The Rite Review

November 2026 *A Scottish Rite Newsletter from the Valley of Winston-Salem* Vol 13, Issue 11

Upcoming Events

November 12, 2026 — November Stated Meeting… Our November meeting will be opened by the Chapter Rose Croix. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Masonic education will be provided by the education committee.

November 15, 2026 — Officer Training… Officer training will take place at 2:00 p.m. at the Masonic Center.

Miscellaneous News & Notes

Dress Code… All members attending Stated Meetings, Reunions, and other events are requested to wear slacks and a sport coat at a minimum. Ties are optional.

Master Craftsman… Please contact Illustrious Brother Chris Pearman (336-601-5444, cpearman19@gmail.com) if you have any questions about the Master Craftsman program or need any assistance.

Ride Sharing… If you need a ride to and from our Scottish Rite stated meetings, please contact our General Secretary, Ill. Bro. Michael Fischer (336-723-1217).

Families are Welcome… Please remember that families and friends are welcome to join us for the meal before each stated meeting.

Sick & Distressed

Please keep Terry Jones, Andy Thomas, Sixto De Jesus' wife, Gordy Peeler, Ray Ashby, Michael Fischer, Michael Fischer's parents, Will Fulbright, Tom Cook, Thomas Sadler's grandmother, Will Fulbright's uncle, Rodney Bennett's wife, Roy West, Doug Mason, Tommy Allen Jr.'s mother, Tom Jolly's wife, Terry Watson's wife, Jerry Brown's wife, Hobert Miller, Kenny Allen's wife, Thomas Patterson, Sam Stroud, Donnie Lane, Robert Ellis, Jeffrey Jones, Louie Cox's wife, and Bobby Sparks in your thoughts and prayers.

If you know of anyone who is sick or distressed, please feel free to contact General Secretary Michael Fischer.

Life Membership Information

If you are interested in becoming a life member of the Winston-Salem Scottish Rite, contact Illustrious Brother Michael Fischer, our General Secretary, to fill out the form. The current amount is 25 times the current statewide median dues ($175) = $4,375. This amount is only guaranteed until the end of the year as the median dues could increase with 2027 budget process.

General Secretary
Michael J. Fischer, 33°
336-723-1217
secretary@winstonsalemscottishrite.org

Stated Meetings
Every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Dinner to be served at 6:00 p.m.

Joining the Scottish Rite
The online petition can be found at… Winston-Salem Petition. If you are a top-line signer on three petitions, your membership dues will be waived for the year.

Almoner
The Almoner's Fund is for any distressed, worthy brother in dire financial straits. There is a strict code of confidentiality to this procedure. Please contact Bro. Will Fulbright at… willfulbright@gmail.com

Newsletter Information
To be added or removed from our email list or suggest content, please contact Ill. Brother Chris Pearman at… wssrnews@gmail.com

Masonic Education Materials
Please submit your presentation materials that will need to be projected to Ill. Brother Michael Fischer (secretary@winstonsalemscottishrite.org) at least one day before the Stated Meeting.

High Country Club
If you are interested in joining the High Country Scottish Rite Club, please contact Brother Alex Edmisten (edmisteninc@gmail.com) or Joe Slade (sladejoe@skybest.com).

Deaths

Thornton Johnson Beroth 32°, age 90, of Pilot Mountain, NC passed away peacefully at his home on October 4, 2026. A service of celebration will be held on Friday, October 9, 2026, at 3:00 PM, at Olivet Moravian Church, 2205 Olivet Church Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27106, with Rev. Matthew Allen officiating. Inurnment will follow in the church cemetery with graveside rites conducted by the Mount Airy and Pilot Mountain VFW Memorial Honor Guard. The family will receive friends Friday from 1:00 until 2:45 PM at the church.

Brother Thorton was a 40-year member of the Winston-Salem Scottish Rite and Winston Masonic Lodge #167. He was retired from Beroth Oil Company and Four Brothers Food Stores where he served as Vice President. He was a veteran of the United States Army, 1954-1956. Thornton was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, being a member of various local service organizations, traveling abroad and to all 50 states with his friends and family, and was also known for his collection of oil and gas memorabilia. He served and was a lifetime member of Olivet Moravian Church. As Thornton would say, "It's been 90 years of fun!". Please keep the Beroth family in your thoughts and prayers. The full obituary can be read at this link: https://www.moodyfuneralservices.com/obituaries/thornton-beroth

