

# The Northern Light

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# The Northern Light

The magazine for Scottish Rite Masons of America<sup>SM</sup>

## COVER STORY

4 Preserving our past.  
Aimee E. Newell, PhD

## Caring for Masonic History



## ARTICLES



### 8 The Little Valley that Could

Oscar Alleyne, 32°, and  
Steven P. Koch, 32°

### 11 The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's First Supreme Council

Jeffrey Croteau

### 17 Getting to Know You The Voice at the Other End of the Line Richard B. Burgess, 33°

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## IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 Message from the  
Sovereign Grand Commander
- 16 Children's Dyslexia Centers
- 18 Notes from the  
Scottish Rite Journal
- 19 Brothers on the Net  
Leigh E. Morris, 33°
- 20 Scottish Rite Charities  
"The Altruism of Brotherhood"  
Steven R. Pekock, 32°
- 21 Stamp Act  
Robert A. Domingue
- 22 Book Nook  
Thomas W. Jackson, 33°
- 24 HealthWise
- 26 Views from the Past
- 27 Quotables
- 28 Today's Family
- 29 Permanent Dues Cards
- 30 Readers Respond  
Masonic Moments
- 31 Et cetera, et cetera, etc.

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## SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

### Ford Motor Company

When CEO Alan Mulally was named president and chief executive officer of the Ford Motor Company in 2006, Ford was struggling under the weight of huge losses and a steeply declining market share. To revitalize the company, Mulally instituted several initiatives: he mortgaged all of Ford's assets for a \$23.6 billion loan; brought back the Taurus nameplate; suspended dividends to shareholders, and sold the Jaguar and Land Rover brands. Notably, the mortgage was initially viewed by the industry as a sign of desperation, but when the U.S. economic crisis took hold in 2008-09, Ford, in contrast to fellow Detroit manufacturers Chrysler and GM, did not seek a government bailout. Since then, Ford has not only returned to profitability, but in January of 2013, the Ford Focus toppled the Toyota Camry as the best-selling car in the world.

Shortly after taking office, Mulally noted the poor reviews that Ford had been receiving from *Consumer Reports*. To learn why, he decided to take Ford's heads of engineering and product planning to visit *Consumer Reports'* test facility in Connecticut. When *Consumer Reports* gave negative appraisals of the then new Ford Edge, the Ford staff tried to argue their rationalizations for the negative assessments. Mulally admonished his executives by reminding them that they were there to listen and learn so that they might "understand before they could be understood." Ultimately, Mulally and his team were able to face what the facts were telling them: Ford had let itself go. Worse than that, a culture had developed within Ford whereby executives would not openly admit the flaws in their own projects. Are there similarities between the state in which Ford found itself and the current state of the Masonic fraternity? Like Ford, have we let ourselves go?

The tendency of Masonic leadership to routinely ignore what members are trying to tell them seems to have a direct parallel with the failure of Ford executives who were not listening to their customers. If we take time to listen to both what is and isn't being said,

perhaps we could better understand how to provide inspirational and enjoyable experiences for our existing members. We may then be able to attract more of those good men who have historically sought admission into Freemasonry. Maybe if we started acting like Masons instead of just sounding like Masons, we would evolve beyond being a culture focused on only those who seek the laurels of a vanishing institution.

Much like the employees at *Consumer Reports* explaining customer preferences to Ford management, our members are trying to tell our leaders that changes need to be made. Unfortunately, few leaders seem to be listening.

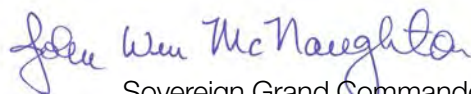
There is nothing so constant in our universe as change. Yet, mankind seems to fear and fight change at every turn. This is something that our Brother, Illustrious Henry Ford, 33°, member of the Valley of Detroit and founder of the Ford Motor Company, knew all too well:

*Businessmen go down with their businesses because they like the old way so well they cannot bring themselves to change. One sees them all about – men who do not know that yesterday is past and who woke up this morning with their last year's ideas.*

The 1908 Model T bears no resemblance to the 2013 Ford Focus. Design and technology have evolved. Things have changed. Perhaps if we, too, could change our "focus," Freemasonry would once again return to its rightful place as the greatest fraternity ever known to man. It would not be as difficult as one might imagine.

Ford listened and put its customers first.

Will Freemasonry listen and put its members first?

  
Sovereign Grand Commander



# Caring for **MASONIC** History

By AIMEE E. NEWELL, PhD

At the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA, one of our goals is to be the “historical society” for American Freemasonry and fraternalism. As part of this, in addition to collecting and preserving objects and documents related to American fraternalism, we also help our visitors – online, on the phone and in person – with questions. Each year we answer hundreds of inquiries, often from lodges and Valleys that need assistance caring for the antique treasures in their buildings. In this way, the museum and the lodge or Valley each work toward a beneficial result. The museum discovers artifacts and documents that may fit our collecting, research or exhibition projects, and the Masonic group receives expert advice on how to care for their own collection and learns more about the history and use of its objects.

## Masonic Loans

As a special service for Masonic groups, the Museum & Library accepts loans of fragile and important objects. Currently, we manage loans from 23 lodges and Valleys. Probably the most well-known object on loan is the large painting, *George Washington as a Master Mason*, painted by Emanuel Leutze in 1856, and measuring almost ten feet high by seven feet wide. The Valley of Detroit purchased the painting in 1927 to hang in the city’s Masonic temple. In 2006, the Valley placed the painting on loan to the museum, where it hangs in the Maxwell Auditorium.

Born in Germany, Leutze studied art in that country and in the United States. He also traveled in Germany and Italy to gain experience and skill. He is perhaps best known for his iconic 1851 painting, *Washington Crossing the Delaware*, which is now in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In 1863, after traveling between Europe and the United States,

Leutze moved to the United States full-time, settling in Washington, DC, where he lived until his death in 1868. Leutze has never been confirmed as a Freemason, but a diary entry written on July 22, 1868, by Benjamin Brown French, who served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of DC, from 1846-53, recounts the news of Leutze’s death and notes, “I attended his funeral at Glenwood and performed the Masonic burial service over his remains.”

In the painting, Washington stands by the Master’s chair and appears to be addressing the lodge. He wears the Master’s jewel of a square around his neck and the Masonic apron once thought to have been a gift from the Marquis de Lafayette. The original apron is in the collection of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Arranged around Washington are several Masonic tools and symbols. The museum’s collection also includes a lithograph of Leutze’s painting, suggesting that it was popular among a Masonic audience during the late 1800s.



**George Washington as a Master Mason, 1856, Emanuel Leutze. Loaned by the 32° Masons, Valley of Detroit.**

Since 2007, the museum's Farr Conference Center has been watched over by a life-size painting of King Solomon, placed on loan by Annawon Lodge, No. 115, in Connecticut. In late November 2006, the lodge had sold its building and was about to move to smaller quarters with no appropriate space for this large painting. The lodge contacted the museum and asked if it might find a home in Lexington. At approximately nine feet high by five and a half feet wide, this was a request that required careful consideration by the museum. After some research and some creative brainstorming about where the painting could safely fit in the building, museum staff devised a plan.

Through an extended loan agreement, Annawon Lodge agreed to contribute funds for transporting the painting to Lexington, conserving and appraising the piece, and building it a new frame. The museum's professional staff assessed, installed and researched the painting, while also coordinating with the lodge, movers, conservator, and framer. Like the Leutze portrait of Washington, the King Solomon painting now enjoys a monitored environment with appropriate levels of temperature and humidity and is accessible to the museum's wide audience of visitors, piquing their interest in Freemasonry.

The painting depicts King Solomon officiating at the dedication of his temple. The symbolism in the painting relates to the York Rite's Most Excellent Master degree. On the left is an urn burning incense with two workmen above. One of the men is an overseer holding a square, the other is a craftsman who is sitting down, indicating that their work is complete. King Solomon wears a Royal Arch apron. According to the painting's history, Solomon's face is modeled on the artist's father.

The painting is signed by George Whiting Flagg of New Haven, CT, who studied under his uncle, Washington Allston. No record has been found that Flagg was a Mason, but his father, Henry C. Flagg, was a member of New Haven's Hiram Lodge, No. 1, serving as its Master in 1834. The painting dates to 1874.

Before the painting was hung in its new spot at the museum, conservation treatment was performed by Carmichael Art Conservation in Bedford, MA. Mild detergent removed the surface grime and a special solvent was employed to remove a layer of yellowing varnish that had protected the painting for many decades. Cracks and losses in the paint were made less visually obvious. A new layer of varnish was applied to the painting and a new acid-free backing board was attached to prevent dirt, bugs, dust, and other material from getting caught on the back and inside the frame. The change in the appearance of the painting continues to be striking. New details were



**King Solomon Dedicating the Temple,**  
1874, George Whiting Flagg, Connecticut. Loaned by  
Annawon Lodge, No. 115, A.F. & A.M., West Haven, CT.  
Photo by David Bohl.

uncovered, and the colors are much closer to how they looked when the painting was unveiled in 1874.

Facilitating conservation treatments is just one of the activities that museum staff can assist with when a lodge or Valley places its objects on extended loan. In addition, while the museum cannot recommend one conservator over another (to prevent any conflicts of interest), collections staff can offer suggestions about how to find a local conservator. Museum staff can also offer basic guidelines on storing and protecting objects and documents. While commenting on the value of antiques is a conflict of interest for Museum & Library staff, they can provide advice on how to find an appropriate appraiser.

## Safeguarding Charters

While the Museum & Library is equipped to care for just about any type of object, the most numerous items on loan are charters. Currently, more than 75 charters are on loan in the museum's secure and climate-controlled environment. Charters stored in Masonic temples or other old buildings can face potential environmental threats, such as fire or floods, as well as physical threats, such as theft or improper handling.





**Union Lodge Charter, 1796, Boston, MA. Loaned by Union Lodge, A.F. & A.M., Dorchester, MA. Photo by David Bohl.**

One of the first lodges to store its charter at the Museum & Library was Union Lodge of Dorchester, MA, (now, of Norwood, MA) which placed the document on loan in 1977, shortly after the museum opened. When the charter was issued in 1796, it was signed by Paul Revere, Grand Master of Massachusetts, at the time. Revere chartered 23 lodges during his three-year term, a record that was not broken for 100 years. Since Union Lodge placed its Revere charter on loan, at least three other lodges with Revere charters have followed suit.

Union Lodge, like all lenders, is reassured that its historic charter is safely protected, while still being able to reclaim the document for special occasions, such as its 200th anniversary in 1996. On other occasions, the lodge uses a copy of the charter, thus cutting down on damaging handling and risks to the 200-year-old original.

