



The
RITENEWS
OF MARYLAND

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

MAY/JUNE/JULY 2014

**FAMILY DAY
PICNIC**

Sunday, June 22

LOBSTERFEST

Saturday, Aug. 16

**LODGE OF
PERFECTION**

Wednesday, Sept. 17

**FALL CLASS
ORIENTATION**

Wednesday, Oct. 15



The RITENEWS

of Maryland • May/June/July 2014

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SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL

Marlin L. Mills, 33°

EDITOR

Fred Spicer, 33°



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The Rite News of Maryland is published quarterly for the members, family and friends of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Orient of Maryland. The views expressed in the Rite News of Maryland do not necessarily reflect those of the Orient of Maryland or its officers.

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A MESSAGE FROM

Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°

Dear Brothers and Friends,

I hope this issue of "The Rite News" finds everyone well and suffering no ill effects from this past winter. It is hard to believe that, as I write this, it is actually snowing so hard that one can barely see the church across the street on Charles Street. Yet, as you read this, I hope when you look outside, the flowers and trees are in full bloom and all of our winter coats are in moth balls! Our reunions have all drawn to a close and each Valley is to be congratulated, not only for the fine works I witnessed, but on the new growth in membership. Yet, like those flowers now in bloom, without a little attention, a little kindness and encouragement, they will just wither and fade away. I would like to ask each of you who signed a petition, to contact that individual and ask him if there is anything you can do, any question you can answer or any door you may open that will make the Scottish Rite experience a continuing one. If we all, including myself, would reach out to someone who has not been to a Valley event, meeting or social and just ask that person to meet you there, we may increase attendance and may even find someone who really would like to get involved and just has not been asked. Ask without pushing. No one likes to be or feel like they are being hounded into something. Invite them to some activity or meeting where they can watch, listen or feel a part of—but most importantly—where they can feel welcome!

Our Scottish Rite has a lot to offer and many Valleys are now inviting the ladies to lunches, basket bingo, Lobsterfest, family day picnic,



Maundy Thursday, Feast of Tishri, Ring Ceremony, Strawberry nights, Ladies Day and the list goes on and on. There are many activities that family and friends should be invited to attend. There are ten clubs in Maryland that offer delicious meals at a very low cost and usually very good entertainment. Why not bring a lady and a guest? It may be a new Scottish Rite member in the making.

In closing, I hope everyone has a beautiful spring, a nice summer and I hope to see you all at one of our great Scottish Rite events. Now, may I wish you the blessing of good health and much happiness always.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

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

BROTHERS CALLED FROM LABOR TO ETERNAL REST

As of March 7, 2014

- Elmer F Adler
- Robert R Ebberts
- Edward L Funk III
- Edward B Kraft
- Gordon L Lehnert
- George D Scheffel
- Willie R Yeorgan
- William W Swingle
- Karl D Hovatter
- Angelo J Nopulos
- Russell A Hershberger Jr
- Hubert M Evans Sr
- Robert W Evett
- Leon R Ridenour
- Bufort N Widenhouse
- Frank Olah Jr
- Daniel R Daniel
- John E Faraclas
- Donald L Livingstone
- Archie W Mc Elvany
- Warren Mc Williams
- Louis W Shockley
- Roland G Rumenap Jr
- Richard J Rhinehart
- Jack Thomas
- James E Todhunter Jr
- William E Dixon
- Carl S. Wilkins

How Do We Get More Members Involved?

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



MASONRY, ESPECIALLY SCOTTISH RITE MASONRY, seems to be unique. It has marvelous lessons to teach us, but for some reason, many of our brethren do not seem to take advantage of all the opportunities that we try to afford them. I understand that the busier a man is, the more he is able to produce. It seems that the busiest of our brethren actually become more involved. We have all sorts of opportunities to progress in Scottish Rite Masonry. We must be extremely careful that we do not over commit ourselves.

Where does that leave us today? In our efforts to get everyone involved, we should not overlook the obligations that one has to employment and family. We must teach our brethren to balance their time and effort to make the best of both worlds. I recall, that somewhere in our ritual, it calls for us to have eight hours a day for labor, eight hours for rest, and eight hours for the betterment of mankind. This time is where we tend to squeeze masonry and family. I believe that we must plan our work, then work our plan. We can't expect the officers

of an organization to plan our lives, but we must assure them of our intention to accomplish certain things at certain times. If we can plan for more people to do some things, then we would not expect just a few to do all things.

There are times in our lives when we can devote more time to Masonry. There are also times when we can devote very little time to our fraternity. If this is true with each of us, think how much more it applies to many of our brethren. I wish that I were wise enough to plan for everyone, but alas, each brother must plan his own time schedule. Our degrees and orders have been perfected and updated by experts over the years. I only hope that each of our brothers can utilize that which our predecessors have provided for us and upon every opportunity, improve ourselves in Masonry.

Now is the time to take a look at the degrees that are available this spring and make certain that we refresh our memories by seeing, again, some of those lessons that we have been exposed to or maybe one of the degrees that we have not had the chance to observe. We can also support the casts of the various degrees by our presence. At the same time, we will demonstrate to the new candidates our willingness to support them on this new journey. Best wishes and we hope to see many of you as observers and supporters of our **SPRING CLASS.**

Now is the Time

By: Ill. Gerald E. Piepiora, 33°—Most Worshipful Grand Master



I KNOW, AT A TIME WHEN MANY OF US HAVE SEEN ONLY SNOW ON THE GROUND SINCE MID-DECEMBER (it is now early March as I write this), it's hard to imagine even 50 degrees, but like many cycles in life, we know warmer weather is soon to be upon us. As certain as we are that spring will arrive, we are similarly convinced that men of good character will continue to seek us out.

For those who enjoy learning about Masonic history in Maryland, you know there was a time where political and business leaders were found throughout our membership. Then, in more recent history, for a number of reasons, it became unpopular and even detrimental to be associated with the Freemasons. This was especially true in the world of politics.

It is now late winter 2014 and we've just concluded a most successful event hosting the North American Conference of Grand Masters. For the first time, Baltimore welcomed over 800 Grand Masters and their senior officers, not only from Mexico, the United States, and

Canada, but also throughout Europe and South America. The spotlight of the Masonic world was focused on our little Jurisdiction. Surprisingly, we were able to attract many of Maryland's political leaders to join us at the Conference. Madame Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, U. S. Congressman and Brother Dutch Ruppertsberger, and Maryland's Secretary of State, Mr. John P. McDonough, individually addressed the Grand Masters at the formal opening. They answered questions and reiterated the importance of Freemasonry in Maryland's history. We received television and newspaper coverage during and after their welcoming statements. Numerous proclamations including those from Senator Cardin, Governor O'Malley and State Senator Nathaniel McFadden, were presented. Post Conference letters of congratulations continue to be received from all points of the Masonic world. Our brothers from Maryland Prince Hall, including the MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe attended and participated in many of the events.

