



FREE STATE Freemason

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



VOLUME 36, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2012

ACACIA LODGE, No. 16
CLIFTON, VIRGINIA

R.M.S. TITANIC'S Maryland Masonic Connection

By Edward Heimiller, Curator

Page 8



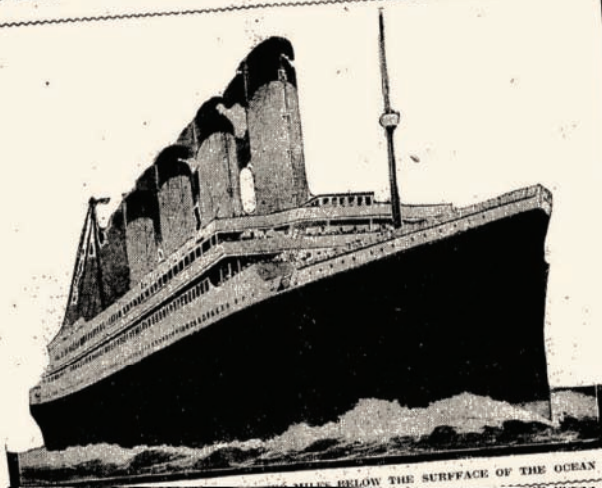
THE NEWARK ADVOCATE
NEWARK, OHIO, TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 10, 1912.

WORST OCEAN DISASTER IN WORLD'S HISTORY;
TITANIC GOES DOWN; 1,341 LIVES ARE LOST

STEAMER CARPATHIA
HAS 868 SURVIVORS
OF ILL-FATE BOAT

Steaming Slowly for New York
Should Arrive Sometime Thursday
Night or Early Friday
Morning

ONLY FRAGMENTS OF INFORMATION REACH SHORE



ENTIRE WORLD STUNNED
BY NEWS OF DISASTER TO
THE STEAMER TITANIC

Hysterical Men and Women Crowd
Office of Steamship in New York
and Hundreds Give Way to
Sobs and Tears

UNTOLD WEALTH REPRESENTED BY THOSE ON BOARD

Col. John Jacob Astor, Isador Strauss, Benjamin
Guggenheim, Geo. P. Widener and Many Other
Notable Men in High Finances are Report-
edly Among Those Missing.

FREE STATE FREEMASON ARTICLES AND ADVERTISEMENTS

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** and can not be changed due to printing schedules.

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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

PHOTOGRAPHS & ARTWORK

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 and address 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.

TEXT & COPY

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.

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 7½" x 10"

Please use the following dimensions:

Business Card—2" x 3½"

Quarter Page—3¾" x 5"

Half Page—5" x 7½" or 3¾" x 10"

Full Page—7½" x 10"

Pricing for Single Issue

Business Card - \$75.⁰⁰

1/4 Page - \$200.⁰⁰

1/2 Page - \$400.⁰⁰

Full Page - \$700.⁰⁰

Annual—4 issues

\$250.⁰⁰ (Save \$50.⁰⁰)

\$700.⁰⁰ (Save \$100.⁰⁰)

\$1,400.⁰⁰ (Save \$200.⁰⁰)

\$2,500.⁰⁰ (Save \$300.⁰⁰)

Advertising Guidelines:

Your artwork should either be mailed or e-mailed to the Grand Lodge office at office@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's deadline. If you have any specific questions about ad submissions, please contact the Grand Lodge office at office@glmd.org or (410) 527-0600



The Maryland Free State Freemason is published four times annually for the members, families and friends of Ancient and Accepted Masons of Maryland. The views expressed in the Maryland Free State Freemason do not necessarily reflect those of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, or its officers.

SUBMISSIONS & GENERAL INQUIRIES

Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, Md. 21030

Office: 410-527-0600

Fax: 410-527-1276

office@glmd.org

Submitted articles should be between 250 and 600 words, and whenever possible, relevant high-resolution images with proper credits should be included. Check details at the left hand panel. Articles are subject to editing and, if published, become the property of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland. No compensation is given for any articles, photographs, or other materials submitted or published.

FREE STATE Freemason

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

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MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

R.M.S. TITANIC'S Maryland Masonic Connection

By Edward Heimiller, Curator

Page 8



Among the more unusual items in the museum collection are a number of items related to R.M.S. Titanic. While the connection between the Titanic and Masonry may not be apparent, like everything in the museum there is a story....

| | |
|---|----|
| Grand Master's Message..... | 4 |
| A Mason's Lady..... | 4 |
| Grand Lodge 225 th Anniversary Events..... | 5 |
| Grand Lodge Literature..... | 6 |
| A Tribute to Jack Wesley Hooks..... | 7 |
| R.M.S. Titanic's Maryland Masonic Connection..... | 8 |
| 2012 MD Masonic Charity Chili Cook-off..... | 10 |
| Selling your Home in Today's Market..... | 10 |
| PM E. Winesett , Maryland Mason of the Year.... | 11 |
| Changing for Our Future..... | 11 |
| Résumés for Elected Offices in 2012 | 12 |
| Our Wish List—Maryland Masonic Homes | 16 |



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.

FREEMASONRY traces its roots to the Middle Ages. It is from associations of stone masons, who built the magnificent cathedrals, castles, and monasteries of Europe that the fraternity started. Eventually, these groups began to accept members who were not actual working masons. At that time they adopted the term "accepted" Masons, and Freemasonry was born.

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE



Dear Brothers:

2012 has been marked by new beginnings for Maryland Freemasonry. At our Annual Communication the Grand Lodge approved a five million dollar renovation project and maintenance building project for our Maryland Masonic Homes. We will keep you informed as to the project's advancement over the coming months.

We are also in the midst of our second statewide media campaign as we build towards our Statewide Open House on May 5, 2012. This year's campaign features television and radio commercials that we produced ourselves. The spots "star" Maryland Freemasons, and steer those who have an interest in our great fraternity to our website

Askamarylandmason.com.

We are pleased to report that in 2011 one thousand, one hundred and forty-six petitions were received. Eight hundred and sixty men were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. There are over seven hundred men still awaiting

progression to the Master Mason degree. Contrasting 2011 to 2010 is instructive. In 2010 we received five hundred and eighty-eight petitions and raised four hundred and thirteen men. Thus 2011 was a resounding success. We have doubled the petitions and more than doubled the raisings in 2011.

