

The Scottish Rite HERALD

News from the Valley of Kansas City



Volume 66

DECEMBER 2007

Edition 4

Fall Reunion 2007 Completed

Fourteen brothers are welcomed to the Valley

It was warm and humid outside. But, in the Auditorium and the Lodge Room, all the warmth was generated by brotherly love. The 2007 fall reunion at the Kansas City Valley was a success by all measures. Ten Masons from the Orient of Missouri and four from the Valley of Northeast Kansas became Masters of the Royal Secret Saturday afternoon with the help of approximately 100 volunteers from our Valley. We were honored to have Ill. Bro.



2007 Fall Reunion Class

Robert Cockerham 33°, and Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the Orient of Missouri as well as Ill. Bro. William V. Denton 33°, Personal Representative for the Valley of Northeast Kansas present for the degrees on Saturday.

To all who cooked, cleaned, registered, acted, lectured, handled Costuming, makeup, stage, properties, lighting, and sound, the Officers and newest members of the Rite send a big thank you!

Valley Leadership Issues Challenge

We challenge **each and every** Scottish Rite Mason in the Kansas City Valley to commit to at least one of the following in the next year:

1. Be a first line signer on a petition for membership.
2. Be a second line signer on a petition for membership.
3. Take on a speaking role in a degree in either the Spring or Fall Reunion in 2008.
4. Take on a non-speaking role in a degree in either the Spring or Fall Reunion .
5. Volunteer to help with stage, props, lights or sound in any degree in the Spring or Fall Reunion.
6. Take on the job of degree director of coordinator
7. Volunteer as a greeter for one of the reunions.
8. Volunteer to help with food preparation and serving for either the Spring or Fall Reunion.
9. Come and participate in the Spring or Fall Reunion by just sitting in the auditorium watching the degrees.
10. Contact one of us and let us know how we can make the Kansas City Valley Scottish Rite Reunions better.

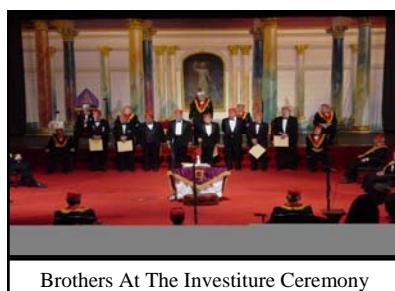


KCCH Investiture a Success

Nine brothers honored at ceremony

On Wednesday, October 24th, nine brothers were invested with the rank of Knight Commander Court Of Honor. Congratulations to the following brothers on achieving this honor:

Mitchell Bryan Cross
Ronald Charles Hewitt



Brothers At The Investiture Ceremony

Hulen Homan Luetjen
William Maurice McCain
Stewart Lee Middleton
Roger Arnold Richards
William Gene Snyder
James Harry Snyder
Thomas Leroy Truman

ARCHIE'S

CORNER — By Archibald Fletcher, 32°



The Dalton Highway

The locals call it "the Haul Road" it runs 414 miles due north from Fairbanks Alaska to Prudhoe Bay on the Arctic Ocean traversing tundra, frozen lakes and the Brooks Range area of the Rocky Mountains along the way. To call it a highway is probably a misnomer because it is only a two lane graded gravel road by which semis transport all the goods necessary to keep Prudhoe Bay alive and the Arctic oil flowing southward. It is not a road for the faint of heart. In winter the temperature can drop to the minus sixties and snow, wind, ice and blizzards are an everyday fact of life.

I was having a quiet dinner with a few friends in a rather pleasant Fairbanks hotel, the Captain Bartlett as I recall, when the topic of conversation turned to "The Haul Road". We were all speaking generalities

but one woman, a tractor-trailer driver, soon monopolized the conversation. She was a good raconteur and, after a few minutes, she had us enthralled as she told us about the Haul Road and a trucker named Burley. As she was relating her story I looked over toward her. Her eyes had a faraway stare and she spoke in a monotone that indicated to me that she was not telling a story but reliving a harrowing experience. After she had spoken her piece we remained silent for a while until the clink of a glass brought us back to the present. I gave her a second look. She looked weary and exhausted and I swear I saw her brush away a tear. After a little while she excused herself and left. I never forgot that woman and her story so later that evening I put pen to paper. This is her tale:

I was driving the Dalton Highway
At sixty-five below.
I was scared and lonely, on my own.
It's not a place you want to go.
I had to brave this winter's storm.
There was no other way.
If I was going to get me warm
I had to get to Prudhoe Bay.
I had eighteen wheels beneath me.
I was driving on the ice.
In a storm so bad I could scarcely see.
Maybe I'd pay the price.
So I got into an auto-drive
Where thinking isn't done.
All you want to do is to stay alive

