

The Double Eagle



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
Valley of Indianapolis

A member of the fraternity of Freemasons

Volume 51, Number 2

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Spring 2001

Two Big Events You Can't Miss

"Sleuth"

Spring Play

Join us for our Spring Membership Development Play on March 9, 10, & 16, 17 at 7:30 pm in your newly renovated Auditorium for "Sleuth" -- a great who dunnit.

In a cozy English country house owned by a famous mystery writer, a young guest walks in and they begin a convivial round of scotch and dialogue. Suddenly the host says, "I understand you want to marry my wife" -- from that moment on they are locked in a mortal encounter. The games that are devised -- the murders plotted and subverted -- add up to increasing suspense and unsolvable crime!

Rich Sharp directed a record-attending play last Fall with "Funny Money" and this play will give you the same enjoyment. As always, refreshments follow each performance. What a great opportunity to introduce your beautiful Cathedral to friends, family, and potential new members.



April 20-21 Convocation

Speaking of new members, 396 new members were initiated into the Scottish Rite last Fall, but have only seen the 32nd Degree. Our regular Spring Convocation will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 20th and 21st.

This year's Convocation will honor Ill. Carl A Cottom, 33° and Ill. W Clark Roggie, 33° with the Oath of Fealty and 4th Degree beginning at 12 noon Friday. The Lodge, Council and Rose Croix Degrees will be presented on Friday with Consistory Degrees beginning on Saturday at 9 am. Please refer to your Calendar of Events for a full listing of the Degrees and times.

If you were initiated last Fall, or haven't seen any of the degrees lately, this is your chance to see some great performances on our newly lit and renovated stage -- and be sure to bring your 32° Masonic Passport for validation. To those 396 new 32° Scottish Rite Masons: be sure to award your \$95 Scholarship you received to a deserving Master Mason in your Lodge.

How to build a membership

Investing in Value

Jeff Saunders, 33°
Executive Director

There seems to be a lot of focus on the economy over the last several months. The previously consistently upward trend of the stock market has given way to uncertainty. How do we invest our money? Where do we get the best value for our invested funds? Such evaluations not only apply to investing, but also can be translated into how your Valley is spending your annual dues to provide the most value to you as a member.

Your dues of \$50 per year continue to be one of the best values you can receive for your money. Participation in Valley activities enhances that value even more. Review the calendar of events from September through May and you will find 23 social events open to you and your family. That is in addition to popular events traditionally reserved for members only like the Bean Supper and Convocations. The leadership of the Valley is committed to offering a variety of events and making them affordable for members, their families and guests and so allocate a portion of the annual budget to subsidize the cost of these events. While some still have an admission charge or cost for a meal, consider if you attended just four events last year.

- You and your daughter, granddaughter, or adopted daughter attended the Father/Daughter Banquet in October;
- You and a guest went to one of the plays put on by the dramatic department in either October or March;
- You brought one of your children or grandchildren to the Christmas Party in December; and,
- You and a guest attended a performance of the Purdue Glee Club in February.

If you had to pay the full cost of just these four events for two persons, it would have taken an additional \$75 over the ticket costs. Not bad value for \$50 in dues. When you consider this value, also consider that you are attending in an environment of good fellowship in one of the world's most beautiful buildings, which your dues also help to support and maintain.

A wide variety of social and fraternal activities, opportunities to interact with like-minded individuals who are making a positive impact in the community at large, supporting our charities, including the work of the 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center for Children; these are the values your investment of annual dues reaps every day of the year.



Just a few of the hundreds of children who watched the magic monkey show at the Children's Christmas Party last December in your Cathedral.

The Double Eagle

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Two photos showing the part of the fun hundreds had with Santa Claus and the Magic & Monkey Show. Many events throughout the year are either heavily subsidized by your dues or are absolutely free.

The Column

Aprocrypha (Sounds Greek to Me)

By William K. Bissey
Editor, Indiana Freemason

In the last issue of *The Double Eagle* I wrote that

verses from Esdras and Tobit were used in some of the rituals of the appendant bodies of Freemasonry. I also mentioned that these two books would not likely be found in the King James Bible that most Masonic bodies use as the

Volume of Sacred Law.

So, what are these two books and where are they to be found? Esdras and Tobit, plus several other books are to be found in the Apocrypha. Apocrypha is a word derived by St. Jerome, the fifth century biblical scholar, from the Greek *apokryphos*, which means hidden. St. Jerome coined the word to describe books that were accepted by the Church as part of the Greek version of the Old Testament, but were not accepted as part of the canon of the Tanakh, the

Jewish Bible that was written in Hebrew.

