

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

Keene, New Hampshire 2024

Council of Deliberation 3
SUPREME COUNCIL

OF THE ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

FORTHE NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION

101st CONVOCATION HELD AT KEENE, NH, JUNE 1, 2024



Ill.∴ Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33° *Illustrious Commander-in-Chief*

62 Buckingham Ln

Hopkinton, NH 03229-2015 kclay98@comcast.net

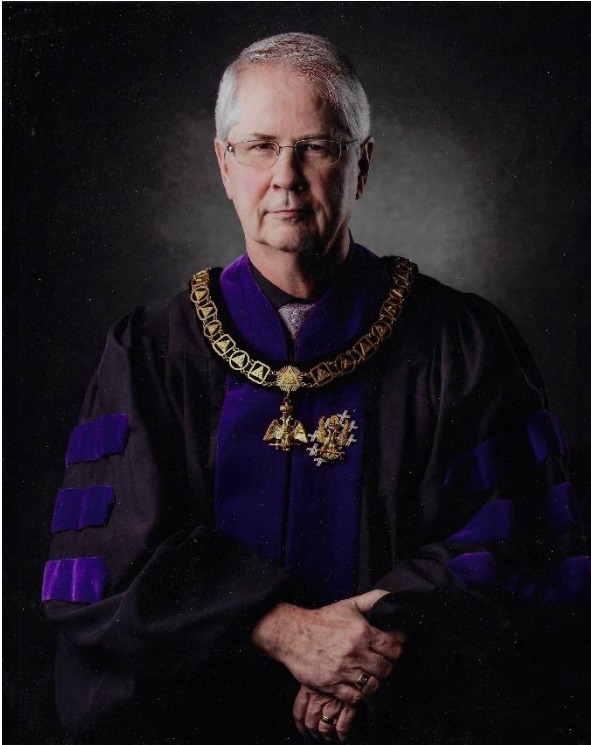
Ill.∴ Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A., *Secretary*

196 Main St Ste 16, Nashua, NH 03060-2914 office@nhconsistory.com

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Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA



Ill.:. Walter F. Wheeler, 33°

Elected August 29, 2023, Sovereign Grand Commander

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA



Ill.:. Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°

Deputy for New Hampshire

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Ill.: Richard W. Elliot, 33° Active Member, Past Deputy, Holder of Supreme Council Medal of Honor



Ill.: Mark C. Roth, 33° Active Emeritus Member, Past Deputy, Holder of Supreme Council Medal of Honor



Ill.: Robert E. Hansen, 33° Active Emeritus Member, Past Deputy, Holder of Supreme Council Medal of Honor

New Hampshire Deputy's Representatives



Bro. Mark D. Ciarametaro, 32°
M.S.A. Valley of Concord



Bro. John A. Loven, 32°
M.S.A. Valley of Lancaster-Littleton



III.: Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°
M.S.A. Valley of Nashua



Bro. John Bartoszak, 32°
Valley of Portsmouth-Dover



Bro. John Solomonides, 32°
Valley of Keene

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SUPREME COUNCIL

of the

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY

for the

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION OFFICERS 2023– 2024

III.: Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33° Commander-in-Chief (Ex-Officio)

III.: Robert E. Hansen, 33° Commander-in-Chief, Emeritus

III.: Richard W. Elliot, 33° First Lieutenant Commander

III.: Mark C. Roth, 33° Second Lieutenant Commander

III.: Nicholas C. Martel, 33°, M.S.A Minister of State

III.: Jeremy J. Sawyer, 33° Chancellor

III.: Scott R. Borthwick, 33° Prior

III.: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A Treasurer

III.: Robert M. Porter, 33° Secretary

III.: John E. Lobdell, 33° Master of Ceremonies

III.: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A Hospitaler

III.: John F. Gordon, 33° Seneschal

III.: David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A Standard Bearer

III.: Robert G. Bianchi, 33° Captain of the Guard

III.: Ronald N. Crane, 33° Sentinel

III.: Robert D. Coppo, 33°, M.S.A Organist

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ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

State of New Hampshire

Valley of

Received 33°

Ill.: Kenneth Ansel Clay, Jr., 33° Concord Aug. 31, 2010
(Active Member: August 27, 2019; Deputy: August 31, 2021)

Ill.: Mark Clayton Roth, 33° Concord Sept. 29, 1998

(Active Member: August 30, 2005, and August 31, 2021; Deputy: August 20, 2013; Grand Lieutenant Commander: August 31, 2021) Active Emeritus Member: August 22, 2023)

Ill.: Richard Wayne Elliot, 33° Portsmouth—Dover Sept. 26, 2000

(Active Member: September 21, 2003, and August 20, 2013; Deputy: August 30, 2005; Grand Marshal General: August 25, 2009—August 30, 2011; Grand Treasurer General: August 30, 2011—August 24, 2018; Grand Minister of State: August 24, 2018—August 22, 2023)

Ill.: Robert Edward Hansen, 33° Concord Sept. 28, 1983

(Active Member: September 1, 1993; Deputy: September 28, 1999; Active Emeritus Member: August 30, 2005)

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HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°

	<i>Valley of</i>	<i>Received 33°</i>
III.: David James Bailey, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.	Keene	Sept. 25, 1985
III.: John Fitz Gordon, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Sept. 30, 1987
III.: Richard Frank Doble, 33°, M.S.A.	Keene	Sept. 29, 1992
III.: Lennox Bursley Henderson, II, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 31, 1993
III.: Thomas James Desalvo, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Sept. 27, 1994
III.: Clement Wayne Libby, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Sept. 27, 1994
III.: Eric Eneberg Anderson, 33°, M.S.A.	Keene	Sept. 27, 1994
III.: Dennis Allan Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.	Lancaster-Littleton	Oct. 03, 1995
III.: Robert DeYoung Steel, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	Sept. 29, 1998
III.: Roger Joseph Pellerin, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Sept. 28, 1999
III.: Jeremy Jason Sawyer, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Sept. 25, 2001
III.: Stephen Allen Whitney, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	Sept. 25, 2001
III.: Herbert James Howard, 33°	Keene	Sept. 03, 2002
III.: Sumner Goldman, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Sept. 23, 2003
III.: George Kendall Bemis, Jr., 33°	Keene	Sept. 21, 2004

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III.: Brian James Smith, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 30, 2005
III.: Robert Glenn Bianchi, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 29, 2006
III.: Robert Campbell Lethbridge, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 29, 2006
III.: Walter William (Joe) Lovell, 33°, M.S.A.	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 29, 2006
III.: Brent William Washburn, 33°	Concord	Aug. 28, 2007
III.: Ronald Jeffrey Brown, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 28, 2007
III.: Edward Norval Lewis, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 26, 2008
III.: Panos Alexander Pitsas, 33°, M.S.A.	Keene	Aug. 26, 2008
III.: Thomas Stewart Lowe, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 25, 2009
III.: Mark Adrian Weir, 33°, M.S.A.	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 25, 2009
III.: Robert Daniel Coppo, 33°, M.S.A	Keene	Aug. 31, 2010
III.: Stephen Karl Bahsler, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 31, 2010
III.: Roger Frederick Retzke, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 31, 2010
III.: Stewart Lee Aronson, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 30, 2011
III.: Karl Hudson Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 30, 2011
III.: Paul Michael Leary, 33°	Concord	Aug. 30, 2011
III.: Gary Edward Roy, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 30, 2011

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III.: Treffley Ernie Sage, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 30, 2011
III.: Ronald Nelson Crane, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	Aug. 28, 2012
III.: Robert Graham Hatfield, 33°	Concord	Aug. 28, 2012
III.: Alan Douglas Lugg, 33°	Concord	Aug. 28, 2012
III.: Roger Alfred Becker, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 20, 2013
III.: William Edward Larson, 33°	Keene	Aug. 20, 2013
III.: John Everett Lobdell, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 20, 2013
III.: Robert Macdonald Porter, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 20, 2013
III.: Jeffrey Lloyd Brown, 33°, M.S.A.	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 25, 2015
III.: Wayne Irvin Elliot, 33°, M.S.A.	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 25, 2015
III.: Larry David Gullett, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 25, 2015
III.: Dennis Webster, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 25, 2015
III.: Wendell Lear Woodward, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	Aug. 25, 2015
III.: Russell Sheldon Bell, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 29, 2017
III.: David Scott Collins, 33°, M.S.A.	Lancaster-Littleton	Aug. 29, 2017
III.: Donald Leopold Mendzela, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 29, 2017
III.: Jerome Thomas Becker, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 27, 2019
III.: Jeffrey Maxie Brown, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 27, 2019

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III.: Troy Anthony Patoine, 33°	Concord	Aug. 27, 2019
III.: James Martin Triacca, 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 27, 2019
III.: Scott Robert Borthwick, 33°	Concord	Aug. 31, 2021
III.: Kenneth Edgar Davis, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.	Concord	Aug. 31, 2021
III.: Daniel Richard Hotchkiss, 33°	Concord	Aug. 31, 2021
III.: Roderick Malcolm MacDonald, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	Aug. 31, 2021
III.: Roland Norman Petersen, 33°	Nashua	Aug. 31, 2021
III.: David Alan Rich, 33°, M.S.A.	Lancaster-Littleton	Aug. 31, 2021
III.: Robert Stanley Bean, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 29, 2023
III.: David William Smith, 33°, M.S.A.	Nashua	Aug. 29, 2023
III.: Larry Adam Sprague, 33°	Concord	Aug. 29, 2023

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°

In New Hampshire from other states in the Northern Jurisdiction

	<i>Valley of</i>	<i>Home Valley</i>	<i>Received 33°</i>
III.: Allan M. Zecchini, 33°	Nashua	The Merrimack	Aug. 30, 2005

Past Officers in New Hampshire

PAST COMMANDERS-IN-CHIEF OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CONSISTORY

III.: Robert E. Hansen, 33°	III.: C. Wayne Libby, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.
III.: Eric E. Anderson, 33°, M.S.A.	III.: Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°
III.: Lennox B. Henderson, II, 33°	III.: Brian J. Smith, 33°
III.: Richard W. Elliot, 33°	III.: William E. Larson, 33°
III.: John F. Gordon, 33°	III.: Jeffrey L. Brown, 33°, M.S.A.
III.: G. Kendall Bemis, Jr., 33°	III.: Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

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PAST MOST WISE MASTERS OF ST. GEORGE CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX OF NASHUA

III.: Eric E. Anderson, 33°, M.S.A.	III.: Brian J. Smith, 33°
III.: Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A.	III.: Robert G. Bianchi, 33°
III.: C. Wayne Libby, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.	III.: Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A.
III.: Thomas S. Lowe, 33°	III.: Robert M. Porter, 33°
III.: Donald L. Mendzela, 33°	III.: Robert S. Bean, III, 33°, M.S.A.
III.: Stephen K. Bahsler, 33°, M.S.A.	III.: David W. Smith, 33°, M.S.A.

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PAST MOST WISE MASTERS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER OF ROSE
CROIX OF PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

III.: Richard W. Elliot, 33°

III.: Roger F. Retzke, 33°

III.: John F. Gordon, 33°

III.: Ronald J. Brown, 33°

III.: Jeremy J. Sawyer, 33°

III.: John E. Lobdell, 33°

Bro. James E. Ryan, 32°, M.S.A.

Bro. Jonathan A. Austin, 32°

Bro. Richard W. Ingram, 32°

Bro. W. David Akridge, 32°

Bro. Peter N. Vatistas, 32°

PAST MOST WISE MASTERS OF ACACIA CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX OF
CONCORD

III.: Robert C. Lethbridge, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Alan D. Lugg, 33°

III.: Robert E. Hansen, 33°

III.: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Thomas J. DeSalvo, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Kenneth E. Davis, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Russell S. Bell, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Scott R. Borthwick, 33°

III.: Mark C. Roth, 33°

Bro. Allen S. Wright, 32°

Bro. Gerald C. McHugh, Sr., 32°

Bro. Donald W. Milbrand Jr., 32°, M.S.A.

III.: Brent W. Washburn, 33°

III.: Larry A. Sprague, 33°

Bro. Mark D. Ciarametaro, 32°, M.S.A.

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Bro. Robert S. Hansen, 32°

III.: Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

PAST MOST WISE MASTERS OF LITTLETON CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX OF
LANCASTER-LITTLETON

III.: Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.	III.: David S. Collins 33°, M.S.A.
III.: Stephen A. Whitney, 33°	Bro. John A. Loven, 32° M.S.A.
III.: Robert D. Steel, 33°	III.: David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.
Bro. Dale R. Cormier, 32°	Bro. Mark H. Blodgett, 32°, M.S.A.
III.: Ronald N. Crane, 33°	

PAST SOVEREIGN PRINCES OF JOHN CHRISTIE COUNCIL, PRINCES OF
JERUSALEM OF PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

III.: John F. Gordon, 33°	Bro. Ralph R. Currier, Jr., 32°, M.S.A.
Bro. Paul G. Brown, 32°	Bro. Paul M. Kelley, 32°
Bro. Richard W. Ingram, 32°	III.: Jeffrey M. Brown, 33°
III.: Ronald J. Brown, 33°	III.: Bro. Jeffrey L. Brown, 33° M.S.A.
III.: Walter W. Lovell, 33°, M.S.A.	

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PAST SOVEREIGN PRINCES OF ORIENTAL COUNCIL, PRINCES OF
JERUSALEM OF NASHUA

III.: Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. William W. Arvidson, 32°, M.S.A.

III.: Donald L. Mendzela, 33°

III.: Dennis Webster, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Thomas E. Brison, 32°

III.: David W. Smith, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: C. Wayne Libby, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Stephen K. Bahsler, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Paul G. Bielawski, 32°

III.: Larry D. Gullett, 33°

Bro. Richard J. Thompson, 32°, M.S.A.

Bro. Guy R. Martineau, 32°

III.: Robert M. Porter, 33°

PAST SOVEREIGN PRINCES OF THE ARIAL COUNCIL, PRINCES OF
JERUSALEM OF CONCORD

III.: Thomas J. DeSalvo, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Robert C. Lethbridge, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Robert W. Lawrie, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Sumner Goldman, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Karl R. Olson, 32°

Bro. Arnold B. Dunn, Jr., 32°

III.: Alan D. Lugg, 33°

Bro. Allen S. Wright, 32°

III.: Scott R. Borthwick, 33°

III.: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Larry A. Sprague, 33°

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PAST SOVEREIGN PRINCES OF WASHINGTON COUNCIL, PRINCES OF
JERUSALEM OF LANCASTER-LITTLETON

III.: Stephen A. Whitney, 33°	Bro. Mark H. Blodgett, 32°, M.S.A.
III.: Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.	III.: David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.
III.: Robert D. Steel, 33°	Bro. John A. Loven, 32°, M.S.A.
III.: Ronald N. Crane, 33°	III.: David S. Collins 33°, M.S.A.

PAST SOVEREIGN PRINCES OF KEENE COUNCIL, PRINCES OF JERUSALEM
OF KEENE

III.: David J. Bailey, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.	III.: G. Kendall Bemis, Jr., 33°
III.: Herbert J. Howard, 33°	III.: William E. Larson, 33°
III.: Eric E. Anderson, 33°, M.S.A.	Bro. Thomas L. Rittenhouse, 32°
Bro. Mark F. Busch, 32°	Bro. Roger E. Martin, 32°
Bro. John M. Bys, 32°, M.S.A.	Bro. Ernest W. Fauteux, 32°
III.: Nicholas C. Martel, 33°	

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PAST THRICE POTENT MASTERS INEFFABLE LODGE OF PERFECTION OF
PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

III.: John F. Gordon, 33°

III.: Jeffrey L. Brown, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. John H. Sanders, Jr., 32°

Bro. Paul G. Brown, 32°

III.: Lennox B. Henderson, II, 33°

Bro. Paul T. Sullivan, 32°

Bro. Brian R. Sanderson, 32°

III.: Jeffrey M. Brown, 33°

III.: Walter W. Lovell, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Jeffrey L. Brown, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Donald R. Willoughby, 32°, M.S.A

Bro. Kaleb R. Brown, 32°

Bro. Mark A. Patschke, 32°

Bro. John F. Bartoszak, 32°

Bro. Joseph L. Kenick, Jr., 32°

PAST THRICE POTENT MASTERS AARON P. HUGHES LODGE OF
PERFECTION OF NASHUA

Bro. Willard R. Lemaire, 32°

Bro. John W. Jackson, 32°

III.: Stephen K. Bahsler, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Richard J. Thompson, 32°, M.S.A.

III.: C. Wayne Libby, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Pascal H. Corbinand, 32°

Bro. Gerald L. Valcourt, Jr., 32°

III.: Roland N. Petersen, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Brian J. Smith, 33°

Bro. Adam J. Freiband, 32°

III.: Robert G. Bianchi, 33°

III.: Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Robert S. Bean, III, 33°, M.S.A.

