NEWSLETTER OF THE VALLEY OF WILMINGTON 2015–2016 ISSUE NO. 5



SCOTTISH RITE



VALLEY OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

January 30th, 2016—Reunion 4th & 14th &23rd Degrees—818 N. Market St. February 23rd, 2016—Video Night—Various Degrees—818 N. Market St.

2016—IMPORTANT DATES

January 7, 2016 (Thursday)—Ionic Stated Meeting Location Newcastle Masonic Temple. Our guest speaker for the evening will be RW Moises Gomez Grand Historian for New Jersey.

"REMEMBRANCE A 9/11 EXPERIENCE AND VOLUNTEERISM THE AMERICAN SPIRIT"

January 28, 2016 (Thursday)—Business Meeting # 3. Location will La Casa Pasta. The meeting starts at 6:00 PM sharp. This will be a business meeting, under the direction of the Wilmington Lodge of Perfection. Ladies are cordially invited.! Please contact the secretary! There is limited seating. Dress for all is jacket, tie.

January 30 (Saturday)—REUNION # 3. 4th—14th by the Valley of Lower Delaware &—23th live on stage. 818 N. Market St 3rd & 4th floor. Ceremonial starts at 9:00 AM (candidates report 45 minutes earlier) and continues through lunch. Dress for officers & 33rds—tux, hat and jewels; all others—coat, tie, hat and jewel (as applicable). Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot.

February 18 (Thursday)—**Executive Committee Meeting.** Meeting starts 6:00 PM sharp. Location - 818 N. Market St 3rd floor. Top 2 line officers in each of the 4 bodies, valley secretary, are required to attend, along with the Active and Deputy. Dress for all is jacket, tie, hat and jewels as appropriate.

February 23 (Tuesday)—**REUNION # 4. Video Night!** 818 N. Market St 3rd & 4th floors. Video Night starts promptly at 6:00 PM Dress for all—Casual Attire. Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot. We will showing a number of video degrees. We will have food and beverages.

April 9 (Saturday)—**REUNION # 5 18th**—**21st**—**16th degrees**. The 16th is a lunch degree where everyone participates! 818 N. Market St 4th floor. Ceremonial starts at 9:00 AM (candidates report 45 minutes earlier) and continues during lunch. Dress for officers & 33rds—tux, hat and jewels; all others—coat, tie, hat and jewel (as applicable). Free parking at 8th & Orange Streets ground level parking lot.

April 28 (Thursday)—Business Meeting # 4. Location to be announced. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM sharp. This will be a business meeting, under the direction of the Delaware Consistory. The main purpose of this meeting is for the election of officers for the ensuing Scottish Rite Year. Dress for officers & 33rds—tux, hat and jewels; all others—coat, tie, hat and jewel (as applicable).

April 30 (Saturday) — On April 30, 2016 Massachusetts Consistory will be performing the Woodchopper's Degree for the Valley of Wilmington DE.. At NUR Shrine. More details to follow.

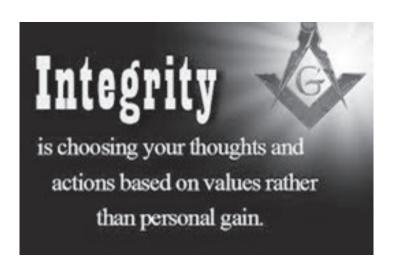
May 7 (Saturday) Worker's Dinner. Deerfield Country Club 6:00 PM. This dinner is for all officers, actors and workers. Please call the office to confirm reservations











PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS IN YOUR MASONIC PRAYERS

Illustrious Brother Robert Carroll
Brother Forrest A. Boettcher
Illustrious Brother Warren Schuller, Sr.
Illustrious Brother Herbert P. Fulmer, III
Illustrious Brother Benjamin F. Lloyd
Illustrious Brother Patrick J. Burke, MSA
Illustrious Brother Jamie Turner
Illustrious Brother Terrance A.VanGorder
Brother Peter Tyrrell, MSA.
Brother Joseph L. Kauffamn
Illustrious Brother Eugene R Small 33°
Brother Michael J. Ratcliff



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

When I became a Mason, I became immediately enamored with our craft's ritual and allegorical history, from the explanations of the tools of Masonry to the tale of that Grand Master that we have all represented at one time. I felt that this is what set us apart from the profane – our rich and flavorful history that we alone especially share. As I progressed, I thought my plan was to increase that allegorical and ritualistic knowledge through the capitulars and cryptic degrees but God had a different plan for me. 17 years later, through His teachings, the meaning of our "craft" has changed significantly for me. It is far more than just learning the stories or using the tools.

Most think of "craft" as a noun, but the dictionary defines the verb <u>craft</u> as "to make or fashion with skill; to construct with care and ingenuity". But to craft something beautiful, you must have a plan.

