

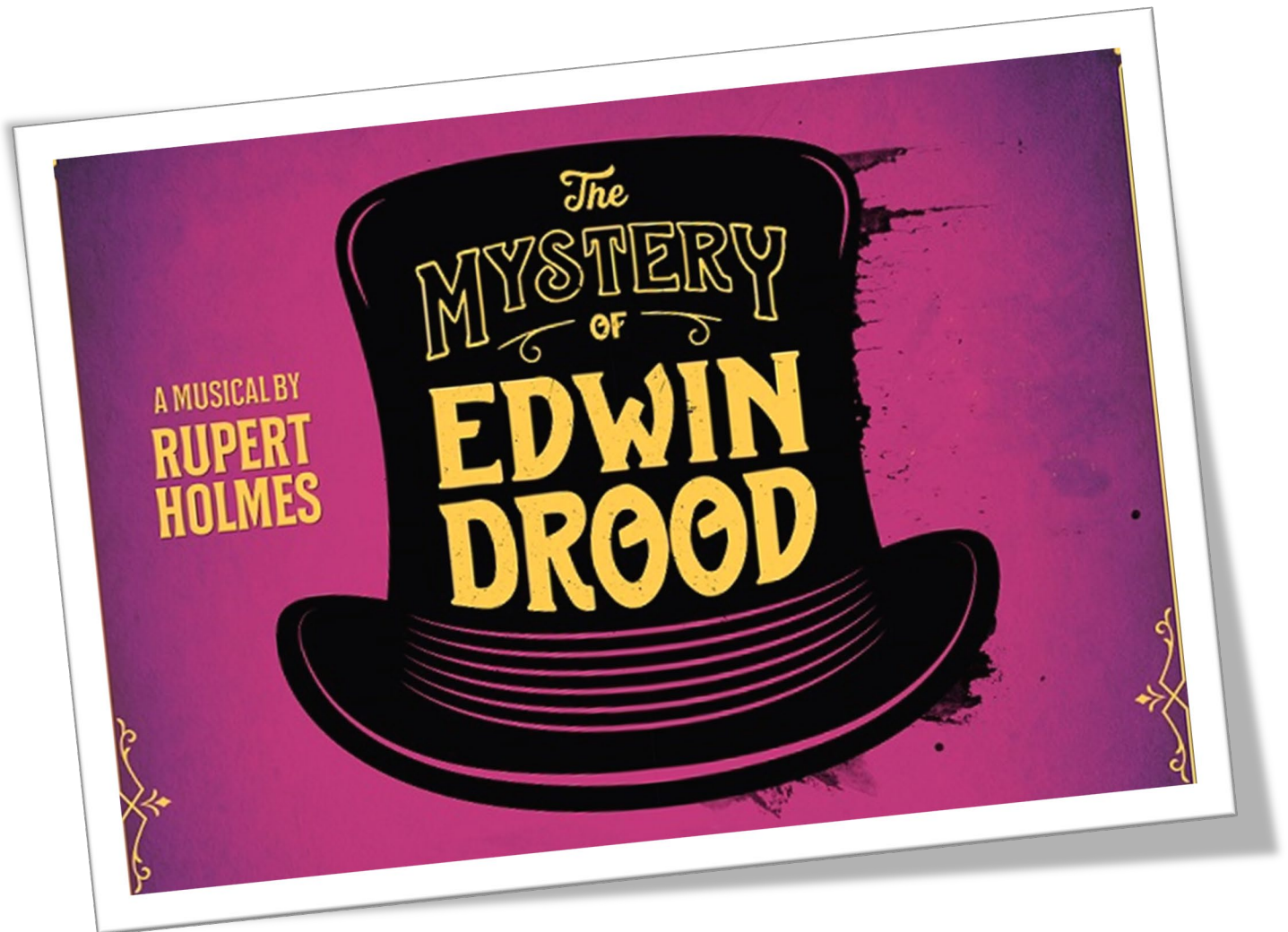


Valley of Wilmington SCOTTISH RITE

Newsletter

February 2024

Vol. 3 No. 02



Family Life Event for April 6, 2024

See Flyer for more Information

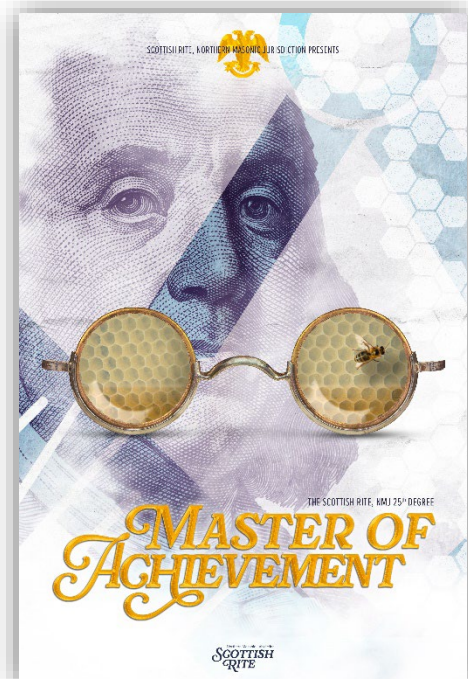
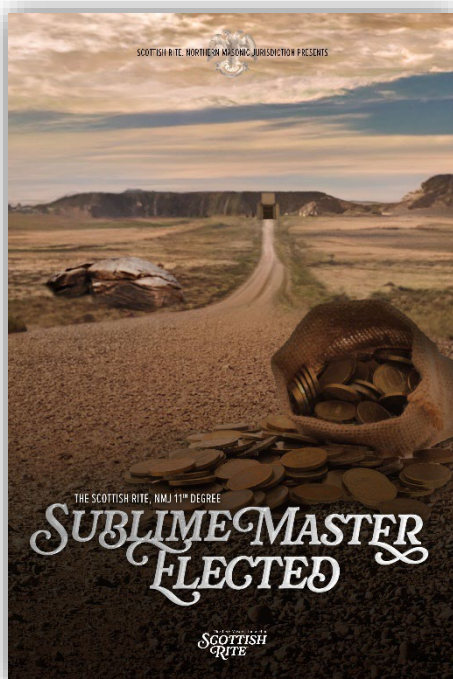
Reunion Number 4

The Valley of Wilmington has its fourth reunion of the 2023 – 24 Scottish Rite calendar scheduled for Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 818 N. Market Street, 4th floor. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Candidates are to report to the 4th floor at 8:00 a.m. to sign in and to meet the brethren ahead of viewing the 4th degree if needed. The opening of the reunion by the Wilmington Council Princes of Jerusalem is at 9:00 a.m.

The degrees presented will be the 11th degree (Sublime Master Elected) via video and the 25th degree (Master of Achievement) via video.

Sublime Master Elected: The lesson of the Eleventh Degree is that the true and faithful brother sooner or later will receive his just reward. The Degree encourages the practice of good citizenship. It emphasizes that the true and faithful Mason should not condone or excuse dishonesty or corruption by public officials.