Our Lodges are busy. They are increasingly more proficient in the "work", the fellowship and family events are increasing and the community is more and more aware of our presence. My Brothers, I am sure that you are proud to be a Freemason. Today, more than since the 1950's, men have rediscovered us, we are growing and will continue to do so. My appreciation goes out to each of you for your continuing efforts to grow Freemasonry in Maryland.

This spring, Grand Lodge will sponsor a series of events designed to celebrate the 225th Anniversary of the founding of our Grand Lodge in 1787. On April 17, 2012, the exact day of our founding, a Table Lodge will be held in the Grand Lodge Ballroom. On May 18, 2012 we will sponsor a Gala Banquet to celebrate this event. Included at this Banquet, on our grounds will be a culminating celebration fireworks display.

Maryland Freemasonry continues to grow. Come to Lodge and be a part of the excitement.

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stephen J. Ponzillo, III".

Stephen J. Ponzillo, III
Grand Master

A MASON'S LADY

By Linda Ward

Are you a Mason's Lady?
Then you know just what it means
to wait for and support him as he pursues
his dreams.

If you are a Mason's Lady,
then you note his beaming face
when he wears the snow-white apron
That nothing can replace.

And as a Mason's Lady,
then you feel the warmth inside
when you watch him with his brothers,
and you recognize his pride.

When you are a Mason's Lady,
then you see a good man grow
into someone even better, as through
Masonry he goes.

Since you are a Mason's Lady,
then you love your special part;
of just how much you mean to him –
you're ALWAYS in his heart!

©Linda Ward, 2012

GRAND LODGE 225th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

GRAND LODGE TABLE LODGE

Tuesday April 17th – 7:00pm

Kick off our 225th Anniversary celebration by attending this special table lodge in the Grand Lodge Ballroom on the date of our founding in 1787. Event is open to Masons only.

Attire: Grand Line and Blue Lodge officers – tuxedos, aprons and jewels. Brethren – business suits.

Cost: \$30 per person, which includes dinner and a special commemorative charging glass.

For tickets please contact the Grand Lodge Office at 410.527.0600.

GALA 225th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Friday May 18th – 6:30pm

Our 225th Anniversary Celebration continues with this special night, which includes an impressive banquet dinner in the Grand Lodge Ballroom followed by an amazing aerial and ground fireworks display from the lawns of the Grand Lodge.

All Brothers in attendance will receive a special 225th Anniversary Commemorative Medal.

Cost: \$140 per couple/\$80 per individual Brother—Formal Attire.

Open to Brethren, their Ladies and Guests.

For tickets please contact the Grand Lodge Office at 410.527.0600 . Reservation deadline – May 4, 2012.

1787-2012



A.F. & A.M.

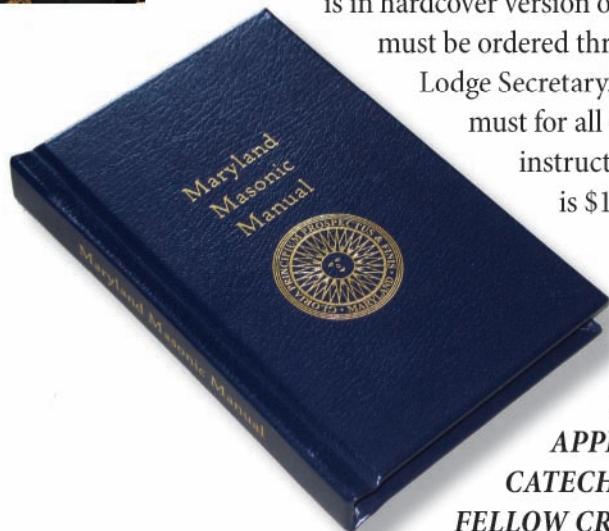


GRAND LODGE LITERATURE—IS YOUR LODGE USING IT?

By Deputy Grand Master Gerald E. Piepiora

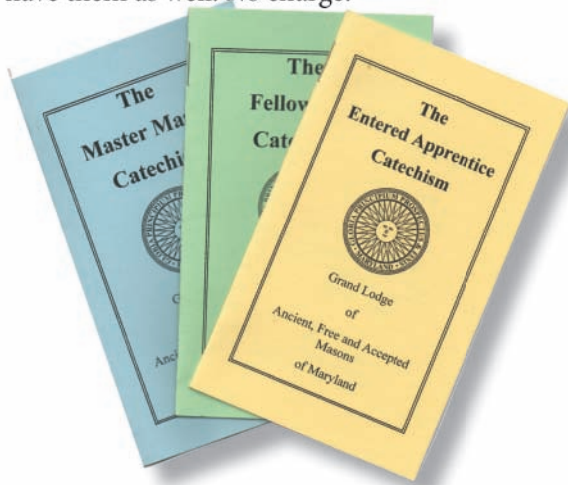
Here is what is presently available from the Grand Secretary's office:

MARYLAND MASONIC RITUAL This is in hardcover version only and must be ordered through your Lodge Secretary. An absolute must for all officers and instructors. The cost is \$15 per copy.



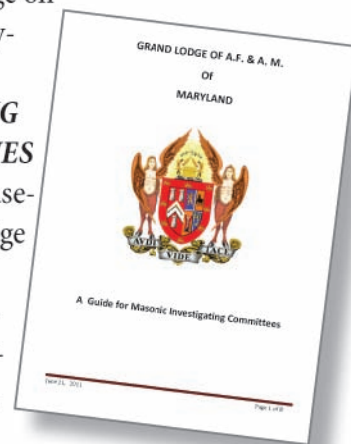
THE ENTERED APPRENTICE CATECHISM, THE FELLOW CRAFT CATECHISM, and THE

MASTER MASON CATECHISM cipher booklets. Printed soft cover versions are available. Every candidate must be given one. The booklets are to be re-collected when the catechism has been successfully exemplified. All instructors should have them as well. No charge.



A GUIDE FOR MASONIC INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES This publication acts a convenient guide for members to utilize when serving on an investigation of a petitioner. It also includes a copy of the report each committee member must file. The free publication is available for download from the Grand Secretary's page on The Grand Lodge of Maryland website.

