



SCOTTISH RITE

VALLEY OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

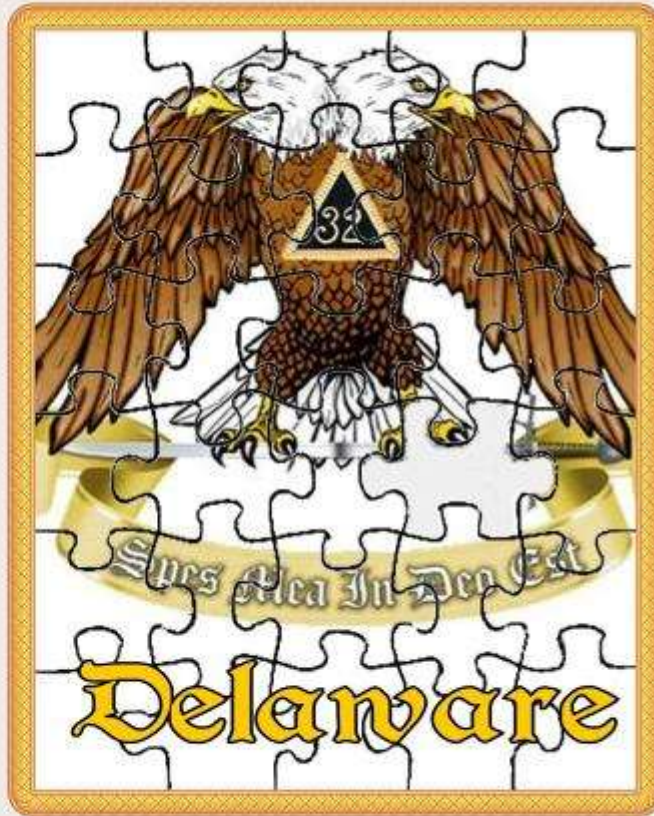


How many events did you make this year?

**The Missing Piece?
YOU!**



**Join the
SCOTTISH RITE**



Done by Mason Pratt, PM KT 32

Did you enjoy your 2016-17 Scottish Rite year?



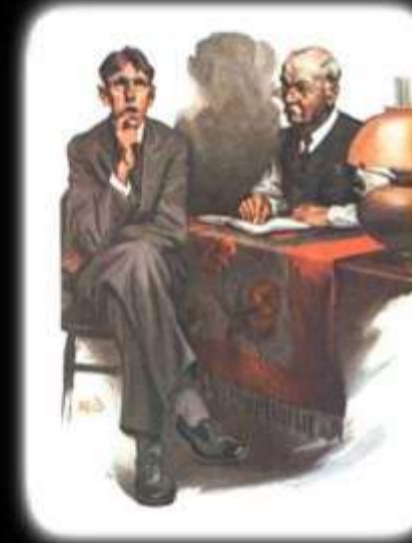
A Freemason's Response

Memorizing our Work

A new initiate just asked me:
"Why do I have to memorize the work?"

I said:

Let me ask you several questions.
Do you have a favorite prayer
you know the words by heart?
Do you know the words to your
country's National Anthem?
Can you tell me your address
and home phone number?



He said:
Yes.

I said:
Why do you know these things?

He said:
Because they are very important to me.

I said:
I think you just answered your own question.

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**Message From the Deputy:
Ill James T. Elliot 33°**

Memories Created

In the Scottish Rite year, just completed, the Delaware Consistory stepped-up and created an event that will be remembered for a long time. The reunion, held at the Dover Downs Casino, was simply an event that showed the Rite has the foresight and desire to provide our members and candidates with a truly spectacular fraternal experience. The day was uplifted and defined by the fact that our wives, families and significant others were not only invited but made to feel special and important. Everyone who is a part of freemasonry understands their enjoyment and success is dependent on the unwavering understanding of those who love and support them in their travels. Too many times, that all important support group is left out or ignored. Our future success as a fraternal body is dependent on making sure that we never forget those important people.

