



# SCOTTISH RITE

VALLEY OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

**April 25, 2015—Reunion #5 9:00a.m. 19th Degree & 31st & 32nd Degrees**  
**April 30, 2015—Business Meeting #4 - 7:30 p.m. (NUR Temple)**  
**May 9, 2015—Memorial Service, Installation of Officers and COD**  
**May 15, 2015—8th Annual Golf Outing - Dover AFB**

On April 25th, the Valley of Wilmington will be presenting a live performance of the 19th degree. This degree is called the **Brother of the Trail**. It is performed with 1 active actor. The setting for this degree is the American West in the 1840's and 1850's, along the famed Oregon Trail at a place called Register Cliff. It is not too far, as Western distances go, from the present town of Guernsey, Wyoming. Register Cliff still stands in testimony to the spirit of the pioneers who traveled the Trail and used their knives or anything of metal on Register Cliff's 100-foot vertical wall of sandstone in order to create almost permanent graffiti to let the world know they had made it thus far toward a new life, or at least these many miles away from their old one.

Imagine a sheer sandstone wall rising 100 feet from the floor of a valley carved by the now usually tame, nearby North Platte River. It is summer on the Oregon Trail, and the great prairie is starting to pale its color from the heat and lack of rain. The ribbon of land around the river is a vibrant green in comparison, and a smooth intensity of lush color contrasted to the rough crags and brown hues of the sandstone wall which rises above it. That vibrant green is a harbor beacon for prairie schooners seen from across miles of prairie grass waves. A night away by horseback from the security of the US Army's Fort Laramie, the "Oregon Trailers" would be grateful for the crystal clear water from melting snows off mountains which are only distant baby teeth on the smooth, distant horizon. Here at Register Cliff there is grazing pasture and clean water, both welcomed by any traveler on this trail. Here it is even possible to sometimes catch a fish.

We are very fortunate to have Brother Oscar Alleyne, from the valley of Hudson, N.Y.. Oscar last performed for our valley during our 100th year celebration on October 20, 2012. Below is a brief biography of brother Oscar Alleyne, 32°. He is currently the Worshipful Master of Wappingers Lodge No.671 and the Commander in Chief of the Valley of the Hudson, NY, AASR NMJ. He was the charter Sovereign Master of the Allied Masonic Degrees, Kmt Council No.511 and serves as the Grand Superintendent for the State of New York of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees USA. He lectures frequently on historical, philosophical, leadership and other topics of Masonic interest and is a member of several Masonic research bodies.

He holds a Doctorate from the New York Medical College and is a graduate of the University at Albany, School of Public Health where he was awarded membership in the Delta Omega Honor Society in recognition of his contribution to public health. He is the Director of Epidemiology and Public Health Planning for the Rockland County Department of Health and serves on a number of national boards and workgroups on Bio surveillance, Epidemiology, Policy and Public Health.



# Scottish Rite is Off To Gettysburg - August 15th



## Gettysburg Facts

### Location

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in Adams County

### Generals

Union General: George G. Meade

Confederate General: Robert E. Lee

### Soldiers Engaged

Union Army: 82,289

Confederate Army: 75,000

### Outcome

Union victory

### Dates

Battle Dates: July 1-3, 1863

**Battle Summary:** The Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (July 1–July 3, 1863), was the largest battle of the American Civil War, as well as the largest battle ever fought in North America, involving around 85,000 men in the Union's Army of the Potomac under Major General George Gordon Meade and approximately 75,000 in the Confederacy's Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Robert Edward Lee. Casualties at Gettysburg totaled 23,049 for the Union (3,155 dead, 14,529 wounded, 5,365 missing). Confederate casualties were 28,063 (3,903 dead, 18,735 injured, and 5,425 missing), more than a third of Lee's army.

### Notable Facts about the Battle of Gettysburg

**Ammunition at Gettysburg:** An estimated 569 tons of ammunition was fired during the three days of fighting.

Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was delivered November 19, 1863, at the dedication of the "Soldiers' National Cemetery" at Gettysburg. The speech was extremely short by the standards of the day and received scant notice at the time, but its concise, powerful wording has made it one of the best-known public addresses in all of history. Contrary to popular myth, Lincoln did not scribble the speech on the back of an envelope on his way to Gettysburg but wrote several drafts. The last bodies would not be retrieved from battlefield graves and reinterred in the cemetery until months after the dedication ceremonies.

John Buford, whose cavalry fired the first shots of the battle, died December 16, 1863. His death is thought to have resulted from typhoid fever and a body weakened by exhaustion. He received a deathbed promotion to major general, post-dated to July 1, 1863.

