

The Latest News

From the Communications Team at the Valley of Savannah

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SEPTEMBER 2011

This newsletter is brought to you by the Communications Team and is meant to give you the latest and greatest news and information from around the organization.

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SECTION 1 VALLEY LEADERSHIP

FROM THE VENERABLE MASTER My brothers, I have been very busy visiting the Lodges in my District and telling them all about the Scottish Rite and also telling them all about the Fall Reunion as per Brother Jay's instructions. I hope all of you are doing the same and maybe it will pay off. I am looking forward to the first Tuesday in September as we start back to regular Lodge of Perfection meetings following a long, hot summer. Hope to see you there.

F. J. Shuman, 32° KCCH, V.M.

SECRETARY'S VIEWS.... Exciting times are in store for the remainder of the year. We have enough activities to fill the calendar and the Secretary's office is especially busy. Many Brothers are working for the betterment of the Scottish Rite and particularly the Valley of Savannah. We are pleased to honor those who have served the Rite in our upcoming KCCH investiture on October 1 in Augusta and the 33° Coronation in Atlanta on October 15. In between those two dates on October 8 we will have a one-day Reunion to honor Br. Earl D. Cummings, 32° KCCH.

Focusing on the Reunion, we are introducing the **Double Eagle Award** program to enhance participation. The program is designed to be an incentive for Brothers to work in the various activities of a Reunion. Points are awarded for the work done and when enough points are accumulated, the Brother earning the points is given the beautiful and prestigious Double Eagle Badge which is attached to a neck band and can be worn to meetings. The Master Score-sheet is maintained in the Secretary's office and each individual must turn in his activity sheet to the Secretary before, during or after the Reunion so that his points may be tracked. The official start date was August 1, 2011. Points are awarded for First-line Signers, any associated work with the Reunion and Ambassador promotions at a Blue Lodge meeting. Get involved with this! It is a good thing! See the Secretary for Individual Score Sheets.

Please keep the office informed of any sick or distressed Brethren. The Visitation Committee is functioning and will check on those we learn about.

FROM THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE..... I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued support of The Valley of Savannah and Scottish Rite Masonry. Without the commitment of brothers like yourselves around the State and Nation we would not be able to continue our very important charities for children. In Georgia, our support through the Scottish Rite Foundation of Georgia makes it possible to offer scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 to students in Georgia attending Georgia Colleges and Universities seeking undergraduate degrees, Additionally, the Foundation helps support our Rite Care Center at Armstrong Atlantic State University as well as Centers in the other Valleys. All of our Rite Care facilities are a part of the Supreme Council Rite Care Program and receive a portion of their funding from the Supreme Council.

When your dues notice arrives in the next month or so please remit your dues promptly and also notice the

request for donation on the notice. In addition to the Rite Care Center you will find the Scottish Rite Foundation for scholarships and the Masonic Center Endowment Fund for the maintenance and upkeep of our building. All of these are very important and deserve your prayerful consideration for support as your means permit.

In the August session of the Supreme Council several members of the Valley of Savannah were elected to receive honors. Brothers Bo Fahs and Darrel Reese have been elected to receive the Degree of 33° Inspector General Honorary and Brothers George Monroe, Dock Donaldson, Brooks Gaudry, Joey Jackson, Joe Oliver, Charles Rogers, Wilford Ross, Charles Stokes, Joe Westbrook and Ron Wolbert have been elected to receive the Rank and Decoration of 32° Knight Commander Court of Honor (KKCH). The 33° will be conferred 15 October 2011 in Atlanta and the KCCH will be conferred 1 October 2011 in an open ceremony in Augusta.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Summer is over and it's time to resume our dedication to the Craft. We have a number of dates we should keep in our plans. The fall Reunion is very important and we must get new members to keep our Fraternity going. We need to remember the joint meeting of the Scottish Rite Associations. It will be on Oct 11 at the Capt Joe's Restaurant in Baxley, GA. We always need help in the reunions and at our work days on the building. We serve the best \$5 dollar meal before each meeting which is the 1st Tuesday of each month. I sure hope to see you there. Jim Hood 33°, Chairman of Executive Committee

ASSOCIATION HAPPENINGS..... Don't forget the Combined Scottish Rite Association Meeting is set for **Captain Joe's in Baxley for October 11th**. They say they can handle up to 150 in the private banquet room. I set the time to gather at 6:30 p.m. Our **S.G.I.G.** says he will be there. We will need to work on invited guests that we may want to come and some kind of entertainment. – Mack Griffin, 4 Rivers Rep.

