



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

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Features:

Alliance Welcomes Thousands for Solar Eclipse

Hastings Walk for RiteCare

Honoring a Hero in Lincoln

Another Great Family Picnic for the Valley of Omaha

RiteCare news

... and much more!

Lincoln Hosts WalkRite for RiteCare at Lincoln Children's Zoo in August. See page 4 for story...

Membership

This past August, several Scottish Rite Masons went to the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council for the Scottish Rite in Washington, D.C. Biennial Session is definitely a "bucket list" event for any Scottish Rite Mason. Members from around the nation and representing Supreme Councils around the world gather, and among the many events, we get to see our 33° candidate coroneted as an Inspector General Honorary. This year, M.W. Rick Myers received his 33° at the Valley of Washington, D.C. Scottish Rite.

It gets easy to lose purpose of why we are there in the midst of the pomp and ceremony of Biennial Session, in the luncheons and feasts, entertainment, the 33° Coronation, sightseeing in the nation's capital, tours of the House of the Temple, and even sharing a drink with Brethren from around the country.



M.W. Rick Myers inscribes his name in the Gold Book, a record of all Brethren receiving their 33° in Washington, D.C., beginning with Albert Pike on page 1.

Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale, 33° always brings us back to task with a beautiful address during the Session. This year, his theme was the rough and perfect ashlar. These central symbolic tenets of Freemasonry represent the journey from a man's unrefined state and his need for improvement. The Mason learns that the goal of

being a better man includes spirituality of thought and striving for perfection of conduct. As the Freemason smooths his rough edges, internally and externally, he comes a better man and thus, a better Freemason.

Brother Seale reminded us that life constantly puts rough edges back on our ashlar, but sometimes, some days you find a smooth spot and we get it right. "Be not discouraged when you find those rough edges, tomorrow will dawn anew and you will have opportunity to find smooth," he told us.

"I'm not as close to that rough ashlar as I was, but I'm not as close to that perfect ashlar as I would like to be," he said.

... continued on page 7

Orient Calendar

Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
 Nov 2, 9, 16, 30..... Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
 Nov 2, 3, and 4 Omaha Fall Reunion (O)
 Nov 8 Banquet for 2017 33° and KCCH Recipients (O)
 Nov 10-11 Alliance Fall Reunion (A)
 Dec 1 Scottish Rite Christmas banquet (L)
 Dec 2 Hastings Fall Reunion *NEW DATE* (H)
 Dec 3 RiteCare Christmas party (L)
 Dec 6, 13, 20, 27 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
 Dec 7, 14, 21, 28 Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
 Dec 18 Scottish Rite Christmas Awards Banquet (O)

2018

Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
 Jan 4, 11, 18, 25 Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
 Jan 12 KSA Membership Appreciation Dinner (O)
 Jan 20 Scottish Society Robert Burns Dinner (O)
 Jan 26 Scotch Tasting (O)
 Jan 27 Robert Burns Dinner (L)
 Feb 2-4 Grand Lodge Annual Communication (Kearney, NE)
 Feb 7, 14, 21, 28 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
 Feb 1, 8, 15, 22 Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
 Apr 5, 6, 7 . Scottish Rite Leadership Conference (Omaha, NE)
 Mar 10 Hastings Spring Reunion (H)
 Oct 12-13 ... *Nebraska Statewide Scottish Rite Reunion (at Hastings)*

Lodge of Perfection meetings:

Alliance, 4th Friday of each month

Nov 24, Dec 29, Jan 19, Feb 23, Mar 23

Hastings, 1st Tuesday of each month

Nov 7, Dec 5, Jan 2, Feb 6, Mar 6

Lincoln, 3rd Wednesday of each month

Nov 15, Dec 20, Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 21

Omaha, 3rd Monday of each month

Nov 20, Dec 18, Jan 15, Feb 19, Mar 19

For more information
 contact the General Secretary in your Valley

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



The Fall, 2017 Reunion is coming up! Plan to drop by, watch the Degrees, and welcome our new 32° Princes of the Royal Secret. There is time to turn in petitions; please reach out to Master Masons and explain the benefits of being a Scottish Rite Mason.