Where did these books come from? For the answer to that question we need to turn to ancient Egypt. Residing in Alexandria was a large colony of Greek speaking Jews who had forgotten their own Hebrew language. However, they wished to have a Bible in the language they could read and study. Seventy-two (or seventy) scholars were assembled to translate the Bible into Greek for the Jews of Alexandria. This Bible, known as the Septuagint, contained the books of the Apocrypha and the other books that we know as the Old Testament.

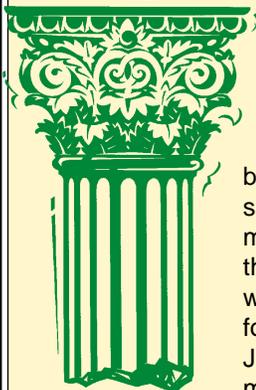
The Old Testament of the early Church was written in Greek and included the books of the Septuagint. The Apocrypha has remained in the Bible used by Catholic and Orthodox Churches and are dispersed throughout the Old Testament.

The Jewish Bible and the Protestant Old Testament are identical in content. However, there are differences. The Old Testament consists of thirty-nine books. The Tanakh consists of twenty-four books. This

number is derived by combining the twelve Minor Prophets into one book and counting the books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles each into one book. The word Tanakh or Tanak is an acronym created from the names of the three traditional divisions of the Hebrew Scriptures, Torah (Law), Nebi'im (Prophets), and Kethubim (Writings).

Until the early 19th century the King James Bible contained the books of the Apocrypha. These books were usually placed in a separate section between the Old and New Testaments. Objections by the British Bible Society and the American Bible Society resulted in the books being dropped from the King James Bible.

Then why are verses from Esdras and Tobit used in some of the rituals of the Freemasonry? The most likely reason is that they contain additional material that further illuminates the story of the ritual. Esdras is especially good in providing additional material about the exile in Babylon. Underlying Tobit is a stress on God's constant care for his suffering people. The use of a verse from Tobit is appropriate in the ritual in which it is used.



Deputy's Message

Membership Development at the Council of Deliberation Level

This is the third in a series of articles concerning the loss of membership in the Masonic Fraternity and especially in Scottish Rite. During our quarterly planning sessions (The Planning Committee's purpose is to advise the Deputy in strategic and long range planning in his role of administering the Supreme Council Constitution, bylaws, programs, and initiatives.), considerable discussion, recently, has involved the appropriate role for the Indiana Council of Deliberation in membership development. Since we have not been able to reverse the negative membership trends during my tenure as Deputy, it may be appropriate to evaluate the need for the Council of Deliberation to provide more leadership and direction at the state level.

Bill C Anthis

The Constitution of the Supreme Council provides for a Council of Deliberation in each state but does not specify its purpose. The Constitution of the Indiana Council of Deliberation does not specify a purpose for its existence beyond that provided in the Supreme Council Constitution.

The valleys differ in membership numbers, geographical size, and manner of operation. The Supreme Council charters valleys and provides for their governance as part of a fifteen state unit. The Supreme Council is organized by states in order to facilitate its work as an umbrella organization. The valleys provide for governance at the local level under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council. The Supreme Council Constitution gives the Deputy of the state broad authority in administering the Supreme Council Constitution and thus broad authority in determining the role of the Council of Deliberation. During my tenure as Deputy, there has not been any effort to make the Council of Deliberation in Indiana a significant force in governance. The premise that has been followed is based upon the importance of governance at the valley level under the umbrella of the Supreme Council.

It has been my position that an additional layer of

governance at the state level would be expensive and would not enhance leadership for membership development programs at the valley level. Providing as much local control as possible in governance has been my objective. As a result, business sessions at the Council of Deliberation have been kept short. Social activities have been accentuated. And, most of the costs of conducting the annual meeting have been charged to the participants. Valley assessments for operating the Council of Deliberation have not been increased for more than a decade. As a part of this philosophy, we have emphasized that Masons meet on the level. Head tables, titles, and formal introductions have not been stressed.

