



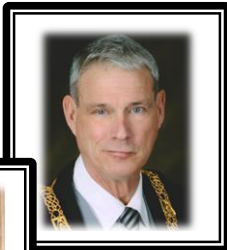
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
**SCOTTISH
RITE**

REPORTER

Valley of Eau Claire Spring 2024

FALL REUNION CLASS 2023

Ill. Franklin J. Struble 33° PGM



Row 1: Mike Abernathy 32° (1st Lieutenant Commander); David S. Chavez 32°; Ethan S. Gatewood 32° (Class President); Illustrious Franklin J. Struble 33° - PGM; Walter L. Warner 32° (Class Orator); Geno Carlson 32°; Joseph O. Barlow 33° (Commander in Chief and Co-Director of the Work).

Row 2: Joseph Wadas 32°; Pat Norton 32°; Zander Yensan 32°; Jay D. Petrowski 32°; Monte L. Kramer 32°; Boyd M. Monte 32°; Steven Lasure 33° - MSA; Alben Kramer 32° (Most Wise Master).

Row 3: James A. Fenno 32°; Daniel E. Ploenzke 32°; David Kulberg 32°; Jerome Gebert 32° (Treasurer); David D. Larson 32° (2nd Lieutenant Commander); Ryan Larson 32°; Chad Fonseca 32°; Lyle N. Koerner Jr. 33° (PCIC & Valley Secretary); Chad Svacina 32°.

Row 4: Todd J. Skortz 32°; Brad Edstrom 32°; Peter Sterzinger 32°; Bryce Fransway 32°; Don Miller 32°; David Jacobson 32° - MSA; Dan Bourassa 32°.

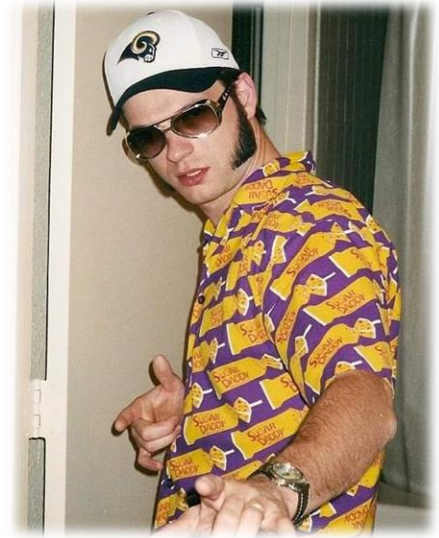
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S CORNER

Hello all

I look forward to our upcoming spring reunion and making new Princes. I would love to see full sidelines, so please try and attend, and grab a Brother to come with you. I would also like to remind everyone of the Blue Envelope appeal. If you haven't donated anything yet, it's not too late.

I wish you all a safe and hopefully speedy conclusion to winter.

Cordially and fraternally
Joe Barlow
CIC Valley of Eau Claire



A NOTE FROM THE “DIRECTORS OF THE WORK”



Directors of the Work Contact Information

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

Lars Framness (608-695-6677)
lars.framness@gmail.com

Greetings Brothers,

I just wanted to take some time to let you know that I'm honored and excited to help the Valley present degrees to both our candidates and to Brothers who have been members for years. The degrees are one of the core activities that we do. They teach and reinforce the lessons of the Scottish Rite, and when presented in a meaningful way, they give us all the shared experience which brings us closer together as brothers. Talk about them with each other. Your point of view may be illuminating to the person sitting next to you. You never know what kind of change that little bit of light that you have can bring.

Degree directors, production crew, and actors – I look forward to working with all of you to bring the best to our reunions. I have seen all of the hard work that goes into our degrees. The practices that you hold and direction and performances you give all contribute to the final product that our candidates and Brothers enjoy. I know that the talents that you bring to the table will continue to shine! Please let me or Joe know if you have questions or ideas for degree presentations. Anything that we can do to make our reunion weekends better is always a goal worth having.

