

The Northern Light

Vol. 45 No. 3 AUGUST 2014



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The Northern Light

The magazine for Scottish Rite Masons of AmericaSM

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THE NORTHERN LIGHT (ISSN 1088-4416) is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November by the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A., as the official publication. Printed in U.S.A. Periodicals postage paid at Boston, MA, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Northern Light, PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420-0519.

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

Is it a Guy Thing?

No, my friends, this is not going to be the usual message from your Commander. Let us shift the focus of past messages at least partially and for the time being. To be honest with you patient readers, the shift is not entirely away from our usual call to serve our Brothers and to care for them as we obligated ourselves so to do. Read on.

Like many email messages we receive on an daily basis here at headquarters, a well-crafted and thought-provoking one from a Brother from the first state began by commenting on how helpful and positive the Almoner's Fund had become. Indeed, the Almoner's Fund, supported by your generosity and caring, has become and will remain an important part of our vision as Scottish Rite Masons.

The intent of his message was not primarily to highlight financial assistance. Our friend went on to mention a reality which has been of some concern to this office for years: the lack of communication. Perhaps the sad reality of a serious lack of communication between Brothers has also affected you? The fact that we are Brothers should mean just that. Are we honestly "Brothers" or just "Brothers" in name only?

Is the fact that so many of us are reluctant to pick up the phone, send a card or to use any of the many electronic devices we have at our constant disposal to contact a Brother a defect in the male personality? Is this just a part of the proverbial "guy thing" for us to be so reserved,

insensitive and closed to the needs of our Brothers? How will each of us, as Masons, feel when and if we need the support of others, and there is nothing but a communication vacuum?

Think about it.

We really do set our obligations aside when we fail to contact a Brother who no longer comes to lodge. Have you been contacted when you missed a few or several meetings? Has your lodge or other Masonic body ever contacted you on a joyous or sad occasion if they know about it? Did anyone ask why you might have demitted from a Masonic body? Probably not.

How ironic it is in these times of constant communication that so few of us are actually communicating. With all of the incessant chatter infiltrating our lives, one has to stop and wonder if anyone is actually saying anything of value to those who matter.

Our Brother wrote, "But I would also hope that 'caring for each other' is a theme that would encourage Scottish Rite Masons to reach out to their Brothers who are in need of hearing words of concern, hope, comfort and yes, caring."

Thank you, my Brother, for communicating with this office and for awakening our need to go beyond "the guy thing" to do "the Masonic thing."

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Wm. McNaughton".

Sovereign Grand Commander

A Generous Spirit:



Knights of Pythias Plymouth Rock No. 43 Group, 1900-30, Whitman, MA, gift of James J. Bennette. Photo by David Bohl.

Recent Acquisitions

By AIMEE E. NEWELL, PhD

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA, seeks to be the “historical society” for American Freemasonry and fraternalism. This is a unique goal among American institutions. While there are many museums and libraries focused on a particular Masonic lodge or jurisdiction, we are the only one interested in all types of fraternal groups and volunteer societies.

We have a special interest in Freemasonry, since the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction founded and continues to support the museum. We believe, however, that Freemasonry’s influence as the earliest fraternal group to come to America is better understood as part of the larger context of American fraternalism over time and place.

To accomplish that goal, the Museum & Library actively works to improve and refine its collection of more than 17,000 objects. We add items through gift and purchase, looking for things that tell an engaging story; do not duplicate existing holdings; fit our collecting criteria, and are in good condition. Each time I write an article for *The Northern Light*, I end with contact information, encouraging readers to get in touch if they have something to donate. The response to the recent article on World War I objects in the collection was especially overwhelming. A number of generous individuals contacted us about giving items to the Museum & Library.

A member from Rhode Island donated the trench periscope his grandfather, Sergeant Major Herbert Hollinshead, had used while serving in the British Army during World War I. The periscope, which allowed soldiers to look out of the trench without making themselves a target, is marked by its maker, W. Watson & Sons Ltd. and with a date of 1917. The company was founded in London in 1837, and initially made lanterns and slides. By the 1880s, they had adapted to produce photographic equipment and, in the 1890s, began producing optical instruments. Throughout World War I, the company had a contract with the army to provide binoculars and telescopes. According to the company's advertising, they supplied 35,000 pairs of binoculars during the war.

Another reader of *The Northern Light*, and member of the Valley of Columbus, read the article about World War I and was inspired to donate a collection of twenty World War II "sweetheart pins" which his family had sold stateside during the war. The donor's father had



WWI Trench Periscope, 1917, W. Watson & Sons, Ltd., England, gift of Earnest Hulme. Photo by David Bohl.

three souvenir stands in Cedar Point, OH, a resort area, during the 1930s and 1940s. Visitors to the area, which included soldiers about to deploy, would purchase these pins as a keepsake for their girlfriends. They could even be engraved with a name or initials while the customer waited.

Masonic Folk Art

We were very pleased to add an intriguing piece of folk art to the collection. A Masonic square and compasses symbol, with G in the middle, is made out of postage stamps cut to fit

the shape. Above the symbol, the maker trimmed portraits out of stamps of George Washington and six other presidents who were Freemasons and applied them to the page. More presidential portraits appear below the square and compasses emblem.

The collage is signed at the lower right corner: "John J. Buechler / 1929." Unfortunately, although "Buechler" does not seem to be a common last name, a search of 1930 U.S. Census records turned up several possibilities, and we are currently unable to precisely identify which Buechler made this collage. The donor, who purchased it at a stamp show, donated it after enjoying it for forty years. "It represented my two main interests," he explained, "Freemasonry and stamp collecting."

Masonic Protective Association Fobs

Several years ago, within short succession, we were given two fobs from the Masonic Protective Association by two different donors. The fobs read "The Masonic Protective Assoc'n. Worcester, Mass. Pays Sickness and Accident Indemnity to Masons Only. Telegraph this Number to the M.P.A. It Will Identify Me If Injured or Unconscious." Each fob has a five-digit number that corresponded to the original owner's insurance policy. Unfortunately, we do not know who owned either fob.

Back in the early 1900s, these fobs allowed members of the Masonic Protective Association (MPA) to indicate that they had insurance in case of injury or death. Formed in 1895 in Worcester, MA, the company operated as a mutual cooperative, selling to Freemasons only. The company offered accident, disability and life

Massachusetts Protective Association Fob, 1922-30, Worcester, MA. Photo by David Bohl.





Brotherhood Accident Company Suspender ID Tag, 1897-1920, Boston, MA. Photo by David Bohl.

insurance at a time when few employees had sufficient insurance through their job. In 1930, the Paul Revere Corporation was formed as a subsidiary to the MPA to expand its business beyond selling to Freemasons, but by 1966, the MPA was “retired” and the former subsidiary bought out its parent company. Today Unum owns what was once the MPA.

We wrote about these fobs on our blog (http://nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com/library_and_archives) shortly after they were donated to the museum, and we have received many comments there, most from people who have or found a fob themselves and were looking for information about them. We were intrigued by people who commented that they had heart-shaped fobs. Recently, we were able to purchase a heart-shaped fob for our collection. While it is very similar to the round ones, the text on the fob is slightly different reading: “The Massachusetts Protective Association Incorporated Worcester, Mass. Pays sickness and accident indemnity to Masons only.” This change in the name helps to date the fob since the company changed its name to the Massachusetts Protective Association in 1922. Despite that change, from “Masonic” to “Massachusetts,” the company continued to sell exclusively to Freemasons until 1930.

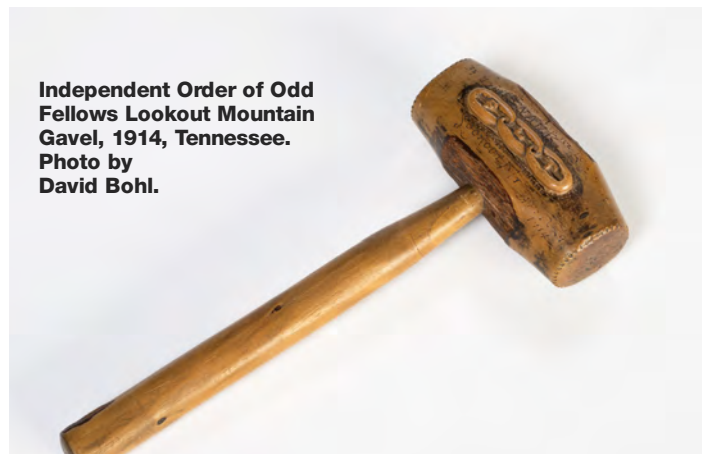
While the MPA sold insurance only to Freemasons, members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows were not left out. We recently purchased an identification tag produced by the Brotherhood Accident Company that includes an

ID number and could be clipped to a man’s suspenders. The firm was originally called the Odd Fellows Accident Company when it was formed in 1892. The name change to “Brotherhood Accident Company” took place in 1897, helping to date this example. According to a history of the company, it operated as a fraternal order until April 1911, when it was reincorporated as a stock company, but continued to sell exclusively to Odd Fellows members.

The Golden Age of Fraternities

By 1900, more than 250 fraternal groups existed in the United States numbering six million members. To fully understand and appreciate Freemasonry in America, the museum collects objects and documents associated with all types of fraternal organizations. Many of these groups were inspired by Freemasonry and adopted similar structures and rituals. A carved gavel with the Odd Fellows symbol of the three-link chain represents 50 years of American history. An inscription on the head of the gavel reads “Presented to Grant Lodge No. 335 by H.W. Swank Lookout Mtn. April 29, 1914.”

In November 1863, Lookout Mountain, near Chattanooga, TN, was the site of the “battle above the clouds.” Under the leadership of General Ulysses S. Grant, the Union Army was able to attack the Confederate troops who occupied the mountain and drive them away. The following day the Union forces continued to Missionary Ridge and broke the Confederate lines around Chattanooga. Unfortunately, the



Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lookout Mountain Gavel, 1914, Tennessee. Photo by David Bohl.

connection of H.W. Swank to Lookout Mountain is unknown. Was he one of the soldiers that fought in that battle? Did he have a relative who fought there? Did he just enjoy the natural beauty of the site? All we know is that the mountain was meaningful enough for him to gather some wood there as a souvenir and use it to make this gavel.

Presumably, Swank was a member of Grant Lodge, No. 335, which was located in Redkey, IN, a town about halfway between Indianapolis and Fort Wayne. Grant Lodge, No. 335, was instituted in September 1869 with 13 members. According to a 1922 history of Jay County, Oddfellowship “prospered in Jay county and...several lodges are reported to be doing well.”

