

MASONIC TEMPLE  
225 NORTH CHARLES ST.  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201



# The FREESTATE FREEMASON

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 2

1982



## A MESSAGE TO EACH MARYLAND MASTER MASON



Dear Brother Mason:

In the opening chapter of the book of Genesis we find God speaking the words, "Let There Be Light!" From that creative moment in history, light has been a most important ingredient in Life's existence.

It is not strange that we find Light featured throughout the degrees in Masonry. Symbolically, we find suspended in the East of every Masonic Lodge room the letter "G" from which

emanates rays of Light. Also, the design and words on the Grand Lodge seal appearing in the upper right hand corner of this page tells us that "The glory, principal, object and end of our Order is the dissemination of Light." Our recent regional meetings featured the theme "Let There Be Light!" with particular reference to lodge management, officer training, plans and accomplishments at our Masonic Homes. These are areas which are claiming the attention of leaders in subordinate Lodges and at Grand Lodge.

There are some in our Fraternity who spread gloom, create shadows and dim the light of reason. These individuals view a decline in membership as a sure sign of extinction of the Craft in a very few years. However, we must never forget that Masonry has survived dictators, depressions, denunciations and ideological conflicts. Why does Masonry survive? How can one find fault with an institution which promotes a love of God, Man, Country and family? How can such an institution fail to rally men of good faith and attract good men to its doors? I am afraid that when Masonry is gone, civilized mankind will be no more.

In my visits to our Lodges I was thrilled by the attendance, good-fellowship and spirit which prevailed. My compliments go to these Lodges and others in this jurisdiction who are discovering that through planning, programing and promoting their activities, they are bringing back old members and gaining new ones.

Let us bring springtime into our Masonic lives. Let us sharpen our working tools that we may add renewed vigor and purpose to our efforts in practicing out of the Lodge what we have learned in it. Just do that, my brother, and we should have no concerns about the quality or quantity of our membership.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Bernard E. Rothman  
Grand Master

## EDWARD CHOATE O'DELL

Edward Choate O'Dell, undisputed sovereign of the northeast corner of the Lodge during Grand Lodge communications is now a precious memory. He passed away on March 24th at the age of 81. Memorial services were held on April 3rd at the Wilson Memorial United Methodist Church.

He served as Grand Organist for more than 50 years and was a featured performer at Bonnie Blink, our Masonic Homes as late as six weeks ago and at Grand Lodge Religious Services. Bro. O'Dell served as organist at six Lodges, the Grace Methodist Church, St. Mark's United Methodist Church and the Har Sinai Congregation at various times during his long career.

He studied at the Peabody Conservatory, received a civil engineering degree at Johns Hopkins University and was admitted to the bar after studying law at night at the University of Maryland.

It will be difficult for those who have known and heard him not to see him perched at the organ at Grand Lodge, gray wavy hair, ready smile and kindly disposition, waiting for the cue to thrill the brothers assembled with rich vibrant notes. He will be sorely missed.

## ALFRED ROBERT GUEST

Worshipful Master of Kensington Lodge No. 198, active in the York Rite Bodies, recipient of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor, an elder and deacon of the Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, a scouting enthusiast and participant in community affairs, Bro. Guest, 74, passed away on April 11th. Masonic Memorial Services were held on April 14th with over 90 brothers of Montgomery County Masonic bodies paying their respects.

Bro. Richard D. Parker, S.W. will serve as the new presiding officer.

## ROBERT ALLEN BERGMANN

Worshipful Master of Silver Spring Lodge No. 215, active in the Scottish and York Rite Bodies, Tall Cedars of Lebanon and Order of the Eastern Star and member of Ashton Methodist Church, Bro. Bergmann passed away on April 16th. Masonic Memorial Services were held on April 19th witnessed by an overflow crowd of family, friends and masons in the Montgomery County area.

Bro. Bergmann, 50, was a Partner and Vice President for Engineering of Bergmann's Laundry where he had worked for the past 27 years.

Bro. Ramon Merlin, S.W. will serve as the new presiding officer.



## THE FREESTATE FREEMASON

Issued By

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, U.S.A. through its Committee on Public Relations, Seymour H. Lipshitz, Chairman, B. Hope Harrison, William C. Herchenrother, and Harold G. Taylor, Technical Advisor: Bro. Henry G. Kuhn, Jr., No. 179.