The day itself started with a luncheon attended by the members, candidates and their families. The next event, for the ladies, was a tea where they were entertained by "The Sweet Adaline's". The members and candidates witnessed the presentation of the 32° on the Casino's main stage. Still, it was not just the venue that was so impressive. The 32° degree was critiqued unanimously as one of the best in memory. In the early evening, there was a fantastic social hour with libations and an amazing amount of hot and cold treats that offered something for every taste. This was followed by a grand banquet with filet mignon and topped off with a white chocolate disk that displayed the Scottish Rite 32° emblem. After dinner, the new MSAs were presented their hats and jewels by their ladies or very qualified substitutes. Next the band started to play and the dancing and fun went well into the night.

The question is what was the result? The obvious answer is that the Delaware Consistory gained over forty new Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret. The real answer is that over a hundred and fifty people had a genuine fraternal experience. The best answer is that the wives, families and sweethearts of our members, new and old, felt they are truly special and important.

Fraternally,
Illustrious James Elliot Jr. 33°
James Elliot Jr.



Pictured: James Elliot, Jr. and his lovely wife Carolyn



Brother To Brother Cards

Remember that obligation each of us took at the altar of Freemasonry? Do you know a Brother in distress? Has he been ill or in need of some encouragement? Sometimes a simple card to him to let him know that we are there for him can make all the difference in the world. If you know a Brother that could benefit from a card, Call your valley secretary and arrange for one to be sent.



2016-17 MSA recipients Gregory Correll, Adam Blood, Fred Palmer, and not pictured Chuck Porter. Accompanied left to right. Deputy Jim Elliot, Stephen McCarthy, MW Dale T. Irwin, MW Herbert Atkinson, Maryann Correll, Holly Blood, and Mary Ann Atkinson

**Illustrious Harry J. Guthrie, 33°
Valley of Wilmington, A.A.S.R.
Ceremonial Achievement Award**

We would like to congratulate Mark Button, 32° for receiving this award for the 2016-17 Masonic Year. His willingness to participate in many of the degrees performed as well as his excellent portrayal has aided in setting a high bar for future recipients



Visitor's Corner

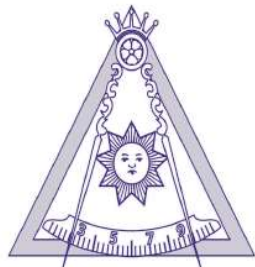
I joined the Scottish Rite on April 20th, 1996 at The Valley of Lancaster. On that day, I felt a belonging to a wonderful organization and felt very welcomed. I never turned back. As The Valley of Lancaster is only a Lodge of Perfection, I then proceeded to join The Valley of Harrisburg to get my degrees 15 through 32. I continued to attend reunions until I had received all 29 Scottish Rite degrees. Then I was blessed with another opportunity. I was asked to join the line at The Valley of Lancaster. In my year as Thrice Potent Master, I felt the responsibility to visit other Valleys as it is truly rewarding. That year, I visited The Valley of Harrisburg, The Valley of Reading, The Valley of Cleveland, The Valley of Bel Air and The Valley of Wilmington. It meant a tremendous amount to me to visit The Valley of Wilmington as I felt that I was "returning home." My Grandfather was a member of Union Lodge No. 5 in Middletown, De and The Valley of Wilmington. This was back in the 1880's. On my visits to The Valley of Wilmington, I was truly honored and privileged to get the opportunity to meet Most Worshipful Grand Master Dale T. Irwin, 33* MSA, Ill. Gene Small, 33* and Ill. James T. Elliott Jr, 33*, Deputy for Delaware. I have several very old masonic items from Delaware that I am hoping that I get the opportunity to show Bro. Small. I very much look forward to my next visit to The Valley of Wilmington and would like to thank Ill. Bruce A. Beck, 33*, Secretary and Bro. Fred Palmer, 32*, MSA for all of their help to get me on the invitation list!

