

# The Scottish Rite HERALD

News from the Valley of Kansas City



Volume 66

September 2007

Edition 3

## Congratulations to our new Sovereign Grand Inspector General

Robert W. Cockerham, 33°, was elected an Active Member of The Supreme Council, 33° of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. and Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the Orient of Missouri on August 26, 2007, in Washington, D.C. Ill. Cockerham was born May 28, 1958, and began his involvement with the Masonic family when he joined George L. Walters Chapter, Order of DeMolay. He served as Master Councilor in 1975, received the honor of Chevalier in 1976, presided as State Master Councilor of Missouri in 1978, and was honored with the Cross of Honor in 1985 and the Legion of Honor in 1986. He has given further service to DeMolay in Missouri by serving as State Ritual Director, 1979-1992; Deputy Executive Officer, 1987-1992; and Executive Officer, 2003 to present. Since 1991 he has been an Active Member of the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay; has served on the DeMolay International Foundation Board and presently serves as Grand Jun-



Robert W. Cockerham, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General

ior Councilor of DeMolay International.

In 1976 Bro. Cockerham joined Clayton Lodge No. 601, where he is a Life Member, and served as

Worshipful Master in 1987-1988 and 1995-1996. He is also Life Member of Rose Hill-Polar Star Lodge No. 79, and has served on the Jurisprudence, and Appeals & Grievance committees of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. He was appointed and served as District Deputy Grand Master in 1991. He is a member of St. Louis-Missouri Chapter No. 1, RAM, Hiram Council No. 1, Cryptic Masons, and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8, KT. He also belongs to St. Louis Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Bruce Harmon Hunt York Rite College No. 162, the Royal Order of Scotland, High Twelve, Missouri Lodge of Research, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Moolah Shriners, and many other Masonic organizations.

With his many Masonic activities, Ill. Cockerham found time to be active in the Scottish Rite. He became a 32° Master of the Royal Secret in 1977 in the Valley of St. Louis and served as Master of Kadosh in 1987. (Continued on page 4)

## The Following Brothers Were Elected for Honors.

Congratulations to all of them.

### 33°, Inspector General Honorary Elects

Joseph Ledro Bittker  
Gary J. Hanson  
David Edward Miller  
Larry Ray Moss  
Charles Marion Reed  
Roger Dale Salyer  
Billy Joe Smith  
Danny Dwight Smothers  
Carl Franklin Stanfill



New 33°, Inspectors General Honorary at the coronation ceremony in St. Louis, MO.

### Knights Commander of the Court of Honour Elects

Mitchell Bryan Cross  
Ronald Charles Hewitt  
Hulen Homan Luetjen  
William Maurice McCain  
Stewart Lee Middleton  
Roger Arnold Richards  
William Gene Snyder  
James Harry Snyder  
Thomas Leroy Truman

The KCCH Investiture will be on Wednesday, October 24th at 8:00 PM in the Temple Auditorium.

# WHAT ARE THE LESSONS WE RECEIVE FROM SCOTTISH RITE?

By BERNARD J. MEISTER, 32°

As I get farther and farther into the workings of the Scottish Rite, a very reoccurring series of questions is about the subject of membership. How to gain membership, the meaning of membership, what are we giving or not giving enough of to the members, are we communicating to the members the news of the valley or the lessons of the degrees? These questions, no matter how varied by topic, are totally related just as our concerns about the workings of the valley, state, and supreme and how they effect each of us as Scottish Rite masons. So what do we have for our members? A magnificent building? Childhood language clinic? A cool looking library? An awe-inspiring auditorium? Ultimately the answer to all of these questions comes from the same place the Scottish Rite has everything based upon: the degrees.

I cannot presume to say what the valley should, should not, could, or could not do. Even after the time that I have spent coming to meetings, reunions, and functions, I cannot be one to say how the valley is going to answer these reoccurring questions. With that being said, I can tell about my experience with the answers to these questions!  
 After I became a Scottish Rite mason, I just started showing up at the meetings, rentals, and functions. I was told that I needed to come back to the reunions, so I could get more out of the degrees, because the lessons are many and subtle. Really, the first reunion after becoming a 32°, I felt a lot more comfortable with since 1) I was not a candidate and 2) I thought I could get to see more degrees or some of the same ones over.

