

# The Northern Light

Vol. 46 No. 4  
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## Magic Lanterns in the Lodge

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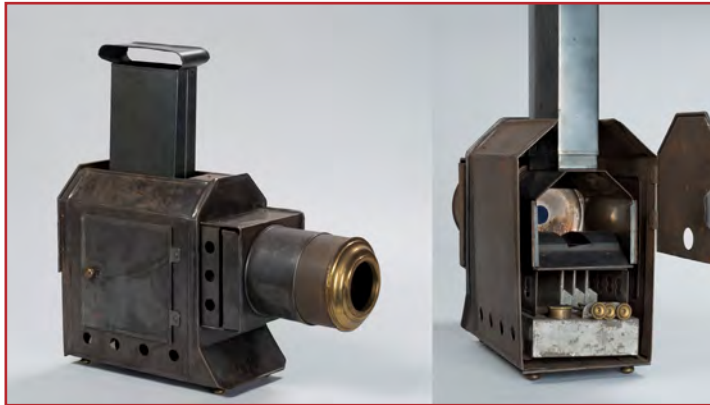
# The Northern Light

The magazine for Scottish Rite Masons of America<sup>SM</sup>

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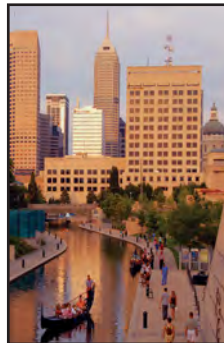
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# SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

## Lest We Forget

November is a time for remembrance and reflection. During the month we have U.S. General Election Day, USMC Day and Veterans Day, all significant events in the heritage of our Republic.

In good conscience and in love of country and all it stands for, we must not let the days pass unnoticed and focus our hearts, minds and prayers towards our democracy, our grand and glorious country especially to our men and women throughout the years and conflicts who daily commit (and did commit) their lives, liberty and sacred honor to defend our nation and its citizens.

Let me take a moment more of your time to share just a few of the chilling statistics of conflicts within our memories of war deaths, wounded and missing.

War	Dead	Wounded	Missing
Civil War			
Union	364,511	281,881	Unknown
Confederate	299,524	Unknown	Unknown
WWI	116,516	204,002	4,350
WWII	405,399	670,846	30,314
Korean	36,516	92,134	4,759
Vietnam	58,209	153,303	1,626
Gulf	294	849	0
Afghanistan	2,229	18,675	0
Iraq	4,488	32,222	2

Ever since the first murder, mankind has continued its murderous ways on through our present times. We might ask ourselves, does killing have to be an historical inevitability? Let us fervently pray that it does not.

*And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. – Isaiah 2:4*

As I review the grim statistics of war dead/wounded/missing, I cannot put aside the equally overwhelming

reality that millions upon millions of innocent civilians have fallen victim to the barbarism of totalitarian regimes. Not only must we keep the men and women in our Armed Forces in mind at this time of reflection, but also let us never forget the overall impact of man's inhumanity to man upon those who were sacrificed for being of a different religion, political persuasion, race or having a personal persuasion. Not everyone has the liberty that we enjoy!

It is incumbent upon all of us who love our country and its cherished freedoms to take time, not only on a few designated days in November, but every day of every month to remember the great sacrifices of millions who have entrusted to us the precious gift of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The next time you have the good fortune to see a man or woman in uniform or a Veteran, please stop, look the individual straight in the eye and say a simple THANK YOU!

We are reminded of the words of Edward Everett Hale:

And for your country, boy, and that flag, never dream a dream but serving her as she bids you, though the service carry you through a thousand hells. No matter what happens to you, no matter who flatters or who abuses you, never let a night pass but you pray God to bless our flag. Remember that behind all these men you have to deal with, behind officers, and government, and people even, there is the country herself, your country, and that you belong to her as you belong to your own mother. Stand by her, boy, as you would stand by your own mother.

**So Mote It Be!**

*John Wm McNaughton*  
Sovereign Grand Commander



# Annual Meeting Highlights



For the 203rd time the Active, Active Emeritus, and Honorary Members of the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction met in annual meeting. This year Indianapolis played host to the gathering. New Deputies and Active Members were chosen, officers were elected and reelected, and deliberations were conducted among the various committees and bodies charged with the operation of the rite. Also, 177 candidates of the class of 2015 received the 33° at the Murat Shrine Center. Honored guests from the Southern Jurisdiction, Prince Hall, appendant bodies, and foreign dignitaries took part in the business meetings and festivities as well.

## *Deputies*

Ill. Daniel M. Wilson, 33°, was elected Deputy for New Jersey. He replaces Ill. David A. Glattly, 33°, who remains an Active Member. For Pennsylvania, Ill. Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, becomes Deputy as Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°, steps down.

## *Active Members*

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

Ill. Robert Carl Schremser, 33°, of Dudley, MA, is a retired pharmacist. In the Valley of Worcester, he was Sovereign Prince of the Goddard Council, Princes of Jerusalem. He received the 33°, in 2013, in Washington, DC.

Ill. Douglas Ralph Policastro, 33°, of Toms River, NJ, is a registered pharmacist. He served as Thrice Potent Master of the Mercer Lodge of Perfection in the Valley of Central Jersey. He received the 33°, in 1998, in Cincinnati.

Ill. Keith Edward Parkinson, 33°, of Beaver, PA, is in human resources and accounting. He was Most Wise Master of the New Castle Chapter of Rose Croix in the Valley of New Castle. He received the 33°, in 2011, in Chicago.

## NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS



Robert C. Schremser, 33°  
Massachusetts



Douglas R. Policastro, 33°  
New Jersey



Keith E. Parkinson, 33°  
Pennsylvania

### *Retiring Active Members*

Seven Active Members retired at the session and became Active Emeritus Members: Ill. C. DeForrest Trexler, 33°, of Pennsylvania; Ill. Robert G. Elrod, 33°, of Indiana; Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°, of Pennsylvania; Ill. Donald G. Hicks Jr., 33°, of Massachusetts; Ill. William L. McCarrier, 33°, of Pennsylvania; Ill. Robert J. Sheridan, 33°, of New Jersey, and Ill. William R. Powers Jr., 33°, of Ohio.

### *Other Elections and Appointments*

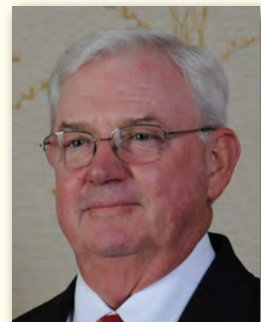
Ill. Gail N. Kemp, 33°, of Indiana, was elected as Grand Lieutenant Commander, replacing Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, of New York. Bro. Samiec was appointed as the Grand Almoner, replacing the retiring Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°, of Pennsylvania.

### *Medals of Honor*

The Supreme Council Medal of Honor was presented by the Sovereign Grand Commander to three men, during the course of the Annual Meeting. At the first general session, Ill. James L. Tungate, 33°, received the medal. Bro. Tungate is an Active Member in the state of Illinois. In addition to chairing the Annual Meeting Committee, he serves on the Ritualistic Matters Committee and the Investments, Constitutions, Laws, and Jurisprudence Committee. Also,

at the general session, Ill. Gail N. Kemp, 33°, was presented with the honor. Bro. Kemp is the Deputy for the state of Indiana, and at this meeting he was elected as Grand Lieutenant Commander. Additionally, he serves on the Nominating, State of the Rite/Strategic

## NEW DEPUTIES



Daniel M. Wilson, 33°  
New Jersey



Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°  
Pennsylvania



Planning, and Ritualistic Matters committees. At the conferral of the 33°, Ill. Russell W. Baker, 33°, was presented with the Medal of Honor for his work as the Grand Almoner. Bro. Baker finished

his term as Deputy for the state of Pennsylvania and is now an Active Emeritus Member. Earlier in the year, the Sovereign Grand Commander posthumously awarded Ill. John Willard



## New Video Premiere

During the general business session the Supreme Council debuted its latest video. Titled *Seeking Further Light*, it follows the Masonic and Scottish Rite paths taken by four Brothers, each from different parts of the jurisdiction. Ill. Stewart L. Aronson 33°, of Exeter, NH, leads off the presentation as he says “I look at Freemasonry as a complete home. If you want to know it and enjoy it you need to live in every room. You can’t leave the door [to Scottish Rite] closed.” Bro. Aronson is Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire; he is a former professional musician, and he is CEO of the Masonic Home in Manchester, NH. A film crew was sent on location where he explained how his Scottish Rite values played an important role in his assuming that position. The center was in dire financial straits, and he didn’t feel right about closing it without first trying to save it. He has been successful, and the home now thrives. In addition to his role as director he uses his musical skills to entertain the residents. He says that the best part of his day is sharing joy with the people he serves there.

Ill. Jason F. Craig, 33°, of Bobtown, PA, is a robotics simulation specialist and a lieutenant in his local volunteer fire department. Bro. Craig considers the Scottish Rite as “leadership 101.” It has taught him

how to serve his fellow man and his community. He finds the rite exciting, as well, stating that “you could find yourself in an Arabian castle, a Civil War battlefield, or in a Revolutionary setting.”

Ill. Todd E. Creason, 33°, is from Fithian, IL. He is a Masonic historian, author and blogger, and works in the technological patent department of the University of Illinois. He likens the fraternity to education. “Blue lodge is like the place where you receive your bachelor’s degree. For many Masons they want more. They want new experiences. They want to continue their education. They want to seek further light, so they go to graduate school.” In Masonry he considers that to be the Scottish Rite.

Ill. Mark E. Megee, 33°, of Highstown, NJ, is a bank president, a seventh degree black belt karate expert, and a preacher at his local church. He says “Scottish Rite built upon the building blocks I received as a Master Mason.”

*Seeking Further Light* was produced by Verissima Productions, Inc. and was conceived by a committee commissioned by the Sovereign Grand Commander. The committee consisted of Ill. Bros David P. Dill, James O. Dill, and Alan E. Foulds. The presentation is available at our website [ScottishRiteNMJ.org](http://ScottishRiteNMJ.org) in the Video Gallery.

McNaughton, 33° the Medal of Honor. Bro. McNaughton, who passed away Aug. 27, 2006, was Deputy for Indiana from 1991-94. He also served as Grand Minister of State of the Supreme Council from 1985-97.

### *Two Special Sessions*

In addition to the 177 new Honorary Members of the Supreme Council created at this year's meeting, Ill. Emil Ewald, 33°, of Wisconsin, and Ill. Leon F. Brokenshire Jr., 33°, of Pennsylvania received the 33°, in special session during the year. Also, there is one carry-over for 2017.

