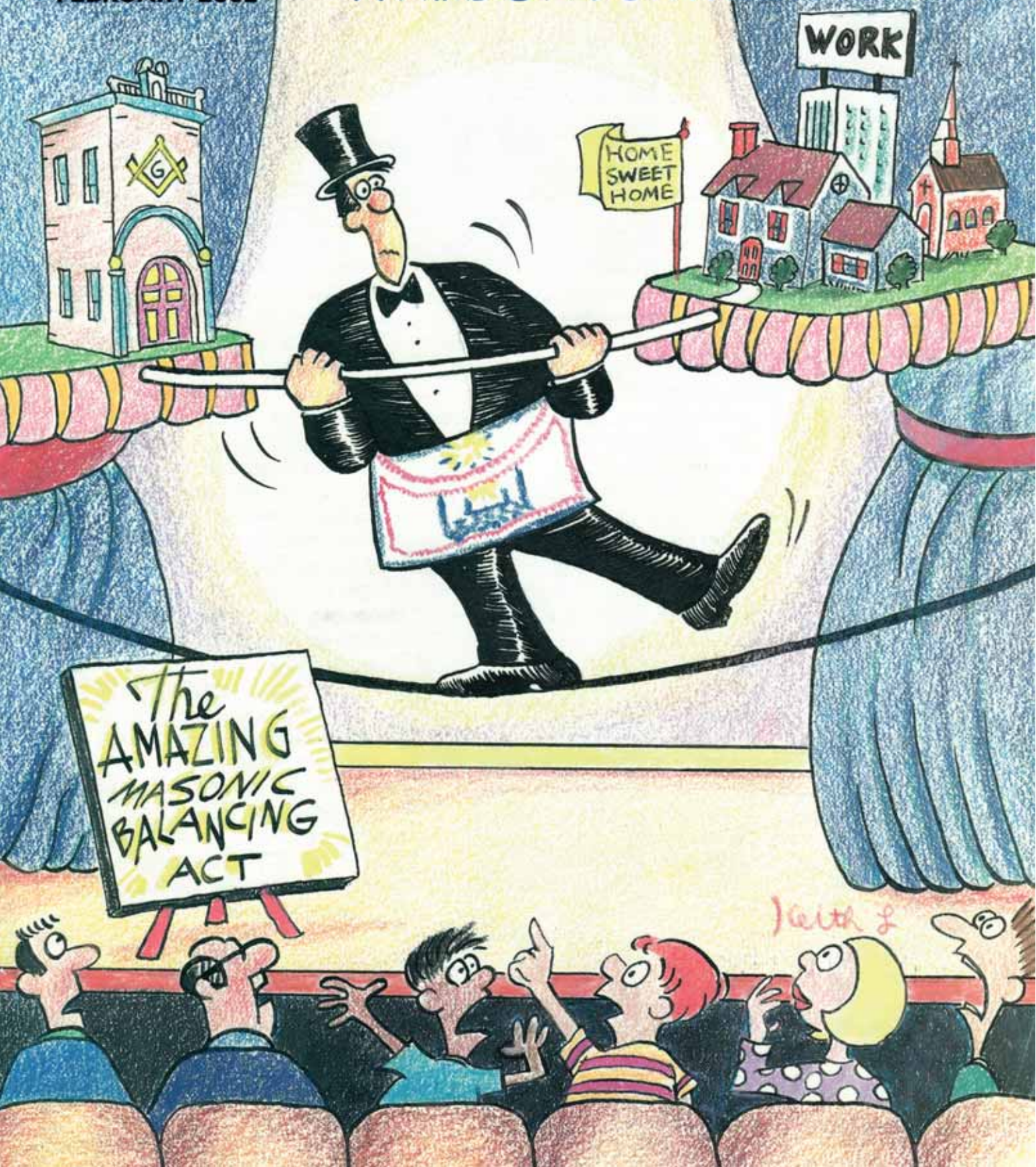


THE NORTHERN LIGHT

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A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY



The Balancing Act



Robert O. Ralston, 33°
Sovereign Grand
Commander

“Using our
time wisely
allows us
to balance
our
duties.”

In today's fast-paced world, we sometimes wonder how we will be able to squeeze all we would like to do into a day that is already filled to the brim with commitments.

It seems to me there is more pressure today to get things done *right now*. We just can't wait for anything. Everything is urgent. If we have to wait in line at a checkout counter, we grow impatient. If the car ahead of us does not move fast enough when the light turns green, we honk the horn to speed him up. If our computer is slow retrieving our e-mail, we anxiously tap our fingers and complain about the delay.

We can't wait for a letter to reach us by regular mail. We need to have it sent by e-mail or fax for instant response. We want it *now*.

I don't see any change coming in the immediate future. We are going to have to learn to live at a faster pace. We discovered long ago that we couldn't live without a telephone. Now we find that we can't live without a cellular phone that rings in our pocket at the most inopportune time. Meal preparations used to take hours. Now we take advantage of the microwave and have a meal ready in minutes.

But as technology continues to advance, we have to ask ourselves, “When do we reach a breaking point?” It has often been said that the human mind is an untapped resource, but will the rest of our body be able to cope with the hectic pace?

On the cover of this issue of *The Northern Light*, cartoonist Keith Larson presents us with an intriguing commentary in his portrayal of “the amazing Masonic balancing act.” As the hectic pressure creates increased demand for our time, we begin to wonder how we can balance our responsibilities to our family, our job, our religious commitment, and our Masonic activity.

It reminds me of the Masonic lesson of the 24-inch gauge. Just as operative masons used the instrument to measure and lay out their work, today's Mason is taught to make use of it for the purpose of dividing his time. When we carefully plan our day — or week or month — we realize that we have a set of commitments that occupy part of the time, and we fill the remaining hours with a wide range of things or events. That may include conversing with friends at a Masonic gathering or sitting down quietly to read a magazine, just as you are doing now.

Using our time wisely allows us to balance our duties and responsibilities. It allows us to find time for personal enrichment. It allows us to feel a sense of accomplishment at the end of the day. And we soon realize that a well-organized day can also be a more enjoyable one.

Sovereign Grand Commander



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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER
Robert O. Ralston, 33°

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Assisting at Ground Zero

By ROBIN ROBINSON

Salvation Army and Masonic Lodge combine efforts for emergency unit

Giant fingers sticking out of the ground. That was the first thing Brother Kenneth L. Peiffer Jr., 32°, thought of when he saw the destruction at Ground Zero. It was three days after the attack, it was dark, it was dusty, and shards of the destroyed buildings stuck eerily out of the rubble like fingers.

"We went through the Holland Tunnel at 1 a.m., and we had it all to ourselves," he said. "Going down Church Street, we had that one view, you probably saw it on the news, it looked like fingers sticking up out of the ground."

Peiffer, his wife, Phyllis, and his son, Ken III, were part of a group of Pennsylvania volunteers making their way to Ground Zero to serve at their community's Salvation Army disaster unit. The emergency vehicle is equipped for providing quick lunches and drinks to nourish rescue workers at a disaster site.

The newly purchased canteen truck had been called into action from the Chambersburg, PA, Salvation Army at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 11. The unit arrived on scene later that day, stationed closest to the center of the disaster, in front of St. Peter's Catholic Church at the corner of Barclay and Church Streets.

Members of the George Washington Lodge No. 143 and Scottish Rite Valley of Harrisburg, Peiffer and Brother C. Wayne Henry, 32°, were included in this mission because they also serve

on the Salvation Army advisory board. Peiffer is the disaster service chairman and Henry serves as chairman.

The two organizations have had a working relationship for a number of years and collaborated to raise the \$60,000 needed to purchase the canteen truck. After two years of extensive fund raising, the lodge contributed about \$24,000 toward the cost of the truck.

Arriving at Ground Zero in the wee hours of the morning on Saturday, Sept. 15, to relieve the first shift of volunteers, the Peiffers and the rest of the crew came upon a desperate sight.

Directly in front of the unit, about 120 yards down Barclay Street, the twisted steel and concrete from the top of the North Tower and Building Seven clogged the street.

The Federal Building and U.S. Post Office, and postal trucks covered in heavy ash lining the street, were a mere hundred feet away. Peiffer said the damage along Vesey Street, which borders the south side of the Federal Building was beyond anything he could describe.

The unit also had a clear view of the demolished ruins of the Northeast Plaza Building and the fire-gutted Commodities Exchange, Southeast



Salvation Army disaster unit, equipped with quick lunches and drinks to nourish rescue workers, in front of St. Peter's Church, at the WTC disaster site.

Plaza Building on Church Street. Peiffer said it appeared that when the South Tower collapsed, part of the Commodities Exchange Building was torn away.

Brother Henry said nothing could have prepared him for the extent of the destruction at the scene.

"I was awestruck by the magnitude of devastation," he said. "It was a life changing experience; I mean, there we were wading through concrete dust and debris and acrid smoke in our eyes and throat..."



ROBIN ROBINSON, Assistant to the Editor, is a former community newspaper editor and reporter with a master's degree in publishing and writing.

The volunteers found their new truck abandoned, since the first group had left the day before. The unit was completely covered inside and out with more than a 1/4 inch of gray dust. The generator had ceased working, and the brand new vehicle, with less than 1,000 miles on the odometer, would not run.

"We flagged down a New York cop who was running a wrecker and asked for advice," Peiffer said.

The cop knew a little something about generators and told them to check the oil. It had run dry, and once they got the unit running again, they began to clean the dust, now a gooey paste from the rain, out of every crevice of the truck.

"It was a miserable mess," Peiffer said.

And it was still dark. The only lights came from generators scattered throughout the area and points of light from flashlights. Most of the time, the noise level was deafening. Hundreds of firefighters, police, military, construction workers and volunteers worked to clear the wreckage round the clock, using everything from their hands to heavy equipment. This went on hour after hour, nonstop, while firefighters trained streams of water onto the smoldering pile of debris.

"There was so much noise you could hardly hear yourself think," Peiffer said.

Once the unit was operational and able to serve hot soup and drinks, the crew then turned its attention toward cleaning the street and organizing the thousands of donations left at the church.

According to Peiffer, hundreds of cases of bottled water and soft drinks were stacked on the steps of the church and up against the disaster unit. Inside the church looked like a warehouse with thousands of items ready for distribution.

"All the pews were just packed with everything from dog food, diapers, clothing, blankets, first aid supplies — you can't comprehend how much stuff there was inside that church," Peiffer said.

Rescue workers teemed everywhere, and used the church for respite and sleep.

"Most all the firefighters and rescue workers would curl up on a pew, grab a blanket off the pile and lay down," Peiffer said.

His wife Phyllis said she was

amazed by the number and diversity of the volunteers. She saw doctors, nurses, engineers, garbage men, and street workers all sleeping on pews or kneeling at the altar to pray. Some of the police and fire personnel would go to work at their day job and then work all night helping at Ground Zero, she said.

"We figured it would be used for a barn or factory fire — out for one day. We never dreamed it would be used for something like this."

— Kenneth Peiffer Jr., 32°

"I felt so humbled by the strength of the people that were there," she said. "They had no thought to their own safety."

An alarm system alerting volunteers of potential danger (a collapsing building, for example) developing in the area would sound with three short blasts. Workers, instructed to drop what they were doing and run after hearing the blasts, had only two minutes to clear the area.

Mrs. Peiffer said everyone would take off running, except the volunteers manning the cranes deep in the holes where the towers had fallen. When the alarms sounded, they ignored them.

Members of Volunteer Crew

SA Captain John Brooks
SA Captain Jeana Brooks
Bro. C. Wayne Henry, 32°
Bro. Kenneth Peiffer Jr., 32°
Patricia Hughes, SA Office Manager
Andy Gervasio, SA Maintenance
Amanda Carnes
Chuck Pensinger
Kenneth Jackson
Terry Pogue
Debra Brechbill
Shirley Kennedy
Phyllis Peiffer
Kenneth Peiffer III

"They knew they wouldn't get out (if there had been an emergency) so they didn't bother to move. They just kept on working. One of the other volunteers asked one of them how he could do that, and he just said they had a job to do and didn't think about losing their own life. I was amazed that there were people willing to do that."