The critical acclaim of this weekend event was, I believe, extremely important to our entire Masonic family. It seems now to be OK again for public figures to be associated with the Freemasons. I am now even more confident that the many efforts being made by our brothers and families are finally starting to be recognized.

So, my brethren, now is the time to take advantage of the increased Masonic awareness in our communities. Participate in your Lodges' Open Houses. Make sure anyone of good character expressing an interest in learning about our Craft is welcomed. Above all, find something in Masonry that interests and challenges your mind.

It is my sincere hope that everyone will enjoy a safe and healthy spring season. May God's greatest blessings be with all of you now and in your future endeavors.



The 8th Degree

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



IN THE SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, the 8th Degree, Intendant of the Building, teaches us the lessons of benevolence and charity; the importance of transmitting ethics and moral lessons to the next generation; and that labor is honorable if done with sobriety, temperance, punctuality and industry. The focus of the degree is on completion of the Temple.

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

- MD State Association of DeMolay Chapters in honor of Marlin L. Mills
- Charles B. Burdette in honor of Ill. E. Ray Leppo, 33°, GC

Chesapeake Consistory

By: Hon. Arthur R. Dickerson, 32°, KCCH – Master of Kadosh



they play in helping us improve our lives and the effect this has on our dealings with others.

Following the initial course of our Ancient Craft Masonic education, we reflect back on our admission and initiation, followed by lessons on how to use our description of nature, which we call geometry, to define a moral code. Finally, we learn about human frailties, fidelity, immortality and resurrection.

AS I PREPARE THIS MESSAGE, our spring reunion in the Valley of Baltimore is approaching. Numerous brothers, new and old timers alike, both senior and subordinate, are engaged in the work necessary to provide the education contained in the Scottish Rite degrees. Let's not forget to thank them for the part

Just prior to having the title of Master Mason conferred on us, we are taught a lesson in self-reliance and fidelity and the fate from which there are no exemptions. Immediately following the Worshipful Master's declaration of our becoming a Master Mason, we

are recognized for what we have accomplished and are then informed, that we now have the right to "travel into foreign countries and receive a master's wages".

Now that we have the license to travel as Master Masons and have selected as one of our travels the course of Scottish Rite, consider that we have the rest of our lives to enjoy this journey. Let's not cheat ourselves out of the benefit that the lessons of Scottish Rite can be to us and consequently, those whose lives we touch. I look forward to seeing you at the Valley of Baltimore.

Presentation of Knight Commander Court of Honour cap and certificate to Bro. Phillip E. Plitt



Our Sovereign Grand Inspector General Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33° along with Ill. Vernon R. Denison, 33° and Hon. Donald A. Cilento, 32°, KCCH journeyed to the VA Hospital at Perry Point to present Bro. Phillip E. Plitt with his Knight Commander Court of Honour cap and certificate. Hon. Brother Plitt has been hospitalized for an extended period and was unable to attend our Capping Ceremony last fall.

Council of Kadosh Autumn Festive Board

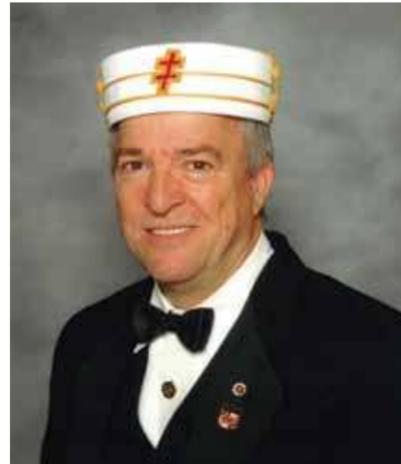
Wednesday, October 1st, 2014

Council Meeting opens at 6:30pm with the Festive Board calling on at 7:15pm. Price is \$15.00 per person, which includes your "Firing Glass", and is open to all.



Maryland Council of Kadosh

By: Ill. Thomas A. Keller, 33° - Commander



WHEN YOU OPENED THE FEB/MAR/APRIL EDITION OF THE RITE NEWS, you probably noticed that the Council of Kadosh had not submitted an article. My bad, as usually when I write an article, I like to leave it set for a day or two, then review it before sending it to print. Well, this resulted in me completely forgetting about the deadline and thus, no article. I apologize to all my fellow

Knights. This was certainly not the way I wanted to start my year as commander. Yet, in this blunder, there is a lesson for all of us. We all try so very hard to please and impress our peers that we forget the number one reason for belonging to this gentle craft - it is that we are all Brothers. We accept each other for who we are, not for what we have done.

The Council of Kadosh is composed of the chivalric or philosophical degrees - the 19° through the 30°. If you research the word Kadosh, you will find it has many meanings. Albert Pike alluded to two meanings of the word Kadosh which, are "holy" and "separated". His explanation is that the Knights are not just holy men but they separate themselves from the rest of humanity by their exemplary virtues. This separation as a Knight Kadosh

benefits those we come into contact with in our daily lives at home, work or in the community. We should strive to practice the lessons taught in the 19° through 30°, thus affecting a change not only in our lives but the lives of those around us. I ask you from time to time to revisit these degrees and reflect on their message.

We had our first meeting on March 5th followed by a Festive Board, borrowing the idea from Past Commander Greg Derwart. The evening of fellowship was enjoyed by all. If you were unable to attend, mark your calendars, we will have another Festive Board at our fall meeting. I would like to thank our line officers for serving in their respective stations and look forward to seeing you at the Rite.

Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

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



BRETHREN, It gives me pleasure to greet you once again and I hope that this message finds you and your families healthy and happy. It was indeed a long, cold winter season and I hope that you are all enjoying the warmer weather and the sense of renewal that only the change of seasons can bring. As I look around, at the leaves on the trees and the blooming of the flowers, I stand in awe once again at the handiwork of the Supreme Architect of the Universe and the beauty that He alone brings to our world.

As we ponder the character of our divine creator, we as Men and Masons, should constantly be about the business of emulating Him by upholding our tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Of all of our tenets, I believe that the greatest of these is truth.

Truth is something you would think would be the easiest of these to uphold, but unfortunately, in these times that we live in, that does not always seem to be the case. It seems that society today places a higher value on convenience

rather than truth. There was a time, in the not too distant past, when a man's word was his bond. Back then a contract could be finalized on a handshake and you could trust that when your neighbor gave you his word he truly meant it. That is how it used to be and should be once again. It is our duty as Masons to hold truth close to our hearts and ensure that our words and actions reflect this to everyone around us.

From our first admission into our Blue Lodges, we are taught the importance of truth in our lives. It is explained to us as we are initiated as Entered Apprentices, when we learn about the tenets of our profession. It is further emphasized to us as Fellowcraft and Master Masons when we are presented with the working tools and taught the value of truth and virtue. Indeed, truth permeates all of the lessons we are taught in the first Three Degrees of Masonry.

