

# THE NORTHERN LIGHT

Vol. 26 No. 1 FEBRUARY 1995

A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY

25





# The Unfinished Fraternity

The goal of Freemasonry is to keep our eyes on tomorrow. Based on solid values, Masons look to the future. We are free from the prison of yesterday's achievements to aim at new heights.

This philosophy was captured 25 years ago in the first edition of *The Northern Light* (January 1970). "However grand and imposing may have been the structure just completed," wrote the late Sovereign Grand Commander George A. Newbury, 33°, "he [the builder] has envisioned an even greater and more imposing one that he would start today."

It is when we look forward that we are true to the principles of Masonry. Adulation of past glories only distracts us from fulfilling today's responsibilities as builders. It is not what we have completed that is worthy of praise. What we now put our hand to must become the measure of our success.

The first edition of *The Northern Light* captured the dynamic qualities of Freemasonry. In a notable article, Novice G. Fawcett, 33°, president of Ohio State University, drew a remarkable parallel between Masonry and higher education. "Both are dedicated to the brotherhood of man, the proposition of freedom, and the upholding of solid, human values; both are committed to responsible change and to a never-ending search for new enlightenment, new insights, fresh vistas which will help us to effect the triumph of good over evil."

It is easy to forget that Freemasonry — like education — is designed to be useful, to *do* something. It isn't enough to *be* a Mason. The measure of a man's Masonry is what he accomplishes.

What makes Masonry so amazing is not that it has persisted over the centuries, but that it has done so much to improve the lives of millions of people.

As you read the first edition of *The Northern Light*, you come away with the feeling that being a Mason is a great and wonderful experience, a source of personal pride. But you also come away thinking that Masonry is the great *unfinished* fraternity. This is a fascinating idea for every one of us to consider. This may be the genius of Freemasonry. As Ill. Brother Fawcett points out, the principles remain firm. But the principles are tools to be used, not idols to be adored or worshiped. He characterizes Freemasonry's mission in terms of "responsible change," "fresh vistas" for effecting the triumph of good over evil, and a "never-ending search for new enlightenment."



ROBERT O. RALSTON, 33°

The last block of granite has not been put into place in the temple of Freemasonry. The final word has not been spoken on the meaning of our fraternity. The last door of service has not been opened. The final chapter has not been written on how we should serve each other and our world.

There is a valuable lesson to be learned from that first edition of our Scottish Rite magazine. It can be expressed this way: Masonry *does best* when it is *breaking new ground*. When we build, we move forward.

Masonry's mission must fit the times. The issue is not one of compromise but of taking responsibility, not one of turning our backs on the past but of anticipating the future with enthusiasm, not one of putting our tools aside but of actually putting them to work.

Our new fourth Supreme Council charity, the Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers, is an excellent example of seeing what needs to be done in our day. These centers that will one day dot the Valley landscape of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction are some of the "fresh vistas which will help us to effect the triumph of good over evil."

There is a way to measure Masonic success. We can ask ourselves, "Where have we broken new ground today? What are we building?" There is a way for us to calculate the strength and vitality of our Masonic fraternity — including the Scottish Rite: *What are we doing to make Masonry more attractive, more vital, more alive, more useful?*

Every member of our fraternity has a right to expect that its leaders will help extend the reach and further the vision. Just as we were at our best 25 years ago when we launched a new magazine, we will always be at our best when we welcome new possibilities, when we see ourselves as the unfinished fraternity.

A stylized, handwritten signature of Robert O. Ralston in dark ink.

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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*About the Front Cover*



With this issue we celebrate the 25th anniversary of *The Northern Light*. Throughout the years it has served as "A Window for Freemasonry." For a review of the past quarter century, see page 4. Cover design by George L. Thompson, 3rd, 32°.

# A WINDOW FOR FREEMASONRY

# THE NORTHERN LIGHT

Volume 26 No. 1

February 1995

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# 25 Years of Publishing

## *The growth of The Northern Light*

By RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°

**I**t all started with a dream. Sovereign Grand Commander George A. Newbury, 33°, had many dreams, and most of them came to fruition. He could see the need to communicate with the members by providing a jurisdiction-wide publication that would serve as a vehicle to strengthen Masonic education.

Since 1942 the Supreme Council had been publishing a monthly newsletter, but the distribution was limited to only one percent of the membership. The newsletter was started by Rev. McIllyar H. Lichliter, 33°, Grand Prior of the Supreme Council, and continued by his successor, Rev. John G. Fleck, 33°.

Grand Commander Newbury appointed a committee in 1968 to study the feasibility of publishing a magazine that would reach the entire membership. Chairing the committee was Ill. George E. Burow, 33°, a Supreme Council Active Member for Illinois and managing editor of the Danville Commercial-News.

The committee concluded that a magazine would serve a useful purpose, and a target date of January 1970 was set for publication of the first issue.

Ill. Brother Burow suggested that the magazine be named, *The Northern Light*. During the course of publishing the first few issues, he also came up with an appropriate subtitle, "A Window for Freemasonry," to let the world know that the magazine would be open for all to read.

**A**lthough it was agreed to publish five issues per year, it was the hope of the committee eventually to expand the frequency to six or more issues.

A number of men were considered for the position of editor. When the final selection was made, a tentative agreement was reached. Three weeks



later, however, the Brother selected had a change of heart, and the search began again.

It was at this point that Commander Newbury urged the committee chairman, George Burow, to assume the post. Reluctantly and after a great deal of thought, the chairman agreed that he would retire as managing editor of the Illinois daily newspaper on Dec. 31, 1969, to assume direction of the new magazine. He insisted that he would continue to reside in Danville and visit the Lexington headquarters on a part-time basis. This was contingent on the hiring of a full-time assistant editor to handle the day-to-day chores.

Ill. Stanley F. Maxwell, 33°, in his capacity as Executive Secretary for the Supreme Council, was conducting the search when he discussed the matter with me. My journalistic experience and interest in the fraternity was the match the committee was looking for.

I arrived in July, just six months before the first issue was to hit the press. There was much to be done. George would not arrive until after the deadline for the first issue, so most decisions had to be made by phone.

It was agreed from the beginning that George would search for material, edit and write some articles, and handle some of the correspondence. The rest of the task would be left in the hands of the assistant. That would involve the layout and design, much of the rewrite, the balance of the correspondence, supervision of the mailing list, and liaison with the printer and other suppliers.

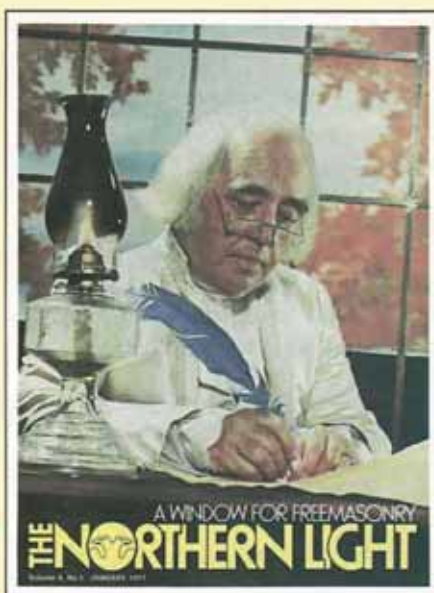
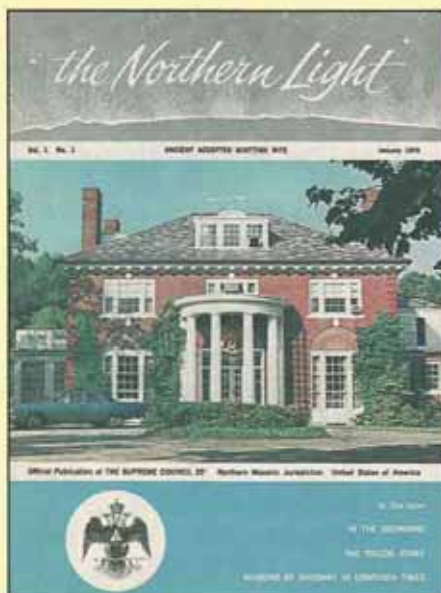
With George's arrival in January 1970, the office became more stable. George and his wife Esther would make the journey by car from Illinois to Massachusetts many times over the next few years. At first he would balance his time equally between the two locations — three weeks at the office and three weeks at home. As the years moved along, he would turn over more of the work-load and his visits became less frequent.

**G**eorge had a folksy midwestern writing style and a warm and energizing personality. I was a young New Englander with journalistic roots but limited experience. Together we were able to turn a fledgling magazine into a publication that would quickly gain respect.

Although George had considered retiring as editor in 1975, he suggested that we share the title of editor for a year as he phased out his work. He continued to write his column, "Burroing with Burow," through the end of 1976. As chairman of the editorial board, however, he remained a loyal supporter until his death in 1984.

During the course of 25 years, the magazine has had a succession of six printers, some of which were for periods of a year or less. The longest association was with the now-defunct Rumford Press in Concord, NH. It was the tireless efforts and constant attention of printing salesman Paul Barter, 32°, that made our commitment to





The magazine's masthead has evolved over the years. The first issues displayed an image of the aurora borealis, also referred to as the northern lights. Shown here are three samples from January 1970, April 1972, and January 1977. Today's logo is basically the same as the January 1977 with minor modifications.

Rumford Press such an enjoyable one. If a problem arose, Paul was there to solve it. The eventual closing of the plant forced us to make other arrangements. Today the magazine is printed at the Old Saybrook, CT, plant of R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company, where we have maintained an excellent working relationship with a highly efficient production staff since August 1991.

Our own staff at the Lexington headquarters has been small but highly effective. During the early years, Mrs. Evelyn Juthe served as a faithful secretary and made our job so much easier. Upon her retirement, she was succeeded by Mrs. Luella Nordstrom, who not only handled secretarial duties but also assumed the role of typesetter as we began the process of in-house typesetting in 1982. For a brief time we also employed the services of Miss Carolyn Rotundi.

On today's production staff are Mrs. Sonja Faiola and Mrs. Norma Small. As circulation manager, Sonja has been maintaining the subscription files and other circulation matters as well as clerical duties for the magazine. Another major contribution has been her assistance with layout and color coordination. Norma, who arrived with a wealth of experience in typesetting, has shared her expertise as we progressed with more advanced typesetting systems. Her speed and efficiency are unparalleled.

Although it was the desire of the original publications committee to increase eventually the frequency of publication, rising costs of production and mailing have forced us to reconsider that plan. In 1987 a decision was made to reduce the number of issues per year from five to four. With the changeover to a quarterly publication the number

of pages increased from 20 to 24. The net result, however, was an annual savings in postage that exceeded the cost of the additional pages. Since 1991, we have been able to maintain 28 pages.

