



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

May-June 2013 • Volume 3, Issue 3

## Calendar

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 ..... Weds Masonic Lunch (H)  
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ... Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)  
May 18 .... Oak Branch Fishing Challenge Outing (L)  
May 18 .... Celebrating the Craft web-a-thon (All Valleys)  
May 22 ..... Spring Outing (O)  
Jun 5, 12, 19, 26 ..... Weds Masonic Lunch (H)  
Jun 6, 13, 20, 27 ..... Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)  
Jun 21 ..... Golf Outing & Benefit (O)  
Jul 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 ..... Weds Masonic Lunch (H)  
Jul 11, 18, 25 ..... Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)  
Aug 7, 14, 21, 28 ..... Weds Masonic Lunch (H)  
Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 ..... Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)  
Aug 19 ..... Family Picnic at Cooper Farm (O)  
Aug 9-11 ..... Kool-Aid Days (H)  
Sep 4, 11, 18, 25 ..... Weds Masonic Lunch (H)  
Sep 5, 12, 19, 26 ..... Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)  
Sep 18 ..... Fall Outing (O)

### Lodge of Perfection meetings:

Alliance, 4th Friday of each month

May 24, June - Aug (Dark), Sep 27, Oct 25

Hastings, 1st Tuesday of each month

May 7, June 4, Jul- Aug (Dark), Sep 3, Oct 1

Lincoln, 3rd Wednesday of each month

May 15, June - Aug (Dark), Sep 18, Oct 16

Omaha, 3rd Monday of each month

May 20, June 17, Jul 15, Aug 19, Sep 16, Oct 21

**For more information  
contact the Secretary in your Valley**

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

## Membership

Have you ever gone fishing in March, only to find the fish swimming around - begging to be caught - under a layer of Spring ice? If you could just break that ice, you could practically scoop those fish into a bucket with your bare hands!

I think Masonry is at this point. At every public event I've attended at the Scottish Rite, non-Masons are bursting with curiosity about Masonry, asking questions that show they've done some research. They want to know more - what do we do, what do we believe, can you be active in more than one organization?

Young men want to associate with good men who offer ideas, advice, and wisdom about careers. Retirees enjoy keeping physically and mentally active with fun-loving guys with whom they have found so much in common. Over and over, Brothers say they want to be involved in something bigger than themselves and sit alongside guys with whom they have an immediate connection. You'd think we could practically flap a petition outside the window and have potential Masons fighting over it!

That's why we need to change our paradigm of how we recruit. Right now, we stand up in Lodge and chase down

Brethren who may already have found their niche in Blue Lodge degree work or in the York Rite or the Shrine. We often do that while ignoring the 9,999 out of 10,000 guys who aren't Masons at all. That's kind of like stepping over a \$10 bill to pick up a quarter.

While we still need to reach out to the 3 out of 4 of Blue Lodge Masons who aren't Scottish Rite Masons, we need to use our Scottish Rite events as recruiting opportunities in their own right, as much as social events for members. We're so used to thinking of these occasions as a time to visit with our Masonic friends, we forget they are a chance to introduce someone new to Masonry and see it at its best!



... Continued on page 2

# Valley of Alliance



Jack Nichols, 33°, Bob Phillip, 33°, Gene Gatti, 32° KCCH, and Don Phillip, 33° at the Scottish Rite Lodge meeting in March.



Robert Phillip became a 32° in 1949



Bob and the talented Daisy May

The Valley of Alliance recently had the privilege of recognizing III. Brother Bob Phillip, honoring more than 66 years as a Scottish Rite Mason, and more importantly, as an *active* Scottish Rite Mason. He started on the stage crew in 1946, as a 14°, and has been working ever since! Today, Bob is joined by grandsons Scott in the prop room, Walt in the sound booth, and numerous grandsons and nephews in the degrees. At 91, Bob has the distinction of being the longest active Scottish Rite Mason in the United States. He drives nearly 140 miles from Hermosa, South Dakota to the Valley of Alliance any time he is needed, including monthly Lodge meetings, degrees, and any other meetings or events.

