

The Northern Light

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The Grand Almoner's Fund

Our Vision . . . Our Mission

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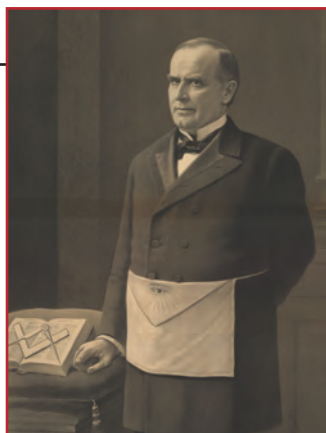
The Northern Light

The magazine for Scottish Rite Masons of AmericaSM

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By Ymelda Rivera Laxton



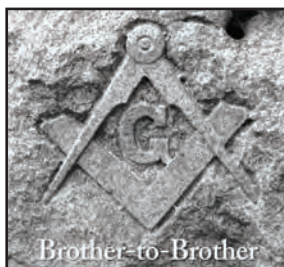
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SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

John Wm. McNaughton, 33°

Back to Our Roots

We have been, and always will be, a fraternity that cares for its members. There have been times in our past that this simple tenet was forgotten, or maybe just dulled. Today, though, there is strong evidence of a renewal of that spirit and obligation. A few years ago, for instance, the Scottish Rite, together with the Grand Lodges of New Jersey and New York, aided the victims of Hurricane Sandy.

More recently we have examples of our members reaching out and lending a hand to our Brethren. Here are just a few:

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is the oldest in the New World, and third oldest in existence anywhere. It boasts of such well-known figures from this nation's beginnings, as Paul Revere, John Hancock, and Dr. Joseph Warren, a general killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Some 284 years later that Grand Lodge continues to be a great inspiration for all Freemasons in the United States. Through a very active Services Committee, Grand Master Harvey Waugh has reached out to members of the craft through one of the finest Masonic traditions – the Brotherhood Fund. It aids distressed worthy Brothers, their widows, and orphans. Chairman of the committee is a modern-day patriot, Frank Gomes, a dedicated Freemason and a U.S. Marine. The staff of the Grand Lodge, including business manager, Robert Jolly, takes the time to make each incoming call a priority. Many institutions can become altered and transformed over time. However, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has remained unchanged in the dedication to its members. Those idealistic Masonic principles that helped establish and define the basis of the United States of America are still alive in the Freemasons of Massachusetts.

From 1,000 miles away comes another story. A Mason in Wisconsin and his family were in deep trouble; emotionally, physically, and financially. Our Brother has been experiencing extremely serious medical problems that have put his own life, and the welfare of his family, in jeopardy. Ill. Michael A. DeWolf, 33°, an Active Member of this Supreme Council and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, was alerted to the situation and

visited the family. He concluded that there is not much anyone outside the medical field could do for his physical well-being, but the parts of our Brother's ills that we can relieve are financial. The Scottish Rite, together with the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, took care of the mortgage on the family home. Bro. DeWolf said "I drove to Sparta and discussed his health. I gave him the envelope and he was amazed at what he saw. Tears rolled. He stood up, shook my hand, and we hugged. He hung on for a while. He said we would never know how much pressure this will take off him and his family. I explained that there are no guarantees in life about how long we will be on this Earth, but no matter what happens he can feel comfort in knowing that his wife and children will always have a home."

Bro. DeWolf, for his part, said "I want to thank you for allowing me to share in this process. Being able to participate in this has been a life changing experience. As Freemasons we talk a lot about charity, but not about relief. Relief is given out of love for our Brothers, not from pity." It was driven home to him that we will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to take care of our members. He added "Some say it's God's work."

In Pennsylvania one of our members was in such a desperate financial condition, his daughter wrote a letter to Santa asking for \$200 to help her father. When Pennsylvania Deputy, Ill. Thomas K. Sturgeon, 33°, and Grand Master Raymond T. Dietz, 33°, heard of the family's plight, and Christmas only three days away, they got a check to him so that he could provide presents for his children. Later, they were able to offer more financial help to the family.

The tide is certainly turning – not to something new, but rather, back to our roots. These stories, and, I'm sure, many more like them, might seem like they set a new direction, but, in reality, our obligation to offer relief to one another is as old and as rock solid as Freemasonry itself. Times change, our methods of delivery must keep up with those times, but our basic beliefs remain steadfast.


Sovereign Grand Commander

Freemason and Idol of Ohio **WILLIAM MCKINLEY**

By YMELDA RIVERA LAXTON

One hundred twenty years ago William McKinley won the 1896 presidential election with Garret Hobart as his vice president. At the age of 58, shortly after being re-elected to his second presidential term, McKinley was shot in the chest and abdomen twice at close range while attending the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition. Gangrene set into his wound and he died September 14, 1901, in Buffalo, eight days after being shot. McKinley is one of four presidents assassinated in our country's history.

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA, owns many fascinating artifacts related to William McKinley's involvement in Freemasonry, his death, and his memory. Like many presidents before him, McKinley was a Freemason. He received the first three degrees at Hiram Lodge No. 21, in Winchester, VA, in 1865, during his Civil War service. A few months before his death, McKinley allegedly recounted to General Horatio C. King how he decided to become a Mason. According to King's account, republished in 1942, McKinley witnessed a friendly exchange between a Union doctor and some wounded Confederate soldiers. When the doctor imparted to McKinley that the soldiers were "Brother Masons," McKinley reportedly stated "...if that is Masonry, I will take some of it myself." John B. T. Reed, Master of the lodge, conferred McKinley's degrees on May 1, 2, and 3, 1865. When McKinley returned to Ohio after the war he affiliated with Canton Lodge No. 60, and Eagle Lodge No. 431, (later renamed William McKinley Lodge No. 431).

McKinley has been described as a "fraternity man" due to his active involvement in many local fraternal groups including: Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Grand Army of the Republic, Military Order of the Loyal



William McKinley Campaign Cufflink, 1896-1901, United States, Collection of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts. Photo by David Bohl.

Reproduction of Presidential Campaign Button for William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt, ca. 1972, Cracker Barrel, NY. Gift of A. J. Lista. Photo by David Bohl.

Legion, Knights Templar, Royal Arch Masonry and Knights of Pythias. In a 1959 McKinley biography by Margaret Leech, he is defined as a "...great joiner with a keen sense of group loyalty."

Major McKinley

William McKinley was the seventh of nine children and was born on January 29, 1843, to William McKinley Sr. and Nancy Campbell Allison McKinley in Niles, OH. When he was a child, his family moved to Poland, OH, a small village near the Pennsylvania-Ohio border. There he was raised in a devout Methodist household, briefly attending Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, before enlisting in the 23rd Ohio Regiment in June 1861, at the age of 18.

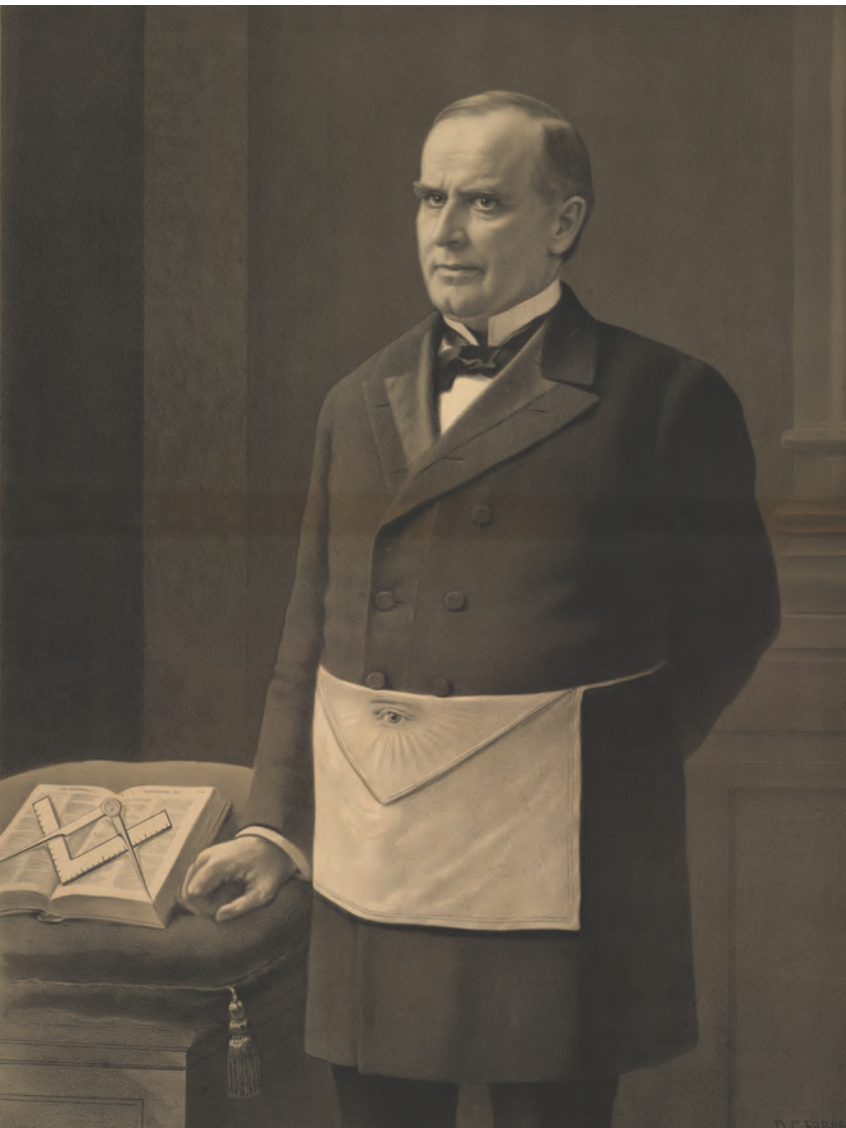
McKinley served under future president Rutherford B. Hayes. He received several commendations and promotions, and after four years of service, without injury or illness, left the army

as a Brevet Major. His final rank of major became a nickname amongst close friends. McKinley's Masonic initiation took place at Hiram Lodge No. 21, in Winchester, VA, just three months before he was relieved of duty. McKinley later visited Winchester's Hiram Lodge on May 20, 1899, while he was president. McKinley's Civil War service profoundly affected his future political and personal life. He went to war believing the most important outcome would be the abolition of slavery and the civil rights of freedmen and continued to champion those rights throughout his career. He also continued to meet with veterans groups and advocate for their issues during his time in office.

🌸 Idol of Ohio

After the war, McKinley attended Albany Law School in New York, and set himself up in Canton, OH, where his older sister Anna, a

William McKinley as a Freemason, 1901, Joseph Deutsch, publisher, D.C. Fabronius, designer, Chicago, IL. Gift of Paul D. Fisher.



