



Valley of Springfield

SCOTTISH RITE MAGAZINE

Special Stated Meeting in February includes 26° and ladies program!

February 1st at the Ansar Shrine Center – 630 S. 6th Street

* Dinner at 6:00 PM *

* Opening at 7:00 PM *

* 26° Presentation at 7:15 PM *

* Presentation by Pam DeSollar on Dyslexia and the 32° Learning Centers at 7:00 PM for the ladies *

Don't miss this special valley event. Bring your lady for an evening of dinner and a very touching and informative presentation on dyslexia & the 32° Learning Center.

While there is no charge for dinner, please call the valley office and let us know how many will be attending so "cookie" can make sure there is plenty to eat for all.

Spring Reunion March 11 & 12 at the Masonic Center

The Valley of Springfield will be presenting its Spring Reunion on Friday, March 11th & Saturday, March 12th at the Springfield Masonic Center. We need candidates for this, the first reunion under the new Supreme Council degree format. The new 4°, the Master Traveler, is now a mandatory degree that provides an introduction to the degrees of the Scottish Rite and an overview of some of the lessons and characters from other degrees. The old 30° has been eliminated. The former 31° has now become the new 30°, the Grand Inspector. The 32° has been divided into two degrees with allegory of the former 32° becoming the new 31°, the Knight Aspirant, and the ceremonial section remains as the 32°. Both the new 31° & 32° will be required for all candidates. So the degree line up for this reunion will be the 4th, 13th & 14th degrees on Friday evening with the 15th, 18th, 24th, 27th, 31st & 32nd degrees on Saturday. Registration begins at 5:00 PM on Friday evening with dinner being served from 5:00 – 6:30 PM. The formal opening of the reunion will be 6:45 PM. The reunion continues on Saturday with breakfast beginning at 7:00 AM with the 15° beginning at 8:00. Lunch on Saturday will also be provided. Once again the initiation fee will be covered by the bequest fund for all candidates. **A Master Mason may therefore become a 32° Mason for the price \$25.25** which is the dues for one half year.

The time has come to contact your candidates & get their petitions turned in. Still working on your Master Overseer's Medallion? Plan on attending this reunion because a couple of these degrees haven't been presented for a while in Springfield. Want to help with the reunion? Call the valley office and let us know. We have plenty to do and any and all help is appreciated.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship applications for the 2005 – 2006 academic year are now available from both the valley office as well as the Valley of Springfield web site. Completed applications are due in the valley office **no later than April 1st**. This is a firm deadline. Please don't lose your chance at a scholarship because the application is late.

32° MASONIC LEARNING CENTER UPDATE

The Learning Center Planning Committee basically took the month of December off because of holiday and business commitments of many of its members. The committee will be reconvening in January, changing gears if you will to make the Valley of Springfield Learning Center a reality. One major issue the committee will be addressing is a location. Do we rent or do we build an addition? Architectural plans for an addition will be reviewed at the next committee meeting. A fund raising committee has also been formed, chaired by **Larry A. Hamlin, MSA** and will begin its work soon. Watch this publication and the website for further developments.

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Valley of Springfield, AASR

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August A. Candioto, Jr., MSA – C-in-C
Bill W. Martel, 33° - Most Wise Master
Larry A. Hamlin, MSA - Sovereign Prince
Gerry L. Williams - Thrice Potent Master

Norman R. Buecker, 33° - Active Emeritus
Steven L. Walls - Executive Secretary
Harris H. Hatcher, 33° - Fraternal Secretary
James J. Moses, Jr., 33° – Treasurer
Bill W. Martel, 33° – Editor
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IN MEMORY OF*Gail L. Miller, 33°*

It is with a great deal of sorrow that we report the loss of **Illustrious Brother Gail L. Miller, 33°**. Gail was born on July 24, 1942. He became a member of the Valley of Springfield on November 22, 1974. He received the 33° in 1999. He was a member of Ansar Shrine and served as its Potentate in 1998. Gail was called by the Grand Warden of Heaven on October 29, 2004. Please join me in extending our sympathy and prayers to Gail's family.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Brethren,

As your Executive Secretary for the Valley of Springfield, I am asking for your help. Your Valley is looking for ways to reduce our expenses. Some ways you can help us accomplish this are:

- Send us your Email address. Postage is a very large expense and by utilizing Email we can reduce our postage costs. Be assured, your Email address will be used for official Valley business only.
- Notify the Valley office of any changes to your address, phone number or Email address. It is important that we have your current information so we can contact you and keep you informed about your Valley.