Lars Framness

2024 SPRING CLASS HONOREE: Michael L. Hunter 32° - MSA



Michael (Mike) L. Hunter was born in Frederic Wisconsin on September 15, 1946. His family moved to Durand Wisconsin where he graduated from the Durand High School in 1964. After High School Mike attended District One Technical College and graduated in 1966.

After graduation Mike enlisted in the United States Air Force and served four years at the Air University of the Air Force obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant. Mike was honorably discharged from the Air Force and immediately went to work for the University of Wisconsin – Stout in Menomonie Wisconsin as a computer specialist,

retiring on September 30, 2011.

Mike's Masonic journey began on May 20, 1989 when he was raised in an outdoor ceremony to the degree of Master Mason at the Durand/Pepin Lodge # 149. His journey continued and he became a member of the Illustrious John W. Lorenz 33° Fall 1989 Class. Mike has participated in several degrees, served as Assistant Director of the 4th degree, and has spent many years helping in the Kitchen at Reunions. Mike became Sovereign Prince of the Princes of Jerusalem in 2004-2005. His many years of service to the Valley of Eau Claire resulted in him receiving the Meritorious Service Award in 2006.

Mike also joined the Zor Shrine in 1989, where he became a member of the Eau Claire Saw Duster Shrine Clown unit. Mike also helped establish the Hillbilly Clan in Eau Claire.

Mike kept busy with York Rite as well. He was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in 1997, Chapter #36 in Eau Claire. Created a Select Master in 1997, Council #25 in Chippewa Falls. Created a Knights Templar in 1998 in Eau Claire Commandery KT #8, serving as Eminent Commander from 2002 – 2007. The State of Wisconsin's Grand Commander in 2014. Mike received the Knight Commander of the Temple award in 2015, and the Grand Encampment Meritorious Award in 2022. He became York Rite College 85 Past Governor and Mike also received the Purple Cross in Toronto Canada in 2012. Not to mention, Mike is a past Sovereign of the Order of the Red Cross of Constatine for the years 2020 – 2021 in Eau Claire.

Mike is supported by his special friend Cherie Shaw who makes sure he is at his best behavior. Congratulations Brother Michael L. Hunter and thank you for being such a tremendous example to your community and to all your Masonic Brothers.

2024 SPRING REUNION SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 6, 2024

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	Class Room
10:30 AM	19th Degree: Brothers of the Trail	Auditorium
11:15AM	Discussion of the 19th Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
11:45AM	Lunch	Small Dining Room
12:45 PM	22nd Degree: Prince of Libanus	Auditorium
1:00 PM	Discussion of the 22nd Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
1:45 PM	5th Degree: Perfect Master	Auditorium
2:15 PM	Discussion of the 5th Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
3:15 PM	18th Degree: Knight of The Rose Croix of H.R.D.M.	Auditorium
4:00 PM	Discussion of the 18th Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
4:00 PM	Reception	Small Dining Room

Saturday, April 27, 2024

7:00 AM	Donuts and Coffee	Main Floor Lounge
7:45 AM	Class Assembly/Presentation by Directors of the Work	Class Room
8:00 AM	23rd Degree: Knight of Valor	Auditorium
9:00 AM	Discussion of the 23rd Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
10:00 AM	Class Picture	Auditorium
11:00 AM	12th Degree: Master of Mercy	Auditorium
11:35 AM	Discussion of the 12th Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
12:15 PM	Lunch	Small Dining Room
1:15 PM	14th Degree: Grand Elect Mason	Auditorium
2:15 PM	Discussion of the 14th Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
3:00 PM	32nd Degree: Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret	Auditorium
3:45 PM	Discussion of the 32nd Degree - Class Members Only	Class Room
3:45 PM	Reception	Small Dining Room
5:00 PM	Banquet	Large Dining Room

**Plan to stay for Karaoke following the Banquet
Provided By Variety Sound Entertainment**

LEON M. ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Valley of Eau Claire 2024

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 2024 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 (ex – DeMolay International, Job's Daughters, Order of Rainbow for Girls)
- 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 Eau Claire

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 SECRETARY BY APRIL 15, 2024.

