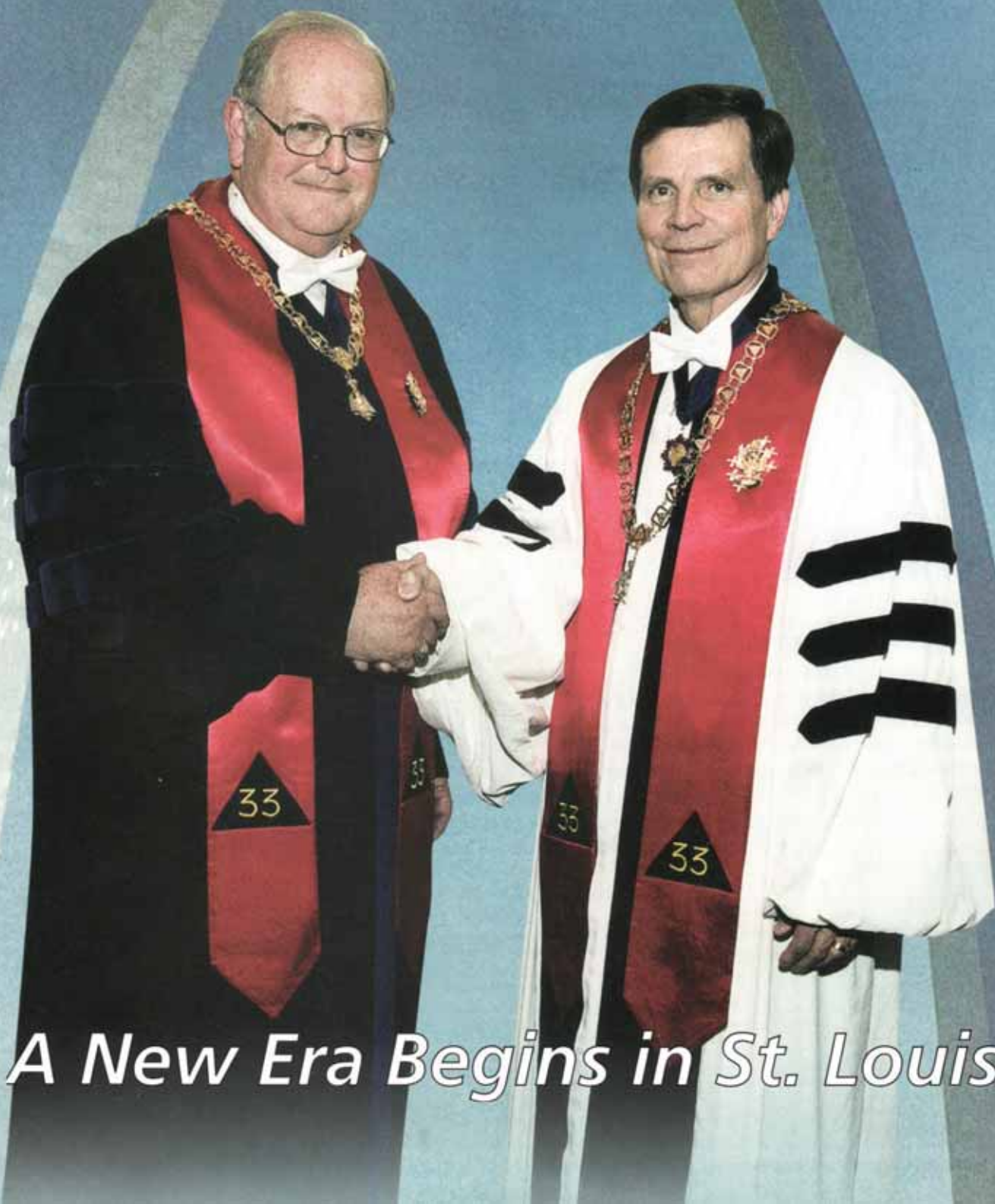


# THE NORTHERN LIGHT

A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY

Volume 34 No. 4  
NOVEMBER 2003



*A New Era Begins in St. Louis*



## Features

### 4 Webber Succeeds Ralston

Maine Attorney to Lead NMJ as  
Sovereign Grand Commander.



### 8 Masons and the Monument

by Alan E. Foulds

Massachusetts Grand Lodge  
donates \$500,000 for Bunker  
Hill renovations.



8



### 14 Dyslexia Described

by David C. Winters, Ph.D.

Learning centers program combats its effects.

### 17 More Than A Song

by Alan E. Foulds

Grandmother's House Actually Exists.

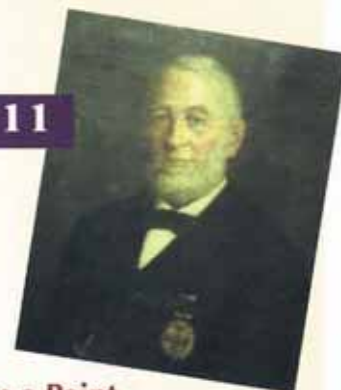
### 29 The Fundamental Nature of the Craft

by Neil Neddermeyer, 32°

## Also:

7 Franklin Awards for Valley Publications • 9 Bunker vs. Breed's • 10 The Famous Battle • 12 Daniel D. Thompkins — The First Commander • 16 Direct Results • 16 32° Masonic Learning Centers "Facts & Figures" • 18 A Boy's Thanksgiving • 18 Masonic Word Math • 25 In Memoriam: Ill. M. Donald Gardner, 33° • 25 Walk-a-Thons Inaugurate New Tradition • 27 Quick Quotes • 30 On the Lighter Side • 30 Hiram

11



### 11 From a Point to a Line

by Mark A. Tabbert, 32°

Since 1813 there have been 19  
Sovereign Grand Commanders.

## Columns

- 3 Sovereign Grand Commander
- 19 Brothers on the Net
- 20 What's Developing...
- 21 The Stamp Act
- 22 Book Nook
- 24 HealthWise
- 26 Views from the Past
- 28 Life is a Family Affair
- 30 The Book Shelf
- 31 Footnotes

EDITOR  
Richard H. Curtis, 33°

ASSISTANT EDITOR  
Alan E. Foulds

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS  
Sonja B. Faiola  
Beth E. McSweeney

MEDIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Stephen E. Carpenter, 33°, Chairman  
Richard J. Travis, 33°  
Donald D. Thomas, 33°  
Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°  
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite  
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER  
Walter E. Webber, 33°

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

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

Copyright © 2003 by Trustees of the Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420-0519

Editorial Office:  
33 Marrett Road (Route 2A)  
Lexington, Massachusetts 02421  
781-862-4410

Fax: 781-863-1833  
e-mail: [dcurtis@supremecouncil.org](mailto:dcurtis@supremecouncil.org)

Internet:  
[www.supremecouncil.org](http://www.supremecouncil.org)

Non-member subscription rate:  
\$10 per year  
\$20/year outside U.S. domestic mail limits



"We must begin today to chart our course for the future."

— Walter E. Webber, 33°



## Challenges and Opportunities

In my 35 years of practicing law, I do not remember a time that was more exciting or challenging. In my 32 years in Freemasonry, never has there been a more exhilarating time than the present. Fully realizing that there is much to be done, I accept the challenge of maintaining the high standards of the Supreme Council as your new Sovereign Grand Commander. We are constantly reminded that "time was, time is, but no man may say that time shall be." We have been given the present, and it is our responsibility to use it wisely.

All Scottish Rite Masons owe a debt of gratitude to my predecessor, Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°, for his ten years of inspired and visionary leadership. His tenure has seen dynamic innovation and change — a new headquarters building, a refurbished National Heritage Museum and Library, and the creation of a new charitable program with the development of 46 learning centers for dyslexic children located throughout all of our 15 states.

Ill. Brother Ralston has accomplished what we hope all Masonic leaders will do. Start with a solid foundation, build upon it, and pass along to the next generation a structure that enhances the foundation. It should be the goal of every leader to leave the fraternity in a stronger position by the end of his term of office. Scottish Rite in this Jurisdiction is stronger because each of my predecessors has added lustre to our fraternity. Each has continued to build upon the accomplishments of his forebears.

At first glance one has to wonder what more can be accomplished. So much has been done in the past. We know not what the future will bring. We are left with decisions that must be made today. We hope those decisions will lead us into a brighter future.

With big shoes to fill, I know that we must begin work today to chart our course for the future. It will not be done with a single pair of hands. It must be a team effort, and I encourage you to be a part of that team.

We are reminded in the Old Testament that "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." We stand in admiration of what has been built in the past, but we must not forget that today is a new day. It is an opportunity for a new beginning. It is our responsibility not only to maintain what we have but also to strengthen it. If procedures and practices of the past need to be modified, we must reexamine them to serve the needs of our current membership and make the fraternity stronger. We cannot ignore the past, nor should we shortchange future generations. The aim of our fraternity must be to improve the quality of life today.

With your help, I accept the challenge to lead a team effort to take the Scottish Rite to still another level.

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

Sovereign Grand Commander



# Webber Succeeds Ralston

*Maine Attorney to Lead NMJ  
as Sovereign Grand Commander*

**I**ll. Walter E. Webber, 33°, was elected Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States at the annual meeting in late September.

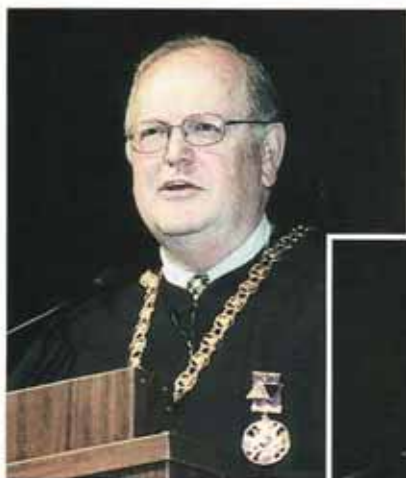
Retiring Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, 33°, announced a year ago that he would be stepping down at this year's meeting in St. Louis. He had held that post since 1993.

Ill. Brother Webber was elected last year to serve as Grand Lieutenant Commander in anticipation of the intended elevation. Replacing Webber in the second position is Ill. Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°, of Illinois. Inglis had previously served in that capacity.

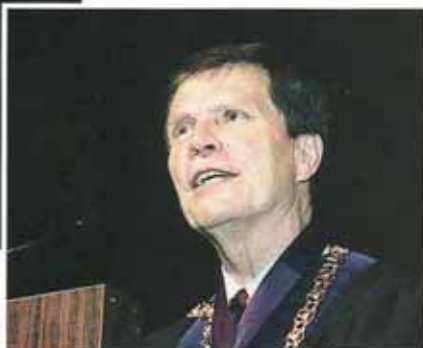
The new Sovereign Grand Commander is a 1965 graduate of Marietta College, where he was engaged in a number of fraternal and extracurricular activities. At commencement he received the William Bay Irvine Award presented by the student senate to the out-



As a complete surprise to Grand Commander Ralston, Grand Lieutenant Commander Webber had arranged with staff members to prepare a video tribute to the outgoing Commander reflecting the accomplishments of the past decade. Deputy Grand Master David W. Miller of Illinois and Grand Master Jimmie D. Lee of Missouri joined the Grand Commander in the East.



Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°, (below) gives his farewell as Sovereign Grand Commander, and Ill. Walter E. Webber, 33°, (left) steps forward to fill the position.



standing member of the senior class.

Brother Webber graduated from Boston University School of Law in 1969. Prior to accepting the position of Grand Commander, he was the senior director of the Portland law firm of Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry and will continue to be of counsel to the firm.

He is a member of the board of trustees of the Maine Life Care, Inc., and the Portland Country Club, a corporator of the Maine Medical Center, and an active participant at the First Parish Congregational Church, Yarmouth. On the state level, he has been a trustee of the Maine Conference, United Church of Christ.

In the community, Webber is a former member of the Portland Kiwanis Club, trustee of North Yarmouth Zon-



## NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS



Charles E. Ridlon, Maine; Richard W. Elliot, New Hampshire; Peter J. Samiec, New York, and Robert E. Godbout Jr., Massachusetts.

ing Board of Appeals. He served on the board of trustees at Brighton Medical Center (formerly the Osteopathic Hospital of Maine) from 1977-92 and as its chairman from 1989-92. He was also chairman of the board of Diversified Health Services, Inc., and the Brighton Management Services, Inc., from 1989-92. In 1991, he was elected chairman of the board of York Mutual Insurance Company of Maine.

He and his wife, Leslie, have two sons, David and Seth, a daughter, Elizabeth, and a grandson.

Within Freemasonry, Ill. Brother Webber was Master of Casco Lodge No. 36, Yarmouth, ME, in 1979, a District Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1980-81, and a member of numerous Grand Lodge committees. He is also a member of the York Rite bodies in Portland.

His interest in Freemasonry was sparked by his membership in the Order of DeMolay in Lafayette, RI, where he advanced to the office of Senior Councilor prior to leaving for college.

A 32° Mason since 1973, Ill. Brother Webber was Thrice Potent Master of Yates Lodge of Perfection, 1985-87, and Commander-in-Chief of Maine Consistory at the time he was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1994. He was named Scottish Rite Deputy for Maine in 2001.

**Other changes.** Ill. Robert W. Clarke, 33°, relinquished his position as Grand Minister of State but will continue as Deputy for Massachusetts. The newly elected Grand Minister of State is Ill. Norman L. Christensen, 33°, of Wisconsin.