Alliance was the place to be this past summer with the total eclipse of the sun on August 21st. 60,000 people were anticipated in Alliance, almost on the center line of maximum totality, 2 minutes and 30 seconds of darkness as the moon passed in front of the sun. Hotels and RV camps



Even Chimney Rock welcomed campers and tourists from around the world to watch the eclipse!

were booked full last August, and we rented out the building to a group for the week. We had the "aluminum foil hat" crowd, but also, crews from ABC News and National Geographic. The entire town rolled out the red carpet to welcome people from around the world, with a weekend full of events, entertainment, and lectures. Folks in Alliance like to say we're "building the best hometown in America," and I think we proved that.

Now that the tourists have left town, it's back to business for the Fall. We have Fall Reunion on November 10-11. There is still time to reach out to Master Masons and help them continue their Masonic journey and education as Scottish Rite Masons.



Here I am right out of boot camp.

On a personal note, my name came up for an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., and I will go next Spring. I've been to Washington, DC before, but this is a once-in-a-lifetime trip for me, and I will tell you more about it when I get back.

As always, you are invited and encouraged to get involved in YOUR Valley. We always need help with Degree work, the stage and sound crew at Reunions, and as officers and leaders. You can reach me at gene123@mail.com, or at the Valley of Alliance Scottish Rite at (308) 762-4324.

Gene Gatti, 33°
 General Secretary
 gene123@mail.com



Walk for RiteCare Celebrates 4th Successful Year in Hastings Valley

The 2017 Walk for RiteCare began with a bit of rain on Saturday, September 30th, which thankfully cleared up for a perfect day to walk for the Hastings RiteCare Clinic.

About 60 RiteCare families - including many families of children who have since graduated the program - showed up at the Hastings Masonic Temple to support the Clinic, as well as numerous Scottish Rite Masons who volunteered throughout the day.

September 30th was also Hastings College Homecoming, and the parade route took numerous high school bands and marchers alongside the Masonic Temple at 4th Street and N. Hastings Avenue, so the RiteCare children got a front row seat for the parade.

After the parade, RiteCare families walked down N. Hastings to 2nd Street, up to Denver Avenue, and back down 4th Street, for a nice six-block walk, the perfect length for the kids.

Each year, Mike Bruns from **Big Dally's Deli** donates his famous chicken noodle soup and sandwiches to feed the participants. The Hastings RiteCare Clinic and the Hastings Scottish Rite Foundation extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to Mike. Please stop by Big Dally's Deli at 610 E. South Street and thank him for supporting the Walk each year! The Walk Committee

also wants to extend a special shout-out to the **University of Nebraska at Kearney Student Speech-Language Hearing Association (KSSLHA)** students, who came in to volunteer for set-up and clean-up during the day, along with Denise Wolfe, our Kearney Clinician.

Kids checked in at several stations and got a stamp on a card. Once they had completed all the stations, they got to pick a special prize. The stations included a toy station, hosted by Megan Paben of **Discovery Toys**, face painting, bean bag toss, pumpkin-chunkin, a corn table, and decorating cookies, donated by **Eileen's Colossal Cookies**.

A silent auction also raised additional funds for RiteCare, with wonderful items to bid on including: family membership from Hastings YMCA, a "Grow Nebraska" themed basket, handcrafted cutting boards, golf, kids-themed auction items, and more. The 2017 Walk raised over \$6,000 again this year, which makes a significant impact on the ability to provide speech therapy for kids in Hastings.

Please thank our title sponsors for a successful Walk:

Big Dally's Deli, the YMCA, Diamond Truck Wash, Showcase Homes, Johnson Concrete Cattle Waterers, the Shirt Shack, and Johnson Imperial



NATIONAL TREASURE

Turns out the National Treasure of the Masons is in Nebraska. . . at Rob Morris Lodge #46 in Kearney! Not gold or diamonds, but the 90 year old-Masonic building, built in the stripped Neoclassical style in 1927 by architect James Allan.

Members of Rob Morris Lodge held an open house on August 24th, beginning with tours of the Masonic temple. The World Theatre, a non-profit movie house which operates the 980-seat restored theater, showed the movie *National Treasure* and more than fifty people attended the free showing.

After the movie, the guests were invited upstairs to the fourth floor for ice cream, and information tables were set up for Rob Morris Lodge, the Nebraska CHIP program, the Scottish Rite and the RiteCare Speech and Language Clinics, York Rite, Eastern Star, Tehama/Ft. Kearney Shrine Club, DeMolay and Job's Daughters. Half a dozen gentlemen expressed interest in joining the Lodge as well as the other organizations!

