

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

November 2018
VOL. 49 No. 4

THE MAGAZINE FOR SCOTTISH RITE MASONS OF AMERICASM

HOPE **THANK YOU** Fraternity
connect vision
CHARITY peace care
sharing family
HELP NOW believe
inspire brother trust
Faith ASK
gift loving
Humanity Friend support
generosity
COMMUNITY **Donate**

COLLECTANEA CLOSE-UP
by Ymelda Rivera Laxton



LEXINGTON | August 2018
ANNUAL MEETING



Q & A
with Matt Blaisdell



CONTENTS

THE NORTHERN LIGHT

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 3 Message from the
Sovereign Grand Commander | 16 Hauts Grades Academy | 25 CDC 2018 Director's Conference |
| 4 Collectanea Close-Up
From the Museum & Library | 18 Notes From The
Scottish Rite Journal | 26 Around the Jurisdiction |
| 8 Lexington Aug. 2018
Annual Meeting | 19 Brothers on the Net | 27 The Spirit of Freemasonry |
| 12 In Memoriam | 20 New Membership Kits
Introduced | 28 Today's Family |
| 13 Robert Odel Ralston, 33° | 21 Stamp Act | 29 More Than Just Books |
| 14 Q & A | 22 Book Nook | 30 Masonic Moments |
| 15 Scottish Rite Charities | 24 Health Wise | 31 Et Cetera, etc. |



4



8



14



26

EDITOR

Alan E. Foulds, 33°

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Elena Fusco

MEDIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Douglas N. Kaylor, 33°, chairman
Donald M. Moran, 33°
Richard V. Travis, 33°
Alan R. Heath, 33°
Donald R. Heldman, 33°
Donald G. Duquette, 33°
Thomas R. Labagh, 33°

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite,
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

David A. Glattly, 33°

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

POSTMASTER:

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

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420-0519

EDITORIAL OFFICE:

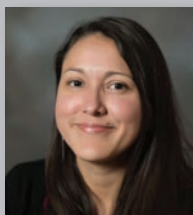
33 Marrett Road (Route 2A),
Lexington, MA 02421
Ph: 781-862-4410 • Fax: 781-863-1833
email: editor@srnmj.org

WEBSITE:

www.ScottishRiteNMJ.org

Copyright © 2018 by Trustees of the
Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted
Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

CONTRIBUTORS



Ymelda Rivera Laxton
is assistant curator of the
Scottish Rite Masonic
Museum & Library.



Jeffrey Croteau
is the director of the library and
archives at the Van Gorden-
Williams Library.

Robert A. Domingue is the historian for St. Matthews Lodge, Andover, MA, and the editor of The Philatelic Freemason.

Leigh E. Morris, 33°, works in corporate communications for a major utility company and is a regular columnist for this magazine. He is a member of the Valleys of Milwaukee and Springfield, IL.

S. Brent Morris, 33°, is the editor of the Scottish Rite Journal, a publication of the Southern Jurisdiction, USA.



David A. Glattly, 33°

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

Greetings,

I trust this message finds you and your family thriving and well. Fall is upon us, and as we approach the holiday season it is a time be thankful for the many blessings we enjoy in life. We celebrate with family and gather together. For many, it is also a time of giving.

Our charities in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction are important, and all are worthy of support. But I'd like to focus this message on the Children's Dyslexia Centers (CDC). Since becoming Sovereign Grand Commander, I have been asked recurring questions about the charity. What is my vision for the CDC? What are my plans for its future? I can answer briefly and to the point. The Children's Dyslexia Centers are here to stay! Many of you have a passion for the work done by the CDC and we will not let you down.

My involvement with the centers began several years ago when a mountain of a man and dedicated Scottish Rite Mason, John Schultz, put his big hand on my shoulder. He simply said, "I need your help." Feeling he was too imposing a presence to decline any request, I said "sure." John was chairman of the Hasbrouck Heights center in New Jersey within our Masonic District. He needed additional board members to assist him with fundraising. I signed on.

Through John's leadership, we recruited new board members from local lodges. Refreshed and strengthened, the board began numerous fundraising projects. We expanded the number of students to 36. There's no doubt John's arm twisting convinced the town of Hasbrouck Heights to allow us to use a town library building for the center at a cost of \$1 per year.

The board then transformed into a demolition and construction crew, renovating the library space into the new center. We worked hard as a team, had great fun, and enjoyed a tremendous sense of accomplishment in attaining our goals.

John is gone now, but the Hasbrouck Heights center is

thriving and continues the remediation of children, helping them to read and, ultimately, become successful in life.

In addition to having a profound impact on children, our Children's Dyslexia Centers are valuable to the Scottish Rite in another meaningful way. Being involved in a center creates a great sense of teamwork and camaraderie among our members. There is great value in this for our fraternity.

Many of our centers are flourishing today, but we see several boards with tired members. They have been dedicated to and supportive of their centers for a long time. They need reinforcements. Are you willing to serve on a board of one of our centers?

Our director of development, Michael Russell, and his team are dedicated to all four of our charities, including our dyslexia centers. This team is here to assist our boards in any way possible. Helping our Children's Dyslexia Centers prosper in every way is a goal of our headquarters staff.

In all we do, we know that the wellbeing of our fraternity and our members comes first. It is my opinion, however, that we can surely support our charities—The Children's Dyslexia Centers, The Scottish Rite Museum & Library, the Abbott Scholarships and the Grand Almoner's Fund—while maintaining focusing on building Scottish Rite Freemasonry and keeping it strong.

Thank you for all you do for Scottish Rite and our charities.

Enjoy your membership in Scottish Rite.

Fraternally,

David A. Glattly, 33°, SGC

**"Being involved in a center creates
a great sense of teamwork and
camaraderie among our members."**

- David A. Glattly -



COLLECTANEA CLOSE-UP

From the Museum & Library

Bottles, Buttons, and Bandanas:

Political Campaign Items from the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library Collection

It's election season. As political parties campaign for their respective candidates we take this opportunity to explore some of the wonderful political campaign and commemorative items in the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library collection.

Glassware, pins, canes, flags, and bobble heads are just some of the types of campaign materials made and sold over the past 150 years. Campaign memorabilia and ephemera present a graphic record of past political climates, personalities, societal concerns, and political slogans. Although the way candidates campaign has changed, the goal of rallying support and winning the most votes is the same. The memorabilia—some whimsical, some tongue-in-cheek—echoes many of the same concerns expressed in present day politics.

Drink to your Candidate

Commemorative glass, ceramic platters, mugs, and pitchers were popular during the late 1800s and early 1900s, particularly those bearing the likeness of American presidents or presidential candidates. An 1884 whiskey bottle in the form of presidential candidate Grover Cleveland's bust was one of the many political souvenirs from his 1884 bid for the White House against Republican James G. Blaine. The bottle was a souvenir from a political dinner in California during the campaign. Grover Cleveland, who served as the 22nd and 24th President of the United States, is the only president to date who served two nonconsecutive terms.

Some collectible glassware continued to be popular in the 1960s, as illustrated by glass commemorative bottles manufactured for the 1968 presidential campaign. The amber colored bottle, shaped like an elephant, features the profiles of Republican candidate Richard Nixon and running mate Spiro Agnew. The green colored bottle, shaped like a donkey, features the profiles of Democratic candidate Hubert H. Humphrey and running mate Edmund Muskie. Nixon and Agnew won the 1968 election with over 100 more electoral votes than Humphrey and Muskie.

Commemorative glassware was not only popular for presidential campaigns but also for celebrating anniversaries in American history. John and Rosalie St. Clair founded St. Clair Glass in 1888, in Indiana. The company manufactured household decorative glassware through the late 1980s. Bob St. Clair, of the St. Clair House of Glass near Elmore, IN, manufactured glass toothpick holders to commemorate the 1976 bicentennial. The glassware featured the likeness of presidents Richard Nixon and George Washington alongside



Grover Cleveland Whiskey Bottle, ca. 1884. United States. Gift: Dr. Sanford Moses. Photograph: David Bohl.



Nixon/Agnew bottle Campaign Commemorative Bottle for Richard M. Nixon and Spiro Agnew, 1968. United States. Gift: Alexander A. Bird. Photograph: David Bohl.



Campaign Commemorative Bottle for Hubert H. Humphrey and Edmund Muskie, 1968. United States. Gift: Alexander A. Bird. Photograph: David Bohl.

an Indian head motif. St. Clair produced the holder in a variety of colors. The holder may have been in production before Richard Nixon's 1974 resignation in 1974, two years before the bicentennial.



Toothpick or match holder, 1976.
Bob St. Clair, Indiana.
Gift:
William De Lorenzo, Jr.
Photograph:
David Bohl.

Pins and Canes

Pin-back buttons, patented in the 1890s, are one of the easiest and most ubiquitous ways to show support for your candidate. They are easy to wear and have become popular collectible items that often reflect changing fashions or technologies. Pins often feature slogans, names, symbols, and photographs of candidates. The first campaign token—the predecessor to the pin—decorated with a photographic image dates back to the 1860s. Tokens, with tintype portraits of candidate Abraham Lincoln and running mate Hannibal Hamlin, were popular during the 1860 presidential campaign. Known as a “doughnut tintype,” because of its shape, the token was made to hang from a clasp or watch fob.



Campaign Button for Abraham Lincoln, ca. 1860.
United States.
Gift: Hilary Ann Fairbanks.
Photograph: David Bohl.

A 1964 presidential campaign button for Democratic candidate Lyndon Baines Johnson offers a viewer an image of both Johnson and the slogan, “L.B.J. for the U.S.A.” Lenticular printing technology, which allowed viewers to see alternating images on one surface, was trademarked in the late 1950s. These types of images were popular vi-

sual device for toys, games, political campaign material, and commemorative items.



Lyndon Baines Johnson Campaign Pin, 1964.
Pictorial Productions, Inc., Mount Vernon, New York.
Gift: Alexander A. Bird. Photograph: David Bohl.

Political campaign canes, also referred to as walking sticks, were once popular items and often used during torchlight parades. In 1977, Henry S. Kuhn donated a William McKinley political campaign cane to the Museum & Library. Family history relates that Samuel Kuhn, Henry's father, received this cane during a 1901 presidential stop in Cleveland, OH, one day before McKinley's assassination in Buffalo. The words “preferred choice” are inscribed on the cane. This phrase was one of the slogans for the 1900 McKinley's campaign for President in 1900. The cane was one of the many McKinley campaign materials sold to supporters.

Political textiles

Handkerchiefs or bandanas were staple articles in political campaigns in the late 1800s. Robert A. Frank donated a large collection of handkerchiefs and bandanas—also referred to as political textiles—to the Museum & Library in 2001. The printed textiles in the museum collection were created for presidential campaigns from the 1840s through the 1950s.

1844

The earliest example in the collection is an 1844 textile for Whig Party candidate Henry Clay. The 1844 election was his third attempt to be elected President. In-person campaigning by the candidates was frowned upon in 1844, though supporters and surrogates would often speak on candidates' behalf. Clay did not actively seek voter support himself. However, he published a collection of his speeches. Clay also played up his experience, when he could, compared to Democratic candidate James K. Polk. This campaign textile emphasizes American patriotism by using the colors and patterns of the U.S. flag. Clay's support for a national bank, a protective tariff and federal funding of internal improvement projects is reflected in the slogan printed around his portrait, “National Currency, Revenue and Protection.” On Election Day, Clay lost to Polk by just over 38,000 votes. He did not run again for president.

COLLECTANEA CLOSE-UP

From the Museum & Library



Campaign Textile for Henry Clay, 1844. United States.
Gift :
Robert A. Frank.
Photograph:
David Bohl.

liam Henry Harrison's — election in 1840, while others remind the voters of Harrison's Civil War service.