On one of the occasions when the Peiffers heard the blasts and ran a few blocks, Mrs. Peiffer hurt her ankle. Helpers assisted her into the church and laid her on the altar to rest. It occurred to her and her husband that she was lying near the same place that Rev. Mychal Judge's body had been, and in fact, there were still bloodstains visible near the podium where he had lain. Judge, the New York Fire Department's Chaplain, was killed Sept. 11 while attending firemen at the scene.

Brother Peiffer, who has worked as a coroner for 22 years, said that he has never experienced such emotional trauma as he did at Ground Zero.

"To have your peace and sanity so defiled, to be able to work with people and help provide them with help, to know that there was such a tremendous loss of life not more than a few hundred feet from you — I am used to death, but I cannot comprehend the overall magnitude of this thing," he said solemnly.

The Peiffers and Brother Henry said they were grateful to serve and felt lucky that the lodge's collaboration with the Salvation Army made it possible for the truck to be there. Their foresight for the need of such a vehicle, however, fell way short of the degree of the trauma it met on its maiden voyage.

"No one ever expected this," said Peiffer. "We figured it would be used for a barn fire, a factory fire. We figured it would be out for a day or ➤"

➤something, we never dreamed it would be used for something like this."

In 1997, the Salvation Army decided to replace its 1962 disaster response vehicle. The old truck had sat idle for two years, needing costly repairs and maintenance. According to Peiffer, no one had thought much about needing such a vehicle since the last local disaster, a flood in 1972.

The Salvation Army was not able to afford such a vehicle, and planned to hold several fundraisers. The George Washington Lodge and the Salvation Army have a working relationship dating back to 1992, when Masons began volunteering to ring the Salvation Army bells during the holidays. The lodge had also helped the organization with local clothing and food drives.

"The most humbling thing was coming out on Sunday, and the applause from the crowd...it brought us all to tears."

— Kenneth Peiffer Jr., 32*

"We've had a partnership for a good while," said Past Master Gary L. Heckman of the Chambersburg Lodge.

The late Brother Larry Shoemaker, also a member of George Washington Lodge No. 143 and former chairman of the advisory board of the Salvation Army, was in charge of the campaign to raise \$60,000 to purchase the new vehicle. Shoemaker asked Brother Heckman to help.

During 1998, Heckman spearheaded a golf classic, a pancake and sausage breakfast, a chicken barbecue and a second golf classic in 1999 that netted \$24,000 toward the project.

"We always try to raise \$10,000 a year, and we did this over two years, \$14,000 one year and \$10,000 the next," he said. "We wanted to see that truck on the road."

Aided by a \$15,000 contribution by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Salvation



A Masonic emblem has been placed on the unit to honor the lodge's contribution.

Army and other donations, the Salvation Army was finally able to buy the truck.

Brother Shoemaker, instrumental in getting the project off the ground, passed away in late August 2001. He saw the truck being prepared for an emergency, but he never saw it in action.

To commemorate the joint effort of the fund raising, the truck sports two George Washington Lodge Masonic decals, along with the necessary Salvation Army disaster unit placards and decals.

"This is something all Masons should be proud of, that we were involved," Heckman said. "It's part of history, really."

Masons can be proud of the work done at Ground Zero those three days as well.

On Sunday afternoon, after 72 hours of round-the-clock work with no sleep, the Peiffers and their group piled into the canteen truck and two other vans and headed for home.

As the three dust-covered and dirty vehicles drove slowly away from the disaster, they crossed the barricades where onlookers stood gazing at the destruction.

As the small filthy convoy, with American flags fluttering from the antennas, drew near the gathering of 1,500 or so, the crowd roared into applause

and cheers for the volunteers.

"The most humbling thing was coming out on Sunday, and the applause from the crowd...it brought us all to tears," Peiffer said.

"People waved flags and hollered and clapped for us," Henry said. "We were so thankful our community was able to respond and participate, and those people were grateful we could participate."

The generosity of contributions made by the public, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Salvation Army and the Masonic lodge, and the tireless hours dedicated by the many volunteers who staffed the truck, made it possible for two charitable organizations to work together and make a difference during one of our country's greatest disasters.

"It's good for our Masonic brothers to see how contributions can bear fruit like this down the road," said Brother Henry.

The Masonic decal is visible as volunteers work in and around the unit.



Historic Chair Makes Rare Visit

by MARK A. TABBERT, 32°

*Elaborate ceremonial chair
to appear in Masonic exhibit*

Colonial Williamsburg's Masonic Bucktrout Chair has been around for more than 225 years, but it will make a rare outside appearance at the National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA, later this year.

The elaborate ceremonial chair will be part of a new Masonic exhibition, "To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community," opening in June.

The finest Masonic decorative arts artifact in this country is also one of the finest American chairs ever made. This Worshipful Master's throne has only been exhibited, outside of its home state of Virginia, in New York City, Minneapolis and Los Angeles.

The chair will be on display through December, but the exhibition will be open for several years.

The new exhibit will examine the long history of Freemasonry and other fraternal orders in America, and how their existence helped shape our communities and our country.

Created by William Bucktrout in the late 1760s for Williamsburg Lodge, the chair stands nearly 5 1/2 feet tall and 2 1/2 feet wide. Besides brilliantly displaying Masonic working tools, symbols and officer's jewels within its back, the hand-carved wood bust in the top center represents both Hiram Abiff and the Worshipful Master.

With its architectural framework, deliberate positioning of tools, celestial bodies and inscriptions, the chair epitomizes instructional devices of Ma-



This Masonic Bucktrout Chair, ca. 1770, may have been used by Peyton Randolph while Provincial Grand Master of Virginia, will be displayed for the first time in New England. Courtesy of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation; photo, Hans Lorenz.

sonry, such as the tracing boards and floor cloths found within the lodges and the engravings accompanying Masonic texts. Unlike most Masters' chairs, the Bucktrout is a freestanding, three-dimensional form of 18th-century Masonic art that usually appeared in two-dimensional style.

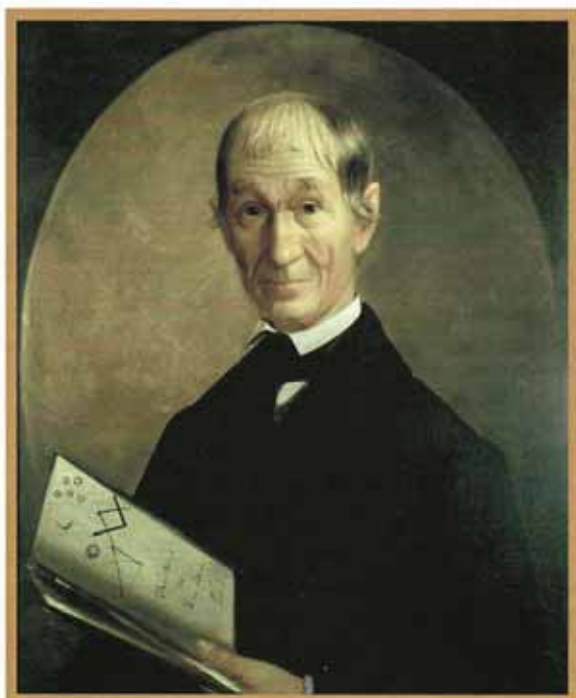
Patriot Peyton Randolph (1721-1775) probably used the chair when serving as Providential Grand Master of Virginia in the 1770s. Randolph was appointed King's attorney for Virginia in 1748, served in the House of Burgess and as its speaker for more than 20 years, and was president of the first Continental Congress in 1774, as well as the second Congress, until he died in 1775.

The Bucktrout chair is one of more than 350 fraternal artifacts, images, books and documents planned for display in the new long-term exhibit. For more than two years we have engaged in the dynamic process of compiling "wish lists" of important American Masonic and fraternal objects. After surveying the museum and library's own collections and gathering numerous suggestions from consultants, we soon had a roster of more than 1,000 objects.

Over the course of last year, this list fluctuated as we contacted dozens of museums, historical societies, Masonic and other volunteer organizations, looking to borrow their artifacts. The list continued to evolve as exhibit scripts changed and new ideas were developed. By October the list had been cut by nearly two-thirds and included 220 objects owned by the museum and 130 objects to collect. ➤



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



Dudley Leavitt (1772-1851) holds a Masonic book that reads "The Mind is the Man" in this portrait, on loan from New Hampshire Historical Society.

➤ The difficulty in selecting objects for an exhibition is in determining the artifacts that best convey the concept of the exhibit. As with any creative endeavor, it is part art and part science. Sometimes the object you want does not exist or is in such poor condition that it cannot be displayed. Other times research reveals an object is not what it purports to be, and in some cases institutions and museums are unable or unwilling to loan the artifact.

Complicating the matter of the selection process is the 277-year span of Masonic and American history. For example, the museum holds copies of Masonic books ranging from Anderson's Constitution of 1723 to 1999 Grand Lodge Proceedings.

Lastly, we wanted the exhibit to demonstrate Freemasonry's presence throughout the 50 states, so we have been searching for the right object or image to convey a period of time, a geographical location, a historical theme or Masonic tenet. Currently, the exhibit's objects will represent more than 40 states, span in age from one to 450 years old, and range from high and decorative art to pop culture, handicrafts, jewelry and costumes.

Objects for the exhibition's introductory section on Masonic origins were found in Illinois and Massachusetts. Looking to show how elements of

stonemason guilds, and the Enlightenment combined to create the craft, from Chicago's Adler Planetarium we are borrowing several stonemasons' tools including a steel "compasses" made in England ca. 1580. The Adler also has a large collection of early scientific instruments and we will also borrow a brass telescope from the mid-1700s.

The centerpiece of the Enlightenment display case, however, will be Sir Isaac Newton's drawing of King Solomon's Temple. Held in Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Bundy Library, it shows a "floor plan" and calculated dimensions of the Temple.

The manuscript was used in his book *The Chronology of Ancient Kingdoms*. Along with the manuscript, we are also borrowing a first edition of Newton's *Principia*. Together, they show how early scientists incorporated biblical mysticism and stonemasons mythology of Solomon's Temple in their search for divine truths and natural laws.

Continuing through the history of the 1700s, the exhibit next highlights the craft's place in colonies during the American Revolutionary Period. Besides showing images of important Masonic patriots such as Peyton Randolph, it will also feature those who stayed loyal to the Crown, such as Joseph Brant. Mohawk Indian and principal chief of the Six Nations, Brant was made

a Mason in London in 1775. While educated in Connecticut, he remained loyal to the British Crown throughout the revolution and is buried in Canada. From the Ireland House Museum in Ontario, Canada, we are borrowing Chief Brant's Masonic apron quite possibly presented to him by King George III.

Besides the famous men of the craft, this exhibit will also feature many who are lesser known that were drawn to the tyled door.

From the New Hampshire Historical Society, we will put on display a portrait of Brother Dudley Leavitt, painted in 1849. Leavitt was a teacher, mathematician, and astronomer. He also published an almanac. Bro. Leavitt is shown holding an open book containing several Masonic symbols and the motto, "The Mind is the Man." This wonderful painting demonstrates that the craft has always attracted men in search of greater knowledge and self-improvement.

Freemasonry's growth after the Civil War will be illustrated in the exhibit through the development of its numerous rites, side degrees and appendant bodies, none more so than our own Scottish Rite.

Thanks to the Valley of Buffalo for its donation, we will display a King Solomon's degree costume. Complementing the costume is a graphic reproduction of a 1920s stage backdrop depicting the Temple under construction. This image will be borrowed from the University of Minnesota's collection of Scottish Rite scenery.

This exhibit will show a whole range of Masonic organizations, as well as the family's participation in the fraternity.

Library Catalog Online

The catalog file of the Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum is now available online. The Masonic book collection is 95 percent complete. Missing from the online catalog are basically various Grand Lodge proceedings.

To search the catalog, go to: www.vgw.library.net

Although not a lending library, it is a valuable research source. The library and archives staff can answer questions by letter, e-mail or phone, or in person for those visiting the library in Lexington, MA.

