

MARCH 2018

rite now

THE MAGAZINE OF THE VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH



THE FAMILY ISSUE

valleyofpittsburgh.org

In Memoriam

Since our last issue, the following members of the Valley of Pittsburgh have been called home:

Rolf Ackermann	Richard W. Kappel
David L. Aeberli	Ronald R. Keibler
Curtis R. Akins	James P. Kohnen Sr.
Warren Francis Albeck	Henry E. Lokay
Edward E. Bogovich	Robert I. Long
Edward J. Carney	Harry C. Luebbe Jr.
George F. Carter	Paul Franklin Lyon Jr.
Donald B. Cooper	William E. MacFarlane
Ira B. Cornett Jr.	William T. Martin
Clyde R. Dalton	Robert Edward Massie
Louis J. Dell'Aquila	David L. McNees
Melvyn D. DeMoss	John Herschell Miles Sr.
Edward D. Ekas	Walter L. Pegram Jr.
John E. Engel	Joseph L. Platts
Charles William Fife	Robert H. Price
Randolph S. Fowler	Jules H. Quertimont
Robert G. Friday	James E. Reagan
Russel B. Friez	Eugene C. Richardson
Raymond G. Gallagher	Gordon H. Sauers
John M. Garlow	Larry E. Sauers
William E. Glentzer Sr.	Conrad S. Schott
Glenn C. Grayburn	John V. Scozio
Barrett G. Greenlee	Donald L. Snyder
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Richard George Harris	James N. Tennant
Harold E. Hartdung	Donald E. Vogel
Arthur James Hudson	Robert Lee Wasalasky
Alfred B. Humes	Robert E. Welsh
Theodore Ardell Johnson	Robert A. Zukerman
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in this issue

Even though Freemasonry is a men's organization, there is a fundamental understanding that so much of what we do couldn't be done half as well without the love, support, and encouragement of our families. To that end, many of the activities at the Valley are designed with the family in mind.

In this issue, we take an in-depth look at family. What it means, who it includes, how it functions, and its role in the growth of the individual Mason.

Our cover pays tribute to the family—in all of its beautiful, special, and quirky iterations. **To the family!**



The Deputy

A message from the Supreme Council Deputy for Pennsylvania

SUPREME COUNCIL

Striking a Balance

By Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°

THE LEADERS IN THIS GREAT Fraternity face many challenges as we continue into the 21st Century. Among the more serious of the challenges are to stabilize the membership numbers as well as to create and maintain good leaders. I would like to focus this article on the issue of leadership.

One of the long-standing precepts of Freemasonry is a devotion to our family. With that thought in mind, I ask, how have we done in that regard? The answer, in my opinion, is not very well. Every Masonic leader must recognize that the most important issue to remember, as a leader, is this: We must be more cognizant of a brother's time!

On one hand, we preach family values and on the other hand, we continue to require far too much of a brother's time away from his family for meetings, rehearsals, or just time to memorize our ritual. The result is that many wives are Masonic widows, with a like situation for the children.

Over eighty percent of families are dual-income families with both the husband and wife holding full-time employment. The family model where the wife takes care of the children and the home while the husband works is

a thing of the past. Children require, and deserve, a great deal of time from both the mother and the father for the many activities that they are involved with. The appropriate balance between family and Freemasonry must be determined by each brother, but the leadership of Freemasonry must be sensitive to the time required of a brother to be away from his home and loved ones.

One of the long-standing precepts of Freemasonry is a devotion to our family.

All of our Scottish Rite Valleys should be having more events for the wives and the children. Yes, Freemasonry is a man's organization, but our wonderful Fraternity must not supersede our most valuable asset—our family! If managed thoughtfully, there is room for both.

Finally, on an unrelated subject, let me congratulate the leadership in the Valley of Pittsburgh for doing an outstanding job in many ways. The Trustees are focused on their responsibility and the Executive Committee works in harmony to oversee the daily activities of the Valley. Thanks to each of you for your time, thoughts, and leadership.

□



Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°

The Chief

A message from the Commander-in-Chief of Pennsylvania Consistory

CONSISTORY

Through the Years

By Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°

SHORTLY AFTER I JOINED THE Lodge, our son, Tom, joined also. Three years later, our son, Michael, decided to follow that same path. Both of them had a much better perspective than I of what our Fraternity represents because of their involvement in DeMolay. Tom was active early in his Masonic career, but naturally life got in the way. Mike became a Master Mason, but shortly thereafter moved to Virginia. He did, however, manage to attend meetings in that jurisdiction. In the interim, my wife, Sharon, joined both the Order of the Eastern Star and Amaranth. Fast forward ten years. Tom became active once again by attending meetings, filling in the appointed chairs and recently became an Appointed Officer of the Lodge for 2018.

During this span of more than twenty years, we were blessed with two grandchildren, Julia and Dylan. Julia became a dancer and videographer while Dylan became obsessed with video games and ice hockey. At age 14, and after nearly ten years of hockey, Dylan decided he didn't want to play hockey any longer. Dylan was always a quiet and shy young man. One day, out of the blue, he approached Tom and said, "Dad, I want to join DeMolay."

He has been immersed in the group from the day he was initiated, and his transformation has been just short of

miraculous. He is much more outgoing and has become engaged in working with the other boys. He had a non-speaking part in one of the ceremonies this past year and has agreed to elevate his game by taking a speaking part in the next ceremony. And now he is planning an event for the group.

For the last 25 years, Freemasonry has been a guide in our family.

Nobody in our family ever saw this coming. There is a noticeable difference in both his demeanor and behavior, and we couldn't be more pleased. Oh yeah, and Tom became a DeMolay "Dad" and the Chapter Advisor. Without question DeMolay is a great avenue for young men to learn what is not taught in school.

For the last 25 years, Freemasonry has been a guide in our family. We tout that one of our core

objectives in the Fraternity is to make good men better. I can testify that each member of our family is a better person because of Freemasonry. Young Dylan saw something in his dad, uncle and grandfather that piqued his interest. He wanted to live a similar life to those he looked up to. Yes sir, young Dylan had the same experience the three of us had twenty or more years ago. Our family is a shining example of how Freemasonry is supposed to work, and I could not be more grateful. These are just a few of the many benefits of being a Freemason.

"Foot to Foot"

□



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The Potent

A message from the Thrice Potent Master of the Gourgas Lodge of Perfection

LODGE OF PERFECTION

The Feeling of Family

By Shawn P. Lang, 32°

HAVE YOU EVER HAD THAT DAY that makes you wonder, *What's it all worth?*

Now let's be honest, we all have. It's that day when the coffee pots are empty at your favorite stop in the morning, when your computer screen turns on to absolutely nothing, when your boss decides that you are more needed as a whipping post than an employee, when you see that someone used your car's driver side door for shopping cart target practice after stopping to pick-up a few groceries, or when the parkway goes from slow to stop on your way home. Yes that's the day!

So I ask, *What's it all worth?* In a word, FAMILY. As Masons, we learn early on that family is first.

Family means different things to each of us. For me, it's my wife, my two daughters, the pets, our home. But family is not just that. Family can be found in many different places.

Maybe for some of you, it's your job. You wake up every morning and go to a place where you fit in—where you are needed. Now, feeling needed is a big deal. This is something we all want; it truly is something of worth. To establish family, being needed plays a big role.

For others it may be your Lodge. It's a place where you can go and enjoy the

fellowship of the members you have met along your travels that can take your mind off "that day!" The Fraternity truly acts like a family. We spend time going over the typical things families deal with. We discuss money and budgets, we look for events we can all take part in, we have picnics and parties, we even

have moments of dispute and objection—all real parts of being a family. Lodge is a place where we can fit in. To establish family, fitting in plays another big role.

Others, still, may call those with whom they worship their family. A place where one can get connected with God and others who believe in love and peace is important.

Worship can truly help take away the things that we all get tangled up with in life and offer a more positive outlook on the journey ahead. To establish family, positive perspective on life needs to play a big role.

Many of us might see all these things as Family. Love, a place of value, of fitting in and having that positive outlook—all these things help us to know we have and will always need family.

Wherever you may go that feels like home is a personal choice. Family is truly the strength, support and inspiration that helps us all come to realize "what it's all really worth." I hope that for each of you, family gives you all of this and more. □

Family means different things to each of us.



Shawn P. Lang, 32°

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Children's Dyslexia Center **UPDATE** By Barb Murphy

THE STAFF AND FAMILIES OF THE Children's Dyslexia Center—Pittsburgh would like to extend their gratitude to the members of the Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh for your continued support. Each year the Center benefits from your generosity when you 'round up' your dues payment, participate in the annual Walk to Help Children with Dyslexia, make additional donations, memorial contributions, honorarium acknowledgments, and encourage your local Masonic organizations to do the same. The Center is also grateful for your support of its Apples for the Students program, the holiday and spring candy sales, the holiday poinsettia sale and the spring flower sale. Information about the current fundraising efforts is available below.

Apples for the Students

This program is sponsored by Giant Eagle and runs in conjunction with the Giant Eagle Advantage Card, but it does not affect any discounts or benefits (such as Fuelperks) available to the individual cardholder. All a participant needs to do is register his/her Advantage Card using the Center's identification number (5801) on the Giant Eagle website (www.gianteagle.com/AFTS) or, if access to a computer is difficult, a call may be placed to Giant Eagle Customer Service at 1-800-553-2324. Each participant may register up to five schools. The Center will receive a donation check from Giant Eagle based upon the purchases made by the participants.

Spring Candy Sale

Order forms are now available for the spring candy sale. Please contact the Center if you need a copy. The ordering deadline is Thursday, March 8th and orders should be ready for pick up on Wednesday, March 21st.

Spring Flower Sale

Delivery of this year's flower orders will be Monday, May 7th, just in time for Mother's Day. Order forms will be available in late March.



How text might appear to someone with Dyslexia.

For more information about these fundraisers, please contact the Center at 412-931-3181 or the new fundraising email address below. Your continued support is appreciated. □

For more information:
412-931-3181
dyslexiacenter.fundraising@valleyofpittsburgh.org

SPECIAL PROGRAM

Giant Eagle Apple for the Students program

You can help the Children's Dyslexia Center-Pittsburgh. Just register your **Giant Eagle Advantage Card** for the **Apples for the Students** program.

You can register your card by calling **800-553-2324** or register online at gianteagle.com/afts.

The number for the Children's Dyslexia Center-Pittsburgh is **5801**. □

Registering for this program does not affect any other program or discount offered by Giant Eagle (i.e. Fuelperks).