Well, some of that was true. You see, I had been coming to meetings and I met more brothers. With out any real ties to anything in the Rite, I saw where I could help. So I did and I met more brothers. By the time the reunion came, as brothers would see me, they would say, "What are you doing?" and I found more ways to help and I met more brothers.  
 Then I started to work in the degrees. Holy cow, that was great fun and the lessons started to work in mind and soul. Soon enough, I had a degree to coordinate, and the lessons started coming faster and my old ways struggled and fought with the new-born light, for its grip on my heart was slipping.  
 Shortly I was given the task of directing the LOP degrees. I had literally dove into

*(Continued on page 3)*

# ROBBINS RAMBLINGS

By Ill. Brother Q. C. "Tony" Robbins, 33°

Many of my Brothers and friends are aware of my interest in the "Restoration of Masonry" through Traditional Observance Lodges. Over the past year I have attended and continue to be more favorably impressed when attending several of these successful Lodges.

They seem to be the ones that keep the same values but allow themselves to find their own identity,  
 They seem to be the ones that break out of the mold and change to fit their members expectations and needs.

"If we don't deal with change we will deal with irrelevance. It is our choice."

Q C (Tony) Robbins 33\*



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**RECENTLY ELECTED 33° ATTEND CORONATION**

Kansas City shows support for attendees



Our new 33° and their guests attending the coronation in St. Louis



Over thirty people from the Valley of Kansas City attended the coronation ceremony in St. Louis. The photograph above displays how much fun and excitement there was among the attendees. Of the Valleys in Missouri, our Valley had the most attendees!



**IMPORTANT UPDATE**

The Heartland Combined Federal Campaign has changed the five digit code for our Childhood Language Disorder Clinic. The new code, valid in Kansas City and St. Joseph, is 95167. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Hickey at the Valley Office.



**SEPTEMBER 26TH  
DINNER MEETING  
MENU**

- BACK TO FAMILY NIGHT**
- DINNER WILL BE SERVED FAMILY**
- STYLE AT 7:00 P.M.**
- PORK LOIN**
- MASHED POTATO WITH GRAVY**
- MASONIC GREEN BEANS**
- TOSSED GREEN SALAD**
- JELLO DESERT**

**WHAT ARE THE LESSONS WE RECEIVE FROM SCOTTISH RITE?**

*Continued from Page 2*

the deep end of the pool and hoped I could find a life preserver (personal flotation device) before I sank. I am working to soak in all of the lessons as fast as GOD will give me the wisdom to handle them.

Now, I do not recommend diving in so deep so quick (I am a slow learner), but I do recommend diving in. There is no faster way to learn about the lessons of the degrees than being responsible for a part, or a degree, or a even a series of degrees. What is the topic of the degree? What are the lessons? How can you convey this? You see, when you become involved with a part, you shine through that part and that part shines through you. Listening to the brothers, who had a part

or a degree or a body of degrees and made them their own, tell stories or reflect on life and then seeing their part in Scottish Rite degree work---- WOW!! Understanding shines across your face, the lessons of the degrees and the Great Lights of Freemasonry transform you, and the reasons for becoming a Scottish Rite mason become clear.

What did the valley do to communicate this to you? What is the going rate on "WOW" enlightenment in this secular, mundane society? Does this increase the value of membership? So what did the valley do to give me this? Only the opportunity to work. There were no letters or phone calls. Just me showing up and saying, "HI".

**A QUICK NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

I want to take a moment to thank everyone for their kind words of praise and uplifting comments. Since I took on the job of editor, many of you have come to me with much appreciated encouragement. This is the first time I have ever put together any sort of editorial, so there has been a bit of a learning curve.

Everyone at the Valley office, Tony Robbins, Ron Hewitt, Dan Smothers, Ron Hickey, and Christy Sewing have been a great help to me, thank you all very much.

