

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

A WINDOW FOR
FREEMASONRY

Vol. 29 No. 1 FEBRUARY 1998



Outdated? Look at the record

The world may be catching up with Freemasonry. One of our proudest tenets is the enduring belief that men around the world share the bond of a common humanity. For centuries, we've called it by the name of brotherhood. While staunchly loyal citizens of our respective countries, we have long recognized our connection to all men.

Critics of our fraternity sometimes point to what they see as a sinister side to our message of brotherhood. Unable to comprehend the simplicity and openness of our philosophy, some Masonic critics have drawn a picture of a secret Masonic force encircling the globe. Unfortunately, our detractors never take time to understand that Masons everywhere are bound together. They fail to appreciate that ours is a fraternal "network" of trust and respect. Even though we may not be known by name, our lives are woven together in a common bond of character.

We're being told by experts that a staggering two billion people around the world will be plugged into the electronic superhighway — the Internet — by the year 2000. That's just around the corner. Someone has reported that 80% of new computers sold will be outside the U.S. This is a staggering number since 50,000 are being sold each day in our own country. Each one becomes a new station along the immense universal electronic "network." Soon every TV set will be a point of access to the same superhighway.

As Masons, we have proclaimed for centuries that walls interfere with peace and harmony. And now we're about to enter a new millennium with the capability to extend our hands to people everywhere. For hundreds of years, this has been our Masonic vision for the world. And it's just possible that as the 21st century dawns, the world is catching up.

It's the same story with our Masonic commitment to charity. *It's impossible to attend a meeting of Masons without hearing about a charitable activity.* We may be the only organization in the world that can make this claim. Masonry means caring. Whether it's sharing responsibility for a needy Brother or using our Scottish Rite resources to help youngsters whose lives are held back by a learning disability like dyslexia, the focus never changes. Masons take personal responsibility for those who suffer. I have a feeling that this is such an integral part of our individual and fraternal thinking, we fail to recognize the enormous depth and extent of our charitable commitment. Once again, we may have been ahead

of our time.

For more than 30 years in this country and around the world, the focus has been on finding government-funded solutions to the problems that Masons and many others shouldered as their responsibility. Hundreds of billions of dollars later, we realized that public programs often fail to meet human need. The money was gone but the problems remained.

Now the pendulum has swung in the direction of the individual responsibility and caring for one's community and neighbors. It once again seems as if the world is again catching up to where Masons have always been.

The importance of knowledge and the value of education are other indications of how Freemasonry has positioned itself on the leading edge. In fact, perhaps the most accurate way to picture a Symbolic Lodge is to describe it as a classroom. We are a fraternity of lessons for life. We deplore ignorance because it keeps men in darkness, narrows their opportunities and limits how far they can reach. We celebrate knowledge since it sets us free to grow and advance.

While the value of learning has long been recognized, we now know an education is essential, not optional. It's not just desirable; it's an absolute necessity. We've arrived at a point in the life of our nation where even basic jobs require an education. If there is no job, there is no future.

This isn't news to Masons. This has been the Masonic message from the beginning. In the days when the great European cathedrals were built, the master mason was the architect, not the artisan. It was his knowledge and expertise that allowed him to advance. The road from Entered Apprentice to Master Mason was his education. The value of education is another notable instance in which we have anticipated the future and led the way.

With powerful core values of brotherhood, charity and education, Freemasonry has long been powered to be exactly where we should be — out in front making a contribution to the future. If there are those who dare to suggest that our fraternity is outdated, let them take a close look at the record.



ROBERT O. RALSTON, 33°

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Robert O. Ralston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Sovereign Grand Commander

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

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER
Robert O. Ralston, 33°

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The Washington Monument

Masons have continued to support the tribute to our first President

By RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°

Anyone planning a visit to the nation's capitol this spring will be disappointed if the tour includes a trip to the top of the Washington monument. The structure is currently undergoing restoration and the interior of the monument is closed to the public.

The restoration project will include an overhaul of the air conditioning system, the installation of a new elevator and a refurbishing of the carved commemorative stones, many of which were donated by Masonic groups. (See the special story of the monument's Masonic stones on page 6.)

The interior work is expected to be completed before the summer. Scaffolding will then be set in place around the exterior, as the process of pointing the masonry begins. The tedious work on the exterior of the monument is expected to take several years to complete.

The 555-foot structure was designed by architect Robert Mills, who had studied under James Hoban, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Latrobe. He also designed the Washington monument in Baltimore. In 1836, he was named U.S. architect of public buildings in Washington, D.C. Among his work in the District are the Treasury, Post Office and Patent Office buildings. His most notable work was the Washington monument.

His early design for the monument included a circular colonnade surrounding the base in the form of a pantheon. This, however, was never completed.

Although many sources have attempted to link Mills to the Masonic fraternity, no evidence of his lodge affiliation has ever been found.

Unfortunately, Mills died in 1855 during a period in which the construction of the monument was at a standstill. The memorial was not completed until 1884.

The monument will soon be surrounded by scaffolding as the memorial undergoes a major restoration during the next two years.

The monument is situated on a knoll surrounded by open space not far from the Potomac River. From windows near the top of the edifice, visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the U.S. Capitol to the east, the Lincoln Memorial to the west, the White House to the north, and the Jefferson Memorial to the south. The monument attracts more than one million visitors a year.

The shape is similar to the obelisks of ancient Egypt but much larger. The top resembles a small pyramid.

While George Washington was alive, there was a movement afoot to build a memorial to the first President, but Washington objected because of the expense.

Another effort was established in 1833 with the formation of the Washington National Monument Society. One of the functions of the society was to solicit funds to construct the memorial. From individuals and organizations, it received some \$300,000. Many of the contributions came from Masonic lodges and Grand Lodges.

Chief Justice John Marshall served as chairman for the privately organized society. Through his efforts Congress agreed to donate land for the project.

Anticipating additional contribu-

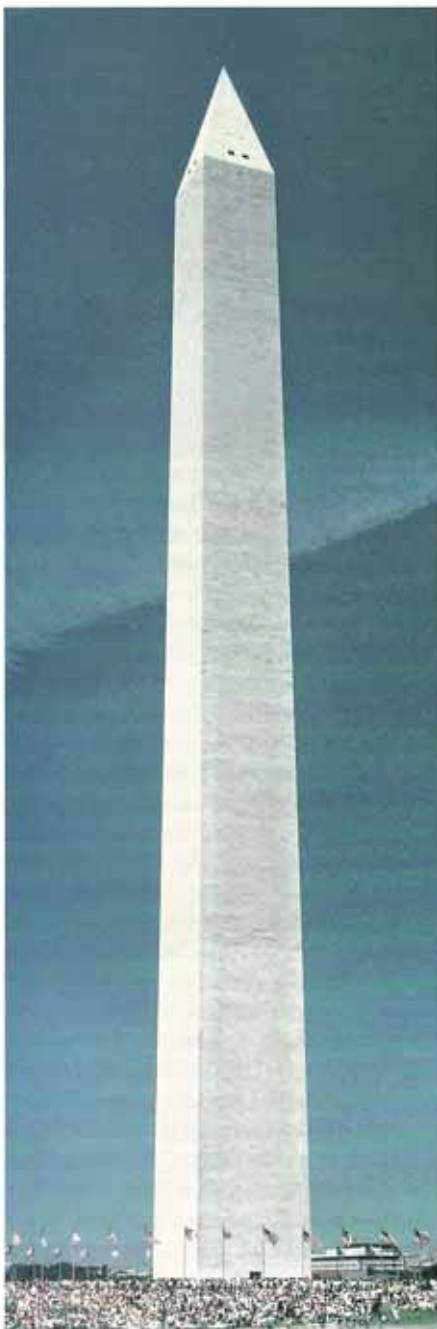
tions, the society commenced with the construction. The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was invited to lay the cornerstone. The ceremony was conducted on July 4, 1848, under the direction of Grand Master Benjamin B. French. Among the dignitaries in attendance was President James K. Polk. A number of Grand Lodges were also represented at the ceremony.

By 1854, the society was forced to halt further construction. The structure had progressed to a height of about 150 feet. Today's visitors can still see the level where the work stoppage occurred because of the difference in the shading of the stones.

The postponement was the result of several events. A political battle had ensued with the takeover of the society by members of the Know-Nothing Party. This was the major reason for private contributions to dry up. Without the much needed funds the society was unable to complete the work. Also, the nation was preoccupied with the Civil War.

With the approaching centennial of the Declaration of Independence, the society attempted once again to renew interest in the unfinished project. Requests went out to various fraternal

The Story Behind the Cover Photo



organizations asking for funds. Favorable responses began to come in.

In the meantime, the society agreed to turn over the project to the federal government. Congress voted to approve the necessary funds to complete the memorial, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took on the building task in 1878. The apex was set in place on Dec. 6, 1884.

The dedication ceremony was scheduled for Feb. 21, 1885. Once again, the officers of the Grand Lodge of Masons for the District of Columbia participated using an adaptation of the 1848 cornerstone ceremony.

Since 1933 the Washington monument has been under the supervision of the National Park Service. ♣

The cover photo of the Washington monument is the work of professional photographer Alexander Martin III, 32°.

His work previously appeared on the cover of the February 1997 issue of *The Northern Light*. That photo of the George Washington statue at the Washington National Cathedral picked up the reflections of sunlight from nearby stained glass windows. He has spent a considerable amount of time photographing many of the stained glass windows at the cathedral, always waiting for the appropriate time to capture the light to show off the beauty of each window.

His dedication to photographing the Washington monument was equally extensive. The resulting image is the work of an 18-month study. He points out that some of the picture's design elements were carefully selected before shooting. For instance, he took into consideration the camera's location for the shot, time of day, weather, and accurate control of vertical perspective.

"Two unplanned elements give this particular depiction a special vitality," he says. A large crowd was gathering for a benefit concert. The miniature human figures give dimen-

sion to the height of the monument.

The second surprise, he gleams with pride, was the remarkable appearance of the surrealistic, feather-shaped cloud behind the monument. It was created by a wind-sheared condensation trail from a passing jet airplane. "The cloud serendipitously drifted across the scene during the exact five-minute interval when the brightness ratio of the monument's two faces viewed in the camera's lens reached a preset value."

The prize photo was taken at 12:22 p.m., on Saturday, June 11, 1988.

Brother Martin sees Masonic symbolism in the capstone. "Triangularity (four faces) meets with squareness (the base of the pyramidal cap)," he says, "which gives us a triangle laying on a square, or square and compasses points."

He has worked with graphic designer Tom Walsh to produce a 16x24-inch full-color poster of the monument. Individual copies of the poster suitable for framing can be ordered directly from the photographer: Alex Martin, Cleveland House (432), 2727 29th St., NW, Washington, DC 20008. The cost is \$10 post-paid, and the poster will be shipped in a heavy-duty cardboard tube.

D.C. Grand Lodge leads drive for Masonic support

The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia is making arrangements for a celebration this summer on the grounds of the Washington monument. Grand Lodge officers will reenact the 1848 cornerstone-laying ceremony on July 18.