All the best,
Ill. Christopher M. Gibson, 33*, PTPM



(Pictured, left to right)
Brother Jason Lewis, Ill James T. Elliot 33°, Deputy for Delaware,
And Ill Christopher M. Gibson 33°

Valley of Lancaster
Pennsylvania
Lodge of Perfection, 14°



Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
of Freemasonry
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
United States of America



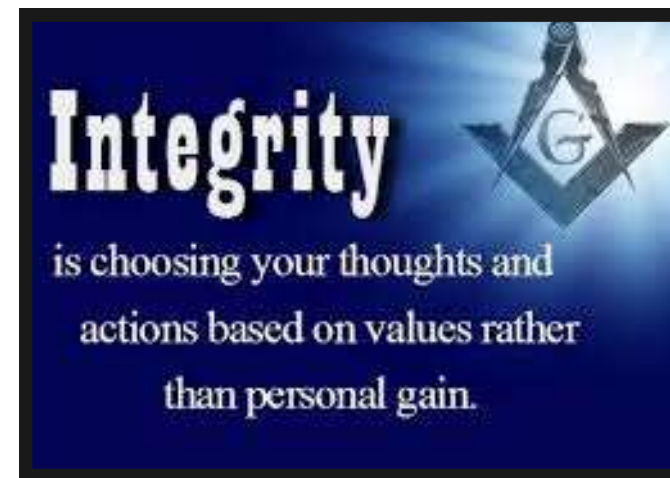
Visitor's Corner

My trip to Delaware started as a brief conversation with Brother Palmer. We previously met at the annual Unity Night host by the Grand Lodge of Delaware the previous year. Our meeting was filled with great fellowship and I made a promise that I would visit Delaware again.

Fast forwarding, I reached out to Brother Palmer when I saw that the Valley of Delaware was having a reunion on February 4th. You see, on November 12th 2016, I was made a Sublime Prince during the Scottish Rite Day 200th anniversary celebration. I previously had the pleasure of visiting the Valley of Boston during their 175th celebration of their Lodge of Perfection. I was excited to explore more the teachings of the AASR and I was making my way back to Delaware. I asked my Commander in Chief Bro. Curtis A. Banks, and we and several brothers made the journey.

Upon arrival, I was in complete amazement! I have never been to the Opera house and I did not know where the Valley met. From the outside the building's structure is profound. Filled with many masonic symbols I can see how truly significant this building is for Delaware and Freemasonry. When you walk inside, the astonishment continues as we walked into the Opera hall and had a brief tour around the various floors of the building. When we finally went to registration, we were greeted by friendly faces and warm hands as brothers gathered to introduce themselves. The works of the day was the Benjamin Franklin and the Knights of St. Andrew degrees. I was looking forward to these degrees because I heard they focused on some very important lessons and I was eager to find out. The degree teach was excellent and I am glad I made the journey. The one thing masonry has taught is that no matter where you go, its the people that make the journey interesting. If you have never visited the Valley of Delaware, I promise you will not be disappointment!

Naneen Christopher 32°
Valley of New York



October 21st (Saturday)—REUNION #1 Location - 818 N. Market St. Wilmington
Degrees TBD Dress for officers & 33rds—tux, hat and jewels; all others—coat, tie,
hat and jewel (as appl). Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot.
All KSA Knights and Squires are encouraged to attend!

November 18th (Saturday)—REUNION #2 Location - 818 N. Market St. Wilmington
Degrees TBD Dress for officers & 33rds—tux, hat and jewels; all others—coat, tie,
hat and jewel (as appl). Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot.
All KSA Knights and Squires are encouraged to attend!

Visitor's Corner



It was a very early, very cold morning in Wilmington. We had set out before dawn from our Lodge in Virginia to attend the Northern Jurisdiction's Scottish Rite Reunion. As we filed out of the SUV into the brisk winter morning, we were immediately met with warm fraternal greetings from the many brothers who had also just parked in the nearby lot. Brother... brother... brother... echoed as we all shook hands and introduced ourselves.



After a short (but very cold) walk, we made our way to a beautiful building that we soon found to house Delaware's Masonic bodies. As we ascended to the main social hall, we met more brothers whose warm fraternal greetings continued to make the bitter cold outside a distant memory.

After enjoying a wonderful hot breakfast and some fellowship, things got underway. In stark contrast to Scottish Rite reunions in my home valley where we get very few visitors, there were -dozens- of guests visiting from outside the valley. All of us were invited to stand in front of the social hall and introduce ourselves one by one. We were presented some nice Masonic keepsakes.

