# RITELITE

Volume 61

No. 4

July 2024

A 32° Masonic Publication of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

Valley of Akron / a newsletter / July-August 2024

**Instituted December 13, 1958** 

**Date of Charter: September 23, 1959** 

[ BIGGEST ISSUE EVER!!

LEAVER. COLE. PRENTISS. RICHESON. **Congratulations New Valley Officers** 

## AASR Valley of Akron Night at the Ball Park

## Don't Strike Out . . . Hit a Home Run!!!



#### Only 60 tickets available!

Join us at **Canal Park** on **Friday, August 9, 2024** for a picnic in FOWL Territory that includes Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Mac & Cheese, Barbecue Pulled Chicken, Chips, Cookies, Water, Lemonade, Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite.

Our group's designated eight-seat picnic tables will be marked in FOWL Territory. Choose any seat(s) at those tables.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m. Picnic service lasts until to 8:30 p.m. FIREWORKS follow the game! Full promotions information is at <a href="https://www.milb.com/akron/tickets/promotions">https://www.milb.com/akron/tickets/promotions</a>
For more information on the RubberDucks, visit <a href="https://www.milb.com/akron">https://www.milb.com/akron</a>

If you miss the deadline, picnic tickets will no longer be available. You may attend the game with regular reserved seats purchased at <a href="https://www.milb.com/akron/tickets/single-game-tickets">https://www.milb.com/akron/tickets/single-game-tickets</a>

All ticket purchases are final. Tickets at Canal Park are digital for the 2024 season, please head to our website <a href="https://www.milb.com/akron/tickets/digital-ticketing-help">https://www.milb.com/akron/tickets/digital-ticketing-help</a> for information on how to access your tickets. If you run into any issues on the day of the game, please stop by any of our box office windows. Please contact <a href="mailticketservice@akronrubberducks.com">ticketservice@akronrubberducks.com</a> with general ticket questions or issues before the date of the event.

Get your tickets by going online to:

https://fevo-enterprise.com/valleyofakron24

Or use the QR Code to the right.

Purchase Deadline: July 30, 2024 11:59 PM EDT



COVER PHOTO, LEFT TO RIGHT: YOUR VALLEY OFFICERS. MOST WISE MASTER JAMIE LEAVER. SOVEREIGN PRINCE RICHARD A. COLE JR. THRICE POTENT MASTER STEVEN D. PRENTISS. COMMANDER IN CHIEF JONATHAN E. RICHESON.

## VALLEY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 12-30 PM: VALLEY PICNIC AT ROLLING GREENS MINIATURE GOLF COURSE, 2939 EDISON STREET NW, UNIONTOWN, OHIO 44685. FOOD PROVIDED BY BOB'S HAMBURGERS. FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME. SEE PAGE 9 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9: AKRON RUBBER DUCKS. DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM. PICNIC SERVICE ENDS AT 8:30 PM. FIREWORKS AFTER THE GAME. SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE DETAILS.
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT...

HTTPS://FEVO-ENTERPRISE.COM/VALLEYOFAKRON24

**JULY: NO MEETING** 

**AUGUST: NO MEETING** 

<u>SATURDAY, AUGUST 17</u>: 21ST MASONIC DISTRICT ANNUAL GOLF OUTING & FUNDRAISER. SEE PAGES 4-5 FOR DETAILS AND APPLICATION.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19: MEETINGS. 6:30 PM DINNER. 7:30 PM STATED MEETING.

**OFFICE MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER:** 

VALLEY OF AKRON / P.O. BOX 468 / CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO 44223 VALLEYOFAKRONOHIO@GMAIL.COM • 234.900.5424

The next Rite Lite newsletter will arrive in September. If you have news or announcements, this year's deadlines are the 13th of August and October.

EMAIL THE EDITOR: DXFERRIS@GMAIL.COM . WE ARE HAPPY TO DO WHAT WE CAN FOR YOU.

