

The Northern Light

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GRIT AND DETERMINATION

Brother Lamade and America's
Greatest Family Newspaper
page 8



The Northern Light

The magazine for Scottish Rite Masons of AmericaSM

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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

Value Proposition Part 2

IF YOU RECALL, in the February 2014 issue of *The Northern Light*, my editorial focused on the value proposition of the Scottish Rite. Recently, I had a conversation on this same topic with a Past Grand Master from one of the largest states in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

His message was both timely and unforgettable. He indicated that only 18 percent of candidates in his state returned to their lodges after they joined the craft, and worse, only eight percent ever became active in their lodges. His thoughts were no less critical when he noted, "What a waste of time and potential resources." This is not exactly a ringing endorsement of the management of Freemasonry in that state. Perhaps he is not alone.

Think about that for a moment. Eighty-two percent of these Freemasons regularly pay their dues but don't attend meetings. In a rational world, reasonable leaders would recognize this trend and devote their attention and resources toward finding a solution to this unhealthy situation. It is quite probable that a newly identified disease, known in medical circles as irrational groupthink, has infected many of our current Masonic leaders. They routinely ignore the average member as they blindly continue down a road of self-destruction. From all outward appearances, many of those leaders look at the membership as a row of corn to be harvested to support an ever growing list of their favorite secular world charities. When our Masonic leaders fail to understand why members vote with their feet and do not attend meetings, the very future of the craft is in doubt.

Could this be the reason Masonic membership has decreased in the United States every year since 1959?

Probably.

As to our value proposition, your Scottish Rite is adding to it by sponsoring a new Individual Retirement Account (IRA) benefit. Through Alerus Financial, you will be able to participate in this unique retirement program which features high quality and ultra-low cost mutual funds. Both you and your spouse will be able to participate in this offering. You can get details on page 25 of this publication.

The leaders of the Scottish Rite in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction hope the latest addition to our value proposition will assist you in planning for a better future and a prosperous retirement.

The next time you visit your Scottish Rite Valley, we hope you notice our Vision Statement:



You, the member, are the most important part of the Scottish Rite.

John Wm. McNaughton
Sovereign Grand Commander

Prized Relics ~

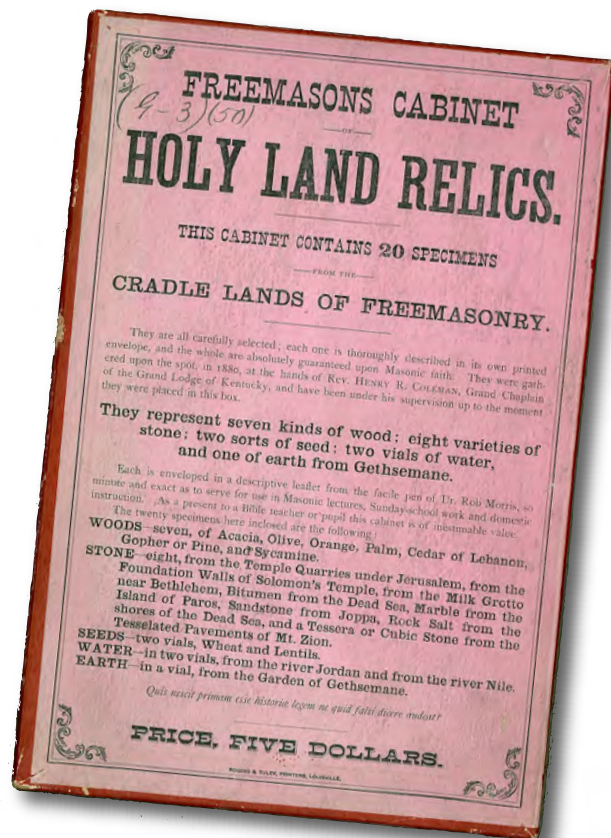
A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND

By AIMEE E. NEWELL, PhD

In March 1899, a group of men posed for a photograph at the entrance to King Solomon's Mine in Jerusalem. Group tours such as this one had become wildly popular among Americans during the late 1800s and into the early 1900s. The persistent idea of American exceptionalism, with the United States seen as a New World version of the Holy Land, connected Americans to the ancient world and fostered a desire to travel to the places described in the Bible. When combined with the increasing affordability of travel for the middle class during the second half of the 1800s and the economic and political stability of Palestine, a trip to the Holy Land became a reality for thousands of American tourists.

A "Wider Horizon": Tours of the Holy Land

By the 1890s, package tours were offered with departures from New York. A promotional booklet produced for members of Central City Commandery, No. 25, of Syracuse, NY, in 1908 described a planned 70-day cruise in great detail. For a berth starting at \$400, each passenger was allowed 300 pounds of personal baggage and would travel to Spain, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Athens, Constantinople, Smyrna, Joppa, Jerusalem, Alexandria, Cairo, Naples, Rome, the French Riviera, England and Ireland, with possible side trips to Granada, Damascus, Samaria, Galilee and a cruise along the Nile. The booklet explained that "it is reasonable to assume that almost every intelligent American citizen would be glad to have the opportunity at some time of visiting the Orient, particularly those places in Egypt, Syria and Palestine which are replete with the treasured traditions of the Christian religion and the rich associations of



**Freemasons Cabinet –
Holy Land Relics, ca. 1880, United States.
Collection of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.**

historic development." The benefits of such a trip were obvious: "You return home a better American, with renewed health, renewed ambition and wider horizon, and you say, with all who have made the trip before you, "I am glad that I went. I would not give up the memory of it for twice the money that it cost."

While most trips included stops at locations of Christian interest and pilgrimage, groups of American Freemasons also traveled to Jerusalem to see sites associated with Solomon's Temple. Their interest in these locations was piqued by the ritual for the first three degrees which tell the story of building the Temple. The original source of information about King Solomon's famed

temple is the Bible. 1 Kings: 6 and 7 describes the structure, including its dimensions and the materials used in its construction. Builders erected the Temple in the tenth century B.C. as a sacred resting place for the Ark of the Covenant, which contained the fragments of the tablets that listed the original Ten Commandments. In 597 B.C., Babylon conquered Syria and seized Israel. Ten years later, the Babylonian king destroyed the Temple and stole most of the artifacts within, although the Ark of the Covenant vanished; its location remains a mystery.

The promotional booklet directed at Central City Commandery No. 25 for a 1908 cruise included a number of testimonials in the back including one by Thomas J. Shryock, the Grand Master of Maryland. This particular testimonial, recounting a 1902 trip to Jerusalem, called out the Masonic parts of the trip and thanked tour leader "our friend and brother, Frank C. Clark...for his kindness in arranging for our various Masonic meetings in Jerusalem, Palestine, with the Royal Solomon Mother Lodge, No. 293, and Badr Helouan Lodge, No. 60, of Helouan, Egypt...we sincerely commend him to all members of the fraternity desiring to visit the Orient on similar pilgrimages..." Shryock's trip to the Holy Land also included stops in Europe and lasted three months. Partway through the voyage, Shryock wrote to his Masonic brothers in Maryland relating that half of the 400 men on board were Freemasons and that the group

formed an association – the S.S. Celtic Masonic Association – and elected Shryock as president. The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library holds a medal that was later struck to commemorate the trip and the formation of the association. One side shows an ocean liner and the other side reads "S.S. Celtic Masonic Association Gen. Thos. J. Shryock Grand Master of Maryland U.S.A. President."

A highlight of the Jerusalem tour for Freemasons was the "Quarries of King Solomon," also known as "Zedekiah's Cave," which extend below the wall of the Old City of Jerusalem and underground toward the Temple Mount. While the use of the quarry by Solomon's workers is not conclusive, there is evidence that building stones were cut from it. The cave's entrance was rediscovered in 1854, just in time for the tourist boom of the late 1800s. In 1868, the first recorded Masonic ceremony in Palestine was held here, partially due to the initiative of Rob Morris, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and founder of the Order of the Eastern Star. The group of men in the photograph from March 1899 stands by the entrance to the quarry and includes members from King David Lodge and Ionic Lodge, both located in Taunton, MA.

Masonic Souvenirs from the Holy Land

Rob Morris traveled to Palestine in 1868, where he gathered Holy Land souvenirs to take back to the United States for sale. His "Holy Land Cabinets," complete with 150 sacred objects, undoubtedly included a sample of white limestone from "Solomon's Quarry." The samples that Morris collected and sold were extremely popular. He claimed to have sold 100,000 samples after he returned. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts collection, at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, includes two later examples of Morris's "cabinet." The box top includes a printed description: "This cabinet contains 20 specimens from the cradle lands of Freemasonry...they represent seven kinds of wood; eight varieties of stone; two sorts of seed; two vials of water, and one of earth from Gethsemane." Inside the box, each "specimen" is accompanied by a "descriptive leaflet from the facile pen of Dr. Rob Morris."

King Solomon's Temple, Jerusalem, ca. 1900, Blackmore Art Company, Newark, NJ.



King Solomon's Temple Jerusalem
From the original drawing by J. David Blackmore, published in "The Temple" 1900

A silver box in the collection of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts tells another story of a Holy Land souvenir: "This piece of Magnesian lime stone was broken off from the side of one of the large foundation stones on which stood the renowned Temple of Solomon. It was procured by myself with considerable difficulty, the place being guarded by an armed Turkish soldier, in the spring of 1851 in the ancient city of Jerusalem, & it is affectionately presented to Hammatt Lodge, East Boston, as a memorial – J.V.C. Smith Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Boston. Feb. 22, 1860." Inside the box is a piece of white limestone.

Jerome Van Crowninshield Smith, who obtained the stone and donated it to Hammatt Lodge, of which he was a charter member, was born in Conway, NH. He attended Brown University and Williams College, eventually becoming a physician. In 1826, Smith took the post of health officer of the port of Boston, a position he filled until 1849. He also worked as a medical journalist.

Smith became a Mason in 1822 when he joined Mount Lebanon Lodge. In 1857, he demitted from that lodge and became a charter member of Hammatt Lodge. From 1852 to 1854, he served as District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 1, and in 1860, he was Deputy Grand Master.