In addition to Freemasonry and the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias experienced much success during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Founded in 1864 by Justus H. Rathbone, the fraternity numbered 475,000 members by 1896, placing it third after the Odd Fellows and Freemasons. Founder Rathbone was a Freemason and the influence of the Masonic fraternity can be seen in the Knights of Pythias which also awarded three degrees through rituals. However, the Pythias rituals followed the story of Damon and Pythias, rather than the building of King Solomon’s Temple.

A photograph that was recently donated to our collection illustrates the similarities between the Knights of Pythias and other fraternal groups. Without looking carefully, it is hard to know which group is depicted. The men sit in two rows and wear their costumes for a ritual. At center is a stuffed sheep. A careful examination of the photo turns up a banner at back left that reads “Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 43 Knights of Pythias Whitman.” The lodge met in Whitman, MA.

Adding to the Apron Collection

At the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, we are fortunate to have more than 400 aprons in the collection. This allows us to be



Royal Arch Apron, 1847-65, Worcester, probably Boston, MA, gift of Francis Karwowski. Photo by David Bohl.



Master Mason Apron, 1790-1820, United States. Photo by David Bohl.



Master Mason Apron, 1790-1820, United States. Photo by David Bohl.

choosy when we add to the collection – looking for designs we don’t have and aprons with compelling stories about their owners or their use. Recently we were given a very generous gift by a Scottish Rite member from the Valley of Schenectady. After gathering a collection of six early aprons over the past several years, he decided to donate them to the museum. While a few of the aprons are similar to some in the collection, others were new to us, including a Royal Arch apron that was designed by an artist named “Worcester.” The apron is in excellent condition and shows an arrangement of symbols associated with the Royal Arch degrees, including the motto “Holiness to the Lord.”

As was fairly typical during the early 1800s, the apron is backed with brown glazed cotton, giving it a shiny appearance. Stamped at top center is the mark of the seller, “From A.W. Pollard’s, 6 Court Street, Boston.” Abner W. Pollard was raised a Master Mason in Boston’s Mount Lebanon Lodge in 1846. He had been



Scottish Rite Reunion Pins, 1905, United States, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library collection. Photo by David Bohl.

trained as a tailor and soon after his raising Pollard began advertising that he sold “Masonic Regalia, of every style and finish, for encampments, chapters and lodges.” Pollard continued selling regalia until the mid-1860s when he retired and his son Byron took over the business, forming a partnership with Samuel P. Leighton.

While we rely on generous gifts to build and strengthen our collection, we also have a small fund that allows us to make purchases. Back in the spring, a Massachusetts auction house had a collection of about 20 Masonic aprons up for sale. The museum was successful in adding 12 aprons to its collection – all examples that were new designs for us. Two of the aprons are similar in shape and type of decoration. They also date to the early period of about 1790 to 1820. While we do have several other examples from this era, it is underrepresented in our collection, so it was exciting to add these two aprons.

Both are made of white leather and painted with Masonic symbols, and both have an all-seeing eye on the flap, as was typical during this time period. One shows an arrangement of five Masonic symbols: clasped hands, square and compasses, beehive, urn and G intertwined by a five-point star. These are surrounded by a

WWII Sweetheart pins, 1941-46, United States, gift of Lehr Dircks. Photo by David Bohl.




decorative scrolling border. The other apron has a central arrangement of columns separated by the mosaic pavement. A banner reads “Faith Hope Charity.” Between the columns is a square and compasses symbol with a G and a five-point star in the middle. While these two aprons were made by two different people, possibly separated by time and distance, they do show how the aesthetic and techniques of the era influenced the

appearance of Masonic aprons. Like all types of decorative arts, Masonic aprons followed the style of their time.

Preserving Scottish Rite History

While the Museum & Library actively collect artifacts and documents associated with all American fraternal groups and voluntary associations, we have a special interest in collecting, preserving and interpreting the history of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A. Since the Museum & Library was founded by the Scottish Rite, it is a natural location to collect related objects and documents so that the fraternity’s rich history is remembered and celebrated.

Small items and large ones alike can help tell the story of the Scottish Rite, as well as lead us to new discoveries and ideas. A group of small pins from a Northern Masonic Jurisdiction reunion in 1905 shows us how attendees identified themselves at the meeting – quite a difference from the name badges we use today. The pins with the blue ribbon seem to have been worn by attendees, while the white one is marked “candidate” and the red one was worn by a member of the reception committee. Materials and style show a relationship to the cockades worn at earlier periods of American history, while also showing how much our present-day badges have evolved. 

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library has a small rotating exhibition of recent acquisitions on view in the lobby. We hope you will stop by for a look if you are in the Lexington, MA, area. If you have an object that you would like to donate, please contact Aimee E. Newell, PhD, director of collections, anewell@srmmml.org, 781-457-4144.

Masonic Stamp Collage, 1929, John J. Buechler, United States, gift of Albert K. Resnick.





NO ORPHAN WENT WITHOUT. NO WIDOW'S
LEAKING ROOF WAS LEFT UNATTENDED."

BACK TO BASICS

A JOURNEY TO WHERE OUR VISION IS CLEAR

By **ROBERT F. OGG JR., 33°**

From its very beginning amongst the men who produced magnificent cathedrals whose vast walls and tall spires reached in supplication toward heaven, to the fraternity of today which is working to refine and restore its purpose, Freemasonry has come a long way.

Perhaps we can gain some insight into why we are what we are today by retracing the steps taken by our fraternity on its long journey.

Picture a young man of modest means in 13th century Europe. All about him is the hustle and bustle of a continent awakened from the dour middle ages. The wealth that had flowed from the Crusades had fueled a new type of crusade: the cathedral crusade.

Trade was flourishing and merchants and nobles alike grew rich. Towns competed to see who could build the most magnificent cathedral. Master builders were famous throughout the land, and the masons guild was one of the most highly respected of the newly flourishing trade guilds.

Could one blame a young man for wanting to be a guild mason so that he too might have a prosperous life. Becoming a guild member was not easy; its members were subject to a strict code of professional and personal conduct.

On the other hand, when you became a member, the guild was your extended family that looked after you in both good times and bad. It is not hard to understand that becoming a member of the mason's guild was a momentous occasion in a young man's life. In a time when there were no societal benefits of any kind, the guild cared for its members.

The Hundred Years War, which began in 1337, put an end to the "cathedral crusade." This did not happen overnight, but over time the resources that were directed toward cathedrals were now committed to the costs of armies and arms.

It became a time of change for the guilds. Some found more work than ever. Tin smiths were kept busy making armor, and bakers fed the soldiers. Masons, no doubt, did what they could to keep busy and employed, but aside from reinforcing stone defenses, there was not much work to be had.

We know this as the time of the "speculative" Mason. Men of position and education were eager to be a part of an organization with such a sterling reputation. These new Masons were bound by the same strict codes of moral and ethical conduct as were their Brother "operative masons." The masonic guild became the Masonic fraternity, and guild members no longer built great edifices.

Freemasonry came to America in colonial times. We all know how the fraternity influenced the formation of the United States. Freemasonry in America in the early days was largely a small town, small lodge enterprise. All the members knew each other and looked after each other during hard times.

No orphan went without. No widow's leaking roof was left unattended. As time progressed and cities grew, so grew city lodges. In the absence of social programs, these lodges took care of their own. They continued to do so through civil war and world war. There were difficult times for Freemasonry along the way, but the fraternity came through it and continued on.

It is well known that being a member of the Masonic fraternity in New England meant that you enjoyed a much better chance of success in the mill industry. The same could be said of the insurance industry. Freemasons took care of their own. They watched out for each other.

World War I came and went, and life went on in lodges. The great depression came and went, and little changed for Freemasons. World War II changed everything. The pre-war generation had seen the New

“THE MOST IMPORTANT
PERSON IN OUR FRATERNITY
IS THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER.

WE EXIST TO MEET HIS
FRATERNAL NEEDS.”

Deal, but that program was modest when compared with what was to follow. In World War II we went to war. Men of every type fought and died together. Their platoon mates were their Brothers and they cared for them.

When they returned from the war, they yearned to continue that same feeling of Brotherhood; the comfort of knowing that the men of your squad “had your back.” These men flocked to Freemasonry in droves. At the same time, multi-lane highways appeared around every major city.

The GI Bill meant that many returning servicemen could get an education and a single family home. Small-town lodges gave way to huge city lodges. In post WW II America there was ample opportunity, whether you were a Freemason or not.

It is a human trait to take for granted what we have in large quantity. Freemasonry flush with members was no different. The fraternity began to shift its focus away from the individual member. In the small-town lodges, the

Brothers all knew each other. The lodge was a community asset. In the post WW II big-city lodges knowing all or even many of your fellow members became difficult. If a Brother missed a meeting or two no one noticed. Nobody knew about the widow who had the leaking roof or the Brother who had fallen on hard times.

What can be done about this? The answer is simple. We need to be a fraternity that people want, not one that wants people. What is it that people want from a fraternity? At the top of the list is that our members want caring, concern and good fellowship.


The most important person in our fraternity is the individual member. We exist to meet his fraternal needs.

We exist to fulfill our Masonic obligations. The vision statement of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction says it all.

“We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.”

You can't get much clearer than that. Our vision statement also contains an admission that we don't always get the job done. That may be true, but we are going to work hard to ensure that we get better and better at making sure that all of our Brothers are taken care of each time that they are in need.

We can see clearly now what we need to do. It is really very simple. We knelt at an altar and took an oath. All we need to do is to keep focused on fulfilling that oath.

Our Grand Almoner's Fund is an example of that thinking in action. I am sure that there are others. If we will all strive to take care of each other, the future will take care of itself because we will truly be a fraternity that people want. 

III. Arthur J. Kurtz, 33°

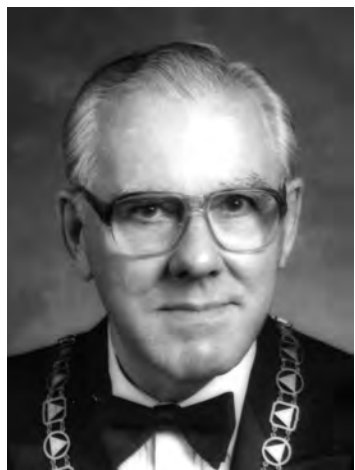
1919 - 2014

Bro. Kurtz was an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He was elected an Active Member in 1983, and he served as Deputy for Pennsylvania from 1991-94. He assumed Active Emeritus status in 1994.

He was raised a Master Mason in Robert Burns Lodge, No. 464, in 1950, where he was Master in 1967.

He was united in marriage to Dorothy Jane Dunkle, who survives along with a son, four grandsons and seven great-grandchildren.

For the complete balustrade on the life of III. Arthur J. Kurtz, 33°, visit the “Member's Center” at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.