Master of Achievement: Our drama focuses on the life and achievements of our famous Brother Benjamin Franklin. His public life epitomizes the Scottish Rite Core Values of Devotion to Country and Service to Humanity. Brother Ben Franklin once wrote, “Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw wages in gold or silver will be disappointed.”



SCOTTISH RITE SCHEDULE 2023-2024

DATE	EVENT	TIME	MEAL	LOCATION
2/24/2024	REUNION #4 (11th & 25th)	9:00 AM	LUNCH	818 N. Market Street
3/4/2024	VOLD Meeting			TBD
3/9/2024	Feast of Pascal Lamb	11:30 AM	LUNCH	Union #7 Dover
3/13/2024	Mixer #2 - VOW	6:00 PM	NO	Park Place, Milford
3/15/2024	Brotherhood Night	5:30 PM	YES	Nur Shrine Center
4/6/2024	Dinner Theater	6:00 PM	YES	Candlelight Theater, Wilmington
4/18/2024	Annual Business meeting	7:30 PM	NO	Newport
4/21-26/2024	Committee Week	----	YES	Lexington, MA
4/27/2024	REUNION #5 (6th & 32nd) and Gala	9:00 AM	YES	Modern Maturity Center
5/6/2024	VOLD Meeting			TBD
5/11/2024	VOLD Reunion	8:00 AM	BRKFST	Temple Lodge, Milford
5/11/2024	Worker's Dinner	2:00 PM	YES	Clayton Fire Hall
5/17/2024	Charity Golf Outing	10:00 AM	YES	Odessa National Golf Course
5/18/2024	Council of Deliberation	10:00 AM	LUNCH	Clayton Fire Hall
8/19-23/2024	Supreme Council Executive Sessions	----	YES	Lexington, MA

