

The Latest News

From the Communications Team at the Valley of Savannah

VOL 1, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2018

This newsletter is brought to you by the Communications Team and is meant to give you the latest and greatest news and information from around the organization.

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SECTION 1 VALLEY LEADERSHIP

FROM THE VENERABLE MASTERAs Venerable Master I would like to ask you, have you looked around at the last few meetings? Are there any Brothers that you missed seeing? Call that Brother. Let him know that you missed seeing him. Enquire about his health. Let him know that you are thinking about him. If he is sick, console him and pass on to the membership about his condition so we can add him to our prayer list.

As fall approaches, we need to address our Scottish Rite membership in our Blue Lodges. Let them know that our Fall Reunion is fast approaching. It will be on October 12 &13. Let them also know how easy it is to get back into the Scottish Rite. Let them know that we miss them at our meetings.

My Brothers, I hope you have a safe summer and I look forward to seeing you on September 4th.

Fraternally yours.

Bruce McNall, 33° IGH, Venerable Master

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE As Summer is on the decline (HA!) we turn our thoughts to other activities compatible with the Fall season. So much has happened and there is still so much to accomplish before the year runs out. I trust you will like the new newsletter format which is now in the hands of the General Secretary. He is in the perfect position to put news in the hands of our membership. We have so much to be thankful for with such a great office staff headed by Brother JJ and his wonderful ideas to make our Valley prosper. Exciting events are on the agenda for the remaining months of this year. I call your attention especially to our Fall Reunion to be held October 12-13. Help us to have a good Reunion by getting petitions turned in promptly. Remember, you can ask a Brother to join. Make sure you always have a petition with you. The miniature petition is perfect to fit in your wallet. If you don't have one, see the General Secretary. Also, the Walk-a-thon on November 3 will be an excellent event to involve family and friends. All proceeds benefit RiteCare. Don't forget the Orient of Georgia Raffle to benefit our Scottish Rite of Georgia Foundation Scholarships to deserving young students. A \$100 raffle ticket gives you a chance to win \$10,000 first prize, \$3,000 second prize or \$2,000 third prize and the drawing will be held here in the Valley of Savannah at our regular meeting in November. December will be here before we know it and we will be busy planning for the 2019 year, but we will have our annual Christmas Social to close out the 2018 year and award our annual contribution to RiteCare. That event will be December 14. It is a high honor to serve you and the number one Valley as your Personal Representative. Thank you for all you do as we work together to accomplish our goals.

Clyde E. Griffin, 33°, IGH PR to SGIG in GA

SECRETARY'S VIEWSSummer is STILL here and it is hot. The kids are back in school and have multiple events which we must attend with them. Let's not forget the Scottish Rite meetings. Even more let's not forget our other Masonic meetings. Be proud to be a Mason. Wear your ring, hat, belt buckle and your favorite shirt with the Scottish Rite emblem. Let other people know you are a Mason but remember your actions should reflect that you are a Mason. RiteCare is our cause and we should support it. Join us at

our meetings and take part every time you can. September allows us another month to excel as Scottish Rite Members, thanks to the newly formed culinary Crew. Please visit our website www.savannahscottishrite.org
James "JJ" Johns 32°, General Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE..... It is indeed an honor to be serving as the Executive Committee Chairman for the Scottish Rite Valley of Savannah. I am fortunate to have a group of individuals who take their elected positions seriously, and not only support their Valley with their attendance at Executive Committee meetings and Lodge of Perfection meetings, but are also willing to serve and do the jobs needed. I thank each and every member of the Executive Committee for their attendance and work at our meetings. I feel the Valley membership has elected a good group to guide our Valley in the right direction. We have been very fortunate to have several individuals step up to take on the chairmanship of some very important committees for our Valley. Brother Carlos Ruiz, 32nd Degree, KCCH, is doing a fantastic job as our Membership Committee Chairman. He can be seen at many of the Blue Lodges throughout each month encouraging Blue Lodge members to become Scottish Rite Masons. Brother Jimmy Shanken, 32nd Degree, has hit the road running as the chairman of our Rite Care Committee. He is letting many of our Blue Lodges know about our Rite Care program. With his help as Committee Chairman, we should be able to give greater support to our Rite Care Clinic. Brother Lennon Waite, 32nd Degree, has been a ball of fire since taking on the task as our Fundraising Chairman. With his leadership, and the help of his wife and son, your Valley has undertaken the task of carrying out six fundraisers so far this year. Get involved and help Brother Lennon make these fundraisers a success for the Valley and Rite Care. I feel that we have been very successful in our efforts for the last year and a half that I have been the Executive Committee Chairman. We have accomplished several needed changes, including the rewrite of our By-Laws. All these accomplishments would not be possible without the work of your Executive Committee and the support of all the Valley of Savannah members. Continue your support of the Scottish Rite by attending the Lodge of Perfection Meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. Dinner at 6:30 PM followed by the Lodge of Perfection meeting at 7:30 PM. Also support the Valley by helping out at our Reunions. The next Reunion will be October 12 and 13.

