My brothers, I am excited that we have begun a New Year and with it a time for new beginnings and a renewing of our obligations. Re-obligation ceremonies remind us of our boundaries and responsibilities that we should never lose sight of. January is also a great time to review lodge by-laws and member contact information. It is wise to review by-laws early each year, following Grand Lodge, as our Constitution is often modified during the annual assembly, and it is important that our Lodge by-laws are not in conflict with those changes. Please note, if your by-laws do need to be modified, Article 11 (A) Powers, Section 2 of the Book of Constitution states that notices sent by mail or published in the Masonic Home Journal are the only two methods approved to notify members of the proposed amendments.

Please assist your lodge secretary in making sure he has your up-to-date contact information, including e-mail address. E-mail addresses are becoming more and more the preferred method of mass communication, this includes the electronic version of the Masonic Home Journal.

By now your District Deputy Grand Master has completed his first visit, has made sure the dates of the education presentations and district meetings are available, and reminded the secretary of the importance to report the new Lodge officers to the Grand Secretary’s office by January 10th. It is also important that lodge secretaries return the lodge information sheets to the D.D.G.M in a timely manner, this provides essential information on the status of the lodges in each district. I am requiring each D.D.G.M obtain a current hardcopy of the by-laws from every lodge in their district, I appreciate your assistance in getting this task completed. As a Reminder, it is the duty of each lodge Master to attend, or send his designated representative to, the Education, District meeting, and the annual Grand Lodge communication.

New this year are two Masonic history quizzes, supported by the Masonic Scholars Committee, and now available on the Grand Lodge website. These history quizzes were developed by M.W. Cloyd Bumgardner PGM, and the information comes from a book written by M.W. H.B. Grant PGM titled “Doings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky Free and Accepted Masons and Historical Data of Its Subordinates with Sketches of Past Grand Masters and Numerous Tables Statistical. 1800-1900”. My hope is that you will enjoy learning some history of our fraternity in Kentucky and use this as an education opportunity in your lodge. By all means, take these tests in a group setting, working together.

Your Grand Lodge officers and I look forward to visiting lodges as frequently as we can. If your lodge has an upcoming event, service pin presentation, anniversary celebration, or any other special event please forward this information to the office of the Grand Secretary as far in advance as possible. As always, “We are our Brothers Keeper” and remember our active-duty military and first responders in your thoughts and prayers.

Fraternally Thine,
E. Darren Wilson
Grand Master of Masons
Grand Lodge of Kentucky F&AM
Brother Jeremy Kifer Named Ambassador of the Year

At this year’s Grand Communication, Brother Jeremy Kifer, District 20 Ambassador, was honored as the Ambassador of the Year.

A Mason at Budford Lodge No. 494 and Past Master of Landmark Lodge No. 41, Brother Jeremy has been an engaged Ambassador for many years. He has taken his role as Ambassador with dedication, enthusiasm, and creativity, consistently looking for ways to inform and educate Kentucky’s Masons and others about Masonic.

Jeremy has an unselfish willingness to seek out more ways to help and further represent Masonic. This year, when neighboring Ambassador John Folden unexpectedly passed away, he went above and beyond his role and offered to represent the northern counties in District 21 along with his own district.

Masonic would like to extend congratulations and thanks to Brother Jeremy for committing his time and talent to Masonic’s residents and mission.

Emergency Planning Committee

In December’s edition, we wrote about the purpose of the Emergency Planning Committee. Still, we didn’t get too deep into why preparing for the unthinkable is necessary. It isn’t practical to develop well-laid plans for every possible scenario and outcome, however, some general action for an all-hazards model will put you in a better position than doing nothing at all. The level of preparedness really boils down to risk and how much we perceive as being tolerable. To practically illustrate risk, I carry various insurance coverages to protect against certain losses yet coverage for everything is unaffordable. Several important documents are kept in a vault that is not actually large enough to hold everything that should be there. How much risk a Lodge can tolerate will vary based on a number of factors and opinions. Several lodges impacted over the past year would advise you to allocate time now because we’re all vulnerable.

The first step to improving the Lodge’s preparedness is to take inventory of what matters most. Being that We Are Our Brother’s Keeper, it should come as no shock that what we value is people. Start small by acquiring a well-stocked first-aid kit and making sure that exits are properly marked and free from obstructions. Exchange emergency contact in case a brother becomes ill or is injured.

