
THE BILLBOARD

DECEMBER 2018

For The Valley of Billings, Orient of Montana - serving Eastern Montana Scottish Rite Members

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**To The Celestial
Lodge:**

Keith Wallace
1943-2018

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE



The word of the month is "Cookie Jar". Patty Murphy is getting everything organized for our annual cookie jar auction on December 5th. I hope everyone can come and enjoy the evening. All the money generated from the sale of cookie jars will go to the language clinic. Bring in a cookie jar or two and help make this year's fundraiser a huge success. I know we will have a great turnout and a lot

of fun at our next dinner.

The building plans are just about complete. Then we will go out to bid with all the contractors. You may have seen some activity already around our building, the soil engineers were drilling soil samples to be sure that we have a good foundation and runoff. The actual building of our new entry will begin in the early spring. I have a set of plans in the Temple dining room if anyone would like to look at them.

The installation of officers will take place at our January meeting. It would be too much to do all in one night with the cookie jar auction this month. Sean has put together a great line of officers for next year. I am looking forward to working with the new officers and I hope we can make 2019 a year to remember. Our 100-year anniversary will be in 2019. We have already put together a committee to make the plans for the celebration. I will try to keep everyone up to date on what is being planned for the celebration in our newsletter each month. We will also have an open house at the same time to celebrate our new addition. As you can see, we have a wonderful family that just keeps making Scottish rite here in Billings a fun place to be. Thank you to everyone who participates to make all of our events a success.

Bob Hanson

Personal Representative

Message from The Venerable Master



Greetings,

It is with a thankful heart that I was allowed to serve as Venerable Master of the Billings Valley of Scottish Rite for 2018. As the Lodge of Perfection, we worked to improve the internal and working orders of the Lodge, so each elected member had a better understanding of what they were supposed to do. Thank you to all elected officers for participating in this and making it a success. Our monthly dinners and stated meetings were well attended, and good fellowship enjoyed by all. Our Spring Reunion was well attended and brought new Brothers in to the Rite. I'd like to thank our Senior Warden, Sean McDuffee, for keeping track of the officers, and Junior Warden Pete Boothroyd and Orator Dan Jobrack for the educational and entertaining orations. Thank you to Bob Snow and his staff for serving the delicious meals, Karen Kuhar for providing dinner music, the DeMolay boys and Advisors for serving, and Lorraine Marsh for providing the beautiful table decorations and entertainment for the Ladies. Without all these participants, our meetings would be bland and lacking color. Thank you for your contributions to the Scottish Rite.

As we continue to look at ways to grow the Craft, and reach out to our community, our Personal Representative, Bob Hanson, has tasked himself with ensuring that all Blue Lodges in our Valley receive a copy of this monthly Billboard. Education and communication are essential to make our Craft continue to grow. As Venerable Master, I've reached out to Blue Lodges, invited them to utilize the resources in our Masonic Library, and encouraged them to take the Scottish Rite Degrees at our Reunions. We want to continue this, and offer more understanding and insight, or even take on a study of the Master Craftsman Program to better understand Masonry as a whole.

Our Shoes for Kids program, for Kindergarten through 12th Grade, reached hundreds of kids in our area this year. This program is available to all Blue Lodges in our Valley to help their communities. Our Language Clinic Program outreach supported speech therapy for between 45-50 kids through our unique and well-tuned contract with various language clinics.

I'd like to extend a heartfelt "Thank you" to all Brothers who participated in the Scottish Rite this year. Whether you attended meetings, drove the cancer van, helped at shoe fittings, made phone calls, addressed mailings, shoveled snow, battling a leaky roof, helped with Degree work at the Reunion, or any other contributions made, physical or financial, we appreciate you. The work we do would not be possible without you.

