



THE RITE LIGHT



Valley of Albany
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, N.M.J., U.S.A.
67 Corning Place
Albany, NY 12207
<http://valleyofalbany.aasmasonry.us/>

Vol. XXXVIII

WINTER 2012

No.2

Winter Reunion & Robert Burns Night Saturday, January 21, 2012

Troy Masonic Community Center
39 Brunswick Road
Troy, New York 12180

Attendance at the conferral of these Degrees will be open to Candidates and AASR Members only. Immediately following the Degrees, the Valley of Albany will conduct a Knighting Ceremony for all AASR Members who are eligible and desirous of becoming a Knight of St. Andrew. Ladies are invited to the Robert Burns banquet that will follow the meeting. Please see page 7 for more details about this event.

Registration	2:00 p.m.
4 th Degree	2:30 p.m.
15 th Degree	3:30 p.m.
17 th Degree	4:30 p.m.
Knighting Ceremony	5:30 p.m.
Cocktails/hors d'oeuvres	6:30 p.m.
Dinner	7:15 p.m.

Dinner Reservations please to: Eric Benson at ejbenson1@gmail.com or 506-1143

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:

III John William McNaughton, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

III Jim S. Deyo, 33°
Grand Lieutenant Commander

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

III Peter J. Samiec, 33°
Deputy for New York State

ACTIVE MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK

- III Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Past Deputy for New York
- III David P. Spencer, 33°
- III Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
- III P. Michael Nielsen, 33°
- III G. Michael Morris, 33°

ACTIVE EMERITUS MEMBERS

- III James F. Niehoff, 33°
- III Bruce Widger, 33°
Past Deputy for New York
- III Richard H. Welkley, 33°
- III Gary A. Henningsen, 33°
- III Frederick D. Greene, 33°
- III Edward R. Trosin, 33°

DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVE VALLEY OF ALBANY

III Michael D. Derry, 33°

VALLEY OF TROY

Michael G. Angiolillo, 32°, MSA

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

Communicate

Please communicate sickness and distress and/or glad tidings. We will not be able to share in your joy or give support in your sorrow to our Brothers, their widows and orphans, unless we communicate. 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



**Ken White with John Scott at
Ken's MSA Testimonial Dinner**



Red Hats and guests at the MSA Dinner

Editor's Note:

The deadline for the Spring Issue of The Rite Light will be **March 5, 2012**. Please send letters and articles to the Secretary for review by **February 29, 2012** or directly to the Editor by March 4, 2012 at thekellys@nycap.rr.com

Consistory



A Message from your Commander-in-Chief

Dear Brothers of the Valley of Albany,

I hope everyone had a wonderful and healthy holiday.

It is now time to implement our schedule for 2012.

To start, we will have a Reunion at the Troy Masonic Hall where we will confer the 4°, 15°, and 17°. This will also be our Robert Burns Celebration. Reservations are needed for this dinner. Please email Eric Benson at ejbenson1@gmail.com or leave a message for him at 506-1143. Last year we had a great time and a great meal.

On February 16, we will hold a meeting at the Albany Masonic Temple. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend this meeting **and** bring your suggestions for more activities. Light refreshments will be served.

And it is not too soon to put the Feast of the Pascal Lamb on your calendar for April 1 at the Troy Masonic Hall. The Valley of Albany is in charge this year and I am sure Steve Conant will do a great job.

Until next time...

Sincerely and fraternally,
Daniel J. Kelly, MSA
Commander-in-Chief
Valley of Albany

Rose Croix



A Message from your Most Wise Master

My brothers,

Our Scottish Rite year has gotten off to a very good start. In addition to our regular meetings, we have had two very well-attended mini-reunions and a large turnout for the testimonial dinner honoring Ken White for his receiving the MSA award. Our next mini-reunion will be the Robert Burns Celebration on January 21 at the Troy Masonic Hall. In addition to the 4th and 15th degrees, we will be putting on the 17th degree. This degree has not been performed by our Valley in quite some time (at least not in the seven years that I have been a member of the Valley). The degree team is committed to doing a great job and is hoping for a large crowd to see the results of our efforts.

