

The Latest News

From the Communications Team at the Valley of Savannah

VOL 2, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 2010

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 this year has gone well and fast. I do feel so honored to have been elected to this station by you. I must apologize for not being available to go to the last reunion in Atlanta. For my wife Mickey informed me, as I know you will understand, that there was no way I was going to miss our daughter's graduation from Brewton Parker College. But not only did I enjoy my day, but I feel certain that our 17 new Scottish Rite brothers had a memorable day also. As both of these experiences were a once in a lifetime events. I and all of our brothers do hope to personally welcome each of you at our next meeting on September 7th. Dinner is at 6:30, and lodge opens at 7:30. Bring an appetite, because the food is always good, a keen ear, because there are so many things going on, and an open mind with ideas to share. And last but not least, a willingness to become involved, to use what you have learned in the degrees you have received.

H. Jay Robbins, 32° KCCH, Venerable Master

SECRETARY'S VIEWS.... Summertime is closing fast and the activities of Fall are upon us. A busy time awaits active Masons and a good Mason is always active in Masonry. Our attention is focused on the Fall Reunion just around the corner and we certainly want to build a large class for this one day Reunion on Saturday, October 9. Many of our potential members are unable to spare two days and this is the perfect opportunity to receive the degrees of the Scottish Rite and become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason. We should be sure to have a petition available as we attend our Lodge meetings and other functions where Brothers are gathered. Many are just waiting to be asked to join the Scottish Rite.

For many of us the Grand Lodge of Georgia Annual Communication on October 27-28 is fast approaching and we are extremely busy with committee meetings and reports to be compiled.

Other activities coming up in the Scottish Rite and worthy of mention are the Feast of Tishri on October 5 and the RiteCare Golf Classic on October 23. All these activities require extreme dedication and hard work to make happen. To those who participate in the many functions of the Scottish Rite, I salute you and encourage you to keep up the good work. The work in the Scottish Rite Office is consistent with the activities taking place and we seldom get a breather, but we are up to the task and look forward to the many opportunities that come our way.

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..... Dues notices for 2011 will soon be received and members are urged to pay as promptly as possible. Dues are payable upon receipt and should be paid prior to the end of the year. When received please take a few moments to examine the notice, paying particular attention to the address and personal information request parts. It is very helpful for the Valley Secretary to have current

phone numbers as well as your correct addresses. We are trying to make better use of the electronic communications and your email address would be useful. I might add that this information is not shared with anyone else.

You will also note that there is a place to record donations for the Rite Care Center at Armstrong, S.R. Foundation and Endowment Fund. Our Rite Care Center is a part of the Speech and Hearing Program of the Supreme Council and receives some funding from the Supreme Council, our donations and our annual golf tournament. This Center while a teaching facility in the University has made a difference in the lives of many children in our jurisdiction. The State Scottish Rite Foundation provides Scholarships for undergraduate education in the State of Georgia for qualifying students. The Masonic Center Endowment Fund is for the upkeep and maintenance of our Historic Building in Savannah. The fund continues to grow even as we use some of the proceeds for urgent repairs and maintenance in the Building. All donations are recognized in Valley publications and Endowment Fund donations are recognized with the appropriate plaque on our Wall of Honor in the Masonic Center. In addition to making a donation with your dues payment you may honor and your friends or relatives by making a memorial donation to the Masonic Center Endowment Fund. The recognition of anniversaries, birthdays, new arrivals, and gifts in lieu of flowers for funerals and other occasions are appropriate occasions.

I personally thank each of you for your wonderful support of the very important efforts of the Valley of Savannah and for your continued support of Scottish Rite Fraternity and Masonry.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.....September is when the cool weather is supposed to start. "Wrong! But if you come to the Scottish Rite meetings you can cool off. We have put a new air conditioner on the fourth floor, I hope. We have had some good programs; a fantastic Family Night of close to hundred members and guests. Was that Elvis or Glen? ("Thank you very much"). We have traveled to the Scottish Rite Association meetings and at each one had great fellowship. We can't thank those leaders enough for the hard work they do in Brunswick, Hinesville and Swainsboro. Keep the good work up. Our reunion is coming up on the 9th of October so get those candidates' names in the pot. Our director is hard at work getting the parts filled. If you would like a part or would just like to help out, call our Secretary 232-5132 or our Director Darrell Reese. If you know of anyone who plays golf remember that our fund raiser is Oct 23rd at the Sterling Links Golf Course to benefit The Rite Care Speech and Hearing Clinic. Contact our Membership Chairman Jay Robbins cell 663-3355 or the Secretary 232-5132. Remember school has started so drive careful.