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PAST THRICE POTENT MASTERS ALPHA LODGE OF PERFECTION OF
CONCORD

III.: Robert E. Hansen, 33°

III.: Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Robert C. Lethbridge, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Alan D. Lugg, 33°

III.: Mark C. Roth, 33°

III.: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Brent W. Washburn, 33°

III.: Kenneth E. Davis, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Thomas J. DeSalvo, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Allen S. Wright, 32°

III.: Russell S. Bell, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Troy A. Patoine, 33°

Bro. Robert S. Hansen, 32°

Bro. Dennis A. Tuttle, 32°, M.S.A.

III.: Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°

Bro. Wilmer J. Nemchick, 32°, M.S.A.

PAST THRICE POTENT MASTERS NORTH STAR LODGE OF PERFECTION OF
LANCASTER-LITTLETON

Bro. Donald F. Dimick, 32°

III.: David S. Collins, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Stephen A. Whitney, 33°

Bro. John A. Loven, 32°, M.S.A.

III.: Robert D. Steel, 33°

Bro. Mark H. Blodgett, 32°, M.S.A.

III.: Ronald N. Crane, 33°

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PAST THRICE POTENT MASTERS KEENE LODGE OF PERFECTION OF KEENE

III.: David J. Bailey, Jr., 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. Jeffrey M. Lessels, 32°

III.: Herbert J. Howard, 33°

III.: William E. Larson, 33°

III.: Eric E. Anderson, 33°, M.S.A.

III.: Nicholas C. Martel, 33°

III.: Panos A. Pitsas, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. John M. Bys, 32°, M.S.A.

III.: G. Kendall Bemis, Jr., 33°

III.: Bernard W. Russell, 33°

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ACACIA CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX, CONCORD

Bro. Gary A. Ward, 32°, M.S.A., Most Wise Master	Plainfield
Bro. Shane J. Csiki, 32°, H.G.A., Senior Warden	Concord
Bro. Benjamin Feldman, 32°, H.G.A., Junior Warden	Franklin

LITTLETON CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX, LANCASTER-LITTLETON

Bro. Robert J. Paradis, Jr., 32°, Most Wise Master	Groveton
Bro. Carl H. Smith, 32°, Senior Warden	Center Harbor
Bro. Brian M. Cummins, 32°, Junior Warden	Whitefield

JOHN CHRISTIE COUNCIL, PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

III.: Roderick M. MacDonald, 33°, Sovereign Prince New Castle

Vacant, High Priest

Vacant, Senior Warden

Oriental Council, Princes Of Jerusalem, Nashua

Bro. Michael J. Tebbetts, 32°, Sovereign Prince	Manchester
Bro. Adam J. Freiband, 32°, High Priest	Nashua
Bro. Guy F. Joyce, 32°, Senior Warden	Myrtle Beach

ARIEL COUNCIL, PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, CONCORD

Bro. Peter D. Crouch, 32°, Sovereign Prince	Loudon
Bro. Corey M. Gee, 32°, High Priest	Laconia
Bro. Paul S. Gross, 32° Senior Warden	Bradford

WASHINGTON COUNCIL, PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, LANCASTER-
LITTLETON

Ill.∴ Carl H. Smith, 32°, Sovereign Prince	Center Harbor
Bro. Mark B. Robinson, 32°, High Priest	Groveton
Bro. Robert J. Paradis, Jr., 32°, Senior Warden	Groveton

KEENE COUNCIL, PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, KEENE

Bro. Fred W. Yates, 32°, Sovereign Prince	Westminster, VT
Bro. David P. Galluccio, 32°, High Priest	Keene
Bro. Michael D. Huse, 32°, Senior Warden	Claremont

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INEFFABLE LODGE OF PERFECTION, PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

Bro. Jason H. Sanderson, 32°, Thrice Potent Master Madison
Vacant, Deputy Master
Vacant, Senior Warden

AARON P. HUGHES LODGE OF PERFECTION, NASHUA

Ill ∴ David W. Smith, 33°, M.S.A., Thrice Potent Master Weare
Bro. Michael J. Tebbetts, 32°, Deputy Master Manchester
Bro. Edward C. Wigfield, 32°, Senior Warden Nashua

ALPHA LODGE OF PERFECTION, CONCORD

Bro. Mark D. Ciaramentaro, 32°, M.S.A., Boscawen
Thrice Potent Master
Vacant, Deputy Master Concord
Bro. Wilmer J. Nemchick, 32°, Senior Warden

NORTH STAR LODGE OF PERFECTION, LANCASTER-LITTLETON

III ∴ David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A. Thrice Potent Master	Gorham
Bro. Robert J. Paradis, Jr., 32°, Deputy Master	Groveton
Bro. John A. Loven, 32°, M.S.A. Senior Warden	Gorham

KEENE LODGE OF PERFECTION, KEENE

III ∴ Nicholas C. Martel, 33°, Thrice Potent Master	Walpole
Bro. Richard A. Baker, 32°, Deputy Master	Keene
Bro. Peter M. Keating, 32°, Senior Warden	Jaffrey

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New Hampshire Council of Deliberation

Winter Workshop

The New Hampshire Council of Deliberation Winter Workshop was convened, according to notice duly issued, at the Masonic Temple, 58 Iron Works Rd, Concord, NH, on

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024, AT 9:00 AM

for training and development of the officers and members of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the State of New Hampshire. Illustrious Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°, Deputy for New Hampshire, and Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, presided.

There were 40 New Hampshire Scottish Rite members in attendance. The workshop began with an invocation by the Prior, Ill ∴ Scott R. Borthwick, 33°, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

Ill ∴ Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°, Deputy for NH, welcomed those present and gave an overview of the information to be presented.

SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC MUSEUM & LIBRARY

Ill ∴ Richard W. Elliot, 33°, spoke about the current Masonic Hall of Fame exhibit at the library, as well as the continuing renovations being done to preserve the library's collections.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Brother Elliot then announced that the Supreme Council partnered with Willow Creek's Global Leadership Network to again be a host site for the Global Leadership Summit. He explained the value of the presentations and that a discounted price was available for Scottish Rite members to attend.

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Supreme Council's program to recognize Blue Lodges with a plaque for milestone anniversaries was covered.

50-YEAR MEMBERS

The Supreme Council is also recognizing members for fifty years of service with a pewter plate with a double-headed eagle on it and with the member's name engraved.

MSA NOMINATIONS

The Deputy called on Ill .: Rich Elliot, 33°, Active for NH, who announced that the MSA nomination packets are available. He then distributed them to the Valleys and the Commander-in-Chief. Nominations are due no later than April 15th.

GRAND ALMONER'S FUND

The Deputy reminded brethren that the Grand Almoner's Fund uses donations from our members to assist brethren who are facing financial troubles. All it takes is a call to the Deputy explaining the need. He contacts the Grand Almoner, who, with the approval of the Sovereign Grand Commander, will issue a check to the brother.

BLUE ENVELOPE APPEAL

The Deputy gave an update on the Blue Envelope Appeal, congratulating the Brethren of New Hampshire on their generosity. New Hampshire again had one of the highest percentages of its members donating.

GIVING TUESDAY CDC

The Deputy called on Mark Roth and Rich Elliot to speak about the work of our Children's Dyslexia Centers in Nashua and Rochester, respectively, and their mission to tutor students in overcoming the challenges they face in reading.

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NH COD ANNUAL MEETING

The Deputy reminded all that the Annual Meeting of the NH Council of Deliberation this year will be on Saturday, June 1 in Keene.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Karl H. Bickford, III announced that the Supreme Council had set aside \$10,400 for Abbott Scholarships this year. The deadline for applications to be submitted to Valley Secretaries is April 1.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

New Hampshire, throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, 951 Freemasons joined the Scottish Rite last year.

SCOTTISH AND YORK RITE PROGRAM

Illustrious Brother David S. Collins, 33°, M.S.A., did a presentation comparing the two Rites for the brethren.

Thursday Night at the Rite Valley of Excellence Video Degree Marathon Guest Speakers.

YOUTH ADVISOR OF THE YEAR

Ill. : Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°, spoke on the new Youth Advisor of the Year award, explaining that each state will select a recipient for their contributions to youth programs in the state.

CONSISTORY

The Deputy called on Ill. : Brother Donald Mendzela, 33°, of NH Consistory to speak on any updates for a Consistory Reunion. There will be a Spring Reunion held at the Gorham Town Hall on April 20, 2024, and the NH Consistory intends to present the Twenty-second Degree with the 5th and 31st degrees by other Valleys, also.

SUPREME COUNCIL WEBSITE

The Deputy reviewed several resources available in the Member Center of the Supreme Council's website, scottishrittenmj.org, and encouraged everyone to be registered on it. These included a "new member checklist", a video Library, our core values, and our mission and vision statements.

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

The Deputy reminded members that the Annual Convocation will be held in Keene this year on Saturday, June 1st.

CLOSING REMARKS

Ill.: Bro. Clay then called on Ill.: Brothers Robert E. Hansen, Mark C.

Roth and Richard W. Elliot for their remarks.

The Deputy concluded by calling upon R.:W.: and Ill.: Bro. Scott M. Borthwick, Deputy Grand Master of Masons in NH, for his closing remarks.

There being no other business, a closing prayer and grace was given by the Prior, Ill.: Bro. Scott R. Borthwick.

The workshop was then closed at 12:05 p.m.

BRETHREN IN ATTENDANCE

John Bartoszak	Alan D Lugg	Edward C Wigfield
Karl H Bickford III	Roderick M MacDonald	Wendell L Woodward
Mark H Blodgett	Donald L Mendzela	Andrew J Bennert
Scott R Borthwick	Wilmer J Nemchick	Wendell C Durling
Jeffrey M. Brown	Troy A Patoine	Arthur W Aznive
Ronald J. Brown	Robert M Porter	Earl W Cole, Jr.
Mark D Ciarametaro	Roger F Retzke	
Kenneth A Clay Jr.	David A Rich	
David Scott Collins	Mark C Roth	
Shane J. Csiki	Gary E Roy	
Richard W Elliot	Jeremy J Sawyer	
John F Gordon	David W Smith	
Paul S Gross	John T Solomonides	
Robert E Hansen	Larry A Sprague	
Edward N Lewis	Richard J Thompson	
John A Loven	James M Triacca	
Thomas S Lowe	Dennis A Tuttle Jr.	

New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
101st Annual Convocation
Keene, New Hampshire
Saturday, June 1, 2024

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The ONE HUNDRED and FIRST CONVOCATION of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation was convened, according to notice duly issued, at the Colonial Theatre in Keene, NH, on

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024 at 9:30 am

for the transaction of business concerning the welfare of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the State of New Hampshire. Illustrious Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°, Deputy for New Hampshire, and Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, presided.

The Council was called to order and opened in ample form by the Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, with the following divine blessing invoked by the Prior, Illustrious Scott R. Borthwick, 33°.

INVOCATION

“Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who hast bound us together in fellowship and service, bless us we beseech Thee, this Council of Deliberation.

“We give Thee thanks for the noble traditions of our worldwide Fraternity, for the continuing inspirations of its ideals, and for its service to mankind. Grant us insight, courage, and sound judgment. Save us from the tyranny of the nonessential, from undue concern with what is trivial, and from the deadening pressure of routine.

“Keep us loyal to the principles and ideals of the Scottish Rite, and grant that with patience we may labor for peace in the world, and for brotherhood among all men.

“Amen.”

Following the Opening, the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

The Commander-in-Chief asked for any reports of sickness or distress.

The following brethren were brought to the attention of those present:

III ∴ Ronald N. Crane, 33°

III ∴ Roger A. Becker, 33°, M.S.A.

Brother Craig M. Shippee

Bro. Mark D. Ciaramentaro (Father Passed)

Bro. Herbert J. Carpenter (Sister Passed)

It was asked that they all be remembered in the thoughts and prayers of the members and that they would each be sent a card.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDEES

The Deputy then called upon the Secretary for his report of the membership.

The Secretary reported that the following was the current breakdown of members eligible to vote at the Convocation:

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NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION REPORT OF THE
SECRETARY MEMBERSHIP - JUNE 01, 2024

Those who have attained the 33rd Degree	66
Past Commanders-in-Chief (not previously counted)	0
Past Most Wise Masters of Rose Croix, Past Sovereign Princes of Jerusalem, Past Thrice Potent Masters of Perfection (not previously counted)	42
Recipients of the Meritorious Service Award (not previously counted)	8
Representatives of Subordinate Bodies (not previously counted)	22
Treasurers of Subordinate Bodies (not previously counted)	6
Secretaries of Subordinate Bodies (not previously counted)	4
Committee Chairmen (not previously counted)	0
Committee Members (not previously counted)	1
<hr/>	
Total Membership	149

The Deputy then asked the Credentials Committee for their report. The Committee reported that a majority of the bodies were represented, meeting the requirements to conduct business. There were present:

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COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief:

Your Committee on Credentials presents the following report:

Those who have attained the 33rd Degree	21
Past Commanders-in-Chief (not previously counted)	0
Past Most Wise Masters of Rose Croix, Past Sovereign Princes of Jerusalem, Past Thrice Potent Masters of Perfection (not previously counted)	4
Recipients of the Meritorious Service Award (not previously counted)	1
Representatives of Subordinate Bodies (not previously counted)	18
Treasurers of Subordinate Bodies (not previously counted)	1
Secretaries of Subordinate Bodies (not previously counted)	2
Committee Chairman (not previously counted)	0
Members (not previously counted)	0
<hr/>	
Total Membership Present	47

W. David Akridge, 32° Chairman

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BRETHREN IN ATTENDANCE

2024 COD Attendance

W. David Akridge, 32°

Gordon W. MacIntosh, Jr., 32°

John Bartoszak, 32°

Nicholas C Martel, 33°

Jerome T Becker, 33°, M.S.A.

Donald L Mendzela, 33°

Karl H Bickford III, 33°, M.S.A.

Roland N. Petersen, 33°, M.S.A.

Mark H Blodgett, 32°

Panos A Pitsas, 33°, M.S.A.

Scott R Borthwick, 33°

Bruce A Putnam, 32°

Mark D Ciarametaro, 32°

Roger F Retzke, 33°

Richard L. Colby, 32°

David A Rich, 33°, M.S.A.

Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°

Mark B. Robinson, 32°

Robert D Coppo, 33°, M.S.A.

Gary E Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

Ronald N Crane, 33°

Jason H. Sanderson, 32°

Shane J. Csiki, 32° H.G.A.

Dennis A Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.

Brian M. Cummins, 32°

David W. Smith, 33°, M.S.A.

Willis C. Fogg, 32°

John T. Solomonides, 32°

Brian Foose, 32°

David S Soroka, 32°

Bruce F. Graves, 32°

Larry A. Sprague, 33°

Robert E Hansen, 33°

William L Steinger, 32°

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Daniel H Hanson, 32°

James M Triacca, 33°, M.S.A.

Michael S Henry, 32°, M.S.A.

Dennis A Tuttle Jr., 32°

Lovell T. Landon, 32°

Edward M Waible, 32°

Richard Lapointe, 32°

Gary A. Ward, 32°, M.S.A.

James H Lawrence, 32°

Edward C Wigfield, 32°

John A Loven, 32°, M.S.A.

Other Scottish Rite Attendees

Dignitaries (in NH COD)

David S Collins, 33°, M.S.A.

M.:E.: Grand High Priest
Grand Royal Arch Chapter

MI.:Ø.: *Grand Master Grand Council*
Cryptic Masons

Daniel R Hotchkiss, 33°

M.:W.: Grand Master
Grand Lodge, F&AM

Dignitaries (who are Scottish Rite Members)

Arthur W. Stauff, 32°

R.:E.: Grand Commander
Grand Commandery, KT

Scott D. Inglis, 33°

Deputy for the State of MA

William Karstens, IV, 33°

Deputy for the State of VT

Donald G. Duquette, 33°

Active and Past Deputy for the
State of VT

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Dignitaries (in Scottish Rite)

Daniel R. Hotchkiss, 33°

M.:W.: Grand Master, *Grand Lodge
of NH, F&AM*

David S Collins, 33°, M.S.A.

M.:E.: Grand High Priest and M.:I.:
Grand Master

Grand Royal Arch Chapter and Grand Council, Cryptic Masons of NH

Arthur W. Stauff, 32°

Executive Officer, *NH DeMolay*

Dennis A. Tuttle, Jr., 32°

Worthy Grand Patron, *Grand
Chapter of NH, OES*

Other Dignitaries

Karen Tuttle

Worthy Grand Patron, *Grand
Chapter of NH, OES*

Stacy M. Desrosiers

State Grand Deputy, *NH Rainbow,
IORG*

Sarah Jache

Grand Worthy Advisor, *NH Rainbow,
IORG*

RECEPTION OF GRAND MASTER AND PAST GRAND MASTERS

The Commander-in-Chief asked the Master of Ceremonies to escort the Grand Master outside the meeting room for them to be received. He then called upon the First Lieutenant Commander to assist in the reception.

Accordingly, the Commander-in-Chief received Most Worshipful and Illustrious Daniel R. Hotchkiss, 33°, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire, accompanied by:

M :W.: and Ill :. Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A., HPGM (2022) M :W.: and Ill :. David S. Collins, 33°, M.S.A., PGM (2021, 2022)

Commander-in-Chief Clay invited the Grand Master to speak, following which, M :W.: and Ill :. Brother Hotchkiss thanked the Commander-in-Chief, saying he would hold his remarks until the end of the Convocation.

