



# FREE STATE Freemason

A PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF  
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF MARYLAND



VOLUME 38, ISSUE 2

SPRING 2014



PATRIOTIC FERVOR & THE  
**MASONIC**  
**COURT OF HONOR**  
BALTIMORE • 1914

PAGE 12



**FREE STATE FREEMASON ARTICLES AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

Deadlines for submitting articles & information for publication in the *Free State Freemason*: the 15<sup>th</sup> day of **March** (Spring), **June** (Summer), **September** (Fall), and **December** (Winter) These dates ARE FIRM and can not be changed due to printing schedules.

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# FREE STATE Freemason

A PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF MARYLAND

VOLUME 38, ISSUE 2

MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

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Collaborating with the Star-Spangled Banner Centennial Committee the Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of Maryland under the leadership of Grand Master Thomas J. Shryock erected one of the most striking and beautiful decorations, the 'Masonic Court of Honor' on Charles Street, between Lexington and Saratoga Streets.

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*FREEMASONRY is the oldest fraternal organization in the world. It is dedicated to promoting improvement in the character of its members. A Mason is taught to be a good citizen, to be of good character, to care for those less fortunate, and to give back to his community.*

*THE MASONIC FRATERNITY contributes over \$1 Billion each year to its philanthropic pursuits. Over \$750 Million of that in the United States alone. The Crippled Children's and Burns Hospitals sponsored by Shrine Masons are world famous for their ability to help those most in need.*







# GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

## NOW IS THE TIME.

Well, the installations of January are complete (30 of 31 of them were open). The Grand Line and I witnessed many really fine Worshipful Masters assume the responsibilities of the Oriental Chair. Their lines of officers were more complete than I've witnessed in previous years. *NOTE: Nearly all of the Lodges were full and required additional folding chairs for us.* We travelled from Oakland to Crisfield with stops at Lodges in nearly every county in between.

We then moved on to the biggest challenge of this Jurisdiction in many years—hosting the North American Conference of Grand Masters. For the first time, Maryland welcomed over 800 Grand Masters and their senior officers not only from Mexico, the United States, and Canada, but also throughout Europe and South America. The spotlight of the Masonic world was focused on our little Jurisdiction. Surprisingly, we were able to attract several of Maryland's political leaders to join us at the Conference. Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, U. S. Congressman and Brother Dutch Ruppertsberger, and Maryland's Secretary of State, Mr. John P. McDonough individually addressed the Grand Masters at the formal opening on Sunday morning. They reiterated the importance of Freemasonry in Maryland's history. We received television and newspaper coverage during and after their welcoming statements. Numerous proclamations from Senator Cardin, Governor O'Malley, State Senator Nathaniel McFadden, etc. were presented. Post Conference letters of congratulations continue to be received from all points of the Ma-

sonic world. Our brothers from Maryland Prince Hall Grand Lodge, including the MWGM Melvin M. Thorpe attended and participated in many of the events.

The Conference Hospitality Chairman, MWPGM Tom Velvin, Jr. and his committees of some 60 plus volunteers received a standing ovation from the attendees on the last morning. It was just an outstanding effort from the entire group. Lastly, and most importantly, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to every member of every Lodge in this Jurisdiction. Without your financial support, we could not have demonstrated true "Maryland Hospitality" to the Conference attendees and provided our SJP, Jr. Library and Museum with a substantial donation.

The critical acclaim of that weekend event was, I believe, extremely important to our entire Masonic family. It seems now to be OK again for public figures to be associated with the Freemasons. I am now even more confident that the many efforts being made by our brothers and families are finally starting to be recognized.

Lastly, I am very proud to report that our March Lodge Leadership Conference, held at the Turf Valley Resort, was the largest and most successful in the 6 years we've been teaching these courses. The class of 70 senior officers and about 30 wives were better prepared than any I've experienced. Some Prince Hall officers from Maryland and the District of Columbia participated and we had a unique opportunity to compare programs and requirements with those fine brothers. Many thanks to Br. Ron Block and Br. Doug Cooper for coordinating both the men's and ladies programs.

And so, my brethren, now is the time to take advantage of the increased Masonic awareness in our communities. Participate in your Lodge's Open House. Encourage our youth groups and collateral bodies to have representation. Make sure anyone of good character expressing an interest in learn-

ing about our Craft is welcomed, and above all, find something in Masonry that interests and challenges your mind and those of our new members.

Open Houses will largely be concluded by the time this FSFM issue is in your hands. The Semi Annual Communication will be upon us, and we will once again have the serious responsibility of electing the next group of Grand Lodge leaders. We also have some surprises at this May meeting of the Grand Lodge on May 17<sup>th</sup>—don't miss it!

And if you're looking for something to do over the summer and early fall – Family Day Picnic (6/7),

Grand Master's Ball (7/26), Mid Shore Seafood Festival (8/30), Grand Lodge Table Lodge (9/19), Festival for the Child (9/20), Western Maryland Country Music Festival (9/27), and Harvest Homes Day (10/4). There really is something for everyone.

It is my sincere hope that everyone will enjoy a safe and healthy spring and summer season. May God's greatest blessings be with all of you now and in your future endeavors.

*Gerald E. Piepiora*  
Jerry Piepiora, Grand Master

## MCM AND SAP: A SOLID PARTNERSHIP

On February 6, 2014, more than 200 Student Assistance Program (SAP) members from across the state gathered at the Grand Lodge to participate in the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Maryland Student Assistance Program Professionals Association (MSAPPA) Conference. Sponsored by Masonic Charities of Maryland (MCM), this one-day conference provides school-based SAP team members with fresh approaches, new information, and opportunities for networking to enhance their work with our at-risk students, threatened by factors such as depression, alcohol and other drug use, suicide, violence, bullying, and an ever-increasing array of societal stresses that jeopardize their health, academic success, and well-being.

Bro. Gerald E. Piepiora, Most Worshipful Grand Master (seen below), welcomed the attendees and expressed appreciation for their dedication to the intervention mis-

sion of the Student Assistance Program. Following his remarks, Frank Kros, of the Upside Down Organization, delivered an inspiring and informative presentation entitled "Trouble Letting Go: Understanding Addiction in the Adolescent Brain," which set the tone for the workshops and seminars throughout the day on many topics that focused on youth needs.

This Conference, as well as ongoing Masonic Model Student Assistance Program (MMSAP) training throughout all Maryland educational jurisdictions, is paid for by MCM, as part of our mission to assist and support Maryland youth.



Grand Master Piepiora welcomes Conference attendees



Frank Kros addresses MSAPPA Conference guests



MCM Board of Directors (foreground) listen to keynote speaker Frank Kros



## MESSAGE FROM THE RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

by Kenneth Stuart Wyvill, Jr., RW Deputy Grand Master

Greetings Brethren,  
We recently completed the sixth Maryland Leadership Class held at Turf Valley. Attendance was up and the excitement and enthusiasm for masonry from our future leaders was deafening!!!

These are exciting times for Maryland masonry. We are growing and we are challenged to produce good leaders and quality work in order to attract, develop, and satisfy the desires of our future members.

