

Much has been written about social media, good and bad. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the like give us the opportunity to connect in like-minded groups. As Masons, we can "like" the Scottish Rite Facebook pages, the Shrine Facebook pages, York Rite, Grand Lodge, and dozens and dozens of other groups or organizations. We can keep up with the latest news and happenings. As a tool to reach members, young and old, social media is invaluable.

Through social media, I have met Masons across the nation, often meeting them in person at Biennial Session or the Leadership Conferences, and I keep up with them through their Facebook pages.

During the Scottish Rite Leadership Conference in Omaha in April, one of the sessions focused on the value, importance

#### Membership



and strategy of our social media pages, including the Scottish Rite Chirp, WSB and Valley apps (available in iTunes or Android app stores), and photos from the sessions and conference were posted on social media throughout the weekend.

But make no mistake, social media is not social capital. In fact, social media divides us as never before. We can self-divide into tribes, following news sources that fit our own political leanings or interests, ignoring others, and dropping "friends" who disagree with us. We can post anything we want on an article, whether constructive or unconstructive or even blatantly hateful with minimal fear of consequences. This self division saps our social capital.

In the past, creating social connections was more available and evenly established in American communities. Neighborhoods mixed different socioeconomic groups - no algorithm existed to weed out those who disagree with you. Community members, encountering one another in real life at church, school or the stores, built friendships and mutual respect and greater understanding. These relationships created the social capital that bound us together, creating a sturdy social fabric. Second, strong community institutions provided the framework

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#### **Orient Calendar**

Jul 4, 11, 18, 25 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
Jul 5, 12, 19, 26Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
Jul 15-19Shrine Imperial Session (Daytona, FL)
Jul 18Scottish Rite Family Picnic (L)
Jul 20100th Anniversary Prince Hall Banquet (O)
Jul 21CPR Training (O)
Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
Aug 8-102018 RiteCare Conference (Los Angeles, CA)
Aug 12Scottish Rite Family Picnic (Vennelyst Park) (O)
Aug 24 33° Banquet at Nebraska Club in Lincoln, NE
Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
Sept 6, 13, 20, 27Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
Sept 7Nebraska RiteCare Retreat in Lincoln
Sept 19Fall Outing at Papillion Gun Club (O)
Sept 22 Hastings Walk for RiteCare (H)
Sept 28Brandy Tasting (O)
Oct 2Feast of Tishri (H)
Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday Masonic Lunch (H)
Oct 4, 11, 18, 25Thursday Masonic Lunch (L)
Oct 13Feast of Tishri (L)
Oct 13Nebraska Statewide Scottish Rite Reunion (at Hastings)
Oct 19Friends of Scottish Rite Dinner and Auction (O)
Nov 1, 2, 3Omaha Fall Reunion (O)
Nov 9-10 Alliance Fall Reunion (tentative date) (A)
Dec 8 Christmas Banquet (L)

**Lodge of Perfection meetings:** 

**Alliance, 4th Friday of each month** July-August (Dark), Sept 28, Oct 26

Hastings, 1st Tuesday of each month July 3, Aug 7, Sept 4, Oct 2

**Lincoln, 3rd Wednesday of each month**July 18 (family picnic), Aug 15, Sept 19, Oct 17

Omaha, 3rd Monday of each month July 16, Aug 20, Sept 17, Oct 15

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
Iohn Maxell (Omaha)	(402) 342-1300





Chris Baas, Mike Fritzler, Brad Dutton, Joel Zilmer, Ted Flack, and Jimmy Karell pick up trash along the highway

No rest for the weary in the Alliance Valley! Members of Alliance Lodge #183 helped pick up trash along the Highway. We received the new tables and chairs for the Scottish Rite ballroom, which will be much more comfortable than the (very) old tables. Hopefully this will also spur in-

creased rentals in the building, as well. We've been dealing with a few roof issues this Spring. The Fall Reunion is scheduled for November 9th and 10th, and I hope we will see you there. As always, please reach out to prospective Scottish Rite Masons and help them continue their Masonic journey for more light.

