

THE Northern Light

A Window for Freemasonry

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER
John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

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“We will press on with
persistence and determination.”

— John Wm. McNaughton, 33°



It Takes a Team . . .

As I reflect upon the accomplishments of my predecessors who have served this Supreme Council as Sovereign Grand Commander, I am humbled by the deep and lasting impression they have made. Each has brought a dedication to serve the Rite and a personal leadership style.

Their success was not a singular effort. It was the result of many people working together. A successful football team cannot rely on only one individual. It requires teamwork. The coach can direct from the sidelines, but the team must execute on the field. The quarterback can lead, but each member of the team must follow through.

So it is with any Masonic organization. The presiding officer can lead, but it takes a team effort to make a lodge successful. One person does not a lodge make.

The philosophy of the legendary Alabama football coach Bear Bryant was:

“If anything goes bad, I did it. If anything goes semi-good, then we did it. If anything goes real good, then you did it. That’s what it takes to get people to win football games.”

I view my role as your Sovereign Grand Commander from that perspective. This is not “my” Supreme Council. It is “ours.” Both your input and participation are important. As your leader, I will listen to your thoughts. My ears are usually open and my mouth is usually closed. It has been said that we have two ears but one tongue so that we can hear from others twice as much as we speak.

Fraternal organizations — indeed, most volunteer organizations — have been faced with real challenges in recent decades. How we approach this challenge will determine our future.

We can no longer do “business as usual.” Gone are the days of large classes. Those are a thing of the past. Bemoaning the loss of members will produce nothing more than head-shaking and sore necks. We must concentrate on strengthening what we have to move forward.

During the course of my remarks following the installation ceremony as Commander, I made reference to the words of “silent” Calvin Coolidge:

“Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan “press on” has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.”

It is vitally important that each of you be more than a cheerleader. Be part of the team. Together we will press on with persistence and determination to face today’s new challenges for an even stronger future.

John Wm. McNaughton
Sovereign Grand Commander

Annual Meeting Highlights

McNaughton Installed Sovereign Grand Commander

Following the death of Sovereign Grand Commander Walter E. Webber, 33°, in April, Grand Lieutenant Commander **John William McNaughton**, 33°, assumed command. By constitutional law, he served in that capacity until the next annual meeting. He was elected at the Supreme Council annual meeting at Chicago in August to complete the term of the late Commander and was installed during the general session on Monday, Aug. 28.

The health of the Sovereign Grand Commander's father, Ill. John Willard McNaughton, 33°, had been failing. At the conclusion of the executive sessions on Saturday, Aug. 26, the Commander received a phone call from his father's medical staff advising him to return home. His father passed away early Sunday morning. The Commander returned to Chicago late Sunday night to participate in the general session on Monday and the 33° degree on Tuesday.

The Grand Commander received expressions of sympathy from all areas of the Masonic world and wishes to express his appreciation for the kind thoughts for so many people.

In addition to the memorial service at the Supreme Council session on Monday, a Masonic service was conducted in Fort Wayne on Wednesday and a funeral service on Thursday. See a special tribute later in this issue.

Since both father and son have the same middle initial, the Grand Commander is identified as "John Wm." in most communications. In an informal setting, he refers to himself as "Bill."



Other Officers. Ill. **Jim S. Deyo**, 33°, of Ohio, was elected Grand Lieutenant Commander at the Supreme

During the Annual Meeting in Chicago, Past Grand Commander **Robert O. Ralston**, 33°, installed Ill. **John Wm. McNaughton**, 33°, as the Sovereign Grand Commander.



Council annual session. He was appointed to that position in May to fill the vacancy when Ill. Brother McNaughton became Grand Commander.

Ill. **Richard W. Elliot**, 33°, of New Hampshire, was elected Grand Marshal General, a position left vacant with the elevation of Ill. Brother Deyo.



Retiring. Four Scottish Rite Deputies have retired. Ill. **Richard V. Travis**, 33°, of Connecticut, and Ill. **Verdon R. Skipper**, 33°, of New Jersey, will continue as Active Members of the Supreme Council. Ill. **Richard E. Hildebrand**, 33°, of Vermont, and Ill. **Lawrence D. Inglis**, 33°, of Illinois, requested and were granted Active Emeritus status.

Two other Active Members became Active Emeriti Members. Ill. **Donald D. Thomas**, 33°, of Delaware, reached the

mandatory retirement age of 75. Ill. **Gerald F. Thorp**, 33°, had requested early retirement.



New Deputies. Replacing the retiring Deputies are Ill. Brothers **James R. Spencer Jr.**, 33°, of Connecticut; **Fredrick E. Jackson**, 33°, of Vermont; **David A. Glattly**, 33°, of New Jersey, and **Lee B. Lockwood**, 33°, of Illinois.



New Active Members. Six new Active Members were elected to the governing board of the Supreme Council.

Ill. **Robert J. Sheridan**, 33°, of Gallopway, NJ, is a retired production manager for Lenox China. He was Grand Master of New Jersey in 2005. For the Valley of Southern New Jersey, he has

NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS



Robert J. Sheridan
NEW JERSEY



William J. Dover
MICHIGAN



James T. Elliott Jr.
DELAWARE



Robert F. Ogg Jr.
RHODE ISLAND



Eric Ginette
VERMONT



John T. Phillips
ILLINOIS

presided over the Lodge of Perfection, Rose Croix Chapter, and Consistory. He received the 33° in 1989.

Ill. **William J. Dover**, 33°, of Davison, MI, also received the 33° in 1989. He owns and operates a family business, selling building materials. He has been Thrice Potent Master and Commander-in-Chief in the Valley of Bay City.

Ill. **James T. Elliott Jr.**, 33°, of Wilmington, DE, retired as plant and equipment manager from the U.S. Postal Service in 1992 and pursued a second career in banking. He served as Thrice Potent Master in the Valley of Wilmington and received the 33° in 1998.

Ill. **Robert F. Ogg Jr.**, 33°, of Gledale, RI, served for ten years as Executive Officer for Rhode Island DeMolay. He has presided over the Consistory in the Valley of Providence and was the Deputy's Representative. Since 1980 he has been a senior field sales engineer and project manager for an international supplier of engineered storage, handling and transport systems. He received the 33° in 2003.

Ill. **Eric Ginette**, 33°, of Cabot, VT, was a recipient of the 33° in 2005. He has presided over the three bodies of the Valley of Montpelier and has been the Valley Secretary. He is also a member of the Vermont Consistory in Burlington. He is a Windsor chair maker and a poultry farmer.

Ill. **John T. Phillips**, 33°, of Antioch, IL, also a 2005 recipient of the 33°, is a circuit court judge and a member of the legislative committee of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. He has been an officer of Oriental Consistory in the Valley of Chicago.

Medal of Honor. The Sovereign Grand Commander announced the selection of Ill. **Richard C. Ellis**, 33°, to receive the Supreme Council Medal of Honor. Ill. Brother Ellis is a member of the Valley of South Bend, IN, and a tireless worker in membership recruitment.

The Sovereign Grand Commander presented a plaque of appreciation to Ill. **Lawrence D. Inglis**, 33°, for his efforts at the 2005 annual meeting when he substituted for Sovereign Grand Commander Walter E. Webber. Ill. Brother Inglis was a recipient of the Medal of Honor in 2003.



Gourgas Medals. Two Gourgas medals were presented at the meeting. The first was awarded posthumously to Ill. **Walter E. Webber**, 33°. Ill. Brother

Webber's family was present at the Vesper Service to accept the medal. Mrs. Leslie Webber, widow of the late Grand Commander, offered words of thanks on behalf of the family.

The second medal was awarded on Monday to Ill. **Ronald A. Seale**, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction. Ill. Brother Seale has worked very closely with the Northern Jurisdiction during the past three years. He became Commander less than a month after Ill. Brother Webber, and the two Commanders quickly established a good working relationship.



Class of 2006. There were 233 candidates who received the 33° in Chicago. Two additional candidates received the degree in special session: ➤

Following the presentation of the Medal of Honor to Ill. **Richard C. Ellis**, 33°, of South Bend, IN, the recipient showed his enthusiasm for the craft with a rousing response.



MUSEUM QUILT SHOWN AT MEETING

A quilt made by Isamay Osborne of Dearborn, MI, was part of a display at the annual meeting in Chicago to raise funds for a new exhibition at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA. The "Seeds of Liberty" quilt was conceived as a means of aiding the capital campaign to support the new exhibition about Revolutionary Lexington.

As Isamay's husband Bob, an Active Member from Michigan and a museum board member, was discussing the campaign with her, she came up with the idea of a quilt that could be used as a fundraiser.

The quilt design revolves around the battle at Lexington and the beginning of the Revolutionary War. The images

represent colonial life (coffeepot, butter churn, plow, meeting house), the battle (powder horn, powder keg, naval ship in harbor, cannon), a lantern, Old North Church steeple, night rider and minuteman.

The fabric is red, cream and blue, with the images appliquéd in subtle red, taupe-gray and blue.

Her friends Pat Donaldson and Terrie McCullough assisted her with the final design and machine quilting.

The queen-size quilt will be displayed at the National Heritage Museum until April, when the new "Seeds of Liberty" exhibition opens.

To have an opportunity to be the recipient of the quilt, contact the museum at 781-457-4101 or by e-mail: info@monh.org.



► James F. Vivian, Michigan, and Raymond P. Cunningham, Maine. Robert E. Ray, Indiana, received the degree posthumously.

Class of 2007. There were 175 candidates elected to receive the 33° next year. Unable to attend this year's session and carried over to 2007 were Lawrence Henry Weller, Ohio, and Craig Edward Cobb, New York.

◆ ◆ ◆
Kern Award. The winner of this year's Kern award is the **Valley of Nashua, NH**. Accepting the plaque on behalf of the Valley was New Hampshire Deputy Richard W. Elliot, 33°.

The award is presented each year to the Valley that attains the highest percentage of participation of members contributing to the blue envelope appeal. It is named in honor of the late Dr.

Richard A. Kern, 33°, former Scottish Rite Deputy for Pennsylvania and chairman of the Supreme Council Committee on Benevolences.

◆ ◆ ◆
Ritual changes. Minor revisions were approved for the 8°, 10°, and 14°. A new 26°, set in the Civil War era, has been approved. The former 26°, commonly known as the Abraham Lincoln degree, has been removed as a ritual and will now be available for public performance.

The titles of two degrees have been changed. The 10° (formerly "Master Elect of Fifteen") is now "Master Elect." The 26° (formerly "Prince of Mercy") is now "Friend and Brother Eternal."



Mrs. Leslie Webber responded for her family following the acceptance of the Gourgass Medal that was presented to her late husband posthumously.



Valley Websites Receive Awards.

For the second year, the Valley websites were reviewed and winners selected according to Valley size.

The selections were made using four criteria: content, appearance, timelines, and ease of use.

Receiving top recognition were:

Rochester, NY (less than 1,000 members); **Grand Rapids, MI** (1,000 - 2,500 members); **Cleveland, OH** (2,500 - 5,000 members); **Dayton, OH** (more than 5,000 members).

Five other Valleys were cited for honorable mention: **La Crosse, WI** (less than 1,000 members); **Milwaukee, WI**, and **Steubenville, OH** (1,000 - 2,500 members); **Coudersport, PA** (2,500 - 5,000 members); **Chicago, IL** (more than 5,000 members).

Also under review were Council of Deliberation websites. The winner in this category was **New Jersey**. An honorable mention was also awarded to **Illinois**.



Next year. The 2007 annual session will be unique. For the first time in history, the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions will meet in joint session. The meeting will take place in Washington, DC, on Aug. 26-28.



The Gourgas medal was presented to Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction.