Lodges continue to receive increasing numbers of petitions and degree work is going on everywhere. Our challenge is to bring these men through the degrees and help them assimilate into our fraternity so that they will want to take some sort of active role.

Studies have shown that 94% of the men who join fraternal organizations today do so to meet new friends. They are also looking for a role with their families and an opportunity to serve the community. Today we are facing a new type of candidate who doesn't necessarily take things at face value. They want to see the proof and justly so.

To be sure we must discover early on what the new candidate for masonry expects from his impending experience. Likewise we must determine if and when his expectations change in the process. Lastly, the question is, ARE WE MEETING THOSE EXPECTATIONS?

Successful integration into the lodge involves three things:

1. The new brother feeling included by the group
2. The new brother having something to do.
3. The new brother having something to learn.

To effectively address the successful integration of new men into our fraternity we need a process. Hence the need for a MENTORING PROGRAM! The mission of our Maryland Masonic Mentoring Program is to develop an effective process for Lodges to use which welcomes and acclimates men into the fraternity through personal contact and Masonic education, thereby securing their continuing interest in Freemasonry.

Through mentoring we promote the lifelong development of every Freemason by providing him with a guide as soon as he is elected to receive the degrees of Masonry. Our Men-

toring Program promotes "Fellowship" from the first day thus addressing the need to feel included in the group. The mentor initiates the idea of visiting other lodges and getting involved in lodge activities thus giving the new member productive things to do from the beginning. The need to become proficient in his catechism, which is taught by his catechism instructor, will initially satisfy the need to have something to learn.

This requires work on the part of both the mentor and the new brother. And let's be frank new

behaviors aren't learned over night. It takes time and energy to create a new habit and a new pattern of life. Thus we cannot expect mentorship to be completed in one or two months.

It is only through effective mentorship that a new brother can begin to learn the language and culture of his new Masonic group. As such, it is more likely that he will keep coming and eventually develop an interest in the ritual and perhaps a lodge leadership role.

Through it all, nothing says to a new member that we care about YOU more clearly than a mentor devoting his personal to him. It also says to him that this is the way we treat our brothers in the fraternity.

The Mentoring Program is playing in a lodge near you and can be in your lodge upon the request of the Worshipful Master. Let us hear from you.

Fraternally,  
Kenneth Wyvill  
Deputy Grand Master



**Today we are facing a new type of candidate who doesn't necessarily take things at face value. They want to see the proof and justly so.**



# GRAND MASTER'S BALL

JULY 26

## UP, UP AND AWAY

**A FORMAL BLACK TIE EVENT WITH MASKS**  
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# CONGRESSMAN C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER 3<sup>RD</sup> GENERATION MASON



Many of our nation's founding fathers were Masons. In fact, fourteen Presidents of the United States are Masons. George Washington—the father of our country was a Mason. James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, Theodore Roosevelt, Gerald Ford, and Lyndon Baines Johnson were all Masons. But that's not why I joined. I joined because generations of my family were masons and communicated to me what Masons stand for.

In fact, my Dad was once presented with a pin for being a Mason for more than 60 years. He was the Potentate of the Boumi Shrine Center in Baltimore. He was also a World War II Veteran. He believed strongly in giving back to his community and inspires me still today as a lawmaker. I am proud to say that now, my son, Cory, is also a Mason. So now there are four proud generations of Ruppersberger-Masons. As a Mason, my sense of commitment to my family, community and country has been greatly enriched and strengthened. I find nothing more important than when the family gets together to share fellowship and many good laughs, especially with the arrival of my wonderful grandchildren over the past few years. Who knows, one of my two young grandsons might be a Mason one day.

When people talk about the Masons, they usually talk about this secret society that meets behind closed doors. But that is not what the Masons are all about. The Masons are one of the world's oldest and largest fraternal organi-

zations - whose members are concerned with moral and spiritual values. From the early 1700's to today, the ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity have remained the foundations of Freemasonry. Becoming a Mason helps men develop confidence, character, brotherhood, philanthropy, a respect for laws and even a sense of purpose. I believe being a Mason has installed in me a deep desire to help people. I felt the best avenue to take in this respect was to become a public servant as a county prosecutor and eventually an elected official. I am proud to be a Mason and I always will be in the future.

Maryland Masons have created a television piece that talks about who we are, what we stand for and to be more transparent. We do have some secrets but non-Masons have criticized us for keeping our mission secret. We need to re-evaluate how we communicate with the public and be proud of what we do.

All Masons are dedicated to helping people - and there is nothing secret about that. One of my proudest moments during my time in Congress was when the Masons awarded me for a program I created that now helps our wounded warriors, Operation Hero Miles. This was a program I started when I first came to Congress that now helps citizens donate their frequent flyer miles to wounded warriors traveling to receive care through the military health system, as well as to friends and family visiting them. Last year, we launched another program called Hotels for Heroes that similarly allows the American public to donate their hotel reward points, further helping to defray travel costs. It's off to a great start.

This year has been a great one for the Masons and Baltimore City. This year's Grand Master Conference was held in my hometown Baltimore, Maryland. I congratulate his Most Worshipful Grand Master Gerald Piepiora on a conference that made Maryland proud and put a spotlight on Maryland masonry. I would also like to recognize the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America for overseeing the conference—which fills a critical need for our leaders to get to know each other and learn how others are handling issues involving the fraternity in their own jurisdictions. Finally thank you, in my opinion, for choosing the best state in the Union for this year's event—great job. ♣

## Second Annual WESTERN MARYLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL SET FOR SEPT. 27<sup>TH</sup>

Building on the success of last year's event, the Masonic Lodges of Western Maryland will present the Second Annual Western Maryland Music Festival on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> on the grounds of the Ali Ghan Shrine.

Bro. Tim Schupfer, who is Worshipful Master of Potomac Lodge No. 100 is serving as chairman of the event. According to Bro. Schupfer, "We have put together what we think is a fantastic day of fun and electrifying entertainment, with a variety of special foods, beverages, vendors and of course plenty of live music". The gates will open at 10am and the opening act takes the stage at 11:30am.

This year's headline act is the **Davisson Brothers Band**, who bring a unique fusion of country, southern rock and bluegrass. The band has developed a loyal following across the eastern United States. A variety of country and bluegrass acts will take the stage throughout the day – including national recording artist Wesley Spangler.

The day's festivities are made possible by a joint effort of the brothers of Potomac Lodge No. 100, Queen City Lodge No. 131, Kemp Lodge No. 154, James W. Bowers Lodge No. 173 and East Gate Lodge No. 216. The event will serve as a fundraiser to support the missions and contributions these lodges provide including local charities throughout the area, scholarships to high school students and the Masonic Charities of Maryland.

The Festival maintains a Facebook page for those who are users of social media. Visitors can learn more and discover the full slate of entertainment scheduled.

Advance tickets are available at a cost of \$20.<sup>00</sup> and may be purchased by contacting the Grand Lodge of Maryland



at 410-527-0600 or by email at office@glmd.org. You may also contact Bro. Schupfer directly at 301-697-9760.

