

162 Years of Scottish Rite Masonry in Pittsburgh

The Rite News



The Magazine of the Valley of Pittsburgh

VOL. XXIV NO. 1



September 2014



**Valley of Pittsburgh
Officers for 2014 - 2015**



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.

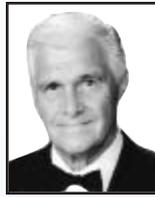
The teaching method is the Orton-Gillingham program. It is a one tutor – one student ratio. This method is very expensive but extremely effective. It costs approximately \$5,000 a year for each child. Our goal is to raise \$2,500,000 to endow the Children's Dyslexia Center for the future.

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



Robert & Janice Amend



Emery & Carol Anden



David & Carol Bagaley



Robert & Jacqueline Beatty



Jeff & Susan Biddle



Raymond & Lynn Dietz



Fred & Kathy Donatelli



Robert Eckbreth



James Ecker & Donna Murtha



James & Ellen Flanigan



Jeff & Lauren Heiger



Raymond & Dorothy James



James & Lisa Jenkins



Robert & P.J. Jones



Frank R. Mangery



Jack Marsh



John & Judy McCombs



Roy & Sara Jane McCullough



Jay & Joanne McElravy



Ronald & Karen Plesh



Bruce A. Robinson



Richard & Bette Rodibaugh



Don & Ginny Sauer



Joseph A Schrock, Jr.



Gregory Triko



George & Norma Vance



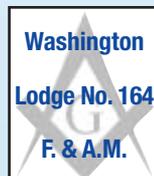
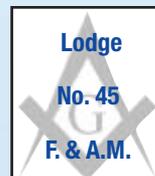
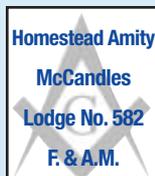
S. Timothy Warco



Bob & Charlene Wells



James & Annetta West



Builders Council Enrollment Form

I pledge the sum of: \$10,000 \$15,000
 \$20,000 \$25,000

With payments in equal installments over a period of:
 3 years 5 years 10 years.

This pledge will be payable: Annually
 Semi-annually Quarterly *Monthly

*Monthly payments may be made only by credit card.

First payment of \$_____ is enclosed.

Deduct my pledge from my credit card when due:

MasterCard Visa American Express
 Discover Other _____.

Number _____ Exp. date _____

Name you would prefer in recognition:

This gift is anonymous.

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ph. () _____ Date _____

Mail to: Builders Council, 3579 Masonic Way,
 Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2700.

Builders Council

to read – one child at a time!



Mark & Patty Bliler



George H. Cox



Rick & Renee Cross



James & Eda Dean



Mario & Linda DeBlasio



Bill & Heather Dickey



Howard & Sharon Flynn



Donald & Debora Green



Wallace & Leah Grossett



Harvey & Carol Gumto



John & Ruth Habel



Leland A. Hale, Jr.



Paul & Penny Kappel



Paul & Jackie Kauffman



David & Sandy Kearns



David & Judy Kielman



John Kovac



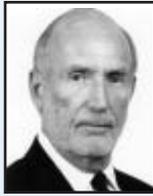
William & Babara Magnotti, Jr.



Glenn & Mary Miller



Dr. Glenn & Roberta Miller



Jack & Carol Miller



Donald & Barbara Murphy



John & Valerie Nicklas



Raymond & Joy Nicklas



James W. Seel



William Shaw



William Slater II



Samuel & Judy Spanos



Thomas & Joan Sturgeon



Kurt & Nancy Tesche



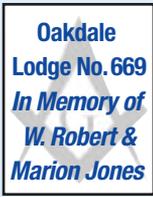
James & Jill West



Jeff & Sharon Wonderling



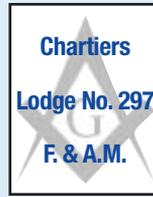
Your picture or Lodge could be here.



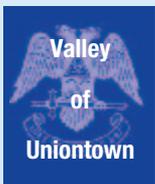
Oakdale Lodge No. 669
In Memory of
W. Robert &
Marion Jones



30th
Masonic
District



Chartiers
Lodge No. 297
F. & A.M.



Valley
of
Uniontown



Supreme
Council Group
Valley of
Pittsburgh



Valley of
Pittsburgh
Legion of
Honor



Pittsburgh
Commandery
No. 1
Knights
Templar



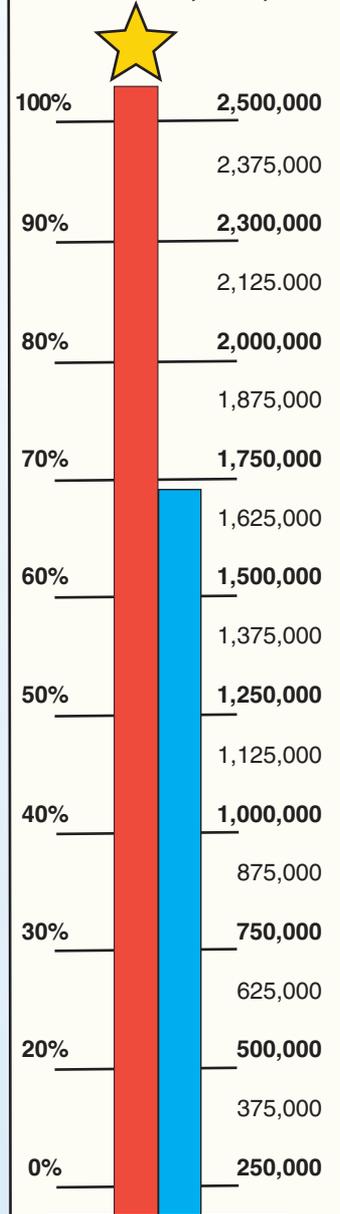
Unified
Lodge No. 2
1005



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

REDISCOVER THE VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

The central theme of the Valley of Pittsburgh for 2014 - 2016.

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The Rite News

VOL. XXIV NO. 1 September 2014

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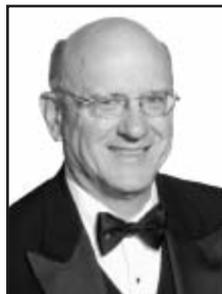
D. Todd Ballenger, 32°Features
Dr. Glenn D. Miller, II, 33°Columnist
P.J. Roup, 33°Columnist
Rev. John H. Piper, 32°Columnist
Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°Columnist
Mark E. Blieler, 33°Proof Reader
William D. Johnston, 33°Proof Reader
Robert J. Binnie, 32°Photographer

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Message from the Commander-in-Chief

TO: ALL INACTIVE MEMBERS!



Donald W. Boehm, 33°



How long ago did you become a Scottish Rite Mason? Two years, five years, 10 or more, and you have never been back to an event or meeting? Sooner or later you may have the revelation of **“why am I paying dues to an organization of which I don’t**

attend any functions or meetings?”

Sadly, many inactive members drop their membership for this reason, not realizing the potential benefits and perks available to Scottish Rite Masons. I was inactive from my initiation in 1979 until about 2002, then becoming an active participant, has led to the honorable title of Commander-in-Chief. So, make this the year that you **REDISCOVER the Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh!**

To accomplish this goal, we simply can’t run the same old play book and expect new or existing members to magically appear. We have to give you reasons to **REDISCOVER** Scottish Rite, and we plan on during just that.

Let’s start with the September stated meeting on Thursday, September 4.

★ **Casual Dress Night** - Casual is the key word of the day - drop the jacket and tie and come to the cookout at 6:00 p.m.

★ **Enjoy the Outdoor Cookout** with burgers, dogs, baked beans, potato salad and more. Bring a dessert so we have a wide variety.

★ **Ladies FREE Cash Bingo!** Any Scottish Rite wife, lady or widow is welcome to come and play bingo, and take home \$500.00 in Valley cash. One card per lady per game, so all have an equal chance.

★ **50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes!**

Door prizes include 4 pirate field box tickets to the September 12 game against the Chicago Cubs, a flat screen TV, gift cards and more!

Combine these reasons with the immense fraternal brotherhood that can be enjoyed interacting with Masons from 35 to 45 different area lodges, and there is no better time to **REDISCOVER** the Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh!

As Commander-in-Chief, I **ORDER YOU TO ATTEND THIS MEETING**, with tongue in cheek of course, but you can’t enjoy the perks, if you don’t make the drive.

Call the Valley Secretary, Bro. Don Murphy and make a reservation for this **End of Summer Gala**, and get some of your Scottish Rite friends and ladies to come as a group. We’re going to be short on meeting and long on fellowship and the burgers will be cooked to order!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Don

Donald W. Boehm, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

Spes Mea In Deo Est

ALL FOR ONE, ONE FOR ALL

"tous pour un, un pour tous"

The Valley Three Musketeers



<i>Porthos</i> P. J. Roup <i>Thrice Potent Master</i>	<i>Aramis</i> Austin Shifrin <i>Sovereign Prince</i>	<i>Athos</i> Bob Dunkle <i>Most Wise Master</i>	<i>d'Artagnan</i> Don Boehm <i>Commander-in-Chief</i>
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The new Valley of Pittsburgh officers have taken on a great historical moto for teamwork and the ability to get things done.

All For One, One For All!

Basically it means that all have ONE common GOAL, that all are working for, so they will work together to reach that goal - members of the group support each of the individual members, and the individual members pledge to support the group.

"Unus pro omnibus, omnes pro uno" is the Latin phrase that it originated from. It is also the motto of Alexandre Dumas' *The Three Musketeers* and is also the traditional motto of Switzerland.

Alexandre Dumas' Three Musketeers



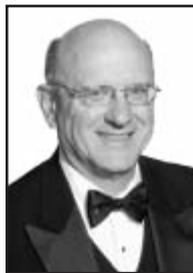
Athos Porthos Aramis D'Artagnan

For more than one hundred sixty years, Alexander Dumas' historical classic *The Three Musketeers* has been firing the imaginations and touching the hearts of people everywhere.

