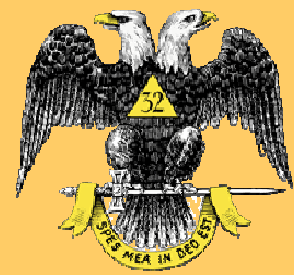


Illinois Council of Deliberation Valley Officers News and Views

December, 2008



Convenience, Inspiration & Enjoyment

Membership

Please notice the title bar above and ask yourself each time you plan an event this question. Is it Convenient, Inspiring and Enjoyable for those in attendance? If not, you need to rethink the plan and make sure it fits that criteria.

Every Valley in the State has now completed their fall reunion. Now is the time to begin the membership work for the next class, and decide if it will be a reunion or a degree night for candidates.

Many of our Valleys are traveling to lodges or other locations away from their buildings to make Scottish Rite membership more local and convenient for the members and candidates. Is your Valley planning a special travelling degree night? If not you should be planning one.

Lincoln's 200th Birthday

February 12 will mark the 200th anniversary of the Birth of one of Illinois' favorite sons, Abraham Lincoln. Scottish Rite in Illinois will have an opportunity to display a part of Lincoln's compassion for his fellowman and be a part of a community awareness of the birth of this Great President.

All Valleys are urged to contact and work with your local historical society to present "The Last Full Measure", our former degree. As part of a full day of celebration and activity, the play can be put on for children in a matinee setting and again in an evening for interested adults.

This is a wonderful opportunity to display the work of our Scottish Rite, our passion for the liberty of man and the talent of our degree casts.

Leadership

Lee Lockwood, Deputy for Illinois, and the Active Members have the spring Leadership Seminar planned for officers and membership committee members. The seminar will be held on February 28 at the Second Presbyterian Church, 313 N East Street in Bloomington.

Rooms have been blocked for attendees at the Chateau of Bloomington, 1601 Jumer Dr. (309) 662-2020. The schedule for the session will be finalized in the near future. Please be sure and mark your calendar for this very informative event.

Ambassadors Program

Remember, one excellent tool to create awareness of Scottish Rite within our Masonic Lodges is the Scottish Rite Ambassador Program. If you haven't implemented this program yet, make plans now to begin it at the first of the year.

Now is the time to identify and bring on board interested Brothers to serve as Ambassadors. The goal is to create a dialog between the Valley and the Lodge. How can the Valley assist the Lodge? Degree work, lodge programs, friends nights and memorial services are just a few of the ways the Valley can help. The Ambassador is also the key person to inform the Lodge about Valley events and activities and to serve as the liaison to answer any questions prospective members may have.

The material distributed at the membership seminar offers tips for starting the program.

If you have questions or need some assistance send a note to-
membership@supremecouncil.org

Grand Master's Class June 6, 2009

Grand Master Yandel has set the date for a "Grand Master's Class Day", providing Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts the opportunity to complete their work. The "Classes", to be held in each of the five areas of the State, will allow the Valleys to offer the use of our facilities to the Grand Lodge and provide us with a unique membership opportunity for a Scottish Rite degree presentation following the completion of the third degree. More details will follow, but mark the date on your calendar.