MARKETING FREEMASONRY

By WILLIAM E. LARSON, 33°

Think for a moment about the words “marketing” and “Freemasonry” together in the same sentence. In many jurisdictions Masons can’t ask anyone to join. A man must choose of his own free will if Freemasonry is for him. This marketing model worked well in the post WWII era, but since then, not so much. Finding a Mason to ask is more difficult these days.

A recurring theme found at Masonic veterans’ programs, when asked why they joined, is that they were looking for more. Perhaps fraternity was found in the foxholes. How does that fraternal relationship continue post war? An organization that has your back, no matter your particular religious or political affiliations, is hard to come by.

This concept was confirmed to the writer by a candidate at dinner between the first and second sections of the Master Mason Degree just a couple of days ago.

As Scottish Rite Masons we can ask blue lodge Masons to join, but with lodge memberships in decline, the pool of prospects is low. What can we do?

We have to decide what our craft stands for. In the words of a Most Worshipful Grand Master, “It’s not about the amount of men in Masonry it’s about the amount of Masonry in men.”

How do we ask men to join without asking men to join? First year marketing students learn the four P’s of marketing: Product, Price, Promotion, and Place. Journalism and Communication Students learn about five W’s: Who, What, When, Where, and Why, as well as How?

In New Hampshire’s Third Masonic District, a workshop was held in each district lodge to address the questions, “What do you do here?”; “Where are we now?”; “Where are we going?”

and “How are we going to get there?” The exercise proved that we don’t know what we’re selling. We have very dedicated people who show up to do what is necessary – whatever that may be. So why do I want to buy this?

The exercise demonstrates that we don’t have a clearly defined product or target market, and we have a questionable pricing structure. We promote our iconic Square and Compasses logo by affixing it to old buildings, we distribute our ill-defined product through a series of plays, and congratulate our newly-made Brother on taking this life altering step.

Then summer arrives, and he gets a lodge notice about the business meeting in two months and a reminder to turn in that Scottish Rite petition in ASAP. Dan Brown didn’t write about that in *The Lost Symbol*, and that’s not what was seen in *National Treasure*. While some are looking for a certain mystique, what are we doing to deliver?

In our district exercise, each lodge conducted a SWOT analysis: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. As each lodge has its own personality the results were widely varied. Where some are strong in leadership and finance others are not. Where some have opportunity of younger men joining the lodge and the officer line others face the threat of continuously recycling Past Masters and burn-out. The same can be applied to many of our Scottish Rite Valleys.

Can we really market Freemasonry? Of course we can. It starts with a plan which starts with a conversation. What better way to involve all those newly-made Master Masons and Scottish Rite Masons than to ask what they wish to accomplish in our craft? Ill. Bruce T. Work, 33°, Deputy for Connecticut, wrote “You the Customer,” (*TNL*,

May 2014). He walked us through the mission statement of 5 Guys burgers. Their concept is simple and their growth has been phenomenal. Maybe they're onto something.

Businesses use focus groups and conduct surveys of their current and prospective customers to help tailor their product to deliver to those demographic groups and to more clearly define their selling message and distribution channels. Why not do the same in Masonry? Host a "vision night" where all are invited to participate. Make it special and apply the ICE concept. The Mason raised to the Sublime Degree last night has a good idea of what he's looking for. Ask him what he sees as the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Can we really market Freemasonry?

agency in your building? How many pens does your Valley have in its building?

God created a universe of connection. Look at the blue lodge "Letter G" lecture. Every Master Mason learns of the five points of fellowship, and the new Sublime Prince learns of a worldwide Brotherhood. It is marketing that connects the audience to the product. How? Perhaps include it in your "Vision Night" or hold a separate "Mirror" or "Reflection Night." Looking in a mirror identifies where the comb or razor needs to go. Shaving without a mirror can be done but may be painful. The double headed eagle is often used as a symbol representing looking backward in order to look forward – perhaps an exercise we as Masons should apply not only as individuals but corporately as a Valley.

Of course we can.

Ask where are we now, where are we going, how are we going to get there, and where does he see himself contributing?

Has your Valley ever thought about a marketing plan? These are extremely comprehensive documents that clearly define what we sell; to whom; how much we charge, and how we deliver. Comparing the questions "what do we sell?" vs. "what do we think we sell?" yields interesting answers from those new and old in the craft.

Marketing also deals with perception of the product and the lifetime value of a customer. A customer value is calculated by: Avg. \$/sale x Avg. number of purchases x Avg. years a customer will make purchases. A dues-paying member has a certain value. Marketing the value of membership changes the perception from a dues-paying member to participating member. The marketing plan defines "participating member" by your valley definition. What is the lifetime value of one of your members?

Marketers learn about branding impressions. For instance, the average imprinted pen is claimed to be owned by seven users. Cost per impression is how the effectiveness of these campaigns is measured. How many pens does your Valley have from the local bank or insurance

In our district "Workshop Wednesday" meetings we examined the following questions:

Who are we? What are we doing? Where are we going? And how are we going to get there?

Why would I join this lodge today?

Why would a candidate come back to be a contributing member of this lodge?

What will a member get out of this lodge in exchange for investing his time, money and interest?

What is the purpose of this lodge?

What are the expectations of members (time, money, interest, and commitment)

For several years the New England states have been holding public open houses in October. When a prospective candidate comes through the door of your lodge with these questions what are your answers? Take a moment and answer for yourself.

Marketing plans, business plans, membership plans, financial plans, and mission and vision statements will help each lodge establish a roadmap to get where it is going and who is going to get the lodge there. The follow-up is to ask our candidates the same questions.

To begin the process, briefly summarize the following in your lodge and Valley:

- Current situation, company mission and objectives
- Product/service description
- Marketing objectives
- Major marketing programs and strategy
- Expected marketing and financial results
- Keys to success

The subjects above should contain the answers to the following questions:

- Who? (who is your company? who is target customer?)
- What? (what is the product or service offered?)
- Where? (where is your market located? where will you be implementing your marketing activities?)
- When? (when will your plan be implemented? when do you expect the results?)
- How much? (how much profit, sales, return on investment do you expect?)

Some of the above may look familiar to our Scottish Rite members as our Supreme Council has established core values, the ICE concept, provided vision and mission statements, expanded our membership benefits, and even developed a mobile app for better engagement of our members.

Supreme Council has recognized that our craft has problems and has taken action in providing membership and leadership conferences to provide a venue to share information. The value in these meetings is in the fraternal opportunities to share successes and failures in our Valleys, socialize with members from across the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, receive updates on the activities at headquarters and an experience direct exchange of ideas with the Active Members, headquarters staff and Grand Commander McNaughton.

Another marketing concept is the “seven marketing touches.” It takes an average of seven touches (prospect/customer contact) to make a sale. How does this apply in Freemasonry? How often do we Scottish Rite Masons visit a lodge without an overt recruiting agenda; or, help a candidate learn his lessons; or, just talk with a prospective Mason about Freemasonry, or discuss the leadership lessons learned and practiced in the lodge or the Valley with our bosses? These “touches” are a soft sell. Supreme Council has increased touches by sending birthday cards, the

When a prospective candidate comes through the door of your lodge with questions what are your answers?

Take a moment and answer for yourself.



Brother-to-Brother program and the Grand Almoner's Fund for examples. The Valley of Nashua has begun calling all members in the month they receive their birthday cards for no other reason than to check in, see how the Brother is doing and if they need anything. The response has been fantastic.

The Valley self-evaluation will be making its appearance again this fall. Hold the mirror up to your Valley and make your observations. Have those sometimes difficult five W's and an H discussions (Who, What, When, Where, Why and How) and begin to identify the four P's (Product, Price, Promotion, Place) in your Valley.

In future issues we'll address our product; what do we actually sell? We'll compare our product to some other organizations with similar messages as ours. We'll look at our pricing structure; what do we get for our money? We'll look at our promotion; how do we tell our story to prospective Masons and perhaps, more importantly, to our existing members? We'll examine some of the incredible on-line marketing tools available to us to engage membership and measure effectiveness. We'll explore what some old line companies have done to appeal to a younger audience while maintaining and expanding their mainline business during the Great Recession. Finally, what are our distribution channels; how do we get our product into the hands of those who want to buy it?

Ask questions and stay tuned. 

TOMPKINS TIMES TWO

IN JUNE, TWO MEN WERE HONORED with the Daniel Tompkins Medal.

The first was to General Joseph Warren, Past Grand Master for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. General Warren played a leading role at the very beginning of the American Revolution. It was Warren who sent both Brothers Paul Revere and William Dawes on their historic midnight rides.

They were sent to spread the alarm and to tell revolutionary leaders, Samuel Adams and John Hancock, that the British garrison in Boston was heading out toward the towns of Lexington and Concord, the evening before the first battle. Warren later succeeded Hancock as president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress – a very short-lived tenure, as he was killed just 15 days later, at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The medal was presented, on his behalf, to Most Worshipful Harvey J. Waugh, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, at a special ceremony held at Supreme Council headquarters, on June 18.

Three days later the award was again made, this time to Ill. John F. Surbeck, 33°. Bro. Surbeck is a judge in the Indiana Superior Court Criminal Division. Two years ago he was honored with the 2012 William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, bestowed by the National Center of State Courts to those who exemplify the



Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Harvey J. Waugh (L) accepts the medal from Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton. A portrait of Bro. Joseph Warren is between them.

highest level of excellence, fairness, integrity, and professional ethics.

At that time, Mary C. McQueen, president of the ANSCS, said the judge is “an inspiration and an example to everyone who works in the justice system.” Judge Surbeck is considered a trailblazer in the field of re-entry courts. He worked to design a system to help transition offenders back into their communities, using counseling, mentoring, and aid with employment opportunities.

The medal was presented to him on June 21 at the Indiana Council of Deliberation.

The Daniel Tompkins Medal is named for Daniel D. Tompkins, first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

He also served the nation as its vice president, under President James Monroe. According to the Constitutions of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, it “may be conferred by the Supreme Council or by the Sovereign Grand Commander upon a deserving Masonic or Scottish Rite Brother who has rendered outstanding, distinguished and exemplary service to his country or the Masonic fraternity at large not often witnessed among the general membership.” **ML**

DANIEL TOMPKINS MEDAL RECIPIENTS

President and Bro. Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32°

Bro. Leonard G. “Bud” Lomell, 32°

Ill. William D. Sizemore, 33°

Ill. William G. Batchelder, 33°

General and Bro. Joseph Warren

Ill. John F. Surbeck, 33°

A Lesson in Fundraising

The Children's Dyslexia Center of Reading, PA, like many other centers, is struggling with raising the funds necessary to maintain the program in the future.

Recently, one of our students took the problem to heart, and wanting to help, came up with an idea for a fundraiser that she could do in order to make a contribution.