Recognizing that our present approach at the Council of Deliberation level has not been effective in reversing the downward membership trends, the time has come for an evaluation of our present Council of Deliberation philosophy to determine whether providing more leadership and direction from the state level would be beneficial. We will, on or before September 3, 2002, in accordance with the Supreme Council Constitution and Bylaws, have a new Deputy in Indiana. I have asked Robert G. Elrod and a committee appointed by him to review the format for the Council meeting to be held in Evansville in June of this year, 2001. He and his committee may be able to find an effective way to strengthen the role of Council of Deliberation in dealing with our membership problems.



Jim Hale was voted "Most Colorful Tie and Shirt" at this year's Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance. His wife, Paula hinted that his boxers also matched.

By-Laws Change Rejected Review Underway

A proposal to increase the size of the Executive Committee has been defeated after three months of consideration.

By unanimous vote at the December Stated Meeting, the membership rejected the proposal to make the nine-member Executive Committee a 14-member body. The proposal was rejected following a discussion that indicated a more comprehensive redesign of Valley responsibilities is under consideration. Results of that study are not expected for several months, but a committee for the study has been formed and research begun.

Defeating the proposal became the only real course after a companion proposal was defeated at the September Stated Meeting. That proposal would have increased the number of Valley Trustees from three to five.

When the bid to add Trustees was defeated, the wording of the companion proposal became moot because its underlying purpose was to add line officers to the Executive Committee to balance the increase in voting trustees.

Recently-retired Executive Director Bob King has completed a review of bylaws and reported to the Executive Committee that several points are in conflict and may not fully comply with Supreme Council rules.

The TPM announced that Ill. Bro. King's report is being considered, and a more comprehensive study of Valley activities is underway.



Chip and Betsy Walker and Cathy and Bob James are all smiles at the New Year's Dinner and Dance held in January in the Ball Room.

Congratulations to our Honored Brothers

Here are the top-line signers names and Lodge numbers for Scottish Rite petitions received for our One-Day Class on November 18, 2000. These Brothers have done a truly outstanding job in allowing more men to receive light in Masonry!

Bill Clutter, 33°	Century 764	11 Petitions
Clarence Stout	Southport 270	11 Petitions
Winfield Jacobs, 33°	Ellettsville 245	10 Petitions
Richard Carlson	Broad Ripple 643	9 Petitions
Clyde Armstrong	Aurora 51	6 Petitions
William Capler	Prospect 714	6 Petitions
David Hollingsworth	Englewood 715	6 Petitions
Erwin Cooper	Stanford 173	5 Petitions
Herbert Fannin	Madison 44	5 Petitions

Upcoming Events

Father/Son Banquet

The 25th Annual Father and Son Banquet will be held at 6:30 pm on Friday, March 23rd. All members are invited to bring not only their sons, but substitute sons, relatives, grandson, or sons adopted for the evening. This year's entertainment will be Tim Wilkins, the "fitness" comedian with a similar build to Lou Ferrigno. His brand of clean, message-oriented comedy has had him opening for Wynonna Judd, Kenny Loggins, and Patti LaBelle. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the office at \$9 each.

Triad Concert

The 57th Annual Triad Concert featuring the Murat Shrine Chanters, the Knights of Columbus Columbians, the Indianapolis Maennerchor, and the Scottish Rite Chorus will be presented on Saturday, March 24th and Sunday, March 25th in our beautiful auditorium. This event will combine more than 100 voices to celebrate music harmony and fraternal brotherhood. Tickets are available at the office at \$6 each.

Theatre Night

A great Broadway song and dance review awaits us and your guests in our auditorium on Saturday, March 31st with dinner at 5 pm and the show starting at 7:30 pm. Free to members and their guests.

Easter Cathedral Hour

The Indpls Chapter of Rose Croix will hold a Cathedral Hour Service on Saturday, April 14th at 7:30 pm. An outstanding speaker will bring us the Holy Week message along with a splendid musical program by the Scottish Rite Chorus. We are happy to join with the Knights Templar Commanderies of the Valley in the observance of Holy Week.

Orchestra/Organ Concert

Members and guests are invited to be entertained on Saturday, May 5th with dinner at 5 pm and an orchestra/organ/chorus concert in the auditorium at 7:30 pm.



Chuck and JoAnn Brandt toast each other as they ring in 2001 at our New Year's Dinner and Dance.

June Golf Outing

Our Early Summer Golf Outing is June 4th at Lafayette Municipal Golf Course. Shotgun start at 12:00 noon, dinner at 6:00 at the Murat Shrine Club. Cost is \$50. Please contact the Valley office for registration forms.