I would also like to make a special thanks to Steve Hargrave and Don Gilkerson. Without their assistance, this newsletter would not have gone to press.

Fraternally,  
Jared Hargrave, Editor

**Congratulations to our new Sovereign Grand Inspector General**  
*Continued from page 1*

He received the rank and decoration of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honor in 1989 and the 33°, Inspector General Honorary, in 2005. Bro. Cockerham earned a BFA from Webster College in 1980, an MA from the University of Missouri in 1982, and a JD from St. Louis University in 1984. He began the practice of law and soon distinguished himself in civil trial litigation and appellate advocacy. He is a Senior Principal of Brown and James, P.C., has tried more than 125 civil cases and is listed in the Top 20 Defense Verdicts in Missouri. He has authored and co-authored numerous articles and publications, together with a Treatise on Insurance Law.

Robert is married to Stacy Cockerham and they have seven children: Erika, 23, Alicia, 21, Ryan, 18, Brandon, 15, Quentin, 12, Sabrina 10, and Abigail, 7. Stacy is a Leader for Bible Study Fellowship International. Bob, Stacy and their children also regularly attend Bible Study Fellowship classes. The Cockerham Family has been most active at Manchester United Methodist Church, especially with the Youth and Leadership programs. Robert enjoys wakeskating, wakeboarding, water and snow skiing, on and off road motorcycle riding and numerous other sports. He is an avid photographer, guitar and sword collector, and amateur magician.

**CANS FOR KIDS PROGRAM**

The Board of Directors for the Childhood Language Disorders Clinic have instituted a program called "Cans For Kids" that will collect Aluminum cans for recycling to help raise funds for the local Rite Care Clinic at the Temple.

It's not only good for the environment, it's good for the Clinic and the kids too! A large box has been placed in the Dining Room of the Temple and will be decorated by the children. Save up your cans (*rinse them please*) and bring them

to the dinner meeting on the 26th of this month.

You folks who are active in the area clubs and Lodges...put out the appeal and help us fill the box!



**A Night at the Museum**  
*By Jared Hargrave, 32°*

One of the benefits of the fraternity, for me, is the fact that I have a friend and brother, anywhere in the world. I have had the good fortune to travel to England and Scotland, where I met many wonderful men.

Recently, I was required to spend a week in Detroit for my employer, by myself. It was a great time of the year to go to Detroit, the Woodward Dream Cruise was going on. I was fortunate enough to join some of our brothers in Moslem Shrine Temple's antique car club for a night on the town.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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**A Night at the Museum**

*Continued from page 4*

Having recently taken on the job of editor here, I thought it might be nice to go visit the Valley office in Detroit and come back with some information for everyone.

Unfortunately, the Valley had moved out of their historic building and were in the process of building a new one. I was directed by the Valley office to a gentleman who was active in a local lodge. Little did I know, I was in for one of the most amazing tours I have ever had.

I met brother John Snider, 33° at the Detroit Masonic Temple, the world's largest Masonic building, at 5:00 on a Wednesday evening. We parted ways at 3:00 AM, and never saw the whole building. It amazes me, after the tour, that the Shrine and Rite left this amazing building.

There is so much history and information I received that night that I could write a whole book on the amazing building, built in 1922. It was designed and built by George Mason, one of the most renowned architects in American history. The cornerstone was laid in 1926 by the same trowel that George Washington used to set the cornerstone at the capitol in Washington, D.C. .

The Temple is completely self supporting, including a power plant that could power 50,000 houses. The building is perfectly sized, in a ratio of 3:5:7,



*Scottish Rite Lobby,  
Masonic Temple of Detroit*



*Knights Templar Chapel.  
Masonic Temple of Detroit*

shaped the same as a master's gavel.

The inside of the building was not only beautiful, it was functional. The ballrooms originally held the Detroit auto show, which is no surprise, since Henry Ford was one of the notable members of Detroit Lodge #2.