Four new Deputies were elected. Ill. Richard H. Winship, 33°, succeeds Webber in Maine. In New Jersey, Ill. Verdon R. Skipper, 33°, replaces Ill. Donald D. Miller, 33°, who reached the mandatory

age of retirement. Ill. Terry D. Bentzel, 33°, is the new Deputy for Pennsylvania. Former Deputy C. DeForrest Trexler, 33°, reached the maximum of nine years in that position. Ill. Albert R. Marshall, 33°, was elected Deputy for Delaware, replacing Ill. Donald D. Thomas, 33°, who will continue as an Active Member.

Ill. Brother Miller automatically became an Active Emeritus Member. Ill. Richard H. Welkley of New York requested early retirement and was granted Active Emeritus status. Replacing Ill. Brother Welkley as Grand Almoner is Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°.

**Honored.** Ill. Samuel Brogdon Jr., 33°, was named the recipient of the Northern Jurisdiction's distinguished Gourgass Medal. Ill. Brother Brogdon is the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Prince Hall Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction. The Supreme Council recognizes Prince Hall Freemasonry in those states where the Grand Lodges have approved mutual recognition. He was instrumental in the signing of a mutual agreement of recognition between the two jurisdictions in 1995. He has been attending our Supreme Council sessions as a guest since 1996.

**Ritualistic Matters.** Revisions to the rituals were approved for the 4°, 6°, 9°, 21°, 24°, 27°, 29° and 32°. Some ➤

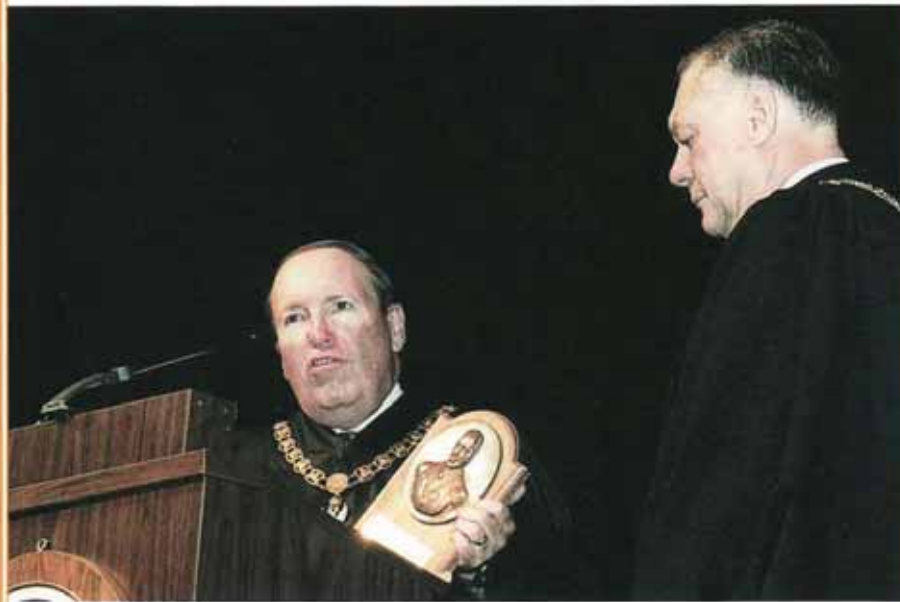
## NEW DEPUTIES



Richard H. Winship Jr., Maine; Terry D. Bentzel, Pennsylvania; Verdon R. Skipper, New Jersey, and Albert R. Marshall, Delaware.



## Kern Award



The winner of this year's Kern Award for outstanding participation in the "blue" envelope appeal was the Valley of Nashua, New Hampshire. Receiving the award on behalf of the Valley is New Hampshire Deputy Robert E. Hansen, 33° (right). The presentation was made by Pennsylvania Deputy C. DeForrest Trexler, 33°. The award is named in honor of the late Dr. Richard A. Kern, 33°, former Deputy for Pennsylvania and chairman of the Supreme Council Committee on Benevolences. It is presented to the Valley that attains the highest percentage of participation of members contributing to the "blue" envelope appeal.

➤ require only minor changes. The names of many of the degrees have also been adjusted to conform to the revisions in recent years.

The Committee on Ritualistic Matters has agreed to conduct a complete review of each degree ritual at least once every ten years.

The committee has also prepared a Public Introduction to 32° Masonry, which is an adaptation of a program from the Valley of Chicago. It provides a brief overview of the nature of the Rite for those who are not familiar with the organization.

**Valley changes.** The Valley of White Plains, NY, has been given official permission to change its name to the Valley of Westchester. The Valley office had moved from White Plains to Tarrytown, and the new name more accurately represents the geographical area of membership coverage.

The Lodge of Perfection charter for the Valley of Oneonta, NY, has been surrendered, and the members have been transferred to the Valleys of Binghamton and Utica.

In Massachusetts, the Valleys of Haverhill and Lawrence have merged and will be called the Valley of the Merrimack. The Valley has a Lodge of Per-

## Brogdon Receives Gourgass Medal

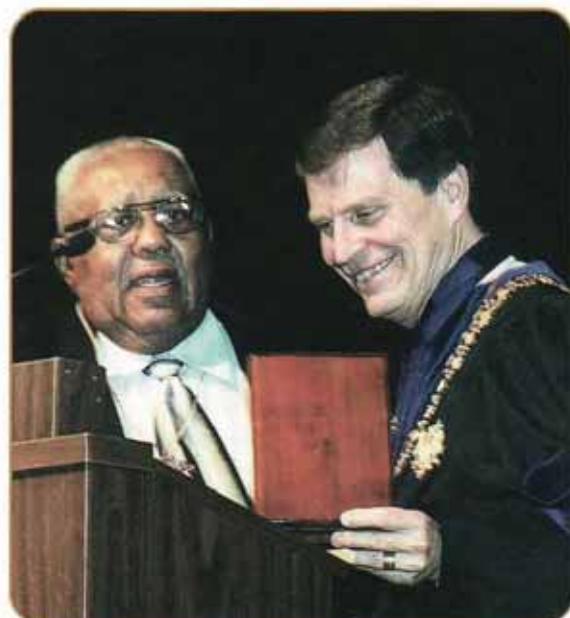
Ill. Samuel Brogdon Jr., 33°, became the newest recipient of the Gourgass Medal, the most prestigious honor presented by the Supreme Council. Ill. Brother Brogdon is the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Prince Hall Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction.

The medal is named for John James Joseph Gourgass, who was considered the conservator of the Rite during the anti-Masonic period in the 1800s. It was created by Grand Commander Melvin M. Johnson, 33°, in 1938. The first recipient was Harry S. Truman, although Truman did not receive the award until 1945.

It is given in recognition of "notably distinguished service in the cause of Freemasonry, humanity or country."

Ill. Brother Brogdon has been honored by numerous organizations. In 1984, he was cited by the Phylaxis Society as one of the 100 most influential Prince Hall Masons. In 1992, he was named one of *Ebony* magazine's 100 most influential organization leaders.

Since the recognition of his Prince Hall Supreme Council by our Supreme Council in 1995, Brother Brogdon has maintained warm relationships with members of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.



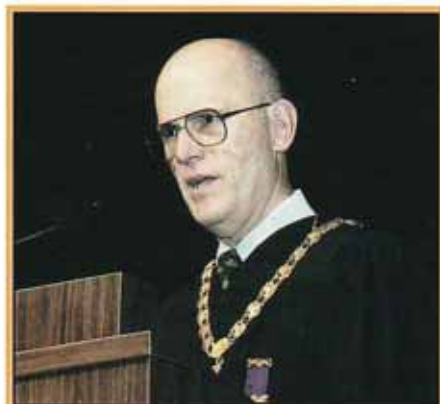


fection and a Council of Princes of Jerusalem.

**Fraternal Relations.** Official recognition has been granted to the Supreme Council for Togo. Requests from five other Supreme Councils have been held over pending a review.

Five Sovereign Grand Commanders from other Supreme Councils were named Emeriti Members of Honor of our Supreme Council. They are Jack Ball, 33°, Australia; Ill. Manuel E. Contreras, 33°, Bolivia; Ill. Orlan J. Weber, 33°, Canada; Ill. Eduardo R. Perez, 33°, Colombia, and Ill. Gabriel Legorreta, Mexico, 33°.

**Medal of Honor.** Grand Commander Ralston announced the selection of Ill. Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°, as the newest recipient of the Supreme Council Medal of Honor. This special recognition is presented to one who has displayed exemplary commitment to the goals of the Supreme Council, to its programs, and to the dissemination of its high values and vision. The recipient is a Past Grand Master and a retired judge in Illinois.



Ill. Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°

Since his election as an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1995, he has served on five major committees and three of the major boards of directors. Ill. Brother Inglis recently rewrote the *Manual for Officers* and is currently preparing a new *Manual for Active Members*. He has also been involved with updating the bylaws of the Supreme Council charities.

"This Mason will not compromise with mediocrity," said Commander Ralston. "All that he does is done to perfection."

## Franklin Awards for Valley Publications



Winners of the 2003 Brother Franklin awards were announced during the Monday morning general session. The awards are presented annually to Valleys with outstanding publications. They are awarded on the basis of the size of the Valley membership.

Receiving special recognition were the following:

### Category I (Valleys with less than 1,000 members)

#### Best Publication

Valley of New York City, NY

Stevan Nikolic, 32° &  
Piers A. Vaughan, 32°, editors

#### Honorable Mention

Valley of Marquette, MI

R. Thomas Peters Jr., 33°, editor  
Ronald H. Halligan, 32°, asst. editor  
Mark A. Weir, 32°, editor  
James C. Larson, 32° &  
Terence Micham, 32°, editors  
Frederick E. De La Fleur, 32°, editor

Valley of Portsmouth-Dover, NH  
Valley of Traverse City, MI

Valley of Utica, NY

### Category II (Valleys with 1,000-2,000 members)

#### Best Publication

Valley of Bridgeport, CT

Leo H. Lohrman, 33°, editor

#### Honorable Mention

Valley of Buffalo, NY  
Valley of Eau Claire, WI  
Valley of Moline, IL  
Valley of Portland, ME

Phillip G. Beith, 32°, editor  
Pamela Woletz, editor  
Robert L. Nelson, 32°, editor  
George L. Smyth, 32°, editor

### Category III (Valleys with 2,000-4,000 members)

#### Best Publication

Valley of Northern NJ

Roman K. Sobon, 33°, editor

#### Honorable Mention

Valley of Freeport, IL  
Valley of Grand Rapids, MI  
Valley of Peoria, IL  
Valley of Youngstown, OH

John A. Reining, 33°, editor  
Richard A. Burrows, 32°, editor  
Larry Eskridge, 32°, editor  
H. Douglas Wilcox, 33°, editor

### Category IV (Valleys with 4,000-6,500 members)

#### Best Publication

Valley of Cleveland, OH

David B. Mackey, 32°, editor

#### Honorable Mention

Valley of Chicago, IL  
Valley of Fort Wayne, IN  
Valley of Reading, PA  
Valley of Toledo, OH

Milan Vydareny, 32°, editor  
Hans Sheridan, 33°, editor  
Jon J. DeHart, 32°, editor  
David Olmstead, 32°, editor

### Category V (Valleys with more than 6,500 members)

#### Best Publication

Valley of Indianapolis, IN

Jerry B. Collins, 33°, editor

#### Honorable Mention

Valley of Cincinnati, OH  
Valley of Columbus, OH  
Valley of Detroit, MI  
Valley of Pittsburgh, PA

Donald W. Owens, 33°, editor  
Tony Bachman, 33°, editor  
David R. Bedwell Sr., 32°, editor  
D. William Roberts, 33°, editor



# Masons And the Monument

*Massachusetts Grand Lodge donates \$500,000 for Bunker Hill renovations*

Continuing a tradition begun nearly two centuries ago, the Masonic lodges of Massachusetts have stepped forward to help preserve our monuments to liberty and freedom.

National Park Service deputy director Sandy Walter has announced a \$3.1 million rehabilitation of the Bunker Hill Monument, the first such project since the National Park Service took over the site several years ago.

On September 29, with representatives of Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, and Senators Ted Kennedy and John Kerry on hand, Massachusetts Grand Master Donald G. Hicks Jr. presented a check for \$500,000, pushing the project closer to reality.

Freemasonry and the monument have been linked since the famous battle took place there in 1775.

During his opening remarks, superintendent of the Boston National Historical Park, Terry Savage, noted that Masons have had "a long association with Charlestown, Bunker Hill, the monument, and the struggle for liberty."

Remembered for Col. Prescott's famous command, "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes," it is also where Joseph Warren became the first important martyr of the young movement.

Warren, the president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress, was also Master of St. Andrew's Lodge, when he fell during the third British assault



Grand Master Donald G. Hicks Jr. (center) presents a check to National Parks superintendent Terry Savage (left) and deputy regional director, Sandy Walter.

on the fortifications atop the hill.

As Grand Master Hicks presented the check, he said, "Many of the patriots we honor today were Freemasons."

When General Warren died at the battle, he was buried in a mass grave. Later he was re-interred in a family plot.

Fellow Mason Paul Revere was instrumental in identifying his remains. M.W. Bro. Hicks said, "Revere may well have been the first forensic dentist. He identified the body through dental work he had once performed on Warren."

The Grand Master further compared Revere's work with a Masonic project

of today. In order to help prevent child abductions, more than 17,000 children, with the permission of their parents, have been catalogued, using fingerprints, videotapes, and DNA cheek swabs. All data gathered in this manner is then turned over to parents, in the event it is ever needed in a kidnapping case.

