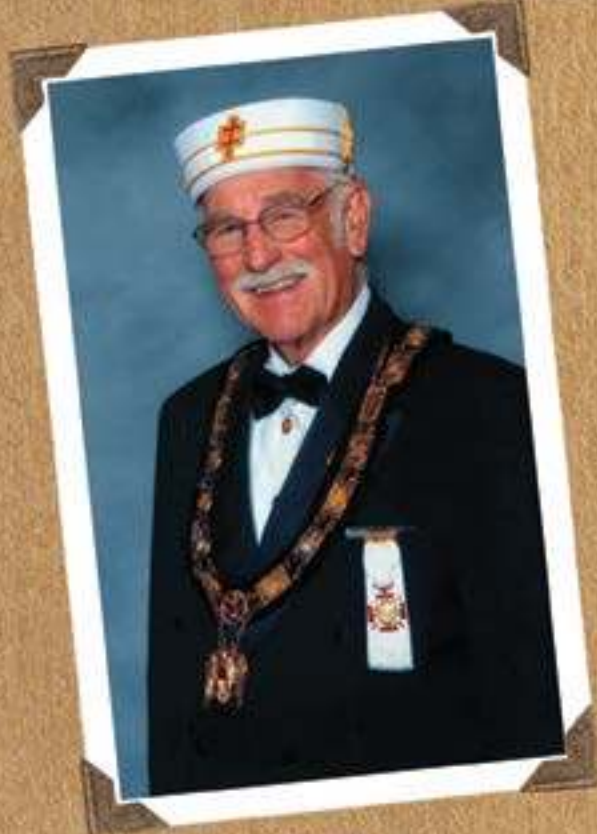




OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF THE ORIENT OF MARYLAND | FEB/MAR/APR 2024

# RITENEWS

*OF MARYLAND*





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Marlin L. Mills, 33°

**Editor**  
Fred Spicer, 33°, GC

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Our Scottish Rite Childhood Speech & Language Clinic is a 501(c)(3) organization and all charitable gifts are tax deductible.

### A MESSAGE FROM Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°



CHANGE IS NOT ALWAYS A BAD THING, BUT IT ALMOST ALWAYS BRINGS ANTICIPATION OF WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS IN STORE.

### GREETINGS TO ONE AND ALL.

I hope this issue of our Rite News finds you well and ready for the warmer days of spring. I always enjoy the change from the cold dreary days of winter to the new growth and beautiful spring colors in the trees and flowers. The change from winter to spring is always welcome.

Change is not always a bad thing, but it almost always brings anticipation of what the future holds in store. Change has arrived in the Orient of Maryland, as three of our Personal Representatives have become emeritus members due to both age and health concerns.

Illustrious Brother E Ray Leppo, our longest serving Personal Representative has led the Valley of Baltimore for over 28 years, Illustrious Brother Richard (R.C.) Miller has served the Valley of Southern Maryland with great pride for 18 years, and Illustrious Brother Creed Parker has served the Valley of Frederick for seven years in a very commendable manner. Each of these great men has devoted untold hours

to our members, their Valley, and our Scottish Rite. As these men retired, the change was admirably accomplished during the Valley Installation of Officers in January. Each of these men was presented with their “emeritus” bar for their collar with each having earned the honor of retaining their title of “Personal Representative.” I respectfully request we all give them our sincerest appreciation for their commitment and dedication to the Scottish Rite in Maryland and our Southern Jurisdiction for a job very well done.

In closing, to Ray, RC, and Creed, may I say thank you for being such wonderful colleagues, friends, and brothers. Although I am losing you as a Personal Representative, I am grateful you will remain my friend and my brother always. Now may I wish you all a happy retirement, the blessing of good health, and much happiness, and my sincerest wishes that you will stay active in your Valley.



Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
**Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Maryland



The *Rite News of Maryland* is published quarterly for the members, family and friends of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Orient of Maryland. The views expressed in the Rite News of Maryland do not necessarily reflect those of the Orient of Maryland or its officers.

### SUBMISSIONS & GENERAL INQUIRIES

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# Valley of Baltimore

BY: ILL. JASON Q. STANDISH, 33°—SECRETARY/REGISTRAR



more personally, I am grateful to him for helping me along as I have worked in the office and especially for imparting to me a treasure trove of “institutional knowledge” from different physical aspects of the Charles Street Temple to innumerable stories of the personalities that have been a part of our Scottish Rite. So, thank you sir – for all you have done and meant to all of us. Your retirement is well earned!

