



The Rite Light



Valley of Albany

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

<http://valleyofalbany.aasmasonry.us/>

Vol. XXXIV

SPRING, 2009

1st Annual Scottish Rite Golf Tournament

To Benefit the

Capital District Scottish Rite Charities - Center for Dyslexia

June 7, 2009

Pole Valley Player's Club - 3737 Route 196, Hartford, N.Y. 12828

(See inside for additional information and application)

32° Masonic Learning Centers
for Children, Inc.



Date: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

"THE CROSSINGS PARK" Albany-Shaker Road, Colonie, NY

Spring Reunion 2009

April 24 -25, 2009

On Friday, April 24, we will confer the
4th Degree and the 6th Degree.

On Saturday, April 25, we will be conferring
the 14th, 15th, 18th, 24th, 31st, & 32nd Degrees

(See details inside for additional times and reservations)

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION

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^o, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts and who officers are:

Ill.: John William McNaughton, 33^o
Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill.: Jim S. Deyo, 33^o
Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33^o
Grand Minister of State

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33^o
Deputy for New York State

ACTIVE MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK

Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33^o
Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33^o
Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33^o
Ill.: Edward R. Trosin, Jr. 33^o

ACTIVE EMERITI MEMBERS

Ill.: James F. Niehoff, 33^o
Ill.: Bruce Widger, 33^o
Past Deputy for New York
Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33^o
Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen 33^o

DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVE VALLEY OF ALBANY

Michael Derry, 33^o, Elect

VALLEY OF TROY

Michael G. Angiolillo, 32^o, M.S.A.

Editor; "THE RITE LIGHT"

Michael G. Angiolillo
mangiolillo@yahoo.com
518-642-9707

HISTORY OF THE NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION

1813 On August 5th Daniel D. Tompkins is chosen as the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Tompkins had enjoyed a successful political career. In 1804 he was simultaneously elected to Congress and appointed to the New York Supreme Court. He chose the latter, serving until his election as Governor in 1807. He was offered the post of Secretary of State in the Madison administration, and was elected U.S. Vice President in 1816, with fellow Mason, James Monroe.

1827 Anti-Masonic movement spreads across the nation, and nearly extinguishes the fraternity. John James Joseph Gourgas was elected as Sovereign Grand Commander and kept the Rite alive during this dark period. Through his dedication and loyalty he earned the title "Conservator of the Rite."

1840's Sovereign Grand Commander Giles F. Yates sets about rebuilding the organization. One of his followers, Killian H. Van Rensselaer, establishes new Valleys in New Haven, Pittsburgh, and Chicago.

1851 Edward A. Raymond is elected as Sovereign Grand Commander.

1860 Raymond's contentious leadership causes a split in the Supreme Council. He is deposed and replaced by Van Rensselaer. Raymond establishes a rival Supreme Council, which operates for six years.

1867 Following the death of Raymond, the two rival councils unite.

1879 Henry L. Palmer is elected Sovereign Grand Commander, beginning the longest tenure (30 years) in the history of the Rite.

1921 Leon Abbott is elected Sovereign Grand Commander and moves the Supreme Council offices from New York to Boston. Upon his death, his will provides for the Abbott Scholarships.

1933 Melvin Maynard Johnson is elected Sovereign Grand Commander and serves as the first full-time Sovereign Grand Commander. Johnson leads the Rite through the Great Depression, World War II, a membership drop to 208,000, and its rebound to 422,000. He establishes a foundation to fund schizophrenia research and writes many papers on early Freemasonry.

1968 SGC George A. Newbury moves the Supreme Council headquarters from Boston to Lexington, MA, just a mile from where the American Revolution began.

1970 *The Northern Light* begins publishing.

1975 On April 20, the day after the American Revolution Bicentennial began on Lexington Green with President Ford presiding, the National Heritage Museum opens on the grounds of Supreme Council headquarters. It is called the gift of the Scottish Rite Masons to the nation.

1995 Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston begins a new charity as the first 32^o Masonic Learning Center for Children with Dyslexia opens.

2000 The Supreme Council opens its new headquarters building on the grounds in Lexington, MA.

2003 Walter E. Webber succeeds Robert O. Ralston as Sovereign Grand Commander.

2005 The number of children's learning centers exceeds 50.

2006 John Wm. McNaughton succeeds Walter E. Webber as Sovereign Grand Commander.

Visit <http://supremecouncil.org> for more information....

