



Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

GOING FORWARD

19 February, 2023

Volume III Issue 8

"A young man introduced to the seven
Liberal Arts" by Sandro Boticelli, c. 1484.
Fresco in Villa Lemni, Florence.

**Fellowcraft Degree
Traveling Gavel
The Seven Liberal Arts & Sciences
Super Bowl Party Thanks
The Scottish Rite
The Emblematic Structure of Freemasonry
Trestleboard**

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GLAD TIDINGS

Congratulations to Brothers James Kirwan and Shaheed Raheem of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 as well as Brother Patrick Tomasino of Jephtha Lodge No. 494 who all received their Fellowcraft Degree last Thursday at Suffolk Lodge!

And Congratulations to the brothers of Jephtha Lodge No. 494 for capturing the Traveling Gavel from Suffolk Lodge! Thank you for showing up in force to support Bro. Tomasino and to assist with the degree!



MORE LIGHT

THE SEVEN LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Written by The Grand Lodge of Texas, Submitted by W. . Jason Intardonato

During the Fellowcraft Degree, the candidate is symbolically led up a winding stairway that consists of three, five, and seven steps. In doing so, he is introduced to the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences. It is interesting to note that there is little explanation of this portion of the Fellowcraft Degree and no attempt to bring meaning to these subjects for the candidate. If every part of the Masonic ritual has meaning for the candidate, then one must examine this brief portion of the Fellowcraft Degree to determine its value for the Mason.

The Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences were the curriculum known to ancient Greece and Rome and to Western Europe of medieval times. During their cultural ascent, the Greeks came to see learning as being composed of seven arts: grammar, logic, rhetoric, geometry, arithmetic, music, and astronomy. This curriculum was adopted by the Romans and divided into two parts called the trivium and the quadrivium. The word trivium simply means three ways and quadrivium, four ways. Thus the trivium was composed of what the Romans considered the basic of the seven arts: grammar, logic, and rhetoric. The quadrivium was composed of the other four arts.

Aristotle believed the liberal arts were those subjects that were suitable for learning by a freeman. He contended that a freeman should not seek practical skills but should strive for moral and intellectual excellence, the goal being theoretical and philosophical knowledge. He further believed if a man was capable of pure thought, he was capable of leadership of those who merely possessed the practical skills.

The educational concepts of these cultures withstood the "dark ages" which enveloped Europe from roughly the Sixth Century until the Eleventh Century. During this period, Western European culture was virtually blotted out and what little education that remained was confined to the church. The reign of Charlemagne during the Ninth Century began to see an increase in education, which was extended to the palaces and cathedrals. While still ecclesiastical in organization, the system of education fanned the flame of intellectual curiosity. By the Eleventh Century, Europe had begun to emerge from its darkness into a degree of political and social stability. With this emergence came a renewal of the spirit of learning, which was nurtured for nearly four hundred years until it would burst forth during the Renaissance. Education during these centuries consisted of grammar, logic, rhetoric, geometry, arithmetic, music, and astronomy: the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences.

MORE LIGHT

THE SEVEN LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

...Continued...

With this background, one now turns to the seven liberal arts to gain an insight into their nature.

Grammar: One must remember that instruction was in Latin during this early period; hence the grammar referred to was Latin grammar. Grammar was not the tedious business of determining the parts of speech, but instead was the art of writing. Cassiodorus defined grammar as the study of great poetry and oratory that would enable one to write with correctness and elegance. Grammar is correct writing and skillful speaking.

Rhetoric: Rhetoric is defined as the art of using language in such a way as to make the desired impression upon the hearer or reader. Generally speaking, rhetoric covered the whole subject of composition, both oral and written. In rhetoric we see the interplay of both grammar and logic.

Logic: Logic in general is the science and art of right thinking. Unlike physical or social science or philosophy, it is not concerned with the reality about which we are thinking, but only with the operations of thinking itself. Great value was placed upon the ability to carry on a conversation or argue in a wholly rational manner with the thoughts carefully linked together.

Arithmetic: Arithmetic was originally the science or theory of numbers. Someone has said that the teaching of arithmetic during medieval times consisted of simple calculations and complex superstitions. This seems too simple a view, although perhaps not a wholly unreasonable one. It seems likely that the arithmetic of the quadrivium probably consisted of four elements. These would have been numeration, the naming of numbers; notation, the writing and reading of numbers; counting, the act of numbering; and computation, the manipulation of numbers. For all this simplicity, years later the mathematician Karl Gauss was able to refer to arithmetic as the queen of mathematics.