The first monument on the site, honoring Dr. Warren was an 18-foot wooden pillar with a gilt urn, erected in 1794 by King Solomon's Lodge.

That lodge still exists today in nearby Somerville, MA, and takes part in annual commemorations. A replica of the pillar is on display.

In 1823 the Bunker Hill Monument Association formed with the stated goal of constructing a permanent marker.



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



Two years later, and exactly 50 years after the battle, the cornerstone of the current monument was placed, as King Solomon's Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and General Lafayette all took part in the ceremony. In 1843 the completed monument was officially dedicated.

The Marquis de Lafayette, an ardent Mason, was on a farewell trip to America, visiting each state. His final stop was Charlestown where he helped lay the cornerstone.

Massachusetts senator Daniel Webster delivered the oration. In his speech he acknowledged Brother Lafayette and the 40 veterans of the battle, sitting right behind him.

He turned and said, "You are here now where you stood 50 years ago, this very hour, with your brothers and your neighbors, shoulder to shoulder."

More than 100,000 reportedly turned out on a beautiful afternoon to mark the 50th anniversary and ceremony.

The National Park Service in cooperation with the City of Boston is undertaking the current project.

Included will be a renovation of the 221-ft., 294-step granite obelisk, together with the adjacent visitors exhibit center.



Bro. Joseph Warren was one of the more influential men at the beginning of the American Revolution. The Provincial Grand Master also served as the president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. During the third assault on the hill on June 17, 1775, Warren was killed. His death transformed him into the first well-known martyr in the cause of American liberty. The first monument at the site was dedicated to his memory by King Solomon's Lodge, of Somerville, MA. The lodge originally met in Charlestown. Today this statue honoring Warren is housed in the exhibit center at the base of the monument. The Bunker Hill flag, behind the statue, is a replica of the flag used by the colonial troops on the day of the battle.

Scaffolding will soon rise around the monument, allowing workers to reseal the joints between the granite blocks.

A park spokesman said that there is no fear of blocks falling, but in the current state, moisture is able to seep through, making the long trek up ➤



While on his farewell tour of America, General Lafayette helped lay the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument.

Portrait of Lafayette by Samuel F. B. Morse 1824-25

## Bunker vs. Breed's?

A common Boston trivia question poses the query, "Where was the battle of Bunker Hill fought?"

The answer, meant to surprise the visitor, is "Breed's Hill."

"Which is right?" the newcomer might ask.

According to literature at the museum, both answers are actually correct.

Charlestown is built on a large mound with two summits, called Bunker Hill.

In 1775, the 107-foot higher peak was also known locally as Bunker, or Bunker's Hill, while the shorter 87-foot peak was called Breed's Hill.

Both, however are part of the same geological landmark.

So, where was the battle fought? Breed's Hill . . . and Bunker Hill.



► the stairs slippery in winter.

New lighting will make the famous landmark visible at night.

Additionally, the Bunker Hill Museum, directly across the street is to undergo a renovation.

Added to the site will be an exhibit titled, *The Decisive Day*, relating the story of the battle, the monument, and the history of the surrounding Charlestown neighborhood. The name of the exhibit is pulled from a quote by Abigail Adams, as she described the momentous occasion, to her husband and future president.

Scheduled to open in 2006 the restored museum and exhibit will be handicapped accessible and include new restrooms.

The gift from the Massachusetts Grand Lodge of Masons demonstrates its ongoing commitment to the commemoration of the continual sacrifice of American patriots to the cause of freedom, and to the reminders of the important early steps toward the achievement of liberty.



Flanked by the original and current monuments, American colonists and British soldiers are portrayed at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Brother Joseph Warren is depicted above.

## The Famous Battle

Although the Colonists and British Regulars had already met in confrontation at Lexington and Concord, and again at Chelsea Creek, Bunker Hill is considered the first major battle in the war of independence. It also marks the first time that men from several colonies fought together.

British soldiers were in control in Boston, but General Artemus Ward's army of New England volunteers surrounded the town, blocking all approaches by land.

In mid-June of 1775, the Americans learned that British troops, under General Gage, planned to occupy Charlestown, a position overlooking Boston and the harbor. Acting first, Col. Prescott led his soldiers from Massachusetts and Connecticut and moved in to fortify Breed's Hill, the lower peak of Bunker Hill, and built an earthen redoubt. Joining them were Colonel John Stark's New Hampshire men.

In all, the Colonists totaled between 2,500 and 4,000 troops. On the afternoon of June 17, 1775, the first of three assaults by the British was made. General Howe set fire to the town and then moved to take the hill as many Bostonians watched the battle from rooftops across the harbor. Abigail Adams wrote to her husband John in Philadelphia that she took their young son, John Quincy Adams, to the top of Penn's Hill to watch. She said that "perhaps the decisive day is come on which the fate of America depends."

Slowing the British advance were fences, uneven terrain, and Colonel Stark's men. Under heavy fire, the British retreated to regroup. The second assault was uncoordinated and again resulted in a British retreat, but only after suffering heavy losses.

The final advance came at a time when the colonists were running low on ammunition. The British cut through the center of the American line, and attacked from two additional sides.

Stark was able to engage the British long enough for many of the Americans to escape, but not before the casualties included Bro. Joseph Warren, Grand Master of a Provincial Grand Lodge, and president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress.

When the battle ended, the Americans had lost about 500 men to death and injury while the British had suffered 1,034 casualties.

The British won the battle, but at a high cost in both troops and morale. Nathaniel Greene of Rhode Island said, "I wish we could sell them another hill at the same price."

The battle was technically a loss, but it showed the rest of America that the British army was not invincible.

Less than three weeks later, the New England Provincial Army was transformed into the Continental Army. Bro. George Washington, a Virginian, took command, and the 13 colonies began to gel into a fledgling nation.



# From A Point to A Line

By MARK A. TABBERT, 32°

*Since 1813, there have been  
19 Sovereign Grand Commanders*

**T**he inauguration of a new Sovereign Grand Commander provides an opportunity to look back through the history of the Supreme Council and at the men who have led the Rite.

The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was officially recognized in 1813 when a group of New York Masons under the leadership of Antoine Bidaud received a formal charter from the Supreme Council in Charleston, SC.

Since then, 19 men have been Sovereign Grand Commander. Some served briefly and some perhaps too long, but all made their mark in society and on the Rite.

Five distinct periods divide our history: the founding generation, the era of schism and stability, the golden age of prosperity, the decades of great builders and the present era of renewal and education.

## *Founding Generation*

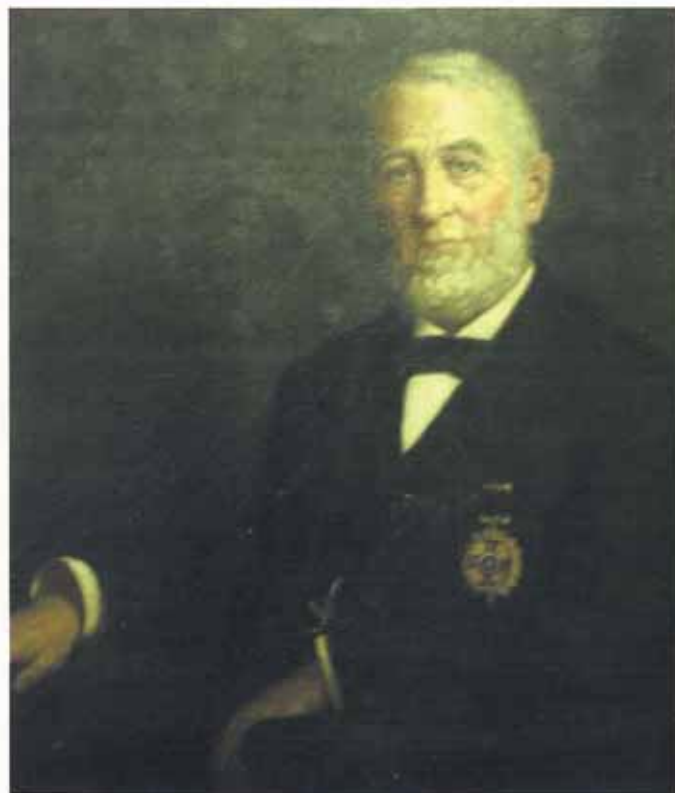
The founding generation includes the first five Grand Commanders serving between 1813 and 1860.

Before becoming the first Grand Commander, Daniel D. Tompkins was governor of New York.

During his tenure he also served as Grand Master of New York but more importantly as vice president of the United States between 1817-25.

Following Tompkins death, Sampson Simson became Commander. Simson, a wealthy lawyer and philanthropist, was also the founder of New York's

Josiah Hayden Drummond of Maine was the 7th Grand Commander (1867-79). Ill. Brother Webber is only the second Commander to come from the Pine Tree State.



Mount Sinai Hospital.

In 1827 the anti-Masonic movement swept across the country and nearly extinguished the fraternity.

It was left to Simson's successor John James Joseph Gourgas, to keep the Rite going through this dark period.

Gourgas had served as the first Grand Secretary General and maintained the jurisdiction's records and archives for over 40 years.

Through his dedication and loyalty he earned the title "Conservator of the Rite." The Supreme Council's highest distinguished service award is named in his honor.

In the 1840s two future Commanders encouraged Gourgas to regenerate the Northern Jurisdiction Supreme Council.

Giles F. Yates, a lawyer in Schenectady, NY, set about building up membership in the eastern states. In 1851 he served briefly as SGC.

As Yates brought men into the fraternity, another New Yorker, Killian H. Van Rensselaer traveled throughout the jurisdiction and established new Valleys in New Haven, Pittsburgh, Chicago and other cities.

Van Rensselaer became "acting" SGC in 1861 and "actual" SGC between 1861-67.

One of the men brought into the Rite by Yates was Edward A. Raymond. Born in 1791, Raymond was a successful businessman and a Past Grand Master of Massachusetts.

He succeeded Yates as Grand Commander in 1851. Raymond's contentious leadership split the Supreme Council in 1860. ➤



MARK A. TABBERT, 32°, curator of Masonic and fraternal collections at the National Heritage Museum, is a member of the Valley of Boston.



### ► *Schism and stability*

The Active Members deposed Raymond and elected Van Rensselaer as Commander.

Raymond then established a rival Supreme Council, and for six years both councils operated in the northern jurisdiction.

Not until after Raymond's death did brotherly love prevail. Harmony was achieved in 1867.

After the schism was healed, many years of stability followed.

The unification of the two Supreme Councils expanded Active Membership to 66 and brought about the election of Josiah H. Drummond as the SGC.

A lawyer from Maine, he was a member of Raymond's Council.

He served for 12 years and was succeeded by Henry L. Palmer. Made a Mason in Albany, NY, Palmer later moved to Wisconsin and was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

He also became president of Northwestern Life Insurance Company. He served as Grand Master of Wisconsin, Grand Master of the Knights Templar Grand Encampment, and Sovereign Grand Commander—the only known Mason to do so.

His nearly 30-year tenure as Grand Commander is the longest in the jurisdiction's history.

Palmer's lengthy service (1879-1909) was followed by Samuel C. Lawrence's short time in office (1910-11).

A Civil War General and Past Grand Master of Massachusetts, Lawrence's term was the coda to an era.

### *Golden age of prosperity*

The Scottish Rite's golden age of prosperity began before the turn of the 20th century.

In the 1890s midwestern Valleys were conferring the degrees to large numbers of Masons and the Rite was earning the title, "the theater of the fraternity."

Mass initiations caused membership to grow rapidly. In 1900 there were only 26,858 Scottish Rite Masons in the jurisdiction.

In 1910, however, there were 65,947 brothers, and by 1920 membership rose to over 179,400—nearly a seven-fold increase in just 20 years.

Overseeing and guiding these years of prosperity were three Sovereign Grand Commanders: Barton Smith, Leon M. Abbott and Frederic B. Stevens.

Smith was president of *The Toledo*

*Blade* newspaper and Grand Master of Freemasons of Ohio in 1897.

As a member of the Supreme Council, he wrote the rules governing Scottish Rite international conferences and grew the Supreme Council endowment fund from \$500,000 to \$1.3 million.

His successor, Leon Abbott, served from 1921-32 and moved the Supreme Council headquarters from New York City to Boston.

In his will, Abbott left three gifts to the Supreme Council, one of which became the basis of the Abbott Scholarships. Initially intended to encourage "the study of clean journalism," today it is open to children and grandchildren of Scottish Rite Masons.

Leon Abbott died in office as the Great Depression gripped America.

His Lieutenant, Frederic B. Stevens, served for just one year, ending the era

of prosperity but opening the way for the age of great builders.

### *Decades of great builders*

The first great builder, Melvin Maynard Johnson, may be the most important Freemason of the 20th century.

He was Grand Master of Massachusetts Freemasons from 1913-16 and became Dean of the Boston University Law School in 1935.

As the first full-time paid Commander, Johnson led the Rite through the Great Depression, World War II, a membership drop to 208,000 in 1935, and its rebound to 422,051 in 1953.

He established the benevolent foundation to support research in schizophrenia and wrote many papers and histories on early American Freemasonry.

Such was Johnson's energy that only

## *Daniel D. Tompkins – The First Commander*

Born the son of a farmer in 1774, Daniel Tompkins stayed close to his roots throughout his rise to power.

Calling himself the "Farmer's Boy," he campaigned as a man of the people.

He once said, "There's not a drop of aristocratical or oligarchical blood in my veins."