And get your motor home.
I started humming on a country tune
Just to get me through the day
The next pit stop was coming soon.
That should ease my fears away.
Then a noise hits me like thunder
And the wheel shook in my hand
I could sense impending danger
And that I understand.
'Twas then I saw a blood red glow
And flames shot to the sky.
So I gunned my motor down real slow
Could be someone had died.
I knew there would be no help at hand
This far along the way.
If he needed help I was the one
On this cold forbidding day.
So I drove as fast as fast could be
Perchance to save his life.
See, this guy is a trucker too
With a family, kids and wife.
It hurt me sore to find him there
Broken bent and torn.
No help around us anywhere
In a land where there's no warmth.
I wrapped him up and held him tight
Got a Chopper on the way.
I did everything within my might
To save his life that day.
I even raised him up real slow
And listened to him sigh.
But oh my God it pained me so
To watch that trucker die.

Officer Installation Set for January

The Officer's installation for 2008 will be on January 12, 2008. Installation will start at 5:00 PM, and officers need to be at the temple by 4:00 PM. There will be a formal dinner and dance following the installation. Tickets will be \$15.00 per couple, reservations will be required this is a catered meal. Please call the office at 816.561-2277 to make reservations.

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Royal Order of Ducks announces new Flight Commander

The Ducks, the sole group responsible for all the behind-the-scenes activities for Reunions, rentals and functions involving the auditorium and more, announced that Brother Ron Hewitt, KCCH, would be the Flight Commander for 2008. Brother Hewitt has chosen Bro. Tom Truman, KCCH, to



serve as his Flight Leader for the year. "I have big shoes to fill..." said Ron in reference to the 2007 Flight Commander, Stan Carmack, "I am excited and challenged in this position and promise to do my best to have a real quack-up year", he concluded.

Scottish Rite Club announces new Officers for 2008

by: Ron Hewitt, KCCH

One of the most active Scottish Rite area clubs is the Clay-Platte Club. With over 50 members and more than 26 to 36 members and ladies in attendance at monthly dinner meetings, the Clay-Platte group has grown and matured under the guidance of a number of senior members within the Valley.

On November 19th the club nominated and elected new officers for the 2008 year. Taking the office of President will be Kevin Hampton, 32°; his Vice President will be Dan Woehrman, 32°, Treasure: Cody Hines, 32°, and the Secretary will be Ron Hewitt, KCCH.

The outgoing president, Ron Hewitt, took time to acknowledge the years of service given by Jim Nathan, 33° as secretary of the club and vowed to carry on the tradition of accurately recording the records of the clubs in the manner III. Brother Nathan established. We are excited about the direction the Clay-Platte club has taken and anxiously await 2008 and all that it has in store for us.

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.



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 this month.

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

It's not only good for the environment, it's good for the Clinic and the kids too!

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Yes, I want to help. Enclosed is my check for: _____ to help cover our expenses.

Name: _____ HERE'S MY CONTRIBUTION OF _____

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KEY MEMBER PROGRAM UPDATE

by: Robert E. Miller, 33° Key Member Coordinator

It's been several months since we've published a list of members who have received Key Member Project Keys. Below are the names of those who have earned Keys through October 2007. Anyone on the list who has not actually received his Key can do so at the Valley Office.

Congratulations to these active Brethren.

Robert E Miller, 33°,

Key Member Program Coordinator

2007 Gold Key Winners :

Morris F. Coburn

Thomas L. Truman

Robert L. James KCCH

William B Dean Jr., 33°

C.C. Christopher, 33°

Daniel A. Sewing, KCCH

Bernard J. Meister

Miguel P. Madrigal, KCCH

Roy N. Thomas, KCCH

John W. Hess, KCCH

Brent Winterberg

Jimmy R. Douthitt

Archibald Fletcher

Michael E. Luellen

Michael L. Mack, KCCH

Cody T. Hines

T. A. Christopher, KCCH

Robert W. Vanvacter, KCCH

Robert E. Miller, 33°

Matt L. Quesenberry, KCCH

Gary J. Barron, 33°

Adam L. Fauss, KCCH

Carlos J. Scott

James L. Nathan, 33°

Fred A. Troxel Jr., 33°

Steven P. Hackett

Jim Alltop, KCCH

A.F. Stanfill, 33°
Marshall Welch, KCCH
Harvey Wells, 33°
Richard Middleton, KCCH.