GUIDE TO REDUCING SUSPENSIONS FOR DUES DELINQUENCIES – A useful resource for every lodge to use in their efforts to lower the number of suspensions due to non-payment of dues. No charge. Can be downloaded or ordered from the Grand Lodge office.



The following publications are nearing completion and should all be available by the Semi-annual Communication in May:

ON THE THRESHOLD, THE ENTERED APPRENTICE, FELLOW CRAFT, and MASTER MASON candidate booklets. These booklets are traditionally handed out to those who have completed one of the Masonic degrees. Each has been updated in the latest edition. All will be available from the Grand Lodge office in hard copy version.

BOOK OF PUBLIC CEREMONIES It is intended to have the same look as the Maryland Masonic Manual, and will contain several rituals not included in the **MARYLAND MASONIC RITUAL** such as those for Table Lodges, Funerals, and much more. ✦



A Tribute to

John (Jack) Wesley Hooks

Grand Vampire of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, AF&AM

By Bros. John Ertel and Fred Laser, Assoc. Grand Blood Suckers

On Thursday, May 19, 2011, your Maryland Masonic Blood Donor program lost its longest serving Chairman, Bro. John (Jack) Wesley Hooks.

Jack was born on the morning of Tuesday, August 23, 1931, to Margaret Anderson and John Wesley Hooks, Jr. After the passing of his father, Jack was raised from age 6 by his mother and his step father, Arthur Damascke. Having been born into a Masonic family, father, step-father, and several uncles, Jack was an active member of DeMolay in Oneonta, NY in the 1940's.

Graduating from Oneonta High School in the class of 1949, Jack enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1951 to serve his beloved country for over 4 years during the Korean Conflict. On November 15, 1952, Jack married Martha Griffin and they raised two sons, John, III (now deceased) and Thomas. Jack graduated from Hartwick College in 1957 where he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity.

As was his affable style, Jack served his community as the warmest and supportive of Insurance Underwriters working for Glens Falls Insurance Co. He also served as their Payroll & Premium Auditor. After many years of assistance to his clients, Bro. Hooks retired from Reliance Insurance Co. in 1992. Jack was a Boy Scout Leader and Committee Member and continued to serve the troop long after his sons had "graduated" from Scouting.

Jack was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on September 5, 1972 at Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116. He was installed as Worshipful Master of Mt. Moriah Lodge in 1981. Along with his other Masonic involvements, Jack served four terms as Worthy Patron of Towson Chapter #70. At the time of his passing in May 2011, he was serving a fifth term as Worthy Patron of Towson Chapter. Jack was a member of the The Tall Cedars of Lebanon for many years eventually becoming Grand Tall Cedar of Maryland in 2004.

He was appointed Junior Grand Deacon in 1983 by Most Worshipful Grand Master Harvey T. Hopkins. He was elected as R.W. Junior Grand Warden in 1997. He was also a recipient of the Warren S. Seipp Award.

While Jack served as Chairman of "Masonic Blood Donations" for Mt. Moriah Lodge for more years than anyone can remember, he also served as Chair of "Masonic Blood Donations" for our Grand Lodge from 1986 until the time of his passing. At the Annual Communication of 1996, he was recognized for his many years of service to "Masonic Blood Donations in MD" by being appointed as "The Grand Vampire of the Grand Lodge of Maryland" by MWGM Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr., father of our current Grand Master.

MA MICHAEL ANDERSEN

REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR

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HUMMER



R.M.S. TITANIC'S MARYLAND MASONIC CONNECTION

By Edward Heimiller, Curator

Among the more unusual items in the museum collection are a number of items related to **R.M.S. Titanic**. While the connection between the **Titanic** and Masonry may not be apparent, like everything in the museum there is a story. The reason this collection of material is in the museum begins with a gentleman by the name of Oscar Scott Woody (1868–1912). Born on April 15, 1868 in Roxboro, North Carolina he later moved to Virginia and became a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 16 in Clifton, Virginia. He served for fifteen years as a Railroad Postal Service Clerk prior to being assigned as a Sea Post Office Clerk. He volunteered for the position on the **Titanic** after the clerk initially assigned to the post had been called home as his wife was ill. Brother Woody was one of five postal clerks serving aboard **R.M. S. Titanic**. Two others were American; John S. Marsh (1861–1912) and William L. Gwinn (?–1912), while the other two were British. On board, the postal clerks received their own private cabins; an unusual luxury for crew members, and a considerable salary. Sadly all five postal clerks, including Bro. Woody perished when the **Titanic** sank on April 15, 1912. It was also Bro. Woody's 44th birthday.

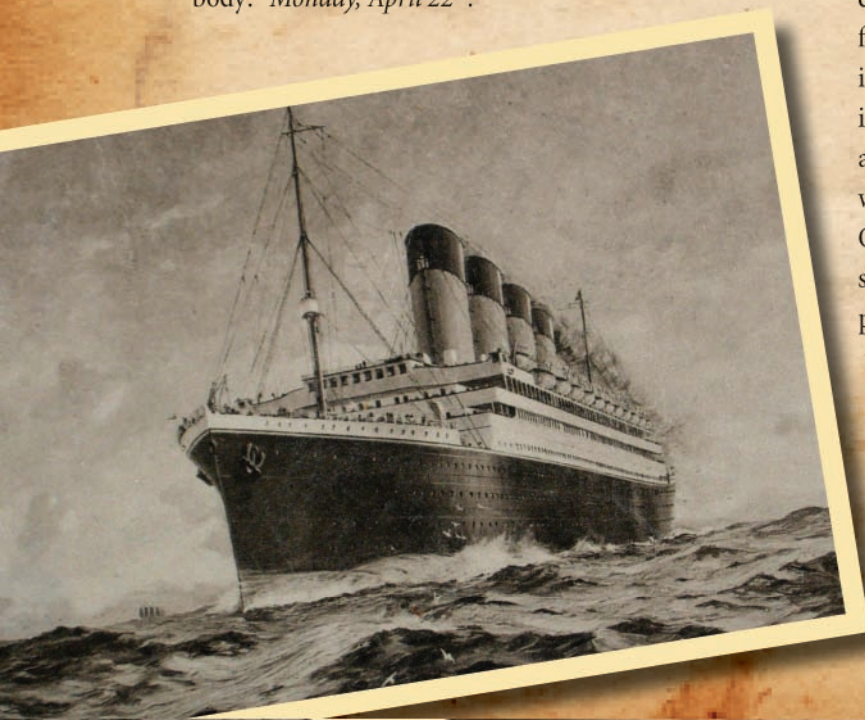
Bro. Woody's body was later recovered. An entry in the diary of F.H. Lardner, Captain of the Mackay Bennett describes the scene the day they recovered his body: "Monday, April 22nd."