37 students enrolled this year



Children's Christmas Party

Saturday,
December 9, 2017

The Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem once again hosted the Children's Christmas party at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center. 68 children and 106 adults got to enjoy the magic and comedy of Illusionist Dan Kuniak.

Afterward, the children got to select a toy and visit with Santa Claus while the officers and volunteers prepared 54 pizzas to feed the hungry crowd.





The Sovereign

A message from the High Priest of the Pennsylvania Council Princes of Jerusalem

PRINCES OF JERUSALEM

I stand back in the corner...

By Joseph G. Whitaker, 32°

I STAND BACK IN THE CORNER and just look. Look at all the friends, families, and brothers enjoying each other's company. There is something pure about sharing a meal together. All your troubles seem to be placed on hold when you are breaking bread with those you care about.

Today's "corner moment" is the January Fellowship Breakfast with its tables full of diverse groups; one table is filled with friends from the Masonic Villages in Sewickley. Another is entirely made up of a single family, and yet another is comprised of all Grotto members. At this moment, I am reminded of what it means to me to be a Mason. A majority of the things I hold dear are on display; the friendship, the love, the fellowship, and of course the charity.

In walks a brother and his family whom I haven't seen in over two years. We all sit down to eat and catch up. I say, "I've been watching Aiden on Facebook. What a beast!" Their son started wrestling last year and this year was third in the state in his weight class. What an honor to share in their pride. After two years, it was like seeing them just yesterday. That's the power of true brotherhood. I blame the bacon!

The Rainbow girls are working hard today! The adult leaders are scurrying

about, most of whom are there because of their daughters or granddaughters. Jan and Debbie, just to name a couple. Both, I believe, are members of the Eastern Star. Truly a family affair for them! Of course, you can't catch Ill. Brother Dennis Snedden, 33°, long enough to get in two words. He runs to and fro, checking on everything. Busy, busy!

There is something pure about sharing a meal together.

Then while no one is looking or paying attention, the most amazing thing happens. Everyone is enjoying themselves so much that they forget that we are there to raise money for the local Masonic youth!

All 79 people that came that day ate, talked, fellowshipped and enjoyed themselves. What a great way to spend the last Saturday of every month (except December)!

For \$6.00 a person, you get to spend quality time with friends, family, brothers and loved ones. For no additional charge, you get to help part of our Masonic family! We set a goal this year to feed 1000 people, but from my corner, the real reward is spending time with each of you!

I hope to see you soon. Remember, we have bacon!

□



Joseph G. Whitaker, 32°
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TheWise

A message from the Most Wise Master of the Pittsburgh Chapter Rose Croix

ROSE CROIX

Friends and Brothers

By James C. Mayes, 32°

BEING THE FIRST KNOWN FREEMASON in my family, I had a couple challenges to face. The first was trying to explain to my family why I wanted to join. I knew ultimately it was a personal choice, but I wanted to involve my family in my decision and hear their thoughts about the organization. In the discussions, there were many questions which I didn't have real answers to at the time. They did, however, support my decision to join. Well, almost all of them did.

I had a brother-in-law at the time that was convinced that the "G" stood for the Devil. I'm not kidding. I still don't know how that worked in his mind, but that's what he thought. Little did he know—and I only found out later—the pastor of the church that he was active in was also a Mason. And while I struggled with telling him, I never did let him know. I figured his going to church was way more important than knowing his pastor was a Mason.

The one important opinion that I never got was from my father. He had passed away a couple of years prior to my joining, but now that I understand more of what Freemasonry is all about, I'm sure he would've approved and possibly joined as well.

Well, most of those folks are gone now, and my brothers in Freemasonry have become part of my family. Let me explain. I have only one blood sibling—

my sister. In my travels as a Mason though, I've met many who I look up to as father figures. There were also some who remind me of uncles, and still others whom I've help guide as though they were my own kids. No matter the relationship, I now have been blessed with many, many brothers!

The one important opinion that I never got was from my father.

As a matter of fact, just prior to writing this, I gained another brother. After years of hunting adventures with him, I helped raise one of my best friends who I now can sit with as Brother in my home Lodge.

Brethren, I've had the distinct pleasure of being able to call a lot of Brothers my friends. I have to tell you though, there is nothing better than having a friend become a *Brother!* □



James C. Mayes, 32°
mwm@valleyofpittsburgh.org



Pat Heide, Jim Mayes, MWM,
and Abe Hayes, WM-346

The Office

A message from the Secretary of the Valley of Pittsburgh

VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

Keep in Touch

By David W. Morgans, 33°

GREETINGS TO ALL FROM THE staff of the Valley Office,

We at the Valley office always strive to do our best to communicate well with the members of the Valley of Pittsburgh. With more than 5,000 members in our Valley, this can be a daunting task and, for the most part, we can only communicate with the membership en masse via the U.S. Postal Service. In contrast to the current world of lightning fast and inexpensive communication, sending correspondence by regular mail is slow and expensive. We have the capability of communicating via email, but we only have email addresses for fewer than half of our members.

We realize that not everyone has an email address, but we know that there are many who use email for whom we don't have a valid address. If you have an email address and do not receive emails from the Valley of Pittsburgh, please consider sharing your email address with us. Your information will only be used for Valley business and will not be shared with any other entities. Please send me an email to secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org including your full name and your membership ID as found on your dues card, and I will add you to our email list. If you have recently changed address or have had a change in your contact information,

please let us know so we can update your records.

Speaking of communication, it is vital that you contact the Office when participating in any of our Valley events. Please call 412-939-3579 or email us to register yourself and any guests that may be attending with you, so we can make sure we plan for your arrival. These timely

registrations help the Valley Officers plan enough food, drink, and/or gifts and prizes for our many events.

The Valley is in the process of ordering polo shirts and fleece outerwear with the new Valley of Pittsburgh, Scottish Rite logo (*see page 25*). Show your pride in your Valley by ordering yours today!

Thank
you for
being an
important
part of the
Valley of
Pittsburgh.

Thank you for being an important part of the Valley of Pittsburgh. If you have any questions or concerns about the activities here in the Valley, please contact the Office and we will be happy to help. □



David W. Morgans, 33°
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org

THE FAMILY CIRCLE

By Rev. John H. Piper, 33°

FAMILY IS DEFINED FIRST AS A BASIC UNIT OF society—traditionally two parents or a single parent and children. But family is more than that.

I have an immense volume entitled *The Family of Man* in my extensive library. This book was printed in 1955 to accompany an exhibition by the same name at the New York Museum of Modern Art. This exhibition featured hundreds of photographs of people of all ages and races from all around the world to illustrate the fact that we humans all belong to one big, diverse family.

Going further, family is also defined as a fellowship of like-minded persons—for example, Pittsburgh Pirates fans! How can we forget the 1979 Pirates season with Willie “Pops” Stargell and its theme song “We Are Family,” sung by Sister Sledge! But more to the point, as Freemasons and members of the Valley of Pittsburgh, we are family also.

Since 1932, there has been an American home magazine entitled *Family Circle*. It is not a stretch to call our Valley a “family circle” as well. When we

gather for meals in the main dining area of the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center, we sit at circular tables with our friends and Brothers. But here is where I “stop preaching” and “start meddling.” How often when we dine before our meeting do we seek a seat next to someone we do not know?

There is security in circles. Remember our pioneer ancestors “circling” their wagons when they were attacked by hostile forces? Circles are alright, but they should not be exclusive; rather, they should be inclusive! A Poem by Edwin Markham comes to mind (center).

He drew a circle
that shut me out—

Heretic, rebel a thing to flaunt,

But love and I had
the wit to win.

We drew a circle
and took him in.

—Edwin Markham

So, we in the Valley of Pittsburgh are a “family circle” that should be expanding ever outward. I frequently give my congregations homework. Here is some for all of us in the Valley: first, invite someone in your lodge or circle of friends, who is not a member of the Valley to join you here in the Scottish Rite. Secondly, at our next function, expand your horizons and sit with someone you don’t know, or invite someone you don’t know well to sit with you. Remember: “We Are Family!”

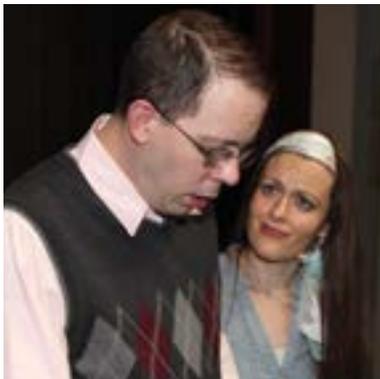
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Adult Content Revealed

In February, Ghost Light Productions performed *Adult Content: A Series of Short Plays* to two very appreciative audiences.

The Tarantino Variation by Seth Kramer featured Will Johnston, Shawn Lang, and Brian Wilding. Jamie Fair was cast alongside PJ Roup in both *Sure Thing*, by David Ives, and Theresa Rebeck's *Katie and Frank*. *Brooding and Dangerous*, by Daniel Fenton, was performed by Mia Bonnewell, Sally Denmead, Todd Ballenger, and Jonathan Ballinger. All shows were directed by Bill Holman.

Stay tuned for announcements regarding next season's performances. For up-to-the-minute news, follow Ghost Light Productions on Facebook.





ADULT



CONTENT

A collection of four short stories.



VeteransCorner

A message for Military Veterans of the Valley of Pittsburgh

VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

Respect and Recognition

By Robert B. Ruff, 32°

This column is intended to be about YOU and your service. Your responses will shape the future content of Veteran's Corner.

Is there a topic you would like to hear about or have addressed in future articles? Are you proud of your service experiences, Lodge visits or do you have pictures you want to share with others?



Robert B. Ruff, 32°

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THANKS TO THE MEDIA AND THE Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, our veterans are finally getting some long-overdue respect and recognition from the public. The Grand Lodge has gone one step farther—giving recognition to the families of the service members who are currently serving our great nation.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan realized the profound importance of spousal commitment to the readiness and well-being of military members with Proclamation 5184 which officially established Military Spouse Day. Congress officially made military spouses part of National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM) in 1999. It is celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day in the United States, and many citizens take this day to acknowledge the contributions, support, and sacrifices of the spouses of our armed forces.

In 2018, it will be observed Friday, May 11th. Society now goes out of its way to recognize our veterans, and rightly so! To be clear, these men and women don't do it for our recognition. They do it for the man or woman to their left or right, and they do it for their families. They fight so that each and every one of them can get back to their families safely, and in the same condition as they left them.

