

SEPTEMBER 2018

rite now

THE MAGAZINE OF THE VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH



2018-2019 OFFICERS

Three Rivers
One Rite

valleyofpittsburgh.org

In Memoriam

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

Ill. · William R. Benzel, 33°

Ill. · Charles C. Keller, 33°

Ill. · Harold L. Knappenberger, 33°

Samuel J. Astorino Jr.
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John C. Burne
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riteNOW

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September 2018

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on the cover

This issue of **RiteNow** will be distributed to all of the attendees at **The Steel City Invitational**. As the Valley will be welcoming many guests from outside of the Pittsburgh area, it seemed appropriate to show off and showcase the area that many of us call home. Pittsburgh's rich cultural background and diverse population give us much to be proud of. I hope that you enjoy this issue that celebrates our **Three Rivers** and our **One Rite**.



Meet the new Valley Officers

Gourgas Lodge of Perfection



Brian T. Wilding, 32°
Thrice Potent Master



Jeffrey R. Jones, 32°
Deputy Master



David L. Moore, 32°
Senior Warden



Eric S. Teasdale, 32°
Junior Warden

Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem



Joseph G. Whitaker, 32°
Sovereign Prince



Robert M. Polander, 32°
High Priest



Mitchell D. Goldstein, 32°
Senior Warden



Richard F. Kucera, 32°
Junior Warden

Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix



Joshua S. Freeman, 32°
Most Wise Master



Charles J. Anthony, 32°
Senior Warden



Matthew A. Boice, 32°
Junior Warden



Anthony J. Corcoran, 32°
Orator

Pennsylvania Consistory



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Commander-in-Chief



William G. Johnston, 32°
1st Lieutenant Commander



Rodney E. Boyce, 33°
2nd Lieutenant Commander



Robert B. McGinnis, 32°
Master of Ceremonies



Paul J. Roup, 33°
Treasurer



David W. Morgans, 33°
Secretary



Vito A. Urso, 33°
Hospitaler



Dennis R. Johnston, 33°
Tiler



VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH OFFICERS

August 1, 2018 - July 31, 2019

Gourgas Lodge of Perfection 14°

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

Pennsylvania Council, Princes of Jerusalem

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

Pittsburgh Chapter of Rose Croix 18°

Joshua S. Freeman, 32° Most Wise Master
 Charles J. Anthony, 32° Senior Warden
 Matthew A. Boice, 32° Junior Warden
 Anthony J. Corcoran, 32° Orator
 Kristin M. Douglas, 32° Master of Ceremonies
 Jordan L. Frei, 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
 William L. Holman, 32° Orator
 Charles F. Zurcher, 32° Chancellor
 Robert B. McGinnis, 32° Master of Ceremonies
 Aaron J. Antimary, 32° Engineer & Seneschal
 David C. Runco, 32° Standard Bearer
 William B. Bittinger, 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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 William G. Johnston, 32° Rodney E. Boyce, 33°
 Brian T. Wilding, 32° Jeffrey R. Jones, 32°
 Joseph G. Whitaker, 32° Robert M. Polander, 32°
 Joshua S. Freeman, 32° Charles J. Anthony, 32°
 Paul J. Roup, 33° David W. Morgans, 33°
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 Joshua S. Freeman, 32° Paul J. Roup, 33°
 David W. Morgans, 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. Glattly, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill.: Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, Deputy for Pennsylvania. Other Active members for Pennsylvania are: Ill.: Robert J. Bateman, 33°, Ill.: Thomas R. Labagh, 33°, Ill.: George Nakonetschny, 33°, Ill.: Keith E. Parkinson, 33°, and Ill.: Paul J. Roup, 33°.



Peter A. Leary, 32°, MSA
Orator



Christopher A. McNeal, 32°
Master of Ceremonies



David C. Allison, 32°
Guard



Robert H. Nelson, 32°
Master of Ceremonies



B. Scott Allen, 32°
Master of Entrances



Kristin M. Douglas, 32°
Master of Ceremonies



Jordan L. Frei, 32°
Guard



Aaron J. Antimary, 32°
Engineer & Seneschal



Charles F. Zurcher, 32°
Chancellor



William B. Bittinger, 32°
Guard

photos unavailable:

William L. Holman, 32°
Orator

David C. Runco, 32°
Standard Bearer

The Chief

A message from the Commander-in-Chief of the Valley of Pittsburgh



CONSISTORY

A Time of Renaissance

By Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°

FOR DECADES, PITTSBURGH'S steel industry and "blue collar" work ethic powered America. Unquestionably, our "three rivers" were an integral part of the successes of the Industrial Age. A never-ending flotilla of barges transported coal into the steel plants. Benzene, tar, and other byproducts of steel manufacturing were sold and shipped downriver. And of course millions of tons of steel were transported to ports all along the rivers to New Orleans and beyond. For a time, Pittsburgh powered the nation. In the 1980s, as steel companies left town, so did the young people, and a severe economic downturn ensued.

Fast forward to the present. Pittsburgh has become a leading location for technology. While U.S. Steel is still headquartered here and operates the

Clairton, Edgar Thompson, and Irvin Works, companies like Google and other high-tech firms are also making their homes here. Young people are moving into the city. Pittsburgh is known worldwide for its medical research universities. We are blessed by having a multitude of other highly regarded universities specializing in curriculum that will play an important role in leading America well into the future. The three rivers, no longer polluted with caustic chemicals, have become a popular destination for boaters and sportsmen alike. Whether or not Amazon chooses Pittsburgh for its home, this city's future is moving in a positive direction.

Our Scottish Rite Valley is a microcosm of similar circumstances. Our membership

T H R E E R I V E R S , O N E R I T E

Honor. Integrity. Truth. Character.

32° Scottish Rite Freemasonry is a fraternity of Brothers committed to going deeper into the highest principles, teachings, and ideals of the Masonic craft. It is open to all Master Masons looking to continue the journey of self-discovery and finding a deeper sense of purpose.

As Freemasons, we believe in something greater than ourselves, and strive to be good men who want to be better.

**Become the best version of you. Answer the call.
32° Freemasonry.**



has been dwindling for forty-plus years and we are working enthusiastically to turn the tide—to rise above the status quo. Our membership committee has created new and exciting events that have been well-received. A team of writers has written modern versions of two of our Degrees. The Eighth Degree, originally set in King David's Court with characters dressed in robes and sandals is now set in a modern boardroom and the dress is coat and tie. The 32nd has morphed from ancient times and dress to a police station and riot gear. In both modern degrees, the valuable lessons are still taught. In this writer's opinion, they are more easily understood.

Ghost Light Productions, still in its infancy, has attained local recognition in winning several short film awards

for *The Last Ride of Dick Dice* and *A Taste for Murder*. Their third short film, *Hero in the Wings*, was just completed. The group has produced plays including *Twelve Angry Men*, *Adult Content*, *A Christmas Carol (A Radio Play)*, and *The Case of the Prince Formerly Known as Hamlet*. That is impressive work for a troupe that is just starting its fourth year.

Moving forward, our governing body, The Supreme Council - Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, has made available educational and marketing materials not only to the Valleys but also to the Grand Lodges around the world. An advertising campaign "Not Just a Man, a Mason" explains the purpose of our organization and portrays the idea of fraternity. "The Path Forward"

is the long-term plan to educate Masons and non-Masons alike on the benefits of membership in the Masonic fraternity. With these tools, and the talents of our members, we hope to turn the tide. There are men seeking friendship and fraternity. They are longing for a purpose bigger than themselves. They want to belong, contribute, and improve themselves. You can access the latest video at scottishritenmj.org. Take a look. It will make you proud and remind you of our Masonic teachings. If you are aware of a worthy candidate, contact the office and we'll do the rest.

As Commander-in-Chief, I am delighted to see such a diverse group of men working together and "thinking out of the box" to improve the Scottish Rite experience. I am excited for the possibility of getting the Scottish Rite back on solid ground. Remember these words extracted from the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction website (see inset text).

"Foot to Foot"



Jeffrey M. Wonderling, 33°

jwonderling@valleyofpittsburgh.org



CHARITY

Charity Golf Outing for the Children's Dyslexia Center-Pittsburgh

On June 16th, the Valley held its annual Golf Outing. This year's event was focused more on fellowship than fundraising. The forty golfers enjoyed great weather and fabulous course conditions at Butler's Golf Course in Elizabeth, PA. Next year's goal is to double the number of golfers, so mark your calendars now for June 15, 2019 and start your Father's Day weekend off with 18 holes with your family, friends, and brothers.

Many thanks to the sponsors who helped to make this event possible:

**Franklin St. John
Trinity Lodge**

**Duquesne
McKeesport Lodge**

Lodge 45

Anytime Aviation

Eric Teasdale

□



The Deputy

A message from the Supreme Council Deputy for Pennsylvania

SUPREME COUNCIL

Pittsburgh Pride

By Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°

NO, NOT THE STEELERS, PENGUINS, or the Pirates for this article. I refer to the pride we all have in the Scottish Rite Valley of Pittsburgh. I refer to the pride we all have in the fraternity of Freemasonry. I refer to the pride we all have for each of our Masonic Brothers.

We should be proud of our Valley of Pittsburgh because this Valley is likely one of the most progressive, most modern, and most innovative Valleys in the Northern Jurisdiction. We are a Valley that is willing to try something new, something that has never been done before, and something that creates excitement for potential candidates as well as the long-time members.

