

CLARION

WINTER 2015

Trumpeting the Impact of the Scottish Rite in Canada

THE SCOTTISH RITE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF CANADA

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:
CAMPAIGN DONATION FORM/
BLUE ENVELOPE

50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY 1964 - 2014

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The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada was established in 1964 “to promote charitable work within Canada including the relief of poverty and the advancement of education by making grants to educational or other charitable organization which carries on its work solely within Canada.”



Since its inception, The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation has been funded entirely by donations and bequests from members, families and friends of The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of Canada. Its inaugural donation was made to what was then known as the Canadian Association for Retarded Children specifically for the financing of a seminar to bring together leaders in the field of research in the problem of mental retardation, from across Canada and thus started the Foundation’s 50 years of support for research into “*Helping Solve the Puzzles of the Mind.*”

The Foundation ardently labours for the benefit of all Canadians, regardless of race or creed, with particular interest in funding medical research into areas including dyslexia and autism in children and neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer’s disease and dementia in the aging population. Each year, the Foundation donates more than \$420,000 in research grants to universities and research hospitals across Canada with the aim of “*Helping Solve the Puzzles of the Mind.*”

In addition, the Foundation supports its local Valleys to establish Learning Centres for Children with Dyslexia. The first Learning Centre opened in 2003 in London, Ontario, providing free, one-on-one tutoring to children with reading and comprehension difficulties associated with dyslexia. Now, with eight Learning Centres across Canada utilizing the Orton-Gillingham method, The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation continues with its unique approach to freely helping children learn by tailoring to their individual needs.

Funding for The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation’s honourable endeavours is provided by an established endowment built, managed and supported by Scottish Rite Masons, family and friends as well as the general public. With their mission to fulfill their belief in benevolence and sharing of what they have with their fellow humans in need, the demand for Foundation funding far outstrips its means. As such, you may have been asked by your Scottish Rite friend,



The Foundation’s continued work and belief that the human mind is key to physical, mental and spiritual well-being is surely its lasting legacy. ■

Over \$14 million has been distributed for research into “*Helping Solve the Puzzles of the Mind.*”

Currently established 8 Learning Centres across Canada.

They are located in Halifax, Moncton, Barrie, London, Windsor, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

“I cannot thank you enough from the bottom of my heart. What you’ve given my daughter is a future. She went from not being able to read or write, to reading voraciously. She has forever got a book.” — **Sheila Merker, Parent**

“I would like to really say a big thank you to people at the S.R.C.F. and thank also all their supporters that have given a lot of their time, money, energy, effort and passion to all the causes they’re involved with.” — **Dr. Isabelle Aubert, Sunnybrook and Women’s College Health Science Centre**

“It’s just a fantastic organization and the fundraising is something that makes a big difference for society.” — **Dr. David Voadlo, Simon Fraser University**



When I am in the company of members within our Scottish Rite fraternity there are two words that always come to mind.

The first one is *pride*:

The pride of fraternity and our families, Pride in our moral and ethical teachings, Pride in making a difference in our communities and within the world.

The second is *passion*:

Passion to achieve our objectives, Passion to make things happen, Passion to overcome our obstacles, and visualize opportunities.

Both of these words speak volumes and reflect the achievements of many of our Scottish Rite brethren, and the Valleys in which they are members. The core efforts of many of our members giving of themselves, as well as going out into the community in support of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada, are the contributing forces year to date relative to the success of our \$1 Million Campaign. To these brethren and their ladies permit me this opportunity to convey our sincere gratitude for your dedication and commitment with a view to achieving our goal of \$1 million dollars.

As of December 1, 2014, together we have raised \$505,322.79. As a percentage this translates into 50.53% towards our goal of \$1 million dollars. What a wonderful beginning to our 50th Anniversary \$1 million campaign!

As we move forward the second half will be a much bigger challenge than the first half.

Make no mistake, we have a long way to go to achieve our 50th Anniversary goal. Some of our Valleys have done a great job in advertising, promoting and supporting our initiative. Many have positioned themselves to hold or are planning special events. Some have been fairly silent.