MORE LIGHT

THE SEVEN LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

...Continued...

Geometry: In this day of calculators and computers, mathematics holds little of mystery or romance for any except the most dedicated mathematician. As a result it is difficult for one to relate to Plato's statement "geometry will draw the soul towards truth, and create the spirit of philosophy." To understand this, one must remember that the Greeks pursued all mathematics out of intellectual curiosity and a zest for pure thought. They were concerned with teaching men to reason abstractly and preparing them to contemplate the ideal and the beautiful. Their complete absorption with geometry led them to convert mathematical ideas into geometrical ones. Their preference for idealizations and abstractions expressed itself in a mathematical spirit whose ultimate end was philosophy. It is essentially this Greek idealization of geometry that has carried over into Masonry.

Astronomy: Astronomy today is one of the exact sciences and it has long since divested itself of the metaphysics and mysticism which once characterized its studies. In the minds of all peoples, astronomy is the science of the heavens and has been closely connected with religious tradition. It was long thought that in the heavens would be found the supernatural causes of observed phenomena as well as the answers to the future. Masonry has idealized astronomy as it has geometry. The monitorial lecture tells us that, "Astronomy is that divine art, by which we are taught to read the wisdom, strength, and beauty of the Almighty Creator in those sacred pages, the celestial hemisphere." For Masonry, the value of astronomy is metaphysical rather than physical as indicated by the final sentence of the lecture. "While we are employed in the study of this science, we must perceive unparalleled instances of wisdom and goodness, and through the whole creation, trace the glorious Author by His works."

Music: Somewhere back in time, man discovered that the sounds from his stringed instrument depended upon their lengths. He further found that putting multiple strings together allowed him to produce a pleasing harmony. His inquiring mind led him to discover that the ratio of the lengths of the strings were simple whole numbers. So from the time of Pythagoras the study of music was regarded as mathematical in nature. It seems strange to think of music as mathematical until one considers the words of the philosopher and mathematician Gottfried Leibniz, "Music is the pleasure the human soul experiences from counting without being aware that it is counting." It was this essentially mathematical character of music that leads to its being included in the quadrivium.

MORE LIGHT

THE SEVEN LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

...Continued...

The Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences, represented by the seven steps in the Fellowcraft Degree, symbolize for the Mason an idealization of education, that intellectual and cultural discipline necessary for man in his quest to obtain perfection and understand his Maker. From a symbolic standpoint, these seven subjects must be considered a single symbol composed of seven parts of equal dignity. While geometry is exalted by Masonry, it is dealt with separately within the Fellowcraft Degree in another context and should not be provided additional significance in the context of the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences.

This seven-part symbol represents education and all its attendant values, not the precise content of education. When one examines each of the parts of this symbol, one discerns not only the nature and content of each part, but also an idealized purpose of education as well. The view provided by the symbol coincides with Plato's view of education, that education tends to lift the mind above the mundane and routine considerations and enables it to comprehend the final aim of philosophy, an understanding of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, God. This is the ultimate essence of Freemasonry, that man should continually strive to develop his understanding of his own spiritual being and the essence of God. So Masonry's Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences together symbolize the conscious effort to control the mind and spirit so that reason prevails and man will always strive to obtain a perfect relationship with God.

FUN & FELLOWSHIP



The Lodge would like to thank all those Brothers and their families who supported our Superbowl Fun-Raiser this month. We had about 25 people in attendance, and a good time was had by all as we watched the Kansas City Chiefs defeat the Philadelphia Eagles in one of the best Superbowl games in recent memory. The pot luck dinner was delicious...we enjoyed turkey chili and pulled pork sliders, shrimp dip and empanadas, chocolate mousse and apple crisp, and assorted chips and dips of all kinds. We raised close to \$800 for the Lodge, so by every measure, the event was a success!

- W.°. Gary Gudzik, DSA



MORE LIGHT

THE SCOTTISH RITE

Written by The Valley of Providence, Rhode Island, Submitted by W.° Frank Miranda

As a number of Brothers from across the Suffolk District will be attending the special Scottish Rite one day class to be held this coming Saturday, I thought it would be interesting to take a look at the history of The Scottish Rite and how it came to be. The following is from the Valley of Providence Rhode Island:

The Scottish Rite is one of the two branches of Freemasonry in which a Master Mason may proceed after he has completed the three degrees of Symbolic or Blue Lodge Masonry. The other branch is known as the York Rite, consisting of Royal Arch Masons, Royal and Select Masters, and Knights Templar. The Scottish Rite includes degrees from 4° to the 32°.