Political Banner for William McKinley and Garret Hobart, 1896, H.B. Hall's Sons, New York, NY. Gift of Robert A. Frank. Photo by David Bohl.

school mistress, lived. He established himself in his profession and attained a reputation as a political orator, making appearances on political platforms as early as 1867.

He married Ida Saxton in 1871 and the couple had two daughters, both of whom died before the age of five. Despite his personal tragedies, McKinley ran for office with support from fellow Ohio veteran and President Rutherford B. Hayes and Ohio industrialist Marcus Hanna. He won a seat in the U.S. Congress and served there from 1877-91, and as Ohio's Governor from 1892-96, before winning the 1896 presidential election. McKinley's storied military and political career was proudly claimed by fellow Ohioans who often referred to him as the "Idol of Ohio."

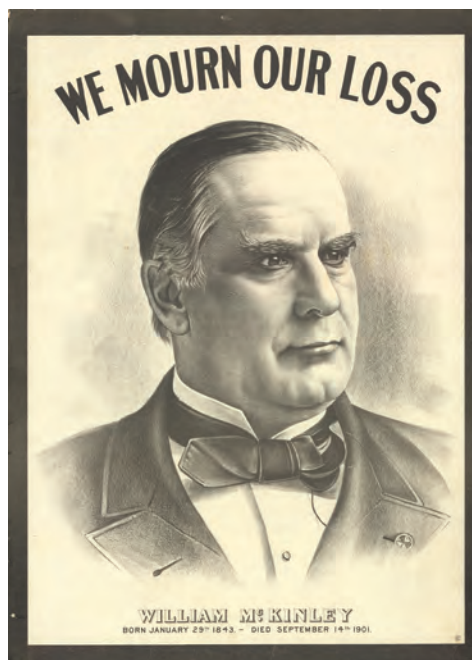
The 1896 presidential election, dubbed the "battle of standards," is known as one of the most important elections in America's history. Changing voting patterns, a realignment of party politics, and technology had transformed the dynamics of the political landscape and the way in which politicians campaigned. McKinley, a Republican, campaigned against Democratic Nebraska Congressman William Jennings Bryan. McKinley supported the "gold standard," money backed in gold and, in theory, worth more. Bryan supported the "free silver system," money represented by both gold and silver, allowing more money to be printed but, in theory, worth less.



McKinley enlisted Marcus Hanna as his Campaign Manager. Hanna centralized campaign operations and helped to craft McKinley's legendary "front porch campaign." He did not travel during his campaign but instead invited delegates, visitors, and the press to visit him at his home in Canton. McKinley spoke to hundreds of thousands of visitors at his home, while Bryan traveled over 10,000 miles campaigning on a whistle-stop speaking tour. McKinley raised five times as much campaign money as Bryan and eventually won the election in a landslide. He was the first president to receive the popular majority vote since 1872.

The United States victory in the Spanish-American war, subsequent ceding of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines to the U.S., relative economic prosperity, and new open trade relations with China guaranteed McKinley a sound re-election victory in 1901. McKinley won despite taking up a young and unpredictable Theodore Roosevelt as his Vice President following the death of Vice President Garret Hobart in 1900. McKinley continued to be active with his various fraternal affiliations while in office, attending Grand Army of the Republic and Knights Templar meetings both in his home state of Ohio and in Washington, D.C.

San Francisco. He accepted the invitation and included a visit to the reception as part of an already planned national tour with his ailing wife, Ida. He made stops in New Orleans, El Paso, Denver and Los Angeles on his way to San Francisco. McKinley was the first incumbent president to visit California. Due to his wife Ida's worsening condition while in San Francisco, McKinley cancelled many of his speaking engagements, but moved forward with his visit to the Knights Templar. On May 22, at the Mechanics Pavilion in Union Square, he addressed a crowd of 12,000 people including 1,400 Knights Templar. He thanked his "Brother Masons" and spoke about



**We Mourn Our Loss,
1901, Unidentified
Maker, United States.**

Final Months and Assassination

Before his assassination in 1901, McKinley was invited to a reception hosted by California Commandery No.1, Knights Templar, in San

brotherhood in the context of American citizenship and the preservation of liberty. He and his wife returned to the White House on May 30, 1901.

McKinley traveled by train from Canton, OH, to Buffalo, NY, to attend the Pan-American Exposition in September 1901. He made a few brief stops along his route, including one in Cleveland, OH, on Sept. 5. During his brief interlude in Cleveland, he met with his former campaign manager, now Senator, Marcus Hanna, shook hands with City Councilman William J. Akers, and addressed a small assembly of supporters and onlookers. In 1977, Henry S. Kuhn donated a William McKinley political campaign cane to the Museum & Library. Family history relates that Samuel Kuhn, Henry's father, received this cane during the aforementioned presidential stop in Cleveland, one day before McKinley's assassination in Buffalo. The words "preferred choice" are inscribed on the cane. This phrase was one of the slogans for the 1899 McKinley/Roosevelt campaign. The cane was one of the many McKinley artifacts and campaign materials sold to supporters and visitors. Canes like this one, also referred to as walking sticks, were once popular campaign items and often used during political torchlight parades.

On a reportedly sunny day in Buffalo, NY, at the close of the Pan-American Exposition, McKinley

stood on the steps of the Temple of Music shaking hands with visitors. Leon Czolgosz, an unemployed laborer from Cleveland, stood in line to shake hands with President McKinley. When he stepped up to the president he pulled out a concealed revolver and shot McKinley twice in the chest and abdomen. Czolgosz, a self-proclaimed anarchist, later stated that he shot McKinley because he was "the enemy of the good working people." He was convicted and executed for his crime in 1902.

✿ Mourning for McKinley

A national mourning period for McKinley produced many commemorative memorial artifacts. Posters, photographs, buttons, and even commemorative glassware were created after McKinley's death. His reported last words, "It is God's way. His will, not ours, be done," were printed on memorial paraphernalia and sold across the country. There were five days of funeral services in Buffalo, Washington D.C., and Canton. In Washington, the Knights Templar Grand Commandery of Ohio as well as Knights Templar groups from Louisville, KY, and Pittsburgh, PA, marched in the funeral procession to the White House. Canton city solicitor and lodge member, Denver C. Hughes, tendered the services of Eagle Lodge No. 431, F. & A.M. In Ohio, 20 commanderies, a total of almost 2,000 uniformed Knights, formed the 4th Division of the funeral escort in Canton. A general order was also issued, declaring a 60-day mourning period for Ohio lodges, with all banners, jewels, furniture, and emblems draped in mourning with black crepe. The final funeral service was held at the Church of the Savior United Methodist Church on Sept. 19, 1901. McKinley was laid to rest at Westlawn Cemetery in Canton, OH. A final memorial for McKinley's tomb was completed in 1907.

Freemasons across the country and around the world mourned McKinley's sudden and tragic death. In the 1901 Proceedings for the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, Sovereign Grand Commander Henry L. Palmer began his welcoming remarks with a special commemoration of William McKinley and his untimely assassination. Palmer cited the unbelievable nature of McKinley's death after experiencing the recent assassination and death of fellow Mason, President James Garfield, in 1881. The Supreme Council agreed to send a formal letter

RICHARD T. GREENER, 33°, and the MCKINLEY CAMPAIGN


The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library recently acquired the 33° certificate of Richard Theodore Greener, the prominent African American attorney, educator, diplomat, and Freemason, who was actively involved in helping McKinley get elected in 1896.

The date of Greener's 33° certificate coincides with his arrival in Chicago and his involvement with the National Republican Committee's Colored Bureau in the 1896 presidential campaign for Republican nominee William McKinley.

See page 29 for more about Greener's 33° certificate.



Schomburg General Research and Reference Division, The New York Public Library. "R. T. Greener" New York Public Library Digital Collections. Accessed January 13, 2016.

of condolence to McKinley's wife, Ida. In the 1902 Supreme Council Proceedings, Palmer mentioned a letter of sympathy received in November 1901, from the Scottish Rectified Directoire in Helvetia in Geneva, Switzerland. The letter, signed by Sovereign Grand Master of the Order, Joseph Leclerc, 33°, and dated Sept. 16, 1901, exclaimed, "...as masons, we reprobate the act of savagery perpetrated and executed by one out of the way of salvation, and we unite ourselves, from the depth of our hearts, to the sentiments that this sad death has stirred up among the entire America people. May the Grand Architect of worlds protect your Republic!" 

Do you or your lodge have memorabilia or family stories related to McKinley's political campaigns or to his death? We want to hear from you! Please contact Ymelda Rivera Laxton, assistant curator, at ylaxton@srmml.org or 781-457-4123.

To see more items related to William McKinley's political campaign, visit our current exhibition "Who Would You Vote For? – Campaign Banners from the Robert A. Frank Collection" on view at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in Lexington, MA, through Dec. 10, 2016. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and offers free admission and parking. For more information, please visit our website, www.monh.org.

III. Steven Ezra Prewitt, 33°

1953 - 2016



III.:. Steven E. Prewitt, 33°, an Active Member of this Supreme Council for the state of Wisconsin died on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016.

Raised a Master Mason in Mosinee Lodge No. 318, F.&A.M., Mosinee, WI, on Oct. 16, 1975. He was Worshipful Master five times. He served as Secretary from 1982-90, at the end of which time he was named "Mason of the Year" of his lodge. He was again named "Mason of the Year" in 1994, as District 7 Representative.

On Aug. 31, 1974, at Neillsville, WI, he was united in marriage to Charmaine Leigh Horswill, who survives along with their two daughters and their spouses, Tina and Albie Kramer and Tanya and Courtney White; grandchildren, Allen Ezra and Hallie Ruth, and a grandson due in March, Steven Earnest.

For the complete balustrade on the life of III. Steven E. Prewitt, 33°, visit the "Member's Center" at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.

III. George Richard Moad, 33°

1925 - 2016



III.:. George R. Moad, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, died on Tuesday, January 26, 2016.

Raised a Master Mason in Robert Burns Lodge No. 464, F.&A.M., Harrisburg, PA, on June 29, 1953, and was Worshipful Master in 1961. He also served as Trustee from 1981-90.

On June 30, 1973, at Camp Hill, PA, he was united in marriage to Virginia Irene Stover Morecraft. She survives along with two sons, William Taylor Morecraft III and Andrew James Morecraft; a daughter, Mrs. KayEllen Smith; and eight grandchildren.

For the complete balustrade on the life of III. George R. Moad, 33°, visit the "Member's Center" at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.

*The Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions
are Celebrating Our Fraternity at the
First Nationwide Event*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

Scottish Rite Day

Here are the Details

*Scottish Rite Day is meant to be an enjoyable,
inspirational, and meaningful experience
for our members.*

The event will also accord the 32° the recognition
and prestige it deserves.

Mark your calendars now:

Scottish Rite Day - November 12, 2016

ON NOV. 12, 2016, Valleys and Councils of Deliberation from both the Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions will celebrate the Scottish Rite. It is the first time the fraternity has held such a nationwide day of honor.

