

# Around The Rite

"The Newsletter of the Valley of Ottawa AASR"



September 2016 Vol. 2 No. 1  
Produced 4 Times Annually

## SUPREME COUNCIL NEWS

Several important events and decisions marked the 142nd annual session of Supreme Council, which wrapped up Saturday, Sept. 17 in St. John's Newfoundland. Of importance to the Valley of Ottawa was the coroneting of two new Honorary Inspectors General in Ill. Bro. Ron Taylor 33° and Ill. Bro. Ivan Harris 33°.

Among the other highlights were:

- Two more HIGs were approved for Ottawa for the Supreme Council sessions next year in Montreal
- Our Active Member, Ill. Bro. Alan Arbuckle 33°, was named chair of the Communications Committee
- An increase in the per capita assessment of 50 cents in each of the next three years to cope with rising costs, declining membership and modest returns on investment; it's the first increase since 2009
- Establishing an ad hoc committee to consider going to a two-year cycle for full SC sessions with executive sessions in the odd numbered years
- The 33rd degree was given to the class of 35 candidates; next year the class will number 49
- A fourth Deputy was added for Ontario and Ill. Bro. Brian Gilkinson 33° was named to that position while Ill. Bro. Robert Brethour 33° replaced him as



**OTTAWA CONTINGENT:** *We had good representation from our Honorary Inspectors General at Supreme Council in St. John's this year. Shown with our newest 33rds are (standing L to R) Bob Taylor, Bob Tate, Ron Campbell, Don Mumby, Paul Todd, Giles Loshaw, Jeff Christie (seated L to R) Ivan Harris, Alan Arbuckle (Active Member), Sam Kalinowsky (Past Active) and Ron Taylor.*

Grand Secretary; Ill. Bro. Gilkinson becomes the new deputy for the Valley of Ottawa

- Ill Bro Gerald Budden 33° of Newfoundland and Ill Bro Morley Robinson 33° of Nova Scotia were named John Ross Matheson Award winners

- Overall membership declined to 14,719 from 15,608 the previous year; it stood at 21,712 in 2004

- There was a debate about allowing Easter Re-lighting Ceremonies to take place on Maundy Thursday; while a constitutional amendment to that effect was defeated, the Sovereign Grand

Commander said no more dispensations would be granted and the ceremony would have to take place on or following Easter Sunday

- The constitution was amended to make it easier to reinstate members suspended for non-payment of dues
- The new committee on Education and Enlightenment gave a presentation on their work; research papers are being placed on the website
- The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation awarded four new research grants and renewed support for eight other projects; 146 children were enrolled in Learning Centres across Canada; the investment portfolio stands at \$17 million

### Mission Statement:

The "**Around the Rite**" Newsletter will provide information to members of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Ottawa to educate, inform and inspire them to become more actively involved.

## The 2016-2017 AASR Valley of Ottawa Class has been named in honour of Ill. Bro. Jeff Christie.



Ill. Bro. Christie 33° was born in 1951 in Stratford, Ontario, to Ivan & Aileen Christie. He is the youngest of three children. He went to school in London, Toronto and the University of Waterloo, where he graduated in Economics. He is happily married to Paula (since 1978) with three children, and two grand-children. He worked in the federal Public Service (StatCan, Transport Canada, EMR, Parks Canada) for 30 years and has been retired for 10.

Jeff is an often-successful fisherman, a happy golf duffer and carpenter. His skills as a handyman and DIY expert are regularly tested at the Christie cottage on Healey Lake, near Parry Sound where Jeff and Paula spend most of their summers.

He joined Masonry in Sidney Albert Luke Lodge № 558 in 1984, where he was Master four times starting in 1988 and served as Secretary for over 25 years. He joined Scottish Rite in 1991 and was coroneted a 33° in 2011 at the Supreme Council sessions in Thunder Bay. He has been Secretary to the Executive Committee in the Valley of Ottawa for the last five years.

He is Director of the 13th degree and takes parts in a number of other degrees.

## WELCOME BACK BBQ



Sharon and John Guinn provided the chef services for our opening social event Sept. 10. Threatening weather and conflicts with other Masonic activities kept the crowd down, but those who attended ate well and enjoyed renewing friendships. We are already talking about how it can be improved for next year and thanks to Tunis Shrine for lending John the equipment. Ill. Bro. Guinn was chief organizer, as well as chief cook!

## NEW FOCUS ON EDUCATION

In response to the evident thirst for more education about the history, meaning and ritual of Scottish Rite, Ill. Bro. Don Mumby 33° has agreed to head education in the Valley of Ottawa. He will be looking for presenters who can give us some insights on those evenings when we have only one degree to watch. Given the new portal on the AASR website with a variety of papers and presentations readily available, we can all look forward to making a regular advancement in Masonic knowledge, as we were admonished to do! Don can be reached at 613-824-2618.

