

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY

Volume 34 No. 1
FEBRUARY 2003

MASONS
OF THE PAST

MASONS OF THE
FUTURE



MUSEUM
EXHIBITS →

Viewing Freemasonry's Future



Robert O. Ralston, 33°
Sovereign Grand
Commander

"We have
plenty of
work ahead
of us."

Freemasonry's pride in a glorious past has been the subject of many lectures, articles and discussions over the years. Masons have been proud of the fact that George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Paul Revere were members of our fraternal organization. And we have every right to be proud.

But when we perpetuate the past without regard for our future, we are inflicting harm on ourselves and future generations.

A recent study turned up some startling conclusions. An outside research firm was asked to conduct three focus groups to determine attitudes and awareness of the Masons, issues regarding dyslexia, and the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children. The first focus group was conducted with parents of children who had participated in the learning centers program. The second group consisted of people chosen randomly from suburbs near the Supreme Council headquarters. The final group comprised principals, vice principals, and special education teachers.

The study's emphasis on dyslexia and our learning centers will be valuable to us as our program grows. But it was the limited awareness of Freemasonry that shows we have work to do in order to let people know that the Masons exist.

I am reminded of the story of the sales manager who listened to a salesman reeling off a long list of accomplishments during the past year. When the salesman had finished, the manager asked him, "What have you done today?"

Many times we find ourselves resting on the laurels of the past and then wonder why no one remembers us today. The focus groups showed that

the fact that George Washington was a Mason may be impressive, but it is not an important point in the eyes of the non-Mason.

Those in the focus groups were generally unfamiliar with any charitable work by the Masons as an organization. Most participants were familiar with the Shriners because of the hospitals and parades, but they were not aware that Shriners were Masons.

Although the term "secrecy" seemed to be associated with the fraternal organization, there was no skepticism or cynicism about the fraternal order or its objectives. There were no negative thoughts among the groups. They just didn't know us. To them, we were merely "the good ole boys who want to do good." The participants had an improved image of Masonry after being told about our charitable work.

The groups did not think of the Masons as a type of fraternity. To them, the word "fraternity" referred only to college organizations, and the term "fraternal organization" was considered more appropriate for the Masons.

The full report is quite lengthy. These are only a few of the highlights that relate to our recognition among the general public. They point out, however, that we have plenty of work ahead of us if we wish to remain a viable fraternal organization.

Our past is exemplary, but what have we done today? Where will we be in the future? We should not ignore the past, but we cannot pass it on if we do not continue to build so that future generations can also reap the benefits of Freemasonry.

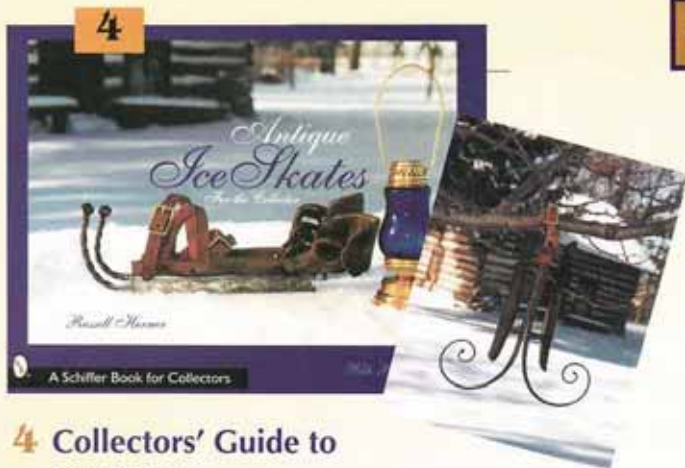
Sovereign Grand Commander

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER
Robert O. Ralston, 33°

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Collectors' Guide to Ice Skates

By RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°

Ohio Mason turns hobby into extensive collection

It started out with a single pair of antique skates. Ill. Russell Herner, 33°, of Bellevue, Ohio, has always enjoyed collecting things. When he came across a pair of antique skates some 40 years ago, he was intrigued. That led to another pair, and before long he had accumulated skates from around the world.

"Collecting is a disease," he says. Although he knew nothing about antique ice skates when he bought the first pair, he soon turned a fascination into a hobby.

Ill. Brother Herner's collection of antique ice skates became an extension of his love for antiques in general. He had been collecting old tools for a number of years and had learned to appreciate the skill and craftsmanship required to make quality heirlooms.

His craft tools include those used by blacksmiths, leather workers, wheelwrights, cabinetmakers and woodcarvers. His familiarity with the tools allows him to clean and repair the skates.

Having been brought up on a farm, Brother Herner got interested in farm tools and antique handmade furniture. The tools led to ice skates.

His collection of old skates contains a variety of designs, character, styles and fastenings. The most expensive tend to be those with a bigger curl on the front end of the blade. Also expen-



Ill. Russell A. Herner, 33°, displays a sampling of his collection of antique ice skates. The Jeremy Wadsworth photo is courtesy of the Toledo Blade.

sive are antique child skates, which are quite rare.

He has photographed each pair in his possession and has catalogued them. The results of his research were published several years ago as a comprehensive guide for collectors. For each pair of skates, he has shown the value, the dimensions, and the approximate date of manufacture.

Brother Herner believes the word "skate" probably came from the Dutch word "Schake" or "Shank," which means the leg of an animal. "The earliest skates were made from large animal bones with holes drilled through each

end to accommodate leather thongs," he said. The leather thongs were then used to attach the bone skates to the shoe or foot.

In his cherished collection is a bone skate that he feels dates from about 1300. He had purchased it from a Holland museum that had three bone skates in its possession.

Although some may disagree, he feels that Holland is the motherland of ice skates. "There are several references to early skating in Holland, Europe, and the Scandinavian countries, but it is quite difficult to determine exactly where ice skating originated," Herner



This ice skate made from an animal bone is the first known and is dated circa 1300. Leather thongs were passed through holes drilled on either end of the bone to fasten the skates to the boots. The bottom of the bone was scraped smooth for the runner to pass over the ice.

"The Skating Pond in Central Park, Winter of 1863," a Currier and Ives print. Note all the skaters dressed up in their colorful Victorian costumes. Several of the men are wearing formal top hats. A few have fallen and are sitting on the ice wondering if they should give it another try.



said. "No one will probably ever know for sure unless some archaeological discovery is made that will prove its origin, but even then it will be debated.

He points out that wooden platform skates were sold and used in one country at the same time metal skates were being used in other countries.



According to Herner, ice skating played an important part in the early development of our country. In America, ice skating was used as a means of transportation, for hunting, and as a winter sport activity.

During the 18th century, most skates were handmade by blacksmiths and woodworkers. By the 19th century, the demand was so great that manufacturers began to get involved. Some were imported from Holland, Germany, England and Sweden, but there were also many being made in Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

Herner says the first ice skate manufacturer in America was the Frederick Stevens Company in 1839.

One of the difficulties with the early production was to find a way to keep the boot heel from slipping off the rear

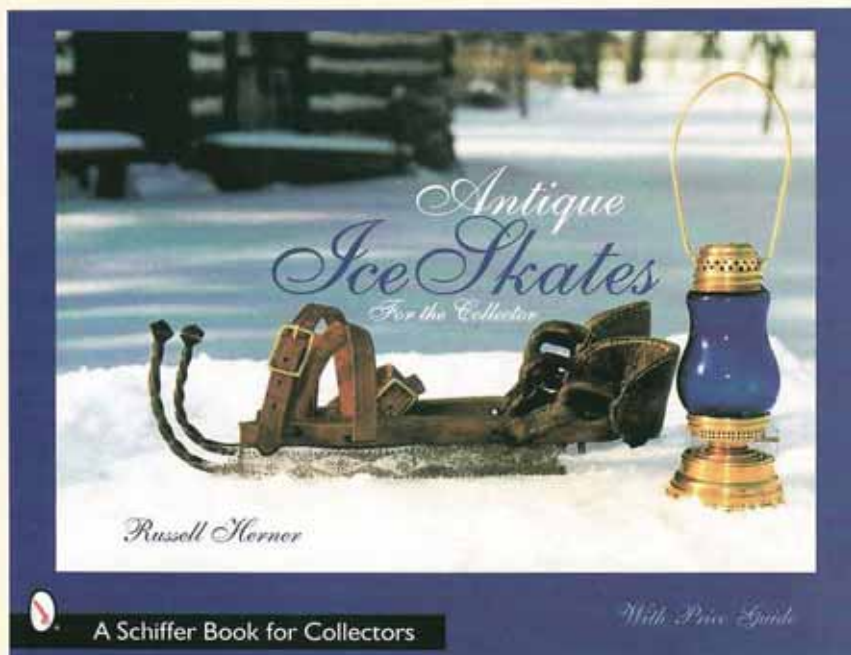
An outstanding, one-of-a-kind pair of handmade ice skates, circa 1860. The runners were gracefully hand forged from rectangular stock into a small diameter. The exceptionally large curl continues to curl into a diamond-shaped finial at the tip. The curl diameter is the largest in his collection. The platforms are made of walnut.

of the skate. Hundreds of patents were filed trying to solve the problem. Some used leather straps, while others created a post or screw that fit into a shoe. Eventually the boot became part of the skate.

He has also obtained an extensive collection of more than 100 skaters' lanterns, which were popular in the 1850s and 1860s. The skaters would hang the lantern from their wrist to help them see where they were going while skating at night.

After Brother Herner's book was published, he says he was amazed at the response. "Collectors were coming out of the woodwork," he said. So an Antique Ice Skating Collectors Club was established and a newsletter was created. The first meeting was held at Lake Placid in August 2002. During the meeting, they were able to witness the performance of several Olympic gold medalists, who were there at the same time.

For the past 43 years, Herner has been a plant engineer for Dixon Ticonderoga Company, manufacturer of crayons and pencils. He plans to retire soon, because the company will be relocating the Sandusky, Ohio, plant to Mexico.



Brother Herner's research has been published in *Antique Ice Skates for the Collector*. The book includes a price guide that was developed by Herner. An autographed copy of the book is available from the author for \$39.95. Order from Russell Herner, 7603 St. Rt. 269N., Bellevue, OH 44811.

►He is not concerned about his free time in retirement. It will give him more time to spend not only with his ice skating hobby but also Freemasonry.

As a collector, Brother Herner has acquired a number of antique Masonic objects. He has some old tools with Masonic emblems, but he is particularly proud of an early walnut chair that was hand carved with Masonic emblems around 1739.

He is a Past Master of Roby Lodge No. 534, Monroeville, Ohio, and a Past District Deputy Grand Master. He is a member of the York Rite in Bellevue and the Scottish Rite Valley of Toledo. He received the 33° in 1992. He has been Master of the Ohio Lodge of Research and president of the Western Reserve

Chapter of the Philalethes Society.

Over the years, he has maintained a keen interest in studying the history and philosophy of Freemasonry.

While visiting lodges as District Deputy, he would offer comments on historical subjects that he had researched. A frequent topic was cathedral building by stonemasons. Today he continues to lecture to Masonic groups around the country.

Brother Herner has been fascinated with Stonehenge in Southwest England since high school. After visiting the site a number of years ago, he began to wonder if there was a relationship between Stonehenge and Freemasonry.

"I am continuously amazed by the knowledge, abilities, and accomplish-

ments of the builders of Stonehenge," he said. "Stone Age man understood and practiced the sciences in addition to being a highly skilled technical craftsman. They accomplished this without the aid of the modern computer and hydraulic boom crane."

Realizing the complexity of both Stonehenge and ancient operative masonry, he points out that both are a fusion of man's greatest accomplishments in the arts, sciences and humanities over literally centuries.

