



A View of the Valley



The Quarterly Newsletter
of
The Valley of Hartford, AASR

Newington, CT



April-June 2011
Vol XI Issue 2

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Valley of Hartford Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

View of the Valley

The “View of the Valley” is the official publication for the Valley of Hartford,
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

- Ill. John Wm. McNaughton, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander**
- Ill. James R. Spencer, Jr. 33°, Deputy For Connecticut**
- Ill. Richard V. Travis, 33°, Active for Connecticut**
- Ill. David L. Sharkis, 33°, Active for Connecticut**

The Scottish Rite Bodies, sitting in the Valley of Hartford, State of Connecticut, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts

View of the Valley Editor: Francis G. Way, MSA, 33° fgway33@gmail.com

Valley of Hartford Office: 207 Deming St., Newington, CT 06111
Office Hours: M,W, F 9:00-12:00, otherwise leave a phone message.
Mailing Address: PO Box 310198, Newington, CT 06131-0198
Phone Number: (860) 666-0712
Fax Number: (860) 666-5448
Email Address: sect@snet.net

Valley of Hartford Officers 2010-2011:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection Thrice Potent Master: | Jeffery A. Flynn |
| Hartford Council Princes of Jerusalem Sovereign Prince: | Aaron R. Sussman |
| Cyrus Goodell Chapter of Rose Croix Most Wise Master: | Richard F. Denno |
| Nathan Hale Consistory Commander-in-Chief | Francis G. Way, MSA 33° |
| Valley of Hartford Treasurer | Allan E. Acker, 33° |
| Valley of Hartford Secretary | David R. Blythe, Sr., 33° |
|
 | |
| Scottish Rite Foundation President | John F. Kessler, 33° |

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Schedule

(see www.valleyofhartford.org/calendar.html)

Monday, April 4, 2011

REHEARSAL: 18th Degree, 7pm

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

REHEARSAL: 18th Degree, 7pm

Thursday, April 7, 2011

REHEARSAL: 21st Degree, 7pm

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

REHEARSAL: 18th Degree, 7pm

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

REHEARSAL: 21st Degree, 7pm

Thursday, April 14, 2011

18th Degree, *Knight of Rose Croix H.R.D.M*

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

REHEARSAL: 21st Degree, 7pm

Thursday, April 21, 2011

REHEARSAL: 32nd Degree, 7pm

Monday, April 25, 2011

REHEARSAL: 31st Degree, 7pm

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

REHEARSAL: 21st Degree, 7pm

Thursday, April 28, 2011

REHEARSAL: 32nd Degree, 7pm

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Consistory Day: 21st, 32nd and 31st Degrees.
Registration begins at 9am. *See the Luncheon
Registration form on page 11.*

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Annual Meeting, 7:30pm. Reports, election of officers.
Dress is coat and tie. *All officers required to attend.*

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Workers Night, Crowne-Plaza Hotel, Cromwell.
Cocktail Hour 6pm, Dinner 7pm. *By invitation only.*

Saturday, May 14, 2011

Spring Bus Trip to NYC. See information on page 6.

Friday, May 20, 2011

Graduation Dinner for new 32nds, Shrine Center.
Cocktail hour 6pm, Dinner 7pm. *By invitation only.*

Saturday, July 9, 2011

Valley of Hartford Family Life Ballgame Picnic at the
Rockcats, New Britain Stadium, 6:00pm (See flier
page 9).

Saturday, July 23, 2011

3rd Annual 5K Race for the Childrens Dyslexia Center.

Sun, Mon, Wed, during June, July

Theatre Newington-On Stage rehearsals on Sundays,
Mondays and Wednesday during the months of June
and July.

August 5-7, 2011

Theatre Newington-On Stage performances. See page
10 of this issue of *View of the Valley* for more
information.

NOTE:

All Thursday activities start at 7:30 p.m. unless
otherwise specified.

Pre-Degree Dinners before all degrees. See the RSVP
form on page 13.

