



**THE VALLEY VOICE**  
**VALLEY of MONTPELIER A.A.S.R.**  
**TRESTLEBOARD** **JULY 2010**



**136th Annual Meeting of the VT COD held**

On the afternoon of June 12th Scottish Rite Masons from every Valley assembled in Montpelier to do some business, renew friendships and have some fun. While the men deliberated about reports and budgets the Ladies toured Studio Place Arts in Barre seeing the work of area artists, and touring their workshops.

During the meeting, members were informed about updates and changes to our web site, and were informed that our web master, Mason Pratt, is moving out of State. For this reason our IT committee is being rebuilt. If you are interested in this work, let us know!

Brother “Sandy” Karstens gave a spirited talk on membership work, and outlined a system he called “OSM” or obtain, sustain and maintain, that stressed an overall approach to membership, not just focusing on handing a Mason a petition.

Valleys reported on their situation, and we were exposed to an extended oration on our Rite from Robert Fagge, the TPM of Brattleboro. Brother Randy Cary spoke with great passion on our Childrens Dyslexia Center in Williston.

The Commander in Chief in his address announced several new developments. The first was the creation of an Administrative Board of the VT Council of Deliberation similar to the business councils of our Valleys. Its purpose would be to create a management group to take care of the day to day operations of the COD. In the past, the Deputy did all this by himself, but our Deputy Eric Ginette has chosen to adopt a team approach. It is hoped the members of this board can be expanded to include a worthy brother from each Valley who will then become that Valley’s Advisor.

At the same time, the Deputy announced the creation of a Futures committee to analyze our Rite as it is projected out into the years ahead, to assist the COD in its planning efforts. Steve Farrington has agreed to begin the work of this committee. If you would be interested in becoming a part of this “think tank” please let Steve know.

Following this, financial reports were presented, and the budget was passed for the year to come. The Nomination committee, chaired by brother “Jack” Campbell, reported and its work was accepted and the secretary asked to cast one vote for this slate of officers.

At this point, the Ladies joined us for the awarding of the Meritorious Service awards and an old time (1928) installation of officers was conducted. It was pointed out that a position as an officer in this Council entails no real work, but is an honor conferred upon members who have distinguished themselves in their Valleys.

Immediately following this, the sounds of an accordeon and the clacking of sticks announced the presence of Morris Dancers, whose lively outfits and energetic capering quickly dispelled the air of the business meeting, and set the tone for the party to follow. An open bar kept busy quenching the thirst such meetings produces, and bridged the time before the turkey supper was served.

ICE: Inspiration-Convenience-Enjoyment: it was all here.

## From The Gavel

Greetings Brothers, my name is Steve Engel and I am the new Thrice Potent Master, moving into the office previously held by Lee Martinsen. I belong to 2 Blue lodges, Waterman # 83 in Johnson Vt. where I am currently the Secretary and Treasurer, and Meridian Sun #20 Craftsbury Vt. where I am a Past Master and the Marshall. I reside in Johnson VT. I received my 32<sup>nd</sup> degree April 13<sup>th</sup> 2005, and I most recently served as the Membership chairman.

I look forward to serving all of you, and will do all I can on my part to make the Valley stand out within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The other newly elected and appointed officers are eager to continue the excellent work of the Valley and make improvements wherever necessary to carry on the tradition of this fine Valley. We will continue to work with the other Valleys in Vermont and assist them and share degree work as we have in the past.

One of the many fine qualities of the Valley of Montpelier is our exemplary degree work. We have presented many different degrees in the past few years, aside from those required by the 3 bodies of the Valley. This would not be possible without our excellent cast members and cast director Rick Rayfield and property managers Barry Duquette and Bob Herdling. Our vast collection of costumes and props enhances the theme of each degree presented. We always welcome new cast members. There are always speaking and non speaking parts. We always have a lot of fun at the degree rehearsals and presenting the degree work.

On August 21<sup>st</sup> the Valley will host our Annual Family Picnic held this year at Summit Lodge in Williamstown. Lobster, Steak Hillbilly Golf etc. etc. Please see the flier for more info. This September 11<sup>th</sup> 2010 the Valley of Montpelier will present the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Master Traveler. Prior to the degree, during our Valley stated meeting, we will present 25 and 50-year certificates. We will also bestow 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree certificates to those who have not received them. If you feel you are due a 25 or 50 year certificate or a 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree certificate and have not been notified, please contact our secretary, Mikhael Yowe at 802-765-4529 or Steve Engel at 802 635-2150. At least 2 weeks before the meeting on Sept 11<sup>th</sup>. Again, the officers and I look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Thank you, Steve Engel TPM

### **The Active's Summer Report**

I would like to bring you into my world as the Active for Vermont finishing up the first year of service. This is how I feel the Active members look at our responsibilities "we serve the members of our Rite". My first few months were spent observing the Valleys and getting to know the dedicated brothers that make up the leadership teams. It was interesting to watch the different boards react to the "New Rite" as I will call our restructuring. I feel it is my task to ask learn about each Valley so I can ask the right questions and not try to grasp at answers to some problem. There is some anxiety around the restructuring of the management teams. But the changes that are being enacted are part of a well thought out plan. This is not a Hail Mary pass to save the Rite but a plan to build a fraternity with a distinctive impact on its brothers that would leave a gaping hole in their lives if it failed to exist. These are not quick fixes. I saw the leaders of the Valleys bring onto their team new members this spring that would enact this change no matter how painful it can be. The one thing that I experienced was the relentless intensity of a few key leaders. In my business and personal life I surround myself with this type of person. Yes they are sometimes difficult to be around because their light burns so bright but it is this light that will help you through the turbulent times. They will take responsibility for the actions that need to happen because they are responsible to the Rite. They will take actions that are true to the core values of the Rite, this I am sure. This is not done for self-aggrandizement. It is done for the members of the Rite. It is built into their DNA. Support these brothers and help them with the details that need to be tended to. The leadership has great faith that we will prevail and not just survive. The Rite (its members) should trust and support its leadership.