Have you been to one of our eight Learning Centres in Canada to witness the outstanding accomplishments of the graduates engaged in and using the Orton-Gillingham reading remediation program? What an opportunity to see how your investment dollars in the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation are being expended!

We all know of someone who is facing the challenges associated with Dementia or Alzheimer's. Your investment dollars in the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation will continue to help in the research to "solve the puzzles of the mind". Over \$14 million has been distributed by the Foundation for research helping solve this disease.

By making The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation your charity of choice you will help us to meet or exceed our financial goal of \$1 Million dollars to support our work, **"Solving The Puzzles of the Mind,"** and the continued success of our Learning Centres for Children.

There are a number of ways to donate to the Foundation

- Annual contributions through the Foundation's Blue Envelope program Campaign.
- Donations can be made as a "One Time Donation" or "Annual Donation" over a five year period.
- Donations can be made in cash, cheque, or credit card (Visa or Master Card)
- Donate today. Visit our website www.srcf.ca
- A new program which has been recently introduced is the donation of a stock transfer.

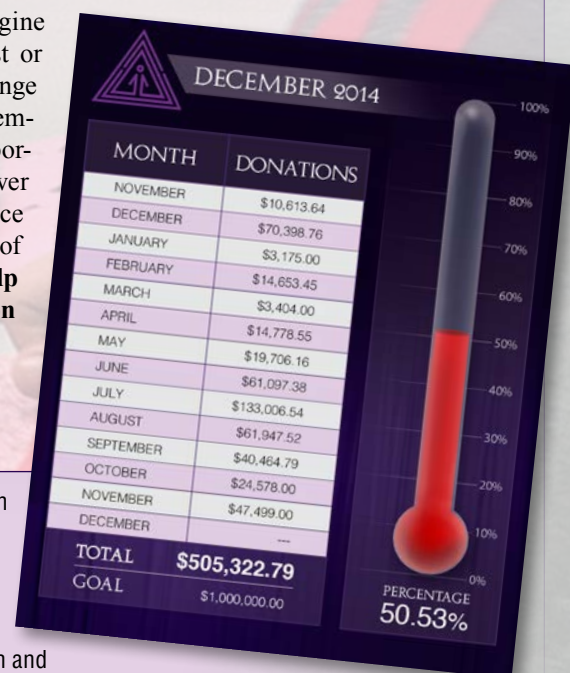
This program offers a number of advantages relative to capital gains and tax exceptions.

- Donations can be made to the S.R.C.F. Capital Fund or to a specific Learning Centre Capital Fund. Capital Funds (Endowment Fund) ensure that you are leaving a legacy.

Capital Funds are invested either by the S.R.C.F. or the Learning Centre. Only the income of those investments are used on an annual basis to support our endeavours in "Solving the Puzzles of The Mind".

We believe the human mind is key to physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. As such, the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada invests in research to help Solve Puzzles of the Mind and in Learning Centres for Children with Dyslexia.

Can you just imagine how your Bequest or Donation can change people's lives? Members are most important asset. The power to make a difference comes from each of us! **Will you help us with a donation today?** ■



A WIN/WIN DONATION

Did you know that you are able to make a gift to the 50th Anniversary Million Dollar Campaign by transferring Securities? This way you would avoid paying capital gains on the Security (stock) being transferred, the SRCF would receive the full value of the stock being transferred, and you would receive a donation receipt for tax purposes for the full value of the stock on the day it is being transferred.

This is a very simple process. Simply call the S.R.C.F. office (905-522-0033) for the proper form and they will guide you through the process. The form can also be obtained on our website: (www.srcf.ca)





Richard A.H. Brown,
Sovereign Grand Commander

During this past year I have had the privilege to visit a number of Valleys across the country. The more I travel and have the opportunity to meet Scottish Rite Freemasons and their spouses, the greater my confidence becomes that Scottish Rite Freemasonry in Canada is making great strides

towards becoming the “*concordant body of choice*” for Canadian Freemasons.

The Fellowship, Compassion and Desire to assist Brother Masons embrace their personal Masonic journeys, displayed in our Valleys is outstanding. And the key to ensure that this continues in the future is our determination to improve and expand on our Leadership and Communication initiatives.

