

RITE LITE

Volume 61

No. 5

Sept. 2024



A 32° Masonic Publication of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

Valley of Akron / a newsletter / September-October 2024

Instituted December 13, 1958 • Date of Charter: September 23, 1959



**Past
Commander
In Chief
David A. Korb**



**Summer fun in the Valley.
Page 10.**

RAMAR BEACH
DESTIN • FLORIDA



1992

VALLEY CALENDAR

COVER PHOTO:

PAST COMMANDER IN CHIEF DAVID A. KORB IS NOW GRAND MONARCH OF GROTTOS INTERNATIONAL. SEE PAGE 13.

ICE CREAM PHOTO, PAGE 2: ELIZABETH SCHILL AFTER A TOUGH 18 HOLES AT ANNUAL GOLF OUTING. PHOTO BY JESSICA SCHILL. SEE PAGE 10.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11: 6 VALLEY DEGREE DAY DINNER, YOUNGSTOWN

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12: WORKERS DINNER. 6 PM, LAKE ANNA HALL \$10 PP. PLEASE RSVP TO MROZZY1288@YAHOO.COM BY OCT. 1. SEE PAGE 7.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21: MEETINGS AND VETERANS DINNER / PROGRAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5: MSA AND 33° BANQUET

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13: NIGHT AND LIGHTS AT THE AKRON ZOO

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21: MASONIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11: 6 VALLEY DEGREE DAY. AT CANTON MASONIC TEMPLE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6: LADIES & COUPLES DATE NIGHT: SPAGHETTI WAREHOUSE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20: MEETING / 20TH DEGREE. REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW.

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 NOVEMBER. IF YOU HAVE NEWS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS, THIS YEAR'S FINAL DEADLINE IS THE 13TH OF 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.

VALLEY OF EXCELLENCE

Your Valley of Akron Presiding Officers and Leadership Team has concluded spring training with our installation of officers. We are going for the gold! The kick-off has already started.

The season started with a selection of officers and committees for Team Akron. Our home opener was at the Valley of Akron June stated meeting with a "Hobos in America" presentation. It was a great start to the 2024-2025 season!

Our second event was our tremendous picnic featuring putt-putt golf, **Bob's Hamburg on Wheels**, and presentation of the Abbott Scholarships to three recipients. Ninety members and family members were present.

The third event was the **RubberDucks** baseball game at Canal Park with food and fellowship. Your **Thrice Potent Master, Sublime Prince Steven Prentiss**, threw out the first pitch and over the plate. The Deputy Master was warming up on deck and ready to come in if necessary. **Illustrious James F. Easterling Jr., 33^o**, was interviewed by the RubberDucks broadcasters about the Scottish Rite. A come-from-behind victory made the evening more enjoyable with Fireworks in Akron style. No quack about it!

Your Valley Secretary and Assistant are both hard at work preparing for Season 66. Sixty-Six years of Scottish Rite Masonry in the Valley of Akron. Records must be kept, forms submitted and deadlines met. Our Membership goal for this 2024-2025 year is 24. **Currently, our score card is at 17.97%.**

It's your turn to be in the batter's box for Team Akron USA! See you on Thursday, September 19 for our team meetings: Trustees meet at 6:30 p.m., followed by and locker room strategy at the 7:30 p.m. state meeting, at the Falls Masonic Temple. Refreshments to follow.

DUES NOTICES

The **Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction** has distributed all annual dues notices to our membership. As your Valley Secretary, I hope you will forward your payment upon receiving this notification. Payments can be made online through the Membership Center for the current year or set up auto pay. Or send a check made payable to the Aroba Lodge of Perfection and mail to **Valley of Akron, P.O. Box 468, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44222.**

PASSPORT COMPLETIONS

Congratulations to **Sublime Prince Marc Osborne**, MSA, who has completed his Gold Passport.

The following Brethren have completed the White Passport:

Sublime Prince Christopher Titus, 32^o, HGA

Sublime Prince Rory Wolff, 32^o

Sublime Prince Michael Weinstock, 32^o

Sublime Prince Shawn-Paul Allison, 32^o

Sublime Prince Robert Pursley, 32^o

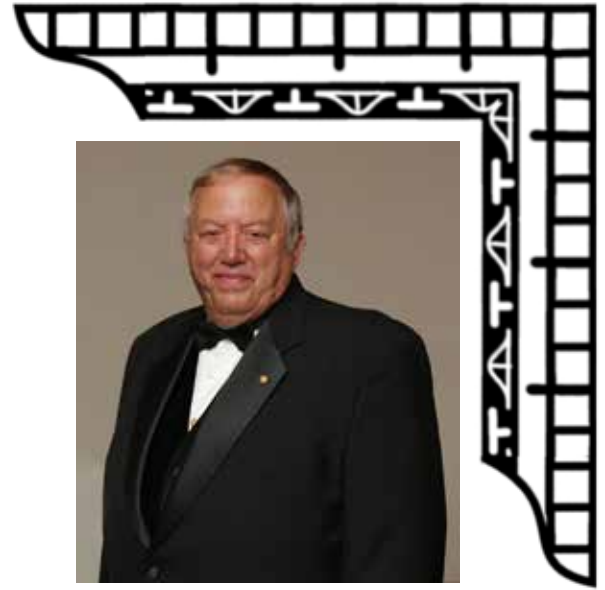
Sublime Prince Richard Berg, 32^o

Presentations will be made at our stated meeting on Thursday, September 19.

