



VALLEY NOTICE

NOTICE AND NEWSLETTER



VALLEY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

October, 2011

Deadlines for Valley Notice in 2011:

Issue Deadline

November Oct. 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.

Editor- Ill. Jon J. DeHart, 33°

Associate Editor-

Ill. Blaine F. Fabian, 33°

The Valley of Reading, A.A.S.R.

P.O. Box 6013

West Reading, PA 19610

Phone: 610-373-0722

Fax: 610-373-0795

Email:

valley.of.reading@comcast.net

Supreme Council Meets in Chicago, Illinois

Chicago was the site of this year's annual meeting of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. More than 2,000 thirty-third Degree Masons and their ladies from 15 Northeastern states attended the meeting on August 28 through 30.

The 2011 Session was highlighted by the conferral of the Thirty-third Degree upon more than 150 Scottish Rite Masons including those from the Valley of Reading; **Kevin S. Barnhardt and James R. Shaw**, who were elected for this high honor at last year's meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Ill. Kevin S. Barnhardt, 33°



Ill. James R. Shaw, 33°

The 2011 meeting ended with the announcement of the names of those elected to receive the Thirty-third Degree at Cleveland, Ohio in August 2012. Nominated were **Harry E. Hackman, Jr., John R. Nester and John J. Tumolo. III.**

The Valley extends heartiest congratulations to them and wishes them many good years of active service to the Rite.

The thirty-third Degree is awarded for outstanding achievement within the fraternity or for significant contributions to others, reflecting credit on Freemasonry.

Director's Run-Down Sheet Available

The sequence of events at Reunions is coordinated by the Director's Run-Down Sheet. If you would like to have a copy emailed to you prior to the Reunion, send an email to the Valley office at valley.of.reading@comcast.net. Please do not telephone the Office. The Director's Run-Down Sheet is finalized following the Department Heads Meeting, approximately two weeks prior to the Reunion. A hard copy of the final Director's Run-Down Sheet is available in the office the morning of the Reunion.



Notes From

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

Well, let's see - Flooding in Iowa, Wildfires in New Mexico, A budget debt ceiling crisis in Washington, Tyrants being overthrown left and right in the Middle East, Our credit rating being lowered, A crazy, shaky stock market, An earthquake, A hurricane, Riots – and in of all places; London, England, And our troops still in harm's way. Who knows what else will happen until this Valley Notice hits the stands. Can anybody say that this world is a boring place in which to live?

It has been an extraordinary few weeks since the Officer's Installation in May and the Valley has been abuzz with activities and events too. We had a great Fishing Rodeo, Family Picnic, John Gay Memorial Sports banquet, and Worker's Picnic. Our members have enjoyed lots of County Club picnics and gatherings. The Council of Deliberation in July in Seven Springs was one of the best times and the weather was fabulous. Congratulations again to Robert K. Bricker, and Ralph D. Gutshall, Jr. on receiving their MSA designations. Congratulations also to our newest MSA nominees, James R. Strunk and Lawrence S. Bortz, III. We look forward to seeing you in Hershey next July, and the Valley extends their thanks for your excellent service.

This Supreme Council meeting in Chicago was outstanding. The weather could not have been more perfect as many of the Honorary Members narrowly escaped the hurricane that walloped the east coast. We again congratulate Ill. Kevin S. Barnhart and Ill. James R. Shaw who received the 33°. I'm sure the word is out that John J. Tumolo, III, Harry E. Hackman, Jr, and John R. Nester have been nominated to receive their 33°s in Cleveland of next year. Please extend a hearty congratulations when you next see them.

I was wondering the other day whether we, as a Fraternity, are relevant in a society that has so many destructive issues. Have we lost our luster and impact? Do we make a difference? This occurred to me as I watched the senseless rioting and looting in London by seemingly well educated youth. Looting, anarchy, and an attitude of narcissistic entitlement taking place in a civilized city that was as shocking as if somebody would have reported such an activity in a city here in the USA; like Pittsburgh. Then I thought of the example that has been set for these folks. They see the graft and greed of their public servants; the scandals and looting of their futures by their captains of industry, commerce, and government. These things, coupled with the lack of a good example set by parents, goes a long way in explaining their unseemly behavior. It really is no wonder at all. I concluded that we, as Scottish Rite Masons, do make a difference with our ceremonies, our quirky dress and regalia, and the invaluable lessons that we teach to good men in our degrees. We are not past our prime. As a Fraternity, we are as relevant as ever, especially in the examples that we all should strive to set before our fellow human beings. This world needs all the help it can get.

