

Freestate Freemason



Summer 2000

Time Capsule and Walk of Remembrance Dedicated at G. L.

On Saturday, June 10, 2000, a Time Capsule and Walk of Remembrance were dedicated by the Grand Lodge and the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters of Maryland. The Walk, paved with memorial bricks, is directly in front of the Multi-Purpose Building and runs from the parking lot to the pavilion covering the cornerstone from the old Masonic Temple in Baltimore. In the center of the Walk is a four-foot triangular granite marker, under which rests the time capsule. The entire program was conceived of and organized by the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters, part of the York Rite of Masonry.

The spectators started assembling at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning. The weather was beautifully clear, but the temperature was scorching. The procession of Grand Officers and other dignitaries began up the hill by the Bonnie Blink Chapel and continued down to the location of the monument in the middle of the Walk of Remembrance. The procession was led by the Color Guard of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon followed by the Highlanders of Boumi Temple and their distinctive music. The Grand Marshal was Al Ruppertsberger, Past Potentate of Boumi Temple, and Father of Bro. C. E. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger, County Executive of Baltimore County. Then came members of the Family of Masonry, led by the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Maryland, with Bro. Edward A. Foreman, Jr., M. I. Grand Master. The Grand Lodge of Maryland and M.W. Francis E. Larrimore, Grand Master, followed all of the other organizations.

The Knights Templar of Maryland provided an honor guard for the Grand Officers and an arch of steel for the M. W. Grand Master. After all had assembled,

See DEDICATION on p. 6, col. 1

THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT,
FREE, AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF MARYLAND



Issued quarterly by the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, & Accepted Masons of Maryland, U.S.A. This publication serves as a medium for informing the Craft of pertinent activities of the Grand Lodge and constituent Lodges and for sharing with the media, community, family, and friends those events, activities, and personalities which exemplify the purposes and objectives of the Masonic fraternity.

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Send articles to the editor, address changes to the Grand Lodge.

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Returning a Little Authority to the Worshipful Master

I'm reading an interesting book now entitled *It Seemed Like A Good Idea*. It's all about historical failures that came about from good intentions. In every case the person in charge took the best available information, made careful calculations, and decided that "It seemed like a good idea." Custer's Last Stand was one of those good ideas.

Years ago the Grand Lodge of Maryland considered what to do when an objection was raised to a Brother sitting in Lodge. After carefully considering the options, the Grand Lodge decided it seemed like a good idea to take away any discretion from the Worshipful Master and to give the objecting Brother an absolute veto over anyone he didn't like. This removal of authority from our Worshipful Masters earned Maryland a special condemnation in *Mackey's Masonic Jurisprudence* as an offensive example of a "... very contracted view of the Universality of Masonry..." Mackey's Fourteenth Landmark is "The *RIGHT* of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular Lodge." Maryland reduces this right to a *privilege*, subject to the unchecked whim of any Brother present.

We shouldn't be running our affairs just to suit an outside group or person, but when *Mackey's Masonic Jurisprudence* singles out Maryland, we should take a moment to consider what we're doing and why we're doing it. At our next Annual Communication we will have the opportunity to do just that. We will vote on an amendment to our Grand Lodge Constitution that will return to our Worshipful Masters the authority to sustain or to not sustain an objection to a Brother sitting in a Lodge.

In twenty-nine years of Masonry I've only known of a very few times when an objection was made to a Brother sitting in a Lodge. Each of those instances was for petty reasons. However, too many times I have heard statements to this effect: "I'm not even going to visit *that* Lodge. I don't want to give *him* the satisfaction of objecting to me." Even once is too often to hear this.

A Lodge should be an asylum from the petty quarrels and bickering that exist on the outside. Masonry is supposed to unite men of every country, sect, and opinion, and conciliate true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. But unless the Worshipful Masters of our Lodges have their authority returned to them, the right of visitation can be held hostage by one angry, petty member.

We elect a Brother Worshipful Master because we trust him. Let's demonstrate that trust by giving back to him the opportunity to use some judgement.

S. Brent Morris, Editor

THIS SAD NEWS JUST RECEIVED: Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Steven J. Ponzillo, Jr. passed to the Celestial Lodge Above on the morning of August 10, 2000. Further details will be reported when available.