From his research he was convinced that there were similarities between the two. "The early builders were not philosophers; they were stonemasons," he said. Yet he believes that Stonehenge was a sacred site.

These lanterns were used to help skaters find their way across the ice at night. There was a variety of colored globes. This group includes cobalt blue, three other shades of blue, red, two greens, purple, and a clear globe for comparison. The lanterns were quite common during the mid-1800s.



A spectacular pair of handmade swan skates (circa 1830) with exceptionally large hand-forged swan's heads. The thick platforms have three leather slots for fastening and a hand-forged spike on the heel for supporting the boot. There are two clips forge-welded to the top of the runner that attaches to the platform.





Early Dutch skates (circa 1830) with heart-shaped decorative finials at the tip of the curls. The runners are hand-wrought and terminate in the center of the heel. The platform shape is rectangular with straight sides continuing to the heel. They are Frisian skates from the northern province of The Netherlands called Friesland. The heel nut has spiked teeth to hold the boot on the platform. There are two morticed slots for the leather fastenings to go through.

He prepared an article that appeared in *Stonehenge Viewpoint*, published in Santa Barbara, California, in 1979. An expanded version of the article appeared as a book in 1984. *Stonehenge: An Ancient Masonic Temple* was published by Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Co., Inc., of Richmond, Virginia.

Brother Donald L. Cyr, editor of *Stonehenge Viewpoint*, said, "The idea that Stonehenge was built by a Masonic organization some 4,000 or more years ago may not be as far-fetched as it may seem at first."

The leather worker requires a variety of tools. The skate runners are ready to be assembled and leathers attached. The stitching wheel in the foreground with the star wheel on it was used to put a stitching pattern on the leather. The stitching wheel was pressed and rolled along the leather leaving uniform prick points as a guide to stitch evenly with the needle and thread later. The awl was used to punch holes through the leather. The T-handled tool was a leather cutter with a sharp edge on the radius.



These German skates (circa 1830) have exceptionally large curled, hand-forged runners with brass acorns on the tips. They were made by the C.W. Wirth Company of Hutz, Germany. The platforms are secured to the runner by a clamp bar and metal pin. The rear of the platform is a cut down step to accommodate the heels. Handmade screws were inserted in the heel to prevent boot slippage. Three leather straps were used to fasten the skates to the boot.



Lyle B. Borst, professor of astronomy and nuclear physics at New York University at Buffalo, has commented that "while Masonic traditions extend only to the craftsmen of the medieval cathedrals, there is no reason to suppose that these traditions are not older."

The book attempts to explain the common elements that Herner sees. "There are many analogies, similarities and common facts found in both Masonry and Stonehenge that might be dismissed as coincidence were it not for the amazing duplication of the Stonehenge structure in our modern Masonic



A very rare and finely made pair of English women's skates. They were made by the Marsden Brothers Skate Company of Sheffield, England. The skate runner is stamped "Marsden Brothers Skate Manufacturers by special appointment to her Majesty and the Royal family, Sheffield."

The government gave certain quality manufacturing companies permission to put this prestigious stamp of approval on their products. The platforms are made of walnut and the enclosed foot holders are made of patent leather with the original strings still attached to tighten up the toe. The socketed heel cups are made of German silver.

temples, both physically and ritualistically," says Brother Herner.

The *Stonehenge* book can be ordered from the author for \$15.95.

Whether or not you agree with his conclusions, the book does provide an interesting study on a subject that will be discussed without finality.

One point that is conclusive — Russell Herner is not your average Mason.



These Dutch skates (circa 1870) with wooden shoes mounted on them have beautifully turned brass finials at the tips. The platforms are made of walnut wood with a small metal cup or clip at the rear. The heel cup leather straps are still intact. Note the old wooden shoes have worm holes in them, and someone, possibly a shoemaker, later fashioned a pair of leather tops to them with shoemakers' wooden pegs serving as nails.

The 4th Cardinal Virtue

By ROBERT L. STEADMAN, 33°

A judge views the virtue of justice from his seat on the bench

Excerpts from an address delivered on Dec. 27 at the annual Feast of St. John hosted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

I would like to share with you the profound effect Masonry has had on my professional life and why it has become an important part of who and what I am today.

I am going to go back almost 50 years and, with your permission, I am going to take you with me. Perhaps we can reflect together on what happened to us on that memorable day when we were made a Mason.

I was a young attorney with a major Boston law firm looking forward to a career as a trial lawyer. There were no Masons in my family, and I knew nothing about the fraternity other than what I had gleaned from others.

With the reservations usually present when facing the unknown, I made application for membership. Apparently I was successful, because a few months later I received a letter requesting that I appear at the Masonic Temple to take my first degree. When I obediently appeared, I was ushered into a small room.

My conductor said, "Trust me." He took me by the arm and led me down a long corridor to a door. I guessed it to be the lodge room. I felt alone, and it was not unlike passing from the security of the real world to the insecurity of a strange but peaceful environment,



ILL. ROBERT L. STEADMAN, 33°, is an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council and a retired Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Massachusetts.

"When the Master came to the virtue of justice, it was clear that he was talking to me and no one else"

where you relied on unseen others for refuge.

I had a thoughtful companion with me but unknown to me until that evening. I didn't know why, but I trusted him, and that trust was not violated. I was prepared for whatever was to come.

That was the beginning of a marvelous adventure, a learning experience that changed who I was and changed my approach to life, the practice of law and, later on, my career in the judiciary.

At the end of that evening, I was made a Mason. I was not the same neophyte who was escorted into the lodge room that night. I was a different person; I had just had a life-altering experience.

At that point in time, if asked, I would not have been able to put into words what that change was. Can you imagine a lawyer admitting to the inability of putting anything into words?

That was true at the time, but after living Masonry for nearly half a cen-

tury, I would like to try to express, in some meaningful way, the metamorphosis that started on that day and continues to the present.

The lessons unfolded before me reinforced my unalterable belief in a Supreme Being and provided me with the additional moral fiber to practice and adhere to the lessons contained in the four cardinal virtues — temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice.

For me, the first degree remains the most memorable of all three degrees, and that opinion has never changed. Nor do I suspect it ever will.

The four cardinal virtues are not unique to Masonry, but that evening the words took on a broader and more significant meaning. They were not just words but a formula for living. What made it tremendously impressive to me was the way it was presented that evening.

The presiding Master of the lodge gave the lecture. He was a grand old Scot who had a burr that could cut down an oak tree. I hung onto every word, listening with the critical ear of a young, know-it-all, skeptical, overly suspicious, young trial lawyer.

I was totally focused on what my new responsibilities were as a man, as a Mason, as a lawyer and as a judge. I knew then that I had to make adjustments in my professional philosophy that was more consistent with my new-found Masonic ideology. When the Master came to the virtue of justice, his burr became more pronounced, and it struck its mark.

There were three other candidates that evening, but it was crystal clear that he was talking to me and no one else.

Justice, he said, is that standard or boundary of right, which enables us to render unto every man his just due, without distinction. He told me that this virtue is not only consistent with divine human laws, but is the very cement and support of civil society. He reminded me that as justice in great measure constitutes the real good man, so should it be the invariable practice never to deviate from the minutest principles thereof. It keeps coming back to me — never deviate from the minutest principles thereof. What a magnificent credo, particularly for a jurist.

There is a nice distinction between law and justice. The law parts of the equation are the enactments of the lawmakers, the legislature. The justice part of the equation originates from the individual judge in the way he or she administers and applies that law to the facts of the case.

My adherence to the four cardinal virtues has been tested many times by the unpredictable dynamics of the courtroom drama, and on some occasion, most regrettably, I came close to deviating from the standards I was taught. To help me make my point, let me tell you about a frustrating case that tested me severely.

As a Superior Court judge, I was presiding over a case involving a very attractive young lady who said the accused raped her. The defendant was a giant hulk of a man, who (according to his record) appeared to be without redeeming graces. Little did I know that my first criminal sitting would test my adherence to the lessons taught me in the first degree.

The distraught victim was on the stand testifying and at the same time bravely fighting back her tears. The courtroom was deathly still as she courageously delineated the horrid events of this tragic moment in her life.

She came to the point in her testimony where she was detailing what the

defendant did to her. She got to the dramatic and pivotal point of the questioning, and all eyes and ears focused on her. The jury was frozen in place. I noticed the defendant start to squirm, and then he snapped. He made an unintelligible high-pitched scream. He had my attention.

In one leap he was out of his chair, knocked over a court officer, leaped onto my clerk's desk and was set upon by a swarm of court officers, who wrestled him to the ground and put him in shackles. I was cocky and thought to myself, "He was lucky that the court officers came when they did." You can see my courage returned immediately after he was in custody.

I was outraged. My immediate thought was vengeance and to get even with him for his outrageous conduct in my courtroom. I was hurt and offended.

I ordered the jury out of the courtroom, and I retired to my lobby to stew, fume and plot my revenge. I thought about a life sentence or perhaps a public hanging on the Boston Common.

Then I said to myself, "Steadman, stop right there." What a terrible thought. Here was a defendant who appeared before me seeking justice, a man who had not been found guilty of any charge, and I am considering hanging him on the Boston Common. Who do I think I am? I am supposed to be a judge — not judge, jury and executioner.

I knew right away that there was no temperance in my outrageous thoughts of vengeance. There was no fortitude in my lack of courage in facing this unique challenge. There was no prudence in my failure to seek a judicious resolution to this dilemma, and more importantly, there was no justice in my unrighteous thoughts of retribution. Once I tested my thoughts, words and actions against the criteria of the four cardinal virtues, I found I was wanting.

“My adherence to the four cardinal virtues has been tested many times by the unpredictable dynamics of the courtroom drama”

I now knew that my initial management of the defendant's untoward conduct was inappropriate, and I quickly reversed course and used my mind instead of my emotions to devise an appropriate response to the defendant's uncontrollable conduct. I had regained my senses. The lecture in the first degree would not be lost on me.

I ordered the defendant to be returned to the courtroom (without the jury present) with full security. But before he was returned to the courtroom, I ordered him cloaked in double cuffs and double waist and leg irons. I informed the defendant that I was going to complete the trial of his case and that he can be tried dressed as he is now, in iron from head to toe, or he can be tried as a man with dignity and his chains removed.

I said the decision was his, but be assured, one way or the other, this case will be tried.

He was calm now. He thought for a moment and replied, "Judge, I am sorry, I would like the chains removed."

I said, "If I take them off, do you promise to behave yourself during the rest of this trial?" When he said that he would, I told him that I would take his word for it, and I ordered all the cuffs and body chains removed.

They were removed without incident, and he conducted himself with the utmost decorum during the remainder of the trial. He gave his word and he kept it right up to the verdict. He was found guilty, and the sentence I gave him was no different from the sentence I would have given any other defendant for the crime for which he stood convicted.

I did not add a single day to his sentence because of his conduct in my courtroom, because that was not the crime he was charged with and tried

Continued on page 29

An experiment In renewal

*Easy steps that can
invigorate a Masonic lodge*

A sign hanging in an old Vermont general store reads, "If the customer doesn't find what he wants here, he'll go somewhere else." That was the philosophy of the proprietor, and he stocked his store with just about everything a person in his community would need.

That philosophy would be a good guide for our fraternity as well. We need to remember that if a man does not find what he is looking for here, he will go somewhere else.

Many of our lodges have become inactive. If a man is not interested in ritual, there is very little for him to do in many lodges. About 15 years ago, the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America started producing pamphlets, brochures and videos designed for use in lodges that want to become more active.

Unfortunately, there was no plan or dissemination mechanism to introduce these materials to lodge officers or, more importantly, to convince them that a different outlook is necessary if the officers want to renew the lodge and make it grow.