## WE NEED PHOTOS.

Your *Rite Lite* newsletter looks best when if features more photographs. If you take pictures at any Valley event, please share some with the editor: dxferris@gmail.com.

RITE LITE NEWSLETTER. A PUBLICATION OF THE VALLEY OF AKRON, A.A.S.R., OHIO.
PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER MONTH, IN PRINT AND ELECTRONIC EDITIONS. EMAIL UPDATES WEEKLY.

Our vision: We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.

## 21ST MASONIC DISTRICT GOLF OUTING



Proceeds to benefit
GL2030
RWB ERIC W. MUEHLENBEIN
SENIOR GRAND DEACON

Teams of 4 required
\$10,000 Hole-in-One contest
Proximity holes
Skins/ Mulligans

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2024
REGISTRATION & LUNCH: 12:00 PM
1:00 PM Shotgun Start

(4 man scramble / best ball)

LYONS DEN GOLF COURSE 6347 MANCHESTER AVE. NW CANAL FULTON, OH 44614

\$80 per golfer includes 18 holes, 1/2 cart, lunch & dinner \$20 dinner only \$25 lunch & dinner only

50/50 on the course
Putting contest
Top 3 teams awarded prizes
Last place awarded prize

#### **TEAM NAME:**

PLAYER NAME				E-MAIL ADDRESS			PHONE		
						1 22			10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1
						Ran Billion and		10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	
								1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
. sq						-4. 40.00 	- 27		

Please make check payable to: 21st Masonic District of Ohio

Mail Entry Form and Check to: Or Email Form to

Eric Muehlenbein ewm21ddgm@gmail.com

5639 Patrick St SW Mail payment as directed or Canton, OH 44706 Venmo to ewm21ddgm@gmail.com

Questions: Jim Easterling (330) 608-8891 or email jimjr1137@neo.rr.com

### 21ST MASONIC DISTRICT GOLF OUTING SPONSOR



SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2024
REGISTRATION & LUNCH: 12:00 PM
1:00 PM Shotgun Start
(4 man scramble / best ball)

Proceeds to benefit
GL2030
RWB ERIC W. MUEHLENBEIN
SENIOR GRAND DEACON

LYONS DEN GOLF COURSE 6347 MANCHESTER AVE. NW CANAL FULTON, OH 44614



#### **SPONSORSHIP NAME:**

HOLE SPONSOR—\$100.00
PROGRAM SPONSOR—\$500.00
OUTING SPONSOR—\$1,000.00
(LODGE, BUSINESS, MASONIC GROUP OR



Please make check payable to: 21st Masonic District of Ohio



INDIVIDUAL)

Mail Form and Check to:

Eric Muehlenbein

5639 Patrick St SW

Canton, OH 44706

Or mail form as directed

and Venmo payment to

ewm21ddgm@gmail.com

Questions: Jim Easterling (330) 608-8891 or email jimjr1137@neo.rr.com

## VALLEY OF AKRON OFFICERS 2024-25

**Aroba Lodge** of Perfection

Adar Council, Princes of Jerusalem Arras Chapter, Rose Croix Akron Consistory

Thrice Potent Master:

Steven Prentiss

**Deputy Master:** 

Christopher Titus

Senior Warden:

Craig Jennings

Junior Warden:

Christopher Schill

Orator:

William Thrasher

**Secretary:** 

Ill. George E. Tilden, 33<sup>o</sup>

Sovereign Prince:

Richard Cole Jr.

**High Priest:** 

Glenn Hartong

Senior Warden:

Adam Spahr

Junior Warden:

William Lovell, Jr.

