



# 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](http://www.albanyscottishrite.org)

Vol. XLI

SPRING 2017

No. 3

## Notice of Annual Meeting And Election of Officers

Brother Grand Elect Masons, Valorous Princes, Perfect Knights, and Sublime Princes:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of  
Albany Lodge of Perfection  
Albany Council of Princes of Jerusalem  
Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix  
Albany Consistory S.: P.: R.: S.:

Will be held jointly at **7:30 PM**, Thursday, **May 18, 2017**  
at the Albany Masonic Hall, 67 Corning Place, Albany, NY.

The purposes of the annual meeting are the receipt of reports from the officers of the Four Bodies of the Valley of Albany and the election of officers for the 2017–2018 Scottish Rite Year.

**You are summoned** to attend this Special Meeting of the Albany Bodies, Valley of Albany, AASR-NMJ.

**Gary E. Smith, 32°, Commander-in-Chief, Consistory**  
**Keith D. Becker, 32°, Most Wise Master, Chapter of Rose Croix**  
**Steven M. Conant, 32°, MSA, Sovereign Prince, Council Princes of Jerusalem**  
**Michael P. Slattery, 32°, Thrice Potent Master, Lodge of Perfection**

**Attest:** John W. Scott, 32°, MSA, Secretary

## 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.: Gail N. Kemp, 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 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](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 [scottydawg2000@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:thekellys@nycap.rr.com). This is your publication and it cannot be printed without your letters, articles, news and pictures.

### Pictures from Testimonial Dinner for Gerald Dievendorf, MSA



**Jerry's Family**

## Lodge of Perfection



### A Message from the Thrice Potent Master

My Brothers,

My love for history was one of my objectives when deciding to join Freemasonry. I was intrigued with the idea of walking in history and experiencing the kind of things that our brothers from the past had the honor of doing—hearing the same or similar ritual and walking the same paths that they no doubt walked. This was what was explained to me and it grabbed me. I was thinking to myself, “I am going to experience the things that George Washington experienced. That is something I need to be a part of.” This year I am so honored to sit in the East in the Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection, which will be celebrating its 250th year. Though my year is coming to an end, I have had the pleasure of being a part of Masonic history once again. Now for a little history of our Lodge of Perfection:

In 1767 Stephen Morin’s close associate Henry Francken transported this new Masonic Rite to Albany, New York, where he formed the first Ineffable Grand Lodge of Perfection in North America with civil engineer Bro. William Gamble serving as its first master. The following year, the first Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem was organized here.

These lodges were the forerunners of what was to become the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the United States (and Canada). Thus, the Valley of Albany is the oldest valley in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. This is an exciting year for the Valley, which happens to share its celebration with Masters Lodge No. 5. Understandably, some men are in both bodies. This year’s events will be a great time to reconnect with the Valley and help us make this major milestone a very successful and worthy celebration.

Fraternally,

Michael P. Slattery, Thrice Potent Master  
The Rite Light

## Council, Princes of Jerusalem



### A Message from the Sovereign Prince

Sublime Princes,

Our Scottish Rite year has continued with the first major event of the New Year—Jerry Dievendorf’s testimonial dinner at the Albany Country Club in honor of his Meritorious Service Award. All who attended know what a terrific event it was, made even more special by Jerry’s wife, kids, and grandkids all being there for it. Congratulations once again to Jerry for his well-deserved award!

With regard to the Valley of Albany website, I’d like to mention that several additional back issues of the Rite Light have been added to the site. To access them, go to the Valley website at [www.albanyscottishrite.org](http://www.albanyscottishrite.org) and click on “RITE LIGHTS”. Please feel free to contact me at (518) 357-8951 or [sconant2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:sconant2@nycap.rr.com) if you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns about the website.

Upcoming Valley events include the Spring Reunion on Saturday, May 13, the Annual Meeting on May 18, and the Family Picnic on June 3. My brothers, please make every effort to attend these important occasions. Your participation or even just your attendance is always much appreciated and will also earn you Knight of the Double Eagle points!