This day we picked up 27 bodies...Everyone had on a lifebelt and (the) bodies floated very high in the water..."

The crew of the Mackay Bennett, one of the four ships chartered by the White Star Line to recover as many bodies as possible, would recover 306 bodies, of which 116 were buried at sea, including that of Bro. Woody. As part of the recovery each body received a separate number, Postal Clerk Woody was assigned number 167, which was stenciled upon a canvas bag into which the personal effects of the individual would be placed after an inventory was recorded in a ledger.

Leelia B. Woody (ca. 1880–1963?), Oscar S. Woody's widow, received bag 167 and retained it and its contents as her only memento of her husband. Despite having been married for only a short time (less than three years), she never remarried and kept her husband's photograph by her side until her death. At the time of her death these items were passed on to V.R. Gill (1901–1987), a member of Perseverance Lodge No. 208 in Indianhead, Maryland, to present to the museum in memory of Bro. Woody.

Among the items in the museum's collection is his pocket knife, corroded by sea water and decorated with Masonic symbols, his membership card to his home lodge in Virginia (currently on loan to the Grand Lodge of Virginia) and a number of other documents found in his waistcoat pockets, mostly facing slips. Commonly used by postal clerks, facing slips were used in sorting the mail in order to identify a particular batch, the city of destination and/or mode of transportation, and to indicate who was responsible for sorting that bag. Postal Clerk Woody placed an assortment of these facing slips as well as other items in his breast pocket, probably in anticipation that he would need them to identify damaged bags. His heroic efforts to save the mail were noted in the 1912 U.S. Postmaster General's Annual Report: "About a quarter of an hour after the collision the opening or lower room in the sea post office was found to be practically filled with water and the sacks in it



adrift. The clerks were seen in the sorting room above, closing sacks and preparing to take on deck all the mails available. The last reports concerning their actions show that they were engaged in this work and in carrying the sacks upon the deck to the last moment."

Coincidentally, a little known story is that, a **Titanic** survivor was a resident at the Maryland Masonic Homes at Bonnie Blink. Mrs. Ada Balls (1875–1967), born Ada E. Hall in 1875, married Martin Luther Balls (dates unknown) in 1896 and had two sons, Martin Luther Balls (later Reverend; 1897–1989) and Edgar William Balls (1899–1985). She was a second class passenger on the ill-fated ship. A widow with two grown sons; she decided to emigrate with her brother-in-law, Rev. Robert James Bateman (1860–1912), to Jacksonville, Florida to establish a missionary. She had no idea that she would be one of just 710 survivors. During the fateful night, Rev. Bateman gave up his seat in lifeboat 10 to Mrs. Balls after seeing she was still aboard. Rev. Bateman perished with the ship and his body was subsequently recovered by the Mackay-Bennett, the same ship the recovered Bro. Woody's body.

After the disaster Mrs. Balls married William R. Perine (1865–1955), a member of King David's Lodge, No. 68, and went on to live a full life. From 1953 until her death she resided at Bonnie Blink with her sister, Emily Bateman (the widow of Rev. Bateman). A religious woman, she regularly attended church services at the Chapel at Bonnie Blink. During her stay at Bonnie

Blink it was noticed that every time the hymn, 'Nearer, my God, to Thee,' was played she would cry. It was later learned by the Reverend at the time that Mrs. Perine, as she was then known, remembered this hymn as the last song the orchestra played onboard the **Titanic** as she sank. As a result the hymn was barred from regular church services, a ban that has not been lifted to this day. She died October 1, 1967 at the age of 92 and is interred next to her second husband at Oaklawn Cemetery, Baltimore County, Maryland.



THE STEPHEN J. PONZILLO MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Presents

Oscar Scott Woody's Titanic Memorial Exhibition

To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the sinking of the **Titanic** a special memorial exhibit of items retrieved from the ship and given to the Museum in 1963 by Bro. Woody's widow will be on view April 14–15, 2012 only.

Some of these items have never before been exhibited.

Saturday April 14th – 10am to 4pm

Sunday April 15th – 10am to 5:45pm

Freemasons Hall

Free to Masons, their guests and the public

Commodore Joshua Barney's Flagship, USS Scorpion Lecture and Reception

Attend a lecture by Dr. Robert S. Neyland, Head of Underwater Archeology for the United States Navy, on recent discoveries related to Commodore Joshua Barney's flagship, the **USS Scorpion**. The ship was scuttled during the War of 1812 to prevent it from falling into the hands of British forces.

Commodore Barney's Masonic apron will also be on view.

Sunday, April 15th – 6pm

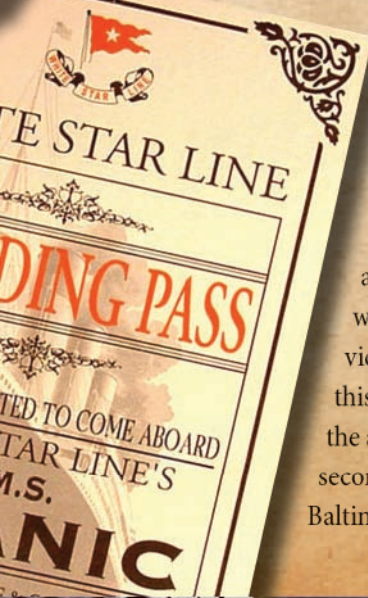
The Grand Lodge Room

Tickets are \$8.00 in advance, \$10 at the door

Free to children 12 and under

Support the Library and Museum at a special reception prior to Dr. Neyland's lecture at 5:00pm. The \$55 ticket entitles you to attend both the reception and lecture. In addition, each ticket purchased represents a \$20 tax-deductible gift to the Stephen J. Ponzillo Memorial Library and Museum.