During the early 1850s, he traveled, going to Jerusalem in 1851, where he procured the piece of limestone from Solomon's Temple that he placed in this box. He also obtained another set of stones that he presented to Boston's Mount Lebanon Lodge in 1852. Smith published three books about his travels: *A Pilgrimage to Egypt* (1852), *A Pilgrimage to Palestine* (1853) and *Turkey and the Turks* (1854). When Smith returned from abroad in 1854, his fellow citizens elected him mayor of Boston. He served until 1855. When he died in 1879, he was remembered, in part, for his lively travelogues. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Proceedings related "His lectures...on the scenes around Jerusalem; the stones which he brought and exhibited from the Temple of Solomon, and the minute description which he gave of the quarries from which they were raised, will long be remembered by those whose privilege it was to listen to him."



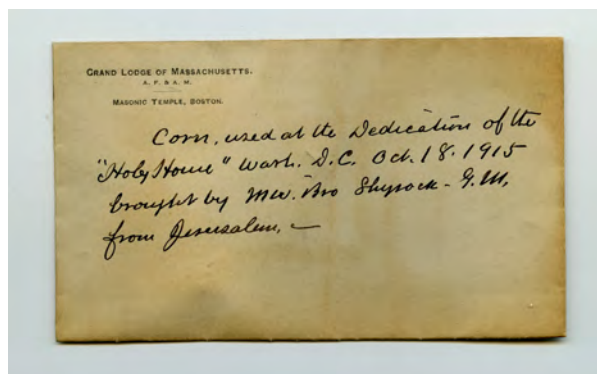
Box with Limestone, 1860, probably Boston. Collection of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.



Photo by David Bohl.



S.S. Celtic Masonic Association Medal, 1902, United States. Gift of Captain and Mrs. Sidney Helliwell.



Envelope with Corn, 1915, Jerusalem. Collection of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.



Cross and Crown of Thorns, 1897, Jerusalem.

Masonic gavel and keystones made from "Solomon's Quarry" limestone remained popular souvenirs well into the 20th century. The collection of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library includes several examples. Recently, the museum received a limestone keystone that was brought back from Jerusalem in May 1930, and presented to the donor's father, who was a member of Greensburg Lodge No. 36 in Indiana.

While limestone souvenirs were extremely popular, items made from wood procured in


Jerusalem were also brought home. In 1897, at the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's annual meeting, General John Corson Smith presented a cross and crown of thorns to the Supreme Council. The cross is made of olive wood from the Mount of Olives and the crown is made of acacia from Jerusalem. Smith, who served as Deputy for Illinois from 1883-91, was also Past Grand Master for Illinois. He was trained as a carpenter and builder, served during the Civil War, eventually being promoted to Brigadier-General, and was elected Lieutenant Governor of Illinois in 1884 and 1886. As an active Freemason, he carefully ordered the cross with specific instructions to incorporate Masonic symbolism, such as the three steps that form the base, which are intended to represent the initial three degrees of Freemasonry.

Transforming a Souvenir into a Relic

A souvenir is defined as "something that serves as a reminder," while the definition of a relic has often been adapted from its traditional meaning as the remains of a martyr or saint. A relic usually takes on a deeper dimension of meaning to its holder, often viewed as a sacred object, beyond a mere reminder. Some of the items here held that deeper meaning for their original owners right off

the bat, while others started as souvenirs and deepened into relics later. Sometimes that process was aided by how the item was used once it was brought home as a souvenir. For example, when Thomas Shryock traveled to Jerusalem in 1902, he evidently brought home some corn which is now in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts collection at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library.

A handwritten note on the envelope holding the corn reads "Corn, used at the Dedication of the "Holy House" Wash. D.C. Oct. 18. 1915." The "Holy House" in Washington, DC, refers to the House of the Temple, headquarters of the Scottish Rite's Southern Jurisdiction, which was dedicated on October 18, 1915. At the time, Shryock was a member of the Supreme Council and attended the ceremony that day. The corn he brought back from Jerusalem was sprinkled by the Grand Almoner as part of the elements of consecration during the dedication. While the donor of the corn to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts collection is unknown, the proceedings from the day list a number of members of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's Supreme Council who attended, and several of them also had ties to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The use of the corn, a relic of Jerusalem, took on even more meaning through its use in this dedication ceremony. These many meanings led someone to donate it to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts museum, where it has been preserved for almost 100 years.

Several of the relics described here will be on view at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA, starting June 14. Our exhibition, "Prized Relics: Historic Souvenirs from the Collection," will feature over 80 relics and souvenirs connected to domestic life, travels, Masonic institutions and historic events dating from the 1700s through the 1900s. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday, from 10 to 4:30 and offers free admission and parking. For more information, visit our website, NationalHeritageMuseum.org. 

If you have a relic or another item that you would like to donate to the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, please let us know. Contact Aimee E. Newell, PhD, director of collections at anewell@monh.org or 781-457-4144.

Grit and Determination

BROTHER LAMADE AND AMERICA'S GREATEST FAMILY NEWSPAPER

By ALAN E. FOULDS, 32°

If you were an avid comic book reader any time from the 1940s into the 1970s, it was inevitable that you eventually turned to the back pages. There, you would find advertisements for all sorts of exotic items. One touted “X-Ray Specs” available for only \$1, and guaranteed to “seem to be able to look right through the flesh and see the bones.” Charles Atlas promised to “make you a new man in only 15 minutes a day.” For a quarter you could buy a gadget allowing you to throw your voice. You could use it “to fool teachers, friends, and family.” Maybe the most famous was the ad for sea-monkeys. This bowlful of happiness made for the ideal pets. “So eager to please, they can even be trained,” the ad says. You could raise them from birth in a matter of minutes. Of course, the end result never quite looked like the humanoid creatures with little crowns depicted in the accompanying picture.

Mixed in with all this was an offer just too irresistible to pass up for many boys. If you were at least 12 years old you could become an entrepreneur. You could be a happy, prosperous *Grit* salesman. *Grit* proclaimed itself “America’s greatest family newspaper.” In addition to making money with each issue sold, you could earn points toward valuable prizes such as bicycles, cameras, baseball gloves, football helmets, harmonicas, and much, much more. The paper sold for 20 cents, and you got to keep seven cents for yourself. “Over 30,000 boys make money and get dandy prizes without one penny cost.” How could any 12-year-old ignore such a lucrative business proposition?

Possibly lost in the hype and the plethora of choices for the pre- or early teen was the fact that *Grit* was – and is – an actual publication with a long and varied history. In its heyday it had a circulation of more than a million and a half readers throughout 48 states. It targeted the needs and interests of rural America and also included an ample fiction section. Many well-known personalities claim to have gotten their start selling it. People such as Illustrious Brothers, Senator John Glenn and singing



PHOTO COURTESY GRIT ARCHIVES

“New” Grit Building – 1891

cowboy Gene Autry, as well as Carl Sandburg, and two baseball commissioners are just a few examples.

The story begins toward the end of the 19th century, and focuses on one Dietrick Lamade, an immigrant from Germany who moved to Williamsport, PA, at the age of eight. He was one of nine children. When his father died, Dietrick and his siblings went to work to help the family survive. At ten he started as an errand boy for a German-language weekly newspaper called *Beobachter*. It was the beginning of his lifelong career in the world of publication. By 18, he had gone out on his own, founding a weekly shopper called the *Merchants’ Free Press*. At the same time he printed theater programs and published *Camp News* for the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Meanwhile, the hometown newspaper, the *Williamsport Daily Sun & Banner* turned its Saturday edition into a literary and features periodical, leaving the



Grit magazine today

heavier news for the weekdays. According to Brandy Ernzen, brand manager for today's *Grit* magazine, "It included local news items, editorials, and humorous tidbits." Lamade left the *Sun & Banner* and, instead, went to work for another paper in town – the *Times*. His stint there was short-lived, however. The owner's health deteriorated, and the operation ceased. Lamade bought the printing equipment from him and, at the same time, went back to his previous employer and bought the Saturday edition, together with the name, *Grit*. According to Lamade's biographer, Damon M. Laabs, he invested \$150 of his own money and borrowed \$1,100 to accomplish this. The first change he made was to turn it

Composing Room on the third floor – 1892



PHOTO COURTESY GRIT ARCHIVES

into a Sunday paper, and another was to form the Grit Publishing Company. He created a formula for *Grit* that included upbeat news, games, puzzles, comics, and stories. To make it big he felt he needed a larger audience. Within a year he had developed a circulation for the new enterprise of 4,000 readers. Three years later it reached 20,000.

Lamade had seven partners and a mountain of debt, but the circulation continued to increase. For reasons that seem lost to history, they named this weekend publication *Grit*. Jean Teller, an associate editor of today's iteration of the magazine, says the name was apt. She says, "Sheer grit was how the newspaper survived the early years."

He used innovative methods to boost sales. For Thanksgiving 1885, *Grit* held a raffle and promoted it outside Williamsport. He crisscrossed Pennsylvania touting prizes such as a piano and a bedroom suite. He put posters up everywhere, containing a raffle entry. Within ten years circulation reached 50,000, and the paper was available in several states.

Dietrick Lamade became well known in the community. He built an iconic printing plant in downtown Williamsport at the corner of West Third and William Streets. In 1893 he became a Mason, joining Ivy Lodge, No. 397, and he would become its Master in 1900. That year *Grit* topped 100,000 readers. To celebrate, he held a banquet for his employees. Damon M. Laabs said he spent considerable time at the event outlining his editorial policy:

"Always keep *Grit* from being pessimistic. Avoid printing those things which distort the minds of readers or makes them feel at odds with the world. Avoid showing the wrong side of things, or making people feel disconnected. Do nothing that will encourage fear, worry, or temptation. Wherever possible, suggest peace and good will toward men. Give our readers courage and strength for their daily tasks. Put happy thoughts, cheer, and contentment into their hearts."

His formula for homespun news and entertainment worked well, and the paper kept growing. By 1916, the circulation tripled, reaching 300,000. By 1932, 400,000 people were buying copies. Two years later it topped a half million.

