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*Every first Tuesday of the month is the Heads of Bodies and Knights of Saint Andrew meetings

**Dinners are every Thursday before the degrees. You can RSVP and pay for your meal by [clicking here](#)

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE FULL CALENDAR](#)



Albert Pike

VALLEY OF MINNEAPOLIS
ORIENT OF MINNESOTA

VALUED MEMBER SINCE 1873

2011 Dupont Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405

MEMBER NO. 00001



2022

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STANDING AT THE GATE

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This selected article was fascinating in its discussion of the balloting process in our Blue Lodges, more especially when it comes from the De Molay Bulletin publication out of Iowa. The article is thought-provoking, and in the opinion of this Editor, controversial. As you read it, I hope you think about your own opinion of balloting and draw your own conclusions.

Careful readers of this august publication will recall that in the [previous issue](#), we discussed briefly the Calvin Coolidge Presidency. We have the benefit of time, but it is ironic that a hundred years ago, this author decided to use the example of Brother Warren G. Harding as an example of a Mason wronged by a vindictive brother. Ironic, knowing what we know about Harding now and his [scandalous administration](#).

I hope you find this look back in history interesting! The SUN in 1924 did not sign their articles, yet we know that this was republished from the De Molay Bulletin based out of Iowa.

Mark Evan Prewett, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Editor for the SUN

SCOTTISH RITE SUN JULY 1924

An eminent philosopher has said, "If you cheat when you are playing solitaire, you're hopeless." Every Mason with hand outstretched to cast his ballot on the fate of a petitioner as playing a serious game of solitaire and the misuse of the cube by any Mason may bring sorrow and heartache to the rejected one and but empty satisfaction to himself. If the Mason who is making use of the cube does so for any other reason than the conserving of the honor and purity of the Order, a greater wrong is done the rejector than to the rejected.

Lest we be missed understood, let it be said at the outset that every brother has a right to cast a black ball but let it always be remembered that a man's duty is an infinitely greater thing than a man's right.

It is the duty of every Mason to keep the order clean and it is his duty as well as to allow no man to pass within the gates who will bring discredit upon the Order or sow the seed of discord within it. It is his duty to see that no one is permitted to assume the emblem whose touch would defile and desecrate it.

But there are other duties which rest upon the voter. He has no hint anywhere in all the teachings of masonry to excuse or exonerate him from the use of the black ball if he uses it because of personal prejudice or dislike. A man who commits such offence is too small to ever bear the name of Mason, although he may be a member of the Order.

Every candidate who petitions for the Masonic Degrees is at the mercy of the black-baller but let it be said to the honor of the craft that the men who hold this high responsibility and misuse it to "get even" or vent the private spite or small number as well as soul. It is the duty of every Mason to keep himself big and broad in his judgment of his fellow men. It is his duty to remember that the Great Master once said to a group of men who were about to cast a black ball in condemnation of one who had sinned, "Let him who is without sin cast the first."

When the petitioners name is presented for ballot, let us weigh the matter carefully. Let us ask ourselves if there has been something inexcusably bad in the life of this man whom we are allowed to judge; Has he committed a wrong that cannot be reconciled or righted or that he has not regretted and atoned for. It is our duty to remember that vengeance

does not belong to us and that there is no such thing in masonry as vindictative(sic) justice. “Vengeance is mine and I will repay, saith the Lord.” “With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured unto you verily I say, judge not that ye be not judged.”

The man who casts a queue for reasons of personal dislike, animosity, envy or spite is so small that he could be hidden behind the cube while he drops in secrecy. Before even touching the ballot, he should remember the time when his hands rested on the holy Bible, square and compasses, and then given heed to what the Supreme Grand Master sees and knows of his axe even though he may think his secret safe.

Light is the element in which Masons grow and develop. No man who lives in the true light of masonry will touch a black ball except as a last resort to preserve the good name of our Order and never to save himself or minister to his own pride or narrowness.

