

THE VALLEY OF PHILADELPHIA



the Double Eagle

the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry



in the Cradle of Liberty since 1857

Honorable Mention- "Brother Franklin Award" – 2005-06-11-13

March 2020

Meeting Notice

Saturday, March 21, 2020

Ill. Rick S. Freedman, 33°, Thrice Potent Master
Joseph W. Calabrese, 32° MSA, Sovereign Prince
David J. Kolmetzky, 32°, Most Wise Master
Ill. Gerard R. Sealy, 33°, Commander in Chief

Honoring Illustrious Thomas Gamon IV, 33°
Right Worshipful Grand Master

Lower Level Banquet Room

7:30 A.M. **Doors Open –Registration-Have your dues card ready!**

8:00 A.M. **Complimentary Continental Breakfast**

Gothic Hall

9:00 A.M. **Open Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection**
Builder, 4°

9:45 A.M. **Intendent of the Building, 8°**

10:30 A.M. **Master of Mercy, 12°-Presented by**
Lafayette Lodge of Perfection-Valley of Boston

11:45 A.M. **Close Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection**

Lower Level Banquet Room

11:50 A.M. **Presentation of 33° Scottish Rite cap to**
Ill. Douglass W. Hocker, 33°

12:00 P.M. **Lunch-Tickets required**

Gothic Hall

1:00 P.M. **Open Benjamin Franklin Consistory**
Brother of the Forest, 24°

2:00 P.M. **Master of Achievement, 25°**

3:00 P.M. **Conclusion of Reunion**

There will be no charge for Breakfast, but Lunch tickets will be \$20. Reservations are required by Friday, March 13th. Please call the Scottish Rite Office to reserve your meal at 215-563-1814 or email to valleyofphiladelphia@outlook.com

Lunch Menu

Saturday, March 21, 2020

Venetian Style House Salad
Roasted Sirloin of Beef served in Brown gravy
Italian Sausage with sautéed Peppers & Onions
Stuffed Shells in Red sauce
Green Beans Almondine
Rice Pilaf
Chocolate Cake

\$20 per person

Thank you for making your lunch reservations by the Friday, March 13th deadline. Reservations can be made by mail, by calling 215-563-1814, by email to valleyofphiladelphia@outlook.com or through the Valley's Facebook group-'Valley of Philadelphia Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite-Members Only!' If we have your current email address you'll receive a notice via email that will allow you to pay for your lunch using you credit or debit card.



Serving Those Who Served

An Honorable Charitable Effort this Spring

The Most Wise Master and the Officers of Kilwinning Chapter of Rose Croix, 18° ask your assistance in support of our local Veterans during our Spring Reunion.

Veterans Multi-Service Center of Philadelphia

The VMC is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides services, programs, opportunity and advancement to Veterans of the U.S. armed forces and their families.

The Center is located at 213 N. 4th Street in Philadelphia and provides direct support to Veterans having difficulty adjusting to post service life.

If you would like to learn more about the VMC, visit their website at vmcenter.org



How You Can Help

Every Freemason has something in their closet they are one day 'hoping' to fit back into. We ask that consider donating your new or gently worn business attire (suits, jackets, slacks, dress shirts) to this worthy cause. These items are provided to Veterans free of charge to prepare them for job interviews and other opportunities.

In addition to business wear, the VMC is also in desperate need of the following items:

- Lightly worn shoes of any type
- Sweat pants for older residents with disabilities
- Toiletry kits
- Socks
- Coats

Remaining items are sold in the VMC thrift stores to support the organization's great work, helping our Veterans.

We ask that you please bring your donations to the Spring Reunion meetings on Saturday, March 21st and Friday, April 17th. Donation boxes will be available to deposit your items in the Temple. If you have large amounts you'd like to donate, please send Bro. David Kolmetzky, 32°, Most Wise Master an email to djk021268@gmail.com or call Bro. Dave at 267-280-6762 to arrange pickup.

This is just not a New Year, but also a “New Decade”- “Welcome to 2020 in the Valley of Philadelphia!”

The fall reunion season was exciting, and to summarize the events and accomplishments would take too much of your time to read. Since my last message to you in the December Double Eagle, we held our Annual Holiday Party at the Springfield Country Club. If you were not there you missed a fantastic time including dinner, dancing and a Magician/Illusionist. Make sure you attend next year.

