

# 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 2 NUMBER 1

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### A SPRINGTIME MESSAGE TO EACH MARYLAND MASTER MASON

Dear Brother:

It's a great time to be alive! There are those who will challenge that statement, saying: "It's the worst time to be alive." Debatable? Yes, but I'm hoping every dedicated Mason feels it's a great time to be alive, in spite of conditions prevailing in a world distraught with problems that test the very best in us in attempting to solve them. What challenges face us constantly! Hope? Yes! If we live in harmony with the moral and spiritual truths taught within the Lodge. These are days when temptations come to be pessimistic, to lose hope for a better world, to wish for happier days.

I wrote these words on that glorious day in March when, for the first time, after a long cold winter, the temperature almost reached sixty degrees. The Sun blessed us with its warmth, giving us a preview of things to come - sunny days, warmer weather, with new life surging through every living thing. We thanked God for that day, and the coming of the season that renews our spirits and helps to restore our hope for brighter and better days ahead.

As Masons, may we take a lesson from Spring, remembering that no matter how dreary life may be, or how difficult our problems are, we are still in God's hands. So, "Hope thou in God."

Sincerely and fraternally,

Roy H. Stetler, Jr.  
Grand Master

\* \* \* WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS \* \* \*

(January 21st - March 18th at Hyattsville, Cambridge, Hagerstown and Bel Air)

PURPOSE:

- o Discuss and provide guidance on operations and activities of Lodges including "Role of the Worshipful Master", "Lodge Programming", "Secretary Responsibilities" & "Subordinate Lodge Problems".
- o Inform participants of progress on Grand Master's Programs.
- o Listen to questions and comments of participants; provide on-the-spot answers or note those requiring further study.

PARTICIPANTS:

- o Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Secretaries, Grand Inspectors and Deputy Grand Lecturers.
- o Grand Lodge Workshop Committee: Joe Bryan, III (Chairman); Bill Koenig, Deputy Grand Master; Stan Uppercue, Grand Secy; Arthur Gosness, Chmn, Masonic Education Comte. Assisting were Seymour Lipshitz, Chmn, Public Relations Comte; Howard Resau and John Herold; and Moses Appel, Grand Lecturer.

WAS IT WORTH IT? Ask your officers. Consensus was "Let's have workshops more often".

o Beneficial to WMs - Learned importance of good administration as well as good Ritual; confidence in carrying out programs; sharing of views; cooperation with adjoining lodges; developing officers; importance of involving family, friends in Lodge activities; understanding and applying Grand Master's objectives; above all - value of keeping members informed, interested and enthusiastic.

o Beneficial to Wardens - importance of advanced planning and exposure to examples of types of programs suitable for meetings and special occasions.

o Beneficial to Secretaries - sharing solutions and techniques of administration.

o Beneficial to Members - Having effective officers to guide them in practising Freemasonry - A Way of Life.

o Beneficial to Grand Lodge - Surfacing of Lodge problems and needs; assuring that objectives are understood, practicable and acceptable.

Note: A Mini-workshop program has been started by DGL Jack Edmundson of District No. 4. Visitors welcome.

**\*\* AMENDMENTS TO GRAND LODGE CONSTITUTION - Action May 16th.**

- o Changing day and time of Annual & Semiannual communications of G.L. from 3rd Tues to 3rd Mon; holding second day's session if necessary.
- o Optional Open Installations by invitation.
- o Revision of Grand Lodge Constitution.

\* \* \* LODGE NOTES \* \* \*

Anne Arundel County -

● Annapolis No. 89 (WM Robert O. Reynolds Jr). Off to great start. Making news in local papers. Picture of WM also presentation of donation to community hospital. Raised 10 men over two day period. Terrific support to Bethel 49 of Jobies. Great events scheduled in May and October: Trip to New York, and visit by Kilties.

Baltimore City -

● St John's No. 34 (WM Philip I. Klein). Talk about achievement! Secy Joe Melman reports with pride of Herman Needle donating in his lifetime 17 gallons of blood! 10 donated to Masonic blood bank!