“Ethics and equity and the principles of justice do not change with the calendar.”

--D. H. Lawrence

“My wife's jealousy is getting ridiculous. The other day she looked at my calendar and wanted to know who May was.”

--- Rodney Dangerfield

Remember to bring your Membership Card to all events as we will be scanning them into Journey 365 to help build your portfolio and that of our Valleys.

LEON M. ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIPS

“Helping those who most need it strive for greater heights”

The Supreme Council is pleased to announce an expansion of the eligibility criteria for Abbott Scholarship awards. Named for Leon M. Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander from 1921 to 1932, the Abbott Scholarship Program provides financial support for the continuing undergraduate and graduate education of Scottish Rite Masons, young men and women from Scottish Rite families, and Masonic related youth groups.

Eligibility: Those meeting any of the following criteria are eligible to apply for the Abbott Scholarship program:

- 🏛️ A Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who is in good standing.
- 🏛️ A student directly related (bloodline or by legal means) to a current or deceased Scottish Rite Mason in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
- 🏛️ A member of a Masonic sponsored youth group located in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

In addition, the applicant must be either:







- 🏛️ A high school senior, currently accepted at an accredited trade school or college or university who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale OR
- 🏛️ An undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled at an accredited trade school or college or university.

To apply, applicants should print the form, complete it, and mail it to the appropriate Valley secretary (Jack McDuff – VOLD or Jim Brady VOW) received by April 15, 2024. Applicants should submit their application to the Valley of the sponsor of the applicant.

To apply, please visit our [Abbott Scholarships](#) page.



Be Part of our Dramatics Group

 Director of Work	Bro. Tom Buchanan
 Director of Reunions	Bro. Mark Button
 Asst. Director of Reunions	Bro. Greg Correll
 Staging & Props	Ill. Bro. Jack Foreaker
 Costumes	Ill. Bro. Art Loveless
 Sound & Lighting	Bro. Dave Gamble

One of the growth opportunities fairly unique to the Scottish Rite is the experience of performing on stage to teach our core values: Reverence for God, Integrity, Devotion to Country, Justice, Tolerance, and Service to Humanity. There are various levels through which one can participate. Of course, there is the obvious role of learning a part and performing it on stage. These come in all sizes from a few lines to major roles. There are also those supporting roles which require no lines to memorize, only positioning and interacting on stage. Then there are those behind the scenes roles such as props, lighting, sound, and stage managing. Whichever level might interest you, know that all roles are important and come together at every Reunion to make Scottish Rite Masonry a truly memorable experience.

Contact [Bro. Tom Buchanan](#) and let him know your interest in joining in on the fun. Whether it is a non-speaking part, a few lines, a major roll, or behind the scenes, it is as they say, “there are no minor rolls in theater”. This is one of those “Making Good Men Better opportunities that masonry is all about. Come on out and make new friends.

February Reunion – February 24th, 2024

Our fourth reunion of the year finds the Valley of Wilmington presenting the 11th degree – *Sublime Master Elected* and the 25th degree – *Master of Achievement via video*. The educational exchange after the degrees will highlight the lessons and applications taught through the degrees to our lives. Mark your calendars and join us on February 24th.

The Feast of the Paschal Lamb



The Annual Ceremony of Rememberance is a nonsectarian service honoring our departed Brothers, their widows and their families conducted by the Valley of Lower Delaware Chapter of Rose Croix and is open to everyone.