Many publications carry crossword puzzles. We considered this possibility but searched for something

*Continued on next page*

## TOP EVENTS IN NMJ SINCE 1970

- 1970 First issue of *The Northern Light* published
- 1974 Full data processing service made available to Valleys
- 1975 Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage opens
- 1978 SGC Maxwell creates Special Committee on Membership Development
- 1981 NMJ launches Family Life Week
- 1984 Abbott Scholarships changed from journalism students to relatives of Scottish Rite Masons
- 1987 Frequency of *The Northern Light* changed from 5 issues per year to quarterly
- 1988 NMJ & SJ issue joint citation to recognize President Ronald Reagan as an Honorary Scottish Rite Mason
- 1989 Call to Action program emphasizes important of membership development
- 1990 SGC Paul backs National Masonic Renewal Committee
- 1993 New Scottish Rite video, "Conscience for America," released
- 1994 Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers adopted as a new NMJ charity
- 1994 NMJ & SJ join with other organizations in Citizens Flag Alliance to support flag amendment



## 25 YEARS OF PUBLISHING

Continued from previous page

different. In September 1979, we created Masonic Word Math and have since published a new puzzle in each issue. This issue contains the 70th consecutive Word Math puzzle. During the first few years we had no reader response to the puzzle, and we thought seriously of dropping the feature. But an error crept into one of the words, and we were deluged with phone calls and letters.

A 1992 survey of selected readers identified various levels of interest. It also showed a considerable readership among other household members.

Most often the response to an article comes not from those who agree but from those who disagree. This, of course, is basic human nature. We have attempted to publish a sampling of the response as space permits.

A quarter century of publishing can hardly compare with the length of service of many other Masonic publications, yet we feel in the short space of 25 years that we have made a valuable contribution to the field of Masonic education. We hope our readers will agree.

# 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.

**(BICYCLE) + (TERRIFIC) - (LEFT)**

**+ (STAND) - (CRIB) + (CLEVER)**

**- (CRADLE) + (RULE) - (VERSE) +**

**(TOAST) - (CLUTTER) - (STAY)**

=

Answer from previous issue: **FRATERNAL**

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 14.

## IN MEMORIAM III. Floyd Willard McBurney, 33°

III. Floyd W. McBurney, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council and former Grand Minister of State and Deputy for Wisconsin, died Jan. 3, 1995, following a period of declining health.

He was born in Bloomington, Wis., on Aug. 24, 1906, and attended the public schools there. He continued his education at the University of Wisconsin, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1930 and a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1933.

III. Brother McBurney began the practice of law in Madison in 1933, and after two years moved to Milwaukee to become an assistant to the Director of the Federal Housing Administration. In 1940, he returned to the practice of law at Madison continuing until his retirement in 1985.

He was an active member in the American Lutheran Church, and served as a delegate in 1960 to the Convention in Minneapolis, Minn., when the American Lutheran Church was formed by merger with the Evangelical Lutheran and the United Evangelical Churches. He worked with the Social Action Committee of the American Lutheran Church for the Southern District of Wisconsin, and was elected to serve as a director of the Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and upper Michigan. Also, acting jointly with his son, they served as Legislative Counselors to some 1,500 Wisconsin Protestant churches.

On Dec. 24, 1931, he married Martha A. Boesler, who passed away in 1987. They were the parents of a son, Floyd W., Jr., (Mike), who died in 1967, and a daughter, Georgi-

anna, who survives along with her husband, Gary R. Stebnitz, 32°, and four grandchildren. Their son Mike became a quadriplegic in 1954 at the age of 16, and they took particular pride in his accomplishments, which included graduation from the University of Wisconsin Law School with top honors, a law practice with his father, and a successful run for Dane County District Attorney. With the assistance of Professor James Graaskamp, III. Brother McBurney helped start the McBurney Resource Center for handicapped students at the University of Wisconsin.

He was raised a Master Mason in 1935 at Commonwealth Lodge No. 325, F. & A.M., Madison, Wis., where he was Master in 1947 and a trustee from 1948-54. He was also a trustee for the Masonic Medical Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc., which supports a Masonic Diagnostic and Treatment Center in conjunction with the Deaconess Hospital in Milwaukee.

He was a member of the Madison York Rite Bodies and in 1959 presided over Robert Macoy Commandery No. 3, K.T.

In the Scottish Rite Valley of Madison, he received his degrees in 1942 and served as Thrice Potent Master in 1958-59. A recipient of the 33° in 1959, III. Brother McBurney was crowned an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1966. He was Grand Representative near the Northern Jurisdiction for the Grand Lodge of Sweden, 1969-82, and Deputy for Wisconsin, 1970-81. In 1975, he was elected Grand Minister of State and continued in that capacity until becoming an Active Emeritus Member in 1980.



To limit a list of outstanding Masonic leaders to 25 is a difficult task, since so many Masons have made major contributions to the fraternity. In the November issue of *The Northern Light* we asked our readers for their opinions. From the suggestions submitted we have selected leaders who we feel have left an important mark. All are Scottish Rite members belonging to Valleys within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and have been key players for the fraternity within the last quarter century.

Each of the four Sovereign Grand Commanders during the past 25 years have made important contributions to the future of the Scottish Rite.

During the tenure of **George A. Newbury, 33°**, the Supreme Council underwent a transformation. The position of Executive Secretary was established. The headquarters office was moved from the Statler Office Building in Boston to suburban Lexington. A new publication was launched for distribution to all members. Plans were developed for a major museum-library building adjacent to the Lexington headquarters.

In the words of his successor, "George Newbury possessed a unique ability to capture the imagination of men. So vivid were his dreams and so persuasive were his words that others could see the possibilities and march to the cadence of his thoughts. Whatever he set out to accomplish, he achieved with a relentless devotion. When he was ready to move forward, nothing would dare stand in his way."

Prior to assuming the position of Sovereign Grand Commander, **Stanley**

# Top 25 Masons

*A list of outstanding Masonic leaders during the past 25 years*

**F. Maxwell, 33°**, served the Supreme Council as Executive Secretary for ten years. During that period he played a major role in fulfilling the dreams of Commander Newbury. His tireless efforts as Executive Secretary made him a natural successor to the office of Grand Commander, where he continued to provide strong direction for the Supreme Council headquarters. He maintained a schedule that few could match with a constant devotion to the fraternity.

It was during his tenure that major strides were made in developing a data processing department to manage the computerization of records. Having been closely involved in the supervision of the construction of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage, he also maintained a keen interest in its growth during the early years. In recognition of his devotion to this project, the museum auditorium has been named in his honor.

One of the key elements in the role of **Francis G. Paul, 33°**, as Sovereign Grand Commander was to make the fraternity aware of the need for membership development. Many of his

speeches and writings focused on this theme. He was also an early and strong supporter of the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America and backed up his support with financial assistance. During his administration he worked closely with the Special Committee on Membership Development and brought in a consultant to advise the committee. The result was the "Call to Action" program.

He also offered support to the Grand Masters within the 15-state jurisdiction and met frequently with them to review mutual concerns. Much of his work will continue to reap dividends to the fraternity for years to come.

Although he has been in office for less than 18 months, Grand Commander **Robert O. Ralston, 33°**, has wasted no time in reviewing Supreme Council policy and making adjustments where necessary. His youthful vigor has set a tone for others to follow. His willingness to examine new approaches to old problems will help the fraternity in general and Scottish Rite in particular face the future with a new outlook.

*Continued on next page*

## SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDERS



NEWBURY



MAXWELL



PAUL



RALSTON



## TOP 25 MASONS

Continued from previous page

As Deputy for Massachusetts, **J. Philip Berquist, 33°** was responsible for developing a children's learning center in his state. It was patterned after similar centers in the Southern Jurisdiction. The success of the center has led the Grand Commander to appoint Ill. Brother Berquist to expand the program throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The centers will be supported as a fourth charity of the Supreme Council.

**W**hen Grand Commander Newbury was anxious to start a new jurisdiction-wide publication, he turned to **George E. Burow, 33°** an Active Member for Illinois. Ill. Brother Burow was managing editor of the Danville (Ill.) Commercial-News and agreed to become the first editor of *The Northern Light*, a position he held until 1976. He was also chairman of the editorial board from the preliminary stages in 1968 until his death in 1984.

**James R. Case, 33°** was recognized by a number of Grand Lodges for his many contributions to the field of Masonic history and biography. He possessed a keen interest in a number of research lodges and served as Master of American Lodge of Research in New York City. He was also Grand Historian for the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, his home state. His writings appeared frequently in the early years of *The Northern Light*.

Known for his research and prolific writing, **Alphonse Cerza, 33°** had the distinction of being only the third American elected to membership in Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076, London, England, the premier Masonic research organization in the world. His book reviews appeared regularly in *The Northern Light* from the first issue in 1970 until his death in 1987. Among his own books were *The Courts and Freemasonry*, *Anti-Masonry*, and *A Masonic Reader's Guide*, to name a few. His reputation as a speaker on Masonic sub-

jects made him extremely popular not only in his home Valley of Chicago but also throughout the country.

As a dynamic speaker, few could deliver as powerful a message as **Raymond D. Ellis, 33°**

a Past Grand Master of the state of New York. His speeches and writings were condensed into a one-volume book, *Memorable Moments*. It was his enthusiastic delivery, however, that caught the attention of his audience. Now at the age of 98, the Gourgas medalist accepts very few assignments, but those who attended the 1986 Supreme Council session will remember a man who at the age of 90 delivered a charge to the candidates with the vigor of a man half his age.

Cut down in his prime, **George E. Gullen, Jr., 33°** had just begun to make major contributions to the Supreme Council. As Grand Lieutenant Commander and Deputy for Michigan at the time of his death in 1982, he had brought to the fraternity the administrative expertise he had attained as president of Wayne State University in Detroit. For the Scottish Rite, he was called upon many times for special assignments.

As chairman of the Special Committee on Leadership Development in the early 1970's, **Albert N. Hepler, Jr., 33°** maintained a vision that projected far beyond the average Mason. He saw the need for strong future leadership at a time when most Masonic leaders were satisfied with the constantly rising membership figures and comfortable surroundings. Ill. Brother Hepler, however, warned that the rose-colored glasses were distorting the long-range picture.

As Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, **Thomas W. Jackson, 33°** has defended Freemasonry within his state when opponents have attempted to fault the fraternity.



BERQUIST



BUROW



CASE

He has also shared his Masonic knowledge with others. One way is through his book reviews for *The Northern Light*, where he has stimulated readers to expand their Masonic education.

The many contributions of **Dr. Richard A. Kern, 33°** are too numerous to mention. As a specialist in the field of internal medicine, he took a deep interest in the Scottish Rite Schizophrenia Research program. The Kern award, named in his honor, recognizes outstanding Valleys with the highest percentage of participation in charitable contributions. He had been Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Grand Lieutenant Commander of the Supreme Council. In 1972, he became the only one ever to have been elected Honorary Sovereign Grand Commander. He was highly respected by Masonic leaders throughout the world for his understanding of international affairs.

**D**uring his 15-year tenure as chairman of the Supreme Council Committee on Rituals and Ritualistic Matter, **Robert L. Miller, Sr., 33°** sought to complete the task of his predecessors to realign the settings for the Scottish Rite degrees. Using a microscopic approach he examined each degree and introduced more modern settings to some of the consistorial degrees. Through his relentless devotion, the rearrangement was basically complete as he stepped down as chairman in September.

