

Columbus Lodge of Perfection
Post Office Box 727
Columbus, GA 31902-0727
Minutes of December 16, 2022

The Venerable Master, HB Torrey Knight, 32°, KCCH opened the Lodge of Perfection at 7:00 p.m. by proclamation. HB Sid Cooley, 32°, KCCH tended at the Holy Altar and gave the opening prayer.

The minutes of November 18, 2022 meeting were read and approved.

The General Secretary read the demit request from Brother Kevin Pinet, who desires to demit from the Scottish Rite because of “the current financial status of our country”. The General Secretary reported that he spoke twice with Brother Pinet about his request but to no avail. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to grant Brother Pinet’s request.

The General Secretary read the names of 17 Scottish Rite Masons who are three or more years in arrears in paying their duties. He sent each of them a letter requesting that they respond by December 31, 2022 paying their dues, requesting that their dues be remitted, or requesting a payment plan to pay their dues. After discussion a motion was made, seconded, and carried to suspend those Brethren who do not respond in some fashion by December 31, 2022. The list of the Brethren in question is enclosed.

At this time guests were invited into the Lodge Room. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was observed by all.

Master William Myer, Master Councilor of Columbus Chapter, DeMolay presented a \$100 donation to the Valley of Columbus Scottish Rite Foundation. He also presented to HB Joseph Oelgoetz, III, 32°, KCCH for the Valley of Columbus a 1880 copy of the Poems of Robert Burns in honor of Burn’s Night. The Valley will display it in a prominent location.

HB Torrey Knight presented the A. Charles Knowles, Jr. Award to HB Harold Culpepper, 32°, KCCH for 2022 on behalf of Rose Hill Lodge #484.

Brother Jacob Robideaux conducted the raffle for the grill. The winner was IB Phil Harris, 33°.

The Valley conducted its Christmas observance. HB Baron Conklin, 32°, KCCH recited the Christmas story as told in the Book of Luke. He then called the children forward and

recited "The Night Before Christmas". At the end, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus appeared. Each child sat on Santa's lap and received a gift from him.

IB Paul Wells, 33°, installed the Valley officers for 2023. He first installed the body heads: HB Baron Conklin as Venerable Master, Columbus Lodge of Perfection; HB Roger Buterbaugh, 32°, KCCH as the Master of Kadosh, Columbus Consistory; and HB Rossi Ross, 32°, KCCH as the Wise Master, Columbus Chapter Knights of Rose Croix. HB Ed Lynch, 32°, KCCH could not attend tonight because of the serious illness of his father, and will be installed as the Commander, Columbus Council of Kadosh at a later date. Next, IB Wells installed all of the elected and appointed officers present in each of the four bodies.

Business for the Good of the Order:

- The Joint Columbus Commandery Christmas Observance will take place at the Scottish Rite Center at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow. All Masons are invited to attend.
- Fort Benning Chapter #278, OES will have a spaghetti fundraiser on February 11, 2023.
- Wreathes Across America will take place tomorrow, locally at the Fort Benning Cemetery and at the Fort Mitchell Cemetery.
- Barbara Tate thanked everyone who purchased a raffle ticket for this evening's drawing of a gift basket. The funds raised will go toward diabetes research.
- Pancakes with Santa will take place at 7:00 a.m. tomorrow at the Columbus Fort Benning Shrine Club.
- The Valley of Columbus will conduct a fireworks sale fundraiser the week after Christmas. We need more volunteers to help.
- Fort Benning Lodge #579 will install its officers tomorrow afternoon. WB Roger Buterbaugh, PM, DDGM 4A, will be the installing officer.
- Reminder about Burn's Night at our next meeting, January 20, 2023.

Under sickness and distress, everyone was asked to keep HB Lynch and his father in our prayers. Mr. Lynch is not doing well.

The Personal Representative (HB Oelgoetz):

- Thanked the outgoing officers for the great job they did last year. He wished the new officers the best and said he is available to help them as needed.
- Discussed the fireworks fundraiser being held the week after Christmas.
- Congratulated IB Danny Dawson, 33°, and all those who participated in or helped with the play fundraiser. Job well done.
- Wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

After prayer HB Conklin, as the new Venerable Master, closed the Lodge of Perfection by proclamation at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger W. Buterbaugh
32°, KCCH
General Secretary

Brethren Who Are Three or More Years in Arrears in Paying their Dues

- Damien Branden Bartrug (suspended by Rose Hill Lodge for NPD)
- Ryan Allen Birge
- Alexander Grant Canacci
- John Joseph Coley
- William Riley Collins, Sr.
- Sean Matthew Corbett
- William Claude Eason
- Philip Clinton Flynn, Jr.
- Tommy Herbert Giles, III (suspended by Rose Hill Lodge for NPD)
- Stuart Lindsay Hansen
- Isaiah Timothy Hardin (who is 32°, KCCH)
- Nicholas Michael James, III
- James William Lawrence
- Joel Wesley Moore
- Alejandro Rodriguez
- Ronald Andrew Shaddix
- Sydney Stephen Wills