**TICKETS
\$35**

March 9, 2024

Union Masonic Lodge
1478 Wyoming Mill Road
Dover, DE 19904

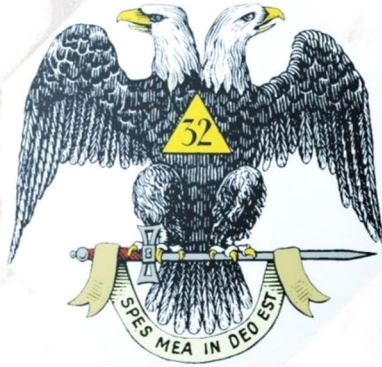
Seating is limited. Please R.S.V.P. by February 24th to Pat Shearon at 302-670-9238 or email patlshearon@gmail.com for more information or to purchase tickets.

Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. and the ceremony will begin at noon.

Dinner will be served following the ceremony.

The dress code is a jacket and tie for men and smart casual for women.

Scottish Rite New Member Mixer



Wednesday, March 13, 2024

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

All are welcomed. Candidates needed.

Dress code is Business Casual.

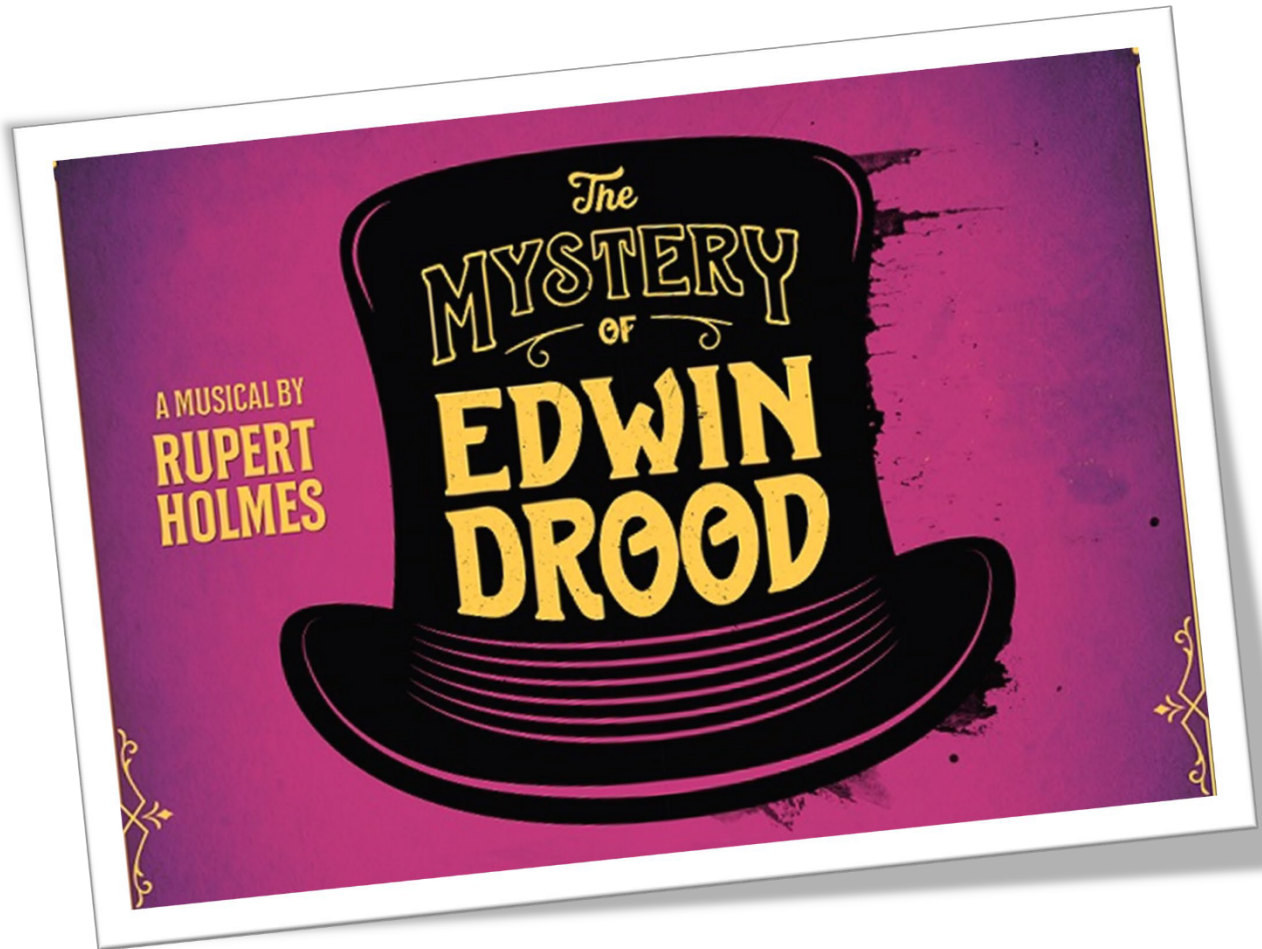


**Park Place Restaurant and Lounge
5 N. Washington Street Milford, DE**

VOLD Scottish Rite schedules two new member mixers every year. This is the perfect time to bring a new candidate or more to meet your brethren in your Scottish Rite and to learn what we are all about. Ladies are invited.

The cost of the mixer is \$10, HOWEVER, if you bring a new candidate (or more) your Scottish Rite will reimburse you the cost of yours and your candidate(s)'s admittance. Be sure to let Ill. Bro. Brady know you are coming and how many to expect by responding to the Evite that goes out to all of our members. If you can't find your Evite, please let Jimmie know so he can resend it to you. See you at the mixer!

**Membership is Everyone's Responsibility.
Thank you for your support.**



Based on Charles Dickens' final unfinished novel, this hilarious whodunit was a smash on Broadway. It takes audience participation to new heights calling on the audience to determine the ending of the mystery by choosing the identity of the murderer. This Tony Award-winning tale, by Rupert Holmes, is presented as a show-within-a-show, 'first night performance by the Music Hall Royale' – a delightfully loony troupe of Victorian actors.

April 6, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

Candlelight Dinner Theater
2208 Millers Road
Wilmington, DE 19810

Price: \$20 / ticket or \$30 / couple

