

Scottish Rite Temple
 Cedar Rapids Consistory
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Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master Everett Rowland KCCH 32°

Knights of St Andrew

Excellent Master Andy Losasso 32°

- Masonic Education Day, February 17th, 2010
- West Union, Iowa 22nd Degree
- Iowa City, Iowa 31st Degree
- Tama, Iowa 28th Degree



Cedar Rapids
 Scottish Rite
 Newsletter



ALBERT PIKE'S 200TH BIRTHDAY

It happened a hundred years ago...

The Valley of Cedar Rapids celebrated Albert Pike's hundredth birthday on Dec. 29, 1909 with an evening of music, poetry, and addresses. Several hundred attended the celebration, according to newspaper accounts the next day.



spread the word throughout Iowa and beyond. Reservations rolled in from as far away as Des Moines.

A menu Bro. Pike would have enjoyed was served. Each of the more than 50 attendees received a commemorative book including the addresses from 1909, several of Pike's poems, an article from *The Scottish Rite Journal* about Pike's bicentennial, and other historical information.

Fast-forward 100 years, to November 2009. If the Cedar Rapids Valley celebrated Pike's hundredth birthday, shouldn't we celebrate his two hundredth?

Everyone enjoyed the video by Bros. Jim Tresner and Bob Davis, *A Visit With General Albert Pike*.

Time was short, but enthusiasm was high. It took no effort to persuade the Personal Representative and Advisory Committee. The Registrar and others

We think Bro. Pike would have enjoyed Scottish Rite Masons and their guests having a good time! You weren't able to attend? Stay tuned! We're planning more parties!

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VYRL JUSTICE REUNION CLASS

The 239th Reunion of the Cedar Rapids Valley, Orient of Iowa is planned for May 15th 2010. Make plans now for attending this very important event.

renew our knowledge of the Scottish Rite Degrees. The classroom is always open to Brothers who want to refresh their understanding of the degrees.

don't delay ask him today. Petitions are available on line at



www.CRScottishRite.org

The Reunion is a time for all Brothers to gather for Fellowship and to

If you know someone who would benefit by joining the Scottish Rite,

-Jim Burr KCCH 32° Registrar

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE WORK

Under the leadership of Bill Jacobson, our Personal Representative, the Cedar Rapids Valley has a renewed commitment to the presentation of outstanding degrees at our reunions. This includes the adoption of updated rituals, several new degree teams, and mandatory rehearsals.

The first sign of these changes was evident to all who attended our Fall Reunion. A new degree team, under the direction of new Degree Master Eric Sommermeyer, performed the modern ritual for the 4th Degree, Secret Master. Reviews were very positive.

As a follow-on, the Spring 2010 Reunion will include updates to the 14th Degree (Perfect Elu) and the 30th Degree (Knight of Kadosh). These two degrees will

also feature new degree teams, updated rituals, and new Degree Masters. The 30th Degree will now include all four Apartments combined into a single stage setting. Andy Livin will be Degree Master for the 14th Degree, Steve Minkel will be Degree Master for the 30th.

Tom Kurtz and John Wagor will continue as Degree Masters for the 18th and 32nd Degrees (Knight Rose Croix and Master of the Royal Secret). For now, these degrees will be largely unchanged. However, the presentation of the Masonic Camp in the 32nd Degree will be changed to simplify staging and to make it more visible to the audience.

Additionally, each cast will have mandatory rehearsals. A complete dress rehearsal of all five

degrees will be held on the Saturday two weeks prior to the reunion. At least one practice will be required for each cast prior to the dress rehearsal. Degrees for which the team does not hold a practice AND attend the dress rehearsal with a full cast will be communicated at the reunion. Bill Jacobson and the Advisory Council have determined that a communicated degree is better than a poorly conferred degree.

But we think positive thoughts. The practices, dress rehearsals, and excellent degree presentations will happen. So mark your calendar now for May 15, 2010, and come enjoy the Spring Reunion of the Cedar Rapids Scottish Rite Valley.