The Third Bomb

On Friday, May 18th a premiere presentation of the new proposed 30th degree will be performed at the Indianapolis Valley. This is about Brother Harry Truman's decision not to use a third atomic bomb during World War II despite intense pressure to do so. The Supreme Council will tape record the degree as it moves toward final approval and we would like to have as many members only to attend. It begins at 7:00 followed by refreshments.

The Scottish Rite Dramatic Department

Presents

"SLEUTH"

Friday, March 9 & 16, 2001 -- Saturday, March 10 & 17, 2001

All Performances 7:30 pm

Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium - 650 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis

GOOD FOR ANY PERFORMANCE

\$6.00 General Admission - Members & Their Guests FREE Seats are not reserved

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**THE SCOTTISH RITE
CATHEDRAL**

Welcomes you to

Theater Night

March 31, 2001 - 7:30 p.m.

Auditorium

\$6.00 - General Admission

Members & Their Guests - FREE

Nº 045

**THE SCOTTISH RITE
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Members & Their Guests - FREE

Nº 045

Membership Development: It's the Heart of What We Do

**by Steve Chapman
Deputy Master**

What an amazing day it was on Nov. 18 when 396 Masons received their 32°. By now each new 32° Scottish Rite Mason has received a valuable, material gift that is only good if it's given away—a Scholarship for Further Masonic Education...Just One...a gift he can only give away to the One Master Mason he chooses to receive it. It's a \$95 gift that is only valid for the Spring Convocation of April 21-22, 2001. The new Scottish Rite Masons are also urged to attend the Convocation (as a Member, it's FREE) with their candidate to see the rich pageantry, emblematic ritual, and important lessons that were not possible to present when they became 32° Scottish Rite Masons on Nov. 18.

A 32° Mason: Even in the hearing of those words—probably long before any of us ever considered becoming a Mason—we knew a man who had attained that high rank and title...and perhaps not even knowing what it meant, he had our respect; we knew that he had attained something special; that he was honorable; that his title was somehow spiritual and worthy.

Well, Brethren, today YOU ARE THAT MAN...a 32° Scottish Rite Mason...looked up to by people who know nothing more about you than you are a 32° Scottish Rite Mason. Congratulations, indeed!

The Executive Committee, officers and members of the Indianapolis Valley welcome our new Brothers, and look forward to seeing them and their own new petitioners at the Spring Convocation, April 21-22.

Remember: Once you admired a man just because he was a 32° Mason, and today YOU are that man. It's now your happy duty to share that feeling, to share that honor with a worthy Brother.

There is a Master Mason—someplace—awaiting your generosity. You can make a difference in his life, and he, too, will proudly wear the insignia of a 32° Mason.

*Use The Tickets on the Reverse
Side to Invite Qualified Men to
Join Us and Experience the Rite!*

Learning Center News



A Story about Sam -- Help Us Find the Others

Sam's cousin began to change. At first, they had a lot in common. Sure, Sam's cousin is in fourth grade and Sam is in fifth, but that was about all the difference there was. They were both young boys who played together, went to school together and were from the same family. Sam's cousin changed when he learned to read. Sam began to feel different.

Sam's cousin had spent a year at the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children. Sam was proud of his cousin and wanted to learn to read too, so he asked his mother if he could go to the Learning Center like his cousin. Now Sam is learning to read. Sam's cousin is proud of Sam, too. They have a lot in common.

The story of Sam wanting to be like his younger cousin, is more than a wonderful testimony for the Learning Center, it is also an example of how pervasive unremediated dyslexia, a language learning disability, is. Sam is clearly a bright and observant boy, and dyslexia is a learning disability which effects people with average or above average intelligence. Often bright and observant people with dyslexia can cover up or compensate for their lack of basic reading, writing and spelling skills.

People with dyslexia have neurological differences that are family linked. As with other physical characteristics, dyslexia runs in families and has been identified on a number of chromosomes, particularly the fifteenth. Although it is not yet understood how dyslexia is genetically passed, it is now seen as an inheritable trait. There is no medicine that can change this learning difference. There is an answer

that the 32° Masonic Learning Center can provide: it is remediation through Orton-Gillingham tutoring.

Sam's cousin attended the Learning Center for a year, and his improvement was noticed by the most important person of all, Sam. While parents and teachers may recognize the lack of achievement due to dyslexia, the children see themselves as failures. They compare themselves to other children and know that they are different. Dyslexic children routinely describe the pain and humiliation of not being able to read in front of their classmates.

