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The end of my tenure has come, and this is my last message to you as your Sovereign Grand Commander. As I am sure you can appreciate, there has been much on which to reflect as I look back over the past 11 years. It has been the honor and privilege of my life to serve this great fraternity. I do not know what could be more rewarding than to be part of an organization in which each man keeps, at his core, reverence for God and devotion to country.

The privilege of living in Lexington, MA, for the past decade has given me the opportunity to know this birthplace of American liberty. As I have looked upon the historic Battle Green, I am moved at how the patriots who fought and died for our freedoms shared our Masonic values. *I Am the Nation* is a poem that I think reflects the deepness and beauty of our great republic. It is a fitting tribute to share as I move on. As you read these inspirational words, let us remember that together – as good men and Freemasons – we strive always to serve as “beacons of hope to the world.”

*I Am the Nation by Otto Whittaker*

I was born on July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate. The bloodlines of the world run in my veins, because I offered freedom to the oppressed. I am many things and many people. I am the nation.

I am 250 million living souls – and the ghost of millions who have lived and died for me. I am Nathan Hale and Paul Revere. I stood at Lexington and fired the shot heard around the world. I am Washington, Jefferson, and Patrick Henry. I am John Paul Jones, the Green Mountain Boys, and Davy Crockett. I am Lee and Grant and Abe Lincoln.

I remember the Alamo, the Maine, and Pearl Harbor. When freedom called, I answered and stayed until it was over, over there. I left my heroic dead in Flanders Field, on the rock of Corregidor, on the bleak slopes of Korea, and in the steaming jungle of Vietnam.

I am the Brooklyn Bridge, the wheat lands of Kansas and the granite hills of Vermont. I am the coalfields of the Virginias and Pennsylvania, the fertile lands of the West, the Golden Gate, and Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall, the Monitor and the Merrimac.

I am big. I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific – my arms reach out to embrace Alaska and Hawaii. I am more than five million farms. I am forest, field, mountain, and desert. I am quiet villages – and cities that never sleep.

You can look at me and see Ben Franklin walking down the streets of Philadelphia with his bread loaf under his arm. You can see Betsy Ross with her needle. You can see the lights of Christmas and hear the strains of “Auld Lang Syne” as the calendar turns.

I am Babe Ruth and the World Series. I am 110,000 schools and colleges and 330,000 churches where my people worship God as they think best. I am a ballot dropped into a box, the roar of a crowd in a stadium, and the voice of a choir in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a newspaper and a letter to a congressman.

I am Eli Whitney and Stephen Foster. I am Tom Edison, Albert Einstein, and Billy Graham. I am Horace Greeley, Will Rogers, and the Wright Brothers. I am George Washington Carver, Jonas Salk, and Martin Luther King Jr.


Yes, I am the nation, and these are the things that I am. I was conceived in freedom and, God willing, in freedom I will spend the rest of my days.

May I possess always the integrity, the courage, and the strength to keep myself unshackled, to remain a citadel of freedom and a beacon of hope to the world.

Fare well.

Sovereign Grand Commander
In April 1917, President Woodrow Wilson noted, “It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war…” In spite of his misgivings, he asked Congress to declare war on Germany. After hours of debate, legislators authorized the measure. Americans were also divided in their support of joining the conflict. To successfully fight the war, the U. S. government needed to overcome these divisions and bring citizens together. For help the government turned to a group of volunteer artists. These men and women deployed their enthusiasm and skill to help sell the government’s messages in poster form. Before, during, and after America’s 20-month participation in World War I—from April 1917 through November 1918—the government and private organizations printed more than 20 million posters to encourage citizens to donate money, conserve food, and support war-related charitable efforts. The exhibition, Americans, Do Your Bit: World War I in Posters, draws on the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library’s collection of World War I posters to tell this story. The exhibition coincides with the 100th anniversary year of America entering the war. It will be open to the public through June, 2018.

In 1917, working with George Creel, head of the United States Committee on Public Information, the volunteer artists formed the Division of Pictorial Publicity—a group within the committee. At its height the division counted 312 artists in its ranks. Most were experienced illustrators who drew pictures for books, newspapers, magazines, and advertisers. The core group met weekly in New York to receive assignments and send completed concepts to Washington. During the war, the division’s main audience was Americans on the home front. Division artists created images used on a host of formats. Their output included 700 poster and over 400 subway card designs. The artists’ work hung in libraries, railway stations, factories, clubs, and schools—citizens could not escape their pressing and persuasive messages. Drawing on their advertising expertise, many artists painted a sunny, positive picture of participating in war-related efforts. Other artists played to viewers’ fears and anxieties to inspire action.

FOOD IS AMMUNITION

Starting in 1914 Herbert Hoover, the head of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, led an effort to help feed the millions of people trapped in the occupied and blockaded country. After the United States entered World War I, President Woodrow Wilson tapped Hoover to run the wartime U. S. Food Administration, or USFA. According to Hoover, food was “second only to military action,” in winning the war.
During the war, two agencies, the USFA and the National War Garden Commission, encouraged citizens to use food wisely and to produce food at home. Hoover's USFA crafted the official policies and mechanisms that allowed America to feed its citizens and soldiers as well as assist the Allies—mainly in Belgium, England, France and Italy—by controlling the supply, distribution and conservation of food. The National War Garden Commission taught new gardeners how to grow vegetables and how to dry and can food for preservation. These and other efforts at home freed up commercially produced food which could then be sent to soldiers or Allied civilians. To help achieve their aims, organizations produced leaflets, presented demonstrations, sent out speakers, and offered classes. They also printed thousands of eye-catching posters urging Americans to conserve, preserve, and produce.

“food will win the war” proved true. Americans saved enough food to keep soldiers fed and to send millions of tons of food to Europe. Posters attracted attention and shaped public opinion—they convinced Americans that food was ammunition.

THE SPIRIT OF 1917
RAISING AN ARMY

To fight the war, the U. S. had to develop its Army—which numbered under 100,000 soldiers in 1914—and other armed services. Some artists produced posters to encourage men to join the Navy or the Marines. However, to fill the ranks of the Army quickly, the country could not rely on volunteers. Instead, it turned to a draft, the first since the Civil War.

Soon after Congress declared war it passed the Selective Service Act. This legislation allowed the government to compel men to serve in the Army for the first time since the Civil War. Weeks after the measure went into effect, a national registration day was held for men aged 21 through 31. On the appointed day, officials and volunteers collected information on about ten million men; millions more registered on subsequent days in 1917 and 1918. Over 70 percent of the soldiers who served in World War I were drafted. Once inducted, draftees were trained and transported to Europe where the Allies sorely needed their help. In June 1918, the busiest time during the war, the U. S. sent 10,000 soldiers to France each day.
Many organizations worked to help care for soldiers. The Red Cross and the Salvation Army provided everything from hot food to French lessons. Other groups, such as the Knights of Columbus, offered servicemen stationery so they could keep in touch with their families. Organizations at home helped in big and small ways. One New England Masonic lodge, as reported in a magazine, supplied postcards at its lodge room and directed that, “each Brother attending a meeting is requested then and there to write a card to a Brother in service.”

**WEAPONS FOR LIBERTY**
**GOVERNMENT BONDS**

Posters helped recruit men for the armed services. They also drummed up dollars. To help finance the war, the U. S. Treasury sold savings bonds, called Liberty Loans. Posters and other advertising emphasized the importance of civilian participation in the fundraising effort. The Treasury also developed bonds, and later War Savings Stamps, that sold for prices within the reach of everyday Americans. In doing so, the Treasury sought to target not just financiers with deep pockets, but people of all income levels. Four Liberty Loans, available during the war, and one Victory Loan, organized after the fighting concluded, helped the government raise billions of dollars.

**AN ARMY OF VOLUNTEERS**

Ranging from Boy Scouts to socialites an army of volunteers sold bonds at rallies, by going door-to-door, and by presenting sales talks in theaters, hotels, restaurants, and churches. Each of the five loan drives, fueled by posters and other advertisements, exceeded the Treasury Department’s goals. The advertising campaigns focused less on the investment value of the bonds, which was relatively low, and more on making citizens feel as though they were part of the war effort. Combining high emotion and citizens’ patriotism with effective advertising techniques, the U.S. government was able to raise the funds it needed. In all, Americans bought over $20 billion worth of Liberty bonds.

**HOLD UP YOUR END!**
**HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS**

Starting in 1914, when the war began in Europe, the American Red Cross sought to support soldiers by sending supplies, nurses and doctors overseas. In time, the group’s mission expanded to include other services, including relief for civilians. As the conflict continued, the Red Cross’s work required more and more resources, money most of all. Censorship of information about the war and the fact that the conflict was on a continent far away hindered the organization’s ability to raise funds in the United States. To help, President Wilson, who was also president of the Red Cross, appointed new leadership—the War Council. The council launched an ambitious campaign to raise $100 million during the week of June 18-25, 1917. Employing advertising—including many available today.
posters—public relations and volunteers, the fund drive captured the public’s attention and raised more money than it sought in 1917 and again in 1918.

Other humanitarian groups also worked to support soldiers, workers, and civilians affected by the war. Many of these groups—the YMCA, the YWCA, and the Salvation Army were among the largest—used posters to help raise funds, recruit volunteers, and publicize their work. Artists also created posters to promote the United War Work Campaign. This 1918 event brought together seven organizations—the YMCA, the YWCA, the American Library Association, the War Camp Community Service, the Knights of Columbus, the Jewish Welfare Board, and the Salvation Army—together into one large drive seeking to bring in well over $100 million to support war-related welfare programs in the United States and overseas. The common cause of providing services for troops and volunteers spurred cooperation between the different groups and inspired many to dig deep into their pockets to help soldiers and civilians.