Don Duquette, 33<sup>o</sup> Active for the State of Vermont.

### From The Secretary's Desk

Greeting Brothers, I am please to let everyone know that I have finally finished the members' mailing list with e-mails. Bill Shwab had sent some of you this Trestle Board via the internet. It is our wish to send as many mailings as possible in this manner as it will cut the mailing cost down and guarantee that you can read your Trestle Board on your travels. I am looking forward to serving you as Secretary and if you have any question or feed back please feel free to contact me at 802-598-3251 or at [mikhael.yowe@gmail.com](mailto:mikhael.yowe@gmail.com)

Mikhael Yowe

### The Most Wise Master

Well my Brothers, from TPM to Most Wise Master, I am again looking forward to serving the Valley. Oh, and did it come out yet that I am also the Membership Chairman. Which brings me to my first comments; on September 11<sup>th</sup> we are doing a 4<sup>th</sup> degree at the Montpelier Masonic Center at 9am with a breakfast at 8am. Now you all know that you cannot get a better breakfast anywhere than at the Aurora lodge, those boys (and gals) know how to do it right, and what better way to let those scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes, french toast, juice, coffee and what ever else happens to be on the menu settle in that to sit in one of those comfy chairs in the lodge and watch a fourth degree performed at its best by your Brothers.

The only thing that I can think of that might top that is if **you** were to bring a Brother to join the Rite and watch his expression as he witnesses the Fourth degree. So would you look around your lodge room and invite someone (or two) to join us on the 11<sup>th</sup>. I would also like to come to you Lodge and give a little talk on the Scottish Rite. That is if you would let me, a five or ten minute talk might spark an interest and bring in a new brother. Remember, first lime signers get free dues in the Valley for a year, Call me or E-mail me if you need petitions.

Now I must admit that I do not know much about Frank J. Martin, but by the next newsletter I may have some astonishing facts about our Chapter.

Lee Martenson, Most Wise Master  
479-0334 Home 249-0900 Cell [lmartensom@msn.com](mailto:lmartensom@msn.com)



### IN MEMORIAM

Alfred Zeller	St.Johnsbury, Vt	04/03/1921	10/03/2009
Carroll Francis Dunican	Northfield, VT	12/24/1939	02/06/2010
Neil Hathaway Bradley	Norfolk, VA	06/09/1920	02/11/2010
Edward Richardson Eurich	Barre, VT	05/24/1916	02/17/2010
Richard Lewis Gallison	Plainfield, VT	05/20/1934	04/03/2010
Heyward McLeod	Montpelier, VT	09/15/1924	04/21/2010
Charles Edward Rhodes	Stowe, VT	03/15/1948	06/16/2010



**VALLEY OF MONTPELIER  
11th Annual FAMILY PICNIC  
SATURDAY AUGUST 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Social Hour 3PM**

**Supper around 5PM**

Menu: Lobster or Sirloin Steak for \$16.00- both for \$28.00.  
Meal includes corn on the cob, potato salad, dessert, soft drinks & beer.

Free hamburgers and hot dogs for the kids & grandkids!

*This year we will provide plates, utensils and cups!*

Please send your reservations by August 8<sup>th</sup>

Location: Summit Lodge in Williamstown.

111 Brush Hill Road

From Rt. 14 take 64 N (towards 89) to Brush Hill Road (first right).

Turn right

Just up the hill on the left is a driveway that leads into a field. The elementary school is on the right. That driveway will take you to the Lodge (visible from the road).

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**11<sup>th</sup> Family Life Picnic August 21, 2010**

No. Attending: _____	No. Steak _____	x \$16.00= _____
	No. Lobster _____	x \$16.00= _____
	No. Both _____	x \$28.00= _____
	<b>Total</b> _____	

**Make Checks payable to: Valley of Montpelier, AASR.**

**Your check is your reservation.**

**Mail to:**

**Mikhael Yowe**

**9 Howe Street**

**Williamstown, VT 05679**



# AASR

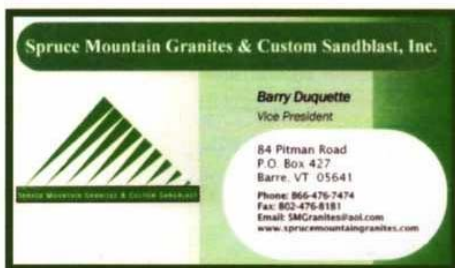
## Valley of Montpelier Vermont

1st prize Personalized for the Winner  
Bench Engraved with Scene & Cabin

2nd prize Garmin GPS

Contact Barry 802 433-1115

5 for \$20.00 or \$5.00 each



Bench donated by  
Spruce Mountain Granites  
& Custom Sandblast