**T**HANK YOU MR. LEPP! In preparing to pen my first article as the Secretary of the Valley of Baltimore, I am overwhelmed by the idea of following in the footsteps of this man. For many, probably the majority of us, Ray Leppo and the Scottish Rite in Baltimore are so intertwined that it is impossible to think of one without the other. I join countless others in thanking him for over thirty years of devoted service to our Rite but,

Looking ahead to this spring, I call everyone’s attention to the calendar of events. Our constituent body meetings begin in February and our Spring 2024 Class will begin with Orientation on March 13th. Our Maundy Thursday observance will be on March 28th. A full calendar of events is available on the Maryland Scottish Rite website: [www.mdscottishrite.org](http://www.mdscottishrite.org). You can also be added to our postcard, e-mail, and robocall

reminders. Just call the office at 410-243-3200, or email [aasr@verizon.net](mailto:aasr@verizon.net) and let us know how you would like to receive notifications for upcoming events.

As a reminder, most of our events are open (at least in part) to our ladies, family, and friends. While the meetings of our constituent bodies are only for Scottish Rite Masons, the dinners that precede them, as well as the presentations that follow, are open. The Council of Kadosh festive board is also open. We do ask that you RSVP for the dinners so that we can assure that we have enough for all, as well as to keep costs as reasonable as possible. Don’t forget the weekly Rite Cheer Club Lunches on Thursdays at noon. Menus are posted on the online calendar.

I look forward to seeing you here at the Rite!

# The Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

BY: HON. DAVID A. ENTE, 32°, KCCH—VENERABLE MASTER



**I**CAN BARELY CONTAIN my excitement for my year as Venerable Master of the Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection! Our meeting starts off every Scottish Rite season and it is

a wonderful opportunity to catch up with all my friends after being with family over the holidays.

We have a great evening planned for our meeting on February 7th, including a guest speaker. Christian D. Stebbins, 32nd degree MSA. Christian is a brother in my lodge in New Jersey and will be speaking to us about John Skene. John is the first known/ documented Freemason on the North American continent, and his resting place happens to be down the road from my new home. Early Masonry is a fascinating subject, and I hope everyone will enjoy it. I look forward to seeing you all!

**FEBRUARY 7, 2024 MEETING WILL FEATURE**

**CHRISTIAN D. STEBBINS, 32°, MSA**  
*Guest Speaker*



## FALL OF 2023 CLASS OFFICERS—ILL. HENRY C. MCDONALD, 33° MEMORIAL CLASS



(left to right)

Bro. Erric R. Kratz, 32°  
*Class Treasurer*

Hon. Allen L. Washington, 32° -  
KCCH  
*Class Director*

Bro. Jeffrey C. Arrington, 32°  
*President*

Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°  
*Sovereign Grand Inspector General*

Bro. Duane D. Thomas, 32°  
*Class Orator*

Bro. Eric R. Kratz, 32°  
*Class Secretary*

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The office is open M-F from 9am to 4pm, call 410-243-3200, or email [aasr@verizon.net](mailto:aasr@verizon.net) and the forms will be mailed to you.

**Cost is \$30.00**



# Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix

BY: BROTHER. D. SCOTT WILSON, 32°, WISE MASTER—MEREDITH CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX



**B**RETHREN, as the current Wise Master of the Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix, I would like to introduce myself and thank everyone for electing me to serve the Chapter from the East. I am a 26-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. I spent some of the best years of my life flying around the world as a C-5 Loadmaster. Unfortunately, most of my travels took place before I was a Mason, so I missed the opportunity to visit our lodges in the various countries of the world. I find that I often spend time reading and learning about our fraternity and how it is practiced throughout the world.

My wife of 25 years, Melissa, and I have 3 beautiful daughters (Katie, Allison, & Emma). My hope is that every Brother had a healthy and joyful holiday season, and that you had the opportunity to spend time

with family and friends. I look forward to renewing our labors for the good of the Scottish Rite, observing our traditions, and continuing to support the growth of our fraternity, strengthening our relationships, and making ourselves better men than we were yesterday.

The Scottish Rite had a very successful year conferring Degrees, observing our religious programs and supporting our various charities, allowing us to continue to move forward. We are always looking to add to our ranks, so please make sure to spread the word about the Scottish Rite and invite Blue Lodge Brothers to fill out a petition and join us.

As a member, I have personally gained friendship, brotherhood, an extended family, and a bond that allows me to know that we will not fail each other or forsake the foundational values of the Scottish Rite. Many of the most important values are the focus of the Degrees of Chapter of Rose Croix. The 15th through 18th degrees, contained within the Chapter, all stress the true practice of Faith, Hope and Charity. Specifically, among the many lessons of the 15th Degree (Knight of the East), we are taught that if something is to have great value, it will require great effort. This lesson teaches

us that all that we strive for will require great effort on our part for it to have true value to us. Often, the struggle to obtain something is where we learn the most important lessons.

