

# THE NORTHERN LIGHT

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AUGUST 2004

A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY

## Safeguarding Our Children





### Features



7

### 12 Historic Initiation Ceremony

by Richard H. Curtis, 33°

Prince Hall Grand Lodge reenacts  
Masonic event of 229 years ago.



12

### 16 Orton Gillingham Works

by Carolyn E. Gramling

Hypothesis based on empirical knowledge  
has become scientific fact.

### 4 Identifying What's Important

by Alan E. Foulds

Child ID Program and a  
Masonic commitment to  
families.

4



Det. Paul  
Deluca helps  
his Masonic  
lodge record  
children's  
identification  
at a Town  
Day booth in  
Winchester,  
MA.

### 10 Heroes of a Generation

World War II veterans honored  
at Valley of Cincinnati.

### Columns

- 3 Sovereign Grand Commander
- 18 Notes from Southern Jurisdiction
- 19 Brothers on the Net
- 20 Giving
- 21 The Stamp Act
- 22 Book Nook
- 24 HealthWise
- 26 Views from the Past
- 28 Life is a Family Affair
- 31 Footnotes

### Also:

- 6 How CHIP Works • 9 Whaling Museum Displays Lodge History • 11 In Memoriam: Ill Richard W. Parker, 33° • 14 "Yes Indeed! I'm Walking" • 14 2004 Graduation • 15 IMSLEC Accreditation Earned • 15 Masonic Word Math • 25 Return to Olympus • 27 Quick Quotes • 29 On the Lighter Side • 29 Nation above Party during Election Season • 30 Our Readers Respond • 30 Hiram

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*"Your generosity opens pathways of knowledge  
that might otherwise remain closed."*

— Walter E. Webber, 33°



## A Mason's Work

Although it seems such a short time ago, it was in the fall of 1971 when I initiated my Masonic journey, which brought me to this point in time. It has been an interesting, challenging and enriching experience. The three cardinal principles of our order — brotherly love, relief and truth — remain as vividly painted today as when they were first explained.

As I write this, we are just weeks from completing our fiscal year (ending July 31) for the 2003-04 period. We will be able to report that you Brothers are responsible for a record-breaking year in fund-raising for our Scottish Rite charities. Over \$15 million has been given or pledged in this last fiscal year. Congratulations.

But why do we do it? It goes back to the question, "What is a Mason and how does he go about his work?" Masonry is exhibited to the rest of the world by what a Mason thinks, what he says and what he does. Thoughts, words and deeds. Masonry is also the search for knowledge and truth — certain moral verities.

The greatest lesson of Masonry, however, is the combination of brotherly love, relief and truth. A Mason's manifestation of love is charity, and he expresses that eloquently in thought, in word and in deed.

Our charities are dynamic. They deal with the enrichment of the mind and enhance the

human potential in our charitable outreach. It is the combined ability of us all working together, expressed through our fraternity, that presents us with the tremendous opportunity of improving the civic fabric of this great nation. Freedom of association, freedom of choice and a particular generosity of spirit are distinguishing characteristics of Scottish Rite Masons.

Your generosity and your choice to support our charitable outreach opens pathways of knowledge that might otherwise remain closed — celebrating our culture, heritage and history through the National Heritage Museum; helping to eliminate the scourge of schizophrenia through our research program and allowing the mind to reach its full potential for those afflicted with the disease; enhancing educational opportunities on a post-secondary school basis for Masonically related youth, and our 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children that teach coping and learning strategies for those youth who are afflicted with dyslexia.

My brothers, we are doing well but there is much to do and to be done. You are making a difference daily in the lives of thousands. You make me proud to be a Scottish Rite Mason! Thank you for being Masons in thought, word and deed.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Walter E. Webber". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sovereign Grand Commander



# Identifying What's Important

*Child ID programs and a Masonic commitment to families*

The story line is straight from Hollywood. A young boy did not arrive home from school when he was supposed to.

The initial reaction by the parents was, of course, to rationalize away the abnormality. As the evening wore on their fretting turned to worry, and then to abject fear. The police were called in to investigate.

To help the law enforcement agency in its search, the parents revealed that their child had been videotaped as part of a Masonic child ID program established by the New York Grand Lodge.

The police reviewed the tape. On it, they saw the boy tell how he often visited the video arcade on his way home; a pattern he kept secret from his mother.

The police then went to the arcade seen in the pictures and viewed the facility's security tapes. They clearly showed the 9-year-old talking to a known suspected sex offender.

A quick trip to the home of the suspect proved successful. The boy, held prisoner there, was recovered before he was harmed.

Since the early 1990s, when the New York Grand Lodge began a rudimentary identification program, Masonic organizations have involved themselves in the fight against abductions and other missing child scenarios.

Many blue lodges and Scottish Rite Valleys operate booths at carnivals and town days, hold special events of their own, and go into schools to record identifying features of children.



ALAN E. FOULDS, is the Assistant Editor for The Northern Light.



## Kinderprint

Since the early 1990s child ID kits, called "Kinderprint," have been made available to Scottish Rite Valleys in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction through the Family Life program. The kit consists of an inked strip, used for fingerprinting, together with space for each print. It also has a page designed for the child's photograph and pertinent identifying information. Valleys have used the kits according to their own programs. Some have distributed the kits to families for their own use, while others have held special identification days.

They do it to help make it easier for parents to maintain accurate and useful identification records of their sons and daughters.

The programs vary, but they all have the same goal. Children are identified through fingerprinting, tooth impressions, DNA, and photography.

All records gathered at such events are turned over to the parents for their

safekeeping. The Masonic organization keeps nothing but a permission slip.

Dr. David Harte, director emeritus of the Massachusetts program and enthusiastic spokesperson for the cause, explains how the program has grown and how new features have enhanced its usefulness.

According to Bro. Harte it had its beginnings in New York in 1990. At that time, videotaping was the main focus.

Children were asked questions about



## CHILD ID PROGRAM PASSPORT ASSEMBLY LINE



**REGISTRATION:** Name, Age, and Date are written in the ID Passport by people behind the table. (When nurses assist they hand out DNA swabs here).

**FINGERPRINTING:** Crew fingerprints children in set place of ID Passport in front of the table. (Wooden box for children to stand on).

**HEIGHT AND WEIGHT:** One person behind the tables writes down the measurements in the ID Passport, and one in front takes measurements.

**PHOTOGRAPHY & DNA SWAB HANDOUT:** Person takes Polaroids and pastes the pictures in book and hands out DNA Swabs and explains use. (Also gives out pencils).

their lives, who their friends were, where they liked to go after school, and where their "secret hiding places" — if they had any — were located.

Fingerprinting was optional. Families were given "do-it-yourself" carbon strips for that purpose. The Massachusetts Grand Lodge joined in 1996.

Today, there are at least 15 states from as far away as Hawaii that are conducting identification programs, with more joining all the time.

A parallel movement began within the Scottish Rite's Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. As part of the Family Life program, "Kinderprint" child identification kits were made available.

The 3x5-inch booklet contains a carbon strip for fingerprinting, boxes for the prints, a place for a photograph, and a page of vital information such as sex, race, blood type, height, weight, and hair color.

The program thrives today, as it has become a traditional part of Family Life in many Valleys.

For instance, in 2003, South Bend purchased 700 child ID kits, and in early 2004 the number had surpassed 1,000. Bro. Bruce Metzger, Valley Secretary, says that his organization works with local blue lodges to set up identification days at shopping malls, parades, and other events.

They supply the kits, as well as cameras, banners, balloons, and decorations.

They also provide instructions to volunteers who come from both the blue lodges and Scottish Rite membership.

He added that there have also been side benefits. Masonic literature has been requested by parents of children being identified. In at least a few cases,

the interest shown in the fraternity has resulted in the receipt of petitions.

He also says the program has created an additional sense of purpose among the membership.

Bro. Leo Lohrman of Bridgeport says his Valley takes part in Stratford Day. At the Scottish Rite Cathedral in the heart of the city, they run movies and give out ice cream and balloons, ➤





► while processing more than 500 children, taking tooth prints, fingerprints, videos and still photographs.

As a major part of its Family Life program, the Valley of Quincy last year staged 11 separate identification events.

They constructed a portable assembly line that was moved each month to various places, such as the YMCA, parks, the courthouse, and local businesses.

There they began with registration, creating a "passport" with the child's name, age, and date.

Next, fingerprints were added, together with height and weight. A photo was taken and glued into the passport.

Finishing the process, the child was given a memento, such as a coin purse or pencil and parents were presented with the completed passport, together with the DNA swab and directions on its use.

Bro. Marvin Johnson, chairman of the Family Life program for the Valley points out that a new photo should be taken each year. He estimates that Quincy has processed between 1,200 and 1,500 children.

The Valley of Lancaster, PA, also ties the program with Family Life. Each year, according to Secretary Peter Null, a family night is held, complete with clowns and magicians, and child identification is done at that time.

Dr. Harte, a Boston-area dentist, got involved in 1998 as a direct result of a plane crash off the coast of Long Island.

He was called in for his forensic expertise to help identify several students, killed on their way to France.

In some cases families had to wait eight weeks before positive identification could be made. It gave him the idea to add tooth prints to the child ID program.

Since then CHIP, as the program is known, has become the world's most comprehensive child ID program, having been profiled by the Associated Press and CNN-Worldwide.

It has also been singled out for recognition by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

As the program grows, the methods of identification have become more sophisticated. Saliva tests can be used for DNA and scent tracking.

In September of 2003 cheek swabs – the taking of a small sample from inside the child's mouth – provide "nuclear and mitochondrial identification," according to Dr. Harte.

Working directly with Crime Prevention Officers Associations in various

## How CHIP Works

According to the CHIP handbook, the program has become the most comprehensive child ID program available for parents to record identifying qualities of their children. A standardized system has been developed, encompassing many steps. Generally, when CHIP booths are set up, they consist of the following five stations:

### **Sign up/Permission.**

**Tooth impressions.** The impressions are made using a thermoplastic wafer that is first heated in hot water until soft. It is then inserted in the child's mouth and the child is asked to bite down.

**Fingerprinting.** With the aid of law enforcement agencies, fingerprints are taken.

**Videotaping.** Each child is taped as he or she is asked a series of questions designed to reveal individual characteristics and patterns. For instance they are all asked to give their name and address, nicknames that their friends call them, where they go to school, what they like to do after school, sports that they play, what they want to be when they grow up, and where they like to go when they need to be alone. They are also videotaped as they stand next to a height chart, or some other point of reference, and finally, they are asked to give a big smile, showing their teeth.

**Monitor/Check out.** Before the child leaves the area, the videotape is checked to make sure everything worked well.

The taking of cheek swabs is also sometimes added to the process.

More information can be found at [www.mychip.org](http://www.mychip.org), where a complete handbook is available for downloading.

states, as well as the American Dental Association, the program is spreading.

In Massachusetts alone, according to CHIP co-chairman Jim Spurrell, over 190,000 children have been identified.

To help, he has trained volunteers from Rainbow, DeMolay, Masons, and parents, as well as members of the Rotary and Lions Clubs.

At a massive 7-state CHIP Day in May 14,000 children were processed at 67 locations. The event was covered by nine television networks.

More than 1,000 dentists gave their time to assure success for the event. Dr. Harte says he hopes that this leads to a

national CHIP day. He feels that eventually every U.S. state and Canadian province will adopt the program.

The CHIP program and the Scottish Rite identification activities are open to the general public.

Despite a cost of roughly \$3.50 per child for all materials used, there is no charge to the parents.

Bro. Spurrell says, "It is one of the most important things that the lodges and Valleys have done for children. Masons receive much more than they put into it." He ends by saying, "It is the greatest program we hope we never have to use."



# Cataloging Consumer History

By HELAINE DAVIS

*Catalog exhibit at the Van Gorden-Williams Library*

When in 1872 traveling salesman Aaron Montgomery Ward sent a one-page list of farm supplies to mid-western farmers, he revolutionized consumerism in the United States.

Today, many Americans peruse the pages of Spiegel's, Sears and other catalogs to purchase almost anything from next door to across the country. Food, clothing or even heavy-duty machinery is bought via Internet, phone or mail instead of traveling to individual stores.

Spurred in the late 1800s by buyers' desire for goods at low prices, improvements in postal delivery and increasingly sophisticated printing technology, mail-order catalogs have played a role in the growth of the U.S. economy.

The current exhibition in the Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum presents a sampling of catalogs from the library collection and the methods merchants introduced in order to sell their goods through the mail. "Satisfaction Guaranteed: Mail-Order Catalogs in the United States" opened in late July and runs through February 2005.

