

# SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

ERIE, PA., December 2011

Subscription \$5.00 per year



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VALLEY OF ERIE, A.A.S.R.

## Valley Welcomes 90 Year Consistory Class

Commander-In-Chief Paul J. Gornall presided as eleven new members were welcomed into the Valley of Erie Scottish Rite at the one day Masonic class on Saturday, October 29, 2011 at the Masonic Temple. Marking the ninetieth year anniversary of the Erie Consistory, our newest members (in alphabetical order) are: Daniel G. Campbell, Dennis B. Carr, Charles A. Doritty, Casper J. Hepler, Toby R. Holland, Ralph E. Julian, Jesse Madsen, John D. McCrory, William T. Shannon, Richard M. Stefan, and Bryan H. Woome. The fourth and thirty-second degrees were presented by cast members from the Valley of Erie. We look forward to an upcoming spring reunion at the Scottish Rite Building in April when several more degrees will be presented.



## Scottish Rite Family Christmas Party!! Sunday, December 11th

**Who Is Invited?** Scottish Rite Members and their Families as well as Compass Reading Center Staff, Students and Families

**What?** Chicken Dinner with Holiday Trimmings  
Santa will visit with treats for the children  
Children's Auction Table to benefit Compass Reading Center (gift donations welcome)  
Christmas Craft for kids, Magician, Christmas carols, and more Holiday surprises!

**When?** Sunday, December 11, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**Where?** Scottish Rite Building—McClure Hall, 4701 Old Zuck Road, Erie, PA 16506

**Cost?** \$8.00 per adult, Children 12 and under Free. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Reservations?** Required. Call the office no later than December 8th! Give last name, number of adults and children  
Phone: 814-835-0432

E-mail us at: [eriescottishrite@gmail.com](mailto:eriescottishrite@gmail.com)

Valley Website: [eriescottishrite.org](http://eriescottishrite.org)

## SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

Owned and Published Monthly by  
VALLEY OF ERIE

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite  
Richard B. Elberfeld, Jr., 32°, Secretary  
4701 Old Zuck Road  
P.O. Box 9007, Erie, PA 16505  
Office & Banquet Hall: (814) 835-0432  
E-mail: eriescottishrite@gmail.com  
Website: www.eriescottishrite.org  
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 10-2

### Preserve Local Scottish Rite Treasures by giving to:



- ✓ Valley of Erie Hospitaler Fund
- ✓ Compass Reading Center for Children
- ✓ Erie Scottish Rite Building Association
- ✓ Erie Scottish Rite Scholarship Foundation

*Your generous donations make a real difference in the lives of local people.*



## Sprig of Acacia



Since our last issue, these beloved Brethren have been called Home.

### Bro. David E. Merryman, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 2, 2004  
Died July 5, 2011  
A Member of Western Star Lodge  
No. 304 F. & A.M.  
Albion, Pa.

### Bro. Harvey J. Lindy, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R April 26, 1997  
Died September 4, 2011  
A Member of Tyrian-Commonwealth Lodge  
No. 362 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Chester M. Blair, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 28, 1972  
Died September 10, 2011  
A Member of Perry Keystone Lodge  
No. 392 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. B. Bernard Halperin, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R April 25, 1994  
Died September 10, 2011  
A Member of Crawford Lodge  
No. 234 F. & A.M.  
Meadville, Pa.

### Bro. David Anderson, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 28, 1983  
Died September 12, 2011  
A Member of Franklin Lodge  
No. 14 F. & A.M.  
Troy, Oh.

### Bro. William F. McCamey, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R April 21, 1958  
Died September 23, 2011  
A Member of Lawrence Lodge  
No. 708 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Carl M. Seibert, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R April 27, 1968  
Died October 6, 2011  
A Member of Somerset Lodge  
No. 358 F. & A.M.  
Somerset, Pa.

### Bro. Cornell E. Craciun, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 29, 1980  
Died October 29, 2011  
A Member of Perry Keystone Lodge  
No. 392 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Arthur L. McDonald, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R April 26, 1948  
Died October 31, 2011  
A Member of Perry Keystone Lodge  
No. 392 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Lawrence A. Ray, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 24, 1970  
Died November 1, 2011  
A Member of  
Tyrian-Commonwealth Lodge  
No. 362 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Henry T. Lorence, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 28, 1981  
Died November 5, 2011  
A Member of Lawrence Lodge  
No. 708 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Simion J. Cristea, 32°

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R October 17, 1949  
Died November 10, 2011  
A Member of Lawrence Lodge  
No. 708 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

### Bro. Robert F. Jedynski, 32°, MSA

Initiated A. .A. .S. .R April 17, 1961  
Died November 11, 2011  
A Member of  
Tyrian-Commonwealth Lodge  
No. 362 F. & A.M.  
Erie, Pa.