Secondly, we learn that opposites are a part of nature. For everything good, there is also bad, and we need to continually practice faith, hope, and specifically charity to make sure we are always doing our best to help everyone that we can to continue to promote good towards all mankind.

Finally, it has been brought to our attention the importance of freedom of thought. As was stated by Past Wise Master George Christoff, I also believe that no specific religious, political or intellectual dogma is forced upon any brother and that, within the framework of our fundamental values, each man must chart his own path. In closing, I hope the new year brings all of you joy and happiness allowing you to continue to grow within the Scottish Rite Fraternity.

## BALTIMORE REUNION DAY SCHEDULE— SPRING 2024



*In Memory of*  
**Ill. William E. Gyr, 33°**  
*Past Grand Treasurer Emeritus*  
*Grand Lodge AF & AM of Maryland*  
**April 8th, 1940 – April 28th, 2023**

Wednesday, March 13th	Class Orientation	7:00 PM
Wednesday, March 27th	11th & 13th Degrees	7:00 PM
	Class Reports @ 6:30 PM	
Thursday, March 28th	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
	Dinner @ 7:00 PM – Ceremony After	
Wednesday, April 3rd	14th & 15th Degrees	7:00 PM
	Class Reports @ 6:30 PM	
Wednesday, April 10th	18th & 20th Degrees	7:00 PM
	Class Reports @ 6:30 PM	
Saturday, April 13th	Reunion Day	8:00 AM
	Class Reports @ 7:30 AM	
Sunday, April 14th	Ring Ceremony	2:00 PM
	Class Reports @ 1:30 PM	



# The Maryland Council of Kadosh

BY: BRO. JONATHAN R. STRICKLER, 32°—COMMANDER



**E**ACH DAY, we receive phone calls or messages from a multitude of people, and for different reasons. Each call or text may be mundane at best, but there are some that will remain with us for eternity. For it was this call that I received from a dear friend and brother that has forever changed my life as a Scottish Rite Mason.

The call started off like so many with the normal

pleasantries. It then migrated into, “Would you like to be more active within the Scottish Rite?” Being asked to be a part of the leadership of such a great body within the Fraternity, which I hold dear, is something that I shall always cherish. For today, I am forever mesmerized by the honor that has been bestowed upon me as the Elected, and soon to be installed, Commander of the Maryland Council of Kadosh. I am eternally grateful to him and to the members of the Maryland Council of Kadosh for allowing me to stand as one of its leaders. This privilege could never have been obtained without the support and guidance of my wife, Lisa, my children, Katie and Mia, and so many others who have molded me into the person I am today.

These supporters have shown

me that great ideas must come together as an entire group and not as one. For they continually remind me that we are but one person that stands on top of the shoulders of significant people before us. It is not without these people, and the knowledge that they provide, that allowed me to navigate through our beloved fraternity. Their ideas truly give meaning to the impactful quote by Martin Luther King, Jr., that states, “A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus.”

It is my hope that as I lead the Maryland Council of Kadosh into the new year, I will continue to build upon the philosophies of this Fraternity, the leaders of our past, and continue to mold the consensus of others, who could one day, receive that phone call that changes their lives forever.

# Maryland DeMolay

BY: MATTHEW MCKAY, STATE MASTER COUNCILOR

**G**REETINGS MASONIC FAMILY. Let’s take a moment to reflect on the fantastic whirlwind of events that have defined our recent journey. From conclave, the captivating ride on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad to our visits to various chapters and the splendid Maryland DeMolay Awards Day, our experiences have been nothing short of remarkable.

Conclave was filled with engaging activities and interactive sessions allowed for meaningful connections to flourish, underlining the importance of fellowship within our fraternity. However, amidst the festivities, Conclave also delved into essential matters, ensuring a balanced focus between enjoyment and productivity.

A highlight of the event was the ritual competition, where chapters showcased their dedication to precision and excellence. It was a testament to the commitment of our members to master the rituals, reflecting their reverence for the traditions that bind us together. Additionally, the election and installation of new officers marked a pivotal moment in the trajectory of our fraternity. The transition of leadership, accompanied by the solemn installation ceremony,

symbolized continuity and growth within Maryland DeMolay. These crucial proceedings encapsulated our commitment to both fostering a vibrant brotherhood and ensuring the responsible governance and stewardship of our organization.

Our adventure aboard the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad was a picturesque journey that went beyond mere sightseeing. It was a bond-strengthening trip amidst the breathtaking landscapes of the Allegheny Mountains. The camaraderie shared and the moments of connection exemplify the spirit of unity that defines our brotherhood.

