



Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
**SCOTTISH
RITE**
REPORTER

Valley of Eau Claire

Winter 2022 - 2023

Ill. James Trowbridge 33° Class

**FALL REUNION
CLASS 2022**



Row 1: Joseph O. Barlow 33° (1st Lieutenant Commander and Director of Work); John Gerber 32°; Aaron J. Wulk 32°; Jeffery W. Conger 32° (Class Vice President); Illustrious James W. Trowbridge 33°; Edgar R. Gonzalez 32° (Class President); Jordan Marquardt 32°; Andrew J. Riley 32°; Kevin R. Sorenson 32° (Commander In Chief)

Row 2: Gary Stang 32°; L. Arby Humphrey 33°, Active; Jerry Larsen 32°; Joe B. Larsen 32°; Alexander Nelson 32°; Cutler JR Nowak 32°; Ryan D. Rossenbach 32°; Matthew G. Meyers 32°; Wesley J. Andrews 32°; Zander Yensan 32°

Row 3: Josh Sudbrink 32°; Jason Berggman 32°; Aaren Petersen 32°; Scott Nelson 32°; Don Miller 32°; Corey Nowak 32°; Kevin Schumann 32°; Ryan Wojicechowski 32° (Most Wise Master); Don Olds 33°; Dan Bourassa 32°; Chad Svacina 32°

Row 4: George Eisenmann 32°; Tim Cree 32°; Steve Lasure 33° MSA (Valley Treasurer); Chad Fonseca 32°; Pete Sterzinger 32°; Les Paulson 33° (PCIC); Alben Kramer 32°; Darryl Dahl 32°; Anthony Stange 32°; David Jacobson 32° MSA

Row 5: Steve Klein 32°; Brad Edstrom 32°; Loren Barnes 33°; Dale Barnard 32°; Bryce Fransway 32°; David Kulberg 32°; Mike Abernathy 32° (2nd Lieutenant Commander); Lyle Koerner 33° (PCIC and Valley Secretary); Jay Gebert 32°; David Larson 32°; Jon Scott 32°; Rick Schnabel 33° (PCIC and Director of Work).

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S CORNER

Season's greetings all! As I write this, we are still T Minus 19 days and counting from my living room resembling a war-ravaged waste land, and I can't wait!

Allow me to introduce myself for those that do not know me. My name is Joe Barlow and it is my distinct honor to be elected Commander In Chief for *THE* Valley of Eau Claire. *THE* best blasted Valley in the state and it ain't even close! I look forward to continuing the strides made under the diligent leadership of our newest Past Commander in Chief Kevin Sorenson. Kevin you navigated some difficult waters through your term, with covid hitting us right out of the gate, and you were aces throughout it all. They say the storm reveals the sailor and you proved just bully! I could go on for a rather lengthy stretch of time extolling his virtues, accomplishments all while grossly over-thanking him for his incredible sacrifices as deserved but that would take away from the precious few lines allotted me for talking about me!

So, more about me! I've lived in Wisconsin now for almost 30 years - though still an Oregonian at heart. I am married to my wife of almost 19 or 37 years, or something like that, and I always introduce her to folks as my first wife. What's-er-face "loves" that joke. At last count, I believe we're raising somewhere around 3 or 8 kids - rough estimate. I stopped counting at two and consider our third to be a parts kid. The wife "tolerates" that joke. 2 boys and a girl who I refer to as Willie, Waylon and Medusa respectively. The wife hates that joke. (So does Medusa come to think of it). I quickly discovered that it was double-teaming the 1st, man-

to-man defense at 2 and now we're just barely keeping up in zone defense with 3. Well, Jean is. I'm usually parenting from the Barcalounger.

Anyway, December is my absolute favorite time of the year, Christmas time. Clark Griswold looks like old man Ebenezer compared to my holiday spirit. What's-er-face calls it annoying, and I call it Christmas charm. Of course, two of our Masonic tenets are highlighted this time of year, Faith and Charity. It's a season of giving and spiritual reflection for many. For my little barnacles, however, it's a time for Santa and presents. Frankie was telling me how he NEEDED the new iPhone 63, or whatever that gizmo is up to now. Being the rock-solid father I am, I said there was a huge difference between want and need. "Golly dad, what's the difference?" he queried. I replied "I can sum it up in 1 word Frank-*Cannibalism*." At this point, an uneasy wife figured she ought to immediately step in to mediate and already regretting missing that window by blurting out "Huh?" first, I said "Simple. The Donners and Dahmer. One was a clear need and the other a want." My bruised arm is starting to heal a bit, but Frankie's starting to eye up his little brother a little weird now. Hopefully this sage advice will stick with them, so they won't have to be molly-coddled when I kick them out of the house at 16. That said, there are many families and Brothers in need. If there are ways we can relieve their burden, then we should do just that. I appeal to those who may not have yet given to the Blue Envelope appeal to consider doing that this time of year. The Grand Almoner's fund will be a major focus of mine for the next 2 years, and would love input from others on how we can become the leading Valley in our state contributing to this great charity!" I look forward to seeing many of you again at our officer's meeting on Saturday January 14th 2023, where we can discuss this in greater detail.

