



## MINNEAPOLIS VALLEY SUN

*In a free country, human speech must be free.*

Desk of the Editor  
Message from the Personal Representative

Ritual Corner  
Education Committee

September October 2020

### TRANSITION TO DIGITAL

If you already receive the Scottish Rite E-News in your e-mail, then you should have received an 8-page, digital edition of the SUN with articles. Otherwise, you may have noticed this same 8-pager on Social Media or the Minnesota Scottish Rite website. **Starting with this issue, we are transitioning to a digital SUN newsletter and will only offer a print version upon request.** This decision was made by the Communications Committee to further our commitment to supply a more serviceable, accessible newsletter and due to the cost of publishing the SUN.

Print limits the accessibility of the

SUN by forcing it to adhere to the constraints of the medium. We already consume much of our information through digital platforms. By eventually ending the print version, we can focus on making the SUN comfortable to read on your computer, iPad, or phone screen.

The July-August 2019 edition of the SUN revealed a more vibrant and graphic newsletter that captured the interest of our Brethren. On average, the SUN costs thousands of dollars annually to publish and mail to our membership. By transitioning to a digital newsletter, we can reduce the cost of publication and allocate those thousands of dollars elsewhere.

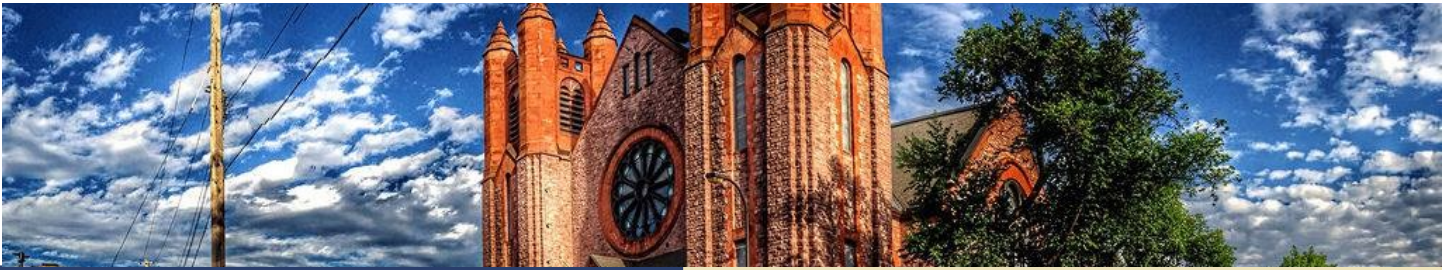
For now, the SUN will continue to be in a format suitable for print, but you will need to request a print copy.

**If you would like to continue to receive a PRINT version of the newsletter, you must call the office at 612-871-1500 by Monday October 5, 2020.**

If you are regularly receiving the Scottish Rite E-News, then you are already on the mailing list for the digital subscription.

Sincerely,

Mark Prewett, 32° M.:R.:S.:  
Editor for the SUN



## BRETHREN LOST AS OF AUGUST 2020

Kenneth H. Anderson  
Marlie D. Barlow  
William B. Brellenthin  
Herman L. Hasselbring  
Larry L. Warren



FROM THE DESK OF  
MARK EVAN PREWETT, 32° MRS  
EDITOR FOR THE SUN

**W**e at the SUN Newsletter are hoping that all of you are safe and healthy during these uncertain times. Right now, the education committee has been putting on weekly webinars on instructive topics relevant to our Valley. If you have not done so, make sure to check your e-mail for a registration link to attend these illuminating events!

We are all set to begin the Fall Reunion on October 22, and make sure to read further into this newsletter to learn about exciting news regarding our Valley!

## MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

**I** have great news to share with you about our Valley.

Because of the COVID-19 risk to the safety of our Brethren, our Minneapolis Valley made a difficult decision in early July to suspend our Fall 2020 Degrees that were scheduled to commence on August 20th. As a substitute for our traditional Thursday night Scottish Rite gatherings, our Valley Education Committee initiated a weekly Scottish Rite education webinar series using the Zoom meeting platform. Different topics of Masonic and Scottish Rite interest have been selected by the committee and different presenters are scheduled each week. Our desire is to maintain engagement with our Brethren as we weather the uncertainties of the pandemic.

Forty-six brethren registered for the inaugural education program on August 20th and 31 Brethren were in attendance. By all accounts it was a wonderful and enlightening kick-off to the webinar series. Video of the previous webinar sessions will be available on our web site.

This Thursday, August 27th our Education Committee will be presenting a discussion on the History of the Minneapolis Valley. The presenter this week – Brother Charles Beekman III, 32° has a unique perspective on our Valley, even though he has been a Scottish Rite Mason for only 2 ½ years. Bro. Charles is the Great Great Great Grandson of Minnesota SGIG Samuel Emery Adams who served on our Supreme Council from October 1886 until his death in March of

1912. It should be an interesting presentation.

I encourage you to join in on the webinars and stay in touch with your Scottish Rite Brethren.