**Irving E. Partridge, Jr., 33°** was Deputy for Connecticut for 17 years, but his greatest contribution was his knowledge of the ritualistic structure



MILLER



PARTRIDGE



PEALE



POLLARD



ROBERTS



ROBINSON





CERZA



ELLIS



GULLEN



HEPLER



JACKSON



KERN

of the Northern Jurisdiction degrees. He served 29 years on the Rituals Committee and was chairman on two different occasions. His 1976 dissertation on the Scottish Rite rituals continues to be used today as a valuable reference.

With his international reputation for "positive thinking," **Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, 33°** never hesitated to stand up for Freemasonry and shed light on the fraternity. Through the Marble Collegiate Church he was able to help thousands of people as he integrated psychiatric principles with religion. The timeless power of his inspirational writing and speaking will be available through books and tapes for generations to come.

**Stewart M.L. Pollard, 33°** always has a way of looking at the lighter side of Masonry. Although he provided notable book reviews for *The Northern Light* for several years, it is his own contributions to literature that will leave a lasting impression. His book, *Tied to Masonic Apron Strings*, was the first of several volumes of humorous fraternal anecdotes, which he had collected over the years. He also made a substantial contribution as executive secretary of the Masonic Service Association.

**W**hen it comes to Masonic literature, there is no one who can compete with **Allen E. Roberts, 32°** on quantity and quality of published material. His list of books and films is substantial. He does not hesitate to speak out on any subject. One of his pet projects is to debunk Masonic myths. After careful research, he concluded as early as 1956 that Prince Hall Masonry was legitimate. Much of his time in recent

years has been devoted to the Phyllethethes Society, where he serves as executive secretary. Although a resident of Virginia, he is a member of the Valley of Boston and has been elected to receive the 33° in September.

Although **John J. Robinson, 33°** had a short career as a Mason, his contribution to the fraternity has had a major impact. After discovering the fraternity, he became Masonry's most articulate spokesman. He would not hesitate to enter a debate with an anti-Mason even before he received his degrees. Through his efforts the Masonic Information Center has been established to defend against unwarranted attacks and to create a positive image of the fraternity. This giant of a Mason woke up a sleepy fraternity.

**A**s the first director of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage, **Dr. Clement M. Silvestro, 33°** set high standards for others to follow. He was given an empty building that had no permanent collections and was asked to do something with it. In quick order he turned it into a facility that was the envy of his peers. He established the direction for its future growth. His expertise in the field contributed to the instant success of the museum.

**James Fairbairn Smith, 33°** was a prolific Masonic writer. He founded and published the well-known *Masonic World* newspaper from 1934 until his retirement in 1976. Although he was actively involved in Masonic organizations in Detroit, he gained an international reputation for his Masonic literature.

Although he lived a busy life as CEO of a major U.S. corporation, **Charles A. Spahr, 33°** never forgot his fraternity. Ill. Brother Spahr played a major role in the development of the Alaskan pipeline. As an Active Member for Ohio, he brought his corporate expertise into Freemasonry. With his forward thinking, he was able to offer productive ideas to a fraternity that had become slow to act.

**John H. Van Gorden, 33°** was one of the first to offer support for Grand Commander Newbury's dream of developing a history museum. Because of his interest, the library was named in his honor. It was through his work that the first book on Masonic charities was published. He also wrote a series of Masonic reference books.

In 1965, **Harold V.B. Voorhis, 33°** published *The Story of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry*, which covers every known facet of the Rite. He was also a frequent contributor to a variety of Masonic publications, including *The Northern Light*. Ill. Brother Voorhis was a member of 80 Masonic bodies and served as the presiding officer of 34.

The Van Gorden-Williams Library at the Museum of Our National Heritage recognizes the efforts of **Louis L. Williams, 33°** in the planning stages of that facility. He was also a major contributor to *The Northern Light* in its early years and served as an inspiration to the editors. The Deputy for Illinois was a Masonic researcher, writer, editor and founder of the Masonic Book Club. He collaborated with Ill. Brother Newbury in writing and completing *A History of the Supreme Council*, which was published in 1987.



SILVESTRO



SMITH



SPAHR



VAN GORDEN



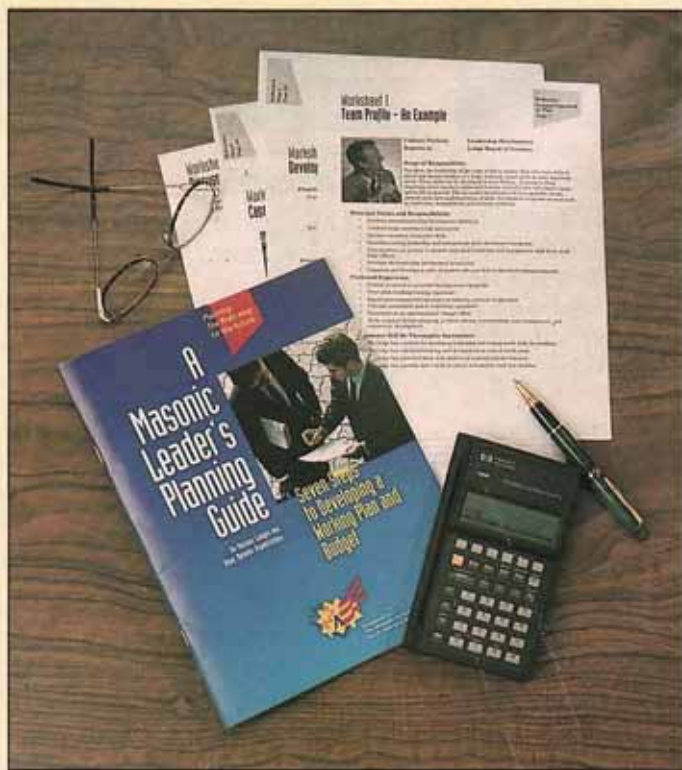
VOORHIS



WILLIAMS



## New Guide Published for Masonic Leaders



Thanks to a recent publication from the Masonic Renewal Committee of North America, every leader in every lodge can find all the help they need for developing a plan and budget for their lodge. For that matter, the leader of any Masonic organization can find help.

"A Masonic Leader's Planning Guide" was developed by Masons for Masons and reviewed by scores of Masonic leaders. The 48-page guide outlines seven steps for successful planning: Identifying problems or needs, Establishing priorities, Setting goals, Selecting strategies and methods, Identifying resources, Building a budget, Monitoring progress.

The guide helps the lodge leader develop an annual plan. It is not intended for developing the longer-range strategic plans, which lodges also may need to consider.

The Masonic Renewal Committee has produced a number of related materials, all designed to help Masonic leaders plan for the future, increase membership and retain current members. The most recent was "101+ Ways to Improve Interest and Attendance."

The latest book is available for \$15 (including shipping and handling), with discounts for quantities of more than 10 copies. Orders should be sent to Masonic Renewal Committee of North America, 6115 Falls Rd., Baltimore, MD 21209.

## Plans for Learning Centers Move Forward

Adoption of a fourth Scottish Rite charity at the September annual meeting of the Supreme Council has set in motion the groundwork for development of Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers throughout the 15-state Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Similar centers have been established in the Southern Jurisdiction, where 108 facilities are in operation. The first center opened in Colorado more than 40 years ago.

The Southern Jurisdiction centers have found a growing need to provide assistance for those who are faced with learning disorders. Problems that bring children to the learning centers are affecting 10% of our young people.

The Massachusetts Scottish Rite Foundation, Inc., was instituted several years ago to develop a learning center at Newtonville, Mass. That center, which was dedicated officially last April, was a result of the work of Massachusetts Scottish Rite Deputy J. Phi-

lip Berquist, 33°. Because of his expertise in establishing the Newtonville center in suburban Boston, Ill. Brother Berquist has been named to coordinate the program for the entire jurisdiction.

At a meeting on Dec. 29, the name of the Massachusetts Scottish Rite Foundation was legally changed to the Scottish Rite Masonic Children's Learning Centers, Inc., for which the Sovereign Grand Commander will serve as chairman of the board.

In the future each center will be sponsored by a Valley or Valleys and will be managed by a local board of governors. A new facility will be required to have two years' operational costs on hand prior to opening. The development of the centers will be carefully monitored to assure their success.

Sponsorship of the Newtonville facility has been assigned to the Valley of Boston. Initial interest for similar centers has been expressed from Cincinnati, Indianapolis, New Jersey, New York state, Wisconsin and Maine.

Grand Commander Ralston has pointed out that in order to create a successful learning center program in our 15-state area, we will have to have the interest, participation and financial support of the officers and members of the Scottish Rite in each of our 15 states. It is anticipated that the Supreme Council will be in a position to make available certain levels of "start up" funds as well as stated amounts thereafter to assist in funding the operating costs of these learning centers. Beyond this, there must be a desire on the part of local and state Scottish Rite leaders to see such a program succeed.

It is intended that priority consideration (up to 49%) will be given to children and grandchildren of Masons.

The program not only will provide a valuable and needed service to children but also will be a visible means of promoting the Masonic fraternity. The logo for the learning centers will be the teddy bear with Masonic and Scottish Rite emblems on the bow.



# The Builders of Uniontown

*Converting a lodge room into a theater*

By HERBERT C. WOLSTONCROFT, JR., 33°

**D**uring a Saturday in early October, the members of the Uniontown (Pa.) Lodge of Perfection assemble at the local Masonic building to transform a beautiful lodge room, into a theater complete with a stage. The transformation takes place every year in preparation for the annual Scottish Rite Reunion held the first weekend in November.

The Masonic building in Uniontown resembles dozens of other downtown Masonic temples. The second floor houses the offices of the Uniontown Lodge of Perfection and banquet facilities. The third floor consists of two lodge rooms. These rooms provide the meeting place for two Masonic lodges, a Royal Arch Chapter, and a Commandery. Other affiliated groups, such as Eastern Star, White Shrine, DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls, and the Tall Cedars, also assemble there. The fourth floor provides a dressing room and makeup room for the Annual Reunion of the Lodge of Perfection.

While evenings are busy, the daytime and weekends are quiet. That is until a Saturday early in October, when it became a beehive of activity.

On that day, the Craft assemble at 8:00 a.m. under the direction of the Master Overseer, Paul F. Hanyo, 32°, who, at age 80, has been in charge for 28 years. After a cup of coffee and a donut, the brethren begin to remove the furniture from the East and to carry

Uniontown, Pa., with its 12,000 residents, is a proud town that boasts of the same birthday as our nation, July 4, 1776. It is the county seat of Fayette County, which was formed out of the southern part of Westmoreland County in 1783. The first great period of growth for the city, from 1811 through the 1850's, came with the construction of the National Road from Cumberland, Md., to Wheeling, W.V., and eventually to Illinois. Uniontown was an important stop on the road with stagecoach factories, stage and wagon yards, stables and blacksmith shops, and, at least, a dozen taverns or hotels to serve travelers. The greatest explosion of growth for the city came with the coal and coke boom starting about 1880 and continuing until just after the end of World War II.