For the last 4 years I've enjoyed greeting and shaking hands with members and guests at the dinners, and would like to continue to do this, as this has brought me closer to each one of you, through our small chit-chats. Even though I'm stepping out of the line of officers, I will continue to work beside the newly elected officer line, and Personal Representative, in a different capacity, which means you haven't got rid of me yet! I will still be a part of the Board of Directors for the Language Clinic, participate in the St. Andrews Study group, and be the Chairman for Shoes for Kids, as well as visiting Blue Lodges to help promote membership with Appendant Bodies, as time allows.

Please join me in welcoming our newly elected officers: Venerable Master Elect Sean McDuffee, Senior Warden Elect Pete Boothroyd, Junior Warden Elect Dan Jobrack, and Orator Elect Mark Olsen. I look forward to the ensuing year and continuing to serve in whatever capacity is needed.

We wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays (whichever you prefer) and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally Yours,
VM Ronny Aasterud 32° KCCH

THE RITE CORNER



THE RITE CORNER

Practicing Civility”
David L. Nielsen, S.G.I.G.

Several years ago, at the Conference of Grand Masters, I saw two presentations on a need and calling to restore civility to American culture and especially in the political arena. One in particular was an exercise in how to have a civil discussion on a topic that clearly had political emotions. There were six participants—two for the proposition, two against and two neutral. Some of the ground rules included the participants looking at the others when speaking, not interrupting other speakers, and no use of labeling or demeaning comments. It was interesting to watch and at the end, even though some never changed their position, yet recognized some merit in the opposing view and some even admitted a weakening in their initial position.

The midterm elections are ten days behind us, with some rather offensive and even rancorous political advertisements blasting us relentlessly on radio, television, newspaper and internet. We are now leaving that environment and heading into the season of Thanksgiving and Peace with Good Will to All. How do we turn off the vile switch and turn on the kindness switch? Some families have strict rules of not discussing politics at the holiday feasts. In Masonry we forbid political and religious discussions in lodge. The idea being that we meet as friends and brothers on the ideals that unite us and avoid the topics that divide us. This is a sound practice for in-lodge conduct, but the reality is our society has many challenges that need thoughtful discussion and dedicated search for resolution. Once a challenge is identified and proffered solutions advanced by a political party, that topic now becomes politicized and off-bounds for meaning problem solving because it is considered politically divisive.

Masonry teaches tolerance, loving kindness, patience and forbearance. Our challenge as Masons dedicated to these principles is how to engage in problem solving of topics that have become political hot potatoes? We can keep silent with our thoughts secret to ourselves or we can open up the discussion and hope to avoid being labeled as politically partisan. I think Masons have the behavioral discipline and intelligence to engage in civil discourse on tough subjects without getting into the political mud. If we are to experiment in civil conversations on hot button topics, here are some suggestions that will help sustain the civility:

- 1) Be steadfast in keeping the discussion civil at all times. Avoid labeling or prejudging others.
- 2) Maintain eye contact.
- 3) Be respectful of opinions contrary to your own. Remember that there is always a possibility that your opinion may have factual or logical flaws. If we are honest, we can all recall times when our opinions were not based on solid factual or logical grounds. Genuinely listen to others and try to understand fully their reasons. Don't just listen to look for weaknesses and to prepare your "rebuttal."
- 4) Use the discuss to learn and to share your ideas. Don't expect the others to capitulate and agree with you. Spend more time listening, than in talking persuasively. Recognize that we all have different backgrounds and experiences that shape our opinions. People who have experienced economic depressions and hardships from wars can have a different opinion on the cause and effects of economic failures and on the long-term impacts from war—personally and socially. Don't expect a consensus. It is okay to disagree and maintain differing viewpoints.
- 5) Most importantly, all times be kind.

This is not an exhaustive list, of course, but some thoughts on techniques to restore and maintain civility in public discourse to explore solutions to society's problems.

Enjoy the seasons of Thanksgiving and Loving Kindness and may you help spread these blessings to all you meet.