And there is more ...

After lengthily discussions and planning we have set in place a Minneapolis Valley Special Reunion this Fall. For the Reunion, our degree teams will present the 4th, 14th, 18th 30th and 32nd Degrees – as we typically do for a Valley Reunion.

**Continued on page 3**



OCTOBER 22ND THROUGH NOVEMBER 14TH

PETITION  
FEE

\$100

DEGREE  
FEE

\$295



MINNEAPOLIS VALLEY ANCIENT  
AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

BECOME A 32°  
MASTER OF THE  
ROYAL SECRET!

EXPERIENCE THE MAJESTY OF THE  
4TH, 14TH, 18TH, 30TH & 32ND DEGREES

JOIN THE QUEST  
FOR MORE LIGHT

# 2020 FALL REUNION

SCOTTISH-RITE-MN.ORG/  
MINNEAPOLIS-VALLEY/EVENT-CALENDAR/  
FALL-REUNION-2020

 DETAILS

PETITION & R.S.V.P. BY OCT. 16, 2020

JACKIE@AASRMN.ORG | 612.871.1500





Brother Peter Tomlinson, 32° KCCH in the Provost and Judge degree with one of the Valley's hand-painted backdrops.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE CONT'D

To accommodate the COVID-19 restrictions, the Reunion degrees this Fall will be presented one per night, each Thursday beginning on October 22 and concluding on Thursday, November 12th with the 32nd Degree set for Saturday, November 14th. To emphasize the importance of education for our candidates as they journey into Scottish Rite Masonry, our Education Committee will complement the degree nights with in-depth education sessions that will be open to all in attendance.

We already have 5 petitions for our degrees and are looking forward to completing the 30th and 32nd Degrees for our 15 candidates whose degree cycle was interrupted by COVID gathering restrictions in the Spring. More petitions are needed, so please reach out to that Master Mason in your Blue Lodge, at work or at church and encourage him to start his journey in Scottish Rite Masonry with the Minneapolis Valley this Fall.

More details and detailed schedules for the Degree nights will be available soon. Please know that for the Fall Special Reunion, we will comply with our Grand Lodge COVID-

19 meeting edicts, meaning that, among several other requirements, facemasks will be required and social distancing will be implemented in our building.

And finally, there is one more thing ...

In 2016 we took the action to restrict the use of the historic stage in our auditorium because of safety concerns with the stage drops and specifically with the rigging that moves and supports our scenic backdrops. We have grown to accept the limitations imposed on our dramatic degrees with no stage drops to aid in the visual appeal of our Masonic lessons.

But this limitation will soon come to an end.

Late last year our Building and Museum Foundation launched a fundraising campaign to restore our stage and through the generosity of our Brethren, we have raised over \$291,000 in contributions. Additional planned giving donations are adding another \$1,000 per month into our Foundation.

After careful review we have selected a contractor to replace our stage rigging and return our stage to its

glory and magnificence. We have a few details to review with the vendor before we begin but we anticipate starting work on this important project within the next few weeks – with the work to be completed before year end.

But the real important work remains – our Building and Museum Foundation has several other projects in mind to help us fully utilize our historic Masonic Center for years to come. And donations are still needed to help us achieve our important goals. Please consider a donation to our – to your Building and Museum Foundation.

Fraternally,

David Kampf, 33° I.:G.:H.:  
Personal Representative





ANCIENT & ACCEPTED  
SCOTTISH RITE  
OF FREEMASONRY  
MINNEAPOLIS VALLEY



Presents a Webinar Education Series

*Rite Night is Education Night!*

August 27,2020 6:30 PM	History of the Minneapolis Scottish Rite Valley by Charley B
September 3,2020 6:30 PM	Introduction to Hermeticism by Tracy A
September 10,2020 6:30 PM	Introduction to Kabbalah in Freemasonry by Gene M
September 17,2020 6:30 PM	Introduction to Sacred Geometry by Hans N
September 24,2020 6:30 PM	Alchemical Symbolism in the Blue Lodge by Brian C
October 1,2020 6:30 PM	The Book of the Dead by Bill R
October 8,2020 6:30 PM	What About The 3rd Eye? by Hans N
October 15,2020 6:30 PM	Enoch by Bill R

Go to <https://scottish-rite-mn.org/minneapolis-valley/webinar-education-series> to registration.