June 16 Interfaith Prayer Breakfast a Great Success!

On Friday, June 16, 2000, the Grand Lodge of Maryland sponsored its first Interfaith Prayer Breakfast. Close to one hundred Master Masons and their invited guests attended the event. Many favorable comments were made by those who were in attendance. Most Worshipful Grand Master, Francis E. Larimore commented, "It was good for the fraternity, let's do it again."

Brother Stephen Ponzillo III was the Master of Ceremonies and kept the program right on schedule. It began at 7:30 AM and ended promptly at 9:00 AM. It was an inspiring prayer breakfast which had as its theme, "The Need For Prayer and Patriotism." The guest soloist and song leader, Marcus Williams, sang two inspirational songs and led the singing of several patriotic songs.

Prayers were offered by four different clergy and by Assistant Grand Chaplains, Brothers David Pierce and Lunda Laird. The Rev. Bro. Leslie G. Metcalf, Grand Chaplain, was the principal speaker. His message was biblical, historical, and inspirational. It was made rather clear by Bro. Metcalf that there is a need for more prayer and patriotism if our country is to continue to be a great nation. Also, it was noted that Maryland is known as the free state because it was the first colony to grant religious freedom for all people regardless of their religious heritage.

A challenge was issued to all those in attendance to pray more often and to exhibit more patriotism in their daily lives.

Proposed Amendments to the G. L. Constitution

There were three proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Maryland presented at the Semi-Annual Communication on May 15, 2000, to be voted on at the Annual Communication on November 20, 2000.

- 1) Allow eighteen year old men to become Masons.
- 2) When a member objects to a visitor sitting in his Lodge, the Worshipful Master must sustain the objection for it to be in effect.
- 3) Allow a Mason to hold membership in any number of Maryland Lodges.

The full details of each of these amendments has been sent to each Maryland Lodge.

Actions on Grand Lodge Business

Several items of business were voted on at the Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held on May 15, 2000.

Fraternal recognition was granted to the Grand Lodges of Paraiba, Acer, and Bahia. Requests for recognition were received from the Grand Lodges of Sinalao (Mexico), Togo, Senegal, and Russia, but recognition

was deferred until such time as their requests have been fully evaluated and, in some cases, additional information received.

The amendment to Article XIII, Section 5 was approved. This expands the eligibility for admission to Bonnie Blink to include Master Masons and "relatives and other persons who are eligible for admission into the Homes under the Board's admission rules."

The amendment to merge the G. L. Board of Managers and the Board of Trustees of Bonnie Blink was defeated. The proposed Standing Resolution to allow Lodges to install its officers at a public ceremony without dispensation from the Grand Lodge was defeated.

The Entered Apprentice

In darkness I arrived within

Not knowing where to go,
I felt sure that I was safe—

A good friend told me so.

I had to profess my belief in God
And was slowly led around,
Back and forth across a room
Not knowing where I was bound.

Alas, I was placed on bended knee
And given words to say.
By these words I try so hard
To live my life each day.

"Mister" no more do I hear
For I'm a Brother now,
Ever since on bended knee
I took that sacred vow.

Hayward L. Putnam, P.M.
Esdraelon Lodge No. 176



Assessing the Needs of Seniors

Many times, seniors or their caregivers note a change in a person's ability to take care of their daily needs. Sometimes you're looking for help with a specific task like tax preparation, legal services or housing options. Perhaps you've noticed someone becoming isolated from family, neighbors and friends and are having difficulty asking for help. Maybe you are hoping to plan ahead for future needs. We're not getting any younger!

In any event, there are a number of professional resources available to help assess needs:

1) Your family doctor should be able to connect you with someone who can do a geriatric assessment. Unfortunately, appointments are often not available for several months. So, advocate for yourself and get a referral if necessary!

2) Alternatives are available through the Department of Health. Geriatric service teams in each county can do an initial screening of residents over age 60 at no cost.

3) If you are concerned about the safety and vulnerability of an elderly person, contact your local Department of Social Services. Far from being intrusive, Adult Protective Services is able to open doors when concerned family and neighbors don't know what to do to be helpful.