Aaron Montgomery Ward and his colleagues began the Montgomery Ward mail-order business and introduced the "Satisfaction or your money back" guarantee. With their attractive low prices, Ward became supplier to the cooperative stores set up by the farmers' fraternal benefit organization, Patrons of Husbandry—later known as

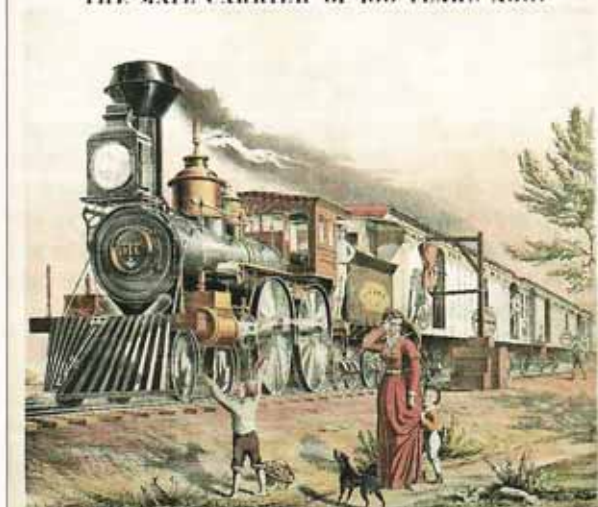
the Grange. By 1893, the company was so well known that 285,000 customers chose to combine their trip to the Columbian Exposition in Chicago with a tour of Ward's Chicago-based warehouse.

Richard W. Sears, railroad-agent-turned-watch-salesman, and his partner watch repairman, Alvah C. Roebuck, followed Ward's lead in 1894 and opened the Sears, Roebuck and Company mail-order warehouse also in Chicago. Billing itself as the "cheapest supply house on earth," Sears made \$10 million in 1901 as the largest mail-order business in the country. In 1913, after the U. S. postal service began to deliver packages by parcel post, Sears catalogs grew to over 1,000 pages, selling almost everything including ready-cut building kits for houses. Proof of its marketing savvy could be seen in its "send no money" ads that required payment only after the customer received the item.

By 1900, both Montgomery Ward and Sears, Roebuck produced large and widely distributed mail-order catalogs. Both companies had built their headquarters in Chicago, as a strategic central location for shipping goods to farm families, who in the early 1900s comprised 65 percent of the growing U.S.



THE MAIL CARRIER OF 100 YEARS AGO.



The FLIGHT of the FAST MAIL on the LAKE SHORE MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RY.  
The Popular Passenger Route between the EAST and WEST.  
UNION DEPOTS. NO FERRY TRANSFERS. NO DELAYS.

"The Flight of the Fast Mail." Railroad poster by J.A. Burch, published in 1875. Note the square and compass on the front of the engine.

population. By 1915, both Montgomery Ward and Sears sold over \$200 million worth of merchandise primarily to farm families.

At the turn of the 20th century — during peacetime and a resurgence of interest in fraternal organizations — companies such as Ames Sword and M.C. Lilley shifted from manufacturing and selling military regalia to selling fraternal ritual items through mail-order. Today, fraternal regalia companies, such as New London Regalia and Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Company, continue to sell by mail as a ➤



Helaine Davis is the public services librarian, responsible for reference and public liaison at the Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA.



**"Satisfaction  
Guaranteed:  
Mail-Order Catalogs  
in the United States"**

Van Gorden-Williams Library  
at the National Heritage Museum  
Lexington, MA

**through  
February 6, 2005**

► way to reach customers all over the country without the expense of maintaining the overhead costs of individual stores.

What made purchasing methods change after the Civil War? Before 1850, horse-powered mail delivery in America often took months. Stagecoaches, which were slow, unreliable, and often unsafe, transported both passengers

and mail from the railroad depot into town. Trains became an important alternative to horse-drawn delivery when in 1838 Congress passed a bill making every American railroad line a postal route. However, most towns were not accessible until after the Civil War when train tracks spanned across the United States.

Over time railways developed their own mail cars adapted from British models to sort mail more efficiently. U.S. Post Office Department railway clerks sorted the mail inside the car, dropped it at each town's depot, and caught bags of outgoing mail from a crane situated outside the depot. In 1896, after Rural Free Delivery began, mail was delivered from the train depot by stagecoach directly to most farms. The relative speed and efficiency of mail pick-up and

drop-off created a new avenue for selling items. Buyers could select items from their catalogs, mail in their orders and receive their purchases within a matter of weeks.

Hoping to repeat the success of general mail-order catalogs, fraternal regalia manufacturers, such as Ihling Bros. and Henderson-Ames, began selling their standardized ritual items through mail-order at the turn of the 20th century. The catalogs provided reasonably priced goods for members across the country and standardized dress. Local lodges often purchased the items, ensuring that members would be clothed alike for their ceremonial ritual roles at the lodge or in more public assemblies.

This exhibit includes original catalogs, illustrations, and items featured in the catalogs from the fraternal regalia manufacturing companies, such as Ihling Bros.

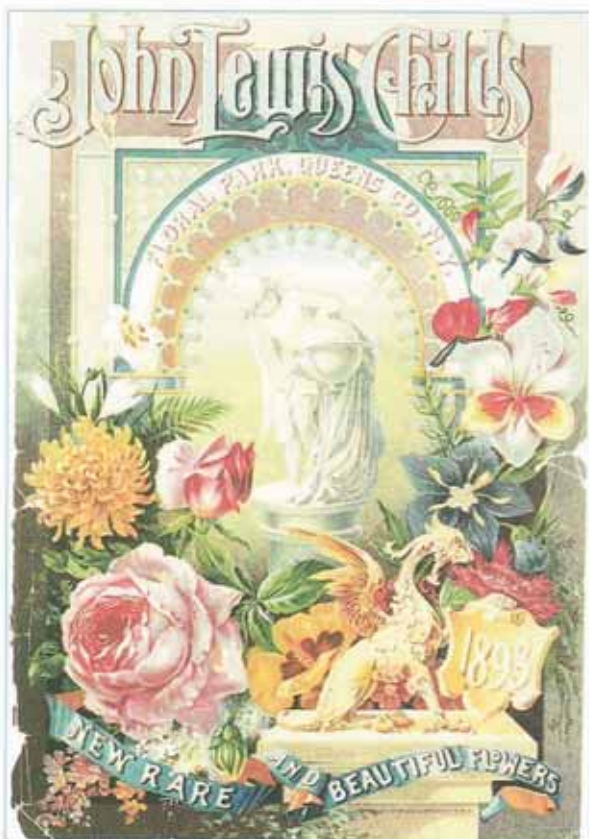
**EASTERN STAR  
CATALOGUE**



**IHLING BROS. EVERARD CO.**  
KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Ihling Bros. Everard catalog of Eastern Star regalia, published in Kalamazoo, MI.

Seed catalog for John Lewis Childs, published in the early 1890s.



Everard. Founded in 1869 originally as Ihling Bros., Herbert H. Everard joined the company in 1880. Everard was the publisher of the *Michigan Freemason* magazine. At the turn of the 20th century after the Spanish American War, with a resurgence of interest in fraternal organizations, Ihling Bros. Everard added a department to manufacture and sell fraternal regalia. It remained one of the major mail-order suppliers until it closed in the late 1990s.

Ohio bookbinder Mitchell C. Lilley (1819-1897) started a Civil War military regalia business in 1865. Later he extended the product line to include fraternal regalia and supplies. In 1887, M.C. Lilley Co. employed 420 workers and, as a factory inspector noted, was the "largest establishment of its kind in the world." The company purchased Henderson-Ames in 1923 and Ames Sword Company in 1924. It, in turn, was bought out by C.E. Ward of New London, Ohio, in 1951.

The catalogs on display are only a part of those housed in the library and archives. Researchers are welcome to view other regalia and Americana catalogs from the archives collection in the Van Gorden-Williams Library reading room, which is open to the public Monday through Saturday, 10-5.



# Whaling Museum Displays Lodge History

Masonry and the whaling industry in Sag Harbor, NY, have been linked since their beginnings.

In the early 19th century, the town's first lodge was established by whaling men.

Today, almost 200 years later, their interests are still tied together as a museum dedicated to the preservation of the history of Sag Harbor, and its whaling days share a building with the present-day lodge.

Throughout the summer and early fall that co-existence is being celebrated with an exhibit and symposium headed up by museum director Zachary Studenroth and guest curator Mark Tabbert, 32°, of the National Heritage Museum.

In 1804, Sag Harbor's first lodge was formed. Hampton Lodge No. 111 was chiefly comprised of men who had immigrated to the village as Masons from many ports.

When a critical mass had been achieved, these men petitioned for and received a charter.

For many years the lodge moved its meeting site among available locations but remained strong.

After 11 years of operation, however, the lodge ran headlong into problems associated with a sea-faring membership.

Many of the men spent much time at sea, leaving few behind to maintain the lodge. Adding to the problem was a practice of crediting dues back to members during their time aboard ship, leaving the group continually strapped for cash.

In 1816, these problems took their toll and the original organization went dark.

The lodge's closure preceded by just a few years, the so-called anti-Masonic era, which saw many lodges disappear throughout the nation.

In 1858, as the movement against Masonic activity subsided, a new lodge at Sag Harbor grew from the ashes of the old.

Three surviving members of Hampton Lodge became founding members of Wamponam Lodge, and Ma-



Henry S. Roscoe, circa 1864, pictured in this marble frame that shows many Masonic symbols. Bro. Roscoe was an officer of Wamponam Lodge for many years.

sonry once again began to thrive in the small port.

The name is derived from a local Native American term meaning, "to the eastward."

The new lodge, as with its predecessor, moved several times. In 1920 it found permanence as it acquired the current property, a large Greek revival mansion in the center of town that was once home to ship builder Benjamin Hunting.

Initially, the Masons had drawings created that detailed grandiose plans for the site. Because of financial constraints, the plans were never executed.

Instead the group opted to renovate by tearing out the upstairs bedrooms to create a lodge hall. Downstairs remained idle until it was offered to the local historical society as exhibition space.

In 1945, the relationship between the two organizations housed in the building reversed. The historical society took ownership, but the lodge continues to meet upstairs to this day.

Marking the birth of the original Hampton Lodge, the current exhibit celebrates 200 years of Masonry in Sag Harbor and the close relationship enjoyed between lodge and community.

The exhibit draws upon the expertise of the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA.

Zachary Studenroth, the director of what has become known as the Sag Harbor Whaling and Historical Museum, says that he first became associated with the Scottish Rite Masons when working at an historical home in Norwalk, CT.

There, he coordinated an exhibition on bicycles. For background information he met with representatives of the National Heritage Museum.

They jointly worked on the project, and it was agreed that the bicycle display would later travel to Lexington. Through that project he came to know staff members at Lexington, including Bro. Mark Tabbert, who he tapped to help coordinate the current Masonic exhibit.

Tabbert, in turn, recommended Prof. Steven C. Bullock of Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Studenroth says he hopes that this is the beginning of a new partnership with the Masons, which may produce further "Americana" displays in the mold of the Scottish Rite's exhibits at the National Heritage Museum.

The exhibit, "To the Eastward: 200 Years of Freemasonry in Sag Harbor," displays items from the current lodge as well as the original Masonic organization in the village.

It is scheduled to run at the Sag Harbor Whaling and Historical Museum, located at 200 Main Street, through late October.

On October 16, the museum will host a symposium featuring Studenroth, as well as Mark Tabbert, Steven Bullock, Will Moore, who is a scholar of the late 19th century, and a yet-to-be-announced expert on the War of 1812 and the whaling industry.

More information on the exhibit, symposium, and museum can be found at [www.sagharborwhalingmuseum.org](http://www.sagharborwhalingmuseum.org).



# Heroes Of a Generation

*World War II Veterans Honored  
at Valley of Cincinnati*

The spring reunion at the Valley of Cincinnati was not just another reunion. Billed as the "Heroes of a Generation" class, the reunion honored World War II veterans.

The heavier-than-usual attendance attracted many members who had not attended a reunion in recent years. There were 120 WWII veterans participating in the day's activities.

In the months leading up to the reunion, veterans were asked to submit photos and other memorabilia, which were included in a multimedia presentation. As each veteran was called upon, a special commemorative medal was presented by Ill. Chester G. Burton, 33°, Active Member for Ohio and a member of the Valley, and a personal tribute appeared on the screen.

