

THE Northern Light

A Window for Freemasonry

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Happy 300th
Ben



D E A S

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER
Walter E. Webber, 33°

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“Our Masonic fraternity is so much more
than bricks and mortar.”

— Walter E. Webber, 33°



The True Foundation Stones

Our Masonic fraternity is indeed blessed with a large number of architecturally beautiful and significant buildings. Whether we call them cathedrals, temples or complexes, the buildings have been used over the years to feed and host millions of visitors. Within their doors there have been thousands of degree portrayals, meetings and programs covering every imaginable topic in our culture. The bricks and mortar have served us well. Majestic, warm, inviting, cold, austere or monumental are but a few of the adjectives that have been used to describe them.

We have adorned many of these buildings with beautiful paintings, stained glass, brass ornamentation, lighting fixtures, furnishings, fountains and much more that would be the envy of Hiram Abif. We have tried to adorn appropriately without opulence or pomposity. We have tried to create a balance, and we have been remarkably successful at it.

Many of these structures were built in prior generations. Along with the Masonic tenets that have been passed freely from father to son, brother to brother and generation to generation, we have also inherited both the buildings and their maintenance. These structures were built for the most part when Freemasonry and Scottish Rite Masonry were attracting exceptionally large numbers of new members on a regular basis. In 1928, there were 1.3 million Masons. Membership peaked in 1959 at 4.1 million members. Currently, there are about 1.6 million Masons in the United States. Our membership in Scottish Rite (NMJ) in 1928 was 298,538 members, and it peaked in 1975 with 513,335 members. Currently our membership stands around 231,000.

For varying reasons, Masonry has lost 61 percent of its membership since its apogee in 1959, while Scottish Rite has lost 45 percent of its membership since 1975. Consequently, we see an infrastructure that was put in place for a membership that is far

greater than many lodges and/or Valleys can support with today's escalating maintenance costs.

It would not be financially feasible to replicate the beauty and ornateness of our structures and furnishings today. Yet the older facilities now require significant energy, planning and finances to support buildings that all too often sit idle. The costs of utilities, insurance and maintenance — because of the very grandeur of the buildings — have become nigh onto prohibitive.

Even though our society is always evolving, we all tend to avoid change. It is endemic to life itself. What the current situation requires of us is to reevaluate the relevance of bricks and mortar in relation to the symbolic foundation stones that are the moral and ethical lessons on which Freemasonry is based.

As issues present themselves, I am heartened by the number of Scottish Rite leaders who say to me, “Our choice is bricks and mortar or program, and our Valley is about program. We have a great story to tell, we are relevant to today's society, and our lessons are as needed today as they were the day they were created.” We do not need to be elegantly housed, but we do need to display the lessons of Scottish Rite elegantly.

I am not advocating the wholesale unloading of our temples and cathedrals, as I enjoy being in them as much as you do. However, if we are to move forward as an organization, we need to evaluate the balance between the physical bricks and mortar versus the programs of Scottish Rite. The physical location has to be subordinate to and supportive of our Scottish Rite program. After all, our Masonic fraternity is so much more than bricks and mortar.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Walter E. Webber".

Sovereign Grand Commander

Brother Ben's Legacy

By ALAN E. FOULDS

A tale of two cities' trust funds

In 1785 a French mathematician named Charles Joseph Mathon de la Cour penned a parody of Ben Franklin's famous *Poor Richard's Almanack*.

In the tome, which he facetiously called *Fortunate Richard*, Mathon de la Cour mocked Franklin's faith in the longevity of his new nation.

As the story goes, his main character, Fortunate Richard, established a trust fund in which the principal and interest could not be touched for 500 years.

Instead of taking offense, Franklin wrote to the mathematician and thanked him for such a wonderful idea.

Although initially made in jest, the suggestion gave birth to a legacy that lasted for two centuries, and its results live on today.

Ben Franklin's original will established a fund that remembered and honored both his birthplace (Boston) and his adopted home (Philadelphia).

He initially planned to leave 2,000 pounds to make the Schuylkill River usable for navigation.

Additionally, the city of Boston was to receive 1,000 pounds. Interest on this money was intended to purchase medals to be awarded to outstanding students.

Two years later Franklin had second thoughts. The money for the student medals was to stay in place, but through a codicil in his will the funding for the river project was removed.

He said, "Understanding that such a



Benjamin Franklin was born on Milk Street in the heart of Boston's downtown area. This bust on an office building marks the spot.

sum will do little towards accomplishing such a work, and that the project is not likely to be undertaken for many years to come," he came up with a plan that he thought would be more useful and practical.

Instead he split the 2,000 pounds between Boston and Philadelphia. (This translates to about \$4,500 for each city).

It was his hope that the legacy would be put to good use in both places until far into the future. Terms of the new plan extended until near the end of the 20th century. Interest was to be loaned out during the life of the trust. At the end of the first hundred years (1894) a portion of the principal came due in

each city, while the rest was to remain in trust until 1994.

He said, "I was born in Boston and I owe my first instruction in literature to the free grammar schools established there."

In Philadelphia he remembered how good friends loaned money to him to help establish him in his trade.

The rules of the trust were quite cumbersome. In Boston the money was put under the management of the nine-member board of selectmen (executive branch of government) together with the ministers of the oldest Episcopal, Congregational, and Presbyterian churches in town.

They were directed to loan money at five percent interest to married "artificers" under the age of 25 who have served as apprentices in town and have faithfully fulfilled their duties.



ALAN E. FOULDS, is the Assistant Editor for The Northern Light, and author of the recently published book, Boston's Ballparks and Arenas.

Franklin presumed that “there will always be found in Boston virtuous and benevolent citizens willing to bestow a part of their time in doing good to the rising generation, by superintending and managing” the fund.

After a century (1894), “if it succeeds without interruption,” he asked that the managers of his donation use about 75 percent of the principal for a public works project, such as a fortification, bridge, aqueducts, or public buildings that would make inhabiting the city more convenient.

The rest of the fund was to be used for another 100 years, again for loans. At the end of the second term, in the year 1994, and “no unfortunate accident has prevented the operation,” Franklin felt that the fund would be worth more than four million pounds.

One million was to go to the city of Boston and the rest to the commonwealth of Massachusetts. He said he would not “presume to carry my views farther.”

In Philadelphia the “corporation of that city” was to take charge of its allotment.

The same rules applied but he added his own recommendations as to how the money should be spent after the first century.

He said “If not done before, [the city should] employ a part [of the money] in bringing by pipes the water of the Wis-sahickon Creek into town, so as to supply the inhabitants.”

He also recommended using part for his original goal of making the river navigable.

Just as in New England, the trust was to end in 1994 with the money being divided between city and state.

Throughout the first hundred years the trust managers in both communities did their best to live up to Franklin’s wishes, but in each case problems arose.

In Philadelphia many of the loans were not repaid. Trust committee chairman John Thomason reported in 1837 “the fund was in the hands of 112 beneficiaries, of whom 19 have paid neither principal nor interest, although the accounts of some have been open for 34 years.”

Ninety additional cases were in non-compliance, of which 58 were beyond the statute of limitations. The Philadelphia fund did not grow nearly as fast as Franklin had predicted.

In Boston there were other problems. The fund was growing at a much faster rate than its counterpart in Philadel-



Members representing Pennsylvania’s Grand Lodge march on Franklin’s 300th birthday. The structure in the background is the Free Quaker Meetinghouse at the corner of 5th and Arch streets, Philadelphia. From 1790-99 it housed the Grand Lodge.

phia and there were fewer defaults (only four), but a much smaller percentage had been used for loans.

In 1836 William Minot, treasurer, said that only one loan per year had been made during the previous five.

Just \$1,400 of the \$24,000 was lent at that time, while the rest was invested with the Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company.

Minot concluded that the benevolent intentions of the donor were not being realized. He appeared to place the blame on those not taking advantage of the opportunity to borrow from the fund.

He sarcastically reasoned, “It is not advantageous to married mechanics under the age of 24 to borrow money to be repaid in easy installments at a low rate of interest, and the improvidence of early marriages among that class may be inferred.”

Boston developed another problem, resulting in court action. Initially the town’s nine selectmen together with clergy acted as the trustees.

In 1822 Boston incorporated as a city, with a mayor and nine aldermen. Initially the ten new elected officials replaced the selectmen as fund managers.

The city treasurer challenged the new make-up, so the legislature tried to alter the membership.

The state wanted to replace the aldermen with private citizens. In 1897 the courts ruled against the city, instead installing its own trustees. Still later another court overruled the first decision, re-installing the aldermen.

As the first hundred years of the trust came to a close, the two cities made

their decisions on the portions of the funds coming due.

A major portion of the Philadelphia money was granted to the Franklin Institute, a science museum established in 1824 to promote the mechanical arts, to honor Ben Franklin and to advance the usefulness of his inventions. According to Stacey Moyers, present-day communications manager at the museum, her institution received \$133,000. This left roughly \$40,000 in the fund for the future.

The fund managers in Boston decided to finance the creation of Franklin Park as the southern terminus of Frederick Law Olmstead’s “Emerald Necklace,” a green space that winds its way through the city.

Franklin’s heirs sued to stop the project. The courts eventually ruled in favor of the plan but during the delay the park was built with other funds.

The managers then decided to build a trade school as the successor to the apprentice program, which was no longer in use.

This plan later grew into a technical institute with a matching grant from Andrew Carnegie.

The school opened as the Franklin Union in September 1908. Today it is known as the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology.

In Boston the \$100,000 remaining after the first disbursement was reinvested and grew to five million dollars by 1994 when the fund was to be retired. According to Franklin’s codicil the entire amount was then to be split, with roughly 75 percent going to the state and 25 percent to the city. ➤

➤ After more legal disputing the state's legislature made the final decision. In the 1990's the remainder of the legacy was turned over to the Franklin School, created by the same fund nearly a century earlier.

Today there are 388 day students and the school offers a bachelor of science degree in automotive technology, and both industrial and engineering associate degrees.

Philadelphia was not without its own wrangling over the fund. Initial plans called for using the two million dollars to promote the city.

The Philadelphia Inquirer reported that the mayor suggested financing a community-wide party featuring Ben Vereen and Aretha Franklin.

As the newspaper said, "cooler heads prevailed." The court of common pleas

ruled that in keeping with the spirit of Franklin's wishes the money would be used to assist high school graduates pursuing higher education.

Again abiding by the codicil, the fund was divided between city and state trusts. The city portion was placed under the supervision of the Philadelphia Foundation, a nonprofit pool of more than 200 public charities.

According to Phil Arkow, communications director at the foundation, one of the first tasks was to determine exactly what an "artificer" is. He said "Franklin was many things. He was a statesman, an inventor, a writer and editor, but first and foremost, he was a printer."

"Artificer," they decided, was a craftsman. The money has been used to aid those students pursuing a voca-

tional education. The state's portion is under the auspices of a similar group known as the Federation of Commonwealth Foundations.

Bro. Franklin said in his will that he did not want to carry his views beyond two centuries, but despite setbacks and controversies throughout the years his actions still reverberate.

His loans to craftsmen undoubtedly advanced the industrial base of the nation. His legacy funded a successful school and strengthened a great museum.

To this day even the silver Franklin medals are still awarded annually in his birthplace.

To paraphrase a great American statesman who turns 300 this year, "Two thousand pounds saved is about seven million dollars earned." 🦅

Franklin's Masonic Life

Three centuries ago Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, on what is today Milk Street, located in the center of the city, between the shopping and financial districts. His earliest days were spent here, but as a young adult he moved to Philadelphia.

Franklin's earliest association with fraternal organizations comes in 1727, when he became founder of a non-Masonic "secret society" known as the Leathern Apron Club. Just three years later he claimed that he was planning to reveal all the Masonic mysteries in his newspaper. Whether or not he was serious, in two months he received his degrees in Philadelphia's St. John's Lodge, joining the very organization he said he would expose. There he served in several capacities.

Franklin was active in an early Grand Lodge in Pennsylvania. For a very brief period in 1749 he served as the Provincial Grand Master, making him the first native-born American to do so. Within a few months he was replaced by William Allen, who immediately appointed Franklin as Deputy Grand Master.

Serving in that capacity he played a major role in the opening of Freemason's Lodge in Philadelphia, the first structure in America built strictly for Masonic purposes. Along with the Grand Master he participated in the dedication ceremony.