Franklin Awards for Valley Publications

Winners of the 2006 Brother Franklin awards were announced during the Monday morning general session. The awards are presented annually to Valleys with outstanding publications. They are awarded on the basis of the size of the Valley membership. Receiving special recognition were the following:

Category I (Valleys with less than 800 members)

Best Publication

Valley of New York City, NY

Luiz G. Vieira, 32°, editor

Honorable Mention

Valley of the Merrimack, MA

Thomas E. Pulkkinen, 33°, editor

Valley of Nashua, NH

Mark W. Leavitt, 32°, editor

Valley of Traverse City, MI

James C. Larson, 32°, editor

Category II (Valleys with 800 – 1,500 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Bridgeport, CT

Leo H. Lohrman, 33°, editor

Honorable Mention

Valley of Buffalo, NY

Phillip G. Beith, 32°, editor

Valley of Moline, IL

Jay M. Hawkinson, 33°, editor

Valley of Portsmouth/Dover, NH

Mark A. Weir, 32°, editor

Category III (Valleys with 1,500 – 2,500 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Freeport, IL

John A. Reining, 33°, editor

Honorable Mention

Valley of Akron, OH

Raymond B. Strickland, 32°, editor

Valley of Bloomington, IL

Dale Arbour, 32°, editor

Valley of Grand Rapids, MI

Richard A. Burrows, 32°, editor

Valley of Milwaukee, WI

Gary R. Beier, 32°, editor

Category IV (Valleys with 2,500 – 5,000 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Cleveland, OH

David B. Mackey, 32°, editor

Honorable Mention

Valley of Central Jersey, NJ

Dennis R. Bator, 33° and
Peter Lanka, 33°, editors

Valley of Peoria, IL

Mark H. Welch, 32°, editor

Valley of Southern NJ

Charles A. Castley, 32°, editor

Valley of Toledo, OH

Gary L. McElfresh, 33°, editor

Category V (Valleys with more than 5,000 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Indianapolis, IN

Jerry B. Collins, 33°, editor

Honorable Mention

Valley of Chicago, IL

Milan Vydareny, 32°, editor

Valley of Columbus, OH

Steven L. Smiseck, 32°, editor

Valley of Harrisburg, PA

Samuel R. Andrews, 33°, editor

Valley of Pittsburgh, PA

D. William Roberts, 33°, editor

Teteque Band Plays On

By JEFFREY L. KUNTZ, 32°

*More than a century of
making music*

What started 100 years ago as a brass quartet made up of rather mediocre musicians is now a popular 60-piece community wind ensemble, believed by some to be the oldest Masonic-affiliated band in the world.

The Scottish Rite Imperial Teteque Band of the Valley of Williamsport, PA, presents concerts to audiences of more than 1,000 music lovers.

It has performed throughout central and eastern Pennsylvania for Masonic and non-Masonic events, spreading the word of Freemasonry.

It started in 1894 before Scottish Rite bodies were even established in Williamsport.

On a nasty wintry November evening, four members of Baldwin II Commandery No. 22, Knights Templar, resolved to form a band in order to provide music for the monthly dinner meetings of the Masonic bodies.

Three of those men had very little musical training, but their enthusiasm for instrumental music was intrepid.

After they rented a cornet, alto, baritone, and bass horns, they took lessons from the other member of the quartet, Truman Purdy Reitmeyer, a bandsman, who later became a state legislator.

Understandably, they struggled a bit in their formative years, but the budding musicians soon felt that they were proficient enough for public performance and had a lot of fun doing it.

In order to break the ice, the quartet was introduced to their listeners as



The Imperial Teteque Band marches through downtown Wilkes-Barre, PA, for a 1924 conclave, when it was still affiliated with Baldwin Commander No. 22, Knights Templar in Williamsport.

“Baldwin’s Mighty and Magnetic Minstretletic Musical Misfits.”

Apparently, this worked as they received light-hearted laughter and became an instant hit.

A short time later, they began calling themselves the Triple Tongue Quartet.

It is from the initial letters of this name that the word Teteque — pronounced tee-tee-kyoo — was derived.

During the first decade, the band grew in membership and felt more inclined to increase activities.

With this came the need for a business

manager. J. Walton Bowman, a local wealthy lumberman, accepted this position.

With his enthusiasm, able leadership, and financial generosity, “J. Walt,” as he became affectionately known, transformed the musical organization. Under Bowman’s guidance and influence, the Teteques became well-known and in demand, especially wherever Masons sponsored instrumental music.

The Imperial Teteque Band, in fact, acquired a national reputation as well as the distinction of being the first band in America comprised exclusively of Knights Templar.

The Teteques appeared with Baldwin II Commandery at conclaves and other



JEFFREY L. KUNTZ, 32°, is a member of the Valley of Williamsport, PA. He has published several articles on music, both nationally and internationally.



Now more than a century old, the Imperial Teteque Band, is shown preparing to perform, ca. 2001.

events in the years before, during, and after the First World War. *The Chicago Tribune* described the band as "A musical organization that stands unique not only as a Masonic creation, but also as the equal of any band that attended the triennial conclave."

The Erie Times stated: "The reputation of the Imperial Teteques has been gained by ability to render the very highest class of concert music."

After the Teteques paraded in Philadelphia early in the 20th century, the old *North American* stated editorially: "Williamsport has always been known as the Lumber City, but henceforth it will be known as the home of the best Masonic band in the world."

After arriving home from that trip at 2 a.m., the Teteque Band marched several blocks from the railroad station to the Masonic Temple playing "Onward Christian Soldiers."

Although aroused from their sleep, residents applauded.

During the 25 years under Bowman's management, he would occasionally have the Teteques play on an open trolley serenading the city.

Through Bowman's munificence, other great things happened to the band. It built an inventory of instruments worth \$100,000 and a music library valued at \$25,000.

One of the instruments he purchased was, at the time, believed to be the largest bass drum in the world. Built by special order at a factory in Camden, NJ,

the drum measured 5 feet, 2 inches in diameter.

Since it was too big to carry a small carriage was built to pull it. It was an impressive sight rolling down the street.

With the death of Walt Bowman, the coming of the Great Depression, and then World War II, the Teteque Band drifted into a period of virtual dormancy.

However, in 1956, along came H. Carlton Sweeley. Also a local businessman, Sweeley, a clarinetist, possessed much of the same energetic spirit and devotion to band music as did Bowman.

Sweeley was the son of a musician, Charles C. Sweeley, a well-known prolific composer of band marches, some of which he wrote for Masonic purposes. Carlton assumed managerial and emcee responsibilities for the Teteque Band, and with just a few fellow Masonic musicians, began rebuilding the wind ensemble.

The reorganized Imperial Teteque Band was under the dynamic musical direction of Jay H. Campbell, who passed away in 1962. The baton was then passed on to Donald C. Beminger, a Teteque baritone player, and an instrumental music instructor and school administrator.

The membership of the Teteques had already grown considerably by 1963 when the Valley of Williamsport assumed official sponsorship as Scottish Rite Masonry was then thriving. Hence,

the full name of the band became The Scottish Rite Imperial Teteque Band.

The 1970's was an especially exciting decade for the Teteques. Its membership reached its peak of 75 players. They were performing to capacity crowds in their new Scottish Rite Auditorium, which seats over 1,200. In 1976, they presented a special bicentennial concert for four nights to a full house each night.

Also that decade, the Teteque Band performed throughout central and eastern Pennsylvania at places such as the Masonic Homes in Elizabethtown, a camp for Masonic RV travelers near State College, and Gettysburg in an all-Masonic parade.

Also during that period, the Teteques produced a 33-rpm. record, entitled "Marching Along With The Teteques."

Manager Sweeley, who was a real go-getter, was also entertainment chairman for the Valley of Williamsport. He had connections with a number of well-known people in the entertainment world.

One very popular group with which Sweeley and the Teteque Band had a close friendship was Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass, which he often hired to perform at the Scottish Rite Auditorium for their Ladies' Nights. During one of the Teteque concerts, Davis made a surprise appearance on stage with them.

Sweeley once contacted Lowell Thomas, the well-known journalist, ➤



The Scottish Rite Imperial Teteque Band, ca. 1979. When performing in their own auditorium, they end most of their concerts with “Stars and Stripes Forever,” and the giant American flag is displayed during the last strain of Sousa’s rousing march.

► radio personality, and fellow Freemason, and had him tape a greeting to the Teteque Band which was played for the band and audience during one of their concerts. The band also participated with Thomas in an anniversary celebration honoring Woolrich, Inc., manufacturers of popular outdoor clothing.

Carlton Sweeley’s wife, Maxine, with the help of a couple of Valley members and the use of 40 tables, made a giant American flag which is still used as a backdrop for Teteque concerts.

The flag, with stars measuring over a foot across, is not exposed until the band plays the rousing final strain of their perennial encore, Sousa’s “Stars and Stripes Forever.” When the stage crew opens the back curtain to uncover the impressive and massive flag a standing ovation is guaranteed.

In 1980, while he was also serving as Commander-in-Chief of the Williamsport Consistory of the Valley of Williamsport, Sweeley suddenly passed away. Jeffrey W. Dugan, a trumpeter in the Teteque Band, was appointed manager, and Richard “Dick” Dietz as concert emcee.

Don Beminger became Commander-in-Chief of the Williamsport Consistory in 1988, and passed the baton to Jeff Dugan, under whose meticulous musical leadership, the Teteque Band was always sure to present finely-tuned playing.

Under Dugan, the Teteques continued to play “outside” gigs, including a concert for the Scottish Rite Valley of Reading, a high-rise apartment building in Wilkes-Barre, hospitals, and summer concerts in the park.

For the last several decades not all the members of the Teteque Band have been Freemasons, but it remained an all-male ensemble. However, Jeff Dugan saw the need to recruit more players, especially in the flute and clarinet sections. So, in 1999, he procured permission from the officers of the Valley of Williamsport to invite female musicians to join the band.

Also, for many years, the membership of the Teteque Band has consisted of musicians with a broad range of ages, from high school students to those in their 80’s.

Within the Teteque membership, there is also a wide diversity of occupations, including doctors, lawyers, bankers, salesmen, clergymen, laborers, as well as professionals and educators in the music field.

The Teteque Band is known for performing a varied spectrum of musical styles and genres at its concerts. In addition to the usual popular marches, light classical, Broadway, dixieland, sacred, popular hits, and other types of music are included in its programs.

Most of their concerts programs have a particular theme. They have had concerts honoring popular entertainers, such as Masonic Brother, John Philip Sousa, and even once, a tribute to the Boy Scouts of America.

In October 2001, in cooperation with local firemen, the Imperial Teteques performed a benefit concert for the victims of September 11. It was an exciting patriotic gala event attended by over 1,000 listeners and the mayor of Williamsport, Mike Rafferty, who was guest speaker.

Jeff Dugan resigned as conductor in 2002, when the assistant director and trumpeter, Edward “Bud” Unangst took over the helm.

Unangst and the Teteque members attribute their success largely to the camaraderie they enjoy. “As long as I am director of this band,” Unangst says, “they will have fun playing.” He and the musicians know they can do this without sacrificing the quality of their performance.

For several years, the Teteques had charged a modest price for concert tickets to help purchase new music, uniforms, and instruments. However, with the gracious permission of the officers of the Valley, the band initiated a patron program for financial support. Through the generosity of a large number of patron memberships and additional donations, the band is again able to present their concerts free of admission to the general public.

Although the Imperial Teteque Band is an all-volunteer community musical organization, it is perhaps unique, since it is very rare for any concert band to perform regularly to such large audiences. “We are proud of you, and we stand behind you,” said Ronald H. Hoover, current Commander-in-Chief of the Williamsport Consistory, as he introduced the band to the audience at a recent concert.

With such enthusiasm among its musicians, and its popularity in the community, perhaps the Scottish Rite Imperial Teteque Band will remain strong for another century, promoting Masonry, patriotism, and fine musical entertainment.



Masonic Wall of Fame

Baseball has Cooperstown, rock and roll has Cleveland, and now Eau Claire may be doing the same thing for Freemasonry.

Bro. Lewis Mallow Jr., 32°, reports the establishment of a Masonic Wall of Fame.

