One-Day Class

Masonry Lite or Logical Evolution?
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The Tragic Shame of It All

We were shocked to learn of the tragedy that unfolded on the evening of March 8 at the home of Southside Lodge No. 493 in Patchogue, New York. Although the incident took place at an unsanctioned club that met in the Masonic building, the club members were all Masons.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Brother William James. His untimely death was the result of a tragic accident within a bizarre ceremony, which should never have been allowed to take place.

No words, however well intentioned, and no apologies, however well spoken, can restore the life of one Brother or the shattered life of another. Unfortunately, this entire tragedy has left an abundance of victims (including our beloved institution of Freemasonry). The perpetrator is a victim as well, for he has to live with the knowledge that his action cost the life of a Brother Mason.

I was a fraternity man in college, and hazing was a part of that environment. In the eyes of the older fraternity men, young men from disparate backgrounds who were brought together in a new and unfamiliar setting needed large doses of adversity. This adversity was supposed to unite the brothers and bind them together in a fraternity of men acting in concert. Well, at least that was the objective, but we will let the sociologists, and perhaps the psychologists, evaluate whether the results were, in fact, achieved.

Freemasonry is a fraternal organization. What, you might ask, is the difference between it and a college fraternity? Although the basic principle of fraternal cohesiveness is similar, the former is a more mature form of the latter.

A fraternal organization understands that the concept of fraternalism is far more than acting in concert against adversity, which may or may not develop good character. Freemasonry is all about character — the development of moral and philosophical values that teach us how to treat each other and our fellow men. We are taught never to deprive anyone of his dignity or injure his good name. Masonry should never on any basis place a brother in danger or in harm's way. Indeed, we swear before God that we will inform him of approaching danger so that he may protect himself.

I ask each of you to make sure that we root out such incidents and determine that never, ever, under any guise of Masonry, would a Brother be placed at risk in a real or imaginary fashion or that a Brother be hazed in any manner. That is an aberration or the bastardization of Masonic principles.

Our purpose is to build character, reinforce moral and philosophical concepts, and do good work within our fraternal organization and in the world at large. No wife, mother or daughter should ever be concerned that her husband, son or father would ever receive at the hands of a Brother Mason anything but the absolute care, concern and love that are inherent in Masonic lessons and principles. We owe that to each other as Brothers, and we owe that to the world.

Walter E. Webber
Sovereign Grand Commander
Successful Achievement

New Members Participating in Lodges

The Grand Lodge of Ohio is celebrating its second anniversary of the "Become a Master Mason in One Day" event. Many Masons questioned whether this approach would be successful and, if so, whether the new Masons would become actively involved within the fraternity.

The degrees were presented at ten locations around the state, and a total of 7,756 candidates became Master Masons on that day in April 2002. The numbers far exceeded our expectations.

The original thought was to establish a goal of 2,500, but we decided instead to reach higher by setting a target of 5,000.

The new approach also offered an opportunity for Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts who had not completed the work to become Master Masons.

The day proved to be exciting for both the new members and current members. There was a definite "feel-good" attitude that has continued.

Members of the class had an opportunity to meet others from neighboring towns, and mentors helped to make the candidates feel comfortable.

Now that we have had a chance to reflect on the celebration, it is time to assess the results and determine the pathway to follow for future one-day classes.

There are three basic questions that have to be answered.

- What happened to these members and are they actively participating in their lodges?
- Do they share the same sense of belonging to the fraternity as those receiving their degrees the traditional way?

From the first-year analysis, the one-day class was more successful than

There have been many positive results. A survey conducted a year ago as a follow-up with the Ohio lodges provides valuable information about the members of that historic class.

Some 354 of the 550 lodges within Ohio responded to the survey. These results indicate that 18 percent of the one-day-class members are attending lodge meetings on a regular basis.

Eight percent are officers within their lodge.

Examining these statistics, we find that this represents 1,395 new active members, or an average of four new members for each lodge. Even more positive is the fact that the eight percent who are officers represent 620 new lodge officers, or an average of almost two new officers per lodge.

These are the results of the first year.

If we are to examine the results after the second year these statistics are even greater. A number of lodges have as many as five officers within their officer lines.

Are they learning the work? Many have already given a lecture and a charge and some have been exceptional participants and given all three lectures in this two-year period.

Anyone traveling around the state of Ohio will find that the one-day-class members have exhibited a real sense of belonging. They are very eager and proud to share with us that they are a product of this approach to Freemasonry.

The excitement from this one-day experience still remains within them.

The one-day-class concept did not end with April 27, 2002. In March 2003, an additional 3,100 candidates became Master Masons in Ohio during another one-day-class experience. This represents almost 11,000 new members, which is more than ten percent of our current membership.

JIM S. DEYO, 33°, is an Active Member of the Supreme Council, NMJ, and Senior Grand Warden for the Grand Lodge of Ohio.
The Importance of the Initiate Tradition

One-day classes (ODC's), sometimes referred to as Grand Master's classes, have been around for over a decade in the United States, but the increasing number of jurisdictions adopting them has drawn heated debate from across the Masonic world.

Not all such classes are the same. In 1982, a two-day class was held in Washington, DC, and has become an annual event for 50-100 candidates. Unlike most of the other jurisdictions that have since adopted the one-day class, each candidate in Washington participates in all necessary ritual elements rather than simply watching the degree conferred on one principal candidate. In 1997 Oklahoma held three ODC's that were limited to existing Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts who had not progressed during the previous 30 years. On the other hand, in April 2002 Ohio raised more than 7,700 Masons in one day.

As of today, over 35 American Grand Lodges have adopted ODC's in one form or another.

While there has been much discussion about the effectiveness of the process, proponents have argued that ODC's provide a quick boost of finances and members to the organization with dropout rates for one-day class inductees being roughly the same as for those who went through the degrees in the usual manner. Most jurisdictions that have adopted ODC's have only done so in the last few years. It is arguably still too early to gauge the qualitative impact on the craft.

What is easier to measure is the instant effect of ODC’s on the fiscal and membership figures of Grand Lodges and appendant bodies, which have often held their own ODC's on the same days as the Grand Lodge or soon thereafter to take advantage of the new prospective members. Combined with the uniquely American circumstance of not incorporating Entered Apprentices as full members, this effect has created a highly problematic situation. Thus, much of the current phenomenon of Grand Lodge ODC's can be attributed to economic, political and historical factors.

American Grand Lodges have experienced a continuous decline in membership and income for the last 40 years, while the annual expenditure has not significantly decreased, creating serious pressure to generate funds. There is political pressure from appendant bodies that have experienced the same membership decline.

From an historical perspective, American Grand Lodges attending the Baltimore Convention of 1843 resolved to allow lodges to meet only on the third degree for business and declared that Masons of the “inferior” first and second degrees “are not members of lodges.”

While such a practice has never been adopted in Europe, it has come to be considered some kind of landmark in the United States. To forbid Entered Apprentices from becoming a part of the lodge is detrimental to the craft. A letter from David Terrel, a Texas Mason, appeared in the recent issue of Freemasonry Today. He wrote:

American Masons are treating the symptoms of an illness (the failure of first and second degree Masons to advance) and are ignoring the disease (the institutional rules that exclude first and second degree Masons from business and the fellowship present in the lodge room).

The biggest concern raised by critics of the ODC's is the fact that the class deprives the candidate of a personal and intimate initiation into a lodge of brothers and the positive transformation of character that is meant to occur during the normal time period of receiving the degrees.

In Continental Europe and South America, it takes an average of two to three years before reaching the third degree, during which time the brother is considered a full member of the lodge and participates in most of its activities. In some European countries, the raising ceremony is considered such a meaningful and intimate experience shared by the new Master Mason and the brothers of his lodge that visitors from other lodges are strongly discouraged.

Such a profound cementing of brotherly bonds is likely lost in the imper-

It is too early to judge the qualitative impact on the craft.

DENNIS V. CHORNENKY, 32*, President of the Masonic Restoration Foundation and a student of American and European Freemasonry.
SUCCESSFUL ACHIEVEMENT

With the Ohio success story have come opportunities. We have learned a great deal in the process. Lodges that chose not to take a recess during the summer have maintained a higher level of excitement and enthusiasm among the new one-day-class members. We have also learned that we must tailor our education programs, as well as our lodge programs, to the needs of these new members. Leadership training programs are crucial.

There is a critical need to make the one-day-class members an even more active part of our lodges. Many of these members were introduced and grew up with the technology that exists today. This is a part of their communication network. Therefore, we must accommodate their needs electronically.

Although advancements in technology have made some things easier, our busy life style has become much more intense. The one-day class blends well with today's fast-paced world.

We are still learning from the results of the one-day class as we prepare to repeat the success of 2002. The next one-day class in Ohio is scheduled for April 9, 2003.

Perhaps it is too early to see the long-range impact of our initial success with this program, yet there are so many positive vibes as a result of this approach that we have confidence to believe we are making great strides in strengthening the Masonic institution.

Not every member who received the degrees during the one-day class will maintain the same level of interest. But that is also true with the more traditional method of taking one step at a time.

One of the big advantages of the Ohio program can be seen in the promotional effort that accompanied the buildup to the event. The announcement of the one-day class in the media brought Freemasonry to the attention of many potential candidates and made the general public aware of the fraternity. The excitement generated by the one-day event brought about a renewed interest in Freemasonry.

Some would not have become Master Masons without the convenience of the one-day class, while others chose to receive their degrees in the traditional manner.

One of the major tasks facing all lodges will be to see that every member who joins through a one-day class as well as every member who receives one degree at a time receives the proper attention to make him feel welcome in the lodge. Our study indicates that in most lodges new members have found a home with the welcome mat extended.

Masons or Members?

Sonoral nature of the ODC's. Not surprisingly, European Masons, including Lord Northampton, the Pro Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, have come out strongly against the American practice. When mentioned in Europe, the notion of ODC's usually draws complete bewilderment, disgust, or a genuine sympathy comparable to the kind expressed when a family member has died. Some American Masons have even drawn up model amendments to lodge bylaws to prohibit participation in ODC's.