Roger Coursey 33° IGH, Chairman of Executive Committee

ASSOCIATION HAPPENINGS *****Did you know? All Associations meet quarterly and enjoy great fellowship, interesting programs, and you get to select your own food because it is "Dutch treat." Ladies and guests are welcome. Please check the Scottish Rite Calendar of events in this newsletter for an association meeting near you.

MEMBERSHIP..... Brother Carlos Ruiz, 32° KCCH and his committee are hoping for a large class for the Fall Reunion and need your help. Ask a new brother to join but also ask a Brother who has not been regular to rejoin and be active. The current "Bring a Brother BACK" membership drive will be ending soon, let's invite a brother to take advantage of this program before it's too late.

For a petition: <http://www.savannahscottishrite.org>

FUNDRAISING..... It has been an amazing year with many successful Fundraisers! The Golf Tournament in May was a huge success, and we already have a Hole Sponsor paid for the 2019 Golf Tournament. Be thinking ahead to those friends and family members who may want to participate in next year's Tournament. The Gun Raffle is in full swing and the office is out of tickets. If you are holding any unsold tickets that you do not believe you will be able to sell in time please return them to Jessica in the office so that she may distribute them. The Pit Barrel Raffle will be drawn at the meeting on October 2. Please make sure all tickets are turned in by September 27. We still have plenty of tickets available, so if you are looking for a new smoker for Football Season take a chance and buy some tickets (5 for \$20). The Orient Raffle is in full swing. Tickets are \$100 each for a chance to win Grand Prize of \$10,000! There is also a chance to win a 2nd place price of \$3,000 and 3rd place \$2,000. Increase your odds by buying multiple tickets. Proceeds benefit the Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia Rite Care and Scholarship Programs. Tickets are not tax deductible. Drawing will be held here in Savannah on November 6. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold so get them while you can. November 3 is the Inaugural Walk for Rite Care. This is a family friendly event so bring out the wife, kids, grandkids and take a Walk around the Lake to benefit Rite Care. All participants will receive a medal and drawstring back pack. Registration is \$30 due by October 26 or have the registration turned in by September 21 and save \$5 off the registration costs. Obtain a registration form from the office or download it from www.savannahscottishrite.org . We look forward to seeing everyone there! As you can see there is Something for Everyone and Everyone for Something. Lend a hand, participate in an event, or be a sponsor!

Lennon Waite, 32° , Fundraising Chairman

KNIGHTS OF ST ANDREW.... Brethren, The Knights of Saint Andrew would like to invite all 32° Scottish Rite, black hat members to join our Clan. We meet for fellowship and act as a social and service group for the purpose of assisting in various stated meetings of the Scottish Rite Valley of Savannah. Our dues for membership are \$25 and a one-time fee of \$5 for a Knights of Saint Andrew coin. Our meetings are held Quarterly and the next meeting will be October 30th at 6:30pm in the lodge room on the fourth floor of the Scottish Rite building located at 341 Bull St., Savannah, Ga, there will be KSA social September 25th at Perkins restaurant at gateway Savannah.