Come out and enjoy a great day of music in scenic Western Maryland – and help our brethren by supporting their most worthy charitable effort. ♣

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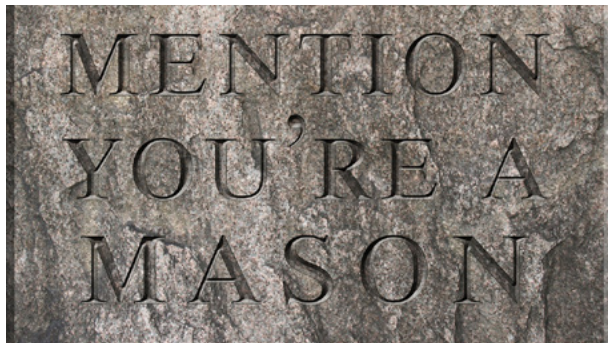
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Most people do not plan to be hospitalized for an injury or an acute illness. For the majority of us, or someone we love, it does happen. Hospitals are quick to discharge patients to short-term rehab facilities to receive Physical, Occupational or Skilled Therapy or other skilled services that are needed before returning home. Without a plan, families are faced with making quick decisions at a very critical time.

Now the decision is easier than ever as Maryland Masonic Homes will soon be a certified Medicare provider! Maryland Masonic Homes will be opening its doors to all Medicare eligible individuals looking to utilize their Medicare Part A benefits for short-term Rehabilitative/Skilled Nursing Care services. While transitioning from a hospital stay, our extraordinary team of professionals will work with each patient to restore health, achieve maximum independence, and ultimately, return home.

Services covered by Medicare and Supplemental Health Insurance at MMH include: room, meals, skilled care, medical supplies, PT/OT/Speech therapies, medications, and much more! Well-known for our unparalleled care, MMH offers a goal-oriented professional interdisciplinary team including: physicians, nurses, case management and social workers, rehabilitation specialists, and dietician(s).

Schedule a tour today by calling 410-527-1111 ext. 3268! Visit our beautifully renovated Health Care Center and meet our extraordinary team so that you and your family have a plan.

### WHAT DOES MEDICARE ELIGIBLE MEAN?

An individual is eligible to use their Medicare benefits for short-term care when they are admitted to the hospital, as an inpatient, for at least 3 days and are unable to return home without short-term rehabilitation.

### WHY CHOOSE MARYLAND MASONIC HOMES?

Maryland Masonic Homes has a well-deserved reputation for providing unparalleled care to Masons and their family members. For many Masons, our location is ideal for family and friends to visit easily and often. Our newly renovated Healthcare Center and enhanced amenities ensure a comfortable stay, and our rehab team offers the best possible chance of returning home to your loved ones.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO USE THESE SERVICES?

Any Medicare qualified person is welcome at Maryland Masonic Homes to utilize the short-term care services. Masons, family members and friends can rely on the extraordinary care that they will receive at MMH. Remember to tell the discharge planner at the hospital that you want to come to Maryland Masonic Homes if you are ever in need of our services.



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## GREETINGS FROM THE HILL!

Paula L. O'Neill, Executive Director

At Bonnie Blink, 2013 was an extremely busy year as we began renovations of the Corinthian Building. As we enter 2014 and Maryland Masonic Homes 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, that fast-paced cadence has not slowed. Finally Spring has arrived and we are ready to start the last phase of the Corinthian renovation project. We are also preparing to begin renovations in the Ionic and Doric Buildings and the Main Lobby.

Nothing is as certain as change, and with the enormous amount we have made recently, it isn't any wonder that the residents and staff are a little fearful of more changes. It is important to discuss what has not changed. Maryland Masonic Homes continues to be successful due to our mission: *"To provide excellent care in a safe, affordable, dignified, quality environment for eligible Masons and their families, in keeping with Masonic principles, providing for expansion, while maintaining financial viability."*

It is very clear when you walk through the doors of this magnificent facility and witness the Masonic traditions of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. The devotion to the mission and those tenets has not changed, nor will they. The Masonic mission also speaks to serving those in need and giving back to the community.

We are in a culture change transformation that includes the modernization of our physical environment and sophistication of the services we provide to our residents. We are also transforming many of our programs including: recreation, dining and nursing services, with a focus on individualized care and promotion of resilient choices.

On this culture change journey, we are preparing to enter the Medicare Program. Our current long-term residents will benefit from us having this Program since they will no longer need to leave their 'home' to receive residential and skilled services. For Medicare eligible Masons and their families, we will offer short-term rehab and skilled services. And in serving those in need and giving back to the community, let's share what Bonnie Blink offers in exceptional care and services. We will permit non-Masonic members to be admitted who are in need of short-term rehab only. Masons and their families are our top priority and long-term residents will always have a room at Bonnie Blink.

Please refer to Stacey's accompanying article and contact us to receive more information about this important benefit and Program.

In June, the Masonic Communities and Services Association will hold its annual Conference in Boston, MA. After serving for the past two years, I will step down as President. I am humbled to have been selected to guide the good works of this incredible Association. I have been extremely proud to represent Maryland, and I will continue to serve on the Board as Past President for an additional two years. I appreciate the support and encouragement I have received from the Maryland Masons and our Board of Trustees.

Featured item from our Wish List is a Broda Tilt Reclining Chair. Each resident has unique seating requirements and this chair can be tailored to meet those individual needs. For example: to include sitting more upright, reduction of pain related seating and positioning, and tilt in space to accommodate those residents who cannot fully sit at a 90-degree angle. This chair will be useful for those short-term rehab patients who have had a hip replacement.

Also this chair is designed for ease of travel which increases the freedom of residents to participate in activities beyond the physical space of the Home. Transport is much safer.



Cost = \$3,500 each. We appreciate your consideration to donate monies towards this item or any other monetary donation is welcomed. Thank you for your generosity.

Enjoy the warmth of this beautiful season and I hope to see everyone at the annual Family Day picnic, Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>! Blessings,  
Paula





A Note From The Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Memorial Library & Museum

## PATRIOTIC FERVOR AND THE MASONIC COURT OF HONOR

By: Edward Heimiller, Curator

Marylanders have long been proud of the Star-Spangled Banner, adopted as the United States' national anthem in 1931. In 1914 in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of North Point, in which the British were repelled and during which Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) penned "The Star Spangled Banner" off the shores of Fort McHenry, Baltimore was transformed for the Star-Spangled Banner Centennial week. During the week of September 7 through 12, 1914 more than fifty bands were scheduled for the many parades and concerts. Additionally several of the city's monuments, among the most conspicuous being the Francis Scott Key and the George Washington monuments, in addition to the dome of City Hall and the top of the Shot Tower were illuminated with ornamental electric lights. The illumination features were described in the Baltimore Sun at the time as "unusually brilliant and embodied an extensive use of

the most modern illuminants besides several novelties."

Collaborating with the Star-Spangled Banner Centennial Committee the **Grand Lodge of A.F.&A.M. of Maryland** under the leadership of Grand Master Thomas J. Shryock (1851-1918) erected one of the most striking and beautiful decorations, the 'Masonic Court of Honor' on Charles Street, between Lexington and Saratoga Streets. At the time the 'Masonic Court of Honor' was described in the press as "Resplendent in the beauty of thousands of electric bulbs" and "pronounced by experts and all to be the most beautiful decoration of its kind ever seen in the city." Erected at a cost of about \$11,000, the total expenses were borne by the fraternity.