It serves as a medium of keeping the Craft informed of pertinent activities of Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges. It also serves as a vehicle for encouraging and guiding subordinate Lodges to share with the press, community, family and friends those events, activities and personalities which exemplify the purposes and objectives of Masonry.

News items, suggestions, questions are welcome. Mail to:

Editor, THE FREESTATE FREEMASON

522 Nelson Street

Rockville, MD 20850

Do You Have Us On Your Bulletin Mailing List?

## THE HIRAM GAVEL

Adorned with silver and turquoise, carved of black walnut and almost 100 years old, the Hiram gavel is being passed to Hiram Lodges in the continental United States. As scheduled, it will return to its home in Hiram Lodge No. 13, Albuquerque, New Mexico, in time for their 100th anniversary celebration in November, 1985.

Consistent with its purpose of promoting fraternal fellowship, Hiram Lodge No. 103 at Westernport were hosts to 35 Ohio brothers at a transfer ceremony where Brother Walter J. Skipworth, W.M. of Hiram Lodge No. 18, Delaware, Ohio, duly passed the gavel to Brother Richard A. Rinard, W.M. of Hiram Lodge No. 103 in the presence of Grand Master Bernard E. Rothman, RWDGM Harvey T. Hopkins and Grand Lodge Officers.

Proceedings were momentarily delayed by a phone call from the Grand Master of New Mexico who asked Grand Master Rothman to bring the Gavel for display at the forthcoming Conference of Grand Masters of North America.

Highlights of the evening included a baked steak dinner served by the ladies of Bethlehem Chapter No. 14, OES prior to the meeting to approximately 100 brothers; and conferral of the Master Mason Degree by Grand Master Rothman and the Grand Line on Bro. Donald Roy Pheasant. Also participating in the events of the evening were Past Grand Masters A. Wayne Reed, J. Thomas Middleton and William M. Koenig. PM Robert G. Seibert, No. 215, currently residing in Columbus, Ohio introduced the Ohio brothers.

On April 15th, the brothers of Hiram Lodge No. 103 escorted the gavel to its next stop at Hiram Lodge No. 616 at Altoona, PA.



Grand Master Rothman expertly hefts the "Hiram" gavel under the approving and watchful eye of (l. to r.) Walter J. Skipworth, W.M., Hiram Lodge No. 18, Delaware, Ohio; PGM J. Thomas Middleton; Donald R. Pheasant; PGM A. Wayne Reed; PGM William M. Koenig; and Richard A. Rinard, W.M., Hiram Lodge No. 103, Westernport.

## IN THE RED

Blood donor cards and pins were presented by G.I. Louis H. Ege at Doric Lodge No. 124 to six brothers who had collectively contributed 22 gallons of blood. Four gallons each were donated by Bros. Frederick W. Muller, Roy W. Kauffman, Charles B. Wood, E. Ray Leppo, Jr., and Donald A. Lopez. W.M. Bert F. Morton donated two gallons.

## HONORS BY THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS

During its communication in December, 1981, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, through its Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother J. Philip Berquist, awarded the Henry Price Medal, the highest order which can be conferred, to our MWGM Bernard E. Rothman for special Masonic recognition.

The medal was struck in 1888 to commemorate the services of Henry Price. As authorized by the Grand Lodge of England, Henry Price founded and organized the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1733, the first duly constituted Masonic body whose jurisdiction extended over all of North America. In 1734, Henry Price granted Benjamin Franklin's petition to establish a regular lodge in Philadelphia.

## BROTHERHOOD NIGHT

Hosted by the Grand Lodge of Delaware on March 24th and attended by some 400 Master Masons from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and the District of Columbia, "Brotherhood Night" was again unanimously declared a resounding success.

Grand Master Karl R. Volk announced that the event will be repeated on March 23, 1983 at Nur Temple, New Castle, Delaware.



Some of the distinguished guests at Brotherhood Night hosted by the Grand Lodge of Delaware. Center is MW Bro. Karl Volk, GM of Delaware; at his right, MW Bro. Elmer F. Stein, GM of the D.C.; to his left, GM Rothman.

## FATHER AND DAUGHTER

Leadership runs high in the Barron family. Bro. Larry N. Barron sits at the helm of Medairy Lodge No. 140, Williamsport and daughter Cathy was installed as Honored Queen of Bethel No. 26, Hagerstown in January.

