



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF THE ORIENT OF MARYLAND | MAY/JUN/JUL 2021

RITENEWS

OF MARYLAND

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MAY/JUNE/JULY 2021

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Inscription
House of
the Temple*



**Sovereign
Grand Inspector
GENERAL**

Marlin L. Mills, 33°

Editor

Fred Spicer, 33°, GC

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A MESSAGE FROM

Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33^o



FOR YOUR
PATIENCE,
UNDERSTANDING
AND FLEXIBILITY
I SINCERELY
THANK EACH
ONE OF YOU.

DEAR FRIENDS AND BROTHERS ALL,

I sincerely hope this issue of our Rite News finds you and your family well. Wow, what a difference a year makes. A year ago, we were rolling along planning degrees, Lobster Feast, bingo and reunions. Suddenly the rug was pulled out from under us by an unknown virus. Everything came to a screeching halt, and all planning was instantly changed. Locked down and locked out seemed to be the “new normal.” New change orders were issued weekly, causing cancellation of most of our planned activities.

Disappointing, yes, but we “cheerfully complied” to the new laws and regulations, which were implemented and, working together, we were able to hold reunions, meetings, and take care of most of the necessary work. We all wore masks, sanitized our hands and maintained social distance. Each of you made it work.

For your patience, understanding and flexibility I sincerely thank each one of you. Without your involvement and assistance, we could not have accomplished anything. Yet working together, using caution, and following all the mandated rules, we were successful. And the good news is, that due to your persistence in keeping everyone safe, not one single case of COVID-19 can be attributed to our Scottish Rite. You all did a great job!

Now as the seasons go from winter snow to spring flowers and then to summer heat, we will continue to bring things back to normal. Fresh air and sunshine are good. Our Fall Reunion and Honors Day are in the works (maybe even Lobsterfest)! The Christmas Gala is already planned. In every Maryland Valley, your Scottish Rite is preparing great things for the remainder of 2021. Please get out and greet those you have not seen in a while. Wear a face mask as required or needed but support your Valley if you are able. I hope I will be able to say hello in person at an event near you in the very near future.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and until we meet again, I remain yours always.



Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33^o
*Sovereign Grand Inspector
General in Maryland*



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Valley of Baltimore

BY: ILL. E. RAY LEPP0, 33°, GC—PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



GREETINGS to the members of the Spring 2021 Class. On behalf of the Valley of Baltimore, I wish to

welcome and extend sincere congratulations to each of you, our newest 32° Scottish Rite Masons. You have witnessed degrees demonstrating moral and philosophical lessons that expand on the Blue Lodge Degrees and represent the ultimate in personal character and perfection. I invite you to get involved and be an active part of the Rite. This could be as simple as attending the meetings of the bodies or returning to experience the degrees again; especially one that you hadn't

before. Of course, you can become involved in the degree work. Principle and understudy roles are always needed for the degrees. If performing on stage isn't for you, there are many "behind the scenes" positions that could use your energy. From robing and sound to property and lighting, there is a place here for you.

I look forward to getting to know and building close Masonic relationships with each of you.

2020 Scottish Rite Mason of the Year Hon. David A. Ente, 32°, KCCH

Raised a Master Mason in
Plymouth Lodge #143—06/23/2012
Current Senior Warden of Composite Lodge #212
Scottish Rite 32°—11/03/2012
Invested KCCH—10/14/2017



From his work with the KSA to countless hours spent maintaining, repairing and managing the costumes in the Robing Room, not to mention participating in the Degree work and serving as an officer in the Lodge of Perfection, Brother Ente is a dedicated Scottish Rite Mason. If there is something going on at the Rite you can bet you will see Dave there!



Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

BY: HON. L. EVANS VOTTA, 32°, KCCH—HOWARD LODGE #101—VENERABLE MASTER



BRETHREN, this issue’s article features the correlation between Masonry and Maslow’s Hierarchy of Human Needs. They are a totally intense structure of ideals that capture our growth as humans leading us to fulfillment in our everyday lives. Some of you may find this abstract, but some may find it so appropriate.

Abraham Maslow was a psychologist who, in 1943, proposed a concept of different levels of human needs. His paper “A Theory of Human Motivation” was published in the “Psychological Review”. His theory consisted of five levels of human growth, not necessarily physical growth. Maslow’s theory is one topic that really intrigued me back in high school.

MASLOW’S HIERARCHY OF HUMAN NEEDS

- 5. Self-Actualization
- 4. Esteem
- 3. Love and Belonging
- 2. Safety Needs
- 1. Physiological Needs

At the bottom of his pyramid are the Physiological Needs such as food, clothing, water, rest, etc. These are the basics for survival. This makes me think of when the Candidate for the Entered Apprentice Degree is first introduced to the Blue Lodge. He enters with basically nothing, almost naked into the world, with no concept of what is going on around him.

The second tier is comprised of Safety Needs such as personal security. This does not necessarily mean hiring an armed guard. Safety needs include shelter, health, job security and a safe environment. I consider Masonry to be a safe environment. We are surrounded by Brethren who are there to assist, mentor and do whatever they can to help their fellow Brother without causing injury to themselves or their family.

The third tier is Love and Belonging. This level and the

next are known as Psychological Needs. According to Maslow, “Humans possess an effective need for a sense of belonging and acceptance among social groups”. This has Ancient Free and Accepted Masons written all over it.

The fourth level is Esteem. Esteem comes from a sense of achievement and gaining respect from others. This is clearly demonstrated in Masonry as the Brother ascends the three degrees in his Blue Lodge. By becoming a Master Mason, he has the opportunity to grow even further by learning the teachings of the York and Scottish Rite degrees.

The fifth and final level is Self-Actualization. This is known as a Self-Fulfillment need. It can be gained by achieving one’s full potential, including creative activities. “What a man can be, he must be.” Maslow states that by perceiving goals and being self-motivated and desiring to accomplish, one can reach the pinnacle of Self Actualization. Masonry teaches us to be the best we can and to exude those tenets with everyone we contact.

I don’t know if Maslow was a Mason, but I feel he had the foundation to be a mighty good one.



The Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix

BY: HARRY M. HARGER, 32°, KCCH, WISE MASTER—MT. ARARAT #44



I HOPE, as of the writing of this article, all my brothers are well. It has been a difficult year for all. That is the inspiration for this article. Though these times are difficult and trying, I have found that, as a Scottish Rite Mason, there truly is light at the end of the tunnel. As Wise Master of the

Meredith Chapter of the Rose Croix, I have used the lessons of the Scottish Rite to help me overcome my struggles, albeit difficult.