Dyslexic adults often look back at their education with painful memories. Sam is not thinking of future opportunities, he is experiencing pain right now when he sees his classmates achieving where he cannot. As Sam continues at the Center he will understand that while he and his cousin both failed to learn to read in a regular class, they can both learn at the Center. Soon they both will be reading in front of their classmates, holding their heads up with pride and knowing how the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children made it possible.

Thirty students who have dyslexia are finally getting the instruction they need to succeed in reading, writing and spelling at the Center. Sam (whose name has been changed in this story for privacy) is now one of them. Located at 5555 N. Michigan Road, in the North Park Masonic Lodge, you helped us open in June 1999. Thirteen tutors staff the Center. ***If you know a child who may need this help, be sure to have their parent call 317-251-5703.***

Potentate's Message**Greetings to all my
Scottish Rite Brethren**

As we go into the year 2001, cooperation and continuity between the many bodies of Masonry will be the benchmark of whether we succeed by standing together, or fall as we attempt to stand apart.

I understand all too well the importance of the bonds between our honorable crafts.

From the time I took my Entered Apprentice degree at Pentalpha #564, through the beautiful and impressive degrees portrayed by the York and Scottish Rites, and up until I crossed the hot sands (yes, there were hot sands back

John Cinotto

then, and will be again!) of the Shrine, I have always believed that we as masons must appreciate and support all of the appendant organizations if we are to protect our heritage for generations to come.

With the changes in today's society, and the changes brought about by our various bodies in ritual and requirements for membership, we must never lose sight of the importance of remembering that at the heart of it all, we are first and foremost masons. My pledge, and word of honor to you this year is that I will never forget that primary principle, and will do everything in my power to see it emulated in every way.

However, like any great undertaking, it cannot be accomplished by one man or group alone. What is necessary is that every mason: Blue Lodge, Scottish or York Rite, Shriner or all the above, join together in that cause. Only together can we hope to achieve that ultimate goal, of making this world into a temple, a fit abiding place for the Grand Architect of the Universe, and an example to masons nationwide of how the fraternity is supposed to work together to do good works, and make good men better. I invite you to join me in that task, and look forward to working together for the mutual benefit of our various bodies and that of Indiana Masonry.



Several ladies enjoy coffee while listening to the beautiful band music at the St Valentine's Day Dinner Dance held on February 10th.

Campaign for the Cathedral

It is a pleasure to bring you greetings from the Indianapolis Scottish Rite Cathedral Foundation.

January 15, 2001 was not only a new day and the beginning of a new work week; it was the beginning of a new direction for your Cathedral Foundation. On this date, I came on board as the Director of Field Services.



In this new role, I will take the Foundation in a direction that is different from what you have been accustomed to in the past. I will be traveling around our area calling on our members to promote Valley activities, distribute information about the Foundation and discuss our beautiful Cathedral. I will not only be a messenger of news to you, I can also be your "voice" to return your thoughts and ideas to the leadership of the Valley.

The one thing that I am most excited about is the opportunity to personally meet as many of you as possible and share with you our vision. I will always be available to meet with your local Lodge or Scottish Rite Club to make a presentation.

I can be reached at (317) 262-3122, (800) 489-3579 Ext. 244 or E-mail Rpurcell@asr-indy.org I look forward to hearing from you.

Richard D. Purcell

Chips from the Quarry

The **Jackson County Scottish Rite Club** met on December 18th at Jackson Lodge #146, to hold their annual Christmas party. Following dinner, entertainment was provided by pianist Paul Bell, son of Scottish Rite member, Kent Bell and those present joined in singing Christmas carols. Newly elected officers of the club for 2001 are: Don Galyean, President; Jim Byrns, VP; and, Jim Rice, Secy-Treas. Representing the Valley were Rodney Mann, Master of Ceremonies, Adoniram Lodge of Perfection; and Don Marcum, Master of Ceremonies, Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix.

The **Johnson County Scottish Rite Club** met at the Indiana Masonic Home on Friday, December 1st. Members and their guests enjoyed a chili supper, topped off with cobbler and ice cream. After dinner, the audience was enlightened by Chaplain James Gazaway, who spoke of his ten-month tour of duty in Bosnia.

