



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://valleyofalbania.aasmasonry.us/>

Vol. XXXIX

WINTER 2013

No.2

St. Andrew's Day Celebration

Valley of Albany AASR, NMJ

Saturday, November 30, 2013

Albany Masonic Hall
67 Corning Place, Albany, NY

Sublime Princes and Guests:

The pleasure of your company is requested at the Valley of Albany's Fourth Annual St. Andrew's Day Celebration, which will include the conferral of the 4th and 29th Degrees. Attendance at the degree conferral will be open to Candidates and AASR Members only.

Registration:	5:00 p.m.
4 th Degree:	5:30 p.m.
29 th Degree:	6:00 p.m.

At about 6:30 p.m., the Knights of St. Andrew welcome all Brothers, family, and friends to retire to the ground floor dining room for cocktails and dinner. Dinner will feature hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and roast pork with all the fixings. During the course of the evening, we will enjoy scotch whiskey, haggis, and celebratory toasts. The dress for the evening will be Tuxedo, Dark Suit, or Kilt for the men and comfortable evening attire for the ladies.

The cost of the evening will be \$25.00 per person. Dinner reservations are required and must be made on or before **November 27, 2013** to: **John W. Scott, Secretary scottydawg2000@aol.com**, (518) 283-1168.

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.: John William McNaughton, 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°
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Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°
Ill.: Edward R. Trosin, 33°
Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Past Deputy for New York

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

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:

The *deadline* for the **Spring Issue** of *The Rite Light* is **February 1, 2014**. Please send letters, articles, and pictures to the Editor at thekellys@nycap.rr.com.



Degree Director for November 30, 2013

4th—Daniel J. Kelly 758-1778/657-9403
29th—Drew A. Millier, 885-4323/605-8084

Degree Directors for January 25, 2014

4th—Daniel J. Kelly 758-1778/657-9403
TBA

Consistory



A Message from your Commander-in-Chief

Sublime Princes,

I would thank everyone who has made the beginning of our year such a success. We had a great turnout for our first meeting and I believe the Brothers enjoyed the Degree of the evening. Many of our members assisted with the several degrees at our fall reunion on November 2. I would urge you to look around our district and inspire our Brothers to join the Scottish Rite.

I would like to thank all those who attended the MSA dinner for Sublime Prince Martin Leukhardt on October 5. It was an evening enjoyed by all. Our local Valleys and all of the Lodges in our District were represented to honor Marty for a well deserved award.

On November 30, Venerable Drew Millier will be hosting this year's St. Andrews Night for the Knights of Saint Andrew. Please give your reservation to our Secretary John Scott as soon as possible. This will be a great opportunity to take the 29th Degree and attend an excellent dinner. As always, family and friends are most welcome to attend the dinner after the Degree.

I hope to see everyone at our next regular meeting on Thursday, November 21. We will be conferring the 9th degree. If you know of a Brother eager to join our Rite, please bring them to start their new Masonic Journey.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Eric Benson, 32°
Commander-in-Chief

Lodge of Perfection



A Message from your Thrice Potent Master

My brothers,

As I write this, it is yet another beautiful Fall day outside. I hope you have enjoyed the Fall season and the Valley events that have been held during this season.

The first event was a joint body meeting on September 19. The program for the evening was a presentation of the seldom-staged 8th degree. The event was well attended and a great job was done by the degree cast. Many thanks go out to all of the Sublime Princes who participated in putting on the degree. The meeting was followed by a collation featuring my wife's homemade cookies. The cookies were a hit, as they disappeared quickly and I was made to promise to provide them again in the future.

The second event was a moving and enjoyable testimonial dinner at the Fort Orange Club to honor Marty Leukhardt in recognition of his being awarded the Meritorious Service Award at the Council of Deliberation in July. As indicated by the title of the award, the MSA is awarded for exemplary service to Scottish Rite Freemasonry. As evidenced by the turnout and the words spoken in his honor, Marty is a very deserving recipient of the MSA.

I hope you were able to attend those events. Whether or not you were able to do so, please try to make the upcoming Valley events. They include the next joint meeting at which the 9th degree will be staged on November 21, and the annual Knights of St Andrew dinner and 29th degree on November 30. These promise to be worthwhile events and I hope to see you there!