## Have you Seen Your Valley Website?

A lot of hard work has gone into the AASR website and it is being maintained so members of our Valley may keep current with what is happening around the Valley. Please take the opportunity to visit the site at

<http://ottawavalleysscottishrite.com/>

### Newsletter Team:

Newsletter Editor – Ill Bro. Alan Arbuckle

Newsletter Photographer – Ill Bro. Ivan Harris

Newsletter Distributor – Ill Bro. Jeff Christie

Newsletter Layout & Design – Ill Bro. Ron Taylor

# CONGRATULATIONS!

# VALLEY OF OTTAWA 33rd ANNUAL PICNIC

Members of the Valley of Ottawa deserve our hearty congratulations following Grand Lodge in July:

**Ill. Bro. Giles Loshaw 33°** was one of three Ontario Masons recognized for their years of dedication with the Grand Master's Award for Meritorious Service.

**Ill. Bro. Rob Clarke 32°** elected DDGM Ottawa 2  
**Ill Bro Jeff Noseworthy 32°**, Commander-in-Chief of Consistory appointed District Secretary of Ottawa District 2.

**Ill Bro Barry Burchill 32°**, elected to the Board of General Purposes.

**Ill Bro Mark Pogue 32°** appointed Grand Steward

## The Jeff Christie Class of 2016

This year's class is named in honour of Illustrious Brother Jeff Christie 33°. The collective Ballot will be held Monday September 26 and their AASR journey will begin with the 4th Degree on Monday October 24. The class has 10 Applicants so far – representing two provinces, three Districts and seven lodges.

They are:

### from Ottawa District GRQ:

*Lorraine No141* - James Allabi, and Marcel Pierre,  
*King Solomon Lodge No69* - Lionel Pongui,

### from Ottawa District 1:

*Mississippi No147* - Don Sadler,  
*Goodwood No159* - Jim McConnell and Gerald McEwen,  
*Hazledean No517* - Michael Turnbull  
*Sidney Albert Luke No558* - Alexander Mang

### from Ottawa District 2:

*Renfrew No122* - Scott Rodden and Jason Verbruggen



For the last 31 years, 33rd Degree Masons and their ladies have gathered for a picnic each July at the home of Ill. Bro. George Clausen and his wife Marlene. The HIGs hold a short business meeting at which they review issues such as the name of the class honouree for the coming year (this year it's Ill. Bro. Jeff Christie 33°) and their targets for charitable donations and hear an update from the Active Member, Ill. Bro. Alan Arbuckle 33°. But the event is largely social and culminates in Chef Clausen handing out burgers, hot dogs and sausages from the BBQ, while everyone helps themselves to salads and desserts. This year, thunder storms held the numbers down to 24 hearty participants.



## Do we have your email address?

If you have not already done so, **PLEASE** send an email to the Executive Secretary [ottawaexecsec@gmail.com](mailto:ottawaexecsec@gmail.com) so that he may add you to our email list. This will also ensure you get future copies of this Newsletter ☺ and save the Valley Money on mail outs.

### Newsletter Team:

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## Upcoming Events

Mon Sept 26 7:30 pm Lodge Ballot + Social

Mon Oct. 24 6:30 pm Reg'n of candidates  
7:30 pm Lodge 4<sup>o</sup>, 5<sup>o</sup>+ Social

Mon Nov 28 6:30 pm Soup'n Sandwiches  
7:30 pm Lodge 6<sup>o</sup>, 7<sup>o</sup>

Mon Dec 5 7:30 pm Lodge 9<sup>o</sup>, 10<sup>o</sup> + Social

Mon Dec 12 7:00 pm Adv. Comm.  
7:45 pm Exec.:Budget / Cal.

## The Valley of Ottawa Master Mason Degree Team

We are planning to confer 6 Degrees in the Region  
in the upcoming Masonic Year:

Degree Team Dates Booked:

Nov 24 - Ionic Ottawa District 2 during AASR Week  
March 2 - St. Andrews Ottawa District 1  
Oct 27 - Rideau-Minden Frontenac District  
Date TBD - Dalhousie Ottawa District 2  
Date TBD - Mississippi Ottawa District 1

Tentative: Avonmore Eastern District (we conferred  
a MM Degree there last year).

Wish List: St. Lawrence District Lodge or A different  
Lodge in Eastern District



**More about this on the website**

## Master Mason Night

A MM night is being planned during Scottish Rite Week-Nov 19-26 at 2140 Walkley Rd. Learn more about the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.....this is a great opportunity to explore beyond the 3rd degree, to discover the assassins of King Hiram, to travel through time and meet knights and monarchs. Mysteries will unfold before your eyes as short vignettes from several degrees are portrayed for your education, enlightenment and enjoyment. Wait for details via posters, Emails and the Web Page.



## Are You Looking to Serve Your Valley

The valley of Ottawa has the following positions  
that are needing to be filled:

**Marshall**—Marshalling the Candidates to and from  
degrees.

**Staging** – This person would be responsible for  
keeping the area behind the stage clean and tidy  
and may be called upon for some repairs to the  
equipment.

Remember everywhere the lessons here learned



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