The sesquicentennial would actually be on July 4, but traditional Fourth of July festivities on the mall prohibits additional events on that date.

The Grand Lodge has been encouraging other Grand Lodges and Masonic groups to join them in supporting the restoration project. The cost for the overhaul of the monument is expected to be \$8 million.

Corporate sponsors have come forward to contribute to the project.

Target Stores started the ball rolling with a gift of \$1 million. To date Masonic contributions have totaled some \$40,000.

In 1961, the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia established a nonprofit, tax-deductible foundation for charitable purposes. Any individuals, lodges, or Grand Lodges interested in joining in the Masonic support for the restoration project can send contributions to the foundation earmarked for the Washington monument restoration and they will be forwarded to the National Park Foundation. This way Masonic contributions receive proper credit.

The address is Masonic Foundation of D.C., 5428 MacArthur Blvd., NW, Washington, DC 20016.

Masonic Memorial Stones

Washington monument records Freemasonry's lasting tribute

Reprinted from an article in the Spring 1997 issue of *The Voice of Freemasonry*, published by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

Brother Gary Scott, 32°, Past Master of Naval Lodge No. 4 and Chief Historian for the National Capitol Region of the National Park Service, reports that the Washington National Monument Society in 1851 and 1853 solicited members of the Masonic Order nationally through the Grand Lodges to make contributions to a fund that was used for the construction of the Washington monument.

According to Brother Scott, the society solicited each state and territory to present a carved memorial stone for placement in the interior of the monument walls. Soon thereafter stones began to arrive from across the country, and by 1855 the society had installed 92 commemorative stones of diverse size and composition. Among the stones collected were many of Masonic origin.

In ascending the monument from ground level the first Masonic stone encountered is that of the **Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia** at the 50-foot landing. Adjacent to it is the stone of **Naval Lodge No. 4** of the District of Columbia. Both of these stones are of marble.

The rest of the Masonic stones are described by Brother Scott as follows:

Masonic stones again appear at the ninth landing at the 110-foot level with the marble stones of the **Grand Lodges of Ohio, New York and Kentucky**.

D. Boller of Cincinnati carved the Ohio stone which contains compasses and square, an all-seeing eye, and a sword resting on a book. The New York stone was carved by Owens and Newland of Utica, New York, and contains a square and compasses. The Kentucky stone cites Washington as a Christian

Mason and contains the compasses and square, all-seeing eye, and sword upon constitutions. W. Strobbridge of Frankfort, Kentucky, was the stone carver.

At the 120-foot level on the tenth landing is the unadorned stone of **Patmos Lodge No. 70**, Ellicott City, Maryland. It is dated Feb. 22, 1852, and made of rough granite.

The 11th level at 130 feet contains the native marble stone of **Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 226**, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The stone is dated 1851. Nearby is the ornamented marble stone of the **Grand Lodge of Maryland**, containing the names of donors and Grand Lodge officials. Alex Gaddess, a member of the committee, was the "maker." The stone is dated 1850 and contains a carved figure of Father Time in supplication before an altar. His eyes are fixed on a star in the heavens, and he is pointing to the open book on the altar with his left hand. He holds a scythe. An hour glass rests on the ground. Also at this level is the marble stone of **Masons of the Washington Lodge No.**

21 of the city of New York. Carved on the stone are a smiling sun, a plumb, a trowel, a triangle containing the letter G, and a square and compasses on a Bible.

The 12th level at 140 feet contains three Masonic stones. The state of Alabama contributed an interesting Alabama marble stone containing what must have been the seal of its Grand Lodge. Masonic symbols are arrayed in the circle of the seal around and within an archway resting on two columns. The inscription states that the stone was presented by the **Grand Lodge of Alabama**, Dec. 6, 1849.

The Masons of Georgia contributed a Georgia marble stone with a 15-inch shield containing a raised circle 7 inches in diameter. The circle contains an all-seeing eye and compasses and square. The inscription reads: "The **Grand Lodge of Georgia**. Founded 1735 A.D. *Fratrem Meminisse*." On the raised seal is "Prosunt Omnibus." The stone is signed by J. B. Artope who may have been the carver.

HOW TO VIEW THE STONES

When the Washington monument reopens to the public, visitors will be able to view the stones by taking a scheduled tour walking down the 898 steps of the interior staircase. The walk down is long and tedious and is recommended only for those who are physically fit. To obtain information about the walking tours, contact the Washington Monument Ranger Station at 202-426-6841. Glass panels in the new elevator will also provide a view of the memorial stones.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois sent a very dramatic stone showing a wall of finished ashlar, containing within it an archway supported by two columns. Within the archway is a bearded man, perhaps Father Time, owing to the hour glass at his feet. In front of him is a young maiden standing before a broken column. She holds an acacia branch in her right hand. In her left she grips a mallet resting on an open book. The bearded figure of Time seems to be stroking her hair. J. Jewel has signed the tablet and may have been the sculptor-carver. The stone is dated 1853.

Moving up to the 14th landing at 160 feet there is a marble Masonic stone from **Lafayette Lodge No. 64**, New York City. Sept. 16, 1853. The stone contains a square and compasses under the words, "our tribute."

At the 15th landing, on the 170-foot level is a granite stone from **Washington Lodge** of Roxbury, Mass. The stone is actually from a later period and arrived at the monument in 1871. With the stone came a letter to John Carrol Brent, secretary of the society, from John F. Newton, Boston, May 10, 1871.

"And may we but express the hope that the step our lodge has taken be but the initiatory one, which will give the completion of the monument a new impetus. And I hope our example will be followed by other lodges and Masonic institutions throughout our beloved country. And feeling a deep interest in the completion of the monument I beg to make a suggestion, and that is this, of your society making an appeal to each lodge, and Masonic institution throughout the country. I think it would meet with a generous and hearty response."

On the 180-foot level, at the 16th landing, the **Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania** contributed a richly carved marble stone. Prominent upon the stone is carved an arch and keystone. The keystone contains a seal with four quarterings with a lion, a man, a cow, and an eagle, traditional emblems of the four apostles. Above the seal on the keystone is "Holiness unto the Lord." Below the seal is "From the Keystone State, A.D. 1851 A.L. 5851." Above the keystone two angels guard with uplifted wings a small ark of the

MASONIC STONES AT THE MONUMENT

Grand Lodges

District of Columbia
Ohio
New York
Kentucky
Maryland
Alabama
Georgia

Illinois
Pennsylvania
Virginia
Iowa
Mississippi
Arkansas
Florida

Lodges

Naval Lodge No. 4 (District of Columbia)
Patmos Lodge No. 70 (Maryland)
Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 226 (Pennsylvania)
Washington Lodge No. 21 (New York)
Lafayette Lodge No. 64 (New York)
Washington Lodge (Massachusetts)
St. John's Lodge No. 36 (Virginia)

covenant. To the right of the arch is a crumbling wall surmounted by Masonic tools set against a wooded hill. To the left is a wall of finished ashlar surmounted by a Masonic altar and tools against another wooded hill. In the clouds on a banner to either side of the keystone is the inscription, "Ad majorem Supremi Architect Glorium."

At the 200-foot level, 18th landing, Virginia presented two Masonic stones. The first is presented by **St. John's Lodge No. 36**, Richmond. The stone is granite with a raised marble Bible carved with compasses and square. The stone is signed J. T. Rodgers, Richmond. The stone from the **Grand Lodge of Virginia** is granite with a raised border and also contains a carved Bible with compasses and square. It bears the inscription: "By the Grand Lodge of Accepted, Ancient and Free Masons of Virginia. Lo' She gave to this Republic, the Chief Corner Stone. Aug. 4 A.L. 5854." J. T. Rodgers, Richmond, has signed the lower border.

Moving up to the 19th landing at 210 feet, the **Grand Lodge of Iowa** contributed a simple granite stone from an Iowa quarry and squared by an Iowa craftsman. It was shipped prepaid as a gift of 80,000 Free and Accepted Masons of Iowa, and was received and acknowledged by Charles Stanbury on June 22, 1877.

The **Grand Lodge of Mississippi** contributed a carved sandstone stone "to their W. Brother George Washington." The stone has a raised border. A square and compasses and an arm upraised with a mallet appear on the left and right side of the inscription. A letter from Wm. Miller, Grand Secretary, Natchez, Mississippi, to E. Whitteley, which is dated Aug. 10, 1854, acknowledged the receipt of the stone at the monument and remitted the cost of shipping, \$7.50.

The stone given by the **Grand Lodge of Arkansas** is the most fanciful of all. The lettering is an accentuated script with ornate characters. The inscription reads "Ad gloriam fratris nostris et patris patriae." The various Masonic items are given exaggerated shapes. A coffin adorns the lower portion. An exaggerated eye with a bushy eyebrow peeks from within an ornate letter G. According to the *American Organ*, Sept. 5, 1856, the stone was done in the marble yard of Alexander Rutherford, by a young man and apprentice. The stone arrived on the monument grounds Sept. 5, 1856.

The last Masonic stone is at the 230-foot level, the 21st landing. It is marble and presented by the **Grand Lodge of Florida**. Its raised border creates a frame effect for the simple compasses and square in the center of the stone. ♣

Impaired Phonological Awareness

A critical diagnostic sign of dyslexia

By CAROLYN E. GRAMLING

What is phonological awareness?

Phonological awareness involves the ability to recognize, think about, and manipulate the individual sounds in words.

Most of us formally learned this skill beginning in kindergarten and continuing through the primary grades. We called it phonics, and although it did not teach us to comprehend what we read, it enabled us to sound out most unknown words. Once the words became recognizable, the comprehension seemed to magically fall into place.

Prior to entering school, one of the first signs of beginning development in phonological awareness is the ability to recognize rhyme. The child must focus attention on only part of the word.

Although a child needs to learn the letters of the alphabet in order to develop the skill of phonological awareness, singing the alphabet song or reciting the alphabet in a rote manner is not a sign of phonological awareness.

Generally, it is not until kindergarten or first grade that a child develops the understanding that the alphabet is used to represent the sounds in words.

In kindergarten, non-dyslexic children learn to identify whether words have the same first or last sounds.

By first grade, children can pronounce the first, last, or middle sound of a word by itself, or they can identify how many different sounds there are in a word. These individual sounds are called phonemes.

Children develop the ability to blend the sounds (phonemes) together to form words. For example, blending the phonemes "i" and "t" together form the word *it*.

As their skill increases, they are able to blend longer strings of sounds to form words such as *sit*, *slit*, and *split*.

As they continue to sound out new words, they are on their way to becoming independent readers.

What causes impaired phonological awareness?

Although there are many factors which contribute to dyslexia, research reveals that when compared to normal readers, dyslexic children are consistently more impaired in phonological awareness than any other single ability.

This deficiency is strongly linked to differences in brain structure, organization, and function.

Neuroanatomical research indicates that brain anomalies interfere with dyslexic children's ability to process language.

Even though the measured intelligence of dyslexics is average or above, the misplaced neurons and those auditory and visual neurons smaller than normal in size impact the learning process of these children. Organizing and sequencing of thoughts are slowed down or confused.