In 1936, after building a formidable business, starting from basically nothing to creating a national media outlet, Dietrick Lamade stepped aside in favor of his son, George. Keeping it in the family, George's brother,

Howard Lamade was vice president, secretary, and a director. Howard Jr. was hired as production manager. Also keeping Freemasonry in the family, both Howard and George also joined Ivy Lodge, No. 397, and later affiliated with Dietrick Lamade Lodge, No. 755, named to honor their father. Both earned the 33°, in Scottish Rite's Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

With the new generation of leaders in place, growth continued unabated. The 1940's saw the beginning of marketing through comic books. Not only did it allow the paper to reach more people, it strengthened its ties with rural America. Many households now had young salesmen in them. People felt they had a direct connection with the periodical. It was more than a newspaper. It was part of the family.

The newspaper, at that time, was separated into five distinct sections. News occupied about 25 percent and

The Lamade Family and Little League

Little League, a true American institution, was founded by Bro. Carl E. Stotz and is based in Williamsport, PA. In 1959, the Lamade family, founders of *Grit* magazine, donated land in South Williamsport so that a stadium could be built to house the organization's showcase event, the Little League World Series. The new structure opened in 1959 and was named "Howard J. Lamade Stadium" in memory of Dietrick Lamade's son, who had served as vice president for the newspaper. In addition to his work in the family business, the younger Lamade was heavily involved in the youth baseball program and, as a top executive, is credited with helping make it the national tradition it became.

In 2006, the Lamade family made an additional gift to Little League, allowing the organization to make major improvements to the facility. The fences were moved back 20 feet, the roof was extended, and new seating with chair backs replaced much of the bleacher area. Today the 40,000-seat stadium hosts the Little League World Series every August.



PHOTO COURTESY GRIT ARCHIVES

Early distribution center for *Grit* magazine.

fiction about 30 percent. A women's section contained fashion features, recipes, and kitchen gadgets. The family section featured games and puzzles, as well as offbeat stories. Finally, there was a section for comics, averaging about four pages.

In the immediate post-World War II era circulation reached 700,000. In the mid-1970s the paper put out three editions. One covered news in the Williamsport area. A second, larger edition covered the entire commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The third, and largest, was distributed nationwide.

Grit was a pioneer of offset printing. It was one of the first U.S. newspapers to run color photographs. A front page in June 1963, ushered in the new era with the display of a full color photo of the American flag.

In 1969, the peak was reached at 1.5 million readers.


The end of an era came in 1981, after nearly a century for the family-owned concern. The Lamade's sold the venerable newspaper to ADVO-System of Hartford, CT, and shortly after that, to Stauffer Communications of Topeka, KS. That company was already publishing a similar periodical called *Capper's Weekly*, serving a mostly Midwestern audience. For a decade the paper's offices remained in the historic Grit Building on West 3rd St., in Williamsport, but eventually relocated to Topeka, KS.

In 1992 the business was split in two. The printing side was sold to a local partnership and remains to this day in the Williamsport area. It is called Grit Printing and Direct Mail. According to Michael Bischof it is a

family-owned business providing marketing material, catalogs, newsletters, brochures, postcards, and other items. In the mid-1990s that firm moved from the historic Grit building to a modern facility in Montoursville, PA. He says the original structure in Williamsport – still known as “The Grit Building” – was renovated and now houses government agencies.

Today the periodical is owned by Ogden Publications, publishers of *Gas Engine Magazine*, *Farm Collector*, *Mother Earth News*, and *Utne Reader*. It has changed with the times. Today it hits newsstands six times a year in a glossy magazine format, catering to another generation of rural America. Brandy Erzen says, “In a

nod to the past, the new-look magazine still publishes a reader-to-reader service where subscribers can request help finding everything from pen pals to old sheet music, sewing patterns, and long-lost friends and relatives.” In the first edition using the new format its editors spelled out the future of one of the longest-running publications in the nation – a future that is both old and new.

“This premier issue of *Grit Rural Lifestyles* magazine represents a new direction for our old friend but one in keeping with its rich heritage of news and information that add to people’s lives rather than diminishing them.” 

200TH ANNIVERSARY

Incentive Awards Announced

A major anniversary objective of the Supreme Council and the 200th Anniversary Committee was to assist all Valleys with their membership growth. In support of those efforts, several incentives were adopted. There was a Valley level member incentive for first line signers as well as a jurisdiction-wide incentive. There were also separate special incentives for the Secretaries and the membership chairmen as they were ineligible for the first line signer incentives.

In the first line signer incentive, the Scottish Rite member with the greatest number of first line signer credits at the end of the two-year period reflecting all new candidates who have completed the 32° within the two-year period, received a \$500 gift card. The Scottish Rite member with the second greatest first line signer credits for those completing the 32° for the same period received a \$100 gift card.

Winners were determined by Supreme Council based upon MDS statistics for the 2012 and 2013 calendar years. With ties in several Valleys, over 270 prizes were distributed. Bro. Carson Smith of the Valley of Indianapolis far exceeded any expectations with 158 first line signer credits. Winners were announced at spring reunions and winners were presented their prize and a membership appreciation certificate.

In a jurisdiction-wide random drawing the names of eligible first line signers for new initiates were chosen in a single drawing with the first prize being a 14-day land/cruise tour for two to Alaska, or the cash value of \$7,500. On the afternoon of January 15, Bro. Tim

McClellan of Morgan & Morgan, CPA’s, joined with the membership committee for the purpose of performing the drawing for the grand prize winner. The rules that had been developed prior to the start of the incentive were reviewed, and the barrel containing the 5,500 plus names of eligible first line signers was unlocked. Ill. Nicholas J.

Gray, 33°, from the Valley of Indianapolis, won first prize with Ill. Dennis L. Robinson, 33°, of the Valley of Allentown, taking second prize, and Bro. Carson C. Smith, of Indianapolis, placing third. Grand Commander McNaughton made personal phone calls to each of the winners congratulating them. In the days following, Ill. Bro. Bill Holland contacted Bro. Gray with regard to his plans for his Alaskan land/cruise tour. Bro. Gray informed Bro. Holland that he would prefer the cash as he was about to purchase a new 2014 Chevrolet Corvette.

The final two incentives were for Valley Secretaries’ and Valley membership chairmen. For all Valleys that met or exceeded a six percent increase in new members during the two-year period, a random drawing was held for four separate prize groups based upon Valley size, each having the same prize structure. Several winners donated their winnings to worthy causes.



Hidden Treasures

Masonic Stones Unearthed

By **STEPHEN R. WHITTAKER, 33°** and **G. MICHAEL MORRIS, 33°**

Freemason Chris Mahood, an IT Manager with the Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority, working on Clinton Avenue at the site of a new bus terminal was recently contacted by workmen at the site concerning “Masonic stones” that had been discovered and retrieved during the work site preparation. The stones were found during excavation of the site, approximately 30 feet below grade level.

The Masonic stones were placed on pallets and moved to the side at the job site. Mahood was informed by the site manager that he knew that these stones must be of interest to someone or some group. However, they needed to be removed soon or they would be taken to a landfill. Mahood took action and contacted a number of Rochester-area Freemasons [David Upham, Secretary of Inspiration Lodge, No. 109, Derek E. Van Houten, Secretary of Damascus Shine Center, and Jack Van Elzakker, Secretary of the Valley of Rochester] and also forwarded photos of the stones that had been taken by the site workmen. After a huge “wow” while looking at the images, we knew we needed to figure how to remove the stones from the job site, and do it quickly.

The new regional transit bus terminal is located at the site of the third Rochester Masonic Temple. The ground-breaking ceremony for that temple was held on Aug. 27, 1901, and was presided over by Judge George A. Benton, president of the governing board. The laying of the cornerstone was presided by Grand Master Charles W. Mead on Nov. 2, 1901, and the building was dedicated on Nov. 6, 1903, by Grand Master Albert Crandall. The temple was sold about 1930, and torn down for the building of the RKO Palace Theatre. That facility was demolished in the late 1960’s and the property became a parking lot.

The Rochester Masonic Temple housed all Rochester Freemasons and concordant bodies at



that time. The Rochester Masonic Temple was sold, and the Freemasons moved to 875 Main St. When the building was torn down, it appears that the demolition team removed the stones from the structure and buried them on the site.

The seven stones that were discovered were part of the Rochester Masonic Temple’s façade. Three of the stones are roughly four feet square and over a foot thick with Masonic images carved on the front with each weighing approximately one ton. It is believed that they are granite. Several are still in excellent condition, but some were damaged by the large earth-moving equipment used at the construction site.

The first order of business was to remove the stones from the work site and transport them to a safe and available storage location. On Nov. 8, 2013, Mike Morris and Steve Whittaker went to the job site with a truck with a heavy-duty, double-axle trailer in tow.

The workmen used a huge forklift to load the stones onto the trailer. With each stone weighing approximately a ton, only three pallets at a time could be transported. The stones were taken to a safe storage location, power washed and then



Rochester, NY, Masonic Temple
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division,
Detroit Publishing Company Collection.

Detail of Masonic symbols on the unearthed stones.



covered with a tarp to prevent any winter water or ice damage.


Two of the stones contain carvings of Scottish Rite symbols; two have carvings of York Rite symbols; one has a carving of the Square and Compasses, and one is a carved chapter from a large column. There is also a corner stone in near-perfect condition, which contains the names of three early Rochester Masonic lodges: Valley, No. 109; Genesee Falls, No. 507, and Yon nondio, No. 163. The lodge names were carved on three different sides of the rectangular-shaped stone. The corner stone has a hole drilled through the middle of it.

A close examination of the building photo shows the location of the two Scottish Rite stones, next to the arched window, above and to the left of the building entrance with the “Rose Croix Jewel” stone above and the “Double-Headed Eagle” stone below. The York Rite “Pillars & Keystone” stone is located to the right of the arched window, parallel with the “Rose Croix Jewel” stone. The “Square and Compasses” stone is centered above the arched window over the entrance between the dates 1817 and 1901. In addition, the photos clearly show that the “chapter” stone is from one of the four large Corinthian columns in the front of the building. What a treasure.

Now what? First, we are seeking any additional photos or other historical information that Rochester-area Freemasons or the public might have about the Rochester (Clinton Street) Masonic Temple. Any information that you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

In addition to information about the building and its history, we are also seeking creative ideas about how these stones might best be used to preserve Rochester Freemasonry for the future. What’s your idea(s) and what resources (time, materials, costs, etc.) will be required to implement it?