The use of the word "Scottish" has led many Masons to believe that the Rite originated in Scotland. There was also a false belief that persisted for many years, that a man had to go to Scotland to receive the 33°. Neither of these statements is true.

The first reference to the Rite appears in old French records where the word "Ecosais," meaning Scottish, is found. During the latter part of the 17th century, when the British Isles were torn by strife, many Scots fled to France and resumed their Masonic interests in that country. It is believed that this influence contributed to the use of the word "Scottish."

In 1732, the first "Ecosais," or Scottish Lodge was organized in Bordeaux, one of the oldest and most influential Masonic centers in France. The membership included Scottish and English members. In 1761, certain Masonic authorities in France granted a patent to Stephen Morin of Bordeaux to carry the advanced degrees across the sea to America. In 1763, Morin established these degrees in the French possessions in the West Indies. What he established consisted of a system of 25 so-called higher degrees that flourished in France, and which were known as the "Rite of Perfection."

Within a few years after 1763, other degrees were added, until the Rite had a ritual structure of 33 degrees-the first three being exemplified in a Symbolic Lodge if a Grand Lodge with subordinate Lodges existed in the area.

MORE LIGHT

THE SCOTTISH RITE

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Both the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions made slow progress in unifying the scattered degree-conferring groups, and in standardizing the rituals. They were handicapped by the pride in the local organizations; leadership jealousies; the anti-Masonic agitation of 1826-40, which almost destroyed Freemasonry; the War between the States, and other matters. The process of unification, however, was completed in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction by the Union of 1867, when the last irregular Supreme Council finally acknowledged the authority of the regular Supreme Council. From that Union, there arose what is the present Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

Since it is now officially recognized as beginning in 1801 in Charleston, South Carolina, the Scottish Rite has spread throughout the world. At the present time, the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction officially recognizes and enjoys friendly relations with the Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite in 39 other jurisdictions, and the higher degrees systems (Swedish Rite) administered by the Grand Lodges in the four Scandinavian countries, (Denmark, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden).

The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction specifically covers the 15 states east of the Mississippi River and north of the Mason-Dixon Line and the Ohio River, including Delaware. Its headquarters is in Lexington, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston. The other Supreme Council in the United States is that of the Southern Jurisdiction. It has its headquarters in Washington, D.C., and covers the remaining 35 states, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories and possessions.

At present, there are 460,000 Scottish Rite Masons throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Of this number, there are approximately 3,700 Thirty-third degree Masons, comprising the membership of the Supreme Council. There are Scottish Rite centers, called "Valleys," in 110 cities and towns in the fifteen states of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

The Scottish Rite membership of the Southern Jurisdiction is better than 625,000 so the total membership in the United States is over one million.

One important point which must be recognized by all Masons is the fact that the Scottish Rite shares the belief of all Masonic organizations that there is no higher degree than that of a Master Mason. The Supreme Council and its subordinate bodies acknowledge the Masonic supremacy of the Symbolic Grand Lodges, and the Grand Master of Masons is recognized as the ranking Masonic officer present when in attendance at any Scottish Rite meeting.

MORE LIGHT

THE SCOTTISH RITE

...continued...

Our degrees are in addition to and are in no way "higher" than the Blue Lodge degrees. Scottish Rite work amplifies and elaborates on the lessons of the Craft. It should never be forgotten that termination of a member's Symbolic Lodge standing automatically terminates his Scottish Rite membership, whether his rank is 14° or 33°.