Truth is further expanded upon in the 20th Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Master of the Symbolic Lodge. In this degree, we learn several lessons and are enlightened as to the characteristics that a Mason must possess in order to be sufficiently equipped to enlighten and instruct his brethren as the Master of a Lodge. This is one of my favorite degrees of the Scottish

Rite in that, in a very short space of time, we are instructed as to what the most important aspects of Masonry are and truth is featured prominently among them. The Venerable Master states that truth is the imperial and divine, the infinite attribute of God. He goes on to say that truth rebukes and abhors evasion, prevarication, mental reservation and that it rejoices in the light itself.

My Brethren, we must always remember to hold truth close to our hearts and minds as it indeed sets us free and allows us to be the Men that our Creator wants us to be for our families, our world and ourselves. As is stated in the 20th Degree, so may the Divine light of Truth shine in us all. Take care my Brethren and I hope to see you soon at The Scottish Rite.

RECENT IN MEMORY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Oliver & Christa Strong in memory of Richard Rhinehart
 Ray Leppo in memory of Richard Rhinehart
 Charles B. Burdette in memory of Richard Rhinehart
 J. Fred Hobine and Ruth Hobine in memory of Richard Rhinehart
 Mildred Levine in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Samuel and Andrea Fine in memory of Daniel R. Daniel

Chesapeake Scottish Rite Club in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Ries and Marcia Daniel in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Albert and Jeanne Walsh in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Dorothy and Douglas Newhoff in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Joanne and James Baker in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Jack and Ellen Apple in memory of Daniel R. Daniel

Christopher and Willa Rosier in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Neil and Carol Miller in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Stephen and Patricia Dooley in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Stanley and Isabel Levin in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Marcia Epstein in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Alan and Reed Morrison in memory of Daniel R. Daniel

Allen and Barbara Bahr in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 James and Lorene Drabo in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Daniel and Margaret Swegon in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Jeanne Walsh and Paul Godwin in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 Doug Lederman and Gorfine, Schiller, and Gardyn, P.A. in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
 E. Ray Leppo in memory of Daniel R. Daniel

Ramsay's Oration - 1736

(Continued from last issue)

THE SECOND REQUISITE OF OUR SOCIETY is sound morals. The religious orders were established to make perfect Christians, military orders to inspire a love of true glory and the Order of Freemasons to make men lovable men, good citizens, good subjects, inviolable in their promises, faithful adorers of the God of Love, lovers rather of virtue than of reward.

Nevertheless, we do not confine ourselves to purely civic virtues. We have amongst us three kinds of brothers: Novices or Apprentices, Fellows or Professed Brothers, Masters or Perfected Brothers. To the first are explained the moral virtues; to the second, the heroic virtues; to the last, the Christian virtues; so that our Institution embraces the whole philosophy of sentiment and the complete theology of the heart.

Because a sad, savage and misanthropic philosophy disgusts virtuous men, our ancestors, the Crusaders, wished to render it lovable by attractions of innocent pleasures, agreeable music, pure joy and moderate gaiety. Our festivals are not what the profane world and the ignorant vulgar imagine. All the vices of heart and soul are banished there and irreligion, libertinage, incredulity and debauch are proscribed. Our banquets resemble those virtuous symposia of Horace, where the conversation only touched what could enlighten the soul,

discipline the heart and inspire a taste for the true, the good and the beautiful.

Thus the obligations imposed upon you by the Order, are to protect your Brothers by your authority, enlighten them by your knowledge, to edify them by your virtues, to succor them in their necessities, to sacrifice all personal resentment, to strive after all that may contribute to the peace and unity of society.

We have secrets; they are figurative signs and sacred words, composing a language sometimes mute, sometimes very eloquent, in order to communicate with one another at the greatest distance, to recognize our Brothers of whatsoever tongue. These were words of war which the Crusaders gave each other in order to guarantee them from the surprises of the Saracens, who often crept in amongst them to kill them. These signs and words recall the remembrance either of some part of our science, of some moral virtue or of some mystery of the faith. That has happened to us which never befell any former Society. Our Lodges have been established, are spread in all civilized nations and, nevertheless, among this numerous multitude of men never has a Brother betrayed our secrets. Those natures most trivial, most indiscreet, least schooled to silence, learn this great art on entering our Society. Such is the power over all natures of the idea of a

fraternal bond! This inviolable secret contributes powerfully to unite the subjects of all nations, to render the communication of benefits easy and mutual between us. We have many examples in the annals of our Order. Our Brothers, traveling in diverse lands, have only needed to make themselves known in our Lodges in order to be there immediately overwhelmed by all kinds of succor, even in time of the most bloody wars, while illustrious prisoners have found Brothers where they only expected to meet enemies. Should any fail in the solemn promises which bind us, you know, gentlemen, that the penalties which we impose upon him are remorse of conscience, shame at his perfidy and exclusion from our Society. Yes, sirs, the famous festivals of Ceres at Eleusis, of Isis in Egypt, of Minerva at Athens, of Urania amongst the Phoenicians, of Diana in Scythia were connected with ours. In those places, mysteries were celebrated which concealed many vestiges of the ancient religion of Noah and the Patriarchs. They concluded with banquets and libations when neither that intemperance nor excess were known into which the heathen gradually fell. The source of these infamies was the admission to the nocturnal assemblies of persons of both sexes in contravention of the primitive usages.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
NEXT ISSUE

From the Director of Work

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



I AM WRITING THIS DURING ONE OF THE NUMEROUS SNOW STORMS we have had here in Maryland this winter and I am thinking that we have been lucky to have been able to get all the rehearsals and conferrals of Degrees finished without the need to reschedule any of them. I'm sure you are aware that we conferred 13 of the 29 degrees that make up the Scottish Rite. The time frame was from March 24th to April 26th or just a couple of days short of a month. The Brothers who learned the parts, donned their costumes and portrayed the characters in these short plays are to be congratulated for the exemplary work they performed.

It has only been a few short years ago that we were able to confer the five required degrees and there were times when at least one of those was short a character or two. In recent times, there has been a resurgence of interest in conferring degrees that hasn't been seen here in Baltimore for some time. I can't tell you how

happy that makes me, even though it means that I have to schedule more rehearsals and work more conferrals into the schedule. I would like to see us return to the time when we could confer all 29 of the degrees. We have the sets and costumes for them, we just need the actors to fill the costumes and learn the scripts.

If you have an interest, or if your Lodge is looking for something to do as a project for some of those new Master Masons you have raised during the past two or three years, you might consider selecting one of the sixteen remaining degrees and putting together a cast from your lodge. One of the things I hear from many newly raised Masons is that they don't have time to get involved with their Lodge because of the time it takes to become an officer in the Lodge. If they were to take a part in one of the Scottish Rite Degrees, they could work on learning their part at home when they have the time and they can attend rehearsals at your lodge instead of travelling to the Temple on Charles Street. The only time they need to come to the Temple for rehearsal is in preparation for a Reunion when they need to rehearse on the stage, with microphone and earpiece, etc.

Our Secretary – Registrar or I will be most happy to assist you in selecting a degree and getting organized for the conferral when you feel your

cast is ready. All you need to do is talk to us.