Our upcoming Spring Reunion season promises to be even more exciting. The Spring Class Honoree is Ill. Thomas Gamon IV, 33°, the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. It will be our honor to have him attend our Reunion on April 17, 2020.



Our first Reunion for the spring will be on SATURDAY, March 21. As we did in the fall, we are trying to change our reunion schedules and formats based on feedback from you – the members. Our first Reunion will be on a Saturday, the second and third (the Annual Meeting) will be on Friday evenings. Please make sure you invite your Ladies to attend the Friday evening Reunions!

Many members have provided feedback that they have not seen enough variety in the degrees presented in the past. Based on that feedback, we will be presenting several degrees at the March 21 Reunion that have not been seen in many years at the Valley. We will be presenting the 4° (Builder, required), 8° (Intendent of the Building), 12° (Master of Mercy), 24° (Brother of the Forest), and 25° (Master of Achievement). We also have the honor of the Lafayette Lodge of Perfection (Valley of Boston) visiting us and presenting the 12°, as well as Concordia Lodge presenting the 8° with the Ill. Steve Morrison as the Degree Master. If your lodge is interested in presenting a degree, please contact the Valley Secretary.

There is still time to invite your fellow masons to join the Valley of Philadelphia as candidates for the Spring Reunion. To celebrate our Spring Class Honoree, we have the following incentive for the first 30 candidates to join the class – “For every three petitions obtained from the same lodge or by the same primary signer, the candidates will not have to pay dues in 2021.” (All fees will be required with the petitions).

One of the priorities I set for the Valley this year was to “Commit to be the BEST MASONS – to each other and the community”. For the Spring, the Kilwinning Chapter of Rose Croix are sponsoring a charity effort for the Veteran’s Multi-Service Center of Philadelphia (VMC). This initiative will collect much needed

business clothing for those that have committed their lives for our freedom, so that they get a start in their civilian lives. To give an early boost to the charity event, the Valley has committed a donation of \$1,000. I ask that you fully support this effort.

In order for us all to make the Valley of Philadelphia a success, here is what YOU NEED TO DO-

- VOLUNTEER to be a part of the Valley! Join a degree team, stage crew, wardrobe committee or a Line sponsored charity event.
- BECOME A LODGE AMBASSADOR! We will help you be a success at promoting Scottish Rite Masonry and the Valley at your Lodge.
- UPDATE YOUR PROFILE on the NMJ Website! We can’t communicate with you if we have bad contact info.
- TALK TO US! Your Commander in Chief, the 1st Lt. Commander, the 2nd Lt. Commander and the Line Officers what to hear your feedback and ideas.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Ill. Gerard (Gerry) Sealy, 33°
Commander in Chief

News from the Supreme Council

The Supreme Council recently announced the creation of a new award that will be presented to those Brethren that have completed the ‘Gold (second) Passport.

The newly debuted ‘SPRS’ jewel will be presented to deserving Brethren by the Deputy of their State.



Currently 9 Valley of Philadelphia Brethren have qualified to receive the jewel.

Congratulations Brethren! We should know soon as to when you will be presented with this honor and you will be notified.

For those still working on your first Passport, once you’ve completed that, you will receive a nice certificate from the Supreme Council, along with your Gold Passport, which will put you the path to the SPRS jewel.

“Perhaps the clearest and deepest meaning of Brotherhood is the ability to imagine yourself in the other person’s position, and treat that person as if you were him or her. This form of Brotherhood takes a lot of imagination, a great deal of sympathy, and a tremendous amount of understanding.” What powerful words from Obert C. Tanner; philanthropist and a professor of philosophy.



It is not just being a Freemason that fulfills our lives but it’s *that feeling of Brotherhood* and experiencing all we have to offer. We care for, look after and support each other. This is and has always been an incredible feeling of Brotherhood and assurance only found in being a Freemason. This is also consistent in being a Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Valley of Philadelphia.

Welcome to the kick-off Reunion for our Spring 2020 Class honoring our Right Worshipful Grand Master, Illustrious Thomas Gamon IV, 33rd! To our new Scottish Rite members in this class – we are so excited to have YOU amongst us!! Enjoy the degrees and the message each has to teach, as well as the multitude of events and the fellowship in our Valley. To our current Valley of Philadelphia members; it’s always great to see you! It’s always great to see and be with each of you. We will be conferring three Lodge of Perfection degrees at this Reunion, the 4th, 8th and the 12th (performed by Boston Lafayette Lodge of Perfection), in addition to the 24th, 25th and 32nd. We look forward to exceptional and meaningful performances!

