



Official publication of the Scottish Rite bodies of the Orient of Nebraska

July-August, 2014 • Volume IV, Issue 4

Calendar

July 2, 19, 16, 23, 30 Weds Masonic Lunch (H)
 July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Thurs Masonic Lunch (L)
 July 6-10 Shrine Imperial (Minneapolis, MN)
 Aug 6, 13, 20, 27 Weds Masonic Lunch (H)
 Aug 7, 14, 21, 28 Thurs Masonic Lunch (L)
 Aug 8-9 Kool Aid Days (H)
 Aug 16 WalkRite for RiteCare (O)
 Aug 22, 23, 24 and 29, 30, 31 Shrek the Musical (H)
 Sep 3, 10, 17, 24 Weds Masonic Lunch (H)
 Sep 4, 11, 18, 25 Thurs Masonic Lunch (L)
 Sep 7 WalkRite for RiteCare (L)
 Sep 12-13 Orient of NE Scottish Rite and Grand
 Lodge of Nebraska Leadership Meeting in Hastings
 Sep 13 WalkRite for RiteCare (H)
 Sep 26 Feast of Tishri (L)
 Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Weds Masonic Lunch (H)
 Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Thurs Masonic Lunch (L)
 Oct 10-11 Hastings Fall Reunion (H)
 Oct 17 & 18 Lincoln Fall Reunion (L)
 Nov 20, 21, & 22 Omaha Fall Reunion & Banquet (O)
 Dec 12 Christmas party and dinner (L)

Lodge of Perfection meetings:

Alliance, 4th Friday of each month
 June-August (Dark), Sept 26

Hastings, 1st Tuesday of each month
 June 3, July 1, Aug 5, Sept 2

Check with Valley for summer events schedule

Lincoln, 3rd Wednesday of each month
 June-August (Dark), Sept 17

Omaha, 3rd Monday of each month
 May 21, June 16, Jul 21, Aug 18, Sept 15

For more information
 contact the Secretary in your Valley

Gene Gatti (Alliance) (308) 762-4324
 Phil Odom (Hastings) (402) 462-5813
 Bruce Wood (Lincoln) (402) 435-2144
 Curt Edic (Omaha) (402) 342-1300

Membership

Does your Valley have I.C.E.?

Probably, but the frozen stuff in your freezer is not what I mean.

In a recent newsletter from the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite (NMJ), members were reminded of the mission statement of the Scottish Rite: Each Valley must emphasize Inspiration, Convenience and Enjoyment in all its programs and degrees.

This mission statement was developed in the wake of the decision in 2000 of Shrine International to no longer require membership in the York Rite or Scottish Rite as a prerequisite to be a Shriner. With this shift in membership requirements, the Scottish Rite was no longer an easy pass-through to become a Shriner, and we had to work harder to attract Brothers who wanted to become Scottish Rite Masons.



Surveys conducted by the Conference of Grand Masters' and again by the Valley of Chicago, indicated that men joined because of fellowship, friendship, and to be with like-minded men. They also demanded that their time be well spent and that they received value for their time and money. They found that men wanted: quality events, programs, and degree work. Because of changing family needs, men want more time to be with families. The bottom line is: if men look forward to the Lodge experience, they go. If they don't, they won't go.

Because of this change, the NMJ adopted I.C.E. in their mission statement, and evidence shows that Valleys who embrace this mission are vibrant, attract new members, and enjoy an active and engaged membership

... continued on page 3

Alliance Valley Scottish Rite Loses Personal Representative and Friend Jack Nichols

The Alliance Valley Scottish Rite and brethren of western Nebraska lost a true friend and mentor in March, Jack Nichols. Jack had been serving as Personal Representative to the SGIG Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33° when he passed away on Wednesday, March 26, 2014.

Jack was born on Aug. 7, 1939 in Curtis, Nebraska. He married Karen Strayer in McCook, on April 3, 1960, and he had two sons, Michael and Robert.

