



VENERABLE MASTER'S MESSAGE

Doyle Miller, 32°, KCCH

It seems that the year has just begun, and 3 months have already passed. I would like to thank all the brethren that were able to come to attend the workshop and make a strong showing for The Richmond Scottish Rite. There was a great deal of information presented and I believe everyone enjoyed the time spent at the workshop. With the Month of April upon us there are two great things that will take place. First is the Easter holiday. I hope that each of you were able to spend this time with family and friends and to be reminded of the wondrous gift this holiday should remind us of.

The second great thing that we as Scottish Rite masons look forward to, are the reunions. Our spring reunion took place on April 15. Although we did not be put on the Degrees, but presented them in the form of videos, it was still meaningful to each of the new candidates in attendance. This April's reunion was named in the remembrance of Robert Wales Carpenter, Jr., 33°. He has been greatly missed. I know that each of us will be working hard to reach out to find new candidates for the reunions. I did have the opportunity to present a program on the Scottish Rite in Dinwiddie #136. I was pleased that the program was well received with quite a few questions ask. I would encourage each of you to ask your blue lodges to present a program on the Scottish Rite.

Brethren, if you have not attended a meeting in some time, I would like to invite you back. There are a lot of things going on in the Richmond Valley and we need your help. In the last month there have been several new committees established to help plan the path the Richmond Valley needs to go. It will take some time, but I do believe we will succeed in becoming the strongest valley in Virginia. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to seeing each of you at the next meeting.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Sam Dunn, 33°

Spring has sprung, the grass is growing, and the flowers are blooming. What a beautiful world. Spring is also the time to renew your commitment to your Rite. There are many things taking place. The committees are hard at work and we look forward to hearing from them.

We held our spring reunion on April 15th, creating 13 new Masters of the Royal Secret. We also created 5 new Masters of the Royal Secret for 3 other Valleys as a courtesy. This reunion was history making, the degrees were conferred by video supplied by the Brethren of Missouri. I heard nothing but great things. This appears to be the future of the Rite. I want to extend on behalf of the Valley a tremendous THANK YOU to Illustrious and M.W. Alan Adkins for securing the use of these degrees. Also, thanks to Illustrious Bro. Charles Robinson and Bro. Lambros for getting the video equipment up and running. Being new there were a few minor hiccups which were handled quickly. We were blessed to have in attendance Illustrious and M.W. Skip Parker our Orient Rep, Illustrious and M.W. Alan Adkins our SGIG for Virginia, Illustrious and M.W. Jeff Hodges and numerous Brethren from Portsmouth and Newport News. There were approximately 80 Brethren in all in attendance. As always, we had a large delegation of The Richmond Scottish Rite Guard assisting in many duties of the day.

Please continue to support your Rite by attending the stated meetings, showing your support for the four bodies and the officers there of. June will be an exciting month as we recognize the teachers of the year from Hanover, Henrico, Chesterfield, and Richmond. We also present the scholarship award winners for this year. All of the awards will take place during the dinner hour. Please remember to make your dinner reservations at least two weeks before the meeting. There is a lot going on, far more than can be communicated in this Newsletter. Your attendance at the stated is the best way to stay informed. Look forward to seeing you soon.

May God bless you, the Rite, the Childhood Language Center, and this great United States of America.

SCOTTISH RITE MEETING SCHEDULE

Monday, May 22, 2023

5:30 PM.....GUARD MEETING
6:00 PM.....Business Meeting
7:00 PM.....Dinner
Program to be Announced
Cost \$15.00
(**\$20 without reservation**)

Monday, June 26, 2023

5:30 PM.....GUARD MEETING
6:00 PM.....Business Meeting
7:00 PM.....Dinner
Education Night
Cost \$15.00
(**\$20 without reservation**)

NO MEETING IN JULY

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER *Tom Varner, KCCH*

What is meant by Masonic charity and what are our obligations? In the Entered Apprentice Degree lecture, we learn that faith, hope, and charity are the principal rungs on the theological ladder to God, and how charity is greater than the first two, for it "extends beyond the grave throughout the boundless realms of eternity". In the Scottish Rite 18th Degree, we are taught that charity is the noblest of the three because it requires action and is therefore the chief virtue and first law of a Mason. Did you know that these words have a scriptural basis? In the King James Bible that our Masonic ritual uses, St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13 the famous explanation of charity, ending with "And now abideth faith, hope, and charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity."