Bob's son Don Phillip, 33° and grandson Walt Phillip, 33° presented an engraved plate and a letter from III. Brother Charles V. Sederstrom, recognizing his long service to the Scottish Rite.

Any one who has met Bob knows he is joined by his faithful dog Daisy May, who always receives more attention than Bob! After Daisy May sat, stood, walked, danced, rolled over, performed somersaults, and jumped through hoops flawlessly on command, members joked that Bob could train her to confer a Master's degree if he set his mind to it, and Daisy May could probably do it, too!

On March 22, 2013, Jack Nichols, 33° (Personal Representative to the SGIG), Gene Gatti, 32° KCCH (Secretary),

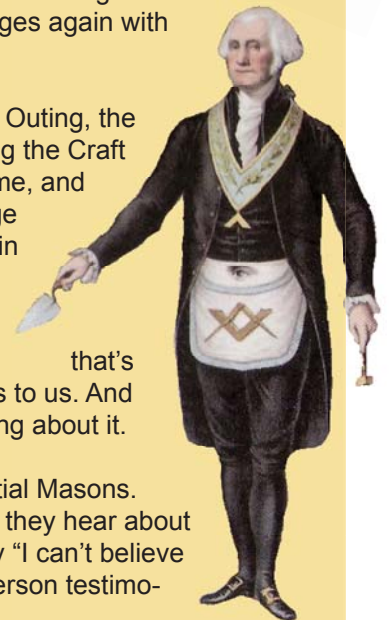
## Membership, *continued*

So reach out to potential members and invite them to dinners, events, or fundraisers. Lets use the social events we all go to as a way to introduce good men to Masonry and talk about what they will get out of being a Mason. Once we change the way we think and break through the ice, we'll be filling our Lodges again with great Brothers!

We need to start bringing sons, grandsons, or nephews to WalkRite for RiteCare or the Golf Outing, the Burns Dinner, and Remembrance and Renewal or the Feast of Tishri. Events like Celebrating the Craft are great opportunities to informally invite potential Masons, show them a laid back, good time, and talk about the Scottish Rite or the Blue Lodge over a beer. Are we reaching out to Blue Lodge Masons or even Scottish Rite Masons who haven't been active in a long time, inviting them in to see the Valley, meet the members, and talk about the things we are doing?

Masonic events - be it a chili feed at the Shrine or a soup dinner at the Royal Arch - need to be thought of as potential recruiting events. Let's call them Awareness Events, because that's what we're really doing. Raising awareness and educating them about what Masonry means to us. And even if these potential Brothers don't join, they are at least thinking about Masonry and talking about it.

In addition, we need to be having this same discussion with the wives or girlfriends of potential Masons. They are better at selling the positive virtues of Masonry than we are! Believe it or not, once they hear about the friendships, social connections, fun events, and values of Masonry, the women often say "I can't believe my husband isn't a Mason. I'm going to talk to him about it tonight." Let's face it, that third person testimonial is a stronger endorsement than anything we can say ourselves about Masonry!





# Valley of Hastings



M.W. Scott Krieger, 33°, Roger Deininger, 32° and Danny Nonneman, 32° in the 4th apartment of the 30th degree team. Plumed hats off to these Brothers, because they were fantastic!

Congratulations to Brother Dan Deffenbaugh, who joined the Scottish Rite in the Central Nebraska Valley in Hastings this past March. Dr. Deffenbaugh is an associate professor of religion at Hastings College. His courses include a broad range of classes in religion, from surveys of the Christian scriptures, to studies in world religions, to classes in his area of specialization, contemporary theology. The Scottish Rite ritual draws on religion and philosophy from around the world, much of which was already familiar ground to Dan.

After a great day of fellowship during the Spring Reunion, Brethren and their wives enjoyed a great banquet, with entertainment from the Hastings College brass band ensemble. The banquet included the ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal. Afterward, Emily Johnson, representing the RiteCare Clinic in Hastings, spoke about the clinic and reminded members that each dollar spent on therapy saves \$7 later in remedial education or social services for behavioral problems. Scottish Rite Masons spend \$101 for each session of therapy, and services are provided at no cost to families who might have no access to services otherwise.



