



VALLEY NOTICE

NOTICE AND NEWSLETTER



VALLEY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

July, 2011

Deadlines for Valley Notice in 2011:

Issue	Deadline
October	September 3

Deliver submissions to the Scottish Rite Office, or email to the editor: pm1989@comcast.net

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:
Please submit articles in MS Word format – 10 point Times New Roman font, or in the body of your email only, photos in .jpg format. With the exception of order forms, no .pdf's or highly formatted submissions.

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VALLEY NOTICE

Is a publication of the four bodies of the Valley of Reading, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and is the official notice of meetings, events and activities of the Valley.

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22 New Scottish Rite Masons in Spring Reunion Class

As the Honored Guest for the Spring Union on May 21, Ill. C. DeForrest Trexler, 33°, Grand Secretary General of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council and an Active Member for Pennsylvania, presented an inspiring message to the Class of 22 new Scottish Rite Masons. During a busy day that started with a continental breakfast at 7 a.m., they witnessed 8 of the Scottish Rite degrees concluding with the 31° allegory before the Reunion banquet and then the 32°, Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret. See Photo on page 4.

Three Abbott Scholarships Awarded

Three Leon M. Abbott Scottish Rite Scholarships in the amount of \$2,775.00 each have been awarded by the Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., to students who applied through the Valley of Reading:

Kyle T. Wagon seller, of Mohrsville, is the Grandson of Wallace W. Wagon seller. His parents are Neil T. and Shelly A. Wagon seller. Kyle is attending Slippery Rock University, majoring in Political Science.

Derek J. Boyer, of Fleetwood, is a graduate of our Children's Learning Center and is the Grandson of Leon Bergstresser. His parents are James and Dawn Boyer. Derek is attending Johnson & Wales College in Providence, Rhode island, and is studying Culinary Arts.

Jennifer J. Bush, of Mohnton, is a member of the Order of Rainbow for Girls. Her parents are Ronald and Lori Bush. Jennifer is attending Elizabethtown College studying Health Science

The Abbott Scholarships are awarded to qualified students in recognition of scholastic and all-round achievement. The goal is to help young people fulfill their career goals by assisting them financially as they further their education beyond high school.

Abbott Scholarships are given to children of Scottish Rite Masonic families, to young people who have been active in Masonic-related organizations such as DeMolay, Rainbow and Job's Daughters, and to graduates of our Children's Dyslexia Center. The Grants are made throughout the fifteen-state Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Total scholarships in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction will be \$450,000 for the 2011-2012 academic period. A year ago 352 college level students across the Jurisdiction were helped by Abbott grants.

Support for the growing scholarship program comes from the Supreme Council Education and Charity Fund established through the generous legacy of former Sovereign Grand Commander Leon M. Abbott. In recent years, the fund has been strengthened by sharing in annual contributions to the "Blue" envelope appeal by the Fraternity's 200,000 members.

Applications are available on line, beginning in January of each year, at www.supremecouncil.org. Click on the Philanthropy Tab, than click on Abbott Scholarship. Additional scholarships are available at www.pagrandlodge.org/pyf/scholar/index.html. Click on the Masonic Scholarship Resource Guide.

In addition to the Abbott Scholarship,, the Scottish Rite Masons of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction also support the award-winning National Heritage Museum in historic Lexington, Massachusetts; yearly fellowships for Schizophrenia Research; and the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc.



Notes From

**The Commander-in-Chief
Ill. Herbert K. Swisher, 33°**

I'd like to thank the members of the Valley of Reading for all of the kind words and encouragement that I've received as I begin my duties as Commander-in-Chief of the Consistory. I appreciate everyone's support. I also extend a warm thank you to our outgoing Commander-in-Chief Vic Frederick for his steadfast commitment to his duties. He has set an outstanding example of active participation. I wish him a well deserved break from his labors; although, I do know that there is no rest in my Brother's bones. I'd like to especially thank our Past Commander-in-Chief, Ill. L. Donald Loos, 33° and all of the Brethren that may have had an influence on my appointment. I am grateful for their confidence, and I am honored to be able to serve the Valley in this capacity.