## Recognizing Donors to the House of the Temple Preservation Foundation



he House of the ■ Temple sent out beautiful certificates in presentation folders a few months to recognize Scottish Rite Brethren who have made generous donations to the House of the Temple's Preservation Foundation. Money raised helps our historic headquarters in Washington, D.C. undertake a \$90 million

capital campaign. Their ambitious plans include renovating the 1915 House of the Temple to include a world-class museum, meeting spaces, and areas that tell the story of Freemasonry to the thousands of guests each year.

We had the honor of presenting one of these certificates to Tom Dasher, 32° of Alliance. Tom has supported our RiteCare services in Nebraska each year as well as the House of the Temple.

If you are interested in supporting the Scottish Rite House of the Temple Preservation Foundation or Nebraska RiteCare, please call me at (308) 762-4324 or e-mail me at gene123@mail.com.

#### Valley of Central Nebraska at Hastings



## REMEMBRANCE & RENEWAL

Each year, the Central Nebraska Valley in Hastings meets to celebrate the Feast of Remembrance and Renewal. This includes extinguishing the lights in remembrance of those Brethren we lost in the past year, and relighting the lights in anticipation of the coming year.

As Wise Master for the Chapter of Rose Croix, Monte Malouf, 33° served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. After an excellent dinner of chicken breast, carnita pork, scalloped potatoes, salad, California vegetables, followed by cheese cake, served by the women of Job's Bethel #8. Afterward, we welcomed our speaker Rev. Damen Heitmann, Chaplain of Hastings College.

Damen reflected on the Gospel of John, which relates how the Disciples entered into the tomb of Jesus after the Crucifixion. Damen spoke about the Resurrection, not as a means to leave the world, but as a call to move *into* the world, to engage with the world. He spoke of "being an Easter person," as reflective of the Disciples desire bear witness of their faith as transforming suffering and those tough or painful things in their lives into hope.

Afterward, Monte read the names of fourteen Brethren whom we have lost in the past year as Damen lit candles in memory of our departed Brethren. Randy Jones, 33° led the Ceremonial team, relighting the Remembrance and Renewal lights in anticipation - as we give hope - for the coming year.

Don Rasmussen, 33° gave the Almoner's message, and members contributed to help



Rev. Damen Heitmann reflected on the meaning of being "an Easter person."



Members of Job's Daughters, Bethel #8 who served and cleaned during the evening

those in need in Central Nebraska. The evening closed with a benediction from Chaplain Damen Heitmann.

Remembrance and Renewal is always a beautiful evening of fellowship, an excellent dinner and a beautiful program led by the Chapter of Rose Croix and the Ceremonial Remembrance and Renewal team.

#### HASTINGS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Every year,
parents, community members
and educators
nominate more
than a dozen
Hastings teachers as nominees
for the Hastings
Public Schools
Educator of the
Year award. At

a banquet at the



Michelle Kerr 2018 Educator of the Year

Lochland Country Club in April, Superintendant Craig Kautz recognized Michelle Kerr as the Scottish Rite's 2018 Educator of the Year.

Mrs. Kerr, a 6th Grade Language Arts Teacher at the Hastings Middle School, has been with the District for 18 years. Mrs. Kerr is involved with the Middle School Glow Run, sponsors Quiz Bowl teams, and is a Middle School yearbook sponsor.

Here is just a taste of what the administrator nominating Mrs. Kerr had to say about her:

Mrs. Kerr is highly invested in the development and education of our students. She is a strong communicator who is honest, straightforward, and values strong professional relationships. She has always been willing to go the extra mile for our students. Mrs. Kerr is creative, energetic, and will do whatever it takes to see students succeed through the learning cycle. She is one of the best teachers on our staff and her students consistently score well on state and national tests, even though we have a high percentage of students living in poverty.

The Hastings Scottish Rite Foundation presented a check for \$1,000 to Michelle Kerr in recognition of her work. The Kerr family also had a child who was a client of the Hastings RiteCare Speech and Language Clinic several years ago.