The concern of a tremendous loss that takes place due to a process largely motivated by questionable expenditures, outdated historical factors and a misunderstanding of the initiatic tradition of Masonry must be taken seriously.

The initiatic tradition is the craft's core and defining characteristic, without which the organization would become indistinguishable from other fraternal or philanthropic organizations and could no longer accurately be called Freemasonry. When the lives and works of the founders of Freemasonry are seriously studied, it becomes clear that they viewed Masonry foremost as an initiatic institution, charged with the preservation and propagation of a much older initiatic tradition.

Initiation is a slow and sensitive process that requires great effort on behalf of both the candidate and the existing members of the lodge. For initiation and Masonic growth to be meaningful and enriching, great care and attention must be afforded to each individual candidate. He must understand that the organization is highly selective, allowing him to feel self-worth and leading him to respect the high standards of the Order. He must be effectively educated about the history, symbolism and philosophy of the craft if he is to become a Freemason worthy of the title.

A possible compromise, though still sacrificing the intimacy of the initiation, could be for Grand Lodges to accept Entered Apprentices as full dues-paying members and to allow and direct lodges to open for business on the first degree so that ODC's would only have to initiate the candidates, allowing them to properly bond with their respective lodges in passing and raising. While this would provide the Grand Lodges with the dues-paying members they seek, it would not, unfortunately, satisfy the appendant bodies that would still have to wait for the new members to become Master Masons.

European Masonry has been very successful in working as small lodges. Whether it is welcomed or not, American lodges will also become relatively small in the near future. ODC's and lodge consolidations are only going to work for a limited time and do not address the more fundamental problem of having lost our focus and traditions.

If Masonic traditions are to continue to have an impact on the lives of Masons, the focus and resources should shift from ODC's to creating viable models for smaller lodges, even if this means raising dues. Masons should not be afraid to show that Masonry is important to them.

The situation requires a balanced and knowledgeable approach, which must be founded on the understanding that Freemasonry is foremost an initiatic institution and becomes something else when it loses the initiatic element.

The approach must also be characterized by an ability to transcend historical, political, and economic factors through innovative solutions that do not severely damage economic structures and diplomatic relations with other bodies. And it must not be forgotten that it is the charge of Grand Lodges, as the supreme Masonic authorities, to preserve the initiatic tradition in their jurisdictions.
N.Y. Grand Lodge Takes Action After Tragedy

In the wake of a tragic incident on Long Island, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York has asked a panel of Masons with a legal background to “review the activities and operation of social clubs that make use of Masonic premises in the state of New York.”

Pending completion of that investigation, M.W. Carl J. Fitje has recalled the charter and suspended the members of South Side Lodge No. 493, Patchogue, NY.

During a March meeting of a social club held in the basement of the Masonic building in Patchogue, a Mason was shot to death in an apparent haz- ing incident. According to police reports, Brother William James, 47, was pronounced dead at the scene shortly after the shooting.

The club was not sanctioned by the New York Grand Lodge.

One source indicated that Brother James, who was attempting to become a member of the club, stood in the middle of the room facing the club’s leader. Another member, who was directly behind the victim, supported a stack of cans. When the leader fired a gun that was supposed to contain blanks, the member behind the candidate would knock down the pile supposedly to scare the member. The gun that was used, however, contained live ammunition. Police called the shooting an accident.

Media reports of the incident spread around the country. Most stories lacked sufficient knowledge of Freemasonry to distinguish between the club and the Masonic initiation ceremonies. One account was headlined, “Mason killed at initiation; another member is charged.”

The Associated Press did interview Richard E. Fletcher, executive secretary for the Masonic Information Center, and historian Steven Bullock, a non-Mason who has written a book on the role of Freemasons during the American Revolution. Both expressed disbelief that such an incident would even be associated with the fraternity.

Ill. Brother Fletcher told Associated Press reporter Frank Eltman, “I have been a Freemason for 47 years and I have never, in that entire time, heard of anything so off the wall. That’s what makes this so difficult. It has nothing to do with what we’re about.”

Bullock, who has conducted extensive research on Freemasonry, said that it would be wrong to suggest that haz- ing is part of the Masonic initiation ceremony.

To clarify public misunderstandings in the media, Grand Master Fitje pointed out that the incident did not involve a Masonic lodge meeting, the use of the lodge room within the building or any Masonic ritual.

He reiterated, “Grand Lodge law, previously established, clearly spells out the one and only ritual approved in the state of New York. No Mason can engage in or participate in any ritual that varies from the ritual approved under Grand Lodge law.” He also emphasized that firearms do not, and never have, played any role in any Masonic ritual.

The Grand Master spoke with the widow of the departed Brother and expressed his deepest condolences and sympathies to the family.

Several funds have been established to assist the widow and family of the victim. The New York Council of Deliberation (the statewide Scottish Rite organization) will see that donations are forwarded to the proper source. Contributions can be sent to “New York Council of Deliberation Hospital,” c/o Rev. Richard Mills, 18 Retta Lane, Commack, NY 11725.

‘Scottish Rite America’ Site Links Two Jurisdictions

Public awareness of Scottish Rite Masonry has been given a boost with the unveiling of a new website, linking the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and the Southern Jurisdiction. By simply web surfing to www.scottishriteamerica.org the visitor can easily navigate to the sites of U.S. Scottish Rite organizations.

The Double Eagle logo, together with the American flag clearly represent both the organization and nationality of American Scottish Rite. By simply clicking on one of the two links, the visitor is directed to the web pages of either Scottish Rite organization.

While bringing the two jurisdictions closer together, the site also provides a simpler name for members of the fraternity, as they use the Web to find important Masonic information.
When conducting historical research, it is common to find one thing while looking for another. As I researched an article for the Supreme Court Historical Society on Supreme Court justices who have had presidential ambitions, I read a biography of Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson there.

I found a notation that on September 27, 1950, Jackson was a recipient of the 33rd in Scottish Rite Masonry.

He had been an active Mason in Jamestown, New York, since 1929. I found it interesting, as I knew many other things that Jackson was doing at that time.

He was the last Supreme Court justice appointed who had not received a law degree.

Although Jackson attended law school in Albany, New York, he did not graduate from there. He practiced law in the small town of Jamestown, but had actually been born in nearby northern Pennsylvania.

He was an early strong supporter and admirer of Franklin D. Roosevelt as governor of New York.

When Roosevelt became president in 1932, Jackson went to Washington as a lawyer in the Department of the Treasury under Secretary Henry J. Morganthau. His rise to power in the Roosevelt administration was phenomenal.

During the second Roosevelt term, Jackson worked in the Justice Department under then Attorney General Homer Cummings and was soon appointed Solicitor General of the United States.

While in that position, he personally argued many of the government’s important cases before the Supreme Court of the United States in the critical New Deal era, and did so with great success.

Before the end of that term, Jackson was appointed Attorney General, advising Roosevelt on many critical issues as World War II broke out in Europe in 1939.

A year earlier Roosevelt had tried to induce Jackson to run for governor of New York, but that was apparently mixed by Democratic powerhouse Jim Farley.

In 1940, before Franklin D. Roosevelt announced that he would seek a third term, Robert Jackson was considered a prime Democratic candidate for president.

When Charles Evans Hughes resigned as chief justice in 1941, Jackson was chosen to fill that seat on the Supreme Court, and at the time it was generally presumed that he would be appointed chief justice.

Roosevelt wanted to do so, but decided in the interest of national unity to elevate Harlan F. Stone, a Republican who had been appointed to the court by Republican Calvin Coolidge.

Jackson was a handsome, elegant man who always dressed with impeccably good taste.

He was also one of the most elegant writers ever to be a member of the Supreme Court. In one of his most famous statements he said that the Supreme Court of the United States “is not final because it’s infallible; it’s only infallible because it’s final.”

Despite the fact that all its members had been appointed by Democrats Franklin D. Roosevelt or Harry S. Truman, the Supreme Court of the late 1940s was a very contentious place. Acrimony developed, with Robert Jackson and Felix Frankfurter on one
side and Hugo Black and William O. Douglas on the other.

What Jackson is now remembered for more than anything else was his role as the American prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials in 1946, and was largely responsible for the arrangements to make that historic event possible.


Baldwin does a reasonably credible job of portraying Jackson with one major exception.

The portrayal very clearly plants the seed that he was having an affair at Nuremberg with his secretary.

What the movie does not portray, and the book does, is the fact that Jackson's adult son, William, who had just graduated from Harvard Law School, was with his father all the time at Nuremberg living in the same quarters.

It is hard to conceive that with the whole world watching in 1946 Robert Jackson was having an affair with his secretary while at Nuremberg, especially understanding his son's close presence.

That item of literary license may tell more about the entertainment industry of the early 21st century than it does about Robert Jackson at mid-20th century.

Robert Jackson was still in his 50s while at Nuremberg. He came home an exhausted and very changed man.

In 1954 he died on the way from his home to the Supreme Court at the age of 63.

He crammed a powerful body of highly productive living in a short life.

His accomplishments as a lawyer, as a public official, and as a justice reflected competence, courage, and integrity.

His life is the kind that Scottish Rite Masons can justifiably look to with pride.

### Jamestown Educational Center Named for Justice Jackson

Nearly three years ago, the Scottish Rite Valley of Jamestown sold its building to a new organization dedicated to “advance the legacy of Justice Jackson through education, exhibits, and a pursuit of the relevance of his ideas for our present generation.”

The Robert Jackson Center, which is also still home to Valley offices through a lease arrangement, states that the mission of the museum is to place special emphasis “on educating youth on issues of justice and fairness, and in applying Jackson’s views on international law as they relate to aggressive war, war crimes, and acts of terror in today’s world.”

One program, designed to do just that is the promotion of an essay contest. Now in its third year, invitations are sent to students in the Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County areas. One winner is chosen from each school that participates, in addition to one overall winner.