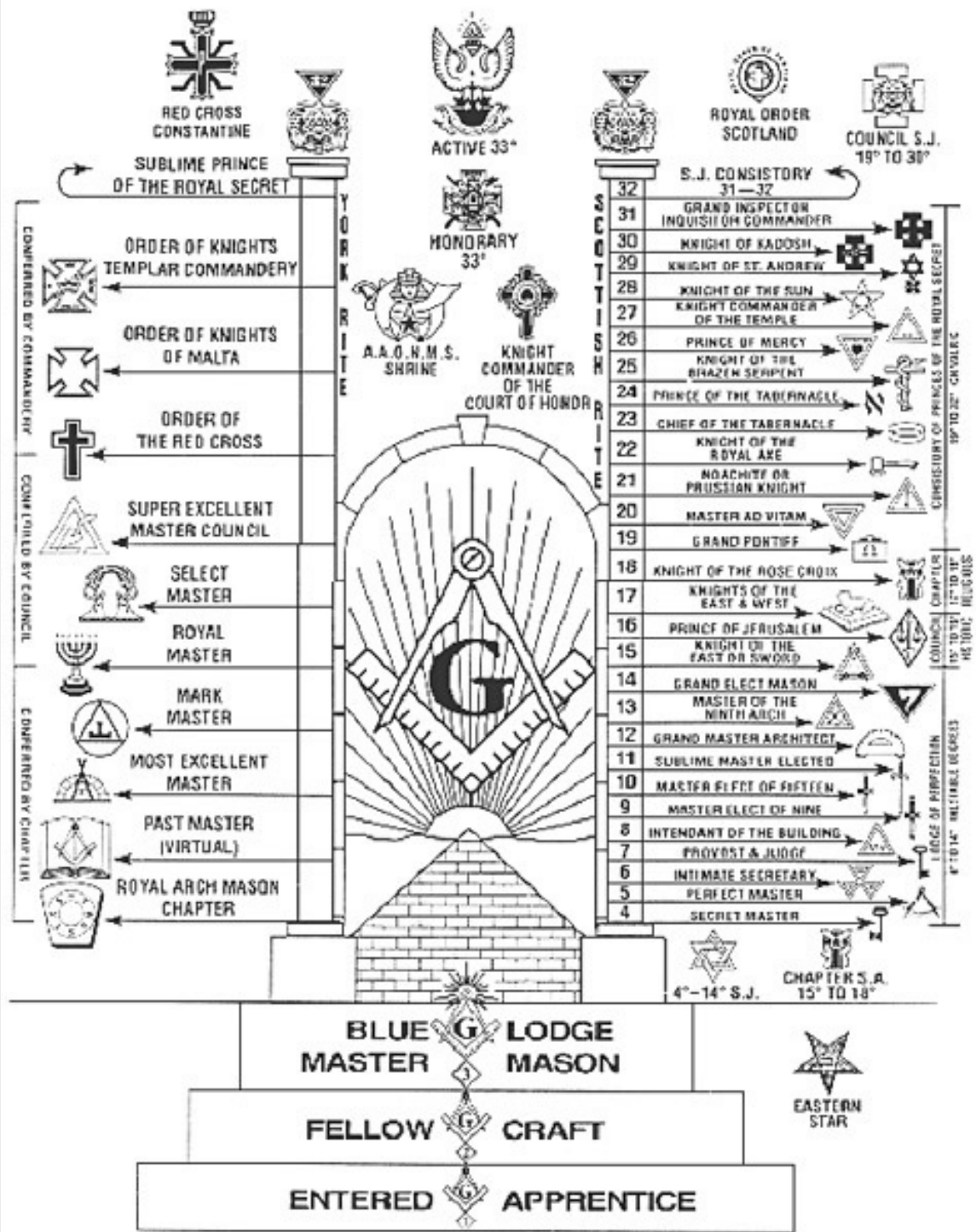
There are four coordinate divisions in the Scottish Rite:

1. Lodge of Perfection, 4°-14°
(presiding officer - Thrice Potent Master)
2. Council of Princes of Jerusalem, 15°-16°
(presiding officer - Sovereign Prince)
3. Chapter of Rose Croix, 17°-18°
(presiding officer - Most Wise Master)
4. Consistory of Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, 19°-32°
(presiding officer - Commander in Chief)

Some Valleys do not have all four divisions. In such cases, their candidates receive Council, Chapter, or Consistory work in neighboring Valleys.

MORE FUN

EMBLEMATIC STRUCTURE OF FREEMASONRY



Many of the "Scottish Rite" degrees were actually adopted from other rites & orders.

ATTENTION

**Yeah, so if you could just go ahead and
pay your 2023 dues now**



That would be great

Brethren, if you have not yet paid your dues for 2023, they are now past due. Please pay them as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!