The court consisted of 30 white towers, 30 inches square, 18 feet high, each capped with a filigree ball of steel four feet in diameter. The towers were made of wood frames and plaster panels. On each of the tow-

ers were Masonic symbols, the square, compasses and letter 'G' predominating. On the south façade of each tower was a replica of a knight in armor, and flag decorations were on all four sides. In the center of each steel ball was a 1,000 watt nitrogen-filled tungsten lamp in a 14 inch blue case glass ball. This specially designed globe was made with a blue interior and white exterior, giving a marked contrast to the other surrounding lighting units. From the four corners of each tower hung four 750 watt nitrogen tungsten lamps in 12 inch opal balls.

The arches at either end of the court were formed of piping. Fourteen 500 watt nitrogen tungsten lamps in 12 inch opal balls supplied the main lighting for each arch. Alternating with these units were groups of three tubular lamps colored red, white, and blue, respectively. The red and white lamps were 25 watts, and the blue 40 watts capacity each. An effect of solidity here was gained by the double dipping of these tubes, first in white, then in red or blue colors as designed.

The most beautiful feature of the court was the arch in front of the temple, spanning Charles Street. This arch was built of steel, wood and stucco, with a base color scheme of white. On each side of the arch were symbols of the order, and surmounting a ribbed dome above the arch, an emblem of the Templars, a cross and crown in colored bulbs. Topping all was a staff from which flew the American flag. From the arch, band concerts were given every evening.

The turret dome and the main stand were outlined with 28-40 watt round frosted Mazda lamps, while 300-25 watt lamps of the same type were used in the body of the band stand. From each of the four pedestals, two at either end of the stand, swung a cluster of six 500 watt nitrogen filled tungsten lamps. Around the head of the four main stand-supporting columns were hung 12-750 watt nitrogen tungsten lights and to the underside of the stand, 10-500 watt similar units.

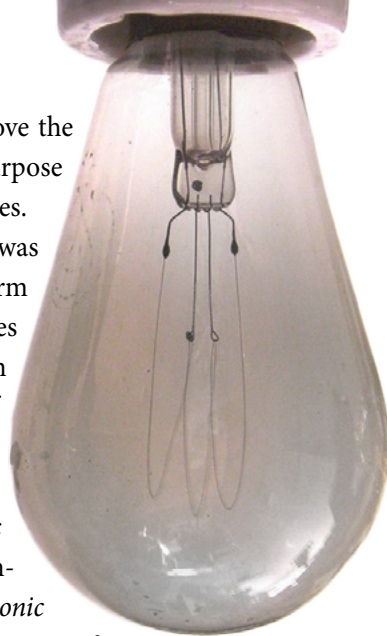
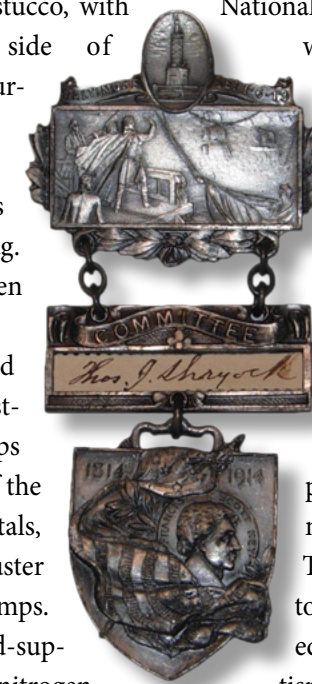
All the American shields and Masonic emblems were worked in as electric emblems in colors, employing 728-10 watt Mazda lamps. The front of the Masonic temple itself, besides being illuminated by the court of honor lighting, was further brightened by rows of lights

along the ledges and cornices above the second floor, requiring for this purpose 150-40 watt and 140-25 watt unites.

For their efforts the fraternity was presented with a trophy in the form of a loving cup with two handles presented by the Committee on Decoration and Illumination of the National Star-Spangled Banner Commission in special recognition of the magnificent 'Masonic Court of Honor.' This trophy engraved with an image of the 'Masonic Court of Honor' is one of the mementos of the event preserved in the museum's collection. Another notable memento in the museum is the official Star-Spangled Banner Centennial Badge issued by Baltimore City Mayor James H. Preston (1860-1938).

While many of the decorations were taken down after the celebrations the 'Masonic Court of Honor' remained intact until October of 1914 as the result of an unusual request. During the last three days in September the National Convention of Catholic Societies convention was held in Baltimore. At the request of one of the members for the convention's planning committee the fraternity permitted the court to remain in the opinion that it indicated "a splendid spirit of tolerance and patriotism."

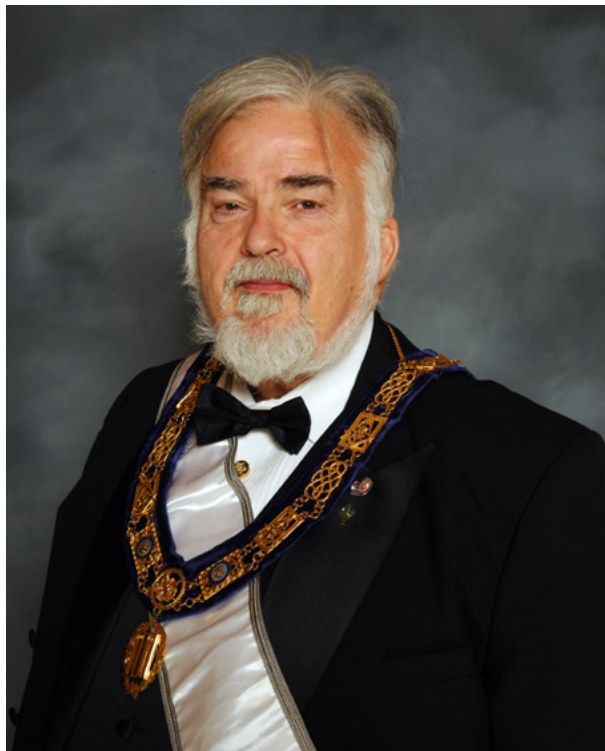
Despite the original manuscript of the Star-Spangled Banner still being in private hands in 1914, being one of the prized possessions of Henry Walters (1848-1931), founder of the Walters Art Museum, the poem held a special place in Maryland (the manuscript was subsequently sold by the Trustees of the Walters Art Museum in 1953 to the Maryland Historical Society). Celebrated in 1914 as a Maryland treasure, the patriotism reflected during the Star-Spangled Banner Centennial week celebrations was an unprecedented spectacle in Maryland. With the fraternity's participation in the celebrations and the erection of the 'Masonic Court of Honor' Maryland masons ensured the success of the celebrations.





# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

The Rev. Walter F. Burgess, PM, Grand Chaplain of Maryland



Opening a prayer at Grand Lodge is always an honor; being asked to hold a service of worship for the Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America was such a delight. I was able to write a collect (opening prayer) especially for the occasion that would work well for the Masters of Lodges for our fraternity. I now share it with you

*Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders of leaders in your fraternity. Give your grace we humbly pray to all who are called to any office to serve, and so fill them with truth, and clothe them with holiness of life that they may faithfully serve before you, to the glory of your great Name and the benefit of our fraternal order. Grace to you our God now and forever. Amen.*

The scripture reading I chose for the occasion was Sirach15:15-20:

*If you choose, you can keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of your own choice. He has placed before you fire and water; stretch out your hand for whichever you choose. Before each person are life and death, and whichever one chooses will be given.*

*For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows every human action. He has not commanded anyone to be wicked, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.*

Here follows what I gave as the message based on the text. I hope you find it interesting:

Just as God has many names, so does today's text. Ecclesiasticus, or the Wisdom of Jesus the son of Sirach, or just the Book of Sirach, is the only book in the Apocrypha for which the name of the author is known.

Jesus, son of Sirach, son of Eleazar of Jerusalem—Joshua ben Sira, his Hebrew name. An educated man, a Jewish scribe, a professional teacher of the Old Testament law.

It is thought that he conducted an academy of learning in Jerusalem, where he lectured young men on ethical and religious subjects. Where he lectured young men on ethical subjects. We all know about lectures!

About 180 BC he committed to writing his distilled wisdom that he had only been accustomed to imparting orally. As such the material is loosely arranged. Knowing what we know, trying to write from beginning to end, we too might be haphazard in passing from one subject to another, from degree to degree – in logical manner.

His grandson translated the original Hebrew text into Greek about 132 BC. Three or four centuries later, a Syrian translation was made from the Hebrew text, which – surprise, surprise – differs from the Greek translation. Ritual differences, regional customs, go figure! Fragmentary parts of the manuscript which date from the medieval period, preserve little more than 2/3 of the book. There's not a lot of overlap in translation, which sometimes present quite different readings. So scholars argue over secondary and inferior forms of translation, Greek text vs Hebrew text, even modifications adopted from the Greek and Syrian versions.

All of this changes, in a cave near Qumran by the Dead Sea, a discovery in the 1940s, parts of which are not restored and translated until the 60s.

Previously, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, part of the Hebrew text had been found in Cairo, in a medieval synagogue in a room where discarded manuscripts were stored. Their significance was not realized until the later discovery.

Truth has a way of surviving, and coming to light. One line in Hebrew is translated "Praise all the ancestors of Old." The Greek translation is "Let us now praise Famous men". (Just an example of a choice.)

Today's reading is about free will, about choice. We can keep God's commandments, to act faithfully is to choose. Fire and water are extreme opposites, representing Good and Evil, your choice.

Life or death, each person can choose. A perfect life of service is to live forever, through all eternity through that choice.

God does not command anyone to be wicked. And he does not give us permission to sin.

We ask to join this great Fraternity, and as a Fraternity we seek to make good men better. So did the author of today's text.

As the psalmist says, "let us worship and fall down and kneel before the Lord our Maker." And we all know how we entered the craft. We humble ourselves before God and man duly and truly prepared.

You are God's example to Good people. Just as Sirach traveled to educate himself, and to gain knowledge so we, you, travel. He was willing to learn the wisdom of the nations, not for personal gain but for all who seek instruction—why Masons come together. Over 2,000 years ago



Preaching of Jesus (Qoheleth), son of Sirach— Ecclesiastes 1:1-4  
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

he sought to teach good men ethical and moral values. Should we do no less today?

Please feel free to pick and choose from this article. In the coming months, I hope to address pastoral concerns of our Brothers.

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# MARYLAND DEMOLAY

Dad Carl A. Michel, Jr. - Executive Secretary

Happy Spring to all! The time has changed, the calendar reads Spring but that darn old Polar Vortex just won't go away! What have you been doing over these last couple months? Hibernating? No one could blame you but our members have been keeping as busy as Heat Mister in the middle of South Town!



When the Conference of Grand Masters of North America awarded Maryland the bid for 2014, little did any of us realize how important Maryland DeMolay Members, Advisors, Parents and Sweethearts would be to the event. When the Grand Lodge was selected for the Host Banquet & Entertainment, the Maryland Conference Committee asked if we could help with the coat check. That doesn't seem too impressive until you consider the circumstances. There were 9 Coach Busses carrying 400 people who were attending this dinner which meant 400 coats! Our DeMolay family turned out in force and made this arrival look flawless! Working in perfect unison, the youth gathered the coats from our guests as they arrived, took them back to the Coat Room to our parents who exchanged the coat for an empty hangar and new coat number! The final hurdle for our DeMolays was getting the coats back to their rightful owners as they departed at the conclusion of the entertainment. Once again the plan worked flawlessly. The coats were moved out of the Coat Room to outside the Ballroom with a set of tables placed as the new pick up area. It is quite a sight when you watch 400 people come down the Grand Lodge staircase, converge on a group of dedicated youth and parents who succeed in dispersing all the coats back to their owners all the time smiling and thanking everyone for their attendance! As someone who continued to work the Conference for the Grand Lodge,



the compliments continued throughout the week on the teamwork of our youth and the manner in which it was performed. Kudos and a sincere Thank you from the State DeMolay Staff to all who were involved to make this event a success.

We also celebrated the One Year Anniversary of George Fleming Moore Chapter in Cockeysville. This was marked by a special Awards Night followed by foods homemade by the members which reflected their Ethnic backgrounds. One of the highlights of this evening was Dad Dennis Florian receiving the Zerubbabel Key. This is given to an Advisor who is instrumental in the opening of a new or closed DeMolay Chapter. If you have a chance, stop by this or any of the other Chapters in Maryland for a meet-



ing and see them at work. You will be impressed!

We had a special visitor at our DeMolay Congress, an event similar to the Lodge Leadership Seminar. Deputy Grand Master, Dad Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr. stopped in at West River Methodist Camp near Annapolis to see and be part of our Leadership Training. During one of the breaks, Dad Wyvill caught up with one of our younger members who was shooting hoops alone. Dad Wyvill started a game of HORSE with him and before he knew it, he had others joining in and an audience! We are excited to know the relationship we have with the Grand Lodge of Maryland will continue to be a strong and active one.

Until next time.

## 2014 Festival for the Child

### Bull & Oyster Roast and Classic Raffle w/\$14,000 in Prizes!



For the Child...

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014

1pm – 6pm

Timonium Fairgrounds  
Exhibition Hall

Ticket Price: \$100

Includes:

- Bull & Oyster Roast with all the trimmings
- Beer & Soft Drinks
- 1 Classic Raffle Entry with \$14,000 in Prize Money
- Silent Auctions & Raffles all day
- Musical Entertainment

For Tickets Visit [www.festivalforthechild.com](http://www.festivalforthechild.com) or Call the Numbers Below.