I want to wish you all a prosperous new year. I'm excited for the next couple of years, and will lean on many people and their vast talents to continue the growth our Valley is experiencing. In other words, delegate. My motto "The more you do..the less I have to!" Now to change the bulbs in my sweaters. Merry Christmas and THANK YOU!

Cordially and Fraternaly

Joe Barlow CIC

715-803-8766

elvishimself33@gmail.com



2022 FALL REUNION CLASS



Edgar Gonzales

Class President
Marshfield Lodge #224

Interested in:

- Registration
- Recruiting



Jeffery Conger

Class Vice President
Owen Lodge #370

Interested in:

- Choir
- Wardrobe
- Food/Kitchen Crew
- Degree Director



Aaron Wulk

Forest Lodge #130 (Wausau)

Interested in:

- Non-Speaking Degree Part



Alexander Nelson

Superior Lodge #236

Interested in:

- Music
- Sound
- Lighting
- Writing/Education

NOTE: New member contact information is available by contacting the Scottish Rite Office (ec.scottishrite@gmail.com) or calling 715-832-7759.

2022 FALL REUNION CLASS



Andrew Riley

Virginia Falls Lodge #226 (Merrill)

Interested in:

- Registration
- Music
- Sound



Ryan Rossenbach

Virginia Falls Lodge #226 (Merrill)

Interested in:

- Registration
- Choir
- Class Marshall
- Non-Speaking Degree Part



Joe Larsen

Frederic Lodge #244

Interested in:

- Food/Kitchen Crew



John Gerber

Wisconsin Rapids Lodge #128

Interested in:

- Registration
- Class Marshall



2022 FALL REUNION CLASS



Jordan Marquardt

Acacia-Itasca Lodge #329

Interested in:

- Registration
- Sound and Lighting
- Stage Crew
- Hospitality and Beverage
- Food/Kitchen Crew



Matthew Meyers

Forest Lodge #130 (Wausau)

Interested in:

- Sound
- Speaking Degree Part
- Degree Director

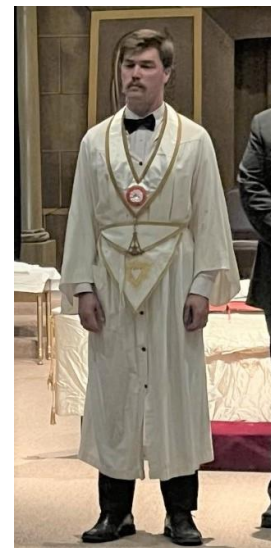


Cutler Nowak

Virginia Falls Lodge #226 (Merrill)

Interested in:

- Registration



Wesley Andrews

Barnes Lodge #365

Interested in:

- Class Marshall
- Speaking Degree Part
- Non-Speaking Degree Part



2022 FALL REUNION HIGHLIGHTS



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INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2023



FALL REUNION MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Virginia Falls Lodge #226 (Merrill) received the **Fall Membership Award** by having the most candidates in the class. This award goes to the Lodge that has the highest percentage of their total Lodge membership in the class.



2023 SPRING REUNION SCHEDULE

<i>Start Time</i>	<u>Saturday, April 1, 2023</u>	<i>Floor</i>
7:30 AM	Donuts and Coffee	Main Floor Lounge
8:00 AM	Class Registration	Office
8:30 AM	Ceremonial Opening - All Bodies	Class 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	

<i>Start Time</i>	<u>Saturday, April 15, 2023</u>	<i>Floor</i>
7:30 AM	Donuts and Coffee	Main Floor Lounge
8:00 AM	Class Assembly	Class Room
8:00 AM	Presentation by Directors of the Work	Class 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	Class Room
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	Class Room
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

YEARS OF SERVICE



Left to Right: Dan Bourassa, Terry Welty (60 Year Certificate), Arby Humphrey (Active), Jim Kman (25 Year Certificate)

MINI REUNION – IRON RIVER



Left to Right: Don Miller, Pat Norton (4th degree), Arby Humphrey (Active), Walt Warner (4th), Dan Bourassa

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Valley of Eau Claire Calendar of Events

January 2023

January 14	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	10:00 AM
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February 2023

February 20	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	7:00 PM
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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 1	Cigar and Whiskey Event	4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
April 15	Spring Reunion	
April 15	Valley of Eau Claire Officer's Meeting	Noon
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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BLUE ENVELOPE APPEAL



Scottish Rite Charities

33 Marrett Rd, Lexington, MA 02421
o: (781) 465-3346 • Charities@SRNMJ.org

Blue Envelope Appeal

What is the Blue Envelope Appeal?