4) Geriatric Case Managers can work with families for a short time or for years in coordinating care and helping seniors access services.

This personal approach is appreciated by many. Care must be taken to enlist a qualified trained person. A good place to start is with the Mid Atlantic Chapter of the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care managers 703-502-0240 or www.gcmonline.org.

Of course, Masons and their extended family also have assistance through Maryland Masonic Homes. Our team of social workers, nurses, and community relations personnel are available to help you assess your needs. Call me at 410-527-1111 or at www.bonnieblink.com.

Maryland Masonic Homes is the place to call for the years to come!

Katherine A. Simons
Director of Resident Services
Bonnie Blink

Hagerstown York Rite Dinner

The York Rite Bodies of Hagerstown, Ithel Chapter No. 27, R.A.M., Palestine Council No. 16, R.& S.M., and Bernard Commandery No. 9, K.T. have announced a York Rite informational dinner to held on Thursday, October 26, 2000, at the Masonic Temple, 54 S. Potomac St., Hagerstown.

An excellent fried chicken dinner and great fellowship is available at no cost to all Master Masons. The deadline to make reservations: Monday October 23, 2000. For more information or for reservations, contact Joe White at 301-797-0569 or RJW18827@msn.com or Jodi Arnold at 301-739-2080.

Golden Deeds Of A Mason

Should you be called upon to do
Some errand or another,
Could you set out on foot,
And walk the distance for a
Brother?

And when you're down on bended
knee
Beseeching and expressing;
Could you include a Brother's
house,
And pray for Heaven's Blessing?

Within your breast a treasure chest
Of secrets kept from others,
Could you include and seal and
keep
A secret of your Brother's?

Could you with little effort
Place your hand upon his back,
And aright a fallen Brother,
Upon the noble track?

A word of friendly counsel
Could renew a Brother's cheer;
Are you prepared to transmit the
same,
By placing mouth to ear?

Upon the burning forge of life
These GOLDEN DEEDS are
wrought,
Do you stand ready to apply them
At the time the iron is hot?

If you drop everything at hand,
And to a Brother, hasten,
You will wear the badge with
honor, Sir;
Because you are a Mason!

Bro. Ray McClain, New Jersey
©1981 Raymond G. McClain



Long-Term Care: What You Need To Know

WHAT IS LONG-TERM CARE? Long-term care is the kind of help you need if you are unable to care for yourself because of lengthy illness or disability. It refers to care provided at home, in a nursing home, or other residential setting. It can range from help with daily activities to constant care by medical personnel.

Most of us plan carefully for retirement but completely overlook one of the greatest risks we face as we get older—the need for continued care at home or the possibility of a prolonged stay in a nursing home.

WHAT IS THE COST OF LONG-TERM CARE? Today, the national average of nursing care is over \$36,000 a year. And home care averages \$14,000 a year. According to the Congressional Subcommittee on Aging 75% of nursing home residents deplete their assets within twelve months.

WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM? Essentially, there are three basic sources:

1) *Use your own assets.* Depleting your own assets may seriously affect your financial well-being and independence.

2) *Qualify for government assistance.* If you meet federal and/or state poverty levels for both income and assets, the gov-

ernment may pay your long-term care bills. However, choices for your care may be limited.

3) *Be insured.* Long-Term Care Insurance can help protect your assets and your independence.

HOW DOES LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE WORK? Long-term care insurance pays for care in a nursing home. It can help pay for a variety of home and community-based services, including: therapists, home health aids and visiting nurses, adult day care, and hospice care.

WHAT DOES A GOOD POLICY INCLUDE? There are certain things to look for in long-term care insurance. Be sure the company offering the policy is financially secure. Find

an affordable level of coverage that offers what's important to you. For example, if you are concerned about being unable to care for yourself, and you don't want to rely on a stranger to do so, then make sure your policy provides for a friend or family member to take care of you. Ask for an outline of coverages that describes policy features. If you have questions, ask them.

Blue Lodge Services Inc., offers Long-Term Care Insurance with discounted premiums for members of the Masonic Order in Maryland through the A+ rated Conseco Insurance Company. Please contact Bros., Dennis Tully or Dave Wessel at 410-922-9600 or 800-222-9581 for information. Blue Lodge Services, Inc., 10610 Liberty Road, Randallstown, MD 21133.



