

The Northern Light

The magazine for Scottish Rite Masons of AmericaSM

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4 Celebrating with a re-enactment.

New York

By Aimee E. Newell, PhD



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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

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

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

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

The Final Inspection

November, especially weather wise, is not the most inspirational or revitalizing of months. The beautiful days of spring and summer have passed ever too quickly moving into fall with its final blaze of colors and refreshingly crisp days. November, in spite of the bounty at Thanksgiving time, puts an end to all that. The harvest is over and soon the harsh days of a long winter will leave us with little to do in the world of nature but to think spring.

Perhaps the keyword for November is thinking; reflecting on our manifold blessings and comforts which that beautiful tessellated border or skirting surrounding the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple signifies to us in the ritual of the Entered Apprentice degree.

Those blessings and comforts have been preserved and ensured for us as Americans by the valiant men and women of our Armed Forces whose sacrifices we remember every day, but especially on November 11, Veteran's Day.

Every family in this great and free society of ours has most likely seen its sons, daughters, fathers and mothers involved in some way as a vital part of America's Armed Forces

November will bear witness to our thoughts, our reflections, our prayers of remembrance for those who served, for those who now serve, and for those who will take up arms in answer to any future call on this nation to suppress the dark forces which seek to alter the American way of life. As we were so well reminded, especially after the never to be forgotten events of 9-11-01, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" and we are committed always to being prepared. Complacency is perilous.

Recently, I came across a poem, "The Final Inspection," a tribute to a fallen hero. The words that follow are especially appropriate to our mutual meditations at this Armistice Day traditional observance.

*The Soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.
'Step forward now, Soldier,
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?'
The soldier squared his shoulders and said,
'No, Lord, I guess I have not.
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint.
I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.
But, I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.
And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear...
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.
I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.
If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand.'
There was a silence all around the throne,
Where the Saints had often trod.
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.
'Step forward now, you Soldier,
You've borne your burdens well.
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell.'*

Lest we forget!

John Wm McNaughton

Sovereign Grand Commander

New York

By AIMEE E. NEWELL, PhD

Throughout 2013, the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction has celebrated its 200th anniversary. The year has been marked by the publication of a new book about the fraternity's history, *A Sublime Brotherhood*, and a new exhibition at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA. Despite new research and continued interest, there are still some details that remain unknown about the beginnings of the jurisdiction. For example, we know that the charter establishing the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was signed in New York City on Aug. 5, 1813, but we don't know exactly where. The early history of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction is intertwined with Masonic history in New York and the state has a long tradition of Masonic activity and products that are represented in the collection of the Museum & Library.

Masonic Buildings in New York City

On Aug. 5, 2013, a re-enactment of the signing of the charter was held at the Grand Lodge of New York, now located at 71 West 23rd Street. It's possible that the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction held some of its early meetings at the

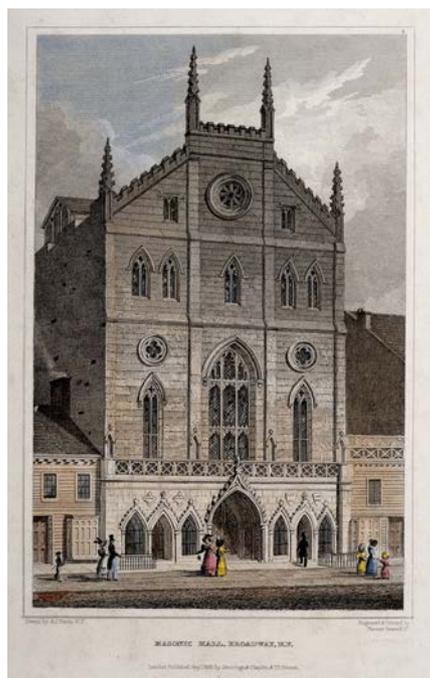


**Masonic Temple,
New York, ca.
1875, E. & H.T.
Anthony & Co.,
New York, NY.**

various buildings used by the Grand Lodge of New York during the early and mid-1800s. Prior to 1820, the Grand Lodge of New York, which was established in 1782, and declared its independence in 1787, had no fixed meeting place. In 1820, the Grand Lodge secured rooms for its larger meetings in Washington Hall on Broadway. In 1826, the cornerstone was laid for a Masonic Hall on Broadway between Duane and Pearl Streets. An engraving of the building from 1830 shows a Gothic-style façade with plenty of room to confer lodge degrees and conduct Grand Lodge business.

While details about meeting places for the Supreme Council in 1813 and after are unknown, there is evidence that Abraham Jacobs held meetings of his Supreme Council at New York City's Washington Lodge in 1808. The published history of Washington Lodge, No. 21, recounts that in November 1808 Jacobs gathered his Brethren at "the rooms of Washington Lodge" and organized a Council of Princes of Jerusalem and a Lodge of Perfection. Among the men who attended one of these meetings was J.J.J. Gourgas, who would later serve as Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Despite Jacobs' claims to be legitimate, his Supreme Council was one of those found to be spurious by Emanuel De La Motta in 1813.

The current Grand Lodge of New York building was erected in 1913, replacing the building on the same site, which was dedicated in 1875. The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum &



**Masonic Hall,
Broadway, NY,
1830, A.J.
Davis, artist,
Jennings and
Chaplin and
I.T. Hinton,
publishers,
London.
Photo by
David Bohl.**

Library collection includes a few stereograph photos of the 1875 building showing its exterior and some of its lodge rooms.

Masonic Decorative Arts from New York

Just as in other colonies and states during the 1700s and 1800s, New York Freemasons had many Masonic objects available to them when furnishing their homes and lodges. The Museum & Library holds a number of New York examples in its collection today. A cherry desk, made in Whitehall, NY, during the 1840s or 1850s, is decorated with inlaid woods including Masonic symbols on the door at the right side of the base. The desk demonstrates the technique of marquetry, where wood veneers are applied on top of the base wood to create decorative patterns. Unfortunately, the maker of this desk is unknown.

A stoneware “harvest jug” in the museum’s collection is also decorated with Masonic symbols and was made in New York in 1805 for John Romer. One side shows an arrangement of Masonic symbols inside an outline that is shaped like a Masonic apron. Romer was a member of Hiram Lodge, No. 72, of Mount Pleasant, NY, which he joined in 1800 with Daniel D. Tompkins, later the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and Vice President of the United States. Romer served in the militia during the American Revolution and was a captain during the War of 1812.

According to a published family history, Romer received a Masonic funeral and his gravestone includes the square and compasses symbol.

Harvest jugs take their name from an association with large jugs and pitchers used to carry beer to farm workers at harvest time. This example shows incised decoration with blue cobalt slip. It could have been made in the Poughkeepsie area, although similar pottery was made in several areas of the state during the early 1800s.

Masonic Harvest Jug, 1805, Unidentified Maker, New York.



New York City boasted an active engraving and publishing trade during the 1800s and the museum collection includes many examples of prints produced in the city (and in other cities in the state). One of the best-known examples is a Masonic chart produced by famed lithographers Currier and Ives in 1876. The arrangement of symbols seen on this chart was inspired by the 1819 book, *The True Masonic Chart and Hieroglyphic Monitor*, by Jeremy L. Cross with illustrations by Amos Doolittle of New Haven, CT. Both

Doolittle and Cross were active Freemasons. After witnessing the “improper classification” of Masonic symbols at degree rituals, Cross published his book to correct these mistakes and provide a ready reference for

Freemasons throughout the country. His book became the best-selling and most influential source of Masonic symbolism in the United States. The book also inspired generations of engravers and printers for decades, including Currier and Ives.

The chart printed by Currier and Ives includes many well-known symbols. The central pair of pillars is known as Jachin and Boaz after a Biblical reference to Solomon’s Temple.



The Masonic Chart, 1876, Currier and Ives, New York, NY. Gift of Eldon T. Urquhart.

Masonic Roll-Top Desk, 1840-60, Unidentified Maker, Whitehall, NY. Photo by David Bohl.



Symbolically, they represent strength and stability. The checkered floor (or mosaic pavement) represents good and evil in life. The all-seeing eye at top is a symbol of Providence, while the letter G signifies geometry or God (or both). In the center, the three candlestands represent the sun, the moon and the Worshipful Master of the lodge. Along the bottom are a coffin and a scythe symbolizing death and time, and at the sides are an anchor symbolizing hope and a beehive signifying industry.

Nathaniel Currier started his career in Boston, as an apprentice to William and John Pendleton. After a move to Philadelphia, Currier went to New York City with John Pendleton in 1833. A year later, Pendleton moved on and sold the business to Currier, who partnered briefly with a man named Stodart. James Merritt Ives joined Currier's business as a bookkeeper in 1852. In 1857, Ives became a full partner in what became known as Currier and Ives. The business would go on to publish more than 7,000 images over 73 years, closing in 1907.

Personal Masonic Mementos for New York Brothers

In 1854, Oliver Arthur Pennoyer of Penn Yan, NY, (in the Finger Lakes region), married Margaret L. Morris. Probably around the time of his marriage, Pennoyer purchased a pocket memo calendar with a silver cover and ivory "pages" marked with the days of the week. He could write down his appointments each week inside with a pencil and then erase them for the next week. One side of the cover includes engraving spelling out his name, his town, and a selection of Masonic symbols. The other side includes the year and a scene of Niagara Falls, possibly the destination for his wedding trip that year, although we do not know for sure.

Pennoyer moved to Penn Yan, NY, in the late 1840s or early 1850s and worked in the county

clerk's office. In 1854, he joined William C. Morris in running a local jewelry store. Pennoyer's wife may have been a relation of William C. Morris. Pennoyer eventually moved to Illinois where he held various county positions, worked for the Grant administration, passed the Illinois bar and worked in the insurance business. The inclusion of Masonic symbols on the cover of the calendar strongly suggests that Pennoyer was a Freemason, but specific records of his membership remain elusive.

Evidence suggests that Pennoyer may have designed or engraved the cover of his memo calendar himself. Articles in the local paper note that he practiced "rare and beautiful penmanship." And, his obituary explains that "he was a skillful engraver and had expressed a desire to become employed in the silver plate works."

Another object in the collection provides more specific information about the recipient's Masonic connections. In 1928, the officers of New York's City Lodge, No. 408, presented their Master, Harry G. Herman, with a presentation maul made of silver-plated copper with a wooden base. Herman graduated from Columbia University's Law School in 1919 and served as a United States assistant district attorney with Thomas Dewey, who remained one of his life-long friends. After serving as corporation counsel in Mount Vernon, NY, and county attorney of Westchester County, Herman became a judge, serving as surrogate for Westchester County.

When his daughter presented the maul to the museum in 1994, she noted that her father "cherished his Masonic membership always." Research into the details of Herman's Masonic career is ongoing, but the maul does document his service as Master of City Lodge, No. 408, in 1928 when he was 33 years old. Operative masons used the maul to set the stones in their proper positions, so it seems an appropriate gift for a Master who has led his Brothers in the lodge.



Masonic Pocket Memo Calendar, 1854, Unidentified Maker, New York.



Masonic Presentation Maul, 1928, Unidentified Maker, New York. Gift of Sally H. Lunt in memory of Judge Harry G. Herman.

200 YEARS TO THE DAY

On Aug. 5, 2013, the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, a ceremonial reenactment of the passing of the charter was held in New York City, site of the original event.

The ceremony took place in the Americana Lodge Room of the Grand Lodge of New York building. The event featured Sovereign Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale of the Southern Jurisdiction passing a replica of the charter of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction to Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton. Both men made brief remarks as did the Most Worshipful James E. Sullivan, Grand Master of Masons in the state of New York.