Located within the Eau Claire Masonic Center in Wisconsin, the wall contains photographs of scores of well-known Masons from many walks of life.

Included are all U.S. presidents that were members of the craft, as well as movie stars, musicians, comedians, and statesmen.

Bro. Mallow says the idea stems from a bulletin of 172 famous Masons and their careers, published by six lodges in the western part of Wisconsin, all with ties to the Scottish Rite Valley of Eau Claire.

Ill. William "Bill" Arnsdorf, 33°, felt that more could be done with the names.

He set out on a "difficult and exhaustive search" for photographs.

Encouraged by support from the center's board of trustees, he began to research through hundreds of books and magazines.

Once all photos had been reduced or enlarged to fit a standard size, he had them framed and then mounted on the wall of the dining room.

Bro. Arnsdorf commented that he "made good use of two tools of the trade, the plumb and level — tools very familiar to all Master Masons."

All photography, frames and captions were donated by Bill.

Lewis Mallow says, "It really is a unique tribute to Master Masons of all ranks. It gets attention from local Ma-

sons and also by the general public."

He says, "I don't know of any other lodge that has done this sort of thing."

The Eau Claire Masonic center is located at 616 Graham Avenue in Eau Claire, WI.



In Memoriam

Ill. John Willard McNaughton, 33°

Ill. John Willard McNaughton, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member and former Grand Minister of State of this Supreme Council and former Deputy for Indiana, died on Sunday, August 27, following an extended illness.

Bro. McNaughton was born in South Bend, IN, on April 25, 1923. He attended Central High School in South Bend, the South Bend Business College and Indiana University at Fort Wayne. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-45 during World War II.

In 1946, he moved to Fort Wayne and opened the Ridge Company Auto Parts branch. He also served 12 years as Automotive Division Manager for National Mill Supply Company. In 1971, he founded the All Rite Distributing Company in Fort Wayne. He served as president and ran daily operations until 1994.

On March 10, 1945, at Fort Pierce, Florida, he was united in marriage to the former Lois Ireland, who survives along with their two sons, Gary Michael McNaughton and John William McNaughton; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; a brother Thomas, and a sister Marge. His brother Frank died six days after John's passing.

At Calvary Third Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne, John served as deacon, elder and ruling elder.

In civic activities, Bro. McNaughton was a member of the Fort Wayne Rotary; the Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce; Fort Wayne Associated Churches Food Bank; Audiences Unlimited, and Fort Wayne Rescue Mission. He was also a trustee of the Indiana Institute of Technology and Indiana Tech. In 1997, he was the recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash award presented by the governor of the state of Indiana.

Bro. McNaughton was raised a Master Mason in Maumee Lodge No. 725 in 1950. He was Master in 1962. He completed the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Fort Wayne in 1953 and presided as Thrice Potent Master from 1977-78. Ill. Bro. McNaughton received the 33° in 1979.

He was elected an Active Member of the Supreme Council in 1980, and subsequently served as Grand Minister of State from 1985-97 and Deputy for the state of Indiana from 1991-94. He became an Active Emeritus Member in 1998, at the retirement age of 75. He had been Grand Representative to the Supreme Council for Central America (Guatemala) since 1986.

The Only Tangible Souvenir

By AIMEE E. NEWELL

The badge is a pleasant reminder of the good times experienced

How many meeting badges do you have at home? Do you collect them and store them in a cigar box or a shoe box to remember the trip? Or, do you toss them out as you leave the meeting?

The card on the back of a badge from the Southern Jurisdiction's 1937 biennial meeting asks, "Have you thought of this?"

The badge is often the only tangible souvenir that remains in the possession of the member who attended."

While the badge's producer, the Whitehead & Hoag Company of Newark, New Jersey, had certain ulterior motives to increase its business and profits, the explanation provided on the card does ring true. It reads, "The badge . . . is a pleasant reminder of all the . . . good times experienced."

At the National Heritage Museum, a box of badges arriving from a prospective donor often leads to "oohs" and "aahs" of excitement as we find a badge that we've never seen before.

Part of the museum's mission is to collect and research the history of Freemasonry in the United States all the way up to yesterday.

Personal items such as badges offer an intriguing way to learn about several aspects of the history of Masonry — who sponsored events and meetings; how the style of the badge reflects the era in which it was made; and the life story of specific members.

The National Heritage Museum re-



A sampling of the several hundred badges in the museum's collection.

cently received a gift containing over 400 badges, pins and other small souvenirs from more than 20 different fraternal organizations and dating from the late 1800s through the 1970s.

A particularly striking badge comes from the Southern Jurisdiction's 1931 meeting held in Washington, DC.

Although we do not know who wore this particular badge, both its overall design and the maker's mark on the back offer potential avenues of fruitful research.

Badges of this type, which are particularly artistic, show the two-way motion of design influence and style between Freemasonry and American souvenirs and furnishings.

Predominant American motifs and

styles influence the appearance of Masonic regalia and badges.

Likewise, Masonic motifs and symbols can also be seen on furniture, ceramics and other items from the 1900s.

Metropolitan Artcraft in New York City made the badge for the Southern Jurisdiction's meeting. At the top is a pin reading, "Washington, D.C. Oct. 1931." Suspended from the pin is a medal with two steps at the bottom reading, "131st Year / The Supreme Council 33° / A & A S R / Southern Jurisdiction USA."

A gold-tone sphinx with the Scottish Rite's double-headed eagle symbol on its chest and a crown above its head decorates the center of the badge. Flags in red, white and blue drape at the sides.

The Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction met in Washington, DC, for a full week in 1931. Northern Jurisdiction members attending the meeting in-



AIMEE E. NEWELL, is the Curator of Collections, National Heritage Museum.

cluded then-Sovereign Grand Commander Leon M. Abbott along with 29 other Masons.

Beyond the information on its face, the design and style of the badge are clearly products of its time, showing an Art Deco style.

Art Deco was a design movement starting in the mid-1920s, responding to the rapid social and technological advances of the era.

The style is characterized by the use of modern materials like aluminum, stainless steel and inlaid wood. Bold motifs like zigzag and stepped forms were typical (think of the Chrysler building, which was constructed in the late 1920s) and can be seen on the 1931 badge.

The Southern Jurisdiction was not alone in designing and presenting handsome badges and jewels.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts collection includes an attractive jewel from the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction that was presented to a recipient of the 33°.

The jewel is shaped like a Teutonic cross. The decorative center section shows the mottoes "Ordo Ab Chao" (order out of chaos) and "Deus Meumque Jus" (God and my right). In addition, the word "Sapientia," Latin for "wisdom," circles a nine-point star.

The Supreme Council awarded this jewel to Ill. George A. Carpenter, 33°, of Boston in 1872. The design of the jewel was new in 1872, having been approved by Sovereign Grand Commander Josiah H. Drummond the preceding year.

A recent gift to the museum offers the opportunity to uncover the story of one man's Masonic career.

Robert Baker visited the museum in July to present a collection of five jewels that belonged to his grandfather, Julius O. Christensen (1875-1947) of Kansas City, MO.

The jewels were handed down in the family, accompanied by an Eastern Star medal owned by Christensen's wife, Elizabeth. Christensen immigrated to the United States from Odense, Denmark, coming through Ellis Island in 1893.

After attending Beloit College in Wisconsin, he married Elizabeth Strack in 1900 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Batavia, Wisconsin.

The couple moved to Kansas City, where Julius was employed by the Independent Electric Machinery Company. They had one daughter, the

donor's mother, Vera (Christensen) Baker.

Christensen petitioned Ivanhoe Lodge in Kansas City in 1906 and was raised on Jan. 17, 1907. He was Worshipful Master in 1912.

The earliest of the dated jewels is from 1912 and is Christensen's Past Master's jewel.

In addition to illustrating this man's life story, the jewels help us study the different traditions and styles used in lodges from other parts of the country.

While the museum owns many badges, medals and jewels from the Northeast, the collections of those from the West and the South are much smaller.

A comparison of the jewels from Kansas City to those in the collection from New England points up differences in design.

While Christensen's jewel has the universally understood Past Master symbol of a sun with a rule and compasses — like the New England jewels — the sun on his jewel has a blue stone center and the rule and compasses hang from an engraved pin bar.

Many Massachusetts Past Master jewels are engraved on the back, but this one is engraved on the pin at the top.

Julius Christensen did not rest on his laurels after serving as Worshipful Master of his lodge. In 1917, he was named Secretary of the Ivanhoe Masonic Temple Company (the Temple was completed in 1921).

The jewel associated with his wife comes from that period. The jewel is recognizable as an Eastern Star emblem at first glance. It reads "Ivanhoe" along the top and has a gavel hanging from the pin.

A small square and compasses pin is attached to the jewel by a chain. On the back, the star is engraved "Elizabeth Christensen 1916."

Christensen was active in the York Rite and a member of Ararat Temple of the Shrine.



A jewel for the 33° from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts collection. It looks much like the jewel presented today.

One of the jewels is dated 1920, the year he became High Priest, and is engraved, "Shekinah Council."

The familiar all-seeing eye symbol on this jewel is formed with a small diamond.


The symbol takes up the center of a shield with crossed swords behind it. An elegant archway shapes the body of the jewel, and the pin at the top is engraved with Christensen's name.

Christensen continued his service and activity for several decades. In December 1933 he was Secretary of Ivanhoe Lodge and Kansas City Royal Arch Chapter and Recorder of the Kansas City Commandery of the Knights Templar.

The jewel with the latest date is from 1941. It is a gold Knights Templar medal, in the shape of a Christian cross, with the back engraved, "Presented by Kansas City Commandery No. 10 K.T. to Eminent Sir J.O. Christensen Commander 1941." Six years later, in 1947, Julius O. Christensen died at the age of 72.

All of these badges and jewels were initially designed and used to convey well-understood symbols and achievements.

Do you have a story about one of your favorite or special badges? Can you help us learn more about how badges were designed, selected or used in the 20th and 21st centuries?

If you would like to share a story or talk about a donation for the National Heritage Museum's collection, please send me an email at anewell@monh.org or give me a call at 781-457-4144. 

The National Heritage Museum is located in Lexington, MA, on the grounds of Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Supreme Council headquarters.

32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

Put To the Test



Peoria Center Director Gina Cooke leads a group taking the “unfair hearing test.”

When confronted with someone’s bad news or problems, a common response is “I know how you feel.” Although meant to express sympathy and said with the best of intentions, the statement is rarely true. You can’t know exactly how they feel.

At a seminar at this year’s annual meeting in Chicago Dr. David Winters, 32°, facilitated a disability simulation to give attendees a chance to approximate the obstacles encountered by children with learning disabilities. Through a series of activities, Dr. Winters, executive director of clinical affairs for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc., made the old adage come true.

The program, called “Put Yourself in the Shoes of a Person with Dyslexia,” was developed as a project of the California State Department of

Education and was first presented to the International Dyslexia Association in 1983.

Dr. Winters explained, “The room was set up with five stations, each with a different activity. Participants would spend ten minutes at each before rotating to the next.”

For example, station three simulated a visual-motor and writing problem. Participants were asked to trace an image. They were, however, only

allowed to look at their writing hand through a mirror. At another table, those taking part had to write with their non-dominant hand.

A particularly tough task was found at station six and was called the “unfair hearing test.” Here a spelling test was conducted, with the words coming from a tape recorder. The recording was of poor quality, simulating hearing loss.

The situations are meant to be stressful and participants may become nervous or even fatigued. The tasks were designed to appear simple but in fact were not.

During the de-briefing period many of those involved said that they felt uncomfortable. Dr. Winters said that the response has been phenomenal. In fact, he says, he is still receiving comments on the exercise.

Those taking part felt that they had seen what it must be like to be without full use of reading and writing ability.

The point driven home by the exercise is that persons with dyslexia have learning difficulties specific to language.