Robert Brooks, 32° KCCH, KSA Chieftain

Building Chairman.....We continue to have issues with our building, leaks A/C paint etcetera but as we all get older we also have issues. Let's all continue to have patience with these issue and tackle each one as we can. We have a donor to refurbish the ladies restroom on the third floor and we cannot wait to see a finished project. Lodge secretaries and other bodies, please be reminded that to keep cost down attention must be made to ensure the A/C , lights and the kitchen and dining room has the appropriate attention paid to them. We continue to have the lights and A/C left on and the top lock engaged after hours, thus preventing others to get into the building. With the temperatures soaring, the electrical bill continues to rise. Please help us keep your cost down by helping us keep all cost down.

Keep all those who are ill and in need in your prayers.

Bruce McNall, 33° IGH, Chairman

SECTION 2 SPOTLIGHT



2018 MEMORIAL FALL REUNION
October 12-13, 2018
ILLUSTRIOUS MALBERRY SMITH, JR., 33°



SECTION 3 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug	27	6:30	PM	Altamaha SR Assn meeting-Western Sizzlin, Jesup, GA
Aug	29	6:30	PM	Applebee's Dining to Donate
Sept	4	6:30	PM	SR Dinner Monthly Meeting at 7:30PM
Oct	2	6:30	PM	SR "Feast of Tishri" Meeting at 7:30PM "PIT BARRELL BBQ RAFFLE DRAWING"
Oct	9	6:30	PM	East GA SR Assn Meeting-Cpt Joe's Seafood Midway, GA
Oct	12-13	12:00	PM	Fall Reunion 2-day class
Oct	16	6:30	PM	Southeast GA SR Assn meeting-Sonny's BBQ Brunswick GA
Oct	22-23	7:30	AM	Grand Lodge of GA-Macon GA
Nov	3	8:00	AM	"Walk for RiteCare"-Lake Mayer Sav GA
Nov	6	6:30	PM	SR Dinner Monthly Meeting at 7:30PM \$10,000 Raffle Drawing and Awards night
Nov	22-23	OFFICE CLOSED		
Nov	26	6:30	PM	Altamaha SR Assn meeting-Western Sizzlin. Jesup GA
Dec	4	6:30	PM	SR Dinner Monthly Meeting at 7:30PM
Dec	14	TBD		SR Rite Christmas Party/Shotgun Raffle Drawing
Dec	17-Jan1	OFFICE CLOSED		
Jan	8	6:30	PM	SR Dinner Monthly Meeting at 7:30PM

SECTION 4 RESERVED FOR SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT : <http://savannahscottishrite.org>

Unless you read this entire newsletter you will most likely miss a Scottish Rite membership number printed within. It could be yours. Numbers are embedded without leading zeroes. Match it to the number on your membership card and win 1 free dinner.



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

2018 dues were due on or before January 1, 2018. Thanks to those members who have paid for 2018. If you are one of those who have not paid your 2018 dues or any prior year's dues, we remind you that you are in violation of your obligation. Please remit as soon as possible. Your promptness in this matter will enable us to meet our financial obligations as a Valley. We depend on you to do what is right for the Rite. If you are unable to meet your obligation, please contact the Secretary at once.



What does being a Scottish Rite Mason mean to you, and ME? Does it make you proud to be one? Do you look forward to the meetings? Do you enjoy making new friends? Do you become involved and participate in fundraisers, and special events? Do you bring your family to these events and watch them having fun? Do you see the Rite as having a positive influence in the community and making changes in the lives of others through our RiteCare Center? Well if you do, as I do myself, then these are good reasons to ask our brothers to become members in this Honorable Fraternity. Ask, Ask, ASK!

SOMETHING NEW

In each issue one member's ID number is printed somewhere in our newsletter.

Note: Leading zeroes are dropped. If that member spots his number and notifies the General Secretary, he will win three free dinners. Your member number is printed on your dues card. The Scottish Rite serves dinner prior to each meeting for a nominal charge RSVP required.
P.S. Ladies are always invited to join us for dinner!