Now that the Spring Reunion has taken its place in the archives of the Scottish Rite in Baltimore, it is time to turn attention to the preparations for the Fall. The rehearsal and conferral schedule for our Fall 2014 Reunion will be published soon so be on the lookout for it and have your pencil ready to add the dates to your calendar. I can promise you another round of great work from our casts.

I would also encourage you to visit our other valleys and observe their work. I have enjoyed visiting the Valley in Cumberland many times over the past several years and I can tell you from first-hand experience, the work done there is both interesting and well done. I can also say that my visits to the Valley of Southern Maryland have been equally enjoyed. I know that if you decide to visit, the members will welcome you with open arms.

The Valleys are located in Baltimore, Frederick, Cumberland, Hollywood, Bel Air, and Salisbury. Don't forget the Scottish Rite Clubs. They meet quarterly and usually have an interesting program and a meal. They always have an abundance of fellowship. Call the Scottish Rite Office for meeting dates, places and times.

**The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation
& The Hilgenberg Childhood
Speech and Language Center
invite you to the
14th Annual Family Day Picnic
Games, Prizes, Food & Fun!**

**Sunday, June 22, 2014
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**George Hunt Pavilion
Grand Lodge of Maryland
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, MD 21030**

**Please call the
Scottish Rite Office
(410-243-3200)
for Reservations
No Charge Event**

Directions to the Grand Lodge:

**From South: Take I-695 Beltway to Exit 24 (I-83 North).
Take I-83 North to Exit 20A (Shawan Road East). Turn Left at Traffic Light (McCormick Road). Go 1/8 Mile and Turn Left onto International Circle. Go 1/4 Mile and Grand Lodge Entrance is on Right.**

From North: Take I-83 South to Exit 20A (Shawan Road East). Turn Left at Traffic Light (McCormick Road). Go 1/8 Mile and Turn Left onto International Circle. Go 1/4 Mile and Grand Lodge Entrance is on Right.

The Mysteries of Isis and the Degrees of the Scottish Rite—Part 2

By: Hon. S. Dirk Wiker, 32°, KCCH



PREPARATION

At the beginning of the final chapter in Apuleius' book, Lucius, still in the form of a donkey, self purifies himself with water by immersing his head seven times in the sea. "That number is especially suited for all ritual acts"⁷ within the mysteries and is also prominent in the Scottish Rite rituals.⁸ Purification by water is important, if not essential, in both as well.⁹ The initiates of the Lodge of Perfection degrees, not only purify themselves by learning to apply moral principles to their everyday lives, they learn that the path to find that which was lost leads inward. According to Apuleius, other preparatory duties included fasting and abstinence.

INITIATION

In the more philosophical 18°, the candidate continues his preparation by discovering that the True Word can only be found through Faith, Hope,

and Charity. He then moves into the initiation phase. Apuleius compared initiation to a "voluntary death"¹⁰ and this can be associated to the theme of death and rebirth in the Rose Croix degree when the candidate comes out of the darkness of the second apartment into the light of the third. The initiate discovers that "Nature and Reason unite demonstrating the Infinity of God and the Immortality of the divine essence in man."¹¹ Although the True Word is found, only the completion of the Mysteries is alluded to.

There are several degrees within the Council of Kadosh dealing strictly with the ancient mysteries. It is here that the candidate learns the characteristics of the mystery traditions and learns that the mysteries were separated into the lesser and the greater. The 23° represents the lesser mysteries, the 24° - 26° represent the greater mysteries of the three primary western religions and the 27° finishes the mystery degrees by teaching the initiate how to interpret symbols. Pike, based on the writings of Plutarch¹², believed that the events from the mythological story of Isis were represented in her Mysteries and this theme is included in the ritual of the 24°. The opening quote of this article is all that Apuleius states of the actual initiation because it was not lawful for him to

divulge further information. Lucius ritualistically dies and is reborn. He sees the "midnight sun," either physical light produced by the priests or a dazzling light associated with mystical or near-death experiences. Eating and drinking is often a part of Scottish Rite rituals and the ancient mystery rites. Some scholars believe that ritualistic food induced mystical experiences in ancient mystery ceremonies and might explain the consistent initiate experiences that the participants described.¹³ Regardless of the details, the act of initiation was an extraordinary experience for Lucius and most Masons would also describe their initiation experiences as profound.

COMPLETION

At the completion of Lucius' initiation, he directly experiences the Divine. The 31° is titled Inspector Inquisitor, or Initiate of the Egyptian Mysteries but likely has little in common with the Greco-Roman Mysteries of Isis. Although Osiris and Isis play significant roles in the degree, it is more about the judgment of the dead than what the original Mystery was about. The 32° reveals the Holy Doctrine and the Royal Secret¹⁴ and what could be considered the completion of the Mysteries.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
NEXT ISSUE.

Echo's From the Mountaintop

KSA Hosts 7th Annual Robert Burns Supper



The Knights of St. Andrew hosted their 7th annual Robert Burns Supper on February 1 at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club. The largest crowd ever (146) enjoyed music by The Shanty Irish and multiple toasts, haggis and...more toasts!

Burns Suppers are held annually by Scottish heritage groups worldwide to honor Scotland's Poet Laureate Robert Burns, who also was a Freemason. Pictured here is Piper Bill Barnwell piping in the haggis. Sir R. Fran Shives was, once again the Master of Ceremonies. Sir Mark Widmyer provided the traditional Selkirk Grace. Sir Mark Weatherholt provided the Ode to the Haggis, while Sir Chip Zimmer, VM shared the Immortal Memory. Sir George Baker served as the Sword Bearer and Sir Bud Miles, the Whisky Bearer. Finally, past VM Gary Freeman and his Lady, Mary, shared the toasts to the Lads and Lassies. Other toasts were offered by Sir Buck Taylor, Sir Mark

Kenney, Sir Howard Brode, Sir Scott Paddack, Sir Jerry Robinette, Sir Alvin O'Very, Sir Jim Bosley, Sir Ken Winters, Sir Mike Wade and Sir Joe Kennedy. Dr. Mary Anne Lutz read Burn's poem on the battle of "Bannockburn." Proceeds from the event are donated to the Cumberland Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinic managed by The Children's League.

Zimmer Named "Mason of the Year"

Brother William R. "Chip" Zimmer, 32nd degree, was named "Mason of the Year" at the Cumberland Valley's Scottish Rite Installation on January 5 at the Masonic Temple in Cumberland. Zimmer served as the Knights of St. Andrew's Venerable Master in 2013. He was also named as a Scottish Rite Diplomat as well as a two year appointment as Knight Commander of Washington and Frederick Counties of The Knights of St. Andrew.



