



The  
**RITENEWS**  
OF MARYLAND

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF THE ORIENT OF MARYLAND

FEB/MAR/APR 2014

**SPRING CLASS  
ORIENTATION**

Wednesday, March 19

**BASKET BINGO**

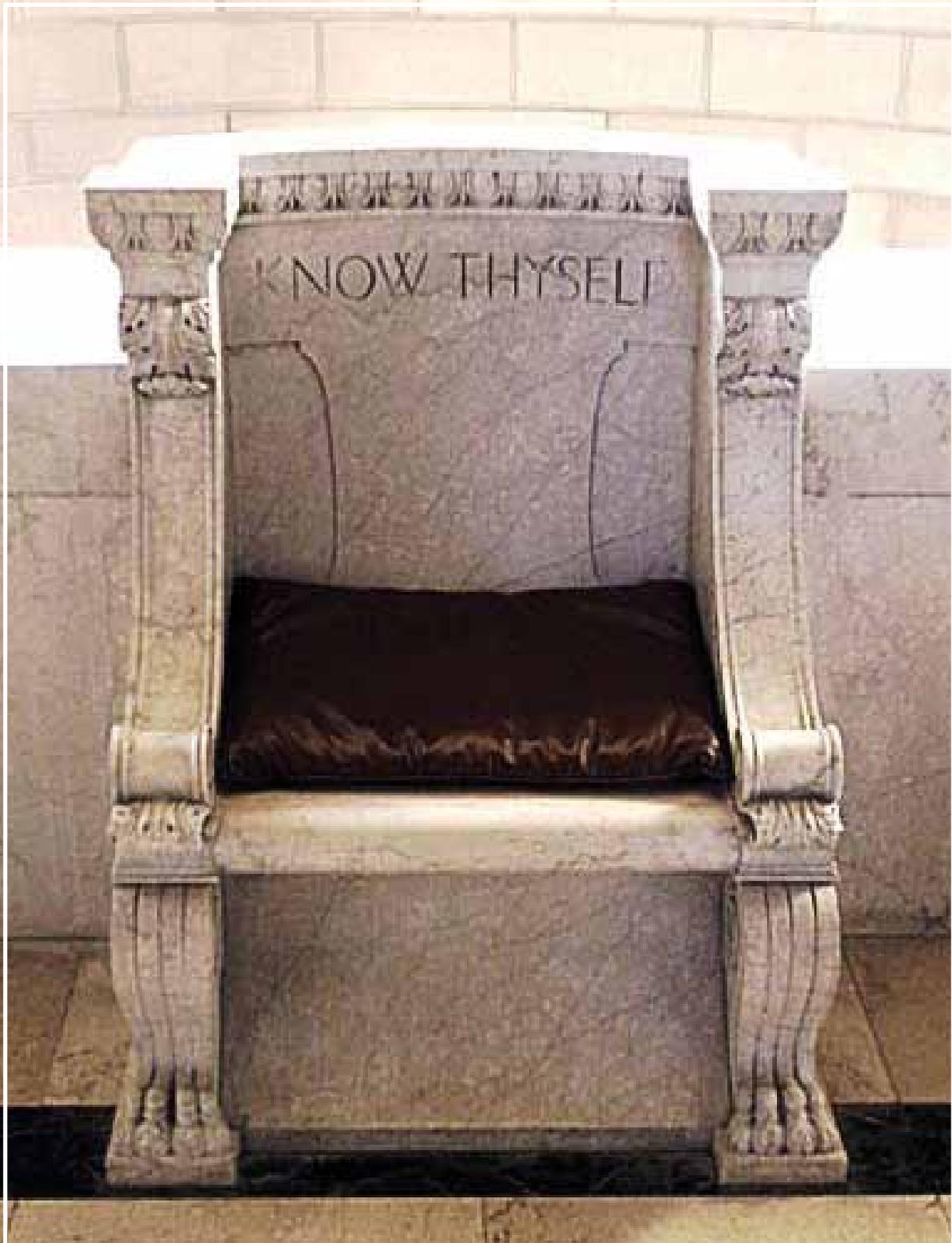
Sunday, April 6

**MAUNDY  
THURSDAY**

Thursday, April 17

**SPRING REUNION  
DAY**

Saturday, April 26



# The RITENEWS

of Maryland • Feb/Mar/Apr 2014

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### SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL

Marlin L. Mills, 33°

### EDITOR

Fred Spicer, 33°



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### SUBMISSIONS & GENERAL INQUIRIES

The Rite News  
3800 North Charles St. • Baltimore, MD 21218  
Office: 410-243-3200 • Fax: 410-243-8791  
aasr@verizon.net

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### A MESSAGE FROM

## Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°

Dear Brothers, Families, and Friends,

As always, I hope this issue of your Rite News finds everyone in good health and your new year off to a good start. The Scottish Rite in Maryland has started off like a shot from a cannon. The installation of officers was very well performed and I offer my congratulations to each one who made the commitment to serve their Valley. By the time this issue reaches your door, our Lodges will be working all across the state. Orientation for the spring class in Baltimore will be held on March 19th and in Cumberland in March as well.

I want to extend my best wishes to our MWGM Ill. Bro. Gerald A. Piepiora for a very successful Conference of Grand Masters. This will be the first Conference of Grand Masters held in Baltimore since MWGM Thomas J. Shryock held it in 1920.

Grand Masters from not only across the United States but, from around the world, will be in Baltimore for what promises to be an outstanding conference. Our Sovereign Grand Commander Ill. Ronald A. Seale 33° has always supported our Grand Masters and their Grand Jurisdictions, and encourages all Sovereign Grand Inspectors Generals to attend the conference in support of their Grand Master. This conference will be no exception. There will be S.G.I.G.s and Deputies in attendance from nearly every state and many countries from around the world. I congratulate our MWGM Piepiora on a conference that will make Maryland proud and put a spotlight on Maryland masonry. The Scottish Rite and all collateral bodies enjoy a relationship with our Grand Lodge that is quite unique from others around the country.



Masonry in Maryland is on the move with a lot happening. If you know a brother master mason who loves the craft, who wants more involvement or who wants more knowledge, why not give him a petition for the Scottish Rite? Classes are now forming for a few good men. That brother will be proud that you helped him become a better informed Master Mason.

I look forward to seeing each of you at one of our many activities very soon and, until we meet, may I wish each of you the blessing of a healthy and happy new year.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

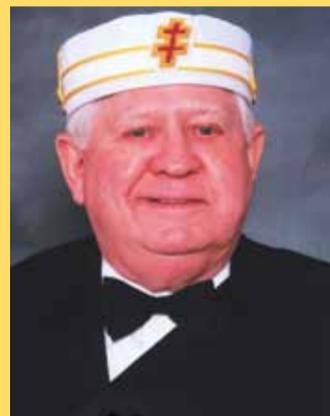
≠ Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General  
in Maryland

## Scottish Rite Mason of the Year

Ill. Brother Barkley joined the Scottish Rite in 1993 where he earned his 32° and became a Master of the Royal Secret in the Valley of Baltimore, Orient of Maryland. He continued to work diligently in many areas of the Rite by taking part in degree work, helping on stage and with lodge meetings. Ill. Brother Barkley was honored with the title of Knight Commander Court of Honor (KCCH) at the Biennial Session in 1999.

Being a tireless worker, he continued with the various degrees and worked his way up in line in the Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix where he was installed Wise Master.

In 2003, Brother Barkley was nominated, elected and coro-



**Illustrious Brother Teddy R. Barkley Jr. 33°  
2013 Scottish Rite Mason of the Year**

Brother Barkley played an integral part in the 33° degree team as Grand Master of Ceremonies.

This team performed flawlessly for the Supreme Council Biennial Session in Washington before a packed auditorium.

Ill. Brother Barkley continues to work for our Scottish Rite and now serves as our Assistant Almoner and is very dedicated at visiting our sick and shut-ins.

Ill. Brother Barkley and his lovely lady Gail are very active in all Scottish Rite activities as well as many other club events.