Also on the program were the inaugural presentations of the new Daniel D. Tompkins Award, named for the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. The first of the two presentations was made in honor of Bro. Franklin D. Roosevelt, 32nd, and 32nd president of the United States. Accepting the award was Grand Master Sullivan. The second Tompkins Award was made to Bro. Leonard "Bud"



Lomel. As a U.S. Army Ranger, he landed at Pointe du Hoc on the coast of Normandy on D-Day. He found and quickly disabled the German Army's largest coastal weapons: five 155-millimeter weapons with a 25 kilometer range that endangered thousands of landing troops. Historian Stephen Ambrose recognized Lomel "as the single individual – other than Dwight D. Eisenhower – most responsible for the success of D-Day." Accepting the award for Bro. Lomel was his widow, Charlotte Lomel.

"The occasion was one which will ever be memorable"

New York Freemasons are no strangers to marking historic occasions. The celebration of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's 200th anniversary on Aug. 5, 2013, was just the most recent. On Oct.

9, 1880, the Grand Lodge of New York assisted with laying the cornerstone for the Egyptian obelisk, known as "Cleopatra's Needle," in Central Park. The Grand Master later described it as an occasion "which will ever be memorable in the annals of the craft of this jurisdiction." The ceremony took place with the usual large Masonic procession and speeches, along with the fraternity's cornerstone laying ceremony. Over 9,000 Freemasons took part in the procession.

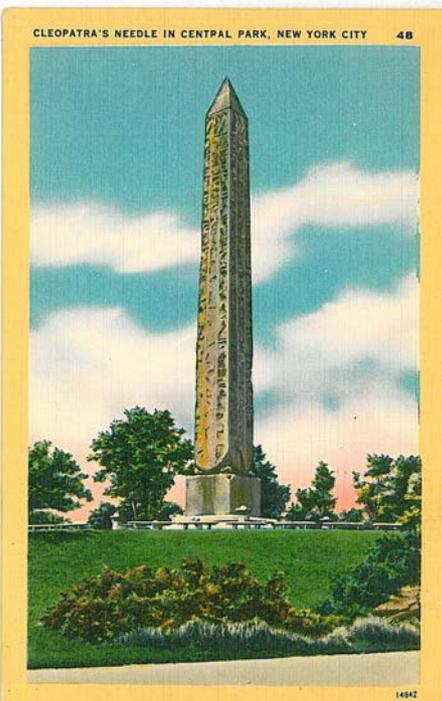
The New York obelisk is part of a pair that is inscribed with hieroglyphs

and was originally erected in Egypt around 1450 B.C. The twin to the New York obelisk was moved to London in 1878. Once the cornerstone for the New York obelisk was laid in October 1880, it took several more months to place and secure the obelisk itself. It was erected on Feb. 22, 1881. The museum is fortunate to have an example of a commemorative medal produced for the cornerstone laying. One side shows the obelisk, while inscriptions on the medal record the date of the occasion.

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library looks forward to continuing to collect and preserve the past and future history of Freemasonry in New York and throughout the United States. 

Aimee E. Newell, PhD, is the director of collections at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA. If you would like to donate to the Museum & Library, contact her by email at anewell@monh.org or by phone at 781-457-4144.

Egyptian Obelisk, 1907-14, Colourpicture, Boston, MA.



Masonic Egyptian Obelisk Medal, 1880, Unidentified Maker, New York, NY. Gift of Frances L. Collins.

ANNUAL MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS



The annual meeting, this year, was a celebration of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's past and future, as the 200th anniversary was celebrated in style. This year our nation's capital and home to the Southern Jurisdiction, Washington, DC, played host to the gathering. New Deputies and Active Members were chosen, officers were elected, and deliberations were conducted among the various committees and bodies charged with the operation of the rite. Three times during the general session those in attendance were entertained and enlightened by the magic and comedy of Giovanni.

The Southern Jurisdiction was represented by Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, Ill. William B. Brunk, 33°, Grand Secretary General, Ill. James D. Cole, 33°, Grand Treasurer General, and Ill. Charles V. Sederstrom, 33°, S.G.I.G. in Nebraska.

The Northern Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliation, was represented by Ill. Gregory S. Snead, 33°.

Guests at the 2012 Annual Session included the 15 Grand Masters of the states in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, together with the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington, DC. Forty-one other Supreme Councils from around the world were represented by present or past Sovereign Grand Commanders, or by personal representatives of

their Sovereign Grand Commanders. There were, in addition, the representatives of The Masonic Service Association, and five appendant bodies, including International Order of DeMolay.

New Active Members

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

Ill. Gregory Lee Clark, 33°, of Bloomington, IL, is retired. He was Master of Ancient Landmarks Lodge, No. 3579, in Bloomington, IL. In Grand Lodge of Illinois he was a Grand Deacon. He is a member of the Valleys of Bloomington and Chicago and is Past Thrice Potent Master and Past Commander-in-Chief. He received the 33° in 1988.

Ill. Herbert John Atkinson, 33°, of New Castle, DE, is retired. He is a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, in New Castle, DE, and the Delaware Lodge of Research where he was Master, and is Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. He is member of the Valley of Wilmington and received the 33° in 1994.

Ill. Jeffrey Lynn Bryden, 33°, of Brookfield, WI, is an investment manager. He was Master of Freemasons Lodge, No. 363, in Milwaukee and was Commander-in-Chief in the Valley of Milwaukee. He received the 33° in 2004.

NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS



Gregory L. Clark, 33°
Illinois



Herbert J. Atkinson, 33°
Delaware



Jeffrey L. Bryden, 33°
Wisconsin



Steven E. Smith, 33°
Rhode Island



Daniel M. Wilson, 33°
New Jersey



Jeffrey A. Simonton, 33°
Maine



Peter R. Smith, 33°
Massachusetts



Elbridge H. Brewer, 33°
Ohio

Ill. **Steven Edward Smith, 33°**, of North Attleborough, MA, was Master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 47, in Cumberland, RI. He is Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, and, in the Valley of Providence, he served as Sovereign Prince. He received the 33° in 2005.

Ill. **Daniel McNeil Wilson, 33°**, of Hamilton, NJ, is an electrical and mechanical engineer. He was Master of Gothic Lodge, No 270. He is Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and is a member of the Valley of Central Jersey. He received the 33° in 2005.

Ill. **Jeffrey Alan Simonton, 33°**, of Scarborough, ME, is a staff craft assistant for Fairpoint Communications. He was Master of St. Paul's Lodge, No. 82, in Rockport, ME, and of Gov. William King Lodge, No. 219, in Scarborough, ME, and Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Lodge of Maine. He is a member of the Valleys of Rockland and Portland and served as Sovereign Prince. He received the 33° in 2007.

Ill. **Peter Raymond Smith, 33°**, of Marstons Mills, MA, is a dentist. He was Master of DeWitt Clinton Lodge in Sandwich, MA, and, for the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was Junior Grand Warden. In the Valley of Boston he served as Commander-in-Chief. He received the 33° in 2008.

Ill. **Elbridge Harmon Brewer, 33°**, of Lancaster, OH, is president of Unitrans, Inc. He was Master of Capital City Lodge, No. 65, in Columbus, OH, and, in the Valley of Columbus, he was Thrice Potent Master. He received the 33° in 2011.

New Deputies

Ill. **Mark C. Roth, 33°**, is the new Deputy for New Hampshire. He has been an Active Member of the Supreme Council since 2005.

Ill. **Michael A. DeWolf, 33°**, is the new Deputy for Wisconsin. He has been an Active Member of the Supreme Council since 2005.

Ill. **Alan R. Heath, 33°**, is the new Deputy for Maine. He has been an Active Member of the Supreme Council since 2011.

Ill. **David P. Spencer, 33°**, is the new Deputy for New York. He has been an Active Member of the Supreme Council since 2002.

NEW DEPUTIES



Mark C. Roth, 33°
New Hampshire



Michael A. DeWolf, 33°
Wisconsin



Alan R. Heath, 33°
Maine



David P. Spencer, 33°
New York

New Officers

Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Grand Lieutenant
Commander

Ill. Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°, Grand Master
General of Ceremonies

Retiring

Retiring as Deputies and remaining Active Members of the Supreme Council are Ill. Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Deputy of New Hampshire, and Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Deputy of New York.

Retiring as Deputies and becoming Active Emeritus Members of the Supreme Council are Ill. Garry D. Hageness, 33°, of Wisconsin, and Ill. Charles E. Ridlon Jr., of Maine.

Under the provisions of the Constitutions, Ill. Jim S. Deyo, 33°, Ohio; Ill. Robert E. Godbout Jr., 33°, Massachusetts; Ill. John K. Takian Jr., 33°, Rhode Island, and Ill. Gail N. Smith, 33°, Connecticut, became Active Emeritus Members. Ill. Richard L. Swaney, 33°, Illinois, became a Past Active Member.

Class of 2013

There were 154 candidates who received the 33° on Tuesday, August 20, in the Warner Theater in Washington, DC. Additionally, three members were coroneted in special sessions prior to the annual meeting, and one member received it posthumously. The exemplar was Ill. Gary William Arseneau, 33°, from the Valleys of Waterbury and Bridgeport, CT, and Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. The charge to the class was given by Ill. Jim S. Deyo, 33°.

Future Meetings

The 203rd Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council will take place in Indianapolis, IN, Aug. 30–Sept. 1, 2015. Valley Secretaries, Councils of Deliberation, candidates, and Active and Active Emeritus Members will receive information regarding hotel assignments, hospitality suites, and banquet menus in early January 2015.

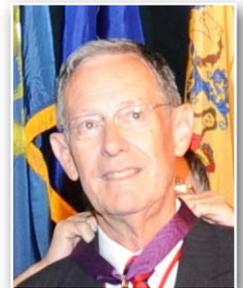
In March of that year, Honorary Members will receive their invitations to attend the Annual Meeting; a program outlining the session's agenda; meeting, and hotel registration information.

The executive sessions of the Supreme Council, constituting the 202nd annual meeting, will take place in 2014, at the jurisdiction's headquarters in Lexington, MA.

Medal of Honor

The Sovereign Grand Commander announced the selection of Ill. Ronald Garnet "Pete" Forrest, 33°, for the award honoring his faithful service to the Supreme Council in his role as one of the three Aides to the Sovereign Grand Commander, a position he has held and executed with dignity and attention to every detail since 2003. He was commended for all that he has done for Maine Masonry both in his home state as well as in Florida in his long and productive chairmanship of the Maine in Florida Day.

The Grand Commander also awarded the Medal of Honor to Ill. Richard B. Burgess, 33°, his assistant and Grand Chancellor. To receive the award Ill. Bro. Burgess



was called from backstage at the general session where he was performing his duties as announcer. He was overcome by the moment and found it nearly impossible to resume his duties backstage.



The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's Medal of Honor Award, according to Article 901 of our Constitutions, "may be conferred by the Supreme Council or the Sovereign Grand Commander upon any person, whether or not a member of our jurisdiction or a member of any Body of the Rite, in recognition of distinguished service to Freemasonry, country or humanity."

Brother Franklin Awards

The 2013 Brother Franklin awards for outstanding Valley publications were announced. They are awarded on the basis of Valley size. The entries submitted were divided into five categories based on membership.