How does phonological awareness deficiency affect dyslexics in reading, spelling, and writing?

In order to read, children must first be able to decode, that is, use their phonological awareness to sound out the word. Encoding, or spelling, is the opposite of decoding. If there are problems decoding, then certainly spelling will be problematic.

How can students translate speech sounds into letters when they don't know the sounds of the letters in the first place?

In addition, writing requires the integration of spelling, fine motor skills, punctuation, usage, grammar, and organization and sequencing of thoughts.

It is no wonder that dyslexics have problems in reading and subsequently in spelling and writing.

Can phonological awareness deficiency be corrected?

Typically, public school educators design programs which stimulate the language centers in the left hemisphere of the brain, since, generally speaking, the left hemisphere of the brain is larger in non-dyslexics.

Since the right hemisphere of the brain of dyslexics is often larger or equal in size to the left hemisphere, studies reveal that dyslexics learn better with both left and right hemisphere stimulation.

The recommended educational approach is multisensory, a method of teaching which employs auditory, visual, and kinesthetic/tactile techniques. This method also encourages the combined use of both hemispheres of the brain. When dyslexics use several senses at the same time, clinical evidence



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

demonstrates that they are better able to store the information in their brains (long-term memory).

Although there are several teaching methods which reflect this multisensory structured language philosophy, the Orton-Gillingham method, used by the Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers, is the prototype. Unfortunately, few school systems employ teachers trained in this area of specialty.

It is interesting to note that recent research findings are pointing to the need for public schools to implement a more structured phonics approach. In keeping current with research, some of the more enlightened public school districts are answering the call. However, as is typical historically, application of research lags behind theory by many years in most school districts.

Even if there is a greater emphasis on phonics instruction in most schools, the likelihood of its being offered in the multisensory fashion so desperately needed by dyslexics is remote.

How can parents of pre-schoolers help?

Children who are identified with speech and language problems in the preschool years are more apt to exhibit difficulties acquiring phonological awareness. Whether this is a predictor of dyslexia or a reading problem unrelated to dyslexia, parents can better prepare their children by providing a

supportive preschool linguistic environment.

One of the most important ways parents can provide this environment is by "languageing," that is, by engaging their children in constant conversation, allowing the children opportunities for both listening and responding.

Parents must not allow television and other present-day distractions to replace opportunities to dialog with children. Television encourages passive thinking.

If children are to become phonologically aware, they must be active thinkers, ready and able to participate in conversations which encourage them to think critically.

Research shows that preschool children who have become familiar with nursery rhymes, have been read to, and have been exposed to letters and letter sounds, tend to have more highly developed phonological awareness by school age.

Early experiences with nursery rhymes and beginner Dr. Seuss books will help draw the child's attention to the sounds in words. In no way should the child be expected to read these rhymes. The purpose is merely to provide opportunities in which the child hears the rhymes.

In addition to reading and reciting rhymes to the child, parents should set aside a time each day to read stories to the child. If schedules permit, bedtime seems to be the best time for this ritu-

al, as children are less likely to be distracted. Besides the benefit of being read to, children are less likely to fuss about getting ready for bed, plus it gives them a sense of security to be close to the parent both physically and emotionally.

Librarians in the children's section of the public library are professionally trained to assist parents in selecting books appropriate to children's ages and interests.

Finally, the parent (and perhaps the child) can find creative ways to learn the names of the letters using a multisensory approach which includes the visual, auditory and kinesthetic/tactile modalities. The latter refers to a hands-on approach which gives the child the opportunity to physically manipulate the letters, encouraging right-brain stimulation. Certain rules apply.

1 When teaching the names of the letters in the alphabet, never go on to a new letter until the first one has been mastered, even if it takes days, or weeks. And never assume it has been mastered, just because you have put so much energy and time into it. Wait a day or two, and then see if the initial letter has been remembered.

2 Always make a game out of it and never take it too seriously. If the child senses you are anxious, impatient, or disappointed, his or her self esteem will be shattered. If you feel yourself getting impatient, drop the whole idea and play something else with the child.

3 Never assign someone else to work with your child unless he or she is professionally trained in the area. This includes brothers and sisters who do not have the emotional investment or maturity and insight that you have as a parent.

4 Be aware that each child will vary according to his or her readiness. Some children will learn just a few of the upper case (capital) letters prior to kindergarten, while others will learn all the letters in both upper and lower case plus some of the sounds they represent. You can best judge your child's readiness by evaluating his or her reactions. The child who is eager to play the following list of letter games and is showing no signs of frustration or worry is ready. Pushing the child at this stage can cause big problems, so proceed with caution! ➤



Comedian Norm Crosby, 33°, (center) has agreed to serve as a national spokesman for the 32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers. He met recently with Ill. J. Philip Berquist, 33°, president of the Learning Centers corporation, and Grand Commander Ralston. Ill. Brother Crosby was the keynote speaker at the 1996 Supreme Council Annual Meeting.

Teddy says . . .



You can help the Scottish Rite Children's Learning Centers spread throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction through outright gifts, charitable remainder trusts, lead trusts, bequests, and many more ways.

To find out more about ways you can give, call toll free (1-800-647-3394). Wayne Lobley, 32°, will be able to assist you. Your tax-deductible contribution will provide a new future for children with learning disabilities. Helping a child is a rewarding experience.

➤ Supplies which lend themselves to the multisensory approach are finger paints, sand or salt placed in a shirt box or similar sized container, cookie dough, play dough, sandpaper, and any other textured materials which are safe and pleasing to the touch of a preschooler.

The parent should sit with the child during the play time which will usually last only a few minutes.

As the parent shapes the letter, have the child run his or her finger over the shape, mimicking you in saying the name of the letter (the sound the letter makes comes later). In this way, the child is seeing the shape of the letter (visual), hearing the name of the letter (auditory), and feeling the shape of the letter (kinesthetic/tactile).

Certain activities will need to be prepared in advance:

- cut out the sandpaper letters from stencils,
- prepare the cookie dough (which can be baked and eaten later),
- place the sand or salt in the container, or
- set up an area for finger-painting.

If the child does not seem interested in the letter for the play session, let

him or her play with the material. Many children are curious and like to experiment with different textured materials. Let them get used to the substance first. Some children don't like gooey things, in which case you can cut out stenciled cardboard letters for them to feel as they see and say the letter name.

Finally, keep in mind that helping your dyslexic child at home is not a panacea. Do not expect to correct or erase your child's deficit in phonological awareness. What you will be doing is making it a little easier for your child when the time comes for him or her to go to school.

Whether you have baked a dozen or more cookies all shaped like the letter B, or glued velvet material to cardboard letters, remember, it's a game, so have fun! 🍪

Wayne A. Lobley, 32°, has been named Director of Development for the Supreme Council Charities. He will assist members with planned giving programs through wills, bequests, and major contributions. Since 1994, Brother Lobley had been Director of Annual Giving at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Previously he was Associate Director for the Annual Alumni Fund at his alma mater, University of Maine. A Past State Master Councilor for the Order of DeMolay in Maine, he is a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Bangor and currently Junior Warden of Eden Lodge, Ware, Mass.

Allocation of Learning Centers

The list of sites printed in the November issue of *The Northern Light* contained typographical errors. Here is the correct list of site allocations, which are based on the size of the Scottish Rite membership in each state.

State	Number of Sites
Maine	2
New Hampshire	1
Vermont	1
Massachusetts	2
Rhode Island	1
Connecticut	1
New York	2
New Jersey	3
Pennsylvania	13
Delaware	1
Ohio	10
Michigan	3
Indiana	5
Illinois	7
Wisconsin	2
Supreme Council Headquarters	1
Total Sites	55



Bangor Dedicates New Learning Center

A new 32° Masonic Children's Learning Center was dedicated recently at Bangor, Maine. The dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony took place on Oct. 18.

The center is located on the street level of the Bangor Masonic Temple. The area was formerly leased as a restaurant. The space became available at the same time as a committee was in the planning stage for developing a Learning Center.

The 2,200 square feet provide for a reception area, administrative offices and six tutoring rooms.

Mrs. Patricia Martz has been named director for the Bangor Center.

She started with two tutors, and currently there are ten tutors in training.

Assisting Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, 33°, with the dedication were Maine Grand Master Walter M. Macdougall, 33°; Scottish Rite Deputy Gerald C. Pickard, 33°, and Ill. J. Philip Berquist, 33°, president of the Supreme Council Learning Centers corporation.

Also participating were Valley Secretary Raymond F. Naugler, 33°; Active Member Walter E. Webber, 33°, and Active Emeritus Member Royce G. Wheeler, 33°. The invocation was given by Rev. and Dr. Foster Williams, 32°, pastor of the Columbia Street Baptist Church.

Assisting at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were representatives from the various Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of Bangor: Roland G. Forrest, 32°, Sovereign Prince, Palestine Council of Princes of Jerusalem; F. Richard King, 32°, Most Wise Master, Bangor Chapter of Rose Croix, and Raymond P. Cunningham, Deputy Master, Eastern Star Lodge of Perfection. Brother King also served as Master of Ceremonies for the day's events.

Also in attendance was Rep. John Baldacci, U.S. Congressman.

The festivities concluded with a dinner and entertainment as part of the Valley's Family Life Program.

Number of Centers Increasing

The Bangor Learning Center is the seventh site to be dedicated. Other Centers have opened in Newtonville and Lowell, Mass.; Cincinnati and Youngstown, Ohio; Pemberton, N.J., and Rochester, N.Y.

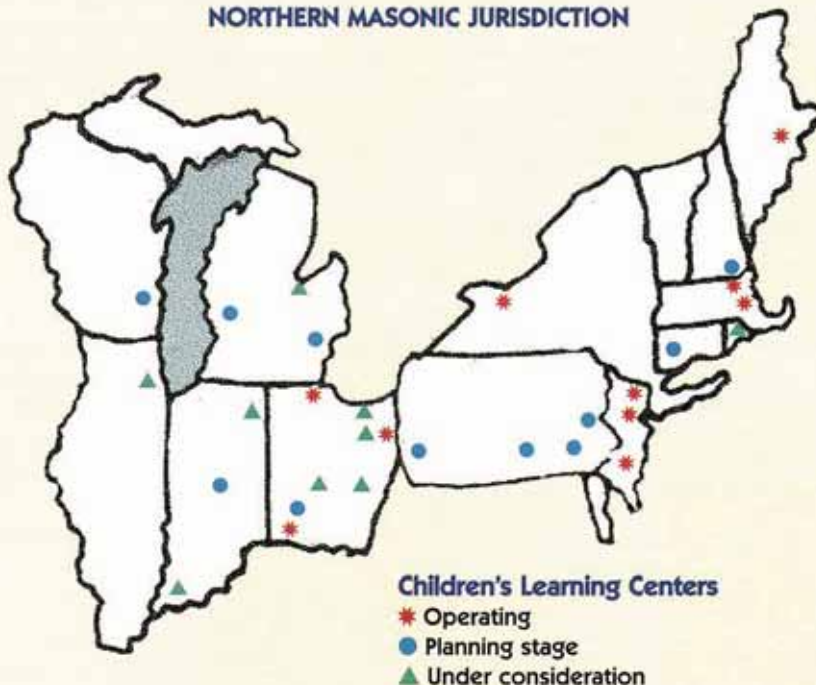
New Jersey is working with Fairleigh Dickinson University in a joint graduate-level training program to develop centers at Tenafly and Scotch Plains. Both centers are now operating.