I believe that you and I are here today because of some great plan crafted by God, and only in His time will allow us to understand why. King Solomon had a plan to craft a magnificent temple dedicated to God. Now, only remnants are left to tell us of that structure's beauty. Today you can't do anything about that temple, but there is a temple you can continue to build. Brethren, we must each craft our own plan by using our trestle-board of life - the Volume of Sacred Law - and then by following its plan, construct our own temple.

Let me ask you this, "What is your plan for Masonry and your-self?" I cannot tell you what your plan should or should not be, but I can share with you a part of my plan.

I plan to make choices, for the choices you make determine how you finish the race of life.

I plan to be magnanimous, for the ability to look past those things that sting your spirit allows you learn to forgive and forget.

I plan to be happy, and learn that happiness is not something you find but something you must give in order to receive.

I plan to have enthusiasm – that small spark that each of us can

turn into a burning flame.

I plan to have a dream - something greater than ourselves that can take us from the present to where we wish to be.

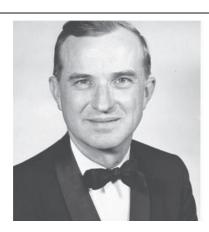
I plan to love. You must tell those important persons in your life how much you love them every day. You must remind yourself daily of the love you can give, or life will become empty and lonely.

Helen Keller said, "To live each day, you must see every sunset and sunrise, listen to the sound of birds and the voice of babies, smell every flower, taste each morsel and touch every object as if tomorrow you would never See, Hear, Smell, Taste or Touch again, for this is the blueprint of life". There is no substitute for following your own plan and living each day on the tenets of Masonry, for that living will build a temple of eternal beauty that will withstand the trial and test of time.

Sovereign Prince - 2015-16 Gregory P. Correll, 32° Valley of Wilmington



Illustrious Harold T. J. Littleton,33°



Ill∴ Harold T.J. Littleton,33°, affectionately know as "Jack" to many was called from labor at the age of 94,on October 21, 2015. Ill∴ Brother Littleton was born in Parksley, Virginia. He was the only son of Harold A. Littleton, and May (Wessells) Littleton. He graduated from Parksley High School and in 1943 graduated with a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering from the University of Virginia. From 1943 to 1946, he was employed by the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. During the year 1945 he was placed on active duty as an ensign in the USNR, and served as a reservist for several years, retiring as a Lieutenant. From 1946, until his retirement in 1981, he was employed by the DuPont Company in Wilmington, DE, and spent a varied career in research and development activities, generally around plastics and plastics intermediaries. On December 28, 1948, he was united in marriage to Marian Mote Coleman, who predeceased him in 2013. In 64 years of marriage, they shared travels, and a truly special bond that was visible to all who

knew them. They had one son, Thomas J. Littleton; one granddaughter, Jeanine Joyce Littleton; and three great grandchildren.. As a devoted parishioner of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, and also had strong ties in his hometown to the Grace United Methodist Church of Parksley, VA. A keen student of history, he spent years engaged in research into the lives of many of our nation's founding fathers, and was instrumental in the restoration of Lombardy Hall in North Wilmington, home of Gunning Bedford Jr. For his contributions, he was the recipient of many honors and awards from groups around the nation. He was especially proud of both his membership in and award from the Sons of the American Revolution. A viewing will Ill.: H. Jack Littleton ,was a dedicated Freemason, a Charter member of Granite Lodge of Delaware, and served as Master of his lodge, and later Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. Ill :. H. Jack Littleton, completed his Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Norfolk VA, on November 4,1947 and demitted to the Valley of Wilmington on January 19, 1950. He served as Thrice Potent Master of the Wilmington Lodge of Perfection in 1983-1984. He served as membership chairman for many years. On September 26, 1984 he was coroneted a Sovereign Grand Inspector General,33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council at Boston, MA. On October 1, 1987, he was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council at Boston. In 1989, he was appointed Deputy for the State of Delaware, serving in that position until 1996. He assumed Active Emeritus Member status on August 27, 1996 at Boston.





The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is one of two branches of Freemasonry to which a Master Mason may proceed after he has completed the first three degrees of the Symbolic or "Blue" Lodge. The Scottish Rite includes the degrees from the 4° through the 32°. Although there are many Scottish Rite members of Scottish ancestry, the Scottish Rite actually originated in France in the early 18th century. During the 18th century, lodges were organized in the United States with the first Scottish Rite Supreme Council founded in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1801.



The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was formed in 1867 and includes the 15 states east of the Mississippi River and north of the Mason-Dixon Line and the Ohio River, including Delaware. The Southern Jurisdiction encompasses the 35 remaining states, the District of Columbia and the United States territories and possessions. The Northern Jurisdiction officially recognizes and enjoys friendly relations with many other jurisdictions around the world.