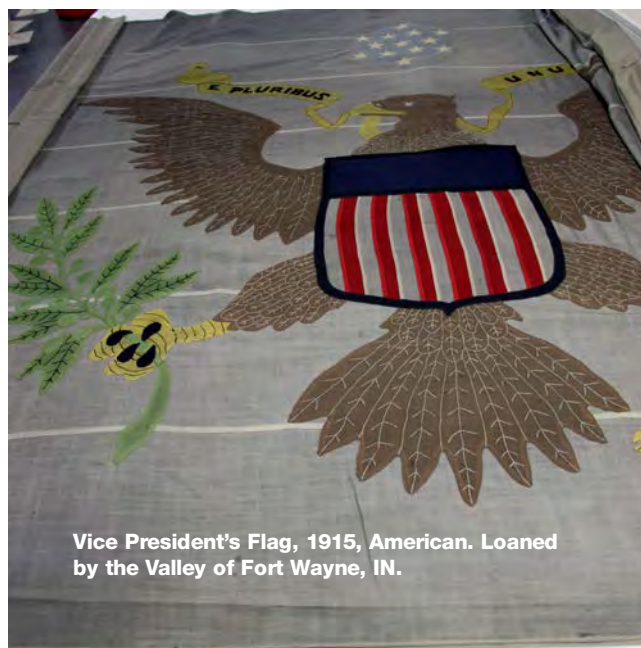
## The Vice President's Flag

As with Annawon Lodge, No. 115, in 2007, the Valley of Fort Wayne faced a move of its headquarters in 2012. And, like Annawon Lodge, the Valley also had a large treasured object that needed a new home – a vice president's flag from 1915. In late December 2011, director of collections, Aimee E. Newell, was able to travel to Fort Wayne to see the flag in place. Measuring approximately 18 feet by ten feet, the flag was made out of wool bunting with an appliquéd seal of the United States at front center. While the flag was in stable condition, the Valley worried that it would not have a protected place to

display or store it once it moved. The decision was made to place the flag on extended loan to the museum.

Like the charters, the flag is stored in the museum's secure vault, in a stable climate and protected from environmental and physical threats. Shortly after the flag was delivered to Lexington, the museum facilitated a conservation assessment on the Valley's behalf. A local textile conservator examined the flag and completed a treatment proposal documenting the flag's current condition and outlining a course of action to further stabilize the flag. While the cost of the treatment is currently prohibitive for the Valley to pursue (primarily due to the large size of the flag), this information is maintained in the flag's file for future review and action. In the meantime, the flag is stable and protected from serious damage or deterioration.

The flag flew from the mast of the USS Colorado during the visit of Vice President Thomas R. Marshall in March 1915 at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Diego. At the time, there was no official flag for the vice president (the first official one came in 1936). So, Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels and Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt, created one by using a version of the president's flag and had this flag made – with the Great Seal of the United States on a white background. After the event, the flag was presented to Vice President Marshall who kept it for the rest of his life. Marshall joined Columbia City Lodge, No. 189, in Columbia City, IN, in 1881. He also joined many appendant bodies, including the Scottish Rite. He received the 33° in 1898 and became an Active Member in 1911.



**Vice President's Flag, 1915, American. Loaned by the Valley of Fort Wayne, IN.**

After his death in 1925, Marshall's wife presented the flag to the Fort Wayne Lodge of Perfection, which presented it to the Scottish Rite Bodies of Fort Wayne.

## Masonic Gifts

In addition to the many loans from Masonic groups at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, gifts are actively sought to improve the collection. Since the museum opened in 1975, more than 65 lodges and Valleys from around the nation have donated objects or documents to the collection. The museum has a collections committee that meets monthly and evaluates every gift under consideration. The committee uses several criteria to make its decisions. Does the object tell a story? Is it in good condition? Does the Museum & Library already have one like it? Does it relate to our core themes of patriotism, ingenuity, leadership and fraternity? If the answer to most of these questions is "yes," then we accept it for the collection.

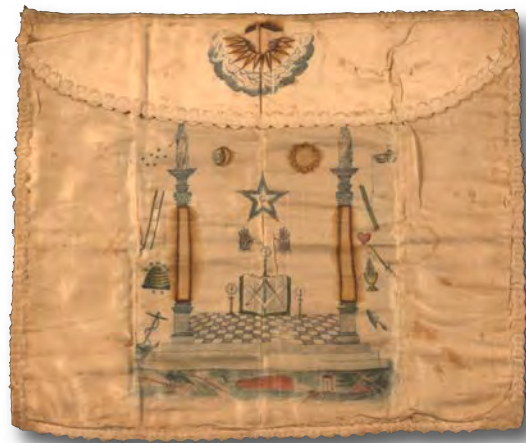
In 2010, the Grand Lodge of Illinois generously donated a Masonic apron to the museum. With more than 400 Masonic and fraternal aprons in our collection, we can afford to be picky – and the collections committee strictly adheres to the criteria listed above when considering aprons. But, the story that this apron told was fascinating and the committee resoundingly agreed that it should be accepted.

Although the apron is only in fair condition, it came with a typewritten note that read "Apron taken from the casket [of President Grover Cleveland] by Mrs. Emily Hurlburt, a first cousin, from Hammond, IN. Mrs. Hurlburt gave the apron to her son, Mr. Chas. W. Hurlburt. Mr. Hurlburt died recently and his son, Mr. Wm. Hurlburt, not being a member of the craft, wished someone interested to have it and gave it to Jack Mundinger." Even though it is always helpful to have a note like this when presented with an object, museum staff have cultivated a healthy sense of skepticism when we read one like this – it seemed too good to be true.

A little research turned up some contradictions with the note. Grover Cleveland was not a Freemason, although he seems to have been "sympathetically disposed to the craft," according to numerous websites. This assessment seems to stem, in part, from a remark that Cleveland made at a banquet following the dedication by the Grand Lodge of Virginia of the monument erected to Washington's mother, Mary. Cleveland stated that he "regarded it as his misfortune that he had never been made a Mason." There was talk at one time in the Grand Lodge of New Jersey of making him a Mason "at sight," but it never happened. So, the odds that Cleveland ever

wore or owned this apron seem pretty slim.

The family connection outlined in the note also came to a dead end. Cleveland does not seem to have had any first cousins named Emily. An account of Cleveland's funeral in the *New York Times* from June 26, 1908, notes that the only relatives expected at the funeral were Cleveland's sister, Rose, and his nephew, Cleveland F. Bacon. His cousin, Emily Hurlburt, could have taken the apron from the casket at some kind of private family viewing, but it seems likely that she would have also attended the funeral. And, this leaves aside the question of why Cleveland would have had a Masonic apron in his casket to begin with, since he was never a Freemason.



**Masonic Apron, 1825-50, American. Gift of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. Photo by David Bohl.**

Despite the contradictions in the accompanying note and the very slim possibility that this apron ever belonged to President Cleveland, the museum was pleased to add the apron to its collection. It represents an early 1800s apron design, which allows for comparison with others in the collection. And, it tells a story that allows museum staff to teach visitors about how to research objects and assess family stories.

Each of the collaborations – loans and gifts – described here helps the museum and the Masonic groups to accomplish together what none could do alone. Together we can work to preserve the fraternity's history, an essential part of keeping Freemasonry alive. The Museum & Library's collection of artifacts and documents is essential to broadening our understanding of Freemasonry in the past, which will help us to guide its future. **INL**

If you, your Valley or your lodge has objects or documents to donate or loan, or if you would like advice on preserving or researching an artifact, please contact Aimee E. Newell, PhD, director of collections, [anewell@monh.org](mailto:anewell@monh.org), 781-457-4144.

# The Little Valley That Could

What is a Valley to do when it is too small to be a four-body Valley yet yearns to do more? What happens when there are two such Valleys in proximity to each other? They unify.

That is exactly what the two Scottish Rite Valleys in the lower-to-mid Hudson Valley region of New York did in collaboration with the New York Council of Deliberation. In 2010, members from the Valley of the Hudson (a two-body Valley) and the Valley of Middletown (a one-body Valley) formed a joint committee to propose the unification of the two Valleys into one. The committee was charged with creating a strategic plan on how to accomplish the task.

In order for any Scottish Rite Freemason in his region to complete his journey through the Rite, he must travel either three hours west to the Valley of Binghamton, two hours south to the Valley of New York City, or two hours north to the Valley of Albany or the Valley of Schenectady to be able to join the other bodies. The call for unification was an essential solution to the growing organizational and membership needs while promising a fertile ground for the exploration of sustainable strategies. The requirement of extensive travel and associated costs does little to inspire the convenience of an enjoyable membership in the rite. There was a glaring need to improve the access to Scottish Rite and enhance its overall experience.

The first step was to examine the geographic area which covers seven counties – Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester, an area of nearly 5,000 square miles, with a combined population of 2.3 million residents and over 4,000 Freemasons.

Demographically, the region ranges from rural to urban and is bordered by Pennsylvania and New Jersey to the west, Connecticut and



Massachusetts to the east and New York City to the south. The region possesses a rich history and highly developed network of Freemasons providing extensive programs and dedicated services for its membership and community. In the last few years, there has been growing interest in joining the Scottish Rite among the Masons in the region.

The Valley of Middletown was chartered in 1953 as a one-body Valley with a Lodge of Perfection. The Valley of the Hudson was originally constituted in 1956 as the Valley of White Plains. In 2004, the Valley changed its name to the Valley of Westchester. In 2007, it relocated to





Wappingers Falls, NY, and adopted the name “Valley of the Hudson.” The Valley of White Plains first started with all four Scottish Rite bodies, however, in 2004, it surrendered its Chapter of Rose Croix and Consistory and maintained a Lodge of Perfection and Council of Princes of Jerusalem. The combined membership in these two Scottish Rite Valleys is approximately 300 Scottish Rite Masons.

The committee proposed the creation of a unified Valley of the Hudson with the placement of each body in areas with the greatest population of Freemasons. The locations selected were Middletown in Orange County, Wappingers Falls in Dutchess County, Saugerties in Ulster County and Mt. Kisco in Westchester County. The committee proposed that the Middletown Lodge of Perfection remain in Middletown, NY, serving as the gate-keeper for all Masons in the

region who are interested in becoming Master Travelers. It recommended that the Council of Princes of Jerusalem be located in Mt. Kisco, NY, while the Chapter of Rose Croix is located in Saugerties, NY. The Consistory would, as recommended, be located at Wappingers Falls, NY, thereby providing a capstone experience for all Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret.

Meetings would be rotated among each of the four bodies so that the members could enjoy the convenience of recruiting new members, holding family, fundraiser and other Scottish Rite events. These are important ingredients for success in meeting the needs of the Masonic community and improving access to all interested in the Scottish Rite vision. Successful partnerships in this unification effort will build a membership base representing a wide range of members. These shared experiences can often result in unique opportunities at the body and Valley level to foster collaboration and enrich fraternal experience.

**Installation of Officers for the new Valley of the Hudson.**  
**William Fitzhenry, Ian Berman, Mark Isaacs and Steven Rubinstein.**  
**Installing Officers: Peter Samiec 33°, Deputy for NY, and John Cola.**



On May 8, 2012, the members of the Valley of Middletown voted affirmatively to approve the adoption of unified bylaws followed by an affirmative vote by the Valley of the Hudson members on May 10, 2012. The proposal was then reviewed and favorably voted upon by the administrative board of the New York Council of Deliberation at its annual meeting in July 2012. The proposal was then forwarded to the Supreme Council's jurisprudence committee and executive board for review and received a final vote of approval on Aug. 24, 2012.

On Sept. 9, 2012, the new and unified Valley of the Hudson was consecrated and its officer line was elected and installed. The new Valley has adopted the streamlined structure for governance as provided by the recent changes in the Supreme

### The 2012 Inaugural Reunion Class of new Sublime Princes.




Council Constitutions requiring fewer officers for elected positions. On Nov. 16-17, 2012, the Valley hosted its inaugural reunion in Poughkeepsie which featured invited degree teams and cast members from various Valleys, including Boston, MA, and Albany, NY.

The 4°, 6°, 7°, 10°, 13°, 14°, 19°, and 24° were conferred over the course of the two-day event. There were 44 candidates from three Valleys with 29 from the new Valley of the Hudson. The class was dedicated to Illustrious Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Deputy for New York, and Illustrious G. Michael Morris, 33°, Active Member, assigned to the Valley.

Guest dignitaries included Illustrious Donald M. Moran, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts, and Illustrious Robert E. Godbout Jr., 33°, Active Member for Massachusetts.

