



# Happy Holidays



May all the  
Peace, Love,  
and Faith find  
you this holiday

season and  
lift you up  
into the  
New Year !



## Reunion Number 3

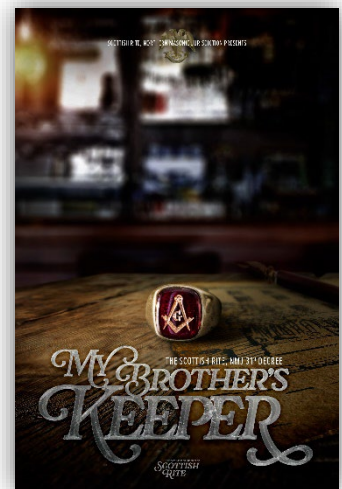
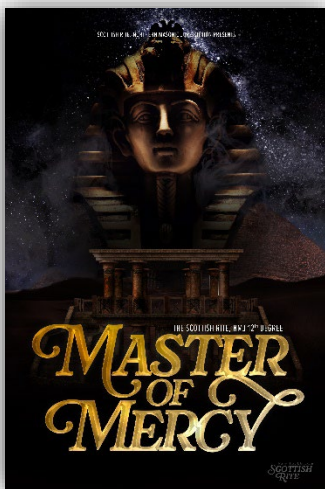
The Valley of Wilmington has its third reunion of the 2023 – 24 Scottish Rite calendar scheduled for Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 818 N. Market Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Candidates are to report to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor at 8:00 a.m. to sign in and to meet the brethren ahead of viewing the 4<sup>th</sup> degree if needed. The opening of the reunion by the Wilmington Council Princes of Jerusalem at 9:00 a.m.

The degrees presented will be the 12<sup>th</sup> degree (Master of Mercy) via video, the 22<sup>nd</sup> degree (Prince of Libanus) via video, and the 31<sup>st</sup> degree (My Brother's Keeper) live on stage.

**Master of Mercy:** The purpose of the Twelfth Degree is to teach the quality of forgiveness. Forgiveness means a spirit of compassion and a tenderness of heart which dispose a person not just to overlook the opportunity for revenge, but to cease to feel enmity or resentment toward an offender.

**Prince of Libanus:** In this degree, a brother seeks further advancement by reason of birth and rank in Masonry. He learns that these alone are not sufficient. He is taught that work is honorable, and that the laboring man is his equal. He is admonished to realize that honest work is noble in the sight of man and God.

**My Brother's Keeper** is a fictional adaptation of lessons found in the Old Testament (Cain and Able) and a parable in the New Testament. It dramatically exemplifies two of the Scottish Rite Core Values: Integrity and Service.



**SCOTTISH RITE SCHEDULE 2023-2024**

DATE	EVENT	TIME	MEAL	LOCATION
1/8/2024	VOLD Meeting	7:00 PM	YES	Endeavor Lodge, Milton
1/25/2024	Executive Council Meeting	6:00 PM	YES	McGlynn's in Dover
1/25/2024	Business meeting	7:30 PM	NO	Union #7 in Dover
1/27/2024	REUNION #3 (12th, 22nd, & 31st)	9:00 AM	LUNCH	818 N. Market Street
2/1/2024	Reception for the Grand Master	5:30 PM	YES	Felton Fire Hall
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	Mulligan's Point Country Club
3/15/2024	Brotherhood Night	5:30 PM	YES	Nur Shrine Center
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	11:00 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

“Trying to change before you're ready isn't likely to be productive. For example, most New Year's resolutions don't last because people spring into action without being prepared for the work it's going to take. Forcing change based on a date on the calendar, rather than a true readiness to transform, can be a setup for failure.”

- - - Amy Morin

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.