Bourbon and Bangers



The Knights of St. Andrew hosted the first St. Andrew's Day Bourbon and Bangers Celebration on November 1 at the Bulls and Bears Restaurant in Hagerstown. All 48 tickets were sold almost as soon as they were available! KSA secured experts from Jack Daniels who provided all the necessary accoutrements including samples of Jack Daniels Single Barrel, Gentleman Jack, Woodford Reserve, Woodford Double Oak, Old Forester and Early Times 354 Bourbon. Commemorative glasses were received by each attendee and purchased bottles were etched for lasting memories. The meal of Scottish bangers was piped in. Sir Scott Paddack and Venerable Master Chip Zimmer served as the co-chairs of this event.



News from the Cumberland Valley

By: Dr. Chip Zimmer

Shives Installed as Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection



Brother R. Francis Shives was installed as the Cumberland Valley Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection. He is a charter member of KSA, a member of the 14th and 30th degree teams, awarded the Valley of Cumberland Meritorious Service Award, invested a Knight Commander Court of Honor (KCCH) and received 33RD degree Honorary Inspector General in 2013.

Others installed included:

Chapter of Rose Croix Wise Master: Mark C. Weatherholt

Council of Kadosh Commander: Lonnie R. Jackson

Consistory Master of Kadosh: Michael L. Kamauff

Knights of St. Andrew Venerable Master: Michael L. Kamauff.

Washington County Scottish Rite Club

With the Cumberland Valley spanning from the sky blue waters of Deep Creek Lake in mountainous Garrett County to the rolling hills of central Maryland's Frederick County, some 140 miles, it was determined that a Scottish Rite Club in Washington County's Hagerstown would make it more accessible for the nearly 250 Scottish Rite members, east of the mountain (Sideling Hill). Distance coupled with SNOW this year, made that decision by Personal Representative, Gary Shircliff (33rd degree) a wise one, indeed! Two organizational meetings have been held and the bylaws have been drafted and are pending approval. Bob Reiff of Hancock has been elected president; Roger Douglas of Hagerstown, vice president; Scott Paddack of Hagerstown is the Treasurer/Secretary and Edward Kline of Hagerstown is the Chaplain.



GWMM Washington DC Bus Trip Planned

The Valley will be hosting a bus trip to the GW Masonic Memorial and Mount Vernon in July. Masons, ladies and friends are invited. Details to follow.

Upcoming Events

May 3
Ladies Night, Ali Ghan Shrine Club

May 10
Frederick Celtic Festival, Mt. Airy Fire Department Carnival Grounds

June 2
Strawberry Night, Cumberland Masonic Temple

June 7
McHenry Highland Festival, Garrett County Fairgrounds

July TBD
GW Masonic Memorial Bus Trip



Scottish Rite Photos



Scottish Rite Photos



Susquehanna Valley Photos



Grandmom & the 4th Degree

By: Rich Thurfield, Venerable Master, Susquehanna Valley

MY GRANDMOTHER PASSED AWAY in 2011, leaving this good earth after having raised 4 children, spoiling 8 grandchildren, and witnessing 4 of her 5 great-grandchildren come into the world.

Her name was Mary and she was a hard-working woman, raised in the depression and taught to value all things, because you never knew when bad times get better or become worse.

She loved her children and grandchildren to the point that the house was literally wallpapered with family photos. Being a good Catholic lady, Grandmom kept a ceramic bust of the Pope in the guest room and hung a huge photo of John F. Kennedy in the hallway.

She also kept a candy jar constantly stocked, and I'm sure I personally cost her at least \$10,000 in M & M's. I will forever cherish the sight of my own son with his cheeks stuffed full of those same M & M's, standing precisely where his father had stood years before, smiling at the comfort and joy of Grandmom's house.

Grandmom learned recycling the old fashioned way, by finding a way to squeeze every last drop of usefulness out of everything. To her, it wasn't a political agenda, but common sense. Never was an empty butter tub thrown away, but instead was employed to hold nails or pins or pennies or even

more empty butter dishes. Old receipts became make-shift post-it notes, and I don't think she ever used a full roll of paper towels in her life, rather opting to use cloth wash rags to keep a house clean enough for surgery.

When I drive past Grandmom's house on Philadelphia Road, I still beep the horn, as though she's in the driveway sweeping the leaves away. And when I do, my heart aches from missing her.

Grandmom must have spent a full 1/3 of her life sweeping leaves from that driveway. It sometimes seemed like an obsession. Rain or shine, warm or cold, Grandmom took to her enormous driveway each and every day to clear away the leaves that had blown across during the night. In the fall, there would be mountains of brown and gold leaves to work through. In the spring, seed pods of every kind would cover the white cement to near obscurity. But the steady whissk-whissk of Grandmom's broom would cut through it all with a steady purpose.

As a little boy, I once asked "Grandmom, why do you sweep the leaves every day, they will just be back tomorrow? You're never finished!"

Grandmom didn't even look up from her broom and just said, "It just has to be done." There was no further comment, no need to justify. Just a simple

statement of what her duty was: to sweep those leaves until every last one was gone, and then return tomorrow and do it again.

Recently, while rehearsing for the 4th degree, I was struck by the power of one line in the script:

"Your labors may not be rewarded, for he who sows does not always reap."

The degree goes on to ask if we are each ready to perform our duties without regard for reward.

Upon hearing this during the conferral, we all nod and agree and accept the obligation.

But are we all really ready to toil with perhaps no reward? It's a heavy question to contemplate and one that must be asked and answered not once in a degree conferral, but rather each and every day.

In her wisdom, my grandmother was a living embodiment of this principal. She did not ponder the reasons behind her sweeping, nor sit and reflect upon the apparent futility of it; instead, she rose each morning and set herself to those duties faithfully and without fail.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.

Maryland DeMolay

By: Dad Carl A. Michel, Jr.—Executive Secretary

GREETINGS FROM MARYLAND DEMOLAY! We would first like to thank the members of the Scottish Rite of Maryland for their continued support of our youth programs. The young men of DeMolay are extremely proud of their relationship with you and the Masonic Fraternity. We also invite each of you out to one of our activities over the next year to see first-hand what makes them the number one youth organization in the state!

Since our last article, Maryland DeMolay has been extremely busy! One of our most exciting activities was our Fall Degree Class. This class was held in honor of Sovereign Grand Inspector Marlin L. Mills for the dedication he, along with the Scottish Rite, have given us through the years. On Saturday, November 9, 2103, the members and advisors of Maryland DeMolay converged on the Scottish Rite Temple on Charles Street to confer the two degrees of DeMolay on 10 new members representing 6 Chapters. I can tell you that your building and stage is the perfect backdrop for these degrees. They were made extra special because of the talents and generosity of Dad Fred Spicer and his knowledge of the stage. The DeMolay Degree is a drama representing the final hearing of the last Grand Commander of the Knight Templar, Jacques DeMolay. This degree is staged in the hearing chamber of the Inquisition and is a sight to behold by new member and Mason alike. The

degrees left a lasting impression on these young men as well as those in the audience.