In 2001, the Grand Lodge of Maine started a program to introduce those materials to lodge members in a meaningful way. About ten younger Masons, who had good leadership experience and were from active lodges, were given some intensive training, with the help of R. Wayne Hitchcock, Grand Master of Masons in New Brunswick. Brother Hitchcock had

used the principles of Masonic renewal successfully in that grand jurisdiction.

Essentially, these principles are as follows:

- Lodge renewal is a lodge level activity. It is entirely dependent on the perspective and attitude of lodge members and cannot be imposed from above or mandated.
- Lodge renewal is a matter of discovering what we already know. Most Masons with a little help can identify the opportunities and benefits that non-Masons, younger Masons and inactive Masons want from membership in a lodge and can identify specific things a lodge can do to attract their interest.
- Lodge renewal is a younger man's job. The best facilitators are

younger men with positive attitudes who have been effective leaders in their own lodges.

- Lodge renewal is a group effort. The best way to facilitate the renewal of a lodge is to draw its members into an interaction, where they can participate in identifying the needs of members and prospective members and provide them the opportunities they want and need.

- Lodge renewal is empowering. Helping the members of a lodge envision a plan of action and a solution is the best way to tap their energy and ideas and excite their creative spirit.

Following the training, these young officers set out to talk to the members of constituent lodges and to officers' associations. Their presentations followed a two-step format:

The first step was a guided discussion to explore and identify what non-Masons, young ex-Masons and inactive Masons are hunting for in an

Lodge renewal is . . .

- a lodge level activity
- discovering what we already know
- a younger man's job
- a group effort
- empowering



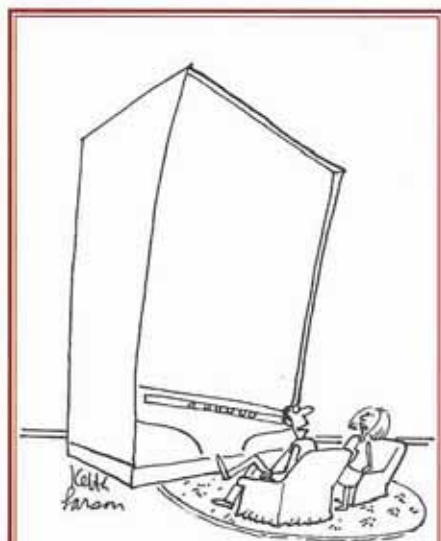
ILL. WAYNE T. ADAMS, 33°, is a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine and an attorney with a law office in Kennebunkport.

organization. They were surprised to discover that when the question was put directly and an exchange developed, the members of a lodge had no difficulty in identifying what men are looking for in an organization. Invariably, they pointed out that such men want an organization that is values-centered, family-oriented, community-minded, and well led. They want an organization where they will make new friends and feel that their contribution will be appreciated. It was astonishing to see how quickly the participants could identify those factors.

Once the needs and desires of members and potential members were identified, the presentations moved into the second phase, which was to explore and identify what that particular lodge could do to respond to those men in that community.

There was no attempt to tell a lodge what to do because the participants could see for themselves, as the discussions developed, what their lodge needed to do. They could identify the steps to make their lodge more active. It didn't take much effort to coax out of the participants useful ideas that their lodge could adopt and put to work to make it a more appealing organization for men in their community.

The very process of working through the presentation changed attitudes and changed ways of thinking from a complacent acceptance of the status quo to a creative and self-challenging desire to seize opportunities at hand.



I've been thinking about becoming a Mason, but I'm not sure I've got the time.

Renewal encompasses . . .

- membership
- candidate care
- attention to family concerns
- leadership development
- good communication

At every one of the presentations made during the year, the participants eagerly responded, contributed ideas and began to enjoy the opportunity to be a part of a process to improve and rebuild their lodge. They discovered that renewal encompasses many things: membership, candidate care, attention to family concerns, leadership development and good communication.

As they traveled about the state, the presenters were often struck with the realization that successful lodges are already applying renewal principles without articulating them as such. It is simply the way they do things. It is no surprise that those lodges are the most successful in maintaining their membership.

Measuring the success of these presentations is difficult. It is difficult to quantify or measure a shift in mood. It is difficult to predict, for example, how a Junior Deacon's thinking might not show results for another four or five years. What was seen in each presentation was a desire to participate in the exchange, a desire to participate in planning for the future and the sheer excitement that comes from being part of a creative process. Such participation is important because the renewal of a lodge and its growth always comes from its own energy and the commitment of its members.

Many lodges seem to think that the way to renew themselves is by just getting some new blood quickly. New members are always important, but

you can't sell from an empty wagon. If a lodge has nothing to offer a man, there is no reason for a man to join or become active.

An active lodge attracts a man who wants to be active. An inactive lodge has difficulty attracting any men at all.

"The major competition

for fraternal societies

is not the

television set"

The major competition for fraternal societies is not the television set. Most younger men, most of the men we want to have as Masons, are very active in their communities doing things they believe are important.

Every lodge should have on its wall the sign that reads, "If the customer doesn't find what he wants here, he will go somewhere else." If a lodge wants to attract young men and non-Masons, it will have to offer them the opportunities they are looking for or they will go somewhere else. The principles of Masonic renewal position a lodge to offer a good man the outlet and opportunity he is seeking for satisfaction, service and personal growth.

New Director of Development Sets Goal

When Steve Pekock accepted the assignment as director of development for the Scottish Rite Charities, he knew the task would not be easy. But after two months on the job, he knew he had made the right decision.

Steve joined the staff at the Supreme Council headquarters in November. Although he is not a Mason, he has since made application to a lodge. "Since my first interview I have been very impressed with the high caliber of the Supreme Council leadership," he said. "Everyone on the review committee expressed a sincere dedication to the fraternity, and I have not seen that level of commitment diminish."

The new director has a history of working with non-profit organizations. His fund-raising experience includes programs for Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross, Portland (Maine) Symphony Orchestra, Eliot Hospital in Manchester (New Hampshire), Easter Seals of Connecticut, among others.

My family has always been involved with non-profit groups, Steve said. "My mother spent a lot of time working with disabled children."

One thing that has impressed him so much with the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children is the way the program has affected the lives of children. "I want to see the Scottish Rite extend the miracle to more families and more kids," he emphasized.

"Listening to stories from parents



Steve Pekock reviews plans with development administrator Judi Forand.

reinforces me that this is the right thing to do."

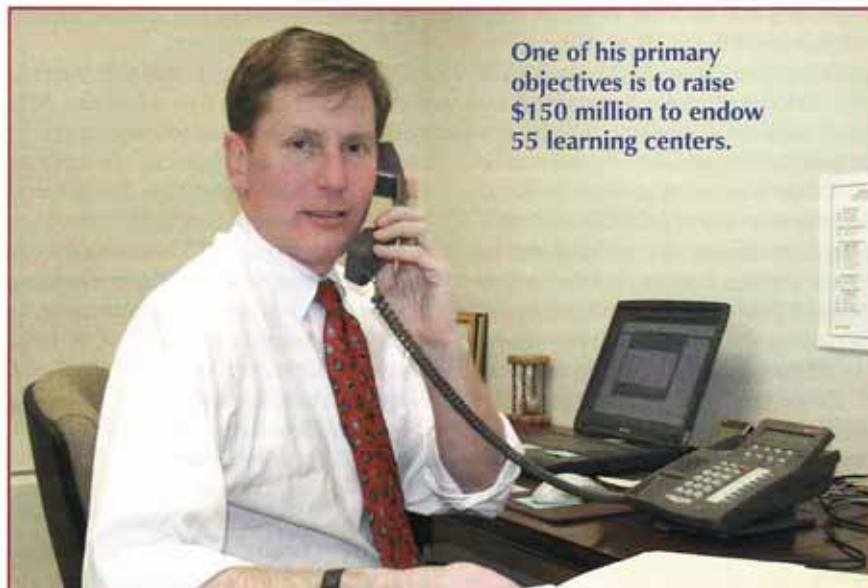
He pointed out a prediction that is credited to Mary Farrell, regional director for the New Jersey learning centers. The Scottish Rite program will reach 50,000 children within the next five years. This will be accomplished not only through the one-on-one tutor-

ing but also the extensive tutor training program. Some trainees will become tutors in the Scottish Rite program. Many of the trainees will return to school systems to assist dyslexic students.

Steve's primary objective is to raise \$150 million to endow 55 learning centers. This will be done by seeking funds in a variety of ways: cash, stock, annuities, bequests.

During his first few months, he has been visiting many of the Valleys with learning centers, speaking to donors, and preparing campaign materials that more closely reflect the personal stories of success coming from students and tutors at the learning centers.

His emphasis will be to provide support to the many volunteer committees currently working in the Valley level. "What you look for is the commitment of volunteers to do the good work that they talk about," he said. "That's of paramount importance to me. Throughout the jurisdiction, I see an enthusiastic volunteer corps of Scottish Rite Masons who are anxious to work for the cause."



One of his primary objectives is to raise \$150 million to endow 55 learning centers.



Boston Marathon Runners to Aid Learning Centers

When the Boston Marathon takes place on April 21, ten runners will be representing the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children at the Boston Marathon. The entries were issued to the learning centers program under a waiver plan issued to selected charitable organizations.

The 26-mile race is the oldest continuous marathon in the country. Individuals and wheelchair participants without charitable waivers must run a qualifying time at a certified marathon and pay an entry fee. Participants must be 18 years or older on race day.

Those with a charitable waiver, however, are guaranteed entry no matter what their running speed. These runners will be participating to raise funds for their organization.

One of the limitations of this fundraiser is that we were issued only ten entries, said Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, executive director for the learning centers corporation. "We received letters of interest from more than 20 individuals in spite of the short notice."

This year a number of applicants for the ten spots were placed on a waiting list. Brother Berlandi is hopeful that additional entries will be awarded to the program for the 2004 marathon.

This year's runners for the learning centers include two tutors and four 32° Masons, one of whom is a center director.

Each runner has been requested to raise a minimum of \$5,000 to sponsor a child at a learning center.

Some Scottish Rite Valleys have expressed a willingness to financially support a runner.

"We have every reason to expect all of the runners to raise the funds necessary to sponsor a child," said Berlandi. "It will be more meaningful to us as a fraternal organization to come together and help support these runners."

"Clearly, it is not important how fast they run or where they finish in the event. The important point is that they are participating on behalf of the program."

Brother Berlandi will not be running in the event but expects to join with others who will be at the starting and finish lines to cheer on the runners.

PARTICIPANTS

Tom McClintock, 32°
Greater Boston, MA

Ian Sigalow, 32°
Greater Boston, MA

Scott Spencer
Waterbury, CT

Michael Sells
Milwaukee, WI

Kurt Walborn, 32°,
center director
Fort Wayne, IN

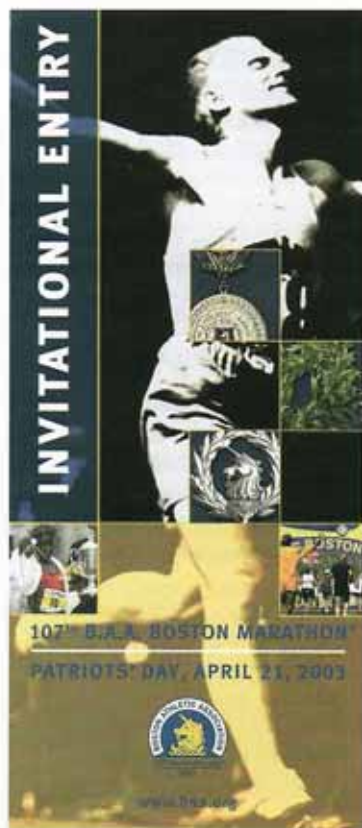
Paul Kappel, 32°
Pittsburgh, PA

Alyssa McAllister, *tutor*
Cincinnati, OH

Jill Norton, *tutor*
Cincinnati, OH

Steven Guy
Columbus, OH

William Harvest
Allentown, PA



Tracking Success of Graduates

Plans are underway to establish a parent/graduate alumni program for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. The program will provide valuable information about the long-term success of the children.