The 2014 Festival for the Child is sponsored by the following Masonic Organizations for the specific benefit of their respective charities:



**Tall Cedars of Lebanon's Charity**  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
For Tickets: 410-259-0226



**Boumi Shriners' Charity**  
Shriners Hospitals for Children  
For Tickets: 410-391-6400



**The Maryland Scottish Rite's Charity**  
Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation  
For Tickets: 410-243-3200



**The Maryland York Rite's Charities**  
Autism Speaks/ARA  
Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation  
Knights Templar Eye Foundation  
For Tickets: 410-527-0600



**The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Maryland's Charity**  
Masonic Charities of Maryland  
For Tickets: 410-527-0600

All net proceeds benefit the selected charities of Maryland's Masonic Bodies.  
All of the above-named charitable organizations are federally recognized charities.  
Sixty-five dollars of the ticket price qualifies as tax-deductible.



# RÉSUMÉS for Brothers Running for Elected Offices in 2014



**KENNETH S. WYVILL, JR.**  
For the Office of  
Most Worshipful Grand Master



**HERBERT Y. HOLCOMB, III**  
For Re-election to the Office of  
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary



**WILLIAM E. GYR**  
For Re-election to the Office of  
Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer

RUNNING FOR  
GRAND MASTER & RE-ELECTION

## FOR THE OFFICE OF RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

### RICHARD P. NAEGELE



**Masonic History:** Raised in Mt. Nebo Lodge No. 229 in 1978, Worshipful Master in 1988 and 1990. Member of Ancient Baltimore Lodge No. 234 and Jephthah Lodge No. 222.

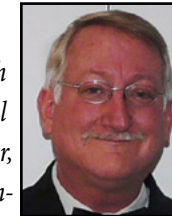
**Masonic Leadership:** RW Senior Grand Warden 2014. W. Grand Marshall 2011-12. W. Grand Standard Bearer 1995. Current Grand Inspector. Vice President of Masonic Charities of Maryland Board of Directors; Chairman of Scholarship Program. Chairman of Grand Lodge Committee on Youth. Member of 2025 Long Range Planning Committee. 2014 Conference of Grand Masters of North America Committee. Recipient of Warren Siepp Medal for Distinguished Service.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Scottish Rite – Valley of Baltimore, coroneted 33° in 2013. York Rite – Past High Priest of Druid Chapter, Current Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Maryland, General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal for Distinguished Service, 2004, Holder of the Triple Tau, Past Thrice Illustrious Master of Hiram and Jerusalem Councils, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of R&SM 2009-10, Current Grand Recorder, Received Order of the Secret Vault and Ish Sodi Award, Past Commander of Crusade Commandery and Current Recorder, Right Eminent Grand Commander for Maryland 1999, Knight Commander of the Temple, Grand Encampment DeMolay Committee, Past Excellent Chief of Templenoe Council Knight Masons, Past Chief of Euclid Council, Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers, Past Sovereign Master of Tidewater Council, Allied Masonic Degrees, Past Commander of Noah of Neap Tide Lodge, Royal Arch Mariners and Maryland College, York Rite Sovereign College recipient of Gold Honor Award and Order of the Purple Cross. DeMolay – Past Grand Commander of Court of Chevaliers, Past Dean of the Preceptory of the Legion of Honor, Maryland DeMolay Executive Team, Current Member of Board of Directors of the Maryland DeMolay Foundation, Active Member of the International Supreme Council. Eastern Star – Past and Current Patron of Gleaner Chapter No. 49. Also – Boumi Shrine, Tall Cedars of Lebanon – Baltimore Forest (degree team), Maryland College, Societas Rosicruciana In Civitatibus, Masonic Veterans, Baltimore Past Masters Association..

**Professional:** Elementary school teacher for 32 years, including 10 years as teacher in charge and service on the strategic planning committee for 20 years, administered \$500,000 Title 1 Budget and countywide summer program.

**Personal:** Graduate of Loch Raven High School, attended UMBC, Master of Arts in Special Education/Learning Disabilities from Loyola College. Certification as Administrator 1 and Reading from Goucher College.

### DAVID R. SANDY



**Masonic History:** Raised in Mt. Moriah Lodge No 116 in 1983, Worshipful Master in 1989, also served as Tyler, Chaplain and Marshall. Charter member of Ancient Baltimore Lodge No. 234. Plural member of Tyrian Lodge No. 205.

**Masonic Leadership:** RW Junior Grand Warden 2013. Board of Trustees of Maryland Masonic Homes, Policy Committee Chairman 2012, Current Investment Committee and Personnel Committee. Vice President of Board of Grand Inspectors and Grand Inspector. 2025 Long Range Planning Committee and Membership Subcommittee Chairman. Chairman of the School of Masonic Law and Masonic Law School Instructor. Maryland Masonic Mentoring Program Implementation Team Leader. Mt. Moriah Charitable Foundation Board of Directors. Past President of the Mt. Moriah Past Masters Association.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Scottish Rite – Valley of Baltimore, 32° in 1983. York Rite – Chapter, Council and Commandery 1985. Eastern Star – Towson Chapter No. 70 1989. Also – Dr. John Coates Memorial Lodge No. 1787 Charter Member, Masonic Veterans Association, Scottish Rite Research Society.

**Professional:** 30 year career as Director and Vice President of Engineering in the defense and aerospace industries. Received the Maryland Senate Quality Award and several other industry-related awards. Testified before Congressional Committees on manufacturing and industry issues. Member of Maryland DBED World Class Manufacturing Steering Committee, Maryland Regional Manufacturing Institute and CareFirst HMO Grievance Board. Dale Carnegie Leadership Training Graduate Assistant.

**Personal:** Served on several committees for Clynmalira United Methodist Church. Timonium Optimist Club Board of Directors. Maryland Farm Bureau. Parkville Youth Recreation Leagues, baseball and football coach. BSA Troop 181, Adult Leader. Resides in Phoenix, MD with his wife, Jocelyn.

### KENNETH R. "KEN" TAYLOR



**Masonic History:** Raised in Howard Lodge No. 101 on December 9th, 1991, Worshipful Master in 1997, 1998 and 2000. Catechism Instructor to over 100 Brothers. Lodge earned Grand Master's Award in all three years as Worshipful Master. Lodge Ritua-

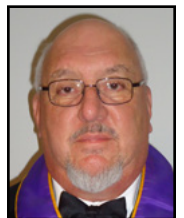
list since 1998. Currently serves on several committees.  
**Masonic Leadership:** RW Senior Grand Warden 2009. Current Member, Board of Managers. Current Deputy Grand Lecturer. Grand Inspector 2004-09. Member of the 2025 Long Range Planning Committee, currently serving on the Lodge Growth Subcommittee and was Chairman in 2009-10.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Scottish Rite – Valley of Baltimore, 32° in 1992, KCCH in 2009, coroneted 33° in 2013, presided as Grand Commander of KCCH investiture in 2011 and 2013, Degree Master for 5th and 20th Degree, Master of Kadosh in 2012. York Rite – Concordia Chapter and Council, Maryland Commandery, Maryland York Rite College No. 58. Also – Boumi Shriner since 1992, current Knights of Mecca member, Baltimore Highlands Square Club – President in 1999 and currently Treasurer.