Deputy State Master Councilor, Bro. Spencer Schuch did an outstanding job on the final ceremony of the afternoon. The new members were given the Flower Talk. This ceremony is given to new members to remind them of the importance of their mothers and how they should always honor and respect them. The final task given to these young men at the end of the ceremony is to pick a red or white flower from the altar to take home to their mothers as a remembrance of the ceremony. The red flower is to be taken if your mother is still living; while a white flower is to be taken if your mother has passed to the other shore.

State Master Councilor, Bro. Sepp Panzer, Executive Officer, Dad William C. Eppig and S.G.I.G., Dad Marlin L. Mills, presented each of our new members with certificates marking this special day. After which, the State Officers and Dad Eppig presented Dad Mills with a certificate and a donation to the Speech and Language Center.

To cap off the day, we held our annual Chevalier Observance with dinner in the ball room followed by the Installation of the Maryland DeMolay Court of Chevaliers. Dad Brett Bean was installed as Grand Commander and spoke on the plans he has for his term.

The most exciting news by far just came across the wire from DeMolay International in Kansas City, Missouri. Maryland DeMolay has once again reached positive growth for the year! With positive growth and several inquiries into new Chapters around the state, 2014 looks to be very promising! Until next issue!

For God, For Country, For DeMolay!



Rite News

By: Bro. Charles Matulewicz, 32°



BRETHREN, our Scottish Rite degrees draw upon theological and philosophical traditions from across the globe... using them to impart moral lessons on our candidates. In our thirty-first degree, we see the traditions of ancient Egypt being used to teach not only about judgment but about the need to consider the motivations behind those actions. These themes are drawn upon to teach a lesson in understanding ourselves, and tempering the zeal of youth with the empathy of experience.

Our thirty-first degree takes place in the Egyptian hall of judgment, but the prelude to the degree is what really evokes the theme for the degree. As the degree begins, we see there are two men, a young and eager squire and a wise Seneschal (a household officer for a noble house) together in a cave, considering the antiquities that surround them within this cave. Considering the carvings and statues of ancient Egypt that surround them, the young squire sees only the pagan, the absurdity of deities with animal heads, idolatry, and sees the beauty of the art fit only for being ground to mortar to build a church. The young and zealous often have a hard time seeing the

subtle lessons that are in front of them... the wise Seneschal uses this as an opportunity to teach his young charge, "Men too often seek to destroy that which they do not understand. Where is the glory in destruction?" And as any great story begins, he asks if our young squire believes in the Judgment of the Dead.

This, my Brothers, brings us to the degree work itself... where the squire is introduced to the Egyptian deities who sit in judgment. Brother Pike's choice of Egypt was not only exotic, it was very subtle. You see the beliefs of the Egyptians are very well documented. Their Book of the Dead spells out their ideas of the afterlife, and their hall of judgment is very, very interesting. You see Brothers, the Ancient Egyptians judged not only the actions of the deceased but the motivations that lay behind those actions. The circumstances and context of actions framed their judgment. This is a valuable lesson for us today, how often do we see the actions of our fellow man and judge without understanding what brought a man to do such things.

This is the same theme that we see in Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*, where the character Jean Valjean... a law abiding man, is forced to steal bread to feed his sister's children during an economic depression. Caught, he is sentenced to prison and is branded as a criminal and obsessed upon by a zealous police inspector who cannot see the context of the crime or the

possibility of redemption. As the Squire moves through the hall of judgment, the gods of ancient Egypt ask probing questions and touch on the motivations behind the actions the squire took in life, imparting on the candidate that for each action, there is an impetus. Osiris explains the lesson best, "To fall and rise again is more heroic than by greater strength, never to fall. To do wrong, and make amends, to sin and to repent belong to a noble nature." The Seneschal then admonishes the Squire to judge honestly, as all humans err... this is a lesson that we can carry into our daily lives and to gauge our own actions.

Which brings us to the Egyptian goddess Ma'at, the goddess of truth and balance... the wife of Thoth, god of wisdom. The Seneschal gives the squire a small statue of Ma'at he found in the cave, a physical reminder of the lessons he received... a physical memento of the lesson that with truth we have to balance the context of the actions with the fallibility of, not only our fellow man, but also ourselves. Brothers, as we go through the Rite, we are given tools to improve ourselves, like the Seneschal, the degree cast is giving us a gift to take outside of our Temple and carry with us every day. As you sit through the degrees, take their lessons and make them a part of your life because Masonry is what we practice in the world. Visit the Rite, visit your Blue Lodge... and I hope to see you in the classroom.

**SCOTTISH RITE
WOMAN'S CLUB**

Pam Kolscher—President

As the newly elected President of the Scottish Rite Woman's Club, Baltimore, MD, I look forward to meeting each and every one of you in the coming year.

My goal for this year is to introduce the Woman's Club to all the women of the new Scottish Rite Masons, during both the Spring and Fall Orientations. With affordable yearly dues, and only one meeting each quarter to attend, we have the financial and moral needs to grow this Woman's Club.

I see the fundraisers possible for this year, and know that the monies raised will help the Hilgenberg Speech and Language Clinic fulfill their goals and needs.

Join me for fellowship and the awesome feeling of helping those in need.

Please contact the Scottish Rite Office for more information.

The Valley of Frederick

By: Bro. John H. Austin, 32°, Venerable Master
Frederick Lodge of Perfection

"YOU, WHO ARE ON THE ROAD, You must have a code, That you can live by!" Do I have that tune running through your head already? Good. Those few words by Graham Nash and David Crosby are not only lyrical, the rest of the song (Teach Your Children Well), is a touchstone for people of a certain time. If you get a chance, google the tune and enjoy. I contend that the very essence of Freemasonry is wrapped up in the words of this popular tune.

Many of you have been the recipients, often by total strangers in a new town, of this sentence. "I see you are a Traveling man." Or something very similar. A complete stranger may see your ring or some Masonic jewelry and recognize a brother. You will immediately feel an affinity, relax and know you are in the presence of a friend and, perhaps, begin a trusting relationship based on nothing more than those few words. It is because there IS a code. We ARE all traveling on the Road. We MUST have a moral and ethical foundation upon which to give us guidance, so we can travel through life and be helpful and courteous to others. It is the lessons we receive through our rituals, symbols and lodge fellowship that give us the ability to travel the world as upright individuals, and spread the light among our own children, families and friends.

We are each traveling on our own individual journey but we are not alone, because we have the code of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly love. We live our lives, if we take our lessons seriously, with honesty and integrity. If we are only doing those things right, then we are active examples every day, without a word ever said. If, on the other hand, we use the tools of Freemasonry as a teaching aid for our relationships with our friends, as guidance for our children, and as lessons to the men that are coming to us in droves, we will accomplish much. More on this later, however, the easiest thing to do to remember the code is to remember, and live by the several Charges, given to us at the end of the three degrees.

I had an additional beautiful charge recently when I was installed as Venerable Master of the Frederick Valley Lodge of Perfection. Another tool to add to my tool bag. Thanks to all the Brethren that thought highly enough of me to place me in this honorable position, I hope to do you proud. We are starting out very well by having 6 brand new candidates and we will confer upon them the 4th, 14th and 18th degrees in Frederick for the first time in many years. The University is open and we are giving them the keys to the Code!

