Included

Questions? David Richards, 742.746.8474
drichards@northstrabanepolice.com

Hiram's Riders

invites you to the

WASHINGTON CO. FAIR

August 10 thru 17, 2013

★ Rides & Amusements

★ Shows nightly

★ Food & Beverages

★ Livestock Exhibits

★ Demolition Derby

★ Fun for the whole family

Questions? Paul Kauffman, 742.263.3426
washingtonfair.org

Coraopolis Lodge No. 674

invites you to attend their

GOLF OUTING

Saturday, August 10, 2013

Ponderosa Golf Course

8:30 a.m.

\$75.00

Questions? Mark Berton

maberton@gmail.com

Grand Lodge of PA

invites you to attend

AUTUMN DAY

Saturday

September 21, 2013

at the

Masonic Village at Elizabethtown

10:00 a.m.

pagrandlodge.org

Valley of Pittsburgh

invites you to attend the annual

WALK-A-THON FOR DYSLEXIA

Saturday, October 5, 2013

Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center

10:00 a.m.

Questions? 412.939.3579

valleyofpittsburgh.org

Spes Mea In Deo Est

by D. Todd Ballenger, 32°, Staff Writer

This is springtime, a time for renewal and growth. The cycle of nature continues as the dormancy of winter passes and we begin to see life bloom and take shape once again. It is the season of religious renewal as well. Our Jewish Brethren celebrate Passover and the deliverance of a people out of bondage and from the wrath of God as they began their exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land. The Christian faith marks the season with the celebration of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus from the grave, and with this triumph, the establishment of a spiritual pathway to Heaven.

Though not specifically aligning with the vernal equinox, those of the Muslim faith may celebrate a message of hope and strength from Allah during Isra' & Mi'raj (the Night Visit and Ascension). Occurring in June, this time commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's nighttime journey to Jerusalem where he was miraculously taken into Heaven and given instructions and prayers from the prophets that were to be passed on to the Muslim people. To practicing Buddhists, springtime brings the celebration of the Buddha's birthday. This actually occurs on varying dates based on the lunar calendar and for different schools of Buddhism. Why was the Buddha important? Well, Buddha is actually a Sanskrit word that means "awakened one," and refers to someone who has achieved enlightenment, or a state of self-realization and freedom from all forms of social conditioning. This, in and of itself, is a spiritual renewal in a sense of Truth outside of the influence of socially accepted norms.

What these celebrations all have in common is the rejuvenation of all things, in particular that of the human spirit, through Faith, Hope, and Truth. As Scottish Rite Masons, we have no better example than that of the figure of Constans in the 31st Degree. Constans is a young man - strong in resolve, popular among the people, and supported by his friends - who aspires to become a Knight. After his friends vouch him to be worthy before the Prince Commander, Constans is sent to sit his vigil, alone and in prayer. A vigil is a time of purposeful sleeplessness when a medieval squire spends the night before his knight-ing ceremony in solitude, fasting, prayer, and meditation. Thus, the aspirant pre-



D. Todd Ballenger

pares himself mentally and spiritually for his future life as a knight. It is meant to be a time of renewed faith and purpose.

Our pathways to Truth, however, are not always free of obstacles. Constans is tormented by several figures during his vigil. The exuberant Florio represents the temptations of the flesh (worldly pleasure, frivolity, love). Urban, a mystic, represents the temptations of wealth and power. The monk Ignatius represents the temptation to shirk responsibility and hide in selfishness born of fear. But Constans resists all of these temptations because of Hope. His mantra throughout the Degree is, "My Hope is in God." We see the symbolism of this Hope in Constans's armor - the helmet, breastplate, sword, and shield.

In the midst of Constans's inner struggle, the town is besieged and the aspirant has only one place to look to solve his dilemma of either staying his vigil or aiding in the battle. His answer is: "My Hope is in God." He rushes into the fray and though we later learn that his fate is not what we might have expected, Constans becomes an example of what may result from a renewed spirit of Faith with a positive Hope-filled outlook. He finds the power to vanquish temptation and accomplish great things through this inward rejuvenation, focusing not on the intrusions and vanities of the mundane world, but on the peace and enlightenment that come from the spiritual journey.

