

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, U. S. A.

MASONIC TEMPLE
225 NORTH CHARLES ST.
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201



The FREESTATE FREEMASON

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2

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A MESSAGE TO EACH MARYLAND MASTER MASON

Dear Brother:

It has been most heartening to find the same enthusiasm, freshness and aliveness that marked my installation night repeated time and again during my visits throughout this jurisdiction these past ten months.

I trust that our efforts have been successful and fruitful in keeping each of you informed and alerted to the aims, plans and decisions which are so necessary if Masonry is to be a meaningful and dynamic way of life in Maryland. I am indeed grateful to so many who have sensed and responded to the need for change.

A glance at the contents of this publication gives positive assurance that we are no longer "marking time". Progress is being made. Many Lodges have accepted the challenge. Their accomplishments amply demonstrate what purpose and leadership can do in exemplifying the meaning of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love.

Underlying all else is you, the individual Master Mason. If you were arrested for being a Mason, would there be enough evidence to convict you? Would a paid-up dues card be sufficient evidence? The Masonic pin on your lapel? special license tags? Take a good look. I am thinking of the real solid evidence found in practicing Masonry as a way of life and being respected and admired for it by your family, friends, neighbors and your community.

May God richly bless us for what we do in behalf of our loved ones, our fellowmen, our Grand Lodge and the Craft in general.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Roy H. Stetler, Jr.
Grand Master

-- GRAND LODGE HIGHLIGHTS --

...The following items will be included for action at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication on November 15th & 16th (These proposals have been forwarded to each subordinate lodge for consideration):

- Changing annual and semi-annual meeting day from third Tuesday to third Monday of November and May respectively. A second day's session will be called only if necessary at the Annual Communication held in November.

- Increase of Grand Lodge dues for each Lodge member of \$3.00 a year to alleviate severe financial problems in Grand Lodge operations.

- Instead of reading the 23rd Article on election night to the Brothers present, the WM and Wardens will meet within 30 days after their installation with the Grand Inspector and collectively read the Article. This action is designed to promote attendance & interest on this significant occasion.

- Permitting a vote to be taken at a Grand Lodge Stated Communication on an amendment to the Constitution if two-thirds majority of votes present favor the waiver of the required waiting period and the requirement that written notice be sent to every subordinate lodge for its consideration. Passage of this item will enable conduct of business requiring prompt action.

...NOTE: At the May Semi-annual Communication two amendments to the Grand Lodge Constitution were adopted limiting the terms of office of members of the Board of Managers and Board of Trustees.

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-- SICK REPORT --

Cards would be appreciated by the following brothers from their friends:

- * MWPGM W. NORMAN PENN, 2901 Ohio Ave, Baltimore, MD 21204.

- * Grand Organist EDWARD C. O'DELL, 3903 Greenway, Baltimore, MD 21218

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-- HARVEST HOME DAY - BONNIE BLINK - OCTOBER 17th - 6:30 AM --

Principal Speaker: Bro. WILMER E. KING, 32^o, Commander-in-Chief, Harrisburg Consistory. HARVEY T. HOPKINS is Chairman assisted by HOWARD G. COLLISON & WILBUR PENLEY with ten subcommittees ready to look after comfort & pleasure of guests. TMWGM ROY H. STETLER, Jr will receive visitors assisted by DGM BILL KOENIG, RWGS(Emer.) CLAUD SHAFFER, RWGS STAN UPPERCUE and PGMS present. Sub-Chmn include: LOU BANDELL, jr. (Liaison Coordination & Awards); JOE BRYAN III (Candy Booth); BILL WALTZ, Jr (Contributions); ELMER VOGEL (General Foods); GORDON WEHR (Pancakes); AD LIEDER (Amplifiers & Sound); PHIL BAER (Registration); JIM HOTCHKISS, Jr (Grounds); BILL ASHLEY (Transportation, Buses, Police & Parking); BILL WINDSOR (Payroll); and BILL WISCH (Publicity) plus the many members of these committees.

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CONDOLENCES: Bro. Roy H. Stetler, Jr, on the death of his Mother.

