



The Rite Light



VALLEY OF ALBANY

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

Vol. VX

WINTER 1998

No. 2

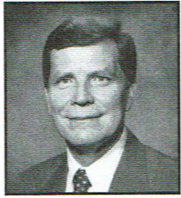
HAPPY HOLIDAYS — Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, New Year



Valleys of Albany & Troy

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 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. Robert W. Clarke, 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)

Ill. Gary A. Henningsen, 33° (1998)

Active Emeriti Members

Ill. John H. Van Gorden, 33° (1974)

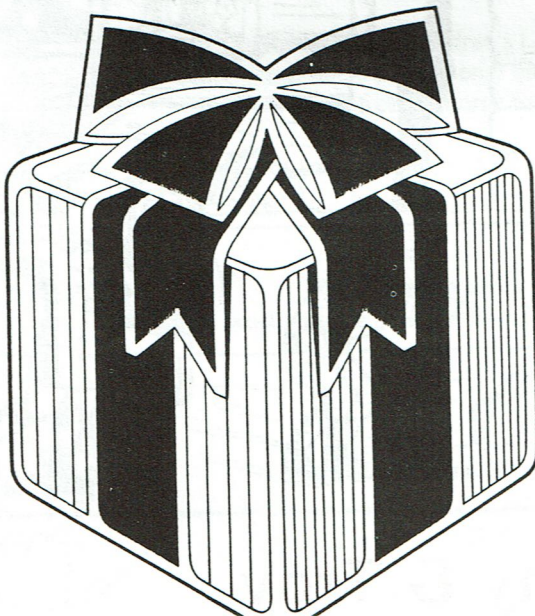
Ill. Ralph M. Tompkins, 33° (1981)

Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33° (1991)

Ill. Carlton A. Winchester, 33° (1992)

Ill. Harold F. Dates, 33° (1995)

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Richard G. Barrell, 33°, Editor, 869-0684 or 434-8970;
Russell J. LaGrange, Jr., MSA, Assistant Editor 438-7128 or 457-6166.



Five Kinds of People

1. Those who make things happen.

2. Those to whom things happen.

3. Those who watch things happen.

4. Those who wonder what happened.

5. Those who don't even know that something happened.



How Far Have We Come?

Beginning with the Center in Newtonville in 1993, we have grown during the past five years to 12 Learning Centers in full operation, representing 7 states in the Northern Jurisdiction. Each Center presently offers a summer and academic year program for a total of 23 existing programs. We are gaining in achieving our goal of 110 programs in 55 Learning Centers in the 15 states of the Northern Jurisdiction. Together, we will accomplish our goal!

Centers in Operation

Bangor, ME

116 Main Street
Bangor, ME 04401
Tel. 207-990-2277

Lowell, MA

79 Dutton Street
Lowell, MA 01852
Tel. 978-937-9577

Greater Boston, MA

458 Newtonville Ave.
Newtonville, MA 02460
Tel. 617-965-3960

Rochester, NY

875 Main Street East
Rochester, NY 14605
Tel. 716-442-7290

Pemberton, NJ

Library,
Burlington County College
Pemberton, NJ 08068
408-654-7115

Scotch Plains, NJ

301 Forest Avenue
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
Tel. 908-322-3361

Tenaflly, NJ

Tenakill Lodge
404 Tenaflly Road
Tenaflly, NJ 07670
Tel. 201-567-9002

Allentown, PA

1544 Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA 18101
Tel. 610-435-0997

