

VALLEY ECHOES

ROLLING WITH THE TIMES

How are you all doing these days? We sincerely hope that all of you are doing well. We have missed you!

The Valley of Danville is doing great! After cancelling our Spring reunion, rearranging schedules, postponing meetings and a whirlwind of changes, we are back and in full swing, as much as possible.

We are in the office 5 days a week, back to having socially distant meetings in a sanitized building and planning for events in the coming months.

We held our Installation of Officers on June 27 and are excited for our new Commander in Chief, Sean P. McBride, 33° to lead our Heads of Body Michael J. Dooley, Thrice Potent Master; Robert M. Hopkins, 33°, Sovereign Prince and Christopher J. Hathaway, Most Wise Master and the rest of our officer line in the coming year.

Our Valley has some new ideas, Supreme Council has some new programs, and we are very much looking forward to continuing our Brotherhood with you!

MSA RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our new MSA recipients, Gary W. Parker of Lawrenceville, IL and Timothy R. Shimer of Flat Rock, IL. ICOD and the official traditional MSA ceremony was cancelled this year, but Brother Parker and Brother Shimer will be honored at our Fall Reunion, receiving their caps and jewels.



Parker



Shimer

SUMMER 2020



DUES NOTICES	2
BROTHER TO BROTHER	2
WELCOME BACK	3
FRATERNAL OUT-REACH	4
THURSDAY NITE AT THE RITE	4
32 CLUB	4
LEGACY OF GENERATIONS	5
MEMORIAL ROLL	5
LEARNING CENTER NEWS	5
COVID 19	6
INSTALLATION	6
SC MUSEUM	7

WHERE IS MY DUES NOTICE?

For several years, Supreme Council has let Valleys decide when was a good time to send dues notices to our members. We have always sent them out in a timely manner, to be paid by July 1 of each year.

This year, and the years to come are going to look a little different. Supreme Council has initiated a program to make the dues process easier on all Valleys, especially those who are not a four-body Valley as we are. In the past, we send our dues request to Supreme Council, they send the notices to us and we send them to you. This year, Supreme Council will bill all members of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction directly and at the same time.

The first notices will go out August 1, 2020. The second notice will be sent November 1, 2020 and past due notices will be sent on February 1 of the following year.

Some things to keep in mind:

- Since we are a four-body Valley, you can still send your payment to the Valley.
- We take many credit card payment plans, including 12 month payment plans. Broken into 12 months, this makes yearly dues \$7.50 per month. We also take life membership monthly credit card payments and payments to help get you caught back up if you get in arrears. The Valley can still do this. Just call 217-446-7620 to set any of this up.
- You must maintain your membership in your blue lodge to be a member of any appendant body, including Scottish Rite. If you are experiencing difficulty with payment of your lodge dues, contact your Worshipful Master or Secretary.
- If you need help with Scottish Rite dues, or need contact information for your blue lodge, please contact the Valley office or our Hospitaler, Rick Strebing at 217-497-4899.
- Scottish Rite dues can be paid at any time by going to scottishritenmj.org under the Member Center. There is also a link on our website, aasrdanville.org that leads you to the Scottish Rite NJM website.
- As a reminder, dues cards are a permanent card now and you will not get one yearly. If you need a replacement card, call the Valley Office.

BROTHER TO BROTHER

Have you received a call from a Brother in the past few months checking in on you? If you are in the older half of our membership, it is likely that you have. If we have tried, but discovered we do not have good contact information, you may have received a letter.

The Valley of Danville has a Brother to Brother Program in which brothers call each other, update contact information and see if there is anything you need.

Many times, our members who have been making the calls are rewarded with conversation with their brothers. Any member can help make these calls. If you would like to help with this program, call the Valley Office to get a packet of 25 names (or any amount you would like). All you have to do is make the calls and turn in the results. We are even offering 1 point per call you make towards earning your black cap. Only 32 points are needed!

It is so important for us to keep in contact. Please consider helping out today.



WELCOME BACK!!

Valley of Danville Degree Day

Saturday, August 29, 2020

109 W. North Street, Danville, IL 61832

Registration—1:30 p.m.

4th Degree—2:30 p.m.

28th Degree—3:00 p.m.

12th Degree DVD—4:15 p.m.

Dinner—5:00 p.m.

Call 217-446-7620 to make your reservations by Monday,
August 24, 2020.