The library is dedicated to Ill. John H. Van Gorden, 33°, and Ill. Louis L. Williams, 33°, two Masonic scholars who made substantial contributions to the study of Freemasonry.

Van Gorden-Williams Library

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road (Rte. 2A) • PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02421

781-861-6559 ext. 109 • library@monh.org



Scottish Rite scenic backdrop from the University of Minnesota collection.

Starting with an examination of Masonic father and son artifacts, we will also incorporate Eastern Star, Rainbow Girls, DeMolay and Acacia Fraternity objects.

For representation of the Job's Daughters, we contacted Marilyn Olson, Past Grand Historian of Job's Daughters in Wyoming. She was kind enough to send us a Job's Daughters jacket and several photographs of "Jobbies" with their families.

The last display area in the exhibition will demonstrate the universality of Freemasonry and visibly show its non-sectarian but spiritual foundation. To accomplish this, we will display three different Volumes of Sacred Law, from three religions, spanning three centuries, collected from a wide range of geographic locations. A Christian Bible, a Jewish Bible, and a Koran, along with the square and compasses, will all be displayed upon a lodge altar.

Through the assistance of Active Emeritus Member Harold T. J. Littleton, 33°, we will borrow a Christian Bible from Delaware. The Grand Lodge Museum of Minnesota is loaning the Jewish Bible, and, though still pending, we hope the Koran will come from the Grand Lodge of Utah.

The Grand Lodge of Alabama has graciously agreed to loan us its set of square and compasses. The altar, coming from our own museum collection, was made in Massachusetts in the 1790s and is inscribed with "Glory to God, Good Will to Men."

Gathering all these objects, images, and papers takes a great deal of skill and attention. Most museum and historical societies employ registrars to oversee this important work.

At our museum, we have Jill Aszling, who has more than 20 years experience in the field. Before her position at the museum, she worked at MIT's List Visual Arts Center, The Indianapolis Museum of Art and Cornell's Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art.

As the museum registrar, it is her responsibility to coordinate the shipping and insurance of all loans. In this new Masonic exhibit she will work with more than 40 museums, libraries and Masonic and fraternal bodies.

Working with such well-known institutions as the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Peabody-Essex Museum in

Salem, MA, the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Oklahoma, and the Library of Congress, she has made it possible for our museum to display a wide variety of objects, ranging from important 19th century paintings to curiosities such as Will Rogers' Stetson hat and his story-telling trick rope.

With the cooperation of so many museums, lodges and Grand Lodges, we hope this new exhibit will display the great richness and heritage of American Freemasonry.

Currently we are in the final design stage and still determining if all these wonderful things and more will fit in the exhibition gallery. With such a variety of objects ranging across time and country, we hope that the exhibit ends the notion that Freemasonry is a "secret society."



Photo of Job's Daughters with families. Officers of the Grand Bethel of Wyoming 1989-1990, courtesy of Marilyn Olson, Past Grand Historian of Job's Daughters in Wyoming.



32° MASONIC LEARNING CENTERS FOR CHILDREN

Ripple Effect of Tutor Trainees

Every day the staff at our learning centers hears of the good that comes from the work they do.

Through letters and comments from parents and children, it is clear the charitable work of our organization is making a difference in the lives of dyslexic children, and their families.

When a dyslexic child learns to read, self-esteem soars, and the likelihood of success for that child is greatly increased.

Another benefit from the learning centers that may not be as obvious, but is just as vital, is the training and certification of the tutors who educate dyslexic children.

For example, at Fairleigh Dickinson University's Teaneck campus in New Jersey, school teachers learn the Orton-Gillingham approach and use their newly acquired knowledge not only in one-on-one tutoring sessions with children at the learning centers, but also with children in public and private schools, and private practices.

Mary Farrell, the director of the program at Fairleigh Dickinson University said she has surveyed participants in the training program at several centers and has found a "ripple effect" that spreads the Orton-Gillingham tutoring approach beyond our learning center walls.

"I learned that our tutors, on the average, provide Orton-Gillingham instruction to 15 children outside our clinics, generally in their classrooms," she said.

This means that the Scottish Rite in New Jersey, for example, is bringing Orton-Gillingham instruction to more than 100 children in our centers and is helping to bring Orton-Gillingham instruction to possibly another 750 children outside our centers each year.

"I think that we are making a tremendous contribution to reforming the



Malorie works with tutor Mary-Beth Whiteside during an Orton-Gillingham session at the learning center in Lexington, MA.

manner in which reading is taught to children at risk, through training teachers in our centers and letting their successes spread the word to parents and other teachers," Farrell said.

Farrell also noted that affiliations with more than 10 colleges and universities helps widen the circle of the "ripple effect."

At the Nashua, NH, learning center this is especially true since all trainees so far have been teachers in the public school system.

According to Director Nancy Lemcke, 24 full-time public school teachers have graduated from the tutor trainee program in the last four years, and most teach in the special education departments in local schools.

Although not a requirement, the special education coordinators are encour-

aging their special education teachers to take part in the program, Lemcke said.

"There has been a very enthusiastic response from the school system, especially from the special education coordinators," she said.

Teachers who have yet to receive the training call the center to find out how they can augment their own programs.

Lemcke said by informing the schools of what is available, the center and the public schools have been able to coordinate more than ever before.

"We have been educating the public schools as to how we go about our program and the steps that we chose to take," she said.

At the Lexington, MA, learning center, director Joyce Gillis sees the same ripple effect occurring in her area.

One of the tutor trainees that com-

Sponsor A Child

Pilot program expands throughout the jurisdiction

After a trial period of a special fund-raising program to support the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., the effort has been expanded beyond its initial pilot program.

Originally tested in only six learning centers in the New England area, The Sponsor A Child program is now available throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

The program was designed to enhance public awareness and to encourage local businesses, Masonic organizations, and individuals to help financially sponsor the cost of a child's tutoring.

Tax-deductible gifts of \$10,000 fully sponsor a complete two-year tutoring cycle for one child; \$5,000 sponsors one child for one year; and \$2,500 serves as a one-year co-sponsorship.

Executive Director Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, said the program has gotten off to a tremendous start.

"Our fund-raising goal has been



very aggressive, and members of our organization, as well as the community, have responded overwhelmingly in the pilot program," he said.

The Sponsor A Child program seeks to support the learning centers in two ways — to fund the cost of tutoring for each child while simultaneously raising community awareness of dyslexia and the positive impact of our program.

Research shows that children with untreated dyslexia can become underachieving adults unable to contribute to society at their fullest capacity.

According to Berlandi, this makes dyslexia a community-wide problem requiring community-wide participation.

"Dyslexia affects us all," Berlandi said. "We want businesses and individuals alike to know that their sponsorship will do no less than change the life of one young child."

pleted the program in Lexington is a teacher at a local public school.

Gillis said she feels the students in her class are fortunate that she has had this specialized training.

"It is certainly true that the training that our trainees receive at the Lexington Center has far-reaching effects," she said.

"The training that our trainees receive has far-reaching effects."

— Joyce Gillis
Learning Center Director
Lexington, MA

"One of my tutors, Laura Lees, is a teacher at the Bowman Elementary School in Lexington."

Lees uses her training on a daily basis to reach students who are at risk for language-based learning disabilities.

Her students at the Bowman School have the chance to benefit from Orton-Gillingham instruction given by a well-trained professional.

With her training she is able to incorporate into her daily lessons the multi-sensory principles she has learned and practices as a tutor at the center.

Thus, Gillis said, the benefits are not only felt at the center but reach many students and their families at the school level and beyond.

"It is a win-win situation not only for the teachers, their students and their families but for the wider community as well," Gillis said.

Another benefit of being a tutor is the reward.

We at the center are truly gratified by the many children who are receiving the services they need to help them gain confidence in their abilities and reach their full potential as contributing members of society.

Current Learning Centers

Allentown, PA	Lexington, MA
Bangor, ME	Greater Lowell, MA
Bay City, MI	Madison, WI
Bloomsburg, PA	Milwaukee, WI
Greater Boston, MA	Nashua, NH
Burlington, NJ	Newark, NJ
Cambridge, OH	Pittsburgh, PA
Canton, OH	Portland, ME
Chicago, IL	Providence, RI
Cincinnati, OH	Reading, PA
Cleveland, OH	Rochester, NY
Columbus, OH	Scotch Plains, NJ
Dayton, OH	South Bend, IN
Detroit, MI	Tenafly, NJ
Evansville, IN	Toledo, OH
Fort Wayne, IN	West Michigan, MI
Harrisburg, IN	Worcester, MA
Indianapolis, IN	Youngstown, OH

Through the eyes of a tutor

Tutors take the responsibility of their mission seriously, whether inside or outside of our centers. A recent graduate of the program in New Jersey, Jayne Gilbride, reiterated that commitment in her recent graduation speech. Here are excerpts from her remarks.

I know I speak for all graduates when I say that our gratitude to the Masonic fraternity will continue to be reflected in our commitment to multi-sensory instruction, and to your mission to embrace the needs of children with reading problems.

In the 16 months that I had the privilege of working for Dr. Mary Farrell and the learning centers, I was continuously impressed with her commitment and with the optimism and dedication of all involved with this operation.

My position afforded me a wonderful opportunity to observe directors, supervisors and scholars as they interacted with each other, as well as with the children and parents.

It was as obvious to me then as it is now that the skills, enthusiasm and commitment of this self-selected group

of dynamos are integral to the vitality of this program.

Aside from their obvious strengths as certified tutors, these directors and supervisors are heavy hitters in the field of education and are accessible to both tutors and children in their care.

Their can-do approach stands in marked contrast to the make-do philosophy that continues elsewhere to limit the education opportunities of children with learning differences.

My fellow graduates will understand how fitting it is for the indelible imprint of our lesson-plan to be the framework for my remarks tonight. In lieu of skills taught, I will review concepts covered and underlying sources:

- As a tutor you need to be aware that the child before you is not your only charge — as he, his parents and all connected with him will be learning from you. The impression you make on all of them has the potential to empower and last a lifetime.

- Your respect and appreciation for all types of learners should be reflected in your methodology, as well as in your conviction that the world is perpetually enriched by the presence of these learners in our lives.

- It is eternally impossible to define the magic that kids with learning disabilities bring to all situations, the learning environment being just one of the many opportunities to witness the power to succeed in the face of adversity.

- Dyslexia need not be life-defining. Graduates of the learning centers have gone on to fulfill their promise and lead lives that reflect contentment with who they are, and with their places in this world.

I am reminded of Eleanor Roosevelt, who once summed up her life philosophy with the simple statement: "You must do the thing you think you cannot do."

It is often such a difficult task for us tutors to convince our children that they can and will learn.

How much harder must it be for our children to believe in themselves and in us when so many experiences have disappointed them.

- Ultimately, this course taught us a lot more than how to teach kids to read, as it included lessons in life as well.

The inspiration for this last and most important lesson is found in the unparalleled commitment and devotion of the Masonic fraternity and the directors and supervisors who articulate their mission through their work at the learning centers.

On several occasions, I have attended conferences with a number of Masons and I am always amazed by their enthusiasm and their tireless efforts in recruiting tutors and children, and in distributing information to the public about dyslexia.

The Masons' fundraising efforts are Herculean, and their generosity is legendary.

Learning Center Bulletin Board

Cambridge, OH, Learning Center
dedicated on October 21, 2001.

Waterbury, CT, Learning Center becomes
first in its state to begin operation in
February 2002.

Fort Wayne, IN, Learning Center opened
its door in December 2001.

Greater Worcester, MA, Learning Center
was dedicated on
October 1, 2001.

Altoona, PA, and Steubenville, OH,
Learning Centers will open soon.

Portland, ME, Learning Center was up
and running in January 2002.

'Re-Member the Blue Lodge' **New York Program Gains Statewide Support**

The leadership in the York and Scottish Rites in New York state have joined forces with the Grand Lodge of New York to promote a program to "Re-Member the Blue Lodge."