Throughout his political career he was a prominent reformer, as he championed public education, prison reform and better treatment for Native Americans.

First elected to the New York legislature in 1803, he quickly rose through the political ranks.

The following year he was simultaneously elected to Congress and appointed to the New York Supreme Court.

He chose the latter, serving until becoming governor in 1807.

He opted not to accept President Madison's offer to become Secretary of State, citing the high cost of living in Washington.

He apparently changed his mind about the nation's capital, as he was elected vice president in 1816, on the ticket with fellow Mason, James Monroe.



Throughout his career he maintained strong ties to the fraternity.

He was admitted to his Masonic lodge at the age of 26 and served in several offices, including Grand Master of New York.

On August 5, 1813, the provisional Supreme Council chose him as the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

He maintained that position throughout his vice presidency.





The 30-year tenure of Henry Lynde Palmer, 8th Commander (1879-1909), is the longest in the jurisdiction's history.

when he was out of the country could the Supreme Council surreptitiously remove him from office in 1953.

Replacing Melvin Johnson was Grand Lieutenant Commander George Bushnell. Born and raised in Virginia, Bushnell moved to Detroit as a young man and eventually served on the Michigan Supreme Court.

In 1934 he was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council, becoming Johnson's Grand Lieutenant Commander in 1945.

During his tenure he consolidated and implemented many of Melvin Johnson's programs.

Sadly, Judge Bushnell died unexpectedly at the end of the 1965 annual meeting. His successor, George Adelbert Newbury, was more than equal to the task.

As the 15th SGC, Newbury was a Buffalo, NY, lawyer.

Bushnell appointed him as Grand Lieutenant Commander in 1960.

Universally admired and supported in the fraternity, Newbury achieved many things in his ten years as SGC.

In 1968 he moved the Supreme Council offices from downtown Boston to Lexington and in 1974 began building the National Heritage Museum.

Newbury's other accomplishments are numerous, including the creation of *The Northern Light* magazine in 1970.

Assisting each of the three great builders was Richard A. Kern.

A physician, Navy admiral and professor, Dr. Kern worked tirelessly from 1948-82 to promote the Scottish Rite Research in Schizophrenia project.

He was given the title of Honorary Sovereign Grand Commander in 1972, an honor never before or since accorded an Active Member of the Supreme Council.

When Commander Newbury retired in 1975, the Supreme Council moved into a new era of renewal and education.

### *Renewal and education*

The first Commander of our current period was Stanley F. Maxwell.

He served as Newbury's executive secretary prior to becoming Commander, and in his first three years in office he also presided as Grand Master of Massachusetts.

Commander Maxwell continued most of Newbury's projects while setting the fraternity and the museum on a sound financial foundation.

Francis G. Paul followed Maxwell in 1985. A former IBM executive from New York, Commander Paul was influential in establishing the National Masonic Renewal Program to strengthen the fraternity.

Unfortunately, illness caused Commander Paul to cut short his term in office.

In 1991 the Supreme Council undertook a jurisdiction-wide search for a younger Sovereign Grand Commander.

It found just the brother in Cincinnati. Robert O. Ralston became an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1992 and elected Sovereign Grand Commander in 1993.

Commander Ralston's legacy is the creation of a new charity in 1994 to aid dyslexic children through 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children. Less than ten years later, there are 46 centers throughout the jurisdiction.

Commander Ralston also encouraged the National Heritage Museum's educational programs by overseeing the building of the Ill. James F. Farr, 33° Conference Room in 1996 and the hiring of John Ott as museum director in 1999.

Now we welcome a new Commander. Walter E. Webber is certainly not the first lawyer to become SGC nor is he the first lawyer from Maine in that role.

We look forward, confident that he will achieve many firsts as he leads our Supreme Council through the challenges that lie ahead.

## **SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDERS**

1813-1825

Daniel Decius Tompkins

1825-1832

Sampson Simson

1832-1851

John James Joseph Gourgas

1851

Giles Fonda Yates

1851-1860

Edward Asa Raymond

1860-1867

Killian Henry Van Rensselaer

1867-1879

Josiah Hayden Drummond

1879-1909

Henry Lynde Palmer

1909-1910

Samuel Crocker Lawrence

1910-1921

Barton Smith

1921-1932

Leon Martin Abbott

1932-1933

Frederic Beckwith Stevens

1933-1953

Melvin Maynard Johnson

1953-1965

George Edward Bushnell

1965-1975

George Adelbert Newbury

1975-1985

Stanley Fielding Maxwell

1985-1993

Francis George Paul

1993-2003

Robert Odel Ralston

2003-

Walter Ernest Webber



# Dyslexia Described

*Learning centers program combats its effects*

Hearing his name announced, young Anthony stood before the scores of people at the Valley of Chicago Family Education Night and began to read, "When I first learned that I was dyslexic, I was scared because I did not know what dyslexia was."

"I thought there was something wrong with me and I did not know what to do. It was very confusing for me. The teachers at my old school tried and tried to help me, but I just couldn't get it. I thought I was stupid."

Children like Anthony are in schools across the nation. It is estimated that from 10 to 20 percent of the school-age population has dyslexia.

Teachers often describe these children as seeming to be intelligent but unable to do basic academic tasks.

These bright youngsters, even when given the best reading programs available, are unable to master that skill. Their spelling is very poor and their penmanship may be nearly illegible.

Essentially, dyslexia is a specific difficulty in learning written language in a person with average or above average intelligence.

It primarily affects the areas of reading, writing and spelling. It can also im-

pact a person's oral language and math.

The fact that dyslexia occurs in an otherwise intelligent person makes it extremely frustrating to his teachers, family members, and the dyslexic himself.

He may be able to contribute in class, show effective reasoning and oral persuasion skills, but not be able to communicate his ideas on a test or essay.

**"The fact that dyslexia occurs in an otherwise intelligent person makes it extremely frustrating to the child's teachers, family members, and the dyslexic himself."**

Each person involved with a child with dyslexia can work with him more effectively by understanding the key characteristics of this difficulty in learning.

For most persons with dyslexia, reading is often the first area in which a difficulty is noted.

The child with dyslexia does not catch on to the sound-symbol relationships used to make up words.

He may have difficulty correctly identifying letters.

The English alphabet is filled with letters that change names when put in a different position. For example, when *m* is inverted, it looks like *w*. Lower case *b*, *d*, *p*, and *q* are essentially formed iden-

tically with their position being the only discriminating factor to their name.

Sometimes, the person with dyslexia may transpose the order of letters in the word. *Felt* may become *left*.

A person with severe dyslexia may be able to match the sound to the letter most of the time but find it impossible to blend the sounds into a word.

His reading may be labored, one word at a time. He may get some of the harder words but miss the most common ones.

He may remember a sound or word one moment and not know it at all the next. Due to his inaccurate reading, his reading comprehension is very poor.

Spelling is another area drastically affected by dyslexia.

While the student with dyslexia may be able to remember a list of words

for a spelling test (often after studying an hour a day and three to four hours the night before the test), he cannot successfully use them in his spontaneous everyday writing.

In fact, he may not be able to spell them even a half hour after the test.

His homework and reports may be filled with repeated misspellings of a word. Each of the misspellings may be written differently, and the student may not be able to identify which one is actually correct.

The student with dyslexia may have the correct letters in the word, but they will be out of sequence.

Sometimes, letters or word parts may be added or omitted entirely.

Reversals of individual letters and transpositions within words are typical errors for the person with dyslexia. Common words are often misspelled.



DAVID C. WINTERS, Ph.D., is Executive Director of Clinical Affairs for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.





Anthony attending the Chicago Learning Center (below) and Anthony today (above).

*"Because of the Learning Center, I know that I can do anything if I put my mind to it."*

Besides having difficulty with spelling, the person with dyslexia often cannot adequately put his thoughts on paper.

He may invent many ingenious excuses for not doing his homework and may try to avoid all written assignments.

He may have difficulty properly organizing his thoughts. His sentences and stories may be illogical.

His teachers often remark that his oral work is extraordinarily better than his written work.

The person with dyslexia may freeze when he tries to write. He also may have extreme difficulty forming letters properly.

Copying from the board or even a book may be problematic. It may take him an inordinately long time or his work may be quite inaccurate.

Before the child with dyslexia begins school, parents often notice that he has difficulty with oral language.

This difficulty may be in a late onset of speech or in improper articulation.

He often has had difficulty playing with words, such as rhyming.

He may, throughout his entire life, have difficulty remembering and following oral directions.

Many times, the person with dyslexia has difficulty retrieving the words he wants to use when speaking.

He often becomes adept at compen-

sating for this so that by the time he reaches school, only the most observant listener can notice the word retrieval problem.

Sounds and accented syllables may be transposed.

The person with dyslexia also may take all language literally and have difficulty with idioms and jokes, especially puns.

Math can also be affected by dyslexia. The person with dyslexia may reverse numbers.

For example, he may write 21 in response to the problem  $7 + 5 = ?$

He may have difficulty determining the meaning of mathematical symbols.

He may mistake  $4 + 8$  as  $4 \times 8$ .

Many persons with dyslexia have difficulty remembering the order of steps in a mathematical process or which column to work first.

He may continually forget the rote math facts, especially multiplication.

He may copy inaccurately from the book and, thus, do the wrong problem.

He may not be able to read a story problem accurately enough to determine its facts or the operations used to solve it.

Even when he does read the problem accurately, he may still become confused in determining from the language which operation is indicated.

Most children with dyslexia enter school totally unaware of their difficulty.

Without help, they react several different ways.

Some withdraw and hope their good behavior will cause the teacher to forget to call on them.

Some, wanting attention from their peers and teachers, turn into the class clown.

Others become so frustrated that they become difficult to manage in the classroom and ultimately drop out of school.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Masonic Learning Centers for Children program was established to help dyslexic children, like Anthony.

Currently over 1,300 children throughout all 15 states of the Northern Jurisdiction are tackling their difficulty with reading and spelling and achieving great success.

As Anthony said, "Because of the Learning Center, I know that I can do anything if I put my mind to it. It was hard for me to learn how to read, but I did it."



*"Before the child with dyslexia begins school, parents often notice that he has difficulty with oral language."*





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

### Direct Results

#### Facts & Figures

- In the nine years since the program was initiated, 46 learning centers have opened their doors and more than 5,000 children with dyslexia have been tutored.
- During that time more than 750 instructors, at various levels of expertise, have been certified.
- This past year the centers trained and certified 256 tutors in the Orton-Gillingham approach.
- Once certified, the new tutors have been able to put their new skills to use, not only at the learning centers but also at schools and clinics as well.
- There are now 31 learning centers associated with nearby universities. The affiliations help in providing tutors.
- It was announced at the annual meeting that new learning centers are planned to begin operation in Freeport, IL and Erie, PA.

When looking for tangible results of its charity work, the Scottish Rite need look no further than to the eloquent words of Weston, an 11-year-old fifth grader who was asked to speak at the annual meeting in St. Louis.

He came to the Supreme Council to tell of his experiences at a learning center.

He began by saying, "School has been difficult for me for several years. I have had difficulty with reading and especially writing. I have gotten a lot of bad grades in spelling in the past."

He continued by explaining that his feelings toward dyslexia have changed since visiting the center.

"I used to not like the word dyslexia, but now I feel better because Einstein, Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Whoopie Goldberg, and Tom Cruise also had dyslexia."

Pete Conrad, America's first space station commander and third person to walk on the moon, also had dyslexia."

He notes improvement in his schoolwork as well.



"I'm doing better in reading and spelling, and I'm not skipping words. I improved two grade levels after six months of tutoring at the center in reading and spelling. This year I'm earning A's and B's. That's because I have a great teacher, Mrs. Hunt."

Weston finished by offering his gratitude. "Thank you for asking me to visit today, and thank you for making a center where I can get help to learn to read, and spell better."

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

Allentown, PA  
Altoona, PA  
Bangor, ME  
Bay City, MI  
Bloomsburg, PA  
Burlington, NJ  
Burlington, VT  
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  
Northfield, NJ  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Portland, ME  
Providence, RI  
Reading, PA  
Rochester, NY  
Scotch Plains, NJ

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



# More Than a Song

By ALAN E. FOULDS

*Grandmother's house actually exists*

The scene is a common one. The family piles into the minivan on Thanksgiving morning and heads to the home of whichever relative has been chosen to host the big feast that year.

Someone invariably begins to sing, "Over the river and through the woods, to grandmother's house we go ..."

The first line might serve as a lead-in, as the rest of the clan joins in, or it may prompt a chorus of older siblings telling the young soloist to pipe down.

In either event most people who pass through this yearly ritual have little idea that the sights and sounds recorded in the popular ballad are real.

Yes, Virginia, there actually is a river. Even the woods and "grandmother's house" exist.

Although the original version says the destination is "grandfather's", it's assumed that his spouse was probably home as well.

The song, originally penned as a poem titled, *A Boy's Thanksgiving*, was written by abolitionist Lydia Maria Child.

Maria, as she preferred to be called, was born in Medford, MA to David and Susannah Francis.