Tracking the educational success of the children after they have completed the course at a learning center will help to determine the effectiveness of the entire tutoring program. Establishment of a parent/graduate alumni program will be useful in obtaining the data to evaluate the ongoing learning improvements of the children.

The initial step will be to collect the names and addresses of the parents of the children who have completed their tutoring or graduated from a center. Once this basic information is received, the corporate office will contact the parents directly to attain the necessary information about the child.

Nancy Lemcke, former director of the Nashua learning center, has agreed to serve as project coordinator

for the parent/graduate alumni program.

Executive Director Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, has pointed out another advantage of recording the data. "This information is essential as we explore opportunities to partner with public and private institutions in an effort to increase both the number of children that we tutor and the trainees that we certify outside of our centers," he said.

"We have begun to explore opportunities to partner with these institutions in an effort to achieve our goal," he added. "Any partnership we undertake will be subject to retaining our identity, our autonomy, the quality of our professional services and the integrity of our program."

To develop a partnership, it will be necessary to demonstrate, by way of empirical documentation, that the services offered at the learning centers successfully improve the reading skills of the children being tutored. This can be accomplished by collecting the data and using an independent source to analyze it.

Cyclists to Go on the Road for Learning Centers

A motorcycle club within the Scottish Rite Valley of Reading, PA, has a plan to raise funds to support the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children. The group that calls itself "Hiram's Scottish Riders" will take to the road in June and will travel through 49 states for a "Ride to Fight Dyslexia."

ing motorcycles. The president is Victor M. Frederick III, a Past Master of his blue lodge and a Past Thrice Potent Master in the Valley of Reading. Greg Ely is the vice president and Dewey Hopple is the treasurer.

The purpose of the club is to bring together Master Masons and Scottish Rite Masons who have an interest in "motorcycle riding, promoting good fellowship and encouraging membership in the Scottish Rite fraternity, while following the precepts of Masonry."

A major objective is to raise funds for the learning centers program.

Although Master Masons may be associate members, only Scottish Rite Masons are entitled to vote on club affairs and hold office.

The club members are now looking for sponsors who will make pledges. They expect the pledges will be forthcoming from Valleys, county clubs, lodges, other Masonic and community organizations, and individuals. They are also looking for Masonic cyclists who would like to join them on the "Ride to Fight Dyslexia."

Brother Frederick said that the

group has started with 21 members and he anticipates that it will grow. Although the club is under the auspices of the Valley of Reading, there are also members from other Valleys.

Further details about the program can be obtained from the president, Victor Frederick, at v.mfred@verizon.net or by phone (610-970-2153).



The route is still being developed, but the cyclists plan to end their ride on July 12 at the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation meeting in Seven Springs.

The club was organized recently by three 32° Masons who enjoy rid-

As the tree grows

Ian, a student at the Chicago learning center, walked into the office of Center Director Gina Cooke and placed two crumpled dollar bills and three quarters on her desk. He said that he wanted to make a donation to the center.

After making sure that this was what Ian wanted to do with his money, Gina asked him what inspired his generosity. "I've got to get on that tree!" he said, pointing to the wall of honor plaques with its trunk and limbs.

SPONSOR A CHILD

Valley of Boston Leads the Way

With the success during the initial year for the "Sponsor a Child" program, the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., has set a new goal for the current year. The program hopes to have participation from all centers with contributions totaling \$1 million.

As of mid-January, more than half that goal has been achieved. Of the 42 centers operating, 33 centers have received sponsorships. These sponsorships have raised \$535,000.

The Valley of Boston leads the way with \$100,000 in contributions. This represents sponsorships for 20 children enrolled in the Greater Boston Learning Center.

Other Valleys/centers receiving

high marks are Burlington, NJ, \$48,000; Waterbury, CT, \$42,000; and Providence, RI, \$38,000.

Sponsorships are being received from individuals, Valleys, lodges, Masonic groups, and community groups.

Although we have exceeded 50 percent of our \$1 million goal for this second year of the program, we need continued support and effort to attain 100 percent of our goal, said Executive Director Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°. "Each sponsorship helps us meet the annual operating cost of one child."

"Our hope, ambitious as it is, would be to find a sponsor for every child enrolled," Berlandi added. There are currently some 1,100 children enrolled in the 42 centers.



Status of 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

Currently Operating:

Allentown, PA
Altoona, PA
Bangor, ME
Bay City, MI
Bloomsburg, PA
Burlington, NJ
Cambridge, OH
Canton, OH
Chicago, IL
Cincinnati, OH
Cleveland, OH
Columbus, OH
Dayton, OH
Detroit, MI
Evansville, IN
Fort Wayne, IN

Greater Boston, MA
Greater Lowell, MA
Harrisburg, PA
Hasbrouck Heights, NJ
Indianapolis, IN
Lancaster, PA
Lexington, MA
Madison, WI
Milwaukee, WI
Nashua, NH
Newark, NJ
Pittsburgh, PA
Portland, ME
Providence, RI
Reading, PA
Rochester, NY
Scotch Plains, NJ

South Bend, IN
Southern Illinois
Steubenville, OH
Tenafly, NJ
Toledo, OH
Waterbury, CT
West Michigan
Worcester, MA
Youngstown, OH

Scheduled to Open in 2003:

Burlington, VT
Freeport, IL
Scranton, PA
Wilmington, DE

Museum Progress Report

Excerpts from the address delivered at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council in September.

The National Heritage Museum is hard at work, through its public programs, exhibitions, and educational activities, reminding visitors that Freemasonry in the United States has been and will continue to be committed to the betterment of mankind through its many charities.

How are we doing this you might ask? In May, we opened a new exhibition, "To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community." The whole purpose of the exhibit is to educate visitors about the long tradition of service that Freemasons have carried on and to point out the many associated organizations that have been born of their efforts. Brother Mark Tabbert, 32°, curator of the museum's Masonic



National Heritage Museum Director John H. Ott, 32°, has made some major changes during his three-year tenure at the Scottish Rite facility in Lexington, MA.

An update on the facility sponsored by the Scottish Rite



The museum cafe, located in the foyer, was opened in the spring of 2001 as a convenient service to visitors and groups touring the exhibitions.

and fraternal collections, took his idea for this exhibit and turned it into a working tool for our museum.

The major portion of the exhibition answers the question, "Why do men join fraternal organizations?" Brother Tabbert has identified seven reasons. Each of these reasons makes up a segment of the display.

Although the emphasis is on Freemasonry, there are also references to other Masonic and non-Masonic organizations to show the relationship they have to the fraternity.

A great deal of research went into the preparation for this exhibit. The material was so extensive that a decision has been made to publish a book on the subject. In fact, Brother Tabbert is currently working on this project.

We have already begun work on a plan to completely redesign our web site, www.monh.org, to take full advantage of the power of this communications tool. This involves develop-

ing a site with rapid and ready reference banners that get you to people, programs, information, or images that will help answer your questions.

We are in the process of digitizing a portion of the museum's three dimensional objects that represents the icons or best examples of our Masonic collection. Eventually these items can be accessed on line from your Valley, your office, or your home. About 400 images from our collection of 8,000 postcards are being transferred to a video disc. When the project is completed, we hope to make the disc public.

Our Van Gorden-Williams Library has thousands of volumes listed on the library page of our website.

Another example of the "future connections" we hope will link us together involves the fiber optic cabling now linking our auditorium and the Farr Conference Room to the town of Lexington's cable network. This link



ENTERPRISING *Women*

250 YEARS OF AMERICAN BUSINESS

October 5, 2002 – February 23, 2003
National Heritage Museum • Lexington, Massachusetts
www.enterprisingwomenexhibit.org

The exhibition, "Enterprising Women," opened at the National Heritage Museum and will now travel to other museums around the country. The exhibition was organized in conjunction with the Schlesinger Library of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University.

should allow us access to other networks and systems within our Northern Jurisdiction. This could bring a variety of museum programs, concerts, and even exhibitions into your home. Imagine the possible linkages to schools, libraries, home-schooling families, civic and fraternal organizations, all under the banner of the Scottish Rite Masonic National Heritage Museum.

This won't happen over night, but a goal of the museum is to build bridges to people and communities through collaborative programs that will allow us to share resources.

As an institution, we attempt to help people make connections with their own history and show how it has relevance to the present day. Sometimes we make this connection by a catalogue or book to provide additional knowledge about a particular subject, such as the pending book on the current Masonic exhibition. This opportunity to promote our fraternity is one that we don't want to lose.

Sometimes, we do this by utilizing a

staff member with special knowledge of a subject to produce a publication. Such is the case with our new preservation pamphlet, which is designed to offer technical help to Valleys and lodges that have older collections and don't know what to do with them. How do we take care of old photographs? Old letters? Old documents? How do we exhibit them so they won't be destroyed by light, handling, or insects?

These pamphlets will be distributed in various ways. We are grateful to the Masonic Service Association for a willingness to include the pamphlet with a mailing of the *Short Talk Bulletin*.

Everything we do at the museum has to have "public service and trusteeship" at its core. The museum is only the caretaker of material culture, those documents and artifacts that we hold in trust for future generations that have been acquired through gift or purchase. An excellent example is the recently acquired Paul Revere meeting notice to St. Andrew's Lodge in Boston. This 18th-century piece of Ma-

sonic ephemera that celebrates the work of a craftsman, a patriot, and a Mason is now in our archives.

But beyond our collecting and maintaining collections, we continue to make the production of meaningful exhibitions the primary force of our interpretive and educational initiatives.

One long-heralded exhibition is the well-funded "Enterprising Women: 250 Years of American Business." This pioneering effort to document the ongoing role of women in business has received financial support from AT&T and the Ford Motor Company. Produced in conjunction with the Schlesinger Library of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University, this one exhibition should have incredible and lasting impact on the public's perception of the museum in the most positive sense. In part, this will be assured by the fact that the exhibition was developed in a significant way by members of our senior staff which is made up of several extremely talented women.

In another piece of good news, we have hired Cynthia Robinson as our new Director of Education and Public Programs. A recognized leader in the field of museum studies and former executive director of the Bay State Historical League, she will use her talents to further our growing outreach efforts. She has also had acclaimed success in securing grants for a variety of programs.

If the National Heritage Museum is to keep its cutting edge reputation, ▶

The information desk was relocated to the museum entrance to be more accessible for visitors entering the building.



➤ which in part comes from the generous resources of the Scottish Rite members, we have to be committed to taking advantage of our location in Lexington by supporting the new Liberty Ride Shuttle. This service was instituted during the summer to provide a shuttle bus for tourists who wished to visit our museum as well as the Lexington Battle Green and the Minute-man National Park's visitor center in West Lexington. The service has been well received.

In the final analysis, the museum's strength comes from three distinct actions: by working in partnership with other museums, historical societies, libraries, and corporate America; by continually focusing on customer service, and by providing "added value" to everything we do. That comes from our close affiliation with the Scottish Rite and its ethical standards, patriotic fervor, and sense of brotherhood.

The Liberty Ride Shuttle, instituted in the summer, proved to be popular for visitors traveling between the museum and other Lexington historical attractions. The area tourist council is now seeking funding to continue the service for another two years.