FYI SOUTHEAST GA ASSOCIATION WINS REUNION TROPHY.....Winner of the Reunion Trophy for the Spring Reunion is Southeast GA Association. They will keep the trophy until the next Reunion and their name will be engraved on the trophy as the first Association to win it. The trophy is awarded to the Association bringing in the most new members and reinstatements at each Reunion.

FYI Did you know? All Associations meet quarterly with great fellowship, programs and you get to select your own food because it is dutch treat. Ladies and guests are welcome. Check out the Association in your area and visit the others when you can. They will each welcome you! Check the calendar for meeting dates and times.

MEMBERSHIP..... My brothers, this last reunion class, with everyone's help, turned out being very successful. I would like to congratulate our newest members in taking this very important step in their Masonic careers. I only ask that you search your hearts, and find your own way to become involved. We now have to start thinking about our next reunion which will be here before we know it, on October 8th. Remember to always carry a petition in your pocket and a smile on your face, so we can give non- Scottish Rite Masons an opportunity to join us. That way they too can receive a higher education with 32 degrees. In closing just remember " ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK " H. Jay Robbins, 32° KCCH, Membership Chairman

FUNDRAISING.....This year the "Rite Care Golf Tournament" will be held at Sterling Links Golf Club in Richmond Hill, Ga. on Sept 24th at 9:00am at \$80.00 per player which is tax deductible. We would love to have 80 + players for this event. We will be handling our own cooking, and the food will be great as it has always been in the past. We are in need of prizes being donated so that we will not eat up our profits. We will, however, need to enlist the aid of our sponsors at \$100.00 a hole and that will always make the difference. 100 % of the proceeds raised will be presented to the Rite Care Center. This will be a great day of fellowship, and fun, and a day we will all remember. Let me know if you need any help in talking with your sponsors. In addition to our golf tournament, we are doing a **cookbook fundraiser**. We are trying to get everything completed, and back from the publisher before Christmas. This will make a great stocking stuffer. We will be sending out a letter, and a recipe sheet to be filled out, and be returned by Sept 16th. Please send in your favorite recipe. The cost of the books is ONLY \$ 10.00. What a deal in these economic times.

H. Jay Robbins, 32° KCCH, Golf Fundraising Chairman

BUILDING ISSUES **Update on the Library Restoration Project**.....Measurable Progress!!! Those are the fantastic words that have been uttered recently by people involved with the library restoration. After spending several months on the tedious process of scraping the old lead paint off of the walls and windows, we are finally at the stage where new paint is going up and the room is beginning to take shape. The ceiling

has been patched, mudded and painted. The walls have been prepped and are ready for paint and the bookcases are already painted. There is still a long way to go, but seeing this progress is helping to reinspire all of the people who have been laboring on the project these many months.

A sincere thank you goes out to Bruce McNall, Buddy and Ilene Wilson, Ron Boatwright, John Piggott and Joey Wheat for all of your recent effort!

In addition to the ongoing construction, we also received our first donation of 10 books that will help replenish our collection once the room is finished.

Okay, you knew this was coming! We need your help! We need a great deal of help with the room renovations, archive management and most importantly, fundraising. If you would like to be a part of this project, and help give the gift of knowledge to Masons now and in the future, please contact Clyde at the office or James Divine at (912) 344-8300. Any sort of help that you could provide would be greatly appreciated. With your help, perhaps the candidates who go through this Fall will be treated to a spectacular completed renovation project.

SECTION 2 SPOTLIGHT



Who have we here? Why this is none other than our Brother Hugh Saverio D’Anna, III. Born March 4, 1954 here in Savannah, Hugh attended local schools and graduated from Savannah High in 1972. He also attended Georgia Military College and Armstrong State College. He worked for Chatham County Sheriff’s Department for 27 years retiring in 2004 but continues to work part time in Security for Chatham County Courthouse.

Active in DeMolay Hugh has served as an Advisor for Cecil Cheves Chapter for many years and continues to serve locally. He is a Past Master Councilor, Chevalier, Cross of Honor, Active Legion of Honor, Representative DeMolay. At the State level Hugh serves as Events Chairman for the Associated DeMolay Chapters in Georgia.

