

The Double Eagle

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
Valley of Indianapolis



Volume 58, Number 1

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Mar 2008

Tea for Two Hundred: A Mother's Day Celebration

**An Afternoon of Tea and Fashion
Saturday, May 10, 2008 at 11 am**

The Tea and Fashion Show is being presented to help raise funds for the Scottish Rite Learning Center, where children with dyslexia are learning to become successful and confident students through after school tutoring, provided at no charge to their families.

What a wonderful opportunity to visit the historic and beautiful Scottish Rite Cathedral and treat a mother/friend in your life to a tea luncheon and fashion show including a Silent Auction.

Cost: \$25 per person
Reservations required by April 26
Call Donna at 317-262-3100 ext 228

How to Build a Membership

Meeting Our Obligations

Ask your fellow members why they are proud of what the Masonic fraternity stands for and a good number of them will have the words charity or philanthropy somewhere in the description. While the number one objective of the Scottish Rite is to have fun and care about each other, not far down the list of objectives in the Strategic Plan is to be recognized as a fraternal organization committed to philanthropy and community service.

The Valley of Indianapolis has long been active in the community meeting that very important objective. Witness the recent Community Day luncheon when representatives came together to receive grants from the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis Foundation, Inc. (see picture on page 3). This 501c3 foundation was formed in 1976 to provide for the charitable outreach of the Valley. Through the voluntary contributions of many of our members, the proceeds from invested funds are distributed through a competitive grant process to various organizations. While we cannot contribute to everyone who applies, this year over \$136,000 was distributed to community and Masonic organizations. Many of our members are familiar with the fraternal groups on that list of recipients such as the 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center, Masonic youth groups, Murat Shrine Transportation Fund, and the Masonic Relief Board, but you may be interested to know that the Scottish Rite has supported community organizations as well.

The Scottish Rite Foundation supported Central Indiana community organizations by:

- Providing nutritious snacks and meals to 1,000 children through a local food bank;
- Giving academic support to over 60 children on the east side of Indianapolis through a mentoring program;
- Funding meals for 160 predominantly senior citizens who are at risk of poor nutrition;
- Supporting a program for youth through the "Healthy Reasons to Say No to Drugs" initiative; and
- Providing assistance to 1,600 persons in families facing unexpected costs due to the hospitalization of a child.

In addition to the above initiatives, the Foundation continues its 40 year association with the Indiana University School of Medicine in support of research into osteoporosis and osteoarthritis. These gifts have accumulated to over \$2 million dollars during that period. This year's gift, which represents proceeds from the estate of Brother James B. Glanton was presented to the Dean of the School of Medicine, Dr. Craig Brater, 32° in January.

There are many reasons to be proud of being a Scottish Rite Mason. Thanks for your continuing commitment to the Craft.



Jeffrey K. Saunders
Executive Director

The Double Eagle

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Best Publication
Category V

(Valleys with 5,000+ members)

2001 - 2007



Community Day Recipients

Representatives from community and Masonic organizations received over \$136,000 in grants from the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis Foundation at the annual Community Day luncheon on January 31st.



This year's grant recipients were: Indiana University School of Medicine • Grant-Hamill Foundation • Jobs' Daughters of Indiana • Indiana Rainbow Girls • Indiana Masonic Home Foundation • Indianapolis Masonic Temple Association • Masonic Relief Board of Indiana • Murat Shrine Transportation Fund • United Way of Central Indiana • United Christmas Service • Meals on Wheels • Police Athletic League • Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana • Ronald McDonald House • Kids' Voice of Indiana • Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana • Hemophilia of Indiana • Flanner House of Indianapolis.

Abbott Scholarships

The deadline for receiving applications for college scholarships is April 1, 2008. The Abbott Scholarships are named for Leon M Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council from 1921 to 1932. Allocations are made to each Valley on the basis on participation in the annual "blue envelope" appeal and the Scottish Rite of Indianapolis Foundation provides additional scholarship funds, making the total available to Valley affiliated applicants of \$34,000. Eligibility requirements include the following:



- A currently enrolled sophomore, junior or senior at an accredited college or university.
- A minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- A child or grandchild of a member of the Valley of Indianapolis.
- A member of a youth organization sponsored by the Masonic fraternity - Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
- A graduate of the Indianapolis 32nd degree Masonic Learning Center for Children.

Call Donna Cofer in the Valley office for applications or download an application at www.supremecouncil.org

New LC Director

The Board of Governors of the Indianapolis 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center for Children has announced that Lisa S Hofmann has been named the Director of the Center effective January 7th. Lisa has worked as a tutor in the Center since its opening in 1999 and for the last several years served as a Master Teacher. In that role, she was involved in supervision of tutor trainees and many other aspects of operating the Center. She has great experience and rapport with the existing tutors, students and parents and is an excellent choice to lead our Learning Center.



