

Valley of New Bern Bagpipe

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March News Letter

Well spring is almost here. It is snowing, sleeting, and generally ugly weather in parts of our Valley as I type this newsletter. It's hard to believe that Easter and the Spring reunion is just a few weeks away.

Valley Web Site

If you haven't visited the Valley Web Site lately there have been some significant changes. The Strategic Planning Committee and Brother Aaron have been hard at work. The Strategic Planning Committee has completed the Table of Organization for the Valley and assigned each position a job description. The Table of Organization can be found under the Organizational Chart Tab on the Home Page. Click on each position and it brings up the job description. Additionally, on the Officers page if you click on a job title it will bring up the appropriate job description. Brother Aaron has put in many long hours to get this information on the web site. Give him a pat on the back the next time you see him. Check it out: scottishritenewbern.org

Upcoming Events

LOP Meeting

March 10, 7:30pm.

Join us for dinner at 6:30PM

John M Walston Reunion

March 22, 2014

Ceremony of Remembrance

April 14th at 6:30 PM

Family Members and Guests are encouraged to attend.

Fall Reunion

November 17 - 18

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 Meeting

Advisory Conference of the
Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of
New Bern, Orient of North Carolina.

The Advisory Conference will not meet this month.

Lodge of Perfection Meeting

The Valley of New Bern, Lodge of Perfection will meet at 7:30PM on March 10th. Brent is planning a delicious meal of: country fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, Masonic (green) beans, and cobbler.

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee has completed the work on the Organizational Flow Chart for the Valley. It has been an interesting and challenging task with all the support activities required to operate the Valley and conduct the Reunions. Brethren there many positions to fill, if you have an interest in assuming a leadership position or have job skills that could benefit the Valley please contact the [Valley Secretary](#) and volunteer. We need to assign qualified personnel to these leadership positions.

John MacDonald Walston,
KCCH (33 Elect) Reunion

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ONE DAY REUNION REDUCED INITIATION FEES!!

The John Walston Reunion is scheduled for March 22, 2014. This is our first one day reunion. The SGIG in North Carolina, Dr William Brunk 33, has authorized a reduction in initiation fees. **Candidates at this reunion will be able to received the degrees up to the 32nd for a fee of \$ 200.00.** Brethren this is a limited opportunity. Both a one day reunion and reduced initiation fees. This opportunity will not come again for a while. Go out and beat the bushes for those who have put off receiving the degrees because of time and money. Let them know that this is a limited opportunity. But most of all your presence is earnestly solicited. Come, reunite with your Brethren and renew the mystic tie that binds us together. The degrees are impressive however, the fellowship displayed and the friendships established will make a more lasting impression on the candidates. Without you the reunion is not complete!

Degree Masters

Are the names in the program correct. Contact your team and let the [Director of the Work](#) know if you need to make any changes or schedule a practice.

Rite Care

The annual fundraiser for [Rite Care](#) is scheduled for May 9th. Please mark your calendar. This year we will be sending out tickets again at the beginning of March. 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 22nd of March. Don't forget your silent auction items.

Almoner's Fund

At each Lodge of Perfection meeting we contribute "only so much as we are used to spending needlessly each day" to the Almoner's Fund and we hear the Almoner give the balance of funds in his accounts. I have often wondered how much good these dollar contributions were doing and if the money was being distributed. The regulations of the Scottish Rite will not permit the Almoner to make any public announcements concerning the details of his charitable contributions. This is a good thing and helps preserve the privacy and dignity of those who might temporarily need assistance. However for those of us who would like to know if our dollars are needed and being utilized, I am proud to inform you

that this year the Almoner's Fund distributed over \$ 6, 500.00 to those in need. If you think about it this adds up to more than a few dollars per meeting. This is something for which I think the Valley of New Bern should be quite proud. Quietly and discretely, without fanfare, we distributed over \$ 6,500 to those in need throughout the valley. Isn't this really the way charity should be handled? I for one will be a little more generous when the basket is passed in the future. Giving without the expectation of reward, especially publicity should be the hallmark of all Scottish Rite Masons. Brethren thanks for all the wonderful things you do for our fraternity. Makes me proud to be a Mason!

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.