MOVING? Please inform the Scottish Rite Office of your new address or any other pertinent information. Correct addresses save time, money and bother. Do your part by notifying us of any CHANGES in your status. (912-232-5132). Also, **let us know your email address.** Mailings are now sent electronically.

GIFT SHOP ITEMS FOR SALE

For all your Masonic jewelry needs, just let us know. If we don't have it in stock, we will be glad to order it for you. We have auto emblems and pocket badges. Master Craftsman I, II and III are available.



What's a Little Friendly Competition among Brothers?

York Rite of Savannah, GA, Was the Place to Be for the Tournament of Champions!

York Rite of Savannah brethren were "very" busy on Saturday, August 18th 2018, hosting the Tournament of Champions. Based on Blue Lodge ritual, the event brings brothers from local Blue Lodges together to compete in the following categories: Best Lecture; Best Charge; Best Prayer; Best Opening & Closing of a Lodge; Best Catechism; Brother who entered the most events; Lodge that entered the most events; and Overall Best Performance. Event registration began at 9 am and, within the hour, the Tournament was ON. At noon, participants were called from labor to refreshment with a delicious lunch courtesy of the York Rite Culinary Committee. Labor resumed at 1 pm and continued until everyone had competed, at which time, judges tallied the scores and presented trophies in the above categories. The friendly competition promotes friendship, camaraderie, and Esprit de Corps among Masons. It's also a great opportunity to expose the York Rite to eligible brothers who have not yet joined.

All spent a day in fun, fellowship, and beautiful downtown Savannah, GA. What could be better than that?

—Submitted by James "JJ" Johns, 32°

General Secretary, Valley of Savannah, GA

Services Available:

Evaluations of: Speech, Language, Voice, Fluency;

Treatment of: Speech, Language, Voice, Fluency;

Accent Reduction. For more information contact:

Ellen (Kim) Elliot



**113040 Abercorn Street
Savannah Georgia 31419
eelliot@georgiasouthern.edu
OFFICE: 912 344 2735**

**RITECARE CENTER LOCATION
Suite 25 13040 Abercorn St.
Savannah GA 31419**

VALLEY OF SAVANNAH SCOTTISH RITE PRESENTS

A WALK FOR RITE CARE



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2018

LAKE MAYER PARK

1850 E Montgomery Cross Rd, Savannah, GA 31406

CHECK IN AT 10 AM / WALK STARTS AT 10:30

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

EMAIL savannahsmason@gmail.com to request a registration form.



VALLEY OF SAVANNAH SCOTTISH RITE
341 BULL STREET SAVANNAH, GA 31401
PO BOX 9782 SAVANNAH, GA 31412
912-232-5132
savannahsmason@gmail.com



RiteCare
Scottish Rite Masons
Helping Children Communicate

SECTION 6 ENDOWMENT & PRESERVATION FUND AND MEMORIAL



THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

This Historic Landmark has stood in downtown Savannah for more than 85 years as a monument to Masonry. In the late 1800's a group of Masons decided that an effort should be made to erect a Masonic Building that would accommodate the various Blue Lodges and appendant bodies which for over a hundred years had not had a permanent home. On May 2, 1896, The Masonic Temple Association was incorporated and immediately began to accumulate funds which would eventually reach a quarter of a million dollars. This was done through donations and the sale of stock to individuals and the various Masonic organizations in the area. The land upon which the Masonic Center stands was purchased in November 1895 for the sum of \$22,500, before the Masonic Center Foundation was chartered. In 1903 a general appeal was made to all the Masonic organizations for additional support and the response was very encouraging to the leaders of the Association. In 1912 the fund had grown to the extent that the Dreamers who saw in their visions a new and handsome home for Savannah Masonry were ready to proceed with what would be a source of pride for the fraternity and an ornament for the city of Savannah. In the fall of 1912 the contract was awarded for the building and the corner stone was laid June 30, 1913, by Most Worshipful Robert L Colding, Grand Master of Masons in Georgia, with several thousand people in attendance.