Blessings to all. I hope to see you on the stage.



Thrice Potent Master's Corner

Samuel P. Wandzilak

As our Fall Reunion quickly approaches we will all start to hear the message of our declining membership echoed over and over again; and how we need to "get more petitions". Although our Valley does need membership and the way to increase this is by getting petitions, e.g. candidates. I would like each of you to give some thought to the word **Value** and Push versus Pull in marketing.

Push marketing is when you use various activities to get your message in front of your ideal client. The marketer is in control of what the message is, how it is seen, when and where. This is where we typically approach a brother and present him with a Scottish Rite petition and encourage him to join. We answer his questions, talk about events, dinners, county club events, etc and hope he has the time and means to come on board.

Pull marketing focuses on building relationships (by the way... we are a fraternity) and having activities that encourage your prospect to seek you out and find out whether you have something of **value** to offer them. In addition to "getting petitions", I feel this is where we need to focus our efforts as a fraternity and as a Valley.

Every member should make an effort to attend the Valley's events, meetings and Reunions and make them not just good events, but great events. As the saying goes: "Nothing attracts a crowd like a crowd". Let's work to make our events very crowded. Wouldn't it be great to have your next Scottish Rite prospect approach you and say, "I heard about the last Reunion or county club event, how do I join Scottish Rite?"

If we successfully show **value** we will not have to solicit members, but in turn, they will solicit us!

LADIES AUXILLIARY

October 25, 2011 - Ladies Auxiliary meeting - Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. Speaker for the meeting will be Judy Wechter, a nutritionist who will talk about nutritional needs as we age, fast foods (good, bad and ugly), exercising doesn't mean sweating, how our bodies burn calories, etc.

November 19, 2011 - Ladies Fall Bus Trip to Longwood Gardens. Bus will begin loading at the back entrance to the Scottish Rite Cathedral at 9:45a.m. for departure at 10:00a.m. Cost is \$66.00. Please call Cindy Hoffman at 610.987.6432 for further information.



Sovereign Prince Speaks

David G. Wells

Well, summer is behind us now and it's back to business. From now through the end of the year, it seems as though there are at least one or two Masonic events, dinners or activities per week on the calendar. At times trying to balance it all with your job and family can make your head spin. But this is what it's all about. No, I don't mean you should all have your heads spinning! I'm referring to the fellowship and socializing that come with the events, dinners and activities. Sure, the business meetings, rituals, and the regalia are a significant part of Freemasonry, but the enjoyment that comes from the personal contact with others who share your interests and experiences at these events is priceless.

Here's just a sample of the events that are available to you this month: The Ontelaunee Club will be holding their Pancake and Sausage night at the Virginville Hotel. The Schuykill County Club will be holding their Pre-Reunion Stag night. The Pagoda Club is sponsoring a Sunday football get-together. The Lancaster County Club is having their Ladies night. Details for all of these events can be found in your Valley Notice. There are literally opportunities for you to participate every week of the month! Even if you can only fit one of those events into your busy schedule, come on out and join the fun. And don't forget our next stated meeting, with dinner preceding the meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, October 25th.

If you haven't been to a County Club event or to a stated meeting recently, come out and join us. You'll be glad you did. I hope to see you all at the October stated meeting!



Most Wise Master's Moment

Ill. William J. Oehme, 33°

The summer of 2011 is behind us. It certainly did fly by quickly. I trust everyone enjoyed themselves with family and friends. Now we must make the time to prepare for the tasks which lie ahead of us.

There will be two One Day Classes in October. The Seventh Masonic District will hold the first One Day Journey in Reading on Saturday, October 8th. The First Masonic District will hold their One Day Journey in Lancaster on Saturday, October 22nd, in conjunction with the Lancaster Lodge of Perfection's Fall Reunion. Registration starts at 7:30 A. M. and the Entered Apprentice Mason Lodge will open at 8:00 A.M. After the conferral of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason Degrees in the morning, those who desire to advance into the Scottish Rite can join the Lancaster Lodge of Perfection in the afternoon. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon, and the Lancaster Lodge of Perfection will open at 1:00 P.M. The 4th, 12th, and 14th Degrees will be exemplified. We need a strong turnout of Brothers from the Valley of Reading to support this and to let these newly raised Master Masons know that they do have a choice when it comes to choosing which Council, Chapter and Consistory they desire to join. We all would like to see more Lancaster County Masons become active in our Valley of Reading. In the upcoming months we start the busy schedule of rehearsals as we prepare for our Fall Reunion. The date for the Fall Reunion is Saturday, November 19th. I would like to put out a call to those Brothers who have never participated in our Degrees. Don't be shy. Participation is a great way to build confidence in yourself. Get started with a small part and see how much you enjoy the participation and fellowship. There are plenty of these parts available. Don't get the idea that a part with only one or two lines is not important. It is important, or it wouldn't be in the Degree. Being a part of the Degree Team is also the best way to grasp and understand the whole meaning of the Degree. If you don't want to be on stage, there are many other opportunities to serve behind the scenes. Consider working backstage, helping out in the wardrobe department, or learn to do makeup. But most important of all, get involved!

OVERSIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The next Stated Meeting of the Oversight Advisory Committee will be at 7:30 p.m. on Monday January 1, 2012 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 its membership, please contact one of the above. All concerns and opinions expressed are held in strict confidence and remain anonymous.

Things You Ought To Know

Facts, Information, Legends and Trivia

So mote it be - translates to "Let it be so" or "So shall it be", and is often used as part of the dialog during rituals, typically in closing. The actual origins of the phrasing is a little obscure and based in old Anglo-Saxon.

THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

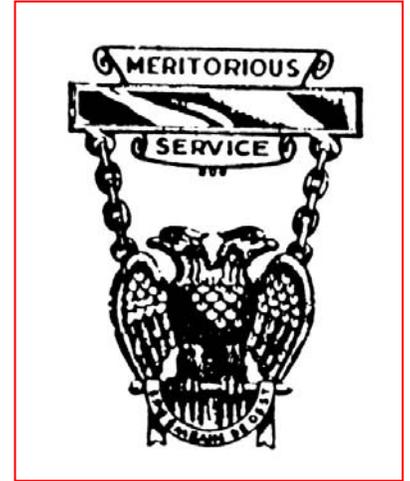
The Meritorious Service Award is recognition of distinguished service of a Masonic character granted to those members of the Rite who have given years of active, capable, and faithful service to their Valley. It is authorized by the Supreme Council and given upon the recommendation of the presiding officers of the subordinate bodies to their Council of Deliberation. It is the highest honor that a Council of Deliberation is authorized to confer.

At the 140th Convocation of the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort on July 9, 2011, Brothers **Robert K. Bricker, 32°** and **Ralph D. Gutshall, 32°** received the Scottish Rite Meritorious Service Award.

Brother Bricker was born July 7, 1962. He was raised a Master Mason in Reading Lodge No. 549 and was created a Sublime prince of the Royal Secret on November 22, 1986. At Reunions Bob can be found behind the "Hot Dog Stand" in the Wardrobe Department

Brother Gutshall was born September 16, 1931. He was raised a Master Mason in Lodge No. 106 in Williamsport, Pennsylvania and created a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret by Williamsport Consistory on June 20, 1964. He affiliated with the Valley of Reading in 1967. At Reunions Ralph is rarely seen. He can be found above the ceiling of the auditorium operating one of the followspot lighting fixtures.

The Valley of Reading is proud to have Bob and Ralph as its members. Our other Meritorious Service Award recipients:



1966 - Emanuel Iglesias, 33° *

1976 - Norman A. Fox, 33° *

1985 - Gerald R. Baum, 32°

1986 - LeRoy E. Bechtel, 32°

1990 - Charles J. Breiner, 32°

1990 - Robert J. Smilk, 32° *

1992 - Uwe N. Petersen, 32°

1992 - Herbert O. Zemble, 32° *

1993 - Edward C. Hahn, Jr., 32°

1993 - James A. Matz, 32°

1994 - Robert W. McClatchie, 32°

1995 - Robert A. Swoyer, 32°

1995 - David H. White, 32°

1997 - Guy W. Petery, 32°

1998 - J. Gary Grazier, 32°

1999 - Chester W. Brown, 32°

2000 - Bruce R. Kinzey, 32°

2000 - William J. Lausch, 32°

2001 - Robert A. Bricker, 32°

2004 - Robert W. Gilbert, 32°

2004 - C. H. Tecklenburg, 33°

2005 - Robert G. Eckroth, 32°

2006 - Ronald J. Kauffman, 32°

2006 - Charles L. Minnich, 32°

2007 - Kenneth L. Riegel, 32°

2007 - William L. Snyder, 32°

2008 - James F. Moyer, 32°

2008 - Chester R. Pierce, 32°

2009 - Donald G. Laumeister, 32°

2009 - Donald L. Baker, 32° **

2010 - John W. Freeston, 32°

2010 - Jay B. Coleman, 32°

2011 - Robert K. Bricker, 32°

2011 - Ralph D. Gutshall, 32°

Congratulations! Brothers Lawrence (Larry) S. Bortz, III, 32°, and James R. Strunk, 32°, have been elected to receive the Meritorious Service Award at Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA, in 2012.