New Exhibit Shows Freemasonry in American Community

The new Masonic exhibition, "To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community," opened in June at the National Heritage Mu-

seum and is expected to remain on view for five or six years. The exhibit was developed by Mark A. Tabbert, 32°, curator of Masonic and fraternal

collections at the museum.

Visitors entering the gallery receive an introduction to Freemasonry, tracing its European roots to America. The bulk of the exhibit, however, answers the question, "Why do men join fraternal organizations?"

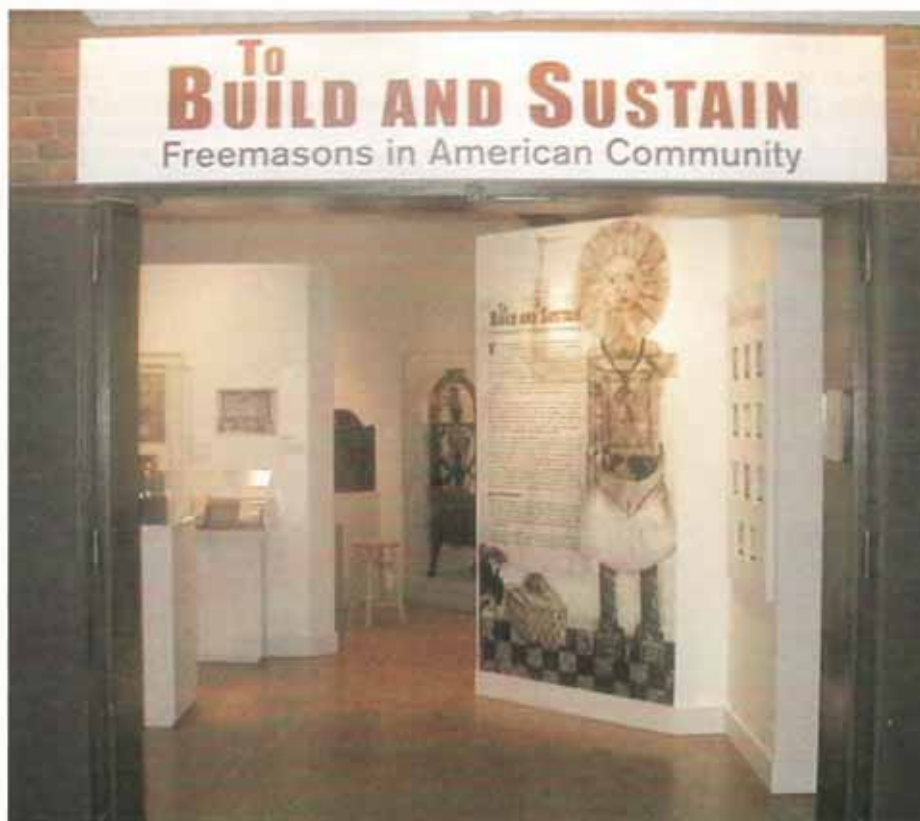
Using a series of building facades, the displays point out seven reasons, beginning with the desire for self-improvement. This reason, for instance, is represented by a library.

The other reasons are mutual benefit, the drama of the ritual, social activities, professional associations, family organizations, and community service.

Within each of the seven "buildings" is a collection of objects and symbols that relate to a reason. Examples from the ritual are used to help the visitor understand the philosophy.

Other fraternal and service organizations are shown because of their similarity or association with Freemasonry.

Brother Tabbert is now writing a book that will expand upon the basic ideas outlined in the exhibition. The book is scheduled for publication within a year.





By Leigh E. Morris, 33°

Coal, George, discounts, etc.

When I concluded my last column by asking for questions and comments, I never thought you would actually take me up on the offer. (Just kidding!)

Most interesting were the impassioned comments I received in response to my answer to the Mac versus PC-Windows questions. They ranged from "you're an idiot" to "right on target."

I do want to thank all of you who took the time to share your thoughts on this and other subjects.

Since you took the time to write, I'll address some more of your questions.

? How much electricity is used by computers in the United States?

A. Are you helping junior with a school assignment or trying to stump the columnist? The answer to your question depends on who you ask. Four years ago, Mark P. Mills wrote a paper, "The Internet Begins With Coal." Published by the Greening Earth Society, the paper contended that all computers combined use about 13 percent of the nation's electric output. Mills and Peter Huber subsequently wrote an article for *Forbes* magazine. They repeated the assertions of the first article and also contended that "half of the electric grid will be powering the digital-Internet economy within the next decade." That's a lot of electrons.

Researchers at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California have refuted Mills' assertions. Instead, they say that in 1999, computers of all types used about 3 percent of the nation's electricity.

The correct answer is more than an academic exercise. It will be needed to help plan for the construction of future electric generation capacity and the ongoing development of "clean coal" technology.

? I heard there is a way to track the travels of a dollar bill. Is this true?

A. You are referring to one of the hottest Web sites around — <www.wheresgeorge.com>. Not only can you track a buck, but you can follow the progress of a bill of any denomination. At last count, around 1.5 million *Where's George* registered users are following the journeys of about 24 million bills. *Where's George* allows you to enter the denomination, series and serial number of a bill. You will then find out where it has been and read the comments of those who have held it. Then you can add your own observations before passing the bill on. The only downside is that you might find out your money is having a better time than you!

? Our Valley would like to take greater advantage of computer technology, but we've found much of it to be beyond our financial resources. One program we need costs about \$900. Any ideas.

A. You missed your chance to ask Santa Claus. Many hardware and software manufacturers offer discounts of up to 50 percent to qualified 501(c)(3) charities. These offers usually are not advertised, so you need to ask your dealer or the manufacturer.

? Is there such a thing as an easy-to-use digital camera? You know, just point and shoot.

A. Minolta has answered your prayers. Their new Dimage Xi will fit in your pocket while taking photos that rival the quality associated with much larger, more complex cameras. The Dimage Xi has a resolution of 3.2 megapixels and a 3x zoom lens with an optional 4x zoom lens. Though it lists for \$599, you should be able to buy it for less than \$450. There are a few other small cameras on the market, but none compare to the Dimage Xi in quality and features.

? I've heard a lot about online pharmacies. Are they worth a try?

A. The virtual pharmacy is an outgrowth of the mail order prescription drug service. While many online pharmacies simply fill prescriptions written by your physician, others have physicians who write prescriptions for customers.

There are plenty of concerns about online pharmacies. First of all, 25 states have no policy regarding online pharmacies and only a few have laws that prohibit virtual pharmacy doctors from writing prescriptions without first examining the patient. In addition, some have raised questions about the quality of the drugs being sold and whether sites actually offer customers real savings.

If you want to try an online pharmacy, do business with one that displays the seal of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy attesting the site is a Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Site. Have the pharmacy fill your doctor's prescription. Do some comparison shopping to make certain you are getting the best price (and don't forget to include shipping costs).

Questions or comments? Send me an e-mail at studebaker@motion.net

The Real Story Behind

Abraham Lincoln's 1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation

Editor's note:

In the end, truth wins. When we reprinted Leigh Morris' Thanksgiving story in the November issue of *The Northern Light*, we did not question the validity of the Washington and Lincoln proclamations that accompanied the story. We have known Ill. Brother Morris for a number of years and regard him as a trusted journalist who checks his facts.

Within weeks of the distribution of the issue, we received an e-mail from a reader questioning the validity of the Abraham Lincoln proclamation as

it was printed. He had located another version. We went back to Brother Morris, who then questioned his source.

After lengthy research, he determined, "Though the proclamation printed in the last issue had come from a trusted source, I am now of the opinion that (the printed version) is not Lincoln's Thanksgiving proclamation. Who wrote it and for what purpose I do not know."

The origin is still unknown, although a portion of it appears to be

from another of Lincoln's proclamations appointing a National Fast Day for March 30, 1863. The final paragraph of the fake version is taken from the official Thanksgiving proclamation.

The confusion does not affect the content of Leigh Morris' story in any way, nor is there doubt about the authenticity of the George Washington proclamation.

Reprinted below is the official 1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation issued by President Lincoln.

Lincoln's November 1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation



The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict, while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well as the iron and coal as of our precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of aug-

mented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the imposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the divine purpose, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

The Stamp Act

A Philatelic Review



By Robert A. Domingue



Bro. **Irving Berlin** was recently honored by the USPS with a stamp on Sept. 15, 2002. He was a member of Munn Lodge No. 190, New York City, having received his degrees in 1910. He was also a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of New York City and Mecca Shrine Temple.

Born as Israel Baline in Russia in 1888, he was one of eight children. The family settled in the U.S. in 1893, and he was educated in the New York City schools. He began his musical career as a singing waiter in restaurants. In 1911, his composition of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" established his reputation as a song writer. He wrote music and lyrics for numerous comedies and revues. He was a guiding light in the formation of ASCAP.

★ ★ ★



Eleftherios Venizelos is pictured on one stamp of a set of stamps commemorating the 50th anniversary of his death. He was initiated in 1898 into the Athina Lodge of Athens. He did not advance any further in Freemasonry.

Born in 1865 in Greece when it was part of the Turkish Empire, he studied law at the University of Athens. He took a leading part in the Cretan insurrections that ended the Turkish rule. In 1909, King George I asked him to come to Athens, and he was elected to Parliament. In 1910 he was appointed premier. When Constantine I was forced to abdicate in 1917, Venizelos again became Premier and declared war against the Central Powers. He was forced to leave Greece when King Constantine I was restored to power in 1920. He led a revolt in 1935 to try to recover some of the territory that Greece had won, but he had to flee in exile. He was pardoned by King George II but died in Paris in 1936.

★ ★ ★

William Howard Taft's Masonic career began when he was "made a Mason at Sight" in 1909 by the Grand Master of Ohio.

Born in Cincinnati in 1857, Taft graduated from Yale University and the Cincinnati Law School.

He was elected President of the U.S. in 1908. President Harding named him Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in 1921. He died March 8, 1930.

Bro. Taft is shown on a stamp as part of a set issued May 22, 1986, for AMERIPEX 86.

★ ★ ★



Pierre Joseph Proudhon was initiated in 1847 in the Lodge "Sincerite, Parfaite Union et Constante Amitie," Besançon, France. He is pictured on a semi-postal stamp issued by France in July 1954.



Bro. Proudhon, a socialist, political writer and printer, was born at Besançon in 1809. He went to

Paris when the Revolution broke out and started a daily newspaper. He was elected to the Constituent Assembly, but nobody would listen when he spoke. He returned to the press but was fined for his sarcasm. Sentenced for illegal publications in 1849, he fled to Geneva. Upon his return he was imprisoned but later went to Belgium, where he published his theories. He died in Paris in 1865.

★ ★ ★

Born in Edinburgh in 1771, **Sir Walter Scott** became incurably lame at 18 months. At the age of 8, he was placed in high school and spent 4 years there. In 1785 he served an apprenticeship with his father as a writer. In 1792 he was called to the bar and seven years later was deputy sheriff of Edinburgh. He withdrew from the bar to devote himself to writing



and publishing. He accepted a baronetcy in March 1820 and in November the presidency of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. He died in 1832.

Bro. Scott received all three degrees at an emergency meeting of St. David Lodge No. 36, Edinburgh, in 1801. His father and elder brother were also members of that lodge. He was offered the Grandmastership of the Royal Grand Conclave of Knights Templar of Scotland in 1823 but declined because of age and health.

He is pictured on a Great Britain stamp issued July 28, 1971, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of his birth.

★ ★ ★

Antoine Meyer was born in Breda in 1801 and died in 1857. This noted Luxembourg author was the First National Poet of his country. He is pictured on a stamp issued by Luxembourg on April 30, 1979, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the publication of his "One Step to the Luxembourg Parnassus."

