



Northern Masonic Jurisdiction

SCOTTISH RITE

REPORTER

Valley of Eau Claire

Spring 2023

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S CORNER

Hello all.

Spring is on its way. Which means golf and baseball in the Barlow household. I know that as I write this, spring, while around the corner, appears to be around a *loooong* corner. In fact, we just had around 10 to 189 inches dumped on us and another mix bag of ice, snow, sleet and freezing rain is coming tomorrow. However, pitchers and catchers have already reported, and spring training games are already in full gear. Those on the PGA tour are tuning up in events hoping to get a crack at next month's green jacket in Augusta (the Masters will always be the real official start to spring for me).

Spring in Wisconsin is said, however, to mean nothing more than a wetter heavier type of snow to move with less places to put it. While this is unfortunately a *very real and true* axiom there's more to spring than heavy white slush and a bucket of Titleists. Like many Brothers across the state, the Fraternity ramps up events this time of year. York Rite Brothers are getting ready for their spring festivals. Here in my Wausau community the Wausauken Shriners are finalizing plans for their annual spring Zor Shriener Potentate party, not to mention the annual spring Shriener Vidalia onion fundraiser.

Of course, spring also means the Scottish Rite Valley of Eau Claire spring reunion. April 1st and April 15th, and we are also pleased to be honoring the Illustrious Steve Lasure 33° as the class is named in his honor. I hope to see a great turnout. I know we have many new candidates that have already registered to join, and more hopefully to come. In fact, we have been invited to give a Scottish Rite

presentation on Monday March 20 at Marshfield Lodge #224, 402 W 4th St, Marshfield, WI 54449. We will be presenting The Last Full Measure, aka the "Lincoln play", to a lodge of EAs, FCs, and MMs. So, we're hoping for even more come April 1st.

So, I wish you all a pleasant March and hope to see you at the Spring Reunion, if not the golf course, hopefully sooner rather than later. I bid you adieu now. My wife Jean is finally done shoveling all that heavy snow out there and I need to appear like I was busy in here besides watching golf in my Elvis jammies.

Cordially and Fraternally
Joe Barlow--Commander In Chief

"Give me golf clubs, fresh air and a beautiful partner, and you can keep the clubs and the fresh air." Bro. Jack Benny, Waukegan Lodge No. 78 A.F.& A.M., Waukegan, IL



SPRING CLASS HONOREE: Ill. Steven L. Lasure, 33°



Steven Lawrence Lasure was born August 9, 1955 in Santa Paula, CA to Lawrence Robert and Marlene Waelti Lasure. First of five children, he and the family moved to Wisconsin in mid-January of 1970 to where his mother was raised. He graduated from Belleville High School in 1973.

Steve graduated from Milwaukee School of Engineering in 1977. He worked with Bucyrus Erie Construction Equipment Division, Fairmont Railway Motors and then in 1979 landed at Northwestern Motor Company in Eau Claire, WI. He married his favorite spouse, Rebecca (Becky) in 1978 in Eau Claire where her folks lived. Daughter Sara and son Andy are their most prized treasures.

In 1985 Steve took a position with Cray Research, Inc, a computer company, in Chippewa Falls, WI where documentation, design, supervision of a group of CAD designers and administration of a large equipment budget with rollover of ever more capable computer hardware and software entailed.

In 2004, Steve joined Minnesota Wire & Cable Co where he contributed. They make medical and defense cables, cable assemblies, molded connectors and extruded cables. He supervised second shift employees, provided process engineering and prototype support and set up testing for cable assemblies until 2012.

Steve is a member of Lake Street United Methodist Church, where he has served as Finance Clerk and continues as Finance Secretary for a long time.

Steve was a member in College of an Engineering Fraternity, Triangle, where he met many friends and brothers. However, the world's largest Fraternity was unknown to him at the time. A Church member invited him to a Friends Night, where Becky agreed that it might do him some good to investigate further.

Steve was raised a Master Mason at a Man to Mason event on April 7, 2001 as a member of Sanctuary Lodge #347, where he served as Worshipful Master in 2007. Thereafter, he served as Lodge Secretary-Treasurer.

Steve became a Scottish Rite Mason in the Valley of Eau Claire on April 27, 2002. He served as Most Wise Master Lodge of Rose Croix in 2009-2010. In 2010, Steve became Valley Treasurer, supporting the Valley and the Building Association, and the Wedding and Music events held in the Masonic Center. He received the Valley Special Recognition Award in 2014. In 2016 Steve received the Scottish Rite Meritorious Service Award. He was coroneted a 33° in Milwaukee on Aug 27, 2019.