Campaign Textile for Grover Cleveland and Allen G. Thurman, 1888. United States.
Gift:
Robert A. Frank.
Photograph:
David Bohl.

1860

While Abraham Lincoln is one of our most recognized presidents today, in 1860 he was far less known. Active campaigning by the candidates was still not considered entirely appropriate in 1860, so Lincoln did not campaign. "By the lesson of the past," he explained, "and the united voice of all discreet friends, I am neither [to] write or speak a word for the public." Speeches by party orators and partisan newspapers brought the issues to the voters. This banner for Lincoln and vice presidential candidate Hannibal Hamlin follows the design and colors of the American flag, showing the Republican Party's reverence for both the Union and the Constitution during an election that revolved around the issue of Southern secession.

Another campaign textile, also used to show support for the candidacy of Lincoln and Hamlin in 1860, again employs the colors and patterns of the American flag. The incorrect spelling of Lincoln's name helps to demonstrate how little he was known to Easterners during the 1860 campaign. Hamlin was selected as Lincoln's running mate, in part, because he was from Maine.

Campaign Textile for Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin, 1860. United States
Gift:
Robert A. Frank,
Photograph:
David Bohl.



Benjamin Harrison was the grandson of President William Henry Harrison, who was elected in 1840. A popular banner with the slogan, "Tippecanoe and Morton Too," uses nostalgia to link Benjamin Harrison with his grandfather. During the 1840 campaign, Harrison's camp used the catchy slogan, "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too," underscoring his success at the 1811 Battle of Tippecanoe against a Native American force who were fighting a land treaty. Unfortunately, William Henry Harrison caught a cold soon after starting his term. It turned into pneumonia and he died 32 days into office, serving the shortest tenure of any American president before or since.

Campaign Textile for Benjamin Harrison and Levi Morton, 1888. United States.
Gift:
Robert A. Frank.
Photograph:
David Bohl.



On Cleveland's banners, the rooster is a symbol of the Democratic Party, while the crossed brooms signify that these candidates would "sweep clean the stables of government." The 1888 outcome was close, with Republican Benjamin Harrison winning the presidency by electoral vote despite losing the popular vote, similar to recent presidential elections in 2000 and 2016.

1888

The 1888 presidential campaign is marked by the vast number of political objects produced, including many banners. The textiles promote the Republican ticket of Benjamin Harrison and Levi P. Morton or the Democratic ticket of sitting president Grover Cleveland and his vice presidential candidate Allen G. Thurman. Some of Harrison's banners use nostalgia from his grandfather—Wil-

1912

Despite his vow not to vie for a third term in 1908, Theodore Roosevelt ran for president in 1912 on the Progressive Party ticket. The campaign textiles waved by his supporters show a number of well-known Roosevelt emblems: a stick, recalling his fondness for the proverb,

“Walk softly and carry a big stick;” the elderly bear that he famously spared on a big game hunt; and his distinctive glasses, grin and cowboy hat. The 1912 campaign field also included Woodrow Wilson as the Democratic nominee and incumbent Republican William H. Taft. Taft campaigned far less actively than his opponents, which was reflected in the results. Wilson won with almost 435 electoral votes, Roosevelt was second with 88 electoral votes and Taft garnered eight votes.



Campaign Textile for Theodore Roosevelt, 1912. United States.
Gift:
 Robert A. Frank.
Photograph:
 David Bohl.

1936

Republican candidate Alfred M. Landon took on the difficult task of running against incumbent Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1936 presidential election. Roosevelt’s masterful use of radio addresses and his successful first term led him to a landslide victory. A circular cotton textile, seen here, and printed in support of Landon for the 1936 election, was intended as a cover for the spare tire on an automobile. It supports both presidential candidate Landon and New York Congressional candidate Robert L. Bacon, who won his contest that year. Many of Landon’s campaign items include the motif of a sunflower as a symbol of his home state of Kansas.

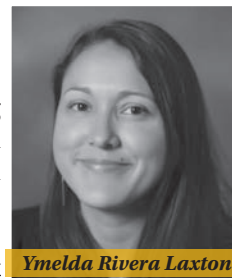
Campaign Textile for Alfred M. Landon for President and Robert L. Bacon for Congress, 1936
 Unidentified Maker.
Gift:
 Robert A. Frank.
Photograph:
 David Bohl.



1952

Today, many voters feel inundated by “robo-calls” and incessant television ads around election time. In 1952, television was just starting to have an impact on politics. Dwight D. Eisenhower’s success as a general in World War II and leader of NATO led both major parties to pursue him as a presidential candidate. In 1952, he ran as

a Republican against the Democratic candidate, Adlai Stevenson. But, it was Eisenhower’s running mate, Richard M. Nixon who used television to their advantage. With his so-called “Checkers speech,” which was televised, he refuted accusations that he dishonestly took funds from businessmen to sway his support.



Ymelda Rivera Laxton

During the campaign, Stevenson was perceived as an out-of-touch intellectual, and Eisenhower, with his catchy campaign slogan, “I Like Ike”—featured on many campaign items and banners—catapulted to victory.



Campaign Textile for Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1952. United States.
Gift: Robert A. Frank.
Photograph: David Bohl.

Parts of this article are excerpted from the online exhibition “Who Would you Vote For? Campaigning for President.”

To view more political campaign items from the collection visit the exhibition at:
srmmlonlineexhibitions.omeka.net.

These campaign items help us tell the story of American history. If you have any comments or questions, please contact Ymelda Rivera Laxton, assistant curator, at ylaxton@srmml.org.



Lexington

Annual Meeting, August 2018

Four years ago, in 2014, the Supreme Council embarked on a new method of renewing itself annually. In the past – since 1813 – the governing body of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction met every year, inviting all its Honorary 33° Masons. The meeting moved throughout the jurisdiction, being held in a different city each year.

Today, that form of Annual Meeting takes place only every other year. Because laws governing corporations dictate that an annual meeting must take place, in the opposite years only an executive session of the Supreme Council takes place. The odd-numbered years focus on the jurisdiction, with Honorary Members joining the Supreme Council in general session, and the meetings continue to be held in various cities. The even-numbered years, such as 2018, focus on the Valleys. In addition to the executive session, the Deputies Representatives met at Maxwell Auditorium at Supreme Council headquarters. During both sessions, updates were made on charities, membership, and *The Path Forward*.

Deputy

Ill. Douglas R. Policastro, 33°, was elected Deputy for New Jersey. He replaces Ill. Daniel M. Wilson, 33°, who remains an Active Member.

“We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.”



Ill. Douglas R. Policastro, 33°

Active Members

Eight new Active Members were elected to the governing board of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Ill. James Franklin Easterling Jr., 33°, of Norton, OH, is a heavy machine operator and is the owner/operator of Summit Excavating. Jim is a member of National Lodge No. 568, Barberton, OH, where he is Past Worshipful Master. At the Grand Lodge level, he served as

District Deputy Grand Master. In the Valley of Akron, he was Thrice Potent Master.

Ill. Paul Jeffrey “P.J.” Roup, 33°, of Pittsburgh, works in video production and insurance sales. P.J. was raised a Master Mason in Plum Creek Monroeville Lodge No.

799, and he was Worshipful Master there. He is also affiliated with Lodge Ad Lucem No. 812, in Pittsburgh. For the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania he has served as District Deputy Grand Master. In the Valley of Pittsburgh, he was Junior Warden and Senior Warden.

III. Jacob Edwin Hayrynen, 33°, of Negaunee, MI, is a forest product manager and assistant secretary. Jake is on the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science Advisory Board at Michigan Technological University. He was raised in Houghton Lodge No. 218 (now known as Copper Country Lodge), and currently he is a member of Teal Lake Lodge No. 202 in Negaunee, MI. He served as Worshipful Master. In the Valley of Marquette, he is Past Most Wise Master, and was the recipient of the Presiding Officers Award.

III. A. James Ross, 33°, of Windham, ME, is a bookkeeper. He was raised a Master Mason in Presumpscot Lodge No. 127, in Windham. He is Past Worshipful Master and has served as Secretary. For the Grand Lodge of the state of Maine he was District Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Grand Representative to Germany, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Master. In the Valley of Portland, he is Past Most Wise Master. He was awarded the Simon Greenleaf Medal for Meritorious Service.

III. Ricky Lee Swalm, 33°, of Glen Mills, PA, is a university professor and graduate coordinator for teacher education in health and physical education. He is a member of Concord Lodge No. 625, in Concordville, PA. He served in several offices including Worshipful Master. For the Grand Lodge he has been 36th Masonic District Masonic Education Chair and a member of the Internet Committee. In the Valley of Wilmington, DE,

he was Master of Entrances, Master of Ceremonies, Senior Warden, and High Priest.

III. Paul Christopher St. Pierre, 33°, is a sixth generation funeral director and president of ten funeral homes in the central Indiana area. He is on the board of directors of Selected Independent Funeral homes, and was appointed by the governor to serve as chairman of the state board of funeral and cemetery service. Bro. St. Pierre is a member of Mystic Tie Masonic Lodge No. 398 in Indianapolis. In the Valley of Indianapolis he is Past Commander-in-Chief.

III. Thomas Robert Labagh, 33°, of Elizabethtown, PA, is executive director of the Pennsylvania Youth Foundation. He was raised in Fidelity Lodge No. 113, Ridgewood, NJ, and is now a member of Abraham C. Treichler Lodge No. 682, Elizabethtown, PA. He is Past Worshipful Master. In his community he was assistant treasurer of the Elizabethtown Rotary Club, and he was involved with the Boy Scouts of America. He served on the staff of DeMolay International, first as director of membership and public relations, then later was director of administration. He is a member of the Valley of Harrisburg.

III. Gary Nicholas "Nick" Graff, 33°, of Morton, IL, is chief of police in Morton. Nick was raised in Morton Lodge No. 352, and has plural memberships in Comet Lodge No. 641, Minier, IL, and Tremont Lodge No. 462 in Tremont, IL. He served as president of the Morton Rotary Club and received that organization's Community Service Award. Additionally, he was named as Tazewell County Police Officer of the Year by the Tazewell County Council of the American Legion. In the Valley of Bloomington he was Sovereign Prince and Most Wise Master.



III. James Franklin Easterling Jr., 33°



III. Paul Jeffrey "P.J." Roup, 33°



III. Ricky Lee Swalm, 33°



III. Paul Christopher St. Pierre, 33°



III. Jacob Edwin Hayrynen, 33°



III. A. James Ross, 33°



III. Thomas Robert Labagh, 33°



III. Gary Nicholas "Nick" Graff, 33°

New Valley Now Official

Ohio has a new Valley. The Valley of the Firelands was approved unanimously and will receive two charters this year. It is located near Sandusky, situated between Cleveland and Toledo. According to Ill. Douglas Kaylor, 33°, Deputy for Ohio, the name dates to a time right after the American Revolution. He says "That area of the state was originally given to Revolutionary War families from Connecticut who were burned out of their homes by the British and, thus, named Firelands." The Valley covers Erie, Huron, Wyandot, Seneca, and Crawford counties. The Valley is planning a celebration.

Constitutional Changes

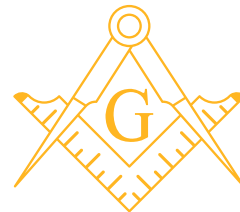
Amendments were made to alter the way officers of the jurisdiction are chosen. Many who were elected previously are now appointed. The following is the list of elected officials:

- Sovereign Grand Commander
- Grand Lieutenant Commander
- Grand Minister of State
- Grand Treasurer General
- Grand Secretary General
- Deputies of the Supreme Council

Such officers are to be elected biennially at the annual meeting. Previously they were elected triennially. Also, with the exception of the Sovereign Grand Commander, no elective officer first elected in an odd-numbered year shall serve in office longer than eight years or, if first elected in an even-numbered year, longer than nine years.