**Master of Ceremonies:** 

William Young

Most Wise Master:

**Jamie Leaver** 

Senior Warden:

Scott Taunt

**Junior Warden:** 

Mickey Becerra

**Orator:** 

Darryl Neal

**Master of Ceremonies:** 

Jason Boggs

Captain of the Guard:

Michael Settle

Commander-In-Chief:

Jonathan Richeson

1st Lieutenant Commander:

Rory Wolff

2nd Lieutenant Commander:

James Lutz

Orator:

Alan Burton, MSA

Chancellor:

Scott Keenan

**Treasurer:** 

Christopher Schill

Hospitaler:

Michael Madden

Tyler:

Glenn Custer, MSA



## YOUR NEW OFFICERS







At May's Valley meeting and installation...

BOTTOM: The new presiding officers take the oath of office. Left to right: Commander in Chief Jonathan Richeson. Most Wise Master Jamie Leaver. Sovereign Prince Richard Cole, Jr. Thrice Potent Master Steven Prentiss.

## SECRETARY'S CORNER, BY ILL. GEORGE TILDEN, 33"

#### ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The A.A.S.R. Valley of Akron Abbott Scholarship Committee have met, and are pleased to announce the 2024 - 2025 Abbott Scholarship Awardees. Each student will receive a \$ 1,000 scholarship.

Madison Dobbins, Masonic relation: Illustrious William Jerome, 33°, Grandfather. Madison will attend the University of Akron, majoring in Bio-Medical Science (Pre-Dental) She is a graduate of Norton High School.

Reaghan Moore, Masonic relation: Sublime Prince David A. Wiley MSA, Grandfather. Reaghn will attend Baldwin Wallace University, majoring in Nursing. She is a graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School.

Olivia Jones, Masonic relation: Illustrious William Murphy, 33°, Grandfather. She will be a sophomore at Ohio University, majoring in Interior Design.



As Secretary of the Valley of Akron I would like recognize the efforts of this committee and the time and effort they spent in determining the scholarship recipients.

#### PAY IT FORWARD

Board of Trustees Chair Illustrious Richard Landals, 33° is proud to introduce the Pay It Forward program to the Valley of Akron. See pages 15 -16 for an application and more details.

"This is an excellent way to invest in the Valley and keep it growing," says Landals. "This program is similar to the program Pay-It-Forward program offered by the Grand Lodge of Ohio. For example, the program will allow a Scottish Rite Mason to donate towards the future initiation fee of his nephew.

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT: DEMOGRAPHICS FOR YOUR VALLEY**

Supreme Council Journey 365 has provided the following numbers regarding age for members of the Valley.

Age	Number	Percentage	
20 -29	3	0.05 %	
30 - 39	39	6.5 %	
40 - 49	41	6.8 %	
50 - 59	73	<b>12.1</b> %	
60 - 69	108	17.9 <u>%</u>	
70 - 79	167	27.6 %	
80 - 89	124	20.5 %	
90 - 99	47	7.8 %	
100 - 109	2	0.3 %	

If we recognize retirement age as 60 to 109 years old, we have 448 members in that range — which accounts for 74% of your Valley's membership.

We need to seriously look into our future — not only for the Scottish Rite, but also our Masonic Lodges. We need to recruit younger members. The future has already begun. Invite a friend today.

Fraternally,

George E. Tilden, 33° Executive Secretary, Valley of Akron, A.A.S.R.

# AASR Valley of Akron Family Picnic

July 27, 2024 From Noon to 3 pm At Rolling Greens Miniature Golf 2939 Edison St NW Uniontown, Ohio 44685

Lunch is on us: provided by

#### **BOB"S HAMBURGERS**

#### Food Truck

They've been taking care of lunch since 1931 so we are letting them take care of lunch for us



Enjoy one of the two 18 hole mini golf courses on us. Putt Putt not your game? They have a full size driving range as well. Bring your own clubs as they don't rent them. Range balls are available through a self serve token machine.



family, friends, fun, food

## MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



At OCD in June... TOP LEFT: Newly coroneted Brother Joshua A. Prokop, MSA and wife Patty. TOP RIGHT: Prokop enters with Brother Andrew Nall, MSA and Jason Kidd, 33°, MSA. BOTTOM LEFT, L to R: Illustrious Robert Jernigan, 33°; Ill. Dave Hopkins, 33°; Daniel L. Knighton Jr., MSA. BOTTOM RIGHT: Ohio's meritorious Brethren, 2024.