The medal was suspended from a red, white and blue ribbon. The Latin words "Fidelitas, Sacrifitum, Fiduciaque Officium Equitas Sunt" (Fidelity, Sacrifice and Trust are a knight's

service) encircled a double-headed eagle. The phrase relates to both the knights of the Consistory and the military service of the veterans. Other members were able to purchase the medal with a black and white ribbon.

The keynote speaker at the evening banquet was Ill. Everett D. Reamer, 33°, who enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1941 at the age of 16. Stationed in the Philippines on the island of Corregidor, Reamer was taken prisoner at the fall of Corregidor in 1942. He was assigned to a POW camp in Osaka, Japan. During this time, he was forced to work as a slave laborer without adequate food, clothing or medical attention.

Enduring repeated beatings and 28 days of continuous abuse, Reamer was forced to stand motionless for 132 hours without food, water or relief. He is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for standing at attention longer than any other human being.

He eventually collapsed and was sentenced to solitary confinement in Osakam Sakai Prison, where Reamer remained until the end of the war and his release in 1945.



Keynote speaker Everett D. Reamer, 33°, related his experiences as a POW during the Second World War.

Ill. Chester G. Burton, 33°, greeted every WWII veteran individually.



Said Ill. Brother Reamer, "My God and our flag, which represent all that our country embraces, gave me the strength to endure and sustain my life from day to day until my liberation — and continues even today."

A number of years ago, Ill. John M. Cutter, 33°, wrote a play, "Nightmare House: Truman at Pottsdam," which was produced by the Valley of Cincinnati. For this reunion, he prepared a monologue, which featured the words of President Truman and the personal reflections of the man who led the nation during the war.

Portraying Truman was Ill. Charles A. Brigham III, 33°, Commander-in-Chief of the Consistory and general chairman for the reunion. Brigham had spent many hours studying tapes of the former president so that the appearance





The Sentimental Sweethearts, imitating the Andrews Sisters, entertained with music from the 1940s.


A military jeep and a howitzer were placed in the banquet hall on Saturday to provide atmosphere for the reunion.



and the actions brought life to the character. Some members of the audience were convinced that Truman was actually in attendance.

The idea of honoring the World War II veterans came to the Commander-in-Chief's mind at the time of his father's funeral in February 2003. The elder Brigham, a Past

Grand Master in Ohio, was a veteran of the war, and someone commented that there were not many veterans left from "the greatest generation."

Chip came up with the plan and turned it into one of the most memorable reunions in the history of the Valley of Cincinnati. 

## In Memoriam

### III. Richard W. Parker, 33°

III. Richard Waldo Parker, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council for the State of Vermont, died on May 3, 2004, in Burlington, VT.

Brother Parker was born in Haverhill, MA, on Aug. 22, 1930, son of Edwin Foster and Dorothy Kimball (Waldo) Parker.

He grew up in Lexington, MA, where he graduated from high school in 1948. He attended Cornell University on a Naval ROTC scholarship, serving as a midshipman.

Dick began his business career as an industrial engineer at Eastman Kodak in Rochester, NY. He moved to Burlington, VT, where he affiliated with Vermont Structural Steel Corporation as a production manager and vice president for 30 years. He retired in 1988.

He was also co-owner and business manager of Wilcox Cove golf course and summer resort on Lake Champlain.

On July 10, 1954, Bro. Parker married Nancy Anne Moore, who, together with two sons, Douglas and Daniel, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild, survive him.

Civically, he was active as president of the Burlington Lions Club, chairman of the American Welding Society, and a member of the board of directors for the Baird Children's Center for Emotionally Disturbed Children.

As a member of the First Congregational Church in Burlington, he served as a trustee, deacon, and chairman of the Christian education committee.

III. Bro. Parker was raised a Master Mason in Simon W. Robinson Lodge in Lexington, MA, on June 16, 1952. He transferred to Washington Lodge No. 3, Burlington, VT, where he served as Master in 1970-71. He was also ritual advisor and chairman of the finance committee for several years.

In 1972 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Lecturer, and was Grand Marshal in 1977. He became Senior Grand Deacon in 1980.

In York Rite Masonry he was exalted in Burlington Chapter No. 3 in March 1980, greeted in Burlington Council No. 5, and knighted in Burlington Commandery No. 2 in June 1980.

In Scottish Rite Masonry Bro. Parker completed the degrees in the Valley of Burlington on Nov. 3, 1962. He served as Thrice Potent Master of Haswell Lodge of Perfection in 1971, Sovereign Prince of Joseph W. Roby Council of Princes of Jerusalem in 1973, and Most Wise Master of Delta Chapter of Rose Croix in 1974.

He received the 33° in 1977 and was crowned an Active Member in 1978.

Bro. Parker was appointed as Deputy for the state of Vermont in 1980 and remained in position for 20 years.

He was also a member of the Committee on Rituals and Ritualistic Matter for two decades and was chairman from 1994-2001.

III. Bro. Parker was dean of the Supreme Council, 1998-2001, and then became an Active Emeritus Member on Sept. 25, 2001 at Indianapolis, IN.



# Historic Initiation Ceremony

By RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°

## *Prince Hall Grand Lodge Reenacts Masonic Event of 229 Years Ago*

**T**hey came from far and wide to witness the special ceremony. Prince Hall Masons from many states converged at South Boston's Castle Island in April to witness a reenactment of Prince Hall's initiation into Freemasonry.

The event was sponsored by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Under a large tent inside Fort Independence, Grand Master David R. Phillips welcomed nearly 500 Masons to the place "where it all began."

It was at this site on March 6, 1775, that Prince Hall and 14 other "men of color" were raised as Master Masons into Lodge No. 441, under the Irish Constitution.

The members of the traveling military lodge, attached to the British 38th Regiment of Foot, were garrisoned at what was then called Castle William Island near Boston harbor.

To reenact the historic occasion, 15 Fellowcrafts from various Prince Hall Grand Lodges were selected for the raising. The officers and degree team



were dressed appropriately in colonial attire.

Until recently Prince Hall Grand Lodges have operated without ac-

knowledge from mainstream Grand Lodges as neither recognized the other. Over the years there have been several attempts to correct the oversight.

An 1897 resolution passed by the Grand Lodge in the state of Washington would have allowed Prince Hall Masons to visit lodges, but the resolution was rescinded when other Grand Lodges threatened to withdraw recognition. A similar situation in Massachusetts some 60 years later caused that Grand Lodge to rescind its action.

In 1989, the two Grand Lodges in Connecticut passed resolutions to provide for the rights of visitation between the lodges under their jurisdictions.



When the warrant for African Lodge No. 459 was issued by the Grand Lodge of England in 1784, Prince Hall was named as Master of the Lodge.





Outside the entrance to Fort Independence, Grand Master David R. Phillips welcomed Dr. Richard K. Fields, who portrays Prince Hall on the lecture circuit. Dr. Fields is president of Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology in Boston.

When the Irish regiment left Boston less than two weeks after the 1775 raising, the 15 black Masons continued to meet informally. They eventually formed their own lodge, which they called African Lodge No. 1, with Prince Hall as its Master.

The Grand Lodge of England received a request from the lodge, and a charter was granted on Sept 29, 1784. The official charter did not reach the members of the lodge until nearly three years later. The charter authorized the lodge to meet as African

Lodge No. 459. The original 15 members had increased to 34 by 1787.

It may have been confusion at the time of the merger of the two rival Grand Lodges in England in 1813 or perhaps a lack of communication between continents, but African Lodge was dropped from the rolls of the United Grand Lodge of England.

In the meantime, Prince Hall had created lodges in Providence, RI, and Philadelphia. Four Philadelphia lodges chartered by Prince Hall formed their own Grand Lodge in December 1815.

Prince Hall petitioned the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1827 seeking recognition for African Lodge No. 459, but the request was denied. So the lodge created its own Grand Lodge.

It was not until after the death of Prince Hall in December 1807 that the name of the first Master of African Lodge was used to identify the lodges and Grand Lodges that trace their lineage to No. 459. Today there are more than 5,000 lodges under 47 Grand Lodges associated with the Prince Hall Affiliation.

Eventually Grand Lodges in other states took similar action to extend official recognition.

Today there are 26 Grand Lodges within the United States that recognize a Prince Hall counterpart.

When the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts discussed recognition with the United Grand Lodge of England in 1993, the Grand Secretary of the UGLE recommended that the charter for Lodge No. 459 be returned and the lodge could then seek reconsideration as a new lodge.

Prince Hall Grand Master Nicholas Benjamin Locker indicated that his Grand Lodge had been independent for more than 200 years and would carry on with or without recognition. He also pointed out that African Lodge No. 459 is no longer an active constitutional lodge but is now a symbolic lodge of their historic past.

In December 1994, the board of general purposes of the United Grand Lodge of England recommended that "the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts should be deemed to be accepted as regular and recognized." A resolution was adopted, and the two Grand Lodges now recognize each other.

Unfortunately, many offshoots have sprung up along the way. All consider themselves Masonic lodges. According to David Gray (see "Book Nook" on p. 23), there are now more than 200 predominantly black Grand Lodges in the United States that are not associated with the Prince Hall Affiliation. None of these have been recognized by either mainstream Grand Lodges or Prince Hall Grand Lodges.

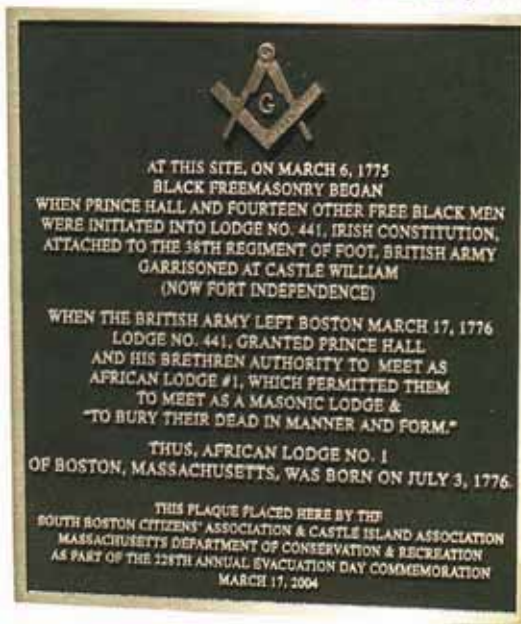
The Prince Hall system also adopted appendant bodies similar to the mainstream system. There have been for some time a Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine and Eastern Star.

In 1995, the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction met with its Prince Hall counterpart. Both agreed to accept a resolution in which visitation rights would be extended within those states where the Grand Lodges have agreed to exchange fraternal recognition. Grand Lodges in 14 of the 15 states in the Northern Jurisdiction have such an agreement. Only the Grand Lodge of Delaware remains without recognition.

During the course of the reenactment festivities, Grand Historian Raymond T. Coleman provided a brief history of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

The 1784 charter, which is usually stored in a bank vault, made a rare appearance and was on display throughout the day for Masons to view.

A plaque has been placed at Fort Independence on Castle Island to commemorate the historic event of March 6, 1775.







## 32° MASONIC LEARNING CENTERS FOR CHILDREN, INC.

### *"Yes Indeed! I'm Walking"*

Following up on the highly successful pilot program of last year, the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children will again host Walks to Help Dyslexic Children.

In 2003 the Lexington, MA, center, together with the Valley of Lowell, ran charity walks in the fall. This year, with experience under their belts, the number of walks has expanded to more than 40 sites located across the

15-state jurisdiction.

For last year's program both walks were scheduled on the same day. This year October has been declared the month to bring awareness to learning disabilities, and the individual Valleys and centers will conduct walks during the four-week period.

To join the walk in your area, see the walks schedule and the contact information.