Just 11 miles east of Uniontown, over Chestnut Ridge in the Appalachian Mountains on U.S. Route

40, stands Fort Necessity, where a young man, George Washington, with his band of 400 soldiers, was defeated on July 3, 1754, by about 600 French soldiers and 100 Indians. This sporadic fighting of roughly 8 hours was the igniting spark of the French and Indian War.

Brother George Catlett Marshall was Uniontown's most distinguished citizen. Brother Marshall became General of the Army (5 star) in 1944. He served as Chief of Staff during World War II, 1939-45; Secretary of State, 1947-49; and Secretary of Defense, 1950-51. Marshall, the author of the Marshall Plan, was made a Mason "at sight" on Dec. 16, 1941, by the Grand Master of the District of Columbia. His father was an active Freemason in Uniontown, being High Priest of Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 165 in 1889 and Commander of Uniontown Commandery No. 49, K.T., in 1883.

pipes, beams, plywood, lights, curtains and other material into the 80'x40' lodge room to construct a stage. All the parts are numbered. Everything to the last bolt or screw has its own purpose.

**F**irst, the platform for the stage is built, about three feet above the floor. A dimming system console, that was obtained when the old State Theater was vacated in the 1940's, is set in place.

Beams are fastened to six eye-bolts in the ceiling to form a grid to support the curtain tracks, border lights on pipe battens and ceiling borders to mask the lights. Work continues as the proscenium is erected and with the proscenium opening displaying the stage.

The front curtain, olio curtain, mid-stage curtain and rear curtain are all hung. Footlights and steps are placed in front of the stage. In the southwest corner of the room, a platform is constructed for the choir, and after the heavy bench-type seats are repositioned to face the East, a theater emerges.

*Continued on next page*



HERBERT C. WOLSTONCROFT, JR., 33°, is a Past Commander-in-Chief for the Valley of Pittsburgh and former editor of its award-winning Valley publication.





The annual transformation from a lodge room to a theater.

## THE BUILDERS OF UNIONTOWN

*Continued from previous page*

Valley Treasurer Eugene Endsley, 33°, remarked that when he went to receive his degrees, his father-in-law said, "Take your overalls and an old shirt." He was dumbfounded, but he learned there was work to be done after the degrees were over. He became a stage worker then, and he has never stopped.

On October 8, 1994, when I witnessed this remarkable transformation, 35 brethren showed up for work. This was almost too many. The "Master Craftsmen" of Uniontown erected the stage with precision and without any quarrels or confusion, and without a word of profanity during the project. When lunchtime came, the job was done.

**D**uring the first weekend in November, the same workers, who climbed over 12-foot ladders and moved scaffolds, were adorned as Kings or members of their Court and became actors on the stage they had built. The Valley of Uniontown, a one-body Valley with about 1,900 members, takes pride in the fact that it has always conferred each of the Ineffable degrees at every reunion.

The day after the conferral, King Hiram, King Solomon, Zadock, Adoniram, Zabud and others again appeared in overalls to tear down the stage and store all its parts for the next reunion. A year later, these members of the Valley of Uniontown will return again to transform the lodge room into a theater with the same speed and precision of an Amish barn raising.



The process begins by erecting the stage platform.







Paul Hanyo, 32, has been directing the crew for the past 28 years.

Every year the volunteer crew installs a grid system supported by eye-bolts mounted in the ceiling, builds a proscenium, and hangs curtains and border lights.





# Masonic Documents

*Certificates confirmed the identity of Masons*

By JOHN D. HAMILTON, 32°

A certificate is a diploma issued by a Grand Masonic body, or by a regular subordinate body under its authority, testifying that the holder thereof has been "made" a true and trusty brother, has been initiated as a Master Mason or other specified degree, and is recommended to the hospitality of the fraternity around the globe.

Inherent in such hospitality is a worthiness to receive aid from the brethren in the event of captivity, shipwreck, or some other circumstance of distress. This universal aspect of reciprocal acceptance and assistance was sometimes alluded to on engraved Masonic certificates by incorporating into the design terrestrial globes having meridians upon which pertinent text appeared.

In 1755, the premier Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) awoke to the necessity of being able to identify its expanding membership and of the members being able to identify themselves to each other. A system of registration was instituted by issuing each brother a standard engraved certificate of membership. The copperplate used to print the first Grand Lodge certificate was designed and engraved by J. Cartwright (c. 1754-84).

The image selected was composed of three female allegorical figures, Faith, Hope, and Charity. Faith and Hope were placed atop columns representing the three principal orders of



"Open" Grand Lodge of Massachusetts certificate. Engraved by Samuel Hill (1750-1803), Boston, c. 1802. A globe of text is mounted on an altar between figures of Hope and Charity. A Grand Lodge affidavit that the lodge is in good standing appears on the altar.

architecture: Ionic, Corinthian, and Doric. Each order possessed structural attributes that corresponded to the theological virtues of wisdom, strength, and beauty. They also alluded to what were considered the three principal supports of each lodge: the Master and the Senior and Junior Wardens, respectively. Freemasonry was thus depicted as being in support of the highest moral goals. Such esoteric allusion to the Master and Wardens was often further emphasized by the placement of their

jewels of office against the base of each column.

Charity, surrounded by needy children, was seated on the ground between the column bases. A winged angel, representing the allegorical figure of Fame, flies above the image, her trumpet heralding the benefits of Freemasonry. From the trumpet is suspended a banner that bears the inscription "Grand Lodge of England." When this design was adopted for private lodge use, the banner was made to bear the name and number of the lodge. Two of the columns often stand in perspective line at one side of the



JOHN D. HAMILTON, 32°, a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Boston, is the curator of collections at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage.



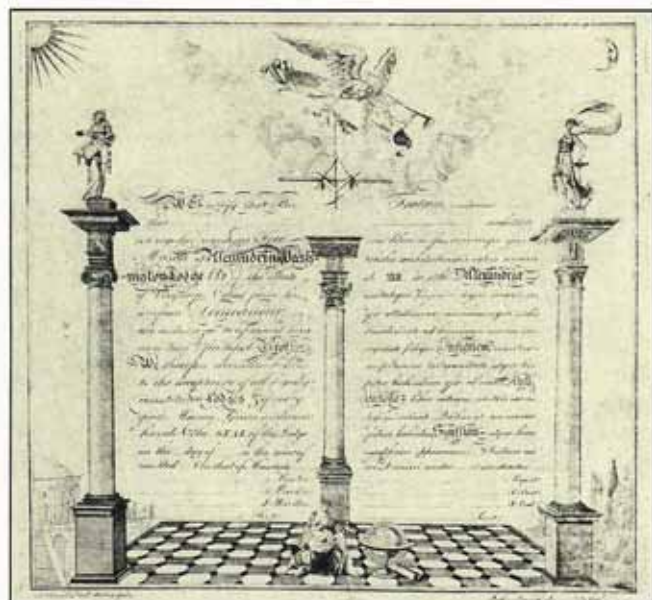
image, and the third column is positioned opposite to balance the design. An evenly balanced spatial division, with one column in the center, was also used to create a divided format that readily lent itself to the use of adjacent bilingual texts.

American engravers readily and freely adapted the designs of English Masonic certificates. There are numerous instances where lodge minutes recorded that committees were appointed to investigate certificate designs and procure an engraved plate.

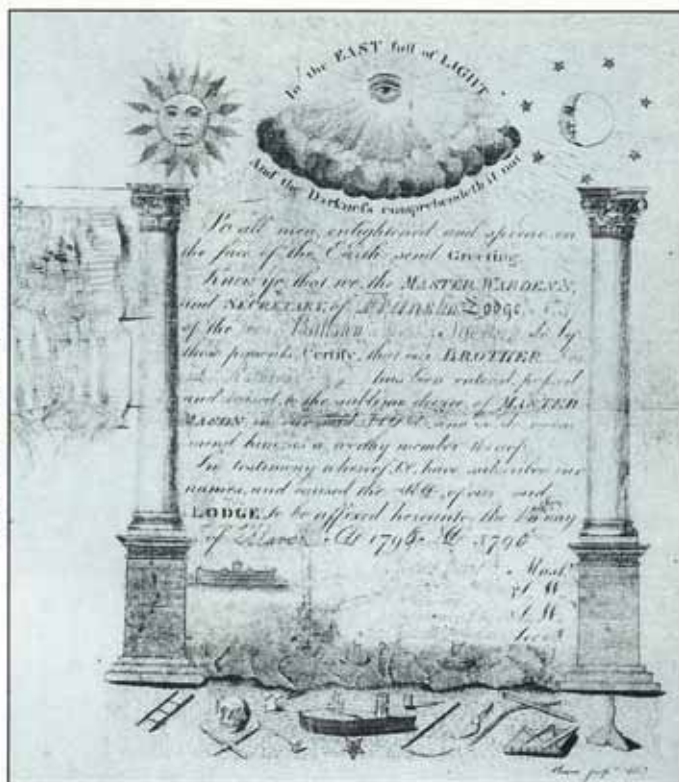
These actions aid in establishing the date a certificate design was placed in use. Plates commissioned for private use by a specific lodge had the lodge name engraved in the text together with such allegorical Masonic vignettes and other devices as were deemed appropriate. No official restrictions hindered artistic interpretation. As a result, American certificate designs either reflected an imitation of prior English examples, or a creative originality that often bordered on the whimsical.

Spurred by the Neoclassical Revival, a number of standard variations on Cartwright's design evolved during the 1790's. The figures of Faith and Hope were often replaced by Minerva (wisdom and fortitude), Prudence (reflection), Temperance (restraint), or Justice (judgment), with the figure of

**Bilingual "private" lodge certificate.** Engraved by Bro. Peter Rushton Maverick (1755-1811), New York City, c. 1789-1805. Three architectural columns divide English and Latin texts. Above, the figure of Fame carries a banner inscribed with the name of the lodge, Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, Alexandria, Va.



**"Open" lodge certificate.** Engraved by silversmith Isaac Hutton (1767-1855), Albany, N.Y., c. 1796. Hutton's design shows a pair of flat-chapter pillars from Solomon's Temple, with the temple in the background.



Hercules providing an overt reference to strength. American engravers relinquished their penchant for the three pulchritudinous bare-breasted "Virtues" and began to provide their female figures with more modestly draped apparel.

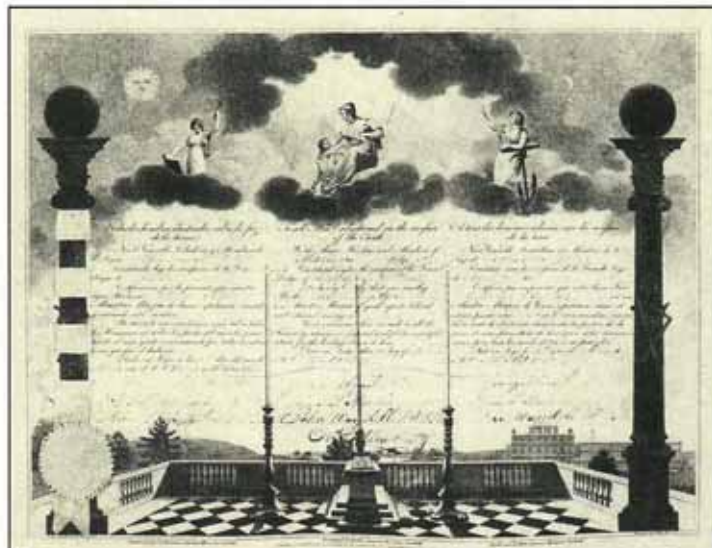
Thus, Cartwright's original inanimate architectural allusion to the three principal officers of the lodge was either replaced or reinforced by the classical human form.

