



# The Rite Light



VALLEY OF ALBANY

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

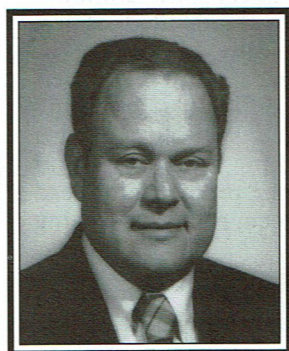
Vol. XV

Autumn, 1998

No. 1

## 1998 1999

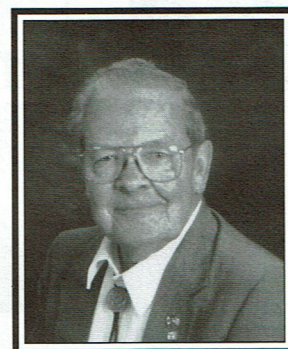
### PRESIDING OFFICERS



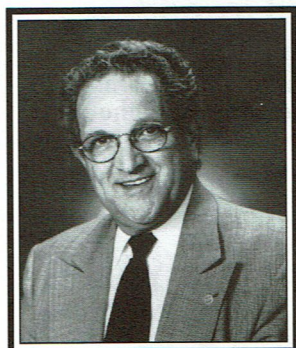
Fred C. Fredrickson  
Thrice Potent Master  
Lodge of Perfection



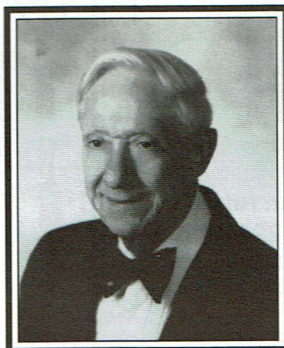
Ill. Richard F. Cesare, 33°  
Commander-in-Chief  
Consistory



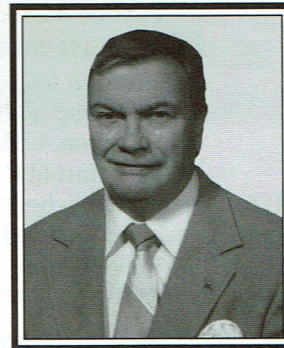
Robert G. Alcorn, 32°  
Sovereign Prince  
Council of Princes of Jerusalem



Ben F. Froggett, 32°  
Most Wise Master  
Chapter of Rose Croix



George J. Deveneau, 32° MSA  
Treasurer  
Valley of Albany



Ill. Richard G. Barrell, 33°  
Secretary  
Valley of Albany

GET THOSE PETITIONS IN  
TODAY  
**FALL REUNION**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1998



## Allegiance

The Bodies of Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Albany, State of New York acknowledge and yield allegiance to thy Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, and whose Officers are:



Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°  
Sovereign Grand  
Commander



Ill. Bruce W. Widger, 33°  
Deputy for the  
State of New York



Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33°  
Active for Area 4

Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill. Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°  
Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill. John W. McNaughton, 33°  
Grand Minister of State

Ill. Bruce W. Widger, 33°  
Deputy for the State of New York

### Active Members for New York

Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33° (1991)  
Ill. Harold L. Aldrich, 33° (1992)  
Ill. Douglas K. Wilson, Sr., 33° (1995)

### Active Emeriti Members

Ill. John H. Van Gorden, 33° (1974)  
Ill. Ralph M. Tompkins, 33° (1981)  
Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33° (1991)  
Ill. Carlton A. Winchester, 33° (1992)  
Ill. Harold F. Dates, 33° (1995)

The RITE LIGHT is published quarterly by Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Albany, 67 Corning Place, Albany, NY 12207-1904. Richard G. Barrell, 33°, Editor, 869-0684 or 434-8970; Russell J. LaGrange, Jr., MSA, Assistant Editor 438-7128 or 457-6166.



## 32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers

Since 1994 the 32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers have helped hundreds of children to overcome the effects of dyslexia.

Dyslexia is estimated to affect some 2 million school-aged children in the United States. These children are typically of average or above average intelligence. However, their dyslexia often creates difficulties not only with reading, writing and spelling, but also with listening, thinking, talking and arithmetic. These academic problems can lead to emotional and self-esteem problems leaving life-long scars.

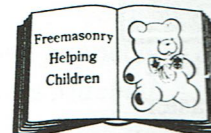
That's why the 32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers are committed to providing professional treatment--free of charge--to children with dyslexia.