### *Constitutional Changes*

Two changes were made to the Constitutions.

Article 722-2, relating to the Grand Almoner's Fund, was amended by deleting a portion of its second sentence. The line "Scottish Rite membership or other purposes" was removed, leaving the sentence as follows: All monies and other properties transferred to said Fund, together with the income thereof, shall be used exclusively for the relief of Masonic organizations, Freemasons or their families."

Article 111-2 also was amended so that each state is entitled to nominate one Honorary Member for each 50 (rather than 75) Master

Travelers made in its jurisdiction. Additionally, Honorary Members at large may not be accumulated.

### *Next Meetings*

The executive sessions will be held in Lexington, MA at Supreme Council headquarters in 2016.

The Supreme Council reconvenes Aug. 27 – Aug. 29, 2017, in Rochester, NY, for a full Annual Meeting, including the General session, vesper service, and the conferral of the 33°.

The schedule after Rochester:

- 2018 – Lexington, MA, executive sessions only
- 2019 – Milwaukee, WI, Meetings and conferral
- 2020 – Lexington, MA, executive sessions only
- 2021 – Cleveland, OH, Meetings and conferral

### *Upcoming Scottish Rite Day*

Nov. 12, 2016, has been designated by the Supreme Councils of both the Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions as Scottish Rite Day. Plans have not yet been finalized, but it is hoped that Valleys across both jurisdictions plan and execute special observances to emphasize and celebrate Scottish Rite. ■■

## **MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS**



James L.  
Tungate, 33°



Gail N.  
Kemp, 33°



Russell W.  
Baker, 33°



John W.  
McNaughton, 33°

# The Secret Society Lantern:

## Magic Lanterns in the Lodge

By YMELDA RIVERA LAXTON

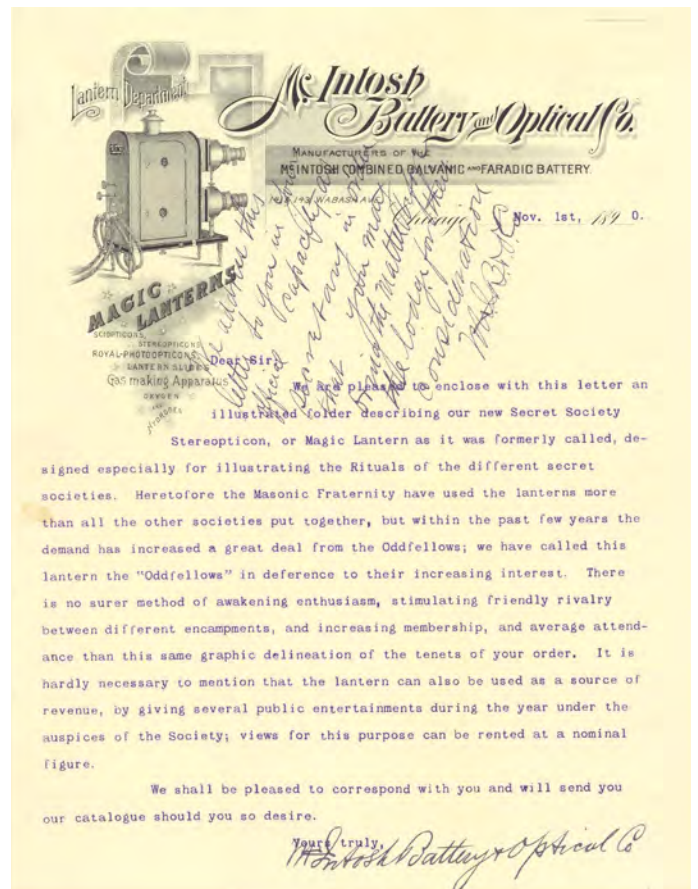
**M**agic lanterns, in their most basic form, were invented in the 1600s and are considered a precursor to the modern slide projector and even the motion picture. These lanterns were a mainstay in Masonic lodges throughout the world in the 1800s and early 1900s because they were a useful tool in teaching members about Freemasonry and initiatory rites. The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA, owns a large collection of magic lanterns and glass lantern slides, many of which were donated by Masonic and fraternal groups including the Knights Templar, Knights of Pythias, and Odd Fellows. The slides vary from those specific to Freemasonry to those depicting events in world history, literary and biblical stories, folktales, and photographs.

Masonic and fraternal lectures constituted many of the magic lantern presentations given in the Victorian period. An example of the wide use of lanterns and slides in Masonic and fraternal organizations can be seen in the numbers quoted by the 2010 Supreme Secretary of the Knights of Pythias, who suggested that every knights' lodge at the turn of the 20th century had a lantern.

Like tracing boards, magic lantern slides were used in lodge instruction as visual aids. They used Masonic symbols to illustrate the principles embedded in the degrees of Freemasonry, helping candidates associate an image with an idea. Often, Masonic slide sets were simply images of past tracing boards printed on glass slides.

### Brief History of the Magic Lantern

Several scientists and mathematicians developed projection devices in the 1600s, including Thomas Walgenstein and Christiaan Huygens. Although Huygens is attributed with inventing the magic lantern, it was Walgenstein, a Dutch mathematician, who coined the term "Magic Lantern" and began conducting lantern demonstrations throughout Europe. In the late 1700s,



Letter from the McIntosh Battery and Optical Co., 1890, McIntosh Battery and Optical Co., Chicago, IL, Gift of Grant B. Romer.

Etienne-Gaspard Robertson, a Belgian physicist and stage magician, started to "conjure" ghosts for audiences. These shows lay the foundation for the popular late-1700s phantasmagoria lantern shows that featured skeletons, devils, and ghosts. Aside from these entertainment spectacles, the lanterns were also used for science, education, and religious instruction by wealthy academics and Jesuit priests.

As the lantern became more popular and readily available, traveling lanternists could be found hosting public



## MASONIC MAGIC LANTERN SLIDES



**[Entered Apprentice Carpet], 1890-1920, unidentified maker, United States, Gift of Armen Amergian.**

**Knights of Malta Magic Lantern Slide, Noah's Ark, ca. 1900, T.H. McAllister, New York, Gift of the Estate of Gerard Dallas Jenks.**

**Masonic Knights Templar Magic Lantern Slide, "KT Funeral," 1906, Harry G. Healy, New York, NY, Gift of Jacques Noel Jacobsen Jr.**

**Paul Revere's Ride, ca. 1900, A.D. Handy Stereopticons and Supplies, Massachusetts, Gift of Anne R. Berntsen.**

**Masonic Magic Lantern Slide, Points of Entrance, ca. 1900, The M.C. Lilley & Co., Columbus, OH.**

**Deathbed of Lincoln, ca. 1900, A.D. Handy Stereopticons and Supplies, Massachusetts, Gift of Anne R. Berntsen.**

performances in taverns and public meeting houses. Lantern use gradually increased for advertising, propaganda and entertainment purposes in the 1700s and 1800s. Images of lanterns could be found in different publications, artworks, and popular magazines as they became a common form of entertainment. The 1778 engraving "The tea-tax tempest or The Anglo-American Revolution" by Carl Gottlieb Guttenberg (now in the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library collection) illustrates an allegorical image of Father Time using a magic lantern to show events of the American Revolution.

The lantern's diverse range and usage made it ubiquitous in churches, fraternal organizations and public institutions in the Victorian era. Lanterns became more lightweight, and standardized slide sizes became available. Soon smaller toy lanterns were mass produced, continuing to increase their presence in schools, homes, and public lectures. The lantern and slide peaked in popularity in the 1900s before the advent of cinema and the invention of smaller transparencies and the Kodachrome three-color process, which led to a decline in the popularity of magic lanterns.

## How did Magic Lanterns Work?

The lantern employed an artificial light source which evolved from candles and kerosene lamps to limelight and electricity, and a combination of lenses to enlarge small transparent images or miniature models and project them onto a wall or screen. Lanterns could vary from a simple wooden box with brass parts to ornately designed boxes with multiple lenses. In America, magic lanterns were often referred to as "stereopticons" so as not to be confused with entertainment provided by more basic toy lanterns. "Stereopticons" were usually biunial or double lens lanterns. The terms "sciopticon" and "optical lantern" were sometimes used in a similar manner. Often Masonic and fraternal regalia manufacturers referred to special lodge lanterns as "secret society lanterns." The special lodge lanterns were lightweight and made for travel.

## Lantern Slide Manufacturers and Artists

Lantern and lantern slide production was big business in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Cities in the northeast, such as Philadelphia, Boston, and New York, were



**The tea-tax tempest or The Anglo-American Revolution, 1778, Carl Gottlieb Guttenberg, Germany, Gift of Charles D. Childs.**

home to the largest lantern firms in the United States. Dozens of companies focused on manufacturing optical devices including lanterns and slides. C.W. Briggs Co., the leading American lantern slide producer until the 1930s, manufactured slides and perfected the dry plate photographic process which made it easier and quicker for anyone to make travel slides. T.H. McAllister, who opened an optical supplies business in 1866, was another major manufacturer of slides, lanterns and screens. Eastman-Kodak even made its own lantern slides well before creating the popular carousel slide projector in the 1960s.

After the photographic processes for slide production were improved, some of the first lantern slides were made by photographing existing etchings and printing or transferring them onto glass. This process was adapted from the technique of transferring printed pictures to pottery, perfected by the Liverpool printers Sadler & Green in the late 1750s. Often the results were disappointing as many of the images were not clear when projected as a larger illustration. Manufacturers began the process of overpainting light prints of images in an attempt to make clearer projected pictures.

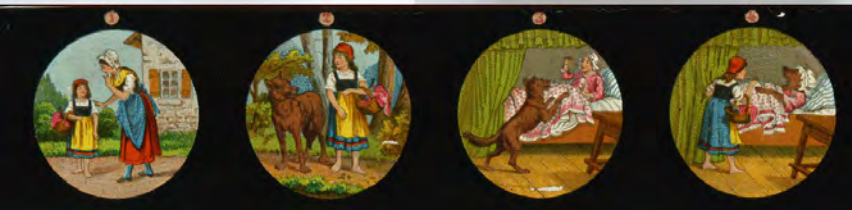
This process slowly evolved into artists' hand painting original work onto glass slides. Hand painted lantern slides ranged from broadly painted illustrations for lower illuminated lanterns, such as oil lamps, to extremely detailed transparent paintings for limelight, multiple projection, and dissolving view lanterns. Joseph Boggs Beale was one

of the most celebrated magic lantern artists to develop his own work and slide sets. Beale was employed by the C.W. Briggs Company and was one of the most prolific slide illustrators of his time. The lecture story sets and biblical story illustrations created by Beale were used by many Masonic and fraternal societies. These sets included a wide array of differing types of slides, including panoramic, dissolving, and motto slides, the latter of which were slides with wording most often related to the presentation of the show or lecture.

