

The Northern Light

Vol. 41 No. 3 AUGUST 2010

CORE VALUES



OUR COMMON BOND

The Northern Light

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Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

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

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

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John Wm. McNaughton, 33°



A Long Journey – The Fourth Degree

"Creating a new order of things," Machiavelli once said, "is never easy."

In his 2008 publication, *The Degree Rituals for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction*, Active Member C. DeForest Trexler, 33°, wrote "Despite its prominent position as the first of the Lodge of Perfection, or so called 'Ineffable,' degrees, the ritual of the 4°, until very recently, has had a relatively languid, uneventful, and uninspiring development." He further stated that the prevailing attitude toward the ritual of the old 4° was best expressed in a few words by the Ritual Committee chairman McIlyar Lichliter in 1943, "Dead, Dull. Overloaded with symbolism." Many agreed that a more dramatic ritual was needed. Nevertheless, no effective steps were taken to address the need until recently. In 2005, the new 4° was completely rewritten by Active Member James L. Tungate, 33°, also a member of the Ritual Committee. This new 4° provides us with a preview of the moral truths to be witnessed on the journey through the Scottish Rite.

Historians have noted that the growth of the Scottish Rite throughout the United States in the early part of the 20th century has been traced to the new technology developed and used during the age of Vaudeville. Costumes, elaborate stages and scenery drops, and state of art sound effects all played a great part in creating excitement for existing members and attracting many new members. And perhaps more importantly, those new technologies, developed in the early part of the 20th century, played a major role in modernizing the message of the Scottish Rite degrees.

Certainly, the technology of the 21st century presents us with many new opportunities. Once again, the Scottish Rite will be using this technology to improve the message of our degrees for our members. We now have this new 4° recorded on digital video disc (DVD) format, available to all Valleys.

This major undertaking is part of an ongoing effort to make our Scottish Rite degrees and activities more inspirational, convenient, and enjoyable (I.C.E.). And there are more changes on the horizon as the Scottish Rite faces the complex challenges of the 21st century. Some of you might ask, "why change?" Sadly, the answer to this question can be found only a few miles from our Lexington, MA, offices. Just east of Interstate 95 in full view of passing motorists, is what remains of the world headquarters of the Polaroid Corporation which used to manufacture cameras. They failed to change and are now out of business.

Machiavelli had it right when he wrote, "There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things because the innovator has for enemies all those who have done well under the old conditions, and lukewarm defenders in those who may do well under the new."

With the release of this DVD, a Brother becomes a Scottish Rite Mason when he has witnessed the 4° either by viewing the DVD or as presented by a degree cast. He becomes a 32° Scottish Rite Mason when he has witnessed the 32°.

This fall, call your local Valley to determine when this presentation can be viewed and check out the new 4°. I think you will enjoy this new Scottish Rite experience.

Brethren, the journey of a lifetime has just begun.

John Wm McNaughton
Sovereign Grand Commander

Celebrating Pennsylvania

A CENTER FOR AMERICAN AND MASONIC HISTORY

By **AIMEE E. NEWELL, Ph.D.**

Pennsylvania, the location for the 2011 Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's annual meeting, has a long Masonic history – and Philadelphia is a center of American patriotism with sites such as Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and the National Constitution Center. The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library in Lexington, MA, is fortunate to have more than 700 objects made in the Keystone State. Highlighted here are just a few of these items in order to showcase the long Masonic history in the state, its rich tradition of decorative arts, and its fraternal activities during the 1800s and 1900s.

The Birthplace of Liberty

One of the treasures of the museum and library collection, which is also one of the first gifts it received in 1975, is the “porthole” portrait of George Washington by Philadelphia artist Rembrandt Peale (1778-1860). Peale, who was the son of famed American artist Charles Willson Peale (1741-1827), painted Washington from life in 1795. He would go on to produce about 70 copies from that original, advertising it as “The National Portrait & Standard Likeness of Washington.” The painting in the museum's collection dates to about 1847 and was originally owned by Henry Paul Beck, great-grandfather of the painting's donor. Accompanying the portrait was the original receipt which is now part of the museum's archives collection. Peale charged \$125 for the portrait at the time, a considerable price when many artisans made \$1 per day.

While Rembrandt Peale recognized the importance of Washington to his country as early as 1795, many Americans fully embraced their history in 1876 when the Centennial Exposition was held in Philadelphia. One of the most popular attractions at the fair was the glass factory operated by Philadelphia firm Gillinder

and Sons. Founded in 1861 as the Franklin Flint Glass Works, the company took the name Gillinder and Sons in 1867. They offered a full line of glassware in the Liberty Bell pattern which may have included the clear glass salt shaker shown here. This piece is not signed, unfortunately, and other firms also made Liberty Bell items, but it does suggest the appearance of the Gillinder Liberty Bell glass that was made on site at the Centennial Exposition which sold in large quantities to fairgoers. This shaker has lettering on both sides. One side reads “1776 / Centennial Exposition / 1876,” while the other has the verse “Proclaim Liberty / Throughout All the Land,” from the Bible's book of Leviticus.



George Washington
(1732-99), ca. 1847,
Rembrandt Peale
(1778-1860),
Philadelphia.
Gift of
John B. Webster.
Photo by
John M. Miller.

Pennsylvania's Masonic Traditions

Freemasons have come together in Pennsylvania for almost three centuries. For almost as long, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania have debated which state has the oldest Grand Lodge. While Massachusetts lays claim to the oldest duly constituted Grand Lodge – dating to 1733 – a deputation was granted to Daniel Coxe three years earlier in 1730, appointing him as Provincial Grand Master of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. There is little hard evidence to show that Coxe took any steps to fulfill the conditions of his deputation – especially

Liberty Bell Salt Shaker, ca. 1876, attributed to Gillinder and Sons, Philadelphia. Gift of J. Robert Merrill. Photo by David Bohl.



Past Master Jewel for T. Stewart Brown, 1866, probably Pennsylvania.

Fraternal Standard, late 1800s, W.H. Horstmann Company, Philadelphia. Gift of B. Franklin Reber. Photo by David Bohl.



in contrast to Henry Price in Massachusetts in 1733, who almost immediately established a local lodge in Boston.

Regardless of which side you take in this ongoing debate, Benjamin Franklin's 1734 letter to Henry Price, requesting a charter for the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, was accepted and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was duly constituted from that point. Today, Pennsylvania has 435 lodges and over 114,000 members, while also being home to 16 Scottish Rite Valleys with more than 40,000 members.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania secured its first Masonic building in 1802. Located on Filbert Street in Philadelphia, it was dedicated on St. John's Day, Dec. 27, 1802. However, membership grew at such a rate over the succeeding years that the building was outgrown by 1807 and the hunt was on for new quarters. By the end of 1807, the Grand Lodge purchased a

vacant lot on Chestnut Street and began building according to a plan submitted to its design competition by architect William Strickland (1787-1854).

The new Masonic Hall was completed in 1809. Unfortunately, the Grand Lodge experienced a short tenure in this building. On March 9, 1819, a chimney fire spread rapidly, consuming the building. The scene that night is depicted in an engraving from the museum's

collection, titled "The Conflagration of the Masonic Hall, Chestnut Street, Philadelphia." According to the *Franklin Gazette*, the fire could be seen from New Castle, DE, 32 miles away. Washington Lodge No. 59, was meeting in the building when the fire started. While they did not have time to close their meeting, the members did get out of the building and reportedly no one was injured or killed.

After the fire, the Grand Lodge found new quarters. Over the following 35 years, they met in three different locations. Then, in 1855, the "New Masonic Hall" was built on the site of the temple that burned down in 1819 – Chestnut Street between 7th and 8th Streets. Another print in the museum's collection gives a taste of the sumptuous furnishings used in the new building. The lithograph, by Max Rosenthal (1833-1918), depicts the Grand Lodge room, which was decorated in Gothic style, and shows the Master's chair along with the ornate ceiling and wall decorations and the colorful carpeting. The building as a whole was described as "the most gorgeous Masonic temple probably in the world." It was used until 1873 when the current Pennsylvania Masonic building, at Broad and Filbert Streets, was dedicated.

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library has over 200 Masonic jewels in its collection, including about 54 Past Master jewels. While Past Master jewels honor the same achievement no matter which Grand Lodge issues them, they often follow different design traditions. Pennsylvania offers an excellent example. Its Past Master jewels incorporate the symbol of the 47th Problem of Euclid, which is not used by other states. Representing Freemasonry's English roots, the Pennsylvania

The Conflagration of the Masonic Hall, Chestnut St., Philadelphia, 1819, John Hill (1770-1850), engraver, Philadelphia. Photo by David Bohl.



Past Master jewel employs the same symbols as the English example. This jewel is engraved with the name of its original owner, "T. Stewart Brown," and his lodge, "No. 134 F. and A.M." A quick bit of research found that Lodge No. 134, was Franklin Lodge in Philadelphia. First instituted in 1812, the lodge went dark in 1831, a casualty of the anti-Masonic era. In October 1846, it reorganized and later merged with Richmond Lodge No. 230, in 1986. According to the lodge's history, it took its name "in compliment to Bro. Richard Bache . . . from a grateful sense of his liberality in presenting to the new lodge its furniture and regalia." Bache was the lodge's first master and the grandson of Benjamin Franklin, former Grand Master of Pennsylvania.

According to the membership records at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Library, graciously provided by librarian, Glenys A. Waldman, Brown received the jewel at the end of his term as Worshipful Master in January 1866. He was a trunk manufacturer in Philadelphia and received the first three degrees in 1860.

The Business of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania

With all of the Masons in Pennsylvania, merchants and manufacturers recognized that these men would be interested in purchasing goods marked with Masonic symbols. A fraternal standard, which measures about seven inches high by six inches wide, has an open Bible at the center of a square and compasses symbol. Unfortunately, we do not know where or how this was initially used, but it does have the maker's name marked on the back, "W.H. Horstmann Company." The W.H. Horstmann Company was headquartered in Philadelphia and was established in 1816. According to one of their catalogs, the company was "the oldest and largest house in our line of business" and advertised that they offered "the most complete stock of goods and are ready at all times to answer questions and give all information in regard to the needs of every known society."

In addition to objects made specifically for use inside the lodge, Pennsylvania manufacturers also produced items for the home that carried Masonic associations. One example is a pale green glass flask bearing an American eagle on

one side and a bust portrait of the Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834) on the other.

Made around the time of Lafayette's visit to the United States in 1824, this flask was probably sold as a souvenir. It is marked "T.W.D." on the bottom for Thomas W. Dyott (1777-1861) who operated the Kensington Glass Works in Philadelphia. In addition to the Lafayette flask, the company produced examples bearing the likenesses of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin.