Albany Sovereign Consistory**A Message from your
Commander in Chief**

Dear Sublime Princes:

The Fall Reunion, and the Holidays are behind us and the Valley looks forward to its two regularly scheduled meetings in the spring: the Consistory's on April 16, 2009. The Annual Meeting will be convened on May 28, 2009. Please come out to the meetings and share in the programs and fellowship of the evening.

The Valley's Secretary, Michael D. Derry, at the recent past Supreme Council was elected to be created a Sovereign Grand Inspectors General 33rd and become an Honorary member of the Supreme Council in Boston this coming August. The Albany Valley offers its congratulations to this most deserving Sublime Prince.

We had already announced that Sublime Prince Robert H. Fickies has been elected to receive his MSA at next year's Council of Deliberation. Again, congratulations to Bob.

As was mentioned in my last message to the Brethren, we will be reviewing our entire Cast props, categorize them, and store them in an orderly manner. Because of other fraternal constraints on my time, I have delayed starting on this project until after the Holidays - well they are now over (Holidays and constraints) and I am in hopes that some props can be refurbished and/or purchase new ones. I believe this will make the Reunions go more smoothly.

On membership, our next Scottish Rite REUNION is April 24 and 25, 2009. On April 24, we will confer the 4th Degree and the 6th Degree. Saturday, April 25, we will be conferring the 14th, 16th, 18th, 24th, 31st,

& 32nd Degrees. Please plan on attending and get those petitions in.

Finally, I hope that your new year has been enjoyable so far and I look forward to seeing and greeting each of you this spring.

Fraternally,
Ill. William M. Korn, 33^o
Commander in Chief

Rose Croix**A Message from you
Most Wise Master**

To All Perfect Knights,

Greetings! I hope this notice finds you all well and I hope you all had a Holiday Season and a happy and healthy New Year.

I know that the Fall Reunion was very successful and this half of the year looks very promising too. We already have new members waiting to go through the degrees, and I am continuing to improve the degrees for the Chapter for the Spring Reunion.

The biggest thing going on in the Chapter specifically is the annual Feast of the Pascal Lamb on Palm Sunday. It is a beautiful ceremony and I encourage you all to attend. We will be working with the Valley of Troy on the feast this year, and it should be a great day with both Chapters working on it together.

I hope that you will all attend the Spring Reunion and I would encourage our new members to get involved in the degrees, whether you are looking for a speaking role or just looking to help out behind the scenes, there is a place for everyone and the more people we have helping out, the better the degrees will be for the incoming candidates. This half of the year shows very good potential for

bringing new things to the Valley with new bodies and clubs. Brother Bob Fickies has been working on the Knights of the Double Eagle program for some time now and it appears to be well on its way to coming to fruition. I, with the generous help and support from a number of Brothers in the Rite, have been working on the Knights of St. Andrew program and with the approval of Ill. Peter Samiac, it too will be up and running before the end of the year.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the Scottish Rite this 2008/2009 year. I look forward to seeing you all at Chapter and Scottish Rite functions over the course of the year. Thank you for your continued support, brothers and knights.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Bro. Drew A. Millier
Most Wise Master

Council, Princes of Jerusalem**A Message from you
Sovereign Prince**

Greetings Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret,

It has been a great honor to serve you as your Sublime Prince for the 2008-2009 year. As we wrap up the remainder of this year, I would like to thank all of you for your support and dedication to Scottish Rite Masonry.

While the attendance at the meeting hosted by the Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem was not heavily attended, the Sublime Princes that did attend enjoyed a wonderful performance of the Ceremony of Light by the Empire Chapter of DeMolay. Those of you who were unable to attend this evening, missed a wonderful night of Brotherhood and Fellowship.

As most of you know, our

Valley sponsors the Empire Chapter of DeMolay and I am the Chapter Dad. I have the double honor this term of having one of my son's hold the Master Councilor Position for the Chapter. That being said, my son and I would like to invite any Scottish Rite Mason to attend the meetings of the Empire Chapter of DeMolay. The Chapter meets the 1st and 3rd Monday's in the Delmar Masonic Temple at 7pm. If anyone is interested in volunteering their time to help grow the future, the Chapter is always looking for adult volunteers. Please contact me if you are willing to assist in this area or have any questions.

I hope that all of you have enjoyed this year in Scottish Rite and I look forward to seeing all of you at our next Reunion. Scottish Rite Masonry has been growing steadily in this area, let's keep it growing.

Bill E. Hyatt
Sovereign Prince
Council, Princes of Jerusalem

Lodge of Perfection



A Message from our Thrice Potent Master

I have waited until the last day of 2008 to write this article. This is due partly to my delaying it, and partly due to thinking about what to write. It's true that I could take writing from some other author and use it as a starting point, but that would be another delay. So, I sat and thought about this past year and my growth in Masonry, what I had learned, observed, experienced, and remembered and hope you find it thought provoking.