Anna's birthday is February 14th, Valentine's Day. This year she turned twelve, and her parents allowed her to have a birthday sleepover party.

Anna sent an invitation to eight of her best friends that read as follows: "...Instead of gifts, I would like to collect donations for the



Anna and her tutor with thank you note.

Support a Child at a Dyslexia Center Near You

The Children's Dyslexia Centers is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

It costs \$5,000 to tutor one child for one year. Typically, children require an average of two years of tutoring. Your tax-exempt contribution can be designated to support a specific children's dyslexia center or a dyslexia center where the need is greatest.

For information about making a donation, please call the development office at **800-814-1432 ext. 3326**. Or send a check directly, payable to:

**Children's Dyslexia
Centers, Inc.**

33 Marrett Road
Lexington, MA 02421



Children's Dyslexia Center of Reading. Any amount is welcome."

When Anna arrived for her lesson the following week, she handed me an envelope that contained a written thank-you note: "Thanks for helping me with my dyslexia. A present from me and my friends. Love, Anna."

The note was signed by all her sleepover friends and contained \$150.00 in cash. Her mother relates that Anna is truly grateful for her tutoring program and the change it has made in her life.

Anna's mother also shared that Anna has read seven Harry Potter books since last June, which is a huge accomplishment.

At the Reading, PA center, we are moved and inspired by Anna's generous spirit and the power of one young caring heart.

— Brenda K. Wise, Center Director
Children's Dyslexia Center of Reading, PA



DeMolay Anniversary in Paris

Scottish Rite sponsored a trip for DeMolay International officials to attend the 700th anniversary of the martyrdom of Jacques DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, who was executed on March 18, 1314, in Paris, France.

Exactly 700 years to the day, on March 18, 2014, a special ceremony was held at the site, an island in the River Seine, not far from the Cathedral of Notre Dame. The DeMolay delegation provided an appropriate ceremony marking this unique anniversary saluting the namesake of the Order of DeMolay, who gave his life rather than betray his brethren. A wreath donated by Scottish Rite was placed at the site during the ceremony. The group attending included DeMolay representatives from France, Italy, Serbia, Romania and Brazil.

Jacques DeMolay, and the Knights Templar of France were arrested at the order of King Philip IV on Friday, October 13, 1307, and were charged with heresy. The Templars were thrown into dungeons, tortured for confessions and most were executed. DeMolay and his major officers were imprisoned and tortured during their seven-year lock up. On March 18, 1314, at a final inquisition, held on a make-shift public scaffold in front of Notre Dame, DeMolay and his colleague Geoffroi de Charney recanted their alleged confessions. To deny their confessions took them out of the protection of the church and into the jurisdiction of the state. King Philip, at his nearby palace, was quickly informed of the denial of confessions and ordered DeMolay and de Charney to the



stake. The two comrades were taken to a place below the Pont Neuf and burned at the stake, in front of a large crowd of onlookers.

It is truly fitting that Scottish Rite sponsored this special meaningful trip for the DeMolay delegation, as Scottish Rite and the Order of DeMolay have always had and continue to have close ties. The Order of DeMolay was founded in 1919 by the secretary of the Valley of Kansas City, Ill. Frank S. Land, 33°, later called "Dad" Land. Many Scottish Rite Masons began their Masonic careers as DeMolay members, and currently, the Sovereign Grand Commanders of the Southern Jurisdiction USA, the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction USA, and Canada are all Senior DeMolays.



Ill. Verdon R. Skipper, 33°

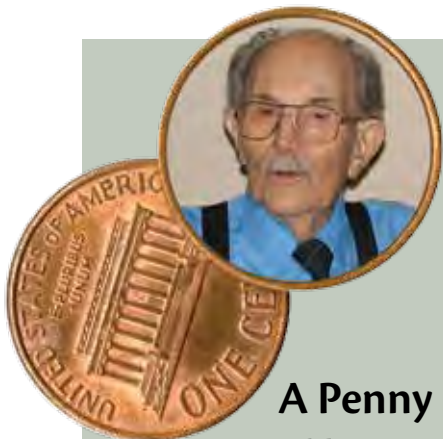
1934 - 2014

Bro. Skipper was an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of New Jersey. He was elected an Active Member in 2000, and he served as Deputy for New Jersey from 2003-06. He assumed Active Emeritus status in 2007.

He was raised a Master Mason in Mt. Moriah Lodge, No. 28, in 1982, where he was Master in 1987. Bro. Skipper was also a dual and charter member of Horizon Daylight Lodge, No. 299.

He was united in marriage to Joyce E. Hoffacker, who predeceased him. He leaves two daughters, Cheryl and Debi, and three grandchildren.

For the complete balustre on the life of Ill. Verdon R. Skipper, 33°, visit the "Member's Center" at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.



A Penny Here, a Penny There

BRO. ALVIN EHRHARDT, 32°, celebrated his 100th birthday May 22. While significant, even more so is his personal campaign to raise funds for the S. R. Childhood Language Center, Sacramento, CA – one penny at a time. He began eight years ago with an idea and a can of pennies. He counts the pennies and rolls them, and two helpful Masons carry them to the bank.

Bro. Al's total before his birthday was 767,500 – \$7,675 for the kids. For his birthday, he received many more containers of pennies to add to his count.

Raised a Master Mason in 1946, in Lodi Lodge No. 256, in Lodi, CA, he served as Master in 1955. A life member of the Stockton S. R. Bodies, he also belongs to Western Star Lodge, No. 2, and the Cascade Scottish Rite. Bro. Al is always upbeat, concerned for kids, and has many friends – truly a Mason's Mason.

Third Annual *Celebrating the Craft* Webcast Raises \$1.3 Million & Counting!

SATURDAY, MAY 17, saw the George Washington Banquet Room of the House of the Temple transformed into a television studio for the third annual *Celebrating the Craft* (CTC) webcast. Brothers throughout the Southern Jurisdiction met in Valleys and homes to join with the studio audience in celebrating Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite. The show was hosted again by comedian and entertainer Ill. Norm Crosby, 33°, who was joined this year by radio personality Jim Bohannon. They oversaw six hours of informative videos, live performances by 12 winners of the "Scottish Rite Has Talent" contest, entertaining interviews, and fundraising for Scottish Rite charities. Valleys across the Southern Jurisdiction Skyped in with messages of support and fundraising challenges.

Volunteers manned a phone bank and took pledges through the evening. The phone bank was overseen by Bro. William

L. "Rusty" Garrett, Jr., 32°, Waco, TX, Chief Weather Anchor for KWTX News 10, and Ms. Siobhan Connellan.

CTC's dual purposes are to celebrate Freemasonry and to raise money for the "Rebuilding the Temple Campaign" (RTC) and 501(c)(3) charities across the Southern Jurisdiction. RTC supports the restoration and maintenance of the Southern Jurisdiction's magnificent headquarters building, the House of the Temple in Washington, DC. Generous donors throughout the Southern Jurisdiction and elsewhere gave and pledged more than \$1.3 million to this grand undertaking. There was even a donation from the Grand Lodge of Iceland.

Excerpts of featured events plus hour-by-hour video of the webcast will be posted to the Supreme Council's website: scottishrite.org. This annual event is an example of the Masonic Brotherhood at its best: having fun, celebrating our heritage, and helping others.



CTC Photography: Elizabeth A. W. McCarthy,
The Scottish Rite Journal

From Tablets to the Cloud

As I sat down to write this column, a perfectly timed email appeared in which a reader asked whether he should replace his ancient laptop with another laptop or switch to a tablet.

"I'm wondering if laptops will even be around in a few years," he wrote. "Wouldn't I be smarter to go with the latest technology?"

Sure, tablet sales have soared while laptop sales have been on the skids. The iPad Air, Kindle Fire, Samsung Galaxy and their ilk are a hit among consumers.

On the other hand, laptops haven't exactly gone the way of the buggy whip. For instance, this spring Apple introduced its newest MacBook Air, which *Wall Street Journal* computer expert Joanna Stern calls "the best laptop ever made."

So, the decision on which to buy comes down to your own needs.

Tablets are compact, lightweight and relatively inexpensive. Tablets are ideal for people who want a device to read e-books, online newspapers and magazines, watch movies and TV programs, and play certain games. Tablets provide an ideal platform for scads of apps. (Tip: Check out Night Sky at iCandiApps.com).

Tablets allow users to surf the Web, manage email, shop online and take photos. Tablets also can be used to perform some computer functions.

However, when considering the advantages of a tablet, remember that it is not a device with all the power and functionality of a laptop. It really boils down to your own needs. Don't spend the extra dollars for a laptop when a tablet will serve your purposes. Of course, you may discover that you want both a laptop and a tablet.

Now for a few recommendations. With tablets, you can't go wrong with the iPad Air. Another great choice is the Kindle Fire. I also am impressed by

the Nokia Lumina. Looking for a bargain? Consider the Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 at around \$350.

As for laptops, the Apple MacBook Air is my pick. If you prefer Windows, consider a Dell XPS, Acer Aspire or a Sony VAIO Pro.

As for our house, I will tell you that my wife loves her iPad Air and 21.5-inch iMac, while I'm delighted with my MacBook Air and 27-inch iMac.

I've also received a number of inquiries regarding upgrading from Windows XP to either Windows 7 or Windows 8.1. Since Microsoft no longer provides security updates for the XP operating system, the time has come to ditch it.

As for the popular Windows 7 system, it is no longer available from Microsoft though it can be purchased from a number of retailers, including Best Buy and Amazon.

While I like Windows 7, my recommendation is to go with Windows 8.1.

Before going further, there's a better than even chance your XP computer cannot be upgraded to either Windows 7 or 8.1. To upgrade, your computer must have a 1 GHz (gigahertz) or faster processor and at least 1 GB (gigabyte) RAM (32-bit) or 2 GB RAM (64-bit). It must have at least 16 GB of free hard drive space (32-bit) or 20 GB of free space (64-bit). And it must have a Microsoft DirectX 9 graphics device with a WDDM driver.

Oh yes, your computer's processor also must have these features to run Windows 8.1: Physical Address Extension (PAE), NX processor bit (NX) and Streaming SIMD Extensions 2 (SSE2).

Additional information is available on Microsoft's website (windows.microsoft.com).

Leigh E. Morris, 33°



If you can't upgrade, pop for a new laptop or an all-in-one desktop. Then again, you only may need a tablet.

Readers have asked whether they should use a "cloud storage" service such as Dropbox or Google Drive to store their photos and documents.

Cloud storage is easy to use, making it very appealing. This is especially true if you have more than one device (and no doubt you do). The benevolent cloud relieves users of the need to manage their own storage.

However – and in life there always is an "however" – with cloud storage you may gain convenience at the potential loss of security.