The current officers have proven to be risk-takers—doing things we have never done before. They have the courage to make changes that are contrary to the standards of the past. The officers are fearless and not afraid to take risks on events, programs, and entertainment to bring a variety of new experiences to the members.

All of the above-mentioned—a

willingness to step out of the box; a willingness to work as a team; and a desire to pave a new Masonic highway—are indicative of great leadership.

From my front row seat, I watch every move and appreciate the

courage necessary to make changes. So, remember this, my fellow Freemasons, if we do what we have always done, we will get what we have always gotten. None of us want the status quo!

Soren Kierkegaard, an 18th century philosopher, stated, “Life can only be understood by looking backwards, but must be lived

looking forward.” Such it is with our wonderful Freemasonry. We need to appreciate where we have been, but most importantly, we must visualize and understand where we need to go in order to perpetuate the future of our beloved Fraternity.

Take the time to look closely at YOUR Valley, and I feel certain that you will feel the Pittsburgh Pride that I have: **PRIDE FOR THE SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH!** □

“Life can only be understood by looking backwards, but must be lived looking forward.”



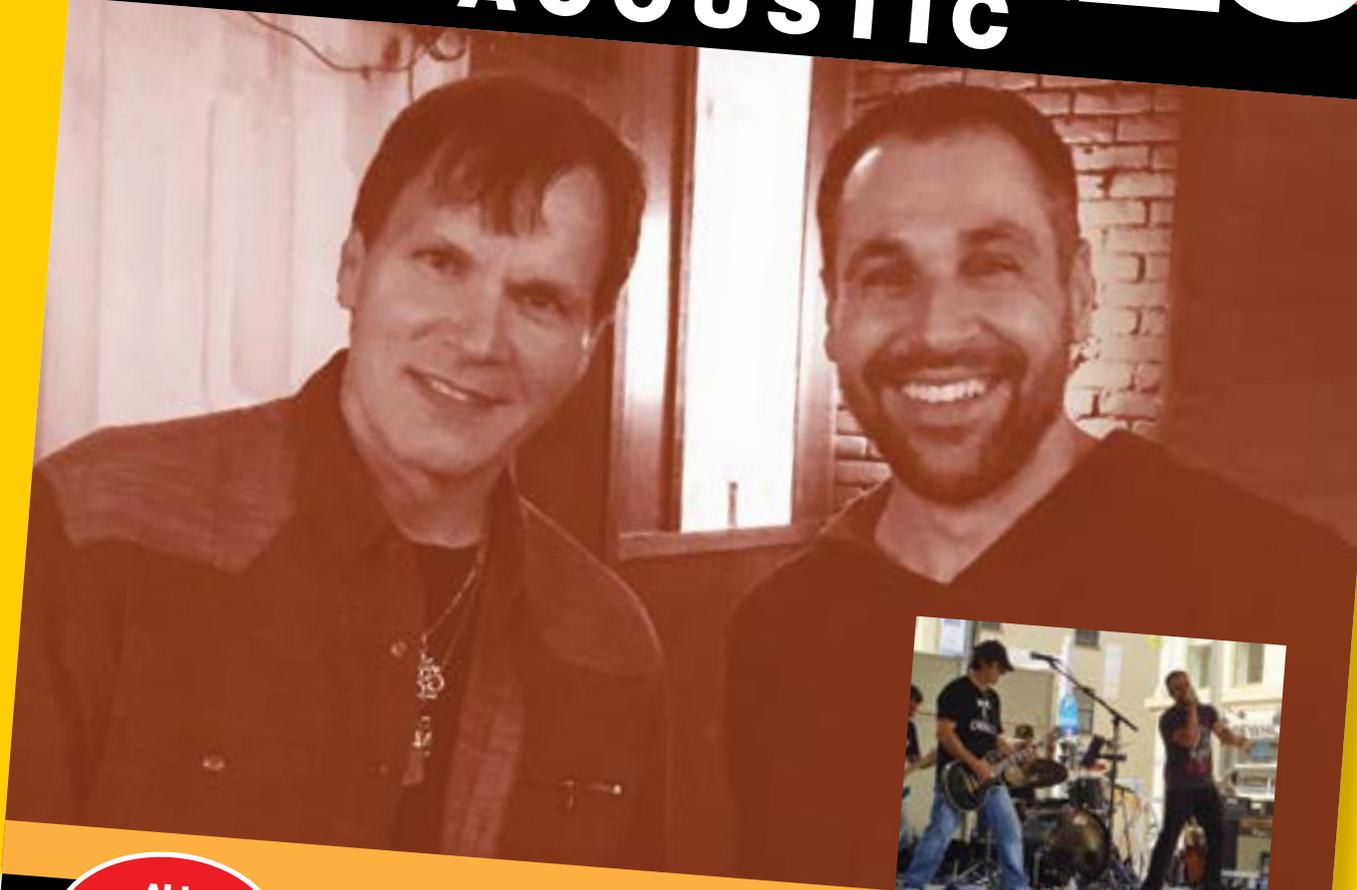
Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°

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\$20 Per Person
Advanced Tickets Required



Scan for tickets

CHARITY

Summer Cruise for the Children's Dyslexia Center-Pittsburgh

Sunday, July 29

The Valley of Pittsburgh Vintage/Classic Car Club held its sixth Annual Summer Cruise for Dyslexia on July 29. The weather was beautiful for the rescheduled date, and cars began to arrive 2 hours before the start time. Attendance was higher than expected with more than 200 participants and several hundred visitors. Everyone enjoyed music, food, and family fun.

The **Berkeley Hills Fire Dept** had their ladder truck on display, and the **Ross Township Police** again brought their SWAT truck and a police car. The **Ross Fire Police** volunteered their time and services once again directing traffic on Cemetery Lane.

This cruise helped the **Car Club** meet its goal of raising **\$10,000** in only 6 years for participation in the Builders Council. The Car Club once again gained new members and plans to continue to raise funds to support the **Children's Dyslexia Center**. Even if you do not have a classic car, you can join the car club and meet new friends with similar interests.

Follow the Vintage/Classic Car Club's Facebook Page for up to the minute details.



Next Event
Sunday, September 9
see complete details on page 40



The Sovereign

A message from the Sovereign Prince of the Pennsylvania Council of Princes of Jerusalem

PRINCES OF JERUSALEM

It Just Sits “Rite”

By Joseph G. Whitaker, 32°

THIS IS MY FIRST OFFERING AS the newly installed Sovereign Prince. I am forever humbled and honored to serve the Valley of Pittsburgh!

As a young man of twenty-one, I was expected to become a Mason by family members just because that’s what the men did. Something just didn’t sit right with me, so I pushed it off until after I got off active duty in the Army.

Then I went to work! I moved to a new town, got married, and started a whole new chapter of life. After a while, I met a few brothers and the conversation of me joining started up again. I already knew about the fraternity, and it seemed to be a good fit, but something still didn’t sit right with me. I started traveling for work and found myself divorced.

I traveled to a few places until one day I got a call to come to Pennsylvania for work! I met some nice people and eventually met some brothers. My interest in Freemasonry was still there, but this time it felt different. I joined in a one-day class on October 30. The first Masonic meeting I ever attended was the Scottish Rite stated meeting in November. I had not received a dues card yet nor did I know anyone at the meeting. As I explained my plight to the secretary of the Valley, a couple of gentlemen spoke up and acknowledged that they knew me and invited me to eat dinner with them.

Neither of these brothers truly knew me, but they took the time get to know me. I sat in lodge with one of them as they explained to me how a meeting was run and what I needed to do. After the meeting, he introduced me to several people including the Director of Work. He explained that I really wanted to act and that he would use me somewhere.

Truthfully, I never said that nor was I after such as that!

I have always used the phrase “Fellowship First” in all my dealings with Masons.

I was, however, cast with a small role that changed during the first practice to a major role. I have been acting on stage ever since. The point of the whole story was that it finally sat “Rite” with me. From meeting the first few brothers here in Pennsylvania to being installed as a presiding officer, the fellowship and comradery made me feel like I was in the “Rite” place.

I have always used the phrase “Fellowship First” in all my dealings with Masons. That is due to what made me feel comfortable enough to get involved. I want everyone to feel that they are in the “Rite” place. Freemasonry in general—and the Scottish Rite in particular—have so many different things to offer that everyone has a place for their own “Rite” fit.

Come out enjoy a meeting, eat dinner, watch some entertainment! Find out again what your “Rite” fit is!

□



Joseph G. Whitaker, 32°

sp@valleyofpittsburgh.org

TheWise

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

ROSE CROIX

A Fork in the River

By Joshua S. Freeman, 32°

I AM VERY HONORED AND HUMBLLED to address you for the first time as Most Wise Master. It's hard to believe that my Scottish Rite journey has led me to this point. I remember thinking when I first went on the line here in the Valley that it would take forever to move through the chairs. Now, looking back, it seems like just yesterday I started on this path. As the old saying goes, time flies when you're having fun, and it certainly has been a fun journey.

It has been fun because of the people I have met along the way—people that I most likely would never have met if I decided not to become involved in the Valley. It is the people, and the relationships you build, that really add value to what we do in life, especially in this Fraternity. Some of the best friends I have are Scottish Rite Masons, and I am thank-ful for those who pushed me to accept leadership positions here in the Valley. Those relationships and experiences have been crucial in helping me to build toward the man and Mason I would like to become.