The meetings at the Valley of Baltimore have been well attended, even during snowy evenings. This has inspired me to read. There are many words to describe us as Scottish Rite Masons. I found words that can provide inner solace to everyday life. Words such as hope, faith, charity, prudence, fidelity and patience caught my interest. As I began to reflect on the meaning of each word, I looked for differences to explain them. I soon found many more similarities than differences. I realized that they all relate to the Latin phrase “Eques ab Honore” which translates to “Knight of Honor.”

As a Knight of Honor, we all try to do our best during these times to inspire and keep ourselves within our cable tow. The Scottish Rite Ritual has value to all and offers a great way to help understand our lives.

I encourage all Knights to attend the meetings and degree work of our Scottish Rite as well as get involved during this second half of the year. This is a wonderful magazine and will keep you tuned in to the events of this year. It is a great time to be a Scottish Rite Mason!

In closing, I hope to see you soon and wish that you will help to expand the brotherhood with fervency and zeal. The 2021 calendar year is almost halfway gone but the summer and fall are great times to strengthen our beliefs!

Be safe my Brothers!

MARYLAND “SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY” LICENSE PLATES



**Available through the Baltimore Office
for SR Masons and their spouses.**

The Office is open M-F from 9am to 4pm
@ 410-243-3200 or you may email aastr@verizon.net
and the forms will be mailed to you. **Cost is \$30.00**



Chesapeake Consistory

BY: BRO. LEON L. PETTAWAY, 32°, MASTER OF KADOSH—
PALESTINE LODGE #89



Costumes, staging, and dialog make you feel like you are in the era or time period each degree is set in. Albert Pike is considered, by some, to be the great organizer of the Scottish Rite and dedicated his time and energy to the Order. He also wrote many books, such as *Morals and Dogma*. So also, do we have to find the time and energy to dedicate to our Craft and become an asset to the Scottish Rite.

IT IS NOT what the Scottish Rite can do for you, but what you can do for the Scottish Rite. There are many ways that you can play a role in the Scottish Rite. You can donate, become involved in the degree work or become an officer in one of the bodies. When I first became a part of the Scottish Rite in Baltimore, I was amazed. I almost did not know which way to go. I made up my mind to commit to the Scottish Rite and make a difference. Then, Illustrious Brother Spicer asked me to become the Expert in the Chesapeake Consistory. From thence, my course was laid out before me and I followed it. At the time, I never believed that this would lead to me one day becoming Master of Kadosh.

The most important thing when you look at the different degrees is the symbolism of each.

There are many ways that you can play a role in the Scottish Rite. You can donate, become involved in the degree work or become an officer in one of the bodies.

Masonry is like working on the empty shell of a building. The more time you put into fixing all the things on the inside, you begin to see the growth and the beauty of the building. We are all still working on our own Temple - Mind, Body, and Spirit. So, let us be careful and mindful to aid Brothers who might need our help. Be Blessed.

OUR SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

For year round activities and meetings of these clubs, call:

Arundel Scottish Rite Club

Ill. S. Dirk Wiker, 33°
443-321-2724

Conowingo Scottish Rite Club

Hon. Jason Q. Standish, 32° KCCH
410-688-4688

Carroll Scottish Rite Club

Ill. Paul M. Lloyd, 33°
410-374-2569

Eastern Shore Scottish Rite Club

Ill. Arthur H. Tawes, 33°
443-235-8950

Mid Shore Scottish Rite Club

Ill. Robert Sparks, 33°
410-634-2235

Scottish Rite Cheer Club

Ill. J. Frederick Hobine, 33°
410-243-3200

Washington County Scottish Rite Club

Hon. Scott Paddock, 32°, KCCH
301-988-7800



Maryland Council of Kadosh

BY: HON. CHARLES J. MATULEWICZ, 32°, KCCH—COMMANDER—PALESTINE LODGE #189



WHAT WILL YOUR COUNCIL of Kadosh be doing as we make our way through this 2021 Masonic Year? We will confer degrees, we will enjoy our time together in our festive boards, and we will practice Freemasonry.

I think often of the word Kadosh, which can be distilled down to being defined as holy and then I consider what that means to me as a Scottish Rite Mason.

Look around the Temple. You will see men from every walk of life working to improve themselves, and each other, through Masonry. Speak to your Brethren and ask them a few simple questions: Why they joined the Rite, why they stay in the Rite, and how the Rite has changed them. I believe you will be surprised. Those conversations that you have with your Brethren will show

you that there are as many versions of what brought a Brother to the Scottish Rite as there are Brethren in our Orient... as many personal versions of Masonry as there are Masons.

I think often of the word Kadosh, which can be distilled down to being defined as: HOLY

The Blue Lodge teaches that men come to Temple to subdue their passions and improve themselves in Masonry. Consider that for a moment, reflect on your Masonic experience particularly, is it possible to see Masonry as a looking glass? By this I mean that, like the reflection upon the surface of a mirror in Masonry, you can see a pathway to become the man that you aspire to be, and through Masonry you can benefit from the collected efforts of your friends and Brothers to help you achieve those aspirations.

Giving away a treasure like that, how is it that our Temple is not overwhelmed with men? That's the question of the century... and one which our

luminaries have worked on for longer than I have been alive. But what does it mean if there are as many answers as there are versions of Freemasonry?

What does that word Kadosh inspire when thinking about what motivates men to become Masons?

When I try to apply the word holy to men, I turn to the dictionary which defines "holy" in terms of saintly, godly, devout, and pious. It's that word pious that I find most apt. The archaic use of the word is linked to duty, which the ancient Romans would epitomize by pious Aeneas, who was dutiful to his people and country. Masons are pious as well. We practice the disinterested friendship epitomized by charity, or caritas, which the Romans would have understood as a deep love for our fellowman.

By practicing Masonry as a verb in the world and by remembering that third rung of Jacob's ladder, we have an opportunity to inspire men to see themselves in the Craft. There are no new Scottish Rite Masons in the Council, and there are no new Masons in the Lodge room. But by being Masons in the world, you may very well be the man someone else aspires to be and that may be the greatest gift you can give the Scottish Rite and the world.



Valley of Charles County

BY: BRO. P. ANTHONY BALTA, 32°, VENERABLE MASTER CHARLES COUNTY LOP—ST. COLUMBA LODGE #150

GREETINGS from the Valley of Charles County! COVID-19 has made a huge impact on all of us. Beginning in late 2019, throughout 2020, and continuing into 2021, we have all had to make changes to our lives and our habits in an effort to keep as healthy as possible and to mitigate the spread of this deadly disease. Some of us have fought the disease and won. Others have lost the battle and we mourn their passing. With the advent of a vaccination, new hope springs forth for a future with less fear and more determination. However, I would caution everyone to not favor a blind eye to the insidious nature of complacency and/or fall back on old habits which lead to the accelerated spread of this disease. This could lead to a similar incident with the next “pandemic illness.” Vigilance is the key. Maintain social-distancing guidelines and self-protection considerations laid out by the Center for Disease Control. This disease has changed our world and we need to change along with it.

