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Membership

Much has been written about the Covid-19 pandemic, and I am sure plenty more has yet to be written. The pandemic accelerated trends that were already happening. We went from the dream of working from home to the reality of remote workplaces. Many people who could work remotely have moved to smaller, more affordable towns, away from the urban centers. People seem to prefer shopping from home or watching a movie on an on-demand service rather going out like we used to.



The post-Covid world has left society more polarized than ever. This is the opportunity for us to promote Freemasonry as the place "to dwell in harmony."

Another shift accelerated by the pandemic is the polarization of society. People are more divided ever, choosing to remain in their "echo chambers" through social media, where they only see or hear their own views repeated over and over. Social scientists have recognized a trend in the breakdown of shared values or mutual respect. We are losing our sense of community.

Freemasonry seems to be one of the last vestiges of the shared community, where we can put aside – for an evening at least – the issues that divide us and come together with a common focus and activity.

This is a rare opening for Freemasons, an opportunity to open the Lodge doors, accept and welcome good men of all backgrounds, opinions, professions, and faiths. Now is the time to promote the fraternity as the place to create lifelong friendships and true fellowship.

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plan on it! a RiteCare vision for the future

It's still January, 2023 as I write this, so I can get away with writing about New Year's resolutions.

Whether people admit it or not, most people make New Year's resolutions, even if informally in their own minds: get in shape, eat healthier, read more. Many people make resolutions to improve their own health, pursue happiness, and be kind to others.

What if there was a single act that accomplished all of those goals?

The simple act of giving - whether it's time, talent, or treasure - accomplishes all three of those goals!

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Orient Calendar

- Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Wednesday Lunches (H)
- Mar 4 Hastings Spring Reunion (H)
- Apr 20, 21, 22 Omaha Spring Reunion (O)
- Apr 5, 12, 19, 26 Wednesday Lunches (H)
- May 17 Spring Outing at Papillion Gun Club (O)
- May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday Lunches (H)
- May 26-27 Alliance Spring Reunion (A)
- June 5, 12, 19, 26 Wednesday Lunches (H)
- June 18 (tentative) WalkRite for RiteCare (O)
- June 28 Alliance Meeting in Bridgeport (A)
- August TBD RiteCare Classic (O)
- Oct 7 Hastings Fall Reunion (H)
- Oct 27-28 Alliance Fall Reunion (A)
- Oct 29 Friends of RiteCare Dinner & Auction (O)

**Please check with your
Valley for most current updates
to Scottish Rite events**

Lodge of Perfection meetings:

Alliance, 4th Friday of each month

Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26, June 23,
July 28, Aug 25, Sept 22, Sept 27

Hastings, 1st Tuesday of each month

Mar 7, Apr 4, May 2, June 6,
July TBD, Aug 1, Sept 5, Oct 2

Lincoln, 3rd Wednesday of each month

Mar 22, Apr 19, May 17, June 21,
July 19, Aug 16, Sept 20, Oct 18

Omaha, 3rd Monday of each month

Mar 20, Apr 17, May 15, June 19,
July 17, Aug 21, Sept 15, Oct 16

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

- Art Stricker, 33° (Alliance) (308) 762-4324
- Phil Odom, 33° (Hastings) (402) 462-5813
- Bruce Wood, 33° (Lincoln) (402) 435-2144
- John Maxell, 33° (Omaha) (402) 342-1300

FINE ART

The Valley of Alliance welcomed Art Stricker, 33° as General Secretary, appointed January 1, 2023 by Dan Wellendorf, 33°, Deputy to the Supreme Council for Nebraska. Art succeeds Gene Gatti, 33°, who retired at the end of 2022 after 16 years as General Secretary.



Art Stricker has been involved in Nebraska

Masonry for nearly twenty years. He was raised in December, 2004 at Robert W. Furnas Lodge #265 in Scottsbluff, Nebraska (now part of Scotts Bluff Lodge #201), serving as Master of Furnas Lodge in 2010. Art has been a Past State officer for Nebraska York Rite bodies, and was honored as a Knight of the York Rite Cross of Honor (KYCH) for his service to Chapter, Council and Commandery bodies. In 2009, Art was President of the Panhandle Shrine Club for Tehama Shriners.