The idea was originally developed as a Scottish Rite program to recognize 32° members of New York Valleys who were the first-line signers of petitions for those applying for membership in the Blue Lodges.

According to Scottish Rite Deputy Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, the program had various levels of support and activity over the years but now has statewide support and promotion from Grand Lodge, the Scottish Rite, and all three York Rite organizations.

The program specifies that any member of the York or Scottish Rite

who is a first-line signer on a petition into a Blue Lodge will be awarded an engraved medallion.

The medallion is designed to be worn by the recipient on a ribbon around the neck at all Masonic functions to stimulate others to do the same.

A bar is suspended from the medallion to identify the year the member completes the task. The bar will be presented in bronze for one candidate, silver for two, and gold for three. Additional bars will be presented in subsequent years.

This prompted the Deputy Grand Master to exclaim that he will be looking for Brothers who are stooped under the weight of medallions with many bars attached.

Support the Blue Envelope Appeal



For generations this appeal has been a part of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. Our charities reflect our commitment to set for ourselves the highest goals and service to our families, communities and nation.

You can help by sending a tax-deductible contribution to Blue Envelope Appeal, Scottish Rite Masonic Charities, McCormack Post Office, PO Box 9233, Boston, MA 02209-9233.

New Name and Logo for Lexington Museum

The name for the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, Inc., has been modified. Originally known as the Museum of Our National Heritage, the facility will now be referred to as the National Heritage Museum. The corporate name of the organization remains unchanged.

Located in historic Lexington, MA, adjacent to the Supreme Council headquarters, the museum has also been referred to as the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage. "The title was much too long and too hard to digest," said Museum Director John Ott. "We needed a shorter title that people could remember."

In addition to the name change, a new logo has been designed by nationally acclaimed Malcolm Grear



NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM

Designers. Mindful of the historical past of the fraternity and through the strength of geometry, structure and form, the designers have created

a mark that communicates the power and diversity of the museum and its accessibility to its members and visitors alike.

Framed at the top and bottom with a variation of the square and compasses, along with the positive and reverse letterforms of "N" and "H," the elements combine to create an energetic image with important memorable qualities that support the goals and long-term branding objectives of the museum.

The facility, which opened in 1975, was built with funds from voluntary contributions of Scottish Rite Masons, and its operations today continue to be funded primarily from the same source. The Sovereign Grand Commander serves as president of the corporation.

New Gourgass Medalist

*W. Clement Stone becomes
33rd recipient of elite award*

He may be approaching the century milestone, but Ill. W. Clement Stone, 33°, has not lost his optimism. He will celebrate his 100th birthday on May 4, and he continues to maintain a "positive mental attitude," a success method he promoted in several books he had written in the 1960s.

To recognize Brother Stone's life-long accomplishments, Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, 33°, traveled to Illinois on Jan. 11 to present him with the Supreme Council's Gourgass Medal. The presentation was made at a luncheon in the recipient's Winetka home.

The medal is named for Ill. John James Joseph Gourgass, 33°, one of the founders of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. It is given in recognition of "notably distinguished service in the cause of Freemasonry, humanity, or country." Since the establishment of the award in 1938, there have been only 32 previous recipients.

In making the presentation, Commander Ralston cited Ill. Brother Stone's accomplishments in all three categories of service. "You have an enviable record of achievements," he said.

Clement Stone did not have an easy childhood. He had to learn lessons the hard way. Using his positive mental attitude (PMA), he made the most of it. His father died before his third birthday.

By the age of six he was selling newspapers in a tough section of Chicago. In his book, *The Success System that Never Fails*, Stone describes his early experience. He was bullied by the older kids who had claimed the sales territory. So he decided to sneak into a nearby restaurant, where he sold a paper to the diners at the very first table. He soon found that those at other tables also



Commander Ralston presents the Gourgass Medal to Ill. W. Clement Stone, 33°.

wanted to buy a paper. By the time he reached the fourth table, the restaurant owner escorted him out the door.

Determined that there were sales waiting for him inside, he reentered, sold another newspaper, and was again pushed out the door. When he entered for the third time, the patrons broke out in laughter and told the owner to "Let him be." Within minutes he had sold all his papers.

The next day he tried the same routine. After several more attempts to remove the boy, the owner decided to leave him alone, and the two eventually became good friends.

By the time he was 13, he had established his own newsstand. Several years later Stone's mother moved to Detroit to open an insurance agency, representing the United States Casualty Company. Joining her for the summer, he found himself selling his first insurance policy.

That led him at the age of 20 to set up his own insurance agency in Chicago. In less than ten years he had agents

throughout the country selling insurance for him representing large casualty companies. This led him into the Combined Insurance Company of America with Stone as president. From here he established a holding company, Combined International Corporation.

With one success after another, he created the Aon Corporation, which became the second largest insurance broker in the world. Although no longer active in the daily operations, he served as chairman of the board for many years.

To share his PMA philosophy with others he wrote several books on the subject. The first, *Success through a Positive Mental Attitude*, he co-authored with Napoleon Hill. Hill, who shared a similar philosophy, had written *Think and Grow Rich*. His philosophy was, "Whatever the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve." Stone was impressed with his outlook on life and convinced him to collaborate.

Brother Stone also wrote *The Success System that Never Fails*. Both books em-

phasize the PMA approach. Using the philosophy that it takes less work to succeed than to fail, he cofounded the *Success Unlimited* magazine and served as editor and publisher for many years.

Those who have worked for Clement Stone have nothing but praise for him. It is obvious that his upbeat outlook rubs off onto those around him.

Linda Rupp, who has worked for him for 27 years as his executive assistant and now as his chief of staff, said he is always looking for the good in people. "Working with him has been the most remarkable learning experience," she said.

"There are so many people who preach one thing and live another," she added, "but he is someone who lives what he preaches."

Ill. Wallace Buya, 33°, who has been associated with Stone since 1968, tells about the way in which Clement would start every meeting with his senior executives. He would ask each one to relate some good news in their life, and everyone would participate.

"He never dodged a problem," said Buya. "He would try to find a way to solve the problem. Clement believes that every adversity has the seed of an equivalent or greater benefit."

Brother Buya, who calls Clement "a great visionary," attended many Masonic gatherings with Stone. Both are members of the Scottish Rite Valley of Chicago. Ill. Brother Stone received the 33° in 1968. Ill. Brother Buya was recognized in 1998. The Fall 1993 reunion class at the Valley of Chicago was named in honor of W. Clement Stone.

Brother Stone was raised a Master Mason in Marion C. Crawford Lodge No. 1042 and later transferred to Evans Lodge No. 524, Evanston, IL. He is also a member of the York Rite bodies in Evanston.

In 1923 Stone married his high school sweetheart, Jessie. They had three children and have 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. In June he and his wife will celebrate their 79th wedding anniversary. Although a son and daughter predeceased them, Mrs. Rupp recalls how the Stones called on faith in God to look beyond the sorrow and to celebrate the joy they shared with them while they were alive.

Clement Stone has been highly respected in many circles. Presidents, governors and mayors would seek his counsel. He served on Ronald Reagan's Executive Advisory Council during the 1980 presidential campaign and was ac-



Joining Commander Ralston for the presentation were Lt. Grand Commander Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°, grandson Steven M. Stone, and Ill. Wallace J. Buya, 33°. Missing from the photo is David Schmidt, 32°, a grandnephew.

tively involved in the Republican National Finance Committee and the Republican Senatorial Trust.

David Schmidt, 32°, who married a grandniece of Mrs. Stone, remembers his first encounter with Stone and Buya. "I said to myself, 'There are two smart ducks here. I can learn something from them.'" He enjoyed working with both of them. He relates the story of the time that Clement wanted to host a riverboat party in New Orleans during a GOP National Convention. David was sent in advance to make arrangements and was amazed at how well he was treated when he mentioned that he was "an assistant to WCS." Everyone expressed the greatest admiration for Stone, David said.

Politicians were not the only people who were attracted to him. His philosophy also caught the eye of Rev. Robert Schuller and the late Rev. Norman Vincent Peale. Many familiar names have visited with the Stones at their villa on the shore of Lake Michigan. His mastery at story-telling leaves all his visitors in a good frame of mind.

The PMA philosophy has also rubbed off on grandson Steven Stone, who chuckles as he repeats one of his grandfather's famous lines, "All in favor say 'yes.' All opposed please leave the room."

Gourgas Medalists

- 1945 Harry S. Truman, 33°*
- 1946 Melvin M. Johnson, 33°*
- 1949 His Majesty King Gustav V*
- 1952 Kaufman T. Keller, 33°*
- 1952 Roscoe Pound, 33°*
- 1953 Winfred Overholser, 33°*
- 1954 Mark Wayne Clark, 33°*
- 1956 George E. Bushnell, 33°*
- 1959 Christian A. Herter, 33°*
- 1963 Edward W. Wheeler, 33°*
- 1964 Fred P. Corson, 33°*
- 1966 Richard A. Kern, 33°*
- 1968 George A. Newbury, 33°*
- 1971 John W. Bricker, 33°*
- 1973 Norman Vincent Peale, 33°*
- 1974 Gerald R. Ford Jr., 33°
- 1975 Robert P. Taylor, 33°*
- 1978 Stanley F. Maxwell, 33°*
- 1978 George E. Gardner, 33°*
- 1980 Robert H. Felix, 33°*
- 1981 Louis L. Williams, 33°*
- 1982 John H. Van Gorden, 33°
- 1983 Edmund F. Ball, 33°*
- 1984 Warren N. Barr Sr., 33°*
- 1986 Raymond C. Ellis, 33°*
- 1988 Thomas F. Seay, 33°*
- 1989 Francis G. Paul, 33°*
- 1990 Charles E. Spahr, 33°
- 1995 Richard B. "Red" Skelton, 33°*
- 1998 Robert O. Ralston, 33°
- 1998 Carl H. Lindner Jr., 33°
- 1999 John H. Glenn, 33°
- 2002 W. Clement Stone, 33°

* Deceased

Scottish Rite distributes funds to aid disaster relief

Some 13 charitable organizations have been the beneficiaries of funds distributed by the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Each organization has been directly involved in providing assistance to rescue workers, and families of the victims of the Sept. 11 disaster.

Less than two weeks after the tragedy, the Supreme Councils for the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions announced that a fund was being created with a goal of providing more than \$2 million for relief. Individuals and Scottish Rite Valleys have assisted in this effort.

During the past few months, representatives of the Northern Jurisdiction have been distributing checks to various groups. The Scottish Rite funds have also been used to aid a special fund established by the Grand Lodge of New York.

A letter sent in November to all Scottish Rite members of the Northern Jurisdiction requested information on Masons or family members of a Mason adversely affected by the incident of Sept. 11. A committee is reviewing the letters received and will determine the individual situations so that checks can be distributed to the proper parties.

At least four Masons and three Senior DeMolay members are known to have perished in the World Trade Center disaster. There are reports of more than 20 family members of Masons killed in the devastation. The list is not complete. Letters continue to arrive at the Supreme Council headquarters with additional news.

Disbursements

1. Port Authority Police
2. Catholic Charities
3. Grand Lodge of New York
4. New York City Central Labor Council
5. Robin Hood Foundation
6. United Jewish Communities (UJC Emergency Relief Fund)
7. New York Women's Foundation Relief Fund
8. AmeriCares - Hero's Fund
9. 9/11 Children's Fund
10. Church World Service (Domestic Terrorism Recovery)
11. Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund
12. Pentagon Assistance Fund
13. Survivors Fund of the Community Foundation of the National Capital Region



THE NATIONAL PHILANTHROPIC TRUST.
Eileen R. Heisman and Pennsylvania Deputy C.
DeForrest Trexler.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL RE-
GION. Delaware Active Member Donald D. Thomas, fund director
Beth Brummel, and Delaware Deputy Robert V. McDowell III.



NY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION RELIEF FUND. Development director Cynthia J. Ries, administration manager Ruth Edmond, New York Active Member Richard H. Welkley, and Massachusetts Deputy Robert W. Clarke.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE. Rhonda Hughes and Indiana Active Member William Fox Jr.



