

# Around The Rite

"The Newsletter of the Valley of Ottawa AASR"



May, 2018 Vol. 4 No. 2  
Produced 4 Times Annually

**Our Valley mourns the passing of three distinguished members. Ill Bro Bill Burns 33° died in January and his memorial service in the care of St. Andrew's Lodge takes place Sunday May 6 at 2140 Walkley Rd. More recently, Ill Bros George Clauson 33° of Lodge of Fidelity and Charles Mavor 33° of Dalhousie Lodge died on the weekend of April 29, 2018**

## REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Highlights of an Executive Committee meeting held Monday, April 2:

- Ill Bro Ken Goudie, a member of this year's class, agreed to act as Marshal for the candidates next year; we are still looking for someone to handle staging and take the lead on visitation.
- Our chair of Renewal, Ill Bro John Forster, reported he would speak to the class about holding a third candidates' dinner after the 32nd degree, given the poor turnout so far; he also noted the concern about dwindling attendance at degrees and the importance of getting new candidates involved as soon as they have their 32nd degrees.
- The Lodge reported that it will need two new officers for next year and for the 10th degree Ill Bro Brian Irvine agreed to take this on with help from Ill Bro Al Arbuckle who will find cast members.
- The Chapter reported that Mark Pogue had agreed to sit as MWS, replacing Andre McArdle, Ill

Bro Ron Taylor will move to 1st General and we will need a 2nd General.

- Consistory reported it has its top three positions filled, Ill Bro Evan Jameson has the assembly book completed and everyone was working toward the Consistory degrees.
- Ill Bro Ton Taylor has completed a preliminary application to host the 150th anniversary of Supreme Council in 2024, which will be forwarded to the SC office.
- Ill Bro Steve Thomson, chair of Long Range Planning, said his team had held its first meeting and was considering a phone survey of candidates over the last five years to learn how well we are meeting expectations; the committee will be looking three, five and ten years ahead and will consider questions around relocation to reduce rent, the number of degrees we continue to portray and changing demographics of our members.
- Ill Bro Sam Kalinowsky presented financial statements on behalf of Treasurer Ill Bro Jeff Noseworthy, but because they had only been distributed late that day they were not voted on. A

### 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.

draft budget for presentation to the AGM April 30 was considered.

- The Trustees reported that despite taking \$85,000 out of reserves for operating expenses, our reserves grew by \$24,551 to \$1,418,108.
- Ill Bro Alan Arbuckle, our Active Member, reported the next family brunch will be April 21, noted the upcoming visit of our Deputy Ill Bro Brian Gilkinson on April 13-14, the open allegory April 14 and elections to be held during the AGM April 30.

## AGM HIGHLIGHTS

The Secretary counts 429 individual members of the Valley, down from 449 last year

He distributed an annual plan showing elections at the AGM and installation in September

The Renewal Committee is looking at recruiting methods since we won't be allowed an Open Allegory

The Treasurer's budget and financial statements were approved

Our reserve funds stand at \$1.4 million

Almoner Dale Olm wants to know if anyone is ill or in distress

Principal officers elected in each body were Ill Bros:

**Lodge:** John Guinn, Steve Thomson, Mark Gautier

**Chapter:** Mark Pogue, Ron Taylor, Jeff Noseworthy

**Consistory:** Rob Clarke, Phil Easterman, Scott Howie

## GRAND INSPECTORS INQUISITORS COMMANDERS:



Officers in the 31st degree (L to R) Ill Bros John Forster, Barry Burchill, Alan Arbuckle, Fadi Sabbagh, David Wylie the representative candidate, Evan Jameson, Jeff Noseworthy, Sam Kalinowsky, Ian McGill. (Ivan Harris photo)

## MEET FLORIO



Ill Bro Gavin Hall 32°, Commander-in-Chief of the Ottawa Consistory, threw off the plummed hat and cape of his office April 14 and transformed himself into Florio, one of those who tempted Constans to abandon his vigil. The Allegory was open to friends and family and we had a good turnout of about 65 people in the galleries, which are usually sadly empty for the degrees. Not everyone would look so good in tights! (Ivan Harris photo)

### Newsletter Team:

Newsletter Editor – Ill Bro. Alan Arbuckle

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Newsletter Layout & Design – Ill Bro. Ron Taylor

# The duties and responsibilities of sponsors

## ***YOUR SIGNATURE MEANS A LOT***

When you sign an application to join Scottish Rite as a Sponsor, you take on certain responsibilities that sometimes are forgotten or ignored. Ill Bro John Forster, chair of our Renewal Committee, offers these thoughts to remind us of what's involved:

### **Background:**

The initial responsibility for the introduction of qualified candidates rests with the Sponsors. The Sponsors provide the background information which in turn is ratified through any means available. Sponsoring or co-sponsoring a candidate should never be taken lightly or without a lot of thought as to the suitability and the seriousness of the candidate's request to become a Scottish Rite Mason.

