

# The Double Eagle

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE  
Valley of Indianapolis



Volume 59, Number 1

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Mar 2009

## On the Road in Kokomo



On a brisk Saturday in February, cast and officers of the Indianapolis Valley travelled by motor coach to Kokomo to confer the Scottish Rite degrees upon 13 candidates. The Brothers of Howard Lodge #93 hosted the event in their beautiful building and were assisted by their ladies in serving a scrumptious lunch. Taking these degrees "on the road" presents some logistical and staging challenges, but the work was well performed and well received.



## How to Build a Membership

# Redefining Your Membership Experience

*Scottish Rite for the 21st Century* is a prospective member DVD available to show to prospects who are considering membership in the Scottish Rite. It includes several stories about the benefits of membership, organizational history, degrees, and charities. You can preview a portion of this DVD at [www.joinscottishrite.org](http://www.joinscottishrite.org) and copies are available by calling the Valley membership office. I recommend it to your attention.

Just what does Scottish Rite look like in the 21st Century and why should you be excited about the future of your fraternity? First and foremost, every Valley program is evaluated to make sure it is convenient, inspirational and enjoyable. If you have not participated in a while, you may be surprised at the types of activities being offered and the varied opportunities to receive the degrees.

The Valley has recently begun performing degrees at times other than the semi-annual convocations and reunions and at locations other than the Cathedral. The recent class of new members at Kokomo is a prime example of making the degree work convenient to those who live at some distance from Indianapolis. Participation in Grand Master's one day classes, like the one at the Cathedral on April 4th, also allows new members to receive the degrees in a more convenient time frame. Degree exemplifications after stated meetings are both inspirational and provide the enjoyable opportunity to fellowship with members of all ages and experience. Of the 100 new members initiated last fall, 49 began their Scottish Rite journey a few months prior to the regular November convocation.

A recent survey of a selected group of our members found that 85% value their membership, but that nearly one-half found it difficult to participate due to work or family commitments. The Valley officers are responding with new events to address these concerns, including plans for some Family Life events outside the Cathedral and providing more childcare during events while enhancing many current events proven to be attractive to a broad base of our membership. The recent Sweetheart Dinner Dance filled the Ballroom to capacity with free dinner to members and outstanding entertainment. The annual Cathedral seating for the 500 Festival Parade has sold out for the 7th consecutive year nearly 90 days prior to the event. The Murder Mystery Dinner Theater is near capacity and a dedicated cast is preparing for presentation of the March play – available to members and their guests with evening and matinee performances.



The Valley is constantly evaluating how to make your participation convenient, inspirational and enjoyable. Let us hear ideas from you to enhance your membership experience.

*Jeffrey K. Saunders*

Executive Director

## The Double Eagle

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**Best Publication  
Category V**

(Valleys with 5,000+ members)

**2001 - 2007**





Several members of the Fall Class of 2008 attended the February 4<sup>th</sup> stated meeting and received their 32<sup>nd</sup> degree diploma. In addition to those shown here, two new members were already busy and in the cast of the 17<sup>th</sup> degree that was portrayed for the members at the stated meeting. Members of the Executive Committee who signed their diplomas and are seated in front (left to right): Tim Hopewell, MSA; Jon Elrod; Gary Brinley; Chuck Wood; and, Jeff Karnes.

## Abbott Scholarships

The deadline for receiving applications for college scholarships is April 1, 2008. The Abbott Scholarships are named for



Leon M Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council from 1921 to 1932. Allocations are made to each Valley on the basis on participation in the annual “blue envelope” appeal and the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis Foundation provides additional scholarship funds, making the total available to Valley affiliated applicants of \$34,000. Eligibility

requirements include the following:

- A currently enrolled sophomore, junior or senior at an accredited college or university.
- A minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- A child or grandchild of a member of the Valley of Indianapolis.

The following are also eligible:

- A member of a youth organization sponsored by the Masonic fraternity - Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
- A graduate of the Indianapolis 32nd degree Masonic Learning Center for Children.

Call Donna Cofer in the Valley office for applications or download an application at [www.supremecouncil.org](http://www.supremecouncil.org)

## Memorial Gifts

### In memory of Robert E. Hancock, Jr.

Broad Ripple 57 Club, Deo T. Carter, Gale W. Conley, J. Mark Dill, John W. Duncan, Rex D. Fleenor, Bill Gloye, Ray & Delores Gotshall, Marilyn Halbrook, Alan & Katherine May, Roger R. Mosser, Russ Murphy, & Murat Shrine Divan.