NY CATHOLIC CHARITIES. Monsignor Sullivan, Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, New Jersey Active Member Verdon R. Skipper, and New Jersey Active Emeritus Member Thurman C. Pace Jr.

AMERICARES HERO'S FUND. Elizabeth Griffin and Connecticut Deputy Richard V. Travis.



PENTAGON ASSISTANCE FUND. President Jerome L. Johnson, Delaware Deputy Robert V. McDowell III, and Delaware Active Member Donald D. Thomas.



The Story Behind the Photo

An act that at the time seemed "just like the right thing to do" transformed three New York firemen into international celebrities practically overnight.

You may not know them personally, but you have seen them — on the cover of countless magazines (including the November issue of *The Northern Light*) on the Internet, on coffee mugs, t-shirts, and in newspapers.

There is even a proposal for a \$180,000 sculpture honoring their spontaneous deed designed for the New York City Fire Department's Brooklyn headquarters.

On the afternoon of Sept. 11, firefighters George Johnson, Dan McWilliams and Billy Eisengrein (far right) hoisted the American flag amidst the chaos of the World Trade Center rubble.

The flag was taken from a boat in a nearby marina, and according to Billy Eisengrein's mother, Elizabeth Eisengrein of Staten Island, the three men were not seeking notoriety, but rather trying to boost rescuers' flagging spirits.

"He said it just seemed like the right thing to do, to help morale," she said of her son.

Photographer Thomas E. Franklin of New Jersey's *The Record* was there to document the act, in just one of more than 600 shots he took that day.

Since then, both photographer and the three firefighters and their families have been inundated with thousands of interview requests.

According to Mrs. Eisengrein, the firemen made a decision not to grant any, not wanting the spotlight on themselves when so many were suffering.

"Billy was kind of taken aback by the whole thing—all three of them were. There were so many calls from different magazines, TV stations, and radio stations to interview them.

"They would not give interviews, because they said it had nothing to do with them," Mrs. Eisengrein said. She added that the firemen are upset that the photo has seemingly appeared everywhere, commercialized by people who had no right to it.

However, the three firemen did collaborate with *The Record* to support its fund-raising effort, which offers the photo for sale online.

The photo can be purchased in a poster format from the Web site: www.groundzerospirit.org, and the funds raised will support those who suffered direct losses from the disaster.

Mrs. Eisengrein said although it is difficult, her son is coping with the disaster.

"He's a New York City fireman...he's okay," she said.

Mrs. Eisengrein said she was pleased to see her son on the cover of *The Northern Light*, since her late husband, William, had been a Mason for many years.

William had served as organist at several lodges, including Huguenot Lodge No. 381, Staten Island, where he was a member.

According to Elizabeth, he was about 30 when he joined the Masons in the mid-1960s. He passed away in 1984 at the age of 49.

"It was something he always enjoyed," she said. "He valued his membership in Masonry and attended meetings regularly."



—Thomas E. Franklin photo/Corbis Sigma

A childhood friend of Billy's, John Chapman, received *The Northern Light* and saw Billy's picture on the cover. He called to inform us of the Masonic connection.

"I was shocked to see his picture in *The Northern Light*," Chapman said. "I first saw it in the *New York Post*, but now it's everywhere."

Chapman, who lived up the street from the Eisengreins and as a teen babysat for the family, became a Mason in 1984, as a member of Huguenot Lodge, No. 381, and later a 32° Mason in the Valley of Trenton.

His father-in-law Art Carstensen took his degrees with the elder Eisengrein, and said the two attended many meetings together.

"We met a lot of good men," Carstensen said.

The cover photo in the November issue was incorrectly credited. The photo was taken by Thomas E. Franklin.



William E. Holland, 33°

Supreme Council Staff Changes

III. Winthrop L. Hall, 33°, who has been associated with the Supreme Council since 1964, retired on Dec. 31, 2001. He had been serving as Executive Secretary for a number of years.

Joining the staff in the newly created position of Director of Operations is III. William E. Holland, 33°, of Needham, MA. For the past 30 years, Holland has been associated with Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation in Boston, where he held many positions. More recently, he has been manager for computer aided engineering. His wealth of experience with computerization as well as management will be valuable assets to the Supreme Council. Holland is currently Commander-in-Chief of Massachusetts Consistory.



By Leigh E. Morris, 33°

Internet continues to frustrate

Slick specialty magazines, full-page ads and appealing television commercials paint a picture that likens the Internet to the "Eighth Wonder of the World."

Then again, cigarette companies did the same thing until the Surgeon General told us what we already suspected about the weed.

Now don't take this the wrong way. The Internet has had many positive influences on modern life, and it has tremendous unrealized potential as a communication tool. Still, the Net is a source of numerous annoyances that can cause considerable grief and aggravation. Perhaps this explains why I continue to puff on cigars, especially when I'm online. Well, that's one way to rationalize my habit.

I don't know about you, but my number one complaint about the Net is what it has done to the English language. Proponents have argued the Net will encourage literacy and writing skills. Why, it would be a great language learning tool for youngsters.

Yeah, right! I've come to the conclusion that many users would flunk fifth-grade English. Capitalization and punctuation generally are ignored. Creative spelling is the order of the day. And let's not even get into sentence construction, tenses, gender and other grammatical issues. As good old Charlie Brown would say, "Good grief!" We can and should do better.

Then there's common sense, or rather the lack of it. Goodness sakes, it seems some Internet users will forward just about every piece of nonsense that comes their way. Rarely does a day pass that I do not receive one or more anxious e-mails warning me about some cataclysmic virus. Of course, nearly every one of these messages is a hoax. It is a courageous fool who dares tell the sender of such a message that it is as bogus as a \$3 bill. Suggesting they check out virus alerts at a site such as urbanlegends.com doesn't work. More times than not, they'll take your suggestion as a personal affront. I'm beginning to think H.L. Mencken was an optimist.

Of course, this problem goes well beyond virus hoaxes. The Internet has become a veritable super-highway for rumors. While some are benign and even amusing, others can cause real mischief and even panic. A recent hoax warned of an imminent terrorist strike against Chicago's Sears Tower, causing needless concern for those in the building, as well as their relatives and friends. Your online mailbox is likely to bring you everything from bogus reports of proposals to tax e-mail to phony warnings about some health threat. A big dose of skepticism and taking a few

minutes to check out such reports on urbanlegends.com or a similar site are your best defenses.

Then there's spam. It is enough to make me reach for another stogy. Oh, how I long for those days when the only junk mail was delivered by the Postal Service. Where does it all come from? Web sites often sell the e-mail addresses of their subscribers to marketers. Financial institutions, insurance companies, governmental agencies and others who collect e-mail addresses will sell them just as they have long sold mailing addresses. The most reputable organizations will give you the option of keeping your e-mail address off the lists they sell. Unfortunately, most do not or make it difficult to do so. Unless you like spam, avoid giving your e-mail address out unless it is absolutely necessary.

Finally, there is smut. Those who know me will attest that I'm no prude and my libertarian nature keeps me from even thinking about a government solution to this problem. Nonetheless, smut is all over the Net and it is difficult to keep it from invading your online mailbox. This is a special concern to parents of younger children. Not long ago, a friend told me about a spam e-mail that was sent to his 10-year-old son's e-mail address. It included a photo that I can only describe as extremely raw pornography. Parents need to be more vigilant and, as my friend concluded, perhaps 10 year-olds are too young to have their own e-mail addresses. At the same time, ISPs, Web site operators and others must do much more to police adult-content material.

As many of you discovered, I have a new e-mail address: studebaker@motion.net. I regret any inconvenience this may have caused you, but I was forced to make the change when my ISP (EarthLink) terminated our local access number without any advance notice on Dec. 1, 2001.

I hope you will send along your complete name, city and state of residence, Valley and e-mail address to studebaker@motion.net to join our complimentary Masonic e-mail directory. And be sure to send along Web sites of interest.

Until next time, happy surfing and watch out for the spam.

Questions or comments? Send me an e-mail at studebaker@motion.net (please note that this is a new e-mail address).

Father and son team up for passport program

Masonic traditions usually are handed down from generation to generation, but this father and son duo did it a little different. It was young John P. Humphreys, 25, who first entered the fraternity and the elder Humphreys who followed.

John P. joined Lodge No. 496, Charles M. Howe, in Millersville, PA in 1998. His dad, John E. Humphreys III, 63, began asking him questions about membership, and soon petitioned to join as well.

At the suggestion of the master of the lodge, John P. learned the first and second degrees and personally conferred them on his father, and acted as his guide on the third degree.

Dad followed son quickly through the Scottish Rite degrees, receiving the 32° at the one-day millennium class held April 29, 2000.

They are members of Valley of Harrisburg, and the Lancaster Lodge of Perfection.

From there, father and son undertook the passport program, traveling throughout Pennsylvania and beyond, to completely fill their degree books.

The passport program was introduced for the year 2000, and replaced the 32° certificate previously issued.

Those who view all 29 Scottish Rite degrees in full form receive special recognition from the Supreme Council. So far, only nine members have successfully completed their passports.

The endeavor took the Humphreys about a year and motivated them to attend different valleys and meet new people.

Humphreys III said the passport program was a good experience for both of them and they plan to participate again.

"We really enjoyed it," he said. "We got to meet a lot of people and go to a



Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston (right) greets the Humphreys, father and son.

lot of places we never would have gone."

Their close father/son relationship is not a new one. The two have participated in many activities together, sharing more than just their names over the years.

"We have been pretty much buddies all our lives," said Dad. "We were both in Scouting, we go camping, we hunt and fish together."

John P., who is Senior Warden at his lodge, said he has always enjoyed doing things with his dad, and the program was another opportunity to do just that.

"We had a really good time doing that together," he said. "It gave us a chance to hang out together and travel. It was lot of fun for both of us and we enjoyed seeing the degrees."

The younger Humphreys said when he attended the Valley of Uniontown, he was pleased that all the degrees were performed, in sequence, in two days,

and he found that to be very meaningful. He also enjoyed witnessing the 23°, and saw it once for his own passport and again when his dad completed his.

The two traveled to Allentown to witness the degree, and Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston was in attendance.

The elder Humphreys said he was thrilled to have his picture taken with his son and the Commander to commemorate the completion of his passport.

The Commander praised both Humphreys men, noting that theirs were the first passports to be completed from the Valley of Harrisburg.

"By actively seeking to complete the passport program, you have contributed to our fraternity by embodying the pride and motivation it takes to be a distinguished Mason," the Commander said. "Please know how very proud we are right now of your dedication and drive."

In addition to Scouting and the Scottish Rite, John P. is a member of the York Rite, and his father plans to follow him through those degrees as well.

The Humphreys both agree that Masonry has added greatly to the quality of their lives.

"We've gotten quite a bit out of it," John P. said. "We've gotten to know a lot of people and the best thing is, wherever you go, among Masons you're among friends. You get a warm welcome even when they don't know you."

Brothers who completed passport program

Herbert J. Smith Jr.	Valley of Bay City, MI
Veryl Shreve	Valley of Bay City, MI
Robert Lewent	Valley of Rockville Centre, NY
Joel Berg	Valley of Rockville Centre, NY
John Paul Humphreys	Valley of Harrisburg, PA
Warren A. Seymour Sr.	Valley of Peoria, IL
John E. Humphreys III	Valley of Harrisburg, PA
William G. Adams	Valley of Allentown, PA
James Harvie Jr.	Valley of Allentown, PA

The Stamp Act

A Philatelic Review



By Robert A. Domingue



This commemorative Masonic stamp was released on Nov. 24, 1994, by the islands of Wallis and Futuna to celebrate the Centenary of the founding of the Grande Loge de France.

Paul Hymans, honored on a stamp issued by Belgium in February 1965, was born in Brussels in March 1865. He became a Member of Parliament in 1900 as representative of the Liberal Party. During the German occupation in 1915, he was a member of the Belgian government in exile in London. Following the liberation of Belgium, he served as Minister in several governments until 1934. In 1918, he assisted in the drawing up of the conditions of the armistice with Germany and was a representative of Belgium at the Peace Conference of 1919. In 1920, he was a member and the First President of the Council of the League of Nations in Geneva. He died in Nice, France, in March 1941.