Reading, spelling, and written expression are particularly affected. Dr. Samuel Orton, a pioneer in the field and one of the developers of the

Participants try to spell common words under frustrating conditions.



PHOTOS BY KATHRYN WINTERS



Tracing letters while only looking in a mirror is slow, laborious and exasperating.

Orton-Gillingham approach of dealing with the symptoms of dyslexia said that “the brains of people with dyslexia are physiologically different — not inferior.”

The tasks helped the attendees see the obstacles to learning through the eyes, ears, and brains of those with those conditions.

It also highlighted the important role that learning centers — designed

to overcome the obstacles — play in the lives of many children.

Dr. Winters explained that the session “provided insight into how the children that we work with, feel.”

The workshop was an overwhelming success. The room was set up for 55 participants.

Instead, there was standing room only as more than 75 were in attendance.

Another Success Story

In an undertaking as big as the operation of more than 50 learning centers, which requires large commitments of time, energy, and resources, it is gratifying to be able to point to concrete success stories.

This month one such victory comes from Gina Cooke, center director at Peoria. She tells us “Our high school student reported that he had brought his English grade up from an F to a C+ because he scored a 97% on his vocabulary test. He’s a bright young man with a superlative receptive vocabulary; after 15 tutoring sessions his decoding skills have improved enough to allow him to recognize the vocabulary words on the test. If he can sound them out, he can more readily match them to the words he knows orally. This same student has begun talking about attending college, a

goal he shied away from as recently as this past summer.”

Learning Centers Headquarters

On an interim basis, Ill. Gardner C. Sconyers, 33°, Grand Secretary General of the Supreme Council, will supervise the day-to-day operations of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc. He assumes the duties that were performed by Joseph Berlandi, 32°, who has vacated the position of executive director of the learning centers program. Ill. Bro. Sconyers can be reached at the Lexington headquarters at 781-862-4410, ext. 3370.

The Learning Centers Are Growing Again

During the next few months three new learning centers will open their doors, bringing the total to 58 sites.

The new Philadelphia center will be headed up by director Kathleen Carlsen. Ms. Carlsen has a deep background in work with dyslexia.

She has been with the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital, where she has conducted training and supervision. She is also associated with the Academic Language Therapy Association, located in Dallas.

The organization was formed with the purpose of establishing, maintaining, and promoting standards of education, practice, and professional conduct for language therapists.

At Springfield, IL, Rhiannon Robinson has been appointed as director of the new center to be located there.

She has an extensive background in the field of multisensory structured language.

Operations at the new Williamsport center, located at State College, PA, will be overseen by director Marsha Landis, who has been a tutor at Scranton for the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children, Inc.

All three sites are in the final stages of preparation and are actively recruiting trainees and accepting applications from potential students.

The three new centers are expected to be fully in operation by the end of January.

Berlin's Timeless Hit

By ALAN E. FOULDS

The story behind 'White Christmas'

The ironies are rife. "White Christmas," one of the most popular holiday songs of all time, was penned by a Russian-American Jewish immigrant. It has become closely associated with World War II, yet there is no mention of war in the lyrics.

We see it as describing an ideal holiday setting, complete with sleigh bells in the snow, but the long-forgotten first stanza makes it clear that the narrator is sitting in Beverly Hills, a community not usually associated with glistening treetops.

Although "Rockwellian" in its yearning for a simpler time and place the song "helped fuel the American commercialization of Christmas," according to Mark Luce, writing for *The Christian Science Monitor*.

One last irony is that the first recording of "White Christmas" reached the top of the popular music charts in late summer.

What is the story behind the phenomenon? It is centered on a member of our own fraternity.

Born in 1888 in the small Russian village of Temun, Irving Berlin came to America with his parents at the age of five. His father, a cantor, died when young Berlin was only eight.

There was little time and money in the poverty-stricken family for a formal education and it became necessary for all the family's children to go to work at a young age. Irving Berlin picked up many odd jobs, mostly in the music world, despite his lack of training. For a while he performed as a

Bro. Irving Berlin taught himself how to play the piano and went on to compose more than 3,000 songs.



singing waiter in New York's Chinatown.

He later took up the piano, initially playing with one finger. He later taught himself to play with both hands, but only in the key of F sharp.

In May 1910 Bro. Irving Berlin took his degrees in Munn Lodge No. 190 in New York. In December he received the 32°, joining Scottish Rite Masonry in the Valley of New York. The following year he joined Mecca Shrine, as well.

Although Bro. Berlin never learned

music in the traditional sense he composed more than 3,000 songs. Among them are some of the most well-remembered, including "God Bless America," "Alexander's Ragtime Band," and "There's No Business Like Show Business." He also produced many film and Broadway scores.

None of his success, however, foreshadowed the "White Christmas" phenomenon.

Legend has it that the melody was conceived by Berlin on the set of the movie "Top Hat" with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. He hummed it to the producer, who was not interested. Just a few years later Berlin was hired by



ALAN E. FOULDS, is the Assistant Editor for The Northern Light, and author of the recently published book, Boston's Ballparks and Arenas.



"White Christmas" was written by Irving Berlin for the 1942 movie "Holiday Inn."

Paramount Studios to write several songs for a film called "Holiday Inn," starring Bing Crosby.

The story line followed two show biz buddies who bought a small hotel in Connecticut, "a little above Hartford, and a little below freezing." At the hotel they would stage plays throughout the year, all tied to the particular holiday of the season. Berlin, who could neither read nor write music, played his compositions to his musical secretary, Helmy Kresa, who then put them to paper.

The song considered by the producers as the one with star potential was his ode to Valentine's Day, "Be Careful, It's My Heart," but that is not what history dictated. Instead the Christmas assignment for the movie is what has remained in the hearts and minds of revelers each December, long after the musical comedy and most of its other songs have become more or less forgotten.

Berlin initially had trouble writing a song for the Christmas portion of the movie. After all, he did not come from a tradition that celebrated the holiday. He instead relied on his memories of peering out the windows of his New York office to see the snow, the lights

and scurrying shoppers. He also recalled his childhood friends, some of whom had decorated trees in their houses.

The first stanza was supposed to set the singer in Beverly Hills longing for a simpler time.

"The sun is shining.
The grass is green.
The orange and palm trees
sway.
There's never been such a
day, in Beverly Hills, L.A.
But It's December the
twenty-fourth,
And I'm longing to be up
north."

According to Mark Luce it was Berlin himself who ordered the stanza cut "after hearing the power of the song in Crosby's unmistakable croon."

"White Christmas" actually had its debut a few months before the summer release of "Holiday Inn." Bing Crosby sang it on Christmas night 1941 as part of his "Kraft Music Hall" radio program. Coming less than three weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor, it became a popular reminder of home to the many new soldiers being shipped off to Europe and other places around the world. There are apparently no existing copies of this broadcast, but Crosby recorded it with the John Scott Trotter Orchestra for Decca Records the following May, in conjunction with the release of the movie. According to which legend you choose to accept, it was done in either one or two takes.

The movie was released in August and Bing's recording reached the number one spot on the charts on Halloween. It stayed there for 11 weeks. During the war it would return to the charts another 16 times, reaching number one again in 1945 and 1947. In the meantime it also won an Academy Award.

The song's staying power was so great that a second movie featuring Berlin's "opus" was released in 1954. Again starring Bing Crosby, the producers made sure that there was no question as to its intent. The new film was simply titled, "White Christmas."

Although Crosby's rendition is still viewed as the official version, remaining the best-selling single of all time with only brief interruptions, it has been performed by singers as diverse as Bob Dylan, The Beach Boys, Bob Marley, and the Boston Pops. During the Second World War, American GIs made it their wartime anthem. Its story has been the subject of books, such as "Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas," by Ace Collins, and "White Christmas: The Story of an American Song" by Jody Rosen. According to Rosen it was even used during the Vietnam War as U.S. military code for the evacuation of Saigon.

It has been translated into scores of languages including Swahili.

Although initially skeptical, Berlin was happy with the final product. He went so far as to say that "It was the best song I ever wrote. It might be the best song ever written." Bing Crosby was a little more modest concerning his own role, placing the credit with the song itself. He said it was so good that, "a jackdaw with a cleft palate could have sung it successfully."



NOTES FROM THE **SCOTTISH RITE**[®] OF FREEMASONRY ♦ SOUTHERN JURISDICTION ♦ USA

Roy Clark Concert Helps North Carolina Capital Campaign

The Orient of North Carolina is well into its \$5.5 million capital campaign to permanently endow the three Rite-Care Childhood Language Clinics in the state. In order to help publicize the campaign and to bring together the

Brethren of North Carolina, Ill. Roy Clark, 33°, an entertainment legend and icon, graciously agreed to do a special concert to benefit the campaign on Sept. 22, 2006, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

During the intermission of the show, Ill. William B. Brunk, 33°, SGIG in North Carolina, introduced Bro. Dewey R. Preslar Jr., 32°, Senior Vice-President of Food Lion Corporation, and Ill. Charles E. Scott, Jr., 33°, Personal Representative for the Valley of Winston-Salem, and his wife, Geneva. The Food

Lion Foundation donated \$100,000 to the campaign, and Bro. Scott and his wife gave over \$300,000. As the introductions were completed, Bro. Clark said to Bro. Brunk, "I'm not in their league, but I would like to make a contribution." Bro. Clark is now among the top ten donors.

Following the concert, Ill. Clark came out to spend time in conversation and for photo opportunities. Bro. Brunk observed, "We knew that Bro. Clark was an extremely talented, warm, and friendly individual, but we had no idea he could be so big-hearted in his giving. He is truly a wonderful human being and an extraordinary example of what a Scottish Rite Mason should be like."



Left to right, Bros. William B. Brunk, 33°, Roy Clark, 33°, and Dewey Preslar Jr., 32°, hold the \$100,000 check from the Food Lion Foundation for the RiteCare Clinics of North Carolina.

The Opportunity of a Lifetime

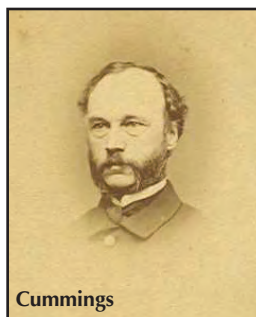
The Supreme Council, 33°, S.J., through the Scottish Rite Foundation, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., Inc., pledged \$1 million for scholarships and retraining for the families of victims of the 9/11 disaster. Scholarships totaling \$215,150 have been awarded to date to 31 students.

Ms. Margaret M. O'Donnell, a scholarship recipient, wrote to the Supreme Council expressing her gratitude for the financial support of her education.

It is my sincere hope that through this letter, all involved in the Scottish Rite National Disaster Relief Scholarship Fund will understand the depths of my gratitude. Your scholarship organization has given me the opportunity to fulfill a lifelong dream of becoming a special education teacher.

My father was on duty with the FDNY that fateful morning of Sept. 11, 2001. The injuries he sustained forever changed him. He can no longer work because of the damage done to his respiratory system. I knew that finances would be limited in my home, and the thought of getting a masters degree was placed on the back burner. However, the Scottish Rite National Disaster Relief Scholarship Fund has made it possible for me to earn my Master of Science Degree, and I am incredibly thankful.

Sincerely,
Margaret M. O'Donnell



Masonic Burials during the Civil War

Contemporary sources indicate that during the Civil War Masonic honors for fallen comrades were commonly observed. What has largely escaped notice, however, are the efforts made to bury Freemasons of the enemy army.

For example, following the Battle of Poplar Grove Church on Sept. 30, 1864, Union troops wished to recover the body of one of their commanders, Lt. Col. Charles Cummings, of the 17th Vermont Volunteers. Confederate troops refused to honor a flag of truce, forcing a federal officer to resort to another method.

An officer of the 7th Rhode Island Volunteers who was a Freemason was on duty on the picket line. When he saw a rebel officer, he gave the sign of distress, which was immediately answered. The federal officer explained that they wanted to recover the body of Col. Cummings, a Freemason. The request was granted, the grave was found, and the body disinterred. Col. Cummings evidently had been buried by rebel Masons, for a headboard was placed over his grave with his name, rank, etc., and particular care had been shown in his burial.