We have many exciting events coming up in the next few months and Scottish Rite year, so please watch for the advertisements in our Double Eagle magazine, our Valley’s website, and popular social media pages. We would love having you join us! Please share the Valley of Philadelphia experience with your friends and Brothers in your Lodges and other appendant bodies. You won’t be sorry!

As we say, the Valley of Philadelphia Scottish Rite is Pennsylvania Freemasonry’s Best Experience. You know what? We really mean it! Take advantage of everything we have to offer.

I look forward to seeing each of you all at our upcoming Reunions and events!

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Rick S. Freedman, 33rd
Thrice Potent Master
Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection



Brethren,

Over a period of time you have heard or read someone say, “There is no better time to be a Scottish Rite Mason than now.” That is particularly true as the Valley of Philadelphia Spring reunion is approaching and on Saturday, March 21st there will be five degrees presented, some of which have not been presented for four to five years. Also, during that day the Valley of Boston’s Lafayette Lodge of Perfection will be visiting and presenting the 12th.

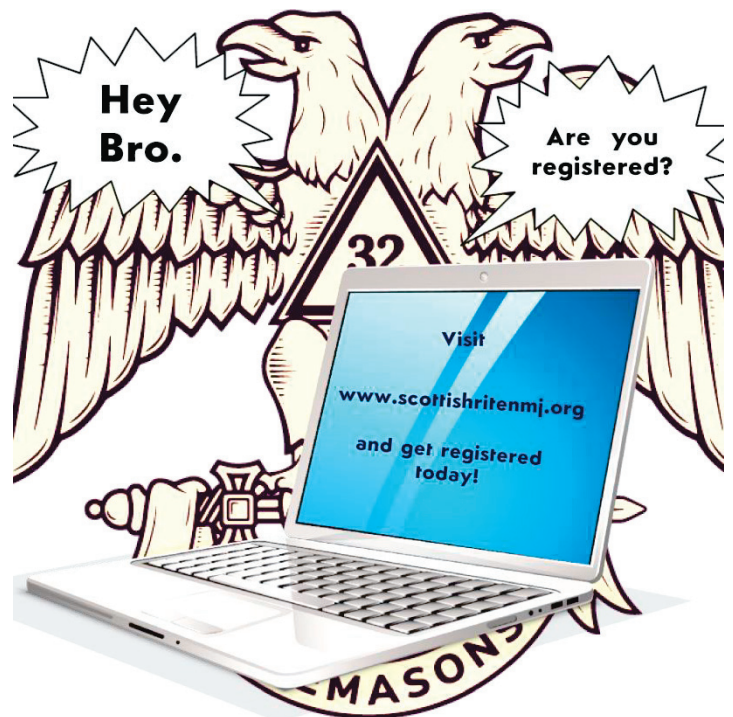


While the Saturday reunion is for the Brethren only, our second reunion to be held on Friday, April 17th is not, so bring your lady as we present the 32nd, which is one of my favorites. Our Honoree at the Friday reunion will be Ill. Bro. Thomas Gamon IV, 33rd, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Pennsylvania.

This Fraternity and especially the Valley of Philadelphia have so many things to offer its members, but the friendships that have been established and the fellowship that is shared over the years is priceless, but they can only be experienced if you get involved. And yes, “There is no better time to be a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Philadelphia then now.”

I hope to see you at our reunions.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Joseph W. Calabrese, 32nd MSA
Sovereign Prince



Brethren,

Wow! What an exciting time to be a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Philadelphia! The Spring reunion is fast approaching and the scheduled is PACKED!



I want to remind you once again that our Chapter's charity activity for the Spring is the support of the Veterans Multi-Service Center. PLEASE remember to bring your gently used business attire to both our March and April reunions and place it in the donation bins. The clothing will help struggling veterans transition back to

civilian life by better preparing them for the workforce. They could also use shoes, sweatpants and small toiletry kits. I've been to their facility personally and it's heartbreaking to see our Nation's heroes struggling to get by. Any help we can provide will be so greatly appreciated. If you have items but cannot make it to the reunions, please contact me directly and I'll be happy to arrange to pick it up. I can be reached at 267-280-6762 or dj02128@gmail.com.

