



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF  
THE ORIENT OF NORTH CAROLINA

# THE RITE NEWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA



JULY–AUGUST 2014

## WE THE PEOPLE....

by William B. Brunk, 33° SGIG in North Carolina

We're making preparations to celebrate the birth of our country, as we do most years - with fireworks, picnics, hot dogs, hamburgers, patriotic music, and a fair amount of soft drinks and beer. Americans everywhere gather in the back yard, or at the park, the beach, or wherever a bit of sunshine might help brighten the day, and enjoy a brief respite from our day-to-day trials as we thank our forefathers for what they gave us – the greatest country the world has ever known.

Have you given much thought lately as to what our country is really all about? A recent incident gave me pause to reflect and to remind myself of how fortunate we all are to live in a country whose government is based in freedom – freedom to move about, freedom to express our ideas (even the unpopular ones), freedom to engage in whatever religious activities might be best for us as individuals, and freedom to change that which needs to be changed.

I've recently retired from a career in orthodontics, but still have a deep interest in the welfare of my profession and the people whom it serves. A bill before the North Carolina Senate regarding the manner in which business interests influence the dental profession was to be considered by the Senate Committee on Health Care, and dentists were encouraged to contact the members of the Committee to voice their opinions on the matter.

After logging onto the website for the North Carolina State Legislature (ncleg.net), I was able to look up the bill, review the entire text, amendments, history of actions taken, the bill's primary and co-sponsors, and the bill's progress through both houses of the legislature. I was then able to look up the telephone numbers of the various members of the Committee on Health Care, call their offices in Raleigh, and urge them to support what I felt to be the best ac-

tion. I was able to speak directly with one of the Committee members and had a rather lengthy and productive discussion with her. She listened to my thoughts, expressed her concern over the competing opinions she had previously received, thanked me for my input, and promised to carefully consider the bill from an objective viewpoint.

Here was our legislative process, functioning as it should, with direct input from the populace, and leading to what we hope will be the enactment of a law that will benefit everyone. The process is not perfect, as it sometimes produces legislation that is neither popular nor beneficial. But it is one based on the idea that those who govern derive their power from the people, from those who are governed, and not by right of birth or usurpation. It has long been supposed that many of the ideas that our forefathers put into place derived from their Masonic affiliation (we know that many of them were members of the fraternity). This may or may not be true, but what is true is that we should be eternally thankful for what they gave us, and we should be ever vigilant to see that government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish.

Have an enjoyable Fourth of July!



## LODGE OF PERFECTION MEETINGS

Asheville, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

(Advisory Council 5:00PM, Dinner 6:30PM and Stated Meeting 7:00PM)

Charlotte, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month

(Advisory Council 5:30PM, Dinner 6:30PM and Stated Meeting 7:30PM)

Greensboro, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month

(Dinner 6:30PM & Stated Meeting 7:30PM)

New Bern, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month

(Dinner 6:30PM & Stated Meeting 7:30PM)

Raleigh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

(Dinner 6:30PM, Advisory Council 7:00PM, and Stated Meeting 7:30PM)

Wilmington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

(Advisory Council 5:30PM, Dinner 6:30PM, Stated Meeting 7:30PM)

Winston-Salem, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

(Advisory Conference 6:30 PM, KSA 6:45PM, Master Craftsman/Refreshments 7PM, Stated 7:30PM )

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

Rick Patton (Asheville)..... 828-253-9911

D. C. Heilman (Charlotte)..... 704-918-3797

Donald Kehler (Greensboro) ..... 336-275-3579

William Dill (New Bern)..... 252-638-4031

Luigi Ammons (Raleigh)..... 919-834-8873

Ace Everett (Wilmington)..... 910-762-6452

S. Ray Ashby (Winston-Salem) ..... 336-723-1217

Michael May (Raleigh), *Editor In Chief* ..... 919-481-0425

## THE VALLEY OF ASHEVILLE

**SPECIAL GUEST IN JULY-ILL. ARTURO DE HOYOS 33°**

by Ill. John M. Burchfield, 33° – Venerable Master

Coming to the Valley of Asheville July 10th will be Grand Archivist and Grand Historian of the Supreme Council, 33°, S.J., and an executive officer at the Scottish Rite's headquarters, the "House of the Temple," in Washington, D.C., Ill. Arturo de Hoyos.

