

SCOTTISH RITE CLUB OF BARRIE
1ST ANNUAL REPORT
December 2015

Fellow Club Members:

Our first anniversary is in the past. What a tremendous inaugural year !

To all those who shared our vision and became charter members – thank you.

We now have over 80 members and your executive also thanks and welcomes those who have joined since October 2014.

We extend our gratitude to Robert Brethour (Active Member & Grand Marshall) and to the Trustees for not only endorsing this initiative, but providing support.

Our seven founders formulated a framework for the club – of which we are extremely proud. Please check the web site regularly www.theriteclub.ca – and I refer you again to our Constitution and Operating Procedures.

We are particularly proud of our Mission Statement: “To provide and maintain a stimulating social environment promoting individual enlightenment”.

Our club’s motto “Sapienta Pax Fraternitas” (Wisdom Peace Fraternity) summarizes our objectives and mission statement in three powerful words.

The purposes on which we formulated the club were:

- To enhance the experience of being a Scottish Rite Freemason through social assemblies and events.

- To create an atmosphere for personal growth – learning, understanding and enlightenment.

- To provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and knowledge in a social environment.

- To create enthusiasm and a desire to be included and participate in the Valley of Barrie Scottish Rite activities.

- To provide a medium for participation where members otherwise may find a void. The Club is focused on 21st century living and technology for its communications and records maintenance.

As I review those objectives more a year and a half after they were set to guide us, I am even more committed to our club in order to try and achieve those goals . Please take time to look at them again. You may well know someone who joined the Rite in the last few years who has not had the time or inclination to participate at our reunions. Not everyone can give up weekend time and not everyone is keen on ritual or our prescribed reunion procedures. Club membership could be a medium to re-connect that member to the Rite and provide wanted education and social time with his brethren.

Three successful regular meetings are now in our archives. At each we had a keynote speaker with an interesting, informative message - Albert Pike (Ill Bro Dale Graham), Alchemy (Ill Bro Scott Rowe) and the Kaballah (W Bro Greg Quinn).

For those who participated, the club's first special event, was the highlight of our 1st year. Our trip to Washington to visit the House of the Temple, the Washington Masonic Memorial and many other landmarks, was incredible ! Thank you Steve Barendregt & Chris Wiwchar - your vision and planning made the trip perfect in every way and enjoyed immensely by everyone who attended.

We currently have a couple of possible special events under consideration.

We were delighted to donate \$300 on behalf of the club to the Foundation's 50th Anniversary project (funds allocated to the Barrie Learning Centre).

Your executive all feel that our expectations and hopes for our 1st year were greatly surpassed. For all these achievements, we hope you too have a warm and fuzzy feeling about The Scottish Rite Club of Barrie.

Our Sovereign Grand Commander will be attending the April 6th regular meeting and I assure you he will have an enlightening message for us that evening. Terry McLean is a charter member of the club and we thank him for his support and participation.

As we move forward into year two and beyond, we will be seeking help and expertise from our members. Please speak with any of the executive if you would like to engage your talents and time to support, sustain and propel this club into the future.

I have had the pleasure of working with incredible men in the forming of and 1st year of operation of this club: Steve Barendregt (Treasurer), Doug Crawford, Dwight Fielder (Secretary), James Greaves (Vice President), Mark Linnemoller & Chris Wiwchar. Each of them has been so generous with talent, time and resources. I am thrilled with our achievements together as the founders of this club.

Dwight is moving to Sudbury in April and we shall miss him in many activities of the valley. But, our loss is a gain for the Valley of Sudbury.

Sean Snow of Toronto is replacing Dwight as Club Secretary and we welcome him to the executive.

Steve, Doug, Dwight, James, Mark, Sean, Chris & I extend to you our wish for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2016.

Sapienta Pax Fraternitas !

Cam Goodman
President, Scottish Rite Club of Barrie