The Valley of Hastings is on Facebook! Simply visit [www.facebook.com/HastingsScottishRite](http://www.facebook.com/HastingsScottishRite) and "like" the page for updates on meetings and events on your timeline.

## SAVE THE DATE

### WalkRite for RiteCare™

A family-friendly fun walk for the **Hastings Scottish Rite Foundation**, benefitting the RiteCare Speech and Language Clinic

- Open to the entire community
- Choose your own distance to walk
- Clowns from Tehama Shrine
- Lunch provided by Scottish Rite Masons
- \$25 registration fee, with t-shirts for all registrants
- Donations are tax-deductible

**September 28, 2013**  
(rain or shine)

at the  
**Hastings Masonic Temple**  
411 N. Hastings Avenue  
Hastings, NE 68901



The Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony remembers Brethren who have passed during the preceding year. This year, Remembrance and Renewal was held at the banquet after the Spring Reunion.



**May 18, 2013, 6 pm to Midnight EDT**

**4 pm Mountain time | 5 pm Central time**

# Valley of Lincoln



The first few months of 2013 have been extremely busy for the Valley of Lincoln. On January 28, we hosted the very successful Robert Burns dinner. Over 75 guests enjoyed

a great five course meal, bag piping, dancing from the Scottish Society of Nebraska, the poems of Robert Burns, and of course, the haggis, escorted in by the Knights of St. Andrew. In February, the Scottish Rite and Sesostri Shrine hosted a Valentine's Dinner, catered by Chances 'R from York. On February 9, RiteCare clinician Amber Jara and Dyann Rupp hosted a jewelry sale, which raised several hundred dollars for the Lincoln Scottish Rite Preservation Foundation. In March, we held a Cornbeef and Cabbage Feed on St. Patrick's Day, preparing about 85 plates throughout the day for our first effort. Several members have volunteered considerable time to selling parking spaces in the east lot for football games or events at Pershing Auditorium. Our Reunion will be on April 26 and April 27, so please talk to members of your Lodge about the benefits of joining the Scottish Rite. On May 18th, we're hosting the "Hook, Line, & Sinker Challenge" (see below) during the

the day, and Celebrating the Craft that evening, which benefits both our Foundation and the House of the Temple Preservation Fund. Celebrating the Craft is a great time to bring a prospective Mason to a relaxed evening to learn about the Scottish Rite and meet Brothers.

Several upcoming rental events at the Scottish Rite continue to add to our activities, and the Knights of St. Andrew have stepped up to host the events and greet guests. Rentals have great potential to show off our building to the community, give guests a chance to learn about Freemasonry and tour the Scottish Rite, while generating revenue for the Valley.



Recently, the Lincoln Valley Scottish Rite signed a "Statement of Support For The Guard And Reserve" stating that they recognize the Guard and Reserve are essential to the strength of our

nation and the well-being of our communities. Representing the Lincoln Valley is Venerable Master Mark Kinzie, 32° KCCH, and representing the ESGR is General Secretary Bruce Wood, 33° and William Nelson, 33°. Brother Nelson heads Program Support for the Nebraska ESGR and Brother Wood is Employer Outreach Director. Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense operational committee.



