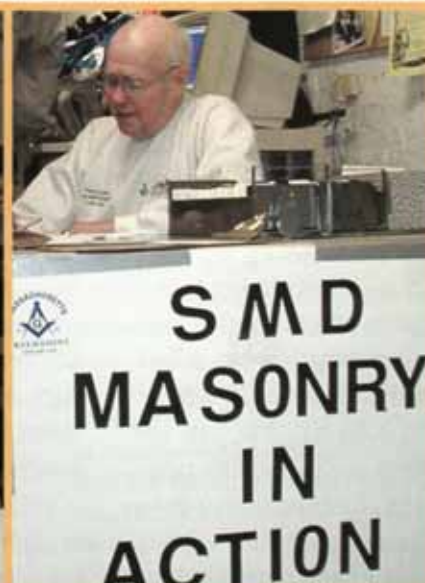


# THE NORTHERN LIGHT

Volume 32 No. 2  
MAY 2001

A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY





## Contributing to Society



Robert O. Ralston, 33°  
Sovereign Grand  
Commander

“Masonry is  
synonymous  
with  
brotherhood  
and caring  
for others.”

The cover story in this issue of *The Northern Light* about the Masons who carried on another Mason's dream long after he had passed on, makes me stop and wonder what would happen if we all contributed to our communities the way these Masons do.

By volunteering countless hours to a cause they believe in, the modest group has been able to make such a big difference to others in their own small way.

If all of us spent even half the time toward accomplishing such a worthy goal, our world would undoubtedly be a better place.

I am talking, of course, about the Masons in Massachusetts who started a one-of-a-kind program in 1968, and have seen it through for more than 30 years.

The hospital equipment loan program began as a humble benevolence out of a Mason's garage, and now has grown to distribute thousands of pieces of equipment not only statewide but also across the country and beyond.

The independently run program makes all types of medical equipment available free of charge to anyone — Mason or non-Mason.

While many of the program's volunteers have come and gone, a few have stayed on for up to 15 to 30 years. That is a lot of commitment and dedication put toward a singular focus, the true Masonic way.

This group did not seek publicity. In fact, they were even reluctant to be interviewed. They have their hands full keeping up with the current demand, yet no one is ever turned away.

Masonry is synonymous with brotherhood and caring for others. Whether we are tending to the needs of our neighbor or making available the resources for our 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children with its wide-ranging impact, Masons make it their responsibility to help those in need.

I have said before that part of being a Mason is taking care of others and it is such a fundamental part of us, we sometimes fail to recognize the extent to which it can impact others.

Yet, on some days, it may be hard to imagine that we could give one more minute or one more dollar to any cause, when our own lives are so hectic and busy. It becomes more and more difficult to realize that our fraternal relations are desperately needed.

Some of us may be unable to imagine being dedicated to a goal for as long as 30 years, but we should remind ourselves that every little bit helps. If a small group of Masons can do so much, what could the rest of our brethren contribute if each of us took our responsibility as seriously?

Masons all over the world are bound by our fraternal network, which is based on brotherhood, charity and our common character.

We must take the lead from these Massachusetts Masons and use this common bond to make contributions to our community and society.

Sovereign Grand Commander





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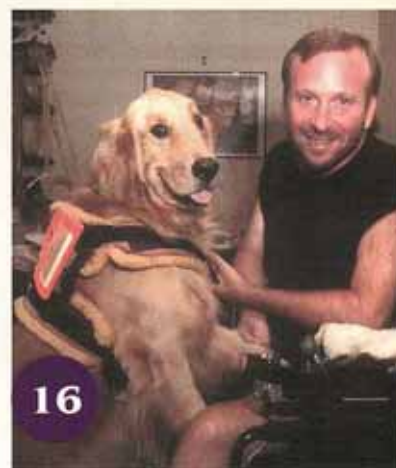
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SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°  
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Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.  
SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER  
Robert O. Ralston, 33°

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# Offering a Community Service

*Massachusetts lodges loan medical equipment to the public*

If one man can make a difference, than certainly four can do more, and there are four men in Massachusetts who have done just that. By dedicating themselves and their Saturday mornings to an independent cause, these men have assisted many in need — in their local area and far beyond.

These men are the core volunteers for the Seventh Masonic District (SMD) hospital equipment loan program, a program created more than 30 years ago by the late Richard C. F. Hastings of Stoneham, Mass. A sign on the office desk reads "SMD: Masonry in Action," and the slogan on their sweatshirts proclaims, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

After spending a Saturday morning in their basement headquarters, nothing becomes more self-evident than those two remarks.

The walls of the narrow basement hallway of the Malden Masonic Temple, where the SMD program is housed, are covered top to bottom with rows of crutches, commodes, walkers, hospital beds, and bed rails.



Robert C. Crockett, 32°, (left) and Harold E. Mew, 32°, discuss operations at the SMD office. Mew, who has been coordinating the program since 1979, plans to retire in December, and Crockett has volunteered to assemble a new committee that will attempt to fill Mew's shoes.

The long corridor empties into four rooms jam-packed with all types of some new, but mostly used, medical equipment. The windowless rooms are claustrophobically stacked with Hoyer lifts, wheelchairs, shower chairs, dressing sticks and more.

It is hard to imagine spending more than 10 minutes in the cramped space, let alone every Saturday morning for the last 15 years. But that is just where you will find Leon Kezarjian, 32°, of King Cyrus Lodge, Stoneham, Mass.

Kezarjian, 73, has volunteered at SMD from 9 a.m. until noon every Saturday since 1985, except one. For three hours every Saturday he helps visitors find the proper medical equipment, accepts donations or returns, and repairs equipment in between waiting on visitors.

Joining Kezarjian on his weekend duties are Harold Mew, 85, Robert Baker, 78, and Eugene Baldi, 73. The four work together every Saturday morning over coffee, donuts and one-liners.

"It's a light-hearted atmosphere," said Mew, 32°, of Wyoming Lodge in Melrose. "People come in depressed and we send them out laughing."



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



Kezarjian, a Past Master of his lodge, said he shows up every Saturday because he firmly believes in the mission of the organization. He also enjoys the rewards that sometimes come in small packages.

"One Saturday a mother came in with her son, she had just taken him to the doctor. He was 2 1/2 years old and he couldn't walk, so I fixed a special walker for him. The little boy never smiled or anything, until I gave him the walker with four wheels on it," the retired postal worker said. "His face lit up and he was smiling and pushing that thing all over the place. She drove all the way from Dunstable, and she brought it back when he outgrew it. Seeing his smiles, that makes it all worthwhile."

Mew, the veteran of the group, has been a part of the program since 1968, when Hastings established the idea and operated out of his garage.

Compared to Kezarjian and Mew, Baldi and Baker are relative newcomers, having worked at SMD for only six and two years, respectively. Retired bank examiner Baldi came in one day to borrow some equipment, and decided to stay and help out. He enjoys ribbing the customers and getting them to forget their troubles for awhile. He is not a Mason, but is one of the most dedicated volunteers, according to Mew.

"He is one of our most loyal, compassionate workers," said Mew. "Our group is more than just Masons, and I've encouraged others to get their neighbors and relatives involved."

Baker, a retired electrician and member of Wyoming Lodge, lost his wife a few years ago, and he said being at SMD gives him a sense of purpose and time with friends.

"I like working with my hands," he said. "I get to see the brothers from my lodge and make new friends."

Mew, who retired in 1987 from an investment house, remembers many hours of unselfish service from Jane Atherton, who helped with the administration for years; Frank McDowell, 32°, who volunteered for 10 years before passing away, and Ted Smith, who helped build the repair shop and trained volunteers how to repair wheelchairs.

In the last 30 years, Mew has worn all the hats needed to get the job done, acting as president, secretary, treasurer, and record keeper. He started out helping his friend Hastings on his own

SMD volunteer Eugene Baldi tightens the legs on a commode in between waiting on visitors. The equipment is thoroughly inspected before it goes out on loan.



mission, and ended up filling in all the gaps after his death. Hastings passed away in 1979, and Mew and a few others took over.

"We decided right from the funeral to appoint ourselves as the committee and move SMD to Malden," said Mew.

Mew said Hastings coordinated the independent charity program after he finished his term as Grand Master of King Cyrus Lodge. He "wanted to do a program of his own, right from scratch" and found some hospital beds in the back of someone's barn in Maine, and brought them home to start his medical equipment loan program.

"They were all rusted, so we sand-blasted them and had a painting party," Mew remembered. "I started that Sunday painting and I've been with it ever since."

That first year the program had nine hospital beds, one hospital bed table, one wheel chair, two walkers, one EZ lift chair, 13 canes and nine pairs of crutches. The purpose of the program was to loan hospital equipment wherever there was a need within the Masonic district.

In 1984, there were a total of 459 medical equipment pieces in the inventory. Today, the total inventory includes approximately 5,000 pieces.

Mew and his small band of volunteers have expanded Hastings' initial intent to include more than 1,000 wheelchairs, 700 tub seats, more than 400 walkers and commodes, about 200 transfer seats and almost 30 Hoyer lifts. The medical equipment is now available to anyone who needs it — even those living out of state.

According to the records Mew has been keeping over the years, the majority of the equipment has been used within the towns in the district. However, the program has provided medical equipment to people in more than 125 cities and towns in Massachusetts, and 25 cities in Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Florida and California, as well as the countries of Greece and Lebanon.

The group uses a commercial steam cleaner to clean and sanitize the equipment, and repairs are done in the on-site repair shop.

This goodwill program successfully serves thousands, while being run by only a handful of people at any given time. But now that is all about to change.

Brother Mew is retiring, and a committee of up to 20 members will be organized to take over all his duties and carry on the program. ➤





SMD volunteers Leon Kezarjian 32° (left) and Robert Baker, work on equipment in the repair shop.

➤ When Mew announced his retirement, the future of the charity was in question. The small group of volunteers was not sure if anyone would step up to take over. Over the years it had been somewhat of a struggle to get new volunteers on board.

"Not until Harold said he was retiring did people start to take notice," Kezarjian said.

According to Kezarjian, each lodge in the district has been asked to help staff SMD with two members on each Saturday on a rotating basis. Records show that out of the last 33 Saturdays, two volunteers have shown up 18 Saturdays, while 12 times nobody showed, and three times just one person came in to help.

With Mew's retirement announcement, however, people are coming forward to start what Mew calls the "new regime."

One of the people who accepted the challenge is Robert C. Crockett, 32°, of Winchester, who has volunteered to help direct a committee and spearhead the transition.

Crockett began by mailing a letter to almost 1,800 Masons in the Seventh District informing them of Mew's impending retirement and the date of the initial meeting. Everyone was pleasantly surprised when more than 50 people attended. Crockett said the program will need those large numbers to effectively replace Mew.

"We need to come up with a format of how we replace Harold," Crockett said. "He's been a one-man show here and we need at least 10-15 people to replace him."

While some people have come forward to volunteer to manage the database and to act as treasurer, there are many more jobs to fill, according to Crockett. As a result of Mew's retirement, Crockett hopes to get more than one person per task involved to lessen the workload that Mew has shouldered for so long.

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**"No act of  
kindness,  
no matter  
how small,  
is ever wasted."**

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— SMD slogan

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"Harold does a wonderful job. The problem is no one wants to get stuck with what he has been doing," Crockett said. "He does everything and it's too much for one person."

The plans are to develop a traditional organizational structure and then assign each lodge a certain amount of time to be responsible for the operation. Mew and the others will stay on as advisors.

"They are the nucleus of the whole thing," Crockett said.

The new committee has met twice so far, and is at the launching stage. The

groundwork has been laid and now the "new regime" will start to take over. The group hopes to be fully integrated by December.

"One way or another, this is going to go," Crockett said. "We will figure out a scheme to make it work, because it is the best thing we do in our district."

The program has been financed through donations, fund-raisers and the generosity of others. The group has no out of pocket expenses for the space or the utilities it uses.

The basement is rent free, with lights and heat and phone access included.

Up until a month ago, the group used a payphone. Now, an individual line has been installed for their use. The Malden Masonic Association, who owns the Temple building it is housed in, absorbs all expenses. Mew said the program has "never lacked for money."

"This wouldn't be possible if the lodges didn't cooperate in the fund-raising with Ladies Dinner nights, flea markets and auctions," Mew said.