Joshua S. Freeman, 32°
mwm@valleyofpittsburgh.org

Masonry has a way bringing people together. Since the Scottish Rite pulls Masons from across a wide geographical area and multiple Districts and communities, the Valley reaps the benefit of this channeling of outstanding Masons into our organization. In my humble opinion, once they are here, the values and lessons that Scottish Rite teaches makes those Masons even better. The continued learning and development that our organization instills builds on the Masonic foundations of the Blue Lodge to create an even stronger and more valuable man, Mason, and citizen.

Our Valley is a human reflection of our natural surroundings. The three rivers that flow into and out of Pittsburgh have for centuries brought people together for various reasons. Native peoples congregated in villages on the shores of these rivers to easily access transportation, war, and trade routes. It did not take long for the earliest Europeans who came here to note the value of the Forks of the Ohio. By the middle of the 18th century, both Britain and France had identified that strategic spot as the key to the continent and each would take steps to secure it for themselves. In the fall of 1753, a little over a year after he had joined the Fraternity, the three rivers brought a 21-year-old Mason named George Washington to Western Pennsylvania for the first time.

Delivering a message to the French would be Washington's first step onto the world stage, and his stumble the next year at Jumonville Glen and Fort Necessity would plunge Britain and France into a global war. Yet the three rivers would continue to bring George Washington back, as he was a key figure in the four-year struggle to see which side would control the Forks of the Ohio once and for all. By 1758, when Washington led the vanguard of Gen. John Forbes British

army into the smoldering ruins of Fort Duquesne, he was a different man. As the new British city of Pittsburgh rose up over the ashes of Fort Duquesne so had Washington transformed as well. Gone was the 21-year-old kid who wandered into western Pennsylvania and accidentally started a war. While still only 26, Washington had now been at war for five years, transformed by the experience of leading men under extremely difficult circumstances. He was now prepared for whatever life might bring his way. Although he could not have known the momentous historical events that lay before him, Washington in his own quiet and dignified way was prepared to face those challenges.

As we move forward in our own Masonic journeys, let us remember the example of a young Mason, who, thanks to three rivers, stumbled into western Pennsylvania an inexperienced kid, but left a man—a model of leadership, integrity, and duty. As each of these rivers pulls us toward the Valley today, may we be transformed as well. May we learn the lessons and values the Valley provides, and use those examples to build ourselves into the Masons we all have the potential to be. Washington's transformation prepared him to lead a new country through unbelievably difficult circumstances and transform itself into a new nation. Although we will certainly face daunting challenges ourselves, both as individuals and collectively as a Valley, we can overcome them and come out of it even stronger. If we remember the values and lessons our great organization instills, and move forward working together with brotherly love and affection, we can overcome anything. I thank you for the opportunity to serve the Valley, and I look forward to working with each of you as we move forward! □



Three Rivers Run Through It

By PJ Roup, 33°



William Pitt, 1st Earl of Chatham

LONG before there was a Valley of Pittsburgh, before the dawn of the industrial age, and even before the native Americans settled here, there were rivers. Before recorded history, the slow-moving waters of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio Rivers slowly and patiently wore the bedrock of what we now know as Pittsburgh into the valleys we are so familiar with today.

The Allegheny River begins in Pennsylvania and meanders north into New York before heading south again. The Monongahela begins in West Virginia and flows north. They join here in Pittsburgh to form the Ohio River which winds its way 981 miles until it joins the Mississippi in Cairo, Illinois.

Rivers water us. Rivers feed us. Rivers carry us. Not only do their waters provide irrigation for crops, but they serve as the primary means of transporting those crops to other parts of our new country. In the



PJ Roup, 33°

steamboat age, the rivers easily carried people not only downstream, but upstream. At the mouth of the Ohio, Cairo served as an important point on the Underground Railroad because runaway slaves could book passage on steamboats heading north into the free states.

Rivers unite us.

The Lodges that dot the landscape on and around our three rivers are as different and unique as the men who belong to them. Over the years we have had police Lodges, blue collar Lodges, white collar Lodges. We have even had Lodges that were comprised primarily of men from one specific company. There are now affinity Lodges and Traditional Observance Lodges. For all the differences in these Lodges, their members come together as an extended family in the Scottish Rite.

Most of us love the comforts of home, but we can also appreciate the challenge of a new journey—of widening our world, and growing along the way. That’s the Scottish Rite. You can step out of the familiarity of your home Lodge and meet others with similar mindsets, yet vastly different viewpoints, experiences, and backgrounds. In the process, you’re changed for the better. To paraphrase Langston Hughes, your soul can grow deep like the rivers.

It is fitting, then, that our Valley, and the mighty, unifying rivers that flow through it will host the Steel City Invitational in November. Inspired by the Valley of Cincinnati’s Queen City Invitational held last year, the Steel City Invitational will bring together many Valleys to showcase their best degree work. Not only will you

be able to see Northern Jurisdiction Degrees, but also Southern Jurisdiction and Prince Hall Scottish Rite Degrees as well. (see page 21)

“No man ever steps into the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man.”

—Heraclitus

Heraclitus said, “No man ever steps into the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man.” In November, you will have a chance to step into a new river. Plan to be here for the Steel City Invitational. Better yet, bring a Mason from your home Lodge and introduce him to the Scottish Rite. You’ll both be better for it. □



ThePotent

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

LODGE OF PERFECTION

Your Freemasonry

By Brian T. Wilding, 32°

IT'S A BIG HONOR TO WRITE FOR A publication that reaches so many Masons. Oddly enough, the theme of my first issue as a writer is Masonry in Pittsburgh. There are so many of us who routinely use the phrase "preaching to the choir" when we talk about Freemasonry. So, what am I going to tell you about Masonry that you don't already know?

Well, with as long as we've been around, there are always new experiences that we can find. Currently, we are planning the Steel City Invitational. The Invitational will be a showcase of ritual and stagecraft featuring several valleys from around our area. "Well, which ones?" Sorry, but I'm going to keep that a secret (well, until you get the info for the next Reunion). I think a little anticipation is useful for making people interested.

As for other events in the area, I wouldn't even begin to detail all of them. Breakfasts, car cruises, dinners, parties, degrees, stated meeting, ball games, sporting events. You get the idea, something to do all the time. But the event itself is only part of your experience in Masonry. The unique feature of any event is the people you meet. How many? Well, that depends on the number of events you attend. Does quantity beat quality interactions? Again, that's up to you. But how do you meet people unless you actually meet them?

Many of us use our memberships to further our Masonic adventure, some to further our growth and education. I have met so many well-educated brothers, in both Masonic and wide-ranging general knowledge, that I am constantly amazed. Many of these brothers I would have never met had

I not made it a point to attend some Masonic function. And through those functions, I've made good friends, learned many things from them and given information in return.

From such events, we can learn ritual, medicine, technology, stagecraft, music, humor, morals, faith—many, many things. Each brother offers so many possibilities to expand our lives that it's not fair to single out any one person or event. Freemasonry is an aggregate of ideas,

concepts, opinions and beliefs. Through this we see that there is as much, if not more, to learn than we already know.

Your path through Freemasonry is yours. You will find your notable events, unique experiences and meet those people who will stand out in your lives. Your story may well become a guide to some new Mason. Your experiences may shape the path of Freemasonry yet to come. You may find you've had an influence on just one person, and that is the real experience of Masonry.

Many of these brothers I would have never met had I not made it a point to attend some Masonic function.



Brian T. Wilding, 32°
tpm@valleyofpittsburgh.org

The Office

A message from the Secretary of the Valley of Pittsburgh

VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

Da Dues

By David W. Morgans, 33°

WHILE WATCHING THE MOVIE *Stripes* the other day I got the tune “Da Doo Ron Ron” stuck in my head. The opening lines are:

*“I met her on a Monday
and my heart stood still*

*Da doo ron ron ron,
da doo ron ron*

*Somebody told me that
her name was Jill*

*Da doo ron ron ron,
da doo ron ron.”*

It got me thinking about *da dues* that we pay each year. The office staff and I want to thank all the Brethren who have already turned in *da dues* for the 2018-19 Scottish Rite year and for the generous donations to the Children’s Dyslexia Center. Your paid *da dues* enable the Valley of Pittsburgh to *da doo* all the wonderful things that it *da does*. Thank you also to those Brethren who have called or written to us about their financial hardships. The Valley always stands ready to come alongside to assist a Brother in need. We would also like to encourage all those who have not paid yet to get their *da dues* in soon.

Your timely response to *da dues* notice allows us to reduce the amount of second and third notices that we send each year. Each additional mailing of *da dues* notices costs the Valley a lot of money. You don’t need the aggravation of receiving multiple notices and the

Valley doesn’t need to spend the additional funds. Please *da doo* your part to help the Valley run smoothly and cost-effectively.