### In memory of Willard Clutter

Anonymous, Deo T. Carter, Century Lodge #764, Vera B. Chandler, Carlton E. Curry, Robert Danielson, J. S. DeMond, John W. Duncan, Benjamin Elrod, Robert G. Elrod, Scott Gibb, Bill Gloye, Teresa E. Gunst, Douglas F. Hegyi, John L. Huber, Lawrence V. Kaminsky, Daniel G. Leaman, Linda C. Long, Thomas J. Mark, Mary C. Morrison, Richard D. Muir, Russ Murphy, Noblesville York Rite Bodies, Jon M. B. Porter, Sagamore Valley College #133, James J. Schaffer, Jr., Thomas Shrock, Ronald D. Simpson, Christopher J. Swatts, & John D. Swick.

### In memory of Eugene Yockey

Charles F. Butler, John W. Duncan, & Richard D. Muir.

### In memory of Maxine Ewbank Lee

Thomas Shrock

Do you know what year the *Amos and Andy Show* made its debut on radio? When were the first Academy Awards presented? When did Guy Lombardo first perform *Auld Lang Syne*? What year did the first baseball team (Yankees) put numbers on their jerseys? In what year do you think Bo Schembechler, Arnold Palmer, Grace Kelly, Dick Clark, and Audrey Hepburn were born?



**Mark Dill**  
*Director of Major Gifts*

Answer to all these events: 1929 -- the same year your Scottish Rite Cathedral was dedicated. Eighty years is a long time and quite a significant milestone for any person, place or thing to achieve. Looking at our history since 1929, the brothers who sustained your Scottish Rite Cathedral in those early years faced much more difficult economic times than today's challenges and should be regarded as our heroes. In 2009 we should consider it our responsibility to shoulder the obligation before us so future brethren may enjoy this magnificent building as we do today.

# Campaign for the Cathedral

In early May, the Indianapolis Scottish Rite Cathedral Foundation will be sending a direct mail appeal letter asking for donations to help support your Scottish Rite Cathedral. As in past appeals, there will be several options for different donation amounts, but perhaps you might offer a gift of \$80 as a birthday present to your Scottish Rite Cathedral when you receive this appeal. Thank-you for your consideration and enjoy your Birthday Year.



**Ronald Sparks**  
*Field Representative*

## Stage Gets Work



*The Trustees are always busy keeping our Cathedral up-to-date with needed repairs and renovations. This month they authorized refinishing the stage floor. From this picture it may be hard to recognize the scope of this project that will take three weeks to accomplish. All of the props, lights, and equipment had to be removed and a plastic tent was created to protect the auditorium from all of the sawdust.*

## Ritual and Stage Seminar Series

Would you like to become a better ritualist in the lodge, or a better actor on the stage? Would you like to get involved in Convocation, either on-stage or backstage? Then come join us for some tips, tricks, and helpful hints on:

- May 13 -- 7 pm - Memorization tips and techniques. How to present ritual.
- May 27 -- 7 pm - Acting on stage, speaking, movement, and positioning
- June 10 -- 7 pm - Backstage, props, tech, make-up, and wardrobe

Each session will last about an hour with time for questions & answers and fellowship.

# How Many 'Friends' Do You Have?

How many times have you heard someone say; "If I had only known about it, I would have been there!"? It seems as if we are becoming so busy in our daily lives, we don't take the time to even keep up with what is happening all around us.



*Richard D. Swell*  
 Director Membership Services

In this electronic age of cell phones, smart phones, email and internet, we are becoming dependant on them to keep us informed of everything from our grocery lists, to the things we have to do today, tomorrow and next month. Webster's New World Dictionary defines "communication" as: 1 To impart; transmit. 2 to give or exchange information.

Communication or the lack of communication has been called the number one reason for problems at home, in the workplace, in the church as well as in our social and fraternal groups.