The First Lieutenant Commander recognized M :W.: and Ill :. Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°, PGM (2019, 2020), who would have been with the other Past Grand Masters, were he not presiding.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CONVOCATION

The Secretary was called upon for the reading of the records of the last communication. The Secretary then said, "I move that we dispense with the reading of the minutes as they have been published and distributed to the members of this Council of Deliberation; and that the minutes, as well as all reports previously distributed or presented at this Council of Deliberation, be included in the proceedings for this meeting without need of individual motions." The Commander-in-Chief called for a vote and declared it as affirmative.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

*Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, and Members of
the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:*

The books of the Treasurer and Secretary were audited on June 18th, 2024, and we are pleased to report they have been found in complete order. In attendance at the audit were James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A., John Solomonides, 32°, and Peter Crouch, 32°.

A review of the account balances in the Edward Jones Financial Services account showed an increase in value compared to the previous year. Based upon all account balances and reviewing the proposed budget of expected income and expenditures for the ensuing year, we discussed that there could be a possibility of a one-time increase in the annual charitable giving and/or a contribution into the Edward Jones Financial Services account. This discussion should continue after the end of the current year.

The following budget is proposed for the June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025, fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter D. Crouch 32°
John Solomonides 32°
James M. Triacca 33°, M.S.A.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & BUDGET

New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025 Budget

INCOME

Testimonial Income	\$ 3,000.00
Per Capita Income	<u>7246.00</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 10,246.00</u>

EXPENSES

Testimonial Expense (Flowers/meals)	\$ 3,000.00
Annual Convocation Meal	\$ 1000.00
Workshop Meal	\$ 800.00
Donations, Fraternal	\$ 1,000.00
Children's Dyslexia Centers	\$ 1,000.00
Meritorious Service Awards	\$ 500.00
Printing, Postage and Supplies	\$ 600.00
Program & Training Expenses-COD & Workshop	\$ 1846.00
Secretary Stipend	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 10,246.00</u>

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REPORT OF THE TREASURER

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION REPORT OF THE TREASURER, FY
2022-2023

FOR THE PERIOD June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023

Cash on hand June 1, 2020

TD Bank, Checking Account			\$ 9,786.87
		Budgeted	Actual
INCOME	Testimonial	\$5,000.00	\$3,130.46
	Valley Dues	\$7,740.00	\$6,432.00
	Sale of Rep Jewel	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Sale of MSA Ladies Pins	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<hr/>		
	Total Income	\$12,740.00	\$10,062.46
	<hr/>		
Sub-Total			\$10,062.46
EXPENSES	Testimonial	\$5,000.00	4,867.54
	Annual Meal	\$800.00	\$561.37
	Workshop lunch/breakfast	\$700.00	\$565.04
	Donations Youth	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
	Children's Dyslexia Centers	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

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MSA	\$500.00	\$50.00
Printing and Postage	\$600.00	\$17.08
Program Expenses	\$3,720.00	\$0.00
Secretary Stipend	\$500.00	\$500.00
Misc. New Checks	0.00	30.75
<hr/> Total Expenses	<hr/> \$12,740.00	<hr/> \$8,591.78

Cash on hand on May 31, 2024

TB Bank Checking Account \$11,047.55

James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A., Treasurer

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REPORT OF EDWARD JONES INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

MAY 29, 2023 through MAY 27, 2024

Account Balance May 29, 2023	\$47,075.16
Addition to Account	\$0.00
Account Balance May 27, 2024	\$55,142.90
Account Overage	\$8,067.74

Respectfully submitted, James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A., Treasurer

REPORT OF THE HOSPITALER

May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024

Account Balance May 1, 2023	\$5,227.68
Interest for the year	\$2.41
<hr/>	
Total on Hand	\$5,230.09

Disbursements: None

<hr/>	
Balance May 1, 2014	\$5,230.09

Respectfully submitted, James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A., Hospitaler

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE

June 1, 2024 Keene, NH

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, Officers, Members, and Guests of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

The New Hampshire Council of Deliberation Meritorious Service Award Committee met on May 26th and is pleased to bring to you this report for your consideration.

From William Makepeace Thackeray come the words "Whatever you are, try to be a good one."

The Meritorious Service Award is a simple opportunity for peers of a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason to recognize the commendable service reflected through his Masonic character. It is a most special acknowledgment of an individual's contributions, simply because the recommendation for recognition derives from those brothers who are at his side each and every day to share the work in the quarry.

Today, the Meritorious Service Award Committee is pleased to share with you a recommendation for the consideration of recognition of a brother who began his work in New Hampshire Masonry on June 10, 2010. He has served his Blue Lodge as a Historian, Treasurer, Musician, and Worshipful Master.

This Brother is a member of the York Rite, having served as High Priest of Royal Arch Masons, Deputy Master of the Oriental Council, and General Captain of Commandery of Knights Templar.

He is a member of John Harris Council #458, Allied Masonic Degrees; Profile York Rite College #100; Scenic Council #37; as well as New Hampshire College SRICF.

He serves the Crescent Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, and as a member of Bektash Shrine.

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He belongs to Phoenix Lodge No.105, William Pitt Tavern Lodge No.1789, and Anniversary Lodge of Research No.175.

This brother has been honored by his local Lodge with the Major General John Sullivan Award in Bronze in 2018 in addition to being recognized with the Lewis Jewel in 2015. He has served his Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Education Officer, Grand Education Officer, Masonic Education Committee Chairman, and has been instrumental in the Grand Lodge Cornerstones program.

In his community, he has served on the Board of Governors for a local charter school.

In March of 2019, this brother became a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret and has subsequently served his Valley as Most Wise Master. His Scottish Rite accomplishments include receipt of the Gold Passport as well as completion of the Pathfinder program. He has played a significant role in the recent rejuvenation of his Scottish Rite Valley, demonstrated by the recent year's recognition as a Valley of Excellence.

Today the Meritorious Service Award Committee is pleased to recommend a brother who hails from Alabama, a member of Federal Lodge No. 5 in Dover, NH, a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Portsmouth/Dover, and a recent recipient of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire Jeremy Ladd Cross Award, Brother William David Akridge, 32° to receive the Meritorious Service Award.

This committee continues to conduct the deliberations for this special recognition in a fashion that consistently maintains the criterion benchmark set by the high service levels of those who have previously received this acknowledgment. It is a highly symbolic award that demonstrates Scottish Rite's appreciation and respect for those who have exemplified this elevated level of service.

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, the members of this committee once again thank you for the opportunity to serve this Council of Deliberation. We take this opportunity to remind those who serve as Presiding Officers of the importance of recognizing those who carry out this work, and more particularly the way they accomplish these efforts. The special significance of receiving the

honor of recognition is appropriately summarized by Martin Buber -

"All journeys have secret destinations of which the traveler is unaware."

On behalf of the Meritorious Service Award Committee, I move the approval of this report and inclusion of the same in today's proceedings, and by this ratification the election of Brother William David Akridge, 32° to receive the Meritorious Service Award from the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Chairman

John A. Loven, 32°, M.S.A.

Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

Dennis Webster, 33°, M.S.A.

Marcus A. Weir, 33°, M.S.A.

A motion to accept the report and its recommendations was duly made and seconded, which was unanimously approved.

The Commander-in-Chief congratulated the new Meritorious Service Award recipient and announced that he would be recognized with the Meritorious Service Award Ceremony, including the MSA Jewel presentation at the Testimonial on November 3, 2024, at the Bektash Shrine Center.

He concluded by thanking the Committee for the serious and important work they do in facing the difficult task of making these recommendations.

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APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

The Commander-in-Chief stated, "At the request of Ill ∴ Jeremy J. Sawyer, 33°, I hereby appoint Ill ∴ Larry A. Sprague, 33°, as Chancellor. The Commander-in-Chief then called upon the nominating committee to read the names of all officers of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation.

APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVES

The Commander-in-Chief stated, "The Constitutions of the Supreme Council, Article 122, section 10 states, 'The Deputy may appoint a Deputy's Representative in each Valley of the State to serve for a term of one year and to be reappointed at the discretion of the Deputy.'"

Appointed as Deputy Representatives for next year are:

Valley of Concord: Bro. Mark Ciarametaro 32°, M.S.A.

Valley of Keene Bro. John T. Solomonides, 32°

Valley of Lancaster-Littleton: Bro. John A. Loven, 32°, M.S.A.

Valley of Nashua: Ill ∴ Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A.

Valley of Portsmouth-Dover Bro. John Bartoszak, 32°

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Commander-in-Chief continued, "Brethren, give your attention and be witnesses to the engagements your Officers are about to assume. Each officer will say "I", pronounce his name in full, and remain silent until I bid you speak.

"I do hereby swear true allegiance and fealty to the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and Last Degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, sitting at its Grand East in the town of Lexington, Massachusetts, of which the Illustrious Walter F. Wheeler, 33°, is Sovereign Grand Commander, and will support its Constitutions, Statutes, Orders, and Decrees."

"I will seek diligently to acquire due knowledge of the rituals, usages, and administrative procedures of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in this Jurisdiction, and to perform the duties of my office."

"I will strive earnestly to promote the welfare of my Brethren and of our Rite, and to maintain peace and harmony in a spirit of courtesy and fraternal cooperation."

"The Officers will repeat after me."

"And may God aid me to keep and perform this my solemn vow of office. Amen."

The Commander-in-Chief then said, "The Officers and members of this Council of Deliberation should realize that the Officers are charged with many duties and responsibilities. They look to the members of this Council for loyal cooperation and will welcome your constructive suggestions. The primary duty is to assist in maintaining the honor, dignity, and efficiency of the Rite.

"You have not advanced to your present rank in the Rite without full knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of your office. The honor, reputation, and usefulness of Scottish Rite Masonry will chiefly depend upon the mode and manner in which you discharge your duties."

"You will now assume your office."

The Commander-in-Chief then asked the Master of Ceremonies to please return the officers of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation and the Deputy's Representatives to their seats.

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SUPREME COUNCIL
of the
ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY
for the
NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION OFFICERS 2024– 2025

- III .: Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°Commander-in-Chief (Ex-Officio)
- III .: Robert E. Hansen, 33°Commander-in-Chief, Emeritus
- III .: Richard W. Elliot, 33°First Lieutenant Commander
- III .: Mark C. Roth, 33°Second Lieutenant Commander
- III .: Nicholas C. Martel, 33° Minister of State
- III .: Larry A. Sprague, 33° Chancellor
- III .: Scott R. Borthwick, 33° Prior
- III .: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.ATreasurer
- III .: Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A. Secretary
- III .: John E. Lobdell 33° Master of Ceremonies
- III .: James M. Triacca, 33°, M.S.A Hospitaller
- III .: John F. Gordon, 33° Seneschal
- III.: David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A Standard Bearer
- III .: Robert G. Bianchi, 33°Captain of the Guard
- III .: Ronald N. Crane, 33° Sentinel
- III .: Robert D. Coppo, 33°, M.S.A Organist

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Allocution of the Commander-in-Chief

The Commander-in-Chief then asked Illustrious Brother Richard W. Elliot, First Lieutenant Commander, to preside over this Council as he gave the Allocution.

New Hampshire Council of Deliberation Concord, NH – June 1, 2024

Members of this Council of Deliberation and Scottish Rite Brethren:

I am so pleased to see you today at the 101st Annual Convocation of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation. Think for a moment about the rich history of this august Body, over the last century of its existence. Think of the many Masons who came before us, and the important decisions they made which leave us today on a strong footing. Let us continue to strive to make our good works worthy of the path they have laid before us.

We are honored that Most Worshipful and Ill .: Daniel R. Hotchkiss, 33°, Grand Master of Masons in New Hampshire is with us today. We very much appreciate your continued support to Scottish Rite here in New Hampshire. We also welcome Deputies from our neighboring states. We extend a warm and fraternal welcome to Illustrious Scott D. Inglis from Massachusetts and Illustrious William ‘Sandy’ Karstens from Vermont. It’s a pleasure to have you with us.

I hope you’ve had an opportunity to read the COD Committee reports distributed by our interim COD Secretary. Thank you to all the Committee Chairmen and our Secretary for making these available.

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NECROLOGY

It is my sad duty to report to you those of our Supreme Council who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above:

Ill ∴ Thurman C. Pace, Jr., 33°

Active Emeritus Member of Supreme Council for the State of New Jersey

Died on Sunday, January 21, 2024.

Please give your attention to Ill ∴ Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A. for the report of the Committee on Necrology.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF NECROLOGY

To the Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, Officers, and Members of
New Hampshire Council of Deliberation

IN MEMORIAM

* * * * *

Michael F. Ripberger, M.S.A.

Received the Meritorious Service Award on June 4, 2016

Past Sovereign Prince of Ariel Council, Princes of Jerusalem of Concord

Born: September 28, 1945,

Died: July 28, 2023

* * * * *

Mark A. Marden, M.S.A.

Received the Meritorious Service Award on June 3, 1989

Member of the Valley of Nashua

Born: March 26, 1931,

Died: September 22, 2023

* * * * *

Illustrious Robert W. Lawrie, 33°, M.S.A.

Date of 33° - August 25, 2009

Received the Meritorious Service Award on June 1, 2002

Past Thrice Potent Master of Alpha Lodge of Perfection of Concord

Past Sovereign Prince of Ariel Council, Princes of Jerusalem of Concord

Born: December 07, 1945,

Died: December 27, 2023

* * * * *

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Illustrious Aldine J. Tillotson, 33°, M.S.A.

Date of 33° - September 26, 2000

Received the Meritorious Service Award on June 7, 1997

Past Thrice Potent Master of North Star Lodge of Perfection of Lancaster-
Littleton

Born: October 24, 1931,

Died: December 27, 2023

* * * * *

Brother Charles B. Norwood

Sovereign Prince of Washington Council, Princes of Jerusalem of Lancaster-
Littleton

Born: July 14, 1967,

Died: December 31, 2023

* * * * *

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A., Chairman, pro tem

Jeffrey M. Brown, 33°

Nicholas C. Martel, 33°

Edward N. Lewis, 33°, M.S.A.

Edward M. Waible, 32°

Let us be reverently attentive to our Prior. Master of Ceremonies, please
conduct the Prior to the altar.

PRAYER BY THE PRIOR

We are grateful for the dedication and love of our fraternity that these
Brothers demonstrated, each in his own way. No matter your spiritual

affirmations, we cannot deny that, by their actions, they leave with us a lasting impression. We remember them and honor them by living our lives in a manner that continues in the tradition of devotion and service.

A Review of the Scottish Rite Year in New Hampshire since our last Annual Convocation on June 3, 2023.

STATE OF THE RITE

The state of the Rite is strong in New Hampshire. While Scottish Rite faces the same challenges as Blue Lodge with membership decline and increasing costs of operations, these are far outweighed by the positive momentum displayed by our Valleys and New Hampshire Consistory.

Membership - Recruitment

Twenty-seven members were coroneted 32° Scottish Rite Masons in 2023-2024, an impressive figure for our small state! Under the direction of state membership committee chairman Brother Richard Thompson, several idea sessions have been held, creating an arsenal of tools that Valleys can employ to retain and grow the membership count. Another contributing factor was that candidates were reimbursed their conferral fees for joining the Scottish Rite in this Masonic year. I thank our Commander in Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, and the generosity of the New Hampshire Consistory Finance Committee, for this initiative.

Membership - Retention

People naturally want to be a part of a winning team. This Masonic year saw an abundance of winning activities offered by our five Valleys and New Hampshire Consistory.

The Valley of Portsmouth Dover held a Video Marathon Reunion that drew nearly 100 members from 8 U.S. states. This unique approach included the showing of seven digital degrees, with each followed by an educational discussion of the deeper meanings of the degree. This Valley also excelled in offering numerous social programs, including dine-around gatherings, a seafood dinner, a deep-sea fishing trip, a Ladies Program to accompany the

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Joint Valley Reunion, a bowling event, and an ice cream social. Representatives from the Valley also presented the Scottish Rite Americanism award to R.O.T.C. and J.R.O.T.C. graduates at Winnacunnet High School, Dover High School, and UNH.

The Valley of Concord holds regular Feast of the Valley events. These informal gatherings are a great source of social enjoyment and have led to several petitions being submitted. The Valley also held its annual Turkey dinner for members and guests. Under the leadership of Brother Mark Ciarametaro, the Valley also participated in the annual Concord Christmas Tree Lighting event. Members volunteered to staff a table and hand out free hot cocoa to the public throughout the evening, as well as share information about Scottish Rite and Freemasonry in general.

Several "Calling Parties" were held throughout the year, including three this past spring. At these calling parties, the officers and members of the Executive Committee, as well as several who simply volunteered, met and made phone calls to as many members as time allowed, focusing particularly on calling members we had not heard from or seen in a long time, and checking in on them to let them know we care about them. This Valley is also home to our state's three H.G.A. graduates: Brothers Shane Csiki, Ben Feldman, and Naresh Kumar.