Note: This excerpt is from a longer article by Bro. Michael Halleran, "A More Decent Interment," which can be found at www.scottishrite.org/what/educ/journal/sep-oct06/halleran.html.

Since I encourage readers to send in their questions, it seems only fair that I share a few along with my wise (or otherwise, depending on your view) responses.

Q. What do you think of electronic greeting cards? I could save a lot of money and maybe a tree by sending cards online.

A. Electronic greeting cards — eCards — convey all the warmth of the Grinch's heart and the sincerity of a snake oil salesman.

For birthdays, anniversaries and such, pry open your wallet and buy a nice card. If you prefer, display your creative talent by making one from scratch.

If you are really concerned about the trees (which, by the way, are grown specifically for the paper industry — and no, I don't own any paper industry stock), make certain the greeting or note cards are made from recycled paper.

One more thing. Youngsters truly enjoy receiving mail. If you want to make a kid's day, send the child a card or letter.

Q. Should I leave my computer on or turn it off when not in use?

A. This one usually starts an argument. Personally, I shut my computer off when not in use. Since I have a broadband Internet connection, turning off the computer provides a measure of security. Furthermore, turning it off saves a little electricity.

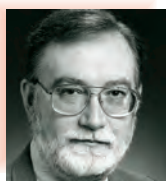
Of course, you use a surge protector for your computer (and, I trust, for other high-tech electronic devices). This is a good. Just make certain the surge protector is placed on a hard, nonflammable surface so your carpet will not go up in flames in the event of a power surge.

Q. I'm thinking about getting a BlackBerry. Your views on the matter.

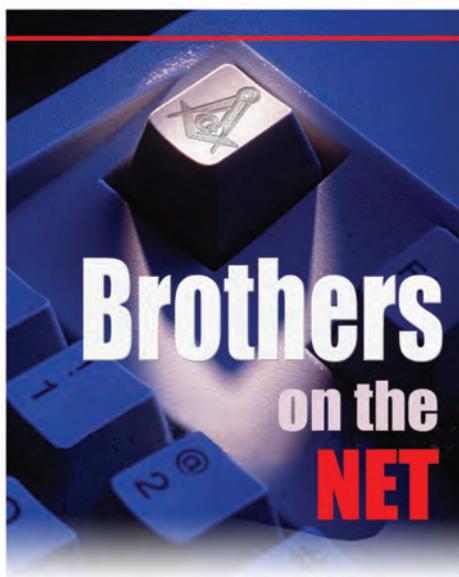
A. Wikipedia (en.wikipedia.org) defines BlackBerry as "... a wireless handheld device introduced in 1999 which supports push e-mail, mobile telephone, text messaging, Web browsing and other wireless information services."

If you really need these services, then a BlackBerry or a competing device, such as the Palm Treo, is worth checking out.

Yes, I do have a BlackBerry 8700c with Cingular service. This BlackBerry



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



eCards? You've got to be kidding!

is used strictly as a business tool. As such, I find it indispensable.

If you need a cell phone and must access e-mail and the Web when away from home or the office, then a wireless handheld may just be the ticket.

Before you sign up, check out all the options and service plans offered by the various wireless providers. If possible, get feedback from current users.

Q. Is there an online service that offers protection against spam, spyware and the like?

A. Glad you asked because I've just been itching to make a recommendation.

The slide rule crowd over at MIT developed software designed to warn users against entering troublesome websites. Those MIT engineers later sold their creation to McAfee, which now offers SiteAdvisor

(www.siteadvisor.com) as a totally free service.

I do find SiteAdvisor to be of real value. SiteAdvisor warns against sites it believes perpetrates scams and sites that may infect your computer with a virus, plant spyware or later bombard you with spam.

Sites are rated with symbols: a check in a green circle means "safe," an exclamation point in a yellow circle signifies "caution" and an "x" in a red circle means "warning." Ill. Brother Richard Curtis will be pleased to read the Supreme Council's website is rated "safe."

The SiteAdvisor software works on Windows, Linux and Mac OS X operating systems.

Q. I need a new computer. What do you recommend?

A. Wait until January when the bargains typically appear.

If you need one now (or just plain must have one), I would suggest any of the following:

Windows-based computers: I like the Dell Dimension C521 with any of the ViewSonic 19-inch flat screen monitors. If you prefer a laptop, then I suggest the Dell Inspiron E1705.

Mac: For most users, the iMac is the best choice. The iMacs include a monitor. I would go with the 17-inch with 2.0GHz Intel processor or the 20-inch with 2.16GHz Intel processor. Need a laptop? Go for the 13-inch MacBook with 2.0GHz Intel processor or any of the MacBook Pros.

In the interest of full disclosure, I have a Dell desktop and a Dell laptop at work and three Macs at home.

Please send your comments, questions and thoughts to me at [<studebaker55@casscomm.com>](mailto:studebaker55@casscomm.com).

Fraternal wishes to you all.

CHARITIES

This is the last issue of *The Northern Light* for 2006. Personally, November marks my fourth anniversary as your director of Scottish Rite Charities. Indulge me while I share a few thoughts and tie up a few loose ends.

Walter E. Webber Memorial

The passing of Sovereign Grand Commander Webber was a tragedy. His passion for Freemasonry, his energy and his intelligence are traits I will always remember. It was fitting that Leslie Webber included the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children and National Heritage Museum among his memorial charities. The outpouring of affection for our fallen Brother was remarkable. To date, more than \$85,000 has been given in his memory. Some of this is committed to the purpose of acquiring Masonic antiquities for our museum. Some will support current students at the Lexington, MA, and Portland, ME, learning centers.

The bulk of the donations, including nearly \$14,000, which was spontaneously given in Walter's memory during the vesper service at the Supreme Council annual meeting held in Chicago in August, will become the corpus of a fund which will create an annual award. This memorial fund for excellence will annually honor a learning center whose board demonstrates commitment to expanding the universe of support for their center — the only true way to meet the increasing demand for this amazingly successful program.

Blue Envelope Success

July 31 marked the end of the 2006 blue envelope appeal, our most enduring fundraising project. This appeal profoundly supports three important and historic programs — our Schizophrenia Research Fellowships, the Leon Abbott Scholarships for college students and the National Heritage Museum.

Your generosity this year was so impressive. We received 28,649 donations which raised \$707,000 — a 12 percent increase over last year. Your support will allow us to continue to fund these programs, which provide opportunities to people throughout the jurisdiction. Thank you so much.



Steve Pekock, 32°
Director of Development

Odds and Ends

End of Year Planning is Approaching

Recently the S&P 500 of the New York stock exchange reached an all-time high. I hope this growth benefited you and your family.

Perhaps the increase in the stock market has caused you to hold equities that have strongly appreciated in value and selling them would cost you heavily in capital gains.

This is a time when many people consider charitable gift annuities. If you are 75, a \$10,000 CGA would provide you a 7.3 percent guaranteed return, much of which is tax-free. Better yet, if you fund it with appreciated assets, such as stock, you avoid capital gains taxes and receive a tax deduction for the gift.

If this interests you, please call me at 800-814-1432 x3326. There is no better time to consider this option of benefiting you and your favorite charity than now, as the year draws to a close.

And finally . . .

The 2006 Builders Council Breakfast was held on Aug. 27 in Chicago. It was our largest ever. Attending were 185 members and their guests. It is truly inspiring to share a room with so many generous spirits. It reinforces my admiration for the members of this craft.

New 2006 Builders Council Members

Alton D. & Phyllis Anderson	William J. & Barbara Magnotti
Bill C. & Patricia Anthis	Calvin S. & Julia McCutcheon
David L. Bagaley	Robert S. & Peggy Neff
Douglas Barker	Donald S. & Jean Orrell
Edith Barringer	Lewis T. & Phyllis Patterson
John L. Becker	Uuno T. Pitkanen
Robert F. & Hazel Brown	Charles M. Recard
Frank P. & Doreen Cleveland	Richard L. Royer
Fredrick L. Curtis	Harold E. & Dolores Sheely
R. B. & Mary Dement	Garrell & Kathryn Spires
Michael A. DeWolf	Shawn C. Stephenson
Robert L. Eckbreth	Christopher M. Stephenson
Richard W. Elliot	Richard J. & Alicia Stephenson
Kathryn C. French	J. Robert & Patricia Stockner
Robert G. Graham	Elsa O. Sullivan
Jesse J. & Tamara Green	James West Jr.
Benny L. & Sherrie Grisham	James West Sr.
Harvey E. & Carol Gumto	Bruce & Mary Widger
Darren P. Keller	Ralph C. & Mary Wilson
Rolf T. Killingstad	William C. & Rachael Wimmer
Alden P. Kipp	George F. & Twila Wollaston
Lloyd W. Koyl	Simon L. Zimmerman
Sally C. Laplant	



The Stamp Act

The 40th president of the United States, now the oldest surviving president, was born as Leslie Lynch King Jr., on July 14, 1913, in Omaha, NE.

His parents divorced when he was less than a year old and when his mother remarried he was given the name of his step-father, **Gerald Rudolph Ford**. He was educated at



the University of Michigan and Yale University before serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Following the war he unseated the incumbent Republican congressman from the Grand Rapids area and in 1963 was elected House minority leader. He was appointed vice president when Spiro Agnew resigned and became president when Richard Nixon stepped down.

Bro. Gerald Ford, Jr., was initiated, along with his two step-brothers, in Malta Lodge No. 465, Grand Rapids, MI, on Sept. 30, 1949, with his step-father presenting them their lambskin aprons. Gerald was passed and raised in Columbia Lodge No. 3, Washington DC, in 1951 as a courtesy to Malta Lodge.

He received his York Rite degrees while serving as

president with some being conferred in the Oval Office of the White House in 1977. He is pictured on several stamps of foreign nations including this 2005 release from the Marshall Islands.



Wallace Beery was born in Kansas City, MO, April 1, 1886. He ran away from school to work on the railroad, then later became an elephant trainer with Ringling Brothers Circus. In 1903 he joined his brother Noah in New York and appeared on the stage. In 1907 he replaced Raymond Hitchcock in "Yankee Tourist" and from that time on appeared on the stage and in movies.

Moving to California, he married and then divorced Gloria Swanson and signed with Universal Studios as a villain. He appeared in about 200 films. In 1929, he moved from Paramount to MGM. He was nominated for Academy Awards and received an Oscar for "The Champ."

In 1934 he was awarded a gold medal as the "World's Best Actor" by the International Motion Picture Exposition at Venice, Italy. He died April 15, 1949.



Bro. Beery was a member of Blaney Lodge No. 271 located in Chicago, Illinois. He is pictured on a stamp which is part of a multi-stamp souvenir sheet released by Mali in December 1995 to note the 100th anniversary of the cinema.



The **Netherlands** has issued a postage stamp to honor the Masonic fraternity. This stamp was issued on June 6, 2006 to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Netherlands.



Risto Heikki Ryti, born in February 1889 in Loima, was one of seven sons with a peasant farming background. Academically inclined, he was tutored at home and then enrolled at the University of Helsinki.

He became a successful Finnish lawyer and banker who served as governor of the National Bank. He played no active part in the Finnish Civil War, remaining in hiding with his family in the Red dominated Helsinki but became deeply involved in politics starting in 1919.

He was serving as Prime Minister at the outbreak of World War II and became President in 1940, serving until 1944. This period saw a second invasion of Finland by Soviet Russia and when the Finnish Commu-



nist Party came into power, he was tried as a "war criminal" and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. This trial was widely held to be illegitimate and a miscarriage of justice and he was pardoned in 1949. He died in 1956 and was buried with full honors.

Bro. Ryti was initiated in Suomi Lodge No. 1 in August 1922 at a meeting held in the old Parliament Building or "House of Estates". His portrait appears on a set of stamps issued by Finland in 1941 — one of which is shown here.



