



THE RITE LIGHT



Valley of Albany
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, N.M.J., U.S.A.
67 Corning Place
Albany, NY 12207
www.albanyscottishrite.org

Vol. XLII

WINTER 2018

No. 2

Testimonial Dinner

Honoring

Ill. John W. Scott, 33° & Ill. John R. Patterson Jr., 33°



Saturday Evening, February 24, 2018
Radisson Hotel
205 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12205

One-hour Open Bar at 5:30 p.m.
Buffet dinner with dessert table at 6:30 p.m.
\$45.00

Men: Black tie tux, cap, and jewels
Ladies: Optional

Make your reservations with checks payable to: **Valley of Albany AASR**
Include names and telephone number and mail your check to:
William M. Korn, 5934 Johnston Road, Slingerlands, NY 12159

Deadline is February, 17, 2018

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°, 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 whose officers are:

Ill.: David Alan Glattly, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°
Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill.: Robert F. Ogg, Jr., 33°
Grand Minister of State

Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°
Deputy for New York State

ACTIVE MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°
Grand Lt. Commander
Grand Almoner
Past Deputy for New York

Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
Grand Master General of Ceremonies

Ill.: G. Michael Morris, 33°
Ill.: Steven C. Stefanakos, 33°

ACTIVE EMERITUS MEMBERS

Ill.: James F. Niehoff, 33°
Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°
Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°
Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°
Ill.: Edward R. Trosin, 33°
Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Past Grand Minister of State
Past Deputy for New York
Ill.: P. Michael Nielsen, 33°

Editor: THE RITE LIGHT
S. Kelly
thekellys@nycap.rr.com
518-758-1778

Our Vision

“We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic Obligation to care for our Members.”

Communicate

Please communicate sickness and distress and/or glad tidings. Share your joy or get support in your sorrow. Harmony is the support of all institutions, especially this of ours.

Please send all communications to: John W. Scott, Secretary, Albany Masonic Hall, 67 Corning Place, Albany, NY 12207 or scottydawg2000@aol.com or call (518) 283-1168

Editor's Note

Please send letters, articles, and pictures to the Editor at thekellys@nycap.rr.com. This is your publication and it cannot be printed without your letters, articles, news, and pictures.

Our Mission

Provide Inspiration for our members through meaningful programs and degrees.

Provide Convenient opportunities for our members to enhance their lives.

Provide Enjoyable programs and fellowship activities for our members.

Save the Date:

**Feast of the Paschal Lamb
March 25, 2018**

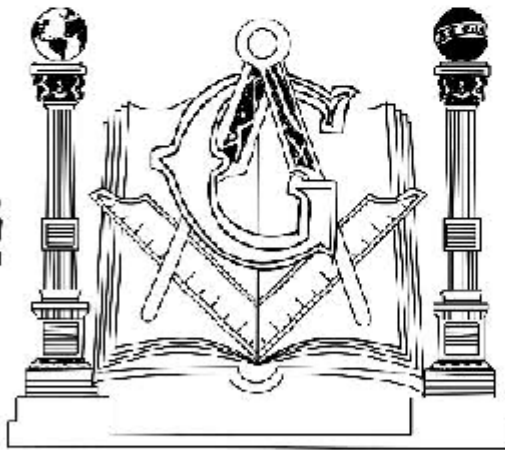
Watch for a postcard with the details.

THE INEFFABLE AND SUBLIME
GRAND LODGE OF PERFECTION &
MASTERS LODGE NO. 5



SAVE THE DATE
250TH ANNIVERSARY

APRIL 14, 2018
ALBANY MASONIC TEMPLE
67 CORNING PL., ALBANY, NY 12207



DINNER & RECEPTION TO FOLLOW ACROSS
THE STREET AT THE ALBANY HILTON

Formal Invitation to Follow

Lodge of Perfection



A Message from the Thrice Potent Master

Dear Brothers,

I hope you had a great Christmas and a Happy New Years Day.

Things have been happening since our Inter-Valley session. Since September, our combined Valley efforts are now known as the Eastern Regional Steering Committee. Each Valley has agreed to take one degree as theirs to perform.

On Saturday October 2, the Fall Reunion for the Valley of Hudson was at Mt. Kisco Lodge. Sixty (60) brothers attended. The main event was the 30th degree put on in full dress of that era. It took 22 brothers to perform this degree. Four brothers from the Valley of Albany traveled down for the 8 a.m. start. All the brothers introduced themselves and stated where they were from. One of the brothers was raised as a Master Mason at 18 years old!

We have a webmaster—Steve Conant. The Valley's website is up-to-date with the current Rite Light and many past editions. If you have any old issues of the Rite Light which you would care to give up, I believe Steve would add them to the website.

Two events that are coming up are important for you to mark in your calendar.

February 10, 2018 at 9 a.m. is the next Steering committee meeting at Scotia Temple. The meeting will be chaired by Peter Samiec, who has a new email: pjsamiec@ichood.com. Please text him if you are coming. A head count is needed if food is supplied.