Things progressed naturally as we got down to business, which was a great deal different than what I have experienced in the Southern Jurisdiction. Superficial things like the color and meaning of the hats is different. Degrees are different, and the manner in which new members receive them is different. We experienced a degree done entirely in Colonial garb. Another was presented using a beautifully and professionally produced video. We received books to record and track the degrees we had received, and it will be fun pursuing others in the coming years.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of the brethren there who showed us such unparalleled hospitality. The Grand Master himself gave us a grand tour and imparted a great deal of history and knowledge about the facility and Delaware Freemasonry. We received his fleur-de-lis pin and he posed with us for pictures. His warm fraternal connection has persisted as we again enjoyed fellowship with him at the Railroad Degree in the spring.



I am very glad I made the trip to Delaware and I hope to have the opportunity to return again.

Orient Virginia

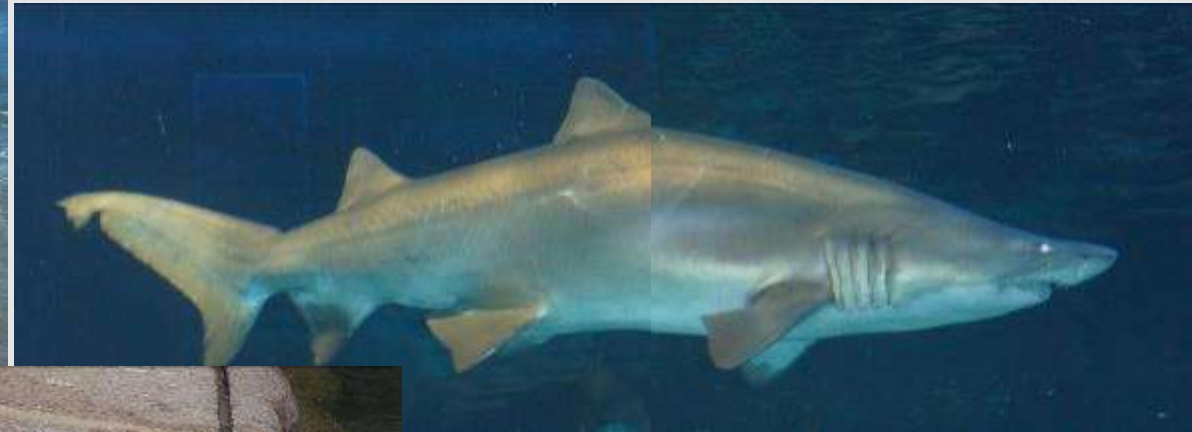


In a world
Where evil lurks,
It's good to know
That there are men
Willing to take a stand.
Won't you stand with us?

- Freemasons -
We Make Good Men Better

WWW.UPONTHEPOINT.COM

Camden Aquarium Trip Summer 2016





Scottish Rite Petition



To the Officers and Members of the Scottish Rite Bodies sitting in the Valley of _____: I, _____ (please print full name), the undersigned hereof, respectfully show that I am desirous of being admitted as a member in the Valley of _____ 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.

Please print all information:

Full Name: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____
 Birth Date: _____ Place of Birth: _____
 Name of Spouse (if applicable): _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Home E-Mail: _____
 Profession/Occupation: _____ Employer: _____
 Business Phone: _____
 Business E-Mail: _____

I am a Master Mason in good standing in _____ Lodge, located at _____

Have you ever before petitioned for any Degrees in the Scottish Rite and been accepted or rejected?

Yes No

If Yes, to which Valley and when? _____

Application Fee: \$ _____

Recommended by two Valley Members

Signature 1: _____
 Printed name: _____
 Member # on dues card: _____
 Signature 2: _____
 Printed name: _____
 Member # on dues card: _____



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, the undersigned, do hereby promise on my word of honor, and swear 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 at its Grand East in the town 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 spurious every other body that may be established within its Jurisdiction, claiming to be a Supreme Council to which said Supreme Council has not extended due recognition as such; and every other Body of said Rite within the same Jurisdiction that does not hold its powers from said Supreme Council, or from a Supreme Council recognized by it, and will hold no communication whatever in Scottish 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."