Mew said local lodges pitch in to support the program with gifts of up to \$300 to \$1,000 annually. He remembers a time when lodges would run bean suppers and auctions to raise money for the program.

"Years ago, they had great auctions," Mew said, adding that it would be a huge social event. "We had so much fun!"

Today, many of the people who take advantage of the program's free equipment will leave a donation. Mew said the organization collects between \$20 and \$200 every Saturday from visitors. All donations are recognized with a thank-you note, and Mew said the group sends out more than 500 a year.

The steady stream of visitors borrowing and returning equipment on any given Saturday morning is solid evidence that the program has become an effective and much needed service to the community and beyond.

Kay Dannenberg, from Everett, came in on a recent Saturday and borrowed a tub rail for her husband, Charles, to use. She was a repeat customer, having previously borrowed a wheelchair and a walker. She said her daughter bought a tub rail for \$80, but it didn't fit the tub. So she took it back, and Dannenberg found another one at SMD that would work and in turn, she made a \$10 donation. The couple saved \$70. "We used to buy the stuff,"





SMD volunteer Baldi, center, helps visitor Marcella Cusson fill out paperwork for equipment she is borrowing for her husband Robert Cusson, who has been a Mason for almost 50 years.

Dannenburg said, "But they are so expensive. This place is a Godsend."

Anna Lipinski of Malden said she has visited SMD five times, and had returned to pick up a wheelchair. She said she originally found out about the program from a friend.

"This is a tremendous help," she said. "They are fantastic."

One of the last customers of the day was Jill Pearlman from Melrose. Pearlman, a home care physical aide, has recommended SMD to many clients, but had never used the program for her own needs.

"I send people here all the time, and now I need it and I am very grateful," she said. "I am amazed (to see what they have) now that I'm here."

After spending a Saturday at SMD observing the group in action, one can see why the program has been such a success. What they don't have in number of volunteers, they make up for with their smiles, sense of humor, their kindness and generosity.

At five minutes to closing time, they start packing up their equipment and calling it a day, when the phone rings. A caller asks, "What time do you close?"

"Noon," replied Mew. "But if you get on your horse and put him in a gallop, we'll be here."

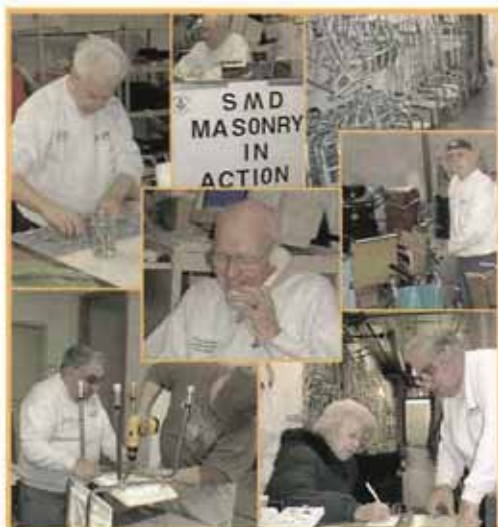
Twenty minutes later, another satisfied customer, tub seat in hand, walked out the SMD basement door into the sunshine.

## EQUIPMENT IN USE

1,065	Wheelchairs
433	Walkers
442	Commodes
110	Over Bed Tables
269	Toilet Seat Extenders
208	Toilet Seat Supports
172	Beds
154	Bed Sides
269	Canes
57	Fore Arm Crutches
319	Quad Canes
28	Crutches
744	Tub Seats
198	Tub Rails
20	Trapezes
212	Transfer Seats
27	Hoyer Lifts
7	Blanket Supports
17	Bed Rails

Miscellaneous: oxygen holders, grabbers, transfer boards, electric lift chairs, geriatric chairs, IV poles, cushions, sock aids, dressing sticks, exercise bikes, foot baths, humidifiers, parallel bars, exercise pedals, wall rails.

As of 1/31/01



**ON THE COVER:** Clockwise from top left: Robert Baker looks for matching screws to repair a chair. Harold Mew takes a visitor's information at the front desk; the hallway lined with walkers, commodes and crutches; Eugene Baker selects a wheelchair for a visitor; Leon Kezarjian helps a visitor fill out paperwork; Kezarjian and volunteer Craig Hess, 32, put new screws in a tub chair. Mew (center) will retire as coordinator in December after working with the program for more than 30 years.



# Reaching Beyond The Walls

*Van Gorden-Williams Library  
is a resource for all Masons*

**T**he Van Gorden-Williams Library located within the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, MA, serves the needs of researchers focusing on the history of Freemasonry and our country, as well as being a resource for general information about the fraternity.

Along with extensive collections concerning Freemasonry and other fraternal societies, the library also focuses on important episodes in American history. Often, the two subjects have interesting parallels. The library's collections also highlight aspects of American culture and decorative arts.

The library has much to offer Masons — either locally or across the jurisdiction — and the library staff is eager to share these resources with brethren. For those who cannot visit the library to research in person, we welcome questions by mail, telephone, or e-mail.

For instance, anyone interested in researching the meaning of Masonry, or how Masonry has affected trends in history, can do so at the library, or by calling for referrals of sources or information. The staff of professional librarians is trained to handle Masonic and non-Masonic-related research questions.

Questions frequently asked cover a wide range of subjects.

For example, "What influence did Freemasonry have on the founding of the United States?" The answer to that



*The engraved frontispiece to Anderson's  
Constitutions of 1723.*

can be extensive and usually results in the staff suggesting some recommended readings.

One of the most frequently asked questions concerns whether a relative was ever a Mason. Although the library staff sometimes cannot directly answer this question, we can often lead the inquirer in the right direction. The answer is generally best handled by a referral to the Grand Lodge of the Mason's home state. The Van Gorden-Williams librarians can generally find information on deceased 33° Masons by researching Supreme Council documents.

The staff also answers questions on subjects not related to Masonry.

For instance, "I'm interested in the history of clockmaking. Do you have any information?" The library's resources in this area are particularly strong in both our book and periodical collections due to an extensive antique clock collection owned by the museum.

The library features a collection of more than 100,000 items. Of this vast collection, more than 30,000 of the items pertain to our fraternal order.

One of the more unusual items include an original edition of Anderson's *Constitutions of 1723*. This is one of the most important Masonic books ever published, comprising the first speculative constitutions and regulations. Many of these principles are general rules of Freemasonry at the present day. This is an original edition, published in London, making it contemporary with the founding of modern Freemasonry. This rare volume will be included in a museum exhibit next year.

Another point of interest is one of the earliest and rarest titles in our serial collection. A monthly Masonic magazine published in Dublin, *The Sentimental and Masonic Magazine*, features articles, songs, and poetry of Freemasonry. The issues in our collection range from 1793-95.

Serving as an essential resource for the study of Freemasonry, the Masonic collection contains books on the history of Freemasonry, histories of lodges, and transactions and proceedings from Grand Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Councils of Deliberation and Commanderies throughout the Northern Jurisdiction, the country, and the world.

Standard Masonic reference books are also available to present a balanced research source.



*JULIE TRIESSL is the serials librarian at the Van Gorden-Williams Library in the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA.*



Thanks to the prolific authorship on the subject of Freemasonry new titles are added regularly, keeping the collection lively and current.

The museum contains more than 500 Masonic periodical titles spanning four centuries, including both current and historical publications. Periodicals from the 19th-century often bear elaborate illustrations and advertisements that make the appearance as fascinating as the contents.

Many pieces of sheet music in our collection are intriguing. The variety of presentations of sheet music illustrates the diverse appeal of Masonry in different times and cultures. For example, sheet music artistry illustrated in the 18th century reflects a more formal approach, while 20th-century artwork can be more lively.

Longstanding current publications form an important part of the serials collection. These magazines are useful for academic research, general interest and provide a sense of Masonic activity throughout time.

The diverse collection includes publications from research lodges, newsletters from Valleys and international journals. New issues arrive daily to enrich the collection and memorialize Masonic communications.

The archives of this Supreme Council date back to the 18th century. Rituals, minute books, charters, certificates, patents and maps help chronicle the history of the organization. Numerous ribbons, tickets, coins and stamps are held to document manifestations of Freemasonry throughout its history.

Other treasures among the archives are documents bearing the signatures of Queen Isabella and George Washington from the G. Edward Elwell Jr. collection of autographs. An exciting collection of World War I posters, donated by Diana Korzenik and Andrew Dibner, will soon be displayed in the museum's "Food is Ammunition" exhibit.

The Lexington Alarm'd letter is another unique historic document within the archives. Issued by the Committee of Safety on April 19, 1775, and circulated by messengers on horseback, it alerted the countryside to the events that had taken place on Lexington Green that morning. Its contents are reflected in the spirit of the museum's permanent exhibit on the role of Lexington in the American Revolution.

A colorful collection of approximately 9,000 Masonic and fraternal postcards from our archives will in part be fea-

tured on our Web site in the near future. A pilot program of 400 postcards have been digitized for display on the Web and will also be shown in the upcoming Masonic display in 2002.

The non-Masonic collections of books and serials relate to American history, non-Masonic fraternalism, and materials on the decorative arts.



Two examples of historic Masonic sheet music found in the library's archives.

source tools for the museum's curators. Since the focus on catalogs is narrow not many libraries have such a collection, but like the Masonic collection its specialization makes it a fine tool for researchers. Also archived for future researchers and historians is the complete account, documented in print and slides, of the museum and its exhibits during its 25 years of operation.

The library, dedicated to John H. Van Gorden, 33°, and the late Louis L. Williams, 33°, in recognition of their valued guidance in its development, was built on the book collection of the Supreme Council and supplemented by many personal libraries, including those of Cerza, Cummings, May, Newbury, Peacher, Pfankuche, Robinson, Slater, Van Gorden, Wahlstrom, Wells, and others. Purchases and donations support the continuing growth of the collection.

The library now contains more than 60,000 book titles and more than 1,600 serial titles on three floors.

Soon the library catalog, until now available only on computers within the library, will be posted on the Internet making information about the collection more readily available for browsing and research. Users can search for a particular title or the works of a particular author or they may search by subject. The result of the search will be to let the user know if the library owns the desired material. The full catalog will be put online in stages, making a call to Public Services Librarian Helaine Davis a good form of verification until the entire collection is listed online.

The library is reaching out to all Masons by providing a pamphlet designed to help Masonic officers assess, conserve, and preserve the documents in their care. Archivist Catherine Swanson has created this booklet that identifies the elements to be considered in ensuring that documents will have the care they deserve. The information is relevant to personal papers as well as those owned by lodges. A copy will be distributed to each Valley.

The general collection features books, journals, and maps of interest to the general public as well as research materials used by the museum's professional staff. One of its strongest areas is that on fraternalism and the ways in which other fraternal organizations relate to and draw from the tradition of Freemasonry.

Notable, too, is the collection of presidential materials. The War between the States is well represented in the collection, also.

Among the more unusual and valuable library holdings is the superb collection of major auction house catalogs, themselves works of art to be treasured for their colorful glossy photos of unusual items. These serve as valuable re-

#### HOW TO REACH THE LIBRARY

Phone: 781-861-6559 ext 109  
E-mail: [library@monh.org](mailto:library@monh.org)  
Web site: [www.monh.org](http://www.monh.org)



# New Award Honors Valley Participation



Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston has announced a new recognition program to increase active participation in the efforts to raise funds and increase awareness for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children.

The kickoff for the Valley Teddy Bear Awards program will be Aug. 1, 2001, and the Commander encourages all to jump on board.

"This wonderful program will recognize the Valleys whose members come forward to commit to one of our most worthy causes," he said.

The 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children presents the annual Valley Teddy Bear Awards to recognize a Valley's response to this fund-raising challenge. Every Valley is eligible for a Teddy Bear Award, which takes the form of a plaque with engraved brass plates of recognition, depending upon the level of giving.

The awards will be announced each year at the Supreme Council Annual Meeting.

"The Valley Teddy Bear Award program is not in itself a fund-raising activity, but rather a recognition for the funds raised from members and friends residing within a Valley," said Joseph J. Berlandi, executive director of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

This will include contributions of all kinds to the learning center program, which provides an opportunity for each Valley to assess its goals for financial participation. All Valleys, regardless of the level of giving, will receive recognition.

All efforts that result in funds contributed to the learning centers count toward the goal, which is set by the Supreme Council.