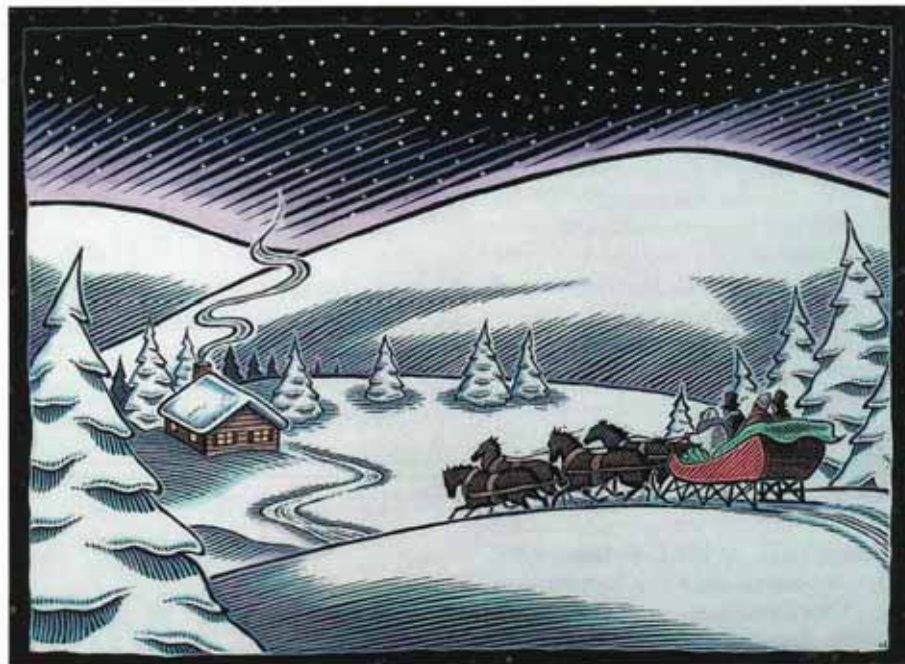
She was the youngest of seven, and like her brothers and sisters, worked for a while in the family bakery.

She began writing at a young age, publishing her first novel when she was just 22.

*Hobomok*, written in six weeks, chronicled the plight of an American Indian and the bigotry he encountered.

Later that year she met David Lee Child, a noted but barely successful newspaperman, who edited the *Massachusetts Journal & Tribune*.

They were kindred souls. They both took up the plight of the slaves, becoming very active in the abolitionist movement.



Their zeal for the cause shaped their lives, both good and bad.

Their travels brought them into contact with such luminaries as William Lloyd Garrison, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and the Grimke sisters.

In 1825 the governor of Massachusetts invited Maria to attend a reception for General Lafayette, who was in Boston for the dedication of the Bunker Hill Monument.

Their beliefs also took a toll on the professional lives of both.

Focused on social justice, David lost his job with the newspaper, and Maria's magazine *Juvenile Miscellany* was boycotted by many, in protest to her politics.

David passed the bar, but spent much of his time on pro bono work involving former slaves.

He served a short time in the state legislature and made an unsuccessful bid for the U. S. Senate.

In 1844 Maria's work with the movement kept her on the road much of the time, but she reminisced on her days back home.

She took a break from her serious writing and penned a short ditty that would outlive all else that she accomplished.

Her family's home was located in Medford, MA, today a bustling urban area just outside of Boston.

Her grandparents lived a little over a mile away, on the other side of the Mystic River.

Her wistful poem describes the trek, as she traveled in her mind over those familiar paths.

From her house, she would have gone a few hundred yards into the main square, turning left over the Craddock Bridge.

Once over the river, the road turns right, and through the woods.

In just a few minutes by sleigh she ►



## A Boy's Thanksgiving (Over the River and through the Woods)

—Lydia Maria Child, Originally published in *Flowers For Children*, Vol. 2, 1844

Over the river, and through the wood,  
To grandfather's house we go;  
The horse knows the way,  
To carry the sleigh,  
Through the white and drifted snow.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
To grandfather's house away!  
We would not stop  
For doll or top,  
For 'tis Thanksgiving Day.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
Oh, how the wind does blow!  
It stings the toes,  
And bites the nose,  
As over the ground we go.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
With a clear blue winter sky,  
The dogs do bark,  
And children hark,  
As we go jingling by.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
To have a first-rate play  
Hear the bells ring  
Ting a ling ding,  
Hurra for Thanksgiving Day!

Over the river, and through the wood,  
No matter for winds that blow;  
Or if we get  
The sleigh upset,  
Into a bank of snow.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
To see little John and Ann;  
We will kiss them all,  
And play snow-ball,  
And stay as long as we can.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
Trot fast, my dapple grey!  
Spring over the ground,  
Like a hunting hound,  
For 'tis Thanksgiving Day!

Over the river, and through the wood,  
And straight through the barn-yard gate;  
We seem to go  
Extremely slow,  
It is so hard to wait.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
Old Jowler hears our bells;  
He shakes his pow,  
With a loud bow wow,  
And thus the news he tells.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
When grandmother sees us come,  
She will say, Oh dear,  
The children are here,  
Bring a pie for every one.

Over the river, and through the wood,  
Now grandmother's cap I spy!  
Hurra for the fun!  
Is the pudding done?  
Hurra for the pumpkin pie!

➤ would have arrived, as her aunts, uncles, cousins, and the family dog greeted her.

Although the ode is biographical, she made her main character a boy.

Her destination stands today, owned by nearby Tufts University. Called "Grandfather's House" in deference to the original title, its story is commemorated by a plaque on the front lawn.

Although a very real place, it is much more powerful as a symbol.

The song conjures strong images in us all. It provides a verbal version of a Currier & Ives print.

Maria Child did not gain immortality through her many books and magazines.

Her name is not as recognizably tied to abolition as Garrison, Fredrick Douglass, or Wendell Phillips.

In fact she is not even well known as the author of her famous Thanksgiving lyrics, but her words live on nonetheless.

As we gather together with family members and give thanks, remember to give a nod to a woman whose words continue to take us back, whether real or imagined, to a better time.



## 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.

(ANSWERS) + (GREGARIOUS) –  
(IRON) – (GREASE) + (NEVER)  
– (WAR) + (INTRODUCE) –  
(CRUDE) – (NUTS)

=

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 4.  
Answer from previous issue: SECRET





## Be Careful on the Net...



By Leigh E. Morris, 33<sup>+</sup>

As millions do every day, a corporate executive sat down at the computer and wrote an e-mail message.

That sure sounds innocent enough, even when I tell you that this particular note was addressed to the executive's staff and contained a rather blunt assessment of the employees of one of the company's outside contractors. The message should have remained within the organization. Instead, a copy found its way to the contractor. Groan!

On another day, a young employee wrote an e-mail to two other employees regarding a meeting that she had with their boss. She made a rather earthy observation about the head honcho. You guessed it. That e-mail was spread all over the company and eventually landed in the boss' e-mail inbox. Oooops!

On a rather slow day last February, nothing much was happening around the office. Bored and wishing the clock would move a little faster, one employee decided to poke around on the Web. As luck would have it, he happened onto a sexually explicit site. Then he displayed remarkable stupidity by spending a little time at that porno site. Dumb!

In the first case, the executive was simply embarrassed. After making the appropriate "mea culpas," the incident was forgotten.

Things did not go as well for the woman who made the unflattering remark about her boss. She was not terminated, but it was apparent that her career at that firm was dead in the water. She soon resigned and found new employment that is allowing her to continue on her career path.

As for our bold web explorer, he paid dearly for his little excursion into the X-rated fringes of the Web. His employer's computer security department discovered his actions, informing his boss. Using the Web for personal purposes is a violation of his company's Internet policy, and visiting pornographic websites is an offense that calls for immediate dismissal. He paid that ultimate price and is still unemployed.

With these incidents in mind, let's take a look at "Leigh's Rules for Safe Netting."

**1.** Never use an employer's Internet service for

personal purposes. In fact, never use an employer's computer for personal purposes.

**2.** Always read and then reread e-mail messages before sending them. Print the message, read it and then make necessary changes. When in doubt, save the message as a draft, sleep on it and then review it the next day. Send it only after you are satisfied that it is appropriate.

**3.** Never enter the recipient(s) e-mail address(es) until you have written, edited and approved your message. It is way too easy to hit the "send" icon before you are ready to mail the message.

**4.** Assume your employer will read every e-mail you send. Assume your employer will check every website you visit. Remember, you have no expectation of privacy when using your employer's computer. None!

**5.** If you stumble into an inappropriate website, get out now! If this is not possible, "force quit" the computer or, if desperate, pull the plug. If this happens while using an employer's system, you may want to advise the company's computer security office, and your supervisor. Cover your posterior.

**6.** Assume every e-mail you send will be sent on to others. Assume that every e-mail you send will be read by at least one person other than the intended recipient(s).

**7.** It is best to print and then mail potentially controversial, sensitive and similar messages.

**8.** Never open an attachment from an unknown sender. If a person known to you sends an attachment, do not open it unless you are expecting it. Viruses are spread by attachments.

**9.** Never give your Social Security number or checking account number online.

**10.** Only give your credit card number to reputable online merchants and only do so through a secure site.

Regarding my last column, I want to thank the more than 100 readers who took the time to contact me. It is gratifying to hear from you.

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





# The ultimate gift

### *Giving Thanks for Ultimate Gifts*

This season is one that reminds us of the bounties of life. In our great organization generosity is likewise abundant. Since the beginning of autumn we have received word of two substantial bequests which we will receive by the time you read this.

The first comes from Virginia, where Robert Patterson, formerly from Massachusetts, included the Benevolent Fund in his will. His estate grew over time. When it was probated in August his bequest to us totaled more than \$1 million; this from a brother who never donated otherwise but kept our efforts close to his heart.

Next we go to Scottsdale, Arizona, and the estate of Howard Kizer. Again, this brother never mentioned his intention to support our charities, but we were notified this week that our Benevolent Fund would receive 40% of his trust — \$560,000!

A bequest is one of the simplest ways to ensure that the wonderful work of this organization is continued. There are many ways to draft a will to ensure that your loved ones are taken care of and your wishes are honored. If you are interested in more information about how you can make a bequest to support any of our charitable work, call the development office at 800-814-1432 x3326.

### *More to the Story – A Wonderful Tribute*

In the last issue I mentioned the wonderful gift of Ill. Brother John Moy and his wife May. They donated property to fund a Charitable Trust.

What I omitted was their dedication of the gift. In a recent conversation, John explained that he intended his trust to honor his parents, Samuel and Evelyn, as a memorial.

"They gave us everything when we were kids," explained Brother Moy, referring to his parents' devotion to him and his brothers. "They didn't have much, but we got it all."

When we consider who we are and what we have, there are often special people who have helped us along the way. Would you like to honor their place in your heart? Memorial donations or tributes in the names of these special people can demonstrate your love and help the charities of Scottish Rite.

### *A Special Morning with Extraordinary People*



Sovereign Grand Commander Webber shares a light moment with members of the Builders Council at the the Annual Meeting in St. Louis.

The morning of Sept. 23 was beautiful in St. Louis. The sky was vivid blue and the air was beginning to bear a little of fall's crispness.

St. Louis, of course, was the site of the 2003 Annual Meeting, where 33° Masons from throughout our jurisdiction and dignitaries from all over the world, gathered and shared fellowship.

The occasion on this particular morning was the second annual Builders Council breakfast. More than 100 people – Masons and their ladies – attended this year's event which recognized those who have generously pledged their financial support to the charities of the Scottish Rite.

In the past fiscal year, more than \$8 million was donated to our charities, a sizeable increase over the previous year. Much of this generosity supported the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children. Builders Council membership requires a gift or pledge of \$10,000 or more. While most of the members of the Builders Council have dedicated their gifts to the learning centers, you may designate your support for any of our causes – the National Heritage Museum, the Benevolent Fund, Abbott scholarships, or schizophrenia research.

At the breakfast the room was filled with wonderful and giving people. Several expressed their feelings about the work of 32° Masons and the learning centers. One member, Ill. William Rathman, 33°, Valley of Cincinnati, told the crowd, "This is the best thing our organization has ever done." Well said.



# The Stamp Act

## A Philatelic Review



By Robert A. Domingue



**Louis Alves de Lima e Silva, Duque de Caxias**, was born in the village of Porto de Estrela, state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1803.

He was active in the struggle for the Independence of Bahia and was appointed to the command of the Municipal Guard. With the rank of colonel, he successfully put down several rebellions, led the Brazilian forces against Rosas, and served as Minister of War from 1855-57 and 1861-62.

He served as President of the State of Rio Grande do Sul and president of the Council of Ministers. He died in 1880.

He was initiated in 1841 or 1842 under the Supreme Council of Montezuma. He served as Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Brazil and of the Supreme Council from its founding in 1847.

He is pictured on a stamp issued by Brazil in 1995.

\*\*\*



**Samuel Langhorne Clemens**, better known as Mark Twain, was born on Nov. 30, 1835, in Florida, MO.

At the age of four he moved to Hannibal on the Mississippi River with his family.

He adopted his pen name, which means "two fathoms deep," while working as a newspaper reporter. He was the author of several well-known books written for the younger set but enjoyed by all.

A year before his death, he is said to have remarked, "I came in with Halley's Comet in 1835. It is coming again next year and I expect to go out with it." His prediction came true, as he died on April 21, 1910 in Redding, CT.

Bro. Clemens received his degrees in Polar Star Lodge No. 79, St. Louis, MO, in 1861. He acted as Junior Deacon of Bear Mountain Lodge No. 76 at Angels Camp, a California mining camp, in February 1865.

He was pictured on a Dominica stamp issued for Halley's Comet in 1986.

\*\*\*

**Julio Argentino Roca**, Argentine general and statesman, was born in 1843. Entering the army at the age of 15, he served in the war between the Confederation and Buenos Aires.



