



Fall Reunion Entertainment!

The Valley of Bloomington is pleased to bring you Comedian Royce Elliott following the Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening.



America's Funniest Clean Comedian/Speaker Humorist, Royce Elliott appears regularly in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Atlantic City, as well as many other venues in the U.S. and Canada.

Royce Elliott's television credits include The Ralph Emory Show, Nashville Now, Crook and Chase, Music City Tonight, The Statler Brothers, several appearances on sports shows, i.e. Doug Buffone's in Chicago.

Royce Elliott is a dedicated family man with 4 children. Royce Elliott is known throughout the entertainment community as The Cleanest Comedian This Side of Heaven.

Fall Reunion — Make Your Plans Now

Now is the time to begin to plan for the Fall Reunion. This is your time to renew old acquaintances and make new friends.

The schedule for this reunion is:

Friday, November 21, 2003

5:30 pm — Dinner

6:30 pm — 12° Grand Master Architect

7:25 pm — 14° Grand Elect Mason

Saturday, November 22, 2003

8:30 am — 15° Knight of the East or Sword

9:55 am — 18° Knight of Rose Croix

11:30 am — Lunch

1:00 pm — 26° Prince of Mercy
"Lincoln Degree"

2:15 pm — 31° Grand Inspector
Inquisitor Commander

3:30 pm — Ladies Program (see pg. 3
for more info)

3:45 pm — 32° Sublime Prince of the
Royal Secret

6:00 pm — Banquet (Royce Elliott —
Entertainment. See story
above for more info on
Royce)

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Special points of interest:

- *New 33rd Designee Chosen*
- *Fall Reunion*
- *Know what you are selling when you talk membership*
- *Ladies Program for Fall Reunion*
- *Learn more about the local Masons*
- *New Grand Commander at Supreme Council*

Commander-in-Chief Corner — Report on Supreme Council



Seventeen brothers and ladies from the Valley of Bloomington had the privilege of attending Supreme Council session on

September 21 through 23 in the great city of St. Louis, Missouri. We were located at the Adam's Mark, headquarters hotel for this year's session, which provided a great view of the Arch and downtown as well as a great location for us to reach any number of places for a taste of St. Louis and site seeing between session activities.

The session started on Sunday evening with Vespers Service in the St. Louis room at the Adam's Mark Hotel with a sermon from the Reverend Jack Swank, 32°, Minister of the O'Fallon United Methodist Church assisted by Ill. and Reverend Kenneth V. Kettlewell, 33° of the Heritage Presbyterian Church, Centerville, Ohio.

The service was followed by the continued tradition of a Valley of Bloomington Dinner. In the absence of a candidate, Tena planned and hosted this year's dinner at Carmines Steak House, just a few blocks from the Adam's Mark hotel. Special thank you to Tena for a great evening and job well done.

Monday morning was the traditional business meeting for introduction of distinguished

guests and reports followed by the afternoon's session bringing the announcement of Illustrious Brother Walter E. Webber, 33° of Maine as the new Sovereign Grand Commander for the N.M.J. Brother Webber is replacing Ill. Brother Robert O. Ralston, 33° who, after serving ten years as Sovereign Grand Commander, announced last year of his plans to take early retirement. Ill. Brother Webber thanked Brother Ralston for his Service, showed a film recapping Ralston's service, and all wished him the best in his future endeavors.

Also elected to the position of Grand Lt. Commander was Illustrious Brother Lawrence D. Inglis, 33° from the Valley of Chicago. He was also awarded the "Medal of Honor" by Supreme Council for his Service.

The Valley of Southern Illinois hosted this session and I'm pleased to say that we were invited to assist them in their efforts. We ushered at the Monday evening entertainment of the St. Louis Theatre Musicians Orchestra and again at the 33° Degree Conferral on Tuesday afternoon. Thanks to all who helped with this.