Fraternally,

George E. Tilden, 33^o

Executive Secretary, Valley of Akron, A.A.S.R.



YOUR ACTIVE MEMBER SAYS...

Brethren...



It has been a hot Summer, and I hope you and your family have had an enjoyable time away.

Your Valley officers assembled enjoyable events for all of us.

At its new venue, our picnic was very well attended. Thank you to all who attended. We saw many members who haven't participated in recent years. It was nice to catch up with you.

The kids really enjoyed the putt putt gold and ice cream. Bob's Hamburger truck always had a long line. Congratulations to our officers for an enjoyable day.

The Rubberducks baseball game was also a great night.

Our traditional national pastime was also well attended. And the fireworks after never disappoint.

As our Blue Lodges start back up from the break, the rap of the gavel will soon be heard. There will be many opportunities for each of us to continue to make this Fraternity stronger and stronger. This can't be done without your help and hard work.

At a recent Deputy Grand Master's rollout program, it was mentioned that this is an exciting time and a important time for each of us to pitch in and help Freemasonry in the Akron area continues to flourish.

I hope each of you will do your part.

I hope to see you at a Masonic event soon.

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 Schill

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, Jessica Schill

Proofreader: Christopher Schill

HOSPITALER'S REPORT

Hospitaler Card & Call List

Dr. Gary Williams

967 Edgemere Court # 2
Copley, Ohio 44321
330-573-1057

Reid Whitman

5328 Riverview Road
Peninsula, Ohio 44264-9683

Claude Brunot

Vitalia Senior Residence at Stow
4291 Allen Road
Stow, OH 44224

James Rasnick

1446 Suffield-Oaks Lane
Mogadore, OH 44260-8838

Richard Thomason

303 Westberry Circle
Tallmadge, OH 44278-3614
330-204-4324

Leroy Hackenberg

Ohio Living Rockynol
1150 W. Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313

David Swartz

1860 Honodle Ave
Akron, OH 44305-3002
330-285-0726

Larry Frye

367 Valentines Brk
Monroe Falls, OH 44262
330-329-7955

George Stenger

405 Moody Ave
Akron, OH 44305-3611
330-801-6876

David Snyder SR

244 N Pardee St
Wadsworth, OH 44281-1542
330-283-7267

Richard McMasters

1972 Kelsey Dr
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-4344
330-780-7484

E. Reed Reynolds

3669 Chestnut Chase # 402
Copley, Ohio 44321-3306

Scott Thornton

251 Treetop Spur
Copley, OH 43321
Text: 234-788-0467

WORKERS DINNER 2024: PLEASE RSVP ASAP



Your annual Valley of Akron Workers Dinner will be held Saturday October 12, 6 p.m. at Lake Anna Hall.

This highlight of the year will also recognize our new MSAs and 33^os, in addition to other awards.

Tickets are \$10 per person to cover expenses. Please send your reservations to District Deputy Grand Master Marc A. Osborne no later than October 1: mrozzy1288@yahoo.com.



FROM THE MOST WISE MASTER...

Hello, Brethren:

Greetings from your Most Wise Master (or as my son would say, "Somewhat Wise").

While looking back on our events from this summer. I am very encouraged about this upcoming year for the Valley of Akron.

We saw over 90 Brothers and friends at our annual Picnic. And approximately 60 more attended the annual RubberDucks minor-league baseball game. It was good seeing families enjoying Masonic events together.

We have a lot in store for this upcoming year.

Check the Scottish Rite website for upcoming reunions that may have a degree you need. You may even plan a family trip around it.

Also, let our Valley Secretary Illustrious George Tilden know what degrees we may portray or show to help you on your journey.

Finally, remember that Scottish Rite and Masonry are best when shared with a Brother.

I am looking forward to see you at our next meeting.

— Jamie Leaver
Most Wise Master
Arras Chapter Rose Croix Valley of Akron



VALLEY OF AKRON ALL-STARS... FRIDAY AUGUST 9 WAS FAMILY NIGHT IN DOWNTOWN AKRON'S CANAL STADIUM, HOME TO THE RUBBERDUCKS, THE CLEVELAND GUARDIANS' AA MINOR-LEAGUE TEAM. ABOVE, LEFT: CHLOE SCHILL WITH WEBSTER, ONE OF THE DUCKS' MASCOTS. RIGHT: KYLIE SCHILL, ALSO OF TEAM SCHILL.

PLAY BALL



LEFT: NOW ENTERING THE LINEUP... NEW VALLEY TREASURER CHRIS SCHILL. **RIGHT**: KAITLIN LANDALS AND DAUGHTER MCKENNA.