He was named Minister of War in 1877 and undertook a campaign against the Indians. This campaign won him great popularity, and he was elected President in 1880, serving until 1886 and again from 1898 until 1904.

He had an iron will but did not hesitate to use diplomacy, as he did to settle the Argentine-Chilean boundary

question. He died in Buenos Aires in 1914.

Roca was a member of Union del Plata Lodge No. 1 in Buenos Aires. He is pictured on an Argentine stamp issued in 1964 for the 50th anniversary of his death.

\*\*\*

**William McKinley**, the 25th president of the United States, was born in Niles, Ohio, in 1843, attended Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, and studied briefly for the ministry before serving in the Civil War.



After the war, he studied law, opened a practice in Canton, OH, and started his political career in 1876 in the U.S. House. His "front porch campaign" got him elected president in 1896 and again in 1900. Shot by an anarchist in Buffalo, NY, he died eight days later on Sept. 14, 1901.

Bro. McKinley petitioned Hiram Lodge No. 21, Winchester, VA, and received his degrees there in 1865. He affiliated with Canton Lodge No. 40, and became a charter member of Eagle Lodge No. 431, Canton, in 1868. After his death, Eagle Lodge was renamed in his honor.

He is pictured on a stamp in the Presidents' series of 1986.

\*\*\*

**Johann Gottlieb Fichte**, one of Germany's greatest philosophers, was the founder and first rector of the University of Berlin. He was born at Rammenau in

1762 and educated at the Universities of Jena and Leipzig.

Making the acquaintance of the philosopher Immanuel Kant and authoring the book, *Critique of all Revelation*, he established his reputation. He served as professor of philosophy at the University of Jena from 1793-99, after which he settled in Berlin.

He initiated plans for the University of Berlin in 1807 and served as its rector from 1810-12. Fichte was professor of philosophy as well. His career was cut short by his death from typhoid fever in 1814.

Bro. Fichte's original lodge is not known, but in 1794, while at Jena, he affiliated with the Lodge "Gunther zum stehenden Lowen" in Rudolstadt.

In Berlin he affiliated with the Lodge "Pythagoras zum Flemdenen Stern" No. 186



and became Junior Warden. Among his writings was a book called *The Philosophy of Masonry*. The German Democratic Republic issued a pair of stamps in 1962 for the 200th anniversary of his birth. He is pictured on one of them.

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





By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

*The Holy Grail Mystery Solved*, by Frank C. Tribbe. Published in 2003 by Galde Press, Inc. PO Box 460, Lakeville, Minnesota 55044-0460

When I first saw the title, I assumed it was just another book revealing a new theory on the Grail. It is exactly that; same subject, different conclusion. It is the author's opinion that the Holy Grail is actually the face on the Shroud of Turin. One of the accusations leveled against the Knights Templar to justify their persecution and execution by the Church and the King of France was that they worshiped a head. It is Tribbe's contention that the head referenced is actually the face on the Shroud.

He also concludes, however, that the Grail is spiritual enlightenment, with a goal of perfection. The Grail Quest is the committed journey to obtain it. This is the probable purpose of the Arthurian legends upon which the author concentrates much effort, and is probably far closer to the reality.

In support of his proposition that the Grail is the face on the Shroud of Turin, the author states that the "scientific, iconographical and historical evidence has become overwhelming for the proposition that the shroud of Turin is the shroud of Jesus — that it is not medieval, and is probably of first-century origin." He writes that the 1988 "so-called" carbon dating "provided no useful information concerning the age of the cloth." The reports that I recall reading did not reach that conclusion.

I was not aware that there were as many as 21 Grail stories from the 13th through the 20th century and more than 14 major derivative works in poetry, prose, opera and musical drama plus six motion pictures in the past 15 years relating to the Grail romances. Tribbe points out that to make sense of all the Grail literature, more than one discipline of study must be brought into play. He also states that "the Grail stories would never have been written had there not been a mystical face on the Shroud of Jesus."

Included in the appendix is a summary and critique of each of the Grail stories, together with a short Grail history and background. Also included is a brief summary of the Grail in motion pictures and television. This portion of the book was informative to me and may serve as a concise reference to those interested in Grail romance. I question his statement that the Order of Knights Templar was recreated and survives today as a major order of Freemasonry. Although possibly true, few scholars today find any connection between the early Crusader Knights Templar and the Masonic order of the same name. Tribbe speculates that the present day Masonic order may have records relating to the prior order. I seriously doubt it.

For those with an interest in Grail lore or the tales of King Arthur, this may be a book you wish to read. Reality or not, literature on this subject continues to summon dedicated followers, perhaps on quests of their own, to find the meaning of the Grail.



*Freemasonry, Anti-Masonry and Illuminism in the United States, 1734-1850 A Bibliography, Volumes 1 & 2* by Kent Logan Walgren. Published in 2003 by The American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass. Distributed by Oak Knoll Press, 310 Delaware Street, New Castle, DE 19720. \$195.



What a monumental piece of work! Walgren, who was not a Freemason, worked on developing this bibliography for 13 years. When he began, he grossly underestimated the time it would take, and the number of entries that would be involved. He candidly admits in the preface that had he known what he was in for, he never would have begun.

Volume One covers 1734-1827, and Volume Two from 1827-50. The books contain over 5,500 annotated entries. The author personally examined 95 percent of the entries for which surviving copies are known. The information is arranged in a chronological/geographical format, listing U.S. Masonic publications by date and state. Walgren even includes information found only in the proceedings of Grand Masonic bodies. The intent of the bibliography is for the "use of Scholars of U.S. Freemasonry, anti Masonry and Illuminism, historians of U.S. social, political, and religious thought, librarians and rare book dealers, students of early U.S. printing, and Freemasons interested in their early literature.

The introduction includes three chapters: "British Antecedents and Freemasonry in the United States" by Walgren, "Publishing Freemasonry: Print and the Early American Fraternity" by Steven C. Bullock, and "The Early Development of the High Degrees in the United States" by S. Brent Morris.

There is little a reviewer can write relative to a bibliography, except to comment on quality and completeness, but one could not overestimate the value of this publication. There will be many scholars and historians in the future owing a debt of gratitude to Walgren for the magnificent work that he has done.





*Freemasonry and the Birth of Modern Science*, by Robert Lomas. Published in 2003 by Fair Winds Press, 33 Commercial Street, Gloucester, MA 01930. \$24.95

This book combines historical text with well-researched speculation developing the theory that Freemasonry played a major role in the creation of the Royal Society (the oldest and most respected scientific society in the world), and, in turn, the Royal Society in the birth of modern science. This is not a new theory, but more acceptance might lay in the reverse supposition. The text delves deeply into the origin of the Masonic fraternity, the political suppression of its early history, its evolution into a speculative form, and its major impact upon what the world of science has become today.

To fully appreciate the significance of the Royal Society's creation, one must understand the period of history in which it originated. Few today in a civilized society can comprehend the oppressive restrictions forced upon the citizens of that age. Freedom of open thought and rationalization was stifled by repressive rulers and Christian dogma. Science, as we know it, did not and could not exist. As the author so succinctly puts it, "the men who founded this society were not only the first scientists; they were the last sorcerers." Lomas does well in defining this environment whereby we may have a greater appreciation of the suggested accomplishments.

The name, Robert Moray, is familiar to any historian of early Freemasonry. The author proposes that Moray, a Freemason, was the principal architect involved in the creation of the Royal Society and hence, modern science. Moray, according to Lomas, was not only the architect but also the guiding light and force in the Society.

Many of the operational requirements and terminology incorporated by the Royal Society were characteristic of the Masonic fraternity, and many early members of the Society were known to have been Freemasons. The adoption of a policy of no discussion of religion and politics was a carryover from early Freemasonry. As important as this may have been to Freemasonry, it was probably more so for the Royal Society. The system of balloting likewise mimicked that of Freemasonry. Gresham College, founded by a Freemason on, "educational principles that were recorded in Masonic documents," served as the first meeting place for the Society and for Freemasonry. Lomas acknowledges that the use of Masonic symbols in the Society could have been coincidental or may have been purposeful. Interestingly, I made the same observation when I was initiated into the Grange.

Lomas feels that in order for the Society to have been created, and have survived and succeeded, it was necessary to form a working relationship of the great minds in varying fields of "science" who were on opposing sides of the political conflicts of the day. To create the Royal Society would take a man like Moray, not himself a great

scientist but one with the contacts and connections with royalty, with the day's intellectual minds and with Freemasonry.

It is the contention of the author that Freemasonry's beginnings are in Scotland, not England. This is certainly not a new proposal; indeed, it is the most widely accepted point of origin by world Freemasonry today. At that time, however, it presented a great obstacle, due to opposition of the Hanoverian rulers of England to the Jacobite heritage of Freemasonry. He speculates also, that the disappearance of the histories written by both Moray and Elias Ashmole, which may have documented the Scottish origins of the craft and creation of the Society, might have been the result of these politics.

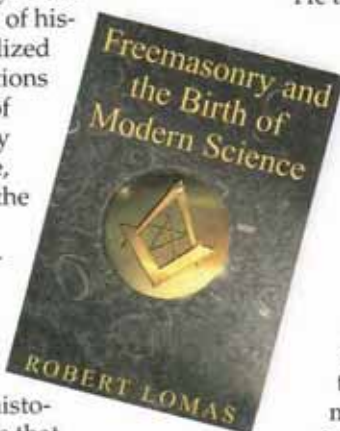
According to Lomas, The Royal Society "borrowed a philosophy from early Freemasonry and turned it into a force which changed the very nature of the world."

He also observes, however, that while the Royal Society is still a major force for science, modern Freemasonry could not create the climate necessary to promote such scientific creativity today, because the professional classes and young scientists mainly ignore it.

I credit and respect Lomas for his willingness to take on the giants. Although none can deny the negative influence that the early Christian church had on civilization by stifling the freedom of man to think, there remain few with the willingness to express it as boldly as has Lomas in all four

books. Although a member of a lodge operating under the United Grand Lodge of England, he expresses freely his disagreement with some of the teachings of that Grand Lodge, including the place in time of the origin of Freemasonry.

I found this book extremely interesting. It is filled with intrigue, reading more like an historical novel than a book on Freemasonry. There is much speculation, but it results from extensive research. Consider these conclusions: "The Masonic philosophy inherited by the new Society led to the nurturing of the most important scientific developments of all time," and "What they (Freemasons) did was much greater, and they created a system that developed the possibilities of a vast increase in human well-being, more than any other in recorded history."



**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

### ■ Watch your back: sit right

Back pain will affect 80 to 90 percent of us at sometime in our lives. It's second only to headache as the most frequent cause of pain. Some of the primary causes are poor posture, repeated lifting and bending, reaching and twisting, and poor physical condition. Poor posture includes how and how long you sit at your desk or workstation. Too little movement for long periods of time puts great stress on your back.

If you never thought of sitting as art, think of it that way now. The National Safety Council says you should do the following:



- Support your lower back with a lumbar support.
- Sit deep into your chair with both feet flat on the floor.
- Be sure that the height of the work area is level with your elbows when they are hanging at your sides.
- The top of your computer screen should be at or slightly below eye level.

Most back injuries are not caused by a single event. They are the result of a buildup of factors that add up over time.

### ■ Second thoughts on drug ads

Drug advertisements are everywhere. You see the ads on television, in magazines and on the Internet. *The New England Journal of Medicine* says we should keep certain thoughts in mind when evaluating the advertisements:

Ads are created to bring a strong emotional response, but may not clearly state all the possible side effects.

The advertising is often for a new and expensive drug. It may not be

much better than one that is far less costly.

Sometimes people think the new drug will solve all their problems even when doctors are advising a lifestyle change. Those changes are long-lasting and free.

### ■ Follow the directions

Over-the-counter painkillers are not risk-free. The containers include directions for the number of pills you can take and how often they can be taken. In spite of warnings about stomach bleeding and liver damage that can result from overdosing, 44 percent of people admit to exceeding the recommended dose, according to the National Consumers League in Washington, DC.

### ■ Staying healthy on a cruise

While taking a cruise, simple steps can be taken to stay healthy. Here's the advice of *AARP Magazine*:

- Go to sleep rather than indulge in a midnight buffet.
- Avoid those how-many-can-you-eat games.



• Check the back page of the menu for healthier choices.

• When you can't stomach the idea of going to the gym, do a lot of walking, particularly in ports. Walk everywhere. You will see more and weigh less.

There is a trend on cruise ships toward smaller portions and healthier menus, according to the editors.

### ■ Walking is a favorite

Walking tops the list of Americans' favorite forms of exercise. The editors of *Prevention* say 53 percent of those polled preferred walking; 13 percent did weight training; 9 percent liked exercise classes; while 8 percent chose running and 6 percent opted for swimming. Four percent enjoyed channel surfing the best.



### ■ Nutrition in a bar

The no-time-for-lunch crowd is creating huge growth in the nutrition bar industry. Buyers need to be cautious when selecting a bar, according to the American Dietetic Association.

The organization recommends avoiding bars that list sugar (or another name for sugar) as the first or second ingredient. Power bars are best for athletes and people who need to gain weight. Be careful not to overload on vitamins. If you have orange juice, a vitamin pill and a nutrition bar in the morning, you may be over the limit for some vitamins, says the ADA.

### ■ An apple a day...

Folklore claims that an apple a day keeps the doctor away, and it seems that's not far from the truth. At least it seems true for men. According to *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, a Finnish study shows that men who regularly ate apples and other foods high in quercetin had 60 percent fewer cases of lung cancer, 25 percent less asthma, and 20 percent less diabetes and heart disease.



