

Around The Rite

"The Newsletter of the Valley of Ottawa AASR"



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WHO SHOULD BE A 33RD?

By Ill. Bro. Alan Arbuckle 33°
Active Member

For a great many reasons, not every Scottish Rite Mason can or should become a 33rd degree Honorary Inspector-General. The rank and title carry some serious responsibilities and costs. Candidates for the degree must be approved by a unanimous vote at Supreme Council. As our Statutes and Regulations make clear:

"The rank of Honorary Inspector-General is not given as a right and the Supreme Council receives from none an application for it." It goes on to note in the regulations: "The Honorary 33° entitlement should not be automatic for reaching a certain office or level, or a certain age, nor should it ever be applied for or asked for by an individual for himself."

The process begins in about February of each year when our Deputy sends the Active Member a letter instructing him to establish and chair a selection committee. That group of HIGs considers who, among the membership of the Valley, might make a suitable candidate.

While we no longer use a formula to decide how many 33rds should be in each Valley, a smaller Valley such as Ottawa can hope for approval of one or two candidates each year, but certainly not a dozen.

Once selected, an extensive and detailed form has to be submitted to the Deputy indicating the candidate's suitability. And it must be prepared without the candidate knowing he is being considered.

In Ontario, Active Members meet each year in Toronto in July at Grand Lodge and approve the names that have been submitted across the province. The names then go to the full Supreme Council in September. Only once finally and formally approved, is the candidate told he has been selected.

There is, of course, a price tag attached. Depending on where Supreme Council is held that year, there are travel and hotel costs, registration costs and the cost of the collar and ring. Exclusive of travel and accommodation, in 2016 the candidate is looking at about \$1500.00 just to start.

The Stats and Regs make clear this honour is extended to candidates in recognition of services rendered to the Masonic Order, country, church and humanity.

But that's only half the story. Of greater importance is the service he is able and willing to perform in the future.

The selection committee must be mindful that it is proposing a future leader for our Valley and, potentially, the next Active Member.

Expectations are high and are listed in the Regulations at article 8.2.2.

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Remember everywhere the lessons here learned



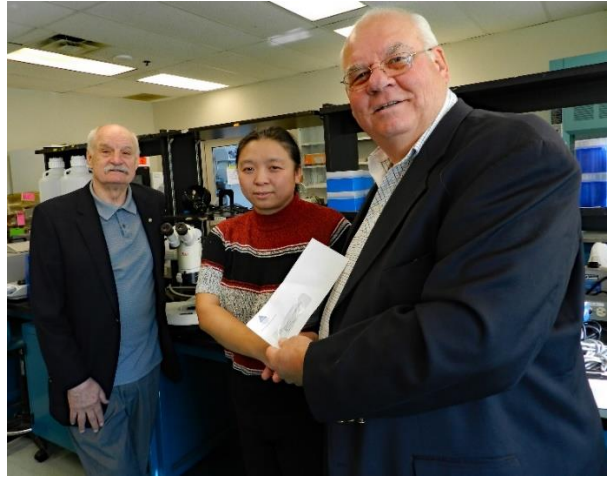
Mission Statement:

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.



HOISTING ONE FOR SCOTTISH RITE

Members of this year's class of candidates show support for the class honoree, Ill. Bro. Jeff Christie, our Executive Secretary. There are 11 candidates this year and we welcomed some additions from the Valley of Montreal for the 4th and 5th degrees. In addition to keeping the administrative chores tidy, Jeff also briefs the class before each of the degrees they will receive to help them understand the ritual.



GRANT PRESENTED

Dr. Jing Wang of the Ottawa Hospital and the University of Ottawa (centre) accepts a cheque for \$35,000 from the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation for her work into inhibiting Alzheimer's disease in aging adults. The Foundation will support the research for three years as part of its effort to solve "the puzzles of the mind" such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease in adults and autism and dyslexia in children. Dr. Wang is exploring whether a common diabetes medication, Metformin, can be helpful in improving memory function through reactivation of the neuroregenerative process that may be impaired in Alzheimer's disease. Making the presentation on behalf of the Scottish Rite is Ill. Bro. Alan Arbuckle (right), Active Member for the Valley of Ottawa, and Ill. Bro. Sam Kalinowsky, a past director of the SRCF. (Ivan Harris photo)



AASR DEGREE TEAM IN ALMONTE

Our Degree Team performed to their usual high standard at Mississippi Lodge No. 147 on October 20. Here the candidate, Bro. Mark Brazeau stands with the Master of the lodge W. Bro. Kevin Zeigler, surrounded by members of the team. A hearty festive board started the evening off on the right foot!