Proceeds from any authorized fund-raising event to benefit the learning centers are eligible.

Such an event could include sponsoring a charity ball or a charity golf tournament. Gifts by Valley members in response to direct mail appeals by

Supreme Council charities, such as the "blue" envelope appeal, the calendar program, and the Sponsor a Child program, also qualify for credit toward the goal.

Direct bequests or planned gifts and donations designated for the learning centers are another acceptable source.

What each Valley needs to do to earn a plaque is precisely what it needs to do to continue the success of the learning center program.

There must be above average public and member awareness to increase interest and support. Communicating the message of the learning centers to the community raises public awareness of the charitable work of the Masonic fraternity.

A Valley can accomplish this goal by distributing information through a Valley publication, a local newspaper or getting coverage by broadcast media of the local learning center.

Valleys can increase awareness by hosting a public open house at the learning center or holding a fund-raising event.

"This program is designed to recognize the Valleys for their efforts to

## RECOGNITION LEVELS



### *Platinum Teddy Bear Award*

Presented to those Valleys raising more than 100% of the goal established by the Supreme Council (based on membership), and meeting two member/public awareness goals.



### *Gold Teddy Bear Award*

Presented to those Valleys raising more than 67% of the goal established by the Supreme Council (based on membership), and meeting at least one member/public awareness goals.



### *Silver Teddy Bear Award*

Presented to those Valleys raising more than 33% of the goal established by the Supreme Council (based on membership), and meeting at least one member/public awareness goal.



### *Bronze Teddy Bear Award*

Presented to those Valleys raising up to 33% of the goal established by the Supreme Council (based on membership).



raise funds for the entire program," Berlandi said. "Needless to say, it is important that we extend our fund-raising activities beyond the geographic locations of where our centers are or will be located."

The 32° Masonic Learning Center program will only survive if we are successful in increasing public awareness and support.

Keeping members and the public informed results in heightened interest, participation and giving. With outreach efforts being made by the Valleys, people will learn of our dyslexic program, but also they become aware of the charitable work of our fraternity.

While annual funding for the centers—approximately \$2 million a year—comes from several sources, our growth needs to be substantiated.

Often we receive gifts from individuals. In addition, activities are planned at each learning center by board members and parents, and proceeds from the annual "blue" envelope appeal and the calendar appeal also contribute.

However, the objective is to maintain each learning center at an extraordinarily high level of professionalism, and to do that we need everyone's input.

It will require a substantial and immediate increase in our annual revenue, up to \$7.5 million by the year 2004.

All and any contributions made in an acceptable form to the learning centers will be credited to the Valley from which it generated.

According to Brother Berlandi, the problems of dyslexia extend beyond

the boundaries of our centers' locations.

Many children enrolled at the centers reside in communities outside the location of our centers.

"Dyslexia is a community-wide problem which requires community-wide support," Berlandi added.

To be considered for a Teddy Bear Award, the Scottish Rite Valleys must submit applications that include summary descriptions of fund-raising events and member and public awareness activities undertaken within the Valley.

These must be received no later than Aug. 1 each year to be considered for recognition at the Annual Meeting that year.

The first presentations are scheduled to be announced at the Annual Meeting in September 2002.

## Students Show Progress at Learning Centers

What price can be put on the opportunity to teach a dyslexic child to read? Tutors at the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children will tell you that watching the face of a child who is beginning to grasp the tools toward reading for the first time is a priceless experience.

Executive Director Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°, reports that he receives letters daily from parents and children expressing their appreciation for how our program has changed their lives.

For example, a high school student from Burlington, NJ, recently learned the value of learning how to read at our Burlington center.

He writes: "My ability to read when I arrived at the Scottish Rite Learning Center was about third- or fourth-grade level. A year later it was up to high school level. That is the key that helped me get into college. They saw my resume from the learning center and obviously knew I could make it at their college."

Parents of children enrolled in the program will tell you that a value cannot be placed on the benefits the family reaps from the effectiveness of the child's one-on-one tutoring.

A parent from Lowell writes, "I can tell you from a parent's viewpoint, I was impressed with your center. The level of caring by everyone, staff and volunteers alike, is beyond expectation. It is not surprising that I can say my daughter has made tremendous progress.

She recently displayed something I have not seen in a long time — confidence. If I can ever be of assistance to you or anyone else, please do not hesitate to call. I do not think I will ever be able to find the right words to fully explain all that you have done. Thank you again for everything you do and represent."

Obviously, this parent would agree that a price tag cannot be put on the tremendous success of our learning center program. Unfortunately there is a cost that must be paid.

These professional tutoring services are provided to almost 700 children enrolled at our centers at no cost to the children or their parents.

These services are free regardless of the economic status of the parents. The cost for operating this program is approximately \$5,000 per child.

"The responsibility for meeting this cost has been solely that of the 32° Scottish Rite Masons, other Freemasons, families, friends and other supporters of this wonderful charity," Berlandi said. "Fund-raising activities are an essential part of maintaining this program."

Since one of the principles of our organization and our reading program is charity, the payment must be made by those of us who care.

As the student from Burlington put it, "Besides my family, the Scottish Rite is top on my list of people to thank for helping change my life forever."

***"My daughter recently displayed something I have not seen in a long time — confidence."***

***— A parent***



# Defining Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a neurologically based disorder that interferes with language acquisition and processing. It manifests itself early in life as a "reading problem" or "reversals problem." Once considered primarily a male disorder, dyslexia is now recognized as afflicting males and females equally.

The condition is treatable through intensive, phonetic, multi-sensory, one-on-one tutoring. Even more encouraging, therapy can start as late as high school or even college, although early intervention is most effective.

Studies show that of the children who are reading-disabled in the third grade, 74 percent remain disabled in the ninth grade without intervention. Therefore, a reading disability reflects a deficit rather than a developmental lag in linguistic and reading skills.

Children with dyslexia are generally bright and imaginative. Some of the world's great artists, political leaders and inventors were and are

dyslexic, including Leonardo DaVinci, Thomas Edison, Agatha Christie, Albert Einstein, Winston Churchill, Whoopi Goldberg and Walt Disney.

However, untreated reading and language problems associated with dyslexia can lead to low educational achievement and poor employment prospects. The psychological damage of not being able to read starts early in school and can affect a person for a lifetime.

Reading difficulties are the most commonly shared characteristic of juvenile offenders and the number one cause of school dropouts in the United States.

To overcome these hazards, disabled readers must be presented highly structured, explicit and intensive instruction in phonics rules and the application of the rules to print, since they do not readily acquire the alphabetic code due to deficiencies in phonological processing.

## Orton-Gillingham Most Effective Tutoring Method

The Orton-Gillingham method used at the 32° Masonic Learning Centers is the method most widely accepted by clinicians and is named for psychiatrist and neuropathologist Dr. Samuel T. Orton and educator Anna Gillingham.

In the mid-20s, Dr. Orton recognized that dyslexia is a built-in developmental anomaly of the brain affecting the whole human language functioning and not just reading and writing. Arithmetic reasoning has recently been added to the list of brain-processing difficulties common to dyslexics. The Orton-Gillingham approach uses phonetics and emphasizes visual, auditory and physical learning styles.

Children being tutored through Orton-Gillingham are taught how to process language and read all over again. Each child is seen regularly for one-on-one tutoring. Progress is made in small, readily quantifiable steps.

Sessions use auditory, visual and kinesthetic elements reinforcing each other for optimal learning. Spelling is

taught simultaneously with reading. This is different from many other phonics programs.

The elements of the language are introduced systematically. Students begin by reading and writing sound in isolation. These are blended into syllables and words. The various elements of language, consonants, digraphs, blends and diphthongs are introduced in an orderly fashion. As students learn new material, they continue to review old material to the level of automaticity. The teacher addresses vocabulary, sentence structure, composition and reading comprehension in a similar structured, sequential and cumulative manner. In this way, the instructor can understand how the child learns and devise teaching strategies to best meet each child's needs.

According to Lexington Learning Center director Joyce Gillis, "Children arrive here rather demoralized, but our program gives them hope and, in effect, guarantees they will succeed."

## Learning Centers Currently Operating

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



# Groundwork Begins for 'Sponsor a Child' Pilot Program

Now entering the eighth year of operations with 30 centers operating in 12 of the 15 NMJ states, the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children announces a new funding program.

After proving for years that the Orton-Gillingham method taught at our centers is extremely effective, the time has come to enhance public awareness and to encourage businesses and individuals to help financially sponsor the cost of a child's tutoring.

"We have concentrated our efforts on professional staffing and training and opening centers for the last eight years," said Executive Director Joseph J. Berlandi, 32°. "The time has come to direct our attention to raising funds required to meet the ever increasing costs of operating the program."

The Sponsor a Child Program, in the preliminary stages of planning, will seek sponsors from within and without our Masonic membership,

for every child enrolled in the program.

Sponsorships are \$5,000 a year, or \$2,500 a year for a co-sponsor.

Each sponsor will receive the child's first name and periodic updates of the child's tutoring progress. With parental permission the child may communicate with the sponsors, or even give a presentation to their benefactor during the course of their tutoring. The program is provided at no cost to the children's parents.

Blue lodges, appendant bodies, individual Masons, Masonic friends, community groups, local businesses and non-members will have the opportunity to sponsor a child.

There will be approximately 135 children in the pilot program, which will be tested in six learning centers throughout Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Berlandi said the future of many dyslexic children is riding on the success of this sponsorship program.

"There are over 700 kids presently in our program. We are doing a lot more in this learning disability area than any other single entity that we know of," he said. "The potential is there to help many more children, particularly when approximately 18 percent of our population has some level of dyslexia."

Children are not the only winners in this program. Sponsors will also gain from their contribution. While there are more than 4,000 Masonic lodges in the 15-state jurisdiction, a majority of them are not located in or near communities with a learning center. Sponsoring a child will provide a sense of being connected to the program, even if they cannot see the operation first hand.

Valleys will also earn awards for sponsorships stemming from their Valley. Any sponsorship within a Valley will receive acknowledgment through the Valley Teddy Bear Awards recognition program.

## Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to Sponsor Learning Center in Worcester



The work of the Planning Committee for the Greater Worcester 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children has been set in motion. Committee members are (Front row) Samuel R. McClure Jr., 32°; M. Howard Jacobson, 32°; Deputy's Representative Roger W. Pageau, 32°; Joseph R. Carter, 33°. (Standing) Committee Chairman H. Richard Cornwell, 32°; John T. Campbell, 32°; Russell W. Nadeau, 33°; Henry B. Rand, 33°; Norman A. Peterson, 33°.

Following in the footsteps of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, who is currently funding a learning center in Newark, NJ, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has committed to fully sponsoring a 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children in Worcester, MA. This sponsorship entails funding the annual operating budget of approximately \$125,000. This generous contribution will allow another successful center to operate in Massachusetts. The existence of this facility will positively impact the lives of many young dyslexic children, their families and their communities throughout the Worcester area.

The decision to open the fourth center in Massachusetts was made at a recent Grand Lodge Board of Directors meeting in February.

The planning committee for the development and construction of the center has laid the ground work. The newly named board of governors will be charged with implementing the plan.



# Readers' Response to "Investing in Freemasonry"

In the February issue, we asked for your opinion on the future direction for Freemasonry, and we got it. Here is a sampling of the response.

## Tap our resources

I believe there is more to the article's title than was mentioned in this informative story.

As the article accurately mentions, Freemasonry must now compete with things like the In-

ternet, digital cable, satellite television, videos and DVD's, just to name a few. While we preach to the converted about Masonic awareness, we literally don't put our money where our mouth is.

People, despite Masonic awareness, have little or no idea as to who we are or what we do.

It is time to "invest" in our fraternity. We have vast resources both financially and in human talent that need to be tapped. We need to aggressively get the word out about our fraternity before the scythe of time cuts us down. If this means advertising on the radio, on television, in the print media, or on the Internet — so be it!

The time is now to look to the younger generation in our fraternity so they can bring that youthful zeal and energy to the many leadership posts typically reserved for more senior members. This generation will bring greatly needed new ideas and new perspectives to our leadership ranks.

We have so much to offer young men. Freemasonry is such a positive force and can be a wonderful outlet for the man who is seeking more out of life. It is time to "think different" in the way we bring men into this fraternity. If we don't, the temple will not be completed, and our good work will end.

