

The Rite Light

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, N. M. J., U. S. A.
VALLEY OF ALBANY, N. Y.

Vol. 6

February 1985

No. 3

The Officers and Trustees

S A L U T E



1985 WORSHIPFUL MASTERS

Within the Valley of Albany

ALLEGIANCE

THE BODIES OF THE SCOTTISH RITE SITTING IN THE VALLEY OF ALBANY STATE OF NEW YORK ACKNOWLEDGE AND YIELD ALLEGIANCE TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33° ANCIENT SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY FOR THE NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WHOSE GRAND EAST IS IN LEXINGTON MASSACHUSETTS AND WHOSE OFFICERS ARE:

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

ILL :: FRANCIS G. PAUL, 33°
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ILL :: JOHN G. FLECK, 33°

THE RITE LIGHT IS PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY EXCEPT IN JULY AND AUGUST BY SCOTTISH RITE BODIES, VALLEY OF ALBANY, 67 MAIDEN LANE, ALBANY, NY 12207.

RICHARD G. BARRELL, 32°, EDITOR, 869-0684

PHILIP D. LEFEBVRE, 32°, MSA, ASSOC. EDITOR

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**



LONG MAY IT WAVE

Building a strong feeling of patriotism is the goal of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, Massachusetts.

Your 'Blue Envelope' gift to Supreme Council Charities helps support the Museum and Library.

Your contribution also aids the Schizophrenia Research Program and Scottish Rite Scholarships for deserving students.

One gift . . . Three Great Charities

SUPREME COUNCIL CHARITIES



IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

★★★
One of the benefits of inflation is that youngsters can no longer get sick on a nickel's worth of candy.

Commander-In-Chief's Message

III: and dear Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret:

Happy New Year to one and all. I realize that when each of you receive this first copy of the Rite Lite for 1985, the Holiday Season will have passed and the events of the New Year will already be in full swing and possibly the opening meeting, January 3, for the Ineffable and Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection quite likely will have been concluded by the time you get this first issue in your mailbox. Hopefully, you will receive it in sufficient time to send or telephone in your reservation for our dinner and Patent Presentation night honoring the "III: Harry S. Truman, 33°" Fall Class of Sublime Princes. This will be on Thursday evening, January 10 at the Albany Masonic Temple. Social hour will begin at 6:00 P.M., followed by dinner at 7:00 P.M., and the program will begin at 8 P.M. in the Scottish Rite Hall. The cost of the dinner is \$6.75 and your check drawn to A.A.S.R. for you and your guests mailed to S.P. Russell J. LaGrange, Jr., 32°, 794 Washington Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12203, [Tel. 438-7128], will confirm your reservation. NO tickets will be sold at the door. Your reservation must be mailed in time to be received by Saturday, January 5, 1985. Time is short, so please do not procrastinate. Dress will be informal but all officers are requested to wear their tux or dark suit with cap and jewels, if any. This will be an open meeting to which relatives and friends are invited.

To those of you who were not present at the Patent Presentation and dinner on October 13, 1984, you missed a very rewarding evening and you should make an extra effort to be present at this forthcoming affair on January 10, 1985. Please check your green program schedule for subsequent Chapter and Consistory meetings in the month of January.

The next important social function will be held on February 7th, 1985, Lodge of Perfection meeting night on which occasion Sublime Prince Arthur J. Brumaghim, 32° will be honored with a Testimonial Dinner for his long years of service on the DeMolay Advisory Board. Prior to the dinner there will be a Social hour beginning at 6 P.M., dinner at 7 P.M. at a cost of \$6.50 per person followed by an open meeting at 8 P.M. Dress will be informal with the principal officers of all Bodies wearing tux or dark suits, cap and jewels. Ladies and friends are invited to this function held at the Albany Temple. Again, please refer to your green program schedule of events for the remaining meetings of the Spring term.

For a brief review of the two recent events, it is my pleasure to report to you that the Albany Valley, in support of Family Life Week, had 74 people attend the Worship Service at the First Lutheran Church on Western Avenue beginning with the Service at 11 A.M. and followed by a delightful brunch served shortly thereafter. Complimentary remarks regarding the Service, the sermon preached by Pastor Wm. Rittberger and the brunch were both abundant and enthusiastic. Once again those of you who failed to participate missed a real delightful occasion. S.P. Alan C. Lewis, 32°, Chairman of the event, is to be complimented for his support of this very worthwhile Scottish Rite function.