Numerous experts such as Triona Guidry, president of Guidry Consulting, warn that cloud storage leaves users exposed to cyberattacks and all sorts of snooping. Cloud boosters will tell you not to worry because the cloud is safe. Shoppers thought that about Target's website.

So at this time, I don't feel confident enough to recommend cloud storage.

Nonetheless, if you really want to try the cloud, you may want to check out the versatile Apple iCloud (yes, it works with Windows machines that have the latest version of iTunes), Microsoft SkyDrive or Dropbox. But don't come crying if something bad happens.

Security tip: Change your passwords every two months. Never use the same password for two or more sites. Never reuse passwords. Always use random alpha-numeric passwords (include symbols if allowed).

Drop me a line.

I welcome your questions and comments. Just fire an email to me at studebaker055@yahoo.com.



SCOTTISH RITE BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION

DEVELOPMENT & PLANNED GIVING

"But For Scottish Rite..."

Estate Plans Are Crucial, No Matter Your Wealth

If you have created a will you have started the estate planning process. Now you may think that estate planning applies only to the wealthy. This is far from the truth. Estate planning has nothing to do with whether you are worth millions or only a few hundred dollars.

Almost everyone has something to pass on to an heir. Don't make the mistake thinking that you do not have enough to create an estate plan. Your estate includes your home and other real estate, tangible personal property such as cars and furniture and intangible property such as bank accounts, investments and pensions, 401k's, IRA's and Social Security benefits.

At least, you need to decide what you would like to happen with your estate when you die. It is a personal choice for you to make.

Many estate planning issues have little to do with money and a great deal to do with control. Distributing assets isn't as simple as leaving everything to one person. You want to think charitable bequests that may be meaningful to you. It is time to think about **"But For Scottish Rite."**

Verdon Skipper was one who gave careful consideration to executing a proper estate plan that supported the Scottish Rite Charities that he was

committed to during his life. He searched for a philanthropic legacy that was dear to his heart – a legacy gift that truly made a difference, where the "ultimate gift" would be properly maintained and multiplied through sound management practices. He truly understood that **"But For Scottish Rite"** there was no way to carry forth the needs of our Scottish Rite Charities. We say thank you to Skipper for his philanthropic legacy.



When sitting down to develop your estate plan please give thought to the Scottish Rite Charities:

- Grand Almoner's Fund
- Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation
- Children's Dyslexia Centers
- Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library
- Leon M. Abbott Scholarships

Support the Scottish Rite Charities of your choice in your estate plan. For more information please contact Jim Deyo, executive director of development/planned giving, at 614-204-7365.

Don't let the state determine the distribution of your assets.

Support the Grand Almoner's Fund

Members interested in making a pledge of financial support to the Grand Almoner's Fund are encouraged to consider joining the Commander's Circle, a special giving society commissioned by Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton, 33°.

Two levels comprise the Commander's Circle: the Gold Circle, limited to those who donate \$10,000 or more to the Grand Almoner's Fund, or the Silver Circle, recognizing Brothers who have donated \$5,000 to \$9,999 to the Almoner's Fund or have made a bequest of support.

Gold and silver pins have been commissioned to acknowledge membership in the Commander's Circle (the gold pin is represented on this page). Members of these donor societies will also be commemorated on a plaque in the newly constructed Supreme Council Headquarters in the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA.

For more information on joining the Commander's Circle, please contact Jim Deyo, executive director of development/planned giving, at 614-204-7365.



The Grand Almoner's Fund is a fund of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation, a qualified charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Tax Code. All donations are fully deductible to the extent allowed under law.

REV. ROBERT

WALKER, the Skating Minister, is pictured on a stamp issued by Great Britain on July 4, 1973, to publicize skating. He was initiated in St. David Lodge, No. 36, S.C., on Nov. 28, 1798.



Young Robert Walker learned to skate on the frozen canals, a pastime that he loved and practiced for the rest of his adult life. With his strong family connections in the ministry, he decided that his future lay with the Church of Scotland, and in 1776, he was ordained to the Parish Church of Cramond, a village a few miles to the west of Edinburgh. In 1784 he was introduced to King George III as the Senior Minister of the Canongate Kirk. He remained in that position for the rest of his life and was a prominent member of the Edinburgh upper class society. He was also a member of the Edinburgh Skating Society, a strictly high class establishment, its members drawn from the aristocracy and landed gentry of the Edinburgh area.

CORNELIUS LANGENHOVEN is

featured on a set of stamps released by South Africa on Aug. 1, 1973, to celebrate his birth centenary. He was raised in Congo Lodge, No. 2088, E.C., on Aug. 13, 1912.

Cornelius Longenhoven started his school career in a farm school and read for his B.A. degree at Stellenbosch.



After obtaining his law degree he practiced as an attorney. Although educated in English, he devoted much of his time dealing with Afrikaans. He wrote some 50 books in that language, ranging from satire through essay to humor. He was awarded a Doctorate in Literature in recognition of his "Teaching the people to read." He also wrote *Die Steim*, South Africa's National Anthem in 1918.

ALEXANDER CARTWRIGHT the

"father of baseball" can be associated with the June 12, 1939, stamp issued by the U.S. He was raised on March 1, 1850, in the Lodge Le Progress de l'Océanie in Honolulu and demitted in 1851 to found Hawaiian Lodge, No. 21, with its dispensation granted by the Grand Lodge of California on Jan. 12, 1852. On Feb. 19, Bro. Cartwright was elected Secretary. He was elected Master for two terms – 1855 and 1856. He was buried with Masonic services by the lodge he had served for 40 years.

Alexander Cartwright was a bookseller and volunteer firefighter in Manhattan. He first began playing baseball in 1842 with others of the professional, financial, and social set. On Sept. 23, 1845, a baseball club



known as the "Knickerbockers" was organized, of which he was a member. A diagram was introduced by him late in 1845 showing where the nine players were to stand as well as the umpire and scorer. Players voted in favor of it, and the first organized game was played June 19, 1846, in Hoboken, NJ. The Knickerbockers lost that game by a score of 23-1. Only minor changes have been made to the original plans, and conclusive proof shows Cartwright as the father of modern baseball and not Doubleday. Cartwright left New York to mine gold in California in 1849, fell ill, and settled in Hawaii where he became a successful businessman and served as fire chief of Honolulu in the 1850s. He established the first baseball league there composed of teams he created from throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

NISHI AMANE is pictured on a regular issue stamp released in 1952, by Japan. He was the first Japanese Freemason, having joined the craft in the Netherlands while studying at

Robert A. Domingue



Leyden University. He was initiated on Oct. 20, 1864, in the Lodge "La Vertu," No. 7, in Leyden.

Nishi Amane was the son of a samurai physician and in 1853 was sent to Edo to become an interpreter for conducting business with the outside world. The following year he relinquished his samurai status and received an appointment to be a scholar of Western learning. In 1862, he was sent to the Netherlands to learn Western political science, constitutional law and economics. His mentor at the University of Leyden, Professor Simon Vissering, introduced him to Freemasonry. He returned to Japan in 1865, and was an active participant in the Meiji Restoration and a leading figure in the Meiji Enlightenment. In 1879, he was made head of the Tokyo Academy and by 1882, was part of the Genroin. He became a member of the House of Peers in 1890. He was ennobled with the title of danshaku (baron) in the kazoku peerage system. He was a tireless advocate of Western civilization as a role model for Japan's modernization, stressing the need to evolve without losing the "Japanese character" and is considered the father of Western philosophy in Japan.



PURE MASONIC ISSUE

Bulgaria became the most recent country to issue a stamp which honored Freemasonry directly. Issued on April 15, 2014, it commemorates the centennial of Masonic Lodge "Zayra."



Earning Freemasonry – A One-Day Class Redemption

by Adam T. Osman. Published in 2014 by Adam T. Osman.

Thomas W. Jackson, 33°



The author has written a very honest and candid evaluation of one-day classes and their impact on those who have traveled this route. One-day classes have been utilized by a number of Grand Lodges for more than 20 years as a means to increase membership. It is Osman's opinion that every Freemason must do more than learn Freemasonry, he must earn Freemasonry and that it is much more difficult to earn it as a product of one-day class.

Osman joined Freemasonry in a one-day class at age 21, in 2004, and although the subtitle of the book "A One-Day Class Redemption" might cause one to think that it was written as justification for them, he makes a fair appraisal of what one may experience as a product of it.

He has become an active member of the craft, is Past Master of his lodge and is a Master Masonic Scholar in the Pennsylvania Academy of Masonic Knowledge program. He wrote in the front of the book before presenting it to the academy that, "The program has given me the fire and drive to share the light of Freemasonry." It is perhaps worth noting that this is the fourth book published by participants in the academy since it was started 14 years ago and is indicative of the value of a Masonic education program.

Osman also states, "I was inspired to write this book, in part due to the shortcuts which were thrown at me in my Masonic journey." The emphasis of the book, however, is on the need to earn Freemasonry that is applicable to every Freemason, whether or not he is a product of a one-day class.

The book is divided into three sections. The first is, "A Path to Freemasonry." In it he discusses his developing interest in the craft, the path he took to affiliate; the realization of the barriers created in shortcuts, his commitment to learning Freemasonry, and the need to earn Freemasonry.

In the second section, "Different Freemasons Earning Freemasonry" Osman offers advice to the new member; the

card-carrying member; the regular attendee at lodge meetings; the officers; Past Masters, and those committed to the craft.

The third section, "Where Are We Headed" discusses modern trends in the craft such as online Masonic networking and response to questions regarding earning Freemasonry. He presents to the member the diverse opportunities to participate and become part of the lodge. This section also discusses the making of a Mason at sight and the appendant and concordant bodies.

His evaluation in affiliating with the craft through a one-day class, is stated in the sentence, "My opinion is that there could be a time and place for a one-day class under rare circumstances and only with dedicated and proper mentoring."

It is undeniable that some Brothers who became affiliated with Freemasonry via the one-day class experience have developed into active and productive members. Bro. Osman is a shining example.

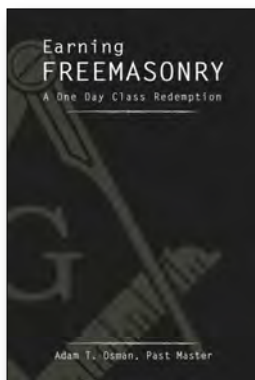
The Grand Design

by Wallace McLeod. Published in 1991 by Anchor Communications, Highland Springs, VA..

The author is a prominent Freemason, a retired professor of classics at Victoria College at the University of Toronto and a friend of many years. He is a fellow and past president of the Philalethes Society, Past Grand Abbott of the Society of Blue Friars, a full member of Quatuor Coronati Premier Lodge of Research and a former Prestonian lecturer. The forward was written by another good friend, Alan E Roberts, also a Brother and past president of the society.