As the number of allegorical figures in the designs expanded to five, so too did the number of architectural columns.

**A**nother variation in the late 1790's depicted two pillars as opposed to three columns. The two pillars, known as Jachin and Boaz, represented the pillars that graced the portico of King Solomon's Temple. Early renderings

*Continued on next page*

**Trilingual "open" lodge certificate.** Engraved by Peter Maverick (1780-1845), New York City, copyright Aug. 23, 1823. The "three lights of Masonry" divide panels of trilingual text intended to be used as a "traveling" certificate. The twin pillars are shown surmounted by globes.





## MASONIC DOCUMENTS

Continued from previous page

show pillars with flat chapter; later ones, after 1800, show pillars adorned with terrestrial and celestial globes.

A certificate engraved by Isaac Hutton and dated 1796 provides an illustration of flat-topped pillars while pillars depicted after 1800, by William Rollinson and others, appear surmounted by globes.

**T**he introduction of a certificate plate may occasionally be established from imprint information provided by the engraver, who often indicated that he was a brother Freemason, office holder, or member of a particular Masonic body. A plate engraved by William Rollinson for Phoenix Lodge No. 11 included the tidbit that he was "M. of P.L." (Master of Phoenix Lodge). From such clues, terms in office or admission to a specific Masonic body may be verified to provide an indication of when a plate was placed in use. Rarely, as in the case of Orramel Throop, did an engraver include the actual date of introduction in the imprint.

The use of bilingual and trilingual texts insured that certificates could be understood wherever American Freemasons plied their trade. Mariners who frequented ports in the Mediterranean and West Indies found that a French version was desirable. In 1797 the Grand Lodge of Connecticut even specified that a certificate copperplate be procured that was "engraved in the English and French languages." Many Americans traded into South America where a Spanish text also proved helpful. "Traveling Certificates" in particular made use of trilingual texts in English, French, and Spanish; an example of which is the certificate from Mariner's Lodge No. 385 of New York City. Latin was also used, but perhaps more for scholarly effect than as a universal language.

**A**s early as 1763, regulations required that Freemasons present a certificate that included the time and place of their "making" before being admitted to another lodge.

However, a certificate was not intended to act as a *prima facie* voucher for the bearer, but as *collateral* evidence of being a brother in good standing of whatever designated degree or body. The bearer was also required to undergo strict oral examination on

"Open" Royal Arch Chapter certificate. Engraved by Ralph Rawdon (active from 1813-1820), Albany, N.Y., c. 1816-1817. Figures representing Minerva, Hercules and Venus allude to wisdom, strength and beauty, and the three principal officers of the chapter.



points of ritual in order to gain access to lodge meetings.

The phrase "Ne Varietur" (lest it should be changed) designated an area on certificates reserved for the owner's signature, which was affixed upon issue and could be used to confirm his identity. Many early certificates admonished brethren to "compare the bearer's handwriting with the name in the margin." All signatures thereon, including that of the lodge's Master and Secretary, were validated by having the seal of the lodge affixed to the document.

**I**n the early decades of the 19th century, many "imposters" attempted to gain access to lodges and lay claim to financial assistance. The oral examination process could become subverted by pseudo knowledge gained from numerous published exposés of the ritual, but documentation by sealed certificate did much to uncover such frauds. Discovery of Masonic imposters resulted in their names and descriptions being broadcast in Masonic publications and interlodge correspondence.

In England the issue of privately printed lodge certificates tended to perpetuate the Ancients vs. Moderns feud. The engraved plate designs invariably

contained reference to armorial arms and crests of "Ancient York" or "Free and Accepted" lodges. After the Grand Union of 1813, steps were taken to dissolve these images into a noncontroversial design. In September 1818 the United Grand Lodge of England passed a resolution that, in effect, prohibited lodges from granting privately designed and printed certificates.

At the beginning of the 19th century, American certificates, too, began to emanate from Grand Lodges, but, without a supreme control over the many autonomous American Masonic jurisdictions, their introduction occurred on an erratic basis. The text of these certificates, or "diplomas," was all-purpose in nature, leaving an open blank space for manuscript insertion of the name of a lodge. A subscript affidavit would attest that the lodge itself was in good standing with the Grand Lodge.

**C**osts incurred by engraving the plates and printing the diplomas were defrayed by imposed registration fees that were usually used to build general charity funds. Occasionally, a plate intended to print certificates was altered to also print Masonic aprons.



# The Stamp Act

## A Philaletic Review

by Robert A. Domingue



The Grand Lodge of France celebrated its centennial on Nov. 5, 1994, and the French Postal Administration commemorated the event with a 2.80 Fr. stamp released on that date. The special first-day cancel shown on the cover illustrated here was used for covers posted that day. This Grand Lodge is not recognized by the U.S. Grand Lodges. Regardless, in the field of Masonic philately, where rituals and dogmas are not governing factors, this postal release constitutes a significant addition to any collection.



Brother Leroy Gordon Cooper, one of the seven original astronauts, is a Freemason. He received his degrees in September and October 1956 in Carbondale Lodge No. 82, Colorado. He also received the York Rite and Scottish Rite (S.J.) degrees and was admitted to the Shrine — all within



four days in January 1963. In October of that year, he was awarded the 33° by the Supreme Council for the Southern Jurisdiction. He carried a Masonic coin and two Masonic flags on his 22-orbit flight around the earth in "Faith 7" in May 1963. The stamp shown here was issued by Romania in January 1964 to honor Bro. Cooper and his flight.



The Turks & Caicos Islands, located in the British West Indies, issued a souvenir sheet in July 1984 to honor Sir Arthur Conan Doyle at the time of the 125th anniversary of the birth of this well-known physician, novelist and detective-story writer. He authored 56 short stories and four novels featuring his famous fictional detective, Sherlock Holmes. Brother Doyle included Masonic references in some of his works. Born in Edinburgh in 1859, he was educated at Stonyhurst College in the University of Edinburgh. He practiced medicine from 1882-90 but abandoned that career when his writings became so successful. He was knighted in 1902 and died in 1930. Sir Arthur received his Masonic degrees in Phoenix Lodge No. 257, Portsmouth, England, in 1887.



The 150th anniversary of Giuseppe Garibaldi's birth was commemorated by Italy on Dec. 14, 1957, with the release of a two-stamp set. Brother Garibaldi, known as the "George Washington of Italy," is shown on both adhesives, more distinctly on the L15 value shown here. Born in Nice in 1807, he became associated with another Freemason, Mazzini, and joined his secret revolutionary society, "Young Italy." By 1836 he was sent into exile to South America with a death penalty imposed upon him. After participating in revolts in Brazil and Uruguay he returned to Italy and staged a stubborn defense of Rome. He was forced to flee



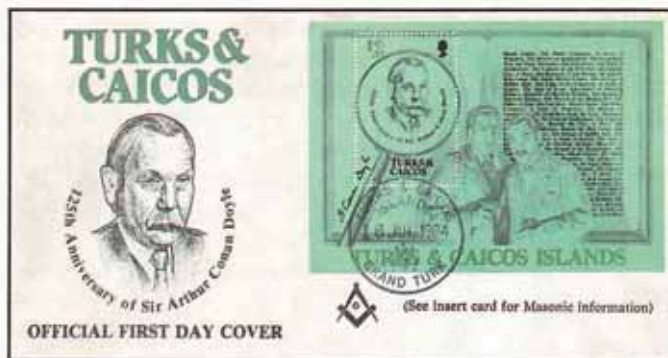
again, this time to the U.S., where he served as a candlestick maker and then as a captain of trading vessels until returning to Italy in 1854. He was successful in a campaign to expel Francis II, the last ruler of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. He retired after Victor Emanuel was named King of Italy. Garibaldi was elected deputy for Rome in the Italian Parliament in 1874 and died in 1882.

Brother Garibaldi became a member of Lodge Les Amis de Patrie while in Uruguay about 1844. During his exile in the

U.S. he affiliated with Tomkins Lodge No. 471, Stapleton, N.Y. He later became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Palermo, and in 1865 he was elected Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council for Italy.



Not all stamps included in a Masonic stamp collection picture Masons or symbols. Another category which is often included is that of anti-Masons. One of the more infamous anti-Masons, behind Adolph Hitler, Francisco Franco and various Popes, is Vidkun Quisling, born in 1887. His name has become synonymous with the term "traitor" and represents a very strong hatred in Norway's Masonic organization. When the Nazis proclaimed him sole political head of Norway, he took over the Masonic Temple in Oslo and converted it into an officers' quarters. He ordered all the library and belongings shipped to Germany, but, thanks to Norwegian patriots, they failed to arrive. Ironically, his treason trial was held in a former Masonic lodge room in order to seat more spectators. He was executed in October 1945 at Oslo. Vidkun Quisling is shown on a semi-postal stamp issued by Norway in 1942 to commemorate his inauguration as Prime Minister.







By THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°

Two of my reviews in this issue involve recent books written by Allen E. Roberts, 32°. Brother Roberts' name is well known by any Mason who studies the craft. He is probably the most prolific Masonic writer of his day, having authored over 20 books. Among his best known works are *House Undivided*, *Brother Truman* and *The Mystic Tie*. In addition, he has produced more than a dozen motion pictures on Freemasonry. Brother Roberts has devoted much of his life to Masonic education, and several of his books and films are "how to" works.

Few men in modern Freemasonry have devoted as much of their lives to the craft as has he. He has been an amazingly productive Freemason for a long period of time and has possibly invoked more thought than any living Freemason.

These two books are classic Roberts in that they express facts as he knows them and, in the case of *Brotherhood in Action*, opinions as he feels them. They are not great academic research works in the mold of some of his former works, but they are not meant to be. Each accomplishes its purpose.



*Masonic Trivia and Facts* by Allen E. Roberts. Published in 1994 by Anchor Communications, P.O. Box 70, Highland Springs, VA 23075. \$18.95. (Proceeds will be used to support the educational and hospital visitation programs of the Masonic Service Association.)

*Masonic Trivia and Facts* presents precisely that—Masonic trivia and facts. Roberts has posed 625 questions and has then answered these questions. Undoubtedly, the questions reflect his interest and what should be of interest to most of us as Freemasons. All are historical in nature, and the majority relate either directly or indirectly to Freemasonry. Anyone reading this book and knowing Allen Roberts would know he wrote it. It would be difficult not to recognize the style of this author.

I at first encountered some difficulty in determining the chronology and systematics of the text,

until I determined that it must be read with the purpose in mind to follow the pattern for which the book is written. It is "trivia and facts" with Masonic education as the one common thread running through it.