For them, it's about the families waiting at home. It's about those who still need to grocery shop and take their kids to baseball practice while their spouse fights in a foreign country. They do it all while hoping the doorbell doesn't ring with an officer and chaplain on the front porch telling them that their life

has changed forever, and their world has collapsed. PLEASE keep these few things in mind when you thank a veteran. Thank their family also—they have important jobs as well, and they take pride in doing that duty bravely.

Let me end with this poem for military spouses:

Lots of moving...

Moving...

Moving...

Moving far from home...

Moving two cars, three kids and one dog...all riding with HER of course.

Moving sofas to basements because they won't go in THIS house;

Moving curtains that won't fit;

Moving jobs and certifications and professional development hours.

Moving away from friends;

Moving toward new friends;

Moving her most important luggage: her trunk full of memories.

Often waiting...

Waiting...

Waiting...

Waiting for housing.

Waiting for orders.

Waiting for deployments.

Waiting for phone calls.

Waiting for reunions.

Waiting for the new curtains to arrive.

Waiting for him to come home,

For dinner...AGAIN!



*They call her 'Military Dependent',
but she knows better:
She is fiercely In-Dependent.
She can balance a check book;
Handle the yard work;
Fix a noisy toilet;
Bury the family pet...
She is intimately familiar with drywall
anchors and toggle bolts.
She can file the taxes;
Sell a house;
Buy a car;
Or set up a move...
...all with ONE Power of Attorney.
She welcomes neighbors that
don't welcome her.
She reinvents her career with every PCS;
Locates a house in the desert,
the Arctic, or the deep south.
And learns to call them all 'home'.
She MAKES them all home.
Military Wives are somewhat hasty...
They leap into:
Decorating,
Leadership,
Volunteering,
Career alternatives,
Churches,
And friendships.
They don't have 15 years
to get to know people.
Their roots are short but flexible.
They plant annuals for themselves and
perennials for those who come after them.*

*Military Wives quickly learn
to value each other:
They connect over coffee,
Rely on the spouse network,
Accept offers of friendship and favors.
Record addresses in pencil...
Military Wives have a common bond:
The Military Wife has a husband
unlike other husbands; his
commitment is unique.
He doesn't have a 'JOB'
He has a 'MISSION' that he
can't just decide to quit...
He's on-call for his country 24/7.
But for her, he's the most unreliable
guy in town!
His language is foreign
TDY
PCS
EPR
SOS
ACC
BDU
ACU
BAR
CIB
TAD
ABU
And so, a Military Wife is a translator
for her family and his.
She is the long-distance link
to keep them informed;
The glue that holds them together.
A Military Wife has her moments:*

*She wants to wring his neck;
Dye his uniform pink;
Refuse to move to Siberia;
But she pulls herself together.
Give her a few days,
A travel brochure,
A long hot bath,
A pledge to the flag,
A wedding picture,
And she goes.
She packs.
She moves.
She follows.
Why?
What for?
How come?
You may think it is because
she has lost her mind.
But actually it is because
she has lost her heart.
It was stolen from her by a man,
Who puts duty first,
Who longs to deploy,
Who salutes the flag,
And whose boots in the doorway remind
her that as long as he is her
Military Husband,
She will remain his Military Wife.
And would have it no other way.

— Author Unknown*

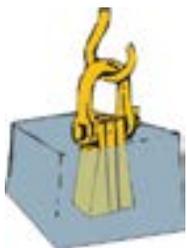
□

The Lewis Jewel

By Austin R. Shifrin, 32°

In an issue dedicated to Family and Freemasonry, I thought it would be most appropriate to touch on the topic of the Lewis jewel. The Lewis is a jewel which may be worn by a man who is a Mason, whose father is a Mason. In the event that the father has passed on, the son still qualifies for this emblem if his father was in good standing at the time of his death.

As in most aspects of blue lodge Masonry, the jewel takes its shape and appearance from a tool used by operative masons—tradesmen who work in actual stone—to convey a message through analogy and symbolism. The tool itself is easier to understand from an illustration than a verbal description: It essentially consists of three steel shapes, which can be suspended from a bolt through holes at the top of all three shapes that align together. The two outside pieces are wider at their bases than at the top, where the bolt passes through; and one piece placed in between acts as a spacer. The stone to be lifted is prepared by carving a hole into the top that widens as it deepens. The hole need only be as wide at the opening as the base of the two outer pieces of the lewis side-by-side. Those pieces are lowered into the opening, then spread



apart from each other until they abut the inner surface of the carved hole. The spacer is placed between them, and the bolt is run through the aligning holes at the top of all three pieces where they protrude from the stone. Now, a crane, lever, or winch attached to that bolt can

lift the stone. For a smaller stone, two men can carry a pole between them with the stone suspended from that. The approach is especially useful if the stone is too heavy to get a sling underneath it, or if it has decorative protrusions that would prevent using some other device.

The device was invented by Greek engineers somewhere between 200-300 BC, and they called it a holivela.¹ I was rather taken aback by this discovery since I have only ever seen or heard it referred to as a Lewis. However, I further learned that this distinction is helpful because there is a similar device called a split-pin lewis, a very clever variation. You must imagine a scenario with a similar hole carved into a stone, that widens as it deepens: The split pin lewis, being lowered into the hole, somewhat resembles a scissor, but with the handles intentionally bent farther apart. Those “handles” will be connected to a single lifting implement, so that when the lifting force is applied, they become closer together and the “blades,” inside the stone, separate farther apart—exerting force outward inside the tapered opening and making the device an effective anchor. There’s a nice demo of this on YouTube posted by the Stonemasonry Department of the City of Glasgow College—I recommend you check it out.²

So if the Greeks called it a holivela, where does the word “lewis” come from? As with several of our Masonic terms, the theories are varied and sundry. One inference is that it might come from the Latin “levis,” meaning light—the same root as our English “levitate.”³ I think another strong candidate just given its antiquity, is that the device appeared in architectural work in France in 1676, when Masons in the Compagnonnage called it a



Austin R. Shifrin, 32²

The Lewis is a jewel which may be worn by a man who is a Mason, whose father is a Mason.



Pennsylvania Lewis Jewel

“louve,” which translates to she-wolf—possibly referring to the grip of her jaws. Over time this morphed into calling each of the wedges in the device “louveteaux,” or male wolf-cubs. And, just as contemporary Masons do, the Compagnonnage took care of orphaned sons of its members, who then were also referred to as “louveteaux.” Did this term somehow further mutate into “lewis?”

Sadly, we are left to speculate.⁴ Still another theory holds that it comes from a lineage dating back even farther, in the 9th century Anglo-Saxon “leof-sunu,” or “dear son.”⁵

However the tool got its name, the intended metaphor of the lewis is that as the tool may be used to lift the stone, the efforts and devotion of the son ought to be to “support” the father. To be nitpicky for a moment, I feel like this is not the clearest metaphor, for two reasons: One, that when I think of the act of “supporting” I usually think of lifting from underneath rather than pulling from above; and two, that the lewis does not itself do the lifting—that’s done by the crane, lever or winch—the lewis is really more of an anchor or a grapple. But, my nitpicking aside, the sentiment is a heartwarming one and the symbol commemorates a beautiful elaboration on the relationship between father and son.

Use of the symbol in Freemasonry dates back quite far: In 1737, when it became known that a son would be born to the Prince of Wales, a verse raising a toast to the new lewis was added by one brother Gofton to an existing composition called “The Deputy Grand Master’s Song,” and captured in a revised form in Anderson’s Constitutions in 1738.⁶ By 1801, the term appeared in the Junior Warden’s lecture used in the Grand Lodge of England.⁷

Its use as a jewel began there, and first arrived in the United States in Pennsylvania Masonry.⁸ Today it is also utilized in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Montana, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.⁹ What a fine thing, that we have this distinct emblem to honor both the bonds of family and Freemasonry! □



Greek Holivela

- 1) <https://100falcons.wordpress.com/2010/08/27/how-did-they-lift-those-stones/>
- 2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9T1rDF_oDo
- 3) “The Lewis”. R.W. Bro. Don Falconer, Vlllo, Second Grand Master Mason, Operatives Lodge #429
- 4) Freemasons’ Guide and Compendium. Bernard E. Jones. Cumberland House, 2006. Page 417
- 5) History of the Borough. Duncan, Griffin, and Hiscox. the Blackheath Press, 1908. Page 18
- 6) Jones, page 418
- 7) <http://thefleece.org/lewis.html>
- 8) Jones, page 416
- 9) <http://thefleece.org/lewis.html>

Membership

A message from the Chairman of the Membership Committee of the Valley of Pittsburgh

VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

Incentives— Past, Present, and Future

By Rodney E. Boyce, 33°

If you have any ideas for, or wish to join our committee, please speak with any of the members listed below or email the chairman at: rboyce@valleyofpittsburgh.org

Rodney E. Boyce, *Chairman*
Erastus Z. Allen
Aaron J. Antimary
Anthony J. (Tony) Corcoran
Kristin M. (Kris) Douglas
Joshua S. (Josh) Freeman
Jordan L. Frei
William G. (Will) Johnston
David W. Morgans
Shawn P. Lang
Peter A. (Pete) Leary
Paul J. (PJ) Roup
Joseph G. (Cab) Whitaker



Rodney E. Boyce, 33°
rboyce@valleyofpittsburgh.org

AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR, WE also begin a new membership incentive program, and many new ideas and events within our Valley.

Past

On Saturday, January 20, the life, poetry, and lyrics of Brother Robert Burns were celebrated at a **Robert Burns Supper**. Forty-six Jolly Beggars attended, including Valley members, family, and friends. The group enjoyed several works of Robert Burns, many good toasts, and a festive board of Scottish standards, including haggis, shortbread, and Scotch (*see page 38*). We invite you to join us again next year at the Ligonier Country Inn in Ligonier.

On Friday, January 12, despite Mother Nature's best attempt at thwarting our plans, the first ever **RiteLightning** event was held at Jerome Bettis' Grille 36 on Pittsburgh's North Shore. Several Valley members joined together for an evening of fellowship and fun. Everyone was presented

with a RiteLightning t-shirt. The group had a wonderful social evening while demonstrating to the public how Freemasons act and enjoy each other's company. Watch for the next email blast announcing a location, date, and time of our next RiteLightning event. Remember you will only receive a three-day notice of the time and place—and all members who attend will

receive a RiteLightning t-shirt (*see page 38*)!

Present

The Membership and Executive Committees are pleased to announce a new membership incentive program. This incentive offer is good for the upcoming Spring Class on April 20-21, 2018.