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

● Senior Wardens sure have it tough!! Getting to the East is rough enough; but, what you do after you get there is something else. You just can't start soon enough to plan for interesting and varied programs with suggestions from Sideliners, Officers and Past Masters. Should you plan events you'd like others to know about, let us know well in advance and we'll publish them.

● Now is the time to get started on your NPD Prevention Program. Show them you care. Minimizing the numbers dropped for Non Payment of Dues is a concern of the WM with the assistance and cooperation of members.

● We have winners to you "YOU NAME IT CONTEST". Congratulations go to Bro. WILLIE E. PHILLIPS, West Gate No. 220, Mt Rainier. His dues for 1978 will be paid courtesy of a generous brother. His entry of "The Freestate Freemason" has been selected. The entries of Brothers ROBERT J. GRAZIOSI, Tuscan No. 202 and CARL J. WISNER, Door-to-Virtue No. 46 were so close that they will also receive another form of recognition. 89 entries were received from 51 participants representing 33 Lodges.

● Bro/Dr BERNARD E. ROTHMAN, Pres. Board of Grand Inspectors (State Area) has been reappointed by the Governor of Maryland as President, Board of Examiners in Optometry for the State of Maryland. He has served on the Board 22 years.

● PM JIM MORRIS, Solomon's Lodge No. 121, Savage, has visited 114 of the 129 Lodges in our jurisdiction.

● BRO. MOSES MENDELSON, Cornerstone No. 224, hearing that the Lodge's Blood Bank was in jeopardy, cleared with his doctor and donated. He is 70 years old!

● BRO. ARTHUR GOSNESS, Chmn on Masonic Information & Education, reports that copies of "The Maryland Master Mason Handbook" will be available at the Harvest Home Day on Oct. 15th at \$2 a copy. These make excellent gifts and presentations. A new Instruction Manual should be ready for distribution at the November Grand Lodge Communication.

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RITUALISTIC WORK

Our Grand Lecturer, MOSES APPEL, has just closed out another successful series of Summer Lodges of Instruction. He reports that ritual is on high in Maryland what with the outstanding attendance and zeal demonstrated by participating Masons, Officers and Past Masters in improving and polishing their proficiency. A distinguished visitor, Bro. CHARLES J. CARTER, PM & Secy, Three Pillars Lodge No. 4923, Kent, England and Prov. Dep. G.D.C.(W.Kent) brought greetings from The Hon. FIENNES CORNWALLIS, RWDGM, Province of West Kent. Special thanks go to HERB MUIR, EARLE PEDDICORD, LOU WERNER, ED KRAFT, JIM MARTIN, NORMAN GERHARD, LOUIS EGGE, BENJAMIN HALL and other participants. He would also remind you that except for June, July August and December, three Lodges of Instruction are held in the Baltimore Masonic Temple at 7:30 PM, Monday, Thursday & Friday nights. Call the Grand Secretary's office for details (301-752-1198). Lodges of Instruction are also held in the Counties. Contact the Deputy Grand Lecturer in the area for details.

LODGE NOTES.....

* Community involvement, public presentation of awards, support of activities of Youth and the Aged, sponsored bloodmobiles with public participation marks some of the events reported - all with favorable results. For instance:

- Friendship No. 84, Hagerstown, under leadership of WM WILLIAM C. HERCHEN-ROTHER has accomplished some Herculean feats...Sesquicentennial (150th year) celebration attended by TMWGM, Mayor VARNER PADDACK, County Commissioner Pres. & Bro. MARTIN L. SNOOK, Dr & Bro Carl Winters (Speaker); large crowd...200 visitors to Temple (first time in 30 years public visited Lodge rooms). Visit to White Hall Lodge at Columbus, Ohio with members of Hagerstown No. 217 and Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21, Winchester, Va....present were Bros from W. Va, Philippine Islands and Japan. Celebrated Strawberry Festival and Family Picnic with friends, families and particularly widows of deceased brothers. Hosting event with other Washington Co. Lodges...banquet and FC Degree Sep 26th. Busload of Friendship and Hagerstown brothers & wives to Bonnie Blink, sponsoring religious services with stop for dinner on return trip (Sep 4th). Will present Washington County Masonic History at G.L. Visit Oct. 24th. Excellent relations with press through PM HOWARD E. NALLEY and local radio station. Great assist from SAMUEL O. SOWERS in all activities.