#### Valley of Lincoln



#### Congratulations to our Newest Brethren in the Spring 2018 Reunion

Front Row: Mike Gray, 33°, R.J. Lipert, 32°, Bob Phillips, 32°, Taylor Curry, 32°, Wahadi Allen, 32°, Dale Lued-

Second Row: Bill Cummins, 32° KCCH, Ward Shires, 32° KCCH, Bill Hayes, 32°, George McCabe, 33°, Edward Boone, 32°, Jeffrey Schumacher, 32°, Don Albrecht, 32°

Third Row: Andy Seachord, 32°, Jim Batten, 32° KCCH, Tom Curry, 32°, Jack Spray, 32°, Myron Coleman, 32° Fourth Row: Dennis Brydl, 33°, Michael Lagueux, 32° KCCH, Eric Bachenberg 32° KCCH, Ed Bennett, 32°



Saturday, April 28th was a perfect day for the Lincoln WalkRite for RiteCare. Around twenty RiteCare families turned out, as well as a number of Scottish Rite Masons, and seven volunteers from the UNL Nebraska Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA).

Families met at the Lincoln's Children's Zoo, as RiteCare clinicians Holly Schlautman and Carrie Kenny registered guests. Eileen's cookies donated several trays of cookies for the walkers to enjoy, and guests took home a RiteCare water bottle.

After a brief welcome from Jerry Pigsley, we heard a few words from a RiteCare mom who spoke about how speech therapy has helped her beautiful daughter become more independent, socialize with





her peers and develop her personality as she can be understood.

After a walk around the walking trail, many of the families stayed to visit the

Photos (Top left) Sara Fritsch, with her kids, Cecelia, Mathias, Gabriel, Samuel (Top right) Carrie Kenny and Holly Schlautman with the NSSLHA volunteers from UNL (Bottom right) Liesal and Josh Hoffman, with their

kids, Morgan and Molly, and family



#### Lincoln Presents 53rd **Annual Distinguished** Teacher of the Year

Terry Abrahams has a way with words, whether it's speaking, writing or teaching. Her colleagues call her "the Kid Whisperer."

But on Monday, May 21st, she found herself at a loss.

"An English teacher who's speechless," Abrahams said.

The longtime Lincoln Southwest High School English teacher had just been honored as the 2018 Scottish Rite Distinguished Teacher of the Year during a surprise ceremony at the school. Since 1965, the prestigious award is presented annually to a Lincoln Public Schools teacher and comes with a \$5,000 award from the Lincoln Scottish Rite Foundation.

Abrahams taught 14 years at Lincoln Northeast High School before joining Southwest 14 years ago. At Southwest, Abrahams serves as department chair and has taught everything from English 11, for students who struggle with literacy, to AP Literature. In all, she's dedicated 40 years of her life to teaching.

She grew emotional as she scanned the room on Monday. "I can't imagine having become an educator and having grown so much without all the people in this room who have nurtured me all the way. So I thank you so much for this thank you so much."

The Southwest English Department and administration wrote the following in their nomination letter for Abrahams:

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#### Valley of Omaha



John J. Wonder, 33° Memorial Class

Front Row: Paul Rutherford, 33°, Tom Brummett, 33°, Jim Parks, Sr., 33°, Justin Marquez, 32°, Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, Curt Edic, 33°, GC, Frank Kroupa, 33°, Steve Zimmerman, 32°, Micah Evans, 33°, John Maxell, 33° Second Row: Don Peterson, 32°, Tom Mullally, 32°, Bernie Rolfs, 32°, Dennis Newman, 32°, Terry Nelson, 32°, Mark Bush, 32°, Doug Reed, 32°, Charles Stephenson, 32°, Michael Corales, 32°, Andrew Privitera, 32°, Rick Gilmore, 32°

Back Row: Wesley Stingley, 32°, Matthew Ellis, 32°, Robert Escritt, 32°, Matthew Stricklin, 32°, Bob Lingerfelt, 32°, Jeffrey Coleman, 32° KCCH [not pictured, John Millington, 32°]



Seventeen new Brothers joined the Scottish Rite at the Spring Reunion, named in honor of our late Brother John Wonder, 33° this past May 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Class honored John Wonder, 33°, who joined in 1996. He hit the ground running, as Tom Brummett, 33°, remembered. If he presented an idea, and you disagreed, John figured he had presented the idea wrong, and would try again - and again - until you came around, Tom recalled. "If he asked for something, he would keep asking until you got it done," Curt Edic, 33° GC said. John Wonder was instrumental in promoting Masonic Unity, the Broadway shows, and tirelessly promoted membership in all Masonic bodies.