Because of the trials and tribulations of COVID-19, we, as Scottish Rite members, have had to change and adapt. New rules on meetings and gatherings have caused us all



Pictured Front Row (L-R): Ill. Brother Marlin L. Mills, 33° SGIG (and MWGM), Hon. Brother William Zarychta, 32° KCCH, Brother Joseph Saia, 32° (Installed Senior Warden), Brother Paul “Tony” Balta, 32° (Installed Venerable Master), Brother Michael Clark, 32° (Installed Junior Warden), Brother Michael “Spike” Porter, 32° (Installed Orator). **Back Row (L-R):** Brother R. Shawn Cooper, 32°, Brother Reggie Eda, 32°, Hon. Brother Joseph Myers, 32° KCCH (Past VM and Installed Secretary), and Ill. Brother Charles Hallock, 33° IGH

to think outside of the box and come up with new ways to achieve the same results: enter technology. New technology and applications have allowed Freemasonry and its members to continue to socialize and work within the constraints of a pandemic. I believe this will continue to improve and thus improve our lives and work within our communities.

Recently, the Valley of Charles County held a split Installation of Officers due to COVID-19 restrictions. These restrictions have not dampened the spirit of

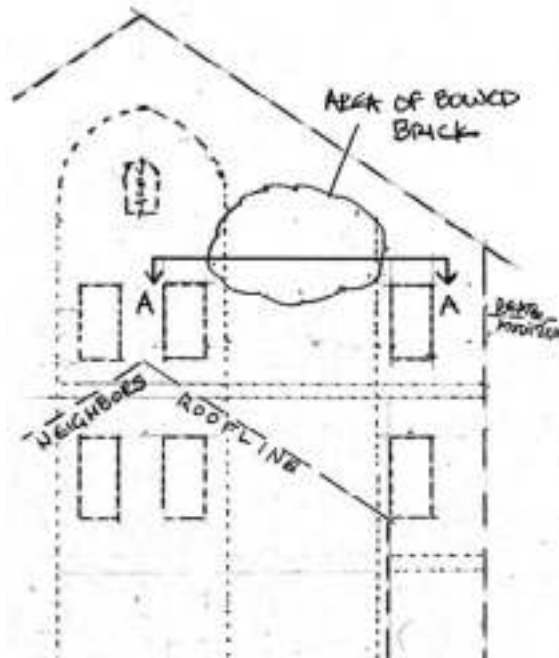
the Valley nor will they cause us to stray from our goals for this year which are certification in the 14th degree and obtaining our full charter, assisting our Blue Lodges and Youth Groups with community charity events (as well as implementing our own events), and always remaining vigilant for new members to help grow the Valley. As Venerable Master of the Valley of Charles County, I am committed to these goals and, with the aid of my Brothers and Valley Officers, will accomplish great things in 2021!



Historic Mann’s Tavern Restored

BY: BRO. BROTHER G ANDREW MARTINEZ, 32° KCCH—ANNAPOLIS LODGE #89

THE BLOCK OF SPACE between Duke of Gloucester Street, Main Street, and Conduit Street in Annapolis, Maryland is the location of the historic 234 year-old Mann’s Tavern, the home of Annapolis Lodge No. 89. This block that composed of the Woodward House (on Duke of Gloucester Street (now the Georgian House), built 1747), the Dulany House (built 1753, where the Main Street buildings are now), and Mann’s Tavern (built 1787) has hosted the “who’s who” of Annapolis as well as many distinguished visitors. Early records show a hive of masonic activity in these three buildings, as many of Annapolis’s prominent citizens were Freemasons. Dr. Alexander Hamilton, founder of The Tuesday Club (1745-1756) was the Worshipful Master of the “Maryland Lodge” or “Lodge at Annapolis” (circa 1750). Samuel Middleton (of Middleton’s Tavern down near City Dock) was a Warden, as was John Lomas. Brother Hamilton was married to Margaret Dulany, the half-sister of Lloyd Dulany (a mason), who owned the Dulany House. (As an aside, Middleton’s Tavern also hosted The Jockey Club, founded in 1743. Brother George Washington frequently attended Jockey Club meetings starting in 1762 to 1773. And during the Revolutionary War,



Pictured clockwise from top left:

Mann’s Tavern, circa 1886, rear flue area, flue of the old chimney, diagram showing area of bowed brick on the West wall.

George Mann (owner of Mann’s Tavern) operated Middleton Tavern while Brother Middleton was serving as a private in Morgan’s Rifle Regiment. Brother Washington boarded at the Mann’s Tavern complex in 1783 when he resigned his commission (Dulaney House) and Mann’s Tavern proper in 1791.

Recently, the (masonic) West wall of Mann’s Tavern was restored thanks to all of the Brothers who contributed to the lodge’s Building Fund. The Building Fund provided the monies necessary to continue the preservation of the historic building.

Continued on page 30



Valley of Susquehanna

BY: BRO. EDWARD T. DICKSON, 32°, SECRETARY—VALLEY OF SUSQUEHANNA



THEIR SECRET WAS OUT. A few years ago, I acquired my grandfather's home here in Maryland. Remembering back when I was young, my family would make the drive from New Jersey to Maryland to spend the summer with my grandparents. I would spend carefree days fishing and running through the corn fields. Looking back now, it was a different time, things were slower, and more laidback.

Now, let me focus and get to the point. Shortly after moving in, a trip to the basement revealed a collection of my father and grandparents'

possessions. They were boxed, labeled and neatly organized. I came across a wooden box. It was very old and made of beautiful dark wood.