#### **September 26**

Indianapolis, IN; 317-898-6611

#### **October 2**

Burlington, VT; 802-658-6445  
Columbus, OH; 614-476-4321  
Marquette, MI; 866-535-2766  
Youngstown, OH; 330-965-9826

#### **October 3**

Bangor, ME; 207-990-2277  
Nashua, NH; 603-472-2076  
Worcester, MA; 508-875-4218

#### **October 9**

Akron, OH; 330-664-0263  
Dayton, OH; 937-901-7994  
Ft. Wayne, IN; 260-622-7305  
Rochester, NY; 585-425-9969  
Traverse City, MI; 231-352-7188  
W. Michigan; 616-459-8472

#### **October 10**

Altoona, PA; 814-944-4101  
Canton, OH; 330-493-1942  
Cincinnati, OH; 513-947-9963  
Lancaster, PA; 717-898-2185  
Syracuse, NY; 315-529-0977  
Waterbury, CT; 203-729-9313

#### **October 16**

Harrisburg, PA; 717-657-8407  
Hasbrouck Hgts., NJ; 201-288-2892  
Middletown, NY; 845-457-3748  
Northfield, NJ; 609-347-7207  
South Bend, IN; 574-272-7322  
So. Illinois; 618-344-7899

#### **October 17**

Allentown, PA; 215-348-1214  
Binghamton, NY; 607-692-3391  
Bloomsburg, PA; 570-784-5000  
Chicago, IL; 708-755-7355  
Cleveland, OH; 216-579-2159  
Detroit, MI; 313-240-8374  
Portland, ME; 207-892-3684  
Reading, PA; 610-486-0541  
Schnectady, NY; 518-399-5674  
Steubenville, OH; 740-635-0204  
Tenafly, NJ; 973-839-4252  
Toledo, OH; 419-633-1003

#### **October 23**

Evansville, IN; 812-425-7813  
Newark, NJ; 973-226-2777  
Providence, RI; 401-884-5266

#### **October 24**

Lowell, MA; 978-486-3393  
Newtonville & Lexington, MA;  
781-334-6041

**Date To Be Determined:** Burlington, NJ; Jamestown, NY;  
Scotch Plains, NJ, and Utica, NY

## GRADUATION 2004 GRADUATION

As yet another class successfully completed the program offered at the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, the event was marked by graduation ceremonies throughout the jurisdiction.

At the Lexington center, parent Patricia Corcoran remarked on the importance of the learning center to her family.

She said, "Before I was told of this wonderful program it was like being lost and adrift in the ocean. I kept searching and trying to get help, but the frustration grew."

When she discovered the program she saw it as "a beacon of light."

"It seems like a mystery when you first begin your journey with the learning center," she said.

"You come with apprehension and a sometimes resistant child. While sitting in the waiting room, something wonderful happens."

"People have come from miles around in search of the same answers." She described how a spontaneous support group formed among all the parents. "We talk and comfort each other, share information, and vent a little, too."

Throughout the life of the course, she says that progress is measurable and steady.

"Test scores for comprehension rise and your child is not complaining so much about reading."

"Grades begin to improve, and you see confidence grow day by day."

She concluded, "There is something very special here, and it keeps growing with research and awareness."

"This program has truly been a life-line. We will miss coming here but will forever be connected to this place and its people."



## Learning Centers Receive National Recognition IMSLEC Accreditation Earned

The 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., passed a major milestone this spring as it received "IMSLEC" accreditation for its training program.

IMSLEC, which stands for "International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council" was formed nine years ago to measure certain criteria for instructional programs dealing with various learning disabilities.

According to its official charge, "it is an important resource for parents, governmental agencies, and education systems."

It has established, "organizational criteria and research-based instructional program standards for content and methodology."

In other words, it sets standards, aiding those in need of the programs in choosing what is best for them.

According to Dr. David C. Winters, 32°, clinical director of the Masonic learning centers program, dyslexia is not a licensed field. "There are no regulations. Several years ago a thrust toward quality control was made."

This movement resulted in the creation of IMSLEC, formed to accredit training programs.

IMSLEC president Joyce Pickering, of the Shelton School in Dallas, says that they began by "evaluating four prototype training plans, including that of Massachusetts General Hospital."

Subsequently 28 additional programs were accredited. At the suggestion of the Supreme Council in 2001, five of the Masonic learning centers applied for accreditation.

In the spring of 2003 Phyllis Meisel, director of training for the learning centers, together with Bro. Winters met with the directors of the five centers.

It was decided, since all programs within the Masonic program are identical, to withdraw the applications and re-apply as a single entity.

Using the Lexington learning center as the representative site, the first step, a self-study taking several months to complete, began.

During this phase in March 2004, adjustments were made to the training guide, and the program was ready for the council visitation.

The evaluation team was comprised of IMSLEC members from across the nation.

Included were Valerie Tucker of LEAD, Inc., Argyle, TX, and treasurer of the organization, Joan Knight of New York, and Joyce Pickering.

While onsite the committee observed sessions at the learning center, spoke with trainees, and reviewed files.

Interviews were conducted with Joyce Gillis, Lexington center director; Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, executive director of the Masonic Learning Centers; Bro. Winters; Commander Walter E. Webber, 33°, and Carol Milne, learning center program accountant.

Discussions were also held with the members of the program's corporate

board of directors and the board of governors from several centers.

In May the IMSLEC board of directors voted for full accreditation, citing that there are no areas of non-compliance and the program exceeds all acceptable levels of quality assurance, education level, and data recording.

President Pickering further stated that it was "a real pleasure visiting the site and seeing the absolutely wonderful program."

She commented that the efforts of the Masons in this field are "ground-breaking and an enormous gift."

Bro. Berlandi feels that the accreditation recognizes "our national leadership in the quality of professional services provided. We are pleased and excited by this affirmation by IMSLEC."

The program is due to be re-evaluated in three years and every five years after that.

## 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.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(\text{SCHOOL}) + (\text{VACATION}) - \\
 &(\text{COIN}) + (\text{GROUND}) - (\text{VAULT}) + \\
 &(\text{MUSTER}) - (\text{CRASH}) + (\text{SPOILED}) \\
 &- (\text{NOSE}) - (\text{STUPID}) \\
 &= \boxed{\phantom{00000}} \mid \boxed{\phantom{00000}}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Clue for this puzzle appears on page 27.**

**Answer from previous issue: PAST MASTER**



# Orton Gillingham Works

By CAROLYN E. GRAMLING

*Hypothesis based on empirical knowledge has become scientific fact*

Sally Shaywitz, M.D., a nationally known researcher on reading processes and dyslexia, is a professor of pediatrics and child study at the Yale University School of Medicine. She and her husband, Bennett Shaywitz, M.D., co-direct the Yale Center for the Study of Learning and Attention.

For nearly a decade, Dr. Shaywitz and her colleagues have used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to locate the parts of the brain needed for cognitive processing in reading as well as to identify the functional organization of the brain in dyslexia.

As technology has improved, research findings have become more finely tuned. According to Dr. Shaywitz, "There has been an explosion in new knowledge since 1999, particularly about what happens within the brain systems of people with dyslexia."

Thanks to the efforts on the part of these neuroscientists, there is now sound scientific evidence to support the fact that reading is biologically based. Using fMRI technology, researchers measure and record the level of blood oxygenation in areas of brain tissue being used for reading. As readers execute the phonologic tasks assigned them, this activated tissue actually lights up on the fMRI film, showing the neurocircuitry used in the reading process.

Good readers use three brain systems located on the left side of the brain, the region traditionally devoted to language: the inferior frontal gyrus

**Occasionally everyone mispronounces things. If this happens continually, then there could be a problem with the brain system.**

(Broca's area), the parieto-temporal, and the occipito-temporal.

Although specific areas of the brain have been listed in front to back order, it's important to know that they are not activated in a linear manner. Instead, these brain systems, or word form areas, actually communicate with each other bidirectionally and in parallel.

The first of these systems, the inferior frontal gyrus, is located in the front of the left side of the brain. It is responsible for the articulation of spoken language, i.e., pronouncing letter sounds. This area of the brain enables people to speak in an articulate manner.

Occasionally everyone mispronounces things. For example, some young children may refer to "spaghetti" as "busgetti," or an adult might mix up the words "reception" and "recession." If this happens continually, then there could be a problem with the brain system.

Another example that can aid in understanding the importance of the inferior frontal gyrus relates to strokes. If, as a result of a stroke, the left lobe of the brain has been injured in the Broca's area, the stroke victim is either unable to speak or can speak, but the words are inappropriate to the context of the situation.

The job of the parieto-temporal region, located at the back of the left side of the brain, is to analyze and sound out the parts of words. For example, when presented with the word "cat," this part of the brain decodes it into its phonological form: "kuh, aah, tuh," and identifies it. That seems simple enough.

Yet, when one considers that there are 44 sounds called phonemes that are based on the 26 letters of the alphabet, the task of decoding becomes more formidable. The job of the parieto-temporal region can become quite complex

## Risk Factors for Preschoolers:

*Family History*

*Late Talking*

*Difficulty learning and recognizing rhyme*

*Pronunciation problems*

*Difficulty finding the right word in speech*

*Difficulty learning names and sounds of letters*



CAROLYN E. GRAMLING, M.S.Ed., is a reading specialist and professor of reading at Suffolk Community College, Selden, NY.



when faced with the task of discriminating between the many sounds produced by the different letters and the letter combinations.

If there is a deficit in this part of the brain, it places stress on the Broca's area. How can the reader pronounce the word when it has not been correctly identified?

The occipito-temporal region, also located at the back of the left side of the brain, is activated by the visual features of the letters. It helps readers to recognize and read words instantly, which in turn promotes fluency.

This area of the brain learns to discriminate between the shapes of the letters, identifies whole words, and commits them to memory in something called a neural model.

For example, when good readers are given unfamiliar words to sound out, exact replicas of the printed words in the word form areas of the brain are created. These word replicas, or neural models, allow for instant, automatic recognition of the words. Once the neural models have been learned, the reader is left free to concentrate uninterrupted on comprehension.

This heavy concentration of phonologic analysis ascribed to the word form areas of the brain supports the long held belief that phonemic awareness is the strongest predictor of reading success.

Not only can imaging researchers observe how good readers process reading tasks, they can also see what goes awry in the brains of dyslexics attempting to read.

When dyslexics are given an unfamiliar word to sound out, researchers observe an underactivation of the areas in the back of the brain. In order to compensate for this disruption, dyslexics activate systems in the front of the brain in both the left and the right inferior frontal gyrus.

This overactivation often manifests as subvocalization. Remembering that this front brain system is responsible for articulation and pronouncing letter sounds, it makes sense that its overuse would cause the reader to read aloud under his breath.

In addition to using the front of both sides of the brain, dyslexics use compensatory pathways in the back of the right side of the brain. Unfortunately, the back of the right side of the brain is no substitute for the back of the left side of the brain.

Because of the disruptions at the back of the left side of the brain, dyslexics don't see the word correctly enough times to build an exact neural model (replica). This keeps them from reading automatically in a skilled and fluent manner.

Even though a word is not new to the struggling reader, it is often not recognized when reintroduced. The reader must once again go through the rigors of decoding the word. Although dyslexics can read very slowly, it takes great effort on their part due to a deficit in getting to the sounds of language.

Since their functional disruption relates to phonologic analysis, it makes sense to focus on phonologic awareness

**"Teaching matters, and good teaching can change the brain in a way that has the potential to benefit struggling readers."**

— Sally Shaywitz, M.D.

to remediate the problem. In fact, recent fMRI research has proven that it is the only kind of intervention that works.

In addition to this good news, in May 2004, one of the most exciting and hopeful research findings in the field of reading education was made public in the prestigious journal, *Biological Psychiatry*. The study was funded by the National Institute of Child and Human Development (NICHD), part of the National Institutes of Health.

According to Dr. Shaywitz, not only does phonologically based reading instruction improve reading ability, but this type of intervention can actually change the way the brain functions so that it can perform reading tasks more efficiently.

In the study conducted by Drs. Bennett and Sally Shaywitz, pre- and post-test fMRI's showed that after a year of intensive, phonological instruction, dyslexic brains functioned more normally.

Cognitive activity actually shifted, so that less intense activity was taking place at the front of the brain and a normal amount of tissue activity shifted to the back of the brain. Specifically, the poor readers showed increased activ-

ity in the area of the brain that recognizes words instantly. Through phonologic instruction, neural models (exact replicas) were being built.

Suddenly, that old adage comes to mind, "If you have the right tools, you can fix it!"

And if imaging has taught us what is needed to fix the problem, should we not also use fMRI technology to identify children with potential reading problems? According to Dr. Shaywitz, there is no need to go through the expense of imaging children when we have accurate screening tools in place.

Answers in the affirmative to the following questions will reveal if a child is at risk for reading difficulties: Is there a

family history of reading difficulty? Is the child delayed in speaking? Does the child appreciate rhyming words? Does the child have trouble with getting the sounds of words out? Does the child have phonologic confusions when speaking, like substituting "cheer" for "clear?" And finally, does the child have trouble learning the names of letters and the sounds of those letters?

Further discussion of identification and treatment of dyslexia can be found in Dr. Shaywitz's recently released book, *Overcoming Dyslexia: A New and Complete Science-Based Program for Overcoming Reading Problems at Any Level*. Although the material is complex, Dr. Shaywitz writes to a lay audience of parents in a clear and simple manner.