**C**ulminating this event was the exemplification of the new test 32° using a combined cast of members from the Valleys of Syracuse, Schenectady, Delaware, New York City and the Hudson in a true spirit of unification.

With a long road ahead, the Brothers of the Valley of the Hudson are very excited for their future and chuckle proudly when they are referred to as the “Little Valley That Could.” 

## STAYINGCONNECTED

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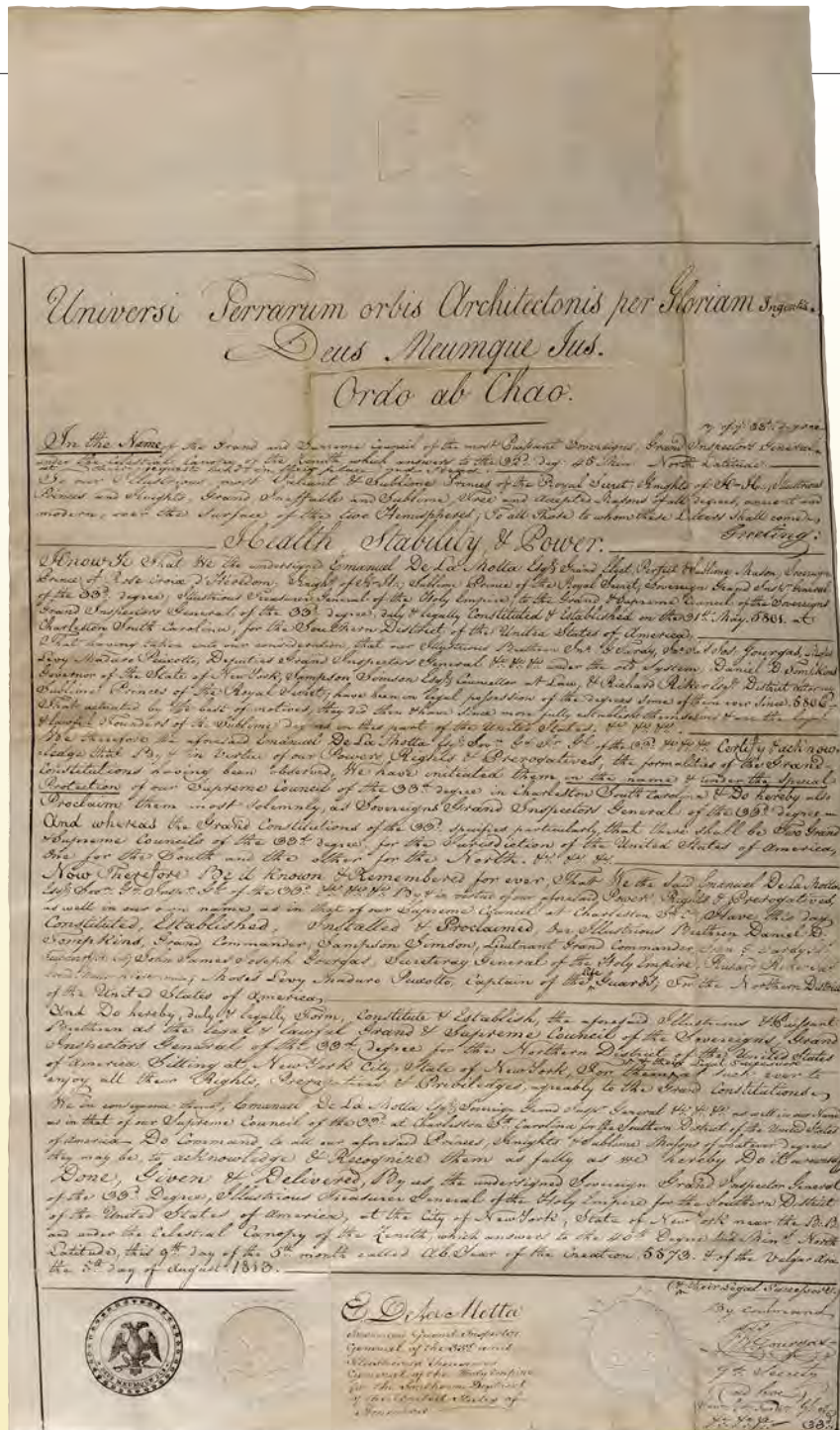
# The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's First Supreme Council

By JEFFREY CROTEAU

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's Supreme Council in New York City on Aug. 5, 1813. Although many members today are aware of this important anniversary, not as many are familiar with the story of the founding of the NMJ's Supreme Council or the six men who were installed as its first officers. The founding of the Supreme Council in 1813 is not a straightforward story. It is one of competing interests, contradictory claims, and a number of interesting and important people.

## The Higher Degrees in New York City in 1813

Despite the founding of the world's first Supreme Council in Charleston, SC, in 1801, the general organization of the higher degrees of Freemasonry in the United States – especially far from Charleston – was in disarray as late as 1813. Many prominent Masons, empowered with limited authority over various degrees, had established competing higher bodies in New York City. In 1813, the Charleston Supreme Council (today's Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, located in Washington, DC), tasked its Grand Treasurer General, Emanuel De La Motta, to investigate the various bodies conferring the higher degrees in New York City. There were five bodies under consideration: Antoine Bideaud's Sublime Grand Consistory; Abraham Jacobs' Council of Princes of Jerusalem and Aurora Grata Lodge of Perfection; and Joseph Cerneau's Sovereign Grand Consistory and Supreme Council.



Charter/Warrant for the Northern District of the United States of America, 1813. Issued by Emanuel De La Motta, New York, NY. Photo by David Bohl.



De La Motta approached each of these organizations with the hope of establishing legitimacy. He first encountered the group founded by Bideaud and comprised of, among others, Sampson Simson, Daniel D. Tompkins, and Richard Riker. Tompkins was the governor of New York at the time, and Riker was the district attorney of New York City. This group, the “Sublime Grand Consistory,” was comprised of fierce personal and political rivals with members of Cerneau’s Sovereign Grand Consistory. This second group counted DeWitt Clinton among its members. Clinton was the lieutenant governor of New York, and would become governor in 1817. In 1813, Clinton was also mayor of the city of

New York and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York. The third group was led by Abraham Jacobs, who overlapped with the Bideaud Consistory; he was elected an officer of that group in 1808. That same year Jacobs formed

a Lodge of Perfection and a Council of Princes of Jerusalem. De La Motta very quickly reasoned that these conditions were unacceptable and sought to create, as the Scottish Rite motto would put it, “Ordo Ab Chao” (“Order out of Chaos”).

After writing to his Supreme Council’s Sovereign Grand Commander, John Mitchell, and the Lieutenant Grand Commander, Frederick Dalcho, De La Motta was given authority to rectify the situation according to his best judgment. Upon calling on each body to justify its actions, he was met with resistance by the Cerneau group, who declined to cooperate. De La Motta ruled that not only was the Cerneau group irregular, but also that the Jacobs group was without the warrants to establish its organizations. Having fully complied with all requests, the Bideaud group was found to be the only body worthy of recognition.

The Bideaud group was not the picture of Masonic regularity, however. Having been initiated with four other men as a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret and made a member of Bideaud’s newly formed Consistory in 1806, J.J.J. Gourgass later concluded that “this act of Bideaud’s was completely irregular,

unconstitutional. He had no right or power within any part of these United States of America, but then he was tempted and did succumb at the rate of five times \$46, or \$230.”

## Creation of the Supreme Council

Despite these irregularities, De La Motta ruled in favor of Bideaud’s Sublime Grand Consistory, which conferred the 30°, 31°, and 32°. Founded by Antoine Bideaud in 1806, the group was reorganized in 1808. De La Motta declared that the Consistory’s members were the “legal and lawful founders of the sublime degrees.” He drafted a charter, or warrant, which states that he

does “hereby duly and legally form, constitute and establish” Bideaud’s group as the Supreme Council for the “Northern District and Jurisdiction of the United States of North America.” At the same time that he created the Supreme Council, De La Motta effectively created the Southern Jurisdiction – not

just by default, but by explicitly naming it in the long title he wrote under his signature on the charter: “Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33d and Illustrious Treasurer General of the Holy Empire for the Southern District of the United States of America.”

In the warrant, De La Motta named the first six officers of the Supreme Council: Daniel D. Tompkins, Grand Commander; Sampson Simson, Lieutenant Grand Commander; John G. Tardy, Illustrious Treasurer of the Holy Empire; John James Joseph Gourgass, Secretary General of the Holy Empire; Richard Riker, Illustrious Grand Master of Ceremonies, and Moses Levi Maduro Peixotto, Captain of the Life Guards. All six men were members of the Sublime Grand Consistory and, with the exception of Tompkins, all served as officers in that body. Today we think of the Supreme Council as a large, deliberative body, but it began quite small. At its founding in 1813, it was comprised of only six of the nine members it required. In 1814, Jacob De La Motta – son of Emanuel – became the seventh member and Cornelius Bogart the eighth in 1815. No new members were admitted again until 1826.

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“this act of Bideaud’s was completely irregular, unconstitutional. He had no right or power within any part of these United States . . .”

## Birth of Supreme Council Begets Denunciation of Cerneau

Shortly after De La Motta created the second Supreme Council in the United States, he also publicly denounced Joseph Cerneau in a circular written on Sept. 21, 1813, and backed by the Charleston Supreme Council, declaring him an “imposter of the first magnitude and whom we have expelled from every Masonic asylum within our jurisdiction.” The reasons for the strong denunciation of Cerneau in 1813, and the years that followed, are likely more complicated and nuanced than is often presented.

De La Motta and the Charleston Supreme Council based their denunciation of Cerneau on the fact that

for the division between the two groups. Another, less explored reason, may simply be that, in establishing the new Supreme Council, De La Motta, the Charleston Supreme Council, and the newly formed Supreme Council felt it necessary to stake a strong claim to the new Council’s legitimacy by strongly denouncing Cerneau’s group. Yet another contributing factor could be that Cerneau’s group was, by all evidence, a fairly successful Masonic organization with some prominent members that was operating with the understanding that they were legitimate and regular. In order to ensure the success of the newly formed Supreme Council, both the new Council and the Charleston Supreme Council may have recognized the need for a strong disincentive for joining organizations formed or led by Cerneau.

**Daniel D. Tompkins, 1898. From Public Papers of Daniel D. Tompkins, Governor of New York, 1807–17, Albany, NY. Wynkoop, Hallenbeck, Crawford Co., publisher.**



he had no Masonic claim to the title of Sovereign Grand Commander and had no credence for forming a Supreme Council, but other factors likely contributed as well, including political rivalries that existed outside of Freemasonry. Historians have pointed to the rivalry between Daniel Tompkins and DeWitt Clinton as but one example of the reason

## Members of the First Supreme Council

The first officers of the Supreme Council were all well placed within the civic and political life of New York in 1813. Below are short biographies on each of the first six officers.

### Daniel Decius Tompkins (1774–1825)

Tompkins was the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction’s first Sovereign Grand Commander, serving from the formation of the Supreme Council on Aug. 5, 1813, until his death on June 11, 1825. Despite 12 years at the helm, Tompkins did not devote much time to the newly formed group.

Tompkins was born in Scarsdale, NY, in 1774, and graduated first in his class from Columbia College in 1795. In 1804, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, but resigned in order to accept an appointment as associate justice of the New York Supreme Court. He served as governor of New York and Vice President of the United States under James Monroe – concurrently with serving as Sovereign Grand Commander. Despite his impressive resume, Tompkins was hampered by a debilitating fight with alcoholism, which brought him both ill health and financial problems. Speaking both of Tompkins’ potential and his personal demons, a contemporary said of him, “There was a time when no man in the state dared compete with him for any office . . . and his habits of intemperance alone prevented him from becoming President of the United States.”