**AMERICANS ALL!\ RETURN AND REMEMBRANCE**

In the summer of 1918 the Army pushed hard to get trained soldiers to Europe to fight the war. After combat stopped in November, hundreds of thousands of soldiers needed to come home. Many of these service members waited months to complete their duties in Europe and the United States and then for the Army to arrange transportation for their return. Repatriation of soldiers from Europe lasted well into the summer of 1919.

When the soldiers got home they faced the prospect of a radically changed job market and, in some cases, coping with physical and mental injuries. The Red Cross helped look after the interests of returning service men by offering advice on health insurance, legal and financial issues, job training, and employment. Community groups also offered assistance. In Boston, for example, a Masonic Shrine Temple proposed setting up a bureau where job-seeking members and employers could come together.

In the months after the war, many sought to honor the men who had served and the 125,500 who had died in battle, of disease and by accident. Groups organized parades and dances for returning soldiers. Masonic lodges put together special meetings, or honor nights, for servicemen. Many also wished to create, as noted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, “an enduring record of the valiant service rendered.” These took different forms, among them: memorial books, honor rolls listing the names of men who served, public monuments to the dead, and trees planted in memory of those who had perished. The millions of posters created during the conflict also serve as a reminder of Americans’ shared effort and, in many cases, sacrifice throughout and after the war.

For comments or questions, please contact Hilary Anderson Stelling, director of collections and exhibitions, at hstelling@rmml.org.
It is no secret that most North American Grand Lodges and associated Masonic bodies have experienced a substantial decline in membership for well over half a century. Could it be that Grand Lodges have inadvertently contributed to their own decline as a result of putting emphasis not on the practice of Masonic tenets, but on ritual delivery and record keeping? According to M.W. Brother Roger Van Gordon, Past Grand Master of Indiana, in the late 1860s after the Civil War, Masons came back to their homes and lodges and proceeded to put their lives back to normal. In the course of doing so, lodges (in Indiana at least) became complacent about the mundane business associated with running the lodge. Additionally, they cared very little about precision in the ritual work. Rather, the emphasis apparently was on being Masons and living Masonry.

As one would likely expect, the Grand Lodge became very concerned that the record keeping and ritual work was not being properly executed and launched a campaign that stressed care and precision in both aspects of lodge life. Over the next 150 years or so, lodge members were cajoled into closely conforming to their Grand Lodge’s ideas of how lodges should be operated. Sadly, along the way, the true tenets of Masonry were left behind and largely forgotten. Lodges forgot to live the values that are such a vital part of our institution. No longer did lodges look out for their members or widows in distress.

Says M.W. Bro. Van Gordon, “We got from the lodges what we stressed – good ritual work and good record keeping. But that was at the expense of the tenets that Freemasonry teaches and that are so vital to setting us apart from other organizations.” As I listened to what M.W. Bro. Van Gordon was relating, I couldn’t help but wonder if something similar wasn’t true in Connecticut and other jurisdictions. A perusal of our annual lodge “inspection” report reveals that our emphasis is very similar to what M.W. Bro. Van Gordon described.

"To be sure, we should all strive to present good ritual work in our lodges."

Each of our candidates deserve nothing less than the best we can absolutely give. But more important than the words and the delivery of those words is reinforcing the meaning behind them through our own actions. Lodge and Grand Lodge officers need to constantly evaluate and ask the question “Am I truly living Freemasonry? Am I a living example of what Freemasonry teaches?” The answer many times is “No.” While the tenets of Masonry are designed to help make good men better, they, in and of themselves, do not guarantee that positive change will take place. Clearly, we each need to redirect and rededicate our efforts to improve.

In recent years, I’ve seen positive and encouraging progress toward this end. But if Freemasonry is to survive and grow, we each need to redouble our efforts. How? By doing the things that dramatically reduce the number of suspensions for non-payment of dues and requests for demits. How do we do that? It starts with accepting a prospective member’s petition. Are we doing a proper job of vetting prospective members? How does your lodge go about appointing an investigating committee? Does that committee consist of Brothers who have been properly trained and prepared to be good emissaries of the lodge but at the same time, do a proper and thorough investigation? Do they ask the right questions? Are they truthful and honest about what Masonry expects and demands from its members? Or do they ‘soft peddle’ our requirements?

"Once the investigation is complete and the petition has been balloted upon, how does the lodge follow through with the candidate?"
Is a properly trained mentor assigned to the candidate right from the start? Is there good communication with the petitioner to not only prepare him for the initiatory experience that is to come, but to begin to teach him what Masonry is all about and to show him that the Lodge truly cares about him and values his contribution to our fraternity? Does the mentor remain actively engaged with the candidate throughout the initiation process and beyond – for at least the first 18 months to two years?

Further, does your lodge show concern for the welfare of each of its members? If a Brother does not attend lodge, is there any attempt to contact him to ask why and to let him know he is missed? Is there proper concern shown for the Brother’s welfare as well as that of his family? Do the tenets of Masonry actively shine through your lodge as evidenced by its efforts to provide relief to Brothers or widows in distress?

Does your lodge have good ongoing communication with all your members – not just once a year when the annual dues notices are sent out? And if a Brother’s dues are not promptly remitted, is there a retention committee actively involved in determining why and showing genuine concern in cases of financial difficulty? The proper time for the retention committee to act is early in the year – not in October or November prior to the lodge voting to drop Brothers for non-payment.

Is your lodge involved in making its surrounding community better through its active involvement? Does the lodge sponsor activities that can potentially benefit the community such as blood drives, organ donor sign ups, child identification events, etc.? Is there lodge support of other worthwhile endeavors within the local community? This is not to suggest that Masonry is another service organization. It is not, but as a lodge, Masons should be visible and supportive of activities that benefit and improve the community.

I am of the belief that all these things are key to reducing the losses we experience each year due to suspensions for non-payment of dues (NPD). In short, each of us must pledge and work to do a better job of living Masonry. In 2016, Connecticut Freemasonry would have experienced no net loss if only we eliminated our losses attributable to NPD suspensions. A larger concern is whether or not we met our obligation to help, aid and assist our Brothers who did not or could not pay their dues because of financial hardship. We owe it to each of our members and to Masonry to diligently seek to determine the exact reason why a Brother has not paid his dues and to assist when necessary. Many of our members, especially our older members, are too proud to admit that they can’t afford to pay their dues. It is our obligation to assure that this does not happen. In short, we need to apply the tenets of our beloved institution to the way and manner that we treat all our members.

As M.W. Bro. Van Gordon said in his presentation, Grand Lodges have placed the emphasis on the wrong things – the ritual and the record keeping - for well over 150 years. It will take time to correct the course and get the emphasis where it belongs. It starts with you and with me. Let’s begin today. I suggest that a good place to start is in contacting those recently dropped for NPD. Conduct an “exit” interview to determine why they have chosen this path and endeavor to restore them as members.

"Going forward, resolve to emphasize the practice of Masonry – in your lodge and in your everyday life."

The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction has provided an excellent model for the concern that every Grand Jurisdiction should be exhibiting toward its members. In Connecticut, I am encouraged by the number of Lodges that are holding multiple “Masonic Days of Caring” during which they reach out to Brothers and widows by completing necessary maintenance and supportive tasks to make life just a little bit better for all. If we emphasize and encourage lodges to put our tenets and teachings into action and live Masonry, I am convinced we can reverse the declining membership trend. Remember “If you’re not part of the solution, you are definitely part of the problem.”

III. Charles W. Yohe, 33° is Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge at Connecticut and director of communication.
Today the Supreme Council, 33°, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction headquarters calls 33 Marrett Road, Lexington, Massachusetts, home. Lexington also serves as the Supreme Council’s Grand East from which all official documents emanate. For most of the Supreme Council’s existence, however, its Grand East was elsewhere and the Supreme Council headquarters as we think of it today—an office with paid employees that help run day-to-day operations—was quite different. This article looks at the history of the locations of the Supreme Council over its 204-year-old history.

A BRIEF HISTORY of the LOCATION OF SUPREME COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS and ITS GRAND EAST by Jeffrey Croteau

NEW YORK CITY (1813-1851)

Little information remains to tell us exactly where the Supreme Council held its meetings after founders formally established it in New York City in 1813. Official documents and circulars issued by the Supreme Council make it clear that its Grand East was New York City.

Following the abduction of William Morgan in 1826 and the onset of the anti-Masonic movement, Masonry was relatively dormant throughout the late 1820s and 1830s. From 1832 until 1842 the Supreme Council did not meet. However, during this time, Sovereign Grand Commander J.J.J. Gourgas continued to correspond about Masonic business with his friend (and future Sovereign Grand Commander) Giles Fonda Yates as well as with the Southern Jurisdiction’s Sovereign Grand Commander, Moses Holbrook. In 1843, Yates encouraged Grand Commander Gourgas to resume activity in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction and to start admitting new members to the Supreme Council. Gourgas took Yates’s advice. He called formal meetings in 1844, in New York City. In 1844 and 1845, seven new members joined the Supreme Council, followed by another seven in 1850 and 1851. In comparison, between 1813 and 1825, the Supreme Council had admitted only 12 members—including its first six officers in 1813. The elevation of 14 new Supreme Council members in the second half of the 1840s reflected the broader rebirth of American Freemasonry.

