

32° Journal

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
VALLEY OF PORTSMOUTH AND DOVER
44 Lamprey Lane * Lee, NH 03824-6552
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TPM Jeffrey L. Brown
The Seacoast & The Mountains

SP Ralph R. Currier, Jr.
September 2010

MWM Steward L. Aronson

Mason's Day a Huge Success 572 Masons and their Family Attend

Last year was a busy year for the Activities and Family Life Event Committee this year and they have already started working on projects for the August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2011 fiscal year. Scott Willard reported, "that we had a trip on the Hobo Railroad, a Christmas party at Chuck E. Cheeses and our Valley was asked to be the host to Mason's Day at Strawberry Banke." Scott gives credit to the dedication and hard work of the Committee members. He gives credit by saying, "I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Brother Ed Hess, Illustrious Ron Brown and Illustrious Marcus Weir. They really showed what can happen when we work as a **team**."

Of the many events that took place at this year's Mason's Day, some of the new events were greatly received, such as Tim Sample, the Maine Humorist; Dan Grady, the Puppet Man; the Portsmouth Police K-9's. "Of course, the free cookout is always a great draw as is the pony ride, the CHIP's program and booth from all of the appellant bodies," reported Marcus Weir. And it looks like 2010-2011 promises to be another busy year. This will kick it off with a trip on the M/S Mount Washington for a foliage dinner and dancing cruise on September 26, 2010. Santa Claus has promised to make a visit for a party at Chuck E. Cheeses on December 3, 2010.

If there is interest in putting together a more adult oriented Christmas Party please contact any committee member with your thoughts. Also, they are looking to see if there is enough interest to go to Foxwoods, or to visit the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA.

Plans are already underway for Masons Day at Strawberry Banke which will be held on July 9th 2011 and we are looking for an activity for the springtime. Some suggestions are a trip to Concord or an Elvis night. We would like your input.

"I know I speak for all the committee members when I say we are honored to serve the valley in this capacity. We have a great deal of fun putting these events together." Scott said, "Thank you."





From the Thrice Potent Master,

Brethren,

I hope you all had a great summer and are looking forward to getting back to work in our Valley. The directors and body heads have worked diligently to put together degrees for the fall and spring. We have even enlisted the talents of some of our newer members! If you are interested in being a part of any of the degrees, no matter if you are a new member or a long time member, please contact any of the body heads or the directors. We'll find a part for you!

Masons Day at Strawberry Banke was hugely successful and we hope that all of our members and their families got to take advantage of all of the fun and friendship that it provided. Though the rain made it a little soggy here and there, our entertainers kept the crowds happy and entertained. With over 600 people in attendance, we hope next year will be bigger and better! I would personally like to thank the Family Life Committee for all of their hard work, especially Scott Willard who worked tirelessly to see that this event went off. Great job brethren!

Lastly, I hope to see you all at our September Reunion on the 25th. We will be presenting the 4th and 13th degrees, which will be enjoyable, I'm sure. If you know of a brother who would love to come to the reunion that might not have a ride, please invite them to come with you. Invite your Scottish Rite brethren from your lodge - get them involved! In the words of our Past Deputy's Representative, "Together Everyone Accomplishes More."

Fraternally,
Jeffrey Brown



A Message from the Sovereign Prince

I want to thank all of the members of the Valley of Portsmouth and Dover for their support and confidence in electing me to this Office. I will do my very best in the next two years to serve the Valley and Freemasonry as the Sovereign Prince.

I look forward to working with many new ideas, recommendations, and activities that will give our Valley a renewed vigor and energy to present our degrees in an excellent manner and to tackle the many projects that our Valley needs to face in order to continue to provide each of our members the lessons to make good men great, to insure that we are financially sound and that we look after and care for each of our members.

I look forward to both the September and October reunions for our Degree presentations and to meet many of our new candidates and to also get to know each of you better. Please take the time to attend our Reunions and various events and to make sure we get to talk with each other. I look forward to getting to know as many of our members as possible.

By becoming your Sovereign Prince, I took an oath which I take seriously and if there is anything that I can do, any suggestions you may have or if there is anything that I can do to serve our Valley better, please let me know.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Ralph R, Currier



A Message from the Most Wise Master

The more time I spend in Masonry, and the more people I meet, the more the opportunity rises to explain Masonry to non-Masons. I've always been comfortable with this conversation, and am proud to be able to explain who and what we are. However, as many of you have probably noticed while you share this same experience, too often I get raised eyebrows that silently ask questions as to our relevance in today's society. Once in a while, someone will actually have the courage to ask it out loud.