Denise Wolfe, who had just began her new position at the University of Nebraska at Kearney as the RiteCare coordinator was joined by two of her graduate assistants, and were excited to learn about Freemasonry and how the Scottish Rite supports RiteCare services in Kearney and central Nebraska. They also expressed an interest in setting up a WalkRite for RiteCare for the Kearney clinic in the near future!

Brethren interested in joining the Central Nebraska Scottish Rite in Kearney or getting involved in the Scottish Rite, please reach out to Ron Nielsen, 32° KCCH at ranielsen1@aol.com or Phil Odom, 33°, General Secretary, at podom@hastings-masonic.org.

Valley of Lincoln *WALKRITE FOR RITECARE*

August 12th was the perfect day for the Valley of Lincoln's WalkRite for RiteCare. The original May date had been cancelled due to rain, but a sunny day in August was just right for the Walk, supporting our RiteCare Clinic at the Barkley Memorial Center on the UNL East Campus.

More than sixty RiteCare families, children, and Scottish Rite members came out to the Lincoln Children's Zoo to walk and raise money for speech therapy. Jerry Pigsley, 32°, Venerable Master for the Lodge of Perfection, welcomed the walkers and introduced Scottish Rite Mason and RiteCare Dad Tregg Lunn, 32°. Tregg carried his beautiful daughter Maggie, reminding everyone about the extraordinary value of RiteCare therapy and the value of his daughter's ability to communicate and the

importance of one service that could be provided to families without a price tag.

Afterward, everyone walked around the Zoo, and many families remained afterward to visit the Lincoln Children's Zoo, which generously donated family passes. Sponsors for the Lincoln WalkRite for RiteCare included Valentino's, Nelnet, Ideal Pure Water, and the Northeast Lincoln Seroma Club.

The Walk raised \$1,870 for RiteCare services in Lincoln. Please contact Bruce Wood, 33° at (402) 435-2144 or scottishrite@windstream.net if you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Lincoln Scottish Rite Preservation Foundation, or visit <https://www.scottishritelincn.org/walk>.



Photos: Left: Holly Schlautman with RiteCare family; Center: RiteCare Dad and son at WalkRite for RiteCare; Right (top): Tregg Lunn and daughter Maggie; Right (bottom): Scottish Rite Masons Mike Gray, Bruce and Linda Wood, Jerry Pigsley, Ed and Joni Bennett, with RiteCare Clinicians Holly Schlautman and husband Isaac with Carrie Kenny and husband Chris.



Save the Date



Christmas Banquet
Friday, December 1, 2017

SERVING WITH HONOR

It's never too late to say thank you and recognize the courage and service of our veterans. This past May, more than 600 Nebraskans joined the Nebraska Vietnam Veterans honor flight to Washington, DC. Visiting the Vietnam Veteran Memorial, many had the opportunity to say farewell to fallen comrades, possibly for the final time.

Among them was Lincoln Valley Brother Ward Shires, 32° KCCH. Born on a farm near Red Oak, Iowa. He received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the US Air Force in 1954, earning his pilot wings in April, 1955. He served 21 years as a pilot and maintenance officer. He served during the Vietnam war in 1968 and 1971, and is the holder of two Distinguished Flying Crosses and three Air

Medals. Ward retired from the US Air Force at Offutt AFB in September, 1975.

Afterward, Ward received his MS Degree in Adult Education from the University of Nebraska in 1977, and served as an Extension Officer for the University of Nebraska Co-operative Service in Nemaha and Lancaster Counties. He retired as Professor Emeritus in May, 2000. Ward has been a member of the Nebraska Wing of the Civil Air Patrol since 1991, serving four years as Wing Commander. Additionally, Ward is a member of the University of Nebraska ROTC Hall of Fame.

Ward is a member of Nemaha Valley Lodge #4 in Brownville, and has been a member of the Lincoln Scottish Rite since 1986. Few Brethren are more active than Ward and his



Ward (white shirt) shakes hands with Congressman Jeff Fortenberry

wife Sandy Shires, who attend all the events, often cooking for meals, working the grill, setting up and cleaning up.

Heroes like Ward returned from the Honor Flight to the warm welcome they didn't receive 40 years ago. When you see Ward at the Lincoln Scottish Rite, share your appreciation for all he has done for our country, as well as our fraternity.

Grand Cross for a Grand Gentleman

At the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction this past August, 12 men were elected to receive the Scottish Rite's highest honor, the Grand Cross. Among them, the Valley of Omaha's General Secretary Emeritus, Curt M. Edic, 33°.