The fact that the use of appropriate intervention can turn dyslexics into successful readers is nothing new to Scottish Rite Masons. All of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children have been witnessing this phenomenon from their inception. It is reassuring to learn that hard scientific evidence confirms the value of using a phonological intervention, such as the Orton Gillingham approach used in the learning centers.

What was once a hypothesis based on empirical knowledge has now become scientific fact. Orton Gillingham works.

As Dr. Sally Shaywitz states, "Teaching matters, and good teaching can change the brain in a way that has the potential to benefit struggling readers." And that is just what the tutors in The 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. have been doing — good teaching.



# NOTES FROM THE SCOTTISH RITE<sup>®</sup> JOURNAL

OF FREEMASONRY ♦ SOUTHERN JURISDICTION ♦ USA

Photo: Elizabeth A. Williams, Scottish Rite Journal



## Hoover Foundation

More than 180 federal, state and local law enforcement officials, together with professionals from business, government, academic communities and the press, visited the House of the Temple on April 23, as the Supreme Council hosted the first J. Edgar Hoover Foundation Seminar. The day-long meeting was organized by Cartha DeLoach (left above), chairman of the Hoover Foundation, who gathered a panel of dynamic speakers on today's terrorism and the FBI's role in protecting America. Among them was William H. Webster, former director of the FBI and CIA (right above).

## English-Speaking Supreme Councils Meet



Photo: Dupont Photographers, Inc.

From June 4 through June 6, Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale, 33°, hosted the Tenth Conference of English-Speaking Supreme Councils (group photo above) at the Southern Jurisdiction's headquarters in Washington, D.C., and the Capital Hilton Hotel. Twelve Supreme Councils or Grand Lodges participated, including Ill. Walter E. Webber, 33°, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A. Other delegates, many attending with their wives, were from Australia, Canada, Denmark, England & Wales, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Scotland, and Sweden. Social occasions included a reception and black-tie dinner in the House of the Temple, sightseeing in Washington, D.C., and a luncheon cruise on the Potomac River. Among several topics at the conference were Masonry's changing public image, Masonic developments in the Eastern Block nations of Europe, and the "Masonic Toolkit" used in the Netherlands. The next conference of English-Speaking Supreme Councils will be hosted by Finland in 2008.



## Bicycling across America for RiteCare

Since 1953, the Southern Jurisdiction has developed a network of regional children's learning facilities that now number over 170 clinics, centers, or programs in 35 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Like the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, these programs provide treatment for dyslexia and, in addition, a variety of other childhood language or learning disorders. In 2003, this philanthropy's formal name

and sunrise logo received official trademark registration as "RiteCare, Scottish Rite Masons Helping Children Communicate."

The RiteCare program's facilities employ a variety of fund-raising techniques, and recently the Richmond, Virginia, clinic welcomed a novel offer from Bro. John C. Emory Jr., 32°, and his wife, Lea (l. & r. in photo). The Emorys offered to bike from Yorktown, Virginia, to Astoria, Oregon, camping with their own gear and paying their own expenses. By contributing either five cents per mile that the Emorys travel or sponsoring the full trip for \$225, Brethren donate directly to the Richmond clinic. The goal is to raise \$45,000. To track the cross-country bike trip via the Internet, key in <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jletransam>.



The Emorys are pictured above with Judge James B. Wilkinson, 33°, Personal Representative in Virginia and president of the Richmond facility's board of directors, and Robin K. Olivier, executive director of the Scottish Rite Language Center at Richmond, Inc.







By Leigh E. Morris, 33°

## Blogging, big eyes and more

It has been awhile since we've rummaged around in the old e-mailbag. So let's take a look and see what we can discover.

**"I'm sure I'm not alone in saying that reading Web pages can be a challenge. Is there anything I can do to make this less of a chore and more of a pleasure?"**

Until recently, options ranged from using magnifying glasses to fiddling around with font size adjustments. Oh yes, you also could try the Windows magnifier adjustment.

Real help has arrived in the form of a nifty new piece of software called "Web Eyes." Not long ago, I took advantage of the Web Eyes 15-day free trial.

As promised, Web Eyes allows users to change the point size of text on any web page. You can go all the way up to 144 points. That's large enough for Mr. Magoo to read. This feature made reading lengthy documents a more pleasurable task.

Then I tried another neat feature called "Read Like A Book." This allows the user to arrange a website's text into a defined column format just like a book or newspaper. Pretty slick.

If you are a Windows user (sorry, there is no version for the Mac) and have Internet Explorer version 5.5 or higher, you can give Web Eyes a try. Just visit their website ([www.webeyes.us](http://www.webeyes.us)) and follow the directions. If you decide you like it, you can buy a permanent version for just \$19.95 and you'll need to disinstall the trial version (a simple task). If you try it, let me know what you think of Web Eyes.

**"We decided to get a digital camera for our Valley, but what should we buy."**

You are a brave soul in asking someone who still relies on a 30-year-old 35mm Nikon. Nonetheless, your Valley probably would be better off with a digital camera.

Your final choice depends on how you will use the photos. If the pictures are primarily destined for websites or electronic newsletters, then I would recommend the Nikon Coolpix 2100 for under \$200. This 2-megapixel camera is a good choice when high resolution is not an issue.

If you need higher resolution, take a look at the Kodak EasyShare DX6330 or CX6340. Both are value-priced 3-megapixel cameras. A somewhat costlier option is the Olympus Camedia C-740 Ultra Zoom.

Unless you happen to be a serious amateur photographer, I would not recommend a 4- or a 5-megapixel camera. If you are a dedicated shutterbug, then give the Nikon Coolpix 5400 and Coolpix 5700 a look.

Though you didn't ask, I suspect you might need software that will allow you to edit photos. If you use Windows, my choice is Picture It! from Microsoft, Roxio's PhotoSuite 5, and Adobe Photoshop Elements 2.0. Macintosh users can opt for Apple iPhoto 4.0 and Photoshop Elements.

**"What is a blog?"**

It sounds like a new dance, some sort of shoe, or maybe it is a form of smog that occurs in Boston. Actually, "blog" means "Web log" and describes the practice of creating web journals that deal with current events and everyday life occurrences. Personally, I don't understand the popularity of blogging, but that shouldn't come as much of a surprise. I never understood the popularity of hula-hoops, oleo, or microwave ovens.

If you would like to give blogging a try, I would suggest one of two services. Blogger ([www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)) offers a free blogging service called BlogSpot. Once you get the hang of it and decide you want more, then TypePad ([www.typepad.com](http://www.typepad.com)) is a practical choice for as little as \$4.95 per month.

Before you do anything, I would suggest a Google search on blogging. I'll admit that it is interesting, but I still don't understand the popularity of it all.

**"My Blue Lodge tried sending our newsletter by e-mail, but that didn't work out very well. It turned out to be a large file that some of our members couldn't open. Any ideas?"**

After your editor creates the newsletter, he needs to save it as a pdf (printer description file). Typically, pdfs are opened by Adobe's Acrobat Reader. This software is on nearly all computers or can be obtained as a free download.

Of course, you will need software to create a pdf. Adobe's Acrobat Standard is the most popular choice, but the new QuarkXpress 6.0 creates pdfs, as well. Drop me a line if you have specific questions.

Questions or comments? Send me an e-mail at  
[studebaker55@casscomm.com](mailto:studebaker55@casscomm.com)





## Making Things Happen

**O**n June 29, I visited New Hampshire to see what the Brothers in the Granite State were up to. Last winter I wrote about Ill. Forrest McKerley, 33°, who made a \$1 million trust donation to support our 32° Masonic Learning Centers. He had said then he hoped his giving would inspire others to support our charities. Well, perhaps he did!

Not long after, I received a call from Bro. Jack Bradshaw, 32°. He had spoken to both Ill. Phil Hall, 33°, and Ill. Bob Hansen, 33°, members of our Supreme Council, to discuss how he could donate to expand our learning centers.

Bradshaw had overseen the construction of the Nashua learning center. "What really convinced me about the program," recalls Jack, "was the gratitude of the parents and children when they heard I was involved. It was so surprising and showed me how important this program really is...not only for the kids, but for the families too."

Jack's vision — one eagerly shared by New Hampshire Brothers — was to open a second learning center. Jack was prepared to make a generous trust commitment, but in order to expand immediately, everyone knew the funds for operations going forward needed to be available.

This is where the Consistory of New Hampshire stepped in. Commander-in-Chief David Goodwin said, "Our board heard about the idea of creating a second learning center and that a generous donor would help sustain it in the future. We thought this would be the opportunity to use our resources effectively, without substantially compromising them."

In April, the Consistory made a commitment to fund the learning center for 12 years — a pledge of more than \$1.75 million!

With the funds available and the Masonic building in Rochester, NH, chosen as the site, everyone set to the challenge of opening a center by September.

"This is an ambitious bunch," said Ill. Richard Elliot, 33°, Active Member for New Hampshire and a nearby resident. "The Valley really wanted a learning center. They knew how hard it was for families to travel all the way to Nashua."

By June plans were approved, and when I visited, much of the rough work was already done.



**Jack Bradshaw, 32°; Ill. Forrest McKerley, 33°; Ill. Robert Hansen, 33°; Ill. David Goodwin, 33°; Ill. Philip Hall, 33°, and Ill. Richard Elliot, 33°, review plans as construction of a new learning center is underway in Rochester, NH.**

Providentially, the founding director of the Nashua learning center offered to come out of retirement to direct, train new tutors, and open this center. Undoubtedly the facility will be open by October 1 — an overnight miracle.

This is why we are Masons — working together in brotherhood for the betterment of our communities.

The work, cooperation, and commitment of our New Hampshire Brothers must be an inspiration to us all. Their selflessness will change the lives of many children.

Perhaps you have a vision to expand our good works — be it through the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, the National Heritage Museum, or our Benevolent Foundation's commitments to schizophrenia research or Abbott scholarships. Call me at 800-814-1432 x 3340 and let's make it happen!

### CRUISE ALERT

In 2005, two cruises are planned to support Scottish Rite Charities. The first will be a Caribbean cruise departing Miami in February.

The second, hosted by Sovereign Grand Commander Walter E. Webber, and his lady Leslie is a river cruise through beautiful Holland during tulip season in April. For more information call 800-814-1432 x 3326.



# The Stamp Act

## A Philatelic Review



By Robert A. Domingue



Born Oct. 27, 1858, **Theodore Roosevelt** was a sickly son of a successful glassware importer. In his boyhood he began his career as a freelance writer with a book about the War of 1812. His early career was quite varied; a member of the New York State Assembly, manager of a cattle ranch in Dakota Territory, a member of the U.S. Civil Service Commission and head of the Board of Police Commissioners in New York City. He organized the "Rough Riders" volunteer cavalry regiment during the Spanish-American War. On his return he was elected governor of New York and, later, drafted to be vice-president. When President McKinley was assassinated in 1901, Roosevelt became the 26th president. He retired to Sagamore Hill but traveled extensively. He died Jan. 6, 1919.

Theodore Roosevelt was a member of Matinecock Lodge No. 806, receiving his degrees in 1901. He was made an honorary member of Pentalfa Lodge No. 23, Washington, DC, in 1904. Probably no other president took part in so many cornerstone-laying events as did Roosevelt. He visited lodges in many parts of the world, including Africa, Europe, and South America. He is shown on many U.S. stamps and this one from the Commonwealth of Dominica released in 1989. Note the Ma-

sonic symbol in the design of the stamp.



**Prince George, Duke of Kent**, the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, lost his life on Aug. 25, 1942, in the crash of an airship in the northern part of Scotland while on duty with the R.A.F. He had been initiated into Navy Lodge No. 2612 in 1928 while a Prince; many of the British royalty attended the ceremony held at Cafe Royal, London. He was appointed Senior Warden of the United Grand Lodge in April 1933 and as Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire in July 1934.



He also served as the head of several York Rite bodies. At the time of his death he was president of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, The Royal Institution for Boys, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Association and the Royal Masonic Hospital. He was a 33° Mason and a member of the Supreme Council for England. He is shown on one of the Royal Family set of stamps issued by Newfoundland in 1911.



Born on Sept. 19, 1802, **Lajos Kossuth** was a Hungarian patriot and statesman. He attended the Protestant College of Sarospatok and the University of Budapest. He served in the Parliament of 1825-27 and 1832-36 and advocated independence from Austria. When revolution

broke out he induced the Hungarian National Assembly to declare Hungary's independence. This act triggered Russian intervention which brought about Hungary's defeat. He fled to Turkey, toured Britain and the U. S. and died in exile in Turin, Italy, on March 20, 1894. He is pictured on a 1952 stamp issued by Hungary.