## Where Would a Lodge Find a Lantern?

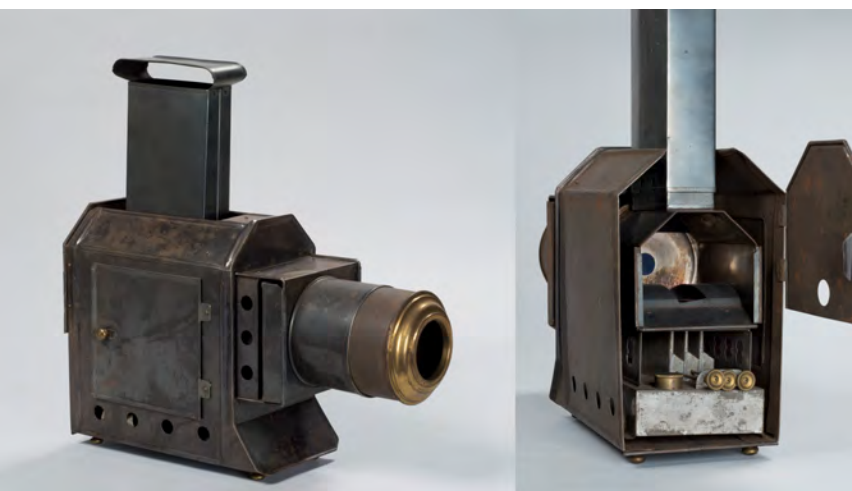
Catalogs published in the early 1900s, by regalia manufacturers included product advertisements for a variety of magic lanterns and slides. Companies such as Henderson-Ames, M.C. Lilley, and Ihling Bros. often marketed lodge-specific magic lanterns and slides to Masonic and fraternal groups. Products were sometimes manufactured by leading optical supply firms or in-house by the regalia company. Several types of lanterns and slides were produced for lodges to use for instructional purposes. M.C. Lilley manufactured the "Lilley Standard Magic Lantern ... the most complete magic lantern for society use," while other society lantern models like the "Columbus," "Batchelor," and "Imperial" boasted a sharp and clear picture eight to ten feet in diameter from a distance of up to 18 feet. In an 1890 letter from the McIntosh Battery and Optical Company in Chicago, IL, to an Odd Fellows lodge, the company touts the benefits of its new "Secret





**Toy Lantern and Lantern Slide (Little Red Riding Hood), ca. 1900, unidentified maker, Germany, Gift of Dorothy A. and Albert H. Richardson Jr., Photos by David Bohl.**

**Magic Lantern, ca. 1890, unidentified maker, United States, Gift of the Estate of Gerard Dallas Jenks, Photo by David Bohl.**



Society Stereopticon ... designed especially for illustrating the Rituals of the different secret societies.” Some regalia manufacturers had entire departments dedicated to magic lanterns as late as the 1920s.

Lodges and groups could purchase a lantern, muslin screen, and glass slides from one catalogue. The marketed lodge lanterns and slides were promoted as being “universally furnished for Masonic degrees and easily arranged by numbers before lectures and able to be projected consecutively.” According to the 1896 M.C. Lilley catalog

no. 195, a lodge could purchase a lantern for \$30 to \$70 and lantern slides for \$2 each.

The regalia catalogues also reflect the technological evolution of magic lanterns, and other projection devices for instruction, from lamp-light illumination to electric. Other projection devices included a “Masoniscope,” a 1930s invention, which was marketed as the newer, more efficient projection for lodge instruction and teaching, and the standard popular Kodak carousel slide projectors common in the 1960s.

## The Lantern Today

Although decades have passed since the use of magic lanterns, slides, and even slide projectors, a fascination with the technology, wonderment, and artistry of the lanterns and slides exists today. There are several magic lantern publications, thousands of lanterns and slides in museum collections across the world, and a society dedicated to the collection, preservation, and study of magic lanterns. Some lodges still use lantern slide imagery in presentations and lectures today. For example, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 104, in New Hampshire uses lantern slide images in presenting the history section of its Master Mason degree.

Lantern slides are but one example of the visual storytelling inherent in Freemasonry and fraternal societies and are an interesting component of Masonic material culture. The lanterns and slides present a glimpse into the education of candidates and members during the late 1800s and early 1900s. ■■

*To see more images of lanterns and lantern slides in our collection, visit our online catalog ([monh.org](http://monh.org)) and Flickr page ([flickr.com/photos/digitalsrmml/sets](https://www.flickr.com/photos/digitalsrmml/sets/)).*

*Has your lodge used lanterns and lantern slides in the past? Let us know. We want to hear about your experiences with these unique and fascinating objects. For questions or comments please contact Ymelda Rivera Laxton, assistant curator, at [ylaxton@srmml.org](mailto:ylaxton@srmml.org) or 781-457-4123.*

*If you would like to donate to the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, please contact Aimee E. Newell, PhD, director of collections, at [anewell@monh.org](mailto:anewell@monh.org) or 781-457-4144.*



# To the Editor of The Northern Light

Sir,

It may not be improper in the first place to inform your Readers, that I intend, upon occasion, to present them, by the Help of this Magazine, with a short Epistle, which I trust will add somewhat to their Enlightenment.

And since it is observed, that the Generality of People, in these times, are unwilling either to commend or disparage what they read, until they are informed as to who or what the Author of it is, and in particular, whether he be poor or rich, old or young, a Professional, Craftsman, Artisan, &c. and give their Opinion of the writing, according to their Knowledge Author's Circumstances, it may not be amiss therefore, to provide a short Account of my past Life and present Condition, so that the Reader may not be at a Loss to judge whether or not my Writings are worth their reading.

At the time of my Birth, my Parents were on their Way from Virginia to N. England. My Entrance into this troublesome world was attended with the Death of my Father, a misfortune, which tho' I was not then capable of knowing, I shall never be able to forget. We had left the Inn in Maryland where we had abided during my mother's Lying In. Once on our way again, we traveled some distance, and then stopped to pay the toll on the Pike. Whilst there, one of the coach horses reared up, having seen something that apparently startled the creature. The horse hit the pike, which swung round, striking my poor late father in the head, killing him instantly. Thus, was the first week of my life, the last that was seen by my Father. My father received a Freemason's burial by the local Lodge, and My disconsolate Mother was at once made both a lone Parent and a Widow.

When we arrived at Lexington, our destination, we went to live with my father's Brother, who although a kind man, was not provided with any great wealth, being barely able to sustain himself. My mother scraped together the coin required to put me to school, and thus passed my early Childhood in Vanity and Idleness. When of proper age, I was bound out as maid servant, that I might no longer be a Charge to my Indigent Mother, who was put to hard Shifts for a Living.

My Master was a Country Physician, a pious good natur'd Man, and a life long Bachelor, who also was a Freemason, as I have told you, was my departed father. Perhaps this was why the Physician was kind enough to take me in. As I grew older, he labour'd with all his Might to instill virtuous and godly Principles into my tender Soul. He endeavor'd that I might be instructed in all that Knowledge and Learning which is necessary for our gentle Sex, and deny'd me no Accomplishment that could possibly be attained in a Country Place, such as all Sorts of Needle-Work, Writing, Arithmetick, &c. and observing that I took a more than ordinary Delight in reading ingenious Books, he gave me the free Use of his Library, which tho' it was but small, yet it was well chose, to inform the Understanding rightly, and enable the Mind to frame great and noble Ideas.

Later, my Mother departed this Life, leaving me, as it were, by myself, having no Relation on Earth within my Knowledge. You are now aware of some of my past, and my present station in life. A woman of some learning, but of little means. Fortunate enough to be treated well by kind gentleman, set in his ways, who gave me a good life, looking after his bachelor home, cooking his meals, &c.



As I stated afore, my Master was a Freemason, which is as honorable a Fraternity as one could find anywhere. I knew little of it, beyond that he was proud to be part of this fellowship, and used much of his free time to attend meetings. Over the years, he had advanced to being an officer, and forbade me to go near to his Freemason's writings and jewels, beyond an occasional addition to his Freemason's apron such as gold trim, as his station advanced.

After his last meeting he came home in a rare foul mood. Although almost never wont to do so, he on this occasion shared with me the reason for his consternation.

He said to me that the Lodge had been left some money by a kind benefactor, and in lively discussion, his Brethren debated what to do with the money. A suggestion was made to obtain a custom made silver goblet set for use of the members whilst at refreshment (Brother Revere's name was mentioned as a likely craftsman). Some thought of having a set of new aprons made for the officers, so as not to have the Brethren continue providing their own. Others thought that having a new Master and Officer's Chairs made, trimmed with gold as fine as to be seen anywhere, was a grand idea.

My Master then offered a suggestion of his own. He told them, "Let us keep the money aside for use when a member, his widow or orphan, are in need. We owe it to our members to do so. It is our sworn obligation." He then told me that he was furious that the idea that had prevailed had been to procure the Goblet set. So as not to give me the wrong impression, he then said, "Mind you, a fair vote was held, and all were heard on the matter, but how short sighted my Brothers had been!" He told me that when need arises they do take up a collection, but it is small sum compared to what this money could have provided. He pronounced in a tone that I had never heard before, "I swear that I will never drink from those goblets, for to do so might cause me to choke." I left aggrieved, that my Master, as fine a gentleman as to be found anywhere, was so angered.

I determined that I should do something on my Master's behalf, and I am writing to you Good Sir, that you might share these words with your many Free Mason readers to serve as a reminder.

Silver Goblets, as fine as they may be, fall short in the balance, when set against keeping one's sworn obligations. The wine will be bitter to the taste when Brothers, their widows or orphans are in need, and could have been helped, were it that the Lodge had the money and not the Goblets!

You will hear from me again!

Your Humble Servant,  
**Silence Dobetter**



## New Center Directors Prepare for the Year

By **JAMES R. KEATING, 32°**

**A**s Scottish Rite Masons we are all aware of the work done by the Children's Dyslexia Centers throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. But many of us might not be aware of the ways dyslexia causes young people to struggle or the work they have to do to overcome it. And even more might not know how our center directors have to study, plan, prepare, and train to do the daily work needed to help the children.