The other event is, of course, the Ladies Night of the Albany Valley and this was held again at the Century House, attended by 144 members and their guests who enjoyed a delightful Social hour highlighted by hot and cold hors d'oeuvres followed by a very fine dinner of either roast beef or turkey. Members who are Meritorious Award recipients as well as our III: 33° Brothers were duly recognized by your Commander-in-Chief and no speeches were delivered at this party.

The Albany Valley presented to III: Robert F. Case, 33° Active, a very attractive pearl handle pocket knife emblazoned with the Rose Croix emblem [no other emblem being available] and manufactured by the Case Corp., makers of fine knives. It was a joy for the Albany Valley to have present 8 stalwart members and their ladies of the Sigma Bodies. Our two Valleys have been enjoying and exhibiting a warm and true display of Brotherly Love. Special thanks go to III: Theodore A. Goodrich, 33° for his very beautiful artistry in making up our most attractive table place cards and to III: William S. Assini, 33°, 1st Lt. Commander and Chairman of our Ladies Night party, is to be complimented for his diligence in chairing this event.

In conclusion, I would like to have you turn your thoughts at the outset of a New Year to the philosophical plane. We seem to be deluged with an every growing burden of tragic, demoralizing and just plain bad news including the moral, social, financial and political facets of our lives. In our Middle Chamber lecture of the Fellowcraft Degree and even in a portion of our Masonic Funeral service, we learn the lessons of our being blessed with great artists and great music with which our lives are embellished. We have just concluded the most beautiful season of the year when we are blessed with many creative and beautiful artistic displays and our souls are elevated with the most magnificent and sublime compositions of music, both for the instruments as well as the voice and for your consideration I recommend the following words translated from the German by Thomas Willis:

"The harmonies of our lives resonate in beguiling, sweet and lovely concord, and the awareness of beauty blooms ever anew. Peace and joy go hand in hand together as waves in the sea; all that is rough and uncouth gives way to sublimity.

When sound weaves its magic and words blend in a miraculous fusion, beauty inevitable appears, as night and storm clouds are banished by light. Outer peace and inner bliss reign together in the soul of the fortunate one. The spring sunshine of the arts draws its light from both.

The fullness that permeates our hearts bursts forth anew with fresh beauty. As our spirits lift, a heavenly choir echoes our exaltation. Accept then, O beautiful ones, these gifts of glorious art. When love and power unite, God's grace descends on all mankind."

And now as the days begin to lengthen, may you all look forward to the joys of an approaching Spring.

Glen P. Cook, 33°

Commander-In-Chief

ORDER OF DEMOLAY

DeMolay is an inlet and an outlet. An Inlet, because it affords young men an opportunity to let in teachings and become imbued with interlocking factors supplying a firm foundation for the most important of functions—Good Citizenship.

These teachings are: Love of Parents, Reverence, Patriotism, Purity, Courtesy, Comradeship, Fidelity.

An Outlet, because in the everyday things of life the members can expound by Act, Word and Deed, that which DeMolay teaches and in a natural way show they are on the Highway of Good Citizenship.

You leave their meetings entirely convinced that DeMolay is one of the finest places for a young man to develop his basic citizenship. Your presence at DeMolay meetings will not only give you a lift, but will mean great inspiration to the boys. Boys have a residual pride and that pride is given an opportunity to be activated by the presence of you and others at their meetings. Each boy present will do his utmost to impress you with his ability as a DeMolay and with the general value of the Chapter.

The purposes of DeMolay are so broad that it includes activities for practically every developmental desire that a boy may have. DeMolay training produces good speakers, good officers, good leaders, good American Citizens.

Never in the history of the world has there been a need for such training as DeMolay offers. Our youth is subjected to a flood of conflicting ideologies. The continuation of our American way of life is dependent for its existence upon the idealism of youth.

DeMolay is built upon idealism and the ideals of DeMolay are the ideals of true Americanism.

The Order of DeMolay calls for your sponsorship. All youth demands organization. These organizations need sponsorship. In countries where such free sponsorship has not been provided, governmental control steps in.