## FROM THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF...

#### Hello, Brethren:

Greetings from Akron Consistory. Thank you for electing me as Commander in Chief. And thank you in advance to the officers in this line, for the work I know you will put into our success as a Valley. I hope that I can serve you all this year and bring some fun and excitement to the Valley.

We have already held our first event, following the June 20th meeting. After dinner, **Dave from the Summit County Historical** society gave a presentation called **Hobo Culture in America**. It was an interesting look at the hobo lifestyle and the part it played in our developing nation. We heard about some famous individuals who rode the rails. And we saw some artwork and heard some interesting stories. This presentation was open to Scottish Rite Masons, friends, and families. Gratitude to everyone who attended.

The next event on the schedule is the **Valley of Akron Family Picnic**. This year it will be held **July 27, from noon to 3 PM at Rolling Greens Miniature Golf Course 2939 Edison St NW, Uniontown, OH 44685**. Food will be provided by the Bob's Hamburgers Food Truck. The mini golf and the food is being provided by the Valley. All you have to do is bring your family. Enjoy a stress-free day of mini golf and delicious food. There is also a regular driving range. So if you want to hit some balls, bring your clubs; they only stock putters for public use.

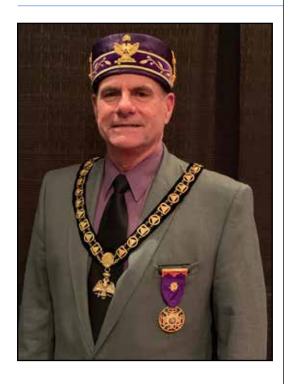
A quick thank you to **Craig Jennings** and **Chris Titus** for their help at the **Valley of Akron Hospitality table** at OCD this year in Dayton. It was a great event. The pulled pork we served was a big hit. Congratulations to all the brothers who received their MSA this year. And a special congrats to our very own MSA recipients, Josh Prokop, Past Master of Wadsworth Lodge; and Daniel Knighton Jr., Past Master of New Franklin Lodge. Well done, brothers.

Brethren, there is an abundance of opportunities for fun, fellowship, growth and enlightenment throughout the upcoming year. I hope that we will see you all at the events we have planned for you. And that is truly what we are trying to do. We are trying to give you value you for your time. Time is the one commodity that we cannot increase, and have no knowledge of the amount we will be blessed with. This makes it the most precious gift we are given from our Creator.

We want to make the moments of time you give to Scottish Rite Masonry worth every second. We truly hope we can succeed in that mission.

Jon RichesonCommander in ChiefAkron Consistory

## YOUR ACTIVE MEMBER SAYS...



#### **Brethren:**

As our Blue Lodges go dark for the summer, we are already experiencing the familiar scenes of summer: Family vacations. The awesome smell of cookouts fills the air. Yard work and home projects continually keep most of us busy in these hot, hot months. Your presiding officers have a few opportunities for rest and relaxation that will certainly be welcome in this fast-paced summer.

Our Valley Picnic will be held at a different venue from year's past. And will be a big hit, I'm sure, with you and your children. See page 9 for more details.

The Akron RubberDucks game also is a great time to "catch" up with old friends, have a hotdog or two, and to enjoy AA baseball at its best. See page 2 to learn more.

As we begin a new year with Supreme Council and the Valley of Excellence Program, we continue to promote membership, fraternalism and additional light to our membership.

I hope you will take advantage of the programs this summer. Please be safe. And enjoy your family and friends.

Fraternally, James F. Easterling, Jr.