The Isle of Man issued a stamp in 1998 to honor two of the Commonwealth's more noted Tourist Trophy

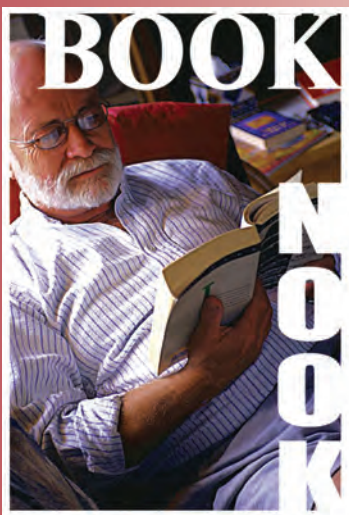


racers — natural brothers Joey and Robert Dunlop. At the time of issue, Bro. **Joey Dunlop** had 19 victories out of 76 starts. He was awarded the M.B.E. (Member of the British Empire) for road racing in 1986 and the O.B.E. (Order of the British Empire) in the New Years "Honours List" of 1996 for further services to road racing and to humanitarian causes.

Bro. Dunlop received his degrees in Lodge No. 17 in the County of Antrim, Ireland in 1989. He was entered in February and passed in March, but his raising was delayed until November because of a bad crash he suffered in England and he was unable to kneel.



Robert A. Domingue is secretary for St. Matthew's Lodge, Andover, MA, and editor of *The Philatelic Freemason*.



Reviewed by Thomas W. Jackson, 33°

The Rationale of Freemasonry

by Bobby J. Demott. Published in 2005 by Thriftecon Publications, 405 Ascot Court, Knoxville, TN 37923-5807. Available from the author, \$20.

The author of this text is a former university professor with a Ph.D, is a fellow of the American Society for the Advancement of Science and has been a very active member of the craft for 56 years. He has evidently done considerable research over a long period of time in preparation for this writing.

I conceive this book as being his translation and explanation to the reader what Freemasonry truly means, interpreting the ritual to trace its hidden meaning. I found the book to be very informative, containing a considerable amount of knowledge, and yet at the same time, disconcerting for me.

Realizing that Freemasonry brings to every member his idea of what the ritual conveys, I found some interpretation in this book that is beyond any concept that the vast majority of members will ever relate to; yet, it will stimulate them to think. The reader must understand that he is reading the authors' interpretations as well as those whom he has researched.

I found the first three chapters dealing with the craft degrees disconcerting as a result of the extent of the information provided as well as some of the interpretations applied. I would highly recommend that these chapters be read by all Master Masons because they provide an in-depth analysis of the meaning of the ritual. At the same time I would not recommend it to one planning to join the fraternity, for it would tend to detract from the initiatory experience. There were some statements made that were not totally accurate. He refers to my classification of World Freemasonry, for example, indicating that lodges in

Central America are "pointed toward the social side." What I said was the lodges in South and Central America are more sociologically driven. Indeed, "social" Freemasonry possibly applies less there than anywhere else in the world. His chapter on the sociology of Freemasonry, however, is well worth reading.

Although I find that I cannot agree with all of the interpretations found in this book, there can be no doubt that Demott thinks Masonically on a much higher level than most of us ever will. It was his goal in writing this book to stimulate thought and to provide an interpretation of meaning to our ritual. This he has accomplished. It is a good book to read to cause one to think about that meaning.

Royal Art — Three Centuries of Freemasonry

by Stevan V. Nikolic. Published in 2006 by iUniverse, 2021 Pine Lake Road, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE. \$18.95.

The author was born in Belgrade and has had his writings published in translations in the United States, England, and Serbia. He also lectures on Masonic traditions and history in eastern Europe. I mention this because you will become aware of a different style of thinking than you may be used to with most American writers. Although he lives in America, he thinks and writes more like a European Freemason.

The book is written mostly as an historical analysis of the Masonic fraternity beginning with a chapter titled "What Is Freemasonry," passing through chapters on origins, English beginnings, symbolism, the degrees and rituals, its institutionalization and growth, women in Freemasonry, anti-masonry and Masonic secrets.



Also included is an analysis of Freemasonry of the world in a chapter that the author titles "Three Traditions and Two Concepts." This chapter looks at the craft as divided into English Freemasonry, American York Rite Freemasonry, and European Freemasonry. His analysis is excellent, but I am not sure that I can accept that all

Freemasonry of the rest of the world is a variation of the three.

With this chapter the history book ends and his analysis of the craft, its deficiencies and his recommendations begins in a chapter titled, "Dawn of the Third Millennium." I have read very few books where an analysis of these aspects of the craft was as close to my feelings as are his, with one significant exception. I disagree with him emphatically on the subject of the need for fraternal compatibility between regular and irregular Freemasons. There must be some criteria for acceptance of what Freemasonry is

or anyone who wishes to be called a Freemason can be one. If we are willing to recognize all forms of the craft, can we justify taking only good men who believe in God?

This chapter contains an excellent examination of the status of American Freemasonry. I give you two quotes from it. "We know that lodge is not there to serve as a vehicle for the hierarchical advancement of those who feel the need to be appreciated in the Masonic fraternity, nor is it a substitute for the charitable agencies of the society. But over the years, men interested only in fraternal and charitable activities managed to take over lodge rooms and whole jurisdictions. Their interests became a standard for the official policy of many Jurisdictions," and "Leadership of the craft is so involved in the internal politics of who is going to sit in which office, or how they are to going to answer financially to their charitable obligation, or how they are going to manage their property, that there is simply little space left for reorganization of the system that does not function anymore." I find this an absolutely accurate observation and analysis.

I cannot agree with him in a Masonic sense that "Belief in One God" is closely connected with acceptance of the "Holy Bible" as the "Greatest Light in Freemasonry" although Freemasonry is more prevalent in Christian countries. I point out to the author, also, that the Grand Lodge of France is not one of the largest Grand Lodges in France nor are they regarded as regular.

With these issues aside, I found it to be a remarkably good book. It presents a broader perspective than I am used to reading and the history is written with a fresh concise viewpoint. His evaluation of the North American issues is right on the mark.

A 76-page appendix is included covering abbreviations, famous Freemasons, world Masonic jurisdictions, research organizations, Masonic publications, Masonic calendar, rites and degrees, world Masonic libraries and museums and recommended literature. This inclusion of a reference appendix seems to be in style in Masonic books today.

I recommend the book to you. It is worthy of your library.

Out of the Shadows, The Emergence of Prince Hall Freemasonry in America

by Alton G. Roundtree and Paul M. Bessel. Published in 2006 by KLR Publishing, LLC, Camp Springs, Maryland 20748. \$29.95.

This publication is possibly the most comprehensive book ever written on the subject of Prince Hall Freemasonry. Both authors are prominent Masonic scholars and authors. Bessel is a member of the mainstream Grand Lodge of Washington, DC, and Roundtree is a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge in the same jurisdiction. Both have written extensively on the subject of recognition and of the regularity of Prince Hall Freemasonry. *Out Of the Shadows*

represents the combined effort of two of today's foremost thinking minds on the subject.

Prince Hall Freemasonry has been a complex and somewhat confusing organization that has been fragmented by internal dissension and has regretfully not been well recorded and documented by historians. Some of its early writers lacked the knowledge and perhaps expertise resulting in misinformation concerning the craft. However, it played an extremely vital role in the evolution and development of black society in North America.

This book delves extensively into the subject of the origins of Prince Hall Freemasonry proving its legitimacy of origin and a justification in acknowledging its right to recognition. It discusses quite candidly the historic objections to recognition, the long road that it has traveled and the steps involved in gaining recognition today.

Included is a state-by-state breakout of the conditions for mutual recognition starting with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 1989 to the present.

The difficulties encountered with the creation of the National Grand Lodge along with the many irregular black Grand Lodges is also discussed in detail. One chapter is dedicated to the demographics of the distribution of Prince Hall Freemasons in the United States.

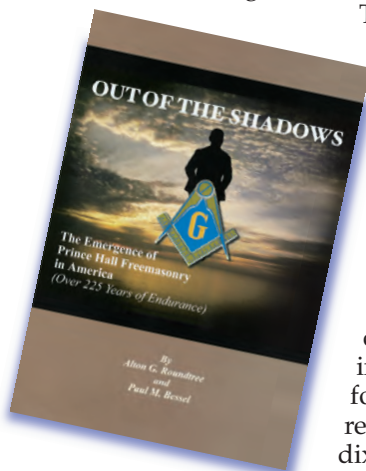
Sixteen appendices are included that contain pertinent information supporting the information and conclusions reached in the book. One appendix that should be extremely helpful to those interested in the subject is a listing of all the Grand

Lodges, both regular and irregular, operating in the United States and categorized by state.

Although it is my judgment that this book will rank as one of the best written on the subject of Prince Hall history, I cannot agree with their opinions on the use of the Masonic objection nor the lack of value of jurisdictional exclusivity although both were used to justify the refusal to grant recognition to Prince Hall Freemasonry.

Their question, "Should Masonry be protecting men who are too timid to let their brethren know if there is a good reason to reject a candidate?" precludes justifiable circumstances to do so. In addition, should we have no limitation to the number of regular Grand Lodges recognized in a jurisdiction we would dramatically weaken our capability to influence society. This is very evident in some foreign jurisdictions.

This book will be a good addition to your library.



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*.

Health Wise

ideas
for
health
and
fitness



NSAIDs best for arthritis pain

A review of various studies by the American College of Rheumatology shows that non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as aspirin and ibuprofen are more effective against moderate arthritis pain than acetaminophen.

Skin protection for drivers

The American College for Dermatologic Surgery advises that the UVA rays of the sun can penetrate windshields and damage facial skin. They recommend that drivers apply an SPF 15 sunscreen.

The dermatologists say it's a mistake to assume that a car gives sun protection. The left arms of most drivers also get a lot of sun even if the window is closed.

Coffee may protect the liver

According to Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Oakland, CA, four cups of coffee a day may protect against alcoholic liver disease. People who consumed four cups a day had an 80 percent lower risk.

To come to this conclusion, they studied the medical and death records of 125,580 health-plan members. The new data extends a 1992 report that also came to the conclusion that drinking coffee offers liver protection. The researchers, however, did not distinguish between regular and decaffeinated coffee.

The doctors say many people drink too much coffee and should cut back. But for those concerned about their



liver, drinking up to four cups a day is not an unhealthy habit.

Different shoes, simple exercises, fix foot pain

The workday can seem long when your feet hurt. Podiatrists at the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine offer this advice:

Steel-toed shoe wearers: Try a soft over-the-counter sole, or see a podiatrist for a custom-made orthotic insert.

Diabetics: Don't buy shoes by how they feel. Get your feet measured so your feet won't become crowded.

On your feet all day? Get well-made shoes or sneakers with arch supports. Sometimes a custom-made orthotic insert is needed.

Pregnant women: When your feet expand, buy a larger-sized shoe.

Everyone should buy shoes at the end of the day when feet are larger.

Podiatrists recommend these exercises: Sitting with feet on the floor, lift just toes and hold 10 seconds. Then with heels on the floor, lift the rest of the foot and hold for 10 seconds.

To stretch the Achilles tendons, stand away from a wall with feet a shoulder width apart and toes straight ahead. Lean forward, bending the elbows. Hold for 10 seconds.

Lower your blood pressure

If you're on a low-sodium, low-saturated diet to lower your blood pressure, here's another factor to consider: A diet that's lower in carbohydrates and higher in plant-based proteins such as those in beans, nuts, poultry, and egg substitutes. It's called the OmniHeart diet.

Doctors at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston studied three diets. The OmniHeart diet was best. It reduced carbohydrates and increased protein by adding more legumes, nuts, seeds, poultry, and egg substitutes.

This diet reduced blood pressure and triglycerides, and it increased good cholesterol levels. Visit medical-news.today.com for more information.