Cincinnati, OH

317 East Fifth Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Tel. 513-562-2665

Toledo, OH

4645 Heatherdowns Blvd.
Toledo, OH 43614
Tel. 419-381-8726

Youngstown, OH

223 Wick Avenue
Youngstown, OH 44501
Tel. 330-743-7789

Milwaukee, WI

790 North Van Buren Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Tel. 414-765-9189

Under Construction

Nashua, NH

Harrisburg, PA

Reading, PA

Pittsburgh, PA

Dayton, OH

Detroit, MI

Grand Rapids, MI

Chicago, IL

In Various Stages of Planning

Portland, ME

Lexington, MA

Providence, RI

Waterbury, CT

Bloomsburg, PA

Philadelphia, PA

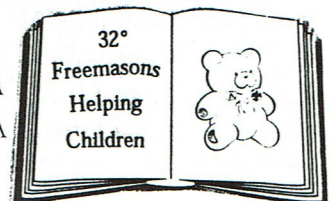
Cleveland, OH

Columbus, OH

Bay City, MI

Indianapolis, IN

South Bend, IN



BROTHER THOMAS R. DOUGHTERTY AN EXAMPLE FOR US ALL 1923-1998

It is with much regret that we inform the craft of the untimely death of our wonderful friend Most Worshipful Thomas R. Dougherty. The passing of Tom has left a distinct void of advice, council, and friendship. We would like to share with you the tremendous accomplishments he recorded in his nearly 50 years of service to Masonry.

Tom was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Mount Moriah Lodge #28 Free and Accepted Masons, in Bordertown, NJ on June 30, 1948. After spending 11 years in the chairs he served as Worshipful Master in 1961. He was appointed Grand Marshal in 1963. From 1964 through 1968 he served as District Deputy Grand Master of the Nineteenth Masonic District. He was elected Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey in 1971.

In 1971 he was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Masonic Home in Burlington, NJ. He was elected Chairman of the Grand Master's Conference Committee in 1972.

In 1973 he was asked to organize a statewide Blood Bank, which has been in operation ever since. He was active on many Grand Lodge Committees, such as Budget and Finance; New Jersey Statewide Blood Bank; and the Grand Master's Advisory Board, of which he served as Chairman for four Grand Masters. He also served as Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Dispensations and Warrants, and Advisor to the New Jersey Statewide Blood Bank.

Tom was a member of the Royal Arch Masons, Council and Commandery of Knights Templar and Red Cross of Constantine, St. Stephen's Conclave in Haddonfield, NJ. He was a member of the George Washington Association of Masons of New Jersey (limited to a membership of 20, by unanimous election only); He was a member of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Trenton Forest #4. He was coroneted a 33rd Degree Mason in Chicago, Illinois in September 1979, and received an Honorary Life Membership in

the Billings MT, Southern Jurisdiction of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. He was a Charter Member of the District of Columbia HI-12 Club #576 and was an Honorary Member of Hiram-Takoma Lodge #10 FAAM, in the District of Columbia; Bethesda Lodge #204 in Maryland; Oriental Lodge #430 A.F. & A.M., Muskogee, OK; Alt Heidelberg #821 Heidelberg, Germany; Putnam Lodge #46, South Woodstock, CT, and 35 lodges in New Jersey.

He was a member of Perpetuity of Old Dominion Chapter #364, National Sojourners, Inc., in Springfield, Virginia; and Walter Reed Chapter #303 Bethesda, Maryland. He was a member of "Light Horse Harry Lee Camp" Heroes of '76, and had been elected to the Royal Order of Barrow Wheelers International, which has limited membership of 100, by invitation only.

Tom was the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois near the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

He was an Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, Alaska, District of Columbia, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Tom was elected as an Honorary Past Grand Master of The American Canadian Grand Lodge in Germany, being only the second one to receive this honor.

Among his many honors was: the Daniel Cox Medal from New Jersey; the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service, and the only out of state recipient of the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Silver for Eminent Masonic Service from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut; the Josiah Hayden Drummond Medal for Distinguished Service from the Grand Lodge of Maine; the Philip C. Tucker Medal from the Grand Lodge of Vermont; the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; the



John Blair Medal and the James Mercer Medal (one of four ever presented), from the Grand Lodge of Virginia; the Valentine Reintzel Medal from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia; the Grand Lodge of Japan Medal for Outstanding Leadership; also he was the holder of the DeMolay Legion of Honor and the Grand Cross of Color for the Grand Assembly of Rainbow for Girls.

The Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Valley Forge Pennsylvania presented Tom with the prestigious Legion of Honor Membership in recognition of service to all people regardless of race or faith.

