

THE BILLBOARD

DECEMBER 2021

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

Special points of interest:

VM Message

Dan Jobrack 32° KCCH

PR Message

Sean McDuffee 33°

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MT SGIG Message

David L. Nielsen 33°

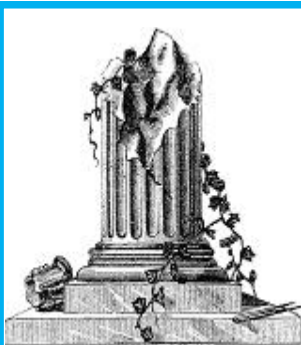
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General Information

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Officers for 2021

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To The Celestial Lodge:

Clinton Gary Frank
1937 to 2021

Message from The Venerable Master



Salve Frater et Amici!

Let me begin with greetings to all of our Valley family members accompanied with a hearty and well deserved Congratulations to the Officers-Elect for the ensuring Scottish Rite year! Your Valley will be in worthy hands.

At our November stated meeting the Valley elected Brother Bob Donaldson to serve as Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection for the next term, Honorable Brother Ron Swenson to serve as his Senior Warden, Brother John Hugdahl to serve as his Junior Warden and Honorable Tom Hanel to serve as the Valley's Orator. Additionally Brother Nate Frickel was elected to serve as Wise Master of the Knights Rose Croix, Brother Gerald Giebink as Commander of Knights Kadosh and Illustrious Jeff Dresch as the Master of Kadosh for the Consistory. Additionally, the Valley elected Honorable Ronny Aasterud and Honorable Ron

Swenson to serve on the Executive Committee as Members at Large. Illustrious Dave Bergeson was elected as well to serve another term as the Valley Almoner.

As I sit here and put to print this Billboard Article, I find myself a little emotional and saddened, as this will be my last article that I am privileged to offer as your Venerable Master. It has been a joy and one of the highlights of my past 2 years as the Venerable Master of the Valley of Billings to prepare a communication to the craft each month. It not only provided me the greatest responsibility for any sitting Venerable Master, that of providing further light in Masonry from the East, but allowed me to learn volumes along the way. It has been great!

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the faith and support entrusted in me during my time of service to the Valley as Venerable and the faith that you have in me bestowed by your electing me to his honor. I have always believed that the highest honor a Mason can receive is to be elected to leadership by his brothers. I pray I have not let you down and that I have fulfilled that trust during this tumultuous past couple of years in our Valley, community and nation. In the words of Sai Baba, *"No joy can equal the joy of serving others."*

I would encourage all brothers old and new to continually recommit to serving each other in our Valley and beyond. Even the smallest of efforts and jobs help make this magnificent organization work and becomes a labor of love and good to each other. Jana Stanfeld told us that *"I cannot do all the good that the world needs. But the world needs all the good that I can do."* I believe with all my heart that this rings true, even more so among Masons. True happiness is certainly found in helping and serving others. I am reminded of a Chinese saying that says: *"If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody."* For centuries, the greatest thinkers have suggested the same thing: *Happiness is found in helping others.* Thank you my Brothers for providing me with such happiness!

Upcoming – We have our most important fundraiser rapidly approaching on the 1st of December, the Cookie Jar Auction for our philanthropy, the Rite Care Clinic. (It is also a great time of year to renew your commitment to the 365 Club)! Please make sure it is on your calendar and plan to attend with family and friends. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the Auction and Fundraiser to immediately follow. You can call your reservations into the Secretary. There will be no meeting following. The event is again being led by Lady Patty Murphy. Thank you Lady Patty for all that you do for the children through this event!

January 5th will be the Cap and Ring Ceremony for the new Brothers from our last Reunion Class. This will follow dinner (dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m.). We will adjourn upstairs for the Ceremony which will be immediately followed by the Installation of Officers for the next year. Both of these events are open to the public, so please plan on attending with your families and show all these brothers the same amazing support that you have afforded me as well.