## Walk-a-thons Inaugurate New Tradition

Masons and friends spent a chilly fall afternoon putting their money, as well as time and sneakers, where their mouths were. Sunday, October 26, marked the kick-off of what is hoped to be an annual tradition of fun and fund-raising, as two simultaneous walks, designed to help support the 32° Masonic Learning Centers, were held. Combined, more than \$50,000 was raised for the cause.

Supreme Council headquarters was the site of the *Inaugural Battle Green Walk to Help Dyslexic Children*. At least 200 strong, with pledges in hand strolled past the historic Lexington Battle Green. Led by former New England Patriots linebacker, John Hannah, the walkers ended their trek at the National Heritage Museum. Chief sponsor for the day's events was Barton-Cotton.

Meanwhile, a few miles north, in Lowell, MA the first *Road to Reading*

*Walk-a-thon* was underway, with similar goals. That walk, sponsored by the Valley of Lowell, began at the Masonic Center and finished at JFK Plaza in the center of town. Accord-



ing to Ed Mackness more than \$10,000 was netted, so far. He hopes to add to that total through the sale of commemorative embroidered sweatshirts, available until the end of the year. "The afternoon drizzle did not dampen the spirits or enthusiasm of the 100 volunteers or any of the participants," he said. Buoyed by the success of this first outing, Mackness noted that both Rae Ann Partridge, developer of the website, and his event co-chairman, Jack O'Connor, have already signed on to help organize next year's walk.

The two fund-raisers served as pilots for what is scheduled as a jurisdiction-wide initiative in 2004. Next year's plans call for walks at all of the learning centers. Guided by central promotion and direction, each regional walk will be run by local volunteers, contributing their own flavor to the overall event.

### *In Memoriam* **III. Merle Donald Gardner, 33°**

III. Merle Donald Gardner, an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council for the State of Maine, died on July 26, 2003, in Portland, Maine.

Brother Gardner was born in Wollaston, Massachusetts, on October 13, 1918, son of Merle E. and Dorothy A. Greenleaf Gardner. He attended public schools in Brockton, Massachusetts, and received a degree in business administration from Colby College.

Following graduation he worked for Beech Nut Packing Company and the Todd-Bath Shipbuilding Company. In June of 1944 he was commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy and he was on active duty with the Amphibious Forces in the South Pacific from 1944-46. He retired from the service as a lieutenant (J.G.) and remained in the U.S. Naval Reserves until 1956.

Upon return from active duty, Brother Gardner received a Bachelor of Law degree from Boston University and was admitted to the Maine State Bar. He practiced law with Clark Drummond Chapman until 1970, when the family firm merged into the present law firm of Jensen Baird Gardner and Henry where he was senior partner. Upon his semi-retirement in 1989, he became of counsel to the firm.

III. Brother Gardner was a director for the Federal Loan and Building Association in Portland and chairman of

the board of the York Mutual Insurance Company. From 1961-64 he served as secretary of the Civil Service Commission in Portland and was chairman of the advisory board of the Greater Portland Salvation Army.

An active member of the Woodfords Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, he served on the governing board as trustee, and chairman of the invested fund.

Brother Gardner was raised a Master Mason in 1944 at Ancient Land Mark Lodge No. 17 in Portland, and became Master in 1955. He was elected Grand Master for Maine in 1966.

He completed the degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Portland on May 18, 1951. He served the Valley as Thrice Potent Master and Commander-in-Chief. In 1965 he was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, and was crowned an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1989. He was elected Deputy for the state of Maine in 1992, and became an Active Emeritus Member in 1994.

Brother Gardner married Phyllis Ann Chapman on May 31, 1941. She predeceased him in 1991. He is survived by a son, M. Donald Jr., a daughter, Judith Ann Stewart, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.



# VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

## An Interesting Protest

During the height of the anti-Masonic movement, George M. Dallas, Grand Master of Pennsylvania and Vice President under James Monroe, was summoned to appear before the legislature to tell what he knew of the Masons. His written protest follows:

"I am a citizen of Pennsylvania by birth and constant residence. Having imbibed in early youth, I still retain a strong sense of the free spirit of her institutions; and am unconscious of ever having, directly or indirectly, intentionally or inadvertently, committed an act or uttered a sentiment repugnant to her Constitution, inconsistent with her laws, injurious to her morals, or derogatory to her character.

"I am a member of the society of Freemasons. It is more than 20 years since I became so. At that period the example of the wisest and purest patriots, of Dr. Franklin, Gen. Washington, Gen. Warren, Gen. LaFayette, and

of many dear and near friends, were naturally alluring. Public opinion designated the association as virtuous, useful, and harmless. In passing through the forms of admission, I voluntarily assumed obligations and duties in themselves perfectly compatible with the paramount obligations and duties of a citizen to his country, and tributary to the pursuits of an enlarged philanthropy.

"The ninth article of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, titled *Declaration of Rights*, sets forth and unalterably establishes 'the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government.'

"As a private citizen of Pennsylvania I claim, with special reference to this Article of her Constitution, to possess and enjoy rights and liberties which no earthly power can abridge or destroy; nor will I consent to be in the slightest degree accessory to the mischiefs which a surrender or waiver of those rights and liberties, on an occasion so ostensible as this, might produce.

I will not consent to discredit the declaration that 'the free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the inviolable rights of man.' I will not consent to consider as idle and nugatory the emphatic precaution, that 'the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures.' I will not consent to the validity of an 'ex post facto law.' In a word, I will not consent to hold my rights and liberties of private intercourse, private sentiment, and private business subject to the domiciliary visitations, the changeable majority, or

## Name and Number, Please

A man being examined told the committee that he belonged to a lodge in Pennsylvania. When asked for the name of the lodge, he answered, "The lodge doesn't have a name, only a number." As the committee mulled this over a bit, deciding what to do, the man revealed that he held dual membership in a lodge in Massachusetts. They then asked for the name and number of the Massachusetts lodge. The man replied with the name only. It, like all Massachusetts lodges doesn't have a number. At that, one of the committee members remarked, "So you had to join two lodges to get a name and number?"

— Stewart M. L. Pollard, "Tied to the Masonic Apron Strings" (1969)

the ideal policy of any body of men whatever.

"Added to the considerations at which I have thus glanced, it is impossible for me to be insensible to the dictates of personal honor. Assuredly, this sentiment should never restrain any one from denouncing what is criminal or dishonest. Were I acquainted with anything of that nature in the operations and tendencies of Freemasonry, nothing could bind me to silence. But I was received by this association into its own confidence, upon my own application. I have been allowed a knowledge of the modes in which its members identify each other, and avoid deceptions upon their benevolence.

At a time when neither law, nor public opinion, nor my own conscience suggested a doubt of its correctness, I engaged myself to secrecy, and I cannot, without a sense of treachery and degradation prove false to my promise. Better, by far, endure the penalties of alleged contumacy, be they what they may.

— *Freemasonry Monthly Magazine*, November 1866



Nice feature.



# A Plea for Mirth

A little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men. Humanity, in general, is many-sided. Man is sad or sober and then again is gay. God in His wisdom has arranged our physical organism that it is but following natural impulse either to laugh or cry, but it is not best for us that we yield to either impulse continually. It is in the happy mingling of the two that we find the real beneficial results.

Freemasonry impresses one often as being a very sober institution. The ritual is beautiful in its lessons and grand in its contemplations of the higher life possible for man, but it occurs often to the regular attendant at lodge that at times there is a sense of sober monotony which causes a stagnation in the activity of the Brethren. A ripple of cheer is scarcely heard.

After the worry and humdrum of business, men, especially young men, find a sweet relief in genuine cheer. Laughter is a tonic to the shattered nerves. It instills hope and lightens

the heart, and the question arises, is there enough real cheering intercourse introduced into lodge work; do the Master and his officers study the art of making the lodge meeting a real attraction, something to look forward to with pleasure, some tact used in keeping up the enthusiasm of the younger members?

This is not a plea for dragging the dignity of Freemasonry into the dust. Far from it; but merely a lesson for the fraternity to consider whether a more cheering congeniality in the lodge would not reduce this army of indifferent Brethren and non-affiliates. Let wit and wisdom be not estranged in the lodge, thus giving a vigor and zeal which will not grow cold or monotonous.

So let mirth enter our lodge pure hearted, with laughter holding both his sides, crowding out all jealousies or unmasonic ambitions and selfish criticisms, warming the truer and better impulses of our common humanity.  
— *The Royal Craftsman*, 1903

## Halls of Masonry

Masonry is cultivating and disseminating the union of mankind upon this common bond to which all may agree, leaving the particular opinions of individuals and their methods of worship to themselves and to their own consciences, but to be proclaimed and exercised outside of the lodge.

Proselyting has its place in the world, but not in the halls of Masonry. However much it may be our duty to give it our encouragement and support as individuals or as members of other organizations, it is our duty within the fraternity to see to it that no man may truthfully accuse us of bigotry and in our lodge-room upon this single bond of belief in Deity to conciliate true friendship among men of every country, sect, and opinion.

By reason of the nature of our population and membership in this state, we are accustomed to recognize the applicability of this principle to Trinitarian and to Unitarian, to Christian and to Hebrew, but now that it is in a practical manner called to our attention, we should not be

startled when we recognize that it applies alike to other Deists who gain their inspiration from other books than that open before you upon the altar. We may find Monotheism proclaimed not only in the New Testament of the Christian, but also in the Koran of the Islamite, in the Avestas of the Magians of Persia, in the Book of Kings of the Chinese, in the Sutras of the Buddhist, yea, even in the Vedas of the Hindu.

The particular letters by which the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe is spelled or the peculiar way in which His name may be pronounced are as utterly immaterial as to pray to 'Our God' in English, to 'Unser Gott,' in German, or to 'Notre Dieu' in French.

And it is our further will that, so far as may be, our subjects, of whatever race or creed, be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability, and integrity, duly to discharge.

— *from the 1935 Allocation of SGC Melvin M. Johnson, 33°*

## Quick Quotes

When you forgive, you in no way change the past, but you sure do change the future.

— Bernard Meltzer

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.

— Henry Ward Beecher

The height of foolishness is to discard an idea without proper investigation.

— Benjamin Franklin

Action is the antidote to despair.

— Joan Baez

Anger is a killing thing. It kills the man who angers, for each rage leaves him less than he had been before — it takes something from him.

— Louis L'Amour

The greatest way to live with honor in this world is to be what we pretend to be.

— Socrates

So many of our dreams seem impossible, then improbable, then inevitable.

— Christopher Reeve

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but really great people make you feel that you too can become great.

— Mark Twain

The great lesson in life is to know that fools are right sometimes.

— Winston Churchill

If malice or envy were tangible and had a shape, it would be in the shape of a boomerang.

— Charley Reese

He who multiplies riches, multiplies cares.

— Benjamin Franklin

An archaeologist is the best husband a woman can have; the older she gets, the more interested he is in her.

— Agatha Christie



## ■ Fixing your computer

When you can't get the help you need from tech support, consider these options:

- Call the manufacturer and ask for a list of authorized local repair firms in your area. Many firms will send someone to your home, according to *Consumer Reports*.

- Virtual technicians can take charge of your computer online, test it, and fix the problem.

Yahoo.com has a list of tech-support companies.

Check that anyone you hire is certified by the Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA).

An amateur could further aggravate the problem.



## ■ Help for parents

Billions of dollars in savings bonds are no longer earning interest, according to the Bureau of the Public Debt.

If your parents are getting older, check to see if they have Series E bonds issued from May 1941 through April 1963 and from December 1965 through April 1973; H bonds issued from June 1952 through April 1973; and HH bonds issued from January 1980 through April 1983.

If they have these bonds, which no longer earn interest, cash them in at your bank and invest the money in new bonds or elsewhere.

Older parents may forget to pay monthly bills. Help them by setting up automatic payments to be debited from your checking account.

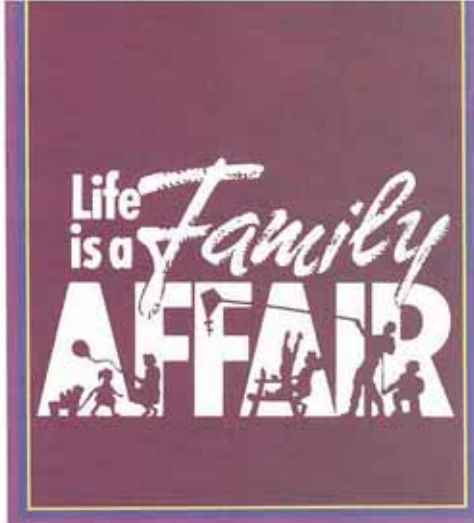
## ■ Avoid a rear view disaster

You've heard the tragic scenario: A busy parent backs out of the driveway and over a child.

It shouldn't happen, but last year there were about 60 cases, up from 22 in 1990.

According to the nonprofit group Kids 'N Cars, 51 percent of new vehicle purchases are pickups, vans, minivans and SUVs.

These models are responsible for 60 percent of child back-over deaths.



At the Consumer Reports Auto Testing Facility, drivers are cautioned to know the limits of their vehicles.

They suggest placing a 28-inch orange traffic cone in back of your vehicle and test to see how far back it must be before you can see it.