Please forward any information, ideas or suggestions to Jack VanElzakker at Secretary@ValleyofRochester.org.

Special thanks to Ms. Barbara Koehler of the Office of the City Historian, Rochester, NY for her efforts in researching and providing information about the laying of the cornerstone and dedication of the Rochester Masonic Temple. 

You, the Customer

By **BRUCE T. WORK, 33°**

How many times have you visited “Five Guys burgers and fries” and seen the sign prominently displayed as you enter?

You, the customer, are the most important visitor on our premises.

You are not dependent on us. We are dependent on you.

You are not an outsider in our business. You are part of it.

We are doing you a favor by serving you.

You are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.

In 1988, the Masonic Service Association formed The Masonic Renewal Task Force, consisting of 21 experienced leaders of the craft from the Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite and the Shrine. They used the firm, Opinion Research Corporation of Princeton, NJ, to survey men who had not joined any organization. They surveyed 1,000 men and asked all types of questions regarding their views on the Masons and the joining process. The top five answers that were given on potential benefits perceived in membership were:

Friendship	94%
A role with the community	88%
Fellowship - Recreational/Social Activities	86%
Activities with Current Friends	80%
A Role with the family	79%

In addition to these potential benefits, the top three reasons for interest in membership were:

Meeting People & Socializing	37%
Community Service	36%
Helping Each Other	20%

You, the member, are the most important visitor on our premises

The respondents also said taking part in ritual was not a drawback as long as their top five needs were met. They demanded that their time be well spent and that they received value for their money. If their needs were not being met, they would perceive their time wasted and they would leave; perhaps through non-payment of dues or demits. In other words, a man doesn't voluntarily withdraw from an organization he's put time, effort and money into joining if he truly feels connected to it.

They demanded that
their time be well
spent and that they
received value
for their money.

At a recent Masonic leadership conference there was a discussion on the necessity for change in organizations. Our situation was illustrated by the predicament of the Swiss watch making industry. The Swiss lost their preeminent role in watch making after enjoying nearly 350 years of unrivaled dominance by failing to adjust to new trends in technology and production. The introduction of battery powered quartz watches by American and Japanese manufacturers reduced the Swiss market share from 85 percent to 15 percent of global watch production in only a few short years. By clinging to outdated modes of thought, rather than recognizing a changing world, the Swiss lost their position as the most renowned watch manufacturers in the world.

As with the Swiss watchmakers, the Masons achieved a state of prominence as the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world.

Despite this, our membership is slipping as we cling to outdated modes of operations.

[Excerpts from Connecticut Freemasons, April 2013, by Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, Simon R. LaPlace, with permission.]

You are not dependent on us. We are dependent on you.

For more than 50 years we have watched our numbers erode. Technology changed. The economy and the workforce changed. The family dynamic changed. Transportation changed. The means by which we access information, news, and entertainment changed. In short, the world changed.

Our Sovereign Grand Commander and the membership committee have given us the tools through the "I.C.E." concept to change our outdated meetings, reunions, and modes of operation. Some of our Grand Lodges are starting to realize they cannot "stay the course," as well.

Change is hard. It is a leap into the unknown and people and organizations can become paralyzed with fear. However, change is a fact of life, and we must embrace it.

The challenge we face is to react differently than the Swiss who clung to old ways in the face of irrefutable evidence of changing times. We must adapt the means, ways, and manner by which we function and manage Masonry and Scottish Rite. We need to stay competitive in the ever changing world.

You are not an outsider in our fraternity: you are part of it.

Society too has changed. Households with only one adult are now a majority. We cannot ignore this and pretend that the lives of our baby boomer, Generation X, and now even Generation Y members are the same as those of that great generation from the Second World War.

The innovations challenging the Swiss were unknown to them, but the manpower situation that confronts us today is similar to the one faced 150 years ago.

Connecticut Masonry's rolls were at their maximum in 1957 with approximately 49,000 Masons. Now, with only about 12,000 Masons in Connecticut, we find ourselves with only a mere 25 percent of our 1957 membership. Every 20 years for the past half century, we have lost half our membership.

When was the last time you had a family activity? What are we doing to help aid and assist our poor distressed worthy Brothers? Have we forgotten our wives, widows and orphans? Do we contact our Brothers on their birthday, Masonic anniversary or just to check in and see how they're doing? How about stopping by one of our elderly Brothers' homes to pick him up and bring him out to lodge or a Scottish Rite reunion.

Community service and charity are found in many different forms. We need to think outside the box, and get out of the rut we have found ourselves in.

I believe that if Brothers come back it is because they feel a sense of belonging, that we truly are a sacred band of friends and Brothers, and that we have made them feel like one of us.

We may be serving you . . .

Scottish Rite and Freemasonry cannot afford to continue to ignore the changes in our society. We cannot afford to shelve these concerns for another 50 years. It is our duty to make the necessary changes to ensure that they remain a vibrant and relevant institution for future generations.

Masonry has not survived for centuries simply because it has beautiful ritual, but because once upon a time when men knelt at the altar of Freemasonry, put their hands on the book of Holy Scripture and swore to act in a particular way, they actually did it.

The problem is not Masonry or Scottish Rite. Perhaps, our leadership needs to motivate with positive attitudes that create enthusiasm and become contagious, ever remembering the mutual respect we have for each other. If our efforts have failed in the past, perhaps we are fortunate, as now we know some of the things not to do.



Failure of an idea or ideas is not necessarily a negative thing. Our success is more a product of what we are doing, than the environment we are doing it in.

. . . But, you are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.

Eventually the Swiss watchmakers did recognize that the world had changed. Today, Swiss watches once again are among the most prized timepieces in the world, some demanding prices in excess of \$10,000 per piece. The Swiss changed from being the largest watch manufacturer to being the best. They adapted their business model to **quality over quantity**.

We may never again achieve membership numbers in excess of 25,000 Masons in our state, but we can ensure that the Masonic fraternity is the premier fraternal organization in the world, and a fraternity that men want to join, not just a fraternity that wants men.

There are still men who believe in personal honor; men who believe in principle; men who believe in moral and ethical behavior; men who know that character does matter; men who know that their word is their bond, and men that expect friendship and a role within the community.

Let us not disappoint them by allowing ritual and secular charities overshadow our Scottish Rite vision of "fulfilling our Masonic obligation to care for our members."

[Excerpts from Knight Templar Magazine, January 2014, by Sir Knight Tom Lewis Jr. with permission.] 

Madison, Wisconsin

The dyslexia center in Madison, WI, opened on January 21, 2001, with its first graduating class of nine students in 2003. In 2013, 22 students commenced through a victorious celebration of achievement. In just the last three years, the center has grown from a staff of eleven to a staff of 18 and from 24 students to 41 students enrolled this year.

Last summer, in order to accommodate the recent growth in both the number of trained tutors and students, the center also added an assistant director and two additional tutoring rooms. To date, we have 144 students who have completed the program and graduated. We feel very fortunate, from the center's humble beginnings and continual growth under the corporate umbrella of the Children's Dyslexia Centers Inc., to provide this completely free service to our community.

Over the years we have been blessed with outstanding volunteers who serve on a very active board of directors and fundraising committee. Without these prominent men and women playing a very important role in meeting the financial needs of our program, we would not be able to sustain our center. In addition to the funding received from Supreme Council, we must look to plan a successful future where we rely on our own resources to continue to fund our center.

Support a Child at a Dyslexia Center Near You

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

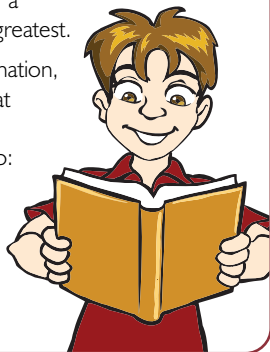
It costs \$5,000 to tutor one child for one year. Typically, children require an average of two years of tutoring. Your tax-exempt contribution can be designated to support a specific children's dyslexia center or a dyslexia center where the need is greatest.

For information about making a donation, please call the development office at **800-814-1432 ext. 3326**.

Or send a check directly, payable to:

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

33 Marrett Road
Lexington, MA 02421



The core efforts of many of our members giving of themselves, as well as going out into the community for support for our center, are the key contributing forces behind the success of the center. We continue to carry on our fundraising efforts to meet our annual financial obligation each year. The annual fundraising activities include the Ladies Luncheon, Tea & Entertainment, Walk for Dyslexia, and golf outing.

The budget has been increasing yearly because of the growth of the program. Reaching out into the community with funding requests, asking for donations from prominent Madisonians and writing grants has become necessary. We are fortunate to have a very capable and successful fundraising coordinator-grant writer as a part of our fundraising committee.

We must also recognize the many monetary memorials which are lovingly given for the program's benefit. The Masonic membership supports their charity, and we are grateful.

Our plans to extend the Orton-Gillingham reading remediation program into the surrounding communities are also materializing. The center is currently working with the Madison Metropolitan School District to develop a pilot program of training classroom teachers in the Orton-Gillingham method.

The goal is to have at least one teacher trained as an Orton-Gillingham interventionist in each of the elementary schools within the district of Madison. This is a large undertaking, however, preliminary plans are progressing.

We are hoping to have the pilot program in operation this spring. The center has also just received a similar initial inquiry from another surrounding school district.

All of these accomplishments, of course, would not be possible, without the director, assistant director, administrative assistant and the enthusiastic staff of tutors who are all dedicated to the students' success in reading remediation at the children's dyslexia center.

Madison's children's dyslexia center program has grown under the guidance of Carin Illig, director of clinical affairs, Bill Ziemer, director of operations, and with Madison community partnerships.

Children's Dyslexia Center-Madison has a website, cdc-madison.org, and a dedicated site for our annual walk. Visit walkfordyslexiamadison.org.

