

ONE DAY ADVENTURE



Jan. 2017

Just some thoughts regarding the One Day Adventure...

As the days and now weeks since the One Day Adventure took place, there were things that have crossed my mind that I thought worthy of sharing. First and foremost, one of our candidates and now brother is Bro. Tanner Huff, 32°. Tanner is the only graduate of the Altoona Dyslexia Learning Center that I know of who has become a Scottish Rite Mason. Congratulations, Tanner and we are glad you chose to become a member of our fraternity! As the Secretary, I arrived at the Jaffa around 5:45 AM thinking I had some time for coffee and a donut. What a surprise to find candidates waiting at the table to check-in. At that point, I figured it would be a busy day! (I eventually got a coffee and ½ a donut, but no lunch!). A lot of help came from the KSA...thanks. The maintenance staff did a great job getting us ready...with no complaints! We handed over \$477.70 to the Hospitaler. Thank you candidates! I was pleased to see that many of our 2016-17 officer corps were in attendance, some doing double duty with the Blue Lodge, but there one the same. Thanks for those of you who showed up and hung in there all day! We took a class picture...this was the first time in awhile that we had the challenge of getting everyone's face in the photo. I received a copy of the picture...not bad! It looked like everyone was smiling...and why not, it was a great day! I am sure I missed mentioning some important happenings that day, so if I missed a thank you to someone who deserved it, I apologize!



What a Day!..

The lights in the Valley of Altoona have been turned on! It was a tremendous feeling to leave the Valley on October 29th at 5:30 after a long day in the building...I drove the almost 3 hours with a smile on my face, knowing that a huge portion of the membership in the Valley worked very hard to achieve the results we experienced...107 Of the 110 petitions that were turned in left with a lapel pin that identified them as a "32° Scottish Rite Mason."

We had a few glitches as the day progressed, but they were nothing in comparison to the good that came out of the day. Lunch was a little off. We planned for 275 brethren. Over 400 showed up and we ran out of food! But we sent Tracey out for more and everyone who wanted to eat had the chance. And at this point in our careers, at least in the career of the Secretary, it's not the first time he's been to a meeting where he didn't get to eat!

Focus on the good...107 new members who will help the Valley grow...if they come back! If we can make it interesting enough that they want to come back... if there is enough enthusiasm to encourage these new guys to get involved... if the mentoring program takes off and is implemented fully... if we plan a reunion that has great participation and great casts of dedicated brethren. Those are some rally big "ifs", but with the help and assistance of all, it can become a reality. Read elsewhere in this publication to learn about the mentoring program.

There are a lot of brethren who need to be thanked from the Valley... **Bro. Matt Lightner, 32°** did all the technology for the entire day. Great work, Matt. If that had been the responsibility of the Secretary, we would still be there! The **KSA** guys were outstanding. Too bad they didn't get properly recognized...that will eventually happen! They were "Johnny on the Spot" when needed and even came by and asked if there was something they could do. **Ill. Bro. Jack Speece, 33°** took time during his vacation to put together the reunion booklet...nicely done. Your efforts were appreciated, Bro. Jack! And our two DDGMs and the Site Coordinator needs recognition... **Ill. Bros. Jack Speece, Al Just, Bobby Snyder** (from District 34 and not a member of our Valley), and **Bill Huston** all worked very hard over many months to ensure all this that happened went smoothly. And it did! When you see these brethren, give them a pat on the back and a handshake...they all deserve it!

I can't forget the Jaffa Maintenance Staff... **Bro. Glenn Moser, 32°** and his guys did a lot of preliminary work in getting it all ready. I know the Valley Secretary asked that 100+ chairs be set up in the lodge room and when he got there Friday afternoon, it was done. Tables were scattered here and there for the various bodies that needed tables. Again, done. And they were great throughout the day if there was something that was needed. Thanks Bro. Glenn and your guys.

Finally, as the Secretary, I feel the need to thank, in addition to the others previously mentioned, the following who helped me put together the additional 40-some packets and passports before the class came in: **Bros. B. Wayne Weaver, 32° Randy Thompson, 32°** and **Ben Watters, 32°**. I could not have been ready without your help. A week earlier, **Bros. Wayne Baggett, 32°** and **Chuck Monk, 32°** came to the stated meeting early and help me put the first 70 packets together. Thanks as well to them.