We are asking that all Scottish Rite Masons in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction commemorate Scottish Rite Day. Our hope is that you see it as a chance to enjoy a fun, memorable occasion where you can reach out to and connect with your Brothers.

*33° members will be asked to wear white tie and tails to the conferrals
and the banquets and all others either a tuxedo or dark suit.*

**For more information visit our website: srday2016.org,
or email: scottishritenmj@gmail.com**



New Commissioned Jewel and Medallion

A handsome, new jewel (similar to the one pictured above), and medallion are being commissioned for this historic event.

The jewel will be available in November 2016, to all who have been made a Scottish Rite Mason in 2016.

Each candidate receiving his 32° in 2016, will be presented this commemorative jewel free of charge; others may purchase this one-of-a-kind jewel for \$25.

The jewel and medallion will be available for purchase to all Scottish Rite Freemasons.

Ordering information is available at:

SRDay2016.org

Candidates are not customers . . . *Are they?*

By **BRUCE T. WORK, 33°**

A recurring debate within the Masonic community is whether or not candidates should be thought of as “customers.” Technically speaking, I think the answer is obvious. While some of our leaders find it difficult to accept the idea of members and candidates as customers, in reality, they are just that in today’s competitive marketplace. Lodges and Valleys are sellers offering degrees and a rich fraternal life. Candidates and members are buyers who register for membership, apply for initiation, and pay dues. The longer these ongoing transactions are satisfactory to both parties, the longer the relationship endures, to everyone’s benefit.

Seen in these terms, there seems little left to discuss. But it is worth pointing out that this buyer-seller interpretation is somewhat simplistic as it fails to acknowledge an important dimension – the candidate as learner. Each candidate puts his trust in the institution where he is studying, and each should be encouraged to view his learning experience as a journey of personal transformation. It is an odyssey that will, at times, challenge preconceived tastes, desires, and opinions.

Using the term “raw meat” to describe a candidate has been misused and criticized. But to a large degree, the new member is, in fact, a neophyte during the learning process. Does the term “rough ashlar to smooth ashlar” ring any bells? It is precisely this voluntary immersion in a learning process that allows candidates to overcome short-term difficulties, and to understand (often in retrospect), the importance of lessons that may not have been clear at the time of their initiation.

A thorough learning process means a candidate must be open to ongoing experimentation. It means meeting challenges constantly, and encouraging a spirit of personal development. This may lead a candidate to question previously held values that



were unfocused or not thoroughly thought through. Socrates was right to tell his new pupils “you know nothing.” In this context, the best candidates do not view themselves as “customers,” nor should they be treated as such.

My personal experience bears this out. The brightest and best candidates I have worked with tend to be modest, respect the advice of their Brothers, and are naturally open to new ideas. These are the men who get the most out of their Masonic careers.

As Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, emeritus professor at George Washington University, said “Students are not customers, nor are they not customers. They are investing time and money with a purpose in mind. The school that does not serve that purpose will not survive. Students are looking for a quality education, and they want distinguished and accomplished professors on the faculty.”

This is especially timely today. The younger generations refuse to waste their time or money on

products that do not serve their needs. A fraternity that does not recognize and respond to the changing needs of its membership will not survive. That is a brutal fact. Long hours spent memorizing antiquated ritual with language that no one can pronounce and most cannot understand will not endure. Survey after survey, and trend analysis after trend analysis of baby boomers to millennials bear this out. We ignore the data at our peril.

Simply put, a fraternity that takes care of its members is based on core values. It has members with moral compasses and like-mindedness. It is this kind of fraternity where the new generation will invest resources. Survey data in this area provides solid reasons to be optimistic as it points time and again to the desire millennials have to join organizations that are values-based.

I know nothing.” The great sculptor Michelangelo provides an apt analogy. He believed the job of the sculptor is to free the forms already inside the stone. The job of Masonry might be interpreted in a similar way. We work to free candidates’ potential – “taking good men and making them better.” Think about some of our best Masonic Brothers and leaders. We did not make them Masons. We simply gave them dues cards. They were Masons in their hearts, long before they joined our fraternity.

To Masonic Leaders:

Candidates who approach the learning process with modesty and candid willingness to learn are the best possible gift. A good candidate with the right attitude is what prompts our passion and fascination for education. While I don’t consider candidates as

A fraternity that does not recognize and respond to the changing needs of its membership will not survive.

In Masonry, the candidate is acting on faith that there will be personal growth and satisfaction at the end of his initiation. Masonic leaders must do their jobs, but the process must also involve a mentoring Brother, as well as constant dialogue with the candidate. Ongoing interaction ensures a candidate achieves what he set out to find when he petitioned the organization. We cannot be the supplier who “takes their money and runs.”

How to put this theory into action? Below are recommendations regarding what candidates, Masonic leaders, and Masonic Brethren can do to maximize the powerful experience of becoming a learned and fulfilled Scottish Rite Mason.

To Candidates:

In order to get the best out of a learning experience, have an open mind and be modest and humble. It is advisable to recall a version of Socrates’ maxim cited above: “I only know that

consumers, we still should strive for excellence in Masonic fraternalism and all its related products and services. Each candidate deserves to be treated with equal concern and respect. We need to understand that we are not a “one size fits all” fraternity, and we should be adaptable to the needs of our candidates. Through continued dialogue with our “customers,” we will learn if we are supplying the products and services they came to expect. Don’t be afraid to alter the delivery of the product.

To Masonic Brethren:

We must share the light of Freemasonry. We must share the gift that each of us has given to ourselves. The world has provided each of us the opportunity to go back to our respective lodges, to take the hand of a friend who has just knocked on the door for the very first time, and lead him on a journey that will last the rest of his life. We owe it to the customer, and we owe it to the fraternity. ■■

OF COWANS AND MASONS, *Angels and Demons*

By AARON J. WILCOX, 32°

EVERY PERSON CARRIES AN invisible bag. In some are kept tools, jewels, and virtues to help them on their journey in the various works they are attempting to complete in life. Many people are keeping heavy and harmful things in their bags, and they don't even know they are carrying them.

The people we know and come in contact with can have a huge effect on us. We love, trust, hope, and have faith, and sometimes these things get broken. Promises, hearts, trust, and even entire lives and nations get broken. We gather up and collect memories and hold on to pain. We veil our hearts from the possibility of pain in the world, and add layers in defenses, blocking out the blessings with the curses. We prevent ourselves from having good relationships with others when we chose to build walls of defense.

The three classes of Masons I like best are the cathedral builders, road builders, and the bridge builders. I tend to like the bridge builders most, as I am descended from the Pierpont family, who were bridge builders. Bridges allow a closer bond to be forged among neighbors, and though there is a popular saying, "good fences make good neighbors" - and there are times when fences and walls are necessary - in the spiritual building of society, bridges connecting roads on both sides are a beautiful thing.

Free will is our own to decide. Which path we choose will lead to our ultimate destiny, and though it may be confusing, our true self knows that the difficult path leads toward the Light of the Grand East, and the easy path leads to sloth, gluttony, greed, and soon evoke jealousy, hatred, and ultimately wrath.



Consider this alternate scenario if you will. Children are raised to be completely confident. Soon those children grow up, date the right people, and, with luck, fall into the right professions perfectly suited for their talents. Soon a family begins, and into their bags, everyone in their lives are pouring compliments, love, praise, favors, gifts, and friendship. The bags soon contain the softest filling of love which cushions the impact if the children should ever fall or fail. With this gift of the true gold, one can find hope, and truly know faith.

IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED SCENE, IT IS EASY to imagine that the parents have surrounded those children with love, and that they helped to construct a perfect sphere of acquaintances. They have laid the stones of people in their children's lives with perfectly tempered mortar, and have created everlasting bonds which cannot be broken by the outer world, no matter who comes inside their circle of trust. The children will continue to build as they were taught to do, adding to their temples of their acquaintances and relations, creating and establishing a more balanced and harmonious self, family, village, city, country, world, and universe.

But then, there are always those who build without mortar. These are the cowans of the world. Their baggage is loaded with rocks which, when laid, are laid dry, and collapse easily. Often times, they use these rocks to crush anyone who comes close to their fragile outer shell, just in case these strangers might try to add more stones to their bag, or lean on their weakly built temple. In their bags are no virtues, but the deadliest of passions, each taking turns eating away at their souls. These passions trick them into believing that indulgences are the only things worth living for. Tricked by the gateway drug of pride, they are fooled into believing that their way is correct, even after taking their third step off of the cliff, leading into the west of diminishing light. Their life continues for as long as the last glimmers of light remain, but the course has been set, and downward they proceed, anchored in pride, into the depths of their own ego.

It is hard to see this when you are struggling with your own demons, so we are taught to subdue passions in order to starve them out. When we weaken the passions, the virtues may then take control of the soul, and begin the regenerative work of enlightenment. We learn through study and contemplation of the mysteries of Freemasonry, that everything is constant motion. We may choose to move toward order or chaos, re-birth, or death, but our path, as illuminated by the Great Lights, should be toward improvement from youth to manhood, old age, and beyond.

When we become Fellowcrafts, we soon learn that the baggage - and what you do with it - is all in


If we feed the virtues, tempering the mortar with love, and use the tools properly, the demons of reaction and chaos will be starved out . . .

... if we build correctly, we protect ourselves from the outer world sending ripples of chaos toward us.

your control. We learn of the sciences, senses, wages and jewels, and we are given all the tools, advice, and support necessary to transform our minds into co-workers, mixing mortar, well-tempered, to be applied by the tools we are entrusted with in the 3°.

AS WE SHAPE OURSELVES, BREAKING AWAY the rough patches, we become more easily approachable. Like a well-polished stone, you become a pleasure to look at, and come into contact with. You require less mortar to go between yourself and the next stone. The great thing is that even if you are not yet polished, a little more mortar, and the correct application of the trowel, level, square, and setting maul, and you are just fine. The mortar of love forgives imperfections among us, enabling us to align together and create our temple of Brotherly love. When you meet a Brother who is rough around the edges, use a bit more mortar when you meet, act with, and part from him.

Though we may, with the blessings of Deity, succeed in building our perfect temple, our thoughts, words, and actions, good or bad, send ripples into, and react upon our world. If we, or someone in our network act wrongly, we all feel the effects, and risk the demise of our ancient craft at the very least, but if we build correctly, we protect ourselves from the outer world sending ripples of chaos toward us.

Many people have been misled to believe that demons and angels are fighting for our souls. I do not believe this. I know for myself that I am attacked by the reactions of my own incorrect thoughts, words, and actions. If we feed the virtues, tempering the mortar with love, and use the tools properly, the demons of reaction and chaos will be starved out, enlightenment will follow, and we will become co-workers of a new reality of perfect peace and light. 

