



The Rite Light



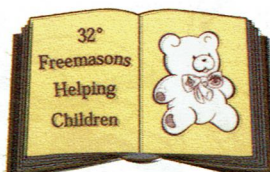
Valley of Albany

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

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Winter, 2003

No.2

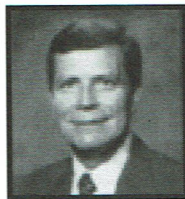


Your Bear Today



Allegiance

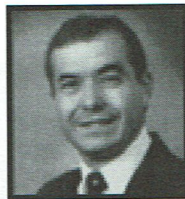
The Bodies of Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Albany, State of New York acknowledge and yield allegiance to thy Supreme Council, 33° Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, and whose Officers are:



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



III. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Deputy for the
State of New York



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

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

III. Walter E. Weber
Grand Lieutenant Commander

III. Robert W. Clarke, 33°
Grand Minister of State

III. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Deputy for the State of New York

Active Members for New York

III. Richard H. Welkley, 33°

III. Douglas K. Wilson, 33°

III. Gary A. Henningsen, Sr., 33°

III. Frederick D. Greene, 33°

Active Emeriti Members

III. Ralph M. Tompkins, 33°

III. James F. Niehoff, 33°

III. Carlton A. Winchester, 33°
past Deputy for New York

III. Bruce Widger, 33°
past Deputy for New York

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

Remember the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children



When Paying Your 2002 - 2003 Dues

Teddy Bear Awards

The first annual Valley Teddy Bear Awards will be announced at the Supreme Council Annual Meeting in Boston. The awards will recognize Valley participation in fund raising for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children.

Each Valley has received a financial goal based on the size of the Valley membership. The level of the award is determined by the percentage of the goal reached as well as the extent of member and public awareness activities.



Do Your Part . . . RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER!

Editorial...

Please accept my appologies for the lateness of this Winter Issue of the Rite Light.

Three weeks of being plagued with the flu, plus recuperating in December from recent surgery on my left collar bone and arm have seriously impaired my ability to function properly as your Editor, no less Valley Secretary.

From all of us here in the Executive Board, we hope your Holidays were filled with happiness and good health, and may the New Year of 2003 be equally rewarding.

Great things are in the making for the new year. With the full support and endorsement of Grand Master & Ill. Carl J Fitje, 33°, our Deputy, Ill. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, in concert with the Sovereign Grand Commander, are rapidly laying the ground work for a Special One Day Reunion for Scottish Rite Masons throughout New York State to be held on Saturday, April 26, 2003. This, of course, follows on the heels of the Grand Master's One Day Class for new Masons being held on Saturday, March 29, 2003.

What a golden opportunity to offer your neighborhood friend, relative, or business acquaintances (who up until now would not petition for our degrees because of time constraints) to become a Master Mason and 32° Scottish Rite Mason in just two short days.

Ask them **NOW**. You may be pleasantly surprised.

Some of you may be skeptical about this concept of initiating new members. Your concerns can be appreciated. However, as Al Smith once said - "let's look at the record." Anything of great significance has been accomplished by those of vision and courage who were willing to take a chance. Our Grand Master and Scottish Rite leaders are willing to take that step. God willing, they will succeed. They deserve your support.

As Paul Harvey once said "I have never seen a monument erected to a pessimist."

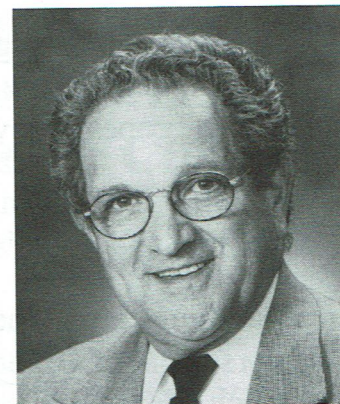
Richard G. Barrell
Editor



Salutations from the Thrice Potent Master

Respectable Brothers:

Our **Feast of Tishri** turned out to be a pleasant surprise. Almost thirty Scottish Rite members attended the delicious roast lamb dinner prepared by Ill. Richard Barrell, 33*, and the ceremony that followed. The traditional "toasts of obligation" were offered before dinner. Many thanks to the Officers and members who participated in the festivities. It was an eye opener worth witnessing. The evening's event was highlighted by a very timely and inspiring message delivered by our guest speaker, Ill. Arnold W Proskin, 33*



I hope you and your loved ones all had enjoyable holidays, and wish everyone a prosperous and healthy New Year.