Tom owned his own insurance business before coming with MSA in March 1980. He truly excelled in the management of the MSA Hospital Visitation Program for 13 years. He received many of the mentioned awards and honors while serving as Director of the Hospital Visitation Program. He became recognized by his peers in the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service as a professional and expert in the field of volunteerism.

There is no way to adequately express the loss that we feel in our hearts for Tom and we wish his family well. Tom will be remembered for his service to mankind!

THE MASONIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA



CONTRIBUTORS TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL CHARITIES, FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1998

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**ELECTED TO RECEIVE THE 33° AT ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY
ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1999**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CINCINNATI, OHIO. A class of 134 Scottish Rite Masons were honored recently at the annual meeting of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States. The Thirty-third Degree was conferred on the designees at the Taft Theatre.

Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, the organization's chief executive officer, announced the election of new officers. Robert W. Clarke of Longmeadow, Massachusetts, was named Grand Minister of State and Donald J. Soberg of Monona, Wisconsin, was elected the Scottish Rite Deputy for his state.

Clarke replaces John Willard McNaughton of Fort Wayne, Indiana, who retired as an Active Member at the mandatory retirement age. Soberg replaces Dale O. Babbitt of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, who retired as Deputy but remains as an Active Member of the Supreme Council.

Newly elected to the board as Active Members are Gary A. Henningsen of Staten Island, New York, and John William McNaughton of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Henningsen is the Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge of Masons in New York. McNaughton, who is succeeding his father on the board, is president of All Rite Distributing Company at Fort Wayne.

The Gourgas medal was awarded to Carl Lindner of Cincinnati. Lindner is chairman of the board and CEO of American Financial Corporation, Great American Communications Company, Penn Central Corporation, and United Brands Company. His philanthropic and humanitarian efforts have assisted numerous Masonic charities not only with financial support but also with active participation. The board also voted to present the medal to Commander Ralston. The Gourgas medal is named for John James Joseph Gourgas, a 19th-century Supreme Council leader who is considered a conservator of the Scottish Rite in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. It is awarded for distinguished service to the fraternity or humanity.

In other action, Grand Commander Ralston announced the continuing expansion of the Scottish Rite Masonic Learning Centers for Children. The Centers provide free one-on-one tutoring for dyslexic children. He also announced plans for the construction of a new headquarters building in Lexington, Massachusetts, and an extensive program to celebrate the new millennium.

At the conclusion of the meeting, an announcement was made of the list of 147 Masons who were elected to receive the Thirty-third Degree next year in Atlantic City, New Jersey, including

Stephen F. Miner, 8 Whitman Court, Troy, Educator, Financial Planner

CONGRATULATIONS

Stephen Francis Miner to receive 33° in Atlantic City NJ September 28, 1999

Bro Stephen F Miner was born in Troy NY on January 6, 1948, son of Francis and Ruth Miner.

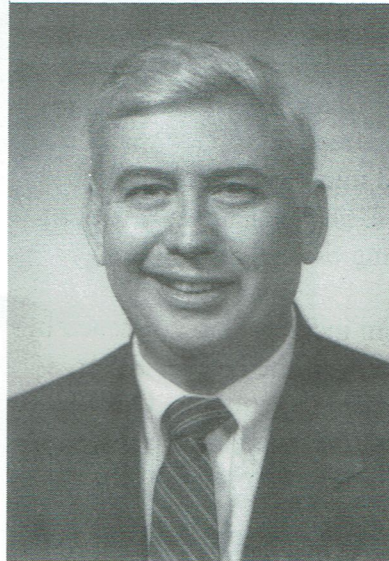
He was educated in the Troy Public Schools system, graduating in 1965 from Troy High School. In 1969 he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, and in 1972, his Master of Science in Social Science Education at the State University College at Oneonta NY. He furthered his studies by attending the American College at Bryn Mawr PA, receiving his Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant in 1982 and 1984, respectively. Rounding out his education, Brother Miner attended the Certification Program in Educational Administration at the College of Saint Rose, Albany NY.