New Appointments at the Dyslexia Centers

The Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc. has announced the appointment of a director of operations and an associate clinical director.

III. Robert F. Ogg Jr., 33°, is the incoming director of operations.

Bro. Ogg will work under the tutelage of Bro. William G. Ziemer, the current director, for the next several months after which he will assume the full responsibility and authority of the position in September.

Bob Ogg is married to Jane C. [Salem] Ogg, and they reside in Glendale, RI, with their champion Old English Sheepdogs.

He served as a team medic and light weapons specialist in the United States Army Special Forces attaining the rank of sergeant first class.

He received an associate of science degree from Johnson and Wales University with a concentration in accounting and has received a bachelor of science degree with a management major from Bryant University.

An active member of the Masonic fraternity, Bro. Ogg has served as the Master of his lodge.

He is a past High Priest and Thrice Illustrious Master in the York Rite, a Past Puissant Sovereign and served for ten years as the Executive Officer for Rhode Island DeMolay.

He is a 33°, Scottish Rite Freemason, an Active Member of the Supreme Council, Deputy for Rhode Island and serves the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction as the Grand Minister of State.



III. Robert F. Ogg Jr., 33°

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



Kathleen Carlsen has been appointed as associate clinical director for the Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc. Kathleen earned a bachelor of arts degree in environmental health science and a master of education degree in elementary education.

She completed her therapist and therapy instructor training at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRH) in Dallas, TX. Kathleen has served as a center director in Philadelphia, PA, since 2006.

Prior to that time, she worked in the dyslexia laboratory at the TSRH as a therapist, instructor and laboratory coordinator, and taught first and second grade. Kathleen collaborated in the research and development of the TRSH's curriculum.

Kathleen brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this position.

The Grand Almoner's Fund

Our Vision . . . Our Mission

*We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our
Masonic obligation to care for our members.*

CHARITY, OR BROTHERLY LOVE

in its truest sense, is said to comprehend all the virtues we uphold as Freemasons. A pillar of our craft is the commitment to help others in time of need. It is our solemn oath and our covenant with each other. For more than 300 years, Freemasons have been there for our Brothers, their widows, and their families in crisis. It is the Freemason who has long provided the relief and caring often lacking in a world that can be cold and indifferent.

The Scottish Rite has rededicated its mission to “strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.” One central way we are fulfilling that vision is through the Grand Almoner's Fund. The fund provides relief to those facing genuine misfortune. But, as importantly, it demonstrates the steadfast power of our fundamental Masonic values. In the pages ahead, you will read how the Grand Almoner's Fund has helped many Masons and their families. The hardships they face are deep and varied. Our aim is to keep you updated on the scope and impact of the Almoner's Fund.

Together, we are upholding our fraternity's most important ideals. Together, we will keep our fraternity focused, now and in the future, on the simple yet profound act of caring for each other. This is the work that separates us from the rest of the world.

We hope you feel a deep pride in the Scottish Rite and in yourself for being part of this deeply meaningful effort.

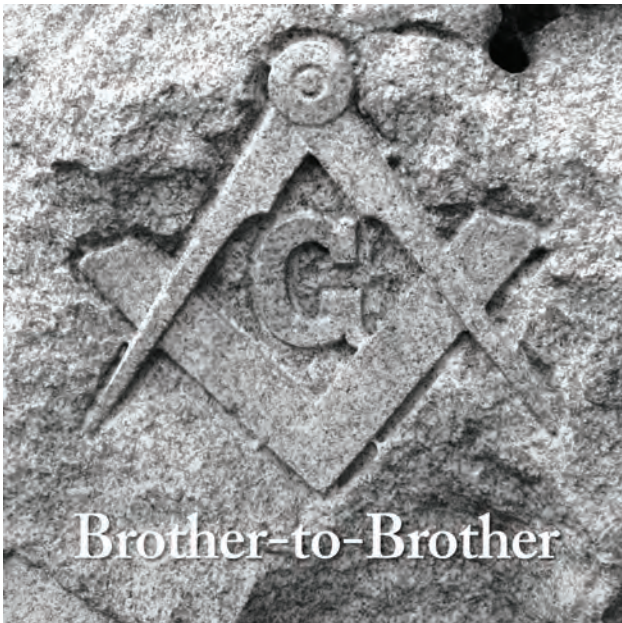


John Wm. McNaughton
Sovereign Grand Commander



The Grand Almoner's Fund is committing \$500,000 annually to Masons, their children and their widows in need regardless of affiliation. The funds provide relief at the ready to Masons in crisis when they need it most.

Who Does the Grand



We Help the Young

Young, Hard-Working Mason Faces Deep Financial Hardship

Adversity does not discriminate. Aaron, an 18-year-old Master Mason was in dire financial straits. In addition to going to school, he worked part-time to help support his family of eight. His mother, a primary breadwinner, broke her hand and lost her job as a dental assistant. Medical bills piled up, and eviction notices were at the door. No matter how many hours Aaron took on in his job, the family was quickly losing ground. Just when they thought all the medical bills were paid, an unexpected charge for anesthesia arrived. Aaron wrote, "I don't know what else to do, or where else to turn."

Ill. David A. Glattly, 33°, Active Member for New Jersey, worked to provide relief to this industrious young Mason. "Aaron's connection to Freemasonry is already strong," said Glattly, "and his lodge Brothers see so much integrity and generosity of spirit. He needed help and was deserving of what we could do for him."

Relief from the Grand Almoner's Fund provided Aaron's family with time to regroup and find new, stable employment. Aaron expressed his gratefulness this way. "Please accept my deep appreciation for all the Scottish Rite has done for me and my family."

With your help, we were able to get our heads above water. I think the world of the craft and of the Brethren. I have seen the true meaning of Masonry. I will never forget all the Scottish Rite has done."

We Help the Grieving

"God had a plan for our infant."

The death of a child is one of life's ultimate tragedies. Offering consolation and care at such a time is one of the only comforts we can offer. Through the moving words of our grieving Brother, we see just how much being there to help truly matters.

"I write with the utmost gratitude to the Scottish Rite and the Grand Almoner's Fund for graciously providing for the funeral and burial of our three-day-old daughter. We were not prepared to lay our newborn daughter to rest only days after meeting her, but God had a plan for our infant that included her going to be with Him.

"It was devastating to plan our baby's funeral. Thankfully the Grand Almoner's Fund was there to help us with the financial burden. That assistance was a huge relief, and it lifted such a tremendous weight off our shoulders. I am exceptionally proud and honored to be part of such a loving and caring Brotherhood that was there for me and my wife in our time of need."

We Help the Sick

Fighting Cancer – and Financial Devastation

For nearly six years, Scottish Rite member Derek has been fighting cancer. He braved two major surgeries and subsequent recoveries. He endured ten months of chemotherapy and 25 radiation treatments.

For Derek and his family, worry after worry piled on. Money eventually tapped out, and bill collectors began their assault. "We are financially devastated," wrote Derek. "The bills keep coming, and we do not know what we are going to do."

Help from the Grand Almoner's Fund was needed—and it was provided readily and without delay. When we heard back from Derek, his relief was palpable. He wrote, "With your generous gift, some outstanding hospital and doctor bills were paid."

Almoner's Fund Help?

We were also able to make inroads in paying the bills for my cancer treatments. From the very bottom of our hearts we thank you so very much.”

We Help the Old

“Thank you for this life-changing gift.”

“I have been a member of the Scottish Rite for more than 55 years. Thanks to you, I can now afford a portable oxygen generator. My entire family and I thank you for this life-changing gift.”

— Robert, Scottish Rite Mason

We Help Widows and Families

“If it were not for the Scottish Rite I would not be able to pay the mortgage, or feed my four children.”

A 34-year-old Freemason was in critical condition from injuries he sustained in a car accident. He died ten days later. He left a young pregnant wife and three children—two sons, ages ten and four; and daughter age seven. His wife April gave birth to their fourth child, a baby girl, just four days after her husband died. And if this tragedy was not devastating enough, the baby was born with a club foot that needed medical intervention.



Through the Grand Almoner's Fund, the Scottish Rite supported the family in its grief, and gave them the help they needed. Deputy from Michigan Ill. David R. Bedwell, 33°, took the lead, visiting the family, assessing needs, and arranging relief. Bro. Bedwell has also made sure our support goes beyond the financial. He stays in touch to provide a shoulder to lean on, and to keep track of additional needs.

We received a letter from April about a month after David died. She wrote, “For now, my children and I depend on the generosity of others to make ends meet. If it were not for the Scottish Rite I would not be able to pay the mortgage, or feed my four children. I knew that Masons help each other during hard times, but what you have done is beyond anything I could ever imagine. David was proud to be a Freemason, and I could not be prouder that he was part of such an honorable organization. My gratitude is infinite.”

We Help those Facing Catastrophe

“They brought us back into the light.”

Scottish Rite Mason Alan, his pregnant wife, and three-year-old daughter lost everything in a fire. “After months of part-time work, I had just gotten a good, full-time job. Things were looking up. Then one night, everything changed,” said Alan. “My house, my life – gone. We had no renter's insurance, and our situation was dire.

“I was brought up to do things on my own,” he said, “and it was hard for me to accept help. But as a Freemason I had to be open to receiving the help I am willing to give others. Assistance from the Grand Almoner's Fund moved us from devastation to normalcy. We went from having absolutely nothing to having a house to live in and beds to sleep in. “The Scottish Rite and my Masonic brothers pulled us out of the darkness that the fire created.”

We Help the Unemployed

No one wants to admit to being in need.

“Suddenly I was out of work and under extreme hardship. Searching for full-time employment at age 54 is proving more difficult than I ever imagined. What a difference your assistance has made, easing my burden as I continue my job search. Accepting this type of help is always difficult as no one wants to admit to being in need. The fact that our fraternity strives to care for its own is incredible. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

— Fred, Scottish Rite Mason



To Make a Donation

There are a variety of ways to make a direct donation or pledge to the Grand Almoner's fund.

Online

Donate securely at:
ScottishRiteNMJ.org/development

By Mail

You can mail a donation to:

Grand Almoner's Fund
Scottish Rite NMJ
PO Box 519
Lexington, MA 02420.

If sending a check, please make payable to The Grand Almoner's Fund.

For More Information

Gifts via bequest or securities are encouraged and appreciated. Email the Development Department at development@srnmj.org, or call 781-862-4410 for information and assistance.

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

If You Know Someone Who Needs Help

If you hear of, or know any Freemason who is in need of financial assistance, contact your Valley Secretary, any Active Member of the Supreme Council, or your State Deputy. Please be prepared to provide them with details as to why assistance is needed. Reasons may include loss of income, illness, death, home foreclosure, natural disaster, or other crisis. You may be asked to further investigate the circumstances.



Together, we will keep our fraternity focused, now and in the future, on the simple yet profound act of caring for each other. This is the work that separates us from the rest of the world.

