



NEWSLETTER OF THE VALLEY OF WILMINGTON  
2012-2013 ISSUE NO. 3



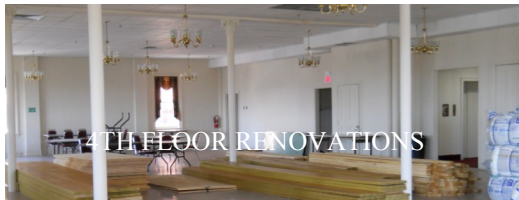
# SCOTTISH RITE

VALLEY OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

November 22-23, 2012—OFFICE CLOSED for Thanksgiving  
December 20-January 2, 2013—OFFICE CLOSED for Holidays  
\*\*January 29, 2013—Business Meeting—7:30 PM Newport Masonic Hall\*\*

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

PLEASE NOTE OUR HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE AND THE CHANGE IN DATE OF THE JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING!



4TH FLOOR RENOVATIONS

## 2012



BUSINESS MEETINGS

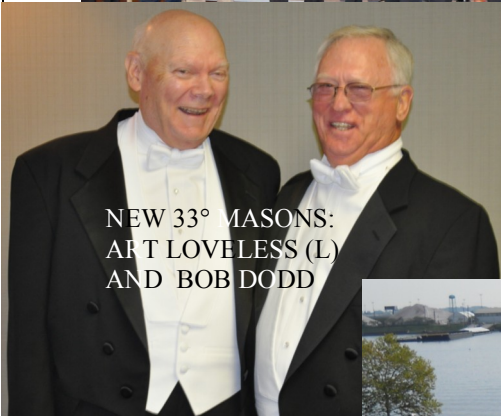
2012 CHARITY GOLF OUTING



100TH ANNIVERSARY CLASS



BLUE ROCKS GAME



NEW 33° MASONS:  
ART LOVELESS (L)  
AND BOB DODD



ABBOT SCHOLARSHIPS



FORT MCHENRY TRIP

# AND A PROPSEROUS NEW YEAR!!

## IMPORTANT DATES

The Delaware Consistory is celebrating 100 years. October 3, 2012 is the official date of our 100th Anniversary. Below is the schedule of many events for winter/spring 2013:

**1/25 (Friday) - BOBBY BURNS DINNER.** We will continue to celebrate 100 years of Delaware Consistory with an event recognizing the Scottish Mason Bobby Burns on the anniversary of his birthday. We will have a royal feast, open bar, piping in the haggis and great time with give-aways at the Deerfield Country Club. **MEMBERS ONLY.** Limited Tickets are on sale NOW and NO Tickets will be held—when you pay, you get a ticket. Festivities begin at 6:00 PM.

**1/29 (Tuesday) - BUSINESS MEETING at Newport Masonic Temple** beginning at 7:30 PM. Members only. Coat, tie, hats and jewels as appropriate. This meeting will be under the direction of the Chapter of Rose Croix. Light refreshments following the meeting.

**2/2 (Saturday) - REUNION Lodge of Perfection Degrees.** On the morning of February 2, 2013, we will hold a reunion of the Wilmington Lodge of Perfection. Degrees to be conferred are: 4th, 7th and 14th. The reunion begins with coffee and donuts from 8:30 AM. Degrees begin at 9:30 AM. Candidates should report by 8:55 AM. Dress: Officers and 33° - tux, hat and jewels; Candidates and members—coat, tie and hats and jewels as appropriate. LUNCH will be served following the degrees. Parking is free at the 8th & Orange Street ground level parking lot.

**3/16 (Saturday) - REUNION Council Princes of Jerusalem and Chapter of Rose Croix.** The exciting 15th and 18th degrees will be conferred at the reunion of these two bodies on the morning of March 16, 2013. The reunion begins with coffee and donuts from 8:30 AM. Degrees begin at 9:30 AM. Candidates should report by 8:55 AM. Dress: Officers and 33° —tux, hat and jewels; Candidates and members—coat, tie and hats and jewels as appropriate. Stay for a lunch with an Irish flair served following the degrees. Parking is free at the 8th & Orange Street ground level parking lot.

