

LEADERSHIP - 2011 EDITION

GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND
LODGE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



We Are Still Looking for Many Good Officers!

The Grand Lodge of Maryland will once again hold the Lodge Leadership Seminar. And, as before, each Lodge is encouraged to send one officer to this outstanding program. It will be similar to the one held in the Spring of 2010, but with several notable changes.

The Program which was started in 2009 by MWGM Thomas M. Velvin, Jr. has been an outstanding success, with well over 250 senior officers participating. We all understand, however, that for this program to really make a difference, we must provide ongoing leadership training for our future Worshipful Masters. The prescription for having an active Lodge with successful programs where the line of officers can effectively deliver all three degrees requires attention not only to the Constitution and ritual, but to effective leadership as well.

As we did with the 2009 program, each student in the 2010 class was asked to fill out an evaluation form. Although last year's program was a major improvement from the 2009 seminar, the committee took away from the 2010 class a number of additional suggestions, which have been incorporated into the 2011 weekend.

As a result, the details for 2011 are as follows:

The dates are March 25, 26, and 27, 2011. The Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort will host the seminar. It is located in Cambridge, MD. There is an excellent golf course, but any golfers might have to check in a day early if they wish to play (this activity is NOT included in the price of the seminar!).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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From the Grand Master

Brethren,



One can hardly imagine that it is now September and the farmers are busy picking corn. The Summer of 2010 was highlighted with numerous picnics and crab feasts and complaints from Lodges about having to do degree work during the Summer. My wife and I had the good fortune of attending a number of the picnics and crab feasts and thoroughly enjoyed every one of them, as much for the good fellowship as the good food. I think the culmination of all of these events was the Mid-Shore Seafood Festival which was put together by the eight Lodges from the Counties of Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Ann, and Talbot. I will not try to name all of those who were participants in the planning of this event, but a few of the key members were Rick Andrew, Temple 128; Bill Cep, Coats 102; Ed Berkman, Centreville 180; Mike Holcomb, Oriental 158 and DGL for the Mid-Shore; and Chris Pavone, Chester 115. I know that I have missed a number of the Brothers who worked hard to make this event a huge success, but I will have something special to say to them at the Annual Communication. Nearly 300 folks showed up to eat crabs and seafood and enjoy the great music and fellowship that afternoon. Let's try to double it next year.

I also want to congratulate all of the Brothers, wives, family members and volunteers who have given so much of their time to the CHIP Program. Every day, I hear about successful CHIP events all over the State of Maryland and of the ever-increasing number of persons we have IDED. The last count I had was over 20,000 since the program was started in December 2007 when MWPGM Biggs authorized the purchase of the first CHIP computer. I don't think that he, or I, ever had any idea this program would grow as fast as it has in the almost three years since it started. Congratulations to Bro. Doug Bassett and all of those who give time to this very important activity.

Many activities that were begun immediately after the Semi-Annual Communication are in full swing at this moment. Worshipful Brother Paul Fishell is hard at work on the ritual book you asked for and we are hopeful that we will be able to show it off in draft form at the Annual Communication. The preparations for the advertising campaign have begun with a firm kick-off date of January 1, 2011 as the target. The Grand Lodge Web Site continues to grow and provide more tools for our membership. At this time, Lodge Secretaries will find most of the forms and documents used by their Lodges available in the special area set aside for them. We are nearly finished with the area for Grand Inspectors and will then be turning our attention the area for Deputy Grand Lecturers. If you need a particular document, such as the Constitution, please ask your Lodge Secretary to look on the web site in the Grand Secretary's page because the document may be available for download.

Brethren, once again, I must remind each of you of the importance of having a representative of every Lodge in our jurisdiction present at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. In May, we had every Lodge represented which was the first time this had happened in many years. Now that we know it can be done, there is no reason for us to fall back to the "OLD" ways again.

There are many items that come before the assembled Body during the course of the communication that each Lodge should be able to cast a favorable or unfavorable ballot upon which do not get published prior to the communication. These are items that do not change the Constitution but do have the potential to change the course of the Grand Lodge of Maryland in the future and therefore should be decided by the assembled members of the Grand Lodge. As was done for the Semi-Annual Communication, we will again invite any Master Mason in good standing to attend the Annual Communication up to the limitation of the Corinthian Room to seat everyone. You might wish to bring an apron because we ran out of aprons in May.