Tompkins became a Mason in Hiram Lodge, No. 72, in Mt. Pleasant, NY, in 1800. He served as both Grand Secretary and Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of New York. John Gabriel Tardy conferred the 32° upon Tompkins in 1808. Just before being named Sovereign Grand Commander, Tompkins was elevated to the 33°, by Emanuel De La Motta. Tompkins died on June 11, 1825, and is buried in the churchyard of Saint Mark's Church-In-The-Bowery in New York City.

### **Sampson Simson (1780–1857)**



**Sampson Simson, ca. 1850.**

**From Baynard's History of the Supreme Council, 33°.**

Simson was born in Danbury, CT, in 1780. Graduating from Columbia College in 1800, Simson then studied law under Aaron Burr and was admitted to the Bar in 1802. After practicing law in New York City for a short period, Simson turned his focus toward religion and philanthropy. Simson was Jewish, but his religious philanthropy extended to Protestants and Catholics as well. Simson is best remembered today for his central role in establishing the New York hospital that became known as Mount Sinai Hospital.

Simson was raised in Clinton Lodge, No. 143, in New York City on Nov. 24, 1807. Simson was

created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, by Emanuel De La Motta on Aug. 5, 1813, at the organization of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's Supreme Council. Simson served as Lieutenant Grand Commander under Tompkins, and became Sovereign Grand Commander upon Tompkins's death in 1825. He resigned as Grand Commander in March 1832. Simson died on Jan. 7, 1857.

### **John Gabriel Tardy (1761-1831)**

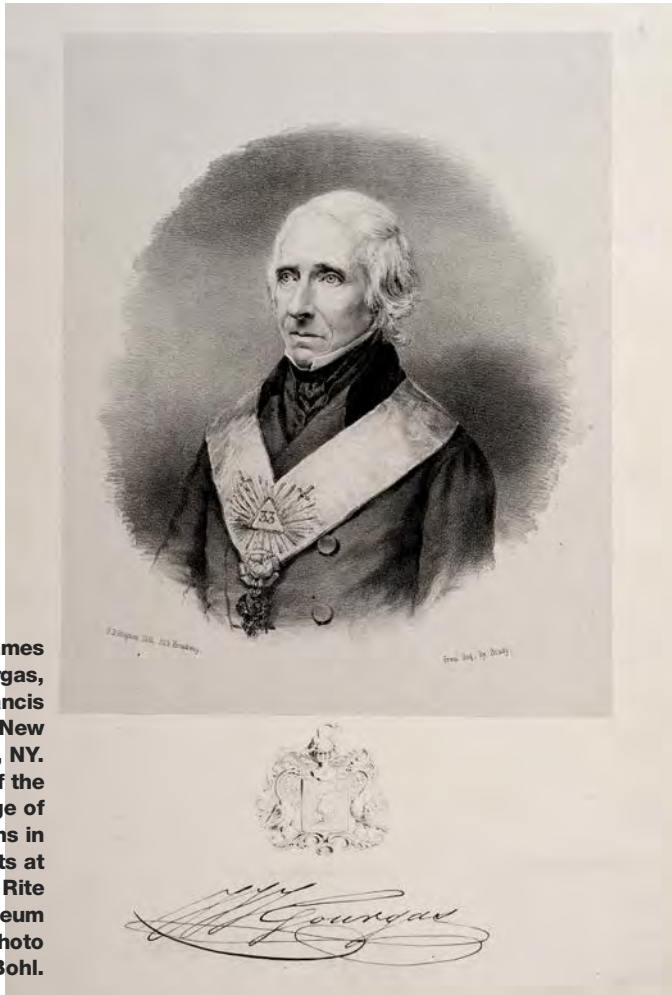
Tardy was born in the Canton of Vaux, Switzerland, in February 1761. He was a member of L'Unité Americaine Lodge, No. 12, under dispensation in New York, and he later served as Master of L'Union Française No. 14, in New York City. In 1808, as "Sovereign of Sovereigns" of Antoine Bideaud's Sublime Grand Consistory, he raised Sampson Simson, Daniel D. Tompkins, Richard Riker, and Abraham Jacobs to the grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret. In 1813, at the formation of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's first Supreme Council, Emanuel De La Motta created him a Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33°, and installed him as Grand Treasurer General, an office he held until his death in 1831.

### **John James Joseph Gourgas (1777–1865)**

Gourgas was born in Switzerland to a family of French Huguenots, spent much of his youth in London, and later moved with several family members to America in 1803. He stayed briefly with them in Boston then moved to New York City where he first worked as an accountant and later prospered as a merchant.

He was raised in New York's L'Union Française, No. 14, in 1806. He was the Supreme Council's first Grand Secretary General and served as third Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction from 1832-51. Gourgas is rightly remembered as the "Conservator of Scottish Rite Freemasonry." At the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Supreme Council, Aug. 5, 1938, then-Sovereign Grand Commander Melvin M. Johnson stated "... the outstanding personality of the founders was John James Joseph Gourgas. It was he who kept the Scottish Rite alive during the years when – but





**John James Joseph Gourgas, 1842–70. Francis D'Avignon, New York, NY. Collection of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library. Photo by David Bohl.**

for him – it would have faded out. It was Gourgas, assisted by [Giles Fonda] Yates, who re-vivified the rite after the great anti-Masonic agitation, and then started our Supreme Council on its career to become the strong, virile and successful organization which it now is.” Gourgas died Feb. 14, 1865, and is buried in Bayview-New York Bay Cemetery in Jersey City, NJ.

### **Richard Riker (1773–1842)**

Richard Riker was born in Newton, Long Island, NY, on Sept. 9, 1773. He was the first district attorney of New York City in 1801, a position he held until 1810, and again from 1812–15. He was then elected recorder of New York City, serving from 1815–19, 1821–23, and again from 1824–38.

He was raised in Clinton Lodge, No. 143, in 1808, and served as Worshipful Master in 1813. He was also a member of Washington Chapter, No. 2, in New York. During October and November of 1808, he received his Scottish Rite


degrees. That year, Riker was elected Most Equitable of Concordia Crescimus Council of Princes of Jerusalem and selected Grand Warden of Bideaud Consistory.

De La Motta crowned him as a Sovereign Grand Inspector General on Aug. 5, 1813. Upon the organization of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction he was appointed Grand Master of Ceremonies. He served in that station until 1826, when he was then named by Sampson Simson as Lieutenant Grand Commander. He passed away on Sept. 26, 1842, and is buried in the family cemetery at the Lent-Riker-Smith Homestead in Queens, NY.

### **Moses Levi Maduro Peixotto (1767–1828)**

Moses L.M. Peixotto was born on the island of Curaçao in 1767. Upon the death of his first wife, Rachel, he went to Amsterdam. While there he met and married his second wife, Judith, in 1797. They returned to Curaçao, where Peixotto engaged in mercantile and shipping businesses which eventually led him to New York City in 1807. In addition to his business and Freemasonry, he was also a trustee and occasional hazzan for Congregation Shearith Israel, the oldest Jewish congregation in the United States. A contemporary memorably described Peixotto as being “a dark featured, square-built, middle-sized man, greatly addicted to snuff taking.”

Peixotto was raised a Master Mason in the “Rito Moderne” in Lodge De Vergenoeging in Curaçao in 1807, and was a member of the Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem on the island. He was exalted to the Royal Arch in 1808.

He was elected an Honorary Member of the Council of Princes of Jerusalem and the Lodge of Perfection, received his 32°, and was installed as Grand Treasurer of the Sublime Grand Consistory in New York City in 1808. He was appointed a Deputy Grand Inspector General of the 33°, by Emanuel De La Motta on Aug. 5, 1813. He was selected Captain of the Life Guards at the organization of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and held that position until 1826. He passed away on July 16, 1828, and is buried in the cemetery of Congregation Shearith Israel in New York City. 

## Educational Alliances

The Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., had a most humble beginning with the establishment of its first Center in Newtonville, MA, in 1994. Our mission has always been simple, straightforward and has served our corporation well in providing exemplary services for children with dyslexia.

The enduring mission for each of our Children's Dyslexia Centers has three components:

- To provide, free of charge, the highest quality, state-of-the-art, multisensory tutorial reading and written language instruction to children with dyslexia.
- To train tutors using the Orton-Gillingham approach to multisensory teaching of reading, spelling and writing.
- To advance the body of scientific knowledge of dyslexia through support of clinical research to improve today's standards and tomorrow's care.

By maintaining strict adherence to our mission statement, the centers have become a preeminent training and tutorial resource in the field of dyslexia.

During the current academic year, the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., will approach a significant milestone by having tutored nearly 10,000 children with dyslexia.

The body of this work has been accomplished as the result of the benevolence of the membership of the Scottish Rite fraternity, the financial support and assistance from many of the members of our participating communities, the leadership of our local boards of governors, and the tireless efforts of our Children's Dyslexia Center personnel.

In an effort to fortify our position in the areas of dyslexia training and remediation, Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., will continue to seek new ways to expand our programming within our communities to further promote the good work of our organization.

Accordingly, the parent corporation is actively seeking new professional alliances with public and private schools, along with colleges and universities to enhance our organization's visibility and standing in the field of dyslexia. It is anticipated that these partnerships will

broaden the use of our methodology in learning environments beyond the walls of our established centers.

In addition, a relationship has recently been developed between the Children's Dyslexia Centers and the Texas Scottish Rite Children's Hospital in Dallas, TX. Discussions have been held concerning the development of expanded training for our centers and the consideration of offering training for the therapy level. It is anticipated that this endeavor will be of mutual benefit to both organizations.

The International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC) has performed a thorough review of all aspects of our clinical program during a site visit to the Columbus, OH, center in July 2012 and has renewed full certification for a period of seven years. In addition, the training program was one of three IMSLEC accredited programs reviewed by the International Dyslexia Association (IDA). As a result, all IMSLEC accredited programs have been recognized as meeting IDA's standards for a period of three years.

The supervisor of clinical affairs of the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., in concert with several of our center directors has developed a new scope and sequence for our tutoring program. Recently, researchers have begun encouraging reading programs to incorporate morphology earlier. By adding prefixes and suffixes earlier, we will be better preparing the children in our program for the material they read in school. The new scope and sequence should be implemented with new children and scholars beginning in Fiscal Year 2014.

The work of our Children's Dyslexia Centers has recently been acknowledged by Dr. Sally Shaywitz through her affiliation with Yale University. This acknowledgement is reflected in an article that has been authored by Kyle Redford and is posted at [dyslexia.yale.edu:8087/childrendyslexiacenters.html](http://dyslexia.yale.edu:8087/childrendyslexiacenters.html)

Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., anticipates that the formation of our prospective educational alliances combined with innovative financial strategies at both the corporate and local boards of governors level will lead to the continued economic and clinical integrity of our Children's Dyslexia Centers well into the future.

# Getting to Know You...

## THE VOICE AT THE OTHER END OF THE LINE

By **RICHARD B. BURGESS, 33°**

**E**ffective one-on-one communication, some are wont to complain, has never been one of the outstanding characteristics of this fraternity of ours.

The exception which proves the rule as many of you readers well know from first-hand experience lies in our own “voice at the end of the Supreme Council line.”

It is with great pride and pleasure that your Supreme Council pays special tribute to this important voice. She who speaks with many of you each day is none other than Carmela D'Ambrose who came to us here at Supreme Council in October 2010.