**4/13 (Saturday) - REUNION OF Delaware Consistory.** Our final reunion for the year includes a new degree to be determined, 31st and 32nd degrees on April 13, 2013. The reunion begins with coffee and donuts from 8:30 AM. Degrees begin at 9:30 AM. Candidates should report by 8:55 AM. Dress: Officers and 33° —tux, hat and jewels; Candidates and members—coat, tie and hats and jewels as appropriate. Stay for a lunch served following the degrees. Parking is free at the 8th & Orange Street ground level parking lot.

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

Brother Winfield W. Lane, MSA  
 Brother William S. Downing  
 Brother Donald D. Mitchell  
 Brother Eugene R. Hazzard  
 Brother John S. Hanna, Jr.  
 Brother Harold G. Snyder  
 Brother Ira G. White  
 Brother Edwin M. Newth  
 Brother Bennie L. Bell  
 Brother Earl V. Nichols, Sr.  
 Brother Lyman L. Krimmel  
 Brother Matthew A. Drake



Brother Bruce A. Beck

If you know of anyone who is in need of prayers, please contact the Secretary as indicated.

## BABES IN TOYLAND

A wonderful Christmas show to enjoy with the entire family.



32nd Degree Masonic Family Life Program

Come join the people of Mother Goose Land and listen to the music of Victor Herbert. Babes in Toyland features some of Herbert's most famous songs - among them "Toyland", "March of the Toys", "Go To Sleep, Slumber Deep", and "I Can't Do The Sum". The title song "Toyland" and "March of the Toys" occasion-

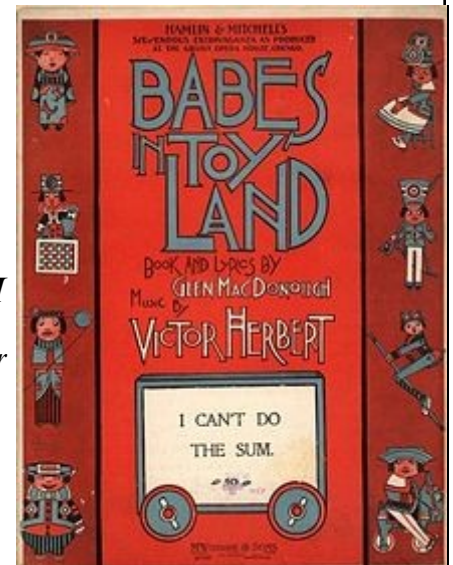
ally show up on Christmas compilations.

The original production opened on Broadway on October 13, 1903 and ran for 192 performances. This was followed by many successful tours and revivals.

*This production of BABES IN TOYLAND is recommended for children 4 years of age and older.*

**Saturday, December 15th at 2:00 PM**  
 Doors open at 1:30 pm and guests should arrive no later than 1:45 pm

**Delaware Children's Theatre**  
 1014 Delaware Avenue  
 Wilmington, DE



**Free parking is available across the street from the theatre in the Colonial Parking / Bellevue Holding Lot next to CVS, the parking lot behind Liberty Dialysis (Sundays only) as well as street parking all around the theatre. There is also free parking available at the Ursuline Academy Cultural Arts Center parking lot at the end of Park Place and Van Buren Street behind the Theatre.**

**TICKETS are \$14 each --** to make reservations or for more information, call Tony Maxwell at (302) 528-2636 or send an email to [tonymaxwell@hotmail.com](mailto:tonymaxwell@hotmail.com).

**Please make reservations and send a check payable to "DCT" by December 10<sup>th</sup> to:**

Tony Maxwell  
 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Masonic Family Life Program  
 1304 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street #2  
 Wilmington, DE 19806

# “General and Brother Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain”

By Bro. William Stephey

Recently I had the opportunity to visit the Gettysburg Battlefield with my mother, sister and my twin niece and nephew. As always the history buff, I took some time to prepare the youngsters for their trip. This preparation included viewing the motion picture *Gettysburg* to help them visualize the great event that took place there. One of the highlights of the tour of the battlefield is, of course, Little Round Top. We stopped at the summit and viewed the valley down to Devil’s Den, and then the time came to make the descent to the monument of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Volunteers. It was for this part of the tour I had made additional preparation – I had in my hand a copy of Colonel Chamberlain’s Report of July 6, 1863, detailing the action of his regiment on the days of July 2-3 – however, it was during my preparations at home I made the discovery that Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, the famed defender of Little Round Top, was a Freemason, a 52-year member of United Lodge #8 Brunswick, Maine. This discovery was a very happy find, yet didn’t really surprise me. The more I read beyond his military record the more enlightened I grew. His military record is well documented, yet his actions and his reactions to his fellow man, both on and off the battlefield, even within the whirlwind of deadly battle are of great note and of great worth.