What you may not know is that the original Greek word was agape, which King James translated in 1611 as "charity" but most modern scholars now define as "the highest form of love". Indeed, we have heard this familiar love scripture many times at weddings. Whether we choose to call it charity or love, we know that we are obligated to take concrete actions to help others. We all remember the rite of destitution in the Entered Apprentice Degree where we are required to contribute to another's relief as liberally as we can without material injury to ourselves.

Similarly, in the Royal Arch Mark Master Degree, we are taught to examine ourselves and our affairs at least three times to see if we can relieve another's necessities without the same material injury. This is one of the major ways in which Masonry differs from a mere social club; we have real obligations to help each other and our families, and these extend even beyond the grave to our widows and orphans. But even the act of giving itself carries certain obligations. Remember, just as the Lord says in the Sermon on the Mount, that when we give to charity, we should contribute in secret, and not boast about it. This requires a willing heart.

In DeMolay, the Almoner is taught that "charity, not the ostentatious and unmeaning doling out of alms is a virtue which all should practice. The cry of need is ever sounding in our ears and to it our ears must never be closed." We are approached often by destitute people; whenever that happens to me, I don't give them money, but instead buy them food and drink. Remember that in Hebrews 13, it says "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it." Let us be good stewards of what God has given us, humble about our resources and talents, and use them to the utmost to return to God what is His, and to extend agape love to our fellow men who need it.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK *Lambros Deligan, 32°, KCCH*



Spring is revealing her beauty a bit earlier this year. Showers in April will, hopefully, grace us with flowers in May. Along with all that, we look forward to all the effort that will beautify our yard, our home, and our neighborhood this spring.

Our Spring Reunion honoring Ill. Brother Robert Wales Carpenter, Jr., 33°, was held on Saturday, April 15. We welcomed 13 new Masters of the Royal Secret into the Richmond Valley. This year our Valley was requested and performed courtesy work for the Valleys of Alexandria, Newport News and Portsmouth, adding an additional 5 Masters of the Royal Secret in the Orient of Virginia.

New members, you are encouraged to come to meetings regularly and to be active. To gain the full value of your membership, you must participate.

Our delinquent list is now down to 35 members who have not paid their 2022 dues. If you would like to help to contact any of these brethren, stop by or call the office. Perhaps, there is anyone on the list that you have a close relationship with and are able to contact. Sometimes a friendly voice on the phone will encourage a brother to pay his dues or discover whether an issue exists that the Valley may be able to help with.

The programs for May and June are listed in this newsletter. Please note. There is NO MEETING IN JULY. As per our By-Laws, the Valley is dark in July and December.

Your next newsletter will be the August issue, so please save this issue for reference and to remind you of upcoming events.

Should you need to, please remember to update your email list and mailing address for the office.

Dinner reservations continue to be required by Monday noon, the week prior to the meeting. With your cooperation, we are close to being in the black financially with our meals.

CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE CENTER

Susan Combee, Director

We hope the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center has captured your heart. We provide speech and language services to children (birth-18) with fees based on the family's ability to pay. Imagine helping a child get their wants and needs met by asking for help, requesting support, or simply saying the words "love you"!

YOU are our Center's greatest asset. You may not realize it, but even tiny actions can yield an enormous impact for our Center.

Wondering where to start? Here's a list of possibilities.

1. Follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram

Your vote of confidence isn't only social proof that the Childhood Language Center's cause is meaningful. By following us, you influence the hidden strings behind the curtain and boost our reach. **In other words, your simple click helps our Center touch more lives.**

Or, for extra oomph, like, share and comment on our posts, or post a picture and note on social media about your experience with the Center.

2. Provide an email address so that we can send you updates about the Center. You can then forward one of our emails to a friend to help build a new connection.