Brother Warren G. Harding was held for years in the humble place and Entered Apprentice by the actor of a rival editor in a country town. When this man had passed to his reward, unknown outside a small circle of acquaintances, the man whom he sought to injure had advanced step by step and had at last attained the highest gift within the power of the people of this country, and undaunted by years and years of waiting for the Light of Masonry, came forward and was proudly accorded Masonic recognition and initiation into all the branches of Masonry and who can say that he was not deserving of the honors.

Quoting from the writings of one of God’s own Noblemen: “We are often the victims of gross misunderstandings. The crookedness which we may think we see in our Brother may in reality be in ourselves. The eyes through which we gaze upon so another fellow being may itself be so distorted that the monstrous formalities which it presents to us maybe of its own creation.”

Where did not be good policy to resolve that when in doubt, cast a ball and not a cube?

-De Molay Bulletin, Iowa.



MOST WORSHIPFUL

The Scottish Rite of Freemasonry is pleased to announce that one of our distinguished members, Most Worshipful Brother Foster Solem, 33° IGH, has been elected as the Grandmaster of Masons of Minnesota for the 2024-2025 term. We extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes to Most Worshipful Brother Solem on this high honor and important responsibility!

So when you see Foster in our halls, be sure to give him a hug and a congratulations!

Masonry is useful to all men: to the learned, because it affords them the opportunity of exercising their talents upon the subjects eminently worthy of their attention; to the illiterate, because it offers them important instruction; to the young, because it presents them with salutary precepts and good examples, and accustoms them to reflect on the proper mode of living; to the man of the world, whom it furnishes with noble and useful recreation; to the traveler, whom it enables to find friends and brothers in countries where else he would be isolated and solitary; to the worthy man in misfortune, to whom it gives assistance; to the afflicted, on whom it lavishes consolation; to the charitable man, whom it enables to do more good, by uniting with those who are charitable like himself; and to all who have souls capable of appreciating its importance, and of enjoying the charms of a friendship founded on the same principles of religion, morality, and philanthropy.



RITUAL CORNER

Greetings Scottish Rite Brethren.

On Saturday, April 27th, 2024, the Minneapolis Valley hosted the final day of our Spring Reunion. What a great day it was, with the opportunity to see the 18th, 30th, and 32nd degrees all in one day. These terminal degrees introduce and explain many concepts from Scottish Rite philosophy. They take you to different times and places, reveal the lost word of Freemasonry, and the Royal Secret of the 32nd degree.

In addition to the degrees, everyone in attendance enjoyed great fellowship with our Scottish Rite Brethren from the entire Minnesota Orient. We were treated to fantastic meals and welcomed the newest Scottish Rite Masters of the Royal Secret to the Minneapolis Valley.

Many things happen behind the scenes to make the Reunion possible. All the committees; Dining Room, Properties, and many more, work hard all day as they do every Thursday from August through May. The Reunion and every Thursday is a great time to meet the heads of the committees and committee members and start to get involved at the Minneapolis Valley. I invite you to join us for the Fall class and help make our great Valley even better through your participation.

At the university of Freemasonry, you can continue your journey toward Masonic Light. Come and enjoy the degrees, the fellowship, the food, the education and learning of Scottish Rite Masonry. I look forward to seeing you there!

Fraternally,

Lee E. Kielblock, 33° I.:G.:H.:
Ritual Director, Minneapolis Valley



WORLD CLASS

Our brother Richard Carter said that the education we have at Minneapolis Valley is, and I quote “the best in the world!” Having visited an estimated 300 lodges around the globe, I believe Br. Carter can speak with some authority on this subject. Excluding the fact that some Valleys have no education program at all, what makes our Valley so special? While I can not speak with such a vast depth of experience like our dear brother, I can say with some certainty that this is due to a combination of our skill and our approach.