In another milestone for the colonies, Franklin published *The Mason Book*, containing *Anderson's Constitutions*, the first Masonic book printed in America.

In his long Masonic career he assisted at the initiation of Voltaire in the Lodge of the Nine Sisters in Paris. Later he is reported as having been elected as Master of that lodge.

Ironically, despite his strong ties to the craft he was

Statue of Franklin stands in front of Boston's old city hall.



conspicuously buried without Masonic honors. Although many of the organizations to which he belonged were represented at his funeral, no one from his lodge was there in an official capacity.

Many theories have been proposed concerning this omission but the most credible seems to be tied to the split between the so-called "Ancients" and "Moderns" of Freemasonry. In Franklin's case he maintained allegiance with the "Moderns," while his lodges and associates seemed to gravitate toward the other branch of the organization.

Beethoven's Ninth

Is it a testament to Freemasonry?

One of the most frequently heard classical tunes today is that which Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) wrote as the main theme for the last movement of his monumental Ninth Symphony.

We sing it as a hymn for religious services. We have heard it on TV commercials. We have heard various choral and instrumental arrangements of it in our performance halls and elsewhere.

With this rather simple melody, Beethoven developed his setting for the poem of Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805), *An die Freude*, written in 1785, which has become known to us as "Ode To Joy".

The first three movements of this last completed symphony of Beethoven are purely instrumental, while in the last movement, the orchestra is joined by a large mixed chorus for the stirring "Ode To Joy" finale.

The Ninth, which became known as the "Choral" Symphony, was a musical milestone, being the first symphony employing a chorus and having a performance time of a little over an hour.

Schiller's poem clearly celebrates some of the main principles of Freemasonry, especially that of the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God. One cannot deny this when reading a line in the last stanza: "Brothers, beyond the stars surely dwells a loving Father."

Beethoven's music greatly enhances Schiller's meaningful and inspiring words. Perhaps more than any com-



Color lithograph depicting Beethoven composing the "Pastoral" Sonata by a brook.

poser before him, Beethoven, even with some of his purely instrumental music, revealed most vividly the power of music to convey a philosophy of life

without the aid of a spoken text.

Some scholars believe both Beethoven and Schiller were Freemasons, although there is virtually no evidence of their membership.

It is well known, of course, that Mozart (1756-91), composer of the Masonic opera, "The Magic Flute," and his mentor, Franz Josef Haydn (1732- ➤



JEFFREY L. KUNTZ, 32°, is a member of the Valley of Williamsport, PA. He has published several articles on music, both nationally and internationally.

► 1809), were both Freemasons, as well as the German poet-dramatist-philosopher, Johann von Goethe (1749-1832).

Freemasonry was rather fashionable in Europe in much of the second half of the 18th century, and despite the papal bulls of 1738 and 1751, many Austrian Catholics were Freemasons.

It must be pointed out, however, that by the time Beethoven and Schiller would have joined the fraternity, closer to the beginning of the 19th century, Freemasonry was becoming so oppressed in central Europe that most lodge records were either destroyed or simply not kept. In fact, the order was banned in Austria in 1795.

Schiller was born just a little more than a decade before Beethoven, but it is unclear whether or not they actually met. It is certain, however, that both men had a number of prominent older Masonic friends and acquaintances, including Goethe, a mutual acquaintance.

If Beethoven was an initiated Mason, he would have had to be a member of some underground lodge. At any rate, as evident in his music and in his words, including several entries in his diary, Beethoven was surely influenced by Masonic teachings.

Perhaps the best way to put it would be to quote Paul Nettl from his book, *Mozart & Freemasonry*, in which he states that Beethoven was “the incarnation of Masonic ethics and philosophy — a Mason without badge.”

Some scholars point out several suggestions of Beethoven’s Masonic connections.

In his book, *Music and Masonry*, Andrew Pearmain mentions that Beethoven’s friend and biographer, Anton Schindler, once commented about a handshake when greeting the composer “. . . a grip of the hand said

the rest.”

Pearmain also writes that Beethoven superscribed on the first page of the slow movement of one of his string quartets “A weeping willow or an acacia over the grave of my brother.”

This could not have been for either of Beethoven’s blood brothers, as they were both alive at the time of that work’s composition, strongly hinting a possible Masonic implication.

According to Gary Lachman of the Theosophical Society in America, Beethoven dedicated his Piano Sonata No. 15, Opus 28, to a leading Freemason, Josef von Sonnenfels.

This work, known as the “Pastoral” Sonata, is centered on the key of D major, which Beethoven is said to have considered the “Godhead” key. The first movement is in three-quarter time, and begins with three D’s in the lower bass range.

Considering that the number three is a very important numerical symbol in Masonry, could this suggest a possible Masonic import, especially being reminded of the three chords in Mozart’s “The Magic Flute?”

This “Godhead” key of D major, by the way, brings us back to the Ninth Symphony.

Although the first two movements of the symphony are built around D minor, the last movement, the setting to Schiller’s “Ode To Joy,” begins and ends in the “Godhead” D major, triumphantly overcoming the struggles of the D minor movements.

There is also a possible numerological significance in the numbering of Beethoven’s nine completed symphonies.

His third, fifth, seventh, and, of course, his ninth symphonies possess that typical exuberant mystical style of



**Portrait of Ludwig van Beethoven
by Gustav Schauer painted
between 1850-1900.**

Beethoven, whereas the even-numbered ones tend to be more delicate and somewhat less dramatic. Could there actually be an esoteric or even Masonic affinity here?

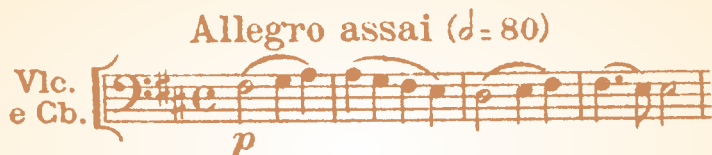
Maynard Solomon of the Julliard School of Music, wrote a book, *Late Beethoven*, published in 2003, in which two of its 12 chapters are devoted to the Masonic influence on Beethoven’s music, and another chapter is devoted to the Ninth Symphony. One critic stated that the book could have been titled “The Spiritual Development of Beethoven.”

According to Solomon, Beethoven had a close friend in Bonn, Dr. Franz Gerhard Wegeler, who became a prominent Freemason after the reestablishment of the fraternity in the Rhineland during and after the French occupation. Wegeler wrote words for two of Beethoven’s pieces for use in the Masonic lodge.

Regardless of just how active Schiller was in the actual workings of the Masonic fraternity, he, too, surely espoused Masonic teachings as shown in his views verbally expressed in his lifetime, as well as in his writings.

Beethoven and Schiller both exemplified the victory of man’s spirit over adverse circumstances such as political corruption and oppression.

With the coming of the French Revolution (1789) and the influence of the Enlightenment, the idea of freedom and dignity of the individual, and the new spirit of humanism of the time were a



With this rather simple melody, Beethoven developed his setting for the poem of Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805), “An die Freude,” written in 1785, which has become known to us as “Ode To Joy.”

passionate concern for both men early in their lives and for many others of their generation.

Legend has it, in fact, that Schiller originally titled his poem *An die Freiheit*, "Ode to Freedom," but later changed some wording to avoid opposition with civil authorities.

Whether or not this story is true, Leonard Bernstein chose to substitute the word "Freiheit" for "Freude" when he conducted the Berlin Philharmonic, choruses, and soloists in the Ninth Symphony in December 1989 to celebrate the fall of the Berlin Wall.

As early as the beginning of the 1790's, while still living in his native Bonn, Beethoven already had intentions of setting Schiller's poem to music.

It was not until 1817, however, that he even started his first sketches for the Ninth. Finally, in 1822, by which time he had become completely deaf, he began elaborating on the work, completing it in the fall of 1823.

Beethoven's choice of stanzas from Schiller's "Ode To Joy" clearly shows that his moral and religious intention was to demonstrate that the power of true joy can bring mankind together, and that it is rooted in the divine.

Beethoven chose texts that he felt expressed fundamental truths. He said, "I need a text which stimulates me; it must be something moral, sublime." Words such as "God," "stars," "hope," and "longing" were important to him. He revered several poets, but Schiller and Goethe were his favorites.

"Schiller's poems are extremely difficult for the musician," said Beethoven. "The composer must know how to raise himself far above the poet. Who can do that in the case of Schiller?"

Solomon states in his book that Friedrich Schiller was a close friend of Christian Gottfried Korner, a prominent Freemason in Leipzig.

Schiller wrote "An die Freude" when he was closely associated with Korner and other Masons there. In fact, the poem was often used in Masonic activities.

Writer Otto Baensch has gone so far as to say that the choral finale of the Ninth Symphony could represent a Masonic ceremony.

In *Late Beethoven*, Solomon, referring to all four movements of the symphony, writes, "... the work could be regarded as moving through a set of initiatory experiences that are fulfilled by a climactic arrival on Freemasonry's highest plane of virtue."

In the first stanza of Schiller's "Ode," he makes reference to the Eleusinian Mysteries, suggesting his possible mystical and fraternal alliances.

These mysteries were the pre-Christian ancient Greek version of the teaching of death and resurrection with the assurance of a rapturous eternal afterlife symbolized in the yearly decay and renewal of vegetation.

Beethoven wrote a proclamatory introductory line of his own to begin the choral passages of the last movement of the Ninth, sung by the bass-baritone soloist:

O Freunde, nicht diese Töne! Sondern lasst uns angenehmere anstimmen und freudenvollere.

(Oh Friends, no more of these sad tones! Let us rather raise our voices together in more pleasant and joyful tones.)

The soloist then begins the Schiller poem with the familiar "Ode To Joy" tune, backed by the orchestra, and later in the stanza is joined by the full mixed chorus.

The rest of the text is sung by either the vocal quartet, the tenor soloist, full chorus, or quartet and chorus together.

At the premiere of the "Ninth Sym-

phony" on May 7, 1824, in the Karntner Theater in Vienna, Beethoven sat in the orchestra indicating the tempi to the conductor.

At the conclusion of the performance, one of the vocal soloists had to turn the deaf Beethoven around so he could notice the thunderous applause of the audience.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony is, in our time, one of the most popular and most frequently performed symphonic works.

Every summer for the last decade, it has been a tradition for the Boston Symphony and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus to close the Tanglewood Music Festival performing the "Ninth."

From this great symphony of Beethoven flows all the ardor of his spirit, which, from his youth onward, was, along with the spirit of Schiller, moved by everything high and noble, inspiring them to proclaim their ideals to the world.

Perhaps more than any other work of all symphonic literature, the Beethoven Ninth Symphony inculcates and celebrates the loftiest teachings of our great fraternity.



MASONIC WORD MATH

How to solve: 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.

(SUBSTITUTE) + (AVENUES) – (BEST)
+ (NORTHERN) – (VARIOUS) +
(FINGERS) – (NEITHER) + (SAID)
– (FUNGUS) – (DRAINS)

=

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 3.
Answer from previous issue: PHILOSOPHY

American Family Treasures

Decorative arts collection at National Heritage Museum

Walk into the home of Russell Ward Nadeau, 33rd, the son of D. J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau, and you are transported to our nation's first centuries.

Connected by a shared family history, the Nadeau's furnishings — made in the towns and villages of New England — offer a glimpse of a past era.

Through April 23, the museum is featuring selections from the collection in the exhibition "American Family Treasures: Decorative Arts for the D. J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau Collection."

The exhibition marks the first time that a significant portion of the Nadeau collection has been presented to the public.

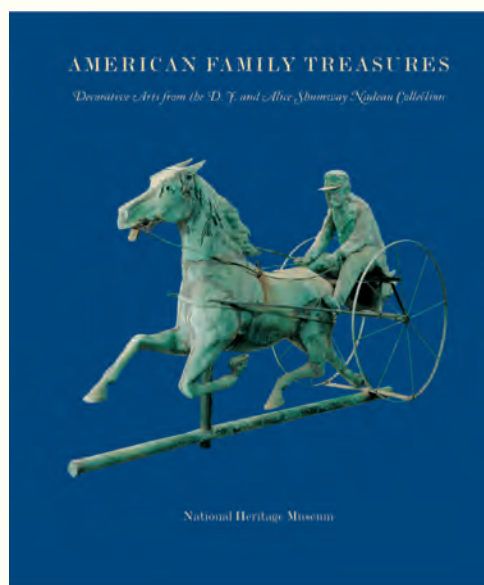
The National Heritage Museum is fortunate to be the promised recipient of this wonderful collection of over 1,000 furniture and decorative arts objects.