Our Supreme Council was formed 140 years ago and our Charitable Foundation celebrates its 50th anniversary. We have a history of which we can truly be proud and a bright future to embrace. I encourage each of you to support your local Valley through your attendance, your continued encouragement to your Brothers in your Lodge to consider becoming Scottish Rite Freemasons, and your financial support of our Charitable Foundation and our eight Learning Centres.

I encourage you to explore the resources available to you on our website; www.scottishritecanada.ca and ask you to support the One Million Dollar Capital Fundraising Campaign our Charitable Foundation is currently undertaking. Hopefully the majority of you receiving this publication will find it possible to make a financial contribution towards our desire as Scottish Rite Freemasons to “Help Solve Puzzles of the Mind” and support the tremendous work done by our volunteers at our eight Learning Centres.

I wish you and your family a very Joyous Christmas Season and hope that the New Year will provide the happiness, health and accomplishment you desire. ■



Allard B. Loopstra,
President, S.R.C.F.

At our annual meeting of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada held in September 2014 during the Supreme Council Sessions in Halifax, N.S., three of our Directors retired. We thank Gareth Taylor (Toronto), Loren Kline (Edmonton), and Sam Kalinowsky (Ottawa) for their

many years of contributions to the Board. Directors elected to replace them were Ken McComb (Calgary), Harold Crosby (Halifax), and Jim Sutherland (London).

Unfortunately, our President C. Robert Townshend (London) had to step down as President due to health reasons but remains on our Board as a Director. We thank Bob for his leadership, commitment and passion over the last two years. Allard Loopstra (Hamilton) was elected President to finish Bob’s intended three- year term. Harold Crosby (Halifax) was elected Vice President. We wish Robert Townshend God’s grace as he faces these health challenges.

We were able to celebrate our 50th Anniversary of the S.R.C.F. at the S.R.C.F. banquet on the Thursday evening of Supreme Council. Our keynote speaker was Ill. Bro. Ronald Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction, USA. His address was awe-inspiring.

The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation Board of Directors approved a satellite tutoring room in Bracebridge, Ontario as part of the Barrie Learning Centre organization. This is a three-year trial, but we have no reservations that this will prove to be successful and extend our Learning Centre efforts in a cost effective way in other communities within a Valley.

There are so many people across this country that volunteer their time and talents to this Foundation, which started through the vision of our Supreme Council 50 years ago. They range from Valley Representatives, Committee Members, Lodge Secretaries, Tutors, Learning Centre volunteers and Board members etc. What a blessing to have such a group of dedicated people to share in our vision of “*Helping Solve Puzzles of the Mind.*” When you are confronted with a person who is suffering from Alzheimer’s or their family trying to cope, or a child who has dyslexia frustrated with learning in school, then you realize that “*we need to make a difference.*”

CLARION IS PUBLISHED JOINTLY BY THE SUPREME COUNCIL AND THE SCOTTISH RITE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

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Designed by: www.mindpress.ca

The factual accuracy of an article is the contributor’s responsibility. The opinions expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect those of the Supreme Council or the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation, or those of the Clarion committee.



The reward for making monetary donations and/or volunteer time commitments to support these causes is when we see Researchers making significant breakthroughs or discoveries in dealing with Alzheimer's and Dementia; or when we see the pride of accomplishment in a child who has graduated from our Learning Centre, and see how that has dramatically changed that child's life. Then we can say with great pride, "We are making a difference" and I had a hand in that.

By now every Scottish Rite member should be aware of our 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign. Letters and donation forms have been sent to each member of our Fraternity, a video was produced outlining the work of the Foundation (see our website), and this issue of the Clarion has been dedicated to this Anniversary.