Sincerely and fraternally,
Steve Conant, 32°
Thrice Potent Master

Council, Princes of Jerusalem



Rose Croix



A Message from your Sovereign Prince

Princes of Jerusalem,

Back in the day when we were all much younger, the matriarch very often called to the children. "What on earth are you doing for heaven's sake?" The words were not so much a question as they were an admonition to change the manner of a child's conduct. Now that we are older, the same admonition could spur us to a more noble and glorious purpose in our lives.

An old rabbi once pointed out, "God did not put humans on Earth to glorify the scenery. He put us here to improve the place, not to destroy it, turn it into a dung heap, or to decorate the place. He put us here to improve it." So what are we doing on Earth for the sake of the heavens eternal?

As Masons and members of the Scottish Rite, we are obligated come to the assistance of those in need, especially our distressed worthy brothers. Opportunities abound for service to our nation, our state, our community, and even our craft. The only thing that stands in our way of improving our lot is our sight.

Light has always been a huge part of Freemasonry. A central part of our ritual is being brought to light and then we vow to seek more light. That light is always before us. Sometimes we call this view self-improvement, but in a grander sense, we should see it as bringing greater light to the whole world.

Let us make a vow to ourselves that we will give more service to those who need help, to those who have served our nation and community, and to how we, personally, can bring more light to our beloved craft.

Sincerely and fraternally,
R. Victor Stewart
Sovereign Prince of Jerusalem

A Message from your Most Wise Master

Dear Brothers,

The holidays are getting closer and the cold weather is on its way. But I guess everyone knows that. BUT did you know that the Feast of St. Andrew will be held on November 30? We will be performing the 29th degree. What a great opportunity for you to fill another space on your passport! By the way, the ladies are invited to help us celebrate at the dinner after the degree.

On November 21, the 9th degree will be performed. Another great opportunity for you to fill your passport!

Then it is time to get serious about the Holidays. You get to go shopping in the mall. At this time, you get to park in the "back forty" and have a long cold walk to the mall where you get to carry a lot of shopping bags back to your vehicle. But it is all worth it when you see the kids and grandkids opening their presents and your family is gathered together.

Like the holiday rewards, you always get more out of Masonry than you put in. So mark your calendar for a few meetings. They could be Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite, or another body. BUT you have to show up to get the benefits. I encourage you to "Come and Get It!"

Sincerely and fraternally,
Daniel J. Kelly, 32° MSA
Most Wise Master

Secretary's Note

Sublime Princes, Brothers:

We are gearing up for a busy winter season in the Valley of Albany. The new meeting program that includes a degree conferral has proven successful. We will continue with the meeting on November 21 when the 9th degree will be conferred. The Fall Reunion was fun for all who attended, and we are looking forward to our annual St. Andrew's Day Celebration and 29th Degree conferral on November 30. Please look at the trestle board on the back page of this edition and mark your calendars accordingly so that you can attend all of these Scottish Rite events. This is your Valley and its success is directly related to the participation of our 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 officers is also contained in this newsletter.

I am so encouraged by your response to the dues notices. On behalf of the Valley, thank you for prompt attention to this important matter. If you misplaced the notice, don't worry because a second notice will go out in the not too distant future. 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.

Finally, on behalf of the Valley of Albany, I wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very happy holiday season.

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

Knights of the Double Eagle



A Message from your Knight Commander

My Brothers,

I would like to remind all sublime princes to sign in on Knight of the Double Eagle (KoDE) sign-in sheets when you attend a Valley meeting or reunion, or when you participate in the presentation of a degree. Doing so will ensure that you receive credit for participation in the form of points towards KoDE awards. (Attendee lists are used to credit points for attendance at dinners).

The next KoDE award ceremony will be held on March 20, 2014 and will be based on cumulative points earned through the end of 2013. To date ten sublime princes have earned enough points to be knighted or awarded service bars at that ceremony, and several others are closing in on the required number of points to be knighted or awarded a service bar. If you would like to see how many points you currently have, an up-to-date list of points earned is posted in the degree preparation room adjacent to the backstage area.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the KoDE program. I can be reached at sconant2@nycap.rr.com or 518-598-1388.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Steve Conant, 32°
Knight Commander, KoDE

**Robert Burns Celebration
Saturday, January 25, 2014
Albany Masonic Hall, Albany, NY**

The pleasure of your company is requested on Saturday, January 25, 2014. 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. 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 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. Please contact John W. Scott, 32°, MSA, Secretary scottydawg2000@aol.com , (518) 283-1168 with any questions. Reservations will be necessary. Details regarding this event will be available in future notices and mailings.