## LINCOLN SCOTTISH RITE BRANCHED OAK

# HOOK, LINE, & SINKER

## FISHING CHALLENGE

### Saturday, May 18, 2013

Join us for a fun-filled day of fishing and fellowship with food and refreshments afterward. Open to all Scottish Rite Masons, family, friends, and the public, with bragging rights for the largest (weight) fish caught (any species)

- Location: at Area 4 Boat Ramp
- Cost: \$30/person
- Time: 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- Picnic afterwards: 2:30 p.m.—at Area 4 Camp Ground (west of lake) for food and refreshments
- Fishing License: Must have valid Nebraska Fishing License and State Park Permit

For registration, e-mail Dale Lueders at [dglueders@aol.com](mailto:dglueders@aol.com). Please make checks payable to Lincoln Scottish Rite Preservation Foundation



Payments are deductible as charitable contributions. Proceeds benefit the Lincoln Scottish Rite Preservation Foundation a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

On Thursday, May 16, 2013, the Lincoln Community Foundation will be sponsoring Give to Lincoln Day. During this day of online giving, we can raise thousands of dollars to support the Lincoln Scottish Rite Preservation Foundation. Every donation received on Give to Lincoln Day will increase, thanks to a challenge match pool of \$200,000. Gifts received on May 16th will be matched based on dollars received by participating non-profits.

This is about taking care of our community, and providing for the things that make Lincoln great, like our RiteCare Clinic and the Teacher of the Year Award. Please join us on May 16th, and Give to Lincoln. All donations may be considered Century Club donations and are 100% tax deductible.



[www.razoo.com/story/ScottishRiteLincoln](http://www.razoo.com/story/ScottishRiteLincoln)



# Valley of Omaha



**Bill Garner, 32° KCCH**  
**Eminent Commander**  
**Council of Kadosh**

I was born in Mansfield, Ohio. I graduated in 1960 from La-Grange High School, and then joined the United States Air Force in November. After basic training, I went to Fire Fighters School in Greenville, Mississippi. My first assignment was Offutt Air Force base.

I met my wife Pat in 1962 and got married March 9, 1963. We went to Fairbanks, Alaska for 18 months. I received an honorable discharge in Great Falls, MT in 1964. We have two children, Bill & LeeAnne, both living in

Bellevue with our 7 grandchildren & 1 great-granddaughter.

My Masonic career began by being raised a Master Mason in Springfield Lodge #112 on October 15, 2000. I became a Shriner on October 25, 2000, and a Scottish Rite Mason in October, 2002. I became a life member of the Scottish Rite in November, 2006, and received my KCCH in 2011.

I am in the Council of Kadosh and work with the "Culinary Masters".



**Buster Hicks, 32° KCCH**  
**Venerable Master**  
**Consistory**

I was born in Hindman, a small town in Southeastern KY. After graduating from High School, I joined the Air Force and served over twenty years as a Command and Control Specialist. While on active duty, my travels consisted of locations in the U.S., as well as overseas locations at Goose Bay, Labrador, Guam (twice), South Korea, Vietnam, Japan, Great Britain and the Philippines. I have travelled to all fifty states either on Official Orders or on vacation.

Shortly after retirement, I returned to the Air Force as a Civil Servant, working on the Strategic Automated Command and Control System as a System Analyst. In March, 2013 I will have over 52 years working for the Air Force!

I have been married to my beautiful wife, Bobbie, for fifty-one years. We have two sons, seven grandkids and five great grand kids, most living locally.

I joined Masonry in 1992, and within six months had been through the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine ceremonies, and had the Masonic code book memorized. I am presently the Director of Wardrobe at the Scottish Rite and the Assistant Rabban and Orator for the Shrine ceremonial. I served as Master of the Knights of St. Andrew in 2002, and received my KCCH in 2005.

## Meet the Masters



The first months of 2013 have been exceptionally busy for the Omaha Valley. We hosted over 100 guests in January for the **Douglas County Historical Society**. Micah Evans, 32° KCCH delivered a presentation on the history of the Scottish Rite, followed by a tour of the century-old building by the Knights of St. Andrew. In February, Curt Edic, 33° accepted an award (pictured on right with Mike Moylan from Downtown Omaha, Inc.) on behalf of the Scottish Rite from **Downtown Omaha, Inc.** recognizing the Scottish Rite for our adaptive reuse and restoration of the Scottish Rite Masonic Center.

In March, the Scottish Rite hosted the opening reception for **Restore Omaha**, a conference for people and organizations interested in preservation of historic homes and buildings. About 400 guests, including Dr.



