



# SCOTTISH RITE REPORTER

VALLEY OF EAU CLAIRE ▲ WISCONSIN ▲ MAY-JUNE 2011



Children's Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin Class

Row 1:

Hank Java 32°, Jason Berkner 32° Class Vice President, Dustin Larson 32° Class Orator, Ill. John Wm. McNaughton 33° Sovereign Grand Commander, Henry L. Gleason 32° Class President, James Hamner 32° Class Vice President, James Kelley 32°, Steven Schultz 32°

Row 2:

Joe Barlow 32°, James Parent 32°, Ill. Dale Babbitt 33° Active Emeritus, Ill. Garry Hagness 33° Active for Wisconsin, Ill. Norman Christensen 33° Deputy for Wisconsin, Ill. Michael A. DeWolf 33° PGM, Grand Secretary, Active for Wisconsin, William Bestcher 32° Senior Grand Steward, 2nd Lieutenant Commander, Ozcan Kilic 32° Sovereign Prince

Row 3:

Ill. Kingman Loomis 33° PGM, Ill. Norman B. Berg 33°, Randy Ellifson 32° 1st Lieutenant Commander, Ill. J.B. Van Hollen 33° PGM, Commander in Chief, David Larson 32°, Steven Lasure 32° Valley Treasurer, Lyle Koerner 32° Thrice Potent Master, Larry Drangsvet 32°

Row 4:

Kevin Sorenson 32°, Kevin LeQue 32°, James Trowbridge 32° Valley Secretary, Dan Hendrickson 32° Class Marshal, James Hager 32° Class Marshal, Lee Katz 32°, Ill. Rick Schnabel 33° PCIC, Director of the Work, Jerry A Roach Jr. 32° Writer, Northern Light



## Welcome The Spring Children's Dyslexia Center Of Upper Wisconsin Class

### Candidates Inspired By Degrees Are Eager To Participate In Future Reunions

The Candidates from the Valley of Eau Claire's big geographic Valley, came together on their Masonic Journey over two Saturdays to be part of the Spring Reunion. The class's diverse backgrounds are evident in that many of the new 32° Masons are eager to take up the work expressing interest in being in casts, crews and assisting in reunion hospitality. These new Sublime Prince's of the Royal Secret will be great additions to the Valley.

Read about their interests – p. 3

### Second Two Saturday Reunion Provides Inspirational Degrees & A Convenient Format

During the course of the second two Saturday Reunion over 300 Brothers, wives and friends came together to participate in or witness the degree presentations, dedication of the Dyslexia Center or partake of the Reunion hospitality. In between the opening of the Reunion and the long travel home, the Valley family joined together for ten degrees, two lunches, an evening of fellowship, and a new ladies program. The new format places an emphasis on convenience.



## Valley Schedule

### May – 2011

16 Regular Meeting –7 p.m.

### June – 2011

2 Sanctuary Lodge Visitation

20 Regular Meeting 7 p.m.

Vote on Dues Increase

### July – 2011

18 Executive Committee 7 p.m.

### August – 2011

15 Executive Committee 7 p.m.

### September – 2011

19 Regular Meeting 7 p.m.

23 Council of Deliberation – Green Bay

24 Council of Deliberation – Green Bay

25 Council of Deliberation – Green Bay

### October – 2011

8 Fall Reunion

17 Regular Meeting 7 p.m.

22 Fall Reunion – Installation of Officers

### November – 2011

21 Regular Meeting 7 p.m.

### December – 2011

19 Regular Meeting 7 p.m.

### January – 2012

14 General Valley Meeting

Officer Orientation

Officer's & Ladies Party

## From Our Files

**50 Years Ago: May 1961:** Three Representatives of Supreme Council visit Spring Class.

**40 Years Ago: May 1971:** A closed circuit TV system was purchased for the Auditorium by Wausau member Walter Leverance, 32°.

**30 Years Ago: May 1981:** The Rib Mountain Scottish Rite Club held a dinner at the Wausau VFW in honor of Harold F. Leland, 33°-MS.

**20 Years Ago: May 1991:** It was announced that the Scottish Rite Picnic would be held in Wood County near Aprin, Wisconsin.