* Valley of Abington merged August 1, 1991

** Duel Member, Valley of Philadelphia

An Open Letter To All Members: County Clubs And Membership

Brethren,

Hopefully everyone had a great summer and is now a little more relaxed with most of our Masonic activities having been called off from labor. As school has recently started for the children, so too should we brush up a little on our Masonic education. With that being said, let's show our county club's functions from the past several months in the next issue of *Valley Notice*. Pictures, write ups and special events are always appreciated. What's that you say? You haven't had any? Then take more photos, jot some notes for submission to the Editor, this is the time to tell others about your club. This communication in addition to personal testimony about our clubs is essential if the clubs are to prosper.

Membership is not only a buzzword but an opportunity to let others know about Freemasonry in all four bodies. Invite that Worthy friend to become a part of what you should be holding close to your daily life. The Fraternity can do for others what it did for us. In the near future, we will conduct a County Club and Membership get-together to discuss the needs and successes of your club and its future. An Ambassador or spokesperson is needed in every Blue Lodge. Could that be you? If not, who would you suggest? Thoughts, comments and suggestions are always welcome here. Give it some thought. Let us know, or contact me personally.

Fraternally,

Carl F. Berger

Membership and CC Coordinator

cfberger@yahoo.com

IN MEMORIAM

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

Henry J. Fedorczyk June 7, 2010	George Hudick August 4, 2011
Fred C. Binkley February 4, 2011	James H. Holden August 5, 2011
Brian J. Roth May 5, 2011	Charles R. Coldren August 9, 2011
C. Franklin Slabach June 14, 2011	Richard C. Schwartz August 16, 2011
John H. Rineer June 26, 2011	E. David Hock August 5, 2011
William H. Keeler June 30, 2011	R. Keith Broome August 22, 2011
Sterling M. Staller July 6, 2011	John D. Walters August 22, 2011
Michael D. Zeiber July 8, 2011	W. Lloyd Webster August 25, 2011
Frederick C. Weber July 14, 2011	James A. Brobst August 28, 2011
Richard L. Lorah July 27, 2011	Peter S. Deck August 28, 2011



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

A Stated meeting of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies of Freemasonry sitting in the Valley of Reading, Pennsylvania will be held in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 310 S. Seventh Avenue, West Reading, Pa., on the 27th day of the Hebrew month Tishsrei, 5772 corresponding to:

**Tuesday, October 25, 2011
7:00 o'clock p.m.**

Business will be transacted in Reading Lodge of Perfection, 14°; C. Gilbert Steffe Council, 16°, Princes of Jerusalem; Francis Marion Highley Chapter, 18°, Knight of the Rose Croix; and Reading Consistory, 32° Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret. A cordial and fraternal invitation is extended to all members of the Rite duly accredited. Your current dues card will admit you to all the sessions and must be shown to the Tyler for admittance.

By order of:

SAMUEL P. WANDZILAK, 32°
Thrice Potent Master

WILLIAM J. OEHME, 33°
Most Wise Master

DAVID G. WELLS, 32°
Sovereign Prince

HERBERT K. SWISHER, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

ATTEST: Christopher H. Tecklenburg, 33°, MSA Secretary

**DINNER BEFORE THE MEETING
6 TO 6:45 P.M.
\$8.00 per person**



GOLDEN EAGLE'S NEST

ARE YOU LONELY ? BORED? COUCH POTATO ?

Well we have the solution to those situations ! Join the Golden Eagles on the Third Wednesday of each month at 12 noon in the AASR Ballroom of the Cathedral. We have terrific lunches at \$4.00 @ person, entertainment, business meeting, plus companionship with people who share many of the same interests you enjoy. Come out by calling the President Marion I. Miller at 610-845-7610 or L. Donald & Barbara Loos at 610-678-1063. We would enjoy speaking with you about the Golden Eagles Club of the Valley of Reading, AASR. It is not too late to join us on our next trip to the Hunterdon Hills Dinner Theatre, Monday, December 5th to see the show, "A PLAYHOUSE CHRISTMAS 2011" at a cost of \$80.00 per person. Contact the President Marion I. Miller at 610-845-7610 for further details.