Perhaps one of the more well-known Pennsylvania Masonic products is the famous Dudley pocket watch that has a bridge plate in the form of Masonic symbols. The museum is fortunate to have five examples of this watch in the collection – fewer than 2,600 were ever made. William Dudley (1851-1938) emigrated from Canada after his apprenticeship and worked for several American watch companies. In 1920, he established the Dudley Watch Company in Lancaster, PA, fulfilling a life-long dream. Unfortunately, the company survived only five years, succumbing to bankruptcy, largely due to the growing popularity of the recently-introduced wristwatch.

The Dudley watch shown here was given to the museum in 1975 as part of the Willis R. Michael collection. A tool and die maker from York, PA, Michael enjoyed collecting and repairing antique timepieces. Michael was active in both the Scottish Rite and the York Rite. His

Grand Lodge Room of the New Masonic Hall, Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, 1855, Max Rosenthal (1833-1918), lithographer, Philadelphia. Photo by David Bohl.





Scottish Rite Vase, 1916.
Photo by David Bohl.



Masonic Pocket Watch, ca. 1920, Dudley Watch Company, Lancaster, PA. Gift of Mrs. Willis R. Michael.
Photo by David Bohl.

Lafayette Flask, ca. 1824, Thomas W. Dyott, Philadelphia. Photo by David Bohl.



collection, which numbered over 400 clocks and nearly 300 watches, included examples from the United States and Europe, by a wide variety of makers. Over the course of the museum's first ten years, Michael's widow, Ruth, generously presented more than 140 clocks to the collection. Michael's connection to the Dudley watch is particularly significant. The Masonic emblems were machined by Michael while Dudley was working on his design.

The Scottish Rite Comes to Pennsylvania


While new memories will be made in Philadelphia in August 2010 as the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction holds its annual meeting, the museum retains memories of another Pennsylvania annual meeting in the form of a souvenir in its collection. The yellow and white milk glass vase is almost 100 years old and seems to have been presented as a gift, probably at a Consistory-related event at the 1916 meeting in Pittsburgh.

Formed with three sides, each face of the vase has a portrait of a man. One side shows Barton Smith, 33°, the Sovereign Grand Commander at the time. Smith (1852-1935), who was an attorney in Toledo, OH, held the office of Sovereign Grand Commander from 1910-21. A second side shows James Isaac Buchanan, 33°, Deputy for Pennsylvania in 1916, and the third side depicts George Wilberforce McCandless, 32°, who is identified in his capacity as "Commander-In-Chief" on the vase.

Buchanan (1853-1931) was born in Canada, but came to Pennsylvania in 1877 when he was employed by the Oil City Trust Company. According to his obituary, he would go on to

serve "as an officer of a large number of manufacturing and financial projects, and at one time was represented on the directorates of over 30 corporations." Bro. Buchanan became a Mason in Canada in 1875 and continued his membership in the United States. He received the 33° in 1890 and was Deputy for Pennsylvania from 1897-1919. McCandless (1869-1950) was a native of Pittsburgh who was secretary and treasurer of the McConway and Torley Corporation which made castings, forgings and automatic couplers. Initiated as a Freemason in 1891, McCandless received the 33° at the 1916 Pittsburgh meeting, while he was serving as Commander-in-Chief of the Pennsylvania Consistory.

The 1916 meeting was "preceded by several interesting and important events" according to the Proceedings. Perhaps most notably, the Scottish Rite apartments, in the new Pittsburgh Masonic Temple, were dedicated on Sept. 16 (the annual meeting started on Sept. 20). Two days later, James Isaac Buchanan, 33°, and members of Pittsburgh Consistory exemplified the new ritual for the 32°. According to the Proceedings the performance "made a deep and lasting impression by the beauty of the form in which were clothed the sacred principles of the beloved Scottish Rite." Undoubtedly, the same will be true of the ceremonies and rituals marking the 2010 Annual Meeting.

If you have any objects made or used in Pennsylvania – or in any part of the United States – that you would like to donate to the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, please contact Aimee E. Newell, Ph.D., at anewell@monh.org or 781-457-4144. 

TRUE to the CORE

By JAMES L. TUNGATE, 33°

“Economic prosperity may come and go; that is just how it is, but values are the steady currency that earn us the all-important rewards.”

There is a universe of core values surrounding us. Most Americans probably take them for granted, or are only subliminally or unconsciously aware of them in the course of the saturating daily bombardment of media.

Perhaps there are some people, likely younger, who simply are not concerned about core values. But they should be, for these are not superfluous issues, to be tweeted, texted, Facebooked, blogged or YouTube'd.

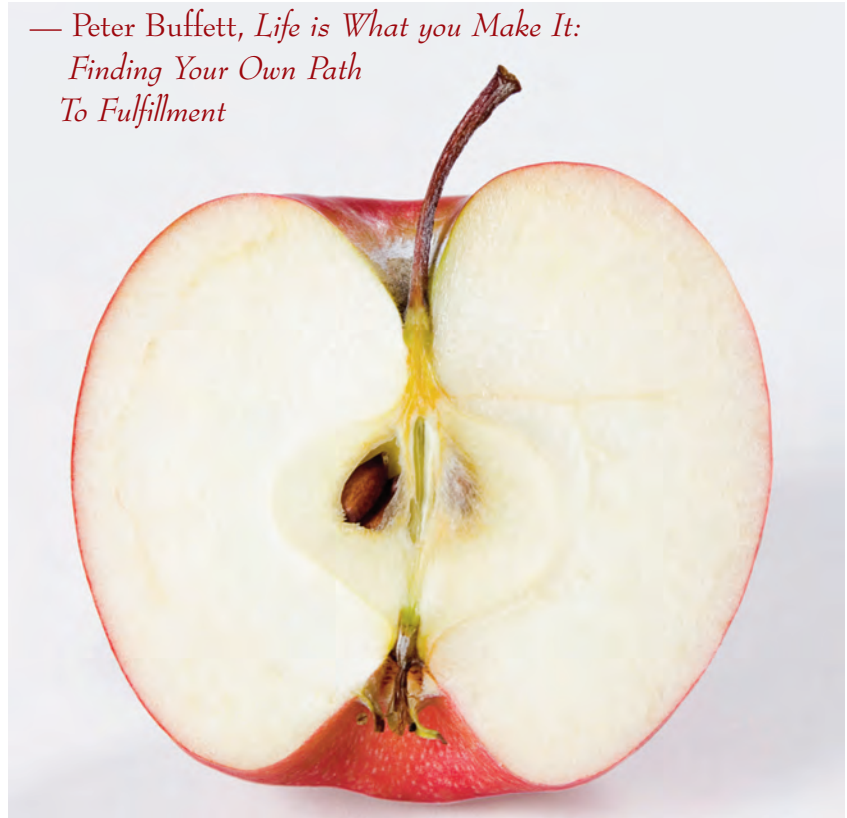
They demand a certain amount of reflection, circumspection and even thought.

We can become cynical about such things. Corporate society has been quick to use the appearance of a core value to grab attention and attempt to give the inane an extravagant importance.

For decades, Lucky Strike cigarettes had a code, no less, for its core value: L.S.M.F.T. It was masterful psychology to conjure and hone a core value as a product slogan and then to encode it, making each of those who could decode the message an insider.

Even today, Americans of a certain age have absolutely no impediment to translating that code: L.S.M.F.T. – Lucky Strike Means Fine Tobacco.

— Peter Buffett, *Life is What you Make It: Finding Your Own Path To Fulfillment*



It was a corporate core value. It told us all that needed to be known about smoking this cigarette: here is a cigarette that means fine tobacco, and that is its “constant currency.” Contrast that with a mere advertising slogan, a catch-phrase not a core value, such as “Winston Tastes Good Like a Cigarette Should,” which, grammar aside, describes the experience of tasting this cigarette. Of course, that slogan does not mean the

Scottish Rite Core Values

The 32° Masonic core values are so strong a force that despite the ebb and flow of society, government, politics, technology and culture, they remain that bright beacon of Masonic Light undimmed through the centuries, illuminating the perpetual safe harbor sought for generations:

Reverence for God
Justice
Toleration
Devotion to country
Service to humanity
Integrity

cigarette has fine tobacco like a Lucky Strike. A Winston apparently just tastes like a cigarette should taste, and we do not know if it achieves that with twigs, chemical flavorings or old socks.

Likewise, by definition, the core values of an organization must not be just slogans. The core values of an organization are really foundational. They form the base on which the members of that group stand, strive to work and conduct themselves.

Core values are the essence by which its members are known. ("By your values, ye shall be known.") Some values are such "steady currency" as Peter Buffett calls them that they are cherished and preserved by the members of the group, even though society, government and politics may change; technology may alter even the most commonplace components of life; and history may unfold and fold with astounding pace. Core values are constants.

Core values are not descriptions of what men do; they describe how to be. Core values are not strategies or maneuvers to achieve selfish goals. Core values are not the tools by which to get an advantage in business, relationships or life. They should guide men in making decisions, predominate in personal relationships, reveal humanity and show what it stands for.

That is not to claim a Scottish Rite Mason is some blend of Jedi Knight and Eagle Scout. Without question, sometimes it is a substantial personal challenge to stand, just and upright, on

the platform of those values. Nevertheless, whatever the challenge to achieve and maintain those values, the attempt to reach such standards is still an eminently worthy goal.

Examine the accompanying chart. Those core values of a Scottish Rite Mason are no surprise to members of the fraternity. They are found in the 4° through the 32°.

What may be surprising is that members of the fraternity so often take them for granted, and rather like good background movie music, those values are unobtrusively ever-present, ready to support a scene when needed.

What actually may be surprising is to compare Masonic values to those of other organizations on the chart. Disney's core value of "preservation and control of the Disney magic" fulfills expectation, not to mention "absolute, meticulous attention to detail," which is verifiable by any visitor to Disney World.

A drug company has science-based innovation and profit among its core values? Merck should be congratulated for its honesty. The surprise, however, may be in Sony stating as its first core value "elevation of Japanese culture and national status."

There is an obvious incongruity if not dissonance between the Sony and its customers who use its products, for very few, if any, Sony customers are really considering they are elevating Japanese culture or national status by buying a Sony recorder. There is also something contrary

to general American perception of the Japanese work environment to believe Sony holds dear a core value “encouraging individual ability and creativity.” On the other side of the appropriateness balance is the listing of United States Army core values.

Are not these seven exactly what is expected of a professional, volunteer armed force? In fact, do not those seven give an accurate sense of what the American public expects of military personnel and what the American Army expects of itself?

What would happen if the organizations and their core values would be switched on this chart, and how radically different would the world be if that were to happen?

Imagine Sony with Disney’s “nurture and promulgate wholesome American values.” Consider if Merck had the Army’s core value to “treat people as they should be treated,” or “do what’s right, legally and morally.” There goes the profit?