The following positions are filled by the Sovereign Grand Commander from among the Active, Emeriti, or Honorary Members:

- Grand Keeper of the Archives
- Grand Master of Ceremonies
- Grand Marshal General
- Grand Captain General
- Grand Standard Bearer
- Grand Prior
- Assistant Grand Prior
- Assistant Grand Treasurer General
- Grand Sword Bearer
- Grand Almoner



NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.™

The term limit for the Sovereign Grand Commander was changed. Under the new rules he may serve for ten years (five two-year terms) excluding time served by succession to office.

Active Emeritus Members are now excluded from the ban on Supreme Council officers serving as Trustees of subordinate bodies.

The fee for conferring the 33° was changed from \$750 to \$900.

Changes were made for expense allowances for Active Emeritus Members attending the Annual Meeting.

With approval of either the Deputy or Sovereign Grand Commander, family members are allowed to retain the 33° rings of deceased family members.

Official Debut of TNL On Air

The Northern Light, the printed voice of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction since 1970, is branching out. The magazine now produces a series of videos called **TNL On Air**. The programs, which will run for an average of two to five minutes, feature stories about members, events, and programs, and provide for jurisdiction-wide announcements. The first episode, explaining the new Sammy L. Davis Peace & Freedom Award was debuted at the executive session of the Supreme Council. That first show ran three minutes and 31 seconds. A second episode is an interview with the designer who updated our branding. Future shows, already filmed, feature a day in the life of an intern at headquarters and interviews with both Ill. Sammy L. Davis, 33°, and Dixie Davis. Alan Foulds, editor of *The Northern Light* explains "TNL On Air is not intended to replace the printed word. Rather, it is complementary. Stories that translate to video more readily than in the magazine will be featured. At times the stories might show up in both media." This new programming will appear on the Scottish Rite NMJ website, the Facebook page, and a dedicated YouTube channel, and its link will be distributed through our e-zine, *Rite Now*.



Presentations

The Active Membership was presented with reports on the latest initiatives of *The Path Forward*, the new membership program, the various charities, and the brand update.



Northern Masonic Jurisdiction

SCOTTISH RITE

Future Annual Meetings of Supreme Council



2020

Lexington, MA

2021

Cleveland, OH

2022

Lexington, MA

2023

Louisville, KY

2024

Lexington, MA



Ill. James T. Elliott, 33°

1946-2018

Ill. James T. Elliott, 33°, an Active Member of this Supreme Council. Died on Aug. 14, 2018.

Raised a Master Mason in St. John's Lodge No. 2, in New Castle, DE on March 18, 1981, where he was Past Master.

On June 6, 1970, he was united in marriage with Carolyn Ann Money.

For a complete balustre on the life of Ill. James T. Elliott, 33°, visit the Members Center at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.



Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33°

1925-2018

Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council. Died on April 10, 2018.

Raised a Master Mason in Hillside Lodge No. 894, in Woodhaven, NY on December 4, 1947.

On June 11, 1950, he was united in marriage with Amelia Mary Pansius.

For a complete balustre on the life of Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33°, visit the Members Center at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.

Support a Child at a Dyslexia Center Near You

The Children's Dyslexia Centers is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

It costs \$5,000 to tutor one child for one year. Typically, children require an average of two years of tutoring. Your tax-exempt contribution can be designated to support a specific children's dyslexia center or a dyslexia center where the need is greatest.

**For information about making a donation,
please call the development office at:**

800-814-1432 ext. 3326

Or send a check directly, payable to:

**Children's Dyslexia
Centers, Inc.**

33 Marrett Road
Lexington, MA 02421



Robert Odel Ralston, 33°

October 8, 1938 – September 3, 2018

Sovereign Grand Commander, 1993-2003



At the annual meeting in the fall of 1993, Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°, was elected Sovereign Grand Commander, and at age 54, he was the youngest in the position since Leon Abbott back in 1921. His relative youthfulness brought a new vitality to the fraternity, but he was no newcomer to the craft. Already he had been a member for 33 years, and he served as presiding officer in many branches of Freemasonry. He took office during a time of great change, and he hit the ground running.

Bro. Ralston, 33°, was born and raised in Cincinnati, OH, received a degree from the University of Cincinnati and his MBA from Xavier University. During that time, he also served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Working for Cincinnati Milacron, he became president of the Research Design and Development Corporation, before he accepted the position of vice president in charge of manufacturing with the Mazak Corporation in 1990.

Bro. Ralston was raised in Evanston-Eversull Lodge No. 695, F. & A.M. in Norwood, OH, and went on to serve as Worshipful Master, District Deputy Grand Master, and Trustee of the Ohio Masonic Home. He received his Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Cincinnati in the fall of 1967, and was Thrice Potent Master of Gibulum Lodge of Perfection. He was coroneted an Honorary 33° at Philadelphia in 1981, and was elected to Active Membership on the Supreme Council in Chicago in 1992.

Because of medical conditions, his predecessor, Ill. Francis G. Paul, 33°, opted against a third term. Instead, Ralston was installed as Sovereign Grand Commander and youthful successor to Illustrious Brother Paul on September 1, 1993.

The Ralston years will be remembered for remarkable energy in changing the internal and external faces of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Toward the end of his tenure Bro. Ralston was involved in an incident that highlighted his commitment to others as he helped a fellow human in peril. As reported by Robin Robinson in the November 2002 edition of *TNL* "It was business as usual for Sovereign Grand Commander Ralston. He opened his mail, fielded phone calls, facilitated a conference call, held meetings with his staff, and saved a

man's life." In the late afternoon the Grand Commander and his wife, Susann were escorting visiting dignitaries from Canada to a hotel in nearby Bedford, MA. As he waited outside while his colleagues registered he "was drawn to the sound of metal grinding against asphalt." As it turned out, a driver was experiencing a diabetic reaction and lost control of his vehicle. The car veered off the road, over an embankment, then plunged into the Shawsheen River. Grand Commander Ralston, together with another nearby witness, waded waist deep into the river in order to reach the car which was already partially submerged. They could see the driver, unconscious, at the wheel. They couldn't get the door open so they pounded on the car in an effort to rouse the man. He became awake enough to roll down the window and the two men worked furiously to pull him through it before the vehicle moved farther downstream. Luckily for the victim, they were successful and were able to float him safely to shore. EMTs arrived and took over. As it turns out the man suffered only minor bumps and bruises. He later commented "I was really lucky. If not for the two of them I would be swimming with the fishes." Meanwhile Bro. Ralston resumed his schedule, after changing his clothes.

The Ralston years will be remembered for remarkable energy in changing the internal and external faces of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Grand Commander Ralston made modifications to many facets of the Scottish Rite, such as streamlining the Annual Meeting structure; improving member retention; participating in national and international conferences, and increasing the development of Scottish Rite charities. His chief legacy, however, was the establishment of the Children's Dyslexia Centers. During the quarter century since the establishment of that charity The Scottish Rite Masons of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction have come to be recognized as national leaders in the efforts to help children and their families overcome the painful obstacles associated with dyslexia.

Another of Ill. Brother Ralston's major accomplishments was his work toward the recognition of Prince Hall Masonry. At the Annual Meeting in Milwaukee in 1995, the Supreme Council ratified a resolution granting mutual recognition. This Grand Commander, through his vision, dedication, and energy, effected many changes at a time that brought much recognition to the status of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Q
&
A

Matt Blaisdell, a new creative director with the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, was assigned the task of updating the brand identity of the Scottish Rite. Throughout our two centuries the double eagle has been the symbol of the organization, and it will continue in that role. As part of *The Path Forward* initiative, the Supreme Council is creating a new “look and feel” to keep up with the times and, more importantly, to give the organization a consistent image.

Hello Matt.

Hi. Thanks for having me. I’m excited to be here.

Let’s start by you telling me a little about yourself. What is your professional and educational background?

I went to school at Edinboro University in Edinboro, PA, near Erie. After that I was fortunate to begin working for an organization supporting youth groups in Pennsylvania. Since then I’ve had opportunities working for the Hershey Company, and various start-ups, and real estate companies, giving me the chance to build up a resume on different projects and different companies to have a lot of experience in my field.

That has given me the chance to come here and use those outside experiences for projects here at Scottish Rite.



What exactly is the task you were given? Then, how did you go about completing it?



About three months ago when I started here I was tasked with the goal of defining our brand. There are so many variations of our eagle, we had to define our eagle – our true mark, the one we want to put out to the world and market ourselves with. The process included creating sketches upon sketches, tons of variations, how the head tilts, the number of feathers, and differing styles of feathers. We went into in depth discussions on how we are promoting this brand, and what this eagle represents for the jurisdiction.

Can you talk about some examples?

In some cases, the wing span was a little wider and a bit more open. Some had a slightly tighter wing span. We tried different heads for the eagle. There’s a lot of subtlety to it – a lot of intricacies and detail that we put into our finalized brand.

I know that there is a lot of symbolism involved in just about everything the Masons do. Did you incorporate any of this into your designs?

Look at the wings. Count the number of feathers. Think about the number of degrees that we have. There are 32 feathers. We put a lot of thought into how our brand uses symbolism – how Freemasonry in general uses symbolism, and we incorporated that into our identity.

How do you see this branding being used – outside the obvious, such as official documents and stationery?

Looking down the road I want to see this on a billboard. I want to see it bigger than we’ve ever seen it before. We have the resources. We have the interest. I want us to do something really cool with it. It’s more than just a logo.

Thanks, Matt, for all this info. Any final comments before we close?

I’m more than happy to talk brands with anyone. Feel free to email me. My address is mblaisdell@srnmj.org.

Again, thank you very much, Matt.

TNL

Q
&
A

SCOTTISH RITE CHARITIES

Giving Tuesday Telethon
November 27 - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Facebook, LiveStream, ScottishRiteNMJ



On the Tuesday following Thanksgiving be sure to tune in to our first Scottish Rite Charities Telethon.

We'll be raising money for all our charities:

- CHILDREN'S DYSLEXIA CENTERS
- GRAND ALMONER'S FUND
- ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIPS
- SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC MUSEUM & LIBRARY

Also, there will be a special announcement from First Lady Monica Glattly on her new charity initiative.



Michael C. Russell, 32°

Special guests:



Sovereign Grand Commander
David A. Glattly



Grand Lieutenant Commander
Peter Samiec



Monica Glattly
First Lady - Scottish Rite, NMJ



Grand Masters from around the jurisdiction, DeMolay International Master Councilor Avery L. Brinkley, students and teachers from the dyslexia centers, and Abbott Scholarship recipients.

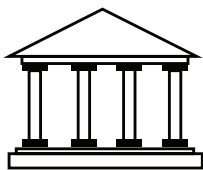
Music performed by Joey Dougherty and others. Behind the scenes of two special videos.

Our goal is to double the success of Giving Tuesday, 2017 and raise more than \$200,000.

Find Us at:
ScottishRiteNMJ.org
Facebook.com/scottishritenmj
Livestream.com



Joey Dougherty



The Hauts Grades Academy is designed to promote the education, knowledge, and engagement of members in the Scottish Rite NMJ. In Level Two of the program those enrolled write several essays, allowing for self-reflection and review of Scottish Rite degrees selected personally by the candidates. Below are samples of the work of two Scottish Rite Masons.