“SPES MEA IN DEO EST” My hope is in God.

## Hospitaler's Christmas Wish: Be of Good Cheer!

Brethren,

It is time once again for our Holiday cookie delivery to members over age 80. Many of the “elves” who deliver these welcome packages are blessed by the effort. If you have delivered cookies in the past or would like to start this year, we will try to match you with a few in your zip code. Please call the office to volunteer, or pick up cookies to deliver at the December 6th Stated Meeting.

Members who wish to participate in our New Year's Meals on Wheels delivery this year please call the office at 835-0432 or send us an e-mail at eriescottishrite@gmail.com.

We have several members on our “Thinking of You” List with health concerns. If you know of a Brother who is ill or would appreciate a card or visit, please let the office know. My Christmas Wish this year is for each of you to “be of good cheer” this holiday season!



“Scottish Rite Masonry...the fraternity of choice.”

# Make Christmas a Season of Giving



It's that time of year again and we have another chance. A chance at what? To be THANKFUL for what we have and to share our good fortune by GIVING something in return. Obviously, I am referring to Thanksgiving and Christmas.

As Scottish Rite Masons, we should not have to wait for the calendar to prompt us to be thankful. We should be thankful on a daily basis. Speaking for myself, I am guilty of not doing this as often as I should. I realize that I take many things (that I am truly grateful for) for granted – shame on me! For most of us Thanksgiving is getting together with loved ones and friends for dinner. However, it is more than that! It's about being thankful for the things we have everyday, our family, health, friends, job, etc.

Christmas is the season of giving. Not necessarily in the material sense, giving of our time to help someone or offering words of encouragement. This Holiday Season, slow down and be THANKFUL for all that you have and then GIVE something in return.

Thank you to all who made the One Day Class a success. Brethren, please join me in welcoming the 11 new Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret to our Valley. I look forward to seeing you at the Stated Meeting on December 6th.

Fraternally,  
Paul J. Gornall, 32°, *Commander in Chief*



## What is the Scottish Rite?

Our fraternal organization seeks to strengthen the community by building upon the ethical teachings and philosophy offered in the Masonic craft lodge or Blue Lodge, through dramatic presentation of the fourth through thirty-second degrees.

In the U.S. there are two Supreme Councils. The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction (NMJ) is headquartered in Lexington, Massachusetts, and the Southern Jurisdiction (SJ) in Washington, DC. The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction refers to state organizations as Councils of Deliberation and the local bodies are organized into Valleys. Each Valley has up to four Scottish Rite bodies, and each body confers a set of degrees. In the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, the bodies are the:

- Lodge of Perfection (4°–14°)
- Council of Princes of Jerusalem (15°–16°)
- Chapter of Rose Croix (17°–18°)
- Consistory (19°–32°)

The Supreme Council confers the 33° of Sovereign Grand Inspector General.



## Local Masonic Leaders Receive 33rd Degree

Bro. Robert D. Gornall, Sr. and Bro. Frank P. Ferraro from the Valley of Erie were selected to receive the Thirty-third Degree, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the highest honor of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. The ceremony took place in Chicago during the annual meeting of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite.

The 33rd Degree is an honor bestowed upon a Scottish Rite Mason by the Supreme Council for selfless work, passion and sacrifice to his craft or in public life, or for significant contributions to humanity that reflect credit upon the fraternity. The 2011 recipients were chosen from 15 Northeastern and Midwestern states that comprise the 200,000-member Northern Jurisdiction of the United States.

It was also announced at the same meeting that the nominee for this honor from the Valley of Erie for 2012 is Bro. Lyell P. Cook, 32°, of Edinboro.



2011 Thirty-third Degree Recipients  
III. Bro. Robert D. Gornall, Sr., 33°, of Erie (L)  
III. Bro. Frank P. Ferraro, 33°, of Waterford (R)



**Scottish Rite McClure Banquet Hall**  
**4701 Old Zuck Road**

**Receptions – Parties – Meetings – Conferences**  
**Call (814) 835-0432 or stop by the Office**

**ritehallrental@gmail.com or choose "facilities" tab on [www.eriescottishrite.org](http://www.eriescottishrite.org)**



# 2011 Meritorious Service Award Recipients

**Bro. Kim W. Jeffreys, 33°** and **Bro. John H. Daneri, 32°** were honored with the Meritorious Service Award recently at the annual Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation in Hershey, PA. The Meritorious Service Award is conferred upon members of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who have attained the 32° and who by reason of meritorious service of a Masonic character are deemed worthy of such recognition. The nominees for 2012 announced at Council of Deliberation are Bro. James M. Bowers, 32°, of Erie, and Bro. Lyell P. Cook, 32°, of Edinboro.