**Professional:** Owner of Taylor Appraisals, Inc., and a residential real estate appraiser for 30 years.

**Personal:** Born in Baltimore, MD on July 22, 1955. Graduate of Sparrows Point High School in 1973. Resides in Catonsville with Rosemary, his wife of 25 years. They have four children and five grandchildren.

### KOSTAS "GUS" VOURVOULAS



**Masonic History:** Raised in Jephthah Lodge No. 222 on November 5, 1985, Worshipful Master in 1991 and 2000. Lodge Ritualist 1992 – present. President of Jephthah Holding Corporation in 1991 and 2000. Board of Directors of Jephthah Holding Corporation 1992 – present. Plural member of Liberty Pickering Lodge No. 219.

**Masonic Leadership:** RW Junior Grand Warden 2009. W. Senior Grand Deacon 2007. Board of Managers 2013-14. Grand Inspector 1992-93. Deputy Grand Lecturer 1999 – 2008. Deputy Grand Lecturer at Large 2008 – present. 2025 Long Range Planning Committee 2009-12, Chairman of Ritual Subcommittee 2010. Grand Lodge Leadership Committee 2009-11 and 2012. Harvest Home Day Committee 2010-13. 2014 Conference of Grand Masters of North America Planning Committee.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Scottish Rite – Valley of Baltimore, 32° and KCCH. York Rite – St. John's and Phoenix Chapters, Jerusalem Council, Monumental Commandery, York Rite College. Also – Boumi Shrine, Knights of Mecca (Degree Master 2008 – present), Euclid Council No. 14 Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers, Tidewater Council



No. 334, Allied Masonic Degrees, Temploe Council No. 78 Knight Masons, Past Masters Association of Baltimore, Past Masters Association of Harford County, Masonic Veterans Association.

**Professional:** Operations Supervisor at Red Star Express Lines from 1975-93 and at New Penn Motor Express from 1993-2013.

**Personal:** Educated in Baltimore County Public Schools. Studied Political Science at UMBC. Married to Cheryl.

## FOR THE OFFICE OF RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

### DAN B. LANE

**Masonic History:** Raised in Kensington-Bethesda Lodge No. 198 in 1991. Member of Silver Spring Lodge No. 215, Worshipful Master in 2009 and 2012-14. Also served as lodge treasurer.



**Masonic Leadership:** W. Junior Grand Steward 2008. Grand Inspector 2009-10. District Coordinator for MD-CHIP. Silver Spring Temple and Library Association, served as president.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Scottish Rite - 32° in 2008, Knights of St. Andrew. Also - Shriners International 2006, Legion of Honor, Free State Shield and Square Club 2009, National Sojourners 2009.

**Professional:** Columbia Union College. L'Academie de Cuisine, Culinary Program 2005. Campbell University, AA Degree 1997. Certified Food Service Manager.

**Personal:** Trained Emergency Medical Technician.

### RICHARD E. MAINLEY, JR.

**Masonic History:** Raised in Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 in 1990, Worshipful Master in 1996, Secretary 2005, Marshall 1997-2004 and 2006-12.

**Masonic Leadership:** W. Grand Marshall 2013-14. President of the Past Masters Association of Harford County 1998. Harvest Home Day Committee Co-Chairman 1997-99. Masonic Veterans Association of Maryland Sentinel 2014.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Masonic Veterans Association of Maryland, Past Masters Association of Harford County.

**Professional:** Retired from Procter & Gamble after a 30 year career in Purchasing.

**Personal:** Born in Baltimore. Graduated from Mergenthaler

Vocational Technical High School. Married to Bridget and father to two daughters.

## FOR THE OFFICE OF RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

### JESSE M. MILLS

**Masonic History:** Raised in James W. Bowers Lodge No. 173 in 1988, Worshipful Master in 1992-97, 2001-04, 2006-09 and 2012-14. Also served as Secretary.

**Masonic Leadership:** W. Junior Grand Deacon 2004. Deputy Grand Lecturer 2009-14. 2025 Long Range Planning Committee, Membership Subcommittee.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Tall Cedars - Hagerstown Forest No. 95, Past Grand Tall Cedar and current Scribe. Also - Washington County Past Masters Association, Past President and current Secretary.

**Professional:** Retired following a 35 year career as Quality Assurance Manager at GPC. Currently employed by Electromet Corp. as an electro-magnetic assembler.

**Personal:** Married for 39 years to his wife Rose. They have two children and three grandchildren.

### ROBERT W. REYNOLDS

**Masonic History:** Raised in Ionic Lodge No. 145 in 2008, Worshipful Master in 2012. Member of Ionic Lodge Building Company Committee. Chairman of Membership Retention committee.



Lodge Representative for the Reisterstown Cemetery Restoration Association.

**Masonic Leadership:** W. Senior Grand Deacon 2013. W. Assistant Grand Photographer 2014. Current Grand Inspector. Regional Mentor for the Grand Lodge Mentoring Program. Grand Lodge Hospitality Committee.

**Masonic Affiliations:** Scottish Rite - Valley of Baltimore 32°, KCCH, Master of Ceremonies for Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix, Knights of St. Andrew of Baltimore Past Secretary/Treasurer. York Rite - Druid Chapter, Hiram Council and Monumental Commandery.

**Professional:** Business Information Systems Analyst/Consultant with Stockell Consulting currently working with the ConnectYourCare Company in Hunt Valley, MD. Worked for Solo Cup Company (Sweetheart Cup) in various analyst and operational positions for 12 years.

**Personal:** Married to Kimberly, a special educator at the Hannah More School, for 23 years. Their dog, Abigail,

volunteers as a therapy dog at Maryland Masonic Homes. Served as a member of the Board of Directors, including Board Treasurer, of United Maryland Employee Federal Credit Union for 12 years. Member of St. Stephens Anglican Church in Timonium, serving as acolyte and usher. Member of the Saint Andrew's society of Baltimore and the Bucs Club of Carroll County. Education includes a BS Degree in Information Systems from Villa Julie College (Stevenson University) magna cum laude and attended Drexel University with a major in mechanical engineering.

## FOR THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND

(Three Positions are Open)

### WALTER F. BURGESS, PM

Oriental Lodge No. 158

### T. SCOTT CUSHING, SR., PM

Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44

### MURRAY K. LILLEY, PM

Amicable-St. John's Lodge No. 25

## FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MARYLAND MASONIC HOMES

(Three Positions are Open)

### CARL W. LEE, PM

Stephenson Lodge No. 135

### THOMAS R. PREISINGER, PM

King David's Lodge No. 68

### G. STEVEN SCHLAGEL, PM

St. Columba Lodge No. 150

## FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MASONIC CHARITIES OF MARYLAND, INC.

(Three Positions are Open)

### MICHAEL P. CODORI, PM

Montgomery Cornerstone Lodge No. 195

### THOMAS W. FOSTER

Ionic Lodge No. 145

### LAURENCE GERBER, SR., PM

James W. Bowers Lodge No. 173

## FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STEPHEN J. PONZILLO, JR. MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

(Three Positions are Open)