The book is a collection of selected Masonic addresses and papers written by the author. It contains a wealth of information, including papers on how to write and how to present Masonic papers, as well as how to produce a book for Grand Lodge.

McLeod is a Canadian, a fact that is obvious in some of his papers, although he emphasizes the Freemasonry of



North America and the world in his writings. There is a considerable diversity in the content of the papers, some of which reveals a considerable Masonic knowledge on the author's part and a valuable resource to Freemasons. Subjects such as the Old Charges, Early Masonry in America, Anti-Masonry in the Eighties, and The Meaning of the Great Architect of the Universe are interesting and worthwhile reading for all Freemasons.

A chapter titled, "Why I Still Believe in the Transition Theory: Operative to Speculative," reinforces the most widely accepted concept of our origin, along with a chapter on "the Effect of Victorian Obscenity Laws on Masonic Historians: an Allegedly Obscene Poem of 1723" provides interesting reading.

He presents a subject that we rarely see in American history books concerning the Loyalist Masons during the American Revolution. However, we must remember that one side's patriot may be regarded as the other side traitor at any given point in history. McLeod presents a very fair review of the situation during this period of the American history. He concludes the book with discussions on Simon MacGillivray, MacLeod Moore, and Albert Pike.

His analysis of the Loyalist Masons and his comments on Pike may not make every reader overjoyed, but they are fair and honest.

I found the book to be interesting and informative reading. It offers information for both the newly made Mason and the mature reader, rarely found.

For the Good of the Order – Examining the Shifting Paradigm Within Freemasonry

by John Bizzack, PhD. Published in 2013 by Autumn House Publishing & Consulting Group.

Bizzack, retired after 25 years in the law enforcement field, is the author of eight books and numerous articles.

For the Good of the Order deals with the issue of shifting paradigms within the Masonic fraternity. It is an excellent analysis on historical shifts and what is taking place now.

The author very acutely and accurately confronts the issues that Freemasonry faces as a result of our failure to retain an educational system in our lodges and our

willingness to surrender the quality of the craft in our incessant quest for quantity. He points out that the paradigm today does not deal with the relevancy of the precepts of Masonry, nor "due to a failure of its principles and lessons but purely on the basis of numbers." He poses the question, "does Masonry need more members or more Masons?"

He writes that it is not important the reader agree with what this book says, as long as he thinks about it. His observations supported by learned students of the craft contend that, "Freemasonry does not help itself by being 'transparent' and further strips the fraternity of its aura of secrecy and mystery."

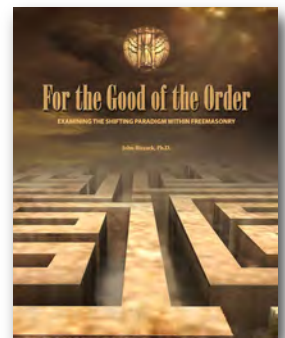
He presents well the potential involvement of the Traditional Observance, European Concept and Affinity Lodges in the paradigm shift by offering "better and more in-depth education, further opportunity for fellowship and a return to more traditional panache, spirit and fundamental core ideologies of the fraternity as it was in the past."

He also made an observation that I did not realize was that evident in world Freemasonry: "None of the solutions tried to this point by various English-speaking Grand Lodges have reversed the downward trend." I have perceived for some time that the English-speaking Grand Lodges have shown the greatest rate of loss over several decades, all using principally the charitable style of the craft.

I was very much impressed with his knowledge of the craft, the clarity of the observations and the rationalizations made concerning present-day Freemasonry. I contacted the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky to get information on the author and found that he had been a member of the craft only since 2010. I am now even more impressed that he was able to write a book indicating so much knowledge with his limited time of membership. Perhaps his observations from the outside, prior to becoming a member, contributes to this vision.

Bizzack began this book by quoting me. I close my review by quoting his profound observation, "We cannot escape the fact that the general public judges Freemasonry by whom they observe are permitted to become Masons."

It is a book well worth reading.



Don't want to sweat? Join the 'slow bicycle movement'

San Francisco is a hot town for bicycling. But among the growing population of bicyclists are those who avoid speed and spandex in favor of sitting upright and slowly making their way through town in whatever they happen to be wearing. It's a trend that some are calling "The Slow."

In Los Angeles, when Karen Canady takes to the streets, she goes real slowly. She's not a sissy though. She's a former short-course triathlete and one of a new breed of cyclists in the slow bicycle movement.

They forget about those speeding riders bent over the handlebars of their bikes. Slow bikers can ride to work and go into the office in the same clothes.

On errands or pleasure rides, Canady says she takes in the scenery, smells the aromas and stops to chat with pedestrians and other cyclists. It's pleasant, relaxing fun.

According to AARP, the slow movement began in 2008 in Copenhagen, Denmark. In the United States, slow bicycling clubs are popping up all over. Facebook has more than 9,000 slow-riding members.

They say that when you're not rushing past, with your head down, people talk to you, ask for directions, comment on your bike or otherwise initiate a conversation. Sometimes that means talking to tourists, and sometimes it means striking up a conversation with another slow rider in the bike lane.

Caregivers are healthier

While it's not easy to care for a disabled or elderly person, being bombarded with reports of how caregiving can be hazardous to your health only makes things worse.

There are many positive studies, but they get less attention from the

media. These studies often find no adverse effects from caregiving, and some even suggest it helps some caregivers live longer.

The latest positive news comes from a large demographic study sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. Reported in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, it looked at 3,500 individuals (average age 63), who had taken care of a family member for about six years.

These caregivers had an 18 percent lower mortality rate than their matched non-caregiving counterparts. The best survival benefit was in the one-third of caregivers who were taking care of an elderly parent.

Certainly, the negative effects of high-strain caregiving are recognized, but the researchers point out that the caregiving experience is incredibly diverse. Most people willingly help family members with low levels of need. In this study only one-sixth of caregivers said they had high levels of strain.

Many reported enhanced self-esteem and recognition by others. The study leaders say when caregiving is done willingly at manageable levels and for individuals who express gratitude, it is reasonable to expect health benefits might accrue.

We quote the final lines of this study. "Negative public health and

media portrayals of the risks of family caregiving may do a disservice by portraying caregiving as dangerous. The portrayals could deter family members from taking on what could be a satisfying and healthy family role."

Bacterial infection may cause low back pain

For millions of people with low back pain, there is often no clear cause.

Recently, a study in Denmark, published in the April 2013 issue of the *European Spine Journal*, suggests that a small percentage of such cases may be related to bacterial infections. The study involved adults who had a herniated disk in the lower back and chronic low back pain for more than six months.

Participants had a type of bone change that can only be detected with an MRI. This type of bone change can be associated with low-grade bacterial infection in an adjacent herniated disk or damaged disk. Those taking antibiotics (amoxicillin, clavulanate and others) had less constant pain, fewer days of sick leave, and fewer disruptions in sleep.

Mayo Clinic experts say the findings can only be verified through repeated studies, and less than ten percent of low back pain patients would be candidates for the antibiotic treatment.

Chewing gum and you

Gastroenterologist J. Sumner Bell says: "The moment you toss a piece of gum into your mouth, the brain is alerted that the digestive process will begin."

If it doesn't, it upsets the stomach by throwing off its acidity.

Swallowing gum between meals is no problem because that's when intestinal housekeeping takes place.

If you really want gum, chew sugarless gum after a meal. With the saliva it produces, it helps clean the teeth and sweeten the breath.



THE ALERUS STORY began in 1879, when the Bank of Grand Forks became the second chartered bank in the Dakota Territory. Over the ensuing 135 years, which included a name change and national expansion, Alerus has become a multibillion dollar financial services organization specializing in banking, investments and retirement planning. Although we have grown exponentially since our founding and have spread across all 50 states, we remain focused as a customer driven company.

Our relationship with The Supreme Council began in 2007 when Alerus Retirement Solutions began administering the 401(k) Employee Retirement Plan. The plan has grown and the relationship has strengthened, and both organizations were anxious to utilize the expertise of the Alerus investment and retirement departments for the benefit of all members of the Scottish Rite, NMJ. What developed was an exciting new IRA program designed by Alerus and offered exclusively to members and family of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

The Alerus retirement philosophy is based on a few sound principles. We utilize no load, low cost mutual funds from top tier investment firms. These include institutional share class offerings – the lowest cost available – from fund families including Vanguard, PIMCO, Dodge & Cox, American Funds and more. The Alerus investment department selects these high quality and low cost products and constructs managed model portfolios. These portfolio options are designed to match each individual investors risk profile and time horizon. We also offer a select group of individual funds that have been screened by our investment team and stand out as best in class mutual funds.

Along with our investment products, Alerus takes pride in our state of the art website – designed to be user friendly while providing incredible research and educational tools. We also offer a comprehensive investment statement and a dedicated service team to offer any assistance or information needed from our client base. We also provide RMD calculations and a robust administrative team to handle all of your IRA needs.

As director of Alerus IRA's I am very happy with the product that we have built and can offer exclusively to you: quality low cost investments managed by an exceptional investment team and backed by education, information, and a top notch staff to work with you individually as you plan for and navigate through your retirement. I look forward to speaking with you and discussing who we are and the specifics of what we have to offer.

Jim Luchsinger
Director, Alerus Retirement Income Solutions

Start your rollover process at:
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Alerus Financial has teamed up with the Supreme Council to offer an exclusive, IRA product for Members and their families. Features include no load institutional share class mutual funds and professionally managed portfolios. We invite you to learn more about this exciting arrangement, uniquely designed for your IRA rollover assets.

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VIEWS FROM THE PAST

Quotations selected from the past may not necessarily represent today's viewpoint.


Time is – Time was

Using these words from the ritual of the 32°, affords me the opportunity to talk of man's most precious gift – time. We enter this world with a lifespan known only to our great Architect. We can alter through care the amount of time we are allowed on earth. However, we actually are only taking advantage of what was given to us. The important part of our life is what we do with our time – how well do we utilize that most precious thing we have. Do we waste time with the ill-founded reasoning that we can make it up tomorrow by working either later or by not doing something else? Time is never made up since you have simply replaced today's time with

tomorrow's – thereby denying yourself the use of that time.

This does not mean to say that time used for self-enjoyment is time wasted. Each of us needs time for our own enjoyment and development. Children need time to daydream – a growing procedure. We all need time to reflect, and most importantly – we should all find time, perhaps time now wasted – to use for the benefit of mankind. Call it your time contribution – don't waste it. Make it count; for this, our most precious gift, only comes once – cannot be made up – and when used wisely – provides rewards untold.

– Richard Day, *The Chicago Scottish Rite Magazine*, Dec. 1971/Jan. 1972



A NEW FEATURE.