Each Learning Center provides a highly qualified staff specially trained in the treatment of dyslexia. Services are made available to children on a first-come, first-served basis. Professional assessment and evaluation is made of each student. The staff then provides customized one-on-one instruction using a variety of techniques.

The program is committed to increasing its free services and proven teaching methods to 40 Learning Centers operating throughout the 15-state Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Contributions to the 32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers are tax deductible and benefit children with dyslexia.

To learn more call: 1-800-647-3394.



32° Masonic  
Children's Learning Centers



**FAMILY LIFE**  
**PUT YOUR**  
**HEART INTO IT.**

1998 Scottish Rite Masonic Family Life Program

**"Reading is a basic tool in the  
living of a good life."**

- Mortimer J. Adler



## *Scottish Rite Poster Contest Family Life - Build It With Care Winners Applauded*

Completing the Valley of Albany's Family Life Poster Contest at the Hackett Middle School in Albany, the four top winners were announced, and \$100 and \$200 Savings Bonds awarded before a record audience of students, parents and faculty on June 16, 1998.

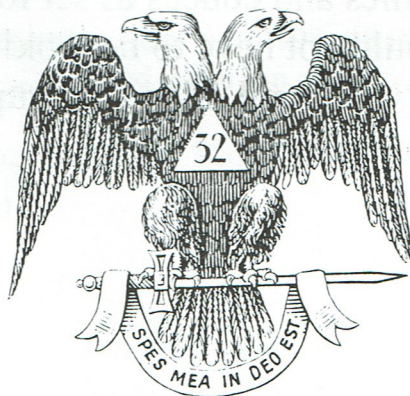
This was the first time we had an opportunity to make our presentation to such a crowd. In prior years it was just the principal and a few teachers. However, the teachers were so impressed with our sincerity and concerns, they asked for and received this new format for making the awards.

Shown here in the first row (L-R) Jerry Carasello - Vice Principal; Anna Acker - 4<sup>th</sup> Place; Jana Lynn Davis - 1<sup>st</sup> Place; Giovanna Cafaro - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; John Brady - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Back row: Committeemen Thomas W Snow, 32°, George E Thomas, 32° MSA, & James L Fuller, 32° MSA.



Better to remain  
silent and be  
thought a fool  
than to speak out  
and remove all  
doubt.

— Abraham Lincoln



*If the house of  
Scottish Rite Masonry  
is to stand . . .  
its foundation must be  
tended regularly.  
Support your  
Blue Lodge!*

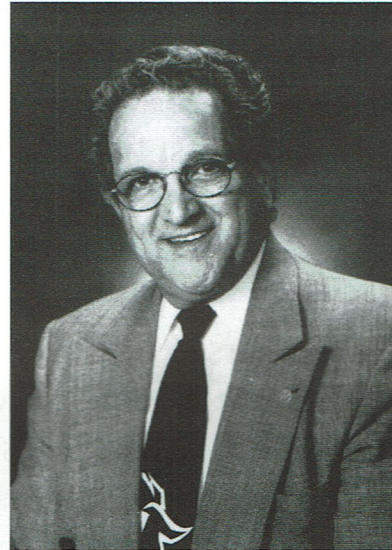


## *"Pearls" of Wisdom from the Most Wise Master*

It is with great pride, and even more humility, that I accept the challenge of serving you as Most Wise Master of the Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix for the ensuing year 1998/99.

Thank you to those who have given me the support I will need to get the job done. And, as I am thanking people, I must not forget the most important person in my life, that being my wife of eight years, for her continued support and help in all my activities. Thanks, Linda.

I would like to call to your attention something that is very important to us all. WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!

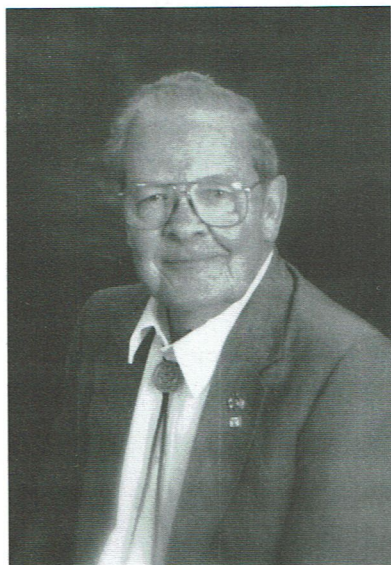


Surely, you have all heard this before. But, let me, perhaps help you understand the importance of that statement. At the rate our membership is declining, we will be out of business if we don't get new members. Calvin Coolidge said "We cannot do everything at once, but we can do something at once." And I think we can relate that statement to membership. We need to build this membership one member at a time. The time is NOW before it is too late.