HGA / Level 2 – Essay 6

22° – PRINCE OF LIBANUS OR KNIGHT OF THE ROYAL AXE

April 14, 2018



The 22° has a special place in my heart, because the musical version has a personal connection. In the late 1960s/early 1970s, my father was a member of the Valley of Indianapolis orchestra and its composer/arranger, as well as French horn player. He scored the musical version of the 22°, and I can remember watching my mom and dad sitting at the card table in our living room copying parts for hours on end (these being the days before desktop composition tools like Finale). And yes, I do remember even hearing a few words that were immediately followed by “Don’t you ever use those words, son!” I wish Dad were alive today so that I could get my hands on a copy of his original work. When I received the degrees in Toledo in 1982, the musical version of the 22° was performed (no orchestra there, though), and I was one of the candidates chosen to be a part of the costumed cast extras. Dad and I saw the full version in Indianapolis the following spring (right after the 20°). So, with that said, on to the degree analysis.

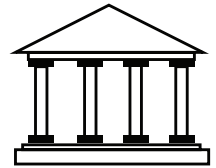
“...[T]hat it is not labor, but idleness that is disgraceful.” Oh, if this lesson were taught more in our lodges and other bodies. Sure, we have Brothers who are active and involved, but how many more simply send in a check (often after many notices), collect a dues card, and call themselves “Masons.” We Freemasons do a lot in our communities (“Service to humanity”), but how much more would we be able to accomplish if 50 percent, rather than ten percent, of our membership were involved at least twice a month? And by involved, I don’t mean showing up for a boring stated meeting, agreeing to pay the bills, then drinking a bad cup of coffee and complain about guys not coming to meetings. What if we took the lessons of this degree, and the working tools in particular, to heart and saw that no one who was able-bodied was idle, and no one who was in need of a job was unemployed, and no one who was in distress, ill, injured, or in old age was left alone and wanting for the necessities of life? Think of the impact on our communities if there were never a Freemason or a Freemason’s family member unemployed because we were quick to connect them with some gainful employment? What if no Freemason or his family member were ever alone in the hospital because a rotating group of Brethren were there to visit—even to just be present? If we were to live the lessons of this degree daily, those around us—even those whom we don’t even know—would see what it means to be and live as a Freemason. Others would say, “Look at those men. I want to be like them.” Or, more likely, the special people in their lives would say, “Look at those men. I want you to be like them.”

In our service to humanity (a lesson well-taught in this degree), we demonstrate what it truly means to be a Freemason—to live, act, and walk as one. In 1966, Fr. Peter Scholtes wrote “They Will Know We are Christians By Our Love.” This folk hymn, based in part on John 13:35, highlights that Christians will be known by their actions, and not their words. We as Freemasons should take this lesson to heart, and through our service and actions, teach the world what it means to be a “true and upright Mason.” Through our work, we demonstrate what we are taught in our several degrees and orders. By doing that work effectively, consistently, and faithfully, others see, and we should pray and hope, learn the lessons as well and seek to join our ranks, not for the intrinsic rewards, honors, titles, and jewels, but to labor in the quarries and forests of the world for the betterment of our communities.

Arthur Fred Hebbeler¹ III, 32°

Valley of Toledo, Ohio | Valley of Baltimore, Orient of Maryland

¹Our family name, Hebbeler, is German in origin, and comes from the German verb *hebbeln*, which means “to plane wood.” Of all the degrees and orders in Freemasonry, this is one which we truly can say is “our” degree.



In the *Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide* the royal secret is explained as equilibrium and that the true Mason is said to labor for holiness and truth (DeHoyos et al., p.896-897, 2010). With this understanding, the 32° explains that Masonry teaches that as we are freeborn and live in a dualistic world fraught with disagreement. It is further elaborated that we shall all return unto G-d who shall rectify and reintegrate us back into complete union. It further explains that in various mystery schools there are differences and debate as to what the reason and process was in the formation of humanity. Yet such questions are luxuries amongst those who are starved. Such contemplation may compel a standard of work, but is not the work itself. If G-d is a verb or work beyond his attributes, then it is enough to know that by working out of love and duty to fulfill our divine purpose and striving for the absolute perfection of G-d and by witness-

ing and refining our imperfections we advance and seek knowledge wisdom and understanding that is not commutable by words but attained by knowledge of self and our relationships to others. It is to know the nature of Tikkun and Tohu (Order and Chaos), and that nature builds and destroys but that all emanate from one source.

This seemingly pantheistic doctrine of the 32° does not seek to yolk the people, but to ennoble them and have each realize their innermost light and potential without infringing upon their liberties or rights lest they infringe upon the rights of others. This is the foundation of law, cause and effect, and morality. These sacred lessons as passed down through the various mystery schools and traditions reveal that we may attune ourselves to the will of G-d and be generative and creative forces and be caretakers of creation. Some may state we become whole again and may through theosis undergo apotheosis and bring forth within ourselves the divine attributes characteristic of the G'A.O.T.U. Through this teaching and understanding of temporality, mortality, purification, equality, freedom, and of dichotomy we become free or liberated and share in the divine nature with wisdom, strength, and beauty. At the same time we are bound to help others liberate themselves and understand how to balance in their own lives and of extremes; we teach them to understand their innate abilities and intuition and to understand the faculties and senses of which they are comprised beyond vain pretensions and concealment. In turn, we better understand creation, preservation, and destruction. As the alchemists of the past we balance our elemental nature, establish moral sense and reason, and live in harmony with the holy doctrine of life. Consequentially, in understanding the nature of ourselves, our creative and destructive qualities and of self-preservation our duties of helping or hindering, sickening or healing others in the world form. And should we be of a priestly class it is not our duty to pontificate and proselytize but merely to be considerate, guide and admonish those in error through our example.

In conclusion, as Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret we have studied the various creeds and faiths of the world in search of universal truth. We have been imparted with the ability to govern ourselves and to treat others as we want to be treated. We have learned of the principles which govern life and of the paradoxical nature of life, self, and the universe. As symbolized by the camp of this degree we learn that ignorance makes men helpless and blind and knowledge helps make men free, to be zealous, and act the peacemaker, to judge impartially and mercifully, to pledge ourselves to the cause of freedom, be tolerant, liberal, earnest, true, and reliable (Hutchens, pg.304, 2006) We learn that virtue has been the same in all times and that justice and mercy unite in equity and that knowledge of self is begat by experience, wisdom and understanding which are only of value by our actions. Pike posits, *The Royal Secret*, of which the 32° is a Prince, is no secret in the normal sense of the word; that is, it is not something to be hidden from the rest of the world. Here the word "secret" should be understood as synonymous with the word "mystery," hidden only because we do not completely understand it." (Hutchens, pg.317, 2006)

Therefore, should we ever guard against those unworthy of their titles who live in perpetual sin and whose idleness and complacency, apathy and nihilism, are insults to creation, or corrupt in their actions while sanctified in appearance alone. Hutchens posits that the duties and teachings of this degree are that, "A Soldier of light seeks truth and knowledge, a soldier of freedom demands for the people free vote and voice and attain freedom of voice, vote and opinion for himself, a soldier of true religion combats spiritual tyranny with reason and truth, a soldier of the people encourages men to be self-reliant and independent, and a soldier of the Scottish Rite is zealous and ardent in the performance of his duties to G-d, his country, his family, his Brethren and himself" (Hutchens, pg.306, 2006) It is in this way that we are truly princes and return to a blessed state of original man and union with the Creator, for we appreciate perfection in accepting imperfection which is love.

Caleb William Haines, 32°
Valley of Syracuse



GIFT FROM MISSISSIPPI SCOTTISH RITE HELPS FUND LITERACY PROGRAM

A RECENT GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY of Mississippi established the Mississippi Scottish Rite Literacy Program which will offer literacy programming for area children with the potential for statewide outreach. All literacy programming, provided by certified speech-language pathologists and graduate student clinicians from the UM Speech and Hearing Center, will be designed to improve children's reading skills and make available interventions for children with reading disabilities. The program will provide quality services for children diagnosed with a reading disability and those at risk for learning to read, as well as clinical training for graduate students in the UM Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or CSD.

This program expands the Mississippi Scottish Rite's support of children with

language and literacy problems through direct service as well as through educating graduate students who will continue this work in their professional practices.

"On behalf of the approximately 2,400 Scottish Rite Masons of Mississippi, it is with great pleasure that we partner with the University of Mississippi to establish a literacy program for children, while enabling student practitioners to hone their skills," said Ill. Bill Sloan, 33°, Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Mississippi Scottish Rite.

"The Scottish Rite Masons work hard to help support the identification of dyslexia and literacy issues with children to improve their learning abilities at the earliest stage as possible," Sloan said. "We look forward to many years of supporting Mississippi's youth and teachers in this field through this partnership with the



Brad Crowe (left), co-director of the UM Speech and Hearing Center; Gloria Kellum, CSD professor emeritus; Teresa Carithers, interim dean of the School of Applied Sciences; Lisa Ivy, clinical instructor and speech-language pathologist; Pam Michael, former interim CSD chair; and Bill Sloan, 33°, Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Mississippi Scottish Rite, celebrate the establishment of the Mississippi Scottish Rite Literacy Program.

© 2018, The University of Mississippi.

University of Mississippi."

Ann Michael, who just completed her term as interim chair of the CSD department, initially reached out to the group because of its strong record of supporting language and literacy programs at a state and national level.

—Sarah Sapp

2018 KSA GATHERING – WACO, TX

IN WACO, TX, these past two years the Knights of St. Andrew have been planning, coordinating meetings, and dealing with caterers to bring about the Fourth Gathering of KSA. They communicated and promoted the event extensively to the KSA units across not only the Southern Jurisdiction but also

the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction as well. On July 20 over 100 KSA members from Valleys across the country, including three KSA members from Tokyo, Japan, came together at the Waco, TX, Scottish Rite.

The event began on Friday night with a Texas BBQ and a live Texas band. The next morning, bagpipes were playing, the arch of swords was established, and the introductions of dignitaries was made. Masonic education was on tap early Saturday morning. The first speaker was Robert L. D. Cooper, curator for the Grand Lodge of Scotland Museum and

Library; the follow up speaker was Ill. S. Brent Morris, 33°.

The afternoon brought more education from Ill. Michael Wiggins, 33°, followed by the colorful Ill. Reese Harrison, 33°, PGM. The day ended with Ill. Fred Dittmar, 33°, leading a breakout session on establishing a Knight of St. Andrew unit in a valley.

As a footnote the 2020 Knights of St. Andrews gathering will be hosted by the Valley of Las Vegas. Stay tuned for more information on that event in the near future.

—Stan Dodd, 33°



Knights of St. Andrew gather in Waco, TX.



Safe spaces, trigger warnings and such

Back in the '90s, Pulitzer Prize winning *Chicago Tribune* columnist Mike Royko commented: "It's been my policy to view the Internet not as an 'information highway,' but as an electronic asylum filled with babbling loonies."

Two years ago, *Wall Street Journal* columnist Jason Gay made this stinging observation:

"Social media in 2016 is like stepping into a trash bag of angry bees. There's disturbing, genuine hate, a sociopathic lack of empathy, and almost zero engagement with opposing opinions, unless it is to demonize or insult them ad hominem."

We most certainly cannot blame the Internet, social media, Twitter and such for all the ills that plague our society. Nonetheless, these electronic forces have unwittingly fostered a dangerous myopia.

Thus, we see people using social media in ways that reinforce their own views while attacking those with whom they disagree. They may not even be aware of the bias reinforcement. Social media and media websites allow us a greater ability to pick and choose what we want to read, unaware of the myopia this feeds.

It is important that we push back, that we not only allow others to speak, but to actually listen to what they have to say. Though they most likely will not change your basic views, they just might broaden your horizons. You just might learn something new.

And nowhere is this listening more urgently needed than on so many college campuses. Until a few years ago, college campuses served as a bastion of free speech. Then it began to change. There were demands for "safe spaces" and "trigger warnings."

They shouted down those with opposing views. Then they took to demanding that their college or university bar such people from speaking.