FUTURE REUNION DATES

Fall 2024: October 12 & 26

Spring 2025: April 5 & 26

Fall 2025: October 4 & 18



DUES CHANGE

I wish I was communicating to you regarding a more joyful topic, however out of necessity, I must communicate with you regarding an increase in our Scottish Rite annual dues. It is no secret that the cost of our Valley of Eau Claire has risen and there is a need to increase our annual membership dues as well. We have evaluated our operations in the Valley and have already made several adjustments to make our operations more efficient and effective through reduction of services, streamlined communication, and other means.

At our 2024 (January 13, 2024) Annual Officers meeting, our Treasurer Jay Gebert explained the current financial status of our Valley. He also explained in detail the shortfalls and what financial boost is needed to balance the books. With the rise in inflation, our increases in our beautiful building assessment (utilities, repair and maintenance, taxes, etc.), and our reduction in membership (mostly because of death), all these factors resulted in overall cost increases. Our current dues revenue does not cover our annual expenditures.

Therefore, the Valley Officers have proposed a dues increase to be approved by the body. With this increase, our Valley dues will remain below the median of the other four Wisconsin Valleys. If approved, the 2025 (which begins August 1, 2024) dues will be \$120.00.

Current Dues Breakdown: Proposed	Current Dues Amount	Increase Amount	Proposed 2025 Dues Amount
Lodge of Perfection	\$13.00	\$6.00	\$19.00
Princes of Jerusalem	\$13.00	\$6.00	\$19.00
Rose Croix	\$13.00	\$6.00	\$19.00
Consistory	\$27.00	\$6.00	\$33.00
Supreme Council Assessment	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$30.00
Total Dues Amounts	\$96.00	\$24.00	\$120.00

NOTE: The last time the dues were increased was 2022, membership was 575, currently 527

The officers of the Valley of Eau Claire at the January 13, 2024 officer meeting have approved the proposal of an increase in membership dues, effective for 2025. This proposal is to be sent to the membership for the vote. There is no increase to the new candidate initiation fee!

The notice is therefore given to the Valley of Eau Claire membership through an email communication that will/was sent out February 20, 2024 (for those Valley members who have email) and/or communication by an Article in the Spring 2024 Valley of Eau Claire Scottish Rite Reporter. A vote of the dues increase will be concluded on April 6, 2024 at 4:00 pm, which is the conclusion of the first Spring Reunion weekend.

You can detach the Ballot below and mail it the **Valley Secretary** at **PO Box 345 Eau Claire, WI 54702**, or complete the Ballot and email it back to the Valley Secretary at ec.scottishrite@gmail.com.

Voting will be available from March 1, 2024 through April 6, 2024 at 4 p.m. at the Valley of Eau Claire Scottish Rite Office.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph O. Barlow
Joseph O. Barlow, 33°
Commander In Chief

***** OFFICIAL BALLOT (example) The Valley of Eau Claire 2025 Annual Dues will total \$120.00 _____ Approve _____ Disapprove *****
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2023 FALL REUNION CLASS



Ethan P. Gatewood

Class President
Rhineland Lodge #242

Interested in: Class Marshall,
Recruiting, Line Officer,
Degree Director, Speaking Degree Part,
Non-Speaking Degree Part



Walter L. Warner

Class Orator
Ancient Landmark Lodge #210

Interested in: Registration,
Class Marshall, Recruiting,
Non-Speaking Degree Part



Geno Carlson

Wisconsin Rapids Lodge #128

Interested in: Choir, Music, Sound, Speaking
Degree Part, Non-Speaking Degree Part



David C. Chavez

Wisconsin Rapids Lodge #128

Interested in: Recruiting, Food/Kitchen Crew



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

2023 FALL REUNION CLASS



Monte L. Kramer

Quincy Adams Lodge #71

Interested in: Sound, Lighting, Stage Crew,
Food/Kitchen Crew



Boyd M. Monte

Crandon Lodge #287

Interested in: Food/Kitchen Crew



Jay D. Petrowski

Forest Lodge #130



Class members
receiving Scottish
Rite certificates



2023 FALL REUNION MEMBERSHIP AWARD



Wisconsin Rapids Lodge #128

received the

Fall Membership Award

This award goes to the Lodge that has the highest percentage of their total Lodge membership in the class.