For Tickets and Reservations to the Reception and/or Lecture Contact the Grand Lodge Office at 410-527-0600



2012 MARYLAND MASONIC CHARITY CHILI COOK-OFF



The brothers of Kensington-Bethesda Lodge No. 190 would like to invite you to a charity competition between lodges across the state. All proceeds will be donated to the designated charities of the three winning lodges.

First place receives 60%, second place 25%, third place 15%.

Our goal for the first year is to have 20 lodges competing and have an all day fellowship event for brothers, their families, and those who may be interested in the craft. The event will be held at Great Seneca State Park on June 30th.

Tickets are \$10 per person for food and beverages plus all the chili you can eat! There is also a \$2 park entrance fee (free for children in car seats and visitors over 62). Grand Master Stephen J. Ponzillo III, and hopefully some of his line, will be a special guests for this inaugural event.

Rules are as follows:

- 1) Team buy-in is \$100 with three members per team. Each team member gets a commemorative T-shirt.
- 2) Each team must make five (5) gallons of their chili and submit an ingredient list for allergy purposes.
- 3) The ingredients of your chili may be prepared off-site (beans, meats, etc.), but the final product must be completed on-site.

4) Teams will work on their chili from 10am-12pm. Lunch will be served at 12:30pm and judging will take place at that time as well.

This will be an all day event and the state park will be providing more information for certain activities also available that day. T-shirts and other Masonic memorabilia will also be on sale at the event.

To enter your lodge in the cook-off or for tickets, please contact Bro. Geoffrey Newman, Worshipful Master of Kensington-Bethesda Lodge No. 197 at 301-707-0858, or via email at geoffreynewman@gmail.com. ♡

Maryland Masonic Homes Presents:

SELLING YOUR HOME IN TODAY'S MARKET

As everyone knows, the housing market today is not what it used to be. A "For Sale" sign in your front yard, in many cases, is nothing more than a lawn ornament. Selling a home without taking a significant loss requires action, flexibility and know-how. Please join us to learn some tips from the professionals to get the most for your home in a time-frame that suits your needs.

Thursday, June 14th, 2:00 - 4:00 PM • Grand Lodge Ballroom • 304 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD 21030
Refreshments and a light lunch will be served! Planning to attend? Please R.S.V.P. to Stacey Sedesse at 410-527-1111 ext. 3268





MARYLAND MASON OF THE YEAR

On March 1st, 2012, Past Master **Edward G. Winesett** of Whiteford, MD was honored at Esdraelon Lodge No. 176 in Cardiff as “*Maryland Mason of the Year*” by the Grand Lodge of Maryland. A Past Master of Esdraelon (1979), Mr. Winesett was joined by his son Brian from Whiteford; his brother Boyd from Hillsville, Virginia; his brother-in-law Bob Wilmoth from Street; as well as by many friends and brothers from surrounding lodges to celebrate this honor. He was presented with a plaque from the Grand Lodge of Maryland by Past Master Harvey Eugene Yale and Master Dick Wilmoth.

CHANGING FOR OUR FUTURE—COMMUNITY NEWS

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

At Maryland Masonic Homes, we are proud of our history and we continue to hold Masonic traditions at the core of what we do. The charm of our building and grounds is obvious to those residing here and to our many visitors. However, it is time to take a step forward.

There will be many changes coming to Maryland Masonic Homes this year.

With the approval of a \$5 million dollar renovation project, excitement is in the air!

We are looking forward to the many renovations coming in 2012 and we hope that you will stop by to see what is happening.

Visitors and family members can expect to find upgrades in both beauty and comfort upon entering the Main Lobby. The Café will also be renovated to allow for a more intimate dining experience. Our Beauty Shop is getting a face lift as well, and our residents will greatly benefit from significant upgrades on our Health Care and Assisted Living Units.

Although we are changing our appearance, our mission and our values will continue to remain the same. We are a home for Masons and their family members and we are here for you. Please stop by and see for yourself!



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RÉSUMÉS for Brothers Running for Elected Offices in 2012



GERALD E. PIEPIORA

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
RE-ELECTION

MURRAY K. LILLEY

For the Office of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

Masonic History: Raised in Amicable St. John's Lodge No. 25 in 1972. Worshipful Master 1980. De Eendragt Lodge 1764, R.G.L. Belgium, Past Master 1996.

Masonic Leadership: R.W. Senior Grand Warden 1993-94. W. Senior Grand Deacon 1991-92. Currently serves on Board of Managers. Past Secretary, School of Instruction. Past Member, Committee on Reinstatements. Cochairman, Building Committee 1993-97. Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Belgium 1998 - 2004. Warren E. Seipp Award 1993.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore, KCCH 1993, Inspector General Honorary 33° 2003, Degree Communicating Committee Chairman, Scottish Master and Perfect Master of St. Andrew 1999. York Rite - Phoenix Chapter, Concordia Council, Crusade Commandery, York Rite College, Knight Masons. Boumi Shrine - Ambassador, Legion of Honor, Knights of Mecca, Honorary Kentucky Colonels. Yezd Grotto - Monarch 2002, Secretary 1995 - 2001, 2003 - 2005. Order of DeMolay - Legion of Honor 1995, Maryland DeMolay Foundation President 1995-97. Golden Eagle Square and Compass Club.

Professional: An extensive career in engineering, design construction and project management for multi-national firms, serving as Vice President and Managing Director.



WAYNE C. PENLEY

For the Office of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

Masonic History: Raised in Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116 in 1967. Worshipful Master 1974.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector 1999. W. Grand Pursuivant 2001. R.W. Senior Grand Warden 2003.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore, Commander of the Council of Kadosh 2002, Inspector General Honorary 33° 2005, Secretary Director of Work 2002. York Rite - Druid Chapter, Hiram Council, Monumental Commandery. Boumi Shrine International, Knights of Mecca President 2011, Highlanders Past Captain, Mid-Atlantic Highlanders Assoc. Past Clan Chief. Tall Cedars - member of Harce No. 142, Grand Tall 2007; member of Baltimore Forest No. 45, Grand Tall 2008. Baltimore Chapter, Order of DeMolay 1957-61. Overlea Chapter, Order of DeMolay Past Advisor. Bethel No. 25 Job's Daughters Past Associate Guardian.