If we all lived by the rules and educes as set forth in our Blue Lodge training, we would not have to be looking around for men to fill our chairs when we open Lodge. Our support and loyalty would bring us out in numbers.

(See Froggett P 12)





## A Word From The Sovereign Prince

Valiant Princes: I am very honored to have been elected by you to serve as Sovereign Prince of the Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem, Valley of Albany, for the ensuing year (1998-1999).

To acquaint those of you who may not know me, I was born on December 8, 1925, in Hackensack NJ. My father being with the Federal Government kept us moving about quite a bit. We lived in Louisiana, Oklahoma, California, Missouri, and Ohio before I entered service in 1943.

During World War II, I was a rifleman with the 397<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment in France and Germany.

My Masonic career began in East Greenbush at Schodack Union (now Van Rensselaer) Lodge No. 87, where I was initiated Entered Apprentice on April 8, 1971. On February 14, 1995, I was honored to be awarded the Dedicated Service Award. I am also a member of St Mark's Lodge No. 94 in Port Stanley, Ontario, Canada. Aside from being active in Scottish Rite, I also belong to the Oriental Shriners in Troy, NY.

I hope you all had as enjoyable summer as I did. Two memorable events took place. The first was when I raised my son, John, in Phoenix Lodge No. 13, Colorado Springs, Colorado. They do things differently out there. Each of the five candidates received the degree individually. Can you imagine the Sr Deacon giving the Middle Chamber Lecture five times in one day?

My summer was again highlighted at the Council of Deliberation held in Liverpool NY, July 9-12. At Friday night's banquet, a young girl (about ten years old) who is a student at our 32 Masonic Children's Learning Center in Rochester, NY, along with her family, spoke of the frustrations previously experienced at home and in school, because of her inability to read. She had dyslexia, and was not doing well in school. However, after attending our Learning Center this past year, she can now read at a fifth grade level. Her mother said she has progressed very well and is much better adjusted. Overcome by emotion, she thanked everyone in Scottish Rite for helping her daughter to lead a normal life.

We should all be very proud of our fraternity and Scottish Rite in particular for its endeavors in helping these kids. It is truly wonderful.

The first Stated Assembly will be on Thursday, October 1, 1998 at 8 PM. While your attendance at all meetings is earnestly solicited, it will be greatly appreciated if you can come to at least one meeting this year.

My congratulations to Valiant Prince George "Ernie" Thomas, this year's recipient of the prestigious Meritorious Service Award.

See You at Council,

Robert G Alcorn, 32°  
Sovereign Prince





## *Congratulations!*

At its 129<sup>th</sup> Convocation in Liverpool, New York, the Council of Deliberation elected William Minor Korn, 32° and Ralph Earl Shaffer, 32° to receive the prestigious Meritorious Service Award at its next meeting in Liverpool, July 1999..

We of the Rite Light extend to each of these Brothers our warmest felicitations upon reaching this milestone in the Scottish Rite.

William M Korn was born in Albany, New York, on August 22, 1946. Since 1950, he has lived in the Guilderland area. He graduated from Guilderland High School and received his BA from Central College, Pella, Iowa in 1969. Since college, he has been employed by Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory as a scientific computer programmer.

In 1972, Bill married his wife, Barbara. They have a daughter Sara, and a son, Matthew, both of whom are attending college. In 1974, Bill constructed the home the family lives in today.



Bill was raised in Noah Lodge No 754 on March 13, 1970, and served as its Master in 1976. He is a member of the Old 17<sup>th</sup> Past Master's Association, and currently is Secretary of his lodge.

In 1991 Bill received his 32° and has been a cast member of the 26<sup>th</sup> degree, since 1993. He is now Director of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and has an active part in the cast. Bill is currently Senior Warden

(see Korn P10)



Ralph E Shaffer was born on September 18, 1920, in Cambrin County, Pennsylvania. In 1937, he graduated from Wilmore, Pennsylvania High School.

Before enlisting in the United States Marine Corps during World War II, Ralph was employed by several different electrical contractors, building power lines in the eastern part of the United States.

During the war, he saw action in the South Pacific, and was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received during the campaign in Okinawa. He served six months in China before returning to the United States where he received an Honorable Discharge.