Brother Hugh is presently the Senior Warden in Landrum Lodge No. 48, a 32° member of Valley of Savannah AASR, member of York Rite Bodies of Savannah and Alee Shrine Hillbilly Unit.

Brother Hugh worked diligently in the Order of Rainbow for Girls as an Advisor in support of his daughter Heather as she served through the stations in Savannah Assembly No. 1 and became Worthy Advisor. Hugh was honored with the Grand Cross of Color for his efforts there. His son, Trey, also served through the stations in Cecil Cheves Chapter and attained the title of Master Councilor as Dad Hugh supported him. Married to Claire, daughter of Coster and Laura Livingston, Hugh and the entire D’Anna family are completely involved in Masonic, Eastern Star and Youth activities.

But it doesn’t stop there. Hugh does have a life outside of Masonry. He is a Life Scout and member of the Order of the Arrow, Troop 108, Boy Scouts of America; Georgia P.O.S.T. Certified Peace Officer, General Instructor, Firearms Instructor and P.O.S.T. - Peace Officers Standard & Training Council.

Hugh was recently honored with the “Guild of the Leather Apron” award from the Associated Chapters of DeMolay in Georgia signifying Advisor of the Year. Also, Cecil Cheves Chapter was honored with the Silver Level Chapter of Excellence for Membership award and the Most Improved Chapter in Georgia award.

Keep up the good work Hugh. We appreciate all you do in the service of Freemasonry and especially with our youth.

SECTION 3 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sep	6	6:30	PM	Dinner preceding LODGE OF PERFECTION	NOW HEAR THIS! 
Sep	10	10:00	AM	SR Foundation Meeting (Macon)	
Sep	24	9:00	AM	RITECARE GOLF CLASSIC (Sterling Links)	
Oct	1	10:00	AM	KCCH Investiture (Augusta)	READ YOUR MAIL!
Oct	4	6:30	PM	FEAST OF TISHRI	
Oct	11	6:30	PM	COMBINED SCOTTISH RITE ASSOCIATIONS MEETING (Baxley Cap’t Joes)	
Oct	15			33° IGH Coronation (Atlanta)	
Oct	25-26			GRAND LODGE OF GEORGIA F&AM (Macon)	
Nov	1	6:30	PM	Dinner preceding LODGE OF PERFECTION (AWARDS NIGHT)	
Dec	6	6:30	PM	Dinner preceding LODGE OF PERFECTION	
Dec	16	6:30	PM	HOLIDAY SOCIAL	

www.savannahscottishrite.org

Famous Quotes: *** *“The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is now, so we must think and act anew.”* **Abraham Lincoln**

*** *“Though we travel the world over to find beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not.”* **Henry David Thoreau**

SECTION 4 RITECARE

NEWS FROM ARMSTRONG

The RiteCare Center is supported by the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Savannah. The center is a unit of Armstrong Atlantic State University. Armstrong Atlantic is located on the south side of Savannah and is part of the University System of Georgia. The Center is located next to the upper level of Dillard's on the back side of Savannah Mall. Once you drive into the Mall's parking lot, look for directional signs to locate Dillard's Department Store. Our building is next door to the rear entrance of Dillard's Department Store (on Shawnee Street). You must access the building from the Mall's parking lot, not from within the Mall. This center provides training for Speech-Language Pathology majors and provides speech-language pathology services to the community at-large. Services are offered according to the academic calendar.

Services Available: *Hearing Screenings; Evaluations of: Speech, Language, Voice, Fluency; Treatment of: Speech, Language, Voice, Fluency; Accent Reduction.* For more information contact *April Wimberly Garrity, Ph.D./CCC-SLP, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Armstrong Atlantic State University.* The best number(s) to call for scheduling would be either 912-344-2969 OR 912-344-2585.