Knights of St. Andrews

By: David Ente, 32°, Commander



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A KNIGHT? Are we just a group of men in flashy uniforms and shiny swords? Are we merely around to present the colors at meetings? I'd like to think we are more than that. In my mind, knighthood brings with it a greater responsibility. It is a responsibility that permeates the Scottish Rite culture--service.

Service is an uncomplicated word. It is simply defined as doing the work that is needed. That is what the Knights of St. Andrew exist for. To do that, which but for us, would not be done. The duties of a knight are not always glamorous, but they are vital and necessary. As an organization, we are most visible in our service when we are ushering and presenting the flags at meetings and events. We also serve our Temple by running the store, serving meals or any of the other tasks that make meeting nights run more smoothly.

In our Blue Lodges, other Masonic bodies, and even

the Grand Line, you will find members of our order taking on officer roles. Sometimes, they just lend support by lending a hand. A knight should be willing to take on responsibility when called upon to do so. There is a sense of service that flows from every knight. Whether at home, at work, or at the Temple, he is there to get the job done.

As men and Masons, we strive for the qualities of a knight. Masonry is what you make of it. So help out at your Blue Lodge, volunteer at the Temple, join a degree team, petition the Knights, visit a sick brother, but get involved.

Chesapeake Scottish Rite Club

By: Bro. William R. Dardick, 32°—President

GREETINGS BRETHREN! On behalf of the Chesapeake Scottish Rite Club, I want to wish you all warm fraternal greetings. It is a great honor to serve you as the President of the Chesapeake Club alongside our Vice President Gregory Lorch and Secretary Steve Hall. The members of the Chesapeake Club are forever grateful to our previous Secretary Bill Grau who recently retired after his many years of service to our club. For those that are unfamiliar with the Chesapeake Club, our purpose is to promote

fellowship within the Scottish Rite and encourage friendship in the Masonic fraternity through entertaining events. This promises to be a memorable year with our next dinner event in May and our baseball outing in August.

We will be attending the Aberdeen Ironbirds game on August 24, 2014 which has become an exciting tradition with the Chesapeake Club. All are welcome, so come out and have fun with us. This year, we will be sitting in the Party

Deck and seats will be limited to 30 people. Please let me know immediately if you would like to attend and how many tickets you would like. Family and friends are welcome. The price this year is \$30.00 which includes a ticket to the game, food, a hat, and a great time. To attend either of these events, please contact me at wdardick@gmail.com or call me at 443-604-4928. Again, it is an honor to be a part of the Chesapeake Club and I look forward to serving you for the next two years as your president.

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Quick Acting Tips To Make Your Degree Work Come Alive

By: Rich Thurfield, 32°

WHEN YOU BOIL IT RIGHT DOWN, our Scottish Rite degree conferrals are stage plays designed to impart important Masonic and moral lessons.

Whether the degree is performed on a large stage or in an intimate lodge room setting, the power of the performance of those involved can determine the power a particular degree may have on a class of candidates.

We have all been in a degree conferral that was yawn inducing. But too, haven't we all also been witness to a degree conferral that was powerful and inspiring?

Much depends on the ability of a particular group of brothers to act out the drama in a passionate way.

Since few of us will ever abandon our day jobs for the life of stage and screen, Rite News spoke with a professional actress Amy Parochetti. Amy is a veteran of film, television and stage acting, and offered some tips and tricks to make our acting and degree work come alive on stage.

1. Know your lines- "It seems simple," Amy says "but if you don't have your lines totally memorized, it's going to be hard to get any emotion in what you're doing. You'll spend all your brain power trying to remember your words instead of acting so make sure you really have it down."

2. Practice lines out loud and on your feet- Amy explains that quietly sitting at the dining room table reading lines won't prepare you to perform. "When you practice on your own, make sure you're doing it out loud and walk around if you can. You need to teach the lines and script to your whole body, not only will you remember it more, but it will feel more natural." Amy also says that practicing with a partner is one of the very best ways to go.

3. Know what the words mean- Let's face it, some of the language in our degree work can be complicated, and sometimes difficult to understand, but it's important to take the time to make sure you understand not only what the individual words mean, but how they work in the context of the lines. According to Amy, even professional actors can get hung up by complex text "Don't be afraid to break out the dictionary, or to ask someone exactly what the text means. Dealing with older styles of English, like the kind found in Shakespeare and other classical style works can be confusing. There are entire books dedicated to figuring out what those things mean. So, if you don't get it as an actor, there's no way the audience will get it. Make sure you understand it all fully before stepping on stage."

4. Relax! "If you're tense and feel awkward on stage, the audience will see it no matter

how far away you are." Amy says that relaxation is the key to a good performance, and though there are several great techniques to dealing with nerves and stage fright, the easiest is just to breathe. She says "Right before you step on stage, take 10 deep, slow breaths and try to make sure your heart rate is slow and calm. You'll be amazed at how energized and relaxed you will feel."

Hopefully, these tips will help you to make the most of your performance so that it can be more enjoyable and informative to the Brethren receiving the degrees, and less stressful and more fun for you.

Amy Parochetti is a professional stage and screen actress and member of the Screen Actors Guild from Baltimore, Maryland with credits including HBO's "Veep", Netflix "House of Cards" and the upcoming "Captain America 2". Amy has also starred in numerous award winning stage productions in Baltimore and New York.

The Clinic Corner

By: Christine Wandishin, M.S, CCC-SLP

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SUMMER IS UPON US and that spring is coming to an end. Many of the children receiving services at our contractual schools will be graduating from speech before their summer vacations begin! Summer time is always a great time to help those children who need an extra boost before the new school year starts. We offer a variety of school enrichment services that can help a child prepare for kindergarten.

The close of spring is also an exciting time to make renovations and update materials needed in the clinic. The Scottish Rite has once again helped the clinic tremendously by having a Vera Bradley and Longaberger Basket Bingo to raise funds for our center. We can't wait to update our iPads and decide which new materials and assessments are needed to continue offering our children the best services possible.

We would like to take this time to congratulate Julie Sechler for finishing her graduate externship this May. She will also be graduating from Towson University with a Master's Degree in Speech Language Pathology. She has done an excellent job here at the clinic and we can't thank her enough for all of her hard work and dedication. The interviews for the Brockman Scholarship will also take place this May and we look forward to having the recipients at our clinic this coming semester.



The Scottish Rite Picnic will take place on June 22, 2014 this year. Our staff, clients, and families always look forward to having a fun filled day with our fellow Masons and their families. It is always a great way to share a meal, participate in games, and converse with everyone.

Finally, we wish you all a wonderful, happy, and healthy summer! We also invite you to come and visit us anytime.