Please be reminded that the annual Feast of the Pascal Lamb will be on April 1, 2012. The observance will again be hosted jointly by the Albany and Troy chapters of Rose Croix at the Troy Masonic Temple. This ceremony honors our brethren who have completed the cycle of earthly existence. Please mark the date on your calendar and make plans to attend this special observance. As winter descends and the days get shorter, I encourage you to offset the decreased daylight by increasing your light in Masonry by attending and participating in as many meetings and reunions as possible. Hope to see you there!

Lastly, I would like to extend best wishes to you and your families for a safe and very happy holiday season.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Steve Conant
Most Wise Master

Rose Croix



A Message from your Junior Warden

Brethren,

I bid you greetings and glad tidings for the new year. By the time you read this it will a little over a month since we celebrated the 244th anniversary of the constituting of a regular Lodge of Perfection called Ineffable. It is in their memories and all the Brethren that followed in which I fervently Labor and Toil.

I am writing to inform and invite you to the Valley of Albany's unveiling of the 17th degree prior to the Knights of St. Andrew ceremony and Robert Burn's night. In this degree, we travel back to the time when Herod's Temple was still the jewel of the ancient world and imperial aims brought lessons to all. This is my first attempt to direct a degree and would enjoy the opportunity to have Brethren join in the presentation of this degree. I do hope I do right by the Valley with this degree and in my own way bring more Light into the World we find ourselves in.

Aaron Harrell 32°
Junior Warden
Chapter Rose Croix

Lodge of Perfection



A Message from your Thrice Potent Master

My Brothers,

I wish all brothers and their families a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Cordially and fraternally,
Steve King, MSA
Thrice Potent Master

Council, Princes of Jerusalem



A Message from your Sovereign Prince

My Brothers:

It was a pleasure to sit in the East for the first time as your Sublime Prince. We had all our officers present and I didn't have to scramble for subs, which I am most grateful for, and we also had a fair turnout of sideliners. All this went a long way to ensuring success. I strongly feel that our body is headed in the right direction as evidenced by the quality of the recent 29th degree, followed by a great dinner and resulting camaraderie, but we need more wives invited to the dinners and we need more candidates for the degrees, else we are just preaching to the choir. There are a number of such "do not miss" events coming up, so please check our district calendar.

Also, if you know of any of the black hatters who have not been showing up, please offer them a ride. Sitting in the seat next to you renders a better chance of them showing up than a promise made to you over the phone. We also need to put them to work and get them involved. Remember that our greatest source of recruits is always from the newer, more enthusiastic members, which is why I spoke on how to approach prospective members at our last meeting. Never forget that people live for recognition and praise. For instance: please ensure that they all know how to qualify for our Knights of the Double Eagle program using our new points card or how to join the Knights of St. Andrew. Above all, don't let anyone feel uncomfortable or embarrassed about not knowing anyone or having the correct hat or password. Introduce them to other members. Try to remember how you felt when you first joined.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a safe and pleasurable holiday season. For me, that means quality time with family, and even some informal time with all my "Brothers." May the Great Architect smile on you and yours!

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Gerald R. Dievendorf
Sovereign Prince of Jerusalem

Secretary's Note

Sublime Princes, Brothers:

We have had a busy Fall season in the Valley of Albany. I believe the Reunion in Queensbury in October and the St. Andrew's Celebration in November were successful and well received.

Thank you to all Brothers who participated and attended these two important events in the life of our Valley.

The next date you must be aware of is the Reunion and Robert Burns Celebration that will be held on January 21, 2012 at the Troy Masonic Community Center. Please consult the cover and the article on page 7 for the times and various components of this program. You should all be anxious to attend this celebration of Scottish Rite Masonry. In the first instance, our Valley will confer the 15th and 17th Degrees. Although you may have seen the 15th Degree, it is always memorable and the message it teaches is timeless. The 17th Degree is a new project for our Valley. Most of you probably need this one for your passports. Our newest Degree Director, Aaron Harrell is putting significant effort into this production as are the cast members who are learning their parts for this new degree. I know they will all appreciate your support and encouragement.