The website for Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., [childrensdyslexiacenters.org](http://childrensdyslexiacenters.org), says this about dyslexia: "Millions of school children with dyslexia endure frustration and demoralization on a daily basis as they struggle to acquire skills that many of us take for granted. ... Dyslexia affects one out of every five people, and affects boys and girls in equal numbers. Children left with untreated dyslexia often suffer devastating personal consequences." Young boys and girls with dyslexia find it difficult to read and to do math, and often they underperform in school and in frustration many drop out. In other words, the condition is a common one that can have serious personal and societal consequences. Fortunately, our fraternity's programs help young people find a better future.

Hiring a center director isn't a simple thing. A director needs to have pedagogical and administrative skills, certainly. It would be impossible to effectively direct a center without such talent. But so much more is involved. A center director has to be fully trained in the Orton-Gillingham method of instruction and able to provide training to tutors who work in the centers. Moreover, the director has to be able to comply with all of the requirements of the national office, help with and report for accreditation purposes, and work effectively at the center with parents, tutors, community leaders, donors, and, of course, with the Scottish Rite Valley in which the program is located.

None of this is easy. For that reason the hiring process is rigorous, and the training is continuous and ongoing. When center directors are hired they need to have a face-to-face interview with the director of clinical affairs, Carin Illig, who works to create meaningful working relationships between the national office and the local centers. This can result, over time, in effective collaborations among the various local directors, as well.

This past summer the new directors from several centers met in Eau Claire, WI, with Carin Illig and Tammy Tillotson, the Upper Wisconsin center director. There they received training to develop skills in assessments, tutor training, scheduling, grant writing, and student-related subjects such as instructional techniques in phonological awareness. One of the directors, Nancy Williams from Bay City, MI, had this to say about the training: "Knowing you

### 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







New center directors from left to right: Nancy Williams (Bay City, MI), Sally Weber (Milwaukee, WI), Carin Illig, director of clinical affairs (Lexington, MA), Susan Hissick (Reading, PA), and Julie L. Bohannon (Indianapolis, IN).

are not alone in this endeavor is a breath of fresh air. As we got together as new directors, I was struck by how similar we were in our struggles, questions, and passion for what we do. We know how blessed we are for the opportunity to be a director with such an exceptional organization. We have been given the opportunity to touch the lives of children and families, to give them a brighter future full of reading and possibilities.”

The participants took part in a “dyslexia simulation” where the new directors were given a set of six activities, set up in a way that the “students were unsure, confused, distracted, and frustrated...just as a real student would be. Each was required to write with her non-dominant hand and to trace and write numbers while looking in a mirror...while listening to garbled instructions and a background of distracting additional noise! One center director, Sue Hissick from Reading, PA, said “The experience absolutely reinforced my resolve to become the best director that I can be ... (to) help those dyslexic children that providence has so ordained to send our way.”

Julie Bohannon, the new director at the Indianapolis center, also thought the simulation was a tremendous experience that “... provided a deeper understanding of the frustration our students

experience in their academic life.” She added that she became so frustrated that “I crumpled my paper and threw it at the teacher and resorted to looking at my neighbor’s paper for the answer.” This helped her, and the others, viscerally understand the problems dyslexia creates, especially for school-aged children. Julie was so impressed with the exercise that she said she now wants to run her board of directors through the simulation.

Of course, this training session was just the beginning. New directors, as well as seasoned veterans, all have to continue their education and remain aware of pedagogical and administrative requirements that must be met. It is a big responsibility and all of the new directors felt that meeting and working together would give them the resources and support they need to serve as center directors for years to come.

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*Bro. Keating, a member of the Valley of Indianapolis, is on the board of directors of the Indianapolis Dyslexia Center, and he works in the Butler University English department.*

# Full Belly On

By ALAN E. FOULDS, 33°

Nov. 1 signals, in a way, the beginning of the holiday season. Halloween is over and leaf raking is, for the most part, all done. It's time to begin preparations for a variety of events and observances. Veterans Day, on Nov. 11, the anniversary of the end of the First World War, commemorates those from all wars who have put their lives on the line for our freedoms. Later in the month, on the fourth Thursday, we give thanks.

For those fans of the movie *V for Vendetta*, Guy Fawkes Day is not to be missed. As the poem goes "Remember, remember, the fifth of November."

Then comes December with Christmas, Chanukah, and, for *Seinfeld* fans, "Festivus for the rest of us."

A quick Internet search finds many more official observances – some famous and some not so much. One date that struck this author's interest comes right at the start. According to a site called "National Day Calendar" Nov. 1 is designated "National Deep Fried Clam Day." I am a fried clam eater, and I had never heard of such a thing. Where I live the delicacy is ubiquitous. Not too far away, on the coast, is a five-mile stretch of road that features at least four places to enjoy the fried clam. It is affectionately known as the "Clam Strip." One of the structures is actually shaped like an oversized clam box.

I wondered what sort of celebrations might take place on this national holiday - of sorts.

I started with Woodman's of Essex. Very well known locally, the establishment, according to legend, introduced the modern fried clam to the world on July 3, 1916. Mr. Tarr, a fisherman from nearby Gloucester, stopped in for lunch. He was a friend of the owners, Chubby and Bessie Woodman. Chubby claimed that "business was slower than two snails headed uphill." Tarr said "Why don't you fry up some clams? If they're as good as those potato chips of yours, you'll never have to worry about having enough customers." Experimentation ensued, using combinations of



Photo: courtesy of Woodman's, Essex, MA.

evaporated milk and corn flour. When perfected, the fried clam, as we know it today, was born. They introduced it at the next day's 4th of July parade. Woodman's not only still exists, but it thrives. It sits on a stretch of the town's main street called The Causeway. On a warm summer night, it is hard to find a parking space. It has been featured in *Frommer's Guide* and other magazines. A Beastie Boys song, *Hey Ladies* mentions the restaurant in the original printed version. The Adam Sandler movie, *Grown-ups*, features a family dinner at the restaurant. Chubby and Bessie wrote all the important days of their life on the back of their wedding certificate. Beneath the birth dates of their sons, they wrote "We fried the first fried clam in this town of Essex, July 3, 1916." When asked if the restaurant will be marking National Deep Fried Clam Day, assistant manager, Lisa Purdy said "We are of course!" Additionally, she said that next year's centennial also will be observed, but the calendar has yet to be finalized.



It did not take long for the fried clam to catch on. Just two years later, in the 1918 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, there is a tongue and cheek quote from the Grand Master. He says, in reference to two medical men in the fraternity, “You can appreciate the extent and need of their services when I tell you that the Senior Grand Warden has constantly insisted on fried clams at Masonic gatherings.” It is reported in the Proceedings that his comment was greeted with laughter, implying that they were served often – maybe too often. As a side note, the Grand Master that year was Ill. Leon M. Abbott, 33°, who was to become Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction a short time later. Whether or not he brought the fried clam to the Scottish Rite is not known, but considering his earlier comments, probably not.

There is evidence, however, of fried clams existing well before that momentous July Essex evening. The Parker House, a well-known hotel and restaurant in Boston, says that fried clams were sold there many years before. The Parker House, known more for its famous rolls, possesses copies of menus from as far back as 1865, listing fried clams. It is not clear, however, that they were battered. They likely looked much different than today’s offering. Now known as the Omni Parker House, it has been in business since 1855, founded by Harvey D. Parker. It was home to the “Saturday Club” whose members included Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. In addition to Parker House Rolls and, potentially, the fried clam, the Parker House also introduced the world to Boston Cream Pie and coined the term *scrod*. Rumor has it that both Ho Chi Minh and Malcolm X worked there as young men.


The story goes back even further. At the Boston 1775 blog site, J. L. Bell writes about Annapolis, MD, doctor, Alexander Hamilton, and his dealing with this particular dish as far back as 1744. In his story Bell quotes William Pavlovsky who, in turn, cites *Itinerarium of Dr. Alexander Hamilton*. The entry for June 15, 1744, at the Narrows Ferry, Staten Island, says “I dined at one Corson’s that keeps the ferry ... a dish of fryed clams.” He continues, saying they “took such a deal of chawing that we were long att dinner.” As with those at the Parker House, no mention of breading is made, however.

In the 1930s, the fried clam was spread across the country by entrepreneur, Bro. Howard D. Johnson, a member of Wollaston Lodge in Quincy, MA. By the time World War II began he had built his chain of Howard Johnson’s restaurants to more than 200 outlets. After the



**Chubby Woodman sitting in front of the restaurant with a flag and barrels of clams. 1918. Photo: courtesy of Woodman’s, Essex, MA.**

war it expanded to 1,100, making it the largest chain in the country. One menu feature was the fried clam dinner. According to [weloveclams.com](http://weloveclams.com) Thomas Soffron was a clam digger from Ipswich, MA. He personally did not like the belly or neck, so he developed what he called the “clam strip.” In fact, it was the foot of hard shell clams cut into eighth-inch strips and then fried. He did not include the belly or neck. Soffron and his siblings opened Soffron Brothers in order to market the strips to those who had not eaten fried clams before. He called this sanitized version “tender sweet clams.” Meanwhile Johnson was opening his restaurants and roadside stands. Soffron arranged a meeting with Johnson and let him sample his product. One taste was apparently all he needed, and they joined forces. Not only were the clams sold in restaurants, but Johnson marketed a frozen version in supermarkets. Together, the two companies expanded rapidly, and with them, the nation’s love of fried clams. According to *Stories from Ipswich*, Soffron Brothers began with one building in that town and eventually built seven processing plants from Nova Scotia to Maryland. They also owned their own fleet of fishing vessels. The Howard Johnson chain peaked in about 1969, and then began a decline. The chain contracted and now has only two remaining restaurant outlets. During its heyday, though, the firm spread the fried clam – albeit the clam strip version – across the nation.

New evidence shows that even on that first Thanksgiving, in Plymouth, turkeys may not have been served, but shellfish – most notably clams – certainly were. Whether or not they were fried, we’ll never know, but you don’t have to wait until the end of the month to eat them. Start celebrating Nov. 1 – National Deep Fried Clam Day. 





## Rededication of the House of the Temple

ON SATURDAY, August 22, 600 guests gathered on the steps of 1733 16th Street NW, Washington, DC, to rededicate the House of the Temple. SGC James Richardson, 33°, broke ground in 1911, and SGC George F. Moore, 33°, presided over the dedication in 1915. In 2015, the Supreme Council processed from inside the House of the Temple to the great front porch and assembled for the purpose of rededication. The Kena Shrine Band provided the music, the Job's Daughters of Virginia sang *Holy, Holy, Holy*, and the officers of the Supreme Council re-consecrated the magnificent structure with wheat, corn, salt, water, oil, and wine. SGC Ronald A. Seale, 33°, gave the closing address and reminded all that just as 100 years ago the House of the Temple was dedicated to future generations of Masons, it was today re-dedicated to the Masons who would follow.