#### Valley of Akron 2024

#### Chairman:

Illustrious Richard Landals, 33°

#### Vice-Chairman:

Illustrious William Murphy, 33°

#### **Trustees:**

AJ Nall, MSA Illustrious Jason Kidd, 33°, MSA Joshua Prokop, MSA

#### Hospitaler:

Michael Madden

#### Secretary:

Illustrious George E. Tilden, 33°

#### **Treasurer:**

Christopher Schillmsa

#### Active Member, Supreme Council: Ill. Brother James F. Easterling, Jr., 33°

#### **Officers**

**Thrice Potent Master:** 

**Steven Prentiss** 

**Sovereign Prince:** 

Richard Cole Jr.

**Most Wise Master:** 

Jamie Leaver

Commander in Chief:

Jonathan Richeson

#### **Rite Lite Newsletter**

Editor: David S. Ferris, MSA

**Production & Distribution**: Illustrious George E. Tilden, 33° **Staff Photographers:** Illustrious James F. Easterling, Jr., 33°,

Larry P. Wilson, Christopher Titus, Dutch Chancey

Proofreader: Christopher Schill

## **MOST WISE MASTER**

#### Brothers,

Greetings from your Most Wise Master.

I want you all to Know I'm striving everyday to live up to this title.

I pray that everyone has a good a rejuvenating summer.

While you are about your summer activities, please plan on joining your Scottish Brethern at our Summer Picnic on July 27th, at Rolling Greens, in Uniontown. (See page 9 for more details.)

Also, the Akron Rubber Ducks on August 9th. For more information, please turn to page 2.

These will be a great time to hang out with your Brothers.

I am looking forward to the upcoming year and getting to know more of my Scottish Rite Brethren.

I encourage each of you to move out of your comfort zone and meet at least one new brother at each event you attend. This is something I have been trying to do. And it has led me to some fantastic friendships.

Your Brother and friend,

Jamie Leaver Most Wise Master Arras Chapter Rose Croix

## MEMBERSHIP

#### **Greetings Brethren!**

Back on May 18, several of your ambassadors, Valley leadership, and myself attended the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction (NMJ) Ambassador Training Program in Canton.

We were honored to have **Illustrious Bob Siebold**, **33**° from Supreme Council to present this program. Brother Siebold is a member of the Valley of the Hudson, in New York. He is also the Assistant Director for Membership Development of the Scottish Rite NMJ.

Eight other of our Sublime Prince have become Certified Ambassadors: Larry Landals (Summit Lodge #213), Michael Madden (Hospitaler and Victory #649), James Lutz (Coventry-Akron #83), Dutch Chancey (New Franklin #803), Christopher Titus (Meridian Sun #69), Steven Prentiss (National #568), Illustrious Joseph Levy, 33° (Ashlar 639) and Illustrious George Tilden, 33° (Executive Secretary Valley of Akron).

During this training, we were given many fresh ideas on how to both gain new members, as well as retain the ones that we have.

Much of what was discussed was how we, as Ambassadors, need to get out to our Blue Lodges and promote the Scottish Rite — and more especially our Valley. Not only that, be we need to assist the lodges in growing their membership, which in turn would grow ours.

To do this, we have been given a slide show to customize for our Valley, and present at Blue Lodge, or District meetings. I will be reaching out to lodges and district associations about making some presentations, starting this fall.

One final thought: Just because you don't officially serve as an ambassador for the Valley of Akron doesn't mean that you shouldn't promote Scottish Rite Masonry in your lodge or other Masonic Bodies. We are all the face of Scottish Rite Masonry!

— Larry Wilson Membership Chairman

## SCOTTISH RITE NMJ AMERICANISM AWARD

On behalf of **Sublime Prince Joshua Prokop**, **MSA**, **Chairman of the Veterans Committee**...

Illustrious George Tilden, 33° presents the Scottish Rite NMJ Americanism Award to Lieutenant Commander Landon Kibel of the Ellet High School JROTC.

This Award is presented to a high school senior who is outstanding in academics, leadership and displays the true character of Patriotism.



Above: Illustrious George Tilden, 33° (left) and Lieutenant Commander Landon Kibel (right).

