

RITELITE

Volume 61

No. 1

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Valley of Akron / a newsletter / January-February 2024 / Date of Charter: September 23, 1959



MASONIC ASSISTANCE



NEW 32s



LEAVER



**SHUTACK
THATCHER**



ADAMS

1
THING

ONE THING TO KNOW:

THE VALLEY OF AKRON HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS.

THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS IS VALLEYOFAKRONOHIO@GMAIL.COM.

THE OLD ONE ~~DON'T WORK NO MORE~~ IS NO LONGER FUNCTIONAL.

**VALLEY
CALENDAR**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18:

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

6:30 PM, TRUSTEES MEETING. 7:30 PM, STATED MEETING.

ALL OFFICERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE TRUSTEES AND STATED MEETINGS.

FOLLOWING THE STATED MEETING THERE WILL BE FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN THE DINING ROOM.

MONDAY, FEB. 5: RITE ON THE ROAD: NATIONAL LODGE #568.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15:

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

6:30 PM, TRUSTEES MEETING. 7:30 PM, STATED MEETING.

APRIL 12 AND 13: SPRING REUNION.

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 MARCH. IF YOU HAVE NEWS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS, THE DEADLINES ARE THE 20TH OF FEBRUARY, APRIL, JUNE, 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 it 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.

The A.A.S.R. Valley of Akron email address has changed.

The new email address for the Valley of Akron is valleyofakronohio@gmail.com.

BLUE ENVELOPE APPEAL

The Blue Envelope Appeal is the Scottish Rite, NMJ's oldest Jurisdiction-wide fundraising appeal. For decades, Scottish Rite Masons have supported the charitable efforts of the fraternity by mailing their annual donations in a blue reply envelope, leading to the program's name.

Over the years, millions of dollars have been raised to support the work of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation, thanks to the generous contributions of our members.

Donations to the Blue Envelope Appeal currently support:

- The Scottish Rite Grand Almoners Fund
- Children's Dyslexia Centers
- Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library
- Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Fund

Our Valley goal for members to support this program is 64 presently. We have had 36 members make a pledge to the Blue Envelope Appeal. Please consider making a pledge.

ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP

The Abbott Scholarship forms are available upon request from the Valley Secretary's Office. Or see pages 9 through 11 for more information and an application. Please fill out the application with all proper attachments and return the application to the Valley office no later than April 1, 2024.

WREATH ACROSS AMERICA

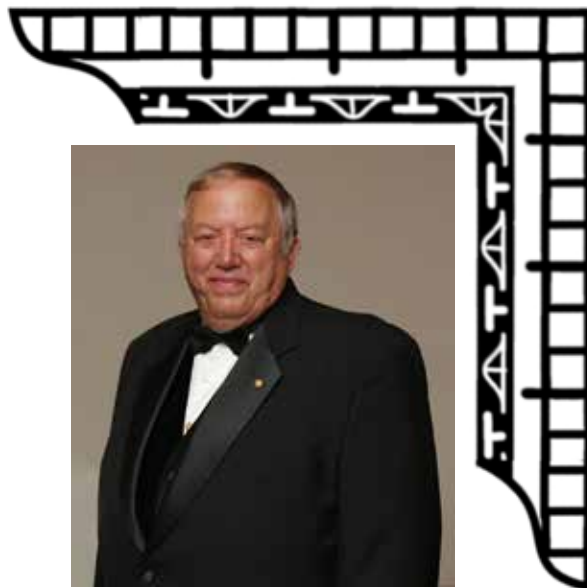
A new service project was initiated on December 16, 2023. Several of our Brethren and families participated in the annual **Wreath Across America**. Their mission of Wreath Across America is "Remember, Honor and Teach." Remember the fallen, Honor those who served and Teach the next generation the Value of Freedom. The Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery and Stow Cemetery were two of several cemeteries where our Scottish Rite Brethren volunteered to place a wreath at the grave of a Veteran.

• **HELP WANTED** • **HELP WANTED** • **HELP WANTED** •

Positions are available: **Valley Organist, Chairman for the Long Range Committee, and Chairman for the Fundraising Committee.**

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact the Valley Secretary's Office or the Chairman of the Board, Ill. Bro Richard Landals, 33°: 330-848-8842 or rlandals@aol.com.

Fraternally, Executive Secretary George E. Tilden, 33°



Your Active Member Says...



Brethren:

I would like to thank everyone who assisted in the Masonic Assistance Program (MAP) food basket morning at Craftsman Park. We had a tremendous turnout of over 60 brothers, ladies and children on a wonderful Saturday morning.

