



# 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. XL

WINTER 2015

No.1

## Robert Burns Nicht Celebration

Valley of Albany AASR, NMJ  
Saturday, January 24, 2015  
Albany Masonic Hall  
67 Corning Place, Albany, NY

### Brothers and Guests:

The pleasure of your company is requested on January 24, 2015 when 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. Attendance at the Knighting Ceremony will be open to AASR Members only. If you have any questions regarding eligibility to become a Knight of St. Andrew, please contact John W. Scott, 32°, MSA, Secretary at [scottydawg2000@aol.com](mailto:scottydawg2000@aol.com), (518) 283-1168. For the benefit of any Brothers in attendance who are desirous of becoming an AASR Member, the Valley will also confer the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree prior to the Knighting Ceremony.

Registration: 4:30 p.m.  
4<sup>th</sup> Degree: 4:45 p.m.  
Knighting Ceremony: 5:30 p.m.

After the conferral of the degree and the Knighting Ceremony, at approximately 6:15 p.m., 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, salad, herb-roasted beef, chef's choice of potatoes and vegetables, and dessert. The cost for the banquet is \$30.00 per person. Please make your reservations by mailing your check to John W. Scott at 20 Powers Road, Averill Park, NY 12018. **Your check is your reservation and it must be received on or before January 21, 2015.** If you have any questions regarding the Robert Burns Banquet, please contact John W. Scott, 32° MSA, at (518) 283-1168 or at [scottydawg2000@aol.com](mailto:scottydawg2000@aol.com).

## 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°**  
Deputy for New York State

### ACTIVE MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK

- Ill Peter J. Samiec, 33°  
Past Deputy for New York
- Ill Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
- Ill P. Michael Nielsen, 33°
- Ill G. Michael Morris, 33°

### ACTIVE EMERITUS MEMBERS

- Ill James F. Niehoff, 33°
- Ill Bruce Widger, 33°  
Past Deputy for New York
- 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 Deputy for New York

**Editor: THE RITE LIGHT**  
S. Kelly  
[thekellys@nycap.rr.com](mailto:thekellys@nycap.rr.com)  
518-758-1778

**“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 [scottdawg2000@aol.com](mailto:scottdawg2000@aol.com) or call (518) 283-1168

### Editor's Note:

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



### Called from Labor

We are pleased to report that no brothers have been called home since the last issue. If you are aware of an error on our part, please contact the Secretary with that information.

## Consistory



### A Message from your Commander-in-Chief

Sublime Princes,

As we start the new year we have much to look forward to. On January 24, we will be inducting new knights into our Albany Chapter of the Knights of St. Andrew. After this ceremony, we will be holding our annual Robert Burns supper. This is a fun night to relax and celebrate the life of our esteemed Brother. It is open to all Brothers and friends. As always, bring your best toasts to give.

On January 31, we have the great privilege of celebrating with our new MSA recipient, Sublime Prince Steve Conant. Please join us at the Fort Orange Club for an evening to honor a Brother who has dedicated so much of his time and hard work to our Scottish Rite.

My Brothers, throughout this new year there are various opportunities to make new Scottish Rite Masons. Let us be the guides who will inspire members of our Blue Lodges to join our Valley. Wherever you go, speak about our Scottish Rite and what you enjoy about it. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting. Remember, if each of us brings one member to the meeting we will fill the room.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Eric J. Benson, 32°  
Commander-in-Chief

## Knights of the Double Eagle



### A Message from your Knight Commander

My Brothers,

I am pleased to report that based on Scottish Rite activities by Valley of Albany brothers through the end of 2014, four brothers will be knighted as Knights of the Double Eagle at the next knighting ceremony to be held on March 19. An additional thirteen brothers will be receiving one or more service bars or a ribbon. Invitations will be sent in the near future to the brothers who will be honored at the ceremony. Please mark the date on your calendar for this special ceremony.

