

# Valley of New Bern Bagpipe

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## Bagpipe News Letter

Brethren, the open rate of our newsletter is slowly declining. Please make sure that you click on the newsletter itself and open it. If you just use the preview feature of your browser then we will not get credit that it has been viewed and read.

## Annual Budget

*The General Secretary and Finance Committee have been working diligently on the annual budget. With the declining membership and annual attrition this task becomes more difficult each year. We really need your input in this process. Each year we have to cut back on the services offered and the amount of programs we are able to continue. There are important issues facing our Valley with the declining revenue and we need you to be part of the decision making process. The place to voice your opinion about the what cutbacks are necessary and beneficial is at the LOP meeting and not the water fountain "scuttlebutt". I often hear the questions from members "Why did they do that?"*

## Upcoming Events

### LOP Meeting

February 10, 7:30pm.

Join us for dinner at 6:30PM

### John Walston Reunion

March 22, 2014

### Ceremony of Remembrance

April 14th at 6:30 PM

Family Members and Guests are encouraged to attend.

## Allegiance...

The several Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the Valley of New Bern, Orient of North Carolina, acknowledge and yield Allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree, the Mother Supreme Council of the World, whose see is at Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, of which Ronald A. Seale, 33°, is Grand Commander, 33°, William B. Brunk, 33°, is SGIG in North Carolina, and William L. Dill, 33°, is Chairman, Inspector General's Advisory Conference of the Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of

*Was that really necessary? Couldn't we have done this another way?" Come to the meeting and get these answers for yourself from the source.*

New Bern, Orient of North Carolina.

## Valley Web Site

If you haven't visited the Valley website lately, check it out: [scottishritenewbern.org](http://scottishritenewbern.org).

## Strategic Planning Committee

During the last couple of months the strategic planning committee has been hard at work updating the organizational flow chart for the Valley, realigning responsibilities, and more clearly defining the duties of the Valley Officers. We presented a plan to Dr Brunk, SGIG that would eliminate several of the positions in the Officer's Line-Up. Not only would this eliminate positions without real duties; but it would drastically shorten the time of progression through the chairs. If approved by Dr Brunk, an officer appointed to a position in line would advance to the East in approximately five years instead of ten to twelve years. This allows more brethren to serve the Valley in a leadership capacity. That plan has been approved and will be presented at our LOP meeting on Monday, February 10, 2014. We have finished the job descriptions of each of our Valley Officers and these will be distributed to the appropriate Body Masters at the LOP Meeting. Next on the agenda is designing a plan to provide for more interesting programs and participation of the various

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bodies in the opening ceremonies and banquets.

## Ceremony of Remembrance

The Valley of New Bern will conduct a Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. This is the first time our Valley will be performing this ceremony. It combines elements of both the Maundy Thursday Observance, and a Remembrance Ceremony. The entire ceremony will take place in the dining room. There will be a brief memorial ceremony, a mystic banquet, and finally the ceremony of extinguishing and relighting the lights. This will be something completely different than anything we have done before and promises to be an enjoyable and memorable evening. Come out and remember our departed Brothers and renew your mystic ties to the fraternity

## Degree Masters

The John Walston, KCCH (33 Elect) Reunion is right around the corner on Saturday March 22, 2014. We will confer the 4, 6, 14, 18, 21, 28, 30, 31, and 32 degrees. This is a golden opportunity for those on a limited time schedule to receive the obligatory degrees in one day. Contact your team and let the [Director of the Work](#) know if you need any replacements.

## Rite Care

*The annual fundraiser for [Rite Care](#) is scheduled for*

*May 9th. Please mark your calendar. Click on the [Rite Care](#) link to get the latest information on our programs. This year we will be sending out tickets again at the end of February. Last year's event was such a huge success because of the generous donations we received. Many of our brethren returned the tickets with a donation. This is our annual charity drive and please do what you can to support this worthwhile cause.*

## *Silent Auction*

*The reunion is right around the corner on the 22 of March. Don't forget your silent auction item.*

## *Editor*

*This Newsletter is published monthly by the Valley of New Bern. It is intended for informational purposes only. Dates and times are subject to change and are accurate as of the the date of this publication. Any member, lodge, or fraternal body wishing to publish dates or events in this newsletter should contact [bagpipe@scottishritenewbern.org](mailto:bagpipe@scottishritenewbern.org).*

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