Contact Jim Brady for your reservations (only 100 tickets available)



Episode 3

Thursday, Feb 29, 2024

8:00 PM ET

Master Elect.

King Solomon learns of his sentence from which there is no appeal. Core values explored are Reverence for God and Justice.

Presented by Valley of Hudson

Episode 4

Thursday, March 14, 2024

8:00 PM ET

Prince of Jerusalem.

The court of King Darius contemplates what motivates man. Core value explored is Reverence for God.

Presented by Valley of Michigan



John P. French's Masonic Powder Horn

By Stacey Fraser, Assistant Curator, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library holds nearly two dozen powder horns in its collection. Some are from the era of the American Revolutionary War and bear carvings that reflect that use; some feature carvings of Masonic symbols. This unusual double powder horn is particularly intriguing because it exhibits both types of carvings.

Powder horns, made from animal horn (often cow or oxen), were used by soldiers in the field to keep gunpowder dry and secure. The holes at the tips of the horns were used to pour powder into a paper cartridge or directly into the barrel of a musket. Many were carved with designs that were meaningful specifically to the owner. The words "John P. French His Horn" are carved into the surface, identifying the horn's owner. On this fascinating object, French showcased his Masonic affiliation, his interest in slogans, and possibly his personal hobbies.

One of the slogans that appears on the horn is "Don't Tread On Me" above a snake. This phrase was first used in South Carolina in 1775 by Christopher Gadsden, then-Lieutenant Governor of the state. It was inspired by Benjamin Franklin's 1754 "Join or Die" political cartoon showing the colonies as pieces of a snake, indicating that union between the British colonies was necessary for survival. The slogan became well-known after it was used on naval flags during the Revolutionary War. Another phrase that adorns French's horn is "Freedom and Victory." While there is no one known usage of this slogan, the ideals align with the goals of the American Revolutionary War.