SCOTTISH RITE LANGUAGE CLINIC

www.ritecarebillings.org

With Christmas season upon us I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah. December brings many things but one of my favorite times is the Scottish rite COOKIE JAR AUCTION. All of the proceeds from the night go to help the children of the language clinic. The clinic helps so many children that have language difficulties it is difficult not to want to support their needs. The cookie jar sale is one way to do this. I hope that everyone can come to our December dinner on December 5th and support our clinic.

Jered Scherer
Chair, Scottish Rite Language Clinic

"Koffee Klatch"

Every Thursday

7:30 AM to 9 AM

Just \$1.00

Money goes to

Library



Knights of St. Andrew Study Group—

**Third Friday of Each Month at
5:00 PM**

"The next meeting of the Knights of St Andrews Study Group is scheduled for January 18, 2019"

General Info

Officer list for 2018

LODGE OF PERFECTION

Elected

VM -----Ronny Aasterud, 32° KCCH
SW----- Sean McDuffee, 32° KCCH
JW-----Peter Boothroyd, 32°
Orator----- Dan Jobrack, 32°
Almoner ----- David Bergeson, 33°
Secretary -----TC Chatman, 32°
Treasurer----- David Armstrong, 33°

Appointed

Prelate -----Michael J. Welton, 32° KCCH
Master of Ceremonies- Chris Rubich, 32° KCCH
Expert -----Nate Frickel, 32°
Asst. Expert -----David Schantz, 32°
Captain of the Host- - John J. Hugdahl, 32°
Tyler -----David W. Curtis, 32°
Organist ----- John Baber, 32° KCCH

ROSE CROIX

Wise Master ----- Ron Swenson, 32°
SW -----Chris Rubich 32°, KCCH
JW -----Bobby W. Snider, 32°
Orator -----Dan Jobrack, 32°

COUNCIL OF KADOSH

Commander -----David Schantz, 32°
1st Lt Commander - - -John Hugdahl, 32°
2nd Lt Commander - - - David W. Curtis, 32°
Orator -----Nate Frickel, 32°

CONSISTORY

Master of Kadosh - - -Michael J. Welton, 32°, KCCH
Prior -----Dan Jobrack, 32°
Preceptor -----Chris Rubich, 32° KCCH
Minister of State - - -Wally Hall, 32°

. Some 45 members still owe for 2017. If you are one of these. **Do something soon!!!**



Beartooth District Calendar

As a continuing reminder, this calendar was created as a planning tool to avoid scheduling conflicts when setting event dates. This works best if you let us know of any events you would like to include. Corrections are also welcome.

Please go to: <http://www.montanafreemasons.org/>

Click on Beartooth district
Scroll down to middle of page and click on "Scheduled Events
Calendar"

Please check for entries that may be of specific interest to you!

Thank you for your participation!
Fraternally yours,

David Schantz - davidschantz@grandlodgemontana.org,
Pete Boothroyd - petervincenboothroyd@gmail.com

• PLEASE NOTE:
“ALL BROTHERS NOT
PAID UP-TO-DATE WILL
BE AUTOMATICALLY
REMOVED FROM
ACTIVE STATUS BE-
FORE THE PER CAPITA
ASSESSMENT IS
PROCESSED.”



Magic City Chapter



Happy Holidays!! There I said it, again. The Holidays are on us again. It feels just like yesterday that we were in January and I was so looking forward to 2018. Now we see the Christmas Lights at the end of the tunnel and we are planning for 2019. Wow, what a year!!! Magic City Chapter will close out 2018 with a renewed focus that happens when the bonds of brotherhood have ignited the passion within. We went through November serving dinner for both the Scottish Rite and the Daughters of the Nile, The Supreme Queen gave an excellent reminder about how we impact people's lives. Last week we had a Prospect Bowling Party, we had 3 new prospects attend the event. It was a great night of bowling (see attached photo), pizza and Brotherhood. The Holiday Parade will close out November with all three Billings Masonic Youth Groups participating. I hope we have so many people that we have to go find a bigger trailer soon. We will have our normal meetings and our Annual Ugly Sweater Party in December, which is already being planned out. January brings our Bowling Tournament, we have some pretty good bowlers, so I know we will do great in it.