Set in the 17th century, it recounts the adventures of a young man named d'Artagnan after he leaves home to travel to Paris, to join the Musketeers of the Guard. D'Artagnan is not one of the musketeers of the title; those being his friends Athos, Porthos and Aramis, inseparable friends who live by the motto "all for one, one for all" a motto which is first put forth by d'Artagnan.

In life, d'Artagnan was captain-lieutenant of the Musketeers. In the fictitious account of his origins, we learn of the morals and ideals that attracted d'Artagnan to the Musketeers - the same ideals that inspired Dumas to retell their story. These principles of unity, love and loyalty also apply today. ♦

GET TO KNOW YOUR OFFICERS



Donald W. Boehm, 33°, has joined the ranks of Commander-in-Chief of the Pennsylvania Consistory. He is a member of the Hamilton Presbyterian Church. Don is a Utility Worker for Cummins Bridgeway and a member of I.U.O.F. Local 66. He is married to Antoinette and has a daughter Theresa. He became a member of Guyasuta Lodge No. 513 F&AM in 1973 and served as Worshipful Master 1978 and 2000. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees in April, 1979. Don became a 33° Mason on August 26, 2012.



Robert F. Dunkle, 32°, is serving as Most Wise Master of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix. He is a member of the Oakmont United Presbyterian Church. Bob is the Technology Director of the Riverview School District. He is a member of Verona Lodge No. 548 F&AM. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees on November 20, 1980. He was Knighted in Lincoln Commandery No. 91 in 1982 and served as Eminent Commander in 2003. He is Past High Priest of Gateway Royal Arch Chapter. He is currently a District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.



Austin R. Shifrin, 32°, serves as Sovereign Prince of the Pennsylvania Council Princes of Jerusalem. He is a member of the Tree of Life Synagogue (L'Simcha). Austin holds the position of Credit Risk Analyst at the Bank of New York Mellon. He is married to Dena and has a stepdaughter, Lavina. He is a member of Tyrian Lodge No. 644 F&AM and served as Worship Master in 2013. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees in November, 2006. He was President in 2011 and Secretary in 2012 of the Allegheny Valley School of Instruction.



Paul J. Roup, 33°, serves as Thrice Potent Master of the Gourgas Lodge of Perfection. He is a member of the Beulah Presbyterian Church. Paul is the owner of Roup Insurance Agency & Dreamscape Video Productions. He became a member of Plum Creek - Monroeville Lodge No. 799 F&AM in January, 1998 and served as Worshipful Master in 2002. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees in November, 2007. He is also the District Deputy Grand Master of the 54th Masonic District. Paul became a 33° Mason on August 20, 2013.

On the Cover

Valley of Pittsburgh officers for 2014/15 are pictured at the annual Valley Officer orientation at Sandscrest Conference and Retreat Center near Wheeling, WV. Bro. Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, *Active for PA*, (center) is flanked by the four Presiding Officers.

1st row: Austin R. Shifrin, *Sovereign Prince*, Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem, **Paul J. Roup, 33°**, *Thrice Potent Master*, Gourgas Lodge of Perfection, Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, **Robert F. Dunkle**, *Most Wise Master*, Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix, **Donald W. Boehm, 33°**, *Commander-in-Chief*, Pennsylvania Consistory, **2nd row:** Robert M. Polander, Larry D. Horath, William J. Wiker, Joseph G. "Cab" Whitaker, Brandon T. Plesh, **3rd row:** Charles H. King, Jeffrey R. Jones, Donald M. Murphy, 33°, *Secretary*, Brian T. Wilding, Mark D. Sedlemeyer, Mitchell D. Goldstein, **4th row:** Robert B. Ruff, Erastus Z. Allen, Joshua S. Freeman, Shawn P. Lang, Sam H. Jessee, **5th row:** Robert B. Malwitz, Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°, Rodney E. Boyce, James C. Mayes, David B. Firda, Joshua L. Miller.

The annual Retreat is a unity and officer preparation meeting for the forthcoming year.



In Memoriam

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



"Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother"



Joseph F. Acton, 33°

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



Robert L. Wilson, 33°

Robert T. Addleman
James A. Babcock
David L. Bevan
Charles G. Bicsey
Steven Bilsky
Frank R. Braden, Jr.
Robert B. Bradley
Robert M. Brown
Robert C. Brunermer
Norman E. Cain
Claude H. Chisler
Frank B. Clark
Donald M. Conn
George S. Cook
Earl D. Crane
Richard W. Cribbs
Ronald W. Critchfield
David M. Cronin
James A. Davis
Herbert C. Demart
Richard L. Doverspike
Derwyn C. Dunlap
Bernard D. Dusenberry
Walter H. Ebert
David Elias

Darwin H. Frankhouser
Robert C. Fuller
William E. Gerwig
James R. Gibb
Harold A. Gitomer
Edward Gnoth
Charles I. Hamilton
John U. Harriett
Edward R. Hiscott
Elmer P. Hoop, Jr.
Ralph V. Hugo, Jr.
Louis E. Jerzerick
William J. Kemerer
James F. King, Jr.
Robert D. Kirchner
Anthony L. Knez
Frank H. Kohne
Kenneth F. Krebs
James R. Laird
Roy M. Landers
Albert K. Lauer
James E. Laughlin
George W. Lawry
John F. Loughman, Jr.
Edgar E. Mallick
Ronald J. Mathers

Richard K. McKnight
Milton W. Means
John C. Patrick
Robert F. Pemberton
George E. Pettengill
Chester A. Phillips, Jr.
Samuel W. Pringle, Jr.
William C. Reitz
Handel Roberts
Gilbert E. Rodler
Albert L. Roney
Clarence J. Rummel, Jr.
Donald E. Rutter
William H. Schmoutz, Jr.
Gale O. Shreffler
Herbert D. Shumaker
Harry C. Sonner
Charles A. Sphar
John W. Stroup
James A. Theys
Paul A. Thompson
William E. Thompson
Louis J. Vlahos
Michael L. Vresh
William C. Zabierowski



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

Thursday, September 4, 2014

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 the date and time above.

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.

Donald W. Boehm, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

Robert F. Dunkle, 32°
Most Wise Master

Austin R. Shifrin, 32°
Sovereign Prince

Paul J. Roup, 33°
Thrice Potent Master

ATTEST:

Donald M. Murphy, 33°
Secretary

1st Stated Meeting

of the 2014 - 2015
Scottish Rite Year

★ Honoring 50/60 Year Members

★ Ladies & Children Invited

★ Enjoy a Free Picnic Cookout
before the meeting!

Served from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Please bring a dessert!

★ Entertainment: Ladies Free
one-card Bingo with \$500 in prizes.
Door Prizes - 50/50 Raffle

Please make Reservations
412-939-3579



The Modern Vitruvian

by P. J. Roup, 33°



The Last Mason

The room was unusually quiet for a stated meeting, and the candles threw enough light to illuminate the area immediately surrounding the altar, but not much else.

He knew something wasn't right as he ascended the stairs in the East to begin the meeting. He rapped the gavel as if to command even more silence from the already still room.

"Brother Pursuivant, close the outer door." Nothing. Not a creaking chair, not the rustling of tuxedo fabric. Nothing. He strained his eyes in an effort to cut into the darkness. No one was there.

Wait. Where is everybody?

Do I have the meeting night wrong? No, today is the second Tuesday. Well, where is everybody, then?

I can't remember a time that our little Lodge had even five empty seats, and now there's no one. What on earth could have happened?

Well, I know a few of them got angry that we spent a little bit of our Reserve fund fixing up the Lodge. What did they expect? The building is 75 years old and has never had a single renovation. I swear that they would have complained about getting rid of gas lights in favor of electric had they been around for that debate.

Aren't we supposed to be about more than that?

What about Brother Bob and all the guys that work down at the factory? They should be here, too. Ah, I remember now. One left after the merger because he didn't like the name and number we chose, and instead of leaving quietly, he took a bunch with him. I always thought our good works should have mattered more than the name we gave the Lodge.

Let's see. Who else? There were some who left because we gave too much of our money away to charity, and some who left because we gave too little. I'll never figure that out. Oh, I can't forget about the two young men, still in college, who left after an older member scolded them in open Lodge because they were wearing wrinkled suits. Who can blame them for not coming back?

The five dollar dues increase took a few out with it. Imagine that. Someone didn't see the value in paying five more dollars per year to belong to Lodge. Maybe we never showed them the value of what they had. Maybe our dinners could have been more than subs and chips, and we probably should have let the ladies come as guests of the Lodge.

We have so much money in the bank. We could have given our Brothers something special. We could have made Lodge a place they wanted to be. We could have helped the community, our youth groups, each other with all that we have. Instead, we hoarded it like misers, squeezing every nickel until Jefferson cried – and for what?

I'm the Last Mason.

I have a beautiful building, fine regalia, and all the money I'll ever need, yet I've never felt so poor. Without people, the Lodge is just a building. Without the mystic ties of Freemasonry, we are just a random gathering of men – no different than a crowd at a bus stop. Why, then did we let the petty eclipse the significant? Why did the trivial trump the vital? Why? Why? Why?

He woke gasping for air. He turned on the light, picked his phone up off of the nightstand and pressed the home key. Tuesday the 10th, 3:57 am. The meeting was still more than 15 hours away.

"That was quite a nightmare," his wife said. "Are you okay?"

He told her about the dream in as much detail as he could. When he finished, he just shook his head. "It was awful. I've seen most of those problems to a small degree in our Lodge, but I never pictured any of them leading to the end of Masonry. I'd feel empty if I played a part in something that terrible."

"You need to tell them tonight," she said.

"About the dream? I don't know. What good would it do?"

"Just tell them. You only need to change a couple of hearts to make a difference."

"Maybe you're right," he said. He kissed her softly on the cheek, rolled over and switched off the light. "You always are."

"I know. Now go to sleep." ♦

Scottish Rite Social & Charitable Events

Thursday, October 2 - GPMC



This yearly event has become very popular, so come and enjoy German music, eat wiener schnitzels and hoist a brew or two with your crew.