As time wore on and support waned, the rising cost of completing the construction of the Masonic Center became more than the Association could meet. In 1917, it became apparent that the Association would not be able to meet its responsibilities and the contractor received a judgment against it. After a time of legal maneuvering three Scottish Rite Masons obtained a loan and proceeded to complete the construction. The Building was completed in 1923 and deeded to the Scottish Rite. Even though it has been known as The Scottish Rite Temple for these many years it has been home to all Masonry and is now rightfully known as THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC CENTER.

For these many years the maintenance and upkeep of the Center has been supported through the general fund of the Savannah Scottish Rite. In 1999 The Scottish Rite Masonic Center Preservation Foundation, Inc. was chartered and granted tax exempt status by the IRS. The Masonic Center Endowment Fund has been established under this Foundation to support the maintenance and upkeep of this beautiful historic Masonic Landmark. Tax-deductible contributions may be mailed to the address below and additional information may be obtained by calling or writing the Savannah Scottish Rite.

PHONE (912) 232-5132 341 BULL STREET P O. BOX 9782 SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31412-9782 email: savannahsrmason@gmail.com

DONATIONS TO MASONIC CENTER PRESERVATION & ENDOWMENT FUND

June-Roger Coursey In Memory of Eileen Koelin Brigdon King	July-Lynnee Flanary
June-Jeff DeLoach	July-Southern Charm Antiques-Gregory Richards
June-James Devine	August-Roger Coursey In Memory of James DeLoach, Sr
June-Timothy Allen	August-James Devine
June-HLC Hotel Eliza Thompson House	August-Christopher D. Hutson
July-James Devine	
July- Charles G. White In memory of James M. DeLoach, SR	

IN MEMORIAM

James M. DeLoach SR, 32° 07/03/18 George J. Monroe, 32° KCCH 07/05/18 Burrell Carson, 32° 08/11/18
Charles G. Edwards JR. 32° 08/11/18

"The fruits of their labors live after them"

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SR FOUNDATION OF GA

Sam Ausley Jeff DeLoach Christopher D. Hutson 21 Rentals

Storehouse Salvage, LLC Knights of St Andrew

SECTION 7 GOOD OF THE ORDER

THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish,
freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people
everywhere our ultimate goal.

Attention! Sojourning Scottish Rite Masons

If you now reside in our area, we cordially invite you to visit us here in the Savannah Valley. We extend our hand in Brotherly Love and Friendship!

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

As we go about our involvement in Freemasonry we should keep in mind that there are certain things to consider which affect others, even though we enjoy gathering and interacting with our Brothers. Think about family and friends outside Masonry who do not belong and perhaps do not understand why we seem to leave them out at times. Can a Brother's wife and family be involved? You bet they can! How? We simply open our doors and welcome them to the many functions we do here at the Scottish Rite: Ring Ceremony; Feast of Tishri; Remembrance and Renewal; Family Night; Awards Night; Flag Day; Scottish Rite Association Meetings; Installation of Officers; Special Occasions; Workdays; Tours; Outings; Spaghetti Fundraiser. The list can keep growing! A Ladies Auxiliary would be nice!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. You may also view this newsletter on the website: www.savannahscottishrite.org
2. If you know of someone who does not have capability to view this newsletter electronically please let 11135712 let us know and we will make arrangements for a hard copy.
3. Dues may be renewed online by visiting the website: www.savannahscottishrite.org **What a deal, don't even get up from where you're sitting. It's a secure webpage.**
4. If you do not have a current dues card in your possession you are considered **delinquent** which may be viewed negatively. If you fall into this category, call the General Secretary for guidance and assistance.
5. All members should **update their profile** on the Supreme Council website: <http://scottishrite.org>
This is beneficial to all concerned. Correct and up-to-date information makes life easier and smoother.
At the top of the page you'll find "Members" button, click that and then "Members Programs" button, click on that and go to "Update your Address." Please fill in all the blocks you wish to fill in, but insure you fill in your [email address](#) as this is very important.
6. Master Craftsman III is now available. Go to: <http://scottishrite.org> and order yours.