Now is the time to remind every Lodge Secretary and the three members of your Lodge's newly formed Membership Committee to begin working on the list of those who are in danger of being dropped for non-payment of dues. The end of the year will be upon us before we know it. Each person on the list, which has been prepared by the Lodge Secretary, must be personally contacted by a member of the committee for the purpose of determining the member's status and his ability to pay his dues or his decision to discontinue his membership. In those cases where the member is unable to pay his dues, the committee is obligated to report the same to the membership at a subsequent meeting so that appropriate action can be taken by the Lodge to remit his dues when deemed prudent to do so by the members present.

Although I have not looked at the membership numbers since the Semi-Annual Communication, my discussions with many of you and with many of the Officers of Lodges, I have a good feeling that we have turned the corner and will show positive growth this year. Many factors can influence the final numbers such as too many NPDs and an over-active Grim Reaper, but I know there have been a steady flow of petitions and an abundance of requests for dispensations by the Lodges asking for additional meetings and early starts so they can get their pending degree work done. I predict that when the advertising campaign takes hold early next year, every Lodge will be busier than now. With this in mind, our Grand Lecturer and Assistant Grand Lecturer have come up with a way to confer the first section of the Entered Apprentice Degree on multiple candidates without violating the provisions of the Constitution and the need to perform certain aspects of that section of the degree on each candidate individually. Lodges that are interested in learning how to perform this revised ritual should contact the Grand Lecturer.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you as we continue our travels around the jurisdiction over the next two months before my term ends on the evening of the Annual Communication when I pass the enormous responsibility of this office to my successor.

Fraternally,
 Tom Velvin
 Grand Master

Deadlines for submitting articles & information for publication in the *Free State Freemason*: **the 1st day of March (Spring), June (Summer), September (Fall), and December (Winter).**

These dates are firm as the issue must be formatted and given to the printer the 2nd week of these months.

Send mail to:
Free State Freemason
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, MD 21030

410-527-0600 tel
410-527-1276 fax

FSFM@glmd.org

Article Submission

These points should be followed for articles submitted for inclusion in the *Free State Freemason* publication:

Original pictures or pictures from a digital camera on disk are fine - use the highest resolution.

Ink jet prints or newspaper pictures **will not** reproduce satisfactorily.

If you desire the return of pictures, they must have submitting individual's name on the back.

Pictures should have accompanying documentation detailing who is in the picture and what the picture represents if not accompanied by an article. Articles must be typewritten.

Articles can be submitted to the editor by e-mail, fax, regular mail or dropped off at the Grand Lodge office.



The Grand Lodge of Maryland Ballroom Rentals

Contact: Raymond J. Vogel, Ballroom Coordinator at 410-527-0289

E-Mail: glballroom@glmd.org, Fax 410-316-9410

Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday - Friday by appointment.

Catering: Approved list of caterers.

Ballroom Capacity: Receptions, 320, with a nice dance area. 410 for banquets without dance area. Separate room for Weddings and Special Events.

Rates: Call for information.

Parking: Free on site, 178 spaces.

Information: Foyer is marble with a fantastic staircase. Ballroom is 55 ft. x 111 ft., with hardwood floors. Twelve brass chandeliers, dance area depends on table setup. A must see in person to really experience the beauty of this facility. Call us and come see our Ballroom in this beautiful Hunt Valley setting.



License Plates



Masonic License plates are available to Maryland Masons, with vehicles registered in Maryland, as well as their wives, widows, and sons and daughters living at home. You do not have to wait for renewal of registration. Call Ray Vogel at 410-527-0600 to find out how it works and how easy it is to put them on your vehicle. (*Motorcycle tags are not available*)

Be proud of your fraternity and display these plates on your car this year.

Chair Plaques & The Tree of Life

Chair Plaques are for chairs located in the Corinthian Room on the second floor of Grand Lodge. You may have your own name on a plaque, or have it in memory of, or to honor a person, club, or group.

The Tree of Life is located in the main lobby of the Grand Lodge Building. You can sponsor a leaf on the tree, or have it in memory of, or to honor a person, club, or group.

The Chair Plaques and the Tree of Life leaves cost only \$200.00 each.

This provides you with up to four lines on either, with twenty-one characters per line.

Call Ray Vogel at the Grand Lodge at 410-527-0600 to make arrangements for yours.

Free State Freemason Advertising

The *Free State Freemason* is now offering advertisement space for anyone wishing to promote their business in our publication.