Because of capacity limitations, reservations will be on a
first come, first served basis. Safety guidelines of the CDC
will be followed.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

FRATERNAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

Our new Commander in Chief, Sean P. McBride, 33° has been working with Fraternal Outreach Chairman, William J. Hussey, 33° to streamline a program to provide each region in our Valley with a direct representative of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. This will help foster a mutual understanding of the problems and needs of lodges in your region, enabling us to work together to increase the flow of membership information.

The goal of this program is to provide every Ancient Craft Lodge Member an exciting and rewarding way to further his Masonic education, thereby better serving his Lodge, in particular, and Freemasonry, in general. Representatives will have knowledge of all Scottish Rite Programs. We have long known that if our organization is to thrive, we must first look to it's foundation, the Local Blue Lodge. Look for more information coming soon.

THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE RITE

COVID-19 has brought about many unique challenges and situations. The Scottish Rite continues to be the most innovative body in Freemasonry while maintaining our traditions and core values. Thursday Night at the Rite has been able to show online degrees to over 2000 Scottish Rite Masons weekly. Many members of the Valley of Danville have taken advantage of this opportunity. We can engage and have fellowship with members throughout the jurisdiction from the comfort of our homes. The online degrees are very high quality and allow us to communicate with other members via the chat function before and after the degree work.

Let me be clear, this is not a tool to replace live performances. Many of us have great memories performing, practicing, and even messing up degree work. This will continue. Online degrees can give people further light that cannot make it out of their homes or live out of state. They can be used on the road when cast members are limited. They can be used for educational tools and discussions. If you get the chance, please tune into an online degree hosted by the Supreme Council. They count for passport credit as well!

While we are still planning on having our Fall Reunion at this time, Supreme Council is hosting virtual reunions on 3 dates this fall to help Valleys that have been affected by cancellations. They will show several degrees but will NOT show the 32nd Degree. This must be held at your home Valley. If you have candidates, I encourage you to sign them up for the virtual reunions in case our fall reunion is cancelled. This will allow them to become Scottish Rite members and enjoy the fellowship of a larger pool of Masonic brothers. Nothing beats the hospitality of a Valley of Danville reunion, but we must be adaptive when needed to keep the fraternity strong and relevant.

The dates of the virtual reunions are October 3rd, October 24th, and November 14th (Same Saturday as our in-person reunion). Please visit scottishrittenmj.org or call the Valley office for more information.

32 CLUB DINNER PLANNED

Are you a member of our 32 Club? What is the 32 Club? How can I join? What do I get?

The 32 Club is a program by members, for members, for our future. A member pledges \$.32 a day (\$9.73 a month, \$116.80 per year) to help towards the upkeep and maintenance of the building.

Each member of the 32 club that has paid his yearly pledge will be invited to the Annual Streak Dinner. This year's dinner will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. Our September stated meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. that evening and all members are welcome to attend the meeting. If you would like to attend the 32 Club dinner, please RSVP by calling the Valley Office at 217-446-7620 by September 4, 2020.

LEGACY OF GENERATIONS

For many of us, one of the most defining moments in our Masonic Journey is when we transcend generations and share the Bond of Brotherhood to ensure the family's legacy continues.

The future of our Fraternity depends on our members to build their legacy and share the Scottish Rite Experience with their family. This has no bounds: it can be your son, your father, your grandfather, your uncle, your brother, or even your cousin!

Are you a second, third, or even fourth generation Scottish Rite Mason? You can even be the first! The legacy of Freemasonry is built on stories of generations. Brothers have carried on the core values of our

Fraternity to spread our mission of building men of character. This fall, the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction will honor Legacies at Valley events.

From August 1, to December 31, 2020, any Mason who joins the Scottish Rite will be awarded a commemorative Scottish Rite Jewel. Our Fall Reunion is November 13 & 14, 2020.

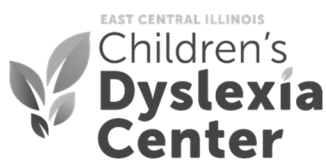
The history of Freemasonry runs deep. Many Brothers often discover ancestors who were members of the Craft. Discover your Legacy today by going to scottish-ritenmj.org/legacy to begin exploring different ways to uncover those Masonic connections in your family.