FRIENDLY ADVICE

- BECOME AN ENDOWED (LIFE) MEMBER FOR 10 TIMES THE ANNUAL DUES. SEE THE SECRETARY.
- TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN DEGREE WORK. SEE THE DIRECTOR OF WORK, DARRELL REESE
- JOIN THE STAGE CREW AND SEE THE WORK FROM A GREAT PERSPECTIVE. SEE THE STAGE DIRECTOR, BRUCE MC NALL
- TAKE THE MASTER CRAFTSMAN COURSE AND LEARN, LEARN, LEARN. SEE THE SECRETARY, JAMES "JJ" JOHNS

LOST ITEMS: Check with the Scottish Rite Office. Several items that have been left or lost in the building have been turned in. Identify the article or piece and it may be yours to claim. We would like to see everything returned to its owner.

Concerns:

George Vail, Wally Crews, Charley Stokes and Ron Boatright have some health issues. Please keep these and others you may know about in your thoughts and prayers. Let the office know of any others. Pray for our Country!

EMAIL ADDRESS

Are you receiving the information you deserve from the Scottish Rite? If not, ask yourself why not? In order to receive all the news and information sent out by Supreme Council, the Valley of Savannah's website and quarterly newsletter, you must provide us with a good email address. This is your responsibility!

If you have not done so, update your profile (member information) at <http://scottishrite.org>

or call the SR office at 912-232-5132 and give us the current information and we will update your profile for you. You may also update your 9248220 member information on our website at savannahscottishrite.org

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.
- Build a Positive Public Image of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite.
- Support and expand our philanthropic activities.
- Provide a framework for effective leadership to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.
- Provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.

History of Labor Day

Labor Day: What it Means

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. **Labor Day**

Legislation The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed in 1885 and 1886. From these, a movement developed to secure state legislation. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During 1887 four more states — Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York — created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, 23 more states had adopted the holiday, and on June 28, 1884, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. **Founder of Labor Day** More than a century after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers. Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a co-founder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those "who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold." But Peter McGuire's place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday.

Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, N.J., proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic. **The First Labor Day** The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

A Nationwide Holiday



The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday — a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.

The character of the Labor Day celebration has undergone a change in recent years, especially in large industrial centers where mass displays and huge parades have proved a problem. This change, however, is more a shift in emphasis and medium of expression. Labor Day addresses by leading union officials, industrialists, educators, clerics and government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio, and television.

The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pays tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership — the American worker

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....Many times in life we contribute when someone dies. We also contribute to graduations, promotions and accomplishments. It may be in the form of flowers or cards, but is that the only way we can express our love or appreciation for that someone? Some of our members have faithfully donated to our Scottish Rite Building Endowment Fund over the years and that fund has continued to grow. Eventually our endowment should reach a level whereby our building will be completely maintained by that fund. If everyone would contribute in memory or in honor of loved ones, our endowment could grow much faster and we could upgrade our building in so many needed ways. So, next time you have occasion to make a contribution, think about our Scottish Rite Building Endowment Fund.

Valley Membership Achievement Project

The intent of VMAP is to help each Valley carry out its service to the Scottish Rite by providing the very best experience for its members. VMAP requirements are broken into the following 11 specific subject Areas which cover the full scope of the Scottish Rite experience: **1. Membership Retention / Engagement 2. Scottish Rite Education for Members 3. Membership Recruitment 4. New Member Engagement 5. Reunion Experience 6. Scottish Rite Education for Candidates.**

7. Philanthropy 8. Public Image 9. Degree Conferral Proficiency 10. Officer Responsibilities & Engagement 11. Valley Organizations See Bro. Bob Brooks 32° KCCH, KSA if you have any suggestions, or want to find out more about the Knights of St. Andrew, or have any questions regarding VMAP.