Our Oktoberfest is open to all. Feel free to invite family, friends or neighbors to enjoy this traditional German holiday celebration. Tables of 8 are ideal.

For information and reservations, call the office at 412-939-3579.

Saturday, October 4 - GPMC



The Walk-a-Thon is one of our primary fund-raisers for the Children's Dyslexia Center and the kids count on us coming through for them. All are welcome to come and walk the 13 laps around the building, or do 1 lap and pack it in. The Walk-a-Thon police are very lax.

We also feature a Chinese Auction with about 25 different gifts and baskets, and refreshments are provided. Register, donate or do whatever you can to help our special kids, as this event is good for the mind, body and soul. Contact the Valley office for registration at 412-939-3579.

Friday, October 10 - GPMC



A fun fundraiser for the Learning Center

The Thomas K. Sturgeon Roast will be a classic in the history of the Valley. A Roast has never been done in Scottish Rite, and Tom has agreed to be the brunt of the jokes for a night, for a good cause.

Since the humor may get a bit edgy, we have decided to make this a stag event for Masons only. Happy hour - and a half - is from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., then Dinner and Roast to follow. Don't miss this one and get ready to laugh. Call the Valley office at 412-939-3579 for reservations.

Continued on page 13.

Children's Dyslexia Center Report

Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33°
President, Board of Governors

"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

One of the students at our Children's Dyslexia Center recently wrote:

Dear Masons,

I just wanted to say thank you for letting me come to the Masonic Center for free. I greatly appreciate that I come here because when I was in class before, I was confused when I read and I couldn't spell well. Coming here has helped a lot, now I have an A in reading and a B in spelling (as you can imagine I am doing a lot better.)

Before I came here I had a different tutor all she would do is the same thing every time and it was so confusing! Then I came here and Mrs. C., explained things in a way I can understand, makes class fun, and explains spelling rules for me! Well thanks again!

You guys are awesome!

The students and tutors of our Children's Dyslexia Center will soon be returning for the fall session. This begins our sixteenth year in providing free one-on-one tutoring to dyslexic children. Each new school year also brings with it the challenge of fundraising to cover the nearly \$127,000.00 that will be needed to keep our school in operation for the 2014 - 2015 school year. Of course, none of our school's many successes could have happened without the ongoing financial support of the membership of the Valley of Pittsburgh. We continue to be grateful to everyone that has contributed in support of our school. Thank you so much for caring!

You are the true source of our success. Consider a contribution. Honor a deceased loved one with a memorial gift in their name. Join the Builder's Council. Write a bequest in your will.

Our Children's Dyslexia Center makes a difference in the lives of children every day. You make that difference possible.

Keep up the good work!!

Fraternally and with God's Blessings,

Rich Rodibaugh, 33°

It's A Fact Brethren!

Statistics show that 50% of the Masons in Western Pennsylvania do not belong to the Scottish Rite.

There are 88 Lodges that feed into the Valley of Pittsburgh. The current Valley membership is 5,400+ members - not all of whom are in the general Pittsburgh area. If we conclude that there is another 5,400+ masons who do not belong to the Valley - then that becomes our target audience.

We are only asking you to help obtain 1% of that potential or 54 new members for the Fall Reunion Class. That's not even one candidate per lodge from our designated Blue Lodge territory.



Here's Three Ways YOU can Help!

1. ASK a Blue Lodge Mason to become a member.
2. Get a new Member for your Blue Lodge. Help a worthy man to become a Master Mason and guide him into the Scottish Rite.
3. Provide the Office with a list of prospects. Make up a list of friends, associates, etc. who are Master Masons and we'll have a representative contact them. Or make up a list of friends, associates, etc. who are not Masons and we'll have a Blue Lodge Representative contact them about Blue Lodge membership and Scottish Rite membership! ♦

Oktoberfest
Don't Miss It! Call 412-939-3579

\$25. per person

- ★ Authentic German Buffet Dinner
- ★ Music by the Barons
- ★ Imported German Draft Beer
- ★ Tables of eight available
- ★ Walk-A-Thon Auction Items
- ★ Reservations – 412-939-3579

Thursday, October 2
Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center
sponsored by the Valley of Pittsburgh

Oktoberfest



Gourgas Lodge of Perfection

Message from the Thrice Potent Master

Paul J. Roup, 33°



If you like things exactly as they are at the Scottish Rite, I apologize in advance for what follows.

If you feel that there is only one way to run a meeting, one appropriate type of entertainment, one way to portray a character, and one way to stage a degree, you probably shouldn't read this.

If your favorite color is gray, your favorite food is unseasoned gruel, or the words *change*, *different*, or *new* make you want to curl up in the fetal position, you should move on to the next article.

If you are still reading, I thank you. I thank you for having a mind open enough to allow for new ideas.

In the last issue of *The Rite News*, there was an article showing membership statistics for the Valley ("Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, Nobody," *The Rite News*, June 2014, p. 18). What is clear to me is that if current trends continue, we may cease to be within ten years. So what do we do? The same things we have been doing? That seems pretty silly.

I know that change can be frightening, but it is something we have to discuss

seriously if we are going to survive as a body. Just a quick perusal of this issue of the magazine should tell you that the current presiding Officers are committed to changing the way things are done. There will be new programs, a modern telling of a timeless story (stay tuned for more information on this), and exciting opportunities for all. We are even committed to having the building wired for free wi-fi to add value and to encourage our members to attend more events.

Will every new idea be a resounding success? Does it have to be? Will any one new event save us? Probably not. What is certain though, is that if we continue to insist that change is bad, and that the only way to do things tomorrow is the way we did them yesterday, we will be the last people to see it at all. I know none of us wants that.

So, as you thumb through the next few issues and see notifications for upcoming events that are different or new, open your mind. Then open your calendar and write them in. You might just be glad you did. I know I will be. ♦

ROAST

Information Detail

All Masons are invited to this first ever, sure to be a classic, roast of our former Commander-in-Chief and Grand Master, Brother Thomas K. Sturgeon, who has foolishly agreed to be the brunt of the jokes for an evening.

Grand Master Robert J. Bateman, along with the other Grand Lodge Officers will be in attendance for a casual evening of food, drink, laughter and pure Masonic brotherhood.

Reservations are required for Happy Hour, Dinner, and Roast. Roast only tickets available in advance or at the door. Contact the Valley office for questions and tickets. 412-939-3579.

This event is a benefit for the Children's Learning Center. Get your tickets NOW! ♦

ROAST
A VALLEY STAG EVENT
Friday, October 10 - GPMC

Happy Hour 5:00 PM		Dinner 6:30 PM
Roast 7:30 PM		Dress Casual

\$40.00 per person

Thomas K. Sturgeon

ROASTERS
Don Boehm, Jeff Biddle
Jeff Coy, John Habel
Mark Haines
P.J. Roup, Jeff Wonderling

Reservations: 412-939-3579

The Fine Print: \$40 per person includes: Happy Hour, Dinner & Roast
\$20 per person includes Roast Only

WALK For Dyslexia

Now's the time to think about this year's Walk to Help Children with Dyslexia.

The eleventh annual event will be held on Saturday, October 4 at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center. As in the past, on-site registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the actual Walk starting at 10.

This is the main fundraiser to benefit the Children's Dyslexia Center, and there are many ways that you can participate in this worthwhile cause:

- We need walkers (both individuals and teams)
- Donations for the Basket Raffle
- Food and beverages for the refreshment table
- Volunteers to help the day of the Walk.

Please consider how you can help us this year.

You or your team can participate either actually or virtually—walking the 5K at the Center on October 4, or imagining you are walking the 5K.

Ask your lodge, organization or family if they would like to enter a team in this year's walk. Please contact the Center, 412-931-3181 or pghdyslexiacenter@comcast.net to request a team packet.

Whatever level of participation you can help us with will not only be appreciated but the contributions you will raise will help the Center continue its mission of providing free tutoring to those children who face the challenge of dyslexia every day.

The Center is grateful to all those teams, individuals, and contributors who have helped us in the past and hope that you will choose to join us again.

If you have not participated before, we hope that 2014 will be the year that you decide to do so. Remember it is the children at the Center who will benefit from your participation. ♦



From the Secretary's Desk

Donald M. Murphy, 33°, Secretary



Brethren, the new Scottish Rite year began on August 1, 2014. Your new presiding officers have many activities planned for your enjoyment.

The first stated meeting will be held on September 4. A special picnic dinner will be served at 5:30 PM. Please make your reservations by September 2. Remember that this meeting will be informal with special activities for the ladies. Please check your Scottish Rite notice and the *Rite News* for details on the various activities during the year.

Our annual fall class will be held on November 21st and 22nd. (see conferral schedule) Have you signed a petition for the class? As with all organizations, our

future depends on new members. Our only requirement is that a man be a master mason. Call our office at 412-939-3579 and we will mail you a petition. Do your part and find a new member for the Valley. Ask your Masonic friends to consider becoming a member.

Another event coming up this fall is the annual Dyslexia Walk-a-Thon for the benefit of our Children's Learning Center. The Valley would appreciate all of its members helping out in some way. There are several ways you could help support our Learning Center. Participate in the walk yourself, come out and help with the organizational aspect, donations of merchandise for the Chinese Auction or simply your financial support would be appreciated. If you need additional information or want to volunteer, please contact Barb Murphy at 412-931-3181 or the Valley office at 412-939-3579.

As secretary, I want to thank all the members who have sent dues payments. Members who have not yet sent the 2014 - 2015 payments are encouraged to do so soon. Don't forget to include your Learning Center donation.

Our office is open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM each weekday and we encourage our members to call with any questions or concerns. If you have an email address, we can send you a notice of upcoming events in the Valley. Simply send the office an email message at: aasr.pittsburgh@comcast.net and ask to be placed on the email list.