He was Exalted Royal Arch Mason on May 15, 2010 as a member of Eau Claire Chapter #36. He served as Excellent High Priest in 2016. Steve received the General Grand Chapter Bronze Award from MEHP John Pratt in 2019, most likely for bringing in a LOT of new Companions to the RAM Chapter. Steve became a Companion of the Chippewa Council of Royal & Select Masters in 2011. He served as Thrice Potent Master from 2014 until 2019. He joined the Grand Council line in 2014 and served as Most Illustrious Grand Master of Wisconsin Royal & Select Masters from Sept 2020 until May of 2021. Steve was made a Knight Templar in Eau Claire Commandery KT #8 in March of 2011. He served in 2022-2023 as Eminent Commander. He became a member of Heart of Wisconsin Council # 331 Allied Masonic Degrees in July of 2021.

Steve joined ZOR Shrine Temple and Mehara Shrine Club in 2017, where he now serves as Mehara Secretary. The Tin Lizzies Unit has a car or two that fit him well as they go in circles together often.

Steve became a member of Wisconsin Red Cross of Constantine Chippewa Conclave in 2014 and is serving as Puissant Sovereign in 2023.

Very few men in our Valley have had such a highly distinguished history of Masonic service as Illustrious Brother Lasure 33°. We are proud to name our spring class in honor of his lifetime of exemplary service to our craft.

2023 SPRING REUNION SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 1, 2023

7:30 AM	Donuts and Coffee	Main Floor Lounge
8:00 AM	Class Registration	Office
8:30 AM	Ceremonial Opening - All Bodies	Large Lodge Room
9:00 AM	4th Degree: Builder	Upstairs Lounge
9:30 AM	Discussion of the 4th Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
10:30 AM	6th Degree: Knight of the Brazen Serpent	Auditorium
11:00 AM	Discussion of the 6th Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
11:30 PM	Lunch	Small Dining Room
12:30 AM	17th Degree: Knight of the East and West	Auditorium
1:15 AM	Discussion of the 17th Degree - Include 17th Degree Cast	Discussion Area
2:15 AM	22nd Degree: Prince of Libanus	Auditorium
2:30 AM	Discussion of the 22nd Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
3:15 AM	31st Degree: My Brother's Keeper	Auditorium
3:45 AM	Discussion of the 31st Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
4:00 PM	Cigar and Whiskey Event	

Saturday, April 15, 2023

7:30 AM	Donuts and Coffee	Main Floor Lounge
8:00 AM	Class Assembly	Large Lodge Room
8:00 AM	Presentation by Directors of the Work	Large Lodge Room
8:30 AM	Building Tour for Class Members	
9:00 AM	19th Degree: Brothers of the Trail	Auditorium
9:45 AM	Discussion of the 19th Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
10:45 AM	Class Picture	Auditorium
11:15 AM	21st Degree: Patriarch Noachite	Auditorium
11:45 AM	Discussion of the 21st Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
12:00 PM	Lunch	Small Dining Room
1:00 PM	16th Degree: Prince of Jerusalem	Auditorium
1:45 PM	Discussion of the 16th Degree - Class Members Only	Discussion Area
2:45 PM	32nd Degree: Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret	Auditorium
3:30 PM	Discussion of the 32nd Degree - Class Members Only	Upstairs Lounge
4:00 PM	Reception	Small Dining Room
5:15 PM	Banquet	Large Dining Room

21st Degree: Patriarch Noachite

Come and witness a unique degree that is being presented at the Spring Reunion on Saturday, April 15th starting at 11:15 AM.

In this degree, Knights and Nobles come together to punish crime, reward virtue, protect the innocent, and provide aid to the needy.

Philosophy: Freemasonry is not a shield for evil-doing.

Core Value: Justice



Once upon a time there was **old-time-radio** ... now, THAT was entertainment!

Back when gasoline was just a dime a gallon, when fresh milk was still delivered to people's doorsteps in glass bottles, when America had just discovered sliced bread and automatic pop-up toasters ... back when times were simple ... there was **old-time-radio**. We call it "old-time-radio" today, but back in the 1930s, 40s and 50s, radio was the newest, most popular and powerful medium around. In many ways, it was bigger than anything we have today.

It was called the **Golden Age of Radio**, and radio programs that were broadcast during that period had significantly more variety than radio programming today. The shows captured the hearts and imaginations of Americans from coast to coast. It was a time when 82% of families would gather 'round the radio in the living room -- that "magic box" that had the mysterious power to snatch laughter, tears, drama, thrills and adventure out of the air and bring it into our homes. The programs provided news and entertainment to a country struggling with economic depression and war.