Then again, the Army could not function well with the Sony asserted value of “encouraging individual ability and creativity.” There goes the discipline? Try this as a way of testing the match of values and organizations.

No other organization, no other fraternity, no other worldwide entity has the unique Scottish Rite core of reverence for God, justice, toleration, devotion to country, service to humanity and integrity.

These are not imposed on Scottish Rite Masons by some corporate committee as undoubtedly happened at Merck or Sony or Disney.

These are found within the being of the Scottish Rite degrees. These values are found within the membership, past and present. These clarify and define the distinctiveness of Scottish Rite Masons in the world.

Consider the legacy of these core values as a true and lasting Scottish Rite Masonic gift to humanity through centuries past and the centuries yet to come: the framework, the glue that binds one to another, past, present and future.

These values are the common bond, the cherished links of Brotherhood.

The Scottish Rite core values are so strong a force that despite the ebb and flow of society,

By Way of Comparison

By way of comparison, here are examples of Core Values identified by other organizations.

DISNEY - to make people happy.

1. Nurture and promulgate wholesome American values.
2. Creativity, Dream, Imagination.
3. Preservation and control of the Disney magic.
4. Absolute, meticulous attention to detail

MERCK - to preserve and improve human life.


1. Corporate social responsibility.
2. Unequivocal excellence in all aspects of the company.
3. Science-based innovation.
4. Honesty and integrity.
5. Profit - from work that benefits humanity.

SONY - to experience the joy of advancing and applying technology for the benefit of the public.

1. Elevation of Japanese culture and national status.
2. Being a pioneer, not following others, doing the impossible.
3. Encouraging individual ability and creativity.

U.S. ARMY

1. Courage - Face fear, danger or adversity.
2. Duty - Fulfill your obligations.
3. Honor - Live up to all Army values.
4. Integrity - Do what's right, legally and morally.
5. Loyalty - Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit and other soldiers.
6. Respect - Treat people as they should be treated.
7. Service - Put the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own.

government, politics, technology and culture, they remain that bright beacon of Masonic Light undimmed through the centuries, illuminating the perpetual safe harbor sought for generations: reverence for God, justice, toleration, devotion to country, service to humanity and integrity. 

SOURCE: <http://www.nps.gov/training/uc/bwoc.htm>

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WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:

GEORGE WASHINGTON *and* **LUMBERJACKS**
and **THE "FOUR CHAPLAINS"**

The Master Traveler



OF THE **SCOTTISH RITE**

The Master Traveler

A. A. S. R.

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Presented by Supreme Council, 33°

Directed by Ill. James L. Tungate, 33°



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IN SERVICE TO THE RITE

By **RICHARD B. BURGESS, 33°**

We learn from Masonic tradition as well as from our ritual that we serve our fraternity and our fellow human beings “without hope of fee or reward.” For us altruism is enough all by itself, virtue being its own reward. Nevertheless, in spite of our teachings and the merit of unselfish service, seemingly all of our fraternal bodies find ways to reward the faithful and exemplary acts of their members.

This Supreme Council and the Scottish Rite have long recognized the value of recognition of the outstanding contributions of its members and have rewarded many individuals and Valleys with such awards as the Van Rensselaer Membership Award, The Gourgass Medal, the Meritorious Service Award, the 33° and the Medal of Honor.

Sovereign Grand Commander McNaughton has created two new awards to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of some Scottish Rite members and even of those who are Masons but not necessarily members of the Rite.

One of the new medals is the Sovereign Grand Commander's Medal for Distinguished Service. Fifteen medals have been presented since this award's inception in the spring of 2009.

The following Brothers have already received this medal together with a framed certificate commemorating the prestigious award. The names of recipients are displayed on a large plaque near the Sovereign Grand Commander's office. Beneath the plaque there is a large book containing a tribute in honor of each recipient. Visitors are encouraged to browse through the pages of the lives of these exceptional men.



Those Distinguished Service Medal recipients in chronological order are:

Ill. David W. Lovering, 33°
 Bro. Francis Scott Key III, 32°
 Ill. Victor M Frederick III, 33°
 Ill. Dennis R. Williamson, 33°
 Ill. Malcolm B. Wernik, 33°
 Bro. John Homa, 32°
 Ill. James S. De Mond, 33°
 Ill. Morphis A. Jamiel, 33°
 Ill. Morton S. Negin, 33°
 Ill. Robert Johnston, 33°
 Ill. George E. Proctor, 33°
 Ill. David J. Smith Sr., 33°
 Ill. Frederick G. H. Meijer, 33°
 Ill. Ralph C. Wilson, 33°




Sovereign Grand Commander's
Distinguished Service Medal

The Sovereign Grand Commander may select a recipient through his own experience or he is open to receive suggestions from the Active Membership.

The recipient of this prestigious award must have demonstrated such service to the Scottish Rite as not often witnessed among the general membership.

The other newly created award instituted most recently by Grand Commander McNaughton is the Masonic Service Medal. As the name implies this medal is awarded by the Scottish Rite to a Brother who best exemplifies the essential teachings and tenets of Symbolic Masonry such as Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth through his selfless acts in society at large. An important factor appertaining to this award is that the recipient need not be a Scottish Rite Brother, but an exemplary Mason.

To those of you who have received these awards and to those of you who will, we offer you are sincerest congratulations and gratitude for all you have done for the Masonic fraternity in general and for your Scottish Rite in particular. 

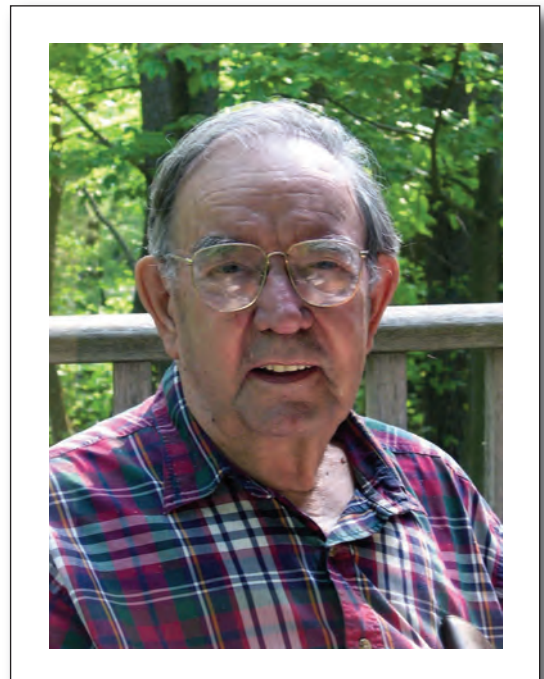
III. Sidney Ross Baxter, 33°

1923 - 2010

Bro. Baxter was a longtime contributor to this fraternity – as an Active Member and as assistant to the Sovereign Grand Commander, beginning in 1952 with III. Melvin Maynard Johnson, 33°. Among his many accomplishments was his assistance in developing the Benevolent Foundation, which helped create the Schizophrenia charitable efforts of the organization. He later helped with the creation of the Abbott Scholarship Fund and the Museum & Library Fund. In 1995, he became the first recipient of the Medal of Honor.

A memorial service was held at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library with Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton and Past Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston participating.

For more information on the life of this Masonic icon, visit ScottishRiteOnline.org.



32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

Eau Claire Joins the Network

Almost immediately after the dedication of the learning center in 1994 in Milwaukee, Scottish Rite members began a campaign to open another center in Eau Claire, WI. Now, 16 years later, their dream is about to be realized. As the program was initiated, Brothers in Eau Claire immediately saw the impact of early intervention, not only on the lives of the students but also on their families. The positive results emanating from Milwaukee and other centers inspired the members in Eau Claire to set out to do the same in their region. Initial inquiries failed to turn up any similar nearby programs, so they would not be duplicating efforts. Their research also showed that between 4,500 and 18,000 students, within an hour's drive of Eau Claire, were afflicted with dyslexia so a need existed.

Initially the plan was to open a satellite center, but the economic downturn proved to be a significant road block. The group was advised that all new centers needed to be self-funded through local sources. They were also informed, however, that if a center could demonstrate financial viability, it would be allowed to affiliate and receive non-financial support from the corporation.

In mid-2007, the Eau Claire planning committee was approached by an attorney who informed them that his client wanted to see a local center created and was willing to

bequeath a generous sum for that purpose. With finances less of an issue, the planning committee set out to build for the future. Today they now have more than one million dollars pledged; a suitable site has been obtained within the Eau Claire Temple of Freemasonry, and formal approval from the learning centers board of directors has been received.

Plans call for the center to open in September.



Start with the first word. Add to it the letters of the second word. Then add or subtract the letters of the following words. Total the remaining letters and unscramble them to find a word associated with Masonry.

MASONIC WORD MATH

(OBLIGATION) + (WONDERFUL) –
(GRAND) + (GREEKS) – (LOWER) +
(TRANSFER) – (RAIN) + (STATES) –
(STUFF) – (SAT) + (GROWN) – (BEGIN)
+ (VAIN) – (SEAT) – (NEVER)

= |

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 23.
Answer from previous issue: REFLECTION

Battleship New Jersey — Taking Your Breath Away

BY JOHN J. FORBERGER, 32°



source: pics4.city-data.com

Have you ever noticed that some of life's greatest moments come in some unanticipated way? Perhaps you have read the quote: "Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take, but by the moments that take your breath away."

I believe it to be so. If you are lucky perhaps you can count more than five such moments when the world was ablaze in glory, satisfaction and unfettered joy.

Sometimes the best such moments come when you do not fully anticipate them. I like to think of them as blessings from The Great Architect of the Universe. Moments like these live on in the trophy room of your heart. The 15th of May held such a moment for me and, I would venture, such a moment for others aboard the Battleship New Jersey as the three Valleys of The Scottish Rite of New Jersey collaborated on a high quality presentation of what we commonly refer to as "The Four Chaplains Degree."

It was a rare moment in Freemasonry. It was a time when all could anticipate grandeur and a moment that might possibly take our breath away but would it deliver?

When I arose that morning before sunrise for the trip to New Jersey, I was full of anticipation. I thought of the storied fortress for freedom that this great ship had been. I thought of all the men who served aboard her and the magnificence of her gray hull and decorated superstructure. I then thought of the sacrifice of the four chaplains and how fate had brought them together to serve their fellow man with the ultimate sacrifice. I imagined the fear in the hearts of those sailors and the calming influence of these men of God.

No amount of anticipation could have prepared me for the ceremony and celebration of the lives of those great chaplains that was to me a high water mark of New Jersey Scottish Rite Freemasonry. You had to be there. The videographer captured scenes but he could never capture the feeling among those on the fantail of "The Big J."

As the smoke from the cloud machine wafted through the air and the cast delivered a top rate degree, I stopped in a moment of realization.