Bro. Meyer was a member of the Lodge "Les Enfants de la Concorde Fortifiée." He received his degrees in 1829.



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



By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

The Way of the Craftsman, by W. Kirk MacNulty. Published in 2002 by Central Regalia Ltd. Available through So. Cal. Research Lodge, PO Box 939, Ashland, OR 97520. \$15.96 Plus \$2.50 s/h.

In the August 1992 issue of *The Northern Light*, I reviewed *Freemasonry: A Journey through Ritual and Symbol*. The same author wrote this book, and the review that I wrote at that time could almost be used for this volume.

In that review I wrote, "I frankly found the publication to be intriguing, yet disturbing and difficult to review." I also wrote that the author presented a concept "that within the precursors to Freemasonry there existed an ingrained interest in mystical teaching." I also acknowledged that if the author was correct, then I had failed to understand Freemasonry for my 30 years as a Mason. After reading *The Way of the Craftsman*, I can add 10 years and make the same statement.

The text relates Freemasonry to the theories of Renaissance psychology, and although the author states that he does not purport it to be a scholarly book, it is a more scholarly Masonic book than most of us are accustomed to reading. He makes it quite clear that what he's expressing is his personal view and interpretation of the meaning of the craft. He also states, "To the majority of Masons the content of this book will seem strange, unfamiliar and perhaps a little disturbing." Being familiar with the Freemasonry of today, I would have to agree with this statement.

MacNulty applies the major psychological concepts of Freud and Jung, as contemporary psychologists, to the purpose and meaning of Freemasonry. He discusses the very basic premises upon which the theories of both of these men are applied to Freemasonry. There exists a considerable diversity between the theories of Freud and Jung, and this text provides an interesting application of their philosophy to the structure and symbolism of the craft. Although it would be helpful to understand applied psychology, these premises provide enough information to understand the applications he presents.

The first chapter is devoted to the establishment of understanding, so that the psychological applications, when applied to Freemasonry, may be understood. The second chapter presents an introduction to the understanding of the structure of the lodge, including the prerequisites for membership and the transposition of the

lodge into a psychological idiom. The next three chapters relate to the purpose and meaning of the symbolism of the three degrees as a discipline of psychology. The final chapter reveals the application of the information of the previous chapters to produce the viable functioning lodge. There is also a three-page note at the end of the book presenting some comparisons between American and English Freemasonry. This is done to better enable the American Freemason to relate the symbolic meaning presented in this book.

In reading this book one cannot help but raise the question: Have we lost so much in our understanding of the purpose and meaning of the craft as to be unable to make the same intellectual application, as has the author?

I have discovered from my studies in recent years that there are many deviations in Freemasonry since its origin. Hence, we find authors today who are passionate in their interpretation and belief of the true purpose and meaning of the craft. All cannot be correct. Perhaps none are. Or perhaps all are correct in part.

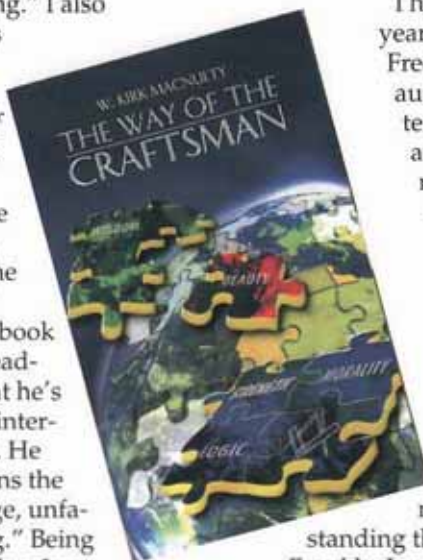
We have been taught that Freemasonry offers an opportunity for each member to establish his own interpretation of the craft. I must assume that my interpretation of Freemasonry differs from that of the author simply because I received its teachings in a different light. That does not mean that his reasoning is correct and mine incorrect,

or vice versa, and it is with this understanding that you should read this book.

Frankly, I appreciate his work. Right or wrong, it is stimulating reading. I was pleased to find that many of his analogies made sense to me. Even though I still find much of his application disturbing and difficult to review, I also find much with which I agree. It causes the reader to reevaluate his perspective on the meaning of words and how they relate to craft meaning. The explanation on the prerequisites for membership should be highly recommended reading by Masonic leaders, and the interpretation of the Hiram legend, even if incorrect, is as thorough and logical as any other.

I do not personally feel that MacNulty's view on the meaning of the craft is entirely correct, but part of it may well be. The craft does, indeed, carry different meaning to different members, and so long as one's interpretation causes us no harm, let it cause us to think.

I may have shortchanged you with this review, because I have found the book difficult to write about and yet so stimulating, fanciful yet logical. Much of it is com-



plex, while parts convey practical sense. I recommend this book to those who appreciate stimulating reading and are not averse to thinking. I conclude with MacNulty's profound words: "A very useful rule for evaluating any working group is that it should be hard to find, harder to enter and easy to leave."



My Brother's Keeper, Union and Confederate Soldiers' Acts of Mercy during the Civil War, by Daniel N. Rolph. Published in 2002 by Stackpole Books, 5067 Ritter Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. \$19.96.

This small book is a compilation of stories that have been written in the past by many authors, referencing acts of kindness and mercy displayed during America's tragic episode, known as the Civil War. It contains nothing new but brings these writings together in an expressive short book. Rolph states in the preface that the book is not meant to be a scholarly treatise but rather "a unique and little-known genre of Civil War history." According to the author, he utilized primary source material, such as diaries, letters, newspapers and military reports, as well as secondary resources.

In the introduction, he reveals that these humanitarian acts were not unique to the Civil War, citing similar examples during the Third Crusade and World War II; however, they were rare. During the Civil War acts of this nature occurred on an ongoing basis. The purpose of the book is to relate those acts.

The first two chapters present the general concept of fraternizing with the enemy and the role of Freemasons.

The other chapters show examples of Rebels aiding Yankees, and Yankees aiding Rebels, along with similar relationships between civilians and soldiers. The author also presents a chapter on brotherhood in prisons.

From the extensive notes and the length of the bibliography, I must conclude that the author did considerable research.

I found it interesting reading and a comfort to know that such a feeling of brotherhood can exist even in the worst of times.



Millennial Masonry, by Kent Henderson. Published in 2002 by Global Masonic Publications. Available through So. Cal. Research Lodge, PO Box 939, Ashland, OR 97520. \$15.30 Plus \$2.50 s/h.

Millennial Masonry is a book composed of nine papers authored by Henderson and one co-authored with John Belton. These papers represent the author's research presented at various Masonic research lodges from 1985 to 2001. The risk in publishing papers dated back that far is that some of the information is outdated, and that must be understood when reading this book. I would hasten to add, however, that most material in the papers is not affected by time, and through the use of endnotes, he has updated some of the information.

Part of the material will have limited interest to American readers because of its specificity to Australia. However, there are several chapters from which we could learn much. I would encourage North American Masonic leadership to become familiar with a membership program that Australia has been using for some time. This program has achieved more success than any of the programs utilized in North America. His review of the successful practices of European style Freemasonry might well be used as a template for us.

I also recommend the chapter, "Freemasons — An Endangered Species?," coauthored with John Belton. There is much statistical information and observations in this chapter, that even when not concerning North American Freemasonry, is painting a picture that would be helpful for us to see.

In addition, he quotes a number of authors who made some astute observations regarding Freemasonry. One quotation is from Peter Thornton's paper, "Nine Out of 10 Freemasons Would Attack Moscow in Winter." His conclusion, "In the frenzied pursuit of numbers, Freemasonry is trying to take Moscow in winter. We are seeking to get men to join who are not suited and are inevitably doomed to fail in the enterprise, because we are failing to learn the lessons of history."

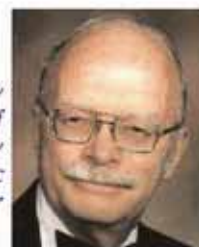
He describes the P2 incident in Italy as clearly as I have seen it described. He has two excellent chapters titled "Masonic Government and Practice, a World Perspective", and "Overseas Masonic Practices — What Can They Teach Us?" He also provides good information on the craft in Islamic countries.

One fault I do find is the author's tendency to paint the practices of the North American Grand Lodges with too broad a brush. This could be misleading to those outside of North America who are unfamiliar with our practices. Indeed, several of his observations are simply incorrect.

I also have a concern with the chapter, "Why Not 'United Grand Lodges' in America?" I have been familiar with the term "Territorial Exclusivity" for years. The author states, "The doctrine is largely not held by mainstream Masonry outside of the United States." I may be wrong, but, so far as I know, there are only two regular Grand Lodges in the world that recognize more than one Grand Lodge in any territory unless there is mutual recognition between the Grand Lodges within that jurisdiction, and these date back historically.

Even though some of the chapters in the book may not be of interest to all, those chapters that are of interest make this book well worth reading. I recommend it.

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

■ Cheese: the tooth protector

Researchers are focusing on foods that protect against tooth decay. According to *Nutrition Reviews*, cheese tops the list. Doctors say cheese thwarts cavities by neutralizing acids in plaque, by enhancing the removal of cavity-causing sugars, and by "remineralizing" tooth enamel with high amounts of calcium and phosphorus. Cheese is especially effective in protecting against tooth-root decay, a problem for older adults.

One caution: cheese is high in saturated fat and cholesterol, so don't eat too much of it.



■ Helping you stay calm

Dieticians say that foods and drinks will help you handle stress. For example:

Berries: By increasing your consumption of antioxidant-rich fruits and vegetables, you help your immune system. Blueberries are one of the richest sources. You handle stress more effectively when you feel well, according to the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine in Washington, D.C.

Chocolate: Its stress-fighting antioxidants and methylxanthines stimulate feelings of satisfaction.

Oatmeal: It has soluble fiber that prevents highs and lows in blood sugar. It gives you better concentration power.

■ Virus, not bacteria, responsible for sore throats

When adults complain about sore throat, doctors prescribe antibiotics, so says a recent study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The study found that during a 10-year period doctors prescribed antibi-

otics for sore throat in 73 percent of the cases. Patients usually request antibiotics.

But here are the facts:

- A virus, not bacteria, most likely caused your sore throat. Antibiotics are ineffective against viruses, so they probably didn't cause your recovery.
- Taking antibiotics for viruses contributes to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, a problem with potentially dire consequences to public health and your own health.
- Antibiotics are useful against strep throat, but the condition, which is easily identifiable, is responsible for only 5 to 17 percent of sore throats.

■ New label tells if foods are really 'organic'

U.S. Department of Agriculture rules, a decade in the making, will govern thousands of items. Organic products are those produced without synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. Products have to meet these standards.

- "100% organic": Must have 95% or more organic ingredients. Manufacturers can use the USDA seal on the product.
- "Made with Organic Ingredients": At least 70% of the product is



organic. Manufacturers can't use the USDA organic seal.

- "Contains organic ingredients": Less than 70% of the product is organic. The word "organic" can't be used on the front of the package, but the manufacturer can list organic ingredients on the back.

■ Talk about teeth

Florida dentist Mitchell Josephs hosts a call-in radio show called "This Old Mouth" (www.thisoldmouth.net). It's now carried in 35 cities.

It seems there are a lot of questions out there about dentistry ranging from whether old silver fillings are dangerous (no) to whether tongue brushes are good for you (yes).



■ Avoiding kidney stones

About 13 percent of Americans will develop kidney stones at least once during their lifetime, and 80 percent of them will be men.