## **NEW PASSPORT**

The Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction has created a Passport Degree Program.

This new program allows you to keep an accurate record of the 29 Degrees of our Rite.

These degrees can be viewed during Thursday Night at the Rite, Rite on the Road, Valley Reunions or other Valleys throughout the NMJ.

After you complete viewing all the degrees of the Rite, present your Passport book to your Valley secretary. He will validate your passport book and submit the required documentation to the Supreme Council.

At a designated time, you will be presented your certificate of completion.

The Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret Recognition will be given upon your completion of viewing the 29 degrees a second time.

This jewel is presented to you as a token of your accomplishment and acknowledgement of the time and resources dedicated to the Scottish Rite, NMJ.



## PAY IT FORWARD

#### The Program

The AASR Pay It Forward program allows a person to donate money towards the initiation fee of a specifically named individual to be used at the Valley of Akron Scottish Rite for a future initiation.

This is a great way to help keep our Valley growing.

The petitioner must be a Master Mason in good standing. In years past, a Scottish Rite Mason would sponsor a petitioner by paying his initiation fee. This program is similar to the program Pay-It-Forward program offered by the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

For example, the program will allow a Scottish Rite Mason to donate towards the future initiation fee of his nephew, who would be able to petition the Valley of Akron, with the amount his uncle's donation going towards the initiation fee.

Or a Scottish Rite Mason may donate to the Valley of Akron, who will choose which future petitioner should benefit from the gift.

#### The Process

An individual donates (up to \$150) to the Valley of Akron and completes the AASR Pay It Forward form, specifying either a future petitioner or anonymous petitioner.

The Valley Secretary will issue the donor an AASR Pay It Forward certificate in the name of the specified future petitioner or a certificate to the unnamed future petitioner.

Upon notification of the death of the donor or at any other time at the request of the donor, the Valley Secretary will send a letter and a copy of the certificate to the individual named on the certificate, notifying him of the wishes of the donor.

Thank you for your attention.

Please see the following page for an application.

— Richard Landals, 33° Chairman of Trustees



## PAY IT FORWARD APPLICATION Sponsorship Form



#### **Sponsor Information**

Name:						
Address:						
Valley Name:						
Membership Number:						
Amount of Donation (Not to exceed \$150):						
The check should be made out to: AASR Valley Of Akron						
Individual Or Valley Recipient Information						
Check if this gift is for a specific future petitioner and complete the following:						
Name of future petitioner:						
Relationship to Sponsor:						
Address:						
<u>OR</u>						
Check if this gift is for the AASR Valley Of Akron						
Note:						

A Pay It Forward passport will be issued to the donor if the donation is for a specified future petitioner or to the Valley of Akron if it is for an unnamed petitioner.

Upon the death of the donor or anytime upon his request, a copy of the certificate and a letter will be sent to the specified petitioner. The letter will explain the donor's desire that the individual petition the Valley of Akron and that the amount on the certificate can be used towards the initiation fee.

## A FOND FAREWELL FROM OUTGOING THRICE POTENT



I hope this message finds you all in peace and well being! Thank you for the support during my time as Thrice Potent Master. I congratulate my fellow officers, as well as our lines, on a great year. We achieved the Valley of Excellence Award. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the Valley.

That said, let's keep the energy going for our new Officers and the lines assembled. They need our support. And we, members of the Valley of Akron, should do what we can to help them achieve the goals set forth. Congratulations, new officers. We are always here for good counsel.

Finally, our last event of our year was a Mother's / Lady's night at Papa Joe's restaurant. We had a great time. We enjoyed the fellowship. We added a special touch for the ladies with a complementary rose. It was a perfect way to top off our agenda of events for the year. What a great time!

All my brethren, I want to wish you a great and safe summer during the coming months. See you soon!