While in the United States, Bro. Lajos Kossuth joined Cincinnati (Ohio) Lodge No. 133 in 1852.



**Al Jolson**, born Asa Youeson on May 26, 1888, in St. Petersburg, Russia, came to the U.S. when he was seven years old, was reared in Washington, DC, and made his first stage appearance at Herald Square Theatre in New York City in "The Children of the Ghetto" in Oct. 1899. He later traveled with circuses, vaudeville and Dockstader's Minstrels. He was particularly noted for his black-face minstrel songs.



He starred in the first talking picture "The Jazz Singer," (1927) and others. He died Oct. 23, 1950, in San Francisco after returning from entertaining troops in

Japan and Korea.

Bro. Jolson became a member of St. Cecile Lodge No. 568 in 1913. He is shown on several stamps including this USPS release of 1994.



**George Saiko** was born in Seestadt, Bohemia, in Feb. 1892. He studied philosophy, archeology and art history at the University of Vienna, and then began a career as a scientist and writer. In 1938 Hitler invaded Austria and the following year, Saiko was prohibited from publishing any of his works. He was forced to work in the Alpertina, which is a collection of prints, drawings, sketchbooks, miniatures and posters put together in the 18th century. He died in 1962.

George Saiko was initiated in Donzau Lodge, Vienna, Austria. He is pictured on an Austrian stamp released in Feb. 1992 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth.



**Errata:** Bro. Ives was born at Hunt City, Illinois, and attended Eastern Illinois State University at Charleston, IL, where he played football his freshman year only. Apologies to the Illinois Brethren.

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





By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

*The Quest for Light: Masonic Essays of Wallace McLeod.* Published in 2004, by Anchor Communications LLC, 5266 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster, VA 22503. \$24.95

Wallace McLeod ranks as one of the top intellectual Masonic scholars in North America today. As a professor of classical languages, he is in a unique position, enabling him to research original writings. That is an enviable position for any writer. McLeod holds a PhD from Harvard University and is the only North American to serve as Master of Quatuor Coronati Premier Lodge of Research.

This volume is the 2nd revised edition of *The Quest for Light*. It is composed of 24 papers that were given by the author during his speaking travels, and covers an array of diverse subjects.

It is the fourth collection of research papers of world-renowned Masonic scholars published by the Australian and New Zealand Masonic Research Council.

In this collection of papers the reader will find answers to questions he may have considered but never asked, or has never known where to look for answers.

The subjects of the papers are so varied that each chapter causes one to switch thinking to a different subject. The papers also cause you to ponder topics of Freemasonry that may never before have crossed your mind. The subjects range from the lives and actions of important Masonic personalities to the evolution of the ritual, Masonic symbolism, the significance of Masonic secrets, and Robert Burns.

There is something in this book to interest everyone. There is also much that our membership needs to know. The papers cover topics of Freemasonry from near its inception to the present time.

Several of the papers concern Capitular Freemasonry, which is an integral part of Craft Freemasonry,

although not to the extent as it is in English Lodges.

Two chapters deal with the subject of responding to criticism and offer an insight into the subject that should prove helpful to the average Mason who simply does not know how to respond. These chapters are especially valuable to those who need a response to critics of Masonry who accuse the fraternity of using terms that they feel are the exclusive domain of religion.

A distinct advantage in reading the work of McLeod is that it is well researched and well prepared by a thinking scholar. It would be a great addition to any library.



*John Paul Jones: Father of the United States Navy*, by Wallace Bruce. iUniverse.com, Inc., 620 North 48th St., Suite 20-1, Lincoln, NE 68504-3467. \$18.95

Wallace Bruce is the pen name under which J.M. Smith, has authored this book. I assume it is meant to be an historical novel, for it is certainly written as a novel but uses known historical facts.

As the pen name should reveal, Bruce is a Scotsman, and he is writing about a Scotsman who we know as John Paul Jones. His academic background is unknown to me, but he lectured in social studies at Springburn College in Glasgow.

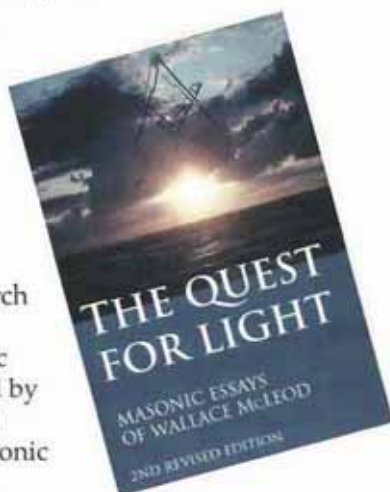
It is interesting in that it is written as an ongoing fictional dialogue. It traces the life of a boy named John Paul, growing up as the son of a gardener who wished for him to be a gardener as well, but instead the son had a passionate interest in the sea.

The story follows his life through the travails of young manhood. He became known as John Paul Jones, in consequence of an unfortunate incident in which he killed a man in self-defense.

It continues with his service in the early United States Navy and his rise to fame as a brilliant military strategist, and eventually to his death.

Although historical information may be garnered from the book, it is not written specifically as a history. It does, however, deal with known facts regarding aspects of the life of the man, as well as battles he was engaged in, and the impact created on his life. I learned qualities of the life of John Paul Jones, although I was not always sure what was fact and what was fiction.

The book, of course, relates the engagement leading up to and including his issuance of the famous words,





"I have not yet begun to fight," but the author has him using the same words as a boy engaged in a fight with another boy. Fiction or fact?

The text also covers the unfortunate period in the life of John Paul Jones when he was in the employ of Catherine the Great of Russia, his return to Paris, death and re-interment under the direction of President Theodore Roosevelt at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

The book is interesting reading from which one may develop a greater understanding of the life of a true early American hero.

I found the use of modern colloquialisms by the author to be somewhat disconcerting, but they conveyed the message intended. It is a book you might enjoy.



*Inside Prince Hall*, by David Gray. Published in 2004 by Anchor Communications LLC, 5266 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster, VA 22503. \$24.95

In many ways Prince Hall Grand Lodges went in the direction that the mainstream (Caucasian) Grand Lodges are going in North America. It is significant that although they paralleled the pathway taken by mainstream Freemasonry in the past, the craft's impact on the black community was probably even more important than on the white community.

Indeed, it was possibly the most important force in the development of black social society in North America. David Gray conveys this message effectively in *Inside Prince Hall*. In that sense, I find it not totally unlike Freemasonry's impact in early Russia where it became the vehicle to carry one into accepted society. There has been little written concerning the influence of Prince Hall Freemasonry in the development of black society.

Sadly as the author notes, one of the severe weaknesses in Prince Hall Freemasonry is the "almost complete lack of interest in Masonic research and education." Consequently, writings such as this are of great significance. It is more than a history; it also is an analysis of the evolution of the past as well as an evaluation of the present.

He has reviewed the development of Prince Hall Freemasonry from the time that Prince Hall and 14 other black men were initiated into Lodge No. 441 on March 6, 1775.

There are aspects of this book that dispute some of the generally accepted historical "facts," as we have known them. Gray, however, has done a scholarly review, and his facts are no less acceptable than those of his predecessors.

Perhaps, the greatest problem that has confronted Prince Hall Freemasonry, as well as the appendant

bodies during their history, has been fragmentation into competing organizations. It has prevented a unity of purpose and has directed too much energy into debate that could have been used more effectively elsewhere. This is well covered in this volume and Gray conveys the message very effectively.

I appreciate his evaluation that within Prince Hall Freemasonry, "there is a pure dislike of involvement with groups who have no Masonic lineage . . ." This is an observation that it would be well for many of our members to keep in mind today.

Chapter 4, "Myths and Legends," responds to many inaccuracies about Prince Hall Freemasonry. I found very interesting his statement that were it not for Freemasonry, the Negro

would not have made it out

of slavery. This

may not be so, but it does bring into context the importance of the craft to the development of black society. David Gray also conveys this message effectively.

He quotes a very prophetic Grand Master from a 1912 address: "... I assure you my Brethren, that unless we go back, back from whence we came and build anew on a more substantial foundation, an-

cient Masonry will not be recognized or distinguished from the modern organizations of today," and his observation regarding Prince Hall lodges is just as applicable to ours.

He observes, "Many of them bring Freemasonry into disrepute in the eyes of the general public by accepting unworthy candidates, tolerating bad conduct, and conducting degree mills for profit." Sound familiar?

A portion of the book deals with Ohio Freemasonry, the author's home state, and will not be of general interest to every reader. I do not necessarily agree with all his observations or conclusions. It is a book, however, that I would recommend for any student of Prince Hall Freemasonry as well as of Freemasonry in general.



**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*.



# HealthWise

## Ideas for Health and Fitness

### Exhaustion and Heart Risk

New research from the Netherlands shows that vital exhaustion (VE) can greatly increase the risk of having a first heart attack. VE symptoms are feelings of extreme fatigue, increased irritability, and defeat. People with VE have high levels of the blood-clotting protein fibrinogen throughout the day but especially in the morning.

Heart risk is increased at that time, say study authors at Maastricht University, partly because fibrinolysis, a process that breaks down blood clots, is at low levels early in the day. Normal exhaustion may last a few hours, but VE can last a month or more.



### A Great Exercise for Foot Pain

Plantar Fasciitis is a common cause of heel and arch pain. Sometimes the condition can last for months.

Doctors at the University of Rochester School of Medicine in New York say 83 percent of patients who had the condition for ten months or more reported no pain or less pain after doing these exercises:

Sit with the ankle of the painful foot across the opposite thigh. With your hand, pull your toes toward your shin until you feel a stretch in the arch. Run the opposite hand along the sole of the foot. You should feel a taut band of tissue down the center.

Do ten stretches, holding each for ten seconds. Do the stretches before getting out of bed in the morning and twice more during the day, preferably after prolonged sitting.

In the university study, a second group did the more common calf stretch. Only 58 percent of the people in that group reported that they had less or no pain after eight weeks.

### Less Invasive Knee Surgery

A new procedure for total knee replacement requires only a 3-inch incision and avoids cutting the quad muscle and tendon, which are necessary for the knee to flex. Patients recover three times faster than with standard surgery, according to New Jersey's Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, pioneers of the new method.

Doctors at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago say the procedure takes practice and skill on the part of the surgeon, but the procedure should be common within a year or two. About 300,000 Americans have total knee replacements each year, but not all would be candidates for the new procedure.

### Inflammation and Hypertension

A report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* shows that inflammation can play a role in hypertension. One large study shows that women with the highest levels of the marker CRP (C-Reactive Protein) were twice as likely to develop high blood pressure within eight years.



### Save Your Vision

Age-related macular degeneration is generally apparent after age 60, but protecting your eyes at any age could keep it at bay. Some things you can do: Don't smoke, wear sunglasses with UV protection, eat a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, get enough rest, control blood pressure and glucose, and lead an active lifestyle.

Early AMD can often be held in check with supplements containing vitamins C, E, A, plus zinc oxide and copper, say doctors at Johns Hopkins Medical Center.

### Steps Add Up to Weight Loss

The America on the Move (AOM) program from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center proves you can lose weight and increase your energy. To do it, add about 2,000 steps a day to your daily activities and eat 100 calories less.

Wearing a pedometer is an important part of the program. It helps determine the number of

steps actually taken. Every step counts and you can see them add up. Wearing the pedometer, you will be more likely to park farther away from work or the store. You could take the long way to the exit, or take a short walk after dinner.



### Best Mattress for Bad Backs

A recent study published in *Lancet* shows that medium-firm mattresses soothed backs more than those that are firm or extra firm. Study participants who used medium-firm mattresses for three months reported less pain while in bed, when rising, and during the day. Doctors concluded medium-firm mattresses put less pressure on the shoulders and hips, making it easier to lie in the fetal position, which can benefit the back. Lying with knees bent, either on your side or your back, is considered a correct sleeping posture, say the study's authors.



# Return To Olympus

On April 6, 1896, the modern Olympic Games began in Athens. Nearly 300 athletes, from 13 nations took part as this ancient tradition was rekindled after a lapse of a millennium and a half.

From 776 B.C. to their abolition by Roman Emperor Theodosius I in 394 A.D., the original Olympics were held in the Greek city of Olympia. Starting only as a footrace, the event grew to include wrestling, leaping, discus and javelin throwing, and chariot racing.

In the 1890s a movement led by French Baron Pierre de Coubertin, resulted in the revival of the Olympics. Athens, capital and largest city of the original host nation, was chosen to stage the inaugural games.