Thank you most sincerely to my officers, Committee Chair's and teams and all those (Continued P5)

Valley of Billings Personal Rep



From **James D. Cole, 33°**
Sovereign Grand Commander

TO: The Active Members, Deputies, Emeriti Members of the Supreme Council:

Brethren,

With heartbroken sadness, I must share with you that we have lost our Lieutenant Grand Commander, Illustrious Michael Duane Smith, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in South Carolina. He succumbed to the ravages of COVID-19 last night (11-15-2021). He leaves behind his wife Lynn and two sons, Brother Duane, and Brother Chris.

Please keep the family and the Brethren of his Orient in your prayers.

We have lost a highly skilled and valued worker in the quarries of Freemasonry. He was a dear friend to us. As Brethren, let us remember that his kindred spirit and memory will remain in our hearts. I know that personally, he has left a lasting mark on my life. His kindness and good cheer will serve as an inspiration to me.

He was indeed, and remains, my Brother.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Jim

Greetings

The Valley of Billings held its election for officers on November 3rd. For those whom were unable to attend, it is my pleasure to announce our officers elect: Bro Bob Donaldson 32° as VM, Bro Ron Swenson 32° KCCH as SW, Bro John Hugdahl 32° as JW, Bro Tom Hanel 32° KCCH as Orator, Bro Nate Frickle 32° as Wise Master of the Chapter of Rose Croix, Bro Gerald Giebink 32° as Commander of the Council of Kadosh, Bro Jeff Dresch 33° as Master of Kadosh of the Consistory. The Craft also elected two members at Large as Representatives for the Executive Board which were Ronnie Aasterud 32° KCCH and Ron Swenson 32° KCCH. I look forward to working with ALL of you during 2022.

An additional distinction is that Bro Lewie Fletcher 32° KCCH has been appointed as the Assistant Secretary for the Valley. Our Secretary, Bro Michael, has recently moved to Roundup and will now be in his office on Wednesdays. But, after a short transitional period, the two Brothers will balance the Secretarial duties and a more normal office schedule will occur. Thank you and congratulations to both of them.

December means lots of things but for us it means Cookie Jars! Yes everyone it is our Annual Fundraiser for the Rite Care Clinic. As always it is open to the public so bring your Blue Lodge brethren or neighbors. I look forward to seeing you then.

Sean

THE RITE CORNER



“Patience”

David L. Nielsen, 33°
S.G.I.G. in Montana

Last spring the Valleys of Montana started planning on getting back to having Reunions. With the pandemic and the uncertainty resulting from it, Scottish Rite in the Southern Jurisdiction lost 18 months for having their traditionally scheduled Reunions. Most of the Montana Valleys had hoped to have Fall Reunions and were eager to do so, but the pandemic took its toll on many of these plans. Billings Valley held one in September, which I was pleased to visit, and in November I had the opportunity to be present at a Reunion held in Great Falls Valley, which had participation from the Helena Valley. Other Valleys have rescheduled the Fall Reunions to the spring. Though attending Reunions is a great way to engage socially with our brothers, it recharges our Masonic-batteries and reminds us of our Masonic duties. It is akin to attending a continuing education for our profession. I recommend it to all members.

For those who need to improve on having patience, the pandemic has provided a real teaching moment. We learned to patiently work through the early stages in the spring of 2020, and felt success during the summer, but now it seems to be hitting again as hard, if not more so, that one year ago. Oh, God, why do we need a second practice session on patience? The spiritual, logical and scientific answer is because patiently being prudent and careful is a healthy life choice—individually and for our community.

Patience is a subtle virtue that appears in our degrees numerous times. When Hiram of Trye in the 6th degree is impatient with King Solomon because the cities he received were not in good shape, there is tension between the two friends. When Constans in the 28th Degree is required to stand vigil at the altar, his patience is tested by four interruptions. Today, maintaining the patience to endure through the pandemic and outbursts of civil unrest is hard.