The visits to different chapters across Maryland were insightful and inspiring. These visits weren’t just formal obligations; they were invaluable opportunities for mutual learning and appreciation. Embracing our differences while standing united as Maryland DeMolay has been a core lesson we’ve reinforced through these encounters.

The Maryland DeMolay Awards Day stands out as a celebration of our collective accomplishments and dedication. It was a day to applaud the outstanding achievements and commitments of our members. The spotlight on individual successes

underscored the strength we derive from each other’s accomplishments. It was a testament to the culture of excellence and unity that we strive to cultivate within our fraternity.

**The visits to different chapters across Maryland were insightful and inspiring.**

Moreover, it brings me great joy to share that our jurisdiction is expanding with the addition of new members. This growth symbolizes the resonance of our values and the appeal of our fraternity among today’s youth. Welcoming new members into our fold signifies the promising future and vitality of our brotherhood.

As we stand at the threshold of new possibilities, let’s harness the momentum of our experiences. Our journey isn’t merely a sequence of events but a collective effort to nurture relationships, gain wisdom, and make a positive impact. Together, let’s embrace this journey, fortified by our commitment to brotherhood, service, and the enduring principles of DeMolay.

**Rite News DEADLINES FOR 2024**

Please email your article and photo submissions to:  
[aasr@verizon.net](mailto:aasr@verizon.net) or  
[parker1931@aol.com](mailto:parker1931@aol.com)

Thank you

<p><b>May/June/July 2024 Edition</b> Due: Tuesday, February 27th @ noon</p>	<p><b>Aug/Sept/Oct 2024 Edition</b> Due: Tuesday, May 28th @ noon</p>	<p><b>Nov/Dec/Jan 2024 Edition</b> Due Tuesday, August 27th @ noon</p>
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Please remember there are about 450 words per page without pictures. There are 5 to 6 pictures per page, please make sure your photos are at least 300 dpi.



## 2nd Annual Debbie Friend Memorial Golf Tournament Nets \$22,000 for RiteCare



Pictured L to R: Brent Lewis, 32° KCCH; Personal Representative Jamey Hill, 33°; Tammy Lewis; Jason Finch, 32°; Cathy Growden of the Children's League; Zach Kennedy, 32°; Valley Secretary Robin Summerfield, 33°; Mike Kamauff, 32° KCCH; Ted Raynovich, 33°; and Richard Haines, 32°.

**KUDOS TO JASON FINCH, BRENT Lewis, and Tammy Lewis** on a successful Second Annual Debbie Friend Memorial Golf Tournament in Oakland in Fall 2023. The event honors former RiteCare Speech Therapist Debbie Friend by raising funds to support RiteCare Speech and Language evaluation

and services at Oakland RiteCare Clinic operated by the Children's League. The Children's League is currently serving approximately 30 clients at the Oakland Clinic and more than 160 across the four clinics in Cumberland and Oakland in Maryland and Keyser and Petersburg in West Virginia.

This year's event saw an increase in participants with nearly 100 golfers taking to the links on a beautiful and crisp October Saturday. Even better, the event surpassed its fundraising goal by 50% to raise \$22,000 for RiteCare. Plans are already underway to make this event even bigger in 2024.

## Jim Kalbflesh Named 2023 Fall Ritualistic Champion

**JIM KALBFLESH, 32° WAS PRESENTED** with the title of Fall 2023 Scottish Rite Ritualistic Champion by previous honoree Jason Snyder, 32° and Personal Representative Jamey Hill, 33° (pictured here, left to right) during the Valley's Feast of Tishri in November. Kalbflesh was appointed Degree Captain for the 30th Degree in Spring 2023 and assumed the role of Master of Kadosh in the cast. He distinguished himself by memorizing the work and working in partnership with the members of the cast and crew to bring about improvements in the overall presentation of the degree.

The Valley Executive Committee selects a member of the cast or crew to be recognized as Ritualistic Champion



following the convocation of each class in the Spring and Fall. In addition to Snyder, previous honorees include Clyde Bantz, James Snider, Kenneth

Robertson, Sam Lane, Aaron Lea, Gary Shriver, Brent Lewis, and Ben Zamostny.