The Valley of Toledo, Ohio, has set aside space in its facility and is in the process of training tutors in preparation for an opening.

Others in the planning stage include Pittsburgh, Allentown, Reading and Harrisburg, Pa.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Detroit and Grand Rapids, Mich.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Dayton, Ohio; Nashua, N.H., and Waterbury, Conn.

Interest has also been expressed in Columbus, Cleveland, Cambridge and Akron, Ohio; Evansville and Fort Wayne, Ind.; Bay City, Mich.; Chicago, Ill., and Providence, R.I.

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION



The Lodge Goat

Often the butt of jokes and occasionally confused with reality

By JOHN D. HAMILTON, 33°

Let me introduce you to Wm. G., a.k.a. Billy Goat. His lineage is ancient and tied to many rituals.

In deepest mythology, the pastoral god Pan was represented as part goat. An ancient Homeric hymn relates that he was "the dear son of Hermes, the goat-footed, the two-horned, the lover of the din of revel." Pan is credited with aiding the Athenians at the Battle of Marathon (490 BC) by instilling unreasoning fear in the Persians, who fled before the Greeks.

Like the Persians, candidates in certain fraternal initiations have also experienced such fear, which has come to be known as *Panic* terror.

In Biblical times, it was believed that Satan made his physical appearance among us in the personage of Azazel (Hebrew for goat), and in the Middle Ages, there were those who believed that Satan appeared at blasphemous satanic rites, riding a goat.

During the 18th century, rites surrounding the concept of "riding the goat" were transferred to Freemasonry as English lodges gained a reputation for "raising the devil" during their carousing after meetings.

The act of riding a goat was not sanctioned as part of ritual practiced by respectable fraternal organizations. However, such high jinks as riding the goat became part and parcel of unofficial initiation stunts that were termed "side degrees." Fees that candidates paid for receiving these degrees pro-

vided lodges with a source of additional revenues and entertainment. Illustrations of riding the goat were often used for sensation-seeking motives, particularly by authors exposing ritual. The Odd Fellows received their share of "goatly" notoriety when expelled member John Kirk used a sketch by comic illustrator Justin H. Howard, to illustrate the title page of *Kirk's Exposition of Odd*

— Editor

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"Honorary Member of Every Lodge in the World," ca. 1930, lithographed postcard. The title leaves one with the false assumption that "riding the goat" was a practice adopted by all fraternal organizations. This card is from the museum's Ralph B. Duncan Deltiology Collection.



JOHN D. HAMILTON, 33°, a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Boston, is the curator of collections at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage.





Art deco style hand-painted pitcher by Ruby Lacy, made in France, ca. 1930, porcelain. The artist has painted a humorous desert-inspired scene of a candidate being initiated by a camel into the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. A goat leads other Shriners as they "cross the hot burning sands." Gift of Mrs. Thomas J. Vaughan.

Fellowship (New York, 1857). This is one of the earliest printed illustrations of a hoodwinked candidate astride a goat and reflects that this stunt was in vogue even before the Civil War.

At the turn of the century, the DeMoulin Brothers of Greenville, Illinois, published burlesque and side degree catalogs in which they offered a number of goats "with an attitude." Among these "butters" were the Rollicking Mustang Goat, which was termed a bob-tailed skeedaddler; and the Practical Goat, which was offered as providing effective results from practical construction. This is another way of saying that it was an economy model.



Cover illustration from a side degree paraphernalia catalog published by DeMoulin Bros. & Co., Greenville, Illinois, ca. 1925.

A model known as the Ferris Wheel Goat resembled a vest pocket edition of the giant rotating amusement ride invented by George W. G. Ferris for the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893. The unlucky candidate taking a spin in it was guaranteed to see stars, and sometimes had cause to believe he could see his demise. Shackled hand and foot to the goat, the candidate traveled "around the world," sometimes on his ear, at other times right side up, in a foretaste of NASA astronaut training.

Other features included two small wheels that enabled the attendant to coast the Ferris Wheel around the floor with the candidate right side up.

Bucking Goat manufactured by DeMoulin Brothers & Co., Greenville, Illinois, ca. 1910, wool and iron. This apparatus was removed from New Kensington Lodge No. 804, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, New Kensington, Pennsylvania.

"About the time the candidate has relaxed and has kidded himself into believing that he is to enjoy a smooth ride — over he goes right on his head." This model also possessed an attachment that fired a blank cartridge and simultaneously made a "goaty" bleating sound.

These mechanical goats were capable of a variety of gyrations. The Fuzzy Wonder was advertised as "The Champion of His Species." The frame on this particular model remained in a normal position, but the body was arranged so that a specially designed mechanism would automatically acquire a "series of maneuvers peculiar to no other goat."

The Royal Bumper model was mounted on an eccentric axle connected to a pendulum that was attached under the body of the goat. This produced a galloping side-swaying or swinging motion. ➤

► The Bucking Goat was recommended to be used in conjunction with a "blanket toss" for the purpose of throwing the candidate on to the back of the goat. As the catalog stated, "The double-header can then be fully appreciated since all danger of hurting the candidate is eliminated." (Oh Yeah!)

For the hilarious edification of onlookers, and in order to enliven the candidate's already-animated perfor-

mance, the DeMoulin Company added special features to their basic goat. A device called the "fountain attachment" was installed where the rider sat, and produced a spray of water from a nozzle in the goat's back. This, of course, would cause embarrassment for the candidate, who might not be quite certain if his wet trousers resulted from trickery, or a bladder malfunction. The goat apparatus was also offered with a horse, mule, tiger,



Pitcher made by Thomas Maddocks Sons & Co., Trenton, New Jersey, 1902-29, graniteware. This pitcher, decorated with a fictitious view of a candidate riding a bucking goat, is titled "Taking His First Degree."

KIRK'S EXPOSITION OF ODD-FELLOWSHIP,

INCLUDING THE
Secret Signs, Grips, Passwords and Charges of the Five Degrees,

AS PRACTISED BY THE ORDER IN THE UNITED STATES.

BY JOHN KIRK,

An Expelled Member of Manhattan Lodge, No. 36.

ILLUSTRATED WITH THIRTY-SIX ENGRAVINGS.



Price Fifteen Cents.

NEW YORK:
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR,
And for sale by Bookellers and News Agents everywhere.

1857.

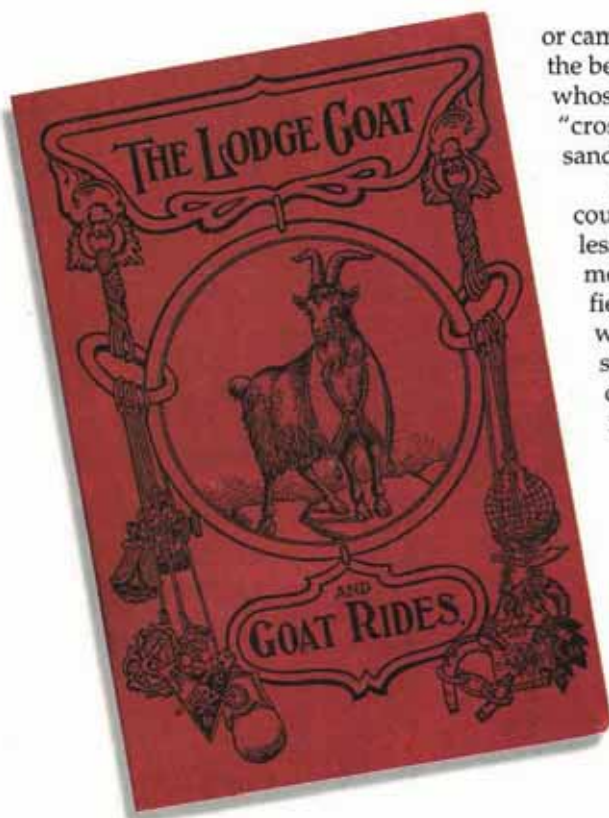
DeMoulin Bros. & Co., Greenville, Ill.

IMPROVED "FERRIS WHEEL GOAT"



"Ferris Wheel Goat," an illustration from DeMoulin Brothers paraphernalia catalog no. 306, ca. 1910.

Title page to *Kirk's Exposition of Odd-Fellowship* . . . (New York, 1857). This sketch is one of the earliest illustrations of a hoodwinked candidate riding the goat.



or camel body; the camel being the beast of choice by Shriners whose initiates were made to "cross the hot burning sands" of the desert.

Even more animation could be juiced from luckless candidates astride the model fitted with electrified stirrups, which were wired to a transformer spark coil, or a mechanically cranked portable magneto, that produced

three degrees of intensity ranging from 4 to 12 volts. One might speculate that the fountain attachment helped to lead the candidate to ground.

Riding the goat is one tradition that long ago was phased out of normal lodge life, but the chortling, chuckling nostalgia of it all continues to haunt us.

All items illustrated are from the collections of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, Mass.

The Lodge Goat by James Pettibone (Cincinnati, 1912). This once-popular book contains many humorous anecdotes about the roles that the goat played in lodge life. The Pettibone Company was a leading manufacturer of fraternal regalia and paraphernalia and James Pettibone was a member of many fraternal organizations, including Freemasonry. Excerpts from the book are reprinted in this issue of *The Northern Light* in the column "Views from the Past," pp. 22-23.

'Masonic Philanthropies' Book Is Revised

The latest edition of *Masonic Philanthropies: A Tradition of Caring*, shows that more than \$2 million a day benefits the philanthropies supported by Masonic organizations.

The updated version is again published jointly by the Northern and Southern Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite.

The first effort, published by the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction in 1987, was the brainchild of Ill. John H. VanGorden, 33°. He worked with Ill. Stewart M. L. Pollard, 33°, to compile figures from Grand Lodges and other Masonic groups. That version was named *Masonic Charities*.

The name was changed to *Masonic Philanthropies* in 1991, when Dr. S. Brent Morris, 33°, authored an updated and color-illustrated version, using 1990 statistical data. Dr. Morris, with an interest in Masonic research and fascination with statistical data, was a perfect blend for this project. Some 85,000 copies were distributed, making it one

of the most popular books ever written on Freemasonry.

Dr. Morris has again put his talents to work to compile figures from 1995.

The results show that Masonic philanthropies contributed \$750 million or over \$2 million per day, of which 70% went to the general American public. Most of that amount comes from funds invested over the years for the purpose of Masonic philanthropy.

The latest edition also contains some charities that were not included in the previous edition.

The book is a valuable resource. It makes an excellent gift for presentation to a new Master Mason. Masons are also urged to present a copy to local public libraries and local civic leaders.