Also, please remember to make your reservations for our events early. We hate to turn anyone away; but sometimes tickets are a sell-out or we must submit meal counts by a certain date. We do not have a crystal ball. Make your reservations early and don't be disappointed. ♦

Fall Reunion 2014

Class Conferral Schedule

Friday Evening November 21

- 5:00 Registration and Dinner
- 6:00 Welcome by Thrice Potent Master; Declaration of Principles Communication of 5th & 7th thru 13th Degrees
- 6:10 4th Degree Ceremonial
- 6:20 4th Degree Allegory
- 7:00 6th Degree - DVD
- 8:30 14th Degree

Saturday Morning November 22

- 7:00 Coffee and Donuts
- 8:15 16th Degree
- 9:00 Class Picture
- 9:30 18th Degree
- 11:15 19th Degree
- 12:00 Lunch

Saturday Afternoon November 22

- 1:00 Communication of 20th thru 29th Degrees
- 1:10 30th Degree
Speaker-Secretary
- 3:30 32nd Degree
- 4:00 31st Degree
- 5:00 Official Reception
Speaker-Hospitaler
- 5:30 Dinner

Have a Safe Trip Home!

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. - \$9.00



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



Valley Golf Shirt all sizes available - \$35.00



Proud to be a Mason Lapel Pin - \$5.00



Proud to be Americans 3.5" Vinyl - \$1.50

- ORDER FORM -

Please send me items as indicated:

____ Sheet/s of car badges @ \$9 each = \$ _____

____ Valley T-Shirt/s @ \$14 each = \$ _____

____ Sm ____ M ____ L ____ XL

____ Valley Golf Shirt/s @ \$35 each = \$ _____

____ Sm ____ M ____ L ____ XL ____ XXL

____ Proud to be a Mason @ \$5 each = \$ _____

____ Proud to be Americans @ \$1.50 = \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ Ph. _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

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



Princes of Jerusalem

Message from the Sovereign Prince

Austin Reed Shifrin, 32°



MORE LIGHT

Brothers, it is an honor to address you in this forum and an opportunity to which I have looked forward for a long time.

I have several people I wish to thank for making this opportunity possible: Gerry Sutherland, for a fine job in leading the Princes of Jerusalem last year; Rich Rodibaugh, for his tremendous service to the Valley, to the Learning Center, and to me personally as a friend and guide; and finally, to Eric Cohen, who introduced me to both Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite – his depth and breadth of masonic experience is to be admired, and his dedication is to be emulated. I am proud to be his brother.

For years now we have discussed the things that the Scottish Rite should deliver in order to be attractive to current and prospective members – Inspiration, Convenience, and Enjoyment, abbreviated with the acronym ICE. I agree that these are features which will attract and retain members. . . but I would like to think for a moment about what we need to give, rather than get out of, the Fraternity.

For inspiration I turn to LIGHT, that ancient symbol of knowledge and awareness which is so central to our ritual – and the earliest earthly source of light known to mankind – FIRE, which to me represents Freemasonry Invested with Renewed Enthusiasm.

This FIRE is not another body, not another committee with monthly meetings, and not another pin for your lapel. Only read through the rest of this address, and if it resonates with you, you can tell me in person – together I believe we can make an impact not just this year but for years to come.

Renewed enthusiasm can take many forms, as our organization has many strengths that were once great, and today need to be bolstered. I wish to focus on one:

The legendary harmony and unanimity of the brethren

In my observation, that harmony and unanimity is threatened, by flaring up of egos, and careless, petty gossiping and

sniping. Is this hard for you to hear? Believe me, it's hard for me to write! It hurts me to say it, but I have seen it in person, and it undermines the fraternity in three ways:

(1) For the person who commits the offense, there is the guilt upon his conscience – for he ought to know the patience and mercy with which he should treat his brother, and not only “to his face”.

(2) For the person who is spoken about, it almost goes without saying that he is clearly entitled to better treatment, and if it were not dictated by our vows perhaps it ought to be by common decency.

(3) But there is also a great and subtle harm done to those who hear it, maybe the worst of all. Newer members, if they hear biting speech from the more experienced among us, might well wonder if this is acceptable behavior and they ought to follow suit; and non-members, if they hear Masons speak uncharitably of each other, ask justifiably what has happened to the vaunted fellowship they have heard of.

Again, I know from experience what it means to find oneself witness to such a conversation, and so I don't mean to imply it would be easy to call it to a practitioner's attention if they commit these errors. But we all should remember that we have not only the right, but the obligation, to correct our brothers gently when it is done sincerely in the spirit of helping make good men better.

When my family was travelling in the Outer Banks in June, I was fortunate to get in touch with the Secretary of Manteo Lodge No. 521 AF&AM, Brother Neal Combs, PM, and I was able to join them to see the conferral of a second degree. It would be hard for me to tell you which part I enjoyed most – their ritual, in some ways similar to ours and in others, exotic, was expertly and impressively delivered by all the floor officers. But also striking was my experience at the communal dinner immediately before.

Surrounded by men talking in twos and threes about their jobs and families,

their concerns and hopes. I was moved to discover how much it felt like I was right at home, though many miles from my own lodge. I saw in them, my own familiar brothers. I saw in them, myself.



L to R - Jay Hart, *Senior Deacon*; Austin Shifrin, Bob Reardon, *Junior Warden*; Mike Trevino, *Junior Deacon*; Chris East, PM, District Deputy Grand Lecturer, *Chaplain*. 2nd Row: Dave White, *Treasurer*; Bryan Defosse, *Master*; Gil Myers, *Senior Warden*; Marvin Worrell, *Tyler*; Neal Combs, PM, *Secretary*.

And so this is what I task you with this year: Travel broadly; listen carefully and with an open mind, that you may grow wise; and remember with regards to your speech, how important it is that you do unto others as you would have done unto you – not only for your conscience, and their feelings, but the good of Freemasonry in general.

A. .M. .A. .G. . Ad Majorem Adonai Gloriam

Discover/Rediscover the Valley of Pittsburgh

Fastfacts

**Your yearly dues only cover about
60% of the annual budget.**

With all the costs of running the Valley, including a hefty assessment payment to Supreme Council for each member, your \$75.00 yearly dues just doesn't cover it. With excellent management by the Executive Board, and oversight of the trustees, the investments make up the shortfall thereby keeping your dues low and affordable.

Meals at Stated Meetings are subsidized.

Although we charge \$10.00 for dinner, it costs about double of that to produce. We gladly subsidize it to give you a reason to spend the time and gas to travel to the Valley for a stated meeting. If you and your lady come to all five stated meetings and take advantage of the meal cost savings, you can easily recoup your yearly dues by that alone.

**You can pick and choose which
degrees you want to see at a Reunion.**

If coming back to witness a degree or filling your passport, you can attend just the ones you like. and not stay for those you have already seen. The degree times are posted in the *Rite News*, so you can come and go as you please during the Friday night, Saturday morning Reunion.

Your dues card gains you admission to the auditorium so don't forget that and if you want to have a meal, make a reservation in advance with the Secretary - 412-939-3579.



D. Todd Ballenger, 32^o
Rite News Features

Mentor

The Candidate listened closely as the Senior Warden spoke: "Take a step forward with the left foot . . ." They were familiar now, these words, though every time he had heard them spo-

ken in the Warden's clear and solemn tone, he had felt different. The eyes of the men surrounding him were only glittering reflections in the candlelight, but he could sense the presence of many. Another person might feel the fear tingling in the bottom of his stomach, but not this time; not here; not now.

Months ago the young man had begun his journey into this group of strangers. Strangers, that is, except for one. He was different. He cared. Not that the others didn't, no, not that at all. But with him, there was a difference; a depth; a connection.

The Candidate moved slowly forward as he had been directed, feeling the Warden's strong grip upon his arm, but found himself thinking of his Friend. Yes. That was a comfortable thought - his Friend.

It was his Friend who had first invited him to dinner with the group now standing around him. The Candidate had wondered where this man went every few weeks, all dressed up, and often without his family. For a while, he thought his Friend had taken a second job. Then he noticed the odd emblems on the trunk lid of the car. "What did it all mean?" he had wondered. And so, being friends, he had asked.

And that's when things began to change.

His Friend had told him of a group of men who met in private and learned to better themselves by adopting higher personal standards. It was an ancient group that used symbols and architecture to remind themselves of how they should act and treat others on a regular basis. And the members? There were kings, statesmen, inventors, philosophers, sports figures, musicians, and even presidents. Ideas of adventure, intrigue, and mystery - the Candidate remembered the feeling of excitement as he had signed the petition. He didn't quite understand what it all meant, but he had been ready to find out. "Patience," his friend had told him. "Like every journey, it all begins with a single step."

"A second step forward with the right

foot . . ." The Senior Warden's words echoed in his ears, at once close, and yet distant as the Candidate's mind again drifted to thoughts of his Friend.

There had been talks - long talks - discussing the history of the Fraternity, the stories behind the fabled mysteries, and the importance of developing a greater sense of honesty and integrity in all things. They had spoken about the obligation, full of old forgotten words and subtle meanings. The Candidate noticed that the more they talked, the more he understood, as if his Friend were shining a light along a covered path to show him the way. However, that Friend was more than the name implied now. He had become a teacher, a confidant, a guide.

Continuing his forward movement through the dimly lit chamber, the Candidate thought of his Friend - no, his Guide's patience as he had struggled to memorize the beautiful and mysterious work.

It wasn't so mysterious any more, though, was it? Each day had brought greater clarity and understanding to the Candidate. His Friend had become his Guide and even more so, a Companion on this journey that was changing him as a man. He had begun to find a renewed interest in his faith; a greater closeness to his family; and a commitment to his fellow man.

"A third step forward with the left foot . . ." came the commanding voice of the Warden, instantly bringing the Candidate back to the present and the silhouetted figures gathered around him in the decorated Lodge room. Even if he could barely see them in the flickering light, the Candidate knew the ornaments well - symbols of the Fraternity and guides, much like his own, to help remind him of his moral duties to his Brothers and fellow man. He knew they were all there: the blazing sun hanging in the East; the black and white mosaic tile, smooth and cool beneath his bare feet; and the square and compasses lying neatly on the altar before him. Not only did he know they were there, but he understood their message. His Guide had taught him the meaning of the symbols and the lessons in those meanings.