The year started out to be a very busy one because of my affiliation with multiple Masonic bodies. I

thought about why I had petitioned so many and I always came up with the same answer; to gain more light. I often think about how the teachings of the separated bodies offer me a fuller understanding of this great fraternity, and how the bodies are separate, yet overlap both in teachings and concepts of unity and brotherly love.

I have many fond memories of this past year dealing with the Craft, but none so vivid and important than the support given to Brother Cole-Hatchard when he lost his wife and home to a fire. It was a very sad time for all, since we are all "in tune" with each other during times of distress. I was amazed at both the quickness and generosity of the Masonic bodies as assistance was given from different Masonic bodies, Scottish Rite Valleys, and Royal Arch Capitular Districts. The outpouring of support was impressive and done without hesitation as the true Masonic principles went into action. I have since learned that Bro. Russell LaGrange has suffered a fire and I hope that our collective response will be equally generous.

These activities reinforced my convictions to be a better Mason, to be more understanding, supportive and willing to take action. There are some things we Masons must do on our own, but we can do so knowing that there will always be a brother Mason available to give needed wise and timely counsel. If this is my only New Year's resolution that I keep, I will consider it as a sign of my growth in Masonry.

I look forward to seeing you in our joint meetings with the three other Bodies.

Fraternally,
Gary E. Smith
Thrice Potent Master

"Secretary's Notes"

Sublime Princes,

I am pleased to report that the health of our Valley has continued to improve in many ways. We have had many successful Reunions during which times we have increased our membership by an average of over twenty new members per year. Several of these new members have assumed leadership roles by accepting a committee assignments, by assuming responsibility for directing a degree or degrees, or by accepting an office in one of our four Bodies.

We have taken on the challenge of conducting new degrees or degrees not performed in many years. Some of our leaders have undertaken an upgrading of costumes used in degrees and we have made many improvements in our stage sets and paraphernalia, adding to the quality of degree performances. Cast members are making a greater commitment to memorizing degree parts and improving their delivery of the narrative.

Supreme Council has adopted a new concept to lead us into the future: *"Each Valley must emphasize Convenience, Inspiration and Enjoyment in all its programs and Degrees"*.

The leadership of our Valley will make every effort to incorporate these concepts in our programs and plans in the years ahead. We will attempt to increase our degree casts and to take the degree work "on the road", bringing them closer to our more distant members.

The 2009 dues have been coming in pretty well, but if you have not yet sent yours, please do so soon. The third dues notice reminder was sent about a month ago to all who still owe dues. Please settle this matter soon if you owe.

Our Valley continues to update its web site and I encourage you to

Any members of the Valley of Albany who still have Abbott Scholarship Applications, they must be sent to the Valley Secretary, Michael Derry by April 1, 2009.

search it for information about your Valley. The current address is:

<http://valleyofalbany.aasmasonry.us/>
In addition, if you have not sent your e-mail address to me at mdderry@yahoo.com, please do so and I will include you in the distribution list of news electronically.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Michael D. Derry
Secretary

Brothers!
Help is needed with
the Soap Box Derby
Contact
Ill. Ron Noll
Or
Dennis DeBell

2008 Meritorious Service Awards

On Friday evening, December 12, 2008, two of our brothers were honored at a testimonial dinner at the Normanside County Club in Delmar, New York where they received their "Red Hats" and Jewel Presentations after being awarded with the Meritorious Service Award at the 139th Annual New York State Council of Deliberation Convocation in Liverpool, N. Y. on July 26, 2008.

In 1939, the New York State Council of Deliberation was authorized to present an award to a member of a Valley who has distinguished himself through outstanding service or leadership and dedication to the Rite. Each nominee must be recommended by the presiding Officers of the Valley - all of them a unanimous recommendation. This is followed by a thorough scrutiny by the M.S.A. Committee and seldom have all survived this process. These Brothers have been recommended, selected and

elected to receive this, the Highest Honor the State of New York Council of Deliberation can award.