● Centre No. 108 (WM Ronald Block). Secy Elliott Winner tells of presentation of 50 year Masonic Service Pin to Carl T. Lingelbach. PMs were to raise brother who couldn't attend. Bro Lingelbach volunteered to be candidate as gesture of rededication to Masonry! Inspiring? To top it off, Bro Lamar W. Norris was also present. He was WM in 1927 when Bro Lingelbach was raised. Great scene!

● Mt Vernon No. 151 (WM Herman F. Terjung). Secy Charlie Koester recounts a tale of heroism of the highest order concerning the deeds of Bro Charles A. Lowe, Jr. Actually, the event was described in a letter from a Mrs Peggy Manning whose husband's clothes had caught fire. Seeing this, Bro Lowe leaped a fence, smothered the flames and prevented a loss of life. This occurred two months after Bro Lowe's operation on open heart surgery. In gratitude, the Mannings who are not affiliated with any Masonic organizations, have donated \$25 to Bonnie Blink in memory of of Bro Lowe's son, Charles A. III, who had lost his life in an accident just prior to the incident. Congratulations, Bro Lowe and to Mt Vernon Lodge in reporting an exemplification of Freemasonry - A Way of Life!

● Ben Franklin No. 97 (WM Gilson J. Fontz). WM Fontz extends an invitation to share in conferring of MM Degree by Grand Lodge Officers on October 6th at 7:30 PM.

Caroline County -

● Nanticoke No. 172 (WM Levin A. Fishell). Plans underway to have distinguished speaker, Sen. Harry Hughes, Illinois, as guest of Lodge. Sen. Hughes is a Mason. Contact Bro Fishell for details.

Carroll County -

● Monocacy No. 203 (WM Delbert E. Brauning). Ladies Night on April 15th, Oysters and Turkey family style, Masons, family and friends. \$7 per person. Interested? Call Russ Mummert, 301 756 2700.

Cecil County -

● Union No. 48 (WM Gary R. Ashby). Proud of their Lodge and members in it including Cecil County Sheriff, Bro. Jack DeWitt.

● Harmony No. 53 (WM A. Ray Bulgin). This is third time around for WM. 110 visits made to 5 jurisdictions: Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Canada (Ontario, Newfoundland), New Jersey. Also, attentive to sick (180 sick calls).



### Cecil County - Cont'd

- Cecil No. 125 (WM Lewis A. Collins). Only 76 members but loyal, proud and stalwart. Bro. Collins served as WM in 55, 56 and 58.
- Bro James E. Freeman, Sr served as WM in 1973, 74, 75, 76 and 77.

### Charles County -

- St Columba No. 150 (WM Joseph P. Wilkerson). Secy Harry Beck tells us of the fortitude exemplified by WM Wilkerson when his daughter was killed in an accident just before installation night. Duty and strength saw the occasion through. That's the way Bro. Wilkerson felt about it. He also was in a position to present a plaque and thanks to Pat. First Class Larry Luttrell, Charles Co. Sheriff's Dept who had rescued Grandson Billy Beadle also involved in the accident. This ceremony was held at a meeting of the Fraternal Order of Police. Although a non-Mason, Dep. Luttrell is truly a Perfect Ashlar. Bro. Wilkerson is truly a Worshipful Master.

### Dorchester County -

- Cambridge No. 66 (WM John W. Thomas). Clipping sent by Secy Bill Merrick with pictures of four brothers receiving 50 year service emblems: Abel Johnson (courtesy G.L. of Ohio.); Sidney Forbes (courtesy G.L. of Conn); Russell S. Baker and George W. Phillips of Cambridge. Presentations made by GI Linwood W. Hayman). WM is having Annual Banquet and Ladies Nite on May 31st. Call him for details if interested in attending (301-228-9356).

### Frederick County -

- Columbia No. 58 (WM Robert V. Mercer). Ladies Nite on April 19 at Cozy Restaurant, Thurmont. Deputy Grand Master William M. Koenig will be guest speaker.
- o Lynch No. 163 (WM Ralph C. Sigler). This is third year for Bro Sigler as WM. He had pleasure of participating in presentation of 60 year service emblems to Bros Millard M. Rice; James H. Gambrell, III; and Clayborne M. Zimmerman. Congratulations!
- oFervency No. 200 (WM Arthur R. Emmons). Hosted fraternal visit by Grand Lodge officers.