Copies of the new edition are available for \$5 (postpaid) or in purchase of 50 or more copies at a 40% discount, plus shipping. Orders can be sent to Supreme Council, NMJ, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02173.

Masonic Philanthropies

A Tradition Of Caring



S. Brent Morris

March to the State House

*Massachusetts Masons
join in reenactment*

Officers from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts were invited to participate in the reenactment of the dedication of an historic building in Boston. It was the 200th anniversary of the ceremony that officially opened the Massachusetts State House. The reenactment took place on Jan. 11, on the actual bicentennial of the event.

It was 200 years ago when a dedicatory crowd heard Gov. Increase Sumner say, "We will, under the smile of heaven, unite in dedicating it to the honor, freedom, independence and security of our country. In this house may the true principles of the best system of government the world has ever seen be uniformly supported."

At the time, it had been only a few years earlier that the young nation was celebrating its independence. The new

facility provided for larger quarters, but more importantly it marked a separation from the colonial past.

For the reenactment, participants gathered on a bright sunny Sunday afternoon at the Old State House, which was built in 1713, and marched to the new State House, just as their forefathers had done two centuries before. The parade was led by Mass. Gov. Paul Cellucci.

The Masonic delegation was headed by M.W. Arthur E. Johnson, 33°, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. During the original ceremony, the Masonic group was led in a similar parade by then Grand Master Josiah Bartlett.

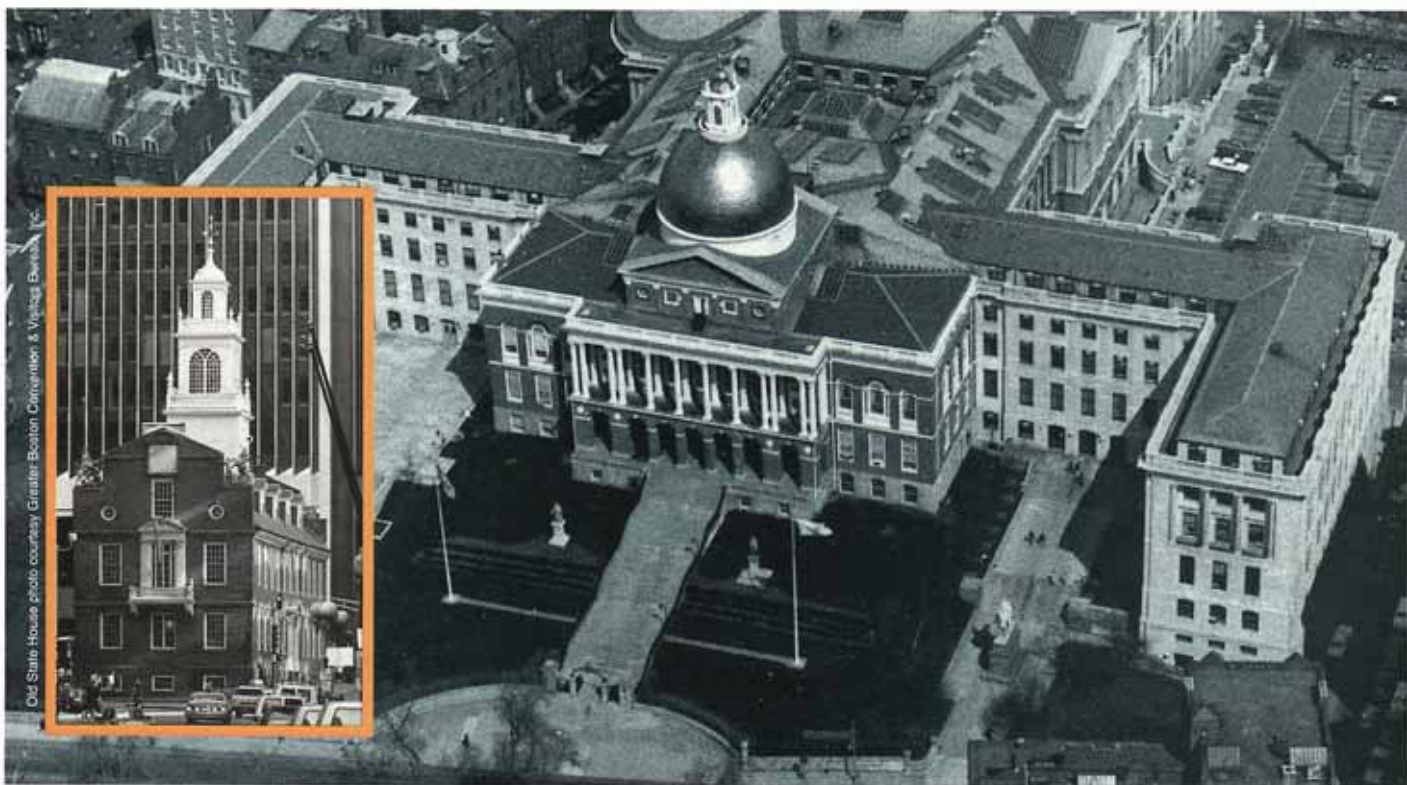
The building was designed by master architect Charles Bulfinch in 1795 and is noted for its golden dome.

It was built on cow pastures owned by John Hancock and overlooks Boston Common.

On July 4, 1995, officers from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts participated in the reenactment of the 200th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone for the same building. Leading that Masonic contingent of some 300 Masons was Grand Master David W. Lovering, 33°.

For the original ceremony, Gov. Samuel Adams had extended an invitation to Grand Master Paul Revere to lay the cornerstone. The event took place only a month after the legislature had voted to build the new State House.

Both reenactments were organized by the Massachusetts Department of Tourism.



The Stamp Act

A Philatelic Review



By Robert A. Domingue



Arthur William Patrick Albert, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, was the third son of Queen Victoria. He joined the Royal Engineers in 1868 and held a command in India from 1886-90. He was made a General in 1893 and was Commander-in-Chief in Ireland in 1900 and in the Mediterranean from 1907-09. From 1911-16, he was Governor General of Canada.

Prince Arthur was initiated on March 24, 1874, in the Prince of Wales Lodge No. 259 by his elder brother, the Prince of Wales, who later became King Edward VII. When the latter became King, he relinquished the position of Grand Master to Arthur; Arthur served in that position from 1901-39 the longest serving Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England. He received his Fellowcraft degree on June 22, 1874, and his Master Mason degree on April 27, 1875.

Great Britain issued a stamp on June 24, 1977, to note the centenary of St. John's Ambulance Association. It pictures Prince Arthur.



Born on Sept. 29, 1907, in Tioga, N.Y., Gene Autry graduated from Tioga High School in 1925 and began a career as a railroad telegraph operator in Sapulpa, Okla., that same year. He made his first phonograph record of cowboy songs in 1929 and was a radio artist for WLS in Chicago from 1930-34. He started acting in 1934, with his first film being *In Old Santa Fe*. He served in the Army Air Force from 1942-45. His career as a singing cowboy, motion picture star and owner of

the California Angels is well known. Everyone has heard him sing "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Brother Autry was raised in Catoosa Lodge No. 185, Catoosa, Okla., in 1927 and is a member of the Long Beach, Calif., Scottish Rite Valley and Malaika Shrine Temple, Los Angeles.

Brother Autry appears on one of the postage stamps released by Guyana in July 1996 to commemorate the centenary of radio.



Edmund Barton was initiated in Australia Lodge of Harmony No. 556, E.C., on March 3, 1878. With the establishment of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, this lodge became No. 5. Brother Barton was invested as Senior Deacon on June 9, 1880, but did not advance any further because of the demands made on his time as a lawyer and statesman.

Born in 1849, Brother Barton served as Speaker of the legislative assembly, New South Wales, from 1883-87 and as attorney general in 1889 and 1891-93. He led the delegation presenting the Australian Commonwealth Constitution bill to the British Parliament in 1900 serving from 1901-03. Following this term, he became a



judge of the Australian high court serving until his death in 1920.

A stamp issued in May 1951 to honor the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Commonwealth pictures Brother Barton.



General Antonio Jose de Sucre y Alcala (1793-1830) was well known for his liberation efforts of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

He was Brother Simon Bolivar's chief lieutenant in his 1821 campaign in Ecuador. He scored a decisive victory in the war for Ecuadoran liberation on May 22, 1822, on Mount Pichincha overlooking Quito. At the time he was only 29 years old but was already known as being methodical, punctual and indefatigable.

From 1823-25, he served under Bolivar in Peru.

He became the first President of Bolivia in 1825 and was named President for life. He resigned from this position three years later, and while traveling to Ecuador to be installed President in that country, he was assassinated by his enemies near Parto, Colombia, on June 4, 1830.

Brother de Sucre was a member of Perfecta Armonia Lodge No. 2 of Cumana, Venezuela. He is pictured on many stamps issued by the various Latin American countries; the one shown here was released by



Venezuela in 1960 to commemorate the 130th anniversary of his death.



Born in 1923, Walter M. Schirra was the fifth individual named to the original team of seven astronauts. His first trip into space was aboard Sigma 7 of the Mercury series on Oct. 3, 1962. He occupied the command pilot seat on the history-making Gemini 6 flight of December 1965 which made a rendezvous with the already orbiting Gemini 7 spacecraft — the first rendezvous of two manned, maneuverable spacecraft. He later flew on Apollo 7 in October 1968 with Brother Donn Eisele and Astronaut Cunningham. He received two NASA Distinguished Service Medals and a NASA Exceptional Service Medal.

Brother Schirra was made a "Mason-at-Sight" by the Grand Master of Masons of Florida, M.W. John T. Rause, Jr., in Jacksonville on Nov. 4, 1967. He became a member of Canaveral Lodge No. 339, Cocoa, Fla. He also belongs to the Orlando Scottish Rite Valley. He is the recipient of the Honorary Legion of Honor, Order of DeMolay, and is an honorary member of Arabian Shrine Temple, Ft. Myers, Fla.

He carried several Masonic items with him on his Apollo 7 flight, including two 12x15-inch flags. Several nations have honored Brother Schirra on stamps including this one shown from Hungary in October 1962 to honor the first seven astronauts.



By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

Gnosis, A Journal of the Western Inner Traditions.
Published by Gnosis, P.O. Box 14217, San Francisco,
CA 94114-0217. \$9.

I received a copy of the Summer 1997 issue of *Gnosis* magazine from the publisher, and, although I do not normally review a magazine, this issue will be an exception. Its articles are committed to the subject of Freemasonry and are written by both Masons and non-Masons. None of the writing is of an anti-Masonic nature. Indeed, I thought the total magazine to be a fair analytical appraisal of the craft.

The full title of the magazine is *Gnosis, A Journal of the Western Inner Traditions* and is inclined toward the metaphysical and the esoteric spiritual. This issue on Freemasonry, however, is not so inclined except by those who may make it such. It relates more to the realism of the craft, its meaning and its purpose.

One topic, "Masonic civilization," written by a non-Mason states, "Given that both modern science and modern democracy have Masonic origins, it's not entirely specious to contend that ours is a Masonic civilization." High praise indeed.