Please extend congratulations to Ill. Brother Teddy R. Barkley as the 2013 Scottish Rite Mason of the Year.

neted 1 33° Inspector General Honorary at the Biennial Session in Washington, D.C.

Ill. Brother Barkley is a Past Master of Washington Lodge No. 3 in Cockeysville, MD.

He serves as the degree master for the 14th degree and Master of Ceremonies in the 30th degree.

## FALL CLASS OF 2013

Photo Available from the Scottish Rite Office  
\$15.00 per Copy

Ring Ceremony Pictures & Patents Also Ready for Pick-up (No Charge for Candidates)



## Happy New Year

By: Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°—Orient Personal Representative



**NOW IS THE TIME TO BECOME ACTIVE IN THE 2014** activities of our Scottish Rite. New Officers are being installed in each of the bodies and they all need our participation. Can you imagine just how great it would be, if each of us would just do our small share to make each program a little better? It will not take a great deal of effort on any one member's part to make a great difference in the whole production. Let us just suppose, that only one brother from each class from the last ten years, includes just one meeting or degree segment during our upcoming Spring Class. That would amount to twenty men and be enough to form a men's singing group to support our beautiful degrees.

With this sort of cooperation, we can continue to grow our Scottish Rite and have enough desire to support our Blue Lodges and also to improve the other collateral bodies. Maryland already has the best cooperation in the Southern Jurisdiction. We must continue this and make certain that we do not forget those other

organizations that make up our great fraternity.

Sometimes, it seems that the same few individuals are active in all of the different bodies. Brethren, we are continuing to grow and we need to share our various jobs and our opportunities with our brothers.

How great it would be if our Scottish Rite Brothers would encourage their brothers to also be active with their wives in Eastern Star. Can you imagine the great effect this kind of cooperation would have on the daily success of our Shrine Masons?

Let us sit back and contemplate how great our fraternity really is and continue to build the greatest show on earth right here in our Blue Lodges, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, Eastern Star, and our Youth Groups. I can assure you that I am an active Mason today partly because of the influence that

DeMolay exerted on me in my TEEN years. There are many other Masonic organizations that can and do fit into this great program. Just a few days ago it was Thanksgiving, so let us be thankful for all of the opportunities that we have in serving and being served in our beautiful Scottish Rite.

**PLEASE JOIN ME IN THIS GREAT EFFORT.**



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## Maundy Thursday Observance & Dinner Thursday, April 17th–6:30pm

All Scottish Rite Masons are encouraged to attend and the portrayal is open to friends and family of all Scottish Rite Masons.

In the Scottish Rite, darkness often refers to the disappearance of truth and justice in the world. As the symbolic lights are extinguished, we reflect upon this loss. By relighting them, we reinforce our belief that, as Knights of Rose Croix, it is our duty to throw off the mantle of sorrow and darkness and to emulate those historical figures who have brought truth and knowledge to mankind. This solemn Ceremonial is an important part of the ritualistic work of the Chapter Rose Croix and expresses our commitment to the living of a conscientious and enlightened life.



## Valley of Baltimore

By: Ill. E. Ray Leppo, Jr., 33°, Grand Cross — Personal Representative



**IN THE 5TH DEGREE PERFECT MASTER**, “Death is the portion of every man”. The funeral ceremony teaches us of the inevitability of death and for our need to be prepared for death which may come to us at any time. For us, Hiram is a model of human perfection, preferring death to the loss of this virtue. He is an example well worthy of emulation. It is of the utmost importance that our departing

brothers have accessible knowledge for his next of kin, of his wishes and bequests. His Blue Lodge must be informed of his passing and request made from the family for a Memorial Service. We have experienced at the Scottish Rite sending communications to deceased brothers because no one took the time to advise us.

## The Symbols of the Mystic Banquet

1. **The Matzo**, or unleavened bread, is also called bread of affliction. It is symbolic of the bread which the Hebrews made when they hastily left Egypt, because they did not have enough time to allow their dough to rise. The Matzo is the most important symbol of Passover.
2. **The Moror**, or bitter herb (represented by a small slice of horseradish), is symbolic of the hardships which the Israelites endured while they were slaves in Egypt.
3. **The Haroses**, a paste of apples, nuts, spices and wine, is symbolic of the mortar the Israelites used when they were slaves, in the construction of the Pharaoh’s treasure cities, Pithom and Ramses.
4. **The Shank Bone**, a roasted bone, is symbolic of the Paschal Lamb that was sacrificed and eaten on the eve of Passover.
5. **The Hard-Boiled Egg** is symbolic of life and spring time, when nature renews life.
6. **The Four Cups of Wine** commemorate the four promises made by God to Moses to redeem the Israelites and bring them out of bondage.

Cost for this event—\$20.00 per person

## Class Officers for Fall 2013

Orator- Bro. Martin R. Blanchet, 32°, Vice President – Bro. William D. Arthur, 32°, MWGM – Ill. Gerald E. Piepiora, 33°, SGIG – Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°, President – Bro. Joseph W. Angel, 32°, Treasurer – Bro. Randy S. Dietrich, 32° and Secretary – Walter B. Ambrose, 32°



## Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

By: Hon. David W. Rabe, 32°, KCCH – Venerable Master



**BRETHREN,** It gives me pleasure to greet you as your newly installed Venerable Master of the Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection here in the Orient of Maryland, Valley of Baltimore. My sincerest thanks to all of you for entrusting me with this very special position and, I assure you, that I will work tirelessly to both live up to and exceed your expectations. The Scottish Rite holds a very special place in my heart, as it was one of the Masonic organizations that my Great Grandfather most loved to serve. Being given the opportunity to serve in an organization that was so close to his heart makes it even more special to me.

Having recently begun a New Year, we find ourselves again at a time of both introspection and resolution. It is time to rid ourselves of the negativity and bad habits of the past and to walk boldly into the coming year with a renewed outlook on life, our fellow man and ourselves. Let us strive to make

2014 our best year ever both as men and as Masons. This theme of self-examination and self-improvement brings to mind a story that I would like to share with you.

Joe and Kathleen were doing a little grocery shopping on a cold Sunday afternoon. They had just come from a Masonic event and had stopped to pick up a few things on the way home. While walking up and down the aisles, Joe spied an elderly Brother from his lodge in the distance doing some shopping as well. Joe had not seen this Brother in quite some time, as he had not been to lodge due to ill health. As Joe was in a bit of a hurry, rather than take a few minutes to greet his Brother, he picked up the items he was looking for and met Kathleen at the register to check out.

When they got in the car to drive home, Joe shared the story with Kathleen. She gave him a disappointed look and asked him why he did not take the time to greet his Brother. All Joe could think of to say was that he knew they were in a hurry. Inside, Joe was disappointed with himself and he knew that Kathleen was disappointed in him too. He reflected on our tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth and knew he had fallen short. At that moment, he decided that rather than feel sorry for himself, he would learn from the situation and use it to become a better man and a better Mason.

When Joe got home, he helped Kathleen put the groceries away then he went into his office. He picked up the telephone and called the Brother he had seen earlier in the grocery store. Though the conversation lasted only a few minutes, the Brother was delighted that Joe had thought of him and taken the time to call. It had surely made his day. Joe felt good as well, as he knew that he had made a difference in a Brother's life as well as learning a valuable lesson himself.

My Brethren, we must never forget the lessons that we were taught when we first became Masons. Always be sure to keep our tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth close to your heart. We must never be too tired or busy to look out for and take care of our Brothers and their Families. Finally, always keep in mind that the measure of a man and a Mason is not what you have done in the past, or what you intend to do in the future, it is what you choose to do today. Take care my Brethren and I hope to see you soon at The Scottish Rite.