Signed (your name in full): _____ Date: _____

Scottish Rite Day November 12th 31° & 32°



Scottish Rite Day November 12th Banquet



33° Mixer December 3rd 2016



DEUS MEUMQUE JUS

February 4th Reunion 25°&29°



Words from the Knights of St. Andrew Chief 2016-17

Sublime Princes,

As Scottish Rite Masons, we are all aware of the tenets of Faith, Hope, and Charity taught to us through allegory and study. However, these are only tenets that point inward toward molding each of us into polished ashlar. There is a fourth, and sometimes more powerful tenet that points outward – that of SERVICE. Service to our Brethren, to our families and communities is incredibly important part of us as a Fraternity.

During the past years, I have been fortunate to witness this tenet of service in many forms and at many levels. The Scottish Rite, through its various events culminating in our annual Golf Tournament, truly sets the example of service within Delaware Freemasonry in general. And within our organization, there are the Delaware Knights of Saint Andrew.

The Knights of Saint Andrew is, historically, a service organization dedicated to serving the Scottish Rite directly, rather than serving the community at large. This service differs from Valley to Valley. In DE, we are focusing on our commitments to the reunions as a start, but also other efforts geared toward business and executive meetings, event planning, and other non-event related work. The ultimate purpose is to give newer "black hat" Masons (32nd degree) an opportunity to become involved and active in our events without excessive responsibilities, and to eventually lead them into roles of leadership positions in the bodies themselves.

Additionally, we find that there are many Brethren who have put in large amounts of time and effort behind the scenes and, aside from receiving an M.S.A. or 33°, have not been well recognized for their efforts. By keeping a record of "points", which is directly attributed to "hours of service", we plan to publicly recognize our Knights at certain milestones. This, IMHO, is a more immediate acknowledgment of our service to the craft.

Service can be in ANY capacity - acting (including rehearsals), backstage, technical, supporting the reunions (serving food, set-up, cleanup), working the golf outing, etc. We're even hoping to take a weekend in 2018 and clean up and arrange the Armory, which would grant every KSA additional points for that work as well, even though it's not reunion-related. We have also taken on the responsibility of performing the Necrology Service at the Council of Deliberation each year. This is the highest service we can offer - remembering our departed Brethren.

We are a small organization, and a young one. We look forward to your consideration in joining our body, and for your opinions and ideas that can help mold and shape the organization in the coming years.

Respectfully and Fraternaly,

Bro Gregory P. Correll, 32° M.S.A.
Past Chief, 2016-2017



Do not forget to visit and "Like" the Valley of Wilmington's Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Scottish-Rite-of-Delaware-AASR-Valley-of-Wilmington-1517575941888449/>



**KNIGHTS OF ST. ANDREW
VALLEY OF WILMINGTON
VALLEY OF LOWER DELAWARE**

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP



Please Print Clearly

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

HOME PHONE (____) _____ CELL PHONE (____) _____

EMAIL _____

BLUE LODGE _____ NUMBER _____

JURISDICTION _____

AREAS OF INTEREST:

Reunion Participation Speaking / Non Speaking Part Stage Crew Audio/Visual Costuming/Make-up Food Preparation Setup / Tear-down

Other: Membership Officer Newsletters KSA Event Committee Council of Deliberation

I hereby apply for membership in the Knights of St. Andrew, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Delaware, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. I affirm that am in good standing with my Blue Lodge and the Valley of Wilmington/Valley of Lower Delaware AASR as a 32nd° Mason.

Petitioner must be a 32nd° Scottish Rite Mason prior to accepting this petition

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Recommended by Brother Knight _____

INITIATION FEE IS \$50.00 (Includes Glengarry Bonnet, Feathers, and Membership Dues) 1 point per hour of service is awarded (in any capacity) to Squires and Knights each year



April 8th Reunion 26°&30°



Knights of St. Andrew



We are a service-based organization for Delaware Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Our ranks are mainly composed of 32° Scottish Rite Masons. Membership within our ranks, although voluntary, is not given lightly.

We serve because service is needed. We help when no one else will. We answer the call when others turn a deaf ear. We stand strong when all others have fallen down. We lay up treasures in a place where they never will tarnish. When one of us steps forward, he will find a brotherhood taking that step with him. When one of us puts his hand to a task, he will find an army of hands helping him. Given the heritage that makes up the very fabric our order.