This was, I thought, the high point of my membership in the Scottish Rite. My eyes welled up and my breath shortened. If only every American could see what I saw and feel what I felt then. It surged to my awareness on several levels: Masonic, theological, military and human.

I drove home replaying those moments in my mind. It took my breath away. I hoped it would. I anticipated it could. But it did. It stole my consciousness.

It occurred to me that it is incumbent upon each of us as Masons to aspire to deliver that degree of emotion and to live a life of integrity so as to promote the opportunity for more such moments that would take our breath away. How? By our degree work, we can inspire and attract new members. By our labors in the quarries, we can perfect our personal ashlar and enjoy the self-satisfaction of a job well done, nay, a life well spent.

It didn't end then. My country western jam band would play at a local firehouse and I was exhausted from the day. It was a happy exhaustion. I set up my music and shared my thoughts on the day's highpoints with the guys in the band.

When I told them the story of my day on the retired USS New Jersey, our drummer almost fell over. He told me that during his career in the Navy, he was assigned to her crew to teach electronic warfare. He remembers those moments on board the ship that, "took his breath away." He raved about how the ride she gave her crew reminded him of floating on a Cadillac when compared to life aboard his aircraft carrier. He said it was the high point of his career.

I wondered as I drove home why I deserved such a perfect day of Freemasonry and personal satisfaction. The answer, of course, is that I hadn't earned it. It was a gift from above. It seemed, upon reflection, that the more I tried to do for others, the more I received. It's like Freemasonry and our beloved Scottish Rite.

I made a firm resolve that I hope you will share with me. As we gather to prepare our degree work, or our social fun or our charity, may we strive to promote and create moments to inspire others and that may, with a certain blessing from above, take our breath away. **THE**



Spotlight on the RITE

Scottish Rite Freemasonry is not a collection of buildings, nor is it just a Supreme Council. Although the fraternity does some great work for society, that is not what defines us. Instead the primary element of our organization is its membership. And that membership is not a solid bloc. With more than 200,000 members it is, by nature, a very diverse group. To air some of those differing voices, new features are being introduced. On the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's website: ScottishRiteOnline.org, look for "Public Square," which will highlight the thoughts and opinions of the 32° Masons. One columnist that we hope will be a regular contributor is a mysterious writer simply known as "Brother Dogood." Those of you well versed in American history might recognize the name as being very similar to that of "Silence Dogood." That 18th century writer, by all appearances, was a widow who offered columns with regularity to the *New England Courant*, a newspaper edited by James Franklin. Although unknown even to James, the real person behind the pseudonym was none other than Bro. Benjamin Franklin. Who knows? Maybe this modern Dogood is a distant relative. In any case Bro. Dogood plans on commenting on the conditions, issues, and problems of Freemasonry today, and any other thoughts that cross his mind – or maybe, in an ironic twist of history, *her* mind. In Bro. Dogood's words the occasional columns "... will try to light a small candle to help reveal some of these impediments, so that once illuminated, we can step over them."

In this edition of *The Northern Light* we

present some thoughts from the Valleys. These writers are not so enigmatic.

The first comes from Bro. Richard Graeter. In his final reunion as Commander-in-Chief of his Consistory he chose to honor Jacques DeMolay, and he explains why.

It is my pleasure and honor to welcome you to the Valley of Cincinnati's 15th Annual

Reunion. This reunion is special in that it honors the historical figure that gives inspiration both to the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, the premier organization for Freemasons, and to DeMolay

International, the premier youth organization dedicated to teaching young men to be better persons and leaders.

Jacques DeMolay was the 23rd and last Grand Master of the Order of Knights Templar. The Order was founded in 1119 to protect pilgrims on their way to the Holy Lands. Over the next 200 years, the order grew dramatically in power, prestige, and wealth.

While the Knights Templar are most often associated with their martial prowess, like the Battle of Montgisard, where a mere 500 Knights Templar helped defeat Saladin's army of more than 26,000, they could not help but



Bro. Richard Graeter, Valley of Cincinnati.

be influenced by the very enemy they fought. The crusading era in Europe was a dark time of ignorance and fear. But through their contact with their enemy, the crusading knights brought back to Europe the seeds of the Renaissance that had been lost with the fall of the Roman Empire. The Muslim "enemy" had preserved Aristotle and the classical learning that now founds the basis of Western culture. So in a very real sense, we owe a debt of gratitude to both the Christian and the Muslim for our culture as we know it today.

Sadly, eight centuries later, the Holy Land is still embroiled with sectarian strife and ethnic conflict. The same ignorant intolerance, greed for the unearned and lust for power that brought Jacques DeMolay to a fiery end at the hands of an avaricious king in league with a faithless pope plague the world as much now as then.

Jacques DeMolay died a martyr's death for what he believed in, with the words "Spes Mea In Deo Est" (My Hope is in God) on his lips. In a sense, he is still keeping his vigil over we pilgrims on our journey to the Holy Lands. But this time, it is not a place to which we travel but rather a time: the day that humanity realizes that our hope – the hope of every Christian, Jew, and Muslim, and indeed of people of all faiths – is in the same God. It is our mission, as Scottish Rite Masons, to lead to that day where all mankind finally learns to live together in peace. *So mote it be.*

The second is a message from Bro. J. Brian McNaughton in his position as Thrice Potent Master. "In Hiram's Shoes" he talks about choices we all make.

Each of us at one time or another has stepped into Hiram's shoes and made a journey such as those that have gone before us. We learned that every day at high twelve our Grand Master would go to the Sanctum Sanctorum and offer up his adorations to deity and lay his designs upon the trestle board. We are all versed in the literal interpretation of this scene as we have played it out countless times. If we were to delve deeper into the penitence

of a humble soul seeking the wisdom and tools to help shape his moral, physical, and spiritual edifice we find one of the preeminent lessons of our fraternity. We learn the lesson of choice. We have the choice to knock on Freemasonry's door; to advance to the altar of Masonry, to step into Hiram's shoes and pray. If we were to follow the example of that individual, perhaps we would pray for the wisdom and strength to apply the symbolic uses of architectural tools to our spiritual lives in the hopes of shaping our hearts, minds and bodies into what might



Bro. J. Brian McNaughton,
Valley of Fort Wayne.

be pleasing to the Grand Architect of the Universe on the day of our judgment.

It is that particular choice that differentiates us from so many others. We often hear the phrase "We take good

men and make them better." Perhaps it is not the fraternity that makes them better, but rather it provides the setting for an individual to make the choice to better himself. Again we find the usage and application of choice. At the altar of Masonry, we make a declaration of choice to strive to demonstrate honor and integrity in all that we do: to love and treat our Brothers with respect, and to help our fellow Brothers get back onto the correct path if they stray too far.

For some of us, the individual experience of making some of those choices is sufficient to last a lifetime and is one that we fondly keep in our hearts throughout all of our days. For others it is by the shared participation in providing the setting to be a witness to others making these choices where we find the true source of our Masonic wages.

It all begins with a choice.


We look forward to featuring more voices from the Valleys, whether from the mysterious Bro. Dogood or from you, online at ScottishRiteOnline.org in the Public Sqaure. 



Photo: Bro. Steven Young, 32°



Bremond Lodge No. 241 Hosts Sigma Phi Epsilon

On Feb. 20, Bremond Lodge No. 241, Newport News, VA, hosted a cookout for the Brethren of Bremond and the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Christopher Newport University.

Over the past four years, Bremond Lodge has enjoyed a special relationship with Sigma Phi Epsilon, a men's fraternity at Christopher Newport University. Each year the lodge doors are opened to allow Sig Ep to use the facilities for its initiation ceremony.

Since this relationship began in 2006, over 25 percent of all Master Masons raised in Bremond Lodge have been members of Sig Ep at CNU, and five of these Brethren have gone on to serve as lodge officers.

For more information about working with college fraternities, contact Patrick@bremond241.org.

**Submitted by Patrick C. Murphrey, 32°,
 Master, Bremond Lodge No. 241**

Special 33° Conferral

ON TUESDAY, MAY 27, Representative Bob Etheridge, U.S. Congressman for the 2nd District of North Carolina was coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary Member in a special ceremony held in the Executive Chamber of the House of the Temple. Ill. Etheridge joined the Valley of Wilmington, NC, in 1984 and received the rank and decoration of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 2005. He is a part-time farmer, was elected to Congress in 1997, and is a member of Lillington, NC, Lodge No. 302. Joining his fellow North Carolinian was Ill. David B. Sentelle, 33°, chief judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Ill. Walter S. Downs, 33°, presided at the conferral.



Photo: Elizabeth A. W. McCarthy

Front row (l. to r.): Ill. William G. Sizemore, Arturo de Hoyos, David B. Sentelle, Ronald A. Seale, Grand Commander, Bob Etheridge, Walter S. Downs, Dean R. Alban. Second Row (l. to r.): Ill. Leonard Proden, SGIG in DC, S. Brent Morris, Marlin Mills, Deputy in Maryland, Sean Graystone, Matt Szramoski.

Champagne & Chocolate Help Wichita RiteCare Clinic

It's the first Friday in October, the evening air is crisp and people are entering the Wichita Scottish Rite with smiles on their faces. The rich scent of chocolate wafts out of the historic building each time the door is opened. Inside, the chocolate fountains are flowing and champagne is tickling the noses of party-goers.

This is not just any party. This is a party with a purpose.

Each year since 2002, the Scottish Rite in Wichita has held a fantasy Evening of Champagne & Chocolate to raise money for RiteCare Clinics in Kansas. The first year a little more than \$2,400 was raised. The past three years, the

Wichita Scottish Rite has raised an average of \$30,000 for the RiteCare Clinic at Wichita State University.

The Scottish Rite makes it possible for therapy costs to be covered by helping to fund the clinic through this annual fundraiser.

**Submitted by Lisa Sparks,
 Executive Assistant, Wichita S. R.**

*If everybody had an ocean, Across the U.S.A.
Then everybody'd be surfin', Like Californ-i-a*

Times have changed since 1963 when the Beach Boys recorded *Surfin' USA*. Everybody does have an ocean today – the Web.

Effective use of the Web begins with the right browser – and folks, Internet Explorer is not the best choice.

My recommendation continues to be Mozilla's Firefox (mozilla.com). Firefox is free and it offers excellent security. Take the time to carefully review the information on the Mozilla website.

Next, effective surfing depends on effective search engines. While scores of search engines are available, I believe the best everyday choice is Bing vs. Google (bing-vs-google.com). This allows you to enter the search subject. The site then provides the answers in a split screen format – Bing on the left and Google on the right.

For example, I entered “Scottish Rite.” Bing's first choice was a listing of Scottish Rite locations near Newark, NJ, while the second choice was the Southern Jurisdiction's Supreme Council site. Google's first choice was the Southern Jurisdiction's site and the second was the Wikipedia article on our order.