We have met the enemy . . .

"We have met the enemy and he is us."
– Pogo

Almost daily we learn about another new Internet-connected gadget guaranteed to make our lives better. And all carry a threat to your privacy and security.

There's the Hello Barbie talking doll; smart thermostats; wearable health devices; home security systems; billboards that capture information from your cell phone, and, of course, there's your car and television.

"Hey, let's be careful out there."
– Sergeant Phil Esterhaus

Gadgets bedazzle us. They always have and most likely always will. We acquire these shiny new toys with little or no regard to the consequences of the technological advancements.

"The law of unintended consequences pushes us ceaselessly through the years, permitting no pause for perspective." – Richard Schickel

Let's begin with something simple: the compact disc. We use them to store music and data. However, in time we discover information on the disc begins to deteriorate. Unintended consequence. Perhaps that's why the vinyl recording and paper records are making a comeback. (I never quit either.) Of course, music on vinyl played on a modern turntable is superior to any other playback mode.

What about those new home security systems? You've heard the ads. Someone rings your doorbell and your smartphone alerts you. You can see the person on your screen and tell the caller you can't come to the door even if you are a thousand miles away. Great idea? Maybe. But what happens if it is hacked?

Furthermore, there are now websites showing hacked images from Internet

connected security cameras. At least one was focused on a baby's crib. Not good.

Smart thermostats are marketed as being designed to help you save a few bucks on natural gas and electricity. Unlike "dumb" programmable thermostats, smart thermostats learn from your actions such as when you leave the house for work and when you return. Also, they can be controlled remotely through your smartphone or computer. But what about the smart burglar who wants to know when you are away?

OK, you have the idea by now. Those shiny new gadgets are oh so alluring, but with convenience there comes risk.

Before you buy, you need to weigh benefit versus risk. You need to do your due diligence. Ask lots of questions. Just how secure is that home security system or smart thermostat? Does your smart television record your conversations? If so, who else can listen to them? Besides you, who can gain access to the information on your wearable health monitor?

And while we are on the subject of security, don't neglect your home wi-fi router. Much has been written in recent months about the potential vulnerability of home wi-fi. My own preference (and that of many security experts) is to annually replace my home wi-fi router. If you think that is overkill, then at least make certain the router has the latest security updates from the manufacturer.

Then there is public wi-fi. No matter what I write, most people will continue to use public wi-fi with reckless abandon. Buck the trend. Don't use it for banking transactions, credit card purchases or other actions that may expose your personal information. Personally, I only access public wi-fi

with a laptop that does not contain any personal information.

Despite their shortcomings, we still use passwords to access our website accounts. Until they are replaced by more secure technology such as facial recognition, you need to take great care in selecting passwords.

Always use random alpha/numeric passwords. Use symbols as well, if allowed by the website. Use a different password for every website. Regularly change your passwords.

You may want to use a password manager. If so, consider LastPass 4.0 Premium, Dashlane 4, and Sticky Password Premium for Windows. As for Mac, go for 1Password 6 for Mac. 1Password for iOS is my choice for iPhones. As for Android phones, I like Dashlane.

Don't neglect the importance of backing up the files on your devices. Use an external hard drive. Also, back up very important files (including photos) on thumb drives or disks, keeping a set in a secure location.

Many people use the cloud for storage. While it may be fine for nonsensitive files, I cannot recommend it for anything that contains personal information or other sensitive data. Like everything else linked to the Net, cloud storage is vulnerable to hacks.

A final thought:

"Television ushered in the age of postliteracy. And we have gone so far beyond that. I mean, what with the Internet and Google and Wikipedia. We have entered the age of post-intelligence."

– P.J. O'Rourke

Drop me a line.

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



Leigh E. Morris, 33°



SCOTTISH RITE BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION

DEVELOPMENT & PLANNED GIVING

Charitable Giving

How little we know about charities and how they benefit the purposes for which they are established. The telephone rings, and on the other end of the line is a voice requesting you to consider a donation or pledge to a particular charity. In other cases it is a mailing from an organization requesting an outright contribution or an ongoing pledge. Today in our modern world online contributing is also playing a greater role in charitable giving. Lets take a walk inside the world of charities.

Individual and Family Philanthropy

In May 2015, there were approximately 1.5 million charitable organizations in the United States.

In 2014, Americans gave \$358 billion – a 7.1 percent increase from 2014. In 2014, the largest source of charitable giving came from individuals at \$258 billion or 72 percent of total giving. In 2014, the majority of charitable dollars went to religion, education, human services and grant making foundations and health.

Historically, charitable giving rises about one-third as fast as the stock market. By the year 2055, some \$41 trillion will change hands as Americans pass on their accumulated assets to the next generation.

Charitable Organizations: the tax exempt sector

There were estimated 316,532 congregations in the United States in May 2015. In 2012, public charities reported \$1.65 trillion in revenues, \$1.57 trillion in total expenses, and over \$3 trillion in total assets.

Sources of revenue for tax-exempt organizations in 2012 were service revenues, including government contract and fee contributions, gift and government grants and lastly dues, special event income, rental income and net sales from goods and services. There were 86,192 foundations in the United States in 2012, a 5.3 percent increase from 2011.

Online Giving

In 2013, online giving grew by 13.5 percent, while overall charitable giving grew by 4.9 percent. Of all charitable giving in 2013, online giving accounted for 6.4 percent. Small nonprofits grew their online giving the most. Faith-based nonprofits had the biggest increase in online giving.

Why is this information important?

With so many charities available people need to be prepared to ask questions and seek information before opening their wallets. Daily we learn of charities spending significant dollars on overhead with very little going to the purposes intended.

You as a contributor must be prepared to ask questions about the charity, such as purpose, expenses and what percentage of each dollar is for the sole benefit of the charitable program.

Blue Envelope Appeal

This is a charitable program that your Supreme Council has made available to its members for years. When that envelope arrives in your mailbox within just a few days or weeks, it is important for you to know that the dollars you give are totally dedicated to the charity of your choice within the Circle of Giving within your Supreme Council, not burdened with expenses that dilute your contribution.

We hope that you have already considered the blue envelope appeal in your charitable giving this year.

IRA Charitable Rollover at Supreme Council

Congress passed legislation in December 2015 permanently permitting individuals age 70 1/2 or older, on the date of the gift to transfer up to \$100,000 tax free directly from an IRA to a 501(c)3 charity of their choice tax free, making a difference and receiving a tax benefit in return.

For more information on charitable giving contact Jim S. Deyo, executive director of planned giving/development at jdeyo@srmnj.org or call 781-862-4410.

RICHARD BERNHARD "RED" SKELTON

is pictured on a stamp issued by Guyana on July 25, 1996, as part of a set honoring the 100th anniversary of radio. He was a member of Vincennes Lodge No. 1, Vincennes, IN, and was active in both the Scottish and York Rites. He belonged to the Shrine in Los Angeles, CA, and received the 33°. Born in 1913, in Vincennes, IN, he began his career at the age of ten in a tent show and later performed in minstrels, medicine shows, carnivals, burlesque houses, circuses, and then vaudeville. His radio debut was on the Rudy Vallee Show in 1937. The next year he appeared in his first stage production and his first film. He served in the U.S. Army in 1944, and performed as many as ten or 12 shows per day for troops in the U.S. and in Europe. He then was on CBS Radio from 1949-52 and CBS TV from 1953-70. His characters were many and diversified. He won two Emmys and starred in over 30 movies. He died Sept. 17, 1997, in Rancho Mirage, CA.



JOSEPH ROBERTS 'JOEY' SMALLWOOD

was included in the set of stamps released by Canada Post on Feb. 18, 1998, to recognize Premiers. He received his degrees in Northcliffe Lodge, No. 1086, SC, and Lomond Lodge, No. 1421. He affiliated with Harbour Grace Lodge, No. 476, and was Master during its centennial year, 1967. He also belonged to the York Rite bodies of St. John's,



Newfoundland; the Scottish Rite organizations in that province, as well as Plilae and Mazol Temples.

Bro. Smallwood was a journalist, broadcaster, and politician. In 1946, after the newly elected British Labor Government granted Newfoundlanders a chance for self-government through a referendum, he entered politics. He favored confederation with Canada and was able to win the second of two referendums making Newfoundland Canada's tenth province in 1949. He was elected party leader and premier for the first provincial government and was virtually unchallenged for the next two decades. The Order of Canada was bestowed upon him in 1986.



JAN GARRIGUE MASARYK is depicted on a 1991 Czechoslovakia stamp honoring the 105th anniversary of his birth. Bro. Masaryk was an early member of Jan Amos Komensky Lodge, No. 1, in Prague, and he remained a member until the Nazis dissolved the Grand Lodge in 1938. He was a founder member of the "Lodge Comenius in Exile" in London.

Jan G. Masaryk was the son of Thomas G. Masaryk, the first president of the Czechoslovakian Republic. Jan entered the Foreign Ministry and was Ambassador to the Court of St. James between 1935-38, when he resigned as a protest over the Munich Agreement. He was Foreign Minister in the Provisional Government set up in London in 1940, and was vice-president from 1941-45. When the Republic was re-established after the war, he was, once again, the foreign minister. In 1948, the Communists seized power and gradually took over the government, until he was the only non-communist left in the cabinet. His body was found in the courtyard below his residence, almost

Robert A. Domingue



certainly murdered by the communists, whose rigged story of suicide failed to convince anyone.

CARL VON OSSIEZKY

is pictured on a German stamp issued on Nov. 14, 1975, to honor Nobel Peace Prize winners. Bro.

von Ossietzky was initiated in April 1919, in the Lodge "Menschentum" in Hamburg – a lodge later under the jurisdiction of the "Friemaurerbund zur Aufgehenden Sonne." This Grand Lodge was irregular before World War II but was received into the United Grand Lodge of Germany after the war, the Lodge "Menschentum" has not been re-founded.

Born on Oct. 3, 1889, in Hamburg, Carl von Ossietzky served in the German army in World War I and later became a noted German journalist and was secretary of the German Peace Society. He was sent to prison in 1931 because of alleged treason but was granted amnesty in 1932. The following year, when Adolf Hitler came to power, he was one of the first Nazis sent to the concentration camps. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1935 and was told by the Nazis that he would be released if he refused that prize. He accepted the honor, however, and consequently was not released until much later when his health had become severely impaired. He died on May 4, 1938, soon after his release. As a consequence of his accepting the Nobel Peace Prize, all Germans thereafter were forbidden by the Nazi government to accept any further Nobel Prizes.



Reviewed by Richard H. Haug, 32°:

The Craft Driven Lodge

by Daniel D. Hrinko. Published in 2014 by Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Co, Inc. Richmond, VA. Available from Amazon.