Category I (less than 800 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Rochester, NY

Charles N. "Skip" Waterstreet Jr., 32°, *editor*

Honorable Mention

Valley of Nashua, NH

Robert M. Porter, 32°, *editor*

Valley of Schenectady, NY

Tar Riedinger, 32°, *editor*

Category II (801 - 1,500 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Akron, OH

David S. Ferris, 32°, *editor*

Honorable Mention

Valley of Bridgeport

Leo H. Lohrman, 33°, *editor*

Valley of Moline

Edward Walker, 33°, *editor*

Valley of Northern New Jersey

Paul M. Ferreira, 32°, *editor*

Ronald "Bud" York, 32°, *editor*

Category III (1,501 - 2,500 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Central Jersey, NJ

William J. Morelli, 32°, *editor*

Honorable Mention

Valley of Philadelphia

Steven A. Morrison, 33°, *editor*

Category IV (2,501 - 5,000 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Detroit, MI

David R. Bedwell Sr., 33°, *editor*

Honorable Mention

Valley of Allentown, PA

Larry G. Newhard, 33°, *editor*

Category V (more than 5,000 members)

Best Publication

Valley of Columbus, OH

Fred S. Kile, 33°, *editor*

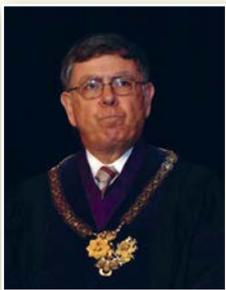
Honorable Mention

Valley of Pittsburgh

D. William Roberts, 33°, *editor*



GOURGAS MEDAL



The Gourgas Medal's significance is described in the Supreme Council's Constitutions and its most distinguished recipients are listed in the proceedings of the Supreme Council. At the Annual Meeting held in Washington, DC, Illustrious Brother Jim S. Deyo, 33°, Lieutenant Grand Commander, rose and asked permission of Sovereign Grand Commander McNaughton to approach the podium. After a few brief but very sincere remarks, Ill. Bro. Deyo presented the Gourgas Medal to Ill. **John Wm. McNaughton**, 33°, who was caught completely off guard by this moving presentation. The Commander received an extended standing ovation from those gathered at the General Session.

BROTHER TRUMAN:

OUR MOST MASONICALLY ACTIVE PRESIDENT

By JEFFREY L. KUNTZ, 32°

Fourteen Presidents of the United States of America are known to have been Master Masons. By all accounts and records, it is fairly clear that the one who was the most active in the fraternity, and who contributed the most to it, was Harry S. Truman, who occupied the White House from spring of 1945 to January 1953. From his being made a Master Mason in 1909 at age 28, to Worshipful Master of Grandview Lodge in 1911, to Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri when a U.S. senator in 1941, to Master of the Missouri Lodge of Research while president, and up to his death and Masonic funeral service at age 88, Bro. Harry Truman was faithfully active in the fraternity, and did much to promote it. All through his Masonic life and career serving his community and his country, he set a great Masonic example and truly lived the lofty principles the fraternal order seeks to inculcate.

Harry Truman was born in Lamar, MO, on May 8, 1884, to Martha Ellen Young and John Anderson Truman. A few years later, the Trumans moved to the farm of the family of Martha's mother in Grandview. As a boy, Harry learned about hard work undertaking a goodly variety of the farm chores. Young Harry's mother helped him get an edge on his education by teaching him to read by age five, despite his poor eyesight. His passionate interest in American history helped him prepare for his career in public service and government.

Harry graduated from high school in 1901. His parents could not afford to send him to college, and he could not attend West Point because of his eyesight. He got a job as a timekeeper for the Santa Fe Railroad, from which he "received a very down-to-earth education in the handling of men" and an education from the hobos with whom he spent a lot of time along the Missouri River. These experiences also proved



President Truman with Freemasons, ca. 1946.
Courtesy Harry S. Truman Library and Museum Independence, MO.

useful later in his career in public service.

That contracted job was over a year later, and Harry took a job with the *Kansas City Star* in the mail room. His next jobs were in banking, first, as a clerk with the National Bank of Commerce, then with the Union National Bank as a bookkeeper. The Truman family moved back to Grandview after Harry's uncle, Harrison Young, decided to quit working the farm. Harry kept his bank job for a couple years, but then quit to work full time helping to manage the farm.

A couple years later, a cousin of his mother paid a visit to the farm. This seemingly uneventful stay turned out to be perhaps one of the most important turning points in Truman's life. The cousin was wearing a Masonic pin, which caught Harry's eye. He asked the cousin for a petition. Truman was raised to the degree of a Master Mason on March 18, 1909, and became Junior Warden in 1910.

While Bro. Truman was becoming wholeheartedly active in the craft, he was still keeping in touch with a girl with whom he

“The Scottish Rite has done its best to make a man out of me, . . .

It is the most impressive ceremony I ever saw or read of. . . .”

graduated from school, Elizabeth “Bess” Wallace. The courtship was carried on mostly by way of letter writing, since Harry had no automobile, and Independence was quite a jaunt by horse and buggy. “Dear Bess: A new Masonic Lodge is being organized at our town,” he wrote in June 1911, “and they have given me the principal office. I have the big head terribly.” This was the newly chartered Grandview Lodge, No. 615, of which Truman was made Charter Master.

In January 1912, Truman received the Scottish Rite Lodge of Perfection Degrees. Due to lack of funds, the degrees of the other Scottish Rite bodies had to wait five years. He then wrote Bess: “The Scottish Rite has done its best to make a man out of me, . . . It is the most impressive ceremony I ever saw or read of. If a man doesn’t try to be better after seeing it, he has a screw loose somewhere.”

Harry Truman was a rather proficient pianist, and often played for various lodges. In one letter to Bess, according to Masonic writer Allen E. Roberts in his book, *Brother Truman*, Harry made a rather curious statement. A cousin of his asked him to play for some guests on an evening when he was to attend a lodge election. Luckily, the guests postponed their visit for a week. Harry wrote Bess: “I don’t know what I’ve have done. Probably sent my astral body one place and my temporal the other.” To have written such a statement, although jokingly, Truman would to have had some degree of metaphysical knowledge and understanding. Could this knowledge have been in connection with studies of mysticism or even his Masonic affiliation?

Early in 1916, Truman pursued his American dream by going into partnership in lead and zinc mining with a couple of friends. There were many difficulties with the enterprise, and they never made a go of it. Troubles were also arising at the farm, mainly with the hired hands, so Harry gave up mining for the sake of the farm. “I’m not going to worry over it,” he wrote Bess. “It is necessary to save wheat, oats, and clover now.”

In early 1917, Truman finally became a 32° Scottish Rite Mason in Kansas City and joined the Ararat Temple there. During that time, President Wilson and Congress were hashing out whether or not to go to war with Germany. When finally deciding to join the fight, they realized the United States Army needed much more manpower. Patriotic Harry joined the army, and was instrumental in expanding the National Guard in the Kansas City area which he had joined in 1905, and was made a first lieutenant.

The end of World War I, in November 1918, was a time of continuing change and activity for Truman. He married Bess Wallace on June 28, 1919. He resumed his Masonic journey by taking the Royal Arch Chapter degrees and the Royal and Select Council degrees of Cryptic Masonry. It was also the year of his well-known failing partnership in the haberdashery business with Eddie Jacobson, a former sergeant of his. Many other businesses went belly up at that time, with a bad economy to blame.

Through some friends, Truman became acquainted with Tom Pendergast, a Jackson County political boss. Pendergast persuaded Truman to run for county judge, which, in Missouri, is more of an administrative office than a magisterial one. Truman won, beginning a political career.

In June 1923, Bro. Truman happily completed his York Rite Masonic journey by becoming a Knight Templar in Palestine Commandery, No. 17, in Independence. The following year was not as favorable. He was defeated for reelection, due to anti-Pendergast forces within their own party. Corruption was all too common in local politics there, but it never seemed to influence Harry. Perhaps the best thing that happened to him that year was the birth of his daughter, Margaret.

He then started the Community Savings & Loan Association, a business venture which did succeed. He was also kept busy Masonically. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 22nd Masonic District, upon the death of his predecessor, and he was made District Lecturer,

as a result of his ritual proficiency.

Truman soon returned to county politics and was elected presiding judge in 1926, with Pendergast's support. The shadiness of the county boss still did not appear to harm Truman's reputation for honesty, and he helped make many improvements in the Independence area.

After serving his two terms in that office allowed by law, it appeared Judge Truman would, again, be out of a job in 1934. Pendergast's political power had become statewide by then. Proof that Truman was really not of this inner circle was shown by the fact that Pendergast made every effort to get in the way of Truman furthering his career in government. However, after several men turned down Pendergast's offer to run for U.S. Senate in the primary, he approached Truman, who accepted, and won both the primary and fall election. Despite his association with Pendergast, Truman's personality, honesty, and conscientiousness won the favor of his colleagues and constituents.

As a junior senator, Truman was instrumental in creating the Transportation Act of 1940 and the Bus & Truck Act, and he wrote the Civil Aeronautics Act. Despite such grueling work, he remained very active in Missouri Masonry conferring and installing officers, and he attended all sessions of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. His Missouri Brethren thought so much of him that they elected him Grand Master.

In December 1940, Grand Master Truman attended the 105th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Grand Master Leo Hart asked Bro. Tom Connally, a U.S. senator from Texas, to introduce Truman. In that speech, Connally asserted that Truman "has exemplified many of the fine qualities and many of the splendid precepts that Masonry has taught."

In response, Truman stated, "This great fraternity has done more and can do more for peace and uplift in this state than any other organization on earth, and I want to say to you that as long as three and a half million and over Freemasons are in the United States, this great republic can't help but survive." He also announced, "The highest honor that has ever come to me is to be Grand Master of the State of Missouri" He repeated that statement several times, even after being elected President.

Senator Truman became involved with the

Masonic Service Association which was created in 1920 by 22 Grand Lodges for the purpose of furthering such endeavors as Masonic education, disaster relief, and support for members of the Armed Services. Later, when president, he wrote: "...Freemasons cannot do enough for those brave men who have sacrificed so much for our beloved country."

Although he did not want the job, Truman's party had him pegged to run with Bro. Roosevelt as his vice presidential running mate in 1944. With World War II raging, Roosevelt was too strapped to campaign, so it was all up to Harry. Despite this huge burden, faithful Bro. Truman took time to work with the Masonic Service Association to devise a hospital visitation program for the thousands of wounded servicemen and women in veterans hospitals.

On the afternoon of April 12, 1945, weary after presiding over a Senate session, Truman was called to the White House by Roosevelt's press secretary, while FDR was resting in Warm Springs, GA. After arriving there, Truman was escorted to Eleanor Roosevelt's study. She put her arm around him and quietly told him the president was dead. After gaining his composure, Truman asked her, "Is there anything I can do for you?" The first lady replied by asking him, "Is there anything we can do for you? For you are the one in trouble now." That evening, accompanied by his wife and daughter, several cabinet members and others, Truman was sworn in as President of the United States by Chief Justice Harlan Fiske Stone, after which, being the good Mason he was, he kissed the Holy Bible.

As with many other vice presidents, Truman did not have a close working relationship with the president. This resulted in his being one of the least prepared men for the presidency upon FDR's death. He was not even aware of the testing of the atom bomb near the end of World War II. General George C. Marshall, a Mason, among other advisors, estimated about a half million lives of American men would be saved by dropping the bomb on Japan, rather than make an all-out assault on that nation. So, as Commander-in-Chief, Truman made the hard decision – "Let it go!" There were two provisos, however: 1) That the hit be made on a "war production center of prime military importance,"

and 2) that Japan be given the chance in advance to surrender unconditionally, which of course, they refused.

On Oct. 19, 1945, Bro. Harry S. Truman became the first United States president to be coroneted a 33° Scottish Rite Mason. Just one month later, he was the first ever to receive the most distinguished honor conferred by the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of Scottish Rite Masonry, the Gourgas Medal.

One of the most telling stories of Truman's Masonic dedication while he was President took place on Oct. 15, 1948, just three weeks before his election bid to stay in the White House. While making a campaign "whistle stop" in Kokomo, IN, he spotted a young uniformed sailor in the crowd who was a crew member on the presidential yacht. He invited the seaman and his father to ride with him on the train to Indianapolis. They, in turn, invited Truman to join them to go to Beech Grove Lodge, No. 8 that evening where the sailor was to receive his 3°. To their surprise, Truman accepted and even detoured part of the campaign trip. Following the conferral, he addressed the lodge.