Cathy is active in charity work (Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children), school activities (cheerleader, Student Council and Band), and sports. She likes Terp's basketball, Oriole's baseball and Ocean City.



Shown are Cathy Barron, Honored Queen, Bethel No. 26, IOJD, Hagerstown, and her father, Bro. Larry N. Barron, W.M., Medairy Lodge No. 140, Williamsport.



## FOR LONG AND FAITHFUL SERVICE ...

During the period November 1981 to March 1982, service emblems were presented to 103 revered members of 52 Lodges. Included were two 70 year, forty-three 60 year and fifty-eight 50 year emblems representing 5,620 Masonic years.

Years of service, names of recipients and Lodge numbers follow —

50	Stanley H. Blum, P.M. No. 25	60	William H. Beck, No. 132
60	Irving S. Gans, No. 25	50	Guy Steele Hicks, No. 138
60	I. Harold Hammerman, No. 25	50	Emmett M. Lanier, No. 145
60	Wm. I. Schimmel, No. 34	50	Paul W. Lambert, No. 146
60	Joseph Charlow, No. 34	50	Charles L. Beyer, P.M., No. 146
60	Nathan Balfour, No. 34	50	Howard L. Shipley, No. 146
50	Maurice Sopher, No. 45	50	Weldon T. Kilmon, No. 148
50	Bertron W. Blizzard, No. 46	50	Allen B. Brown, No. 152
60	Joseph F. McAll, No. 48	50	Charles R. Madary, No. 152
50	James Donald Weaver, No. 48	50	Harry D. Mitchell, No. 153
50	Argus F. Robinson, No. 48	50	Ross V. Smith, No. 155
60	Clarence E. Erdman, No. 51	60	Victor M. Birely, No. 155
60	Harvey E. Reinicker, No. 51	50	Dirkran H. Koumjian, No. 158
50	Walter E. Meyerheim, No. 53	60	Clifford M. Yinger, No. 163
60	Henry R. Teufel, No. 68	50	George G. Wainwright, No. 172
50	John W. Bolander, Jr., P.M., No. 68	50	James A. Crawford, Jr., No. 179
50	Edwin W. Degener, No. 68	60	Eli Richard Will, No. 179
50	Lewis E. Rice, No. 84	60	Arnon L. Mehring, No. 179
60	Joseph W. Winders, No. 84	60	Truman E. Hienton, No. 179
60	Charles F. Hughes, No. 88	50	William C. Phillips, No. 180
60	John Z. Heskett, No. 88	50	Frederick W. Wilke, No. 181
60	Francis Schley Drake, No. 89	50	Herman G. Heffter, No. 181
60	Nicholas I. Scott, No. 89	50	Elmer L. Gabel, No. 181
60	William Holland, No. 89	50	Henry T. Bowden, No. 181
60	Robert C. Hughes, No. 91	50	William L. Vlangas, No. 181
60	Paul R. Seely, No. 92	60	George W. Beck, No. 181
60	George M. Appel, No. 97	60	Nelson O. Gore, No. 182
60	Frank August Jacob, No. 97	50	George L. Byerly, No. 182
60	Harry R. Yingling, No. 97	50	Edward P. Colwill, No. 182
50	John G. Cribbs, No. 186	60	William R. Carlile, Sr., No. 182
50	Thomas E. Schenkel, No. 100	50	Henry J. Walters, No. 184
70	John Luntz, Jr., No. 109	50	Charles A. Betz, No. 184
50	Richard S. Erdman, No. 111	60	John W. Blanton, No. 184
50	Lee Loeb Oppenheimer, No. 111	50	Eberhard J. H. Martin, No. 184
50	Walter N. Travers, No. 111	50	Milton J. Bishop, No. 184
50	William Brandenburg, Sr., No. 112	50	Herman G. Berends, P.M., No. 184
60	John H. Crooks, No. 112	50	Arthur J. Rothchild, No. 184
60	Rev. Frank Y. Jaggars, No. 112	50	Paul H. Seward, P.M., No. 187
60	Horace E. Belcher, Sr., No. 116	60	John W. Gibson, No. 188
70	George P. Mays, No. 116	50	Harwood B. Watson, No. 191
50	Vernon L. Lyons, No. 120	60	Basil B. Burdette, No. 194
50	William A. Taylor, No. 123	50	John L. King, No. 194
50	George E. Arscott, No. 124	60	Norman E. Ward, No. 195
50	Harry W. Wright, No. 124	50	Paul A. Ziegler, Jr., No. 202
50	Edward E. Brandt, No. 124	50	Charles H. Linzey, No. 202
50	Rodney Smith Purner, No. 125	60	Alva M. Weston, No. 202
60	Gerald M. Pine, P.Gr.Sec., No. 128	60	Frank W. Weant, No. 205
50	Thomas W. Cahall, No. 128	50	Walter Albert, Jr., No. 210
60	Charles A. Maslin, No. 130	60	Wm. Ford Barnes, No. 212
50	Harry M. Meisler, No. 130	60	Olive H. Schaskelford, No. 212
50	Harry J. Ehrhart, No. 132	50	Bernard R. Kutcher, No. 213
60	William Ackerman, No. 132		