The Knights of Saint Andrew exist as a service organization on behalf of all members of Delaware Freemasonry. They are under the immediate supervision of the Deputy of Delaware Scottish Rite, and it's Actives and provide services where they are needed. This includes, but not limited to, aiding the tilers, acting as greeters, providing escort services for dignitaries or for special events created for the ladies during reunions or other functions, serving as guides, assisting the Scottish Rite degree work, and even helping walk those to their cars after a meeting.

Knights of Saint Andrew also assist in the calling committees, participate in parades or civic activities, promote fund-raising events, and aid in any special event. The list can continue on as new ideas and concepts are developed to meet needs and goals.

Their flexibility and enthusiasm make the Knights of Saint Andrew one of the states most active and desirable organizations. It is an excellent way to nurture and develop future leaders as they learn their organizational and leadership skills, explore the inner structures of their Scottish Rite Bodies, and thus gain a deeper admiration for our Order and Brethren who work in Freemasonry as a whole.

Historically, the medieval order of the Knights of St. Andrew was formed by King Robert the Bruce of Scotland, in 1314. It was to honor the Knights

Templar who were instrumental in the victory over the English during the Battle of Bannockburn.

In line with these historical beginnings, the modern Knights of St. Andrew also focuses on outstanding service. In early 1993 the late, Ill. Weldon Good 33° of the Tulsa Valley in Oklahoma had a need for assistance during reunions. When he noticed that many brothers were joining the Scottish Rite but not returning to assist and participate, he developed the organization now known as the Knights of St. Andrew as a service organization for the valley.

In setting up the by-laws, he stated that the Knights of St. Andrew would be a "Black Hat" group and any member who received the honor of MSA (Meritorious Service Award or Red Hat) could not hold an office or vote but they could still work and assist. The main duties of the Knights of St. Andrew were to assist as needed during the reunions and be available to the Valley's Executive board for any assigned duties.

Today, the Knights of St. Andrew is still open to any "Black Hat" 32° Scottish Rite Mason, although any other 32° or 33° Mason may become a member as well; however, only the "Black Hats" can hold office and vote.

Fred Palmer 32°
KSA Chief 15-16



Presentation of the Abbott Scholarship for 2016

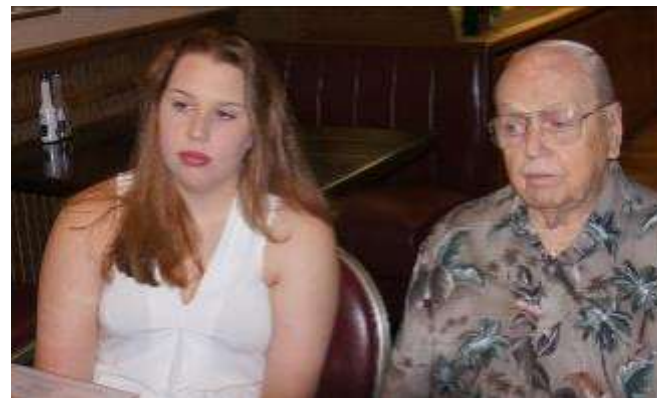
Named for Leon M. Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander from 1921 to 1932, the Scholarship Program provides financial support for the continuing undergraduate education of young men and women from Scottish Rite families and Masonic-related youth groups. Since 1951, more than \$15 million has been awarded to students from each state of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Congrats to the five recipients from Delaware this year.



Brother Ken Jaeger with Son Travis



Illustrious Brother A. Tony Maxwell with Daughter Christa



Brother Quillen with Grand Daughter Sarah



Illustrious Brother Dale T. Irwin with Grand Daughter Emily



Brother Evan Moody's Grandson Christopher



GRAND LODGE 1717-1823-2017

King George I enter'd London most magnificently on 20 September 1714, and after the Rebellion was over A.D. 1716, the few Lodges at London •••• thought fit to cement under a Grand Master as the Center of Union and Harmony, viz. the Lodges that met,~

At the Goose and Gridiron Ale-house in St. Paul's Church Yard.

At the Crown Ale-house in Parker's Lane near Drury Lane.

At the Apple-Tree Tavern in Charles-Street, Convent - Garden.

At the Rummer and Grapes Tavern in Channel-Row, Westminster.....