The majority of the carvings on this double powder horn are connected to Freemasonry, perhaps a sign that the fraternity and its teachings held special meaning to French. The slogan “Cemented with Love” appears, which refers to the tight bonds that Masons encourage and enjoy with their brethren. This phrase also appears on aprons, badges, certificates, and other items in the museum and library’s collections.

Along with this Masonic slogan, French applied around two dozen symbols from the teachings of Freemasonry to his horn. Some symbols are common to all forms of Freemasonry, such as a trowel, a gavel, a coffin, a beehive, and two pillars called Boaz and Jachin. One is a stone archway often represented in Royal Arch Freemasonry, the first four degrees of the York Rite. This arch is topped by a figure identified as “Hiram.” Hiram Abiff is a significant character in Freemasonry’s third degree.

In addition to symbols representing his political and Masonic interests, French also carved what appears to be a hunting scene, featuring a man holding a rifle, a dog, a mountain lion, a bird, and a deer. Perhaps these symbols reflect a pre-war activity.

Unfortunately, even with the helpful addition of a middle initial, the name “John French” was so common at the time of the Revolutionary War that we cannot establish the owner’s identity from military records. French appears to have been a member of the fraternity, but we cannot ascertain to which Masonic lodge he belonged. While we do not know where John P. French lived or very much about him, the symbols he chose to carve on his powder horn give us a sense of what he valued.

Photo Captions: *Masonic Powder Horn, 1750-1830. John P. French. Special Acquisitions Fund, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, 76.10.*



16th Annual Delaware Scottish Rite Charity Golf Tournament



Proudly Supporting



FRIDAY, MAY 17th, 2024

Odessa National Golf Club
1131 Fieldsboro Rd.
Townsend, DE 19734

*\$125 per golfer
Open to EVERYONE!!*

Grand Master's Trophy

To qualify, you must be a four-member team composed of Masons from any jurisdiction



Sign up or Sponsor Online!!

<https://events.golfstatus.com/event/scottishritegolf>

For brochures or information, contact us at delawareaasrgolf@gmail.com

Prizes !!
Games !!
Contests !!
Breakfast & Lunch !!



It is never too early to plan for a golf outing. Building upon the success of last year, your Scottish Rite returns to Odessa National Golf Club for its 16th annual charity golf tournament. As in the past, all proceeds will go to help support the 436th Force Support Squadron at Dover Air Force Base in providing combat support, community and family services, counseling, and social events for the families and children of our active military men and women who are deployed and serving our Country. Here are some pictures from events our support provided last year.