In the most recent issue of the *Indiana Freemason* magazine, Brother Randy Zentz wrote an article regarding the various types of social networking vehicles available to us. The Valley of Indianapolis has taken a proactive approach and a group has been formed on *Facebook*. To become an active participant in this group all you have to do is go to [facebook.com](http://facebook.com) and create a profile, and then search the "groups" for Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis. You will be surprised how many of your friends and Lodge brothers have already enrolled. As a member of this group you will be able to take part in informal discussions on just about any topic. We will also be able to use this vehicle as a means of communicating with a large number of our members on a regular basis.

I would encourage each of you who are not a part of this new technology to check it out. With the available privacy settings, you decide who can see your profile. You can even set up a group for your Lodge as many have already done.

I will be happy to assist you with setting up your profile or creating your group. Call me at 317-262-3122.

## April 16-18 Convocation & Reunion

honoring III Ted E. Kaptain, 33° & Kenneth G. Hill, 33° Class

### Adoniram Lodge of Perfection Degrees

Thursday 6:30 pm	Oath of Fealty
4°	Master Traveler
8°	Intendant of the Building
14°	Grand Elect Mason

### Saraiah Council of Princes of Jerusalem Degrees

Friday 6 pm	Dinner & 16° Prince of Jerusalem (conferred in the Banquet Hall)
15°	Knight of the East

### Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix Degrees

Friday 8 pm	18°	Knight of the Rose Croix
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### Indiana Consistory Degrees

Saturday 9:30 am	29°	Knight of St. Andrew
	25°	Master of Achievement
11:30 pm		Lunch
1 pm	20°	Master ad Vitum
	31°	Knight Aspirant
	32°	Sublime Prince Royal Secret

Volunteer to help the Make-up and Chorus departments!

# Tea for Two Hundred: A Mother's Day Celebration

**An Afternoon of Tea and Fashion  
Saturday, May 9 at 11 am**

The Tea and Fashion Show is being presented to help raise funds for the Scottish Rite Learning Center, where children with dyslexia are learning to become successful and confident students through after school tutoring, provided at no charge to their families.

What a wonderful opportunity to visit the historic and beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral and treat a mother/friend in your life to a tea luncheon and fashion show including a Silent Auction.

Cost: \$30 per person  
Reservations required by April 24  
Call Donna at 317-262-3100 ext 228

This event benefits children with dyslexia who become successful and confident students through the after-school tutoring program provided by the Masonic Learning Center with no charge to their families. Share this very special afternoon with your mother or friends

•10:00 – Sip and See opens on the Mezzanine for shopping at the marketplace, relaxing with a sip of tea or coffee and viewing the lovely decorated tables below in the Banquet Hall

•11:30 – Silent Auction begins on the Banquet Hall with Vicky Murphy, WFMS 95.5 returning as our celebrity announcer followed by the Scottish Rite men in black tuxedos serving the luncheon.

Fashion Show by Coldwater Creek  
Catering by Thomas Caterers of Distinction  
Luncheon Waiters by the Men of the Scottish Rite

# Coming "Rite" Up

## Cathedral Hour

On Saturday, April 11 at 7 pm, the Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix will hold a Cathedral Hour Service to celebrate Holy Week. An outstanding speaker will bring us the Holy Week message along with a splendid musical program presented by the Scottish Rite Chorus. A brief and impressive memorial service will be conducted for deceased brethren. The Scottish Rite is again happy to join with the Knights Templar Commanderies of the Valley in the observance of Holy Week. Scottish Rite members, Master Masons, their families and friends are cordially invited. No tickets required.

## Orchestra & Chorus



On Sunday, March 29th at 3 pm, the Scottish Rite Orchestra will present a delightful afternoon of music for your entertainment. FREE for all members and their guests.

On Sunday, May 3 at 3 pm, join us for a new event: a Chorus Concert featuring the Scottish Rite Chorus and the Murat Shrine Chanters. FREE to all members and their guests.

## 500 Festival Parade

Saturday, May 23 – 12 noon. The Scottish Rite is again offering reserved seats on the Meridian Street steps for its members for the annual 500 Festival Parade. Tickets are \$12.50 per person and includes reserved parking in the West lot, reserved seating, and a box lunch and drink. Limit of 6 tickets per member. Take advantage of this great opportunity to see all the floats, bands, and drivers from your very own seat. Rest room facilities within the Cathedral will be available. This year we have added a new bleacher section.