Art's Scottish Rite career began in April, 2005, and he has been active ever since at Reunions and through the Master Craftsman program. He was invested a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in November, 2009 and Coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary in August, 2019. Additionally, Art was a Fellow at the Scottish Rite Leadership Conference in Houston, Texas, and he is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

Reflecting on his Masonic career, Art recognized James (Hook) Keebaugh, 33° G.C., Gerry Krutsinger, 33°, John Ferguson, 33°, Gene Gatti, 33°, Warren (Duke) Lichty, 33°, Charles V. Sederstrom, Jr., 33° and so many others. "None of this would be possible without mentoring and help from so many outstanding Masons, friends, and Brothers too numerous to mention," Art said.

As he looks forward to serving the Brethren in the Alliance Valley, Art says, "It is my hope that I can fill the position that so many good and great Masons and Brothers have held before me. I look forward to bringing new life and vitality to the Valley of Alliance Scottish Rite with the help and support of all my Brothers there at the Valley. It is said there is no "I" in the success of the Masonic Fraternity, but only that which we accomplish together."

You can reach Art at the Valley of Alliance or at artstricker77@gmail.com. Come join us at the Alliance Valley and help us continue the great direction this Valley heading!

Masonic History Moment: Ashlar Lodge #33



Ashlar Lodge #33 was organized in Hall County, Nebraska, and granted a charter under dispensation in August, 1870. At the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge a Charter was granted in 1871 by M.W.

Harry Deuel. By March 1925, the Lodge had prospered enough to boast 704 Masons on the rolls. Ashlar Lodge Masons contracted the architectural firm of Kirschke & Baker - both members of Ashlar #33. The building was estimated to cost \$150,000 (approximately \$2.5 million in 2022 dollars.)

The six story Masonic Lodge was dedicated in 1925, with a mezzanine on the sixth floor. The Masons retained the upper floors for meetings, and businesses rented the lower floors. Ashlar Lodge #33 met at 217 E. Locust Street until approximately 2012, when the high cost of maintenance and declining membership necessitated moving. Anson Investment & Development purchased the building, and it serves as apartments today, with businesses on the lower level.

Today, Ashlar Lodge #33 serves its members in a converted storefront, a perfectly sized Lodge located in downtown Grand Island.



2023 Officers Installed for Valley of Hastings

The Hastings Valley Scottish Rite installed 2023 Lodge Officers on January 10th. Ronald A. Nielsen, 32° KCCH, was installed as Venerable Master in the Lodge of Perfection.

Ron has a long resume in Masonry. He has served as Worshipful Master of Rob Morris #46, plus other offices in the Lodge. He served as Potentate for Tehama Shrine in 2015, and currently serves as Recorder for Tehama Shrine and is Grand Tyler for the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. Ron is also a Director for the Nebraska Masonic Home in Plattsmouth.

Ron's other Masonic activities include Past Bethel Guardian, Director of the Nebraska Masonic Home, Trustee of the Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation, and Vice President of the Nebraska Freemasons Child I. D. Foundation.

Brother Monte Malouf, 33°, will serve as Senior Warden in the Lodge of Perfection. Brother Kirk L. McNeal, 32°, was installed as Wise Master for the Chapter of Rose Croix. Brother Randall D. Jones 33°, will serve as Senior Warden for the Chapter of Rose Croix.

The Hastings Council of Kadosh will be led by Brother Daniel E. Waldron, 32° with Brother Richard A. Johnson 32°, KCCH serving as First Lieutenant Commander.

Brother William G. Hohlen 32° was installed as Master of Kadosh and Brother George W. White 33°, will follow as Prior for the 2023 year.

Hastings Valley Spaghetti Feed

On Sunday, October 23, 2022 the annual Hastings Valley Scottish Rite Spaghetti Feed was held in the Hastings Masonic Center. Approximately 140 meals were sold to eat-in and drive-through customers. Committee Chairman, Bill Carson, said "This was our first eat in meal for several years. We were not quite sure what to expect, but things went great!"

There were 72 plates served through the drive-in door, and 68 guests enjoying their meals in-house.