In the foreword to Dr. Hrinko's *The Craft Driven Lodge* Terry Posey, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, mentions that the author "searched the reasons why a member would give and why he would benefit by being a Mason." For any institution, organization or individual to be viable, they or it, needs to maintain relevance. That concept is exactly what is described in this account of the conception, inception and institution of "Arts and Sciences Lodge No. 792" by Freemasons of Ohio, who desired to develop a lodge that possessed relevance and thus meaning and importance for all. The goal was to permit the members to identify their particular interests, identify specific resources and then to empower the members to create a lodge that provided them with an experience that was both significant and important, while maintaining the fundamental beliefs, ceremonies and actions universal to Freemasonry. This was a three-year project that culminated in the creation of a lodge that was inspiring, enlightening, and one which explored Freemasonry as a philosophy.

The fundamental principles that were employed during this project were that each individual participant had the opportunity to influence the decision-making process; was able to contribute to the well-being of the group; was able to benefit from the involvement in the group, and could gain a sense of pride or recognition from this involvement. Basic assumptions regarding limitations were made, including that: everyone was a volunteer; each was there for a purpose; individuals would be willing to invest some form of effort and energy in exchange for some form of reward or benefit.

The text includes numerous quotes from opinion leaders of differing backgrounds and regions around the world and throughout the ages, in order to introduce important points and topics. The majority of the book provides a three-year chronology of what resulted in a



Masonic lodge that could best be described as "a college of Freemasonry" both academic and collegial, composed of a universal brotherhood of men. The end product was unique, impressive and reminiscent of the Petersburg Masonic Lodge described in *War and Peace* by Tolstoy, and "The Mother-Lodge" in Kipling's poem. The appendices are valuable in that they provide concise summaries and highlights of the project, many of which have been previously published in *Philaethes*.

This book is a worthwhile read for anyone who is interested in the fundamental principles that are essential to the long-term health and well-being of any organization including Masonic lodges.

Reviewed by Conor Moran, 32°:

English Freemasonry and the First World War

by the Library and Museum of Freemasonry. Published in 2014 by Lewis Masonic. Available from Amazon.

Their Name Liveth Forever More, a phrase chosen by Bro. Rudyard Kipling and chiseled onto many of the larger war graves from World War I, might aptly describe the work put forth by the Library and Museum to describe and commemorate the efforts of British Masons who participated in one way or another during the years 1914-18.

At just 96 pages the book makes a very broad topic manageable by breaking different aspects of the war and war effort into seven chapters organized thematically. They include subjects such as what the Masonic world looked like pre- and post-war, the impact of the war, and Masonic charity during the conflict.

While a great deal of research has been put forth concerning the activities of Masonry during World War II, this book helps put into context what it would have been like for Masons during World War I, at home, serving abroad, and our Brothers who were in internment camps or prisoners of war.

The book is crafted with a number of striking images. In fact, there are multiple photographs on almost every page of the book, many showcasing the elaborate medals and aprons that were created during that time period to commemorate the founding of a new lodge or for recognition of philanthropic work.

While the book highlights many of the positive activities that took place during World War I, it doesn't shy away from some of the negatives either. For example, the authors cite numerous instances whereby Brothers of German descent who were active in British Masonic lodges were forcibly removed from membership.

Of course there are numerous stories throughout that speak to the bonds of Brotherhood even in the darkest of times. Unlike during World War II, there is no evidence of lodges being formed or meeting in German camps. It does seem, however, that there were numerous modes of recognition being used including one by a Bro. Meekren who embroidered a blue silk square and compass into his tunic. This same Bro. Meekren was more than likely saved by a Bro. Putz, who was serving with the Germans. Recognizing that Meekren was a fellow Freemason and also suffering from the hard labor that he was forced to perform, Bro. Putz had arranged for a clerical job for him.

It is quite uplifting to read about the activity that was employed in the chapter on charity. Members of lodges throughout England rallied to support Brothers, their families, and their country. There is one example of a partnership with the Red Cross that helped treat wounded soldiers as well as several examples of lodges giving up their meeting places for the use of injured and sick soldiers.

It is worth noting that toward the very end of the book, the authors mention the response that a new book called the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* was receiving in Britain. Books like that, of course, helped fuel the fire of the Masonic-Judeo conspiracy theory that fanned the flames of the Second World War. The book doesn't spend much time on American activities that took place in conjunction with the British, which is to be expected given that the majority of the

research was done using resources available to scholars at the United Grand Lodge. If you are looking for a solid primer in how the craft responded to the First World War this book makes an excellent guide.

Reviewed by Robert W. Bruneau, 32°:

A Journey in Stone

by Craig Weightman. Published in 2015 by Lewis Masonic, Lewis Masonic Heritage House. Available from Amazon.

Bro. Weightman seems to have petitioned the fraternity for all the right reasons and obviously has gotten a great deal out of his travels through the three degrees.

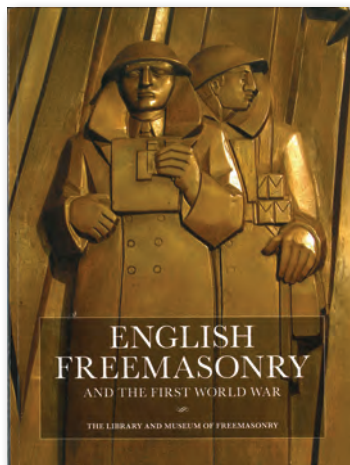
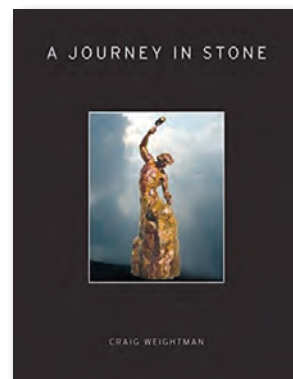
He uses a unique perspective of the rough ashlar to equate the initiate's introduction to the teachings of Masonry as the chipping away of the superfluities of life to prepare the candidate for his transition from darkness of profane ignorance to the light of unselfish service to God and to his fellow man.

By using the metaphor of the need for the stone to fit perfectly in order for the building to stand, the author illustrates that the man needs to void the errors in life to fit in the relationship with man and God in order to be of service to both.

The ritual explanation of these varied symbols is woefully inadequate for the initiate to fully comprehend the importance of these lessons at his initiation, and the writer is apparently in possession of the learning and capacity to express his personal journey for the edification of the new candidates of the future.

This book could prove to be a catechism for craft Masonry, but unfortunately expands to include repetitious detail and become rather a text book of philosophy, psychology and perhaps a bit of theology. I enjoyed the various points explaining the writers views, but felt that he went "the scenic route" too often for the benefit of expanding the specific point of his opinion rather than the Masonic lesson.

All in all a very instructive book, but at the end I was overwhelmed in minutia.



Bicycle Injuries

Researchers from the University of California, San Francisco, analyzed injury data for adult cyclists using a sample of about 100 hospital emergency rooms.

They found that as cycling became more popular, the number of serious injuries has increased. In particular, the study found a disproportionate rise in injuries among people over 45, who accounted for 23 percent of reported injuries in 1998. The most recent figures, however, now show 42 percent.

Even if you're an experienced rider, it's a good idea to review these safety tips from the AAA:

1. Wear your helmet to reduce head injuries by up to 85 percent.
2. Keep your head up and look ahead, not at the ground.
3. Don't carry a rider. It puts you and your passenger at greater risk.
4. Plan ahead when riding with a group. Agree on the route and what you'll do if separated by traffic.
5. Check local bike laws if riding in an unfamiliar place. Avoid busy roads and peak traffic times.
6. Before riding at night, ask someone to check your visibility to motorists.
7. Maintain your bicycle. Keep chains clean and lubricated. Periodically inspect the brake pads.
8. Don't drink and ride.

Odd medical coding

"Were you struck by a duck?" A new medical coding system increases the number of diseases from 14,000 to 70,000 and the new codes can be weird.

ICD-10 is the new medical coding system given to hospitals and doctors and used by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

According to Dr. R.J. Pertrella, it includes such codes as "Struck by a duck," "Bizarre personal appearance," "Sucked into a jet engine," and "Burn due to water-skis on fire."

The goal is to be more accurate. The more accurate the description, the more accurate their reimbursement will be. When researchers review medical charts, they will now know what type

of jet engine a patient was sucked into, for example.

The World Health Organization, which developed ICD-10, is already working on ICD-11.

One-minute workout

The good news is: You can get the benefits of cardiovascular and aerobic exercise in just 60 minutes a week.

Here's how to do it. You exercise intensely for one minute and leisurely for another minute. Work up to a total of 20 minutes three times a week.

The American College of Sports Medicine recommends getting moderate exercise for 30 minutes five days a week. But that comes to two-and-a-half-hours.

The good part of the one-minute deal is that after 30 to 60 seconds of pushing yourself, you keep moving but at a leisurely pace. If you want to do more, you can rest for between 30 and 60 seconds, then push toward the intense phase again.

New studies show the program is as effective as more minutes of exercise and can be equally safe.

Tai chi

Doctors at Harvard say the slow, deliberate movements in tai chi can improve your stability and balance.

The flowing motions and deep, slow breathing can exercise the body and calm the mind. The motions can

train you to shift your weight while maintaining your balance.

Like yoga, tai chi has a meditative quality that can trigger the relaxation response. This physiological change can help lower blood pressure, heart rate, breathing rate, oxygen consumption, and adrenaline levels.

Get up, stand up, move

Researchers are studying the negative effects of sitting for extended time periods, both at the office and home.

Dr. Allan Hedge, a professor at Cornell University, says for every half-hour working in an office, people should sit for 20 minutes, stand for eight minutes and then move around and stretch for two minutes.

Health experts have guidelines that say people should get a combined two to four hours of standing and light activity spread throughout the workday. And research from NASA, reported in *The Wall Street Journal*, shows that standing up to two minutes 16 times a day while at work is an effective strategy for maintaining bone and muscle density.

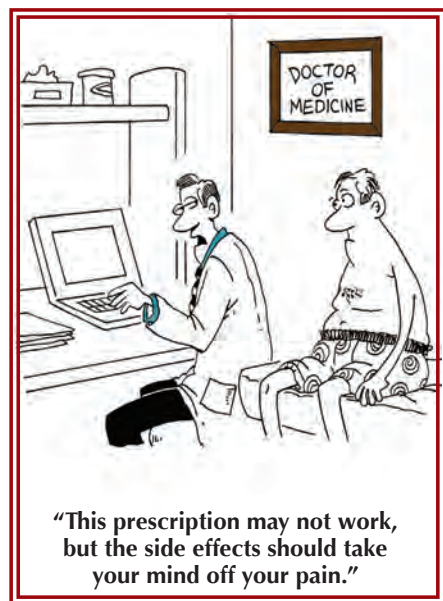
Scientific evidence shows that when people have occupations in which they are on their feet for more than two hours a day, there is a reduction in the risk of developing key chronic diseases, says John Buckley, a professor of applied exercise science at the University of Chester in England, and lead author of the guidelines.