To the 3,000 ILLUSTRATIONS heretofore in Webster's Unabridged we have added four pages of

COLORED ILLUSTRATIONS, engraved expressly for the work, at large expense, viz.:

Arms of the States and Territories,
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6-11

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LOUISVILLE, KY.

Kentucky sour mash whiskies a specialty.

– Masonic Journal, Oct. 1, 1876

Masonry at its Best

When a man understands that he was admitted into Freemasonry, not because of what he has but because of what he is; when it is clear to him that Masonic privileges are his only so long as he is worthy; when he responds to the Masonic call for service in the order or in the community; when he knows that every Mason, world-wide is a potential friend; when he is tolerant of every race and creed; when he strives humbly and earnestly to embrace all things – this is Freemasonry at its best.

– Eugene G. Hopp, *California Freemason*, Oct-Dec. 1968

Masonic Charity

If we would be continually endeavoring to erect our spiritual building agreeably to the rules and designs laid down by the Supreme Architect of the Universe, in the Book of Life, we cannot help but contemplate and give serious reflection upon the subject of Masonic charity. To offer relief to our distressed Brother Masons, their widows and orphans, is a duty particularly incumbent on all Masons who, we learn, are linked together with the indissoluble chains of brotherly love and affection. But charity refers not alone to monetary or

financial disbursement, nor even only to the relief of physical wants; we are required also to minister to and sympathize with those who are in misfortune, to compassionate their miseries, to restore peace to their troubled minds.

The lessons of the Holy Scripture often are given to us in parables or parallels, likening them unto things which we are capable of understanding. Observe, therefore, that this proverb speaks of lending unto the Lord, the inference being that we shall be repaid, presumably with interest. Accordingly, he who gives much will have much returned to him; his riches, both

material and spiritual, will be markedly enhanced. This beautiful thought should encourage us to a wider application of the principles of charity; it should be dispensed toward all mankind with the same bounty that God has blessed us, individually.

Contemplating further in the Book of Proverbs, we find this, in chapter 24, verse 17: "Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, And let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth." Here we find a broader and more substantial foundation for Mason charity.

– Robert Craw, *The Cornerstone*, Feb. 1929

Look Ahead – Keep Alive!

The Grand Master of Tasmania says: “Freemasonry belongs on the forward edge of the age if it is to live. To some of you that may be heresy. The easiest thing that a Mason does is to look backward. Our whole training is retrospective. It is not too much to say that we have an obsession for the past. We revere what we call the ancient landmarks.

Our ritual was forged in the bizarre atmosphere of the eighteenth century. We have a lot to say about Solomon's Temple, and about the rebuilding of the Temple after the Exile, and about the Crusades and all the drama of medieval chivalry. Masonic education has very often meant an effort to re-create – in the modern mind – the spirit of tradition. We need that, to be sure. But I am venturing to say that our spirit must be creative as well as traditional; not either but both. This does not mean any departure from our ancient landmarks. It means that we must so live our Freemasonry that it will be a guiding light in the stupendous changes that are taking place in all sides of life all over the world.”

— Howard J. Martindale,
Connecticut Square & Compasses, January 1965

Masons – Not Hermits

There is work at hand for the more than two million American Masons, and they should do it now. The task involves a movement where they combine to hold to and promulgate the teachings and professions that have made the craft a power and a unit for fraternal justice and truth. The closer the bonds of Brotherhood are drawn, the more efficacious and speedy the outcome for world welfare. There is no need to exalt Masonic teachings. They stand for themselves in the test of time and in the sacrifice made when the cry of distress and oppression has appealed. They have once voice, the universal Fatherhood of God, righteousness and action.

The fraternity cannot afford to adopt any hermit policy amid existing stress, but it must act from a sacred sense of duty. Masonry can never falter nor afford to deny the essential spirit of its principles, whose province in protest, the maintenance of law and order and sympathy and practical help where needed, is recognized as a true beacon light for humanity.

— John Lloyd Thomas, *Brotherhood, June 1921*

The Gesture of Generosity

Brotherhood and generosity go hand in hand. To give for the joy of giving; to make another's problems his own; to aid research; to help those in distress even though they are unknown to him; such is the true quality of brotherhood and the essence of generosity. We like to think that this type of generosity is truly Masonic and that Masons are both brotherly and generous. In fact we like to think that since the establishment of our Masonic Brotherhood Fund, we have proved that our fraternity in New York state is outstanding for its generosity.

The Masonic Brotherhood Fund gives us an opportunity to activate in a tangible way the impulses of generosity which all Masonic Brethren have in their hearts. It is a means of expressing our Brotherhood with all men. The speed at which we live and work today makes it impossible to carry out our ideal of Brotherhood personally, except in a limited way. But through our generosity, this ideal of Brotherhood can be enlarged throughout the state, throughout the nation, and throughout the world.

— David R. Cunnison, *The Empire State Mason, Feb. 1953*

QUOTABLES

Form a clear and definite mental picture of what you want; you cannot transmit an idea unless you have it yourself.

— Wallace Wattles

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

— Martin Luther King Jr.

We must not allow the clock or the calendar to blind us to the fact that each moment of life is a miracle and a mystery.

— H.G. Wells

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is to try just one more time.

— Thomas A. Edison

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, faith looks up.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Champions aren't made in gyms but from something they have deep inside them: a desire, a dream, a vision.

— Muhammad Ali

Good communication is as stimulating as black coffee, and just as hard to sleep after.

— Anne Morrow Lindberg

Happiness comes when your work and words are of benefit to yourself and others.

— Jack Kornfield

As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.

— Bill Gates

The start is what stops most people.

— Don Shula

An ounce of action is worth a ton of theory.

— Friedrich Engels

Call for help after a fall

What happens if you fall to the floor and you are knocked unconscious?

An alert pendant can't help if you can't press the button or if you aren't wearing it at the time. But a new system uses smart wireless technology to sense if a person has fallen.

The safe@home system, being tested by tech companies now, addresses falling, a common problem among seniors. According to German statistics, about 30 percent of those over age 65 and living at home experience a fall at least once a year. For those over 80, the number is more than 80 percent. When seniors do fall, they are sometimes unable to call for help for hours.

The new system uses sensors the size of smoke detectors on the ceiling of every room. These sensors use both optical and acoustic methods to determine where a person is in the room and if the person is well. A fall can be detected within seconds. If the sensors detect no movement or cries for help, then the system calls the person. If the person is well, the alarm can be cancelled. If no one answers, family members or neighbors can be notified.

New grocery shopping system

Somewhere between visiting the supermarket and ordering groceries to be delivered to you (if you live in a city), a new choice is evolving across America.

The hybrid grocery shopping model is taking form: you can order your items online and simply drive to a nearby depot to pick them up.

So is it really a time saver if you have to start your car go to pick the grocery depot anyway? Yes. Proponents say you won't have to find a place to park, walk through the store, and search through the aisles.

The depot system is especially helpful for those who are physically less able of doing the supermarket routine. As for driving to the depot, you can schedule your pickup for convenient times.

The depots are already popular overseas at distributors such as Tesco. In the U.S., Whole Foods and Harris Teeter stores are starting pilot programs.

Relay Foods is the leading startup in the U.S. According to *Time* it has expanded from its home in Charlottesville, VA, to Williamsburg, VA, and Baltimore.

Get in line and dance

By now, everyone's seen them doing it. Line dancing is fun no matter what your age and whether or not you have a cowboy hat and boots. You're a prime candidate if you're in your 50s or 60s, but there are plenty of dancers in their 70s and 80s.

For beginners there are classes in churches, dance halls and senior centers. If you don't want to take a class, you can just get out there and copy what the other dancers are doing, but it takes longer to learn. In line dancing, everybody does their own individual dance. There are no partners.

Not as strong as you used to be? No problem, you'll get stronger if you dance once a week or more. And it's a lot more fun than sitting on the porch in a rocking chair.

At the Neal Senior Center, Shelby, NC, an 88-year-old woman says line dancing just "keeps her going." Her friend says it helps to keep her limber as it brings fellowship, exercise, music and dance into her life. People are not only getting fit but they're having fun.

Exercise: A powerful tool

Pumping iron is no longer just an activity for young men. Women in their 70s and 80s have taken it up to maintain or increase their strength and fight cognitive decline.

The weights they use are determined at first by what they can lift and how often.

According to Tufts University, both aerobic activity and resistance training helped prevent decline in thinking.

Tufts reports research in which 86 women ages 70 to 86 were divided into two exercise groups.

Mental performance was measured using the Stroop Test for selective attention, and the ability to deal with conflicting information. The test also involved problem solving, visual attention and task switching.

After six months on the program, the aerobics group and stretching group got physically fitter and improved balance.

Those who lifted weights and did resistance training significantly improved their average performance on the Stroop Test and tests of associative memory.

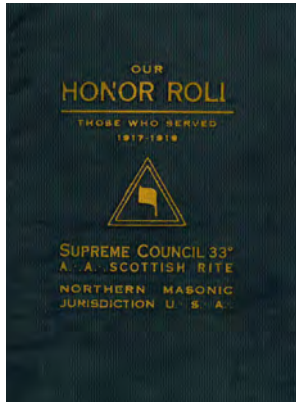
If these findings nudge you to get started with strength training, check out *Growing Stronger*, a step-by-step program developed by Tufts experts. It's available free online at cdc.gov/physicalactivity/growingstronger. Or the book can be purchased from tuftsbooks.com.





Jeffrey Croteau

John S. Winner - Scottish Rite Mason killed in action on the final day of WWI



Our Honor Roll: Those Who Served 1917-1919.

Boston, MA: Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, [1919]

IN 1919, THE SUPREME COUNCIL PUBLISHED *Our Honor Roll: Those Who Served, 1917-1919*. The book contains a list of 14,843 Scottish Rite members from the 15 states that comprise the jurisdiction who “have gloriously served Our Country and the World in its hours of direst need, and have thus nobly assisted to fix the word American as a title of honor wherever courage and self-sacrifice are the cardinal virtues among men...” (The Supreme Council’s Proceedings for 1919 noted that the list was incomplete, stating that “subsequent information indicates that the number of our Scottish Rite brethren of this Jurisdiction in the service exceeds 16,000.”)

While browsing through the names, I was immediately struck by one entry in particular because of the death date:

WINNER, JOHN SANFORD

314th Inf.