Congratulations to the past presiding officers for their leadership and to all of the newly elected and appointed officers who serve in the officer ranks. I look forward to spending time with you as we work together to strengthen the Fraternal bonds that make this such a fabulous experience.

As with other Valleys within the Scottish Rite, we face several challenges. We will no doubt see many changes as we respond to the challenges set before us. I am confident that we will all work together to meet them. If we keep focused upon our core values of caring for one another and enjoy the fraternal richness of our ritual, we will no doubt continue to have a harmonious result. To our newest members, I say welcome, and we encourage you to get involved. Once you do, you will create a lifetime of wonderful memories. There are so many activities to enjoy in the Valley of Reading. Just take a look through these pages for the upcoming events and take a moment to read the comments of my fellow Presiding Officers and you will find many opportunities to enjoy the company of old friends and make new friends. It is fellowship that cannot be easily described nor purchased at any price.

It is my intention to continue to support and advance the many programs established by my predecessors and to see these programs enhanced. There are also a few new things that we will try; some ideas that have been kicked around for a while and are now ripe for the picking. Look toward the spring of the year for a public presentation of one of the plays recognized by our Scottish Rite for the enjoyment of family and friends. We hope to treat the ladies to an opportunity to see what our members do to produce a stage play similar to the work that we do several times in one day at our Reunions.

Lastly, I know I get caught up in my daily routine and miss staying in touch with many of our members. Perhaps you feel the same way too. The demands of livelihood, households, social schedules, charity work, etc., I think often cause us to miss the things that are most important in life. With all the activities of a busy life, we lose sight of each other, our shut-ins, our members with health problems, and the folks that need help, but will not ask. Would you join with me to make an honest effort to think of a Brother or his family that you have not spoken to in a while; make a reconnection, a kind inquiry, a phone call, a visit, an errand run? We need to be available for each other. All these things are what we are about as a Fraternity.

Good health to everyone! Thanks for supporting Scottish Rite Masonry in the great Valley of Reading.

I hope to see you on the stage.

National Heritage Museum *Presents* “Inspired by Fashion: American Masonic Regalia”

This summer, take a deep look at the Masonic costume tradition as a way to better understand how Freemasonry has long intersected with daily life.

Masonic regalia—the symbolic clothing that members wear, including aprons, fez, and character costumes—does have an element of wackiness. Yet, we may think the same thing about the clothing we see in historic prints, paintings and photographs from the 1700s and 1800s. Then, as now, fashion itself was as eccentric, if not more so, than the regalia that Masonic groups wore. When we compare Masonic costumes with everyday clothing from the same time periods, we can see that regalia manufacturers often took their cue from popular fashions.

“Inspired by Fashion” presents garments and images from the National Heritage Museum collection, and explores the ideas behind Masonic regalia and costume. Each section in the show delves into a source of inspiration—contemporary fashion, the military, Orientalism, and the theater—to show the connections between Masonic fashions and everyday style over the centuries.

The library & archives spring/summer hours are Wednesday through Saturday 1 pm - 4:30 pm.

Call a Worthy Brother

By Carl F. Berger

Push, push, push ... Always pushing for membership you say. Well let's look at it in another way. Opportunity, opportunity, opportunity. The ways of wisdom can be beautiful. To be a good Scottish Rite Mason you need to be a good Master Mason. To be a good Master Mason you need to be good man. Now if we add all this together we have a Good Master Mason in Scottish Rite with plenty of opportunity. It can be said that the opportunities are endless. So with this entire mumble jumble let's strive for those deserving membership into the greatest Fraternity known to man and give him the opportunity he so deserves. If you haven't noticed or seen the buzz words listen and look around. They were meant for you: INSPIRATION-CONVENIENCE-ENJOYMENT.