**Top l-r:** (1) Overhead view of the Rededication Ceremony on the terrace of the House of the Temple. (2) Sov. Gr. Cmdr. Solomon Wallace, NJ, Prince Hall Affiliation (left) and Sov. Gr. Cmdr. John McNaughton, Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, NMJ, USA (right). **Bottom l-r:** (1) View of the Supreme Council. (2) Lt. Gr. Cmdr., SGIG in Virginia, James D. Cole passes the gavel to Sov. Gr. Cmdr. Ronald A. Seale.

## JROTC & ROTC Recognitions

COMMENCING IN 1998, and approved by the assistant secretary of defense, the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, initiated a program of recognition for outstanding Junior ROTC students. This initiative recognizes high school youth enrolled in the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) unit for their scholastic excellence and patriotic Americanism efforts. The award consists of a medal, ribbon, and certificate. A similar program for ROTC cadets began in 2002, and the Supreme Council NMJ participates in both programs.



Awardee for 2015 and representatives from the Valley of Houston.

## Maui Students Win Scottish Rite Scholarships

“IT’S NOT THE SIZE OF THE DOG in a fight; it’s the size of the fight in the dog.” These words of wisdom could well apply to the Valley of Kahului, HI. The Valley has only 53 members, and yet this past year they awarded 12 scholarships of \$1,000 each. This philanthropic outreach is typical of Freemasonry around the world. The Brothers came together in Kahului to make their community a little better, one student at a time.



Scholarship winners display certificates at the annual awards banquet hosted by the Kahului Valley in June.

## Cortana, privacy concerns and much more



Leigh E. Morris, 33°

**B**efore getting down to our usual business, I am taking this opportunity to congratulate our Brother and *The Northern Light* editor, Alan Foulds, on receiving the 33° at Indianapolis on Sept. 1.

This recognition is most well-deserved. And I know that Illustrious Brother Alan will take on his new responsibilities with enthusiasm and devotion.

### Cortana

Before I set out to navigate road construction on my way to Indianapolis, I received a record number of questions, comments and suggestions in the wake of our last column.

Let's begin with the often repeated concern involving the security and privacy – or lack thereof – afforded by Cortana, the virtual assistant that dwells within Windows 10.

Let's be clear about Cortana – she does track Web activity and peruse email. A good portion of this personal information is stored in Cortana's Notebook.

I believe most users find Cortana to be quite useful. And I suspect those users will have little or no concern about privacy or security issues.

On the other hand, you may be among the minority who want nothing to do with her. To disable Cortana, select the "Notebook" icon, then select "Settings." Finally, move "Cortana can give you suggestions, ideas, reminders, alerts and more" to "Off."

If you have been using Cortana, I suggest you also erase data Cortana collected and forwarded to Microsoft servers. Begin by selecting "Manage what Cortana knows about me in the cloud." When the personalization settings page opens in Bing, select

"Clear" in both "Clear personal info" and "Other Cortana data and ..."

### Blue light

As you will recall, in our last session I noted that researchers have found the blue light emitted by computers, iPads, Kindles and other electronic devices may interfere with sleep.

I did offer suggestions, including avoiding the use of computers, tablets and other devices for a couple of hours prior to bedtime.

Another idea has been offered by Valley of Detroit Bro. Jake Foster. He has been using an Android app ([play.google.com/store/apps/](http://play.google.com/store/apps/)) called Twilight with good results. Twilight also is available for iPad users from iTunes ([itunes.apple.com](http://itunes.apple.com)).

If you give Twilight a try, please let me know how well it works for you.

### Reading winmail.dat

I also offered some advice to iMac and iPad users who are unable to open and read attachments saved as winmail.dat documents.

Bro. Ray Schmalz out in California suggested another option called Letter Opener. This app is available from iTunes ([itunes.apple.com](http://itunes.apple.com)).

### Desktop versus laptop

Regular readers of this column know my preference for desktop computers. I regularly receive emails from readers telling me that desktops are dinosaurs.

Well, no less an authority than Geoffrey A. Fowler, the personal technology expert at the *Wall Street Journal*, suggests that your next computer should be a desktop.

In his Aug. 12, 2015, column, Fowler stated that desktops not only "offer ergonomic comfort," but the cloud means desktops are "once again relevant." Because of cloud connectivity, Fowler noted a person can work on documents on the computer at the office and then easily resume that work at home on the desktop rather than lug around a laptop.

Of course, I am not suggesting you toss your laptop. I rely on my MacBook Air laptop when I'm on the go. However, I will continue to do all of the heavy lifting on my iMac desktop.

### A tablet or a laptop

Depending on your needs and personal preferences, you may want to consider a tablet instead of a laptop.

My top choices would be the iPad Air 2 or the iPad Air.

Next on my list is the Samsung Galaxy Note Pro 12.2. Another reliable choice is the Google Nexus 9.

### A security suggestion

Public Wi-Fi has become quite popular, but that popularity among users has made public Wi-Fi popular among thieves.

Short of just not using public Wi-Fi, you can improve security by turning off sharing on your laptop or tablet, enabling the firewall and use "HTTPS" addresses whenever possible.

For more detailed advice, visit CNET ([cnet.com/how-to/tips-to-stay-safe-on-public-wi-fi/](http://cnet.com/how-to/tips-to-stay-safe-on-public-wi-fi/)).

### Drop me a line.

I welcome your questions and comments. Just fire an email to me at [studebaker055@yahoo.com](mailto:studebaker055@yahoo.com).



# Invest in the future

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**Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library:** Celebrating its fortieth anniversary and now the headquarters for Supreme Council.

**Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Fund:** Awarding scholarships to children of Master Masons

**Grand Almoner's Fund:** Providing assistance to Masonic Brethren and their families who have experienced financial hardships.

**GEORGE LANSING FOX**, one of the Four Chaplains, was honored by the United States with the issuance of a stamp on May 28, 1948, to commemorate the four chaplains who gave up their lives so that four others might live during the sinking of the S.S. Dorchester. Rev. Bro. Fox was a member of Moose River Lodge, No. 82, Concord, VT, being raised in 1939. He served as the Chaplain of that lodge.

He was born March 15, 1900, in Altoona, PA. He attended Moody Institute and became an ordained Methodist minister assigned to the Methodist church in Gilman, VT. In 1942, he entered the Chaplains Corps and after attending Chaplain's School at Harvard he was assigned to Greenland. On the evening of Feb. 23, 1943, he was aboard the S.S. Dorchester in the North Atlantic when it was torpedoed and sank. He and three other Chaplains gave up their life belts and went down with the ship.



**JOHN BABBITT McNAIR** was included in the set of stamps released by Canada Post on Feb. 18, 1998, to honor Premiers. Born Nov. 20, 1889, in Andover, New Brunswick, Canada, he was a Rhodes Scholar in his youth and became a lawyer, politician, and judge. In 1940, he became leader of the Liberal Party and was Premier of New Brunswick. In 1955, was appointed chief justice of the province. In that position, he headed the Royal Commission examining the fiscal state of Newfoundland. He was appointed Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick in 1965, and died June 14, 1968, in Fredericton, N.B.

Bro. McNair was initiated in January 1921, and raised in April 1921, in Hiram Lodge No. 6, Fredericton, New



Brunswick. He served as Master of that lodge and also as District Deputy in 1928-29.

**JOHN JOSEPH WILLIAM MOLESWORTH OXLEY** was included in the June 9, 1976, Australia set issued for Australian explorers. He was accepted in Sydney as a reputable Mason and his name appears in the Masonic records as having participated in several ceremonies.

Born in 1783, in Yorkshire, England, Oxley entered the British Navy as a midshipman in 1799. In 1802; he made his first trip to Australia as master's mate on the H.M.S. Buffalo and was engaged for several years in coastal survey work in Australian waters and the South Seas. He returned to England in 1807, and retired from the Navy in 1811. In 1812, he was



appointed surveyor-general of New South Wales and remained in that position until his death. In 1823, he discovered the Brisbane River and the site of the present capital of Queensland. He died May 26, 1828, in Kirkham, Australia.

**GIAN DOMENICO ROMAGNOSI** was commemorated on the bicentenary of his birth on November 28, 1961, with the issuance of an Italian stamp. Bro. Romagnosi was a member of the Lodge "Gioseffina" in Milan. He served as Master of that lodge. His name is also on the roster of the Chapter Rose Croix in 1809 and 1813. Later he was a member of the Lodge "La Cisalpina."

Born Dec. 11, 1761, in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy, Gian Domenico Romagnosi was an Italian jurist and philosopher. He took his law degree at Pavia in 1786, and later held important offices in Trent where he continued to practice as an advocate. He is believed to be the first person to publish – in 1802 – an account



**Robert A. Domingue**



suggesting a relationship between electricity and magnetism. His account of an electrostatic charge from a voltaic pile deflecting a magnetic needle, published in an Italian newspaper, was largely overlooked by the contemporary scientific community.

**OCTAVE CHANUTE** is pictured on a stamp released by the United States on March 29, 1978, to honor aviation pioneers.

Bro. Chanute was a member of Lodge No. 263, of Peoria, IL.

Octave Chanute was born Feb. 18, 1832, in Paris, and his father accepted a position at Jefferson College, LA, in 1838, and brought his family to the U.S. in 1844, moving to New York. Octave went to work for the Hudson River Railroad at the age of 17 and in 1863, became the chief engineer of the Chicago and Alton RR. His design for the Union Stock Yards in Chicago was accepted as the best in a competition in 1867, and he supervised the construction of that project. He successfully completed the first bridge over the Missouri River at Kansas City in 1869. From 1870-83, he was the chief engineer of the Erie Railroad, resigning in 1883, to open his own consulting office in Kansas City and then to Chicago in 1889. He became interested in aeronautics as early as 1874. He began gliding experiments with a multi-plane glider and then progressed to a biplane. He conducted active correspondence with aeronautical figures all over the world. He visited the Wright Brothers in Dayton and Kitty Hawk encouraging them and served as the President of the Western Society of Engineers. He died Nov. 23, 1910, in Chicago.





## Albert Pike's Masonic Formulas and Rituals

by Arturo De Hoyos. Published in 2010 by The Scottish Rite Research Society, 1733 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009-3103. Available from Amazon.