Second to people is our history and thereby property. Do you know where the water main shutoff is? That might be something to know if you walked into a building with a burst pipe. Discuss the particulars of your facility situation and document key contact numbers for the local emergency services, utility companies, and even the Officers. Neighbors are especially important if they are tenants of the Lodge’s building. Begin to assemble this information in a binder along with the emergency contacts and keep it all at a well-known location, such as the Secretary’s desk.

The Emergency Planning Committee has developed a Lodge Emergency Plan template to help with your discussions. This document is available in the Secretary downloads section of the Grand Lodge website. It is by no means an all-encompassing document but you should find it helpful as you move forward with this effort. Finally, let this be a gentle reminder that completion of the Lodge Safety Checklist is a requirement for the Grand Master’s Lodge of Excellence Award. The checklist is located in the District Deputy Handbook. Until next time–be safe.
The Craft at Work

Buford-Landmark #41 held a First Responder Breakfast on Friday, November 11 (Veterans Day). Over 50 of Woodford County’s First Responders were provided freshly made omelettes with rolls, juice, coffee, and milk. The Kentucky Poultry Federation provided funding for the event. MWGM Darrin Wilson & RWGJW Luke Martin were also in attendance. Pictured preparing omelettes are PM Andrew Chandler (Treasurer), PM Nathan Craig (Master), and PM Mike Ford (Secretary). Bro David Paul is shown inspecting the work.

Jeff Hill Master of Bush Lodge #703 and David Hibbitts, Secretary visited with Brother Homer Hampton. Brother Homer is the oldest living member of Bush Lodge, being 96 years old. Pictured here is Brother Hampton receiving his 70 year Service Award from Brother Jeff Hill. Brother David Hibbitts presented Brother Hampton with his 70 year Service Pin. Brother Hampton is also a WWII Veteran. Thank you Brother Hampton for your service to our Great Fraternity as well as our Great Nation.

On Veterans Day, Emulation #688 held a dinner honoring our Masonic Veterans, Widows, and Past Masters. Bro. Tony Smith and Bro. George Masters were presented their 25 year Masonic Service Awards by DDGM A. Wells, WM Lance Hamilton and VA David Scrogham.

The Legend of the Temple

The Society of Past Masters of Central Kentucky will confer “THE LEGEND OF THE TEMPLE” on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2023 at McNeil Lodge No. 586. 145 Ash St., Lebanon Junction. KY 40150. ALL MASTERS AND PAST MASTERS are invited. Also, election of officers.

EAT ........................................ 5:00 PM    MEET ........................................ 7:00 PM
On November 12th, Gateway Lodge #109 joined together to raise two Master Mason Brothers, WB Paul Word and WB Ricky Pernell (3rd & 4th from the left) at the District 18&19 Barn Razing. Well done Brothers. Right: Secretary & PM Charles Bucky Gurren presenting WB Paul Word his Grandfather’s Master Mason ring which was sent from Missouri.

Jeffersontown #774 makes $1300 donation to Jeffersontown Area Ministries to feed the hungry and needy families during the Thanksgiving Holiday. Representing Jeffersontown #774 are Charles Bowman, PM - Treasurer, George Kemp, PM - Junior Deacon and Chris Lockhart - Senior Warden.
Grand Lodge of Kentucky
Special Events for 2023

Veterans Golf Scramble: May 13, 2023
My Old Kentucky Home golf course
668 Loretto Road
Bardstown, Ky 40004
Stephen Logsdon 502-836-0448 / stephenlog@msn.com

Grand Master’s Motorcycle Ride: Date TBD
Olive Hill
Daniel Akers 606-791-8756
speed2172@yahoo.com

Grand Masters Sporting Clays: June 10, 2023
Sorghum Ridge Sporting Clays
110 Wilson Lane
Wickliffe, Ky 42087
Bobby Allen 270-559-9094 / bobbydallen73@yahoo.com

Grand Master’s Trail Ride: Date TBD
Justin Jackson 606-259-1010
mpd3620@gmail.com

Grand Lodge of Kentucky Masonic Care Car Show: July 15, 2023
Masonic Homes of Kentucky
3701 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, Ky 40207
Stephen Logsdon 502-836-0448 / stephenlog@msn.com

Western Ky ATV Ride: August 19, 2023
Madisonville ATV Park
Robert Knowles Cell 270-926-4516
knowleswr@bellsouth.net

Muddin with the Masons: Sept 25, 2023
Jellico Creek
Williamsberg, Ky
Jake Pennington 606-515-9429 / jwp40701@msn.com

Outdoor Degrees: Dates and Locations TBD
Tyler Holbrook 606-496-5154
tyler_holbrook09@hotmail.com

Look for postings in the MHJ and District Web Pages.
Stephen Logsdon, Chairman Special Events 502 836 0448
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite - Orient of Kentucky

Brethren,

Congratulations to our new Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden Luke Martin 32° KCCH, may your travels through the Grand Line of Kentucky Masons be a rewarding and meaningful journey.