This year's inductees into the Scottish Rite Masonic Hall of Fame included Buffalo Bill Cody, Teddy Roosevelt, Elijah Cummings, Mel Blanc, and Buzz Aldrin. They join previous inductees: Benjamin Franklin; George Washington; Prince Hall; Lewis & Clark; Mark Twain; Harry Truman; John A. Lejeune; Irving Berlin; John Glenn; John Lewis; Paul Revere; William W. Mayo, William J. Mayo, and Charles H. Mayo; Harry Houdini; Franklin Roosevelt; and Thurgood Marhsall.

To watch this year's induction video to learn more about these outstanding brothers, click on the following link: <https://vimeo.com/889915047/9b41735fc7?ts=0&share=copy> .



Buffalo Bill Cody



Teddy Roosevelt



Elijah Cummings



Mel Blanc



Buzz Aldrin



To visit the Scottish Rite Masonic Hall of Fame on-line, click on the following link to go to the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library Exhibit:

<https://www.srmml.org/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/hall-of-fame/>

# Giving Tuesday - A Night of Charity

The 6th annual Giving Tuesday Telethon celebrating our Scottish Rite Charities is in the books and what a wonderful event it was. Airing live from Lexington, Massachusetts, at the Supreme Council Headquarters, the evening started with:

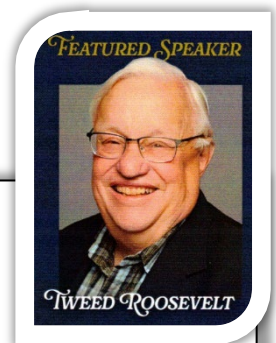
- Museum tours featuring our updated Masonic Hall of Fame exhibition
- Cocktail hour and dinner reception
- Keynote speaker, Tweed Roosevelt (see below)

Then during the broadcast in addition to the charitable presentations, the audience was treated to:

- Live entertainment and audience participation opportunities
- Heartwarming stories of impact
- Special presentation to Tweed Roosevelt

At the end of the telethon, we realized \$763,064 to help support the following Scottish Rite Charities:

- [Children's Dyslexia Centers](#)
- [Grand Almoner's Fund](#)
- [Abbott Scholarship Fund](#)
- [Membership Education Fund](#)
- [Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library](#)









## Tweed Roosevelt Featured Speaker

Tweed Roosevelt, great-grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, is a University Professor at Long Island University (LIU) and Chairman of The Roosevelt School at LIU. He is Past President of the Theodore Roosevelt Association where over the years, Mr. Roosevelt has done much to further the memory and ideals of Theodore Roosevelt, lecturing and teaching on the 26th President at numerous institutions and schools around the world. Mr. Roosevelt has two children and one granddaughter and lives in Boston and on Martha's Vineyard.



# 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.

## **January Reunion – January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Our third reunion of the year finds the Valley of Wilmington presenting the 12<sup>th</sup> degree – *Master of Mercy* and the 22<sup>nd</sup> degree – *Prince of Libanus via video* as well as exemplifying the 31<sup>st</sup> degree – *My Brother’s Keeper* on stage. 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 January 27<sup>th</sup>.

# Scottish Rite New Member Mixer



**WHEN:** Wednesday, March 13, 2024  
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**WHERE:** Mulligan's Point CC; 224260 Sussex Pines Road; Georgetown, DE 19702

**WHO:** All are welcomed. Candidates needed.

**DRESS:** Business Casual

Your 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 per person 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 thus reducing the cost. Be sure to let Ill. Bro. Brady know you are coming and how many to expect by responding to the e-Vite that goes out to all our members. If you can't find your e-Vite, 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**







## American Masonic Presidents

### Ongoing in Travis Hall



On September 23, 1793, President George Washington (1732-1799) presided over the Masonic cornerstone laying ceremony at the new United States Capitol. His participation in the ceremony illustrates the longstanding connection between Freemasonry and the leaders of American society and civic life.

Washington was one of fourteen presidents who were Freemasons. They are listed below. These men all received the Master Mason degree, the final step to becoming a Freemason. Whether drawn to the tenets of Freemasonry or continuing a tradition of Freemasonry in their family, these men took pride in their association to the fraternity. In this exhibition, consisting of two cases in the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library's Travis Hall, we highlight their Masonic connections and share souvenirs and other items that reflect their relationship with Freemasonry.