"Sources of the fraternal spirit" discusses the debt owed to Freemasonry by the fraternal orders whose structure and operation were molded after that of our craft.

Other topics are "The initiatic symbolism of Freemasonry," "Good Masons, bad Masons," "The Pope and the pornographer," "A modern Pythagorean," and "Readings in the old lodge library." It also includes an interview with Christopher Knight, co-author of *The Hiram Key* and *The Second Messiah*.

I found the articles both interesting and stimulating. They offer knowledge and stimulate thought. It may be purchased as a back issue at the address listed above.



Necessity's Child: The Story of Walter Hunt, America's Forgotten Inventor, by Joseph Nathan Kane. Published in 1997 by McFarland & Company, Inc., Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640. \$33 (postpaid).

This book was sent to me by the publisher because of a reference to Freemasonry, and, indeed, it has just one. It indicates that Walter Hunt along with a number of his friends were craft members.

Walter Hunt was an astounding man who affected all of our lives. Yet, I doubt that many know his name. His analytical and developmental mind has had few equals in the field of inventions.

He was an inventor of that product which was needed and many which are still in common use today. He profited little from his inventions allowing others to take advantage of his genius. Indeed, when reading the book, I found myself becoming perturbed by his total lack of business acumen.

The author, Brother Joseph Kane, is a pretty amazing man himself. Although he has authored a number of books (all of a specific factual reference nature for which he is well known in some fields), had a radio show in the 1930s, and wrote questions for the television quiz show, "The \$64,000 Question," his is not a household name.

His commitment to this book, however, is almost fanatical. During all his work writing factual books, his dedication to gain recognition for Walter Hunt is probably one of unsurpassed devotion. Kane worked for 65 years researching original documents and writing this book.

Whether you know the name of Walter Hunt or not, you know some of his inventions — that little double-wheeled knife sharpener, the safety pin, the fountain pen, a breech-loading repeating rifle, a new type of rifle cartridge, and an icebreaker, to name a few of the hundreds.

His first invention was a machine for spinning flax and hemp, which was patented in 1826. His most significant was the sewing machine developed 12 years before the better-known names who received the credit. His last patent was issued in 1869.

Necessity's Child is a book written by a Freemason about the life of a Freemason. It is very informative and interesting reading.



The Quest for Light by Wallace McLeod. Published in 1997 by Australian & New Zealand Masonic Research Council, P.O. Box 332, Williamstown, Victoria 3016, Australia. \$20. U.S. (postpaid).

The Quest for Light is a compilation of 19 papers written and delivered by one of the foremost intellectual Masonic writers of our time. It represents the fourth collection of his research papers to be published by this

Research Council. Wallace McLeod, a former professor at the University of Toronto, holds a BA in Honours Classics from that university and an MA and PhD from Harvard.

He is Grand Historian and a Past Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, a full Member of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, a fellow and past President of the Philaethes Society, and Grand Abbot of the Blue Friars, to touch on a few of his credits. He has also written many scholarly books and papers that add luster to Masonic circles.

This book is one I highly recommend to those with an interest in the origin and development of Freemasonry, as well as to those with an interest in Freemasonry of the present. Both subjects are to be found in it.

The first chapters present an educational trip through the early development stages of the craft. Subject examples are "The Lodge, the Grand Lodge and Change," "Evolution of the ritual," "The meaning of the Masonic secrets" and "The credibility gap in Masonic ritual."

The latter chapters are related more to the present, i.e., "Two Masonic 'Literary Societies'," "Responding to criticism: (1) The past; our traditional critics" and "Responding to criticism: (2) Evangelicals; how we might respond."

In between, we find dispersed interesting subject papers, i.e., "Masonic references in literature," "The universality of Freemasonry," "Robert Burns," and "English Freemasonry in 1440" to name a few. There are also several chapters that don't quite seem to fit with the others, but then the book is a compilation of unrelated papers. That makes them nonetheless interesting.

This is a book well worth reading for its educational value. The author researches thoroughly as he is trained to do and expresses himself well, as one would expect. I found it to be thought provoking, stimulating and worthy of the author and the craft.



Masonic Speculations, edited by Kent Henderson and Graeme Love. Printed by Metro Printing Co., 188 Johnston Street, Collingwood, Victoria, Australia 3066. (Available to members of Victorian Lodge of Research only.)

Masonic Speculations is a ring-bound book published by the Victorian Lodge of Research operating under the Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia, and represents the transactions of this lodge. As is to be expected from a lodge of research, it is the publication of learned papers presented to it. This book is Volume 10. Unfortunately, it has had a very limited distribution.

There are ten papers presented in this volume, and, frankly, most are impressively good. I found that they all contained information that was new to me. There were some factual errors, but few of any consequence. For instance, in the chapter, "Do We Really Understand the Structural Concept Known as Freemasonry?," the author indicates that the Scottish Rite in the United States of America operates from the "1st degree (EA) to the 33rd degree." A few conclusions are questionable, but that is the right of the author. I have a real problem, however, when a Masonic writer refers to the "Freemason's God," as is found in the conclusion of the chapter on "God and Freemasonry," even if that is not the intent.

The final chapter, "Freemasonry Through Adversity in the Orient," should be required reading by all complacent Freemasons. From it, we all can learn what Freemasonry meant to those who were tortured and died to keep the craft and its meaning alive while under occupation during World War II. The chapter actually deals with the origin and development of the craft in ten countries in the Orient, but all were deeply affected by the war. I found the tales moving and inspirational but, at the same time, depressing when compared with what is lacking in commitment by our members today.

"The Beginning of Lodge Liberation No. 674" tells the story of how Freemasons continued to carry on the craft, making the required lodge furniture from whatever was on hand, all while under threat of torture and death if found out. In one instance only six residents of one camp survived out of 1,400, but those who were members kept the flame of Freemasonry burning. The result — the survivors of prisoner of war camps established "Lodge Liberation."

Two chapters are written on the subject of Knights Templar and Freemasonry. Both are well written and good reading. I find it continually interesting that after most Masonic scholars took deference to John Robinson's first writings, he is frequently quoted today as a Masonic authority.

Other subjects include "A Speculative Talk on German Masonry," "Man, Music and Masonry," "The Central Pillar," and "Background to Israel & The Temple."

I find the book well worth reading — if you can borrow a copy.



THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°, is the Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the book reviewer for *The Northern Light*.

HealthWise

■ Beware: Old Jack Frost will bite you

Hardy souls who expose themselves to subfreezing temperatures and wind chill can suffer "frostnip."

This superficial cousin to frostbite occurs when the skin tries to reduce heat loss by constricting small blood vessels, usually in the face, ears and fingertips.

Loss of sensation and blistering may follow. When rewarmed, the skin may swell, turn red, and itch, but no permanent damage results.

Skin loses moisture to cold air outside and heated air indoors. Skin cells may become dry and stiff causing "winter itch," redness, and flaking. Once it happens, the skin is more sensitive to the ingredients in soaps, detergents and clothing. Replacing moisture is the best strategy.

Don't dry the skin with more than one shower a day, and don't stay in longer than necessary. Apply moisturizing lotion while still in the humid shower room.

■ Antibiotic 'miracle drugs' used too often

The American Society for Microbiology has stated that a public health emergency may develop if antibiotic overuse persists.

The "miracle drugs," which have added an average of 10 years to the life-span of North Americans, have been taken for granted, and taken too often. Approximately half of the antibiotics taken today are unnecessary, says the Society. People demand them. Doctors prescribe them even though the ailment could be treated by other methods.

The result is that ordinary infections like pneumonia are getting hard to treat. Old infections like tuberculosis are coming back, and antibiotics that were effective on ear infections 15 years ago don't work. New antibiotics had to be developed.

If you do use antibiotics, take the entire prescription so it will kill all of the bacteria involved, not just the weaker forms.

■ Antiseizure device for epilepsy

It's called the advance of the century. An antiseizure device developed by Cybertronics, Inc., of Webster, Texas, has been approved for marketing in the U.S. Implanted in the chest like a pacemaker, the device sends seizure-blocking signals to the brain. Users activate it with a special wristband when they feel a seizure coming on. The device, called the vagus nerve stimulator, is not a cure, but reduces the number of seizures.

■ Older? Get wiser about your weight

A person's body fat typically doubles between the ages of 20 and 50. During this time, the body's ability to break down and use large quantities of fat drops with age, a new study finds. As a result, more of the fat eaten at large meals will become body fat instead of being burned as energy.

To cope with these age-related changes, the Dept. of Agriculture's Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging suggests that diners should eat less at a sitting, eat more frequently, and exercise a little more.

■ Gum health affects heart, lungs

Harmful bacteria caused by periodontal disease have been linked to heart disease. Scientists say the bacteria, which clump together in plaque, also activate harmful clotting elements and enzymes that contribute to heart disease and stroke.

Bacterial pneumonia is often the result of oral and pharyngeal bacteria

getting into the lower respiratory tract, and the failure of the body to eliminate the contamination. Dental plaque is one source of these bacteria, according to the School of Dental Hygiene in Tucson, Arizona.

■ Fish, natural asthma treatment

A recent study reported in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* shows that the fatty acids in fish oil, omega-3s, work like new asthma drugs, reducing inflammatory substances called leukotrienes by more than 75%. It takes from 6 to 12 weeks of daily supplements for patients to notice a marked improvement in their condition.

■ Water: Eight glasses a day

Medical authorities agree that drinking lots of water helps people feel fit, stay healthy and look better longer. But surveys show that two out of three adults don't drink enough water. Health-care professionals recommend that you:

- Drink before you get thirsty. If you are thirsty, you are already slightly dehydrated.
- Drink water before exercising.
- For each cup of coffee, tea or alcoholic beverage, drink a glass of water.
- If dieting, drink more water each day to control appetite.
- When you are ill, increase water consumption.



"You got it all wrong, Herb. When I said I was into drugs, I meant pharmaceutical stocks!"



Everett W. Allen, 32°, (center) a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Cleveland, was honored in January by Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, 33°, and Ill. James W. Salmons, Jr., 33°, vice president of the 32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers corporation. Brother Ev and his wife Eleanor have become major contributors to the Learning Centers program.

Two New Scottish Rite Videos Available Soon

Two new Scottish Rite videos have been produced by the Supreme Council. They will be ready for distribution in March.

A ten-minute video, "A Matter of Degree: Becoming a 32° Mason," has been designed to attract Master Masons to become 32° Masons.

A film production crew traveled to a number of locations around the Northern Jurisdiction to interview members and record events. They recorded comments of 32° Masons from all walks of life, men of all ages, men from large cities and small farm towns, men who are helping raise families, running businesses, studying, having fun.

The second video, "To a Greater Degree: What It Means to Be a 32° Mason," uses a similar theme but goes into greater detail about the degrees, charities, and programs of the Scottish Rite.

This 14-minute production is designed as an orientation for new Scottish Rite members and will be presented to each new 32° Mason throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. It will replace the Scottish Rite video, "Conscience for America."

The videos are professionally produced by Communications for Learning, a full-service communications firm based in Massachusetts.