Lisa lives in Indianapolis and received a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Southern Indiana and a Master's Degree from Butler University. She has been a teacher with the Indianapolis Public Schools since 1998 and is presently a reading consultant at the Key Learning Community of IPS. She is an Advanced Orton-Gillingham Tutor and a certified member of the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators.

We welcome Lisa to this important position.

Cathedral Foundation Offers Memorial Planter Pots

The Indianapolis Scottish Rite Cathedral Foundation offers several different ways to memorialize a loved one. The Ashlar Society is an opportunity to purchase either a 4 x 8 brick for \$100 or an 8 x 8 brick for \$500.



*Mark Dill
Director of Major
Gifts*

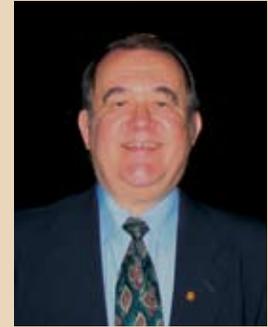
These brick pavers are installed on the west side of the building near the entrance from the parking lot. Orders for these bricks will be taken until Memorial Day with installation planned for later this summer. The Acacia Society is another available option to consider.

For a donation of \$1,000, a tree on the Cathedral grounds will be dedicated to a loved one with a plaque installed by the tree and also listed on a plaque in the Hall of Honor. There is also the Baxter Bell Society which ensures the

maintenance of the Cathedral Carillon where you may sponsor a specific bell in memory of a particular individual or organization. These bells range in price from \$2,000-\$7,500.

Campaign for the Cathedral

This year we are offering another unique and very limited opportunity to memorialize a loved one. We are offering large planter pots measuring 6 ft long x 3 ft wide x 2 ft high (see picture below). These pots will be placed around the brick terrace of the Ashlar Society. Each pot will have a brass plate installed recognizing your loved one. These pots will be offered for \$5,000 each and as mentioned, are being offered on a very limited basis. If you are interested, please call the Foundation at 317-262-3121.



*Ronald Sparks
Field Representative*

Cathedral Happenings

Plumbing, Roofing, Drops

Plumbing work has now been completed with the replacement of hot water lines throughout the Cathedral. Repainting of the gold ceiling in the south entrance is complete along with several other painting projects. The Trustees have authorized replacing two roofs on the south end of the building and new stage backdrops have been ordered for the 18th and 23rd degrees. These are expected to be complete and arrive prior to convocation.

Harlan 'Bleeds' Charity

John Duncan just received a note from Wayne Harlan, 33°, along with his 2008 33rd Association dues that he just made a blood donation which put him at a giving milestone of 45 gallons!!! Wow! Wayne also has driven patients every Wednesday for years from Richmond to the VA Hospital in Dayton OH. Talk about "brotherly love and charity!"

Memorial Planter Pots Adorn West Entrance



See Mark Dill's article above in Campaign for the Cathedral for information about these Memorial Planter Pots.

Our Fraternity's Hidden Treasure



Richard D. Hull
Director Membership Services

Do you believe the Freemasons of today have hidden "Treasures"? Most Masons of today have seen, if not heard of the movie, "National Treasure" where ancient treasures of the Fraternity were supposedly discovered. It is my belief we do have treasures! They are just not what we see portrayed in the movies.

Recently, a young man stopped me because he noticed the square and compass on my lapel. His original questions were very basic and simple. He asked who the Masons were and what we did. I was able to handle these questions with ease explaining the Fraternity was a group of like minded men striving to make the world a better place by making good

men better. I also explained how we as Masons, donate millions of dollars a year to various charitable organizations. As we

talked his questions grew increasingly more difficult to answer. He asked about our secrets and if we did in fact have hidden "Treasures". I explained the "secrets" were not what many people expected and could be better described as private. We hold business meetings which are necessary to pay our bills and vote on potential members.

I must admit I was a little nervous about explaining how the movie industry took a fictional story and made it so believable. It then became obvious; I was talking to a hidden treasure! As our conversation came to a close, this young man thanked me for my time and told me he was going to petition a Lodge in his area for membership.