Throughout the 20th century, and now into the 21st, the Olympics have circled the globe, making stops at many capitals and other large cities.

In 2004, the games return to their birthplace. Once again, Athens plays host to the world.

Throughout the 25 versions of the summer games and 19 winter Olympics, members of the fraternity have taken part as athletes. Additionally, three Masons have played important roles in organizing the events.

## *Avery Brundage*

Born in Detroit in 1887, Brundage became indelibly linked with the Olympic movement. He participated as an athlete in the 1912 games at Stockholm in both the pentathlon and decathlon. He is most famous, however, as an administrator. He served as president of the U.S. Olympic Committee from 1930 until he was elected as president of the International Olympic Committee in 1952.

Throughout his tenure he was a controversial figure, viewed by many as unyielding in his views and commitment. In 1936, he helped defeat a proposed boycott of the Berlin games, and in 1972, nearing the end of his presidency, he ruled that the Olympics would continue, despite the terrorist massacre of Israeli athletes in Munich. He was also a champion of the amateur ideal, fighting



Ill. Avery Brundage, 33°, served as president of the International Olympic Committee.

modern commercialism of the event.

Bro. Brundage was a member of North Shore Lodge, No. 937 in Chicago and a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Chicago. He received the 33° in 1974.

## *Dr. Godfrey Dewey*

In 1932, the winter Olympic movement was still new. Only two such events had been held when a small upstate New York village applied to host the event. Up against Montreal and seven U.S. cities, including Minneapolis and Denver, Lake Placid won out chiefly due to the efforts of Dr. Godfrey Dewey. The son of Melvil Dewey, famous for his library catalog system, Godfrey was the author of several articles on winter sports. Having first made his proposal to the local "Lake Placid Club," he then set out to convince the community of the soundness of his plan. He was pragmatic and made sure that both sides of the issue were presented. In his statement to the town he said, "Olympic is not a magic phrase for effortless prosperity. It is rather the key to a unique opportunity to achieve by our own united community efforts."

With the Depression in full swing, the games were not well attended, forcing Lake Placid into debt. In order to assure the execution of the

Olympics that year, Dr. Dewey donated his own land for construction of the bobsleigh run.

Bro. Dewey was raised in Harvard Lodge at Cambridge, MA, but later affiliated with Lake Placid Lodge No. 834.

## *Gen. Douglas MacArthur*

Well known as a five-star general, MacArthur also served as president of the American Olympic Games Committee in 1928. He apparently took his role as seriously as he did his military positions. Upon the team's arrival in Amsterdam he told his charges, "We did not come here to lose gracefully. We came here to win — and win decisively."

Douglas MacArthur was made a Mason at sight by Samuel Hawthorne, Grand Master of the Philippines, in 1936, and joined Manila Lodge No. 1. In Scottish Rite he received his 32° at Manila and his 33° in 1947. On Sept. 20, 1951, he became an Active Member of the Supreme Council for the Philippines, serving as Grand Orator until 1955.

He was also a life member of Nile Shrine Temple in Seattle, and was awarded the Grand Lodge of New York Medal of Distinguished Achievement in 1963.

Ill. Douglas MacArthur, 33°, was president of the American Olympic Games Committee in 1928.





# VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

25 Years Ago...

## Masonry — Custodian of Basic Social Landmarks

As we insert the year 1979 in the time-clock of life, let us give the event more than fleeting attention. The timesheet records our attendance among the still living inhabitants of earth in one of the waning years of the 20th century.

Ours is a period of explosion of knowledge, endeavor and accomplishment as never before in recorded history. Ours is a period when the starry universe is subject to the test of human technical examination, constant surveillance and diagnosis.

Ours is the time when mankind is shrugging off the drudgery of living by great leaps and bounds. Centuries ago, the wheel and the domestication of animals for providing energy were revolutionary in effect, but were slowly developed from island and continent to another landfall.

Ours is a period when communication of news and events and ideas is

well-nigh instantaneous rather than by the slow process of earlier times.

Ours is an age when the hidden secrets of medicine and health care are being brought to the light of human scrutiny and consideration.

Ours is also, unfortunately, the age of war encircling the globe. Ours is the time of threat of annihilation by man-made devices.

Ours is the point in time when few things are done as our grandparents did them. The rate of adjustment to accelerated challenges in all fields of thought and experience is unprecedented in recorded life on Planet Earth.

Masonry, as a venerable custodian of ancient basic social values, is in a strategic position to keep the eternal flame burning as each new year presents itself.

*Dr. Raymond W. Miller, 33°, The New Age, Washington, DC, January 1979*

100 Years Ago...

## Trained Not To Cheat

The editor of one of the leading magazines of America asserts that methods which are winked at in business, say in the building up and holding of a great corporate monopoly, would cause a student in college to be kicked off a football field in disgrace.

No "amateur sport" would tolerate some ways of commercial and industrial rivalry in its latest forms and manifestations.

In that respect there is a lamentable lowering of the prevailing standards of life when young men leave college and plunge into the whirlpool of business.

They find all about them tactics which would be regarded as dishonorable, at least in the sense of being unfair to rivals if attempted in college sports.

Honor loses force and fineness with the change from school to practical affairs, after graduation.

That fact accentuates one of the best features of the school and college sports which trouble many adults who think that they occupy too much time and attention among students.

It is doubtful whether any training is worth more than that which teaches boys not to cheat or play unfairly.

The forces operating in the other direction are so many and so potent, in the business world, that it is impossible to have too strong a bias, of the right kind, during the impressionable years of school life.

*Square and Compass,  
Denver, May 1904*

50 Years Ago...

## TV — Ritual

Tee-Vee-Itis may not have acquired dictionary status but the malady is epidemic.

The symptoms are visible. Along railroad approaches to crowded industrial areas, one notices a forest of TV masts on tenements and jerry-built houses.

A recent news item reports that, in Boston, there are more television sets than bathtubs! Does that matter? There is always Massachusetts Bay!

Who among us would deny these families the emotional release and entertainment which TV and radio offer — even if most of these luxuries have been purchased on what is now called "easy budget terms"?

At the moment many sponsors are obviously appealing to the mass mind. We do not complain. If products do not sell, programs are discontinued.

Many appreciative listeners, however, are bored to tears by the procession of athletes, actors and husky-voiced actresses who happen, quite accidentally of course, to "like" a certain brand of cigarettes or beer or anything which needs a wider market.

It may be said also that a nation which endures "singing commercials" will not quail before an atom bomb! It is a sacrilege to call it "music" unless one accepts the definition suggested by an eminent British critic — "music invented by demons for the entertainment of imbeciles."

All this will pass if and when the entertainment industry is more mature. What makes TV-itis a welcomed epidemic is that there is so much that is really worthwhile — good music, excellent drama, relaxing comedy, artistic extravaganzas, news commentaries, foreign events and addresses by men and women in public life.

This is an "escape" which most of us covet.

*McLay H. Lichliter, 33°,  
Supreme Council News-Letter,  
April 1954*



75 Years Ago...

## For Pleasing Lodge Rooms

Under the general title of these articles may properly come a discussion of the acoustic properties of lodge rooms.

Fortunately the lodge room is smaller than the average public meeting place; for this reason problems of acoustics do not obtain to the extent that they do in many large halls — reverberation and echoes being less frequently encountered.

At the same time, in many lodge rooms every shuffle of a foot, every creak of a bench, is caught up and added to by other sounds until, unless the Master in the East is possessed of a good speaking voice, it is difficult to make out his words except with a straining of the attention.

Many of these noises can be easily prevented. Knockers on the doors, for example, are far too often a source of unnecessary noise. Knockers there must be, of course, but they need not be of a size that, attached to the thin panel of a modernly built door, produces a loud noise that is as unnecessary as it is disturbing.

There is nothing in the degree work that requires an alarm of so great a volume.

If the door to the lodge room is heavy enough, a goodly sized knocker can be used, but on the average door a lighter knocker will be best—and even these need not be used with any special attempt to make the welkin ring.

This is not a place to discuss Lodge etiquette and lodge decorum, but we may point out that the knocker is

not the only offender.

There is also the whispering that goes on in many lodges, and the moving of feet — and, alas, the cough. All these, together with the over-enthusiastic wielding of the gavel that is sometimes found, are apt to produce on a sensitive nervous system an effect that is not — well, pleasant.

The lodge that is erecting a new temple should raise this point in discussing plans with the architect. Involved in the acoustic properties of the room to be built will be such factors as the proportions of the room, especially with reference to the height, and the material going into the walls and ceiling and floor.

If the architect is experienced he will be able from these factors to determine pretty well in advance just what the properties will be in reference to this point.

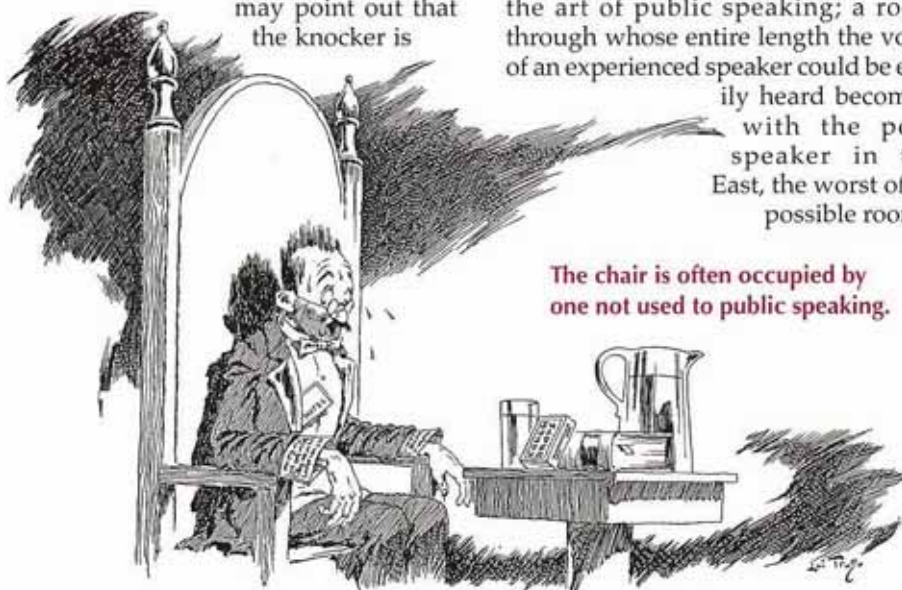
Especially should he be reminded that the lodge room is used under conditions different from those of the average meeting hall.

Here the center of the room is empty, and the auditors seated along the sides; most of the speaking is done from one extreme end, while the other extreme end is often occupied by an organ screen which will vitally effect the acoustics of the room.

Also the architect should be impressed with the fact that the Master's chair is occupied, in more cases than not, by men who are not familiar with the art of public speaking; a room through whose entire length the voice of an experienced speaker could be easily heard becomes,

with the poor speaker in the East, the worst of all possible rooms.

**The chair is often occupied by one not used to public speaking.**



M. Henderson, *New York Masonic Outlook*, January 1929

## Quick Quotes

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

— Albert Einstein

If you let your head get too big, it will break your neck.

— Elvis Presley

At a dinner party, one should eat wisely but not too well, and talk well but not too wisely.

— W. Somerset Maugham

Trust your hunches. They're usually based on facts filed away just below conscious level.

— Dr. Joyce Brothers

Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.

— John Quincy Adams

Courtesies of a small and trivial character are the ones which strike deepest in the grateful and appreciating heart.

— Henry Clay

The worst thing you can do for those you love is the things they could and should do for themselves.

— Abraham Lincoln

A loyal friend laughs at your jokes when they're not so good, and sympathizes with your problems when they're not so bad.

— Arnold Glasgow

Go at life with abandon, give it all you've got, and life will give all it has to you.

— Norman Vincent Peale

Most people search high and wide for the keys to success. If only they knew, the key to their dreams lies within.

— George Washington Carver

Few things help an individual more than to place responsibility upon him and to let him know that you trust him.

— Booker T. Washington



## Spouses Get More Alike

If your husband or wife becomes ill, better see your doctor. Studies published in the *British Medical Journal* show that if one partner is ill, depressed, or has an ulcer, the other is twice as likely to have the same problem.

Couples frequently have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and asthma. They are exposed to the same diets and allergens.

But ulcers, for example, are caused by a bacterium that is not contagious. In some cases, there is no explanation.



## Kids and TV: Good and Bad

Watching educational programs for preschoolers, like "Blues Clues" and "Sesame Street," can improve a child's reading or problem-solving skills compared with kids who never watch the shows. Good news.