The Reunion began with several Degrees on Thursday and Friday evening, including the 8° Intendant of the Building, put on by the officers of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, including MW Patrick Barger, 32°, Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska.

During the Saturday banquet, Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Nebraska, presented Cheryl Wonder a plaque in memory of John Wonder, 33°. After the banquet, Candidates' ladies or top-line signers had he honor of placing a 32° Scottish Rite cap on the Candidates, beginning a new tradition during Reunions.

Fifteen Degrees were put on, with some excellent ritual work by too many Brethren to recognize. In addition, the Knights of St. Andrew were on-hand for an excellent breakfast Saturday. The wardrobe crew, sound, stage, and light crews put in many hours making us sound and look good. The Stump Sitters remained on-call on short notice to provide help whenever Degrees needed help.

Our Fall Reunion will be on November 1, 2, and 3. Please plan to be there to welcome our newest members, help out on Degrees or behind the scenes, and reach out to potential Candidates!









First: Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Nebraska, presents a plaque to Cheryl Wonder recognizing John Wonder, 33°.

Second: Bernie Rolfs, 4th generation Freemason, and wife Monica.

Third: Andrew Muska, 32° and Jeffrey Coleman, 32° KCCH before the 9°-10° on Friday evening. Fourth: Charles Folsom, 33° and MW Rick Myers, 33°.



Don Kavalec, 32°, Carl Simmons, 32° and Chuck Davis, 32°

#### THE MASTER \* CRAFTSMEN

At the May 21st Lodge dinner, Don Kavalec, 32° KCCH presented certificates and pins to Carl Simmons, 32° and Chuck Davis, 32° for successfully completing the first section of the Master Craftsman program, an in-depth study program covering the philosophy and symbolism of Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Program I covers the Symbolic Lodge, familiarizing participants with aspects of the development of Blue Lodge Masonry. Program II covers Scottish Rite history and ritual. Program III returns to the ritual of the Scottish Rite, using Albert Pike's *Morals & Dogma*, to re-explore it on a deeper lesson, looking for the moral lessons imparted in each degree. Classes resume this Fall or may be done as self-study. Contact the Scottish Rite office to participate.

# SCOTTISH RITE SPRING \* OUTING



A year ago, the Spring Outing was almost derailed by weather advisory warnings. This year, however, the Great Architect kept an eye out for the Scottish Rite Spring Outing at the Papillion Gun Club, delivering perfect Spring weather, without a cloud in the sky.

About 200 Masons and prospective Masons came out for fellowship, and a great dinner with steak, baked potato, salad, corn, and brownies prepared by the Culinary Masters. Many Brethren shot trap during the evening, and others enjoyed beer and cocktails.

The Line Officers ran a 50-50 drawing, awarding two lucky Masons several hundred dollars. One Brother immediately turned his winning back to the Scottish Rite Foundation to support the Scottish Rite Foundation of Omaha's RiteCare services, for which we are profoundly grateful.

A number of prospective Masons were on hand, learning about Masonry in a relaxed environment, and both Lodges and the Scottish Rite have picked up a few petitions from the Spring and Fall Outing. Several Brethren expressed an interest in petitioning, and we look forward to seeing them in the Fall Reunion.

The Scottish Rite extends its appreciation to all the Line Officers, Knights of St. Andrew, Culinary Masters and Brethren who volunteered during the evening.

With perfect weather and great Brother-hood, the Spring Outing is never an evening to miss. But if you did, you will have another opportunity to attend this Fall at the Outing on September 19, 2018.







Photos: (Top) Pete Rix and M.W. Dennis Rix (Middle) Brethren from Shiloh Lodge (Bottom) Brethren from Miloma Lodge

#### Lincoln Teacher of the Year, continued

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"Terry has created a setting of integrity and character in which students can flourish. These young people are taught the importance of increasing their knowledge, not just as a benefit to themselves but to others. Her professional practice is done in a manner that respects the dignity of the individual. Terry understands how the tapestry of human culture can greatly enhance the opportunities for all to learn and contribute in our pluralistic community. Terry is a true life-long learner and works to instill the job of the learning process in all her students and colleagues."