### Harford County -

- Mt Ararat No. 44.(WM James P. Moynihan). Lots of things going for this Lodge. A dramatic group, "Mt Ararat Lodge Players" who are putting on a play "The Greatest of These" under the direction of Bro. Robert A. Sumner. Boasts three Chiefs of Police on its roster. Jobies of Bethel 35 who have all kinds of trophies displayed for outstanding achievement. Recently, John Bernard Rogalski, Senior and Junior, father and son, were initiated.
- Esdraelon No. 176 (WM Raymond A. Thomas). Recently honored Bro. Austin N. Rowan who is now the RW Junior Grand Warden and the first lodge member to serve in Grand Lodge Line in 98 years.

### Howard County -

- Solomon's No. 121 (WM Dale L. Lund). Proud of Bro. James F. Morse - elected Pres. of PM Assn of So. Md; new Chairman of County Luncheon meeting; also has visited all 129 Maryland Lodges.



## Kent County -

● Chester No. 115 (WM Howard E. McIntyre). A hub of activity and distinguished members: A State Senator; 2 of 3 County Commissioners; 2 of 5 Bd of Education members; 2 of 2 Judges; Supt of Schools; Register of Wills; Clerk of Circuit Court; Judges of Orphans' Court; 4 Attorneys. 50 year service emblem presented to Charles B. Kerr. WM & SW addressed Brotherhood of St Andrews on Freemasonry. PM Gordon Browning answered questions & distributed Freemasonry, A Way of Life. Kent County News carried beautiful spread on WM & Line of Officers.

## Montgomery County -

- Pentalpha No. 194 (WM Edmund S. Copeland). Catching up with newsworthy events: Bro. Ernest B. Lipford first Lodge member to be coroneted as 33°. Visited by PGM Samuel W. McIntosh, D.C. at Past Masters' Night attended by friends. Bro. Henry BeCraft presented 50 year service emblem by GI Robert G. Seibert.
- Montgomery No. 195 (WM Kenneth B. Hamilton). Supporting youth - Rockville Bethel 33 of Jobies and Kensington DeMolay Chapter.
- Kensington No. 198 (WM Thomas C. Morris, Jr). Pot luck dinner after short meeting and upcoming Spring Festival are some of activities enjoyed with family and friends. Heavy on Youth - Kensington De Molay Chapter and Jobie Bethels 32, 44, and 56.
- Bethesda No. 204 (WM Michael S. Miller). Had wonderful family night dinner, entertainment by TCL Montgomery Forest. Speaker on taxes. Supporting 3 County DeMolay Chapters and 6 Jobie Chapters.
- Silver Spring No. 215 (WM W. Eugene Smallwood). Proud of Bro. Bernard T. Mittemeyer recently promoted to Brig. General, U.S. Army Medical Corps. Active youth program: DeMolay and Jobie Bethel 18.
- Cornerstone No. 224 (WM John Antonio). Proud of Bro. Richard W. Hayman, ham radio operator hobbyist for 20 years who connected a neighbor, Dr Albert Greenfield and a doctor in northwest Guyana, South America in a successful Caesarian operation. Mother and identical twins doing fine. Beautiful front page write-up in Wash. Star. In program featuring refreshing view of George Washington, as presented by Bro. Elmer F. Stein, WSGD of D.C., Bro. Herman Hannauer received 50 year service emblem from GI Robert G. Seibert. Proud of Cornerstone DeMolay Chapter - No. 1 in State in meeting 200% of membership drive.
- Wheaton No. 228 (WM Arthur C. Freitag, Sr). Bro. Leighton E. Harrell guest speaker celebrating 54th Masonic birthday will give talk attended by visitor, PM William Marshall, eldest PM of Kilsyth St. John Lodge No. 39 of Scotland. Ladies Night planned for June 6th. Supporting Jobies of Bethel 44 and 54.

## Prince George's County -

- Mt Hermon No. 179 (WM William F. Mortimer, Jr). Good programing - Anniversary Nite run by Ed Rupert for Masons of 5, 10, 15, 20 years. Area Job's Daughters honored with John Courtney, Naval Lodge No. 4 D.C. as speaker. Golf Tournament May 24th. Supporting Jobie No. 4.

