

The Double Eagle

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
Valley of Indianapolis



Volume 54, Number 2

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Mar 2004

12 Spring Degrees Completes 5 Year Rotation

It's time once again for our Spring Convocation at the Indianapolis Valley. **On Friday, March 12th and Saturday, March 13th** we will portray 12 degrees in full form as we return to our more traditional biennial style of initiation and reunion.

The weekend starts out at 10 am Friday morning with the 4th, 8th, and 13th Degrees prior to lunch. The 14th, 15th, and 16th Degrees will be presented in the afternoon, and then following dinner, the Rose Croix will preside over their spiritual 17th and 18th Degrees.

Saturday morning starts rocking with the 26th Degree at 9:30 am. It has been a few years since the Abraham Lincoln degree has been portrayed, so we would encourage all brothers who have been recently raised to see this contemporary degree. Just prior to lunch the 22nd Degree -- the



Three Blind Mice? Brothers James Sanborn, Robert LaGrange and Vance York -- all of the Chorus -- help each other get dressed for Convocation last Fall.

members for over 30 years as Valley organist.

This is a great time to visit the Cathedral, renew old acquaintances, and make new friends -- a lot of which is accomplished over the breaking of bread. So come one, come all to a full set of beautifully choreographed, costumed, and directed allegories that teach Masons how to become better men.

Woodcutter's Lesson will be put on by our Chorus and Orchestra. *Fun and mirth in brotherhood.* If you can't come in the morning, be sure to have lunch with us and stay for the dynamic George Washington (20th) Degree, which will be followed by the culmination of the Scottish Rite bulk of work with the 32nd Degree at 3 pm.

We have now portrayed all 29 degrees at the Indianapolis Valley within the last 5 years.

This class is named for Ill Mallory W Bransford, 33° who shared his musical talents with our

How to Build a Membership

Members Commit Time and Resources

**Jeff Saunders, 33°
Executive Director**

I am continually amazed at the dedication and commitment of so many of our members to assure that the Valley of Indianapolis offers the finest programs, events and benefits to our members of any organization.

You will find elsewhere in this issue the start of four new small groups to provide members with opportunities to enhance their membership through participation in the Elite Business Brotherhood, Investment Club, Masonic Leadership Book Club and the Worshipful Master's Forum. All of these are great opportunities to take advantage of your membership but also show the dedication of the leaders of these groups. They have made a substantial commitment of time and energy to bring these programs to you and I hope you will participate in any of these endeavors that interest you.

We have all heard the media reports about how charitable giving has suffered in these economic times. However, Scottish Rite has a powerful attraction to our members and through the first nine months of our fiscal year, the Scottish Rite Cathedral Foundation has raised \$442,000 in voluntary contributions. This is up by 20% over last year. In addition, our Learning Center program has attracted \$26,000 in gifts over the same period. What a wonderful expression of commitment from our members, giving so others may reap the benefits.

I hope many of you will attend the upcoming Convocation and Reunion on March 12th and 13th. Two to three hundred men commit time not only to perform the degrees for our new and returning members but also in countless hours of rehearsal leading up to the weekend. The lessons taught are what make us unique. There can be no better way to demonstrate our commitment than by attending or participating in this semi-annual event.



The spirit of Brotherhood is alive and growing in Indianapolis Valley. Scottish Rite Masonry continues to have a bright future. I recently read that it is not what you get out of life that matters, but what you give. Get involved in your Valley.