As a counter-balance to all the evil influence resulting from war and foreign ideologies, DeMolay teaches love of parents, reverence for sacred things, desire for clean living, respect for womanhood, and patriotism.

Surely an organization having such high purposes and ideals as the Order of DeMolay is worthy of your comradeship.



DEMOLAY/FREEMASONRY
"A WAY OF LIFE"

News from Troy Valley Delta Bodies

This past fall, the ladies nights were well attended and enjoyed by all.

Family life week was celebrated November 18th through the 25th with a communion breakfast at Lansingburgh United Methodist Church. On Nov. 18th, after Communion service, celebrated by Rev. Richard Welkley, District Deputy Grand Master Gale Lees spoke following the breakfast served by the Youth of the Church.

On November 24th a Family Night dinner was enjoyed. Donald McKenzie was chairman of this affair and his committee did a commendable job.

Looking forward to the new year, Brother Alex Grone will serve as Master of King Solomon's Lodge Troy and Brother Charles Fake will serve as Master of Phoenix Lodge, Lansingburgh. We congratulate them both and wish them success for the new year in their Blue Lodges.

The Delta Bodies are looking forward to the visit to Elizabethtown on March 16th, 1985 when ladies will be invited to dinner there and the men will confer degrees.

Troy Delta Bodies

SUPREME COUNCIL, N.M.J. JURISDICTION NEWS BRIEFS

III: Warren N. Barr, Sr., 33°, of the Valley of Chicago, has become the twenty-fourth recipient of the Northern Jurisdiction's highest award—the Gourgas Medal, named in honor of one of the founders of the Supreme Council in 1813 who is acknowledged as the "Conservator of Scottish Rite" during the difficult days of the nation's anti-Masonic period. The presentation was made on November 30 at Chicago by Sovereign Grand Commander Stanley F. Maxwell, 33°, Illinois Scottish Rite leaders and Chicago Valley officers and Supreme Council members. The citation accompanying the medal commended III: Brother Barr particularly for his service over two decades as President of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Masonic Medical Center, during the period of great growth for it and for other medical institutions and hospitals throughout the land. . . . carrying out the expansion of the Leon M. Abbott Scottish Rite Scholarship program as authorized by the Supreme Council at its 1984 annual meeting. Explanatory folders and application forms will soon be available through the offices of Valley Secretaries throughout the N.M.J. The steady growth of the Education & Charity Fund, one of the Supreme Council Charities, makes possible an extension of this program to assist the children and grandchildren of Scottish Rite members as well as members of youth organizations affiliated with the Masonic Fraternity. It is hoped that the continued support of the Abbott Fund will allow future increases in the modest number of scholarships now available in the 15-state area. . . . THE EIGHTEENTH PRINTING OF "FACTS OF SCOTTISH RITE" HAS RECENTLY COME OFF THE PRESS. ASK YOUR VALLEY SECRETARY FOR A COPY OF THIS CONCISE SUMMARY OF WHAT SCOTTISH RITE IS AND HOW IT OPERATES TO GIVE TO A BLUE LODGE FRIEND.



The Double-Headed Eagle

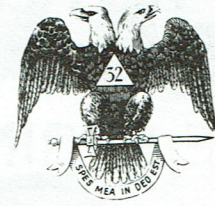
The Double-Headed Eagle of Lagash is the oldest royal crest in the world. It was a symbol of power more than two thousand years before the building of King Solomon's Temple. No other heraldic bearing, no other emblematic device of today, can boast such antiquity.

That being so, how did it come into possession of the Scottish Rite? Why was it adopted as a symbol of the Rite, and by what authority do we use it? What is its significance?

The eagle was an ensign of the ancient kings of Persia. In Egypt and Greece, it was a bird sacred to the sun. It was an emblem of Jupiter, and with the Druids a symbol of the Supreme God. Marius, Consul of Rome in 102 B.C., ordained that the eagle should be the only designation as the ensign of the legions, and the single-headed eagle thereby became the emblem of the imperial power of Rome, and remained so ever after. After the division of the Roman Empire into the East and West, the Emperors of the West used a black eagle; those of the East a golden one.