- Chillum Castle No. 186 (WM Louis A. Dreyer). Hosted 9th District Lodges on TCL conferral of MM Degree in costume. Bethel 43, IOJD placed first in State Choral Competition and demonstrated talent to Lodge. May 12th is 88th Birthday dinner and dance.
- Birmingham No. 188 (WM Earl D. Quirey). Bro Herbert Wilson Wells, distinguished citizen and Mason received 50 year service emblem. PM Clifford E. Boteler received 50 year emblem from new GI William M. Clark, Jr, RWGM. Bro Clark also presented 60 year service emblem to Bro Raymond C. Wiley at his home in presence of WM, Wardens, Chaplain and Bro Wells. Assistance appreciated from Mt Hermon Lodge in Memorial Service by Bill Mortimer on 188's Instln Nite.
- Seat Pleasant No. 218 (WM James A. Davis). GI William J. Taylor presented 50 year service emblem to Bro Edward Jean Staats. The "Friendliest Lodge in the State"(231) put on rededication service.
- York No. 225 (WM Thomas J. Heinze). Featuring programs including ladies & friends; Talk by Art Gosnell on "The Maryland Master Mason Handbook"; talk by Rev. Richard E. Stetler on CPR. Birthday celebration May 10th including honors to MWGM and Secy Burt Leffingwell.
- Camp Springs No. 227 (WM Russell E. Tazelaar). Hosted "Family Night" with 250 Masons, ladies, families, parents DeMolays and Jobies (Bethel 41) in attendance. Jobies performed ceremony of Jacob's Ladder; DeMolays did "Flower Talk" Grand Master and wife Ruth as well as Grand Line officers and wives shared in warm and unforgettable experience. Past Matrons & Patrons of Unity Chapter 112, OES provided refreshments. Visit planned May 13th to Reynoldsburg Lodge No. 340, Ohio where MM degree will be conferred.
- Oxon Hill No. 231 (WMLester D. Short). GI Raymond E. Cyrus and officers presented Bro Frank G. Bruckner with 50 year service emblem at his home on behalf of GL of Texas. Ray Calvert also present. Youngest lodge visited oldest (Washington No. 3); Made tour of Grand Lodge. Met with WMs of 8th Mas. District as part of monthly get-together to exchange ideas and work out programs.  
Somerset County -
- Manokin No. 106 (WM Michael C. Gates). Excellent picture of officers and article on Freemasonry in "Marylander and Herald".  
Washington County -
- Friendship No. 84 (WM William C. Herchenrother). Special "Ladies' Masonic Info Program" featuring George Washington Apron embroidered by Madame Lafayette. Bro Sam Sowers answered questions. Busload of members and ladies attended GM's sermon at Cheverly United Methodist Church; had dinner together on return. Masonic Supper Sessions being held 6:30 PM 2nd Monday every Lodge month excluding January & December. MMs welcome, no reservations necessary. First speaker, Sam Sowers spoke on "Hiram Abif-Fact & Fiction". Second session, PM Nelson Alexander, Hagerstown 217 will talk on "What you Always Wanted to Know About Masonry But Were Afraid to Ask".

#### Washington County - (Cont'd)

- James H. Bowers No. 173 (WM James C. Norris). Ladies Nite Banquet held this past November highlighted by tributes to memory of Bro. D. Malcolm (Mac) Whiteside given by Howard Furman and presentation of meritorious certificate to widow, Orentha Whiteside. 78 members wives and guests, including widows of Masons, attended to also hear PGM A. Wayne Reed talk on what ladies should know about Masonry and Masonic history.
- Washington County lodges organizing a Washington County Blue Lodge Night Banquest for September 29. Committee includes Bro. Donald R. Johnson of Friendship No. 84 (Chairman); Samuel H. Gross, Eureka No. 105; Harry W. Bumgarner, Medairy No. 140; Orville H. Helser, Jr., James W. Bowers No. 173; Nicholas C. Vessa, Salem No. 196; James B. Bachtell, Antietam No. 197 and Paul W. Palmer, Hagerstown, No. 217.