Jeffrey K. Saunders
Executive Director

The Double Eagle

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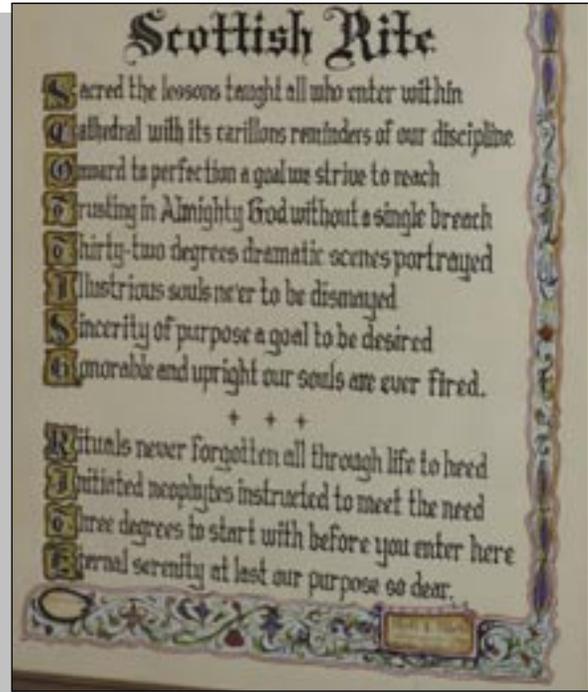
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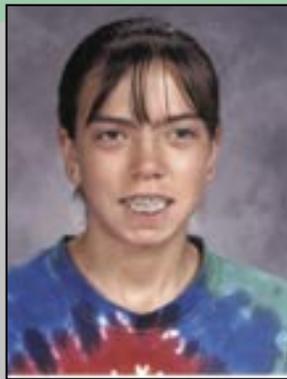
What is the Scottish Rite?

This beautiful plaque was rescued and restored from the bowels of the Cathedral during a recent cleaning. It takes the letters of "Scottish Rite" and tells our story to all who look upon its face. You may see this framed work of art on the 3rd floor lobby between the Auditorium and the Ballroom.



"Mary" Merrily Quits the Learning Center

When Mary began at the Center she was unable to blend two sounds together, her writing was not legible and school was a frustrating experience for her and her parents. Her mother Ann read her all of her assignments and often wrote for her. Mary began at the 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center as a third grader. Her parents had been to Riley Hospital and they knew Mary needed careful, intensive instruction in reading, writing and spelling. They found her that help at the Learning Center. Mary is now in sixth grade. At a return visit to Riley the doctor saw the dramatic changes that



resulted from her time at the Center. She is graduating from the Learning Center and is scoring above grade level in her reading.

At school she is able to keep up with her class. At home she is reading for pleasure.

Mary has had nearly perfect attendance while at the Center. Her mother has had to arrange her schedule to allow time to get Mary to tutoring two afternoons a week. When Mary grew out of her McDonald's play

kitchen, it was brought to the Center so younger children could enjoy it while they waited for their older siblings. When Mary got too old for her miniature pool table, it



too came to the Center. And now Mary has outgrown the Center. She will be missed, she always had a smile, but she will continue to grow from her hard work she did while at the Center. Mary knows how to read and write but Mary also knows that with hard work and dedication she can overcome obstacles.

The Learning Center will be manning a booth selling programs at the Indianapolis 500 this May. Volunteers are needed for this effort and various shifts are available on qualification and race days. All proceeds benefit the Learning Center. Contact the Valley office if you can help fill a time slot.

Approaching 75 years on North Street

Valley's Jubilee Celebration Just Around the Corner



This is the second in a series of articles concerning the history of the Scottish Rite Cathedral. The first article appeared in the January 2004 issue of The Double Eagle.

Even though the United States had declared war on Germany, and all construction activities had ceased, the work of the Scottish Rite continued.

There were many important events in Scottish Rite history during this period. The Supreme Council Jubilee year celebration was held just fourteen days after the United States entered World War I. The Scottish Rite Residence Building was erected on the Grounds of the Masonic Home in Franklin, and The Order of DeMolay was orga-

nized in Indiana with the Valley of Indianapolis sponsoring the first Chapter. This Chapter met at the Scottish Rite until some property was purchased as part of the new building site. They met there until that property had to be razed to make way for the new Cathedral.

Also during this time improvements were made to the existing building on Pennsylvania Street. On December 4, 1919, a resolution was adopted asking that the Building Committee again give consideration to a new site, but on December 17th of that year, the committee reported

that due to the increase in building costs, it would now require \$2,000,000 rather than the \$1,000,000 to erect

the new Cathedral. The Committee also recommended that the existing building be renovated

until the way seemed clear to proceed with the new Cathedral. This report was approved and the Trustees proceeded with extensive remodeling at a cost of nearly \$61,000.