Two other highlights of Truman's Masonic career – both in 1950 while he was President –

was his election as Master of the Missouri Lodge of Research, which he had helped establish, and the unveiling of the George Washington statue at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, VA. At the beginning of his address at the unveiling on Slooter Hill, he commended the Order of DeMolay for contributing the statue. He closed it by saying, "George Washington sought guidance from Almighty God as he faced these tasks in his time; let us be guided today by Divine Providence as we strive for lasting peace with freedom and justice for all mankind."

We have focused here mainly on Truman's Masonic career. In his book, *American Freemasons*, Masonic scholar, Mark A. Tabbert, nicely sums up major accomplishments of Harry Truman as President: "...he helped form the United Nations, desegregated the United States armed forces, supported the founding of Israel, initiated the Marshall Plan for Europe, and defended Greece, Turkey, and Korea against hostile Communism."

On Dec. 28, 1972, Bro. Harry S. Truman was laid to rest on the grounds of the library named in his honor. Among the many writings housed in that building is a paper Truman wrote to give his account of his Masonic career, the final paragraph of which reads: "My Masonic career has been helpful in teaching me to get along with people, has caused me to become more familiar with the Bible, and inspired me to read a great deal of history."

Perhaps the best way to sum up how Freemasonry did influence Bro. Truman throughout his entire life in both his everyday relationships with his fellow man and in his long illustrious career in public service, is to quote Thomas C. Warden, editor for the Missouri Lodge of Research, in his commentary prefacing Roberts' Brother Truman: "Harry Truman exemplified – in his private and public life – the very essence of Masonic philosophy. His momentous decisions as a U.S. senator and as President of the United State were, in large part, a product of Masonic morality, shaped by lessons of our ritual and experience, and performed on the stage of national and world events. These same lessons, acted out on a smaller stage, can guide the lives of countless men who have witnessed the Light of Truth that shines around our Masonic altars." 



Postcard of Harry S. Truman, ca. 1940. Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, Lexington, MA.

What Are You Doing New Year's?

By ALAN E. FOULDS, 32°

Each part of the world marks the changing of the calendar in its own way, but the roots of some of those traditions are right here in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

The Ball Drop

As the 20th century began the occasion was marked by celebration. Shortly afterward the *New York Times* moved into its new building in what was then known as Longacre Square. With the support of Mayor McClellan, the paper's publisher, Adolph Ochs, wanted to call the area "Times Square." To help spread the word of the new name he advertised a grand New Year's Eve celebration, complete with fireworks, at the square. In 1907 the fireworks were replaced with what has become a long-standing tradition – the ball drop.

The idea paid homage to the dropping of "time balls" at observatories to help ships offshore keep accurate time. For the celebration in New York, the ball is dropped at midnight, New Year's Eve. According to the Times Square Alliance, the first ball was made of wood, iron, and 100 25-watt bulbs.

In 1928, the ceremony was broadcast live on radio (switching to television in 1956), spreading the tradition far beyond the city. The broadcast also included a performance by Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, big band. Immediately after midnight he struck up the band with his classic rendition of "Auld Lang Syne." For almost 50 years Lombardo and his band were New Year's fixtures in living rooms all around the nation. A legend says he once proclaimed, "When I die, I'm taking New Year's Eve with me." Of course, he didn't, and Dick Clark became our perennial companion on that night. The tradition lives on.



The Times Square New Year's Eve Ball rises to the top of its 135 foot spire, Friday, Dec. 30, 2011, in New York.

Picture courtesy: AP Photo/John Minchillo

Today's ball, made of Waterford crystal, weighs 11,875 pounds and has a 12-foot diameter.

It has spawned similar drops all around the world. In Atlanta, for instance, there is a "peach drop." A watermelon is dropped in Vincennes, IN, and a sardine in Eastport, ME. In the small Massachusetts town of Rockport, villagers gather in Dock Square to watch a ball dropped from the fire department's ladder truck. In that seaport community life is a little slower than in The Big Apple. The ball is dropped "somewhere around midnight" or, in the words of the festivity director last year, "at midnight, Rockport time."

The Mummers

New York has its Times Square, but Philadelphia has the Mummers Parade on January 1. Several local Mummers clubs participate. The event consists of club members, elaborately dressed, carrying instruments, moveable scenery, and, often, umbrellas, marching through the streets of Philadelphia. The groups each have their own club house on 2nd Street (Two Street to the natives) in South Philadelphia and work on their acts year round. The first official Philadelphia Mummers Parade was on Jan. 1, 1901, although there are reports of similar celebrations dating back to the American Revolution.

First Night

Although New Year's Eve is often associated with excessive drinking and rowdiness, First Night is a movement started in contrast with those descriptions. Toward the end of the bicentennial celebrations of 1976, a group of Bostonians wanted to keep the spirit alive with a non-alcoholic family celebration of the arts. In December of that year "First Night" was born. Despite the name the party is held on the last day of the year.

Throughout the city, at churches, halls, city buildings, and public spaces, events were held simultaneously, with everyone coming together at midnight. The first year, midnight was marked by revelers holding candles on the Common. In later years fireworks over the harbor were added. Six year later the city of Worcester, 40 miles to the west, began its own First Night. Eventually the movement spread to more than 200 cities across the continent and Europe. It has fallen on hard times in the past few years. Even the original celebration in Boston has been suspended, with hopes that new sponsors will come forward, but it does live on across the country.

The Plunge

For some inexplicable reason a New Year's plunge into the frigid ocean waters has been a tradition for many for more than a century, with the ritual on a steep rise in recent years. In 1903 the Coney Island Polar Bear Club was founded by Bernarr McFadden, a health advocate known as the "father of physical culture." Its members swim in the Atlantic every Sunday from November through April. On New Year's Day the event is open to everyone, and participants from around the country join in as the club president blows his conch shell.

South Boston has its L Street Brownies. Some accounts trace the group's winter swimming to 1888, and many members believe it actually began as early as 1865. The official club, however, began in 1902 and held the first formal New Year's Plunge into the icy waters on Jan. 1, 1904. Since that date club members have taken a dip in

Dorchester Bay every single day. The unusual name comes from the nut brown color its members have developed from daily exposure to the sun.

New Year's traditions have been marked by people of every background and every age. That is exemplified no clearer than by a woman in the town of Reading, MA. As the 20th century dawned an outdoor party was arranged by the local Unitarian church on the town common. One participant was a newborn named Helen Goodrich. A century later the town again celebrated – this time, a new millennium. A 100-year-old Helen Goodrich was there once again, aided by a wheelchair, but in great spirits. When asked to speak about her unique status of having attended both parties so distant in time, she said, "One hundred years ago, they wheeled me up here, and today they had to wheel me up again." ■■

Footnotes*

A Tribute by Alan E. Foulds

* Time to Say Farewell

The Northern Light lost its closest friend in September with the passing of Ill. Richard H. Curtis, 33°. He was here from the very start. As assistant editor to Ill. George E. Burow, 33°, Dick was the day-to day manager of the publication beginning with volume one, issue one, back in 1970. Five years later he took up the proverbial blue pencil and remained at the helm of this magazine until 2006. No one influenced the look, feel, content, or heritage of *The Northern Light* more.

It seemed our lives intersected in many places, allowing me to see several aspects of his life. We first met in our joint home town of Reading, MA, in the early 1990s. I was a computer programmer at the time and also chairman of Reading's 350th anniversary. As part of the celebration we decided to publish a new history of the community. I was told there was a magazine editor in town. It was suggested that I could get him to edit our book. By chance, Dick was also a "regular" at my wife's coffee shop, so the meet-up was easy. Dick loved his town and was happy to be involved. From then on we were close friends.

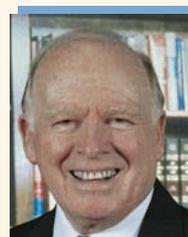
In 2003, the company I worked for went out of business as a result of the dot com crash. Dick heard about it, met me at the coffee shop, and asked if I had ever thought about changing careers. He felt we made a good team working on the book. At the time the IT world was quite shaky, so I answered "Every day, Dick." The following Monday I was second in command of *The Northern Light*, and when he retired in 2006, I took over.

Dick didn't really retire, however. He simply moved on to another phase of his life. As a volunteer he began producing not just one but three television shows on our local access channel: a magazine-type program called *Reading @ Large*, a gardening show, and a quiz show. Of course, he got me involved in his projects.

I am an elected official in our volunteer local government. Dick also got involved. He became a member of the board of library trustees so he could play a role in the reconstruction of the building. During the week of his death, he and I were serving together on a charter review committee. He saw every project as a new adventure, attacking them with the zeal of a young person.

And, I haven't even touched on his remarkable and many faceted Masonic career and his devotion to his family.

My good friend Dick Curtis lived his life to the fullest.



RICHARD H. CURTIS, 33°



Grand Executive Director Retires

REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM G. SIZEMORE, 33°, USN (Ret.), retired as Grand Executive Director at the biennial session of the Supreme Council, 33°, SJ, after 24 years of service. Ill. Bro. Gene first served the Supreme Council as director of education and americanism in 1983, and then on July 19, 1989, became Assistant Grand Secretary General. The position title later changed to Grand Executive Director.



The Supreme Council, 33°, SJ, created Ill. Sizemore a Past Sovereign Grand Commander honoris causa, the first such creation in the 212-year history of the Southern Jurisdiction.

At our 2013 session, SGC John Wm. McNaughton, 33°, NMJ, presented Ill. Sizemore with the newly created Daniel D. Tompkins Award for outstanding Freemasons and patriots.



Ill. Sizemore had a distinguished career in the Navy, including commands of Attack Squadron 93, Attack Carrier Wing One, and Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fl. He was the US Defense Attaché to Moscow, USSR, and completed his Naval service as Deputy Director of the Defense Nuclear Agency. Immediately before joining the Supreme Council staff, he was vice president and

director of Eden Hannon & Co., investment bankers in Alexandria, VA. Bro. Gene was raised a Master Mason in 1948 in Edwin Dobbins Lodge, No. 164, A.F.&A.M., Lawrenceville, IL, and served as Worshipful Master of Cherrydale Lodge, No. 42, A.F.&A.M., Arlington, VA, in 1985 and 1986. The Grand Lodge of Illinois, A.F.&A.M., awarded him their Great American Patriot Award in 2008. He served as national president of the National Sojourners, 1982–83, and is a member of the York Rite, Shrine, Red Cross of Constantine, Royal Order of Scotland, and many others. He received the rank and decoration of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1977, was coroneted an Inspector General Honorary in 1980, and received the Grand Cross of the Court of Honour in 1989.

Kansas City Multi-State Reunion

THE VALLEY OF KANSAS CITY hosted the 2013 Orient of Missouri, multi-state reunion. Participating were the other four Valleys from Missouri: St. Joseph, Columbia, Joplin, and St. Louis, as well as Dallas, TX, Des Moines, IA, and Tulsa, OK. Thirty-six candidates received the 29 degrees of the Scottish Rite on Friday and Saturday. One hundred fifty Scottish Rite Masons from 14 Valleys attended, making the event a reunion in every sense of the word.

Each candidate was presented a copy of the Master Craftsman Program, the Southern Jurisdiction's correspondence course on the history, traditions, and rituals of the Scottish Rite. On Friday night, the Kansas City Knights of St. Andrews held a knighting ceremony, dinner, and party for their members. The KSA is



an organization for 32° Masons in service to their Scottish Rite Valleys.

This special reunion energized all who participated – candidates, cast, and onlookers. The question now is when and

where the next multi-state reunion will be held. The Brothers are already talking about the plans.

BROTHERS

on the NET

Doing something about the weather



Leigh E. Morris, 33°

"A well-known American writer said once that, while everybody talked about the weather, nobody seemed to do anything about it," Charles Dudley Warner observed in an editorial that appeared in *The Harford Courant* way back on Aug. 27, 1897.