Why is this so important? Because Freemasons who Care will Share". One of the basic tenets in Freemasonry is Charity. We are taught this in the 1st degree and it is reinforced many times in the degrees in the Scottish Rite. This campaign is one of the many ways we as Masons can practice Charity. To help those in need whether it is helping researchers in finding the cure to Alzheimer's and Dementia or a child who has Dyslexia.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada and the Board of Directors of each Learning Centre, we wish you a most Joyous Christmas and wish you and your families a Happy New Year and all God's Blessings. ■



Summary Report: S.R.C.F. History: Volume Two 1985-2014

Garry Dowling,
S.R.C.F. History Publication

The Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation was founded in 1964 and the first twenty years of its history were documented in the book "The First Twenty Years" authored by Ill. Bro. Donald M. Fleming. In 2013, S.G.C. Ill. Bro. Robert Townshend commissioned the documentation of the next thirty years of the history of the foundation, to be available as the Foundation celebrates its 50th anniversary. The documentation began in earnest in the fall of 2013 and was completed in time for the Supreme Council sessions held in Halifax in September 2014.

The last thirty years of the Foundation's history lends itself for discussion into four stories, separate and yet related. Let's take a brief look at these four stories.

Research sources included the Supreme Council Proceedings, the Annual Reports of the S.R.C.F., all minutes from the Foundation's general and Director's meetings and personal recollections from some of the present long standing Directors. Following is a brief summary of the document reflecting the last thirty years of the S.R.C.F.

THE DETAILS OF THE THIRTY YEAR PERIOD WERE GROUPED INTO FOUR SEPARATE, YET RELATED, PERIODS.

I The first period was called the Growth Years (1985-1996). This period is a story of stability and growth. Times were good and the Foundation prospered. This period included an amazing partnership with the G. Allen Roehrer Institute, now called the Canadian Association for Community Living and its research arm the National Institute on Mental Retardation. During the period, the capital base and the amount available for Grants and Awards increased significantly.

II The second period highlights the significant revamping of the Grants and Awards program based on a special report on "Foundation Programmes and the Future," by Dr. N. R. Richards in 1996. The primary result saw the Foundation assume complete control of Grants and Awards selection, adjudication, administration and presentation.

III Period three details the entire evolution of the S.R.C.F. Learning Centre programs beginning with the initial pilot project in London Valley in 2003. From its initial beginnings, through to the complete restructuring into decentralized, independent, incorporated centres, these were trying times for the Directors of the S.R.C.F. Many significant issues taxed the skills and determination of the Directors. However, their dedication and perseverance paid off as the Scottish Rite Childhood Learning Centres for Dyslexia became another major component in the quest for solutions to "the puzzles of the mind."

IV The fourth and final period reflects the internal changes adopted by the S.R.C.F. to reshape the Foundation to better manage its mission in times marked by challenging external factors such as financial market trends, pressures on individual charitable givings and the rapid evolution of new technologies (particularly internet and email). Changing times and climates necessitated change in the way the S.R.C.F. conducted its business.

These four periods tell the tale of a Foundation that today has over \$16 million under management, has annual Grants and Awards to research that consistently exceed \$400,000 and whose members support eight Learning Centres for Dyslexia across this nation. What a wonderful 30 years of success!

What can we learn from the document that reflects the last thirty years of history of the S.R.C.F. - our combined Programs stand the S.R.C.F. on extremely solid ground as it continues to support, with all its time, talent and financial resources, the quest for solutions to "the puzzles of the mind."

The final draft of "The History of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada, Volume Two" has been completed and the Foundation Directors are now in the process of determining how and when it will be made generally available. ■





Andrew received a \$500.00 Leadership Scholarship awarded to Canada DeMolay at our Halifax Annual Session. Here is his report.

Key Man was without a doubt the highlight of my summer. The experience that I gained from the week in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania is irreplaceable and I cannot thank my fellow Brothers and Advisors enough for encouraging me to go. To begin, the friends that I made at Key Man became some of the closest people I know. After the first night, my room of guys developed a special bond that is hard to come by. For this alone, I am extremely grateful for having attended Key Man. However, on a further level, I was able to learn about different parts of North America and how the lives we live here in Ottawa are drastically different from those of my American friends. Just seeing how dearly they care about their flag taught me the value of patriotism for Americans. Moreover, I was able to gain insight on how different Chapters run their meetings, which gave Bro. Alex and I some ideas to bring back to our own Chapter.