The Valley of Nashua is one of the twelve Valleys chosen to pilot the Rite Guide program. This program is designed to assign a guide to each new member who will follow and counsel him from the time he makes application to Scottish Rite and for the next six months after he has completed his 32°. Representatives from the Valley also presented the Scottish Rite Americanism award to J.R.O.T.C. graduates at Manchester High School West, Salem High School, and Pinkerton Academy.

The Valley of Lancaster Littleton was also active. They displayed their support and thanks to the Blue Lodges that make up the Valley by hosting a lunch for their joint installation. Prior to opening, Illustrious and MW David S. Collins gave a presentation on the history of Scottish Rite. They held a family picnic that was a delight to all who attended. A representative from the Valley also presented the Scottish Rite Americanism award to a J.R.O.T.C. graduate at

White Mountain Regional High School. The Valley continues to support its Blue Lodge members. One Brother suffered a medical emergency that caused him to struggle with walking and getting around. The Valley purchased a battery-operated scooter, giving him the mobility needed for daily life.

After a more than 3-year suspension of all Valley activities, this past year's focus was re-engagement and restart. The first of a two-year restart plan focused solely on the Lodge of Perfection and re-engaging current members. The Valley met once a month to reacquaint themselves with Scottish Rite Degrees, plan a way forward, and engage socially. Monthly meetings included a Valley-funded meal, a short business meeting, and a video Degree viewing and discussion. Lodge of Perfection Degrees were offered.

The Valley also set a goal of quarterly family or couple-oriented social events. Social activity highlights included: Lake Sunapee Luncheon Cruise, a family dinner at the Lodge, including Ladies' game night activities, couples dining out at a local restaurant, and inviting their Ladies to a Christmas Social. A highlight for me was when the Valley members traveled to Maplewood Nursing Home to present Ill., Bro. David Bailey with his 65-year service certificate and pin.

New Hampshire Consistory is also leading in this area. In December, members and guests gathered at the Colonial Theater in Laconia, NH, for a performance of *A Christmas Carol*. Following the play, a post-show hospitality event was held.

Our Scottish Rite Ladies have been treated to a series of fun events. They include craft days held in December, March, and April. During our Spring Reunion, Celeste Mendzela hosted a Ladies' Lunch at the Red Fox in North Conway. Today, our ladies are in the North Country attending a Lupine outing.

We very much thank Beth Roy and Celeste Mendzela for their many ideas and entertaining programs for our Ladies.

GRANTS

Led by the Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, Ill ∴ Don Mendzela, 33,^o and approved through the New Hampshire Consistory Finance Committee, several grants were offered to Valleys to help retain and recruit

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- \$2,500 per Valley for membership appreciation. Valleys took advantage of this generous offer by:
 - Valley of Concord hosted a baseball game that included admission, a suite, and a BBQ.
 - Valley of Lancaster Littleton provided a meal at the multi-Lodge Installation of Officers.
- For membership recruitment, candidates were reimbursed their conferral fees for joining the Scottish Rite in this Masonic year.

REUNIONS

In the Fall of 2023, Valleys held several reunions, culminating with the Joint Valley Reunion held at the Portsmouth Masonic Temple, where the 4°, 13°, 17°, and 25° were viewed or exemplified. This event was attended by our Sovereign Grand Commander.

In the Spring of 2024, Reunions included:

Fourth Degree: Builder by the Valleys of Concord, Lancaster-Littleton, Nashua, and Portsmouth-Dover

Fifth Degree: Perfect Master by the Valley of Lancaster Littleton

Sixth Degree: Master of the Brazen Serpent by the Valley of Concord

Eighth Degree: Intendent of the Building by the Valley of Concord

Ninth Degree: Master of the Temple by the Valley of Nashua

Tenth Degree: Master Elect by the Valley of Concord

Fourteenth Degree: Grand Elect Mason by the Valley of Keene

Fifteenth Degree: Knight of the East by the Valleys of Concord and

Nashua

Eighteenth Degree: Knight of the Rose Croix of H.R.D.M. by the Valley of Lancaster-Littleton

Thirty-First Degree: My Brother's Keeper by the Valley of Lancaster Littleton

The reunion season culminated on April 20, 2024, when we traveled to Gorham, NH, to witness the Fifth (digital), Twenty-Second (Valley of Concord), and Thirty-Second Degrees (New Hampshire Consistory). Ladies and guests joined in the weekend festivities, which included a hospitality suite, ladies' program, and a fine catered meal.

In addition, on March 24, 2024, the Valley of Concord presented the Feast of the Pascal Lamb. This moving ceremony, meant to recognize departed Scottish Rite Brethren, was respectful and meaningful.

The Valleys in New Hampshire are planning a Fall Reunion. It has become a tradition in recent years for our Valleys to confer a degree per Valley at a joint reunion. We are planning a full day of degrees on November 2, 2024. The degrees planned are:

Fourth Degree: Builder by Keene

Eighth Degree: Master of the Ninth Arch by the Concord

Eighteenth Degree: Knight of the Rose Croix of H.R.D.M. by the Valley of Nashua

Nineteenth Degree: Brothers of the Trail by the Valley of Portsmouth-Dover

Thirty-First Degree: My Brother's Keeper by the Valley of Lancaster Littleton

The following day, Sunday, November 3, 2024, will be the Testimonial at which time the recipient(s) of the Meritorious Service Award for 2024 will be

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honored. Friends and relatives will all enjoy a buffet dinner at the Shrine Center in Concord.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

On June 15, 2024, during the DeMolay Conclave, a certain Brother from St. Mark's Lodge who is a Senior DeMolay and Advisor will be recognized as Supreme Council Youth Advisor of the Year for New Hampshire. Please help me keep the secret!

SUMMARY

Scottish Rite in New Hampshire is on the rise! I have witnessed this first-hand. I have personally attended 245 Masonic events this year and have enjoyed the many meetings, Reunions, and social activities being held. Our Deputy Reps, COD Officers, COD Committees, Valley Presiding Officers, and Valley Secretaries and Treasurers are engaged, and they are leading by example. We are working as a team and sharing a common vision and mission.

SUPREME COUNCIL UPDATE

Our Supreme Council staff, under the leadership of our Sovereign Grand Commanded Ill.: Walter F. Wheeler, 33°, continues to provide new and innovative programs that support the Valleys throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The Rite continues to value and appreciate Thursday Night at the Rite. Under the tutelage of Brother Dave Akridge, the Pathfinder program has been embraced by this jurisdiction. It provides a structured member education and enrichment experience that guides a new or existing member through all facets of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. Our Ambassador Program was launched this year and will serve to inform our Blue Lodges about Scottish Rite throughout New Hampshire. Additionally, Illustrious Troy Patoine created a "Training Rite" program that can be used by Valleys to improve member leadership skills.

The Supreme Council has made available to Blue Lodges the Benjamin Franklin Award of Distinction. This award is presented when Lodges achieve a Milestone Anniversary, starting at 50 years. The award is presented by the Valley to a local Blue Lodge and serves as a great way to introduce the Scottish Rite to

Master Masons.

Benjamin Franklin Award of Distinction Presentations were made to:

<i>Lodge</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Anniversary</i>
Hiram No. 9	7/29/2023	225
Blazing Star Eureka No. 11	2/24/2024	150

CHARITIES

The Supreme Council Charities include the Children’s Dyslexia Centers, Inc., the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, the Leon M. Abbott Scholarships, the Grand Almoners Fund, and the Membership Education Fund.

Every year, Scottish Rite in our Northern Masonic Jurisdiction appeals to its members in an overall, all-encompassing fundraiser called The Blue Envelope Appeal. This appeal is very important to our Supreme Council Charities, but it is also important to New Hampshire. The amount of money New Hampshire has available for Leon M. Abbott scholarships is determined through a formula including the number of contributions and the dollar amount contributed. Because of the success of the Blue Envelope Appeal, New Hampshire Scottish Rite was awarded \$10,400 to distribute through the Leon M. Abbott Scholarships. In addition, NH Consistory provided \$18,000 in scholarships through the William E. Bryant Scholarship.

I continue to be amazed by the generosity of Scottish Rite Masons in New Hampshire. According to the statistics provided to me by Bridget Steele, Director of Charities, New Hampshire once again has the highest percentage of members participating in the Blue Envelope Appeal for the entire Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. At the end of the competition period for Blue Envelope awards (February 15, 2024), New Hampshire had 16.8% of their members participating. The Valley of Lancaster-Littleton came in 1st this year with 20.24% of their members donating. New Hampshire Scottish Rite Masons

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donated over \$11,400 to the program this year. Outstanding!

Both Children's Dyslexia Centers in New Hampshire are doing well. Fundraising continues; we are very appreciative of the donations made to each of these Centers. I especially thank the Valley of Portsmouth-Dover and New Hampshire Consistory for their continued support of the operations of these Centers. If you haven't already done so, please donate to one or more of our "edgers" who go Over the Edge (rappel a 24-story building) on June 25 in Manchester.

You should know that both our Center Directors and dedicated staff have had successful years. In May, both Centers held graduation ceremonies for students and tutors who reached milestones. If you want to feel good about what you are doing with your charitable dollars, attend a Children's Dyslexia Center graduation. You will then know why we support this charity. This year marked a time of change for the leaders of these centers. Karyn Hubbard now leads the Seacoast Children's Dyslexia Center in Rochester, and Jennifer Atkins leads the Children's Dyslexia Center of Nashua. Retiring from the Nashua Center is Aileen Cormier. We thank Aileen for her many years of passionate and dedicated service to the youth of our communities.

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library is under the executive direction of New Hampshire's own Ill .: Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Active Member of Supreme Council. The library is a fantastic resource for Masonic education and learning. Please check it out.

The Grand Almoner's Fund continues to work for our members and their families. The White Flower Society cares for our Masonic Widows. You may not know the brother who receives this help, but it is a lifesaver. Please, talk with our members, and check in on those who may be in need. Help them whenever possible. And remember your Hospitaler Funds and the Grand Almoner Fund. Remember too that requests for funds need to be made through the Deputy who provides the Grand Almoner and Sovereign Grand Commander with the justification. It can be a life changer and sometimes a lifesaver.

This last year, thanks to the leadership of our Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, the New Hampshire Consistory Finance Committee, and the overall membership of New Hampshire, the following donations were made during Giving Tuesday 2023:

- \$2,000 to the Grand Almoners Fund
- \$2,000 to the Scottish Rite Museum & Library
- \$2,000 to the Dyslexia Center Foundation
- \$2,000 to the Abbott Scholarship
- \$2,000 to the Sweetheart Fund

In addition, the Valley of Portsmouth Dover made the following donations during Giving Tuesday 2023:

- \$2,500 to the Scottish Rite Museum & Library
- \$2,500 to the Children’s Dyslexia Center, Inc.

I thank you all.

VALLEY OF EXCELLENCE

The Supreme Council Valley of Excellence program is designed to recognize Valleys that go above and beyond in their endeavors in the four key areas of membership, service/philanthropy, leadership development, and operations. Each area requires that Valleys work hard to meet quantifiable objectives. Each area is scaled to the Valley and scored accordingly. But it is attainable for every Valley. No Valley can rest on its laurels. It must continually work to achieve excellence. I’m thrilled to report that the Valley of Concord reached the 95% score needed to be recognized as a Valley of Excellence. I’m also pleased to report that the Valley of Lancaster Littleton made significant positive momentum this last year. But all the Valleys have worked hard and should be proud of their work.

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Current standings as of the writing of this report:

Valley of Portsmouth-Dover	62.44%
Valley of Concord	97.39%
Valley of Nashua	80.16%
Valley of Lancaster-Littleton	82.97%
Valley of Keene	14.00%

SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION IN LOUISVILLE

The Supreme Council met in Session in Louisville, KY, in August 2023, with the Executive Session held on August 25-26.

The Thirty-third Degree was conferred on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, on three New Hampshire Scottish Rite Masons as part of the class of 249 candidates.

Those New Hampshire Scottish Rite Masons Include:

Ill ∴ Larry Adam Sprague, Valley of Concord

Ill ∴ Robert Stanley Bean, III, Valley of Nashua

Ill ∴ David William Smith, Valley of Nashua

During that same session, the following candidates were elected to receive the 33° Degree at the Supreme Council Session in Indianapolis, IN, in August 2025.

Brother Mark David Ciarametaro, Valley of Concord

Brother John Alan Loven, Valley of Lancaster-Littleton

Brother Guy Robert Martineau, Valley of Nashua

Ill.∴ Donald L. Mendzela, 33°, and his Lady Celeste were terrific hosts for the New Hampshire group, and we again welcomed Vermont to share in our hospitality.

GRATITUDE

There is much to be grateful for. Many of you have supported the many programs of the Scottish Rite. You have also been supportive of me as the Deputy for New Hampshire this past year. You have accorded all the Actives and Emeriti with the greatest of courtesies whenever we were present. For all of that, I am grateful. For those of you who have served as Deputy Representative, Officer, or Valley Secretary, thank you. To those who directed or worked on Degrees, thank you. To all who participated in so many ways in degree work, dinners, watch parties, Feast of the Valley, or any other Scottish Rite activity, thank you. Thank you for Ill.∴ Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A., who stepped in at a difficult time and worked tirelessly to ensure that our COD assets were collected, collated, and archived.

Thank you to my mentors and peers: Ill.∴ Robert E. Hansen, 33°, Active Emeritus and recipient of the Supreme Council Medal of Honor. I treasure your friendship and advice.

Ill.∴ Mark C. Roth, 33°, Active Emeritus and recipient of the Supreme Council Medal of Honor. Thank you for your many years of service, not only as Deputy for this state but to the Rite as a whole.

Ill.∴ Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Active Member of Supreme Council and recipient of the Supreme Council Medal of Honor. I have relied on your advice so many times over this last year. You are a true leader and advocate for the Rite. Thank you.

I also thank our Grand Master, Ill.∴ and Most Worshipful Daniel Richard Hotchkiss. Please know that Scottish Rite is here to assist you, and you have our full backing. We wish you a productive and prosperous second year as our Grand Master.

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Lastly, I thank my wife, Tammy. You've been by my side for 50 years. All that I have accomplished in my professional and Masonic career comes from the love and support I receive from you.

Illustrious Brother Elliot, I move the acceptance of this report.

The First Lieutenant Commander then asked, "Is there a second?", which received numerous affirmative responses.

The motion was unanimously approved, and the report was accepted.

Following a standing ovation for the Commander-in-Chief, The First Lieutenant Commander returned the gavel to the Commander-in-Chief, after presenting him with his Gold Passport for witnessing all the Scottish Rite Degrees.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACTIVITIES AND TESTIMONIALS

November 5, 2023, Event

On Sunday, November 5, 2023, nearly 95 Brethren, ladies, and other guests gathered at the Bektash Shrine Center in Concord in a mid-day celebration honoring our MSA and 33rd recipients.

Those honored with the Meritorious Service Award by nominations from their various valleys are as follows.

Elected June 3rd, 2023, at the 100th annual communication of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation in Gorham, NH.

Brother Mark W. Blodget, 32°, M.S.A.

Valley of Lancaster-Littleton

Today, we also honor the three Brethren who were Coroneted 33° Honorary members of our Supreme Council in Louisville, Kentucky.

Robert Stanley Bean 33°, M.S.A.

Valley of Nashua

David William Smith, 33°, M.S.A.

Valley of Nashua

Larry Adam Sprague, 33°

Valley of Concord

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The social period began at 12:15 P.M. to be followed by the presentation of the MSA award, which was then followed by a buffet dinner of, Roast Beef, Turkey with all the fixings catered by Hart's Turkey Farm of Meredith NH. Ill Brother John E Lobdell 33°, began the program with a prayer and pledge of allegiance to the Flag of our country at 12:45 pm. After some brief introductions and before the meal, Ill ∴ Brother Kenneth A. Clay Jr, 33°, Spoke briefly about our M.S.A. recipient for this year. Ill ∴ Brother Clay Introduced Ill ∴ Brother Mark C. Roth, 33°, and Ill ∴ Brother Richard W. Elliot, 33°, who then performed the Meritorious Service Award Ceremony and presented Brother Mark H. Blodgett with his Certificate, Jewell and Ladies pin. Brother Blodgett was then allowed to introduce his family and friends and then briefly spoke of the honor and privilege of being selected to receive his nomination and subsequent award and thanked all for being there to celebrate with him.

After the meal, it was time to honor those who had been coroneted 33° Honorary Members of Supreme Council with the presentation of their jewels by Brothers of their choosing.

Ill ∴ Brother Robert S. Bean was introduced by Ill ∴ Brother Karl H. Bickford 33° and his jewel was presented to him by Ill ∴ Brother Mark C. Roth, 33°. Ill ∴ Brother David W. Smith was introduced by Ill ∴ Brother Mark C. Roth, 33°, and was presented his Jewel by Ill ∴ Brother Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A., Honorary Past Grand Master and Ill ∴ Brother Mark C. Roth, 33°. Ill ∴ Brother Lary A. Spraque, 33°, was introduced by Ill ∴ Brother John E. Lobdell 33° and was presented his Jewel by M ∴ W ∴ and Ill ∴ Brother Jerome T. Becker 33°, M.S.A., and Ill ∴ Brother Scott R. Borthwick, 33°, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of NH.