The education program that we run is a highly reworked version of the Master Craftsman slide program available from the Supreme Council. With this as our starting place, we then met weekly for several months adapting those slideshows into a more efficient and effective system, stripped down to salient points to fit the necessary time constraints. Our approach to dissecting the symbolism of these degrees has been to make them practical for the candidate and applicable to their daily life because, as we are reminded in the 32nd degree, “a single moral lesson put in practice, a single philosophical or spiritual truth learned and appreciated, adds more to a man’s true wisdom than all that the sciences have to teach him.” In order to make these lessons more tangible and easier to put into practice, we present most information in a question and answer format that facilitates discussion. This discussion helps the candidates better understand and process

the lessons of the degrees so that they can more meaningfully apply them to their lives. After all, that is the point of us putting on these degrees, right?

But the best education program in the world wouldn't get us anywhere without the people to deliver it. For that, I am grateful to be working with some of the sharpest and most engaging brothers in the Valley. Despite how easy they make it look, preparing to run a class for a night is a formidable challenge. The depth of knowledge needed of the degree, the historical context and the related subject matter is vast and requires significant time to prepare for. Like all committees, we are always looking for volunteers. If this sounds like a challenge for you, I invite you to contact me in person or at education@scottish-rite-mpls.org.

M. Justin Thompson, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Education Chair



REMEMBRANCE & RENEWAL

On March 23, the Minneapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite held our annual Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal. The ceremony began with the Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix declaring the special meeting at Labor. The ceremony proceeded with a speech by Most Worshipful Brother, John Studell, 33° I.:G.:H.: and Past Wise Master of the Chapter Rose Croix. Wise Master Craig Kamman, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.: called the Master of Ceremonies, Ty Schmidt, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:, to report on the Call of the Roll of the Craft. The Master of Ceremonies reported that 40 Brothers had failed to respond when called. Proper investigation revealed that the Brethren who failed to respond had been taken from them and now respond to a higher call, a higher duty, in a lodge more

sacred and blessed than any on this Earth.

The officers then joined the Wise Master at the altar and the choir, directed by Ralph Johansen, 33° I.:G.:H.:, sang “Sleep thy Last Sleep”. The Master of Ceremonies then read the names of the Brethren who no longer respond to their call.

To Wit:

John R. Arneson	Robert L. Johnson
Gerald R. Asplund	John H. Jones
C. David Barnes	Thomas W. Laurel
Charles L. Brown	Larry C. Lennon
Glenn H. Carlson	Corey Matthew Lewandoski
James E. Coleman	Craig R. Lewis, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
William C. Coleman	John H. Lindgren, 33° I.:G.:H.:
Raymond J. Cornforth	Thomas H. MacLeod
Richard H. Cronstrom	Daniel B. McAlpine
David E. Culbert	Bradford D. McCanna
Lawrence W. Edelmann	Kenneth G. Niebuhr
Daniel H. Ellison	Michael D. Olson
Thomas S. Ewing	Joseph W. Pollock
Vernon H. Flacksbarth	Michael J. Reis
Henry H. Gyllenblad, 33° I.:G.:H.:	Richard A. Rindal
Robert E. Hafvenstein	James C. Schwanebeck
Robert J. Haugen	Merton W. Shapiro
James F. Holmes	Lowell R. Turner
Ray S. Hoosier	Donald C. Walker
Walter B. Jansen	Dale G. Wetterstrom

The Wise Master then led the audience in honoring the memory of the departed brethren with expressions of sorrow, thankfulness, celebration, and hope. The Senior Warden, David Graham, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:, Junior Warden, Kevin Sullivan, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:, Guardian of the Temple, Mark Evan Prewett, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:, and the Wise Master each spoke about the departed Brethren. The Standard Bearer, Collin Abram, 32° M.:R.:S.:, then offered a prayer of thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe.

The Remembrance Message was then given by the Orator, Frank Namestek, 33° I.:G.:H.:. The Orator spoke about the journey of the departed brethren through Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite. The Senior Warden then placed the Candle of Remembrance in a position

of honor west of the altar and obtained light from the lesser lights of the lodge to kindle the Candle of Remembrance. The Wise Master then obtained light for his Masonic journey from the light left behind by the departed brethren and the candle was lighted in solemn commemoration of the memories of the departed brethren. The ceremony concluded with a closing prayer of renewal offered by the Standard Bearer.