... constituted themselves a Grand Lodge pro Tempore in Due Form

Thus is Dr. James Anderson's description, in his second (1738) edition of his Book of Constitutions, of the manner in which Grand Lodge came into existence. One might well be surprised at the meeting locations of these four old founding lodges of Grand Lodge, but such was indeed common practice for Lodges in the 1700's. It is the puritan aspect of early American life that established Masonic lodges in this country of disapproving of alcohol in lodges. There is nothing in our heritage which suggests this type of abstinence --rather the contrary appears to be true.



Anthony Sayer - First Grand Master of the Premier Grand Lodge of England, 1717

What do we know of these old lodges -- the old "original" number 1 is a very famous lodge, known today as the Lodge of Antiquity. It was constituted at least as early as 1691 and is believed to be the Operative Lodge most concerned with the building of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, in the time period 1675 to 1710. It has had many distinguished members, two of whom are worth noting. The first is the Duke of Sussex, who was the son of George III, and who served as Grand Master for over thirty years. The second distinguished member was William Preston, author of the "Illustrations of Masonry", and probably the one individual most responsible for the Craft lodge ritual used today in this Grand Jurisdiction. At the time of the meeting in in 1717 it had about 22 members Old Lodge No. 2 existed for a short period of time, closing somewhere between 1736-1738.

The third of the "original lodges", which formed the first Grand Lodge, is known today as the Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge. It has the unique distinction of having provided the first Grand Master -- noted in the records as "Anthony Sayer --Gentleman". the oldest Master present at the formation of the Grand Lodge

The last of the four "original" lodges has been noted as the aristocrat of the old Lodges. It numbered among its 71 members in 1724 -- ten noblemen, three honor-ables, four baronets or knights and two general officers. From this lodge came the second and third Grand Masters -- George Payne (the last "commoner" to hold the office, when he also served a repeat term as the fourth Grand Master) and Dr. John Theophilus Desaguliers. Since 1721, all Grand Masters of the United Grand Lodge of England have been of Royal blood. Also included as a member of this lodge was Dr. James Anderson. The Lodge is known today as the Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge.

The Lodges were composed of both Operative and Speculative Masons, were all in the greater London area, about 3 miles apart. Just for reference there were probably hundreds of Lodges in London at that time, all small in size, as they are today and, for the most part, meeting in Ale-houses, Taverns or Coffee houses. A further note of interest, we are talking about a time when there were only 2 degrees in the Lodge -- that of Initiate, or (Entered) Apprentice and that of Fellow.

Why in London? Well, London was then, and now, the center of commerce, industry, society and government -- yet, at that time, small in size -- maybe 5 square miles. The time was shortly after the Great Plague of London in 1665 and, the Great Fire of London, which occurred about a year later, which destroyed two thirds of London's houses and over 100 of its churches, including St. Paul's (incidentally destruction greater than what German bombing had done in WW2). Why at that time? No real reason -- simply to bind themselves together and revive the quarterly communications of lodge officers, which they called a Grand Lodge, and hold an annual assembly and Feast. Nothing more or nothing less. Surely no

thought of a "Grand Lodge" structure that we know today as a governing body -- that was yet to come. Lest one carry "the feast" purpose too far, it was not a desire to become a more social organization, that already existed. There were several existing lodges and activities wherein Masonic feasts were present. Society in London in the 1700's, in general, was very social and outgoing,



The Goose and Gridiron Ale-house in St. Paul's Church Yard, London, in 1717. The Grand Lodge of England began its history here.

These Lodges were very content to go about their activities as a Grand Lodge, initially with little formality and no minutes. They, apparently, were quite successful in their endeavors in the first three or four years, as their annual feast moved from a Tavern to a City Hall. There were no procedures, or desire, in the beginning for other Lodges to join their "Grand Lodge". Eventually, however, nearby Lodges chose to join with them and by 1725 the number of Lodges within this embryonic Grand Lodge had grown from four to sixty-four with only 50 in the London area with the remainder scattered beyond those bounds.