Thomas W. Jackson, 33°



This author offers me some of the greatest challenges in writing reviews that I have faced; not in the difficulty of comprehension but by the sheer size of the volumes he produces. I do much of my reading on airline flights, and most of his books are too large to carry in a briefcase. This book contains 693 pages.

De Hoyos serves the function of transcribing and editing this volume, originally transcribed by Albert Pike in 1854 and 1855. Its significance and value lie in the historic recording, editing and preservation of texts that served as precursors to much of the ritual used today including those of early French blue lodges, the York Rite, the Adoptive Rite, as well as the Scottish Rite systems.

Many of the author's past works have been dedicated to preserving in understandable form the ritual history of Freemasonry. In his words, "The purpose of this volume is to provide a sourcebook of Masonic ritual texts for historians and students in the development of Masonic ritual." I made the observation, after reviewing one of his previous books, that he is one of the great Masonic scholars of our time, and this volume reinforces that observation, not necessarily in the transcribing but in the editing, prefacing, and qualifying the work and in his commitment to doing so.

This magnificent manuscript of Pike's efforts includes nearly 60 rituals comprising much of the foundation of American Freemasonry along with the 33 degrees of the Scottish Rite in America. It served as well as a major influence on many rituals throughout the world.

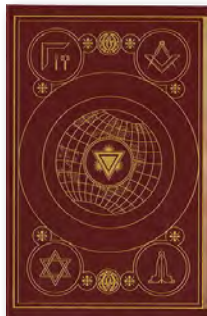
De Hoyos undertook this work, not simply as a reprint of the original but to serve as a more readable and understandable recording of Pike's efforts. In addition to transcribing Pike's work, De Hoyos contributes considerably to the value of the book with his knowledge of the early development and the evolutionary progression of Freemasonry and its ritual.

In the 31-page introduction he traces the development of speculative Freemasonry from 1583, with the work of William Shaw through the emergence of the "High Degrees" beginning with that of Master. He continues through the evolution and development of the "haut

grades" in France, the birth of the Scottish Rite in Charleston in 1801, and that of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction in 1813.

De Hoyos continues with the evolution of the ritual through influential Scottish Rite Masons, the Morgan affair along with the craft's resurgence, and Mackey's influence on Pike in his development of the Scottish Rite ritual. He then follows with a brief description of the editorial procedures used in this transcription. The remaining 600 pages are composed of the Masonic formulas and rituals as transcribed by Pike.

For the knowledge contained in the introduction alone, it is worth the effort to read by anyone interested in the Scottish Rite or the development of ritual. It is a book that should find a home as a reference resource of any serious student of Freemasonry.



## Albert Pike's Morals and Dogma

Annotated Edition by Arturo de Hoyos. Published in 2011 by The Supreme Council 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, USA. 1733 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009-3103. Available from Amazon.

I stand in line with those Freemasons who when first encountering *Morals and Dogma*, readily admit that, at best, found it to be extremely difficult to comprehend. Indeed, it took me a number of years to fully appreciate the wisdom as well as the effort of a man like Pike to compile this treatise, and now it takes a man like de Hoyos to produce this Annotated Edition, his own "Magnum Opus." What de Hoyos has accomplished with this work, is to make Pike more readily understandable and appreciated.

We, in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, receive much less exposure to the writings of Albert Pike than does the membership in the Southern Jurisdiction where he served as Sovereign Grand Commander and where he is almost "looked upon" as being near to a representative of the Supreme Being himself. This observation may exaggerate his importance to the Scottish Rite but it is undeniable that he was one of the most brilliant minds of his time and a foundation stone to the development of the Scottish

Rite. Arturo de Hoyos has, once again, produced a colossal volume (1112 pages) that should serve as a vital resource for future generations.

The book is enhanced by a Glossary produced by Bro. Rex Hutchens and the index by Bro. Brent Morris, both highly acclaimed Masonic scholars in their own right.

The extensive introduction provides great insight into the personality and the thinking of the man who developed the original edition, that, in essence, is a merger of the thoughts and the writings of many great minds, as well as his own. As the author points out, "*Morals and Dogma* is an anthology or compendium of ideas rather than an exposition of a single man." The introduction in itself, is a valuable and vital discourse in preparation to understanding the importance of Pike to Scottish Rite Freemasonry. Also, it is a defense for any deficiencies that might be revealed in his writings or against those who may misinterpret his meaning.

Like his previous works, de Hoyos has produced a valuable resource for future generations. He has smoothed the pathway to a greater understanding of one of the geniuses of Freemasonry. It is to his credit for conceiving it and to the credit of the Sovereign Grand Commander for promoting its work. It should be a volume in any library for a dedicated thinking Freemason.



**M**Y BROTHERS, 25 years ago I agreed to the request of my very good friend, Richard Curtis, to write book reviews for the *The Northern Light* for the period of one year until he could find someone to fill that position. I emphasized to him at that time I was not a book reviewer, and I have yet to change that opinion.

Nonetheless, that one year became 25 years. It has been a challenging quarter century but I have no regrets. They have caused me to learn and to understand our fraternity far more than would have been possible were I not required to read. For that challenge, I owe a debt of gratitude to my good friend who, with his reserved sense of humor, is perhaps now looking down and smiling.

However, many years ago, I wrote a little prayer that stated, "Dear God, let me never forget where I came from, and let me know when to quit." The time has come now, to quit (retire). I still have much I wish to accomplish before my journey is over that will require my time, and I do not want to be remembered as an "old man."

I have received numerous accolades over those years along with a few criticisms for my reviews. I have tried my best to give honest reviews and have expressed my opinions as I have felt them. I thank the Supreme Council for affording me the opportunity and I trust that I have fulfilled the obligation I assumed. Most of all, I thank the multitude of Brothers who have expressed their appreciation and have become my friends through this simple media of book reviews.

### Book Reviewer Emeritus

On page 19 of the November 1990 edition of *The Northern Light*, Ill. Thomas W. Jackson, 33°, introduced himself as the new book reviewer for the magazine. His predecessor, Ill. Stewart M. L. Pollard, 33°, decided to step down after many years. At that time Bro. Jackson said "It is indeed a privilege to be asked to take the place of my good friend . . . who has chosen to retire as book reviewer." In fact, it also has been our privilege and pleasure to have Thomas Jackson serve this magazine and this jurisdiction for a quarter century. This editor feels that allowing our membership to hear about and get a glimpse of new Masonic publications is one of the most important duties of the magazine. By reading and commenting on approximately 400 books during his tenure Bro. Jackson has provided the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction a service that is both invaluable and entertaining, and it has shown an amazing dedication on his part to the craft. Tom Jackson has promised that he will still write an occasional guest piece, and we intend to hold him to it.

### And Now our Next Order of Business

As already stated, this magazine considers the review of Masonic publications of vital importance. We now look for someone new who may want to step up and provide the Brethren with reviews. It is uncertain at this time if we will attempt to replace the irreplaceable, or, instead, we entertain more than one guest reviewer going forward. If you are an able writer and have the time to read Masonic books for review and would like to become involved with *The Northern Light* as a reviewer, please contact us at [editor@supremecouncil.org](mailto:editor@supremecouncil.org), and we can set up a time to discuss the details.



## Lose weight walking?

Walking is good for you, but it won't make you lose much weight.

It can help, but weight gain and loss depends on how many calories you consume and how many you burn.

Physical activity won't help if you continue to consume more calories than you expend.

Walking for 30 minutes will burn about 150 calories. In a week, you could burn 1,050 calories just by walking, say doctors at UCLA.

If you cut 350 calories a day from your diet and combine that with the 150 calories expended during your walk, you would have 500 fewer calories in your system at the end of the day, or 3,500 fewer at the end of the week.

Losing one pound a week is a very realistic goal, so make smart food choices and keep walking.

## High-tech stockings

Still in the prototype stage, a German research institute is developing a new pressure-monitoring sock that may save the toes and feet of diabetics.

Diabetics often don't have complete sensation in the feet or toes, causing chronic pressure sores that may lead to amputation.

The prototype sock, being developed by Fraunhofer Institute for Silicate Research, is made of two layers of fabric. Between the layers is a silicone film coated with electrodes. When a person applies pressure to one part of the foot, sensors send alerts to the user's mobile device.

## Achy knees?

Is osteoarthritis setting in? It's time to stand more and sit less.

Osteoarthritis in the knees, the most common joint affected, can make movement more difficult, but movement is just what you need to prevent it or keep it at bay.

The study, published in the *American Journal of Public Health*, shows that the more time you spend sitting around, the greater the loss of physical function you'll have.

Get out of your chair – serve refreshments, clean up, talk on the

phone while standing. Use some exercise equipment, walk the dog, or just stroll about while getting ready for bed, but get up frequently.

## Mushrooms linked with immunity

A recent study published in the online *Journal of the American College of Nutrition* shows a correlation between mushrooms and immunity. The study suggested that eating four ounces of cooked shitake mushrooms daily for four weeks resulted in better-functioning gamma delta T-cells and fewer inflammatory proteins in blood, both of which are signs of a stronger immune system. Study leader Susan S. Percival says the findings apply to all types of edible mushrooms, not just the shitakes.

## Microwave cooking can preserve nutrients

In case you wonder if microwave cooking destroys nutrients in the food, doctors at Duke University have the answer for you.

Actually, food cooked in a microwave oven may keep more of its vitamins and minerals because microwaves cook faster and without added water or fat. They cause water molecules to vibrate, producing heat that cooks the food.

What you should be cautious about are the containers you use in the microwave. Some plastics can melt and may contain chemicals that leach into the food.

## Evaluate your genes

If there is heart disease in your family, are you at risk for it? Some people think they'll die young because of an "inheritance," and others think they'll live long because relatives did in spite of their bad habits.

Experts at the University of California, Berkeley, say it's possible to compensate for bad genetic legacies, but it's also possible to dim the effects of even the heartiest genes, because they are only part of the story.

Genes interact with environmental and lifestyle factors, such as diet and smoking, to determine when and if you will develop certain diseases and when. The inherited tendencies may never manifest themselves, depending on your lifestyle and environment.

Obesity, a contributing factor for many chronic diseases, is an example of how genes interact with weight regulation. Scientists have a growing list of genes that may explain why some people easily stay thin while others struggle with weight gain.

And genetics also influence preferences for foods and exercise and how your body responds to them.

Make your own health and lifestyle plan, that will protect you from diseases, whether the risk is inherited or not.