*Franklin Delano Roosevelt Inaugural Medal, 1933. Paul Manship (1885-1966), United States Mint, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Loaned by the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, GL2004.4206.*

**James Monroe**, 5<sup>th</sup> President 1817-1825; **Andrew Jackson**, 7<sup>th</sup> President 1829-1837; **James K. Polk**, 11<sup>th</sup> President 1845-1849; **James Buchanan**, 15<sup>th</sup> President 1857-1861; **Andrew Johnson** 17<sup>th</sup> President 1865-1869; **James Garfield** 20<sup>th</sup> President 1881; **William McKinley** 25<sup>th</sup> President 1897-1901; **Theodore Roosevelt** 26<sup>th</sup> President 1901-1909; **William Howard Taft** 27<sup>th</sup> President 1909-1913; **Warren G. Harding** 29<sup>th</sup> President 1921-1923; **Franklin D. Roosevelt** 32<sup>nd</sup> President 1933-1945; **Harry S. Truman** 33<sup>rd</sup> President 1945-1952; **Gerald R. Ford** 38<sup>th</sup> President 1974-1977.



# 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 looks to return to Odessa National Golf Club for its 16<sup>th</sup> 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.





## Delaware Masonic Service Award

Theodore F. Stipa & Donald D. Mitchell were honored to receive the Masonic Service Award at our October Business and Award Dinner. Alas, neither one was able to attend. Bro. Stipa received his award at our November 18<sup>th</sup> reunion. Bro. Stipa is a 54-year member of the Rite having served in many capacities.

Always willing to help out, Bro. Ted and is a steady fixture at reunions. Bro. Ted has served as Grand Chaplin to numerous Grand Masters and is known for his touching and moving prayers. He has earned the distinction of being awarded Grand Chaplin Emeritus.



Unable to attend the November 18<sup>th</sup> Reunion, Bro. Don Mitchell was awarded his Masonic Service Award on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at a luncheon at Irish Eyes Pub & Restaurant in Lewes, DE. At the ceremony were Don Mitchell, Grand Master III. Ron Ferraro, Active III. Steve McCarthy, Pat Shearon, and Jack McDuff. He became a member of the Kent & Sussex Scottish Rite Club in 1964. Back then they would have hundreds of Brothers and spouses coming down

from Wilmington by bus for dinner and dancing with Lower Delaware Scottish Rite members and spouses. In 1988 Don became the Secretary and Treasurer of the Kent & Sussex Scottish Rite Club until it disbanded. Bro. Mitchell was instrumental in the formation of what is now the Valley of Lower Delaware.

The Medal for Masonic Service may be conferred by the Supreme Council or by the Sovereign Grand Commander upon any Master Mason, whether or not a member of this jurisdiction, who fully embodies the tenets of the Masonic fraternity, based on the recommendation of three of his peers in his locality. Nominations must come through the Active Membership.





Shel Silverstein, The Giving Tree

...And after a long time the boy came back again.

"I am sorry, Boy," said the tree, "but I have nothing left to give you - my apples are gone."

"My teeth are too weak for apples," said the boy.

"My branches are gone," said the tree.

"You cannot swing on them-"

"I am too old to swing on branches," said the boy.

"My trunk is gone," said the tree.

"You cannot climb-"

"I am too tired to climb," said the boy.

"I am sorry," sighed the tree.

"I wish that I could give you something... but I have nothing left. I am an old stump. I am sorry..."

"I don't need very much now," said the boy, "just a quiet place to sit and rest. I am very tired."

"Well," said the tree, straightening herself up as much as she could,

"well, an old stump is a good for sitting and resting. Come, boy, sit down. Sit down and rest."

And the boy did.

And the tree was happy.

*The bad news is time flies.*

*The good news is you're the pilot.*

*~ Michael Altshuler*



# Out and About

## First Responders Event



# November Reunion





# MSA & 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Mixer