The purpose of the essay contest is to educate area students, their families, teachers, and other adults, on who Robert Jackson was and what he accomplished.

The Valley of Jamestown, which maintains its offices in the building, sponsors the contest. Past Commander-in-Chief, Jon B. Putnam, 33°, chairs the essay committee.

Standing on each side of Chief Justice Renquist are essay contest winner Ashley Schroeder and III, Jon B. Putnam, 33°, chairman of the essay committee.

Last year, Ashley Schroeder, an eighth grade student at Falconer, NY, Central School, was deemed the top winner, and was recognized as such during the dedication ceremony of the center, held May 16, 2003.

Main speaker for the occasion was Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist. The Chief Justice makes very few public appearances, making it a special day for Jamestown.

In Chief Justice Rehnquist’s earlier years, he was a law clerk for Robert Jackson. Many students and their teachers from several area schools turned out to witness and be a part of the historic day.
Wonder Boxes Help Fill Museum

Jack Jacobsen's generosity adds to Masonic collections

In the nearly 30-year history of the National Heritage Museum at Lexington, MA, its collections have grown to include more than 60,000 books, 20,000 artifacts and 15,000 archival items.

Of the hundreds of Masonic lodges, Scottish Rite Valleys, families and individuals who have added to those collections, none has donated more than Jacques Noel Jacobsen Jr. Since 1986 he has given over 1,150 items to the museum and library collections.

A life-long “collectaholic” who worked in his parents’ antique shop on Staten Island, NY, “Jack” discovered the museum when his son, Jacques III, joined the Scottish Rite and began receiving The Northern Light.

After reading about it he eventually visited the museum while he and his wife were visiting their daughter Beth, who lives in Bedford, MA, only a few miles away.

Impressed with the museum’s exhibitions, collections, and level of professionalism, Jack decided to start donating his own collections. To this day Jack still considers the National Heritage Museum, “the finest in the country.”

His first donation, made in 1986, contained 71 items, including Masonic needlepoint, three-dozen photographs and a Masonic paperweight.

Since then he has developed a “method to his madness.” He placed a box in his attic just for the gathering of Masonic and fraternal items.

As he found buttons, badges, photographs and aprons in his collection that he thought the museum would like, he dropped them in the box. When the box was full, off it went to the museum.

Like Christmas packages from a generous uncle, the museum staff watched with anticipation for these annual boxes and the wonders they contained.

Jacques’ donations have run the gamut of the museum’s collections. Of the 1,118 items listed in the museum’s database, 609 are Masonic. Of those, 475 are specifically related to the Knights Templar.

Another 475 items pertain to other American fraternal orders. Among them are 105 Odd Fellows items, 83 pieces from the Knights of Pythias and 12 items from the Ancient Order of Hibernians, including a ticket to a Hibernian picnic in 1887.

His “wonder boxes” have brought the museum over 300 photographs, 120 fraternal badges and ribbons, 35 library items and 39 archival pieces, including Masonic calling cards and regalia catalogs.

His gifts have even created new specialty collections. Such was the case when in 1989 he made a single gift of 95 Knights Templar commandery belt plates. While most simply display the KT insignia and motto, many others include the name and number of specific commanderies.

Together with Royal Arch chapter pennies and Shrine fezzes, the belt plates document the presence of the Knights Templar across America.
While such generous donations may seem extraordinary, they only represent a part of this Brother’s rich and generous life.

Born in 1932 on Staten Island, Jack became fascinated with antiques by working in his parents’ antiques business.

In 1954 he graduated from Wagner College and began teaching at New York City’s high schools. In 1963 he received a master’s degree in Egyptian and Near East archaeology.

Later he completed his doctorate course work in Near East Archeology at Columbia University, but has yet to finish writing his dissertation — for numerous and good reasons.

Jack married Marion Mogensen in 1959, and together they raised four children; one son, Jacques III and three daughters, Dana, Karen and Beth.

After teaching for 21 years he retired and took over his father’s auction and appraisal business on Staten Island.

He also taught a college-level archaeology course, founded the Archaeology Society of Staten Island, and served as curator of the fire department collection at the Staten Island Historical Society. He also edited the Staten Island Historian journal.

Such responsibilities, however, did not prevent him from finding time to join Freemasonry. He was raised with his father in New Dorp Lodge No. 1092 in 1954.

He later followed his son as Master of the lodge.

In York Rite Royal Arch he served as High Priest, Assistant Grand Lecturer, and District Deputy High Priest. For the Knights Templar he was the Eminent Commander of Empire DeWitt Clinton Commandery No. 14 and Zone Commander.

He is also a member of a Royal and Select Council and a Shriner. Despite such zeal for the craft, he has yet to become a Scottish Rite Mason.

But he has been busy in other ways. For example, he and his wife have sold American Military antiques for 45 years and published over 150 catalogues for their business.

He has written more than 30 articles on American uniforms and equipment, Staten Island history, railroad history, archaeology, and firefighting on Staten Island. He also wrote The Red Blue Coats: The Indian Scouts, published by Old Army Press Company in 1973.

If his interest in Egyptian and Near Eastern archeology, Masonic memorabilia, firefighting, railroads and American military uniforms were not enough to keep one occupied, Jack...
and Marion have also collected Alaskan memorabilia, Adirondack items and Staten Island history (all of which he has donated to museums). Perhaps he is best known for a large and important collection of Masonic Civil War photographs and uniform badges. Of all his collections, he loves these best and is unable to part with them — just yet.

In the past year Jack and Marion “retired” to Florida. Here, away from the hustle and bustle of New York life, there is time for them to visit their children and four grandchildren, finish a book on the history of Staten Island firefighting, write articles on Civil War history, snoop around antique shops, appraise collectibles, attend auctions, and walk on the beach.

Without the time constraints of the antiques business, maybe Jack will at long last finish his dissertation and join his son in the Scottish Rite Valley of New York City.

Through the years, the National Heritage Museum’s staff has always enjoyed working with Jack and his family and is appreciative of their support.

Quoting from the many thank you letters sent from museum Executive Director John Ott to Bro. Jacques Noel Jacobsen Jr.: “I thank you, both personally and on behalf of the National Heritage Museum, for your generosity to this institution. You have made a difference.”

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Learning Centers Benefit Again from Boston Marathon

For the second consecutive year the learning centers have teamed with the Boston Athletic Association to help raise money for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. Lining up at the start of the world-famous Boston Marathon on April 19 were 13 runners representing the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. As the temperatures soared to the high 80s by race time, the marathon became the fifth hottest since it began in 1897. Understandably, the dropout rate was high, as well. The runners got the chance to meet each other at a reception and dinner held in their honor at the Masonic building in Boston.

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Hiram’s Ride Again... For Dyslexia

For the second year Vic Frederick is heading out with the “Hiram Scottish Riders” in his personal battle against the effects of dyslexia. His motorcycle club, “the only one,” he proudly notes, “officially sanctioned by the Supreme Council,” plans to gather at the Lancaster, PA learning center on the morning of July 7. There they begin a three-day tour, ending on the Hershey, PA Council of Deliberation Day. Along the way they will visit learning centers in Reading and Allentown, reaching the Lexington, MA center on July 8. On the way home the group plans to visit Scranton, Bloomsburg, Pittsburgh, Altoona, and Harrisburg.

Bro. Frederick, who will receive his 33° at the Supreme Council’s annual meeting in September says he welcomes as many people who would like to join him, either at the start, or anywhere along the way. He does, however, need to know beforehand who plans to join, and where. He says the rules are simple. Entry fee is $100, to join any part of the ride, or for the entire distance. He also hopes that each participant will raise up to $5,000. All proceeds go directly to the support of the learning centers.

He is also looking for support along the way, as well. Any help that local Valleys can offer along the route, and particularly at the official stops, would be appreciated.

Last year’s tour took Vic to 49 states. This year, in order to attract more to join in, he has shortened the trip. Next year he is considering a northeast course, or maybe a tour of western Pennsylvania. His dream is to someday visit all learning centers in the jurisdiction.

Vic Frederick points out that there have been side benefits to the formation of his club. He says the group has attracted new membership. At least six new blue lodge members joined the fraternity, through the Hiram Scottish Riders, four of whom also became Scottish Rite Masons. The riders have a degree team, and will be conferring the third degree at Pennsylvania’s Grand Master’s Day in October. He hopes to see the creation of new sanctioned motorcycle clubs, “as soon as the legalities are worked out.”

To reach Vic with questions about the ride, or to join him, email him at vfrederick@ulscorp.com or v.mfred@verizon.net.

The Month to Overcome Dyslexia

The 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children, Inc.’s “Walks to Help Dyslexic Children” are fast becoming a yearly tradition.

Last October two “pilot” walks were staged in Massachusetts; one in Lexington at Supreme Council headquarters, and the other in the city of Lowell. This year the number of events will mushroom to 53 walks, taking place throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Representing 41 learning centers and 12 Valleys, the 2004 “Walks to Help Dyslexic Children” are scheduled for October, which has been titled, “The Month to Overcome Dyslexia.”

As was the case last year, Dave McGillivray is event director and consultant. During the coming weeks, plans will be finalized and sign-up information will be made available via a new dyslexia walk website, scheduled to launch this spring.

Watch www.supremecouncil.org for more information and links to the site.
Dave McGillivray just keeps on running. A quarter century ago he ran across the United States to raise money for the Jimmy Fund, a Boston-based charity that has supported cancer research for children since 1948. At that time he ran from Medford, OR, to his hometown of Medford, MA, a distance of 3,452 miles.

He is doing it again this spring. Only this time he is joined by nine of his closest running friends. Instead of one children’s charity, he’s doing it for six.

Dave says he takes his inspiration from Stephen Grellet, a 19th century French nobleman turned missionary. Profits from his many business interests enabled Grellet to fund his extensive missionary tours.