## Symbolism

By: Bro. Charles Matulewicz, 32°



My Brothers, there are so many things to ponder in this, our Fraternity: Philosophy, History, Esoterica... but there are some core themes to consider. Why Symbols Brothers? While we may recall that they are used to imprint upon the mind wise and serious truths, let us consider Brother Pike's words when describing the Master Mason degree:

*"To understand literally the symbols and allegories of Oriental books as to ante-historical matters, is willfully to close our eyes against the Light. To translate the symbols into the trivial and commonplace, is the blundering of mediocrity..."*  
*"(Albert Pike, Morals and Dogma pg.62)*

Consider, my Brothers, that the sun never sets on the British empire... and Pike had published his masterpiece in 1871, right in the middle of the Victorian era. This is important, my Brethren, as this was a conflicted time. There was scientific progress with movies, subways, electric lights, and Marconi's (Tesla's) radio... but

in the face of all of this material progress, was a romanticism and mysticism that pervaded popular thought and the arts. You will see Pike refer to religion in the lower case, here he is not discussing Christianity, or diminishing Religion, but grasping at wider cultural ideas of why we are here, what are we, and what is our purpose

What is Pike talking about when he mentions Oriental books? Ante-historical matters... people do not speak like this any more, but it plays into his thoughts and considerations as a man in the 19th century. Pike lived in a Victorian world where the world was still divided into the orient (East - the Balkans through to Japan) and Occident (West - Christian Europe and the America's). There was a romanticism of the Orient, and the books he was considering would be as well known as the Bible, and the Koran, or as new as the Bhagavad Gita which was only translated to English in 1785. The exotic east was seen as a font of natural wisdom and esoteric knowledge at the time, ante-historical as the knowledge contained in the east predated (as ante is a Latin prefix for before or prior to) western history. What Pike is getting at, Brothers, is that we shouldn't romanticize the east and literally interpret the symbols of the great books of nature and revelation, to make symbol fixed is to trivialize them. Symbols are far more fluid, and their very fluidity is what retains their

relevance to the men of the 21st century, and what brings us to the second paragraph.

Symbols are to be discovered, not dictated. Symbols are personal, Brothers... should we be in the Rite and I ask you to name a bird, you may name a Raven and I, an Oriole. One concept and two very different answers. This is what Brother Pike is getting at when he implores us to not inform our Brothers of what our symbols mean to us. Considering our symbols, it does seem prudent that Pike asks us to:

*"...To present a visible symbol to the eye of another is not necessarily to inform him of the meaning which that symbol has to you. Hence the philosopher soon superadded to the symbols explanations addressed to the ear, susceptible of more precision, but less effective and impressive than the painted or sculptured forms which he endeavored to explain. Out of these explanations grew, by degrees, a variety of narrations, whose true object and meaning were gradually forgotten, or lost in contradictions and incongruities. And when these were abandoned, and Philosophy resorted to definitions and formulas, its language was but a more complicated symbolism, attempting in the dark to grapple with and picture ideas impossible to be expressed.*

*continued on page 12*

## Ramsay's Oration - 1736

THE NOBLE ARDOUR WHICH YOU, GENTLEMEN, evince to enter into the most noble and very illustrious Order of Freemasons, is a certain proof that you already possess all the qualities necessary to become members, that is, humanity, pure morals, inviolable secrecy and a taste for the fine arts.

Lycurgus, Solon, Numa and all political legislators have failed to make their institutions lasting. However wise their laws may have been, they have not been able to spread through all countries and ages. As they only kept in view victories and conquests, military violence and the elevation of one people at the expense of another, they have not had the power to

become universal, nor to make themselves acceptable to the taste, spirit and interest of all nations. Philanthropy was not their basis. Patriotism badly understood and pushed to excess, often destroyed in these warrior republics love and humanity in general. Mankind is not essentially distinguished by the tongues spoken, the clothes worn, the lands occupied or the dignities with which it is invested. The world is nothing but a huge republic, of which every nation is a family, every individual a child.

Our Society was, at the outset, established to revive and spread these essential maxims borrowed from the nature of man. We desire to reunite all

men of enlightened minds, gentle manners and agreeable wit, not only by a love for the fine arts but, much more, by the grand principles of virtue, science and religion, where the interests of the Fraternity shall become those of the whole human race, whence all nations shall be enabled to draw useful knowledge and where the subjects of all kingdoms shall learn to cherish one another without renouncing their own country. Out ancestors, the Crusaders, gathered together from all parts of Christendom in the Holy Land, desired thus to reunite into one sole Fraternity the individuals of all nations.

**To Be Continued in Next Issue**

ANDREW MICHAEL RAMSAY was born in Scotland in 1681, the son of a baker. He studied theology at the universities in Glasgow and Edinburgh and graduated with a master's degree in 1707. In 1708, he went to London, where he studied with Isaac Newton and became a friend of John Desaguliers and David Hume. In 1723, King James granted him a certificate of nobility, and in 1729, he was elected to the Royal Society, and, in 1735, was made a Knight and a Baron, whereby he became Sir Andrew Michael Ramsay.

In March 1730, while visiting England, Ramsay was initiated into Freemasonry in Horn Lodge in the Palace Yard, Westminster, in London. Masonry had been active in France for several years, but lacked structure and had a small membership. Upon Ramsay's return to Paris, he became active in the Craft and soon rose to the rank of Grand Orator (it is interesting to note that this Masonic office is not listed in the roll at that time, and some have speculated that Ramsay assumed the title). Although candidates were

being received in increasing numbers, the degree rituals were quick and uninspiring, giving the candidates little idea of the aims and objects of the Craft. So, on December 27, 1736, Ramsay first presented an Oration which he delivered at social boards following initiation ceremonies - Discourse pronounced at the reception of Freemasons by Monsieur de Ramsay, Grand Orator of the Order.

## Valley of Southern Maryland

By: Ill. Kenneth Hopkins Sebra, 33°



ON NOVEMBER 20, 2013, the Valley of Southern Maryland celebrated its thirtieth anniversary. Ill. John W. LeRoy, 33°, presented a series of video interviews he made in 1993 of our founding fathers, talking about their memories of the founding of the Valley of Southern Maryland. As five of the people interviewed on these videos have since passed, these tapes are a great treasure to the Valley. Allen Lytle, Alvin E. Jones, Lenwood "LL" Jenkins, John D. LeRoy, Jr., Willie Yeargan, Winston Dillard and David McGuffie discussed their part and memories of the founding of the Valley of Southern Maryland. When I first walked into the Valley of Southern Maryland, I felt right at home. To my surprise, I already knew most of these Brothers from seeing and talking to them in Baltimore. At the time, I did not know they were from the Valley of Southern Maryland or even where the Valley of Southern

Maryland was. As a Mason, it seems that, wherever you go, you are among friends.

I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Rhinehart. You see, I have known Ill. Richard James Rhinehart, 33°, for many years and have always called him Mr. Rhinehart and always will. He was a friend of my father's and they served as directors on the board of the MTA Credit Union together. My father enjoyed having cookouts and Mr. Rhinehart would come over for a cookout and, after the cookout, we would go in the club room and they would have a few beers and I would play the piano for a sing along.

You probably are too young to remember The Tennessee Waltz, Goodnight Irene, On Top of Old Smokey and my mother's favorite, Shrimp Boats. Later on, when I was active in the Oriental Band at Boumi, we always had a table at the dances with my father and mother, my sister and her husband, my brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Rhinehart and his wife and Charlotte and I. When I arrived at the Scottish Rite, Mr. Rhinehart was always the first to greet me. It didn't matter if it was pouring rain or snowing, he was always out there. The day I arrived and I did not see him, I knew something was wrong. Mr. Rhinehart will be greatly missed.

Congratulations to Hon. Jack Hazuda, 32° KCCH, our new Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection and Hon. Thomas Barnhart, 32° KCCH, our new Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix. Both brothers are very active in both the Blue Lodge and the Scottish Rite.

Jack is a Past Master of Thomas J. Shryock Lodge and is very active in the Scottish Rite degree work. Tom is chairman of the Instruction of Candidates for Thomas J. Shryock Lodge and Director of Work for the Valley of Southern Maryland. Both Jack and Tom are always there and ready to work.

If you are ever in Southern Maryland on the first or third Wednesday, stop in at the Valley of Southern Maryland. You will be among friends and I know you will see someone you know.