Ralph, again, went to work for the Port Chester Electric Company. During this time, he was sent to Troy, New York, where he met and married the former Doris Bonesteel. They celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary April 6, 1997, and are the proud parents of two children and four grandchildren.

Brother Shaffer retired in 1983 from Niagara Mohawk Power Company after twenty-five years service.

Ralph attends the Center Brunswick United Methodist Church in Troy NY. He currently is a member of the Administration Council, where he has faithfully served for many years. He also has been a lay reader, and chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Brother Shaffer was raised to Master Mason on March 16, 1965, in Phoenix Lodge No 58, Lansingburg NY, and served as its Master in 1970. He received the Dedicated Service Award in January of 1989, and presently serves as a Trustee.

Ralph joined the Albany Sovereign Consistory and the Delta Bodies of Troy in 1985. He is a past Thrice Potent Master of the Delta Lodge of Perfection, and past Sovereign Prince of the Delta Council of Princes of Jerusalem. He

(see Shaffer P10)



## *Thoughts From the Commander-In-Chief*

Sublime Princes: Summertime is of such a short duration in which to relax and enjoy ourselves and family. Carefree of our responsibilities of engaging in ritualistic work and attending meetings, I do hope that all the members of both the Troy Delta Bodies and the Valley of Albany had a very enjoyable Summer. We only had a brief interruption during the Summer by those who attended the 129<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the New York State Council of Deliberation in Liverpool, New York, July 9 to July 12, 1998. My thanks to all of you who were there, and assisted with the hospitality room.



Here it is close to the end of August, and now we should be preparing ourselves for the Fall activities that will be scheduled.

As I begin my second year as your Commander-In-Chief, I earnestly request your support to our varied programs. First, and foremost, I want to acknowledge the tremendous void created by the transfer and reassignment to a church in Long Island, of Illustrious & Reverend Richard C Mills, 33°, who was our overall Degree Director. Illustrious Alan C Lewis, 33° has graciously agreed to assume this great responsibility as Director of the Works.

Other changes of degree directors are as follows: I have taken on the job of directing the 20<sup>th</sup> degree, and now relinquish the reigns of directing the 24<sup>th</sup> degree to Ronald H Noll. Brother William M



Korn will take over directing the 32<sup>nd</sup> degree. All four of us have requested that we hold rehearsals, which are deemed necessary for success, not only for our benefit, but for the candidates as well, on whom the moral lessons are disclosed to.

It seems that I cannot emphasize too strongly the urgency of requesting your support and participation so that we may portray these degrees in a respectable and professional manner. Much planning is spent in preparing events of interest in the expectation of attaining better attendance at our meetings.

A few dates which I hope to see more present:



October 17, 1998

October 21, 1998

November 14, 1998

Fall Reunion

Area Four Meeting

Ladies Night & Testimonial

George Ernest Thomas

Meritorious Service Award

Please refer to the testimonial announcement, elsewhere in this issue, and Program Schedule for future events.

Lastly, I urge all of you to continue supporting the Blue Envelope appeal, for our Scottish Rite Charities.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Richard F Cesare, 33°  
Commander-In-Chief  
Albany Sovereign Consistory

### Supreme Council Zip Code Change

**Effective July 1, 1998**, the Supreme Council and Musuem of Our National Heritage will have new Zip codes in Lexington. Regular mail sent via United States Postal Service should be addressed to PO Box 519, Lexington, MA **02420-0519**. All other deliveries should be sent to 33 Marrett Road, Lexington, MA **02421**.

# GET THOSE PETITIONS IN TODAY.



(Korn continued)

in the Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection.

Since 1991, Brother Korn has been a member of Cyprus Temple Shriners, and has been its Recorder since 1996. He is an active member of the Cyprus Motor Patrol, and served one year as its Secretary. He is a member of the Greater Albany Shrine Club, the Schenectady Shrine Club, and the Shepherds Club. Bill is also a member of Albany Court No 77, Royal Order of Jesters.

Other fraternal ties are to the Guilderland Lodge No 2480, BPO Elks, Mountaineer Lodge No 321, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Nite Owls. Bill has served as his bowling league secretary for 15 years, and his golf league secretary for 8 years.

Brother Bill Korn has been a faithful communicant of the Helderberg Reformed Church in Guilderland Center since 1950. □

(Shaffer continued)

recently was elected to a three year term as representative to the Troy Masonic Temple Association.