Bro. Hymans was initiated Feb. 25, 1896, passed Dec. 8, 1896 and raised June 15, 1897, as a member of the Lodge "Les Amis Philanthropes" No. 2 in Brussels.



James Knox Polk has been pictured on many stamps of the U.S. and other nations, including this one issued on May 22, 1886. The 11th President of the United States was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, Nov. 2, 1795. His family relocated to Tennessee when he was 11 years old. He returned to North Carolina for his education, graduating from the University of that state in 1818. He studied law for two years and entered practice in Columbia, Maury County. While serving as President, his major accom-



plishments include the establishment of a Federal Banking System, settlement of the Oregon Boundary by treaty with Great Britain and the acquisition of one million square miles of valuable territory in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California following the Mexican War.

Bro. Polk received his degrees in Columbia Lodge No. 4, Columbia, Tenn., being initiated on June 5, passed on Aug. 7 and raised on Sept. 4, 1820. He was also a member of Lafayette Chapter No. 4, Columbia. He laid the cornerstone of the Smithsonian Institute under Masonic di-

rection on May 1, 1847. He retired to his home at Nashville and died three months after his presidential term ended on June 15, 1849.

King George I of Greece has been pictured on many stamps of Greece, such as the one shown, issued on May 21, 1956. The second son of Christian IX, King of Denmark, Christian William Ferdinand Adolphus George was born in Denmark on Dec. 24, 1845. In 1862, the Greeks deposed the unpopular King Otho and the National Assembly, at the request of the British government and elected Prince William George of Denmark as King George I of the Hellenes. He married Grand Duchess Olga, niece of the Czar of Russia, and their children were brought up in the Greek faith. However, he remained a Lutheran. He ruled Greece until his assassination at Salonika

on March 18, 1913.

King George I was made a Mason in Denmark before he accepted the crown; the particulars of his degrees are not readily known.



Ferdinand Hanusch is pictured on an Austrian stamp issued on Sept. 28, 1973, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his death. Born in Oberdorf, Austria, on



Nov. 9, 1866, he was a noted Austrian politician and after the First World War, he served as Minister of Social Welfare. He created the first "Bill of Rights" in Austria for workers. A huge monument, which stands in front of the Parliament Building in Vienna, was erected in his honor. A street and a housing complex in the outskirts of the city was also named in his honor. He died in Vienna Sept. 28, 1923.

Bro. Hanusch was a member of the Lodge "Lessing zu den drei Ringen" in Vienna. This lodge was called a border-lodge, which met mostly in Pressburg (now Bratislava, Czechoslovakia). Under the reign of Emperor Francis Joseph, Masonic lodges were forbidden to meet in Vienna but were permitted in Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The Master of this lodge was another Minister and the two of them alternated as Master. They also worked together professionally where they helped with social reform for the working class in Austria.

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



By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

Templar Gold: Discovering the Ark of the Covenant, by Patrick Byrne. Published in 2001 by Symposium Publishing, an imprint of Blue Dolphin Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 8, Nevada City, CA 95959. \$19.95.

Stephen Dafoe, the Grand Historian for the Sovereign Great Priority of Canada, makes this statement on the first page of this book: "Mr. Byrne is perhaps the first to crack the enigma and mystery of the Masonic oral tradition and put to rest a 3,500-year-old mystery."

My first thought on reading that quotation was "yeh, right." After finishing the book, I find myself thinking the same thing, and this may not be a fair evaluation of this book or the author.

I have become somewhat cynical, probably due to my having read so many books in recent years dealing with closely associated subjects and themes, all of them very dependent upon assumptions, speculation, conjecture and innuendo. Most of the conclusions reached in these books must be regarded as hypotheses at best.

Yet at the same time, I really feel these hypotheses are beneficial to Freemasonry, and probably to readers in general, because they cause us to

question what we are convinced, and have been taught to believe, is true.

And, frankly, there is no reason for me to assume that some of the conclusions reached may not be true.

The author's application of numerology in proving his theories reflects his engineering expertise. His writing reflects a thorough knowledge of Masonic ritual, as he has been an active member of the Masonic fraternity in England for 30 years.

His interest in the contents of this book was initially stimulated by *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, and it is devoted to proving a far greater significance to our Masonic ritual than we purport it to have, or that we are taught that it has. At the very least one must admire his dedication to the research required to draw the conclusions that he has.

It is his contention that Freemasonry was developed through the remnants of the Knights Templar for the specific purpose of carrying on their commitment of concealing, protecting, and guarding the Ark of the Covenant.

Byrne devotes the first chapters of this book to discussing the purpose and the development of the Knights Templar, along with its eventual persecution, dissolution, and destruction through the actions of King Phillip of France and Pope Clement V.

Previous authors have proposed much of the same information, Byrne concludes, however, that the specific purpose of the Templars was to "locate, and seize the Ark of the Covenant." The book from this point is dedicated to the work of the Templars and their successors, the Freemasons, of preserving and guarding this greatest of treasures.

A number of authors prior to Byrne have proposed some type of connection between the Holy Land and its inhabitants, including Christ himself, with locations in the south of France. It is this author's contention that the Templars eventually used Pech Cardou, a mountain in the Roussillon region in southern France as the site for concealment of the Ark.

They then developed elaborate systems for not only its concealment, but also the development of a complex methodology of directing future guardians to its location.

Accordingly, Freemasonry became the heir to the Templars, and developed its rituals and practices as a coded system to serve this noble cause. According to the author, "this book will uncover the 'long-lost secret of a Master Mason,' and which is not described in any Masonic order."

It was at the site where Jacques DeMolay offered his defense of the Templar order, "that the foundation stones of Freemasonry were laid."

His speculation that the Ark could now be in North America has been implied in the past. He also observes that the Holy Grail referred to in the Arthurian legends is in fact the Ark of the Covenant.

I found the book to be interesting although I felt he stretched much more to develop its theories than was necessary. This stretching tended to diminish credibility. That said, much logic is to be found in the book, and especially as it relates to Freemasonry. It provides explanations to some Masonic references that I questioned in the past. I do not accept or support it. I simply mean that some of it sounds logical. One statement is undeniable, "the Freemasons are here with us today, although very few members are aware of our secret." Regretfully very few are even aware of any purpose for the craft.

I do not endorse this book because I am not convinced of its factuality, but I recommend it because it stimulates thought and offers alternatives that have not been considered in the past.

It is not the easiest reading, but it should challenge your little gray cells.





My brothers, when I write a review of a book to be published in "Book Nook," I probably revise it at least 10 times before submitting it. This means reading at least parts of it an equal number of times. In the last issue of *The Northern Light* I reviewed the book, *From Mutual Aid to the Welfare State*, and upon reading it in the publication, I found an error that I had made.

In observing "that the enactment of laws by our government restricted the ability of fraternities to provide aid, resulted in the closure of the Masonic Children's Home in Pennsylvania," I was incorrect. Indeed, the children's home is alive and well. It was the Patton School for orphan boys that was forced to close due lack of need.

My apologies for this mistake.



My brothers, I am now in my 12th year of writing the book reviews for *The Northern Light*. When I was first asked to assume this position, my reaction was very negative. I felt there were many others who were far more qualified than I to review books, and that is still my opinion. In fact, I contacted several brothers who I considered very capable of fulfilling this task.

When they each declined, I consented thinking that I would serve only until someone more qualified would replace me. I assumed this would occur in a relative short period of time, but as you can see each quarter, I am still here.

In retrospect, it has become one of the more valuable decisions in my Masonic life, albeit not a voluntary one. It has caused me to read Masonic materials and books when I was tending to get away from doing so. The reading, in turn, has increased my depth of understanding of how important Freemasonry has been to the development of our civil society and, therefore, the world.

More importantly to me, however, has been how much it has caused me to think and contemplate the philosophical purpose of the craft. It has been so easy for me, and I would suspect for most of you, to acknowledge Freemasonry's impact upon the world without ever understanding, or even trying to understand, why it originated in the first place. If we who are members fail to understand, how can we expect those outside of the craft to understand, when most of us don't even try?

There have been books written in recent years that have challenged our complacent acceptance of our origins. Right or wrong, they should have propelled us into a new realm of contemplation.

And yet, the vast majority of Freemasons are not even aware of their existence, and those that are, either deny validity to the theories without any consideration or ignore them completely.

I remember when John Robinson published his first book, *Born in Blood*, he was almost universally criticized by Masonic book reviewers and "authorities" because he

was proposing theories that were either new or were rejected in the past.

Today, even though many, and perhaps most, Freemasons still do not accept his propositions, there can be no denying that he has been one of the most positive forces for Freemasonry in the last century, at least in North America. If nothing else, he made us think, and thinking cannot hurt us.

I simply do not understand our almost paranoid-like fear of considering new theories. I would like to know what force created our organization. I want to know why the effort was made to create and develop this institution. I would like to know about our originators. Why did it attract some of the greatest minds that ever lived? Why has it been such a dominant force for such a long period of time?

I do not know these answers, nor frankly does anyone else for certain. I do know that I cannot accept that Freemasonry originated to lead the world in its struggles for freedom, liberty, and equality. But, who will deny that this has been one of its greatest accomplishments, and proudest achievements? I also find it increasingly difficult to rationalize our development from simple stonemasons who had no other purpose than to build stone structures.

Perhaps there is no one left with knowledge of our original purpose, or maybe there really isn't anything other than an evolution from stonemasonry to be found. However, my brothers, I'm not sure that it is all that important anymore.

Freemasonry has accomplished more than any other institution created by man. Through its influence, it has made much of the world as we know it today. So what if this was not its original purpose? No other organization can claim such glory. No other organization has contributed to the development of such great men to lead this world.

Freemasonry has produced a phenomenal heritage. This craft has contributed so much to the world as we know it and to our lives as we live them. One thing is certain, however; it was not created upon ignorance, nor did it thrive upon lethargy. We have no right in our present generation to damage or destroy what our past brethren left for us, and we are doing that by minimizing our influence through ignorance and lethargy.

We have an obligation to them and to the world. My brothers, do not be afraid of thought. Do not shy from alternative theories. I have seen none that has done us harm. We do not have to accept these theories, but at least read and let your processes of thought have a chance. You might be amazed at how stimulating it is.

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

■ Protect your knees when bicycling

Keep your knees pointed straight ahead when you ride a bike, whether you're on a stationary bike or out on the road.

Doctors writing in *Prevention* say many riders tend to point their knees in toward the bike, especially during high-intensity indoor cycling classes. This puts more stress on the knees.



■ Quick fix for a stuffy nose

When you have nasal congestion caused by a cold, allergy, or sinus problem, a little horseradish can help.

Doctors at the department of otolaryngology at the University of Kentucky Medical Center say one or two quick sniffs of horseradish two or three times a day could do the trick.

Stay 4 to 6 inches away from the jar, because the smell can be powerful.

Don't breathe into the jar which could contaminate it for others. Quoted in *Prevention* magazine, they say eating it is as effective as inhaling it. Add a teaspoon to a cracker.

The Japanese horseradish called wasabi is also antibacterial.

■ Pet-lovers and hypertension

A report published in *Hypertension* shows that a pet can reduce the blood pressure (BP) reaction to stress. Patients with high BP were taking the BP-lowering drug lisinopril. Half acquired a dog or cat for the study. They were found to have a much lower BP reaction to stress than those without pets. The pet owners felt the positive aspects of having a pet far outweigh the responsibility of caring for a pet.

■ More bone-friendly food identified

To keep bones strong, you have to eat foods that supply calcium and the vitamin D your body needs to absorb it.

Foods rich in calcium include low-fat dairy products, kale, and enriched tofu. Calcium-fortified orange juice is a very absorbable source.

But there's more.

New foods are emerging as bone protectors, such as bananas.

Long recommended for their potassium, they contain magnesium too, which has recently been proved to correlate with bone strength.

Vitamin K also plays a role in bone density. Found in dark green vegetables like spinach and kale, vitamin K helps at least 12 proteins in the blood, bones, arteries, and brain carry out their functions.