A day worth remembering...let's do it again, except let's not have the Blue Lodge program or the Jaffa program. Let's just have an overwhelming Scottish Rite Reunion...soon. Will you help??

"We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members"

Abbott Scholarships...

Each year the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction provides scholarships to deserving children of Masons or to Masons themselves. The criteria is listed on the application form which can be found by going to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction website at www.scottishritenmj.org. That will take you to the homepage. From there, go to Member's Center. Click there and then click on Forms. The Abbott Scholarship form will appear. The applicant must complete the form with mandatory accompanying data and forward that information to Ill. John Biddle, 33°. His mailing address is John Biddle, 809 Walnut Street, Roaring Spring, PA 16673. The application is due to Ill. Bro. John no later than March 15, 2017. Applications received after that date will not be considered. For clarification, the applicant must be either a mason themselves or a child of a mason. Being a grandchild or a niece or a nephew is not eligible. Don't be late!

Help is Needed!

First, I would like to thank all the guys who helped me in the 15th and 17th degrees. I know that there is room for improvement, and we need to work harder for the next reunion. With that being said, we need a lot of help to make things better. Anyone that is interested in joining one of our degree teams, we would love to have you. We have immediate needs for small speaking parts, large speaking parts, and non-speaking parts: ie people who are willing to put a costume on and be a guard, satrap, warrior, or any other spot that needs filled. If the stage is not for you, then maybe the technical side would be better. We always have a need for stage crew, lighting and sound people, and costuming. Performing the degrees is a vital part of our instruction, and we should have pride in what we do. When we do great degree work, our candidates will get so much more out of them. There are even some retired degrees that can be done in public that we would love to be able to perform as an outreach. If you are interested in joining a degree team, please email me at: bradyappleman@embarqmail.com.

**Thursday Meeting Dates:
Jan 12 • Feb 9 • Mar 9**

Officer Training Program/Executive Board Meeting SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017

Altoona Masonic Temple – 9:00 AM

Agenda

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| 8:30 AM | Coffee/Donuts |
| 9:00 AM | Welcome – Bro. William W. Hellier, 32°, MSA, Commander-in-Chief |
| 9:10 AM Ill. | Jack H. Speece, 33° - Nominating and Screening Committee... how we get our personnel... credentials |
| 9:20 AM Ill. | Duncan P. McIntyre, 33° - Director of Work... Reunion/ Degree Planning... Casts... "Book-End Concept" and "Core Values" defined... responsibility of Degree Masters |
| 9:40 AM | Bro. B. Wayne Weaver, 32°, Thrice Potent Master... Lodge Room work... dialogue... duties... responsibilities of officers in session |
| 10:00 AM | Break...brief |
| 10:15 AM | Bro. K. Dwayne Kaufman, 32° - Trumpeteer... how it happens... when it happens... contents... etc.... recipients... distribution via e-mail... |
| 10:30 AM | Bro. Joshua M. Kline, 32°, Most Wise Master - Brother-to-Brother Calling program... what is it?... how to install... how to respond |
| 10:45 AM | Ill. J. David Kline, 33°, Secretary - Duties, Responsibilities, and Expectations of all officers... including but not limited to: Attendance at regular and executive board meetings... Dress... Reunions... MSA Selection... COD Meeting... Reunion Input... Supreme Council Meetings... Hanouts... Monthly Stated Meetings – What body is responsible when... program contents... customary recognitions... opening and closing... budget preparation |
| 11:15 AM | Wayne M. Baggett, 32°, MSA - Membership Brainstorming Ideas... what do we do with 106 new members?... how to get them involved... how do we "grow" the Valley? |
| 11:30 AM | Summation/Closing – Bro. William W. Hellier, 32°, Commander-in-Chief |
| 11:45 AM | Lunch – Dining Hall followed by the Executive Board meeting at 12:30 PM |



Robert Verbonitz, 32° receiving his Past Sovereign Prince jewel from Wayne Baggett, MSA.

"We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members"

From the Deputy's Representative...

SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS...