TRESTLEBOARD

TUESDAY, FEB 21

DDGM & STAFF OFFICER VISIT TO AMITYVILLE LODGE



*Official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master
R.:W.: Jeffery G. Santorello and R.:W.: Robert J.
Licata, Grand Sword Bearer Staff Officer to Amityville
Lodge No. 977*

Where: Amityville Masonic Temple 14 Avon Place Rd Amityville NY

When: Feb. 21, 2023 from 6:30-10:0 PM

Dress Attire: Business Attire

THURSDAY, FEB 23

SUFFOLK LODGE - SOCIAL NIGHT

Educational video - The Fellow Craft Degree by Rubicon Masonic Society for an in-depth exploration of the Degree which was recently conducted. Video will begin promptly at 7:30 PM.

Where: Port Jefferson Masonic Temple 312 Main St. Port Jefferson, NY

When: Feb. 23, 2023 from 7:30 PM-9:30 PM

SATURDAY, FEB 25

RIVERHEAD LODGE - SCOTTISH RITE ONE DAY CLASS

A special one day class to become a 32* Scottish Rite Mason
The Suffolk County Club of the Scottish Rite will be holding a one-day special class on Feb. 25th at Riverhead Masonic Temple. They will be conferring the following degrees: 4^o, 11^o, 13^o, 14^o, 23^o & 32^o

Where: Riverhead Masonic Temple 1246 Roanoke Ave. Riverhead, NY

When: Feb. 25, 2023 from 8:00 AM-2:00 PM

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

TRESTLEBOARD

SATURDAY, FEB 25

RIVERHEAD LODGE - 19TH ANNUAL VENISON DINNER

Venison Dinner to support Camp Turk. RSVP with Bro. Pete Stokke Sr.

Where: Riverhead Masonic Temple 1246 Roanoke Ave. Riverhead, NY

When: Feb. 25, 2023 from 6:00 PM-10:00 PM

Dress: Hunter Casual

RSVP: pstok1@juno.com

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

BUSINESS

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

2023 DUES

Dues are payable by January 1st of the new year.

Brothers, your lodge depends upon timely remittance of dues to operate and maintain our beautiful temple, which is our sanctuary. Please pay your dues on time or better yet, in advance. Dues can be paid by check, cash or credit.

Regular Member Dues: \$400/year

35 Year Member Dues: \$220/year

Please make checks payable to:

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

and remit to:

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

312 Main St.

Port Jefferson, NY 11777

To pay by credit or debit card you may either pay at the bar register at the temple or pay online by going to: <https://store.suffolk60.com>

Credit transactions incur a service charge.

STORE

SHOPPING

SUFFOLK 60 LAPEL PIN



Item: Suffolk #60 Lapel Button

Description: Show your Lodge pride with this handsome Suffolk 60 200th Anniversary Lapel pin. A sharp addition to any Masonic ensemble.

Cost: \$ 10:00 - [available online](#)

SUFFOLK 60 WINDOW DECAL



Item: Suffolk #60 Window Decal

Description: Deck out your ride and be the talk of the town with a nifty Suffolk 60 200th Anniversary window decal

Cost: \$ 5:00 - [available online](#)

SUFFOLK 60 CHALLENGE COIN



Item: Suffolk #60 Challenge Coin

Description: Suffolk Lodge is the oldest masonic lodge on Long Island. Now proudly display your membership with a Suffolk 60 200th Anniversary Challenge Coin

Cost: \$ 20.00 - [available online](#)

SUFFOLK 60 2022 POLO SHIRT



Item: Suffolk #60 2022 Polo Shirt

Description: The 2022 Suffolk Lodge #60 Polo Shirts are now available. This year's version is in a handsome navy blue with gold lettering.

Contact W: Chris Connolly for additional details.

Cost: \$ 25.00

REFERENCE

HELPFUL RESOURCES

SUFFOLK60 WEBSITE

<https://www.suffolk60.com>

SUFFOLK 60 FACEBOOK (PUBLIC)

<https://www.facebook.com/Suffolk60/>

SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT WEBSITE

<https://suffolkmasons.com>

SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT BAND

<https://band.us/band/70497133>

The **Going Forward** Weekly Newsletter is edited by W.⦿ Frank Miranda and W.⦿ Jason Intardonato under the direction of W.⦿ Christopher Connolly, Master of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AYM, F&AM. Please submit any questions, corrections, announcements, or other suggested content to secretary@suffolk60.com.