GRAND EAST RELOCATES TO BOSTON

In 1851, the Supreme Council moved its Grand East from New York to Boston. At that point, the Council included members in both cities. Boston-based Edward Asa Raymond became Sovereign Grand Commander in September 1851, a change no doubt related to the move of the Grand East. The Supreme Council’s 1851 Proceedings clearly identify its meeting place as the “Grand Council Chamber” at the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in Boston. This was the Grand Lodge’s first purpose-built building, which was located at the corner of Tremont Street and Temple Place.

Although Boston continued to serve as the Supreme Council’s Grand East, the appointment of Clinton F. Paige as Grand Secretary General in 1873 necessitated the relocation of that office to New York City. A close reading of the Committee on Finance reports in the Supreme Council’s Proceedings make it clear that the organization split administrative activities between Boston and New York. The 1879 Proceedings includes an expenditure for “Cash paid to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for one year’s rent of Headquarters and Archives in Boston,” as well as rent for the Grand Secretary General’s office in New York.

THE STATLER BUILDING

For several decades the Supreme Council was officially headquartered in Boston but maintained a presence in New York City. At the Supreme Council’s annual meeting in 1926, Sovereign Grand Commander Leon Martin Abbott announced that the lease for the Grand Secretary General’s premises at the Barclay Building, at 299 Broadway in New York City, was coming up for renewal on May 1, 1927. He continued, “it will become necessary to take some action at this annual meeting, looking to the renewal of the lease or the securing of other quarters.” Ellsworth M. Statler, one of America’s great hoteliers
and a 33° degree Scottish Rite Mason, attended the meeting and proposed a solution to the Supreme Council’s problem.

By the time of the 1926 annual meeting, a grand hotel in Boston that Statler was building neared completion, the newest in Statler’s chain. It opened on March 10, 1927. Located at 50 Park Plaza at Arlington St., the Boston Hotel Statler and Statler Building consisted of both office space and hotel facilities. When opened, the hotel—with 1,300 rooms—claimed to be the eighth largest in the world. The building, now the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, still stands today.

Statler urged the Supreme Council to take space in his office building and offered the Supreme Council the chance to “name its own terms.” Starting in May 1927, the Supreme Council leased 3,090 square feet in rooms 1117 through 1124 on the eleventh floor. The new arrangement allowed the Supreme Council to consolidate its administrative offices and archives.

The Statler Building served as headquarters for forty years. By 1967, the Supreme Council started to outgrow the Statler Building. That year the organization acquired 2,200 more square feet on the eleventh floor. In addition, it appointed a special committee to start investigating the possibilities of securing “a building of our own to be located in the Boston area.” Growth in membership partially drove the need for more room. When the Supreme Council moved into the Statler Building in 1927, it oversaw an organization that numbered 287,053 members. In 1968, the year it moved to Lexington, membership stood at 510,938. From 1927 to 1967, membership grew by 77%. The increasing numbers posed logistical challenges in a paper-based, pre-digital office world.

A SPLIT HEADQUARTERS – DETROIT, 1953-1965

In 1953, upon the retirement of Sovereign Grand Commander Melvin Maynard Johnson the Supreme Council selected George Bushnell to fill the role. Former Deputy for the state of Michigan, Bushnell served as a justice on the Michigan Supreme Court at the time of his election.

In the Supreme Council’s News-Letter in January 1955, McIllyar H. Lichliter wrote about the relationship between the Commander’s office headquarters and the Grand East:

It is a time-honored custom in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction for each Sovereign Grand Commander to administer the affairs of the Scottish Rite from his own city. There have been no exceptions in the eighty-seven years since the Union of 1867. With this precedent, Ill∴ George Edward Bushnell, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander, is now “officially” at home, comfortably settled in his own pleasant, well-equipped office in Detroit’s magnificent Masonic Temple.

Most of our members naturally associate the Sovereign Grand Commander with the office in Boston because they have no other memories…. For more than 31 years the office of the Sovereign Grand Commander was in Boston because Ill∴ Brothers Abbott and Johnson were Boston men. The members of the 33° Class of 1933 were received under Ill∴ Frederick Beckwith Stevens, 33°, who became Sovereign Grand Commander after the death of Ill∴ Brother Abbott and during this brief interregnum the office was in Detroit.

This tradition of a Sovereign Grand Commander’s office in his home city is an evidence of fraternal consideration, reason and common sense, as well as our desire for still greater prestige for the Rite.

During Bushnell’s term, the Supreme Council headquarters and its Grand East remained in Boston, but the Commander’s offices were in Detroit. Later writers noted that “the divided offices were not the most efficient way to serve the best interests of the Supreme Council.” George A. Newbury, who became Sovereign Grand Commander upon Bushnell’s death, hailed from Buffalo, NY. He rented an apartment in Boston and lived there as much as necessary to take care of his duties at headquarters.
THE MOVE TO LEXINGTON

After 40 years in the heart of Boston, the Supreme Council relocated nine miles west, to Lexington, MA. In 1968, the Supreme Council purchased a parcel of land in Lexington, which included the summer estate of Richard G. Tower. Tower named his small mansion “Homewood,” and the magazine American Homes and Gardens featured it in 1909. The Supreme Council moved its offices into the mansion in October 1968. The Council’s original plan was to temporarily occupy Homewood and eventually acquire an adjacent 7.5 acres of land for a new headquarters building, a structure that would also house the Supreme Council’s growing museum and library collection.

In the end, Sovereign Grand Commander George Adelbert Newbury had a bigger vision—one that called for a separate museum and library—an American history museum that would be a “gift to the nation” from Scottish Rite Masons. The Supreme Council constructed a purpose-built building for the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, a brand new facility featuring four exhibition galleries, a theater, and a library. With the dedication of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library in 1975, Newbury’s vision came to fruition. When the Museum & Library opened, the Supreme Council had been located in the Tower Estate for nearly seven years. The Supreme Council headquarters operated out of the mansion for 45 years, longer than it had been in the Statler Building.

THE SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER’S HOUSE

Although Homewood was a residence, the Supreme Council always used the mansion as office space. In 1979, the Supreme Council built a new house on headquarters property. Specifically for the Sovereign Grand Commander, this house was just 100 yards away from his office. Every Grand Commander since Stanley Fielding Maxwell has lived in the house during his tenure.

EXPANSION OF THE LEXINGTON HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

In the 20 years since the move to Lexington the Supreme Council had established The Northern Light (1970) and the Children’s Dyslexia Centers (1994); both endeavors added staff to the headquarters offices. It also expanded its fundraising and data processing departments. At the 1999 Annual Meeting, the Supreme Council announced the decision to build an addition on to the existing headquarters. The Supreme Council held a dedication ceremony for its new headquarters building on July 29, 2000.

THE CURRENT SUPREME COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS

A few years ago, Sovereign Grand Commander John William McNaughton decided to consolidate operations of the Supreme Council and the Museum & Library in order to insure the long-term financial health of both organizations. A major construction project at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library converted exhibition galleries into modern offices for Supreme Council staff. October 1, 2013 marked the beginning of a new era for the Supreme Council when headquarters officially moved into its new offices. Now both organizations continue their meaningful service under one roof. Over time, the Supreme Council’s location has changed, but the work has not.

WHEN DID THE GRAND EAST MOVE FROM BOSTON TO LEXINGTON?

An interesting—and somewhat confusing—aspect of the headquarters relocation from Boston to Lexington is that the Supreme Council’s Grand East remained in Boston long after the move. Looking at official documents from the 1970s, including membership certificates and tableaux of members, one might wonder if the Grand East and the headquarters were always the same. It does not appear to be so. It is not clear why the change did not take place when the headquarters moved. Official documents emanating from the Supreme Council between 1968 and 1981 state that the official Grand East was still at Boston. It was not until the 1982 Annual Meeting that the Committee on Constitutions officially changed the Grand East from Boston to Lexington.

Masonic Temple, Boston, 1850-1858. Boston, Massachusetts, Benjamin F. Nutting. Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts Collection. Photograph by David Bohl.
Francken Comes to Life

In 1783, Henry Andrew Francken put pen to paper and created a set of the degrees of the Order of the Royal Secret. These degrees - from 4° through 25° - later became the rituals of the Rite of Perfection. Although Francken made at least four copies, the version in the collections of the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives in Lexington, MA is the most complete collection of earliest surviving English-language versions of those early degrees.

Until now only an unauthorized typewritten version of the Manuscript has been available, but that is no longer the case. Three years ago Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton commissioned the publication of The 1783 Francken Manuscript, and he appointed a team of five to make it happen. Initially Ill. Richard H. Burgess, 33°, headed up the team which included Ill. Alan E. Foulds, 33°, editor of The Northern Light, Dr. Aimee E. Newell, of the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, Jeffrey Croteau, director of the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives, and Ill. Jerry R. Roach, 33°. Following the retirement of Bro. Burgess, Foulds chaired the group.

The Manuscript was photographed, page by page, then transcribed. The team footnoted much of the transcribed text to explain to the modern reader what many of the terms referenced.

It wasn’t enough, though, just to reprint the book. This is considered one of the most valuable pieces of work in the Scottish Rite, and it was felt that it deserved top quality treatment. Professional designer Julia Sedykh was brought in to give the book the proper treatment. High quality printer, Puritan Capital, produced the final product.

The book contains five explanatory essays at the front, detailing Francken’s life; the provenance of The Francken Manuscript, following all its owners throughout the past two and a half centuries; an explanation of Illustrating the Francken Manuscript; a physical description of the original, and a glossary of abbreviations and non-English phrases used throughout the tome.