— Roger G. Nitzsche, 33°



Celebrating the Craft in 2014

ON MAY 17, 2014, the Supreme Council, 33°, SJ, will hold its 3rd annual Celebrating The Craft (CTC) web event. Much like a telethon, CTC will run 6:00 pm—12:00 Midnight EDT with the goal of raising funds to support the Rebuilding the Temple Campaign to restore the House of the Temple and Orient 501 (c)(3) charities. A total of \$1,070,000 was raised by the first two CTCs. The 2014 show will be live-streamed through the Supreme Council website, www.scottishrite.org.

The CTC is designed to provide all Masons with an opportunity to learn more about the Scottish Rite and the importance of the House of the Temple, its artifacts, museum, and library. It will feature musical artists, stage performers, Ma-



On the set of the 2013 Celebrating the Craft with hosts Norm Crosby, 33°, Don Wildman, and Grand Commander Ronald A. Seale as the camera rolls.

sonic scholars Art De Hoyos and Brent Morris, and many others who will educate and entertain you throughout the evening. The event will be hosted by Ill. Bro. Norm Crosby, 33°, and radio personality Jim Bohannon.

The George Washington Banquet Hall in the House of the Temple is converted into a television studio and is ground zero for this Masonic extravaganza; local Scottish Rite Valleys provide the live audience. With each year,

CTC has gained in sophistication and production values, and CTC 2014 should be the best yet. We will offer something innovative that will entertain the viewers, inform our members, and help our philanthropic efforts.

Mo Rocca and CBS *Sunday Morning* at the House of the Temple

ON MARCH 28, 2013, CBS reporter Mo Rocca visited the House of the Temple for a tour and interviews for the popular *Sunday Morning* show. The story started several months back when Mo did a segment on the



presidential inauguration and the Bible on which George Washington took his first oath of office. The Bible is owned by St. John's Lodge No. 1, New York City, and its story led to more questions about Freemasonry and finally a feature story on the fraternity that aired on Sunday, December 8.

Rocca interviewed members of The Colonial Lodge, No. 1820, of the Dis-

trict of Columbia (pictured left). Members are required to have an affiliation with The George Washington University—student, faculty, administration, or alumni. The leadership of the lodge is mostly students and recent graduates; the Master in 2013 was Bro. Morgan Corr, 32°, SRRS Administrator and

manager of the Scottish Rite Store. Ill. S. Brent Morris, 33°, managing editor of the *Scottish Rite Journal* (pictured below) gave a tour of the Temple and a three-hour interview.

The story also includes interviews with members of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, NYC, RW Piers Vaughan, PM of St. John's No. 1, Prof. Margaret Jacobs, UCLA, and MW James E. Sullivan, GM of New York. The eight-minute story is informative for both Masons and non-Masons. Watch online at cbsnews.com/news/inside-the-secret-world-of-the-freemasons.



Facing the Darker Side of e-commerce



Leigh E. Morris, 33°

Sometimes I think the Luddites were on to something when they raised a stink about advancing technology. After all, we humans have a long history of embracing new technology before we even consider its dark side.

The Web, Internet, e-commerce and all the rest are wonderful, until the dark side appears.

Case in point: Target reported the credit and debit card accounts of 40 million customers were breached. Personal information – names, phone numbers, email and street address – of another 70 million people have been compromised. Wow. That's about a third of the U.S. population.

Target isn't the only retailer to fall victim, and, for a lot of reasons, this problem isn't going away anytime soon.

Short of swearing off the Internet and adopting a cash-only lifestyle, what can you do about it?

The first rule is not to use a debit card online. These cards do not offer the comprehensive protection afforded by credit cards.

With a credit card, your maximum liability is \$50 in the event of fraudulent charges. Chances are you already have one or more credit cards that provide you with zero liability.

Perhaps you want an extra layer of protection. If so, consider a temporary credit card number, also called a virtual or disposable credit card.

Here's how it works. Your credit card issuer generates a temporary credit card number linked to your account. You use this temporary number to make a purchase. No one can access your actual account number and personal information using the temporary number.

For the maximum protection, obtain one-time use temporary credit card numbers. Citibank and Bank of America offer this type of service.

Others do so as well, but ask first. If the temporary number is not for one-time use, a crook could use it to make fraudulent purchases.

Assume for a moment the bad guys didn't get your credit card account information. Instead, they only obtained your name, email and street address and maybe a phone number. No problem, right? Wrong.

With this information, the thieves still may attempt to defraud you, and, believe me, they are very sophisticated in their approach.

Through your email, you may receive a well-written letter complete with a retailer's, credit card company's or bank's logo. The letter may advise you that your account has been compromised and direct you to a link. If you open that link, you will be asked to change your password or an account number, and that will require you to enter your old password or number. The thieves then will be able to run up charges or drain a bank account before you are aware that you've become a victim.

In other cases, thieves send emails that claim to be from the IRS or a state revenue department. You are told you owe taxes, but can settle the matter quickly and avoid possible penalties. All the you need to do is click on a link to settle the matter. Using this approach, thieves not only obtain credit card numbers, but get Social Security numbers as well. Combined with other personal information, the thieves may be able to steal your identity. That is one nightmare you want to avoid.

To protect yourself, ignore emails such as those I've described. If you have questions or concerns, call the company's customer service number or visit the company's website as listed on their statement.

As for taxes, the IRS and state

revenue departments issue notices that are sent through the U.S. Postal Service.

A few other tips for safer online shopping:

- When you are ready to complete your purchase, make certain the retailer's website directs you to a page with an address that begins with "https" rather than the usual "http." The "s" means the page encrypts information, providing an extra layer of security.

- Check to see if the site is approved by the Better Business Bureau, VeriSign, TRUSTe, Upfront Merchant, Authorize.Net, McAfee or similar service. Take a moment to read its privacy policy. You may be surprised by what you find.

- Shop online, but place your order by phone. When you order, do not give your email address.

- Patronize retailers that do not retain credit card numbers. This is becoming more common.

- Use random alpha-numeric passwords. And change them regularly.

- Don't use a public-access computer such as one available at a library or public Wi-Fi connections for online shopping or any other type of financial transaction.

- Never give your Social Security number to make a purchase. And be very, very wary about giving it out for any other reason.

- When in doubt, don't.

See you in the next issue with something very different. In the meantime, be safe, be healthy and enjoy the moment.

Drop me a line.

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



SCOTTISH RITE BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION

DEVELOPMENT & PLANNED GIVING

"But For Scottish Rite..."

Should I have a will?

The answer is definitely yes if you want to protect and determine how your assets will be distributed.

Why is a will important?

It removes your state from writing your will.

Don't let the state determine the distribution of your assets.

It provides for your spouse and other heirs.

It can reduce estate taxes, and it provides for charitable beneficiaries such as Scottish Rite

Charities

In other words, you direct how your assets will be distributed.

It is important that you work with an attorney or estate planner in establishing a will tailored to your personal needs.*

What if you already have a will?

It is important that you periodically review its content.

Things change in one's life: marriage, death, residency, retirement, etc.

The change to your will may be as simple as a "Codicil," or it may be such, that it requires a complete rewrite.



Consult with your attorney as to what is best for you.

Remember – both spouses need a will.

No one can determine who passes first.

Members interesting in naming the Benevolent Foundation, Grand Almoner's Fund, Museum & Library, Children's Dyslexia Centers or Education & Charity Fund as a charitable beneficiary in their will should contact Jim Deyo, executive director at 800-814-1432 x 3340 or 614-204-7365

*The content of this information is only prepared for informational purposes and in no way to be considered as legal advice.

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.



The Grand Almoner's Fund is a fund of the Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation, a qualified charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Tax Code. All donations are fully deductible to the extent allowed under law.

GEORGE M. BIBB, Secretary of the Treasury under President Tyler, is pictured on the \$5 stamp of the 1940 document stamp series. He served as Master of three lodges in Kentucky. He served as Secretary for Lexington Lodge, No. 1, and, in 1804, as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

Born Oct. 30, 1776, in Prince Edward County, VA, Bro. Bibb was admitted to the bar and practiced law in Virginia and Kentucky. As a resident of Kentucky he served in the state's House of Representatives and was appointed a judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in 1808, and then Chief Justice through 1810. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1811, serving until 1814. He served as chancellor of the Louisville Chancery Court from 1835-44 when he became Secretary of the Treasury serving through 1845. He died April 14, 1859, in Georgetown.



HAMILTON HUME was initiated into Lienster Marine Lodge, No. 260, I.C., now No. 2, U.G.L. of N.S.W., on Sept. 12, 1825. He was included in the Australian issue of June 9, 1976, for Australian explorers.

Hamilton Hume made his first expedition at the age of 17 with his younger brother and an Aboriginal boy reaching the Berrima-Bong Bong district. Over the next two years he made two more successful journeys to the same district and penetrated as far as the Bungonia. He became well known for his journeys and discoveries. He was the first



Australian-born explorer; his intimate knowledge of the bush and of aboriginal customs and languages were key elements in his success. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He became a magistrate and attended to his duties in Yass, New South Wales, almost to the time of his death on April 19, 1873.

DOMINIQUE JEAN LARREY is pictured on a semi-postal stamp issued by France on Dec. 12, 1964. He was initiated in 1802 in the Lodge "Des Enfants de Mars". He also received the 18°, and was a member of the Chapter "Emules d'Assas."

Born July 8, 1766, in Beaudean, France and orphaned at the age of 13, Larrey was raised by his uncle who was chief surgeon at Toulouse. After a six year apprenticeship, he went to Paris to study under the great Desault, chief surgeon at the Hotel Dieu. His studies were cut short by war and he served as surgeon-in-chief of the Napoleonic armies from Italy in 1797 to Waterloo in 1815. A favorite of the Emperor, he was ennobled as a Baron on the field of Wagram in 1809. After Waterloo he was taken prisoner by the Prussians and condemned to death, but he was recognized by one of the German surgeons who pleaded for his life. He was pardoned and taken back to France under escort. He devoted the remainder of his life to writing and a civilian medical career.



DHYAN "Chand" SINGH is pictured on a stamp issued by India on Dec. 3, 1980. He was initiated in the Lodge Rani, Jansi, No. 177, Grand Lodge of India on April 3, 1978.