In May of 1986 Ralph became a member of Oriental Shrine Temple in Troy NY. He is a past President of the Troy Area Shrine Club, and a past President of the Troy Shrine Patrol, where he continues to maintain membership in both organizations. In 1991 he was elected Treasurer of Oriental Temple, in which position he still serves.

Brother Shaffer also is a member of the Iran Grotto in Troy NY, and is an active member of the Center Brunswick Volunteer Fire Company, where he currently serves as its chaplain. □

## "DEMIT?"

So many times we hear the remark: "I want a demit from the Scottish Rite. I cannot attend meetings. My business or life is such that I cannot be active. Why should I remain a member?"

There are some very good answers to that question. First of all, being a Freemason is not only attending meetings, although, it provides an opportunity for you to meet with your Brethren. Being a Freemason is LIVING a good life based on Masonic principle, and living up to vows assumed by you during the conferral of our degrees. It is BELIEVING IN and PRACTICING those beliefs that make you a Freemason. You continue to be a Freemason even if you are in a place where there are NO Masonic Lodges!

When you continue to pay your annual dues, you support a CAUSE that you believe in. You help to continue a fraternity of free men who believe in moral character, love for country, and the practice of tenets in the life of a man - and in the life of a nation. It is important to remember that you help to build a heritage for those who come after you. Your annual dues and continued membership is a small contribution to pay to share in so great a cause.

**STAY IN THE RITE!**



# A Black - Tie Event

## Ladies Night & Testimonial Dinner Honoring Distinguished Brother George Ernest Thomas Meritorious Service Award

Saturday Evening, November 14, 1998  
Social: Six O'clock    Dinner: Seven O'clock

West Albany Italian Benevolent Society  
50 Exchange Street (East of Everett Road off I-90)

*Roast Beef or Pork Dinner*  
*\$25 per person      \$45 per couple*

Dress for the evening:  
Officers, Past Officers, 33 & MSA's: Black Tie, Cap, & Jewels  
Ladies: Optional

-----Reservation Form-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Lady's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check (payable to AASR) for  
/ / Beef / / Pork    \$25-Single    \$45-Couple  
Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Thomas Testimonial*

Send to: R G Barrell, AASR, 67 Corning Pl, Albany NY 12207

**Deadline: November 7, 1998**





(Froggett continued)

Why not make a promise to yourself to attend at least one meeting in the coming year. Just think about what a joy it would be to see 25, even 50 men on the side lines, as the meeting is called to order with three raps of the gavel and thundering feet come to attention. Will you be one of those who takes his Masonic obligations seriously and support our fraternity?

The first Stated Conclave will be on Thursday evening, Oct 29, 1998, at 8 o'clock. Our guest speaker is B J Fowler, who will talk to us about railroading. Also, please mark your calendars. A Ladies Night and Testimonial Dinner honoring George "Ernie" Thomas, 32°MSA will be held on Saturday, November 14, 1998. Ernie is a past Most Wise Master and deserves our recognition. Details can be found elsewhere in this publication.

See you soon.

Ben F Froggett, 32°  
Most Wise Master



## The Man Who Makes No Mistakes

It was an ancient seer who said that criticizing another man's oration is a simple thing, but to make a better one in its place is a task exceedingly difficult.

The galleries are full of critics. They play no ball. They fight no fights. They make no mistakes because they attempt nothing.

Down in the arena are the doers. They make many mistakes because they attempt many things. I would venture to say that Edison, Burbank, Marconi and the Wright Brothers probably made more mistakes than any other men who have lived. Ford forgot to put a reverse gear in his automobile. Edison once spent over \$1,000,000 on an invention which proved to be of little value. The gigantic creative experiments of these men in blazing new trails made mistakes inevitable. But who remembers the critics who laughed at them?

The man who makes no mistakes lacks boldness and the spirit of adventure. He is a brake on the wheels of progress. There are no thrills in his life. And, there are no monuments to his memory.

*Author Unknown*

## THEATER COMES TO THE MASONIC TEMPLE

The Masonic Temple presents a Gypsy and Compost West production of **THE SCOTTISH PLAY** sponsored by Capital Repertory Theater - a mask and puppet adaptation of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*



Performances Thursday, September 3 through Monday, September 7 at 8 p.m. at the Masonic Temple at 67 Corning Place. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 12

*For Tickets call the Capital Repertory  
Theater Box Office at (518) 462-4531*

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