Then, beginning with a photograph of the cover, the Manuscript begins. Each original page is displayed in a full-color photograph, facing a transcribed version of the same text.

The result is not only a must-have reference document for the Masonic scholar, but it is a keepsake of one of the cornerstones of our fraternity.

Details on ordering your own copy can be found on p. 20.
LEGO® Model of the House of the Temple!

Building with LEGOs fascinates children of all ages, including Scottish Rite Masons. A LEGO “fanatic,” Plandscape88, has made a model of the House of the Temple, and it has been uploaded to the LEGO Ideas website as a possible LEGO kit. Bro. Joshua Aaron Poole, 32°, Temple museum curator and archival associate, is the project promoter, and the model has received universal acclaim. The project passed its first milestone with 100 supporters within 60 days. The next milestone is 1,000 supporters by early next year (we’re at 540 as of June 1, 2017). This would make a fantastic gift for any LEGO builder of any age.

Here’s how you can help us turn the Temple LEGO project into a reality.

2. Register for a LEGO ID by using your email address or social media (Facebook, Twitter, or Google+) account.
3. Use the search bar to look for “House of the Temple.” You will know it’s the right project if you see a LEGO model of the Temple submitted by Japoole007. Click on the picture to be taken to the projects webpage.
4. Once there, click the blue support button on the right-hand side of the screen.
5. Now, please tell all of your friends to do the same, and sit back and cross your fingers that we reach 10,000 likes.

Finding the Positive in a Series of Negatives

By the late 1930s, the bleak effects of the Great Depression and their toll on the American psyche were apparent. Although the economy had begun to recover, general morale was still low. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, sitting on the National Committee for Art Appreciation, believed that reviving enthusiasm for art would lift national spirits. In 1937, she championed a publicly funded print series titled “Masters of Art” to be produced out of a New York City factory and distributed to the public free of charge.

Reproducing mass numbers of colored prints in 1937 was a difficult task. The “Masters of Art” producers employed glass-plate based photo-lithography technology for this. Unlike other glass-plate print reproductions that only used four colored plates, the Treasures of Art series used six colored plates to bring out the true fidelity of the originals. Ultimately, 288 glass plates were made for the series. The cost of creating these glass plates in 1937 was approximately $500,000. The reproduction process was extremely complex and delicate, but the results were a uniquely artistic rendition of the best of the art world combined with an unparalleled printing feat. Critics agree that the series was remarkable for its precise detail and accurate color reproduction. The final products measured roughly 11”x14” and were works of art in their own right.

In 1959, Brother E. Joseph Crossman, 32°, was able to purchase the complete set of plates and offered the collection to the House of the Temple Museum. In September 1994, twenty-four wooden shipping crates weighing 50 pounds each arrived at the Temple. We at the House of the Temple Museum today look forward to investigating this accession more and developing an exhibit to allow the many visitors to the Temple the opportunity to view these unique works.
The Angel of the Waters” is a beautiful, allegorical monument tucked in the far northwest corner of Boston's Public Garden. The size and sweep of the statue first draws you in. This is a confident angel. Determined, she strides forward with sureness and energy, holding a basket of bread in the crook of her left arm and sowing her bounty widely with her right. Her majestic wings spread out on either side, and her robes blow back with the speed of her passage.

The inscription on the monument’s base is profoundly moving.

“Cast thy bread upon the waters for thou shalt find it after many days.” (Ecclesiastes 11:1)

This Bible verse gives the viewer an immediate connection to the power of giving. Its allegory inspires the confidence to live with an open heart as part of our mission here on earth. It encourages us to trust that help will circle back when we are in need. This sentiment surely resonates with us as Freemasons now as it has through the ages.

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.
It will come as no surprise that the man who commissioned the monument, George Robert White (1847-1922), was, in fact, a Brother Mason. A well-known Boston philanthropist, White gave generously throughout his life to Boston's museums, hospitals, schools, and other institutions. He left more than $5 million to the city for public art in order to “nourish the spirits of its citizens.”

White commissioned sculptor Daniel Chester French, the artist who created the magnificent statue in the Lincoln Memorial, to design a monument dedicated to the power of giving. The verse from Ecclesiastes was chosen with purpose by Bro. White. He and French deliberately added two large bronze cornucopias, the emblem of the Steward of the lodge. Through the “horns of plenty,” water is channeled and fills the granite pool on either side of the statue. Visitors sometimes place real fruit in the angel's basket and around her feet.

Brother White’s grand testament to giving was surely informed by his life as a Freemason. With her walk, her energy, and her joy, his “Angel of the Waters” inspires us to spread our generosity. She articulates the joy we feel, and the hope we impart to others, as we too “cast our bread upon the waters.”

The work we do through the Grand Almoner’s Fund to “nourish the spirits” of our Brothers, their families, and widows in need surely would have resonated with Bro. White. From more than one hundred years ago, the words he wrote inspire us to:

Give of what you have.
Share the bounty.
Take joy in your generosity.
Be eager to help others.
Be confident in your conviction.
Let no one get in your way.
Go forth and help.

Help your fellow Brother in need. Donate easily and securely online at http://bit.ly/GrandAlmonersFund and select “Scottish Rite Grand Almoner’s” from the drop down menu.

“WHEN I CAN WALK AGAIN, I WILL WALK TO SHAKE YOUR HAND.”

Freemason Michael and his wife Katie made a major life change. They relocated to a new part of the country for Katie's job. It was an exciting time, full of possibility.

A few months after the move, Katie had a fall. As she healed, back pain developed. She was advised to pursue a conservative course of treatment including physical therapy and injections.

Katie did not get well. In fact, she developed a serious and rare complication called Cauda Equina Syndrome. If not treated within a very short window of time, this syndrome presents an acute risk of permanent paralysis. It took the doctors a number of days to untangle Katie’s...
diagnosis, and to get her into emergency surgery. After the operation she lost the use of her right leg, and doctors were unsure if she would walk again.

Katie is unable to work at her new job. The lack of income has caused great hardship for her and for Michael. She faces intensive rehabilitation and ongoing doctor appointments. Additional surgeries are likely. Recently, there was some good news. A test showed that the nerves in Katie’s right leg are not completely damaged. The physicians are optimistic she will be able to walk again—but it will take at least a year. In the meantime, Katie has been fit for a wheelchair. Her goal is to return to work as soon as she is able with the help of her chair.

The Grand Almoner’s Fund is helping this deserving couple bridge the gap until Katie can contribute again financially. She says the relief from intense angst and worry is now energy she can put into her therapy. In Katie’s words of thanks below, you will hear the power of your giving. Her number one goal is to walk into Scottish Rite headquarters to express her gratitude in person to our fraternity. When Katie gets well, know that you played an important and decisive role – financially and emotionally – in helping her walk again.

I cannot express how much the generous gift you and your Brothers have given to Michael and me means. The compassion you showed us as we fell on hard times brings me to tears. Feelings of gratitude overwhelm me. You have relieved so much angst and energy spent worrying, that I can now put that toward my therapy.

In physical therapy each day we go over my goals. To walk and shake your hand is now at the top of my list.

Michael and I feel extremely humbled and thankful to you and the Scottish Rite at this terrible time in our lives. Thank you for being a man for others and for caring for us. God bless you and much love.

Katie’s number one goal is to walk into Scottish Rite headquarters to express her gratitude in person to our fraternity. She says, “To walk and shake your hand is now at the top of my list.”
A WIDOW “LIVING ON CHARITY FOR GROCERIES”

“This woman was absolutely against the wall. She was living on charity for groceries.” These are the words of Ill. Kevin S. Williams, 33°, Executive Secretary, Valley of Terre Haute, explaining the crisis facing a Masonic widow. Her husband, a member of the Scottish Rite for 46 years, died more than a decade ago. As the years progressed, her financial situation deteriorated to the point of near destitution. The Grand Almoner’s Fund stepped in with much-needed financial relief - and your Brothers in Indiana, led by Bro. Williams went further. They invited the widow to a special event to present her with a check and to show her that a Masonic family stands behind her. The friend who has been buying her groceries attended. The Brother Mason who sided her house was there. So was the Brother who convinced his lawyer to negotiate with the bank on her behalf to arrange additional relief. Deputy Representative, Paul Burns, 33°, attended, as did an officer from the Grand Lodge of Indiana and the Master of the local lodge where her husband was a member. Said Bro. Williams, “She was, to say the least, overwhelmed. Tears flowed, and thank you was said more times than I could count. She then said, in a quiet voice, ‘I don’t have to live like a beggar anymore.’ You can imagine how that got to everyone. “The check we issued, is changing much more than how our widow lives,” continued Williams. “Together, as Freemasons, we changed how she feels about her life. Our actions are bringing dignity back to the widow of a Brother Mason. Everyone who was part of the experience will never forget this example of living the Masonic obligation.”

She then said, in a quiet voice, ‘I don’t have to live like a beggar anymore.’

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.
If (when?) the lights go out

Leigh E. Morris, 33°

Technological advances typically usher in a multitude of benefits, or at least what most humans perceive to be benefits.

Of course, it’s not all beer and skittles. The law of unintended consequences sees to that.

Since the dawn of the age of electricity more than a century ago, humanity has been showered with an unequalled array of goodies. Of course, those benefits come at a price. Nearly every aspect of modern life is dependent on those unseen magical electrons we call electricity.