Everything was very well laid out and **WB Dutch Chancey**, who is our Chairman had everything planned out for easy assembly. Thank you to Brother **Chris Schill** for providing the box truck, **Ill. Brother George Tilden** and his wife **Gloria** for making the signs and the fliers for the baskets, **New Franklin Lodge** for being one of the two pick up locations, **Brother Tyson Trammell**, TPM and his crew for maning the other location in Barberton and **WB Doug McIe**, who ran point on the morning of.

Everyone worked together. And we all had fun working as a team for a very worthwhile project.

Brethren, as we start the Blue Lodge Inspection season, this is a great opportunity to represent our Valley, and answer those questions from brothers who don't belong to our Rite. Thursday Night at the Rite will soon be upon us as well as our Rite on the Road evenings. Locations will be announced very soon. Stay warm and safe.

Fraternally,
James F. Easterling, Jr.

Valley of Akron 2024

Chairman:

Ill. Brother Richard Landals, 33°

Vice-Chairman:

Ill. Brother William Murphy, 33°

Trustees:

David Korb, MSA

Ill. Brother Jason Kidd, 33°, MSA

Joshua Prokop

Hospitaler:

Michael Madden

Secretary:

Ill. Brother George E. Tilden, 33°

Active Member, Supreme Council:

Ill. Brother James F. Easterling, Jr., 33°

Officers

Thrice Potent Master:

Tyson Trammell

Sovereign Prince:

Richard Cole Jr.

Most Wise Master:

Matthew Abbey

Commander in Chief:

Ron Hart II

Rite Lite Newsletter

Editor: David S. Ferris, MSA

Production & Distribution: Ill. Brother George E. Tilden, 33°

Staff Photographer: Ill. Brother James F. Easterling, Jr., 33°

Proofreader: Christopher Schill



Masonic Assistance Program Recap

In December, the Valley of Akron's 2023 MAP campaign assisted 107 families in our Community. The food basket distribution has brought joy to many and a tear in our eyes that our gift to others have saved families during our Holiday Season. Each basket contained \$100 worth of essentials. That amounts to over \$10,000 in donations from District Masons and businesses.

Many thanks to those Brethren, families, friends and our Masonic Bodies who contributed money and time to our 33rd year of providing food baskets to those in need.

A special Thank You to MAP Chairman Worshipful Brother Dutch Chancey, MSA and to his assistant Worshipful Brother Doug McLe, and to the Brethren, their families and children, and the sisters of Falls Chapter Order of Eastern Stars, who volunteered to fill the bags of food at Craftsmen Park Dining Room.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Save A Lot on Manchester Road and to Craftsmen Park Manager Worshipful Brother Greg Walton.

A job *WELL DONE*.

— Executive Secretary George E. Tilden, 33°

Above: Brethren and friends unload a raft of supplies donated by the Manchester Road Save a Lot. Below, left: The load-in. Below, right: the truck full of complete baskets. Photos by MWB III. James F. Easterling Jr., 33°.



Thursday Night at the Rite

Make it your 2024 New Year resolution to Join Us for Season 5 of Thursday Night at the Rite. The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's signature virtual degree program is back!

Exclusively for members, Season Five brings you:

- Lesser-seen degrees to help you fill your passport
- Degrees exemplified by an array of NMJ Valleys
- Opportunities for fraternal fellowship, discussion, and reflection on each of the degrees shown

Learn more and register at tnr.srnmj.org.

Episode 1

February 1, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 8°, Intendant of the Building

Presented by Valley of Pittsburgh

Episode 2

February 15, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 18°, Knight of the Rose Croix

Presented by the Valleys of New Jersey

Episode 3

February 29, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 10° Master Elect

Presented by Valley of The Hudson

Episode 4

March 14, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 18°, Prince of Jerusalem

Presented by Valley of Michigan

Episode 5

March 28, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 13°, Master of the Ninth Arch

Presented by Valley of Fort Wayne

Episode 6

April 11, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 20°, Master Ad Vitam

Presented by Valley of Madison

Episode 7

April 25, 2024

7:30 pm. 4°, The Builder

8:00 pm. 20°, Brothers of the Trail

Presented by Valley of Buffalo

Valley of Excellence Corner

With six months into our new Scottish Rite Year, the Valley of Akron score is 44.19.

With six more months left in this Scottish Rite Year we must achieve an additional 50.81.

Last year the Valley achieved 97.48. The goal of 95 percent is achievable only with your help.

