



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. XLI

WINTER 2017

No. 2

A TESTIMONIAL BANQUET
Honored
MARTIN W. LEUKHARDT 32° MSA

**On the event of his receipt of the
Daniel D. Tompkins Award for Distinguished Service**

Saturday Evening, November 19, 2016

The Daniel Tompkins Medal is named for Daniel D. Tompkins, first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. He also served the nation as its vice president, under President James Monroe. It may be conferred by the Supreme Council or by the Sovereign Grand Commander upon a deserving Masonic or Scottish Rite Brother who has rendered outstanding distinguished and exemplary service to his country or the Masonic fraternity at large not often witnessed among the general membership.



**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

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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 Grand Minister of State
Past Deputy for New York

Ill.: P. Michael Nielsen, 33°

Editor: THE RITE LIGHT
S. Kelly
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 or call (518) 283-1168

Editor’s Note:

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

Confetti Stage Schedule

The Birthday Party Tech (2/11/17–2/16/17)
Performances: 2/17-19/17 and 2/24-26/17
Mary-Kate Olsen is in Love
Tech (4/20/16–4/27/16)
Performances: 4/28-30/17 and 5/5-7/17

Feast of the Paschal Lamb

Palm Sunday

April 9, 2017

**Albany Masonic Hall
3:00 p.m.**

Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend this beautiful Scottish Rite ceremony!

Consistory



A Message from your Commander-in-Chief

Hello, Sublime Princes!

I hope everyone is able to keep warm and dry over these winter months. I had to think for a bit about what I wanted to bring forward as a message for this issue. After much pondering, I thought it would be a good idea to address the newest Sublime Princes who were recently raised to the 32nd Degree in November.

I'm sure that you, and several of the older members, have thought at one time or another how you would fit in with the Valley. What is my role? What will I do and where can I excel? These are good questions!

In the New Testament Book of Romans, Chapter 3, it states:

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think of yourself with sober judgment, according to the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and not all members have the same function, so in Christ we who are many are one body, and each member belongs to one another.

Now looking at this in a more secular Masonic point of view, one must fully understand that we cannot all be great ritualists nor can we all play important parts in our degrees. I know I am not good at ritual, but I do try.

If we were all with the same qualifications, then we would obviously be strong in the same areas, and weak in others. By nature, this can't be possible, but our own individual skills and abilities combined

with others make us a stronger Valley. I have Brothers I go to for "this" and other Brothers I go to for "that". Many times my choice of Brother has led to him saying, "I don't think I can really help you with this, but if you ask XXXX, I'm sure he can give you the help you need."

This is how we work best. We keep available with our own qualities, ready to assist if needed. I am an engineer. In the engineer trade, we have a term called synergy. This basically means that all parts make up a stronger whole. In other words, the strength of the Valley is more than each individual member.

So whatever your strengths are, or your weaknesses, you can both help and get help from others. We welcome you into the Valley as Sublime Princes, and look forward to your future contributions.

Fraternally,

Gary Smith, 32°
Commander-in-Chief

Lodge of Perfection



A Message from your Thrice Potent Master

My Brothers,

I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year. Traditionally, most everyone will try and make a New Year resolution of some kind. Most will wish for a healthier year, some will want a better financial plan, and others will want to quit their bad habits. Whatever it may be to that person, it is an important issue.

I am asking you to consider making one last-minute New Year's resolution. That is to be a more active Freemason. The fraternal bodies you belong to need

your help. We in the Valley of Albany need your help. We are blessed to have some many wonderful fraternal organizations in Albany and the surrounding areas. The fact that you are reading this tells me that you have traveled beyond the Blue Lodge doors and continued to seek light in Masonry. Being a good dues payer certainly helps, but being an active brother is priceless. The continued light you were looking for is here. Good men have continued to join these Masonic bodies that you belong to and have raised the bar. Meetings now are enjoying wonderful programs and well thought lectures.

My love of Masonry is no secret as I am very active in all the bodies I belong to. The one common thing I see in every level of the craft is that we have plenty of members, but very few are active. If you can see your way to make a resolution in the next few months to start attending meetings in those bodies you belong to, you may just rediscover the reason you joined to begin with.

I hope that one day soon I can shake your hand for the first time and welcome you back to any number of Masonic bodies that we may both belong. I thank you all for being my brother and allowing me to serve this great Valley as Thrice Potent Master for the Ineffable & Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection.

If you have any questions or comments, you may contact me at michaelandabby@reagan.com or (518) 795-0946.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Michael Slattery
Thrice Potent Master

Secretary's Note

Sublime Princes and Illustrious Sirs,

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 meetings with degrees, Reunions, the Feast of the Paschal Lamb, our family picnic, and the testimonial banquet for Jerry Dievendorf. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as many events and meetings as time permits.