Any Freemason who joins the Valley of Pittsburgh at the Spring Class will only be required to pay an initiation fee of \$125.00, which includes membership dues for the remaining 2017-2018 AND the 2018-2019 Scottish Rite years! *That's right—for just \$125.00 a new member can join at the Spring Class and have his dues paid until July 31, 2019!*

...but none
of it will
matter if we
don't have
your support
and if you
don't join
us on the
journey.

Every Valley member who is a first-line signer of a new petition will have one year's dues paid. Yes, that's right, if you are a first line signer on a new petition you will not need to pay your 2018-2019

dues! What's more, for every additional petition you are the first line signer on, you will have your dues paid for another year. For example, if you would be a first line signer on five new petitions for the Spring Class, your dues would be paid until July 31, 2023! (*Please see the announcement letter and petition for membership on pages 22-24*).



Future

On Friday, March 16, the Valley will host our very first **RiteHouse Evening**, a concept to bring live acoustic music into the Valley of Pittsburgh. The reception and performance will feature hot appetizers, snacks, wine, beer, and soft drinks in a casual atmosphere for all to enjoy. This premier event will feature an acoustic performance by Scott, Rob, and Greg of The Clarks.

On Friday, March 23, at the Leaf & Bean in McMurray, another first-time event will be held. Get ready for **CigaRite**, another new event for cigar smoking members, their families and friends. The group will meet from 7:00-10:00PM. Reservations are not necessary (see page 29).

On Saturday, May 5th, our inaugural **Kentucky Derby Party** will be held at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center. Gentlemen and ladies, break out your best duds and bonnets as we celebrate the 144th running of the Kentucky Derby, live at the Valley of Pittsburgh. Fun, food, and great entertainment will be provided as we await the race. Place your bets that this will be a one-of-a-kind experience!

So, brethren, as I said in the last issue of the *RiteNow*, you can see that your officers are working on solutions for growing our membership and for improving the quality of the experience each of you can have as a Scottish Rite Mason—but none of it will matter if we don't have your support and if you don't join us on the journey. *Our future awaits!*



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

RiteHouse Presents
Scott, Rob and Greg of THE CLARKS
ACOUSTIC

ALL INCLUSIVE ADMISSION! Your ticket includes admission to the reception, the performance and hot appetizers, snacks, beer, wine, and soft drinks throughout the evening!

MARCH 16 7:30 PM

Reception beginning at 6:30PM

GREATER PITTSBURGH MASONIC CENTER | 3579 MASONIC WAY | PITTSBURGH, PA 15237

For tickets, contact the Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh at **412-939-3579** or visit srgacoustic.eventbrite.com

\$35 Per Person
Advanced Tickets Required



Scan for tickets

RiteHouse Evenings
All proceeds benefit the Valley of Pittsburgh Hospitalers Fund



COMING SOON | Saturday, April 21, 2018

Membership Incentive



VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH | ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
 3579 Masonic Way | Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2700 | 412-939-3579

Dear Brother,

We are reaching out to offer an exciting opportunity for all Masons—3° to 33°!

The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite is a more casual and relaxed body than Blue Lodge. We are all about fellowship and having a great time together as brothers.

We have five Stated Meetings a year. A catered dinner is offered before each Stated Meeting, followed by a program for the ladies, while the members are meeting. After the meeting, there is additional entertainment—usually a musical act, a comedian, a magician, etc. The cost for the entire evening is just \$10 per person. That is quite a bargain by today's standards.

Other Scottish Rite events throughout the year include: car cruises; theatrical performances; themed parties (i.e. Hollywood Gala, Kentucky Derby, Super Bowl); a Pittsburgh Pirates game; scholarship and educational banquets; Kennywood day; a charity golf outing; and many other events. We offer several opportunities to get involved, such as committee work, leadership, stage crew, makeup and costuming, and acting—these are just a few opportunities for those desiring more involvement.

So what is this exciting opportunity? Let us explain. This opportunity has a two-fold incentive—one for a non-Scottish Rite member—and one for the member who is the first line signer on his petition to join Scottish Rite.

1) FOR THE NON-MEMBER WISHING TO JOIN THE SCOTTISH RITE

You can become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason on April 20-21, 2018, for just \$125.* This includes your initiation fee, and all membership dues through July 31, 2019! **That is a savings of \$165!**

2) FOR THE MEMBER WHO FIRST LINE SIGNS A PETITION

On every petition for which you are the first line signer for the April 20-21, 2018, Spring Class, you will receive one year's dues free!* If you first line sign a petition, your dues will be paid through July 31, 2019! **Now here is the important part—this incentive has no limits—you receive one year's dues free FOR EACH petition you sign! If you sign ten new members, your dues will be paid through July 31, 2028!**

continued on reverse side

continued from reverse side

This is your opportunity to continue and strengthen your Masonic journey by becoming a 32° Scottish Rite Mason. Each of the twenty-nine degrees teach valuable lessons and virtues by which to live. We are confident that if you try it you will like it.

The 2018 Spring Class will be held Friday evening, April 20, and Saturday, April 21, culminating with the conferral of the 32°. In addition, we are thrilled to announce that Ill. : Brother David A. Glatty, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, 32° Freemasonry, Scottish Rite, Northern Jurisdiction, will be attending this event. This is indeed quite an honor for our Scottish Rite and a testament to the hard work of many who make our Valley relevant and fun for everyone in 2018—not 1918!

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR EVERYONE

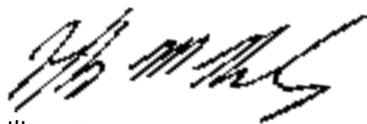
On Friday, March 16, 2018, we will be hosting our first ever RiteHouse Evening featuring Rob, Scott and Greg of The Clarks, for a live acoustic show! This event will begin at 6:30pm with hot hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, soft drinks and souvenir draft or wine glass—all for just \$35 per person. The acoustic show will begin at 7:30pm. This event is open to all.

On Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018, we will be hosting The Story of the Crucifixion. This live theater event is presented by a large cast wearing period costumes and concludes with a catered dinner—for just \$10 per person. This family event is open to all.

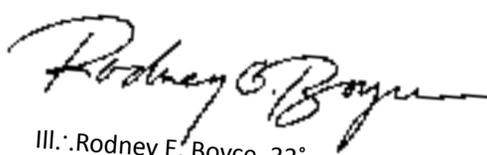
If you are already a member, we hope you will come out and join us for this momentous occasion. If you are not yet a member, we encourage you to consider taking the next step on your Masonic journey. We personally invite each of you to attend any or all of our open events. Have a look for yourself—we promise you will not be disappointed. Please contact the Valley Office for event reservations, any questions, or to be placed on our electronic mailing list, at 412-939-3579.

Now is the time to become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason!

With warmest fraternal regards,



Ill. : Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°
Commander and Chief



Ill. : Rodney E. Boyce, 33°
2nd Lieutenant Commander,
Membership Chairman

* These incentives include all members of Lodges who would normally journey through the Scottish Rite, Lodge of Perfection, in Uniontown. These men will automatically become a member of both—Uniontown Lodge of Perfection and the Valley of Pittsburgh with NO ADDITIONAL FEES!

valleyofpittsburgh.org

See **Petition for Membership** on the following page.

Petition for Membership - Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Northern Masonic Jurisdiction - United States of America



Petitioners are reminded that if a Scottish Rite Valley exists in their county of residence, they must petition that Valley or obtain a waiver of jurisdiction. All questions must be answered in full!



To the Officers and Members of:

**Gourgas Lodge of Perfection, 14°
Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem, 16°
Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix, 18°
Pennsylvania Consistory, S. P. R. S., 32°**

SITTING IN THE VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Date _____

3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2700 • 412-939-3579 • www.valleyofpittsburgh.org

I, the undersigned hereof, respectfully show that I am desirous of being admitted as a member of your honorable Bodies and request that I may be received among you, and that I will ever pray for the prosperity and glory of the Fraternity and the welfare of the Brethren. In making this application I promise on my word of honor that should I become a member of your honorable Bodies, I subscribe to the following Oath of Fealty:

I, the undersigned, do hereby promise on my word of honor, and swear true faith, allegiance, and fealty to the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, sitting at its Grand East in the City of Lexington, Massachusetts, and will support and abide by its Constitutions, Orders and Decrees. That I will hold allegiance to the said Supreme Council and be loyal thereto, as the supreme authority of the Rite; will hold illegal and spurious every other Body that may be established within its jurisdiction, claiming to be a Supreme Council; and every other Body of said Rite within the same Jurisdiction that does not hold its powers from said Supreme Council and will hold no communication whatever in Scottish Rite Masonry with any member of the same nor allow him to visit any Body of the Rite of which I may be a member; and I will dispense justice to my brethren according to the laws of equity and honor.

And should I violate this, my solemn vow and pledge, I consent to be expelled from Scottish Rite Masonry, and all rights therein and in any Body of the Rite, and be denounced to every Body of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the world as a traitor and forsworn. And may God aid me to keep and perform the same. Amen.