For example, Brandeis University withdrew its invitation to have author Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a women's rights advocate and Islamic critic, speak at its commencement ceremony in the wake of student led criticism of that invitation. The university also withdrew an honorary degree for Hirsi Ali.

An increasing number of schools have established "safe spaces" and instituted "trigger warnings" to shield sensitive students from discomforting speech and even new ideas. So much for the traditional concept that a college be a breeding ground of intellectual diversity – a place where students are challenged by being exposed to new ideas and learning to effectively communicate their own views.

Of course, this trend is not confined to the ivied halls of higher education. Not by a long shot. Today, a grow-

ing number of Americans seem to find offense in everything that falls outside of their narrow view of correctness.

This is not to say that at times free speech can be unpleasant, offensive and hurtful. It can and it is.

However, that radical band of free thinkers we know as the Founding Fathers believed that all speech must be protected.

These young people with significant sensitivities and closed minds are on the leading edge of the first generation raised in the social media era.

To gain a better understanding, I would recommend a new book, "The Coddling of the American Mind." Published by *Penguin Press*, it was written by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt.

While reading the book, I thought about an observation made by the late film critic Roger Ebert:

"I begin to feel like most Americans don't understand the First Amendment, don't understand the idea of freedom of speech, and don't understand that it's the responsibility of the citizen to speak out."

Another matter of concern to many involves the privacy rights of employees. A federal lawsuit filed in New York on Sept. 4 may help clarify the limits employers must heed when accessing employees' computers, smart phones, tablets, email accounts and so forth.

The suit contends an employer accessed the employee's home computer to read emails and steal data stored on the computer. The employer contends the computer is owned by the company because it was purchased by the employer and therefore has the right to access it.

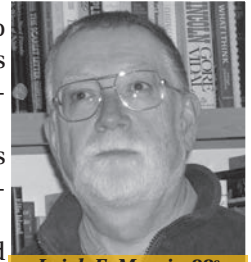
While this lawsuit makes its way through the system, you need to protect yourself.

Unless specifically allowed by an employer, never use a computer or other electronic device purchased by an employer for personal purposes. Never.

Even if it is allowed, don't do it. One exception: if the device is a cell phone, and you are using it for a very brief conversation or text to let your spouse know you will be late, that you have arrived at your travel destination or similar type of message.

Thomas Jefferson asserted the Constitution erected "a wall of separation between Church and State."

Taking our cue from Jefferson, we would be well served to build a wall of separation between personal electronic devices and company-owned devices.



Leigh E. Morris, 33°

If you have specific questions or just want to make a comment, send them to me at cpstlrr@gmail.com and I will reply as promptly as possible.

NEW MEMBERSHIP KITS INTRODUCED

As we continue our efforts to focus on our most important resource, our members, we realize that we have to start early to be, and maintain, a presence throughout their lives. With the leadership of Associate Director of Membership George T. Taylor IV, 32°, the Supreme Council has developed resources for all Valleys to encourage recruitment, retention, and connection of our members, both current and future.

Sovereign Grand Commander David A. Glattly, 33° always says that membership is local. Pulling from the DeMolay membership philosophy, we know that friends join friends. So if we put those two together; local Masons join local Masons. In all of our networks there are Master Masons who are not yet 32° Scottish Rite Masons. Often neither party knows how to approach the other about joining the Scottish Rite. In order to facilitate the conversation, we have designed a great set of tools to assist. Every Valley now has a membership team, and within each membership team there are *Path Forward* ambassadors who have a responsibility to go to blue lodges in their area and be advocates and sources of information for the Scottish Rite Valley. They each have a supply of “You Are Invited” packets they can give to a prospective member to further reinforce the values of the Scottish Rite, NMJ and encourage completion of an online petition (also found at ScottishRiteNMJ.org/join). But that is just the start.



Once the prospective member completes the online petition, he will then start to receive communication from the Valley, as well as the Supreme Council, regarding upcoming family life events, awareness nights, member intake ceremonies, etc. Realizing that geography or other obligations may not make it convenient for all candidates to attend the one or two times a year the Valley might hold a 4° exemplification, the Fraternal Development Committee of the Supreme Council has authored a 4° induction ceremony that Valleys can use in between stated reunions, to bring in new members. Every new Scottish Rite Mason who receives at least the 4° will be given a new passport and cover.



We all know that no two of our 102 Valleys are the same: the way they bring in new members, the programs they put on, the number of degrees they perform, and what they are able to provide in terms of a member experience. With that in mind we have created a 32° Member Kit that every new 32° Freemason will receive. In this kit, the member receives his new Scottish Rite membership card, a vision coin, a lapel pin, and information on the three pillars of our organization; enlightenment, charity, and fraternity. These are all being offered at no cost to the Valley or the members, thanks to the success of the annual membership fund.

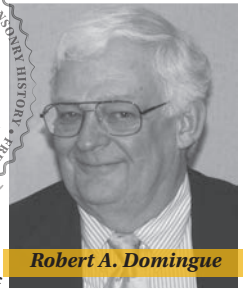
All of these resources; the recruitment brochure, the off-site 4° program, and the 32° Member Kit, have been developed to further enhance the member experience and provide a level of consistency to all members throughout the jurisdiction. As current members, we hope that you will further support and commit to the values of our fraternity as we bring more new members into the fold, and be the example for the next generation of Scottish Rite Masons.

HEINRICH HEINE



Germany issued a stamp on February 17, 1956, to commemorate the centenary of the death of Heinrich Heine. He was initiated in the Lodge "Les Trinosophes" in Paris on January 4, 1844.

Heinrich Heine, born December 15, 1799, in Dusseldorf, Germany, of Jewish parents, was a writer of remarkable talent. At the age of 18 he was sent to his uncle, a banker, in Hamburg to prepare for commercial pursuits. He utterly disliked business and failed in a venture financed by his uncle and was persuaded to study law. Because the profession of law was prohibited to Jews in Germany at that time, he became a Christian in order to obtain his law degree. Although qualified, he never practiced law; instead he turned to writing. A prose account of a trip he took to the Harz Mountains was published, was immediately successful, and established his literary reputation. His *Book of Songs*, a collection of lyric poems for which he is best known, was followed by three volumes of travel sketches. He had hoped to obtain a professorship of German literature in Munich but his writings displayed sympathy with the democratic ideas of the French Revolution and criticized the despotic feudal regimes of the kingdoms and duchies of Germany. This incurred the disfavor of the established German governments, and seeking a more congenial atmosphere he went to Paris where he spent the rest of his life. In 1847, he suffered from a disease of the spine which also affected his eyes and confined him to what he called his "mattress grave;" he died February 17, 1856 in Paris.



Robert A. Domingue

JOHN ERNEST STEINBECK, JR.

John Steinbeck was honored on a stamp issued by the United States in 1979. His father and grandfather were both active Freemasons and he was a member of the Order of DeMolay. He was initiated into Freemasonry on March 1, 1929, passed on April 12, 1929, and raised on May 24, 1929, in Salinas Lodge No. 204, Salinas, CA. It is reported that he joined the Masons to please his father; however, there is good reason to believe that he firmly believed in the principles upon which Freemasonry is built. His work over many years is suffused with many references to Freemasonry. A certificate found within his New York apartment following his death read: PRESENTED BY Salinas Lodge No. 204 Free and Accepted Masons To Brother John Ernest Steinbeck At the date of raising to the Sublime Degree of MASTER MASON As a souvenir of Brotherly regard from the members of the Lodge and a talisman of Fidelity to his trusts in all the years that may come to him.



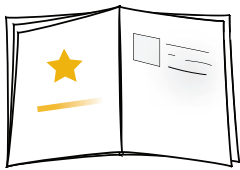
Born in 1902, in Salinas, California, John Steinbeck attended Stanford University but did not earn a degree. His first novel, *Cup of Gold*, in 1929 did not earn its \$250 advance. He had his first success in 1933, and by 1937, earned critical acclaim with *Of Mice and Men*. His masterpiece, *The Grapes of Wrath*, won the 1939 Pulitzer Prize. He served as a war correspondent and received an Academy Award nomination for writing *Lifeboat* in 1944. He earned the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962. He died in 1968, in New York City.

EDWARD TROWBRIDGE COLLINS, SR.



Eddie Collins was pictured on a stamp issued by the United States on July 6, 2000, as part of the set honoring baseball players. Bro. Collins was a member of Solomon's Lodge No. 466, Tarrytown, NY being raised on February 16, 1911. He demitted on March 17, 1921.

Eddie Collins was born May 2, 1887, in Millertown, NY, and graduated from Columbia University at a time when few Major League players had attended college. He started his American professional baseball career in September 1906, signing with the Philadelphia Athletics. After spending all but 14 games of the 1907 season in the minor leagues, he became a full-time player by 1909. He was named starting second baseman in 1909, a position he played for the rest of his career. In 1910 he stole a career-high 81 bases and played on the first of his six World Series championship teams. After the 1914 season he was sold to the Chicago White Sox for \$50,000 – the highest ever paid for a player up to that point. He continued to post top-ten batting averages and stolen base numbers and helped capture pennants in 1917 and 1919. In August 1924, he was named player-manager of the White Sox and held the position through 1926. He returned to the Athletics in 1927 as a player-coach but was only a pinch-hitter for the four years he was in that role. He became a full-time coach and after two years was hired as the general manager of the Boston Red Sox remaining as such until 1947. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1939. In 1999, he was ranked number 24 on *The Sporting News* list of the 100 greatest Baseball Players.



Casting Light: A Journey Through Craft Masonry and Beyond

by: Jason Eddy

Yasser Al-Khatib 32°, review

Casting Light: A Journey Through Craft Masonry and Beyond, by Jason Eddy, gives the reader a clearer understanding behind the meaning of Freemasonry as well as the plight of the Mason; or soon-to-be Mason, who seeks a better understanding of the world around him whether as a candidate or someone who has begun his journey in Freemasonry. Symbolism, poetry, and prose are the three approaches that are mentioned throughout the book in order to give the readers a better explanation of the Masonic degrees. The initial process of becoming a Freemason can be overwhelming so this book tries to bring a clearer understanding of the symbols and ritual through a reflective approach and poetry. In Freemasonry, symbolism is very important and usually takes the place of verbal or written words. Each symbol has a specific meaning behind it and is often referenced during lodge meetings. These symbols also allow Freemasons to gain a better understanding of the achievable goals in and out of the lodge. Moreover, these symbols are also used to reroute the Mason back to his designated path assisting them in understanding the reasoning behind why they became a Mason in the first place.

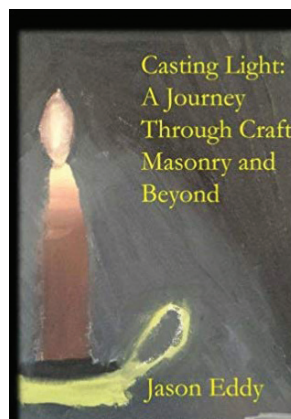
Throughout the context of this book, Masonic poetry is used to highlight the different experiences a Mason may encounter. The various poems in the book refer to some enriching and other trying experiences throughout the Masonic journey. The poems give the reader the insight as to what one may encounter before and during their journey both emotionally and physically. Most importantly, these poems serve as reflections of the author's personal Masonic journey.

Prose in this book focuses on the necessary mindset that allows a Mason to accomplish that which really matters. There is a positive correlation between engagement and loyalty to one's lodge. The more a Mason realizes the valuable offerings of his lodge the more he will be involved with Freemasonry in the long run. The better we understand the needs of those who join Freemasonry the easier it becomes to focus on their interests and as a result keep them engaged. In an attempt to understand those needs, the author elaborates about the three types of men that seek out Freemasonry and highlights the importance of these groups. This tactic assists the reader to better understand what different individuals may want to gain from Freemasonry and what they should be ready to bring to the table.