For a long time, I have been explaining Masonry by using the principles for which we stand – Friendship, Morality, Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth and Charity. Like me, I'm quite sure most of you have been in the same situation, and if you have, you cannot help but reflect on the questions that are asked, and reinforce to yourself the answers we tend, too often, to take for granted.

Friendship: Is Friendship relevant in today's society? Often, this seems rhetorical. But....think it through. Can you imagine your life without your friends? Regardless of whether or not those friends are Masons, try for a second to picture the challenges you have faced throughout your life, and what the outcome would have been, had it not been for the support you have received from your friends. I think it's safe to answer this question – Yes, Friendship is indeed relevant in today's society.

Morality: All of you who have cable tv and internet service in your house, and who have smaller children, are aware of the parental controls, not to mention the high anxiety involved with allowing young impressionable minds to have full access to the mores of society. One single 24 hour period would convince anyone that without doubt, Morality has a place in today's society.

Brotherly Love: The very same questions that are asked about Friendship, must be asked about Brotherly Love. But we must go further. In anyone's life, are there times that we must be able to reach out

a hand, without condition, to a fellow human being? Not only to help our fellow creatures, but to make sure that we do not lose sight of our own reason for being. At the same time, would we not accept that same hand, were we in that position? Undoubtedly, Brotherly Love has a place in today's society.

Relief: Pick up a newspaper, scan the news on a computer, listen to the radio, watch a television, and you cannot help but be inundated with news of the amount of tremendous suffering occurring in the world. More often than not, we do not even have to reach across the globe to find these heartbreaking situations where people are in need of others to raise them up out of a horrible darkness. Flooding, fires, starvation, disease. Some of these people could be friends or neighbors, some are just like us, trying to get by in the world. Anyone with a conscience, cannot help but extend whatever relief we can. Relief, is certainly relevant in today's society.

Truth: We can work hard, we can keep our families and homes in the best possible condition, we can have good health and good fortune. When we are gone, the one shining attribute that will live on after us, is the truth. No one will write our epitaphs based on how green we kept our lawn, or how well we dressed. But make no mistake, if we didn't live the truth, that memory will survive us. Remember how you felt as a child if your parents caught you in a "fib"? How have you personally dealt with your own children when you may have caught them in a "story"? Now multiply these things by hundred to understand the impact we have on the world around us if we are not truthful. Who can you trust? Truth, my Brethren, is an absolute requirement in today's society.

Charity: I'm writing to Masons. We all know....."The greatest of these is Charity". We have all proudly announced how much Masons give in Charity. But certainly, we are not the only charitable people in this world. How would the world get by without the incredible amount of charity that is given every minute of every day. Can we fool ourselves into thinking it wouldn't affect us personally? Because, we would indeed be fooling ourselves if we tried. A world without charity?!?! Could there be anything more relevant in today's society?

So how can we, as Masons, explain our relevancy in the world of 2010? This is one way. Add to it as you will, and no one can ever doubt the relevancy of Freemasonry in our world - not before, not now and not ever. There has been, and always will be a place for Freemasonry. The lessons taught to us in the 17th and 18th Degree are perhaps, the most beautiful exemplifications we have of our relevancy. Your Chapter of Rose Croix here in the Valley of Portsmouth/Dover, is proud to be a part of explaining, through our Philosophical Degrees, just how relevant Masonry has always been, and how we, as Masons in today's society, live up to our principles, and by so doing, try in our own way to improve society around us. Thank you all for the great work you do in making Masonry relevant.

Congratulations to the following members who have become 50 Year Members.

Kemon Bosen

Robert Buffum

Kenneth Y. Caswell

Franklin B. Corliss

David O. Faist

Haven H. Hayes

Willard T. Huff

Harry MacLoed, Jr.

William G. Poor

James Servetas

Kenneth J. Therrian

Robert Sears

And a very special congratulations to:

Charles Beatty

For being a Valley Member for 65 Years!