Thinking of Masonic Journeys, how are your travels going? Are you attending your Blue Lodge on a somewhat regular basis? Brethren, we have to do what we can to support our Blue Lodge, the very foundation of Freemasonry. I hope to do better myself. Are you attending your Consistory Meetings? Your attendance and service are very much appreciated.

Check your Consistories Website, they may have their 2023 Calendar of Events posted. There are several opportunities to take your family for a nice dinner and Program. All you need to do is RSVP.

January is a month for renewal. Let’s renew our obligations to our Lodge and our Brothers. Is there a member of our Fraternity that you are at odds with? Now would be a good time to reach out and settle your differences amicably.

May our Heavenly Father Bless you and your Families. I sincerely hope and pray you had a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah!

Terry L. Bowman, PGM, 33°
SGIG, Orient of Kentucky

2022 Year in Review

Greetings from the Brothers of Western Kentucky: I hope your holidays were happy and blessed.

2022 started out as a year of recovery from the destructive tornadoes that struck in December of 2021. However, the love of God and charitable contributions made by the brothers throughout Kentucky, other states, and even other countries were outstanding. Our Consistory gladly donated our building as a distribution center and contributions were distributed.

Although it was painful to see the areas of our Commonwealth that were devastated by tornadoes and flooding, the brothers of West Kentucky Consistory refused to become discouraged. Choosing to focus on the blessings of charity and teamwork, we began to set some goals in 2022. Our first goal was a new refrigerator. The second to replace our zero turn lawn mower. (Pictured Brother Bruce Outlaw K.C.C.H. 32°)

A third goal was to seal and stripe our parking lot. Yet another goal was new griddles for the kitchen. (Pictured Brothers Jim Horn, 33° and Randy Ware, 33° after receiving new griddles from “Santa”)

Through the contributions of clubs and brothers we were successful in meeting all of our goals. Many of our brothers like to be anonymous in their giving. Instead, our celebration is in the collective efforts of many. Looking forward, the brothers of West Kentucky plan to continue setting and reaching for more and loftier goals. Although West Kentucky Consistory will be dark in January and February, plans are being made for a great year, and I am excited to see what 2023 has in store for us.

May GOD continue to bless you throughout this Holiday Season,

Douglas W. Bunch, 32° KCCH Personal Representative
Western Kentucky Scottish Rite, Valley of Madisonville
ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE - ORIENT OF KENTUCKY

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
ORIENT OF KENTUCKY

VALLEY OF LOUISVILLE
200 E. Gray Street, Louisville, KY 40202-2056
502-584-6185  502-584-6682
Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday Monthly - (Dark in August)
Dinner 6:30 pm - Meeting 7:30 pm

VALLEY OF LEXINGTON
553 Rosemont Garden, P.O.Box 8087,
Lexington, KY 40533
859-277-7856
Meets 3rd Thursday Monthly, March - December
Dinner 6:30 pm - Meeting 7:30 pm
(Dark in January & February)

VALLEY OF COVINGTON
1553 Madison Ave., Covington, KY 41011
859-431-0021  1-800-286-5053
Meets 3rd Friday Monthly, February-June / August-December
Dinner 6:30 pm - Meeting 7:30 pm
(Dark in January & July)

WEST KENTUCKY SCOTTISH RITE
668 Park Ave; P.O.Box 555, Madisonville KY 42431
270-821-5260  270-821-6212 fax
Meets 3rd Thursday Monthly, January - December

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
VALLEY OF LOUISVILLE

2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VALLEY OF LOUISVILLE REUNION SCHEDULE

ILL. JOHN E. MOYERS, 33° PGM
Spring Reunion,
Part I: March 4, 2023; 4° - 17°
Part II: June 10, 2023; 30° - 32°

ILL. JACK JONES EARLY, 33°
Summer Unity Reunion/Festival
York Rite Bodies - August 25, 2023
Scottish Rite - August 26, 2023