After developing the first stone, a person has a 50-50 chance of forming another in the next 5 to 7 years.

Until recently, doctors often recommended that people with calcium stones, the most common type, should follow a low-calcium diet. Now Italian researchers reporting in *The New England Journal of Medicine* say a low calcium diet may actually raise the odds of having another stone.

The key to reducing risk, say the researchers, is to restrict intake of meat and salt.

■ Using a paralyzed hand

A recently approved device enables stroke survivors to move a paralyzed hand. The Handmaster wraps around the lower forearm, wrist, and hand, with surface electrodes designed to activate muscles and stimulate the nervous system. It is made by NESS Ltd.

Researchers at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore say it helps in such activities as pouring a glass of water, opening a bottle, and preparing food.

Ken Burns to appear at National Heritage Museum



KEN BURNS

Film producer Ken Burns is scheduled to speak at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA, as part of the new Heritage Lecture Series at the Scottish Rite facility.

Burns' documentaries have changed the way audiences visualize and understand the past. He has used film to illuminate history and the people who shaped it.

His productions have included films about Lewis and Clark, Mark Twain, and the Civil War, among others. Many have appeared on the Public Broadcasting System.

For his lecture on Wednesday evening, April 23, there will be a \$25 admission fee.

The remaining programs in the lecture series will be free.

The series opened in January with a panel discussion on the subject of "Freedom, Security, and the Public's

Right to Know." Moderating the panel was R.D. Sahl, a news anchor for New England Cable News since 1994. The panelists were Tony Kahn from NPR's *The World*; Diana Eck, a professor of comparative religions at Harvard Divinity School, and Jim Walsh of the Kennedy School of Government.

Two programs were scheduled for February. The first was a lecture by Dan Elias, host of *Antiques Roadshow*. His subject, "Attic Antiques: Mining for History at Home," allowed the attendees to bring treasures from home. Karen Keane, appraiser for Skinner, Inc., selected 25 of the first 100 objects and shared their significance and values.

The second was a lecture by Dr. Libby O'Connell, historical advisor for the History Channel's programming division. She described how the popular television network has connected Americans to their heritage nationally, locally and individually.

The final program in the series will be Christine Ammer, author of the *American Heritage Dictionary of Idioms* and other books about language. She will discuss the continuing evolution of language and American identity by examining the origins and uses of vocabulary and idioms. Her lecture will be on Sunday afternoon, April 27.

The initial programs in the series have been drawing a large attendance. Admission is on a first-come, first-served basis.

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.

(WEATHER) + (CHANGING) -

(WHICH) + (PERIODICALS)

- (DARE) + (SEND) - (LOADING)

+ (DREAM) - (GRASS) - (DINE)

=

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 8.

Answer from previous issue: ANTIQUITY



VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

Are We Finders Keepers Or Losers Weepers?

Children often taunt one another with the old game of "Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers." Translating this game into the world of adults, it means that if we don't pay attention to what we have, we may lose it. We have something tremendous in Freemasonry, but if we aren't careful, we could end up losing it all.

Freemasonry is the world's oldest and most respected fraternal order. We have an ancient and beautiful ritual and a deep and meaningful way of life, but if we are not careful, all that may disappear — along with the last Mason. If we continue to lose more Masons each year than we take in as members, there will come a day when the "last Mason" turns out the light, and Masonry comes to an end. It has happened to other organizations, and it can happen to us.

What can we do about it? A lot. The choice is ours. In one of the Gospels, there is the story of the servants who were entrusted with their master's money. Most of them invested it wisely, but one — the lazy servant — just buried it in the ground. When called to account by the master, he realized too late that he should have done something with what he had rather than just hiding it away where it could do no one any good. There is a great possibility that we can fall into the same trap as the lazy servant.

Recently, during a parade in my home town, my wife Joyce noticed a group of young men marching in the parade with the local soccer team. She commented to me that those young men ought to be Masons. And so they should. They are already giving their time to working as volunteer coaches. They are good role models. They spend evenings and Saturdays helping others. And they are not afraid to appear in public to support what they think important. So why aren't they Masons?

It is possible that no one has ever gone out of his way to tell them about Masonry. It is distinctly possible, having been so busy as Masons, that these young men will never discover Freemasonry.

Remember the children's game, "Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers." Don't lose by neglect what the generations before us have handed on.

— C. Ray Whitaker,
California Freemason
Spring 2001



Today's Future

The greatest challenge to our craft is membership. I believe to make our membership grow each Mason must follow five ideals: (1) visibility, (2) non-Masonic associations, (3) quality degree work, (4) nurturing new members and brothers, and (5) involve our ladies.

The first two topics affect membership and the last three affect retention. Fate has dealt Masonry an awesome responsibility of deciding the destination of our fraternity. History will record our decisions, either crediting our efforts or holding us responsible for them.

Lets talk about your efforts. You say, "I'm only one." Think about that. Did you know Andrew, one of the disciples, was only able to lead one convert to Christ, but that man was Peter. Maybe your one new member will be like Peter for our craft. Now go and find your Andrew or Peter and watch Masonry develop and grow.

Boy Scouts have a motto, "Be Prepared." Shouldn't we? When one asks what a Mason stands for, we can answer friendship, helping hands, brotherhood, extended family, loyal citizen and a devoted church member.

If we all pull together, stay united, and work for the same goals, we will stay strong. Now let's focus on attracting good men, friendship with others, quality degree work, nurturing new members, and standing with our ladies.

— Dennis Martin
North Dakota Mason, Winter 1999



"Oh, I forgot to tell you.
Each Masonic book that you
purchase comes with its
own historian."

Simply Complex

H₂O is arguably the only chemical formula which the vast majority of people can associate with the substance which it represents — water. More than half of our planet consists of water. Without it, life as we know it could not exist.

Water can be placid or turbulent, and the character of the same area of water can vary widely according to various factors. Sometimes the ocean is smooth and peaceful, at others it is turbulent, threatening and life-deestroying. Rivers can wind lazily along their course, or become raging torrents sweeping away anything that stands in their path.

There is a soothing effect when one sits near a pool of peaceful water, and its reflective properties can hold a mirror to the world around and to ourselves.

Water is both simple and complex. Chemically it is one of the simplest compounds. On the other hand, it is a chemical which has great potential to do, or be used for, good or ill. The challenge is to make the best possible use of it for the greatest good.

Humans have much in common with water. Every person who comes into this world has the potential to enhance or diminish himself or her-

self and the environment and community in which they live. Society has an obligation to ensure that the potential to diminish is at least minimized, even if it cannot be totally eliminated.

As the power of water can be harnessed and used to benefit our daily lives, so we must strive to identify, nurture and take advantage of the potential goodness in everyone. This can be achieved if we provide a liberal education, skills training and a consistent set of moral values.

Freemasons can play a powerful role in providing a set of moral values which guides and encourages an individual to develop and use his potential for goodness and good works.

Our ritual emphasizes that one of our constant aims must be to improve the morals and correct the manners of men in society. We can do this by ensuring that in our daily life we live by, and exhibit, the principles which we profess to espouse. By doing so we will correct and improve the manners and morals of mankind in its widest sense.

— Editorial,
The NSW Freemason,
December 2000

Science and Morality

There probably has never been a more critical time in the development and preservation of civilization than now. Will it survive the destruction which man has devised and which he has been improving during the million years, using them for sustenance, for self-preservation, and for both attack and defense? It has been more than a million years throughout which he has been inventing weapons.

To state a proportion which may help our understanding; if we call that million years, during which weapons have been developed, a century, then man has recognized the difference between right and wrong for less than seven days.

That is a fact, demonstrated by the archaeologist beyond peradventure. Man's ability to understand how to use and adapt material things — which means science — has by comparison reached maturity; but religion is in its early infancy; and morality has just been born.

If mankind would devote itself exclusively to morality and utterly neglect science for the next 9950 odd centuries, a mathematical time balance would be struck between science and morality.

Science has successfully disseminated the ideal of intellectual freedom. Unfortunately, religious freedom has not been so fully achieved. Bigots still strive mightily to exalt themselves through exploiting man-made creeds which separate and breed hostility between God's children.

Again and again, we must repeat to ourselves our duty and responsibility, individually and collectively. It is to bend every ounce of strength and ability which we possess that the world which has today made a material victorious advance may be speeded on its way toward that day when Love no boundaries shall know.

— Melvin M. Johnson,
Sov. Grand Commander,
1945 Allocution

Quick Quotes

Life is not a static thing. The only people who do not change their minds are incompetents in asylums and those in cemeteries.

— Everett McKinley Dirksen

Leadership is daring to step into the unknown.

— Stephen Hawking

Without organization and leadership toward a realistic goal, there is no chance of realizing more than a small percentage of your potential.

— John Wooden

Desire is the starting point of all achievement, not a hope, not a wish, but a keen pulsating desire which transcends everything.

— Napoleon Hill

The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you.

— John E. Southard

Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.

Colin Powell

Cooperation isn't the absence of conflict but a means of managing conflict.

— Deborah Tannen

Circumstances may cause interruptions and delays, but never lose sight of your goal. Prepare yourself in every way you can by increasing your experience, so that you can make the most of an opportunity.

— Mario Andretti

Well done is better than well said.

— Benjamin Franklin

If past history was all there was to the game, the richest people would be librarians.

— Warren Buffett

A superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions.

— Confucius

■ Scrapbooking hits big time

How about a hobby that's creative, can be practiced with a lot of your friends, is relaxing, but will be treasured by people for years to come.

That's scrapbooking, and there's little wonder why it's sweeping the country. Lots of people do it individually, but even more people have joined (or formed) scrapbooking clubs.



They typically meet in someone's home, but there are scrapbooking cruises to the Caribbean and Alaska, and weekend sessions at resort hotels.

It is estimated that 4 million people, mostly women, gather for "crop-alongs" every month. One company, Creative Memories, has 65,000 consultants who visit these gatherings offering expertise and plenty of equipment and supplies to sell. Nationwide, there are about 2,000 scrapbook stores, up from 300 just five years ago.

In September, one cable network held an eight-hour scrapbooking marathon. These scrapbooks are extravagant creations with titled pages, journal entries, love letters, artwork, and photos. They are exhaustive records of family life.

■ Stash kids' pay in a Roth IRA

Just like adults, kids can contribute an amount equal to the money they earn up to \$2,000 in a Roth IRA. There's no tax deduction, but they don't pay much tax anyway. All interest earned is tax-free when the child ultimately retires 50 years or so from now.

Money for chores paid by parents can't be counted, but money from baby-sitting or lawn mowing can be counted even if there is no W-2 involved. The key is to keep a record of money earned.

Go to www.rothira.com for more information on Roth IRAs for kids.



■ Does everyone in the family ...

- Know where the main electrical switch for your house is located and how to turn it off in an emergency?
- Know how to turn off gas and water service in an emergency?

The National Safety Council says these skills could be very important in the event of a fire or earthquake. Check with family members to ensure that they know how to do these things.

■ Pushing the return from series EE bonds

People have been buying a lot more series EE bonds since the stock market volatility began. In the fiscal year just completed, there was a 38 percent increase from a year earlier.

Series EE bonds carry a 3.9 percent yield, better than passbook or money-



market savings. Some buyers are getting even more. Here's how it works:

- Buy bonds over the Internet at www.savingsbonds.gov.
- Charge to credit cards that give frequent flier miles or cash back.
- Cash them in. Take them to your bank. If it's less than five years after you bought them, you'll have to pay a penalty of three months of interest.
- In 2002, \$10,000 would have earned \$328, including penalty, and \$150 for a credit card's cash back for a total of \$478, or 4.78 percent interest.