"Virtus Junxit Mors non Separabit" - Whom Virtue Unites, Death Can Not Separate.

Sound familiar? It should! These words are spoken to the candidates by the Thrice Potent Master at every Reunion during the conferral of the 14th Degree. You may recall that when the gold ring was symbolically presented to you it represented the alliance you had made with virtue and the virtuous, an emblem of eternity symbolizing the eternal nature of that promise made on becoming a Grand Elect Mason.

Let me share with you the following taken from "Vested In Glory" published by the Scottish Rite Research Society of Guthrie, Oklahoma.

We learn from the 14th Degree that mankind, all men and women, are far more than mere accidents of fate or chemistry. They are individual, unique souls and spirits. That bond, that similarity, is so much greater than any possible difference which can separate us that each person should truly think of every other person as a brother. We fight much the same battles, share much the same pain, dream much the same dreams. As a result, the Scottish Rite Mason can never be indifferent to others. He has two fundamental obligations toward his fellowmen - to strive to see their physical needs are

met and to look to their spiritual and emotional needs as well, sharing what he has learned by example and action.

Perfection, of course, is unattainable. But the search for perfection is critical. We receive as much Divine Light as we are prepared to receive and are capable of understanding. As we become better prepared, we receive more as we progress through the three other Scottish Rite Bodies.

True friends are those who really know you but love you anyway.

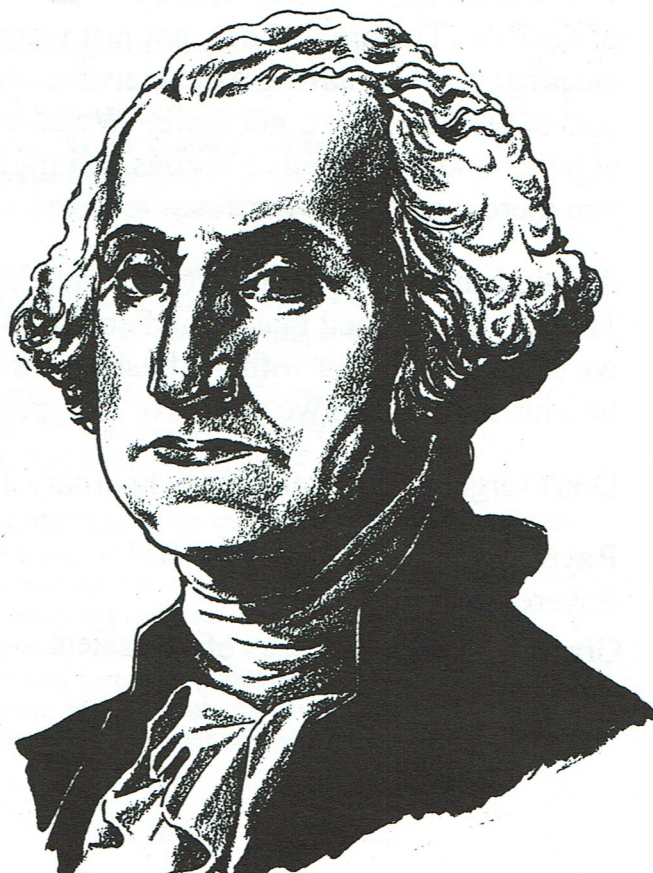
Ben F Froggett
Thrice Potent Master

Ponder This...

Q. Why should a Master Mason join Scottish Rite?

A. "To find out *who you are*."

(Quoted by Ill.:James T. Tresner II, Ph.D. 33*, Grand Cross, Editor-In-Chief
"The Plumbline", Scottish Rite Research Society, Guthrie, Oklahoma.)