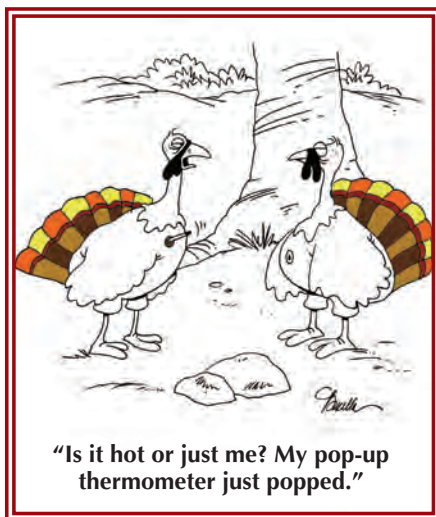
## Read a real book at bedtime

Sleep researchers have long warned that watching TV, working on a computer and using other electronic devices will disrupt sleep patterns.

The type of short-wavelength enriched light, known as blue light, that many backlit devices emit is powerful at suppressing the release of melatonin, the hormone that helps bring on sleep.

At Brigham and Women's in Boston, Charles Czeisler, chief of the hospital's sleep and circadian disorders, says, "Many people read things to help them fall asleep. They don't realize that this technology is actually making them less likely to feel sleepy."

The study by Czeisler and colleagues appeared in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.



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## VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

### LODGE ROOMS

**THERE IS NO ONE THING** that exerts a more powerful influence on the success of our Lodges than the manner of fitting the rooms wherein are held the meetings of the Order. As our ritual informs us, our ancient Brethren met upon a high hill or in a low vale, and perhaps a no more fitting temple could be found. The first lesson we are taught, is the belief in the Great Author of all things; and where could this lesson be more impressively taught, than under the clear bending sky of heaven, with the beauties of Nature spreading around, while bird, and tree, and plant, all were eloquent in the praise of Him who created all things! But with a change of society, has also come a change in our Institution – not in the precepts or principles of the Order, but in the circumstances attendant upon their practice.

Masonry, originally instituted for the protection of operative masons in the practice of their art, at length became a charitable Institution, not confined in its members to masons alone, but embracing all those applying for membership, who had proved themselves worthy, by their industry, fidelity and skill. At that age of the world, the nations were more nomadic in their habits, and consequently as they wandered about from country to country, they were compelled to hold their meetings at such places as the opportunity should afford them; and thus was disseminated throughout all the Eastern world a knowledge of the Mystic art. But now, men congregate more in cities and towns, and it becomes necessary that our meetings should be held within buildings, both for convenience and the security which such places afford. How necessary then is it for the Order to throw around these places of meeting such charms and conveniences as will make the Lodge room a place of delightful resort, where Brethren can congregate from time to time and enjoy that calm communion, where voice answers unto voice, and spirit unto spirit!

– Allyn Weston, *The Ashlar*, 1855–56, Vo. I, No. I



### Freedom of Thought

**S**ome day, when the cloud of prejudice has been dispelled by the searchlight of Truth, the world will honor Masonry for its heroic service to freedom of thought and of faith. No part of its mainstay has been more noble, no principles of its teaching have been more precious than its age-long and unwavering demand for the right and duty of every soul to seek that light by which no man ever injured; and that truth which makes him free.

– Joseph Fort Newton, *California Freemason*, Apr–Jun 1968

### Total Abstinence Lodges

**I**t may, perhaps, be regarded as a sign of the times that the number of total abstinence lodges is spreading, the seventh of which has just been consecrated in London. In these lodges only those are admitted to membership who are pledged abstainers from intoxicating liquors. There are numerous other lodges where the bylaws preclude any of the funds being expended on refreshments, other than non-intoxicants, and where the majority of the members are, as a matter of fact, total abstainers; but these seven lodges, which have a large and constantly increasing membership, leave no door open. They do not stand alone, for there are other lodges conducted on the same basis in the provinces and districts overseas. In India, particularly, where there are a large number of lodges composed of brethren whose religious tenets include that of total abstinence, such lodges are even more numerous.

It is not generally known that Chancellor Walworth Lodge of New York City was instituted as a Total Abstinence Lodge, all its members pledged to refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages. Under the present beneficent laws, it is returning to its first principles and the members will soon, like Ill. Brother James McGee, 33°, be totally “dry.”

– John Lloyd Thomas, *Brotherhood*, Oct. 1919

## Masonic Ethics

A man can never hurt or help natural forces. He can spread his sail, but that does not affect the wind. He can send his wireless messages through space, but that does not change the structure of the atmosphere. A man does not have much choice in his dealings with nature. If he steps from a roof he immediately falls to the earth, whatever be his opinions of gravity.

A man's relationship with his fellow men is very different. He can hurt or help them, bless or curse. What he says may change the course of another's fortunes: what he does may be a matter of life and death to a fellow. And all that he does to and with his fellows is largely under the control of his own will, for he can choose to act or not to act, to think or not to think, to speak or not to speak, and he can so choose when he knows that his words or deeds will influence them greatly one way or another. This is also true of a man's own self, and his relationship with himself: he can make his own person the object of his thoughts and acts for good or ill, and, as these thoughts and acts are of his own choosing, he is responsible, and they become a part of his conduct. All the ways in which a man affects himself, and in which men affect each other, for which men are responsible, comprise the materials of morality, of which ethics is the science.

Freemasonry has its own interpretation of the Principles of morality. For reasons of its own it emphasizes certain duties, and encourages certain ideals. In order to persuade men to act in a certain way it brings to bear upon them certain influences and strives to neutralize other influences which may oppose its purposes. It knows what it wants a man to be, and human society in general to be, and it bends its efforts towards that end. Masonic Ethics is ethics studied from this particular point of view, in the light of Masonic principles and ideals, and in behalf of Masonic purposes. It is the study of ethics as it bears on Masonry and of Masonry as it bears on ethics. Such a study bulks large in literature of the Craft, in its philosophy, in its teachings, its ritual, and its traditions, because Masonry is above all other things a moralistic institution, which strives to realize on earth a definite ideal of conduct, both private and public.

– H. L. Haywood, *The Builder*, 1922

## An Imposter

A masonic imposter, accompanied by a small boy ten or 12 years old, pretending to have been burnt out of business, exhibiting a badly looking leg as having been injured by fire, calling himself Goff in one place, Bissell in another, and aliases in I know not how many places in Massachusetts and Connecticut, is prowling about for what he can sponge out of the Fraternity. 'Tis time that such a person, too lazy to work, too mean to be honest, was dealt with as the law directs, (the moral code I mean,) and shown up in his true light, that the brethren in Maine may take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

– M.M., *The Crystal and Masonic Journal*, Feb. 15, 1860

## QUOTABLES

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.

– Abraham Lincoln

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our mind growled like our stomach does when it is hungry?

– Zig Ziglar

We either make ourselves miserable or we make ourselves strong. The amount of work is the same.

– Carlos Castaneda

The most important trip you may take in life is meeting people half way.

– Henry Boyle

All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make, the better.

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

Miracles happen to those who believe in them.

– Bernard Berenson

Surround yourself with only people who are going to lift you higher.

– Oprah Winfrey

All growth is a leap in the dark, a spontaneous unpremeditated act without benefit of experience.

– Henry Miller

Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.

– John Quincy Adams

Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there.

– John Wooden



## Reverse mortgage terms

If you or your parents are thinking about getting a reverse mortgage, you'll need to be very careful about reading all of the terms, especially those in the fine print.

The loans sound good, but are complex. Homeowners 62 and older may want to boost their monthly income by borrowing against their dwellings. Repayment is usually deferred until they die, move out of the home or sell.

Taking a reverse mortgage at 62 is risky because there is an increased likelihood that younger borrowers will outlive their loan funds, which is much less likely for older borrowers.

A study by *USA Today* shows that reverse mortgages have not saved seniors from defaulting on their property taxes and homeowners insurance. There are risks that seniors must understand.

## Rising home equity

The surge in home prices in the last few years has boosted Americans' total equity in their homes. The rise in equity has reduced the number of dwellings valued at less than their mortgages.

The rise in equity makes it more likely that these homeowners will be able to sell their homes and buy a home that is more suited to their needs, according to CNNMoney.com.

## Avoiding caregiver stress

At Harvard Medical School, geriatrician Dr. Anne Fabiny says people who find themselves in that role are almost always overwhelmed by it at some point. Fabiny is the medical editor of *Caregiver's Handbook*, a special health report. You can order a copy at [health.harvard.edu/CG](http://health.harvard.edu/CG).

Caregivers must maintain their own physical and emotional health. Caring for themselves means they will be able to care for another.

Fabiny says it's crucial that they find the time to exercise, keep their own doctor appointments, eat a healthy diet and get enough sleep.

If they are unable to go for a brisk 20-minute walk each day, they can break up the time into three- to five-

minute chunks throughout the day. They should always keep in touch with the outside world and with friends. Isolation can lead to depression.

## Considering retirement?

Plan to make a smooth transition:

Whether your future years are the best of your life, or the time of painful changes, depends on your point of view and your plans.

*USA Today* asked experts for their best advice for making the transition. Nancy Schlossberg, author of *Revitalizing Retirement* and *Retire Smart, Retire Happy* advises you to understand how to survive it:

- The transition won't happen overnight. You'll have changes in roles, routines, relationships and assumptions about yourself to consider. At times you'll feel emotional about the changes.

- Before the big day, safeguard the resources that will let you age in place if that's what you want. Once you have made financial arrangements, you can think about other things.

- Be sure to maintain social contacts. Research shows that people who spend time with others are healthier and happier than those who don't.

- Marie Langworthy, an administrator and co-author of *Shifting Gears to Your Life and Work After Retirement*, says: "People who retire often rush into the next thing or doing the same thing they have always done, sometimes out of fear and sometimes

out of necessity to earn money." If you can afford it, take time to uncover your passions.

- Stay healthy. Be the healthiest person you can be in spite of any medical issues you have. It will enhance your quality of life.

- Get ready for a shock when you realize you have a new identity. Schlossberg says there will be ups and downs as you determine who you are now.

## Automate your savings

Pay yourself consistently and first by setting up automatic contributions from your checking or savings account.

At *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* they recommend:

- Put cash you may want access to at a moment's notice into a savings account or money market deposit account. Money being saved for investments should go into a brokerage or mutual fund account.

- Check your bank's fees and policies. Usually, you can get the automatic transactions free of charge.