It is the 21st century and it is time to stop thinking like the 19th century.

The million-dollar question at the end of the article asks, "Are we prepared for a major shift and will we accept it?" We have no choice.

*George J. Bibilos, 32°  
Melrose, MA*

## Officers as specialists

I think the first thing lodges ought to do is to freeze the line. They should cease advancing their officers in line. Whatever happened to "Rising to eminence by merit, we shall live respected and die regretted?"

In other words, each officer would be an expert in his work, and degree work would tend toward the excellent.

Though a Past Master of a New Hampshire lodge, I would give anything to be just one thing in Masonry — Senior Deacon for life. In my prior capacity in that station, I was able to inspire candidates in a direct way. Several were drawn closer into the fraternity because I insisted upon perfecting my work.

I have offered this suggestion among brethren of several U.S. jurisdictions, but they are unwilling to be seen blocking anyone else's "rise to power."

Shakespeare must have been a Mason, because he said, "The play's the thing wherein I'll catch the conscience of the king!" I think that this is a crucial role of the blue lodge — to catch the conscience of the candidate in the precise role we have taken for centuries, that of "impressing in the mind wise and serious truths" with the drama of the degrees on Ancient Craft Masonry. I've seen it work!

*Paul Trusten, 32°  
Midland, TX*

## Stretch forth a hand

Freemasonry offers what it does specifically because of what it is. Reducing the requirements for membership and/or altering the ritual will do naught for improving our membership count and quality. In fact, I believe it will adversely impact it over the long run.

Better that we focus on providing more of interest within the lodges to keep the new members involved.

Is it not our duty to stretch forth a hand to a brother on all lawful occasions? Let us then be more aware of what it is the new member is looking for and find a way to offer it to him.

That process should start with the Investigating Committee, perhaps a poor name for what it is they should be doing, and the process of communicating to the prospective member who we are and what we are about.

Assign to him a knowledgeable and dedicated mentor to continue that process through the first few years of Masonry. Help him find a niche within the lodge that matches his interests and help him develop new ones.

If Masonry must evolve, let us step out from behind the veil of secrecy and work on improving our communications. I can find no reason why every member of the community should not know us by both our reputation and our good works. If we let the light of Masonry shine, more will come to stand in its bright rays.

*Dave Upham, 32°  
Rochester, NY*





## Create social capital

Here are some of my thoughts that I expressed at my installation as Master of University Heights Lodge No. 738, Lyndhurst, Ohio, on Dec. 7, 2000.

We ask potential members why they want to join, but we seldom articulate why membership and particularly *active* membership is important.

It is not so that we can fill the seats in the lodge room.

The reason for belonging to this or for that matter any similar organization or club is that we benefit by it. By "we" I mean our community.

Robert Putnam, in his book *Bowling Alone*, chronicles the decline of social capital.

The central premise of social capital is that social networks have value. Social capital refers to the collective value of all "social networks" (who people know) and the fact that people in these networks tend to do things for each other ("norms of reciprocity").

The term social capital emphasizes not just warm and cuddly feelings, but a wide variety of quite specific

benefits that flow from the trust, reciprocity, information, and cooperation associated with social networks. Social capital creates value for the people who are connected and — at least sometimes — for bystanders.

Here are some examples of social capital:

When a group of neighbors informally keep an eye on one another's homes, that's social capital in action.

When a tightly knit community of Hassidic Jews trade diamonds without having to test each gem for purity, that's social capital in action.

Barn raising on the frontier was social capital in action, and so too are e-mail exchanges among members of a cancer support group.

Social capital can be found in friendship networks, neighborhoods, churches, schools, bridge clubs, civic associations, and even bars.



## A need for kinder and gentler lodges

I have been a member of our fraternity since 1964 and remember the experience well. The names in the Bible I received were people who made a deep and positive impression on me.

In 1965 I moved from my hometown into a different state after finishing college. I continued an additional four years in higher education, and finally settled into a community knowing that I would be there for several years.

I will never forget attempting to "work my way" into a Masonic lodge after not attending a meeting for several years. What an embarrassing situation, while my so called "brothers" had a great time. For some reason, I got in and attended that lodge for a few times. I joined the Scottish Rite in the 1980s.

In my line of work I move around quite a lot, but I recently took an early retirement. There are a few lodges in my area, but I can tell you one thing. I will never try to "work my way" into another meeting. It is not worth it.

I pay my lodge and Scottish Rite dues every year. And I will continue to pay my dues every year for as long as I live.

I know where the lodges are, and I even know some of the members. I simply don't say anything about my lodge affiliation to avoid the pressure of trying to get into a lodge in a different state. To tell you the truth I don't think I could even "work my way" into a meeting at this point.

Wouldn't a membership card presented at a lodge do? My cards are up to date. Maybe Masonry should offer a brief course on the stuff needed to feel part of a fraternity. Maybe lodges need to be kinder and gentler.

Charles K. Root, 32°  
Newport News, VA

Believe it or not, an increase in your social capital can result in your living healthier and happier. People rich in social capital, feel healthier. Research shows that being socially connected to others inhibits depression.

People who attend club meetings or volunteer just twice a month have massive jumps in their *index of happiness with life*. But don't worry, when you get above three times a month it begins to decline slightly from that peak.

How does this translate into my year as Master? I want to begin increasing our stock of social capital. I want us to interact more, to be more interdependent.

Our lodge is well endowed financially, we need to endow it with social capital.

Our world is changing. And to some extent Masonry and this lodge is changing, but the values that we hold and the social capital we can create will serve our lodge, our families and our community well into this new century.

Keevin Berman, 32°  
Lyndhurst, OH

## Meet on the level

Freemasons need to meet on the level in their hearts not just in the ritual. To really practice this, I believe:

1. All Grand Lodge officers should wear plain white aprons in lodge and stop wasting money on the purple aprons.

2. All Grand Lodge officers entering a lodge room should give grand honors to those in lodge and *not* have the lodge give them grand honors.

3. Realize that we must meet on the level with everyone.

4. Meeting on the level means being aware that we are not better than the rest of men.

No matter how good our programs are, they are worthless if in our hearts we do not meet on the level. Seeking honors and ways to mark us off as better than others is not meeting on the level. I do not believe Masonry can survive if it does not return to basics, meeting on the level.

Alan Arnold, 32°  
Gansevoort, NY



# A Mason's Best Friend

By ROBIN R. ROBINSON

*A four-footed 'Brother' joins the Scottish Rite*

This spring, Scott Lengel's best friend follows in his footsteps in entering the world of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. Scott, a member of Brandywine Lodge No. 33, Claymont, DE, expects his friend to sit quietly and observe the 32° just like the other candidates. He says he thinks his friend knows the ritual as well as any person can, even though his best friend, Baggins, is a golden retriever.

Scott, confined to an electric wheelchair as a result of being a passenger in a one-car accident 15 years ago, serves on his father's staff as Aide to the Grand Master, and Baggins, his companion of six years, is his service dog.

"I'm the Grand Rolling Aide to the Grand Master, and Baggins is the Grand Mascot," Scott said.

His father, Most Worshipful Charles H. Lengel Jr., put in a request to Deputy for Delaware Robert V. McDowell III, 33°, to accept Baggins as a Scottish Rite Mason. McDowell contacted Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, who readily approved the idea.

"It is so fitting that the Grand Lodge decided to do something so significant for Baggins," the Commander said. "Bro. Scott must be so happy, and we are also. This is a tremendous event and certainly one which calls attention to yet another heart-warming story of a faithful friend's total devotion to his master."

M.W. Lengel said that with Baggins observing his degree, all members of his staff would be Scottish Rite members. When Lengel was reviewing his staff list, he realized there were only three Masons who were not Scottish Rite, two men and Baggins.

"I wanted Baggins to be in the class because the other two are in the ceremonial, so we will now have 100 per-



Scott Lengel, 32°, and his service dog, Bro. Baggins, relax at home.

cent Scottish Rite (members on the staff)," the elder Lengel said.

He extended his gratitude to the Sovereign Grand Commander for accepting the request.

"It's a day that none of us will ever forget, thanks to Commander Ralston," he said.

Another day Lengel won't forget is the day he was able to enter Scott as a Mason.

"It made me very happy to have that opportunity, as I was sitting as Ju-

nior Warden," he said. "Shortly after that he was involved in the accident and he was put on hold. We got a special dispensation to continue him and I was quite happy to give him the next two degrees."

Both Scott and his father live in North Wilmington, Del.

Baggins first became a Mason when he was declared a Mason-at-sight and presented with a membership card in 1997 by then Grand Master Herbert P. Fulmer.



"Fulmer made him an honorary member — a Mason in good standing forever," said Scott. "He gave him his card and everything else."

According to Fulmer, making Baggins a Mason did not seem that odd to him, since Baggins had attended more meetings than most human Masons are able to. "I am very glad I did it. Baggins had attended many, many meetings," he said. "He is probably a better attender than a lot of other brothers and I thought, 'he deserves to wear a cord.' So, we had a cord made up for him."

It was actually Fulmer who indirectly brought the two together. Fulmer was serving as High Priest of the Royal Arch Chapter when he invited Independence Dogs, Inc., in Chadds Ford, PA, to give a presentation. Scott attended and once he saw the program, he was hooked, Fulmer said.

Scott and Baggins are well known in Delaware as they tour the state together. Scott gives speeches on Masonry and, occasionally, lectures on the lack of handicap accessibility of some lodges.

Scott's wife Maureen said he wants to increase everyone's awareness of the need for handicap accessibility for Masonic buildings.

"What he's doing proves that just because someone sits more than he

stands, it doesn't mean he doesn't have a valuable presence," she said.

Maureen said people may not realize how much work it is for Scott to attend as many meetings as he does. Because of his handicap, he must dress for his meetings in the morning, with the help of an aide, which means on nights that he must wear formal dress, he has been wearing the tuxedo all day long.

***"We are a good team.  
There's nothing that we wouldn't  
try together and accomplish."***

— Scott Lengel

"I am very proud of them, both Scott and Baggins," she added. "He is making such an effort to attend and go and do."

When Baggins became part of the family, Maureen was able to leave Scott alone and return to work.

"Baggins is an incredible blessing. I can leave Scott with peace of mind. Before, in case of an emergency, Scott would not have been able to open the door and with Baggins he can do that. They are just such a team together,"

she said.

At the age of 25, Scott became involved in Masonry, just prior to his accident. He had watched his uncle and father become Masons, and saw the caliber of friends they were making from the membership and he wanted to meet the same kind of men.

"Seeing my father in it and the friends he made by being associated with other Masonic brothers made me want to become a part of it," he said.

Just being a member wasn't enough for Scott though; he wanted to be more involved, so he started teaching Masonic catechism in 1990. He then served as assistant chaplain in Brandywine Lodge for a few years before becoming chaplain, a position he still holds.

His decision to join the Masons in 1986 was more fortuitous than he could have imagined. His mother, Jackie, said her son's involvement in Masonry gave him direction and kept him grounded during his struggle after the car accident.

"There's a lot of Masonry in him," she said. "He's very forgiving and that stems a lot from Masonry."

His mother also said that Baggins was a big help to him as well.

"(The dog) really made a difference," she said. "It's like a friend to him." ➤

## ***Baggins Was Trained to Assist Quadriplegics***

Baggins was trained at Independence Dogs, Inc., in Chadds Ford, PA. According to the organization's Web site, there are three primary types of service dogs: wheelchair dogs, walker dogs and quad dogs.

Baggins is a quad dog, trained to assist people who are quadriplegic and have very limited upper body strength. Quad dogs help their partners by turning light switches on and off and pressing elevator buttons, retrieving dropped articles, opening heavy doors, picking up and bringing telephone receivers and carrying packages and notebooks in their specially constructed backpacks.

It costs between \$10,000 and \$12,000 to fully train a service dog, but people are not denied access to a dog if they can't afford one. IDI only requests their "graduates" to contribute a minimum of \$200 toward the cost of the dog's custom-made harness and equipment, and then whatever they can afford.

Although there is a one- to three-year waiting list for a service dog through Independence Dogs, Inc., the dogs are not provided on a first-come-first-served basis.

Each dog is specially partnered with a specific individual, so there is no way to predict when the perfect match will be made.

The program is open to any man, woman, or child who has a permanent physical disability that impairs his or her ambulatory skills — for example, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, polio, or spinal cord injuries.