Although some minutes do exist for the early years of this Grand Lodge, it is not until 1738, when the Reverend Dr. James Anderson, published his "Book of Constitutions", an extensive work of some 91 pages setting forth a history of the Craft, with new charges and rules of government. Noteworthy of which was the first Charge -- "Concerning God and Religion" which, it is strongly suggested by many, took the craft from a Christian organization to a monotheistic organization, even though there were at that time three practicing members of the Jewish faith in the Craft. Incidentally, these Ancient Charges are presented in the forward of the Constitution and Code of this Grand Lodge. Also included in Anderson's Book of Constitution, of more than casual interest to the attentive, is the approved action of the Grand Lodge is his notation of a motion that was put before the Grand Lodge, and approved --"That it is not in the Power of any person, or Body of men, to make any alteration, or innovation to the Body of Masonry without the consent first obtained of the Annual Grand Lodge."

At this time, the visibility of Freemasonry to the profane was becoming more prominent with frequent newspaper notices and the publishing of exposes, which presumably explained the inner working of the fraternity, and etc. Freemasonry was becoming popular and with it the role of a Grand Lodge. One soon finds several Grand Lodges present in York, Scotland, France, Ireland, Italy and the fledgling United States.

With the organizational structures, philosophy and history of Anderson's Constitution in place for Freemasonry and the Grand Lodge, there arose the inevitable sharp difference in "operating" procedures in certain areas. Upon reflection today, they seem quite trivial in nature, but at the time were quite real and resulted in the development of a strongly opposing Grand Lodge in England-- the so called Ancient Grand Lodge, with the premier Grand Lodge being known as the Modern Grand Lodge. Finally in 1813 their differences were resolved with the formation of

what we know today as the United Grand Lodge of England -- our Mother Grand Lodge. Interesting, the Articles of Union signed by these two opposing Grand Lodges to form the current United Grand Lodge of England contains the following statement as its second item--

"pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more: Viz! those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch."

From two degrees in 1717 to three degrees and the Royal Arch in 1813-- another story.

Thus the formation of a Grand Lodge structure of Freemasonry that has stood the ravages of time for 300 years. A structure which enables men from all parts of the world, from all countries, sects and opinions to come together and meet upon the level and part upon the square. A structure that surely formed the basis for the Constitution of our founding fathers and many other countries as well as that of the United Nations. To the best of my recollection, Past Grand Master Paul E. Ellis represented the Grand Lodge of Delaware in London, England on the occasion of their 250th Anniversary celebration in 1967.

As important as this celebration may well be, and it is important, one must be reminded that it is a fairly late occurrence in the history of Freemasonry. Let us not forget, the oldest Lodge with written minutes, is the Lodge of Edinburgh, Scotland - St. Mary's Chapel No. 1, July 31, 1599 -- some 100 years prior. The first speculative Mason, documented by written records -- Elias Ashmole, an antiquary, recorded in his dairy, now a part of the Ashmolean Museum at the University of Oxford -- "1646, Oct. 16 -- I was made a Freemason at Warrington in Lancashire" -- some 70 years prior And the oldest operative mason -- the stone builder of the Step Pyramids of Saqqara Egypt, 2667-2648 bc, some 4000 years prior.

On the 20th day of September, 2017, the United Grand Lodge of England, will celebrate its 300th Birthday and to which, it can well be set, every Lodge owes its existence and allegiance. We should join with them in this celebration as well as bidding them a most joyous Happy Birthday.

Donald D. Thomas
April, 2017



UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND



Celebrating the 300th Anniversary







*"Our Secret is known
only by those who
Seek it, Serve it &
Smoke it."
Light your Journey.....*







Hiram & Solomon Cigars Proudly Introduces "The Pyramid & The Bone Box"
Two remarkable Limited Edition humidors Handcrafted Exclusively for the 300th Anniversary Celebration.

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From the Desk of the Secretary...

We are quickly approaching the end of the second half of the year, there are still a few members, who have not sent in their dues. Please send them in as soon as possible. We also, still have a few members who have not paid their previous years dues. Your membership to The Scottish Rite is valued to us. If you are having any problems paying your dues, please feel free to call me.

*** Please contact me if you are missing your plastic dues card. ***

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A big Thank you to Brother Edgar Gonzales owner of Masonic Revival. He donated some very nice goodies for our Gift-Bags that we gave out on November 12th Scottish Rite Day. It is acts of kindness like this that show what true Brotherly love is.

Thank you Brother Edgar!

From every Delaware Scottish Rite Mason.



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