The end of the book gives the reader – the new Mason and undecided alike – scenarios of the different roles within the lodge. The scenarios are taken not only from the perspective of a candidate but also from the perspective of someone who underwent the journey to become a

Worshipful Master. It reflects on the emotions during the initiation night, shares experiences that submerges the reader in the Masonic ritual, and easily allows the reader to get a feel of the different roles one would encounter on the path of more light.

In closing the author elaborates that despite the fact that Freemasonry varies across the U.S. and from one town to another, there persists one common theme: bringing good men together to better understand the world around them, to make a positive difference, and to introduce Freemasonry to new members. I recommend this book to all Masons regardless of their degree or rank. You will find it to be a refreshing read and may become part of your repertoire upon recommending a book to a candidate for Freemasonry.



Kindle &
Paperback
amazon.com

Freemasonry & Fraternal Societies

by: David Harrison and Fred Lomax

Yasser Al-Khatib 32°, review

Freemasonry and Fraternal Societies is a book authored by David Harrison and Fred Lomax and published by Lewis Masonic in 2015, in 159 pages for an approximate price of \$22.95 USD. The authors are both Masons with a credible academic and professional record. They constructed this book in 159 easy-to-read pages illustrated with glossy images that assist the reader in understanding the different societies and clubs reviewed. It also enlists a number of advertisement flyers that were designated to promote joint public processions that the Freemasons and other societies took part in.

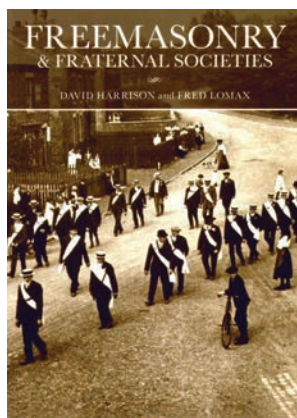
This book is a comprehensive review of more than 21 different fraternal societies and clubs that were established in the 18th century and thrived into the centuries that followed. Examples of these societies and clubs include the Druids, Odd Fellows, The Independent Order of Rechabites (IOR), and The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (RAOB). The authors compare these organizations against Freemasonry's organizational structure, regalia, and ritual. The connection becomes vivid as we learn that most of these societies included a large number of Masons as founding members and within their membership rosters. These Masons were seeking to mul-

tiply and share the Masonic experience with the different fabrics of society that did not necessarily find a refuge in Freemasonry or held biased reservations.

There are several aspects that I appreciated in this book. First, the authors portray the historical barriers that endangered the existence of many societies. Some of these barriers include the 18th and 19th century repressive government legislations and the 20th century National Health System (NHS). Second, the book includes valuable data that proves the decline in membership as a result of the political, social, and economic changes in the UK. Finally, I enjoyed learning about the Authors' Club whose membership included Freemasons such as Rudyard Kipling, Conan Doyle, and Rider Haggard. These men were attracted to Freemasonry by like-minded members such as club co-founder A.F. Calvert. Calvert discovered an early 18th century Masonic catechism and sold it to Douglas Knoop who in return co-authored the Early Masonic Catechisms.

I would have enjoyed a more in-depth review of all the societies and clubs understudied. Some of the organizations bared a very weak link to Freemasonry thus questioning their value and position within the context of the book. Describing the rituals with more details would have enhanced the richness of this book.

I would recommend the book for any Brother who is interested in the history of Freemasonry from a socio-political perspective. Researchers, interested in understanding the reasons for the growth or decline in membership among fraternal organizations, would also benefit from this book. This could serve as a scientific framework to aid Masonic leaders in exploring the causes and solutions for the declined interest in fraternalism.



Paperback
amazon.com

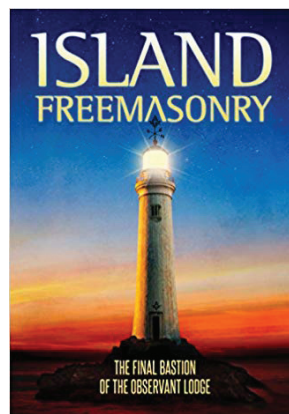
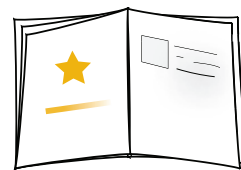
Island Freemasonry: the final bastion of the Observant Lodge

by: John Bizzack, PhD

Yasser Al-Khatib 32°, review

Island Freemasonry, by Dr. John W. Bizzack, examines the Masonic problem of dwindling membership and participation in North American Lodges

through a review of a handful of major historic events that impacted the surge or severe decline in membership among Masonic Jurisdictions throughout the United States of America. In his review he explores trends that have led to the “watering down” of Masonic ritual and education thus resulting in misinformed members and an unprepared leadership that continued to repeat the same mistakes over time. This endemic created new norms within our fraternity that fostered more rigid attitudes toward transformative efforts. Some of the mindsets that resulted from this rigidity took the shape of that very familiar moto which we all must have heard at least once in our lodges and Masonic circles – “this is the way we always did it.” And while some Masonic problems are too obvious to ignore, this author attempts courageously to offer a solution. His very impressive record in education, service, and leadership makes him qualified to do so. He does this eloquently with full regard to the weakness in the existent body of research and statistics. Dr. Bizzack attributes this weakness to the lack of support from the top. However, he does a great job in giving credit to some of the scholars that emerged beginning the last quarter of the 20th century and utilizes their literature to support his analysis. In reading his book, I passed through three emotional states. At first, I was concerned that it was going to leave me with more problems and fewer solutions. At the end, I was filled with optimism in realizing that the proposed solutions are within the reach of every Mason as long as he is willing to labor and collaborate with his Brothers for the betterment of Freemasonry. I highly recommend that you make your own decisions on the proposed solutions by reading this very well-written book. At minimum you will gain an important body of knowledge on the early history of Freemasonry west of the Appalachian trail and on the impact of major events such as the Morgan Affair.



Hardcover
amazon.com

THE RISE OF DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER GENETIC DISEASE TESTING

Direct-to-consumer genetic tests are coming your way as the FDA loosens regulations, according to *The Wall Street Journal*. The FDA cracked down on genetic health risk (GHR) tests in 2013, requiring every test from every company to be approved separately, effectively limiting the home health test industry. In April, the FDA gave the green light to a test for breast and ovarian cancer risk made by 23andMe. FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb says the FDA is working to make the process to approve similar tests more efficient. Proponents of this kind of testing say that it helps give people power over their own health. It can also give them access to these tests without the need to visit an expensive genetic counselor that specializes in such medicine. If the tests come back positive, the patient will have a more precise starting point with medical professionals. Critics warn that the tests paint an incomplete picture of a person's true risk and that interpreting genetic results is still a complicated process. Nonetheless, the loosening of regulations will give people direct access to saliva-swab testing for a host of diseases. In April 2017, the FDA approved GHR testing by 23andMe for 10 conditions:

- Parkinson's disease.
- Late-onset Alzheimer's disease.
- Celiac disease.
- Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, a disorder that raises the risk of lung and liver disease.
- Early-onset primary dystonia, a movement disorder involving involuntary muscle contractions.
- Factor XI deficiency, a blood clotting disorder.
- Gaucher disease type 1, an organ and tissue disorder.
- Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase deficiency, also known as G6PD, a red blood cell condition.
- Hereditary hemochromatosis, an iron overload disorder.
- Hereditary thrombophilia, a blood clot disorder.

NEW DRUGS PROMISE TO MELT AWAY HIGH CHOLESTEROL

Patients that suffer from abnormally high cholesterol can benefit from a new class of drugs, but the cost may cause problems for some. Affordable

cholesterol-lowering drugs like statins work for the majority of people, but there are about ten million people in the United States who can't take those drugs or who suffer from a genetic disease. Familial hypercholesterolemia is a genetic disease that causes uncontrollable high cholesterol even with the highest doses of traditional medicines. PCSK9 inhibitors such as Praluent, from Sanofi and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, and Repatha, from Amgen, represent a new way of tackling cholesterol. They have been shown to reduce cholesterol in eligible patients by 50 to 60 percent after a year's worth of treatment.

The drawback to the drug is the price tag. A year's worth of Praluent is around \$14,600 and Repatha demands a similar price. It is likely, however, that patients could obtain discounts from 30 to 65 percent off the retail price, according to The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. Health insurance companies may be hesitant to approve the use of these drugs as long-term use could end up costing them billions of dollars in benefits. Prescribing this treatment might end up saving them money in the long run as the estimated lifetime cost of heart failure is \$110,000 - many years worth of a life-saving medicine.



POTENTIAL ALLERGY COMPLICATIONS INDOORS

Nasal allergies affect about 50 million people in the United States and indoor allergens can aggravate them according to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. Pollen, mold, dust mites, and pet dander can all be irritating to sensitive individuals, and while air cleaning devices with HEPA filters are helpful, the best way to prevent allergy problems is to eliminate the source of allergens inside the home. Many who suf-

fer from severe reactions to pollen, for instance, retreat indoors during the worst parts of allergy season. Although this prevents most direct contact with outside sources, there are still ways that they can invade the home. Keeping windows and doors closed, even on days with beautiful weather, will help prevent new spores and plant matter from entering the house. Pets with long hair can not only contribute to pet dander but also tend to pick up pollen during the high-volume times of the season so a spring haircut and frequent baths help to mitigate these issues. Dust mites, which eight out of 10 people are exposed to, can become a problem if left unchecked. Avoid heavy draperies and overstuffed furniture. Use plastic covers on items such as mattresses and pillows. Bedding, pillows or stuffed toys should be washed frequently in water that is at least 130 degrees Fahrenheit to kill the mites. Vacuum frequently. Consider using a mask to reduce inhalation of dust. Mold is best kept in check by controlling the humidity in the home. Air conditioners will help with decreasing humidity, but it might be necessary to employ a humidity monitor and dehumidifiers in areas prone to mold accumulation like kitchens and bathrooms. Fix leaks and clean visible mold immediately to prevent it from becoming a problem.

IDENTIFYING AND RELIEVING COMPUTER EYE STRAIN

Computer eye strain is a problem for as many as 90 percent of heavy computer users, and it comes with a variety of symptoms as well as potential solutions, according to *Make Use Of*.

It occurs when the eye is forced to focus on an object in close range for long periods. It can lead to fatigue, irritation, blurred vision, headaches, dizziness, and neck pain over time. Symptoms will go away if a user avoids the computer screen for a while, but this isn't always practical. Dry eyes are a common issue that develops due to less frequent blinking and is exacerbated by low humidity that can be relieved with lubricating drops. Computer glasses and a brighter screen can help with fatigue, but many recommend the 20-20-20 rule. This strategy involves looking at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds every 20 minutes which will help postpone strain.

CDC - 2018 DIRECTOR'S CONFERENCE

By Heather Layman Hinkel, Lancaster Center Director

Conference: from the Latin *con* (with or together) and *ferre* (to bear), literally “the act of consulting together.”

For three days in May, the center directors of the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc. had the fortunate opportunity to come together and share what we bear as center directors. The conference kicked off on May 22 with dinner at the hotel's restaurant. Many directors have been in their positions for years and know each other well; other newer directors were able to meet each other face-to-face for the first time and get acquainted with other directors. With 42 centers spanning 13 states, there are always new faces to encounter and new things to learn.

With those new faces come many different types of people. Some of us have years of experience; some of us are fledglings seeking guidance; some of us run large centers with over 40 students, others have half that; some of us have active boards and solid fundraisers year after year, others struggle with this. When we come together we can share our trials and triumphs that only a center director for a Children's Dyslexia Center can relate to.