For info on the Scottish Rite Research Society contact James Hodgkins at 1-800-SRMASON



## Spring Class 2014 Rehearsal Dates

### March

- 19 Class Orientation
- 24 6:30 PM – Rehearse 4th Degree
- 25 6:30 PM – Rehearse 5th Degree
- 31 6:30 PM – Rehearse 11th Degree  
7:30 PM Rehearse 13th Degree

### April

- 8 6:30 PM – Rehearse 14th Degree  
7:30 PM – Rehearse 18th Degree
- 14 6:30 PM – Rehearse 15th Degree  
7:30 PM – Rehearse Maundy Thursday
- 15 6:30 PM – Rehearse 25th Degree  
7:30 PM – Rehearse 27th Degree
- 21 6:30 PM – Rehearse 30th Degree  
7:00 PM – Rehearse 32nd Degree
- 22 6:30 PM – Rehearse 20th Degree  
7:30 PM – Rehearse 21st Degree
- 26 1:00 PM – 32° Camp Guard

Supporting Cast – Please report 30 minutes before

## Help Needed

The Scottish Rite Temple in the Valley of Baltimore is looking for a few good men and women.

If you have an interest in helping our Rite Cheer Club with the lunch on Thursday, there is a place for you. They need help in many areas of food service, cooking, preparing, setting up and cleaning up!

If you have secretarial skills or know someone who is well qualified in office skills such as computers, typing, filing, bookkeeping, telephone etiquette and working with others--Baltimore is looking for such a person. A resume and interview is required. The salary is negotiable per skill level.

Are you one who likes to set up model railroads and trains? The Valley of Baltimore has a wide variety of trains, buildings, trees, and other scenery as well as a huge inventory of decorations. If you would like to be involved in decorating the Scottish Rite Temple in Baltimore for various events and Christmas, this might be for you.

**If you are interested in any of the above positions, please call the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Maryland, Marlin Mills, at 410-243-3200.**

## Knights of St. Andrew

By: David Ente, Knight Commander°



### IT'S AN EXCITING TIME FOR THE KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW.

We are growing steadily and are expanding our role within the Temple. We are an organization within the Scottish Rite Temple composed of 32nd

degree "black cap" masons with a goal of serving in any and every way we can. Our most visible presence is our color guard which presents the flags at meetings, but we do much more than that. We escort dignitaries and guests, operate the store, prepare and serve meals, and generally help wherever help is needed. We are often called upon to assist with fill-in roles in degree work and we are beginning to put together the 29th degree ourselves. Being a Knight is a great way to get involved with

Scottish Rites masonry and there is a place available for every man's skill set. We work at every scheduled event at the Temple, so there are many opportunities to serve for any schedule. To be considered for knighthood, just ask any of the knights for a petition. I am honored and humbled to be elected as Knight Commander for this coming term. I hope to continue in the tradition of my predecessors by growing the clan, and making us a unit to be proud of. Who's with me?

## Symbolism (continued from page 9)

By: Bro. Charles Matulewicz, 32°

*For as with the visible symbol, so with the word: to utter it to you does not inform you of the exact meaning which it has to me; and thus religion and philosophy became to a great extent disputes as to the meaning. (Albert Pike, Morals and Dogma pg.62)"*

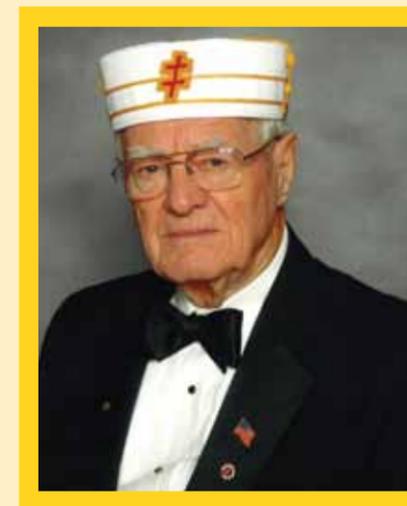
It would seem Brother Pike was an advocate of a personal Masonry Brothers, a Masonry where its lessons are internal.

So as you attend your Blue lodge and the Rite consider what the lessons mean to you. Really consider the work and the symbols from the square and compasses to the esoteric symbols of the Rite and what they bring to you, what they mean to you. Consider as we begin this new Masonic year, what you could do, no matter how trivial it at first seems, for

the fraternity. I think Brother Pike said it best when he posed that, "There is no graduated scale for the measurement of the influences of different intellects upon the popular mind. Peter the Hermit held no office, yet what a work he wrought!" Visit your Blue lodge, visit the Rite and I hope to see you in the classroom.

## Spring Class of 2014

In Memory of Ill. Francis E. Larrimore, 33° - MWPGM  
April 25th, 1921 – March 4th, 2013  
Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Maryland  
1999-2000



Class Orientation – March 19th, 2014 @ 6:30pm

## The Mysteries of Isis and the Degrees of the Scottish Rite

By: Hon. S. Dirk Wiker, 32°, KCCH

*I approached the confines of death. I trod the threshold of Prosperine, and borne through the elements I returned. At midnight I saw the Sun shining in all his glory. I approached the gods below and the gods above, and I stood beside them, and I worshipped them. - Apuleius<sup>1</sup>*

The primary objective of the ancient mysteries was to demonstrate the immortality of the soul by direct experience with the divine through various rituals and ceremonies. There are many similarities between the mysteries of antiquity and Freemasonry and much has been written regarding the connections between the two. The Illustrious Albert Pike 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, SJ, even went so far as to state that “Masonry is identical with the ancient Mysteries.”<sup>2</sup>

The exact forms of the rituals and ceremonies of the Mysteries are largely unknown because of the strict secrecy required of the initiates. What we do know of the mysteries is pieced together from the written records of actual initiates or writers familiar with the various ancient mystery traditions. There are several ancient sources describing the mysteries such as those of Mithras, Dionysus, Eleusis, and Isis. The primary source of initiation details for the Mysteries of Isis comes from

Metamorphoses or The Golden Ass of Apuleius, the only complete extant Latin novel that has survived from ancient times. Some of the similarities between the Mysteries of Isis in Apuleius’ book and the Scottish Rite rituals are explored below.

### The Story of Lucius

The novel of Apuleius deals with the adventures of Lucius, who is accidentally transformed into a donkey through his curiosity of magic. He eventually experiences a mystic encounter with the goddess Isis who gives him instructions for returning to his original form by joining a procession in honor of the goddess and consuming roses from one of the priests of Isis. He has found his once lost human form, but he has visions of the goddess nightly and is eventually initiated into her Mysteries. At the end of the work, Lucius has found contentment and completion in his life. This work is valuable because there is little first-hand knowledge of the Mysteries of Isis, and Apuleius appears to have been an initiate.

### The Story of Isis

Apuleius does not include the background information or story of Isis in his book, but if the Mysteries of Isis are similar to other Mysteries from the Greco-Roman world, they most likely revolved around a mythological story.



These myths usually included themes such as a search for that which was lost, death & rebirth, immortality, and realizing union with the divine. The story of Isis is a perfect example of a mythological story containing these themes.

Isis is an Egyptian goddess that was venerated starting with local cults in ancient Egypt up through the Greco-Roman era. Isis is the “female principle of Nature”<sup>3</sup> and the goddess of magic. She represents the Great Work, the Philosopher’s Stone, and the Universal Medicine.<sup>4</sup>

I Isis, am all that has been, that is or shall be; no mortal Man hath ever me unveiled.<sup>5</sup>

The goddess Isis marries her brother, the god Osiris. Osiris is the god of the dead, or afterlife, but he also taught the Egyptians how to cultivate the land. Both are associated with the bountiful attributes of the Nile River in Egypt. The lord of evil, and Osiris’ brother, Set, kills him, divides his body into 14 parts and spreads the individual pieces over the land. The distraught Isis searches for these pieces and eventually finds them all, except for Osiris’ genitals. Isis and Osiris

have a son, Horus, and in some versions of the story he is conceived after the death of Osiris once Isis magically restores her husband’s bodily form. Good finally overcomes evil and Horus ultimately slays Set and balance is restored to Egypt.<sup>6</sup>

### Three Stages of the Mysteries

The ancient mysteries can be seen as having three stages: preparation, initiation and completion. The Lodge of Perfection degrees can be compared to the preparation that Lucius undergoes before he is initiated in The Golden Ass. The Chapter and Council degrees correspond to initiation.