Some ergonomics experts warn that too much standing can create greater risk for varicose veins, foot problems and artery disease. Dr. Hedge says, "The key is breaking up your activity throughout the day. Sitting and standing all day are both bad for you."

Enjoy what you do

Doctors reporting in *Duke Medicine* say you'll get more exercise if you take the "should" and "ought to" out of the activity and do it because you like to.

When you enhance your life with immediate rewards, you'll be more likely to dance, go for walks with a friend or two, or play a sport. If you take pleasure in the activity, you'll do it more often.





Calling Knife and Fork Masons



Above: Check out the May–June 2016 issue of the *Scottish Rite Journal* for Bro. Larry von Weigel's Cardamom–Allspice Rubbed Roast Chicken for your next Masonic Meeting.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD a meal after a Masonic meeting that consisted of hot dogs or spaghetti and tomato sauce on a paper plate? Bro. Larry von Weigel, 32°, has a solution to this problem. He is a chef working on a cookbook and wants to help his Brothers avoid boring meals. He has prepared a series of recipes for lodge catering and is sharing them in the *Scottish Rite Journal*. His first offering in the March–April 2016 issue is roasted-rubbed pork loin for 30 with romesco sauce with grilled leeks and roast cauliflower. He followed this in May–June 2016 with cardamom–allspice rubbed roast chicken with mango rice and raspberry mint julep. “Lodge Catering with Bro. Larry” is the solution to boring lodge meals. His pork loin recipe in the March–April *Journal* can be found at <https://scottishrite.org/about/media-publications/journals/>. If you try one of Bro. Larry’s recipes, please take a picture and send it to journal@scottishrite.org.



Above: A cameraman focuses in at CTC 2015.

Celebrating the Craft Turns Five

FOR A CHILD, a fifth birthday can seem like a big deal. For the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, our fifth Celebrating the Craft (CTC) is indeed a major milestone. May 21, 2016, 6:00 pm – 12:00 midnight ET, will mark our fifth annual webathon hosted again by Ill. Norm Crosby, 33°. It will feature interviews, stories about Brothers, and Scottish Rite Has Talent, a contest of talented Brothers in the SJ. In 2015, CTC raised over \$1.9 million for Scottish Rite philanthropies. For 2016, the fundraising will support the House of the Temple’s Rebuilding the Temple Campaign as well as RiteCare® Scottish Rite Childhood Language Programs. CTC can be viewed over the Internet at www.scottishrite.org. Everyone is welcome to Celebrate the Craft.



Above: *Tyler's Place* Host, Maynard Edwards.

The Tyler's Place Podcast

BRO. MAYNARD EDWARDS, 32°, STARTED producing *The Tyler's Place* podcasts in November 2014 for the Supreme Council, SJ, and every month since he has come out with a fascinating mix of stories and information by Masons about Masons and for Masons. Bro. Maynard has a background in radio and loves to tell a good story – a perfect combination for a podcast. Here’s what *The Tyler's Place* web page has to say: “Freemasonry is more than just a fraternity. Freemasonry is a gathering of men from all walks of life, each with a unique story to tell and fantastic life lessons to share.” If you’d like to learn about the Masonic stories Maynard and his brothers have to tell, visit www.scottishrite.org.

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

THE BOX OF FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE

Soon thousands of Master Masons all over our great State will be meeting in a common celebration honoring one of Freemasonry's patron saints, John the Evangelist.

St. John the Evangelist was one of the most faithful and beloved of the disciples of Jesus. He was the apostle of light and the bringer of comfort to the grief-ridden, courage to the weak, help to the helpless, strength to the falling.

In the proclamation which establishes our general observance of this great Masonic festival your Grand Master has said that the passing of the Box of Fraternal Assistance is a "must." I am certain it will not be necessary to ask the Worshipful Master of any lodge embarrassing questions as to why the Grand Master's will and pleasure was not obeyed.

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 principle concerns of the lodge.

As an officer of the Grand Lodge I have often noticed lodge reports showing nothing spent on charity in a 12-month period. Surely we can look about us and find some place where the hand of Masonic charity can be extended, where Brotherly love can be more than the mouthing of words in the ceremonies of the degrees.

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 cannot 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 wheelchair; 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 News Letter*, December 1965

Once a Mason – Always a Mason?

This scribe has heard it said that when a Brother Master demits from his lodge, or is suspended, that he is not considered as a Master Mason – such title being only for Brethren affiliated with a lodge, and in good standing. Such a statement has also been read in the annual proceedings of a Grand Lodge, having been made by a Grand Master. Some unaffiliated Brethren may not be considered as good Master Masons for various reasons, but when a Brother is raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, what authority can ever deprive him of the title of Master Mason? It is possible that such statements may have been loosely made, without giving a thought to the process which brings a man to that exalted state. It is my belief that there is no power on earth which can remove the title of Master Mason from one who has attained it.

— Harold O. Cady, *California Freemason*, Winter 1970

IMMOVABLE

Freemasonry, not unlike all other human institutions, in its methods of government, in its relations with religious, political and social opinion, must have its conflicts and internal commotions in a greater or lesser degree; for the human mind is a restless, moving, unsatisfying something, by itself indefinable and incomprehensible. But the great moral principles and groundwork of Freemasonry remain steadfast and immovable. They are accepted, honored and beloved by the whole body of the fraternity. In these there is no conflict of opinion; they tower above all antagonisms within, or disturbing elements without. Freemasonry in its symbolism exemplifies moral truth, clothing it in the garments of poesy; and truth, like 'the poetry of earth, is never dead.'

— T.M. Reed, *Freemason's Repository*, December 1884

Masonry at the World's Fair



The Grand Lodge of the state of New York is erecting the beautiful building pictured above which will be open to the millions of visitors to the 1964 World's Fair opening in April, 1964. It will house many interesting and historical exhibits of the fraternity.

The cost of the building will be underwritten by the Grand Lodge of the state of New York, and it is anticipated that the sale of tickets at the regular admission price will defray its cost.

All Masons and their friends who intend to visit the World's Fair, are urged to purchase their tickets through the Grand Lodge of New York at the regular price of \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for children. Tickets may be ordered from the office of the Grand Secretary, 1401 Senate Street, Columbia, SC. Make all cheques payable to "The Masonic World's Fair Commission." Tickets are good anytime during 1964 or 1965.

— Albert E. Roberts, *The Ashlar*, March 1964

QUOTABLES

By thought, what you want is brought to you. By action, you receive it.

— Wallace Wattles

Don't wait for extraordinary opportunities. Seize common occasions and make them great.

— Orison Swett Marden

Giving up is the only sure way to fail.

— Gena Showalter

Getting over a painful experience is much like crossing monkey bars. You have to let go at some point in order to move forward.

— C.S. Lewis

Ambition is the path to success. Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in.

— Bill Bradley

Intelligence without ambition is a bird without wings.

— Walter H. Cottingham

To keep the body in good health is a duty... otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear.

— Buddha

Your imagination is your preview of life's coming attractions.

— Albert Einstein

If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.

— Milton Berle

We generate fears while we sit. We overcome them by action. Fear is nature's way of warning us to get busy.

— Dr. Henry Link

Every day you may make progress.

— Sir Winston Churchill

Quick cures for clutter

Over time, most people have acquired a lot of food storage containers. Some aren't used, have missing lids, or are stained.

In the kitchen, use ten minutes to pull everything out of your container shelves. Keep only those you often use and have lids that fit. Discard the others and nest the saved containers to save space.

In ten minutes more, check every lid that has a container it fits. Toss the stray ones, but don't keep more than two lids for any container. Stack lids of similar shape under their nested containers, or place lids together on their sides in a single storage container so they stand up vertically.

Use ten-minute time chunks to clean an area of the refrigerator. Pull all items out of the area you choose and place them on the kitchen table or counter. Throw out any questionable food, produce and leftovers. Wipe the shelf or drawer with a clean damp sponge sprinkled with baking soda. Dry with a dish towel, and replace the fresh items.

In the bathroom, organize the shelves under the sink. Measure the cabinet and fit stacking drawers inside. Each stack should be at least two drawers high and narrow enough to fit on either side of the sink's drainpipe. Allow space for taller glass and toilet bowl cleaners.

Leftovers

Expert dieticians at Tufts University say we should think "safety first" when it comes to using leftovers. If you forgot to put them in the fridge, or they spent time in your car, just toss them. Tufts' dietician Helen Rasmussen reminds us that it takes only a couple of hours for dangerous bacteria to grow.

The FDA's Foodsafety.gov website says leftovers should be refrigerated within two hours after cooking, not two hours after you left them on a table. Separate them into smaller containers so they can cool faster.

For more information on safe storage of food before and after cooking, see the Food Marketing Institute's Food Keeper site or download the Food Keeper mobile app from fmi.org.

Budget calculation

The top number on your budget is usually your income. That's the easy part.

Your outflows are something else. It's difficult to know in advance how much all your expenses for the month will be. Your budget will break if you don't give expenses enough weight.

John Lynch, director of the Center for Research on Consumer Financial Decision Making at the University of Colorado, Boulder, researched the matter. He found that people don't really think enough about rising expenses, so they end up thinking they can afford things they can't.

- One crucial component is to create an explicit budget. Relying on vague calculations makes it look possible that everything can fit in, says Lynch, so they feel free to spend.

- Some people spend more because of the way they view willpower, thinking it's limited so they deserve to reward themselves for showing some. People who think willpower is unlimited think no reward is needed.

- There is a relationship between mood and money habits. When people are sad, they save less, spend more, and consume more.

- Guard your home equity. Daniel Cooper of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston found that as home values rise, some view it as an increase in their borrowing power.

He says a home should be viewed as a place to live, not as a tool for

borrowing money. "If you max out a home-equity line of credit, then housing prices drop, you will be financially constrained."

Small jobs for retirees.

A retired electrician asked *USA Today's* Kim Komando how he could get some small jobs that would help him out with expenses.

Kim says TaskRabbit is one of the most popular sites for small jobs and short-term work. You sign up and will go through the verification process.

Then when people request help with little jobs in your area, TaskRabbit notifies you so you can help out and get paid.

The site handles payments, so you don't have to waste time making invoices or chasing down clients who don't pay. Another service to check out is Gigwalk.

Less sleep?

Getting enough sleep is about more than the number of hours you are in bed.