Jack was involved with Boy Scouts and was a member of the United States Marine Corps from 1956-1962. He worked for KN Energy for 36 years until his retirement. He then worked

with Lucky Keno for 10 years before his second retirement.

He was a member of the First Christian Church in Scottsbluff and the Elks Lodge. He joined Robert Furnas Lodge #265 in 1992, and served as Worshipful Master in 1998 and 1999. He served as an officer in the Grand Lodge of Nebraska between 1998 and 2001.



Jack joined the Scottish Rite in 1994, received his KCCH in 1999, and was coroneted a 33° in 2005. He was also a member of the Tehama Shrine, Hastings and Panhandle Shrine, York Rite, Red Cross of Constantine, Dome Rock # 215, Eastern Star, and an honorary Job's Daughter.



Congratulations to the Spring Reunion Class

Front Row: John Ferguson, Bob Phillip, Les Evert, Mike Fritzler, Darren Emerick, Kevin Spencer, Don Phillip, Gene Gatti

2nd Row: Mike Russell, Dwight Smith, Art Strickler, Richard Reisig, Joe Belden, Brent Van Patten, Devin Charles, Joel Zilmer, Brad Dutton

3rd Row: James Ferguson, John Barrett, Todd Rehder, Ed Morava, Geoffrey Phillip, Walt Phillip, Ron Jensen, Scott Phillip

Jack Nichols, continued

Jack was a member of the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Masonic Home located in Plattsmouth. For 10 years he and his loving wife Karen made many trips across the state and made many friends during these trips.

SGIG Appoints New Personal Representatives for the Valley of Alliance Scottish Rite

With the passing of Jack Nichols, 33°, Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33° appointed **John Ferguson, 33°** as Personal Representative for the Valley of Alliance and **Brent Van Patten, 32° KCCH** as Deputy Personal Representative.

Their job is to serve as advisors to the Valley leadership in the absence of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

John Ferguson of Kimball, NE is a member of James L. Eatmon Lodge, # 294. He is retired, and his wife Liz owns and operates an oil and

gas well service company.

John joined the Alliance Valley Scottish Rite in November, 1991, and was invested with the KCCH in 1997. He was coroneted a 33° in 2003. John currently serves as Grand Senior Steward for the Grand Lodge of Nebraska.

Brent Van Patten, 32° KCCH did his undergraduate work at Casper, Wyoming, and graduated from veterinary school at Colorado State University in 1971 as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. He then began his practice in Bridgeport, Nebraska. He is now semi-retired,



John Ferguson, 33°
Personal Representative



Brent Van Patten, 32°
KCCH
Deputy Personal Representative

but an active member of the Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association Board and member of the Board of Directors. He is also chairman of the continuing education committee. He is an elder at the First Presbyterian Church in Bridgeport. Brent is married with two children and 13 grandchildren.



Congratulations to the Spring Reunion Class

Front Row: Wesley Harris, 32° and James Horsham, 32°

Back Row: Wayne Vian, 33°, Phil Odom, 33°, Charles V. Sed-
erstrom, Jr., 33°, George White, 33°, Les Seiler, 33°

It's just a **FAMILY** Tradition



Both **Wes Harris** and **Jim Horsham** come to the Scot-
tish Rite, joining relatives. After the 14th degree was
conferred, **Wayne Vian**, 33° presented the 14th degree ring
on behalf of Wes' uncle **Dan Scarborough**, 32° KCCH. Jim
received his ring from distant cousin **M.W. Les Seiler**, 33°.



The Central Nebraska Scottish Rite in Hastings got into
the Celebrating the Craft spirit on May 17, supporting
the Scottish Rite House of the Temple's capital cam-
paign. Members gathered from noon to 1:30 and en-
joyed homemade white chicken chili. We watched a few
videos about the House of the Temple on the big screen
TV on the second floor, a tour of the House of the Tem-
ple and a second video about Scottish Rite symbolism.
We took in a nice sum for the House of the Temple (split
with the Hastings Scottish Rite Foundation), and more
donations are expected by mail!