But something troubled the Candidate this evening. He was alone. Not that he didn't know the men around him. They were his Brothers, too. He trusted them and relished their company. But his Friend - his Guide and Companion - was missing.

They had not had their customary chat before preparing for the final ceremony. He had come to expect that chat. It was the Candidate's last check before advancing in

the Craft. Reciting his part softly in the confines of the small room, the Candidate had come to rely on the nod of approval from his Guide, as well as his look. It was a look that was always the same: the slight smile, the glint of pride in his Companion's eyes, and his calm voice asking, "Are you ready to begin?" just before knocking on the chamber door.

But tonight was different. Tonight the Candidate was on his own, with no familiar Guide, no last minute chat, no nod of approval. He had seen the man only minutes before, and though they had stood face to face, there had been no look of comfort in his Friend's eyes. The time had come to travel the final part of this journey on his own. He knew his work; he knew his path; and he felt confident in his Companion's teachings so that he was not afraid of the shadowy figure in the tall hat that now approached him from the East.

"Kneel . . ." came the Senior Warden's command.

The Candidate took a deep breath and then knelt at the altar along with the imposing figure of the Worshipful Master. But as the Master removed his hat, the light from the three burning tapers glinted across the wizened countenance, and the Candidate felt that familiar warmth welling up inside as he saw the slight smile and the glint of pride in his Companion's eyes once again. But tonight was still different. This was not the Friend who had given him the petition. This was not the Guide who had answered his questions and taught him the work. This was not his Companion who had shared with him the mysteries and rewards of the ancient and gentle Craft. No, as the Candidate gazed across the altar into the eyes of the Master, he saw another man - his Mentor.

And as the Candidate laid his hands upon the open Bible in the quiet darkness of that sacred space, he thought to himself, "Now, I am ready to begin." ❖

Bro. Ballenger is a Past Thrice Potent Master of the Lodge of Perfection and a regular contributor to The Rite News. He also writes a blog called "The Luminosity of Souls".



Find us on
Facebook

Check our Valley Facebook page. Go to [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and keep up-to-date with news, discussions, and events.



Chapter of Rose Croix

Message from the

Most Wise Master

Robert F. Dunkle, 32°



I am starting my thirty-fifth year of masonry. The second Tuesday in June nineteen hundred and seventy nine I agreed to our oath to become a mason starting my career.

As we all have experienced, men were there I knew in my community but had no idea they were masons, now brothers. One of the unique facets of our fraternity is the indescribable bond of brotherhood between us. An example is whether we don't see each other for a month at our masonic meetings or have not seen a brother for ten years, we pick up conversation as if we talked to them the day before. Usually reminiscing on good times and continuing our brotherly conversations and fellowship.

I am humbled and honored to be serving the Valley of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix as Most Wise Master. I had the opportunity to join our Valley in nineteen hundred and eighty three with my brother. Our father and great uncle were the audience. In growing up in a masonic family the ways of wisdom were easy to assimilate, if not already practicing them. We had seven hundred and nineteen in our class. Degrees were received over two weekends. Very different times for our Valley from today, but the challenges then were the same.

Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix will be continuing the usual activities we sponsor each year. Actively participating in Valley Reunions, presiding body at our February stated meeting, Crucifixion play/dinner, Feast of the Pascal Lamb and DeMolay induction Rose Croix class. The line officers are looking forward to a successful year for the Valley.

Our richness of masonic fraternity depends on each of us being active participants and regularly meeting with our brethren. The times we meet have their serious parts, but we must also have fun and enjoy our fellowship.

The Hospitaler's in our Valley do a fantastic service to our brothers in need and who may not be able to attend meetings. If you are a regular meeting and activity attendee or have not attended

our meetings and activities I have a challenge for you. Mark your calendar with events and meetings you will find on our meeting notice and this *Rite News*.

When you determine an event you are able and would like to attend - think of three brothers who you have not seen or talked to for a while. Invite them to attend with you. When attending an event or stated meeting with the three brothers I would request you find me and introduce everyone to me. Remember most of our events include our families, I would also like to meet them.

The strength of our Valley and fraternity depends on us. The richness of our masonic bonds depend on us being active participants at our Blue Lodge meetings, Valley events, and associating with our brethren and masonic families. When I refer to "active participants" this is as simple as attending a meeting or helping a brother in need and enjoying our masonic fellowship. I would encourage all of us to be active participants in our fraternity. I look forward to seeing you soon. ♦

Support Your Valley Social Events and Special Activities!



Events Calendar on page 27

Scottish Rite Social & Charitable Events

Continued from page 7.

Saturday, December 6

Valley Christmas Luncheon



Shanoppin Country Club

The Valley Christmas Luncheon party is held every year at the Shanoppin Country Club, where you can enjoy an excellent lunch, holiday music and plenty of poinsettias to be given away. The Shriners Luncheon Club usually joins with us for this event, and once again, any family, friends or neighbors of Scottish Rite Masons are more than welcome to join us to "Ring in the Holiday!" Check out the ad on page 24 and send in your reservation form quickly. Call 412-939-3579 for any questions you may have.

Saturday, December 13 - GPMC

Kids Christmas Party



The Princes of Jerusalem have traditionally run this very successful event that draws hundreds of kids, parents, grandparents and about everyone else.

The fun begins at 10:30 a.m. and of course Santa will appear for the little ones, and all get to pick a toy. Pizza is served and the price is right . . . FREE FOR EVERYONE! Bring your kid, grandkid or even a neighbor's kid with their mom and dad if you like, and enjoy some Valley holiday cheer. We ask for reservations, even though this is a free event, so we can plan for food and gifts. Call the Valley office at 412-939-3579!

Saturday, December 20



Grant's Bar & Grill

Grant St. Millvale

Hiram's Riders Christmas Luncheon

All Masons and guests are welcome! A great Luncheon with hors d'oeuvres, soup, salad, shrimp, steak, onion rings, dessert, gifts and fellowship. *See ad on page 24.*

Continued on page 25.

Summer in the Valley 2014



1.



2.

2014



3.

7.



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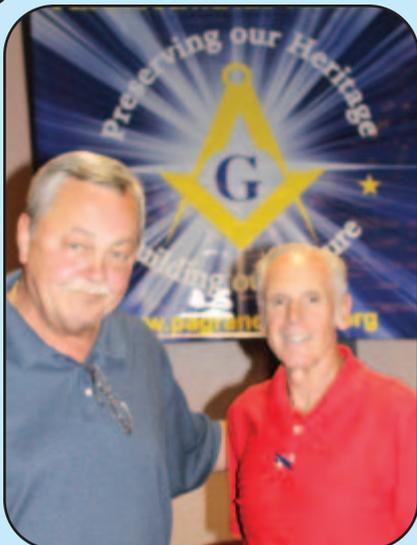


8.

10.



6.



9.



See picture captions on page 17. ➔

The Rite Ladies

by Donald W. Boehm, 33°

A section of the Rite News will be dedicated to a much neglected and under appreciated asset of our Valley, the Rite Ladies. I believe that most wives and ladies of Scottish Rite members pick up and browse the *Rite News*, even if their man ignores it, so this page is for you!

Do you have a special recipe you would like to share? Send it to - aasrpgmembers@yahoo.com under the subject line - **Rite Recipes** - and include a picture of the dish if you like, because pictures of food seem to be very popular.

Or, do you have a question, a comment, a suggestion, or concern about the Valley? Email them to the above address, and we will publish

and answer in the succeeding issue. You can give your name, or remain anonymous.

Remember ladies, this section will only continue if you support it with material to publish, so take advantage and prove to the men that the Valley of Pittsburgh has the **Rite Ladies!**

And, don't forget that the September 4 Stated Meeting will feature a ladies, **Free One Card Bingo Night**, with \$500.00 given away. One card per player per game, so all have an equal chance to grab some cash! Please bring a magic marker or pen.

Just think ladies, Now YOU have a reason to drag your husband or man to a Scottish Rite Stated Meeting! ♦

Toni's Hair Tips

My name is Toni Boehm, wife of Commander-in-Chief Donald W. Boehm, and have worked as a professional hair dresser in upper level salons around the South Hills for many years.

Don has asked me to give a hair tip in each issue of the *Rite News*, so if any lady has a question about hair, why not "ASK TONI"?

Simply email your question to aasrpgmembers@yahoo.com under the subject line - ASK TONI - and we will publish your

question and answer in the next issue. You can give your name or remain anonymous.

Pick the Right Shampoo

For ladies who use hair color, pick a shampoo that is low sulfate or no sulfate. Your color will fade less and last longer. Sulfates in shampoo are meant to cleanse, and tend to lather up morre, so look at the ingredient label for sulfate content. The further down the ingredient list, or not at all, is best.

Toni Boehm

Members Feedback

Another in a new feature for members. Now, members can **Sound Off!** Do you have a question, comment, compliment, complaint or a concern! Email it under the subject line of Members Feedback to:

aasrpgmembers@yahoo.com and we will publish it along with a Valley response in the next issue of the *Rite News*.

With some new ideas and programs being instituted in my tenure as Commander-in-Chief, I need to know the pulse of the members, so I may better serve the Valley!

Please take advantage of this opportunity, and **SOUND OFF!** ♦

Fraternally,
Donald W. Boehm, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

Autumn Leaves

by Rev. John H. Piper, 32°

What a joy living in Pennsylvania, where we can experience each season with it's own particular beauty.

We soon will be entering my favorite season of the year. . . Autumn.

Once again the Great Architect of the Universe will touch our hills with a myriad of colors - red, yellow, brown, and green. Each color is beautiful in it's own right and together the effect is breathtaking.

A Korean poet, Hae Jong Kim, has put it this way - "Mountains are all aglow with autumn colors so bright. Golden fields wave their praise to God's bountiful harvest."

In the midst of a natural world of great beauty, God has created human life with a vast diversity of beauty as well. The only problem for we humans is that we often have problems accepting and interacting with



persons who don't look or believe like ourselves.

As Masons, we espouse the Brotherhood of Man, but often the principle breaks down when we deal with others who look, act, or believe in ways different

from us.