The Scottish Rite theatre seats 1500 people and contains the second largest stage in the United States. The entryway, shown below, is cast in polished brass.

The building houses the York Rite, as well. The Knights Templar Asylum is a complete replica of London's Westminster Abbey. The details are so complete that the stones on the floor are beveled exactly like those of the original abbey.

During their degree work, the stage lifts up and reflects the stage two stories below, giving the illusion of the characters actually walking along the stage.

There are five blue lodge rooms, one in each of the five orders of architecture. Each lodge room contains furnishings that were originally crafted for the first lodge building. Some pieces date to the early 1800's. If you look closely, you can even see the pit in front of the Senior Warden's chair, below. For some color photos, visit the temple's website,

<http://www.themasonic.com/lodge.html>.

I would encourage everyone to see this grand building. It is the most amazing Masonic building I have ever seen. There are guided tours available from the various tourist organizations, but they will never come close to the information that a brother, with a passion for his work, will pass on.

I look forward to my next visit to Detroit. I have promised brother Snider that I would bring with me photographs of our beautiful temple in exchange for more time in their

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*Editor*

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*Treasurer*

building with my camera.

More importantly, though, will be the fellowship of my brothers in Detroit. I enjoyed watching the sun go down over the city, savoring the flavor of a cigar, sitting in Brother Henry Ford's chair, talking to my new-found friend.

*JH*



*One of the lodge room in the Detroit  
Masonic lodge building*

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE COLLEGE OF THE CONSISTORY

By Q C (Tony ) Robbins 33°, J H Yingling 33°, and Jim Nathan 33°

Brethren,

Over the past several months the local campus of the College has nearly dropped out of sight in the Valley of Kansas City, Missouri. It is now under reorganization.

The College, organized in Guthrie Oklahoma, follows a curriculum established by its founders, which will guide the student through in-depth study of the 29 degrees that make up the Scottish Rite. All Masters of The Royal Secret are invited to participate directly with the Mother Organization in Guthrie, Oklahoma or join in with the "local campus". ( your call )

The local campus of the College will resume meeting for Feast and Forums regularly. At that time the best papers will be presented to the group or a guest speaker will bring a Masonic message.

The flip side of the local College campus is the "Discussion Group" where discussions take place, weekly; on a degree to be announced each week. The purpose of this Scottish Rite organization is to assist Scottish Rite members in study, research and paper composition of each of the 29 degrees. Once a month ( the first Sunday ) Master Masons of all Rites are invited to attend and join in for breakfast and conversation. The Scottish Rite first three degrees as written by Albert Pike in *Morals and Dogma*, which are substantially different than the York Rite, will provide the topics.

Most likely you will want to start or add to your own personal library. Listed below are books recommended which will assist you in your studies.

### Morals and Dogma

By Albert Pike, 33°, Past Sol. Grand Commander

### A Bridge To Light

By Rex Hutchens, 33° Grand Cross

### A glossary To Morals and Dogma

By Rex Hutchens

### Vested in Glory

By Jim Tresner, 33° Grand Cross

### Masonic Books Online

The Lost Keys of Freemasonry or The Secret of Hiram Abiff, by Manly P. Hall  
[http://altreligion.about.com/library/texts/bl\\_lostkeys.htm](http://altreligion.about.com/library/texts/bl_lostkeys.htm)

THE SECRET TEACHINGS OF ALL AGES, by Manly P. Hall <http://www.sacred-texts.com/eso/sta/index.htm>

*The Builders* by Joseph Fort Newton [1914]

One of the most readable introductions to Masonic history and philosophy, including (for once) a factual account of how Freemasonry emerged in the 18th century.  
<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/bui/index.htm>

*Morals and Dogma* by Albert Pike [1871]

Albert Pikes' *magnum opus*; a advanced textbook of the esoteric basis of Freemasonry.  
<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/md/index.htm>



*The Symbolism of Freemasonry* by Albert G. Mackey [1882]

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/sof/index.htm>

*The Meaning of Masonry* by W. L. Wilmshurst [1922]

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/mom/index.htm>

*Devil Worship in France* by A.E. Waite [1882]

Waite debunks the notorious Taxil hoax which falsely accused Freemasons of worshipping the Devil.