Fifty-year member **Glenn Mulholland**, 32° KCCH
came from North Platte, bringing his daughter from
Grand Island. It was great to reconnect with him. He
wants to help us with our next 32nd Degree (which he
has entirely memorized)! Great things continue to hap-
pen in the Hastings Valley!

Bob Scott, 32°
Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection
bobscottster@gmail.com

Membership, continued

In his book *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don't*, Jim Collins talks about the seven characteristics of companies that transition from being merely average to being great. Among them is what he calls the hedgehog concept, stemming from a Greek poem. In the poem, the cunning fox continually plots to eat the hedgehog. But the hedgehog evades the fox by doing the one thing he does very well: curling up in a ball.

Applied to Freemasonry, the hedgehog con-
cept helps us achieve greatness by focus-
ing the organization on our core compe-
tencies: what are we passionate about and
what do we do best? And further applying



**Applying the Hedgehog Concept to
Lodge: do what we do best to increase
Inspiration, Convenience, and
Enjoyment**

this to I.C.E., what are those things that we do best which
our members enjoy and which inspire their participation?

This goes back to the idea of evolving Masonry for today's
members, rather than fitting members into a con-
cept of Masonry that worked well in years past.
When we find what fuels the passions of today's
Masons and create opportunities to do those
things which fit within the time constraints
of family and work, we can fill those empty
chairs in Lodge, and attract new members.

This is not a passive exercise for "someone
else." It is something we all have to think
about, and we have to take the hardest
step in Masonry: the first one.

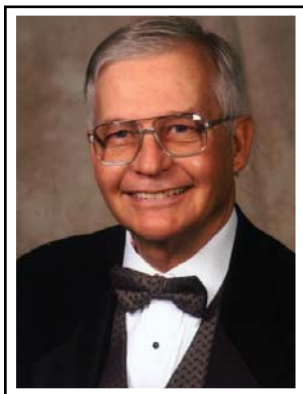
Valley of Lincoln Welcomes Mike Gray as Co-Personal Representative

Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General for Nebraska recently announced the appointment of **Michael Gray, 32° KCCH** as Co-Personal Representative with **M.W. Ken Beebe, 33°** for the Valley of Lincoln.



Michael Gray, 32° KCCH

Mike is a Past Master of Hickman Lodge #256, and joined the Scottish Rite in 1989. Mike was invested with the KCCH in 2009. He is active with the 32nd degree team, serves on Board of the Lincoln Scottish Rite Preservation Foundation and the Lincoln Valley Capital Campaign committee. Mike brings considerable business experience and knowledge of the Lincoln business and philanthropic community, and will be a great asset to Valley of Lincoln Scottish Rite.



M.W. Kenneth Beebe, 33°

Ken has served as Personal Representative for the Lincoln Valley since 2008. Ken received the Scottish Rite Degrees in Lincoln in 1981, and was invested with the KCCH in 2003, and coroneated a 33° in 2009. Ken has served as cast member in the 14°, 30° and 32°. He was Master of North Bend Lodge #119 in 1974 and Secretary from 1975 through 2000 and was installed as Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska in 2003. He is President of Beebe Seed Farms of North Bend, Nebraska, and is active in his community, having served on the Fremont Area Medical Center board and the Fremont National Bank board, in addition to his Masonic commitments.

Please welcome Mike Gray as co-Personal Representative with M.W. Ken Beebe.

Mike joined the Harry A. Koch Co. as Vice President of their Lincoln employee benefits team in 2005. He is Past President of the Lincoln Association of Health Underwriters and the Nebraska Association of Health Underwriters. He is also serves as Associate National Director for the Nebraska Association of Home Builders and a member of the National Association of Home Builders Board of Directors.