The printable area on each page is 9" X 12"
The Dimensions have been adjusted to fit the printable area. Please use the following:

Business Card - 4" X 2.25"

1/4 Page - 4" X 5.5"

1/2 Page - 9" X 5.5"

Full Page - 9" X 12"

Single Issue

Business Card - \$75.00

1/4 Page - \$200.00

1/2 Page - \$400.00

Full Page - \$700.00

One Year - 4 issues

Business Card - \$250.00 (Save \$50.00)

1/4 Page - \$700.00 (Save \$100.00)

1/2 Page - \$1400.00 (Save \$200.00)

Full Page - \$2500.00 (Save \$300.00)

SAMPLE

MAIN STREET EMBROIDERY

85 MAIN STREET
REISTERSTOWN, MD. 21136
410-833-0414
PAST MASTER JAY PAYNE



BUY ALL YOUR
MASONIC APPAREL
SHIRTS - JACKETS - GOLF SHIRTS

online at: www.marylandtowns.com
click on the Masonic link

Advertising Guidelines

Your artwork should either be mailed or emailed to the Grand Lodge office at FSFM@glmd.org. We will accept .jpg, .bmp, and .pdf formats. We can not accept graphics embedded into .doc files.

All requests for alterations must be made prior to the issue deadline.

If you have any specific questions about ad submissions, please contact the Grand Lodge office at office@glmd.org or (410) 527-0600

Masonic Quiz - ANSWERS

Q. What is the purpose of Freemasonry?

A. *The overall purpose of Freemasonry is to provide a way to help each member become a better person.*

Q. What is a Lodge?

A. *An assembly of men gathered together for the common good of Freemasonry.*

Q. What instruments were you received upon and to what should they remind you? (Fellowcraft Degree)

A. *The Square. It should remind you that the Square should be the rule and guide of your conduct in your future transaction with mankind.*

Q. What are the rights of a Fellowcraft Mason?

A. *He has the right to be instructed in the work, he may visit and sit in any Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Lodge, he has the right to be instructed and the right to request advancement.*

Q. Who was responsible for building the Temple and why was it built?

A. *King Solomon, as a dwelling place for God in the midst of his people.*

Q. How may one vote in Lodge?

A. *By raising the hand, by written ballot, or by the use of white balls & black cubes.*

Q. What do we say after prayer and what does it mean?

A. *"So mote it be", which means, So may it be.*

Q. If the purpose of secrecy is not to keep the candidate in the dark, what is its purpose?

A. *To stimulate him to seek light.*

Q. What are the names of the two pillars and what do these pillars symbolize?

A. *Jachin and Boaz. They symbolize strength and establishment and by implication power and control.*

Q. Who composes the Grand Lodge of Maryland?

A. *The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, all past elected Grand Lodge officers, all Worshipful Masters and elected Wardens for the time being and all Past Masters who have served one full term.*

Reminder to Worshipful Masters

The deadline for submitting your synopsis for the Grand Master's Awards Program is October 31, 2010. If you need a copy of the requirements for this program, please contact the Grand Lodge office. There is still time to participate in this rewarding program. Participation ensures that your lodge will have a successful and enjoyable year!

High School Students Assist Seat Pleasant Lodge No. 218 with CHIP Event

Seat Pleasant Lodge, with the assistance of 15 students from Southern High School in Anne Arundel County and several adult non-Masons, held a three-day CHIP event at the Deale Firemen's Carnival in Deale, MD on July 15, 16 and 17 from 7 PM until 10 PM. This event was extremely successful with an impressive 198 children processed through the MD CHIP ID Program. Seat Pleasant also sponsored an event at the Marlborough Days earlier this spring in Upper Marlboro where they provided MD CHIP ID kits to 84 children.

The Deale Fireman's Carnival was the largest CHIP event to date sponsored by Seat Pleasant Lodge. The students that volunteered earned Community Service Learning Hours for their efforts. The students performed all the functions from the initial check in, including height and weight, to entering the information into the computers. On Saturday night, after the event was finished, Seat Pleasant held a Pizza party for the students.

Several students have volunteered to assist with future CHIP events that the Lodge will sponsor.



Several Masons from other Lodges stopped by the event and were impressed by the professionalism of the students. Seat Pleasant had a height chart made with the lodge name and logo. Several organizations have requested that Seat Pleasant Lodge hold a Chip event for them. Check out the photos of the Chip event on Facebook: Seat Pleasant Masonic Lodge No. 218 A. F. & A. M.