He is the author, editor, and translator of more than 25 books and many articles, he's considered America's foremost scholar on the history, rituals, and symbolism of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, and most other Masonic orders, rites, and systems.

He has travelled and lectured extensively on Freemasonry, and been featured on numerous television and radio programs, including NBC Dateline's "Secrets of the Lost Symbol," CNN's "The Situation Room," ABC Nightly News,

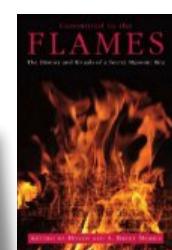
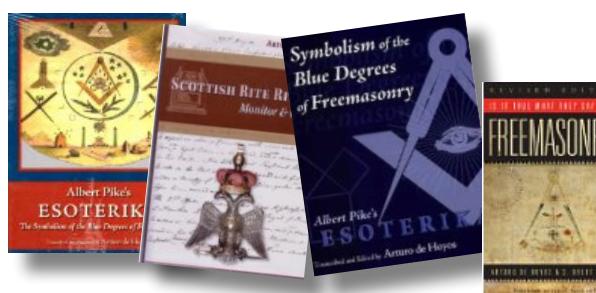


Washington D.C.'s FOX 5 News, WAMU Radio's "Metro Connection," The History Channel, The Voice of America, and he will be the Valley of Asheville's special guest at our July 10th meeting.

The Valley of Asheville meal will start at 6:15 PM with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:00 PM. This will be an open meeting so feel free to bring your friends, family and guests.

For information pertaining to the purchase of books and other publications from Arturo de Hoyos please visit the following Amazon site.

<http://www.amazon.com/Arturo-de-Hoyos/e/B0034U9HWA>



## THE VALLEY OF CHARLOTTE

**KSA SUPPORT OF MAUNDY CELEBRATION**

by William Smith, KSA – Commander

On April 18<sup>th</sup> the Knights of Saint Andrew (KSA) in the Valley of Charlotte assisted the Scottish Rite with their Maundy Thursday Celebration, which is the Christian feast, or holy day, falling on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Maundy and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles as described in the Canonical gospels. The

members of the Scottish Rite were greeted and received programs by several Knights of the KSA. During the celebration, the Scottish Rite took a moment to pay respect to the members that had been called from labor to refreshment to that celestial lodge above. A toast was made in their memory, which the Knights assisted with.



## THE VALLEY OF CHARLOTTE

**2014 ILL. WILLIAM BEN STOKES SR. SPRING REUNION**

by D. C. Heilman, 32°KCCH

On April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> the Valley of Charlotte held the 2014 Spring reunion of the Scottish Rite at the Randolph Road location. This was the 67<sup>th</sup> reunion held in this building since the first class back in October of 1979. The first class in the current facility was named the Alpha Class and saw 140 new members become brothers of the Valley of Charlotte. The 2014 Spring class was named for Ill William Ben Stokes, 33° who joined the Valley in the spring of 1954 and was called from labor in the winter of 2006.

Degree work began early on Saturday morning with the arrival of 19 candidates who were nervous but excited at the same time to begin the weekend.

The degree teams started the day by exemplifying the 4th and 5th degrees then released the candidates to the lecturer team for the lecture service of the degrees. The day progressed through the degrees until the 20th degree which was the final for the day. Saturday began with an early breakfast prepared by Chef Roberto Mendoza and back to the work at

hand culminating with the exemplification of the 32nd degree late Saturday afternoon.

It was a long two days but rewarding to see the dedication of the members who serve the valley as ritualists, learning their lines and movements to display the best possible depiction of the degree for the candidates. The support of the stage, sound, robing and sound teams always plays a critical role in the presentations and each work to hone their skills as well. The degree masters kept things moving along with their particular assignments as situations come up creating last minute changes in cast. Important too are the tiling team to insure the security of the facility and the marshal team to move people from work in the auditorium to lectures in the blue lodge and to and from meals.