This Fall, let us reach out to others with respect and love beyond anything that would divide us from one another.

We as Masons often need to make the first move. As Edwin Markham wrote:

"He drew a circle that shut me out, Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had wit to win. We drew a circle that took him in."

So this Autumn, take time to go out into our beautiful region and enjoy the colorful foliage and also take time to reach out in love, beyond your circle of friends to some other different, yet still beautiful and interesting people. ♦

Summer In The Valley Captions

1. Top - Howard Silbaugh 33°, President of the PIN Club, presents Grand Master Bateman, 33°, with an honorary membership certificate at the Picnic with the Grand Master.

Bottom - Mark Bliier 33°, President of Hiram's Riders presents Bro. Bateman with a Hiram's Riders Jacket to make him an Honorary Member of Hiram's Riders at the picnic.

2. The Vintage-Classic Car Club annual Car Cruise event for the benefit of the Children's Dyslexia Center.

3. Pete Countouris, Mark Bliier, 33°, Jane Binley sell raffle tickets at the Masonic Picnic at Kennywood Park.

4. 4th of July Parade in Brentwood. DDGM Robert Amend with son Robert Amend, Jr., WM Joseph "Cab" Whitaker, and Larry French.

5. Bob Dunkle poses with a Dunkel beer can ad at the Hofbrauhaus on Pittsburgh's South Side.

6. Howard Silbaugh 33°, chats with PIN Club Past President Mike Ivkovich at the annual PIN club picnic.

7. Rich Rodibaugh 33°, presents Kevin R. Lawson with a Scholarship check at the annual Celebration of Education dinner.

8. Top - Is this the Bahamas? No, it's the patio of the GPMC decorated to celebrate Lynn Dietz's 60th Birthday.

Bottom: Tom Gasmire 33°, Don Murphy 33° Tim Warco 33° handle the cooking job at the annual Pirate game Tailgate Party.

9. Valley Officer Foursome: David Morgans 33°, P.J. Roup 33°, Todd Ballenger and Shawn Lang.

10. Howard Silbaugh 33°, presents Vince Monardo with a Tubal Cane to assist him with a broken ankle he suffered just prior to the Picnic with the Grand Master.



Wonderling Wonders!

by Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°



Iwonder . . . Where will the information highway - Facebook, Twitter, email, texting, and the like - end. LOL, TY, where r u, where are we going? When did a number sign (#) become a hashtag?

My grandchildren will not answer my call as they prefer texting.

I wonder if there will be oral communication in say fifty or a hundred years. Consider that nearly five decades ago Dr. McCoy, in the futuristic Sci-Fi adventure *Star Trek*, lamented that back in the Twentieth Century, doctors performed surgery. They actually cut people, how barbaric. Today the advances in arthroscopic and laser technologies is slowly eliminating the scalpel from the medical field.

Just before I sat down to gather my thoughts for this article, I was cleaning out my inbox. I am sure we all have the same issues with our email. We are constantly inundated with unneeded and unwanted promotions and offers.

Are you constantly unsubscribing from websites because you may have purchased an item or offered an inquiry for a service and now their advertisements are filling your inbox? It can be exhausting. I understand how it might be easier to simply and randomly delete messages.

The Valley of Pittsburgh has joined this information highway and I urge you to consider reading our communications. We have been using a company called Constant Contact to communicate with the membership. We have over two thousand addresses in the database. Currently when we send an email roughly only a third of the recipients open the message. We have been very diligent in determining the information that will be distributed. We understand how valuable your time is and will not send useless material. The vast majority of our communications will contain details concerning an upcoming event. They are rarely more than a page, are very concise, and include R.S.V.P information.

It is my hope that you will open our emails and learn what is happening in the Valley. There are more and more events every year. I am confident that there are things happening here that will pique your interest. If you have not yet given us your email address please send it to aasr.pittsburgh@comcast.net, enter "email address" in the subject field, and stay informed.

There is one thing however I do not wonder about. I know that your attendance makes the Valley a better place to be.

Hmmm! I do wonder if I will meet you there. ♦



**It has always been said,
"you should learn something
new every day."**

**Unfortunately, many of us
are at that age where what
we learn today,
we forget tomorrow.
But, give it a shot anyway!**

The Flag



Hello. Remember me?

Some people call me Old Glory, others call me the Star Spangled Banner, but whatever they call me, I am your flag, the flag of the United States of America.

Something has been bothering me, so I thought I might talk it over with you — because it is about you and me.

I remember some time ago, people would line up on both sides of the street to watch the parade, and naturally I was leading every one, proudly waving in the breeze.

When your Daddy saw me coming, he immediately removed his hat and placed it against his left shoulder so that his hand was directly over his heart — remember?

And you, I remember, were standing there, straight as a soldier. You didn't have a hat, but you were giving the right salute. Remember your little sister? Not to be outdone, she was saluting the same as you with her right hand over her heart — remember?

What happened? I'm still the same old flag. Oh, I've added a few more stars since you were a boy, and a lot more blood has been shed since those parades of long ago.

Now, somehow, I don't feel as proud as I used to feel. When I come down the street, you just stand there with your hands in your pockets. You may give me a small glance, and then you look away. I see children running around you shouting; they don't seem to know who I am.

I saw one man take his hat off, then he looked around, and when he didn't see anybody else take off his hat, he quickly put his on again.

Is it a sin to be patriotic today? Have you forgotten what I stand for, and where I have been? Anzio, Guadalcanal, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq!

Take a look at the memorial honor rolls, and see the names of those patriotic Americans who gave their lives to keep this republic free. When you salute me, you are actually saluting them!

So when you see me, please stand straight and place your hand over your heart, and I'll know that you remembered.

I'll salute you by waving back!





Wreath Laying Ceremony

Sir Knight Nicholas Vaccarello, the Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Pennsylvania, honored the heroes of United Flight 93 at a Wreath Laying Ceremony on August 9, 2014 at the Flight 93 National Memorial near Shanksville, PA.



The Memorial is a tribute to the Thirty Seven passengers and seven crew members of United Flight 93, scheduled from Newark, NJ to San Francisco, CA, who gave their lives to save many on September 11, 2001.

This was the start of the War against Terrorism with the unimaginable violence and destruction al-Qaeda terrorists brought to the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in the United States.

Sir Knight Vaccarello acknowledge the debt that the citizens of the United States owe to the brave individuals on Flight 93. They showed extraordinary courage as they gave the last full measure of devotion by giving up their lives to save others.

"To quote Abraham Lincoln, *We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow, this ground* because the brave men and women on Flight 93 already have. We can only respect this ground as their last resting place and our hope for the future.

The events of September 11

have showed the world that we have to be prepared to combat the actions of any group of terrorist."



Over seventy Sir Knights and their families attended the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Memorial and all showed their respect as the preamble of the Flight 93 National Memorial Dedication states:

*"A common field one day,
a field of honor forever"*



Sir Knights in uniform who helped to present the Wreath near the Visitor Shelter, L to R: Sir Knight Kenneth M. Donaldson, *Eminent Commander Kedron*, Richard F. Muth, *Eminent Grand Junior Warden*, Ronald L. Barndt, *Past Division Commander*, Harry J. Smith, *Division Commander*, Nicholas Vaccarello, *Right Eminent Grand Commander*, Benjamin A. Beynon, *Eminent Grand Senior Warden*, Matthew A. Boice, *Grand Herald*, Gerald A. Sutherland, *Past Division Commander*, and John A. Habel, Jr., *Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander*.



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DYSLEXIA CENTER**






Your Health

Dr. Glenn D. Miller, II, 33°, Chairman
Valley of Pittsburgh Medical Committee



Starting with this issue of The Rite News we will begin a medical column that will cover common ailments, both acute and chronic, that are likely to affect either one of us directly or someone in our families. The purpose of the column will be to provide an overview of that particular condition and to stimulate you to discuss the matter further with your personal physician should you have any concerns. If only one of our brothers, or their family members, is stimulated enough to seek medical evaluation which results in the prevention of a life threatening condition, then I will consider this column to be a resounding success. The topic for this first column will be:

An Acute Myocardial Infraction (MI)

more commonly known as a "heart attack"

Approximately one million Americans suffer heart attacks each year with roughly four hundred thousand associated deaths. A heart attack or acute MI refers to the damage or death of heart muscle (myocardium) that occurs from the sudden blockage of a coronary artery. Coronary arteries lie on the outside of the heart and supply the heart muscle with blood and oxygen. The sudden blockage of a coronary artery is usually caused by a blood clot that forms on the surface of a ruptured cholesterol plaque. However, other causes include an air embolus in the coronary artery, coronary artery dissection (pulling apart of the different layers of the coronary artery wall), severe spasm of the coronary artery, and a cholesterol embolus that originates from a ruptured cholesterol plaque in a coronary artery or the aorta. Heart attacks can occur at any time but are more common between 4:00 AM and 10:00 AM because of higher blood levels of adrenaline that occur in the morning hours. Only approximately 50 percent of patients who suffer a heart attack have warning symptoms such as exertional chest pain (exertional angina) or chest pain at rest (rest angina).

As previously stated, the most common cause of a heart attack or MI involves the rupture of a cholesterol plaque in a coronary artery. Atherosclerosis is the term given to the process by which plaques of cholesterol are deposited in the walls of arteries. Atherosclerosis can begin as early as childhood but symptoms or health problems usually do not manifest themselves until later in adulthood when the arterial narrowing becomes severe, most often 70% or more. Risk factors for the development and progression of athero-

sclerosis and subsequent heart attack include:

- hypertension (high blood pressure)
- tobacco usage (even higher risk in females over age 35 on birth control pills)
- diabetes mellitus, male gender until the age of 75 (above age 75 women have a similar incidence of heart attacks)
- hypercholesterolemia (high blood cholesterol levels), and a family history of premature coronary artery disease.