On Saturday, March 21st, the officers of the 18th degree will be joining forces with the not as talented but equally enthusiastic officers of the 16th degree to put on the 24th degree, "Brother of the Forest." When I first read the script, I couldn't help but think how applicable this degree is in the world we live in today. I think you will absolutely enjoy seeing it. In addition our friends from Boston will be joining us to put on the 12th degree.

To top it off, at our April 17th meeting we will have the privilege of welcoming our newly installed Right Worshipful Grand Master as the class honoree.

As I said, this is truly a great time to be a Scottish Rite Mason. I look forward to seeing everyone on the 21st.

David Kolmetzky
Most Wise Master



Hello Brethren:

Like the season of Spring, the Valley's Spring Reunion celebrates renewal as we have the opportunity to renew friendships and to create new ones. I try to make the habit of meeting at least one Brother at every Reunion that I've only spoken to on a Secretary to Member level and make a new friend. Try it yourself and if we've never bonded, come say 'Hi.' At the March meeting, we're all going to meet some new friends with our visiting Boston Brethren.



We've started scanning your dues cards at Reunions. By doing that we can actually enter into your membership record what degrees you witnessed at that particular meeting. Be sure to have your dues card with you when you attend. If you've lost your card, please let me know.

Throughout the Fall Reunion the Lodge of Perfection sponsored a food drive to assist *Philabundance*. The program was very successful and something we as Scottish Rite Masons can be very proud of. Kilwinning Chapter of Rose Croix, brings us the *Veteran's Multi-Service Center of Philadelphia* as the charitable endeavor during the Spring Reunion. I cannot think of a more caring way to say 'Thank You for Your Service'. As a Veteran myself, I personally want to thank fellow Veteran and the Chapter's Most Wise Master, Bro. David Kolmetzky, 32° for this thoughtful project. Dave's an Air Force guy but, I'm sure he won't object to a *Bravo Zulu* from a Sailor. Brethren, if you are able to support this effort, please do.

The March meeting will feature a few degrees not performed in Gothic Hall in a while. Be sure to bring your passport. Let's get you stamped and closer to that certificate, that gold passport and the Valley's coveted and exclusive 'Scottish Rite Traveler' pin, and of course the new SPRS jewel.

We have a few of the Supreme Council 200th Anniversary and the 2016 National Scottish Rite Day jewels in the office. They will be available for sale beginning at the March meeting. You must be present to purchase one! We are not taking mail or telephone orders and nor will we ship them. They're \$25 while supplies last. We also have a small supply of the Fall 2019 Veteran jewels remaining. Please note that you must be a Veteran and be able to prove it to purchase one of those jewels. They are \$30. We still have some of the 'Defender of Peace & Freedom' pins too. They're free, and again you must be a Veteran to receive one, and, they're only available to you by attending a Reunion.

We'll see you on Saturday, March 21st

Steven A. Morrison, 33° DSM
Valley Secretary



Brethren,

I am happy to report that as of the end of January we are right on target to meet our budget projections.



We could not have reached this without the support of our Masonic Community.

With your continued contributions and support of our fundraisers, I am cautiously optimistic that we will reach our budget this year and next. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to help our children learn to live with Dyslexia and prevent them from living a life full of daily frustration and demoralization.

Send checks or money orders to:
Children's Dyslexia Center
3958 Rowena Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19114

Credit card donations go to:
Childrendyslexiacenters.org/donate/ **YOU MUST TYPE**
"PHILADELPHIA, PA" where it says "Make my gift toward a center."

