



Welcome to a New Year at the Minneapolis Valley Scottish Rite.

We start the New Year with our new entrance which leads to a new elevator for ease of going up or down stairs.

Also just to the right of the new entrance are a pair of new flag poles. We would like to thank the Grand Lodge for their donation. The flags went up for the first time on Saturday Nov. 16, with about 75 Brothers on hand to watch and participate as Grand Master David Olson lead us in the pledge of allegiance.



Minneapolis Valley Scottish Rite

Lodge of Perfection

I'm writing for the Lodge of Perfection at this time because of the loss of our Venerable Master, David R. Epling, 33° Inspector General Honorary. Never did I imagine this past March 2013 when he became Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection and I became Senior Warden that our Brother David would be gone just eight months later. He will be dearly missed and it makes me reflect about all the changes that we all go through in life.

As a young boy I imagined that things around me would last forever or at least not change in my lifetime. There were businesses in town that posted signs "since 1883" or something similar way long ago. This just reinforced my belief that "things just don't change or should not change". My grandparents and parents remained in their occupation for their entire careers.

But now as I get older and see the changes around me, I realize that my early childhood beliefs relative to change were a myth. Never did I imagine that Dayton's would be gone or Northwest Orient Airlines, Northwestern National Bank (Norwest), Donaldson's, Powers, Control Data and of course as you know, the list goes on.

But how does this relate to the Minneapolis Scottish Rite? Perhaps many of us just don't think the Scottish Rite could ever change or worse yet, disappear like the companies listed above. We had a rather brisk discussion at our November 5, 2013 Lodge of Perfection meeting in regards to the continued use of the Scottish Rite investments to pay our monthly expenses. One estimate was that if things don't "change" we may only be able to survive another 10 years utilizing our investments.

Have those of us who are older become complacent about the dangers of what might happen if we don't change? Can we all, older Brothers and new younger Brothers, do something now to insure that the Minneapolis Scottish Rite is around in another 100 years.

I don't have the answers, but we should all be thinking about how we can bring about positive change to the Minneapolis Scottish Rite. Is it more energy saving conservation methods at the Rite, is it continuing to modify the Initiation criteria or fees, is it concentrating on recruiting bigger classes, do we invite more Masonic units into rental agreements at the Rite, can we form a number of small focus groups to work on the problem, or do we just need a single large "committee" to solve the problem, etc., etc.

I wish I knew the exact answer, but as Tsadoc (the SW in the 8th Degree) says, "Then, O Wise King, I am at a loss what to advise". I know that our deceased Venerable

Master, David R. Epling, would want our Minneapolis Scottish Rite to live forever, because as individual human beings, we cannot. Maybe David is speaking to me from the Celestial Lodge above and hoping that he can motivate us all to preserve that which he loved so much.

Roger D. Schmid, 32° K.:C.:C.:H

SW, Lodge of Perfection

RITECARE ARTICLE HEY BROTHER, CAN YOU SPARE A DIME

Although the Masonic family is known for its wide range of Masonic Charities, in the Scottish Rite, our particular Charity is RiteCare, designed specifically for children ages 3 through 7 who have a wide range of speech difficulties, some physical, some mental, some emotional that are able to be helped by therapy. Tens of thousands today are leading healthy normal lives because of Scottish Rite Brothers like you.

The Valleys of Minneapolis and St. Paul have combined their resources and have formed a partnership call RiteCare of Minneapolis-St. Paul. This Scottish Rite Charity assists children by paying for their therapy at an approved Speech Clinic by paying their insurance co-pays or the full amount of their treatment up to \$5,000 per year. At this time we have over twenty children in the program with a long waiting list waiting for help.

Because of our national economic distress, Grant money is hard to come by, so we depend more and more on your help. It is especially important when applying for Grants that a large number of members contribute to the program.

Back in the depression years, "Hey Brother, can you spare a dime" was a commonly used term. In those days a dime could buy a cup of coffee, today it is two or three bucks.

So we ask you, can you spare two or three bucks to help a child speak. We are asking you to pledge that amount each week or each month. The price of one Starbucks a month can help us help a child come from a dark place into the Light that all Masons enjoy. Make a child's Christmas special by tucking a better life into their Christmas stocking.