In the meantime, the Building Committee came to believe that the proposed site at North and Meridian Streets would not be adequate for such an edifice as was planned, began looking elsewhere and on January 7, 1920, proposed the Marott property at the northeast corner of Meridian Street and

**December 17, 1919:
Cost overruns of
\$1 million**

**January 7, 1920:
The Marott Hotel
property was considered
a better parcel.**

Fall Creek Boulevard be acquired. Mr. Marott offered to exchange the property and pay and additional \$28,000 in cash. On the motion of Brother Arthur Baxter, the recommendation of the Building Committee was not adopted, and the committee was directed to go ahead as previously planned.

The matter then rested until February 8, 1922. On that date the Building Committee asked in effect for a confirmation of its existence and a specific resolution giving it full power to do in essence, whatever was necessary complete the building project. Discussion at the next meeting held one week later revealed that there was much opposition to giving the Committee such broad powers. The resolution was tabled and on March 18th, a substitute resolution was proposed and carried which directed that no sale of the present Temple, purchase of a new site, or construction of a new Temple could be made without a vote of the membership and

each member given 90 days notice of such vote. It was also ordered that a yes or no ballot for each proposition be sent to the membership with a stamped reply envelope enclosed and that no action be done unless a majority vote

been cast. The results were overwhelming. 3,639 members responded. Over 3,000 were in favor of a new building. Only 937 voted for the Fall Creek property with 1,554 for the

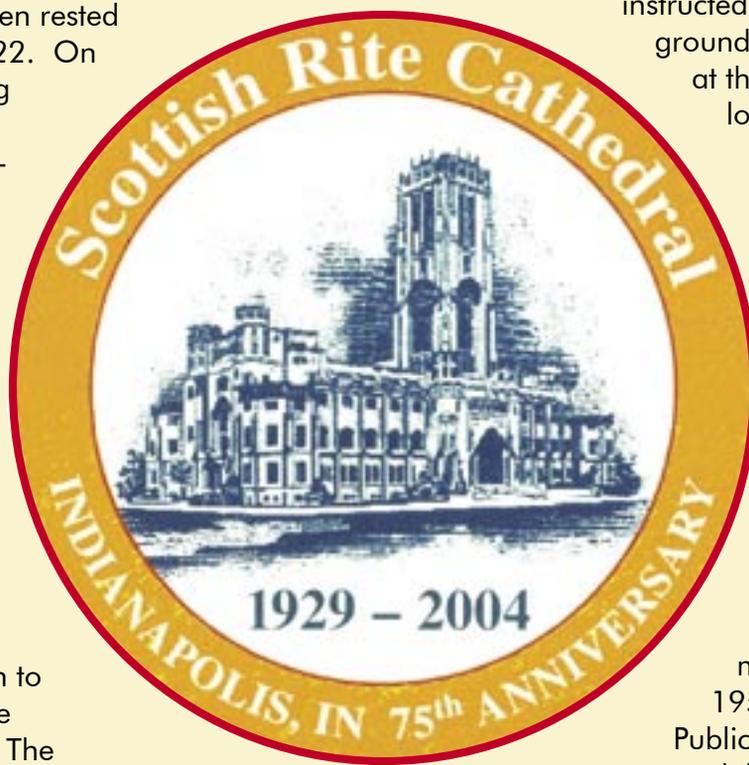
Meridian Street location. The remainder of the votes cast indicated various other options.

June 14, 1922:

Additional buildings purchased for \$300,000

When these results were announced on June 7, 1922, the Building Committee was instructed to see if more ground could be purchased at the Meridian Street location. Negotiations began and on June 14, 1923 the remaining properties were acquired at a cost of \$307,850. Thus the Valley had possession of the entire one-half block on the West side of Meridian Street between North and Walnut, an area measuring 390 feet by 195 feet. The Board of Public Works had also vacated the alley that divided this half block. This ended the debate over the "inadequacy" of the Meridian and North Street site.