Though Warner was a close friend of Bro. Mark Twain, there is no evidence the referenced American writer was Twain. No matter. People have been talking about weather since the dawn of time, but now you can have an impact – thanks to the Internet.

I am referring to the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network – CoCoRaHS for short.

There is a saying – "Rain doesn't fall the same on all." Most likely, you have observed proof of this observation. The official weather station for your area may report a one-inch rainfall, but your backyard rain gauge measured a greater or lesser amount. Some places may have remained dry.

One of the most dramatic and tragic examples of this truism occurred on July 28, 1997, in Fort Collins, CO. Localized heavy rain totals ranged from six inches to ten and even 14.5 inches. Out of this devastating event that left five people dead was born the volunteer CoCoRaHS network.

CoCoRaHS would not be possible without the Internet and the Web. CoCoRaHS volunteers use electronic communication to record their daily precipitation measurements that are then accessed by a wide range of users.

I must stress CoCoRaHS is far more than an interesting hobby. Precipitation data is used daily by the National Weather Service (NWS) and countless independent meteorologists, as well as utilities, hydrologists, the

U.S. Department of Agriculture, insurance adjusters, farmers and countless other organizations and individuals. Data collected by CoCoRaHS volunteers has even been used by government officials in making disaster declarations.

While the primary thrust of CoCoRaHS is rain measurements, volunteers also are encouraged to measure snowfalls and provide hail information.

Interested?

Before I go any further, you will need a specially designed rain gauge. That gauge you picked up at the hardware or big box store is notoriously inaccurate. This approved rain gauge can be ordered at weatheryourway.com for \$27.25 plus shipping. It is not sold in retail outlets.

You'll need to attach the gauge to a 4" x 4" piece of treated lumber. Mine is six-feet long, which keeps my gauge reasonably close to the ground. Have the lumber yard bevel the top. This will prevent rain from splashing into the gauge. Place the gauge away from buildings and trees.

Now you need to become a volunteer by visiting the CoCoRaHS website (cocorahs.org). Select "Join CoCoRaHS" in the main menu on the left side of the page.

Joining up is pretty easy. Complete the online application, but omit filling in latitude/longitude information. CoCoRaHS will take care of that.

CoCoRaHS offers complimentary training. Just click on your state on the CoCoRaHS website page to find the times and locations of training sessions. If there are no sessions in your area, there is a link to "Training Slide Shows" on the website as well as other online training materials. These are excellent resources.

I think you will find CoCoRaHS participation to be a most rewarding use of electronic communication.

Consider encouraging your blue lodge Brethern to join, as well. This could even become a lodge project that will benefit your community.

Here's a few other weather sites. Start with the NWS' "Internet Weather Source" page (weather.noaa.gov/index.html). On that page, you can select your state for local NWS weather forecasts, warnings and conditions.

From your state page, you will be able to access live radar, weather maps, aviation and marine weather and international weather conditions.

Ooops: It seems I should leave math to the professionals. In my last column, I wrote that "at 60 mph, your vehicle travels 600 feet in a mere 10 seconds." I heard from Linda, a retired science teacher from Moline, IL, who wrote that it should be 880 feet.

As for stopping distances, she suggested a great website (csgnetwork.com/stopdistinfo.html) as a resource.

By the way, Linda grew up in a Masonic family and enjoys reading *The Northern Light*. Despite the math goof, she did write the column was "thought provoking." As is the entire magazine. Bro. Alan Foulds, his crew and all contributors do a great job.

And in the future, I'll make certain my wife who is a teacher checks my math.

Drop me a line.

I welcome your questions and comments. Just fire an email to me at studebaker055@yahoo.com.

“But For Scottish Rite...” The Grand Almoner’s Fund in Action

Since its rejuvenation only a few years ago, the Scottish Rite Grand Almoner’s Fund has served as a beacon of hope for Scottish Rite Brothers, their widows and families, fellow Masons and others related to the craft. These stories offer a glimpse into the amazing work that the Grand Almoner’s Fund is accomplishing:

This widow’s husband passed away only two months before Hurricane Sandy left her home badly damaged, but the Grand Almoner’s Fund was there to offer her the help she needed.

“I can’t thank you enough for your generous financial as well as emotional support during these past months. The financial support has helped me rest a bit easier, and I was able to purchase much needed items without worrying about how I would pay for them.

The Scottish Rite is very special to me. It is so good to know that wives in my situation have not been forgotten and are considered a part of a wonderful, supportive family.

I feel so grateful that my husband found a group that he respected so much and that respected him. I will never forget the pleasure he received from going to functions or helping with something.

I will always be available to help with anything needed.”

The Grand Almoner’s Fund has also offered hope to individuals facing unexpected hardships. Consider this Brother’s grateful response after receiving a gift from the Almoner’s Fund:

“I cannot express my gratitude for your generosity. The help that you have provided for me and my family has been a blessing. I truly am blessed to belong to such a wonderful fraternity.

Your assistance has been able to relieve a tremendous amount of stress that was brought on by my recent medical procedure. I am happy to inform you that because of your assistance I was able to encourage my employer to provide me with health insurance.

The main focus that I have taken away from this situation is that I will now attempt to pay this generosity forward as I am able. As a Past Master of my lodge and a Scottish Rite member, I feel this is a perfect platform for me to express the gratitude I have for this fraternity. Thanks again!”

Masons cared for their own by delivering supplies after Hurricane Sandy. The Scottish Rite provided financial support through the Grand Almoner’s Fund.



For the Brother whose hope is lost – or the widow with nowhere to turn – the Grand Almoner’s Fund is there for those who need it most. The Scottish Rite is committed to caring for its members and continuing this life-changing work. With your support, much more can be done.

Support the Grand Almoner’s Fund

Members interested in making a pledge of financial support to the Grand Almoner’s Fund are encouraged to consider joining the Commander’s Circle, a special giving society commissioned by Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton, 33°.

Two levels comprise the Commander’s Circle: the Gold Circle, limited to those who donate \$10,000 or more to the Grand Almoner’s Fund, or the Silver Circle, recognizing Brothers who have donated \$5,000 to \$9,999 to the Almoner’s Fund or have made a bequest of support.

Gold and silver pins have been commissioned to acknowledge membership in the Commander’s Circle (the gold pin is represented on this page). Members of these donor societies will also be commemorated on a plaque in the newly constructed Supreme Council Headquarters in the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA.

For more information on joining the Commander’s Circle, please contact Jim Deyo, executive director of development/planned giving at 614-204-7365 or Steve Pekock, director at 800-814-1432 x3340.



The Grand Almoner’s Fund is a fund of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation, a qualified charity under section 501c3 of the Federal Tax Code. All donations are fully deductible to the extent allowed under law.

GRAHAM CYRIL KENNEDY is pictured on a stamp issued by Australia Post in 2006 to commemorate 50 years of television in that commonwealth. Bro. Kennedy was raised in St. Kilda Lodge, No. 103, Victorian Constitution, on Oct. 3, 1956.

Kennedy was born in Melbourne, Victoria, in 1934. He left school early, to work as a news runner on the Radio Australia shortwave service. When television came to Melbourne in 1957, he was chosen to present an evening show, *In Melbourne Tonight*, starting in May of that year. Although he was only 23 years old with no prior knowledge of or experience in television, he enjoyed a 40-year career throughout which he held the title of "The King."

He collected a total of 14 Logie Awards and 7 Gold Logies; his last program was *Graham Kennedy's Funniest Home Videos*. He appeared in a number of films ranging from brief cameos to leading roles. In 1991, he retired. His health declined and he later entered a nursing home in Bowral, New South Wales, where he died May 25, 2005.



PAUL EMILE JANSON is featured on a 1967 Belgium stamp. He was a member of the Lodge "Les Vrais Amis de l'Union et du Progres Reunis" in Brussels. He was raised June 9, 1894.

Born in Brussels, the son of a statesman, Bro. Janson studied law at the Free University of Brussels, practiced as a lawyer and taught at the university. He was elected to the Belgian Chamber of Representatives in 1910 and to the Belgian Parliament in 1914.

Between the two wars he served as the Minister of War, Justice and Foreign Affairs in



succession. He served as Prime Minister of Belgium in 1937-38 and in the early part of World War II as Foreign Minister, and as Minister with portfolio in Hubert Pierlot's government.

He remained in France when the government in exile moved to London and, in 1943, was detained by the occupying German forces. He was incarcerated in the Buchenwald concentration camp and died there on March 3, 1944.



JOHN ARCHER LEJEUNE was honored by the USPS in 2011 with a stamp marking the 235th anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps. Known as the "greatest of all Leathernecks" and the "Marine's Marine," he served for more than 40 years. Bro. Lejeune received his degrees in Overseas Lodge, No. 409 (Rhode Island Charter) at Coblenz, Germany, in 1919. He later joined the Scottish Rite and Almas Shrine in Washington, DC.

Born Jan. 10, 1867, Bro. Lejeune attended the U.S. Naval Academy graduating in 1888, second in his class of 32. At the completion of a two-year cruise, he chose the Marine Corps. He was appointed Major General Commandant of the Corps on July 1, 1920.

Upon the expiration of his second term he indicated his desire not to retire from the Marine Corps but was relieved in March 1929. He retired in November of that year in order to accept the position of Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute and served there until October 1937. He was advanced to the rank of Lieutenant General on the Marine Corps retired list in February 1942. He was interred in the Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors in Nov. 1942.



Robert A. Domingue

EDVARD ARMAS JÄRNEFELT was recognized by Finland on the centenary of his birth with the release of a stamp on Aug. 14, 1969. He was initiated on April 26, 1923, in S:t Johanneslogen S:t Erik in Stockholm. He received the tenth degree of the Swedish Rite in 1947.

Born in Viipuri, Finland in 1869, Armas Järnefelt studied music in Helsinki and Paris. In addition to being a composer, he worked as a conductor in Viipuri, Helsinki and Stockholm. He enjoyed a close relationship to Bro. Jean Sibelius who was married to Jarnefelt's sister, Aino. From 1905 on, he worked in Sweden becoming a citizen in 1909.

He received an honorary title of Professor from Finland in 1940 and an honorary doctorate of philosophy from the University of Helsinki in 1957. He composed 12 cantatas, cradle songs and music for films prior to his death in 1958 in Stockholm.



MASONIC SYMBOLS

Most of the symbols and allegories of Freemasonry can be found on postage stamps. Shown here are the Scales of Justice, cited in the Entered Apprentice degree.

They appear on an airmail stamp issued by Paraguay in April 1960. A wonderful personification of the Scythe of Time, one of the Emblems of the Master Mason degree, can be found on a semi-postal stamp released by the Ukraine in June 1923.



A Traditional Observance Lodge - One Man's Journey to Fulfillment

by Cliff Porter. Published in 2011 by Star Publishing,
Colorado Springs, CO 80917, LLC

The author is a senior homicide detective with the Colorado Springs County Sheriff's Department and is an esoterically committed Freemason as a member of Enlightenment Lodge, No. 198, in Colorado Springs. He uses this book as his explanation of the "fulfillment" he derives from his membership in this lodge. By his definition the book "contains a mixture of personal experiences, practical advice, and real life examples."

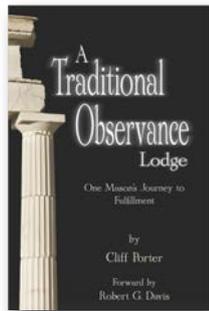
Porter wrote the book to convey the success of his lodge as a traditional observance lodge which he describes as, "one of the most successful lodges in the United States by any standard one might choose to measure it by." It has higher than 100 percent attendance at meetings, never lost a Brother for nonpayment of dues, a required waiting period of longer than a year to get initiated and a need to tell Brothers after midnight on meeting nights that they must go home so that the lodge can be closed.