"Growth has been continuous in the the drive-thru for several Spaghetti Feeds, both before and after the COVID-19 year. Given our society, we believe that area may show continued in the future", said Brother Carson.

Thirteen Scottish Rite members along with four Jobs Daughters and several volunteers helped run the event this year.



Top: Dan Deffenbaugh, 32° KCCH, Richard Johnson, 32° KCCH, and Randy Jones, 33°

Bottom: Kearney members running the drive-thru) Tom Stewart, 32° Alex Straatmann, 32°, Ron Nielsen, 32° KCCH, and Greg Seiler, 32° KCCH



Lincoln Valley Installs 2023 Officers



Nick Furchert, 32°, Venerable Master for the Lincoln Valley Lodge of Perfection

On January 24, 2023, Don Albrecht, 32° KCCH served as Installing Master for the 2023 Officers for the Lincoln Valley, installing Nick Furchert, 32° as Venerable Master for the Lodge of Perfection, Edward Boone, 32° as Eminent Commander for the Council of Kadosh, Gary Olsen, 32° as Wise Master for the Chapter of Rose Croix, and Andrew Seachord, 32° as Venerable Master of Kadosh for the Lincoln Consistory. Justin Williamson, 32° was installed as Knight Master for the Knights of St. Andrew.

Speaking for the 2023 Officers, Venerable Master Nick Furchert spoke about his goals for the coming year. The year will be about rejuvenating the Valley by building a solid foundation for the Scottish Rite events, which members have anticipated and supported for years - the Robert Burns Dinner, Remembrance and Renewal, the Feast of Tishri, the Walk for RiteCare, a Table Lodge, the Christmas Banquet. Nick will be calling on all the officers of each line to support these events, rather than just anticipating the General Secretary will arrange them, building up an expectation that junior officers will be involved, engaged, and knowledgeable by the time they are Master of their line.

Nick Furchert was raised a Master Mason in Cotner Lodge #297 in April, 2014, and has served as an officer. He is currently Senior Deacon at Lancaster Lodge #54. He joined the Scottish Rite in November, 2015, and has been active as a Line Officer, Knight Master for the Knights of St. Andrew (2020 - 2022), and volunteer around the Valley and at numerous Scottish Rite events.

Justin Williamson Elected Knight Master for Lincoln Knights of St. Andrew

On January 4, 2023, Justin Williamson, 32° was installed as Knight Master for the Lincoln Scottish Rite for the 2023 Masonic year, as well as Junior Warden for the Lodge of Perfection. Justin joined the Scottish Rite in September 2020. Justin has been a Mason since 2008 when he was raised at Gus Garrison #1273 in Winnsboro, Texas. He is a Past Master of Liberty #300 in Lincoln, and he is active in other Appendant bodies, including York Rite, OES Myrtle #94, Sesostris Shrine, and the Grand College of Rites.



“My goal for the Knights of St. Andrew this year is to continue our exceptional tradition of service to the Lincoln Valley,” he said. “The entire principle of the KSA is to be of service where needed. Whether it’s providing support to Valley events, hosting our signature Robert Burns Night, or assisting with Reunions, the KSA is vital to the operation of the Lincoln Valley. It’s also important to be a visible part of our Masonic community, to encourage Master Masons to see what the Scottish Rite has to offer, and to encourage Scottish Rite Masons to become an active and participative member of their Valley.”

Nick thanked Mike Gray, 33° for his leadership as Personal Representative and Cody Carlow, 32° KCCH for his year as Venerable Master, and spoke on his goal for the coming year as consistency and community. “I plan on making the Scottish Rite more accessible to our members, and the community as a whole. This will include an Open Night at the ‘Rite for members and guests, and the building will be open for anything - Master Craftsman program, for our Order of DeMolay members, for members and guests to shoot pool or play cards, practice Degrees, or have a Board or business meeting. I am tasking the other Lodges to create programs and events for our Valley. And I want to remind our long-time and new members that this is not just a place we come to once a month for a meeting, but a place where people come to grow and learn what it means to be a Mason.”



Our Elves join Mo Krishna, 32° to present an award.

SCOTTISH RITE CHRISTMAS BANQUET

The Scottish Rite December Christmas Banquet is always a hilarious evening, and an evening not to miss.