Sovereign Prince Speaks

David G. Wells

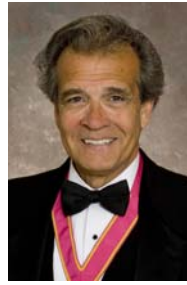
I want to thank everyone who has made it possible for me to serve as your Sovereign Prince for the 2011 – 2012 year. It is truly a great honor to be included in the ranks of all the Past Sovereign Princes who have served in this position before me.

As I started to think about writing this, the first column of my term, one word really came to mind: *involvement*.

By now, you've all heard that there are many ways that you can be involved in Scottish Rite Masonry. You've also heard many times that *you* will get out of it what *you* put into it. The emphasis is on '*you*'. Take the initiative. Be that guy. Be the one to ask, "How can I help?", "How can I participate?" Get involved!

I know, you're reluctant to get involved because you don't know what might be expected of you, or you believe that you have to be part of the clique to participate, or whatever. Take my word for it, go ahead and get out of your comfort zone. Try something new! The more you get involved, the more you will learn about Scottish Rite Freemasonry in general and the Valley of Reading, in particular. The more you learn about Scottish Rite Freemasonry and the Valley of Reading, the more fun you will have. The more fun you have, the more you will want to be involved.

Today, we all have far too many activities that demand our attention. But we all make time for important events, especially the ones that are fun or inspirational or rewarding. Mark your calendars now. November 19th, 2011, is the date of the Fall Reunion. If you thought it was exciting or inspirational to be in the audience when you first joined Scottish Rite, just imagine what it is like to actually be involved on the other side of that stage curtain. Knowing that you have been a part of a once in a lifetime experience for those new candidates is tremendously rewarding. Perhaps you can get involved as an assistant Tyler, perhaps on stage with a non-speaking part, perhaps helping behind the scenes with the stage crew, or in one of the many other roles that go into creating an unforgettable reunion experience. You owe it to yourself. Come on out and participate! You will meet some great new friends in the process. Join in the fun! Get involved.



Most Wise Master's Moment

III. William J. Oehme, 33°

It's hard to believe how quickly time flies by. It seems like just yesterday that I accepted an appointment into the line of officers of the Chapter of Rose Croix. I remember that day very well and those famous words that all potential officers have heard many times. "It's only four meetings and two reunions a year and it won't take much of your time."

Thanks to all who have put their trust in me. I look forward to serving the Valley of Reading in the 2011-2012 year. I will do all in my power to continue the fine tradition of leadership exemplified by all who have preceded me. Not only from the Past Most Wise Master's of the Chapter of Rose Croix, but also from the leadership of all the officers of the other bodies in the Valley of Reading, as well. I will do my best to help the Valley of Reading work on the challenges and issues which lie before us as we move into the future.

Twenty years ago, I sat in the auditorium for the first time as a member of the Spring Class of 1991. While all the Degrees were well exemplified, the 14th Degree and the 18th Degree made the deepest impressions on me. I was even more deeply moved as I watched the Feast of the Paschal Lamb the following spring. I wondered at that time what it would be like to be up on that stage someday. I knew what my contribution to Scottish Rite would be. Now, being involved in all of them, I can honestly say it is indeed a very rewarding experience.

It is certainly an honor and privilege to be elected Most Wise Master of Francis Marion Highly Chapter, Knights of Rose Croix. Our Past Most Wise Master, Ed Stein, has done an outstanding job this past year and he deserves a big THANK YOU for all he has accomplished. Along with my fellow Knights, I ask for your support in the upcoming year.

OVERSIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The next Stated Meeting of the Oversight Advisory Committee will be at 7:30 p.m. on Monday September 19, 2011 at the cathedral.