In the not so distant past, a power outage was nothing more than a mere inconvenience. That was then. Think about what happens now if the power goes out for a few hours? A day? A week? Several weeks? And what if the outage extended far beyond your community to include your whole state, region or even the entire country?

Such a catastrophic outage probably seems far-fetched, the stuff of sci-fi movies or maybe those loony conspiracy theorists.

Let’s turn the calendar back to Friday, March 10, 1989. Astronomers reported the occurrence of a massive solar explosion that would create a serious geomagnetic disturbance (GMD) on Earth. NASA described it this way:

“It was like the energy of thousands of nuclear bombs exploding at the same time. The storm cloud rushed out from the sun, straight toward Earth, at a million miles an hour.”

The following Monday, that solar storm left the Canadian province of Quebec in the dark. The U.S. avoided blackouts, but the solar storm caused more than 200 power grid problems.

According to NASA, Earth narrowly avoided a far more devastating solar assault on July 23, 2012. One day, Earth’s luck will run out.

There is a frightening terrestrial version of GMD called electromagnetic pulse (EMP). It is an intense burst of energy caused by a sudden, rapid acceleration of charged particles. Lightning generates localized, low-level EMPs.

A nuclear device detonated 30 to 40 miles above Earth will produce an EMP. In the view of many experts, such an EMP would lay waste to the electricity grid and most electrical components in everything from cell phones to automobiles.

There are those who label such scenarios as fantasy, hyperbole or even fear mongering. Well, consider what happened in 1962 when the U.S. detonated a 1.4-megaton nuclear warhead over the Pacific about 800 miles southwest of Hawaii. Henry Cooper, U.S. ambassador to the Defense and Space Talks during the Reagan administration, described the impact in a Wall Street Journal op-ed:

“Designated ‘Starfish Prime,’ the blast destroyed hundreds of street lights in Honolulu, caused electrical surges on airplanes in the area, and damaged at least six satellites. Only Hawaii’s undeveloped electric power-transmission infrastructure prevented a prolonged blackout. It was the era of vacuum-tube electronics. We are living in the digital age.”

Various experts believe a hostile power (North Korea comes to mind) could explode a relatively small nuclear device in space above the U.S. or one of our allies. An EMP could knock out the grid over a large area of the country. And because the grid is interconnected, the blackout most likely would trigger a cascading effect, resulting in a blackout of unimaginable proportions. And that EMP could turn the electronics in all sorts of devices into toast.

Nine years ago, the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from EMP Attack (www.empcommission.org/) reported:

“Should significant parts of the electric power infrastructure be lost for any substantial period of time, the commission believes that the consequences are likely to be catastrophic, and many people may ultimately die for lack of the basic elements necessary to sustain life in dense urban and suburban communities.”

This past spring, EMP Commission Chairman Vincent Pry and former CIA Director James Woolsey were far blunter. In an article published by TheHill.com, they wrote that “a single warhead delivered by a North Korean satellite could black out the national electric grid and other life-sustaining critical infrastructures for over a year – killing 9 of 10 Americans by starvation and societal collapse.”

After years of talk, delay, junk science, and the downplaying of the EMP and GMD threats, Congress last December approved the Critical Infra-structure Protection Act (CIPA) after it had been inserted into the National Defense Authorization Act.

Unfortunately, the inclusion of CIPA in the National Defense Authorization Act and its subsequent enactment was ignored by the news media. It is hoped (but by no means certain) that this law will lead to the necessary hardening of the grid and other critical infrastructure to protect against EMP and GMD events. In addition, CIPA is intended to foster greater protection against cyberwarfare and extreme weather events. The ball is now in the Department of Homeland Security’s court.

Yes, there will be a cost that will show up in utility bills and elsewhere. I believe it will be money well spent. Let me know if you disagree.

As always, feel free to contact me at cpstlrr@gmail.com

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FINIS EDWARD DAVIS Bro. Finis Davis was honored on a San Marino stamp issued on May 13, 1960, when he was included in a set of stamps for the Lions International work for the blind. He was born August 29, 1911 in Lead Hill, AR, and died May 15, 1998 in Louisville, KY.

Bro. Davis was initiated in Pulaski Heights Lodge No. 673, Little Rock, AR, on March 2, 1946. He joined Little Rock Consistory on May 6-8, 1946, and transferred his membership from there to Louisville, KY, on November 4, 1950. Finis E. Davis became an instructor at the Arkansas School for the Blind in Little Rock, becoming superintendent in 1939. In 1947, he went to the American Printing House for the Blind at Louisville, KY as vice-president and general manager. He was recognized by three South American governments for his help in setting up printing houses in those countries to produce Braille in their own language.

WINFIELD SCOTT Gen. Scott is pictured on the 2-cent value of the U.S. Army issue of January 15, 1937. He was born June 13, 1786, near Petersburg, VA, and died May 29, 1866, at West Point, NY.

Bro. Scott was made a Mason in 1805 in Dinwiddie Union Lodge No. 23, Dinwiddie Court House, VA. He studied law in the office of attorney David Robinson and attained admission to the bar making a brief attempt to practice law.

He entered the Army in 1808 as a captain of light artillery and commanded the American Forces in the War of 1812, the Black Hawk War, the Mexican-American War, the Second Seminole War, and, briefly, the American Civil War, conceiving the Union strategy known as the Anaconda Plan that was used to defeat the Confederacy. He served on active duty as a general longer than any other person in American history. Although he was a Virginian, he rejected Confederate offers and remained the U.S. Army’s leader when the Civil War began, completing over 53 years of active service in November 1861.

LEON GAMBETTA Leon Gambetta is pictured on a stamp issued by France on April 2, 1938, to commemorate the centenary of his birth. He was born 1838, in Cahors, France and died 1882, in Paris.

In 1859, he was called to the bar but led an unsuccessful career until 1868 when a political case known as the Baudin Affair made him famous. His efforts resulted in his becoming the leader of the Republican Party. He was elected a deputy for Strasbourg after the ratification of peace but lost his seat when Alsace and Lorraine were yielded to Germany. He retired to Spain for a short time and, in July 1871, was elected by the department of the Seine. He managed to push ratification of the republic and the constitution of 1875 formed the basis of the Republic until 1940. He served as Premier of France from November 14, 1881 to January 16, 1882. While handling a revolver he accidentally shot himself in the arm and as his health was poor the wound healed slowly. During this convalescence, he was stricken with appendicitis but the doctors did not operate, and he died at the age of 44. He was honored with a national funeral, his heart was taken from his body and placed in an urn which now stands in a small niche which faces the center aisle of the crypt of the Pantheon.

ROBERT SAMUEL MCLAUGHLIN On September 8, 2008, Canada Post issued a stamp to honor Samuel Robert McLaughlin, the first President of General Motors Canada. He was born September 8, 1871, in Enniskillen, Ontario and died January 6, 1972, in Oshawa, Ontario.

Robert McLaughlin was a member of Cedar Lodge No. 270, G.R.C. of Oshawa, Ontario. He was entered on November 27, 1894, passed on January 22, 1895, and raised on February 26, 1896. He served as Master of this lodge in 1899-1900 and in 1945 was Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Robert Samuel McLaughlin began apprenticing as an upholsterer in his family’s carriage factory and at the age of 21 became an official partner in McLaughlin Carriage Works. When automobiles first hit American roads, Sam modernized his family company to become incorporated as the McLaughlin Motor Car Company in 1907. The family business transformed into a multi-million-dollar empire, and when it was sold to General Motors, he became the president of General Motors of Canada in 1918. Under his leadership, GM became Canada’s leading exporter and a key force in one of the world’s largest industries. He also established the R. Samuel McLaughlin Foundation which donated nearly $200 million to organizations, charities, and individuals across the country. For his involvement with the Ontario Regiment he was named an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel.
In the 18th century, British society was deeply divided by class and circumstance. Early British Freemasonry largely reflected the social divisions of the period. Lodges that assembled under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of England after 1717 largely kept membership exclusive to the aristocracy and establishment elite of British society.

In Schism, historian Ric Berman explores how this climate of elitism and exclusionism within the craft set the stage for the emergence of a competing faction, known as “Antients” Freemasonry. Kept out of the fraternity, aspiring lower- and middle-class workers and craftsmen were unable to benefit from the social and professional connections that came with being a Freemason, effectively limiting their upward mobility.

Throughout the book, Berman makes extensive use of membership registers, lodge minutes, and newspaper accounts to show how the lower classes were able to benefit from Freemasonry through Antients lodges which crossed national, religious, and class divisions, and promised to support its members in times of hardship—qualities that distinguished the Antients from the elitist lodges they pejoratively labeled as “Moderns.” Enjoying a groundswell of popular support, the Antients aggressively chartered new lodges, which eventually led to the founding of a rival Grand Lodge in 1751. By the time the two Grand Lodges reconciled in the Union of 1813, the Antients had all but eclipsed the Moderns in number, influence, and prestige.

For a book that promises a “battle” in its title, Schism is surprisingly light on action. Readers hoping for a gripping story of a bitter conflict between the Antients and the Moderns for the soul of the craft will likely be disappointed in both content and execution. By and large, the book is generally free of drama between the differing factions which are discussed independently of each other. Where Berman does describe conflict, it is usually the internal dysfunction that plagued the Moderns almost from the very beginning.