ILL. PAUL MELVIN MULLINS, 33°
Fall Reunion - October 27-28, 2023

JANUARY 2023
01 New Year’s Day Open House; 12:00 Noon - 2:00 pm
12 Master Craftman / Stated Meeting
Electon of Officers: Chapter / Consistory
18 33° Dinner
26 Stated Meeting (LOP) - Installation of Officers
Family Dinner

FEBRUARY 2023
09 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (KCCH)
Valentines Dinner
23 Stated Meeting (LOP) - Washington/Master Mason Night
3rd Section of the Master Mason Degree

MARCH 2023
04 SPRING REUNION; ILL. BRO. JOHN E. MOYERS, 33° PGM
Part I. 4° - 17°
09 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP)
Confere 18° (CRC)
23 Stated Meeting (CRC) - Open Meeting
Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal

APRIL 2023
13 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP)
Confere 20° (CRC)
19 33° Dinner
22 GL Districts 12, 13, & 14 Meeting @ 6:00 PM
27 Stated Meeting (LOC) Communicate 21-28°

MAY 2023
11 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP) Family Dinner;
Widows Night and SR Foundation Meeting
25 Stated Meeting - (LOP) Confere 29° (KSA)

JUNE 2023
08 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (CKK)
Flag Day Program, Family Dinner
10 Part II Reunion; 30°-32° / Family Dinner & Capping
22 Stated Meeting (KSA) Battle of Bannockburn Presentation

JULY 2023
13 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP)
19 33° Dinner
27 Stated Meeting (LOC)

AUGUST 2023 - DARK - NO STATED MEETINGS
AUGUST 25-26 UNITY REUNION/FESTIVAL

25 York Rite One Day Festival; York Rite Bodies
26 Scottish Rite One Day Reunion
ILL. BRO. JACK JONES EARLY 33°

SEPTEMBER 2023
14 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP)
Family Dinner; Service Awards
16 KSA Gala - (A Fund raising Event for S.R. Foundation)
28 Stated Meeting (LOC)

OCTOBER 2023
12 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP)
Family Dinner; Feast of Tishri
16-17 Grand Lodge 224th Annual Communication
18 33° Dinner
26 Stated Meeting (LOC)

27-28 FALL REUNION; ILL. BRO. PAUL MELVIN MULLINS, 33°

NOVEMBER 2023
09 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (AHF)
Family Dinner; Veteran Program
17-18 AASRHonours Weekends
23 Dark - Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER 2023
14 Master Craftsman / Stated Meeting (LOP) Guard Election
Family Dinner & Christmas Program
16 Guard’s Dinner
28 Dark - Holiday

JANUARY 2024
01 New Year’s Day Open House; 12:00 Noon - 2:00 pm
11 Stated Meeting - Election of Officers; Lodge / Council
THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
VALLEY OF LOUISVILLE, ORIENT OF KENTUCKY

Cordially invite you to attend;

THE ANNUAL NEW YEAR’S DAY RECEPTION
FOR ALL MASTER Masons

JANUARY 1, 2023 - 12:00 NOON UNTIL 2:00 PM

LOUISVILLE SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE
200 E. GRAY STREET - LOUISVILLE, KY 40202

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
FREE PARKING IN THE GARAGE ADJACENT TO THE TEMPLE.

PLEASE; ONLY ONE GLASS PER PERSON ATTENDING JANUARY 1, 2023.
SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED - PRESENT THIS CARD FOR YOUR SOUVENIR.

☐ PLEASE CHECK HERE IF INTERESTED IN JOINING THE SCOTTISH RITE

MEMBERS OF THE SCOTTISH RITE - SIGN HERE:
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Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite - Orient of Kentucky

Mission Statement
It is the mission of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, SJ, to improve its members and enhance the communities in which they live by teaching and emulating the principles of Brotherly Love, Tolerance, Charity, and Truth, while actively embracing high social, moral, and spiritual values, including fellowship, compassion, and dedication to God, family, and country.

Scottish Rite Creed
Human progress is our cause, liberty of thought our supreme wish, freedom of conscience our mission, and the guarantee of equal rights to all people everywhere our ultimate goal.

Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Terry Bowman 33° Scottish Rite Kentucky and the Louisville Scottish Rite Foundation, would like to invite you to the 2023 Louisville Scottish Rite Foundation Bowl-A-Rama. Our special guest on January 15, 2023 will be our Most Worshipful Grand Master of Kentucky; Darren Wilson. Please come and enjoy a day of tacos, strikes, charity and fellowship with our Grand Master.