Major Singh, better known as Dhyan Chand, was an Indian field hockey player, widely regarded as the

Robert A. Domingue



greatest player of all time. A legendary center-forward, he is remembered for his goal scoring feats, first as a player and later as captain. He won three Olympic gold medals – 1928, 1932, and 1936 – and was awarded the Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian honor, in 1956. He retired from the army in 1956 with the rank of major and died at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi on Dec. 3, 1979.



Admiral **ARLEIGH ALBERT BURKE** was pictured on a stamp issued by the U.S. on Feb. 4, 2010. He was a member of Warren Harding Lodge, No. 43, District of Columbia and a 33° Scottish Rite Mason.

Arleigh Burke graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1923 and was commissioned as an Ensign in the Navy. Shortly after World War II started he received orders to join the fighting in the South Pacific and successively commanded four Destroyer Divisions and Squadrons. He distinguished himself during World War II and the Korean War and served as Chief of Naval Operations during the Eisenhower and Kennedy Administrations. He passed away in 1996.



Book of Wisdom Freemasonry through the Veil of an Ancient French Manuscript

by Jean Doszedardski, translated by Kamel Oussayef. Published in 2013 by the Supreme Council, 33°, AASR, NMJ, USA..

Thomas W. Jackson, 33°



The *Book of Wisdom* was originally compiled by Doszedardski in the early 1800s and was translated from the original French by Oussayef. It contains the “statutes and general regulations” for Lodge le Choix des Hommes located in San Domingo. It also includes a history of the development of the Scottish Rite in the West Indies. The exact date of the original publication is unknown, but the latest date noted in its pages is 1813.

The *Book of Wisdom* is part of a collection of books that has been associated with Doszedardski who seems to have lived a remarkable Masonic life. He was born in Poland, received his EA degree in Russia, his Chevalier Rose Croix degree in Sweden, was appointed Deputy Inspector General in Germany and received his 33° in New Orleans.

A significant observation that is made in the preface is that this document “is concrete proof that Freemasonry has not changed much after centuries of existence,” and after having read the translation, I certainly agree with him relative to ritual and practice.

What was equally significant, however, is that the requirements of the membership and the penalties imposed for failure to comply were far more dramatic than anything we experience today. Expulsions and suspensions were more liberally imposed along with fines that were used freely for unMasonic conduct or failure to comply with directions.

Many of the regulations concerning the structure and naming of lodges as well as the required behavior of Brothers in the lodge indicate ongoing practices still followed today or until recent times, yet others, such as progressive lines, seemed to have been nonexistent. The best qualified Brothers based upon individual talents were elected to the offices in the lodge. This manuscript expresses the requirements of the officers of the lodge emphasizing some that we today tend to ignore. For example, “The Worshipful [Master] will never forget that he is only the First among these equals, that the power granted to him is only momentary” and, “The Worshipful [Master]” “will never lose sight that it is solely the quality of being human that decorates a true Mason.”

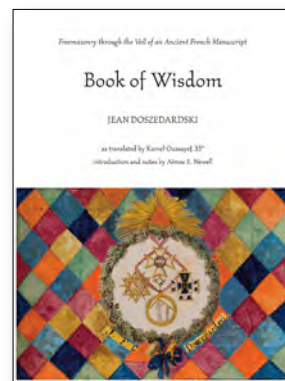
Missing in our lodges today is this commitment: “The Hospitalers must make sure that nothing is missing for an ailing Mason, member of their lodge and nothing will be

spared to bring him back to health. They would take care of visiting the ailing Brother every day . . .”

The book also informs us that some the foundation that we practice today dates back to this period in our history. It states that it is expressly forbidden for a Mason to solicit Profanes to be received as Masons, or to speak of religion in any way or the affairs of state in the lodge.

Directions on receiving distinguished guests is covered quite thoroughly and, interestingly, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania received the highest honors (five Stars and four Swords) and addressed as Very Serenissima and Very Illustrious Grand Master. I assume this distinction was granted as a result of Pennsylvania having chartered several lodges in San Domingo in 1789.

I found the book to be very interesting reading. There is much to be learned from the past and this book provides some of that knowledge.



The Goat, the Devil and the Freemason - another opinion

by David West. Published in 2013 by Hamilton House Publishing Ltd., Distributed by Lewis Masonic, Moslesey Rd., Hersham, Surrey KT124RG, England.

When I first saw this book, I expected from the title and the cover, for it to be an anti-Masonic publication. I was very pleasantly surprised to learn that it is a well researched and intellectual treatise supporting Freemasonry.

In the prelude West states, “This book is a family history of ideas, seeking the ancestry of beliefs about goats and devils and their association with Freemasonry.” He was stimulated to write it as a response to questions such as: “Is a live goat part of Masonic ceremonies?” or “Is a

Masonic Brother a devil-worshiper because of his membership in the craft?"

His response has been a very impressive tracing of the development of totally illogical accusations which probably were epitomized through the character of one man, an admitted liar, who continues to haunt the craft long after his demise: Leo Taxil.

He has not avoided stepping on toes or making critical evaluations in a journey extending from 1500 BC to almost the present time. The enormous number of materials referenced on diverse subjects to support his observations, along with just as diverse number of illustrations, is imposing.

Although the book is in defense of the craft it will irritate some as a result of his matter-of-fact observations. For example, he labels Albert Pike as a plagiarist giving good supportive reason for doing so. He, also, gives much credit to Pike. He expresses his observations of the hypocrisy of religion along with a critical analysis of scripture demands of a monotheistic God.

Chapter two deals extensively with the life of Albert Pike along with the regrettable misinterpretation of some of his writing regarding his comments of the biblical passage in Isaiah 14:12-14 referencing Lucifer. He offers neither condemnation nor support but simply quotes observations, and, although we may support his present-day evaluation of Pikes life, in context of the time we may find it difficult to agree with some of his conclusions.

It simply illustrates a timeline of the transition from the horns of the goat as seen in the illustrations of Baphomet (created by Alphonse Louis Constant) to the devil and Taxil's application of it to Freemasonry. Constant is the common thread running throughout this writing. The author states, "Constant is also a springboard for our search for the goat and the devil and Freemasonry if only because his engraving (Baphomet) played a major part in the family history of these ideas."

He provides a remarkable analysis of the transition of the practice of the worship of many gods to monotheism, along with the impact created by the new concept of a domineering Supreme Being, along with an absolutely great analysis of good and evil and the justification of why evil occurs, including the rationalization of St. Augustine and the extermination of the Templars.



I found it to be a truly fascinating book; a very fair and a very intensive intellectual analysis of the subject. And, although some American readers may take deference due to his appraisal of Pike's contribution to the craft, his academic analysis is his right. It will also irritate those who do not wish to be confronted with negative observations regarding their religion.

Robert A. Gilbert, PM, and John M. Hamill, PM, Quatuor Coronati Lodge state, "It is a wonderful, infuriating, stimulating and provocative book, a fascinating story that deserves to be read."

I would also encourage its reading, if for no other reason than for the vast and diverse amount of knowledge contained in it. However, it cannot be digested with a closed mind.

The Long Lost Message

by Mark Traupman. Published in 2011.

I received this book from the author, who stated that, "It is related to the Scottish Rite since it deals with the history of the Temple of Jerusalem and reflects much of the degree work associated with that time and place (Pharisees, Sadducees church, etc.)."

Frankly I found no linkage between the book and Freemasonry or the Scottish Rite other than names of those groups mentioned.

That being said, I did find the book to be interesting reading, but it is more relating to the development of Christianity rising out of Jewish thought and impacted by Greek philosophy. He deals rather extensively with the translation of meaning of books of both the old and New Testament more specifically with the writings of the gospel of Mark.

It does stimulate thought, and it is quite candid regarding the interpretation of the Bible. It analyzes the positive and negative thinking that influenced the evolution of the various forms of Protestantism and indeed Christianity as a whole. It was somewhat surprising to me that the author who writes a book of this religious nature holds his college degree in chemistry. But the analysis is quite scientific.

It is worth your effort to read, but it is not related to Freemasonry.



Prevent and treat colic

It appears that giving newborns "good" micro-organisms may prevent the functional gastrointestinal disease known as colic, characterized by lengthy crying. It includes pain, regurgitation and constipation.

A recent study shows that as many as 20 percent of infants have colic in their first three months of life.

The study by Aldo Moro University in Italy had parents give five drops of a solution containing *Lactobacillus reuteri*, which is well known for its health benefits.

Driving while sleepy

The Division of Sleep Medicine at Harvard University reports:

- Drowsy driving causes one million crashes, 500,000 injuries and 8,000 deaths in the U.S. each year.
- One sleepless night can impair performance as much as a blood-alcohol level of 0.10.
- Staying awake for 17 to 19 hours straight slows reaction time by about 50 percent compared to a well-rested driver.

Caffeine could boost your memory

A new study shows that caffeinated drinks can enhance memory. It doesn't matter whether it's from coffee, tea, soda or chocolate, says the lead author Michael Yassa.

According to *USA Today*, Yassa and colleagues at Johns Hopkins University recruited young study participants who didn't regularly consume caffeinated products. They gave them a series of images, then 200 milligrams of caffeine in tablet form. That's about the amount of caffeine in a strong cup of coffee.

The next day, they were asked to identify the images from the day before, some of which had been altered.

As published in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*, the people who consumed caffeine were more likely to correctly identify the items as

different from the original picture. The brain's ability to recognize the difference between the similar but not identical items reflects a deep level of memory discrimination, Yassa says.

No one study should dictate a personal decision to include or exclude it from your diet.

Strengthen your feet

According to the University of California, Berkeley:

Move one bare foot at a time in circles, first one way and then the other. Then move it side to side moving only your foot and ankle.

With your foot flat on the floor, do toe curls. Lift your big toe without the other toes. Then try lifting the other toes. Try to pick up a pencil or marble with your toes.

Roll a rubber ball or golf ball under the sole of your foot to massage it.

Pain in the neck?

It's not an irritating person we're talking about here, it's that annoying neck discomfort or pain you get from too much hunching over when you're driving, using a computer or doing a project at a workbench.

Because your head weighs 6 to 10 pounds, your neck has quite a job to keep it balanced on top of your body. That job falls to muscles, spine bones and tissues. Doctors quoted in

the *Mayo Clinic Health Letter* say it's no wonder that about ten percent of adults have neck pain at one time or another, often frequently.