The Illinois Dinner on Tuesday evening is the final event. The newly created 33° members and their ladies from Illinois are introduced, greeted and seated at their respective valley tables. We were pleased to have David

W. Miller, R.W. Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois as our guest speaker for the evening. The evening concluded with the announcement of next year's 33° recipients by Deputy Phil Kenny. We were pleased to hear the name of Jim L. Grimm, Past Thrice Potent Master as the recipient from the Valley of Bloomington for next year's session in Milwaukee, WI. Please extend your congratulations to Jim and Barbara the next time you see them.

In closing, the theme for our fall reunion on November 21-22 is "Friend to Friend." With permission from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania who uses this logo as a membership tool, I believe it makes for a perfect theme for our reunion. I invite all to come and be a part of this reunion, to come and watch the degrees, to renew old friendships, make new ones, to attend the banquet, to witness the capping of our newest M.S.A., Jim Cloyd, to enjoy the entertainment, to be a part of the friendship that sets our fraternity apart from any other in the world.

In Friendship and Brotherly Love,

Michael R. Fowler, 33°
Commander-in-Chief

**To the Ladies of the Valley of Bloomington
You are Cordially Invited to Attend**

“Beautiful Hats at Tea”

A program presenting the history of fashion and hats that spans a fifty-year history. Tea etiquette will be discussed and presented with a fashion show of hats!

Saturday, November 22, 2003 — 3:30pm

The Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts

All Attendees are encouraged to wear their best hat for tea!



Red Hat Society

Have you ever read the poem by Jenny Joseph titled

“Warning”

which begins:

*“When I am an old woman I shall wear purple
With a red hat which doesn’t go and doesn’t suit me.”*

The ladies of the Scottish Rite and Friends are invited to attend an organizational meeting following our above program for the beginning of our own social group where we will be creating our own chapter within

The Red Hat Society!

Our chapter will consist of an outing every few months where the member will be encouraged to dress according to their status. Status is as follows:

Age over 50: ***Red hats with Purple attire***
Age under 50: ***Pink Hats with Lavender attire***

The more outrageous the hat, the more outrageously fun the events will be!

We believe silliness is the comedy relief of life, and since we are all in it together, we might as well go for the gusto!

Program and meeting will be followed by a light reception

Upcoming Events

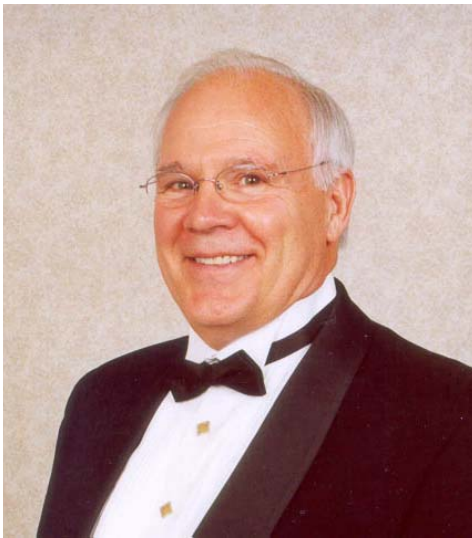
| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 2003 | 4 21-22 | Stated Meeting - Mt. Calvary Chapter Presides Fall Reunion |
| December 2003 | 2 7 TBD 1-31 | Stated Meeting - Bloomington Consistory Presides D.D.D. Club Christmas Dinner Bell Ringing - Chapter Line Chair Mobile Meals - Charitable Committee Chair |
| January 2004 | 6 10 | Stated Meeting - Lodge of Perfection Presides Blood Drive - Council Line Chair |
| February 2004 | 3 14 | Stated Meeting - Zerubbabel Council Presides Valentine's Day Dinner - Consistory Line Chair |
| March 2004 | 2 | Stated Meeting - Mt. Calvary Chapter Presides |
| April 2004 | 4 6 TBD 11 | Feast of the Paschal Lamb - Chapter Line Chair Stated Meeting - Bloomington Consistory Presides Consistory Line Dinner Easter Sunday |
| May 2004 | 14-15 | Spring Reunion |



Canned Food Drive!