**Testimonial Dinner for Martin Leukhardt
Fort Orange Club
October 5, 2013**



2013-2014 AASR OFFICERS—VALLEY of ALBANY

Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection

Thrice Potent Master	Steven M. Conant	598-1388	sconant2@nycap.rr.com
Deputy Master	Richard Hundermark		
Senior Warden	John N. Polydouris	783-6240	
Junior Warden	Kenneth M. White	439-3749/527-1962	kmwhite02@verizon.net
Trustee	Richard Mills, 33°	943-1327	
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	
Captain of the Guard	Dennis L. DeBell	869-3799/210-9069	

Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Sovereign Prince	R. Victor Stewart	869-6200/421-1725	vicstewart@verizon.com
High Priest	Robert W. Dunn	767-2347	racerbobd@yahoo.com
Senior Warden	Eric S. Stott	482-6080	
Junior Warden	Allison L. Aumick	482-6370	
Trustee	Robert H. Fickies	674-2737	
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	konevforcouncil@gmail.com
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	
Master of Entrances	Dennis L. DeBell	869-3799/210-9069	

Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix

Most Wise Master	Daniel J. Kelly	758-1778/657-9403	thekellys@nycap.rr.com
Senior Warden	Karl G. Schlegel	250-9547/845-551-2765	KGSchlegel@gmail.com
Junior Warden	Aaron B. Harrell, Jr.	937-6761	ndsg02@yahoo.com
Trustee	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	915-1912	
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	
Captain of the Guard	Dennis L. DeBell	869-3799/210-9069	

Albany Sovereign Consistory

Commander-In-Chief	Eric J. Benson	506-1143	ejbenson1@gmail.com
1st Lt. Commander	Gary E. Smith	729-4582/810-6440	step12@nycap.rr.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr.	943-6804/669-3460	pepy33@aol.com
Trustee	Stephen S. King	489-1341	
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	
Chancellor	Kyle Kotary		
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	
Engineer & Seneschal	Wilfred C. Baumann	875-6753	
Standard Bearer	Alan C. Garrison	452-8459	
Captain of the Guard	Dennis L. DeBell	869-3799/210-9069	

Officers of All Bodies

Treasurer	Gerald R. Dievendorf	439-6684/312-6277	
Secretary	John W. Scott	283-1168/301-3264	scottydawg2000@aol.com
Hospitaler	Donald H. Blake	463-6536	dhblake@gmail.com
Regalia & Wardrobe	Alfred Krueger, Jr	869-7873	
	John A. Minozzi	489-2657	
	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr.	943-6804/669-3460	pepy33@aol.com

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

Valley of Albany 2013–2014 Meeting Dates

* Opens and Closes Meeting

November 21, 2013	Thurs.	Lodge, Council* , Chapter, Consistory– 9th-degree	April 3, 2014	Thurs.	Executive Board
November 30, 2013	Sat.	K of SA— St. Andrew’s Day Observance and 29° followed by dinner	April 13, 2014	Sun.	F.O.P.L. Albany Masonic Hall , 4th floor, dinner to follow
December 5, 2013	Thurs.	Executive Board	April 24, 2014	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory*–23° at the USS Slater (Four Chaplains)
January 4–19, 2014		Confetti Stage play on 4th floor	May 3, 2014	Sat.	Reunion: Consistory * , 4°, 18°, 31°, 32° Albany Masonic Hall followed by Cocktail Reception
January 25, 2014	Sat.	Robert Burns Celebration	May 17, 2014	Sat.	Valley of Albany Family Picnic
February 6, 2014	Thurs.	Executive Board	May 22, 2014	Thurs.	Annual Meeting —Election and Installation—All four bodies, Consistory*
February 20, 2014	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter* , Consistory– degree TBA	June 5, 2014	Thurs.	Executive Board
March 20, 2014	Thurs.	Lodge* , Council, Chapter, Consistory– Double Eagle Ceremony	July 25–26, 2014	Fri. /Sun.	Council of Deliberation, Syracuse
March 22–April 6, 2014		Confetti Stage play on 4th floor			