(Killed in action Nov. 11, 1918)

The armistice-signing, which ended combat in World War I, took place at 5 a.m. on November 11, 1918. However, the armistice stipulated that combat would end six hours later – at the memorable eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. During the six hours between the signing of the armistice and the end of combat, a shockingly high number of deaths occurred as fighting continued, even with the knowledge that peace was coming at 11 a.m. Joseph Persico, in his book *Eleventh Day, Eleventh Month, Eleventh Hour: Armistice Day 1918, World War I and Its Violent Climax*, writes:

“According to the most conservative estimates, during the last day of the war, principally in the six

hours after the armistice was signed, all sides on the western front suffered 10,944 casualties, of which 2,738 were deaths, more than the average daily casualties throughout the war. Putting these losses into perspective, in the June 6, 1944, D-Day invasion of Normandy, nearly twenty-six years later, the total losses reported at 10,000 for all sides. Thus the total Armistice Day casualties were nearly 10 percent higher than those on D-Day. There was, however, a vast difference. The men storming Normandy beaches were fighting for victory. Men dying on Armistice Day were fighting in a war already decided.”

Persico also notes that, of those 2,738 deaths, at least 320 were Americans.

Sergeant John Sanford Winner (1887-1918), a Scottish Rite Mason from Pennsylvania’s Valley of Bloomsburg was among those killed on the final day of WWI. He was part of the 314th’s Machine Gun Company and was killed alongside Private James Smith. At 9:15, on the morning of November 11, as the 314th Infantry attempted to take Côte de Romagne, Winner was killed, less than two hours before the cease fire. An account notes:

“At 9:15 A.M. Nov 11 1918 the company passed through the heaviest artillery it had ever experienced. The company had these casualties Sergt. John S. Winner and Private Harold Edwards killed, Corp. Roy Rinner, John Bremble, and Private Edwin Spaulding wounded.”

According to Winner’s WWI draft registration card, he was a 30-year-old unmarried barber from Danville, PA, before joining the 314th Infantry. We hope that further research will reveal more information about Winner, including when he joined the Scottish Rite.

This article appeared in a slightly different form on the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library’s blog. Find more at nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com. The Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is located just off the main lobby of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library and is open to the public 10-4:30, Wednesday-Saturday. Reference assistance is provided in person, by phone, or by e-mail. You may contact us at 781-457-4109 or library@monh.org.

READER'S RESPOND

We welcome letters and emails from our readers in response to articles appearing in *The Northern Light* and will reprint them as space permits. Letters must be signed, should be brief, and are subject to editing.

Misplaced Honor?

On p. 29, ("More Than Just Books," *TNL*, May 2014) there is a picture of Henry Ford receiving the 33° in 1940. I am of the opinion that Henry Ford's own words and deeds disqualify him from being a Mason and receiving even the first degree let alone the 33°. Henry Ford slandered the Jewish people, and he was given an award by the Nazi government because his views regarding the Jews were in concert with Nazi dogma. In my opinion He shouldn't be held up as a source of pride by the Masonic fraternity in general or the Scottish Rite in particular.

David Mason Albert, 32°, Valley of Boston

New Light on Old Material

I very much enjoyed Dr. Newell's article about 19th century Masonic travel ("Prized Relics," *TNL*, May 2014). It helped to put my inherited copy of Morris' *Freemasonry in the Holy Land* into perspective.

George Pursley, 32°, Valley of Columbus

Re"New"ing Your Membership

I read John McNaughton's article with great interest ("Value Proposition Part 2," *TNL* May 2014). I felt like he was writing about me and my lodge.

I have never been active in my blue lodge and have only ever attended a handful of meetings. In my defense, I was the CEO of a publicly traded company at the time I became a Mason and was/am involved in a long list of worthwhile community and charitable causes. Masonic involvement took a back seat.

But what's sad to me is that no one has ever reached out to me to encourage my involvement. Even worse is that several times over the past few years I asked a very active member of my lodge to tell me when he will be attending a meeting so that I can go with him and get refreshed on the rituals and customs so that I am comfortable in the meetings and can contribute appropriately. He has failed to follow up with me.

In every business that I am involved in and with just about every other charitable, fraternal or civic organization, there is constant effort to get members active along with attracting new members.

I suspect many Masons would love to be asked to get involved for the first time or to re-engage if once active but no longer active. I know I would like it.

Raymond H. Melcher, 33°, Valley of Reading

Recollections of a Grit Salesman

Reading "Grit and Determination" (*TNL*, May 2014) brought back happy memories for me. In 1951, I started my *Grit* route that had approximately 80 customers. It took almost all day Saturday to deliver and collect for the paper. If the customer wasn't home I'd leave the paper and collect for it the next week.

Interestingly, the route was kept within the family (the Boyds and the Shavers). For many years, as the boys grew older, it was transferred to another younger boy. The *Grit* paper was interesting. In addition to delivering it to homes, every barber shop in town bought one.

Dan E. Boyd, 33°, Valley of Steubenville

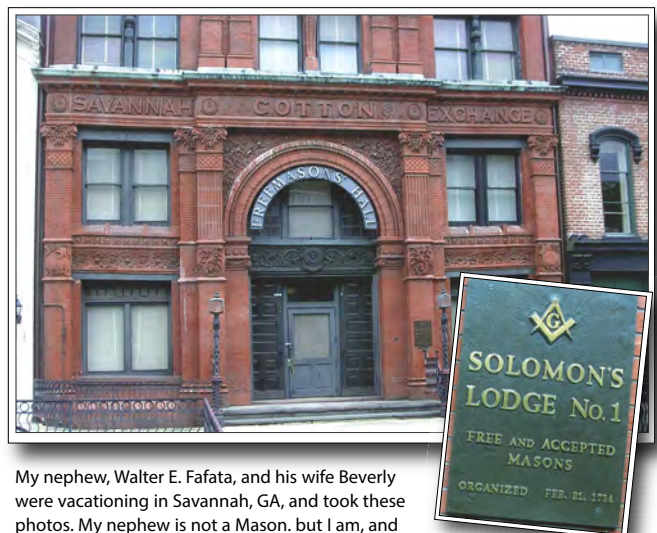
History All Around

My father shared with me the May edition of your magazine. It was great to read all the history of *Grit* magazine. Working for DEP for the past ten years, my office is in the old Grit Building. We have lots of pictures throughout the first floor and often times I tell people the general history when they come in for meetings. But in your short article it put a completely different perspective on how important the business was to the area. I hadn't even known that there was a Masonic history to the building.

Lisa Houser, OES, Watsonstown Chapter 282

MASONIC MOMENTS

Please submit your own Masonic photos to *The Northern Light*. We are accepting submissions of all things Masonic — people, places or occurrences, to share with our readership. You may send your photo to editor@supremecouncil.org, or mail your submission to: The Northern Light, PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420-0519. Include your name, address and Masonic affiliation. Photos will not be returned.



My nephew, Walter E. Fafata, and his wife Beverly were vacationing in Savannah, GA, and took these photos. My nephew is not a Mason, but I am, and he knew I'd be interested. **Robert J. Fafata**, Valley of Pittsburgh.

Changes for Supreme Council's Annual Meeting

Since the jurisdiction's birth in 1813, the site of the annual meeting has moved from state to state each year. A change has been made, effective this year. Although there will continue to be a business meeting every 12 months, the large event, including an invitation to all Honorary Members, will take place only in odd-numbered years. This year's meeting, therefore, will be held at Supreme Council headquarters in Lexington, MA. Included with the executive sessions is a Deputies Meeting.

Next year – 2015 – we return to a large-scale gathering, complete with the conferral of the 33°. That event will take place Aug. 30-Sep. 1, at Indianapolis.

Following another executive session of the Supreme Council in Lexington in 2016, constituting the annual meeting, the next full-blown event is set for Aug. 27-29, 2017, in Rochester, NY.

Another change is to the term of office for the Sovereign Grand Commander. Currently he is elected to a three-year term, limited to three such periods. This year will be the last one of that length and limitation. Beginning in 2017, the term of office will be set at two years, with a five-term limit, totaling ten years in office.

Late Summer Reading

Check out the Scottish Rite NMJ Shop where you'll find all sorts of reading material on your fraternity.

The *Book of Wisdom*, subtitled "Freemasonry through the veil of an ancient French manuscript," was painstakingly translated by Ill. Kamel Oussayef, 33°, from a volume compiled by Jean Fredrick Doszedardski. Bro. Oussayef says that "Book of Wisdom is a combination of Masonic rules and history, written in Doszedardski's own hand." It also contains references to the political situation in France at the time of its compilation. It also describes how the fraternity burgeoned in the islands of the Caribbean Sea. The *Book of Wisdom* contains both the translation and matching images of the original text.

A *Sublime Brotherhood*, a history of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, was published last year in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the jurisdiction. The 200-page lavishly illustrated work traces the story of the rite from 1813 to the present.

Finally, *American Freemasons*, written by Ill. Mark A. Tabbert, 33°, and edited by the late Ill. Richard H. Curtis, 33°, is available.

Online Archives

Looking for a story that once appeared in *The Northern Light*? It is now easy to take a trip back in time. Every issue of *The Northern Light*,

from its beginnings in 1970, is online. To access this archive head to scottishritenmj.org/TheNorthernLight.aspx. Additionally, the staff at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library is currently working to digitize its entire collection of historic photographs. This part of the collection includes more than 1,000 images from the 1800s and 1900s, many showing men and women in their Masonic and fraternal regalia. Images can be browsed by visiting NationalHeritageMuseum.org. Click on "Collections" and then "Online Collections." Once there, click to start a search. You will be taken to a new window where you can search for all photos by typing "photo" or you can search for specific subjects, photographers, places, or any other term.

New Exhibition at Museum & Library

"Prized Relics: Historic souvenirs from the collection" went on display at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library on June 14. It explores the souvenirs and relics that fascinated many Americans in the 1800s and into the 1900s. The show features more than 80 of these intriguing artifacts from the Museum & Library collection, as well as examples from the collection of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts. The exhibition explores relics and souvenirs connected to domestic life, tourism, Masonic institutions and historic events dating from the 1700s through the 1900s. One of the fascinating artifacts on view is an urn made by Paul Revere to hold a lock of George Washington's hair, on loan from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Another domestic relic on view is a pair of child's moccasins. May Abbott Thompson procured them from performer, storyteller, and relic dealer, Frank "Big Thunder" Loring. The Museum & Library is located in Lexington, MA, and the exhibition is ongoing.

Pay Your Dues Online

Paying your dues has never been easier. Just have your Scottish Rite member number handy, together with your address associated with your membership, and visit our website. Follow the simple instructions and you will be all paid up in no time.

Alan E. Foulds, 32°
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PLANNING TO ESCAPE THE
cold north winds
this winter?

We want to stay in touch with you.

**Want to meet fellow Scottish Rite Masons from
our jurisdiction in Florida or Arizona?**

**We are starting informal Scottish Rite clubs for
members to meet at varying locations.**

**NO RULES - Just enjoy some good
Masonic Brotherhood.**

**Watch your mailbox – soon you will receive a
request for your winter address.**