The Rose Croix Chapter, in a joint effort with the local lodges and other appendant bodies of Bloomington-Normal, is sponsoring a Canned Food Drive from 10 am to 4 pm on **October 25, 2003 at the Bloomington Masonic Temple, 302 E. Jefferson Street, Bloomington.** Stop by and drop off your donation of canned goods. If you have any questions please give Bill Tanner, Event Chairman a call.

New 33rd Degree Designee Named at Supreme Council



Jim Grimm, Thrice Potent Master of the Bloomington Lodge of Perfection was selected to receive the 33rd Degree in Milwaukee, Wi., in 2004.

Jim, a resident of Normal, IL has served the Valley as Marketing Director and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee. In addition, he has served Normal Lodge #673 as Master and the Grand Lodge of Illinois as Chairman of the Coins for Children Committee.

Valley Leadership Changes

Due to work schedule changes there have been several resignations in the leadership of the Bloomington Lodge of Perfection. Hugh Evans and Eric Anders have found that work commitments do not allow them to spend the time they felt was necessary to lead the Lodge of Perfection. Because of this, Jim Grimm, Past Thrice Potent Master was asked to resume that office and help to lead the Lodge for the remainder of the year.

Jim asks for your help in continuing the fine work of the Lodge in taking the Valley forward. Officers of the Lodge will be hearing more about the plans for the remainder of the year in the next several weeks.

Join the Valley in thanking Hugh and Eric for the service they have given in the past several years, and pledge your help to Jim as he leads the Lodge during the next year.

Do you know what you are selling? — John Dorner

As the Fall reunion is quickly coming up on us, I thought it would be helpful to write about how you ask a potential candidate to join the Fraternity. It sounds so simple, but often times we completely mess the process up, by moving to slowly, moving to quickly or just failing to move at all. Recruitment is sales, plain and simple and can be broken down into five easy steps. You can use them to ask members to join the Scottish Rite, or to just consider joining the Blue Lodge. Either way, it is a skill many of us use regularly without even knowing we are doing it.

"The greatest collateral within a Fraternity is the man. Sell the individual man - this is the lifeline of the Fraternity." - Unknown

Everyone wants to be associated with something successful, so first evaluate the experience being provided by the Fraternity today. Hopefully, you will discover in that self-reflection something that you or anyone could be proud to be associated with. That is the key to selling the idea of the Scottish Rite, or in general anything to anyone.

So let's start with the responsibility of individual members. How often have we heard (and said), "We'll be fine if everybody goes out and gets a man"? That sounds great when the membership chairman uses it at the meeting - short, simple and - catchy. But in reality, it rarely works. What happens is that everyone is made responsible and, therefore, no one is ultimately responsible. "Nobody will miss my little part," one brother thinks. Then a second brother gets the same idea, then the members who are capable of doing more settle for the one man they are asked to get, and so on, until, once again, the Fraternity

fails to meet its needs. If you find yourself in this category (and we all do at some point), concentrate your efforts on helping others who are actively working to find new members by helping them to identify

potential candidates, or support their recruitment efforts.

Before I get into the basic five steps, there are some ground rules to recruitment

that should be reviewed:

- Be outgoing and assertive - Do not expect prospective brothers to come to you. Go to them. Bring them to your member events. Stay in contact.
- Expand the prospective member base - Recognize that all non-Masonic men are potential brothers, not just those who ask us to join. Do not limit your efforts to those who are already masons, we have the opportunity to bring masonry to someone who does not even know we exist.

Develop a "recruiting mentality" - Do not recruit only during certain time periods. Be prepared to find new members year-round, not just when a reunion comes

around. Never give up on a man. If you can't get someone you know is right for Masonry to join, try introducing him to another member and "hand the ball off." It could be as simple as having the right member ask him to join.

THE FIVE-STEP PROCESS

Meeting and making new friends is 90% of the effort needed to get a

man to join our Fraternity. Once you have made a friend, the next part of selling your product - Masonry and Scottish Rite - is the easy part. The five-step process is:

1. Meet him.
2. Make him a friend.
3. Introduce him to your friends.
4. Introduce him to the Fraternity
5. Ask him to join.