The Presiding Officers are busy at work planning activities to meet this goal. However, we need your help in one major area: Our Membership/Restoration goal is 26. This goal may be reached by attaining new initiates and/or restoring to membership those who have been suspended for non-payment of dues. Presently we have two new Scottish Rite Brethren.

New and improved goals and incentives will be presented by our Membership Chairman, RWB Larry Wilson, Jr., on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at our monthly Stated Meeting. We also have five candidates in waiting to receive the degrees of our Rite.

The time is NOW to offer to those who are not members but have the desire to seek more light in Masonry an opportunity of a Lifetime by joining the Valley of Akron. Let us assist them to continue their Journey.

— Secretary, Ill. Bro. George Tilden, 33°

EXCELLENCE PROGRESS-OMETER

	EXCELLENCE ACHIEVED
	ALMOST THERE
	GETTIN' THERE
	PROGRESS IS IN PROGRESS
	NOT YET EXCELLING

Veterans Night and Awards Presentation



In November, the Valley recognized Brethren for their milestone years of service to the Valley of Akron: The Five Year Award went to George Oberlin, Broher William Hargrove Jr., Willie Hawkins, James Lutz, and Jeffery Davis. The 25 Year Award went to J.Q. Adams, Joseph Fisher, and James Mac Gillivrary.



ABOVE: The annual Ugly Christmas Sweater contest. LEFT: MWB Easterling presents Jamie Lever his Gold Passport. RIGHT: JQ Adams receives his 25 Year certificate. BELOW: New 32° Masons.



New 32°s and Veterans Recognition



Above: New 32° Scottish Rite Masons from the Valley of Akron.

Below: From Veteran's Night recognitions in November, the Sammy L. Davis recipients.



Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Program



Named after Leon M. Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander from 1921 to 1932, the Abbott Scholarship Program provides financial support for the continuing undergraduate and graduate education of Scottish Rite Masons, young men and women from Scottish Rite families, and Masonic-related youth groups.

Eligibility: Those meeting any of the following criteria are eligible to apply for the Abbott Scholarship program for undergraduate studies:

- A Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
- A student directly related (bloodline or by legal means) to a Scottish Rite Mason in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction or a member of a youth organization sponsored by the Masonic fraternity in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who is:
- A high school senior, currently accepted at an accredited trade school who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- A high school senior, or undergraduate, or graduate student currently enrolled at an accredited college or university who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- Applications should be submitted to the Valley of the sponsoring Scottish Rite Mason.

The 2024 application form appears on the following pages.

Applications are due no later than April 1, 2024.

Submit applications to the Valley office:

**Valley of Akron
P.O. Box 468 / 2037 Sacket Ave.
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223 - 0468**

Questions? valleyofakronohio@gmail.com • 234.900.5424

Application For Scottish Rite Abbott Scholarship Aid

The applicant must personally complete this application. The application and all supporting documents must be submitted in duplicate to the Valley Office designated below. Applications received after that date will not be considered.

Return to your Sponsor's Valley Office

Last Name First Name MI

Home Street Address

Home City / Town, State, Zip

Email Telephone

1. Fathers Name Occupation

2a. Mother's Name Occupation

2b. Mother's or Father's Address (if different from above)

3a. Is your Father a Mason (Y / N) ? 3b. Is your father a Scottish Rite Mason? (Y / N)

If Yes, Valley: Member No.

4a. To What youth organization affiliated with Freemasonry do (have) you belong(ed)? DeMolay, Rainbow, Job's Daughters, etc.) ?

4b. To what other non-school related groups do you belong?

4c. State briefly your extracurricular school-related interests/activities.

5a. Name of accredited school to be attended: Major:

5b. Address of School:

6. Which year will you be entering?(fresh, soph, jr., sr.) 7. Current GPA:

8. Adjusted gross Family income reported to IRS for previous year:

9a. Provide an estimate of yearly financial needs: 9b. Present sources of income for school:

Tuition: \$ Job: \$

Room and Board \$ Loan: \$

Other: \$

Scholarship: \$

Total: \$

Grants: \$

Other Revenues \$

Total: \$

10a. For what career are you planning?

10b. If undecided, indicate possible choices:

11a. How many children in your family?

11b. Ages:

11c. How many children in your family attending college?

12. Additional Information you wish to be considered?

13. Previous Abbott Scholarship recipient? (years) or new applicant ? (Y / N)

Please submit the following documentation with the application (in duplicate):

- a. Most current copy of high school or college transcript.
- b. At least one confidential letter or recommendation from an instructor, counselor, or advisor.
- c. Most current copy of FAFSA form.