Brother Miner has served in several capacities as a teacher and administrator in Oneonta State College, Brittonkill Schools, and Tamarac Schools, where he currently teaches American History, Government, and Economics.

He is a communicant of the First Presbyterian Church of Troy NY, having served as Trustee and Elder.

Brother Miner was raised a Master Mason in King Solomon's Primitive Lodge No 91, F & AM (now Apollo King Solomon's Lodge No 13) in Troy NY, on May 21, 1970. He served as Worshipful Master in 1977, and Trustee since 1979.

He joined Scottish Rite Delta Bodies in Troy NY and Albany Sovereign Consistory on September



11, 1971, serving as Sovereign Prince for Delta Council, Princes of Jerusalem, 1976/77. He is presently a Trustee for the Delta Lodge of Perfection. Brother Miner served on the New York State Council of Deliberation Investment Committee from 1994 to 1996.

He is a member of Oriental Temple, AAONMS, Troy NY.

He was the Republican candidate for Rensselaer County Legislature in 1993, and is Commissioner of the Rensselaer County Sewer Commission, since 1994.

The Rite Light extends its warmest felicitations to Brother Stephen Miner for this well deserved award.

We're Proud!

Reminiscences From The Sovereign Prince

Valiant Princes: I recently returned from attending the 51st annual reunion of my Army Division, during which time we devoted a half day to the memorial service in remembrance of our fallen comrades.

This year, the message at the service was given by the Rev Dr Bonner Teeter, a Methodist Minister from Amarillo TX.

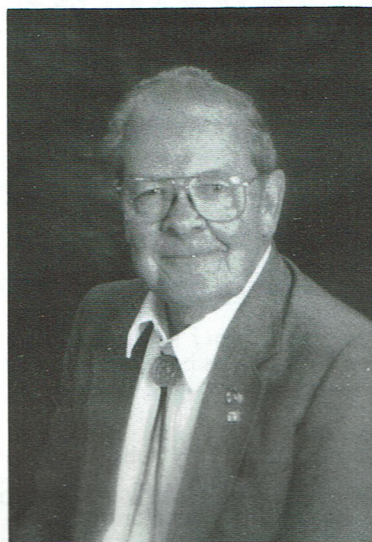
When Dr Bonner joined our division as our Regimental Chaplain, he was an Arkansas farm boy, fresh out of seminary, a newly ordained minister in the Methodist Church, and a 2nd Lieutenant, fresh out of Officers Training School.

He told about an incident that happened in 1945 on the banks of the Necker River, across from Heilbron, Germany. Our Regiment was scheduled to make the river crossing, assault, and capture the city.

Dr Bonner related that as he visited the troops poised on the river bank, shortly after dark, and preparing to enter the assault boats, a young soldier spoke to him. "Chappy" he said, "when I entered the Army they gave me a bible. Chappy I've never been one to read the book, but I feel now like reading it. Could you suggest a part to me." Bonner said he referred the soldier to Joshua, Chapter 1, Verse 9.

Three days later, after a costly river crossing, the battle for Heilbron was still going on, and Dr Bonner was in the Aid Station, where this young man was lying on a stretcher. He knelt down and cradled the soldier's head in his hands. "Chappy, I read the Book." And with that the soldier died.

For those not familiar with Joshua 1:9, as



I was, it reads "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong, and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

This young lad was but one of the 174 casualties our regiment suffered in this eight day battle.

As we gather together with our loved ones and friends this Holiday Season, let us remember all of the men and women who have served our country, sustaining and perpetuating the freedoms this great nation has enjoyed for the past 222 years.

And especially, let us say a prayer for all of those who made the supreme sacrifice which enables us to meet together, without fear, on these happy occasions.

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, and a Joyous New Year - 1999. Happy Holidays!

Robert G Alcorn
Sovereign Prince



Gems from the Most Wise Master

Perfect Knights: *Where were you?*

On Thursday evening, October 28, we had our first conclave of the Albany Sovereign of Rose Croix for the year 1998/99, which was preceded by an Executive Board meeting at 7 PM. Although our meeting was short, we adjourned to the parlor on the first floor for a most enjoyable presentation.