This Man, this Freemason, was truly the upright Man and Mason marked by his quality, his devotion to God, his country, and his fellowman.

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain was born Sept 28 1828, in Brewer, Maine to Joshua Chamberlain Jr. and Sarah Brastow. He had four siblings – Horace, Sarah, John and Tom. The latter brothers served under his command in the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine.

His youth was full of typical activities for a youth from Maine. He read, hunted, farmed and sailed the family sloop off the coast of Bangor. His education was at a military academy near Ellsworth, Maine; however, he Graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Bowdoin College in 1852, an affiliation that he would keep most of his life. In 1855 he received a bachelor’s degree of Divinity at the Bangor Theological Seminary.

On December 7, 1855, he married Frances “Fannie” Caroline Adams. This shared love endured the strains of war, wounds, and the world of public service. The year of his marriage to Fannie, he was appointed as an instructor in natural and revealed religion at Bowdoin College. It is interesting to note that Chamberlain succeeded Calvin Stowe (whose wife, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote Uncle Tom’s Cabin). This marked a beginning of an illustrious lifelong teaching career including an appointment as a professor of rhetoric, instructor of modern languages, and professor of modern languages. This accomplished man taught himself Greek to enter Bowdoin college. When he was finished he was also fluent in Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac, French, Italian, Spanish and German.

When war consumed our nation, Chamberlain applied for a two year leave of absence for study abroad after a first request to join the Army was denied. After receiving the approved leave, he offered his services to the Governor of the State of Maine, Israel Washburn. In 1862, the Governor offered him the command of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Chamberlain refused the colonelcy, saying he should learn the business first.

The governor relented and offered Chamberlain a commission as a Lt. Colonel, the second in command to Col. Adelbert Ames, a fine officer who would advance in his own right. It is here where Chamberlain proves himself as a gallant leader. He is soon promoted to Colonel and placed in command of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine in May, 1863. He took part in 24 engagements during the war, among them Antietam, Fredericksburg – a horrific battle where Chamberlain and the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, as Chamberlain himself put it, “Bivouacked with the Dead” – and Gettysburg. Gettysburg, that iconic place and event in our history, those terrible days 149 years ago on this very granite spur where I find myself. As I point out to my niece and nephew the markers of the right and left flank of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, I can still see down into the hollow where the Texans and Alabamians began to flank the Union left.



I began to read aloud the report of Col. Chamberlain and in my mind’s eye I could see that thin blue line defending that critical ridge. Assaults to the front, assaults to the flanks and perhaps even an assault to the rear, the rebels in force kept coming, partially breeching that ridge. Bloody torment and constraint, man at man’s throats as the hand-to-hand combat ensued each and every time the rebels advanced, only to be repeatedly thrown back. Now, as I read Chamberlain’s report, the moment of truth had come – the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine could no longer stand defensively. One third of the regiment was dead or badly wounded, the ammunition nearly gone. In Colonel Chamberlain’s own words

*It was imperative to strike before we were struck by this overwhelming force in a hand to hand fight, which we could not probably have withstood or survived. At that crisis I ordered the bayonet. The word was enough. It ran like fire along the line from man to man, and rose into a shout with which they sprang forward upon the enemy, now not thirty yards away.*

In that moment, this college professor – this Freemason – changed the course of American history, for if Chamberlain had not done as he did, the Union left would have fallen, and Lee would have won Gettysburg. This act won him the Medal of Honor. As I stood on the very spot where that bayonet charge was ordered, I know his story did not end there. Moving forward not even a year, at the siege of Petersburg, Chamberlain suffers a wound that proves in most cases to be mortal, a bullet through the groin piercing the bladder, arteries, and hips. He tried to remain standing, propping himself on his sword till loss of blood caused him to collapse. His death was believed to be so imminent that General U.S. Grant pro-