Grand Lodge & Scottish Rite Cruise September 1, 2011

Join the Most Worshipful Grand Master Stephen J. Ponzillo, III & Lady Marie and the Deputy to the Supreme Council Marlin L. Mills & Lady Brenda with the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation & Masonic Charities of Maryland for our fundraising cruise to benefit these worthy charities

Cruise on the beautiful "Explorer of the Seas" for 9 nights sailing from Cape Liberty, New Jersey

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Thursday	Cape Liberty	---	5:00pm
Friday	Cruising	---	---
Saturday	Portland, Maine	7:00am	6:00pm
Sunday	Bar Harbor, Maine	7:00am	5:00pm
Monday	Saint John, NB (Bay of Fundy)	7:00am	3:00pm
Tuesday	Halifax, Nova Scotia	9:30am	7:00pm
Wednesday	Cruising	---	---
Thursday	Boston, Massachusetts	8:00am	5:00pm
Friday	Cruising	---	---
Saturday	Cape Liberty, New Jersey	8:00am	---

Categories

Cat PR - (Promenade Staterooms, decks 6 & 7)	\$ 760.00 per person
Cat F2 - (Balcony Staterooms, decks 6 & 7)	\$1,160.00 per person
Cat JS - (Junior Suite Balcony Rooms, deck 9)	\$1,560.00 per person
Cat GS - (Grand Suite Balcony Rooms, deck 10)	\$1,960.00 per person
Cat OS - (Owners Suite Balcony Rooms, deck 10)	\$2,060.00 per person

Additional Taxes and Fees to be added \$ 305.00 per person



For Additional Information, please contact Judy at Cruises Plus (410) 494-1414 or (800) 395-9550



Grand Lodge of Maryland's New Years Eve Party

December 31, 2010

7:30pm - 12:30am

Dancing to the sounds of the Doug Sorensen Orchestra

Menu to include: hot and cold hors d'ourves, fresh fruit and vegetable display, meatballs in brown gravy, crab dip, fried shrimp with cocktail sauce, barbequed riblets, spinach salad, 5oz. filet mignon and 4oz. jumbo lump crab cake, ice cream with fresh berries and whipped cream.

OPEN BAR & CHAMPAGNE TOAST

Tickets prior to October 31, 2010 - \$175.00 a couple

November 1st thru November 31st - \$185.00 a couple

December 1st thru December 15th - \$195.00 a couple

For Tickets, call the Grand Lodge Office at (410) 527-0600 or email office@glmd.org

Make checks payable to Grand Lodge of Maryland, 304 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD 21030

Maryland DeMolay

Maryland DeMolay is proud to announce our newly installed Officers. Brother Nick Lawson is State Master Councilor, Brother Bobby Nowland is State Senior Councilor and Brother Andrew Gale is the new State Junior Councilor. Dad Bill Eppig, Executive Officer of MD, brought the Office of State Junior Councilor back to the elation of all the membership of the State. Our Conclave at Salisbury University was a huge success and we were happy to have the show of support from our Masonic Family at our annual Banquet. Our members were extremely excited to have MWGM Velvin and Deputy Grand Master Ponzillo in attendance. We are all very grateful for the support and relationship we have with our Grand Lodge. It is a wonderful feeling to know that all of you are behind us in our endeavors.

SMC Lawson has assembled an aggressive Term Plan and we look forward to sharing his successes with you as his term progresses. Please stop by our table at the Annual Harvest Home Day at Bonnie Blink. We will have a sign up sheet for Senior DeMolays and a showing of various materials pertaining to

MD DeMolay.

October 17, 2010 will be a very important day for MD DeMolay. We will be holding our Annual Awards Day at the Grand Lodge in the Gothic Room from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Most Worshipful Grand Master Velvin and Grand Secretary Holcomb will be receiving the Honorary Legion of Honor from Maryland DeMolay. The Honor process is described here by DeMolay International, "An honor is granted without the recipient knowing about it until it is announced. DeMolay honors must be voted on by the ISC as a whole." The Honorary Legion of Honor is an honor of great distinction. "DeMolay International may confer this honor on a Mason over 30 years of age who has performed unusual and meritorious service on behalf of DeMolay, or who has evidenced a spirit of cooperation and appreciation for the Order of DeMolay. He does not have to be a Senior DeMolay. No one may apply for this distinction." Please come out to see some impressive open ceremonies as we celebrate the accomplishments of those Honorees for the year.

