



Help a Brother Up!

“Raise a Brother”. Pause to think for a moment about that phrase. It alludes to perhaps one of our most stirring impressions of Masonry, and helps us form a strong, meaningful image of what it means to be a Master Mason. “Help a Brother Up”. Pause again for a moment to think about that phrase. In a number of ways, it alludes to perhaps the same image. For the Minneapolis Valley, it may soon help bring a new image to mind and to reality.

Our building has been our home for over 95 years and is, without a doubt, one of the most significant and impressive Masonic buildings in Minnesota. It’s not a surprise that our building, as beautiful as it is, presents an imposing barrier to access for many of our brethren and guests. Because our building was built over a number of years, with additions, remodeling and more additions, and because it is a very old building, there are many flights of stairs. Some flights are only three or four steps. Most others are many steps and have for many years presented a safety concern for our brethren as they move between the main levels of the building. We now have an opportunity to improve the access to our building and make our building safe and comfortable for our members. .

The Minneapolis Valley is embarking on an important new project to install an elevator in our building. We are not being required by any outside group or building code to install an elevator. We’re installing an elevator because it’s the right thing to do for our Valley and for our members. The reasons are very clear. First and foremost, we want to install an elevator to permit our members and guests to have barrier free access to the building. Without an elevator, many of our members cannot safely move around the building. Without an elevator, many of our friends and brothers will no longer be able to attend the meetings, gatherings and degree work of the Valley.

Planning work for the elevator is already underway. The architectural plans have been developed and reworked. As with any project, we found things out about our building that we were unaware of, and these discoveries required that we modify our plans along the way. The design is now final and the plans have been submitted to the City of Minneapolis for approval. It is important to note that in spite fears that have existed for many years, we will not be required to make unrelated changes or updates to the building when the elevator is installed.

The elevator will provide full access to the three main floors of the building; the lower level dining room, the main level (including the auditorium, lounge and candidate room) and the upper level (wardrobe and costume areas). The elevator will also have an external entrance, providing access to the building safely from the parking lot.

This is a major project for the Minneapolis Scottish Rite. The current budget is for a \$200,000 project. The Heads of the Bodies have reviewed the plans and have unanimously agreed that the project should proceed. Work will start in April and will be completed before the start of our Fall Class in August.

To fund the project, the Valley will reach into its endowment, in order to finish the project this year. Completing the project this year will also let us take advantage of the favorable construction market. We have already received commitments from the Minneapolis Scottish Rite Foundation and the Scottish Rite Building and Museum Foundation for financial assistance, but the main source of funding for this project needs to come from the members of the Valley. This is where we need your assistance.

Few things in Masonry are as meaningful as raising a brother. For the Minneapolis Valley, installing an elevator and helping our brothers up (and down) in our building is equally as meaningful. To energize the fundraising campaign for our elevator, we’ve adopted the slogan “Help a Brother Up!”.

“Help a Brother Up!” - continued on back page



THE SCOTTISH RITE CREED

*The cause of human progress is our cause,
 the enfranchisement of human thought our supreme wish,
 the freedom of human conscience our mission,
 and the guarantee of equal rights to all peoples everywhere, the end of our contention.*



In Memoriam

Gordon A. Amundson	Earl A. Mazorol, Jr.
Bertil E. Anderson	Richard B. McCreary
William Beck	Donald O. Nordblom
James C. Benson	Leighton G. Olson
Rodney S. Bohline	Richard J. Raming
Frederick D. Conrad, 33°	Darrell J. Richter
Steven R. Dale	Irwin Rubenstein
Robert W. Delorey	Joseph D. Saunders
John B. Douglas	Burton L. Savitt
Albert D. Eitsert	Brahm Schapiro
C. Waldo Emerson	Paul G. Slaton
Robert L. Fillmore	Vernon D. Steberg
Gerald H. Fosnough	Harold R. Sweet
Marvin Frieman	Edward O. Sweiven, Jr.
Robert F. Gladitsch	James Tabata
Richard D. Hirsch	Harold C. Tufte
Raymond W. Hoffman	Glenn N. Wilson
James L. Keller	

Double Eagle Drive

Double Eagles, being Master Masons, necessarily accept the teachings of the Blue Lodge. Among these teachings are three tenets denoted as Faith, Hope and Charity. The principal of these is Charity, because it extends beyond the grave, through the boundless realms of eternity.

