

RITE LITE

Volume 61

No. 6

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A 32° Masonic Publication of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

Valley of Akron / a newsletter / November-December 2024

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



**Video Degree Day • New Valley Website • Veterans Program
Masonic Assistance Program • Titus Earns HGA Recognition
Blue Envelope Appeal • Maximizing Your AASR Experience
Valley of Excellence Update • Osborne to Receive 33°**

VALLEY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21: MEETINGS AND VETERANS DINNER / PROGRAM. SEE PAGE 9.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23: VIDEO DEGREE DAY. SEE PAGE 3.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12: MSA AND 33° BANQUET DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, AKRON-FAIRLAWN.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13: NIGHT AND LIGHTS AT THE AKRON ZOO. SEE PAGE 3.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21: MASONIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. SEE PAGE 4.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11: 6 VALLEY DEGREE DAY. AT CANTON MASONIC TEMPLE. SEE PAGE 16.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16. STATED MEETING AND DINNER

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 JANUARY.

IF YOU HAVE NEWS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS, THIS DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 12.

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

WE NEED PHOTOS.

Your *Rite Lite* newsletter looks better with more photographs. If you take pictures at a Valley event, please share 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.

VIDEO REUNION: 6 DEGREES, 1 MORNING

The AASR Valley of Akron has scheduled a video reunion on Saturday November 23, 2024. The program is as follows:

8:00 AM Coffee and Donuts.

9:00 AM 4th Degree (The Builder) for Candidates

Morning Session Degrees:

6th Degree (Master of the Brazen Serpent)

12th Degree (Master of Mercy)

23rd Degree (Knight of Valor)

27th Degree (Knight of Jerusalem)

Lunch

28th Degree (Knight of the Sun)

Closing

This will be an opportunity to receive more light Passport opportunities. Fun, Fellowship, Food and above all things an opportunity of a lifetime for new members to begin their Journey in Scottish Rite.

FROM THE MOST WISE MASTER

Brethren:

Greetings for your Most Wise "Guy" Master.

December 13, come and join your Valley of Akron Brethren and families at the Akron Zoo Christmas Display. Contact the Valley office or myself for your tickets.

These past few weeks we have witnessed hurricanes, floods, tornados, and other natural disasters. We as Scottish Rite Masons have the opportunity to assist those affected by the tragedies. Please reach out to the Grand Lodge of Ohio's website and see how you can help: Freemason.com.

Autumn has arrived, and so has the **Blue Envelope Program**. The Valley of Akron needs your help. When you give, please mail your donations using the blue envelope (vs. online) to help the Valley of Akron achieve the Valley of Excellence Award. You can still indicate how you would like your donation to be used.

Our Valley of Akron's MAP (Masonic Assistance Program) needs our help. Please contact your home Lodge and ask for donations. Your extra giving can help us assist by helping more families in the Akron area receive food baskets during this holiday season.

God has blessed us in many different ways. Please share some Blessings with others.



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

EVENT OF THE YEAR: MASONIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Have you ever been hungry and literally not have food in the house or be able to get food for the house? Luckily, most of us have never been in that situation. However, there are too many people in our local area where this is a regular occurrence. There are many reasons how and why this happens. Regardless of reasons, it happens. We are taught in our degrees that the three great tenants of a Mason's profession are brotherly love, relief and truth. I know that we would all do what we can to relieve the distress of others to the full extent of what we are able. The economy is in trouble, inflation is going wild, food banks are overwhelmed, and the need for others is growing. Each of us can help.

For 33 years, the Masonic Assistance Program (MAP) has provided food baskets year-round to Masons and those in the community who have a need. Anyone knowing of a brother in need may contact the Secretary of the Valley of Akron or the MAP Chairman, and the Brother will be provided with a food basket or grocery store gift certificate. Other assistance may be available based on need and available funds.

Last year, approximately 105 baskets (\$100 value of groceries) were distributed to our own members, veterans and others in need. These gifts are funded solely by donations from Masons, Lodges, Valley of Akron, Eastern Star Chapters, Amaranth Courts, the Shrine and other bodies. The program is financially administered by the Valley of Akron.

We would like to continue our generosity to the communities as we have in the past at Christmas time. One hundred \$100 baskets costs \$10,000. To do this and have funds for needs throughout the year, we need to raise approximately \$7,000. Yes, this is a lot of money. But I believe that the Masonic Bodies of the greater Summit County area have the charity and generosity to reach this goal.