## 2nd Annual Festival of St. Andrew 2023

**IN NOVEMBER, THE CHAPTER HOSTED** its 2nd Annual Festival of St. Andrew for members and guests featuring a menu of wild game including venison, pheasant, goose, turkey, and salmon all of which were provided and prepared by KSA members. The evening offered a wonderful opportunity to fellowship, to

celebrate a successful year for the KSA, and to prepare for the work ahead in 2024. Bro. Jay Cochrane of East Gate Lodge No. 216 performed a call to refreshment on bagpipes as well as renditions of "God Bless America" and "Amazing Grace" during the program, which also included readings of the Star

Spangled Banner by Hon. Mark Weatherholt, 32° KCCH and the Prayer of St. Andrew the Apostle by Hon. James Summerfield, 32° KCCH. In addition, Ill. Samuel Lane 33° offered a toast to the Republic, Ill. Jerome Robinette offered a toast to departed brethren,

*Continues on page 12*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

All events at Cumberland Masonic Temple unless noted

*Scottish Rite Club of Washington County*  
 Contact President  
 Jim Carraway for Info  
 at 717-387-2311

**18th Annual Robert Burns Supper**  
 Saturday, February 3  
 at 5:00 pm

**Cumberland Lodge of Perfection**  
 Monday, February 5  
 at 7:30 pm

**Combined Installation of Officers**  
 Sunday, February 11  
 at 2:00 pm

**Cumberland Council of Kadosh**  
 Monday, February 19  
 at 7:30 pm

**Cumberland Lodge of Perfection**  
 Monday, March 4  
 at 7:30 pm

**Feast of St. Andrew**

*Continues from page 11*

Past Venerable Master Hon. Dwight Metcalf, 32° KCCH shared remarks on the purpose of the Knights of St. Andrew, Venerable Master Hon. Michael Kerns, 32° KCCH made a few special presentations, and Personal Representative

Ill. Jamey Hill, 33° expressed appreciation to the KSA for their efforts on behalf of the Valley and its philanthropic efforts during the year. The evening concluded with a chorus of “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds” by attendees accompanied by Bro. Richard Haines, 32° on piano.

**New Members Welcomed to Rite**



Front Row L to R: Stanley Blaylock, Scott Walker, John Apple III, Ryan Derby, Griffin Thurfield (aspirant). Cast members standing L to R: Mark Weatherholt, Kenneth Shook, Dwight Metcalf, Sam Lane, James Kalbflesh, Larry Hartz, Mark Lathrop, and Ed Kave.

**FIVE NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED** the mandatory degrees of the Scottish Rite during the Fall 2023 Degree Conferral in the Valley of Cumberland, pictured above with the cast of the 30th Degree. Cumberland’s 183rd Spring 2024 Conferral & Reunion will be held at the Cumberland Masonic Temple on Saturday, March 23rd beginning with light refreshments at 7:30 am. We look forward to welcoming a new class of members to the Valley. Petitions are available at [cumberlandscottishrite.org](http://cumberlandscottishrite.org), in the Temple lobby, or by contacting the Valley Secretary Robin Summerfield at [info@cumberlandscottishrite.org](mailto:info@cumberlandscottishrite.org) or 301-729-2491.



**DeMolay Growing and Participating in the Valley of Cumberland**

**SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE** Cumberland Chapter of DeMolay (pictured here with Personal Representative Jamey Hill), including Maryland State Master Councilor Matthew McKay (top right) attended the Valley of Cumberland’s Feast of Tishri in November. With the support of “Dad” Brett Bean and his team of dedicated senior advisors, the Cumberland Chapter has seen a resurgence of membership growth and activity during the past few years. Membership in DeMolay recently reached more than thirty young men aged 12 – 21 and several Squires have come on board as well.

The Chapter has become increasingly proficient at performing the DeMolay ritual and has even offered its support to other Chapters across the region. In addition, the Chapter hosts regular social events, offers tutoring and homework help, and volunteers to support nonprofit community organizations. Chapter members have become an important resource to the Valley of Cumberland by providing educational programs as well as helping with parking, food service, and setup and clean up for events at the Temple.

**UPCOMING EVENTS cont.**

**Cumberland Consistory**  
 Monday, March 18  
 at 7:30 pm

**183rd Spring Conferral & Reunion**  
 Saturday, March 23  
 at 7:30 am

**Cumberland Chapter of Rose Croix**  
 Monday, April 1  
 at 7:30 pm

**Kirkin’ of the Tartans**  
 Emmanuel Episcopal Parish, Cumberland  
 Sunday, April 14  
 at 10:00 am

**Cumberland Lodge of Perfection**  
 Monday, April 15  
 at 7:30 pm

**Spring Capping & Ceremony of Lights**  
 Sunday, April 21  
 at 2:00 pm

**Knights of St. Andrew Communication & Initiation**  
 Monday, April 29  
 at 7:30 pm



## James Bailey Recognized for Service to Rite

**THE VALLEY OF CUMBERLAND** recently recognized James Bailey, 32<sup>nd</sup> for his community leadership and support of RiteCare. In their professional lives, Bailey and his wife, Shirley, have supported the creation of many well-paying jobs in Western Maryland through their entrepreneurship and have led national efforts to expand government contracting opportunities for historically underutilized businesses. They have distinguished themselves through their generous philanthropy to numerous community initiatives including RiteCare. In addition to receiving a Scottish Rite 50-Year Service Award, Pin, and Prayer Cap, Brother Bailey was presented with a citation and certificate of appointment in the Cumberland Chapter of the Knights of St. Andrew by KSA Venerable Master Michael Kerns.