Superintendent Joel said the Scottish Rite Award "represents the very best of what Lincoln Public Schools is all about."

"That's teaching effectiveness, building relationships and caring deeply about our society and the folks that we get to work with everyday," Joel said. "It's a genuine pleasure of ours to be a part of bestowing this, but to also say congratulations. There are a lot of great teachers in Lincoln, and today you are the top of that heap and it's well deserved."



### 100 Words

harlotte (pictured above with Miss Beth) first came to Beth [Hughes] in November, 2016 at the age of two after being diagnosed with Developmental Delay by the school district. At that time, Charlotte had no vocabulary, no form of communication and was struggling with compliance. Then in early 2017, Charlotte was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and in one short year's time, she has assembled a team of therapists to support her developmental growth. Beth is still at the center of her speech development and goes out of her way to coordinate Charlotte's needs with the school district and the rest of her team. Today, Charlotte's vocabulary has increased to over 100 words and she is able to effectively communicate her wants



and needs. We could not be more happy and thankful for the support the Scottish Rite RiteCare Clinic has provided our daughter! Every day we are seeing progress, which gives us hope our daughter's fu-

Eric and Rachel Galley RiteCare parents

ture is changing

for the better!

## JAY'S STORY

Tordan and Leah first became concerned about Jay's development when he was about one year old. He had been saying some words, such as mama, but began to regress in his speech. He stopped saying many of the words he had been routinely saying. Concerned, they took Jay for an evaluation through the schools, and learned he was on the Autism spectrum. Four months later, they pursued a medical diagnosis, where they met clinician Leslie Van Winkle. Following Jay's medical diagnosis, Jay and his parents began a parent training program with Leslie through UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute's RiteCare Clinic. Leslie provided Jordan and Leah with materials, practice, and feedback in order to continue his therapy at home. Leslie also worked closely with the Autism Care for Toddlers Clinic to monitor where he was on the waitlist, including coordinating his care once he reached the top of the list. Jay continues to see Miss Leslie at the Autism Care for Toddlers Clinic through the Munroe-Meyer Institute where he receives approximately 18 hours of applied behavior analytic services each week.

Leah raves about Jay's work with Leslie. "Leslie has done wonders for him," Leah



said. He is saying "mama" again, using gestures and understanding gestures, too. Jay is also learning to use a communication device to tell others what he wants and needs while his speech develops. Leslie continues to work with the family to ensure that Jay has a way to communicate across every environment. Leslie says this about Jay and his family: "Leah and Jordan are incredible parents who will do anything and everything possible for their son. Working with Jay and seeing him grow and learn has been an absolute joy! Thank you to the Scottish Rite Masons for making all of this possible!"

## So Long Farewell auf Wiedersehen Good Bye



Miss Emily (left) with the Kool-Aid Man and Dr. Amy Nordness at the 2017 Walk for RiteCare

The Hastings RiteCare Clinic sadly says farewell to Emily Johnson, M.S., CCC-SLP. Her husband Gary, had served as Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Hastings College, accepted a position as Provost and Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina.

Emily has been with the Hastings RiteCare Clinic since 2012. During her time at the Hastings Clinic, Emily has seen the program increase the number of children seen, generating more awareness about speech therapy services in Hastings. She has worked tirelessly to support RiteCare in Hastings, building the annual Walk and promoting Clinic during Hastings Gives, which raised nearly \$5,000 this past May.

#### Membership, continued

we used to interact, not Facebook or Twitter. Community organizations still exist and continue to help members, but there are so many, each focusing on a single agenda (the NRA or the Humane Society, as two examples) - yet fewer Americans participate in them. Our online communities - particularly news sources - have become echo chambers which foster our own pre-existing political or social values.

This bespeaks the value and importance of the face-to-face nature of Freemasonry. Through the democratic nature of Freemasonry, where men of all backgrounds meet on the level, we empathize with the Brother or the widow facing hard times and lend a helping hand. Brethren of strong political opinions put aside their profound differences to break bread, share a laugh, and work together.