Though the 31st Degree is an allegorical tale, these same powerful themes appear in the teachings of the world's greatest spiritual leaders. In the Biblical Book of Genesis, Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac at God's command illustrates Faith, and when the Lord stays his hand, Abraham is established as the father of the Hebrew people, and a model for generations of Jews. In Christianity, Jesus teaches his disciples the importance of Faith, telling them, "For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20, ESV). For those of the Islamic faith, this verse serves as a reminder in troubled times: "But those who have Faith and work righteousness, they

are companions of the Garden: Therein shall they abide (forever)." (Holy Qur'an, Surat Al-Baqarah 2:82). Practicing Buddhists find Hope in the words of the Buddha himself: "On life's journey, Faith is nourishment, Virtuous deeds are a shelter, Wisdom is the light by day and Right Mindfulness is the protection by night. If a man lives a pure life nothing can destroy him; if he has conquered greed nothing can limit his freedom."

Lessons in nearly every Volume of the Sacred Law teach us that we must all be constant gardeners of Faith, Hope, and Truth. The Holy Bible says in Ecclesiastes 3: "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." So welcome the springtime. Welcome the opportunity to sit your own vigil and cast off the burdens of temptation, whatever form they may take. These things are all part of life and each has its place and purpose. Therefore, put on your Faith as a knight puts on his armor, and face whatever is to come with a renewed spirit and Hope. Though you return to a world filled with strife and difficulty, look for the good, the peaceful, the generous, the kind, and the unselfish. And if you cannot find them, then bring them to others yourself with the understanding that:

*"Hope springs eternal in the human breast;
Man never Is, but always To be blest;
The soul, uneasy and confin'd from home,
Rests and expatriates in a life to come."*

– Alexander Pope, *An Essay on Man*

Spes Mea In Deo Est. ♦

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It's a great time to be a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Pittsburgh! Looking back since the last publication of the *Rite News* we have had many great events for our membership. There was literally something for everyone. We had the Pascal Lamb event and the Passion play for members, friends and family. We had a movie night with a chili cook-off for our members and prospective members. I would like to congratulate Bro. Ray Hrapczak for winning first place in the chili cook-off as voted by the 60 or so men present. And we had our Spring Class for our new members. All these events were well attended and enjoyed by all.



David W. Morgans, 32°
Chairman

Valley offers. Not only was this one of the largest classes that the Valley has seen in the last several years but it also had a very special energy.

At a recent officers meeting we were talking about the wide range of age and talent in this class. We certainly hope that each of you finds a way to share your gifts and talents with your Brothers and the

Valley. If you want to get more involved but are not sure how to take the first step just ask me or any other officer in the Valley. (You will recognize us at our stated meetings by our Tuxes, Hats and Collars.)

Looking forward, we have many great events coming up. Look through this issue of the *Rite News* for information on the Golf Outing that benefits the Children's Dyslexic Center, the Car Cruise, Hiram's Riders Motorcycle Club 'Ride for Dyslexia' on Sunday, June 30, the Pirate and Wild Things Baseball games, Masonic Day at Kennywood Park, the Walk-A-Thon for the Children's Dyslexic Center, and so much more.

If you say there is nothing to do in the Valley, you are not looking very hard. There will be another initiation class on November 15 & 16, 2013. Mark your calendars and come out in November to fill in some blank spots on your passport. And since you are coming anyway bring some of your Masonic friends along to join the Valley of Pittsburgh. You don't have to wait until fall to start looking for friends and lodge members to petition the Valley for degrees. As the saying goes in the Consistory, the time is NOW!

**It's a great time to be a
Scottish Rite Mason!**

I encourage all of you to make the



most of your Scottish Rite experience by joining in the myriad of activities that the Valley offers to not only its members but also their ladies, their families, and the community at large. Get involved! Enjoy your Membership in our Valley. ♦

Lincoln Degree Schedule

(You're invited to attend)

To date, the following Blue Lodges have scheduled the popular Lincoln degree for their lodge stated meeting.