## Annual Masonic Bird Hunt Continues to Grow, Support RiteCare

**THE CUMBERLAND SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION** hosted the 8th Annual Masonic Bird Hunt in November. Fifteen members and guests took part in the event and had a wonderful day in the field while supporting RiteCare. Several hunters also generously provided some of their birds for the Cumberland KSA's Festival of St. Andrew Wild Game menu. Chris Rohrbaugh, a Valley of Cumberland member from Moorefield Lodge No. 29, claimed First Prize for the day and the coveted "Bent Barrel" award went to Rebecca Candler.

## Mountainside Baroque Performs Baroque Songs of the British Isles at the Masonic Temple

**THE CUMBERLAND MASONIC TEMPLE** and Cumberland Scottish Rite hosted Mountainside Baroque for the second time to open the organization's 2023-2024 season in September with a performance of "The Thistle and Rose." Mountainside Baroque is an early music collective renowned for its outstanding performances of music written before 1800. Its performances feature some of the finest professional musicians from across the country that travel to Cumberland to play for a love of the music as well as for the beauty of the mountains. The Masonic Temple is honored to join several of Cumberland's most historic locations, including Emmanuel Episcopal Parish and the Shrine of Saints Peter and Paul, in hosting these world class performances typically only available to audiences in large cities.



"The Thistle and Rose," a delightful journey into the folk melodies from the British Isles featured Katie Hendrix (soprano), Stephanie Noori (Baroque violin), Sarah Lynn (Baroque flute & violin), Arnie Tanimoto (viola da gamba), Marc Bellassai (harpsichord), and Lyle Nordstrom (lute & Baroque

guitar). Sarah Lynn was the 2022 and 2023 national Scottish Fiddling Champion.

The event drew a large crowd of community members, many of whom had never visited the Masonic Temple, and Temple

volunteer docents were pleased to provide a number of tours following the performance. More information about Mountainside Baroque and upcoming performances is available at [mountainsidebaroque.org](http://mountainsidebaroque.org).





## Orient of Maryland Honors Day 2023





# The Valley of Susquehanna

BY: HON. DAVID E. MARTAK, JR., 32°, KCCH—VALLEY SECRETARY



**A**S WE ENTER INTO 2024, I cannot help but reflect upon what a great year 2023 was for our great fraternity and for our Valley. The world seems to have finally found its “new normal”. As the world has returned to normal, so has Masonry. Nowhere is this more evident than in our humble Valley. As I prepared to write this article, I scanned through the many pictures we took at our meetings throughout last year. As I did, a few thoughts ran through my mind. First, there are some truly great men in our fraternity. Men you enjoy spending time with and getting to know. Men you are proud to call your brother, and your friend. Second, at every meeting, our sidelines were full. Twenty-three men in attendance for almost every meeting. Not bad for a Valley of 145 members. When you have an opportunity to spend time with 25-30 good men, men whose unified goal is

to make themselves better, you can't help but go home with a feeling of wanting more. With a feeling of wanting to attend your next meeting. With a feeling that Masonry is making you a better person. That feeling is contagious. It can spread from one brother to the next very easily. Contagious??? Spread??? Those are words we have tried to avoid for the last 3 1/2 years. But in this context, we embrace them.

Last year, our Valley initiated 10 new members. Our spring class was the bigger of the two, with nine new members. Our fall class had one new member. But it was while looking at the pictures following one of our fall degree conferrals, that I realized something special was happening in our Valley. At that meeting, thirty-one brothers were in attendance. Some were cast members and officers, but most were sitting on the sidelines. How special is that? Our small Valley had thirty-one like-minded, good men attend the degree conferral for one brother. Would that have happened in 2020? 2021? 2022? There is a passion for our fraternity that is spreading. And it only takes one passionate brother to spread that light to many, many more. Be that passionate brother. Be that light. Be the reason that



someone went home from a meeting wanting more.

The year 2024 promises to be just as good if not better. Many of our newest members have taken on active roles in our Valley. Some have joined our degree teams. Some have joined the KSA. Some have expressed interest in becoming an officer. The path one chooses in Masonry does not matter. What does matter is that, as you walk that path, leave a trail wide enough that others don't just follow you, but rather walk alongside you, and eventually ahead of you, creating a path of their own for others to follow.





# Valley of Frederick

BY: ILL. SCOTT J. CAMERON, 33°—VALLEY SECRETARY



Valley confers, and the addition of the Council of Kadosh in 2018. He has also seen the Valley make the last step, and that is petitioning for the Consistory.