Many time we mistakenly skip the first three steps. Brothers fail to establish the friendships upon which Fraternity is built. It is a common trap, and one that has chased men away from Masonry and the Scottish Rite.

For men who are already Masons, meeting him and making him a friend should be simple, but for non-Masons they are critical steps. Regardless of his affiliation, it is critical that you establish yourself with a potential member at each step.

The concept is simple; remove the barriers and make friends.

"Those organizations that believe in the Field of Dreams approach to recruitment ("build it and they will come") will continue to struggle in the recruitment of anyone." - Unknown

It is only natural that you will not develop a friendship with everyone you meet. Nor is it natural that you will introduce every one of your

new friends to each of your fraternity brothers. You may even decide that a few of your friends are not right for Masonry. You can also be sure that not everyone who you invite to join will join. You will lose people at each and every step. Therefore, the more people you meet, the more men who will carry on to the ultimate step - joining Masonry and the Scottish Rite.

Blue Lodge Happenings — News from the Sixth Eastern District

by Al House — DDGM

Another Grand Lodge session is almost upon us and the Mason's of the Sixth Eastern District have enjoyed a productive year, full of fraternal associations and service to their communities. In reviewing the past year it is especially gratifying to note that five lodges participated in the Lodge Officers Competition: Normal 673, Bloomington 43, Danvers 742, Wade Barney 512, and Comet 641. Comet won the competition for the district and came in second for the area in competition in Decatur. This level of participation was an increase from the average of the past several years and reflects the enthusiasm of fine officer cores. Bloomington and Normal lodges are also to be congratulated on participating in the Grand Master's Award of Excellence program.

The past year also saw an increase in the number of lodges participating in the Masonic Community Days period. This annual event has become an excellent vehicle to increase public awareness of Freemasonry and the positive impact on their communities of so many lodges. From two lodges participating in the initial year of 2002, the past summer saw four of our eight lodges put on community events during the period of Masonic Community Days: Bloomington 43, LeRoy 221, Normal 673, and Wade Barney 512. All lodges should begin planning now to take advantage of this

coordinated period of Masonic activity to let your community know more about the fraternity and all the positive ways we work in our world.

As is often the case in individual lives, the past year brought turning events, both joyful and sad, to the fraternity. LeRoy Lodge celebrated their 100th anniversary in their current building with a well-attended dinner open to the community in this building that has been their home. Worshipful Master Lee Devore gave an informative and humorous review of their lodge history. LeRoy Lodge has seen several younger men join and become active in their lodge over the past few years and has taken strength from this growth. Comet Lodge saw the installation of their beautiful new carpet in the lodge room. Any brother who has not yet enjoyed the sight of the blazing star and tessellated border in the Miner lodge hall has a very positive experience in store for themselves.

A very productive Blue Lightning event hosted by Normal Lodge brought new brothers into that lodge as well as Bloomington and LeRoy. The annual dinners of Heyworth and LeRoy lodges were enjoyed by all who participated.

The year also saw the loss of a lodge. After much deliberation and a great deal of work by sev-

eral brothers to maintain the lodge -- especially the final Worshipful Master, Roy Kraft and Secretary pro tem, Roy Redding — Towanda Lodge 542 consolidated with El Paso Lodge 246. The loss of a lodge, as the loss of a close and trusted friend, is an arresting event and reminds us of the limitations of human achievement. It is certainly necessary to do what good we can and to build positively within our communities, but it is also necessary to reflect that all human activity is finite and the wise man and Mason ever keeps eternity in mind.

The lodges of the Sixth Eastern District have enjoyed a good year, filled with fraternal activities and valuable services to their communities. They can look forward to the coming Masonic year with deserved anticipation. I would challenge each of us to be ever alert for opportunities in our work, associations, church, and recreational activities to share with other good men our enjoyment of the craft and the opportunities that exist for shared fellowship and growth through Freemasonry.

Alvin E. House, DDGM



If you would like information about your lodge published in the Cathedral News, contact Ron Blue (ronblue33@msn.com).