In his letter of nomination, Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, SGIG for Nebraska, called Curt "a change agent in the Valley of Omaha and across the Orient of Nebraska," providing great leadership and developing the financial resources for the building, the services, and our RiteCare philanthropies.

In addition to serving as General Secretary for 15 years, Curt served as Board Secretary for the Scottish Rite Foundations of Nebraska and Omaha, providing leadership and all administrative functions. Curt worked with members to launch our suc-

cessful Ethics initiatives, Ethics on Trial, as well as the Friends of Scottish Rite Dinner & Auction, RiteCare Classic golf benefit, and numerous activities over the years.

Curt served as a great ambassador for the Supreme Council across the Orient and across the nation at Leadership Conferences, and developed an environment where our members feel they are welcomed, respected as Brethren and engaged as leaders.

Nebraska has only had five Grand Crosses since the Scottish Rite was first chartered in the state in 1867. Please congratulate Curt on joining that small but highly distinguished list of men to hold the honor of 33° Grand Cross Scottish Rite Mason.



Newsworthy Happenings



Brandon Breiby, 32° (left) presented a Scottish Rite Perpetual Membership certificate to Charlie Odorizzi, 32° (right), along with his perpetual member lapel pin, and letter from John Maxell, 33°, General Secretary.

A Perpetual Membership means a Brother will never have to pay dues again. More important, the money goes into an endowment, providing interest income to the Valley in perpetuity. For more information about a Perpetual Membership, call the Scottish Rite at (402) 342-1300.

SCOTTISH RITE FAMILY PICNIC

This year, the Family Picnic was held on Sunday, August 20th, a move recommended by the Line Officer's Guild to involve more families at the annual event at the Omaha Home for Boys Cooper Farm. Around 150 Scottish Rite Masons and their families turned out for a great day, with burgers, hotdogs and brats freshly grilled by the Culinary Masters, sides, and of course, s'mores.

The kids enjoyed a bouncy house, and Andrew Muska's wife Christine brought the Omaha Ukelele Club to play during the evening. Splinter the Clown (A.J. Johnson, 33°) made balloon hats for kids of all ages, and Chuck Sederstrom III and Greg Swinarski drew prizes, and nearly everyone went home with something. The annual family picnic is definitely not a tradition to miss!



Photos: (Top left) Erin Deming with Jim Wolfe and son Kody; (Top right) Andrew Muska and Tara and Mitch Inman; (Bottom Left) Eva Brumfield; (Bottom Center) Chuck Sederstrom models the new headgear of a Scottish Rite Mason; (Bottom right: Barb Coonce and Christa Hickie





Nebraska's RiteCare Clinicians (left to right): Kris Althouse, Emily Johnson, Paul Laikko, Leslie VanWinkle, Jeena Kouris, Amy Nordness, Korey Stading, Beth Hughes, Carrie Kenny, and Holly Schlautman

Nebraska RiteCare Retreat Updates Scottish Rite Masons On Our Annual \$680,000 Investment in Speech Therapy

Several years ago, Scottish Rite Masons recognized that the RiteCare Clinics were in danger of developing a "silo mentality," where each clinic operated semi-independently of one another, not taking advantage of Clinicians' expertise across the entire RiteCare system.

Rather than fall into a habit of thinking of four separate clinics, Charles Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Nebraska worked with Amy Nordness, Ph.D., Nebraska's RiteCare Director, to ensure that we think of one RiteCare Clinic, with four locations across the state. As part of that goal, Chuck scheduled a RiteCare Retreat each year so that the Clinicians can meet one another, tap into their different expertise, including Autism, Apraxia, and pediatric swallowing. At the retreat, Clinicians have an opportunity to meet the Scottish Rite Masons who donate over \$680,000 each year to support services while the Masons can meet the Clinicians we support.

On September 22, 11 RiteCare clinicians (including Denise Wolfe participating online from Kearney) and 20 Scottish Rite Masons from around Nebraska met to hear reports on fundraising initiatives across the state, goals for 2018, and the state of the Clinic. Each clinician gave reports on their activities and their work, followed by excellent questions and answers from Scottish Rite members. In the afternoon, the clinicians participated in a continuing education seminar.

Scottish Rite Brethren Recognize 50-Year Members and UNO Scholarship Recipients

Each September, the Valley of Omaha Scottish Rite meets at the monthly business meeting to make presentations and recognize Brethren who have gone above and beyond during the year.