Jack Hepner, 33°

MEMBERSHIP..... My Brothers, I would like to thank each brother who took time to sign up our brothers for the last reunion class. Now is the time to get more of our Brothers to sign up for the Fall Reunion on October 9, 2010. Your actions, as the saying goes, speak louder than words ever could. Attend your Blue Lodge with petition in pocket, ready to sign up those who are not yet members of the Scottish Rite so they might become involved, and enjoy the fellowship that we do. Remember, "All You Have To Do Is Ask."

H. Jay Robbins, 32° KCCH, Membership Chairman

FUNDRAISING I am so glad that things have been worked out, and that we will still be having our " Rite Care Golf Tournament ". We will be teeing it up at Sterling Links Golf Club in Richmond Hill, Ga. on October 23rd. at 10:00. \$ 80.00 per player and this is tax deductible. We would love to have 80 + players for this event. We will be doing our own cooking, so I know the food will be great. We are in need of prizes, and sponsors. At \$ 100.00 a hole. Or gift certificates. Remember that 100 % of the money raised will go to the Rite Care Center. A day of fellowship, and fun, and a day we will all remember.

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

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SECTION 2 SPOTLIGHT



Do you know him? You should! Why, it's none other than our Membership Chairman and Fundraising Chairman rolled into one, Brother Howard Jay Robbins. 32° KCCH. Jay is a member and twice Past Master of Roger Lacey Lodge No. 722, F&AM here in Savannah where he serves as Director of Work and Fundraising Chairman. He is also a member of the Savannah York Rite Bodies and Past President of Alee Shriners Pirates Unit and Effingham Shrine Club.

Jay grew up in the Gulf Coast area and moved to Savannah after graduating from Riverside Military Academy. He worked at Claussen & Williamson for three years and then at Central Motors

for a short while before joining the U.S. Air Force where he received extensive training in Petroleum and Fuels. Upon returning to Savannah after his active service time, he enlisted with the Georgia Air National Guard for a total of 24 years in the Military, retiring as Tech Sergeant. Jay found his sought-after profession at Southland Oil and soon landed a job at Colonial Oil as Supervisor in the Boiler/Wastewater Treatment Facility, retiring recently after 32 years in the industry.

Jay is married to Mickey and they have two daughters. Jay is a Baptist by faith and enjoys golf and woodworking in his leisure time.

How fortunate we are to have a member the caliber of our Brother Jay Robbins, 32° KCCH of the Scottish Rite Valley of Savannah. He is a multi-talented individual and a joy to know. We look forward to a long and rewarding relationship as he serves Freemasonry in future leadership roles.

SECTION 3 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sep	7	6:30	PM	Dinner preceding LODGE OF PERFECTION \$	NOW HEAR THIS!
Oct	5	6:30	PM	FEAST OF TISHRI \$ (Please RSVP 912-232-5132)	
Oct	9	7:00	AM	FALL REUNION (Honoring J. Curtis Lewis, 33°)	
Oct	12	7:00	PM	East GA SR Association – Holton’s	READ YOUR MAIL!
Oct	19	7:00	PM	Southeast GA Association – Cap’t Joe’s	
Oct	26–27			GRAND LODGE	
Oct	27	7:00	PM	4 Rivers SR Association – Front Porch	
Nov	2	6:30	PM	Dinner preceding LODGE OF PERFECTION \$ (AWARDS NIGHT)	
Nov	6	6:30	PM	RITECARE GOLF CLASSIC	

www.savannahscottishrite.org

Famous Quotes: * *It is so hard to forget what is worse than useless to remember — Henry David Thoreau*

* *Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not — Ralph Waldo Emerson*

* *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 must we think anew and act anew. — Abraham Lincoln*

SECTION 4 RITECARE

NEWS FROM ARMSTRONG –The Scottish Rite Masons Donate \$13,000 to the RiteCare Center

The RiteCare Center for Communication Disorders serves as a speech and language clinic for members of the community, as well as a clinical site for students in the undergraduate and graduate programs. The Valley of Savannah Scottish Rite Masons generously fund the RiteCare Center through monies generated from the Scottish Rite Golf Classic, held every fall. In 2009-2010, the Masons donated \$13,000 to the Center. This money has been earmarked to purchase many important items that will aid in the provision of speech and language services to our clients and in the clinical education of our students. Some of the items to be purchased with these funds include: new diagnostic tests and protocols, a TV/DVD player, mailboxes for the student clinicians, and a tympanometer. The program thanks the Masons for their philanthropy and continued generosity.

*April Wimberly Garrity, Ph.D./CCC-SLP
Assistant Professor*

*Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
Armstrong Atlantic State University*

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.* The best number(s) to call for scheduling would be either 344.2969 OR 344.2585.