When born _____ Place of birth _____ Residing at _____
(Month, Day, Year) (City or Town, State or County) (Current Address)

County _____ Since _____ Home Phone _____ Email _____
(Year)

Immediately previous to above address, I resided at _____
(City, or Town, State, Zip Code)

Occupation _____ Employer _____
(Give Title or Name of position or state nature of duties) (If retired give former employer's name)

Business Address _____ Business Telephone () _____
(Area Code, Number)

I have _____ before petitioned for the degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, and been rejected therein. I received the Degree of Master

Mason in _____ Lodge, No. _____, F. & A.M., located at _____ on _____

I am now a member of _____ Lodge No. _____, F. & A.M., located at _____

APPLICANT'S NAME IN FULL - NO INITIALS - NO ABBREVIATIONS (If you have no middle name, enter, NMN)

(Print) _____
First Name Middle Name or Names Last Name

Mailing Address _____
Zip Code

(Sign) _____ (Date) _____

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT WE HAVE EXAMINED THE CURRENT SYMBOLIC LODGE DUES CARD OF THE ABOVE PETITIONER

Recommender Please Sign Name in Full Please print your name Supreme Council No. Lodge No. Phone No. (area code)

Recommender Please Sign Name in Full Please print your name Supreme Council No. Lodge No. Phone No. (area code)



MILITARY SERVICE (for Certificate Program)

Branch: _____ Discharge Type: _____

Start Date: _____ Discharge Date: _____



INITIATION, FEES, DUES

TOTAL.....\$125

**Make check payable to the order of:
GOURGAS LODGE OF PERFECTION
ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED IN FULL**

Wear It with Pride



White (A)



True Royal (B)



Charcoal (C)



Dark Navy (D)

Harriton M345 Advantage IL Snap Placket Performance Polo

- 6.64 oz., 100% polyester Snag Protection Plus jersey with moisture-wicking and antimicrobial performance
- matching flat-knit collar
- center front snap placket closure
- side slits
- no pocket styling for safety and food handling services
- embroidered on left breast with full-color Valley of Pittsburgh logo

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL

Colors: White (A), Charcoal (C), Dark Navy (D)

Cost: **\$33** / each for all sizes



True Royal (E)



Charcoal (F)



Navy (G)

Harriton M315 Polytech Polo

- 4 oz., 100% polyester jersey with antimicrobial, anti-static, deodorize and UV protection performance
- proven to absorb, wick and evaporate more moisture than cotton
- double-needle topstitch on bottom hem and side vents
- colormatched, three-button closure
- embroidered on left breast with full-color Valley of Pittsburgh logo

Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL

Colors: True Royal (B)

Cost: **\$33** / each for all sizes

Harriton M990 Full-Zip Fleece

- 8 oz., 100% spun soft polyester fleece with non-pill finish on surface
- midweight fleece—highly breathable
- dye-to-match zippers and zipper pull
- bottom hem with drawcord and toggles
- non-roll elastic cuffs
- front zip pockets
- embroidered on left breast with full-color Valley of Pittsburgh logo

Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL, 6XL

Colors: True Royal (E), Charcoal (F), Navy (G)

Cost: **\$38** / each for all sizes



Place your order today by calling the Valley office at 412-939-3579.

Orders must made by April 2, for delivery at the Spring Reunion!



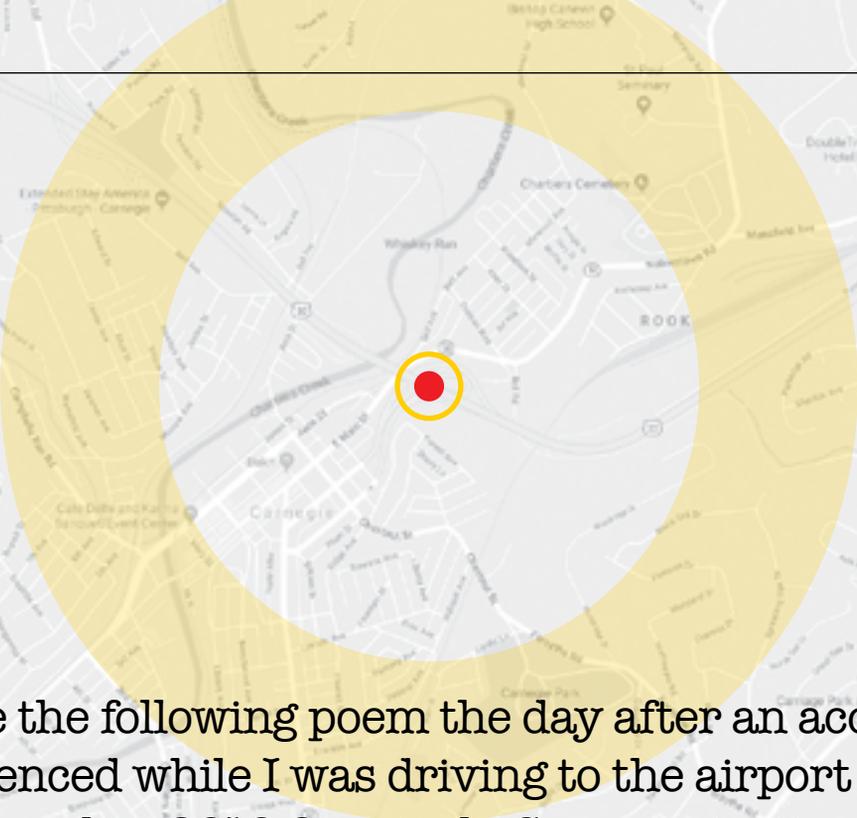
Profound Gratitude

By PJ Roup, 33'





PJ Roup, 33^o



I wrote the following poem the day after an accident I experienced while I was driving to the airport to attend the December 2010 Quarterly Communication. I have shown it to a precious few people since that time. Poetry is, to me, intensely personal. There's a vulnerability to it, and few places to hide.

So why share it now?

That's simple. When I think about family, my heart comes back to this. You see, I have never felt such an outpouring of care than I did in the hours and days that followed that accident. I was surrounded by love, both from those who are family by the standard definition as well as those who are family by choice. The texts and phone calls did not stop for three days. In fact, it was the only time I ever exceeded my text and talk minutes in my life, and I exceeded them to the tune of nearly two-hundred dollars. To be honest, I have never been more happy to pay a penalty in my life!

I still don't know how or why I survived that day when so many things could have happened differently. I do know that I learned just how valuable family is when things go wrong. Thank you all for being my family. I am profoundly grateful.



CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Spoken

Spoken:

Out loud, but
in a voice, not mine,
No God, Please no, no, no, no

I don't want to die,
I don't want to die,
I don't want to die

Stop your truck, please, please, please stop your----truck!

Thought at the same time:

Why are you not stopping?
Do you know who I am? Was?
That I still have things to say. People to say them to.
Things to feel and people to feel them with.
Why do you want to write my obituary?

P.J. Roup December 11, 1968 - November 30, 2010
Beloved Husband, Son, Grandson, Friend,
Inconvenient speedbump for a truck.

If you knew me, you'd know
I have a weird thing for numbers and
Dying on 11/30/10 would be upsetting to me
Because there's nothing cool about that sequence.
Give me until 12/24/48 or better yet 4/15/60.

Seen:

The driver's side window replaced
by the grinning red grill of the semi
So intent on ruining my day, ruining me.
Maybe he's not grinning, but opening his mouth
To swallow me whole.
His headlight, an eye looking right into mine,
Mixing with the mist from the road, he cuts a crisp
and distinct beam straight through the car,
My coffin.

In these seconds, my mind cannot conceive
a way for this to end well. Please be quick.

Heard:

Metal on metal,
Metal on glass,
The highway hiss of tires displacing water.
No horn yet, no trumpeting angels. Yet.

Felt:

We stop, my coffin and I, against the jersey barrier.
I'm okay. Really? That can't be right.

I think it's all done,
only there's still a game to be played.

Please choose from one of the following:

One, stay here and wait for the next car to hit me
since the first one couldn't close the deal, or
Two, get out of the car (and yes I'm aware that they say
you should never get out of your car)
Vault the Jersey barrier into narrow shoulder of the
Oncoming traffic lanes
and duck

if your car, which apparently is not your coffin,
comes at you. Then vault deftly back to your side
(the safe side now?) of the road.

I picked Two and after the second car hit mine,
I am standing with myself standing in the rain
soaking it all in.

Spoken:

Out loud
In a voice wholly mine,
Thank you, God.

Thought at the same time:

How am I here,
two hangnail sized nicks in my knuckles—
A single drop of blood on my jacket serving
as the period at the end of this terrifying sentence.

What would the people I love have thought when they
woke up to news that I was gone?
Did they tell me everything they wanted to?
Did I tell them?
The first question (thankfully) doesn't need to
be answered.
The others? I can fix that.

So, did You have the angels in the car with me
all morning or can they just get where You
need them to be that quickly?

Written:

Cathartically, right now,
Thank You.

Spring '18 Reunion

Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21

CLASS HONOREE

Ill. David A. Glattly, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

Conferral Schedule*

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

5:30P Registration and Dinner

6:40P Welcome by
Thrice Potent Master
Declaration of Principles
*Communication
of 6th-11th, 13th, 14th Degrees*

6:50P 4th Degree Ceremonial

7:00P 4th Degree DVD

7:45P 5th Degree

8:45P 12th Degree DVD

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

7:30A Coffee and Donuts

8:30A 15th/16th Degree Ceremonial

8:45A 16th Degree

10:00A *Class Picture*

10:30A *Solomon Ascending*

Modern 8th Degree

12:00P Lunch

1:00P 17th/18th Degree Ceremonial

1:15P 17th Degree

2:30P Official Reception

3:00P 32nd Degree

4:30P Afterglow

*All times are subject to change.

All 33° Scottish Rite Masons are requested to attend the Reunion wearing formal dress to escort the Sovereign Grand Commander.

INAUGURAL
EVENT



CigaRite

An evening of Fellowship and Cigars

When:

Friday, March 23, 2018

7-10PM

Where:

LEAF & BEAN

3525 Washington Road
Canonsburg, Pennsylvania
724.942.6670

Details:

B.Y.O.B.

ON-SITE CIGARS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

DUTCH TREAT PIZZA

NO RSVP NECESSARY

OPEN TO ALL

FREE!

For more information:

Dave Moore | 724.986.0798



Pre-Spring Golf Fitness/Instruction Plan

By Eric S. Teasdale, 32°

▶ SPRING IS FAST APPROACHING, and I would like to touch on a topic that can help golfers improve when practice at the range becomes more difficult. The most efficient way to improve your golf game is through range time (i.e. hitting golf balls), but if you can't find the time or a place to hit golf balls, fitness is the next best option. You can also improve your golf game through practice of some basic fundamentals. You do not need to hit golf balls.

When Tiger Woods came onto the golf scene, he led the transformation of the professional game in terms of athleticism. His devotion to fitness and exercise and getting his body into golf shape altered the stigma of golfer fitness, and became

a blueprint for what most professional golfers do now. Fitness and exercise for the amateur golfer should be just as important. Working out to get stronger and more flexible and create greater clubhead speed should be the winter goal of all amateur golfers. As we get older, everyone tends to lose distance due to decreasing flexibility. Becoming more flexible is something all golfers can achieve through proper stretching.

There are golf-specific trainers at fitness clubs all over the Greater Pittsburgh area that can help you develop a plan for an improved 2018 golf season. After you have a developed plan, you need to make a commitment to improving your fitness. When looking for motivation, think

about the long-term benefit for both your health and your golf game.