DONATIONS TO RITECARE CENTER (since last issue of Newsletter)

Clinton L Akins Jr

James H Paris Sr

SECTION 5 RESERVED FOR SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER** Be on the alert for information on a special fundraiser project to develop a Scottish Rite Cookbook. Input of your favorite recipes will be requested as well as an offer to purchase and or sell the books. Details forthcoming in the near future.
2. **Combined Scottish Rite Associations Meeting:** All are invited to enjoy a great evening away from the hustle and bustle of the city life. Come to Baxley GA at Captain Joe's Restaurant for a gathering of friends of the Scottish Rite. The private dining room can accommodate 150 guests. Let's fill it up on October 11, 2011. The festivities start at 6:30 pm and a special treat will be the attendance of our S.G.I.G. Ill. Leonard E. Buffington, 33°.
3. **DOUBLE EAGLE AWARD:** The Program officially started August 1, 2011. We give points to those who promote and work in our Reunions. Any Brother is eligible to participate. When 500 points are accumulated the Brother receives the beautiful and prestigious Double Eagle Badge suspended on a black neck band ribbon which may be worn to meetings. See General Secretary for more details.
4. **RITECARE GOLF CLASSIC:** Begins 9am Saturday September 24, 2011 at Sterling Links Golf Course in Richmond Hill. Shotgun start, mulligans, trophies, lunch and prizes galore plus great fun and fellowship is available on this day. Players \$80, Hole Sponsors \$100 and anyone may donate prizes. This is all for our Ritecare Center at Armstrong and we urge all to participate. Even if you do not play very well, we welcome you to join us this day. A good time is promised to all! Call Jay or Clyde for info.
5. **FEAST OF TISHRI:** October 4, 2011 is the date. Traditional toasts will be observed at 6:30pm and dinner will be served immediately following. The program will move to the 4th Floor after dinner and we will hear inspiring comments from Rev. Ashley Randall, Pastor of Garden City UMC. **Reservations are requested!**

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family and country.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Fulfill the promise of additional Masonic knowledge through education and training.
- Build a Positive Public Image of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite.
- Support and expand our philanthropic activities.
- Provide a framework for effective leadership to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.
- Provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Fraternity.

SECTION 6 ENDOWMENT & PRESERVATION FUND AND MEMORIALS

PRINTS AVAILABLE

Prints of our beautiful Scottish Rite Center are available for purchase with the funds going to our Masonic Center Endowment Fund.
 Un-framed prints \$35.00.
 Matted & Framed \$125.00.
 These make great gifts. Order yours today!



WHAT A DEAL!

Our Illustrious Brother Gordon B. Smith, 33° is offering a once in a lifetime deal for Scottish Rite Members. A fabulous offer to anyone who does not have a last will and testament and/or would like to have their current will up-dated. The only stipulation is that you state in your will that you agree to bequeath at least \$5000 to the Endowment and Preservation Fund of our Scottish Rite Building. This is not a frivolous offer and only serious inquirers should call Brother Smith. It is, however, a most generous offer and one we hope many of you will accept. For more details, call the Secretary at 912-232-5132.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
 MASONIC CENTER ENDOWMENT
 FUND**

**MAIL TO:
 ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH
 RITE**

**P.O. BOX 9782
 SAVANNAH, GA 31412-9782
 0000293837**

DONATIONS TO MASONIC CENTER PRESERVATION / ENDOWMENT FUND

(Individual donations since last newsletter).....

Other donations:

Clinton L Akins Jr
 Albert & Nellie Nelson
 Clayton & Connye Osbon
 James H Paris Sr

H Jay Robbins
 Charles R Rogers
 Bonnie W Romine

Lynne Flanary
 HLC Hotels
 locovozzi Fine Art
 Henry Woeltjen Spring 2011 Memorial Class
 Alice Withrow
 Small Pleasures

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SR FOUNDATION OF GA

(since last issue of newsletter)

Clinton L Akins Jr James H Paris Sr Jacob J Thigpen Jr

Leave a Legacy that Matters (While you are still alive!)

Support the Masonic Center Endowment Fund with a gift during your lifetime or through your estate and receive:

- **income tax advantage;**
- **avoidance of capital gains taxes;**
- **reduction or elimination of estate taxes and probate costs;**
- **regular income or return of principal.**

*For more information, call Clyde Griffin at the SR Office
 912-232-5132.*

IN MEMORIAM

(Reported since last issue of Newsletter)

John S Ripley Jr 32°	01/11/11
David R Elmore 32° KCCH	07/27/11
George E Camp 32°	08/12/11

“The fruits of their labors live after them”

SECTION 7 GOOD OF THE ORDER

THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish,
 freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people
 everywhere our ultimate goal.

GIFT SHOP ITEMS FOR SALE

For all your Masonic jewelry needs, just let us know. If we don't have it in stock, we will be glad to order it for you. We have auto emblems and pocket badges. Master Craftsman I and II are available.