John W. Scott, MSA Valley of Albany

John and his wife Lynn reside in Averill Park, New York. They have been married for 23 years and have three children. John currently serves as Master of Wadsworth Lodge No. 417 in Albany. John serves on the Grand Lodge *Lodges and Buildings Committee*. A member of the Valley of Albany since 1990, John has served as Thrice Potent Master, Most Wise Master and is currently 2nd Lieutenant Commander. He is a Degree Director and cast member. Bro. Scott is also a York Rite Mason and a member of Cyprus Temple Shrine. He is also a past Monarch of Kaa Rheu Vahn Grotto and serves the Empire State Grotto Assn. as Vice president and Attorney. In his spare time, John is active with Cyprus Temple Shrine. Bro. Scott received his law degree from Albany Law School and serves as Administrative Law Judge for the State Labor Department. The family attends First Presbyterian Church in Brunswick, where John served as an elder.

Michael G. Angiolillo, MSA Valley of Troy

Michael resides in Granville with his wife Linda. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Michael is a Past Master of Granville Lodge No. 55 and a former member of Phoenix Lodge No. 96 in Whitehall. Michael Served as District Deputy Grand Master of the Washington District in 1992-94. Michael is a member of Troy Delta Bodies and the Albany Consistory, serving as Most Wise Master and Sovereign Prince. He has served as Deputy's Representative for the Valley of Troy for the past four years. Michael also serves as publisher of "The Rite Light" for the Albany and Troy Valleys. He has served on the Capital District Scottish Rite "Walk for Dyslexia" Committee for since it's inception. He is also a York Rite Mason and a member of Oriental

Shrine in Troy. Michael has been active in the Order of the Eastern Star, serving as Patron for the past 20 years, and District Grand Lecturer in the Warren-Washington District four times. He was active with his wife during her tenure as Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star in New York State in 2001. Bro. Angiolillo served as Washington County Coroner for 13 years as well as serving on the Whitehall Village Board. He owns the Angiolillo Funeral Home in Whitehall and is associated with the Robert M. King Funeral Home in Granville. He is a member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Granville and serves as a Eucharistic Minister.

News From Troy Delta Bodies

Rose Croix



A message from our Most Wise Master

A brief reminder that Annual Observance of the Feast of the Pascal Lamb will take place April 5th (Sunday) at 3:00 p.m. at the Troy Masonic Temple Community Center. This will be held jointly with the Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix. Friends and family are welcome. Dinner will be served.

Brethren, I encourage you to attend and take part in this meaningful observance where we remember those of our great fraternity who have departed in this past year and commemorate the Holy days of the Feast of the Passover and of the Holy Communion.

By our actions, we are following the tenants of the Old Testament where it states, "...And this day shall be unto you a memorial: and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord

throughout your generations: ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever."

Fraternally,
William Gray Cranker
Most Wise Master

Lodge of Perfection



A word from the Thrice Potent Master

Brothers:

It is an honor and privilege to be Thrice Potent Master of the Lodge of Perfection of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Troy, NY. It is a collegiate brotherhood with humor and strong motivation for improvement. One observation I would like to make is that the meetings should reflect that humor and brotherhood. It is the fraternity that is more important than the business at hand. The meetings, to whatever extent it is possible, should be enjoyable and even entertaining. I think that is the simplest way to deal with our primary issues – faltering attendance and raising of new brothers.

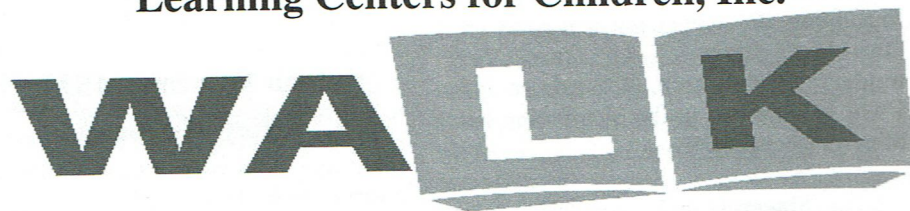
I am a musician and I think a few musical selections, perhaps by past Masons, would brighten the meetings. Other brothers have other skills. They can act (after all isn't that what the degrees are about?) A humorous recitation or simple skit would go a long way to making the meetings more effective and enjoyable. It would increase the bond of our brotherhood and it could motivate brothers to attend and new members to join.

Fraternally,
Andrew Abolafia
Thrice Potent Master

**Very Sorry for the Delay in the
Publication.**

Michael G. Angiolillo, MSA

32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.



TO HELP CHILDREN WITH DYSLEXIA

Date:
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

Time:
10:00am

Location:
"THE CROSSINGS PARK"
Albany-Shaker Road, Colonie, NY

This September we're walking to raise money to help children with dyslexia learn to read and write. Dyslexia can't be cured, but can be overcome. This program offered at the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. offers the most effective treatment of it's kind in battling this disorder. No one else in the nation has a program remotely like it with one-on-one professional tutoring to children free of charge.