Date: January 15, 2023
Time: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: KENBOWL LANES
7021 Kenwood drive, Louisville, ky 40214
Cost: $100.00 per bowler in sponsor fees

Please contact the Louisville Scottish Rite webpage to download a copy of the bowl-a-rama sponsor forms. Our Scottish Rite Foundation has been donating valuable Language development therapy for children in our community since 1979, please email to sign-up and download and print your sponsor sheets. info@Louisvillescottishrite.com

Spending New Year’s Eve with Masonic Friends? Perhaps at the midnight hour, you may want to forego singing the traditional “Auld Lang Syne” written by Brother Robert Burns, and sing together the Masonic version. Rob Morris, Past Grand Master of Kentucky wrote a variation of Brother Robert Burns’ original “Auld Lang Syne” poem. Both authors were named at different times, “Poet Laureate of Freemasonry”, and are the only two, ever so named. Here is Brother Morris’s version, titled “Masonic Auld Lang Syne”

Masonic Auld Lang Syne
By Rob Morris, PGM of Kentucky, Poet Laureate of Freemasonry

We do not sigh for pleasures put, - Nor fondly, vainly pine; Yet let us give one memory - To Auld Lang Syne.

Masonic Library and Museum Association Covington Scottish Rite
“I Didn’t Know That……”

With Gavel, Trowel, Gauge, we work, - With Level, Square, and Line; Come, Join the Chain of Love, and sing - Of Auld Lang Syne!

For Auld Lang Syne, my dear; - For Auld Lang Syne; Ah, who like us can sing the days - Of Auld Lang Syne! ‘Twas sweet when evening’s shadow’s fell - How bright our Lights did shine! Down from the East to hear the words - Of Auld Lang Syne.

The ‘Prentice knocked with trembling hand, - The Craft sought Oil and Wine, The Master stood, and nobly fell, - In Auld Lang Syne. With step so true, with form upright, - We drew the Grand Design; ‘Twas well we knew “to square the work,” - In Auld Lang Syne.

A tear to them, The Early Dead, - Fond memory would consign: We dropped the green sprig o’er their head, - In Auld Lang Syne. And till the Master call us hence - To join the Lodge Divine, Let’s somertimes give a grateful thought - To Auld Lang Syne!

……………What do you think?

Happy New Year Brothers, from the Board of Directors of the Masonic Library and Museum Association of Covington Scottish Rite! Make yourself a New Year’s Resolution to stop by and visit your Library at least once a month! We have the greatest selection of Masonic books and magazines in the Tri-State area. The Library is open on the first and third Tuesday each month from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and every Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Can’t make these hours? Email for an appointment. You will be glad you did! Bill Lorenz, Librarian: library.covsr@outlook.com
Saturday, November 12th, 2022 Bradford Lodge #123 in Independence held its first annual Barn Raising. 72 brothers from 3 Districts and 9 lodges helped raise 10 FC to the Sublime Degree of a MM. Bean soup and cornbread were served to warm the brothers in attendance. All those who participated can now say, “They know a Brother who was raised in a barn!”.

27 January 1973
Vietnam War Cease Fire

Flag Etiquette
Beginning in February we’ll review Flag Etiquette. June 14th is Flag Day celebrating the anniversary of when the United States adopted its official flag, let’s be ready to celebrate!
A family-owned funeral home with deep roots in the community.

We’ve been chosen by families who have lived here for generations – folks who have come to know and trust us over the years.
You see, unlike funeral homes owned by faraway corporations, we have a commitment to this community.
After all, our roots are here.

Highlands
Family-Owned Funeral Home
Owned by the Owen and Wagner families
3381 Taylorsville Rd, Louisville
502-451-4420
highlandsfuneralhome.com

Call for our free brochure. Why Choose A Family-Owned Firm?
Buford Landmark Lodge #41 presented the Woodford County School’s Family Resource Office with $15,000 to be used in the Back-Pack Program. This program provides food for over 450 children of Woodford County on weekends and throughout the summer months. These monies are the proceeds of the Woodford County Masons for Charity Golf Scramble that is held each year. Pictured accepting the $15,000 Check are (L to R) Celine Galvan, Deann Watts, Mallory White, and Jasmine Hazelwood. Master Nathan Craig is presenting the check on behalf of Buford Landmark Lodge #41. Photograph Submitted by Mike Ford.