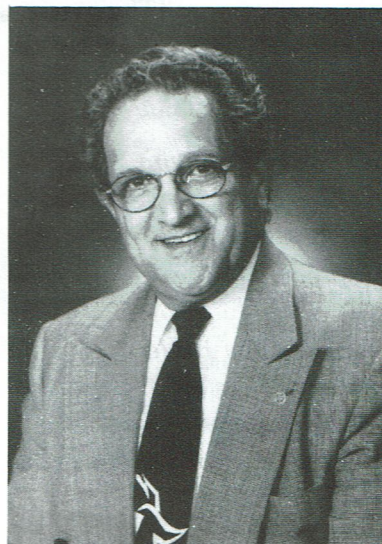
B J Fowler and Joseph Croteau from Conrail spoke about modern railroading. We learned much about the safety standards rigidly enforced, and the trauma experienced by engineers in "incidents" where trains, cars, busses, and trucks come together with each other at crossings. It sure makes one think twice before crossing any railroad tracks in the future.

During the refreshment part of the evening, the question was asked "How do we get more Brothers out to these programs and meetings?" If I had the answer to that question, I would be one happy camper. Maybe, by giving a plug for our December 10 Conclave we will increase our attendance.

Our guest speaker will be William S Panitch, numismatist (coin specialist). He will talk about coins and their importance to collectors. If you have an interesting coin you would like identified, please bring it along and Bill will try his best to give you some idea of its worth.

We will also have holiday treats for all who attend. I hope this serves as an incentive to be with us December 10. It would be a super holiday gift to see the sidelines full.

If you would please call me at 869-2130 to let me know that you will attend, we'll have

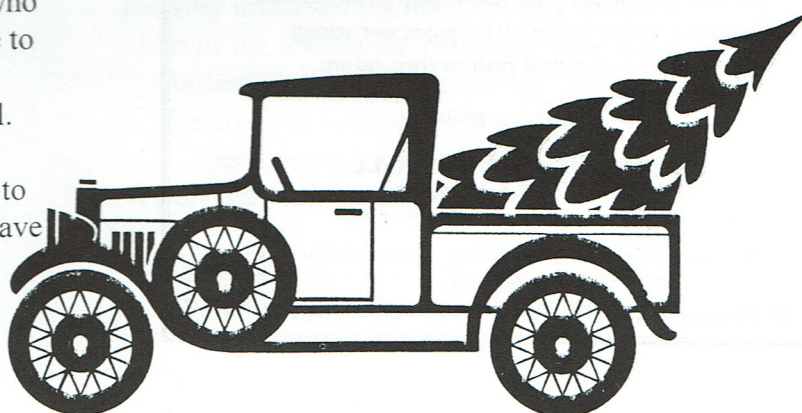


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If you would please call me at 869-2130 to let me know that you will attend, we'll have a better idea on how many gifts to get.

Fraternally Yours,

Ben F Froggett
Most Wise Master



Celebrating the "Twelve Days of Christmas"

The 12 days of Christmas are counted from the 26th of December until the 6th of January, the Feast of the Epiphany. The song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" actually began as a way to teach children about their faith. This is where the song comes from:

**The Partridge stands for Christ, who gathers his own under His wings - God's first gift.*

**Two Turtle Doves represent the sacrifice of the Jewish Family at the birth of a son or the Two Testaments of the Bible.*

**Three French Hens symbolize the gifts of the Maji, or Faith, Hope and Love.*

**Four Calling Birds remind us of the four Evangelists.*

**Five Golden Rings suggest the first five books of the Old Testament, the Torah.*

**Six Geese suggest the Six Days of the Week when humanity labors.*

**Seven Swans remind us of the Seven*

Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**Eight Maids represent the People Saved in the Ark or the Eight Beatitudes.*

**Nine Ladies represent the Fruits of the Spirit or the Nine Ranks of Angels.*

**Ten Lords stand for the Ten Commandments.*

**Eleven Pipers represent the eleven Apostles who were faithful.*

**Twelve Drummers reminds us of the Gates of Heaven or the Tribes of Israel.*

The song speaks only of gifts for each day. Many families spread Christmas gift-giving to span the Twelve Days much like the Jewish Hanukkah gift-giving over eight days. This might be a good time to look at our possessions for items that can be given to others in light of the new gifts we have already received.