Each year, the Membership Retention Committee, chaired by Bob Pelletier, 32°, sponsors a competition for which body of line officers can call the most members and recover dues from Brethren to help them avoid suspension. Bob recognized Don Kavalec, 32° KCCH and Mike Precella, 32° from the Omaha Consistory, whose calls led to 13 Brethren paying their dues. Second place winners were Lee Terry, 33° and Chris Edwards, 32° from the Chapter of Rose Croix, whose calls led to 11 Brethren paying their dues. The Omaha Valley enjoys one of the lowest suspension rates in the entire Southern Jurisdiction thanks to the efforts of line officers who made calls to dozens of Brethren.

General Secretary John Maxell, 33° presented James Viernes with his 32° patent and life membership certificates to Chuck Davis, 32° and Ethan Meirovitz, 32°.

"Thanks to the Scottish Rite, I am learning how to use my skills and passions to serve the community," UNO Scholarship Recipient Abi Heller said.

We also recognized Brother Paul McManis, 32° (lower right, with his wife and John Maxell) as a 50-year member. Paul is a member of Centennial Lodge #326 and worked for the telephone company as a planning supervisor. He joined the Scottish Rite in April, 1967.

Our 50 Year Members Recognized Are:

Ralph M. Anderson, Jr., 32°
Richard E Collins II, 32°
William A. Helwig, 32°
Hugh W. Hunt, 32°
Donald K. Leisey, 32°
Paul C. McManis, 32°
George D. Miller, 32° KCCH
John W. Richart, 32°
Larry R. Scott, 32°
Mortimer C. Sheffloe, 32°
Thomas M. Withers, Sr., 32°



We were particularly honored to meet several of our 2017-2018 UNO scholarship recipients. For more than 25 years, the Scottish Rite Foundation has awarded 13 \$2,000 merit and need-based scholarships to tomorrow's leaders at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Representing our scholarship recipients was UNO Senior Abi Heller, a Neurosciences major, and our 2017-2018 Robert A. Falk Distinguished Scholar recipient. Abi

spoke about how her Scottish Rite scholarship has helped her continue studies, pursue grants, attend international conferences, volunteer with the League of Women Voters, mentor students with disabilities, and work with Omaha By Design.

"I will always be thankful to the Scottish Rite for the opportunity this scholarship has given me," she said.





Lincoln RiteCare parents recently wrote:

The RiteCare clinic in Lincoln has been a blessing to our family and our daughter, Ellie. Before Ellie began, she was almost completely unintelligible to most listeners and was showing some signs of stuttering. Ellie was beginning to shy away from saying what she really wanted to say because she was learning that she was usually not understood. Ellie has made great progress and her confidence in talking has increased a lot too. She looks forward to seeing what Holly has planned, especially if it involves anything glitter!

Throughout the session, Holly (above) has Ellie moving around the room and she truly makes learning her speech sounds fun. Holly gives Ellie a "password," which is a word that Ellie is working on pronouncing correctly. Ellie is always so excited to come home and repeat her "password" to whichever parent stayed home. We are thrilled with Holly and the RiteCare program and so grateful at the progress we have seen in Ellie since she began.

—Cameron and Annie
RiteCare parents



Here be Treasure

On Tuesday, September 19, 2017, our Speech Clinicians celebrated "Talk Like a Pirate Day" in the Hastings Valley RiteCare Clinic. . . Arrrrrh!

Pictured with Emily Johnson (center) and Kris Althouse (right) is Kelsey Stokely (left), a graduate student at the UNK Speech-Language Pathology Department. Kelsey is completing the Pre-Intern Clinical Placement portion of her studies. Kris and Emily supervise 25% of her time spent with our children in the Hastings Clinic.

Membership, *continued*

But the Grand Commander words weren't just words to close out Biennial Session. He challenged us, asking how will we live, working toward that symbolic smooth ashlar? "When you pack up to go home, what do you do when you return home from here?" What will we be remembered for? Someone, somewhere is relying on us.

The Grand Commander's challenge was to each of us individually. Your journey from the rough ashlar to the perfect ashlar is yours alone, and no one else can tell you how to be a husband or father, employer or employee, and a better man and Mason. As Freemasons, we make that progression by ourselves, but in the company of other Brethren on the same journey.

His challenge represents a true test of our mettle, asking us to live the principals we obligated ourselves to as an Entered Apprentice Mason.