To Contact Committee Members

Victor M. Frederick, III	Chair	(610) 970-2153
William H. Tenant Jr.		(610-593-6548)
Larry A. Buzzard		(610) 286-6579
James A. Gilbert		(610-374-8115)
Herbert K. Swisher		(610) 670-8084
William J Oehme		(717)-626-8888
Carl F. Berger,	Secretary	(570) 385-2567
Blaine F. Fabian,	Consulting Aide	(610) 678-4347

As a reminder this committee is your main source to bring specific information to the Valley of Reading AASR. If you have a positive suggestion to improve the overall status of the valley or have a concern which might hinder the valley or it's' membership, please contact one of the above. All replies and opinions are held in strict confidence and you will remain unanimous.



7th Masonic District
A One Day Masonic Journey
Saturday,
October 8, 2011

Spring Reunion Class Say “Cheese!”

Pictured seated are fraternal leaders present to receive the new Scottish Rite Masons: In the center are Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°, Active for Pennsylvania, Supreme Council, N.M.J., and Ill. Victor M. Frederick, III, DSM, Commander-in-Chief, Valley of Reading; and to the right, Ill. Mark A. Haines, 33°, R.W. Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; Michael D. Wolfe, Sovereign Prince, Council of Princes of Jerusalem, 16°; and Ill. Marvin G. Speicher, 33°, R.W. Past Grand Treasurer, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Hospitaller, Valley of Reading, A.A.S.R. To the left are James A. Gilbert, Thrice Potent Master, Reading Lodge of Perfection, 14°, and Edward R. Stein, Most Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix, 18°.



Standing Row 1 - Vincent Edward Whitehawk, 43, Douglassville, maintenance mechanic, of Spring City Lodge No. 553; Walter Gerald Hotzman, 54, Reading, realtor, of Teutonia Lodge No. 367, West Reading; Dennis Ray Little, 63, investment associate, of Union Lodge No. 479, Birdsboro; Allan Lewis Waer, Jr., 51, Bernville, construction manager, of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf; Theodore Harry Wallace, 46, Oxford, asst. chief, electronic services, of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville Lodge; and Stephen James Wilson, 38, Downingtown, director of information technology, of Mt. Pickering Lodge No. 446, Upper Uwchland.

Standing Row 2 – Scott John Helm, 34, New Holland, firefight/paramedic, of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville; Robert William Hepler, 46, Collegeville, senior supply chain manager, Warren Lodge No. 310, Collegeville; David Walter Garman, 63, Douglassville, senior planner maintenance/engineering, of Warren Lodge No. 310, Collegeville; Daryll David Bentz, 43, registered nurse, of Williamson Lodge No. 307, Womelsdorf; George Cronin, 50, York, of St. John’s Lodge No. 435, West Reading; and Class Marshal Dale Bentz,

Standing Row 3 – Matthew Eric Weidner, 31, Birdsboro, equipment operator, of Isaac Hiester Lodge No. 660, West Reading; Ronald Leroy Lockwood, 49, Honey Brook, flight paramedic, of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville; Barry Scott Millard, 53, Royersford, water company manager of operations, of Spring City Lodge No.553; Douglas William Snell, Jr., 34, Lititz, system administrator, of Ephrata Lodge No. 665; Matthew Joseph Menet, 38, Reading, youth center caseworker, of St. John’s Lodge No. 435, West Reading; Edward Antonio Gomez, 54, law enforcement, of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville; and Class Marshal Jan Murphy.

Standing Row 4 – Donald Paul Wengert, 63, Lebanon, law enforcement, Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 704, Lebanon; John Anthony Bard, 37, Oxford, general contractor of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville; Zachary Clyde Swisher, 22, Coatesville, construction worker, of Brandywine Goddard Lodge No. 383, Coatesville; Robert Alden Pindle, 63, attorney, of Mt. Pickering Lodge No. 446, Upper Uwchland; and Ryan Conor Murtagh, 32, Downingtown, law enforcement, of Skerrett Lodge No. 343, Cochranville.

50 Year Members Honored

Present to receive their 50 years pins at the Spring Reunion were, in alphabetical order: Robert E. Doster, Richard S. Frain, Thomas G. Gates, Carl E. Gregson, Howard D. Haws, and Carl R. Herring.