Since that time Carmela, among her other duties, spends literally hours each day (except Friday) placing phone calls to our more senior Scottish Rite members to wish



**Carmela D'Ambrose working her magic.**

### 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

[ChildrensDyslexiaCenters.org](http://ChildrensDyslexiaCenters.org)



them a very happy birthday and, more especially, to let these members know that they are valued. Day in and day out Carmela maintains a high energy level, adds a sincere note of caring and concern as she listens to, in this case, the voices on the other end of the line. She is a most successful communicator. Her work is deeply appreciated by the members as well as by those of us who have the pleasure to work with her here at headquarters.

**H**ow ironic it is that this gentle, loving lady is doing, on a daily basis, what we as Freemasons ought to be doing in our own lives with our own Brothers and their widows.

Thank you, Carmela D'Ambrose, for all that your voice and your attitude demonstrate. That reassuring and graciousness on the other end of the line is invaluable. 





## Blue Lodge Meets at House of the Temple



THE COLONIAL LODGE, No. 1821, will hold its stated communications in the House of the Temple on the following dates:

→ **Saturday May 4, 2013, at 1:00 pm—**  
Fellowcraft Degree

→ **Saturday September 7, 2013, at**  
1:00 pm—Visitation of the Grand  
Master of Masons in DC.

All Brothers belonging to a Grand Lodge in amity with the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia are welcome to attend these communications. Please email [colonial1821@gmail.com](mailto:colonial1821@gmail.com) to RSVP or for more about meetings. To learn more about The Colonial Lodge No. 1821, visit their website, [www.thecoloniallodge.org](http://www.thecoloniallodge.org).

## S.R. Research Society Republishes First High-Degree Exposé

**A**LLEGORICAL CONVERSATIONS ARRANGED BY WISDOM was the first printed text of the catechisms of high degree Freemasonry, some of which later became part of the Scottish Rite. It is an extremely interesting and rare work, published in parts between 1763 and 1766. Originally prepared as an aid to Freemasons by Bro. Erasme Pincemaille, the work was quickly suppressed by Masonic authority, although a few copies survived. It has been translated from the French by Arturo de Hoyos, 33°, and S. Brent Morris, 33°. It presents early forms of 13 of the most popular degrees and includes variations of rituals which migrated into other Masonic rites, orders, and systems. It was the 2013 bonus book of the Scottish Rite Research Society and can be purchased at [www.scottishritestore.org](http://www.scottishritestore.org).



## GET READY!

### *Celebrating the Craft Is Coming May 18!*

THE SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, will host its second annual **Celebrating the Craft (CTC)** on Saturday, May 18, 2013, from 6:00 pm to Midnight, EDT. This web event is similar in structure to a telethon but broadcast via the Internet at [www.scottishrite.org](http://www.scottishrite.org). Its goal is to unite Valleys and Orients across the Southern Jurisdiction for a charitable cause that also pays tribute to Freemasonry with entertainment, celebrities, humor, and educational programming. Last year the first CTC raised over \$400,000 for the Southern Jurisdiction and its Valleys. Any Mason or friend of Masonry is invited to “tune in” and learn more about our fraternity and our talented Brethren. For more information, contact [developmentoffice@scottishrite.org](mailto:developmentoffice@scottishrite.org).



Cameras roll on the set of the first CTC webcast in 2012.

Photography: Bro. Arthur W. Pierson, 32°, Falls Church, Va.

# Conventional cell, smart phone, landline



Leigh E. Morris, 33°

**T**hose nosey folks over at Pew Research are at it again. Now they are reporting that “nearly six in ten cell owners used their phone inside a physical store for assistance or guidance on a purchasing decision this (past) holiday season.”

Furthermore, the Pew survey found that while in the store, 46 percent of cell users called a friend or relative for purchasing advice; 28 percent used their phone to find product reviews, and 27 percent used the phone to see if they could get a better price elsewhere.

As dependence on cell phones continues to grow, many of you have asked whether you should stick with a conventional cell phone or switch to a smart one. The answer depends on how you use your phone and how much you want to spend.

Conventional cells best meet the needs of those who use their device to make voice calls and/or text messages. If you text, choose a phone with a QWERTY keypad.

Most conventional cell users select one of the major carriers and get a free phone (or one at a hefty discount) with a contract. However, you may be able to realize significant savings with a no-contract prepaid service such as those offered by TracFone ([www.tracfone.com](http://www.tracfone.com)), Jitterbug ([www.greatcall.com](http://www.greatcall.com)) and Cricket ([www.mycricket.com](http://www.mycricket.com)) to name three.

On the other hand, a smart phone makes sense if you need a device that is more like a computer. Smart phones provide access to email and the Web and permit users to open attachments. Smart phones allow downloads of a seemingly endless variety of apps, ranging from shopping tools and travel sites to games and financial services. They also have QWERTY keyboards and larger displays.

As with conventional cells, a contract with a cell carrier will get you a free or heavily discounted phone. However, before you make a decision, check out the smart phone offerings from TracFone, Jitterbug, Cricket and other no-contract providers.

**A** few points to keep in mind when selecting a phone and service:

- If you want to save money, buy what you need rather than what you want.
- Shop and compare. Call the carrier, check out the carrier's website and check out the offerings at a physical store. Recently, my wife got a new phone. To buy it directly from the carrier, the price was \$100. However, she paid just one penny by getting the phone at a physical store. She even got an updated version of the phone not available from the carrier.
- Try negotiating for a better deal. This tactic often produces significant savings. For example, you may get the provider to include a free car charger or a discounted bluetooth headset. It never hurts to ask.
- Make certain you will have cell coverage at your home and other locations where you need service. Before you buy, ask if you can try a phone for a few days without obligation or if the contract can be voided and the phone returned without penalty if service is unsatisfactory.
- All things being equal, select a phone with the longest possible battery life.

When buying a phone, you will want the convenience and safety afforded by a bluetooth headset. I have found the headsets offered by Jabra, Plantronics and Motorola to be consistently high in quality. Expect to pay \$50 to \$80 for a quality headset.

As you weigh your cell options, you also may be considering dropping your landline service. Think twice before you dump the landline.

First of all, “911” location tracking is precise with a landline, but less so with a cell phone. Seconds count in an emergency.

Landlines are more reliable. Severe storms can damage cell towers. A power outage can leave the towers lifeless. And as every cell user knows, cell calls are dropped with annoying frequency.

The voice quality of landline service is almost always superior.

**W**hen you do a little shopping, you'll discover that landline service can be a real bargain. Very attractive deals are available from cable companies and Vonage ([www.vonage.com](http://www.vonage.com)). These use voice over Internet protocol (VoIP). Even traditional phone providers now offer attractive options.

If a conventional cell rather than a smart phone is the right option for you, consider going with a no-contract provider and find a landline plan that best suits your needs.

We've sure come a long way since March 10, 1876, when Alexander Graham Bell successfully demonstrated his telephone, saying to Thomas Watson, his assistant: “Mr. Watson – come here – I want to see you.”

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## Drop me a line.

I welcome your questions and comments. Just fire an email to me at [studebaker055@yahoo.com](mailto:studebaker055@yahoo.com).

# The Altruism of Brotherhood



**Four months after the storm, scenes of devastation remain. Many have not received the insurance and FEMA assistance they need.**

Last issue, I chronicled my experiences in New Jersey while delivering aid to Brothers there who were affected by Hurricane Sandy. While the devastation there was widespread and substantial, it was not the only state that saw devastation. Less publicized, yet just as hard hit, were parts of New York – notably areas around New York City. The Deputy for New York, Illustrious Peter Samiec, 33°, and the Deputy's Representative for the area, Illustrious Steven Stefanakos, 33°, oversaw much of the relief effort.

I recently traveled with Bro. Stefanakos to look in on some of the Masons whom we helped and to see what progress has been made. While the most graphic images of the disaster are largely cleaned up and there is work going on everywhere, the devastation is deep. Recovery will take years.

I asked Steve about the very first days after the storm hit. He explained that Deputy Samiec called and described how the Scottish Rite wanted to reach out to Masons in need and that \$75,000 in bank debit cards was on its way to him. Stefanakos is no stranger to disaster. As a member of the NYPD emergency service unit, Bro. Steve was at "ground zero" on September 11 and has responded to many emergencies in the course of his career. He took on the task, but wanted details about how to handle the funds. "Here the fraternity was entrusting me with a lot of money. I asked Grand Commander McNaughton what to do. He simply said, 'you'll know when you get there.'"

That was the right tactic. Stefanakos set to work getting to the areas hardest hit. "In most places,

**Steven R. Pekock, 32°**



there was no power and phones were out. At that point my smartphone was my most reliable resource. I'd plug an address in and go." Because he was also working, delivering aid sometimes occurred at odd hours. He visited one Brother in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Gerritsen Beach at 1 a.m. "I had a list of people we knew could be affected because their neighborhoods were badly hit," says Steve. "I wanted to get help to them as quick as possible."

Among those hit was Brother Tom Kurianski of Lindenhurst. "The oldest neighbors said the waters never rose like this in their lifetimes," Tom recalled. "I saw the waters rising and knew I had to move. Water came up so fast."

Tom is living in a borrowed travel trailer next to his gutted home. His water comes from a hose and his electricity runs off a jury-rigged box in the living room. Like many of the homes in the area, the bottom half of the walls have been cut away to stop mold from developing. His oak floor is a buckled mess. (Tom called it his "skateboard park"). Insurance is slow in coming. FEMA relief has been non-existent for him. But Tom remains positive. "There have been moments when I practically broke down. It is so overwhelming. But people have been so kind. I didn't even know the guy who lent me this trailer. At times like these you come to appreciate good people."

*(continued on page 25)*



## WILLIAM HOWARD

**MAYS JR.**, better known as "Willie" received his degrees in Boyer Lodge No. 1, Prince Hall Grand Lodge in New York City as early as 1957. He was also a 32° Prince Hall Mason. He is pictured on a stamp issued by St. Vincent in 1989.



Born May 6, 1931, he starred as a member of the Birmingham Black Barons baseball team from 1948 to 1950 and then joined the major leagues in 1951 to play centerfield for the New York Giants. He went to San Francisco with the team at the end of the 1957 season and then finished his 22-year career with the New York Mets. He served with the U.S. Army most of 1952 and 1953. He was named "Player of the Decade" in 1970, and was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1979.

**JUAN MANUEL GALVEZ** was born in 1887 and served as President of Honduras from Jan. 1, 1949 to Dec. 5, 1954. His election ended the 16-year dictatorship of Tiburcio Carfas. Once in office he demonstrated more independence than had generally been anticipated. He continued several programs initiated by his predecessor and also instituted some notable alterations such as increasing attention to education, instituting an income tax, and restoring press freedom. He established the eight-hour workday, paid holidays, and regulations for the employment of women and children. He scheduled free elections for 1954 but was deposed by his vice-president following the elections, and this action produced a deadlock due to a split in the National Party.



Bro. Galvez was initiated in the Lodge "Agustin Disdier" of the Grand Orient of La Ceiba in Honduras. He is pictured on a stamp issued by Honduras on Sept. 17, 1949.

**MICHAEL, DUKE OF KENT** is pictured on a stamp issued by the Isle of Man on Sept. 4, 1985, to note Scouting Year. He was initiated on June 13, 1974 in Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16. In addition to being the Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, he is a Past Senior Grand Warden and the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Lodges Overseas.

Born in 1942, Prince Michael was educated at Eton and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He is the younger son of George, Duke of Kent (1902-42) who was the fourth son of George V. He occasionally carries out royal duties representing the Queen at some functions in commonwealth realms outside of the United Kingdom. Otherwise, he manages his own consultancy business and undertakes various commercial work around the world. He has also produced some television documentaries on the royal families of Europe.