Ill. Bro. Nadeau will make the gift to the museum in loving memory of his father and mother, D.J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau.



Russell Ward Nadeau, 33rd

Museum publishes catalogue



The opening of the exhibition coincides with the publication of *American Family Treasures: Decorative Arts from the D. J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau Collection* by Ian Quimby.

This hardcover book, priced at \$60, features over 160 catalogue entries illustrated in color and black and white, an essay by the author, and an introduction by Russell W. Nadeau.

It can be ordered online at the museum's website www.nationalheritagemuseum.org or by phone through the Heritage Shop at (781) 457-4108.

The Nadeau collection was not designed for show. The furniture bears the scuffs and marks of common usage and is untouched by a restorer's hand.

Like the original makers and owners of the tables, chairs, and clocks in the collection, the more recent owners thought of this furniture as functional tools for everyday living.

The Nadeaus cared for their collec-


tion but did not treat its components as icons of art.

They appreciated the aesthetic appeal of the objects, but all of their furniture and decorative arts were used by adults and children and subject to the stresses and strains of everyday life.

All elements of the collection fit well into the Nadeau home, making it a comfortable place to live and visit.

More importantly, each piece in the Nadeau collection carries its own family stories and associations.

"American Family Treasures: Decorative Arts for the D. J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau Collection" gives visitors a chance to see highlights from the collection and also to consider how one family's history fits into our national story.

The current exhibition displays only a small portion of this vast collection. For more information visit the website at www.nationalheritagemuseum.org. 



Stand, 1810. A handwritten note glued to this stand tells us that Eleazer Shirley, an apprentice of cabinetmaker and mill owner David Atwood, made it in Bedford, New Hampshire. Eliza Atwood Clark, David's daughter, originally owned the stand. Light enough to move easily, this stand would have served her well as a place to set a candle to provide light for a particular task. Loaned by the D. J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau Collection. Photograph by David Bohl.

Bed Rug, 1810. Colonial-era sleepers welcomed the warmth provided by nighttime coverings like this bed rug.

The multicolor wool loops sewn on a heavy linen backing kept the bed cozy through cold New England winters.

According to family history, the initials on this bed covering refer to its owner, Anne Hartley of Webster, Massachusetts. Loaned by the D. J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau Collection. Photograph by George Fistrovich.



In Russell Nadeau's desk room (left) and dining room (right), small objects set out on tables arranged for drinking or eating enliven the spaces. In the tradition of decorator Henry Davis Sleeper and collector Henry Francis Du Pont, Mr. Nadeau has created a compelling presentation of a family collection. Photographs by David Bohl.



Event Of the Century

By MILAN VYDARENY, 32°

*Special degrees and guests featured
at Valley of Chicago fall reunion*

The fall reunion at the Scottish Rite Valley of Chicago was billed as a "once-in-100-year" event. It was born in the service of youth, because plans began to take shape at a meeting of the DeMolay International Supreme Council in June 2004.

Among those attending that meeting were Ill. Gregory R. Klemm, 33°, executive secretary for the Valley of Chicago; Ill. Walter E. Webber, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander for the Southern Jurisdiction. All three have known each other for a number of years. All three are Senior DeMolays.

During the meeting, Commander Seale approached Ill. Bro. Klemm: "Gregory, I want to come to one of your reunions. And you don't have to clear it with Walter. I already have his permission."

Later, Commander Webber told Klemm, "He (Seale) has my permission, but you can't have him there unless I'm there, too."

So the groundwork was laid to host both the Northern and Southern Sovereign Grand Commanders at a Valley of Chicago reunion.

The reunion was much more than a brief conversation at a DeMolay meeting. It reflected the friendships formed by the principals over long years of Masonic service.



MILAN VYDARENY, 32°, is the webmaster for the Valley of Chicago.



Ill. Martin P. Starr, 33°, greeted Sovereign Grand Commanders Walter E. Webber, 33°, and Ronald A. Seale, 33°, during a break at the Valley of Chicago fall reunion. Ill. Bro. Starr is a past presiding officer in the Valley of Chicago and is also a dual member of the Valley of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

For many years Commander Seale had worked with the DeMolay organization in Louisiana and eventually was elected an Active Member of the DeMolay International Supreme Council. He was introduced to Ill. Bro. Klemm through Ill. William J. Mollere, 33°, also an Active Member of the DeMolay Supreme Council from Louisiana.

Both Mollere and Klemm had each served a term as Grand Master of DeMolay International. Mollere was the Grand Secretary while Klemm was Grand Master. When Ill. Bro. Seale became Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill.

Bro. Mollere was appointed Scottish Rite Deputy for Louisiana.

The two Grand Commanders had formed a cordial relationship when Webber was elected Grand Lt. Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. At the time, Seale was serving as Lt. Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction. Both were elected to the top position of their jurisdiction in the fall of 2003 and have maintained a close working relationship.

Commander Webber was acquainted with Ill. Brother Klemm through his service not only as executive secretary for the Valley of Chicago but also as a member of the Supreme Council Information Systems Committee.

There is more to producing an historic reunion than simply gaining the

approval of the Northern and Southern Sovereign Grand Commanders. Greg Klemm returned to Chicago and outlined the proposal to the Valley of Chicago executive committee. It was promptly endorsed. After clearing up a few minor matters of protocol, work commenced on preparing for the event.

The most difficult part of the task was determining a reunion date that was acceptable to both Commanders, who travel relentlessly and have schedules that are booked months or even years in advance. Once the dates were determined, other details started to fall into place.

Commander Seale offered the possibility of a Southern Jurisdiction Valley presenting a degree during the reunion. Klemm immediately contacted Mollere to see if he could provide a degree team for the occasion. Mollere recommended

a degree team from the Valley of Baton Rouge.

The unexpected timing and fury of hurricane Katrina not only laid waste to Louisiana and other parts of the Gulf Coast but also finally forced the Baton Rouge team to cancel their appearance when Southwest Airlines announced it could not honor the group's tickets nor refund the cash paid for several months. The Brethren of Baton Rouge were already facing significant difficulties from the damage caused by Katrina, and this final problem made it impossible to realistically continue with the plan. Reluctantly, Bill Mollere called Greg Klemm with the bad news.

Not willing to give up on the idea of a Southern Jurisdiction degree presentation, Ill. Brother Klemm turned to another DeMolay acquaintance, Ill. John E. Moyers, 33°, who is the Grand Secretary

General of the Southern Jurisdiction and the Active Member of the Supreme Council from Kentucky. Moyers presented the idea to the officers of the Valley of Louisville, who enthusiastically agreed to step in for their stranded brothers in Louisiana.

Chicago's Commander-in-Chief, Ill. Paul D. Lynch Jr., 33°, was also busy with some innovative planning. At Lynch's suggestion, the local Valley of the Prince Hall Affiliation was contacted. After receiving approval from the Prince Hall Deputy, the Valley officers agreed to present a Prince Hall degree at the reunion.

The Valley of Chicago reunion was remarkable for a number of reasons:

- It brought together in Chicago both the Northern and Southern Sovereign Grand Commanders. This convergence of the two Grand Commanders at a ▶

100 YEARS AGO

The record of the Valley of Chicago reunion of 1901 is preserved in the Southern Jurisdiction archives in Washington, DC. Following that reunion, a booklet was prepared, documenting the event and chronicling the remarks made by the various Masonic leaders of the day. The Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was Ill. Henry L. Palmer, 33°. His Southern Jurisdiction counterpart was Ill. James D. Richardson, 33°.

At the banquet following the reunion, Commander Richardson spoke first. It is evident from his remarks that there was at that time a spirit of very healthy competition between the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions. Richardson masterfully entertained the brethren using passages like the following:

"... We [the Southern Jurisdiction] cannot boast of the magnificent and superb cities which belong to your jurisdiction. We have no such city in our jurisdiction as the imperial city of New — I beg your pardon— [laughter] of Chicago [great applause], nor have we a second-class city like New York [laughter], nor Philadelphia and some others that you can boast of..."

Toward the conclusion of his remarks, Richardson offered this comment:

"It matters not whether you march under the banners of our Order in the Northern or in the Southern Jurisdiction. We are all fellow-soldiers,

training in the same cause and having the same noble purpose. Let us wage incessant warfare against falsehood, ignorance and superstition until they have vanished from the face of earth, and until the cause of religion, of freedom, of equality, of fraternity and of liberty is triumphant everywhere."

The record then contains the introductory remarks of Chicago's Commander-in-Chief for the Northern Sovereign Grand Commander, Henry L. Palmer, 33°. This is followed by the notation: "NOTE: We failed to get remarks of Ill. Bro. Palmer." Following Commander Palmer's message, the Hon. Richard Yates, Governor of Illinois, spoke. This was followed by six toasts.

The meal had been lavish and extensive, featuring blue points, darne of salmon, chambord, tenderloin of beef, sweetbreads regence, squab, desserts and, of course, cigars. Each course was accompanied by a different beverage: sherry, sauterne, claret, G.H. Mumm's. The 1901 reunion was, literally, a different world.

The 2005 banquet at the reunion was probably not as boisterous as the 1901 version, and certainly lacked the variety of beverages and cigars featured 100 years earlier, but it was nonetheless enjoyed by all in attendance, satisfied in the knowledge that they had just experienced a "once-in-100-years" reunion.

— M.V.

► Chicago reunion had occurred only once before in 1901, more than 100 years ago.

- It was a unique presentation of degrees from the Northern, Southern and Prince Hall Jurisdictions.

- The principals involved in the conception, planning and execution of the event were all connected by a common thread of involvement in DeMolay International.

While all Valley reunions confer degrees and all reunions have ceremonies that acknowledge achievement and service and present awards, the Valley of Chicago Reunion contained elements that distinguish it from the several hundred other reunions mounted by the Valley, and guarantee its place in history for many years to come.

Chicago's reunion programs always contain an answer to the question, "What is a Scottish Rite Reunion?"

A reunion of the Scottish Rite Bodies is more than just a conferring of degrees on a class of worthy Master Masons. It is . . . a meeting of friends who see each other all too seldom, a reunion of classmates of other years. It is an opportunity for members of the current class to become more acquainted, to be linked together in a bond which endures...

There was indeed an enduring bond at this reunion, and it was exemplified through the two Grand Commanders.

The example provided by Brothers Webber and Seale will likely remain in

the memories of those who experienced it long into the future. The genuine warmth and brotherly love each has for the other was immediately obvious to

all who had the good fortune to be present.

The enduring bond was clearly evident as they sat together enjoying the degree presentations. It was evident when Commander Webber descended from the East to personally escort Brother Seale through an arch of steel. And it was strikingly evident when Commander Seale addressed the gathering of Scottish Rite Masons.

Illinois Grand Master Noel C. Dicks was received by Commander Webber in the same warm and brotherly fashion.

The reunion conferred the mandatory degrees as required by Northern Masonic Jurisdiction constitutions, but also offered a number of optional degrees. Brethren from the Valley of Louisville presented the 14° as it is exemplified in the Southern Jurisdiction. The Prince Hall Valley exemplified its version of the 20°.

Following the luncheon on Saturday, Commander Webber received a check for \$100,000 from Ill. Richard J. Stephenson, 33°, on behalf of his Stephenson Family Foundation. The check will augment the Chicago learning center endowment.



Ill. Paul D. Lynch, 33°, Chicago's Commander-in-Chief, (right) presented Ill. Robert E. Weems, 33°, with honorary membership in the Valley of Chicago. Ill. Bro. Weems, who directed the Prince Hall version of the 20° at the historic reunion, has been a frequent visitor to the Valley and for many years has assisted as the guest soloist.

A NEW MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE

Peter Zelchenko, 32°, was one of the 50 candidates in the Valley of Chicago fall reunion. Here are his reflections.

"We are seeing that many Masonic customs and presentations from other places — even from other places within our own country — are entirely different from our own. Ironically, the cultural varieties in the craft seem to bind us together even more profoundly than do the similarities.

"I've repeatedly been told that Freemasonry is personal, that each of us will take away his own impressions and develop his own actions from the many lessons learned.

"A tapestry of morals was presented to us that weekend. The visual images are still clear and yet the depth of meaning still eludes you and me.