We are having fun with all the online tools available to Masons. But are we building the true social capital our fraternity is designed to create this way?

Bridging social capital, that key element crossing all lines of geography, race, politics, religion socioeconomic status, cannot be found through an algorithm on Facebook. Social media, while in many ways a wonderful tool, also is designed to drive us to those with similar views and away from those espousing uncomfortable or unpopular beliefs. These connections require real, human contact. There is no substitute. There is no replacement for personal interaction and empathizing with others unlike you.

It is easy to be an online Mason, to share a funny meme or join in a conversation on a social media page. But if you really want to build the true capital our fraternity promotes, you have to show up at a meeting and sit with Brethren. Masonry is, above all else, a face-to-face fraternity.

I urge all Scottish Rite Masons to attend a meeting and meet their Brethren. You'll enjoy yourself, I promise. And you'll be making our fraternity all the stronger for the experience!

# Giving the Gift of

Micah I. Evans, 33°,
Orient Development Director
micah@SRNE.org

ast July, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Nebraska, which has the ultimate responsibility for the RiteCare Speech and Language Clinics in Nebraska kicked off the annual 101-Club appeal. We had a stellar year, raising \$14,262 to date for RiteCare services. 22 Brethren stepped up as Charter members of the SGIG's circle, donating or pledging \$300 or more for the year, or at least three sessions of therapy. 55 Brethren donated as full 101-Club members, donating \$101 or more, which represents at least one session of therapy for a child in Nebraska.



edition of the *Scottish Rite Journal* and share them with family, friends and prospective Brethren. We have given an estimated \$25 million to RiteCare over the last 40 years - no small testament to the faith we have in these services and the value they provide to tomorrow's leaders.



This July, the 2018-2019 101-Club letter will go to members, and I would again ask you to consider supporting our RiteCare services. SGIG Circle members will be recognized all year in the Scottish Rite Journal, with an asterisk for the Charter Members.

New SGIG Circle members receive a beautiful challenge coin, authorized by Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33°, SGIG in Nebraska, and 101-Club donors of \$101 or more receive the 101-Club lapel pin. Any donation makes a huge impact on our ability to provide speech therapy to children, which we continue to offer without any regard to a family's ability to pay. Please consider a donation when you receive the appeal letter in a few weeks, or simply send a donation to the *Scottish Rite Foundation of Nebraska* at 202 S. 20th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102.

Nebraska rightfully calls itself the Good Life State. Thank you for being a Scottish Rite Mason, and thank you for your extraordinary generosity providing that good life to our RiteCare families across the state!

## Charter SGIG's CIRCLE Donors

_Name	Valley
Charles Bukin	Lincoln
Gary Bunnell	Omaha
Thomas Clark	Omaha
Micah Evans	Omaha
Tom Eyman	Omaha
David Fisher	Hastings
Michael Gray	Lincoln
Charles Hastings	Hastings
Karel Kapek	Omaha
William Kimme	Omaha
Frank Kroupa	Omaha
Hughes Morris, Jr.	Omaha
Charlie Odorizzi	Omaha
Steven Poulson	Omaha
Homer Puderbaugh	Lincoln
Kenneth Rodabaugh	Omaha
Michael Roe	Lincoln
Charles Sederstrom, Jr.	SGIG in NE
Charles Sohm	Omaha
Ronald Stites	Omaha
James Turpen	Omaha
Dan Welllendorf	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.

In all, Nebraska Scottish Rite Masons supported 5,915 sessions of therapy for 456 children (this represents individual children, rather than the total number of children since many children receive more than one session of therapy). Scottish Rite Masons donated more than \$658,000 to provide these services at RiteCare Clinics at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, the Hastings Masonic Center, the UNIL Barkley Memorial Center and the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute.

That is truly impressive, and every Scottish Rite Mason should be proud that we are able to contribute these sums. The families are profoundly grateful for speech therapy, and I hope you read their stories in each

SCOTTISH RITE

Your dues change the light bulbs.
Your donations 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 the September-October, 2018 Scottish Rite Journal must be received no later than mid-July for consideration.)