The Blue Envelope Appeal is the NMJ's oldest Jurisdiction-wide fundraising appeal. For decades, Scottish Rite Masons have supported the charitable efforts of the fraternity by mailing their annual donations in a blue reply envelope, leading to the program's name. The Blue Envelope Appeal is mailed out to all members in early October.

Over the years, millions of dollars have been raised to support our Scottish Rite Charities thanks to the generous support of our members. Donations to the Blue Envelope currently support:

- The Scottish Rite Grand Almoner's Fund
- The Children's Dyslexia Centers
- The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library
- The Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Fund

How does the Blue Envelope help my Valley?

Beyond supporting our Scottish Rite Charities, Blue Envelope donations from your members also have a positive impact on your Valley.

- **Valley of Excellence**
Your members' Blue Envelope donations can help your Valley receive Valley of Excellence credit. Obtaining credit requires at least 7.5% or more of your Valley's total members donating to the Blue Envelope, with the campaign running from October 1 to June 15.
- **Valley Competition**
Each year, members can help their Valley compete with the rest of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction in a contest recognizing total dollars donated, total number of members donating, and highest percentage of members donating to the Blue Envelope. Winning Valleys in each category will be highlighted in print and social media.
- **Abbott Scholarship Allocation**
Blue Envelope donations from your Valley also help determine your annual Abbott Scholarship allocation.

Digital Resources

Visit <https://app.air.inc/a/by9nfr3Th> to download additional resources for this year's Blue Envelope Appeal, including:

- Blue Envelope Logos & Graphics
- Printable Blue Envelope Letter & Reply Slips
- Blue Envelope Promotional Video

All assets of Air.Inc can be downloaded directly to your computer. There is no need to sign up or save to a personal workplace to access the files.

Note: Physical Blue Envelope reply envelopes can be mailed to your Valley upon request to Charities@SRNMJ.org.

A NOTE FROM THE “DIRECTORS OF THE WORK”



Directors of the Work Contact Information

Joe Barlow (715-803-8766)
elvishimself33@gmail.com

Rick Schnabel (715-432-3152)
rickschnabel33@hotmail.com

The 2022 Fall Reunion was a success, and we already have a plan for the 2023 Spring Reunion. Please review the Spring Reunion schedule found in this issue of the Scottish Rite Reporter. If you are interested in helping in any way, whether it be in a degree, behind the scenes, or in the kitchen, and have not been contacted by anyone, please let us know and we will get that resolved. One of the best ways to enjoy your Scottish Rite experience is by getting involved and taking a part in the reunion. It is not **US** who make the reunions a success, it is all of **YOU**. If you do not have an assignment for the reunion, please plan to join us on April 1st and April 15th of 2023: a time to watch the degrees again, see degrees you may not have seen in a while, and to renew those friendships with the Brothers from our Valley. **See you all at the 2023 Spring Reunion!**

2023 OFFICER MEETING

All members of the Valley of Eau Claire are invited to the 2023 annual Officer Meeting on January 14, 2023 at the Eau Claire Masonic Building. The business meeting starts at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be served at approximately noon. The meeting will resume after lunch with discussion related to membership retention and recruitment. Please feel free to join us for a day of work and socialization with your Scottish Rite Brothers. Please RSVP to our Valley Secretary (ec.scottishrite@gmail.com) for the purpose of paperwork copies and lunch estimates.

BLUE ENVELOPE APPEAL FORM

SCOTTISH RITE

2022 Blue Envelope

Yes, I will help our Scottish Rite Charities continue their life-changing work! Please accept this donation on behalf of our members, their families, and our communities:

The Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable.

Give a Gift

\$1,000 \$330 \$100 \$32 Other \$ _____

Ways to Donate

Check Enclosed - Payable to SRBF

Credit Card Visa MC AMEX Discover
(Circle One)

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date ____ / ____ Sec. Code _____

Make a recurring monthly gift*

*I authorize SRBF to deduct my recurring gift monthly.

My Contact Information

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Valley _____

Member Number _____

To donate online, visit DonateRite.org