I have thought about this conversation many times since it occurred and still believe he, among others are our hidden treasures. They are all around us in the form of men of all ages who do not understand what our Fraternity is or what it stands for. The next time you have the opportunity to discuss our Fraternity with a "hidden treasure", do not hold back. There are many men in our communities who

April 17-19 Convocation & Reunion

honoring Ill Donald D. Davis, 33° & Ill Edward M. Evans, 33°

Adoniram Lodge of Perfection Degrees

Thursday 6:30 pm	Oath of Fealty
	4° Ceremonial Section
	12° Master of the Temple
	14° Grand Elect Mason

Saraiah Council of Princes of Jerusalem Degrees

Friday 6:30 pm	15° Knight of the East or Sword
	16° Prince of Jerusalem

Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix Degrees

Friday 8 pm	18° Knight of the Rose Croix
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Indiana Consistory Degrees

Saturday 9 am	22° Prince of Libanus
	23° Chief of the Tabernacle

12 pm Lunch

1:15	20° Master ad Vitum
	31° Knight Aspirant
	32° Sublime Prince Royal Secret

Volunteer to help the Make-up and Chorus departments!

A Word With You



Free Spirit

Freedom is a wonderful thing.

Americans are so thoroughly washed in it we are mostly free from even thinking of it. Freedom defines who and what we are all the way into our hearts, where there is that reputed "spiritual hole the exact size and shape of God" we yearn to fill.

We proudly trace freedom – a fairly new invention in the total history of mankind – to the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and principled actions of patriots throughout the years. But it's older than that.

As a God-given, universal constant for mankind, Freedom comes from the Bible, specifically out of the New Testament, and exactly in the person of Jesus Christ. The spiritual freedom we internalize as Americans is mentioned in no other religious book except the New Testament. Read **Galatians 5** and see if you can relate.



Why is our freedom important to God?

So we can "freely" love God ... if we want to. Get it? Freedom, not obedience, is the most important ingredient in true love, and God knows it.

Love, then, is why God gave us freedom. It wasn't to enable us to run wild, unencumbered by responsibility (1 **Corinthians 12:23**).

Freedom is a divine mechanism to glorify God, yet our relentlessly self-affirming American culture mistakenly connects divine "freedom" to "inalienable rights," a humanistic mechanism to glorify – uh oh – ourselves, not God.

"As a nation we have to understand it is OK to have Godly values."

The founding documents of the United States reflect the 18th century's deep religious roots and



cultural understanding of Christian principles like freedom, and also the same period's consuming passion for individual rights emanating from the Renaissance and its Humanist philosophers (Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, et al) who championed the primacy of man over God.

Bummer ... "Freedom" is in the Bible. "Rights" isn't.

Divine freedom is a gift from God. Human rights we gave to ourselves.

...don't talk about God? There is a medical term for that -- schizophrenia.

I think those human, individual rights are the reason that the hardest part of freedom sometimes is to remember that God gave it to everyone.

Walters, a Carmel resident, squandered his youth as a sportswriter and now goes to church regularly. Contact him at rlwcom@aol.com.



Walters is a Christian lay person who as a youth grew up in the Episcopal church, became a journalist and public relations executive while taking a 30-year "break" from religion, and now writes, edits, serves and occasionally

teaches as a baptized believer in Christ since the fall of 2001. His column, published Tuesdays in the weekly "Current! in Carmel" newspaper and available at www.believerbob.blogspot.com, is an independent spiritual opinion, story or lesson from a Christian perspective, meant sincerely and with love and usually without apologies to secular convention (his rebelliousness comes naturally, exacerbated no doubt by several years as a sportswriter). Upon returning to church and coming to Christ in his late 40s, Walters became friends with longtime Christian minister Russ Blowers (1924-2007), who encouraged his faith and Christian writing. Walters, a public relations professional and freelance writer, is a member of East 91st Sreet Christian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, and hosts www.russstories.blogspot.com.

Coming "Rite" Up

Cathedral Hour

On Saturday, March 22, 2008 – 7 pm the Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix will hold a Cathedral Hour Service to celebrate Holy Week. An outstanding speaker will bring us the Holy Week message along with a splendid musical program presented by the Scottish Rite Chorus. A brief and impressive memorial service will be conducted for deceased brethren. The Scottish Rite is again happy to join with the Knights Templar Commanderies of the Valley in the observance of Holy Week. Scottish Rite members, Master Masons, their families and friends are cordially invited. No tickets required.

Orchestra & Chorus



On Saturday, May 3rd at 7:30 pm, the Scottish Rite Orchestra, Chorus, and the magnificent Cathedral Organist will present a delightful evening of music for your holiday entertainment. FREE for all members and their guests. No food service prior to this concert.

Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETINGS OF CONSTITUENT BODIES. The annual meetings of the Adoniram Lodge of Perfection, Saraiah Council, Princes of Jerusalem, Indianapolis Chapter of Rose Croix, and Indiana Consistory, SPRS will be held jointly on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 7 pm at the Scottish Rite Cathedral for the purpose of electing officers to serve during the ensuing year. In addition, two trustees will be elected by the Lodge of Perfection to serve during the next two years. If you would like to place your name in nomination, please contact the office.