From the Secretary

On August 1, 2010, we started out New (fiscal) Year. With the beginning of the New Year comes a flood of members sending in their invoices with their dues payments. I can usually tell what type of economy our Valley is in by the dues payments, but this year I am a bit perplexed. On one side of the coin, we have a number of new or larger donations for our Seacoast Learning Center. On the other side of that coin, I am getting notes from members who are having difficult times and cannot pay their dues. Our Learning Center can really use the additional donations and once again, my wife, Rita, and I will be matching those donations. For those that do find it difficult to pay this year's dues, please let me know so that we can work something out. We have various ways to help out and we do not want any member in our Valley have to take a demit just because they cannot pay their dues. Our conversation will be held in the strictest of confidence.

While I am on the subject of dues, this year you have the option to pay your dues by credit card. I hope this will be of help and convenience for some of you. Also, if you shop on the internet, you can earn money for your dues payment. Just go to www.supremecouncil.com and visit the Members Center to sign up, just click on OneCause and follow the instructions or contact me and I will help you. There are also many other benefits list here, such as; free cell phones, vacation deals, insurance plans, printing services, etc. You can also use your Scottish Rite Visa card to help pay your dues.

As you can see in the articles above, we now have new Presiding Officers, Jeff Brown, Ralph Currier and Stew Aronson. You should make sure if you haven't already, congratulate them at our next Reunion. I know they are eager to meet you and to hear your ideas and opinions. You should also congratulate Roger F. Retzke, who was coroneted with the 33rd Degree in Philadelphia and also congratulate Stew Aronson who has just been name to receive the 33rd next year in Chicago. And while you are at it, please congratulate, James "Jim" Ryan for being named to receive the Meritorious Service Award.

If you have moved, changed phone numbers, changed your E-mail, etc. please inform me so that I can keep our records up to date. Also, if you live in another part of the country part of the year, please let me know so that I can arrange to automatically have your mail sent to the correct address.

I would like to thank all of you for your support, kind words, etc. that you have given me as your Valley Secretary. I truly enjoy helping whenever I can and to talk with you. This position has made a lot of Brothers my Friends. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of help.

"Marcus" Weir, Valley Secretary

Valley Upcoming Events

Stated Meeting and Dress Rehearsal

Friday, September 24, 2010

Stated Meeting 6:00 PM *** Dinner at 6:45 PM
Rehearsal to follow dinner.

September Reunion

Saturday, September 25, 2010

4th and 13th Degrees

Dinner 6:00 PM

Degrees at 7:00 PM

*Note: Candidates should report to
The Class Marshal at 5:30 PM*

Stated Meeting and Dress Rehearsal

Friday, October 29, 2010

Stated Meeting 6:00 PM *** Dinner at 6:45 PM
Rehearsal to follow dinner.

October Reunion

Saturday, October 30, 2010

14th and 15th Degrees

Breakfast 8:00 AM

Degrees at 9:00 AM

*Note: Candidates should report to
The Class Marshal at 7:30 AM*

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 4, 2010

Note: Date Change

Meeting 7:00 PM



Valley Brethren,

We wish to thank you for your support of the Seacoast Learning Center. The Seacoast Learning Center is sponsored by the Valley of Ports/Dover and is your Center. Your support of our fundraising events has been great. Whether by sending a little extra with your dues, which was matched by Marcus and Rita Weir, dropping a little in the "Money Bear" jar after a Reunion dinner, playing in the Golf Tournament, buying a chance in the Parents May Basket Raffle, or making a Memorial Donation in memory of a deceased relative or friend, you got it done. We raised enough money to cover our budget. We thank you very, very much.

Now we need you to help us raise even more money next year. NOT with your money BUT with just a simple request to all your relatives, neighbors, friends, and co-workers.

If you know anybody who works for the Federal Government, ask them to consider helping YOUR Seacoast Learning Center by filling in the number 51790 on their Combined Federal Campaign form. It is that simple.

If you know anybody who works for a company that has a United Way Campaign, ask them to consider helping YOUR Seacoast Learning Center by checking the box labeled "Restricted Contribution", and writing in:

Seacoast Learning Center
29 Hanson Rd.
Rochester, NH 03867

So, please, cut this out, make some copies and get them into the hands of your relatives, neighbors, friends, and co-workers. The more you hand out, the better our chances to make some money.

It is that **easy** Brethren.

Your very grateful Board of Governors Chairman, Joe Lovell

Notice to all Valley Members

There has been a proposed bylaws change which will be voted upon at our next Stated Meeting on September 24, 2010. Please review and be prepared to discuss and vote upon this important issue. If approved the following bylaw change will be inserted immediately after Section 3 (before TREASURER) and the rest of the bylaws will be renumber as appropriate.