Keep your eyes open for all the wonderful events coming your way courtesy of the Officers and Clubs at the Valley of Pittsburgh. Please remember to make reservations for those events that require it so we can plan to have enough supplies to serve everyone. □

—
Please
da doo
your part
to help the
Valley
run
smoothly
and cost
effectively.
—



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

Membership

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

VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

Changing Course

By Rodney E. Boyce, 33°

If you have 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*
Shawn P. Lang, *Vice Chairman*
Aaron J. Antimary
Anthony J. (Tony) Corcoran
Benjamin J. Douglas
Kristin M. (Kris) Douglas
Joshua S. (Josh) Freeman
Jordan L. Frei
William G. (Will) Johnston
David W. Morgans
Peter A. (Pete) Leary
Paul J. (PJ) Roup

OVER THESE PAST FEW WEEKS WE have seen many things change. Our Valley has changed leadership. Our country has experienced deaths of men and women of great influence. The fall season has begun to show it's approach.

It is said that change is good. When we are younger we accept change more easily. When we grow older change is not always wanted. But, change will always be unavoidable.

I agree that change is good. I was amazed—and quite proud—at our recent Valley officer retreat, to hear how excited and full of ideas the officer core is. The fellowship and sharing of ideas was so positive.

I hope over the past year, you have attended one or two of the new events, activities, or programs the Valley has hosted.

But it is just beginning.

In September you have a great opportunity to share a morning with your brethren as we celebrate a **Military Tribute Degree Exemplification**. (See page 21.) In October, on Friday the 26th, we will host our 2nd **RiteHouse Evening with Nick and Dan of the Clintons**, playing acoustic hits of the 90's. For just \$20/person, you can enjoy an evening of fellowship, acoustic music,

beer, wine from Greendance Winery, soft drinks and great food—and receive a souvenir glass! What a great value! This event is open to everyone and will be limited to 100. (See page 11.)

In November, **CigaRite** returns (see page 43), and you will also have another great opportunity to bring a fellow Masonic Brother into the Scottish Rite and earn a year's dues

for doing so! That's right—the **Membership Incentive** from the Spring continues! (See complete details on pages 23-24.) In addition, the reunion will be the first ever **Steel City Invitational**. You'll get to witness degrees from different Valleys and Jurisdictions, along with a new interpretation of the 32nd Degree!

Then December brings the holiday season, with the **Children's Christmas Party, The Valley Holiday Luncheon, Ghost Light's, A Christmas Carol**, and a new special **Private Holiday Tour event at Hartwood Acres**. (Watch for details coming soon.)

In a way, our Valley is much like a river. We ebb and flow, we change course, we meander and we rush forward. But there can be no current, or steady flow, without you—the tributaries. Like the Allegheny and Mon join together as one Ohio. We too must join together and flow as one. □

“If you have a river, then you should share it with everyone.”

—Chen Guangbiao



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



A Military Tribute Degree Exemplification

Saturday, September 22, 2018

Join us at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center on Saturday morning, September 22, at 10:30am, as the Valley of Pittsburgh pays tribute to our veterans with a special salute featuring the two military-themed Degrees.

The 23rd Degree, or *Knight of Valor*, details the events of the sinking of the U.S. Army troopship *Dorchester* by the German submarine *U-223*. Four Army chaplains gave their lifejackets to others and stood arm in arm on the deck praying for others as the ship sank into the cold north Atlantic.

The 26th Degree, *Friend and Brother Eternal*, tells the story of Generals Winfield Hancock, U.S.A. and Lewis Armistead, C.S.A. Prior to the Civil War the two were close friends as well as Masonic Brothers, but found themselves facing each other on the battlefield at Gettysburg.

Come out early and enjoy a great breakfast served by our Masonic youth organizations. The Fellowship Breakfast begins at 9:00am and costs just \$6.00 per person.

The breakfast is open to everyone, but only 32° Scottish Rite Masons can attend the exemplifications. □



INAUGURAL EVENT

Fall '18 Reunion



Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November 17, 2018

THE FALL REUNION WILL BE KNOWN AS THE STEEL CITY Invitational, as the Valley of Pittsburgh will host it's first ever reunion where other valleys have been invited to confer and perform degrees along with the Valley of Pittsburgh.

The class honoree for this year's reunion is Illustrious George M. Calloway, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Deputy for the Orient of Pennsylvania, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master for Prince Hall Masonry in Pennsylvania.

The Degrees will conclude with a performance of *WWCD: The Modern 32nd* by the Valley of Pittsburgh. If you saw the original in 2015, you won't want to miss this updated version featuring new tempters, modern dialogue, and the full glory of the Valley's new lighting system.

Mark your calendars now! If you have been thinking of asking someone to join the Valley of Pittsburgh, this is the time. Bring a candidate or two, and don't forget to come out yourself. You'll get to see some excellent work, and fellowship with Scottish Rite Masons you might not otherwise have the opportunity to meet. □

Tentative Schedule

FRIDAY EVENING

Registration and Reception

Welcoming of Candidates, Distinguished Guests, and Visiting Valleys

Special Presentation

There will be a special "Pittsburgh Style" themed luncheon and afterglow event on Saturday. Watch for details in future bulletins and emails. *Schedule is subject to change.*

SATURDAY

13th Degree

Presented by the Valley of Uniontown

20th Degree

Presented by Prince Hall Scottish Rite

29th Degree

Presented by the Valley of Cincinnati

TBA Degree

Presented by the AASR, Southern Jurisdiction

32nd Degree

Presented by the Valley of Pittsburgh

Membership Incentive



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

September 1, 2018

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 November 16-17, 2018, for just \$125.* This includes your initiation fee, and all membership dues through July 31, 2020! **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 November 16-17, 2018, Fall Class, you will receive one year's dues free!* If you first line sign a petition, you will receive a voucher, good for one year's free dues! **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 could be paid through July 31, 2029!**

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

The 2018 Steel City Invitational Class will be held Friday evening, November 16, and Saturday, November 17, culminating with the conferral of the 32°. In addition, you will witness degrees performed by not only by the Valley of Pittsburgh, but also by other Valleys and Jurisdictions! 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

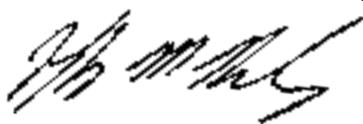
On Saturday, October 6, 2018, we will be hosting a Walk-A-Thon benefitting the Children’s Dyslexia Center. This annual family event is open to everyone. Advance registration (by 9/15/18) is \$15/adults, \$10/child 6-12yrs old, and children under 5 are free. After deadline and at the door, registration is \$25 per person.

On Friday, October 26, 2018, we will be hosting our second ever RiteHouse Evening featuring Nick & Dan of The Clintones, for a live acoustic show featuring the hits of the 90’s and more! 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 \$20 per person. The acoustic show will begin at 7:00pm. This event is open to all.

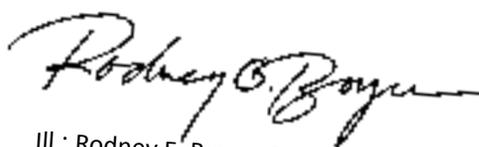
If you are already a member, we hope you will come out and join us for this momentous occasion. If you are not yet a member, we encourage you to consider taking the next step on your Masonic journey. We personally invite each of you to attend any or all of our open events. Have a look for yourself—we 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)

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



Navy (G)



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

Posture and The Proper Turn in the Backswing

By Eric S. Teasdale, 32°

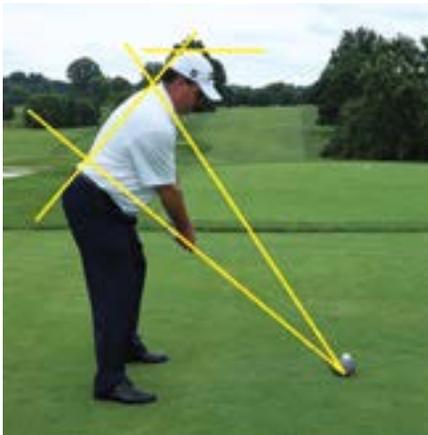
IN THIS ISSUE, I will touch on a very important topic in the golf swing that is often neglected: the backswing. The topic of maintaining your posture and turning properly on the backswing sets the stage for a successfully completed swing, but it is often overlooked as unimportant.

As I explained in the winter fitness article, establishing an athletic posture before you start to swing is the single most

important fundamental in the golf swing. All golfers need to have a solid foundation before their swing even begins. Utilizing a dynamically-balanced athletic posture is vital in almost all sports, but many amateurs still begin their swings from a weak and unbalanced starting position. As a brief review, please refer to the following description regarding athletic posture.



Athletic Posture



Down the Line

Ideally, your spine should be relatively straight, with the shaft of club is at a 90° angle to your spine. Work to achieve a neutral arm hang (arms hanging straight down) and weight on the balls of your feet.



Face On

Balanced right-handed golfers establish a firm left side with their right shoulder lower than the left. This creates a reverse K position. This position helps to ensure that your head is behind the ball at address, which will make it more likely to be behind the ball at impact during “the moment of truth”.



ONCE YOU HAVE achieved a dynamically-balanced starting position, the key to a proper turn is maintaining your athletic posture while you turn. The most efficient way to turn is to maintain the flex in the right knee, and turn your left shoulder under the chin while maintaining your spine angle. The shoulders turn in unison with the hands and arms and work as one unit. The shoulders should turn approximately 90°, until your back is facing



A Proper Turn

Maintain the flex in the right knee on your backswing and turn your left shoulder under the chin. You may feel tightness in your left thigh and your right foot might feel like it wants to twist. If you feel this, you are turning properly. Notice how the head stays level and the spine angle has not changed.