THE PACKING AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE BASKETS WILL BE HELD...

WHERE: CRAFTSMAN PARK DINING HALL, 4450 REX LAKE RD, AKRON, OH 44319

DATE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024

TIME: 10:00 AM

We will have two distribution points again this year. Three or more people will be needed from about 11 AM to 1:30 PM at each point.

Scottish Rite Ambassadors will be soliciting funds at your Lodge, beginning in October and running thru December.

Anybody can submit the name, address and phone number of a family who is in need to the Valley of Akron Secretary: 234-900-5424. Or email the office at valleyofakronohio@gmail.com. MAP works with United Way of Summit County, various veteran groups, and other charities to identify neighbors in need.

Donations can be sent any time to AASR Valley of Akron, PO Box 468, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44222-0468. **Please make checks out to Aroba Lodge of Perfection, with MAP in the memo.**

The MAP is also accepting donations in the form of empty laundry baskets, size 1.5 bushells, for this coming year. A single basket is as low at \$3.47 at Walmart and can make a difference. Please drop off at 1. National Lodge in Barberton, the 2. Valley Stated Meeting in November, or 3. Contact Valley Treasurer Christopher Schill: Christopher.wr.schill@gmail.com, 330-203-7559.

Together we can reach our goal! Please help.

— Dutch Chancey, MAP Chairman, MSA

TITUS EARNS HGA AWARD

Sublime Prince Chris Titus, a 32° Mason from the Valley of Akron, has been awarded the esteemed **Hauts Grades Academy (HGA) Award**, in recognition of his dedication to advancing his Masonic knowledge.

He is the first in the 21st Masonic District to achieve this award. Through the HGA program, Chris undertook a rigorous educational journey that began with an in-depth study of the 29 degrees of the Scottish Rite, NMJ.

Titus, an active traveler in the 21st District and the entire world, wrote a research paper titled "Abrahamic Values: Scottish Rite Values in Islam, Judaism, and Christianity."

This first and foundational level required an immersive dive into the symbolism and rituals that define Scottish Rite Masonry. It set the stage for personal growth and understanding of the rich Masonic tradition.

In Level Two, Brother Titus engaged in reflective essays on selected Scottish Rite degrees, allowing him to connect the teachings with his personal Masonic journey.

His final achievement came in Level Three, where he composed a research paper exploring a topic of his choice, ranging from history and ritual to the philosophical aspects of the Scottish Rite.

This paper, reviewed and approved by the HGA committee, capped his distinguished accomplishment and reflects his deep commitment to Masonic scholarship and leadership.

"The HGA program encouraged me to look at each degree and identify what I liked or disliked about it," explains Titus. "Some degrees resonated with me more than others, and I was challenged to understand why."

Brother Titus, as a graduate, has earned the honor of becoming a Scottish Rite Hauts Grades Academic, and is entitled to include the letters HGA after his name. A certificate and HGA jewel were also awarded.

Titus is the Deputy Master, Aroba Lodge of Perfection. He is WM of Meridian Sun Lodge #69.



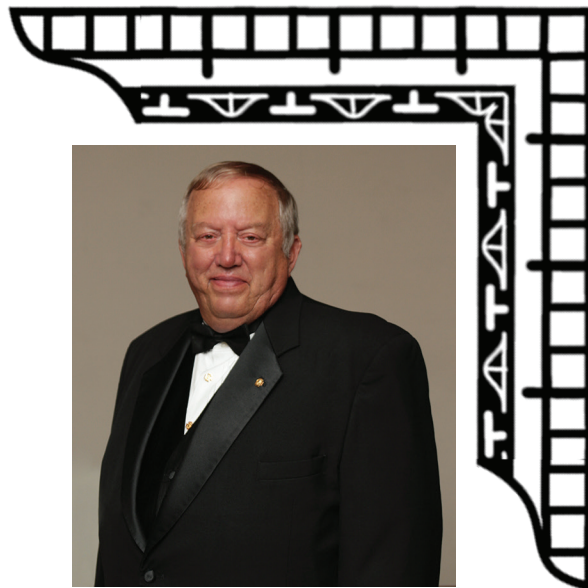
DUES NOTICES

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.**



ILLUSTRIOUS WILLIAM R. POWERS, 33°

It is with sadness to report the death of Illustrious William R. Powers, 33° Active Emeritus, Past Deputy for Ohio with residency in the Valley of Cincinnati.

Our Brother passed to the Celestial Lodge above, on his 84th Birthday.