From the Valley of Grand Rapids, Michigan

Quiet Heroes

EDUCATING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Scottish Rite Masons revere education and its power to transform lives.

The Abbott Scottish Rite Scholarships have provided over \$2.8 million dollars in financial assistance to thousands of students from Scottish Rite families and Masonic youth groups.

When you support our scholarships, you become one of the "quiet heroes" who guide our young people on an educational path to their future.

Please give.



**Leon M. Abbott
Scholarships**

A SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CHARITY

Supreme Council Scottish Rite Masonic Charities

1-800-814-1432

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

FIRST! A MASTER MASON

I like the going back to my lodge. I have found it refreshing and good to step aside out of the path of my busy life and sit again with Masons who have carried on in my absences. To this experience I came gladly and joyfully as a boy returns again to his old home which he left to seek his fortune. Still some of the old brothers await to welcome me. Grown a little older I find them, but still strong and eager for the duties of a Mason! With them I can be what I long so often to be—just one of the Craft. Their aprons and mine are made of the same cloth; their dreams and mine are similar; their pulses beat to the same inspiration and we are all at peace.

Rich and poor; high and low make no difference there. The pomp of life is thrown aside. Only that which is important counts.

Masonry has taught me the follies of petty distinction and the shams of pride and place.

—Edgar A. Guest

**Keep Petitions Handy.
Carry One With You
At All Times . . .
Extra Supply Can Be
Obtained From . . .
Scottish Rite Office.**

TIME

"I'm sorry, but I don't have the time." How often do we find ourselves or hear others asking this common everyday statement? I'm sure each of us at one time or another has also heard "Ask a busy person, somehow they seem to find the time." So what is the meaning behind this little four-letter word spelled T-I-M-E? Suppose you had a bank that credited your account each morning with \$86,400, that carried over no balance from day to day, and allowed you to keep no cash in your account, and every evening cancelled whatever part of that amount you had failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out every cent, of course! Well, we do have such a bank and its name is "TIME." Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it rules off as lost whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balance and allows no overdrafts. If you fail to use the day's deposit, the loss is yours. There is no going back, no drawing against "tomorrow." So, we must invest our seconds so that they will give us the utmost in health, happiness and success.

Where's Fred?

Our Thrice Potent Master, Fred C Fredrickson, recently underwent serious surgery to relieve him of the abdominal pains that have been hounding him. There was no cancer. We are glad to report that Fred is home recuperating, and is doing fine. We all wish him well and a speedy recovery.

A card or phone call will be appreciated.
PO Box 325, Altamont NY 12009
Tel: 861-5341



An old man going a lone highway
 Came in the evening cold and gray
 To a chasm, vast and deep and wide
 Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
 The old man crossed in the twilight dim
 For that sullen stream held no fears for him
 But he turned when he reached the other side
 And started a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near
 "You are wasting your strength in building here.
 Your journey will end with the ending day
 You never again must pass this way.
 You have crossed that chasm deep and wide
 Why build this bridge at the eventide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head
 "Good friend in the way I have come," he said
 There followeth after me today
 A youth whose feet must pass this way.
 This chasm that has been naught to me
 To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
 He too must cross in the twilight dim
 Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Why New Members?

Each year we lose members through deaths and suspensions. We can do nothing about deaths and very little about suspensions but we can do something about new members. This is one era that we as members control.

Masonry has not changed over the years, it still has but one job to do. That job, to take the best material it can find and make better men out of that material.

The task of the Scottish Rite begins here. to take the newly made Masons and help in this process of improvement. This will never happen unless we as Scottish Rite Masons are willing to carry the message and benefits to this brother. It is you and I that have experienced the mysteries of the Scottish Rite Degrees. It is you and I that must sit down with this brother and tell him about Scottish Rite Masonry.