#### Fraternally,

Tyson T. Trammell,

Your Former Thrice Potent Master, Aroba Lodge of Perfection

## Thomas N. Moe, 33°, Receives Gourgas Medal at OCD

Illustrious Thomas N. Moe, 33°, received the prestigious Gourgas Medal from the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction at June's Ohio Council of Deliberation. This rare accolade recognizes his extraordinary service to our country and his remarkable contributions to the Masonic community. Moe belongs to the Valley of Columbus AASR.

Illustrious Moe's distinguished military career is a testament to his bravery and resilience. As an F-4 Phantom pilot in Vietnam, he faced immense challenges. He was held as a prisoner of war for five years before a courageous rescue. Following his return, he continued to serve with distinction, taking on a pivotal leadership trainer role for the F-16 Falcon, shaping the future of air combat training.

Throughout his life, Illustrious Moe has accumulated numerous accolades, each reflecting his unwavering dedication, exemplary leadership, and profound impact on those around him. His story is a beacon of service and sacrifice, demonstrating the true essence of commitment and honor.

Congratulations, Brother Moe, on this well-deserved recognition. Your legacy of service and commitment continues to inspire and uplift us all.

Tom has served more than 59 years in military and public service. He is a Master Mason and was inspired to petition membership by **WB Clarence McCoy**. He is also a member of the **Scottish Rite Valley of Columbus** and was coroneted a S.G.I.G. 33°, in Rochester, NY in 2017. Tom is also a member of the **Sons of the American Revolution**, **Hocking Valley Chapter**.

Originally, he had hoped to become a missionary. Instead, he became a professional military officer and pilot. He flew 85 combat missions, including 60 over North Vietnam, in the F-4 Phantom. Later, he was among the initial cadre in the new F-16 fighter aircraft. His post-military career included serving as **Military Studies Fellow at the University of Notre Dame** and as a member of the cabinet of Governor John Kasich, as **Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services**.

Tom has earned a bachelor's degree in history and German. He has a master's degree in Government, with a focus on the Soviet and East European systems. In 1996, he was honored with an award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for a short story he wrote.

The most important thing in the world to Tom is his family. Tom has been married to his lovely wife Chris for 59 years. They have three children and six grandchildren. In August 2010, he donated a kidney to his daughter who was suffering from polycystic kidney disease. Tom and his wife live on a small farm in Ohio and are members of the First United Methodist Church in Lancaster, OH. Besides the Brotherhood, Tom enjoys genealogy and restoring old toy trains.

Second from left: Illustrious Thomas N. Moe, 33° addresses the 2024 Ohio Council of Deliberation.



## VALLEY OF AKRON A.A.S.R. BLACK HAT PROGRAM

Date Valley Visited Initials	:
Attend ten (10) Valley of Akron events AND visit two (2) other valleys. If you secure a petition, it will be counted as one event.	Valley of Akron A.A.S.R.  10 Event  Black Hat Program
Submit completed card to the Valley Secretary or Membership Chairman to receive your Black Hat.  Any questions, please feel free to contact RWB Larry Wilson at lpwilson96@gmail.com or 330-807-2198	
Member  Date Event Initials	Date Event Initials
	6
	7
)	1
3	

## HOSPITALER'S REPORT

Please call Valley of Akron Hospitaler Michael Madden to report ill and deceased Brethren: 330-860-4257, mma9914261@aol.com.

Also, please notify him when you come home from the hospital or if you go to a nursing home. Your cooperation will help us to keep our records up to date. (Nursing homes will not give us any information.) Updated 19 June, 2024.

#### ~ Ill and Distressed Brethren ~

**Brother Claude Brunot Brother Steve Flaughers Brother Larry Frye** Illustrious Leroy Hackenberg, 33° Illustrious B. Marvin Hardy II, 33° Illustrious Joseph Levy, 33° Illustrious Richard McMasters, 33° Illustrious William Murphy, 33° **Brother Lee Pilous Brother James Rasnick** Illustrious David Snyder Sr., 33° Worshipful Brother George Stenger, MSA Worshipful Brother David Swartz, MSA **Brother Richard Thomason Brother Scott Thornton Brother Reid Whitman** Illustrious Gary Williams, 33°

### ~ Prayer ~

We come to You at this time. We humbly ask Your gentle love. And grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. We place our brothers that have passed into Your hands. We place our sick under Your care and humbly ask that You restore Your servants to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge Your holy will and know that whatsoever You do, You do for the love of your children. Amen.