2003 Fall Reunion Meal Reservation Form

Reservations Are A Must For This Reunion

Friday – November 21

Dinner

5:30 P.M. in the Dining Room

Swiss Steak · Mashed Potatoes · Green Beans
Rolls & Butter · Vegetable Tray · Drinks

_____ Men Only Tickets @ \$7.00

Saturday – November 22

Early Morning

7:00 A.M. in the Dining Room

Donuts and Drinks Available - Hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary

Lunch

11:30 A.M. in the Dining Room

Sub Sandwich with Assorted Condiments · Chips
Baked Beans · Pasta Salad · Drinks · Dessert

_____ Men Only Tickets @ \$8.00

Banquet

6:00 P.M. in the Dining Room - FOR MEMBERS, LADIES AND GUESTS

Cheese & Cracker Appetizer Tray · Soup
Bacon wrapped Turkey Filet · Rice Pilaf
Glazed Baby Carrots · Rolls · Drinks · Dessert

_____ Tickets @ \$15.00 ea

Name _____ Total Enclosed _____

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST BY NOVEMBER 17, 2003 AS WE WILL NOTIFY THE CATERER AT THAT TIME

Make all checks payable to: **BLOOMINGTON CONSISTORY**

I understand my tickets will be available for pickup at the Reservation Table unless I enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with my check.

MEAL RESERVATIONS WILL BE BILLED TO YOU IF NOT PICKED UP.

Supreme Council Highlights

Walter E. Webber of Maine was elected Sovereign Grand Commander. He succeeds Robert O. Ralston who retired after serving as the organization's chief executive officer for the past ten years.



A graduate of Marietta College and Boston University School of Law, Webber was the senior director of the Portland law firm of Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry.

Webber was Master of Casco Lodge No. 36, Yarmouth, in 1979, a

DDGM for the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1980-81, and a member of numerous Grand Lodge committees. He presided over several groups in the Scottish Rite Valley of Portland and was recognized for his service by receiving the 33° in 1987. He has been an Active Member of the Supreme Council since 1994 and the Deputy for the state of Maine since 2001. Replacing Webber as Deputy for Maine is Richard Winship.

Other new state Deputies are Verdon Skipper for New Jersey, Terry Bentzel for Pennsylvania, and Albert Marshall for Delaware.

At the meeting, Charles Ridlon Grand Master of Maine was elected an Active Member. Other newly elected Active Members are Peter

Samiec of New York; Robert Godbout Jr. of Massachusetts, and Richard Elliot of New Hampshire. Succeeding Webber as Grand Lieutenant Commander is Lawrence Inglis of Illinois. Norman Christensen of Wisconsin was elected to the position of Grand Minister of State.

Retiring as Active Members but becoming Emeriti Members are Donald Miller of New Jersey, and Richard Welkley of New York.

During the course of the St. Louis meeting, 139 32nd degree Masons received the 33rd degree, and at the conclusion of the meeting, the names of 137 nominees were announced to receive the 33rd degree at next year's meeting in Milwaukee.

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Thought for this Month

Honesty is the Best Policy

You always experience the consequences of your own acts. If your acts are right, you'll get good consequences. If not, you'll suffer for it.

There are always two choices, two paths to take. One is easy. And your only reward is that it's easy. You cannot do wrong without suffering wrong.

Morality may consist solely in the courage of making a choice. Wickedness is always easier than virtue, for it takes a short cut to everything. But over time

you learn, you can't make wrong work. Work joyfully and peacefully, knowing that right thoughts and right efforts will inevitably bring about right results.

You can never lose anything that really belongs to you, and you can't keep that which belongs to someone else. Sooner or later, everyone sits down to a banquet of consequences.

Veteran's Benefits

Don Anderson, Sovereign Prince

Are you a veteran or do you know someone who is a veteran? There are several places you can go to learn more about the benefits you have earned.

These agencies include:

- Your local county Veterans Assistance Commission. In McLean County the phone number is (309) 888-5141, fax number (309) 889-5570 and the website is www.mclean.gov/vac.
- The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, website www.state.il.us/agency/dvs.

You earned these benefits so don't be afraid to ask for them