During this Golden Age, much of the programming heard by listeners was controlled by advertising agencies, which conceived the shows, hired the talent and staff (sometimes drawing performers directly from the old vaudeville theatre circuit), and leased airtime and studio facilities from the radio networks. Programs became fixed in quarter-hour and half-hour blocks and featured a wide variety of formats.

The 21st degree will be presented as an **old-time-radio** program. This version of the 21st degree has never been presented at the Valley of Eau Claire. Don't forget to bring your Passport and get it stamped for the degree.

So come and enjoy, sit back and listen, and be entertained the way that our friends and relatives were during the *Golden Age of Radio*.

LEON M. ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Named after Leon M. Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander from 1921 to 1932, the Abbott Scholarship Program provides financial support for the continuing undergraduate and graduate education of Scottish Rite Masons, young men and women from Scottish Rite families, and Masonic-related youth groups.



Eligibility: Those meeting any of the following criteria are eligible to apply for the 2023 Abbott Scholarship program for undergraduate studies:

- A Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who is in good standing
- A student directly related (bloodline or by legal means) to a current or deceased Scottish Rite Mason in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
- A member of a Masonic sponsored youth group within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
- A high school senior, currently accepted at an accredited trade school who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale
- A high school senior, or undergraduate, or graduate student currently enrolled at an accredited college or university
- Applications should be submitted to the Valley of the sponsoring Scottish Rite Mason

Go to: <https://scottishritenmj.org/abbott> and you have arrived at the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction website. You will see the Abbott Scholarship information and requirements. At the bottom of information click Forms to Download the application.

Applications can also be obtained at the Valley of Eau Claire's Scottish Rite Office, or an application can be sent to you electronically if you contact the Valley's Secretary via email.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE VALLEY OF EAU CLAIRE'S SECRETARY BY APRIL 15, 2023.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Valley of Eau Claire Calendar of Events

March 2023

March 20	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	7:00 PM
March 31	Steppin Up For Dyslexia	6:00 PM

April 2023

April 1	Spring Reunion	
April 15	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	Noon
April 15	Spring Reunion	
April 15	Spring Reunion Banquet	5:30 PM

May 2023

May 15	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	7:00 PM
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June 2023

June 19	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	7:00 PM
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July 2023

July 17	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	7:00 PM
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A NOTE FROM THE “DIRECTOR’S OF THE WORK”



Director’s of the Work Contact Information

Joe Barlow (715-803-8766) Rick Schnabel (715-432-3152)
elvishimself33@gmail.com rickschnabel33@hotmail.com

CHANGES FOR THE 2023 REUNION

You will notice some changes at the 2023 Spring Reunion. The **Fireside Lounge** on the main floor of the building will be used for Brothers to congregate.

Coffee and donuts will be served in the Fireside Lounge instead of downstairs.

Everyone is encouraged to gather in the Fireside Lounge between degrees, to get to know one another and renew friendships. You will be able to sit and talk, in the comfortable chairs, and enjoy each other’s company.

Card tables and chairs will be set up in the lounge if you want to play cards, or cribbage, or other games that will be available. There is also a foosball table in the lounge that can be used. If Brothers prefer, they can also go upstairs to play pool during the first weekend of the reunion – the class will not be using that room.