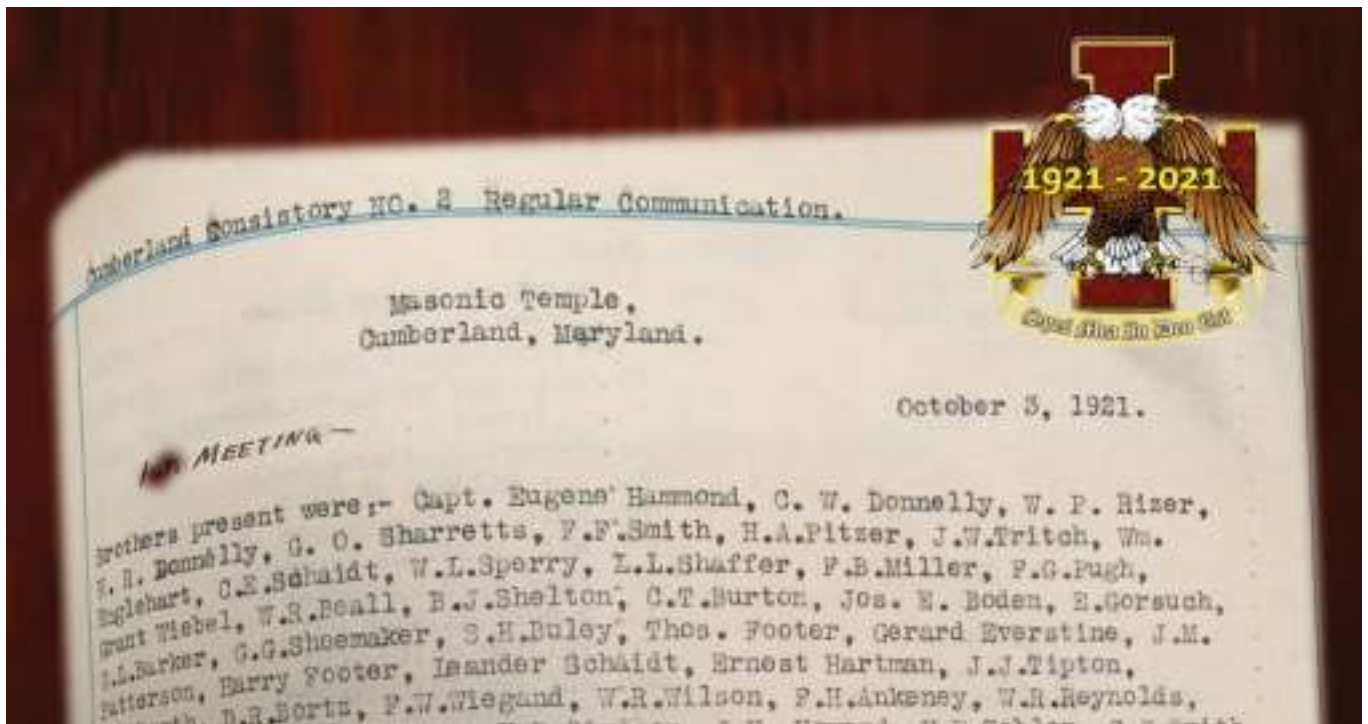
Flash back to my grandfather's funeral, I remember there were men there with aprons on, but I was young and didn't give it a second thought, not until I opened that box. When I did, I found receipts for dues, Scottish Rite, OES, and others dating back almost a hundred years. I found old caps from different masonic bodies. There were white gloves. Photos of the cast members in costume and many

other masonic items. Well, the hair on the back of my neck stood straight up and a tingling sensation ran down my body. Not only am I a Mason, but so were they.

The tools of masonry are within all of us and only need to be employed. My father and grandfather made me what I am today, a Mason. I was shown the masonic principles not told, not words but actions. The box now includes my white leather apron. It will rest there in good company until the day its needed.



ECHOES FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP



Cumberland Consistory Celebrates Centenary

CUMBERLAND CONSISTORY NO. 2 will celebrate its Centenary in 2021 and the officers of the Consistory and Centenary Committee members are hard at work planning festivities to mark this auspicious occasion. Activities and events being planned include a Centenary Reunion and Festive Board as part of the Fall 2021 Convocation, a pin to be struck in recognition of the 100th anniversary, a variety of educational programs and activities, and a Centenary Fundraising Challenge on behalf of our local RiteCare clinics.

We look forward to welcoming Scottish Rite Masons from across the Orient of Maryland to join in these Centenary events. Additional details will be shared in the next edition of the Rite News of Maryland as well as the Valley of Cumberland's quarterly newsletter—The Perfect Elu—and online at cumberlandsctishrite.org.

The Cumberland Scottish Rite shares an important place in our state's Masonic heritage along with Baltimore's Chesapeake Consistory No. 1 as one of two Consistories of the Scottish Rite among a growing number of

Scottish Rite Valleys stretching from the mountains to the piedmont, bay, and shore regions across the Orient of Maryland.

The first Masonic lodge to form west of Hagerstown, Cumberland Lodge No. 61, received a charter from the Grand Lodge of Maryland in 1817 and later reformed as Potomac Lodge No. 100 (Chartered 1855) and Ohr Lodge No. 131 (Chartered 1867). These lodges met at Masonic Hall, in the same building occupied by Cumberland City Hall, from 1876 until it was destroyed by



fire in March 1910. In 1911, the Masons of Cumberland constructed the Cumberland Masonic Temple, which has stood as an iconic symbol of the craft on the Cumberland skyline for more than a century.

We look forward to welcoming Scottish Rite Masons from across the Orient of Maryland to join in these Centenary events.

On November 3, 1899, ten charter members constituted Meredith Lodge No. 3 under a temporary grant of Grand Commander Thomas Caswell, 33° by authority of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction. The Cumberland Scottish Rite bodies grew to include Kedron Chapter No. 3 of the Knights Rose Croix in 1902 and Potomac Council of Knights Kadosh No. 2 in 1920. The Cumberland Consistory held its first regular communication on October 3, 1921 and conferred the 32° on a class of 91 brethren. The Valley of Cumberland presently

includes all four of the Scottish Rite Bodies with more than 800 members from Allegany, Garrett, Washington, and Frederick Counties in Maryland as well as our neighboring states.

In addition to preserving Masonic traditions and providing support and enlightenment to our brethren, Cumberland Scottish Rite Freemasons carry out extensive charitable activity through the Cumberland Scottish Rite Foundation in the form of educational scholarships, investments in youth development, including JROTC and DeMolay, and in support of our principal philanthropy—RiteCare. Since 1997, when the Cumberland Scottish Rite established the first RiteCare Clinic in Cumberland with our partner The Children’s League, the Foundation has contributed more than \$300,000 to support the program and has engaged additional partners to establish two additional clinics in Oakland, MD and Keyser, WV to meet the needs of children and families where they live.

We are pleased to celebrate a century of success and achievement for the Cumberland Consistory and look forward to a century of progress ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Events At Cumberland Masonic Temple Unless Otherwise Indicated

Schedule is contingent upon state and local regulations. Check cumberlandscothtirite.org or contact Secretary Jerry Robinette at 301-729-6778 for updates

MAY 1:
Masonic Ladies Night
Ali Ghan Shrine Center
6:30 pm

MAY 3:
Communication—
Knights of St. Andrew
7:30 pm

MAY 11:
Scottish Rite Club of
Washington County
Morris Frock American
Legion Post 42,
Hagerstown
6:30 pm

MAY 17:
Communication—
Council of Kadosh
7:30 pm

(continued on page 15)



ECHOES FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP

Support for Foundation Continues During Pandemic

THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY of long-term supporters and first-time contributors, the Cumberland Scottish Rite Foundation surpassed our charitable giving goals during the past year in spite of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Between March 2020 and February 2021, the Foundation raised and contributed more than \$34,000 to local charities, including nearly \$30,000 to our three RiteCare Clinics, without hosting a single public event.