Information for the preceding article was taken from the book, One Hundred Years, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Indianapolis, 1865-1965.



March 18, 1922:

Opponents called the Building Committee too powerful

Rite Information

Clubs Kick-off this Month

4 New Clubs Provide Members

With such a large Valley, it is often difficult to find a spot to fit in and bring the benefits of membership closer to home. The Executive Committee has approved the formation of four small groups in the hope that each member will find a level of involvement that fits their needs and schedule. The leaders of these groups are active 32nd Degree Masons who have agreed to share their time and talents. Look over the list and join us for education and brotherhood unique to the Scottish Rite.

Elite Business Brotherhood

Meetings: Double Eagle Cafe' on the 2nd Thursday monthly

First Meeting March 11th, 2004 – 12 noon



Successful businesses depend on word of mouth. Word-of-mouth advertising is the best advertising there is. The Elite Business Brotherhood networking group will provide a structured and supportive system of giving and receiving business. It will do so by providing an environment in

which members will develop personal relationships with dozens of other qualified members that are business professionals. By establishing their "formal" relationship with other members, they will have the opportunity to substantially increase their business. Annual Dues: \$ 35

Please reserve your place at the March meeting by contacting the Chairman: Brian Biehn at 317.710.6386 or email: bbiehn@Hoosierwireless.com

Investment Club

Meetings: Double Eagle Cafe' on the 1st Thursday
This will be a three month trial beginning April 1, 2004 at 12 noon

A luncheon group open to members and their spouses to provide a forum for the free and learned exchange of investment ideas. This is a risk-free, sales-free environment for members and their spouses to learn more about investing. The club will provide a resource for members and their spouses to independently analyze their current investments. Come for lunch at noon followed by program with adjournment by 1:15 p.m. Chairman is Denny Smith, CMFC, CRPC. Please reserve your spot by calling the

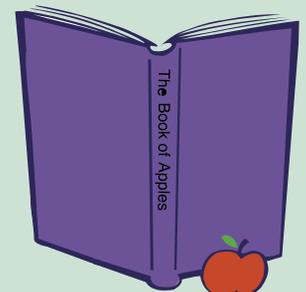


Valley office (317) 262-3100 or via e-mail at info@asr-indy.org

Masonic Leadership Book Club

Meetings: Scottish Rite Cathedral every six weeks with first meeting in April. Indicate your interest and first meeting date will be communicated – watch Double Eagle for future dates.

"The Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis Study Club" researches and studies Freemasonry and its components. It does not replace Indiana's Schools of Instruction. Ritual, when



Rite Information

with Fellowship

discussed, will focus on its meanings and interpretations not its application. We promote and facilitate objective scholarly inquiry into the historical, social, and cultural impact of Freemasonry, with an emphasis on American Masonry and its various bodies. The initial focus will be on developing Masonic Leaders. Study will be both books and "papers," both Masonic and non-Masonic sources.

Chairman is Christopher Planeaux, a member of Speedway Lodge No. 729. Contact Chris for information and to indicate interest at 866-275-6229 toll free or e-mail at info@speedwaylodge.org.

Worshipful Master's Forum

Meetings: Scottish Rite Cathedral at a time to be determined by group. First meeting is Wednesday, March 31st at 7 p.m.



The purpose of the forum is to provide an informal arena for Masters to gather and discuss any and all issues that a Master of a Lodge faces. There are two (2) qualifications to be a member of this forum. 1. You must be the current Worshipful Master of your Lodge. 2. You must be a member of the Valley of Indianapolis.

Chairman is Rick Purcell, 33°, Worshipful Master of Pleasant Lodge No. 134. Please contact Rick at (317) 262-3122, (800) 489-3579 ext. 244 or e-mail rpurcell@aasr-indy.org if you plan to attend the organizational meeting or have any questions.

Defibrillators

The Trustees have authorized purchase of two automatic heart defibrillators for use in the Cathedral in case of a cardiac emergency involving a member or guest. These are the latest technology and several members of the safety committee and medical committee will be trained on the operation.