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Howard Lodge No. 101

### PAUL J. SPARACO, SR., PM

Highland Lodge No. 184

### SPYRIDON G. TREKLAS, PM

Amicable-St. John's Lodge No. 25

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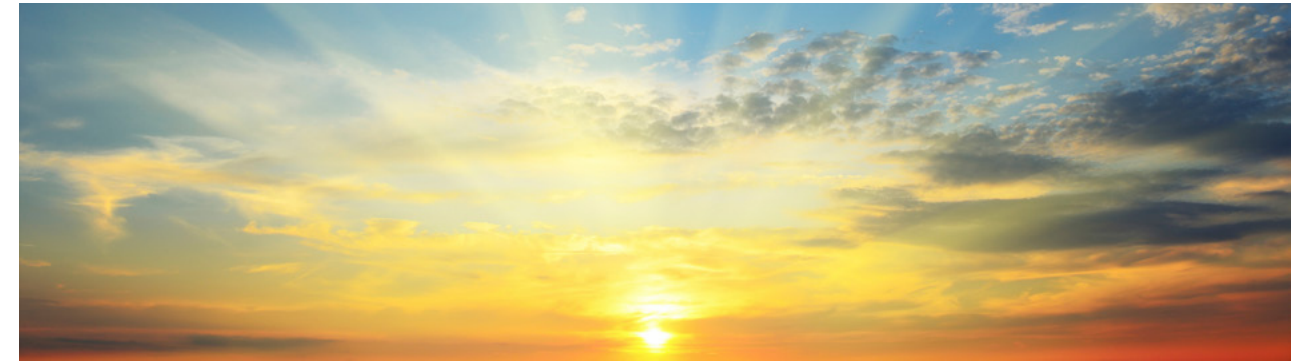
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## THE SUN AND THE CIRCUMPUNCT

By Bro. Charles J. Matulewicz, PM



Brethren, the Circumpunct is a symbol we are familiar with from our Entered Apprentice degree, a point within a circle embordered by two perpendicular parallel lines representing St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, but it is far older than this. We see the circumpunct appearing as the Egyptian Hieroglyph for the Sun even in alchemy and Native American cultures, but are there other meanings outside of the Moral Boundary with our speculative Masonry explains during our lecture?

When we have a candidate circumambulate the Lodge he is guided along the path of the sun stopping. The candidate passes through all of the phases of the sun in his journey and later is explained that Masons professing Christianity dedicate their Lodges to St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist... but these particular Saints who are not even the patron Saints of operative masonry?

Consider the Egyptian symbol for the sun, which predates our circumpunct, it also had parallel perpendicular lines embordering a circumpunct. These were called Akhet and represented the beginning and end of the flood season in Egypt. Ancient people were pragmatic people, by plotting out their calendar the Egyptians could anticipate the flood stage and harvest season taking care of all of the logistics that were required to and making Egypt the breadbasket of the ancient world.

Our story takes us prior to Julius Caesar who had a logistics problem when it came to scheduling activities around the Roman Empire. Different client states were basing their calendars on lunar cycles or other systems and centralizing the transport of troops, goods and tax collection became unmanageable. To address this problem Caesar fixed the calendar around the Solstices and the Equinoxes. These celestial events could be observed anywhere and allowed calendars to be calibrated throughout the Empire ensuring Rome got her money. Jump ahead

to the Eastern Empire in time of Constantine... where we find an equally problematic issue: people were celebrating Easter at different times throughout the Empire. This was absurd to the Emperor so during the Council of Nicaea he fixed the date of Easter by making it the first Sunday falling after the first full moon falling after the vernal equinox. This allowed Easter to be determined astronomically across the Empire on a local basis.



Back to the Holy Saints John we find their days fall on the summer and Winter Solstice, by fixing their dates, and the dates of the equinox the date of Easter and the entire church year could be planned. If you visit Cathedrals throughout Europe you can see means for calculating the date. In Chatre there is a window dedicated to Saint Apollinaire and during the Summer Solstice a beam of light illuminates a nail embedded in a square into the floor. Notre Dame de Paris has an eight-pointed star on the roof of its choir aligned to the Winter Solstice. We see similar alignments in the Duomo and the Cathedral of Bologna. Our operative Brethren were skilled indeed skilled in Geometry and incorporated these calendar tools into the fabric of the buildings they erected. Their architecture enabled the astronomer to make his observations and fix the duration of time and seasons. The circumpunct is found in every regular and well-governed lodge because architecture enabled Easter to be calculated throughout the medieval period across Europe. So it appears symbols and allegories are veils Brothers and if we make to lodge we may just catch a glimpse from time immemorial... are you watching closely?



# HARFORD COUNTY MASONIC LADIES NIGHT A SUCCESS

The evening of April 26<sup>th</sup> was a big success for the five Harford County Lodges, Mt. Ararat, No. 44; Susquehanna, No. 130; Stephenson, No. 135; Esdraelon, No. 176; and Aberdeen No. 187. For the first time, they combined their respective Ladies night into a single event, drawing over one hundred and fifty participants together for an evening of socializing, dining and entertainment. The event was at the Level Volunteer Fire Hall and consisted of a buffet style dinner of ham and roast beef.

Each Lodge appointed the wife of a senior officer to introduce the Lodge's officers and their wives along with any Masonic widows.

Our first Lady, Deneise Piepiora, welcomed everyone and introduced her husband, the Grand Master, Gerald Piepiora who offered his comments to the Ladies and their husbands.



Baxter Leppert, PM, Susquehanna Lodge, and Duane Duncan, WM, Stephenson Lodge talk to the ladies while collecting tickets for the evening.



The evening was well attended with over 150 guests. There was time to mingle before and after dinner.



Left: First Lady Deneise and Grand Master Gerald Piepiora address the crowd about the impact our ladies have on Masonry.



Right: Committee chairman, Joe Bray, Aberdeen Lodge, thanks everyone who attended the evening making it such a success.



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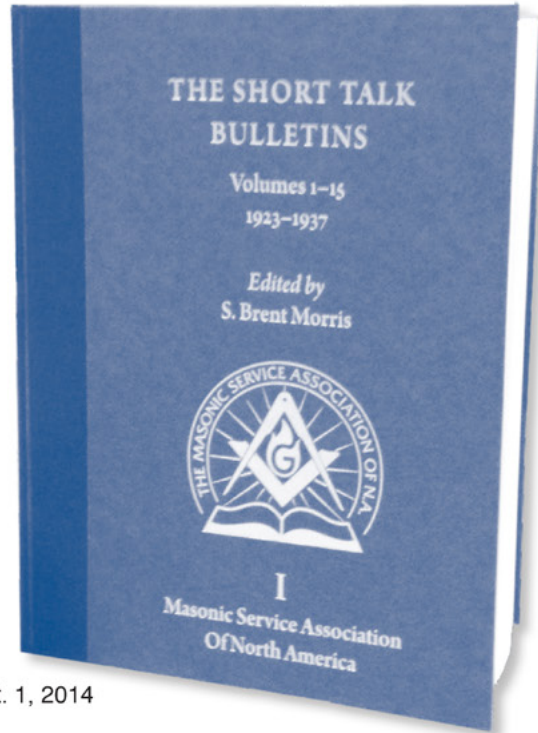
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