April 14, 2018 is the 250th anniversary of the Lodge of Perfection of the Valley of Albany and that of Masters #5. Dinner will be at the Albany Hilton. The chairman of this event is Jim Best III from the Valley of Albany. Before the dinner, our original warrant and other items from that time will be on display at the Albany Temple for your enjoyment of our history.

Thank you for letting me be your Thrice Potent Master for this year.

Fraternally,

Charles W. Therrien Jr.
Thrice Potent Master

Knight of the Double Eagle Ceremony February 15, 2018

Your attendance is requested to honor these knights on their journey through Scottish Rite Masonry.

Recipients of awards will be:

Gold bar: **R. Victor Stewart**

Blue Bar: **William Korn**

White Bar: **Alison Aumick
Keith Becker
Byron Moak
Rick Ryther
Michael Slatterly**

Red Bar: **Ed Kosinski
Charles Therrien**

New Knight: **James Best
Bruce Pavloff
Ralph Pfeiffer**

Congratulations to these gentlemen for their continued support of the Valley of Albany.

Knights of the Double Eagle



A Message from the Knight Commander and Webmaster

My Brothers,

It is my pleasure to report that based on their participation in Valley of Albany activities through the end of 2017, three brothers will be knighted as a Knight of the Double Eagle at a ceremony to be held at our next meeting on February 15. In addition, nine brothers will be receiving a service bar at the ceremony in recognition of their ongoing participation in valley activities. Invitations will be sent beforehand to the brothers who will be honored at the ceremony. Please mark the date on your calendar and try to attend this special event to honor our Valley brothers.

I am pleased to announce that the archive of Rite Lights on the Valley website now contains fifty-seven of the newsletters dating back to May 1985. There are gaps in the archive (such as most of the 1990s), and if anyone can provide me with any of the missing issues I would be happy to scan and post them on the website. The newsletters can be viewed by clicking on "RITE LIGHTS" located in the menu near the top of the page on the website at <http://www.albanyscottishrite.org>. Browsing through the Rite Lights may be a trip down memory lane for some, while newer members might enjoy seeing pictures of veteran members in their younger days. Browsing through the newsletters might also spark some ideas for programs for our meetings. Something I found interesting while looking at the newsletters is that issues we currently deal with, such as increasing membership and participation and whether to combine the local valleys, were

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topics of discussion many years ago. I hope you find the newsletter archive interesting and useful.

Please feel free to contact me at (518) 357-8951 or sconant2@nycap.rr.com if you have any suggestions, comments or concerns about the website or the KoDE program.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Steve Conant
Knight Commander, KoDE & Valley Webmaster

Council of Princes of Jerusalem



A Message from the Sovereign Prince

My Brothers,

The Council of Princes of Jerusalem consists of two historical degrees which are the 15th and 16th. They cover the period from B.C. 538 to B.C. 516 and depict events connected with the end of the Babylonian captivity of Israel, the return of some of the captives in Jerusalem, and the rebuilding of the Temple of Zerubbabel.

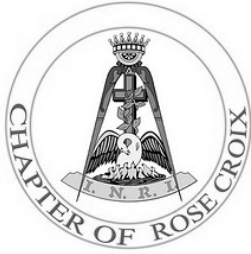
The 17th and 18th degrees are under the Rose Croix Chapter. They invest with us a deeper understanding of Religion, Philosophy, Ethics, and History. The intellectual challenges presented in these degrees can take years to master.

We as Master Masons and Brothers of the Scottish Rite should keep in mind the many lessons taught us, to help us better understand our Craft.

Fraternally,

Edward Kosinski
Sovereign Prince

Chapter of Rose Croix



A Message from the Most Wise Master

My ERA of Freemasonry

My Brothers:

Freemasonry makes good men better. This is not a simple one-step change, but is a continuous lifelong process. Freemasonry doesn't automatically make a good man better just by becoming a Mason, but a good man takes active responsibility and uses Freemasonry to do everything that is needed to make himself a better man. This requires us to take responsibility for learning, living, and improving our individual role as a Mason, both internally and externally.

There are three important steps to becoming a better man and accomplishing the Masonic task of building my inner temple, the house not made with hands. I call these three steps "My ERA of Freemasonry".

The first step in my Masonic journey, "E", stands for "Enlightenment." To become a better man, I need a good picture of what a perfect man might be, not because I will ever become perfect, but I will have a target in mind so that I will always be moving in the right direction, taking steps toward perfection every day. This will help me to continue to become a better man through my whole life. In order to clarify my destination of perfection and help me move toward it, I will need to regularly seek more enlightenment, including the Principles of Freemasonry, the deeper meanings of its symbols and allegories, its historic context, and the Degree rituals and their deeper meanings. I must also learn more about myself, especially internally, how my mind and brain function, my psychological

personality, my values and beliefs, my strengths and weaknesses. Once I learn about and understand myself more thoroughly, I will be better able to learn about and understand other people in the same way.

The second step in my Masonic journey, "R", stands for "Reflection." Taking the things I am learning in the first step of Enlightenment, I recognize that just knowing about things is not enough. I must also daily reflect on them to develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of their meaning and learn how to apply them to my own life. Understanding how to convert the principles of Freemasonry into my own thoughts, words, and actions is a vital step in growing from being mentally "book smart" to being a productive improver of myself.