A Word From The Sovereign Prince

Valorous Princes:

Another Holiday Season has come and gone. The holidays are a time when we all like to spend time with our families and friends. To get together and relive moments of our past that we have shared. It is these memories that form our family histories. This is the oral history that binds our family together into one cohesive unit. This is also where the young people of the family learn of their forbearers. Not just names and dates, but about the spirit and soul of the person. They hear of the things their ancestors did and under what circumstances they lived. They learn where the family traditions started and the importance of carrying them on. It binds everyone together and the retelling of the old stories brings the older members together to reminisce, and the young to listen and learn. In other words to come together and be a family.



It is easy to see how this relates to us in the Scottish Rite. If you have said to yourself "if I go down to the meeting it will be just the same people telling the same stories I've heard a hundred times", you may be correct. However, is that not one of the great parts of being together as part of the fraternity? To share these stories with your old friends. This is where you can pass on to the newer members the traditions of the Rite. The oral history, not just words in a ritual book. If you are not at a meeting, it is like having an uncle who was unable to attend a family gathering. A part of the family was not there. We all want your Scottish Rite family to be together and share in its histories and traditions. We will look forward to seeing you there, and bring your favorite story!

As you can see from your Program Schedule, no activities have been planned for January. It is hoped that come February we will have had all the snow needed and we can safely get on with the business of the Rite. Our next Stated Assembly will be March 13, when we will have a degree rehearsal. See you then.

Don't forget your favorite lady February 14 - Valentine's Day!

Raymond H Gaul, 32*

Sovereign Prince

Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem



Greetings from the Most Wise Master...

Perfect Knights:

I hope that the warm spirit and joy of the Holiday Season helped overcome the heavy accumulation of snow mixed with freezing rain and sleet that we've been experiencing. Think Spring!

Ill.: Alan C Lewis, 33* gave an exceptional in depth presentation about our Masonic Home in Utica NY, at our first Stated Conclave, September 26, 2002. Every Perfect Knight should be proud of Grand Lodge's continuing efforts in providing care for the elderly in this beautiful facility.



The Fall foliage welcomed in our second conclave November 7 when we were treated to a delightful and informative demonstration and talk by Tim Norray who had his trained dog perform search techniques in ferreting out hidden bombs and guns. Tim and his dog have an established reputation in the Capital Region, and are often called upon by various organizations to assist in searching for suspected bombs or weapons.

Our Scottish Rite Officers are concerned about the poor attendance at our meetings. We try our hardest to bring good interesting programs to you. You could really bolster our spirits by coming to at least one of the four meetings during the year. Many of the programs scheduled are open to the ladies and guests. Why not bring yourself and your lady or guest to the next meeting and enjoy a night out with good fellowship. Invite a Blue Lodge Brother to one of our open meetings. He may want to become a part of the Rite and ask to join. Your enthusiasm and support are appreciated.

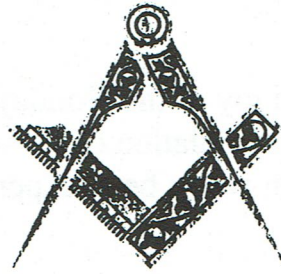
Let me share with you parts of the 1762 Constitutions of one of the early Chapters of Rose Croix in France.

The Princes of Rose Croix are entitled to take the mallet in any Symbolic Lodges at which they are present. They sit by the side of the Venerable, and if that honour is not offered them they take their place behind the youngest Apprentice, in token of

COMMITMENT

*"We will not waver; we will not tire; we will not falter; and we will not fail.
Peace and freedom will prevail."—George W. Bush, 2001*

Freemasonry



FOR all those who are curious about Freemasonry, for those who are already Freemasons, and more especially, for those who are contemplating joining the Craft, this article answers the question, 'What is Freemasonry?' with the more meaningful question, 'What is a Freemason?' In the answer to *that* question lies the essence of the Craft.