McGillivray is well known in racing circles. He has run in 116 marathons, and he serves as race director of the famed Boston Marathon, the oldest such footrace in the world. When he’s not out on the roads, his company, “Dave McGillivray Sports Enterprises,” handles the logistics for many large-scale five and ten kilometer races, often boasting thousands of entrants. He has raised over $1 million for various charities through his events and charitable runs.

Dave is also a consultant to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. In 2003 he was instrumental in organizing the inaugural Battlegreen Walk to Help Dyslexic Children. Last fall’s pilot program in two communities will be expanded later this year to include all learning centers throughout the jurisdiction.

The latest project, currently underway, is TREK USA (Transcontinental Relay Embracing Kids). A team of ten seasoned marathoners, led by Dave McGillivray, is making the run to raise money for several charities, all with the goal of helping children. As it was 25 years ago, the Jimmy Fund is once again a recipient. Additional charities this time are the Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism, The Cam Neely Foundation for Cancer Care, The Red Auerbach Youth Foundation, the DMSE Foundation, and the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

The team also hopes to involve school children in the event, encouraging fitness at a young age. It has provided school systems with kits that will allow classes the ability to track the team’s progress. The philosophy of the group states, “It’s time to get fit, not sit.”

The trek began on May 1 in San Francisco and will finish in Boston, 25 days and 3,372 miles later. The course will be covered by the relay team, as it hopes to log 150 miles per day. The route cuts a path across the center of the country, passing through 12 states along the way.

The group was divided into two teams, each with five members. Starting at different locations along the route, each team runs a 75-mile relay a day. Individual runners average 15 miles per day.

The charity run kicked off in the four-year-old SBC Stadium, home to the San Francisco Giants. After the first inning in a game between the Giants and World Champion Marlins, a public service announcement on the scoreboard signaled the start. Leaving the park, the team crossed the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and ended the first leg in the town of Walnut Creek.
During the days following, they will pass by such Americana as a pony express station, the homes of William Jennings Bryan and General Pershing, and even through the town of Hastings, NE, where Kool-Aid was invented in 1927.

On May 16 they are scheduled to cross into the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, passing over the Mississippi River into Illinois.

Continuing the journey, Team Trek USA will end its 24th day on Marathon Way in the town of Hopkinton, MA. There, they will prepare for the final leg the next day, which roughly traces the route of the Boston Marathon. On May 25 all ten runners end their trek in Fenway Park, fabled home to the Boston Red Sox since 1912. A special ceremony at home plate, before a game with Oakland marks the end of the transcontinental journey.

For his previous transcontinental run Dave averaged 45 miles a day. He says, "After the first time across the country, I swore I would never do it again solo, and I am keeping my promise."

His teammates have more than their share of road work under their belts. With more than 350 marathons and countless triathlons between them, the team includes a doctor, computer specialist, graphic designer, physical therapist, race consultant, radio talk show host, and a coach.

Runner Tom Liciardiello, with 72 marathons behind him, says he feels honored to part of the team. "It is the fulfillment of a dream that was hatched 25 years ago."

At the time of Dave McGillivray's first cross-country run, Tom was an eighth grade teacher and a veteran of two Boston Marathons. "Thinking [Dave] would be a good role model for my students, I invited him to speak at the school," says Liciardiello. After that appearance the two became friends.

He says, "The physical training has been demanding, but less of a burden when we think about the charities that are our beneficiaries."

To prepare, Paul McGovern, together with Tom, pledged to run a marathon each month, starting at the 2003 Boston Marathon.

Fellow team member Hap Farber says he is "a little nervous, but totally psyched. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and in a way, the culmination of many years of endurance activities and exercises. It should be an experience that will never get old. The memories will be there until the end of my life and it will all have been for a great cause."

Josh Nemzer says, "This relay is very special to me. It's an opportunity to do good for kids by raising needed monies, a chance to cover the country by foot and to hang out with some great folks."

Bill Lapsley adds, "My family has been blessed with good health, and I understand that some people aren't as fortunate, and my hope is that this endeavor will raise enough money to help support these worthwhile charities."

According to Bob Lussier, "We will be seeing the country one step at a time. That is exciting! It is also scary! I am thrilled about Trek USA's partnership with the 32° Masonic Learning Centers. My 17-year-old son is dyslexic and, after a year on the waiting list, will soon be enrolled at the program in Lowell, MA."

Other team members, all from New England, are Mike Barry, Fernando Braz, Paul McGovern, and Mike Thompson. Bob Whirty is an alternate, ready to fill in if needed. The technical crew includes Ron Kramer, relay director; Linda Fecther, Media Director; Lyn Liciardiello, and Bob Ell.

Please send all donations to:
Trek, USA
c/o 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.
33 Marrett Road
Lexington, MA 02421

Make check payable to:
32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.
The museum at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial was officially rededicated in February during the annual meeting of Grand Masters. The fourth floor of the impressive Alexandria, VA, facility was redesigned to tell the story of Washington’s life.

The major renovation was funded by the Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite.

Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony (see photo at right) were Grand Commander Walter E. Webber, 33°, Memorial President Warren D. Lichty, 33°, and Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale, 33°, of the Southern Jurisdiction.

The ceremony took place following a meeting of the Memorial Association. Grand Masters and their representatives witnessed the brief event on a closed-circuit television screen in the auditorium before touring the exhibition. A renovated Shrine room was also dedicated that day.

On display for the ceremony were three items of significance to George Washington. The Washington Bible, owned by St. John’s Lodge No. 1, New York City, was brought to Alexandria for the occasion by members of the lodge. The Bible was used during Washington’s inauguration.

Also on hand was the trowel used at the cornerstone-laying ceremony of the U.S. Capitol in 1793. The trowel is the property of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, Alexandria.

The third item was the gavel used at the same event but now owned by Potomac Lodge No. 5, Washington, DC.

In his remarks, Commander Webber said, “American Freemasons can be proud of the way in which this building recognizes the importance of George Washington’s contributions to our way of life.”

Commander Seale expressed his pleasure that this museum project represents the unity and cooperation between the two jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite.

Ill. Brother Lichty thanked both jurisdictions for their financial support to improve the memorial.

The Northern and Southern jurisdictions provided the funding for the establishment of the museum in 1964 and recently agreed to work together to update the floor. The new design highlights various aspects of Washington’s life and intermingles Masonic artifacts to show his involvement in the fraternity.
SAMUEL BROGDON JR., 33° ~ 1926-2004

III. Samuel Brogdon Jr., 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the United Supreme Council, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction, passed away on March 10. He was the most recent recipient of the Gourgas Medal, the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's most distinguished honor. He received it in September at our Supreme Council annual meeting in St. Louis.

A native of Warren, OH, he was the fourth of six children born to Samuel Brogdon Sr., and Eudora Anderson Brogdon. He attended the Warren Business College and Youngstown College, today known as Youngstown State University. During the Second World War he served as a yeoman second class in the U.S. Naval Reserve. Following the war he enjoyed a 33-year career with the U.S. Postal Service.

His wife Ernestine predeceased him in 1997. They had been married for 47 years. They are survived by one daughter, Dr. Lenora Brogdon-Wyatt of Grand Rapids, MI, where she serves as assistant dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Grand Rapids Community College.

Samuel Brogdon was affiliated with the Grace African Methodist Episcopal Church since childhood, serving the congregation in several capacities. His duties included service as president of the chorale ensemble, chairman of the mortgage liquidation committee, and member of the building committee.

He was active in community service as well. For many years he headed up the W. D. Packard Music Hall and Convention Center, a venue for civic arts, and entertainment events. He served on the Warren Soap Box Derby Committee, Family Service Association, Trumbull County Cancer Society, City Fair Housing Commission, Mayor's Committee on Human Relations, Citizens Committee for Youth, and the Urban League Board. He was president of the First Street School PTA and a member of the board of trustees for the Rebecca Williams Community House which provides education, recreation, and prevention programs for youth and adults.

III. Bro. Brogdon received numerous awards and recognitions. Ebony Magazine named him several times as one of the "100 Most Influential Organization Leaders." He was inducted into the Trumbull County African-American Achievers Association Hall of Fame. In 1970 he was named the Urban League "Outstanding Citizen," the Kiwanis "Layman of the Year." Together with his daughter Lenora he was selected and inducted into the Warren High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame.

The fraternity honored him on many occasions as well. In addition to the Gourgas Medal, his numerous honors include United Supreme Council Gold Medal Achievement Award, the Phylaxis Society's 100 Most Influential Prince Hall Masons, Scottish Rite Hall of Fame, Scottish Rite Certificate of Merit, and Deputy of the Year.

His name lives on in the "Samuel Brogdon Jr. Community Service Award." Created by his daughter, together with the 33° Prince Hall Masons of Ohio, this award annually honors a member of the United Supreme Council who has dedicated his talent, time, and treasure to the service of others.

Lt. Grand Commander Algie S. Oldham Jr., 33°, succeeds Brogdon as acting Sovereign Grand Commander.

Special Feature to Highlight News from the South

The two Scottish Rite jurisdictions in the United States have made an arrangement to exchange items of current interest. The Scottish Rite Journal has already featured a quarterly page of "Notes from The Northern Light." A publication of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction" in its March-April 2004 issue.

Through a reciprocal arrangement, news from the Southern Jurisdiction will appear quarterly in The Northern Light.

Both Sovereign Grand Commanders met recently to discuss ways the two jurisdictions can work together. Grand Commander Walter E. Webber, 33°, hosted Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale, 33°, during a visit in early January to the Southern Jurisdiction's headquarters in Lexington, MA.

In mid-February, Grand Commander Webber visited the House of the Temple, the headquarters of the Southern Jurisdiction in Washington, D.C., to continue discussions regarding Masonic unity and cooperation. The idea of exchanging information through the jurisdictional magazines was one of the suggestions discussed during these conversations.