Don Mosier KCCH 32°
Director of the Work



KNIGHTS OF ST ANDREW CALL TO ARMS

The Knights of Saint Andrew of the Cedar Rapids Valley will be holding a meeting at 7pm Tuesday February 9th at the Cedar Rapids Temple. Open nominations will be held for open Officer positions and we will discuss Masonic Education initiatives and upcoming activities. All Black Hats are strongly encouraged to attend and help create an organization that reflects the future of the Scottish Rite in our Valley.

The Knights of Saint Andrew is a service organization dedicated to furthering Masonic Education, recruiting new members, and assisting the Valley as required. Membership is open only to 32nd degree Masters of the Royal Secret who wear the black hat. The KSA is a growth organization where future leaders of our Valley can take a more active role in steering our future.

The strength of the KSA is its Sentinels. Sentinels are Scottish Rite Masons through out the Valley who

promote Masonic Education in general and are ambassadors for the Scottish Rite in their Blue Lodges. Those interested in these positions who cannot attend this meeting are encouraged to contact me. I look forward to building something great within our Valley and hope that all black hats will find it within their cable tow to attend this very important meeting.

-Andy LoSasso 32°
Excellent Master
Knights of St Andrew

Are you up to date? Update contact information at www.CRScottishRite.org under Information for Members

FROM INSIDE THE TEMPLE

I've been getting fixed, cleaned and spruced up; there must be a party in my future. I sure am getting ready for something, so many things are happening here at the Scottish Rite Temple here in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

First a little background:

I was built in 1927 on a site next to the Scottish Rite Temple at 120 6th Street NE, that building was built in 1910 and the members had outgrown it. I am finished out of limestone on the outside and the main structure is of the latest reinforced concrete design. My floors are tile and wood, and I can boast of electricity the best and safest DC electricity.

I have a communication system throughout my building so anyone can call from one room to

the other; it's pretty nice and sure saves the legs. I am justifiably proud of my state of the art and beautiful stage, which has 15 different scenes that can be dropped down and gorgeous lighting to accent the backdrops.

My auditorium can seat 500 people and people come from miles to see the events on my stage, oh I must tell you that I have "Movies" moving pictures that are on my stage, they are the talk of the town. Just everyone that is anyone comes to see my stage. In 2009 I received a new paint job throughout my auditorium and new stage curtains, I am so proud.

Next time I will tell you about my other rooms.

Doug Heath KCCH 32°



**Cedar Rapids Scottish Rite
Auditorium**

"The ancient
astronomers saw
all the Great
Symbols of
Freemasonry in
the stars." Albert
Pike

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SCOTTISH RITE?

You want to learn and understand the lessons of the Scottish Rite Degrees.

You want more knowledge and you want it now.

Here is a possible answer. Consider the Scottish Rite Master Craftsman Correspondence Program.

You can increase and test your knowledge of the Scottish Rite while you learn about its structure and organization, its rich history, and its deeply philosophic Masonic teachings.

You can complete six reading assignments and six open book quizzes—while working at your own pace.

Ideal for individual study or for group discussion at the Club or Valley level.

Course texts: *A Bridge to Light* (Hutchens) and *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide* (de Hoyos) Mail completed quizzes to the Supreme Council—receive feedback and positive comments from Supreme Council staff.

You will receive a handsome lapel pin and personalized certificate upon completion recognizing you as a Scottish Rite Master Craftsman.

Low cost: entire course and text—\$45.00 you can order by e-mail Office@CRScottishRite.org or by phone

319) 364-2904 from the Cedar Rapids Scottish Rite Office.

Additional information about this program, is also available by email mc@scottishrite.org or by visiting www.scottishrite.org/mastercraftsman.html.

If you are taking or have completed the course please notify me of your progress so we can recognize those who are seeking extended light.

-Jim Burr KCCH 32°
Registrar

Stay in touch with what's going on. Go to www.CRScottishRite.org and click on Members Calendar