Today’s Brethren might be comforted to know that hand-wringing over declining interest and membership in the craft began as early as 1740, not even 25 years after the Grand Lodge of England’s founding. Helmed by a succession of less-than-competent Grand Masters, and desperate to keep its authority over its subordinate lodges, the Grand Lodge’s efforts to hold on to members and dues inadvertently triggered a general mutiny among the Moderns lodges, many of which transferred their allegiance to the Antients. Berman’s description of an almost comically inept Grand Lodge impulsively expelling masters, officers, and entire lodges for petty or imagined slights was one of the high points of the book, as well as a fascinating—and perhaps even instructive—inSight into Masonic history.

Berman’s argument that England’s political and economic domination of Ireland, and especially the precarious position of Irish immigrant laborers in London, were the main drivers behind the development of Antients Freemasonry is certainly intriguing. Still, as a book of history, Schism suffers from a troublesome lack of chronological organization, bouncing back and forth in time between and within chapters. While Berman’s use of primary historical sources is commendable, the reader is often met with a parade—or wall, depending on one’s interest in the particulars—of names, dates, titles, and places. This makes for bumpy reading, with few details actually sticking in the reader’s mind for long. This does not negate the contribution of Berman’s work to Masonic history, but the casual reader might do well to adjust their expectations accordingly.

Reviewed by Caleb William Haines

Masonic Regularity

By Alain Bernheim. Published in 2016 by Westphalia Press. Available from Amazon.

Bernheim’s Masonic Regularity is a concise and easy read that chronologically guides readers through chapters covering landmarks, recognition, and regularity as they are defined in the Masonic world, the schism with the Grand Orient of France, communications/miscommunications and constitutional revisions...
the schism entailed, international relations in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, and concludes with a brief interview of Bro. Bernheim that the historically inclined are sure to appreciate. Furthermore, the appendices also include basic principles for Grand Lodge recognition, aims and relationships of the craft, and a poigniant essay entitled “In Defense of the Grand Architect of the Universe” by J. Corneloup. In turn, this work not only identifies key correspondences and dates appertaining to the controversial and often misunderstood subject of regularity between Grand Lodges and Supreme Councils, but also lays groundwork for discussion that addresses the fractiousness while shedding light on the courtesies, consideration and etiquette accorded between those involved. As a young Mason, I feel this work unbiasedly addresses some of the tough international relations questions that new Masons may not understand while also exploring the older generation to reflect on the events of the past, so an accurate account may be explained in the present. Indeed, Masons who have a connection with the Francophone masonic world, and those with scholarly interest in the diverse Masonic history of the French Masonic landscape make this work a must; both the Anglophone and Francophone Masonic worlds may benefit. In conclusion, Brethren unfamiliar with the dedicated Masonic life, writing and research of Bro. Alain Bernheim, Westphalia Press, and the Policy Studies Organization in Washington D.C., Bernheim's *Masonic Regularity* serves as a well-rounded and approachable 102 page large print paperback introduction. Furthermore, this work also is a great introduction to the scholarly work undertaken by the PSO who currently host the World Conference on Freemasonry and Fraternalism at the Bibliotèque Nationale de France under the leadership of president and Bro. Paul J. Rich which can be seen at the following link: http://www.ipsonet.org/conferences/ritualconference-main https://www.amazon.com/Masonic-Regularity-Alain-Bernheim/dp/1633914089/

**The Treasures of English Freemasonry 1717-2017**

By Richard Gan. Published in 2017 by Lewis Masonic, Addlestone Surrey KT 15 2SF.

In celebration of the 300th Anniversary of English Freemasonry, this beautifully illustrated book was produced in conjunction with the Library and Museum of the Grand Lodge of England. It is an oversized publication, being approximately nine inches in width, twelve in height and one in depth; and is elegantly illustrated with 240 color photographs containing more than 300 different views of invaluable artifacts from among the collections of ten Masonic museums throughout England. The author, with his nine contributors, provided what can most appropriately be considered a portfolio or catalog of some of the most rare and important Masonic relics in England, and thus the world.

The book is divided into eleven separate sections, including the introduction, that are written in such a manner that they can be read from cover to cover, as ten distinct and individual topics, or merely perused page by page to appreciate the beauty and importance of each item contained within the collection. The subjects include: The Early Years of Freemasonry, The Ancients and the Moderns, The Formation of the United Grand Lodge of England, A Cornucopia of Freemasonry, The Craft of Symbolism, Freemawson's Hall in London, English Freemasonry Overseas, Freemasonry and Charity, and Royal Freemasons and the Rulers of the Craft. The text is clear and concise, with more illustrations than verbiage.

The Wren Maul, thought to be used by King Charles II in the laying of the foundation stone of Saint Paul's Cathedral in 1675, begins the photographic exhibition. Images of an anti-Masonic pamphlet printed in 1698, a copy of “The Constitutions of the Free-Mason” from 1723 and the earliest existing Grand Lodge minutes’ book, also of 1723, follow in the next chapter.

The collective authors of this volume are internationally recognized Masonic scholars who have helped to make a significant contribution to the existing body of Masonic historical literature. The sophisticated and elegant layout, provide both a beautiful art form, as well as an important repository of information. As a tribute to 300 years of Freemasonry, and as gracefully presented as the text and photography are, this book is truly a collector's item for those appreciative of Masonic collectibles and antiquities.
Bitters have a rich history

Of all the herbs in common use, bitters have the most storied history. The Germans swear by them to aid in digestion. Author Ernest Hemingway famously used them mixed with Vermouth. According to the University of California’s Berkeley Wellness letter, the term bitters traditionally describes an alcohol-based extract of leaves, flowers, bark, or roots of bitter-tasting plants. Two of the most famous bitters, Angostura and Peychaudos, date back to the 1800s and are a frequent addition to cocktails. In modern days, bitters are classified as herbal supplements and are typically taken by the dropper as a remedy for digestive issues.

Many believe that the bitter taste helps trigger taste receptors in the mouth, which in turn help increase production of saliva, stomach and pancreatic enzymes, bile, and gastrointestinal hormones, according to Wellness. Germany’s version of the FDA has approved bitters as a treatment for relieving gas and nausea and for appetite promotion. However, there is some research that suggests bitters could be harmful to those with acid reflux or ulcers and can interfere with some medications. Some theorize that a particular variety, gentian bitters, might lower blood pressure as well.

Superbug emerging

A superbug fungus is making its way into U.S. hospitals, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Named Candida auris, the bug enters the bloodstream and spreads throughout the body causing infection. Most of the 60 new cases in the U.S. have been found in New York and New Jersey hospitals.

The fungus can be passed from person-to-person or when a person touches an infected object.

Tips for staying with exercise

About 21 percent of adults in the U.S. always make it to the gym or exercise studio. Why them and not everyone? Steady exercisers have some habits in common. According to studies by Dr. Navin Kaushal of the Montreal Heart Institute, steady exercisers have a regular exercise schedule that never varies. They don’t debate whether or not they have the time that day, because exercise is just part of the day. However, the most active people aren’t rigid about their routines. While they always exercise, they are flexible on time. If they are 20 minutes late to the gym and can’t make an exercise class, they will get in the remaining minutes doing something else. It still counts. In fact, regular exercisers count all sorts of activity as exercise. A family hike can count as exercise just as much as an hour of weight training, if the situation presents itself. Finally, it helps to have visual cues for exercise, Kaushal found in a 2017 study. A runner might have his running clothes laid out and ready to go. A walker might have the walking stick ready at the door.

How to avoid ticks

- Don’t walk in tall grass and leaf piles. Stay on trails when hiking.
- Use a repellent that contains 20 percent DEET on skin and clothing.
- Light colored clothing makes it easier to spot ticks.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants.
- Shower or bathe after spending time in wooded areas.
- Check pets, clothing and equipment for crawling ticks.
- Do a body check for ticks. Be sure to check behind the ears, under arms, behind knees, in the belly button and in the groin area.

Common foods pose choking hazard

Children under five years old should not have whole grapes or grape tomatoes. Children that young have small airways making it easy for these small fruits to be trapped and completely block all air. A recent entry in the Archives of Disease in Childhood reported three cases of children from Scotland ages 5, 2, and 17 months who presented in the emergency room with blocked airways. Each had eaten a whole grape that became lodged and formed a tight seal in the airway.

Frog songs trill through summer

Summer is a great time for the family to listen to the sounds of the evening, and one of the most impressive sounds is the gray tree frog. Gray tree frogs are tiny guys, seldom more than two inches in length and, as the name suggests, they generally live in trees, clutching and climbing with their flexible webbed and sticky toes. They have a mottled color, which can change from gray to green with black and yellow features, depending on the situation. While they are rarely seen, their musical trills echo loudly through the night. Only the males call, usually to advertise their prowess to a female, but also to stake out territory. On an average night in the East and Midwest, you can hear dozens of gray tree frogs trilling for hours. Since they live up to nine years, the frog you hear in your maple tree could be the same fellow you heard last year. Your friendly neighborhood tree frogs likely live in your trees all year round, lowering their body temperature in the winter to survive temperatures of up to minus 8 degrees.
Ill. Philipe C. Kenney, 33°
1931-2017

Ill. Philip Charles Kenney, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of Illinois, died on Monday, June 26, 2017.

Raised a Master Mason in William C. Hobbs Lodge No. 306, of Eureka, IL in 1955. He served there as Worshipful Master in 1961.

On Dec. 21, 1951, Kenney was united in marriage to Jeanne E. Carson, who predeceased him. He is survived by their children, Mark Kenney and Carrie Armstrong, eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

For the complete balustre on the life of Ill. Philip Charles Kenney, 33°, visit the “Member’s Center” at ScottishRite.org.