OHIO ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR HONORS OUR LADIES

It is with great pride, honor and privilege to announce that the Ohio Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star has commissioned our Clerical Assistant, Gloria Tilden, to serve as Deputy Grand Matron for Districts One and Two. District One includes Painesville and Rock Creek and District Two the counties of Summit, Portage, Trumbull and Mahoning; a total of nine chapters. Her position is similar to a District Deputy Grand Master of Freemasonry in Ohio.

Amy Young is the wife of John Young, a member of our Valley. She was elected as Grand Conductress for the 2024-2025 year. She will serve the Ohio Grand Chapter of Ohio in 2026-2027 as Worthy Grand Matron.

If you would like to send congratulatory notes to these ladies, their addresses are:

Gloria Tilden
P.O. Box 604
Kent, OH 44240

Amy Young
170 Takacs Drive
Wadsworth, OH 44281

Fraternally,

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

YOUR ACTIVE MEMBER SAYS...

Brethren...



Following the completion of our annual Grand Lodge session, we start a new Blue Lodge year. With it is once again an exciting time for Masonry in Ohio.

Our newly installed Grand Master, **III. & MWB William Carter** (From the Valley of Cleveland) has many exciting plans for his year. We will, I'm sure see him in the 21st District and the Valley of Akron during his term.

He is planning an All Degree weekend next year in September. A man can become a Master Mason AND a Scottish Rite Mason in the same weekend. What a great way to talk to a gentleman you may know who can have the same experiences as you have. More information to follow.

The 6 Valley Degree Day in January is fast approaching. Our Sovereign Grand Commander will be in attendance.

Our presiding officers continue to create interesting programs that I think you will find interesting. I hope you will plan on attending.

Blue Lodge Installations will be happening soon — and what a great way to promote OUR Valley!

Safe travels. I hope to see you 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

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: Larry P. Wilson, Jr.

Illustrious James F. Easterling, Jr., 33°

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 17 October, 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°
Brother Lee Piliou
Illustrious William Murphy, 33°
Brother James Rasnick
Illustrious David Snyder Sr., 33°
Worshipful George Stenger, MSA
Worshipful David Swartz, MSA
Brother Richard Thomason
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

Illustrious William R. Powers, 33*
Active Emeritus, Past Deputy for Ohio
Valley of Cincinnati

May he rest in peace.

VETERANS PROGRAM: STAR SPANGLED SURPRISE

The featured event for the Thursday, November 21 Valley of Akron meeting will be a presentation entitled "Star Spangled Surprise." This host will be the Valley of Canton's Ill. Bro. Blaine J. Werner, 33°. Werner's program will feature an informative discussion of patriotism and flag history.

"The greatest symbol of our nation is one of which very few people have any real knowledge," says Werner. "This program is one that is appealing to people of all ages. Pride in our nation is something to be instilled, but to develop that pride an understanding of this symbol is needed. Men and women have served, lived, and died to preserve this great nation and this symbol. Where did the symbol come from? Why are the colors red, white, and blue? Why a five pointed star? Learn the answers to these questions and new facts about our flag."

Werner is a former member of the U.S. Air Force and of the Ohio Air National Guard. He is a retired high school teacher, formerly teaching social studies and language arts at Fairless High School in Southwestern Stark County.

He has been named Teacher of the Year by the Stark County Bar Association in 1991 and Teacher of the Year by the Daughters of the American Revolution in Stark County in 2003. HE was also named as a Martha Jennings Scholar.

Werner has also been listed in *Who's Who of American Educators* in multiple years. He was named as Fairless High School's Person of Character in 2014. He has been active in Boy Scouting and the American Legion.

He is a Past Master, Past District Education Officer, Past District Deputy Grand Master, and a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Freemason.

He has been married to his wife, Vicki, for the past 50 years and has two grown children. He has been active in his church, lodge, and community for many years. He has presented this program to many different organizations in and around Ohio over many years.



OSBORNE TO RECEIVE 33^o

It is an honor and a privilege to announce to the members of the Valley of Akron that Sublime Prince Marc Osborne, MSA, our Reunion Director, has been elected by the Supreme Council NMJ to receive the Thirty-Third Degree.

He will receive this distinguished honor with Sublime Prince Larry Wilson, Jr. at the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council in Indianapolis, IN. The ceremony will be held August 23-26, 2025.

Osborne is District Deputy Grand Master of the 21st Masonic District. He is a Past Master of National Lodge #568.