Freemasonry is not, as most popular books portray it, little more than a series of strange ceremonies, involving curious symbols and odd regalia; nor is it a museum of Masonic mementoes. Rather it is a living structure, built up from the aspirations and achievements of every individual Freemason during the 275 years that the Craft as we know it has existed.

Above all, Freemasonry consists of *Men*: men who have joined the Craft because its eternal principles strike a chord within them. When Masons are asked what the Craft means to them, not one of their answers will be exactly the same as another, but the essence of that meaning will never vary and it is epitomised in these words of Rev. Norman Vincent Peale – perhaps, one of the most distinguished of living American Masons. For Rev. Peale, membership in the Craft brought its own rewards in all aspects of daily life.

'The values and ideas, the profound principles of religion, morality and honour for which Masonry stands, mean much to me as an American...

There is, as I see it, nothing like Masonry. It is unique in its fellowship which spreads over much of the earth, in addition to our own country. Moreover, this in-depth fellowship spans the years, even the centuries, running back into antiquity. To me it means a personal relationship with great historical personalities and, taken by and large, also with about the finest body of men whom it is possible to assemble anywhere...

Attending Lodge and participating in Masonic activities gave me confidence. I learned to work with people. I found that everyone, every single brother, had a special talent. All I had to do was bring it out. The Brother, then, saw quickly enough how to put his talent to use. And his success at Lodge work gave him confidence too! He passed it on to others, and they to still others. It wasn't necessary to repeat a self-help motto like 'I believe in me.' Just doing the work and seeing the results were enough.

Confidence in self, in the Lodge, in Masonry, in the community and nation – it caught on, and I have seen it spread farther and farther as I continue my Masonic journey in life, meeting ever more Brothers and sharing with them the confidence Freemasonry can give...

Ever since I became a Mason, the work has not only charmed me, but also impressed me. I can further add that, as a public speaker, it has also given me enhanced perception of the nobility of words and their inspirational power when used in skillful combination and for the expression of lofty thoughts.'

REV. NORMAN VINCENT PEALE

their humility.

They must sign no Masonic document, without adding the characters that indicate their degree. When a Chapter is regularly established any where, it must of necessity meet six times a year, to wit:

On Holy (or Maundy) Thursday,
On Easter Day,
On the Thursday after Easter,
On the day of Pentecost,

And on All-Saints' Day; besides meeting on the two feast-days of the Saint John.

A Chapter cannot consist of less than three members. When there are more, it has the same Officers as an ordinary Lodge; and the elections are held on the Thursday after Easter.

The Knights Rose Croix are bound to give charity to the poor, to visit those in prison and the sick, and to give them aid in their necessities, each according to his means.

The Knights cannot engage in mortal combat one with the other.

They cannot be excused for non-attendance at meetings of the Chapter, when notified, except in case of sickness.

Hmmm... Well, times do change. See you at our next conclave.

Remember our Special Scottish Rite class, April 26. Get that petition.

Alan Garrison
Most Wise Master

**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?

October 19th Reunion a big success:

To all who participated in any way at our October 19th Reunion -- (degree Directors -- degree casts -- stage crew -- dinning room/kitchen -- sideliners -- and especially the candidates) -- I express to each of you, on behalf of the Valleys of Albany & Troy, our thanks for your help in making our Reunion a great success. Each Reunion shows improvement in our portrayal of the degrees. My personal thanks to all who have made this possible. Keep up the good work that you all do.

Alan C. Lewis, Director of the Work

Following are listed the cast members for the several degrees exemplified at our Reunion -- please say thanks when you see them, or give them a call to express your appreciation.