No matter which search engine you select, learn to refine your search. For instance, searching for “Scottish Rite pictures” on Google will yield results somewhat different from searching for “Scottish Rite images.”

Be as specific as possible in your searches. Don't enter “men's shirts” if you really want “men's all-cotton Oxford cloth shirts.”

As I'm certain you do, make certain you bookmark favorite websites. My own first choice for bookmarked sites is the National Weather Service (nws.noaa.gov). Interested in radar weather? Under “observations” on the left, select “radar” and then click on your region on the map. If you want weather forecasts and conditions specific to your county or city, go to “weather.noaa.gov” and select your state.

Are you 55 or older and in search of a job? There are no magic websites, but Experience Works (experienceworks.org) might just be your ticket. Other good websites include Senior Service America (seniorserviceamerica.org), Seniors4Hire (seniors4hire.org) and SeniorJobBank (seniorjobbank.org).

If you are looking for ways to get the most out of your dollars, give Clark Howard (clarkhoward.com) a try. His advice is sound and covers the waterfront. I also like Consumer Reports (consumerreports.org) and Energy Star (energystar.gov). And don't forget to use coupons, which are available at Retail Me Not (retailmenot.com).

For those of you who are looking for a way out of debt or simply want to improve your financial situation, I suggest visiting Dave Ramsey's website (daveramsey.com).

As we all know, there is a lot of nonsense out on the Web. So, how do you separate fact from fiction? A good resource is Snopes (snopes.com).

The best place for online maps and directions has been the subject of intense debate for years. Personally, I find that MapQuest (mapquest.com) is the most accurate of the Web resources and usually better than those GPS gizmos, such as TomTom, Magellan and Garmin. However, not one of the online or GPS devices can find our house, but that is not necessarily a bad thing.

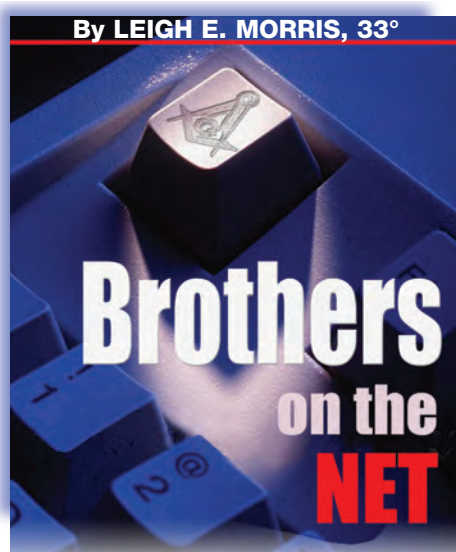
Now for a few safety reminders.

- Only make purchases from trusted sites that use encryption technology to ensure the secure transmission of any personal information. You can determine when you're sending data securely by looking at the Web address (URL) in your browser window because “http” will change to “https” when you are sending data protected by encryption. The “s” in “https” stands for “secure.”

- Read the company's security policy, which you'll find on its website.
- Never, never, never use a debit card to make an online purchase.
- Always print out and save a copy of your order.
- Carefully review credit card statements for discrepancies or entries for purchases you did not make.
- You may want to consider using one credit card exclusively for online purchases.

Finally, be on alert for phishing. You can get sound security advice from the Anti-Phishing Working Group (antiphishing.org). In the meantime, never give your social security number or other personal information in request to an email request.

As always, I welcome your questions and comments. Just fire an e-mail to me at <studebaker55@casscomm.com> or, if you prefer, you can send a letter to me at PO Box 42, Virginia IL 62691.



It's Time to Go Surfing

Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder

Or so we have been told. Also we have heard that there may in fact be too much of a good thing.

In this case the good thing of which I speak is charitable solicitations by this fraternity.

We are a Brotherhood of good intentions. Among the foremost of our values is the notion of charity. It is a virtue that has been spoken by each of us under solemn obligation. Most likely each of us in our own way practice our philanthropy – literally, love for humanity – on a frequent, if not daily basis.

Over the years our Scottish Rite charities have flourished because of your giving nature. At the same time, the number of times and ways that the fraternity seeks your continued financial support has increased. Not only have our requests become more numerous, but at the same time you are receiving increasing amounts of solicitations from your other Masonic bodies. It has gotten to the point that a Brother might wonder if all this fraternity cares about is his wallet.

To this, our Sovereign Grand Commander says, “Stop!” His foremost commitment is to the reason we are members of the Scottish Rite fraternity – to be part of a community that cares about one another. We hope you wish to support the charitable efforts of which this fraternity is justifiably proud. However, we don’t want you to dread opening our letters to you expecting another solicitation. We prefer to send you birthday cards, anniversary certificates and news from your Valley.

To this end, we are heretofore suspending a number of our fundraising appeals. Starting now the blue envelope appeal will be the only jurisdiction-wide charitable direct mail effort. It will support the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation which will in turn provide funds to all our Scottish Rite Charities.

Fundraising professionals might gasp that we are unilaterally making such a large change. It is a risk to the income our charities have come to rely on. However we believe two things:

- We are fraternity first and foremost. Our members deserve to be respected as brethren
- As a body of caring and concerned Masons, we will not waver in our support of the charitable values that help define us. We don’t need a constant stream of letters to remind us of our philanthropic duty to the Children’s Learning Centers, the Scottish Rite Masonic

Museum and Library, the Leon Abbott Scholarships or the Almoners Fund.

It is our hope that you appreciate our new direction and let this serve as yet another reminder that we are a fraternity that cares about you as much as you do about your fellow Brothers.

A Marriage of Ideals

Our learning centers receive donations for many reasons and in many ways. We receive a large number of general donations. We also receive bequests and memorial donations to support our work to help children with dyslexia.

Recently, Brother Ross and Elinore Pollock decided to help our Madison, WI, center in a way we haven’t seen before. They got married.

Well, they probably didn’t get married to help the learning center, but in the end the results were the same. The Pollocks requested that their friends refrain from giving them wedding gifts. Instead, they asked for gifts to be made to the Madison learning center.

Balzac wrote, “One should believe in marriage as in the immortality of the soul.” The Pollacks have taken that lofty belief to a higher level. It is truly heartwarming to know that our members and their ladies demonstrate their values in such selfless ways.

Support a Child at a Learning Center Near You

The Children’s Learning 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 learning center or a learning 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:

**32° Masonic Learning
Centers for Children, Inc.**

33 Marrett Road
Lexington, MA 02421





By ROBERT A. DOMINGUE



Born Sept. 18, 1779, in Marblehead, MA, **Joseph Story** was accepted at Harvard University with the class of 1798, was an excellent and well-behaved student, a member of Phi Beta Kappa and graduated second in his class. He read law under Samuel Sewall in Marblehead – later a state chief justice – and Samuel Putnam in Salem, MA. Admitted to the bar at Salem in 1801 he was hired as counsel to a powerful Republican shipping firm. He was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1805 and later was elected Salem's representative in Congress. After a few years in private practice he was again elected to the House and served as speaker in 1811. In November of that year he became the youngest associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States being nominated by President James Madison. He died Sept. 10, 1845, in Cambridge, MA.

The USPS released a mini-sheet on Sept. 22,

2009, to honor Supreme Court Justices. Joseph Story was one of those honored. He was a member of Philanthropic Lodge in Marblehead, MA.



On June 10, 2008, Great Britain issued a set of six stamps to commemorate British films. **Bob Monkhouse** is depicted on one. Bob's is the first face in from the left on this stamp. Monkhouse was a member of Chelsea Lodge No. 3098, London and was raised on Nov. 20, 1964.

Born June 1, 1928, in Beckenham, Kent, Robert Alan Monkhouse was a freelance cartoonist from the age of 12, drawing comic strips and writing short stories. He sold his first jokes in 1944. He trained as a cartoon film animator with Gaumont-British at the age of 17. His first radio show, *Works Wonders*, took place in 1948. He established his name via the radio in the post-war years, followed by television in 1953, becoming BBC's first contract comedian. He toured the



British Isles in variety, pantomime, summer seasons and musical comedy as well as appearing in hundreds of television programs. He appeared in his first film, *The Secret People*, in 1952. He won several awards during his career. He died Dec. 29, 2003, in Eggington, Bedfordshire.



Amos Andersson is pictured on one of the six stamps issued by Finland on Sept. 10, 2003 to honor noted philanthropists. Bro. Andersson was initiated into St. Johannes Lodge, St. Augustin, on Oct. 23, 1931. He received his second degree on Oct. 20, 1933, but advanced no further. He remained a member of the lodge up to his death.



Born Sept. 9, 1878, in Kemio, Finland, Amos Andersson was a many-sided businessman: a manufacturer, a newspaper publisher and editor. In 1920 he founded a company to operate the highest circulation Swedish language newspaper in Finland. He was not only the CEO but served as editor-in-chief between 1922-36. He also founded Konstsamfundet ("The Art Foundation") which took over ownership in 1945 and has owned the newspaper since then. He was a member of Parliament from 1922-26. An author of several books and articles and one play, he served as "doctor honoris causa" of a university in Turku. He was a benefactor to the Swedish

Theatre in Helsinki, the Abo Akademi and the Rome institute "Villa Lante." The Art Museum of Amos Anderson is located in his former home in Helsinki. (In later years he only used one "s" in his last name.) He died April 2, 1961, in Dragsfjord, Finland

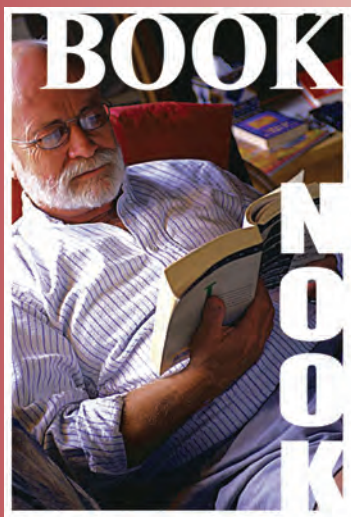


The USPS recognized four classic films with postage stamps on March 23, 1990. One of those films was *The Wizard of Oz*, in which **Bert Lahr** starred as the Cowardly Lion. Bro. Lahr, was a member of Pacific Lodge No. 233, New York, NY, joining on Dec. 7, 1918.

Born Aug. 13, 1895, in New York, NY, Bert Lahr dropped out of school at the age of 15 to join a juvenile vaudeville act and worked his way up to top billing on the Columbia Burlesque Circuit. In 1927 he debuted on Broadway. His first major success in a stage musical was achieved in 1928 as the prize fighter hero of *Hold Everything!* His feature film debut occurred in 1931 with *Flying High*.

According to his son, Bert had terminal cancer but did not know it when he signed to film *The Night They Raided Minsky's* – his last film. He agreed to shoot an extensive night scene outdoors in New York City on a cold December night, leading to the pneumonia that was the immediate cause of his death on Dec. 4, 1967, in New York city.