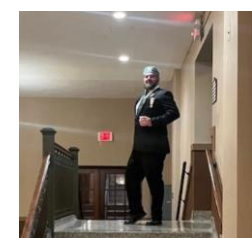
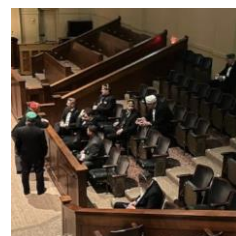
MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



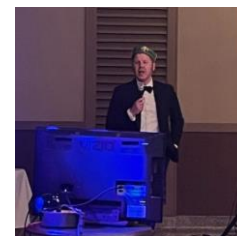
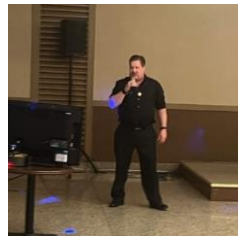
The Meritorious Service Award (MSA) may be conferred upon members of the Scottish Rite who, by reasons of meritorious services of a Masonic character, are worthy of such recognition. The recipients must have attained the Thirty-Second Degree of the Scottish Rite, and be a member in good standing for outstanding or significant services performed within the Scottish Rite. The recipient is recommended by the four presiding officers of the Valley, and approved by the Wisconsin Council of Deliberation. The Red Hat is emblematic of this recognition and honor.

Congratulations to **Josh Sudbrink**, who has been invested with this prestigious honor.

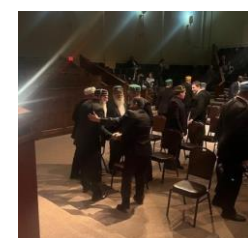
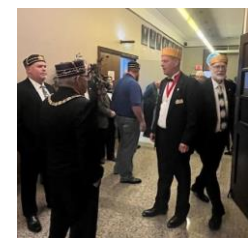
2023 FALL REUNION HIGHLIGHTS



2023 FALL REUNION HIGHLIGHTS



Installation of Officers for the Valley of Eau Claire



STICKS AND STONES

April 6th 4-7pm

Eau Claire Masonic Center

Event to benefit Scottish Rite Almoners Fund

**Scottish Rite
Sticks and Stones**



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

Snacks!

**For
\$50 1 Stick and 3 Stones
choose or
4 stones**



**To Register send \$50 and and contact info for each person
to**

**Sticks and Stones Event
PO Box 345, Eau Claire, WI, 54702-0345**

or Register and pay through Eventbrite

Use key words such as Eau Claire or Sticks and Stones

SPRING REUNION LADIES PROGRAM

April 27, 2024

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 **Gnomes are back!!** Put your artistic talent to work by making a seasonal gnome. Step by step directions will be given for everyone to make a gorgeous gnome to display at home.

11:00 - 12:00 Lunch with the men in the small dining room downstairs.

12:00 - 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 gnome.



Any questions feel free to contact me.

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



Pictures from the 2023 Fall Reunion Ladies Program



SPRING REUNION BANQUET

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL L. HUNTER, 32° MSA CLASS

Main Ballroom – April 27, 2024 – 5:00 PM

HISTORIC EAU CLAIRE TEMPLE OF FREEMASONRY

CATERED BY WISSOTA LODGE CATERING

The Banquet honoring our new members and their Ladies and recognizing Michael L. Hunter, 32° MSA, will start promptly at 5:00 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 Spring Banquet.