Please see Valley Calendar on the website for rehearsal
dates. (www.valleyofhartford.org/calendar.html)

Valley of Hartford News

View of the Valley, Reservation Forms, Calendar: All On-Line

Copies of *View of the Valley* (in PDF format), petitions and reservation forms, as well as a calendar of Valley events, are all available on the Valley's website <http://www.valleyofhartford.org>. Please bookmark this site, as it is the most up-to-date reference of Valley events available. A common calendar of all Scottish Rite events in CT is available at <http://www.ctcouncilofdeliberation.org/calendar.html>

Valley Dues Are Now Due

The second dues notice reminder for those whose dues are still outstanding has been mailed out from the Supreme Council. The Annual dues notices are sent out each year in late October, with a follow up notice after 30 days, and a third and final notice at some point after that date.

If a brother was current in his dues at the time the first notice was sent, his upcoming year's dues card was attached to the notice. If not, there was no card attached. If you have not paid your back dues by June 1st, you will be subject to discharge from the Scottish Rite for NPD.

To make it more convenient for members to pay their dues, the Scottish Rite Supreme Council now offers dues payment online. Visit the Supreme Council website, <http://supremecouncil.org>, then in the red box labeled "I want to" click "Pay your dues here" and follow the instructions.

If you are having problems paying your dues, either because of poor health, the current economic conditions, or other factors, and if you would like to remain a member in good standing, please contact the Valley Office for assistance. All inquiries will be handled on a strictly confidential basis.

Annual Meeting 2011

The Annual Meeting of the Valley of Hartford will be convened on Thursday, May 5, 2011 at 7:30pm at the Valley Auditorium. Dress for the evening is coat and tie. Caps and Jewels should be worn. Presiding officers are reminded that they must have a written report covering their year, to be delivered at the Annual Meeting, and turned into the Secretary. All officers are required to attend, and all incoming officers should be in attendance as well.

Workers Night 2011

The Valley of Hartford Workers Night will again be held at the Crowne-Plaza Hotel in Cromwell on Thursday evening, May 12, 2011. Social hour begins at 6pm, dinner begins at 7pm. Following dinner, there will be a *brief* ceremony to install our officers for the upcoming year.

For those Valley of Hartford members who are eligible to receive an invitation to the Worker's Night Banquet, but who have not yet received an invitation, your dues payment has not yet been received. Until the payment is received (the deadline is April 30th), no invitation will be forthcoming. If you are current on your dues, your name was not turned into the Valley office for work performed during the calendar year of 2010, and you will need to contact the Valley Secretary as soon as possible.

Consistory Day Spring 2011

The Valley of Hartford will hold their Spring 2011 Consistory Day on Saturday April 30, 2011.

The building will be open at 9am for candidate registration and for pickup of luncheon tickets (which must be reserved in advance – see the form on page 12).

- Candidates are requested to sign in by 9:45am and to be in the office no later than 9:45am.
- Degree work begins promptly at 10am. Morning degrees are the 21st and 32nd with a 15-minute intermission between degrees.
- Luncheon following 32nd Degree (see form on page 12)
- Following lunch, reception of dignitaries and the 31st Degree.
- Social hour at the Shrine, beginning after the 31st Degree, approximately 3:00pm.

Membership Milestones

65 Years: Walter G. Joyner, 32°

60 Years: Charles Bangert, 32°, Wendell W. Morrell, 32°, Samuel J. Sargis, 32°, Karl H. Sjovall, 32°, M.S.A.

50 Years: Paul K. Edman, 32°, John K. Jepson, 32°, Carl G. Keuorkian, 32°, Fletcher W. Kinsley, 32°, Ronald W. Oliver, 32°, Stillman H. Rogers, 32°, Lucius M. Whitaker, 32°, Frederick W. Young, 32°

Valley of Hartford Necrology

Since the last publication of the *View of the Valley*, we have been notified of the following deaths. We mourn the passing of our fellow brethren who have been called to their eternal reward in the Paradise of the Grand Architect of the Universe: (*50 year members designated by italics*)