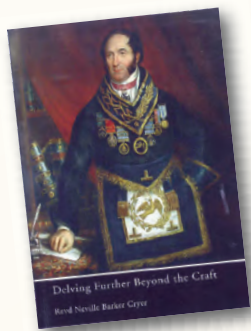


Reviewed by Thomas W. Jackson, 33°

Delving Further Beyond the Craft

by Rev. Neville Barker Cryer. Published by Lewis Masonic an imprint of Ian Allen Publishing Ltd., Herswham, Surrey KT12 4RG, England.

The author is a prominent English Masonic scholar who has published a number of books on the subject of Freemasonry. He is a meticulous researcher who has provided a valuable service to the craft. I have reviewed several of his books in the past.



Delving Further Beyond the Craft is a small paperback that Cryer uses to expand upon Keith Jackson's book *Beyond the Craft*. The author makes it clear that this work is not to serve as a replacement for Jackson's work nor in any way a criticism of that work but rather as an extension of his writings relative to the

English Freemasonry outside of the craft lodge.

It deals more in details of the origins of degrees and bodies up to the point where they have taken on the characteristic for which they are known today.

Most of these degrees are those that many Freemasons would never have the opportunity to experience.

Even though Cryer's research relates specifically to English Freemasonry, it is applicable to many additional degrees found in American Masonry such as Ark Mariner, Secret Monitor, Knight Templar Priests, Red Cross of Constantine and various allied degrees.

It also, however, delves into the origins of the cryptic

degrees, Mark Masonry, Knights Templar and the Ancient Accepted Rite.

It is a valuable reference for those with an interest in Masonic degrees that exist beyond the blue lodge. It is also interesting to follow the development of these degrees from their origins to the present.

For many, it involved not only an evolution of the ritual but also a series of title changes and the body that conferred it. For those with an interest in the evolutionary development of Masonic ritual, it is worth the effort to read it.

A Handbook for the Freemason's Wife

by Philippa Faulkes and Cheryl Skidmore. Published in 2009 by Lewis Masonic an imprint of Ian Allen Publishing Ltd., Herswham, Surrey KT12 4RG, England.

A Handbook for the Freemason's Wife is a very small hardcover book written by the wives of two British Freemasons as a guide to the ladies, be it a girlfriend, wife, partner or close relation of a Freemason or someone interested in Freemasonry.



It is specific for British Freemasons' ladies and much would not be applicable to American Freemasonry. For example; under their questions

how to become a Freemason the authors write "wait until you're asked by another Mason." I realize this is superfluous in today's environment, but, nonetheless, we still imply that one must ask. They also indicate that two black balls are required for rejection and that is not true in most American Grand Lodges.

In addition they state that in American lodges the Junior Deacon's badge is a crescent moon in the center of a square and compasses and in the Senior Deacon's is a blazing sun upon a square and compasses. This is not so in many Grand Lodges.

However, much of it also deals with Masonic generalities and provides information that would be beneficial for American ladies as those mentioned above. It includes simple definitions of Masonic terminology including what Freemasonry is; who can become a Freemason; the procedure to become one; what a member does, and the expected requirements from a member.

I found it interesting that any Freemason experiencing genuine hardship may apply for a charitable grant "even if he no longer belongs to a lodge."

We in America do not generally regard a man as a Freemason unless he holds membership in a lodge.

The authors propose a theory of the origin of Freemasonry that I have not been aware of. They state that in the late 1500s and early 1600s, a group interested in the promotion of religious and political tolerance formed Freemasonry in an attempt to make better men and build a better world. I'm not sure where this theory came from, but it would be interesting to find out and who proposed it.

All said it is an interesting book; it does present information that makes it worth reading for British and American ladies, and Brothers.

The Beauty and Glory of the Day: A Masonic Devotional

by Walter William Melnyk. Published in 2009
by createspace.com

Bro. Melnyk, an ordained Episcopal priest, has written an excellent book in which he interprets the working tools of Freemasonry with a spiritual implication so as to "encourage Freemasons through daily meditation upon the inner meanings of the symbolic working tools, to awaken within themselves the esoteric art of Freemasonry, the spirituality of making good men better." It is written as a nonsectarian interpretation so it may be used by all Freemasons.

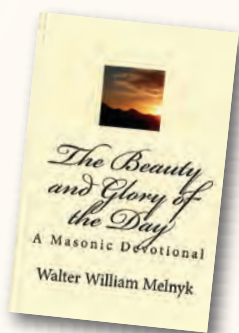
This book was written as the final step in qualification for the status of "Master Masonic Scholar" in the Pennsylvania Academy of Masonic Knowledge.

The author has designed a book to serve as a daily devotional guide to a weekly cycle utilizing the working tools that have been assigned for each day of the week.

He uses the compasses for Sunday, the working tools of the Entered Apprentice for Monday and Tuesday, the tools of the Fellowcraft for Wednesday and Thursday and the square on Friday to meditate upon fairness and finally the tool of the Master Mason, the trowel, for Saturday.

He lays out each day beginning with the morning, traveling through noon, and finally to the evening, applying the significance of each tool as a devotional guide to that period of the day.

I have never seen expressed the spiritual significance of the working tools of the craft as well as the author expresses them in this small book of only 54 pages, nor have I seen a book that captures as well the essence of the meaning. It is well worth the effort to read.



So You Want To Be A Freemason?

by Julian Rees. Published in 2009 by Lewis Masonic an imprint of Ian Allen Publishing Ltd., Hersham, Surrey KT12 4RG, England.

The author emphasizes in the preface that the purpose of this book is to fill an empty niche with the first book written specifically for the non-Mason to give him some guidance concerning the craft.

He emphasizes throughout the book that the extent to what he reveals is limited with the understanding that too much knowledge would devalue it, dull the impact on the new candidate and blunt its effect.

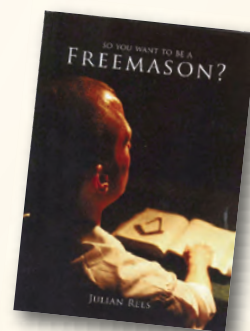
He also observes that the need for secrecy, fidelity and obedience is a lesson challenging the commitment of Freemasons to the oaths of their obligation. A good analogy he uses is that an artist or a composer does not reveal what he is doing until it is complete, as to do so would dissipate its energy and all the impact.

Rees makes an interesting observation concerning the evolution of operative masonry into speculative Masonry. He states that the non-operative gentlemen found in the practice of stonemasons an "allegory for the building of personal character and human morality." I had always assumed that the applied allegory was found after the affiliation to place. He also explains the reason why the discussion of religion and politics was prohibited in early Freemasonry.

It is an easily readable book to explain Freemasonry to the non-Mason, its origins, history, culture and purpose. It is also worth reading even by the educated Mason for it makes observations that answer questions that many of us may have or it may refresh our memories of what we have forgotten.

It uses some excellent analogies to make clear the message that he is attempting to convey. He observes a point that I have learned in my travels and have been emphasizing for over the last 20 years. Freemasonry is shaped by the society in which it operates as well as shaping the society in which it exists.

I would point out to the author, however, that his statement that there is "scarcely a country in the world where Freemasonry is not established" is incorrect. There are many countries in the world in which Freemasonry does not exist. I would also point out that Benjamin Franklin was not a president of the United States.



Health Wise

ideas
for
health
and
fitness



Balance problems may benefit from tai chi

In some patients suffering from dizziness and balance disorders, tai chi exercise works when medications don't, according to one study. It is estimated that about half of Americans experience balance difficulties with everyday tasks and have fear of falling.

Tai chi is characterized by coordination and relaxation of the joints rather than muscular tension. It has been used for centuries to promote health and well-being.

A study by the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary and colleagues showed that after an eight-week course of tai chi, 45 minutes per week, patients who suffered from imbalance, dizziness and vertigo showed marked improvement as measured on the Activities-Specific Balance Confidence Scale.

Antidepressants not best for all patients

A team led by Dr. Robert DeRubeis pooled data from six trials testing antidepressants which showed they were not more effective than a placebo pill.

- Some conditions respond to placebo treatments. In these, the body's own biochemicals, such as opiates and dopamine, act as natural medications. Because placebos and personal expectations trigger production of these compounds, dummy pills can be almost as effective as real ones. In addition to depression, these conditions have been successfully treated with placebos: Hypertension, pain, Parkinson's disease, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis and ulcers.



"Mom, what comes first for celebrities? Botox or detox?"

- The study team found that antidepressants were more useful only for patients with severe depression.

DeRubeis, a psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania, recommends that doctors think about non-drug options, such as exercise or psychotherapy for the mildly or moderately depressed.

A 2008 study reached similar conclusions from clinical trials submitted for the licensing of Prozac, Effexor and Paxil.

Low-calorie sweeteners for cooking

Some sweeteners work fine for popping into your coffee or sweetening cold cereal, but they lose their sweetening power when exposed to the heat of cooking.

Sweeteners made with sucralose and stevia hold their sweetening power when used in cooking. They include Splenda, Nevella, Natratate Gold, Purevia, Stevia in the Raw, Sweetleaf and Truvia according to *Environmental Nutrition*.

Screening kids for obesity

Medical professionals reporting in *Pediatrics* say doctors should screen children age six and up for obesity and refer them to weight-management programs.

The advice comes from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force which makes medical recommendations based on the latest research. They say that overweight kids who participate in moderate to high intensity weight-management plans (frequently with their parents) for 25 or more hours over six months usually had improvements in their weight.

Today, about 32 percent of children and adolescents are obese or overweight according to government statistics.

Healthy lifestyle cuts risk of serious diseases

A study of people ages 35 to 65 shows that having just four healthy habits reduces your risk of diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer by almost 80 percent.

The research by the Centers for Disease Control and colleagues shows the association with four lifestyle factors: Not smoking; eating a diet high in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains and low in meat consumption; getting a half-hour daily of moderate exercise; and avoiding obesity. Diabetes risk was most sharply reduced by a healthy lifestyle, while cancer was affected the least. Avoiding obesity was most effective in reducing risks, followed by not smoking. The potential for avoiding society's biggest killers through healthy living is "enormous," say the researchers.

MEMBER *Services*



“In the Masonic fraternity, our first obligation is to our Brethren. For quite some time, the Membership Services Committee of the Supreme Council has been evaluating products that would be beneficial to our members and that would provide real value. Our members deserve our best efforts.”

— John Wm. McNaughton,
Sovereign Grand Commander, NMJ, USA

The Benefits of Membership

Your Scottish Rite membership certainly comes with the benefits of fraternity and Brotherhood. A host of advantages – both monetary and of convenience – are also available. Discounts for products and services are there for the asking. New Scottish Rite Masons are enrolled as members of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library for one year. Every Scottish Rite Mason in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction also receives a copy of *The Northern Light*.