Ill. Richard F. Maier, 33°
1925-2017

Ill. Richard Franklin Maier, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of Ohio, died on Monday, May 17, 2017.

Raised a Master Mason in Clinton Lodge No. 47, of Massillon, OH in 1949. He served there as Worshipful Master.

On June 21, 1952, Maier was united in marriage to Marilyn Trumpour, who preceeded him. He is survived by their children, Richard Jr., Donald, and Janice, five grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

For the complete balustre on the life of Ill. Richard Franklin Maier, 33°, visit the “Member’s Center” at ScottishRite.org.

Ill. Alfred E. Rice
1921-2017

Ill. Alfred Eugene Rice, 33°, an Active Emeritus Member of this Supreme Council for the state of Ohio, died on June 3, 2017.

Raised a Master Mason in Pleasant Ridge Lodge No. 282, of Cincinnati, OH on September 20, 1946.

On April 29, 1950, he married Ruth Mae Messemer who predeceased him. He is survived by his daughter Lynda Bruggemann, three grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

For the complete balustre on the life of Ill. Alfred E. Rice, 33°, visit the “Member’s Center” at ScottishRite.org.
VIEWS FROM THE PAST

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

BY THE WAY

Every month’s issue of The Outlook brings from our Brethren comments of one kind or another; some in praise and some in kindly criticism. We are glad of both, for praise warms the heart and criticism spurs to greater effort. What is most satisfying to the Editor is the knowledge that The Outlook is being read.

Each new venture produces some reaction. It has been so with the page titled “To Point a Moral or Adorn a Tale,” which seems to have found favor with many and disfavor with only one, who dismisses it as trivial, and feels that its place should be taken by lodge news. Others argue that at best lodge and district news has little more than local interest.

And so it goes. The life of an editor, contrary to the opinion of some, is not all “cakes and ale.” Into the lives of each of us, we are told, some rain must fall. Probably we get only our just share, but there is enough of it to keep us humble in spirit.

- Earl O. Stowitts, New York Masonic Outlook, March 1947

Quality Versus Quantity

The great increase in membership among lodges, due to the stimulating effect upon applications for the degrees caused by the war and the rapidity with which new members have been created, leads us to question the expediency of such a course as that followed by some of the lodges. It is often the case that men seeking to become Masons do so with the idea of obtaining great benefits and men have been admitted whose qualifications do not entitle them to the privileges of our institution. Too often the financial strain is too much for members, and the old question of “action on delinquents” finds many names upon the list of men who never should have been admitted.

We have heard of men who borrowed money to pay the initiation fee. These members are apt to be a liability rather than an asset. It cannot be too strongly impressed on investigating committees that their conscientious work is of vital importance to the lodge and that a thorough examination of the candidate’s qualifications is absolutely necessary. Members who through careless disregard of their duties as members of investigating committees fail in this essential matter are slackers.

-A. H. Moorhouse, New England Craftsman, December 1918

From the Master’s Chair

The splendid ritual, to which we are heirs, is indeed in danger of becoming “vain repetition,” unless we remember the spirit which inspires it and which teaches us that nothing which touches humanity should be indifferent to man, and in consequence to Freemasons. Therefore, it behooves all our brethren to look into the vital questions of the day, to understand them, and then to see how, as Masons, they may help to solve the difficult problems which, especially now, are clamoring for solution.

The War has been in progress so long that its effect on the nation both in the immediate and in the far future, can now to some extent be foreseen. The two chief problems to be considered are the effect on the individual type and the effect on the environment, the latter being economic in its widest sense; the two in their actions and reactions can hardly be separated.

In Britain there are about 6½ million men of military age; of these about three million are required for the army. The most fit naturally go first; the adventurous of spirit, the brave of heart, and the chivalrous of nature respond when their country calls; and it is these types, the best that Britain can produce, that are being eliminated in a very high proportion, and this means the impoverishment of the race in just these fine qualities of character. As Darwin says, “The bravest men, who were always willing to come to the front in war, and who freely risk their lives for others, would on an average perish in larger numbers than other men;” so that even at the Front the best are more liable to be killed. It is the best companies who are given the hardest jobs, because they can be depended on to carry through a task however difficult and dangerous; hence again, the highest mortality is among the best.

-J. L. Davis, The Co-Mason, April 1917
What is Greatness?

A Mason's greatness is measured by his kindness; his education and intellect by his modesty; his ignorance is betrayed by his suspicions and prejudices, and his real caliber is measured by the consideration and tolerance he has of others.

-Reprint from the South Dakota Bulletin, California Freemason, Autumn 1968

Whither Directing Your Course?

The Winding Stair, familiar to all, is a path of life. Among its many steps is one called logic, the art of reasoning, endowing to one and all the opportunity of reflecting on the ins and outs of Masonic life and its influence.

It probably needs mental vision to look back on the early days of Freemasonry, to fully understand and appreciate the foresight of those who laid the foundations on which we are the builders today. Suffice it to say they built wisely and well. Time has shown that these early Brethren were Masters and leaders in the craft.

Today we live in a rapidly changing world. Our mode of living, our outlook on life, our home and family life has changed. New interests and counter attractions are always before the eye. But as spectacular and far reaching as these changes may be, the high standard of Freemasonry must, and will ever remain, unchanged. Who are those who will hold the reins for such a rich undertaking?

Masonic moral principles demand higher leadership and is of greater responsibility than all other concerns. It is not a matter of beating the other fellow in price, it is the matter of keeping up the price, preserving Freemasonry with its true value. Leadership, therefore, rests on the shoulders, so to speak, of Grand Masters, District Grand Masters, Presidents of Boards, Grand Secretaries, chairmen of committees and Masters of lodges. Such preservation can be maintained only by holding its values, both in pounds, shillings and pence, and moral outlook in the individual. With such, coupled as it must be with the beautiful science of Masonic symbolism and its high principles, "Whither directing your course" should be answered by one and all in the craft.


QUOTABLES

Don't be afraid to fail. Greatness lies in the vast space of uncertainty. Take a chance.

– Richard Bronson

My father used to play with my brother and me in the yard. Mother would come out and say, “You’re tearing up the grass.” “We’re not raising grass,” Dad would reply. “We’re raising boys.”

– Harmon Killebrew

Fatherhood is great because you can ruin someone from scratch.

– Jon Stewart

My father didn’t tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it.

– Clarence B. Kelland

No matter how old a mother is, she watches her middle-aged children for signs of improvement.

– Florida Scott-Maxwell

My mother is my root, my foundation. She planted the seed that I base my life on, and that is the belief that the ability to achieve starts in your mind.

– Michael Jordan

You never lose a dream; it just incubates as a hobby.

– Larry Page

“The world is in perpetual motion, and we must invent the things of tomorrow… Act with audacity.”

– Madame Clicquot

Celebrate endings – for they precede new beginnings.

– Jonathan Lockwood Huie
Don’t swallow pool water
Outbreaks of a pool parasite have risen two-fold in the last two years, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The parasite goes by the nickname of crypto (for cryptosporidium) and is spread through human feces. It causes three weeks of diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea and vomiting.

The parasite gets into the water at parks and pools primarily through children under the age of five. Once in the water, ordinary chlorine levels that are safe for swimming don’t affect the nasty bug. It can survive for up to ten days at swim-safe chlorine levels. When detected, pool owners must keep people out of the water and add high levels of chlorine.

It’s best to caution children and adults never to swallow water from a swimming pool.

Should you stop folding?
Folding laundry soaks up time. Should you stop doing it? Blogger Dawn Madsen says yes. Instead of folding everything from underwear to shirts, Madsen, a mother of three, sorts. Children’s clothing, she says, just doesn’t need to be folded. She designated boxes in the children’s bedroom for pajamas, underwear, tops and bottoms. The kids can pull out the box they want, look for their favorite shirt, and return the box to the closet. The children don’t look rumpled, she says, since the fabrics are no-iron. She also completely eliminated sock matching by disposing of all unmatched socks. She bought identical socks. Now she just tosses the socks into a designated basket, and, since every sock matches the others, kids simply reach in the basket and get two. Her husband’s clothing does need to be folded, she says. But some things don’t, such as underwear and undershirts. These are tossed unfolded into a basket. Read more at thinkwecouldbefriends.com.

Buying a home?
Clamp down on your credit usage. If you are pre-approved for a home loan, or ready to apply for a mortgage, lock down your credit use immediately.

One thing you don’t want to do is make significant charges on your cards. Lenders can and will check your credit report a final time before approving your mortgage. If your debt to income ratio has changed, or your credit score has dropped, you might find your mortgage declined.

According to thesimpledollar.com, it is best not to apply for new credit, open new accounts, or run your cards up to the limit. A changing credit profile, especially your credit score, can cost you big money. A 100-point drop in your credit score would, at best, cause lenders to offer you a higher interest rate. A 1% increase on a mortgage can increase your monthly payments by $200 and increase the cost of the loan by thousands of dollars.

Save on groceries by planning meals first
If you really want to cut your grocery expense in half - or more - don’t make a shopping list until you plan your meals. Money experts are in near unanimity about meal planning as a way to save on grocery costs. The advantage of meal planning is that you buy just what you actually eat, cutting down on food waste and time spent figuring out every meal. According to TheSimpleDollar.com, if you make a meal plan you’ll find that you usually eat simply, even if you do like to fantasize about the fancy meals you see on Facebook. The key is: Plan first. Use the weekly grocery flyer in your local newspaper to find deeply discounted items. The Simple Dollar recommends identifying three discounted items and planning six meals around them. Using the discounted items as a base, plan your meals for a week. How much can you save? Writing in Simple Dollar, Holly Johnson says she feeds her family of four on $150 per week by creating meal plans and shopping sales.