The evening began with egg nog and cocktails in the lounge, and guests enjoyed an incredible steak dinner served by Ford Catering. Chris Carter, 32° KCCH was our Head Elf for the evening - or rather, our Master of Ceremonies. The 2003 movie "Elf," starring Will Ferrell, James Caan, and Zoey Deschanel, was the inspiration for the evening.



Master Ceremonies, Chris (the Majek Elf) Carter, 32° KCCH

Ron Stites, 33° was presented with the Ambassador Award, recognizing his attendance, active participation, mentoring new members, and being a true representative of the Masonic mission of 'Making Good Men Better.'

Lodge of Perfection officers presented awards throughout the evening. By vote of the Line Officer's Guild, Mike Precella, 32° KCCH, Master of Kadosh for the Omaha Consistory, and his 2022 officers



Schadd Gray, 32° KCCH receives the Tyler's Sword from Gary Unger, 33°

were presented the Line Officers of the Year Award, recognizing leadership in the Omaha Valley throughout the year.

During the year, Mike Precella led "A Time for Change," a fundraiser where Officers would donate spare change in mason jars throughout the year. At the end of the year, A Time for Change raised \$2,000. Mike joined RiteCare Director Dr. Jessica Gormley and Speech-Language Pathologist Korey Stading, presenting a check for \$2,000 which will purchase iPads for the RiteCare Clinic at the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute. Members purchased raffle tickets, allowing them to guess the amount raised. Roger Moore, 32° won the raffle, guessing within \$20 the \$2,014 raised, and was presented with \$50 for the winning guess.

Several months ago, the House of the Temple in Washington, D.C. commissioned New London Regalia to craft a sword for the Supreme Council's Grand



Lisa and Roger Moore, 32° sit with Santa Claus

Tyler, used during Supreme Council sessions. A limited number of these swords were made, and an anonymous Brother purchased one of the Tyler's sword for the Valley of Omaha Scottish Rite. Gary Unger, 33°, Major Gift Officer for the House of the Temple, presented the Tyler's Sword to Schadd Gray, 32° KCCH, Personal Representative to the Deputy. The sword will eventually be displayed at the Omaha Scottish Rite.

As he has for many years, Steven Barchus, 33° trades his shirt and tie and desk at the Masonic Home in Plattsmouth for Santa's red suit. Steve sat for pictures with members, their ladies, and families - always a favorite part of the December Christmas banquet. Steve has made kids smile as Santa for several years, and donates his Santa earnings to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Nebraska.

With so many laughs and a great dinner, the Christmas Banquet is always well-attended and never one to miss. John Hardy, 32° KCCH, 2023 Venerable Master for the Lodge of Perfection, is already working on the 2023 Banquet, which draws on the 1954 movie "White Christmas," and will honor our veterans.

UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute Adaptive Toys Program Keeps Spreading Skills

by John Keenan
UNMC Strategic Communications

A group of 10 families, as well as volunteers from the Munroe-Meyer Institute, gathered at the Munroe-Meyer Guild Institute in early December, all hoping to make the holidays brighter for young family members with disabilities.

Organized by MMI's Monica Pleiss and Korey Stading and led by Jamie Gehringer, PhD, the event helped families adapt toys so that they could be activated via a switch component, making them accessible for children with mobility or movement challenges. Parents who enrolled in the course were given the option to adapt one of two toys, a bubble machine or a drum that lights up and plays music.



Boy Scouts help adapt toys for children with disabilities

Rabe said the event was a perfect showcase for why the guild works so hard to raise money for MMI projects.

"This simple, innovative method not only enhances play time for these children, but the play increases learning and cognitive function," Rabe said. "I am especially excited that the parents were given the tools to adapt future toys, so the effect of this grant will continue to blossom far beyond the initial funding."

"This event would not have been possible without the support of the Munroe-Meyer Guild," Dr. Gehringer said. "We are thankful for their support, which has been the foundation of the whole toy adaptation project."



A child's job is to play, but if they have motor limitations that make it hard to hold or move toys, then this is difficult. Switch adapted toys give them the opportunity to play independently. Play also helps to develop cognitive skills and interests or preferences for different activities. This is important in the development of communication as well. The switches provide practice in cause and effect, which is the initial building block for communication.