DONATIONS TO RITECARE CENTER (since last issue of Messenger)

Edward L. Nelson
Guerry Lumber Co. (in memory of Marcus Howard)

SECTION 5 RESERVED FOR SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Feast of Tishri (Tabernacles)** will be held at the SRC on October 3, 2010 with dinner at 6:30 pm, followed by the traditional program. Ladies and non- Masons are invited as this is an open meeting. **Reservations are recommended** for dinner. Call the office at 912-232-9132 or email at: srmason_savga@bellsouth.net
2. **One-day Scottish Rite Reunion** will be held on October 9, 2010 in honor of Ill. J. Curtis Lewis, 33°. Registration/Orientation at 7:30 am. Degree work starts promptly at 8:00 am. Come early at 6:30 am for breakfast prepared by Thunderbolt Lodge.
3. You may also view this newsletter on the website: savannahscottishrite.org
4. 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.

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!

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**



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.

DONATIONS TO MASONIC CENTER PRESERVATION / ENDOWMENT FUND

(Individual donations since last newsletter)

Walter S. Balmer	Albert Nelson, Jr.
B.J. Douglass, Sr.	Edward L. Nelson
Edmund R. Hill	Charles R. Rogers

(In memory or honor of)

Charles G. White in memory of Wesley McPipkin

(Other Donations from non-members)

Timothy L Allen	Keith & Michelle Rudd
HLC Hotels	Jeffrey J Petro
Lynne Flanary	Alice E Withrow

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 232-5132.

IN MEMORIAM

(Reported since last issue of Newsletter)

Gary W. Manning, 32°	03/18/10	Harold F. Arnold, 32°	04/14/10	Eston Hamilton, 32°	05/28/10
Charles D. Parker, 32°KCCH	06/25/10	Sam I. Smith, 32°	07/13/10	J. Wesley McPipkin, 32°KCCH	07/25/10
Richard A. Warmack, Sr., 32°	08/05/10	Guy S. Cole, 32°	08/14/10	Marcus H. Howard, Jr., 32°	08/25/10

"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

Scottish Rite Shirts make perfect gifts. Order yours from the SR Office, available in white, blue, red or black, only \$35 and made to last. These shirts have pockets!! We have caps, too! \$15. 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.



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?

2010 dues should be paid before January 1 or you are considered *delinquent!* Thanks to those members who have paid for 2010. If you are one of those who have not paid your 2010 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CHARLIE'S CORNER.... The General Secretary and the Building Chairman have found a good fix for our sun problem on the third and fourth floors and a supplier/installer for a decent price. This should reduce if not stop the UV damage that has ruined our renovations. See the General Secretary to donate to the cause. Cut the heat on the Tyler.

All of you Black Hats particularly the new ones should get active in the Knights of Saint Andrew. Come to an AASR meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month, meet some of them or come to their meeting on the fourth Tuesday and meet all of them. You will benefit.

Here I go again with another rant on "Masonic Tradition" ("we've always done it that way"). I see over and over in the Blue Lodges and other bodies where "new" or "young" members are ignored or excluded from having any say in the body's programs. This isn't just in Masonry, I read an account in a veteran's magazine of a young veteran who said he and a friend were told by an old timer, "we don't need you youngsters, you can leave and come back later".

I believe this is the major reason for "young" members not participating and dropping out. We sometimes get to thinking that we are the only ones that know how the organization should be run. Quill pens went out of vogue long ago, fund raisers seem to have to be Boston butts because "that's what we do". Governing bodies won't change because new members with fresh ideas are Stockholm Syndromed into conformity with decades old bad management.

I've heard old-timers make statements about "how it used to be" or that "it's in the book" yet it's not found in the book or the records pertaining thereto.

We'll keep the foundations of the Craft but we'll get rid of the quill pens or die out.

The Lord loveth a hardhead!

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

As we go about our involvement in Freemasonry we should remember there are things we should 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!