## Scottish Rite Dues Reminder

If you haven't received your dues notice for the next Scottish Rite year (2012), have no fear, it will soon be arriving. If you paid your dues for 2011, your new 2012 card will be coming in the mail, but it is not valid until the attached dues billing statement is paid. Mail or drop off your check for the amount on the statement, plus any contribution to the local Valley funds you wish to make to the Valley Office. Then sign your new card and put it in your wallet.

If there is not a new membership card attached to the statement, it means there is an outstanding dues amount from a previous year. In this case you should mail or drop off a check for the total amount shown on the statement to the Valley of Erie office. Upon receipt of your previous balance plus current dues, we will send you the current dues card.

The Supreme Council is encouraging members to pay their dues on-line by credit card. It is important to note, however, that with this method of dues payment, we do not receive the full amount of the dues or donations paid because a percentage (about 3%) is withheld for "fees associated with on-line bill paying".

If, for whatever reason, you are seriously unable to pay your dues, please contact the Valley office to discuss your situation in a confidential manner. We want you as a member of the Valley and we pledge to work with you if at all possible.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the Valley of Erie is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGING** you to take advantage of our LIFE MEMBERSHIP program. You will not be sorry you did.

## How to Become a Life Member

If you would like to enroll in the life membership program for the Scottish Rite, use the following table to determine the amount of your one-time Life Membership fee. As a person ages, it becomes more advantageous to consider this option of dues payment. It helps the Valley as well, by assuring on time full payment of dues for the rest of your life.

The dues amount for 2012 is \$71.00. Use the table below to find the life annuity factor that corresponds with your current age and multiply that factor times \$71.00.

### Life Membership Annuity Table

Attained Age	Annuity Factor	Attained Age	Annuity Factor	Attained Age	Annuity Factor	Attained Age	Annuity Factor	Attained Age	Annuity Factor
21	22.48	37	20.13	53	16.34	69	11.03	85	5.63
22	22.37	38	19.94	54	16.05	70	10.66	86	5.37
23	22.25	39	19.74	55	15.77	71	10.30	87	5.11
24	22.13	40	19.53	56	15.47	72	9.93	88	4.87
25	22.01	41	19.31	57	15.17	73	9.57	89	4.64
26	21.88	42	19.09	58	14.86	74	9.21	90	4.41
27	21.75	43	18.87	59	14.54	75	8.85	91	4.19
28	21.61	44	18.64	60	14.21	76	8.50	92	3.98
29	21.47	45	18.40	61	13.88	77	8.15	93	3.78
30	21.32	46	18.16	62	13.54	78	7.80	94	3.58
31	21.17	47	17.92	63	13.19	79	7.47	95	3.39
32	21.01	48	17.66	64	12.84	80	7.14	96	3.39
33	20.85	49	17.41	65	12.48	81	6.82	97	3.39
34	20.68	50	17.15	66	12.12	82	6.50	98	3.39
35	20.50	51	16.88	67	11.76	83	6.20	99	3.39
36	20.32	52	16.61	68	11.39	84	5.91	100	3.39

Example: if your age is 61, your calculation is  $\$71.00 \times 13.88 = \$985.48$ . Make a check payable to Valley of Erie Scottish Rite for that amount and mail it to PO Box 9007, Erie, PA 16505. You will be sent a special dues card for life members.

## Our Email List is Growing!

If you wish to receive up-to-date information about what is going on in the Valley, please join our ever-growing email list by sending an email to our office at [eriescottishrite@gmail.com](mailto:eriescottishrite@gmail.com). This will enable you to receive news about upcoming activities as well as an on-line copy of the quarterly newsletter. We are also in the final phases of developing our new and very much improved Valley of Erie website to be unveiled soon.

## Member Advertising Coming Soon

Members who wish to place business card size ads in upcoming Scottish Rite Newsletters may do so to help defray the cost of the newsletters and provide a quick reference of Masonic businesses. The cost will be \$50 per quarterly issue. These newsletters are distributed to about 1200 addresses and sent to our entire email database as well. Who better to advertise your business to than your Masonic brethren and their families?