	<u>Home Blue Lodge</u>	<u>Passed away on:</u>
Fredereick W. Arndt	Acacia Lodge #85	12/08/2010
Elmer L. Baxter	Wyllys-St Johns Lodge #4	11/21/2010
Ellis W. Carlson	Wyllys-St Johns Lodge #4	01/10/2011
Matthew P. Curtis	Harmony Lodge #20	01/04/2011
Francis P. Grabinskle	Wyllys-St Johns Lodge #4	12/23/2010
Ernest J. Kjellson	Manchester Lodge #73	01/29/2011
Robert B. McCallum	Evening Star Lodge #101	12/14/2010
Raymond E. Rich	Oxoboxo Lodge #118	01/10/2011

Valley of Hartford Family Life Program

News

Spring Bus Trip

The Valley is undertaking a spring bus trip on May 14, 2011 to New York City. The itinerary leaves the Valley at 8am, includes a tour of the Grand Lodge of New York, lunch and shopping at Rockefeller Center, and a tour of the USS Intrepid Museum, returning to Newington at approximately 9pm. The price is \$39 per person, and reservations should be made through Friendship Tours by calling them at (860) 243-1630.. This trip should not be missed! The reservation flier is available on the website at <http://www.valleyofhartford.org/forms/AASRSpringBusTrip2011.pdf>.

Rock Cats 2011 Ballgame & Picnic, July 9, 2011

It's that time again. Before you know it, our ballgame and picnic will be upon us. See the flier on page 9 of this issue for a clip out reservation form. It's all happening on Saturday, July 9, 2011 at 6pm. The Rock Cats are playing the Binghamton Mets, the New York Mets AA affiliate. And hey, in these times of rising prices you can be sure you're getting a bargain – our prices have not changed since we started doing this event in 2004: adults \$15, children (12 and under) \$10.

3rd Annual 5K to Benefit the Learning Center

Our third annual 5K run/walk to benefit the 32nd Degree Learning Center is slated for Saturday morning, July 23, 2011 at 9am. If you've not volunteered to help that day you still can. If you have not gotten sponsors for the race, you still can. If you've not asked Family Life Chairman Jeff Flynn (jedge60@yahoo.com) if there's anything he needs, you still can. As of this writing we need bottled water, and/or sponsorship for bottled water. Contact Jeff (jedge60@yahoo.com) or 860-304-6348 if you can help in any way.

Other Events

Please watch our website (www.valleyofhartford.org) or our Facebook page to see what other events may pop up from time to time. Occasionally we have events that come up with a short lead time that does not allow time to put information in the *View of the Valley* and still have time to get reservations etc.

Even though the spring trip to the Goodspeed Opera House is sold out, keep an eye out for future trips to the Goodspeed this year. This has been a very popular event, and Jeff will be planning at least one more trip there this year.

What is the “Value Added” of Scottish Rite?

by Francis G. Way, MSA 33°

We send our Ambassadors out to Blue Lodges to recruit new members and to serve as liaisons with their Blue Lodge, making their Worshipful Masters aware of resources the Valleys can bring to the Blue Lodge (in our case, our Auditorium and tech capability, in several other Valleys, there are degree teams) and coordinating scheduling. Obviously our ambassadors have been doing a great job, with our last two classes having candidate numbers in the mid-teens.

And while we have picked brothers who can readily negotiate the often tricky political landscape that exists in Blue Lodge, with some brethren having no use at all for the Appendant bodies, I know that more is expected of these brothers, these ambassadors, who have taken on this additional task for their Valley.

When we are asked by interested brothers why they should join the Scottish Rite, our knee-jerk, Pavlovian response is almost always to respond, “to find even more light in Masonry.” Then we expound upon the greater depth of knowledge our degrees will provide. These are all well and good, of course, but these days I think that brothers often want to know, quickly and immediately, what is the “value added” of Scottish Rite. They ask “why should I take another evening out, away from my family, to join Scottish Rite?” And we all, not just the ambassadors, must be prepared to answer that question.

In my opinion, Scottish Rite can add value to a Mason's life in two ways.