Grand Lodge of Minnesota  
Webinar Series

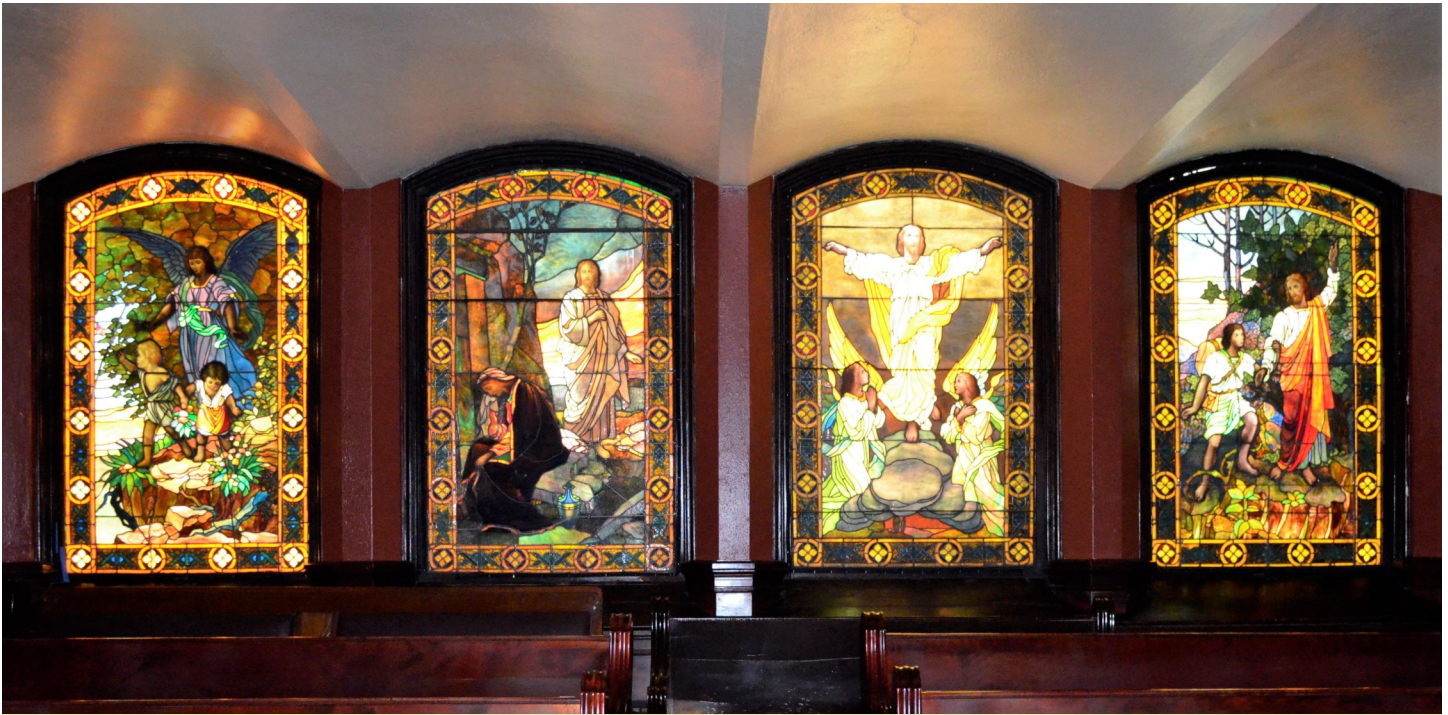
Ongoing weekly event

Date/Time	Topic	Present-By	Duration
9/2/2020 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Fundraising: Beyond the pancake breakfast (Encore Presentation)</a>	WB Brad Phelps	20 Mins
9/9/2020 7:00 PM	<a href="#">LEO Presentations Made Easy</a>	WB Andrew Niemyer	20 Mins
9/16/2020 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Freemasonry in Decline! - The Importance of Lodge Education. (Encore Presentation)</a>	Br. Hans Neisz	20 Mins
9/23/2020 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Operative Masons' Square</a>	WB Brian Smith	20 Mins
9/30/2020 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Freemasons at Gettysburg (Encore Presentation)</a>	WB Andrew Niemyer	20 Mins
10/7/2020 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Interesting Math Problems</a>	WB Brian Smith	20 Mins

Seats are limited to the first 100 people.

Goto <https://www.mn-masons.org/webinars/> to register





Some of the stained glass in the Minneapolis Valley auditorium.

## RITUAL CORNER

**G**reetings Scottish Rite Brethren,  
As you know, the Fall 2020 Class has been cancelled. However, a Scottish Rite Reunion has been scheduled for October 22 through November 14. It will be great to meet again and welcome new Brethren into the Scottish Rite. Grand Lodge guidelines for meetings will be followed during the Reunion. In addition, beginning in August and through October, the Education Committee is presenting the Scottish Rite Online classes. They have been a great success. [Watch the Scottish Rite E-News](#) for dates, times, and links to Zoom meetings. And be sure to watch the E-News for information about the Scottish Rite Re-

union.