There are many Freemasons in North America who do not understand the meaning of traditional observance. This book describes it very well. It also expresses his opinions which may not necessarily be the same as others involved with this "style" of the craft.

Traditional observance Freemasonry will vary to some degree in different jurisdictions to adapt to Grand Lodge requirements, and Porter makes it a point to qualify this aspect. He defines the dramatic differences of American Freemasonry when contrasted with Freemasonry elsewhere in the world. It was the more pronounced success that these differences tend to produce that created the stimulus to organize traditional observance lodges.

He does make one observation that is becoming all too true: "The terrifying thing is that the very programs designed to 'fix' shrinking membership might sound the death knell for some lodges . . ."

Porter is an outspoken and unabashed supporter of the meaning and purpose of Freemasonry, and this is expressed in his writing style. You may not always agree



with him, but you can never deny his commitment.

The book is worth reading if for no other reason than to get an understanding of what is meant by a "traditional observance lodge."

The Most Secret Mysteries of the High Degrees of Masonry Unveiled

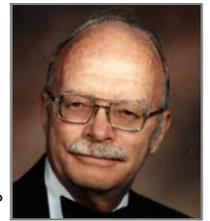
translated and edited by Arturo de Hoyos and S. Brent Morris. Published in 2012 by the Scottish Rite Research Society,
1733 16th St. NW., Washington, DC 20009-3103.

Les Plus Secrets Mysteres des Hauts Grades de la Maconerie was published originally in France in 1766 as an exposé and was the first printed book of the rituals of the "high degrees" of Masonry. The authors define it as "one of the most important books for understanding the origins of the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in the 18th century." This text is a translation of the system of seven degrees as originally published by M. de Bérage in 1766.

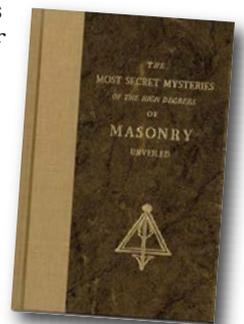
The authors have presented in the introduction a very effective explanation of the migration of these degrees to France and their subsequent development, perhaps from Scottish ritual and conferred in English lodges. It was an extremely successful publication, going through three editions in the first two weeks of its release. The authors compare its significance to that of Prichard's *Masonry Dissected*.

The translation of the seven degrees is prefaced with a chapter on *The History of the Origin of Masonry* explaining why they were developed and including an explanation of the emblems on the prints, which are included in the book.

The authors are two of the most prolific and intellectual Masonic writers in the world today.



Thomas W. Jackson, 33°



The Goat, the Devil and the Freemason

by David West. Published in 2013 by Hamilton House, P.O. Box 70120, 16601 Glyfada, Athens, Greece.

The intention of this book is very simple: to dispel any connection between Freemasonry and Satanism, and explain why conspiracy theorists have so long connected the two. Indeed, that is what the book does, up to a point. Nevertheless, the subject gets lost amid a myriad of meanderings, suppositions and personal opinions.

West has a doctorate in psychology, and the pages prove that he is wont to examine the subject from a clinical, scientific point of view; and though he approaches Freemasonry and Satanism from a broad perspective, he is limited in his critique of certain branches of the fraternity by the fact that he has never belonged to those branches. That does not restrain his opinion, however. Although West belongs only to symbolic and capitular Masonry, he certainly seems to feel he knows everything about the craft there is to know, and his hubris is not limited to only that subject either.

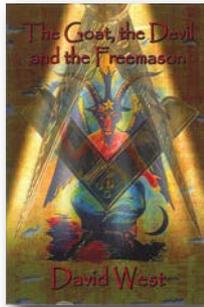
Most of the blame for the Masonic connection to Satanism is laid at the feet of two men: Éliphas Lévi and Leo Taxil. For students of the subject, this is nothing new, and West adds little to the existing narrative regarding both men. Taxil is easily dismissed as he publicly admitted his hoax 116 years ago. West bounds back and forth regarding Lévi: he is an uneducated charlatan, and then he is a dedicated esotericist with a gift for words. West seemingly admires Lévi's wit, and says that Lévi was often writing with his tongue firmly planted in his cheek. Ultimately, the reader is left with impression that West regards Lévi as an admirable idiot.

West also has a strong distaste for Albert Pike, despite the fact that he has never witnessed a Scottish Rite degree as he is not a Scottish Rite Mason. That does not stop him from criticizing Pike in the strongest terms: "However, we can only regret the hostage to

fortune he has left us. It might be best if we could disown his work but his name is so engrained in American Masonry that this is impossible," or, "Had Pike stuck to re-writing the ritual for the Rose Croix, his views would have mattered much less. In and of himself, he would not have been of enormous importance in masonry." What bearing has that on the subject? West might be served far better if he were to approach Pike's *Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite* for what it is, a treatise on comparative theology.

The meandering never stops. Chapters and topics explored include Austrian-British philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein, a list of West's top 20 rock songs from the 1950s, *The Egyptian Book of the Dead*, and poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning. He also makes his own grandiose statements that remind one of Pike, "Zoroastrianism, for example, contained no teachings about the afterlife," or "There is no official teaching regarding the afterlife in traditional Judaism." Sometimes the writing is comic and entertaining, at others dismissive and sarcastic. At all times, it is opinionated.

There are two major flaws in this book. The first is the inability of West to stay on topic. Secondly, West, despite being a Mason, seems to feel that there is nothing mystical about Masonry. It is often a disadvantage for scientists that they are not allowed to be intuitive either by nature or profession. The real crux of the problem is one found in religion as well as Freemasonry: the inability to recognize what is allegorical and how to interpret that allegory. What we get here is the course taken far too often in the craft: if one doesn't understand something, dismiss it. This is a seriously compromised approach to anything, let alone a subject as vast as Masonry. Just because one doesn't understand the intricacies of particle physics doesn't mean one gets to say that particle physics doesn't exist; which is basically the approach West takes to the relationship between Freemasonry and the existential. The supposition seems to be that anything of a mystical nature is Satanic. Unfortunately, this argument serves only to dismiss Freemasonry just as much as it dismisses the goat and the devil.



Skin patch approved for migraines

The Food and Drug Administration has approved the first prescription skin patch for migraines. Users activate the patch with a button, turning on a small battery charge that carries the anti-migraine medicine through the skin for a fast-acting, consistent dose.

Nearly half of migraine sufferers get nausea along with their headaches, and many experience a shutdown of the digestive system, making pills ineffective.

In clinical trials, the patch relieved headaches within two hours in 53 percent of patients.

The patch contains sumatriptan. The drug isn't new, but the type of delivery system certainly is.

Perk up joints and brain, have some strawberries

The most popular berry in the world is not a berry.

The summer favorite strawberries are botanically members of the rose family, say scientists at Tufts University's Antioxidant Nutrition Laboratory.

Americans each consume about 6.5 pounds of strawberries a year. They taste great and are good for your heart, your joints and brain.

Researchers say most strawberry benefits come from their flavonoids, a natural antioxidant that gives them their red color. Flavonoids might help lower levels of C-reactive protein, a marker for heart disease, some studies suggest.

Just one cup of strawberries (about eight berries) contains 140 percent of your daily value for vitamin C. Because vitamin C plays a key role in formation of cartilage and collagen, strawberries might help your joints.

A study by Tufts' HNRCA Neuroscience Laboratory shows there are neurological benefits associated with strawberries. In the study, rodents were fed with the equivalent of one pint of strawberries added to their regular diet. This group

performed best in learning and memory tests as they aged, suggesting that strawberries might be "brain food."

All of this sounds complicated, but the message is simple, eating strawberries protects your heart, your joints, your waistline and your brain.

Statins could have some side effects

Although statins are credited with saving countless lives because of coronary artery disease, some people don't want to take them. They're concerned about safety, but there are a few problems related to statins.

- Muscle weakness. There is some risk, but experts say it's relatively uncommon. Clinical trials find the same number of statin takers reporting muscle weakness as people who take the placebo.

Still, researchers at the Atherosclerosis Research Department of Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute say five to ten percent of people taking statins may experience a mild muscle problem, usually weakness.

- Diabetes. The FDA now requires statin labels to warn about an increased risk of elevated sugar and type 2 diabetes. Most people who have diabetes shouldn't take statins.

- Liver inflammation. Research has

found that statin-related liver problems are rare and seldom progress to serious disease. The FDA advises taking a blood test for liver problems before starting statin therapy.

- Fatigue. A study reported in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* found statin users were more likely to report increased fatigue with exertion. A new Harvard study shows that fatigue was reported in only one of 300 statin users.

- Memory problems. In the Harvard study only about one in 1,500 statin users reported memory problems. Other studies show that statins reduce the risk of cognitive decline and dementia.

Tuft doctors dispute 'Wheat belly' claims

Though websites frequently mention the slang term wheat belly, doctors at Tufts University say there is no evidence that eating wheat will increase the risk of abdominal fat.

There's a big difference, however, between whole wheat and refined wheat products, including cookies, cakes and doughnuts. All of these have added sugars and fats that contribute unhealthy calories to your diet. If you eliminate these refined wheat products from your diet, you will lose weight, including weight on your middle.

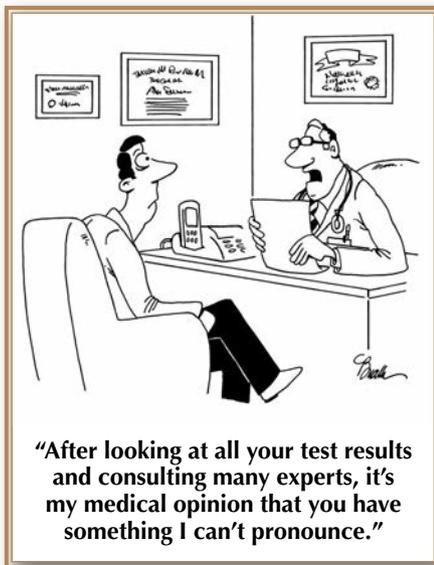
Many weight-loss diets target grains in general, not making distinction between whole and refined grains. But adults who eat three servings of whole grains, such as whole wheat bread and oatmeal, have less fatty tissue on their bodies, including on their abdomen.

Buying eggs

It doesn't matter whether they are brown or white, the nutritional value is the same.

Discard any eggs that are broken, which can lead to contamination.

Buy large eggs to use in recipes. Eggs are good for at least four to six weeks after the sell-by date if you store them correctly.



School District Training Pilots in Ohio

By Jean Colner and Carin Illig

The impact of the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., continues to grow as recent legislation passed in Ohio addresses children with dyslexia in the schools.

The passage of two house bills has resulted in the need for qualified people to train school teachers to provide quality instruction to children with dyslexia. House Bill 96 adds the term "dyslexia" to the specific learning disability category and enacts a "pilot project to provide early screening and intervention services for children with risk factors for dyslexia." The state of Ohio included the definition of dyslexia developed by the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) in House Bill 157.

The bill "authorizes educational service centers to provide teacher professional development on dyslexia" and to change the teacher-preparation programs at colleges and universities. It goes on to explain the qualifications of approved trainers. Due to our accreditation by the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC) and our recognition from IDA as meeting the IDA knowledge and practice standards, our certified trainers are qualified to provide training under House Bill 157.

Ohio has also implemented a third grade reading guarantee under which children must reach a certain level of proficiency on the state reading test or they will not be promoted to fourth grade. With this high stakes educational scenario unfolding, there is renewed importance for the Children's

Dyslexia Centers, Inc.'s role in the state – to provide our tutor-training program to public and private school teachers.