John Latenser III, the grandson of the Scottish Rite's architect (pictured on left with Kristine Gerber, Director of Restore Omaha), toured the Scottish Rite and learned about our organization. The next day, Micah gave a presentation on Latenser's significance in the 20th century as "Omaha's Architect." The Scottish Rite will be hosting several more presentations and tours this year, including the Greater Omaha Genealogical Society.

Don Kavalec reached out to **Acacia Fraternity** and had a productive meeting with Keith Bushey, Executive Director for Acacia Fraternity, about chartering a new Acacia chapter at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Though Acacia has not had a direct Masonic tie for many years, this is a great opportunity for Masonry to create a pipeline for future members. We offer these students social opportunities beyond work or class, as well as a network of Scottish Rite Masons who represent any field or industry Acacia students might go into.

# Historic Scottish Rite organ spans the decades

**I**n the Valley of Omaha's recently renovated, historic theater, there is a piece of furniture, forgotten and neglected, which hasn't been used in many, many years. It gets dusted periodically, sitting silently, waiting for someone to come along and pay some attention to it. What it wants is to be played again.

Some have said it's just a "remote console for the Kilgen" [our organ, installed in 1926]. Not true. Some have said it's a broken piano. Not true. I've told you what it is not. Now I will tell you what it is. A jewel. An obscure jewel that few know is even there, and fewer still know what it is.



*Invented in 1840, reed organs became the rage in America after the Civil War. By the end of the First World War, more than 600 reed organ manufacturers had come and gone. Initially, reed organs were purchased as an inexpensive alternative to a piano. In the early 20th century, however, advances in piano technology made pianos more affordable, and growth of the railroads made pianos available to a larger segment of the population. As player pianos, radio, Victrolas and other home entertainment options became available, sales of parlor (reed) organs for home use lagged.*

Records dating to the 1880s show that organ music was part of the Masonic experience, including the Scottish Rite.

An organ fund was set up, beginning with the 1919 Reunion.

In 1926, SGIG Frank Patton, 33° authorized up to \$25,000 for the purchase of the Kilgen organ.

When the Kilgen was installed in 1926, nationally-known organist Clarence Eddy played a series of recitals, which were broadcasted on WOAW radio.

Mason & Hamlin was founded in Boston, Massachusetts in 1854 by Henry Mason, son of Lowell Mason, the American hymn composer and musical educator, and Emmons Hamlin, a mechanic and inventor who had worked for melodeon makers Prince & Co. in Buffalo, New York.

They originally manufactured only melodeons, but in 1855 introduced the organ-harmonium or flat-topped cabinet organ. This design placed the bellows vertically and underneath the reeds, and served as the model for the suction-operated American-style reed organ. By the 1870s, Mason & Hamlin were considered the largest and most im-

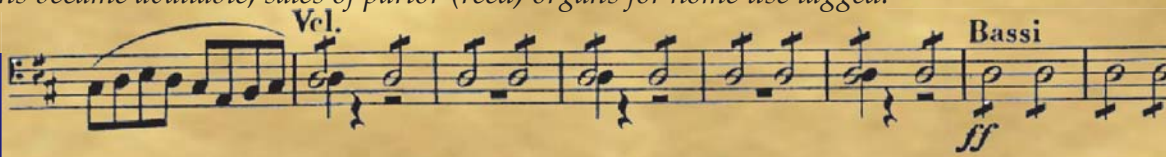
portant manufacturer of reed organs, employing about 500 and producing as many as 200 instruments a week. Mason & Hamlin supplied organs to several prominent composers, notably Franz Liszt.

Ours is a "reed" organ, pumped by foot. The pumping inflates and deflates bellows, which draws air through the reeds, thus making the unique sound of the Reed Organ. Our 1926 Kilgen organ generates sound completely opposite: air is blown or funneled through ranks of pipes, thus

making it's unique sound.