Professional: Employed as salesman in 1983 by Victor Graphics, a book manufacturer. Promoted to Regional Sales Manager in 1992. Retired in 2009.

Personal: Born in Lynn, Massachusetts. Relocated to Baltimore with family at age 9. Married to Becky. Six children and eight grandchildren.



KEN TAYLOR

For the Office of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

Masonic History: Raised in Howard Lodge No. 101 in 1991. Worshipful Master 1997, 1998 and 2000. Lodge earned Grand Master's Award all three years as Master. Lodge Ritualist since 1998. Currently Marshall.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector 2004-10. R.W. Senior Grand Warden 2009. Currently serves on Board of Managers, as a Deputy Grand Lecturer and on the Vision 2025 Sub-Committee on Lodge Growth (chairman in 2009-10).

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore 32° 1992, KCCH 2009, Master of Kadosh 2012. York Rite - Concordia Chapter and Council, Maryland Commandery. Shrine 1992, Knights of Mecca. Baltimore Highlands Square Club.

Professional: Employed in the real estate industry since 1983, with a specialty in appraisal since 1985.

Personal: Born in Baltimore, Maryland on July 22, 1955. Graduate of Sparrows Point High School 1973. Currently resides in Catonsville, MD with wife of 24 years, Rosemary. Four children and four grandchildren.



KOSTAS "GUS" VOURVOULAS

For the Office of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

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

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector 1992-93. Deputy Grand Lecturer, 1999-2008. Deputy Grand Lecturer at Large, 2008-present. R.W. Junior Grand Warden 2009. Vision 2025 Committee 2009-present, Chairman



of Ritual Sub-Committee 2009-10. Grand Lodge Leadership Committee 2009-11. Harvest Home Day Committee 2010-11.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite 32°. York Rite - St. John's Chapter, Phoenix Chapter, Jerusalem Council, Monumental Commandery, York Rite College, Tide-water Council #334, Allied Masonic Degrees. Shriners International - Boumi Shrine, Knights of Mecca - Degree Master 2008-present.

Professional Background: Employed as Shift Supervisor by Red Star Express Lines from 1975-1993. Employed as Shift Supervisor by New Penn Motor Express from 1993 - present.

Personal: Educated in Baltimore County Public Schools and at UMBC with a Political Science major.

KENNETH STUART WYVILL, JR.

For the Office of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

Masonic History: Raised in Centennial Lodge No. 174 in 1968. Worshipful Master 1997 and 1998. Treasurer 2005 - present.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector 1999 - 2005. W. Junior Grand Steward 1999. Board of Managers 2010 - present. Grand Lodge Leadership Program Committee 2009 - present.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Washington 32°. York Rite - Right Eminent Grand Commander 2010-12, Eminent Past Commander, Past High Priest, Deputy Illustrious Master, Past Sovereign Master, Allied Masonic Degrees 2005. 7th Pillar, Holy Arch Knight Templar Priests 2011; Sentinel, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine 2011, Maryland York Rite College. Boumi Shrine, Knights of Mecca, Gun Club. Civil War Research Lodge #1865, Grand Lodge of Virginia. Past Master Counselor, Seat Pleasant Chapter, Order of DeMolay 1958.

Professional Background: Received BS in Finance and Marketing from the University of Maryland. Established PVD, Inc. in 1991 to provide insurance to non-profit organizations. Established Southern Maryland Insurance, Inc. in 1986 to provide insurance to small businesses and individuals.



CHARLES L. CARMICHAEL

For the Office of Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden

Masonic History: Worshipful Master 1996. Served several years as Chairman of the Auditing Committee.

Masonic Leadership: Board of Grand Inspectors, Current President; Vice President 2008-10. Board of Managers, Current Member. W. Senior Grand Deacon 2010. Masonic Law School Instructor. Leadership Training Committee. Committee on Masonic Education. Hospitality Committee.

Masonic Membership: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore, Inspector General Honorary 33° 2007, Endowed Life Member, Wise Master 2011, Scottish Rite Research Society Life Member, Served as Asst. Director and General Director of Work, Benefactor of Maryland Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation. York Rite - Mt. Vernon Chapter, Harmony Council, Palestine Commandery. Boumi Shrine, Knights of Mecca Board Member. Tall Cedars, Annapolis Forest No. 126, Tall Cedars Foundation Life Member. Active participant in Maryland Masonic Research Society.

Professional: Graduated Cum Laude from Virginia Wesleyan College 1977. College-level training in non-profit management 2008. 34 years in the maritime industry with extensive experience as an executive for all operational, commercial and financial matters for ports on the U.S. East Coast and Eastern Canada.

Personal: Various positions at Christ Episcopal Church and All Hallows Episcopal Church. Leadership roles in the South River Federation. Member of the Saint Andrews Society of Baltimore.



JOHN MARK LISTER

For the Office of Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden

Masonic History: Raised in Annapolis Lodge No. 89 in 1994. Worshipful Master 1998 and 2004. Secretary in 1999 and 2000. Board of Trustees 1996 - 2000. Charter Member of St. Alban Universal Lodge No. 233. Worshipful Master 2005, 2006 and 2010.

Masonic Leadership: W. Grand Standard Bearer 1999. W. Grand Marshall 2001-02. Board of Managers, Appointed 2000 and elected through 2005. Deputy Grand Lecturer 2001-09. Grand Inspector 2010 - present.

Masonic Membership: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore 32° 1996, Diplommat 1997, Lodge of Perfection Expert 2011. York Rite - Mt. Vernon Chapter, Past High Priest, Harmony Council, Palestine Commandery, Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons Grand Treasurer 2010-11. Shriners International, Boumi Shrine, Annapolis Shrine Club 1998 - present.

Professional: 35 year employee of Anne Arundel County Schools, retiring in 2010 as a Fiscal Specialist. Duties included the management control of the Department of Facilities \$120 million annual operating and capital budget and preparing estimates for capital construction projects.