In terms of the classes that I took, most of them were very insightful and taught very important life lessons that would be valuable to anyone. The teachers who sacrificed their time and energy to help make us better DeMolay's and better young men were greatly loved. Our education department grew tight bonds with one another, and that included our teachers too. Furthermore, there were several guest speakers who came in and presented in a seminar. Even today I remember important lessons they taught, including respecting each other, caring for one another, and treating those around you just as you would wish to be treated.

Another great thing that I loved about Key Man University was how we gave back to society. On the Thursday of the trip, we went over to the Masonic Retirement Village and volunteered to help out the disabled members. The feeling of genuinely helping out these people was indescribable.

Many of these seniors had huge, bright smiles because they got to see something that is rare for them: young, energetic, vibrant people. The experience was priceless. In addition, we were also able to raise over \$1000 for the local dyslexia foundation through a modified version of the "Ice Bucket Challenge."

One of my proudest moments was when I carried the Canadian flag out in the morning for it to be raised on the flag pole. It really was a special moment and something that I will never forget. Another proud moment of mine was when I was able to earn my Representative DeMolay Award. Key Man provided the necessary time and resources to complete this award, and presented it in a special and prestigious fashion.

My experience at Key Man University not only benefitted myself, it has also started to benefit the Ottawa Chapter as well. I was taught and provided with a template on how to organize a successful event, something that I have shown to my Chapter. Also, I learned different strategies for membership recruitment, such as: hosting prospect parties, attracting mothers, presenting flower talks, treating every fun activity like a recruitment opportunity and much more. Since Bro. Alex and I have returned from Key Man, we have initiated a new member, have 1 individual who is very interested, and three brothers who have shown interest as well. My confidence in our ability to grow in numbers at our Chapter has grown ever since I came back from Key Man.

To conclude, I as well as our Chapter as a whole would be extremely grateful if we were funded by affiliated groups. Not only did I grow as a person, I have also helped contribute to the growth of our Chapter. Essentially, funding us is an investment. Allowing DeMolay's to go to Key Man University today will make a stronger and brighter future for tomorrow. ■

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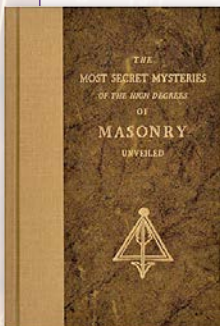


The Scottish Rite Research Society of the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction annually offers a bonus book to members of the Society. In 2011 the bonus book discussed the “*High Degrees*”; in 2012 the bonus book discussed a series of thirteen pamphlets published by Erasme Pincemaille in Metz France in 1763 and 1766. This review discusses both books

Masonry Unveiled

Translated and Edited by Arturo de Hoyos and S. Brent Morris from the first edition of 1766

ISBN: 978-0-98377738-0-1



This book was the 2011 bonus book from the Scottish Rite Research Society. The original book was an expose and was the first printed book to describe the rituals of the so called high degrees of Masonry. As such it gives the reader a glimpse of the original rituals and how they developed into some of the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite as used in the eighteenth century. The rituals discussed in the expose are not those in use today, but do give a sense of the back-

ground material that eventually developed into the Scottish Rite in 1801 in Charleston, South Carolina.

The book presents seven early high degree rituals that resemble some of the degrees in use now. The Perfect Elect Mason, Elect of Perignan, and Elect of the Fifteen correspond to the 9°, 10°, and 11°; Junior Architect and Senior Architect to the 12°; Knight of the Sword and of Rose-Croix correspond to the 15° and 16°; and lastly the Noachite or Prussian Knight corresponds to the 21°. The rituals are not as internally consistent as we hope today’s are. The rituals presented are also not complete; some descriptions of both stage props and actions are missing. However, the original book being an expose, it is to be expected that some things may be missing or not understood.

The translators have attempted to fill in some to the omissions in the text. The use of strikethroughs and corrections in braces are the translators’ attempts to provide a translation of the text as it is and to make appropriate corrections and clarifications.