The double-headed eagle first originated in the mighty Sumarian city of Lagash. From cylinders taken from the ruins of this ancient city the double eagle seems to have been known to the kings of that time as the Storm Bird. From the Sumarians this symbol passed to the men of Akhad; from them to the Hittites; from Asia Minor to the Seljukian Sultans, from whom it was brought to the Emperors of the East and West by the Crusaders.

The eagle of the Eastern Empire, united with that of the Western, typified the Holy Roman Empire when ancient Byzantine, or Constantinople, shared with Rome the honor of being the capital of the Empire. Charlemagne first made use of the double-headed eagle when he became head of the German Empire, by adding the second head, thereby denoting the union of Rome and German, in A.D. 802.



There seems to be some who believe that the double-headed eagle may have been a Masonic symbol as early as the beginning of the twelfth century, at the time of the second crusade, but it probably was first known to Freemasonry in 1758, upon the establishments of the Council of Emperors of the East and West, in Paris. This was a part of the Rite of Perfection, a rite of twenty-five degrees, from which was evolved, a large part of the present system of the Scottish Rite. The successors today of the Council of Emperors of the East and West are the Supreme Councils of the Thirty-third degree that have inherited the insignia of the double-headed eagle.

The double-headed eagle of Kadosh [Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Thirty-second degree] is a white and black eagle. The head, neck, legs and tips of the wings are white feathers, while the body and wings are black. Its wings are extended, yet drooping; in its claws is a naked sword, one talon of the right claw clutching the hilt of the steel blade of serpentine shape, the left claw grasping the blade. The white ribboned motto pendant from the hilt to the point of the sword contains the words "Spes Mea In Deo Est," in black.

The emblematic eagle of an Inspector General of the Thirty-third degree is similar to that of the Kadosh, except that gold takes the place of the white and the ducal coronet surmounts the head of the eagle, again supporting a small delta of gold, base downward, containing the initial letter "Jod." The fillet of the crown of an Honorary 33° is crimson, while that of an Active is purple. The crimson or purple ribboned motto pendant from the hilt of the sword to the point contains the words "Deus Meumque Jus."

-The Rochester Consistory News

NOTICE FROM THE EDITOR



Your master mason friend

may very well . . .



. . . appreciate your invitation to him to join the Scottish Rite.

Why not call him . . . it will only take a few moments of your time?

NOW IS THE TIME TO BEGIN SENDING IN THOSE PETITIONS FOR THE SPRING REUNION, MAY 3 & 4, 1985

Eight reasons for joining the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

1. The Scottish Rite offers an unsurpassed field for study.
2. It presents an unexcelled opportunity for the practical demonstration of the teachings of Freemasonry.
3. It gives you a fellowship in its literature with the deepest minds and purest characters of Freemasonry.
4. It allows you to participate in the glorious work of spreading the doctrine of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.
5. It gives you a greater incentive to higher thoughts and nobler deeds, because of a greater knowledge of your responsibilities and the history of the institutions of the Scottish Rite.
6. It creates within you a greater love for chivalry; a greater respect for philosophy, and a never ending love for your mother lodge.
7. It enjoins on every brother the support of the American public school, non-partisan, non-sectarian, efficient, democratic; for all the people; equal education opportunities for all.
8. It inculcates patriotism, love of the flag, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to constitutional government.

IN MEMORIAM

Funeral services were held on November 28 at the Argyle Presbyterian Church for Eleanor McNeil, wife III: Harry G. McNeil 33°. Mrs. McNeil died in a tragic motor vehicle accident. The Rite Light notes with deep regret the passing of this fine lady.

Help your Blue Lodge Brother get a "College Education"

SCOTTISH RITE APTLY TERMED THE "COLLEGE OF MASONRY"
Climb to each high degree—New lesson in mastery of life

Great and profound lessons and truths have been advanced to the world through Masonry from the Fatherhood of God to the Brotherhood of Man and as a Mason climbs to each higher degree through the Scottish Rite he is given new experiences and insights into the Mastery of life.

So, the Scottish Rite has been aptly designated the "College of Masonry!"

Deep the Rite goes into antiquity, combining and interpreting the Jewish and Christian beliefs and showing how much the Brotherhood can accomplish in this confusing, changing world of now, by adopting these precepts.