The Columbus, OH, Children's Dyslexia Center began a fee-based school partnership training pilot program in 2012-13 with the Westerville city schools. The district approached Columbus center director Jean Colner, with a request to train ten teachers for the initial level Orton-Gillingham (OG) training course. Jean consulted with Carin Illig, Bill Zeimer and the Columbus board of governors to develop a training plan for the Westerville teachers. The district teachers attended all centralized seminars, and each teacher taught one child from the center waitlist and taught the second practicum child in the school. Most lesson observations and feedback sessions were conducted in the center, with the remaining lesson observation feedbacks conducted by video.

trainer-interns, providing the infrastructure to assure that all of the people in training receive the intensive supervision and coaching support. The fees collected for the contracted training cover the increased payroll costs for the professional supervisor/coaching staff.

Building on the success and lessons learned from the 2012-13 Westerville public school pilot, adjustments and improvements have been made to the school district training plan. This year, the Columbus center is piloting a contract with a distance practicum with Gahanna public schools. All of the practicum experience will take place in the schools; supervision of the practicum will be completed through video. Shared videos and self-evaluations will be sent to a private Columbus center web-based address so supervisors and teachers can communicate. Regular in-person meetings with distance teachers and

... there is renewed importance for the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc.'s role in the state ...

This year, several more Central Ohio school districts have approached Columbus director Jean Colner for OG training. Five school districts have contracts to send 21 teachers to participate in this year's fee-based training partnerships. The Columbus center board also awarded three scholarships at the center following the traditional training model. Columbus has developed a team of seven skilled supervisors and

supervisors will take place throughout the year.

Another new 2013-14 pilot for Columbus involves training two teachers from the Westerville public schools to become supervisors and trainer-interns.

A total of 62 children will be directly touched by the Columbus Children's Dyslexia Center charitable community outreach program, which provides free tutoring to the children.

VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

MASONIC ARCHAEOLOGY

It has long been deemed a settled point in Masonic history that the existence of Symbolical or Speculative Masonry in England cannot be carried back, by authentic evidence, any farther than 1646, or, in other words, to the initiation of Elias Ashmole, the herald and antiquary, in that year. But we are now told by Bro. Gould, in his recent *Commentary on the Regius Manuscript*, that about the year 1400 "there was a guild, or fraternity, commemorating the science, but without practising the art of Masonry." This weighty declaration is canvassed by Bros. Hughan and Yarker

in our last issue, and by Bro. G. W. Speth in the present one. No speculation of greater interest and importance to the *literati* of the craft could well have been thrown out for their consideration, and the hope may, therefore, be expressed that the value of Bro. Gould's recent commentary, as a solid contribution to our existing Masonic knowledge, will not be wholly without effect in augmenting the fund which is being raised on his behalf.

— Archibald Campbell,
The Freemason, July 6, 1889

WHAT MASONRY IS AND IS NOT

Masonry is not a gorgeous temple on a prominent corner; it is not a golden emblem worn on the coat lapel; neither is it a group of individuals bound together by secret oaths to a life of helpfulness and uplift. It has to do with these, but is not that.

Masonry is a system, an influence, an institution, an incentive. It is an uplifted banner, upon which great principles and lofty ideals are inscribed in symbols which all may see, but which only those may read who search diligently. It is a code of morality which can harm no one, but abundantly bless all who live up to its precepts. It is influence which works beneficently upon the individual and binds men together in brotherly love, mutual helpfulness and the search for truth. It is an institution in which are gathered persons of all

nationalities, diverse opinions and varying temperaments. It is an incentive to nobler deeds, higher thoughts and greater achievements. It is all of these and more.

Next to religion it is the greatest reformatory agent in the world. It boasts but little, does not use spectacular means of attracting public notoriety, but pursues its unpretentious course with a sincere tenacity of purpose and a sincere friendliness for all men that attracts the thoughtful and farseeing, commands the admiration of those who seek the betterment of the race, and enlists the best efforts of a host of common men who are not seeking personal gain, but feel the urge to improve themselves, help the weak and make this old earth a better place in which to spend our short span of life.

— Robert Crow, *The Cornerstone*, Jan. 1928

MASONRY

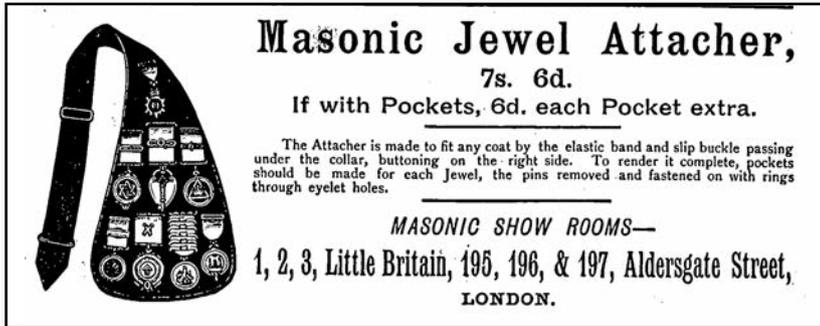
The Masonic fraternity seeks no control over processes of government and the enforcement of the law, and, as an organization, it takes no part in the solution of industrial and social problems except through the influence of its teachings upon the character and conduct of its members. The primary purposes of Masonry are to enlighten the mind, arouse the conscience, stimulate the noble and generous impulses of the human heart. It seeks to promote the best type of manhood based upon the practice of Brotherly love and the Golden Rule. When these results have been accomplished the mission of Masonry has been achieved.

— Carl A. Miller, 33°, *Chicago Scottish Rite Magazine*, June, 1945

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT

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

— Joseph Fort Newton, *California Mason*, April-June 1968



Masonic Jewel Attacher,
7s. 6d.
If with Pockets, 6d. each Pocket extra.

The Attacher is made to fit any coat by the elastic band and slip buckle passing under the collar, buttoning on the right side. To render it complete, pockets should be made for each Jewel, the pins removed and fastened on with rings through eyelet holes.

MASONIC SHOW ROOMS—
1, 2, 3, Little Britain, 195, 196, & 197, Aldersgate Street,
LONDON.

— *The Freemason*, Oct. 26, 1889

Masons Are America's Heart!

Every line of America's history is written with Masonic inks, sweetened with Masonic love, blessed with Masonic Brotherhood, reddened with Masonic blood.

From pioneer days to atomic defense you find members of the craft making the American Dream. Tom Paine writing *The Crisis* . . . Washington and his many Masonic officers suffering through Valley Forge to victory . . . there's Kit Carson, Lewis and Clark, Oglethorpe, Lindbergh, Sam Gompers, Irving Berlin, Blackjack

Pershing, George M. Cohan, Generals MacArthur, Ridgeway, Clark and Doolittle . . . Admirals from Farragut to Couldrey . . . empire builders like Astor, Mellon, J.C. Penney, Wanamaker and Morgenthau . . . football coaches like Stagg, Kerr and Bierman . . . just a few tintypes of thousands of Freemasons whose names symbolize free opportunity in free America!

— Charlie Vancott, *The Empire State Masons*, Fan.-Feb. 1956

TOO FAST

Many of our most accomplished Masons do their work and lecturing too fast. A solemn and stately motion is appropriate in Masonry. Every word in the lectures, &c., should have the weight and sobriety of a prayer to Deity. Not only should all levity be strictly forbidden, but the very opposite, the profoundest gravity should be cultivated by the officiating Masons. We believe in "memorizing" one's part, but not in repeating it *as if from memory*. The nearer it sounds like extemporizing the more impressive it will be to the candidate. Avoid the error, then, of working *too fast*.

— Rob Morris, *The American Freemason*, Oct. 15, 1854

QUOTABLES

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says, 'I'll try again tomorrow.'

— Mary Anne Radmacher

Our self-image and our habits tend to go together. Change one and you will automatically change the other.

— Dr. Maxwell Maltz

The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences.

— Eleanor Roosevelt

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

— Carlos Castaneda

Nostalgia, long considered a disorder, is now recognized to counteract loneliness, boredom and anxiety, making life seem more meaningful and death less frightening.

— John Tierney

Extend to each person, no matter how trivial the contact, all the care and kindness, understanding and love that you can muster, and do it with no thought of any reward. Your life will never be the same again.

— Og Mandino

Regardless of how you feel inside, always try to look like a winner. Even if you are behind, a sustained look of control and confidence can give you a mental edge that results in victory.

— Diane Arbus

I can't imagine anything more worthwhile than doing what I most love. And they pay me for it.

— Edgar Winter

Make sure you visualize what you really want, not what someone else wants for you.

— Jerry Gilles

Children are gone, but some couples still aren't having fun

They thought they would get back to the good old days when their last child left home, but now they aren't romantic and have few interests in common.

They have what's called empty nest syndrome, which is the reason why gray divorces are rising. Eli Karam, assistant professor at the University of Louisville's Marriage and Family Therapy program, says breakups aren't usually caused by a big conflict, but by withdrawal. Further, some spouses relate to each other in their roles as mothers and fathers, not as romantic partners who make love to each other.

Withdrawal begins well before the departure of the last child. He might retreat into his hobbies and sports; she disappears into friends or caregiving for an elderly parent.

When the children are gone and the two have no shared interest, one spouse may be out the door.

The key to preventing empty nest syndrome is a plan or vision for the future together, says Dr. Karam.

Before that time comes, talk about where you want to live and what experiences you want to share. Start talking about them when the youngest child is a freshman in high school. Start early to have protected time, a period each week to do something and to talk.

Remove an error from your credit report

You can report an error on your credit report online or by emailing the credit bureau involved. It's more effective to use the mail. Send a letter explaining the dispute and attach documentation.

Include a copy of your credit report with the error highlighted. Keep copies of the documentation.

Make your explanation simple, say the experts at credit.com. Label all documents so the credit bureau doesn't have to figure them out themselves.

Send your package by certified mail and request a return receipt. Then send the same information to the lender or debt collector. They have to investigate the problem but won't get any documents or information from the credit bureau involved.

ATM 2.0

Mobile phones, tablet computers will soon change the ways of the ATM.

In Chicago, the huge Wintrust Financial bank has been testing its mobile-cash feature among employees. It plans to release the new ATM to the public later this year.

Here's how it works. A customer uses an iPhone app to request \$20 from a nearby ATM. Passing the cash machine, she scans it with her phone and retrieves the bill. The process is faster than finding and opening a wallet then inserting it into a cash machine.

At Wintrust, they think the new ATMs will attract a new client base, 35 and under, they didn't cater to before.

About half of financial institutions surveyed by CEB TowerGroup plan to replace their ATMs within three years. Banks across the country and world are now looking into mobile cash and ATMs that have the same touchscreen experience as an iPad. ATM makers will copy tablet-style operation using drags of a finger across a touchscreen.



How to cut the child off

Financial guru Suze Orman says when you are giving money to someone, often the best thing you can do is say no.

"Sometimes the most thoughtful gift is to say no: No, because you're unwilling to enable their poor habits. No, because they need to save themselves. No, because giving what they're asking for could erode your own financial security," Orman writes.

When your child is the one constantly asking for money, it can be more difficult, but the same ideas apply. You can't feel guilty about insisting your child take on the responsibilities of an adult.

Here are some ideas from *CNN Money* about how to tell your child to take a hike (nicely.)

1. Say you're glad you have been able to help, but he or she is capable of taking more responsibility now.

2. Tell them they have been your priority, but now you have to save for retirement. And you want them to become financially independent adults.

3. Mention that it's time for them to pay their own rent. Propose a firm date. Stress that they will have to reduce expenses, increase income, or handle money better.

4. Provide empathy, saying you know it won't be easy but you're here whenever they need to talk.

5. Emphasize the deadline. Whatever date you set for the deadline has to be firm.

Advice for caregivers

According to caring.com chocolate works better than anti-anxiety medications for many people dealing with the later stages of Alzheimer's or dementia.

Treats can distract and soothe someone who's upset but unable to express what's bothersome. And any chocolate-lover is soothed by a Hershey's kiss.

Set aside concerns about sticking to a diet. No nutritional changes have been found to affect the progressive nature of dementia.

