

SCOTTISH RITE CLUB OF BARRIE
2nd ANNUAL REPORT
December 2016

Dear Fellow Club Member:

Our 2nd anniversary is in the past. We have had five successful meetings where we heard excellent talks on Albert Pike (Dale Graham), Alchemy (Scott Rowe), the Kaballah (Greg Quinn), demographics and strategic initiatives for the rite (Terry McLean) and Manley P. Hall (Scott Rowe).

On October 5th we had our first elections for the executive and we thank you for your support in allowing us to continue another year with forming the foundation for the club.

We extend our thanks to Robert Brethour (Active Member & Grand Secretary-General), John Harrison (Active Member) and the Trustees for continued support. In recognition of his support and charter membership, our executive presented Terry McLean, Sovereign Grand Commander with a life membership On April 6th.

Your founders formulated a framework for the club of which I remain very proud:

- i) Mission Statement: "To provide and maintain a stimulating social environment promoting individual enlightenment".
- ii) Motto "Sapientia Pax Fraternitas" (Wisdom Peace Fraternity) – this summarizes our objectives and mission statement in three powerful words.
- iii) Purposes/Objectives

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.

In regards to governance, I refer you to our Constitution and Operating Procedures on the website theriteclub.ca

Your club has approximately 80 members. I say approximately as there are some o/s dues resulting in uncertainty of the count.

We congratulate our sister clubs, Victoria Scottish Rite Club (founded 1945) and Muskoka Scottish Rite (founded 1971) on their many years of success and generous charity endeavours over the decades. It is our desire to also built a model that will sustain the test of time, fulfil our mission statement and founding purposes/objectives as well as embracing that wonderful attribute of masons, charity.

At our December 14th Executive Meeting, Steve Barendregt was presented with a cheque in the amount of \$500, on behalf of the club, as a donation to the newly formed Simcoe Grey York Chapter of DeMolay. Steve has spearheaded this initiative and we congratulate him for success in having the chapter founded which, as you know, is sponsored by the Valley of Barrie.

A key concern of the executive is our website. We are looking at the creation of a new website reflecting 2017 communications methodology, ease of use and attractiveness. This will have a cost of \$1000 or more plus an annual fee of \$100 +. We thank James Greaves for so generously creating and maintaining our site to date on a donation basis. We are also looking at utilizing facebook as a possible method for our information sharing and updates. For certain, we are committed to non-paper communications and to current technology for communication/ and information sharing now and in the future. Your input on this issue will be appreciated. And, if anyone feels they can be of assistance in this area, *please* let us know.

As we move forward into year three and beyond, we want and need your 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. Jim Anderson has volunteered to assist us in updating and maintaining the present website for which we are very appreciative.

To strengthen the club for the future, we need new members. I know you will identify riters who may find this a good venue and direct them to the executive or our website for further information. But better still – bring them to a meeting to see for themselves. Your executive is also undertaking a membership campaign to recent 32nd D valley members.

We are strong; let's grow stronger together.

It is good to reflect on the past. However, it is important to look to the future.

I have mentioned that our executive is working to replace our website, our request to you to consider becoming more involved in the club's operation and activities as well as our membership campaign.

At the April 5th 2017 meeting, Steve Barendregt and some of the officers of the DeMolay chapter will be making a presentation which I know will be most informative and enjoyable. Ill Bro Brian Gilkinson, Active Member & Deputy for Ontario, will be giving a talk on the history of the rite at our October 4th 2017 meeting; this is a topic several members have requested and I know will be interesting and educational. Be sure to mark those dates in your calendar now.

As you know, those of us who went on the Washington trip are still talking about it ! We are presently looking into the possibility of a trip to Boston, Philadelphia, Washington or New York in May or June. Steve & Chris will have more information in February.

The future looks great; let's make it so together.

On behalf of your executive (Steve, Doug, James, Mark, Sean, Chris and myself), I extend our wish to you and your family for a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Sapientia Pax Fraternitas !

Cam Goodman
President, Scottish Rite Club of Barrie