**Now Sold Out!**

## Theatre of Performing Arts



## Our Spring Play

*Take A Number Darling* is the featured Spring Play. Since concert pianist Duncan Latimer and wife, Ellen, famous soap opera star, lead impeccable live, their P.R. lady has no qualms over having a reporter from a scandal magazine interview them. But just before he arrives, so does Duncan's old Navy buddy and Ellen's former lover from her literally messy past and so does an extra wife Duncan forgot to tell anyone about. It's crazy and comical confusion all the way.

March 20, 21, 27 & 28 at 7:30 pm  
Saturday, March 28 at 3 pm

## April 27<sup>th</sup> Spring Golf Outing

The Indianapolis Valley Golf Outing will be held on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> with a shotgun start at 8 am. It will be held at West Chase Golf Course in Brownsburg. Cost is \$60 per person and includes cart & lunch at the golf club. For further info and to register by April 18<sup>th</sup>, call Dennis Coltart at 317-338-4596.



## Through the Cathedral Window

# The Decline & Death of the Daily

by Jerry B Collins, 33°, Editor

Fewer and fewer people pick up the newspaper each day. This is especially true of young people, who clearly have not been ingrained with the habit of a daily newspaper. They are much more inclined to get their news online and get it fast. Accordingly, the percentage of adults who read daily newspapers has fallen from 81% in 1964 to just 52% in 2006.

Before the early 1990's the newspaper industry was doing very well, earning monopoly-like returns. Here's an excerpt from Berkshire Hathaway's 1991 letter to shareholders, explaining why newspapers thrived up to this point: *"For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, newspapers were the primary source of information for the American public. Whether the subject was sports, finance, or politics, newspapers reigned supreme. Just as important, their ads were the easiest way to find job opportunities or to learn the price of groceries at your town's supermarkets.*

*The great majority of families therefore felt the need for a paper every day, but understandably most didn't wish to pay for two. Advertisers preferred the paper with the most circulation, and readers tended to want the paper with the most ads and news pages. This circularity led to a law of the newspaper jungle: Survival of the Fattest.*

*Thus, when two or more papers existed in a major city (which was the case a century ago), the one that pulled ahead usually emerged as the stand-alone winner. After competition disappeared, the paper's pricing power in both advertising and circulation was unleashed. Rates for both advertisers and readers would be raised annually – and the profits rolled in. For owners this was economic heaven."*

In the post-World War II world of one-paper monopoly towns, owners grew fat and lazy on profit margins that ranged from 30 to 40% – a level of effortless profitability that made leaders in other industries weep. Traditional newspapers are a dying business, a victim principally of the Internet which is routinely fingered as the culprit for declining newspaper fortunes, due primarily to advertising losses. The newspaper industry's economic decline began several years ago and the

loss of readership has contributed to massive layoffs. High delivery and newsprint costs have compounded those losses.

Every newspaper across the country has been hit hard by the crisis: *The Chicago Tribune* and *The Los Angeles Times*, declared bankruptcy in late 2008. The *San Francisco Chronicle* is up for sale and last month the *Denver Post* ceased operations. These dailies are four of the 20 largest newspapers in the United States. This contraction of print media isn't just confined to dailies. Just five months after saying it would drop its frequency to every other week, *US News & World Report* has now decided instead to become a monthly magazine.



About six months ago, I finally quit the local paper. Traditional sections of the paper had often been reduced to a single sheet of paper folded in two. Advertising appeared on the front page (yes, I am a purist) and the puzzles became so small I couldn't work them without first enlarging them on a copier. Seemingly two-thirds of each inside page was covered with ads. I have often referred to the local newspaper as the "ad-paper." I have never appreciated the emergence of liberal bias since Gannett purchased the paper a few years ago. As the 34<sup>th</sup> largest daily serving the 14<sup>th</sup> largest city, apparently other Hoosiers felt the same.

As owner of 85 daily newspapers in the US, Gannett recently announced a mandatory one-week furlough of its employees as financial realities continue to squeeze the life out of the industry like a boa relentlessly constricts the lifeblood out of its prey.

I now get my news online but I am not entirely happy with the format since the medium feels compelled to assault my eyes with jittery flashing ads that are obnoxious enough to induce an epileptic attack. I will nonetheless lament the eventual fall of our city's newspaper as the written record of our community. I just have to wonder: if newspaper survival depends on older traditional readers who are demographically more conservative, why are the owners bent on pushing the liberal viewpoint to their peril?