Many of the Maryland DeMolays will be attending the Installation of MWGM-Elect Stephen J. Ponzillo, III on November 13, 2010. The following day we will be holding a State Degree Class where both degrees will be conferred on the newest members and new members joining the Warren Seipp Honorary DeMolay Chapter. This is another great opportunity to witness the ritualistic talents of these young men. They show why a background in DeMolay is an extreme benefit to the Lodges they join.

The Warren Seipp Honorary DeMolay Chapter held their first outing on Sunday August 22, 2010. The assembled group travelled to see a Bowie Bay Socks game. While the Bay Socks lost that evening, everyone in attendance had a grand time of Fraternity, Friendship and Brotherhood. More activities are being planned for this wonderful group of Masons and we look forward to being with them again.

Maryland DeMolay is always willing and able to come out to your lodge and give a talk on the benefits of being a DeMolay or a DeMolay Chapter sponsor. Masters looking for program ideas should consider contacting us through our web site, www.mddemolay.org or have the Grand Lodge send us their contact information. We also have our members who are able to come out and do one of our several public ceremonies, their ritual work is impeccable!

Until next time, keep this in mind: It's the smallest actions that have the largest affect on people.

Vision 2025 Lodge Renewal Committee

Brethren- At the regional meetings in the earlier part of this year this committee reported on the need for the formation of new lodges in the Grand Lodge of Maryland. There are currently two areas that have been identified as being desirable locations for the formation of a new lodge – Perry Hall and Columbia. It is thought that with the expected upcoming growth in membership there will be an opportunity to grow Masonry in these areas. The Grand Lodge is looking for brethren who would be willing to take the initiative to lead the effort to form these lodges.

This committee has made recommendations to Grand Lodge to assist brethren in forming these lodges. These include: 1. Providing some type of financial assistance for immediate expenses. 2. Donations of lodge paraphernalia such as jewels, staffs, etc. 3. Possible incentives to individual brethren to move to a newly formed lodge.

Any Brother who is interested obtaining more information on this effort to help grow your Grand Lodge can contact the RWDGM Stephen J. Ponzillo, III or Ken Taylor, Committee Chairman. Please consider helping in this new endeavor to help ensure the future of Masonry in Maryland.

There will be further opportunities in the future to form new lodges based on reasons or interests other than geography. These will be presented at future regional meetings and Grand Lodge communications.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD FROM NEAR AND FAR

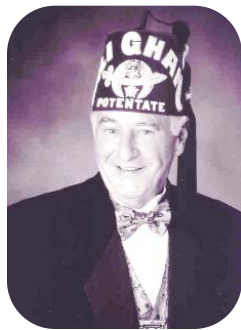
You are cordially invited to a gala celebration in honor of our Brother Past Grand Master George Washington to be held in the Grand Lodge Ball Room on February 26, 2011. There will be food and drink a plenty and the cost will be trivial; all sponsored and presented by the Masonic Veterans Association of Maryland.

Now you ask, who or what is the Masonic Veterans Association? A group of old Military Veterans? Not so—at least the Military part, although many of our members have served our great country honorably representing every branch of service both in war and peace. But that is not what the Masonic Veteran is about. A “Veteran” according to WIKIPEDIA means a person who has had long service or experience in a particular occupation or field (from the latin word VETUS meaning “old”).

Thus, the Masonic Veterans Association is made up of Master Masons who have over 21 years experience with absolutely no Military affiliation required. When chartered in 1892, it was intended to have men with long standing in their lodges to help to communicate with the Grand Lodge and have a dialogue in the local communities. If you look back and consider that in 1892 the life expectancy of a male was 47.3 years old, the requirement for 21 years as a mason put the member near the end of his life (21 years old to be a Master Mason plus 21 years service as a Master Mason equals 42 years old at a minimum). These men were considered to be “wise and knowledgeable” in Fraternal matters.

Ali Ghan Shriners

HOW GREAT IT IS TO BE AN ALI GHAN SHRINER !!



Isn't it simply mind-boggling realizing 2010 is entering its fourth and final quarter? It's often said that time flies when you are having fun and, this statement is certainly true. As Ali Ghan Shriners, we continue to have fun but with a purpose: Shriners Hospitals for Children. Our Nobles and Ladies have definitely had a fun-filled summer with a number of activities such as our annual Fish Fry, first-ever Hoe Down & Square Dance, annual Cruise-In, a combined Shrine Family & Shrine Hospital Patient picnic and, many other events. Reality did set in, for me, as I gave the ole college try at Square Dancing- reality is, I am a total embarrassment to Square dancers everywhere !!