It is a unique job—a mesh of English language mastery; a knowledge of Latin roots and affixes, and Greek combining forms; a lot of administrative tasks; procedures to follow both in our instruction and for corporate compliance, and teaching, both children and adults. Our knowledge base is extensive and unique. Where else would you meet a group of individuals who are happy to wear the schwa symbol on a necklace?

“We are doing different things, but with the same heart.”

Our coming together served to touch on most of these job requirements. On May 23rd, as bright-eyed and bushy tailed as we “second-shifters” could be at 8 a.m., we were welcomed by Tammy Tillotson, director in Eau Claire. Next, we were finally able to place faces to Dan Quattrocchi, Tricia Marchese, and Donna Broderick, who we correspond with via email and phone calls on a regular basis. Ill. Robert F. Ogg Jr, 33°, director of operations for the CDC, Inc., introduced Bro. Michael Russell, the director of development. Directors were enthusiastic to hear new fundraising ideas which we are eagerly anticipating.

Carin Illig, director of clinical affairs, and Kathleen Carlsen, associate clinical director, provided updates and reminders which directors agreed were very helpful. Feedback was very positive, and directors commented on how nice it was to cover these materials in person and how the conference helps keep us all on the same page.

The day concluded with a presentation on implementing multisensory grammar, given by Andrea Rowson and Blythe Wood. In this presentation, we learned fun, hands-on ways to diagram sentences (has anyone ever called sentence diagramming fun?) building off of the Winston Grammar program. Directors reported that it was extremely helpful and a nice way to reorganize the material for use in lessons. And the word “fun” was absolutely used more than once. I told you this was a unique group of individuals.

On day two of the conference we had the privilege of hearing Dr. Jeffery Black present on controversial therapies for attention and learning disorders. Directors learned how to sort out myths about quick fix programs vs. programs that are clinically proven. Directors agree that this information will be helpful to share with parents, especially those parents who are desperate for that instant remedy and likely to fall prey to a money trap that won't help. To add to that, Michele Johnson, director of the Southern Illinois Center, gave an insightful presentation on keeping a parent meeting calm using the alphabet. All center directors are faced with uncomfortable parent encounters, and Michele's presentation gave great advice on how to smooth these uncomfortable encounters into productive meetings. “It's great info, and good to hear how others deal with things we all go through,” commented one director.

Sadly, our conference ended almost as quickly as it began. As things wrapped up, directors were able to meet in groups to discuss the implementation of advanced training which is new to many of us. These moments are among the most valuable—directors sharing their experiences and resources, and just taking time to see that, while we are all united under the banner of The Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., each of us brings something new to the table. To sum it up, one director notes, “We are doing different things, but with the same heart.”



AROUND THE JURISDICTION

News, upcoming events, and projects from our Valleys



Valleys of Pennsylvania and New Jersey

The combined Scottish Rite Valleys of Pennsylvania and New Jersey participated in a fundraising golf outing for DeMolay in Carlisle, PA.

The two-day outing included 80 golfers and raised more than \$14,000 for DeMolay. Participating from the Supreme Council were Sovereign Grand Commander David A. Glattly, (third from left in the back row), Ill. Gerry Sharpe, 33°, Ill. George Nakonetschny, 33°, and Bro. Michael Russell.



Chicago

Congratulations to Argo-Summit Lodge No. 1133 for winning the spring 2018 Chicago Cup. The award is presented by the Valley twice a year to the lodge that brings in the highest number of new candidates in a reunion class.



Indianapolis

The state of Indiana recently enacted legislation that has an impact on our children's dyslexia center in Indianapolis. The new law assists schools in identifying students who need dyslexia intervention and will help students receive help as early as possible. State Senator Erin Houchin, author of the bill, said "I am confident [this bill] will have a positive impact on many children and families across our state. Studies estimate that up to 20 percent of the population is affected at some level with dyslexia. Chances are you may have a child with this learning disability, or know someone who does."

Pictured (l to r) are board chair Bro. James Keating, center director Julie Bohanon, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb, state Grand Master Carl Culmann, 33°, State Representative and Board Member Woody Burton 33°, and Board Member Cheryl Clemens.

Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library

In September Bro. Graham P. Houser came to the Museum & Library to donate two items from his family collection. The first is a presidential campaign button from 1860, with tiny photographs of Abraham Lincoln on the front and his running mate, Hannibal Hamlin, on the back. He explained it also has a hole through which a red, white, and blue ribbon was fed to be used to fasten it to a coat. Also given was a tintype photo of John A. Noel, the husband of Graham's great-great grandmother, the man who owned the button. Bro. Houser, of Champaign, IL, and a member of the Valley of Danville, explains that Noel was the first husband of his ancestor. When she decided to re-marry she had a rule that her new husband "must be a Mason."



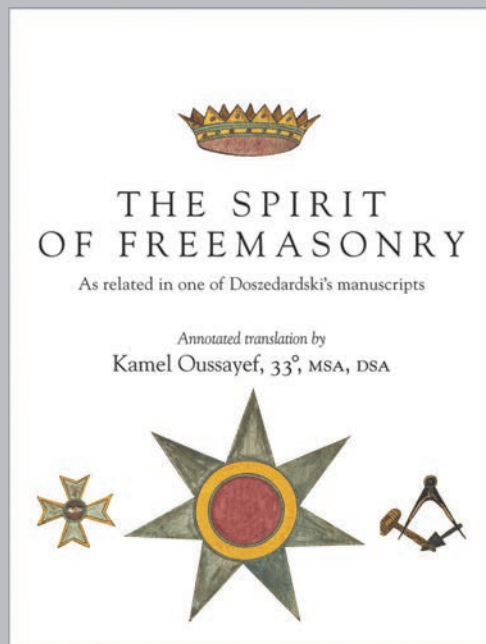
Houser was moved to donate the pieces because of the online exhibition on the museum's website, titled "Who Would You Vote For? – Campaigning for President." Museum & Library Director Ill. Bruce T. Work, 33°, (L) appears with Bro. Graham Houser.

Albany

In April the Ineffable Lodge of Perfection in the Valley of Albany celebrated its 250th anniversary. Together with the Valley's celebration was the marking of the 250th of Masters Lodge No. 5. Guests were treated to an historical presentation by Bro. W. Michael Hernandez which discussed the founding of the Lodge of Perfection and its connections to the blue lodge. Following the historical dissertation was the presentation of the historical Prince of Mercy degree. Sovereign Grand Commander David A. Glattly then spoke on the importance of the founding of the Valley. City officials, including the mayor, also spoke. Following the speeches M.W. Jeffrey M. Williamson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York honored Masters Lodge No. 5 with a rededication ceremony. The day ended with a banquet at the nearby Albany Hilton.

THE SPIRIT OF FREEMASONRY

The Spirit of Freemasonry, annotated and translated by Ill. Kamel Oussayef, 33°, is divided into 12 chapters which can be read in any order and deals with various Masonic subjects that might seem exotic and strange in the 21st century. It contains 225 beautifully calligraphed pages and four symbolic drawings hand painted with shimmering colors. The book casts a bright light on Masonic texts, symbols, rituals, definitions, secret alphabets, and calendars. Some of its writings are dissertations on the history or philosophy of humankind. Others are fascinating descriptions of old rituals that, by now, have been transformed to suit the contemporary mind.



For your copy visit scottishrittenmj.org/shop

Or send a check written to Supreme Council for \$75 (includes U.S. shipping) to:

SUPREME COUNCIL
ATTN: THE SPIRIT OF FREEMASONRY BOOK
P. O. BOX 519
LEXINGTON, MA 02420-0519

Name _____

Shipping Address _____

Member Number _____
(Optional)

Please do not send cash.

For credit card and all foreign purchases, you must use the website.

If you have questions call: **(800) 814-1432**

TODAY'S FAMILY

THE POPULATION IS GRAYING

Recently published projections by the US Census Bureau show that the number of people over the age of 65 is set to outnumber children by the year 2035. For the first time in history, it is forecasted that there will be almost two million more older adults than children under the age of 18 – a trend believed to be precipitated by a decline in fertility along with aging baby boomers. According to the *Washington Post*, there will be increased pressure on lawmakers to fund Medicare and Social Security, especially because older Americans vote at higher rates.

CHALLENGES OF RETURNING TO WORK AFTER HAVING A BABY

As if pregnancy, delivery, and the first few weeks with a newborn weren't enough, eventually maternity leave will end, leaving many challenges ahead on the road towards normalcy.

According to *Parents* magazine, it is easy for guilt to creep in over the decision to return to work. Although it will never be easy, some things can help ease this painful transition. Consider starting childcare a week early to get yourself and the baby used to being separated from one another. Similarly, heading back to the office a few days early for half days can shorten the first few trips to the sitter to a more manageable size. Set the alarm early for the first week as well to help mitigate any delays that pop up in the new morning schedule. Once the routine is in order, it can be tempting to take on too much too soon and sacrifice sleep and time with the baby to return to pre-motherhood performance. Popular blog *Happy You Happy Family* recommends saying no to extra work or after-work activities. For breastfeeding mothers, it is essential to have a plan for pumping throughout the day, and there should be dedicated times and places provided in which you can take care of this. If the daycare is nearby, you could even consider making a trip during a lunch break to avoid the necessity of pumping at all while snagging a few precious moments with your infant.

TEACHERS OFTEN PAY OUT-OF-POCKET FOR EXTRA SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Teachers spent an average of \$479 out of their own pockets on school supplies during the 2014-15 school year and were not reimbursed, ac-

cording to *USA Today*. The number of teachers that said they routinely covered extra expenses in their classroom topped 94 percent of all teachers and exists as one of the only jobs in which the workers themselves are informally expected to pay for necessary items related to performing their role. While educators can use a tax credit to reduce their taxable income by as much as \$250, this amount does not adequately compensate teachers for the extra money they are spending and highlights the fact that the educational system is not sufficiently funded to cover the needs of the children.



SAFE WAYS FOR CHILDREN TO USE SMARTPHONES AND TABLETS

The sea of inappropriate content available on the Internet makes it incredibly difficult for parents to ensure that their children are staying safe while they are using smartphones and tablets, but moderated options exist that can help solve the problem, according to *The New York Times*. While age-specific filters and apps have existed for a while, the recent backlash over the YouTube Kids service illuminated the more significant issue with dependence on automated methods of curating children's content. Over time, the algorithm had begun suggesting videos that included conspiracy theories, violence, and even sexual themes that were often created by users to look appealing to minors. Since those issues, YouTube Kids has moved to a system that allows parents to limit their children to a selection of 'trusted channels' that have been vetted and verified by actual humans to ensure that there is no inappropriate content. This team of moderators will allow for more personal accountability within the company as well as a safer overall network. Other options, such as Amazon's FreeTime subscription service, allow a tablet to lock itself into

a kid-safe environment with curated TV shows, apps, books, games, and more of which children will have unlimited access, according to *Make Use Of*. They have even integrated the app into their Alexa AI and Echo devices so that kids can interact with their voices without having to worry about accidental purchases or explicit songs playing. Parents can manage the total amount of time that FreeTime is used during the day and can even set limits on when Alexa is available to talk so that their little ones can sleep without distraction.

HELPING KIDS COPE WITH HOMESICKNESS

Helping a child cope with the feeling of being homesick starts before the trip begins and should last until they return home, according to WebMD. Most children will experience this problem at some point during their lives depending on the distance from home and the length of stay, and it is crucial to involve them in the decision to leave and to talk about the separation beforehand. Children that want to accompany their friends to summer camp can be a much different scenario than being forced to spend a week with distant relatives, as an example.