The dogs begin training as puppies, being taught basic obedience skills and socialization by a volunteer puppy raiser. Around the one-year mark, the pups return to the IDI school to enter a formal training period of six to nine months.

For more information, log on to:

[www.independencedogs.org](http://www.independencedogs.org)



## DELAWARE GRAND LODGE OFFICERS



Grand Aide to the Grand Master, Scott Lengel, is seated far left, first row, and Grand Mascot Baggins sits in front with his custom-made tuxedo and apron. Lengel's father, M.W. Charles Lengel Jr., is seated third from left, front row.

► Scott said that after his accident many of his friends abandoned him, while his newer Masonic friends stood by him and have been there with him every day since.

"The friends that I really had before the accident, which outnumbered my Masonic friends since I was just getting into Masonry, have basically been a no-show. My Masonic friends are the ones that have helped me and supported me friendship-wise or in helping out in whatever they could do," he said. "There are at least 10 of them right around the corner I can call if I am in need."

Masonry is what we all think of as brotherly friendship and close ties, and I have seen both sides of the coin. The Masonic side is by far the richer experience and shows the true friendship and loyalty that Masons have toward each other. My experience shows just how strong Masonry is and what a brotherly fraternal organization it is," he added.

Apparently, Baggins is in tune with the Masonic tenets that Scott is describing. He and Scott were a natural fit right from the start, and in the six years as Scott's constant companion, he has an intuition and bonding with Scott that far exceeds the average master/pet relationship.

Scott went years without a service dog because he didn't know how advantageous it could be to have one, he said.

When Scott and Maureen visited Independence Dogs, Inc., the trainers said they had a dog in mind for Scott.

Scott viewed a parade of dogs and met each one by directing the "up-touch" command — or the command for the dog to come forward. Scott describes his first meeting with Baggins this way:

"I was smoking then, and I had a pack of cigarettes in my lap. I did the uptouch with Baggins and when he got down, he picked up the cigarettes and proceeded to give them to my wife. He dropped them in her lap. We knew then he was the one for me."

The trainers for Baggins said, "Well, we had Baggins in mind for Scott but it looks like Baggins chose him!"

"He's my best friend," Scott said, adding that he has since stopped smoking.

Scott and Baggins watch sports together, go to the racetrack, play slot machines, attend meetings and even shop together.

"He's on the same wavelength as me. The bonding I have gotten from him is so incredible. He can tell by looking at me what I'm feeling and

whatever I need at any particular time, whether it's emotional support or physical support," Scott said.

Scott is a big hockey fan, and in particular favors the Philadelphia Flyers. Baggins likes it when the Flyers are winning, because he gets a treat every time he hears the word "SCORE!"

As a service dog, Baggins is trained to open doors for Scott, pick up anything off the floor that he needs and act as his hands in anyway that he can. Doors in Scott's house are equipped with towels around the handles so that Baggins can pull the doors open by tugging on the towel.

Scott remembers a few times when Baggins went above and beyond the call of duty.

Baggins had opened the refrigerator door for Scott, and some beef jerky stored on the door fell on the floor. Scott figured Baggins would chomp it down as a treat, but instead he sniffed it, picked it up and laid it in Scott's lap.

Another time Scott dropped his anti-spasm pill on the floor. It is very important that Scott take the tiny pill, and when he dropped it he figured he was in a jam. But Baggins came to the rescue by carefully picking up the tiny pill in his mouth and placing it gently in Scott's lap. And yes, Scott did take the pill.

Baggins also helps Scott in teaching Masonic catechism classes. Scott said over the six years Baggins has observed the classes, he knows the ritual as well as any Mason. If someone is having a tough time remembering, Baggins has been known to roll his eyes and walk over to comfort and relax the nervous Mason.

"He is right there looking at all the candidates," Scott said "If someone messes up, he will roll his eyes and put his head in their lap and get them to relax."

Scott said he looks forward to many more years in the service of the Masonic organization, and thinks one day he might advance up the officers' line.

"I have been pondering that for a number of years," he said. "People have encouraged me and said they would help out, so I am considering going up through the line in the future."

With his trusty companion at his side, Scott feels he has very few limits on what he can do with his life.

"We are a good team. There's nothing that we wouldn't try together and accomplish," he said.





## Internet Snafus and Other Issues



By Leigh E. Morris, 32°

**?** There are times when I can connect to the Web, but I have trouble sending and receiving e-mail. What can be done about it?

**A.** What you describe is a common problem, especially if you use one of the larger Internet service providers (ISPs). Here's what you can do:

- Get a free e-mail account which you can use as a backup or primary e-mail service. Hotmail ([www.hotmail.com](http://www.hotmail.com)) and Yahoo ([www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)) are two good choices.
- If you have the option, consider switching to a smaller local ISP. Generally, they offer better service.
- Complain to your ISP whenever you have a problem. Demand compensation for your inconvenience. Often the ISP will give you a month of free or discounted service.

**?** I'm thinking about trading stock online. What do you think?

**A.** My first advice would be to avoid day trading. Unless you are an expert, it's a great way to lose your money. There are countless stories of people who have lost everything.

However, if your intent is to use the Net instead of calling your broker to buy and sell stocks, your idea may have merit. In most cases, trades are less costly when done on the Net. Make certain you have all the information you need before you take the plunge. Remember, because it is easier to make trades online it is easier to make mistakes. Be cautious because it's your money.

**?** I receive a lot of online offers to buy things from prescription drugs to clothing. Is this stuff legit?

**A.** The answer is a simple yes, no and maybe. There are many legitimate online business offers just as there are many valid offers that come through the mail. At the same time, the scams are endless. I've heard from brothers who have lost \$50 and from those who have lost hundreds. The following tips will help keep you out of trouble:

- Legitimate companies will refer you to a Web site where you can look at their products and place an order. Most will send you a printed catalog.
- Only place online orders from a secure site. You will be advised of this when you place the order. Never order via e-mail. Never give your Social Security number.

- Always use a credit card. This way you can contest the bill if the product is not delivered or if you return it and the company fails to refund your payment.
- If an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

**?** I opened an attachment to an e-mail. You guessed it, there was a virus in it. Is there a way to know whether an attachment has a virus?

**A.** Not yet. Never ever open an attachment unless you know the sender. If you want to be completely safe, don't even open those. Make certain you have anti-virus software installed in your computer. Update your anti-virus software on a regular basis.

Of course, there's another way to protect yourself. Get a Macintosh computer. You see, nearly all viruses are designed to attack Window operating systems. Most viruses will not affect a Mac.

**?** How can I get a faster Internet connection?

**A.** Your best choice would be DSL service. Prices have come down and it is available in a growing number of communities. To see if DSL service is an option for you, visit the DSL America site ([dsl-america.net/](http://dsl-america.net/)) for a directory of DSL providers throughout the United States and Canada.

Another option is broadband service, generally offered by cable television and other telecommunication companies. Because this is a so-called shared service, connection speeds may slow down as the number of users increases.

A third option is a satellite link. This will likely prove popular among those who live in rural areas and small communities. The service is available through Dish Network and DirectTV, but it is still quite costly and is not suitable for all applications. I do expect prices to fall in the next year.

Be sure to send your complete name, city and state of residence, Valley and e-mail address to me at <[2r6@onemain.com](mailto:2r6@onemain.com)> for our Masonic E-Mail Directory. Also, send along any and all interesting Masonic Web sites. Those will be included in the directory.

Until the next issue, enjoy the Net and promote our craft.

Questions or comments? Send me an e-mail at  
[2r6@onemain.com](mailto:2r6@onemain.com)  
(please note that this is a new e-mail address).



# New Director of Development Named

Frank Fletcher of El Paso, TX, has been named the new Director of Development for the Supreme Council. Frank and his wife, Deborah, relocated to the Boston area in March.

He began his employment with the Supreme Council on March 12 with more than 20 years of professional and volunteer fund-raising experience.

He comes to the Supreme Council from the University of Texas at El Paso, where he served as assistant vice president of institutional advancement, responsible for directing all facets of the university's \$11 million development operation.

Frank also served as executive director of development at Husson College, Bangor, Maine. There, he planned and directed all phases of the college's \$7.5 million capital campaign, which included major, planned, corporate and foundation gifts.



Frank Fletcher

Frank says he enjoys the development field because every day brings new challenges.

"I get a lot of satisfaction and enjoyment from my work," he said as he arrived at the Supreme Council headquarters. "It is an opportunity to work with people who care about making the world a better place and then helping them to do it in an effective and meaningful way. No two days are ever the same and the challenges are endless."

Originally from the Boston area, Frank held the director of development position at the University of Massachusetts from 1990 to 1993. He has also worked as an adjunct professor at many universities and colleges, and as a fund-raising and marketing consultant.

Frank plans to use his experience to develop a strategy for the department that will bring financial success and capitalize on its progress so far.

"The Charitable Giving Committee has been doing a lot of outstanding work," he said. "I am looking forward to working with them in developing a plan that addresses the needs of growing the annual fund and endowment, as well as completing a campaign to endow the learning centers within the next five years."

Frank said he is honored to be a part of the Supreme Council staff.

"I am grateful to be of service to a value driven fraternity that has such a long-standing tradition and I am very excited about the opportunity of helping this organization achieve its fund-raising goals," he said.

Frank is a member of several professional organizations, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals. He has presented numerous professional workshops and has published articles in several university journals.

He is looking forward to accepting the challenges of further developing the department.

"Scottish Rite Charities have a long tradition of service that does so much good for so many people.

The key task will be living up to that tradition of service while also meeting the fund-raising challenges of today and beyond," he said.

## MASONIC WORD MATH

*How to solve:* Start with the first word. Add to it the letters of the second word. Then add or subtract the letters of the following words. Total the remaining letters and unscramble them to find a word associated with Masonry.

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{CIRCUS}) + (\text{ACROBAT}) - (\text{CAR}) + \\ &(\text{DEMONSTRATE}) - (\text{DANCE}) - \\ &(\text{REST}) + (\text{SHEEP}) - (\text{STOMP}) - \\ &(\text{EACH}) + (\text{CLEVER}) - (\text{TROUBLE}) \\ &= \square \square \square \square \square \square \square \end{aligned}$$

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



# The Stamp Act

## A Philatelic Review



By Robert A. Domingue



Horatio Herbert Kitchener is pictured on this stamp issued on Oct. 1, 1979, by Cyprus to note the Centenary of the Survey of Cyprus.

Lord Kitchener was initiated in 1883 in the Lodge "La Concordia" No. 1226 in Cairo, Egypt. He was one of the founders of Drury Lane Lodge No. 2127 in London in 1885 and in the same year joined Bulwer Lodge No. 1068 in Cairo. In 1889 he joined Grecia Lodge No. 1195 in Cairo and presided as Worshipful Master for the next two years. He was exalted in Royal Arch Masonry in Bulwer Chapter, Cairo.

Born in June 1850 in County Kerry, Ireland, Kitchener was educated at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, England, and received his commission in the Royal Engineers in 1871. He served in Wolseley's expedition for relief of British General Gordon in 1884, which was unsuccessful since it did not arrive in time to save the general. He was appointed governor general of Eastern Sudan in 1886 and commander in chief of the Egyptian Army in 1892. He led an invasion of Sudan in 1895 that ended successfully in September 1898. Promoted to Major General in 1896, he was raised to the peerage as Baron Kitchener of Khar-toum in 1898. He continued to rise in rank and nobility

and at the outbreak of World War I was appointed secretary of state for war. He died lost at sea when the British cruiser "Hampshire" struck a mine and went down off the Orkney Islands, June 6, 1916.

\*\*\*

Stephen F. Austin is featured on this stamp issued on March 2, 1936, for the Centennial of Texan Independence. Austin is pictured



with Bro. Sam Houston and the Alamo. Austin was born in Wythe County, Va., in November 1793.

His family moved to Missouri in 1798. He attended Bacon Academy in Connecticut and Transylvania University at Lexington, KY.

By the age of 27, he had served three terms in the Missouri Legislature, as director of the Bank of St. Louis, a federal circuit court judge in Arkansas and editor of a New Orleans newspaper and then led 300 families to settle in Texas.

He met several times with officials in Mexico and in 1833, during one of those visits, was arrested and imprisoned by Gen. Santa Anna.