### **Guidance for the Sponsors:**

Any brother who is considering sponsoring or co-sponsoring a new member must assume the responsibility of enhancing his own Masonic knowledge prior to accepting the challenge of becoming a sponsor. This will allow the Sponsor to entertain questions on Scottish Rite and enable him to give factual answers to those seeking such information.

*The following points must be met before a Sponsor offers an application form to a perspective new member:*

You must know the applicant well enough to assess his reasons for joining. You shouldn't become a sponsor unless you have known the applicant for a period of at least six months.

You must ask the necessary questions to satisfy yourself that the candidate's interest in Scottish

Rite is in keeping with what we are looking for in new members.

You must ask the candidate, what is it that he hopes to gain from a membership?

You must ensure that the applicant is aware that the only valid reason for joining is to better himself as a man and is prepared to put forth the effort required to accomplish this goal. If the applicant has not considered this as his main reason for joining, this is the proper time for the sponsor to suggest to the candidate that he reflect a bit more on his reasons for wanting to become a Scottish Rite Mason.

You must ensure that the applicant is not joining for purely social reasons or in the hope that a membership will assist him in a professional or financial way.

You should ascertain if the applicant is in a position in his private life to attend meetings regularly.

As his sponsor or co-sponsor, you must be prepared to work with the candidate and be his guide during the Degrees and beyond. You should consider driving the candidate to the meetings while they are going through their degrees.

You are also responsible to make sure the applicant is fully aware of the costs associated with membership and to ensure that he can meet his responsibilities without due stress on his family.

If the applicant meets the expectations of membership you should assist the applicant with the application form. You must also draw to the attention of the applicant to the declaration he will be required to make on the Application Form.

### **After the degrees are completed**

It will be your responsibility to maintain contact with the candidate during his Degrees.

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## LAST BRUNCH OF THE SEASON



A small but enthusiastic crowd took in our final brunch before the summer break. We've been gathering at Hometown Heroes on Bank St. (near Heron Rd.) as it seems fairly central and the food is good. Plan to join us in the fall.

It is your responsibility to ensure the attendance of the candidate at our regular meetings. This obligation does not stop after the 32nd degree.

You are, as much as anyone, responsible for encouraging the candidate, after his 32nd degree, to participate in the activities of each of the three bodies.

The responsibility of sponsorship endures permanently. The relationship between members and their sponsors should be a special one with the newer member relying on his sponsor for information and support whenever he asks for it. This should include, but not be limited to, contacting the new member if he is absent at a subsequent meeting or event to ensure that he knows that such absence was noted and regretted. In other words that we missed him!

## Attendance Numbers

Date	Degree	Candidates	33rds	Other/Visitors	TOTAL
Jan 15	13	12	14	11	37
Jan 22	14	12	12	17	41
Feb 12	15	11	13	14	38
Feb 26	17	10	13	14	37
Mar 12	18	10	15	18	43
Mar 29	Maundy Thu	5	17	19	41
Apr 9	24/29	9	18	25	52
Apr 13	30	10	18	20	48
Apr 14	31/32	10	20	34	64
Apr 30	AGM		15	20	35

## NEW KNIGHTS



The Late Ill Bro George Clauson 33° playing Sultan Bajazet-Yilderim is flanked by two members of this year's class, Ken Goudie (R) and Jim Duck, acting as his sons in the 29th degree, Knight of St. Andrew. The Sultan, resplendent in costume, was so impressed with the courage of his captives, he joined the order! (Ivan Harris photo)

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## MASTERS OF THE ROYAL SECRET



The representative candidate, Ill Bro Zack McMillan 32°, is flanked by our Active Member Ill Bro Alan Arbuckle 33° and our Deputy for Ontario Ill Bro Brian Gilkinson 33° at the centre of this picture. Officers and others, including Ill Bro Burt Panke 33°, the class honoree, far right surround them. (Ivan Harris photo)

## DRESS FOR SUCCESS



Ill Bro Don Harrison 33° (left) cut quite a figure April 9 in the 24th degree as Zadoc, who did part of the initiation of Adoniram, the new Prince of the Tabernacle, played by Ill Bro Mark Pogue 33°. Don also handled costumes for the cast and Mark, who drew much plainer garb, was the degree director. (Ivan Harris photo)

## DON'T MESS WITH THIS GUY!



Ill Bro John Guinn 32° mugged for the camera in his role as a Turkish guard in the 29th degree, Knight of St. Andrew. A few minutes earlier, he was playing Argon, an Athenian noble, in the 24th degree and had a much more refined costume. (Ivan Harris photo)

## Volunteers Needed by YOUR Valley:

**Sick and Visiting**

**Staging**

**Remember everywhere the lessons here learned**



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