Let us all renew our commitment to Scottish Rite Masonry by attending and participating in as many of the upcoming meetings and reunions as possible. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Steve Conant  
Sovereign Prince

## Secretary's Note

Sublime Princes, Brothers:

The Feast of the Paschal Lamb was held on Palm Sunday, April 9. Following the Feast was the Knight of the Double Eagle Ceremony when Gerald Irwin, Ed Kosinkski, Rick Ryther, Michael Slattery, and Charles Therrien were knighted, and Richard Hundertmark, John Polydouris, Paul Rosenblatt, Rick Ryther, Michael Slattery, Gary Smith, R. Victor Stewart, and Eric Stott received recognition for their dedication to the activities and work of the Valley. Congratulations to the recipients of these well-deserved honors and to all who participated in the afternoon festivities.

The Valley conferred the 23rd Degree—Four Chaplains Degree—on April 20 at the USS *Slater*. The weather was marginally cooperative and the cast did a masterful job under the direction of Degree Director Marty Leukhardt. Thank you to all who participated.

Several important events remain for this Scottish Rite Year. Please note that the Valley Spring Reunion will at 9:00 a.m. on May 13. All Sublime Princes are encouraged to attend as we will undoubtedly need participants for the degrees and the production. Also, please reach out to Brothers who have not yet received further Light in Masonry through membership in the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. If you have questions, please contact me or any of the other Valley Officers. You may also use the Petition that is on page 6 of this newsletter or that is available on our Valley website: <http://www.albanyscottishrite.org>. The application fee is \$150.00 and the Petition and fee can be presented on May 13.

The next event will be the Valley Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on May 18 at 7:30 p.m. Please come out to thank your current officers on a job well done and to support the new officers as they assume their new positions in the leadership of our Valley. I know they will appreciate seeing their friends.

Please see details about the Valley Family Picnic that are on the back cover of this edition. I know a good time will be had by all.

Finally, please note that dues notices have been sent out by Supreme Council. I thank the many Brothers who have already paid their dues. This revenue is the Valley's sole source of support and your prompt attention to this notice is always greatly appreciated. There was some confusion about the timing of the dues notices as related to the end of the Scottish Rite year. We got out of sync over the past few years with the dues notices and I apologize for this. I am working to bring us back in line. While the notice indicates that the dues are for a year that ends in July 2017, please know that the dues are for the current year and another notice will not be sent out until the later part of the Fall. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at your convenience.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Secretary. I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Valley of Albany events.

Sincerely and fraternally,

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



**Congratulations to Jerry Dievendorf on receiving the Meritorious Service Award on February 11, 2017**



# Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION, U.S.A.  
VALLEY OF ALBANY, N.Y.  
67 CORNING PLACE, ALBANY, N.Y. 12207-1904

## PETITION FOR DEGREES / AFFILIATION (CROSS OUT ONE)

To the Officers and Members of the Scottish Rite Bodies sitting in the Valley of Albany, N.Y.

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME LAST NAME (NO INITIALS)

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREOF, RESPECTFULLY SHOW THAT I AM DESIROUS OF BEING ADMITTED AS A MEMBER OF  
ALBANY SOVEREIGN CONISISTORY, S.P.R.S., 32°

AND REQUEST THAT I MAY BE RECEIVED AMONG YOU, AND THAT I WILL EVER PRAY FOR THE PROSPERITY  
AND GLORY OF THE FRATERNITY AND THE WELFARE OF THE BRETHREN.

IN MAKING THIS APPLICATION I PROMISE ON MY WORD OF HONOR THAT SHOULD I BE ELECTED AND  
BECOME A MEMBER OF YOUR HONORABLE BODY, I SUBSCRIBE TO THE FOLLOWING

### Oath of Fealty

I will bear true faith, allegiance and fealty to the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and  
Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America,  
sitting in its Grand East in the City of Lexington, Massachusetts, and will support and abide by its Constitutions, Orders and Decrees.

That I will hold allegiance to the said Supreme Council and be loyal thereto, as the supreme authority of the Rite; will hold illegal and spuri-  
ous every other Body that may be established within its Jurisdiction, claiming to be a Supreme Council; and every other Body of said Rite  
within the same Jurisdiction that does not hold its powers from said Supreme Council and will hold no communication whatever in Scot-  
tish Rite Masonry with any member of the same nor allow him to visit any Body of the Rite of which I may be a member; and I will  
dispense justice to my brethren according to the laws of equity and honor.