**MASONIC SYMBOLS:** One of the interesting aspects of Masonic philately is trying to find stamps which illustrate the various symbols and allegories of the fraternity. Virtually



every emblem, symbol, allusion, or allegory contained within the ritual of Freemasonry can be found on a stamp. A couple of examples shown: The "beehive is an emblem of Industry..." and "the hourglass is an emblem of human life. Behold how swiftly the sands run..."



Robert A. Domingue



**ALFRED EDMUND BREHM** was honored on a stamp issued by the German Democratic Republic occupation of Berlin on April 18, 1984, for the 100th anniversary of his death. He was initiated in 1861 in the Lodge "Apollo" located in Leipzig.

Alfred Brehm followed in his father's footsteps and acquired international fame as a zoologist. He made great study tours to Spain in 1856 and to Norway and Lapland in 1860. In 1862, he accompanied the Duke of Coburg-Gotha on a trip to Abyssinia. From 1863-67 he was director of the Zoological Garden in Hamburg. He later took the lead role in construction and arrangement of a large aquarium in Berlin and served as director until 1875. That year he joined a scientific expedition to West Serbia and then accompanied Rudolf, Prince Royal of Austria, on his study tours to the area of Central Bonau and Spain. His studies still remain important works in the field of zoology.

## PURE MASONIC ISSUE:

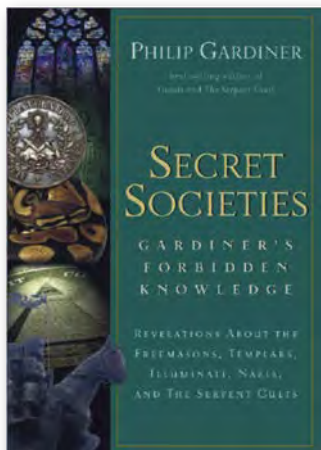
One of the most recent stamps issued specifically for a Masonic purpose was released by El Salvador on Sept. 18, 2012. The design contains several Masonic symbols and was issued for the 100th anniversary of the Grand Lodge Cuscatlan in that nation.



## Secret Societies: Gardiner's Forbidden Knowledge, Revelations about the Freemasons, Templars, Illuminati, Nazis and the Serpent Cults

by Philip Gardiner. Published in 2017 by Career Press, Inc., 3 Tice Road, PO Box 687. Franklin Heights, NJ 07417.

The author declares the purpose of this book to “concentrate mostly on the origin of secret societies and what lies behind the beliefs and rituals of many of the world's religions.” Gardiner is the author of several books including, *Gnosis*, *The Secret of Solomon's Temple Revealed*, *The Shining Ones*, and *The Serpent Grail*. Amongst other claims attributed to the book the author “explores the mysterious origins of Freemasonry and the links to secret serpent cults.” The book is highly esoteric in its analysis of secret societies and unless the reader is oriented in that approach to Freemasonry, not the easiest reading to comprehend.



Although it is easy to acknowledge that he is extremely knowledgeable, much of the content of the book is easily open to question, as are some of his conclusions. I, unfortunately, found myself being irritated with the author throughout the book. There is no doubt that he categorizes Freemasonry as a secret society but on one page he states that history has shown in every generation, that “secret societies have gained power and become church and state – as was their goal.” On the next page he states that the American revolt against the British Empire “was backed, led, and inspired by the secret society of the Freemasons.” Freemasonry clearly has not become church and state. He also concludes that in the United States Masonic influence established the Masonic Constitution and that the political family of the United States was and would forever be based around arcane Masonic and occult secrets.

Gardiner labels Freemasonry as the most powerful secret society. He makes the statement that “In the years of my own searching, there were times when I would be found at the feet of the Magi, sitting and listening to the wise words of the Sufi, joining in the debate at a more enlightened Masonic Lodge.” Yet, I question his Masonic membership. He states that the initiate “must be hung, placed in a coffin and then called forth like Lazarus in the

Bible” and “that it is clear that the serpent is, and has always been, a symbol of the Freemasons.” He also makes it a somewhat difficult to take him seriously when he snidely refers to Apollonius of Tyana upon renouncing flesh, wine, and women (so that he could not have been that clever) and since he wore no shoes let his hair and beard grow long, he was the first hippie.

Amazingly, he also implies a close connection between Freemasonry and the Catholic church and that, in essence, Masonry is owned by the church. He states that the commercialization of the present

time can be seen as a kind of communism instigated by the Masons on orders of the Catholic church or the Illuminati. Just as amazing, at least to me, is his claim that the “Rosicrucians tend to save their hidden teachings for the higher degrees of Freemasonry.”

Perhaps he qualifies this observation by stating that the majority of Freemasons today fall into a category of “lesser initiates” who are aware of only what they are told and that the real secrets of Freemasonry are obtained only at the highest degrees.

He also includes that there is plenty of evidence indicating Freemasonry was well-established in the 14th century and evolved by including the Knights Templar and that “it can be proven that Freemasonry came from the Catholic Templars.” He then goes on to claim that the Apollonieis, a group of adherents of Apollonius constituted what became the first Christian church after the Council of Nicaea.

He uses the term “infamous” frequently and rather loosely in referencing the “infamous” Rosslyn Chapel, the “infamous” Knights Templar, Dan Brown's “infamous” book.

I found great difficulty in comprehending and accepting much of the book's contents. Some of his observations are so off-the-wall as to challenge rationality in any thinking Mason. For example, he attributes sunspot activity to



Thomas W. Jackson, 33°

having effected cyclically the lemming “suicides,” the black death, the great plague, an increase in traffic accidents and the “fall in hemlines.” He also states that “any good scientist will tell you, gravitation is a wave and can affect our psyche.” Maybe, I have never known any good scientist.

**B**efore reading this book, be prepared to be aggravated by some of the statements found in it. For example his comment that “he has shown that Christ, as a literal man, and in all likelihood all those surrounding him, may never have in fact existed and were created elements of a much older mystical language of enlightenment.” This proposal of course, was not new to this author.

It is a book probably worth reading, especially by those who have great interest in esotericism, but to appreciate it, keep a very open mind.

## Charlie Chaplin’s Uncle or the Engine Drivers Tale

by Ian Okell. Published in 2012 by  
FeedARead.com Publishing.

**I**received a communication from the author, a Freemason and author of two other published novels, requesting that I consider writing a review on this, his latest book. I responded that I do not normally write reviews on novels but that I would consider it after reading. He responded and pointed out that it had been averaging an Amazon Kindle ranking in the top seven percent and, following a review in *The Square Magazine*, it had risen to the top one percent, indicating its popularity.

I finally had the opportunity to read it, and I understand why it has that ranking. It is a gripping tale set in the Victorian age involving a cast of diverse characters. A square and compasses is found on the paperback cover, and Freemasonry is woven throughout the plot that involves the Prince of Wales and a visiting

Crown Prince of Romania along with a sundry cast of questionable characters. In his communication with me he stated that it was his intention with this book, “to promote the uprightness and integrity of Freemasonry in the public mind,”

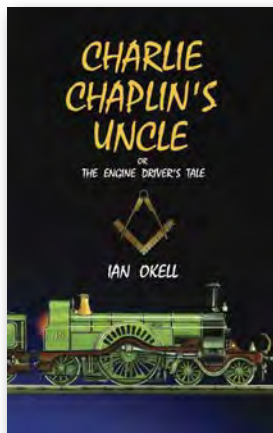
I am not sure that this book accomplishes that, but the spirit of the Masonic relationships revealed in the writing is more characteristic of European Freemasonry than it is to American Freemasonry.

**A**host of Bulgarian thugs are seemingly intent upon the assassination of the Crown Prince who is traveling disguised as the fireman on a train driven by a former naval officer but now a train engineer. The plot takes numerous twists and turns disguising the intent of those plotting as well as that of the other characters involved. The author also incorporates fictional personages of the Victorian age including Sherlock Holmes and Watson into the plot. I suspect from reading this review you might get the opinion that it is a hodgepodge of implausible characters and proceedings, but not so. The author succeeds in holding your interest in what is taking place and by whom.

I rarely have the opportunity to read novels today, but I did enjoy reading this one. I have no qualms about recommending it to those who enjoy a good suspense novel.

In conclusion, I must say that I did not understand the title of the book. A nephew of the engine driver plays a central role in the story and is named Charlie. Since the engine driver is his uncle, I assumed there was logic in the title. After communicating with the author, he pointed out that it was explained in the first few pages of the book. After rereading the first few pages, I picked

up the reference to Chaplin. Keep that in mind before you start your reading.





## Big four pain relievers

Modern over-the-counter pain medications work well and are safe to use as long as you follow instructions. Here's a rundown by the Mayo Clinic on what kind of pain each one treats best, along with their cautions:

**Acetaminophen:** The safest choice when taken at or below recommended doses. Taking two 500 mg pills a day is safe for most people. The risk of liver damage may increase if you already have a liver problem, if you exceed the maximum dosage, or if you have more than three alcoholic drinks a day.

**Aspirin:** Provides pain relief, and low doses can prevent blood clots that cause a heart attack or stroke. But even the 81 mg low dose can increase the risk of stomach bleeding.

If you take low-dose aspirin, avoid ibuprofen and naproxen to keep stomach risk as low as possible. Avoid aspirin if you are taking other medications to prevent blood clots, such as warfarin (Coumadin). Taking both increases the risk of stomach bleeding.

**Ibuprofen and Naproxen sodium:** In addition to providing pain relief, these drugs help to reduce inflammation. But they can increase the risk of stomach bleeding and could also carry a low risk of worsening high blood pressure and kidney problems.

An increased heart attack risk is possibly associated with higher doses. Avoid ibuprofen and naproxen if you've had a heart attack. Also avoid them if you take a medication such as Coumadin or aspirin to prevent blood clots.

If you take ACE inhibitors at the same time, your risk of a kidney problem could increase.

## Creating fitness parks

Free outdoor gyms are sprouting up across the country. They're open 24 hours a day and have traditional fitness equipment such as elliptical machines, leg press and sit-up

benches, and more sophisticated equipment. They are appearing in city parks, often in neighborhoods that may not have access to healthful options.

Florida has 17 open-air gyms; Los Angeles County has 41. They do tend to be in warmer-weather cities, but are also being installed in Newark, Denver and Minneapolis.

## You and your LDL

The American Heart Association says the lower your LDL cholesterol, the lower your risk of heart attack and stroke. It's a better gauge of risk than total blood cholesterol.

When your doctor orders a cholesterol test, be sure to ask specifically what your LDL reading is. It will fall into one of these categories: Less than 100 mg/dl, optimal; 100-129 mg/dl, near optimal; 130-159 mg/dl, close to high; 160-189 mg/dl, high, and 190 mg/dl or more, very high.

If your number is high, it can be lowered by a prescription medication.

**To lower LDL with diet, try this:**

- Have a cup of old fashioned oatmeal for breakfast.
- Eat nuts. An ounce and a half of walnuts, almonds, cashews, macadamias or pecans contain vitamin E and flavonoids.
- Choose fresh fruits, vegetables. They contain plant sterols and

stanols. Other sources are sesame seeds, olive oil, and peanuts.

- Eat fish at least twice a week. Fish like salmon, sardines, trout and mackerel are rich sources of omega-3 fatty acids.

## Metabolically healthy

It's possible to be fit and heavy at the same time. In fact, many obese Americans in one study were found to be more fit than those who weighed less.

Healthy obese participants were found to be free of metabolic syndrome conditions such as insulin resistance, unhealthy cholesterol, high blood pressure or diabetes.

Research reported by Tufts University and published in the *European Heart Journal* shows that these metabolically healthy people are at no greater risk of heart disease or cancer than normal-weight people.

There is a subset of obese people who are protected from metabolic complications. More than one-third of obese participants in this study were metabolically healthy.