"It is only in the light of the next day that the lessons take form and test us in the world of the real."

32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

Learning Center Incentives

Walk-a-thons A Success Again

This past fall 47 centers participated in fund-raising walks. Taking place mostly on October weekends more than \$350,000 was raised. Starting with only two centers just two years ago the program has spread throughout the jurisdiction.

Reports from the centers and their event committees are very positive, as the walks not only raised money but also increased awareness of the purpose of the program.

In addition, they provide an opportunity for the children, parents, families, and friends to become involved in a festive event.

Two centers included a running event with their walk, increasing participation and revenues. Their success has caused many additional centers to consider races and runs, together with their walks for next year.

During fiscal year 2005, which began in September 2004, the "Reward For Performance" program was introduced as a way of providing additional funds to local learning centers and to provide an incentive for them to increase their fund-raising activities.

The program provides a year-end bonus to centers that raise, through local activities, a percentage of their approved operating budgets. Parameters are as follows:

1. A center with an approved annual budget of \$75,000 or more will receive a bonus of ten percent of the funds raised in excess of \$75,000.
2. A center with an annual budget of less than \$75,000 will receive a bonus of ten percent of the funds raised in excess of 75 percent of its budget.
3. A center that raises in excess of 100 percent of its budget will receive a bonus of 50 percent for every dollar raised in excess of its budget.

The bonus money may be used by the board of governors of the awarded center, at its discretion, to supplement any budget line item.

Fund-raising activities credited for this bonus program include "sponsor-a-child," walk or running events, golf and other similar tournaments, as well as general non-endowment contributions to the centers.

Excluded are revenues generated from the calendar appeal, royalties, the Builder's Council program, and endowment money.

During the first year of the program five centers qualified for bonuses:

Chicago	\$38,485
Columbus	\$12,784
Cincinnati	\$2,792
South Bend	\$2,611
Madison	\$1,237

Relay for 2007

Although the idea is in its earliest stages, preliminary plans are under way for a Pennsylvania running relay, connecting the centers in Allentown, Reading, Bloomsburg, and Scranton.

The planning committee, led by Ray E. Feick, 32°, of the Valley of Reading, is actively involved in what is hoped will be an annual event, eventually including other centers.

Also on the committee are David Petrosky, 32°, of Scranton, Ill. Joseph C. Kardelis Jr., 33°, and Joseph Kelly of Bloomsburg,

Spring ahead

In April the children's learning centers will be participating in the Boston Marathon once again.

This marks the fourth consecutive year that representatives of the centers will be running in the world-famous event. Hailing from all parts of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction are at least 15 runners.

Each participant, with the help of

the centers and the Valleys they represent, raise a minimum of \$5,000 for the program. The 2005 event total exceeded \$70,000.

Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, executive director of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., extends his gratitude to those who have participated in the past and have stepped up to take part this year.

In Memoriam

III. Carlton A. Winchester, 33°

III. Carlton Alfred Winchester, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of New York, died on Aug. 5, 2005.

Bro. Winchester was born in Oshkosh, WI, the son of Gerald Higgs and Norma (Bacon) Winchester, on July 1, 1917. He attended Jamestown Community College and Syracuse University.

He spent his early career in the insurance industry and retired in 1985 as president of the Anderson-Winchester Insurance Agency in Jamestown, NY. He served as president of the New York Association of Professional Insurance Agents and as a member of the board of directors and secretary of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents.

In 1940 he married Virginia Lapham, who survives along with their son, William, and three grandchildren.

Bro. Winchester entered the United States Army in 1942. A graduate of the Officers Candidate School, he became a major in the 766th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion. During his tour he received the American Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

He was raised a Master Mason in Sylvan Lodge No. 303, in 1948, where he was Secretary in 1951 and Master in 1984.

He completed the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Jamestown on May 10, 1951. He was Most Wise Master in 1965 and Commander-in-Chief in 1977-79.

III. Bro. Winchester received the 33° in 1975. He was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1986 and was Deputy for the state of New York from 1989-91. He assumed Active Emeritus status in 1992.



III. Richard H. Winship Jr., 33°

III. Richard Harris Winship Jr., 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of Maine, died on Nov. 11, 2005, at a Bangor hospital.

Bro. Winship was born in Brewer, Maine, the son of Richard Harris Sr. and Uldene (Goode) Winship on July 26, 1939. He attended Husson College, majoring in Business Administration, and graduated in 1963. He served in the United States Air Force as an Airman First Class.

He was employed as a salesman for the International Harvester Credit Corporation in Boston and Baltimore, and later became president of Brake Service and Parts, Inc., of Bangor, from which he was retired.

In 1960, he married the former Jane Wilson, who survives along with their son, Richard H. Winship III of Orrington; a daughter, Rhonda Jane Hogan of Bangor; three

grandchildren, his mother, Uldene, and two brothers.

Bro. Winship was raised a Master Mason in Rising Virtue Lodge No. 10, Bangor, on Dec. 5, 1967.

He joined the Scottish Rite Valley of Bangor in 1968, and continued with the consistorial degrees in the Valley of Portland. He was Thrice Potent Master of Eastern Star Lodge of Perfection from 1986-88 and was Second Lieutenant Commander of Maine Consistory at the time he was elected an Active Member.

In 1993, III. Bro. Winship received the 33°. He was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 2001. He was named Deputy for the state of Maine in 2003, but resigned in 2004 for health reasons. He was granted Active Emeritus status in 2004.



III. Harold L. Hussey, 33°

III. Harold LaVern Hussey, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of Ohio, died on Dec. 5, 2005.

Bro. Hussey was born in Dayton, OH, the son of Jesse Garfield and Ina (King) Hussey, on Jan. 19, 1918. He attended the University of Dayton and Sinclair Community College, majoring in business administration and marketing. He was a member of the United States Air Force from 1942-45, advancing to the rank of Master Sergeant, and was the recipient of an Outstanding Service Award.

Brother Hussey was employed at the IBM corporation from 1946 until his early retirement in 1974. Previously, he was employed by General Motors Corporation.

Following retirement from IBM, he served as Executive Secretary for the Valley of Dayton from 1977-83.

In 1939, he married Lois Winifred Evans, who predeceased him. From this union was born a son, James Gordon Hussey.

Bro. Hussey was raised a Master Mason in Conservancy Lodge No. 661, Dayton, on June 25, 1942.

He completed the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Dayton, on Nov. 13, 1965.

In 1979, he received the 33°. He was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1982, and assumed Active Emeritus status in 1993.

The Northern Light Goes Audio

[Magazine can now be heard
on the Internet]



Joining the “podcast” movement that is sweeping the Internet, *The Northern Light* has jumped in during the early days.

Starting with the November 2005 issue, articles from the magazine, the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction’s chief publication, can be downloaded in audio format.

The process for listening to the articles is easy. Simply head to the Supreme Council website (www.supremecouncil.org) and select “Northern Light” from the left navigation bar. The resulting page lists the contents of the magazine. Click on the microphone icon next to the story and the audio version will begin downloading.

Use of such software as “RealAudio” or “Windows Media Player” is required, but is easily attainable at no charge if it is not already on your machine.

The audio files are recorded in MP3 format for listening directly from your

computer or they can be downloaded to an MP3 player for later use.

Although audio programming on the Internet has been with us for several years, both live and archived, 2005 saw an explosion in the phenomena and the introduction of the term “podcast.” Reportedly coined by British journalist Ben Hammersley, it already appears in the *New Oxford American Dictionary* defined as “a digital recording of a radio broadcast or similar program, made available on the Internet for downloading to a personal audio player.”

The process has opened a new world to would-be broadcasters and offers services to listeners of traditional radio stations in the form of archiving.

Podcasting allows the average person with only modest means to produce and present radio-like shows. The Internet is now filled with hundreds of original presentations and those from existing radio stations on

subjects ranging from sports to politics, religion, comedy and drama.

A few sites even cater to old-time radio programs. A major advantage with podcasting is that the shows are archived and can be listened to at any time without the restrictions of a set schedule, and with the advent of portable MP3 players, by location.

Although several sites devoted to the new medium have been spawned, *The Northern Light* appears to be one of the earliest print publications to do so. The November issue contains all feature stories found in the print version. In some cases they are read by the authors, such as Commander Walter E. Webber’s message, “A Tradition of Caring.”

The edition also contains a special visitor, Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction, reading a page from *The Scottish Rite Journal*.

It is often said that history repeats itself. As *The Northern Light* enters the new world of podcasting, it is reminiscent of the old days of radio.

In the early to middle part of the 20th century, the radio airwaves were filled with an array of original programming of all types, but with the introduction of television, they were relegated to the world of music and talk shows.

The diversity in content, gone from traditional broadcasting, appears to have returned to life in cyberspace. As an announcer of old might have said, “Tune in next issue as we bring you another edition of *The Northern Light*, a Window for Freemasonry.”



Ill. Richard B. Burgess, 33°, Administrative Assistant to the Sovereign Grand Commander, was one of many people recording material for the podcast.

NOTES FROM THE **SCOTTISH RITE** JOURNAL[®]

OF FREEMASONRY ✧ SOUTHERN JURISDICTION ✧ USA

Magnolia Lodge Rebuilds After Katrina

Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast in late August 2005, and Magnolia Lodge No. 120 of Biloxi, Mississippi, chartered in 1850, was hard hit. The storm blew out the windows and destroyed much of the interior of their three-story brick building, and only one of their three commercial tenants remains. Many of their members lost everything but their house slabs.

A structural engineer determined that the lodge could be rebuilt, so the members got to work with the goal of restoring the lodge to its pre-hurricane condition. They



stripped the lodge room to the floorboards and brick walls, but in the process they didn't forget the importance of fellowship. Their November meeting, only ten weeks after Katrina came through, was held by candlelight. The Master's podium was a nail keg, the Wardens used upturned garbage cans, and a utility cart served as the altar. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a 50-year pin to Lawrence Corban, Jr., P.M., by Lex Lamey, W.M., and Jimmy Rodriguez, S.D.

"Even the Temple of Solomon, so spacious and magnificent, and constructed by so many celebrated artists, escaped not the unsparing ravages of barbarous force. Freemasonry, notwithstanding, still survives." To see more post-Katrina photos of the lodge, visit their website <http://www.magnolia120.org/>, or you can contact the lodge directly: Magnolia Lodge No. 120, Attn: Paul Davis, Secretary, 711A Howard Ave., Biloxi, MS, 39530.



Alabama Governor Bob Riley Receives KCCH

Alabama Governor Bob Riley, 32°, was invested with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH) in a private ceremony at the Alabama governor's mansion. Bro. Riley had been honored by the Supreme Council at its 2003 session but was unable to attend the regularly scheduled investiture ceremony. A 32° Mason in the Southern Jurisdiction must have been a member for at least 46 months to be nominated to receive the KCCH, which is awarded for exceptional service to the craft, the Rite, or humanity. About four percent of the members in the Southern Jurisdiction have received the KCCH.

Governor Riley's service to the people of Alabama and his dedication to public education were cited as reasons for his selection for this singular honor. His support of education complements that of the Scottish Rite Masons in Alabama. Through the Alabama Scottish Rite Foundation, they work with the education community throughout the state to assist dyslexic children.

The Valley of Huntsville had the honor and pleasure of performing the investiture ceremony for Bro. Riley which was witnessed by Ill. Karl F. Reed II, 33°, S.G.I.G. in Alabama; M.W. Gene Anderton, 32°, KCCH, Grand Master of Masons in Alabama; several other Grand Lodge officers; Mrs. Patsy Riley; invited guests and wives. Following the investiture, a reception was hosted by Governor and Mrs. Riley.

Left to right: Ill. Karl F. Reed II, 33°; Ill. G.W. York, 33°, Ceremonial Grand Commander, and Hon. Bob Riley, 32° KCCH.



Apron Exhibit Opens at House of the Temple

As a way of showing visitors the diversity of our regalia collection as well as to give a sense of how aprons vary over time, countries, and orders, the House of the Temple library began a display of aprons from its collection. The result was "Treasured Textiles: Rediscovering the Artistry of Masonic Regalia," an exhibit of about 60 representative aprons. The aprons will be displayed through mid-2006.

A new year full of hope and anticipation is here. What would you like to see this year? Well, here are a few ideas to get the creative juices flowing.