It should be noted that hypercholesterolemia refers to the elevation of the total cholesterol value and/or the LDL cholesterol ("bad" cholesterol) value. HDL cholesterol is the "good" cholesterol that actually protects the heart by helping to remove cholesterol from arterial plaques. Additionally, a family history of premature coronary artery disease refers to documented coronary artery disease (including heart attack or sudden death) before age 55 in a patient's father or first degree male relative or before age 65 in the mother or first degree female relative.

Symptoms associated with a heart attack (MI) are varied and sometimes multiple including chest pain and/or pressure, arm pain (more commonly left arm but can be either arm or both arms), jaw pain, neck pain, toothache, headache, sweating, shortness of breath, nausea and/or vomiting, general epigastric (upper abdominal) discomfort, heartburn, indigestion, upper back pain, and general malaise (vague feeling of illness) or fatigue. One caveat to this list is that 20 – 25% of heart attacks occur without any symptoms whatsoever. These "silent" heart attacks are most common in patients who suffer from diabetes mellitus because of the sensory nerve damage that occurs with this disease.

The most common complications of a heart attack are ventricular fibrillation and congestive heart failure (CHF). Congestive heart failure usually occurs in "large" heart attacks which cause damage to a large part of the heart muscle. The long term treatment for congestive heart failure can run the gamut from medications to the need for a heart transplant. Most of the deaths from heart attacks are due to the development of ventricular fibrillation that occurs before the patient can get to the hospital. Ventricular fibrillation is the term used to describe a chaotic rhythm that originates from the bottom chambers of the heart. This rhythm does not allow for the maintenance of an adequate blood pressure and perfusion of the brain and other vital organs. Deaths from ventricular fibrillation can be minimized by the immediate initiation of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the administration of electrical shocks from an automatic external defibrillator (AED). That is why it is so important for members of our fraternity to be trained in CPR and to know the locations of the AED's at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center.

The current 2013 American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association guidelines for the treatment of an acute heart attack/MI are somewhat complex and dependent upon the type of heart attack that a patient experiences. However, the general recommendations are that a patient suffering an acute heart attack be transported to a facility capable of performing cardiac catheterizations and percutaneous coronary interventions preferably within 90 – 120 minutes of the onset of symptoms. Percutaneous coronary interventions include angioplasty (PTCA) with or without placement of a coronary artery stent(s). If a patient is at a hospital that does not have a cardiac catheterization laboratory, and cannot be transferred to a hospital that has one within the stated time frame, the patient should receive thrombolytic therapy (ie clot dissolving drugs). Coronary artery bypass grafting surgery (CABG) is also a potential therapeutic option in certain cases.

If you suspect that either yourself, or someone that you are with, is possibly suffering an acute heart attack you should immediately call 911 for transport to the nearest emergency room. Patients who live to reach an emergency room have an excellent prognosis. Survival rates for acute heart attacks with current medical and interventional therapies exceed 90% in the vast majority of the United States. ♦



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Collectors Commemorative Plates

featuring the

Grand Masters of Western Pennsylvania

Plate No. 1 Presentation Ceremony Scheduled for October 21 in Westmoreland Lodge No. 518 - All Masons Invited to Attend



Not shown to scale
Actual size: 10"

The Past Grand Masters from Western Pennsylvania are being honored by a limited edition, numbered series, of china Commemorative Collector Plates. The series covers the period from 1970 to the present. Plates are being issued two per year. Bros. Thomas K. Sturgeon & Samuel C. Williamson have been completed. A few are still available. The reverse side of the collectors plate has a descriptive paragraph about the Grand Master along with the production number. Cost of the tribute plates are \$35.00 each.

Availability Limited

Hiram's Riders of the Valley of Pittsburgh will present Bro. James L. Ernette, 33° with Plate No. 1 in the third in a series of Collector Plates being produced as a tribute to the Grand Masters of Western Pennsylvania.

The presentation ceremony will take place at the Stated Meeting of Westmoreland Lodge No. 518 on Tuesday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m.

All Masons and their wives are invited to attend to honor Bro. Ernette for his years of service to freemasonry.

Price of the Collector Plates are \$35 and can be purchased that evening at the Lodge.

The first plate in the series honored Bro. Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°. The second plate honored Bro. Samuel C. Williamson, 33° and both plates can also be purchased that evening. ♦

QUESTIONS?
412-683-0359 or
dwr47@verizon.net

\$35 Commemorative Plate Order

Please enter my order for the 3rd in a series of Grand Master Commemorative Plates.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: GPMC, 3579 Masonic Way, Pgh., 15237 with check payable to Collectors Plates.



DeMolay to Confer Highest Honor on September 28th

Pennsylvania DeMolay will be hold its annual Western Legion of Honor Conferral on Sunday, September 28th at the Masonic Village at Sewickley. The public ceremony will start at 2:30 PM, with the Secret Vow Ceremony for Legionnaires and Legionnaires-Elect only at 2:00 PM. Light refreshments will follow the public conferral and everyone is invited to attend.

The Active Legion of Honor is conferred upon a Senior DeMolay, recognizing outstanding leadership in some field of endeavor or success in fraternal life. The Honorary Legion of Honor is conferred upon a Master Mason who has performed unusual and meritorious service on behalf of DeMolay or who has evidenced a spirit of cooperation and appreciation for the Order of DeMolay. Recommendations were received from DeMolay Chapters by Thomas R. Labagh, Executive Officer in Pennsylvania, who makes the official nominations to DeMolay International.

Receiving the Active Legion of Honor will be: Rexford F. Cox and



Charles H. Johnston, Jr., both Senior DeMolays from Westmoreland Chapter that meets in Greensburg; and Robert F. McCabe, Jr., a Senior DeMolay from McKinley Chapter that meet in Plum Boro.

The Honorary Legion of Honor recipients will be: James S. Roberts, Past Master of Westmoreland Lodge No. 518 in Greensburg; Nicholas Vaccarello, Past Master of Butler Lodge No. 272 and R.E. Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Pennsylvania; William H. Weichsel, Past Master of Woodlawn Lodge No. 672 in Aliquippa and Past M.P. Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons in PA; and Donald C. Wobb, Past Master of Duquesne/McKeesport Lodge No. 731 in West Mifflin and Past Most Wise Master of the Valley of Pittsburgh. ♦

Richard J. Stemmler, 33°, Past District Deputy Grand Master of the 30th Masonic District, received the Honorary Legion of Honor at the 2013 Western Legion of Honor Conferral held at Greensburg last year.

Please Support the Youth Groups. . . the Future Leaders of our Country!

For information call the DeMolay office at 800.266.8424 x4 or e-mail

Executive Secretary Dave Berry, 33° at dwberry@pademolay.net

PICS: Country Carnival

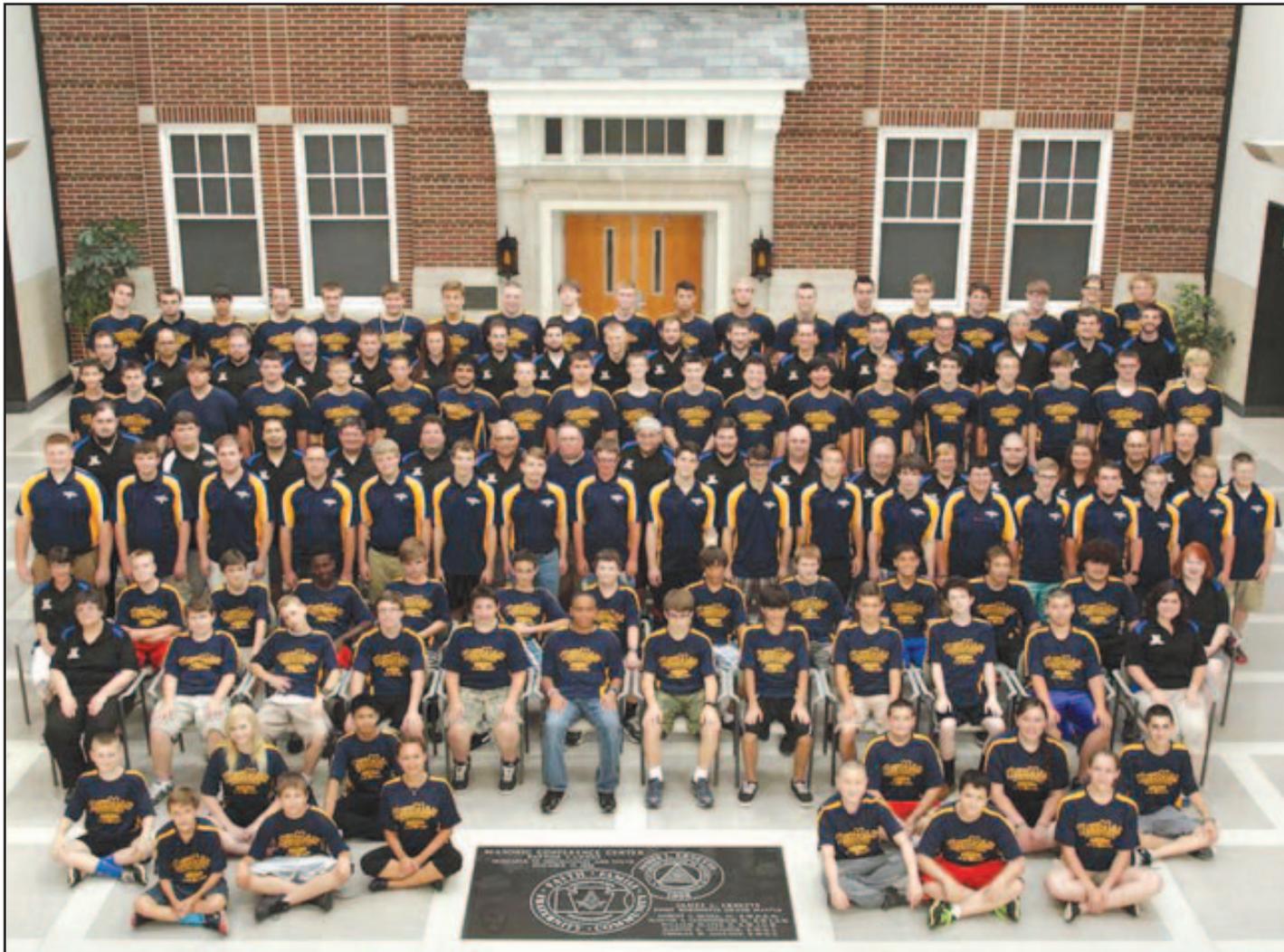


David Smith, Senior Councilor of Westmoreland Chapter in Greensburg, escorts a resident to the Country Carnival that was held at the Masonic Village in Elizabethtown.