To reinforce the theme of the Biennial Session, beautiful rough and perfect ashlar, quarried from marble removed from the House of the Temple, were made available to members, with the quote "The rules of Masonry in hand to take and daily progress therein make." I keep this on my desk at work to daily remind me daily to continue working toward that perfect ashlar.

The Grand Commander did not have to tell us the critical mission we undertake as we work toward the perfect ashlar. Just as a single imperfect stone may weaken the entire

building, so, too, does the imperfect Mason weaken the entire Craft. Flawed ashlar can bring negative feelings and reproach upon the Fraternity from non-Freemasons in the outside world and therefore, can have no place within its walls.

The perfect stones aren't simply laying about the quarry waiting to be picked up. They are the product of hammering, chiseling and polishing the imperfections. It also holds true that "perfect" men are also such an anomaly without the benefit of brotherly love, guidance and light. There are very few Freemasons who have not been in both the rough and perfect ashlar state-of-being at some point in their lives.

The Grand Commander closed his remarks, asking us how we will work toward the smooth. It will be a lifelong journey, but each of us - and our fraternity - will be all the stronger for the work.

Sovereign Grand Inspector General's Circle Honor Roll

These donors have made an investment of \$300 or more in the future of Nebraska children, supporting speech therapy services through the Scottish Rite Foundation of Nebraska. *All donors who make a \$300 or greater donations or pledge to the 101-Club between now and June 30, 2018 will be listed as SGIG Circle Charter Members in the Scottish Rite Journal in each edition, as well as receiving the SGIG Circle challenge coin and 101-Club lapel pin.* (\$101 Donors will receive the 101-Club lapel pin, authorized by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Nebraska.)



Charter SGIG Circle Donors

Name	Valley
Gary Bunnell	Omaha
Charles Bukin	Lincoln
Thomas Clark	Omaha
James Eggers	Omaha
Micah Evans	Omaha
David Fisher	Hastings
Tom Eyman	Omaha
Charles Hastings	Hastings
Karel Kapek	Omaha
William Kimme	Omaha
Frank Kroupa	Omaha
Steven Poulson	Omaha
Kenneth Rodabaugh	Omaha
Michael Roe	Lincoln
Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr.	SGIG in Nebraska
Charles Sohm	Omaha
Dan Wellendorf	Omaha

*Thanks to the generosity of numerous Scottish Rite Masons, Nebraska RiteCare children receive all the services they need, without regard to a family's ability to pay. **Please consider a donation or pledge and join these Brethren in making a significant impact on our ability to provide first-rate Speech and Language Therapy for Nebraska children.***

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 January-February, 2018 Scottish Rite Journal must be received no later than mid-November for consideration.)

Giving the Gift of VOICE

As we approach the end of 2017, we can look back on a truly great past year. Men continue to find an interest in Freemasonry, and each Valley has held events of every kind to interest to engage members. Our Walks for RiteCare, RiteCare Classic Golf, Friends Dinner, and Century Club have continued to grow as members step up to support our philanthropies.



RiteCare Dad at the Lincoln Walk

Our Orient leadership are actively engaged in expanding speech therapy services to children not being served. Whether this means a new Clinic in Nebraska or our Speech Pathologists hitting the road and setting up at a local Lodge several times a month has yet to be determined; regardless, we are working to expand services to children. Most important, children receive as much therapy as they need, whether six sessions or sixty. These services are offered without price tags and without looking at insurance coverage. I hope you are as justifiably proud as I am of our Scottish Rite philanthropies in Nebraska, and share how we serve children with your friends, Brethren, and prospective members.

To continue offering services please continue to support the Scottish Rite Foundation in your Valley. Some ways to consider are:

- Year-end gift or 401(k) distribution, which offers certain tax advantages,
- A Charitable Gift Annuity, also providing tax advantages, as well as income now,
- Remembering your Valley's Scottish Rite Foundation in your estate planning or will,
- The gift of stocks or securities,
- A pledge toward RiteCare or your favorite Masonic philanthropy, which can be paid out monthly, quarterly, or annually over several years,
- Or simply shopping! Please remember to visit <http://smile.amazon.com>, and select the Scottish Rite Foundation of Nebraska. A portion of your purchase is donated to RiteCare.

You can always reach me at (402) 342-1300 or micah@SRNE.org to discuss these options or learn more. I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving, Christmas or Hanukkah season, *and thank you for being a Scottish Rite Mason.*

- Micah Evans, 33°
Orient Development Director