An Internet Square & Compasses Club:

While doing some research a number of years ago for an article on some aspect of the Studebaker Corporation, I stumbled across references to the Studebaker Square & Compasses Club.

As you might guess, it was a Masonic club for Studebaker employees and retirees. I have yet to learn when it was formed, but it had been around since at least the 1890s. More research revealed that other companies had Square & Compasses clubs, as well. Many appear to have been sponsored by the employer. That wouldn't happen today.

While the Square & Compasses clubs served a social purpose, they also had a more serious role. Members would discuss and attempt to apply Masonic principles to workplace situations. They would analyze aspects of degrees. They attempted to determine the "Masonic approach" to real life situations.

As times changed, the employer-based Square & Compasses clubs faded away. Inevitable, I suppose. Yet, the Square & Compasses club concept remains valid.

It is my wish that someone will take up the challenge to launch an Internet Square & Compasses club. Imagine the opportunities.

Online Masonic Library:

From small blue lodges to great Scottish Rite centers, our fraternity collectively possesses one of the world's great libraries. Sadly, most of these books are out of the reach of most Brothers.

Why not imitate Google and create an online library. Books no longer protected by copyright could be scanned and made available online to the Brethren.

As for copyright protected books, some copyright holders will give permission for their books to be scanned. The others could be listed with a brief description, author/publisher information and availability by loan or purchase.

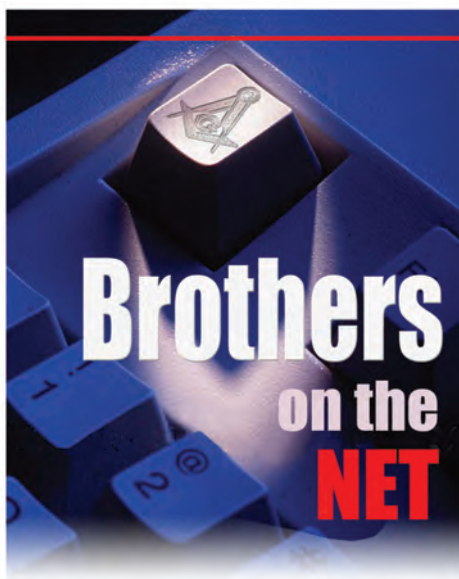
Such a project would take years to complete. Nonetheless, an online Masonic library would be a priceless gift to our Brethren and serious researchers.

Web Pages, Then More Web Pages:

Masonry at all levels has made tremendous strides with regard to its



Leigh E. Morris, 33°, works in corporate communications for a major utility company. He is a member of the Valleys of Milwaukee and Springfield, IL.



Wishing you an interesting 2006

Internet presence. Do a Google search for "Masonic" and you get about 3.9 million items. "Freemasonry" produces about 2.6 million possibilities. "Scottish Rite Masonry" nets about 159,000 items, while "Masonic Lodge" generates about 438,000 possibilities.

Still, more needs to be done. Every blue lodge and every Scottish Rite Valley needs to have an active website. Ditto for Shrine, York Rite, Eastern Star, and all of the affiliated organizations.

Worry Less About Security:

Judging by responses to the survey I am conducting (yes, you still may participate — more on that in a bit), a lot of you are concerned about information security and identification theft.

For example, many respondents indicated they have two or more firewalls. Several noted they would never use a credit card for an online transaction.

Then, I received an e-mail from a Brother. In part, he wrote: "In past columns you said it is OK to use a credit card to make purchases on the Internet. The November *AARP Bulletin* quotes an expert as saying using a credit card online carries the risk of identity theft. The article quoted the expert: 'When you provide a credit card, you absolutely run the risk of something nefarious happening to your account.' What do you have to say now?" Rex Stout's Nero Wolfe had the perfect response to such nonsense: "Phooey!"

When it comes to identity theft, our society tends to worry about the wrong things — and we tend to worry too much. To be certain, the worry has been fueled by some rather alarming statistics, the most alarming being that ten million Americans fall victim to identity theft every year. The problem is the statistics are both inflated and misleading because they include credit card fraud and misuse.

Real identity theft is using your identity — name, address, Social Security number, etc. — for fraudulent purposes, such as securing loans or obtaining credit cards.

My suggestion for 2006 is this: Unless you refuse to use a credit card to pay for a restaurant meal or make a store purchase, use it to make online purchases.

As for other identity issues, keep sensitive information off your computer, do not transmit sensitive information via e-mail, use one firewall (you really don't need two or more), do not carry your Social Security number on your person and only give your Social Security number when absolutely necessary.

As for the Internet survey, there still is time to participate. Just send an e-mail to me at

<studebaker55@casscomm.com>.

I wish you a healthy, happy and prosperous 2006.

CHARITIES

It is amazing to realize that another year has passed and that we are well and truly in 2006.

The last twelve months have been exciting for me. In May I married a wonderful woman. In August, I was pleased to welcome members to our largest Builders Council Breakfast ever at the Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids. And, as 2005 came to an end, it was an honor to see both the learning centers and the National Heritage Museum receive your generous support. Nothing can fill me with more enthusiasm and faith that the world will be better in 2006 because we choose to make it so.

Of course, one of the inevitabilities of each year's passing is the ever-rising number of candles on our birthday cakes. At times this provides consternation and a reminder of our youth. How often we think, "If I were younger..."

There is a silver lining to our maturity, I think. One is that wisdom seems to replace impulsiveness. Age brings perspective.

Also, age rewards donors of annuity trusts. Each year, six months before your birth date, the return on an annuity trust you might consider is recalculated. As a reward for your longevity, the return increases — more so as you reach your 70s, 80s, and beyond.

Looking Toward the Future

The back cover contains information you might consider if you would like to support the charities of the Scottish Rite and receive income for life plus a nice tax deduction (something on everyone's mind this time of year).

Since last August, when we first included information about the charitable gift annuity program at Scottish Rite Charities, interest from our fellow Brethren has been substantial.

We received many calls and notes requesting information regarding annuities. The ages of those calling ranged from 65 to over 90 years old. I am happy to say that a good number of those inquiries resulted in decisions to create a CGA.

The income opportunities, along with the tax implications, were deciding factors in many cases. The ability to ultimately support their favorite charity of the Scottish Rite was important as well.

Why don't you call and see if a charitable gift annuity is right for you?

Call Scottish Rite Charities at 800-814-1432 x 3326 if this interests you. We are happy to let you know the advantages that age brings.

Commander Webber Visits Florida and Arizona

Brethren sojourning in Florida and Arizona will have an opportunity to meet with Grand Commander Walter E. Webber this spring. See the list of scheduled luncheons.

For specific information visit:
www.scottishritecharities.org
or call 800-814-1432 x 3326.



Steve Pekock, 32°
Director of Development

Dates:

Wednesday, March 1	Naples, FL
Thursday, March 2	Lake Worth, FL
Monday, March 6	Sarasota, FL
Tuesday, March 7	Winter Park, FL
Sunday, April 2	Scottsdale, AZ



The Stamp Act



Bro. **Jean-Pierre Pescatore** was born in Luxembourg City, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, in 1793 and died in 1855. He was a self-made man and became a very successful merchant and banker when he established himself in Paris. He bequeathed to his native land his important collection of fine arts and a considerable amount of money to create a home for elderly citizens — “The Fondation Pescatore.” The neo-gothic porch of his home is pictured beside Bro. Pescatore on a stamp issued by Luxembourg in November 2005 to honor this outstanding Luxembourg Mason.

Bro. Pescatore became a Mason in 1818 — one of many prominent Masons of that family name in the Grand Duchy throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. His father was a Mason before him as well as three of his brothers, two cousins and the husband of a niece. The mother of the late Grand Master Antoine Wehenkel of the Grand Lodge of Luxembourg and the first Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for Luxembourg was a Pescatore. (Thanks to Roland H. Lacaf, Hon. Gr. Com. SUCOL, Luxembourg)



Sir **Joseph Cook** was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1860 and began his career as a coal miner. He went to Australia in 1885, working there as a miner also. He entered politics six years later, representing the Labor Party in the Parliament of New South Wales. He later joined the party led by Sir George Reid and was appointed colonial postmaster general from 1894-98. In 1901 he entered the Commonwealth Parliament and served in many roles. He was one of the Australian representatives to the Versailles Peace Conference and served as high commissioner in London 1921-27 and receiving several awards including knighthood. He died in Sydney in 1947.



Bro. Cook received his degrees in Independent Lodge No. 8, New South Wales Constitution, Lithgow, in 1892. While serving in London in the 1920s he affiliated with the Royal Colonial Institute Lodge No. 3556, E.C., in London and served as Deputy Master in 1925. The rank of Past Provincial Grand Deacon was conferred upon him. He is shown on a stamp issued by Australia in 1972.



Jorge B. Vargas was born in Bago City, Philippines, in 1890. He began a long and historic association with President Manuel L. Quezon in 1918 when he be-

came executive secretary of the first Independence Mission to the US (1918-19) of which Bro. Quezon was the chairman. He served in several roles in the Senate until he joined the executive branch in 1920. As executive secretary during the six years of the commonwealth government, he presided over 18 divisions of the Office of the President and was known as “The Little President.” He died in 1980.

Bro. Vargas was a member of Sinukuan Lodge No. 16, under the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. He was also a 32° Scottish Rite Mason. He is pictured on a Philippines stamp released in 1991.



Born in 1896 in Alameda, CA, **James Harold Doolittle** was graduated from the University of California and M.I.T. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1917-30 and as a pilot won several trophies. He was employed by the Shell Petroleum Company from 1930-40 and returned to the Air Corps in 1940 as a major. He led a flight of 16 B-25 Bombers from the aircraft carrier “Hornet” on a bombing mission in 1942. For this service he was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and received the Medal of Honor. He retired from the Air Force in 1946. He died in



Robert A. Domingue is secretary for St. Matthew's Lodge, Andover, MA, and editor of *The Philatelic Freemason*.



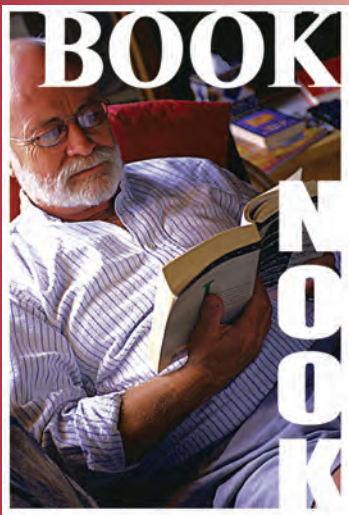
1993. Gen. Doolittle has been shown on many stamps, including this one from Micronesia issued in 1996.

Bro. Doolittle received his Masonic degrees in 1918 as a result of dispensations by two Grand Lodges. Under a special dispensation from the Grand Lodge of California, Hollenbeck Lodge No. 319 voted on Aug. 8, 1918 that he receive his degrees. Because he was stationed in Louisiana, the Grand Lodge of that state gave Lake Charles Lodge No. 165 a dispensation to confer all three degrees on Aug. 16, 1918. He later joined the Scottish Rite Valley of San Diego in 1918 and received the 33° in 1945.



Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, born in 1729, was a German playwright, critic and philosopher, often considered the father of German literature. His last works dealt largely with religious tolerance. He died in 1781.

Bro. Lessing was initiated on Oct. 14, 1771, in the Lodge “Zu den drei Rosen” in Hamburg. He wrote many essays on the craft but was never active in the work of the lodge. He is pictured on a stamp released by the German Democratic Government (East Germany) in 1977.



Reviewed by Thomas W. Jackson, 33°

Secrets of Architecture: Numerical Symbolism and Geometry in the Design of Religious Architecture

by Atilla Arpat. Published in 2004 by Evans Communications Inc., 645 Dunn Avenue, St. John, New Brunswick E2M 2X4, Canada.

According to the author this book is the result of 25 years of intense research to “unveil the secret design principles used in architectural planning of Ottoman-Islamic and Christian religious planning.” It is his conclusion that symbolic numbers have been used for centuries in constructing churches and mosques.

I began writing this review on the morning that I left for Istanbul to attend the Grand Lodge of Turkey and I developed a deeper interest while visiting the structures to which he referred. This is especially true of his references to the works of Sinan, frequently emphasized by the guides. I hasten to point out, however, that I was overwhelmed by the mathematical calculations in the book.