Divided into 17 chapters, the book tracks Freemasonry with *trivia* and *facts* from its formal origin to the present. It presents information of who Masons were, where Masons were, and what Masons did. The answers give the reader much information on the impact members of the craft had on the development of evolving society. Because the text deals with such a diverse array of subjects, the reader will find answers to many questions his mind never asked. It, therefore, leads him into an academic arena which stimulates him to think upon subjects he probably never would have considered otherwise. Masonic education is the author's passion and is quite evident in this book.

This text could serve as an excellent source of information for developing lodge programs. It is also encyclopedic in providing answers to questions which might be difficult to find otherwise. It provides data on the establishment of most Grand Lodges, which increases its historical value. I recommend it for use especially by lodge officers, but it would also provide a valuable source of stimulating information for new Masons as well as long-time members.



*Brother in Action! The Story of the Virginia Craftsmen 1962-1994* by Allen E. Roberts. Published in 1994 by Anchor Communications, P.O. Box 70, Highland Springs, VA 23075.

The Virginia Craftsmen is an organization that was founded in 1962 for the specific purpose of exemplifying (or conferring, if proper Masonic authority permits) the Master Mason degree in accord with Virginia ritual. The general purpose, however, was to promote a feeling of Masonic brotherhood, which it undoubtedly has accomplished.

The formation of this unit was inspired by the Glasgow Compass Travel Association. The Vir-



ginia Craftsmen emulate this Association from Scotland by exemplifying Virginia ritual throughout the world where invited and accepted. They have exemplified the ritual in 21 states and three countries, including four Canadian Provinces.

Allen Roberts has recorded in this text a chronological history of the Virginia Craftsmen. He relates their process of formation and the accompanying problems. The continuing development of the unit is reviewed in considerable detail. This book is an interesting historical record of what must be a unique Masonic unit. I suspect very few entities anywhere will have a more complete and detailed *recorded* history.



*Material Culture of the American Freemasons* by John D. Hamilton. Published in 1994 by the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA. \$75.

This volume is the fourth issued as a catalog presenting contents from the collection of the Museum of Our National Heritage. The Museum was conceived, developed and built by the leadership and members of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in Lexington, Mass. It has developed one of the largest documented collections of Masonic memorabilia in North America. The author is John D. Hamilton, 32°, who has been a curator at the museum since the original staff was named in 1974 and is currently curator of collections. He has authored other non-Masonic catalogues and numerous articles.

This volume is published to record a major exhibit. It presents to the reader detailed descriptions along with photographs, some on color plates, of many Masonic-related artifacts in the museum collection. The book is divided into seven chapters and contains six appendices. The appendices provide additional information which will be extremely beneficial to the collector or Masonic scholar who values this type of information.

The text "focuses on the exploration of the workings of the lodge, chapter and commandery of the York Rite, and the Scottish Rite to explain Masonic regalia and furnishings in a working context." Each chapter concentrates on either items or functions related to Freemasonry. For example, "Origins of Freemasonry," "The Lodge," "Feasts & Festivals," and "Masonic Funeral & Burial," emphasize functions; "Furnishings," "Regalia," and "Documents," relate to items.

The chapters are subdivided to cover categories of artifacts shown and discussed. A well-researched and written preface to each category provides even the novice with enough information to comprehend the purpose of the artifacts presented.

I found it to be somewhat disconcerting to page forward and backward to match the descriptions of articles to their photos, although I recognize the necessity in some instances, such as full-page photographs and color plates. Some factual discrepancies between descriptions and photos should be corrected if reprinting occurs.

This volume is a must for the collector of Masonic memorabilia as well as a valuable addition to any Masonic library. It will serve as a record for the future historian in his tracking of Freemasonry.



*The Texas Messenger*, a bi-weekly Christian newspaper published in Del Valle, Texas, is running a series of 28 feature articles dedicated to the subject of Freemasonry. The articles are being written by Dr. Charles W. Sanders, a non-Mason, who has become concerned with the present-day assaults on Freemasonry. He put a considerable amount of effort into researching the craft and has concluded that the anti-Masonic attacks are malicious and unjustified. The articles will constitute one of the most complete series on Freemasonry to appear in a religious newspaper or any other newspaper in this country.

I have read the first two articles and highly recommend that subscriptions for distribution be obtained by Masonic Bodies. The first article is titled "What Is A Mason? — Truth or Slander" The second is "The Fountainhead of Freedom — Religious Freedom! A Gift from the Masons" These articles are extremely supportive of the craft. A quote from the second article reads, "This nation's religious freedom is a direct result of the teaching of the Masonic lodges." Back copies can be obtained. Subscriptions can be made by writing *The Texas Messenger*, P.O. Box 309, Del Valle, Texas 78617.



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



# HealthWise

## ■ Try Sweet Potato

Sweet potatoes rank as one of the healthiest vegetables, since they are a rich source of vitamins A, C, B6 and potassium. They are also high in iron and fiber and contain four times the recommended daily allowance of beta carotene, which the body converts to vitamin A.

With all this, you also get a vegetable that is easy to cook, versatile and relatively low in calories. A medium sweet potato has about 135 to 155 calories, according to the 1995 *Old Farmer's Almanac*. Four to six minutes in the microwave bakes the fleshy root into an excellent side dish. If you like to experiment, you can try sweet potatoes steamed, boiled whole and unpeeled or as an excellent substitute for pumpkin in pies and other desserts.

Always store sweet potatoes at room temperature unless they have been cooked, in which case they can be refrigerated. If you peel the sweet potato in preparation for cooking, make sure the pieces are immersed in water until cooking time so that they retain their bright orange color.

For all their good qualities, sweet potatoes have suffered an identity crisis of sorts. First, they

aren't potatoes at all and generally should not be used as a substitute for white potatoes. The sweet potato is a fleshy root and a member of the morning glory family. And sweet potatoes are not yams either. They are often called yams, but a true yam is a larger, starchy tuber.

## ■ Preventing sinus infections

If you are prone to sinus infections, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (Dallas) says avoiding antihistamines for cold treatment could help you. Antihistamines thicken secretions from a cold, blocking sinus drainage. Secretions then stagnate and become infected, causing sinusitis.

Use a decongestant and nasal spray which keep mucus thin. Humidifiers also help. Antibiotics will clear up sinus infections but must be taken for 10 to 14 days.

## ■ Surgery may ease emphysema

An operation to remove a portion of damaged lung tissue may ease the effects of emphysema, according to Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. The procedure improves shortness of breath for those with severe cases.

After the surgery, most patients were able to walk and climb stairs without oxygen supplements. Surgery is reserved for those who fail to benefit from drugs, respiratory care and medical therapy.

## ■ First-aid for a slammed finger

If you close a door on your fingertip or hit your finger with a hammer, you can reduce the risk of losing the nail by immediately squeezing the

fingertip and keeping pressure on it for about five minutes, say experts writing for the *University of California at Berkeley Wellness Letter*.

This step minimizes internal bleeding and swelling, which can displace the nail root from its bed. Ice can also help.

## ■ Cholesterol check

The National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP) has issued new guidelines aimed at reducing heart attack risk.

Reducing levels of LDL (the bad cholesterol) and raising levels of HDL (the good kind), remain the primary goals. Here's how to judge your test scores:

- Total cholesterol. Under 200 mg/dl is good, but lower is better; 200 to 239 is borderline-high; 240 or above is high. About 20% of adults are in the high range.

- HDL is a protective factor. Readings below 35 mg/dl are risky. Readings of 60 or above offer more protection from heart disease.

- LDL is a portion of your total cholesterol reading that should be under 130 mg/dl. From 130 to 159 is borderline high, and 160 or more is high.

*How to Lower Cholesterol:*

- Eat less saturated fat.
- Eat foods rich in antioxidants.

LDL causes trouble when it is oxidized. The antioxidant vitamins are C, E, and beta-carotene. They are found in fruits and vegetables. Vitamin E is especially important.

- Stop smoking.
- Lose weight.
- Exercise. It encourages weight loss and raises the protective factor HDL.



"I love you, Jennifer, with my whole cardio-vascular system!"



"Yes, I called you. He's inside!"



# England Extends Official Recognition to Prince Hall Freemasonry

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has received official recognition from the United Grand Lodge of England. The action took place at a quarterly communication on Dec. 14, following the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes.

In recent years, ten U.S. Grand Lodges have passed similar votes of recognition within their states. The latest was the Grand Lodge of California, which approved the action in October subject to approval by the Grand Lodge of Hawaii. Lodges in Hawaii were formerly under the Grand Lodge of California until the formation of a Hawaiian Grand Lodge in 1989. The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of California still maintains lodges in Hawaii.

Other Grand Lodges that have extended recognition to Prince Hall Freemasonry are Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming. Three Canadian Grand Lodges have also recognized Prince Hall Masons.

Prince Hall Masonry traces its origin to Boston in 1775 when 15 black men, including one named Prince Hall, were made Master Masons. These Masons formed African Lodge and petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for a warrant which was granted on Sept. 29, 1784. The Grand Lodge of England listed African Lodge as No. 459 on its register of lodges.

In 1813, the two rival Grand Lodges in England (commonly known as the "Moderns" and "Antients") agreed to become the United Grand Lodge of England. After the union, the lodges that had not been in contact with England for a period of time were dropped from the English records. African Lodge was one of some 50 American lodges removed from the rolls.

In 1827, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts rejected a petition for recognition from African Lodge. Consequently, African Lodge declared itself an independent Grand Lodge. In the 1840's several lodges warranted by the original lodge adopted the name of "Prince

Hall" to commemorate the name of the first Master of African Lodge. Today Prince Hall Grand Lodges may be found in most of the United States, Canada, and several foreign countries.

The Grand Lodge of Washington (state) adopted a resolution in 1897 to allow Prince Hall Masons to visit lodges. The wrath of many other Grand Lodges was aroused and the resolution was rescinded.

Almost 60 years later, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts voted to recognize the legitimacy of Prince Hall Masonry, but when several Grand Lodges threatened to sever relations the resolution was rescinded.

In 1988, the United Grand Lodge of England turned down a request for recognition from the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. According to the recent report from the Board of General Purposes, however, the matter was reconsidered and discussions have been underway for the past three years. The board's decision this fall recommended that "the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts should be deemed to be accepted as regular and recognised."

After the Grand Lodge of Connecticut took action in 1989, other U.S.

Grand Lodges eventually followed. The recent decision by the United Grand Lodge of England is expected to lead more U.S. Grand Lodges to consider similar proposals.

Over the years Prince Hall Masonry has developed a system of degrees and bodies that parallel the recognized system. At our Supreme Council session in September, the Sovereign Grand Commander was authorized to confer with the leadership of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, concerning mutual recognition.

In January, Grand Commander Ralston met with Grand Commander Samuel Brogdon, Jr., 33°, of the Prince Hall Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. Both agreed in principle to present a resolution recognizing the legitimacy of the two Supreme Councils. Each would retain its sovereignty and remain autonomous within its respective jurisdiction. Visitation rights would be extended within those states in which the Grand Lodges have agreed to exchange fraternal recognition.