My attendance at two fall Reunions has helped fortify my ability to practice personal patience, but recently that fortification was strengthened by a prayer written by Saint Teresa of Avila in the early 16th century. Saint Teresa was born in Spain in 1515 and though from Jewish parents, became a Catholic nun during the time of the Spanish Inquisition. She established herself as a mystic and prolific writer of spiritual works and poems. The societal acceptance of the prayer at the time had two problems: it was written by a woman and it was written in Spanish rather than Latin. Here is the Prayers of Saint Teresa on patience:

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices.

Masons are known as men of God, who are free to practice their individual religion. However, many Masonic lessons are universal principles and practices found in other religious traditions. Though the Prayer is not Masonic in origin, its truths fit in the fabric of Masonry that we practice and teach. Life is a learning experience, and that learning is expanded when we encounter other sources that are complimentary and augmenting. I offer two challenges to the brethren:

Attend a Reunion to renew your vows, remember the lessons and recharge your Masonic battery; and
Remain vigilante to recognizing all spiritual practices that improve your Masonic life.
May your celebration of the holidays find you and your family safe and in peace.



SCOTTISH RITE SPEECH and LANGUAGE CLINIC

At the September meeting of the Board, Sean McDuffee was elected to be on the Board to fill one vacancy giving a maximum of 12 members. He will provide much knowledge to help with decisions of the Board.

At this time, we are providing sponsorships for 52 children in the various clinics. There are always new applications and reevaluations for children who need additional speech therapy.

On Wednesday, December 1, there will be the Cookie Jar Auction. This has been a function for a number of years, except last year, and is a fun evening with an auctioneer. The money raised helps with providing sponsorships.

Please consider bringing cookie jars filled with goodies and be willing to bid on these items.

A special thank you to Patty Murphy for being in charge of this function.

Respectfully submitted,
Jered Scherer, Chairman



2022 Valley Information 264 Members

Active Members with Dues Paid in Full: 115 43.6 %

Members with Current Dues Balance: 63 23.9 %

Active Members with Arrears Dues Balance: 32 12.1 %

Active Members that are Dues Exempt (A,L,R): 28 10.6 %

Active Paid Life Members (E): 28 9.8 %



A note about 2022 dues Renewal Notices coming from Supreme Council:

1. 1st Notice - July 2021 mail notice to all Dues Paying members.
2. 2nd Notice - October 2021 mail notice to all Unpaid members only
3. 3rd Notice - February 2022 mail final notice to all Unpaid members only. (Possible NPD)

Remember your dues are **to be paid by 01 January** to be in good standing.

Montana 33° Team and the KCCH Team Newest Members Are included in each Photo



General Info

BILLINGS VALLEY SCOTTISH RITE 2021 OFFICERS

Elected

VM	Dan Jobrack 32° KCCH
SW	Mark Olson 32°
JW	Bob Donaldson, 32°
Orator	Ron Swenson, 32° KCCH
Almoner	David Bergeson, 33°
Treasurer	Dan Jobrack, 32° KCCH

Appointed

Prelate	John Hugdahl 32°
Master of Ceremonies	Arnie Frovarp, 32°
Expert	Gerald Giebink, 32°
Assistant Expert	TBD
Captain of the Host	David Jobrack, 32°
Tyler	Bob Hanson, 33°
Organist	John Baber, 32°, KCCH
Appointed (SC)	Michael J. Welton, 32°, KCCH

COUNCIL ROSE CROIX

Wise Master	Tom Hanel, 32°, KCCH
Senior Warden	Jeff Dresch, 33°
Junior Warden	Frank Dengel, 32°
Orator	Ron Swenson, 32° KCCH

COUNCIL OF KADOSH

Commander	Michael Welton, 32° KCCH
1st Lt. Commander	Wally Hall, 32°
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve Hanser 32°, KCCH
Orator	Ron Swenson 32° KCCH