Both videos will be available through the local Scottish Rite Valley offices.

Individual copies of each video can also be obtained directly from the Supreme Council headquarters, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02173, for a nominal charge of \$3 to cover postage and handling.

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.

(STABLE) + (INFLATION) – (BEST)

+ (WONDERING) – (FAWN) + (HUNGRY)

– (THIN) – (ONLY) + (ALPHABET)

– (PIN) – (LAUGHTER) – (BOND)

=

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 15.

Answer from previous issue: GRAND MASTER

VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

At the Outer Door

He stood before St. Peter and meekly applied for admission to Heaven and Paradise.

"You must wait awhile," said the guardian of the gate.

"Why must I wait?" said the would-be entrant. "Haven't I been a good man on earth?"

"Yes, fairly good; but you must wait outside awhile."

"Why should I wait? I tried always to do my duty."

"You think you did; weren't you a member of the K.A.E.O.?"

"Yes; but wasn't that all right? I thought I was doing good by belonging to that Order."

"O, yes, the Order is all right, and what you did in that is about the best work you ever did, but you failed in that."

"How?"

"Well, you never paid your dues without first letting the Secretary chase you down, and now you can wait awhile outside and see how it feels to be stood off on the last day of grace."



The "Anti" Secret Society

(Note — The following poem is dedicated to the idle man who spends his time trying to wreck fraternal societies.)

A little dog barked at the big, round moon
That smiled in the evening sky,
And the neighbors smote him with rocks and shoon;
But still he continued his rageful tune.
And he barked till his throat was dry.

The little dog bounced like a rubber ball,
For his anger quite drove him wild;
And he said: "I'm a terror, although I am small,
And I dare you, you impudent fellow, to fall."
But the moon only smiled and smiled.

Then the little dog barked at a terrible rate,
But he challenged the moon in vain;
For as calm and slow as the working of fate
The moon moved along in a manner sedate,
And smiled on the dog in disdain.

But soon 'neath a hill that obstructed the west
The moon sank out of sight,
And it smiled as it slowly dropped under the crest,
But the little dog said, as he lay down to rest,
"Well, I scared it away, all right!"



Selections for this issue are excerpts from *The Lodge Goat* by James Pettibone, published by his Cincinnati regalia company in 1902 and reprinted in 1912. Brother Pettibone was a member of numerous fraternal organizations and collected humorous anecdotes from his association with these groups.

A Warm Reception

A lodge in Canada was conferring the first degree on a candidate some years ago, when a funny accident occurred — that is, it was in a way funny to the onlookers — but it was a very serious matter from the initiate's point of view.

It seems that the lodge-room was in an old frame building, and that a colony of wasps had taken up their headquarters in a "room adjacent." Some of the intruders got inside the candidate's clothing, who during the entire exercises kept hitching at his person in a way that was most ludicrous to the witnesses, and which materially lessened the solemnity of the ceremonies.

At the conclusion of the session the cause of the antics was discovered, and the fact developed that the candidate in his innocence had supposed the punishment was a part of the usual order.

That the novitiate was a clergyman may explain why his anger did not get the better of the situation. This occasion is perhaps the only time on record where any irregular agency other than the proverbial "goat" ever took part in Masonic degree work.

A Slight Chill

Shiver — This is one of those Masonic rooms, isn't it?

Mrs. Defrees — What do you mean, sir?

Shiver — It never gets above thirty-three degrees.

The New Organ

Quite an amusing incident occurred in one of the Blue Lodges.

The lodge, which is a progressive one, desiring to be strictly up to date, decided to purchase an organ; but as none of the Brethren could play the "tarnal thing" they finally concluded after much discussion, that an organette would answer their purpose a great deal better.

The instrument was duly ordered, and its advent awaited with a great deal of interest and curiosity.

The secretary, who was entrusted with the responsibility of making the purchase, forgot to mention that it was for lodge use, and consequently the firm from whom it was ordered, in the absence of instructions, furnished it with the regulation standard music.

The instrument arrived in due time, and then came the tug of war. Every member of the lodge wanted to act as organist, but the master finally hit upon a happy solution of the problem in the appointment of Brother A., one of the oldest and most influential members, to take charge of the instrument. It was decided that the first trial should be made at the next regular meeting, at which time work in the first degree was anticipated.



The eventful night came at last, and the lodge was opened. The chaplain, in a fervent prayer, invoked blessings upon the lodge and its new departure. Brother A. took his place by the side of the organ with becoming dignity. The candidate was prepared and introduced. Upon the reception, the venerable organist thought it would be a good idea to give the crank a couple of turns to prepare the Brethren, as well as the candidate, for that which was to follow.

The effect was electrical, for with a silence in which the dropping of a pin could have been detected the organette pealed forth "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-Aaaaaaa."

Mixed Signals

A man who belongs to several secret societies must occasionally find the task of keeping the secrets of each society in their own special corner of his brain a tax upon his memory. This was the case with one Absalom Wyckoff, of the thriving town of Ske-dunk. He came home one evening looking worried.

"What's the matter, Absalom?" asked his wife.

"A man came at me a little while ago," answered Mr. Wyckoff, "with the Masonic sign of distress. I remember now that I replied with the Knights of Pythias sign, and I am almost certain I gave him the Odd Fellows' grip."

By Easy Degrees

An old and well-posted goat which was kept by a secret society for use of initiations was chewing the leg of a boot, when a young kid came along and asked:

"Say, doesn't it make you awful tired to have those duffers in the lodge ride you so much?"

"No, not much. You see I get used to it by degrees."

'Quick Quotes'

A man stood before God and asked, "Look at all the suffering, the anguish and distress in your world. Why don't you send help?" God responded, "I did send help, I sent you."

—David J. Wolpe

Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all the others.

—Winston Churchill

There is no security on earth, only opportunity.

—Gen. Douglas MacArthur

Nothing ages so quickly as yesterday's version of the future.

—Richard Corliss

Curiosity will conquer fear even more than bravery will.

—James Stephens

You need to talk to yourself all the time. Ninety percent of your emotion comes from inner dialog, and the key is to explain things to yourself in a positive way.

—Brian Tracy

A man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd.

—Max Lucado

You cannot be a leader, and ask others to follow you, unless you know how to follow, too.

—Sam Rayburn

Creativity is so delicate a flower that praise tends to make it bloom, while discouragement often nips it in the bud. Any of us will put out more and better ideas if our efforts are appreciated.

—Alex F. Osborn

The trouble with learning by experience is that the final exam often comes before the lesson.

—Anon.

Idolatry is committed, not merely by setting up false gods, but also by setting up false devils; by making people afraid of war or alcohol, or economic law, when they should be afraid of spiritual corruption and cowardice.

—G. K. Chesterton

A Sarcastic Resolution

A promising Mason of Texas, after a slimly attended funeral, in substance offered the following resolution:

Whereas, It is the duty of every good Mason to uphold the good name and fame of Masonry, and,

Whereas, On week days the good Brethren are either tired, busy, or it rains or shines too much, and,

Whereas, It is too much trouble to dress in their best clothes during the week days, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is hereby declared the duty of any member of this Lodge hereafter to die only on Saturdays, so as to be buried on Sunday, that the Lodge may turn out in full strength and pay the proper respect to his memory.

■ So you've got a problem . . .

Most of the things you and your spouse disagree about today will still be a problem 10 years from now. But that's O.K., according to family psychologists at the University of Washington in Seattle. The way to happiness, they say, is to establish a dialog and learn to live with your problems the way someone learns to live with a bad back. It's best to acknowledge your partner's limitations and push for some improvement while still communicating acceptance. That's something we naturally do in friendships, and we should do it in marriage, too, say the doctors.

■ Recommend teaching

Public school systems will face a 13% increase in enrollment in the next decade, mostly in the elementary grades. Finding qualified teachers will be a problem, say economists at DRI/McGraw-Hill.

If your child is interested in a career in teaching, he or she should be assured of good employment prospects in coming years.

■ Computers are good for teens

Teens with a computer at home have a more upbeat attitude toward life, a higher grade average, and higher career aspirations than those without home PC access, according to Drexel University's Center for Employment Futures.

While 41% of American households have computers, nearly 8 out of 10 of the 15- to 17-year-olds in the U.S. have computers in their homes, according to a Drexel poll. And 95% of the teens who have computers do use them.

■ Praise them for effort

When it comes to schoolwork, giving the wrong kind of praise could be harmful. Psychologists from Columbia University say kids begin to measure their worth by how parents praise their successes, and may be unprepared to deal with failure.

Parents need to focus on what children put into a task, rather than making comments that are implications



about the worth of the child. "You're a hard worker," is better than "You're really smart."

■ Interior storm windows

Homeowners who have tightened up their homes may have limited air circulation. The result can be warm, moist air which encourages ice formation on windows. It happens most frequently to homes with metal window frames, says the American Society of Home Inspectors.

A dehumidifier helps. But the Society recommends installing interior storm windows because they reduce heat loss and keep moist, warm air away from the window and frame.

■ New postage stamps coming

Self-stick stamps, which are preferred by almost all postal customers, gum up machines that recycle paper. Now the U.S. Postal Service is testing linerless, self-adhesive stamps in rolls of 100 at several post offices. After trouble-shooting, they will be available everywhere. They work much like a roll of tape.

■ Social Security ceiling rises

The maximum earnings on which Social Security taxes are due has risen in 1998 to \$68,400, up from \$65,400 in 1997. (There is no wage limit on the Medicare tax.) Those affected will have a tax increase of up to \$186, according to CCH Inc., a Riverwoods, Ill., publisher of tax and business law information.

The amount of wages subject to Social Security is tied to a national

average-wage index.

Social Security recipients will see a 2.1% increase in benefits in 1998, the lowest in more than a decade, reflecting lower inflation.

■ Plants that clean the air

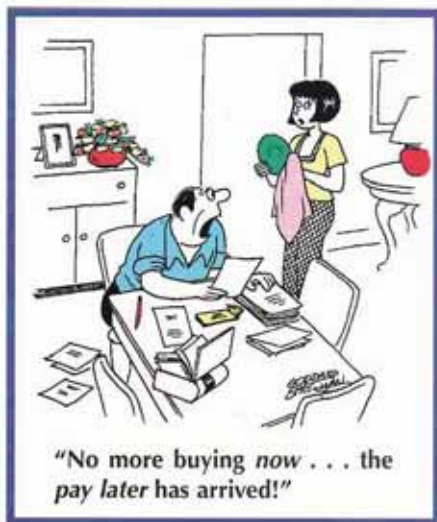
Homes are closed for the winter, making air less clean than before. But research by NASA shows that houseplants filter out many harmful air pollutants. Here are some that do it: rubber plant, English ivy, corn plant, and bamboo palm.

■ Keeping marriage on track

There is much we can learn about marital happiness, especially when it comes to talking with our partner.