As it became clear that our traditional event-based fundraising model would be nearly impossible to execute

during the pandemic, the brethren of the Valley and the Cumberland Scottish Rite Foundation quickly pivoted to other options. This included working with our RiteCare partner, the Children’s League, converting our annual walkathon to a virtual event, directly soliciting contributions from our membership and previous sponsors of our annual Robert Burns Supper, and reaching out to new restaurant partners to take part in our annual Buck-A-Cup fundraiser. Notably, two events that have become hallmarks of our fundraising efforts – The Robert Burns Supper and A-Thing-A-Ma-

Jig Variety Show – each raised more money to support RiteCare than we had budgeted in spite of cancellations.

We are grateful for the continued support from our members, local businesses, and others for our work to make RiteCare services available to children in our region. We are hopeful that we will be able to host our annual fundraising events in 2021 and we are confident that, with the help of our friends, we will continue to increase the positive impact of the Cumberland Scottish Rite Foundation in our community in the years ahead.

2020 Mason of the Year

BRO. JAMES B. SUMMERFIELD, 32° was named 2020 Mason of the Year by the Valley of Cumberland Scottish Rite for his distinguished service to the Rite and to Maryland Freemasonry. Bro. Summerfield has provided numerous hours of service and shared his talent and strong work ethic on a variety of restoration and repair projects at the Cumberland Masonic Temple and Ali Ghan Shrine Center. He currently serves as

Junior Steward of East Gate Lodge No. 216, as Assistant Expert in the 14th Degree Cast, and as a member of the Valley of Cumberland stage crew.

Bro. Summerfield (pictured center) was presented with a 2020 Scottish Rite Meritorious Service Award by his Blue Lodge

Diplomat and was recognized as Noble of the Year for 2020 by Ali Ghan Shriners Potentate Michael W. Kerns.





Pictured L to R: Jamey S. Hill, Personal Representative; Jerome F. Robinette, Secretary; Venerable Master Daniel C. Stitt; Cathy Growden of the Children’s League; Foundation Chairman James M. Snider; and Robin L. Summerfield, Treasurer.

2020 Burns Check Presentation

THE CUMBERLAND KNIGHTS of St. Andrew Venerable Master Daniel C. Stitt and members of the Cumberland Scottish Rite Foundation recently presented proceeds of \$15,500 from the 14th Annual Robert Burns Fundraiser to support RiteCare at the Children’s League.

19th Annual A-Thing-A-Ma-Jig Variety Show Slated for June 4

THE 19TH ANNUAL A-Thing-A-Ma-Jig Variety Show will be presented at the Ali Ghan Shrine Center, 13100 Ali Ghan Road NE, Cumberland on Friday, June 4, 2021 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. For the first time, this year’s program will include a social hour and optional a la carte dinner menu to enhance the overall experience for attendees and will feature fewer performers to better showcase the talent we have lined up for the program. Details about the program, tickets, and giving options are available at cumberlandscothishrite.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)

JUNE 4:
A-Thing-A-Ma-Jig
Variety Show
Ali Ghan Shrine Center
5:30 pm

JUNE 7:
Masonic Strawberry
Night
6:30 pm

JUNE 8:
Scottish Rite Club of
Washington County
Morris Frock American
Legion Post 42,
Hagerstown
6:30 pm

JUNE 27:
Religious Services—
Festival of St. John
the Baptist
Christ Lutheran
Church, Lavale
10:00 am

JULY 31:
Family Corn Roast
Summerfield Lane,
Rawlings, MD
3:00 pm



2021 Installation of Officers Valley Of Baltimore





THE MASONIC BODIES OF WESTERN MARYLAND CORDIALLY
INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR SPECIAL LADIES DURING

MASONIC LADIES NIGHT



SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021

AT THE ALI GHAN SHRINE CLUB, CUMBERLAND

TICKETS \$40/PERSON

FEATURING

MUTUAL FUN

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The Three Core Secrets of Freemasonry

BY: BRO. MATTHEW WILSON, 32°—WORSHIPFUL MASTER OF HIGHLAND LODGE #184

Adapted from remarks given by him at his installation as Worshipful Master on January 13, 2021.

At THE HEART OF Freemasonry are, in my view, three core secrets. You can't read about them in an exposé, and no cipher could hide them from cowans and eavesdroppers. They have nothing to do with our modes of recognition, symbols and emblems of our degrees or obligations we have taken.

The first core secret of Freemasonry is something I realized in a flash one warm, spring Monday evening in 2017. I was the Junior Deacon of this lodge and a member of the Board of Trustees. We were still meeting at the Scottish Rite Temple on Charles Street. I don't remember if it was a rehearsal or a Board of Trustees meeting — it was always the same group of brothers at either — but we were done for the evening and heading out. I was at the front of our group, so I held the door open for the other guys. They were all walking slowly, in groups of two, deep in conversation. No one was in a hurry, no one really wanted to leave.

Maybe it was the soft light of the golden hour, or a warm spring breeze, or the satisfaction of time together well spent, but I was struck all of a sudden, as I gazed on these brothers, that I



Pictured L to R: Brother Mathew Wilson, 32° WM and Ill. Brother Marlin L. Mills, 33° SGIG (and MWGM)

loved them, each and every one. It was a life-changing realization.

In the years since, I've had that same intense experience a few more times. Most recently, during an evening a few months ago when we raised four new Master Masons. By the time we had gone through the middle part of the degree for the third time, and all of us had screwed up at least once and it was getting late, I had the thunderclap experience, once again, that I loved these guys, all of them, and I loved this experience and was so glad it was a part of my life. If I hadn't been wearing a mask, you'd have seen me grinning stupidly from ear to ear.

We talk in the first degree lecture about the tenets of our profession, and the first of those tenets is brotherly love, which the Greeks called *philia*.

C.S. Lewis called *philia* “the least natural of loves”. It is not the love of a parent for a child, or vice versa. It's not the love between two lovers. And it's not the overflowing, unconditional love of the Grand Architect of the Universe for his creation. And on the other side of the coin, it's not acquaintanceship, if that's a word. *Philia* is the love of true friendship, freely chosen and freely given.