(continued from page 4) moted him to Brigadier General, that he could die with that exalted rank. Chamberlain proved not to be through with life, though the damage caused by this wound would remain with him and eventually kill him. Chamberlain recovered enough to return to active service, when other men might find it an opportunity to leave the service and justifiably so. He remained in the service out of a sense of duty, as he said he still owed the nation three years of service. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain attained the rank of brevet Major General of U.S. Volunteers and was wounded six times and served in some of the heaviest fighting in the days preceding the surrender of General Lee.

Appomattox April 9, 1865 – Gen. Chamberlain received the first flag of truce from General Gordon, C.S.A., with the message that Lee intended to surrender. After Lee signed the surrender, Chamberlain was given the privilege of receiving the formal surrender of arms and colors of the Army of Northern Virginia. It is here where Chamberlain showed true Knightly and Masonic virtue. As the columns of Confederate soldiers marched to stack their arms, Chamberlain gives his soldiers the command “carry arms,” as a sign of respect to their vanquished foe. General Gordon, C.S.A. leading the Confederate surrender parade, drew his sword and gallantly wheeled his horse, bringing the blade of his sword

to the toe of his boot, then facing his own command, ordered them to pass with the same position of the manual – honor answering honor.

Chamberlain on his part recalls

*On our part not a sound of trumpet more, roll of drum:  
nor motion of man standing again at the order; but an  
awed stillness rather and breath holding, as if it were  
The passing of the dead!*

General Gordon never mentioned the anecdote until years later when he read Chamberlain’s account. In Gordon’s memoirs he writes about Chamberlain, “He is the knightliest soldier of the Federal Army.”

Our visit to Gettysburg – like the grave conflict fought here – was now history, yet still Chamberlain’s story doesn’t end. Though his Civil War record is what is most venerated, this man proved himself even greater as his life progressed. After his Military service he retired to Maine where he was elected to four consecutive terms as governor, winning the office with the highest majority in the state’s history. Chamberlain’s career in public office shows the man he was, not a vain politician but the upright man who governed by his principles and sense of justice, an honesty that made him many enemies even in his own party. His Governorship is marked with reforms in insane asylums and education, the care of war orphans and widows and a grand promotion in the growth of the State of Maine.

When Chamberlain left public life in 1871, he was appointed President of Bowdoin College, a position he only accepted with the stipulation that he could have the right to reform and change the curriculum. He remained at this post until poor health caused him to resign in 1883. Chamberlain was an advocate of education, even ruffling the feathers of some conservatives in his day by advocating for the right of women to have higher education.

Chamberlain still had military ties. He remained Commander of the Maine Militia. This would show his tenacity was not fleeting. After the disputed gubernatorial election in 1880, a group of armed men took hold in the state house. (continued in next column)



(continued from previous column) The outgoing Governor Alonzo Garcelon, ordered Chamberlain to take Charge. Chamberlain did and managed to send the men home, arranging for the Augusta police to keep control. For twelve days while the Maine Supreme Judicial Court was deciding the issue, Chamberlain stayed at the statehouse during which time threats of death and kidnapping abounded. Chamberlain confronted an armed group of 25-30 men who had the intent to kill him, and with his bravery and cool wit talked them into leaving peacefully.

Chamberlain’s life was as dynamic as the man. Serving as Surveyor of the Port of Portland Maine, a federal appointment, he engaged in many business ventures including real estate in Florida, a college in New York and railroads and hotels. He was a founding member of the Maine Institution for the Blind, now the Iris Network, and served on its first board of directors. He was very active in the Grand Army of the Republic and in the actions of veterans affairs. His sense of duty and patriotism compelled him to volunteer his services for the outbreak of the Spanish American War. When his request was denied, the ailing 70 year old Chamberlain lamented, “it was one of the major disappointments in my life.”