The Southern Jurisdiction covers 35 states, chiefly located in the South and West, as well as Valleys in the District of Columbia, Japan/Korea, NATO Bases, Okinawa/Guam, Panama Canal, Puerto Rico, and Taiwan/China.

There are many similarities between the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite, USA, but there are also a number of differences, which will be explained in future issues.
New Display Salutes the “Greatest Generation”

On May 29, 2004, Memorial Day Weekend, the United States will dedicate the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. It honors the 16 million American servicemen and servicewomen who served, fought, and died to secure democracy, preserve freedom, and liberate the oppressed. Celebrations honoring veterans of the “Greatest Generation” will take place between Memorial Day and Labor Day in the Federal City and throughout the country.

The Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, is among the many sponsors or “Cultural Participants” in these nationwide events. As part of the celebration, the House of the Temple’s new Americanism Museum, dedicated on October 5 during the 2003 Biennial Session, will include a special display of photographs and artifacts related to well-known military leaders and civilian officers of WWII who were Freemasons. Among these many items will be the epic painting “Victory—WW II” by Ill. John D. Melius, an American flag hand-stitched by U.S. soldiers in a Japanese POW camp, the insignia of General MacArthur’s PT boat, and Ill. Audie Murphy’s dog tags. In addition, the Richard W. Pepe Collection of 735 volumes devoted to WW II will be available in the Library of the Supreme Council. Visitors to the Americanism Museum will be invited to tour the House of the Temple where permanent displays relevant to WW II will be highlighted. Among them are the Scottish Rite Hall of Honor’s original oil portraits of Ill. Bros. Harry S. Truman, Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, General James H. Doolittle, and General Douglas MacArthur.

The dog tags of Ill. Audie Murphy will be one of many items in a new World War II display.

2004 Leadership Conferences

Two of three biennial regional Leadership Conferences for the Supreme Council, 33°, SJ, were held in Phoenix, Arizona, on March 26 & 27, and in Jacksonville, Florida, on April 23 & 24. More than 300 Scottish Rite leaders and their ladies assembled at each conference for two days of fellowship and training. These conferences are one of the primary methods of sharing successful practices and introducing new Supreme Council programs. The theme this year was “Things that Work: It’s Not Magic!” In a significant break from past practices, all conference materials were produced on a CD given to each registrant with this explanation: “In the 21st century the Supreme Council will communicate with its leaders electronically, and you are all leaders!”

Friday’s several presentations covered tax pitfalls, a new membership database, and development and giving strategies. While Sovereign Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale met with Scottish Rite Fellows, new 32° Masons nominated by their Valleys as future leaders of the Rite, the women in attendance participated in a session to gauge the success of Valley programs for ladies and families.

Saturday’s agenda featured several stimulating seminars including: “Motivating Volunteers”; “Best Practices: Operational and Social”; “Creating a University of Freemasonry”; “Maintaining Positive Relations with Blue Lodges”; and “Your Valley’s Biggest Issues and Their Solutions.”

The remaining Leadership Conference will be held in Wichita, Kansas, on May 14 & 15. Further details can be found by following the links at www.srmason-sj.org.

Heredon Enters Its Second Decade

Volume 11 of Heredon, the transactions of the Scottish Rite Research Society (SRRS), was sent to members in early January 2004. The 296-page hardback volume ushered in the second decade of excellence in Masonic research supported by the SRRS. Articles in volume 11 were typically wide-ranging: the Hiramic legend, the London Acclamation, the New Age Magazine’s reportage of Nazi persecution of European Masonry, the Ancient Toltec Rite, a 1766 version of the Degree of Knight of the Sword and of Rose Croix, and others. Volume 12 is in active preparation and should provide still further light on our gentle Craft. Membership in the SRRS is open to anyone interested in the history of Freemasonry. For more information, call 202-777-3110 or e-mail srrs@srmason-sj.org.
Recently, I decided to upgrade the operating system on my home computer, and the fact that I am writing this column is evidence that I eventually succeeded in making it all work. Well, sort of.

Perhaps I was a tad naive, but I really didn’t expect to encounter many problems. I thought of it, I was right. There weren’t many problems. It’s just that the problems I did encounter would have taxed the patience of Job, and probably the patience of Apple’s Steve Jobs, as well. I need to send him a letter.

While trying to figure out why my printer worked just fine with Mac’s Jaguar Operating System (OS) and not with the newer Panther OS, I began thinking about the good old days. You know, those days before the computer invaded our lives. I doubt that I’m alone. Many of you probably have harbored the same thoughts when your trusty PC turned on you.

What if we could just make computers disappear? We could go back to manual typewriters, and even special delivery to get the letters and typed documents somewhere fast. Yeah, that’s the ticket. I’ve got one of those old machines. It’s an L. C. Smith, a solid steel beauty that weighs as much as an anchor on a small ocean freighter. Just for the sake of nostalgia — and to take my mind off of computer woes for a moment — I decided to pull it off the shelf and type a letter or two.

No plugs or switches. No monitors or maddening error messages. Just put in a piece of paper and type away. I hadn’t finished the first word when I realized I had hit the wrong key. Hmmm, the intended “w” appeared as a “q.” Ooops, no “delete” key to correct the error. When I asked my wife if we had some Whiteout, she started to laugh uncontrollably and then called one of her friends to say that her husband had finally lost the last of his marbles.

Undeterred, I pulled the paper out of the machine and started anew. This time I managed to get through the first two sentences without a single typo. I leaned back in my chair and read those two lines. Gee, they seemed to need a tweak here and a twist there. You know, punch it up a bit. Give it a little pizzazz. Just hit “delete” and start over. Oh yeah, there’s no “delete” key on this thing.

I did get that letter written. Of course, I pretty much decimated my paper supply to finish the job, and I did it without relying on modern technology. Let’s not mention the letter’s appearance. No one will notice that every “a,” “e” and “o” are filled in. I guess I should have cleaned the keys, but my wife only laughed again when I asked her what we had done with the bottle of typewriter cleaner fluid. She just doesn’t appreciate the simpler lifestyle.

The letter was mailed, but no more next day special delivery. I could have sent it by Express Mail for a mere $13.65. I opted for the 37-cent stamp. It arrived the next day. I felt good about that. Then again, the recipient of that letter called, but couldn’t stop laughing — especially when I told him about my desire for the simpler things. Then he said he couldn’t tell the difference between an “a,” “e” and “o” and started laughing again. Peasant!

Indeed, computers and all of the other electronic gadgets in our lives can be the source of seemingly endless vexation. We even learn that something as ubiquitous as the cell phone has been used by terrorists to detonate bombs that kill innocents while the murderers are half a world away. Then we read that medical researchers are harnessing the power of computers to conquer disease and unlock the mysteries of birth defects.

Like anything, computers and other electronic wizardry are neither good nor bad. They only are tools, and whether they are used for good or evil depends on the user. It has always been that way, even in the good old days.

Yes, the timeless struggle between good and evil continues unabated. Only the tools used by the opposing forces have changed. As in times past, Freemasons are called upon to influence the battle on the side of good. We can’t escape that responsibility any more than we can turn the clock back by using a manual typewriter. And that is why Freemasonry is as relevant as ever.

Questions or comments? Send me an e-mail at studebaker55@casscomm.com
Making Philanthropy Personal

III. William Rutherford, 33°, and his wife Helen are quite specific and uncomplicated when it comes to philanthropy. “We want to see it help local people.”

As basic as their belief is, the Rutherfords have established a very special relationship with the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children in Columbus, Ohio. More than a case of generosity, it has become the basis of a true relationship.

To start from the beginning ...

In September 2000, Bill received the 33° in Pittsburgh. “It was then that I remember Sovereign Grand Commander Robert Ralston explaining the work of the Learning Centers. It sounded like a good project. I can imagine how hard it is for these children being picked on by their classmates for not understanding.

Some time later, Bob [Ralston] attended a dinner meeting in Columbus about the Learning Centers. I sat next to him and I was impressed to learn more about the program and how much of the money donated goes to the program, as opposed to fundraising or administration. We made up our minds to support the Sponsor-a-Child program.”

And this is when the Moran family entered the Rutherfords’ lives ...

Sarah was 11 years old and in her first year of the program when she was paired with the Rutherfords as a sponsored child. Their $5,000 donation made possible her training. Her mom, Pamela, tells of the challenges Sarah and she faced to find an answer to Sarah’s reading problems.

“After third grade I could see Sarah struggle,” she remembers. “She felt stupid and I thought she wasn’t paying attention.

“When I finally found someone who could test Sarah, I also found out about the Learning Center after a talk by [III. Brother Richard] Luckay. We got on the waiting list for the Learning Center.”

Sadly, Sarah had to wait more than a year. “That was the hardest part,” says Pam. Finally, due in part to the support of Columbus donations, such as that from the Rutherfords, Sarah enrolled in 2002.

III. William P. Rutherford, right, and his wife Helen receiving the Karen M. Bradford Award for outstanding service to the Valley of Columbus 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children from III. Richard Luckay, 33°, center. The Rutherfords’ donations to Sponsor-a-Child have begun an unexpected friendship.

“The difference for Sarah was tremendous — her ability, her confidence all improved,” smiles Pam. “We are so indebted to the 32° Masons and their Learning Center.”

For the Rutherfords this too has been a wonderful story. They have met the Morens and corresponded several times. In December, Sarah wrote a letter thanking Bill and Helen for their generosity, which Bill said was the most wonderful Christmas gift they could have received.

Conversely, Pam relates that Sarah received a very special card at Christmas — a book store gift certificate from the Rutherfords. “Sarah couldn’t wait to use it.”

So we really have the story of two successes. Sarah continues to progress in her abilities. Pam says, “Less than two years ago, she could hardly remember the page she’d just read. In late March, she had finished the most recent Harry Potter book, having completed the set, which she began around Thanksgiving.”

And Bill and Helen Rutherford recently decided to sponsor two children a year, “for as long as we’re able.” As Bill sees it, “there’s no greater satisfaction than going to sleep at night feeling that perhaps you’ve done something good.”