Kitty could catch bird flu

In the future, if birds in your area are found to have bird flu, keep your feline pet inside. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations says a cat that eats a sick bird could get bird flu and die.

Cats have been known to become infected with H5N1 virus and can give it to other cats.

At this time, nobody knows whether they could transmit it to people or to poultry. Doctors at the University of Michigan say it's premature to suggest keeping cats indoors at this time in order to avoid bird flu.

More than Just Books . . .

Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum

Patents and Their Inventors

The Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum is offering an exhibition of artifacts from its collection. "A New and Useful Improvement: 19th Century Patents and Their Inventors" is an uncommon look at original patents, coupled with the stories of the amateur inventors who staked their hopes and fortunes on these new and often ingenious ideas.

This exhibition will open Dec. 9 and continue through June 17, 2007.

Throughout American history, inventors have sought to protect their rights to make and sell their inventions through patents.

However, until 1835, the U. S. Patent Office granted patents without examining the merit or novelty of the inventions. As a result, many of the patents granted were worthless or in conflict with other designs.

The Patent Act of 1836 required inventors to submit specifications or written descriptions and drawings of their invention together with a 12-inch model. Inventions must be proven both useful and new before a patent can be granted.

President Andrew Jackson, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, was a key figure in establishing this new patent system and its requirements. A vast number of aspiring amateur inventors flooded the Patent Office with their ideas in the mid-1800s. Among those amateur inventors were John M. Chandler, Amory Davidson, James W. Hodges, and John B. Root.

Their patent ideas included improvements on bracelet fastenings, a



An engraving, "Examiners at Work," from *Harper's Weekly*, July 10, 1869.

machine for washing clothes, an automatic steam trap, and baling presses.

Their stories will be told through this exhibition and their Masonic careers will be highlighted.

Recent Masonic Acquisitions

❖ *Holy Blood, Holy Grail, special illustrated edition*, by Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh and Henry Lincoln. New York: Bantam Dell, a division of Random House, 2005.

Beautifully illustrated with mostly color images of buildings, paintings

and documents described in this controversial text.

❖ *The Hall In the Garden: Freemasons' Hall and Its Place In London*. Surrey, England: Lewis Masonic, an imprint of Ian Allen Publishing, 2006.

This book narrates the history of the Freemasons' Hall illustrated throughout with many color images of some of the items held in the landmark building.

❖ *Turning the Hiram Key: Rituals of Freemasonry Revealed*, by Robert Lomas. Gloucester, MA: Fair Winds Press, 2005.

In this third entry of Lomas' trilogy of Hiram books (the first two were: *The Hiram Key* and *The Book of Hiram*), he explores hidden meaning behind Masonic rituals in order to give a deeper understanding of the organization and fundamental purposes.

General Acquisition

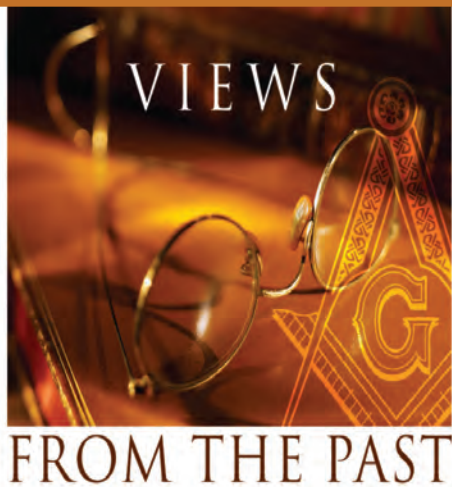
❖ *This New America: The Spirit of the Civilian Conservation Corps*, by A. C. Oliver Jr. and Harold M. Dudley. London and New York: Longmans, Green and Co., 1937.

The Civilian Conservation Corps, set up by the FDR administration to provide young men with employment, was made up of thousands of youths who built and preserved our national parks and forests during the Great Depression.

This book tells the story of the operations and includes entries written by both enrollees and officials.

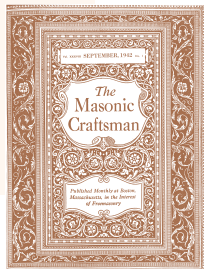


CATHERINE SWANSON, is the Archivist at the Van Gorden-Williams Library at the National Heritage Museum.



Will Peace Restore Universal Freemasonry?

As the Second World War raged, the editor of "The Masonic Craftsman" posed a question to himself and to the editors of two additional Masonic publications, each representing a distinct region of the country. For the September 1942 issue of the magazine they were asked, "Will peace restore universal Freemasonry?" Here are their answers.



Depends Upon Vision and Labor

The question presented can hardly be considered from the standpoint of known facts; it is an expression of personal opinion. The natural inclination of one zealous for the full restoration

and extension of craft influence would be to declare that the institution will be enabled to surmount all obstacles, to more than make good all losses, and even to exceed all past records.

But it is not wise in serious times to indulge in day dreams; therefore we must seek to consider the subject realistically. It might be well to first ask the question whether Masonry is fitting itself to occupy a place of increased usefulness and honor in reconstruction of a peace structure such as we hope will follow upon the present disturbed and disastrous period.

It is beside the question to point with pride to the fact that Masons and Masonic bodies are contributing generously in response to all calls upon patriotic effort. We are all American citizens, and it is of highest duty, as such, that we do all within our power to advance the national cause, as all other Americans, as individuals and institutions, are also doing.

Thus far the record is clear and is to the credit of the craft, but not justifying us in making any special claim to honor.

But the insistent question recurs: what is American Freemasonry doing as a nation-wide element of the people, to fit itself for the intensified activities for human good, that will be required from all institutions with the return of peace? A world in partial ruin; the peoples bewildered and numbed by the ever-present sense of loss, cannot be assuaged by perfunctory word. There will be need for inspiring example, for leadership in moving to the new places of labor, with an inspired going forward to overcome all difficulties, and with definite goals in mind of betterments made apparent to even the lowliest and most neglected.

These are the things that must constitute the forces of the peace time, if

It Will Take Time

There can be no doubt of the restoration of universal Freemasonry with the return of peace throughout the world. Such a desirable condition cannot be expected to come overnight. It may take many years before the wounds engendered by the present conflict will heal and civilization resume its trend toward recognition of the brotherhood of man and the establishment of justice for all peoples.

The principles of the institution of Freemasonry are closely interwoven with the ideals of the nations warring for the preservation of democracy, and the return of peace will result in establishing a generally accepted philosophy of life in harmony with Masonic principles, with a natural extension of the influence of the order.

In speaking of the return of peace, we intentionally ignore the possibility of a totalitarian victory. In the unthinkable event of a substantial victory for the powers of aggression and conquest, there would be no peace. Jungle law would prevail throughout the world and mankind would be virtually enslaved. Freemasonry would cease to exist, and no group advocating the theory that individuals possess unalienable rights could carry on its work.

Yet even in the event of such a

tragic disaster as the supremacy of the forces of aggression, all would not be lost. Men and events may change the conditions of life, but they cannot change human nature and the aspirations of mankind. A great majority of human beings are subconsciously imbued with the desire to live honorable lives, to accord justice to all, and to act in conformity with the principle of the brotherhood of man.

Should conquering despots erase all visible traces of Freemasonry and similar organizations, in succeeding generations their ideals would again come into the light of day and overcome the forces of darkness. Principles live in spite of oppression and persecution.

Our topic speaks of universal Freemasonry, something that has never yet been attained. In spite of the advantageous conditions which have prevailed for more than a century, universal Freemasonry has been an aspiration rather than an accomplishment.

As good often comes from trials and tribulations, so the sordid conflict of the present day may, with the return of peace, bring a closer union and a better understanding between the far-flung members of the craft.

— Wm. C. Rapp, Editor,
Masonic Chronicler, Chicago

there is to be a restoration of Masonic influence. The institution claiming to have moral or spiritual mission that can most nearly fill such requirements will not need any assurance of perpetuity or fortuitous extension of its beneficent influence.

So far as "universal Masonry" is concerned, the term is, in truth, hardly more than a rhetorical flourish. There are vast areas of the earth, and densely populated, in which Masonry cannot hope to enter.

Intelligence and an appreciation of the benefits of mental enlightenment and moral teachings are prerequisites. Nor can we expect that with the dawn of peace, there will be immediate restoration of the former isolated fraternal groups that here and there struggled for a foothold in the midst of prejudice and misunderstanding.

Our answer to the question here propounded — an opinion personal

and not oracular — is that we will do well to concentrate on our own section of the craft, so that it, at least, may measure up to the demands to be made upon it such time as the worn world painfully begins the slow work of reconstruction.

The wearied peoples will need sorely the inspiration coming from those who have not lost faith in God and their fellows. That inspiration we as Masons must seek and find and then make manifest beyond questioning or doubt. Thus we will be able to make secure our position by proving the worth of our work.

The "universality of Masonry," as a reality, must wait for the slow growth of humanity to grasp the higher conceptions and worthwhile idealisms of a civilization based on justice and seeking ever a most perfect righteousness.

— Jos. E. Morcombe, Editor,
Masonic World, San Francisco

It Can and Must

Whoever asked the above question, if he expected to receive a specific yes or no answer, must have surmised that the person answering had occult powers of divination, for certainly no one is capable of assuring the return of something which has never heretofore existed.

In other than English-speaking countries, particularly on the continent of Europe, the craft has come upon hard times indeed, so that in all Nazi-occupied territory its lodges have been proscribed, property stolen, and some of its leaders persecuted even unto death for their devotion to Masonic principles.

Thus has been witnessed one phase of the vicious totalitarian ideology, which cannot exist in a free atmosphere, which stifles individual thought and blocks intellectual and spiritual freedom. Freemasonry outside the English-speaking nations is largely in eclipse at present.

When and if the blighting influences of the perverted imaginations of Hitler, Mussolini and their Quislings has been destroyed, the craft will resurrect itself is a most interesting question. Given any sort of peace, which is based upon the essential principle of goodwill and fra-

ternity, the answer must be unequivocally yes, for those men in the distant past when they started their progress toward Masonic Light must have envisioned the need for a strength to fight off the powers of darkness of which today the world is so terribly conscious. If the craft has been true to itself, and there is no doubt that our unfortunate brothers in the oppressed countries took their Freemasonry seriously, the recrudescence of Masonic life will spring forth again to illumine the path of human progress.

It will have to overcome obstacles and will meet a new and strange world from which much of its inspiration has been destroyed by ruthless force, but, purified and exalted by persecution and the example of illustrious martyrs in its cause, we are convinced that Freemasonry will not only be restored but will thrive in a new order based upon that fundamental principle of Brotherhood under Divinity which is at its root and which must be the foundation of the peace for which the free world is so ardently striving and for which so many sacrifices have been made.

— Alfred H. Moorhouse, Editor,
Masonic Craftsman, Boston

Quick Quotes

All achievements, all earned riches,
have their beginnings in an idea.

— Napoleon Hill

The state of your life is nothing more
than a reflection of your state of mind.

— Wayne Dyer

It's always too early to quit.

— Norman Vincent Peale

You maintain your balance, poise, and
sense of security only as you are moving
forward.

— Maxwell Maltz

If you pick up a starving dog and
make him prosperous, he will not bite
you. That is the principal difference
between dog and man.

— Mark Twain

What worries you, masters you.

— Haddon Robinson

Concentrate. Put all your eggs in one
basket and then watch the basket.

— Andrew Carnegie

We act as though comfort and luxury
were the chief requirements of life
when all we need to make us happy is
something to be enthusiastic about.

— Charles Kingsley

Most of the important things in the
world have been accomplished by
people who have kept on trying when
there seemed to be no hope at all.