First, and this is something I have experienced personally, Scottish Rite provides an opportunity to get to know and work with other Masons besides the Masons a brother may find in his own Blue Lodge or even his own district. A chance for new friendships to be forged and fraternal experiences to be shared awaits every man who joins the Scottish Rite. In our Valley especially, with full attention being paid to maintaining a vibrant Family Life program (now a part of the ICE concept), there are many opportunities to get to know brethren from a Blue Lodge one might never visit. Even Blue Lodge Council does not afford this opportunity, as it comes around only 5 times per year, and then most men tend to sit with their Blue Lodge brethren.

The other value that Scottish Rite can provide is to the brother who wants to be involved, but might not necessarily want to attempt to “go up the line.” There are many brothers in our fraternity who have no desire to be ritualists, and being a non-speaking Craftsman in the Master Mason degree twice a year may not be enough to hold their interests. The very nature of the Scottish Rite degree opus, a series of stage plays, provides ample opportunity for any brother to participate and yet never utter a line of ritual or be required to “strut and fret his hour upon the stage.”

While some may protest, and in fact protest loudly, that this does nothing to further the cause of Blue Lodge, I would put forth the premise that these “values added” further the cause of Masonry in general, that wonderful bond of brotherhood where a man can feel he belongs no matter what talent or ability he brings into the Lodge or Valley.

“A View from Backstage”

“Just One of the Stagehands”

Upon reading the October 2010 issue of *View of the Valley* I made my way to page 9, the page almost left blank. As is the case with most things in life, little instances spur one on to act, to speak.

As one “stagehand” I've had the opportunity to become acquainted with many of the men who do a remarkable job of memorizing and speaking their parts in all of the degrees we put on twice each year.

What effort the these Brothers put into these degrees. They show up at all the rehearsals where in good spirited fun they speak vast amounts of learned words (strange in this day's lingo), prayers, actions, cues and say many times “Oh my, did I really say that?” or variations of that anyway.

Then on the night of the degree they show up, get made up by the makeup crew, draw their costumes from the Robe room, and head out on the stage to put on their superlative act or very formal degree.

But, and there's always a but, learning and reciting ritual is only part of their job. How about getting the myriad of things pulled together into an issue of *View of the Valley*? Our Valley is not a one man show, as there's articles to write, events to schedule, tickets to arrange, meals to plan and put on.

There are rehearsals to coordinate with casts and officers and all involved, the requirement to turn the lights on at the right time so all can see what is going on, and get the microphones placed so that everyone can hear those sometimes strange sentences from the past.

And then there are other Valleys in our state that our officers coordinate with, and they sometimes even “jump ship” to the other Valleys to do special parts in their degrees.

While there is, no doubt, the satisfaction of a job well done, in this day and age one has to ask “Where do they find the time?” Where does the energy come from? In my long association with Masonry I have seen these types of effort time after time, over and over.

So I needed to put pen to paper and thank all of the many brothers who do their part, not only on degree nights, but away from our Scottish Rite auditorium in Newington – at home, traveling, calling others to arrange transportation, blocks of tickets and so on. Everyone likes to be a part of the winning team, and so I will leave it at that and say, humbly, from backstage, Thank You One and All!

This article was sent to me in response to my “Why This Issue is Shorter” article, from one of our stagehands. The brother wished to remain anonymous and have his byline appear as “Just a stagehand.” As Commander-in-Chief (and Editor) I'd like to thank him, but also let him know he's not “just a stagehand.” Without his efforts, and those of other brothers like him who never tread the boards under the lights, we could never perform our duties. So I will say thank you to “just a stagehand” both from myslef, and from the entire Valley. -- Ed.

Masonic Family Day
at the
New Britain RockCats

Saturday, July 9, 2011

6:00 pm



Bring family, grandchildren, friends...ALL ARE WELCOME! Have a friend who might be interested in Masonry? Bring him and his family along to see the fun we have!

Pre-Game All You Can Eat Picnic in the AT&T Patio at 6:00 PM includes:

BBQ Chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, pasta salad, cole slaw, lemonade, iced tea, watermelon, cookies...