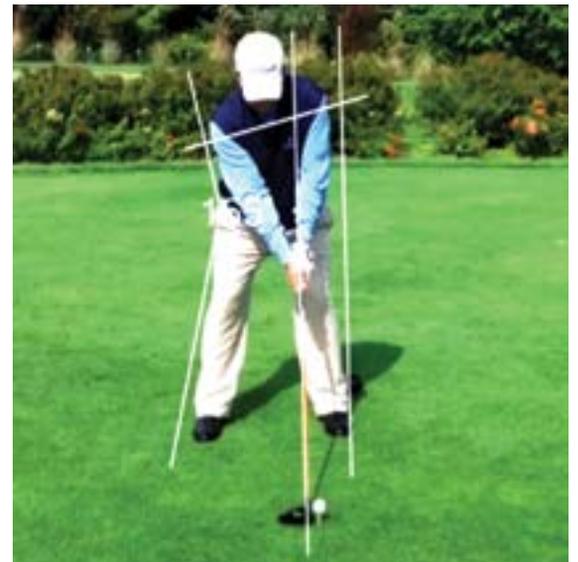
There are a few other ways to improve your golf game in the winter along with a fitness and exercise plan. You can start with reviewing and practicing the fundamentals. There are three fundamentals with the most potential to help average golfers, Athletic Posture, Dynamic Balance, and Core Strength.

1. Athletic Posture

I strongly believe that being in an athletic posture to start is the most important fundamental of all. You need to have a solid foundation before the swing even starts. Achieving an athletic posture is vital in all sports, but many amateurs still



“Down the Line Posture”—Ideally, the shaft of club is at a 90-degree angle to your spine with not much curvature of the spine. A plane angle of between 12 and 15 degrees allows you to achieve a neutral arm hang (arms hanging straight down) and weight on the balls of your feet.



“Face-On Posture”—A firm lead side with your trail shoulder lower than the lead shoulder is the most efficient way to set up. This will create a reverse K position in a right-handed player, which insures that your head is behind the ball at address. This will make it more likely to be behind the ball at impact or “the moment of truth.”



Eric S. Teasdale, 32*

have a weak starting point for their swings. To find your optimal posture, assume the pose of a baseball shortstop, hockey goalie or basketball player on defense. Please refer to the pictures below and the accompanying notes to understand and visualize proper golf posture.

To work on your posture, all you will need is a mirror or a hand held device with a camera. Personally, I use and recommend the V1 Golf app for an iPhone or iPad.

2. Dynamic Balance

To play golf successfully, you need to have athletic movement with both stability and balance. While your body fully rotates, there must be stability in all areas to create torque while you coil. Developing

core strength is key here and should be an important element of your workout routine. Make some practice back swings, focusing on keeping your trail knee bent, (which creates the coil) and turning your lead shoulder under your chin. Finish your practice swing and hold your finish to create dynamic balance.

To work on dynamic balance and stability, all you need to focus on is completing a coiled back swing and balanced finish while you make practice swings.

3. Core Strength

Core Strength can be achieved through a golf-specific workout routine. Remember, you must commit to completing each workout session and practicing the fun-

damentals. By developing core strength during the spring, you can generate and control greater power and club head speed in your swing.

Winter can be a tough time of year for golfers, but you can make the most of the weather by setting some goals, practicing those fundamentals and getting in shape. You'll feel better, and you'll play better, too. Getting off to a healthy and strong start before the 2018 golf season begins can have a profound effect on your life and your scores this year. □

Eric Teasdale the resident PGA Professional at Shannopin Country Club in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



“Coiling”—Maintain the flex in the trail knee on your backswing and turn your lead shoulder under the chin. You will feel tightness in your trail thigh and your rear foot might feel like it wants to twist. If you feel this sensation, you are coiling properly.



“Balanced Finish”—hold your balanced finish with your rear foot up in the air and chest past the target line.



DEFINE NORMAL...

By D. Todd Ballenger, 33°

I didn't grow up in a Masonic family. Never really heard anything about Freemasonry, in fact, until I was in my thirties.

Nothing.

Believe it or not, I was one of those many people surprised to find out that Shriners were actually Masons first, even though I spent my youth in Greenville, South Carolina, a city with a Shriner's Hospital. I married into my Masonic family—at least I think I did. Maybe they adopted me. Honestly, I'm not sure. What I am sure of is the fact that while visiting my (now wife) in her home, her mother would often pinch me when no one was looking and say, "Ask Bill where he's been. Go on. Ask him." Bill (Mr. P., as I've always referred to him) is my father-in-law.

He's also my Brother. Is this normal?

Of course, at the time the entire scenario seemed a bit—well, odd. Why was it so important that I ask Mr. P. where he had been? Because (of course) he was returning from a lodge

meeting and Mrs. P. knew the ropes. I didn't, mind you, but she did, having a husband and two sons who had all come up through the same lodge. And yes, if this new guy (that's me) intended to get any further in her family, then it was going to be necessary for him to find his way into their family. Well, if you're a bit confused at this point, imagine how I felt. Those who finally figured out "2B1ASK1" for themselves are familiar with this little rite of passage. For me, it was opening the door to not only one family, but to a number of other families that have been with me for over a decade.

*"I don't know half of you as well as
and I like less than half"*

For the Mason who is fascinated by study and ritual, history and philosophy, the Blue Lodge is an amazing world. Then I turned down the path of Scottish Rite Masonry and—BAM!—I had a new family. I had found brand new people with different visions of the Craft, fresh ideas, and it instantly broadened my view of the Fraternity. Make no mistake; my new family didn't replace my first one. In fact, it enhanced almost everything I did in my home Lodge, from ritual work to paying attention to the lessons in the programs. But the biggest thing was that it made me appreciate my family even more.



D. Todd Ballenger, 33*



Since that time, I've become a part of many families. I became a part of my wife's family; their lodge family; the Scottish and York Rite families; the Shrine family; and even the Grand Lodge family. Now before you label me a "joiner," it's important to understand that each of these families is important to me in its own special way and I had a specific reason for wanting to be a part of each one. You see, so often we are unable to pick our families, but for a select number of us (you're in that group, too!), it has not only been possible, but it's considered to be, well, normal.

we all fall short of perfection, but such negativity would never be the norm. It even extends between families—between the lodge and home; between Brethren in the lodge; between lodges and the Grand Lodge; and even between Masonic bodies.

If we remember our core values and Masonic virtues, however, there is no reason why we can't find solutions to problems that put us out of sorts with our families. The first thing we should always remember is to treat our brethren as family. Freemasonry and all of its families are organizations of servant leadership. According to author Robert K. Greenleaf: "A servant-leader focuses on the growth and well-being of people and the communities to which they belong. While traditional leadership generally involves the accumulation and exercises of power by one at the 'top of the pyramid,' servant leadership is different. The servant-leader shares power, puts the needs of others first, and helps people develop and perform as highly as possible."

*I should like;
of you half as well as you deserve."*

—J.R.R. Tolkien

So much good has come to me from being a part of these families, but I must confess that it's not always the norm. There have been times when my Masonic families have infringed upon my own family. I learned during those times that balance is an art well worth practicing from the beginning and that it takes the support and cooperation of different families to maintain the harmony for all. At times, I have seen individuals lose sight of their own families and lash out at those whom they should treat with brotherly love and affection. Shouldn't we look to protect and defend the ones we love? Shouldn't we look to help and heal, not demean and destroy? Granted,

It's a different kind of "normal" with regard to leadership ideals; one in which the more accomplished you become, the more you are called upon to serve. Take this new norm and share it. Learn to be a productive part of your family. Help your family learn. Help your family grow. Get to know your family better. That way, you'll always feel at home.

□

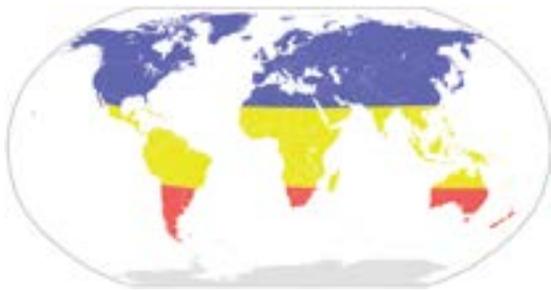


Influenza

By Dr. Glenn D. Miller, II, 33°

INFLUENZA, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE “FLU,” is a viral infection that attacks a person’s respiratory tract. The virus is usually spread from person to person through the air in droplets from coughing, sneezing, or talking. It can also be spread by touching surfaces that have been contaminated by the virus (doorknobs, paper currency, light switches, and other common household items), or by coming in contact with infected people via handshakes or hugs, and then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes. The influenza virus can persist on hard, nonporous surfaces such as metal or plastic for one to two days, dry paper tissue for about fifteen minutes, and on the skin for about five minutes. If the virus is present in mucus, it has been shown to persist on paper currency for up to seventeen days! Infected people are contagious from about one to two days before the symptoms begin until about five to ten days after the symptoms begin. Children and immunosuppressed people may be contagious for slightly longer periods.

Influenza spreads around the world in yearly outbreaks. In both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, influenza season reaches peak prevalence in the winter. Since winter occurs six months apart in the two hemispheres, there are two different flu seasons each year. In the tropical regions



near the equator, influenza outbreaks can occur at any time of the year. In any given year, influenza results in 3-5,000,000 cases of severe illness and approximately 250-500,000 deaths. More significant outbreaks of influenza are known as “pandemics” and are a fairly rare occurrence, with roughly three pandemics per century. In the 20th century, the Spanish influenza pandemic occurred in 1918 and resulted in approximately 50 million deaths, the Asian influenza

pandemic occurred in 1957 and led to approximately two million deaths, and the Hong Kong influenza pandemic occurred in 1968 and resulted in approximately one million deaths. The Swine Flu pandemic in 2009 was the first pandemic of the 21st century.

There are three main types of influenza viruses that affect humans: Influenza A, Influenza B, and Influenza C. The Influenza A viruses have several subtypes and are the most virulent against humans, although they can infect wild aquatic birds. The H1N1 subtype caused the Spanish influenza pandemic in 1918 and the Swine Flu pandemic in 2009, the H2N2 subtype caused the Asian influenza pandemic in 1957, the H3N2 subtype caused the Hong Kong influenza pandemic in 1968, and the H5N1 subtype caused the Bird Flu in 2004. The Influenza B virus does not have any subtypes and almost exclusively infects humans, although it has been documented in seals and ferrets. Influenza B mutates two to three times slower than Type A which results in most humans acquiring some degree of immunity at an early age, although this immunity does not last a typical lifetime. However, this slow virus mutation ensures that Influenza B does not cause any pandemics. Influenza C is less common than Type A or Type B and also does not have any subtypes. Influenza C can infect humans, dogs, and pigs. It can cause severe illness and local epidemics, but not pandemics. However, Influenza C usually only causes mild disease in children.