FALL REUNION

The Lincoln Scottish Rite needs candidates for the Fall Reunion! As an incentive for signing new candidates for the Fall Reunion, your 2015 dues will be waived if you sign at least two petitions. Please help sign petitions by promoting the Scottish Rite Fall Reunion in your Blue Lodge, York Rite bodies, and Shrine clubs or units.



2014 Distinguished Teacher of the Year



On May 19, **Tom Greenlee, 32° KCCH** presented the Distinguished Annual Teacher of the Year Award to **Steve Carr**, Coordinator for the Information Technology Focus Program.

As the program coordinator, Carr has helped Lincoln students pursue their passion for technology through a specially designed curriculum at the Southeast Community College. John Neal, LPS' assistant superintendent for government relations, nominated Carr to join the fraternity of teachers who "touch students' hearts, souls and minds in equal levels of excellence."

Congratulations to Keith Simonsen, 32°, who



M.W. Ken Beebe, 33°, Keith Simonsen, 32°, and Denny Brydl, 33°

joined the Lincoln Valley, receiving the degrees at the Omaha Reunion on May 1, 2 and 3.

Keith was born in Chadron, Nebraska, and is retired from the Nebraska State Patrol. He is a member of Craftsman Lodge #314.



Congratulations to the members of the Scottish Rite Spring Reunion, May 1, 2 and 3, 2014

Top row, l. to r.: Alan R. Smith, 32°, Venerable Master, Omaha Consistory; A. J. Johnson, 33°, Asst. Degree Director; **James R. Corsaro**; **Brandon J. Fryman**; **Kenneth J. Streff**, Class President; **Gregory J. Lawson**; **Keith A. Simonsen**, Lincoln Valley Candidate; **Michael A. Gunson**, Class Vice President; **William A. McCune**, Class Treasurer/Secretary; **Phillip A. Ricker**; **Billilester King**, Class Orator; **Richard E. Gilmore**, 33°, Asst. Class Director; **John T. Maxell** 33°, General Director of Degrees.

Bottom row, seated, l. to r.: **Jeffrey Coleman**, 32°; **Dennis Brydl**, 33°; **James O. Wolfe**, 33°, Theater Director; **Curtis M. Edic**, 33°, General Secretary, Valley of Omaha; **Dean F. Skokan**, 33°; **Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr.**, 33°, SGIG in Nebraska; **Gregory P. Hadcock**, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection; **Donovan D. Brand**, 32°, Eminent Commander, Council of Kadosh; **Chris Nigro**, 32°, Master, Knights of St. Andrew; **Micah I. Evans**, 33°; **George Pfeffer**, 32° KCCH.

One of the goals for the Spring 2014 Reunion was to “up the game” in terms of the quality of the Scottish Rite degrees and their presentation. The members of the sound and light crew excelled at adding special touches to improve the effects of the degree, and **Nathan Rolofson**, 32° highlighted the mood of each degree with the electronic organ. Degree teams dramatically improved, reducing the use of note cards and while there is always room for improvement, **John Maxell**, 33°, Director of Degrees, was generally satisfied.

This Fall, we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Dedication Class, 31st degree, Inspector Inquisitor the first Reunion held in our building in 1914.



Beautiful backdrop and costumes for the Dedication Class, 31st degree, Inspector Inquisitor

the first Reunion held in our building in 1914.

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Pictured (left to right): **Scott D. Reuman**, **Burke** (a student from Bellevue West who jumped in to help), **A.J. Johnson**, **David Meinzer**, **Chris Atteberry**, **Jim Flowers**, **John Chester**. Below: presenting a \$500 check to **Curt Edic** for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Omaha



the Knights Call

The Omaha Valley Knights of St. Andrew have had a busy 2014, and our members are active throughout the Valley. **Don Kavalec** hosts a Master Craftsman study course after the KSA meeting, focusing on Craft Masonry. **Jeffrey Coleman** will be presenting on membership at the Grand Lodge/Scottish Rite leadership meeting on September 13 at Hastings. **Chris Carter** and **Armel MacDonald** presented our 2nd Ethics on Trial event on April 24, to an audience of nearly 200! **Jonathan Paz** serves as Degree Director for the 29th degree, and his team is one of the best degrees we put on at a Reunion. Of course, I'm somewhat biased.