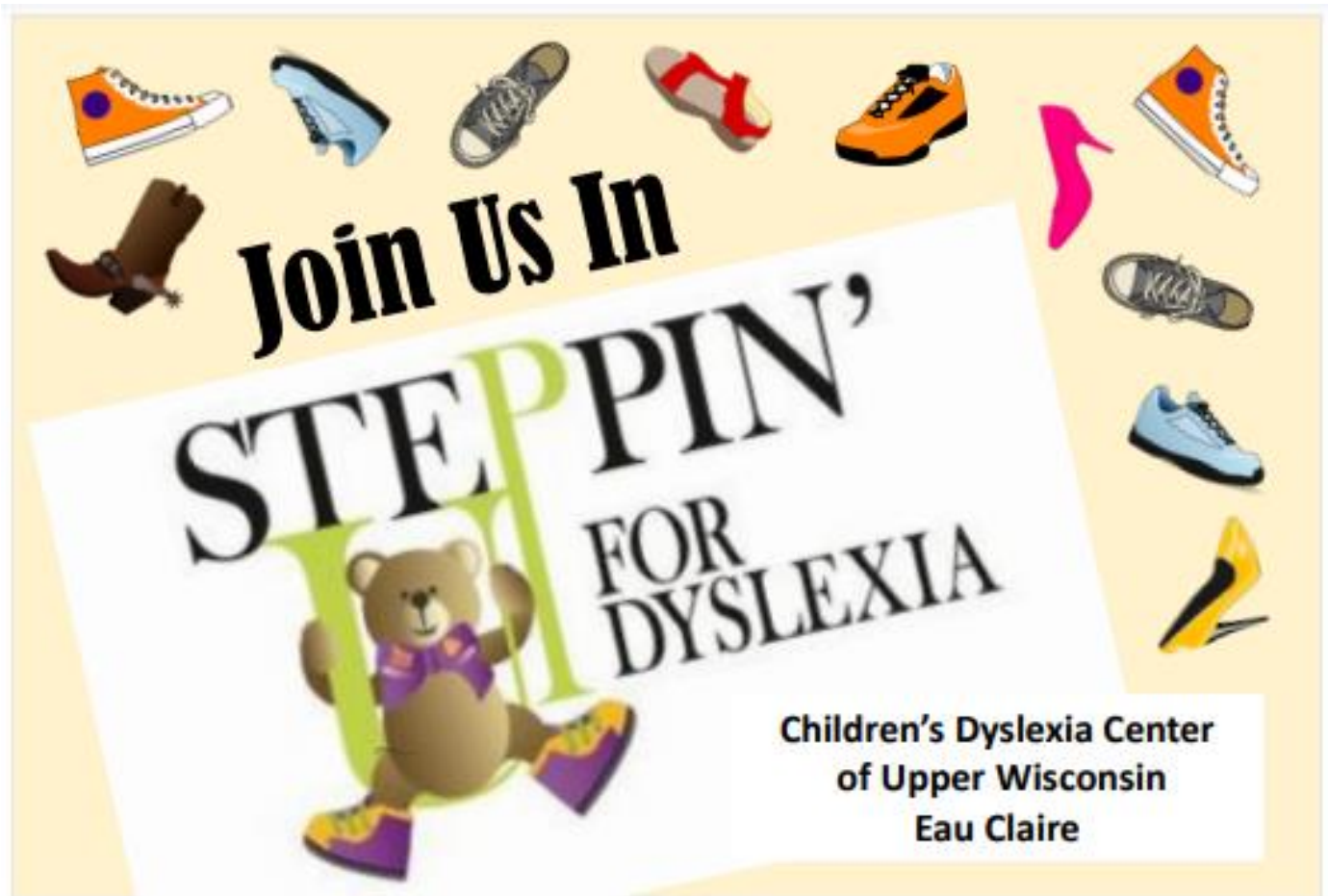
You will no longer have to go up and down the stairs – except for lunch.



There will be 60 minutes allocated between degrees, so that degree casts will not have to spend their time during a prior degree to get dressed. This will allow degree casts to see the degree prior to theirs, and the degree following their degree, which will increase attendance on the sidelines during degrees. It will also allow stage crew more time to set up and take down sets between degrees, and more time for Directors to work with the stage crew and the sound area – without being rushed.

Another change from past years – only class members will be allowed to participate in the class discussion after a degree is presented.

Come and have a great time at the Spring Reunion!



Friday, March 31st, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Historic Masonic Center 616 Graham Avenue, Eau Claire 54701

Step into your favorite shoes and join us!