Lincoln Degree

Jun 11Ellwood Lodge No. 599
Jun 28Meeting in the Hills
Sep 3Verona No. 548
Sep 10Tyrian Lodge No. 644
Sep 13Ligonier Lodge No. 331
Set 18Crafton Guyasuta No. 513
Oct 1Kiskiminetas Lodge No. 617
Oct 9Perry Ionic Lodge No. 796
Oct 15	..Chartiers Valley Lodge No. 725

The Not So Secret Degrees of Scottish Rite

Oct 10North Hills Lodge No. 716
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If you would like a program for your Blue Lodge, contact Bro. Donald W. Boehm, 33°, Valley of Pittsburgh, at 412-885-5621 or by email

aasrpgmembers@yahoo.com

We don't solicit or expect any money for our show, but will accept donations for our Children's Dyslexia Center should your lodge choose to donate. Our only fee is:

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Syria Shrine Gun Bash

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Guests Welcome

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included.

Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

Tickets will be available at
the Valley Stated Meeting
on Thursday, June 6, 2013
at the GPMC



Another Beautiful Enchanted Evening at the Masonic Village at Sewickley



The Enchanted Evening is unique to the Masonic Village at Sewickley and is an elegant event planned for the enjoyment by the female residents located in the Star Points and Thomas K. Sturgeon Health Care units. This, the 6th year was no exception. It was an evening of fine dining and entertainment organized by Tracy Miller and David Rihl, who co-chair the spectacular.

Financially, it is supported by the Masonic Lodges and OES Chapters in Western Pennsylvania, the Retirement Living Residents, staff, friends, and family members. The event is co-ordinated by the Enchanted Committee: Ann Beck, Pete Countouris, Karen Hammond, Jenny McCorkle and Cindy Stefl.

Each female resident, deemed by the staff to be able to attend, receives a hand addressed invitation. On the day of the big event a group of ladies from Retirement Living, calling themselves *The Primpers*, help the party ladies (92 of them) with their make-up,

jewelry, hair style, etc.

Before entering the dining room, each *Queen* is presented with an wrist corsage, has her photograph taken as a remembrance of the evening, and is escorted to the dining room.

Here, they are treated to fine dining beginning with a Pink Champagne Cocktail, Assorted Cheeses, Fresh Fruit & Mediterranean Canapès, Surf & Turf, Lobster Newburg, and Filet Mignon Medallions Shiraz and Classic Petit Four for dessert, all prepared by the excellent Culinary Staff of the Masonic Village under the direction of Bro. Pete Countouris.

Mark M. Venneri, a professional pianist, provided background music.

Anna H. Miller, Worthy Grand Matron, Order of the Eastern Star for PA was the featured guest speaker.

The Enchanted Evening is all about the Ladies. Each and every one of them is considered a Guest of Honor and made to feel like a Queen.

And so they are! ♦

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February 27, 2013



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Thank You! to the Contributors who made the Enchanted Evening possible.



Marjorie DeCoursey



Tracy Miller, P.M. - David Rihl, P.M., Co-Chairmen of the Enchanted Evening



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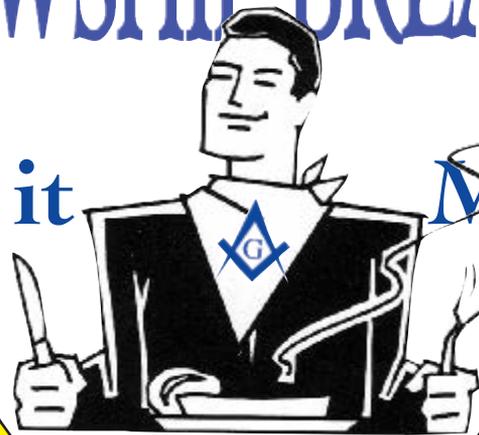
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Youth Groups Unify for a Weekend



The Third Annual Youth Leader Unity Weekend was held April 19 -21, 2013 at the Masonic Conference Center-Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. The weekend, fully planned and implemented by the youth, was supported by over 80 young men and women representing DeMolays, Job's Daughters, Knights of Pythagoras, Rainbow Girls and Ruth

Mitchell Tucker Girls from all across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The young people were split into ten groups, intermingling representatives of each youth group into the conference group, within which they worked on projects and presentations for the weekend. Along with ice-breakers, meetings, presentations, lessons and learning about each

other, there was a lot of fun and fraternalism. Saturday evening featured a dance and Sunday morning brought a youth-planned worship service in which a representative of each youth group shared an example of unity and discussed what it meant. ♦

Annual Rose Croix Class Held

On Saturday, March 16, 2013, members and friends of PA DeMolay gathered at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center to hold their annual induction class sponsored by the Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix.