As we cannot meet in person yet, you can still study the Scottish Rite degrees in [Bridge to Light](#) and [Morals and Dogma](#). Let us look into the teachings of one of my favorite degrees, the 20th degree – Master of the Symbolic Lodge. In this degree we learn about the nine Great Lights of a Master, which are Veneration, Charity, Generosity, Heroism, Honor, Patriotism, Justice, Toleration, and Truth.

The duties we learn in this degree are to dispense light and knowledge, and to practice the Masonic virtues of the nine Great Lights both inside and outside of the Lodge. The lessons we learn are that Truth, Justice, and Toleration are indispensable qualities for the

Master of the Lodge, and that example is the best trenching method known. We also learn that the Master of the Lodge must not preside in a haughty or arbitrary manner, but with gentleness, urbanity, and courtesy.

The nine Great Lights of a Master each have a powerful message for us and for all Masons. These lights, if practiced in the world, will help create a wonderful place in which to live. I look forward to the time when we can meet again in person for Fellowship and Fun.

Lee E. Kielblock, 33° I.:G.:H.:  
Ritual Director, Minneapolis Valley





## DISASTER RELIEF

**A**s you know, Hurricane Laura left a path of destruction in parts of the Southern Jurisdiction. Inspector Mike Wiggins, 33°, has indicated damage in Texas was much more modest than the impact in neighboring Louisiana. Inspector Richard Smith, 33°, of Louisiana advises “Each day we are making progress toward recovery, but it is slow and difficult.”

Louisiana took a direct hit. Utilities will likely be out for weeks and many homes are not habitable. This damage and the resulting suffering are simply historic in scope.

For this reason, based upon the recommendation of Grand Almoner Len Proden, 33°, and with the concurrence of the Benevolence and Fraternal Assistance Committee, we are providing \$10,000 from the Scottish Rite Foundation to support disaster relief in the Orient of Louisiana.

Additionally, we will create the ability to make online gifts designated for this relief effort through our website. Our \$10,000 gift and all tax deductible gifts received through the website will be sent to the Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation, which will be in the best position to cover the actual needs.

Please make checks payable to the **Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation**. All financial contributions should be mailed to:

**Ill. Gary L. Gribble, 33° , Executive Director**  
**Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation**  
**P O Box 64**  
**Shreveport, LA 71161-0064**

**Should anyone consider donating relief supplies, the following Brethren are serving as the coordinators for such in-kind donations:**

**Ill. Harry C. Northrop, III, 33° , IGH, cell (337) 304-2554**  
**Hon. Kirby O. Vinson, 32° , KCCH, cell (337) 532-0285**

Bottled water, non-perishable food, cleaning supplies, generators, no-ethanol gasoline to run generators and dehumidifiers are a few of the items needed immediately.

Fraternally,

James D. Cole, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander  
Supreme Council, 33° | Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, USA  
1733 16th St NW | Washington, DC 20009-3103  
Direct: 202-777-3135 | Office: 202-232-3579 | [www.scottishrite.org](http://www.scottishrite.org)





The education room of Minneapolis Valley.

## EDUCATING THE BRETHREN

**A**s the new Head of Education at the Minneapolis Valley let me take a moment to say “hello” and introduce you to what the committee has been working on.

For those who do not know me, I am a Past Master and current secretary of Arcana Lodge #187, as well as a member of the Minneapolis Valley. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the chair of the committee became vacant and I was asked to take on the leadership position, which I accepted. While it was a big responsibility, this talented team of highly capable brothers eased my transition into the role.

As some may be aware, the committee has been busy over the last

couple of years, expanding and modernizing our educational offerings. The candidate education experience has been expanded with the addition of a breakdown of the principal themes and lessons within each degree. The lectures are presented in an interactive way, leveraging visual aids, and emphasizing the applicability to daily life. Small-table group discussions enable the candidates to explore the practical and philosophical points of the degrees. The lessons and information discussed ranges from the earthly to the esoteric. If you have not visited the educational sessions of the degrees in a while, I highly suggest you come participate and discover some new insights you might not have been aware of.

Most importantly though, especially for those not wanting to gather in groups, we are putting on a weekly online education seminar every Thursday at 6:30pm until the fall reunion class starts on October 22. Topics include Hermeticism, the Kabbalah, sacred geometry and more. We as a committee thought it was important to cover these broad overarching subjects found in the degrees of Scottish Rite masonry that class time does not permit us to cover in sufficient depth. The list of seminars, how to register and an archive of past presentations can be found at the link below.

Thank you!

M. Justin Thompson, 32° M.:R.:S.:  
Education Committee