MORE THAN JUST BOOKS

Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives
at the National Heritage Museum

Albert Pike's 33° Ritual for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction

Albert Pike, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite's Southern Jurisdiction from 1859-91, revised all of the Scottish Rite degree rituals, including the 33°, during his tenure. A handsomely bound book, containing Pike's reworked version of the 33°, was presented to the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction (NMJ) in 1870. This manuscript version of Pike's 33° ritual is currently on view in the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives reading room exhibition, *Secret Scripts: Masonic and Fraternal Ritual Books*, at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library through Feb. 1, 2014.

The inscription inside the book reads:

This Copy is most respectfully Presented to the Supreme Council of the Northern Jurisdiction of the U.S., by special permission of M.: P.: Albert Pike, Sov.: Gr.: Commander of the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction, U.S., by RMC

Graham, 33° Gr.: Rep.:., New York, March 19, 1870.

Robert McCoskry Graham was an Active Member of the NMJ's Supreme Council and Grand Representative from that Supreme Council to the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction from 1867 until his death in 1890. Graham lived in New York City and was actively involved in both the SJ's and NMJ's Supreme Councils.

In June 1870, three months after Graham inscribed the Pike ritual to the NMJ's Supreme Council, Albert Pike attended the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's annual meeting, held that year in Cincinnati, OH. Although today Sovereign Grand Commanders from the NMJ and the SJ regularly attend each other's annual meetings, Pike observed in 1870 that "It is, I think, the first time when the Grand Commander of one of our Supreme Councils has been present at a session of the other..." Although the 33° was conferred upon 14 men at the 1870 annual meeting, the NMJ's annual Proceedings from 1870 do not indicate if the Committee on Rituals had adopted the Pike ritual and whether or not that was the version of the 33° ritual that was used.

That Graham would have presented the ritual to the NMJ's Supreme Council is not surprising. Not only was Graham the NMJ's Grand Representative to the SJ's

Supreme Council, he was also close friends with Pike. Pike himself wrote the obituary for Graham that was published in the SJ's *Official Bulletin*. The obituary (later reprinted in Pike's collection of obituaries, *Ex Corde Locutiones*) is dated March 10, 1891 - less than a month before Pike's own death. Writing about Graham, Pike not only makes it clear that Graham was a friend but that he was intimately involved with the activities of the Southern Jurisdiction's Supreme Council: "During the last ten years he had regularly been present at our sessions, feeling like one of us, and looked upon by us as one of ourselves, so much so that he sat with us in our confidential sessions, always welcomed and beloved by all."

The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction used Pike's 33° ritual from 1870-80, at which point they adopted Charles T. McClenachan's revision of Pike's ritual. A version of this ritual was used until 1938, when the Supreme Council approved a rewritten ritual composed by then-Sovereign Grand Commander Melvin M. Johnson. It is a version of this ritual that the NMJ's Supreme Council still uses today.

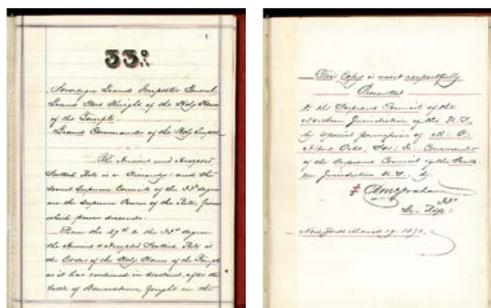
For further reading:

Arturo de Hoyos, "On the Origins of the Prince Hall Scottish Rite Rituals," *Heredom* 5 (1996): 51-67. [In this article about how the NMJ assisted in the production of the United Supreme Council (PHA)'s book of Scottish Rite rituals, de Hoyos, using primary sources in the collection of the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives, provides a few concise paragraphs (pp.60-61) on the development of the NMJ's 33° through the 19th century.]

This article appeared in a slightly different form on the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library's blog. Find more at nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com. The Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is located just off the main lobby of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library and is open to the public 10-4:30, Wednesday-Saturday. Reference assistance is provided in person, by phone, or by e-mail. You may contact us at 781-457-4109 or library@monh.org.



Jeffrey Croteau



Albert Pike. Manuscript Ritual for the 33°, 1870, Washington, DC, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library Collection.

READER'S RESPOND

Happy to be a Part of It

May I acknowledge and thank you for publishing my submission in the bicentennial issue of *The Northern Light* which just arrived postmarked accordingly (Aug. 5, 2013).

Harold W. Gray
Valley of Philadelphia

The Reports of His Death Were Greatly Exaggerated

The article on p. 16 (TNL Aug 2013) listed Josiah Hayden Drummond as a Sovereign Grand Commander with a death date of 1879. He died Oct. 25, 1902, in Portland, ME. He is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in that city.

Robert P. Fuller, 32°
Valley of Portland

[Editor's note. Bro. Fuller is correct. In the article the 1879 date should have referred to the year he left office, not his death date]

Bringing Back Memories

On p. 2 (TNL Aug 2013) there is a picture of the Statler Building in Boston (former headquarters of the NMJ). I have counted the 33 windows on each of the three protruding faces of the hotel.

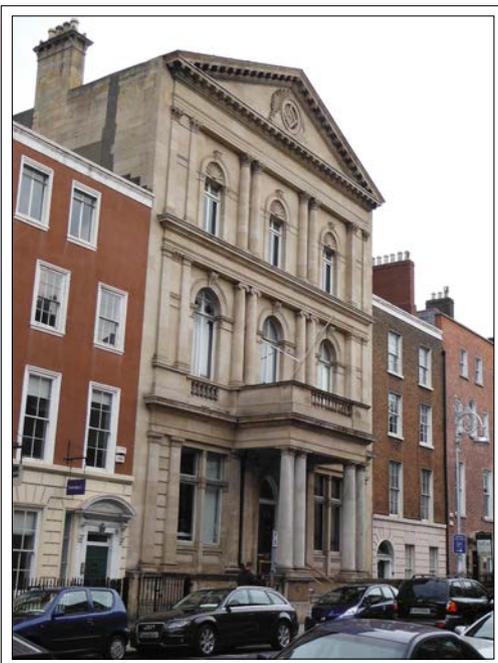
I was there in September 1940 when my father, a World War I veteran, took me out of school to the American Legion convention. If memory serves me correctly the great convention parades were on Tremont Street, and the Statler Hotel was there. I had just begun fourth grade, and I had an intense lesson in American history that took place in Boston and the surrounding towns, and I have never forgotten it.

Paul K. Edman, 32°
Valleys of Hartford and Norwich

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

MASONIC MOMENTS

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



Last September I took a trip to Scotland, Ireland, and Norway. I spent a lot of time going to lodges and seeing those parts of the world Masonically. The Brothers over there took great care to show us around and make us feel welcome. I dragged my wife to most of this too, and she even loved it. This photograph is of the Grand Lodge building in Ireland. Scott Graham, Valley of Madison, WI.

The photograph I took recently during a trip to New Zealand. Lodge 98 N.Z.C. is in Old Cromwell Town. The sign out front was very informative. I wish I had a chance to visit and see inside. R. Lyle Johnston, Wilmington Lodge No. 804, New Wilmington, PA



The Valley of Northern NJ's traveling Master Mason Degree Team. They raised four new Master Mason's (front row kneeling) and did an excellent job. SP Alex Dakak chairs this team. We now have two teams in NJ, and they have performed over a dozen times over the past two years. Dave Glattly, Deputy for New Jersey.

Where Everybody Knows Your Name

We have received many comments on the cover of the August TNL. In honor of the 200th anniversary of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, we put the names of all 33° Masons in the background. Some of the comments have come from people who found their names, while others have been from those whose names are behind the eagle. In order for you to see where your name appears – or would appear, if the eagle were not there – we have placed the “birdless” cover on our website. Take a look by heading out to ScottishRiteNMJ.org, go to “The Northern Light,” tab and click on “background.”

The Right Way to Spell Rite

Sometimes “auto correct” can be your friend, sometimes not so much. In the Grand Commander’s message in the August issue, we refer to the “Scottish Right.” Somehow, this slipped by the editor and all our proof readers, but not by many of our eagle-eyed readers. Rest assured, despite the gaffe, we here at the headquarters of the jurisdiction know the right way to spell rite.

The Big Move

October 1 marked the beginning of a new era for the Supreme Council. Offices of the jurisdiction have moved – although, just down the hill – to share space with the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library. The move consolidates all operations of the headquarters, as executive and administrative offices will be in close proximity with the archives and library of the jurisdiction. In 1968, The Supreme Council moved into what was then the Tower Estate in Lexington, MA, after being located at the Statler Office Building in downtown Boston since the 1920’s. The museum opened in a new structure on the grounds of the headquarters a few years later in 1975, as the bicentennial of the American Revolution got underway just a mile down the street on Lexington Green. During the past year, space in the museum has been readied for the headquarters for the organization’s latest move and consolidation. The office building has been sold to the town of Lexington. The sale to the town assures the grounds will remain relatively unchanged, and the financial future of the fraternity is assured for many generations.

Bringing Statues to Life

We received a note from R.W. Jay L. Austin of New York giving us some information on a monument featured in the August issue. Bro. Austin says “I just finished reading *The Northern Light*. On page 20 under the banner that reads ‘Please Support the 2013 Blue Envelope Appeal’ I saw the picture of two Civil War soldiers.

Alan E. Foulds, 32°
editor

I am pleased to give you information on the Union soldier depicted on the “Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial” at the Gettysburg National Cemetery in Gettysburg, PA. He is Henry H. Bingham, a captain in Company G, 140th Pennsylvania Infantry. He was cited for rallying and leading into action a portion of troops who had given way under the fierce assaults of the enemy. He was a member of Union Lodge No. 121, Philadelphia.” Bro. Austin says the information came from the book *The Medal of Honor – The Letter G in Valor*, researched by S. Kenneth Baril. The book was published by Weidner Publishing Group in 1994.

Pay Your Dues Online

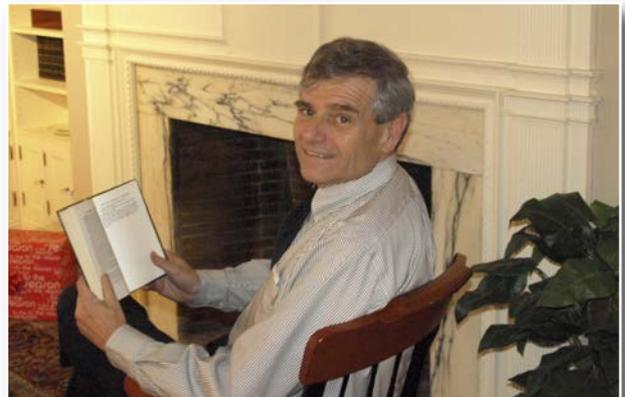
Paying your dues has never been easier. Just have your Scottish Rite member number handy, together with your address associated with your membership, and visit our website ScottishRiteNMJ.org. Follow the simple instructions and you will be all paid up in no time.

A Sublime Brotherhood Available at the Scottish Rite NMJ Shop

Believe it or not, it’s time to start thinking of your holiday shopping. How about a copy of the newly published pictorial history of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction? In honor of the 200th anniversary the Supreme Council published *A Sublime Brotherhood*. The 200-page lavishly illustrated work traces the history of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction from 1813 to the present. It is a “must-have” volume and a great souvenir as our bicentennial year nears its end. You can order your copy now at shop.ScottishRiteNMJ.org. The price is \$33 plus \$7 shipping. They are going fast, so don’t wait.

In addition to *A Sublime Brotherhood*, currently for sale at the online shop are the 200th anniversary jewel; 200th anniversary cufflinks, lapel pins, and zippered padfolios; *American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities*, and more.

Check out the store at: shop.ScottishRiteNMJ.org.



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

Richard H. Curtis
1939 - 2013