2007 Silver Key Winners:

Ed Burr, KCCH

Stan Carmack

Frank Chester, KCCH

Jack Clark, 33°

Virден Daugherty, 33°

Fred Donohue

Alvin Griffin, KCCH

Richard Houston, 33°

Reuben Jamison, KCCH

Fred Morrow, 33°

Michael Purdy, KCCH

Dan Quesenberry, KCCH

Charles Reed, KCCH

Dan Smothers, 33°

Jim Snyder, KCCH

Doug Stanfill, KCCH

Bill Criss, KCCH

Jeff Francis

Roger Salyer, 33°

Ed Shubert, KCCH

Jason Truman

William G. Snyder, KCCH

Ted W. Harrison, KCCH

Curtis Wilson

David Witte, KCCH

Kevin Hampton, 32°

Ron Hewitt, KCCH

Hank Koontz, KCCH

Stewart Middleton

Tony Robbins, 33°

John Schofield, KCCH

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For more information or to place an ad, contact the editor at:

HeraldNews@Scottishrite-kcmo.org
Or

call the Valley office at
816-561-2277

Communications Staff is Seeking Volunteers

by: Ron Hewitt, KCCH

The Valley of Kansas City is looking for individuals who are interested in improving and expanding communications with our 3,500 members. If you can write, provide photographs from your club or you're more of an "idea man" We need you! Please contact me for more details if you

are interested in being involved with the website, the Herald or the Rite Start. We need you!

Ron Hewitt

Valley Communications
mastermason@kc.rr.com

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IN MEMORIUM

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



George Dean Bates
 Merrill Richard Beck
 Jack Ervin Bernet
 Calvin Patrick Bills
 Murphy Dean Boatrigh
 Richard Lee Burgen
 Albert F. Drake
 Jerome Lane Elliott
 Robert Washburn Elliott

Earl Vernon Evans
 Sanford Jack Gorham
 Lester Hunt
 Chris G. Isariotis
 William Paul Kenan
 Robert F. Kershner
 Orville Lee Livingston
 Russell Frederick Lowe
 Taylor Leroy Morcha

Sherman Lee Morgan
 Leslie Joe Nation
 Samuel J Parker
 Weldon Buell Rogers
 Marven Clarence Rowland
 Frank Leonard Shaw
 Robert Holt Turner
 Robert Edwin Vick
 Arnold Watters

A Special Thanks to All Reunion Staff

by: Thomas A. Christopher, KCCH, Director of the Work 2007

As Director of the Work at the Kansas City Valley this year, I would like to say Thank You to everyone who helped make our 2007 Reunions a success. It does not matter who is in charge if there is no help and we had very good help. We can always use more and there were several brethren who helped out for the first time at a reunion this year and found out just how

rewarding it can be. These events, if done properly, take on a life of their own as a professional theatrical presentation. We may not all be ready for Broadway, but I would bet we have near as much fun as they do. As always, we have issues to discuss about the reunions to try and make them better. There is always room for improvement. I would like to try and have a

reunion critique at the Temple at our meeting Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. All committee chairs, committee members officers of the bodies and interested parties should show up so we can go over a few things. I look forward to seeing you there and **Thank You** again for your help.

Grand Master Presentation Held at the Temple

by: Jared Hargrave, Editor

On Saturday, November 3 2007, brothers from around the Kansas City area packed the Scottish Rite temple to listen to the Missouri Grand Masters address. A wonderful breakfast was served at 8:00, consisting of Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, and Biscuits and Gravy.

The business meeting, starting at 9:45 was very informative. The audience was pleased with a new video, aimed at bringing new members to the order. It



Grand Master of Missouri, Bruce Austin

was a very nice video, one which every mason should see and distribute. Contact your lodge for more information and to see the video!

The topics addressed included the MO-CHIP program, the Masonic Home, the new Masonic Museum, and endowed memberships.



To HIM, who all things understood,
 To HIM, who furnished the stone and wood,
 To HIM, who nobly spilt his blood - in doing of his duty;
 We hail the day! We hail the morn!
 On which those three great men were born!
 Who did the TEMPLE thus adorn
 With WISDOM, STRENGTH and BEAUTY.



ROBBINS RAMBLINGS

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

Sectarian Prayer and Good Manners in Lodge

If some masons claim their right to Christianize Masonry, so have Jews, Buddhists, or Mohammedans an equal right to transform it to fit their own creed; and such transformation in every case deprives Masonry of its universal character.