Doctors at Harvard say older people who eat foods containing lots of vitamin K have denser bones and fewer fractures.



■ New back surgery technique

A recently approved spinal-fusion system requires much less recovery time and far less pain than previously used procedures.

Surgeons work through two small incisions in the lower back. A tube is inserted, pushing just enough muscle tissue out of the way.

There's little blood loss, and patients leave the hospital in two to three days.

The long-term effectiveness is still under study, but surgeons are encouraged by results.

Right now it is offered at hospitals in Boston, MA; Phoenix, AZ; New York, NY; Baltimore, MD; and several other cities, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

■ Cold facts about the common cold

Dr. Jack Gwaltney of the University of Virginia School of Medicine, a foremost authority on the common cold, says there are some 200 viruses that cause cold symptoms.

Rhinoviruses are the most common. If just one or two reach your nose, you have a 90 percent chance of getting a cold.

When the viruses begin to reproduce, your body launches interferon, and the immune system goes to work. It kills infected cells, but produces substances that cause a runny nose, cough, and scratchy throat.

■ Oregano moves to the medicine cabinet

Known mainly as an herb to enhance the flavor of Italian food, oregano was used by the ancient Greeks as an antidote for hemlock poisoning.

Now, modern medical researchers say it could be the next big thing used to conquer fungi, bacteria, and the anthrax bug. (It has killed anthrax bacteria in test tubes, and animal studies are planned.)

Doctors at Georgetown University Medical Center say oregano-oil extract is as effective as most antibiotics in fighting staph bacteria, some of which is resistant to antibiotics.

■ Breakfast builds brains

Tufts University researchers found that kids who ate instant oatmeal for breakfast performed 5-12 percent better on spatial memory tests than kids who ate sugar-coated cereal or no breakfast at all.



The Builders Column



Six Ways to Remember the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children

There are many ways to remember the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., in your estate plan, and you may be surprised to discover how inexpensive and easy to accomplish most of these are. Here are six options to consider:

1. Amend an existing insurance policy to add the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., as an additional beneficiary. You could also purchase a new policy for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., benefit.
2. Visit your personnel office and ask to amend your group life insurance policy or retirement plan to add the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., as one of your beneficiaries.
3. Instruct your lawyer to prepare a simple, inexpensive codicil to your existing will, creating a bequest for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.
4. If you're over 65 and disappointed with the income you are receiving from your long-term stocks or your certificates of deposit, consider a charitable gift annuity program. Besides providing attractive tax benefits, this easy-to-accomplish gift may reward you with higher annual income.
5. Deed your house to the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., and continue to live in it. Your income tax savings from the gift may cover the legal costs.

6. If you have a sizable estate, let us show you how a charitable trust may benefit both you and the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. Again, the tax advantages are significant and may offset any legal costs.

Some of the gift arrangements are revocable and others cannot be changed once established. Some work better with cash and others with appreciated assets. There are many variations, enough so that a giving plan can be tailored to your needs, desires and capabilities.

Although we do not practice estate planning, our Director of Development can sit down with you and explain these things so you get the ball rolling. For your protection, we will urge you to check with your professional advisor(s) before completing any planned gift. The Director is also available to meet with your advisor(s) to assist in the process.

Estate Planning Help Now Available Online



The Supreme Council's Development Office is introducing an easier way for you to plan your family's financial future with a new planned giving Web link that can be accessed through www.supremecouncil.org.

At the site you will be able to find estate-planning essentials with easy-to-understand information on wills, living wills, trusts, etc. Online we offer you a veritable encyclopedia of information in these areas, including what basic documents everyone should have and what assets and methods are best to use. Also our site offers a reading room of more than 100 articles, categorized by subject.

Many people may not realize that their total combined income and assets may require estate planning or that through charitable giving they may, in fact, be preserving more assets for their family. A gift calculator on the site can help you run some confidential financial projections on your own.

If you or your financial and/or legal advisors need some additional information about this site or information on estate planning or gift planning, please contact the Director of Development at: ffletcher@supremecouncil.org.

Also, always remember, before you finalize your estate or complete a planned gift you should consult with your own financial or legal advisor.

(Please complete and return this reply form.)

- ☐ Please contact me regarding one of the planned giving options.
- ☐ I have already remembered the Supreme Council Scottish Rite Masonic Charities in my estate planning.
- ☐ Please send me information about the Builders Council.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail this form to: Director of Development, Supreme Council, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420, or contact him at: ffletcher@supremecouncil.org

VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

Alternative to Atom Bomb

Noted scientists, whose word we cannot doubt, are telling us every day that we hold in our hands the most destructive power ever known. As a weapon against an enemy, its effectiveness has already been tested. There is no defense against it, and the awful results of only a single explosion surpass the imagination of the human mind.

Although, as every informed person knows, it can be harnessed to peacetime constructive uses, we have had little opportunity to consider it from that viewpoint. For the present, and doubtless for some time to come, it will probably be reserved almost exclusively for the manufacture of weapons.

Regardless of the use to which it is put, however, atomic energy is the most potent physical force known to science.

The possession of this shattering power imposes upon the people of America the heaviest burden of responsibility ever borne by any race. We are told that other nations have the secret of this force, as competent scientists have been feverishly working upon this problem. What has been done once can be done again and again.

Common sense and realistic thinking inevitably bring us to the conclusion that the day is not far off when knowledge of how to make atomic bombs will be as widespread as knowledge of how to make gunpowder. Therefore, the prospect of a world in which every nation, great and small, is armed with these lethal missiles is not a reassuring one. There is no comfort even in the fleeting thought that, should there be an-

other world war, atomic bombs would be ruled out, as was the use of poison gas in the last war. It could be, of course, but it is doubtful that it would be. Even if it were, the grim threat of that incredible power would still hang over the race.

What, then, is the defense against this terrible agent of destruction, this ghastly menace to the peace and security of the human race? Obviously, it is not the discovery of a greater physical force, if such exists, nor in an overwhelming stockpile of bombs. In his recent book, *Foundation for Reconstruction*, Dr. Elton Trueblood, professor of philosophy at Earlham College, says: "The only answer to atomic power is moral power."

We might well add to that the word "spiritual."

Moral and spiritual power released to govern international relations is the only alternative to the atomic bomb and what it represents.

— J. C. Penney, 33°, *The New Age*, April 1950



"How come you always remember my lodge night but never my slippers?"

Presidents who were almost Masons

As one who had the good fortune to serve the Grand Lodge of the state of New York as a District Deputy Grand Master, I had the pleasure of greeting thousands and thousands of visitors who came to the World's Fair in New York's Flushing Meadows in 1964-65.

Of all the numerous displays, perhaps the one that attracted the most attention was the "President's Panel," a giant billboard listing the names and background of all U. S. Presidents who were Masons.

Hardly a day went by in the two years of the fair's existence that those serving as ushers didn't have to explain that Lyndon B. Johnson really was a Mason. He was only an Entered Apprentice, but a Mason nevertheless, for had he not also once stood in the "northeast corner" of the lodge, an "upright Man and Mason?"

Other presidents that "almost became a Mason," include Lincoln, according to legend and disputed documentary evidence. Woodrow Wilson almost made it.

One president missed becoming a wearer of the white apron only because fate intervened and the exigencies of the times prevented him from being initiated — the late Dwight D. Eisenhower, president from 1952-60.

The day Eisenhower's petition was to be heard at Justice Lodge No. 753, 6th Manhattan District, Eisenhower was asked to be a presidential candidate of the United States and he accepted.

At that time, Eisenhower said to Brother Benjamin Fine, then Past Master of Justice Lodge No. 753, "My advisors have strongly suggested that I do not act upon it at this time — both for political and other reasons. But, I will take a rain check on it, as I am determined to join eventually."

Once again, alas, it was not to be. The president who almost became a Mason passed to his reward before being able to fulfill his hope of doing so.

— David Fine, 33°, Royal Arch Mason, summer 1972

Coolidge's View on Masonry

In 1924, Sir Alfred Robbins, noted English journalist, visited the United States. He was received by "Silent Cal" Coolidge, who was unusually verbose that morning.

Having expressed regret at the nature of the weather in Washington yesterday, Coolidge wished to know something of the special object with which Robbins had come to the United States.

Robbins told him that it was as a representative of the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons, desirous of promoting, by personal intercourse and fuller knowledge of each other, a more friendly feeling through American Freemasons between the two countries.

Coolidge said the object was a good one, and added:

"The Freemasons here are a fine body of men. I am not one myself, but I knew them. When I was young and in an office, I was very busy, and the Freemasons were in the same building. I collected their rents. They are a fine body of men. Are there any lady Masons like the Eastern Star?"

I replied in the negative, saying

that our lady friends confined themselves to assisting our benevolent efforts, and my wife interpolated:

"We are content to help in charity."

The President smiled and said:

"In these days, ladies take an increasing part in public life and politics."

I replied, "That, perhaps, is one of the reasons why we do not bring them into Masonry," and was about to make my bow, when the President reflectively added:

"Your object is a good one. Good will among nations in these times is much more a matter of peoples than of governments. I am glad to have met you."

Mr. Coolidge struck me as a silent, somewhat slow-thinking man; but I was told by a brother who was with us, and who had been at several such interviews, that, as a rule, the President only said, "yes," "no," and "good morning," and that today's was by far the longest talk with a visitor in which he had ever heard him indulge.

— Alfred Robbins, *The Royal Arch Mason*, March 1960

WASHINGTON MONUMENT

It can truthfully be said that no man was ever more deserving of monumental fame, or ever needed outward tokens of distinction and remembrance less, than the illustrious Washington, to whose memory there has just been dedicated the immense obelisk at the Capital of the nation.

It is a cause of congratulation, however, that the great memorial structure is at last completed. The lofty shaft is a fit emblem of the colossal man, whose character overshadows that of any other leader or hero who has lived during the last 300 years. He stands out as the foremost man in American history, the friend of liberty; the Father of his country; a generous and true man; making a grand expression of the noblest characteristic of our race.

The world has furnished but one Washington. He represents not an absolutely faultless character, but a type

of human greatness that the human world may well look upon and admire.

And this man of such conspicuous ability and integrity, in whom valor combined with gentleness, and justice with humanity, and patriotism with piety, was an active member of the Masonic organization. He never faltered in his allegiance to the principles of Freemasonry, and he was the faithful, outspoken friend of the craft until the latest period of his mortal life.

As Americans, we may rejoice that we have the character of the illustrious Washington as a model for national imitation; as Freemasons, we may also rejoice that the prestige of his name adds glory and strength to our beloved Institution.

— Henry W. Rugg, editor,
The Freemasons Repository,
March 1885

Quick Quotes

Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders.

Tom Peters

Listening is as important as talking. If you're a good listener, people often compliment you for being a good conversationalist.

Gov. Jesse Ventura

We know that people we love are both good and bad, we expect strangers to be one or the other.

Russell Banks

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

We must try to find ways to starve the terrorist and the hijacker of the oxygen of publicity on which they depend.

Margaret Thatcher

In a conversation, keep in mind that you're more interested in what you have to say than anyone else is.

Andy Rooney

Humility comes from understanding that the obstacles in front of you are not going to go away.

Sarah Ferguson

You can't help someone get up a hill without getting closer to the top yourself.

Gen. Norman H. Schwarzkopf

Motivation is an external, temporary high that pushes you forward. Inspiration is a sustainable internal glow which pulls you forward.

Thomas Leonard

Happiness can be defined, in part at least, as the fruit of the desire and ability to sacrifice what we want now for what we want eventually.

Stephen Covey

Life is too complicated not to be orderly.

Martha Stewart

Terrorist attack makes Web history

The Library of Congress and online Web archiving sites are making a Web history of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

Not just mainline newspaper sites will be archived, but also a vast array of personal sites.

Millions of new sites were created to give family news, pay tribute to victims and rescue workers, and to offer comment.

The Web's attack archive is posted on the Internet Archive Web site: www.archive.org.