- Under Chairmanship of Bro. WILLIAM H. COURTNEY, PM & V.P. of Masonic Temple Association of Cumberland Lodges a "George Washington Masonic Bicentennial Memorial and Time Capsule Dedication" was held on May 21st with assistance of DeMolays and Rainbow Girls. Speaker was our DGM Bill Koenig. Time capsule will be opened in year 2076. Suggest you get your reservations in early! Cumberland Lodges include Ohr No. 131 (WM SPENCER R. POWELL); Potomac No. 100 (WM KENNETH H. HAUSMAN); Ft Cumberland No. 211 (WM WILBER L. SMITH); East Gate No. 216 (WMDAMON H. WRIGHT).

- Sharon No. 182, Randallstown under WM HERBERT W. FINDEISEN, JR has sponsored family, friends and neighbor events in behalf of Charity and in recognition of service of Bro CARL VOHRER (60 years), RALPH A BECKER AND ARTHUR E. MORMAN (50).

- Ionic No. 145, Reisterstown, under WM LARRY L. MURRAY honored Bro ALVIN A. CULLISON in presence of family and friends when he received 50 year service pin. Over 100 well-wishers were present. Visits have been exchanged with Christiana Lodge No. 35, Newport Delaware where degree work was observed.

- Birmingham No. 188, Beltsville is justly proud of their J.W. FRED H. DETMERS. WM HAROLD G. TAYLOR reports his J.W. has given 3 gallons of blood as of July 77.

- Palestine No. 189, Catonsville. WM FREDERICK C. JESSOP, JR reports on the Tri-Jurisdictional Meeting hosted by Palestine Lodge at the Baltimore Temple on July 9th at which Manasseh Lodge No. 182, Va, Potomac No. 5, D.C. and the GMs of Maryland, D.C. and DGM of Va were present. A tour of the Temple was conducted and was much admired by the visitors; this was followed by dinner. Each Lodge opened and closed. The featured speaker the Hon. & Bro Tom Steed (D-Okla). A copy of this program was placed in a time capsule sealed in the cornerstone of of Manasseh Lodge in the presence of RWGM of Va, Bro JOHN W. LANNINGHAM on July 30.

LODGE NOTES....(Cont'd)

● Hagerstown No. 217, Hagerstown. WM NELSON K. ALEXANDER has been collaborating in Masonic activities with other County Lodges particularly Friendship No. 84 on visits to Bonnie Blink, Ohio and participating in "Host Our Neighbors Night".

● Liberty No. 219, Baltimore, Baltimore. WM PAUL F. SIEGRIST. PM JIM MARTIN reports on presentation of 60 year G.L. Service Emblem by TMWGM to Bro. EMANUEL SIPPPEL in presence of four generations represented by 35 family members.

● Cornerstone No. 224, Takoma Park. WM BERNARD J. EHRENFREUND reports Lodge efforts with DeMolay Chapter honored in presence of TMWGM on 15th Anniversary. Chapter produced several State Master Councillors, Chevaliers and Master Masons. Amazed the Lodge with proficiency in conferring 2nd Degree of their Order. Honored Bro STAN SINGER as recipient of Distinguished Mason Award for 1977 in presence of family and friends for work on Blood activities. CardioPulmonary Resuscitation training schedule in September. GIs RAY BODMER and BOB SEIBERT made courtesy presentation of 50 year Service Pin to Bro. LEON COOPER, Riverside Lodge No. 124, W. Va.

● Mt Nebo No. 229, Perry Hall. WM RICHARD L. AYRES. As reported by Bro Bob Forman, cornerstone was laid and new Temple dedicated by TMWGM on May 14th. Souvenir coin available for \$2. Send money to Bro. ROBERT L. FOREMAN, 5825 Westwood Ave, Baltimore, MD 21206.

● Collington No. 230, Bowie. WM JACKIE M. CALLOWAY reports his pleasure at second annual visit of TMWGM and Line and recent conferral of MM Degree on Bro. WILLIAM A. FORD. Lodge visited Unity Lodge No. 146, Front Royal, Va in April where FC Degree conferred on Bro. JAMES A. JENSEN.