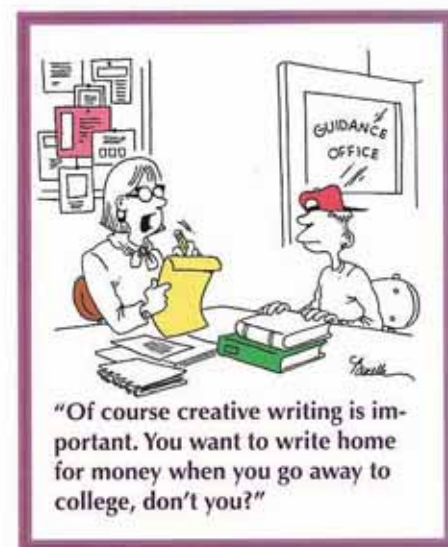
## ■ Painting concrete floors

If you plan to paint your garage floor (or anything made of concrete), here are tips on how to keep it from peeling later on.

Advisors for the Associated Press recommend that you:

- Wash the floor with warm water, then rinse well.
- Let the floor dry for at least 24 hours.
- Using a clean paint brush, apply a coat of white vinegar as a pre-paint primer.

When the vinegar is dry, it will increase the bond between floor and



"Of course creative writing is important. You want to write home for money when you go away to college, don't you?"

paint, and the paint will last much longer. Vinegar is also a good primer for wood, metal or plastic surfaces.

## ■ Ice cream facts

In the last issue, we told you that ice cream was American families' favorite dessert, according to a survey by Mintel Consumer Intelligence. Here are some interesting facts about our favorite:

- At the coronation of England's Henry V, a delicacy called "crème frez" was served.

- In 1686, the first coffeehouse in Paris, Café Procope, served flavored ice cream.

- George Washington was served ice cream at a dinner party given by Mrs. Alexander Hamilton. He liked it so much that he bought a "cream machine for making ice" of his own.

- The first ice cream cones were sold at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904 by a New York ice cream vendor.



## ■ Checking the back yard

Companies that sell homeowners insurance are looking very carefully at who and what they insure.



The industry is trying to rebuild a business that has become a money loser in recent years.

They are declining coverage of houses that have had water damage or several claims of any kind.

They are also protecting themselves from claims based on dangerous apparatus outside the house. Trampolines, swimming pools, diving boards, even certain family pets can cause some companies to decline coverage.

Farmers Insurance will pay only one dog-bite claim for a policyholder, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

Other companies won't cover homes with big dogs, such as Dobermans or pit bulls, because of the increased risk of injury.



# The Fundamental Nature of the Craft

By NEIL E. NEDDERMEYER, 33°



An age old question that has plagued many for centuries has to do with the fundamental nature of the Craft. Three questions that continually need to be considered are: Who we think we are? Who does the public think we are? And truly who are we?

We seem to have divided ourselves in the following three groups:

**1:** This group believes that we are a social club and a support group. They believe that the Craft exists for bonding through events that are both member and family oriented. They support our concordant and appendant bodies and are very much in favor of public relations and new member initiatives. They may feel that the lessons learned from the ritual and the public charities that we support are valid but the main reason for us to exist is for fun and fellowship.

**2:** This group feels that our sole function should be to support our philanthropies and our community service programs. It may be apparent to them that Masonic fellowship and teachings are compelling, but they are necessary in order to have an organization in place for the continuation of public giving.

**3:** These members of the Craft are involved primarily to receive Masonic light. They believe that the histories and philosophies of Masonry are the principal reasons for our existence.

They may feel that the best way to increase our membership is through word of mouth and that the mystery of the Craft is what sets us apart from other organizations. They seek introspection and edification.

These three groups represent the reasons that many of us give for Masonry to exist, namely Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. These three groups are often at odds with each other as to how the Craft should be managed and led. This becomes apparent when new ideas are explored and old customs are challenged. Of course the lines of defi-

*There is a need for each one of us to have a working definition of what Masonry is, not only as an explanation to others but also to ourselves.*

nition that separate the three groups are sometimes vague and we may individually change our thoughts as to who we are over time. Many true Masons, however, feel that we can equally serve all three beliefs. This is not, however, as easy as it seems.

The direction of many of our lodges is determined by how the majority of members of each lodge view the reason for the Craft to exist. Some lodges are primarily made up of one or two of these groups, while others are a mixture of all three. Astute Masonic leaders may determine the direction to lead their lodges by assessing the Masonic interest of the active members.

the public can easily understand and can identify with. This motto comes from hundreds of years of Masonic tradition and explains much as to who we are and what we stand for. The motto is simply "Religious Tolerance, Political Freedom, and Personal Integrity".

There is a need for each one of us to have a working definition of what Masonry is, not only as an explanation to others but also to ourselves. Each of us needs to decide what we personally feel the Craft is and how we fit in to it. We need to respect the opinions of other Masons who may not see the Craft in the same light. The fundamental nature of the Craft may be as simple as Tolerance, Freedom and Integrity. You decide.



NEIL E. NEDDERMEYER, 33°, is Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and editor of an e-mail newsletter for Freemasonry.





## The Book Shelf

*Embracing the Family: Achieving a Loving Balance in Family Dynamics*, by Carl J. Crawford, 32°. Published by Sterling House Publisher, Inc. 7436 Washington Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15218. 2003. \$17.95.

According to the author, families are the foundation on which young lives are shaped and in which children learn to develop values and character. All families do not function smoothly, however.

Carl Crawford provides an examination of broken family relationships and revelations as to how they can be remedied. Through real life situations, he highlights the ability to change family dynamics by making positive choices, recognizing mistakes, and maintaining open communication.

*Heroes Cry Too* by Marcia Moen and Margo Heinen. Published by Meadowlark Publishing, Inc., Elk River, MN. 2002. \$15.95.

From the words of Warren "Bing" Evans, 33°, the authors tell his story of love and war. While serving as a World War II ranger with Col. Darby's famed 1st Battalion, he faced the horrors of the conflict from all angles. He fought his way, first through Africa, and later Italy, where he was captured near the town of Cisterna. His chronicles tell of his time on the front line, his capture, and his days as a prisoner of war. Throughout the book he also tells of his love for the woman he left behind.

Complementing the text are several photos specific to the story, as well as many that provide texture of the period in which the story takes place.

## On the Lighter Side

### Truisms for Today ...

- Why is it that it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?
- Business conventions are important. They demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.
- Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?
- There are worse things than answering a wrong number at 4 a.m. It could be the right number.
- No one ever says "It's only a game" when winning.
- How come we choose from just two people for president and from 50 for Miss America?
- Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.
- The best thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
- Scratch a dog and you will find a permanent job.
- No one has more driving ambition than a boy who wants to drive a car.

## Van Gorden-Williams Library Corner

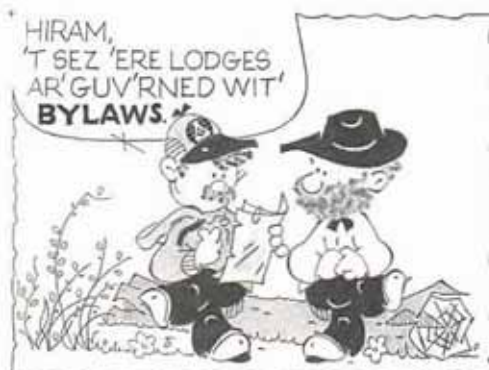
*What's new in the Library at the National Heritage Museum*

Some of the new library acquisitions include:

- Isaacson, Walter. *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2003. E 302.6 .F8 I83 2003.
- Putnam, Robert D. *Better Together: Restoring the American Community*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2003. HN 65 .P877 2003.
- Scott, Pamela. *Temple of Liberty: Building the Capitol for a New Nation*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. NA 4412 .W18 S37 1995 (Catalog of an exhibition at the Library of Congress, Feb. 24-June 24, 1995).
- Russell, P. Craig. *The Magic Flute: Adaptation of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*. New York: Nantier, Beall, Minoustchine Publishing, Inc., 2003. 65.4 .R966 2003 (graphic novel production of *The Magic Flute*).

**HIRAM™**

By WALLY MILLER





# Footnotes\*



Left to right: Gabriel Legorreta V., Mexico; Walter E. Webber, NMJ; Ronald A. Seale, SJ, and Orlon J. Weber, Canada.

\* **Changes.** When the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction met in Washington in October, Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, became the fourth new Sovereign Grand Commander in North America within the past seven months.

In April, Ill. Gabriel Legorreta V., 33°, replaced Dr. Julian Gascon M., 33°, in Mexico. In September, less than two weeks prior to the Northern Jurisdiction meeting, Ill. Orlon J. Weber, 33°, succeeded Ill. Norman E. Byrne, 33°, in Canada.

Less than two weeks after our annual meeting, the Southern Jurisdiction elected Ill. Brother Seale to lead that Supreme Council. Ill. C. Fred Kleinknecht, 33°, announced his retirement as Sovereign Grand Commander after having served in that office since 1985.

\* **Assisting.** Speaking of changes, we have also experienced a change in *The Northern Light* staff. With this issue we welcome Alan E. Foulds as the new assistant editor. He replaces Steve Ferazani, who decided to return to New York City in August.

Alan has spent most of his career in the IT field, but has always maintained a strong avocation for writing. Very active in community affairs, he has been Town Meeting Moderator for Reading, MA, for the past seven years and was gen-

eral chairman for the 350th anniversary of the town in 1994. In the latter capacity, he was actively involved with the publication of a local history. Alan has also written a book on the history of ballparks in eastern Massachusetts and is currently negotiating with a publisher.

He has hit the ground running, and we welcome him as a great addition to our staff. You will find several pieces of his work in this issue.

\* **Mona.** As our press deadline approached for this issue, we received word of the passing of Mona Baxter, wife of Ill. Sidney R. Baxter, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council. Space does not permit us to include many obituary notices, but this one is very special.

Ill. Brother Baxter was Assistant to the Sovereign Grand Commander for more than 47 years. In that role he became a knowledgeable source and contact for the Supreme Council's international relations. Mona was of great assistance to him because of her background and her love of people.

Mona was the daughter of the late Abraham Mora, 33°, a past Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for Colombia. She moved from Colombia when

she married Sidney and later became a U.S. citizen during a ceremony at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA.

She was a bundle of energy always willing to help other people. She provided a helping hand to so many visitors to the States that she developed a worldwide association of friendships. Our international guests at the Supreme Council annual meetings would turn to her for advice and counsel, and she was there with the answers.

She will be missed when the Supreme Council meets, but she will be remembered as a devoted friend not only to the fraternity but also to all those who had the pleasure of meeting her.

\* **Search.** A member in Columbus, OH, has uncovered an undated obituary of his great, great grandmother. Brother Robert A. Heber says that the obituary contains an interesting story.

"Died on the 25th Inst., Mrs. Elizabeth Corlies, wife of George D. Corlies of Macon, Mo., aged 31 years. Mrs. Corlies was killed instantly by the falling of the east wall of the Masonic Temple that destroyed the house of H.S. Glaze during the storm of Friday."

The story contained a poem written by "fellow townsman Dr. Kirkup, the longtime friend and physician of the deceased lady."

The Grand Lodge of Missouri has been unable to identify the incident. Since Brother Heber has neither a date or a location, he is seeking help from anyone who may have a clue. He resides at 4390 Norwell Drive East, Columbus, OH 43220.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°  
Editor



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



**NATIONAL  
HERITAGE  
MUSEUM**

Match up a heavy-weight 100% cotton pique polo shirt with an accompanying cap.

This classic adjustable cap is available with the Square & Compasses emblem in stone and navy colors.

The National Heritage shirts are available in white and black with embroidered logo. Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, Xtra Large

Dress up any outfit with the Square and Compasses adjustable suspenders.

A 15-star flag from our Museum collection is featured on a durable canvas tote bag.

This 100% cotton low-profile cap is available in several colors: stone, black, purple or lime green.

Our Declaration of Independence tote is a strong symbol of American patriotism.

Our fashionable purple and lime caps are also available in kids' size.

## The HERITAGE SHOP

Description	Price	Size	Qty	Total Price
<b>The Square &amp; Compasses Suspenders</b>				
White Background	\$13.50			
Black Background	\$13.50			
<b>Canvas Tote Bag (19"w x 14"h x 4"d)</b>				
Fifteen-Star Flag	\$18.95			
Declaration of Independence	\$18.95			
<b>National Heritage Museum Polo Shirt</b>				
White (Size S, M, L, XL)	\$31.75			
Black (Size S, M, L, XL)	\$31.75			
<b>Adult Caps (* also available in kids' sizes)</b>				
Square & Compasses Stone Color	\$19.95			
Square & Compasses Navy Color	\$19.95			
National Heritage Stone Color	\$19.95			
National Heritage Black Color	\$19.95			
National Heritage Purple* Color	\$19.95			
National Heritage Lime* Color	\$19.95			
<b>Shipping</b>	Up to \$25...\$4.95 \$26-\$50... \$6.95 \$51-\$100...\$8.95 \$101+.....\$11.95	<b>Merchandise Total</b>		
		<b>Shipping</b>		
		<b>Tax (MA res. add 5%)</b>		
		<b>Order Total</b>		

Embrace the National Heritage Museum and make us a part of your upcoming holidays. Scottish Rite Masons can now order, through mail or by phone, National Heritage Museum apparel and tote bags. We offer unique, quality products with our Museum logo as well as with the Masonic Square and Compasses emblem. Simply fill out the order form attached below and we will ship your order directly to your door. Thank you for your continuing support of the Museum.

**MasterCard Visa American Express**  
Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Ship To:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Order by Phone: 781-861-6559, ext. 108  
Mail Orders to: The Heritage Shop, National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington, MA 02421