To this end, the Eagles have put together a fund drive to assist our principal charity, the *RiteCare* Clinic. Supported by the Minneapolis and St. Paul Valleys, the Clinic provides free services to children with speech difficulties. Due to recent economics, the clinic has been running on a shoestring, with a waiting list of children that stretches out as long as 18 months.

In an effort to reduce the shortfall, the Double Eagles launched a fundraising drive in our Blue Lodges asking for donations to assist the clinic. Any Lodge donating \$250 or more received a plaque listing them as a supporter.

As of this date, 10 Lodges have responded with gifts totaling \$15,000. They include Anoka #30, Cataract #2, Excelsior #113, Khurum-Sunlight #112, Minneapolis #19, Minnehaha #165, Plymouth #160, Sherburne #95, Templar #176 and Unizar #347. Donations ranged from \$250 to \$5,000. Each and every dollar is deeply appreciated. Sherburne Lodge did a tremendous job of holding a benefit breakfast that brought in an excess of \$1,000.

Equally pleasing is the support of other Masonic Bodies; Selim Grotto with their annual contribution of \$2500 and Ho-Ho Shrine Club. It is truly heartwarming to see this type of cooperation between appendant Bodies.

For any Masters of the Royal Secret who wish to support our charity, a pledge plan has been set up that allows the clinic to receive monthly donations through your credit card. A \$100 yearly donation would be less than \$9 per month. If you wish to become involved and support the clinic, contact the Scottish Rite office in either Valley. Remember, this is our Charity, and what you do today and tomorrow will have a lasting impact on a great number of children who are looking to you for help!

Calendar of Events

Dinner is served at 5:00 pm Thursday evenings

APRIL 2011

5 th	Tuesday	6:30 7:30	Heads of the Bodies meeting Stated Meeting Lodge of Perfection Installation Chapter Rose Croix Annual Meeting
7 th	Thursday	Dark	Grand Lodge of Minnesota 158th Annual Communication
14 th	Thursday	6:30	28° & 29°
21 st	Thursday	Dark	Maundy Thursday - <i>No Meeting</i>
24 th	Sunday	7:30 AM	<i>Easter Ceremony & Breakfast</i> <i>Open Event</i>
28 th	Thursday	4:30 6:30	KSA meeting 30°

MAY 2010

3 rd	Thursday	6:30	Heads of the Bodies meeting Stated Meeting
5 th	Thursday	Dark	Order of the Eastern Star Grand Chapter
12 th	Thursday	6:30	31°
14 th	Saturday	8:00 AM	Annual Spring One-Day Reunion
19 th	Thursday	5:30	<i>Consistory Feast & Scottie Awards</i> <i>Open Event</i>

Minneapolis Lodge #19

Now Meeting at the Minneapolis Valley

It is with a great deal of pleasure that the Minneapolis Scottish Rite announces that Minneapolis Lodge #19 has now received the approval of their members to move into our Valley. We feel that this is a great addition to our Masonic family!

Their meetings will be in the Red Room on the third Wednesday of each month. Each meeting will be preceded by dinner, served by our Scottish Rite chef Doley Daigle. Reservations for dinner are a must and can best be made on the Minneapolis #19 website at:

www.mpls19.org

Let us all welcome this great group of Masons to our Valley!

James O. Burlingame, Sr., 33° GC
Personal Representative

Don Fanning has the “Rite Stuff”

On January 26, 2011, Minneapolis Lodge #19 hosted a table lodge to celebrate the 100th birthday of our Illustrious Brother Don Fanning. It was fitting that the event would take place at the Minneapolis Scottish Rite. For on any given Thursday, you will find Brother Don Fanning at the dining room of the Temple serving coffee to his Brothers.

“Ready for some coffee, Brother” are the words that you will hear him utter. He has been serving the Rite in the Dining Committee for many years. He is always punctual and always willing to serve. He demonstrates the principles of our Fraternity in action.

So what is Brother Fanning all about? Don was born in Medford, Maine. His father worked in Manitoba for the CN Railway. The work ethic has always been an important part of his life. At the height of the Great Depression in 1930, he was hired on with HBM&S for 42 cents an hour, where he worked in the Tank House until 1943. Afterward, he accepted a position with the Milwaukee Railway, and remained a faithful employee until his retirement. The same work ethic has transferred to other aspects of his life – including Masonry. Don’s Masonic record reflects that.

Don began his Masonic journey in Manitoba, Canada. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice in January, 1942, passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft in February, 1942, and was raised a Master Mason in March of 1942. He later affiliated with Minneapolis #19, where he serves as Tyler.