The degree teams arrived at 10 a.m. to practice for the day. The Initiatory Degree was conferred in the beautiful Franklin Room, while the cast of the DeMolay Degree got to perform on the big stage in the auditorium! The Initiatory Degree was conferred by Bro. Lorenzo Rodriguez, of Northeast Chapter in Philadelphia, *State Treasurer*, with the 4th Section being performed by Bro. Alex Temple, of Susquehanna Chapter in Wiles-Barre, *State Junior Councilor*.

The DeMolay Degree was anchored with performances from Bro. Phil Cancilla, from Templar Chapter in Pittsburgh, as Jacques DeMolay and Bro. Max Ullom, from Joppa Chapter in Washington, as the Master Inquisitor.

Following the ceremonies, each DeMolay was presented with a DeMolay commemorative certificate and tee shirt thanks

to the generosity of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix.

While rehearsals were going on in the morning, ten future advisors attended the DeMolay Advisor Development (DAD) training program that was held in the library. The evening wrapped up with a dance and casino night.

The 2014 Rose Croix Class is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2014. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join the young men of the Order of DeMolay to see them perform their Induction Ceremonies. Watch future issues of The Rite News for complete details. ♦

Youth Groups Meet

The International Order of Job's Daughters in Pennsylvania will hold their annual Grand Session from June 21-23, 2013, at the Lake Raystown Resort in Entriken, PA. The weekend will include a Formal Banquet and Opening, the presentation of award and scholarships, and the Grand Bethel Installation.

The International Order of the Rainbow

for Girls will hold their "Believe in Unity" Grand Assembly from July 10-14, 2013 at the Jaffa Shrine Center in Altoona. The program will include the Informal Opening and presentations, the Formal Opening, Initiation of new members, conferral of the Grand Cross of Color, Installation and lots of fun!

The International Order of DeMolay will hold their annual Pennsylvania DeMolay Convention from July 19-21, 2013 at the Bayfront Sheraton and Erie County Convention Center in Erie. The weekend will include the election and installation of State Officers, ritual presentations and competitions, the formal luncheon and presentation of awards and scholarships, and fun activities at Presque Isle and Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park.