And we need your help!

**SPONSORED BY THE SCOTTISH RITE VALLEYS OF:
ALBANY, SCHENECTADY & TROY IN COOPERATION WITH
THE CAPITAL REGION SCOTTISH RITE CHARITIES, INC.**

Refreshments will be served following the walk!

"Secretary's Notes"

Sublime Princes,

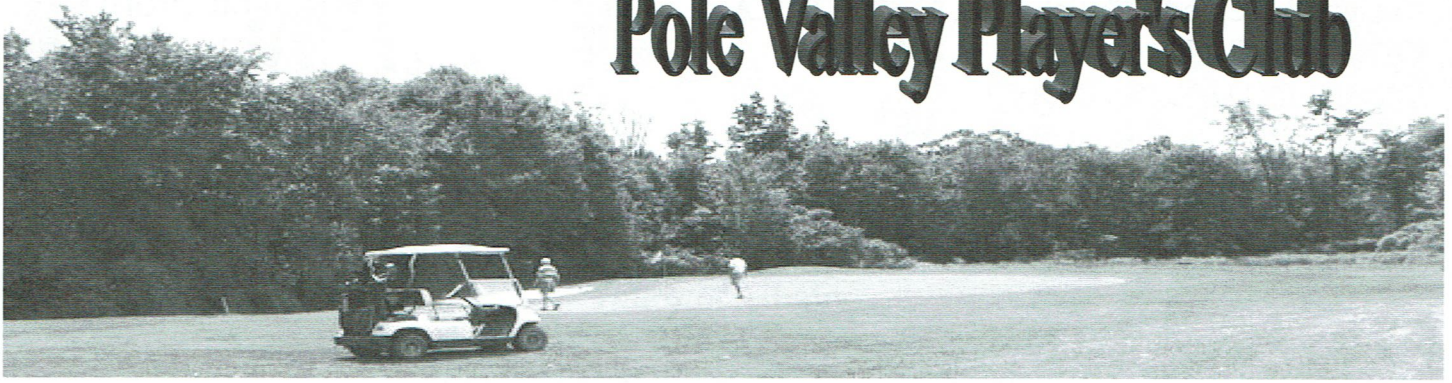
Just a few quick notes. Troy will be holding their annual Flag Day Parade in Troy on June 14, 2009. Fur-

ther information will follow shortly.

Our website is in the process of being finished. I will inform you when it is up and on line.

Al Valente,
Secretary, Delta Bodies,
Valley of Troy

Pole Valley Player's Club



1st Annual Scottish Rite Golf Tournament

To Benefit the
Capital District Scottish Rite Charities - Center for Dyslexia

Friday, June 7, 2009



Pole Valley Player's Club
3737 Route 196, Hartford, N.Y. 12828
518-632-9632 - Phone 518-632-5478 - Fax
Email - teeoff@polevalley.com



Captain and Crew - Shotgun Start - 9:00 am

Lunch will be served at the swing. Steak Dinner and Awards Ceremony will follow the tournament. Prizes and Raffles will also be available.

Cost: \$75.00 per golfer includes: Greens Fees, Cart and Food

Please send Reservations by May 25, 2009 with payment to:

Mr. Michael G. Angioillo
18 Lincoln Street
Granville, N.Y. 12832
518-642-9707
mangiolillo@yahoo.com

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Contact Person _____ Email Address: _____
Phone # _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Player #1 _____ Player #2 _____
Player #3 _____ Player #4 _____

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., U.S.A.
VALLEY OF ALBANY
Michael D. Derry, Secretary
P.O. Box 263
Central Bridge, NY 12035-0263
Tel. Home: 518 868-4040
AASR Office: 518 434-8970

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Permit No. 730

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

* OPENS AND CLOSES

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Apr. 16, | Consistory Meeting |
| Apr. 24, | 1st night of Spring Reunion
4th and 6th Degrees - (Schenectady) |
| Apr. 25, | Second day of Spring Reunion
14th, 16th, 18th, 24th, 31st and 32nd Degrees - (Albany) |
| May 28, *** | Annual Election and Installation of Officers *** |
| June 13-14, | Soap Box Derby (Help would be greatly appreciated) |
| July 24-25, | Council of Deliberation - Syracuse, N.Y. |
| Sept.26, | Walk-a-thon for Dyslexia, "The Crossings", Colonie |

*If you have an e-mail address, please contact our Secretary at
mdderry@yahoo.com.*

*He is building a Scottish Rite contact list so that members can be
reminded of meetings and special events.*