Thornton Dixon Adams, 32°, aged 99, passed away at the Terra Bella Senior Living Center in Newton NC on September 23, 2026, just 2-weeks short of his 100th birthday. Brother Thorton was a 63-year- member of the WSSR and 77-year member of Carthage Lodge 181. After high school graduation he attended Duke University, leaving to serve in the Army 5th Replacement Depot at Alabang, in the Philippines, during World War II. After the war he graduated from High Point College and then moved to Westminster, Maryland, where he earned his master's degree in sacred theology while serving a Methodist church in Relay, Maryland. Dixon served the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church for forty years, and was a member of First United Methodist Church in Conover, the church from which he retired in 1992. It was on a Greyhound bus going to seminary that he met his wife Margery, a student at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. Please keep the Adams family in your thoughts and prayers. The full obituary can be read at this link: https://www.bennettfuneralservice.com/obituaries/Thornton-Dixon-Adams?obId=49681333

David Carroll Simmons, 32°, aged 72, passed away Monday, September 21, 2026. Brother David was a 50-year member of the WSSR and Salem Lodge 289 where he was Master in 2000. He was also DDGL for the 26th District.

A celebration of David's life will be held at 2:00 pm. Saturday, October 24, 2026 at Sedge Garden UMC with Pastor Keith Edwards officiating, culminating with Masonic rites. The family will receive friends following the service in the church Fellowship Hall.

David attended Wake Forest University and graduated from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science. During his college years, he followed his father by becoming a second generation Mason and later to 32nd degree. David was a Telecommunications Engineer, holding positions at Business Communications Systems, Bell South, AT&T, Nortel, and Catalyst Communications throughout his career.

Among his many talents was praising God through his gifted tenor voice as a member of Glory Street Quartet that was formed in the early 1990's at Sedge Garden UMC. He was also known for his woodworking. David created beautifully designed ink pens, as well as other objects and loved gifting them to others. Please keep the Simmons family in your thoughts and prayers. The full obituary can be read at this link: https://www.hayworth-miller.com/obituaries/david-simmons

Vilas Ray Payne, 32°, age 88 of Wilkesboro, passed away at his home on October 9, 2026. Brother Vilas was a 58-year member of the Winston-Salem Scottish Rite and a 59-year member of Ashler Lodge #373. He was a life member of the VFW Post 1142 and Honor Guard. Brother Vilas was baptized on July 6, 2003, at Stony Fork Church. Of all of his accomplishments, the greatest was being called "Paw-Paw".

Masonic Center of Winston — Salem 10-Year Anniversary Celebration

If you missed the 10-year anniversary celebration of the Masonic Center of Winston-Salem at our October stated meeting night, you missed a great event! The event was well attended and included presentations by two Past Grand Masters of North Carolina, representatives of the lodges that call the Masonic Center of Winston-Salem their home, and meals worthy of a Michelin rating. Below are just a few of the pictures of the astounding event.













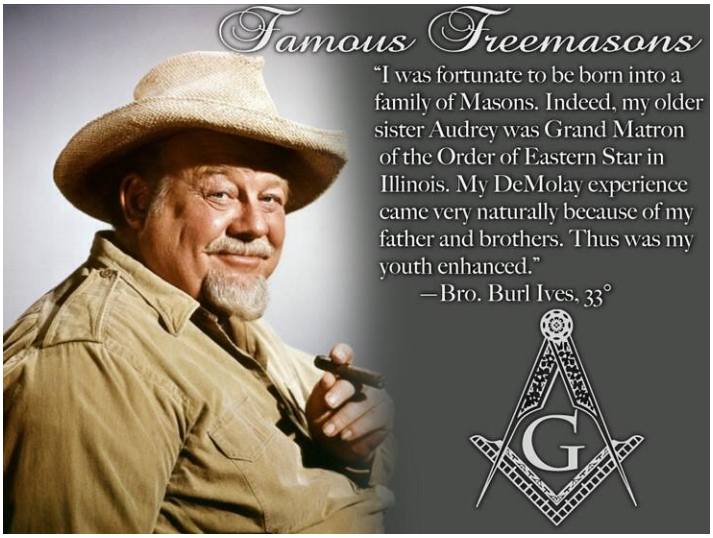




Good Cheer Report

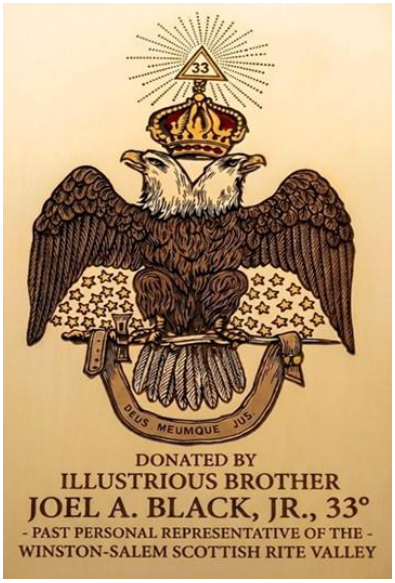
Congratulations to Brother Joel Black, Jr., who was recently presented with his 25-Year Scottish Rite Service Award. Well-done Brother!