Family dinner: Evolving, good for kids
During years as children grow, family dinner time tends to change, but it remains one of the fundamental building blocks of children’s character and knowledge, experts say. With young children, families might have to eat early, ignore some table manners, and endure the usual bouts of crying, mess and chaos, according to PlanningWithKids.com. As children grow, dinner time has less chaos, but perhaps more sullen children as they reach teenage years.

Is it worth it? “Absolutely,” says Harvard Medical School Professor Anne Fischel, co-founder of The Family Dinner Project. For one thing, research published in New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development has found that dinner conversations are essential in building vocabulary, acquiring general knowledge and understanding culturally appropriate talk. Researchers found that young children learned 1,000 rare words at the dinner table, compared to only 143 from stories read allowed. This helps children read earlier and more easily. For school-age children, regular mealtimes are a predictor of high achievement scores. Adolescents who ate family meals five to seven times a week, were twice as likely to get A’s in school, according to the Washington Post. One study in Pediatric Psychology even found that family dinner rituals even acted as a protector for children with asthma.

For adolescents, a number of studies showed that regular dinners lowered high risk behaviors and mood problems. The key is emphasizing interpersonal relationships with casual conversations, not scolding or yelling at each other.
Joseph Green’s 1739 Anti-Masonic Broadside

The first public procession of Freemasons in the city of Boston took place on June 24, 1737, the Masonic feast day of Saint John the Baptist. Freemasonry in the American colonies was still young. Saint John’s Lodge, Boston’s first Masonic lodge, was founded just four years earlier. In 1739, a third annual procession commenced, with the members of Saint John’s Lodge, led by men playing instruments, paraded through the streets of Boston wearing their aprons. Beginning at the house of Bro. John Waghorn, they paraded to Province House, the home of Governor Jonathan Belcher, also a Mason, who joined the procession. The parade reached its final destination at the Royal Exchange Tavern on King Street, whose proprietor, Luke Vardy, was a member of the lodge and let Saint John’s Lodge use his tavern for their meetings.

Joseph Green was, as David S. Shields has written, “the foremost wit of Boston,” and Green wrote a number of satires about Freemasonry from the 1730s through the 1750s. The broadside shown here, printed in 1739, is entitled “A True and Exact Account of the Celebration of the Festival of Saint John the Babtist [sic], by the Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons...” It contains Green’s satirical take on the event.

The library’s copy of this broadside is the only known copy in the world. We have digitized it and made it available via the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives Digital Collections website. According to Kent Walgren’s 2003 bibliography, Freemasonry, Anti-Masonry and Illuminism in the United States: 1734-1850, Green’s 1739 broadside is only the third publication in North America related to Freemasonry. It followed Benjamin Franklin’s Constitutions of the Free-Masons (1734) and An Astronomical Diary, or, an Almanack for the Year of Our Lord Christ, 1738..., printed by Nathaniel Ames in 1737, which includes a poem with Masonic content.

If you would like to read more about Joseph Green and his satires about Freemasonry in colonial Massachusetts, we recommend David S. Shields’ essay, “Clio Mocks the Masons: Joseph Green’s Anti-Masonic Satires” in Deism, Masonry, and the Enlightenment: Essays Honoring Alfred Owen Aldridge, ed. J.A. Leo Lemay (Newark: University of Delaware Press, 1987), 109-126.

You can get a closer look at the Joseph Green broadside by visiting the Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives Digital Collections website: http://digitalvgw.omeka.net/items/show/690.

This article appeared in a slightly different form on the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library’s blog. Find more at http://nationalheritagemuseum.typepad.com. The Van Gorden-Williams Library & Archives is located in Lexington, Massachusetts, at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library and is open to the public 10-4, Wednesday-Saturday. Have questions? Drop us a line at library@srmml.org or give us a call at 781-457-4109.
Loud and Clear

The article by Bro. John McNaughton (The Shot Heard Round the World, TNL May 2017) was succinctly to the point and well titled. Indeed, the shot heard round the world is precisely why many lodges have such low attendance they can scarcely open. Watching someone be scorned for his dress, or appearance is not what I call Brotherly love.

It is an attitude that has degraded our purpose and meaning. I chose to apply for membership 50 years ago because I was honored to be accepted among good men. It was then, and still is, something I am proud of to be called a member of the Masonic Lodge. I proudly remember my father and his look of approval when I was raised.

I sincerely hope other Brothers read and heed this message and review the Lodge mission.

Bro. William C. Little, 32o
Valley of Danville

Right Direction

Ill. Sir, Thank you for the Fabulous message “The Shot Heard Round The World.” You hit the nail right on the head with this message. I have long felt that the fraternity has moved in the direction away from family and friends caring for each other and more toward the self-gain of notoriety.

Ill. Philip L. Parkhurst, 33o
Valley of Central Jersey

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.

I was visiting a portion of the Erie Canal, maintained by the Metro Park System near Peninsula, OH. The photo I took is on a path that leads to the quarry. To my surprise, I found this stone upright with the Royal Arch emblem chiseled into the stone. The Royal Arch Masons certainly left their mark.

Thomas W. Lengel, 32o - Valley of Cleveland

While visiting Prince Edward Island my wife and I drove by this lodge. While researching it I found that it is a so-called “Moon Lodge.” In this case the lodge meets the Thursday on or before the full moon.

Paul S. Robinson, 32o - Valleys of The Androscoggin and Portland

While my wife and I were visiting relatives in Annalong, Newry County Down, Northern Ireland, we found this Masonic lodge hall a few doors down from my cousin’s home.

Richard R. Anglin, 32o
Valley of Harrisburg
ET CETERA, et cetera, etc.

Meet the New Boss

At the annual meeting of the Supreme Council, scheduled for the end of August, Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton ends his tenure in that role. He assumed the position on April 22, 2006, upon the death of his predecessor, Sovereign Grand Commander Walter E. Webber. As he steps down the Supreme Council will elect a successor – Ill. David A. Glattly, 33°. Bro. Glattly, an Active Member for New Jersey, will be formally introduced to the readers of The Northern Light in the November issue.

Welcome Elena Fusco

Things change slowly at Supreme Council headquarters, so when they do change, it’s big news. For this issue of The Northern Light we welcome our newest staff member, Elena Fusco. She joins us as our graphic designer and artist. Elena has been working as a freelance art director, in charge of projects for such well-known clients as Vogue, Four Seasons Magazine, and Elite Traveler. Before that she was employed with Lexington Press, right here in the home town of the Supreme Council. While with The Press, she dealt with all aspects of the printing world, including design, colors and type, photography, retouching, and customer support. In fact, she may very well have worked on producing editions of the Supreme Council Proceedings, published during that period. Before that Ms. Fusco was employed in Barcelona designing marketing material for international trade shows. And, thus, we begin a new era at The Northern Light. Welcome, Elena.

Two Tompkins Medal Recipients Named

A few months ago Sovereign Grand Commander John Wm. McNaughton announced that the Daniel D. Tompkins Medal has been awarded to Ill. Jeffrey L. Hodgdon, 33°, and Ill. Jeff Coy, 33°. The medal is named for Ill. Daniel D. Tompkins, 33°, the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Additionally, Bro. Tompkins served as Vice President of the United States, under President James Munroe. It is bestowed at the discretion of the Sovereign Grand Commander upon any member of the Supreme Council who has demonstrated continued support of the Supreme Council, the nation, and society in general, even well beyond the term of his mandate. The Grand Commander may also bestow this medal on any Freemason in the United States.

Ill. Jeffrey B. Hodgdon, 33°, is a member of the Valley of Boston, where the 32° was conferred upon him in 1982. He received the 33° in 2006. Bro. Hodgdon is a member of Simon W. Robinson Lodge in Lexington, MA, where he was Worshipful Master in 1986. In the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts he was Junior Grand Deacon in 1988, Deputty Grand Master in 1989, and Grand Master, 2005-07. He received the Henry Price Medal in 1989 from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the Legion of Honor, from the Order of Demolay in 1989, and the Grand Masters Award from Simon W. Lodge, in 1987. Bro. Hodgdon also belongs to the Royal Arch and Shrine.

In his professional career he was CEO of an auto dealership, and currently, he is human resources director for the Supreme Council.

Ill. Jeffrey W. Coy, 33°, is an Active Member of the Supreme Council, for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He received the 32° in the Valley of Harrisburg in 1976, and he received the 33° in 2001. Bro. Coy belongs to Cumberland Valley Lodge, No. 315, in Shippensburg, PA, where he served as Worshipful Master in 1984. He was elected as an Active Member of the Supreme Council in August 2007. Bro. Coy is also a member of the York Rite and the Shrine. His professional life includes many public service positions including terms in the Pennsylvania state legislature, where he served as speaker pro tempore and majority caucus chairman.

Additional Scottish Rite Shopping

Elsewhere in this edition of The Northern Light we introduce the latest publication of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction – The 1783 Francken Manuscript. We have more, though. Head to ScottishRiteNMJ.org/shop and you’ll find other available books, such as The Badge of a Freemason, American Freemasons: Three Centuries of Building Communities, our anniversary history – A Sublime Brotherhood, as well as all sorts of gift items.
Scottish Rite Freemasons

Committed to Caring for Each Other.

Find Valley Meeting Dates at:
ScottishRiteNMJ.org