Edward Perlman 33°

Quick Links

<http://www.mn-masons.org/>
<http://scottish-rite-mn.org/minneapolis-valley>
<http://ritecaremsp.org/>
<http://scottishrite.org/>



Minneapolis Valley Scottish Rite

Ritual Corner

Greetings Scottish Rite Brethren.

Happy New Year and welcome to a new set of Degrees. The Fall class was a great success! I want to extend a big thank you to all of the committees who made the degrees possible.

As we start the Spring Class, let us look into the teachings of the 6th degree – Intimate Secretary. In this degree we learn the lessons that zeal and fidelity to duty are always rewarded. We are taught the duties to be zealous, faithful, disinterested and benevolent, and to act the peacemaker.

Albert Pike states, “Duty is the moral magnetism which controls and guides the true Mason’s course over the tumultuous sea of life.” (pg. 119, Morals and Dogma). He further states, “To perform that duty, whether the performance be rewarded or unrewarded, is the Mason’s sole care. And it doth not matter, though of this performance there may be no witnesses, and though what he does will be forever unknown to all mankind.” (pg. 119, Morals and Dogma).

All the lessons taught in the 6th degree can be applied to make us better men and better Masons. Join us for the Spring class and watch the degrees. Hear again the lessons that each degree teaches. These lessons are what make us Scottish Rite Masons, and they can be a powerful force to help us all live in peace and harmony.

Lee E. Kielblock, 32°, K.:C.:C.:H
Ritual Director



From The House Committee

Season’s Greetings Brothers! Our historic home continues to benefit from additional care and upgrades. I know from many of your comments that it is beginning to show. The new flagpoles, courtesy of the Ladd Foundation and Grand Lodge, are hard to miss when entering the building through the parking lot lobby.

A big Thank You is in order to the many volunteers who worked so hard polishing the building for the Big Tent event; and to the Brothers who recently finished the chandelier upgrades and cleanings in the main auditorium. The century old hangars have been upgraded with electrified hoists, which will support annual maintenance activities for decades to come. The sparkle is definitely back!

House Committee members have worked to comply with the Minneapolis Fire Inspector’s directive that the building comply with new code requirements. This included the installation of a new suppression system in the kitchen. Other volunteers have helped repair wall surfaces, provided structural drawings for suggested upgrades, completed painting chores, and even

repaired some of the old pipes. There’s no shortage of projects. If you see something that needs attention, please speak up; better yet, volunteer! Thanks to you all.

Randall A. Hamborg
32°, K.:C.:C.:H
Housing Committee



From the Desk of the Editor

As your Editor I would like to take this time to wish you all a Happy New Year and also to thank all the members that submit articles for use in the Sun. Please, keep your articles to 350 words or less. This will allow the use of more articles from others.

dshaffer@usa.com

*David C. Shaffer, 32°
Editor, Scottish Rite Sun*



Do you receive the Scottish Rite E-News? If you would like to, please send an e-mail to minneapolisscottishritenews@gmail.com to request your subscription.

—Mark Anderson, 33° *E-News update editor*

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Calendar

Lodge

02 January	4°, 5°, 6°
07 January	Stated and Consistory Annual
09 January	7°, 8°, 9°
16 January	10°, 11°
18 January	One Day to Masonry
23 January	12°, 13°
23 January	Bloodmobile
30 January	14°, KSA Stated
04 February	Stated and Consistory Installation
06 February	15°, 16°
13 February	17°, 18°
20 February	19°, 20°
27 February	21°, 22°, KSA Stated
04 March	Stated and Lodge Annual
06 March	23°, 24°
13 March	Chapter Remembrance and Renewal Ceremony and Feast
20 March	25°, 26°
27 March	27°, KSA Stated

Red Room

No presentation scheduled
No presentation scheduled
Candidate Intro / Monte Miller
No presentation scheduled
Minneapolis Valley / David Kampf
Almoner / Mark Hailer
No presentation scheduled
No presentation scheduled
Rite Care / Greg Vokovan
No presentation scheduled
History Channel Host / Scott Wolter
DeMolay / Mark Hailer
Masonic Historical Society / Gary Bill