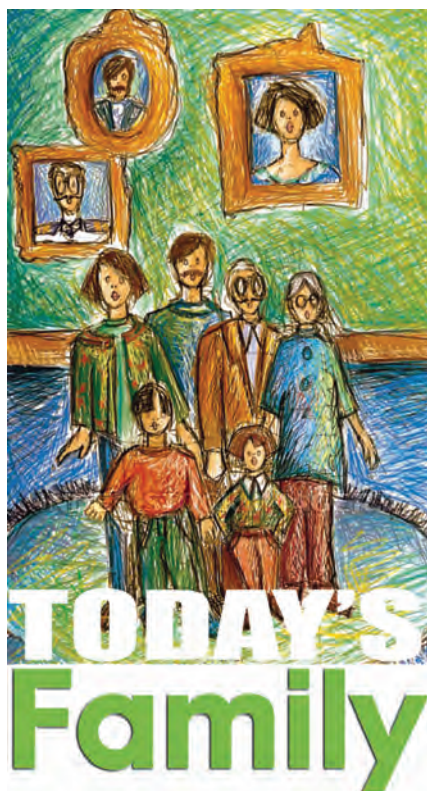
— Dale Carnegie

Few things can help an individual
more than to place responsibility on
him, and to let him know that you
trust him.

— Booker T. Washington

I am rather inclined to silence, and
whether that be wise or not, it is at
least more unusual nowadays to find
a man who can hold his tongue than
to find one who cannot.

— Abraham Lincoln



People in their 50's are buying retirement homes

In something of a trend, retirement homes are being bought by people who are a decade or more away from the big day. It's most likely to happen among those who intend to stay in the city where they live now, close to their families and friends.

With a significant profit to be gained from selling their present homes, pre-retirees have the money and the time to look for a home that fits their needs both now and after they retire.

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) asked its members who build for the 50-plus market what types of homes and communities they are building and what features today's mature home buyers want.

More than three-quarters of survey respondents said a maintenance-free lifestyle was their main reason for locating. They no longer want big yards to maintain or houses that need to be painted.

Looking ahead to their senior years when they could have difficulty getting around the house, NAHB

builders included lever door handles, wider hallways and doorways, full baths and master bedrooms on the first floor, grab bars in bathrooms, and security systems.

Many pre-retirees want neighborhoods with lighted streets, green spaces, walking trails, sidewalks, and close proximity to shopping areas, restaurants, and highway access.

Help your child slim down

The National Institute of Health recommends eating at home where you can control levels of fats. Additionally:

- Get children to help with shopping. Have them read nutrition labels. Don't buy junk food. Buy milk and get kids to enjoy it even if you have to add chocolate.
- Eat together as a family. Avoid mindless eating in front of the TV.
- Don't use food as a reward.

Buying Your First Home? Here's how to do it:

Although there are many ways to go when buying your first home, finding a dependable real estate agent in the beginning can save a lot of headaches.

- Preapproval for home finance is the next step. Avoid online loans. When you know how much you can borrow, you won't spend time looking

at homes above your price range, and you won't settle for something less than you can actually afford.

- Help your agent find the right place for you. Provide a list of what you want and don't want in a home.
- Select the right neighborhood and location to suit your needs.
- When you find a home you like, ask your real estate agent to check resale data in the area.
- Buy in winter for the best price. Buy in spring for the best selection.

Backseat projectiles

If you're wearing a seat belt and driving 45 miles an hour, you'll stay in place if you have to jam on the brakes. Whatever is in the back seat or back window of your car will continue moving at 45 miles an hour. These flying objects cause 65,000 injuries each year. (You could be knocked unconscious at a time when you need to think fast and well.)

Mechanical engineers at Rowan University in New Jersey say that in SUVs, use the rear luggage area where the seats will keep most items in place. Use the cargo net if one is provided.

Drivers of passenger cars should keep cargo in the trunk or on the back seat floor.

Transportation injury researchers at the State University of Buffalo in New York say you should scan the vehicle for loose objects each day and get rid of them.

Be nice for your heart's sake

Doctors at Ohio State University have found that the saying about sticks and stones isn't quite right. Words indeed do hurt people. Harsh words can literally be heartbreaking.

The researchers found that men who hear or use controlling phrases like, "You have to do it my way," were 30 percent more likely to have hardened arteries. The same was true for women who heard or made hostile comments such as, "You can be so stupid sometimes."

Psychologists at the University of Utah suggest listening with empathy, not placing blame, and looking for solutions together.



READERS



RESPOND

Mason at the Brickyard

As chairman of the board of the International Association of Indianapolis 500 Old-timers, Inc., I was pleased to see the article on Bro. Sam Hornish Jr., winner of the Indianapolis 500 ("Mason at the Brickyard," Aug. 2006).

I have been associated with the Indianapolis Motor Speedway for many years dealing with property and general business law matters.

George A. Brattain, 33°
Valley of Terre Haute

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

Beethoven's Ninth

The title of the article by Bro. Kuntz ("Beethoven's Ninth," Feb. 2006) ends with a question: "Is It a Testament to Freemasonry?"

The answer is a definite no. A testament to the ideals of the enlightenment? Yes.

The article would seem to suggest that Freemasonry had a corner on a movement in the 18th century that brought about the democratic governments that we know today in the Western World.

True, many of these writers and philosophers were Masons, but Masonry did not create their thoughts. It was the other way around. Their ideals were adopted by Freemasonry.

Wishful thinking seems to be the hallmark of American Freemasonry.

Bro. Joseph Nicholas
Cologne-Merhiem, Germany

Editors Note: I don't believe that any legitimate Masonic scholar in the United States would disagree with you that the philosophy of Freemasonry is an outgrowth of the Enlightenment, and I don't believe that the author of the Beethoven article disagrees with you either.

The author points out the many instances in Beethoven's work that have a correlation to the Masonic fraternity. Had he stated that "Beethoven must have been a Mason because . . .", we would not have used the article. Instead, he clearly makes no such claim. The sub-heading is not a statement. It is a question that leads the reader into the story. Your attitude toward American Freemasonry is reflected in your final paragraph, but I do hope you read beyond the headline.

On the Lighter Side

Actual answers given by 16-year-olds on tests:

- Name the four seasons: Salt, pepper, mustard, and vinegar.
- How is water made fit to drink? Flirtation makes it safe because it removes pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep, and canoeists.
- How is dew formed? The sun shines down on leaves and makes them perspire.
- What causes tides in the oceans? Tides are a fight between the Earth and the moon. I forget where the sun joins in this fight.
- What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty? He says good-bye to his boyhood and looks forward to his adultery.
- Name a disease caused by cigarettes. Premature death.
- How do you delay milk from turning sour? Keep it in the cow.
- What is a fibula? A small lie.
- What is a terminal illness? It's when you get sick at the airport.
- What does "varicose" mean? Nearby.
- What is a Hindu? It lays eggs.
- What is a seizure? A Roman Emperor.
- What is a turbine? Something an Arab wears on his head.

HIRAM™

By WALLY MILLER





More Readers Respond

Restoring the Center

The article by Wayne T. Adams ("Restoring the Center," Aug. 2006) wound me up.

It was easier for me to complete three college degrees while working full-time than it has been for me to gain insight into Freemasonry. I commend and appreciate Bro. Adams' article.

*Darren Hudson Harder, 32°
Valley of Columbus*

As the current Master of an English-speaking research lodge, I was particularly interested in the article by Bro. Adams which touched on the need to focus on the present.

Phoenix Research Lodge, too, has chosen to leave traditional research to lodges such as Quatuor Coronati in the U.K.; Ars Maconica in Belgium, and Villard de Honnecourt in France. We attempt to identify Masonry with its place in the modern world.

*Robert Bell
Phoenix Lodge, Paris, France*

Swedish Translation

In reference to the Swedish Jakob Berzelius stamp ("The Stamp Act," Aug. 2006), there is not, and never has been, a lodge in Sweden named "St. John and St. Erik Lodge."

The name of Bro. Berzelius' lodge, instituted in 1756, is simply, "St. Erik." It is still in existence, and I have had the pleasure of visiting there quite a few times.

The misunderstanding about the correct name is likely the result of the full style given to any Swedish lodge, in this case "St. Johanneslogen St. Erik," literally translated as "The St. John's Lodge St. Erik."

The adding of the words "St. Johanneslogen" is to clarify that this is a

lodge empowered to confer only the first three degrees.

By comparison, the names of lodges empowered to confer the 4° through the 6° are prefaced by "St. Andreaslogen," translated as "The St. Andrew's Lodge," with the name of the lodge to follow.

*Sven R. Mossbert, 33°
Valley of New York City*

Dummies Dang Good

I agree with Ill. Thomas W. Jackson, 33°, on his opinion ("Book Nook," May 2006), that *Freemasons for Dummies* is a "dang good book," and I have recommended it to Masons and non-Masons. It has a wryly amusing style and is clear and concise, in keeping with the *Dummies* series.

Behind our closed doors there is a distinct gravitas in the ceremonial, which is an essential and enjoyable part of Freemasonry, but it appears that those who decry this book take themselves and the craft too seriously.

This book, penned mostly for the general public, does not demean the craft in any way. This book is a breath of fresh air.

If I have a criticism, it is the price. *Dummies* is a paperback book retailing for about \$20.

In contrast you can purchase Mark Tabbert's well-written *American Freemasons*, retailing for about \$10 more. It is beautifully printed in full color and hardbound that will be treasured for years to come.

*Graeme Marsden, 32°
Valley of Boston*

MASONIC WORD MATH

How to solve: Start with the first word. Add to it the letters of the second word. Then add or subtract the letters of the following words. Total the remaining letters and unscramble them to find a word associated with Masonry.

(WESTERN) + (STRIPES) – (STEW)
+ (WINDOW) – (DINNER) + (TEASE)
– (WORST) + (UNDER) – (SEEN)
– (RAW)

=

Clue for this puzzle appears on page 4.
Answer from previous issue: KNOWLEDGE

Footnotes*

* Time to Say Farewell

In the late '60s Sovereign Grand Commander George A. Newbury appointed a committee to investigate the possibility of creating a publication that would reach all members throughout the 15-state jurisdiction. When the search for an editor proved unsuccessful, the Commander convinced Ill. George E. Burow, 33°, to accept the position.

Ill. Bro. Burow, who was chairman of the committee and a newspaper editor in Danville, Illinois, did not want to relocate to Lexington but suggested that an assistant editor be hired to look after the day-to-day operations.

This young Mason, who happened to be at the right place at the right time, was brought on board in July 1969 as the assistant. The committee had selected the name of the magazine and created the original cover design, but the rest was left in my hands. The journalistic background came in handy, but the graphic design was strictly trial and error.

Bro. Burow made many trips to Lexington during the first few years to offer assistance, but eventually he decided it was time to relinquish the title.

The first issue premiered in January 1970. For the first 17 years there were five issues per year. By 1987 the magazine was published quarterly, but the number of pages increased.

For the past few years, Bro. Alan E. Foulds, 32°, has been a working partner in the preparation of the magazine. I believe he is duly and truly prepared and well qualified to assume the position of editor.

After 37 years and 165 issues of *The Northern Light*, I felt the time was right to make the change. I have agreed to remain at the Supreme Council for special projects but have requested a reduced office schedule.

To the many readers who have provided the inspiration and encouragement over the years, please accept my sincere thanks. You have made it a very rewarding experience.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°
Editor

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Lexington, MA 02420

THE HERITAGE SHOP



American Freemasons
by Mark A. Tabbert



Masonic Symbols Throw
40" x 60"



"Masonic
Symbols
Chart" Print
16" x 20"

Masonic
Knife



Square & Compasses Items



Cap (Black, Navy
or Stone)

Polo Shirt (Black)
L, XL, XXL



Cufflinks, Shirt Studs,
Tie Tack (Navy)



Black
Leather
Wallet



100% Silk Tie (Navy
with Gold Emblem)

Suspenders (Black or White),
Gloves (L or XL) and Silver Money
Clip are available but not pictured

32° Masonic Items



Polo shirt
(Black or White)
L, XL, XXL



100% Silk Tie
(Black with Gold
Emblem)

Cap (Black)



Cufflinks, Shirt Studs,
Tie Tack (Black)



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