The Consistory degrees, especially the 32°, are the completion of the Mysteries.

**Continued in next issue**

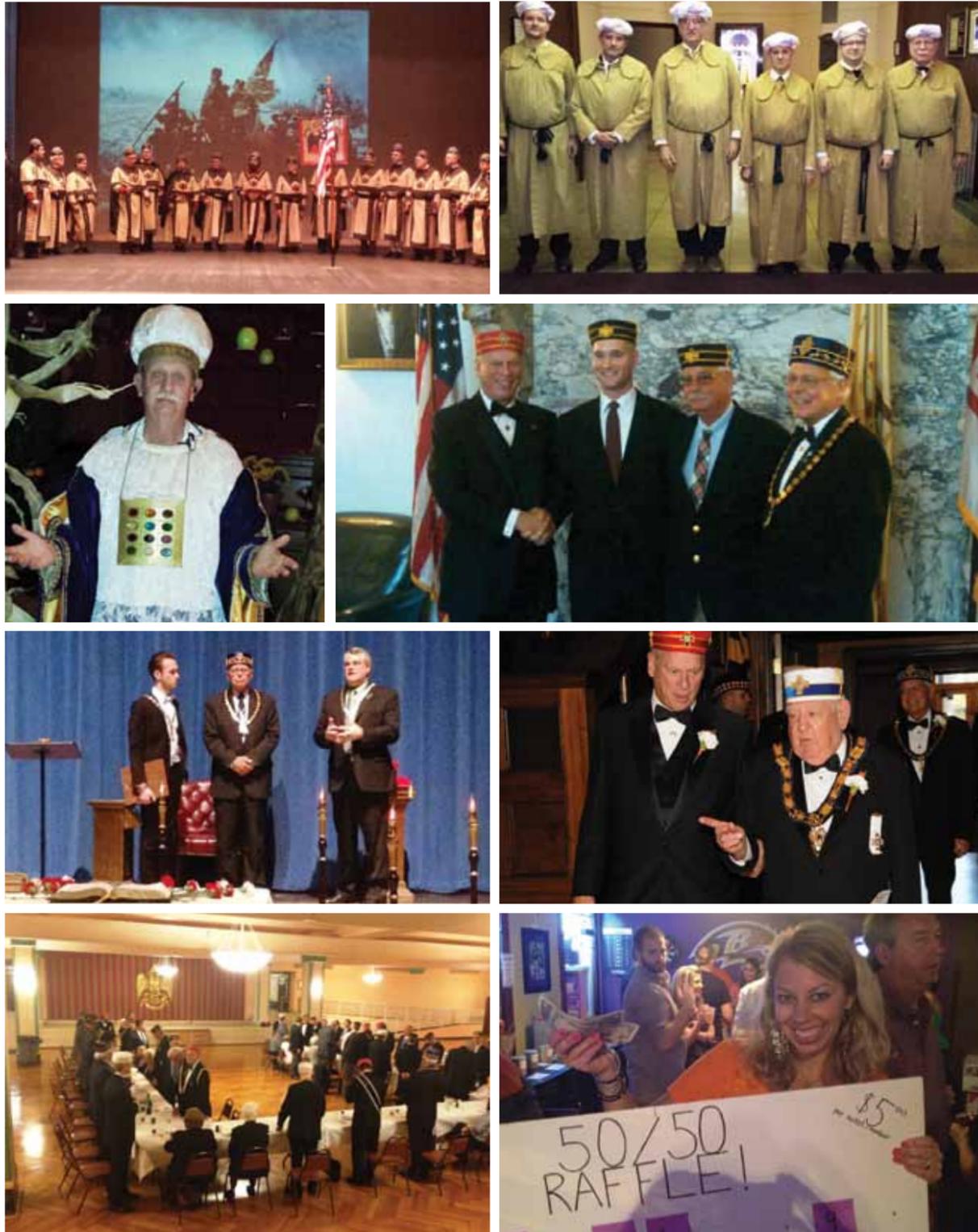


## Rite Cheer Menu

February 6th	Baked Chicken Scalloped Potatoes Vegetable & Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert	March 6th	Dot’s Lasagna Garden Salad Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert
February 13th	Spaghetti with Choice of Marinara/Meat, or Meatballs Garden Salad Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert	March 13th	Corned Beef Boiled Potatoes Cabbage Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert
February 20th	All Beef Hot Dogs in a Blanket Baked Beans Cole Slaw Dessert	March 20th	Fresh Pork Roast Potatoes Au Gratin Vegetable Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert
February 27th	Roast Pork & Sauerkraut Mashed Potatoes Vegetable & Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert	March 27th	Chicken a la King Rice Vegetable Fresh Baked Rolls Dessert



### Scottish Rite Photos



### Scottish Rite Photos



**Vera Bradley  
and  
Longaberger  
Basket  
BINGO**



**Sunday, April 6th, 2014**

**Scottish Rite Temple  
3800 N. Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
410-243-3200  
aasr@verizon.net**

**Tickets are:  
\$15.00 in advance  
\$20.00 at the door**

B I N G O				
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	FREE SPACE	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

**Doors open at 12:45 PM  
Early Bird Game at 1:45 PM**

**Food, raffles, 50-50!**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR CHECK  
Make Checks Payable to: Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation**

**Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @\$15.00 each. Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Mail to:  
Basket Bingo  
c/o Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
3800 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**From the Director of Work**

By: Ill. Tom Velvin, 33°— Director of Work



WHAT A BUSY FALL SCHEDULE we had! We conferred eleven degrees during the month of October and ended on Reunion Day on November 2nd. The work was exemplary and all of the members of the several casts are to be commended for their performances. We'll be looking for great things from them in the Spring. I also wish to call attention to the rest of the Brothers who worked behind the scenes to make sure all of the costumes, props, lights, microphones and prompts were ready to go when the casts arrived. If you have ever wondered what these folks were doing backstage, all you need to do is wander back there when we're having a rehearsal and one of them will gladly give you the 50-cent tour. He may even sign you up to help out because we can always use more hands.

Speaking of Spring, we are not far from the beginning on our Spring 2014 Reunion and, once

again, we're going to confer a large group of the 29 Degrees that make up the Scottish Rite. We plan to confer all of the degrees that were presented during the Fall 2013 schedule plus the 25th Degree which the cast from Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 have been preparing for since mid-2013. The calendar and conferral schedule were published in the last issue of the Rite News and I call your attention to that schedule. A rehearsal schedule will be published soon for the cast members and the crew who work tirelessly back-stage and in the well to make sure the degrees are portrayed in the best manner possible.

Fred, our Secretary-Registrar, and I are always looking for those of you who are interested in learning a part, either spoken or non-spoken, dressing up in a costume so nobody knows who you are, and performing before a live audience. You would be surprised to know the number of active members of the Valleys that make up the Scottish Rite in Maryland who have performed in one or more of the degrees. Also, if you are interested in having your Blue Lodge take on one of the

29 Degrees, let me know and we'll help you get started with putting together the cast.

In years past, many of the Degrees were conferred by casts made up of members of one Blue Lodge and that degree became the Lodge's. During the late 90's, we lost many of our seasoned cast members due to age, death, etc., we were only able to get enough cast members to confer the required degrees. Now, we are beginning to return to the time where some of the degrees are performed by a cast made up of members of one or two Lodges. What all of this means is that we are now able to confer more of the 29 Degrees and to be able to tell more of the story the Scottish Rite has to tell. In order to continue this trend, we look to you to help out so, please, have a look at your calendar to see where you can fit in a little time for the Rite.