"Representatives from community and related fraternal organizations who received grant contributions from the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis Foundation, Inc. during a luncheon on January 15th. Total gifts distributed this year were over \$180,000."

New Valley E-mail

Valley Launches e-mail communication system Your Valley has frequently heard members talk about the need for more timely and concise information about events and programs. Beginning March 1, members may now get regular e-mail communications to provide you with information on:

- Upcoming events and programs
- Local club meetings
- Learning Center and other charities
- Projects around the Cathedral

Another key advantage is the ability to be notified when the Double Eagle is available on the website for viewing. This is approximately two weeks prior to receiving it in the mail – so get your copy early. This is information specifically for you as an Indianapolis Valley member and would arrive at your e-mail approximately twice a month. Please send your e-mail address to list-admin@aasr-indy.org and asked to be placed on the list.

In my travels around the area visiting members of the Valley, I am asked many questions. A popular question is "How can I help?" There are many options available and include applying for membership in one of our Supporting Societies.

Campaign for the Cathedral

The Baxter Bells Society provides for the maintenance of the Cathedral's 54 bell Carillon. The donor sponsors a specific bell and may create an honorarium to a friend or loved one.

By sponsoring a tree on the Cathedral grounds a donor becomes a member of the Acacia Society and entitles that donor to name a memorial for an individual or organization.

Membership in the New Century Society is reserved for those individuals who make charitable contributions to the Cathedral Foundation through trusts, insurance, real estate, annuities or through a bequest in their will. This Society is very popular. Many of our members have the desire to assist the Foundation in its efforts to preserve the Cathedral however they may lack the ready resources to make cash donations. Through a simple bequest in their will, many members have been able make that charitable contribution they otherwise deemed impossible.

If you are considering this type of contribution, or would like information on additional contribution options, please contact the Cathedral Foundation office. Phone 317-262-3121, 800-489-3579, or e-mail, foundation@asr-indy.org.



Richard D. Hull

Elevator Upgrades

The Trustees have announced changes to the existing bank of four passenger elevators in the Cathedral. Amco Elevators was the successful bidder on a contract to modernize and upgrade the elevators and work is expected to begin in March and take approximately six months to complete. The existing controls and motors date back over forty years and so modernization is critical to assure safety of our members and their guests as well as provide for more efficient operation. The project will upgrade the control mechanisms with state of the art electronics to assure safety in daily operation as well as in emergency situations such as a fire in the building. This will also bring the cars into compliance with ADA regulations and queue the operation of all four cars to synchronize arrival at each floor. Most of the changes will be behind the scenes in the controlling apparatus, but some modernization to the existing cars will also be completed.

June 7th Summer Golf Outing

The June Scottish Rite Golf Outing will be held on Monday, June 7th with a shotgun start at high noon. It will be held at Wildcat Creek Golf Course in Kokomo. Take US 31 to SR 26 and travel West about one mile. Register your foursome by May 23rd by calling the office at 262-3100. Cost is \$60 per person and includes dinner at the Golf Club at approximately 6 pm (depending on the speed of play). For further info you may call Bob Holler at 317-422-5698.

"A Word With You" 

Checking for Messages

Now there are some American cities that I just really love, and San Diego, California, has to be one of them. Not too long ago I was there for three days - I look forward to that man. I just love to get around San Diego - well



I didn't, like an awful lot of meetings I go to. Of course I never got out of the hotel. I could have been anywhere! They put me in a nice room, and I

was hardly ever in the room! Now, it was a great time of ministry, and that's actually what I went for so that was fine. But, I would race into my room between meetings and there was barely time to use the facilities and change clothes and race on out. But no matter how much of a hurry I was in there was one thing I always checked on - the message light. Some phones in some hotel rooms have this little red message light and when they have a message for you at the desk - someone's called you, or sent a fax, or something - that light's on.



That means you've got a message - and it's usually information I need. So no matter how fast I'm running, I always look for the message light.

I'm RON HUTCHCRAFT and I want to have A WORD WITH YOU today about, CHECKING FOR MESSAGES.