PLUS Field Box Seat Tickets for 7:05 PM Baseball Game

all for just:

Adults ... \$15
Children 12 & Under ... \$10

Questions? Call Frank @
860-563-8176
fgway33@gmail.com

PLEASE CLIP & RSVP:

*** by June 18, 2011 ***

with check payable to "Valley of Hartford"
to:

Frank Way
37 Trivet Lane
Wethersfield, CT 06109-2526
ATTN: BALLGAME

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Num Adults Attending _____ @
\$15/each

Num Children Attending _____ @
\$10/each

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Email: _____



TNOS GEARS UP FOR A SUMMER 2011 SHOW



What happens if you are a timid female librarian; the sole witness to a crime, able to identify the perpetrator and you ***DON'T TELL MOTHER!*** ? Well, we think you will have to pay a visit to the Scottish Rite Auditorium this August to find out! Bank robbery, mistaken identities, dinner gone awry, fiancés, their mothers and an uncontrollable vacuum cleaner all run amuck in this Monk Ferris farce.

The production rests in the capable hands of **TNOS** producer Mimi DePasquale, supported by steadfast Stage Manager Jeff Thomas and his Assistant SM Theo Ververis. **TNOS** veteran director Scott J. Barnard once again takes the helm for this, his sixth production. **"DTM!"** as we lovingly refer to this show, marks the fifth **TNOS** effort presented in collaboration with the Scottish Rite. Last summer's **DRINKING HABITS** had them rolling in the aisles, and this one promises to keep up the momentum. The breakneck pace, rapid-fire dialogue and outlandish situations make for an evening or afternoon of non-stop laughter!

As always, **TNOS** donates a portion of each ticket to a Scottish Rite charity, in an effort to maintain our belief of "giving back to the community."

We look forward to having many new faces in our audiences, along with loyal fans from previous productions, and we welcome the opportunity to greet all of you in the lobby, after each performance.



DON'T TELL MOTHER!

Got the itch to get onstage and strut your stuff? Come on over to the Scottish Rite Auditorium, 207 Deming Street, Newington on May 9th and/or 10th at 7:00 pm, to audition for our summer show! The entire production run will be held at the S.R. Auditorium. Sides will be available at auditions for cold readings. We are casting 8 roles: 5 F (playing 20's – 60's) and 3 M (playing 20's – 40's). Rehearsals begin with the first read-thru on June 5th and will take place on Sunday afternoons and Monday and Wednesday evenings. Performances are scheduled for August 5th, 6th and 7th. Maybe you prefer working "behind the scenes?" Stop by and let us know of your interest. We can always use another pair of hands!

You can reach us by phone (860) 202-9793 (leave a message), email: tnos1@juno.com or visit our website: www.theatrenewington.org for more information.

Valley of Hartford Consistory Day

Dinner Reservation Form

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, Nathan Hale Consistory will be concluding the 2011 Spring Class Degrees with the presentation of the 21st, 32nd and 31st Degrees.

The day's schedule is *approximately* as follows:

9:00 am – 10:00 am:	Registration
10:00am	Opening, Portrayal of 21 st Degree
	Intermission
	Portrayal of 32 nd Degree
12:00 pm – 1:30pm	Lunch at Sphinx Shirne
1:30 pm -- 1:50pm	Introduction of Dignitaries
1:50 pm	31 st Degree
3:00 pm	Social Hour at Shrine

A prime rib dinner will be served at a cost of \$15.00 (if paid in advance) Reservations are required and must be received by the Valley Secretary **no later than April 26, 2011. Payment MUST be included with reservation.**

An alternate meal select (fish or chicken) will be available. Meal tickets may be picked up on April 30th starting at 9am at the registration desk.

Please Include Your Payment With This Reservation Form

Mail to: David R. Blythe, Sr., Secretary
Valley of Hartford, AASR
PO Box 310198
Newington, CT 06131-0198

Make Checks Payable To: Valley of Hartford, AASR

Please reserve () Lunch ticket(s) @ \$15.00 **if paid in advance**
@ \$20.00 **if not paid in advance**
@ \$25.00 **as a last minute walk-in**

Meal Choice: Prime Rib () Alternate () Note: alternate will be either fish or chicken

Enclosed is payment in the amount of (\$ _____)

in the name of: _____
(Please PRINT)

Email Address: _____

The Scottish Rite Foundation of Hartford Inc.