After these presentations, it was time to introduce our honored guests in attendance, particularly our special guest, Ill ∴ Brother Walter E Wheeler, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America. Ill ∴ Brother Robert E. Hansen, 33°, Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council, Past Deputy for New Hampshire, Past Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, and his lovely wife Jean.

III ∴ Brother Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Active Member of Supreme Council, Past Deputy for New Hampshire, Past Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, and recipient of the Supreme Council Medal of Honor, and his lovely wife, Kathy.

III ∴ Brother Mark C. Roth 33°, Active Emeritus Member of Supreme Council, Past Deputy for NH, Past Grand Lieutenant Commander of Supreme Council, and recipient of the Supreme Council Medal of Honor.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Jeremy J. Sawyer, 33°, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 2000-2001, and his lovely wife Barbara.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother Wendall Lear Woodward 33°, Past Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 2002-2003, and his lovely wife Linda.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother John F. Gordon 33°, MSA, Past Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, Past Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 2015-2016, and his lovely wife Connie.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother John E. Lobdell, 33°, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 2017-2018, and his lovely wife, Cindy.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Kenneth A. Clay Jr, 33°, Active Member of Supreme Council, Deputy for New Hampshire, Past Commander in Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 2019-2020, and his lovely wife, Tammy.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother Jerome T Becker, 33°, M.S.A., Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of NH 2022, and his daughter Maria.

M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother David S. Collins, 33°, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 2021-202 current and past Grand officer of the York Rite Bodies of NH, and his lovely wife Colleen.

R ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother Scot R. Borthwick, 33°, Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of NH, and his lovely wife Donna.

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III ∴ Brother Gary E. Roy, 33°, Past Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, and his lovely wife Beth.

III ∴ Brother Donald Mendzela, 33°, Commander-in-Chief of New Hampshire Consistory, and his lovely wife, Celeste.

III ∴ Brother Mendzela presented the Sovereign Grand Commander, III ∴ Brother Walter E Wheeler, 33^o, with a couple of gifts for himself and his wife as a token of his time spent with us here in New Hampshire. After all the introductions several of the honored guests were afforded the opportunity to share a few words with those in attendance. III∴ Brother Wheeler extended his thanks to all the brethren of NH and commented that he enjoyed his time and is looking forward to returning to NH many times in the future. III∴ Brother Scott R. Borthwick brought a greeting from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of NH. M ∴ W ∴ and III ∴ Brother Daniel R. Hotchkiss, 33°, were in attendance for just a short period, as he had a previous commitment and was unable to stay for the program, but was able to speak to all the honorees personally. The Program was concluded, and the benediction was given by M ∴ W ∴ Brother and III ∴ Brother Lobdell.

For the Committee,

John E. Lobdell, 33°, Chairman

Donald L. Mendzela, 33°

Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUPREME COUNCIL CHARITIES

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and Members of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

THE BLUE ENVELOPE APPEAL

The Supreme Council Charities include the Children’s Dyslexia Centers, Inc., The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, The Leon M. Abbott Scholarships, and the Grand Almoners Fund along with the White Flower Society as well as the Membership Education Fund.

Every year, Scottish Rite in our Northern Masonic Jurisdiction appeals to its members in an overall, all-encompassing fundraiser called The Blue Envelope Appeal. This appeal is very important to our Supreme Council Charities, but it is also important to New Hampshire. The amount of money New Hampshire has available for Leon M. Abbott scholarships are determined through a formula including the number of contributions and the dollar amount contributed.

I continue to be amazed by the generosity of Scottish Rite Masons in New Hampshire. According to the statistics provided at the end of the appeal for Valley Awards (January 31, 2024) New Hampshire had 17.12% of their members participating. This percentage is up by 3.0% from the previous year!

This increase continues to show the generosity of New Hampshire Scottish Rite members supporting the various Blue Envelope Appeal charities. This year the Valley of Concord led all New Hampshire Valleys and just edged the Valley of Lancaster-Littleton with 20.50%-member participation. Every member counts! One additional participating member was the difference!

Both Children’s Dyslexia Centers in New Hampshire are doing well. Fundraising continues and we are appreciative of the donations made to each of these centers. Many thanks to NH Consistory for its continued support as well as those who contributed personally. Thank you to those who contributed to the Over the Edge teams where nearly \$11,250 has been raised for the June 28th date.

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Your generous contributions have an impact on the amounts each valley receives for the Leon M. Abbott Scholarships. This year New Hampshire Valleys received a total of \$10,400 to provide for scholarships to students for their academic studies.

Let's continue this great progress, and remember every dollar gets us closer to supporting our goals! If you see the appeal in the future, please consider a donation, these dollars do come back to New Hampshire and help support all of our Supreme Council Charites.

Respectfully Submitted

Peter Crouch

Mark Weir

Roland Petersen

David Collins

John Solomonides

REPORT OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and Members of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief, Officers, Members, and Guests of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

Over the past year, our youth groups have been getting active in their communities. Many have returned to marching in parades and participating in community events. Local assemblies and chapters continue to make great strides with growing in numbers. Many have young and energetic groups eager to learn and grow.

Last July, NH Rainbow's Jacqueline Desrosiers concluded her year as Grand Worthy Advisor. She did a fantastic job reminding us to honor the past and traditions while thinking forward and outside the box throughout her Disney-filled year. The year was filled with imagination and creativity with every membership activity and charity event.

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Sarah Jache is the current Grand Worthy Advisor helping our youth find their voices with her circus theme. We've had many creative events, including a circus carnival as a charity fundraiser. This year, the girls are supporting Shriners Hospital by collecting wish list items and raising funds to assist in purchasing bigger ticket items. The state officers had the opportunity last December to visit and tour the Springfield hospital.

Last July, NH DeMolay's Billy Cook concluded his term as State Master Councilor. He did a great job throughout his term supporting the chapters and representing NH DeMolay. Reilly Brown was installed and has been very active around the state. The young men have been active with various membership and fun events, including bowling, baseball games, arcade trips, and more.

Both our youth groups have big events coming up over the next few months. First up is NH DeMolay Conclave on June 14th through the 16th. Next up is the NH Rainbow Grand Assembly on July 5th through the 7th. Both youth groups are getting excited for their years of hard work to be celebrated at their respective conferences. If you have the opportunity to attend a session, GO! Go support our youth and see what they have been up to all year. See the young leaders of tomorrow that will change the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A., Chairman

Jeffrey L. Brown, 33°, M.S.A.

C. Wayne Libby, Jr. 33°, M.S.A.

Karl R. Olson

David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.

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RECEPTION OF VISITING DIGNITARIES

The Commander-in-Chief welcomed the visiting dignitaries and then called upon for their remarks.

David S. Collins, MEGHP, and MIGM: "I thank the Deputy for all courtesies extended and how well we all work together."

Arthur W. Stauff, REGC said:

"Greetings to the distinguished members of the New Hampshire Scottish Rite Council of Deliberation. It is both an honor and a pleasure to address you today on behalf of the Grand Commandery of New Hampshire.

First and foremost, I bring you warm fraternal greetings from our entire membership. It is always a moment of profound significance when we gather as brothers united in our common purpose to uphold and further the noble principles of Freemasonry. Today is one of those moments, a time to celebrate our shared heritage, reaffirm our commitments, and look forward to the future we are building together.

The bonds between the Scottish Rite and the Knights Templar are deep and enduring. We share not only the ancient landmarks and values of Freemasonry but also a profound dedication to service, charity, and the betterment of humanity. In our diverse yet united endeavors, we find strength, inspiration, and the true essence of our Masonic journey.

This year, as we face new challenges and embrace new opportunities, let us remember the core tenets that guide us: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. These principles are not just words; they are the very foundation upon which we build our actions and our lives. It is through our unwavering commitment to these ideals that we make a lasting impact on our communities and each other.

In these times of rapid change and uncertainty, our work as Masons is more crucial than ever. We must continue to lead by example, demonstrating *integrity*, compassion, and wisdom in all that we do. Whether through charitable endeavors, educational programs, or community outreach, our

efforts serve as a beacon of hope and a testament to the enduring values of our fraternity.

I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge the leadership and dedication of the officers and members of the Scottish Rite. Your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to the Craft are truly commendable. The achievements and progress we celebrate today are a direct result of your hard work, vision, and dedication. You inspire us all to strive for excellence and to uphold the high standards of our beloved Fraternity.

As we look to the future, let us do so with optimism and resolve. Together, we can overcome any obstacles and seize the opportunities that lie ahead. By working in harmony and supporting one another, we will continue to advance the noble cause of Freemasonry and ensure that its light shines brightly for generations to come.

In closing, I extend my heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to address this esteemed assembly. May our bonds of fraternity grow ever stronger, and may we continue to be a force for good in the world. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless each of you, your families, and our beloved Fraternity.

Thank you, and God bless.”

Arthur W. Stauff, RE Grand Commander

Grand Commandery of NH

Karen Tuttle, GWM from the Order of the Eastern Star said:

“On behalf of the OES, I bring greetings. We thank the Scottish Rite for sharing their time with us and we enjoy participating when we can. We thank you all for supporting the Order of the Eastern Star.”

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Sarah Jache from NH Rainbow said:

“Good morning. My name is Sarah Jache and I am the Grand Worthy Advisor for the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in NH, one of the Youth Organizations of our Masonic Family! I would like to take a moment and thank you for all the support you have shown the girls of NH Rainbow both financially and when you attend our events - we truly appreciate it! Our focus this year has been on finding our voice so we can be stronger leaders and individuals in our communities. During my years in Rainbow, I have traditionally been that shy girl in the corner but with the love and encouragement of our advisors, many of which are here today, I have overcome that and have been able to lead NH Rainbow this year. The girls of Rainbow need more advisors and mentors to help make them stronger leaders. I hope that each of you will take some time to visit an assembly or one of our local or state events. It would mean the world to these girls to see you there.

On that note, I would like to invite you all to attend our last state-wide event on June 9th at the Tilton Masonic Temple at 2 pm, it is our Homecoming for the GWA which is where we welcome me home to my home assembly, after a busy term traveling all over the state. It's sure to be a blast and there is food after (maybe some ice cream, Dad Clay!).

Lastly, I would like to see you all at our Grand Assembly Session on July 5-7 at the Courtyard Marriott in Nashua, formal introductions will take place on July 5th starting at 6:30 pm.

Best of luck to the newly installed officers, we look forward to seeing you in the rest of our travels this year!”

Sarah Jache, Grand Worthy advisor, NH Rainbow

Arthur Stauff, as Executive Officer for DeMolay, said:

"Good morning, Illustrious Bro. Ken Clay, *MWGM* Bro. Dan Hotchkiss and Brothers all. It is a pleasure and an honor to represent New Hampshire DeMolay as its Executive Officer.

Most of you are aware that DeMolay is for any good young man between 12 and 21 years of age, with a younger group for boys 9-11 called Squires. Like Scottish Rite DeMolay, it has pageantry and beauty. It affords the opportunity for participation in the dramatic portrayal of heroic personalities. The degrees carry a challenge for every young man to grow into a better man and a better citizen. The teachings of virtues are proven. true in all generations becomes vital to each young man as he solemnly pledges himself to be faithful to those ideals by the token words "I do so promise and vow."

My message to you this morning is of two "Franks". Frank Land and Frank Marshall. Most people know that the founder of DeMolay was Frank Sherman Land. Both were very active Blue Lodge, York Rite, and Scottish Rite Masons in Kansas City, MO. Frank Marshall wrote the beautiful ritual work of DeMolay. Over the years, the mystique of the DeMolay Ritual has grown. Members and advisors have passed on rumors and conjecture as to how the script was written and the man who wrote it. Let's listen to a few of Dad Marshall's own words when asked about the ritual of the order.

"Let me say that many years before I became a Freemason, Jacques DeMolay was one of my heroes. Forty years ago, and more, I wrote a little private 'creed' in which I gave DeMolay a high place as an exemplar of loyalty to conscience."

"When, therefore, I became a member of DeMolay Council, DeMolay Council of Knights Kadosh Officers AASR SMJ (it will be noted in passing that the name of his Consistory Body is spelled with an 'i' instead of 'y'), DeMolay appealed especially to my imagination. As a member of the line, while Brother Land was a commander, I became more and more closely drawn to DeMolay, perhaps unconsciously preparing for the work that was to come."

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"Originally, I called the units 'Councils', instead of 'chapters,' but as I was a member of the DeMolay Council, it was most logical to call the principal officers 'Councilors': symbolizing the advisory functions of leadership."

I could go on about the ritual, but I'm more interested in the men then and now, the two "Franks" who dedicated their lives to helping young men become successful adults, and the advisors for over 100 years who have made DeMolay possible. The names of men you'll never know. Phil Clark, Bill Williams, Carl Edgerton, Ed Slade, and many more helped the precocious young man stay on the right path when society was pulling him astray. These men were some of my advisors, and I am honored to have known them. I have not asked them, but I am fully confident that your Deputy and our MWGM could stand right now and name off some advisors who were influential in their development.

The reality is "Advisors ARE DeMolay". Without adult leadership, there would be no DeMolay. We have masons who have served as advisors for over 50 years. Nationally the average tenure of an advisor is over 7 years. In New Hampshire, it is longer. Without an influx of new advisors, the inevitable "Advisor Burnout" can and is dooming Chapters.

Scottish Rite has been generous with the financial donations to our order, and I thank you most profusely for that. We are, however, as the Marines say, "looking for a few good men". When DeMolay was founded, it initially filled a void that came from fathers not returning from World War I. Few, if any, can argue that there is not an absolute need for good male role models in our society today. We, You have an opportunity to reach out and help above and beyond the financial, by becoming an advisor for DeMolay. It's easy to think that someone else will step up. I don't have the time. DeMolay is going to ask too much from me. There are endless excuses that can be found, but nothing changes the reality that there is a critical need for adult leadership in DeMolay, and oh, by the way, we also have a lot of fun. Please contact me, and I can show you how you can help. I thank you for the courtesies and have a great day."

Arthur W. Stauff, Executive Officer, NH DeMolay

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INVITATION FOR THE 2024

NH COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION ANNUAL CONVOCATION

The Commander-in-Chief thanked everyone for attending this year’s Annual Convocation of the Council of Deliberation. He then asked, “Is there a Valley that would like to extend an invitation for the 2025 Annual Convocation to be held on June 7, 2025?”

Brother John Bartoszak extended an invitation on behalf of the Valley of Portsmouth-Dover to host the One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation on that date in Portsmouth, NH.

The Commander-in-Chief asked the Council of Deliberation to vote to validate the Valley of Portsmouth-Dover’s invitation. Following a unanimous vote in the affirmative validating the offer, the Commander-in-Chief accepted the invitation from the Valley of Portsmouth-Dover.

REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

To the Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and Members of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

The Supreme Council has provided New Hampshire with \$10,400.00 for Leon M. Abbott Scholarships this year. The Committee on Scholarships has met and recommended the following students to be recipients this year:

LEON M. ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Hannah L. Vincent \$5200	Junior	Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
Laurent E. Vincent \$5200	Senior	Liberty College, Lynchburg, VA

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The committee received about the same number of applications this year. We continue to recommend that the Scholarship program be promoted at all meetings and reunions during the year.

The process was more challenging this year due to the change to online submission of applications and the lack of coordination of information on the various websites with regard to deadline dates and methods of submitting applications. There was also a problem with the National FAFSA program not getting results to students in a timely manner. We managed to navigate our way through all of this and were finally able to complete our work. I'm sure that next year things will go a lot smoother.

We are inviting the recipients and their families to come either to our New Hampshire Consistory annual meeting or our Council of Deliberation meeting to be presented with their scholarships.

As this is my last report after serving on the committee for 25 years, I would like to thank all of those that I have had the pleasure of working with over the years in this endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted,

III. Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A., Chairman

Timothy J. Martel, 32°

III. Troy A. Patoine, 33°

III. Roderick M. MacDonald, 33°

Bro. Mark H. Blodgett, 32°, M.S.A.

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In addition, the New Hampshire Consistory has provided \$18,000.00 for the William E. Bryant Scholarships this year and the Commander-in-Chief of the NH Consistory has asked me to include the resulting awards in this report.

The William E. Bryant Scholarship recipients are:

Ryan D. Ciarametaro	\$3000	Sophomore	UNH
Abigail J. Dickson	\$2500	Sophomore	Smith College, MA
Anna M. Gordon	\$2500	Freshman	Suffolk University, MA
Ella J. Zagami	\$2000	Freshman	UNH
Kiersten E. Allin	\$2000	Freshman	Plymouth State
Zoey Mourousas	\$1000	Freshman	University of Lowell, MA
Shea D. Cooney	\$1000	Sophomore	Wt, Mt. Community Coll.
Alexandra V. Elliot	\$1000	Junior	Florida Southern Coll,
Alexander R. Wahl	\$1000	Junior	Tufts Univ. Medford, MA
Frank W. Brown	\$1000	Sophomore	Franklin Pierce Univ. Col.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ill.: Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A. Chairman

Ill.: David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.