At the close of the reunion on Saturday, 19 new brothers received further light in Masonry by becoming 32° Scottish Rite Masons



GENESIS GROUP PHOTOGRAPHY

## THE VALLEY OF GREENSBORO ON MY WAY HOME

by A. Gene Cobb 33° - Personal Representative



A little boy was about to pass through a cemetery at dusk when an old man asked him, "Son aren't you afraid to cut through the cemetery so close to night?" The little boy answered, "I'm just cutting through on my way home."

Many Masonic images are conjured up in such a scene. I'll leave those to your own mind's eye. Life is a wonderful time for us to enjoy the benefits of friendship, morality, and brotherly love. A Scottish Rite Reunion, a regular stated communication, a phone call, a visit, a card, even a message on Facebook, can remind us in the most tender manner of those benefits we know and enjoy in life. There is a special spirit present among us in Greensboro that I pray will encompass the whole world. Basically, it is traced to just one simple thought I learned years ago from a dear friend, who told me there are really only two kinds of people in the world: those who care and those who do not care.

True Masons care. We care to ask questions. We care to get involved. We care to be friends. We care to practice morality. We care to be brothers who love one another. We care to follow the principles of free thought and love of country. We respect one another's differences, even when it comes to religion. The really wonderful thing about caring in the Valley of Greensboro is that we not only share it in our "home" valley, but we also share it all over our "home" Orient of North Carolina. We cut through this life caring until we enter that celestial lodge above where one day with the Supreme Architect of the Universe, we will be at "home."

An old man was about to pass through a cemetery at dusk when a little boy asked him, "Sir, aren't you afraid to cut through the cemetery so close to night?" The old man answered, "I'm just cutting through on my way home."

## THE VALLEY OF NEW BERN ORIENT SUMMER WORKSHOP

by Steve Burgess 33°

The table is set, pencils sharpened, dry erase board clean, and your spot at the table reserved. If you recently received your May/June issue of the Scottish Rite Journal, you will notice that much of the issue revolved around the Regional Workshops. These workshops engaged round table forums on three topics.

1. Mentoring, Making New Members Feel Welcome and Engaged.
2. Membership Retention.
3. Increasing the Number of Degrees.

Resulting from these forums, a number of Action Items were generated.

*Continued on the next page*

These action items originated from all three workshop locations and are being compiled. We are in the planning stages of our Orient Summer Workshop. The Valley of New Bern will be hosting the event on August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are planning to use these action items as our baseline and to begin generating implementation strategies to map a course for the Orient to begin to improve and move our Valleys ahead. Following check-in and workshop introductions, Friday's afternoon session will address topic one, Mentoring, Making New Members Feel Welcome and Engaged, Training Volunteers, and Making the Reunion Experience Memorable. The day's

activities will conclude with a seafood dinner at the Temple. Saturday's activities will begin early that morning with a down east country breakfast. Work will continue with the remaining topics: Membership Retention and Increasing the Number of Degrees, Tips and Techniques for Degree Presentation, etc.

It will be a great time to fellowship with your brethren from across the Orient.

Make your plans now for attending this workshop. You will be glad you did!