He has achieved many important goals in his life-long Masonic journey. He is a recipient of a 50 year jewel and 60 year bar from the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. He also received a 50 year certificate from Minneapolis #19. He received from RWB Borgstrom of Manitoba, a Life Membership Certificate in June, 2009.

On May 10, 1946, Don became a Noble of Zuhrah Shrine. On September 28, 1989, Don received his 14th Degree in the Minneapolis Valley Scottish Rite, and was honored with the 33rd Degree in October 2009. On January 26, 2011, Minneapolis #19 hosted a Table Lodge to celebrate his 100th birthday!

Life has not been without challenges or losses. In 1984, Don’s wife passed away. He sees each challenge as an opportunity to grow, and as providing vital lessons to be learned. When I asked him what are the secrets to both his longevity and positive outlook. He delineated the following: no smoking, little alcohol, eating balanced meals, belief in God and keeping busy.

It is the latter point that reflects the positive impact of his work ethic. In Masonry, we learn of the principle of the Latin motto: Laborare est orare (to work is to pray, or worship). This is why Don Fanning is made of the Rite Stuff!

“Every Lodge and every Mason can do something for the general good if he will but work and try. Laborare est orare, said the old maxim: To labor is to pray.” *Albert Pike*

Christopher M. Ronich, 32° KCCH Master of Kadosh

On February 1, 2011, Christopher M. Ronich, 32°, KCCH was installed as Venerable Master of Kadosh of the Minneapolis Consistory.

Brother Ronich was raised a Master Mason at Lynnhurst Lodge #317 on November 3, 1997. After participating in lodge and becoming proficient in lectures, Chris entered the progressive line in 1999 as Junior Steward and was installed as Worshipful Master in 2006. Chris is still very active in his Blue Lodge, now Templar Lodge #176.

Chris is also a member of Zuhrah Shrine and the Ceremonial Unit. He has portrayed the role of High Priest & Prophet in the Ceremonial for several years. His performance adds greatly to the ritual of the Shrine.

In the fall of 1998 Chris became a member of the Minneapolis Valley of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Immediately after taking his degrees he became active in the ritual, participating in a number of degrees. Chris has become increasingly more active in the ritual of the Minneapolis Valley. Currently he is the director of the 15th Degree and has performed in the degree for about ten years. He was honored with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander Court of Honor in October 2005.

Chris was born in Minneapolis and attended Minneapolis Patrick Henry High School, where he graduated in 1991. After high school he entered an apprenticeship program with the Millwrights and Machine Erectors Union #548, where he has worked as a millwright for Lovegreen Industrial Services for over 18 years.

In 2006 Chris married his lovely wife Nichole and they reside in New Hope. His hobbies include Masonry, fishing, bowling, and music.

Minneapolis Scottish Rite
2011 Dupont Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405

Periodical
Postage Paid
Minneapolis, MN

Minneapolis Valley A.A.S.R.
Scottish Rite Sun

April-May, 2011

Vol. 89 - No. 3

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The Scottish Rite Sun (USPS 4859-40; ISSN 07448740) is published in September, November, January, March, May and July by the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Minneapolis, 2011 Dupont Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55405-2709. Periodical postage paid at Minneapolis, MN. Copyright 2010 by the Scottish Rite Bodies of Minneapolis, www.scottish-rite-mpls.org. All rights reserved.

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Sketch of the outside elevator entrance from the South parking lot

Help a Brother Up!

continued from front page

A fundraising committee has been formed and the goal is to raise \$200,000 for the elevator project. The funds raised from our campaign will be used build the elevator and will be directed to the Scottish Rite Building and Museum Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit foundation that was set up several years ago to help support our historic building. With this tax exempt status, anyone who contributes financially to the project should be able to enjoy the benefits of a tax free contribution. Remember to consult with your tax advisor if you have any questions about your contributions.

We are asking every member of the Valley to think about what safety and accessibility to our building means to you and to your brethren, and to contribute to the success of this project. For over 95 years our Minneapolis Scottish Rite building has been a centerpiece of Masonry in Minnesota. Every year since 1998, the Grand Lodge of Minnesota has hosted a One-Day to Masonry at our building. Our beautiful building has been the first impression of Masonry for many Masons. Now is our opportunity to continue that legacy and create a Scottish Rite that's open and available for all of our members and "Help a Brother Up!"