If we do not who will?

How long has it been since you have taken the time to interest a friend and brother in securing the benefits of Scottish Rite Masonry.

Finally, we should be aware that there are many Blue Lodge Masons who are not members of the Scottish Rite. All Master Masons who are not our members are our prospects until determined otherwise.

Think about this for a moment.

Wise Words to Live By

Watch your thoughts; they become words.
 Watch your words; they become actions.
 Watch your actions; they become habits.
 Watch your habits; they become character.
 Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

— Frank Outlaw



The Stranger

by Lanny M. Covey, Scurry Lodge #706

I went to lodge the other night, a custom I enjoy.
All my friends were at the lodge, there was Joe and Bill and Roy.

A Master's was the purpose, my favorite degree of all.
I tied my apron and took a seat as the gavel rang the call.

A stranger sat right next to me, a man I did not know.
I started to introduce myself, but the team was ready to go.

About the second section, I began to be aware.
His Mind was in another place, the sad and distant stare.

Sweat was dripping from his brow, though it was cold outside,
And when the setting maul came down, he hung his head and cried.

A stone face through the lecture, charge and apron presentation,
When all was done, I had to know, but asked with hesitation.

I said, "My brother, tell me, why did you react so?"
His answer was peculiar, "Something long ago."

Then as he headed for the door, I said, "Sir what's your name?"
I want to know just who you are, and also whence you came."

I wish I could have seen my face when he gave me his reply.
He said "I'm know as Hiram. I came from Naphtali."

I stood there dazed, someone walked by. I asked, "Brother, did you see...
The stranger sitting next to me during the degree."

He said, "No one sat next to you. You were in the north alone.
You really don't look all that well. You better go on home."

I ran outside and drew a fresh breath, to try and clear my head.
All of this had shaken me, what I'd seen and what was said.

At the northeast corner was a figure kneeling there.
His eyes were shut, his voice was low, his hands were closed in prayer.

He said, "All mighty Architect and Father, I now know
Why things happened as they did so many years ago,

The greatest lesson, to the craft, on fidelity and love."
The figure then turned to pure light, and ascended up above.

"A madman, "some might say, that is what I seem,
Or maybe your thought might be that it was but a dream.

But as I turned to walk away I heard a voice on high
Echoing from Heaven's gate "Welcome Son of Naphtali!"

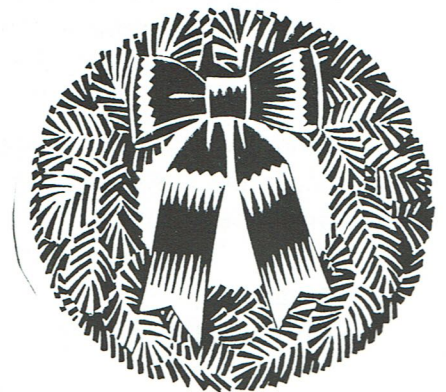


How to Find Humility

Sometime, when you're feeling important,
Sometime, when your ego's in bloom,
Sometime, when you take it for granted,
You're the best qualified in the room;
Sometime, when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole —
Just follow this simple instruction,
And see how it humbles your soul.

Take a bucket and fill it with water,
Put your hand in it, up to the wrist,
Pull it out, and the hole that's remaining
Is a measure of how you'll be missed.
You may splash all you please when you enter.
You can stir up the water galore.
But stop, and you'll find in a minute
That its looks quite the same as before.

The moral in this quaint example
Is: do just the best you can,
Be proud of yourself, but remember,
There is no indispensable man.
Anonymous



From the Commander-In-Chief

Sublime Princes: Time - a measure of duration, whether past, present, or future. A period during which anything occurred. As in the Ceremonial section of our 32nd degree - time was, time is - but no man may say that time shall be. For the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, therefore, the hour is always NOW. Our call to duty.

It is TIME again to return to our labors. Even as of NOW our Fall Reunion of October 17th is past. The 6th and 16th degrees were conferred in vignette form. This was due to an insufficient number of cast members available. My congratulations to all who participated.