This book has 184 pages and is a small in size (18.5 cm x 12.5 cm). There is a fold-out page that contains many of the symbols mentioned in the text. This book is essential reading to anyone interested in the development of degrees in use in the Scottish Rite today. It can be obtained through the Scottish Rite Research Society in Washington, D.C.

Allegorical Conversations Arranged by Wisdom

Translated and Edited by Arturo de Hoyos and S. Brent Morris from the first edition of 1763

ISBN: 978-9837738-1-8



The “*Allegorical Conversations*” were a series of thirteen pamphlets published by Erasme Pincemaille in Metz, France, in 1763 and 1766. Each pamphlet contains the catechism of a Masonic Degree. This thirteen degree collection from Apprentice to Perfect English Master (1° to 13° inclusive) has several degrees in common with the book reviewed above. These two works are the earliest printed sources of the degrees which eventually

became the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. In reading the two books the second seems to provide a more coherent system than the first book.

In reading the translations (the original French is presented on the opposite page), one can see very strong similarities to the three degrees of Craft Masonry as well as material that is very similar to that in some of the Scottish Rite degrees. However, it should be emphasized that there are differences from today’s rituals. The names of some of the degrees are very familiar (Apprentice, Fellowcrafts, Masters, and Perfect Masters); however, some are quite different (e.g. Irish Masters 5°, English Masters 6°, Scots 11°, Sublime Scots 12°, and Perfect English Masters 13°). The material presented in the material on each degree does contain material that was incorporated into the later Scottish Rite versions of the degrees.

The book contains 276 pages and is the same small size as the previous book. The glossary is as interesting as the material in the main text. I found this book even more interesting than the previous; however, both should be in the library of anyone interested in the development of Masonic rituals. Both books are available from the Scottish Rite Research Society in Washington, D.C. ■



CASTING CALL SEND US YOUR STORY WITH PICTURES AND OR VIDEO

We want your story for the new membership video.
What is your personal story? Why did you join Scottish Rite?
Benevolence, Fellowship, Friendship, etc.
Email: office@supreme33.ca





The Valley of Halifax was honoured to host the 140th Supreme Council Session from September 8th to 13th, 2014. The Westin Nova Scotian, overlooking the beautiful Halifax harbour, was this year's venue and all events, with the exception of the Vesper Service and Ladies Programme, were held on the premises.

The fact that this year's reunion coincided with the 50th anniversary of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation made it a little extra special for us as the efforts and results of the Foundation over the past fifty years were commemorated during the event.

Committee meetings were held on Tuesday and Wednesday, followed each day by dinner for the Active and Past Active Members, their Ladies and Guests.

A "Get Acquainted" reception was held on Wednesday evening which gave us an opportunity to meet with old friends and to make new ones from across the country. It also gave us a chance to meet the new candidates for the first time.

Thursday morning was again busy with meetings, after which buses were used to transport guests to the First Baptist Church in Halifax for the annual Vesper Service, under the direction of The Reverend Canon Michael Farr (Grand Prior), with the assistance of the First Baptist Minister, Reverend John Boyd.

The conferral of the 33rd Degree took place on our return to the hotel, immediately following the Vesper Service. This honour was bestowed on thirty two candidates at this year's reunion.

The Lieutenant Grand Commander's Banquet was held at the Westin's Commonwealth Room on Thursday evening. Members of the Executive, their Ladies and guests were piped in, and the Grand Prior extended a traditional toast of Scotch to the piper. Following the dinner, we were treated to an inspirational, and very enjoyable talk by Ill. Bro. Ronald A. Seale, 33°.

While the main event of the Ladies Programme was taking place on Friday morning, their husbands were again busy in meetings at the hotel. The ladies travelled by bus to the Bedford Institute of Oceanography for an

interesting talk by a local young scientist, Dr. Hilary Moors-Murphy, entitled "Whales of the Gully," her main area of research. Through video, the ladies got to see many of the species of ocean life that are present in the marine protected Gully area, just off Nova Scotia's coastline. A luncheon was enjoyed following the presentation.

Friday afternoon was designated "free time" to give everyone an opportunity to explore the local area and enjoy the company of their spouses and friends in an informal setting.