The Fall class, the One Day Adventure, added 107 new brethren to our roster. Here are some things I found: the youngest new member is **Bro. Joel Zelenske, 32°** from the Somerset area. He was born on 12/24/1996. The oldest "new" brother is **Bro. Art Wilt, 32°** born on 11/14/1926. I told him when I handed him his new Scottish Bible that he had to have it read before he died! If we break the class up by age groups, it looks like this (pretty accurate): Age 50 and older – 34; aged 40-49 – 26; aged 30-39 – 21; and aged 20-29 – 26. That certainly has a generation of two in there!

Most all of the class was gainfully employed... only 11 reported that they were retired...we had at least 12 brethren involved in the penal system as correction officers, guards, drug and alcohol tester, constable, several state troopers. Fortunately not one of these guys was on the other side of the street, if you know what I mean!! A couple of contractors (three, I believe), 8 independent business owners, 3 military personnel (all Marines, I think). We had more than a couple of "Equipment Operators" (mostly PennDot) and we had two Farmers. I can't remember the last time I knew a real Farmer, by trade! Great to have them...they promised to bring milk or butter or eggs or something to a meeting...or maybe some wheat or hay or soybeans... There are three college students and unfortunately, one of our newest brethren is currently unemployed. Surely someone can lend a hand to this guy!!!

How about where they came from...all over, to be sure. Most, but not all towns I have heard of and know generally where they are. The greatest number of candidates (16) came from Altoona and 10 from

Johnstown. But listen to this: 7 from Lewistown (they could have gone to Harrisburg!), 6 from Duncansville, 5 from Hollidaysburg and 5 from Somerset. Those spots accounted for just less than 1/2 the class. The others from all over, including Bucks County! And who from Somerset. Those spots accounted for just less than 1/2 the class. The others from all over, including Bucks County! And who brought them? Twenty-two members were the first-line signer of at least two or more (up to 12) petitions. Another 25 brethren accounted for at least one petition. Brethren, thanks to all for your hard work!!

Mentoring Program...

The Secretary unveiled at the October, 2016 meeting the start of a new mentoring program for the Valley. It may have been a little premature, but it needed to be ready for implementation in time for the Fall Class. On an easel in the Lodge Room is a list of the class members (updated since the October meeting date). A current member (not a new one obviously!) needs to look at the list which is sorted and printed by BLUE LODGE. There is also a form that I am asking each member who chooses to become a member to sign and turn into the Secretary. It will let us know who is mentoring who. It is a great way to keep the interest of the new members. Remember, we only get a one chance to make a great impression...this will encourage those new guys to return and get involved! You can be a mentor to more than one new member...Think about it, and give it a try. We are also looking into generating some incentives for those who sign up! Keep looking for more information in future issues.

Officers: Valley of Altoona 2017-2018

Lodge of Perfection, 14°

Thrice Potent Master..... B. Wayne Weaver, 32°
Deputy Master..... Wayne Martin Baggett 32°
Senior Warden..... Christopher D. Pehtold, 32°, KSA
Junior Warden..... Larry Joseph Bilotto, 32°, KSA
Orator..... Timothy R. Brinkmeyer, 32°, KSA
Master of Ceremonies..... Jordan A. Settle, 32°, KSA
Captain of the Guard.... Jeremy R. Johson, 32°, KSA

Altoona Council,

Princes of Jerusalem, 16°

Sovereign Prince..... Barry Yingling, 32°, MSA
High Priest..... David Whyson, 32°, KSA
Senior Warden..... K. Dwayne Kaufman, 32°, KSA
Junior Warden..... Stanley Snyder, 32°, KSA
Master of Ceremonies..... Vernon Carey, 32°
Master of Entrances..... John P. Richard, 32°

Chapter of Rose Croix, 18°

Most Wise Master..... Joshua Kline, 32°, KSA
Senior Warden..... James Walkingshaw, 32°, MSA
Junior Warden..... Jack H. Speece, 33°
Orator..... David Dodson, 32°
Master of Ceremonies..... Leon Collins, 32°
Captain of the Guard..... Jason R. Nye, 32°