Dave Meinzer led members in a highway cleanup project, completing a second year commitment to picking up trash on Highway 36, between mile markers 3 and 6 in Elkhorn. The Department of Roads has put up a road sign listing the Omaha Scottish Rite as sponsoring the stretch of highway. On April 19, the KSA Trash Pickers Union collected over 400 pounds of trash, and over a ton in total since last year! They are still searching for the Spanish gold rumored to be buried between those mile markers!

We also presented a check to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Omaha for \$500, sponsoring a hole at the June 20th Golf Outing, a Century Club donation, and a donation to Celebrating the Craft on May 17.

To all the members who make our activities successful, thank you on behalf of myself and my officers.

*Chris Nigro, 32° (cnigro@yahoo.com)
Venerable Master, 2014*

Omaha Centennial Reunion, continued from p. 5

In addition to efforts to have a class of at least 25 men, we are pulling out all the stops. On Friday, we will dedicate the Grand Cross room, with special guest **Ill. Brother Robert Davis, 33° G.C.** from Guthrie, Oklahoma, and on Saturday, we will have a banquet followed by the talented Billy McGuigan, performing a 90-minute "Legends of Rock and Roll" in the theater. We have special Centennial challenge coins available for purchase and free for candidates, and the SGIG has approved waiving 2015 dues for members who sign at least two petitions.



Mitch Inman, 32° as Warden of the North and Gary Bunnell, 32° KCCH as Lt. Commander in the 21st degree, Prussian Knight.

All members are encouraged to attend the degree work and the banquet, and a special invitation will be sent to all Scottish Rite Masons. Please help by inviting Masons to consider joining the Scottish Rite's special Centennial Reunion this Fall. If you have not been to the Scottish Rite in a while, come down and see the building and sit in on some extraordinary degree work. You won't be disappointed!

Welcome a **new addition** to the RiteCare family

Congratulations to Amber and Steve Jara! Amber is RiteCare clinician in the Lincoln Barkley Memorial Center on the UNL East Campus. On Saturday, May 3, at 3:58 p.m., the Jaras welcomed a beautiful little girl into their family. Her name is Alexandria Elizabeth, and she was 7lb 3oz and almost 20.5 inches long. She must have been in a hurry, because Amber reports that she was about 15 minutes away from delivering in the car!



Amber and Alexandria are back home - just in time for sister Khloe's 2nd birthday on Sunday, May 4th! Both Alexandria and mom are doing fine!

While Amber is out of the clinic, her RiteCare kids will be seen by other Speech-Language therapists at the Barkley Memorial Center.

The Nebraska Masonic Home A *Dining* Experience

by Tom Clark, 33°

dom331104@windstream.net

The three home cooked meals served daily to each resident here at The Nebraska Masonic Home are delicious and satisfying. I at GI show 60 years ago while I was in the Military . . . trust me, I know a good meal when it's put in front of me.

The Home's Dietary Manager, Diana, uses her 19 years of experience as a dietary manager to plan a well-balanced diet for each resident as well as a varied menu for everyone's enjoyment. Diana plans menus for a six month menu cycle which is spring/summer and fall/winter. We are fortunate, as residents, that we have representation on a Menu Review Committee where we assist Diana by reviewing the draft menus and noting any concerns (they are few and

far between). This committee also makes suggestions for future menus. Individual and group likes and dislikes are taken into consideration, too.

My compliments go to Diana for the large collection of recipes from which she selects menu choices. She encourages the residents to contribute their favorite recipes for consideration. Between all of the residents there are hundreds of years of cooking and dining experience from which to draw. With nearly one hundred residents there is plenty of room for a variety of preferences; this diversity gives everyone something to talk about.