~Korey Stading, M.S. (RiteCare Speech Pathologist)

The evening was funded through a grant by the Munroe-Meyer Guild. Families were provided their own tool kits to use throughout the course and to take home with their newly adapted toy and switch. MMI lab technician Ryan Thomas assisted as Dr. Gehringer provided step-by-step instructions to the families on how to disassemble, rewire and add a switch mechanism to the toys so that they could be played with by pushing a large, adaptive button.

The goal, Dr. Gehringer agreed, "is that parents will be able to crack open a toy, any toy they get, and make adaptations as needed."

MMI has been adapting toys for about nine months with the help of the Munroe-Meyer Guild grant Pleiss was awarded, Dr. Gehringer said.

"We've adapted about 30 toys so far, and tonight we adapted 10 more," Dr. Gehringer said. "Our goal for the year is to adapt 50 total, and we have an event we're scheduling for October with a local Boy Scout troop that should put us over that mark." In addition to teaching parents to adapt toys, MMI will create a library of the adaptive toys to loan to client families, as well. In addition to teaching parents to adapt toys, MMI will create a library of the adaptive toys to loan to client families, as well.

"Adaptive toys bought from specialized therapy catalogs can sell for three to five times the cost of the actual toy," Pleiss said. "This program is making it easier for children to play – and after all, that's their job."

Munroe-Meyer Guild President Luann



"Adaptive toys help children develop interests and preferences, which provides them with something they want to communicate about. Developing this motivation is crucial in communication development," says Korey Stading.



Omaha Valley Installs 2023 Officers

The Valley of Omaha installed the 2023 officers on Monday, January 17th. Paul Rutherford, 33° served as Installing Master, with Frank Kroupa, 33° as Installing Marshal and Jim Parks, Sr., 33° as Installing Chaplain.

John Hardy, 32° KCCH was installed as Venerable Master for the Lodge of Perfection; James Hirl, 32° was installed Wise Master for the Chapter of Rose Croix; Matt Schell, 32° was installed as Eminent Commander for the Council of Kadosh; Carl Simmons, 32° was in

stalled as Venerable Master of Kadosh for the Omaha Consistory; Steven Zimmerman, 32° was installed as Venerable Master for the Knights of St. Andrew. In addition, new Cathedral Board and Scottish Rite Foundation of Omaha officers were installed as well.

After the Installation, Dan Wellendorf, 33°, Deputy to the

Supreme Council for Nebraska, recognized Richard L. Corwine, 33°, who has served as Almoner for the Omaha Valley for more than 20 years. In the past year alone, the Almoner's fund gave more than \$3,200 to those in need; in his 20 years as Almoner, Dick has helped countless people with donations, all given entirely anonymously, with no expectation of thanks or repayment - the true definition of charity. Donations might be for someone not able to meet their monthly utilities bill or for an airplane ticket to visit a sibling in hospice care.



Dan Wellendorf, 33° recognizes Dick Corwine, 33° for his long service as Almoner



Venerable Master of Kadosh Carl Simmons, 32° and the Consistory Officers

After the Installation, members enjoyed a great roast beef dinner. Venerable Master John Hardy emceed the banquet, and told members his goals for the year included encouraging Brethren to be more visible, being engaged in the community, Blue Lodges and activities, to better promote Freemasonry.

Membership, *continued*

If we are to use this post-Covid world to our advantage, Masons need to start being clear about our values, our mission, and our vision. We need to understand what we are truly about, rather than spout well-worn aphorisms like "2B1, Ask 1" or "Making good men better." Second, we need to use this time to figure out how we engage our members throughout the "lifecycle" of membership. A Lodge game night or pub crawl might appeal to a 20-something Mason but maybe not a 60-year Mason. In other words, how do we make our membership rewarding to the 30-year Mason as much as the 1-year Mason or 50-year Mason?

Some Lodges offer book clubs for members or a book club specifically for their ladies. Other Lodges arrange



A Lodge hosted a Christmas party, with many families attending. The Lodge is a place of community, not just where Masons meet.

a social event, perhaps as simple as going out to dinner as a group - those are the Lodges I want to be part of!