Seventeen brothers will be honored at the awards ceremony. This is indicative of a consistent level of participation by a core group of our members. If you are currently not among those who are regularly active in Valley activities, please consider joining in, as your participation is always welcome and will lead you to gain more light in Masonry. Please make sure you sign in at each event so that you receive credit for your participation.

Feel free to contact me at [sconant2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:sconant2@nycap.rr.com) or 518-598-1388 if you have any questions or concerns about the program. Thank you in advance for your continued support of this worthy program.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Steve Conant  
Knight Commander, KoDE

## Secretary's Note

Sublime Princes and Brothers:

Greetings and Happy New Year!

I hope all of you and those you love enjoyed the Holidays and are now ready for an exciting new year. As you can see from the special announcements and the trestle board contained in this newsletter, the Valley of Albany has a number of exciting events planned, such as meetings with degrees, Reunions, a family picnic, the Robert Burns Night, and Steven Conant's Testimonial Banquet. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as many events and meetings as time permits.

I want to thank all who have paid their dues for the 2014–2015 year. I am encouraged by the response to the dues notices. However, we still have a reasonable percentage of members who have not yet submitted their dues. Together with our investments, dues are our only source of income. We will shortly be sending out "second notices." If you have neglected your dues for whatever reason, please make every effort to pay them at this time. If you are experiencing hardship, please do not hesitate to call or email me confidentially. The contact information is indicated below. Sovereign Grand Commander McNaughton is insistent that the Scottish Rite truly be the "fraternity that cares for its members," and we here at the Valley of Albany strive to prove that every day. We will do everything in our power to accommodate any Brother in need of our aide and assistance.

Please be advised that scholarship applications are now available. If you have a child or grandchild who is of college age, please contact me for an application or obtain one from the Supreme Council web site. The applications should be returned to me, together with the necessary supporting information, before March 15th.

On behalf of the Valley of Albany I want to thank you for your continuing support. If you would like to help with a degree or in any other capacity, please contact the Valley Officers and Degree Directors to let us know of your interest and your availability. Also, if there is a need or if you just have a suggestion, we would love to hear from you.

After all, this is your Valley and we will not succeed without you.

Stay warm and enjoy the season.  
Fraternally yours,

John W. Scott, 32° MSA, Secretary  
[Scottydawg2000@aol.com](mailto:Scottydawg2000@aol.com)  
(518) 283-1168

## A Bit of History

The Americanism Museum at the House of the Temple in Washington, D.C. is home to two Scottish Rite banners that went into OUTER SPACE!



The one shown here traveled with Astronaut and Scottish Rite Mason, Leroy Gordon Cooper, 33°, on his *Gemini 5* orbital mission in space in 1965. Cooper, command pilot of *Gemini 5*, along with fellow astronaut Pete Conrad, flew an eight-day, 120-orbit mission traveling a distance of 3,312,993 miles and establishing a new space endurance record of 190 hours and 56 minutes, breaking the Soviet Union's *Vostok 5* record.

Prior to his *Gemini 5* mission, Cooper set several new milestones for the space program. He flew 22 solo orbits and another 122 orbits as a Command Pilot. He was the first astronaut to complete a pilot-control re-entry and the first to track a typhoon from space. Also, in 1963, Cooper gave one of the opening addresses to the first meeting of the League of African Nations using the first television camera in space.

## How Can We Contact You?

Do you have an email address? Is it current? Please provide your current email address to Jerry Dievendorf at [jdievendorf@gmail.com](mailto:jdievendorf@gmail.com).

Another good way to keep up with Scottish Rite activities is through Masons-on-Line. If you need a log-in and password information, please contact Jerry at [jdievendorf@gmail.com](mailto:jdievendorf@gmail.com).