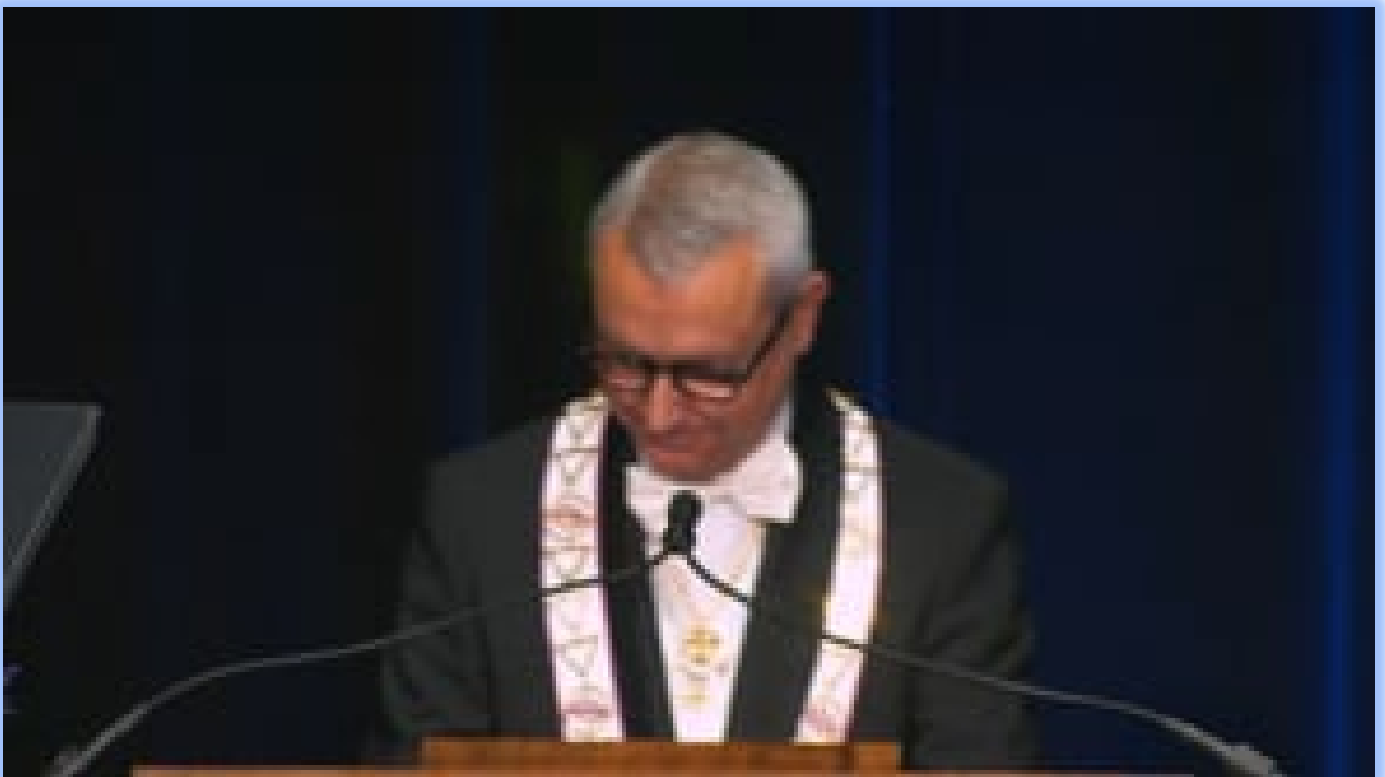


A Message from Sovereign Grand Commander of Germany,
Alexander Ludwig, 33^o

August 28, 2023

Louisville, KY

Supreme Council Bi-Annual Meeting



Click on the video image above to hear one of the most inspirational messages I have ever heard. Every school child ought to hear this presentation about America and who we are and what we stand for around the world. Sit back and be proud to be an American. We don't hear this sort of message too often these days.

Masonic Motorcycle Club International

MMCI Introduction to the Club

The purpose of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International is to bring together Master Masons whose common interest is motorcycle riding, promoting good fellowship, and encouraging membership in the Fraternity.

Membership shall be composed of Master Masons in good standing in a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. While we welcome and encourage active participation, there is no requirement of attendance or service. We want you to enjoy your Masonic Motorcycle Club membership in the manner that pleases you.

There is no other group of Masons with the eyes of the public on them more than the Masonic Motorcycle Club. You will find a much greater opportunity to enlarge your circle of Masonic friends beyond the scope of your Local Lodge. You will be riding with Brothers who are dedicated to the great moral precepts of the Fraternity and who enjoy the great outdoors on a Motorcycle.

History of the Club

Sunday, May 16, 1982, several masons in the Cleveland, Ohio area gathered at the Shaker Heights Masonic Temple for the purpose of forming a Masonic Motorcycle Club. After extensive discussion, it was decided to get organized. The following members were present: Richard and Yvonne Kovac, Herb and Pauline Collins, Richard and Pat Foxen, Rex and Bonnie Baker, Curt and Sally Stone, Richard Morse, James Trewhitt, Gary Goodwin, Tom Maxwell, Bert Eagles. Under the Direction of Richard Kovac, Officers were elected, and a ride schedule was set-up, and a Name was chosen, Masonic Motorcycle Club of Ohio. D.D.G.M. Richard F. Kovac, Founder, was elected the first President. When International started this club was known as Chapter #1.

International....