The resolution must be ratified by both Supreme Councils later in the year before the action becomes official.



Grand Commander Ralston met recently with Samuel Brogdon, Jr., 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction. The two Commanders discussed mutual recognition.



# VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

## Freemasonry's Saving Tension

The first edition of *The Northern Light* reflects most of the dictionary definitions of the word tension — "the act of stretching" — "suppressed emotional excitement" — "strong intellectual effort."

Communication is being extended to every Sublime Prince in our Jurisdiction. An aura of excitement has attended the arrival of the new advocate.

What we have called tension is a very different thing from two common marks of our time — anxiety and confusion.

The saving tension of Freemasonry is not anxiety, where the spirit is frayed with apprehension and goes into a permanent state of fidgets. It is not confusion, where the mind sees all things through a fog darkly.

Yet we never really confront any challenge without mental and spiritual tension. Every ritualist experiences this every time he paces back and forth in the wings awaiting his cue.

There is very real danger of taking this tension out of Freemasonry and leaving it limp. We may look at the mainspring of a watch, see it wound and tense, and say, "Loosen it, and let it go." But if we take away the tension, we take away the watch, and all we have left is an ingenious collection of junk.

How much do we care about the Rite? To bring this home to Scottish Rites, may we stress three areas where this fruitful tension is needed.

1. We need a tension between our *actual* and our *potential*. Until the actual approaches the potential, Freemasonry will remain a "sleeping giant."

2. In Freemasonry we must keep the tension between our *achieved* and our *possible* goals. Any Valley can become great by closing the gap between what is and what might be."

3. Freemasonry must keep the tension between the *visible* and the *invisible* world. If we allow the sense of awe and wonder to atrophy, we become prisoners of time and space. Had we shut out the message which comes from "the beyond," no man would have set foot on the moon. If we shut out the truth from the beyond which is "akin," — we shall never close the gap between what current life is and what it can be — a brotherhood of men.

— By Rev. John G. Fleck, 33°  
Grand Prior of The Supreme Council

## The Meaning of

Since I spend a good part of my days and far too large a portion of many nights in determining and then trying to express to various groups the meaning of higher education in this notably disturbed era, little difficulty is implicit in the slight deviation provided by a switch of the second key term of the title of this article since Masonry and education are inextricably interrelated.

Both are dedicated to the brotherhood of man, the proposition of freedom, and the upholding of solid, humane values; both are committed to responsible change and to a never-ending search for new enlightenment, new insights, and fresh vistas which will help us to effect the triumph of good over evil.

Freemasonry must mean more than pro-forma service to those ideals which man has found to be both valid and essential to his well-being. The times demand much more. It has become mandatory that intelligent, responsible citizens accomplish a more prompt, realistic

## Building Freemasonry

Freemasons traditionally have faced the East and the rising sun, emblematic of the attitudes of those who build. Proud of yesterday's achievements, the true builder ever has seen an even greater tomorrow. However grand and imposing may have been the structure just completed, he has envisioned an even greater and more imposing one that he would start today.

So it was with the skilled craftsmen who built the great cathedrals of Europe in the Middle Ages and who founded our Masonic Order. So it was with those who conceived and organized the Grand Lodge of England in 1717, marking the beginning of Symbolic Freemasonry as we know it today.

So it was with those who established the Scottish Rite in Charleston, S.C., in 1801 and set up our Northern Supreme Council in 1813. True builders, they saw the past

only as an inspiration for a more glorious future.

So it must be with us if Freemasonry is to continue to spread its beneficent influence wider over the earth leading men to a realization of the Brotherhood which alone can save humanity from the depths of depravity and even possibly its self-destruction. As a builder we look to the past for inspiration, but to the future for opportunity.

It is these thoughts that have prompted your Supreme Council to start the publication of this periodical. We envision it as a most useful working tool in continuing the building of Freemasonry.

As time goes on and we gain more experience, it is our hope and belief that we can make it ever more useful and attractive to you and your families.

— By George A. Newbury, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander



# Masonry in Our Confused Times

elimination of correctable inequities; that they make a far greater investment in democracy.

If man is to prevail as a free individual in a free society, he must be able to draw on the great moral, philosophical, and historical truths of his humane inheritance.

Masonry and education, dedicated to the same ideal, must join together in insistence on the only road by which that destination may be reached; the prompt, unhesitating putting to practice their joint commitments.

The large public institutions of learning have become a giant but ef-

fective melting pot of ingredients which can nourish a civilization. Or, they can help to bring it to a swift, ignominious end. Most of us in these institutions are laboring mightily to impose the right direction. We count on the help of those of us dedicated to Masonry.

All of this might appear to be a bit visionary and preposterous. So be it. Ideals, generally, are so regarded by the unthinking or timid. To people of faith and greatness of spirit, ideals are directives.

— By Novice G. Fawcett, 33°  
president of Ohio State University

## The Cry for Leadership

A diminishing membership, a lessening of interest, a slackening of attendance at meetings, all topped off by a general apathy should cause us to awaken and take notice.

A multitude of words are being written and uttered today as to what is wrong in Masonry to cause these results. Many reasons are set forth.

Of the reasons given, one is repeated more often and may well have more merit than any of the others because of its far-reaching significance. Said in many ways, but meaning the same, "What Masonry needs today is better leadership." This may make sense as a true and dynamic leader will, as a matter of course, correct those things which are wrong and institute new procedures and improved methods to bring about progress. We need but review the history and record of many organizations and governments to find that one man — a dedicated, devoted, and inspired personality — has brought such institutions out of chaos to brilliant levels of success. Good leadership will cause many of our faults and failures to vanish.

We do have, within the membership of most of our lodges, good potential leadership. The problem is to capture and put it to work. All too often, qualified men decline to serve because of the years it takes to go through the chairs to become the presiding head. Maybe we should

take a good hard look at what changes are going to be required in order to enlist the services of the truly qualified individual.

Leadership, however, is more than selection alone. Men must be trained and developed in the Masonic philosophy to be true leaders when becoming the presiding officer. Educational and leadership training courses should be on our agenda.

One of our greatest needs is to bring younger men into Masonry and develop them into positions of responsibility. We do respect and need the wisdom and experience of aged heads, but it needs to be united with the energy and aggressiveness of younger minds.

Masonry is prone to resist change, but a change in our antiquated systems is a must. Too often, there is a hesitancy to accept anything new. It is easier to do it the old way and not rock the boat.

An analysis and summary of our problems would indicate that all we need to do is roll up our sleeves and go to work.

— By Albert N. Hepler, Jr., 33°  
Scottish Rite Deputy for Indiana

These selections are excerpts  
from the first issue of  
*The Northern Light*  
in January 1970.

## 'Quick Quotes'

To be human is to dream. Pipe dreams, daydreams of perfect love or a brilliant career, we all pay rent on castles in the air. But sometimes there's a dream that doesn't fade, an impossible dream that just might come true with the right breaks and a lot of hard work. Those are the dreams we'd be fools to give up on.

— Jo Coudert

You can handle people more successfully by enlisting their feelings than by convincing their reason.

— Paul P. Parker

It is in silence that new thoughts come. If we divert the mind with too much distraction, it becomes scrambled like eggs.

— Beatrice Wood

The best career advice to give to the young is: Find out what you like doing best and get someone to pay you for doing it.

— Catherine Whitehorn

You don't need to take a person's advice to make him feel good . . . just ask for it.

— Laurence Peter

The man who is waiting for something to turn up might start with his shirt sleeves.

— Garth Henrichs

In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it.

— Marianne Williamson

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could; some blunders and absurdities crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day. You shall begin it serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Diligence is a great teacher.

— Arabic proverb

Patience teaches us to delay without doubting, to wish without worrying, and to relax without retreating.

— William Arthur Ward



## ■ How to fight and do it right

A new study published by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) shows that a major feature of long-lasting marriages is the ability of spouses to argue constructively. Happily married couples argue quite differently from unhappy couples. Both types express anger, but they do it in different ways.

Researcher Laura Carstensen, Ph.D. says these are the most important things you can do to create constructive verbal encounters:

- Communicate your anger without using expressions of contempt.
- Try to diffuse anger and disarm your partner with some sign of affection, like a loving word, a tender touch, or a warm gesture.
- Make jokes that make you laugh together and not at each other.

## ■ The virtue of loyalty

Qualities like honesty, loyalty and fairness were highly valued by our parents and grandparents. In the modern world, honesty and fairness are still prized personal qualities. But some say loyalty is no longer wise, that it is one-sided and carries too much risk.

Anthropologist Elizabeth Marshall Thomas says loyalty was what sustained us when our numbers were small. Human beings survived by sticking together in a perilous world.

One basic feature of loyalty, says Thomas, is that it cannot be forced.



Rather, it springs into our hearts when we feel that giving of ourselves will somehow *help us* too.

Loyalty is a naturally beneficial trait and is still a virtue.

## ■ Houseplants can clean the air

In 1986 NASA scientists were searching for ways to clean the air in space stations. They discovered that houseplants remove pollutants from indoor air and add a little oxygen besides.

Spider plants seem most adept at the job. Philodendron, golden pothos, chrysanthemums, and some daisies were also effective.

The chemicals they were specifically testing for were formaldehyde, benzene, and trichloroethylene (TEC), which can come from treated wood, furniture, carpet, clothing, cleaning products and other common household sources.

Just how many houseplants would be needed to clean the air in a given room is unclear. Some scientists think it would take a greenhouse full, while others think just one or two plants might do.

The plants have no effect on carbon monoxide, tobacco smoke, radon and other hazards.

Good ventilation and good maintenance of heating equipment are still the most important things to do.

## ■ Help your child succeed in school

Little things parents do can add up to a great difference in how well a child does in school. Alvin Granowsky of *World Book* gives these tips to

parents. They are designed to take little time and fit into a busy daily life.

1. Grasp the "teachable moment." Handle questions when they are asked. Search out answers together at that moment when the child is most interested.

2. Listen to children's opinions. It helps them feel important and builds confidence that is important in the classroom.

3. Give praise. When they do a good job at home or school, let them know you are proud.

4. Read aloud to each other. Much of education depends on the ability to read. A love of reading begins at home. Start early.

5. Teach the joy of reading. Have books, magazines and newspapers available at home. Turn off the TV at reading time.

6. Provide a quiet, well-equipped place to study. Have a dictionary, atlas, and other reference materials available.

7. Cultivate a routine for playtime, meals, study and bedtime. Structure and time planning are learned by living according to a schedule.

8. Give them jobs to do. It helps children develop good work habits and learn self-discipline needed at school.

9. Be interested in their school experience. Ask what they are studying. Get to know their teachers.

10. Expose children to interesting experiences like trips to libraries, museums, plays, craft shows and fairs. Expose them to new things and they will understand their school work better.

## ■ Where to sell it

Most homes have items that can be worth a lot of money. You just have to know who wants to buy them.

The 1995 edition of "The Where-To-Sell-It Directory" lists nearly 800 dealers and collectors who buy just about anything — old or new — some 97 categories in all. Knowing what they want can be valuable to people cleaning out their attics or closets, settling an estate, or seeking to convert an excess collectible.