MEMORIAL ROLL

The following is a list of our Brethren who have passed on to the House not made with human hands, reported January 1, 2020 to July 1, 2020.

<i>Richard L. Adcock</i>	<i>Larry L. Ensign</i>	<i>William A. Hutchins</i>	<i>Charles D. Standifer</i>
<i>John M. Allison</i>	<i>Gene L. Evinger</i>	<i>Kenneth C. Kilman</i>	<i>James R. Stark</i>
<i>Norman C. Anderson</i>	<i>Stephen R. Faulkner, 33°</i>	<i>Richard J. MacDonald</i>	<i>Lester D. Strohm</i>
<i>Larry D. Beasley</i>	<i>Barry E. Fuller</i>	<i>Richard A. Martin</i>	<i>Floyd R. Tucker</i>
<i>George E. Bolin</i>	<i>Wesley A. Glover</i>	<i>Howard L. McKellip</i>	<i>Manny J. Vaughn</i>
<i>Richard L. Boltz</i>	<i>Jerry H. Green</i>	<i>Charles W. Robinson</i>	<i>Thomas L. Voight</i>
<i>Howard M. Bringwald</i>	<i>William R. Griffis</i>	<i>Walter Sanders</i>	<i>Dwane W. Warner</i>
<i>Keith P. Brown</i>	<i>Richard L. Haga</i>	<i>Don A. Sanders</i>	
<i>Ralph E. Drollinger</i>	<i>Gene O. Hill</i>	<i>Harold E. Schriefer</i>	
<i>James A. Dryden</i>	<i>A.J. Horstmeyer</i>	<i>Vernon Smiley</i>	

Well done though good
and faithful servant.



LEARNING CENTER NEWS

The Children's Dyslexia Center of Central Illinois continues its mission to provide one-on-one tutoring to its students. This past spring and summer, we tutored online and will continue to do so when the fall session begins.

Although the platform from which we tutor has changed, our educational, corporate and financial obligations have stayed the same. You can help us continue to provide one-on-one tutoring to students with dyslexia by contributing directly to the center. Donations can be sent to : Children's Dyslexia Center, 109 W. North Street, Danville, IL 61832.

As always, your support is crucial for us to help reduce the impact of dyslexia one student at a time.

Julie Boersma, Director, East Central Illinois Children's Dyslexia Center

COVID-19 RESPONSE

It is our sincere hope that this communication finds you and your family safe and well. In these times, we want to assure you that we are doing everything that we can to prevent the spread and risk of COVID-19.

If you come to a Valley Event, you can expect that all high traffic, high touch areas of the building have been cleaned and sanitized, and are sanitized frequently.

We will require social distancing. We will ask that all people entering the building wear a face mask. We ask that if you stay home if you feel sick or unwell or have a fever of 100 degrees.

We have ordered thermometer scans, no touch hand sanitizer stations and face masks. Many of our Brethren fall into the high risk group and it becomes our duty to help keep our members stay safe. Let us err on the side of caution and use common sense in our actions as we look out for our brothers.

In Illinois, the governor has limited the number of people in one space to fifty or fewer, consistent with public health guidance. Some of our events are going to look different than they have in the past. As of now, we are still planning events, and still planning on having our Fall Reunion, with Sovereign Grand Commander David L. Glattly, 33° as our honoree. With your understanding, please help us in our effort to comply with government mandates and health department guidelines.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS



Welcome our new Valley Officers! Left to Right: Commander in Chief Sean P. McBride, 33°; Most Wise Master Christopher J. Hathaway; Sovereign Prince Robert M. Hopkins, 33° and Thrice Potent Master Michael J. Dooley

For a complete list of Valley Officers, visit our website at aasrdanville.org

A SUPREME COUNCIL, AND A NATION, MOURNS THE DEATH OF A PRESIDENT BY JOHN COELHO, ARCHIVIST, SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC MUSEUM & LIBRARY

In a blog post written in March for the official Museum & Library blog, I introduced readers to this document from the collection—Supreme Council member Benjamin Dean's (1824-1897) 1865 hand-written preamble and resolutions regarding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865). In this article, I would like to introduce readers, once again, to Dean's 1865 document, to examine its meaning, and to explore Mr. Lincoln's connection to Freemasonry in greater detail.

In the Supreme Council of Sovereign Inspectors General 33° for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States, May 17, 1865.