Proposed by-law

"The head of each body of the valley shall call a meeting of all the officers of that body, as well as any other valley member who would care to attend, at least once every quarter, not to coincide with either annual meetings, or other committee meetings. The agenda of said meeting should include, but not be limited to, the progression of the ritual for the Degrees of that body, the continuity of the line, recruiting assistants for backstage crew and directors, finding back-ups for line officers during degrees, communication of dates and events, and any other business the body head shall deem appropriate, or that any officer of the body wishes to discuss, so long as it is related to the advancement of Scottish Rite within the valley of Portsmouth-Dover."



TESTIMONIAL DINNER - Sunday, November 7, 2010

Honoring

Ill.: Stephen K. Bahsler, 33°, MSA – Valley of Nashua

Ill.: Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33° – Valley of Concord

Ill.: Robert D. Coppo, 33°, MSA – Valley of Keene

Ill.: Roger F. Retzke, 33° – Valley of Portsmouth/Dover

(Coroneted Honorary Members of Supreme Council in Philadelphia, PA on August 31, 2010)

Presenting the Meritorious Service Award to

Gary E. Roy, 32°, Valley of Concord

Karl H. Bickford, III, 32°, Valley of Nashua

James E. Ryan, 32°, Valley of Portsmouth-Dover

at the

GRAPPONE CONFERENCE CENTER - At the COURT YARD by MARRIOTT

Exit 15 off Rt. I-93, Concord, NH

Social Hour at 5:00 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm

(\$35.00 per person, including tax and gratuity)

You, your lady and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Advance reservations only.

Make CHECK payable to: NH Council of Deliberation

send to: **Robert G. Bianchi, 4 Rainbow Dr, Nashua, NH 03062-2399**

Reservations close on November 1, 2010. No tickets will be issued...your paid reservation is all that is required to attend

Important Contacts

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Valley Treasurer - Joe Lovell
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Thrice Potent Master – Jeff Brown
32 Embassy Ave, Hooksett, NH 03106
Phone (603) 669-5119 * Email: jbrown524@comcast.net

Sovereign Prince – Ralph Currier
PO Box 59, Union, NH 03887
Phone (603) 473-2872 * Email: rrcurrier@adelphia.net

Most Wise Master – Stew Aronson
172 Brentwood Rd, Exeter, NH 03833
Phone (603) 772-2244 * Email: sak4mak@comcast.net

Supreme Council NMJ website:
<http://www.supremecouncil.org/>

Grand Lodge of New Hampshire
<http://www.nhgrandlodge.org/>

Scottish Rite of New Hampshire
<http://nh32degreemason.org/>

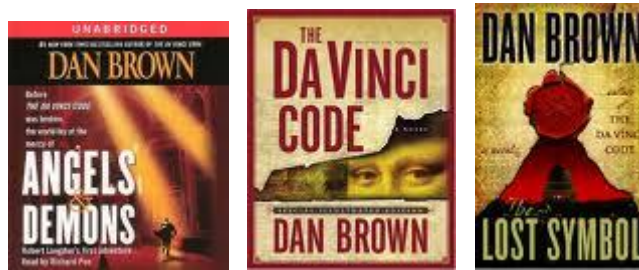
How would you like to own the
Robert Langdon Trilogy Books
By Dan Brown

and

These are First Edition Books
Autographed by Dan Brown

And

You can help three Masonic Charities?



Although Dan Brown could not attend this year's Mason's Day, he graciously donated autographed first editions of "Angels and Demons", "The DaVinci Code", and "The Lost Symbol" to the Valley of Portsmouth and Dover. These books, which he calls his Robert Langdon Trilogy (the character that Tom Hanks portrays) are being raffled with the proceeds to benefit:

NH Masonicare
32^o Masonic Learning Centers for Children
Shriners Hospitals for Children

Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50

Ask any Valley Officer or the Valley Secretary (603)659-8171 and they will help you purchase your tickets. The drawing will be on November 30, 2010. This set of books are currently being sold on the Internet for over \$6,000 and so far we have found only one place that has this complete set. This could be the gem of your library collection or a great gift for Christmas for that book collector in your family.

SCOTTISH RITE BODIES

Valley of Portsmouth and Dover
44 Lamprey Lane

Lee, NH 03861-6552

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