**10 Years Ago: May-June – 2001:** No issue of the Reporter..

### Mark The Date

**Wisconsin Council of Deliberation Will Be In Green Bay – Sept. 23-25, 2011**



## Children's Dyslexia Center Of Upper Wisconsin Dedication Ceremony Held On April 16, 2011

What an occasion! The Dedication Ceremony for the Children's Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin was a huge success in every way. Thank you to everyone who shared in this exciting event and I'm sorry for those who weren't able to make it. The ceremony, led by the Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill. John William McNaughton, 33°; Commander in Chief, Ill. J. B. Van Hollen, 33°; Deputy For Wisconsin, Ill. Norman Christiansen, 33°; Active, Ill. Garry Hageness, 33°; Active Emeritus, Ill. Dale O. Babbitt, 33° and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander, Randy Ellifson, 32°; (shown above) was an amazing display of Masonic principles and values shared with the public. Sheila Thoe and Patti Ausman did a fabulous job making sure everyone felt welcomed with all their work behind the scenes with food, drinks, and information. Parents, students, tutors, and board members were present to answer questions and share their excitement and pride. It was an incredible way to share what we do here.

We are currently at capacity with students until we have additional tutors. Our next training class (which we are able to start only once a year) will begin May 21 so I invite you to get information to people who might be interested in becoming a tutor. We have a waiting list of students that can only receive services when we have tutors to teach them. We provide all the training on site and there is no cost to the tutor.

In an effort to stay ahead of our funding needs, we are planning three events that I would like to invite you to save the date for and share with others. July 23 we will be Steppin' Up FORE dyslexia at the Whitetail Golf Course in Colfax for our golf outing. October 14 we will be Steppin' Up for Dyslexia Awareness Month at our shoe themed semi-gala event at the Masonic Ballroom. December 31 we will be Steppin' Up and Out at our New Year's Eve Dinner and Ball at the Masonic Ballroom. Through these events and continued generous donations, we hope to raise money needed to support our annual operating budget of about \$100,000. The Legacy for Learning Building Campaign will continue to offer a way to complete phase 2 of the remodel which will provide a handicap accessible entrance into the Center.

If you would like more information regarding the Children's Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin please stop in, call 715-598-4986, check us out online at [www.wicdc.org](http://www.wicdc.org), or email [childrensdyslexiacenter@clearwire.net](mailto:childrensdyslexiacenter@clearwire.net).



## Commander In Chief's Corner

Brethren,

For those of you who have read my columns over the years both as Grand Master and the few I have written as Commander in Chief know that I like to write about the degree work and how we may be able to interpret it and apply it to our daily lives. I believe it is fruitful to think about the applications of Masonry to our lives. There is, however, more to the Craft and the Rite than moral and life lessons and more to leadership than a chance to share our thoughts with the membership. To be able to continue to improve men in Masonry and to share our fellowship in our beautiful old edifice we always have to keep an eye on the M&Ms, membership and money. I have always refused to dwell on either but that does not mean they can be ignored

Our membership continues to dwindle, and while that is unfortunate for too many reasons to discuss here, one of the practical effects of that membership reduction is a reduction in people paying annual dues so we can continue to meet our budget. We have some very hard working and insightful leaders in our Valley who over the last few years have done much to strengthen our financial situation such as building rental and communications towers but this alone is not enough. We must have a dues increase. At the last general meeting of the Scottish Rite in our Valley it was unanimously supported that we should ask the membership to support a dues increase of three dollars per year for each of the next three years which will ultimately result in a nine dollar increase from the third year on. In this reporter is a copy of the proposed resolution that will be voted on at our June meeting which all members are invited to attend. I encourage you all to do so and share your ideas.

In addition to the proposed dues increase, I, a life member, and the others believe it is appropriate to ask our life members if they would consider making a one time voluntary contribution of \$100 to the Valley. I know when many, including me, purchased our life memberships, we did so with at least some thought toward not having to pay future dues and there is still no requirement to do so but our calculations when we paid at the time were based on the dues at the time and when dues go up as I predict they will now, we don't have to pay more and get kind of a windfall. If we have the ability to pay our share it would be nice if we could. If not, that is understood as well, we don't keep score. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news but these few small changes will help us continue to do all the wonderful things we have been doing for so many in our Valley.