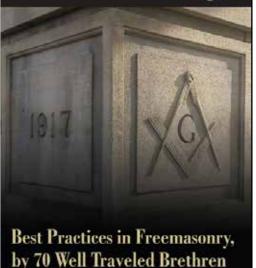
## IN MEMORIAM

Your Hospitaler is pleased to announced he has no deceased Brethren to report this month.

#### MASONBOOK

by Brethren you know

## The Successful Lodge:



Strategies in Nonprofit Leadership from Past Grand Master James F. Easterling, Jr., with David Ferris

6623 Press Motivational ()

The book *The Successful Lodge:* Best Practices in Freemasonry collects battle-tested advice from 70 Brethren in Ohio's 21st District. This handy Mason's manual collects a diverse array of tips and techniques to keep your Lodge productive and harmonious.

196 pages • 5x8" • 31 images • \$14.95 paperback • \$5.99 e-book

The Successful Lodge paperbacks and e-books are available online exclusively at Amazon.com. GET IT THERE ON TIME — SHIPS FREE WITH PRIME! Or contact MWB Easterling at jimjr1137@neo.rr.com or 330-608-8891.



## ADVERTISEMENT

Do you have a business or service that is available to the public? Do your Masonic brethren, their families and friends know about you, your company and the services that you provide? Why not place a tax deductible advertisement in the Rite Lite? Advertising in the Rite Lite would be a nice way to reach out to your brethren and friends. The Rite Lite can print your business card size advertisement, for a nominal fee.

The Rite Lite is published by the Valley of Akron at least four times per year with a circulation of approximately 1,000 members. There is an additional distribution of several hundred copies by email. All Rite Lite issues are presently being posted on the Valley of Akron's web site at <www.ValleyOfAkron.org>.

All advertisement must be of good taste and approved by the Rite Lite Editor. All fees paid for ads are utilized by the Valley of Akron to help underwrite the cost of publication and distribution of the Rite Lite. For an annual cost of \$100, you can promote your company in four quarterly publications. Other advertisement sizes and rates are available upon request. A photo ready copy of each advertisement is required. Anyone interested in placing an ad in the Rite Lite, should request a form. A form is attached to the email version of the Rite Lite.

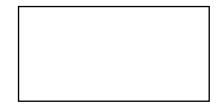
Anyone who is interested in placing an ad in the Rite Lite should contact:

Valley of Akron Secretary Illustrious George E. Tilden, 33° Tel: 234.900.5424 valleyofakronohio@gmail.com

David S. Ferris, MSA, Editor Tel: 330.328.2594 dxferris@gmail.com RITE LITE
A.A.S.R. Valley of Akron

2307 Sacket Ave. Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223





#### **CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



## WILL YOU BE MOVING?

Your Valley wastes money every month by sending mail to bad addresses. Not only do we waste postage, but we are charged for the returned mail.

PLEASE, if you are moving, or if you have already moved, please send or call the Valley Office with your updated mailing address.

Please call the Valley of Akron Secretary at 234.900.5424 with all new information, updates or changes. The Rite Lite is published by the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (A.A.S.R.)

Valley of Akron
P.O. Box 468

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44222 - 0468

Office Hours: 9:00 AM to noon Monday-Friday or by appointment A.A.S.R. Tel.: 234.900.5424

valleyofakronohio@gmail.com

Editor / Committee Chairman David S. Ferris, MSA dxferris@gmail.com

## YOUR VALLEY ON THE WEB

www.ValleyOfAkron.org
Find us on Facebook