The Valley has submitted to the SGIG Marlin L. Mills, 33°, in November 2023, Letters Temporary for the Frederick Consistory. The Valley is working hard to get its full charter by the Bi-Annual Session of the Supreme Council in 2025.

The Valley received its first Charter, Frederick Lodge of Perfection on October 20, 1921, its second, the Chapter of Rose Croix on October 18, 1971, and the Council of Kadosh on March 2, 2018. The Valley has been running on close to 50 years between the bodies of the Scottish Rite. In 2023, the Valley decided to not let another 50 years go by before they

achieved the final body in the Scottish Rite.

As you can see in this article, The Valley of Frederick is growing. The new PR of the Valley of Frederick, will have some very big shoes to fill. He cannot let the achievements of the past forgo the advancements for the future of the Valley. The Valley has a commitment to support the Scottish Rite in all its endeavors, to grow the Rite in the Valley and state, and most of all, to support the Craft in general.

Please come and visit us at the Valley of Frederick. We meet on the third Thursday of the month, except for July and August, at the Frederick Masonic Temple. We hope that everyone has a great 2024, and may the Supreme Architect keep and protect you and yours.

## THE VALLEY OF FREDERICK

hopes that you and yours had a joyous and prosperous holiday season! As we start out the new year, the Valley of Frederick wants to honor our Past Personal Representative (PR), the Illustrious Creed F. Parker, 33°. Brother Creed has been the PR for the Valley of Frederick for six (6) years. He has seen the Valley grow in membership, in the degrees the

## MORE FROM THE CUMBERLAND VALLEY

### Cumberland KSA Chapter adds members

THE CUMBERLAND CHAPTER of the Knights of St. Andrew added five new members to its ranks during the Fall of 2023. The Knights of the Chapter are shown here following the October initiation of new members Ronald Martin-Minnich, Benjamin Grimm, and Christopher Ackerman.

Pictured L to R: Gary Trail, Jamey Hill, James Summerfield, Martin-Minnich, Mark Weatherholt, Grimm, Dwight Metcalf, Venerable Master Michael Kerns, Joseph Cushall, Ackerman, Michael Kamauff, Jerome Robinette, Mark Lathrop, Brett Bean, and Richard Haines.



## Ill. William E. Gyr, 33°

4/18/1940 – 4/28/2023



- Raised in Tuscan Lodge #202 . . . . .2/19/1962
- Scottish Rite, 32°—Valley of Baltimore . . . . .11/20/10
- Worshipful Master (Tuscan Lodge #202) . . . . . 1/1/2000
- Plural Membership—Ionic #145. . . . . 4/22/2005
- Grand Pursuivant . . . . .11/19/2005
- Grand Treasurer . . . . .11/18/2006 – 11/14/2015
- Plural Membership—Ancient Baltimore Lodge #234 . . . . .5/14/2011
- Scottish Rite, Chief Prompter . . . . .1/1/2014
- Scottish Rite, KCCH Investiture. . . . .10/10/2015
- Grand Treasure Emeritus . . . . . 11/17/2018
- Scottish Rite, Coroneted 33° . . . . .10/19/2019



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 HONOR MEN  
 33° INSPECTOR GENERAL, HONORARY



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*Baltimore*



William T. Ivey  
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Dennis W. Leland  
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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 HONOR MEN**  
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Dwight C. Metcalf  
Cumberland



William E. Miller III  
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Charles County



Joshua J. Crockett  
Baltimore



Reginald J. Eda  
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Darius K. Harris  
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Christopher J. Ricci  
Susquehanna



J. Michael Robbins  
Baltimore



Donald N. Russell  
Baltimore



Michael W. Shrank  
Frederick



Fredrick L. Smith  
Baltimore



Charlton T. Howard  
Frederick



Michael W. Kerns  
Cumberland



Scott G. Lapp  
Baltimore



David F. Long  
Salisbury



David E. Martak, Jr.  
Susquehanna



Jeremy P. Sotzen  
Baltimore



J. Bradley Thomas  
Baltimore



Jeffrey A. Vilkas  
Baltimore

Not Pictured  
 Robert D. Knight, Jr.  
Baltimore  
 Carl A. Michel, Jr.  
Baltimore  
 Christian J. Miele  
Baltimore  
 Benjamin A Zamostny  
Cumberland



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In Memory of  
 William E. Eisentrout by  
 American Legion Post No. 11 –  
 Francis Scott Key  
  