Our word for today from the Word of God comes from **Joshua 5:14**, it's the night before

the battle of Jericho and the great general, Joshua, has encountered as he's scouting out the outskirts of the city this awesome figure who is identified as the commander of the army of the Lord - probably the Son of God making a pre-Bethlehem visit - and so, when he asks whether He's for the Israelites or for the enemies, this man says, **"Neither, but as commander of the army of the Lord have I come."** Well, then Joshua fell face down to the ground in reverence and asked him, **"What message does my Lord have for His servant?"** And after that Joshua gets personal orders that actually end up having an incredible effect. But the reason he gets the orders is because he



checks for a personal message. He's got an attitude of openness, of expectancy. He's looking for what God wants to say to him. You say, "Well, O.K. but I haven't had any heavenly commanders appear to me recently, no, but Joshua didn't have the Bible. You do. He didn't have the church, you do.

Today the Lord addresses His people through the book He wrote and then as it is taught and celebrated, and as there is worship through His church. Now, often we open up the Bible and, eerh, nothing happens. You go to church, you go to a Christian meeting, nothin'. Well, the first thing you

need to do is to go in with an attitude that says "I'm checking to see if there's a message here for me. Lord what message do You have for my servant?" That's the hard attitude with which we should always come to God. What message?



See you go to church looking for God to say something to you. Through the sermon, through a hymn, through a prayer, through the comment of another believer in the hallway. You go in there and say I'm determined to leave here with more of God than when I came in. When you put that Bible in your lap, you say, "Lord, I'm not just going through an exercise here with religious information, I want to leave the Bible with more of You than I came with. Give me a message from You. And you go expectantly, and curiously, and hungrily. When you're fellowshiping with other believers you listen for a message from your Lord. He speaks also as you are involved in His church. If you come away with no message, it's probable because you didn't go looking for one. Don't ever be too busy to check your message light. God turns it on often. He's got so much He wants to tell you. Whenever you're around God's book, or God's meetings, or God's people, check for messages!

Ron Hutchcraft may be found on the internet at www.gospelcom.net/rhm

'Round the Rite

Mother's Day Brunch

Treat Mom on her special day with
Brunch in the beautiful
Scottish Rite Cathedral. Join us from 11
am til 1 pm on Sunday May 9th.

- Fresh Fruit and Domestic Cheese Fingers
- Assorted Danish
- Caesar Salad
- Omelettes cooked to order with a variety of fillings
- Grilled Sausage and Bacon
- Roast Beef – Sliced by a Carver
- Boneless Breast of Chicken with White Wine, Shallots,
Mushrooms and Herbs
- Sauteed Lemon Scented Tilapia on Wild Rice
- Roasted Potatoes
- Fresh Green Bean Amandine with Basil
- Carrot Souffle
- Rolls and Butter
- Assorted Pies and Cakes

**Priced at \$29 per person inclusive. By
reservation only – call the Valley office
by Tuesday, May 4th**

Coming "Rite" Up

Father/Son Banquet

The 28th Annual Father and Son Banquet will be held at **6:30 pm on Friday, March 19th**. All members are invited to bring not on their sons, but their substitute sons, relatives, grandsons, or sons adopted for the evening. Entertainment for the evening will be NASCAR "Slot Car Racing" competition. Now is the time to fulfill that life long dream of driving on the NASCAR circuit as you enjoy a great evening of competition. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the ticket office at \$15 per person.



solitaire. To top it off, his meek little wife begins to lay down the law -- a nursery, a new bathroom, and he own checking account.

No charge for members and their guests, however, prime seats may be reserved for a \$5 fee. Tickets for the public are \$10. Dinner is available prior to the show from 5-7 pm with reservations.

Children's Play



No charge for members and their guests for Snow White on **Friday, May 21st at 7:30 pm** and **Sunday, May 23rd at 3 pm**. Come and see Indianapolis' future actors perform on the best stage in Indianapolis.