The Sovereign Grand Commander's banquet took place in the Commonwealth Room on Friday evening, again with the piping-in of members of the Executive, their spouses and guests, followed by the toast to the piper. During the evening, special emphasis was placed on the work of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation. It was also during the Friday banquet that we were formally introduced to the newly conferred candidates. At the end of the evening, a presentation was made by John Revell, General Chairman of the committee for next year's reunion to be held in Windsor.

As a wind-up to the week, guests were introduced to the feel of a traditional East Coast kitchen party at the Maritime Jubilee. Entertainment was provided by a local band, Fiddles and Feet, and traditional Nova Scotia chowder was served, along with other local delights.

We extend our thanks to all who helped make the 140th Session in Halifax a successful event, and look forward to reuniting with you again in Windsor in 2015. ■



The Communications Committee of Supreme Council was the result of efforts to establish direct paths of communication between Supreme Council and the Valleys to allow for an efficient two-way path of information exchange. The members of the committee represent every region of the jurisdiction and all members have been working diligently to establish Valley liaisons to the committee in each Valley assigned to them.

The process of establishing these links with all Valleys is almost complete, however, the committee is always interested in situating people with a natural interest in communications and technology and the means to utilize them effectively in positions of influence. If you are such a person, and you wish to participate in this most promising initiative, the Scottish Rite needs you!

Every Valley has stories to tell of the life of the Rite and the involvement of their members in enriching our Masonic experience. Valleys have many aspirations in common as well as the challenges to realizing them. The committee as a communications vehicle invites all with good news stories and advise to give regarding issues of mutual concern to share through the medium of communication most appropriate to the situation.

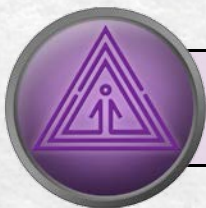
An example of the effective means of video production and messaging is the video produced earlier this year for the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation by Milan Cobanov, a member of the Communications Committee and partner at Mindpress, the company that has performed valuable service to many Masonic bodies. All members attending the Annual Session in Halifax received a USB copy of that video in their registration packages. Therefore, that video is now available in all Valleys to spread the message it contains in detailing the work of the Foundation in funding research to solve puzzles of the mind and of the Learning Centres in helping children dealing with dyslexia to gain a level playing field in their schools with their fellow students.

In this year of celebration marking the 50th anniversary of the S.R.C.F., this is a valuable resource for anyone to use in making presentations designed to educate our fellow

members, Master Masons within our Craft Lodges and community groups curious about the Rite and its impact in society. The potential return on this kind of investment is enormous both for our membership and in the donations that could be garnered to make the \$1 million fundraising campaign of the S.R.C.F. and the Learning Centres a resounding success.

The Communications Committee is presently assisting the campaign by making members available to be interviewed in both print and broadcast media. A press release has been drafted and distributed to all regions of our jurisdiction. It provides a starting point for communicating our message to the public at large. Mindpress is also engaged in the production of a much shorter trailer video that will allow for an effective presentation to broadcast media either as a news item, in a community affairs programme setting or as an aid to speaking presentations.

I hope this informs you of what the committee is doing to date but it is necessary to note that the most important stories are those of the Valleys and their members. Every Valley has members with diverse talents and that includes those that enjoy writing, the use of video technology, public speaking, in short, the production of messages with impact. Every Valley has members who will not only read this article but who hopefully will recognize ways they can contribute to the work of bringing Supreme Council, the Valleys and the S.R.C.F. together to accomplish great things for the benefit of us all. If you are such a person log on to the www.scottishritecanada.ca website and press the “log in” button on the right side of the navigation bar. You will be asked for the username you select and for your self-selected password. Supply the required questions so the Supreme Council office can verify your membership in the Rite and you will be enabled to access much information about the Rite and how it works, including information about this committee. Please pick up the phone and call the committee member in your region and get involved with an initiative that will expand your circle of friends and enrich your life in the process. ■



Did you know that the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation is on the web at:
www.srcf.ca



The Valley of Halifax Here We Grow Again

Ron Sherrard,
PR Chair, Halifax Learning Centre

"There are not enough slips of paper to cover how many good things happen here."