Scottish Rite shares the same belief of all Masonic organizations that there is no higher degree than that of Master Mason. The Supreme Council and its subordinate bodies acknowledge the Masonic supremacy of the Symbolic Grand Lodges and Grand Masters within their jurisdictions. Scottish Rite degrees are in no way higher than the degrees of the Symbolic lodges. The work of the Scottish Rite serves to elaborate on and amplify that of the Symbolic lodge.

The Scottish Rite degrees are lessons taught through allegory in the form of plays. The lessons are taken from Biblical as well as more modern historical events. Cast members use costumes and makeup to look like the characters who they represent. Candidates learn the lessons by observing the presentation. Memorization of material presented is not required. The Scottish Rite is open to all Master Masons in good standing.

The 33° is conferred every other year, at a meeting of the Supreme Council, upon a select number of 32° Scottish Rite Masons who have contributed outstanding service to Freemasonry or Scottish Rite or who have exemplified, in their daily lives, the true meaning of the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God. A recipient must be at least 33 years of age and may not apply for the degree.

Scottish Rite members meet in local or regional "Valleys" and are organized into four bodies; Lodge of Perfection, 4° - 14°; Council of Princes of Jerusalem, 15° - 16°; Chapter of Rose Croix, 17° - 18° and Consistory, 19° - 32°. Some individual Valleys do not contain all four bodies.



The Valley would like announce that, B. John Bialecki, Jr., 32° has been chosen and elected for the honor of being elevated to the 33°. Brother John, has served the Valley with distinction and fervor. He is currently serving the valley as our 2015-2016 Commander and Chief of our Valley's Consistory. Congratulations John, on this high level of distinction, to be coroneted a 33° and on becoming an honorary member of the Supreme Council at which time he will be referred to as Inspector General Honorary.

Woodchopper's Degree

On April 30, 2016 Massachusetts Consistory will be performing the Woodchopper's Degree for the Valley of Wilmington DE.. The Woodchopper's Degree is a singing degree that has already been performed numerous times by Massachusetts Consistory for other Valleys throughout New England. If you have a desire to attend the degree in Delaware, visit the Valley of Wilmington's webpage.



Members of the Woodchopper's Degree

have traveled as far as Bangor, ME to New Haven, CT to as close as Worcester, MA. We encourage the members of the Valley of Boston to travel in support of their fellow brethren as each performance is as memorable as the last.





VALLEY OF BOSTON

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

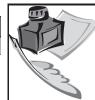
To all my Brethren of the Mystic Tie, I send you thanks and cannot express how much I appreciate all of the kind thoughts, words, cards and gifts. Surely, you never know how much you are loved or how many concerned Brothers there are until something like my recent hospital trip points out. The number of cards was overwhelming. The thoughts and well-wishes formed a force to be reckoned with. And certainly the prayers tipped the scales in my favor so that the Grand Architect (in His infinite wisdom of course) hastened my release to the real world. There were so many of you that it is impossible for me to write each of you a "thank you" or to even speak the words to everyone, so I hope this THANK YOU will suffice.

DEATHS REPORTED SINCE LAST BULLETIN

Date Born	Brothers Name	Date Died
04/11/1964	James M Holloway	12/25/2015
12/17/1928	Lloyd W Behmke	11/05/2015
11/21/1932	Charles Frank Mitchel, Jr. MSA	11/29/2015
02/05/1923	Petro G. Contompasis	01/14/2016
01/02/1927	Joseph Benjamin Ewing, Jr.	02/15/1931
02/20/1927	***hard K Whitmore	10/22/2015
11/14/1938	Gilbert E Greenfield	10/22/2015
12/01/1929	Ill∴ Harold T J Littleton 33°	11/02/2015
08/08/1925	Allen G. Russell	11/04/2015
02/02/1927	Robert W. Maclary	10/30/2015
08/22/1938	George H. Pyle	08/31/2015
11/21/1932	James D. Abbott	11/29/1932
04/09/1936	Richard Lee Weaver	12/08/2015
	John Raymond Baker, Jr.	
	Samuel Swinger	

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



From the Desk of the Secretary ...

I wanted to take a moment to wish everyone a Happy Chanukah, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year! As we begin the second half of the year, there are still 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. Another big thanks you to all those who let me know that they were missing their plastic dues card.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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On November 14th. 2015. The Valley of Wilmington conferred the 20th degree in the Blue room on the third floor of 818 Market St. We would like to thank Brother Joseph L. Kauffamn, Worshipful Master of Lafayette Lodge, for having the original lodge charter at the degree. Another thank you to Illustrious Brother Donald D. Thomas, 33°, who prepared informative historical material for the brethren.