Some advice from the Center for Marital and Sexual Health in Beachwood, Ohio:

- Work on overcoming self-absorption. Think and speak in terms of "we" rather than "I."
- Tell what you like to do in life without making demands.
- Speak of subjects other than unhappiness. Make yourself known to your partner.
- Emphasize a sense of humor and cultivate the ability to apologize.
- Listen to what your partner is saying.
- Make it clear that you are interested in satisfying your partner's sexual needs. This means talking and touching.
- Manage the gap between ideal and real. We live in idiosyncratic ways, and so do our partners.



IN MEMORIAM

III. Dwight T. Worthy, 33°

III. Dwight Taylor Worthy, 33°, a Supreme Council Active Member for New York, died on Dec. 20, 1997.

III. Brother Worthy was born in New York City on Oct. 24, 1925. After graduating from Stamford (Conn.) High School, he furthered his education at New York University.

He began his working career as the night public relations director for the National Broadcasting Company, became a convention sales manager for Eastern Airlines, and spent most of his career as a state-licensed nursing home administrator and general partner of the Crest Hall Nursing Center in Suffolk County, New York.

His professional memberships included the American College of Nursing Home Administrators, American Health Care Association, New York State Health Facilities Association, Suffolk County Health Facilities Association, and the Middle Island Chamber of Commerce. For many years, Brother Worthy was associated with the Ronkonkoma Little League, the Salvation Army and the Boy Scouts of America.

He was married to Elizabeth Margarete Beaman at Jefferson, Indiana, on July 24, 1953. They have two sons and seven grandsons. At the Methodist Church at Lake Ronkonkoma, he had served as usher and Sunday School teacher.

Brother Worthy was raised a Master Mason in Smith-

town Lodge No. 1127, Smithtown, N.Y., in 1966. For the Grand Lodge of New York, he was chairman of the Committee on Masonic Benevolence, administrator of the Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund and Grand Representative for New South Wales. He was also a member of Asharokan Royal Arch Chapter No. 288, Smithtown, and Patchogue Commander No. 65, K.T., Medford.

He was a member of Kismet Shrine Temple, where he was elected Potentate in 1978. He served for five years on the board of governors of the Shriners Hospital for Children, Philadelphia Unit, and was also president of the Mid-Atlantic Shrine Clowns Association.

A member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Rockville Centre since 1972, he served as Thrice Potent Master, 1976-77; Most Wise Master, 1988-89, and Commander-in-Chief, 1985-87. At the time of his election to Supreme Council Active Membership, he was an officer in the Council of Princes of Jerusalem.

III. Brother Worthy received the 33° in 1978 and was crowned an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1993. As an Active Member for New York, he also was coordinator for Area 5, including all of Long Island, New York City and Westchester County, and was state liaison for the Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers. For the Supreme Council, he was a member of the Insurance and Retirement Plan Committee.

III. Carl C. Worfel, 33°

III. Carl Calhoun Worfel, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council and a Past Deputy for Michigan, passed away after a brief illness on Jan. 21, 1998.

Born at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on March 7, 1918, he attended public schools there and became an Eagle Scout and a member of the Order of DeMolay.

After graduating from high school, he began working for Borman Castings Corp., St. Joseph, Michigan, where he later served as general manager. In 1943, he was named chief engineer for Burnett Castings Corp., Keeler, Michigan. Two years later he returned to Grand Rapids to become founder and owner of Kent Castings Corp. Following his retirement in 1973, III. Brother Worfel volunteered for foreign service with the International Executive Service Corps and completed assignments in Mexico and El Salvador.

He was married in 1939 to Dorothy Jean Waltz of Grand Rapids, and they became the parents of two sons and a daughter. There are also four grandchildren.

At the South Congregational Church he was trustee for nine years, was president of the board of trustees at the time the new church was built, and was chairman of the building committee for the educational unit.

For many years he enjoyed his summer home at Nevins Lake, Stanton, Michigan, where he pursued his hobbies of reading, fishing, golf and gardening.

Raised a Master Mason in St. Joseph Lodge No. 437 in 1944, he affiliated with Doric Lodge No. 342, Grand Rapids, in 1946, and served as Master in 1962. For the Grand Lodge of Michigan, he devoted time to the Service and Education Committee and the Speakers Bureau. He progressed through the Grand Lodge officers' line to become Grand Master in 1981.

He held membership in the York Rite at Grand Rapids and Ada. He was also a member of Saladin Shrine Temple.

III. Brother Worfel joined the Scottish Rite Valley of Grand Rapids in 1952. He was Sovereign Prince in 1972-73 and a trustee from 1970-73. He received the 33° in 1973 and was crowned an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1978. For the Supreme Council he served on numerous committees. Upon the death of III. George Gullen, 33°, Deputy for Michigan, in January 1982, III. Brother Worfel was appointed to fill the vacancy and was then elected to the position the following September. He remained in that capacity until 1989. He was granted Active Emeritus status in 1991.

Our Readers Respond

More McCoy

When I read the article, and reader responses, to the Clyde McCoy story ("The Real McCoy," Aug. 97 and "Our Readers Respond," Nov. 97), it reminded me of one of the proudest moments of my life.

From the middle 30s to the early 40s, I was a trumpet player-arranger for a fine 11 piece band, playing throughout Illinois and into neighboring states.

In Springfield, Illinois, there was an Orpheum Ballroom and adjacent Orpheum Theatre. That night, our gig was in the ballroom, playing for the dancing crowd and, on this night,

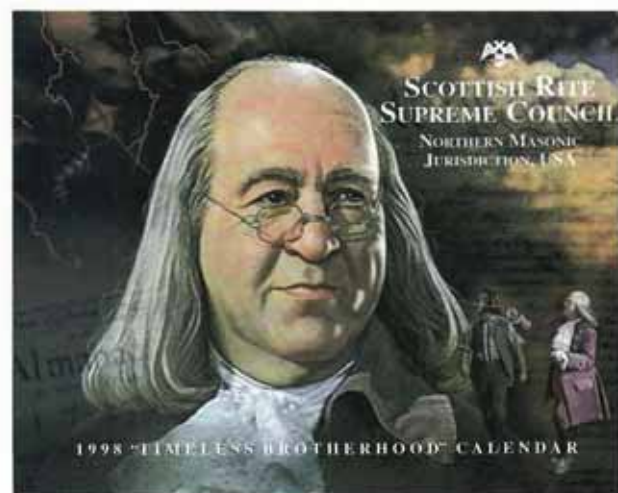
Clyde McCoy was presenting a stage performance in the theatre part of the complex.

Between shows, Clyde McCoy came over to the ballroom to listen to our band. At a band break, Clyde got up on the stage and shook hands with all the members. When he got to me, he asked me if I could play "Sugar Blues." I told him I could, and had played it several times at various locations. He asked if I would play it for him.

He and I proceeded to the front of the band, me with my horn and he by my side. The dance crowd gathered in the front of the band shell to listen. I, and the band, began to play "Sugar Blues," Clyde McCoy leading the band. When we finished, Clyde McCoy led the applause of the dance crowd.

As Clyde was leaving to rejoin his band, he mentioned that the arrangement was almost like his, and asked where I got it. I told him I had arranged it after playing "Sugar Blues" on a juke box in a sandwich and coke hangout at least a dozen times. He wasn't concerned about me copying his arrangement, complimented me and the band, waved goodbye and returned to the theatre.

Perry L. Farnam, 33°
La Crosse, WI



The 1998 "Timeless Brotherhood" Calendar was sent in November to all Scottish Rite Masons belonging to Valleys of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The unique calendar features original art highlighting accomplishments of 12 well-known Masons. A limited number of extra copies are available. If you did not receive a copy, you may request the calendar by writing to the Supreme Council headquarters, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02173. Along with the calendar was a voluntary request for contributions to the "32° Masonic Children's Learning Centers." Response to the appeal continues to arrive at the headquarters on a regular basis.

On the Lighter Side

Here are some beliefs people publicize on the bumpers of automobiles:

"He who laughs last thinks slowest."

"Out of my mind. Back in five minutes."

"Make it idiot proof and someone will make a better idiot."

"I didn't fight my way to the top of the food chain to be a vegetarian."

"I Brake For No Apparent Reason."

"I took an IQ test and the results were negative."

"I don't suffer from insanity. I enjoy every minute of it!"

"IRS: We've got what it takes to take what you've got."

"Lead me not into temptation, I can find it myself."

"Pride is what we have. Vanity is what others have."

HIRAM™

By WALLY MILLER



Footnotes

* **How to reach us.** We remind our readers once again that our area code has been changed from (617) to (781). The change affects calls to both the Supreme Council headquarters and the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, MA.

* **Coming soon.** And just as we get adjusted to a new area code for phone calls and make the necessary changes on printed materials, along comes another change. The U.S. Postal Service has just announced that the ZIP code for Lexington will be changing on July 1.

Unfortunately we can't tell you what it will be. The Postal Service is keeping it a secret until May 1, which means that the earliest we will be able to let you know is in the August issue — a month after the new code goes into effect.

So if you are trying to reach us, good luck! Perhaps your best chance is through e-mail.

* **URL change.** Not wanting to be outdone by the phone company and the Postal Service, we have changed the URL for the Supreme Council web site. This will also affect the basis of our e-mail addresses at the headquarters. To reach the web site, you can now use:

www.supremecouncil.org

Incidentally, the old URL is still acceptable for the time being. Now all I need is to have my social security number changed.

* **Coincidence corner.** Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston, 33°, was told recently that an intersection in Indianapolis was named in his honor. A few months later a photo arrived showing the signs attached to the telephone pole. Indeed, N. Ralston Avenue does intersect with E. 33rd Street.

This, of course, is purely coincidental. The streets were named long before the Grand Commander received the 33°.

* **Promoting Learning Centers.** The previous issue of *The Northern Light* included an article about the dedication of the Frank and Bette Paul 32° Masonic Children's Learning Center in New York state. In conjunction with this event, the Valley of White Plains has produced a series of three Masonic cacheted covers to commemorate the event. The Valley is selling these covers for \$7 per set, including postage. A portion of the sales will be donated to the Learning Center. They can be ordered from Richard E. Suneson, 41 Clover St., Yonkers, NY 10703.



* **Magazine index.** The *Northern Light* office frequently receives requests for information on back issues. We remind readers that back issues are available for most editions dating back to its origin in 1970. The cost is \$2 per issue, or \$1.50 per issue when ordering three or more issues.

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

An index has been prepared every five years. Copies of each five-year index are still available and will be sent on request at no charge.

Also available are open-end slip-cases for magazine storage. Each slip-case conveniently stores the magazine for a five-year period. The cost is \$6 per case.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°
Editor

Freemasonry Helping Children

SUBSTANCE



Bruce Widger, 33° Active
Deputy, State of New York



DEDICATION OF THE FRANK AND BETTE PAUL SCOTTISH RITE
CHILDRENS LEARNING CENTER
JULY 12, 1997
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14605



"FREEMASONRY HELPING MANKIND"

Masonic Philanthropies

A Tradition Of Caring



S. Brent Morris

What do Masons do?

In 1995, major North American Masonic philanthropies contributed \$750 million or over \$2 million per day of which 70% went to the general American public.

New edition on sale now

See page 15