## Driving in 2013

As the number of vehicles on the roadway increases, it's more important than ever to wear your seat belt; pay attention to your driving, and never drink and drive.

Data from Advocates for Highway Auto Safety show that the number of motor vehicle deaths will indicate a significant increase from 2011.

In that year, the number of deaths was the lowest since 1949, including motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood says the 2011 decline was due to aggressive enforcement and public education campaigns plus the technology involved in building safe vehicles.

He says, "As we look to the future, it will be important to build on this progress by continuing to tackle head-on issues like seat belt use, drunk driving and driver distraction."



## THE ALTRUISM OF BROTHERHOOD

continued from page 20



**Illustrious Steven Stefanakos led relief efforts in New York after Hurricane Sandy.**

For Tom the funds we got to him were essential. “In those early days, things were hard to come by. Even now insurance is just coming through. I really appreciated Bro. Steve coming to me with help.”

Despite the obvious need, Stefanakos practically had to force Tom to take our relief. “I looked around [at the utter devastation of Tom’s house] and said, ‘Tom take this money. You need it.’ But he kept saying, ‘I’m sure there are other Brothers who need it more.’”

If nothing else, that has been a recurring theme of the Almoner’s Fund aid during Sandy – despite the direness of many Masons’ predicaments, one could find them thinking about their Brothers and trying to help others.

Bro. Martin “Buddy” Olsen in Gerritsen Beach is one of those Brothers. Missed by Bro. Stefanakos on his late night run earlier, Steve found him later by the square and compasses decals on his truck. Martin is an active Mason and a friend to Masonic families in this tightly-packed neighborhood. One reason he had been hard to reach is that Bro. Olsen, a retired ConEd electrician, was helping these and other neighbors for hours on end make sure their houses were safe for the eventual resumption of power. Though Steve and Martin had never before met, it didn’t take long for them to become friends. Martin proved very helpful identifying the Masons and Masonic widows in the area who could use help. “The widow was the wife of my Masonic mentor. She was in a bad way. I am glad we let her know we would not forget her.”

As of February, about 100 New York families have gotten aid because of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation Almoner’s Fund, much of it delivered personally by Bro. Stefanakos. It has profoundly helped a lot of Masons. But perhaps one of the most deeply affected is Steve himself. “I didn’t join the fraternity for charity work,” he confesses. “I became a Mason for the ritual and esoterica. This experience however has been one of the most moving things I have ever experienced in Freemasonry. I have met so many good men and seen our fraternity at its absolute best. Caring about our Brothers is so powerful.”

As we left the flood-ravaged streets of Brooklyn behind, Steve relates one last story about a young Brother that he knew who lost everything. It was December before he could get to him

and deliver badly needed financial assistance. The meeting proved to be one of the most moving for Steve. He related this story:

“As I made my way back to Long Island, I stopped at a home of a Brother that I had no phone number for. I found him with his elderly father completing the gutting of his entire house. I explained what our mission was, as I was taking down his info for our records, I explained that I was giving him \$1,500 in relief. This Brother stood there shaking and he began to cry. He gave me a huge hug and said, ‘You guys are giving my children Christmas back this year.’ A proud man, he continued, ‘I would never have asked for help, but my family really needs this.’”

“I was never so proud to be a Scottish Rite Mason as I was that moment when I could reply, ‘You did not ask me for help. I just showed up and am making sure you are getting it.’”



**Brother Thomas Kurianski describes how flood waters invaded his home. He currently lives in a borrowed RV in his driveway while rebuilding.**

## VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

### THE GREATEST WORK

"Old Tiler, what is the greatest work in Masonry?"

The new Brother sat by the guardian of the door and pulled out his cigar case.

"Persuading new Brethren that old Tilers need something to smoke!" returned the old Tiler promptly.

The new Brother laughed as he handed over a cigar. "I hope you will smoke with me," he said. "But that wasn't just what I had in mind. Masonry has so many different jobs to do – I was wondering which is the greatest."

"Suppose you tell me what you think these jobs are," suggested the old Tiler. "I can answer more intelligently if I know what you have in mind."

"Masonry teaches and practices charity," began the new Brother. "I suppose the brotherly love and relief she teaches are among the greatest of her works. She teaches men to agree to disagree and to avoid dissension while meeting on a common level. She teaches Brotherly love, which makes society run more smoothly and makes us all happier. One of Masonry's works is education, since she admonishes us to learn and to study. But I don't know that I could say that any one of them is the most important."

"That is rather difficult," answered the old Tiler. "Besides, you have left out a number of things. Masonry helps us to make friends – and surely, in the struggle for happiness, friends add much to the joy and take away much from the burden."

"Masonry helps men to come closer to their Maker – she does not ape the church in teaching men how to worship God, but only that God is, and that one can commune with the Great Architect without sect or creed. She teaches sympathy and understanding. She teaches toleration of the other fellow's views. Democrat and Republican, saint and sinner, meet on the level in a lodge and forget their differences in their sameness, lose sight of the quarrels in their oneness. All this Masonry does for those who accept her gentle ministrations."

"But that doesn't tell me which is the greatest thing she does," objected the new Brother as the old Tiler paused.

"I don't think there is a greatest thing, except for the individual," answered the old Tiler. "The greatest thing Masonry may do for me may not be your greatest thing. To one man her Brotherly love may be the greatest; to another, the friends; to a third, the charity. Doesn't it depend on the man?"

"You wouldn't say, then, that you think relief is Masonry's greatest accomplishment?" asked the new Brother.

"For those it relieves, yes; and it often is for those who have contributed to it. But suppose a man is engaged all day as a charity visitor or a doctor or a Red Cross official. Relief by Masonry won't be anything new to him. He must look elsewhere for the greatest thing."

"Well, what is Masonry's greatest accomplishment for you, as an old Tiler?"

"Opportunity for service!" answered the old Tiler, promptly. "It gives me a chance to do things for my fellowman I wouldn't otherwise have. I am an old man. I am not very active, and I have always been poor. But in Masonry I can be active, even if not very spry. Not having much means doesn't seem to count. Now let me ask you, what is Masonry's greatest accomplishment for you?"

The new Brother laughed. "I knew that was coming. It's sort of hazy when I try to put it into words. But it is clear in my mind. The greatest thing which I get out of Masonry, save one thing only, is my kinship with the past. My sense that I am part of a living chain which goes back into the years which are gone, for no one knows how many centuries. I do what George Washington did in a lodge. I see the same things Elias Ashmole saw. As I do, so did Bobby Burns. I am mentally akin with the Comacine builders and the guild craftsmen of the Middle Ages."

"Back to Solomon and beyond," agreed the old Tiler. "I understand."

"Perhaps you do, but I can't make it clear when I try to put it into words." The new Brother looked off into the distance, frowning. "I feel a mystic sense of strength and inspiration from this oneness with so many millions of Brethren who have gone this way before me – it seems to me that I have added strength for my daily life because I am a part of so great a chain."

"All who love the craft have that feeling," smiled the old Tiler. "But you said there was one other benefit which Masonry conferred on you, and which you thought was the greatest of all. What is that?"

The new Brother looked at the old Tiler, without smiling. "The privilege of talking to a man as wise as you," he answered.

– Carl H. Claudy, *The Freemason*, June 1963



## FREEMASONRY SUPERIOR

What order can compare with it? Behold the many worthy orders of our time. Examine their claims and professions; inspect their principles and practices, and then tell me, useful and worthy though they be, if they can approach that ancient and honorable fraternity, whose halls are dedicated to Masonry, virtue and universal benevolence; whose three great tenets are Brotherly love, relief, and truth.

Search history, mediaeval and ancient. How poor are their annals in the great book of humanity when compared with the record of our fraternity, which in all history has been the apostle of liberty; the defender of the oppressed; the advocate of peace; the bulwark of law and order; the friend of progress and reform, and the champion of chastity and virtue.

Freemasonry is not religion, and yet it inculcates religious thought, sentiment and duty; still less is it theology, though it has a creed.

It is not a political organization, though bigoted tyranny has often sought to destroy it, and politicians throng its lodges for favor and influence. It is not a reform school for adults, though it is ever striving to make man nobler, better, manlier. It is not a mutual aid society, though constantly ministering to the wants and necessities of mankind, and doing good unto all men, especially the widows and orphans and the worthy distressed. It is not a school of philosophy, though, it teaches and favors art, science and literature.

— *Grand Master Ingersoll, TN,  
The Liberal Freemason, 1891*

### Harnessing Strength of Freemasonry

Freemasonry is a force for the good of incalculable strength and potency, but it is a Niagara that has not yet been harnessed, Bro. Leo Fisher writes in the *Cabletow*. If its power were brought under proper control, developed and led into the right channels, our institution could sweep the world before it.

Think if all those units were marching in the same direction, we were working out the same plan, and perfect unity existed in our ranks. But this is a thing that none of us of the present generation of craftsmen will ever see.

However, there is a Niagara to be harnessed in every lodge, in every grand jurisdiction. The power

is there, and all that is needed is a man with a vision, gifted with initiative and leadership. Is your lodge making use of all the combined strength and effort of its membership, or is most of it left undeveloped or wasted in useless pursuits? Have you the man needed to take that work in hand and make your lodge what it should be? You may have such a member, but he himself may not realize his capabilities or may need someone to take him and shake him and put him in the place where he is needed. Find the man and confront him with the situation, and your Niagara will soon be harnessed.

— *Robert Craw,  
The Cornerstone, 1928*

## QUOTABLES

Success is getting what you want.  
Happiness is wanting what you get.

— *Dale Carnegie*

Everyone who has achieved financial independence will tell you, at least in the early days, you have to work smarter and harder. The price of success must be paid in full, and it must be paid in advance. There are no shortcuts.

— *John Cummuta*

Hold the ideal of yourself as you long to be, always everywhere.

— *Orison Swett Marden*

Find a purpose in life so big it will challenge every capacity to be at your best.

— *David McKay*

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

— *Thomas A. Edison*

A resourceful person can see opportunity when others only see obstacles.

— *Garrett Gunderson*

You may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.

— *Mahatma Gandhi*

The cyclone derives its powers from a calm center. So does a person.

— *Norman Vincent Peale*

Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.

— *Lyndon B. Johnson*

Good manners will often take people where neither money nor education will take them.

— *Fanny Jackson Coppin*

Charm is the quality in others that makes us more satisfied with ourselves.

— *Henri-Frederic Amiel*

## Be productive, have fun

Jim Toedtman, editor of *AARP The Magazine*, knows many stories about successful retirement.

His favorite involves his own grandfather, John F. Smith, who was a professor of speech and drama for many years at Otterbein College in Westerville, OH. At age 70, this active man was forced to retire, as was the college's custom. The next day, he applied for a custodian job at the college gymnasium. He was hired right away.

Smith became the subject one magazine story entitled "He traded his cap and gown for a mop."

He was once interviewed by CBS television newsman Charles Kuralt. Kuralt asked him which job was more rewarding. Toedtman's grandfather replied that every age of life has its own compensations and he was still looking ahead. He said, "There's too much fun in this world and a lot of good folks, and good books to read, and fish to catch, and pretty women to admire, and good men to know. Why, life is a joy."

Smith said his transition to custodian was simple. He knew what a mop was and what a bucket was. It was hard work, but he tried to do it well. He did that job for 15 years.

Today, people live about 30 years longer than they did in 1900 when the average lifespan was 47 years.

## E-reading is flourishing

Today's e-readers are sleeker versions of the original 2007 models. They are easier to read, they weigh less, their pages turn faster, and they hold more books.

Wireless capability lets users download novels, magazine and newspapers anywhere and anytime. And now devices allow for reading in the dark.