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## Susquehanna Valley

By: Venerable Master – Bro. Richard Thurfield, 32°

**WHAT A BLESSING** it is to begin the first full year as a fully chartered Valley in the Orient of Maryland.

The Susquehanna Valley has much to look forward to in the first part of 2014 including conferring degrees on new Scottish Rite brothers for the first time and hosting our Grand Commander.

We are also beginning the work of really building our Valley by building sets and props and pulling degree teams together. There is much to be done and we are eager to pull as many of our Brothers into service as we can.

It's a very exciting time in the Susquehanna Valley, as we have the power & opportunity to decide how our Valley can best serve, not only our brothers and their families, but also our community.

But to borrow a quote from Spider-Man "with great power, comes great responsibility" and as we move forward in our building process, we must be mindful that our actions today are likely to influence the actions of our future generations of Scottish Rite Masons.

If we move through 2014 with zeal and fortitude, we can provide a strong foundation on which future Scottish Rite Masons can build. But if our efforts are half-hearted and lackadaisical, then our future Brothers will be left with an uncertain foundation upon which to build.

So the real question is: how do we fortify this foundation we are building?

The answer can easily be found in our Masonic teachings:

1. Duty- The basic idea that it is our duty to work and to do good is an essential belief in Masonry. To that end, each man is endowed with skills and/or talents that may be a blessing to the craft. Not everyone can memorize the degrees and not every man can build the props. The good news is that there is a lot more to the Scottish Rite than just the work involved in conferring degrees. Each man can and should contribute in some way and, in a Valley as young as ours, there are tons of jobs waiting to be done. What and how each Brother contributes is a question each he should ask and answer for himself.

2. Brotherhood- Since being raised, I've had the great honor of being able to labor in Lodge with men I am proud to call Brother. But our Brotherhood only begins in Lodge. It flourishes and grows outside of Lodge. Whether it's dinner with our wives at one of our many social clubs, or a cookout with our families, or working together on a community project, the real blessing of our fraternity only comes to be when we join our lives as friends and brothers on a daily basis.

3. Wisdom- Early in our Masonic lives we are taught to gather wisdom from our youth up;

meaning we should always seek to continue to learn and grow as men and Masons. While it is important to respect the traditions of the past, it is equally important that we are always looking for new ways to improve the lives of our brothers. It is also important that we continue to study our Masonic teachings and the teachings we find in our various books of faith.

With a due reliance on these ideals, I hope to spend my time as Venerable Master setting our Valley up for future success. But, likewise, I hope to be able to make our Valley a blessing to our current Brothers.

Each of our Brothers joined the Scottish Rite for a reason. For some, it was to learn more about the symbols and history of Masonry. For others, it was a greater opportunity for service, and the list goes on and on. There are as many reasons to be a Scottish Rite Mason as there are Brothers. It is my goal in the coming year to ask as many of our Brothers as possible "Why are you here, and what would you like to do?" so that I can help them achieve their personal Masonic goals.

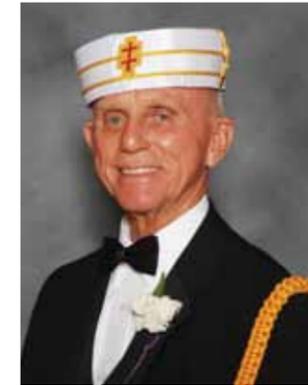
If you are able, please come and visit our Valley. We meet the 3rd Thursday of the Month in Bel Air at Mt. Ararat Lodge #44. If you have any thoughts or ideas that would be of service to our Valley, please don't hesitate to send me a note at [maynardedwards@verizon.net](mailto:maynardedwards@verizon.net).

## 33rd DEGREE

### INSPECTOR GENERAL HONORARY – 2013



Scott J. Cameron



Milton W. Greffen, Jr.



Jamey S. Hill



Arthur J. Manning, Jr.



Howard S. Maxwell



Richard P. Naegele



Frederick J. Reitz



Howard E. Roe



Michael S. Sirk



Kenneth R. Taylor



Samuel M. Walker

Robert F. Shives, III  
not pictured

## Reflections of a New Knight Commander

By: Robert N. Carhart, Jr. 32° KCCH



**THIS ISSUE REACHES YOU,** me, and our fellow Maryland Scottish Rite brothers just a few short months after the October 2013 Honors Day. I'm certain that I'm not alone in my feelings on being among the honorees. I also suspect my brothers who received their red caps (as well as those brothers who now sport white ones as newly coroneted 33rds) are equally humbled, honored and challenged. I congratulate all of them.

Now, being humbled and honored are normal reactions, I'd think you'd agree. But what about being challenged, per se? Why might the simple act of wearing a new cap invoke such a thought?

I look upon Honors Day as, perhaps, allowing ourselves to enjoy one good day to relax and bask in the ostensible "glory" of our respective past accomplishments amidst our brothers—but, really, just for that one day. I'd argue, however, that the real merit in wearing a new red or white cap (and, frankly, the black one as well) is that it serves as an ever-present reminder that each new day affords us an opportunity to work and to improve, and not just for our own good.

And as much as I love my new red cap, I also know that it represents only what I've already done (however minimal it feels), not what I could still (or have yet to) do. That's how I (and we) can honor the cap we wear in return.

The challenge, then, for all of us, is to ask ourselves, what we are doing, or could be doing, in service to not only the Scottish Rite or our fellow brothers, but those around us who may look upon us as—hopefully—worthy

examples. Whether it's a family member, a neighbor, a co-worker, or just an occasional acquaintance, can you or I look in the mirror and honestly believe that we truly represent what the cap represents? If not, there's your (or my) challenge. If yes, our challenge then is to carry it forward to the next day.

That's the lesson I take away from my investiture. I certainly know that the Rite has been good both for and to me, and I'd like to think that I've been good to it in return. To this end though, I'd also argue that the corollary challenge for each of us is remembering what any of our new caps (black, red or white) do not represent: complacency.

By the way, you may recall that the 18th degree includes a brief discussion on the three principal caps, and if it's been awhile since you've seen that degree, I'd encourage you to check it out when it is conferred in the spring .

event held in the Baltimore Scottish Rite Temple. Brother Rhinehart joined the Scottish Rite in the spring of 1972 and was invested with the rank of Knight Commander Court of Honour in October of 1987. He was coronated a 33° Inspector General Honorary in October 1993. His presence will be greatly missed.



**Richard James Rhinehart, 33°  
March 10, 1908-December 3, 2013**

On December 3, 2013, RICHARD JAMES RHINEHART, 33°, beloved Brother of the Valley of Baltimore, passed quietly in his sleep from this mortal sphere to that all perfect, glorious and Celestial Lodge above at the rich age of 105. Brother Rhinehart was not your typical Scottish Rite Mason. At 103 years of age, he was still parking cars for every

## THE IDEAL MASTER

By: Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°—Orient Personal Representative



(Continued from Nov/Dec/Jan Issue)

E – Education – Somewhere in my reading, I remember seeing the following quote, "There is no Top Rung of the Ladder of Knowledge." This seems to apply particularly for that knowledge one must obtain to be properly educated to be the Ideal Master. We cannot minimize the value of formal education in any endeavor, but we are not really talking about high school or college, but the studying that you need to do to accomplish the job as Master of your Lodge. That education consists of the knowledge of many different things. Of course, we must be well grounded in the Ritual to meet the Grand Lodge requirements of a Master. In that same light, we must possess knowledge of Masonic Law, the ancient landmarks, the Holy Bible, and some history of our craft. Knowledge of parliamentary procedure and good business tactics would, of course, be ideal. There are, however, three most important items of knowledge

that are special to being an Ideal Master. First, we must have knowledge of the needs of our particular Lodge. The material needs of the building or Lodge room. The growth needs of the membership. The entertainment needs of the members. The needs that make one Lodge different from another. Second, we must have knowledge of the needs of the individual members of the Lodge and of their families. We must know just where to spread that Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth (information). Be able to know about family needs at birth, death, and other aspects of living. Our third area of knowledge is to be well versed in the ability of our members to perform. Know their abilities, their lives, their dislikes, their needs, their accomplishments and such other information as will help us become the Ideal Master.