Ill.: David S. Collins, 33°, M.S.A.

Bro. W. David Akridge, 32°

James H. Lawrence, III, 32°

HAUTS GRADES ACADEMY

Ill.: Brother Clay then congratulated Bro. Naresh Selvarasu, 32° for completing the Supreme Council's Haut Grades Academy. Bro. Feldman is the third brother from New Hampshire to complete this education course. He may use the letters HGA after his name at Scottish Rite events.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Commander-in-Chief asked if there was any other business to come before this Council before asking for closing remarks of our Active Emeritus Members and Active Members of the Supreme Council. There being none, Illustrious Brother Clay called upon the Active for any comment he might have.

REMARKS OF THE ACTIVES

Illustrious Robert E. Hansen, 33°, Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council brought forth his congratulations to the Deputy.

Illustrious Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Active Member of the Supreme Council and Grand Minister of State of the Supreme Council thanked the Commander-in-Chief for the opportunity to speak and offered his remaining time to the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

GRAND MASTER'S REMARKS

Following his remarks, the Commander-in-Chief called on the First Lieutenant Commander to escort the Grand Master to the East, and said, "Brethren, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of NH, Illustrious Brother Daniel R. Hotchkiss 33°, our Grand Master.


The Grand Master offered the greetings from the Grand Lodge and his own personal greetings. He asked everyone to think back to when they took their first step in Masonry, or DeMolay, Rainbow, or OES. He thanked all for their

today and offered them good times until they meet again.

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There being no further business, the Council was closed by proclamation.

A true record, Attest:



Dennis A. Sheridan

Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A. Secretary

REPORTS

The following pages contain the remainder of the Committee reports of the Council of Deliberation and those of the Deputy's Representatives. These reports were previously submitted, received, and distributed to the members for review before the Annual Convocation.

On a motion, which was duly made and seconded, and is previously recorded in these proceedings, all of the reports were voted on and approved as submitted.

The following reports are on the succeeding pages:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports for the Committees on:

- Constitutions and Laws
- Education and Leadership Development
- Media and Publicity
- Membership Development

DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Reports for the Valleys of:

- Concord
- Keene
- Portsmouth-Dover
- Lancaster-Littleton
- Nashua

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONS AND LAWS

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and Members of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

JUNE 1, 2024

The members of the Committee on Constitutions and Laws submit the following report.

The Committee on Constitutions and Laws reviewed the *Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation 1966 (revised 2011)* and found it to be in good order. No corrections, alterations, or amendments are required and therefore none are submitted.

The members of the Committee commend Illustrious Kenneth A. Clay, Jr. 33^o for his adherence to the Constitutions of NH Council of Deliberation as Commander-in-Chief and Deputy for New Hampshire.

The members of the Committee also thank Illustrious Clay for the opportunity to serve our Council of Deliberation in this manner.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Ill ∴ Mark C. Roth, 33^o, Chairman, Valley of Concord

Ill ∴ Nicholas C. Martel, 33^o, Member, Valley of Keene

Ill ∴ Jeffrey M. Brown, 33^o, Member, Valley of Portsmouth-Dover

Bro. John A. Loven, 32^o, M.S.A., Member, Valley of Lancaster-Littleton

Ill ∴ Edward N. Lewis, 33^o, Member, Valley of Concord

EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and Members of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

Our COD Workshop meeting was once again held in person. It was well attended. Under the leadership of our Deputy, we had a very interesting and informative interactive meeting. The distinguished Ill. Kenneth A. Clay invited guests to provide information on various topics

- Museum & Library
- Global Leadership Summit
- Benjamin Franklin Award of Distinction
- Grand Almoner's Fund
- Blue Envelope 2023
- Giving Tuesday
- CHILDREN'S DYSLEXIA CENTERS
- Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Fund
- Membership Stats
- Thursday Night at the Rite
- 2022-23 Valley of Excellence
- Discussion on The Valley of Portsmouth Dover Video Degree Marathon.
- An informative and engaging talk on the differences/similarities between Scottish Rite & York Rite.
- Breakout session "Deputy for the Day" questions
- Wildlife control talk

Illustrious Karl Bickford talked about scholarships.

Ill Brother Elliot talked about the MSA deadline and guidelines.

Illustrious Ken Clay talked about the youth advisor of the year details.

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Illustrious Brother Clay has continued going around to promote the Scottish Rite to Blue Lodge masons. He is also reminding and promoting an officer training and procedures program.

TRAINING (SCOTTISH) RITE

The Deputy again recommended the program Illustrious Brother Troy Patoine and Brother Andrew Bennert did a presentation on officer training, A 158-slide presentation is available covering many different subjects. New as well as old officers would be able to come away from this training with some information they didn't previously know. This new resource should be utilized and promoted to their respective Valleys.

The "Deputy for the Day" breakout fielded answers such as:

Replace yourself:

Travel to get out to other Lodges and promote the good times you have in SR

Active and present in Blue Lodge

Speak often of the great things SR does.

Talk up the Charities.

Blue Lodge SR degree team.

Promote Masonry as a whole to the general public.

Getting valley officers for lines:

Find out the interests of the active members.

Existing officers need to mentor.

Be truthful of the Duties Expected of them.

Consolidate various Valley body meetings to broaden the idea pool.

Propose a line office more in line with their interest.

Personalized roadmap for those coming in.

Destigmatize not doing rituals. Let someone else do the ritual while the other focuses on running the valley.

Deputy for the day:

Calendars, organization as too many bodies are competing for attendance.

Organize degree dates and vary the degrees shown for more participation.

Make the Passport easier to fill.

Facilitate/organize travel to other states to witness degrees.

Illustrious Brothers Collins and Bennert gave an informative talk on how many of the degrees contain similar examples relating to our core Values.

Illustrious Scott Borthwick gave a talk on his experiences in the business of wildlife control. He brought in numerous things and captured the attention of those present. His mixture of humor and information was well received.

Our Deputy has traveled extensively, and with his programs and dedicated leadership, the membership is much more knowledgeable in our craft.

Respectfully,

Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.

REPORT OF THE MEDIA & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and Members of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation:

The primary means of Valley communication and publicity statewide is through electronic media. Secondly are Valley newsletters. This committee thanks those submitting articles and ideas over the past year. Our greatest need is content for Valley newsletters, the New Hampshire Scottish Rite website, and Facebook pages. We ask our members for help in posting and publishing them.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is a critical format to keep in contact with our members. Scottish Rite has been fortunate to have a robust, proactive response from our Supreme Council to address this. Electronic newsletters emailed to members, Facebook and blog posts, and online webinars and digital reunions have enhanced the Scottish Rite experience for our members. On the state level, we have room for improvement. While all five Valleys have a Facebook page, only two are actively using them to post news and information.

The Valley of Concord is currently posting to Facebook about five times each week, and the Valley of Nashua continues to regularly post to both the NH Consistory page and the Valley of Nashua group page about 3 times each week. The other Valley posts combined for the last year are 12. In addition, each Valley has a WordPress page for keeping members up to date. Posts would automatically be added to the Valley's webpage. Unfortunately, no Valley except Nashua has used it over the past year, with some even further back than that. Those links have been removed from the Valley pages as they gave a negative impression of the Valleys.

WEBSITE

The state website, nhscottishrite.org, has now been in use for a couple of years. While the format is cleaner and less cluttered looking than the former site, we will regularly review it to ensure it is easy to navigate and has eye

appeal. The website is used in conjunction with our email announcements to members. Members who use the email's one-button click to RSVP, have their reply recorded and are usually brought to a page on the website, acknowledging their reply. The website also has information pages for members, such as the Council of Deliberation Proceedings.

BeAFreemason.org

The Supreme Council, in conjunction with the Southern Jurisdiction and Shriners unveiled a new website, www.BeAFreemason.org, to be a central point of online information about Freemasonry, and how to join. This follows Supreme Council's "Not Just A Man, A Mason." marketing campaign that was made available at no charge for Grand Lodges and local Masonic Lodges to use.

Material is available at www.notjustaman.org and has been used by Valleys and individual members on Facebook pages, Twitter accounts, and websites. In conclusion, we continue to ask all Committees, Valley Officers, and Valley Membership Committee members to assist us by providing photos of Scottish Rite events, as well as press releases for distribution to newspapers and other media outlets. We invite all to share observations and suggestions for improving all our communication with members and with the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.

Jeffrey M. Brown, 33°

Edward N. Lewis, 33°, M.S.A.

Nicholas C. Martel, 33°

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE

NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION JUNE 1, 2024

The membership in the Scottish Rite in New Hampshire continues to decline. Unfortunately, the total membership in New Hampshire is now less than 1,000, most likely for the first time in any current member’s Scottish Rite life.

Specifically: The numbers show that despite a 271 percent increase in initiations, from 14 in 2022 to 38 in 2023, total membership dropped by 3.8 percent. This indicates that an increase in initiates is not the sole solution. We must cut our losses in those areas where we can make an impact – suspensions and demits. We

must answer these questions, “Why are some members choosing to be suspended for non-payment of dues and why are others paying dues and then quitting?” Are we letting them down?

The number above indicates that recruitment is not the entire solution, just a part of it. We must focus on rejuvenating our valleys and retaining not only new members but all members.

New Hampshire Scottish Rite Membership 2022 & 2023												
Year	Beginning Count	Initiations	Affiliations	Restorations	TOTAL	Deceased	Suspensions	Discharges	Expulsions	Demits	TOTAL	Ending Count
2022	1077	14	6	9	29	52	9	4	0	12	77	1029
2023	1029	38	9	4	51	58	17	4	0	12	91	989

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CALL A BROTHER / BRING A BROTHER ¹

If a member is about to be suspended for non-payment of dues, we normally contact him to see why he is delinquent and what his valley can do. We may want to do that before it reaches the point of suspension. We should be contacting delinquent members after that first year before there is the threat of suspension.

When we contact members delinquent in dues we are making a wellness check. We are not asking about dues. If the brother mentions being in arrears, the caller says he is not aware of that. What we are looking for is the answer to the question, "Why?"

We should also contact members seeking demits to see why they are choosing to surrender their membership. Again, we are asking, "Why?" Personal contact goes a long way in showing that we really care for each other. Members should also be encouraged to call Scottish Rite friends who have not been at a meeting or reunion for some time. Personal contacts by friends can encourage an inactive member to be active again. The brother calling can offer to drive the member he is contacting to the meeting or reunion.

RITE GUIDE

Rite Guide is a mentorship program sponsored by the Supreme Council. It is a positive step in our quest to retain as many new members as possible. Essentially, each valley will have a Rite Guide Coordinator who will recruit and help train the mentors for the valley.

Mentors will start working with their candidates as soon as possible, preferably before their Fourth-Degree dates. They will continue to work with their mentees for six months or until the conferring of their 32nd Degree, whichever is greater.

¹ *This program was introduced at Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge in Tewksbury, Massachusetts by W. O. David LaPlante. The idea is an active member contacts one non-active member a week or two ahead of a lodge meeting to just talk. During the conversation, the brother making the call asks if the non-active brother would like to attend the next meeting, even offering to drive him to the hall.*

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The mentor's job is to:

- Be a fountain of knowledge about the Scottish Rite.
- Make sure the mentee meets everyone at his reunions.
 - Mentees should feel comfortable in the banquet hall.
 - Mentees should get to meet everyone, especially the Deputy and Actives, so they realize everyone is approachable.
- Find the mentee's interests and show him where he can follow his interests in the Scottish Rite
- Find out what activities in the Valley are of interest to the mentee.

If a mentor does his job well, the odds that a new member will become active in the valley's life increases. The mentor, just by his effort, shows the new member we really value him and look forward to him becoming active in the valley's life.

The valley representative to the Membership Development Committee will be the Rite Guide Coordinator's primary contact advisor.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Membership Development will be meeting regularly, on the second Sunday of the months of February, March, May, September, and November. (The second Sunday date could be adjusted based on the Scottish Rite schedule for a particular month.) The meetings will be conducted via Zoom and will be centered on a particular valley. The leadership of that valley will be invited to tune in and participate in the session.

The Chairman of the Membership Development Committee will continue to visit valleys if invited. The purpose of these visits will be to discuss valley membership problems and possible solutions. The visit will also be to discuss

progress in meeting Rite Guide goals.

The Membership Development Committee will be helping the Valley of Keene with a planned reunion in October. The valley wants to perform the 4th Degree. The valley will supply all the speaking parts and the Membership Development Committee will take care of the walk-ons.

WHAT WE CAN DO

There are several things we can do to help rejuvenate our valley meetings and reunions. The Membership Development Committee recommends the following:

- New Hampshire Consistory can select a degree and take that degree to the five valleys. The Consistory degree could become the anchor for a valley reunion and possibly attract members who do not normally attend reunions.
- Valleys can organize social events for the members and others, making it both a valley rejuvenation project and a recruitment event at the same time.
- New Hampshire Scottish Rite can organize a statewide social event that could include other Masonic organizations. As an example, the five valleys could band together, along with the York Rite, for a formal dinner dance for the members of both rites.
- Beyond our degrees, the Scottish Rite of New Hampshire can offer Masonic plays to the lodges in New Hampshire. This could serve as an after-meeting program for the lodges and a way we can soft-sell our message to Masons.

One thing we must remember: In our times, as they exist today, we must make the Scottish Rite experience valuable. A way to phrase it is: "If our dues are \$150 for the year, we have to make sure our program is worth \$150."

The Membership Development Committee will continue looking for ways it can help the Scottish Rite in New Hampshire and ensure the Rite will continue

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being a positive influence for our members and others.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Richard Thompson, 32°, M.S.A.

Chairman, Membership Development Committee For the Committee:

Karl H. Bickford III, 33°, M.S.A.

David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.

Nicholas Martel, 33°

Mark E. Ciaramentaro, 32°, M.S.A.

John F. Bartoszak Sr., 32°

DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Deputy's Representative Report 2023-2024

Valley of Keene 091--30 April 2024

Ill. Commander-in-Chief of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation, thank you for allowing me to serve as your Representative to the Valley of Keene this year. It has been an enjoyable, challenging, and educational journey.

After a more than 3-year suspension of all Valley activities, this past year's focus was re-engagement and restart. The first of a two-year restart plan focused solely on the Lodge of Perfection and re-engaging current members. The Valley met once a month to reacquaint ourselves with Scottish Rite Degrees, plan a way forward, and engage socially. Monthly meetings included a Valley-funded meal, a short business meeting, and video Degree viewing and discussion. The average attendance was eleven members. All Lodge of Perfection Degrees were offered.

The Valley also set a goal of quarterly family or couple-oriented social events. Social activity highlights included: June 2023: Lake Sunapee Luncheon Cruise and fundraiser with 63 attendees. That event also raised \$670 for the Blue Envelope Campaign. October 2023: Family dinner at the Lodge including Ladies' game night activities. November 2023: Valley-funded couples dining out at a local restaurant. December 2023: Ladies invited to Jerusalem Lodge's Ladies Christmas Social.

Valley members chose the 4th Degree to restart live exemplifications. As of this date, casting is underway with rehearsals beginning in May. That Degree is scheduled to be presented at our October 2024 Reunion.

In March, several members had the pleasure of joining you at Maplewood Nursing Home to present Ill., Bro. David Bailey his 65-year service certificate and pin. The Valley was very pleased to have been selected to host the Council

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of Deliberation in June 2024.

The year has not been without challenges. We lost several very active brothers. Their experience, friendship, and contributions are sorely missed. Re-engaging membership has been a slow process. A “Call a Brother” committee was formed and made contact with the vast majority of registered members. Attendance at social activities picked up, but at a slower rate than anticipated.

Valley administration needs some improvement, particularly in updating and keeping J365 current. Documenting participation lags behind actual participation; especially with regard to Valley of Excellence accounting. This will be an area of focus in the coming year.

Finances are in great shape. Thanks in part to the excellent management of funds by trustees and the very generous donation made by our late Bro. Robert W. Heald. Bro. Heald wished his donation to be used to secure the long-term financial viability of the Valley and invest in membership activities. Valley trustees have invested wisely in designating funds ensuring Bro. Heald’s wishes are honored. I conducted an audit of the Valley’s Treasurer records; the first in more than 5 years. Funds are accounted for, however, there is a significant lack of coordination between the Treasurer and Secretary. Corrective actions include formal training for the Treasurer, familiarization with J365, and a plan to improve communications.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Solomonides, 32°

Deputy’s Representative, Valley of Keene

DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - VALLEY OF CONCORD

2023-2024

May 15, 2024

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and members of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation. This is my report on the Valley of Concord for the years 2023-2024.

It has again been my privilege to serve as your Deputy's Representative during this past year. Overall, I believe the Valley of Concord has been productive and successful, however, the Valley certainly plans to continue to grow and improve in all that we do.