In 1984, it was decided to make the Club an International Organization by President Robert Coffman. A Committee was created, By-Laws worked on, rules set up and fliers sent out. On August 10, 1985, the first International Conference was held in Loudenville, Ohio, International Officers were elected, and the first Chapter outside Ohio was formed. We Welcomed the Masons from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania (Chapter #6). In 1991, a Member-at-Large Chapter was created for members in areas with an insufficient number to form a Chapter. In 1993, the Club became a sanctioned A.M.A. Chartered Chapter and the Founders Conference was held. In 1995, the first International Open House was hosted by the International Officers in Lake George, New York at Americade and had 50 members and guests attend.

In 1998, the Club qualified and applied for Federal Income Tax exempt status. In 1999, we received our tax-exempt number. Also in 1999, the Executive Board approved the International Web- Site which made the Membership almost double. At the Executive Board Meeting on February 10, 2001, the Board approved the creation of the Death Benefit Plan to aid and assist the families of a fallen Member. In 2002, our first Chapter was formed in Canada, making us truly an International Club. Also, a Chaplin classification was added to the By-Laws. During the past years since our inception, we have had some great International Conferences. They have been in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Mississippi, Kentucky, West Virginia, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Fort Erie, Ontario. Canada and west of the Mississippi in Minnesota. They were all well planned and the Membership enjoyed them, discovering new areas and attractions.

We continue to search out more new Chapters and Members-at-Large through word of mouth, flyers, Website, advertising, and visual contact.

(To be continued)

The future is history.

Irreverent Warriors

- IW's (Irreverent Warriors) mission statement: "We bring Veterans together using humor and camaraderie to improve mental health and prevent Veteran Suicide."

Irreverent (ADJ.) - - - an inability to take serious things seriously

- Background: If you didn't know already, the number of Veterans who commit suicide a day has been measure to 22 per day (last measured in 2020) due to feelings of not belonging, no purpose when employees, not around the "family" that was built while serving, and just not wanting to be on Earth anymore from things seen or went through during service. On a lighter note, IW is fully a volunteer-based organization and only has 7 people (to my knowledge) that are on a payroll. IW is a nonprofit 501C3 organization as well.

- What happens during the hikes?

One of the things that all service men and women are issued now a days is a set of what we call "silkie's", essentially running shorts, but we all can relate to them and provide a security blanket for us Veterans though they are about 5" inseams (haha). The "silkie's" have been in the US Military I believe since the early 80's. To meet the requirements to be in the hike formation is to be one of the following: Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, or Veteran. These folks again are the only people to be in the hike formation to create the environment for those who served to be able to open up about hard topics such as suicide, or to laugh, poke fun at other branches, and/or just to meet other service members in the areas. During the hike all participants (volunteers can too) execute 22 pushups (+1 for Marines due to Chesty Puller) to enforce our mission statement, why we get together, and the war at home we are trying to stop.

- Where can I sign up?

Fantastic question!! For Delaware I will provide the link ([Rehoboth Beach, DE - Irreverent Warriors](#)), but for the overall locations those can go onto [irreverentwarriors.com/events](#) , scroll down to "Find an event city near you", use the map to find the city closest to the individual, click the city, scroll down to the bottom of the city page and "buy" the ticket that you fit into category wise. IW does accept open donations as well and sells swag for the individual city that you can pick up on the day of the hike. (A hike tag is a 1" wide by 1' long button clip swag item that is also by the individual city)

- Where are the local hikes that I can participate or volunteer?

Currently local to Delaware are the following: **Rehoboth Beach 6/29**, Washington D.C. (**ONLY** Night Hike) 4/27, Philly 6/1, Jersey Shore 9/28, Richmond, VA 10/5, Virginia Beach 9/14 to name a few!

Other than that Brothers, please do not hesitate for any other questions relating to this. I did a TON of research prior to joining this organization and I can say I am truly blessed to have jumped into this! Our Local Coordinator is Branden Zeitler who is a great guy!

Respectfully yours,

Jeremy Walters, Veteran
United States Marine Corps Sergeant
0481 Landing Support Specialist
jeremywalters25@yahoo.com

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Thank you, Ill. Bro. Dave Walters for this month's closing thought . . .

One year clean, and then I run into my dealer in front of the grocery store!