Please Include a brief statement describing your current educational goals and their relationship to your career plans:

I am submitting this application under the sponsorship of my: Father, Brother, Stepfather, Grandfather, Uncle or Inlaw (circle one).

He is a member of the Valley of _____, in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

His member number is:

I believe the foregoing statements to be accurate. I hereby pledge any Abbott Scholarship monies awarded to me will be used strictly for college expenses such as tuition, supplies, and room and board.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Abbott Scottish Rite Scholarship aid is a gift, not a loan, and can be based on academic achievement, participation in worthwhile activities, financial need, and self help. Checks will be issued by August 1st to successful applicants drawn payable to the student recipient.

HOSPITALER'S REPORT

Please call Valley of Akron Hospitaller 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 18 January, 2023.

~ Ill and Distressed Brethren ~

Brother Claude Brunot, 33°
Brother Larry Frye
Illustrious Brother B. Marvin Hardy II, 33°
Illustrious Brother Joseph Levy, 33°
Illustrious Brother Richard McMasters, 33°
Illustrious Brother Jim Moore, 33°
Illustrious Brother William Murphy, 33°
Brother Larry Powell
Brother James Rasnick
Brother George Shrader, MSA
Illustrious Brother David Snyder Sr., 33°
Worshipful Brother George Stenger, MSA
Brother David Swartz
Brother Richard Thomason
Brother Reid Whitman

Please Keep Illustrious Brother Terry Regenos's wife, Louise, in your thoughts and prayers. She had a pacemaker put in on January 9.

~ 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

Brother Clinton G. Dalzell, Jr.

Passed 15 October, 2023

Brother Kenneth Fortney

Passed 13 October, 2023

May they rest in peace.

Worshipful Masters: It's THE perfect gift for your officer line...

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The Successful Lodge:



Best Practices in Freemasonry, by 70 Well Traveled Brethren

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.

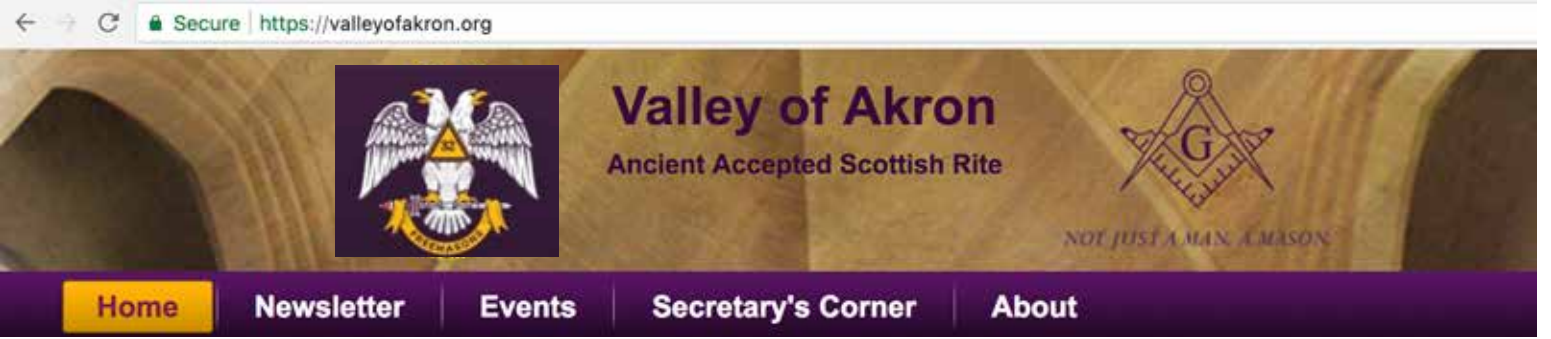
The Rite Lite is published by the Valley of Akron at least four times per year with a circulation of approximately 1,000 members. There is an additional distribution of several hundred copies by email. All Rite Lite issues are presently being posted on the Valley of Akron's web site at <www.ValleyOfAkron.org>.

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
Ill. Bro. George E. Tilden, 33°
Tel: 234.900.5424
valleyofakronohio@gmail.com

David S. Ferris, MSA, Editor
Tel: 330.328.2594
dxferis@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
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Valley of Akron
P.O. Box 468
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223-0468

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**YOUR VALLEY ON
THE WEB**

www.ValleyOfAkron.org
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“Scottish Rite is the fraternity of choice.”