Dietary restrictions and special needs such as diabetes, lactose intolerance,



low salt diets, and gluten intolerance are individually accommodated so residents receive appropriate meals for their restrictions and/or special needs. The meals are prepared carefully and also take into consideration resident portion and food preferences. The Dietary Department is definitely accommodating. I extend my compliments to the Dietary Staff.

You are welcome to call anytime and schedule a tour and join us for a delicious noon meal. You will probably decide that you want to make The Nebraska Masonic Home your home during your retirement years as this is a great place to live and to dine.

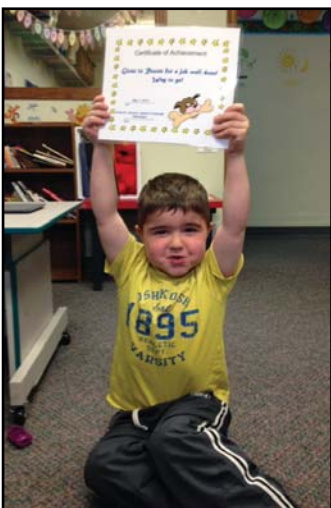
RiteCare . . . *making a difference*

Rowen's RiteCare Story

Rowen Vertin is a 5 year old boy living in Hastings, Nebraska. He recently graduated from speech therapy at the RiteCare Clinic in Hastings. Rowen is from a big family, loves Power Rangers, is playing baseball for the first time this summer, and will begin Kindergarten in the fall. Rowen is like lots of boys his age, except Rowen was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) shortly after his 2nd birthday. Rowen has two brothers with the same disease.

Duchenne is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed in childhood, affecting approximately 1 in every 3,500 live male births (about 20,000 new cases each year). Because the Duchenne gene is found on the X-chromosome, it primarily affects boys; Duchenne results in progressive loss of strength and is

caused by a mutation in the gene that encodes for dystrophin. Dystrophin acts as the glue that holds muscle together. Because dystrophin is absent, the muscle cells are easily damaged and weakened. Duchenne affects every muscle in the body and currently there is no cure for the disease. Individuals with Duchenne lose many abilities to the progressive deterioration of muscles, including their ability to walk. As muscles continue to deteriorate issues relating to the heart and lungs lead to death.



Meet Rowen Vertin, a 5 year old from Hastings, Nebraska

Rowen's family has taken a progressive approach to treating DMD. The family travels by car two times a year to see a team of specialists in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rowen's older brother participates in clinical trials and once Rowen is old enough, the family hopes he too will have access to drugs and

by Emily Johnson, M.S. CCC-SLP

RiteCare Clinician

treatments available through clinical trials which will save his life. The disease does not stop; it does not wait for a new drug or a cure. Time is of the essence, and although Rowen's family find it hard to make the most of every moment, they hope for a cure so that Rowen will never run out of time.

That said, Rowen and his family are elated with the gift given to them through the RiteCare Clinic. Rowen started speech therapy in the fall of 2013 to work on and improve his articulation, his difficulty with articulation most likely the result of Duchenne. Rowen loved his therapist Emily Johnson, worked hard on the techniques he learned in speech therapy and made wonderful progress. He graduated in May and although they will miss Emily, Rowen and his family are very happy with all that Rowen was able to accomplish in less than a year and look forward to a bright future with lots of correctly articulated words, rich language, and success at school!

We first met **Levi** in March, 2013, when he was being treated for speech apraxia, a motor speech disorder where the brain prevents the coordination of muscles to say the words on a child's mind.



Levi wanted to wear his fireman's costume to speech for his last day

RiteCare mom Jenny Conklin sent a note about Levi as he graduated from speech therapy at UNMC Munroe-Meyer's RiteCare clinic:

We had an answer to much prayer as Levi graduated from therapy at the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute.