The Valley of Concord (VOC) has continued with consistent and frequent communication on Scottish Rite events and Valley happenings, sending our newsletter out to all members every couple of weeks. We have continued our "Feast of the Valley", offering an opportunity for members and their spouses/significant others to gather monthly for a meal together, bringing fellowship and camaraderie to our members and their families.

This monthly gathering at local area restaurants has been a great success and is often well attended. I can attest to this having personally planned the January gathering at Cheers in Concord where we had to ask for several extra tables to accommodate all the brethren and their spouses who chose to attend!

The VOC held our annual Turkey Dinner on the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving in the Fall of 2023. This event was well attended and a great success! We thank Brother Dennis Tuttle Jr and his wife for coordinating and planning this event. Brother Tuttle took over coordinating this event from Brother James Triacca who had done so for many years. In addition, on the Friday after Thanksgiving, the VOC held our annual hot chocolate giving at the Concord Christmas Tree Lighting. This has become an annual tradition since 2013 and is an excellent

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opportunity to support the community and showcase our Masonic values to the public. The 2023 Christmas Tree Lighting was well attended, and several brothers were in attendance to brave the cold and hand out hot cocoa. It has enabled us to engage with the community in a positive way and let many people know who we are as Masons and Scottish Rite in particular.

In the Fall of 2023, the VOC participated in the State-Wide Fall Reunion, performing the 13th Degree with great success. In the Spring of 2024, the VOC performed the 10th Degree at a Valley Reunion, in conjunction with a fabulous presentation of the 4th Degree by the Valley of Lancaster Littleton. This was followed up with a video presentation of the 15th Degree. This degree was initially scheduled as a live presentation, but due to some casting challenges, it was unable to be performed live.

The VOC continues to have challenges and continues to seek ideas and strategies to address them. Our main challenge currently is filling officer positions in our various bodies. We do continue to maintain a robust membership overall, however, we simply do not have enough members interested in filling these roles, so we must continue to make our events, degrees, and rehearsals convenient and fun while reaching out to members to get these positions filled. The Executive Committee has met regularly and will continue to do so and discuss strategies to meet our goals and challenges.

The VOC has held several "Calling Parties" throughout the year, including three this past spring. At these calling parties the officers and members of the Executive Committee as well as several who simply volunteered, met, and made phone calls to as many members as time allowed, focusing particularly on calling members we had not heard from or seen in a long time, and checking in on them to let them know we care about them. Although some were unable to be reached, many were reached and appreciated the call, and several good conversations were had that will hopefully increase the likelihood that some brothers will re-engage in our Rite and become more active even if simply to attend an event or degree program. We also had a calling party initiative in the Fall, but this was not as well orchestrated as the "in-person" calling parties and the follow-through was not as robust.

Our leadership has provided various enrichment programs and activities for our

members, both to show membership appreciation for current Scottish Rite membership and also to promote to Blue Lodge Members who might be interested in joining Scottish Rite. The VOC is due to hold two training sessions with officers and interested members. These training sessions are tentatively planned for the summer, as the winter/spring seasons have been exceptionally busy for members and a better turnout is more likely once we have a brief “lull” in our activities and events/meetings. Some of our recent activities include an ice cream social, an outing to a Fisher Cats Game, and a blood drive in conjunction with Horace Chase Lodge, to name a few. In addition, the VOC has been active in the area of Charitable giving, with donations to Rainbow for Girls, Waypoint Family Resource Center, and our Masonic Dyslexia Learning Centers through supporting the Over the Edge initiative planned by Consistory. The VOC also continued giving to education through our annual Scholarship program, offering a \$1000.00 award to a worthy applicant and relative of a VOC member.

Of particular note, the VOC is proud to say, that our Valley earned enough points to be awarded a Valley of Excellence for the 2022-2023 year. In addition to this accomplishment, based on our current points and standing, the VOC is in fact eligible once again for this recognition for the 2023-2024 period. I am extremely proud of the dedication and efforts it took from many officers and members to make this happen, and of the growth that this recognition reflects. Clearly, the VOC is a vibrant and active Valley and will continue to be so in the months and years ahead!

The VOC has been active in attending the two Council of Deliberation events this year, as well as ongoing Membership Committee meetings to discuss membership, ways to appreciate and reach out to members, gain new members, and keep current members active. The Deputy’s Representative Award was presented to Brother Donald Gray this year for his outstanding efforts in supporting Valley initiatives, as well as helping to recruit new members.

The VOC was quite proud that our member and brother, Shane Csiki, was the first Scottish Rite member in NH to complete the Hauts Grades Academy

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through the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Since then, Brothers Ben Feldman and Naresh Kumar have graduated from the program. In addition, we are proud that two of our members were selected for the MSA recognition, including Brothers Gary Ward and Dennis Tuttle Jr., both active brethren who do a tremendous amount to support our fraternity!

The VOC added two TV monitors to our meeting location over the last year. One is in the Dining Hall and one is in the Lodge Room. This year, the decision has been made to replace the Lodge Room TV with a larger monitor.

In summary, I believe the Valley of Concord is a healthy, active, and vibrant Valley. We have much work to do moving ahead to keep going in a positive direction. I am encouraged by our standing and imminent status once again as a Valley of Excellence. I believe the keys to moving forward and continuing our growth will be in playing to the strengths of our members and finding ways for every member to contribute in whatever way works best for them. I believe communication is vital and we must be ever mindful of some members taking on more than others and reaching “burnout” where they become less inclined to continue giving their time and efforts to our Valley and the Rite.

We must recognize and celebrate when our members go above and beyond, and make sure all active members feel appreciated and have a sense of belonging. I would like to extend a hearty thank you to our Presiding Officers for their hard work over the past years, and I would like to thank our Valley Secretary for his tireless efforts in keeping our Valley organized and up to date with all that we need to do. I would also like to thank and acknowledge our degree directors and all members who helped by contributing their time and talents to our Valley and to Scottish Rite in making our programs a success!

Respectfully Submitted,

Brother Mark D. Ciarametaro, 32°, M.S.A.

Thrice Potent Master and Deputy's Rep.

DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - VALLEY OF PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

On May 6th the Valley of Portsmouth Dover held its annual meeting where the budget was approved, and officers were elected. The leadership of David Akridge, Roderick MacDonald, and John Bartoszak, as well as several other members, were elected to continue their offices.

On May 13 the Valley held their Awards assembly at the Portsmouth temple. Many Longevity Awards went out. All of the officers of the valley were installed by Illustrious Brother Ken Clay.

Throughout the year the Valley's presiding officers continued to hold our planning sessions. We moved the meetings from the second Wednesday of every month to the fourth Friday of the month. More than planning these were Membership and managing meetings with the goal of keeping the valley on track.

On June 3, 2023, the NH Council of Deliberation. At the COD in 2022 the presiding officers got a stark wakeup call when while hearing all the good things happening in the jurisdiction, the Valley of Portsmouth Dover was not mentioned once. We were determined this was not going to happen twice. At the 2023 COD, the Valley was well represented and was not only mentioned but was heralded as the Valley to follow.

On June 16, 2023, the Valley of Portsmouth Dover and the Valley of Concord teamed up for a joint Valley Dine-A-Round/Feast of the Valley at Wild Willeys of Rochester. The event had the added feature of a challenge as to which Valley could bring the most members. Portsmouth/Dover was the clear winner.

On August 16, 2023, once again put on our Seafood Dinner at Brown's Lobster Pound & Fireworks Cruise. Due to mechanical failure on the boat, the Fireworks Cruise was canceled by the fleet. We had about 60+ members show up for the dinner.

On August 20, 2023, continuing to innovate the VoPD chartered a Deep-Sea Fishing Boat for our members, Families, and friends. We had many attendees

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and a great time was had by all. We decided to hold the event again in 2024.

September-October 2023, the Valley started and continued to meet and rehearse for the 25th degree. Around this date, a Digital Newsletter was started to keep the brethren informed on Valley events and news.

On November 4, 2023, The Valley of Portsmouth Dover - Joint Valley Reunion was held at the Portsmouth Masonic Temple. Over a hundred brothers attended the reunion. Several brothers traveled from Maine and Massachusetts. By all accounts, the reunion went very well and was considered to be a success.

A ladies' program was planned by the Valley. The ladies were treated to a Paint and Sip event. They were also treated to a viewing of the movie "The Perfect Storm" followed by a presentation by Worshipful Brother Chris Furtney who was on the Coast Guard cutter during the rescue mission.

On December 10, 2023, The Valley held another successful Dine A Round at the Beach Plumb in Epping NH.

On January 7, 2024, the valley Planned to host a Post Holiday Family Gathering at Pinz in Portsmouth. Unfortunately, the event was canceled due to the weather. It was rescheduled for April 14th.

On February 24, 2024, the valley held the 2nd Annual Video Degree Marathon. This event brought more than 100 brothers from 7 jurisdictions and started 5 brothers on their AASR journey. Seven digital degrees were presented. Each degree was followed by a discussion on the degree and an educational piece on the Pathways program. Awards were given out to the brother who traveled the furthest to get there (Ohio) and the valley that had the most members present (Valley of Portland, Me). The date was set for the next Digital Degree Marathon.

On April 7, 2024, The Valley hosted another Dine A Round at the Portsmouth Masonic Building where the Valley put on a charity Breakfast to benefit the Fox Memorial Chaple.

On April 14, 2024, The Valley of Portsmouth Family Fun Day at Pinz of

Portsmouth. We had a great turnout for this event. Brothers and their families. Maybe as many as 30 people in total.

April 21, 2024, The Valley held the second Breakfast Dine-A-round at the Alton Masonic building. Scottish Rite Supporting our Blue Lodges.

On April 28, 2024, the valley met in Portsmouth to put on a “Brother to Brother” outreach Day. Every brother in the valley was called.

On April 20, 2024, the valley had a presence at the NH Consistory’s 32° Spring Reunion in Gorham, NH.

On May 4, 2024, Valley Annual Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Annual meeting 2023	342 Members
Annual Meeting 2024	342 Members
New/Restored	10 Members
Deaths	10 Members
Demits	0 Members

Faithfully Submitted By



John Bartoszak Sr. 32°

Deputy Representative

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Valley of Portsmouth-Dover

DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - VALLEY OF LANCASTER- LITTLETON

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief and members of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation. This is my report on the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton for the years 2023- 2024.

I have had the honor to serve as your Deputy's Representative during this past year and I am proud to say that the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton even with a few setbacks this year, has continued to push forward promoting Scottish Rite throughout New Hampshire.

In June 2023, Bro Robert Paradis presented the Sojourners Award to Robert Young and Jayce Cabonneay who attended the White Mountain Regional High School ROTC Program.

On July 23, 2023, the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton their families, and friends came together for a summer cookout where we enjoyed a great meal and great company.

On September 29, 2023, the Valley performed the 18th Degree. Members of the Valley enjoyed an evening of fellowship and education as they opened the Book of Life for three candidates and several guests.

On November 4, 2023, several members of our Valley attended the Joint Fall Reunion where we witnessed the Valleys of Portsmouth Dover, Concord, and Nashua perform several degrees. On November 5, 2023, Mark Howard Blodgett 32^o received the Meritorious Service Award.

In December 2023, our Valley lost four members, Irving H Boudle 84 years old, Jack Tillotson 92 years old, David Rosenberg 93 years old and Charles "Chuck" Norwood, 54 years old. They will all be missed.

On January 10, 2024, the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton held a Valley meeting to

discuss upcoming degrees, Valley of Excellence, Leadership, and Education for our Valley.

On February 1, 2024, Brother Rick Dean Sr. received his 5-year Scottish Rite member certificate during a Stated Communication of North Star Lodge No 8. The Certificate was presented to Brother Dean by the Deputy's Representative for the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton.

Also in February 2024, the Valley has shown its support and thanks to the Blue Lodges that make up our Valley by hosting a lunch for their joint installation. This year we again did such and several new members and their families came out to see the semi-public Masonic Installation Ceremony.

Before opening, MW David S. Collins, Past Grand Master and Valley member gave a presentation on the history of Scottish Rite. After which he gathered up his suite and presided over the instillation ceremony. Before closing the District Lodges, MW Daniel Richard Hotchkiss presented the Major John Sullivan Award to Mark Blodgett, MSA and Past Master of Burns Lodge and active member of our Valley.

On March 2, 2024, the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton joined the Valley of Concord's reunion where members of our Valley performed the 4th Degree. After which, we joined the sidelines to witness the Valley of Concord perform the 10th Degree live followed by the 15th Degree video.

On March 23, 2024, the Valley of Concord was scheduled to join the Valley of Lancaster - Littleton in their Spring reunion where we were to perform the 5th Degree. The Valley of Concord was to follow with a performance of the 10th Degree. Due to a severe winter snowstorm, the reunion was canceled.

The Valley of Lancaster Littleton continues to support our Blue Lodge members. One of our Brothers suffered a medical emergency that caused him to struggle with walking and getting around. Our Valley purchased him a battery-operated scooter giving him the mobility needed for daily life.

Finally, our Valley continues to push forward each year toward the Valley of

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Excellence. Over the past year, we have increased in point standings and will continue to show support and guidance to our members. Our quarterly newsletter continues to keep our Valley informed and updated on what our Valley members are doing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bro. John A. Loven, 32° M.S.A.

Deputy's Representative

Valley of Lancaster-Littleton

DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - VALLEY OF NASHUA

Illustrious Commander-in-Chief of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation. This is my report on the Valley of Nashua for the years 2023-2024.

It has again been my honor to serve as your Deputy's Representative during the past year. The Valley has been active and it has been good to be with our Brothers during the meetings rehearsals, and executive committee meetings.

During the summer following the last C.O.D. meeting I was made aware of a new program being initiated by the Supreme Council called Rite Guide. This program is designed to assign a guide to each new member who will follow and counsel him from the time he makes application to Scottish Rite and for the next six months after he has completed his 32°. The Valley of Nashua is one of the twelve Valleys chosen to pilot this program. I met, on several occasions, on Zoom meetings led by Bob Seibold the program coordinator for the NMJ, and those chosen to coordinate the program in the other eleven Valleys. I was tasked with appointing and training a director for the Valley of Nashua and getting members to be Rite Guides. I appointed Br. Edward Wigfield to direct our program and so far we have three brothers who have agreed to become Rite Guides. While we have been a little slow in getting the program started I am confident that will have things up and running by the fall reunions. Our membership chairman, Br. Richard Thompson, is very excited about the program and is working to bring it to the other Valleys in New Hampshire as soon as possible.

Over the summer I was pleased to accompany many of our Brothers to Louisville, Kentucky to celebrate two of our Valley members Ill. Br Robert S. Bean, III, 33°, M.S.A. and Ill. Br David W. Smith, 33°, M.S.A. who was coroneted 33° Scottish Rite Masons.

I, also want to congratulate Br. Guy R. Martineau on being elected to receive the 33° next year in Indianapolis.

On November 4, 2023, the Valley of Nashua performed the 17° at the joint Valley Reunion in Portsmouth, directed by myself and Ill. Bro. Roland N. Petersen, 33°, M.S.A., M.W.M.. The degree went very well and had a cast of

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twenty-five Brothers. I was so proud of them. At this reunion I was pleased to receive, on behalf of the Valley of Nashua, the Valley of Excellence Award which was presented to us by the Sovereign Grand Commander Ill. Bro. Walter F. Wheeler, 33°.

On Monday, February 5, 2024, the valley presented the 9°, directed by myself and Ill. Bro. Jerome T. Becker. 33°, M.S.A. The degree went very well, and I was again so proud of the members of our Valley for their wonderful performance.

In May I plan to, again, present the J.R.O.T.C. Scottish Rite Americanism awards at Manchester High School West and Pinkerton Academy.

The Valley is working hard to achieve the Valley of Excellence Award. We are close and need to accomplish just a few more things to earn it.

Moving forward, we have planned to do degrees in the fall including the 18° at the joint Valley reunion in November. While there have been a few activities such as monthly dine-around etc. we need to do more social activities in the Valley.

TNR has returned, but we haven't had as many watch parties as we did in the past. I would encourage more of this type of activity.

The office informs me that we have brought in 26 new members since the last C.O.D.

I would like to thank the Valley leadership and staff for all of the hard work that they do to keep the Valley running. They are a great group of people.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ill. Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A.