And should I violate this, my solemn vow and pledge, I consent to be expelled from Scottish Rite Masonry, and all rights therein and in any  
Body of the Rite, and to be denounced to every Body of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the world as a traitor and forsworn.

And may God aid me to keep and perform the same. Amen.

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
MONTH DAY YEAR

Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN STATE OR COUNTY

Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Since \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET AND NUMBER CITY ZIP CODE

Your Mailing Address (if different than Residence) \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET AND NUMBER CITY ZIP CODE

Have resided in New York State since \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address (or Employer) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) Were you ever a member of the Order of DeMolay? \_\_\_\_\_

HAVE YOU EVER BEFORE PETITIONED FOR ANY DEGREE IN THE SCOTTISH RITE TO ANY OTHER VALLEY AND BEEN  
ACCEPTED OR REJECTED? YES OR NO? \_\_\_\_\_

IF YES, TO WHICH VALLEY AND WHEN? \_\_\_\_\_

**SYMBOLIC LODGE MEMBERSHIP** I AM A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF \_\_\_\_\_ LODGE

No. \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATED IN \_\_\_\_\_

IF APPLYING FOR FURTHER DEGREES, I CERTIFY THAT I AM OR WILL BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF  
\_\_\_\_\_ LODGE OF PERFECTION, LOCATED IN \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCIL OF PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, LOCATED IN \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX, LOCATED IN \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDED BY \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE PRINT SIGNATURE

DATE CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE

## 2016–2017 AASR OFFICERS—VALLEY of ALBANY

### Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection

Thrice Potent Master	Michael P. Slattery	795-0946	michaelandabby@reagan.com
Deputy Master	Charles W. Therrien, Jr.	758-1987	
Senior Warden	Greg Goldman	248-6277	goldmangreg66@gmail.com
Junior Warden	R. Victor Stewart	869-6200/421-1725	vicstewart@verizon.net
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	John W. Scott	283-1168/301-3264	scottydawg2000@aol.com

### Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Sovereign Prince	Steven M. Conant	357-8951/779-8068	sconant2@nycap.rr.com
High Priest	Kenneth Champagne	785-5143	ken@champaign.name
Senior Warden	Allison L. Aumick	482-6370	ala@nycap.rr.com
Junior Warden	Ed Kosinski	434-8425/337-0684	
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	Keith D. Becker	331-9385	kdb73@aol.com

### Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix

Most Wise Master	Keith D. Becker	331-9385	kdb73@aol.com
Senior Warden	Richard G. Ryther	459-2310	rickryther@aol.com
Junior Warden	Kenneth M. White	439-3749/527-1962	kmwhite02@verizon.net
Masonic Hall Assn. Rep.	Stephen S. King	489-1341	sking1@nycap.rr.com

### Albany Sovereign Consistory

Commander-In-Chief	Gary E. Smith	729-4582/810-6440	step12@nycap.rr.com
1st Lt. Commander	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr.	943-6804/669-3460	pepy33@aol.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Richard T. Hundertmark	943-4664	
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
Hospitaler	Donald H. Blake	768-7067	dhblake@gmail.com
Regalia & Wardrobe	Paul B. Rosenblatt, Sr.	943-6804/669-3460	pepy33@aol.com

### Four Chaplains Degree at the USS Slater



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

### Valley of Albany 2017 Meeting Dates

May 13, 2017	Sat.	<b>Reunion:</b> 4°, 14°, 18°, 26°, 31°, 32 ° <b>Albany Masonic Hall</b> followed by Cocktail Reception
May 18, 2017	Thurs.	<b>Annual Meeting</b> —Election and Installation—All four bodies, <b>Consistory*</b>
June 1, 2017	Thurs.	Executive Board
June 3, 2017	Sat.	<b>Valley of Albany Family Picnic</b>
August 3, 2017	Thurs.	Executive Board

\* Opens and Closes Meeting

**Family Picnic**  
**June 3, 2017**  
**11:30–4:30**  
 Canaan Conservation Club  
 779 Frisbee Street  
 Canaan, NY

Invite your family, your friends, and your Brother Masons.

Burgers, hot dogs and beverages will be provided.  
 If you wish, bring a dish to share.  
 Reservations will be appreciated.

Email Mike Slattery at [michaelandabby@reagan.com](mailto:michaelandabby@reagan.com) or call him at 795-0946