Pantries make a comeback

According to *Better Homes & Gardens* the pantry is going mainstream in the new-housemarket. In the 1990s, builders of the high-end homes were offering large pantries built off the kitchen, offering sinks for cleaning vegetables. Most homeowners skip the cost of building a sink into the pantry.

Mixed-age retirement requires planning

When the age gap between husband and wife is more than 10 years, financial planners say the age difference calls for an unconventional retirement plan.

If a family will depend on the younger partner's earnings, that could be a reason to increase life insurance coverage instead of reducing it, which is more the norm.

Both partners should consider buying long-term care insurance.

With a younger spouse, the couple might have higher costs for a longer period of time and need to make decisions about their pension money accordingly.

Planners writing in *Business Week* say the younger partner should keep at least 60 percent of savings in stocks.

The older partner should leave 401(k) money in the company plan. After age 55 it can be withdrawn at will without penalties.

With a rollover IRA, a retiree younger than 59 1/2 has to follow a strict withdrawal plan or pay a penalty.



Sky eye view of your house

Want to look at your neighborhood from the sky? You can get a new perspective on your home town and see your house by going to Microsoft's TerraServer site and zooming in, at terraServer.homeadvisor.msn.com

Many of the shots are from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Just enter your city and state, then keep zooming in until you get a view of your house.

Fight fair and in front of the kids

Psychologists at the University of Denver say it's good for kids to see disagreements solved in productive and respectful ways. They learn how to handle conflict properly, a lesson that will serve them well in their own marriages.

What isn't OK is to let children see you in mean, ugly battles. Denver's Scott Stanley, Ph.D., says kids who are



"Gloria, Don and the grandchildren want to visit. What's our Website address, again?"

often exposed to nasty fights tend to do less well in school and to have problems in their own relationships later in life.

If you argue in front of your children, be sure you make up in front of them too. At least let them know that the issue has been resolved.

Cure for young couch potatoes

The American Council on Exercise says kids can be lured away from TV and computer games by making activity fun.

- Play sports or ride bikes with them. Include kids in vigorous tasks like gardening or washing the car. Make it fun.

- Plan active outings such as to a zoo, a museum, theme park, or picnic.

- Enroll them in classes that include games, sports, and exercise programs.

- In sports, emphasize participation, health, teamwork, and self-esteem.

- Include their friends in your plan.



Tax-cut checks returned to sender

Some 295,000 tax-cut checks were returned to the government last year as undeliverable. If you didn't get yours, call the IRS at (800) 829-1040 to ask why.

It's too late to get the check now, but you can claim the tax-cut benefit when you file your 2001 income tax return.

The IRS also says it has 95,600 income tax refund checks that were returned last year. They average \$927 each.

Save a buck on household cleaners

Got some cola? It's good for several cleaning tasks. When chrome faucets get water spots, or auto trim and bumpers get rusty, moisten the shiny side of aluminum foil with cola, rub lightly, wipe, and watch the shine return.

To clean toilets, pour in some cola and let it sit. Then swish, and porcelain will sparkle, say advisors for the Associated Press.

New Award Honors Masons Serving Scouting

The Grand Lodge of Masons in Pennsylvania, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America, has created a national Masonic recognition award for Freemasons who are active in serving youth through Scouting.

The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award, named after Freemason



and Founder of the Boy Scouts in America, was approved by the national headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America as part of its recently created Community Organization Award to recognize those who serve Scouting and are affili-

ated with a community-based organization.

The award will be presented to a Master Mason who is currently a registered Scouter and active in a Scout unit, district, council or national affiliate, and has displayed outstanding dedication to the Scouting program.

The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award consists of a certificate, and a Boy Scouts of America approved Masonic neck medallion and knot patch to be worn with a Scout uniform. The neck medallion is a silver metallic medal of the square and compasses resting upon a sunburst and supported by a blue and silver ribbon. The knot patch is a gold colored square knot supported by a purple background with a gold border.

The award is being administered nationally through the Grand Lodge of



Pennsylvania per request of the Boy Scouts of America for convenient administrative purposes. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is providing all materials for the award at cost and allowing the use of its staff to handle all the necessary administrative work and

communications with the Boy Scouts of America headquarters.

The idea originated from Dale DeLozier, 32°, a Pennsylvania District Deputy Grand Master. A faithful Scouter from more than 20 years at local and district levels, he discussed his plan with then Deputy Grand Master Robert L. Dlugie Jr., 33°, and was encouraged to develop his proposal.

Brother DeLozier, an Eagle Scout and recipient of the Order of the Eagle, is a special agent with the Norfolk Southern Police Department. He is a Past Master of Juniata Lodge No. 282, Holidaysburg, PA, and a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Altoona.

The image of Daniel Beard used in the promotional material appeared in the Scottish Rite 1999 Timeless Brotherhood calendar and is used with permission of the Supreme Council, NMJ.

For information on the program or to receive a copy of the brochure (right), contact the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (1-800-462-0430, ext. 1901).



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.

(ESSENTIAL) + (DISBURSEMENT) -
(TREND) - (TABLE) + (CHARACTER)
- (SCENE) + (SENDER)
- (USED) - (RINSE)

= |

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 7.

Answer from previous issue: BROTHERLY LOVE

Our Readers Respond



Declaring principles

Just a note to let you know how much I enjoy receiving each edition of *The Northern Light*. The November 2001 issue seems exceptional. I especially liked seeing the Declaration of Principles included. It seemed like a long time since I had looked at these and believe they are reasonable and understandable.

Harriss A. Butler III, 32°
Parkesburg, PA

Cover story shines

I am not a Mason, but my father is. I am just a daddy to my four children and a working husband.

I had the privilege of being part of the crew that binds your publication.

I was proud, as you should be, of the cover and the coverage of the attacks in the Nov. 2001 issue.

My dad is honored to be a Mason, and as time has shown before, and will again, I see why.

Keep up the good work!!!

Jeffrey H. Doran
Old Saybrook, CT

Modifying the map

I just received my Scottish Rite calendar today. I was very impressed with the great Masons that were illustrated on the 2002 Scottish Rite calendars. Especially Brother Borgnine since he is still living! He has done a lot for Masonry and deserved to be honored in the calendar.

I did find some historically incorrect information on the Douglas MacArthur art work. The arrows point to a place in the Philippines called the Lingayen Gulf where my wife is from. I assume they wanted to have the arrows point to where Brother MacArthur returned to The Philippines in 1944. That was Tacloban City, 475 miles south of the Lingayen Gulf. During the movie "MacArthur," Gregory Peck pointed to this same incorrect place when he was briefing Brother Roosevelt his plan at Wake Island. I guess most Americans would not catch that, but I lived there for 10 years.

Steve Kapp, 32°
Grove, OK

On the Lighter Side

Did you ever notice that ...

Anybody who can read is never very successful at cleaning out an attic.

It's difficult to practice shelf control...that's when you go to the store for a loaf of bread and you only buy a loaf of bread.

One of the nicest things about your conscience is that it never bothers you until you've had your fun.

A monologue is a conversation between someone who just had an operation and someone who didn't.

We've borrowed customs from other civilizations, but somehow we missed out on the siesta.

The best way to forget your own problems is to help someone else solve theirs.

A clean basement is a sure sign of a cluttered garage.

A neighbor will talk for 20 minutes standing at the front door because there isn't time to come in.

You feel very humble when a repairman discovers you tried to "do it yourself."

This past summer the lawns in our country were better kept than the laws were.

When you buy a house the only thing that will last 30 years for certain is the mortgage.

HIRAM™

By WALLY MILLER



Footnotes*



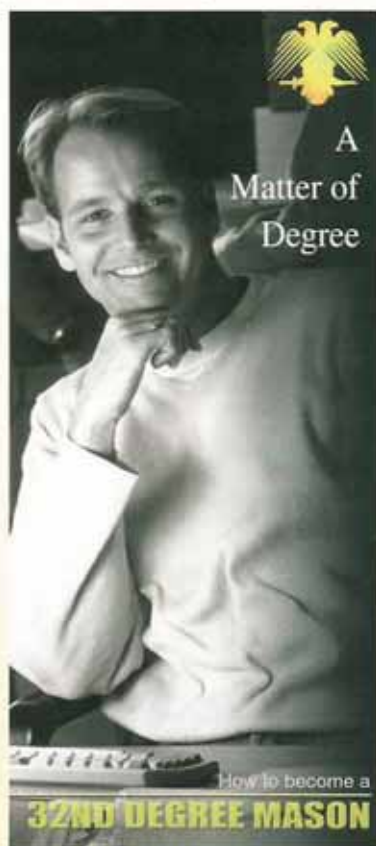
* **Another family outing.** We occasionally hear of father and son teams joining the Scottish Rite together, but the Valley of Harrisburg reports an unusual situation where the father is joined by four sons. At the fall reunion the Valley welcomed the Chew family. Dad is a resident of the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, PA. The sons traveled from Pennsylvania, Illinois and Virginia to be a part of the reunion class. Shown in the photo above are Richard, Douglas, Charles, Stephen and David.

* **Promoting membership.** A new promotional brochure has been produced by the Supreme Council as a tool for recruiting Master Masons to join the Scottish Rite. "A Matter of Degree: How to Become a 32nd Degree Mason" describes the steps to join, the degree structure, the origin of the Rite, and a brief description of the charities. A supply of the color brochure has been sent to each Valley. Take advantage of them.

* **Confused.** Occasionally a religious denomination makes a rash judgment that Freemasonry is evil before attempting to find out what it is all about. Now comes a report from a Sydney, Australia, newspaper that an individual Anglican parish in Lithgow has insisted that its parishioners who are Freemasons must abandon their Masonic beliefs or stop going to church.

According to the newspaper account, the parish council issued a leaflet saying: "There has been a clear recognition of the Spiritual dangers of Freemasonry and that it is incompatible with being Christian." It said Freemasonry undermined the Bible, contained rituals offensive to Christianity and denied the one true God.

One Past Master and former mayor of the community was quoted as saying, "I have been a parishioner of St.



Paul's all my life and my dad was before me. I was present in 1924 when the foundation stone was laid." He indicated that he was not prepared to abandon either Freemasonry or Anglicanism.

The Bishop of the Diocese of Sydney regarded it as a parish issue to be resolved with "fairness to all concerned." At least one other Anglican parish in the diocese has refused to support the decision of the parish council at St. Paul's.

Several years ago, the Masonic Information Center (8120 Fenton St., Silver Spring, MD 20910) issued a statement emphasizing the fact that Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. The statement was prepared in response to movements within the United States to misrepresent the fraternity.

The statement also says: "(Freemasonry) has no dogma or theology, no wish or means to enforce religious orthodoxy and it offers no sacraments. Freemasonry does not claim to lead to salvation by works, by secret knowledge or by any other means. The secrets of Freemasonry are concerned with modes of recognition, not with the means of salvation."

* **Indexes.** Copies of the indexes for *The Northern Light* are available on request. They are prepared in five-year intervals. The most recent is the period from 1995-99.

Also available are open-ended slip cases that will conveniently hold back issues for a five-year period. The cost is \$6 per case. They can be ordered through *The Northern Light*, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420. A limited number of back issues for most editions are also available at a cost of \$2 per issue or \$1.50 per issue when ordering three or more issues.

If you wish to order back issues in five-year increments, they are available for \$12 per bundle. These bundles can only be ordered for the periods 1975-79, 1980-84, 1985-89, 1990-94, and 1995-99.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°
Editor



A matter of honor

Remember when a man's word was his bond? When a handshake sealed the deal? When a man's honor meant more than words on a piece of paper?

There are still men who believe in personal honor. Men who believe in principle. Men who believe in moral and ethical behavior. Men who know that character does matter.

Who are these men? They are 32° Freemasons.



32° Freemasonry - Making a Real Difference!

A new series of "pride" ads have been distributed by the Supreme Council's Strategic Planning Committee. The ads were created by Ill. Leigh E. Morris, 33°, a member of the Valley of Milwaukee now living in Illinois. Ill. Brother Morris writes the "Brothers on the Net" column for *The Northern Light*. The series of ten ads have been sent to each Scottish Rite Valley throughout the jurisdiction.