Altoona Consistory, S.P.R.S., 32°

Commander in Chief..... William W. Hellier, 32°o, MSA
1st Lt. Commander..... Brady Appleman, 32°, MSA
2nd Lt. Commander..... David A. Blackner, 32°
Orator..... Alvin E. Just, 33°
Chancellor..... Earl J. Hockenberry, 32°
Master of Ceremonies..... Evan Watters, 33°
Engineer & Seneschal.. James A. Hockyco, 32°, MSA
Standard Bearer..... William Huston, 33°
Captain of the Guard..... Randy Thompson, 32°

Knights of St. Andrew (KSA), 29°

Venerable Master..... Jeremy Johnson, 32°
Senior Warden..... K. Dwayne Kaufman, 32°
Junior Warden..... Joshua Kline, 32°
Treasurer/Secretary..... Timothy Brinkmeyer, 32°
Marshal..... Lawrence J. Bilotto, 32°
Captain of the Guard..... Jordan Settle, 32°
Prior..... George Greiner, III, 32°
Tyler..... Robert Verbonitz, 32°

Officers, All Bodies

Treasurer..... Charles Yingling, 32°, MSA
Secretary..... J. David Kline, 33°
Hospitaler..... Robert S. Ludrowsky, 32°, MSA
Tyler..... Clarence L. Rutherford, 32°, MSA
Assistant Tylers..... Knights of St. Andrew
Trustee - term ends 05/17..... James A. Yoder, 33°
Trustee - term ends 05/18..... John R. Biddle, 33°
Trustee - term ends 05/16..... Ronald R. Yoder, 33°
Member at Large - term ends 05/17..... Randy Smith, 33°
Member at Large - term ends 05/16.... Dean A. Snipe, 32°

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Medallions...

Our Supreme Council provided each Valley in the NMJ with a supply of medallions to be presented to each candidate who became a 32° Scottish Rite Mason during the 2016 year. Yes, that means that if you became a Scottish Rite Mason as a member of the Spring Class or the recent Fall One Day Adventure Class, you are eligible for a medallion. Let it be known that the Secretary knows the names of the Spring Class candidates and will see that they receive their medallions. However, medallions were placed in most of the candidate packets for the Fall Class. Unbeknownst to the Secretary, there may be some candidates who did not receive such a medallion. If you are one of those new brethren who did not receive a medallion, please contact the Secretary. He has ordered more and will forward one to you as soon as they arrive. Sorry for the confusion.

Do You Know Sew And Sew?

Somewhere out there in the Valley is a tailor who can help us create new costumes and repair torn ones. Perhaps you know someone who would work with us to design new costumes as new degrees develop. We have a special need for new costumes to accommodate some of our –ahem- more robust cast members.

If you know of someone who might be interested, please email or call our costume coordinator, Wayne Baggett, who will gladly check all leads.

“Experience in designing and creating theatric costumes would be a real plus,” Baggett said. “and willingness to work with our special needs would be a great asset.” Working with a local tailor or seamstress would make obtaining new costumes easier and we would like to source our needs locally, if we can. If you have any leads contact Wayne at 814-241-9523 or email at Twobags52@hotmail.com.

Recommended changes to the By-Laws of the Valley of Altoona:

- 1) Article IX, Section 4 – “All check, draft, or other orders for payment of moneys out of the funds of these Bodies shall be signed by the following officers of the Altoona Lodge of Perfection: the Thrice Potent Master, the Treasurer, and the Secretary...” This shall be amended to read: “All check, draft, or other orders for payment of moneys out of the funds of these Bodies shall be signed by the following officers: The Treasurer and the Secretary...” This eliminates the Thrice Potent Master but still maintains the need for two signatures.
- 2) Article IV – Section II to be added. It shall read: “The Secretary shall make available to the membership a list of all Candidates for Degrees in writing prior to the beginning of each reunion.”

After 5 days return to:

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY OF ALTOONA

P.O. Box 829 - Altoona, PA 1603
“Return Service Requested”

Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
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Altoona, PA 16603

CLIP & SAVE

How To...

Contact The Secretary

Email:

davekline5@comcast.net

Cell phone

814-244-7193.

Home Elizabethtown

at 717-689-5687.

Office

814-942-2061

(Least effective not checked everyday)

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