**God Bless!**  
**J.B. Van Hollen**  
**Commander In Chief**

## Attention Directors & Area Chairs The Spring 2011 Class Members Are Eager To Take Up The Work

**Jason Berkner** is a member of Lodge #263, lives in Hayward and was brought in by Kingman Loomis. Jason is interested in Registration, Stage Crew, both non-speaking and speaking degree parts and in being a Class Marshall. His phone number is 715.699.4116 with an email at Jason.Berkner@gmail.com.

**Henry Gleason** is a member of Lodge #112, lives in Eau Claire and was brought in by Larry Sturz. He is interested in Registration, Music as he plays the tuba, Hospitality and Beverage, Food/Kitchen Crew and in being a Class Marshall. His phone number is 715.835.4608 and has an email at Vicki.gleason@att.net.

**Jim Harmer** is a member of Lodge #164, lives in Menomonie and was brought in by Donald Swartz. Jim is interested in a non-speaking degree part. His phone numbers are: 715.231.1260 and cell, 715.505.0733 with email at jharmer@wwt.net.

**James Keilley** is a member of Lodge #45 and lives in LaCrosse. His phone number is 608.788.2594 with an email at jafak4@aol.com.

**Dustin Larson** is a member of Lodge #112, lives in Chippewa Falls and was brought in by Les Paulson. He is interested in Choir, Sound, Lighting, Stage Crew and a non-speaking part. His phone number is 715.379.3135 with an email at dstnlarson@yahoo.com.

**Steve Schultz** is a member of Lodge #149, lives in Durand and was brought in by Jim Trowbridge. He is interested in both non-speaking and speaking degree parts and in being a line officer and Class Marshall. His phone number is 715.672.8938 with an email at schullaw603@hotmail.com.

## 32° Black Cap Order Your Own Cap

This is the cap you have been waiting for – the 32° Black Cap of a Scottish Rite Mason. It is the latest fashion craze in the Valley. Don't miss out on this distinctive black cap with gold band. Display model in the Office! **Order yours today – Call 715.832.7759**



**High Quality Custom Made 32°  
Scottish Rite Mason Black Cap \$50**

**Optional Hat Box \$25**

## Suspensions To Be Voted On At May Meeting

There will be a vote on suspension from membership at the May 16, 2011 regular meeting for all members two or more years past due in dues payment. Please pay your dues before that date to avoid suspension. *If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact the Office at 715.832.7759*



SCOTTISH RITE  
**REPORTER**  
VALLEY OF EAU CLAIRE

May-June - 2011  
Published May 4, 2011  
Post Office Box 345  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54702-0345

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Eau Claire, WI  
Permit No. 1557

## SPOTLIGHT ON VALLEY FINANCES



### **Dues Increase To Be Considered At June 20, 2011 Meeting Life Members Requested To Contribute \$100 Each To The Life Member Fund**



In 2007 significant changes were made to Valley operations to reduce costs. As a result of those changes and in reduction of building assessments, the Valley has operated in the black for the past four years. In this fiscal year, the Valley has continued to reduce operating costs over the prior year, however, it is unlikely that the Valley will be able to operate without a deficit for the current fiscal year. The reason for this is declining dues revenues due to deaths, demits and suspensions.

Valley dues have not increased since 2001. Inflation results in \$1 in 2001 being only worth 77¢ in 2011. To just stay current with inflation would mean that dues would increase by \$12.66.

At the April, 2011 Valley meeting it was approved to notice to members for a vote to change the Valley Bylaws Article XII, Section I for a \$3 dues increase for each of the next three years for a total of \$9. The vote on this amendment will be at the Valley Regular Meeting on June 20, 2011 at 7 p.m. You may participate by telephone by calling 715.872.3063. The proposed amendment is as follows: (~~Strike through are deletions~~ and *italics are additions*):

The dues of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Eau Claire shall be ~~\$55~~ per annum *\$58 for 2011-12; \$61 for 2012-13; \$64 for 2013-14 and thereafter until modified*, for each member of any or all of the Four Constituent Bodies, payable annually on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Henceforth, any increases in assessments from the Supreme Council *or Council of Deliberation* will be automatically added to the current dues.

Additionally, general market declines in the last three years have depleted the Life Member fund so that there will only be enough principal and interest for the next three years. Therefore, in order to increase the amount of the fund, in June, 2011 all Life Members will be receiving a letter from the Valley requesting that they pay \$100 each to the Life Member Fund.