**PAGODA
CLUB**

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!



Attention Sportsmen!
**The Valley of Reading will be starting up a
 SPORTSMAN CLUB beginning in 2012!**

Proposed activities to include:

- An Annual Commander-in-Chief's Trap Shoot!
- An Annual Deep Sea Fishing Trip!
- Quarterly Meetings with Speakers of Interest of some aspect of Shooting, Hunting Fishing, etc.
- First Time Shooter trainings with NRA Certified Instructors
- Membership in the Club will be limited to members of the Valley of Reading, however some activities may be open to family members when possible.

We are currently trying to gauge interest from the membership so we are asking if you would be interested in joining and participating in a VALLEY OF READING SPORTSMAN'S CLUB, Please send an email or a note with the tag line SPORTSMAN to me at the following:

Ray W. Gottschall III
 140 Chestnut St.
 Shillington, PA 19607-2722
 rwgottschall@verizon.net

By sending your name in you will be put on our mailing list for future information including membership information as the club rolls out!

This is a brand new club and it will be what we choose to make it. If you would like to be a part of the steering committee putting the club together, or if you have knowledge, experience or contacts you would be willing to share that you feel would be beneficial for setting up a club like this, please let us know!

Valley Families Find Fishin' Fun

Fifty people from the Valley of Reading, turned out for the Annual Fish n' Fun Day at Limestone Springs on a wonderful Saturday, June 11. In just a couple hours, they caught plenty of fish, enjoyed hot dogs for lunch and won prizes. By all accounts, everyone had a wonderful time, especially the twenty two children, some of whom were fishing for their very first time. The smiles told the story.



BAIT THE HOOK!



FUN FOR ALL!



PRIZES!



CAN WE KEEP HIM AS A PET?

Scottish Rite Masonic

Family Life Program

Live Nativity Scene, Holiday Display, Santa Claus,
Tattoos by the Motorcycle Club, Clowns,
Fish Pond, Train Displays, Refreshments

Scottish Rite Cathedral

December 10, 11, 17, 18, 2011

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

TRAIN DISPLAY OPENS AT 5 P.M.



Everyone Is Welcome – It's ALL FREE!

Make Family Life Activities a Success-Volunteer to Help

Scottish Rite member's children and grandchildren are invited to have DINNER WITH SANTA either December 10th or 17th from 5:00-6:00pm in the Scottish Rite Ballroom. Santa will have a gift for each child (1 to 8 years of age), but you must register to insure a gift for your child. Dinner includes chicken nuggets, hot dogs, and dessert. Admission is \$3.00 for children and \$5.00 for adults .

Deadline: November 26, 2011

Make checks payable to SRVC and mail with the form below to:
Faye Baker, 440 Ford Dr., Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

If you have any questions, please call Faye baker (717) 361-5582.

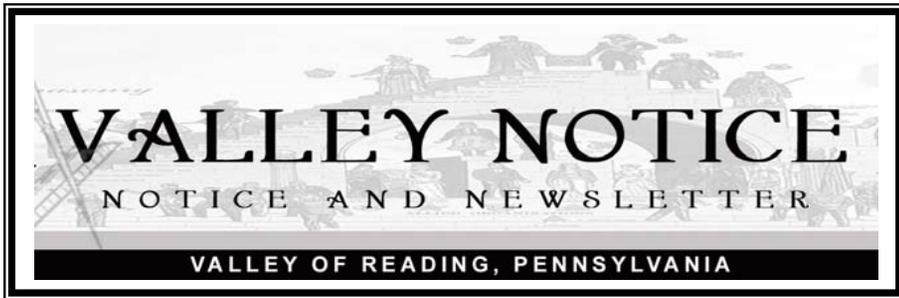
Member's Name _____ Phone Number _____

Date Attending (circle one) December 10th December 17th

Total Number Children Attending _____ @ \$3.00 ea Total \$ _____

Total Number Adults Attending _____ @ \$5.00 ea Total \$ _____

Girl/Boy (Ages 1-8) Child's First & Last Name Birth Date (Month & Year)



Food For Thought...

Brother, I, too own a television set, but that does not keep me home on Lodge night. I have never yet had one of the characters on television come off the screen and shake my hand. They have never offered me the warm friendship that my Lodge Brothers do. They have never handed me a cup of coffee or a doughnut. NO! NEVER!

-Author Unknown

Inside this and each *Valley Notice*, discover what Freemasonry in the Scottish Rite Valley of Reading has to offer you besides another brief commercial break.