Dinner, served at 6:30 pm

LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS-GAMES-RAFFLES



Help Us Celebrate
Dyslexia Awareness

Tickets \$25 each

For tickets or more information – Call, email or visit our website

upperwisconsin@cdcinc.org

715-598-4986

www.childrensdyslexiacenters.org

STICKS AND STONES

April 1st 4-7pm

Eau Claire Masonic Center

Event to benefit Grand Almoner's Fund

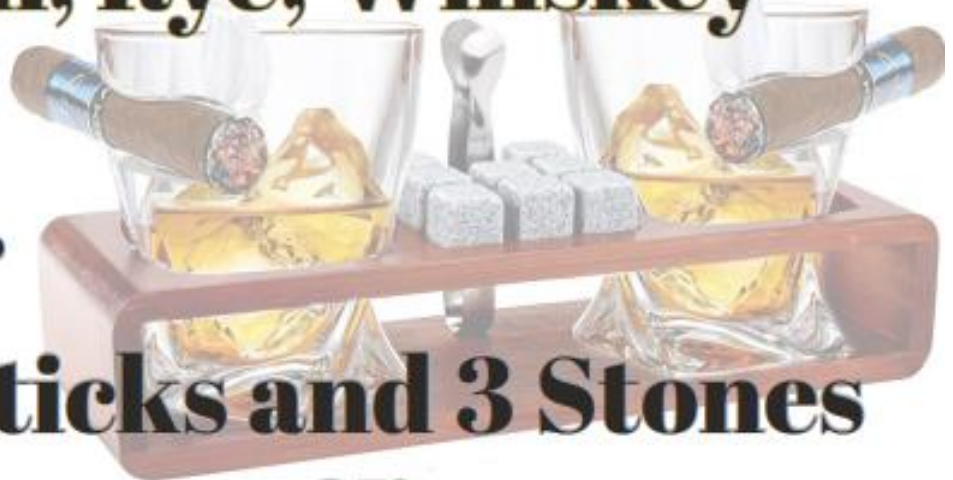
**Scottish Rite
Sticks and Stones**



**Premium Cigars, Bourbon,
Scotch, Rye, Whiskey**

\$55 for

2 Sticks and 3 Stones



OR

for 5 stones

**100 tickets available. The first 40 to register
will receive a complimentary tasting glass.**

Scan to register.



Or register at <https://rb.gy/k8knxj>

Masonic Day of Light

On Saturday, February 4, 2023, the Scottish Rite Valleys of Wisconsin, in partnership with Wisconsin Freemasonry, held a Masonic Day of Light in the cities of Eau Claire, Green Bay, and Milwaukee. This day provided the opportunity for well qualified men to complete their degrees across the state of Wisconsin and become Master Masons.

The Valley of Eau Claire raised 38 new Master Masons that day. Congratulations to all of the new Brothers!



New Master Masons



EA Degree Cast



FC Degree Cast



Demolay provided the lunch



MM Degree Cast

SPRING REUNION LADIES PROGRAM

April 15, 2023

Come and enjoy the day with other Ladies at the Masonic Temple. All ladies are invited for the entire day or any part of the day.

8:00 - 9:00 Meet and greet in the 3rd floor lounge of the Masonic Temple. There will be light refreshments available.

9:00 - 11:30 This is your opportunity to make a pair of custom painted wine glasses! No artistic talent needed as the simplest designs turn a plain glass into a unique work of art.

11:30 - 12:30 Lunch with the men in the small dining room downstairs.

12:30 - 3:00 Various activities will be available to everyone while socializing and enjoying the company of other ladies.

*All times are approximate.



Please come dressed casually. There will be time to change before the banquet's social hour.

There will be no cost for the day's activities and lunch. Please reply if you are attending with your banquet reservation to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone to complete their pair of wine glasses.

Any questions feel free to contact me.

Gail Abernathy
715-523-1174
gabernathy1174@gmail.com



SPRING REUNION ENTERTAINMENT



Variety Sound Entertainment will be our DJ at the Reunion Banquet – you will not be disappointed. They'll play our favorite music and YOU can be the star while singing Karaoke. Plan to stay and enjoy the music after the Banquet.

SPRING REUNION BANQUET

IN HONOR OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS STEVEN L. LASURE, 33° MSA CLASS

Main Ballroom – April 15, 2023 – 5:15 PM

HISTORIC EAU CLAIRE TEMPLE OF FREEMASONRY

CATERED BY WISSOTA LODGE CATERING

The Banquet honoring our new members and their Ladies and recognizing the Illustrious Steven L. Lasure, 33°, will start promptly at 5:15 P.M. in the Historic Eau Claire Temple of Freemasonry Main Ballroom. Wissota Lodge Catering (Jack Schulte) has provided fine dining in the Eau Claire area for years and will be catering the Fall Banquet.

The **Buffet Dinner** will feature:

- Mixed dinner salad with Warm Dinner Rolls and butter
- Candied Carrots
- Snowflake Mashed Potatoes
- Baked Honey Sweet Ham
- Chicken Jumbalaya with Dirty Rice
- Coffee or Milk will be served, and we will again be having our open dessert table(s) featuring our Fraternities best desserts. We encourage you to bring a special dessert for us to try.

All this for \$27.00

Child Plates (under 12 YO) available for \$14.00

Tickets must be purchased by Saturday, April 8, 2023. *No Tickets Will Be Sold At The Door.* You can reserve either at the office or on Eventbrite, however taxes will be charged in addition to the service fee for those utilizing Eventbrite. Those having questions please contact the Valley Secretary at 715-832-7759.

Candidates and their Lady do not need to purchase tickets, however must have meal reservations in by April 8, 2023.

Mail With Payment To: Eau Claire Scottish Rite
P.O. Box 345
Eau Claire, WI 54702

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Number of Meals

Adult Meals at \$27 each

Total for Adult Meals \$ _____

Child Meals at \$14 each

Total for Child Meals \$ _____

Total Amount \$