**The Officers and Members of the Valley of Albany  
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry**



Cordially and Fraternally Invite YOU to a

**TESTIMONIAL BANQUET**

*Honoring*

**Steven M. Conant 32<sup>o</sup>, MSA**

**Saturday Evening, January 31, 2015**

**The Historic Fort Orange Club  
110 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY**

**Six o'clock**

Cash Bar & passed Hors d'oeuvres

**Seven o'clock**

Dinner: Deluxe Tossed Salad, Chicken Francaise,  
Chef's Choice Vegetables/Potato Accompaniments,  
Dessert, Coffee & Tea

**Subscription \$35.00**

Men: Black Tie Tux or Dark Suit, Cap, and Jewels  
Ladies: Comfortable Evening Attire

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Reservation Form

Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Dinners @ \$35.00 each

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 32<sup>o</sup> 33<sup>o</sup> DSA MSA Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Lady: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your Check payable to **Valley of Albany AASR** to:

**John W. Scott, 20 Powers Road, Averill Park, NY 12018  
(518) 283-1168; [scottydawg2000@aol.com](mailto:scottydawg2000@aol.com)**

**Deadline: January 27, 2015**

## Knights of the Double Eagle Total Points—January 2015

Name	Points
Roland Abare	675
Andrew Abolafia	150
Stanley Adams	150
Charles Alfano	75
Michael Angilillo	275
Alison Aumick	825
David Barkstedt	225
Scott Barth	125
Wilfred Baumann	675
Keith Becker +	600
Eric Benson	2,575
Donald Blake	350
Gene Boussetot	75
Raymond Brooks	300
Terlon Burke	100
William Carlucci	2,050
Paul Casavant	75
Ken Champagne	25
Kenneth Ciatyk	25
Steven Conant	3,300
John Cougheri	50
Michael Derry	1,950
Gerald Dievendorf	2,350
John Dievendorf	75
Robert Dunn	475
Robert Fickies	2,050
Bob Foti	25
John Fowler	25
Olivier Francois	125
Richard Frank	75
Ben Froggett	150
James Fuller	175
Michael Gammus	300
Fred Ganzer	50
Alan Garrison	300
Benjamin Garry	700
Chris Gerber	50
Gordon Gibson	100
Aaron Gladd	50
Edward Grant	50
Walter Grom	175
John Grose	50
William Guterslow	50
Aaron Harrell	925
Paul Heintz	50
Ralph Hill	175
Dale Hotaling	125

Name	Points
Richard Hundertmark	1,675
William Hyatt	325
Gerald Irwin	450
Nicholas Jacobia	50
Charles Jessie	50
Francis Jessie	50
Robert Joel	0
Paul Karamanol	150
Cullen Kasunic	100
Steven King	1,300
Daniel King	200
Karl Koch	300
Anton Konev	1,075
Kyle Kotary	200
William Korn	1,725
Charles Kreuter	25
Alfred Krueger	425
Brandon Lachterman	400
Grover LaFountain	75
Russell LaGrange	1,175
Mel Lamphron	25
Mark Lansing	25
Ed Lass	150
Thomas Leary	150
Martin Leukhardt	1,925
Alan Lewis +	525
Bruce Lock +	525
Michael Lopez	200
John MacNeill	50
Donald Magill	50
Andrew Manchester	75
Patrick McIntyre	75
Otto Metzger	75
Drew Millier	1,975
Richard Mills	300
John Minozzi	450
Byron Moak	1,025
Richard Mullen	100
Don Nelson	50
Ronald Noll	1,075
John Norray	100
Malcolm Ogden	775
William Okesson	450
Bruce Pavloff	225
Joel Pierre-Louis	75
John Polydouris +	700
Schuyler Poukish	50

Name	Points
Thomas Prenoveau	100
Robert Reifmueller	925
Dwight Rogers	50
Timothy Rose	300
Paul Rosenblatt	1,775
Rick Ryther	75
Mark Scarselli	75
Karl Schlegel	1,075
John Scott	4,250
Mike Slattery	75
Edward Smith	25
Gary Smith	1,800
Manuel Steele	600
Corey Steigleman	75
Victor Stewart	1,500
Roy Stock	650
Eric Stott	1,025
Ali Taciroglu	50
Chares Therrien	100
Allan Thom	50
William Tschumi	225
Al Valente	50
Daniel Valenti	200
John Van Etten	75
Bob Walenta	25
Lance Wang	75
Robert Wattsman	75
Robert Weidner	75
Richard Welkley	50
Craig Wexler	300
Kenneth White	2,675
George Wilk	300
Walter Young	50