In nearly every conversation about SR Childhood Language Center, an aha! moment occurs. "You know who you should meet ..." someone will say. Amazing! These connections unlock new possibilities. Consider the question: Who in my circle needs to know about these resources?

At the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center, we're looking to make connections with people such as educators, physicians, potential clients and their parents.

3. Volunteer a few hours of your time and expertise.

Do you have a special skill or interest area that you would like to share with the Center? Let us know! Send a quick email to explain your idea and area of expertise.

At the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center, we're specifically looking for experts in building maintenance, marketing, fundraising, and grant writing.

4. Think of an influencer in your sphere who should know about the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center and make an introduction.

Do you know a blogger, podcaster, or other influencer whose topic relates to the Center's cause? Your personal introduction could result in a guest post or other opportunity to multiply the Center's efforts.

If you'd like to help the Center in this way, we're specifically looking to make connections around the topics of communication, articulation, language, and literacy.

5. Support the Center financially.

Remember, any donation, no matter the amount, will help. Together, we can do much more than any of us can do on our own. We'd love your support. You can donate to Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center by calling 804-266-6699 with your credit card information, visiting our website at www.speech4children.org (donate now button), or mailing a check to 4202 Hermitage Road, Richmond, VA 23227.

Coretta Scott King once said, "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." My hope is that we continue our joint efforts to make a positive impact in our community and surrounding areas.

Many thanks to you for all the ways you support us!

RICHMOND VALLEY COMING EVENTS

— 2023 —

MAY

Sunday 14 Mothers Day

Monday 22 Stated Meeting

Monday 29 Memorial Day
Office Closed

JUNE

Sunday 18 Fathers Day

Monday 26 Stated Meeting
Education Night

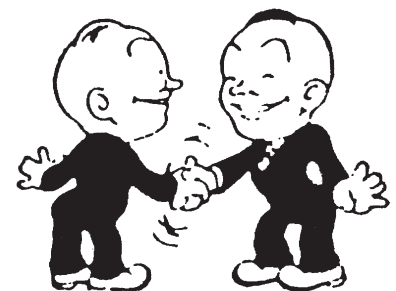
JULY

Tuesday 4 Independence Day
Office Closed

AUGUST

Monday 28 Stated Meeting
Family Night

SOMEONE IS WAITING FOR YOU



TO INVITE HIM TO BECOME
A SCOTTISH RITE MASON. . .
DON'T DISAPPOINT HIM.

THE SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

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Friday by Appointment

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Alan Wayne Adkins, 33°, G.C.

S.G.I.G. in Virginia

Clifford A. Parker, 33°

Orient Personal Representative

Samuel E. Dunn, 33°

Personal Representative, Richmond Valley

Douglas V. Jones, 33°

Asst. Personal Representative

Lambros G. Deligan, 32°, KCCH

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Doyle Lee Miller, 32°, KCCH

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Nicholas Brent Thruston, 32°

Wise Master, Knights Rose Croix

Jonathan Matthew Lumpkin, 32°

Commander, Knights Kadosh

James Eric Creech, 32°, KCCH

Master of Kadosh, Consistory

MEMBERSHIP

CHARLES ROBINSON, 33°, Chairman

April 15 marked another successful Reunion. I, like most of us, had never seen all 29 degrees before. It was quite a treat. This was the first time we have been allowed to use the cinematic communication of the Degrees that were made by the St. Louis Valley, Orient of Missouri. They did a great job producing the videos. I believe this will be a good tool to incorporate into our reunions going forward.

Not only do we now have 13 new Masters of the Royal Secret for our valley, several other valleys joined us with their candidates. Make sure you meet these new members and make them feel welcome.



Called from Labor

ROBERT WINSTON BUCKNER

1934 - 2023

JAMES REGINALD JETER, JR.

1938 - 2023

RICHARD TOBIN LOGUE, JR.

1946 - 021

WILLIS STUART SHEFFIELD

1922 - 2023

Virtus Junxit-Mors non Separabit

"whom virtue has united, Death will not separate"

REQUESTED
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