The Ali Ghan Shrine Divan and many of our Shrine Masons, fortunately, have been preparing for the future. Question is, are you preparing for the future? I am sure the following little story may be familiar: “When Jones died, he descended into the underworld, where he saw souls seated before a banquet of unimaginable bounty. However, a long spoon was strapped to each person's wrist, so long that he or she was unable to bring the delicacies to his or her mouth. And so, everyone was full of

BALTIMORE'S BEST OKTOBERFEST



OKTOBERFEST

OCT. 9 '10

FROM 6:30 PM TO 10:30 PM
Food Service from 7 PM to 10 PM

AT 304 INTERNATIONAL CIRCLE
COCKEYSVILLE, MARYLAND

Featuring

JOE WENDEL ORCHESTRA
FROM EUCLID, OHIO
THE AUERHAHN SCHUHPLATTNER VEREIN
FROM OLEY, PA

RESERVATIONS FOR TABLES OF 8 OR 10 ONLY
ALL OTHERS WILL BE OPEN SEATING
FOR TICKETS SEND ALL CHECKS TO:
(Checks Payable to Germania Lodge)

Children Up to 4 - FREE / Ages 5 - 13 - \$18.00

Tickets

ROLF P. SORG
11812 Meylston Drive
Lutherville, MD 21093
410-252-1386

WOLFGANG HERDECKER
8419 Coco Road
Balto., MD 21237
410-391-2037

Menu

Bratwurst * Weisswurst * Wieners (long hot dogs) * Rolls * German Potato Salad * Egg Potato Salad * Sauerkraut/Pork Roast * Roasted Chicken - Halves * Soft Pretzels * Apfel Strudel * Plum Cake * Bienenstich * Coffee Service * German Beer * Wine * Soft Drinks * Water * Cash Schnaps & Brandy Bar

Catering by Old World Catering



Cost
\$40

frustration and rage. However, when Smith died, he went to paradise where he also found the same sumptuous banquet and long-handled spoons and long-handled spoons. Everyone in paradise was radiantly happy ! Why ? The people were using the long spoons to feed one another.”

The conclusion is simple- Cooperation, as I wrote about in the Spring edition of our magazine, is the surest way to success and happiness. Either everyone can go hungry or, we can held feed one another.

No one individual can do it all on their own. If you try, you are setting yourself up for a stressful situation. Teamwork is the key to getting things done. Imagine another scene- you are in a group consisting of 45 other people. Each member of the group has a piece of a puzzle and, the group must work together to solve the puzzle. The puzzle cannot be solved without the input of every piece. Each piece is equally important and very obviously, the group must cooperate with each other to solve that puzzle.

How often have your Lodge officers or your Board of Directors not looked to the others on the Board to get a project or program

completed? Instead of cooperating with one another, some have taken a portfolio and tried to get the project/program done without any assistance of others. In fact, the challenges we all face as officers would be so much easier to master if we would all work together to achieve OUR goals.

I am so very proud of our 2010 Ali Ghan Shrine Divan and of our nobility for pulling together; for cooperating with both enthusiasm and dedication; for preparing for our future; and, for being true Shrine Masons. We still have much to accomplish and with continued cooperation, WE WILL ACHIEVE.

To close, I offer my most sincere thanks to MWGM Tom Velvin for presenting me with a beautiful Shrine Mason apron- guaranteed it will be worn with both honor and dignity to the various Blue Lodges I visit. In addition, thank you MWGM Tom for your friendship, vision, guidance, and leadership. Feel proud of the many accomplishments Masons of Maryland have attained during your tenure.

Yours in the Faith,
Fran Shives, Potentate (2007 & 2010)
Ali Ghan Shriners

Free State Freemason OnLine

Brethren, some of you have opted to receive the Free State Freemason via email. Now, with the creation of our new website, you can view past issues of the Free State Freemason anywhere!

Navigate to <http://www.mdmasons.org>, click on the Member Information tab, and click on Free State Freemason in the left side bar. Every issue will be listed by year and quarter.

If you would like to receive the Free State Freemason via email, please send an email to FSFM@glmd.org.

We are still in need of a few missing issues. If you are in possession of an issue not listed on the website, please contact Jason Sentz at the Grand Lodge office at (410) 527-0600 or office@glmd.org

LEADERSHIP - 2011 EDITION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Beginning with dinner, class, and social time on Friday evening, through breakfast and the final classes on Sunday morning, the weekend promises to be busy, challenging and fun for all.