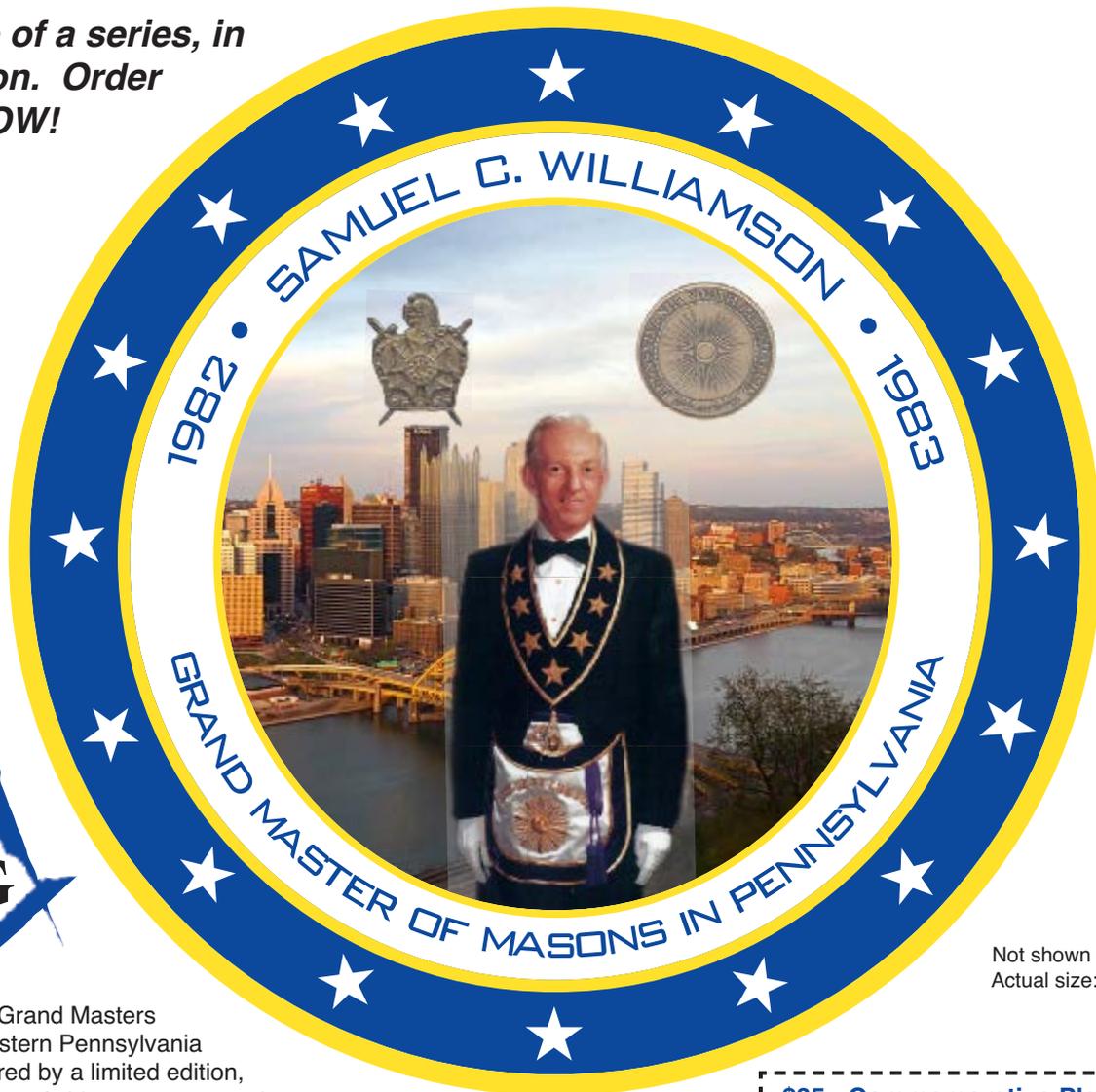
The Grand Lodge HODEGOS Awards, recognizing outstanding adult service for seven or more years, will be presented Friday night at Grand Session, Wednesday night at Grand Assembly and at the Saturday luncheon at the DeMolay Convention. More information on the youth group annual meetings is available from Dave Berry, Assistant to the Executive Director, at the PA Masonic Youth Foundation. 1-800-266-8424 X4. ♦

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**2013
Calendar of
Masonic Events**



May 2013

25 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

June 2013

06 - SCOTTISH RITE STATED MEETING, GPMC

- 08 - Grand Lodge June Quarterly, GPMC
- 09 - Car Club Cruise and Show, GPMC
- 10 - Valley of Pittsburgh Golf Tournament
- 13 - Bike Night, North Hills Lodge No. 716, North Hills
- 14 - Pirate Baseball Game, PNC Park
- 15 - Shrine Gun Bash, Shrine Pavilion
- 28 - Meeting in the Hills, Dawson, PA
- 29 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC
- 30 - Hiram's Riders Ride for Dyslexia

July 2013

- 04 - Independence Day Parade - Brentwood, PA
- 12, 13 - Council of Deliberation - Seven Springs
- 27 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC
- 28 - Washington Lodge 164/Blue Knights Ride for Charity

August 2013

- 10 - 18 - Washington County Fair, (Arden Downs) Arden, PA
- 18 - 20 - NMJ Supreme Council Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- TBA - Picnic with the Grand Master - Masonic Village

29 - SCOTTISH RITE STATED MEETING, GPMC

31 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

September 2013

- 02 - Labor Day
- 21 - Autumn Day, Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA
- 28 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

October 2013

- 03 - Oktoberfest, GPMC
- 05 - Walk-for-Dyslexia, GPMC
- 26 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