Self-care steps include:

Stay active. It's one of the best ways to speed healing. But you can take 10- to 15-minute breaks throughout the day.

Improve your posture. Keep your head upright by practicing sitting or standing tall with your shoulders relaxed. Avoid activities that tilt your head to one side or downward for periods of time.

Relax tense muscles. Try deep breathing, meditation and progressive muscle relaxation. A heating pad or warm shower can bring muscle relaxation.

Take nonprescription pain medications. If necessary, take Tylenol or other over-the-counter medications to relieve pain and help you stay active.

Gentle stretches. They can help restore or sustain neck range of motion and stretch tense muscles. If you aren't sure how to do them, ask a physical therapist.

Frozen foods get respect

The problem with buying a pack of fresh broccoli: you don't eat it all the same day. The longer it stays in the fridge, the more nutrients it loses.

In one recent study, frozen broccoli had much more vitamin C content than broccoli that was refrigerated for five days. Another concern is how long it was refrigerated in transportation and at the store before you bought it.

One New York chef says corn is especially good frozen. Add cheese for a kid-friendly dish. For cooking frozen peas, beans and other vegetables, he recommends adding them to a skillet on medium-high heat with oil, seasoning, and add 2 tablespoons of water. Cover until heated through and the moisture is evaporated.

Sales of frozen fruits are rising every year. They are boosted by the use of juicers, the popularity of smoothies and the use of fruits in compotes.



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FINANCIAL

VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

A Masonic Lodge in the Skies

No invitations were sent out for the meeting at which Aerial Lodge, No. 1, was formed. No high Masonic Dignitaries were present with high official position and elaborate ceremonials to grace the occasion. Only the members were there, and the decision to form the lodge came so suddenly that there was no chance to summon others. In fact a call would have been a practical impossibility, for there was no means by which any one else could have ascended to the meeting place, for it was 6,700 feet high in the clouds.

It came about entirely by accident. A mid-air ascension had been planned from Pittsfield, MA, and the passengers in the *Massachusetts*, the great balloon of the Aero Club of New England.

Nobody could call it a good day for a trip in the air. The clouds were thick and dark, covering the tops of the Berkshire Hills, and the September afternoon was cold and damp.

It was only by constant work that the balloon could be made to keep on its upward course. When a distance of 6,700 feet was reached, which was evidently to be the maximum, owing to the increasing weight of the soaked bag of the balloon, then it was that it was realized that all the members in the party were Masons.

"What's the matter with holding a Masonic Meeting in the Clouds?"
"This seems to be a suitable place."
And then and there Aerial Lodge No. 1, was formed.

Ritual was not flawless, for the Senior Warden had only had the work of a Junior Steward and therefore the responses were not altogether appropriate. The Junior Warden, too, was so busy with sand, barometer and statoscope that he was not always ready, but it was a Masonic meeting just the same and carried out with all the dignity, seriousness and impressive force of a gathering on terra firma.

The adjournment came suddenly for

the *Massachusetts* took it into its head to get back to the earth in short form and all the officers were made busy at once. We watched the barometer to note the descent, while another fixed the drop every fifteen seconds and the third threw out sand with quickness as occasion might require. The only element of danger was the fact that the clouds were so thick that there was no knowing just what surface was underneath, and the drop might be made in a bad locality.

Aerial Lodge, No. 1, had adjourned in the most inaccessible place in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, so far as moving a balloon was concerned. The voyage in the air had lasted an hour and a half, and in that time, the *Massachusetts*, while seeming to be entirely motionless, had travelled twenty-two miles, and had served as the place for the first Masonic Meeting ever held in mid-air.

— Jay Benton, *New England Craftsman*, May 1910

The Box of Fraternal Assistance

The Box of Fraternal Assistance, once known as the "Mason's Box," is one of the oldest institutions in a Masonic lodge. Often mentioned in the minutes of the old lodges in Scotland in the 17th century, it leaves the clear impression that the Mason's Box was one of the principal concerns of the lodge.

The passing of the Mason's Box is not the "taking up of a collection," but rather the exercise of one of the great tenets of a Mason's profession. I sincerely hope no Worshipful Master will offer as an excuse that "we don't know how to use the money." For goodness' sake, do not use it to defray the expenses of your dinner. I am sure I do not have to point out how

un-Masonic it would be to pass the Mason's Box of charity and then use its contents to pay for the meals of those who gave.

If you can not think of any place where Masonic charity might be extended, here are a few ideas some lodges have used: Indiana Masonic Home; to assist widows of deceased Brethren; to assist a worthy Brother in distress; to augment the Lodge Blood Bank if it has one; to assist a victim of multiple sclerosis; to apply on hospital expenses of a worthy Brother; to purchase a wheel chair; to extend a helping hand to a member who suffered the loss of his home by fire.

If your community is without someone critically ill, a needy widow, a

terminal cancer case, a child in distress, someone who has lost his home, a child who needs warm clothing for winter or a family which needs fuel, then you are indeed fortunate. I am sure, however, that you will not have to look far to find the need.

Provide leadership, Worshipful Master, and your Brethren will respond. And when Masons respond with warm hearts, Freemasonry is a living, dynamic force for good. Let us join together and fill the Box on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist as did our Brethren of old, to the end that Masonic relief will become a real and vital part of our lives.

— Don Burton, *Indiana Newsletter*, Dec. 1965

Philosophy of Masonry

There is a philosophy which lights up the world like a sunrise, evolving meaning out of a mystery, and hope out of what would else be despair. It brings out the colors of human life, investing fleeting mortal years – brief at their longest, broken at their best – with enduring significance and beauty.

It gives each of us, however humble or obscure, a place and a part in the stupendous historical enterprise, makes us fellow workers with the Eternal in His redemptive making of humanity, and binds us to do His will upon earth as it is done in Heaven. It subdues the intellect; it touches the heart; it begets in the will that sense of self-respect without which high and heroic living cannot be.

– Robert Crow, *The Cornerstone*, March 1928

The Moral Code of Freemasonry

“It embraces the highest moral laws and will bear the test of any system of ethics or philosophy ever promulgated for the uplift of man.

“Its requirements are the things that are right, and its restraints are from the things that are wrong.

“Inculcating doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love enjoying sentiments of exalted benevolence, encouraging all that is good, kind and charitable, reprobating all that is cruel and oppressive, its observance will uplift everyone under its influence . . .

“To do good to others, to forgive enemies, to love neighbors, to restrain passions, to honor parents, to respect authority, to return good for evil, not to cause anger, not to bear false witness, not to lie, not to steal – these are the essential elements of the moral law.”

– Douglas MacArthur, *The Freemason*, August 1964

Mysticism in Masonry

Masonry is mystical as music is musical – like poetry, and love, and faith, and prayer, and all else that makes it worth our time to live; but its mysticism is sweet, sane, and natural, far from fantastic, and in nowise eerie, unreal, or unbalanced. Of course these words fail to ‘describe’ it, as all words must, and it is therefore that Masonry uses parables, pictures, and symbols.

– Joseph Fort Newton,
Iowa Grand Lodge Bulletin,
March 1967



QUOTABLES

Speech is the mirror of the soul; as a man speaks, so he is.

– Publilius Syrus

You get to decide where your time goes. You can either spend it moving forward, or you can spend it putting out fires. You decide. And if you don't decide, others will decide for you.

– Tony Morgan

The truth is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it.

– Norman Schwarzkopf

Nothing can stop the person with the right mental attitude from achieving a goal; nothing on earth can help the one with the wrong mental attitude.

– Thomas Jefferson

A goal should scare you a little, and excite you a lot.”

– Joe Vitale

I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions.

– Stephen Covey

You may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.

– Mohandas Gandhi

Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy.

– Dale Carnegie

A No. 2 pencil and a dream can take you anywhere.

– Joyce Meyer

Study while others are sleeping; work while others are loafing; prepare while others are playing; and dream while others are wishing.

– William Arthur Ward

Sometimes adversity is what you need in order to become successful.

– Zig Ziglar

You can cultivate happiness

What's happiness? Is it sweetness and light and floating through days with a smile on your face?

"Nope," says Kevin Daum, an INC. 500 entrepreneur with more than \$1 billion in sales, including those for *Video Marketing for Dummies*.

Happy people have some things in common:

- They clearly define happiness. They know what makes them happy and focus on making those things happen.
- Small things please them. They are taking joy in the small events and the world around them.
- They cultivate self confidence by becoming an authority on some things and acting on their knowledge.
- Personal growth makes them happy and they are committed to learning and personal development. They want to discover and challenge themselves.
- They have a positive effect on people around them. They try to brighten the day of other people and inspire them.

Daum says being truly happy is not easy. But all efforts are worthwhile even when the path is slow.

Job interview: Tips for a 50-or-older person

1) Never say "I'm ready for a change," according to Roy Cohen, author of *The Wall Street Professional's Survival Guide*, it gives the impression that you were bored, your experience was growing stale, and you are unmotivated

2) You will be speaking to someone younger than you. Prepare yourself mentally. Try for an attitude of mutual respect with a younger interviewer.

3) Don't try to sound hip by claiming to love tweeting and social media. If you know how social media can influence sales, for example, put that in your resume.

4) "I see myself staying in this job until I retire." Employers rightfully want applicants with plenty to give, not someone looking to coast until retirement, says Amanda Augustine, an expert at The Ladders, the employment site.

5) Rehearse and rewrite. You need a one-line description of yourself and what you can offer the company.

6) Talk about your age in constructive ways. You won't be taking time off for the many duties people with young children have.

Online menu planning

Meal planning is one area in which technology has met need with a host of online apps. They actually can make it easier to plan meals, shop and save money.

They all solve some major problems: organizing and finding recipes that meet your criteria; remembering to buy the ingredients; and scheduling the dinners when you do have the ingredients. And beyond that, some apps hunt for coupons or scan barcodes of the stuff you already have.

One of the best is plantoeat.com. At a cost of \$5 per month or \$39 per year, it won't break the bank. But it will probably save you time. You can search for recipes online and add them to your personal recipe list.