Listed here are many of the offerings to our membership.

HEALTH

- Life Line screening
- Cancer screening
- Humana Medicare supplement
- Long-term health care
- LifeConnect
- Dental care
- Vision care
- Mail order prescription
- Beltone hearing aids
- Diabetes supplies

FINANCIAL

- FreeCause (One Cause) dues crediting
- MetLife annuity

TRAVEL

- Vacation travel benefits
- TravelNow

LIFESTYLE

- MetLife auto & home insurance
- MetLife retirement income insurance
- LifeLock
- LifeLock Plus
- Vehicle Advantage
- Framing Success
- Standard Chair
- Wireless phone center

SMALL BUSINESS

- Constant Contact
- Printing services

Check out our Members Center on the Scottish Rite website: ScottishRiteOnline.org for the most up-to-date offerings for our members.

Look for the **NEW** Member Services booklet in your mailbox this fall.

1970-2010

TNL

Excerpts from

The Northern Light

Selected views from the past may not necessarily represent today's viewpoint.

To mark the 40th anniversary of The Northern Light we look back to thoughts and opinions from different eras of the magazine. This issue we examine its growth and we peruse other offerings from its third decade.

John Fleck, at 99, Competes for Gold Nov. 1991

When he showed up at the U.S. National Senior Sports Classic in Syracuse, N.Y., this summer, Ill. and Rev. John G. Fleck, 33°, was prepared to face the competition. But Dr. Fleck found himself without any opponents.

As the oldest participant in the Senior Classic, he was also the only entrant in the 94-99 age bracket. For the 1,500 meter race walk, he finished four laps with a time of 19:39:4 to pick up a gold medal.

According to one source, he is the oldest person ever to qualify for the national games.

He also participated in the 50-meter and 100-meter swim competitions and picked up two more gold medals.



* **Masonry in Hungary.** The winds of change are blowing throughout eastern Europe, and Masonry may once again become visible in that part of the world. In Hungary, for instance, the Grand Lodge was reestablished on December 27 with the assistance of the Grand Lodge of Austria. Although details are still incomplete, some sources have indicated that there are only 63 known Hungarian Masons. Before the suppression in 1950 there were believed to be 1,400 Masons.

It will probably take some time before a Hungarian Scottish Rite body is instituted, but some Hungarian Masons have received Scottish Rite degrees in Vienna.

Footnotes, Feb. 1990*

* **FAX it.** The Supreme Council headquarters recently installed a FAX machine to serve all departments of the headquarters and museum.

Footnotes, Feb. 1990*

"I wouldn't call it competition," says Dr. Fleck. "No one else from my age group was participating. All I had to do was show up."

He not only showed up, but he put on a display that dazzled the spectators.

"Father' John is an amazing person," said Dr. Bruce W. Widger, 33°. Ill. Brother Widger, a Supreme Council Active Member for New York, served as host for his fellow Supreme Council Member during his Syracuse visit.

Dr. Fleck, a retired Lutheran minister, was pastor of churches in Baltimore, Md., and Buffalo, N.Y. Following his retirement, he accepted a position as Grand Prior of the Supreme Council. At that time, one of the duties of the office was to edit a four-page monthly newsletter, the front page of which usually contained an inspirational message. He retired from his full-time duties in 1969, as the *Newsletter* was being replaced by *The Northern Light*, but remained as Grand Prior until 1975.

He now resides at the Twining Village Retirement Center in Holland, Pa., but continues to maintain an active lifestyle. He celebrated his 100th birthday on Oct. 3.

* **Senior Olympics.** Reference in the last issue of Dr. John G. Fleck's participation in the Senior Olympics during the summer brought a note from Col. Albert R. Sabarofi, 32°, of Philadelphia. Brother Sabaroff, a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Allentown, is 81 years old. He reports that he has participated in this event for a number of years and has won most of his awards in race walking.

Footnotes, Feb. 1992*

RECORDING HISTORY

Ohio photographer landed on Iwo Jima with camera in hand

When Bro. Lou Burmeister stepped onto the sands of Iwo Jima on Feb. 19, 1945, he was armed with a camera instead of a rifle. He was a member of the 5th Amphibious Corps. Some 70,000 marines, under the command of Holland Smith, were there to take possession of an island 4-2/3 miles long by 2-1/2 miles wide.

Lou's mission was to record the battle for the U.S. government. He made good use of his 4x5 speed Graphic. At the time a packet of film had only 10 photo frames and he was forever changing film in the sand.

Lou didn't see his photographs. He didn't know they still existed until years later. Joe Rosenthal of the Associated Press became well known

for his photo of the flag raising atop Mt. Suribachi. Lou says he had the same picture, but Rosenthal's was published.

Today Lou and his wife,

Anneliese, own and operate the Medina Camera and Gem Shop in Medina, OH. There's a wealth of history there, and Lou is always willing to talk about his experience when customers ask him about it.

The photos may bring back memories to those who served in the Pacific Theater.

Some of the readers may have gone ashore with Lou on that day in 1945.

Lou is a member of Medina Lodge No. 58, and the Scottish Rite Valley of Cleveland.

— Al Kessler, 32°,
Nov. 1992



* **On the scene.** Grand Commander Francis G. Paul, 33°, made a rare appearance recently at the site of the 1801 founding of the first Scottish Rite Supreme Council in Charleston, SC. He had been invited to witness a 33° conferral in that city and was given a tour of some of the spots of significance to Scottish Rite. According to sources in Charleston, he is the first Sovereign Grand Commander from the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction to visit the site.

Footnotes*, Feb. 1992

The Lodge Goat

Although many fraternities over the years have been notorious for hazing, such a practice has not been a part of the Blue Lodge initiation. Scottish Rite restricts its ceremonies to the serious portrayal of moral lessons through stage productions to which the candidate is a spectator. The noted 19th-century Masonic historian Albert G. Mackey wrote, "The vulgar idea that riding the goat constitutes a part of the ceremonies of initiation in a Masonic lodge has its real origin in the superstition of antiquity.... The riding of the goat, which was believed to be practiced by the witches (of the Middle Ages), was

transferred to the Freemasons; and the saying remains to this day, although the belief has long since died out." Brother Mackey would be surprised to know that more than 100 years later the misconception of the proverbial goat still exists among many non-Masons.

— Richard H. Curtis, 33°, editor
Feb. 1998



QUOTABLES

Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.

— Sally Koch

We all live under the same sky, but we don't all have the same horizon.

— Konrad Adenauer

One of the great lessons in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes.

— Winston Churchill

People who fight fire with fire usually end up in the ashes.

— Abigail Van Buren

The very essence of leadership is that you have to have a vision. You can't blow an uncertain trumpet.

— Theodore M. Hesburgh

Your imagination is your preview of life's coming attractions.

— Albert Einstein

Progress involves taking risks. You can't steal second base and keep your foot on first.

— Frederick Wilcox

More people would learn from their mistakes if they weren't so busy denying them.

— Harold J. Smith

When faced with a challenge, look for a way, not a way out.

— David L. Weatherford

Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.

— Michael Jordan

Experience is not what happens to you. Experience is what you do with what happens to you.

— Aldous Huxley



TODAY'S Family

Checking your Social Security retirement benefits

Thinking about retirement? The benefit at 62 is 70 percent of what you would get at age 67; at age 65, it's 87 percent. If you wait until 70, your benefit will be 124 percent of the age 67 benefit.

To discover what the dollar value of those amounts would be, you can visit Social Security's Retirement Estimator at www.ssa.gov/estimator.

Fed mandates real-time traffic information

New government rules call for states to provide real-time information about traffic congestion on interstate highways. States have two years to make the information available by phone or online.

Within four years, states must provide traffic information for major non-interstate roads in cities, according to the Government Accountability Office.

The Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials reports that many states have electronic

traffic-monitoring systems already. Others are broadening existing systems or developing new ones.

Right now, Nashville is involved in a multi-million-dollar expansion of its traffic monitoring system. It will be completed by 2010. The Tennessee project will double the number of overhead message boards that warn motorists of traffic problems. The traffic information is available at www.tdot.state.tn.us.

The Interstate 95 Corridor Coalition has a website (i95coalition.org) showing real-time traffic conditions on I-95 from North Carolina to New Jersey.

A similar system is in the Upper Midwest for I-90 and I-94. Information is given at www.i90i94travelinfo.com or by dialing 511.

The AAA Auto Club says traffic warning systems can prevent driver frustration and road rage.

One truck driver quoted in *USA Today* says he doesn't use Internet sites for traffic warnings, but the overhead signs are very helpful. They provide instant information on current conditions.

Poison prevention

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has this important information for you.

Medicines: Turn on a light when you give or take medicines. Read medication directions. Keep medicines in their original bottles. Store in a safe place where they can't be reached by children or teenagers.

Household cleaners and chemicals: Keep chemicals, cleaners and beauty

products in their original containers. Always read the label before using. Never mix cleaning products together. Doing so could produce toxic gases. Wear clothing that covers the skin when you spray pesticides or other chemicals. Open the windows and use a fan when using chemicals in the house.

Protecting young children: Keep drugs and chemicals in childproof cabinets that children can't reach. Don't take medicine in front of children, since they often try to copy adults. When giving children a medication, never call it "candy." Caution guests not to leave drugs where children can find them. Don't leave your own next dose on the counter.

Here's how to sell your stuff on the web

This is a brief rundown of what to sell where and how much it will cost you, according to Michael Miller, author of *Selling Online 2.0*.

- On eBay: Sellers usually pay 8.75 percent of the sales price up to \$25, with a declining percentage on larger sales, plus upfront fees of 10 cents to \$4 or more. This is whether or not the item sells.

Some of the best items to sell on eBay: antiques, high-end bicycles, rare collectibles, jewelry that is unique, modern or antique golf clubs, high-end skis, and old or collectible items including art.

- On Amazon.com: Sellers set fixed prices and usually pay a commission of 15 percent (commissions are lower on electronics and cameras), plus a 99-cent transaction fee. On Amazon, you won't have to pay the listing fee if the item doesn't sell.

The best items to sell on Amazon include DVDs, CDs, recent electronics, video games and books. Book buyers shop at Amazon.

- On Craigslist: Listing items on Craigslist is free. The listings are divided into regional websites. Buyers generally come to the seller's home and pay cash.

The best items to sell on Craigslist are furniture, exercise equipment, cars, boats, RVs, musical instruments, regular or low-end skis, common golf clubs and electronics. Sell items like toys, hand tools and clothing in lots.



More than Just Books...

Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives at the National Heritage Museum

By JEFF CROTEAU and CATHERINE SWANSON

NEW ACQUISITIONS

The Van Gorden-Williams Library and Archives relies on both gifts and purchases to insure that our collection stays current in the field of Freemasonry, fraternalism, and American history. Whether it's a newly published book on Freemasonry or a diary written by a member of the Eastern Star during the 1940s, we are always adding new material to our collection.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

While the library continues to add to its world-class collection of rare books on the subject of Freemasonry, the majority of acquisitions throughout the year are books and journals that insure that library users have access to relevant, well-researched, current material. These range from books aimed at popular audiences to books rolling off academic presses.

In addition to acquiring material focused on Freemasonry, fraternalism, and American history, we also collect related material that provides a broader historical context to the study of Freemasonry and fraternalism. This includes books about gender (masculinity/manhood/fatherhood), esotericism, costume (for the study of regalia, etc.) and books about "orientalism" and "Egyptomania" (these last two topics are both related to the West's fascination with Egypt and the Middle East in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, something which influenced both the Shriners and the decoration of Egyptian-themed lodge rooms). Here are just a few highlights of books recently acquired by the library:

Cain, Alexander R. *We Stood Our Ground: Lexington in the First Year of the American Revolution*. Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2004.

Curl, James Stevens. *The Egyptian Revival: Ancient Egypt as the Inspiration for Design Motifs in the West*. New York: Routledge, 2005.

Godbeer, Richard. *The Overflowing of Friendship: Love Between Men and the Creation of the American Republic*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

Goodrick-Clarke, Nicholas. *The Western Esoteric Traditions: A Historical Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Halleran, Michael A. *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Freemasonry in the American Civil War*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2010.

Seely, David R, and William J. Hamblin. *Solomon's Temple: Myth and History*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2007.

Nance, Susan. *How the Arabian Nights Inspired the American Dream, 1790-1935*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009.

NEW IN THE ARCHIVES

Much of the archival material that we acquire is what historians call primary sources – original records, manuscripts, or other unique material that researchers may use to understand the past. This year we have already acquired a number of interesting items, including two diaries and a book of marks that we acquired by purchase.

The first diary was kept in 1925 and 1926 by Mrs. Florence M. Flieler, Grand Chief of the Pythian Sisters. Flieler, based in Oakland, describes her first five months in office after her 1925 installation as Grand Chief of the Pythian Sisters in California. Flieler describes visits with other Pythian Sisters in towns in California, mentioning the gifts she received, personal accounts of degrees given, initiating candidates, socializing, attending chicken dinners, and her impressions of hosting Pythian Sisters and Brothers. She describes degree work that was performed successfully, and degree work that wasn't so successful. This diary gives a wonderfully personal view inside the Pythian Sisters. Founded in 1888, the Pythian Sisters are the female auxiliary of the Knights of Pythias.

The second diary is a five-year account of the life and activities of Rosa Belle Buck Morton in post-World War II America, covering the years 1946-50. Morton gives details about her participation in both the Order of Eastern Star and The Grange (Order of Patrons of Husbandry). In addition to social, occupational, and fraternal activities, she also writes about domestic life at her home in South Ashfield, MA: berrying, canning, pickling, gardening, and making the house comfortable for her husband, George W. Morton (b. 1874), who was a member of his local Masonic lodge.

This summer we also purchased a wonderful Royal Arch Masonic book of marks which originally belonged to the now-dark Franklin Chapter, No. 4, located in Norwich, Connecticut. This *Book of Marks* was produced by the M. C. Lilley Company and includes a pre-printed keystone on each page with the center left blank for members to add their mark. The book contains 200 inked drawings for each Mark Mason who joined this Chapter from 1919-22. Many of the marks incorporate the Mason's initials into a design while others reference occupations or military service.

The Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is located just off the main lobby of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library and is open to the public 10-4:30, Tuesday-Friday, and the first and third Saturday of each month. Reference assistance is provided in person, by phone, or by e-mail. You may contact us at 781-457-4109 or library@monh.org.

READERS RESPOND



Planning Ahead

As I was reading through the "Today's Family" (*TNL*, May 2010), I noticed the article on pre-paying a funeral. As a funeral director I appreciated the information, however, not all of the information was correct. Although I can't speak for all states, Indiana does have some specific rules regarding pre-paying funerals. In Indiana the funeral home can be sold or closed but the funds for the funeral will still be available at the time of death. The funds are irrevocably held by a third party and protections are in place to make sure they are available. We also have to guarantee that the services and merchandise are the same or of equal or better value as was selected, even if it means a loss to the funeral home. You might suggest that individuals check with the state funeral directors associations as well as the national associations.

*Kent S. Priebe, 32°
Valley of Indianapolis*

Kuntz Kudos

I write from Williamsburg, VA, to express my thanks to Bro. Jeffrey Kuntz for the splendid article "Bro. Sibelius: Finland's Great Composer" (*TNL*, May 2010). As one who has long appreciated Sibelius' work, I found the many details of his life contained in the piece to be enlightening and very informative. "Finlandia" is a work that stands alone in the world of symphonic compositions.

*Lon W. Weber, 33°
Southern Jurisdiction*

Change Anyone?

Thank you to all the Masonic leaders who support change in our fraternity. I am especially pleased to read about the stance taken by our Grand Commander, John Wm. McNaughton, 33°, in his editorial (*TNL*, Feb. 2010). Unlike many of my fellow Brethren, I believe change must occur.

Also, I am very pleased to see increasing coverage of our fellow Brethren in the Prince Hall Masonic Order. I especially enjoyed the articles on Nat "King" Cole and the dedication of the Prince Hall Monument.

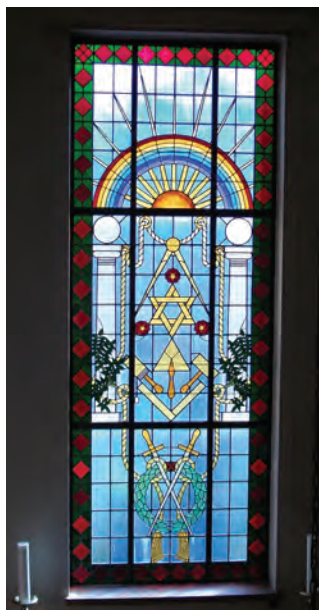
*George Nye, 32°
Valley of Indianapolis*

Curiosity Abounds

I'm sure that I am not the only one who notices that the Great Lights are in the Fellowcraft position on the two Masonic Mark Medals pictured on page 7 (*TNL*, Feb. 2010). This excites my curiosity as these are the first of their kind that I have seen.

*Gregory J. Kantak, 32°
Valleys of Salem and Boston*

masonicmoments



While on a business trip to Aalborg, Denmark, I came across a local lodge one day while I was out sightseeing. I was lucky enough to find Brethren at the lodge who were preparing the banquet hall for a 3° that night. I introduced myself as a traveling Brother from the United States, and asked if it would be possible to take a small tour. The Master of the lodge granted my request, and I saw one of the most beautiful and ornate lodges I have yet to see. Unfortunately, I was unable to witness the degree work that night because of work.

Justin G. Waples, Valley of Quincy

While on a cruise to the Bahamas, I was pleasantly surprised to look out from my cabin balcony to see a Masonic lodge in Nassau. The lodge is with the District Grand Lodge of the Bahamas and Turks. I wanted to share this picture for the Brethren so they might view a picture from the islands.

Ward Grossman, Saco Lodge No. 9.



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

TNL Index

Every five years we compile an index of the material appearing in *The Northern Light*. Copies are available upon request. The most recent index covers the issues from 2005-09.

All previous issues of the index are also available.

For information write to *The Northern Light*, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420 or email editor@supremecouncil.org.

Puzzling Situation

In September 1979 a new feature was added to *The Northern Light*, just as it was nearing the end of its first decade. The magazine

began printing its very own puzzle. It was not a crossword, or Jumble, or Sudoku, but a unique game with a Masonic twist.

Created (and still written) by former editor, Bro. Dick Curtis, Masonic Word Math has proven to be one of the most popular – and durable – facets of *The Northern Light*.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the publication. In honor of the occasion we offer to our readers the chance to dive back into time and purchase a complete set of these enigmatic word games. For a \$6 check, made out to the Supreme Council, we will mail you *Masonic Word Math Puzzles*, from the pages of *The Northern Light*.

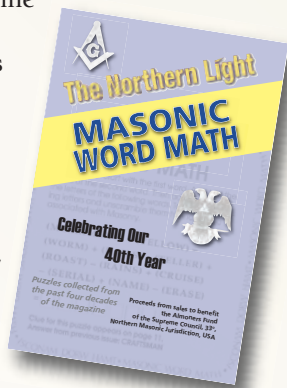
Those of you that are already regulars of the game know that the secret word comes from within the

magazine. With every copy of *The Northern Light* now online at ScottishRiteOnline.org, the same hints can still be found whether or not you saved your original copy.

If you have never completed a Masonic Word Math puzzle, you are in for a treat. Remember also, it is not too early to think about stocking stuffers. Orders received by Nov. 15 are guaranteed to be delivered by Christmas.

To order your copy, send a check and your address to: *The Northern Light*, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420.

All profits from the sale of the book will benefit the Sovereign Grand Commander's Almoners Fund



Marmaduke on the Silver Screen

In June the movie, *Marmaduke* premiered. Adapted from the daily comic strip of the same name, the storyline follows the Winslow family and their lovable, but inadvertently destructive, Great Dane. It was distributed by 20th Century Fox and stars the voices of Owen Wilson and George Lopez.

The character was created – and the strip is still written and drawn by – Brad Anderson, a member of the Valley of Jamestown. Longtime readers of *The Northern Light* might remember a feature story on Bro. Anderson in the August 1998 edition. If you don't have your copy, you can download it from ScottishRiteOnline.org. Since its printing, Brad Anderson has received the 33°.

Alan E. Foulds, 32°
editor

Degree Dates

Dates for the reunions of the Valleys are now available. They can be found online at ScottishRiteOnline.org.

4° Shown at Lexington

The new 4° DVD was presented at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library located on the grounds of Supreme Council headquarters.

On July 17, in conjunction with the "all Actives" meeting, candidates were shown the 4° in its new electronic format, and the Valley of Providence presented the 16° in a more traditional setting.

Secretaries Conference

In June the Valley Secretaries met at Supreme Council headquarters at which membership was the theme.

In addition to issues dealing with the operation of the Valley offices, the Secretaries were given presentations on generational differences, the MDS member portal, membership initiatives, communications with members and Valley structure.

Break-out sessions were also scheduled, giving the attendees the opportunity to offer feedback and receive comments on issues facing them.



The Northern Light
P.O. Box 519
Lexington, MA 02420

ready,
set,
GO.



fall reunions

Call your local Valley for details or visit us at ScottishRiteOnline.org for degree dates.



Supreme Council, 33°
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

ScottishRiteOnline.org

Brotherhood

Making the world a better place — one man at a time.