In the words of Paul Laikko, one of his therapists there, his therapy has now turned from getting him to repeat any basic sounds to getting him to stop arguing about how many repetitions he needs to do in order to get the basketball back. Over the course of the last year, he has gone from almost zero speech to being conversational. He will still work regularly with two different speech therapists on refining a few

skills, but the help he needs now is at a level that a therapist without specialty training could help him.

Remembering the fear and helplessness we felt walking into that building, the skilled care he received while there, and the amazing feeling of leaving with him speaking at a level that seemed years and years away, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. Thank you to all who prayed and thank you to Levi for sticking it out, putting in the frequent, long hours, and to our gracious God who saw it fit to allow Levi to speak.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

Micah I. Evans, 33°, Orient Development Director

Members often ask for alternative methods of making planned gifts to Scottish Rite philanthropies in their Valley or for other Masonic charities.

One of the most popular methods is a charitable gift annuity, which provides financial benefits to the donor and ensures a long-term planned gift to Scottish Rite philanthropies, which include our RiteCare Speech and Language Clinics, the upkeep of our buildings, scholarships, and the Teacher of the Year awards in Hastings and Lincoln.



Caleb, one of our RiteCare kids currently being served in the Hastings clinic, benefits from the generosity of Scottish Rite Masons.



Bev White, Special Education teacher in Lincoln, was the 2013 Distinguished Teacher of the Year recipient, awarded each year by Lincoln's Scottish Rite Masons.

A charitable gift annuity is a binding contract between you and the Scottish Rite Foundation of your Valley, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Nebraska, or the Masonic charity of your choice. You transfer cash or other assets in exchange for guaranteed regular payments for life.

These payments are determined by your age when you begin the annuity. Married couples can specify two annuitants so both receive benefits during their lives.

Income for You Now and For Your Favorite Masonic Charity in the Future

As you age, the annuity rate available increases. The chart is an example of single-life rates, which changes. An annuity benefitting a Scottish Rite philanthropy, whether locally, at the state level, or for the House of the Temple Preservation Foundation is administered by the House of the Temple, and no fees are incurred by the local Valley or Orient.

Single Life Rates

Single Life		Two Lives**	
Age	Rate	Age	Rate
65	4.7%	65	4.2%
70	5.1%	70	4.6%
75	5.8%	75	5.0%
80	6.8%	80	5.7%
85	7.8%	85	6.7%

* Rates are determined by the American Council on Gift Annuities, and may not reflect the most current rates.

** Assumes both spouses are the same age.

The IRS considers part of each transfer for a gift annuity as a charitable donation, and this portion is deductible in the year of the contribution (if you itemize your deductions). When you fund the annuity, you will know the fixed payment, which continue for your lifetime and are based on your age when you fund the annuity. As you get older, the gift annuity rate increases (see above chart for examples).

A charitable gift annuity creates an easy way to make a long-term planned gift for the philanthropies of the Scottish Rite - or the Masonic charities of your choice - while creating income for yourself or your loved ones. For more information, please e-mail me at micah@SRNE.org or call me at (402) 342-1300, and we can discuss options.

Once you have provided for your loved ones and your favorite charities, please consider a Masonic philanthropy in your estate planning and help leave your legacy for future generations of brethren.

***“Your dues change the light bulbs.
Your donations change the world.”***

SCOTTISH RITE JOURNAL
OF FREEMASONRY ♦ SOUTHERN JURISDICTION ♦ USA

The Scottish Rite Journal is published bi-monthly by the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, USA. The Orient of Nebraska insert is prepared for members of the Alliance, Hastings, Lincoln, and Omaha Valleys, and is mailed to all current Scottish Rite Freemasons in Nebraska's Valleys. For submissions or articles, please contact Micah Evans at micah@SRNE.org or call (402) 342-1300. Whenever possible, please include a high-resolution photo with your submission. All submissions must be received at least 45 days before the date of publication, which occurs at the beginning of odd-numbered months. (Submissions for the September-October Scottish Rite Journal must be received no later than mid-July for consideration.)