Francis G. Way, MSA, 33°

On May 10, 1949, a Special Act of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut formed the Scottish Rite Foundation of Hartford, Inc.

The Scottish Rite Foundation's charge is to provide a suitable home for Scottish Rite Masonry in the Valley of Hartford. Every time you walk into our building, sit in our auditorium to view a degree portrayal, every time you hear a visitor say "what a lovely building", you have that opportunity because of the Scottish Rite Foundation.

The Foundation is to our Valley what a Building Association or Building Corporation is to a Blue Lodge. It is responsible for the maintenance and furtherance of our Valley's home. And while I don't mean to disparage any other Valley in Connecticut, I, for one, feel that we have one of the nicest Valley buildings I've ever seen.

Our Foundation was funded by the estate of the late Illustrious Edward Moseley White, 33°. The income from these funds have been expended on behalf of, and to further the purposes of Scottish Rite in the Valley of Hartford. Illustrious Brother White served the Valley as Thrice Potent Master, Sovereign Prince, Most Wise Master and was Commander-in-Chief of Connecticut Consistory. He was from Apollo Lodge #59 and passed to the Celestial Lodge Above in 1963.

The Foundation is composed of nine directors who are elected from among the membership of the Valley of Hartford, and each serves for a three-year term. The officers of the Foundation are elected annually at the Foundation's Annual Meeting. Currently, the President of the Foundation is Ill. John F. Kessler, 33°, the Vice President is Ill. David R. Blythe, Sr., 33°, the Secretary is Ill. Bruce T. Work, 33° and the Treasurer is Ill. Allan E. Acker, 33°.

Membership in the Foundation is open to any member of the Valley of Hartford and to join a brother need only pay a one time lifetime membership fee of \$100. Membership provides a brother a voice in the future of our Scottish Rite home, as well as an invitation to the Annual Meeting, which is usually a luncheon meeting on a Friday in June.

If you have not joined the Scottish Rite Foundation, you should first ask yourself why not? And then you should join.

If you have further questions about the Scottish Rite Foundation, you can ask any officer, or drop me an email personally (fgway33@gmail.com) and I will see that you receive an answer.

Here's hoping you join and that we see you at the Annual Meeting.

Valley of Hartford
Pre-Degree Dinner Reservation Form



DATES: February 24, March 10, March 24, April 14 (all Thursdays)

We will once again be offering pre-degree dinners for Brethren who plan on attending the Valley Degrees that evening. Dinner will be over in time for cast and support members to fulfill their duties and prepare for the evening's degrees.

Dinner is **Buffet Style** with Beef or Pork, Chicken, Pasta, Salad and Bread/Rolls (menu will vary, but will usually contain those types of dishes). Dessert and Coffee will be served **after** the degree work.

Reservations and Payment are required *IN ADVANCE* (return the form below)

Reservation Deadline: 12 noon on the Monday prior to each degree

Price: \$12 per meal -or- all four (4) for \$40

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Sphinx Shrine Dining Room

Make checks payable to: Valley of Hartford, AASR

Mail To: Valley of Hartford, PO Box 310198, Newington CT 06131-0198

Name: _____ **Amount Enclosed:** _____

Email Address: _____ **Phone:** () _____

Please sign me up for the following meals:

() February 24	@ \$12.00 per meal
() March 10	@ \$12.00 per meal
() March 24	@ \$12.00 per meal
() April 14	@ \$12.00 per meal

Please sign me up for the 4 meal package: () All 4 meals @ \$10.00 per meal

NOTE: This form is not used for the Consistory Meal (Sat. April 30). Please use the Consistory Luncheon form.