We would also appreciate being notified of the death of a member. Your Valley honors our deceased members each year at the Feast of the Paschal Lamb, which is held the Wednesday before Easter. Family and friends of the deceased member are invited to attend. We keep an eye on the newspaper; however, this is not always a reliable source of information. We would like to make sure we honor our members who have passed on.

At the time I am writing this article, second notices have been sent out for dues. We would appreciate it if you would remit your dues as soon as possible so we will not have to send out third notices.

The Officers of the Valley of Springfield appreciate your help with this. We are always looking for ways to improve so our members can have the best Valley possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the Valley office should you have any questions or need help in any way. Please send any correspondence to: Valley of Springfield; 1020 Rickard Road; Springfield, IL 62704 Phone: 217-793-7728; Fax: 217-793-7729; Email: aasr@ameritech.net

Thank you for your help.

Fraternally,
Steven L. Walls,
Executive Secretary

FROM THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Brethren, Princes,

Happy New Year! The arrival of a new year, the beginning, new resolutions, new ideas, new goals, a fresh start. The Christmas Season, a time for reuniting with our families and friends. A time for happiness and laughter. A time we remember special moments and memories we had with our family members and friends who have passed away. A time for tears. The New Year is a time for a fresh start, a chance to better our lives, our families, and our jobs. A New Year. 2005

The Valley of Springfield is continually trying new ideas on membership, special programs, functions, and activities. We lack one important piece of that puzzle, your participation. What goals do you want to see the Valley strive for? Help your Valley! Get involved and participate.

A goal the Valley is currently working diligently towards is a Masonic Learning Center for Dyslexia. Plans are currently being drawn to incorporate the Learning Center at our building on Rickard Road. Costs and budgets for the learning center will soon be at our fingertips providing us with the information for our next step towards our goal. It will be Grand to say as a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason; "Look at what we have to offer our Community."

A goal for the members of the Valley of Springfield for this New Year, (renew your membership and encourage a former member to reinstate). There is currently an Amnesty program in the works as I write this message. Reinstatement at no cost until 2006 and then pay the current years dues only. Contact Steve at the office for more information at 793-7728. The Valley has currently reinstated 96 members.

The Valley of Springfield will be presenting the 26th degree on February 1, at the Ansar Shrine Center located at 630 S. 6th St. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP. Opening ceremonies and a short business meeting will begin at 7:00pm with the 26th degree presentation following. A ladies program will be presented at 7:00pm on the 3rd floor. Pam DeSollar will be the speaker, the subject, a life with Dyslexia.

Have a Happy New Year with Health and Happiness.

Fraternally,

August A. Candioto, Jr. MSA

Commander in Chief

PROGRAM DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Brother Wes Beitel has been appointed Program Director for the Valley of Springfield. Brother Beitel has had many years of experience in securing speakers for various events and presenting programs based on his field of expertise. This appointment comes as a direct result of the Valley Enrichment Committee, a committee formed to develop and enrich the Scottish Rite experience for its membership. The Committee is working out a schedule of degrees and informational programs to be presented at stated meetings or special meetings of the Valley. Keep your calendars open for the first Tuesday of each month, and keep a special eye out for these programs. It promises to be a very interesting and rewarding benefit of your Scottish Rite membership. The Committee has planned for the stated meeting in April, an informational presentation on "Men=s Health@ issues. What better topic for a men=s organization to have reviewed? Please mark your calendar for April 5, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Come to the stated meeting and enjoy the presentation. We have committed to stay

Program Director Appointed - continued

short and to the point. Usually not more than 20 minutes on the chosen topic.