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EXCERPT FROM: THE SYMBOLISM OF FREEMASONRY

By: Albert G. Mackey, 33°



THE LEGEND OF THE WINDING STAIRS

Before proceeding to the examination of those more important mythical legends which appropriately belong to the Master's degree, it will not, I think, be unpleasing or uninteresting to consider the only one which is attached to the Fellow Craft's degree—that, namely, which refers to the allegorical ascent of the Winding Stairs to the Middle Chamber, and the symbolic payment of the workmen's wages.

Although the legend of the Winding Stairs forms an important tradition of Ancient Craft Masonry, the only allusion to it in Scripture is to be found in a single verse in the sixth chapter of the First Book of Kings, and is in these words: "The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house; and they went up with winding stairs into

the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third." Out of this slender material has been constructed an allegory, which, if properly considered in its symbolical relations, will be found to be of surpassing beauty. But it is only as a symbol that we can regard this whole tradition; for the historical facts and the architectural details alike forbid us for a moment to suppose that the legend, as it is rehearsed in the second degree of Masonry, is anything more than a magnificent philosophical myth.

Let us inquire into the true design of this legend, and learn the lesson of symbolism which it is intended to teach.

In the investigation of the true meaning of every masonic symbol and allegory, we must be governed by the single principle that the whole design of Freemasonry as a speculative science is the investigation of divine truth. To this great object everything is subsidiary. The Mason is, from the moment of his initiation as an Entered Apprentice, to the time at which he receives the full fruition of masonic light, an investigator—a laborer in the quarry and the temple—whose reward is to be Truth. All the ceremonies and traditions of the order tend to this ultimate design. Is there light to be asked for? It is the intellectual light of wisdom and truth. Is there a word to be sought? That word is the symbol of truth. Is there

a loss of something that had been promised? That loss is typical of the failure of man, in the infirmity of his nature, to discover divine truth. Is there a substitute to be appointed for that loss? It is an allegory which teaches us that in this world man can only approximate to the full conception of truth.

Hence there is in Speculative Masonry always a progress, symbolized by its peculiar ceremonies of initiation. There is advancement from a lower to a higher state—from darkness to light—from death to life—from error to truth. The candidate is always ascending; he is never stationary; he never goes back, but each step he takes brings him to some new mental illumination—to the knowledge of some more elevated doctrine. The teaching of the Divine Master is, in respect to this continual progress, the teaching of Masonry—"No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of heaven." And similar to this is the precept of Pythagoras: "When travelling, turn not back, for if you do the Furies will accompany you."

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.

RECENT IN MEMORY OF CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

Richard and Debbie Davidson in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
Carol W. Lowe in memory of Daniel R. Daniel

Charles B. Burdette in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
Howard and Deborah Berman in memory of Daniel R. Daniel
Constance Tejeda in memory of Dino Anagnos

Charles and Lillie Miller in memory of Edward Kraft
Morris and Sharon Bohlayer in memory of Edward Kraft
J. Wendell Davenport in memory of Edward Kraft
E. Ray Leppo in memory of Edward Kraft and Wilbur Jensen



RIGHTS—WHOSE RIGHTS ARE RIGHT?

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

I WAS RECENTLY HAVING BREAKFAST at the Greek Village in Bel Air with a few guys, as I do each morning and the conversation turned to a peanut butter and jelly sandwich! It seems this Brother sent a peanut butter and jelly sandwich to school in his son's lunch. The son returned home with a very blunt note from the school stating that peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were not allowed nor were peanuts, peanut candy or anything associated with, made with or having been in contact with peanuts! It seems that a child somewhere in the school is allergic to peanuts, and therefore, all other children in the entire school must do without a century old staple.

Well, that started it! Another fellow stated that last Sunday, his minister stood up in front of the whole congregation in his church and said he would like for all of the ladies to stop wearing perfume and all of the men to stop wearing cologne or after shave because there was someone who was allergic to the fragrances.

The guy next to him had just as good a story. It seems last fall, his neighbor came over and asked him to consider getting rid of his swimming pool by filling it in. It seems the neighbor's child cannot swim and might climb the fence around the pool and drown.

Wow—one story right after the other. WHO IS RIGHT AND WHOSE RIGHTS ARE IN QUESTION?

Many such ideas begin well but few consider how many are affected. Remember when, in elementary school, the teacher made the entire class miss recess because one child misbehaved? Fair? NOT FAIR!

Could it be a good way to teach dependency and show that we all depend on each other? I think it should be the individual who takes the responsibility for his own personal needs. No, that does not mean I want to see the child hurt because of peanut butter, an asthma attack for smelling perfume, nor the child drown because he cannot swim.

However, why can't the parent of the peanut butter allergic child make arrangements for their child to dine in another area, car, home or other safe place and not punish all of the children who might enjoy that peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch? Why did the minister not invite the fragrance allergic one to sit by a door, air conditioner or fan, "cry room" or an office with an intercom or speaker and not ban all delightful fragrances from the church? Why not teach the child to swim or to stay in his/her own yard and not to climb over the neighbor's fence? The neighbor may have

been willing to teach the child about swimming or water safety instead of being asked to fill in his pool.

The old saying "we should not blame the many for the error of a few" is certainly a point to be considered.

I once read a statement by Jarod Kintz that said: "I want to protect all innocent people from sin by locking them in a cage where evil cannot get to them". Why not teach the pitfalls of sin?

Are we all being locked into a cage?

Are we being protected from each other?

When do your rights interfere with rights that do not coincide with my rights? Do we really have any rights? What has happened to getting along and working together?

Thank goodness for the "Rite News" for bringing the rite article to the right person at the right time and right place.

See you next issue

REMEMBER: BE A PARENT, 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** Spring-Summer 2014

Sunday, June 22nd
Family Day Picnic
No Charge Event – Open to All – 1pm – 4pm

Saturday, August 16th
Annual Lobsterfest - \$45.00 per person
Proceeds Benefit our Scottish Rite Clinic

Wednesday, September 17th
Lodge of Perfection – 7:30pm
Dinner (Open to All) @ 6:30pm \$10.00

Wednesday, September 24th
Chapter Rose Croix - 7:30pm
Dinner (Open to All) @ 6:30pm \$10.00

Wednesday, October, 1st
Council of Kadosh -6:30pm
Festive Board @ 6:30pm– Open to All \$15.00

Wednesday - October 8th
Chesapeake Consistory -7:30pm
Dinner (Open to All) at 6:30pm \$10.00

Wednesday, October 15th
Fall Class Orientation @ 6:30pm
Refreshments After

Saturday, October 18th
Fall Class Degrees – 8am
Confer the 4th, 5th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 18th
& 20th Degrees
Lunch served at 12:15pm - \$5.00 per person,
Candidates No Charge

Sunday, October 26th
Scottish Rite Memorial Service @ 2pm
Refreshments to Follow

Saturday, November 1st, Reunion Day
8am – Confer the 21st, 25th, 27th, 30th &
32nd Degrees
Lunch served at 12:15pm - \$5.00 per person,
Candidates No Charge

Sunday, November 2nd, Ring Ceremony
2pm