CONSISTORY

Master of Kadosh	Arnie Frovarp, 32°
Prior	Nate Frickle, 32°
Preceptor	Jacob Clos, 32°
Minister of State	Ron Swenson, 32° KCCH

that have made my two years of serving such a joy. Most especially, thank you to our Personal Representative, Illustrious Sean McDuffee for all the guidance, leadership and support that was mine to benefit from! May the GAOTU bless and keep you all!
See you at your Temple!
Fondly and fraternally yours,
Dan Jobrack 32°, KCCH
Venerable Master



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!





Magic City Chapter

Happy Holidays!!

It's hard to believe the end of year holidays are already here. We just started 2021 a couple months ago, didn't we? This is also the season for giving to others who may need our help. DeMolay has a required Obligatory Day, "Day of Comfort", that is to be enacted upon in November and/or December. Magic City Chapter has elected to spend some time volunteering at the food bank this year. But I challenge each of you to also observe this Day. This is the perfect time to donate to a food bank, make Thanksgiving baskets for families in need, send a care package to our deployed military members, donate a cookie jar to be auctioned off and so much more. You don't have to look far to find fellow citizens who are less fortunate than we are. I encourage you to go forth and do good work with loving compassion for our fellowman.

As always, thank you for your support. Now is a great time to evaluate your relationships and look for young men to get involved in our organization. If they are looking for something to do that is safe and fun, we are looking for them. We can do almost anything that we put our minds to. If you have someone in mind, please let me know at dan.massey@mtdemolay.org or 402-681-7763.

Thanks,
Dan Massey



LIBRARY

Come on in and get a book.

This book you can color yourself.



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CONTRIBUTIONS

TRANSPORTATION VAN

In memory of Clinit Frank

William Alexander
Lavverne M. Frank
W.E. Ostwalt
Daniel & Glenda Anderson
Jack & Charlene Humpfhry
Kenneth G. fox
Ron Boyd
Kathleen Jorgensen
Betty Amam
Dean and Kim Lehnem
Robert and Edna Dunker
Wanda Harmon
Dan and Candace Kautz
Jeanne Fichtner
Ron and Evelyn Timm
Jan Turner
Barbara Henderson
Duane and Carol Ankney
Barb Prewitt and Patti Denson
Mary Mattheis
Janet Shaw

365 Club

TC & Belinda Chatman
Diana & Donald Herndon

Language Clinic Operations

Corinthian Lodge No. 72

In Memory of Clint Frank

Robert & Faye Coleman
Ron Boyd
Charles Reed
Jeffrey Peete
Dean and Kim Lehnem
Warren and Kris Ostwald
Willian and Dorothy Stenerson
Peg Ostwalt
Jan Turner

Language Clinic Endowment

None

MEAL MENU

MENU

Not received

As of yet

COST: \$12



Membership Breakfast

2nd Saturday
7:30 AM

11 December 2021

Western Emporium
3141 King Ave W, Billings,
MT 59102

Please be healthy!

Dinner Reservations Required

259-6683

By 11 AM Monday

Due by 01 November

THANK YOU

Business Attire

Members



OFFICE HOURS

ARE

9 AM TO 12

WEDNESDAY

And

THURSDAY
AM during
Koffee Klatch

Billings Scottish Rite Bodies

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Billings, MT 59102-5216

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



Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master

Dan Jobrack, 32° KCCH

Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master

Ton Hanel, 32° KCCH

Council of Kadosh

Commander

Michael Welton, 32° KCCH

Consistory

Master of Kadosh

Arnie Frøvarp, 32°

Need to Know Information

MEETINGS

Koffee Klatch **Every Thursday 7:30 AM** until you leave.

Executive **01 December**
6:00 PM Executive Meeting—Conference Room

Dining Area 6:30 PM Meal is served

No LOP: Cookie Jar Raffle.