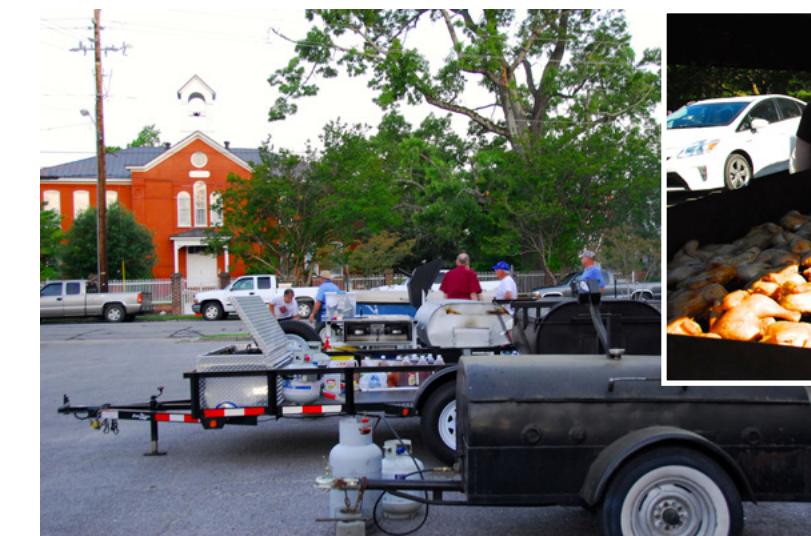


## THE VALLEY OF NEW BERN ANNUAL "RITE CARE" FUNDRAISER

by Steve Burgess 33°

On May 9th, the Valley of New Bern held its annual Rite Care Chicken Fundraiser. The activities began promptly at 6:00AM, with the arrival of a convoy of pickups, cookers, and trailer of propane gas. Several of our Brethren were able to demonstrate before a cheering crowd their trailer backing skills with the verbal assistance and guidance of the assembled experts. Once Chairman Aaron Morris KSA, was satisfied with the positioning and layout, he

instructed the Chief Cook, Brother Billy Dill 33°, to light the grills and in the next few hours over seven hundred chicken dinners were perfectly prepared, boxed, and distributed to hungry New Bernians. The Valley of New Bern is grateful for all those who came out, participated, and donated items to ensure the success of this year's event.



## THE VALLEY OF RALEIGH FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

by Luigi Ammons 33° - General Secretary Valley of Raleigh

**W**arm weather greetings to the Valley of Raleigh! This has been an exceptionally cold winter, but it is nearly gone and time to get out those shorts and bathing suits once again.

Our spring reunion for 2014 was held on April 25 and 26. The class was named for Sheila Russell Bray, 32°, KCCH. We were delighted to have nine very enthusiastic candidates for the reunion.

The participation of our spring fundraiser has been very good. If you have not responded as of yet, it is still NOT too late. I especially want to thank the members of our Valley for their continuing support of these fundraisers. These donations make a huge difference in our assessment to the North Carolina Scottish Rite Foundation and for helping the three Children's Language Disorder clinics in our state, with a special welcome to the Swan Quarter clinic. We are also planning to conduct a gas card raffle in the fall. More details will become available soon.

The ROTC/JROTC award presentations are completed with approximately 110 Scottish Rite and Sojourner awards

## THE VALLEY OF RALEIGH ANNUAL ECU CLINIC OPEN HOUSE AND RETIREMENT PARTY FOR DR. GIVENS

by Michael May 32° KCCH

**O**n April 22, 2014 the Orient of NC Scottish Rite was invited to attend an open house and retirement party for Dr. Givens at the ECU Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic.

Dr. Gregg Givens, Chair of the ECU Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Lori Kincannon, Director of Clinical Operations of the ECU Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic, along with the children in therapy at the clinic and Graduate Student Clinicians were in attendance.

Dr. Givens retirement cake and lemonade was served by Phyllis May and Allison Whitfield.

Later that evening everyone was invited to attend the ECU-UNC baseball game.



Dr. Givens' retirement cake - He and Lori Kincannon are Florida State University Graduates.



This banner was made by the children at the clinic and presented to the Scottish Rite members in attendance.

L-R: Sara Shaw - Student Clinician; Dr. Bill Brunk 33°, SGIG of NC; Luigi Ammons, 33°, Sam Vaughan 33°, Michael May 32° KCCH, Billy Dill 33°. Aria Connell - Student Clinician.