He was not released until December 1834. He started the Texas Revolution in September 1835 when he put out the call to arms.

He ran for president of the Texas Republic but was defeated by Bro. Sam Houston

and accepted the post of Secretary of State.

He died in December 1836 at the age of 43.

Bro. Austin became a member of Louisiana Lodge No. 109 at Ste. Genevieve, Mo., the first lodge west of the Mississippi.

He later transferred his membership to St. Louis Lodge No. 111.

\*\*\*

Bro. Julius Tandler is pictured on an Austrian stamp issued on Aug. 22, 1986. He was made a Mason in May or June 1920 in Lodge "Lessing zu den drei Ringen" of Vienna and was raised there Nov. 30, 1922. This lodge, along with all of Freemasonry, was prohibited from functioning from 1938 to the end of World War II in 1945.

Tandler was born in Iglau, Jahlava, Russia on Feb. 16, 1869. He was a professor of anatomy and served as Undersecretary of Public Health from 1919 to 1926. A social reformer, he served as Socialist Democratic Alderman of Vienna from 1922 to 1934. He was a pioneer in the reorganization of care and health existence in Vienna and later, in all of Austria, following World War I. He died in Moscow, USSR, Aug. 26, 1936.



\*\*\*

Mark Wayne Clark is pictured on a stamp issued by the Marshall Islands on June 4, 1994, to commemorate

World War II events. Born May 1, 1896, at Madison Bar-racks, NY, Clark

graduated from West Point in 1917. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1917 and advanced to general in 1945.

During World War II, he was Deputy Chief of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army Ground Forces, Commander of the 5th Army and then the 15th Army Group in Italy.

In 1952 he was Commander-in-Chief of the UN Command in Korea and Commanding General of all U.S. Forces in the Far East. He retired in 1953 to accept the Presidency of The Citadel, in Charleston, SC.

Bro. Clark was raised on Dec. 30, 1929, in Mystic Tie Lodge No. 398, Indianapolis, IN, and later affiliated with Hancock Lodge No. 11, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. A member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis, IN, since 1930, he received the 33° in 1946 and was a recipient of the Gourgas Medal in 1954. Gen Clark died on April 17, 1984.

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





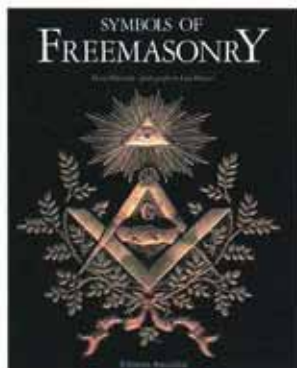


By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

*Symbols of Freemasonry* by Daniel Beresniak. Published in 1997, republished 2000. Distributed in the U.S. by St. Martin's Press, New York. \$19.95

*Symbols of Freemasonry* is co-authored with the photographer, Laziz Hamani, due to the magnitude of the contribution of the photos in the book. Daniel Beresniak has written "numerous" books on Freemasonry, "lectured widely" on this subject and is regarded as a "recognized authority" on Freemasonry.

There can be no doubt that Beresniak has a considerable knowledge about the craft, not only about regular and recognized Freemasonry, but also irregular and unrecognized Freemasonry. The reader must be aware that what he reads includes all categories in this text and therefore what is written may not apply to the Freemasonry with which he is familiar.



In some statements, he implies that all lodges in the world are included and that is simply not true. For example, he starts a paragraph, "In all the rituals observed throughout the world" and then states, "In every lodge the vault of the ceiling is decorated with stars," and "everyone enters wearing an apron and gloves." We, of course, know that this is not true with all lodges. These

along with other observations are of minor consequence to the whole of the book, but are non-the-less not factual. In addition, his writing involves principally French Freemasonry, which may be somewhat different to the average American member even when referring to regular French Freemasonry. There might also have been something lost in translation from French to English.

With that said, let's take a look at the book. Its appearance is impressive, and after reading the preface and the introduction, I thought it was to be a great book. Those portions contain some good philosophical observations and significant statements. Regretfully, much of the rest of the text lacked the impressive content of these pages. That is not to imply that they lack value, for indeed there is much to be learned from them.

Each chapter contains numerous color photographs. Actually 68 of the 128 pages are full-page photos. The photography is of high quality and beautifully prepared, although I found it difficult at times to relate the photo

directly to the topic.

There are some good observations made in the text that are worth reading, i.e. "If having no books is hardly a good thing, what is worse is to have only one book and to set it up as a fixed and unchanging monument." Another observation that should stimulate thought is, "Rather than saying that Freemasonry was born out of the Guild of Masons, it might be more helpful to say that learned men who wished to work together and exchange ideas adopted the symbolism and structures used by working masons." This of course is not a new supposition, nor do I accept it as it stands, but it never hurts the neophyte to think about it.

The author does have one error of which I would be interested in knowing the source. He states, "the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite was founded in Philadelphia in the USA." He also makes a statement that would probably be totally misunderstood by non-members and shocking to regular Freemasons who do not understand the difference between regular and irregular Freemasonry. He says, "The volume of the Sacred Law...may be any book of importance to the individual or the lodge...It is generally the Bible...It can be the holy book of the new members' religion, so that they can swear their oath on it: the *Qur'an*, the *Veda*, the *Bhagavad Gita*, the *Tao Te King*, or the *Constitutions of Freemasonry*." This statement implying that the *Constitutions of Freemasonry* could in any way be placed on a level with the other books mentioned must be an anathema to all regular Freemasons.

While keeping in mind that the author did not limit his writing to regular craft Masonry, and noting the value of some of the observations made, along with an appreciation of quality photography, I think it is a book worth having in your library and is worth your reading.



*A Summer for a Lifetime, The Life and Times of George I. Purdy as told to Thomas Caldwell.* Published in 2000 by Lost Coast Press, 155 Cypress Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. \$24.95

*A Summer of a Lifetime* is a small hardbound book of 143 pages. As the title implies, it is the story about the life of George I. Purdy. Frankly, I never heard of George Purdy, and I suspect that many of you have not either, but that does not reduce the significance of the life he lived.

Purdy lived a fascinating life, although not particularly remarkable when compared to many historic figures. He was a man who met challenges head on, challenged adversity, took advantage of what was available to him, and fought for what he deemed right and against



what he felt was wrong. That may be the defining difference between men like him and men like most of the rest of us. For this reason his life story might be an inspiration to the reader.

Thomas Caldwell is a Tokyo-based writer and broadcast journalist. He was a former correspondent with United Press International and currently covers technology, economic and political news for several media organizations.

This book tells the story of a boy who grew into a man, then into an old man and his challenges, successes, accomplishments and failures, along the way. His life was not unlike those of many through early manhood. Where it diverges is found in his accomplishments later in life. It is a story about a person who is drawn to the sea with a dream of graduating from Annapolis and making a career in the military service. It does not work

out the way he plans, and the balance of the book reveals his odyssey through life with his finally ending up in Japan where his greatest accomplishments are to be achieved.

Following the war during which he did serve in the Navy, but not as a graduate of the Academy, he becomes part of General MacArthur's occupation government of Japan. He evolves into a major player in the reconstruction and economic development

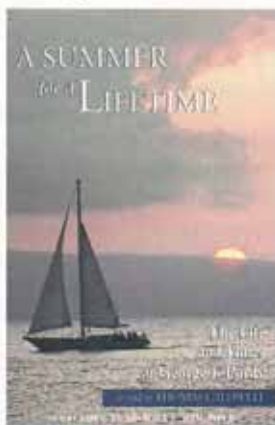
of that country for which he ultimately receives some of Japan's highest honors, including the Award of the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure, personally from the Emperor.

The "epilogue" bares his thoughts and philosophies developed during his life. This short chapter could serve as a model for those who want to succeed and be respected at the same time.

In the fourth chapter he discusses his relationship with Freemasonry and the importance of it in his life. The gift is the 32° Scottish Rite ring of his deceased uncle, whom he had never met, presented to him by his father. Along with the ring came an admonition that he could not wear it until such time that the study was complete and he earned the "right," and Purdy promised that he would not wear it until "it was time."

Nineteen years later he joined, and served as Master of his lodge as well as presiding officer in all four Scottish Rite bodies. For his contributions to the craft and to society he was coroneted a 33° Mason.

The following testimonial should perhaps serve us all. "All men have pillars that support the structure of their lives. For me, the one on which I have always relied, and the one that will be with me for the rest of my days, is the fraternity of Freemasons. My interest in Freemasonry turned out to be the greatest gift I ever received."



This book will never be a literary masterpiece, but it is a simple, interesting, and easy to read little book which I have no problem recommending to you.



***Behind the Wire* by Keith Flynn. Reprint 1999. Published by Gareth P. Jenkins PrintXPress. Purchase from the author c/o The Masonic Hall, 8 Guildford Street, Cardiff, Wales CFI 4HL.**

This very small book of less than a hundred pages was first published in 1998 and was sent to me by the author. He is a Past Master of a lodge in South Wales and was Prestonian Lecturer in 1991.

Some of Freemasonry's brightest moments came during times of its greatest peril. This little book records some of those moments. Most of us have read of actions of Freemasons and Masonic activity taking place in times of war that brings credit to the Fraternity and to individual Freemasons. The author has presented some of these actions and activities. This book is written by an English author and most of the tales are those of British Freemasons although American Civil War stories are also included. This in no way detracts from the significance to our craft's ideals and how they affected those involved.

If it accomplished nothing else, the involvement by craft members with each other served to distract their minds from the realities of their circumstances. This book, however, reveals a much deeper impact upon not only the member but also upon those they touched, for it relates a caring by fellow members with those who were at that time enemies due to war and also a concern for those outside the camps. A comment made by the author captures the essence of craft: "The unspoken reliance on one another as Masons and the strength of the common bond they shared provided a sure support even in the worst of times."

Some of the names which the members applied to the lodges they created indicate their feelings at the time.

These men held their meetings knowing full well that discovery would mean death. Their dedication to the craft, however, was of such that they willingly took the risk, and many did die because of it. Their actions should serve as an inspiration to those of us who understand so little about what it means today.

Do I recommend it? Absolutely! It might just serve as a stimulus to those who did not know, or a shot in the arm to those who did, but forgot.

**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

### ■ Drink a cup of tea for better bones

Women who drank one or more cups of tea a day have denser bones than those who drink no tea at all. No extra benefit was gained from drinking more than one cup, according to a study described in *New Choices*.



### ■ Amazing apples

Research reported in *Nature* shows that one apple can contain more antioxidant benefit than 1,500 mg of vitamin C, one of the most potent of all antioxidants. Antioxidants neutralize free radicals, which have been implicated in heart disease and cancer. Doctors think it's the phenolic acids and flavonoids that are responsible for the high antioxidant properties in apples. They say eating fresh fruits and vegetables is the best way to reap antioxidant benefits.

### ■ Orange juice loaded with health benefits

At least 170 phytochemicals have been identified in orange juice. And OJ also contains vitamin C, carotenoids, and fiber. A study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* shows that drinking one extra glass of citrus juice reduces the risk of stroke by about 20 percent.

Reported in the *University of California, Berkeley Wellness Letter*, research in Israel links orange juice with a reduction of the harmful cholesterol oxidation that promotes arteriosclerosis. And a Canadian study shows that OJ boosts levels of HDL, the good cholesterol.

Want more? A Dutch study found that citrus, because of its B vitamin folic acid, lowers blood levels of homocysteine, a substance that may increase the risk of heart disease.

### ■ Golf: How to have an injury-free season

The top muscle-related injuries from golf are the lower back, elbow and shoulder, according to the National Safety Council.

- Lower back pain: Increase hamstring flexibility and strengthen abdominals to avoid pain. When swinging, use the hips more than the back and shoulders.

- Shoulders: Inflammation of the shoulder's rotator cuff tendons is caused by the pinching of the tendons



between the bones of the shoulder. Avoid this by warming up sufficiently.

- Elbow: Inflammation of elbow tendons is primarily caused by hitting the ground with the club head.

### ■ Walk two miles, that's all you have to do

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health say this regular exercise does wonders. It protects your heart, reduces the risk of diabetes (or helps control it), reduces high blood pressure, and helps prevent osteoporosis. The best distance is two miles.

The walk will give you increased energy, help to prevent weight gain, and help you sleep better. It will make you feel younger and live longer.