(If reservations are made without advance payment, and the member is a no-show, a bill will be issued in the amount of \$18.00, the cost of the dinner)

Morton Katz Recieves Pro Bono Award

Morton N. Katz, 32^o, MSA, is the 2010 Recipient of the Hartford County Bar Association *pro bono* award. The plaque representing the award was presented to him at the annual Law Day ceremony in Hartford Superior Court. Katz has worked as a volunteer with Statewide Legal Services since 1996. Currently he serves at the Family Law Legal Clinic in Hartford, preparing pleadings for litigants appearing *pro se* in Family Court cases, and represents claimants in Unemployment Compensation hearings and appeals before the Employment Security Division of the Department of Labor.

He served at *pro bono* counsel with the Connecticut Bar Association "Law Works for People" for ten years, representing indigent clints in Superior Court in Family Relations cases. Since 1997 he has been under contract as a Special Public Defender with the Public Defenders Office representing indigent defendents in criminal cases, first in G.A. 16 in West Hartford and now in Hartford Superior Cour G.A 14. In 1998 he was appointed a Superior Court Magistrate and presides over Small Claims and Infractions sessions in eight Judicial Distrcet and G.A. Courts about Connecticut.

His extensive public service includes twenty-five years as Avon Elections Moderator, for which he was recognized in 2001 with the first Secretary of State's Public Service Award for dedicated service to the Town of Avon. Since 1984 Katz has served as a member and vice-chair of the Connecticut Public Transportation Commission. This statutory body, part of the Department of Transportation, conducts public hearings to receive information and recommendations in order to extend and improve public transportation for instra-state and interstate travel. He was again recognized in 2003 with the Secretary of State's Public Service Award for dedicated service and contribution to state boards and commissions in Connecticut.

Katz is now accredited by the Officer of the VA General Counsel for the preparation, presentation and prosecution of claimsf or veterans benefits before the Department of Veterans Affairs. This is part of the Connecticut Bar Association's initiative to help veterans. He works with the Center for Public Policy at Central Connecticut State University in participating in the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. He is on its Speakers' Bureau and addresses high school students about wartime experiences in order to publicize the History Project. In ceremonies at the University, Bob Patrick, VHP Directory from the Library of Congress presented Katz with a Certificate of Appreciation for service to and support of the Project. At the same time State Representative Ken Green gave him an Official Citation from the Connecticut House of Representatives for dedicated service and valuable contribution to the VHP.

Help Keep Our Membership Records Up-To-Date

We need your assistance to keep our membership records up to date. Please notify the Valley Secretary of any address, email address or phone number changes. If you know of the passing of a Scottish Rite brother, please pass that information along to the Secretary as well. (This can also be done on-line by clicking on "Contact Us" in the navigation bar at www.valleyofhartford.org).

Personal Info Change (please print):

Name: _____

Old Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Email: _____

Passing of a Brother: (please print):

Name: _____ Date of death: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please Mail To: Valley of Hartford, PO Box 310198, Newington, CT 06131-0198

A Final Word from the Editor.....

Brethren, Family and Friends....

WOW! Was that a tough winter or what???

After a slow start, and a not-to-white Christmas in these parts, we received our first healthy snow fall just after Christmas and it seemed like from that point on, until the end of February, it kept snowing and snowing and snowing. At Bradley International Airport, where the northern Connecticut records are kept, it was the snowiest January on record, and overall the second snowiest winter. But, as is the nature of things, spring has arrived and slowly, very slowly, it is getting warmer and nicer outside.

The Valley's spring season is well underway, with a rather large class of 15 candidates. It may well be that Masonry has turned the "membership corner" and is beginning to pull in greater numbers than over the last 10 or 15 years.

The Feast of the Paschal Lamb was portrayed on March 31st and was very well done by the Past Most Wise Masters. We have our 18th degree and Consistory Day left before we wrap up the Valley year with our Annual Meeting and Workers night.

Thank you to all who have picked up the working tools and labored with us. Thank you to all who have striven to make things better in our Valley.

Enjoy your spring brothers!

Fraternally,

Francis G. Way, MSA, 33°

Valley of Hartford
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
P.O. Box 310198
Newington, CT 06131-0198

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