January 21st will conclude with the celebration of the life of Brother Robert Burns. If you attended last year's dinner, you already know what to expect. For the uninitiated, you can expect Haggis, single malt Scotch, a spectacular meal, raucous toasts, and the opportunity to wear your finest Highland attire. Your wives, Brothers, and guests are cordially invited. Make your reservations early and plan to enjoy this opportunity for fraternal friendship and harmless amusement.

I am so encouraged by your response to the dues notices that went out in September. On behalf of the Valley, thank you for prompt attention to this important matter. If you misplaced the notice, no worries, because a second notice will go out early in the new year. Also, if there is any reason that paying your dues at this time does not fit into your budget, please let me know. Your Brothers in the Valley of Albany stand ready to assist you in any way we can. Always remember that Scottish Rite

Masonry is a Fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.

Your attention is directed to the new web site for the Supreme Council: www.scottishritenmj.org. This site is beautifully designed to be the place to go for news, information, forms, and links to other sites of interest. I highly recommended it to you.

Please look at the trestleboard for the remainder of our year that is contained in this newsletter. You are encouraged to attend as many Valley events as possible and participate in any way you can. This is your Valley and its success is directly related to the participation of the Brothers. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact any of your officers for answers and assistance. The contact information for all presiding officers is also contained in this newsletter.

Attendance at the Valley meetings has been sparse. As with all Masonic bodies, the general meetings are critical to the growth, development, and sustainability of our Valley. As indicated in the trestleboard, meetings are scheduled in February, March, April, and May. Please show your support for your Valley and its officers and plan to attend these meetings. A limited supply of Black Scottish Rite hats and appropriate aprons are always available for your use at these meetings. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. and are usually followed by a modest collation.

Finally, it is my pleasure to once again announce the election of Russell J. LaGrange, Jr. to become an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, 33°. This is a great honor and is richly deserved by one of the nicest and hardest working Sublime Princes in our Valley. Please congratulate Rusty when you see him.

I hope you and those you love had a very enjoyable holiday season and wish you all a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
John W. Scott, MSA, Secretary
Scottydawg2000@aol.com
(518) 283-1168

2011-2012 AASR OFFICERS—VALLEY of ALBANY

Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection

Thrice Potent Master	Stephen S. King	489-1341	sking1@nycap.rr.com
Deputy Master	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr.	943-6804/669-3460	pepy33@aol.com
Senior Warden	John N. Polydouris	783-6240	
Junior Warden	Brandon J. Lachterman	851-7303	

Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Sovereign Prince	Gerald R. Dievendorf	439-6684/312-6277	jdievendorf@gmail.com
High Priest	Martin W. Leukhardt	785-9697	martinwleukh@yahoo.com
Senior Warden	R. Victor Stewart	869-6200/421-1725	vicstewart@verizon.com
Junior Warden	Robert W. Dunn	767-2347	racerbobd@yahoo.com

Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix

Most Wise Master	Steven M. Conant	598-1388	sconant2@nycap.rr.com
Senior Warden	Kenneth M. White	439-3749/527-1962	kmwhite02@verizon.net
Junior Warden	Aaron B. Harrell, Jr	937-6761	ndsg02@yahoo.com

Albany Sovereign Consistory

Commander-In-Chief	Daniel J. Kelly	758-1778/657-9403	thekellys@nycap.rr.com
1st Lt. Commander	Eric J. Benson	506-1143	ejbenson1@gmail.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Gary E. Smith	729-4582/810-6440	step12@nycap.rr.com

Officers of All Bodies

Treasurer	William M. Korn	456-4704/265-6710	kornwm@nycap.rr.com
Secretary	John W. Scott	283-1168/301-3264	scottydawg2000@aol.com

Degree Directors

Director 4th	Daniel J. Kelly	758-1778/657-9403	thekellys@nycap.rr.com
Director 6th & 10th	William M. Korn	456-4704/265-6710	kornwm@nycap.rr.com
Director 14th	John W. Scott	283-1168/301-3264	scottydawg2000@aol.com
Director 15th	Gerald F. Irwin	872-0672	girwin@nycap.rr.com
Director 16th	Byron D. Moak	235-5868	
Director 17th	Aaron B. Harrell, Jr.	937-6761	ndsg02@yahoo.com
Director 18th	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	drewmillier@msn.com
Director 24th	Eric J. Benson	506-1143	ejbenson1@gmail.com
Director 26th	John W. Scott	283-1168/301-3264	scottydawg2000@aol.com
Director 27th	Allison L. Aumick	482-6370	aaumick@nycap.rr.com
Director 29th	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	drewmillier@msn.com
Director 31st & 32nd	William M. Korn	456-4704/265-6710	<u>kornwm@nycap.rr.com</u>