The current dues notices will be mailed out from Lexington in the very near future. Please remember that together with our investments, dues are our only source of income. The timing of this mailing is to ensure that we have the funds necessary to pay our Supreme Council and Council of Deliberation assessments when they come due. If you are experiencing any difficulties at this time such that paying your dues will create a 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 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
(518) 283-1168

Council, Princes of Jerusalem



A Message from your Sovereign Prince

My Brothers,

Among other activities during the fall portion of our Scottish Rite year, highlights included Richard Hundertmark being chosen for the Meritorious Service Award at the Council of Deliberation, a top-notch presentation of the 32nd degree on National Scottish Rite Day and Marty Leukhardt being awarded the prestigious Daniel D. Tompkins Award for Distinguished Service at a wonderful testimonial dinner in his honor. Let's build upon these special occasions by making the events scheduled for the Spring portion of the calendar worthwhile and fun. Each of us can contribute to that goal by attending Valley events in accordance with the length of our cable tow and participating in accordance with our abilities. Hope to see you at upcoming Valley events!

Also, a reminder that the Valley of Albany website contains an up-to-date trestle board, a list of presiding officers, a link to the current Knight of the Double Eagle point totals, links to other Masonic websites of interest, the form for applying for a scholarship, and various other items relevant to the Valley. Newly added to the site are previous issues of the Rite Light going back to 2014. To access them, go to the Valley website at www.albanyscottishrite.org and click on "RITE LIGHTS". Please feel free to contact me at (518) 357-8951 or sconant2@nycap.rr.com if you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns about the website.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Steve Conant
Sovereign Prince

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 2016, five brothers will be getting knighted as a Knight of the Double Eagle at the next knighting ceremony to be held on March 16th. Eight brothers will be receiving a service bar at the ceremony, including two of the brothers who are being knighted. 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.

The Knights of the Double Eagle program is a service recognition program. The fact that eleven brothers will be getting honored at the next awards ceremony is indicative of a consistent level of participation by a core group of our members. If you currently are 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 in order to receive credit for your participation.

Thank you for your continued support of this program. Feel free to contact me at sconant2@nycap.rr.com or 518-357-8951 if you have any questions or concerns about the program.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Steve Conant
Knight Commander, KoDE



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



Cordially and Fraternaly Invite you to a

TESTIMONIAL BANQUET

Honoring

Gerald R. Dievendorf 32^o MSA

**On the event of his receipt of the
Meritorious Service Award**

Saturday Evening, February 11, 2017

Albany Country Club

300 Wormer Rd, Voorheesville, NY 12186

Six o'clock

Cash Bar & Hors d'oeuvres

Seven o'clock

Deluxe Buffet Dinner—Assorted Tossed Salads, Chicken Saltimbocca, Classic Roast Turkey with gravy and stuffing, Szechuan Roasted Salmon with ginger lime sauce, and Sliced Roast Sirloin with marsala mushroom wine sauce, Vegetables, and Potato accompaniments,

Rolls and Butter, Dessert, and Coffee & Tea

Subscription \$50.00 per person

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

Please RSVP to

John W. Scott, 32^o MSA (518) 283-1168; scottydawg2000@aol.com

Deadline for reservations: February 6, 2017

-----Cut here-----

Reservation Form

Reserve _____ Dinners @ \$50.00 each with checks payable to Valley of Albany, AASR

Name: _____ 32^o 33^o DSA MSA Office _____

Lady: _____ Tel: _____

Please mail to: John W. Scott, 20 Powers Road, Averill Park, NY 12018

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
Trustee	Richard Mills	943-1327	dickmills@aol.com
Orator	John N. Polydouris	783-6240	
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	871-3575	drewmillier@me.com
Captain of the Guard	Wayne Collins		
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	
Trustee	Eric S. Stott	482-6080	estott@localnet.com
Orator	John N. Polydouris	783-6240	
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	871-3575	drewmillier@me.com
Master of Entrances	Wayne Collins		
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
Trustee	Russell J. LaGrange, Jr.	915-1912	
Orator	John N. Polydouris	783-6240	
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	871-3575	drewmillier@me.com
Captain of the Guard	Wayne Collins		
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	
Trustee	Stephen S. King	489-1341	sking1@nycap.rr.com
Orator			
Chancellor	L Ridgewood Macdonald	813-2443/753-4500	kb2hwl@nycap.rr.com
Master of Ceremonies	Drew A. Millier	871-3575	drewmillier@me.com
Engineer & Seneschal	Wilfred C. Baumann	875-6753	dhblake@midtel.ne
Standard Bearer	Alan C. Garrison	452-8459	
Captain of the Guard	Wayne Collins		
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

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

Valley of Albany 2017 Meeting Dates

February 2, 2017	Thurs.	Executive Board	May 13, 2017	Sat.	Reunion: 4°, 14°, 18°, 26°, 31°, 32° Albany Masonic Hall followed by Cocktail Reception
February 11, 2017	Sat.	Testimonial Dinner for Gerald Dievendorf, Albany Country Club			
February 16, 2017	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter* , Consistory	May 18, 2017	Thurs.	Annual Meeting —Election and Installation—All four bodies, Consistory*
March 16, 2017	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory*	June 1, 2017	Thurs.	Executive Board
April 6, 2017	Thurs.	Executive Board	June 3, 2017	Sun.	Valley of Albany Family Picnic
April 9, 2017	Sunday	Feast of the Paschal Lamb (Albany Masonic Hall)	August 3, 2017	Thurs.	Executive Board
April 20, 2017	Thurs.	Lodge, Council, Chapter, Consistory* —23° (Four Chaplains) USS Slater			

* Opens and Closes Meeting