Personal: Volunteer Fire Fighter for 20 years in Owings Mills, MD with a rank of Captain. APBA Hydroplane Racing - Region 4 Rescue Team.



DAN B. LANE

For the Office of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden

Masonic History: Raised in Kensington-Bethesda Lodge No. 195 in 1991. Worshipful Master, Silver Spring Lodge No. 215, 2009 and 2012, also served as Treasurer.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector 2009-10. W. Junior Grand Steward 2008. District 5 Coordinator for MDCHIP Program. Silver Spring Temple and Library Assoc., served as President.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite 32° 2008, Knights of St. Andrew. 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.



LESLIE "LES" G. METCALF, JR.

For the Office of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden

Masonic History: Raised in Sincerity Lodge No. 181 in 1999. Worshipful Master 2008. Joined Waverly Lodge No. 152 in 2002. Worshipful Master 2006 and 2010, Secretary 2007-09.

Masonic Leadership: W. Grand Standard Bearer 2008.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite 32° 2001, KCCH 2005, Commander of the Council of Kadosh 2007. York Rite - Joined in 2003, York Rite College #58 2008. Boumi Shrine 2007, Knights of Mecca. Tall Cedars - Annapolis Forest No. 126 2008, Currently serving as Grand Tall.

Professional: Served in USMC and USMC reserves from 1980 - 1991, Honorably Discharged. Owner of Metcalf Plumbing Service.

Personal: Married nearly 27 years. Three daughters, two were members of Job's Daughters.



GENE L. PURKEY

For the Office of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden



Masonic History: Raised in Potomac Lodge No. 100 in 2002. Worshipful Master 2005 and 2006. Treasurer 2007. Secretary 2008 – present. Temple Board of Directors, Past Member. Lodge Renewal Committee, President.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector, 2005 – 2011, Vice President 2008-10. W. Grand Pursuivant 2006-07. Board of Trustees, Past Member. Warren E. Seipp Award 2010. Currently on: Open House Committee, Co-Chairman 2011-12; Leadership Training Committee;

Vision 2025 Lodge Renewal Sub-Committee, Chairman. MDCHIP Program, Past Regional Coordinator.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Cumberland Consistory 32°; Board of Trustees, Past Member. York Rite Bodies of Cumberland. Shriners International, Ali Ghan Shrine, Railroad Unit Member.

Professional: Fairleigh Dickenson University, MBA. University of Denver, BA in Biology. 30 year career with IBM Corporation, retired. Owned Perky Vettes, Inc., retired. Current substitute school teacher.

DAVID R. SANDY

For the Office of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden



Masonic History: Raised in Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116 in 1983. Worshipful Master 1989. Also has served as Tyler, Chaplain and Historian. Scholarship Committee. Charitable Foundation Board of Directors. Ancient Baltimore Lodge No. 234, Charter Member.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector, Current. Board of Trustees 2011 – Present. Vision 2025 Sub-Committee on Membership, Current Member. Masonic Law School Instructor.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore 32° 1983. York Rite Chapter, Council and Commandery 1985. Order of the Eastern Star, Towson Chapter 1989.

Professional: 30 year career as Director and Vice President of Engineering in the defense and aerospace industries. Received Maryland Senate Quality Award and several industry-related awards. MD DBED World Class Manufacturing Steering Committee. Maryland Regional Manufacturing Institute. 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 wife Jocelyn.

THOMAS A. KELLER

For Election to the Board of Managers



Masonic History: Raised in Odenton Lodge No. 209 in 2003. Worshipful Master 2006 and 2007. Odenton Temple Holding Corporation, President 2006-10. Lodge Ritualist, Current. Daylight Lodge No. 1, Current Worshipful Master.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector, Current Vice President. R.W. Senior Grand Warden 2011. W. Grand Tyler 2009. Aide to the Grand Master 2008. Vision 2025 Sub Committee on Ritual, Chairman. Leadership Training Committee. Masonic Law School Instructor.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Inspector General Honorary 33° 2009, Council of Kadosh, Royal Order of Scotland. York Rite – Concordia Chapter and Council, Monumental Commandery, York Rite College. Boumi Shrine – Knights of Mecca, President 2012. Tall Cedars – Annapolis Forest No. 126, Grand Tall 2011.

FREDERICK LASER, JR.

For Election to the Board of Managers for Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.



Masonic History: Raised in Charity Lodge No. 134 in 1988. Worshipful Master 2000, 2007 and 2008. Secretary 1989 – 1993.

Masonic Leadership: W. Grand Sword Bearer 2012. Maryland Masonic Blood Donor Program, Co-Chairman.

Personal: Mathematics Teacher in the Baltimore County Public School System for 30 years, retired.

RANDALL WATSON

For Election to the Board of Managers for Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.



Masonic History: Raised in Nanticoke Lodge No. 172 in 1979. Member of Montgomery-Cornerstone Lodge No. 195. Master of Cornerstone Lodge No. 224 in 1986 and 1990.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector, Current. W. Senior Grand Deacon 2011. MCM Board of Directors 2009 – present.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore 32°, Royal Order of Scotland. York Rite – Druid Chapter, Past High Priest, Current R. Excellent Grand Captain of the Host, Grand High Priest's Award, Ritual Award, General Grand Chapter Bronze Medal 2011; Hiram Council, Current Thrice Illustrious Master, Ish Sodi Award, York Rite Sovereign College; Crusade Commandery, Allied Masonic Degrees, Societas Rosecruciana. OES – Gleaner Chapter, Current Worthy Patron. Tall Cedars, Baltimore Forest. Demolay, Past Master Counselor; Court of Chevaliers, Past Grand Commander; Legion of Honor, Past Dean of the Preceptory; Ritual Director; Foundation Board Member; International Supreme Council.

Professional: Employed as the Assistant Commissioner of the Maryland Division of correction. Served as Interim Commissioner of the Division of Pre-Trial Detention and Services 2009.

ALBERT C. KAESTNER

For Election to the Board of Directors for the Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Memorial Library and Museum



Masonic History: Raised in Tuscan Lodge No. 202 in 1954. Worshipful Master in 1981 and 1982. Treasurer 2008-12.