Our reed organ was manufactured sometime between 1895 and 1905, at the Boston Organ Works of Mason & Hamlin. It's a Style 481-Chapel Case 26. This particular style was not offered after 1905. These types of organs were designed especially for small churches or chapels, lodges and schools. The Mason & Hamlin Catalogue of 1892, distributed for the Cambridgeport, Mass. Organ Works, shows a picture of a Style 431 organ, which is very similar to ours.

The Scottish Rite Reed Organ is a 13 Stop, International Pitch "A435". The number of stops indicates the number of instruments or sounds of instruments it mimics.



## TRIBUTE TO HUSBAND

Widow of J. P. A. Black Installs Pipe Organ to His Memory.

Hastings, Neb., Feb. 28 (AP).—In memory of her husband, a former Hastings banker and prominent Mason, Mrs. J. P. A. Black has arranged to have installed at her expense a 10 thousand dollar pipe organ in the new Masonic temple, now under construction here.

Mr. Black died in 1918 after living in Nebraska for 59 years. At one time he served as grand master of the Grand Masonic lodge of Nebraska.

**March 1, 1929 article about the Kilgen organ installed in the Hastings Masonic Temple**

... Continued on page 7



# RiteCare

Congratulations to Marsha Sullivan, who will retire at the end of June from the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute! Marsha has served as director of the RiteCare Clinics in Nebraska since August, 2001. She has seemingly effortlessly taken on this responsibility and done it with care and dedication. She understands the unique nature of each of the RiteCare Clinics in Nebraska, and is sensitive to each Clinics' needs, and Marsha has taken an interest in each community, and listened to how those communities can best be served by Rite Care.

Of all the skills Marsha brings to her management of the clinics, the most significant gift has been the encouragement and freedom to grow in our profession as Speech-Language Pathologists. This has allowed the Scottish Rite RiteCare Clinic staff to reach out to children and families in need of services, who might not have had access to due to the complexity of their condition, prohibitive costs, or the lack of availability of knowledgeable, experienced therapists. This has allowed Scottish Rite to help the underserved populations throughout Nebraska. With Marsha's support, the RiteCare Clinics are viewed by the community and state as 'experts' in these areas and are able to provide valuable service.

The RiteCare Clinics have grown and changed over the years. Marsha has helped to bridge the needs of the clinics with the desires of the Masons to continue to positively impact communities in Nebraska. She has walked Scottish Rite through the addition of therapists in different clinics, hiring of quality therapists, inclusion of the clinics in fundraising activities like WalkRite for RiteCare, and the addition of unique telemedicine services to better service children

across the state. Marsha is always open to new and creative ideas and has been impressed with how Scottish Rite is always open to embracing new ideas and changes as well.



Marsha Sullivan and Dr. Michael Liebowitz, Director of the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute. Marsha was the 2010 recipient of the Friends of Scottish Rite award for her long service to Nebraska's RiteCare Clinics.

Marsha's has been a strong role model to the clinic therapists. She has always anchored her treatment on respect for the patient and their families, making them a part of the treatment team. And she built on that respect for each person on her staff by continuing to learn, educate and innovate ways to meet patient and family needs. This model of practice has been adopted by the RiteCare staff and proven to be of tremendous help to the families served in the RiteCare Clinic.

These values of respect and service have been a natural fit with Scottish Rite, so the ad-

dition of working with the Masons has naturally been very fulfilling to Marsha. She has enjoyed all of the people she has met through the Scottish Rite organization and has been touched by their sincere desire to help children. Every function that she attends reaffirms her understanding of the positive ideals that the Masons support. Marsha has been touched by the continued generosity of the Scottish Rite and their willingness to understand how they can best serve the needs of children in their communities.

The RiteCare Clinics are comprised of excellent speech therapists that have benefited greatly from the nurturing and support of Marsha. We thank Marsha for her continued support and her presence will be greatly missed. Thankfully the clinics she has helped develop are strong and will continue to serve their communities well thanks to the ever constant support of the Scottish Rite Masons!