The third step in my Masonic journey, "A", stands for "Action." This means building on the foundation of everything I've learned and reflected on, and actively applying it into all of my thoughts, words, and actions in my daily life. It's not enough to simply *know* how to be a better man; I must also *do* everything I can to achieve it. I am not just a Mason when I am in the Lodge, but I must also use Masonic teachings to think and act like a Mason wherever I am and whatever I am doing. We must use our Enlightenment and Reflection to find the Actions that are best suited for each of us.

I hope this has given you some Enlightenment. The next task then for you, recognizing that your work as a Freemason is your own responsibility, is to continue to seek more Enlightenment, to regularly Reflect on the meaning of Freemasonry, and how you can incorporate it into your own life. Then, of course, you will have to take Action, finding your own ways to use what you have learned in order to advance toward your goal of becoming a better man.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Rick Ryther, 32°
Most Wise Master

Secretary's Note

My Dear Brothers:

Happy New Year to you and those you love. I hope you all enjoyed the holidays. Please stay warm and safe during this most difficult winter. We are paying dearly for several recent years when we had no winter.

It is my sad duty to announce the passing of Ill. John T. Phillips, 33°, Grand Lt. Commander and Deputy for Illinois. John was a true gentleman and Brother. He was an attorney and a brilliant jurist. He was an asset to the Craft and he will be truly missed. Rest well, Brother. In the wake of his untimely passing, the Grand Commander has appointed Ill. Peter J. Samiec to the position of Grand Lt. Commander. When you see Peter, congratulate him and offer your assistance. This is the second time Peter has been called upon to serve in this office. We should all be proud of our Brother who works very hard for the Valleys of New York and the AASR.

I invite you to review the calendar of events. Please pay particular attention to the February 15th meeting when we will congratulate our Brothers who will knighted or receive recognition bars in the Knight of the Double Eagle Ceremony. I also call your attention to the 250th Anniversary of the Lodge of Perfection on April 14. Your committee is working very hard with the Brothers of Masters Lodge to plan a memorable event worthy of this auspicious occasion. Please also consider the 33rd Degree Testimonial Dinner on February 24, the Feast of the Paschal Lamb on March 25, and the Four Chaplains Degree on May 10. We look forward to greeting you at all of these events.

Finally, dues are the life blood of the Valley. If you have paid your dues this year, thank you. If you have not, please work this payment into your monthly budget. Second notices will go out in the near future.

If you have any suggestions or needs, we are only a call or email away. Have a wonderful Spring.

Ill. John W. Scott, 33°
Secretary, Valley of Albany
www.albanyscottishrite.org

2016–2017 AASR OFFICERS VALLEY of ALBANY

Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection

Thrice Potent Master	Charles W. Therrien, Jr. 758-1987
Deputy Master	James Best
Senior Warden	Alvin Gyles
Junior Warden	Graham B. Mason
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	John W. Scott

Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Sovereign Prince	Edward Kosinski 434-8425/337-0684
High Priest	Gary Smith 785-5143
Senior Warden	Allison L. Aumick 482-6370 ala@nycap.rr.com
Junior Warden	Keith D. Becker 331-9385
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	Keith D. Becker

Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix

Most Wise Master	Richard G. Ryther 459-2310 rickryther@aol.com
Senior Warden	Kenneth M. White 439-3749/527-1962 kmwhite1881@gmail.com
Junior Warden	David Chittick
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	Stephen S. King 489-1341 sking1@nycap.rr.com

Albany Sovereign Consistory

Commander-In-Chief	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr. 943-6804/669-3460 pepy33@aol.com
1st Lt. Commander	Michael P. Slattery 795-0946 michaelandabby@reagan.com
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	Ronald Noll 783-1898 ronaldnoll1@yahoo.com

Officers of All Bodies

Treasurer	Gerald R. Dievendorf 439-6684/312-6277 jdievendorf@gmail.com
Secretary	John W. Scott 283-1168/301-3264 scottydawg2000@aol.com

VALLEY OF ALBANY
 John W. Scott, Secretary
 Albany Masonic Hall
 67 Corning Place
 Albany, NY 12207

Valley of Albany—2018 Meeting Dates

February 15, 2018	Thurs.	Executive board at 6:30 pm Lodge, Council, Chapter* , Consistory at 7:30 pm KoDE Celebration
February 24, 2018	Sat.	Testimonial Dinner at 5:30 pm, Radisson Hotel, Wolf Road
March 15, 2018	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory*
March 25, 2018	Sun.	Feast of the Pascal Lamb with Valley of Troy in Brunswick
April 5, 2018	Thurs.	Executive board
April 14, 2018	Sat.	250th Anniversary for Lodge of Perfection

May 10, 2018	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory* 23° Four Chaplains Degree at the USS Slater
May 17, 2018	Thurs.	Annual Meeting —Election and Installation—All four bodies, Consistory*
June 7, 2018	Thurs.	Executive Board
June 9, 2018	Sat.	Valley of Albany Family Picnic
August 2, 2018	Thurs.	Executive Board
* Opens and Closes Meeting		