15th Degree -- Gerald F. Irwin -- Director -- October 19, 2002

Cyrus	George B. Hunt	845-462-2099
Sysina	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	438-7128
Nebuzaradan	Arthur R. Ware	439-5896
Daniel	Benjamin T. Garry	869-0437
Abazar	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672
Ratim	Russ Pokorny	
Zerubbabel	Ronald H. Noll	783-1898
Zemira	Vincent R. Morey	872-1329
Satrap	John Scott	
	Karl J. Koch	463-7657
Guard	Richard F. Cesare	785-7294
Guard	Morgan R. Seârlles	767-0205

18th Degree -- Alan C. Lewis -- Director -- October 19, 2002

Most Wise Master	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931
Senior Warden	Byron D. Moak	235-5868
Junior Warden	Morgan R. Searles	767-0205
Orator	Ben F. Froggett	459-8690
Master of Ceremonies	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672
Capt of the Guard	Vincent R. Morey	872-1329
Off-Stage Voice	Ronald H. Noll	783-1898
Story of the Cross	Ben F. Froggett	459-8690
Prologue	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931

10th Degree -- William M. Korn -- Director -- October 19, 2002

King Solomon, King of Israel	Richard G. Barrell	869-0684
Nathan, Prophet	Alexander R. Grone	768-2045
Zadoc, High Priest	Ronald H. Noll	783-1898
Benaiah, Comm-in-Chief	Karl J. Koch	463-7657
Prologist	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	438-7128
Orator	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931
<u>Cherethites:</u> Aaron	James P. Caruso	861-6569
Akhimaz	George B. Hunt	845-462-2099
Amariah	Joseph A. Stracuzzi	229-1551
Ben Deker	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931
Benjamin	Bruce E. Zeh	765-2280
Nehemiah	Arthur R. Ware	439-5896
<u>Pelethites:</u> Abda	Kurt W. Mason	785-3657
Amoz	William M. Korn	456-4704
Ben Abinadab	Richard F. Cesare	785-7294
Daniel	Benjamin T. Garry	869-0437
Josaphat	Morgan R. Searles	767-0205
Zechariah	Roland C. Ahare	785-5457
<u>14th Degree -- Russell J. LaGrange, Jr & William M. Korn</u>	<u>Co-Directors --</u>	<u>October 19, 2002</u>
Thrice Potent Master	William M. Korn	456-4704
Deputy Master	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	438-7128
Senior Warden	Bruce E. Zeh	765-2280
Orator	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931
Master of Ceremonies	Benjamin T. Garry	869-0437
Hospitaler	George J. Deveneau	458-1481
Captain of the Guard	Karl J. Koch	463-7657
Prologist	Kurt W. Mason	785-3657
Moses	Richard G. Barrell	869-0684
Inquirer	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672
The Voice	Ben F. Froggett	459-8690

24th Degree -- Ronald H. Noll -- Director -- October 19, 2002

Worshipful Master	Alexander R. Grone	768-2045
Senior Warden	Robert A. Freeman	861-6097
Junior Deacon	Ben F. Froggett	459-8690
Secretary	Fred C. Fredrickson	861-5341
Treasurer	Morgan R. Searles	767-0205
Member	Anthony Maggio	914-298-7636
Member	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	438-7128
Member	Benjamin T. Garry	869-0437
Chief Spotted Eagle	Ronald H. Noll	783-1898
Brave Red Eagle	Richard G. Barrell	869-0684
Brave Flying Cloud	Richard F. Cesare	785-7294
Brave Running Stream	Bruce E. Zeh	765-2280
Brave Light Foot	Arthur R. Ware	439-5896
Young White Man	William F. Okesson, Jr	482-6972
Drummer	Karl J. Koch	463-7657