The Ceremony of Remembrance & Renewal was a solemn and moving event that honored the memory of the departed brethren and provided comfort and support to their families and the fraternity.

Mark Evan Prewett, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Guardian of the Temple
Chapter Rose Croix



LOOK AT THE PEOPLE

Look at the people in the montage, actors, astronauts, sports hero's, leaders of industry and politics, what do they all have in common in their success? , they were all DeMolay ! DeMolay in their youth provided opportunities to learn grow and provided the skills to aid them towards their adult lives. All of these men are in the DeMolay International Hall of Fame. Youth today need the same principles of leadership and character building that these men had. Our youth today and members presently in DeMolay, who among them may in the future may have a picture included with these men of distinction. Your son, nephew or neighborhood kid could be a Hall of Fame member if given the opportunity, mndemolay.org can provide the first step.

Minnesota DeMolay now calls the Minneapolis Scottish Rite home, office space has been provided for DeMolay, stop by on a Thursday night if the office is open and have a chat.

Mark Hailer, 33° I.:G.:H.:



KNIGHT AND DAY DIFFERENCE

We all know how profound our first 3 degrees of Masonry are in our lives. Being raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason few men will say was a true high point of their lives. But there is an unending amount of light in God's great creation, and he wants us to discover it. Each for ourselves.

In searching for more light, the next 11 degrees as presented in the Scottish Rite expand upon our Masonic foundations. We go deeper into the stories of the times of Solomon and learn many concepts, small and great. We grow in knowledge, descend to the depths in search of it and find we are worthy to know the great symbol of Masonry. Virtual Junxit Mors Non Seperabit. But we continue on. Our foundation is ever stronger it is time for even greater light. So, let's really start searching within and without. The next 4 degrees develop our minds, broaden our thoughts, teach us lessons of ancient origins. This proves us worthy to know the True Word.

Hal le lu jah

Time for some fun. The next 12 degrees give us time to play. Men in tights kind of play. But also, knights with swords. Who hasn't dreamed in their youth of being a knight?

Well, it's part of it, but it's not really the point or purpose. We learn more, pushing back into antiquity. An introduction to the mysteries of old but left completely open for our introspection and interpretation. But ultimately, we find men taking this knowledge and doing knightly things. Your integrity is the truth you'll find in this crusade. Nekam Adonai.

Then come 2 final degrees. Unique is only a small word to describe them. But you're not at the end. You now have a lifetimes worth of light to dissect and discover. In Deo Feducia Nostra.

Tim Boche, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.:
Commander, Chapter Knight Kadosh

WRITERS WANTED!

Have an article idea?

Send all submissions to sun@scottish-rite-mpls.org!

Want to join the Scottish Rite communications committee?

Contact WB Stephen Kesler, 32° K.:C.:C.:H.: at

communications@aasrmn.org



Ye sons of old Killie, assembled by Willie,
To follow the noble vocation;
Your thrifty old mother has scarce such
another
To sit in that honoured station.
I've little to say, but only to pray,
As praying's the t on of your fashion;
A prayer from thee Muse you well may
excuse
'Tis seldom her favourite passon.
Ye powers who preside o'er the wind,
and the tide,
Who marked each element's border:
Who formed this frame with beneficent
aim,
Whose sovereign statute is order:
Within this dear mansion, may wayward
Contention
Or withered Envy ne'er enter;
May secrecy round be the mystical
bound,
And brotherly Love be the centre!

Dennis L. Heinzen - February 23, 2024

Don M. Kinnander - February 4, 2024

Willis D. Peterson - March 31, 2024

Jerald E. Starks - February 25, 2024

Art V. Drattlo - March 9, 2024

Douglas W. Carlson - January 22, 2024

Paul E. Hansen - January 27, 2024

Ronald W. Hechsel - January 29, 2024