Buying bonds this way is perfectly legal and relatively simple, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

■ 'Silent Saturday' takes pressure off kids

It's a program designed to take some pressure off kids in school sports, and it's gaining momentum in the U.S. The Silent Saturday movement forbids parents and coaches to do much more than clap at kids' sporting events.



Parents can encourage kids to play the best they can, but should also teach kids to be good sports says advisor Rick Wolff.

At www.sportsparenting.org, Wolff recommends that parents:

- Make an effort to teach kids not to get angry during the game. Tell him or her that every game is a new challenge. The only thing that can be controlled is how much effort a child puts into the game.
- Put most emphasis on doing a personal best and learning to deal with frustration.
- Teach your child that there will be times when the team loses, but that is to be expected. Don't be a sore loser.
- Teach charity. Learning to say "Nice game" to an opponent is part of the game just like practicing and playing.
- Parents should set a good example by not being too emotional during games, not shouting at their child, the officials, or other players.

In Memoriam

III. Ellwood Arvid Mattson, 33°

III. Ellwood A. Mattson, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council from Michigan, died on November 30, 2002, at the age of 84.

Prior to attending college, he served in the United States Air Force during World War II.

III. Brother Mattson graduated from Northern Michigan University in 1950 with a degree in business administration. He is also a graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Banking. His banking career began at the First National Bank and Trust Company of Marquette (now known as Wells Fargo Bank, Michigan) as an undergraduate in 1946, and he eventually became president in 1970.

In 1973, he was one of the founding fathers of Michigan Financial Corporation (a nine-bank holding company which included all MFC First National Banks). Michigan Financial Corporation was the largest banking concern in the Upper Peninsula at the time of his retirement in 1990. Mattson served as president and vice chairman of the board from its inception and later assumed the chairmanship of the MFC board. He was instrumental in founding the Northern Michigan School of Banking in 1961.

In 1954, he married Idamae Wood, who survives along with a son, Stephen Mattson, 33°, and a daughter, Anne Rydholm, both of Marquette, and four grandchildren.

III. Brother Mattson was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church, where he served as council member and treasurer. Ellwood was actively involved in all aspects of the community. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club and Rotary Club and was honored by both groups.

For Finlandia University, he was president and trustee of the NMU Development Fund, of which he was a founding member. For Northern Michigan University, he was a charter member of the Golden Wildcat Club and was a member of the Board of Control.

Among his numerous honors and awards were the Citizen of the Year by the Marquette Chamber of Commerce in 1989, Public Citizen of the Year by the Michigan Chapter of National Association of Social Workers, the naming

of the Ellwood Mattson Lower Harbor Park in his honor, and 1996 Michigan Hospital Association Governor's Award.

He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Northern Michigan University and an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Finlandia University.

Brother Mattson was a member of the board of trustees of the L.G. Kaufman Endowment Fund, Lake Superior Jobs Coalition, Lake Superior Community partnership, the Marquette Downtown Authority, and Child and Family Services, where he served as treasurer for 40 years. He was president of the Marquette Area Chamber of Commerce and president and drive chairman of the Marquette Community Chest. He also was named to the State Natural Resource Commission by Governor Blanchard, and was a trustee, treasurer and president of Marquette General Health System.

He was raised a Master Mason in Iron Mountain Lodge No. 388 in 1940; transferred to Marquette Lodge No. 101, where he was Master in 1962.

He was also a member of the York Rite bodies in Marquette, a Past Patron of Marquette and Presque Isle Chapter No. 403, Order of the Eastern Star, and a member of Ahmed Shrine Temple.

Brother Mattson received his Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Marquette in 1947, and served as Thrice Potent Master of Marquette Lodge of Perfection from 1972-74 and Commander-in-Chief of Francis M. Moore Consistory from 1974-76. He was one of the organizers of the Michigan 32° Rite Fund, providing scholarship money to local youth to attend college. He was also president of the Marquette Masonic Association for 25 years.

He received the 33° in 1971, was crowned an Active Member in 1982, and became an Active Emeritus Member in 1994 at the age of 74.

For the Supreme Council, he performed various special assignments and served on the committees for Benevolences and Finance.

THE FOURTH CARDINAL VIRTUE

Continued from page 9

for. The defendant learned his lesson that day, and I learned mine. I became a better judge because of it.

I have tried many horror cases over the years in my career, as a trial judge. I have learned first hand about man's inhumanity to man. I have seen the ugly world of crime that sums up the worst atrocities men can commit against each other. I can draw you pictures of men and women who have committed these vicious acts. They are so easy to hate.

A judge does not have that luxury of hating, despising or demeaning any de-

fendant that appears before the court. I can hate and despise the act – but not the person.

Why? Because that will interfere with a judge's responsibility to afford to every defendant that appears before the court a fair and impartial trial. In a word, it is called justice. Judges must exercise their power to assure that fair trial regardless of the nature or ferocity of the crime.

I have often wondered how our Ancient Grand Master Solomon, King of Israel, would view the hundreds of cases

that I have tried and the verdicts and sentences I have rendered. But then, I never claimed to possess Solomonic wisdom.

What I am more concerned about is whether or not I have met the rigorous standard set forth by that grand old Scot, who taught me the real lesson of justice on my first day as a Mason.

The lessons of temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice are the Masonic requirements for all of our relationships with our fellow man.



Our Readers Respond

Flag etiquette

While I enjoy reading *The Northern Light*, I feel compelled to object to the cover illustration on the November 2002 issue.

I'm not an expert on display rules for the U.S. Flag, but I feel certain that its use as a tablecloth would be strongly discouraged, particularly when placed on the table upside down. I also feel that adding printing to the white stripes of the flag would be a no-no.

Perhaps an apology in the next issue would be in order.

Robert Smith, 32°
(via e-mail)

The cover illustration depicts the U.S. flag used as a tablecloth imprinted with "Give Us This Day Our Turkey." You have egregiously violated the rules of respect for the flag. U.S. Code, Title 36, "Patriotic Customs, Respect for the Flag," states in part:

(b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.

(c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

(d) The flag should never be used

as wearing apparel, bedding or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free...

(e) The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.

(g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.

(h) The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.

Semper Fidelis.

William Duffie Clemons, 32°
San Diego, CA

Pride

I was particularly struck by Mark Tabbert's comment ("Relevant Masonic Relics," Nov. 02): "While it is proper to be proud of the fraternity, it is best to resist mentioning Freemasonry's wonderful social and charitable activities. A quiet voice often resonates more than a shout."

I would dream of disagreeing with him; one of the attributes that most recommends Freemasonry is the modesty of its members. I found his words resonant, however, because I had just finished reading an article in Tim Cahill's latest collection, "Hold the Enlightenment."

The author is attending a parade in Montana. As the Shriners pass by he thinks about his neighbor's daughter who was just flown to Minneapolis for a life saving operation. He shouts at the top of his lungs, "Hooray for the Shriners."

A friend standing by his side said,

"What a bunch of bozos."

"What?" said the author. "Did you know that brave little girl having the operation? The Shriners are paying for that."

"Hooray for the Shriners," his friend hollered.

Isn't it nice to think that even though as Freemasons we are properly reluctant to blow our own horns, there are times when we can take pleasure in praise from the uninitiated.

Thomas P. Biederbeck, 32°
Peoria, IL

Brother Burns

The November issue was a delight to read for several reasons. The first was the DeMolay story. As a past advisor and extremely proud father of a Senior DeMolay who gave up his chair as State Master Councilor to go to the University of North Dakota, it is refreshing to see how these young men are making waves for themselves to the world.

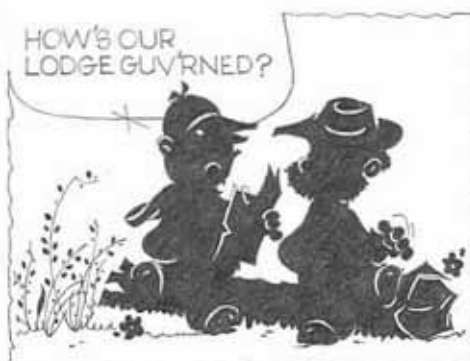
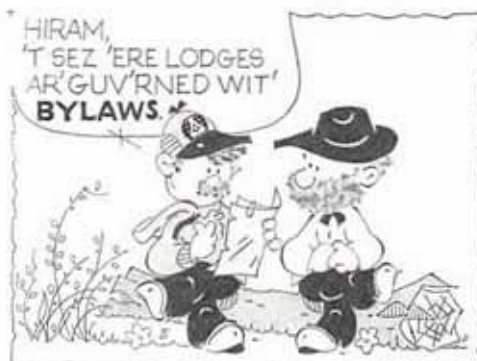
The second was the "Stamp Act." I am a Scot, raised as a child in Ayrshire and a very strong Robbie Burns supporter. I was impressed with the information given on the Bard but disgusted by the misspelling of "Tarbolton." I believe Burns was Senior Warden of his lodge in Tarbolton, and his apron hangs to this day in Burns Cottage in Alloway.

His poems on Masonry are not too well known, but his love of our craft is still well known in Ayrshire. I would encourage any brother to read some of Burns' poems and songs. His words are still very prevalent and pertinent in this day and age.

Brian Cowley, 32°
Keene, NH

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By **WALLY MILLER**



Footnotes*

An Apology to Our Readers

When the November issue of *The Northern Light* was sent off to the printer, we were quite pleased with the content, especially the Thanksgiving story by Ill. Leigh Morris, 33°. We thought it contained a good message, and we expected a favorable response.

We did get a favorable reaction to Ill. Brother Morris' story, although the Lincoln address needed attention. See the follow-up story on page 20.

What we had not anticipated was the overwhelming response from readers who were offended by the front cover. We have printed only two of the many letters we received, but they are typical of the others. A few were unprintable for this magazine.

One reader suggested that "only a Communist-minded person would do such a thing to use the American flag as a tablecloth." Another pointed out that the flag with the blue field down is a sign of distress. Still another hoped that the Supreme Council had not gone the way of "the media and some of our elected representatives with the thought that it is only a piece of cloth." One reader who was "appalled at the desecration" suggested that we read the Boy Scout manual on how to respect the American flag.

When we selected the illustration for the cover, we viewed it as a representation of an American family offering a prayer before partaking of the Thanksgiving feast. We found a bit of humor in the fact that the little boy's eyes were focused on the turkey as the rest of the family prayed. We also wondered whether the cat would get the turkey before the end of the prayer. The use of the words, "Give Us This Day Our Turkey," was merely a resemblance to a portion of the Lord's Prayer. This, of course, fit in with the theme. The representation of the flag reminded us that Thanksgiving was a typical American tradition.

From the way the family was dressed, it was obvious that it was not a present-day setting. In fact, a note on the contents page informed the reader that the illustration appeared on a 1908 postcard.

We must assume that the artist who painted the illustration nearly a hundred years ago is no



longer alive. Although we have no information to pass judgment on the artist, it would appear that the artwork was created in good faith without malicious intent.

Nor was there any malicious intent on the part of the magazine staff. We regret having used the image that offended so many of our readers and offer our sincere apology. We have reprinted it on this page only to allow those who did not see it to view the error of our ways.

By the way, I mailed a letter the other day with a first class stamp. And much to my chagrin, the words "USA First Class" were overprinted on an image of the American flag. I hope the recipient of the letter will not be offended.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°
Editor



Who is looking out for her?

What sort of world will she grow up in? What sort of world will all of our children face?

There are men who are committed to building a world that values the worth of the individual, a world that will allow every child to reach his/her potential. There are men who are committed to building a world in which morality, character and traditional values matter.

Who are these men? They are 32° Freemasons.



32° Freemasonry – Making a Real Difference!