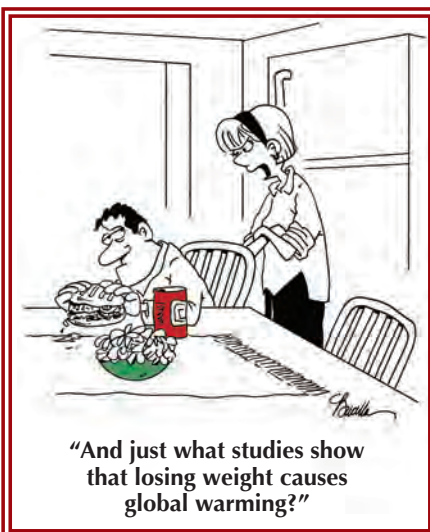
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine has found that people forced to waken multiple times during the night showed a greater decline in positive mood than those forced to go to bed later. The study, published in the journal *Sleep* showed those whose sleep was interrupted multiple times to go to the bathroom or tend a baby also had less deep sleep, the third stage of non-rapid eye movement sleep.

In the study, healthy people without any diagnosed sleep problems were given eight hours to sleep in the lab for three consecutive days.

Members of another healthy group, whose sleep was disrupted, were awakened each hour for seven or eight hours. A third group slept just four hours. Both of these groups' moods dropped after the first night, and those in the forced-awakening group continued to show a decline in mood.

Those in the four-hour sleep group saw their moods stabilize over the three days.

The researchers conclude that consolidated sleep, even if shorter than one's accustomed to, is less detrimental to positive mood than disrupted sleep.



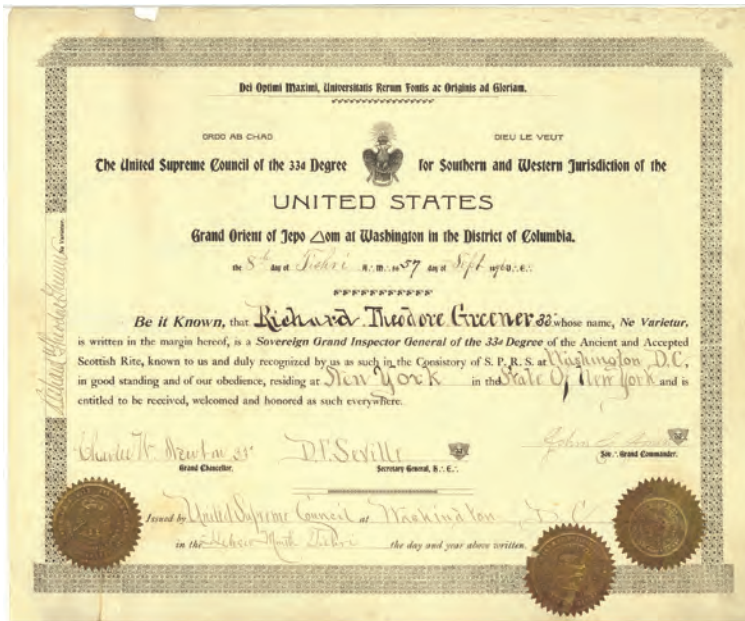
"And just what studies show that losing weight causes global warming?"

MORE THAN JUST BOOKS

Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives

Richard T. Greener's 33° Certificate Acquired by the Museum & Library

Jeffrey Croteau



33° certificate issued to Richard Theodore Greener, 1896, United Supreme Council of the 33° for Southern and Western Jurisdiction of the United States, Washington, DC.

The Van Gorden Williams Library & Archives of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library is pleased to announce that it has acquired the 33° Scottish Rite certificate of Richard Theodore Greener, the prominent African American attorney, educator, diplomat, and Freemason. Among his many accomplishments, Greener was the first African American graduate of Harvard College, the dean of Howard University's School of Law, a professor at the University of South Carolina, and the first U.S. Consul to Vladivostok, Russia.

The 33° certificate was among many Greener documents discovered in 2009 in the attic of an abandoned house in Chicago by a cleanout crew preparing it for demolition. Along with the 33° certificate, documents found in 2009, included Greener's 1870 Harvard diploma (now in Harvard's collection) as well as his law degree from the University of South Carolina and his license to practice law in South Carolina (now both at the University of South Carolina). Historians have greeted the discovery of the Greener documents – long thought lost – with much excitement. Greener's Masonic certificate gives us a glimpse into his activities while he was in Chicago in 1896, working for the National Republican Committee's presidential campaign efforts.

Greener was active in Freemasonry as early as 1876, as evidenced by a Masonic speech he gave which was published that year, *An Oration Pronounced at the Celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Baptist*, June 24, 1876. It was given at the Invitation of Eureka Lodge No. 1, F. & A.M., in the Savannah Georgia Theatre. Twenty years later, on Sept. 8, 1896, the United Supreme Council of the 33° for Southern and Western Jurisdictions of the United States – a Scottish Rite group formed by black Chicago lawyer John G. Jones and others in 1895 – elevated Greener to the 33° in their Council. Although Jones suffers from a negative reputation within Prince Hall Freemasonry today as the “Father of Bogus Masonry,” he was an activist and lawyer who fought against segregation, served in the Illinois Legislature, and was the eighth African American admitted to the Illinois bar.

The date of Greener's 33° certificate coincides with his arrival in Chicago and his involvement with the National Republican Committee's National Colored Bureau in the 1896 presidential campaign for Republican nominee William McKinley. Within the United Supreme Council, Greener served as Jones' second-in-command, holding the office of Lieutenant Grand Commander in 1896 and 1897. Greener was also a Shriner and held office in the Imperial Grand Council of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, the black Masonic organization established by Jones in Chicago in 1893 during a time when the predominantly white Shriners excluded African Americans as members. The acquisition of Greener's 33° certificate strengthens the Museum & Library's holdings related to African American fraternalism and helps tell the larger story of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the United States.

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.

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.



This medal was found among Emilio D'Acosta's effects.

On June 5, 1930, Emilio D'Acosta joined the English Speaking Bodies of the Scottish Rite in Mexico City, Mexico, by completing the 31° and 32°.

Subsequently devoting significant time, energy, and talent to the order, he became Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Active Member, in 1947. His membership cards for the Scottish Rite are in English while those certifying membership in the Supreme Council of the 33° are in Spanish. The language on the medallion is Spanish.

The prominent placement of the 33° symbol among others of Scottish Rite Masonry on this 1½" diameter medallion suggests it was given to 33° recipients and/or to members of the Supreme Council of the 33° in Mexico and perhaps in other Latin American countries.

James D'Acosta, 32°, Valley of Bridgeport

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.

This photo was taken in January 2016 at an entrance way into the campus of Loyola University of Chicago. A removable plate shows the Masonic square and compasses that mounts into a light pole. I wonder how many people have walked past this pole without noticing the emblem.

Michael S. Franck, 32°, Valley of Detroit

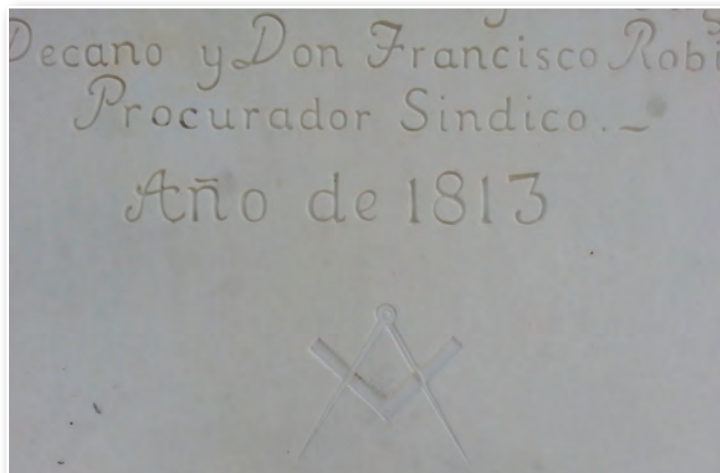


The Constitution Monument, erected in 1813 (left), is located in La Plaza de la Constitucion in St. Augustine, FL. It commemorates the ratification of the Spanish Constitution. Similar monuments were erected all over Spanish territories.

One year later Spain returned to a monarchy and all colonies were instructed to tear down the monuments. The citizens of St. Augustine refused to remove the monument, and it still stands today.

A square and compasses is engraved on its side (below).

*Harry H. Grossbard, 32°
Valley of Northern New Jersey*



ET CETERA,

et cetera, etc.

Stan Saves



A bit of sadness hit the comic shop, Jay and Silent Bob's Secret Stash, when Bro. Andrew Christopher, 32°, stopped in to tell the employees that he's lost his passion for comics and was ending his comic book collecting days. Andrew's decision was put to the ultimate test when Stan Lee decided to try and change his mind. Mr. Lee, as you may know, is the co-creator of such iconic characters as Spider Man, the Hulk, the Fantastic Four, Iron Man, Thor, the X-Men and many others. Bro. Christopher, from the Valley of Central Jersey and current Junior Deacon of Ocean Lodge No. 89 in Spring Lake Heights, NJ, met Stan at the shop and the two had some sincere discussion about Andrew's decision to "close his pull box and stop collecting comic books." The conversation was filmed and aired on a show called *Comic Book Men*. Stan is seen giving Bro. Andrew a solid and honest speech about what comics mean to him as a creator and what they mean to many collectors. In the final scene our Masonic Brother shushed Stan and told him "You had me at Captain America. I'm back." The show aired on Feb. 14 on AMC Network and can be seen at www.amc.com/shows/comic-book-men/video-extras/season-05/episode-06/stan-lee-inspires-a-fan-talked-about-scene-episode-506-comic-book-men-stan-saves.

Are You Receiving Scottish Rite Now?

Once a month (and sometimes more often) the Supreme Council publishes a newsletter called *Scottish Rite Now*. It contains information on upcoming events and news items concerning the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. It provides a link to the Degree Date schedule, and it features stories of Freemasonry around the world. To receive this free online publication simply sign up at ScottishRiteNMJ.org.

Alan E. Foulds, 33°
editor



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 ScottishRiteNMJ.org. Follow the simple instructions and you will be all paid up in no time.

Museum's Video Library Growing

The Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library is expanding its collection of videos available at its website, monh.org, as part of an ongoing video project designed to introduce various faces of the institution to Scottish Rite members and the public at large. Called "Video Gallery" it presents a fascinating mosaic of the people, collections, exhibitions, and programs of the Museum & Library. The latest edition tells the story of the 40th anniversary of the institution. In 8 minutes, 41 seconds, Linda Patch, director of communications, explains its history. Other presentations at the site speak of the museum's 15-star flag, the heart of the mission, and an overview.

Get Your Email Address Up to Date

In January 2017, emails will be sent to all Honorary Members of the Supreme Council announcing the opening of registration for the Annual Meeting scheduled for Rochester later that summer. In order to be on the list to receive the notification make sure to update your email address with your Valley Secretary.

And Speaking of Rochester

The schedule for the 2017 annual meeting in Rochester – often called the "purple program" – will be posted on the website (ScottishRiteNMJ.org) this November.

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

Nationwide **Scottish Rite Day**



Save the Date

November 12, 2016

SRDay2016.org

***Celebrate the
Fraternity!***