## Valley of Erie Scholarship Foundation News



Applications for 2012-2013 Available Beginning in December  
Deadline for Submission is **Friday, March 16, 2012**

### The Abbott Scholarship:

- Sponsored by the Supreme Council NMJ of the Scottish Rite.
- This Scholarship is competitive (only 1 or 2 from our area are chosen).
- For enrolled freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or seniors at an accredited college or university whose minimum GPA is 2.75.
- Must be children or grandchildren of Scottish Rite NMJ Masons, members of Masonic lodges or youth groups, and/or graduates of Masonic learning centers.
- Application is available online at [www.supremecouncil.org](http://www.supremecouncil.org). Select "Philanthropy" and then "Scholarships" from the menu.
- Application must be printed, completed, and submitted no later than March 16, 2012 to:

- Valley of Erie Scottish Rite, PO Box 9007,  
Erie, PA 16505-8007

### Scholarship Foundation of Erie Scottish Rite:

- Sponsored by the Scholarship Foundation of Erie Scottish Rite Bodies.
- There are generally about 40 of these awarded each year / one per family.
- Applicants must be high school graduates by July 2012, residents of Erie or Crawford County, pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees from accredited colleges, and sponsored by an Erie Scottish Rite Mason in good standing. Requirements are more detailed in the brochure distributed with the application.
- Evaluated on financial need, academics, essay, extra-curricular activities, and career objective.
- Application is available at the Scottish Rite office or it may be requested by mail or call the office to have one sent to you. It is due no later than March 16, 2012 to be mailed to:

- Scholarship Foundation of Erie Scottish Rite  
Bodies, PO Box 1364, Erie, PA 16512



## What's New at Compass Reading Center?

Compass Reading Center, located in the Scottish Rite Building on Old Zuck Road, is the area's only accredited tutoring center for children with dyslexia and other specific language disabilities. The Center currently tutors twenty five area children after school two times per week. Center Director Virginia Miller, M. Ed., CALT, trains and supervises a staff of eleven tutors this year. They are: Sheree Auell, Kelly Bongiorno, David Dows, Brenda Gibbons, Tammy Hayes, Susan Johnson, Pam Kavala, Beth Keller, Jordan Lander, Susan McKinney, and Virginia Titus.

If you are interested in receiving services for your child, or in applying for the one year tutor training, please contact us at [compassreadingcenter@gmail.com](mailto:compassreadingcenter@gmail.com) or call 814-838-2405. Please note there is a partial fee for tutoring services and initial testing. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Compass Reading Center is always in need of grants, bequests, matching programs and donations to continue serving this ever-growing community need.

## Erie Chapter Order of DeMolay



### Semi Formal PEPPERMINT BALL



Saturday, December 17th, 2011  
7 - 11 PM

Masonic Temple  
Camelot Room

Refreshments Served  
\$6.00 each/\$10.00 couple

Dancing • Competitions • Fun

# SCOTTISH RITE

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Erie, PA 16505-8007

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## TIME VALUE MEETING NOTICE

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The Scottish Rite News

### *Happy Holidays from the Valley of Erie!*

#### Upcoming Events:

**Tues., Dec. 6**

Stated Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Executive Session at  
6:00 p.m.



**Sun., Dec. 11**

Annual Family Christmas  
Party, 1:00 p.m.,  
Reservations Required



**Sat., Dec. 17**

DeMolay Peppermint Ball,  
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.



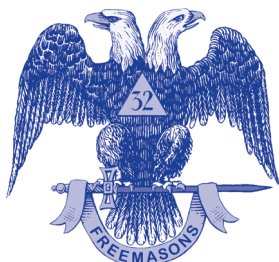
**Sun., Dec. 25**

Merry Christmas!



**Sun., Jan. 1**

Happy New Year!



### STATED MEETINGS OF PRESQUE ISLE LODGE OF PERFECTION, 14° ERIE COUNCIL, PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, 16° ERIE CHAPTER ROSE CROIX, 18° ERIE CONSISTORY, 32°

will be held in joint session in McClure Hall,  
Valley of Erie Scottish Rite Building  
4701 Old Zuck Road  
**Tuesday, December 6, 2011**  
**at 7:00 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.**

Officers of **Erie Council Princes of Jerusalem** will conduct the meeting:  
**Bradley C. Eaton**, Sovereign Prince; **Thomas D. Watson**, High Priest; **Travis A. Lynn**, Senior Warden; **John D. Karr**, Junior Warden; **Frank A. Semelka**, Master of Ceremonies; **Larry K. Higgins, II**, Master of Entrance; **Michael J. Latzer**, Hospitaler; **Michael A. Koncewicz**, Treasurer; **Richard B. Elberfeld, Jr.**, Secretary; **Alfred J. Johnson**, Tyler.

*Refreshments to follow*

By Order of:

Herbert W. Armes, 32°, Thrice Potent Master  
Bradley C. Eaton, 32°, MSA, Sovereign Prince  
David J. Lasher, 32°, Most Wise Master  
Paul J. Gornall, 32°, Commander-in-Chief

Attest:

Richard B. Elberfeld, Jr., 32°, Secretary