The **Buffet Dinner** will feature:

- Mixed Field Greens Salad with Dried Cranberries, Mandarin Oranges and Feta Cheese
- Dinner Rolls with Butter
- Chicken and Andouille Sausage Jambalaya
- Sliced Pork Loin with Caramelized Onion Gravy
- Seasoned Green Beans
- Roasted Red Potatoes
- 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 \$28.00

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

Tickets must be purchased by Saturday, April 20, 2024. ***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 20, 2024.

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

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

Number of Meals	
Adult Meals at \$28 each <input type="text"/>	Total for Adult Meals \$ _____
Child Meals at \$14 each <input type="text"/>	Total for Child Meals \$ _____
	Total Amount \$ <input type="text"/>

YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS – VALLEY OF EAU CLAIRE

AASR Valley of Eau Claire - 2023 and 2024 Years of Service Recognition Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and the Valley of Eau Claire wish to extend our sincere congratulations to the following men who have been members of our Scottish Rite Family celebrating 75, 65, 60, 50, 25 or 10 years of membership.

2023

75 years

Henry G. Wells - 32° - WI 220

65 years

Arthur L. Hotvedt, 33° - WI 112

John L. Senty, 32° - WI 271

60 years

Ronald L. Broeker, 32° - ND 004

William C. Hawley, 32° - WI 192

Paul J. Leitch - 32° - WI 237

Robert D. Phelps, 32° - WI 263

John C. Van Hollen, 32° - WI 277

50 years

Kenneth A. Anderson, 32° - WI 236

Carl A. Borine, 32° - IL 144

Garry D. Hageness, 33° - WI 252

Theodore R. Lyons, 33° - WI 128

Robert L. Rasmussen, 32° - WI 263

Anthony R. Ring, 32° - WI 112

Tim B. Snyder, 32° - WI 128

25 years

Dennis D. Donath, 32° - WI 229

Robert Fischer, 32° - WI 109

Thomas Kunkel, 32° - WI 112

Chuck S. Stene, 32° - WI 234

William F. Swannack, 32° - WI 164

Bruce W. Trimble, 32° - WI 164

Robert Weiher, 32° - WI 281

10 years

Christopher I. Armstrong, 32° - MI 331

Steven J. Livernash, 32° - WI 128

Erik P. Pohjola, 32° - WI 130

Christopher L. Roberts, 32° - IN 418

2024

60 years

Robert C. Dietz, 32° - WI 229

Harvey D. Reilly, 32° - WI 148

Dr. David E. Weiss, 32° - WI 112

50 years

Roderick W. Anderson, 33° - WI 347

Roger R. Hancock, 32° - WI 130

Donald E. Hedman, 32° - WI 128

Merlin J. Isaacson, 32° - WI 347

Virgil C. Nylander, 32° - WI 109

Richard E. Wilhelm, 32° - WI 229

25 years

Stanley E. Bonk, 32° - WI 351

Jaime L. Delgadillo, 32° - WI 351

Arvid M. Flantum, 32° - WI 195

Lawrence D. Hovseth, 32° - WI 176

Rob Kittel, 32° - WI 130

Steven L. Krewson, 32° - WI 215

Timothy P. Mott, 32° - WI 210

Sam W. Opresik, 32° - WI 225

Richard H. Thomas, 32° - WI 225

David A. Vold, 32° - WI 109

David R. Wolf, 32° - WI 109

10 years

Michael A. Abernathy, 32° - WI 112

Corey D. Lemons, 32° - WI 130

Terrance M. McShane, 32° - WI 128

H. John Nebelsiek Jr., 32° - WI 176

Troy M. Peters, 32° - WI 351

William A. Rhiger, 32° - WI 277

Kristopher C. Stewart, 32° - WI 192

STEPPIN' UP FOR DYSLEXIA



Friday, April 26th, 2024 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 (pasta bar buffet)
LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS-GAMES-RAFFLES

For tickets or more information



Tickets \$25 each
Purchase before April 19, 2024

Mail check payable to
Children's Dyslexia Center
to the address above, call or e-mail

upperwisconsin@cdcinc.org

715-598-4986

www.childrendyslexiacenters.org