Final Ladies Luncheon

Tuesday, April 15, 2008 – "Through the Years" Fashion Show. An enlightening and entertaining look at the changes in fashion since 1860 is provided by the Goodwill Service Guild Volunteers. Garments and accessories of Yesteryear span a period of 100 years, and the authenticity will tantalize collectors.

Spend the afternoon having lunch with the ladies of the Scottish Rite, then enjoy a wonderful program to complete the afternoon. Luncheons are open to members' ladies & their guests.

500 Festival Parade

Saturday, May 24, 2008 – 12 noon. The Scottish Rite is again offering reserved seats on the Meridian Street steps for its members for the annual 500 Festival Parade.



Tickets are \$12.50 per person and includes reserved parking on the west side of the cathedral. Reserved seating includes lunch with drinks. Only 6 tickets per member. Take advantage of this great opportunity to see all the floats, bands, and drivers from your very own seat. Rest room facilities within the Cathedral will be available. This year we have added a new bleacher section. Seats sell quickly so hurry.

Now Sold Out!

April 28th Spring Golf Outing

The Indianapolis Valley Golf Outing will be held on Monday, April 28th with a shotgun start at 8 am. It will be held at Southern Dunes Golf Course in Greenwood. Cost is \$60 per person and includes cart & lunch at the Golf Club. For further info and to register by April 18th, call Dennis Coltart at 317-338-4596.

Through the Cathedral Window

93% vs. 40%

by Jerry B Collins, 33°, Editor

I remember taking an Astronomy course in my freshman year at Indiana University. My goal was to earn 3 credits -- not that I had any real interest in the stars -- but I specifically recall my viewpoint about the question of "are we alone in the universe" was dramatically changed after that semester. Recently, my thoughts about the compatibility of science and religion were challenged. Was Man formed by God or did he evolve?

I have been attending a Bible study at 8 am on Sunday mornings for the past 6 or 7 years. You have to be pretty dedicated to get up that early on a Sunday morning, or at least be intellectually challenged (entertained) by a dynamic mentor. I also have a Sunday morning sweet tooth for glazed chocolate cake donuts -- actually two of them, along with a morning cup of decaf java. So I walk in -- with donuts -- claim my seat, and I am ready for class.

This is not a Bible study in the usual sense. When I first started attending, we studied individual books in the Bible -- and then that pastor retired. The class was inherited by several other associate pastors, a minister-in-training, a renowned author who teaches at a local seminary, and now currently, our "Theologian-in-Residence." In his late 30's, Richard is one of the most uniquely gifted teachers I have had the pleasure to have studied under. . . ever. His style is passionate and participatory. If you offer a comment, you must amplify and defend it. Always prepared he is blessed with a photographic mind, he is able to quote verbatim the great philosophers and writers throughout history with such ease that I frequently used to think that he made them up as he went along. I have, on occasion, pulled out my iPhone and "Googled" his quotes -- but now, I am a believer. Simply amazing.

Since coming to lead this class some two years ago, we haven't studied the Bible at all; rather, we study religious works of the class' choosing and have had a lot of fun with books such as *The Screw Tape Letters* by C S Lewis, *My Life with the Saints* by James Martin SJ -- a Jesuit priest's book chronicling the lives of 17 saints, and more recently

The Most Famous Man in America -- a biography of Henry Ward Beecher -- who happened to be the first preacher of our church in the mid-1800's. All of these studies have prodded me to examination my faith on a deeper level as I continue to travel the road God has placed me on. But no book (except the Bible) has impacted me in such a way as our current study: *The Language of God* by Francis S Collins.



Dr Collins (no relation), is best known for heading up the Human Genome Project in the mid-90's. In 2000, he stood next to President Clinton to announce the successful mapping of the DNA of our species, the hereditary code of life.

Ever wonder how the world was formed in six days? Is this in conflict with the Big Bang Theory? How do you square the questions of literal translation of the Bible's account of how Man was formed and Darwin's evolution of life? While 93% of all Americans believe in God only 40% of all scientists share that same belief.

So the battle lines between religion and science seem to be drawn; however, Collins personalizes the narrative by recounting his own journey from atheism to faith, portraying it as much an intellectual quest as a spiritual one. His excellent discussion of intelligent design seeks not to debunk the theory, but rather to cite its limitations and to show how a scientific world view transcends them without conflicting with faith. Finally, he talks about his vision of "BioLogos," or science and religion in harmony.

Up until this point in my life, I have relied on the Bible as the true Word of God while also believing in the theory of evolution. After studying this book, I am pleased that those conflicts have easily melted away. I commend this book to all who have wrestled with the question of evolution and faith. After you finish the book, pass it on to a non-believer -- you might enjoy a nice coffee and conversation with a friend who is seeking light. And, yes, I still hold faith from that Astronomy class that there is life out there ... somewhere.

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