If you are interested in being a presenter at one of the meetings, please contact the office, and leave your name, phone number, and topic of interest with the Executive Secretary. If you know of a topic you would be interested in, please notify the office and we will attempt to secure a presenter if there is sufficient interest.

CHILD ID PROGRAM EQUIPMENT WISHES

As everyone is well aware, it takes a multitude of people to put on a "Child ID@ program on behalf of the Valley. This is something that the Valley has been doing for well over 10 years, and we have served well over 6,000 kids. We have fingerprinted, photographed and recorded each and every one of these kids, and it has been a very rewarding experience. We are committed to keeping this program alive, but with dwindling manpower to maintain and properly staff an event of this nature, we are looking at a new method to insure its continuance. We were recently informed of an electronic means to provide this service to our communities. It involves the use of computerized scanning equipment, that is state of the art, albeit somewhat expensive. We are looking at a commitment of \$4,500 to \$5,000 to purchase this equipment.

If we were to take the 6,000 kids that we have already done, and divided it into this cost, it comes out to less than \$1.00 per child. Is the expense of \$1.00 to possibly save or rescue a child worth it? YOU BET? But as we all know, finances have to be budgeted and carefully spent, and we find ourselves desirous of the equipment, but not able to fund the purchase.

We are therefore asking for your help as members of the Scottish Rite. If you would be interested in contributing to this worthwhile cause, please send your donation to the Valley office and designate it for the "Child ID" program.

We are constantly being assuaged with requests for donations, every one of us! But as Masons, we respond within our means, if there is no material injury to ourselves or family. We ask you to keep this project in mind, and if you deem it worthy, a recipient of your generosity.

SPRINGFIELD MASONIC CENTER, INC. "WISH LIST"

Over the course of the four years we have been in our new building, there have been numerous inquiries as to how to donate items or funds for a particular purpose in the Springfield Masonic Center. Your Board of Directors has developed a policy to address this inquiry, and a list of items that have been requested for use in the facility.

If you are interested in making a contribution of a particular piece of equipment, either on our "Wish List@ or something that would be appropriate, you need to contact the Scottish Rite office for instructions. Should you wish to financially contribute, you should also contact the Scottish Rite office for information regarding the particulars.

Our current "Wish List@ includes:

Ceiling Fans for the Main Lodge Hall	\$2,500 to \$2,800
Additional Refrigeration Space	\$750 to \$900
Fireproof Safe for Valuables	\$350
Tables for Lobby (3)	\$100 to \$150 each

VALLEY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 1 Special Meeting (see article page 1) 6:00 PM
- 15 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM

MARCH

- 1 Board of Directors 6:45 PM
- Stated Meeting 7:30 PM
- 11 Spring Reunion
- 12 Spring Reunion Continues
- 15 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM
- 23 Feast of the Paschal Lamb 6:30 PM
- 27 Easter Sunday

APRIL

- 1 Scholarship Applications Due
- 5 Board of Directors 6:45 PM
- Stated Meeting 7:30 PM
- 19 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM

MAY

- 3 Board of Directors 6:45 PM
- Annual Meeting & Elections 7:30 PM
- 17 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM
- 30 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 3 Council of Deliberation (Moline)
- 4 Council of Deliberation continues
- 7 Board of Directors 6:45 PM
- Stated Meeting 7:30 PM
- 21 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM
- 25 Family Picnic 3:00 PM

JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 5 Board of Directors 6:45 PM
- Stated Meeting 7:30 PM
- 19 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM

AUGUST

- 2 Board of Directors 6:45 PM
- Stated Meeting 7:30 PM
- 16 SMC, Inc. 7:00 PM
- 28 Supreme Council (Grand Rapids)
- 29 Supreme Council Continues
- 30 Supreme Council Continues



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