It was sent to me by the author at the request of the Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and I include it in this column because it also applies those design principles to the architecture of Masonic Temples, including the Grand Lodge Temple in Pennsylvania. The book contains a mathematical analysis of 25 churches, ten mosques, five Masonic Temples and one synagogue.

It is his conclusion that the “designs of mosques, and tombs of the Ottomans and of churches of the western world of Christianity are the result of the application of numerical symbolism and the Pythagorean triangle.” The numbers applied to the architectural design take on religious significance,

symbolizing the greatest of religious figures; i.e. Jesus, Allah and Mohammed.

Arpat’s contention is that there must have been a methodology to convey these secrets to succeeding generations. All could not begin from scratch. He states that after many years of study and many wrong paths taken, the truth became clear while studying Masonic books. He gives much credit to Freemasonry for at the very least preserving and conveying these secrets.

It is a difficult book for the average person to understand due to the geometric analysis. It is a book, however, that offers a new insight and I would think it would be stimulating to the geometrician and definitely to an architect. It is an interesting theory and the author has presented some convincing analysis. I would recommend it for those who have the time to study it.

Symbolism of the Blue Degrees of Freemasonry, Albert Pike’s Esoterika

transcribed and edited by Arturo de Hoyos.

Published in 2005 by The Scottish Rite Research Society,
1733 Sixteenth Street, N.W.,
Washington, DC 20009-3103. \$50.

Most Freemasons who are familiar with Albert Pike are so as a result of exposure to *Morals and Dogma*, that great work that few read completely and even fewer understand. That book, however, presents the genius of Pike. Brother Jim Tresner in 1995 authored *Albert Pike: The Man Beyond the Monument* that revealed the human side of Pike. *Esoterika* shows Pike’s dedication to craft Masonry.

For those who fear to read Pike, *Esoterika* is a refreshing change in complexity from *Morals and Dogma*. Bro. Pike penned this work 117 years ago, and a tragedy lies in its not being published for that period of time because it contains much clear and definitive evaluations of our symbolism and also presents a Pike that too few know. It was not published, however, at the direction of Pike, who mandated that it not be produced in multiplications of copies or provided to anyone not fit or qualified to teach and instruct his Brethren. There was a time when I do not think that I would have understood this logic but now I feel that I do. Times have changed, however, and I trust the spirit of Pike will forgive Arturo de Hoyos for deviating from his instruction.

Bro. de Hoyos is one of the all too few outstanding Masonic researchers and scholars in North America today and he has provided a great service to our craft with a new edition of this book. He has written the introduction, critical notes and the appendices in completing this book and is one of those few who could have accomplished that task effectively.

It was Pike’s firm belief that the true secrets of

Freemasonry were within its symbolism and that the symbolism "was either borrowed directly from Hermeticism or the two shared a common ancestor."

In spite of the fact that he is primarily known today for his work in the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, he also firmly acknowledged the primary significance of the blue lodge. I quote, "My Brethren, there are many fields of Masonic labor, and every one must work in that wherein it seems to him that he can do the most good. But, whatever else we may be, we are all Master Masons, and we all owe to the Masonry of the blue degrees our first and paramount allegiance."

If Pike were nothing else, he was a profound student of the craft and this book reveals his extensive knowledge of the "blue degrees" and the wisdom developed in years of concentrated study of their meaning. I readily acknowledge my difficulty in understanding *Morals and Dogma*, but I found most of this book quite comprehensible. There are parts that require considerable concentration, but it is worth that effort for those who truly wish to understand more fully the symbolism of blue lodge Freemasonry.

The text also contains in the appendices, written by the author, a chapter on the faith of Albert Pike who has been accused of being atheistic and worse, but by his own words, these charges are proven spurious. Also found here is a chapter revealing some of Pike's sources for information and a chapter on the four most famous exposés of the craft to which Pike frequently refers.

Pike shows a great irreverence in his regard to some of the more notable Masonic writers in this text and perhaps justifiably so. He does so as a result of his extensive research and reveals his rationale for his criticism.

In observing the decline in the public prestige of our craft today, Pike may have been justified in his reservations concerning the potential of understanding by the leadership. Perhaps this work done by de Hoyos may help to dispel that lack of understanding. I encourage its reading not only to understand the symbolism of Freemasonry more fully, but also to more fully appreciate Albert Pike.

Masonic Questions & Answers

by Paul M. Bessel. Published in 2005 by Cornerstone Book Publishers, Charlottesville, VA and New Orleans, LA.

Masonic Questions & Answers, a small paperback book, is a compilation of three booklets developed by the Grand Lodge of Virginia for the purpose of helping new Masons when they seek information about

Freemasonry. With the permission of the Grand Master of Virginia, Bro. Paul Bessel compiled the information found in these three booklets into this text.

He has added six appendices to it. Appendix A presents "**Definitions of Freemasonry**" as proposed by a number of prominent Freemasons, including Roscoe Pound, Alan Roberts, Albert Mackey, Arthur Waite, W. L. Wilmshurst, Henry Wilson Coil and H.L. Haywood.

Appendix B provides the **Dating Systems** of Masonic bodies, explaining the name, abbreviation, translation, how the date is computed and the rationale behind the system.

Appendix C presents **Masonic Communications Groups Using Computers**, in which the name of the Masonic group involved is provided, a description of their purpose, and the website address.

Appendix D, **Masonic Abbreviations**, gives the letter abbreviations of the many Masonic organizations in existence.

Appendix E, **Masonic Book Publishers and Sellers**, lists the name of Masonic book publishers and sellers along with the methods of contact.

Appendix F, **U.S. National Masonic Appendant Bodies**, provides the short name, official name, and website address of the Masonic bodies operating in the United States.

These appendices supply us with an invaluable source of information, not only for the new Mason, but also for those of us who are frequently searching for it.

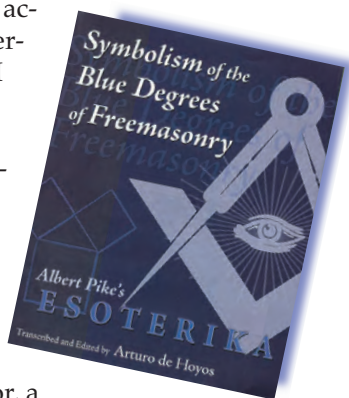
The text in the book is divided into information for the Entered Apprentice degree, the Fellowcraft degree and the Master Mason degree.

There are a few explanations that I found confusing and should be confusing to the new Masons, especially the section regarding recognized and unrecognized Grand Lodges, regular and irregular Masonry, and clandestine Lodges and Masons.

This book is worth having as a reference book in each Mason's library because it responds to questions that you may ask or be asked. I would add a cautionary note. Some of the answers do not apply to every jurisdiction. For example, the altar is not necessarily in the center of every lodge room, nor do the Deacons conduct the candidates in every jurisdiction, and the Masters do not always wear a hat. In addition, not all Grand Lodges review Grand Master's decisions each year, nor do they all require a ballot box for voting. Also, there are Grand Lodges that require a belief in the Christian religion for membership.

I do not make these observations as a criticism but rather to point out that they are probably applicable in the Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia but not in all jurisdictions.

THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°, was formerly Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He is Executive Secretary for the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges and the book reviewer for *The Northern Light*.



Health Wise

ideas
for
health
and
fitness



Niacin increases HDL levels

It's important to have satisfactory levels of HDL, the good kind of cholesterol, in order to keep the heart and blood vessels healthy. Niacin appears to be very helpful in both raising HDL levels and slowing the progression of atherosclerosis.

A study appearing in *Circulation* shows that after taking 1,000 mg of niacin for one year, study subjects reached their LDL (bad cholesterol) goal of 100 mg/dL, and they had higher levels of HDL. At the same time, niacin slowed the progression of atherosclerosis about 68 percent.

Niacin is an inexpensive vitamin that is available without prescription. Ask your doctor about niacin.

Brush well for a healthy heart

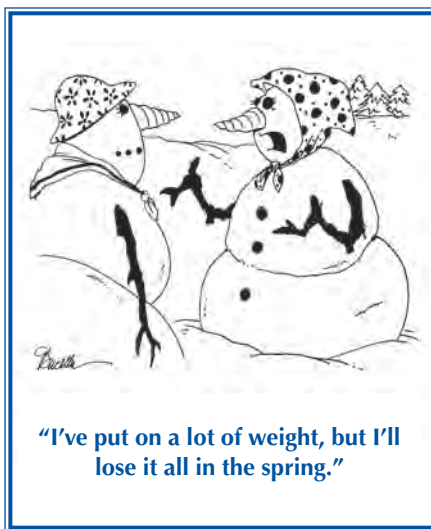
Devoting five minutes a day to caring for your teeth and gums is good for your smile and your heart.

The American Dental Association says gram-negative bacteria that destroys bone in periodontal disease can also damage the lining of arteries or promote clot formation, leading to a heart attack.

Brushing and flossing your teeth regularly, especially using new tools such as specialty picks, power brushes, flossers, and rinses, can help eradicate harmful plaque between teeth that can easily be missed by simple brushing.

Hypertension treatment

High blood pressure is the greatest risk factor for stroke. In a study of 16,648 people reported by Johns Hop-



kins Medicine in Baltimore, about half were receiving treatment for hypertension. In spite of treatment, however, their blood pressure was not under control. It averaged 160/100 mm Hg. That is high above the recommended 120/80.

During the six years of the study, 137 of the men and women involved had strokes. Their average blood pressure was 140/90.

To avoid stroke, doctors recommend having blood pressure checked. If medication is prescribed, check back to see if it is working well enough.

Prediabetes program

Researchers and doctors are working to identify people with prediabetes and to develop a program to keep them from full-blown diabetes.

Doctors and researchers from Emory University, the University of Michigan, and the Department of Health and Human Services have developed a pilot program. It is being used in five states to identify prediabetics and to treat them.

The goal of this ambitious program is to develop a protocol for prevention that could become a national standard.

Eliminate HDL / LDL confusion

If you're like a lot of other people, you have to stop and think whether HDL or LDL is the good cholesterol.

Doctors writing in *The New England Journal of Medicine's HealthNews* say you will be confused no longer if you make this association.

HDL, think "Healthy DL."

LDL, think "Lousy DL"

HDL moves excess cholesterol back to the liver for processing. It's thought of as the blood's cleanup crew.

LDL is the lousy kind. It deposits excesses of itself on the walls of arteries, which increases your risk of heart disease.

Feed your brain

On days when you have to think clearly and well, be sure to optimize the nutrients that are available to the brain during that meeting, presentation, or test.

Sweet rolls and coffee won't do it. They tend to make you crash after about one hour. Your brain won't work very well.

Doctors at Harvard Medical School recommend low-fat milk and whole-grain cereal or eggs, toast, and jam.

Intense brain work, say nutritionists at Yale, is not unlike running a marathon. It just happens to be cognitive rather than physical. Your brain runs on the fuel you ingest just like the rest of your body.

For snacks, eat fruit, vegetables, nonfat yogurt, and energy bars made from fruits, nuts, and seeds.

Tabbert Heads to Washington Memorial

Mark A. Tabbert, 32°, has accepted a position with the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, VA.

For the past six years, Bro. Tabbert has been curator of Masonic and fraternal collections at the National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA.

He is also the author of the recently released *American Freemasons*, published jointly by the museum and New York University Press. The book can be ordered online through the museum's Heritage Shop (www.nationalheritagemuseum.org).

Here are just a few of the book's many reviews.

Norman B. Leeper,
So. California Research Lodge newsletter:

"The author explores the involvement of Freemasonry in the development of our country and attempts to explain why such personages as George Washington, Ben Franklin, Harry Truman and hundreds of others were drawn to our rituals and principles. It is truly something that should be read by every Mason."

Cathy Giaimo,
The Pennsylvania Freemason:

"This book is a true labor of love for Freemasonry and its members. Not only is this book well-researched it is lavishly illustrated, demonstrating the many ways Freemasonry has manifested itself."

Leo Zanelli,
The Square (England):

"This is a superb book: coffee-table in appearance but also a wonderful read. This book will tell you not only a lot about Masonry, but also many of the other fraternal societies that grew up with it. This would be a valuable book for any library - Masonic or otherwise."

ATTENTION VETERANS

Brothers in Arms — Brothers in Life

Your service to our nation is a gift to all Americans and to the world. We, as Scottish Rite Masons, thank you. Sadly, some of our Brothers lie on foreign shores, some in Arlington National Cemetery, and some in their hometowns. To all of these Brothers who paid the ultimate price, we can honor them no further, than to thank them for our freedom by remembering their sacrifice as we see Old Glory fly.