To work on your posture, all you will need is a mirror or a hand held device with a camera. For best results, I recommend the V1 Golf App for an iPhone or iPad.

the target. Your hips should turn approximately 45° and the weight moves slightly onto the right foot. The most important part of the turn is maintaining your spine angle. This will keep your head level and your left arm on the ideal plane line.



Eric S. Teasdale, 32°

Proper Turn on the Backswing

ONE OF THE MOST common mistakes made by amateur golfers is that they tend to pick the club up on the backswing as opposed to swinging the club back. Lifting the club on the backswing is an inefficient way to start your swing. If you are losing distance on your shots, hitting some of your clubs the same distance, or tiring later in the round, this might be your problem. When a golfer lifts the club instead of turning properly, the shoulders

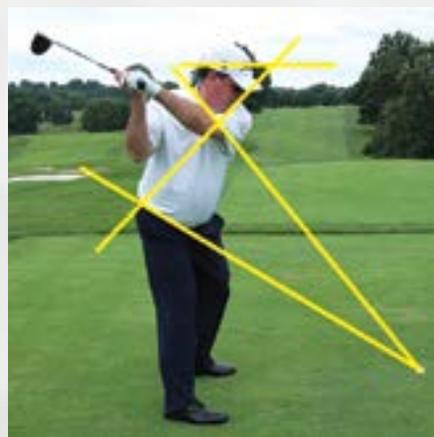


Lifting the Club/ Not Turning

The shoulders and hips do not turn enough, the head moves downward, spine angle moves down and you will be using the muscles in your arms and hands to lift the club as opposed to your body to swing the club. Notice how high the hands are—way above the upper plane line.

and hips do not move like they should, and the head goes down, which causes loss of spine angle and puts the hands in a very steep position.

ANOTHER GENERALLY inefficient turn which is not as common, but does happen on occasion is when a player over-turns. This is when the golfer turns the club too far around the body. This will cause the student to stand more upright and lose the posture related angles as shown in the yellow lines below. The hands will be very low at the top of the swing or in a “flat” plane position. The right knee has no flex and the player will be very upright. To hit



Over-turning

The shoulders and hips have over-rotated on the backswing. This will result in a more “flat” swing plane. Notice how low the hands are, how the head has raised and the athletic posture is lost. It is very hard to swing the club from this position.

the ball squarely, the player must return to the same position at address, which is no easy feat. If you tend to lose sight of the golf ball on your backswing, hit a lot of “pop-ups”, or take deep divots, this might be the cause of the problem—over-turning.

Summary

To summarize, proper dynamical-ly-balanced posture is essential to swinging the club and turning the body back properly. One key to improvement in golf is eliminating moving parts. If you can maintain proper athletic posture throughout your swing, you will start to turn better, hit the ball more solidly, and shoot better scores. If you have any further questions regarding swinging the club properly, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Shannopin Golf Shop. □

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

“The most important shot in golf is the next one.” —Ben Hogan

Proclaim Union

By Austin R. Shifrin, 32'

If you look at the history of many blue lodges throughout Pennsylvania— and other Masonic bodies such as Chapters and Councils, that operate at the level of an individual city or town—you are likely to see certain common trends. Depending on how long they've been around, they may have experienced some lean times during the early 19th century as a result of anti-Masonic sentiment and activity in the US; they probably saw a significant uptick in their membership numbers after World War I; they've probably experienced either a gradual or precipitous decline in numbers since maybe the 1970s. A really common result of these declining numbers is merger. On paper, it only makes sense. If two lodges have almost but not quite enough resources to get by—not quite enough members, or dues income, or available and committed officers—then the merger is a reasonable way to address all of these at once.

Among the reasons this can be so hard to execute, however, is one or more of the bodies involved is going to feel like their identity is being subsumed in the process. Each of these lodges has its own history. The most experienced members have fond reminiscences of their triumphs and tragedies together. In fact, I think this may tie back to a pet topic of mine; that for all of us mortal beings, the most precious asset we have is our time. When my lodge merges with another, it is like a negation of both the time and emotional investments I have made in the distinct identity of this lodge.

We can see the friction this can produce in other quarters. Have you lived through the merger of two families—when two adults marry, with children from previous marriages? It can certainly be a success, but there has to be a great deal of patience and a great deal of communication. All of the members of this new family need to grow into their relationships with each other. People who may have been accustomed to playing a particular role all their lives may need to acclimate to a new role that is either subtly or entirely different.

Have you lived through the merger of two companies? Friends of mine who work in other corporations tell me

they have watched people struggle with the sea-change of learning to do things the way they are done at another company—with “their” legacy technology, or “their” workflow processes, instead of the tools and methods that people were long-accustomed to. Years later, you could see the organization functioning effectively, but it would be abusing a metaphor to call it seamlessly because everyone can still recognize exactly where the seams are.

Have you lived through the merger of two religious congregations? This one may be the most like the merger of two lodges. How did they resolve who their spiritual leader would be, and how much static did that cause among the membership? How long did it take for people to adjust to whatever the new name of the blended entity became? How long did people continue to sit with their own accustomed cliques? Or, before any of these considerations—how many people simply left?

I can tell you what all of these scenarios have in common, what all of them require in order to weather the storm, so to speak: All of them require an agreement, on the part of all parties involved, that the greater good should take priority over their egos. A commitment to advancing the cause of the blended entity goes hand in



Austin R. Shifrin, 32°

Honestly, I tend to think of myself as a Pennsylvania Mason first, and a member of my Blue Lodges second.

hand with a willingness to displace yourself as the center of your universe.

If we look at our fraternity as analogous to a union, when does the union strike? The union strikes when some of its members are being treated unjustly. It might not be impacting me directly, right now—I might be being asked to act, while I am contented with my work situation elsewhere. But I am supposed to treat his interests as commensurate with my own, and I have to be ready to speak with a united voice with the rest of my brethren. Should we not strive to be the union of the workmen upon the temple?

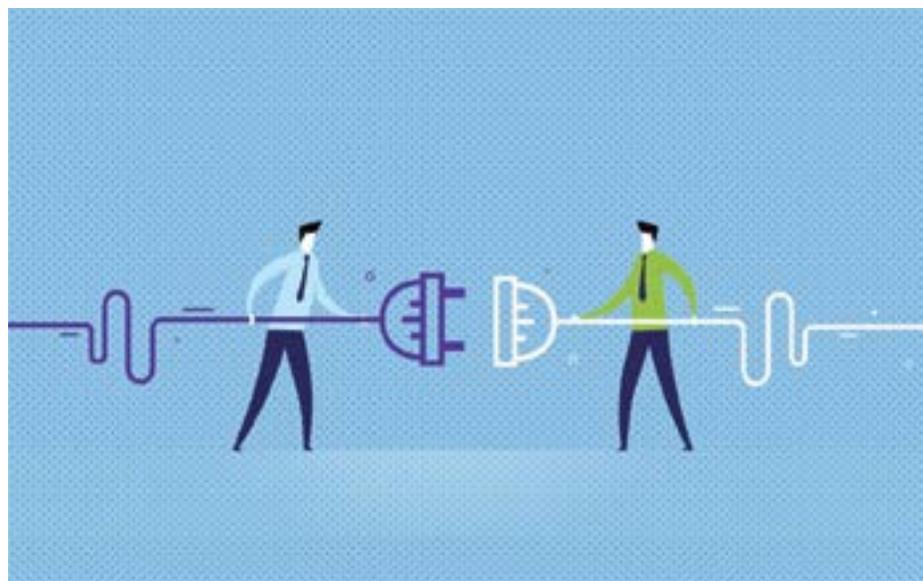
Honestly, I tend to think of myself as a Pennsylvania Mason first, and a member of my Blue Lodges (Tyrian Lodge No. 644 and Lodge Ad Lucem No. 812) second. Maybe I could even chastise myself for this definition not being expansive enough, as I know that, a) I am in fact a member of a global fraternity, and should consider myself a brother to all regular Freemasons, and b) I also know from our own ritual that truly all humankind is entitled to whatever benevolence I have to offer. But whether my starting position is broad enough or not, I know that adding “and this lodge in particular” to the list, does not translate to “and this lodge before all else.”

Back when I was Sovereign Prince in 2014, I wrote an article that focused on the legendary harmony and unanimity among the brethren. One thing I touched on is the threefold danger of hurtful speech: The harm done to the person spoken about, which is most apparent; the harm done to the person speaking, be-

cause of the error of their ways, and the stain on their conscience; and the more subtle harm to the people hearing it. So, applied to this situation: When we are fractious and resistant to the notion of merger, what does it say to new members who may have heard us speak just moments earlier about the ties of brotherhood and the importance of unanimity? Could we look any more hypocritical?

What I would like to urge, is that if your lodge or any such body is headed to merger, not to view it as a crisis; to view it as an opportunity to proclaim union as one of the tenets of Freemasonry. View it as an opportunity, instead of each of the components being lessened by the new arrangement, to create a new entity that is even more than the sum of its parts. Show everyone the truth of our words around the altar about the brotherhood we should aspire to be. Show the “other” lodge; show the members of “your own” lodge; and show yourself.

□



PART ONE

Skin Cancer

By Dr. Glenn D. Miller, II, 33°

THIS MONTH, WE WILL BEGIN DISCUSSION ABOUT the three most common types of skin cancer: basal cell carcinoma, cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, and malignant melanoma. In this issue, we will concentrate on the first two types, which can be grouped into the term nonmelanoma skin cancer, and delve more deeply into malignant melanoma, which is the most aggressive and deadly form of skin cancer, in the next issue.