It has been great to see these young men grow into the leaders of the future.

We believe that everyone has untold potential; therefore, DeMolay provides opportunities to develop character and leadership skills through practice and example in a safe, empowering environment, where someone can both fail and succeed at the same time. Please be on the lookout for good young men to get involved in this wonderful organization, we are looking for sons, grandsons, nephews, and friends ages 12-21. Help us grow, you will benefit too.

Thanks,
Dan Massey



CONTRIBUTIONS

**MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO
CONTRIBUTE TO
SCOTTISH RITE PROGRAMS**

Language Clinic Operating Fund

**Don Grauman
Advanced Therapy Clinic
Michael A. Schmidt**

Language Clinic Endowment Fund

**Don Grauman
Rich & Diane Hageman
Michael A. Schmidt
Edward J. Lenhardt
Steven L. Heiken
Estate of Louis A. &
Marilou Newell**

Pumpkins for kids

Transportation Van

Almoner's Fund

**Don Grauman
Michael A. Schmidt**

MEAL MENU BY RED FEZ CATERING

MENU

**Caesar Salad
Roast Prime Rib of Pork
Baked Potato
Hot Vegetable
Rolls
Relishes
Coffee of Hot Tea
Chocolate Cake**

Alternate Menu

**Grilled Halibut
w/Tartar Sauce**

Normal Attire



**Recruitment
Breakfast
2nd Saturday
7:30 AM**

**Western Emporium
On King Ave West**

Please join us!

Dinner Reservation
Required
259-6683

**By 10 AM MONDAY
before Dinner**

**You will be billed for
reservations made.**

THANK YOU

**Walk-ins accepted
only after all those
with reservations.**

Important notice Remember!

**If your dues card is
2017 you will be
dropped at the 1st
of the year. You can
pay your dues on
line or send to the
office**

**HONOURMENS
LUNCH
30 NOVEMBER
NOON**

Billings Scottish Rite Bodies

Secretary: TC Chatman, 32°
Personal Rep: Bob Hanson, 33°
Editor: TC Chatman, 32°
514 14th Street West
Billings, MT 59102-5216

PR: bob@hansonchemical.com
SEC: secretary@billingscottishrite.com
Editor: secretary@billingscottishrite.com
In Office: Tue - Thur 8.00-12:00 PM
Tel: (406) 259-6683

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We're on the Web at
WWW.Billingscottishrite.com

Send an email to the secretary to
be **added to our Email listing**

Need to Know Information



Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master

Ronny Aasterud, 32° KCCH

Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master

Ron Swenson, 32°

Council of Kadosh

Commander

David Schantz, 32°

Consistory

Master of Kadosh

Michael Welton, 32° KCCH

DECEMBER EVENTS AT THE RITE

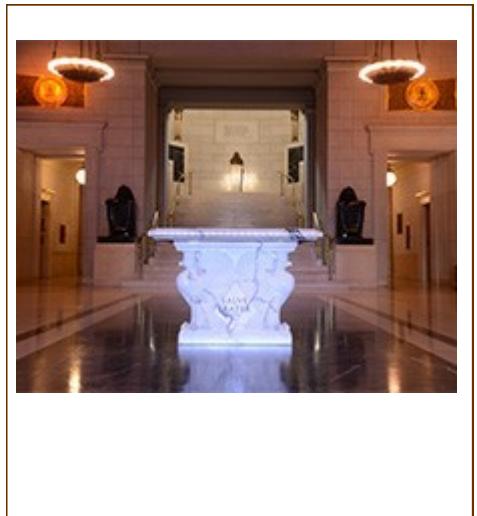
04 Clinic Bd - Noon

05 Exec Meeting - 6:00 PM

Dinner - 6:30 PM

COOKIE JAR AUCTION

08 Breakfast 7:30 AM



*Visit the Supreme Council
www.scottishrite.org
1733 16th Street, NW, in
Washington, D.C.*