Masons respect them—fish fear them! Pictured above from left to right are Bros. Elwood L. Ulmer, P.G.Chap., John C. Naquin, P.G.M., Ronald G. Belanger, J.G.W., and William L. Kugel, P.G. Sw. B. This past May these four fraternal fishermen went out on the Bay in the Play 'n Hooky, with Skipper John W. Hall, P.J.G.D. and Mate William Schooley, Prince Frederick No. 142. The four rockfish pictured ranged in size from 35½ to 44 inches with a total weight of 87 pounds. Bro. Ron Belanger reeled in the largest rockfish at 44 inches and 36 pounds.



DEDICATION *from p. 1*

they were reminded that no great and important undertaking should begin without first invoking the blessing of Deity. Bro. Richmond Laney offered a prayer on behalf of all assembled, and then the ceremonies began.

Bro. Edward A. Foreman, Jr., M. I. Grand Master, R. & S. M. addressed the crowd and explained the significance of memorial deposits to Cryptic Masons of the York Rite. He set the tone for the 125th anniversary of the Grand Council and inspired all with the significance of the day's events. He recognized the efforts of all who helped make this event possible: Bro. Robert L. Foreman, General Chairman; Bro. Albert C. Kaestner, Jr., Technical/Mechanical Chairman; Bro. Richmond C. Laney, Sales Chairman; Bro. James B. Coker, Main Event Chairman; and Bro. Roy E. Haugh, Secretary/Treasurer.

Following Bro. Foreman's speech, Rev. Bro. Jim Arbuthnot of Ireland offered a dedicatory prayer for the

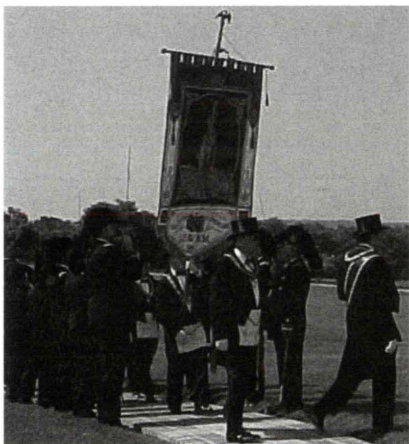


The Tall Cedars of Lebanon Color Guard lead the parade of participants to the site of the time capsule and Walk of Remembrance.

items to be deposited. A committee of three positioned themselves to receive the place the deposits. Mr. Jesse Sandler, State Master Councilor of the Order of DeMolay represented Youth, Bro. Ron Schwartz represented Manhood, and Bro. Carl J. Cicchetti, Sr. represented age. As each representative of a Maryland Masonic body came forward, they gave their deposit to Mr. Sandler

who passed it on to Bro. Schwartz and he to Bro. Cicchetti, who finally placed it in the capsule. The deposits included coins, books, gavels, and other mementos.

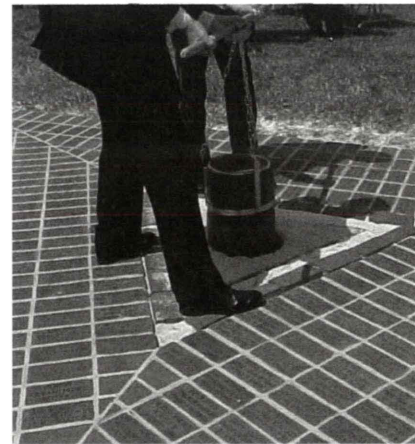
After the final treasure was safely at rest in the capsule, it was sealed and lowered into its resting place for the next 100 years, beneath the four foot triangular granite monument. The stone column is approached by



The Grand Standard of the Grand Lodge of Maryland passes through the Knights Templar Honor Guard



The time capsule is sealed for a century after deposits were made by various Maryland Masonic bodies.



The time capsule is placed in its repository before the granite monument was placed on top to seal it for 100 years.



the Walk of Remembrance, a brick path with stairs consisting of three, five, and seven steps to commemorate Blue Lodge Brethren. The triangular base of the Monument commemorates Companions of the Royal Arch, and a Passion Cross of contrasting bricks memorializes the Knights Templar. The top of the column is inclined at angle of 14° to recall the Fourteenth Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. The surrounding pavement of bricks are engraved with the names of those who supported the Monument project.