We have added a couple of additional classes and a more formal program for the ladies. One of the lessons we learned from last year is that our wives are very interested not only in what we are doing, but are eager to help where they can.



Who should attend? In Lodges where there is a full line, the ideal candidate would be either the Jr. or Sr. Warden. By participating in this program at least one year before his term, the Leadership Training Committee can really make a difference in his preparation as Worshipful Master. We recognize though, that not all Lodges are that fortunate. In some cases, the Worshipful Master may be the logical attendee, especially if he intends to repeat (or the Lodge needs him to repeat). It is the intent of this committee to return to each Lodge, an individual who is well versed in a number of topics which will allow him to much more effectively plan his year and to better train his successor. We will also provide him with a reference binder, or "Toolbox", which he can use throughout his term. This binder will contain a great deal more background material than we will have time to present.

Lastly, we again encourage the wives to attend in the hope that not only will they better understand why their husband spends so much time with his Lodge, but that they can actually assist him in several social and planning functions. They may even become a fan of the Masonic family and wish to get involved with some of our collateral bodies.

As we learned from last year, this is NOT an inexpensive weekend. The Grand Master still feels, however, that the investment by the Grand Lodge is well worth the expense. To help defray the total cost of the weekend, each Lodge will be asked to contribute \$265.00 for the attendee and \$110.00 for the spouse. This is still less than half of the total cost per person/couple.

How do we hope to accomplish the goals of this ambitious program? The weekend will comprise many activities – social functions, classroom instruction as well as workshops and break out sessions for the ladies as well as the men, a keynote speaker, and, of course, more social functions...

There will be ample opportunity for questions and answers and most of the topics will also consist of workshops where the students will be individually challenged.

In summary, we are all busily putting the final touches on our presentations and eagerly await the 2011 Spring Class!

Fraternally,
Jerry Piepiora - RWDGM - elect
Chairman



The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of
Maryland and the
Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Memorial
Library & Museum presents,



A Date with the Roosevelts

Friday, October 29, 2010
Show - 7:30 PM

The Grand Lodge of Maryland
302 International Circle
Cockeysville, MD 21030



Franklin D. Roosevelt
Portrayed by: Jonah Triebwasser



Theodore Roosevelt
Portrayed by: Jim Foote

Sponsored by the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Maryland

FREE to Masons, their guests and the public.
Reservations Required

Reservations must be made by October 15, 2010 and a ticket secured.

Preceding the 7:30pm performance, a reception will be available for \$22.00 per person at 6:00pm in the Grand Lodge Ballroom including fruit, cheese, and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres.

Reservations for the reception and/or program may be made by contacting the Office of the Grand Lodge at 410-527-0600 or by email at office@glmd.org

No reservation is final until confirmed by the Grand Lodge.



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The Mid Shore Crab and Seafood Festival is back!

On Saturday, August 28th, a wonderful tradition finally returned to the Eastern Shore. Thanks to a desire by MWGM Thomas M. Velvin, Jr. to re-institute this once popular family event, all 8 Mid shore lodges planned during the winter and spring to organize what turned a truly outstanding summertime festival.



Temple Lodge #128, Nanticoke Lodge #172, Cambridge Lodge #66, Choptank Lodge #138, Chester Lodge #115, Centreville Lodge #180, Coats Lodge #102, and Granite Lodge #177 all got together under the leadership of Br. PM Rick Andrew and set out to try to recreate an event that had been held so successfully in the past. As it had been something like 13 years since last held, the program had to be completely recreated. All aspects including date, location, food in general, crabs (of course), advertising, and entertainment were reviewed.

After several committee meetings, the details were finalized. The Tuckahoe Steam and Gas Association Facility on Rte 50 (just north of Easton, MD) was selected. As they had just completed construction on a new pavilion, it was the perfect site. There were several other buildings for the CHIPS set up, and the Department of Natural Resources "Scales and Tails" exhibit. Other activities for the kids were the "moon bounce" attraction, and of course the historic train ride around most of the 70 acres. The brothers running the CHIPS computers were also kept busy. The entertainment was provided by the "Irwin Family".



There was something for everyone, whether they be a Mason or not. As it turned out, the weather was perfect, the crabs full and plentiful, and the steamed shrimp, crab cakes, fried chicken, hamburgers, hotdogs, corn on the cob, assorted fruits, salads, cold soda and water were more than enough for even the hungriest of appetites. The games and attractions kept the young and "older" kids busy all afternoon. As a special treat, several notable Masons, including the Grand Master and Deputy competed in the rubber duck races. Of course, no reasonably intelligent dues carrying Mason was going to finish ahead of the Grand Master, but one of our ladies, Deneise Piepiora, won the Grand prize – an appropriately marked Masonic rubber duck.