Holy Week



Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix will hold a Cathedral Hour Service on **Saturday, April 10th at 7:30 pm**. An outstanding speaker will bring us the Holy Week message, along with a splendid musical program presented by the Scottish Rite Chorus. A brief memorial service will be conducted for deceased brethren.

All brethren and their guests are cordially invited and no tickets are required for this auditorium event.

500 Festival Parade

The Scottish Rite is again offering prime reserved seats on Meridian Street for its members for the annual 500 Festival Parade. Tickets are \$25 per couple for the **Saturday, May 29th event at 11 am** and include reserved parking on the West Lot, reserved seating, and a box lunch with drink for two. Additional tickets are \$10 per person.



Take advantage of this great opportunity to see all the floats, bands, and drivers from your very own seat. Restroom facilities within the Cathedral will be available. Seats are very limited. This event has sold out the previous 2 years.

Comedy Play

"Never Too Late" will be presented **Friday April 16th & 23rd and Saturday April 17th & 24th at 7:30 pm**

A married man in his fifties suddenly learns he is becoming a father again. His last child, a girl, was born 24 years ago, and considering the boob she married, he finds the prospect of another child unthinkable as his daughter and "the boob" live with him. She gets up at noon for breakfast and is addicted to

Orch Organ Chorus

The Scottish Rite Orchestra, Chorus, and Organ will present a delightful evening of music on **Saturday, May 8th at 7:30 pm**. FREE to members and their guests. No food service prior to this event.

Through the Cathedral Window

Basketball and the Holy Grail

by **Jerry B Collins, 33°**
Editor

Growing up as a native Hoosier and as an alum of Indiana University, I eagerly anticipate each Spring as a time to enjoy college basketball and especially the NCAA tournament. I have had the thrill of traveling with faithful fans throughout the 80's across the country and enjoying Sweet Sixteen Success. However, lately the Hoosiers have fallen on very hard times. My new Team is the Duke Blue Devils. As part of a team-building exercise, I was given a book as a "must read", Coach K's, "Leading with the Heart" and subtitled Successful Strategies for Basketball, Business, and Life. I later got to meet Coach K and hear him speak about philosophies of these subjects. It is no wonder that he has led his team to 7 Championship games.

Another book I recently finished was "The DaVinci Code". Religious scandal and sacrilege, secret societies, the Masons, The Holy Grail, a who-dun-it thriller, and history re-written were all the buzzwords I needed to get a copy.

The author's reckless use of taking a couple of historical facts and building incredible false and insane logic leaves this Mason wondering if conspiracy theorists and Masonic detractors alike will use this latest work as further evidence of perceived improprieties of our organization. His willful distortions of documented history are more than matched by his outlandish claims about controversial subjects like the Knights Templar.

The oldest of the military-religious orders, the Knights were founded in 1118 to protect pilgrims in the Holy Land. Their rule, attributed to St. Bernard of Clairvaux, was approved in 1128 and generous donors granted them numerous properties in Europe for support. Rendered redundant after the last Crusader stronghold fell in 1291, the Templars' pride and wealth as bankers earned them keen hostility. The author ascribes the suppression of the Templars to Pope Clement V, whom they were blackmailing with the Grail secret. His "ingeniously planned sting operation" had his soldiers suddenly arrest all Templars. Charged with Satanism, sodomy, and blasphemy, they were tortured into confessing and burned as heretics. But in reality, the initiative for crushing the Templars came from King Philip the Fair of France, whose royal officials did the arresting in 1307. About 120 Templars were burned by local Inquisitorial courts in France for not confessing or retracting a confession, as happened with Grand Master Jacques de Molay. Few Templars suffered death elsewhere although their order was abolished in 1312. Clement, a weak, sickly Frenchman manipulated by his king, burned no one in Rome. Nonetheless, this is a good fictional read if you can keep the proper perspective. 2nd Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis is hosting a public seminar about the book on April 24th.

I encourage you to attend the newly-formed Masonic Leadership Book Club which will be studying the truth about Freemasonry's cultural impact on America by focusing on its meanings and interpretations.

Back to IU Basketball? Those fans will just have to wait til next year, but my new team will still be playing in April.



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