### ■ Vitamins may improve child's behavior

A study by California State University shows that kids ages 6 to 12, who took a daily multivitamin (equivalent to a balanced diet) for four months needed only half as much discipline as those taking a placebo.

### ■ Kidney stones and family history related

Anyone can get a kidney stone, but doctors have identified triggers and come up with drugs that can help. The strongest influence, a family history of the disorder, triples your risk.

More than 80 percent of stones have calcium as the leading component. Doctors at Harvard say avoiding dairy products is not the answer, but all adults should avoid getting more than 2,000 mg a day. Limit salt, which draws calcium into the blood and then the kidneys. Eat less meat and more fruit. Avoid oxalates in chocolate. Drink plenty of water, tea and coffee. Dehydration fosters stones.

### ■ Low-fat diet reduces Alzheimer's risk

Research presented at the World Alzheimer's Congress shows that people with a genetic tendency for Alzheimer's disease should eat a low-fat diet. A diet with more than 40 percent of its calories from fat increases your risk seven times.

### ■ Glucosamine may slow arthritis

A Belgian study published in the British journal *The Lancet* shows that glucosamine sulfate is effective in slowing the progression of osteoarthritis. The popular diet supplement is the first treatment proven to actually retard osteoarthritis.

### ■ Make healthy burgers by turning often

Want a faster, healthier hamburger? Flip it often. Turning it every minute will cook a hamburger in about half the time it takes to cook one that is turned just once. As reported in *The Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, researchers at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory say the shorter cooking time will reduce cooking-related carcinogens. Even more, they say the fast cooking eradicates illness-causing bacteria more effectively than when patties are turned only once.





# Enhancing the lives of others

Because our brotherhood is dedicated to caring for those in need, financially supporting our charities is one of the most meaningful ways to show your commitment to our fraternity.

The Builders Council is the way the Supreme Council recognizes both members and friends for their support of these worthy causes which include the:

**32° Degree Masonic Learning Centers for Children:** Centers around the Northern Jurisdiction that provide specialized tutoring, free of charge, to children with Dyslexia, a common learning disability.

**Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage:** The museum presents the history of our country through interactive exhibits and lively educational programs.

**Leon M. Abbott Scottish Rite Scholarships:** Providing financial support for the education of young men and women from Scottish Rite families and Masonic-related youth groups.

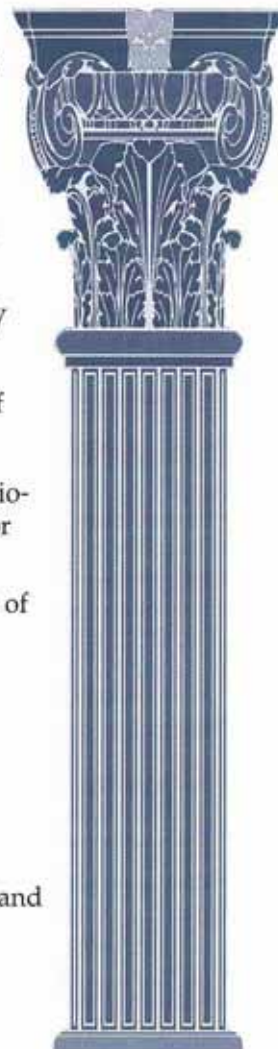
**Schizophrenia Research:** Since 1935 the Scottish Rite Schizophrenia Research Program has pioneered efforts to search for a cure of this disease. Your donation will provide fellowships for bright young graduate students in this field.

To join is simple; all you have to do is make a minimum pledge of \$10,000 to one or several of our charities, and you can do it in a number of ways that include:

- A cash pledge (which can be paid over several years)
- A bequest by will
- Retirement funds
- Charitable lead trust
- Life insurance
- Real estate
- Life income gifts

Your contribution will show your commitment to the fraternity, help many people in need and may even offer you and your family tax and estate planning benefits.

**For more information please contact: Frank Fletcher, Director of Development,  
at the Supreme Council at 781-465-3340.**



*The  
Scottish Rite  
Builders Council*

- ☐ I have already included a Supreme Council Scottish Rite Masonic Charity in my estate plan. Please send Builders Council membership information.
- ☐ I am considering a bequest or other planned gift to one of the four Masonic Charities. Please send more information on planned giving options.

Name

Phone

Address

Date of Birth

City

State

Zip

✱ Please return completed form to: Frank Fletcher, Director of Development, Supreme Council, PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420 ✱



# VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

## What Have We Done Today?

Years before Charles M. Schwab had become head of one of the nation's largest steel companies, he worked for the legendary Andrew Carnegie.

The Scotsman taught his young employee the hard lesson of the commercial world: One day's laurels are of little use on the next.

"All records broken yesterday," Schwab once wired his chief. In reply Carnegie telegraphed back, "But what have you done today?"

As wonderful as it is to recall the past achievements of our great Scottish Rite—and there are many—our most important task is to turn our attention to today.

There are several millions of men who share our Masonic moral and ethical values. What are we doing to

help discover what Masonry can do for their lives?

In your own community, there are young men who would be grateful to you for the rest of their days if they could benefit from the experience of DeMolay. What are we doing today to give that fine organization the leadership it needs and deserves?

An article in the April issue of the *Iowa Grand Lodge Bulletin* brings out an important point on what Masons and Masonic lodges may be doing.

In a small community in Iowa, a lodge of 40 members raised \$375 to help a non-Mason and his family who had lost their home and all their possessions due to a fire. In a city, with a Masonic population of more than 2,500, another family returned home from a shopping trip and found their home leveled by fire. No offer of assistance of any kind came forth from members of the Masonic fraternity.

What are you and I doing today to help our fellowman?

Traveling across our Jurisdiction, I observe the pride our members have in the Scottish Rite. But what are we doing today, through our daily activities, moral living and charitable endeavors to influence more men to seek admission to our fraternity?

Our strength today comes from what we built yesterday. But as Andrew Carnegie reminded his young associate, "What have you done today?"

—Sovereign Grand Commander  
Stanley F. Maxwell,  
*The Northern Light*, June 1979

### SECRET MEANING

Among Masons, the real meaning of the word "secret" is a reference to that "something" one may take for his own, hide it away from vulgar eyes, in the "holy of holiest" of the heart, where none may listen to its song of praise, or its confession and its vows. When a man has learned to take his Masonry home to himself, it becomes a symphony indeed, the vibrant spirit that makes the whole world move as a harmonious creation.

—Denman S. Wagstaff,  
*The New Age*, October 1922

## Appendant Orders of Masonry

The genius of appendant orders in the United States was a North Carolinian of tremendous energy, J. Raymond Shute. Shute was a lawyer, town mayor, state senator, and much more who found himself and a close circle of studious brothers with very little to consume their time in the darkest days of the Great Depression of the 1930s. He began searching for old Masonic degrees and rites into which he could breathe new life.

One of his earliest efforts seems to have been the revival of the sleeping Rite of Memphis. About 1930, Shute discovered an aged high-degree survivor of the rite and proceeded to acclaim him as Grand Master General, 96th degree, and seems to have aimed at having himself and friends become the officers of a reborn Sovereign Sanctuary.

His plans changed rather rapidly, however, and the group organized instead the Grand College of Rites, to hold, study and preserve old rites and not to practice them. I have not studied the correspondence, but I strongly suspect SGC John Cowles of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, read the riot act to Shute and told him not to revive Memphis.

The Grand College of Rites today is a Masonic group dedicated to the unearthing, publication, and study of old rites.

Shute also founded the Allied Masonic degrees to do for orphan degrees what the GCR does for rites. The AMD charters councils limited to 27 members to study and exemplify about a dozen degrees such as St. Lawrence the Martyr, Grand Tilers of Solomon, and Secret Monitor.

Other appendant groups invented, imported or revived by Shute were the York Cross of Honor, the Knight Masons, the Holy Order of Knights Beneficent of the Holy City, and the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

—Lowell K. Dyson,  
*The Voice of Freemasonry*,  
*Grand Lodge of DC*, Fall 1997



## Principles and Abuses of Freemasonry

I met an acquaintance whom I had known for several years, and in the course of our conversation, he asked my advice in regard to joining the Masons. He said he had long thought of uniting with the Order, but had not fully made up his mind that it would "pay." He had been told by a Mason that it was a very beneficial Order, and that, in all probability, it would pay him many times the price of admission; yet he was not fully satisfied on that point, and desired my candid opinion. I told him I did not think it would pay him anything, nor did I believe he would be satisfied with the institution, and I would therefore advise him to keep out of it.

It may seem strange to some of my brethren that I would give such advice, especially when I tell you that the young man in question was known to be honest in his dealings, and was free from vicious habits. Yet I knew he was not proper material for our Masonic building, I knew he had but two objectives in life: one was to make money and one was to save it.

Such a person could have no worthy object in becoming a Mason, for his very questions disclosed his true motive, that of a profitable investment.

The first declaration the novice makes, even before crossing our threshold, is that he is not influenced by mercenary or unworthy motives, but that he is prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge and a sincere wish to be serviceable to his fellow creatures. This is the keynote to our code of morals, the foundation of our principles.

"To relieve the distressed, to soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries and restore peace to their troubled minds" is the language of our ritual, which commends itself to every reader, whether he be a Mason or not.

— *From an address by William E. Sloan, P.M. of California, reprinted in Masonic Review, Cincinnati Ohio, June 1898.*

## To Every Man His Work

Our philosophy includes the comforting of those who are in trouble and the relieving of their necessities, even if they are crushed and enfeebled by a carking sense of their own insignificance. It does not extend, however, to the coddling of the lazy or to him who, having even a single

talent, deliberately refuses to use it to meet the call of duty to his country and his fellows.

It is only by waking up men of inefficient and slothful lives by an inspiration to real service that the world can make trustworthy growth. The world will grow better and richer, economically and spiritually, not so much by the magnificent achievements of the highly gifted few as by the patient faithfulness of the one-talented many. Most men who really realize the necessity of altruistic service then go and do with all their might what must be done. Moses, Luther, Cromwell. Each one of them dallied with the corners of his napkin and almost folded up his talent in it; but the call was too strong and each forgot his own weakness and went and worked his fragment of the world's salvation.

— *From the 1943 Allocation of Sovereign Grand Commander Melvin M. Johnson*



"John can't come to the phone right now. He's reinventing himself for his next lodge meeting."

## Quick Quotes

Winners have simply formed the habit of doing things losers don't like to do.

— Albert Gray

Some people use one half their ingenuity to get into debt, and the other half to avoid paying it.

— George Prentice

Cooperation is the thorough conviction that nobody can get there unless everybody gets there.

— Virginia Burden

Don't let the fear of the time it will take to accomplish something stand in the way of your doing it. The time will pass anyway; we might just as well put that passing time to the best possible use.

— Earl Nightingale

Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment. And I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

— George Bernard Shaw

A truth that's told with bad intent,  
Beats all the lies you can invent.

— William Blake

It is always wise to look ahead, but difficult to look farther than you can see.

— Winston Churchill

Never be bullied into silence. Never allow yourself to be made a victim. Accept no one's definition of your life. Define yourself.

— Harvey Fierstein

I never give them hell. I just tell the truth, and they think it's hell.

— Harry S. Truman

Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live, it is asking others to live as one wishes to live.

— Oscar Wilde



## Plan a great vacation in a national park

National parks have a lot of things going for them as vacation destinations. They have natural wonders, hiking trails, and friendly rangers. What's more, on average, you'll be safer in a park than in a city.

A recent study by *The Wall Street Journal* ranks parks by the number of searches and rescues, serious crimes, thefts, and traffic accidents per 100,000 visitors. The parks with the safest records were: Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS; Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville, NC; Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Keystone, SD; Valley Forge National Historic Park, Valley Forge, PA; and Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, TN.



## IRA withdrawals for age 70 and up

The rules for withdrawing funds from IRA's, 401(k)'s and profit sharing accounts just got simpler and less restrictive for 2001. New IRS regulations let seniors take out less from accounts each year and relax other rules.

A new table makes it easier to calculate your required annual withdrawal. Details will soon be available from your accountant.

## Let go and be a better in-law

Psychologists writing in *Modern Maturity* give this advice to parents of married kids:

- Let go. Don't interfere in the couple's decisions.
- Be independent. Have interests that don't include your children.
- Be flexible. There's more than one way to everything.
- Cultivate a cordial relationship with the other parents.
- Claim your own boundaries. Avoid family conflicts unrelated to you, don't give money you don't have, and don't babysit when you don't want to.