There were approximately 280 attendees, including Masonic brethren, wives, children, and 2 separate Masonic motorcycle groups (a number from Union Lodge #48 and those from the "Ruffians" representing several Southern Maryland Lodges.

Special thanks go out to several brothers from the eight participating Lodges, including chairman Rick Andrew and his lady Suzi, Bill Cep and his lady Sandy, Ed Berkman, Marty Appel, Rudy Lukovir, Wayne Bradley, Chris Pavon, Dave McQuay, Buddy Phelps, Mike Holcomb, and Wallace Dodson. These were the key individuals from their respective Lodges. Obviously there were many others who worked parking, ticket and raffle sales, kitchen, food preparation, cooking, serving, etc. Their assistance did not go unnoticed and was very much appreciated.

Looks like another Masonic successful event can be attributed to brothers wanting to see their Lodges improve inside as well as outside of their Temples. Based on the results of this year's event, plans are already underway for the 2011 Festival! August 27, 2011 will be the date. Put it into your calendars. Congratulations to all.

Jerry Piepiora
 RWDGM-elect

The Festive Freemason
 By Steve Chadburn



The Tyler's duties involve spending time on their own...



...they can get bored.

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Maryland Masonic Homes, a continuing care retirement community is nestled in the picturesque rolling hills of Hunt Valley, Maryland. From the moment you enter our doors you will feel comfortable and at home.



Here, the beauty of the natural surroundings can only be surpassed by the warmth and vitality of the people who call Maryland Masonic "home." On our campus, you will discover a vibrant community that is rich in natural beauty, elegant simplicity, stimulating conversation, rich history, and compassionate fellowship.



Join us for an Open House and view available Independent Living apartments, Wednesday, October 20th, 2:00PM – 4:00PM. RSVP to 410-527-1111.

Greetings from the Hill!

Welcome Fall and cooler weather!



Maryland Masonic had its annual Health Care survey from the Office of Health Care Quality. I am so very happy to report our facility had ZERO deficiencies!

What a dedicated and caring staff we have who provide our residents with superior care and services.

On behalf of the residents of Bonnie Blink, we wish to thank Monumental Commandery No. 3 for their generous donation to purchase an optical projector. We are waiting for the equipment to be installed and will provide a photograph in next quarter's issue.

National Assisted Living Week was celebrated September 13th through the 17th. Residents and staff enjoyed this annual event with a Ravens tailgate party, 'dunk' the director, and evening cocktail party. Employees and members of the Board of Trustees and Board of Managers enjoyed crabs and barbecue at the annual employee appreciation day.



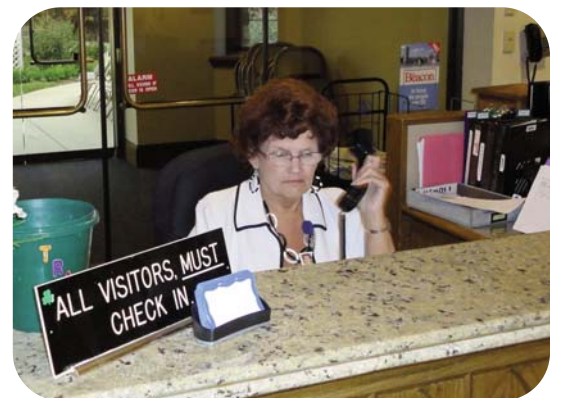
Last week I attended a Friday night bingo and witnessed the commitment of the Lodges and OES Chapters. Thank you to all who volunteer their time for the Friday night entertainment and Sunday afternoon chapel services. Our residents truly appreciate the members who come and share.

Each quarter a 'featured' department is spotlighted. The Administration Department is a combination of very talented individuals representing the Business Office, Human Resources and Quality Assurance.



Pictured above from left: Kevin Tray, Rosemary LeBlanc, Ele' Lundgren, Jennifer Paul, MaryJo Wilhelm (with MMH for 18 years!)

Included in Administration are our Receptionists. The 'greeters' of our visitors, they always have a smile!



Pictured above: Darlene Charlton, Receptionist
Please stop in and join us for an activity, special event or just to say hello. Our doors are always open.

Have a blessed holiday season.

Paula L. O'Neill, N.H.A.
Executive Director



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