While it cannot benefit the creed to which Masonry is made to conform, it will in the end destroy Freemasonry itself. True Masonry has, for ages, held aloft the torchlight of Toleration, Equity and Fraternity.

The bigoted sectarian, whoever he may be, divides the world into two classes; those who, with zeal and blind faith, accept his dogmas and those who do not. The first he calls "brothers," the second class he regards as aliens, if not enemies.

Masonry, while adopting no religion and no form of doctrine or creeds as such, or as formulated by any one religion, recognizes certain basic principles embodying the ethics taught in all religions.

Every mason may formulate his creed to suit himself, and may institute such forms

of worship as may seem to him desirable or beneficial.

Now, that old creeds are losing their hold and falling in pieces, it is more than necessary to show that one of these have never been a legitimate part of Masonry; while Masonry antagonizes none, it can adopt none as Masonic.

This impartial spirit is the basis of that impartial justice illustrated in more than one Masonic degree.

Where do you stand on Sectarian prayer and good manners in lodge?

Building Rentals Help Pay The Bills

by: Brent Winterberg

On Saturday, December 8, 2007, we held yet another financially successful rental, this time it was a gospel show and rented by New Vision Church.

Ron Hickey, Michael Mack, Bill Dean, Stewart Middleton, David Dean, did a great job with lights, sound, and stage. Their expertise in running all of the equipment allow us to charge what we do for the auditorium rentals.

David Phillips, Ken Valentine and Dennis Gage also helped with out with build-

ing issues. (Dennis saved the day by diagnosing (by telephone) why no heat from the boiler was getting to the auditorium.)

Tom Truman, Jason Truman and Dan Sewing were very helpful in running the front of house smoothly, getting persons in wheel chairs in and out of the building, getting vendors set up and putting down ice melt a time or two. Thanks also to Frank Caffenberger (hope I spelled that correctly) who showed up later in the evening to help out. (If I forgot anyone it's

not intentional).

THANKS, GUYS. You are all great to work with.

Please let these men know that you appreciate all they do to help keep the building open with the lights on.

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Seasons are changing at the Rite

by: Bernard J. Meister, 32°

Well, it is time now, as the last of the leaves are falling from the trees, the days are getting very short, and the temperature is staying cooler, that we spend more time thinking about being thankful, kinder to our fellow man and we also start to look forward to the coming of the season of regrowth. As we look back on the previous year, wonder about the what if's, and try to think of ways to improve ourselves, our family, and our community, we seem to completely overlook the purpose of this

season of hibernation.

This year is coming to a close and at this writing, quiet anticipation, scheduling, planning and preparation are part of the forces moving forward for the next year. The forward movement seems to just skip right over this season as it rushes to start the next lines coming in. It is kind of sad really, seeing the end of the influences of the past year and only being concerned with what is to come. As a valley, I believe we need to have as much connection to our

past as we have need of leadership into our future. Where does this hibernation fit into this? Well it does and it must!

As nature prepares itself for the oncoming winter, it sends its energy back to its roots for protection and nurturing. So then as the spring comes back into season, it can send out its energy for new growth. I would call upon our members, new and old to come back to the Rite and bring their energy back to its roots, gather in the new energy that we have gotten from our new

What the Brother desires

by: Kevin Hampton, 32°

After speaking with several Brothers concerning this subject I feel it necessary to split it into two parts. The first part will deal with the younger or newest member of the Fraternity. The second part will deal with the older or more seasoned members. Please remember these are some of the responses from several of the brothers and not the consensus or opinion of the Valley and by no means in a particular order.

From the young ones:

- Help understanding their role in the Fraternity. We are new here.

- Your acceptance. We want to feel welcome.
- Companionship.
- Guidance from the Elders on our quest for Light. That is part of why we are here.
- Answers to our many questions. We do have many
- Help in meeting the members of the Fraternity. Once again we are new here.
- To learn from the Elders experience. What better teacher could we have?
- Help understanding what they

have learned in the Degree's. They came at us pretty fast.

- Help in becoming better Men. Another part of why we are here.
- A kind word of reformation whispered in their ear when they have made a mistake. We will make them.
- Advice when becoming involved with the activities of the valley. There are so many ways to become involved.
- Your friendship. Nothing could mean more to us.

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The Scottish Rite HERALD

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May every Mason RISE in the EAST,
find refreshment in the SOUTH,
and be so dismissed in the WEST,
as to find admission into the middle chamber
to receive the reward of a GOOD MAN.

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Please direct all comments to:

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