IN MEMORIAM

The Valley of Reading remembers with respect the following Brethren whose deaths have been reported since the last publication of *VALLEY NOTICE*:

Ill. Merritt K. Freeman, 33°
June 9, 2011

Leonard W. Burgentine January 4, 2010	Robert G. Hensel April 23, 2011
Nathan Estreicher March 14, 2011	Earl V. Mohn April 25, 2011
Franklin D. Fry April 4, 2011	William B. Shupp, Jr. April 22, 2011
Ralph A. Bausher April 4, 2011	Paul Bolonski May 4, 2011
David Riger April 4, 2011	Wayne A. Reber, Jr. May 6, 2011
Edward W. Masterstefone April 8, 2011	Harry D. Yoder May 8, 2011
H. Lester Weaver April 9, 2011	Walter A. Bender, Jr. May 9, 2011
Harry S. Burns April 13, 2011	Samuel V. Moore May 13, 2011
Robert S. Lebengood April 15, 2011	John W. Leakey May 31, 2011
John N. Wenrich April 21, 2011	Douglas D. Houston June 4, 2011
David H. Melcher April 22, 2011	Frederick O. Brubaker June 5, 2011
Warren G. Hable April 22, 2011	Charles W. Nagle June 5, 2011

Pagoda Club Counts Down to Kick Off

Pagoda Club once again presents Sunday Afternoon Football at Scottish Rite. October 16, 2011 will bring our beloved Philadelphia Eagles up against the much despised Washington Redskins at Washington. 1:00 p.m. is the kickoff. For the inflation busting price of only \$10.00, you will watch the game on the big screen in the Banquet Room. We will provide pizza, hoagies, the usual snacks and liquid libation. You only need bring a comfortable lounge chair. This

event is again open to wives, friends and any Eagles fan. Tickets will be at the door, but we ask that you call the Scottish Rite office with your name and number in your party so that we may have enough food and drink on hand. Go Eagles!

Good Fellowship Steaks & Spuds



Good Fellowship Club's Stag Steak & Spuds picnic at Ringing Rocks Park on June 22nd was a big success. Quite a few potential Scottish Rite, and Blue Lodge, candidates attended to enjoy the steaks, the fellowship, and the great weather. Andy Weitzenkorn, President of the Club, said, "I think we'll do this again next year".

AASR Service Medal Recipient Installed as Top Templar in PA

Sir Knight John "JK" March, 32°, recipient of the 2010 Scottish Rite Masonic Service Medal, was installed as Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania on May 25, 2011 at the 158th Annual Conclave held at Cannonsburg, PA. SK March will serve as Grand Commander until the end of May 2012. and succeeds ILL. S. Timothy Warco, 33°, from the Valley of Pittsburgh. Also installed were SK George H. Taylor, 32°, Right Eminent Grand Jr. Warden, and SK Mahlon R. Pritchard, 32°, Grand Warder, both from the Valley of Reading. SK Paul A. Swank, Jr, 32°, was appointed to the 159th Conclave Committee as well as registrar for the Testimonial Dinner for the Right Eminent Grand Commander on August 20 at the Revere Tavern in Paradise PA. The 159th Conclave will be held in Reading PA in May of 2012. Details will be made available in the future.

A Testimonial Dinner for the Grand Commander on August 20, 2011 at the Revere Tavern, Paradise PA, featuring three entree family style dinner followed by the program. It is open to all Masons, their Ladies and friends for just \$30.00 per person. The ticket deadline is August 10. Tickets and additional information may be obtained from Paul A. Swank, Jr. at 610-384-7951 or pasnuf@aol.com.

Scottish Rite Valley of Reading 2011 FAMILY PICNIC

At Reading Liederkrantz, Spook Lane, Reading

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 - 4 to 8 p.m.



FUN, FUN, FUN from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

4:00 - Let the fun begin with socializing, food & fun for kids of all ages. peanuts.