Below is the contact information to congratulate this distinguished brother:

Address: 157 Seventh Street NW,
Barberton, OH 44203-2115

Mobile Phone: 330-217-6465

Email: mrozzy1288@yahoo.com

— George E. Tilden, 33^o
Executive Secretary
Valley of Akron, A.A.S.R.



FROM THE THRICE POTENT MASTER...

Greetings, Brethren:

Brethren,

I hope this message finds you well!

The summer months have come to an end. And even though we are dark this month due to Grand Lodge, there are still some exciting things coming up for the Valley. So grab your coat and come on out to one of our upcoming events.

In November we will have two exciting nights: a Veterans program and a video degree reunion packed with degrees that most of our members need to fill their passports!

Then after the programs, everyone enjoys eating some turkey with their loved ones.

We will have a family night at Akron Zoo to go and see the lights and enjoy some fellowship. Keep an eye out for the Email Blasts that will be coming out from our hard working secretary.

And I hope to see you come out and join the festivities!

If not, have a safe and wonderful holiday season.

Travel light, my Brethren!



— **Steven D. Prentiss, RSS #43**
Thrice Potent Master, Aroba Lodge of Perfection
District Education Officer, 21st Masonic District

MAXIMIZING YOUR AASR EXPERIENCE

Greetings, Brethren:

As members of the Scottish Rite, we have the privilege of participating in a time-honored tradition that emphasizes personal development, fellowship, and community service.

To truly unlock the full potential of your Masonic journey, active engagement is essential. Regularly attending meetings, rituals, and social events not only deepens your understanding of Masonic teachings but also strengthens the bonds of brotherhood. Take time to explore the meanings behind the degrees; immersing yourself in these lessons can significantly enhance your appreciation and provide rich material for discussion with fellow members.

Building relationships within your Lodge is another vital aspect of getting the most from your Scottish Rite experience. Take the initiative to connect with other Masons, engage in meaningful conversations, and seek mentorship from those with more experience. Such connections can provide invaluable guidance and support. Moreover, getting involved in charitable activities and community service projects is a wonderful way to embody the core Masonic values of service and brotherhood while forging deeper ties with your fellow brothers.

When it comes to recruiting new members, sharing your passion for the Scottish Rite is key. Speak openly with friends about what being a Mason means to you, highlighting the positive experiences and camaraderie you've encountered. Invite them to attend public events or open meetings; this allows them to witness the brotherhood in action and experience the warmth of our community firsthand, free from pressure. Encourage them to ask questions, and be ready to provide thoughtful answers. If they express interest, offer to guide them through the process of joining.

It's also important to emphasize the charitable work that the Scottish Rite engages in, as many people are drawn to the idea of giving back to the community. Your enthusiasm and support can make a significant difference in their decision-making process.

Remember, joining is a significant choice, so be patient and give your friends the time they need to consider this step. By actively engaging in the rich experiences offered by the Scottish Rite and inviting others to share in this journey, we can foster a vibrant community grounded in shared values and mutual support.



— **Christopher W. R. Schill**
Treasurer, Valley of Akron AASR
Junior Warden, Aroba Lodge of Perfection

THE BLUE ENVELOPE APPEAL

Greetings, Brethren:

The Blue Envelope Appeal is the 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 our Scottish Rite Charities, thanks to the generous support of our members. Donations to the Blue Envelope currently support:

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

How does the Blue Envelope help my Valley?

Your members' Blue Envelope donations can help your Valley receive Valley of Excellence credit. Obtaining credit requires at least 10% or more of your Valley's total members donating to the Blue Envelope, with the campaign running from October 1 to June 15. Valley of Excellence Blue Envelope donations from your Valley also help determine your annual Abbott Scholarship allocation.

Your Blue Envelope Appeal will be arriving in October. Please consider donating to this valuable charity.

Together we can wipe away a tear for a family that is in need, bring hope to a child who is struggling with Dyslexia, help our Scottish Rite Museum and Library preserve history for the next generation, and to financially assist and honor those students seeking higher education.

The goal set by our Supreme Council and the Valley of Excellence Program is to have 60 of our members donate to this cause.

Can we count on you?

Thank you, and JOURNEY ON WITH US.

George E. Tilden, 33°
Executive Secretary



VALLEY LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE



valleyofakronohio.com



≡ MENU



The Valley of Akron has launched its new website, offering a streamlined experience for members and visitors.