Social media is always a powerful tool, as long as the metric isn't reduced to the number of "likes" or "followers" on a post. The value is in creating that sense of community among members, rather than

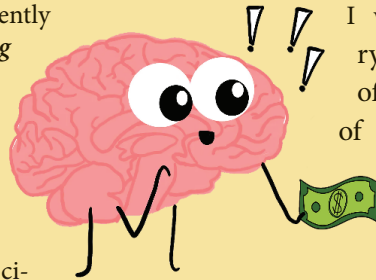
mindless posts. In short, communication must provide content and education that is of value to members.

Finally, we have an opportunity to reshape the environment of a Lodge meeting. Is a Lodge simply doing a "greet, meet, and repeat" evening month after month, or are we looking at sit-down dinners, followed by a meeting that engages members with interesting education, giving all members that opportunity to present? Or is it just listening to the Lodge blow-hard give a pedantic presentation on esoteric symbology? If members aren't motivated through meaningful engagement, be it a dinner, fellowship, ritual or Degree work, or simply through a fun business meeting, we're squandering a rare opportunity.

Giving the Gift of VOICE

... continued from page 1

Research has consistently shown that *volunteering has a significant relationship toward health*, including lower blood pressure while reducing the production of cortisol, the body's stress hormone, which is associated with a variety of health issues.



I wrote "Freemasonry seems to be one of the last vestiges of the shared community." These connections with life-changing Masonic philanthropies strengthens our communities!

Giving leads to longevity - whether it is volunteering or simply helping a Brother move or paint. One study showed that those who volunteered were 44% less likely to die over a five-year period as opposed to non-volunteers, even factoring in negative health habits or exercise habits.

Giving improves your mood. When people give to charity, the part of the brain associated with pleasure is activated. Some scientists call this a "helper's high," because of the positive endorphins produced by the brain.

But most importantly, *giving helps the community.* Whether it is helping Nebraska children with speech therapy services, or the Shriners' commitment to children, or your Lodge's scholarship fund, you are making a positive impact on the community.

In the membership column on page 1,

Each year, the Omaha Scottish Rite hears from University of Nebraska at Omaha students, who tell us year after year that our Scottish Rite scholarships have given them freedom from worrying about how to pay for college so they can concentrate on excelling. To see the extraordinary scope of work within the Honor Students' capstone projects, it truly confirms our investment in these students is money well-spent. I promise you, there is a dopamine rush when I see the caliber of students our scholarships support - or for that matter, the distinguished educators we support in Hastings and Lincoln, or the families who can finally communicate with their children.

I can't promise that your philanthropy will prolong your life, but you will have a significant impact in improving our community. However you choose to give back, please consider your Scottish Rite Valley as part of your annual giving or estate plan.

SCOTTISH RITE JOURNAL
OF FREEMASONRY ♦ SOUTHERN JURISDICTION ♦ USA

“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 May-June, 2023 Scottish Rite Journal must be received no later than mid-April for consideration.)

Micah I. Evans, 33°

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SGIG Circle Donors (\$300+) to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Nebraska: Sept. 1, 2022 - Sept. 30, 2023

<i>Name</i>	<i>Valley</i>
Ken Beebe.....	Lincoln
Charles Bukin.....	Lincoln
William Cook, Jr.....	Lincoln
Peter Hartwig.....	Lincoln
Ben Harvey.....	Omaha
James Heinke.....	Lincoln
Gene Hokom.....	Hastings
Mel Morton.....	Omaha
Terry Nelson.....	Omaha
Robert Pelletier.....	Omaha
Ward Reesman.....	Lincoln
Michael Roe.....	Lincoln
Carl Simmons.....	Omaha
Ronald Stites.....	Omaha
Michael Stuhr.....	Omaha
William Workman.....	Lincoln

Thanks to the generosity of Scottish Rite Masons, RiteCare children receive all the speech therapy they need, without regard to a family's ability to pay. SGIG Circle donors have pledged \$300 or more toward speech therapy for the year. **Please consider a donation or pledge and make a significant impact on our ability to provide exceptional speech therapy for Nebraska children.**