*Korey Stading, Speech Pathologist  
UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute  
kstading@unmc.edu*

## Historic Scottish Rite organ, continued...

The "A435" means that the note A above middle C is tuned to 435 hrz. which was widely used for orchestras until 1939.

This organ has been neglected for many years - if not decades - and is in need of a thorough cleaning. Even though it is covered with dust, has years of build-up on the reeds, a few broken parts, and a few rotten leather straps, this little jewel plays beautifully. It is not going to take much to get this back to its former glorious self, just some time and TLC. We don't know if it was donated or if it was purchased before the Scottish Rite was built in 1912. Its origin has been lost with antiquity.

The next time you step into our beautiful theater, look up into upper west landing of the balcony. There in the corner stands our Mason & Hamlin Reed Organ. If you play, pull a stop out, start pumping, and play the Reed Organ. I think you too will be amazed of the wonderful music this little organ can produce, even in its current state of disrepair.

*Scott Reuman, 32° KCCH  
shrinepirate@cox.net*

# Development

Over the years, Brethren bring in postcards of various Masonic buildings they find at yard sales or antique shows. The libraries in several Valleys in Nebraska have their own collection of these postcards showing Scottish Rite Valleys around the nation.



I looked up some of the Valley websites to see if they still have their buildings shown on the postcards. Many Valleys still meet in these beautiful buildings, and quite a few are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Other Valleys have long since sold their large buildings, which fell fate to the Great Depression or simply to overwhelming costs and declining members. One Valley had a theater



Alliance Reunion, 1933

so large, three men were pictured standing on a single light fixture! That building was sold to a chiropractic college for a museum!

We have been far more fortunate in Nebraska, and despite a few bumps along the way, all four Valleys continue to meet in beautiful buildings. But the fact is, these buildings are getting older, and our costs continue to increase as our membership slowly declines. We are fortunate

to have Brethren dedicate time, talent, and treasure to fix faucets, wire lights, and paint walls. These Brethren don't volunteer for the recognition; it is a labor of love. We owe them more thanks than we can offer.

But we also owe something more to our Fraternity. We owe our Craft a solid foundation for the future. We have been fortunate enough to benefit from the vision of those Brethren who came before us, and we are fortunate to continue funding the RiteCare clinics, awarding the

scholarships or Teacher of the Year awards, and dozens of other Masonic philanthropies and awards that these men established in years gone by. I believe we have an obligation to hand our temples and our philanthropies to the next generation in as good a shape as they were handed to us.

Thinking about the future isn't easy and it isn't fun. But I'm asking you to do just that. Please think about your Valley's Scottish Rite in your estate planning. I've always put it this way, ***Once you've taken care of your wife, your children, your grandchildren, and your favorite charities, consider a percentage of your estate - or even a set dollar amount - for your favorite Masonic charities.***

A thoughtfully written estate plan, prepared in consultation with your family and a qualified estate planning professional or attorney, distributes property to those you wish to provide for in amounts you determine.

It also allows you to make gifts to family, friends, and leave your legacy for Masonic interests like the Scottish Rite, which have earned a special place in your heart.

A charitable gift annuity provides income for life, and the principal becomes an estate gift to the Scottish Rite or Masonic foundation of your choice after your passing. Contact me for more information on how Charitable Gift Annuities can be established.

We've been lucky so far - yes, lucky. Brethren before us remembered us in their estates without having to be asked. Today, we aren't so prepared to trust in that luck and are asking. Our Masonic lives have been built on our philanthropy and our hard work. Will you be the one who puts the FOR SALE sign in front of the Lodge, or will you be the one who keeps our Scottish Rite going strong in the 21st century?

Micah Evans, 32° KCCH  
Development Director  
Orient of Nebraska  
micah@SRNE.org

**SCOTTISH RITE** JOURNAL<sup>®</sup>  
OF FREEMASONRY ♦ SOUTHERN JURISDICTION ♦ USA

***"Our dues may change the light bulbs,  
but our philanthropies change the world."***

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 July-August's Journal must be received no later than mid-June for consideration.)