4:30 - Games with prizes by age group, including Bingo!

6:00 - Entertainment for the kids by Dave RoJahn

4-8:00 FREE - Ice cream, soda, pretzels,



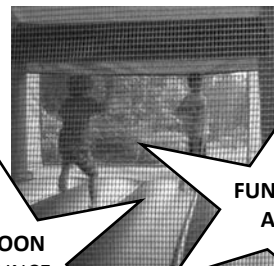
GAMES
GALOR



ICE
CREAM



MOON
BOUNCE



FUN FOR
ALL



BE SURE TO REPORT TO THE REGISTRATION TABLE
Each Scottish Rite Member Must Show Current Dues Card
Free Picnic Tags Will Be Given To You And Your Family

Join The Fun!

Bike Race Challenges Dyslexia

By Michael Black

Back in January, the Lodges of the Valley were challenged to a bike race to help raise some dollars for the Dyslexia Learning Center. Four accepted the challenge, Chandler Lodge, Vaux Lodge, Huguenot Lodge and Reading Lodge. So on June 4th, the riders assembled in the parking lot at the Masonic Center to "have at it". Each team of four riders were to ride a total of 16 laps on a course set up in the parking lot with each rider taking two laps then switching riders and so on until all 16 laps were completed. The team with the best overall time, minus any bonus time for earning extra dollars, would be the winner. Unfortunately, not every team had a full slate of four riders, meaning some would have to ride more than their share of laps. After some warm up time to get familiar with the bikes provided by State Street Cycles in Hamburg, the race was on. Vaux finished first followed closely by Huguenot. Chandler placed third in the race but first in raising the most money. Reading? Well what can I say.....they finished. A lot of fun was had by all and all rode in the good spirit the race was intended for and a total of \$ 645 were raised for the Center.



The participants for Chandler were Rich Parshley, Shaun Sponagle and Dave Frees; for Vaux it was Alex and Evan Kinzey; for Huguenot it was Jeff and Kevin Roe, Brett Treichler and Kevin Detwiler; and for Reading it was Tom Kisling (plus a couple of passerby's that showed up and helped Tom out). Thanks to all who participated and especially State Street Cycles for providing the bikes.

Difficult To Say For Sure

Caught in a recent candid photo, Bro. Sam Wandzilak, Thrice Potent Master, and Secretary of both Hiram's Scottish Riders and the Pagoda Club of the Valley of Reading, is either gearing up for Pagoda Club's Football Game in October, sporting a funky new motorcycle helmet, or a trifle confused about Lodge of Perfection Regalia...difficult to say for sure, in any event, good luck Sam!



HSRMC Adopts a Highway



Hiram's Scottish Riders Motorcycle Club has adopted a stretch of highway in order to gain positive community exposure for the Fraternity, the Scottish Rite, and the club itself. Adopting a highway does not come without its responsibilities. The club members are now charged with keeping this stretch of highway on Route 222 North (the Road to Nowhere) between Route 61 and Route 222 proper clean. They will clear the roadside of debris & trash 4 times per year this first year, and three times per year thereafter.



Join In County Club Fun!

By Carl F. Berger

With the warmer weather upon us activities throughout the valley and clubs are in abundance. Hopefully you will be one of the attendees. Numbers have been on the increase so try and be there even if you need to rekindle the friendships you once had. Better yet bring another brother or a friend and introduce him to the great light of Freemasonry. Remember we need good Master Masons to be good Scottish Rite Masons. Open the doors wide, who knows who might be outside knocking. We often ask why members don't attend but we need to know what would make them attend. If you're one of those absentees, let us know what it would take to get you there and we'll try and have it implemented. It's your club, so make it your club. See you real soon.



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VALLEY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

Scottish Rite Valley of Reading

2011 FAMILY PICNIC

Reading Liederkranz, Spook Lane, Reading

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 - 4 to 8 p.m.



**DETAILS
INSIDE!!!**