Since the last annual meeting of this Supreme Council the nation has been deprived of its chief magistrate by the hand of an assassin.

It is peculiarly fit + proper that a body assembled from all the States of our Jurisdiction, and representing so largely our numerous + influential [sic] brotherhood, a brotherhood whose ancient charges inculcate among its first duties – "to be peaceable citizens + cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which we reside – to avoid being concerned in plots and conspiracies against government + cheerfully to submit to the decisions of the Supreme Legislature; it is fit + proper that such an assemblage – true to its teachings – should give some expression to the family of our deceased + honored President, of our sympathy with their misfortunes, + pray for the restoration of peace to their troubled minds.

Therefore, resolved – that we deplore the untimely end of our late honored President Abraham Lincoln – cut off by horrid violence – in the midst of the high dignities imposed upon him by this people.

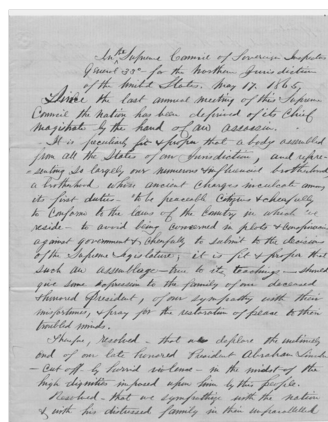
Resolved – that we sympathize with the nation + with his distressed family in their unparalleled [sic] affliction.

Resolved, that this expression of our sympathy be spread upon our records, + a copy thereof be sent by our Secretary General to the family of our deceased President.

Unanimously passed by the Supreme Council, Dean's document demonstrated how one of the Freemasonry's governing bodies, the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, expressed not only its sorrow for the President's death, but also how the Lincoln assassination was an affront to everything Freemasonry embodied. The Grand Lodge of Iowa echoed this belief in its 1865 statement on the assassination, "...as Masons we are taught to detest conspiracies, plots and rebellions; and in an especial manner to abhor assassination." Furthermore, the Grand Lodge asserted, "in depriving our nation of its chief, by assassination, we recognize a crime without a name; and for which language fails to express our grief and horror."

As for Mr. Lincoln's connection to Freemasonry, in an October 1860 interview with American poet and Freemason Rob Morris (1818-1888), the President-elect unequivocally stated that he was "not a Freemason." However, the President-elect also made it clear in this interview and in a conversation with Grand Master Ira A. W. Buck (ca. 1817-1886) of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, that he possessed "a great respect for the institution" of Freemasonry. In fact, in his conversation with Grand Master Buck, Lincoln stated that he had "often thought" of joining the fraternity, "but no one had asked him to join, and he had put the matter off until business and other causes had engrossed his entire time." The matter, Lincoln concluded, would have to wait until after the great burden of office had passed.

Mr. Lincoln "was not a Free Mason," his longtime political ally and friend Grand Master Henry P. H. Bromwell (1823-1903) of Illinois stated in 1865, "but in his life and character he illustrated many of the virtues taught and cherished by the Craft." For that reason, the Freemasons of Illinois attended the President's funeral "clothed as Masons," assembled in "full regalia, according to rank and degree."



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
BODIES OF THE VALLEY OF DANVILLE
PO BOX 693
DANVILLE, IL 61834

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 538
DANVILLE, IL.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our 2020—2021 Scholarship Recipients!

Our new scholarship recipients are: Hannah Alvis, Kevin Ambat, Ethan Ashbrook, Danae Cantrell, Andrew Davis, Sydney Eisenmenger, Ethan Freehill, Sydney Fox, Natalee Gough, Christopher Morse, Gabrielle Roberts, Paige Tewell and Haylee Watson.

Along with these new recipients, there were 44 scholarship renewals given. Scholarships are due to the Valley on March 1 of each year . Applications and other information can be found on our website, aasrdanville.org.

INSTALLATION AND FUNERAL SERVICE TEAMS

The Valley of Danville would like to assist our Lodges with Installation and Funeral Services. While we have the Ancient Craft Degree Team that helps assist Blue Lodges with First, Second and Third Degree work, we would also like to set up another group to help with Installation and Funerals.

We would like to set up teams in the North, South and Central areas of our Valley so that if Lodges can't fill these spots, we may assist with someone to take a spot.

If you are interested in being on either one of these teams, please call the Valley Office and tell us what part you would like to help with and what area you would like to assist.