Little Known Facts

Masonry is practiced worldwide There are over 2 million Masons in North America and nearly 5 million worldwide. **Freemasonry has no single spokesman** Freemasonry is made up of many individuals in numerous organizations, all subordinate to the Grand Lodge within their jurisdiction (i.e. state). None of these members or organizations can speak for Freemasonry; that is the responsibility of each Grand Lodge within its jurisdiction. No Masonic body nor author, however respected, can usurp the authority of a Grand Lodge. **Freemasonry is made up of many organizations** Masonry has many groups, each with a special social, educational, or philanthropic focus. A man becomes a Mason in his local Lodge. Then he joins any of the following "Appendant Bodies": the Scottish Rite, York Rite (which includes the Royal Arch Council and Knights Templar), Shrine, Grotto, Tall Cedars, etc. **14 U.S. Presidents were Masons:** George Washington, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, James Polk, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, James Garfield, William McKinley, Teddy Roosevelt, William Taft, Warren Harding, F. D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and Gerald Ford. Roosevelt's terms, through the first three years of President Richard Nixon's term, Masons dominated the Court in a ratio of five to four beginning in 1941 to seven to two in 1946. **Masons have always had great influence on the U.S. Supreme Court.** From the inception of the Supreme Court in 1789 through 1940, there never were less than three Masonic justices during term, except on two occasions. Beginning with Mason President F. D. Roosevelt's terms, through the first three years of President Richard Nixon's term, Masons dominated the Court in a ratio of five to four beginning in 1941 to seven to two in 1946. **Of the 56 signers of the "Declaration of Independence" 8 were Freemasons. Masons have always had great influence on the U.S. Supreme Court.** From the inception of the Supreme Court in 1789 through 1940, there never were less than three Masonic justices during term, except on two occasions. Beginning with Mason President F. D. Roosevelt's terms, through the first three years of President Richard Nixon's term, Masons dominated the Court in a ratio of five to four beginning in 1941 to seven to two in 1946. **Of the 56 signers of the "Declaration of Independence" 8 were Freemasons. Of the 55 members of the Constitutional Convention, 9 were Masons. Mason Benjamin Franklin obtained finances and guns for the American Revolution** from leading French Masons and the French government. **Major General Benjamin Lincoln of Revolutionary War fame, who received the sword of Cornwallis in the surrender of Yorktown,** was initiated on Christmas Day, 1780, in St. Andrew's Lodge, Boston, Massachusetts. **The American flag was ordered made by Brother George Washington.** It was sewn by Betsy Ross, whose husband was a member of St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania **Out of fifty-one Grand Lodge jurisdictions in the United States, twenty-seven have eighteen years old as their minimum age** requirement to become a Mason. Six have nineteen years old, and eighteen have twenty-one years old as their minimum age requirement. **Most people are aware of the fact that the Statue of Liberty was a gift of the French people after their own republic came into existence. However, many are not aware that** there is a Masonic link to the statue. Frederic Bartholdi, a Mason, designed it and the Grand Lodge laid the cornerstone of its base with Masonic Ritual. **Edwin E. (Buzz) Aldrin, Jr., a member of Clear Lake Lodge # 1417 in Texas,** when he stepped onto the surface of the moon, carried a special deputation from his Grand Master to claim the moon as being in the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Other astronauts who were Masons include John Glenn.

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DAY 2 Following Breakfast, spend the day visiting the George Washington Masonic Temple & The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry House of the Temple, arranged by the General Secretary of the AASR - Valley of Savannah. This evening is free in Washington DC to discover her vibrant restaurant scene. **B**

DAY 3 This morning, meet your licensed step on guide for a highlights tour of Washington DC. See famous government buildings; the White House, The Supreme Court, Library of Congress and more. View the many memorials and monuments such as the Vietnam, Korean & WWII Memorials, and the Lincoln, Franklin & Jefferson Monuments. End at the Capitol Building for a guided tour of the building. The afternoon is free to explore any of the many Smithsonian Museums such as the famous Air & Space Museum. Then join our farewell dinner cruise aboard The Odyssey; Enjoy live music, dinner and monumental views along the Potomac River. **B D**

DAY 4 Before heading home we join the tram and visit Arlington National Cemetery for the "Changing of the Guard" at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a stop at JFK's gravesite. Then transfer back home to Savannah. **B**

www.FamousMasons.com

*"What we have
done for ourselves
alone, dies with
us; what we have
done for others
and the world,
remains and is
immortal"*

Brother
Albert Pike



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