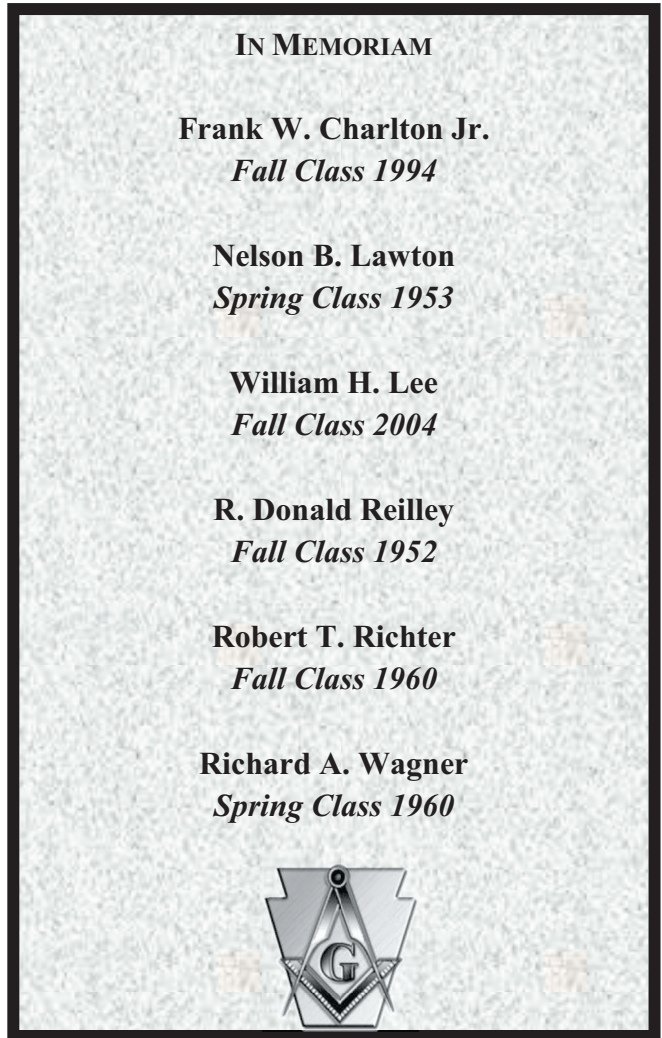
Please support our wonderful fundraisers listed below:

- 1) Wednesday, March 4 **Texas Roadhouse** 1545 Street Road Bensalem, PA
- 2) Friday, April 24 **Bingo at St. Dominic's** 8532 Frankford Avenue Philadelphia, PA Cost \$40 per person (includes beverages)
- 3) Thursday, May 21 **Chef's Gala at Valley Forge Casino/Hotel**
- 4) Thursday, May 7 **Texas Roadhouse** 1545 Street Road, Bensalem, PA
- 5) Monday, June 8 **Golf Outing at Five Ponds Golf Course** \$110/person Cost includes donuts, buffet dinner and awards presentation. Sponsors/Advertisers and Donors are needed.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Tom Wible 215-519-9839 or email Tomwible48@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your interest in the Learning Center.

Thomas H. Wible, 33° MSA
Board Chairman



We're still in need of Lodge Ambassadors

As Scottish Rite Masons we know that value of our membership in the Valley; but, what about our Lodge Brothers? Do they know about the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite? That's where our Lodge Ambassadors come in.

We've identified 60 Lodges in our local region. Currently we have 18 Brothers serving as Ambassadors. That leaves us with 42 Lodges in the 'dark' regarding our Valley. Pennsylvania is 'open territory' for all Valleys with the exception of the local Valley's home county; which means we have jurisdictional sovereignty over all Lodges within the city of Philadelphia. Any other Valley recruiting members in the city need to receive a clearance waiver from us to allow a Philadelphia Brother to petition their Valley.

In Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties we face competition from the Valley's of Allentown, Reading and Wilmington. We need someone on the front lines to represent the cause! Check our Valley's website (philascottishrite.org) for a list of our Ambassadors. See if your Lodge is represented. Even if it is, you can still serve. A Lodge can have 2 Ambassadors. Call the Scottish Rite Office 215-563-1814 to volunteer or for more information. Become a member of the team!

Valley Holiday Party, 'The Magic of the Holidays,' Saturday, December 7, 2019



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ALLEGIANCE

The Bodies of the Scottish Rite sitting in the Valley of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council, Thirty-third Degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts and whose Officers include:

ILL.: DAVID A. GLATTLY, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

ILL.: ROBERT J. BATEMAN, 33° RWPGM
*Active Member for Pennsylvania &
Deputy for Pennsylvania*

www.scottishritenmj.org

www.pacod.us

The Double Eagle

Valley of Philadelphia, A.A.S.R

Ill.: Steven A. Morrison, 33°, Editor

Unless otherwise stated, The Double Eagle will be published 6 times per year; March, April, May, October, November and December. Articles to be included in The Double Eagle, are always welcome, and should be typed, or written legibly, signed and dated by the author with proper credits, if applicable, and sent to the following address no later than the first day of the month preceding the month of publication.

Scottish Rite Bodies
One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2520
Tel. 215-563-1814 Toll Free: 866-834-3432
valleyofphiladelphia@outlook.com

www.philascottishrite.org