32nd Degree -- William M. Korn -- Director -- October 19, 2002

<i>1st Section</i>	Commander-in-Chief	Alexander R. Grone	768-2045
	Obligation	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931
	1st Lt. Commander	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672
	2nd Lt. Commander	Douglas C. Hays	869-6736
	Orator	Malcolm L. Ogden, Sr	747-4327
	Hospitaller	George J. Deveneau	458-1481
	Chancellor	Byron D. Moak	235-5868
	Master of Ceremonies	Fred C. Fredrickson	861-5341
	Engineer & Seneschal	Ronald H. Noll	783-1898
	Standard Bearer	Mark H. Baumbach	765-4419
	Standard Bearer	Bruce E. Zeh	765-2280
	Captain of the Guard	Howard J. Lasker	459-3345
	Worshipful Master	William F. Okesson, Jr	482-6972
	Thrice Potent Master	Ben F. Froggett	459-8690
	Sovereign Prince	Alan C. Lewis	439-3931
	Most Wise Master	Alan C. Garrison	452-8459
<i>2nd Section</i>	Constans	William M. Korn	456-4704
	Bishop	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	438-7128
	Prince Commander	Alexander R. Grone	768-2045
	Herald	Bruce E. Zeh	765-2280
	Knight Lodge of Perfection	Ronald H. Noll	783-1898
	Knight Prince of Jerusalem	Roland C. Abare	785-5457
	Knight of Rose Croix	Richard G. Barrell	869-0684
	Knight Kadosh	Karl J. Koch	463-7657
	Constans	William M. Korn	456-4704
	Florio	Benjamin T. Garry	869-0437
	Urban	Kurt W. Mason	785-3657
	Rufus	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672
	Ignatius	Richard F. Cesare	785-7294
	Captain of the Guard	Howard J. Lasker	459-3345
	Priest	Wilfred C. Baumann	875-6753
	Priest	William F. Okesson, Jr	482-6972
	Soldier	Douglas C. Hays	869-6736
	Soldier	Byron D. Moak	235-5868
	Trumpeter	George B. Hunt	845-462-2099
	Acolytes	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672

The Commander-In-Chief's Message

Sublime Princes:

Hopefully, all of you enjoyed the Holidays, despite the unwelcome mass of snow that, despite its awesome beauty, made travelling a bit hazardous.

As I write these remarks, the Fall Reunion has passed into history. The small class size - an historical "record" - was disappointing, but the quality of the degree work showed the results of our renewed commitment to sustain and improve our ritual.

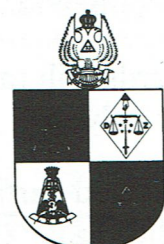
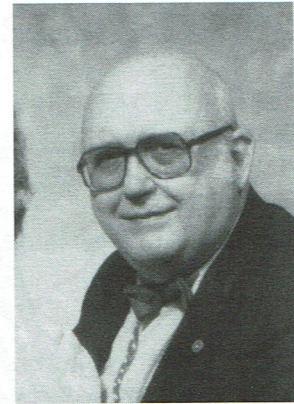
The first conferral of the revised Tenth Degree "Master Elect of Fifteen" went especially well, and the continuing efforts of our Thespian Reinforcement Chairman, Ill. William M Korn, 33*, were also evident in the allegory for the 32 Degree, where many new cast members acquitted themselves in a fine manner. For the benefit of those who may not be familiar with the Tenth Degree, this degree takes place during the reign of King Solomon, at the time the Temple had been completed, and through the blessings of the Lord, Solomon was elevated to the highest worldly standing of any king. He was given wisdom, power, and riches beyond belief. Solomon had the promise of the Lord for forgiveness of sins; but his pride and vanity, and to some extent, his arrogance, forbade him from repenting and praying for forgiveness. This degree teaches that a violator of his obligations and commitments will not go unpunished and, further, that excuses, rationalizations, and other evidence of lack of repentance, will very likely increase the severity of the penalties.

We shall continue our efforts to bolster our ritual understanding and performance, while making a like effort to find many more candidates, since there are clearly a great number of potential Scottish Rites in our Lodges.

Remember that the eleven degrees of the Lodge of Perfection are an extension of the "circle of perfection" in Ancient Craft Masonry. This fact alone should aid our recruitment efforts.

Lastly, we should be more supportive of our four Valley Bodies as they have their regular meetings. We can only improve ourselves by participation, and our attendance needs vast improvement. Please join us.

Alexander R Grone, 32* MSA
Commander-In-Chief
Albany Sovereign Consistory



2003 Scholarships



Due to Valley Secretary April 1, 2003

The Education and Charity Fund of the Supreme Council, 33* is once again sponsoring financial aid for eligible college and university students.

Applicants must be children or grandchildren of a Scottish Rite Mason, living or deceased, or be a member of a youth organization sponsored by the Masonic fraternity. Valleys or youth groups must be located in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

An applicant must have completed at least one year of academic studies at an accredited two or four year college, university, or specialty school. Preference will be given to Juniors and Seniors.