As a veteran of any of our nation's armed services, you have insured our freedom, and we would like to offer you this unique gift as a small token of the appreciation of your fellow Scottish Rite Masons. The "Scottish Rite Famous Mason Coin" in either Bronze or Silver finish with your choice of a famous Mason on the back is yours free. All you have to do is complete the tear-out form below and send it to the

Supreme Council office at the address provided.

You can carry on the military tradition of Unit Coins with a "Scottish Rite Famous Masons Coin" by adding your name to our growing list of members who are veterans of our nation's armed forces and telling us your choice of coin. Please indicate a second choice, as well.

We will send you a coin based on your choice while supplies last.

These coins are a great conversation piece to show off at a gathering of fellow veterans and a way to open the door for conversations about Masonry.

Help us to provide the honor and respect due to our veterans by passing on this information to other veterans who are Masons and encourage them to accept our gift and allow us the opportunity to thank them for their gift of our freedom.

Name _____ Branch of Service _____
 Address _____ Dates of Service _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Rank _____
 Valley _____ Silver _____ Bronze _____

Please indicate a second choice in case we cannot accommodate your first choice.

☐ George Washington

☐ Lewis & Clark

☐ Norman Vincent Peale

☐ Irving Berlin

☐ Benjamin Franklin

☐ Samuel C. Lawrence

☐ Adm. Richard E. Byrd

☐ John Marshall

☐ Will Rogers

☐ Harry S. Truman

Mail to: Veterans Coins • Supreme Council • PO Box 519 • Lexington MA 02420-0519



VIEWS

FROM THE PAST

A New Year

1924 has passed into the memory of years gone by, and 1925 has started on its course. May the new year bring to each of you a full measure of joy and happiness. Let the trials and the disappointments of the past be forgotten. Let us rejoice rather in the achievements that have been wrought, the friends we have gained and all the blessings that have come to us, and with hope for our staff and duty for our guide, walk forth into a new year of service.

As Masons we have much to be thankful for. The fraternity is stronger than ever before in all that makes for real usefulness.

By sincere purpose and united action we have been able to bring cheer and comfort not only to sufferers in our own circle and aid to those of our household who were in need, but also we were permitted to relieve distress in many parts of the world beyond the sea.

Faith in the reality of Masonic brotherhood has been restored where it had all but been extinguished by discouragement and doubt.

Adherence to the foundation principles of the craft has been affirmed anew in a manner that leaves no doubt as to the resolve of the Grand Lodge of New York to stand and abide by them.

1925 has started under way. May it bring to each of you, who read these words of greeting, abundant happiness.

— Robert Judson Kenwamier,
Masonic Outlook, January 1925

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, the Freemason

Benjamin Franklin, as a young man of 24 years, months before he had passed the tiled portals of any Masonic lodge, unwittingly rendered a service to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Freemasons in general, greater in fact than any other person connected with our history.

While in London, 1724-26, the young printer had undoubtedly learned something about the craft, the membership of which was then almost exclusively confined to the nobility and gentry.

The knowledge obtained, limited and vague though it must have been, appears to have quickened the ambitious philosophic brain of the young printer upon the subject of Freemasonry, and whetted his desire to be numbered amongst the elect; an ambition not to be realized under existing conditions, as he was then still under the lawful Masonic age and a journeyman printer, a virtual stranger in the community, and, as a mere soap-boiler's son, lacking both social and financial standing.

In the year 1727 Franklin organized a secret society of his own known as the "Leathern Apron Club," a name itself suggestive of our fraternity.

In 1731, the name of the club was changed, and the character of the club was also revised, so as to become a purely literary one and took the name of "Junto." Its chief element, "secrecy" patterned after the Masonic fraternity, was, however, retained; otherwise it became literary in character, or as Franklin himself wrote, "A club for mental improvement."

The eventful outcome of this club, running side by side as it were, with the craft, was the formation of the Library Company of Philadelphia in 1731 and the American Philosophical Society in 1743, in both of which Franklin was the leading spirit.

It was within the Masonic lodge at Philadelphia, where Franklin had the first opportunity of learning parliamentary usage by actual practice or occupying any position of authority and government.

Consequently in St. John's Lodge, and subsequently in the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was laid the founda-

tion of Franklin's future greatness as a parliamentarian and a prominent figure in all the many and various organizations with which he became identified during his long and active public career.

Further it is an indisputable fact that the offices conferred upon Franklin by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of that early day, were the first public honors held by the great printer and statesman.

To write the history of Franklin as a Freemason is virtually to chronicle the early Masonic history of America.

The published records of the craft in his newspaper known as *The Pennsylvania Gazette* supplant the early minutes of this lodge long since lost or destroyed.

His connections with St. John's Lodge gives us an insight into the financial affairs of early Freemasonry, as found in the yellowing pages of "Liber B." His services as Grand Master and later as Provincial Grand Master are closely interwoven with the early Masonic history of this Jurisdiction.

During the later years of his life he had an active Masonic career in France. There, his activity and intimacy with the Brethren was intimate and close, both personal and official, even advancing to the so-called higher degrees.

— Sereno D. Nickerson,
The New England Craftsman,
February 1906



An Old Man's View of Masonry

The following excerpts appeared in an 1865 Chicago publication. The letter was written by one of the oldest Masons in the country at that time.

Freemasonry, abstracted from its moral, is poorly worth the time spent in its study. The whole teachings of the institution relate to the influence it should exercise over its votaries, and he who takes upon himself the garb but is not influenced by its teachings, spends his labor for naught, and I had almost said is unworthy to be called by the endearing name of Brother. But I can overlook the shortcomings of my fellows when I recall the fact that man is a forgetful being.

God has so organized our physical system that we cannot exist without food and raiment, which are procured by almost incessant labor. And in our hurry and the bustle of life, we are too apt to forget that it was not intended we should live for self alone. There are duties each owes to his fellow man. His weakness demonstrates this fact. There are innumerable things he cannot do without assistance yet how easily we forget this and endeavor to rely on our own strength, alone, bidding defiance, as it were, to nature.

It is a man's interest, aside from selfish considerations, to aid his fellow-creature in time of need. It is a debt he owes him, and it is reciprocal, for his neighbor owes a similar debt to him, that should be paid without the hope of fee or reward.

Thus, it partakes of the essence of charity. Yet, if I do my neighbor a service, expecting something in return, it becomes a bargain and sale, and loses that benign quality that is the essence of all charitable actions.

Does Masonry teach these things? Ay, and more. It teaches the duty man owes to God and himself as

well as those due to his neighbor. Nor does it stop even there. For it teaches the duties we owe to our country most emphatically. If all the human race were to study the Masonic theory and practice it, we should have no more want, no more wars

or bloodshed. Man then could meet his fellow man in confidence as a generous friend who entered into all his feelings of friendship for the human race.

How preferable is all this to our present condition? Now when we meet a stranger it is with distrust. We dare not award him the confidence of an acquaintance tried by the proper tests.

While all men owe to others the reciprocal duties I have mentioned, more especially do these things devolve upon Freemasons, and I would to God I had the talent or qualification to expatiate upon this. How I would press upon the hearts of my brethren to act so as to produce the greatest amount of good and redound most to the benefit of mankind.

Certainly, He never intended that there should be so much suffering on this earth. The fault must be with ourselves. Then, should not wisdom dictate to us the propriety of looking out to the place whence we have erred, with a full determination to amend our ways? Policy, if nothing holier, would dictate such a course. Our own welfare demands it.

God is no respecter of persons. Whatever He requires of one He requires of all. Let us then humbly ask, what are these duties and at once with diligence perform them.

I fear I have inflicted too great a letter upon you. Forgive an old man near his end, who entertains an abiding interest in the welfare of his fellow men.

— James Moore,
The Voice of Freemasonry,
January 1865

Quick Quotes

It's not what you are that holds you back. It's what you think you are not.

— Denis Waitley

The discipline of writing something down is the first step toward making it happen.

— Lee Iacocca

Speak when you're angry, and you'll make the best speech you'll ever regret.

— Lawrence J. Peter

It is in moments of decision that our destiny is shaped.

— Anthony Robbins

Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.

— T. S. Elliot

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

— Bill Vaughan

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeing new landscapes, but in having new eyes.

— Marcel Proust

He is wise who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has.

— Epictetus

A goal is not the same as a desire. You can have a desire you don't intend to act on, but you can't have a goal you don't intend to act on.

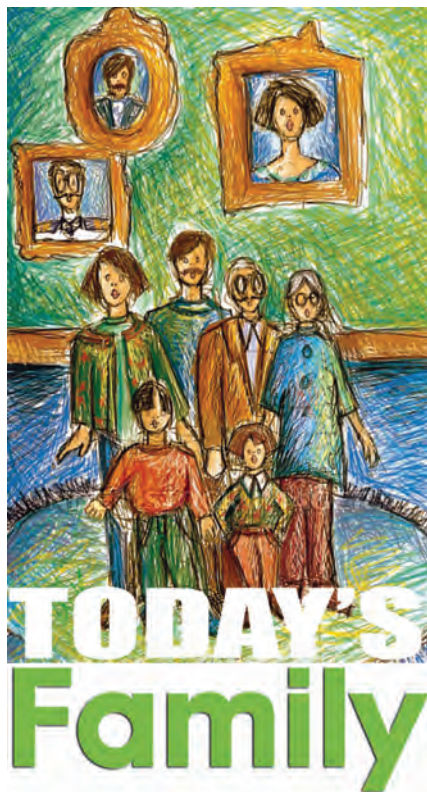
— Tom Morris

A peacock that rests on his feathers is just another turkey.

— Dolly Parton

What is a scientist? It is a curious person looking through the keyhole of nature, trying to know what's going on.

— Jacques Cousteau



Dress up your house

New mailboxes and house numbers can perk up the appearance of your home. House numbers are one of the first things people see.

When choosing numbers, be sure to pick a size that is large enough to be seen easily from the street and a style that is not too ornate to read at a glance.

Mailbox posts should be freshly painted, and mailboxes should certainly not be rusty. From plastic and resin to wood or metal, many standard mailboxes are available at hardware stores.

Homeowners who want to upgrade their mailbox have plenty of options, including cast-metal boxes with newspaper holders.

Changing schools hard on children

The new house may be great and the school system outstanding, but for some reason, your children are moody and uncooperative. Why is that?

Children want stability. They want to keep their friends. Young children may be sad, thinking they are the only

ones in the world without a best friend. And teenagers don't want to fight the popularity situation all over again. They may be reacting more to the stress of a new school than to the move itself.

Educators at the University of California, Santa Barbara, say it's very disruptive for children to change schools, but a single school switch isn't likely to put a well-adjusted child at risk. There are things you can do to help.

- Before the move, explain why it's necessary and describe the advantages of the new location, such as lake, mountain, or park. Familiarize them with the area using street maps.
- After the move, get involved with their activities at church, PTA, scouts, YMCA, or other groups.
- If the student is a senior in high school, consider letting him stay with a trusted family for the rest of the year.
- Help children stay in touch with friends through letters, e-mails, or telephone calls.

Silicone baking pans

Flexible silicone pans come in many colors and can be rolled up or folded for storage. Silicone pans are non-absorbent, nonstick, and dishwasher-safe.

If you have trouble getting a cake out of a baking pan without breaking

it, a silicone pan can help. You can just tip the pan over and peel it off.

Silicone is popular in kitchens. It's used in baking molds, oven mitts, and spatulas. This silicone is a synthetic rubber that can stand up to temperatures from about 450 degrees to -40 degrees.

Children are coming back to roost

Many 20-somethings are having a hard time finding jobs. The boomerang children are moving back home to live with Mom and Dad.

This year, about 65 percent of new college graduates went back home to live at least until they found jobs.

Many parents have missed their children while they were away and are happy to have them back.

Bath vanity too low

Standard bathroom counters and vanities are just 32 inches high. Unless you are 5 feet tall or less, that's too low for comfortable washing, tooth brushing, or reaching for your hair rollers.