Do you want to share the Rutherfords’ good feeling by directly helping a student through the Sponsor-a-Child program? Call Steve Pekock, Director of Development, (800-814-1432 x 3340) to find out how.
Burl Ives, born Burle Ide Ivahoe, was born in Hunt Township, IN, June 14, 1909. He attended East Illinois State Teachers College and played professional football. He became a singer of ballads and folk songs and played minor roles on Broadway. He was in Irving Berlin's "This Is The Army" in 1942, and began his movie career in 1946. He made hundreds of records and became known as "The Wayfaring Stranger." He died in 1995.

Burl Ives was honored by Guyana with a souvenir sheet issued in 1996. He was a member of Magnolia Lodge No. 242, Santa Barbara, CA, having been raised in 1977.

Carl Schurz, a German-American statesman, was honored on a USPS Great American stamp in June 1893. He was made a Mason in Hermann Lodge No. 125, Philadelphia, receiving all three degrees on Feb. 23, 1855.

Born in Liblar, near Cologne, Germany in 1829, he studied at Cologne and was a doctoral candidate at the University of Born in

1847. The German Revolution of 1848 intervened and he became leader of a student revolutionary movement. He escaped to France and was expelled to England. He emigrated to the U.S. in 1852, was admitted to the bar in Wisconsin in 1859 and entered politics in 1860. Appointed Minister to Spain by Abraham Lincoln, he became a brigadier general of Union Volunteers, rising to the rank of major general and chief of staff to Gen. Slocum. After the Civil War, he served as a newspaper correspondent and re-entered politics in 1868, serving as a U.S. Senator and Secretary of the Interior. He returned to journalism in 1891 and died in New York City in 1906.

Sir Moses Montefiore (1784-1885) was an Italian born English Jew. He became very wealthy through his activities in the London Stock Exchange. Throughout his life he was a benefactor of the Jewish people, giving a helping hand wherever and whenever needed. Among other things, he saved the Jews of Damascus during the 1840 pogroms and built the first suburb of Jerusalem outside the walls of the Old City. He was one of the most influential Jewish personalities of the 19th century and was the first Jew ever to be knighted in England.

Sir Moses was an active Freemason and a member of Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 124 in London. There are two Lodges named for him in London and one in Glasgow, Scotland. Israel issued a stamp commemorating him in 1981.

Andrew Johnson, 17th president of the U.S., was born in North Carolina in 1808, self-educated, he was apprenticed to a tailor at the age of ten. When his family moved to Greeneville, TN, in 1826, he opened a tailor shop. He served as a member of the U.S. Congress in 1843-53, governor of Tennessee, 1853-57, and U.S. Senator, 1857-62. Loyal to the Union, he served as military governor of Tennessee and then as vice president under Lincoln for just over a month. He succeeded to the presidency on the death of Lincoln, serving until 1869. He served briefly as U.S. Senator in 1875 to his death in July of that year.

Mr. Johnson received his degrees in 1851 in Greeneville Lodge No. 119, and remained a member of that Lodge until his death. He was a member of both the York and Scottish Rite bodies, being the first president to receive the Scottish Rite degrees. They were conferred by Benjamin B. French. He participated in many Masonic cornerstone layings. He is pictured in a stamp issued by Liberia in 1981.

Robert A. Domigue is secretary for St. Matthew's Lodge, Andover, MA, and editor of The Philatelic Freemason.
The Radical Enlightenment: Pantheists, Freemasons and Republicans, by Margaret C. Jacob. Published in 2003 by Temple Publishers, P.O. Box 1396, Morristown, NJ 07964.

This text is a revised second edition of the original written in 1981. The author acknowledges that since that time a considerable amount of scholarship has gone into the subject. She uses this second edition as an opportunity to “modernize and shorten the original and to correct minor errors in transcription.”

I did not read the first edition but I reviewed her book Living the Enlightenment, published in 1991. I began that review by saying, “It is probably one of the best books written by a disinterested third party on the influence of Freemasonry in the development of modern civil society and its impact on civilization.” The contents of The Radical Enlightenment are no less impressive in acknowledging the influence of the craft during this period in history. Keep in mind, it is not meant to be a book about Freemasonry. It is a book about the radical enlightenment and its influence by or on pantheism, Freemasonry and republicanism. For that reason, it is all the more significant in its discussion of the craft. Both of these books serve as a stimulus for other researchers to explore the significance of Freemasonry in the age of Enlightenment.

The author makes an observation concerning the failure of historians to recognize organizational influence on society when she writes, “Despite the importance of Freemasonry as one of the social institutions that enhanced political stability in the Hanoverian period, it has received scant attention from British academic historians.” Her emphasis in this text is “placed upon those early fragments that reveal political tendencies and intellectual interests.”

This text delves deeply into the origins and development of a form of the Enlightenment that impacted civil society of that time, including the political, social and religious character of that society. There can be little doubt from the writings of Jacob that Freemasonry played an integral role in the Radical Enlightenment, and the Enlightenment as a major influence on political intrigue.

...both English science and the English Revolution, despite the interpretations offered by their apparent heirs, are central to the history of the Radical Enlightenment and so, too, is Freemasonry.

It brings Freemasonry into a perspective distinctively different from what we profess today. It is not necessarily what we should want to read concerning the craft but it is something we should want from the members of the craft. We must bear in mind that Freemasonry itself is apolitical today, but we encourage our members to participate in affairs of state, and we emphasize a commitment to the precepts of liberty and equality for all peoples. Thus the content of this book may be alarming to the Mason who fails to consider both the times involved and the perspective of the member.

Her discussion in this book contains enough significant information that this review cannot possibly cover, the full scope of her presentation. Her intellectualism and commitment to detail through research makes her work invaluable to her academic profession and to recorded history.

Margaret Jacob has caused me to think more deeply into the influence of Freemasonry and its impact on the world perhaps more than any other author. I have found, however, that one does not read Margaret Jacob. One studies Margaret Jacob, and that is not bad at all.

I would encourage every Masonic leader to study her work. Her astute observations concerning the craft should serve as a stimulus to work toward more lofty goals. She writes, for example “The new research presented here adds further weight to the contention that early Enlightenment culture cannot be understood separately from the study of... Masonic lodges and their network.” Unfortunately, there will be those who choose not to read her work simply because it does require some effort.

Masques of Solomon, by C. Bruce Hunter. Published in 2003 by Macy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., Inc., P.O. Box 9759, Richmond, VA 23228. $22.50 plus $2 s/h.

The author is becoming a prolific writer on the subject of Freemasonry. Having authored Legacy of the Sacred Chalice in 2001, Inner Workings in 2002, he also has several additional books projected for the future.

Most Freemasons, and certainly all Masonic scholars are aware that the greatest mysteries concerning Freemasonry are not what we swear to keep and conceal, but are the unknowns of our origins, our development and even our reason for existence. It is these unknowns that the author has chosen to write about. In so doing, he has interjected his theories into the mix. Masques of Solomon is written to reveal these theories relative to the origin of the third degree of Freemasonry.

It is his belief that the third degree was developed to
satisfy the more intellectual and inquiring minds that came with the evolution from operative to speculative Freemasonry, and that is probably a logical assumption. He concludes that this evolution began in Scotland, which seems a logical assumption.

He also concludes that speculative Freemasonry began through the efforts of William Shaw, who was working to revive the stonemasons’ lodges, which were slowly dying as a result of the decline of the building of the cathedrals and other stone structures.

The title of the book, *Masques of Solomon*, comes about as the author creates a theory that the third degree developed from a form of theatrical entertainment, called masques, played out in the court of King James. Masques began as a relatively simple form of entertainment and evolved into something more serious. It conveyed a lesson similar to that injected into the stonemasons lodge when a second degree was added to exemplify bringing “order out of chaos.” It is the contention of the author that Shaw, who also held the title “Master of Works” in the court of King James, transplanted the Renaissance concepts of the masques from the palace into the stonemasons’ lodge.

Using considerable speculation, Hunter then implies that the third degree was written as a tribute to King Solomon, that in actuality is a tribute to King James, “England’s King Solomon.” The third degree, according to the author, was designed to thank King James, William Shaw, and others involved in resurrecting the craft, and that the craft’s legend, designed to convey moral lessons on the surface, actually conveys the real story of the creation of the Masonic fraternity. He states that the third degree was written in 1725 to honor King James on the 100th anniversary of his death.

The index contains the original version of the Shaw Statutes of 1598 and 1599 together with modern English versions. It also contains the memorial inscription found on his crypt, a section on the origins of the masques, and the proclamations issued by King James regarding the rebuilding of London.

Although the book is interesting reading, I found that so much speculation stretched logical reason. It might be possible that the author is correct and that the speculation—or at least part of it—is correct, but I had difficulty accepting portions of it.

Nonetheless it shows much study and reasoning on his part and it does stimulate thought. You might wish to read it.

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*Hurry Up Son* is an interesting little paperback book of only 114 pages, including the bibliography. Although not considered a Masonic book, 13 of the pages deal specifically with the subject of Freemasonry. (There is some outdated statistical information in this chapter.) It is, as the subtitle implies, a book in which one man records his search for “divine truth.”

The author, an engineer and businessman has put into words his lifelong struggles beginning at age 11 in a search for the revelation of God, as he was taught it to be found in the written word. McElhattan, a 33° Scottish Rite Mason, has spent a far greater portion of his life contemplating the incongruities of Scripture than most of us ever would. *Hurry Up Son* is a story of one man grappling with what should be the single most significant decision in one’s life.

I found the book to be interesting because I have experienced much of the same perplexities regarding faith, and dealing with related mental distress as he had. Many readers will probably be able to relate to the words of the author even though their conclusions may differ.

When I read the preface, my first impression was, “Wow, this man is walking a steep hill.” Then reading further I began to feel that it was the writing of an old man telling of his younger years. I found myself changing impressions of both him and the book’s content throughout my reading. I concluded that the book is the writing of an intelligent man with an inquiring mind, well trained in the process of thinking, not afraid to challenge reasons for his faith, and, although still searching, has found a peace with himself and his God that too few find.