Although the overall attendance and class were small, it turned out to be a fine day, and we were able to finish early. A well deserved THANK YOU to all.

Four days later, after our reunion, we had the Area Four meeting in Albany. Our guest speaker was none other than our own Ill. Richard H Welkley, 33° Active. Once again attendance was small.

Time and time again we are taken away from activities for which we should give priority.

All the other Presiding Officers of the Valley need your presence at our meetings in order that they may be successful. We have had a variety of programs that you could enjoy. Then after, join us for fellowship and refreshments.

More recently, we had our combined Ladies Night and Testimonial Dinner honoring Distinguished Brother George "Ernie" Thomas, this year's recipient of the Meritorious Service Award. Again, this was not well attended. However, those that did come, enjoyed the



appetizers, dinner, music, and festivities., held at the West Albany Italian Benevolent Society. Many favorable remarks were received.

With the holidays fast approaching, I and my Lady Jane wish for all of you a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Chanukka, Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year.

PS: Please don't forget the Blue Envelope Appeal for our Scottish Rite Charities. Also, kindly check your schedule for all future events and activities in our Valley for the Lodge of Perfection, Council, Chapter, and Consistory. We all need YOU!

Sincerely,
Richard F Cesare
Commander-In-Chief



Scottish Rite Scholarships

The Scottish Rite

Commitment to Education

One of Freemasonry's fundamental principles is a belief in the importance of the educated mind. Freedom, understanding, and brotherhood are dependent upon our ability to reason effectively. That is why the Masonic fraternity, and the Scottish Rite in particular, have long been committed to fostering the value of education.

At a time when the cost of higher education is increasing, the Scottish Rite wants to assist qualified and deserving students in attaining their educational and career goals through its scholarship program.

As part of Supreme Council Charities, the Education and Charity Fund Scholarship Program has now been expanded. It is anticipated that nearly 400 scholarships will be awarded each year to eligible and deserving students attending accredited colleges, universities, and specialty schools of their choice and studying the subjects they wish. It is anticipated that students will be full time.

The Abbott Scottish Rite Scholarship Program is supported by gifts from members and friends of Scottish Rite Masons to the annual Blue Envelope Appeal.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants for a scholarship must be children or grandchildren of Scottish Rite Masons. Or, they may be members of youth organizations sponsored by the Masonic fraternity. Such Valleys and youth groups must be located in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

An applicant must be a graduate of a public or private secondary/preparatory school.

Application forms are available through the Office of the Secretary of a local Scottish Rite Valley. Completed applications must be returned to the Valley Secretary in duplicate. The deadline for filing an application for the Supreme Council is April 1, and an earlier date may be requested for the filing of such application with the local Valley Office.

The Amount of Scholarship Aid

Both the number of scholarships granted each year and the actual amount of individual scholarships are dependent upon funds available. It is hoped, however, that individual grants will range from \$500 to \$1,000 or more. The number in any state will be modest inasmuch as 15 states and 109 Valleys are participating.

The size of the grants will be determined in each state as will eligibility for more than one year of aid and also postgraduate university studies. Also to be determined locally are such policies as the eligibility of adopted children and whether the offspring of Scottish Rite members residing out-of-state or in distant areas from the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction can be considered as eligible for scholarship assistance. The same applies to older offspring who are returning to schools due to career changes. It is not intended that Scottish Rite members and their spouses will be eligible. At the option of the State Deputy, Abbott grants will be paid directly to the approved student with the amount divided into halves for use in the first semester and then in the second semester. Otherwise, Abbott grants will be paid directly to the educational institution at which the recipient has been accepted and designated for the account of the student.

Applicant Instructions

Eligible applicants must be entering their **Sophomore** year, or above, to qualify for this scholarship. All forms and supporting documents should be sent to R G Barrell, Secretary, Valley of Albany, AASR, 67 Corning Pl, Albany NY 12207-1904
no later than March 15, 1999.

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., U.S.A.

VALLEY OF ALBANY



Richard G. Barrell, Secretary
67 Corning Place
Albany, New York 12207-1999

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