Emeals.com is slightly more expensive but more hands off. You choose your eating style (low carb, for example), your grocery store, your family size and like magic, every week a complete meal plan arrives by email complete with shopping list. Best yet, the list is organized around weekly sales at stores you select.

A free meal planner is ziplist.com. Ziplist draws recipes from thousands of online sites and offers a one-click way to add recipes from different sites to your recipe list. This system, like the others, ties into your smartphone.

When to start Social Security?

It's a widely publicized fact that if you wait to retire until age 70, you will get 132 percent of your normal Social Security benefit (each month for the rest of your life).

At age 62, you would get 75 percent of your normal benefit. Each year you wait from 62 on increases the benefit by 8 percent.

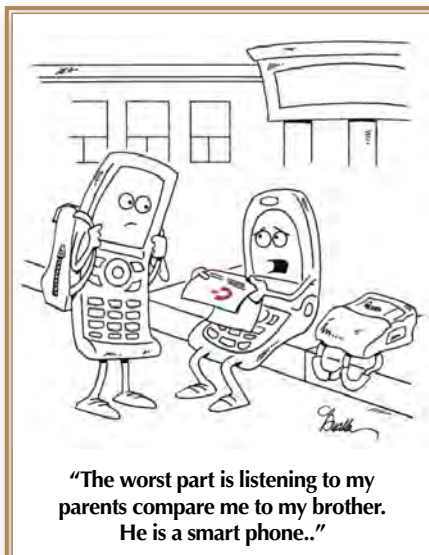
At the recommended retirement age of 66, you would get 100 percent of your benefit.

Waiting until age 70 sounds like a wise decision, says *Fortune* magazine expert Allan Sloan. His analysis, however, shows that there's way more to consider, including life expectancy.

Sloan writes that both of his parents died in their 70s. So he and his wife decided to start taking his Social Security retirement benefits at age 67.

He will invest all or part of his benefits into dividend-paying stocks that pay 4 to 5 percent interest.

Incidentally, according to *Fortune*, Social Security doesn't care when you start taking your money. People taking smaller amounts for longer periods cost the system the same as people taking higher payments for shorter periods of time. They've got it figured out.



Henry Ford Receiving the 33° in 1940



Jeffrey Croteau



(Left to right): John W. Bricker, John A. Rowland, Henry Ford, Melvin M. Johnson, and George E. Bushnell on the day Ford received the 33°, 1940. Detroit, MI.

At the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council for the Scottish Rite's Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, held in September 1940 in Cincinnati, OH, George E. Bushnell, Deputy for the state of Michigan, "presented the name of Henry Ford, of Dearborn, Michigan, to receive the degrees of the Rite from the Fourth to the Thirty-second, inclusive, and thereafter, the Thirty-third Degree, and asked for unanimous consent to ballot upon this nomination . . . The request was granted and the ballot spread and, it proving to be clear, Henry Ford was declared to be elected to receive the degrees of the Rite from the Fourth to the Thirty-second, inclusive, in some Valley of the Jurisdiction in which the degrees were being worked under the direction of the Sovereign Grand Commander, and the Thirty Third Degree after he has been duly created a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret [i.e. 32nd degree]."

At the time that the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's Supreme Council conferred the 33° on him at age 77, Henry Ford had been a Mason for 46 years, having been raised in Detroit's Palestine Lodge, No. 357, in 1894, at age 31.

On the evening of December 6, 1940, the Supreme Council opened a special meeting to confer the 33° on Henry Ford at the Masonic Temple in Detroit, MI. The meeting opened at 9 p.m. and was over at 11:45 p.m.

Among those present were the men pictured in the photo: Ohio Governor John W. Bricker, 33°; Sovereign Grand Commander for Canada's Supreme Council John A. Rowland, 33°; Sovereign Grand Commander for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Melvin M. Johnson, 33°, and Deputy for Michigan (and future Sovereign Grand Commander) George E. Bushnell, 33°.

While Ford was unquestionably the most well-known person in the room that evening, two other men pictured in the photo above were not only well-known within Scottish Rite Freemasonry, but were, at the same time, luminaries in the legal field. At the time of the

conferral, George E. Bushnell was chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and Melvin Johnson was dean of the Boston University Law School. John Bricker, then governor of Ohio, was also in the legal field, having served as Attorney General for Ohio from 1933-37, before becoming governor, and returning to law practice after his 12 years as a U.S. Senator from Ohio.

The photo above, which is in the collection of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, appears in the new book, *A Sublime Brotherhood: Two Hundred Years of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction*, which is available for purchase at the Scottish Rite NMJ's online store: shop.scottishritenmj.org

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.

READER'S RESPOND

Thanks, to Bro. Kuntz

I've read the wonderful article about the life of Bro. Truman (Jeffrey L. Kuntz, *TNL*, November 2014). It is concise and captivating by choice of words from the beginning to the end, enlightening me as your Brother-reader about the most Masonically active president of the USA. If I remember right, I once heard the story of President Truman riding together with his chauffeur, while Truman was the President of the nation, and his chauffeur the Worshipful Master of his lodge. But the information contained in your wonderful article has certainly enlightened me much more about this truly remarkable person, Bro. Harry Truman.

Peter Auwerda, A.A.S.R., *The Netherlands Jurisdiction Aruba*

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.

A Family Connection

I really enjoyed the article on World War I which mentions Ralph J. Pollard. I believe that Ralph was a close friend of my grandfather, John Condon, and his father, Percy Condon, both who were first members of Mystic Lodge. Later, my grandfather would go on to be a founding member and first Worshipful Master of the Ralph J. Pollard Lodge. So far, I have traced my Masonic history back six generations in Maine. One of my other ancestors was also a founding lodge member of another lodge there. I am always searching for more Masonic light through my family's history and degrees of learning.

Todd Condon, *Mt. Defiance Lodge, No 794*

MASONIC MOMENTS



While visiting the pioneer town of Metamora, IN, I came across the interesting lodge building and its cobalt blue windows. Don P. Raybourn, Valley of Dayton.

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.



Photo of sun rising over the Indiana Masonic Home, Franklin, IN. The picture was taken by J. Henry Amt, a resident, and has been a member of the Valley of South Bend for 65 years.

On March 3, 2013, Lodge No. 62 celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its first meeting at the Masonic Center Foundation, West Reading, PA. Fifty years ago, David J. Baker, pictured on the left, was introduced and received the Entered Apprentice Masons Degree. The degree was conferred by Bro. Jay B. Coleman, on the right. In the center is Bro. Kerry A. Koch, PM, the current Master of Lodge No. 62. All are members of the Valley of Reading.



Continuing the Search for a Cure

In our Healthwise column (TNL February 2014) we published an item called "Diabetes and You." In response to that story, Bro. James A. Mitchell of the Valley of Springfield, IL, tells us about the efforts of the Order of the Amaranth to eradicate diabetes. Since 1979, the order's Amaranth Diabetes Foundation has raised money exclusively for the American Diabetes Association's research program. According to the association's CEO, Larry Hausner, there is no volunteer organization with a longer history with his group that has given at the level of the Order of the Amaranth. He says "the members set an incredible example, and we are so grateful." Larry Dobbins, a member of the order, says they hope their efforts get us closer to finding a cure. The Order of the Amaranth is a fraternal and charitable organization whose membership includes men and women with a Masonic affiliation. Bro. Mitchell has been Grand Royal Patron and a Deputy Supreme Royal Patron of its Supreme Council.

More Community Help

On April 28, 2013, the Illinois River flooded Marseilles, IL, causing extensive damage. About 200 homes were inundated, and 1,300 residents were evacuated. The Bloomington Consistory, through its Charitable Concerns Fund, stepped up to help its community. Ill. Gregory L. Clark, 33°, of the Valley of Bloomington, says "The CCF money goes to Scottish Rite scholarships but also for what might be a need in the community." Specifically, the body helped with a donation to the Marseilles Nursing Service to assist with the city's extensive flood relief program.

Ralph Cookerly Wilson Jr.

As this issue of *The Northern Light* was prepared for publication we received word that Ill. Ralph C. Wilson Jr., 33°, passed away at age 95. Bro. Wilson was the longtime owner of the Buffalo Bills of the National Football League. His team, originally a charter member of the American Football League, formed in 1960, and he was the last surviving owner of one of the original eight clubs. He and his fellow investors formed the new league as competition for the established NFL. They facetiously called themselves "The Foolish Club." By the end of the decade the entire league was merged into the NFL as, essentially, its American Football Conference. The team plays in Ralph Wilson Stadium in Buffalo. For a complete story on Bro. Wilson, the Buffalo Bills, and the birth of the American Football League, see *The Northern Light*, November 2010.

Alan E. Foulds, 32°
editor

The Nitty Gritty

The article in this issue concerning *Grit* magazine came about through conversations concerning the classified ad sections of old comic books. During the discussion the story of *Grit* came up. Lo and behold, a quick investigation showed, first, that the founder and his sons were well respected members of the craft, and of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, and, second, that the magazine still thrives today. Special thanks go to Michael Bischof, of Grit Printing and Direct Mail, for his support, information, and use of anything we found on the company's website. We are grateful, as well, for the help and photos given to us by Brandy Ernzen, brand manager with Ogden Publications, current publishers of *Grit*.

New Scottish Rite App

The Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction announced that its official app is now available. Through the app, Masons will be able to receive push notifications from the Supreme Council and from the Councils of Deliberation. Other features include the ability to offer feedback and email; read about member services; request to join Scottish Rite; send a card to a Brother in need; read *The Northern Light*; learn about degrees and keep up with degree schedules; contact your Valley; obtain driving directions, and, for fun, to solve the Scottish Rite puzzle.

Downloading is easy. For Apple products, go to the App Store; for Android, visit Google Play, and for Amazon, head to Amazon's app store. Search for Scottish Rite. Download NMJ SCOTTISH RITE.

The creation of this new application was spearheaded by Bro. Yasser Al-Khatib. He spent countless hours working to create this tool for our membership.

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.



looking for the next step?

Come join in the fellowship at your local Valley.

Make new friends and
reconnect with your Brothers.

If you can't make it to a meeting
and would like a fraternal visit,
let us know. Call your
Valley Secretary.

Now is the time to get
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