It will be remembered that "all the Kings of the Earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom that God had put in his heart."

"Man owes it to himself and to his brother to be his own best self," a precept if followed will never fail.

To know that we are working with a great Universal Brotherhood, as all of us learn in the "College of Masonry," we feel that Peace On Earth and Good Will to All Men can be accomplished by the rededication of all to their work in Scottish Rite, in the Blue Lodges and in every branch of Freemasonry.

FAMILY LIFE WEEK CELEBRATED

In accordance with the Proclamation of the Sovereign Grand Commander, III: Stanley F. Maxwell, 33°, Family Life Week was observed again this year in the Valleys of Troy and Albany.

The Troy Delta Bodies hosted a Family Life Week dinner at the Troy Masonic Temple on November 24. III: C. Donald McKenzie, 33° was chairman of this very successful observance. There was a social hour from 6 to 7 p.m. followed by a delicious baked ham dinner enjoyed by some sixty persons. Everyone had an enjoyable evening.



In Albany the Week was celebrated at a worship Service and Brunch under the Chairmanship of Sublime Prince Alan C. Lewis. The Commander-in-Chief discusses the details of this affair in his message in this issue.



When you break your word you break something that cannot be mended.

MEETINGS

MAKE NOTE! 1985

- January 3 Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection Stated Communication. Guest Speaker.
- January 10 Council of Princes of Jerusalem-Stated Assembly Patent Presentation. Open to the Public.
- January 17 Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix. Stated Conclave. Guest Speaker.
- January 24 Albany Sovereign Consistory. Stated Rendezvous
- February 7 Lodge-Testimonial-to Arthur Brumaghim, Dinner preceding testimonial; cost \$6.75
Reservations with Clay Simons, P.O. Box 5111, Albany.
- March 7 Lodge-Stated Communication. Youth Night.

NOW, ABOUT THESE MEETINGS-Communications, Conclaves, Assemblies and Rendezvous-why not make it a point to attend them REGULARLY! Your Officers go to a lot of trouble in planning and arranging for attractive programs throughout the year, and hardly anyone shows up. Please do your part to support the events scheduled.

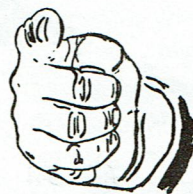
REUNIONS

We still need YOU to help fill all of the parts in our Fall and Spring Reunions. You do not have to take a speaking part. There are many openings in "non-speaking" and "walk-on" parts. Call the Secretary or one of the Officers and volunteer to do your share.

PROGRAMS

If you have a special presentation to make or know of someone who has a unique program for Scottish Rite presentation, please let us know. Any timely program is welcome, provided it is in good taste and is not offensive.

HAVE
YOU



OBTAINED
A
NEW MEMBER?

A Word From Your Secretary

Richard G Barrell, 32°

What color "Dues Card" do you have? If it is green on white background, you are paid up to date. Otherwise, you may possibly be in arrears. Please check your card, NOW. Any other color than green means you are in ARREARS and stand a chance of being "dropped from the rolls".

Those of you who do not possess a current "green" card will be receiving "Second" and possibly "Third" follow up statements for your 1985 dues. Please do not be offended. The life blood of any organization is based upon the amount of dues received from its members. We cannot afford the luxury of waiting for everyone to pay their dues months or years after they are due. If there is a problem in paying your dues, why not have the courtesy of dropping the Secretary a line explaining why.

Once again, my thanks go out to the many brethren who notify me of any change of address. But I must remind some of you brethren, that when you do change addresses, to please notify me immediately. When YOU forget, it costs the Valley \$.25.

It will soon be time for those Petitions to start rolling in. Brethren, please—it is most important—to be sure that the Petition of your candidate is completely filled out. If for some reason, you can not get all of the information, kindly attach a note to the back of the petition.



Scottish Rite

VALLEY OF ALBANY
MASONIC TEMPLE
67 MAIDEN LANE
ALBANY, NY 12207

Dear Brother,

Thank you for your membership dues payment. Prior to signing your name on the line provided, please examine the document carefully, and notify me immediately should any changes be necessary.

Cordially and Fraternally,

RICHARD BARRELL

Secretary



FIRST CLASS



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