#### GRAND LODGE MASONIC MUSEUMS AND LIBRARY

As described by Bro. John A. Hughes, Jr, Curator and Librarian, our Museums are a pride and treasure to us all. The one located on the third floor of the Baltimore Temple was established in its present state 1940. On display are old money, patents, clocks, jewels, swords, etc. Among the more important items are the desk that Gen. George Washington used when he resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army; memorabilia of PGM Thomas J. Shryock who served from 1885-1918 and died in office; a Torah recovered in 1944 from a bombed building in Livorno, Italy as a result of WWII hostilities; a copy of the Martin Luther Bible printed in 1697 in Germany; a chair used by Bro John Coats, our First Grand Master who served from 1787-1810; the original jewels worn by the officers of Concordia Lodge No. 13 from 1794-1937; and a collection of "pennies" from 1928 to date used to pay the Craft at Bonnie Blink during corn-husking. Items having Masonic value with a definite historical background would be welcomed.

Our Library is located on the second floor of the Temple contains material of Masonic research and reference as well as current papers and periodicals from other jurisdictions and popular magazines.

These facilities are open every day, Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M.

The Masonic Museum at Easton is located at 23 N. Harrison St. It is the site where Maryland Freemasonry was organized on April 17, 1787. It has operated since 1974. Coats Lodge No. 102 is responsible for its maintenance under its Curator, Bro. Sam Hemming. Visiting hours are from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. on Saturdays and by special request. The collection includes displays and pictures of Eastern Shore Masons, jewels, mementoes of PGM Daniel Hope and other priceless objects. It is a source of pride to Masons and the citizens of Easton.



\* \* \* FORTHCOMING EVENTS \* \* \*

Apr  
13 G.L. Visit, Door to Virtue, No. 46, Westminster, MM Degree.

May  
14 G.L. Religious Services, Bonnie Blink at 3:00 P.M.  
16 G.L. Semi-Annual Communication, Baltimore at 7:30 P.M.  
24 G.L. Visit, St. John's No. 34, Baltimore, MM Degree.  
25 G.L. Visit, Esdraelon No. 176, Cardiff, Honor Austin N. Rowan RWJGW

Jun  
6 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Cornerstone No. 224, Takoma Park.  
19 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Acacia No. 155, Thurmont.  
22 G.L. Visit, Glen Burnie No. 213, Glen Burnie, MM Degree.

Jul  
15 Tri-Jurisdictional Meeting. Cannon Office Bldg, Washington, D.C.  
Dinner 5:30 PM. Potomac No. 5 (D.C.); Palestine No. 189 (MD);  
Mannaseh No. 182 (VA). Call Al Hahn for details (301 744 6589).

July and August Summer Lodges of Instruction:  
July 11th thru August 29th, Baltimore, 7:45 PM.

Jul 13	EA Hagerstown, 8:00 PM	Aug 10	FC Cambridge, 8:00 PM
20	EA Salisbury, 8:00 PM	17	MM Hagerstown, 8:00 PM
27	FC Brunswick, 8:00 PM	24	MM Denton, 8:00 PM

Sep  
6 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Pickering No. 146, Baltimore.  
19 G.L. Visit, Mt Ararat No. 44, Bel Air, MM Degree.  
29 G.L. Fraternal Visit, Hagerstown, Wash. County Lodges Ladies Nite.  
30 G.L. Visit, Ohr No. 131, Cumberland, MM Degree.

Oct  
6 G.L. Visit, Ben Franklin No. 97, Baltimore.  
7 Harrisburg Lodge No. 629, Harrisburg, PA, returns visit.  
21 Harvest Home Day, Bonnie Blink  
27 G.L. Visit, Corinthian No. 93, Baltimore, MM Degree.  
30 G.L. Visit, Oxon Hill No. 231, "All District Night".

Nov  
1 G.L. Visit, Solomon's No. 121, Savage.  
3 G.L. Visit, Hagerstown No. 217, Hagerstown.  
19 Religious Services, Bonnie Blink at 3:00 PM.  
21/22 G.L. Annual Communication.

\*\* \*\* NOTES FROM THE EDITOR \*\* \*\*

Our next issue will have a new format and improved readability. It will feature key events of the Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication in May. With your continued cooperation it will include news sent me from your Lodge. Always happy to receive any suggestions, questions, comments or what have you. Write to: Editor, The Freestate Freemason, 522 Nelson St., Rockville, MD 20850. P.S. you might want to put me on your mailing list for your Lodge Bulletin. Hope your year is going well.....Seymour.