Masonic Leadership: W. Grand Standard Bearer 1984-85. Library and Museum Board of Directors, Current Member. Monument 2000 and Walk of Remembrance Project, Committee Member and Treasurer.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore 32°, Assist. Class Director 1973-1998. York Rite – Master of Kadosh 1998. DeMolay International 1985 – 2007, Emeritus Member, Executive Officer 1981 – 1992, Board of Directors of MD DeMolay Foundation 1987 – Present and President 1999 – Present.

Professional: Graduate of Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and Johns Hopkins University, BS in Business/Engineering. Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, served in Active Reserves, retiring as Major. Semi-Retired as President and Owner of E.A. Kaestner Company in 2005 to join wife in managing ReMax/Greater Metro office.

Personal: Married to Mary Lou since 1953. Two children and one grandchild. Member of Govans-Boundry Parish and Hunts Memorial of the United Methodist Church. BSA Troop 35 Troop Committee 1967-72.

C. EDWARD POARCH

**For Election to the Board of Directors for the
Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Memorial Library and Museum**

Masonic History: Raised in Mystic Circle Lodge No. 109 in 1994. Worshipful Master 1998 and 1999. Sincerity Lodge No. 181, Honorary Past Master.

Masonic Leadership: Grand Inspector 2002-08. W. Junior Grand Deacon 2009. Library and Museum Board of Directors 2009 – Present. Vision 2025 Sub-Committee on Lodge Renewal 2010 – Present.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite 32° 2007. York Rite – Grand Commandery 2007.

Professional: Vietnam Veteran 1969-70, E-5 Sergeant/Crew Chief on UH-1H Helicopter. BS Degree, UMBC 1984. Stone Mason/Bricklayer 1970-99. Local Union No. 1 Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen of Maryland, Various Elected Positions 1990-99. Currently employed by State of Maryland as Administrator of Prevailing Wage and Living Units, appointed as Director of Apprenticeship and Training.



PAUL J. SPARACO, SR.

**For Election to the Board of Directors for the
Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Memorial Library and Museum**

Masonic History: Raised in Highland Lodge no. 184 in 1973. Worshipful Master 1979. Treasurer 1984-86. Secretary 1991 – Present. Has served as Instructor for Officers and Catechism Instructor for 15+ years.

Masonic Leadership: Library and Museum Board of Directors, Current.

Professional: Employed in 1975 as a Senior Instrument Technician by Allied chemical Company, as well as Team Leader and Instructor. ☞

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QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

**ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS
SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
MAY 19, 2012**

For the Office of Most Worshipful Grand Master

Gerald E. Piepora, Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44

For the Office of Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

Murray K. Lilly, Amicable-St. John's Lodge No. 25

Wayne C. Penley, Sr., Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116

Kenneth R. Taylor, Howard Lodge No. 101

Kostas "Gus" Vourvoulas, Jephthah Lodge No. 222

Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr., Centennial Lodge No. 174

For the Office of Right Worshipful Grand Secretary

Herbert Y. Holcomb, III, Oriental Lodge No. 158

For the Office of Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer

William E. Gyr, Tuscan Lodge No. 202

For the Office of Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden

Charles L. Carmichael, Pythagoras Lodge No. 123

John M. Lister, Annapolis Lodge No. 89

For the Office of Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden

Dan B. Lane, Silver Spring Lodge No. 215

Leslie G. Metcalf, Waverly Lodge No. 152

Gene L. Purkey, Potomac Lodge No. 100

David R. Sandy, Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116

For Election to the Board of Managers

Thomas A. Keller, Odenton Lodge No. 209

For Election to the Board of Directors for

Masonic Charities of Maryland

Frederick Laser, Jr., Charity Lodge No. 134

Randall Watson, Montgomery-Cornerstone Lodge No. 195

For Election to the Board of Directors for the

Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Memorial Library and Museum

Albert C. Kaestner, Jr., Tuscan Lodge No. 202

C. Edward Poarch, Howard Lodge No. 101

Paul Sparaco, Sr., Highland Lodge No. 184



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OUR WISH LIST—MARYLAND MASONIC HOMES

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



MARYLAND MASONIC HOMES

Bonnie Blink has been dedicated to providing superior care and services to Masons and their families for the past 78 years. There have been positive changes within our walls, and we continue to improve each year. However the economic downturn has impacted all of us, and we have seen a significant increase of Masons asking Maryland Masonic Homes for help.

We wish to extend an invitation for Masonic members and their Lodges to

participate. Your monetary contribution can modernize and upgrade equipment and allow us to enhance various areas of our community. To the right is a list of items that you or your Lodge can specifically donate funds toward.

If you would like additional information, please contact me at 410-527-111, extension 3240. On behalf of your brothers and sisters, we thank you for your consideration and are most appreciative of your continued support. ♣

| Qty. | Description of Need | Cost Per Item |
|------|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Vital Sign Machine | \$1,500. ⁰⁰ |
| 88 | Over Bed Tables | \$140. ⁰⁰ |
| 10 | Anti-lock Brakes for Wheelchairs | \$300. ⁰⁰ |
| 5 | Specialized Eating Utensils | \$ 100. ⁰⁰ |
| 5 | Extra-wide, Deep Wheelchairs | \$500. ⁰⁰ |
| 2 | Battery for AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) | \$395. ⁰⁰ |
| 2 | Ear Thermometers | \$195. ⁰⁰ |
| 4 | Carts for Portable Computers | \$1,000. ⁰⁰ |
| 3 | Low Air Loss Alternating Pressure Mattresses | \$1,500. ⁰⁰ |
| 1 | Digital Camera | \$300. ⁰⁰ |
| 2 | Batteries for Hoyer Lift | \$120. ⁰⁰ |
| 6 | Three-in-one Commode Seats | \$150. ⁰⁰ |
| 1 | Computer for Resident Computer Lab | \$1,000. ⁰⁰ |
| 1 | Printer for Resident Computer Lab | \$500. ⁰⁰ |
| 4 | Aromatherapy Diffusers with Oil | \$75. ⁰⁰ |
| 5 | Specific Dementia Related Activity Items | \$100. ⁰⁰ |
| 20 | Artwork for Healthcare Units | \$100. ⁰⁰ |
| 10 | Chairs for Healthcare Units | \$150. ⁰⁰ |
| 2 | CD Players | \$200. ⁰⁰ |