It is a book that may bring satisfaction to some readers for no other reason than they find themselves not alone in this lifelong search for divine truth. There will be other readers who may regard the contents as obstructive and even objectionable to their commitment to what they accept as divine truth. In the end, it is for every man to find meaning within himself, and this is what the author conveys.

It is a difficult book for me to recommend, because, regardless of my thinking, my words could be construed as an endorsement of the pathways followed by the author. If you are confident in your faith and not averse to challenging your convictions, you might give it a try.

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THOMAS W. JACKSON, 33°, was formerly Grand Secretary for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He is Executive Secretary for the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges and the book reviewer for The Northern Light.
Coffee Could Be Good For You

The Honolulu Heart Program followed 8,000 men for 40 years. Those who had up to six cups of coffee a day were five times less likely to develop Parkinson's. Caffeine appears to protect brain cells from the disease.

Harvard researchers found that people who drank four to five cups daily reduced their risk of type 2 diabetes by 30 percent.

Researchers at Germany's University of Munster say a compound in coffee appears to protect against colon cancer.

Johns Hopkins University tracked medical students for 30 years and found that coffee drinkers had slightly higher blood pressure but didn't have hypertension.

Many studies show that the caffeine in coffee can increase alertness and improve mental function.

Get A Hobby

Doctors at Harvard Medical School say hobbies reduce stress. They distract people from everyday worries and provide a calming sense of control. Research suggests this strengthens immunity.

When you are making pottery, pasting in stamps, knitting, or woodworking, you're in charge. You get the credit and satisfaction of a job well done. Hobbies are social, whether they include dealing the cards or swapping tips with other collectors. Studies show that men with hobbies were less likely to die of stroke or heart disease.

Vanilla Extract for Small Burns

Minor kitchen burns can be cooled with a bit of vanilla extract, according to the American College of Emergency Physicians. It contains a natural soothing component plus added alcohol that acts as an antiseptic. Never use it on large burns.

Be Careful How You Sleep and Get Up

Household accidents involve beds more than any other piece of furniture, according to the National Safety Council. The council recommends that people sit on the side of the bed for a minute or two before getting up.

A traditional double bed has less space for two people than a larger one, making it more likely that a person will lie too close to the edge and fall out while asleep.

Antibacterial Soap is OK to Use

Scientists used to say bacteria were becoming resistant to antibiotics, and antibacterial soap was partly to blame.

Scientists at Brigham Young University now conclude that it isn't so. The major culprit is overuse of prescription antibiotics. Their study appeared in the Journal of Applied Microbiology. Antibacterial soaps don't hurt, they concluded, but they don't help much either. Plain bathroom soap appears to be just as good at killing germs.
A new membership promotional tool was released recently by the Masonic Information Center. The new CD, “So You Want To Know More about Freemasonry,” provides a brief overview of the purpose and history of Freemasonry.

The 17-minute presentation, narrated by Ill. David Goodnow, 33°, has been formatted in both CD and audio cassette. It can be used one-on-one as well as for larger groups to respond to inquiries about the fraternity.

The Masonic Information Center is a division of the Masonic Service Association and deals primarily with media relations. The Center has also provided promotional materials that can be used by Masons.

The MIC was created in 1993 in response to an attempt by the Southern Baptist Convention to ban its church members from being Masons. Delegates at the meeting eventually agreed to let membership in Freemasonry be a matter of personal conscience.

A year ago the Center released “Facts and Fiction about Freemasonry” in audio cassette and CD to respond to false claims about Freemasonry by critics of the fraternity.

One of the newest pamphlets, “Who Are the Masons?,” provides answers to basic questions: What is Freemasonry? Where did Freemasonry begin? What do Freemasons do? What is the Masonic lodge? Who can qualify to join?

Soon to be released is a series of six ad slicks that can be used as part of a public awareness program.

During the past ten years the MIC has produced a number of brochures that provide helpful information for responding to critics. The Center has also prepared a series of single-page answers to questions frequently asked by the outside media.

The Information Center operates under the guidance of a board of directors with Ill. Richard E. Fletcher, 33°, as the executive secretary. Ill. Brother Fletcher serves in a similar capacity for the Masonic Service Association.

The Center is funded through voluntary contributions and the sale of items. To request a price list or to order items, contact Masonic Information Center, 8120 Fenton St., Silver Spring, MD 20910 or by e-mail: msana@ix.netcom.com.
Differing Views

Like any living organism or organization, Freemasonry has changed and evolved. Some changes are good, keeping the body relevant in a fast-paced world. Some are not, as valuable tradition and structure is lost. Changes, and reaction to it, have been ever-present throughout history as members of the craft adjusted and reacted to the world around them.

The Progress of Freemasonry

Many events are almost daily occurring in proof of the advancement of Freemasonry in public opinion, and of its beneficial effects wherever it is carried out according to the strict directions of its time-honored landmarks.

Those of the Brethren, who are at the present time most active in its propagation, are men of intelligence and integrity. They are also resolved to rouse the many from their indolence, who for too long have diverted the interests of the Order, either to purposes of social intercourse, or lowered it to the level of a mere common benefit society.

Already are these Brethren reaping the rewards of their exertions. When they entered the craft they were astonished and delighted to discover that the principles by which they became bound were based upon the strictest code of upright dealing which has ever been laid down by any society. The obligations to which they had submitted, “of their own free will and accord,” inculcated “the practice” and the furtherance of “every moral and social virtue.” If they would be found faithful, they must put their shoulders to the wheel to remove and obliterate all those actions which have tended to lower Freemasonry in the eyes of the popular world, by converting the means of usefulness belonging to the order into social lassitude and boisterous mirth, degraded not only their profession, but themselves.

The task was in many instances difficult, but it was not hopeless or insurmountable. But a few years have elapsed since the effort was made, and the work of reformation begun. It met with opposition at first from those who were barely acquainted with Masonic lore. Innovations were complained of, and resolutions which made each Brother fully acquainted with his own portion of the work were resisted. Many and loud were the complaints when the movement began, that the young Mason was attempting to control his elder Brethren, who assumed a sort of prescriptive right to rule the lodge as he pleased. But whenever right takes the initiative, and the determination to act fairly and for the good of the whole—rather than for the assumed superiority and authority of the few—passes into fraternal and faithful action, the parties being alike regardless of the frown of opposition or the sneer of ignorance, their triumph is sooner or later complete.

—The Freemasons’ Quarterly Magazine and Review, London, 1850

All men do not think alike, and it is fortunate for the world that they do not. If all minds ran in the same groove, the monotony of life would be unbearable; and if, by chance, that channel should be evil, the world would be worse than any description ever given of Hell. It is the difference of opinion that leads to success in anything, because it stimulates effort, research, and determination to assert our own ideas.

Many an improvement has been brought about in society by a proper and persistent presentation of opinion. Columbus differed from most of his fellow men when he asserted his belief that there was another side to the world of his day. His perseverance in presenting it won him immortal fame.

In Masonry, there are differences of opinion on many points of policy of origin and meaning of symbols. Much that has been found out respecting the past of our fraternity has been learned because men differed regarding the establishment of the craft.

—Masonic Journal, Louisville, Kentucky, 1891

"I understand he recently became a Mason."
The Ideal Lodge

The ideal lodge can be described as a lodge that practices traditional Masonry, while taking into account today's societal needs. Society is changing, as are its values and its approach to moral and ethical issues. Those changes dictate similar adjustments to the role of Masonry in today's world.

Over many decades, especially in the United States, our lodge programs have developed in directions that many no longer consider a vital part of society. In order to preserve our craft and hand it down to future generations, we in America need to make immediate and dramatic changes in our lodges — not in the craft's ritual and philosophy, but in the way we practice that ritual and develop our understanding of that philosophy.

How are we to decide what changes should be made? We will certainly have to become architects of many lodge programs of uniquely modern design. But we need not rely solely upon ourselves to discover the major principles by which our lodge programs are to be administered. I suggest that the Master's hand can be found in work that was once discarded as unfit for use in our temples. In my view, Benjamin Franklin's Lodge of the Nine Muses may be a good model when rebuilding our fraternity.

Every ideal lodge must share the following elements: strong leadership with great spirit in all lodge activities, a good planning committee, and an exciting educational program for developing high-quality membership.

In order to build a good lodge that can address society's needs, we must start with strong leadership. The lodge must have a Master and a group of officers who are willing to work as a team. This model permits the Master to focus upon the lodge as a whole rather than becoming bogged down in the details of every aspect of its program.

The Master should have help in the planning as well as the operation of the ideal lodge program. The lodge should have a strong planning committee in charge of mapping out activities that promote the lodge's yearly goals. It is the planning committee, with guidance of the Master, that provides a design worthy of the members' team spirit in promoting the goals of the lodge.

Finally and most importantly, the ideal lodge should enjoy an environment that attracts qualified and influential candidates. The value and importance of the degrees must be enhanced, not diminished. The members of the ideal lodge must be committed to making the Master Mason's degree the worthy goal that the candidate must earn.

— SGC Melvin M. Johnson, 1946 Allocation


FORGING AHEAD

We should not remain satisfied with the past in philosophy and ritual any more than in physics and chemistry. Times and mores change both science and philosophy. The condensed ritual of the symbolic lodge can be very stable because it deals with fundamental moral concepts. There is flexibility in the work and teachings of our Rite which gives vitality to the whole institution of Freemasonry. Nowhere else is it to be found in our craft. We must not only keep ourselves up to the advanced thought of the day, but we must forge ahead and lead rather than follow in the teaching of morality to the world. It is to that end we are pressing our ritualistic studies, and that such study should never be discontinued.