## THE VALLEY OF RALEIGH 2014 VALLEY OF RALEIGH SPRING CLASS

by Michael May 32° KCCH

From L-R: Illustrious Bill Brunk 33° - SGIG of NC; Stephen Wendell 32°; Lloyd Brown 32°; Andy Hicklin 32°; Randel Doubtby 32°; Aaron Byrd 32°; Thad J. Lewis III 32°; Quin Cooke 32°; Dan Atchison 32°; Illustrious Luigi Ammons 33° - General Secretary



## THE VALLEY OF WILMINGTON ANNUAL FISH FRY

by Richard W. Knauss, 33°

**T**he 2014 Fish Fry was held on April 30th. Although the inclement weather caused a less than normal turnout, we were able to sell plates out of the side door of the Temple until 6:55 P.M. which resulted in a reasonably successful event.

## THE VALLEY OF WILMINGTON KNIGHTS OF SAINT ANDREWS

by Richard W. Knauss, 33°



Pictured from Left to right: Ron Peters, 32°, KSA; Gavin Peters; Cindi Swicegood

## THE VALLEY OF WILMINGTON CITY COUNCILMAN PRESENTS PROCLAMATION

by Richard W. Knauss, 33°

**D**uring the Fish Fry, City Councilman Charlie Rivenbark presented the Valley of Wilmington with a Proclamation recognizing them for their efforts to raise money to support the RiteCare Centers for Children.

A.C. Everett, 33°, General Secretary; Charlie Rivenbark, Councilman, City of Wilmington.



Left Picture: Back Row: Harry Turner, 32°, KCCH; Edward A. Gaskins, Jr., 33°, Director of the Work; Jack Carnegie, 32°; Woody Henderson, 33° Front Row: Joseph Knox, Jr., 33°; A.C. Everett, 33°, General Secretary; Phil Rhodes, 32°, KSA  
Right Picture: Anita Taylor; Danny Buck, 32°, KSA; Jay Taylor, 32°; Gene Shorter, 32°; Joe Gupton, 33°; Robert Connelly, 32°



## THE VALLEY OF WINSTON-SALEM **CURING VICTIMITIS**

by Joel Black 33° - Personal Representative

**M**any of us think of ourselves as victims. We complain about our circumstances and what others did to us. Whatever psychological comfort there is in feeling powerless and blameless when things aren't going right, victims lead unsatisfied lives in the end.

We're most vulnerable to victimitis when we're under the influence of powerful emotions like fear, insecurity, anger, frustration, grief, and depression. These feelings can be so overwhelming that we believe our state of mind is inevitable. Our only hope is that they'll go away on their own. Yet it's during times of emotional tumult that using our power

to choose our thoughts and attitudes is most important. We can't make pain go away, but we can refuse to suffer.

Even when we don't like any of our choices, we do have some – once we realize we can take control. It isn't easy, but what we do and how we choose to feel about ourselves can have a profound impact on the quality of our lives. Victims may get sympathy for a while, but that isn't nearly enough.

Taking personal responsibility for our happiness and success can be scary, but the payoff is enormous. Although we can't make our lives perfect, we can make them better – usually a lot better.



## THE VALLEY OF WINSTON-SALEM **SECRETARY RETIREMENT**

by J. Christopher Pearman 32° KCCH

**O**n April 30, 2014 Illustrious Brother C. Truett Chadwick Jr. 33° retired as General Secretary of the Winston-Salem Scottish Rite. Our Valley is extremely fortunate to have Brother Chadwick serve in this capacity for over eleven years. Brother Chadwick has done an exceptional job as General Secretary, and he will be missed. We wish to thank Illustrious Brother Chadwick for all of his hard work and dedication to our Valley.



## THE VALLEY OF WINSTON-SALEM **MASONIC CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

by Joel Black 33° - Personal Representative

On Friday, June 13, 2014, the Valley of Winston-Salem held its fourth annual Masonic charity golf tournament. This tournament continues to be a great success, and we

could not have done it without all of the help we received. A big thank-you to all of the golfers, sponsors, and volunteers who came together for a great cause.



*Art de Hoyas will be at Clemmons 755, the temporary home of the Winston-Salem Valley on Friday, June 27 at 6 PM, for a round table discussion at 6:30 PM. The meeting is open to all Masons, with no registration or food, for those brothers who would like to meet one of our most acclaimed Masonic scholars, and have questions for him.*