So why are sales expected to decline? One reason is that e-reader users are happy with what they've got and see no reason to buy a newer model.

Another reason, the falling prices of full-featured tablet computers have those who want to replace

their unit thinking about upgrading to a tablet gadget like Amazon's Kindle or Barnes & Noble Nooks.

It's not that there's a decline in reading e-books. A poll by Pew Research finds that 23 percent of Americans read e-books in 2012, compared with just 16 percent in 2011.

## Take Vitamin D

As you navigate from mid-life into your 70s, there's one easy thing you can do to keep your lower body strong and your joints limber.

A study by Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC, shows that 70- to 79-year-olds with the highest levels of vitamin D were the least likely to have trouble walking and stair climbing.

Study author Denise Houston explains that vitamin D repairs muscle, making walking and climbing easier. She recently reported about the findings in *Prevention*.

## Caring for Parents

Many people are thinking about how they will care for a parent safely but not as expensively as assisted living, a nursing home or a retirement community.

"In-law" apartments have been around for years, but they are becoming increasingly popular. Though they require an initial investment, the cost of watching over a loved one is fairly low after

that. It could be as simple as a sitting room attached to a bedroom.

More than 3.6 million parents lived with their adult children in 2007, a 67 percent increase from 2000, says the Census Bureau.

The addition to a home (or repurposing of existing rooms) include a bedroom, bathroom and living area. Some have a kitchenette and some offer access to the home's main kitchen. It depends on how agile the parent is.

Those who have built the in-law quarters say they are very pleased with the arrangement. Both the parent and the family have their privacy, and if the parent needs help, they are on the premises to give it.

Done correctly the apartment will add to the home's value at resale time, especially now when many home buyers want the in-law apartment feature.

When constructing, be sure to follow zoning ordinances. Have doors and aisles that are wide enough for wheelchair access and plenty of grab bars in the bathroom.

## Living Solo

Researchers at the Council on Contemporary Living say living alone can be a symptom of affluence. In some ways it is. It costs more for the individual than sharing expenses.

About 32 million Americans now live by themselves, and the number is growing. The largest jump is happening among seniors. It's another sign that the influence of baby boomers is far from fading.

The trend has been held back somewhat in recent years by kids who have moved back with their parents or grandparents.

Almost 28 percent of the nation's 115 million households consist of one person, compared with 26 percent in 2000, according to Census data. In 2011, just 9.7 percent of all households consisted of one person age 65 or older.

The effect of age is being redefined as people live longer and healthier lives. A lot of men who live by themselves today are divorced and just learning how to go solo.

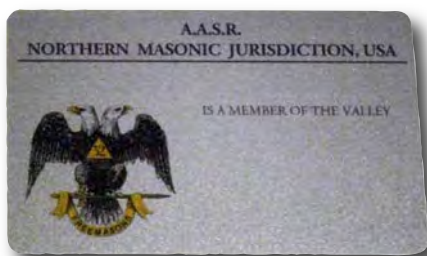


# PERMANENT DUES CARDS

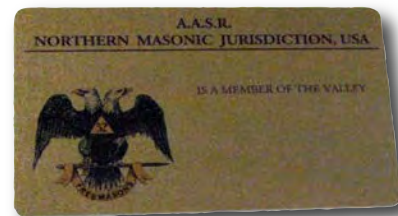
NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION

**THERE ARE FEW TOPICS** within the fraternity that elicit as much discussion as the payment of annual dues. It seems a constant source of debate: when are they due, how do I pay, should they be raised, where do they go? One has to wonder if Freemasonry will ever find a harmonious middle ground regarding the payment of dues.

In hopes of fostering that harmony, your Supreme Council took steps recently to streamline the payment of annual dues by issuing each member a plastic dues card, alleviating the need for your Supreme Council to mail printed paper cards each year. By now, every member of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction should have received his silver



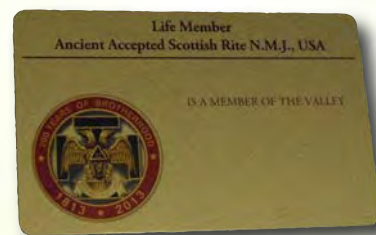
card. Once you have received yours, you need not carry or expect another in the mail. Ever! Do not throw it away. You just need to pay your annual dues statement by mail or by going online to the Supreme Council's website, [ScottishRiteNMJ.org](http://ScottishRiteNMJ.org), to pay electronically. All you need is your Scottish Rite member number. It is that easy. There is no longer the need for you to await the arrival of your new card in the mail every year. You already have it in your wallet.



If your Valley offers a life membership plan and you wish to take advantage of it, all you need to do is contact the Secretary of your Valley for details. Life member cards are colored gold.

To replace a lost card you must contact your Valley Secretary. Contact information can be found at our website, [ScottishRiteNMJ.org/ContactUs.aspx](http://ScottishRiteNMJ.org/ContactUs.aspx).

**IN HONOR OF THE** Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's 200th Anniversary, the Supreme Council is issuing commemorative gold cards, featuring the anniversary jewel to those becoming life members from April 26, 2012 - Aug. 19, 2013.





## Down by the Sea

In the February issue I came across your wonderful article about the Masonic influences of the Garden State. My family has been in New Jersey for several generations, and we are extremely proud of this great state. I thought you would enjoy this photo (see below) of my father, R. John Muller, taken in Atlantic City in the mid-1950s. He was (and still is) a prominent local businessman in Hoboken, NJ, in addition to being a longstanding Mason.

*Roger J. Muller Jr, 32°  
Valley of Northern New Jersey*

## Accolades

Your February issue was one of the best I have read in many years. Three articles stood out: The River of Degrees (Illustrious Eric Ginette), Evolution by Degree (Illustrious James L. Tungate), and the Sovereign Grand Commander's message. They are very insightful. I hope all members read them and truly look for the important messages contained in those articles.

*William E. Turner Jr., 33°  
Valley of Akron*

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](mailto: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.



I took this picture Sept. 9, 2006, while visiting a little church in the town of St. Georges on the Island of Bermuda. I thought it somewhat unusual to find such a plaque in a church. James L. Hocker, 32°, Valley of Dayton.



Matthew Johnson of Saco Lodge, Saco, ME, poses at the local watering hole with his one-of-a-kind beer stein.



Picture of my 1919 Model T Ford, one of over 15 million made. I have an aftermarket pressed glass tail light lens displaying a raised Masonic emblem. This lens fits in the standard Ford tail light and it is the only example I have ever seen. It's quite a conversation starter at the summer car shows I attend. Dixson Clement, 32°, Valley of Dayton.



R. John Muller, Otto Gehrig, and Millard Ace stroll the Atlantic City Boardwalk in the 1950's. Submitted by Robert J. Muller Jr., 32°, Valley of Southern New Jersey.

## MASONIC MOMENTS

## Online Shop Offers More

The list of products available at our online shop continues to grow. In addition to *American Freemasons* by Illustrious Mark A. Tabbert, 33°, the 200th anniversary jewel and Christmas ornaments, we now offer commemorative zippered padfolios, Scottish Rite umbrellas, unity ties, and luggage straps. Copies of the 2012 Proceedings can also be ordered from the site. Watch for additional products later in the year, such as the new 200th anniversary history, *A Sublime Brotherhood*. A link to the store can be found at both [ScottishRiteNMJ.org](http://ScottishRiteNMJ.org) and [NationalHeritageMuseum.org](http://NationalHeritageMuseum.org).

## Masonic Work Day at the Museum & Library

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library staff is looking for volunteers to spend the day helping with collections-related projects. Projects may include: inventory of object and library collections; housing and numbering objects and archival collections, and computer data entry.

Masonic Work Day is set for Sat., June 22, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, in Lexington, MA.

Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Email Aimee E. Newell, Director of Collections, at [anewell@monh.org](mailto:anewell@monh.org) with your name and contact information to sign up, or with questions.

## 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 [ScottishRiteNMJ.org](http://ScottishRiteNMJ.org). Follow the simple instructions and you will be current in no time.

## Historic Photographs Digitized and Now Online

The staff at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library is currently working to digitize its entire collection of historic photographs. That 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](http://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 of the photos by typing "photo," or you can search for specific subjects, photographers, places or any other term. To date, there are more than 600 photos scanned and available for viewing, with more added each month.

## A Reminder on Scottish Rite Networking

As we have stated in past issues, it is easier than ever to stay connected to your Scottish Rite Brothers, using social networks. You can follow the Scottish Rite on Twitter and Facebook, and you can take part in discussions at LinkedIn and on the Freemason Network.

## 200th Anniversary Underway in Valleys

The bicentennial celebration is beginning to heat up. Already, events have taken place. In January, the Ohio Valleys of Akron, Cambridge, Canton, Cleveland, Steubenville, and Youngstown joined together in a reunion named in honor of the 200th anniversary; the Valley of Concord held a dinner-dance; The Valley of Rochester staged a College of Freemasonry with a theme of Masonic renewal for the next century, and the Valley of Chicago played host to "Craft Taverns & Tastes," a presentation on the early public houses in New England which served as meeting places for colonial Brethren and founding fathers. Several Western New York Valleys held a joint reunion in honor of the celebration as well.

With the official birth date of Aug. 5, the entire year has been designated as the celebration period, so there is much more to come. Valleys around the jurisdiction are making plans; a new history book, *A Sublime Brotherhood*, is being published, and *The Northern Light* will issue a special anniversary edition in August.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit [ScottishRiteNMJ.org](http://ScottishRiteNMJ.org).

Alan E. Foulds, 32°  
editor



## *A Sublime Brotherhood*

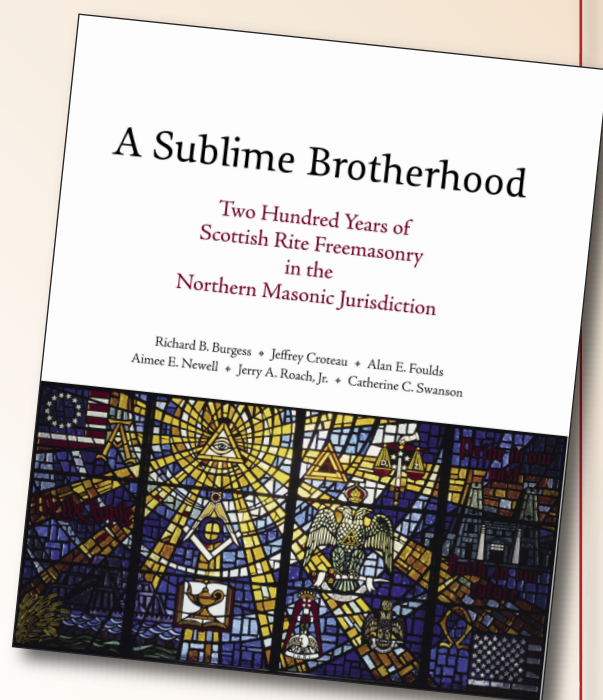
is a celebration in words and images of  
the 200th anniversary of our  
fraternity.

Divided into six chapters, the book tells the  
compelling story of the organization;  
highlighting the people, structures, traditions,  
and objects that help us understand how the  
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction began, where it  
has been, and what it looks like today.

The volume provides the reader with a lavishly illustrated history of the organization.

As a souvenir of the 200th anniversary celebration of the Northern Masonic  
Jurisdiction, *A Sublime Brotherhood* is a glimpse into the past, a chronicle of its present,  
and a reference for its future.

It is a “must” for any Mason’s book shelf.



Available August 5

order at: [shop.ScottishRiteNMJ.org](http://shop.ScottishRiteNMJ.org)

Price: **\$33.00** + shipping