Its basis is complete trust. The question we keep asking in the three degrees of Masonry is, “Can we trust you? Are you trustworthy enough to keep our secrets?” Because someone who is trustworthy enough to keep our Masonic secrets is probably trustworthy enough to whisper good counsel in your ear, or to be there for you in a moment of despair or need.

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

So you'll never hear it mentioned on some conspiracy theory video on YouTube, but the first of our core secrets is that *philia* love, or brotherly love. It feels a little weird to talk about it. In our day and age, so tolerant of people being different, it's still hard to talk about brotherly love. But it's real and it's good and it's a big part of what keeps us active in Freemasonry.

The second core secret is related to the first, but it adds the dimension of time. I wrote about this in an email to Past Master Miele recently. When I'm alone in our beloved temple, invariably I head upstairs to our lodge room, just to be still for a few minutes and kind of soak it in. A spiritual retreat center in Montgomery County describes its grounds as "drenched in prayer." I like that. Our lodge room is drenched in our Masonic labors. Generations of Highland men have sat in those same chairs, set the same Great Lights, recited the same words and executed the same movements. It's a well-worn lodge, made smooth by repeated use.

Recently, we hung the portraits of our Past Masters on a couple of boards in the hallway and stairway going up to the lodge room. I feel the eyes of those Past Masters upon me as I head up to the lodge room and as I leave it. Some of them look very stern, but I'm pretty sure they're rooting for me and for each of us. Each of those men

worked their way up the line and wore this jewel and held the Master's gavel. They worried about the Lodge's finances and felt pride in their line of officers and stumbled over their lectures. Looking at their faces, I know they're not so very different from me or any of us, no matter how many years separate us.

That connection moves forward in time too. Those of you who have been installed or invested tonight may someday join that long line of Masters of Highland Lodge, and I sincerely hope that each and every one of you takes your turn in the East. When I look at each of you, I see a future Master. Like every one of those Masters on the wall, you're struggling to perfect your parts and find a way to fit in and help out the lodge. In that struggle, you continue to chip away at your own rough ashlar, and it's a beautiful thing to see unfolding over the years.

And it doesn't end with you. Every time I check Membership Manager, we have another name of someone interested in finding out more about us. I have a funny feeling that at least one of them is a future Master of this lodge. He hasn't even met any of us face to face yet, but he has within him that kernel that will someday have him wear this Worshipful Master's jewel around his neck and hold this gavel in his right hand. And decades after he will have sat in the East, he'll dutifully fall in with the Honor Guard and bow respectfully to

a man who hasn't even been born yet as he is proclaimed Master of this lodge.

That Master and his officers will set the same Great Lights, recite the same words, and execute the same movements as we do and those who came before us did in their time. We stand on the shoulders of giants and future Masons. Masons not even born yet will stand on ours. We are linked by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection, as the old saying goes.

That connection between us and them, backward and forward in time, is both very real and again, very hard to describe to those who aren't a part of our mysteries. And again, it's based on trust. Trust that our past and future brothers did their best to guard the West Gate, to learn and grow as they moved through the degrees and then the chairs, and to keep intact the instruction that Masonry offers.

The third core secret is one that has frustrated each and every one of us. It begins its work on us the first time we open up that little yellow Entered Apprentice catechism book and struggle with those words and symbols.

The catechism of the first degree impresses upon us the importance of secrecy. As we say those words over and over until they flow naturally, we are also repeating to ourselves that what we are doing is and ought to be something apart from the



rest of the world.

There's a word that appears twice in the Charge delivered to new Entered Apprentices — inculcate. It means “to instill by persistent instruction.” As we struggle with the words of each catechism, and then with the words we repeat in the different officer roles, there's a little bit of magic going on. The words sink in. The layers of meaning embedded in those words start sinking in. We develop a vocabulary of words, phrases and movements that have a peculiar meaning reserved to us and us alone. But something else is going on too.

As I prepared myself to exemplify the three degrees of Masonry, I must have repeated the lectures of each of those degrees hundreds of times. The struggle to commit them to memory is as real as that effort to learn the catechism of the first degree. But as those words sank in, it struck me how much wisdom is packed into the lectures.

I'll give you an example. The theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity, for instance, should be central to our lives. The cardinal virtues of temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice are crucial to living an ordered life. When you're sitting there in the chair absorbing the lecture as the youngest Entered Apprentice, hearing about those virtues kind of goes right past you. It's only when you're struggling with memorizing

the lecture that you really get a chance to read, mark, and inwardly digest what is being imparted.

Another catechism, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, defines virtue as “a habitual and firm disposition to do the good.” We don't wake up one morning suddenly full of fortitude or just decide on the spur of the moment to be hopeful. Virtue is a long-standing practice, a long-term commitment, an established and ongoing pattern of being and doing that we must inculcate within ourselves. That's a hard lesson to learn, but a necessary lesson if one wants to improve oneself.

And it's not just the seven virtues. All through the lectures of the three degrees, and in an even more distilled form in the Charges and catechisms of those degrees, we are given a seamless and extended lesson in how we should be as men and as Masons.

We like to say that we Masons make good men better, and I have no doubt that we do just that. However exactly how we do that has always been a little bit of a mystery to me. I submit to you that the how is the third core secret of Freemasonry. It has something to do with being around other good men whose expectations and very presence makes us better men in the way that steel sharpens steel.

It also has something to do with the work that we do by ourselves, in quiet moments

we can steal here and there, repeating those age-old words of our degrees to ourselves over and over until they become a part of who and what we are. There's a phrase in Latin that comes to us from the ancient church, “lex orandi, lex credendi.” Roughly translated, it means, “as we pray, so we believe.” We repeat a prayer again and again to ask God for comfort and peace until the words themselves give us comfort and peace. In the same way, we repeat the words of Freemasonry again and again until we learn them by heart, and then, natural as can be, we commit our heart to the message those words impart.

That, my brothers, I submit as the third core secret of Freemasonry and maybe its most important: the work we do as Freemasons works on us, transforming us into better men and better Masons. Maybe there's an easier shortcut, I don't know. But after living with our words and what they teach for the last year, I'm glad to have done so and pleased to look back and see how Masonry has changed me for the better. From the moment I was first received into this lodge to this very day and I have no doubt that that transformation will continue to unfold.

I am very glad to have all of you at my side as we move forward into this new year. May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless us all. Thank you.