Initially, flu symptoms may mimic the common cold with a runny nose, cough, and a sore throat. However, cold symptoms usually develop slowly over a few days whereas flu symptoms typically start suddenly, a day or two after becoming infected. Common signs and symptoms of the flu (*Figure A*) include fevers with oral temperatures in the 100-103° range, chills and sweats, shivering, runny nose, nausea and vomiting, dry persistent cough, sore throat, sneezing, nasal congestion, headache, extreme fatigue, muscle aches (especially in the back, arms, and legs), joint aches, eye irritation with watering eyes, reddened skin (especially the face), and petechial rashes (rash composed of small red or purple round pinpoint spots on the skin or in the mucous membranes due to the rupture and leakage of small capillaries just underneath the skin (*Figure B*)). In children, diarrhea



Dr. Glenn D. Miller, II, 33*

The primary means of preventing infection with influenza is to receive an annual vaccination.

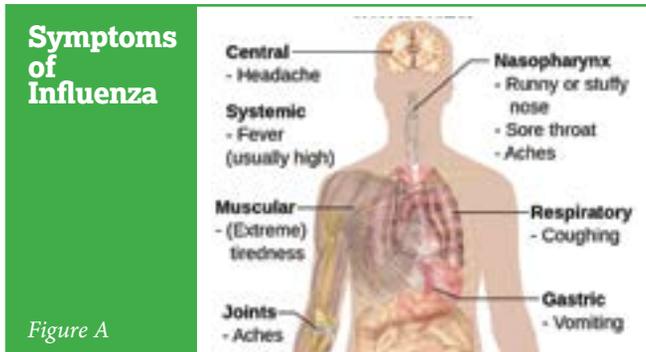


Figure A

and abdominal pain are common symptoms and can be severe, especially in Influenza B.

For the vast majority of people, influenza is self-limited and resolves on its own within one to two weeks. However, influenza can lead to the development of severe, life-threatening complications such as pneumonia. It can also exacerbate chronic health conditions such as asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, coronary artery disease, and congestive heart failure. Risk factors for the development of serious complications, and possible death, include: very young children; adults over 65 years of age; people of any age with chronic medical conditions such as asthma, emphysema, diabetes, heart conditions (such as coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, or left ventricular dysfunction); pregnant females (especially in the second and third trimesters); women who are postpartum for two weeks or less; people who are obese with a BMI of 40 or higher; and those with weakened immune systems.

As previously stated, influenza is usually a self-limited infectious disease that is treated with plenty of rest and liquid intake. People can also take medications such as acetaminophen as needed for fever and muscle aches. People should also avoid alcohol consumption and tobacco usage while they have the flu. It is imperative that children and teenagers suffering from influenza (especially Influenza B) avoid taking aspirin because of the risk to develop Reye's Syndrome, a rare but potentially fatal disease that causes swelling in the brain and liver. Since influenza is a viral disease, antibiotics are not typically prescribed unless a secondary infection such

as bacterial pneumonia is present. Antiviral medications, such as Tamiflu (oseltamivir) and Relenza (zanamivir), may be prescribed to people who present very early after the onset of symptoms. These medications may decrease the length of the illness by a day or so. They may also help to prevent the development of serious complications.

The primary means of preventing infection with influenza is to receive an annual vaccination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends an annual flu vaccination for everyone over the age of 6 months. The vaccine is currently available only as an injection because the nasal spray vaccine was found to be relatively ineffective. The vaccine is reformulated every year to be effective against the 3 or 4 influenza viruses that the World Health Organization (WHO) predicts will most likely be circulating in the upcoming flu season. Since there are separate and distinct flu seasons for both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, two different vaccine formulations are manufactured each year. Since it takes approximately six months for the pharmaceutical companies to formulate and produce the



Figure B

millions of vaccine doses required each year, occasionally a new or different strain of influenza will manifest itself during that flu season. The result is that the vaccination will not be effective, or at least less effective, for that particular flu season. If you have been watching the news over the past

several weeks, you will recognize that this scenario is playing out in front of our eyes this very year. It has been estimated that this year's vaccination will only be about ten percent effective in preventing the flu because an influenza strain, which was not expected, has manifested itself. It is just another reminder that, despite all the knowledge that has been acquired and accumulated over the years, medicine remains an inexact science. □

UniontownUpdate

A message from the Thrice Potent Master of the Valley of Uniontown

VALLEY OF UNIONTOWN

Family First

By J. Blair McGill, 32°

“MY FAMILY COMES FIRST” IS ONE of the most commonly used phrases by men throughout the world. In fact, it is used so frequently, that it is often passed off as a trivial expression. But to us, as Freemasons, it should be taken very seriously. A candidate for Freemasonry is encouraged to include his family in his meeting with the Committee of Inquiry. The lessons taught in Freemasonry and the obligations attendant thereto tie closely to a man’s relationship with his family.

The Holy Writings, the Great Architect’s guide to our actions, are filled with references to family. In the lodge, at initiation, a Freemason is charged with having three general heads of duty, namely to God, our neighbor, and ourselves. Family does not appear on

that list, but if a man’s behavior is not consistent with that detailed in the charge, as in avoiding intemperance and excesses and always keeping within due bounds, he will in all probability be of little use to his family and quite possibly a detriment to it. In his obligation immediately prior to becoming a Master Mason, a man places his family’s needs above even those of his brother Master Masons who may be in need. This reinforces the importance of family in a Freemason’s life.

The “ineffable degrees” of the Lodge of Perfection teach many valuable lessons.

We learn to respect the memory of our worthy predecessors. We are taught the importance of mediation of disputes and impartiality in the administration of justice. We are shown the value of diligence but are cautioned to not be overly zealous in pursuit of our goals. Truth and virtue are empha-

sized. When difficulties and dangers confront us, we learn that they should not deter us. We must overcome our fears. The Fourteenth Degree contains many references to the Holy Bible. We can apply all of these to our relationship with our families as well with our brethren

in Freemasonry and all mankind.

Most Freemasons occupy or aspire to positions of leadership in their respective families, as well they should. We strive to be good husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers. These are sometimes not the easiest of tasks, but through our faith and trust in the Almighty and

We strive to be good husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers.

the adherence to the precepts of our fraternity and the lessons it teaches, the path, though at times difficult, becomes easier and our direction clearer.

Members of our families, whether they are Masons or not, can benefit immensely from Freemasonry’s principles of religion and morality. A Freemason does honor to our great fraternity if he teaches his family to practice the Masonic virtues. He need not make reference to Freemasonry, as its principles apply to all. If he is successful in this just and laudable undertaking, his family will be a stronger, more cohesive unit.

One of the most important things a man can do for his family is to set a good example. I can think of no finer example than living and acting in accordance with the lessons and precepts of Freemasonry.

□





Charity Golf Outing

Benefiting the Children's Dyslexia Center-Pittsburgh

When:

Saturday, June 16, 2018

9:00am Shotgun Start

Where:

Butler's Golf Course

Elizabeth, PA

Cost:

\$90 / Per Person

Details:

**18-HOLE, 4-PERSON SCRAMBLE
GOLF AND GOLF CART**

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST BEFORE GOLF

DINNER BUFFET AFTER GOLF

TEAM PRIZES & SKILL PRIZES

RAFFLE / AUCTION ITEMS

LUNCH ONLY GUESTS - \$30.00 PER PERSON

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

For more information:

412.939.3579 | secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org



VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH OFFICERS

August 1, 2017 - July 31, 2018

Gourgas Lodge of Perfection 14°

Shawn P. Lang, 32° Thrice Potent Master
Brian T. Wilding, 32° Deputy Master
Jeffrey R. Jones, 32° Senior Warden
David L. Moore, 32° Junior Warden
Eric S. Teasdale, 32° Orator
Peter A. Leary, 32°, MSA Master of Ceremonies
Christopher A. McNeal, 32° Guard

Pennsylvania Council, Princes of Jerusalem

Erastus Z. Allen, 32° Sovereign Prince
Joseph G. Whitaker, 32° High Priest
Robert M. Polander, 32° Senior Warden
Mitchell D. Goldstein, 32° Junior Warden
Richard F. Kucera, 32° Master of Ceremonies
Robert H. Nelson, 32° Master of Entrances

Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix 18°

James C. Mayes, 32° Most Wise Master
Joshua S. Freeman, 32° Senior Warden
Charles J. Anthony, 32° Junior Warden
Matthew A. Boice, 32° Orator
Kristin M. Douglas, 32° Master of Ceremonies
Anthony J. Corcoran, 32° Guard

Pennsylvania Consistory 32°

Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33° Commander-in-Chief
William G. Johnston, 32° 1st Lt. Commander
Rodney E. Boyce, 33° 2nd Lt. Commander
David C. Allison, 32° Orator
Charles F. Zurcher, 32° Chancellor
B. Scott Allen, 32° Master of Ceremonies
Aaron J. Antimary, 32° Engineer & Seneschal
David C. Runco, 32° Standard Bearer
Jordan L. Frei, 32° Guard
Paul J. Roup, 33° Treasurer
David W. Morgans, 33° Secretary
Vito A. Urso, 33° Hospitaler
Dennis R. Johnston, 33° Tiler
Charles M. Bombich, 33°, Peter A. Leary, 32°, MSA,
Joseph G. Whitaker, 32° MFS Representatives

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Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°, Chairman
William G. Johnston, 32° Rodney E. Boyce, 33°
Shawn P. Lang, 32° Brian T. Wilding, 32°
Erastus Z. Allen, 32° Joseph G. Whitaker, 32°
James C. Mayes, 32° Joshua S. Freeman, 32°
Paul J. Roup, 33° David W. Morgans, 33°
Jeff A. Biddle, 33°, Trustee . Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, Active

Trustees

Jeff A. Biddle, 33°, Chairman
Thomas M. Gasmire, 33° George W. Polnar, 33°
Keith J. Caito, 33° Glenn D. Miller, II, 33°
Richard A. Rodibaugh, 33° Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°
Shawn P. Lang, 32° Erastus Z. Allen, 32°
James C. Mayes, 32° Paul J. Roup, 33°
David W. Morgans, 33°

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Stephen A. George, 33° Robert R. Havers, Sr., 33°
John W. Hisiro, 33° Albert L. Kappeler, Jr., 33°
Robert Mellon, 33° Donald E. Sauer, 33°
Walter L. Sykes, 33° Kurt R. Tesch, 33°
Vito A. Urso, 33°

Secretary Emeritus

Elwood R. Schultise, 33°

Allegiance

The bodies of the Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Pittsburgh, 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. David A. Glatty, 33°, *Sovereign Grand Commander*, Ill. Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, *Deputy for Pennsylvania*. Other Active members for Pennsylvania are: Ill. Jeffrey W. Coy, 33°, Ill. George Nakonetchny, 33°, Ill. Robert J. Bateman, 33°, Ill. Keith E. Parkinson, 33°.