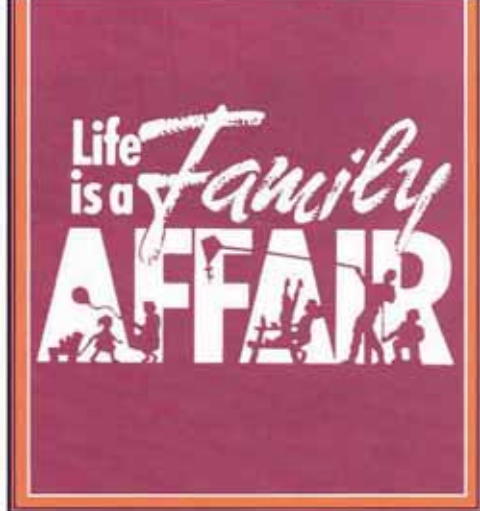
Now the bad news: Studies reported in *Pediatrics* magazine link TV watching with attention problems in children. A big part of the problem is the fact that grown-up shows are blaring in the background while kids play, and that may be the real culprit. They especially recommend no TV noise for kids ages two and under.

The study showed that the more television kids were exposed to at a young age, especially hearing it blaring in the background, the more likely their parents were to report attention problems at age seven.

## Unstick Wooden Drawers

In humid weather, drawers can swell and be difficult to open and close.

- Use a dehumidifier, or dry the wood by placing a lighted bulb (100 watts or less) on a metal tray inside of it. Close for 15 to 20 minutes.
- Clean the runners and drawer sides and rub them with wax or paraffin.
- Sand the drawers to loosen fit.



## Attracting Birds and Butterflies

Bright blooms on flowers such as zinnias and flowers with crunchy seeds, like sunflowers, attract birds.



"Hummingbirds like red or orange flowers", says Sally Roth, author of *Attracting Birds to Your Backyard* (Rodale). They especially like cone or trumpet-shaped flowers.

Butterflies like purple phlox or lilac. They also like coneflower, coreopsis, cosmos, petunia, zinnia, and weeds.

Birds like a mix with seeds like sunflower and millet. Butterflies like to sip on a piece of ripe melon.

Butterflies also enjoy a clay saucer filled with stones and a little water or a muddy spot.



"Quick, someone refill the literature rack!"

## Phlox Blooms for Generations

Phlox is called the heirloom queen by Denise Wiles Adams in her book, *Restoring American Gardens: An Encyclopedia of Heirloom Ornamental Plants, 1640 - 1940* (Timber Press).

Her analysis of garden catalogs shows that throughout the U.S., garden phlox was the most widely mentioned plant over the years.

If you plant phlox, chances are you will be able to pass it on to your children and grandchildren.

## Get Kids Vaccinations Up-to-Date

Before vaccinations, children suffered. Whooping cough killed 9,000 children each year. Polio paralyzed 10,000 to 20,000 kids annually.

Parents should be worried if their children's immunizations are not complete.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that almost a quarter of kids up to three years old have not completed a basic immunization series.

Vaccination rates of at least 90 percent of the population are necessary to prevent outbreaks of dangerous diseases.

## Passports for Kids

Passports for children are a little harder to get under a new measure aimed at fighting international child abductions and trafficking of minors.

Children ages 14 and under have to appear in person with both parents when applying for a passport, says the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs. Before, parents could apply without the child being present.

Required documentation includes proof of parental relationship and photos.

Documentation is checked for authenticity even if the child previously had a passport.





## Nation Above Party During Election Season

by Bro. Jack Riddell, 32°

During the months of vigorous campaigning prior to our Presidential elections, all of America is continually subjected to unconscionable harsh and rancorous rhetorical assaults on both the Democratic and Republican parties.

In his "Farewell Address," George Washington cautioned the American people to distrust the passions of political parties. His argument for union was based on the idea of common interests — persuading the people that they could best achieve and preserve independence by being united rather than divided. Washington was convinced that party spirit stirred up individual passions and overpowered man's ability to reason, thus bringing out the worst aspects of popular government and agitating the community.

Uniformity versus unity — "uniformity" implies that every individual shares exactly the same opinions and

judgments as his neighbors. This is absurd and could never happen. It is "Unity," however, the orderly fusion of the infinite number of individual ideals and judgments that we must strive for. It was "Unity" that George Washington recognized would be essential for the survival of this young and untested democracy.

The following is a quote from George Washington that seems particularly appropriate and timely. "Let prejudice and local interest yield to reason. Let us look to our national character and things beyond the present period." This quote is set in a stone plaque near the entrance to The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, in Alexandria, VA.

*Bro. Riddell is custodian of  
The Replica Lodge Room at the  
George Washington Masonic National  
Memorial in Alexandria, VA.*

## On the Lighter Side

There's nothing wrong with underachievement. It just doesn't pay very well.

Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up every two hours?

The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody realizes how hard it was.

If you go overboard for what you believe in, you won't drown.

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

Lead me not into temptation. I can find the way myself.

The stuff written in fine print is never good news.

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Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
1	Depart home / Overnight flight to Amsterdam, or depart 3 days earlier for optional pre-extension in Brussels, Belgium		
2	Amsterdam/embark <i>ms River Odyssey</i>		6 pm
3	Schoonhoven Rotterdam	1 am 3 pm	1 pm
4	Rotterdam		1 pm
5	Ghent (Bruges) NEW!	1 am	6 pm
6	Antwerp NEW!	4 am	6 pm
7	Nijmegen	6 am	2 pm
8	Lelystad Enkhuizen	12 am 11:30 am	9 am
9	Enkhuizen Horn	3:30 pm	1 pm 11 pm
10	Amsterdam	5 am	
11	Amsterdam		
12	Amsterdam Disembark ship / Return Home		

*Please note: Port times and itineraries are subject to change.*

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# Our Readers Respond

## The One-Day Class?

The most interesting thing about the article by Jim Deyo ("Successful Achievement," May 04) is the emphasis placed on the success of the enterprise, but it really is important that we understand the criteria we are using to define "success."

The mass-initiation candidates may "share the same sense of belonging," but so they would if they had been joining a golf club by this process. Freemasonry is, or should be, different — the initiation of a man is a deeply personal experience, one which focuses on the individual, one which ought to change his life in the deepest spiritual sense.

Difficult journeys — things which are hard to attain — do not sit comfortably with "convenience." Freemasonry was never meant to be easy, but if approached in the right manner, the journey is certainly worth it, in time. The practice [one-day class] degrades the landmarks of Freemasonry and short-changes the candidates and so will, in the long run, prove very destructive to Freemasonry world-wide. It will end up with potential candidates being sent a video of a cere-

mony and a jewel. It is a supreme example of the increasingly vicarious nature of our society — where nothing is experienced, merely watched.

Julian Rees  
Deputy Editor, *Freemasonry Today*

I am a "one-day" Mason as this article portrayed.

I am writing this letter because I do think that good men like myself were given this chance to enter into the brotherhood of Masonry, not because we were needed just for the increased funds that we would provide, but for the quality of men we are and can be.

I feel it is important to mention that we did not become "a Mason in a day."

We first had to ask a Mason, and then fill out the necessary forms, call and provide references, and visit with a team of Masons from the lodge who came to the house.

In other words, a lot more came before that one day. I feel that it is human nature to compare one's self to

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

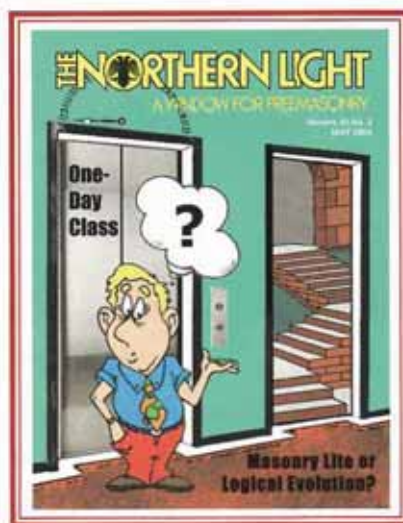
another and try to place yourself in a slot that puts you above others.

It should not be that way, but it is. I do not feel that is what Masonry is. That is why I, and many other men like me, have come to Masonry.

I admire any man who goes up the stairs, rather than taking the elevator, but when we reach the top floor to look around and see, hopefully we are of the same caliber of man, or we should not have been let into the building.

Let us shake hands and become Brothers, no matter the elevator, or the stairs and look out from that view and be glad.

Ron L. Dixon  
Indianapolis, IN



I sincerely do not believe that "Festival Days" or "One-day Classes" are the best way to enlist members in the craft. It's a nice way to fatten the treasury, but — no pain, no gain.

The novice should have to exhibit a willingness to expend some effort in becoming a Mason/32° Scottish Rite Mason/Noble or, I fear, you will have only a casually-committed member who will eventually fall away.

Bob Mayer  
via e-mail

**HIRAM**™

By **WALLY MILLER**





# Footnotes\*



\* **Defying his age.** It was 80 years ago when Bro. Paul Long, 32°, received his Scottish Rite degrees. Officers of Williamsport (PA) Consistory commemorated the occasion by visiting him at the Ashland Regional Medical Center to present a framed certificate.

Making the presentation (left) were Commander-in-Chief C. Frederick Harris, 33°, and (right) First Lt. Commander Ronald H. Hoover, 33°. Standing behind Bro. Long in the photo are grandson Robert Nestor, a member of Ashland Lodge 294, and Bro. David Bowen, 32°, Past Master of Frackville Lodge No. 737 and director of medical staff development at the medical center.

Bro. Long will celebrate his 105th birthday on Oct. 12.

\* **Creating attention.** The 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children program is only ten years old, yet its reputation is growing rapidly. You will note on page 15 that the program has received accreditation from the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council.

For the annual meeting of the International Dyslexia Association in November, our learning centers program will be on the agenda. Representatives have been invited to talk about the centers and the pilot program in the Boston public schools.

Participating from the Scottish Rite program will be Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, executive director; Dr. David C.

Winters, clinical director, and Dr. Phyllis Meisel, director of training.

The IDA is the oldest organization specializing in dyslexia. The 14,000 members are researchers or clinicians in the field. Most of the directors of our learning centers are members of the IDA.

\* **WWII vets honored.**

During the 60th anniversary year of D-Day, attention has been focused on World War II veterans. The long-overdue memorial, dedicated in Washington, DC, this summer, has been a major attraction. The Valley of Cincinnati planned its spring reunion as a tribute to members of the Valley who were called to military service during the war. See details on page 10.

Not to be outdone, the National Heritage Museum in Lexington has scheduled a special program for Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The Maxwell auditorium at the museum will be transformed into a U.S.O. Canteen Show of the World War II era. The 2 p.m. tribute will be produced by the Boston Musical Theater.

The show is expected to be a sell-out. For further details, contact the museum at 781-861-6559 ext. 4106.

\* **Masonic magicians.** The Invisible Lodge, a club of Masonic magicians formed in 1953, will hold its first convention on Aug. 12-14 at Ft. Smith, Arkansas. The group normally holds meetings at magic conventions around the world, but this year's president decided it was time

to organize its own "Konclave."

The convention will feature contests, magic dealers, public shows and lectures on magic, including one on the Faro Shuffle by Ill. S. Brent Morris, 33°, who is also the director of membership development for the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction. For more details on this unusual Masonic gathering, contact Bill Pitts, 479-484-7512 (bandrpitts@aol.com).

\* **Readership.** We are often asked how many of our members actually read *The Northern Light*. We have no way of determining the extent of the readership interest. If we were to answer the question based on response to errors, however, we would consider the number to be relatively high.

For instance, the Stamp Act column in the May issue referred to Burl Ives' birthplace as Indiana instead of Illinois. We missed it. But many of the readers in Illinois did not, and those members would not have spotted it if they had not read the story.

The February issue carried a story about the Odd Fellows. On page 9 there was a 1900 lithograph chart of symbols, which included the Odd Fellows logo — three links of a chain. Two pages later there was a photo of an 1890 Odd Fellows lodge sign using the same logo. The links, however, were bent in a different direction. Both were printed correctly, but the sharp eyes of one reader asked why the two logos were not the same.

Similar instances make us realize that someone out there is not only opening the magazine but also using a magnifying glass to inspect it. Perhaps we should place an insignificant error in each issue to test the scrutiny of the readers. On the other hand, we probably make enough goofs in the course of a year without really trying.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°  
Editor



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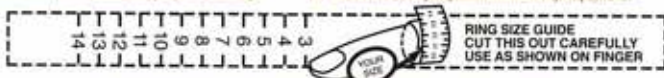
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