The site features sections for Scottish Rite degrees, events, and programs like the Children's Dyslexia Learning Center and the Masonic Assistance Program.

An easy-to-navigate menu ensures quick access to resources, event details, and membership information. The website reflects the Valley's dedication to community service and Masonic values.

If you have any suggestions, please submit them to the website chairman, Christopher Schill or to the secretary.

Visit the new website: ValleyOfAkronOhio.com

WORKERS DINNER 2024



The Valley of Akron held its annual Workers Dinner Saturday, October 12. The event gathers friends and family to acknowledge some of the team members who help make Valley events and programs happen all year. Above: RWB Marc Osborne, MSA, left, presents Brother Jeff Davis with this year's Reunion Director's Award.



SIX DAY ALL DEGREE DAY IN JANUARY

The Six Valley All Degree Day will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at the Canton Masonic Temple.

This will be the sixth time this event has been held at the Canton Masonic Temple. The Six Valley All Degree Day will have in attendance **Illustrious Donald R. Heldman, 33°, Active Member of the Supreme Council and the Deputy for Ohio; Illustrious Walter F. Wheeler, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander AASR NMJ; and Illustrious and Most Brother William M. Carter III, 33°, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio.**



Coffee and Doughnuts will be served from 8 to 8:50 AM. Lunch runs from noon to 1:30 PM.

Cost is \$25 per person.

Deadline for reservations is Thursday, January 16, 2025. **Make a check payable to Aroba Lodge of Perfection.** Mailing address: Valley of Akron P.O. Box 468 Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44222.

This will be an excellent opportunity for new members to begin their journey in Scottish Rite. All petitions with fees must be in by our January Stated Meeting on January 16, 2025

SCHEDULE • SCHEDULE • SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:50 AM: Coffee and Doughnuts and Registration

8:30: 4° Video for Candidates

8:50-9:15: Opening by Presiding Officers and recognition of Distinguished Visitors

9:15: Ritual work begins

25° **Master of Achievement**, portrayed by the Valley of Akron

26° **Friend and Brother Eternal**, portrayed by the Valley of Steubenville

9° **Master of the Temple**, portrayed by the Valley of Cambridge

Noon-1:30: Lunch

5° **Perfect Master**, portrayed by the Valley of Cleveland

29° **Knight of St. Andrew**, portrayed by the Valley of Youngstown

31° **My Brother's Keeper**, portrayed by the Valley of Canton

VALLEY OF EXCELLENCE UPDATE

Brethren,

I'd like to take a few moments of your time to update you regarding the progress the Valley of Akron is making on achieving the **Valley of Excellence** designation for the 4th year in a row.

Valley of Excellence progress is at 26.34 %. Our goal for the year is 95%. Here is how we get there.

There are four (4) major categories that are contained within the Valley of Excellence criteria. First is **Membership**; this accounts for 50% of the score. Second is **Service & Philanthropy**; this accounts for 25% of the score. Third is **Leadership & Development**; this accounts for 15% of the score. Finally, **Operations** accounts for 10% of the score.

Membership is the most critical; this goal can only be reached by all members of the Valley assisting. Retention and recruitment of new members is the main goal of this category. Also included in this is Brother 2 Brother communications, Family Life, Rite on the Road, Reunions, and orientations. This is all about the member. Currently, we have less than 5% of the needed points. Failure on this category fails a Valley for the Valley of Excellence.

At Grand Chapter RAM on Wednesday October 9th, our Grand Master Paul A. Weglage, 33° gave a brief talk regarding membership and apathy in the Blue Lodge. He started with 10 Master Masons; by differences in opinions, family and work conflicts, disagreements between brothers, and more, only 1 Master Mason remained committed to his Lodge. That 1 brother brought in another brother; then there were 2. They each brought in a brother; then there were 4. They each brought in a brother; then there were 8. You can see the picture. As a dependent body to the Blue Lodge, we need to get members to the Blue Lodge, which in turn can provide members to the Valley.

Are you one of the disgruntled members, or are you one who seeks new brothers and new ideas?

Our next criteria is **Service & Philanthropy**. We are currently at 6.25%. Our biggest challenge is coming soon. The Blue Envelope campaign is going to be starting this month. While you may have gone online to contribute, this does not count towards our goals; we need the old-fashioned means to achieve this goal. Please write a check or get a money order, place it in the blue envelope, and mail it back to Supreme Council. This is the only way it counts for this goal.

Can we count on you? Even \$5.00 is enough to qualify for your participation towards our goal!