Skin cancers are the most common form of cancer, accounting for approximately 40% of all cancer cases worldwide. They arise from the different cells that comprise the layers of the skin and have the ability to spread, or metastasize, to other parts of the body. Greater than 90% of all skin cancer cases are caused by excessive exposure to ultraviolet radiation. For most people, the source of the ultraviolet radiation is the Sun, although tanning beds are becoming a significant source for an increasing percentage of the population. This ultraviolet radiation exposure increases the risk of all three of the aforementioned skin cancer types. Ultraviolet radiation exposure during childhood has been shown to be more contributory to the development of basal cell carcinoma and malignant melanoma, whereas total lifetime exposure (irrespective of timing) is more critical to the development of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. Additional risk factors for the development of skin cancer include having a pale complexion/light skin, having an impaired immune system from diseases such as HIV/AIDS or the use of immunosuppressive medications, tobacco usage, excessive alcohol consumption which can increase the risk of developing sunburns, and environmental exposure to excessive ionizing radiation



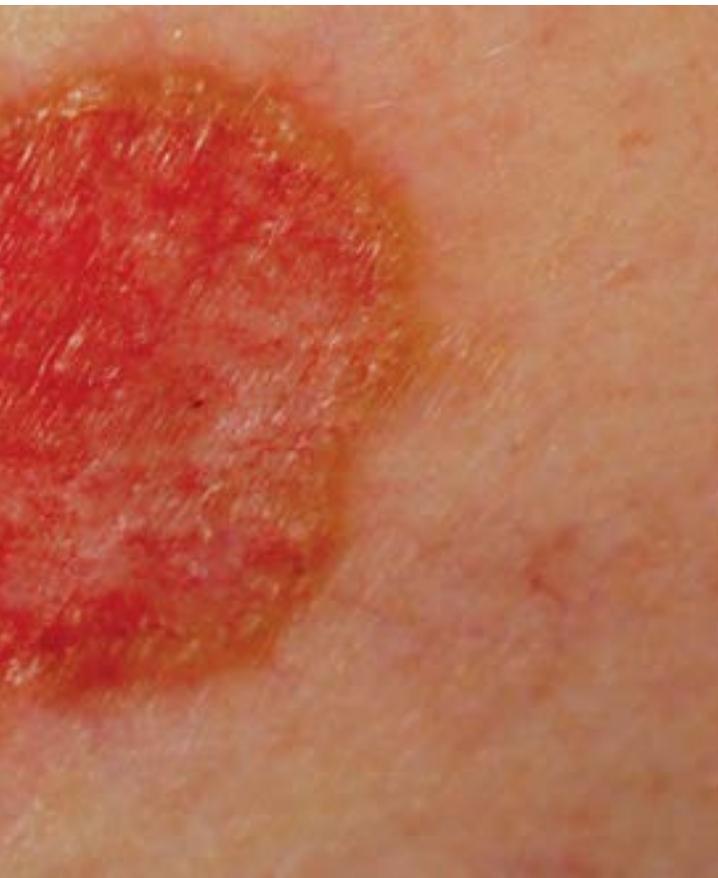
such as X-rays from diagnostic studies and radiation therapy or frequent airline travel. Skin biopsy is the preferred method for the diagnosis of all three major kinds of skin cancer.

There are approximately two to three million new cases of nonmelanoma skin cancer, the most common type of skin cancer, diagnosed each year worldwide. These nonmelanoma skin cancer numbers can be further delineated into roughly 80% basal cell carcinomas and 20% cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas. In comparison, malignant melanomas will account for approximately 132,000 new cases yearly worldwide with 3.1 million active cases as of 2015. Additionally, as of 2010, skin cancers accounted for about 80,000 deaths annually worldwide. Of these 80,000 deaths, 49,000 were attributed to malignant melanoma, and 31,000 were attributed to nonmelanoma skin cancers.

Basal cell skin cancer, or basal cell carcinoma, is the most common form of skin cancer with approximately



Dr. Glenn D. Miller, 33°



Basal Cell Carcinoma

blood vessels called telangiectasia can sometimes be seen within the tumor. Central tumor crusting and bleeding can also frequently occur leading to the misdiagnosis of a sore that will not heal. In some cases, superficial basal cell carcinoma can have the red patch appearance of eczema. Basal cell carcinomas grow locally with invasion and destruction of local tissues but rarely metastasize to other parts of the

Basal cell carcinoma usually presents as a painless, raised, smooth, shiny/pearly skin nodule on the sun-exposed skin of the head, neck, or shoulders.

800,000 new cases yearly in the United States. It affects the deepest layer of the epidermis (outermost layer of skin). Major risk factors include those previously mentioned as well as age greater than 50 years, having a family history of basal cell carcinoma, living near the equator or at a high altitude, and long-term exposure to arsenic. As many as 30% of Caucasians develop basal cell carcinoma at some point in their lifetime. Approximately 80% of basal cell carcinoma cases affect the skin of the head and neck. However, an increased incidence involving the trunk region has been noted in recent years. The mortality rate for basal cell carcinoma is only approximately 0.3% but does result in roughly 2,000 deaths annually in the United States. In contrast, malignant melanoma has a mortality rate of 15-20% and results in about 6,500 deaths annually in the United States.

Basal cell carcinoma usually presents as a painless, raised, smooth, shiny/pearly skin nodule on the sun-exposed skin of the head, neck, or shoulders. Small

body. When it does metastasize, it usually affects the bones, lungs, and lymph nodes. The treatment of choice for most basal cell carcinomas is surgical excision or removal. Cure rates with surgical excision can be as high as 95% or greater, as long as adequate “surgical margins” (amount of surrounding skin removed that is tumor-free) are obtained. However, the recurrence rate for basal cell carcinomas of the face is typically as high as 38% because of surgeons’ reluctance to excise the recommended 4-6 mm surgical margins due to cosmetic concerns. Adjuvant and alternative therapies include cryosurgery, curettage and cautery, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, radiation therapy, and photodynamic therapy. Photodynamic

therapy is a relatively new treatment modality where photosensitizers are applied to the target area. These molecules are activated by light and become toxic, thereby destroying the tumor cells. Some superficial basal cell carcinomas have a 70-90% cure rate with topical chemotherapy alone. In individuals with a history of extensive skin damage due to ultraviolet radiation, or a history of multiple previous basal cell carcinomas, chemotherapy with 5-Fluorouracil or imiquimod can be administered to prevent the development of future skin cancers. These individuals often undergo repeat treatments every two to three years to maintain this decreased risk. Although there is no definitive scientific proof, it is typically recommended that people use sunscreens with an SPF of at least 30 to prevent basal cell carcinomas.

Cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma is the second most common form of skin cancer. It affects the epidermis (outermost layer of skin) and usually occurs in areas of the body that are commonly exposed to the sun (face, ears, neck, upper extremities) and accounts for 90% of all head and neck cancers. The risk of developing cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma in the United States over the course of a lifetime is about 12% for males and 7% for females. As of 2015, there were about 2.2 million people worldwide with cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, with an estimated 180,000-400,000 of those in the United States. Cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma resulted in about 51,900 deaths worldwide in 2015. Major risk factors include those previously mentioned as well as having blue or green eyes, blond or red hair, chronic wounds, prior scars, previous radiation therapy, prior arsenic exposure, immune system dysfunction (especially due to leukemias and immunosuppressive medications for solid organ transplants), previous basal cell carcinoma, and previous infection with Human Papillomavirus. The single greatest risk factor is high total ultraviolet radiation exposure from the Sun over the course of a lifetime. The incidence, therefore, increases with age and peaks in the mid-60's age group.

Cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma usually presents as an asymptomatic, small, hard nodule or lump. The center is usually scaly at first but becomes necrotic and turns into an ulcer that fails to heal as it enlarges. The



Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma

tumor grows relatively slowly, often has an opalescent appearance with tiny blood vessels, and bleeds intermittently. Cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas have a high risk of local recurrence, approximately 50%, after successful treatment. Therefore, frequent follow-up examinations with a dermatologist are recommended. The long-term survival rate for non-metastatic cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma is approximately 95%. However, the 5-year survival rate for people with distant metastases to the bone, lymph nodes, or other organs is in the 25-40% range. Luckily, only about 4% of total cases are at risk for metastasis. The risk of metastasis is highest in cases arising from scars, cases involving the lower lips or mucosa, and in cases involving immunocompromised people. Cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas are usually treated by surgical excision. Adjuvant and alternative therapies are essentially the same as those previously listed for basal cell carcinoma. The use of sun protective clothing, broad spectrum UVA/UVB sunscreens with an SPF of at least 50, and avoidance of intense sun exposure are generally recommended, however, a 2016 review of sunscreens failed to provide definitive evidence for the prevention of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma. □

Salute to Veterans

A message for Military Veterans of the Valley of Pittsburgh

VALLEY OF PITTSBURGH

5 Branches, 1 Farewell

By Robert B. Ruff, 32°

This column is intended to be about YOU and your service. Your responses will shape the future content of Salute to Veterans.

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°

Rruff2u@gmail.com | 412-621-0872

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, IT IS my hope that we have received the remains of our Brothers from Korea after all these years and we have paid them the honor and respect they deserve.

As Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, approaches, please remember those who have stood for the greater good of all America and Freedom. Remember the lost, harmed, and those that gave the ultimate sacrifice serving, as well as those currently serving in the Armed Forces. Say THANKS to a veteran for the freedoms we enjoy and take for granted.

If you have ever been to a funeral with military honors, you know the tune that generally causes tears and welled-up eyes. If you are a patriotic American, you should know of its beginning.

In 1862 near Harrison's Landing in Virginia, during a break in the fighting, Union Army Artillery Captain John C. Tidball ordered a new tune sounded for a deceased soldier in lieu of the more traditional and less discreet 3 volley tribute due to the closeness of

the Confederates and the fear that it would result in a resumption of battle. A (later) Medal of Honor recipient with a distinguished military career, Brother and General Daniel Butterfield, composed the song we know as Taps. The words are as follows:

1ST VERSE

*Day is done
Gone the sun
From the lakes
From the hills
From the sky
All is well
Safely rest
GOD is nigh*

2ND VERSE

*Fading light
Dims the sight
and a star
Gems the sky
Gleaming bright
from afar
Drawing nigh
falls the night*

3RD VERSE

*Thanks and praise
For our days
Neath the sun
Neath the stars
Neath the sky
As we go
This we know
GOD is nigh*

Thanks to Brother Alfred J. Lang Jr., 32°, Member—Legion of Honor, Vietnam War Veteran U.S. ARMY 1961-1963—for his service, dedication to Fraternity and America, and his invaluable guidance with this article. □



Wild West... Artist?

By D. Todd Ballenger, 33°

"The Bond" shown being installed at the Masonic Temple



D. Todd Ballenger, 33

From the Betcha Didn't Know file:

Benjamin Franklin: publisher, inventor, statesman. George Washington: leader, military strategist, President. Albert Einstein: theoretical physicist, visionary, genius. Guyasuta: guide, diplomat, leader of the Seneca people. Betcha didn't know that all four of these historic figures were born in Western Pennsylvania. Not only that, I betcha didn't know that all four come from humble beginnings along the Allegheny in the small river Borough of Blawnox, just northeast of the City of Pittsburgh. But what's really going to wind you up is that I betcha didn't know that all four were born of the same father in the Wild West. That father, dear friends, is none other than Jim West, sculptor and owner of Studio Wild West. Brother Jim, in addition to being a member of Dallas Lodge No. 231, is a man with many questions.

“When I say artist I mean the man who is building things—creating, molding the earth—whether it be the plains of the west—or the iron ore of Penn. It’s all a big game of construction—some with a brush—some with a shovel—some choose a pen.”

—American artist, Jackson Pollock

Mr. Pollock could easily have been describing Brother Jim West, who started out as a construction laborer in his family's business, became a successful real estate developer, and is now taking his artistic talents as a sculptor to new heights (literally, in some cases) with his thought-provoking work. Whether the medium is clay, steel, bronze, or glass, he is telling stories and more often than not, Brother West's stories end with questions. I caught up with Jim at his Blawnox studio where he took the time to answer some questions of my own.

TB: With your public works appearing more frequently, the sheer size of the projects, and a variety of content that tests boundaries, would you consider this the busiest you've ever been?

JW: I would say that I am busier than I have ever been in my life...and I'm very happy and blessed about it. Recently I did a contemporary sculpture that is kinetic that weighs over two

tons and moves in the wind, believe it or not, that is the new centerpiece for Shadyside Academy's new science center [that piece is entitled "2.c"]. Then this last piece, "Split Infinity", which is Einstein pulling on himself almost from another dimension or another place, has been in Bethlehem [PA] for the last 90 days on loan, so yeah, I've been getting to do some other stuff, which has really been fun.



"2.c" shown installed at Shadyside Academy

TB: Much of your work explores areas that people are afraid to talk about, namely themselves. Are these introspective themes that are autobiographical in nature, or your way of perhaps pointing others to a different philosophy?

JW: Both. I'd say they're definitely about myself. They have to come from you—all of them. It's like looking through the fire and seeing beyond. There's more to it and absolutely that's the case.

“What an artist is trying to do for people is bring them closer to something, because of course art is about sharing. You wouldn’t be an artist unless you wanted to share an experience, a thought.”

—British artist, David Hockney

TB: Many of your early works focus on man’s self-discovery and reconciliations with emotions and nature. However, recently you seem to be reaching out to explore similar avenues in science and technology. Did “Split Infinity” represent a shift to works such as “2.c” and are these works reminders of the humanity that is, or should be, in everything?

JW: I think that [speaking of] technology, there’s going to be young people who are doing stuff we haven’t even thought of... and I’m excited to see that. It’s been harder for me to learn because I wasn’t originally educated that way. But it’s fun to learn—it’s great! The

Einstein piece was about... how we all have struggles and if we truly go through them and go to the next level, we challenge ourselves. I used a logo on it which was infinity, the sideways 8, but then I took the actual symbol and cut it through, which means “more,” so it meant, “Do we really know what infinity is? Is it continuous? Do we really know?” And the answer is we don’t know,



“Split Infinity” shown being installed at ArtQuest Center



“The Bond” shown installed at the Masonic Temple

“Every production of an artist should be the expression of an adventure of his soul.”

—British author, W. Somerset Maugham

but the next generation might figure it out, or the generation after that. So, it was a challenge to the next generation to go beyond, but it was a challenge to me to work through [my own] problems.

TB: Many Brothers may (or may not) know you as the sculptor of such Masonic works as “Ben Franklin in the East” and “The Bond,” both of which are permanent fixtures at the Grand Lodge in Philadelphia. Are there any hidden “secrets” in these pieces that Masons might find particularly interesting?

JW: When I started down the road of doing the two Masonic sculptures that I was privileged to do, I went and spent a lot of time [at the Grand Lodge]. On Benjamin Franklin, there is this one sculpture that we all kind of copy. The reference everybody uses is the one... that happens to sit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and it was done by a man named [Jean Antoine] Houdon. So, I start studying Houdon and guess what? He was a personal friend of Ben Franklin’s. Not only is he just a personal friend, where did they meet? They met in the Lodge of the Nine Sisters in Paris. I immediately feel a bond to him because he’s a Brother and he has done this sculpture. So, when I did my Franklin... I put under the collar up on top, Houdon’s name—right on the collar—and put an arrow up to the head, because I made a play on that portrait; and I put the date they met in Lodge, Ben and him, in Paris, because I wanted that bond between Brothers doing art of Brothers. □

For more information about Brother West visit:

jimwestsculptor.com

Uniontown Update

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

VALLEY OF UNIONTOWN

Seeing Both Sides

By Thomas G. Taylor, 32°

WHEN I LEARNED THAT, AS THRICE Potent Master, I would be providing Uniontown updates for *RiteNow*, my first thought was, “What in the world am I going to write about?” Luckily, I was offered a few ideas to help get me started. Among the list of ideas provided was the topic “events that stand out” and the first thing that popped into my head was our Fall Reunion.

Now I know that Brother J. Blair McGill, Past Thrice Potent Master-Valley of Uniontown, also wrote a wonderful article about our Fall Reunion, however, because it is an event that for me truly stands out, I believe it is something that bears repeating. So, for my first article, I would like to talk about the Uniontown Fall Reunion from my perspective—going from candidate to Thrice Potent Master.

I received my 14th Degree in Uniontown. This held a special meaning for me because it is also where my dad and grandfather received their Degrees. In fact, on the day that I received my 14th Degree my dad presented me with my grandfather’s 14th Degree ring, and although my grandfather is no longer with us, a part of him still attends every meeting. He was also there with me

when I had the honor of conferring the 14th Degree at our 2017 Fall Reunion—but I’m a little ahead of myself.

As a candidate sitting in the audience and watching all the Degree work, I can remember thinking about how impressed I was with the live performances and the sense of pride the men on stage had as they exemplified the Degrees. I thought to myself, “Someday I would like to do that.” It didn’t take long for it to happen, because the following year I was asked to take part in the 9th Degree, and I said yes without hesitation because it was my hope that I could somehow (despite my acting ability) help a future candidate to feel what I felt as I watched the Degrees.

It was that same year that I entered the Officer line knowing that one day I would have the responsibility of conferring the 14th Degree on a Fall Reunion. As I worked through the line and took part in the various roles of the 14th Degree I learned more about not only the lessons taught in the Degree but also more about myself. My work also had the added bonus of helping me to get to know many of the members of the Lodge. From rehearsals to stage set-up and teardown, the fellowship that I felt brought me closer to many of the brethren.

Finally, in 2017, it was my privilege and honor to confer the 14th Degree on the Fall Reunion Class. All the rehearsing and memorizing came down to this one moment. As I sat on the stage waiting for the curtain to open, I couldn’t help but flash back to when I was a candidate sitting in the dark

in anticipation, only this time I was on the other side of the curtain. As a candidate, I was wondering, “What’s next?” As the Thrice Potent Master, I was thinking (besides, “Please let me remember my lines.”), “Please help me to inspire in these candidates the same feelings that I felt when I sat where they are sitting,” and as the curtain slowly opened I took a deep breath, closed my eyes and waited for my cue. I honestly don’t remember much after that because I was so focused on conferring the Degree as best I could. I can only hope that we—everyone involved in presenting degrees 4 through 14—left the candidates with the same feelings that I had when I received my 14th Degree.