Excerpt from

The Symbolism of Freemasonry: XIX. The Rite of Investiture

BY: DR. ALBERT G. MACKEY, 33°— MARCH 12, 1807 - JUNE 20, 1881

THE RITE OF INVESTITURE, called, in the colloquially technical language of the order, the ceremony of clothing, brings us at once to the consideration of that well-known symbol of Freemasonry, the LAMB-SKIN APRON. This rite of investiture, or the placing upon the aspirant some garment, as an indication of his appropriate preparation for the ceremonies in which he was about to engage, prevailed in all the ancient initiations. A few of them only it will be requisite to consider. Thus in the Levitical economy of the Israelites the priests always wore the abnet, linen apron or girdle, as a part of the investiture of the priesthood. This, with the other garments, was to be worn, as the text expresses it, “for glory and for beauty,” or, as it has been explained by a learned commentator, “as emblematical of that holiness and purity which ever characterize the divine nature, and the worship which is worthy of him.” In the Persian Mysteries of Mithras, the candidate, having first received light, was invested with a girdle, a crown or mitre, a purple tunic, and,

lastly, a white apron. In the initiations practiced in Hindostan, in the ceremony of investiture was substituted the sash, or sacred zennaar, consisting of a cord, composed of ninethreads twisted into a knot at the end, and hanging from the left shoulder to the right hip. This was, perhaps, the type of the masonic scarf, which is, or ought to be, always worn in the same position. The Jewish sect of the Essenes, who approached nearer than any other secret institution of antiquity to Freemasonry in their organization, always invested their novices with a white robe. And, lastly, in the Scandinavian rites, where the military genius of the people had introduced a warlike species of initiation, instead of the apron we find the candidate receiving a white shield, which was, however, always presented with the accompaniment of some symbolic instruction, not very dissimilar to that which is connected with the masonic apron. In all these modes of investiture, no matter what was the material or the form, the symbolic signification intended to be conveyed was that of purity.

And hence, in Freemasonry, the same symbolism is communicated by the apron, which, because it is the first gift which the aspirant receives,—the first symbol in which he is instructed,—has been called the “badge of a mason.” And most appropriately has it been so called; for, whatever may be the future advancement of the candidate in the “Royal Art,” into whatever deeper arcana his devotion to the mystic institution or his thirst for knowledge may carry him, with the apron—his first investiture—he never parts. Changing, perhaps, its form and its decorations, and conveying at each step some new and beautiful allusion, its substance is still there, and it continues to claim the honorable title by which it was first made known to him on the night of his initiation. The apron derives its significance, as the symbol of purity, from two sources—-from its color and from its material. In each of these points of view it is, then, to be considered, before its symbolism can be properly appreciated.

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The Mystical Tetractys

BY: ILL. S. DIRK WIKER, 33°—ANNAPOLIS LODGE #89



AFTER MANY YEARS, the 31st degree is once again being conferred in the Valley of Baltimore. It is an elaborate degree based on the Egyptian mythology of judging the soul in the afterlife. The previous version of this degree ritual was simpler and entailed the candidate being charged with breaking Masonic laws and undergoing a thorough investigation. The principal symbol of this earlier 31° is a figure called the *tetractys* (ΤΕΤΡΑΚΤΥΣ), a triangular figure consisting of ten points arranged in four rows. In today's Scottish Rite rituals, this symbol is discussed primarily in the 27°, but it can be found in other degrees as well. The symbolism in this figure is profound. In it, you can find numbers and geometry important to Freemasonry as well as other traditions.

The tetractys was a sacred symbol to the Pythagoreans. It represented the number ten, the decad, which was seen as the most perfect and holiest of numbers. To the followers of Pythagoras, it also represented the four seasons and four classical elements: air, fire, water, and earth. The musical system of the Pythagoreans can be found in the rows of the tetractys as well. The first two rows represent the octave (2:1), the middle two the perfect fifth (3:2), and the last two the perfect fourth (4:3). Three, five, and seven were important numbers to Pythagoras, who was Freemason by tradition. The Pythagoreans also utilized the tetractys to explain three dimensional space and the movement of heavenly bodies.

The significance of the tetractys to the Pythagoreans can be found in prayers and in one of their oaths:

*I swear by him who the tetractys found,
Whence all our wisdom springs, and which contains Perennial Nature's fountain, cause, and root.*¹

The 17° makes a passing reference to a connection between the tetractys of Pythagoras and the Tree of Life found in the Kabbalistic tradition. There

are 10 dots or spheres called *sephirot* in the Tree of Life. The Tree of Life is a symbolic diagram of the ten creative emanations of God. The obvious relationship is the 10 spheres corresponding to the 10 dots of the tetractys. Another association to the tetractys is found in the pathways between each *sephirot*. There are 22 connections corresponding to the 22 foundational letters of the Hebrew alphabet. The *Sefer Yetzirah* was an early source text of Kabbalah and it explains that these 22 letters are divided into three categories. There are three “mother” letters corresponding to the three horizontal connections. The seven “double” letters are represented by the vertical pathways and the remaining 12 “elemental” letters correspond to the diagonal connections. The sum of the first two rows of the tetractys is equal to the number of mother letters, and the addition of the last two rows is equal to the number of double letters. The 12 elemental letters can be calculated several ways using the tetractys. The sum of rows two and three added to the sum of rows three and four equal 12. You can calculate the product of the last two rows, or you can multiply the three sides of the triangle with 4 units (points) each. The 27° demonstrates how a cube



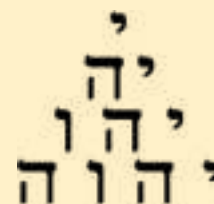
TETRACTYS

A triangular figure consisting of ten points arranged in four rows, representing the number ten, the decad, which was seen as the most perfect and holiest of numbers.



SEPHIROT

Ten dots or spheres arranged to form a symbolic diagram, the Tree of Life, depicting the ten creative emanations of God.



TETRAGRAMMATON

The four letter name of God using three Hebrew (yod, heh, vav) letters arranged in the form of the tetractys.

can be constructed within the tetractys, and there are 12 edges of a cube. The 22 connections, along with the 10 sephirot, are referred to as “the 32 paths of wisdom.”²

In the 27°, you may recall the angel Michael describing a unique way of depicting the *Tetragrammaton*,³ or the four letter name of God using three Hebrew letters. This name of deity is spelled יהוה and is read right to left with the Hebrew letters *yod*, *heh*, *vav*, *heh*. This depiction in the 27th degree utilizes the form of the tetractys. An interesting feature of this arrangement of letters is linked to *gematria*, a Kabbalistic technique where a numeric value is assigned to

each individual letter. Words with the same total value have a connection with each other, but sometimes the number itself is significant. The numerical value of *yod* is 10, *vav* is 6, and *heh* equals 5. The total sum of each letter within this diagram is 72. This number has significant meanings in esoteric systems like the Kabbalah, such as representing the 72 secret names of God.