Winter Reunion & Robert Burns Nicht

The pleasure of your company is requested on January 21, 2012 for the Reunion of the Lodge of Perfection, Council of Princes of Jerusalem, and the Chapter of Rose Croix in the Valley of Albany, AASR, NMJ. The Reunion, which will be conducted at the Troy Masonic Community Center, will consist of the conferral of the 4th, 15th and 17th Degrees. The Valley of Albany will then conduct a Knighting Ceremony for all AASR Members who are eligible and desirous of becoming a Knight of St. Andrew. If you have any questions regarding eligibility to become a Knight of St. Andrew, please contact John W. Scott 32° M.S.A. at (518) 283-1168 or scottydawg2000@aol.com.

After the knighting ceremony, the Knights of St. Andrew welcome all Brothers, Family, and Friends to our Robert Burns Banquet where we will celebrate the life of Brother Robert Burns (1759–1796), Poet Laureate of Scotland, and world renowned bon vivant. We will have scotch and Haggis at the ready for your enjoyment. Toasts will be given by Brethren and guests throughout the evening. Please be prepared with your best jovial toasts.

Dress for the evening will be Tuxedo, Dark Suit, or Kilt for the men and comfortable evening attire for the ladies.

Dinner will consist of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, soup, salad, sage roast pork and chef's choice of potatoes and vegetables, and dessert. The cost of the meal will be \$25.00. Please make your reservations with Eric Benson by January 18. He may be reached at (518) 506-1143 or at ejbenson1@gmail.com.

Knights of the Double Eagle Program

Update and Changes

Robert H. Fickies, MSA

The Valley's very successful *Knights of the Double Eagle* Program, which recognizes and rewards participation in Valley programs, is in its third year now. Well over one hundred Brothers are enrolled in the program, with nineteen of them being knighted to date.

Three other valleys in the Northern Jurisdiction, following our lead, have also started *KoDE* programs. They are the Valley of Schenectady and the Valleys of Greenfield and Springfield in Massachusetts.

Starting this past September, we have changed the way *KoDE* points are recorded. Now, each brother is responsible for recording and keeping his own points in a small Tally Book. He is also responsible for notifying the Knight Commander, Drew Millier, when he has achieved the necessary points to be knighted (500), or when he should receive an additional service bar.

A large sheet on the bulletin board on the 4th floor of the temple contains each member's points recorded up to September 1, 2011. This number is to be entered in the "Starting Points" box on your Tally Book. The blue Tally Books should be available at the Secretary's desk in the Scottish Rite lodge room.

You should note that December 31 is the cut-off date for points to be knighted or awarded the following spring. This year's knighting ceremony will be in June.

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, N.M.J., U.S.A.
 VALLEY OF ALBANY
 John W. Scott, Secretary
 Albany Masonic Hall
 67 Corning Place
 Albany, NY 12207

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Valley of Albany Winter-Spring 2012 Meeting Dates

			* Opens and Closes Meeting		
January 21, 2012	Sat.	Reunion: 4°, 15°, and 17° Troy Masonic Hall followed by dinner— Robert Burns Celebration Executive Board	April 19, 2012	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory*
February 2, 2012	Thurs.		April 28, 2012	Sat.	Reunion: 24° Berne followed by dinner at Berne Lodge
February 16, 2011	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter* Consistory	May 24, 2012	Thurs.	Annual Meeting— Election and Installation—All four bodies
March 15, 2012	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory*	June 7, 2011	Thurs.	Executive Board
April 1, 2012	Sun.	F.O.P.L. Troy Masonic Hall	June 16, 2011	Sat.	Reunion: 4°, 27°, 31°, 32° Albany Masonic Hall followed by Valleys of Albany and Troy 32° Banquet
April 5, 2012	Thurs.	Executive Board			