Chamberlain continued to appear and speak at veteran’s reunions, returning to Gettysburg many times. Age and a devastating wound took their toll. The serious wound Chamberlain received at Petersburg had never fully healed. Plagued by persistent infections and fevers and at least six surgeries to correct the damage, the gallant tenacious Chamberlain finally succumbed to his wounds .On the 24th of February 1914 Major General (BVT) U.S. Volunteers Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain breathed his last .

That day the world lost a great man and our Fraternity lost a great Brother. It is of note that throughout the research I have done to present this to you the reader, it is only I that mentioned his Masonic connection. Every fact that I have albeit briefly, laid before you is recorded in the annals of history. His actions certainly spoke louder than words and when he did speak it was never to place laurels on his own head for his own glory. When he referred to his own actions, he clearly placed the laurels on those that not only served with him but even on his enemies. Chamberlain was indeed a very modest man and he proved it by the way he served, by the way he acted and spoke. This is perhaps the greatest Masonic lesson that could ever be taught. What he learned from within, he practiced without. He was an Upright Man and Mason.

#### References

- *Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain: Scholar, Citizen, Soldier* by William F.B.Vodrey
- *Passing of the Armies* J.L.Chamberlain
- *Report of Col. Joshua L. Chamberlain*, Twentieth Maine Infantry Field Near Emmitsburg - July 6, 1863

#### Editor’s Note:

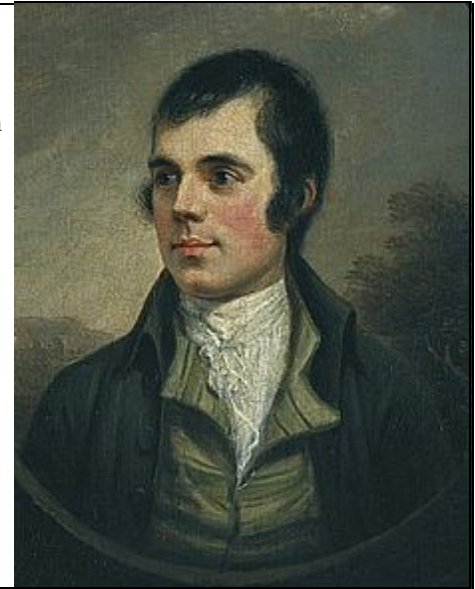
*Brother Stephey is an accomplished historian and a Sublime Prince of Delaware Consistory. He is currently the Master of Entrances of Wilmington Council Princes of Jerusalem.*

## BOBBY BURNS GALA EVENT

Friday, January 25, 2013, the Valley of Wilmington, Delaware will continue its year long celebration of their 100th Anniversary with an “all inclusive”, black tie, gala dinner and celebration of the 254th Anniversary of the birthday of the **Bard of Ayrshire**. Festivities are open to members only with ticket purchase. Tickets cost \$75.00 and includes:

- Open bar
- A scotch toast to the Haggis as it is piped in (you keep the commemorative glass)
- Appetizers
- Fabulous dinner (mayhaps a few traditional “Burns dinner” dishes)
- All the fixin’s
- Commemorative Quaiche
- Readings from Burns works

Aye, so put on ye formal garb (kilties *arrrrre* acceptable) and send your check into the Secretary. Remember, first come, first served.



### “Freemasonry’s Youngest 32° at 18 years 9 months” By Bro. Sam Katz, 32°, MSA

At a combined Reunion of the Valleys of Wilmington and Lower Delaware, held in the Spring of 2012, Scottish Rite (SR) history was made when a class of candidates seeking to received their 32° assembled at the Grand Opera House in Wilmington. Clad in a white frock, the exemplar for this class, Brother Mark Thompson stood out from the rest of the Delaware Freemasons who had elected to become Sovereign Princes. What differentiated Mark from his class members and from everyone else in attendance was his age. At the young age of 18 years and 9 months he became Delaware’s youngest Scottish Rite Mason and most probably the youngest 32° in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. He had previously laid claim to being initiated the youngest Master Mason in the state.