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YOUTH - OUR BRIDGE TO TOMORROW

Worried about the future? Especially the future of your Lodge? Take stock of our greatest potential resource - YOUTH! The Order of DeMolay is part of that stock. Through its well-rounded schedule of committee work, ritual and many other activities develop young men from 13 thru 21 in becoming tomorrow's leaders. Over 50% of DeMolays become Master Masons already prepared for effective work as Officers, Ritualists or Committee members. Keep Masonry alive! For information write: Maryland State DeMolay, P.O. Box 9811, Eudowood Finance Branch, Towson, MD 21204 or contact the nearest DeMolay Chapter.

**WASHINGTON COLLEGE - STOWMAN SCHOLARSHIP: A number of awards are available from the George D. Stowman Memorial Scholarship Fund for sons of Masons who are/were members of a subordinate Maryland Lodge. Address inquiries before February 1, 1978 to: Mrs. Susan H. Wright, Director for Financial Aid, Washington College, Chestertown, MD 21620.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

September

- 17 G.L. Visit, Ohr No. 131, Cumberland, MM Degree, 7:30 PM.
- 22 G.L. Visit, Union No. 60, Baltimore, MM Degree.
- 26 Friendship No. 84, Hagerstown. "Host Our Neighbors Night", Washington County Lodges, Banquet and FC Degree

October

- 1 G.L. Visit, Harrisburg No. 629, Harrisburg, PA, MM Degree, 7:30 PM.
- 5 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Pickering No. 146, Baltimore, 7:30 PM.
- 15 Harvest Home Day, Bonnie Blink, Registration 6:30 AM.
- 18 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Jephtha No. 222, Essex (Balto), 7:30 PM.
- 19 G.L. Fraternal Visit, York No. 225, Hyattsville, 7:30 PM.
- 24 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Friendship No. 84, Hagerstown, 7:30 PM.
- 28 G.L. Religious Service, Temple Oheb Sholom, Balto, 8:15 PM.
- 31 G.L. Visit, Knights of Mecca, AAOONS

November

- 2 G.L. Fraternal Visit, West Gate No. 220, Mt Rainier.
- 3 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Wheaton No. 228, Wheaton.
- 6 OPEN HOUSE, MASONIC TEMPLE, BALTO, 2 to 4 PM. MASONS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS INVITED. FILMS, SINGING, TOURS, REFRESHMENTS. PARKING ST PAUL PLACE GARAGE BEHIND TEMPLE - SPECIAL \$1 PER CAR.
- 7 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Mystic Circle No. 109, Balto, Past Masters' Nite.
- 8 G.L. Visit, Camp Springs No. 227, Camp Springs, MM Degree.
- 13 G.L. Religious Service, Bonnie Blink, 3:00 PM.
- 15 G.L. Annual Communication, Balto, 3:00 PM and 7:30 PM.
- 16 G.L. Annual Communication, Balto, 7:30 PM.

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BONNIE BLINK (MARYLAND MASONIC HOMES)

Assisting the Bonnie Blink Guests in the enjoyment of the happy reflections consequent on a well spent life are: • MRS WILMA STONE, the Homes Administrator who reports productive activity and gives thanks to the "Stars", "Jobies" and "Rainbows", and the Sherwood Episcopal Church for the outside gardens. She notes too that lightening has damage the turret & bell tower. No injuries but the flag pole and several trees gave way to high winds.

• ED BRUECKMANN, Chairman, Committee on Masonic Homes Endowment reports that a Lodge Liaison Committee meeting of Lodge representatives was called for September 10th at Bonnie Blink. This committee will keep Lodges directly informed of Masonic Home operations. ED also hopes to see more paid up cards in the "100 Club". He is delighted with contributions being made to the Endowment Fund in memory of deceased brothers. These contributions are truly a living memorial.

NOTE: Please forward items for publication, suggestions, comments, etc. to: Editor, The Freestate Freemason, % S.H. Lipshitz, 522 Nelson St, Rockville. MD 20850.