A – Application – The Ideal Master must act in the capacity of a General Contractor in dealing with the operation of his Lodge, the facility in which it meets and the members. I believe that we are beginning to see that the Ideal Master for one Lodge is not really ideal for another, but certain basic attributes are necessary to carry out this ideal work. The Ideal Master must appoint people to proper committees, degree work, special projects, and be able to put each person in his proper job for the good of the fraternity. The Ideal

Master must assure the proper maintenance of the Lodge, the proper execution of the ritual, the proper education of the members and the proper interest in Freemasonry. To accomplish this, he must attain promptness in opening his meetings, precision in executing ritual, and perfection in his performance at all times.

I think that, by now, you have the IDEA that only one ingredient is lacking to make the Ideal Master and that is L – Love. Love is concern for our fellow man. In Masonry, we call this brotherly love. The Ideal Master must be in charge of every situation with real concern. He must show concern in the way he conducts routine business, in dealing with difficult problems, in dealing with the unusual as well as the routine. He must have the same concern for the youngest entered apprentice that he has for the Grand Master of Masons. He must show concern for those with whom he has worked for long hours as well as those that he sees only on Lodge nights. The Ideal Master is one who gives of himself without the hope of fee or reward and for no other reason than the need to give. My Bible teaches me that God is Love and I reason that, each time we give our Love, we can feel that much more of God in our personal being.

*Delivered at the Maryland Summer Lodge of Instruction – August 1982*

# Knight Commander Court of Honour 2013



Thomas Allen Barnhart



Barry S. Bosley



Wayne M Boughman



Robert N. Carhart, Jr.



William M Cole



Michael G Faby



Gary W Freeman



John C Friskey



John M. Greer



Pete M. Hicks, II



James T Hill Jr



Timothy C. Keenan



Kevin Holly Mallow



Robert J. Maxson, IV



Gerald R Phillips



Robert W. Reynolds



Daniel L. Roberts



Richard S. Smith



Alan P. Smith



Robert E Sparks



Gordon J Turner



Andrew L. Vineberg



Kostas Vourvoulas



Randall L Watson



Billy Joe Wrights



Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr

Phillip E Plitt not pictured

## The Clinic Corner

By: Eleni Bowden, M.S., CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist  
Hilgenberg Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Center

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE SCOTTISH RITE CHILDHOOD SPEECH AND LANGUAGE CENTER!** We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. One of our hallmark events of the holiday season is our annual holiday party for the children of our clinic. We had a great turnout again this year. The kids loved our new crafts and games, and especially enjoyed spending time with Santa Claus!

Chrissy, Lisa, and I have been keeping busy working with the students and families of the local-area private schools that we serve. We have been so busy that we were able to increase our time spent at both the Garrison Forest School and The School of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen.

The three Scottish Rite clinicians also had the opportunity to travel to Chicago this past November for the annual American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) convention. We attended two full days of presentations on this trip. We particularly enjoyed learning about new iPad applications to implement in sessions and a wonderful summer program that we hope to re-create for our clinic in the future. As clinicians, we pride ourselves on continuing education, so that we are current on the newest techniques and materials. This convention really helped us to do just that!

This semester, we welcomed graduate student clinician and Brockman fellow, Julie Sechler, from Towson University. Julie is off to a great start working with the children and families of our clinic under our supervision; she will be with us until the month of May. Be sure to say hello if you see her around Scottish Rite!

A special thanks to Martha Hazard, of the Daughters of Job, for making such a generous donation to our clinic. Martha brought markers, crayons, construction paper and other school materials for our clients to use. The children are always so excited to have new art supplies and we truly appreciate your kind gesture, Martha.



We were also very surprised to receive an iPad Air from the new Fall Class of Scottish Rite Masons! We have already put it to good use and filled it with new storybooks, communication applications, and language games for the children to use! We would like to sincerely thank the new members for providing us with such a wonderful resource to help the clients of our clinic!

We always enjoy having visitors and invite you to call anytime to visit our center. We'd be happy to give you a tour and provide you with information regarding the services we provide here. In addition, if you know anyone who may benefit from a speech and language evaluation or therapy services, we welcome you to pass along our information to family and friends. We'd like to thank you all for your continued support and send best wishes for a warm spring season!



## Recent Charitable Contributions

As of December 3, 2013

### RECENT CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Robert B. Lumbert  
Valley of Southern Maryland  
Frederick W. Bauer  
Warren Lodge No. 51 AF & AM  
Pete A. Evans  
Bruce G. Null  
John H. Cornes  
Benjamin & Barbara Hendley  
John B. Grieve  
William F. Wirtz  
Ethan & Gloria Habicht  
Michael R. Wolinski  
Estate of Shirley Gesswein  
Bobby G. & Joyce L. Perry  
Carroll Scottish Rite Club

### RECENT TEMPLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Robert B. Lumbert  
Robert W. Chase  
Frederick W. Bauer  
Ionic Doric Terrace Council  
Bruce G. Null  
John H. Cornes  
Jerry Manolatos  
John B. Grieve  
Michael Swigert  
Ethan & Gloria Habicht  
Logan & Sandra Starr  
Roy Miller  
Michael R. Wolinski  
Edward J. & Lucille T. Lijewski  
Saint Cyprian Conclave

### RECENT LIBRARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Edward & Janet Kraft commemorating  
E. Ray Leppo receiving the Grand Cross  
Doug & Patti Potter commemorating E.  
Ray Leppo receiving the Grand Cross  
Brion & Beth Weintzweig  
Joseph N. & Betty Ann Walterhoefer

### RECENT IN HONOR OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The Fudge Eaters in Honor of PGM  
Bennie G. Owens  
Marlin & Brenda Mills in Honor of E.  
Ray Leppo receiving the Grand Cross  
John & Cheryl Young in Honor of  
Marsha Simmons Commemorating  
Fantastic Events Artwork

### RECENT IN MEMORY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Raymond & Anita Bosley in Memory of  
Harry Betsill  
Patricia A. Shreffler in Memory of Ill.  
Lynn. A. Schreffler, 33°  
Joseph & Bernadette Santarsiero in  
Memory of Ill. Nicholas Tur, 33°  
Constance Teyeda in Memory of her  
late Uncle – Bro. Dino Anagnos, 32°  
Woody & Cheryl Saxton in Memory of  
Mrs. Helen Anderson  
Marlin & Brenda Mills in Memory of  
Francis E. Larrimore, PGM  
Marlin & Brenda Mills in Memory of  
Marvin A. Comer  
Marlin & Brenda Mills in Memory of  
John K. & Gertrude Fassel

## BROTHERS CALLED FROM LABOR TO ETERNAL REST

As of December 9, 2013

Leonard F. Burke  
Theodore Burkhardt Jr.  
Clemons L. Canterbury  
William H. Deckert III  
Clair L. Deffley  
Peter S. Elias  
Donald F. Engle  
Albert M. Falbo  
Herbert L. Fishpaw  
Charles E. Grosh  
Walter J. Harmsen  
Gerald D. Heishman  
Clair J. Herb  
Roger L. Hildebrand  
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John N. Proakis  
Theodore M. Provenza  
Richard J. Rhinehart  
Marvin M. Scott  
Daniel A. Spath  
William C. Spencer, Sr.  
Donald H. Stewart Jr.  
Joel W. Thomas  
Charles W. Thomas III  
Charles W. Thomas Jr.  
Grover C. Thompson  
Raymond G. Trott  
Glenn K. Valentine  
Donald J. Wall  
Marion K. Watson

## Support your Scottish Rite Speech & Language Center

The Maryland Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization whose sole function is to support the Hilgenberg RiteCare Childhood Speech & Language Center.

The average cost to tutor a child for one year is approximately \$5,000. Typically, children require an average of two years of tutoring. Your tax-exempt contribution can make a real difference in these children's lives.