Deputy's Representative

Valley of Nashua

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LIVING RECIPIENTS OF THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

<i>Name</i>	<i>Valley</i>	<i>Date Awarded</i>
David James Bailey, Jr., 33°	Keene	June 6, 1981
John Monroe Walker, 32°	Concord	June 6, 1987
Mark Augustus Marden, 32°	Nashua	June 3, 1989
Eric Eneberg Anderson, 33°	Keene	June 3, 1989
Clement Wayne Libby, Jr., 33°	Nashua	June 5, 1993
John Hayes Sanders, Jr., 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 3, 1995
Robert Daniel Coppo, 33°	Keene	June 1, 1996
Edward Norval Lewis, 33°	Concord	June 7, 1997
Sumner Goldman, 33°	Concord	June 5, 1999
Martin Wendell Curtis, 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 3, 2000
Russell Sheldon Bell, 32°	Concord	June 2, 2001
Mervyn Charles Frink, 32°	Keene	June 2, 2001
Robert Wayne Lawrie, 33°	Concord	June 1, 2002
Walter William Lovell, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 5, 2004
Dennis Allan Sheridan, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	June 5, 2004
Treffley Ernie Sage, 33°	Nashua	June 4, 2005
Robert Campbell Lethbridge, 33°	Concord	June 4, 2005
Wayne Irvin Elliot, 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 3, 2006

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Panos Alexander Pitsas, 33°	Keene	June 3, 2006
Roger Joseph Pellerin, 33°	Nashua	June 2, 2007
Mark Adrian Weir, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 2, 2007
Stephen Karl Bahsler, 33°	Nashua	June 7, 2008
Ronald Freddy Scovil, 32°	Concord	June 7, 2008
Donald Ralph Willoughby, 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 7, 2008
Karl Hudson Bickford, III, 33°	Nashua	June 5, 2010
Gary Edward Roy, 33°	Concord	June 5, 2010
James Edward Ryan, 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 5, 2010
Verne Sawyer Anderson, Jr., 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 4, 2011
Roger Alfred Becker, 33°	Concord	June 4, 2011
Dennis Webster, 33°	Nashua	June 4, 2011
Thomas Gardner LaBerge, 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 2, 2012
James Martin Triacca, 33°	Concord	June 2, 2012
Ralph Raymond Currier Jr., 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 1, 2013
Jeffrey Lloyd Brown, 33°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 7, 2014
David Scott Collins, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	June 7, 2014
Kenneth Edgar Davis, Jr., 33°	Concord	June 7, 2014
James Wendell Greene, 32°	Nashua	June 7, 2014
William Warren Arvidson, 32°	Nashua	June 6, 2015

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John Michael Bys, 32°	Keene	June 6, 2015
Jerome Thomas Becker, 33°	Nashua	June 4, 2016
Michael Francis Ripburger, 32°	Concord	June 4, 2016
Mark David Ciarametaro, 32°	Concord	June 10, 2017
Roland Norman Petersen, 33°	Nashua	June 10, 2017
Richard John Thompson, 32°	Nashua	June 10, 2017
Robert Stanley Bean, III, 33°	Nashua	June 2, 2018
Jeffrey Chaplin Grant, 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 2, 2018
David Alan Rich, 33°	Lancaster-Littleton	June 2, 2018
David William Smith, 33°	Nashua	June 1, 2019
Karl Richard Olson, 32°	Concord	June 1, 2019
Guy Robert Martineau, 32°	Nashua	June 6, 2020
Donald Wayne Milbrand, 32°	Concord	June 6, 2020
Michael Scott Henry, 32°	Nashua	June 12, 2021
John Alan Loven, 32°	Lancaster-Littleton	June 12, 2021
Ronald E. Carbery, 32°	Nashua	June 04, 2022
Dennis A. Tuttle, Jr., 32°	Concord	June 04, 2022
Gary A. Ward, 32°	Concord	June 04, 2022
Mark H. Blodgett, 32°	Lancaster-Littleton	June 03, 2023
W. David Akridge. 32°	Portsmouth-Dover	June 01, 2024

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ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Kenneth A. Clay, Jr, 33°

Deputy

62 Buckingham Ln., Hopkinton, NH 03229-2015

Tel. 603-219-3529

kclay@srmnj.org

Richard W. Elliot, 33°

Active

48 Dearborn Ave., Hampton, NH 03842-3318

Tel. 603-929-0359 (Home)

relliot@srmml.org

Mark C. Roth, 33°

Active Emeritus

PO Box 174, 100 Mason Hill Rd., Warner, NH 03278-0174

Tel. 603-456-2759

Tel. 603-929-0359 (Home)

mcroth33@comcast.net

Robert E. Hansen, 33°

Active Emeritus

PO Box 266, Contoocook, NH 03229-0266

Tel. 603-630-1764

bjhans33@gmail.com

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COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVES BY VALLEY

Concord

Bro. Mark D. Ciarametaro, 32°, M.S.A.
64 Daniel Webster Hwy, Boscawen, NH 03303-2402
mciarametaro@mvsdpride.org

Keene

Bro. John T. Solomonides, 32°
PO Box 199, Gilsum, NH 03448-0199
John@ssdmil.com

Lancaster-Littleton

Bro. John A. Loven, 32°, M.S.A.
PO Box 103, 250 Gorham Hill Rd, Gorham, NH 03581-0103
jaloven1043@aol.com

Nashua

III.: Karl H. Bickford, III, 33°, M.S.A.
1799 Bodwell Rd. Unit # 13, Manchester, NH 03109-5854
kbickford@comcast.net

Portsmouth-Dover

Bro. John F. Bartoszak, Sr., 32°
16 Hancock, Street, Rochester, NH 03867-3525
jbartoszak@gmail.com

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**PRESIDING OFFICERS, TREASURERS, AND SECRETARIES OF
SUBORDINATE BODIES**

VALLEY OF CONCORD

Mark D. Ciarametaro, 32°, M.S.A. Most Wise Master
64 Daniel Webster Hwy, Boscawen, NH 03303-2402
mciarametaro@mvsdpride.org

Larry A. Sprague, 33° Sovereign Prince
5866 W. Woodstock Rd, Woodstock, VT 05091-3328
chmv23@yahoo.com

Dennis A. Tuttle Jr., 32°, M.S.A. Thrice Potent Master
352 1st Crown Point Rd, Unit 2, Strafford, NH
03884-6110
datuttlejr@gmail.com

Robert A. LaBelle, 32° Treasurer
144 Whitney Ave., Manchester, NH 03104-1573
ralksd@comcast.net

Edward N. Lewis, 33°, M.S.A. Secretary
10 Harvard St., Concord, NH 03301-2318
ed_lewis@comcast.net

VALLEY OF KEENE

Fred W. Yates, 32° Sovereign Prince
17 Washington St., Westminster, VT 05158-9707
theyates@sover.net

VACANT Thrice Potent Master

Keith A. Mansfield, 32° Treasurer
Invest Financial Corp, 117 West St., Keene, NH
03431-3376 keith.mansfield@investfinancial.com

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Nicholas C. Martel, 33°
14 Industrial Park Dr., Walpole, NH 03608-4807
martelauto@myfairpoint.net

Secretary

VALLEY OF LANCASTER-LITTLETON

Robert J. Paradis, Jr., 32°
13 Willey Way, Groveton, NH 03582-4316
robertjparadis@yahoo.com

Most Wise Master

Carl H. Smith, 32°
19 Pine Knoll Dr., Ctr. Harbor, NH 03226-3228
gbrcontracting@gmail.com

Sovereign Prince

David A. Rich, 33°, M.S.A.
5 Gordon Ave, Berlin, NH 03570-1006
drich060259@gmail.com

Thrice Potent Master

David S. Collins, 33°, MSA
PO Box 382, Concord, NH 03302-0382
mwgmdavidcollins2122@gmail.com

Treasurer

Dennis A. Sheridan, 33°, M.S.A.
55 Gary's Dr., PO Box 621, Littleton, NH 03561-0501
dasheridan49@gmail.com

Secretary

VALLEY OF PORTSMOUTH-DOVER

William David Akridge, 32°, M.S.A.
38 Watson Rd, Dover, NH 03820-5801
dave.akridge@greatamericanhg.com

Most Wise Master

Roderick M. MacDonald, 33°
Box 33, New Castle, NH 03854-0033
rodmtjohnsno1@comcast.net

Sovereign Prince PO

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John Bartoszak, 32°
16 Hancock St, Rochester, NH 03867-3525
jonathanaustin27@aol.com

Thrice Potent Master

Walter W. Lovell, 33°, M.S.A.
63 Prospect St., Somersworth, NH 03878-2729
joewwl@juno.com

Treasurer

Jeffrey M. Brown, 33°
PO Box 1992, Seabrook, NH 03874-1992
nhgator@comcast.net

Secretary

VALLEY OF NASHUA

Gary E. Roy, 33°, M.S.A.
216 Corn Hill Rd, Boscawen, NH 03303-2322
ger033@tds.net

Commander-in-Chief

David W. Smith, 33°, M.S.A.
106 Duck Pond Rd, Weare, NH 03281-4900
dwsmith@mygsc.com

Most Wise Master

Richard J. Thompson, 32°, M.S.A.
28 Oak Grove Trl, Nashua, NH 03062-1283
richard_j_thompson@comcast.net

Sovereign Prince

Jerome T. Becker, 33°, M.S.A.
240 Raymond Rd, Candia, NH 03034-2123
jdbecker83@comcast.net

Thrice Potent Master

James H. Lawrence, III, 32°
18 Old Coach Road, Hudson, NH 03051-5044
jlawrence8ie@gmail.com

Treasurer

Glenn A. Ruhl, 32°
4F Black Oak Dr., Nashua, NH 03062-2910
carru6@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer

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Secretary

Edward M. Waible, 32°

31 Wheaton Dr, Nashua, NH 03063-2138

secretary@nhconsistory.com

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

Walter F. Wheeler, 33°

PO Box 519

Lexington, MA 02420-0519

NH COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION COMMITTEES

Committee assignments were made by Illustrious Brother Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., 33°, Deputy for the State of New Hampshire after consulting with the Deputy Representative in each Valley.

ACTIVITIES AND TESTIMONIALS

- Hosts the annual Testimonial for new 33rd Honorary Members of Supreme Council and Recipients of the Meritorious Service Award including the selection of the facility, caterer, and social hour; sells tickets and collects money from sales of tickets; flower arrangements and/or centerpieces; and provide for a Master of Ceremonies
 - The event will include a social/cocktail hour before dinner
 - Dinner
 - Ceremony to present the MSA to recipients elected by the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation at its Annual Meeting
 - Introduction of new Thirty-third Honorary Members of the Supreme Council
 - Presentation of 33rd jewels
 - Brief comments by new 33rds
- Consult with the Deputy about special requests or arrangements
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Co-Chairman: John E. Lobdell

Co-Chairman: Thomas S. Lowe

Member: Robert C.
Lethbridge

Member: Donald L.
Menzela

Member: Gary E. Roy

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CONSTITUTIONS AND LAWS

- Required by the Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Review the Constitution of the NH Council of Deliberation to determine the need for any Amendments.
- Introduces amendment(s) as may be required
- Interprets the NH Council of Deliberation Constitution as it applies to AASR in NH
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Mark C. Roth

Member: Jeffrey M. Brown

Member: John A. Loven

Member: Nicholas C. Martel

Member: Edward N. Lewis

CREDENTIALS

- Required by the Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Registers Council of Deliberation attendees at the annual meeting and workshop
 - Valley Officers
 - 33rds
 - MSAs
 - Officers of the NH Council of Deliberation
 - Past Presiding Officers

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- Reports the number of attendees at the annual meeting in categories of eligibility
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: W. David Akridge

Member: Jeffrey M. Brown

Member: John A. Loven

Member: James M. Triacca

Member: Edward M. Waible

EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Provides educational opportunities for the members of the NH Council of Deliberation
- Provides leadership development opportunities for the members of the NH Council of Deliberation
- Consult with the Commander-in-Chief (Deputy for NH) to develop and promote appropriate opportunities consistent with the programs and objectives of the Supreme Council
- Participate in the annual Council of Deliberation workshop
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Gary E. Roy

Member: Guy R. Martineau

Member: Nicholas C. Martel

Member: Roderick M. MacDonald

Member: Dennis A. Sheridan

FINANCE

- Required by the Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Prepares the budget of NH Council of Deliberation
- Examines expenses of the Council of Deliberation of past years
- Anticipates expenses of the upcoming fiscal year
- Consults with the Commander-in-Chief (Deputy for NH) regarding any planned expenses within the next year or 3 to 5 years
- Considers membership trends and impact on New Hampshire Council of Deliberation functions
- Considers economic conditions and impact on NH Council of
- Deliberation
- Calculates the per-member cost to Valleys to support NH Council of Deliberation
- Audits the books of the NH Council of Deliberation Treasurer
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: James M. Triacca

Member: David S. Collins

Member: Robert A. LaBelle

Member: John T. Solomonides

Member: Keith A. Mansfield

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MEDIA AND PUBLICITY

- Establishes and promotes the efficient use of appropriate electronic media directed to public and fraternal audiences.
 - Develops standards for content management
 - Maintains content to ensure current and accurate information
- Develop and/or distribute other communications such as press releases as may be required, for example, election of 33rd, MSA, Scholarship recipients.
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Dennis A. Tuttle, Jr.

Member: Jeffrey M. Brown

Member: Edward N. Lewis

Member: Nicholas C. Martel

Member: Dennis A. Sheridan

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Required by the Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Develop and promote membership programs
- Growth
- Retention
- Suggest Membership Education programs
- Write a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

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Chairman: Richard J. Thompson

Member: John Bartoszak

Member: Karl H. Bickford, III

Member: Mark D. Ciarametaro

Member: Nicholas C. Martel

Member: David A. Rich

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

- Required by the Constitution of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Communicates with Valley Presiding Officers and New Hampshire Consistory Commander-in-Chief to obtain recommendations for the Meritorious Service Award (MSA)
- Describes the MSA itself, its purpose, and qualifications for Presiding Officers and Commander-in-Chief to use in their consideration of Valley members
- States clearly that those members who have received the 33rd degree are not eligible for nomination for the MSA
- Establishes a deadline for recommendation submittal
- Review all recommendations
- Nominates not more than three (3) of those recommended to the NH Council of Deliberation for election
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Member: John A. Loven

Member: Gary E. Roy

Member: Dennis Webster

Member: Mark A. Weir

NECROLOGY

- Required by the Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Records the deaths of all New Hampshire Council of Deliberation members
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Dennis A. Sheridan

Member: Jeffrey M. Brown

Member: Edward N. Lewis

Member: Nicholas C. Martel

Member: James H. Lawrence, III

Member: Edward M. Waible

Member: Edward M. Waible

NOMINATION

- Required by the Constitution of the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation
- Considers members of the NH Council of Deliberation for office in NH COD
- Consults with the Commander-in-Chief (Deputy for NH) regarding nominations
- Nominates officers of the NH Council of Deliberation
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Dennis A. Sheridan

Member: Mark D. Ciarametaro

Member: Ralph R. Carrier, Jr.

Member: Edward M. Waible

Member: Donald L. Mendzela

SCHOLARSHIP

- Promotes the Abbott Scholarships of the Supreme Council
- Promotes the William E. Bryant Scholarship sponsored by the New Hampshire Consistory
- Receives scholarship applications and reviews according to established guidelines
- Scores/rates applications and awards scholarships
- Obtains matching scholarship awards from NH Consistory
- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Mark E. Ciaramentaro

Member: Mark H. Blodgett

Member: Roderick M. MacDonald

Member: Troy A. Patoine

Member: Timothy J. Martel

SUPREME COUNCIL CHARITIES

- Promotes the charities of the Supreme Council o Almoner's Fund
 - Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library
 - Abbott Scholarships

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- Promotes the “Blue Envelope” Appeal available at every opportunity

- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings. The report should include the:
 - Number of NH Scottish Rite Masons contributing
 - Total amount contributed

Chairman: Peter D. Crouch

Member: John Solomonides

Member: Roland N. Petersen

Member: Marcus A. Weir

Member: David S. Collins

YOUTH

- Required by the Constitution of New Hampshire Council of Deliberation

- Provide positive support for DeMolay for Boys and Rainbow for Girls

- Writes a report for the annual meeting of the Council of Deliberation to be included in the Proceedings

Chairman: Jerome T. Becker

Member: Jeffrey L. Brown

Member: Richard W. Elliot

Member: Karl R. Olson

Member: David A. Rich

INITIATES IN LODGES OF PERFECTION

	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>	<i>2023-2024</i>
Concord	9	7	8	11
Keene	1	0	3	1
Lancaster-Littleton	2	1	1	4
Nashua	8	3	12	7
Portsmouth-Dover	12	3	14	13
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Totals	32	14	38	36

MEMBERSHIP IN LODGES OF PERFECTION

	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>	<i>2023-2024</i>
Concord	260	245	239	235
Keene	81	74	67	63
Lancaster-Littleton	96	93	84	80
Nashua	273	269	256	250
Portsmouth-Dover	365	346	341	342
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Totals	1,075	1,027	987	972

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MEMBERSHIP IN COUNCILS OF PRINCES OF JERUSALEM

	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>	<i>2023-2024</i>
Concord	260	245	239	235
Keene	81	74	67	63
Lancaster-Littleton	96	93	84	80
Nashua	273	269	256	250
Portsmouth-Dover	365	346	341	342
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Totals	1,075	1,027	987	972

MEMBERSHIP IN CHAPTERS OF ROSE CROIX

	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>	<i>2023-2024</i>
Concord	262	247	241	236
Lancaster-Littleton	96	93	84	80
Nashua	353	342	322	313
Portsmouth-Dover	365	346	341	342
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Totals	1,076	1,028	988	972

MEMBERSHIP IN CONSISTORY

	<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2021-2022</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>	<i>2023-2024</i>
Nashua	1,077	1,029	989	972