Civilians at Gettysburg were left to deal with the thousands of wounded. Homes and public buildings became hospitals, and diseases born of infection and unsanitary conditions made living in the town risky. Volunteers came from the North and the South, however, to aid in caring for the wounded, burying the dead, and piling and burning carcasses of horses and mules killed in the fighting.

During the battle, a random bullet went through the door of a house, striking and killing 20-year-old Mary Virginia (Jenny) Wade. She was the only civilian killed during the battle.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 30, 2015**—NUR Temple Beginning at 7:30p.m. We will be holding a meeting of the 4 bodies of The Scottish Rite. All officers are required to be there. Dress for all officers is suit, hat & jewels. Dress for all others jacket & tie.

**May 9th, 2015**—Council of Deliberation and Memorial Service. 9:30a.m. 4th Floor Dress for all officers is tuxedo, hat & jewels. Dress for all others jacket & tie. Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot.

**May 7th, 2015**—Reception for the Grand Master 5:30 p.m.\*\*\*\* Felton Fire Hall \*\*\*\*\* ***Invitation Only***

**August 15, 2015**— *Gettysburg Trip (See Last Page for Details)*

## Scottish Rite Masons helping their own in times of need

Valley of Wilmington's brethren know that Charity is one of the great virtues of the Masonic Fraternity. Our Valley practices this virtue through the Scottish Rite Almoner's Fund. Together with endowed income, donations keep the Almoner's Fund replenished and ready to assist distressed worthy Scottish Rite Masons, Masons and their loved ones in need.

In fact, the Almoner's Fund is consistently one of our Valley's most popular program, in terms of percentage of membership supporting it. Even in the harsh economy, participation has increased, not just in total amount donated, but the number of members donating even modest amounts. May God bless these brethren!

### Discretely putting donations to the most effective use

The Scottish Rite Almoner's Fund, Inc. was incorporated in 1965 to assist worthy distressed brother Scottish Rite Masons and their loved ones. Over the years, we have succeeded admirably in that regard. Sometimes we are called upon to help a brother maintain the necessities of life in time of dire need. Or we may assist a brother's widow as she struggles to manage her husband's end-of-life affairs during a time of great stress and grief. All referrals to the Almoner are confidential. A discrete inquiry will promptly follow a referral and, if found worthy, assistance will be granted as appropriate for the situation. Under no circumstances does the Almoner disclose the identity of anyone in distress so as not to cause them embarrassment. And always, those receiving assistance express profound gratitude to the brethren who made this welcome assistance possible. It is often apparent it was one of the most moving experiences of their lives.

### Answers to FAQs about the Scottish Rite Almoner's Fund

Donations may be made by members at any time or via dues payments, by notating the amount in excess of dues owed annual appeals, bequests and other gifts.

Donations from non-members, non-Masons, private foundations and charitable institutions are also welcome.

### Choose the most convenient donation method for you

#### Send a separate donation through the mail

Scottish Rite Valley of Wilmington  
818 North Market Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Wilmington, DE 19801-3087



(Please make checks payable to "Scottish Rite Valley of Wilmington.") In the memo section of the check please write "Almoner's Fund"

#### Donate with your dues payment

Annual dues notices to members of the Valley of Wilmington are mailed out in August. In addition to indicating dues owed (if any), the payment form includes a line to indicate Almoner's Fund donation -- consider writing in whatever amount you can afford!

#### Donate using a credit or debit card

Should you wish to charge your donation separately from your dues payment to a credit or debit card, our administrative office has the ability to process payment over the phone; please call (302) 998-6475 for assistance.

If paying dues online by credit card through the Supreme Council's Member Center website, you may include an Almoner's Fund donation to your Valley, but the system requires that dues payment be processed prior to any charitable donation.

Also, the annual Almoner's Appeal includes a payment form that accepts credit/debit card information.

#### Donate during the Almoner's Appeal

Each year in December, the Almoner's Fund from Lexington sends a letter to all members of Scottish Rite encouraging them to consider making a donation. This mailing arrives in a colored envelope (blue, yellow, etc.) and includes a reply card to indicate donation amount and credit card information (for those selecting that option), plus a return envelope. Keep an eye out for it!

#### Donate in person or by Mail

The Valley of Wilmington's administrative office is located at 818 North Market Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Wilmington, DE 19801-3087. The office is open Tuesday thru Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Members are welcome to stop by, and it is suggested that you call in advance (302) 698-3434 to verify that the office is open and that secretary is available to process your donation. Members may also drop off donations at stated meetings, reunions and during other events when the office is open and staff is present.