## It's never too late to plan for retirement

So you think everyone but you has stashed plenty into retirement plans, savings, and stocks?

It isn't so, which is a good reason for most people to read Ellen Hoffman's book, "The Retirement Catch-Up Guide." (Newmarket Press, \$22.95, 208 pages.) She has advice for people of all ages, even those who have already retired.

According to a study by Public Agenda, a nonprofit research organization, 46 percent of Americans aged 22 to 61 have saved less than \$10,000 for retirement.

The American Association of Retired Persons reports that only one-fifth of baby boomers aged 36 to 54, have more than \$25,000 in assets.

Clearly, a lot of people need to catch up on their savings for retirement.



## Where to go when you gotta go

To the rescue in the matter of finding a public restroom is David M. Vought who began compiling lists of good toilets in New York. His site at [www.besttoilets.com](http://www.besttoilets.com) supplies intelligence to Rovenet, which makes little applications for cell phone and Palm VII users.

So now if you're stuck in the urban jungle with only your handheld, you can flush out the best facilities with a simple download. Palm VII users can download the listing Where2Go on [www.palm.net](http://www.palm.net). If you have another type of handheld, you can download it at: [www.yadayada.com](http://www.yadayada.com).

The toilets are even rated.

## So you think you know the states?

How well do your kids (or you) know the states and capitals? Want to find out? You can download a free states and capitals puzzle program online to test your memory.

Go to [www.yourchildlearns.com/owlmouse.htm](http://www.yourchildlearns.com/owlmouse.htm). The "States and Capitals U.S. Puzzlemap" downloads fast.



## Covey son tells teens: "Be proactive"

The teen years can be a difficult time for both parents and kids. With many new situations and problems to cope with, it's easy for teens to go off course. Now a famous advisor's son gives kids a star to steer by in his book, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens" (Fireside, \$14). For starters, Sean Covey, the son of Steven Covey, author of "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People," says, "Be proactive. You are the captain of your own life. You choose your attitude and are responsible for your joy or pain. Reactive people make choices based on impulse," he writes. "Proactive people make choices based on values."



## In Memoriam

### III. Harold Frank Dates, 33°

III. Harold F. Dates, 33°, a Supreme Council Active Emeritus Member for New York, died Feb. 11, 2001, at Corning, NY. Born in Corning, on March 5, 1922, he attended public schools, graduating from Corning Northside High School in 1940, and furthered his education by attending Ohio State University. He joined the U.S. Navy in December 1942 as a Naval Cadet in the V-5 program and attended Norman University in Oklahoma and St. Mary's College in California. He received the wings of a Naval Aviator and was commissioned an Ensign at Corpus Christi in January 1945. He was subsequently assigned to VBF 98 Fighter Bomber Squadron, Los Alamitos, CA, with coastal, land and carrier duty. Ill. Brother Dates was separated from active service in October 1945.

His business career began as manager of the Rhineland Dairy in 1945, and then he joined Corning, Inc., in 1950, serving in the Research and Development Division for the remainder of his career. He retired in February 1984 as a senior research associate and subsequently served as a consultant. He held nine U.S. patents, a Materials in Design Engineering Award of Merit for the best use of materials and a diploma from the Institute of Radio Engineers.

In 1945 Brother Dates married Anna Kalinich, who survives along with their son, Harold F. Dates Jr.; two daughters, Mary Leah Koch and Lois Ann Dates; and three grandchildren.

He is also survived by a twin brother, Robert; a brother, Hubert, and a sister, Mary Ellen Rowley.

Raised a Master Mason in Big Flats Lodge No. 378, Big

Flats, NY, on May 15, 1946, he was also an affiliated member of Corning Painted Post Lodge No. 168, Corning. In December 1991, he was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey near the Grand Lodge of New York.

Within the York Rite, Brother Dates was exalted in Corning Chapter No. 190, R.A.M., and greeted in Corning Council No. 53, R.&S.M., both in Corning. He was Knighted in St. Omer's Commandery No. 19, K.T., Elmira, NY.

Bro. Dates completed the degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Corning on May 22, 1948. He was Thrice Potent Master in 1960 and Commander-in-Chief of Corning Consistory in 1966-69.

He was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council on Sept. 27, 1967, and crowned an Active Member on Sept. 25, 1986. He became an Active Emeritus Member at the close of the Supreme Council Annual Meeting Oct. 3, 1995.

His other Masonic affiliations included serving as Potentate of Kalurah Shrine Temple, Binghamton, NY; Past Director of Binghamton Court No. 61, Royal Order of Jesters; member of Cashmere Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R.; the Royal Order of Scotland; Red Cross of Constantine, and the Southern Tier York Rite College No. 126.

While an Active Member, he performed various special assignments and served on the many committees including DeMolay and Youth activities, Insurance and Retirement Plan, and the Editorial Board of *The Northern Light*.

## Do I Give a "Tinker's Dam"?

The following story appeared in the *New & Views* newsletter of The Fairway Lodge No. 8614, Aylesbury, England. It had been reprinted from an editorial by R.W. Calvin Christie, editor of the *Wyndham Warbler*, the newsletter of Wyndham Lodge No. 688, Guelph, Ontario. Brother Christie has turned a minor piece of trivia into a meaningful contemplation for Freemasonry. This delightful tidbit is reprinted with Brother Christie's permission.

"Upon reading this heading you may think that I have finally flipped and resorted to cursing in print. You may have also observed that I don't know how to spell my swearing words correctly.

"The phrase, 'tinker's dam,' is one of those expressions that has come to mean something quite different than its original meaning.



"In the days before planned obsolescence, when damaged or broken items were repaired rather than discarded, an important member of society was the tinker who traveled from place to place repairing pots and pans.

"The repair method for a hole in a pot was to fill the hole with solder. To

keep the melted solder in place until it cooled and hardened, the tinker built a small 'dam' of clay around the hole. When the solder hardened the clay dam was brushed away and the solder was beaten to a smooth surface with a hammer—the tink, tink, tink sound of the hammer is where the name 'tinker' comes from. The clay dam was obviously of very little value once it had served its purpose, thus the phrase, 'not worth a tinker's dam.'



"Now how does that relate to Masonry? Is it possible that there were some formalities erected, like the 'tinker's dam' to aid some necessary work, and having served their purpose can now be brushed away and discarded? Think about it."



# Our Readers Respond

## Emphasizing the family

The Grand Commander's message, ("Little Things Matter," Feb 01) was a welcomed showing of leadership and a focus on reality.

There is no question that the family is the most important fundamental unit for the well being of the individual and our country.

I have served as a Community Dispute Resolution Mediator with northern Michigan District Court for several years witnessing a variety of family problems. Recently, I attended a class conducted by the Michigan Supreme Court on the "Permanency Planning Mediation Program," which focuses on the best interest of the children that have become involved with child protection agencies and the courts and are in need of parental help. The family unit breakdown is the basic problem in these cases.

You are definitely on the right track with your focus on the meaningful Masonic planning and programs that emphasize "Family Life: Little Things Matter." The hope is that the proactive and crisis prevention programs you outlined filter down without too much delay or dilution of effective-

ness. I pledge my support for the meaningful plan you outlined and stand ready to hear how to become a part of this great Masonic direction.  
*Gene Miller, 32°  
Indian River, MI*

## Lack of respect

I wish to congratulate the author, Brother Gaetan Giannini ("Respectful Engagement," Feb 01) for an outstanding job of writing. I am very much concerned about the lack of respect that we have, not only from the younger generation, but from the general population of today's society.  
*James D. Fullington, 32°  
Rockford, IL*

## Author's credentials

Just to let you know, Brother Kurt Kynell, the author of *Saxon and Medieval Antecedents of the English Common Law*, ("Book Nook," Feb 01) is a member of Marquette Lodge No. 101, Michigan, and the Scottish Rite Valley of Marquette.  
*John Stevens, 32°  
Marquette, MI*

## Tribute

Just finished reading your tribute to Norma Small ("Tribute to a Worker Bee," Feb 01) and wanted to express my admiration to you for your warm eulogy. Obviously Mrs. Small was a truly dedicated person to the fine magazine each of us is privileged to receive as a Scottish Rite member.

Though her passing is a void not easy to fill, your fine acknowledgment of her talents will long be remembered.  
*Earle Wittpenn, 32°  
Munhall, PA*

## On the Lighter Side

### English System Conversions:

- Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo pi.
- 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone: 1 Rod Serling
- 2.4 miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital: 1 I.V. league
- Basic unit of Laryngitis: 1 hoarsepower
- 365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer: 1 lite year
- 1 million microphones: 1 megaphone
- 1 million aches: 1 megahertz
- 1 millionth of a fish: 1 microfiche
- Half of a large intestine: 1 semi colon
- Time between slipping on a banana peel and striking the pavement: 1 bananosecond
- 1 millionth mouthwash: 1 microScope
- 1 million bicycles: 2 megacycles
- Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour: 1 knot-furlong
- Shortest distance between two jokes: A straight line
- 10 monologs: 5 dialogs
- 8 nickels: 2 paradigms
- 2 monograms: 1 diagram
- 2 wharves: 1 paradox

**HIRAM™**

By WALLY MILLER





# Footnotes\*

## OH BROTHER!



\* **Displaying talent.** Joining veteran editor Blaine F. Fabian, 33°, for the Valley of Reading, PA, newsletter is Jon J. DeHart, 32°. Brother DeHart brings with him a special artistic talent. He has introduced a Masonic cartoon strip, which he calls, "Oh Brother."

The new co-editor is a past Thrice Potent Master for the Valley's Lodge of Perfection.

We reprint above with his permission a sample of his work that appeared in a recent issue.

\* **Washington Bible.** Contrary to reports in a number of Masonic publications, the so-called "Washington Bible" belonging to St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York City, was *not* used during the inauguration of President George W. Bush in January. Due to the inclemency of the weather, another Bible was substituted.

It is believed that this Bible was used on April 30, 1789, when Robert R. Livingston, then Chancellor of New York state and Grand Master of Masons, administered the oath of office to George Washington when he was sworn in as the first President. New York City was the capitol of the United States at that time and the seat of government was Federal Hall on Wall Street.

As the 1789 inauguration was about to begin, the story goes that someone realized there was no Bible available, so a member of St. John's

Lodge quickly retrieved one from the nearby lodge.

Lodge members have been very protective of their "treasure," and insist that an honor guard accompany the Bible whenever it is taken to another site. In January a committee of three served as the escort to transport the Bible by train to Washington, DC. Because of the age of the Bible and the cold damp weather, it was decided at the last minute to replace the historic Bible with another one.

For several days prior to the inauguration, however, the significance of the Bible caught the attention of both the broadcast and print media.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the first inauguration, President Bush's father, George H.W. Bush, used the Washington Bible in 1989 along with a family Bible.

The Washington Bible is a King James version printed in London in 1767. It is supplemented with historical information, including a portrait of King George II. The Bible was presented to the lodge by Jonathan Hampton on Nov. 28, 1770, the night Hampton was elected Master of St. John's Lodge.

\* **Press coverage.** A committee from the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin has prepared a series of seven 30-second spots that are airing on the statewide Milwaukee Brewers baseball radio network. Each has been professionally produced to

profile a Mason active in his community. The series is narrated by former Governor Lee Dreyfus, 33°, a name well known throughout the state.

The program was developed by the Grand Lodge Marketing and Research Committee, chaired by Gary R. Beier, 32°.

It is estimated that the messages, which will appear a total of 50 times, will reach an audience of 1.2 million adults, about 825,000 of whom are believed to be between the ages of 25-54. Each of the seven messages will air for a two-week period, followed by two weeks without a message. The message includes a toll-free phone number for further information.

\* **Masonic display.** Currently on display at the Fraunces Tavern Museum in New York City is a new exhibition that highlights the contributions and importance of Freemasonry in colonial and Revolutionary America. "Colonists, Revolutionaries, Builders: Freemasons in America" will be on view through Dec. 31. If you plan to visit New York City, check out the museum at 54 Pearl Street.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°  
Editor



# ***Announcing!***



*see page 10  
for details!*

## ***Valley Teddy Bear Awards Recognition Program***