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:

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NEW MM IN SEELEY'S BAY

Our AASR degree team journeyed through sleet to Seeley's Bay Oct. 27 to confer a third degree on Bro. Phillip Beale, who came to Rideau Minden Lodge from Trillium Lodge in Guelph. Shown is Ill. Bro. Barry Birchill (right), who served as Master for the degree team, Bro. Beale, his father-in-law, W.Bro. Russell Little from North Hatley, Quebec, and Rideau Minden's Master, W.Bro. Thomas MacFarlane (far left). After the degree, Ill. Bro. Giles Loshaw, on behalf of the Valley, presented a donation to Rideau Minden's project to raise money for one of their members who is suffering from the rare and fatal illness fatal familia insomnia.

Do we have your email address?

If you have not already done so, PLEASE send an email to the Executive Secretary 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.



Ill. Bro. Christie is shown here with Thomas Pilson, Master Councilor

AASR continues to support DeMolay

On Saturday November 12, 2016 Ill Bro Jeff Christie 33^o, Executive Secretary represented the Valley of Ottawa in presenting a donation to the Ottawa Chapter of DeMolay during their Annual Appreciation Night. The Valley of Ottawa has supported DeMolay in Ottawa since sponsoring them in 1974.

RENEWAL COMMITTEE

Ill. Bro. John Forster has been asked to chair the Renewal Committee, which reports to our Executive Committee. John is still getting organized, but one step he plans is to publish attendance figures at our regular degree nights so everyone can see the turnout.

Membership Attendance:

Oct. 24	55 members (20 33rds) 3 visitors
Nov. 28	49 members (16 33rds) 1 visitor
Dec. 5	42 members (13 33rds)

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For the Past:

- Has demonstrated love of God, devotion to the Masonic Order, loyalty to his country and sympathy with suffering humanity.
- Has demonstrated virtue, honour and faithful service.
- Has obtained, after long probation and with testimonials of services rendered, evidence of merit, influence, consideration, authority and power.
- Must be at least 33 years of age.

For the Future:

- Must have skills and ability for being a Chief and Leader.
- One who does not see this as a retirement honour, but who is able to perform more faithful and greater services in the future by:
 - o Aiding in the labour of the three Scottish Rite bodies
 - o Being present at their meetings
 - o Assisting with their counsel
 - o Making their meetings more profitable and interesting.
- One who possesses vision, one that may have the attributes to become an Active member of Supreme Council or has a special skill needed as an Active Member of Supreme Council. Age needs to be a consideration.
- One who is able to contribute in promoting the interests and objectives of Supreme Council and Scottish Rite in general.

Obviously, only those who have obtained their 33rd degree can witness the degree being performed for the class of candidates each year at Supreme Council. It is a moving and memorable experience for the candidates, who can choose for themselves who they want to invest them with their collar and ring.

Only HIGs can attend Supreme Council, but only Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General can attend the executive sessions of the council, except when the

Sovereign Grand Commander extends an invitation to all the 33rds.

An Honorary Inspector-General must be available to serve Supreme Council in any way asked of him. He must also “guide the feet of his brethren in the true way and prevent them from stumbling and freely open to them the exchange of his knowledge. He must be guided solely by impartiality, justice and loving kindness.”

There are several pages devoted to the duties and responsibilities of an HIG. It is no small undertaking and selecting candidates for the 33rd degree involves a great many factors.

It’s a great honour, but it’s not for everyone.



Ill. Bro. Arthur Buss celebrated his 100th birthday Nov. 28!

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The Valley of Ottawa Master Mason Degree Team

Degree Team Dates Booked:

February 21 - Dalhousie Ottawa District 2

March 2 - St. Andrews Ottawa District 1

Tentative:

Cornwall-Corinthian Eastern District



DEGREE TEAM VISITS IONIC LODGE

The Valley of Ottawa's AASR Degree Team conferred a third at Ionic Lodge on Thursday, Nov. 24. Shown in the front are the candidate, Bro. Derek Zimmerman, R/Wor Bro Charles Singh, Worshipful Master at Ionic and Ill. Bro. Mark Pogue, who acted as W/Master for the Degree Team. To Mark's right is Ill. Bro. Rob Clarke, current DDGM of Ottawa 2. (The photo is by W/Bro Ken Goudie of Ionic)



QUARRYMEN AT WORK:

Jim McConnell (left) a member of this year's class, found himself in doubtful company during the 10th degree Dec. 5. Brad Belisle (centre) playing Raha and Sam Kalinowsky (right) as Nahassa ran afoul of King Solomon for the murder of the Master Hiram, despite being well disguised as hardworking masons in the land of Gath. (Ivan Harris photo)

Upcoming Events

Mon Dec 12 7:00 pm Adv. Comm. 7:45 pm

Exec.:Budget / Cal.

Mon Jan. 9 - 13th degree

Mon Jan 23 - 14th, with banquet and visit by our Deputy for Ontario



MASTER MASONS' NIGHT

We assembled a fine looking cast and crew for our Master Masons' Night Nov. 22. A lot of work went into the five excerpts from the degrees we perform regularly. Unfortunately, we only attracted three prospective candidates to see the performance and almost none of our own members, including our current officers, so we played to an empty house. We will have to do it better, or do it differently in future. (Ivan Harris photo)

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