ILLUSTRIOUS J. CURTIS LEWIS, JR., 33°

FALL REUNION HONOREE

AASR VALLEY OF SAVANNAH

Julius Curtis Lewis, Jr., Savannah native, was born March 11, 1926 to the late Julius Curtis Lewis, Sr. and Lucy Wiegand Lewis. He attended the Pape School as well as local public schools before graduating with honors from Woodberry Forest School in Woodberry Forest, VA. He attended the University of South Carolina, the United States Coast Guard Academy, and graduated with honors from the University of Georgia with a BBA Degree. He was a veteran of the United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and the United States Merchant Marine. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Tau Omega fraternities. Mr. Lewis was a long-time member of First Baptist Church where he was Past Chairman of the Board of Deacons and a former Sunday School Teacher. He was a former chairman of the Board of Trustees of Skidaway Island Baptist Church. Mr. Lewis was President and Chief Executive Officer of J. C. Lewis Enterprises which includes Lewis Broadcasting Corporation and J.C. Lewis Motor Company, Inc. He was the former owner and founder of WJCL-TV which began broadcasts in 1970. He was a member and Past President of the National Automobile Dealers' Association, the Georgia Automobile Dealers' Association and the Ford Dealers' Advertising Association. He was Past Chairman of the Ford Dealer Council, Jacksonville District. He was Vice President and a Director of CLV Life Insurance Company, Inc. and previously served on the Boards of Directors of The Citizens and Southern National Bank, and Savannah Foods and Industries, Inc. The first Republican to be elected Mayor of a Georgia city since Reconstruction, Mr. Lewis served as Mayor of Savannah from 1966 to 1970. Mr. Lewis has provided assistance to a number of local charitable, educational, religious and cultural entities. Major recent emphasis has been to aid the poor and homeless through the Union Mission and its J. C. Lewis Health Center. He donated land for the construction of the Habersham Y.M.C.A., Memorial Baptist Church and Agudath Achim Synagogue as well as donating the land and building for Skidaway Island Baptist Church. He provided land and funding for several Union Mission Facilities and was a major benefactor for the Nancy N. and J. C. Lewis Cancer & Research Pavilion at Candler Hospital. Past civic involvements included service on the Board of Directors of Bethesda Home for Boys, the Kiwanis Club, Union Mission, Georgia Baptist Children's Home, Savannah Chamber of Commerce, the United Community Appeal, and the Salvation Army. He also previously served on the Board of Trustees of Woodberry Forest School, chaired the Board of Trustees of Savannah Country Day School, and was an Honorary Trustee of Savannah Christian Preparatory School. He also was the prior Chairman of the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum Foundation and served as President of the 500 for Progress, the Y.M.C.A., the Hundred Club of Chatham County, the German Heritage Society, and the Association of the United States Army, Coastal Empire Chapter. He was an honorary member of the Savannah Rotary Club Downtown. He was a Life Member of Landrum Lodge #48, F&AM, an Honorary Member of Solomon's Lodge #1, a 33° IGH since 1979 and Life Member of the Scottish Rite Consistory, a Life Member of the York Rite Bodies, a member of the Red Cross of Constantine and a Past Potentate of Alee Temple of the Shrine. He was an Emeritus Member of the Imperial Council of the Shrine, a past Director of the Royal Order of Jesters and a member of the Cabiri. He also held memberships in the Elks Lodge #183, the American Legion, Post 184, and the Navy League, and a number of local social clubs and civic organizations. Surviving are his wife, Nancy Nelson Lewis of Savannah; and six children, Nancy Virginia Lewis, Julius Curtis, III and Carol Lewis, Walter Nelson and Linda Lewis, Samuel Wistar Lewis, David Scott and Tracy Lewis, and John Christian and Mary Lewis; and eleven grandchildren. Julius Curtis Lewis, Jr., age 79, died Saturday, August 20, 2005, at Candler Hospital after a short illness. We will always cherish his memory here at the Scottish Rite, Valley of Savannah.

BITS OF INFORMATION FOR THE LESS INFORMED

LITTLE JOHNNY ASKED HIS GRANDMA HOW OLD SHE WAS.

GRANDMA ANSWERED, "39 AND HOLDING!"

JOHNNY THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT, AND THEN SAID, "AND HOW OLD WOULD YOU BE IF YOU LET GO?"

The Sunday School Teacher asked, "Now Johnny, tell me, do you say prayers before eating?"
 "No," he replied, "We don't have to; my Mom is a good cook!"

A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, "Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!"

After a few seconds, Little Johnny stood up. The teacher said, "Do you think you're stupid, Johnny?"
 No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!"

THUNDER

Why does thunder rumble? When a lightning bolt flashes through the sky we see it instantly. Thunder takes a few seconds longer to reach us. Sound travels about a mile in 5 seconds. Start counting when you see a lightening flash. If you hear the thunder in 5 seconds, the lightning's a mile away; in 10 seconds, it's two miles away.

We hear rumbling as sound from other parts of the flash hits our ears. Thunder from the part of flash nearest us reaches our ears first. The phenomenon of "rolling thunder" is many lightning flashes and their sounds occurring in sequence. Thunder is the explosive sound produced by lightning discharge. The lightning bolt quickly heats the air around it to such a high temperature that air molecules are pushed apart with tremendous force, producing a sound wave.

Thunder lasts much longer than lightning. It also changes in pitch and in loudness. This happens for several reasons: the lightning bolt has an irregular shape, the air expands in all directions at once, lightning bolts overlap, and objects on the ground interfere with the sound.

Thunder is heard after lightning because sound travels more slowly than light.....And now you know!