The Valley of Akron AASR welcomed family and friends to its annual Valley Pic-a-nic Saturday, July 27 at the Rolling Greens Miniature Golf Course in Uniontown. Top: Joel Idle (left) and Trustee AJ Nall (right), MSA. Below, L to R: Chloe and Kylie Schill at the Augusta of Uniontown.



The Valley of Akron staged its annual picnic Saturday, July 27. Top: Brethren and family lined up for great food from the Bob's Hamburg truck. Below, L to R: Commander in Chief Jon Richeson with Thrice Potent Master and District Education Officer Steven Prentiss.



2024 GOLF OUTING FOR 2030 FUND



The weather cooperated – for the most part – as 48 golfers attended the Grand Lodge of Ohio 21st Masonic District's annual golf outing and fundraiser Sunday, August 19. Marc Osborne, MSA, and wife Sheri provided lunch. Nearly 30 generous friends sponsored holes. Proceeds went to the 2030 fund for Senior Grand Deacon Eric Muehlenbein's year.

PAST COMMANDER IN CHIEF IS GROTTO GRAND MONARCH

Former Valley of Akron Commander in Chief David A. Korb, MSA is now Grand Monarch of Grottoes International.

The Grotto is an appendant body of regular Freemasonry. Locally, it is based in Barberton's Lake Anna Hall. The Grotto offers a Persian themed atmosphere, degrees and titles. The organization is open to all Master Masons.

Korb recounts his journey to, around, and within Masonry:

I was born and raised in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, where I graduated from Cuyahoga Falls High School in 1978. During that time, I was very active in the band and in Boy Scouts, achieving the rank of Eagle. I also started working afternoons and weekends for an engineering firm as a draftsman.

In 1984, I met the incredible Kelly Hamlin, and we were married in 1985. We have two children, Matthew (Lauren) Korb and Jerrica (Devon) Pawlus. Between the two of them, they have blessed us with four grandkids, Noah (11), Brea (9), Riley (7), and Cameron (5).

I was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Star Lodge #187 in December 1991 and initiated into Yusef-Khan Grotto in February 1992. I served as Monarch of Yusef-Khan in 2015, Master of Star Lodge #187 in 2017, and Commander in Chief of Akron Consistory in 2019. I was elected to receive the Meritorious Service Award in June 2022.

I am truly humbled and honored to serve as the 126th Grand Monarch of the Supreme Council of Grottoes International — and only the third such person to do so from the Akron area.

Grotto has been experiencing some amazing growth over the last few years. And I am very proud to serve the fastest growing fraternal organization as its leader.

My theme this year, as Grand Monarch, is "Traveling at the Speed of Grotto." You may ask, "What does 'Traveling at the Speed of Grotto' mean?" And to every person I answer, "It means what you want it to mean."

When I first started this journey to where I am today, I started slow and kept my travels regional, mostly in NE Ohio. I felt that other regions were off limits to me, or it didn't matter what that Grotto *down there* was doing; I only wanted to stay in my "comfort station," if you will — inside the guardrails of the road I was traveling.

Soon I started see those "ROAD CLOSED" signs as just speed bumps. I began to slowly proceed, at my own risk, to see what lies beyond. It didn't take long until I began to tear down the "ROAD CLOSED" signs and fly over those speed bumps, as if I were Evel Knievel trying to jump the Snake River Canyon.

What I found on the other side of the canyon were like-minded people. People who held a lot of the same beliefs as me. People working together for one common goal, supporting each other, and helping each other — all while traveling at their pace, or Speed of Grotto.

So, I encourage you to travel at your speed, and have as much fun as you can, but stay within the guardrails of your Masonic obligations.

David A. Korb
Grand Monarch, 2024-5

FROM THE THRICE POTENT MASTER...

Greetings, Brethren:

I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer!

The Valley has staged some fun and exciting events that I hope you were able to attend.

The summer picnic had an outstanding turnout. The support from all the members has truly warmed my heart.

Congratulations to the top three golfers, who won special prizes. It was also an honor and a privilege to represent our wonderful fraternity at the ball game. Throwing out the first pitch is a once in a lifetime opportunity. I am so very grateful.

I hope everyone enjoyed the food, the fireworks, and most of all the fellowship.

I certainly do not want summer to be over. But I am also looking forward to getting back into the groove at the Valley and spending more time with my beloved brethren.

Until then... travel light.

All the best!

— Steven D. Prentiss, RSS #43

Thrice Potent Master • Aroba Lodge of Perfection

District Education Officer for the 21st Masonic District



MASONBOOK

by Brethren you know

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

David S. Ferris, MSA, Editor
Tel: 330.328.2594
dx ferris@gmail.com

"Dark is not the opposite of light. It is the absence of light."

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
dxferis@gmail.com

**YOUR VALLEY ON
THE WEB**

www.ValleyOfAkron.org
Find us on Facebook

“Scottish Rite is the fraternity of choice.”