— Lena Horne

Quick Quotes

Trying to run a Presidential campaign is a little like driving a freight train while you're still building the tracks.
— Steve Forbes

Trying to squash a rumor is like trying to unring a bell.
— Shana Alexander

Let the refining and improving of your own life keep you so busy that you have little time to criticize others.
— H. Jackson Brown

Some of us are like wheelbarrows, only useful when pushed and easily upset.
— Jack Herbey

Hate is like acid. It can damage the vessel in which it is stored as well as destroy the object on which it is poured.
— Ann Landers

The best bridge between despair and hope is a good night's sleep.
— E. Joseph Coleman

It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it.
— Lena Horne

The world is full of people whose notion of a satisfactory future is, in fact, a return to the idealized past.
— Robertson Davies

Bad habits are like chains that are too light to feel until they are too heavy to carry.
— Warren Buffet

It is never too late to be what you might have been.
— George Eliot

Men often mistake notoriety for fame, and would rather be remembered for their vices and follies than not to be noticed at all.
— Harry S. Truman
Extended Families Move Closer Together

Instead of scattering about the country, more extended families are opting to live in the same town, or on the same block, or even the same apartment building.

According to the most recent census, the number of households with three generations under one roof has doubled in the past 20 years, while the number of young adults moving back home is up six percent.

Everything from tougher economic times to the desire to help aging parents is adding to the trend. Also, the number of people working at home has increased by 23 percent since 1990. That gives people more choices where they live, according to Kenneth Johnson, a sociologist at Loyola University in Chicago.

Communities are aware of this trend. They are offering facilities and activities that either children or retirees will enjoy.

Teens and Tanning

Researchers say 28.1 percent of white adolescent girls and 6.9 percent of boys are in the category of frequent tanners. They are most likely to live in the Midwest or South, attend a rural high school, and were more likely to engage in appearance-related activities such as dieting.

The American Cancer Society warns that tanning indoors is just as bad as outdoors and there is a growing body of evidence that tanning beds may increase the risk of melanoma and skin cancer in general.

Paint-by-Numbers Kits Make Comeback

They are not exactly art, but they are more than craft. Paint-by-numbers kits are now one of the most popular items in craft stores. Devotees say painting horses and landscapes is relaxing, almost like meditation.

The kits were originally designed by artist Dan Robbins and were very popular in the 1950s and 1960s. Robbins got the idea when studying the life and works of Leonardo Da Vinci. Da Vinci assigned numbered sections of his paintings to his apprentices.


Plan Now, to Make Vacation Great

Whether you plan to visit a city, go to a resort, or head to grandmothers house, advance planning helps to create a memorable experience.

In her Growndup's Guidebook series, author Diane Chernoff-Rosen gives these tips:
- Look at guidebooks for the area to find exhibits, events, or tours.
- Involve everyone going on the trip.
- Allow plenty of time for travel, but keep the stops short, so your group doesn't get tired or bored.
- Bring items to help children pass the time on the road. Good choices include disposable cameras, snacks, toys, electronic games, and drawing materials.
- Make sure children have physical activity each day. Give them the opportunity to run, play, and make noise.

Recess Returns

Experts estimate that 20 percent of elementary schools have dropped recess in favor of more class time.

Now, physicians and educators want recess to come back.

As concerns about childhood obesity grow, they and other activists want at least 15 minutes of free play for children every day.

Child development specialists at Georgia State University say a short break makes children less fidgety and less disruptive.

Children learn better when they have a break, they say.

Teens Eat Better When You Eat With Them

Getting your teenager to eat more vegetables may be as easy as having a family dinner. Studies show that eating together results in a better mix of foods than eating individually.

It holds true even in families where teens can choose what they eat, according to the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. More than 70 percent do not eat an adequate number of vegetables and about half skim on fruits and dairy products. When they eat about six meals a week with one or both parents, they are 40 percent more likely to meet daily vegetable and fruit requirements.
The archives of the Van Gorden-Williams Library, best known for its documents on American Freemasonry, also possess much Americana documenting the history of the nation.

One example of such Americana is the “Justin B. Galford Collection of War Posters,” a collection of posters from the First and Second World Wars. In 1996, the Galford family of Concord, MA, donated over 600 such posters to the archives. Together with this core collection of posters, the Galford family donated over 200 duplicates that could be sold to raise funds for conservation or for the purchase of new posters to enhance the core collection.

During the spring of 2003, archivist Catherine Swanson inventoried the duplicate posters. Bids were then sought from three dealers and one auction house to sell the posters. The archivist made the decision to sell the duplicates through Swann’s Gallery in New York City. They were sold in August and the net profits were used to purchase additional war posters on the theme “Women and World War I” to supplement the already existing collection.

The curator of exhibitions and the archivist chose eight posters with that theme, purchasing them from a well-known poster dealer in Pennsylvania in December. They have now been accessioned and catalogued on the museum and library database, known as “MIMS.”

An exhibition based on the new acquisitions is planned for future display. Titled “Hold Up Your End! Images of Women and World War I,” the exhibit will feature roughly 25 World War I posters depicting women as symbols of America; working in munitions factories, as nurses, and as YMCA workers at canteens for the soldiers in America and abroad. The exhibition will tell the story of how this war work changed the role of women from 1917-20.

The archives’ holdings include many other poster collections from very generous donors, with over 150 items from World War I, World War II, and the Depression era. The entire collection of posters numbers more than 750. These items can be used for research on such topics as graphic design, war propaganda, or media campaigns.

The library and archives are open to the public, 10-5, Monday through Saturday. Appointments should be made with the archivist, Catherine Swanson, to schedule a time when the posters may be viewed.
Jurisdictions Join to Support ‘Operation Phone Home’

Scottish Rite Masons from both the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions came together in support of our troops currently in harm’s way. Commander Walter Webber of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and Commander Ronald Seale of the Southern Jurisdiction presented checks totaling $40,000 to Tiffany Sefton, coordinator of corporate giving at the USO.

The money will be used to purchase 7,500 phone cards that will be presented to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. For many years the USO has provided morale-building programs for the armed services. Currently the organization operates 122 centers worldwide, where those in uniform can relax, check emails and make phone calls. “Operation Phone Home” is a logical extension of those services.

Citing American Freemasons’ long history of association with the military, USO President Edward A. Powell said, “We are proud to welcome such a well-known and widespread organization joining us in raising funds so that America’s finest may stay in touch with their loved ones.”

The Masonic Service Association is sponsoring a similar program, as part of “Operation Phone Home.”

By WALLY MILLER
Footnotes

* One-day class. Although many Masons have assumed that there have been no innovations in Freemasonry for centuries, the Masonic fraternity has continued to evolve over the years. The concept of the one-day class, however, has been a major step that has evoked differing opinions. The cover story for this issue examines both sides of the question.

Ill. Jim S. Deyo, 33°, points out the advantages of the one-day class. Ill. Brother Deyo is an Active Member of the Supreme Council and the Senior Grand Warden for the Grand Lodge of Ohio. He was directly involved with the 2002 Ohio experiment and served as general chairman for the program.

The details of the Ohio plan have been distributed to other Grand Lodges that have attempted to duplicate the Ohio success. The plan requires a great deal of preparation in advance.

Jim's involvement provides firsthand knowledge of the effect that the one-day class has had on Freemasonry in Ohio. As he prepares to become Grand Master in October, he has scheduled another one-day class for next spring.

He sees the one-day class as a step forward for the fraternity to adjust to a changing world.

To obtain more information about the Ohio approach to the one-day class, you can e-mail Ill. Brother Deyo at jdeyo@rrohio.com.

Dennis V. Chornenky, 32°, has expressed caution with an approach that ignores the close relationship between the initiate and the lodge. Brother Chornenky is president of the Masonic Restoration Foundation, which he founded as a nonprofit organization to provide education and support for Masons and lodges in recognized U.S. jurisdictions interested in practicing "traditional" Freemasonry.

According to the founder, the MRF seeks to "foster a network of lodges and individuals of strong spiritual and intellectual character that will help preserve the initiatic tradition within American Freemasonry for future generations."

After visiting numerous lodges in various states and into Europe, Dennis used the knowledge and experience he gained from his travels to establish the MRF with the support of well-known and respected American Masonic leaders.

He sees a need for a slower process to allow the candidate to absorb the philosophical aspects between degrees.

To learn more about the Masonic Restoration Foundation, you can check out the website at www.masonicrestoration.com.

Despite a difference of opinion on the approach, both agree that Masonic education is a key factor for a candidate for the degrees. A well-informed Mason is a knowledgeable Mason.

* 33° Survey. A random selection of 33° members attending the annual meeting in St. Louis last fall were asked to comment on various aspects of the meeting. An overwhelming number were satisfied with the current arrangement of the meeting and would not like to see it extended for an additional day. A full report of the annual meeting survey results can be obtained through the Supreme Council.

* Sag Harbor. To celebrate the founding of Hampton Lodge No. 111, Sag Harbor, NY, a new Masonic exhibit will open on May 15 at the Sag Harbor Whaling & Historical Museum. "The Eastward" will highlight 200 years of Freemasonry in Sag Harbor. The exhibit will be on display through Oct. 17.

In conjunction with the exhibit, there will be a Masonic Flag Day parade on June 13.

A Masonic symposium has been scheduled for Oct. 16, featuring three Masonic scholars. Participating will be Will Moore, professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and former library director at the Livingston Masonic Library in New York City; Steven Bullock, professor of history at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and author of Revolutionary Brotherhood; and Mark Tabbert, 32°, curator of Masonic and fraternal collections at the National Heritage Museum.

* Anniversary. The Provincial Grand Lodge of the United States for the Royal Order of Scotland recently commemorated its 125th anniversary by returning to the city of its beginnings. The group was constituted in Washington, DC, in 1878.

The first Provincial Grand Master was Albert Pike, who was also Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite. Since that time, nine other members have presided over the group. The current Provincial Grand Master is Edward H. Fowler Jr., 33°, Past Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The event attracted nearly 500. Among those in attendance were several international guests.

RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°
Editor
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