## BROTHERS IN THE NEWS

Bro. Russell E. Mummert was profiled in a full page spread of the Carroll County Times as the first and only full-time district court commissioner of Carroll County. In this capacity during the past five years, he has been deciding whether evidence is sufficient to file criminal charges against a person and once charges are filed, if bail is to be set or denied.

Bro. Mummert is a G.I. and a Vice President of the Board of Grand Inspectors (State Area).

## FATHER AND SON

Bro. Louis Ege reports that Oriental Lodge No. 158 has three sets of fathers and sons which the membership enjoy having in positions of leadership —

● P.M. Charles J. Morgan, Jr., Secretary, whose son Charles J. III, succeeded him as W.M. in 1981.

● P.M. Herbert Y. Holcomb, Treasurer, who presented his son Herbert Y. III, as W.M. and son, Michael E. as J.W. in 1982.

● P.M. Colin W. Stewart who presented his son, Robert L. Stewart as S.W. in 1982.



Gathered around Bro. George P. Mays, P.M., Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116 who was presented a 70 year service emblem at the Dulaney-Townsend Nursing Home on December 20, 1981 were: l to r, MWGM Bernard E. Rothman, Bro. Richard A. Ort, Sr., G.I., Grand Marshal John Edmundson, P.M. Stephen W. Hunt, Jr., W.M. John W. Hooks of Mt. Moriah Lodge and RW Deputy GM, Harvey T. Hopkins.



At a regular meeting of Pentalpha Lodge No. 194 at Darnestown, MWGM Bernard E. Rothman presented a 60 year service emblem to Bro. Basil B. Burdette and a 50 year emblem to Bro. John L. King. Shown from l to r are W.M. Quincy Ewing, III, Bro. Burdette, Grand Marshal John Edmundson, Grand Master Rothman, Grand Secretary Jack R. Frazier, Bro. King and GI Gustavus Grey.

● As a courtesy to the Grand Lodge of Ohio, Grand Master Rothman presented a 70 year service emblem to Bro. Alvin D. Wampler, Clifton Lodge No. 47, Ohio on February 3rd in the presence of his daughter, grandson, friends, G.I. Atwood Wynn and W.M. Albert C. Kaestner of Tuscan Lodge No. 202.

● Presentations made by G.I. William G. Gulley to Bro. William Holland for 60 years service and to Bro. Nicholas I. Scott as a courtesy to the Grand Lodge of Ohio for his 60 years service were pictured in The Capital and Times-Voice Newspapers of Annapolis through the efforts of Annapolis Lodge No. 89.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1982	May	
	1	GM visits St. John's Lodge, No. 34. Ladies Night.
	3- 5	GM attends communication of G.L. of Maine (or New York).
	5	GM meets with Board of Trustees, Bonnie Blink.
	7- 8	GM attends IOJD, Ocean City.
	10	GM attends Grand Council of Maryland, Masonic Temple, Balto.
	11	GM attends Grand Chapter of Maryland, Masonic Temple, Balto.
	12	GM attends Grand Commandery of Maryland, Masonic Temple, Balto.
	13-14	GM attends Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Virginia Beach.
	14-15	GM attends communication of Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.
	16	GL attends Religious Service, 3 P.M. Bonnie Blink.
	17	Semi-Annual Grand Lodge Communication, 7:30 P.M.
	22	GL attends Aberdeen Lodge No. 187, Aberdeen. Dedication of Temple.
	26	GL attends Roelma Lodge, No. 206. Fraternal Visit.
	28	GM attends Ocean City Shrine Club, Ocean City.
	June	
	13-18	GM attends Imperial Council Session, AAOONS, Orlando, FL.
	July	
	6-8/24	Grand Lodge Summer School of Instruction - Dues Cards Required. Baltimore - Every Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.
	8	Hagerstown, 7:45 P.M., E.A.
	15	Salisbury, 7:45 P.M., E.A.
	22	Brunswick, 7:45 P.M., F.C.
	August	
	5	Cambridge, 7:45 P.M., F.C.
	12	Hagerstown, 7:45 P.M., M.M.
	19	Denton, 7:45 P.M., M.M.