Leadership & Development is next. This is achieved by our leadership of the Valley – our line officers as well as past presiding officers. It's great to get new members to our Valley, but do we keep them educated and learning more of what their membership in the Scottish Rite means. We've attained our maximum allotment of 5% of the required 15% in State Participation; we need Member Education and Mentoring for the remaining 10%.

Finally, is **Operations**; this is primarily our Trustees, Executive Secretary, and Treasurer. This accounts for 10% with an additional 5% bonus possible. We already have 10.2% in this category with additional bonus points coming for their continued work. We as a Valley have an administrative team that personifies EXCELLENCE! Let's don't let them down.

The Valley of Excellence program is not for every Valley. Some chose not to participate or reach for these lofty goals. This is NOT so with the Valley of Akron! We ARE a Valley of Excellence. And with everyone's assistance, we will remain a Valley of Excellence.

Thanks for all your efforts.

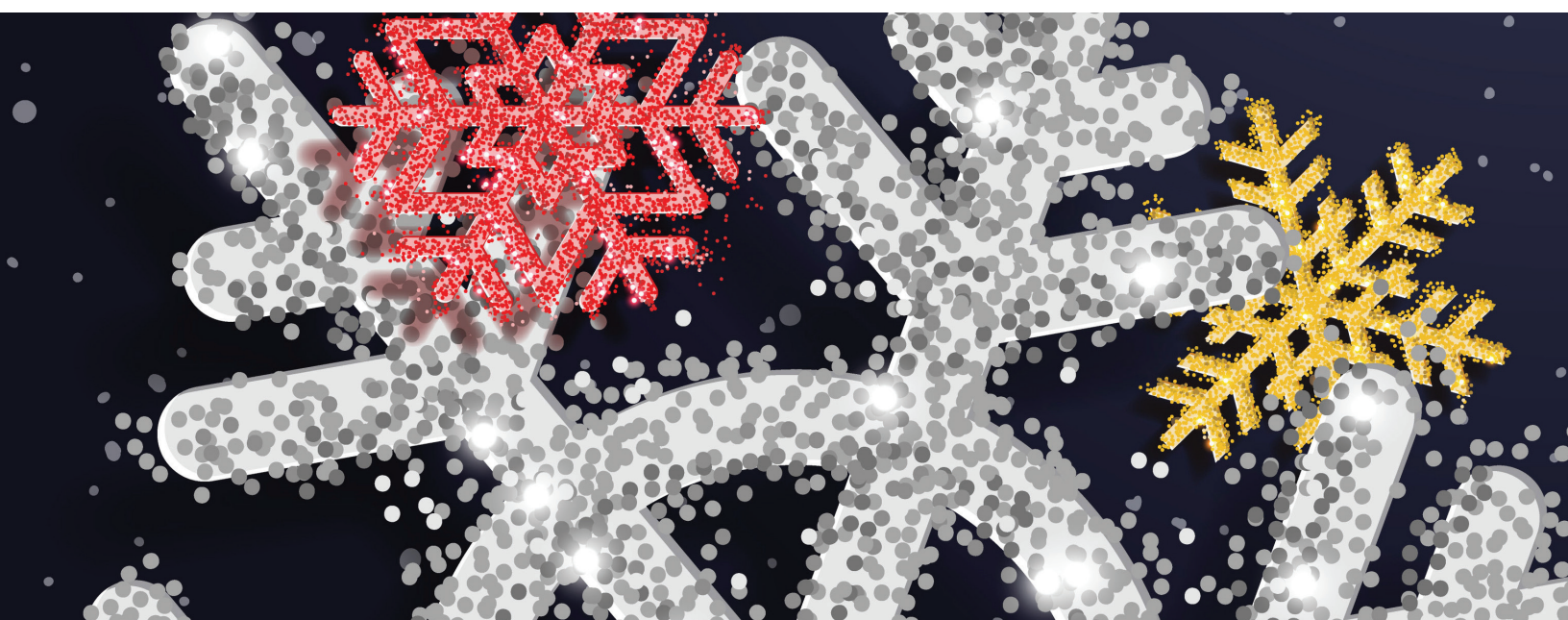
Fraternally,

Ron Hart, Valley of Excellence Coordinator



happy holidays

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY



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**.



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:

www.ValleyOfAkronOhio.com

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

"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.

YOUR VALLEY ON THE WEB

www.ValleyOfAkronOhio.com

Find us on Facebook

The Rite Lite is published
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