This outstanding young man has in a short period of time distinguished himself first as a member of DeMolay, then as a member of Delaware AF&AM and undoubtedly now as a member of the Scottish Rite. Inspired by his Grandfather, who was a Freemason, Mark petitioned the Order of DeMolay and was initiated in November of 2009. Through his hard work and determination Mark rose through the ranks of DeMolay to the office of Master Councilor for the Duncan Beard Chapter located in Delaware City and the State Marshal for DeMolay Delaware. Upon reaching age 18 having been inspired by Freemasons he met while being a DeMolay Mark obtained a petition for membership in Jackson Lodge #19 from “Dad” Ron Keller, his mentor, who was the Worshipful Master of Jackson Lodge.

After being raised Mark wasted no time in becoming an active Freemason who I first became aware of when he was acknowledged by MW Richard W. Aydelotte, Grand Master, at two Grand Visitations in Newport, Delaware. Since that time I have encountered Mark at several Masonic functions including Gold Collar night where the MW Stephen J. Ponzillo, III and his grand staff visited Delaware’s Grand Master and his staff for a meal and Masonic interaction. During a Grand Visitation to his home Lodge of Jackson #19 Mark was “stationed” at the door collecting tickets from dinner attendees and later was “stationed” at the door of the

Lodge in his tuxedo serving as Tiler pro-tem. Mark has become something of a celebrity and has been invited to and has spoken at meetings of Lodges across the State about DeMolay and is actively assisting in the formation of a new DeMolay Chapter in Southern Delaware. Not bad for a recent graduate from Caravel Academy in Bear, Delaware. He is a example of how important our youth groups are to the Fraternity in general and to the young ladies and gentlemen who participate in them in particular.

Brother Mark Thompson, 32° is one of a growing number of DeMolays, younger than age 21 who have joined Delaware AF&AM Lodges. Another DeMolay in Delaware, Brother Chris Ruby, also made history when he was installed as State Master Counselor while standing along side his father, Brother James T. Ruby, who had minutes before been installed as the Potentate of NUR Shrine. As RW Barry C. Hughes, Grand Master elect, states “we need to support DeMolay and Job’s Daughters because the yutes (from my cousin Vinny) are our future”. He further states that; “The DeMolays are future Masons and the Job’s Daughters are the future mothers and wives of Masons.” Make a commitment to visit an installation, Degree conferral and/or a fundraiser by one of these or other Masonically related youth groups. You will enjoy what you see and they really appreciate having Masons visit, a true win-win proposition.



**DEATHS REPORTED SINCE LAST BULLETIN**

Date Born	Brothers Name	Date Died
06/12/1917	Samuel E. Hannum	09/22/2012
09/01/1932	Ronald T. Clark	09/30/2012
03/05/1936	John W. Hopkins	10/24/2012
07/09/1914	Russell E. Graves	10/29/2012
07/23/1913	James S. Russell, MSA	11/01/2012
09/05/1925	Walter D. Marvel	11/04/2012
06/28/1915	Vernon H. Brown	11/14/2012



*From the Desk of the Secretary ...*

People always seem to be confused by “dress codes”, so here are what we mean when we say a specific type of dress code, for example, “Business Casual.” Also, our events are usually marked “hats and jewels” or not marked which means do not wear them.

**Hats and Jewels:** Means that if you are entitled to wear a hat, because you are a 33rd, MSA, officer or past officer, please do so. Also, wear jewels you have earned such as Past Presiding Officer jewels or MSA jewel, etc.

**Formal:** Men are in tux, ladies are in gowns or formal cocktail dress.

**Business Dress (Bus Dress):** Men are in coats and ties; ladies are in pantsuits or dress.

**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**

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Wilmington, Delaware 19801-3077

*(Continued) From the Desk of the Secretary ...*

**Business Casual (Bus Casual):** Men are in collared shirts, jackets are not required, but are optional. Ladies are in comfortable attire such as, slacks and top, dress or skirt and blouse.

So when do I wear what?

EVENT	OFFICER	33RD	MSA	MEMBER	CANDIDATE	LADY	HATS & JEWELS
Reunion	Formal	Formal	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	N/A	Yes
Bus Mtg	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	N/A	Yes
Exec Mtg	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	N/A	N/A	No
Bus Mixer/Mixer	Bus Casual	Bus Casual	Bus Casual	Bus Casual	Bus Casual	Bus Casual	No
Workers Dinner	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	Bus Dress	No
Valley Trip	Casual	Casual	Casual	Casual	Casual	Casual	No

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