The **Bartholomew County Scottish Rite Club** met on Saturday, December 2nd at St. John's Lodge in Columbus, to hold their annual Christmas party. The Columbus Hi Twelve Club and the Columbus Commandery cosponsored the meeting, and party entertainment was provided by "The Thomas Sisters". This duo is always popular with our clubs in the Central Indiana area.

The **Morgan County Scottish Rite Club** met on Saturday, January 13th at the Martinsville Masonic Lodge. The night was billed as "Ladies Night Out". A nice meal was prepared by the Martha Chapter of Eastern Star. (Psst! Hey guys, on a ladies night out, maybe the guys should be doing the cooking. Just a thought.) "The Thomas Sisters" entertained after a nice dinner and meeting.

The **Whitewater Valley Scottish Rite Club** met on Thursday, January 18th at the Milton Christian Church. Mr. Michael Woodard, Junior Warden of the Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix, represented the Indianapolis Valley. After a terrific meal of beans and cornbread, Mr. Woodard installed new club officers. They are; George Eastman, President, Jeff Locke, 1st Vice President, Ardan Bowman, 2nd Vice President, Phillip Ritchie, Secretary-Treasurer, Larry Waskom, Chaplain, and Phil Foughty, Good Cheer.



Rich and Jan Sharp (seated) and their guests Teri and John Eddy enjoy a great dinner at the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance recently held in the Ball Room. Brother Eddy was initiated in the Fall Class and is attending his second function as a Scottish Rite member.

The **Johnson County Club** met on Friday, January 26th at the Trafalger Lodge building for a wonderful pitch-in dinner. The club prepared a spaghetti casserole with garlic toast, and members brought the other goodies, consisting of salads, desserts, etc. President Paul Williams reports that while membership grew a little in the year 2000, it is still down from previous years. A strong emphasis has been placed on membership for 2001. The club will meet in March to enjoy dinner at the Scottish Rite, and attend the Spring play, entitled "Sleuth".

The **Delaware County Scottish Rite Club** met on Friday, January 26th at Daleville Lodge #730. A fine evening of good food and fellowship was followed by an entertainment which was provided by the Delaware County Club.

Thanks to all of our clubs and their members, for their support of the Indianapolis Valley Scottish Rite. Our clubs are the grass roots of our fraternity and our fellowship.

Through the Cathedral Window

Degree Reflections: It's a Tempting World Out There

**by Jerry B Collins, 33°
Editor**

The 32nd Degree describes the victory of the spiritual over the human in man and the conquest of appetites and passions by moral sense and reason. The chief character in the allegory of this degree represents every Freemason eager to serve humanity but caught between self-interest and the call of duty. Duty often requires sacrifice, sometimes the supreme sacrifice.

My Brothers, having portrayed that character since 1994, I go into this degree with a deep sense of obligation to accurately portray the dilemma everyone faces. It is a spiritual time for me for we are barraged with these same temptations on a daily basis: temptations to accumulate material wealth and greed, temptations to passions, temptations to ego and fame, and arguably the most destructive temptation, the temptation of self-righteousness.

In this modern workaday world, the television has been called one of the greatest single technological achievements of the middle of the 20th century -- but I believe -- for all its good -- television has been the greatest problem that we have yet to solve, ever careening more and more out of control.

As the father of two daughters (one teen and the other preteen) I have been particularly sensitive to the decline of

moral values, ethical behavior, and clean speech I have observed on the tube, in the movies, and in the mall. It is my opinion that much of the family viewing hour, in particular, is an oxymoron, but has eroded into a questionable collection of sexual innuendo, and violence that spawns the mindless aggression that has become commonplace today.

The latest genre of TV shows are teen soap operas, heavily laden with soft porn and adult situations that only exist to reap teen marketing dollars.

As Masons, we profess that we believe in a Supreme Being and our Rituals are heavily laden with Biblical quotes as lessons for life; however, when have you ever attended a Lodge meeting or a function at the Rite where men **openly** talk about their beliefs and how each of us can have a positive immediate influence on our society today?

My Brothers, I love this fraternity, but I love my daughters even more. They deserve to get the benefit of a world filled with the morals and values we profess, values we grew up with. Isn't it time we actively stood up for the premises that we professed when we first entered Light in Masonry?

Let us actively shout to all who can hear, that the ideals inculcated in our rituals can change things...positively...for the better...right now. Don't be afraid to actively live out the principles of your faith and share those principles aloud with your Brothers.

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