 In Memory of  
 William E. Eisentrout by  
 Lola V. Haupt

## Brothers Called From Labor To Eternal Rest

William E. Eisentrout, 33°  
 William R. C. Grau, Jr., 33°  
 Ray Bradford, 32°  
 Michael R. Bernstein, 32°  
 Richard E. Hunter, 32°  
 Thomas O. Morley, 32°  
 Darrel S. Johnson, 32°  
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 Richard Young, 32°  
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 John H. Mace, 32°  
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**Feast of Tishri  
2023**



**Ring  
Ceremony  
Fall 2023**





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Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

To the Officers and Members of:

ALBERT PIKE LODGE OF PERFECTION  
MEREDITH CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF KADOSH  
CHESAPEAKE CONSISTORY

FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME
_____	_____	_____

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (City or Town) (State) (ZIP Code)

Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (City or Town) (State) (ZIP Code)

And I have resided at my current residence preceding date of this petition for \_\_\_\_\_ months/years.

Employed by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Firm or Gov't Agency) (Address) (Telephone Number)

My Occupation, position or trade is that of \_\_\_\_\_  
(State fully nature of your duties. If retired, please indicate your former duties and employer.)

I am a Master Mason in good standing in \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of \_\_\_\_\_  
(City or Town) (State)

Date Raised \_\_\_\_\_ If raised in a Maryland Lodge, have you passed exam in 3rd degree Catechism? \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by two members in good standing in the Maryland Scottish Rite Bodies:

(1) _____ <small>(Printed name of Recommender)</small>	_____ <small>(Phone Number)</small>	_____ <small>(Signature)</small>	_____ <small>(Scottish Rite ID Number)</small>
(2) _____ <small>(Printed name of Recommender)</small>	_____ <small>(Phone Number)</small>	_____ <small>(Signature)</small>	_____ <small>(Scottish Rite ID Number)</small>

1. The Supreme Council requires the acceptance of the following fundamental principles: The inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order, underlying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and the entire separation of church and state as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America. Do you approve wholeheartedly of these principles? (Yes or No) \_\_\_\_\_

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I attest that I have never applied for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees, and now respectfully petition to receive the Degrees, from the Fourth to the Thirty-Second inclusis promising always to bear true faith and allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.  
(Note: If applicant has previously applied for any of the degrees, explain fully as to date, place and to what bodies such application was made.)

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
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## VALLEYS OF MARYLAND

### **Illustrious**

**Marlin L. Mills, 33°**

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### **BALTIMORE VALLEY**

**MEETS ON WEDNESDAY 7:30 P.M.**

Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
3800 North Charles Street, Baltimore,  
Maryland 21218

**Ill. Frederick Spicer, 33°**, GC—Executive Director

**Ill. Jason Q. Standish, 33°**—Secretary/Registrar,  
410-243-3200

### **CHARLES COUNTY VALLEY**

**MEETS SECOND WEDNESDAY 7:30 P.M.**

Masonic Temple  
710 Lodge Street, La Plata, MD 20646

**Ill. William A. Zarychta, 33°**—Personal  
Representative

**Hon. Reginald J. Eda, 32°**, KCCH—Secretary,  
301-910-1906

### **CUMBERLAND VALLEY**

**MEETS ON MONDAY 7:30 P.M.**

Masonic Temple  
15-21 Green Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502

**Ill. Jamey S. Hill, 33°**—Personal Representative

**Ill. Robin L. Summerfield, 33°**—Secretary,  
301-910-1906

### **FREDERICK VALLEY**

**MEETS ON THURSDAY 7:30 P.M.**

Masonic Temple  
6816 Blentlinger Road, Frederick, Maryland 21702

**Ill. Tommy J. Morris, 33°**—Personal Representative

**Ill. Scott Cameron, 33°**—Secretary, 301-846-0406

### **SALISBURY VALLEY**

**MEETS ON MONDAY 7:30 P.M.**

Masonic Temple  
110 N. Division Street, Salisbury, Maryland 21801

**Ill. Arthur H. Tawes, 33°**—Personal Representative

**Hon. Edward A. Welch, 32°**, KCCH—Secretary,  
443-235-6758

### **SOUTHERN MARYLAND VALLEY**

**MEETS ON WEDNESDAY 7:00 P.M.**

Masonic Temple  
24410 Mervell Dean Road, Hollywood,  
Maryland 20636

**Ill. John W. Leroy, Sr., 33°**—Personal Representative

**Ill. Alfred Girard, 33°**—Secretary, 301-904-6468

### **SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY**

**MEETS THIRD THURSDAY 7:00PM**

Masonic Temple  
20 Howard St., Aberdeen, Maryland 21001

**Ill. Ralph L. Perry, 33°**—Personal Representative

**Hon. David E. Martak, Jr., 32°**, KCCH—Secretary,  
443-686-0853

[www.susquehannasr.org](http://www.susquehannasr.org)