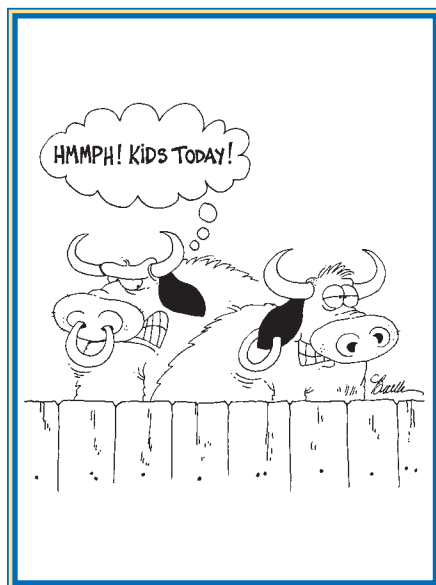
Some builders and designers (and people who don't like to stoop so far) are rebelling against the old standard. They say kitchen counters are 36 inches tall and there is no reason bathroom counters can't be the same height.

If you are comfortable working at your kitchen counter, a higher bathroom counter could be right for you.

More room in the living room

If your living room seems crowded, one of the best ways to gain space is to get rid of the sofa. Get a love seat instead. Sofas may be designed to seat three people, but you know that more than two rarely sit there.

In many living rooms, a pair of love seats will fit in better than one long sofa because you can split them up. Add a pair of matching lamps, and you have created symmetry.



More than Just Books . . .

Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum

Collection Gems: Rare Books and Maps

The Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA, announces the presentation of "Collection Gems" a new exhibition on display from April through November 2006. Featured are rare books, maps and sheet music from the permanent collection. Published prior to 1870, each example relates to travel and exploration, the American Revolution, Native Americans, Freemasonry, the Civil War, or the arts. The 30 items help to showcase the breadth of materials found in the library.

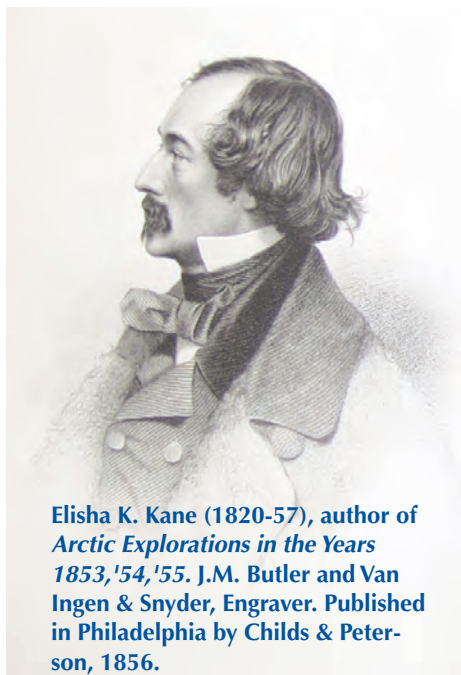
Visitors may ask: "When is a book considered rare?" The age of a book, scarcity, financial or artistic value, and connection to notable people or world events are all contributing factors. The appearance of many of the books as works of art set them apart from today's publications.

Before 1850, rags were used in paper production. The paper did not yellow or become brittle like today's wood pulp product. Illustrations were printed from etched and engraved steel or copper plates, giving more depth to the image not seen in modern offset processes.

Hand-printed engravings were often individually tipped into editions. Many covers and bindings were hand-tooled in leather or calfskin, embossed with gold leaf. End papers were decorated by marbling techniques or other effects.

Some of the books featured in the exhibition have had a profound impact on history. James L. Ferguson's *Astronomy Explained Upon Sir Isaac Newton's Principles* interpreted Isaac Newton's theories for the average person for the first time and demonstrated practical uses for Newton's ideas.

Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, originally published in 1852, was the earliest exposure, to a national audience, of the horrors that slaves were forced to endure. The book helped gain support



Elisha K. Kane (1820-57), author of *Arctic Explorations in the Years 1853, '54, '55*. J.M. Butler and Van Ingen & Snyder, Engraver. Published in Philadelphia by Childs & Peterson, 1856.

for the abolition movement leading to the Civil War.

Explorer Elisha Kent Kane, a member of Franklin Lodge No. 134 in Philadelphia, wrote and illustrated his *Arctic Explorations*, which depicts images of the frozen Arctic, unknown to most people, and spawned future polar exploration.

Among the Masonic books are British and European items from the 18th and 19th centuries. The frontispiece of the 1784 edition of *Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons* was illustrated by Giovanni Battista Cipriani (1727-85), and engraved by Francesco Bartolozzi (1727-1815), both London residents at the time and members of the Nine Muses Lodge. It depicts Freemasons' Hall in London as the backdrop of an allegory of Truth with Faith, Hope and Charity in attendance.

The 1843 edition of *Histoire Pittoresque de la Franc-Maçonnerie et des Sociétés Secrètes Anciennes et Modernes* by F.T. Baegue-Clavel, features 25 steel plate engravings which in-

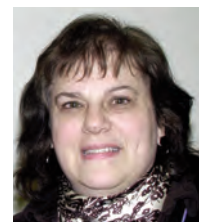
clude depiction of the Masonic funeral for Joseph Warren, Grand Master of Massachusetts, after he was slain at the Battle of Bunker Hill, as well as an image of Napoleon wearing a Masonic apron.

Maps include *A New and Accurate Map of the British Dominions in the Several Provinces and Jurisdictions . . .*, by Thomas Kitchin (d. 1784), published in 1763, which defines European realignment of colonial control in North America following the Seven Years War (1756-63), prior to the American Revolution. *Carte du Théâtre de la Guerre Actuelle Entre les Anglais et les Treize Colonies Unies de l'Amérique Septentrionale*, published in 1778 by J.B. Eliot, marks the geographic settings of the battles of the American Revolution.

The rare books and other items featured in this exhibition are a small part of the permanent library collection comprised of nearly 60,000 volumes, 1,600 serial titles and over 2,000 cubic feet of documents, manuscripts, and other ephemera housed in the archives.

Holdings contain material on American history including Lexington's role in the Revolutionary War, other American fraternal organizations whose development paralleled or were influenced by Masonry, and decorative arts. The library is open to the public Monday through Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm. Other hours may be arranged by appointment.

Professional librarians assist researchers and answer reference questions in the reading room, as well as by phone, letter, or through e-mail. Search online at vgw.library.net or www.nationalheritemuseum.org.



Helaine Davis is Public Services Librarian of the Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum.

READERS



RESPOND

Outdated or Timeless?

As a fortunate regular recipient of your most excellent magazine I was very impressed with the article written by Ill. Norman R. Buecker, 33°, "Outdated? Or Timeless Virtues?" (August 2005).

I read the article to the Brethren of my craft lodge at their last meeting as in my opinion it refocuses one's attention as to what Freemasonry is all about. It created a very favorable response and some very healthy debate that generated enthusiasm and rounded off a very happy evening.

At the festive side I was approached by Brethren for copies of the article and for it to be re-printed in its entirety in our local Masonic magazine.

M.J. Forrester, 33°
East London, South Africa

On the Lighter Side

Lines from resumes we hope aren't true:

- My ability to complete projects on time is unspeakable.
- Hope to hear from you shortly.
- Here are my qualifications for you to overlook.
- My fortune cookie said, "Your next interview will result in a job."
- Previous experience: Self-employed (a fiasco).
- I am a rabid typist.
- My experience in horticulture is well-rooted.
- Education: College, August 1880 to May 1984.
- Special skills: Speak English.
- I am sacking an entry-level position.
- Served as assistant sore manager.
- Married, eight children. Prefer frequent travel.
- Education: B.A., Loberal Arts.
- Objective: To have my skills and ethics challenged on a daily basis.
- Experienced with office machines and make great lattes.
- Graduated in top 66 percent of my class.

Tribute to Hiram's Creator

Wally Miller's cartoon strip, "Hiram," has been appearing in *The Northern Light* since the February 1992 issue, and we have been impressed with his artistic talent. We were saddened to learn that Wally passed away on Oct. 31 and offer our condolence to his widow. Wally was a member of the Valley of Corning, NY, and has always provided us with a set of strips on an annual basis. We learned recently that prior to his death he had drawn a sizeable collection of cartoons for the magazine. Much to our surprise, he had prepared enough for us to include one cartoon strip in each issue for a number of years. His work in the future will appear posthumously.



HIRAM™

By **WALLY MILLER**



Footnotes*

* **Three in one.** "It is a unique occurrence for one Valley to have three Thrice Potent Masters all presiding in their respective lodges in the same year," said Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°, an Active Member for Pennsylvania. This year the Valley of Reading, PA, has that distinction.

Allen D. Moyer, 32°, TPM of Reading Lodge of Perfection, is a member of the four bodies in the Valley of Reading. Ill. Herbert K. Swisher, 33°, TPM of Lancaster (PA) Lodge of Perfection, is a member of the other three bodies in Reading. Donald L. Baker, 32°, TPM of Philadelphia Lodge of Perfection, is a dual member in Reading.

In addition to their duties in their respective Valleys, all three are active in the Valley of Reading. Bro. Moyer appears in various degrees. Ill. Bro. Swisher is a makeup assistant in Reading. Bro. Baker is a wig assistant and frequent cast member in Reading's degrees.

* **DeMolay recognition.**

Sovereign Grand Commander Walter E. Webber, 33°, has been elected to receive the DeMolay Legion of Honor. The investiture will take place at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Cranston, RI, on Sunday, March 26, at 3 p.m.

Ill. Brother Webber received the DeMolay degrees in 1957 at Washington Chapter, Lafayette, RI, where he advanced to the office of Senior Councilor prior to leaving for college. He has continued to offer his support to the young men in the Order of DeMolay.

* **Educating Masons.** The Valley of Rochester, NY, has scheduled a Masonic Education Fair for Scottish Rite Masons. The two-day event will take place at the Damascus Shrine Center in Webster, NY, on March 3-4.

Following a kickoff dinner on Friday evening, historical reenactor Paul Stillman will portray President Theodore Roosevelt, the Mason.

Participating in the program on Saturday will be Kathleen Kutolowski, chairman of the history department at SUNY Brockport and Masonic scholar; Ill. Thomas Jackson, 33°, book reviewer for *The Northern Light* and former Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; Mark A. Tabbert, 32°, author of *American Freemasons* and librarian at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, and Nelson King, editor of the *Phileas* magazine.

The event will conclude with a panel discussion led by George Nasra, 32°, event chairman.

* **Masonic ambassadors.**

Realizing the need for strong blue lodges to provide a firm foundation for the Scottish Rite, the Supreme Council Membership Development Committee has offered its services to the 15 Grand Lodges in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Ill. James E. Olmstead, 33°, committee chairman and Active Member for Ohio, was instrumental in creating a "Masonic Ambassadors" program.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was the first to accept the offer of assistance. The aim of the program is to train blue lodge ambassadors who will advance the message of Masonry among both lodge members and the general public.

The Massachusetts training session was held in December. The Grand Lodge of Maine will host a training session on May 1. Others are being discussed.

* **Detroit relocates.** The Valley of Detroit was faced with a major decision. Can the Valley afford to remain at the Detroit Ma-

sonic Temple or should it consider new quarters? The building is one of the largest Masonic temples in the world and once housed an extensive list of Masonic groups.

Moslem Shrine Temple moved to suburban Southfield a number of years ago, and some of the blue lodges have merged.

In December, the Scottish Rite Valley moved into temporary office space in Dearborn and is currently negotiating with the Masonic lodge in that city. The spring reunion will be held at the Shrine Center.

* **Public awareness.** The Masonic Information Center will be introducing at the Grand Masters Conference in February details of a new award for lodges that create effective awareness programs. Up to 50 lodges will be recognized for demonstrating energy, innovation and creativity in reawakening members and making the public aware of Masonry and its values.

The program will be known as the Mark Twain Masonic Awareness Award. More complete details will appear in the May issue of *The Northern Light* and on the MIC website (msana@ix.netcom.com). The MIC is an arm of the Masonic Service Association.

The MIC has just released a new booklet, "It's about Time! Moving Masonry into the 21st Century." The booklet focuses on the need for public awareness to begin at the grassroots level. Copies of the booklet can be obtained through the Masonic Information Center, 8120 Fenton St., Silver Spring, MD 20910, or through the website.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°
Editor



2006 A New Year — A-NEW-ity.

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This chart is for illustrative purposes and is not
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ernment, but is backed by the assets of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation.

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Age	Rate of Return*
65	6.0%
70	6.5%
75	7.1%
80	8.0%
90	11.3%