Although I have written about the Fall Reunion from my perspective, I don’t want to give the impression that it’s all about the 14th Degree or the Thrice Potent Master, it’s about so, so much more. The Fall Reunion is a labor of love for everyone. The stage builders, stage crew, lighting crew, directors, make-up staff, wardrobe staff, kitchen staff, choir, officers—all work hard to present a top-notch Reunion.

Uniontown’s Reunion has routinely welcomed brethren from all over the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and I hope that my experience will help you to consider attending in November. I know from experience that the officers and brethren throughout the Valley of Uniontown are working hard to put on excellent Degrees and I honestly believe that you will find it not only enjoyable but also inspiring. □

ValleyNews

A collection of recent happenings in the Valley of Pittsburgh



Exemplary Family Men Named

On May 24th, Scott Kingston, Michael Russell, Abe Hayes, and Dave Galardini were named the Valley's Exemplary Family Men. The awardees were chosen by presiding officers of each of the four Valley bodies for their roles as husbands, fathers, men, and Masons.

The Valley thanks them for living their lives as ambassadors for Masonic and Scottish Rite Values.

Scholarships Awarded

On May 24th, the Valley Officers were pleased to award scholarships to the following students: Kathleen Bayer, Montana Ferita, Rebecca Helfrich, Melanie Hulse, Kalie Kuss, Sarah Nelson, Domenic Pascucci, Allison Russell, Alexander Stuncard, and Rhianna Thomas. Abbott Scholarships were also awarded to Taylor Ballenger, Steffanie Barth, Micah Beidman, Carol Nelson, Evia Nelson, and Sydney Swogger.

Congratulations to all for earning these awards.

For more information on Valley and Abbott scholarships, please call the office or check future Meeting Notices.

Ghost Light Produces Third Movie

Over the weekend of July 6-8, Ghost Light Productions, the Valley's Theater Club, participated in their third 48 Hour Film Project. Each participating team is given the same prop, line of dialogue, and character and they have 48 hours to write, film, edit, and score a four to seven-minute movie in a genre drawn at random.

Ghost Light's genre was Music, and their movie, *Hero in the Wings*, told the story of a young rock and roll artist who faced a difficult choice after defeating his heroin addiction. The movie received great reviews by fellow filmmakers, and a plan is in the works to expand the story for participation in future film festivals.



Children's Dyslexia Center **UPDATE**

On the Horizon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR Saturday, October 6th and be sure to attend the 15th Annual Walk for Dyslexia. The Walk benefits the Children's Dyslexia Center – Pittsburgh, the primary charity of the Valley. Participants may register individually or as a team and are encouraged to get sponsors to help them raise funds.

This year, the area youth groups will be starting the morning with a delicious breakfast to give our walkers the energy boost they need to complete the 5k. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 until 10:00. The cost of the breakfast is \$6

and will benefit the Masonic Youth Groups. If you don't want to walk, you can still help by donating gift baskets or gift cards for the auction, or by donating food, beverages, or snacks for after the event.

Registration and sponsorship forms may be obtained by calling the Center or visiting valleyofpittsburgh.org. □

For more information:
412-931-3181
[@dyslexiacenter.fundraising](http://dyslexiacenter.fundraising)
@valleyofpittsburgh.org

SPECIAL PROGRAM

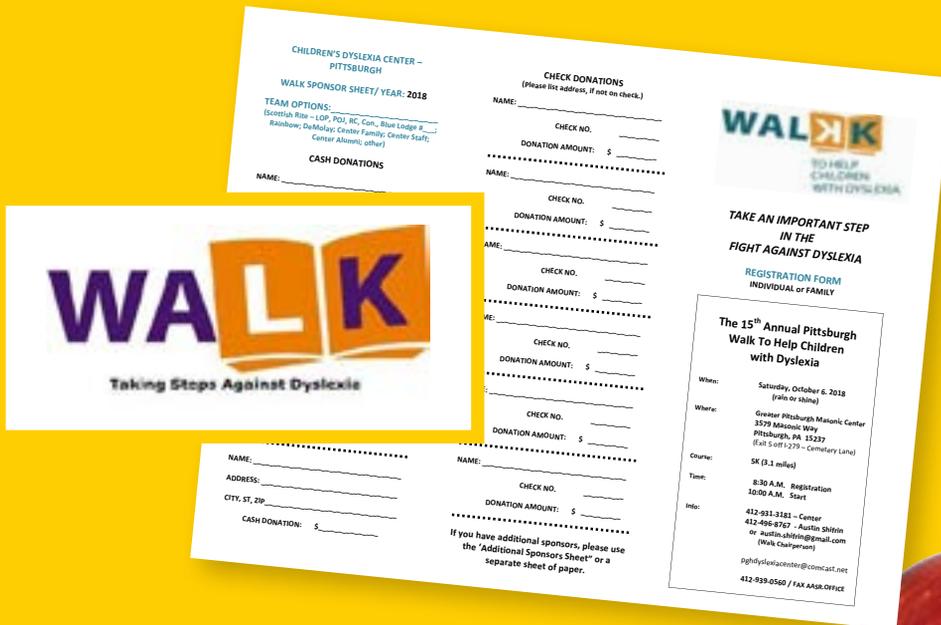
Giant Eagle Apple for the Students program

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



TheLatest

Important happenings coming soon to the Valley of Pittsburgh

SEP

9

Proceeds will benefit the Valley of Pittsburgh Children's Dyslexia Center. For more information call Bill at: 412-487-4358

Fall Car Cruise

Open to any Vintage, Classic, Antique, Modern Muscle Cars, and Hot Rods. Car Clubs are welcome to attend. There will be a D.J. playing oldies, and family fun for all ages! There will be food, prizes, a 50/50 raffle, silent auction baskets, giveaways every 30 minutes and much more.

TIME: 11AM to 3PM

LOCATION: Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center (GPMC)

COST: Free

RSVP: None required

OCT

6

Reservations are required!

Please contact the Children's Dyslexia Center: 412-931-3181

Walk-A-Thon

This is Pittsburgh's 15th annual Walk to Help Children With Dyslexia. You can help by registering, sponsoring a walker or a team, donating a gift basket, or even just coming out and cheering our walkers on! This event is open to everyone. See page 39 for complete details.

TIME: 8:30AM Registration, 10AM Walk begins

LOCATION: GPMC

COST: \$15/adult, \$10/child (6-12 yrs), FREE (<6 yrs)

RSVP: **September 15** (after September 15, \$25/adult)

SEP

22

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

A Military Tribute Exemplification of the 23rd & 26th Degrees

The Valley celebrate the U.S. Military with an exemplification of the 23rd and 26th Degrees. You must be a Scottish Rite Mason to attend. See page 21 for complete details.

TIME: 10:30AM

LOCATION: GPMC

COST: No charge, casual dress.

RSVP: None required

OCT

26

Reservations are required!

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

RiteHouse Evening featuring Nick & Dan of the Clintones

Join us in the new patio tent and banquet hall to enjoy a casual evening of acoustic hits of the 90s and more. Hot appetizers, beer, wine and soft drinks, along with a souvenir draft or wine glass, are included with your paid admission. See page 11 for complete details.

TIME: 6:30PM Hot Appetizers, 7-10PM Performance

LOCATION: GPMC Patio/Banquet Room

COST: \$20/person

RSVP: **October 19. Limited to the first 100 reservations!**

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

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

DEC
8

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

Children's Christmas Party

Bring your children, grandchildren, or friends to the Valley's Children's Christmas Party hosted by Pennsylvania Council, Princes of Jerusalem. There will be entertainment, cookies, pizza, and a visit from a very special man in a red suit! Even better, every child will receive a gift.

TIME: 10:30AM
LOCATION: GPMC
COST: Free
RSVP: **December 4**

DEC
15

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

Valley Christmas Luncheon

Celebrate the Holidays in style at the beautiful Shannopin Country Club in the North Hills of Pittsburgh. The Valley's adult luncheon is open to all Scottish Rite Masons and their guests. You can reserve a full table, or have the office assign your seats for you.

TIME: 11AM Social hour, 12PM Luncheon
LOCATION: Shannopin Country Club
COST: \$30/person
RSVP: **December 11**

SEP 22 **OCT 6** **OCT 27** **NOV 24**

Upcoming Events

SEP
22

**Autumn Days at
Masonic Villages Elizabethtown**
SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

NOV
11

**Valley of Pittsburgh
Stated Meeting**
NOVEMBER 11, 2018

NOV
2

NOV
3

Valley of Uniontown Fall Reunion
NOVEMBER 2-3, 2018

NOV
16

NOV
17

Steel City Invitational
Join Scottish Rite brethren from six states and the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions for a unique event for candidates and members alike!
NOVEMBER 16-17, 2018
(see page 21 for details)

DEC
21

DEC
22

DEC
23

**Ghost Light Productions
presents *A Christmas Carol***
DECEMBER 21-23, 2018
(see the valley website for details)

JAN
19

**Valley of Pittsburgh
Breathless Riviera Cancun
Resort and Spa Vacation**
JANUARY 19-26, 2019
(see back cover for details)

Fraternal Classified Services Directory

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

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www.RichReynoldsCPA.com

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Patti Macey PattisPasticceria@gmail.com

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Craig Gipson www.gipsonbearing.com

BOOKS

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3 Hour Mysteries: paperback available at amazon.com
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