### Contacting the Almoner

If you wish to arrange to make a donation, or if you, a fellow Mason, a brother Scottish Rite Mason, or their loved one is genuinely in need of assistance, please contact the Valley of Wilmington's Secretary so that a discrete inquiry can be made (or referral made to other charities or service providers, if necessary).

The Almoner's email is: [Valleyofwilm098@verizon.net](mailto:Valleyofwilm098@verizon.net) or a voicemail may be left at (302) 998-6475.

### Information about the Supreme Council's Scottish Rite Grand Almoner's Fund (a separate charitable fund).

*The Grand Almoner's Fund is a fund of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation, a qualified charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Tax Code. All donations are fully deductible to the extent allowed under law. The Grand Almoner's Fund is not affiliated with the Valley of Wilmington's Almoner's Fund.*

**PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS  
IN YOUR MASONIC PRAYERS**

(Cards & calls are always appreciated)

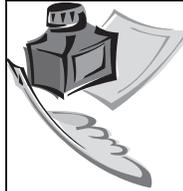
Brother William H. McCreary  
Brother David L. Chidester, MSA  
Brother Steven Lester Kerr  
Illustrious Brother James M. Brittingham, 33°  
Brother S. Curtis Cole  
Brother Forrest A. Boettcher  
Brother Charles F. Mitchell, Jr.  
Brother Peter Tyrrell, MSA  
Brother George D. Johnson, MSA  
Brother Robert W. Maclary  
Brother Frank H. Furr, III  
Bother Preston Rogers



Brother Kenneth Mars, MSA  
Brother Charles Muller

If you know of anyone who is in need of prayers, please contact the Secretary as indicated. (302) 998-6475.

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*From the Desk of the Secretary ...*

Brothers, we are endeavoring to create an email list so as to better communicate with you, the ongoing activities in a prompt and timely manner. I would like you to please e-mail your contact information to both of these e-mail addresses. Shads069@verizon.net and Valleyofwilm098@verizon.net. I also, wanted to thank those who have sent in their dues for the 2014-2015 year. If you are having problems and need assistance with your dues please contact me at the office (302) 998-6475 or e-mail me at Shads069@verizon.net and Valleyofwilm098@verizon.net.

Ill. : Bruce A. Beck, 33°- Valley Secretary

**Information to the family:** Should the Scottish Rite Mason whose name appears on the mailing label be admitted into the Hospital, Nursing Home, or is incapacitated in any way, **Please notify the Secretary of the Scottish Rite.**

**(302) 998-6475**

or  
**valleyofwilm098@verizon.net**

**ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE  
818 MARKET ST—3RD FLOOR  
WILMINGTON, DE 19801-3077**

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**FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR EVENTS .....**

**April 25, 2015**—Reunion #5 at 818 N. Market St (4th Floor) beginning at 9:00 AM (doors open at 8:15 AM). Hosted by Wilmington Consistory. Dress for all officers of every body is tux, hat & jewels. Dress for all others jacket & tie. Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot. Lunch will be served after the degrees.

**May 15, 2015**— **The 8th Annual Charity Golf Outing**, Contact Greg Correll if you wish to play or contribute to our charity. This event will once again be held again at Eagle Creek Golf Course, in Dover DE. Shotgun start at 11 AM. Please stay tuned for further updates. Price to each golfer will include greens fees, cart, grab-and-go lunch, dinner and prizes. The winning foursome of the tournament will be awarded Grand Master's trophy. Last year the Grand Master's trophy was awarded to the fierce team of brothers from the Solomon Lodge No. 36 for the 4rd year in a row.

**June 25 2015**—**Annual Blue Rocks Outing**. This year on Thursday, we will again host our Annual Blue Rocks Outing. The event is heavily subsidized by the Valley of Wilmington and will include dinner in the BBQ picnic area as well as your ticket to the game all for \$10/per person. More information will be included in future bulletins as we get closer to the event. Please call Ill. : John E. Bednash, 33°, for reservations, at (302) 358-1613.

**August 15 2015**—**Valley Trip to Gettysburg, PA**. This year we are planning to visit Gettysburg, PA. We have a limited number of tickets. Please call the valley secretary and reserve your spot on the bus. The buses will leave Dawson's at 7:00 a.m. and then will depart from NUR to Gettysburg no later than 8:15a.m. Please be there early.. This will be a family oriented trip and all are welcome regardless of membership to the Rite. This trip is in conformance of the Scottish Rite's vision of being Inspirational, Convenient and Enjoyable to all. As in the past, there will be no cost for this trip, and one is invited to bring friends and family. Lunch will be up to each individual.