The rituals of the Scottish Rite introduce many symbols and concepts that are meant to open avenues for self-study, and the brief introduction of the tetractys in our rituals is a perfect example of this. At the next Reunion Day, pay attention to the 27° and the interesting

tetractys mysteries revealed in it. The 32° ritual reveals some fascinating keys to the understanding of the greater tetractys— a tetractys of eight rows and 36 points. Finally, read Albert Pike’s interesting lecture on the tetractys, which can be found in De Hoyos’ *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide*.

Sources

1. Taylor, Thomas, 1986. *Iamblichus’ Life of Pythagoras*. Rochester, VT.: Inner Traditions, p.87.
2. Kaplan, Aryeh, 1997, *Sefer Yetzirah: The Book of Creation, Revised Edition*. San Francisco, CA.: Red Wheel/Weiser, p. 5.
3. De Hoyos, Arturo, 2008, *The Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide*. Washington DC.: The Supreme Council, 33°, p. 564.



2021 Installation of Officers Valley Of Frederick







Valley Of Charles County





Congratulations to Bro. Robert C. Heinze Milestone in Masonry 70 Year Award

Bro. Robert C. Heinze—Highland Lodge #184

EA—2/20/1951

FC—2/28/1951

MM—3/7/1951



On Friday, February 26th, 2021 the MWGM and Grand Secretary presented Bro. Heinze with his 70 year Award Certificate, cap, and lapel pins in the Maryland Masonic Homes.



Historic Mann's Tavern *Continued from page 10*

After the (masonic) East wall was refitted in 2014, it came to light that the (masonic) West wall had a bubble forming that could fail on that side of the building (see diagram). After years of working with the State of Maryland about a grant that was awarded to Annapolis Lodge in 2018, it was to the regret of all those that worked so long on that effort that it would have to be let go, as it gave the State signature rights to the deed of the lodge. Luckily, the Building Fund, enacted by the Board of Trustees in 2016, established

the groundwork to assess the necessary funds to help address future structural issues with the building (such as the west wall bubble discovered in 2018.) In 2020, a restoration crew accessed the wall bubble through the attic into the crawl space. The outside wall was then addressed via the flues of the old chimneys (small photos). Once access through the flues was established, twenty 3/16" threaded tie rods were inserted into the rear masonry to stabilize the bulge. As the crew was already working on the wall, they also addressed a smaller bubble issue towards the front of the building with another 12 rods before that

could become an issue. All tie rods were then set into a rebuilt double wythe of brick to stabilize them further.

The wall is now structurally sound again. Structural Engineer, David Wallace, and Restoration Expert, Paul Wim-bash, who created the plan to address the faulty wall from the inside, helped minimize the required outside scaffolding and helped greatly reduce the costs to restore the wall. Mann's Tavern, home of Annapolis Lodge #89 is sound again—visit your Brethren in Annapolis and enjoy the beauty of this historic building restored!

Toast to the Visitors

*Bro. Mike Bauer, WSW Portobello Lldge #226
Edinburgh , Scotland*

Tonight I have the pleasure
to all I must confess
to give to you this toast
to our visitors and our guests.

The fellowship you bring tonight
is something which can't compare
you know we like to see you
and glad your always there.

The harmony , the chats and jokes we
have with our old and new found friends.

We wish it could last for hours,
and some how never end.

But.....all good things come to an end
and we must go are separate way.

We hope you enjoyed yourself tonight,
and return again someday.

And now I ask the members
to raise a glass in cheer
to toast to all our visitors
who supported us this year.



The Master Mason Friend Who:

1. Is interested in learning of the philosophies of the World, both of this and other ages.
2. Would like to join with other earnest men in an absorbing study of present day problems;
3. Would appreciate turning, for just a little while, from the constant struggles of day to day existence to commune with the noblest intellects of all time, brought to him in matchless degrees.
4. Enjoys viewing worthwhile drama, well presented;
5. Finds the hearty fellowship and good-will of other men inspiring and enjoyable.
6. Is willing to enter into true fraternity with other men when he finds them worthy; and
7. Has caught the gleam of Masonic inspiration from his Blue Lodge work and is ready to seek the truth still further;

Should petition to become a Scottish Rite 32° Mason!

Visit www.mdscottishrite.org to download a petition

SAVE THE DATE

Orient of Maryland Honors Day

Saturday, October 9th, 2021



Honors Day is a Biennial Event when the Scottish Rite confers the 33rd degree and the Knight Commander Court of Honour.

While the 33rd degree is a closed rite, only open to Inspectors General—Active and Honorary—the KCCH Investiture and Capping are public ceremonies and open to all.

Afterwards, there is a Gala Banquet open to all, to celebrate this auspicious occasion and the elevation of the honorees.

Details in the next issue of the Rite News of Maryland

VALLEYS OF MARYLAND

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

BALTIMORE VALLEY

Meets on Wednesday 7:30 P.M.

Scottish Rite Masonic Center
3800 North Charles Street, Baltimore,
Maryland 21218

Ill. E. Ray Leppo, Jr., 33°, GC
Personal Representative

Ill. Frederick Spicer, 33°, GC
Executive Director, 410-243-3200

CHARLES COUNTY VALLEY

Meets Third Friday 7:30 P.M.

Masonic Temple
710 Lodge Street, La Plata, MD 20646

Hon. William A. Zarychta, 32°, KCCH
Personal Representative

Bro. Reginald J. Eda
Secretary, 301-910-1906

CUMBERLAND VALLEY

Meets on Monday 7:30 P.M.

Masonic Temple
15-21 Green Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Ill. Jamey S. Hill, 33°, *Personal Representative*

Ill. Jerome Robinette, 33°
Secretary, 301-729-6778

FREDERICK VALLEY

Meets on Thursday 7:30 P.M.

Masonic Temple
6816 Blentlinger Road, Frederick, Maryland 21702

Ill. Creed F. Parker, 33°, *Personal Representative*

Ill. Scott Cameron, 33°, *Secretary, 301-471-8777*

SALISBURY VALLEY

Meets on Monday 7:30 P.M.

Masonic Temple
110 N. Division Street, Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Ill. Arthur H. Tawes, 33°, *Personal Representative*

Ill. Samuel Walker, 33°, *Secretary, 410-742-6548*

SOUTHERN MARYLAND VALLEY

Meets on Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

Masonic Temple
24410 Mervell Dean Road,
Hollywood, Maryland 20636

Ill. Richard C. Miller, 33°
Personal Representative

Ill. Alfred Girard, 33°, *Secretary, 301-904-6468*

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY

Meets Third Thursday 7:00pm

www.susquehannasr.org
Masonic Temple
20 Howard Street, Aberdeen, MD 21001

Ill. Ralph L. Perry, 33°, *Personal Representative*

Bro. Edward T. Dickson, 32°
Secretary, 443-619-2627