

Columbus Lodge of Perfection
Post Office Box 727
Columbus, GA 31902-0727
Minutes of February 16, 2024

The Officers of the Columbus Lodge of Perfection opened the Lodge in full form at 7:00 p.m. on February 16, 2024. The opening included prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

IB Roger Buterbaugh, 33°, read the request to demit from Brother Brice Martin, 32°. He is moving to Canada to be a missionary and wants to demit for the period he is gone. IB Buterbaugh talked with him about maintaining his membership while he is gone and the steps he would have to go through if he demitted and wanted to return to the Valley of Columbus after he returns to Columbus. Brother Martin said he still wanted to demit. A ballot was spread and his request to demit was approved.

IB Roger Buterbaugh gave a presentation on the 14°. It included a video and presentation; the presentation is enclosed.

IB Joseph Oelgoetz, 33°, Personal Representative spoke with the Brethren present before we invited the guests into the Lodge Room.

- We now have two petitions in hand for the Spring Reunion. We need more.
- We have two apps available to everyone – “Be a Scottish Rite Mason” and a member communication app. The member communication app will take you to the Valley of Columbus website and to the Ashlar.
- Further light can be found under the Knowledge and Media tab on scottishrite.org. There one can find podcasts, Master Craftsman courses, Supreme Council YouTube channel, and more. Non-Scottish Rite Masons can take the Symbolic Lodge course in the Master Craftsman Program. The Supreme Council YouTube channel has the most views of any Masonic YouTube channel – 139,000 views in just one month.

At this time the Ladies and guests were invited into the Lodge Room. HB Ditmar Chavez, 32°, KCCH was recognized as the Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Georgia.

The minutes of the December 15, 2023 and January 19, 2024 Lodge of Perfection meetings were read and approved.

IB Roger Buterbaugh, 33°, Venerable Master recognized the Ladies for Valentine’s Day. He brought roses and provided each Brother who brought a Lady with him this evening a rose. The Brother then introduced his Lady and presented the rose to her.

Sickness and Distress:

- IB Richard Brogden, 33°, laid down his working tools on February 1, 2024. A White Rose Ceremony is planned in his honor at our March Lodge of Perfection meeting.
- IB Phil Harris, 33°, reported that HB Al Tatom, 32°, KCCH has difficulty walking but is doing OK for his age. HB Dan East, 32°, KCCH is recovering from surgery. His Lady, Brenda, is still suffering from back issues.
- HB Chuck Hall, 32°, KCCH asked for prayers as he continues to battle his diabetes. He also reported on his mother, Lady Sally Hall, who has sciatic nerve issues.
- HB Harry Ross, 32°, KCCH asked for prayers for his son in law, who had back surgery.
- IB Joe Oelgoetz reported that IB Ed Tante, 33°, and his Lady have moved into Covenant Woods. He gets tired really easy now.

Business for the Good of the Order:

- IB Phil Harris spoke briefly about “givers and takers” in Freemasonry. He then invited IB Paul Wells, 33°, to recognize some of the Valley of Columbus “givers” for their work on the stove exhaust system replacement – HB Harry Ross; HB Scott Lavelle, 32°, KCCH; and HB Bill Buffton, 32°, KCCH. He presented each a rechargeable head lamp and a pair of sturdy work gloves to aid them in their future work.
- IB Paul Wells presented a fitting gift to IB Phil Harris to recognize his hard work, leadership, and organizational efforts that help make the Valley of Columbus an organization to be proud of.

Personal Representative’s Comments: IB Joe Oelgoetz thanked everyone for coming, and especially thanked the Ladies for being here and supporting their men and the Valley.

The Ladies and guests were dismissed back into the Dining Room.

There being no further business the Officers of the Columbus Lodge of Perfection closed the Lodge in full form at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger W. Buterbaugh, 33°
General Secretary/Venerable Master