An applicant must submit at least one letter of recommendation from a college representative acquainted with his/her academic endeavors.

All applications **must** be submitted to the Valley Secretary by **April 1, 2003**.

Awards will range from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 per academic year and are for one year only.

Interested parties should telephone the Valley Secretary at 518-434-8970 for applications. Only the 2003-2004 application may be used.



A SWEET LESSON IN HUMANITY

YEARS AGO, A 10-YEAR-OLD BOY APPROACHED the counter of a soda shop and climbed on to a stool. "What does an ice cream sundae cost?" he asked the waitress.

"Fifty cents," she answered.

The youngster reached deep in his pockets and pulled out an assortment of change, counting it carefully as the waitress grew impatient. She had "bigger" customers to wait on.

"Well, how much would just *plain* ice cream be?" the boy asked.

The waitress responded with noticeable irritation in her voice, "Thirty-five cents."

Again, the boy slowly counted his money. "May I have some plain ice cream in a dish then, please?" He gave the waitress the correct amount, and she brought him the ice cream.

Later, the waitress returned to clear the boy's dish and when she picked it up, she felt a lump in her throat. There on the counter the boy had left two nickels and five pennies. She realized that he had had enough money for the sundae, but sacrificed it so that he could leave her a tip.

Character is doing what's right when nobody's looking.

J. C. WATTS, JR.
Politician

CHARACTER

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of freedom."—John F. Kennedy, 1961

"LESSONS FROM GEESE"



FACT 1: As each goose flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 70% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

MASONIC LESSON: Lodge brothers who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

FACT 2: When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

MASONIC LESSON: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those Headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to them.

FACT 3: When the lead goose get tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

MASONIC LESSON: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing other's skills, capabilities, and unique arrangements of gifts, talents, or resources.

FACT 4: The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their effort.

MASONIC LESSON: We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement the production is much greater. The power of encouragement is a quality all should seek.

FACT 5: When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

MASONIC LESSON: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

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

Non-Profit Org.
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MICHAEL DUANE DERRY
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HOWES CAVE, NY 12092-9733



NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM

An American history museum founded and supported by the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction

Winter 2003

Letters from Presidents

January 24 through June 23, 2003

Autographs from the G. Edward Elwell, Jr., Collection

The Van Gorden-Williams Library will present "Letters from Presidents," an exhibition of personal and official autographs from the Archives' G. Edward Elwell, Jr., Collection. The exhibition comprises 14 historic signed documents from George Washington, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, and John F. Kennedy, to name a few. The presidential letters include older handwritten examples from the early presidents such as James Monroe and James K. Polk, as well as more recent typewritten, but individually signed letters. Several of the 20th-century letters were written directly to Mr. Elwell, including one from Herbert Hoover that addresses Elwell as a friend. The text of

several letters have a deeper research value such as the 1959 letter from then-Senator Kennedy, which discusses publicizing the future missile and space programs in the United States.

Accompanying the documents will be biographical and historical information as well as illustrated books with featured portraits and other visuals.

Sincerely,

John F. Kennedy

Detail of document signed by John F. Kennedy, 1959. Gift of G. Edward Elwell, Jr.

Visit Our Library

The Van Gorden-Williams Library boasts one of the most comprehensive collections on American Masonry, as well as extensive holdings on American history, decorative arts, and the Revolutionary War. The Library welcomes researchers and invites visitors to browse in the reading room. Hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 AM-4:45 PM.

The Heritage Shop

The Heritage Shop has unique gift items to complement every taste and interest. High-quality reproductions, handcrafted items, jewelry, books, and toys—we have it all. You can also choose from our large selection of products related to "Enterprising Women," including books, journals, posters, and more.

General Information

Hours: Monday-Saturday, 10 AM-5 PM
Sunday, noon-5 PM
Free admission. Free parking.
Handicapped accessible.
781/861-6559 www.monh.org
TTY: 781/274-8539



Hearing assistance is available for auditorium programs.