November 2013

07 - SCOTTISH RITE STATED MEETING, GPMC

- 15, 16 - Fall Reunion Class, GPMC
- 30 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

December 2013

- 04 - Grand Lodge Quarterly, Philadelphia
- 07 - Valley Christmas Party, Shanoppin Country Club
- 14 - Valley Children's Christmas Party, GPMC
- 21 - Hiram's Riders Christmas Party, Grants Bar, Millvale
- 27 - Grand Lodge Annual Meeting, Philadelphia

GPMC - Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center

Schedule updated monthly: www.valleyofpittsburgh.org

"They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

— Benjamin Franklin

GOURGAS LODGE OF PERFECTION 14°

- Jonathan D. Ballinger, 32° Thrice Potent Master
- D. Todd Ballenger, 32° Deputy Master
- Robert J. Lorenz, Jr., 32° Senior Warden
- Paul J. Roup, 32° Junior Warden
- Sam H. Jessee, 32° Orator
- Robert B. Ruff, 32° Master of Ceremonies
- Shawn P. Lang, 32° Guard

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL PRINCES OF JERUSALEM 16°

- Eric K. Cohen, 32° Sovereign Prince
- Gerald A. Sutherland, 32° High Priest
- Austin R. Shifrin, 32° Senior Warden
- Larry D. Horath, 32° Junior Warden
- William J. Wiker, 32° Master of Ceremonies
- Erastus Z. Allen, 32° Master of Entrances

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX 18°

- Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33° Most Wise Master
- Arthur F. McGuigan, 32° Senior Warden
- Robert F. Dunkle, 32° Junior Warden
- Rodney E. Boyce, 32° Orator
- Robert B. Malwitz, 32° Master of Ceremonies
- James C. Mayes, 32° Guard

PENNSYLVANIA CONSISTORY 32°

- Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33° Commander-in-Chief
- Donald W. Boehm, 33° 1st Lt. Commander
- David W. Morgans, 32° 2nd Lt. Commander
- Robert M. Polander, Jr., 32° Orator
- Charles J. Anthony, 32° Chancellor
- Brian T. Wilding, 32° Master of Ceremonies
- Joshua S. Freeman, 32° Engineer & Seneschal
- Joseph G. Whitaker, 32° Standard Bearer
- Branden T. Plesh, 32° Guard
- D. William Roberts, 33° + + + Treasurer
- Donald M. Murphy, 33° Secretary
- Vito A. Urso, 33° Hospitalier
- Dennis R. Johnston, 33° Tiler
- Donald E. Sauer, 33°, Joseph G. Whitaker, 32° Masonic Fund Society
- Charles M. Bombich, 32° Representatives

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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- D. Todd Ballenger, 32° Jonathan D. Ballinger, 32°
- Donald W. Boehm, 33° Eric K. Cohen, 32°
- Arthur F. McGuigan, 32° David W. Morgans, 32°
- Donald M. Murphy, 33° D. William Roberts, 33°
- Gerald A. Sutherland, 32° Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°
- Robert Mellon, 33°, *Trustee* Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, *Active*

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- Jeffrey A. Wonderling, 33°

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- Robert E. Dunkelmann, 33° William J. Ebertshauser, 33°
- Edward H. Fowler, Jr., 33° Robert R. Havers, Sr., 33°
- John W. Hisiro, 33° Albert L. Kappeler, Jr., 33°
- Donald E. Sauer, 33° Walter L. Sykes, 33°
- Kurt R. Tesche, 33°

SECRETARY EMERITUS

- Elwood R. Schultise, 33°

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The bodies of the Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Pittsburgh, State of Pennsylvania, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts, and whose Officers are: Ill.: John Wm. McNaughton, 33°, *Sovereign Grand Commander*, Ill.: Russell W. Baker, 33°, *Deputy for Pennsylvania*. Other Active members of the State of Pennsylvania are: Ill.: C. DeForrest Trexler, 33°, Ill.: Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, Ill.: William L. McCarrier, 33°, and Ill.: Jeffrey W. Coy, 33°.

Valley of Pittsburgh

GOURGAS LODGE OF PERFECTION

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3579 Masonic Way
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Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, USA
Instituted 20 January 1852

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