ValleyNews

A collection of recent happenings in the Valley of Pittsburgh



The Jolly Beggars celebrate at the Ligonier Country Inn

Valley Celebrates Annual Robert Burns Supper

*That Man to Man the warld o'er
Shall brithers be for a' that.*

—Robert Burns

The Ligonier Country Inn played host to the Valley's Robert Burns Supper celebrating the life and poetry of Brother

Robert Burns. Bagpipes, poetry readings, haggis, and scotch were just a few of the treats that the 46 members and guests of the Valley enjoyed at this annual event. Get your kilt ready and plan to attend next year's event to be held in January 2019.

RiteLightning!

The forecast of ice and snow did not stop the lightning strike. RiteLightning, that is. On January 12th, freezing rain, sleet, and snow were predicted, but the very first RiteLightning event went off as planned. Six intrepid and adventurous members of the Valley met at Jerome Bettis' Grille 36 on Pittsburgh's North Shore for fellowship, food, and fun.

Be sure to subscribe to the Valley email blasts and watch the Facebook page for the next RiteLightning event. All Scottish Rite Masons who attend will receive a free t-shirt to wear at the event.



Inaugural RiteLightning celebrated at Jerome Bettis' Grille 36

J U D A H C 

COMING SOON | Saturday, April 21, 2018

33 & Beyond Premieres at The Waterfront

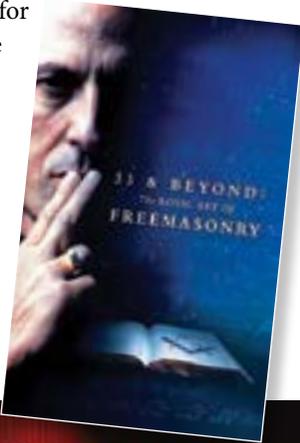
On January 24th, *33 & Beyond: The Royal Art of Freemasonry*, premiered at the AMC Waterfront Theater in Homestead with approximately 120 in attendance. The film was made by Brother Johnny Royal. Royal is a member of Santa Monica Palisades Lodge No. 307 working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of California, but the film has Pittsburgh roots.

Royal, born John Michael Herrera, was born in Zaragoza, Spain and is a graduate of Belle Vernon High School.

33 & Beyond takes an in-depth look at the history, symbolism, and esoteric aspects of Freemasonry and can be

enjoyed by Masons and non-Masons alike. Although it focuses on the teachings and degrees of the Southern Jurisdiction, Scottish Rite Masons from the Northern Jurisdiction will certainly enjoy the movie as well.

Available for purchase online.



Johnny Royal and his mom



Pittsburgh's audience enjoying the show



Solomon Ascending

After running DavidCorp and its subsidiaries, Israel, Inc., and Judahco for almost forty years, David realizes it's time to think about retirement. His greedy and arrogant son, Adonijah, sees this as an opportunity for a hostile takeover. David isn't about to let that happen.

How will it play out? Be sure to come to the Spring Class on Friday, April 20th, and Saturday, April 21st to see *Solomon Ascending*, a modern take on the Eighth Degree. For the full list of Degrees and times, see page 29.

New DDGMs

On February 3rd, Larry D. Horath, Past Sovereign Prince, Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem and Joshua S. Freeman, Senior Warden, Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix, were presented as District Deputy Grand Masters of the 31st and 30th Masonic Districts, respectively.

Best of luck to these Valley of Pittsburgh officers as they assume their leadership roles within the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.



Larry D. Horath, DDGM 31 with S. Eugene Herritt, RWGM



Joshua S. Freeman, DDGM 30 receives his commission from S. Eugene Herritt, RWGM



Brother Freeman and the Grand Master at the altar of Freemasonry

TheLatest

Important happenings coming soon to the Valley of Pittsburgh

MAR
16

Tickets are required!

Please contact the Valley Office:
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org
412-939-3579

RiteHouse Evenings presents: **Scott, Rob, and Greg of The Clarks**

Join us for our first ever RiteHouse Evening! The night will feature acoustic music from one of Pittsburgh's most iconic trios. You, your family, and friends are all invited to this open-to-the-public event. *Full details can be found on page 21.*

TIME: 6:30PM/Reception
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: \$35/person
RSVP: **Tickets are required**



APR
5

Reservations are required for Dinner only!

Please contact the Valley Office:
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org
412-939-3579

Stated Meeting/Elections

The April Stated Meeting will be our annual Election of Officers. Dinner will be available and entertainment will be provided for you and your lady. *Look for complete details in the upcoming meeting notice, arriving in your mailbox in March.*

TIME: 6:00PM/Dinner, 7:00PM/Meeting
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: \$10/Dinner
RSVP: **April 3**

MAY
5

Reservations are requested.

Please contact the Valley Office:
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org
412-939-3579

Kentucky Derby Party

Join us for this exciting event celebrating the 144th running of the Kentucky Derby, live at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center. Food, drink, and entertainment will be provided for you, your lady, family and friends. *Look for complete details in the upcoming meeting notice, arriving in your mailbox in March.*

TIME: 5:00PM
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: \$20/person
RSVP: **May 1**

MAY
24

Reservations are requested.

For more details, please contact the Valley Office:
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org
412-939-3579

Celebration of Education Awards Banquet

Join us as we celebrate education with the awarding of scholarships and recognition of outstanding members of our Valley and community. This event is open to all. *Look for complete details in the upcoming meeting notice, arriving in your mailbox in March.*

TIME: 6:00PM
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: \$25/person
RSVP: **May 21**

Fellowship Breakfast

You can't find a better breakfast with better company that supports a better cause. The breakfast is cooked and served by our local DeMolay and Rainbow and the proceeds benefit those organizations.

TIME: 9AM to 10:30AM
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: \$6/person (all you can eat)
RSVP: None required

MAR
31

To have an event listed in future issues, please contact the Valley Office at 412-939-3579, or by email at secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org

APR 20 **APR 21**

Reservations are requested.
For more details, please contact the Valley Office:
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org
412-939-3579

Spring Reunion Honoring Ill. · David A. Glattly, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander

Join us for this annual two-day event that will feature several degrees, a traditional Friday night dinner and Saturday Luncheon. *Watch for more details in upcoming issues of the meeting notice.*

TIME: 5:00PM/Friday, 8:00AM/Saturday
LOCATION: GPMC
RSVP: **April 17**

JUN 7

Reservations are required for Dinner only!
Please contact the Valley Office:
secretary@valleyofpittsburgh.org
412-939-3579

Stated Meeting/Installation

The June Stated Meeting will be our annual Installation of Officers. We will also recognize the outgoing presiding officers with the presentation of Past Officer Jewels. Dinner will be available and entertainment will be provided for you and your lady. *Look for complete details in the upcoming meeting notice, arriving in your mailbox in May.*

TIME: 6:00PM/Dinner, 7:00PM/Meeting
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: \$10/Dinner
RSVP: **June 5**

APR 28 **MAY 26** **JUN 30**

Looking Ahead

MAR 23

CigaRite
FRIDAY, MARCH 23

MAR 25

**Valley of Pittsburgh
The Story of the Crucifixion**
SUNDAY, MARCH 25

JUN 10

Super Summer Car Cruise
GPMC, 11AM-3PM, Free
SUNDAY, JUNE 10

JUN 16

**Valley of Pittsburgh
Golf Outing**
SATURDAY, JUNE 16

JUN 22

**Arizona Diamondbacks
vs. Pittsburgh Pirates**
PNC Park, 5PM, \$55
FRIDAY, JUNE 22

JUL 14

Council of Deliberation
Valley Forge Pennsylvania
SATURDAY, JULY 14

AUG 3

**Shrine & Scottish Rite
Kennywood Day**
Kennywood Park, 11AM-Close
FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

Fraternal Classified Services Directory

These listed businesses subscribe to providing high quality customer service, delivered with a sense of warmth, friendliness, individual

ACCOUNTING & TAXATION

Richard A. Reynolds, CPA 412-795-4194
www.RichReynoldsCPA.com

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Ross & Ross, Ltd. 804-516-4602
Allen W. Ross www.rnr2insure.us

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CENTRAL BLOOD BANK
A BLOOD SYSTEMS BLOOD CENTER

**Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center
Summer Blood Drive**

Saturday, August 25, 2018
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center - Ballroom
3579 Masonic Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

To schedule an appointment:

Please visit centralbloodbank.org and search for
group code C2210052 or contact Bill Bittinger at (412) 480-5948
or billbittinger@verizon.net or Cab Whitaker at (412) 605-4485

**Summer is one of the most critical times of the year for blood donations;
please help our hospital patients!**

Appointments recommended. Walk-ins welcome.

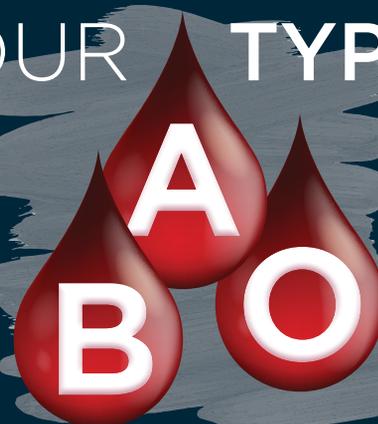
PREPARE FOR YOUR DONATION • EAT WELL • STAY HYDRATED • BRING ID

Promotion runs the date of the individual drive as listed above. When offered, all giveaways, prizes and tickets are non-transferable, nonrefundable, not redeemable for cash and while supplies last. Must be at least 18 years of age (16 - 17 years of age with signed parental consent) for actual donation, and due to gaming laws, must be at least 18 years of age to be entered into a random drawing. ITM and Central Blood Bank employees and their immediate families are not eligible to participate. Void where prohibited by law. Please bring ID with you on the day of donation. Proper ID is required to donate blood. A Central Blood Bank or military ID, driver's license, passport, or employee or student ID with picture and full name are all approved forms of ID. Birth certificate along with a picture ID that includes the donor's full name will also be accepted.

KNOW YOUR TYPE

Each time you donate blood,
you'll learn your blood pressure,
cholesterol and iron level.

You'll also receive a
personalized donor card in the
mail with your blood type!



COMING SOON | Saturday, April 21, 2018

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