"The 1995 Where-To-Sell-It Directory" is available only from the publisher, Pilot Books, 103 Cooper St., Babylon, N.Y. 11702, at \$5.95 per copy, plus \$1 for postage and handling.



"My Mom and Dad want to know where they can buy butter, eggs, and potatoes at the prices in my arithmetic problems."



## Petitions Support Flag Amendment

Nearly 20,000 signatures have been received at the Supreme Council headquarters in support of the proposed flag amendment. Most of the response has come from the petition that was inserted into the November issue of *The Northern Light*. Petitions also have been circulated at Valley functions.

Sovereign Grand Commander Robert O. Ralston announced in the fall that the Scottish Rite Supreme Councils for the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions have joined with more than 80 other organizations to form the Citizens Flag Alliance.

The main purpose of the Alliance is to offer support for a Constitutional amendment that protects the flag from desecration without abusing freedom of speech provisions in the First Amendment.

In his Allocution delivered at the annual meeting of the Supreme Council, Grand Commander Ralston emphasized, "It is time to stand up for the great patriotism we espouse in our ritual."

Additional copies of the petition are available through the local Scottish Rite Valley offices or from the Supreme Council headquarters. The Citizens Flag Alliance has set a goal of 20 million signatures by Flag Day, June 14.

### *How do you explain what's right and wrong?*

Yesterday she was chosen to hold the flag  
while her class said the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Her teacher told her she had earned that privilege.  
She was proud to tell her parents.

Today she saw a person burn a flag  
to attract attention.  
She asked her teacher if  
burning a flag was right or wrong.

The teacher had to tell her  
that it used to be a bad thing,  
but some important people in Washington  
said now it's okay.

She went home confused.  
Her parents decided that  
it was time to get involved.

They know that  
flag burning is wrong.



Join the Citizens Flag Alliance today!

**Call 1-800-424-FLAG.**

## The Mind's Eye Schizophrenia Research

*"A life cut short . . ."* In December, the Scientific Advisory Board of the Schizophrenia Research Program lost one of its most talented and loyal members. Dr. Roland Ciaranello died, at the age of 51, while jogging in San Juan, where he was attending a scientific conference. Dr. Ciaranello was athletic and had seemed to be in excellent health. He had already become one of the nation's most prominent contributors to psychiatric research, holding an endowed professorship at Stanford University and serving as director of child psychiatry and child development at the Stanford Medical Center. Dr. Ciaranello served on our committee for 13 years, taking a special interest in our fellowship program for talented graduate students who are working on their doctoral dissertations.

In his own laboratory, Dr. Ciaranello was exploring the principles of radically new forms of therapy of mental illnesses. "Perhaps one day in the not too distant future," he wrote, "molecular biology will also provide us with therapeutic strategies through the use of gene replacement therapy." Let us hope that, through his students, Roland Ciaranello's far-reaching ideas will come to fruition.

*" . . . and a life regained."* John Forbes Nash, Jr., a mathematical economist, won the Nobel prize in economics in 1994. What is remarkable is that John Nash was schizophrenic. At 21, while a graduate student in mathematics at Princeton, Nash discovered a way to analyze competitive and cooperative behavior, using techniques that would later be applied in problems ranging from business negotiation to diplomacy. The success of these methods eventually won him the Nobel prize.

In 1959, however, at the age of 30, Nash became hospitalized with schizophrenia. There were no drugs to treat schizophrenia at that time. For 20 years, Nash did no productive mathematical work, but withdrew and harbored paranoid ideas. He was hospitalized several more times. The *New York Times* described these two decades as "Failed treatments. Fearful delusions. Then, roughly 10 years ago, the awful fires that fed the delusions and distorted his thinking began to die down . . ." Nash began doing mathematics again, and his academic affiliation with Princeton was renewed.

This dramatic history teaches us that schizophrenia can afflict even the most brilliant of people, and that in some cases (for reasons we still do not know), its march can be turned back, and the original creativity and personality restored. John Nash's life was lost and regained. Some day, thanks to the life of Roland Ciaranello and others like him, we will understand why.



# Our Readers Respond

## Flag Response

I am a retired teacher from Rome, N.Y., and have made copies of your flag petition to obtain more signatures. I am delighted the Citizens Flag Alliance has undertaken this corrective action.

John L. Tufts, 32°  
Summerville, South Carolina

We are enclosing signed petitions supporting "the adoption and ratification of a Constitutional amendment allowing the states and Congress to enact laws prohibiting physical desecration of the United States flag." We tried to make copies but they didn't turn out clear, so we went to the Masonic Temple to get more. Good luck. We love our flag.

Mr. & Mrs. Roland Kyle  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Ours is the greatest country, partly because it has the vision to improve itself, partly because it has the maturity to tolerate unpopular opinions. Our efforts should go to helping America achieve its unfulfilled potential, not persecuting misguided malcontents. Masons should seek harmony in our national life, not additional polarization. Burning flags is

a silly waste of time. So is chasing flag-burners.

Let the fire marshal prosecute these political infants for outdoor burning and air pollution; then let them receive the scorn their misdeamors deserve. Let flag-burning be an affront to common sense and good taste, not a federal crime.

Trashing flags is merely stupid. Torching the Bill of Rights in response is downright dangerous.

William B. Saxbe, Jr., 32°  
Oberlin, Ohio

Our Constitution is too precious to be tinkering with fundamental freedoms simply for the sake of outlawing activities we find insulting and offensive. We can find better ways to prove our patriotism.

Bernhard W. Vosteen, 32°  
Corydon, Indiana

## German-speaking lodges

Al Kessler has made an erroneous assumption in his article on German-speaking lodges (Nov. 94). He states, "The practice within the remaining lodges is to use the prescribed ritual for that particular Grand Lodge but translated into the German language." This is not true in Wisconsin.

Aurora Lodge, the only remaining German-speaking lodge under the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, is unique. Not only does it work in the German language, it also works in a "Modified French ritual." This ritual differs from the "prescribed" ritual in the allocation of lessons to different degrees, and the importance—implied or actual—of the arrangement of the three degrees.

These comments are made not in judgement, but as an attempt to further the spread of Masonic light and knowledge.

John J. Olk, 32°  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

## Oldest lodge in Ohio

I enjoyed very much reading Michael Porada's interview with Mrs. John J. Robinson ("Attracted to Freemasonry," Nov. 94). The article states that John petitioned Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge No. 2, as it is the "oldest lodge in Ohio."

During my student days and as an alumnus of Marietta College, I was always under the impression that American Union Lodge No. 1 in Marietta, Ohio, was the oldest lodge in the state, and also the oldest lodge west of the Allegheny Mountains. Have I been misinformed all these years?

Charles P. Roberts, 33°  
Mt. Laurel, New Jersey

**Editor's note.** American Union Lodge has the oldest charter in Ohio but ceased to meet temporarily during the Morgan incident. Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge continued to meet regularly during that period and is therefore the oldest Ohio lodge with continuous succession.

We welcome letters in response to articles in *The Northern Light* and will reprint them as space permits. Letters must be signed, should be brief, and are subject to editing. We regret that space will not allow us to print requests for genealogical search and items for sale.

HIRAM™



By WALLY MILLER



# Footnotes\*

**\* Strong response.** The request for signatures showing support for a Constitutional amendment prohibiting malicious desecration of the U.S. flag has been overwhelming. Nearly 20,000 signatures have been received at the Supreme Council headquarters during the first two months. Petitions were inserted into the November issue of *The Northern Light*.

The appeal for additional signatures will continue through Flag Day on June 14. Additional copies of the petition are available in the local Valley offices, or you may write to the Supreme Council headquarters.

Some members have expressed concern that the Scottish Rite should not get involved in this matter. We realize that no decision will receive 100% support from the membership. In this issue, we have printed a few of the letters to show the varied opinions.

Before entering into this endeavor, serious thought was given. The final determination rested with the sense of pride in our nation and the desire to give more than lip service to our rituals. The proposal does not change the First Amendment but instead offers a new amendment to allow the Congress and the states power to enact legislation to prohibit physical desecration of the flag.

The purpose of the petitions issued by the Scottish Rite and the Citizens Flag Alliance is a way for the average citizen to join with others to express support for the proposed amendment. If the proposal is approved by Congress it must then be ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states within seven years.

The response to date demonstrates the desire of so many to share in this process.

**\* Media coverage.** There are many forces at work today attempting to draw an inaccurate view of Freemasonry. Some may attempt to destroy the image of the fraternity with intended malice. Others have merely picked up a distorted view from misinformation.

Over the years, Masonic leaders have considered the charges to be so ridiculous that they have refused to respond, assuming that no one else would believe such nonsense. After a while, however, the lack of response leaves the uninitiated with the impression that the false charges must be true.

There is a crying need for the fraternity to create a favorable image of itself. That thought was utmost in the mind of the late John J. Robinson, 33°, when he provided initial funding for the newly established Masonic Information Center. The steering committee of MIC has been studying ways to make the public aware of the fraternity's purpose. A report on the MIC progress will be presented to the Grand Masters Conference this month.

Occasionally a positive image is reported. Such was the case recently in a daily newspaper in Waukesha, WI, where former governor Lee S. Dreyfus, 33°, writes a weekly column. In one of his December columns, he gave a ringing endorsement of his association with Masonry under the headline, "Masons represent an admirable set of values."

Another instance occurred in Texas where Charles W. Sanders, a non-Mason, is carrying a series of articles about the fraternity in his religious newspaper, *The Texas Messenger*. He took on this project because he did not believe the adverse criticism and wanted to find out the truth. Further details of his work appear in this issue's "Book Nook."

**\* New release.** Soon to be released from M. Evans Publishers in New York is the new book, *Fundamentalism & Freemasonry*, by non-Mason Gary Leazer. During the Southern Baptist Convention controversy, Leazer was fired from his full-time position with the SBC following an address he delivered to a Masonic group. Earlier he had been removed from the SBC assignment of preparing a study of Freemasonry after discussing the study with Masons. His book includes an account of the Southern Baptist investigation of the fraternity.

When the book is released in March it will be available through the Southern California Research Lodge, P.O. Box 6587, Buena Park, CA 90622. The cost will be \$17.71 postpaid.

**\* On the move again.** Many thanks to all those who sent cards and notes of encouragement during my recent illness. I only wish it were possible to respond personally to each one. The heart attack in November has made me aware of the need to take a closer look at the way we live our daily lives. Suddenly new cookbooks have entered our home, and our obsession with ice cream and lobster has been tempered with moderation. Our exercise now consists of more than walking up and down a flight of stairs. And somehow we will learn to handle the stress associated with the continual pressure of deadlines.

At any rate, we are back on the job in time to produce this 25th anniversary issue, and we look forward to being able to bring you many more to come.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°  
Editor



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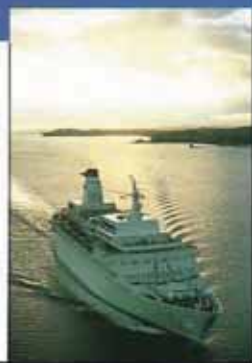
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