For more information, please contact the Scottish Rite Office at 410-243-3200.

Or send a check directly, payable to:

Maryland Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation  
3800 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218

I wish to help a language-disabled child with this enclosed tax-deductible contribution to the **Maryland Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation, Inc. (MSRCF, INC.)**

- \$100—**Million Dollar Club Membership**—Certificate issued
- \$1000—**Gold Club Membership**—Name to be engraved on plaque at Temple
- Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_



*All Gifts are tax deductible and can be made in installments.*

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- General Donation
- In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
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The Maryland Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc. will acknowledge all gifts to the bereaved family or the person honored.

The amount of the gift will not be disclosed. A separate letter will be sent to you acknowledging your tax-deductible gift.

**Enclosed is my/our contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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*From (your name):*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt.# \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## Scottish Rite Photos

### Fall Class 2013 Ring Ceremony





## ARE YOU GOOD FOR YOUR WORD?

By: Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°, SGIG in Maryland

A VERY GOOD FRIEND of mine recently bought himself a new car and was telling me (or maybe complaining) that it took him almost 3 hours to pay cash for it before it was his.

I could not help but remember the first car I bought in Maryland over 4 decades ago. I was in the army stationed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. Brenda and I needed a better car but had no money and only an old Corvair to trade. Someone told me about a car lot on Harford Road called "Johnnie's Used Cars" and that he "looked out" for G.I.'s. We went there and the salesman showed us several cars. He was not too excited about our trade and no money to put down situation. Brenda found a 1965 Chevrolet Impala Super Sport that we both liked and it was only 3 years old. The salesman said we would have to add CASH and the Corvair or no deal. Having no cash, I apologized for wasting his time and was about to leave when a rather large man walked up and introduced himself as Johnnie! He spoke to the salesman who explained that our "eyes were bigger than our pocket book," that I was in the military, had no money and only an old Corvair to trade. Mr. Johnnie looked at me and said "Son, are you good for your word?" I immediately replied "Yes, Sir." Johnnie stuck his big hand out, we shook hands and he said, "The car is yours, and I'll guarantee it for one year." I

signed a promissory note and in a few minutes Brenda and I drove home in the newest car either of us had ever owned. ALL ON A HANDSHAKE AND MY WORD!

Several months later, the car just quit running. I remembered Johnnie's words—"I'll guarantee it for one year." I called Johnnie's thinking it was probably a waste of time but, after explaining the problem to someone, Mr. Johnnie got on the phone and asked where we were. He said he would be right there. When he arrived, he handed me the keys to his personal car and told me to keep it until mine was repaired. He also said that he would bring mine back to me and that I did not have to drive all the way back to Baltimore. JOHNNIE WAS A MAN OF HIS WORD!

As I write this article, I wonder what happened to Johnnie and am reminded of many of the old sayings that you used to hear: "A man's word is his bond" or "A man without his word is nothing." As children, our parents taught us right from wrong and good from bad. These lessons helped each of us establish a set of values that remain with us throughout our adult lives. This helped us to forge our "moral square and compass" for our daily behavior and our own code of ethics.

A person's reputation and integrity are everything. You

should follow through on what you say you are going to do. Mark Twain said, "A person's credibility is built over time and is built on the history of your words and actions." Commitments are made and sometimes apologies are heard because "something else came up." The "something came up" is not really the problem, The broken word is a big problem. YOU MADE A COMMITMENT WITH YOUR WORDS!! Can you remember Roy Rogers, Gene Autry and Hop-a-Long Cassidy? They had the "Cowboy Code" and rule No. 1 was: "a cowboy never goes back on his word or a trust confided in him."

Does a statement like this seem far-fetched? Does it seem incredible that, at one time, a man's word, sometimes sealed with a handshake, was all it took to bind a contract? I wish it were still that simple. When we make a commitment—people count on us—They expect the commitment to be fulfilled. "When something else came up" is used for a broken commitment, people are disappointed and your own personal credibility suffers. (Deut. 23:23) I suppose one day everything will be done by text messages and there will be no words or handshakes. Change is inevitable with time and time marches on!

"TAKE TIME WITH YOUR CHILDREN TO BE A PARENT AND NOT A PEER!"



## Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ORIENT OF MARYLAND

Mail to: A&A Scottish Rite  
3800 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218

Phone - 410-243-3200  
Fax - 410-243-8791  
Email - aasr@verizon.net

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

To the Officers and Members of:

ALBERT PIKE LODGE OF PERFECTION  
MEREDITH CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF KADOSH  
CHESAPEAKE CONSISTORY

FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME

I have never applied for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees, and I now respectfully petition to receive the degrees, from the fourth to the thirty-second inclusive, promising always to bear true faith and allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America. (Note: If applicant has previously applied for any of the degrees, explain fully as to date, place and to what bodies such application was made.)

I am a Master Mason in good standing in \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of \_\_\_\_\_

Date Raised \_\_\_\_\_ If raised in a Maryland Lodge, have you passed exam in 3rd degree Catechism? \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (City or Town) (State) (ZIP Code)

Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (City or Town) (State) (ZIP Code)

And I have resided at my current residence preceding date of this petition for \_\_\_\_\_ months/years.

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(City or Town) (State)

My Occupation, position, or trade is that of \_\_\_\_\_  
(State fully nature of your duties. If retired, please indicate your former duties and employer.)

Employed by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Firm or Gov't Agency) (Address) (Telephone Number)

Wife's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by two members in good standing in the Maryland Scottish Rite Bodies,

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed name of Recommender) (Phone Number) (Signature) (Scottish Rite ID Number)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed name of Recommender) (Phone Number) (Signature) (Scottish Rite ID Number)

- The Supreme Council requires the acceptance of the following fundamental principles: The inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order, underlying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and the entire separation of church and state as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America. Do you approve wholeheartedly of these principles? (Yes or No) \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you ever been held or expressed opinions contrary to the foregoing or been affiliated with and organization which has? (Yes or No) \_\_\_\_\_: If your answer is in the affirmative, give particulars: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Applicant in Full)

**INITIATION FEE: \$250.00**

INITIATION FEE INCLUDES:

14° Trilite Ring (May be upgraded to 10K Gold for additional fee),  
32° Patent, Bridge to Light Book, Albert Pike Morals & Dogma Book

**AT LEAST \$100.00 MUST ACCOMPANY THIS PETITION.**

HAT SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ RING SIZE \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SCOTTISH RITE**

This fee may be paid by Credit Card.

Select one: \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3 Digit Security Number on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming **Events** Winter–Spring 2014

Wednesday, February 19th  
Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection – 7:30pm

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Wednesday, February 26th  
Meredith Chapter Rose Croix – 7:30pm

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Wednesday, March 5th  
Maryland Council of Kadosh – 7:30pm

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Wednesday, March 12th  
Chesapeake Consistory – 7:30pm

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Wednesday, March 19th  
Orientation for Spring Class – 6:30pm  
Dinner following Orientation

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Wednesday, March 26th  
Confer 4th & 5th Degrees  
Refreshments To Follow

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Wednesday, April 2nd  
Confer 11th & 13th Degrees  
Refreshments To Follow

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Sunday, April 6th  
Vera Bradley and Longeberger Basket Bingo  
2pm

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Wednesday, April 9th  
Confer 14th Degree – Refreshments To Follow

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Wednesday, April 16th  
Confer 15th & 18th Degrees  
Refreshments To Follow

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Thursday, April 17th  
Maundy Thursday Ceremony – 6:30pm  
\$20.00 per person

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Wednesday, April 23rd  
Confer 20th & 21st Degrees  
Refreshments To Follow

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Saturday, April 26th  
Reunion Day – Confer 25th, 27th, 30th & 32nd  
Degrees – 8am

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Sunday, April 27th  
Spring Class Ring Ceremony – 2pm - \$15.00  
per person – Candidates – No Charge

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Sunday, June 22nd – Family Day Picnic – No  
Charge Event – 2pm-4pm

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\*Dates Subject to change, please check  
website or call office for updates