That was written on one of the many pieces of paper found in the "Good Things" container placed on the counter at the Halifax Learning Centre for Children.

It nicely sums up the glowing comments made by the dozens of children, parents, interested local residents and even the local Member of Parliament, who attended the Centre's open house – ice cream social on a bright, sunny September Saturday.

The event was to celebrate the great work being done there by the thirty two tutors (and growing), who help children overcome their dyslexia and to mark the Centre's recently completed renovation/expansion that was made necessary by the ever-increasing demand for its services.

"We now have 46 children and our hope is that by the end of the next school year will have 50 children. '50 for 50' has a nice ring to it", said Kent Clarke, Board Chairman who explained that for the 50th year of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation, the Halifax Centre hopes to have fifty children in attendance.

Beyond the growing demand for the services it offers children, the Learning Centre's success can also be measured by what former students like Heather Armstrong have to say about their



experiences there.

"Without the Centre, I would have had to drop out of school," says Armstrong, who is now a straight A second year university student who plans to study psychology.

"I want to go on and help kids with dyslexia. I want to figure out how their brains work and how I can help other kids like me get treatment faster. I don't want them to be shoved along like I was and have a teacher say they are just slow and will learn better next year." ■

The Valley of Thunder Bay Northern Ontario Medical School Bursary Fund

James Horbow,
Valley of Thunder Bay

Northern Ontario School of Medicine is pleased to acknowledge the ongoing support of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation. For the past nine years through the Valley of Thunder Bay and seven years through the Valleys of Sudbury and North Bay, the Foundation has provided support to students to help reduce the financial burden of a medical degree. As of the 2014/15 academic year, a total of 16 students will have benefited from the Foundation's generosity. Thank you to the Scottish Rite for their ongoing support of our students! ■



Left to Right: Gail Brescia (Manager of Achievement), Bill Deadman (Most Wise Sovereign of Rose Croix), Lucas Keffer (4th year Medical student from Fort Frances), Don Bergman (Thrice Puissant Grand Master of Lodge of Perfection), and Robbie Manz (Commander in Chief of Consistory).



The Valley of St. John's SRCF Walkathon 2014

Clayton T. Handrigan,
Valley of St. John's

What can probably now be referred to as a "tradition" - (at least we like to think so) - got off to a soggy start on Sunday, October 26, 2014, as about a dozen Scottish Rites and several of their ladies did the annual Octagon Pond Walkathon in support of the work of "Solving the Puzzles of the Mind."

Last year the weather threatened. This year the threat was made good. (Witness the umbrellas!) However, the weather was the only thing that was damp. Spirits were warm and cherry as we briskly walked the approximately two kilometre trail around the pond. Some, (like me), were late arriving for the start, so others started early without them. Hence, the picture shows an incomplete group. Our usual intrepid host and hostess for post-walk warm-up beverages, Ill. Bro. Rowsell and Suzanne, were unable to attend this year due to sudden, but brief, illness. The beverages and the fellowship at their home were certainly missed.

A most enjoyable afternoon of fun and fellowship around the pond, that raised over \$2,000 in pledges in support of our Charitable Foundation, was had by all. Ill. Bro. Neville Shepherd, 32°, once again the driving force behind this worthwhile venture each year. ■



Some braved the elements for a picture!

The Valley of St. John's Rotary Club Donation

Jim Finch,
Valley of St. John's

The Past Presidents of The Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest donated \$ 1000.00 to the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation in recognition of members who have been affected by Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

The Scottish Rite Foundation ardently labors for the benefit of all Canadians with particular interest in funding medical research into areas including dyslexia and autism in children and neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's disease and dementia in the aging population with the aim of "Helping Solve Puzzles of the Mind". ■



Left to Right: John Harnett – Chairman of Past Presidents Committee of the Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest, Jim Finch – Past President and Member of the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation, Judy McCann-Beranger - President of The Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest



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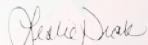
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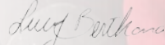
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and throughout the New Year.*


Brian Gilkinson


Ken Rutherford


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