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/evil/dwf/index.htm>

*The Dionysian Artificers* by Hippolyto Joseph da Costa [1820]

An essay by one of the pioneers of Freemasonry on an important ancient mystery religion.

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/cla/dart/index.htm>

*The Official Monitor of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, State of Texas* [1922]

Details of important Masonic rituals, including initiations for the first three degrees, installation of a lodge, and a Masonic burial service.

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/omtx/index.htm>

*Duncan's Masonic Ritual and Monitor* by Malcolm C. Duncan [1866]

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/dun/index.htm>

## Missouri State Fair Awards Bill Wallace

The Scottish Rite was recognized this year at the Missouri State Fair, thanks to Brother Bill Wallace.

Bill, who has a love for wood carving, entered a carving of the Scottish Rite Temple in this years contest and won the Blue Ribbon, "First Premium".

Thank you, Bill, and Congratulations!



Bill Wallace with his award-winning carving of the Scottish Rite Temple

### DID YOU KNOW?

Each issue of the Herald costs between \$1,600 and \$1,800 to print and mail.

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See our rate chart on page 4



SCOTTISH RITE CLUB HOSTS MASONIC HOME RESIDENTS

On Wednesday, July 18, members of The Sedalia Scottish Rite Club/Sedalia Lodge No. 236 A.F & A.M. and their wives hosted a luncheon at Ryan's Family Steakhouse in Sedalia for residents of the Masonic Home of Missouri (MHM) in Kansas City . Bev Lentz, Activities Director of MHM was in charge of the group consisting of Martha Crowder, Margaret Siler, Olive Christian, Eunice Mainard, Pearl Helman, Fran Williamson, John Arterburn, Lloyd Shepherd, and Bob Holder. Residents were joined for lunch by Rhonda Chalfant, History Columnist and Past President of the Pettis County Historical Society who afterward conducted a bus tour of historical downtown Sedalia with a stop at the Pettis County Museum .

Representing the Scottish Rite Club were President John McCormack, 32° , and his wife Sandee; Secretary Jim Duzan, 33° ; Treasurer Bob Weikal, 32° KCCH; Past Chaplain David Miller, 33° Elect and his wife Alyce; and Past President H. H. Luetjen, 32° KCCH Elect and his wife Marilyn.



**Seated, L to R,** (all from MHM) - John Arterburn, Martha Crowder, Lloyd Shepherd, Margaret Siler, and Olive Christian.

**Standing, L to R,** and their affiliation: H. H. "Luge" Luetjen (S/R), Marilyn Luetjen (S/R), Jim Duzan (S/R), Alyce Miller (S/R), David Miller (S/R), Eunice Mainard (MHM), John McCormack (S/R), Bob Weikal (S/R), Bob Holder (MHM), Pearl Helman (MHM), Bev Lentz (MHM), Fran Williamson (MHM), and Sandee McCormack (S/R).

DUCKS PICNIC A GREAT SUCCESS

Chilton Christopher's home may never be the same after a flight of over 30 Ducks and Ladies landed on the farm Sunday afternoon for the annual Ducks Picnic. Flight Commander Stan Carmack declared the area a safe haven for water fowl of like mind and the lay over for food and friendship was at it's best! A big Thank you to Chilton and his lady for their hospitality, to Bill Dean and his

team for cooking up a storm and everyone who attended! For those of you that missed it... **mark your calendars for next year.**



~ IN MEMORIUM ~

The following brothers have been called by the Supreme Architect of the Universe since our last Herald.

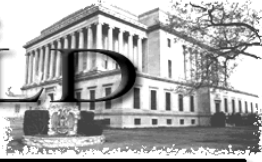


- WILLIAM M BAILEY
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- RICHARD BERGEN
- JACK L CLARK
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- ALEXANDER C HAMLIN SR
- EMIL A HOLK

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