Key Man Conference



Sweethearts from across Pennsylvania pose for a "selfie" with University Youth Director Nick Capes, a Past State Master Councilor of Illinois DeMolay and Key Man Conference Alumnus.



Key Man University Graduates Over 80

Pennsylvania DeMolay hosted the annual Key Man Conference from August 3 -9, 2014 at the Masonic Conference Center – Patton Campus in Elizabethtown. This 29th year of the conference saw the first major restructuring of the program since the reality concept was begun in 2000, and the changes took the form of a true university experience for the 86 DeMolays, Jurisdictional Officers and Sweethearts who attended the week-long program.

The University model was developed by Key Man Director Zack Panitzke, a Past Master Councilor of Erie Chapter and Advisory Council Chairman for E.A. Mroz Chapter in Falls Church, Virginia; Assistant Director Dan Loughin, a PMC of Ches-Mont Chapter, formerly of Norris-town, and Chapter Advisor for Reading Chapter; and Youth Director Nick Capes, a Past State Master Councilor of Illinois DeMolay and two-time alumnus of the reality key man concept. The university

experience included pre-registration in one of eight colleges: Communications, Education, Event Planning, Leadership, Membership & Brotherhood, Ritual, Sweethearts and Jurisdictional Officers, and then the selection of a number of minors and independent study courses. Joining the Pennsylvania participants in attendance were members, jurisdictional officers and staff from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Virginia, Wisconsin and the Canadian provinces of Alberta and Ontario.

As a part of the independent study opportunities, four DeMolays earned and were presented with the Representative DeMolay Award; and nearly 100 Leadership Correspondence Course lesson were completed with merit bars and LCC Lamps of Knowledge presented. The Masonic Service project for the week was assisting with the Masonic Village's Country Carnival that included all the features that make carnivals so much fun: indoor

and outdoor games galore, dunk tank, cotton candy, funnel cakes and more! The Key Men assisted with the games, food booths and in transporting the residents to and from the Health Care Center.

Friday provided the culmination of a week of fun, sharing and learning when each college presented a final project which recapped the experiences from the week. A formal dinner was also included and each participant received a diploma and Key Man University pin. The closing address, on Saturday morning, was given by Evan Crawford, a member of Elizabethtown Chapter who was a part of the College of Communications. He summed up his experience by sharing, "the reason I came back to Key Man this year and plan to do so in the following years is this: I learn more about DeMolay, I prepare for real life with amazing new skills, and I make lifelong friends." ♦

Christmas in the Valley



Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13

10:30 a.m.

Cookies Pizza Soft Drinks

Photos with Santa ★ Gift for each Child

Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center

Entertainment by Magician TJ Hill

A **FREE** Children's Party for Scottish Rite Masons & Guests sponsored by the Valley of Pittsburgh

Hosted by Pennsylvania Council Princes of Jerusalem

Austrin R. Shifrin 32°, *Sovereign Prince*

Christmas Luncheon



Shannopin Country Club

Windmere Road, Ben Avon Heights

Saturday, December 6

Social Hour 11:00 a.m. ★ Door Prizes

Choice of Entree:

Lemon Chicken ★ Orange Roughy, English Style

Roast Beef, Bordelaise Sauce

Holiday Entertainment

Assigned Seating

(tables of 8 available)

Please List Guests (first & last name)

\$25
per
person

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Hiram's Riders Christmas Luncheon



Grants Grill & Lounge

Grant St. Millvale

\$25
per
person

Saturday, December 20

Fellowship Hour: 11:00 a.m.

Lunch: 12:00 noon

★ **Surf & Turf (8oz Filet Mignon & Shrimp)**

★ **Officer Change of Watch ★ Awards**

ALL MASONS & FRIENDS WELCOME!

MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW!

Enclosed is my check payable to **Hiram's Riders** in the amount of:

\$ _____ for _____ reservations.

Name _____

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Phone () _____ **Information - 412-683-0359**

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Mail to: **Hiram's Riders, GPMC, 3579 Masonic Way, Pgh. PA 15237**

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON RESV. FORM

Enclosed is my check payable to **Lodge of Perfection** in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ reservations for the annual Christmas Luncheon at Shannopin Country Club.

Name _____

Phone () _____ **For info. call 412-939-3579**

Entree Choices: _____ **Fowl** _____ **Fish** _____ **Beef**

Note: *If you desire to sit with a particular party, please include their name/s with your Reservation. [] check if table of 8*

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

The Scottish Rite Builders Council

"What's the purpose of the Builders Council?"

The Pittsburgh Builders Council is a way that the Valley recognizes its members and friends for their commitment to our Learning Center Endowment Fund through a bequest or planned gift. The Council gives members an opportunity to know how much we appreciate their commitment. It also highlights the humanitarian work of our Learning Center and dramatizes the role of individuals in helping to make life better for others.

"Is the Builders Council only for members of the Valley of Pittsburgh?"

Symbolizing the Valley's dedication to charity, the Builders Council includes family members and other friends, as well as members of the Scottish Rite.

"Do I qualify for Builders Council membership if I've already made provisions for a gift to another Scottish Rite charity?"

Yes. Hundreds of members have expressed their dedication to the Scottish Rite and its charitable commitments through a bequest, participation in the pooled income fund, or another type of planned gift.

The Builders Council's goal is to celebrate the generosity of everyone who shares a vision of providing for the Pittsburgh Dyslexia Center for Children charity through a planned gift or bequest.

"What types of gifts qualify for Builders Council membership?"

Here are just a few of many possibilities:

- Bequest of a specific property or amount.
- Bequest of a percentage of an estate.
- Bequest of residue of an estate.
- Bequests using various charitable trusts.
- Gifts that provide life income including annuities.
- Naming the Builder's Council charity as beneficiary of a life insurance policy or pension plan.

"What are the tax benefits in giving to a Scottish Rite charity?"

There can be significant tax advantages in contributing to the Valley of Pittsburgh Builders Council, depending on your individual situation.

We encourage you to confer with your financial advisor and then contact Bro. Raymond T. Dietz, 33°, at 412-369-9500.

We look forward to your becoming a member of the Valley of Pittsburgh Builders Council that supports the establishment of an endowment fund to subsidize the Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center. ❖

CALLING ALL MASONS!

OPEN HOUSE NIGHT

Thursday, November 6, 2014

This will be the first ever Valley of Pittsburgh Scottish Rite "Open House" night for all Masons. . . Master, York Rite, Shriner, Tall Cedar, and so on.

At 6:00 p.m. all Masons and their ladies are welcome to come and enjoy a night of fraternal brotherhood starting with a catered meal. Dinners cost \$10.00 per person, and reservations MUST be made in advance, with payment due at the door. Please call the Valley office at 412-939-3579 to make a reservation.

At 7:00 p.m. a 9 piece horn band with that sweet horn sound, called "Brass Impact" will perform on the stage featuring music from the 60s, 70s, and 80s. The show is FREE, and if you don't want to come for dinner, simply walk in with your lady before 7:00 p.m. and enjoy the 90 minute concert. We still request reservations for walk-ins, so all can have complimentary coffee and dessert after the show.

About 8:45 p.m. or so, we will draw for door prizes, and all in attendance will have a chance to win. . .

- ★ A FLAT SCREEN TV
- ★ \$25.00 GIFT CARDS
- ★ 2 PENGUIN HOCKEY TICKETS
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August 1, 2014 - July 31, 2015

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ALLEGIANCE

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°.

Calendar of Masonic Events

August 2014

26 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 30 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

September 2014

04 - VALLEY STATED MEETING
 20 - Autumn Day - Elizabethtown, PA
 22 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 27 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

October 2014

02 - Oktoberfest, GPMC
 04 - Walk for Dyslexia, GPMC
 10 - Tom Sturgeon Roast, GPMC
 21 - James Ernette, 33° Plate Presentation - Westmoreland #518
 25 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC
 28 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley

November 2014

06 - VALLEY STATED MEETING - OPEN HOUSE NIGHT
 21, 22 - Fall Reunion Class, GPMC
 25 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 29 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

December 2014

06 - Valley Children's Christmas Party, GPMC
 13 - Valley Christmas Luncheon, Shanoppin Country Club
 20 - Hiram's Riders Christmas Luncheon, Grants Bar
 23 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley

January 2015

27 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 31 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

February 2015

05 - VALLEY STATED MEETING
 24 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 28 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

March 2015

24 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 28 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC
 29 - Story of the Crucifixion

April 2015

02 - VALLEY STATED MEETING
 17, 18 - Spring Class, GPMC
 25 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC
 28 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley

May 2015

22 - Scholarship Night, GPMC
 26 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 30 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

June 2015

04 - VALLEY STATED MEETING
 23 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley
 27 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC

July 2015

25 - Fellowship Breakfast, GPMC
 28 - High 12 Luncheon - Masonic Village at Sewickley



Schedule updated monthly: www.valleyofpittsburgh.org

Valley of Pittsburgh

GOURGAS LODGE OF PERFECTION

Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center
3579 Masonic Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2700

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, USA
Instituted 20 January 1852

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 412-939-3579 **Fax:** 412-939-0560

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Deposit is required at time of booking of \$600.00 per person with final payment due May 08, 2015. When air becomes available, full payment for air will be due at time of air reservation.

A valid passport is necessary for travel. To make reservations, call **All Seasons Travel** and ask for: The Valley of Pittsburgh Alaskan Cruise. 800-435-1077 or 724-483-7989.

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Outside Cabin . . \$3196
per person

Balcony \$3346
per person

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Go to the Valley Website for details: www.valleyofpittsburgh.org