Thank You!

A big thank-you to Brother Joel Black, Jr., who recently donated a large collection of Masonic and Scottish Rite books from his personal library to the Masonic Center of Winston-Salem.



Blue Lodge News



Scottish Rite Service Awards



Brethren… if you are a recipient of any Scottish Rite Service Award, the Valley is requesting that you wear your medals to our Stated Meetings, Reunions, and other Scottish Rite events. As a Valley, we would like the opportunity to honor our hard-working

2027 Scottish Rite D.C. Train Trip

Join your fellow Brothers for an unforgettable journey to Washington, D.C. aboard a scenic train trip from March 7 — 10, 2027. Learn more at https://www.ncscottishrite.org/news/traintrip

Reunion Booklet Request

Past Reunion Booklets Needed! We are asking for copies of past Scottish Rite Reunion Booklets from our Valley to scan for our historical records. If you have any of these booklets, please send an email to wssrnews@gmail.com. We will be glad to return these to you after scanning. Thank-you for helping preserve our Valley's history!

LOP Challenge Coin

In honor of the Lodge of Perfection's 100-year anniversary, the Winston-Salem Valley is selling a 100th anniversary coin as seen below. The price will be 2 for $20… purchase the 100th anniversary coin and get the 75th anniversary coin while they last.

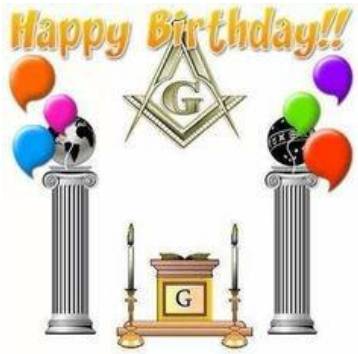




November Birthdays

November 1st… Laurence Cane
November 4th… Ted Huettel, Donald Marsh, Ronald Marsh
November 5th… David Longworth
November 6th… Thomas Erickson
November 7th… James Frye, Ellis Lineberry, Larry-Trivette
November 8th… Larry Campbell, Samuel Lipe
November 10th… Bob Helms, Pierson Holcombe, Robert Williard
November 13th… Bruce Pugh
November 16th… Jack Edwards, Martin Holder
November 21st… Newell Hauser, Richard Miller, Tommy Yarbrough
November 26th… William Greene
November 28th… Ray Parker, Phillip Smitherman
November 29th… Gordon Flanagan, Gordon Rogers

Happy Birthday Brothers!



Historical Photos Request

Historical photos from our Valley are requested to scan for our historical records. Please send an email to wssrnews@gmail.com. We will be glad to return these to you after scanning. Thank-you for helping preserve our Valley's history!

Hurricane Helene Relief

Donations to help those in Western, NC affected by Hurricane Helene can be made to the NC Masonic Foundation at: https://mfnc.org/how-to-give/invitation-to-give/

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Winston-Salem Valley Scottish Rite
Michael Fischer, General Secretary

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Email: secretary@winstonsalemscottishrite.org

RiteCare Scottish Rite Childhood Language Programs of North Carolina

The Charles E. & Geneva S. Scott Scottish Rite Communications Disorders Clinic
Appalachian State University
400 University Hall Drive
Boone, NC 28608
Phone: (828)-262-2185

Pat A. Anderson Reading Clinic
Appalachian State University
305G Reich College of Education
151 College Street
Boone, NC 28608
Phone: (828)-262-2182
https://rese.appstate.edu/reading-clinic

East Carolina University Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic
East Fifth Street
Greenville, NC 27858-4353
Phone: (252)-328-6131
www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/csd/clinic.cfm

Western Carolina University Speech and Hearing Clinic
Western Carolina Univ.; College of Health & Human Sciences;
Speech & Hearing Clinic
3971 Little Savannah Road
Cullowhee, NC 28723
Phone: 828-227-7251
https://www.wcu.edu/learn/departments-schools-colleges/HHS/csd/speech-and-hearing-clinic.aspx

Charlotte Speech & Hearing Center: Charlotte Clinic
817 E. Morehead St., Ste. 100,
Charlotte, NC 28202
Phone: (704)-520-8808
https://charlottespeechhearing.com/contact-us/

Websites of Interest

Winston-Salem Scottish Rite
www.winstonsalemscottishrite.org

WS Scottish Rite Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/groups/298141290271888/

The Scottish Rite in North Carolina
https://www.ncscottishrite.org

Winston-Salem Masonic Center
http://masoniccenterws.com

Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction
http://scottishrite.org

Scottish Rite, SJ Facebook Page
https://www.facebook.com/ScottishRiteFreemasonry