## PILLARS OF BEAUTY

Brother Henry Mann, Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge No. 34, opened his year on March 10th with a Junior Wardens' Fellowship Night attended by Grand Master Rothman, the Grand Line, four Past Grand Masters, other Grand Lodge Officers and the honored guests of the evening, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, Bro. John Newcomb and 20 Junior Wardens of Lodges in Baltimore City and County.

The evening featured:

- An excellent supper during which diners were treated to live music in the background.

- An impressive and well-ordered procession of Junior Wardens led in pomp and circumstance by Bro. Frank Feldman, P.M. of Cassia Lodge No. 45.

- Gems of inspiration in the prayers of PM Baird I. Michelson and remarks by Bro. Edward B. Kraft, Deputy Grand Lecturer at Large, Grand Lecturer Moses Appel, PGMs Middleton, Koenig, Stansbury and Cover, DGM Harvey T. Hopkins and Grand Master Rothman who complimented St. John's Lodge for a beautiful, interesting and novel program, the type that can't help but improve interest and attendance.

- A generally enthusiastic reaction summed up by Bro. William J. Witt, Sr., W.M. of Ionic Lodge No. 145 with the words: "A Great Night!"

Smiling and quietly observing the scene was Brother Clarence W. Brennan who will celebrate his 100th birthday on August 14th.



Happy faces at St. John's Lodge No. 34 Junior Wardens' Night are (l. to r.) J. W. Joel Davis, PGM Middleton, W.M. Henry Mann, PGM Stansbury, GM Rothman, S.W. Earle I. Mann, Secty Joseph Melman, DGM Hopkins, PGM Cover and brother with moustache.

## UNIVERSALITY OF MASONRY

On the masthead of the bulletin of Norfolk Lodge No. 1, Norfolk, VA, appear the words "Freemasonry: A Social, Cultural and Intellectual Experience." At its meeting of February 18th, Norfolk Lodge exemplified these words during a program honoring a visit by the Grand Master of the State of Israel, Worshipful Brother Jamil J. Shalhoub.

Sociability and good-fellowship spread a warm glow over the proceedings; culture and intellectual expression held the assembled brothers in the packed lodge room spellbound.

Masonic ritual and protocol were impeccably observed by W.M. Jordan S. Levitin; excellent committee planning and rehearsal were evident in the smooth flow of the proceedings; reception and presentation of the Grand Master of Israel was masterfully conducted by Past Grand Master Seymour J. Levy, a P.M. of Norfolk Lodge.

Speakers included Grand Master Rothman, officers of the Grand Lodge of Virginia and distinguished officials of local government.

Most Worshipful Brother Jamil J. Shalhoub, Grand Master of Israel, an Arab of the Greek Orthodox faith presides over an organization whose seal includes the Cross, Star of David and the Crescent. In a land of many faiths and many tongues, harmony and the universality of Masonry flourishes under the sign of the Square and the Compass. Grand Master Shalhoub noted among his remarks that the public must be made aware of Masonry's purposes and accomplishments.



Shown (l. to r.) at Norfolk Lodge No. 1, Norfolk, Va. reception for the GM of Israel are MW Bro. Seymour J. Levy, PGM of Virginia, Bro. Jordan S. Levitin, W.M., MW Bro. Jamil J. Shalhoub, GM of Israel, GM Rothman and DGM Hopkins.

**Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Maryland**  
 Masonic Temple  
 225 N. Charles St.  
 Baltimore, MD 21201

Nonprofit Organization  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Riverdale, MD  
 Permit No. 5023