Attention! Sojourning Scottish Rite Masons

If you now reside in our area, we cordially invite you to visit us here in the Savannah Valley. We extend our hand in Brotherly Love and Friendship!

SOMETHING NEW

In each issue one member's ID number is printed somewhere in our newsletter.

Note: Leading zeroes are dropped. If that member spots his number and notifies the General Secretary, he will win four free dinners. Your member number is printed on your dues card. The Scottish Rite serves dinner prior to each meeting for a nominal charge.

Ladies are always invited to join us for dinner!



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

2012 dues should be paid before January 1 or you are considered *delinquent!* Thanks to those members who have paid for 2011. If you are one of those who have not paid your 2011 dues or any prior year's dues, we remind you that you are in violation of your obligation. Please remit as soon as possible. Your promptness in this matter will enable us to meet our financial obligations as a Valley. We depend on you to do what is right for the Rite. If you are unable to meet your obligation, please contact the Secretary at once.



AVAILABLE FROM SR OFFICE

Price of the course is \$35, which includes all 6 lessons and materials, the Ritual Monitor and Guide, and a personalized certificate and pin upon completion. The Valley has agreed to pay shipping charges, so call the Secretary today to order your course or go online and order it yourself at Supreme Council's website:

<http://www.scottishrite.org/>.

The Master Craftsman Course II is now available. It is a 9 section course and is designed for Master Craftsman I graduates. Returning to the same texts, The Ritual Guide and Monitor and A Bridge To Light, this course digs deeper into the ritual to find those moral lessons applicable in our daily lives.

MOVING? Please inform the Scottish Rite Office of your new address or any other pertinent information. Correct addresses save time, money and bother. Do your part by notifying us of any CHANGES in your status. (912-232-5132). Also, ***let us know your email address.*** Mailings are now sent electronically.



FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

As we go about our involvement in Freemasonry we should keep in mind that there are certain things to consider which affect others, even though we enjoy gathering and interacting with our Brothers. Think about family and friends outside Masonry who do not belong and perhaps do not understand why we seem to leave them out at times. Can a Brother's wife and family be involved? You bet they can! How?

We simply open our doors and welcome them to the many functions we do here at the Scottish Rite:

Ring Ceremony; Feast of Tishri; Remembrance and Renewal; Family Night; Awards Night; Flag Day; Scottish Rite Association Meetings; Installation of Officers; Special Occasions; Workdays; Tours; Outings; Spaghetti Fundraiser. The list can keep growing! A Ladies Auxiliary would be nice!

SUPREME COUNCIL ANNOUNCES HONORS



Congratulations to the brethren of the Savannah Valley who have received Honors as announced by the Supreme Council. Your Valley is extremely proud of you, and we commend you for your hours of labor in the quarries of Freemasonry.

Scheduled to receive Investiture with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honour on October 1, 2011, are the following KCCH Elects: Dock Brannen Donaldson III; Jordan Brooks Gaudry III; Joey Edwin Jackson; George Joseph Monroe; Joseph Reynolds Oliver, Jr.; Charles Robert Rogers; Wilford Henri Ross; Charles Henry Stokes, Jr.; Joseph Donald Westbrook; Ronald Berton Wolbert.

Scheduled to be coroneted a 33°, Inspector General Honorary by the Supreme Council in a ceremony to take place in Atlanta, GA on Saturday, October 15, 2011, are the following 33° Elects: Robert Leo Fahs and James Darrell Reese.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. You may also view this newsletter on the website: www.savannahscottishrite.org
2. If you know of someone who does not have capability to view this newsletter electronically, please let us know and we will arrange to provide a hard copy.
3. Dues may be renewed online by visiting the website: www.savannahscottishrite.org ***What a deal, don't even get up from where you're sitting. It's a secure webpage.***
4. If you do not have a 2011 dues card in your possession you are considered ***delinquent*** which may be viewed negatively. If you fall into this category, call the General Secretary for guidance and assistance.
5. All members should **update their profile** on the Supreme Council website: <http://scottishrite.org> This is beneficial to all concerned. Correct and up-to-date information makes life easier and smoother. **At the top center of the page you'll find "Member's Programs" button, click on that and go to "Update your member information". Please fill in all the blocks you wish to fill in, but insure you fill in your email address as this is very important.**