Leading up to the event, some homesickness can be prevented by being positive about the situation and talking to them about coping strategies. They can use an overnight trip with a friend or relative as practice for the real thing and to confirm that many of their fears are unfounded. Teaching the kids to write letters to send home and providing them pre-addressed envelopes and paper in their bags can help them maintain a connection to home even while they are away. If at all possible, do not make a deal with them to come home early if they get homesick as this could cause them to give up too quickly.

Children should anticipate making the travel away from home as fun and enjoyable as possible to help take their minds off of home. Staying busy with activities, having friends to play with, and imagining how short the trip will be can all help reduce anxiety. When they are less active, such as at night when trying to sleep, help them stay encouraged by sending a note from home for them to read or letting them write to you. They should also know that it is helpful to talk to a trusted adult whenever they are feeling upset, and that home is only a phone call away in an emergency.



Rainbow Girls and the Pledge of Allegiance in 1943

While cataloging a Rainbow Girls ritual from 1939 to add to the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library's collection, I was struck by an "Important Notice" (pictured here) pasted inside the front cover. William Perry Freeman, Supreme Worthy Advisor of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls issued an edict on February 20, 1943, "changing the instructions relative to the proper salute to the American Flag." Freeman's edict followed on the heels of a U.S. Congressional amendment of the Flag Code on December 22, 1942 that changed the way Americans saluted the flag.

Francis Bellamy wrote the Pledge of Allegiance, which was first published in the children's magazine *The Youth's Companion* in 1892. The original pledge simply read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all" and was recited using a salute, often called the "Bellamy salute," in tribute to the Pledge's author.



Fenno Jacobs, photographer.
School children pledging their allegiance to the flag [Southington, CT], 1942. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, DC.

Children — the original audience for the Pledge of Allegiance — were instructed: "at the words 'to my Flag,' the right hand is extended gracefully, palm upward, toward the Flag, and remains in this gesture till the end of the affirmation; whereupon all hands immediately drop to the side." For decades, this is how

Americans, including those in fraternal youth organizations, saluted when reciting the Pledge.

By the 1920s and 1930s, Italian Fascists and German Nazis had adopted salutes similar in form to the "Bellamy salute." On December 22, 1942, Congress passed Public Law 77-829, containing amendments to the Flag Code, including Section 7, which replaced the Bellamy salute with the right-hand-over-heart salute familiar to Americans today. Americans and American organizations, including civic, patriotic, and fraternal organizations, quickly followed suit, as the amended Rainbow Girl ritual pictured here shows.



Jeffrey Croteau

Important Notice

EDICT

On February 20, 1943, William Perry Freeman, Supreme Worthy Advisor, of the Order of the Rainbow for Girls, issued an Edict changing the instructions relative to the proper salute to the American Flag.

The Edict sets aside the wording of our Ritual, on page 14, second paragraph, and gives the following instructions: "Place the right hand over the heart and hold it there until the entire Pledge of Allegiance is completed. Then drop the hand to its natural position."

This Edict is made so that instructions in all Rainbow Assemblies may conform to a Resolution adopted by Congress for a uniform Civilian Salute.

By W. MARK SEXSON
Supreme Recorder

W. Mark Sexson.
Ritual: *Order of the Rainbow for Girls*.
McAlester, Oklahoma: Supreme Assembly, 1939.
Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, museum purchase.

This article appeared in a slightly different form on the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library's blog. Find more at <http://nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com>. The Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is located in Lexington, Massachusetts, at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library and is open to the public. Have questions? Drop us a line at library@srmml.org or give us a call at 781-457-4109.

MASONIC MOMENTS

In 1955, I was a helicopter pilot searching for the first indications of global warming around Thule AFB, Greenland, close to the North Pole. When I first arrived in May 1955, I survived a helicopter crash landing in an Arctic whiteout. I was able to fly two other survivors 80 miles through low visibility using my skid equipped helicopter as a high speed sled moving across the ancient ice cap to safety. While recovering in the base hospital from frostbite I met an instructor from the University of Maryland who was a Master Mason and noticed my Masonic ring. He invited me to "The Top Of The World Masonic Club" which I joined and enjoyed Masonic fellowship in the Arctic close to the North Pole, for my entire assignment.



The 10,000 ft. deep ancient ice cap on the horizon with 300 ft. thick glaciers calving into the bay on their way to threaten North Atlantic shipping lanes. The Thule AFB's 10,000 ft. long runway is located in the lower right.



I just landed at a scientific camp at the face of a 200 ft glacier.



WOJG Lu Mays near Thule AFB.



Masonic Club that met once a month with Masons from around the world.

Luama W. Mays, 32nd
Valley of Cincinnati

QUOTABLES

Nothing is as attractive as the possibility of hope. Nothing is as life changing as the motivation of hope. Nothing is more transformative than a heart filled with hope.

- Rick Rigshy

I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.

- Thomas Jefferson

Anyone can become angry; that is easy. But to be angry with the right person, to the right degree, at the right time, for the right purpose, and in the right way, this is not easy.

- Travis Bradberry

The greatest day in your life and mine is when we take total responsibility for our attitudes. That's the day we truly grow up.

- John C. Maxwell

When you believe, the impossible becomes possible. What you believe will become what is true. Your optimism today will determine your level of success tomorrow. Don't look at your challenges; look up and look out into the future. Don't focus on your circumstances. Focus on the right beliefs that will help you build your success.

- Jon Gordon

Truth - more precisely, an accurate understanding of reality - is the essential foundation for producing good outcomes.

- Ray Dalio

The best way to find out what we really need is to get rid of what we don't.

- Marie Kondo

The Universe favors the brave. When you resolve to lift your life to its highest level, the strength of your soul will guide you to a magical place with magnificent treasures.

- Robin Sharma

Becoming is better than being.

- Carol S. Dweck

We work day after day, not to finish things, but to make the future better because we will spend the rest of our lives there.

- Charles F. Kettering

Joy is what happens to us when we allow ourselves to recognize how good things really are.

- Marianne Williamson

HGA Graduates First Four

The Hauts Grades Academy, the jurisdiction's new educational program, reached a milestone. As you have read here, the academy is designed to promote the education, knowledge, and engagement of members in the Scottish Rite, NMJ. It consists of three levels. The first focuses on the 29 Scottish Rite rituals. The second is an essay portion, allowing for self-reflection and review of degrees selected by the candidate. Level Three features a research paper on a topic of the candidate's choice, after pre-approval by the HGA Committee. The academy, so far, has been a smashing success, and we now have our first four Scottish Rite Masons who have completed all three levels. Congratulations to Larry D. Horath, Valley of Pittsburgh; Seth C. Anthony, Valley of Reading; Michael L. Moran, Valley of Harrisburg, and Samuel F. Swicegood, Valley of Cincinnati.

Still Requesting Masonic Moments

In the last issue we put out a call for more of your Masonically-themed photos, and many of you responded. We still need more, though. We are looking for images by our members of people, places, and objects found throughout the world. In the past we have seen images of unique lodge buildings, the square and compasses carved into a hillside, and markers depicting exploits and adventures of Masons past. Not only are the photos interesting, but they show the universality of our fraternity. As you head out on trips during the upcoming holiday season be sure to bring your camera or phone to snap images of anything Masonic. Send them to us either in hard copy or via email to afoulds@srmnj.org, with a caption and a subject line "Masonic Moments." Any Masonically-related photos are fair game, but remember, the more exotic, the better.

A Brother's Voice

A major impetus for The Path Forward project is for the fraternity to focus more on its members. *The Northern Light* is a part of that movement. A new feature is called "A Brother's Voice," and it is just that. It is a way for the average Scottish Rite Mason to have a voice in the magazine. We want to see more of these, and we urge you to put your thoughts down and send them in. The submissions to this page need not be as long or as deeply researched as many of our feature articles. They only need to come from the heart. You can tell a story, describe a project on your Valley or lodge, or maybe expound on your philosophy. You do not need to consider yourself a writer, but the editor urges you to submit something that you feel is important to say to your Brothers. This new feature is experimental for now and may take on different shapes as it matures, but here is your chance to be in on the ground floor, to be published, and to connect with your fraternity in the only communication vehicle that is distributed to the entire membership all at the same time. To submit a story and be considered for publication in a future issue, send an MS Word document of 500-1,500 words to afoulds@srmnj.org.



Oops!

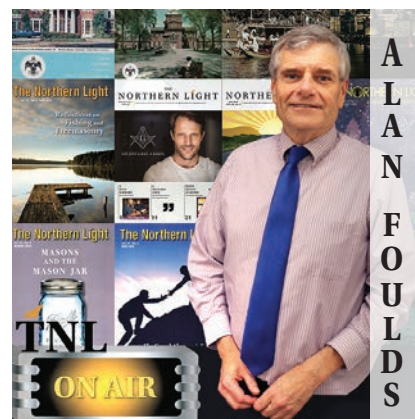
Sometimes it doesn't matter how many times an article is proofread, erroneous things manage to get through. We had two goofs in the August issue. First, when referring to the famous poem, "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," we somehow called the author "William." Since our offices are within a short walk to Lexington Green, where the American Revolution began, we certainly know that the work was penned by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. On the Etc. page of the same issue, we referred to Jeff Croteau as the director of the Museum & Library. In fact, Jeff is the director of the Van Gorden-Williams Library and Archives. Rest assured that Ill. Bruce T. Work, 33°, is still museum director.

New Website Features

If you haven't been there yet, it's time to visit the greatly revamped website of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction ScottishRiteNMJ.org. At the "Resources" tab you'll find an explanation of *The Path Forward*. Also, there is an archive of all issues of *The Northern Light*, right back to its beginnings in 1970. We have an ever-growing video library. Currently, 14 presentations cover such subject as education, history, inspiration, and the Grand Almoner's Fund. At the Member Center there is Valley information, lists of degree days, the Scottish Rite Shop, and, when appropriate, a link to the live streams. The blog site, alone, makes it worth the visit. It is the best place to learn about the new education program, called "Hauts Grades Academy," as well as Masonic subjects of all types.

Grand Commander in Arizona and Florida

In late January Grand Commander David Glattly begins his annual luncheon visit south. On Jan. 29, the tour starts in Sun City West, AZ. Along the way he will host luncheons at Mesa, AZ, and in Florida he'll be in Port St. Lucie, Boca Raton, Bonita Springs, Sarasota, and The Villages, ending on March 27 in Key Biscayne. For a complete schedule and registration information visit ScottishRiteNMJ.org/TourRegistration.

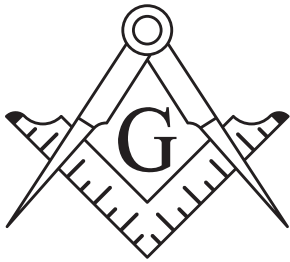


EDITOR

The editor with a collage of covers from *The Northern Light* dating back to its first issue in 1970. Notice, in the lower left corner is the logo for our new video project, *TNL On Air*, produced in conjunction with the magazine.

The Northern Light
P.O. Box 519
Lexington, MA 02420-0519

THE MASONIC MARKETPLACE



The official online store of the Scottish Rite,
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, USA

NOW OPEN

themasonicmarketplace.com



The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction announces the opening of its new online store, **The Masonic Marketplace**. Fully on demand, the store is unlike any Masonic shopping site in the country.

Scottish Rite members are able to purchase a wide range of more than 3,000 products including apparel, tech accessories, back packs, executive gifts, golf products, outdoor items, and more. All items can be fully customized with Scottish Rite logos and insignia of the customer's choice. Scottish Rite 32° and 33° eagles, Valley branding, and **NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.** logos are ready for ordering. The nation's top apparel brands will be featured in the store including:



The Masonic Marketplace Online site is user-friendly, and purchases can be made conveniently and securely on smart phones, tablets, or computers. There are no minimum orders, and even those customized are shipped in approximately 24 hours.

scottishritenmj.org/shop