+ new knight 2015

## 2014-2015 AASR OFFICERS—VALLEY of ALBANY

### Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection

Thrice Potent Master	Richard Hundermark	943-4661	hundertmark4@mhcable.com
Deputy Master	Kenneth M. White	439-3749/527-1962	kmwhite02@verizon.net
Senior Warden	John N. Polydouris	783-6240	
Junior Warden	Robert Reifmueller	255-5582	reifmueller@hvc.rr.com
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	konevforcouncil@gmail.com
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	drewmillier@me.com

### Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Sovereign Prince	Ray C. Brooks	945-2912	
High Priest	Eric S. Stott	482-6080	estott@localnet.com
Senior Warden	Allison L. Aumick	482-6370	ala@nycap.rr.com
Junior Warden	Steven M. Conant	598-1388	sconant2@nycap.rr.com
Master of Ceremonies	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	konevforcouncil@gmail.com
Master of Entrances	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	drewmillier@me.com

### Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix

Most Wise Master	Karl G. Schlegel	(845) 551-2765	KGSchlegel@gmail.com
Senior Warden	R. Victor Stewart	869-6200/421-1725	vicstewart@verizon.net
Junior Warden	Aaron B. Harrell, Jr.	937-6761	ndsg02@yahoo.com
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	konevforcouncil@gmail.com
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	drewmillier@me.com

### Albany Sovereign Consistory

Commander-In-Chief	Eric J. Benson	506-1143	ejbenson1@gmail.com
1st Lt. Commander	Gary E. Smith	482-6060	step12@nycap.rr.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr.	943-6804/669-3460	pepy33@aol.com
Orator	Anton A. Konev	330-5269	konevforcouncil@gmail.com
Chancellor	Kyle Kotary		
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	885-4323/605-8084	drewmillier@me.com
Engineer & Seneschal	Wilfred C. Baumann	875-6753	dhblake@midtel.ne
Standard Bearer	Alan C. Garrison	452-8459	

### 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
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 Trustees

Richard Mills	943-1327	dickmills@aol.com
Stephen S. King	489-1341	sking1@nycap.rr.com
Robert H. Fickies	674-2737	fickie2@yahoo.com
Russell J. LaGrange, Jr	915-1912	

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

### Valley of Albany 2014–2015 Meeting Dates

<b>January 24, 2015</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Robert Burns Celebration,</b> Albany Masonic Hall	<b>April 23, 2015</b>	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, <b>Consistory*–23 ° (Four Chaplains) USS Slater</b>
<b>January 31, 2015</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Steve Conant, 32°, MSA Testimonial Dinner, Fort Orange Club</b>	<b>May 9, 2015</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Reunion: Consistory * , 4°, 6°, 15°, 20°, 31°, 32° Albany Masonic Hall</b> followed by Cocktail Reception and Banquet
February 5, 2015	Thurs.	Executive Board			
February 19, 2015	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, <b>Chapter *</b> , Consistory– degree TBA	<b>May 16, 2015</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Valley of Albany Family Picnic, Details TBA</b>
<b>March 19, 2015</b>	<b>Thurs.</b>	Lodge, Council, Chapter, <b>Consistory * –Double Eagle Ceremony</b>	<b>May 21, 2015</b>	<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Annual Meeting—Election and Installation—All four bodies, Consistory*</b>
<b>March 29, 2015</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feast of the Paschal Lamb</b>			
April 2, 2015	Thurs.	Executive Board	June 4, 2015	Thurs.	Executive Board

\* Opens and Closes Meeting