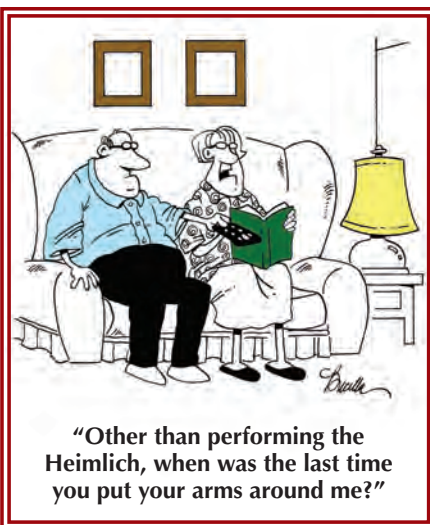
- Set up recurring transfers. Have them taken out right after each payday. You'll get used to having a little less cash to spend.

## Music soothes the soul

Many studies have shown that classical music tends to soothe adult pain. But a recent study shows that children and teens who pick out their own music or audio book for listening after surgery, also have less pain. In a study published in the journal *Pediatric Surgery*, researchers Santhanam and Sunitha Suresh recruited 60 children to participate in the study. After surgery, one group listened to their favorite music. Another group listened to a story they chose. And the third group listened to silence via noise canceling headphones.

After 30 minutes, the children who listened to music or a book reported less pain on a point scale. Researchers say the music was equivalent to taking a Tylenol or Advil.

According to NPR, pain specialist Lynn Webster says that music can focus thoughts, reduce anxiety and even induce a feeling of euphoria.



# MORE THAN JUST BOOKS

Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives



Jeffrey Croteau

## New Acquisitions: Gift of the Royal Arch Chapter of the Tabernacle

THE VAN GORDEN-WILLIAMS LIBRARY & ARCHIVES recently received a generous gift of archival records from the Royal Arch Chapter of the Tabernacle, Malden, MA. Minute books, ledgers, membership files, and Mark books from the donation are on view in the library's reading room at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library through January 2016.

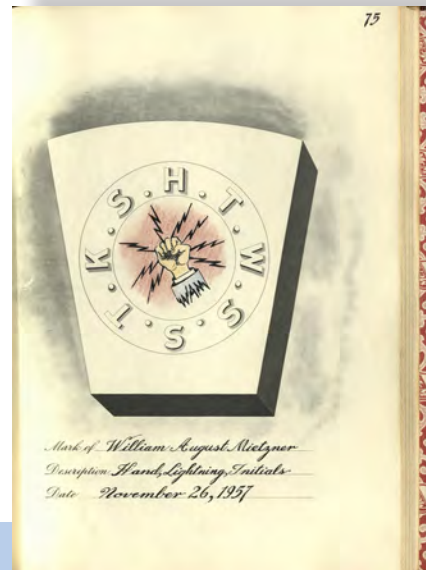
Among the items on view are two Mark books, dating from 1946-63 from the Bethsaida Royal Arch Chapter in Everett, MA. The Mark Master degree is conferred in Royal Arch Chapters. As part of the degree, each candidate selects a unique, personal "mark," an allusion to the marks that working stonemasons left on medieval stone work.

Marks often represent or incorporate a Mason's name or occupation, or feature Masonic symbols. The two volumes of marks on view are from a set from Bethsaida Royal Arch Chapter. Founded in 1911, Bethsaida Chapter later merged with Shekinah Royal Arch Chapter. Bethsaida-Shekinah then merged with Tabernacle Chapter in 1996.

The mark pictured here is that of William August Mietzner, who became a Master Mason in Palestine Lodge in Everett, MA, in December 1956, and a member of Everett's Bethsaida Royal Arch Chapter almost a year later. Mietzner's mark appears to be a wonderful and imaginative combination of both his occupation (electrician) and his initials (W.A.M.), which are incorporated into the jacket sleeve, just below the cuff.

Archives are essential to historical research, including research into Freemasonry. Unlike published books, archival records are often unique. These records contain information that often cannot be found anywhere else, and are valuable for that reason.

If you, or your lodge, chapter, or other Masonic organization are interested in donating archival material to the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, please feel free to get in touch. Jeffrey Croteau, manager of Library & Archives and John Coelho, archivist, are always happy to discuss any potential donations. You can reach us at [jcroteau@srmml.org](mailto:jcroteau@srmml.org) and [jcoelho@srmml.org](mailto:jcoelho@srmml.org).



**William August Mietzner's "mark" from Bethsaida Royal Arch Chapter Mark Book, 1957, Everett, MA. Gift of the Royal Arch Chapter of the Tabernacle, Malden, MA.**

The Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is located just off the main lobby of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, Massachusetts and is open to the public 10-4:00, Wednesday-Saturday. Reference assistance is provided in person, by phone, or by e-mail. You may contact us at 781-457-4109 or [library@monh.org](mailto:library@monh.org).



## An Early Grand Master?

In *The Stamp Act* (TNL, Aug. 2015) the column shows a stamp of King Henry VII. It states he was Grand Master of Masons and in 1502, presided over a meeting at his palace in London.

Since we date the founding of the Grand Lodge of England as 1717 (if I remember correctly), what is he Grand Master of? I know some Brethren date our Masonic founding to ancient times, but I personally feel they are stretching things a bit.

I enjoy reading *The Stamp Act* in each issue; in fact, it is one of the first things I look for. I cut out the page and send it to a regular stamp collector.

Raymond DeGroot, 32°  
Valley of Chicago

We welcome letters and emails from our readers in response to articles appearing in *The Northern Light* and will reprint them as space permits. Letters must be signed, should be brief, and are subject to editing.

## Sub Par Quote

In reference to a quote from Tiger Woods (TNL, Aug. 2015)

I am at a loss to know how the golfer's name appeared in *The Northern Light*. His actions are not in accord with Masonic teachings.

James De Mond, 33°  
Valley of Fort Wayne

## MASONIC MOMENTS

Please submit your own Masonic photos to *The Northern Light*. We are accepting submissions of all things Masonic — people, places or occurrences, to share with our readership. You may send your photo to [editor@supremecouncil.org](mailto:editor@supremecouncil.org), or mail your submission to: *The Northern Light*, PO Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420-0519. Include your name, address and Masonic affiliation. Photos will not be returned.

I was at Valley Forge in June of 2015.

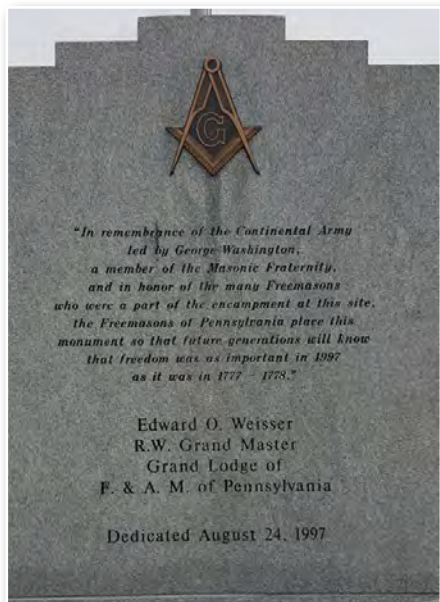
This is the flag and Masonic monument by the National Memorial Arch, dedicated in 1917, commemorating the arrival of General Washington and his army to Valley Forge. The arch underwent an extensive renovation project with funds donated by the Masons. It was rededicated with a special ceremony in 1997.

Shane Dufresne, 32°, Valley of Waterbury



My wife and I visited Andrew Johnson's home in Greeneville, TN, in early August and this emblem was on the wall of the home in the second floor hallway. It is the only evidence of the former President's Masonic membership found in the home. The park service person did not know much about the Masonic fraternity or the former president's association with the fraternity.

David P. Miller, 33°, Valley of Chicago



## ET CETERA,

et cetera, etc.



### Time Capsule

Reminiscent of times past, a procession of Freemasons marched up Park Street in Boston to take part in the relaying of a 1795 time capsule at the Massachusetts State House on Beacon Hill. Some wore colonial garb and played the fife. A 19-gun salute was offered, replicating the original cornerstone laying of 1795. Conducted on June 17, the anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, the ceremony included the governor of the commonwealth, the Grand Master of Masons of Massachusetts, and many other dignitaries.

The original time capsule was placed in the building by then-governor Samuel Adams and Paul Revere, who was Grand Master at the time. The time capsule was removed during ongoing reconstruction of the building, as it was once before, in 1855. The original container held an engraved silver plaque, a George Washington medal, and a set of coins dating to the 17th century. In 1855, newspapers were added. This time around a set of 2015 U.S. coins were put in the capsule, together with a new silver plaque.

### Daniel Coxe Medal

During the summer, Sovereign Grand Commander John William McNaughton, 33°, was awarded the highest honor of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. The Daniel Coxe Medal was presented at the general session by Most Worshipful and Illustrious Gerald J. Sharpe, 33°, Grand Master.

Grand Master Sharpe stated that this award was long overdue and noted the support his state received from the Commander and Scottish Rite after the devastation of Hurricane Sandy. "We needed help, and you were there for us" stated the Grand Master. The Supreme Council Almoner's Fund greatly supported New Jersey Masons after this storm's devastation. SGC McNaughton was humbled and thanked the Grand Lodge of New Jersey for the award and for continuing the Brotherly support of the members of our fraternity.

The Daniel Coxe Medal, named for the first Provincial Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of

New Jersey, is the highest honor presented by the Grand Lodge. It was noted that very few Masons receive this honor.

### Just Who Is Silence Dobetter ?

Recently, Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton received a letter from a woman purporting to be named Silence Dobetter. In it she tells of her past history and her connections to Freemasonry. She continues and gives her opinions as to the state of our rite.

The name Silence Dobetter sounds suspiciously like that of Silence Dogood. If you know your history, or maybe your history trivia, you might already know that Silence Dogood, a middle-aged widow, existed before the American Revolution, and she was a regular contributor to a newspaper called the *New England Courant*, owned by James Franklin. In her epistles to that paper she often poked fun at aspects of colonial life. The letters became a very popular feature, and James Franklin encouraged her to continue her submissions. She became so well-known and respected that she received marriage proposals.

It later was revealed that Silence Dogood did not really exist. She was actually a "he." The author was none other than James' 16-year-old apprenticed brother, Benjamin Franklin, who found it the only way to get his writings and opinions into the paper. When James discovered the ruse, reportedly, he was not amused. Will this newly reincarnated Silence Dobetter continue to offer her opinions to the members of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction? She gives us a hint in the last line of her inaugural article. She says "You will hear from me again." Time will tell.

### For the Love of Reading

If you are an able writer and have the time to read Masonic books for review, and would like to become involved with *The Northern Light* as a reviewer, please contact us at [editor@supremecouncil.org](mailto:editor@supremecouncil.org), and we can set up a time to discuss the details.

Alan E. Foulds, 33°  
editor





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