The Grand Council having sealed and deposited the Time Capsule, a recess was taken by all. During this time there was concert given by Baltimore's Melrose Brass Quintet and the public installation of officers of Hiram Council No. 5, R. & S.M. After the operative craftsmen completed



Bro. Edward Foreman, M.I. Grand Master, R.&S.M. of Maryland, addresses the crowd before the time capsule was sealed.

their work, the Grand Lodge of Maryland took over the proceedings and laid the monument with Masonic ceremonies. The granite column was tested and found to be well-formed, true, and trusty, and accurately laid, according to the principles of our art. The monument was then consecrated with the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy.

After the closing benediction, all moved over to the shade trees at Bonnie Blink and enjoyed the Grand lodge Family Day Picnic. There was pit beef, hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, chips, cotton candy, soda, beer, clowns, a space walk, and games. The younger visitors particularly enjoyed the petting zoo. It was a wonderful conclusion to a most wonderful day celebrating the wide and diverse Maryland Masonic Family.

The Walk of Remembrance is sure to become a highlight of visits to the Grand Lodge. Members and friends will want to see the names of Masons and organizations engraved on the bricks. If you didn't purchase a brick before the dedication of the walk, you can still get one. The cost is \$30 per brick, and includes three lines with up to fifteen characters each. There will be a booth selling bricks at the Harvest Home Day on September 16. Stop by for details on purchasing an engraved brick for yourself, as a gift, or for your Masonic Body. If you're not going to be at the corn husking, you can contact Bro. Albert C. Kaestner, Jr., 624 Lake Dr., Baltimore, MD 21286, 410-825-3375.

Centreville Lodge Hosts Masonic Law Enforcement Day

Centreville Lodge No. 180 of Centreville hosted a dinner to recognize the hard work and dedication of the law enforcement agencies in Queen Anne's County. The county proclaimed June 19, 2000, as "Masonic Law Enforcement Recognition Day" in Queen Anne's County. The agencies honored were the Maryland Natural Resources Police, the Maryland State Police, the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Department, and the Centreville Police Department.

After the dinner the guests were invited into the lodge room where W. Master Dennis R. Crawford presided over the ceremonies. FBI Special Agent Tim Sponaugle spoke about the invaluable local assistance the FBI receives. He said, "without these local law enforcement agencies I wouldn't have been able to resolve any of my cases."

Each agency received a letter from the Lieutenant Governor of Maryland thanking them for their hard work, a plaque from Queen Anne's County, and a plaque from from Centreville Lodge.

The closing remarks were made by R. W. Bennie G. Owens, Deputy Grand Master. His theme was that "the local law enforcement is our friend and we need to get that out." Centreville Lodge's program for the evening is an example of the type of dynamic, civic and family oriented activities that are so successful in Lodges.



Prayer Breakfast to Honor Veterans on November 10

On Friday, November 10, 2000, at 7:30 AM the Grand Lodge of Maryland will hold a Prayer Breakfast honoring the veterans who have served our great nation. November 10th is the birthday of the United States Marine Corp and the 11th is Veterans Day.

From the very founding of our nation, Master Masons have served with honor and distinction in every war and conflict. Many brothers made the supreme sacrifice to help insure the freedoms we enjoy and to preserve freedom throughout the world. This breakfast will be our way of honoring our fallen Brothers and all men and women who have served our country.

Please make reservations for this event by calling the Grand Lodge office, 410-527-0600. Reservations for tables of ten can be made.

Seating will begin at 7:00 AM with a continental breakfast served at 7:30. There is no set fee for the breakfast, but a free will offering will be received.

For further information, please call Bro. Leslie G. Metcalf, Worshipful Grand Chaplain, at 410-527-1111 or 410-788-6832.

Any individual or lodge wishing to support this event can do so by sending a gift to the Grand Lodge of Maryland. Please address envelope to the Rev. Leslie G. Metcalf, 300 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD 21030.

A Mason's Son

I was divested of cloth and everything;
I did not know what the evening would bring.

I heard strange words like never before
After I walked through the preeminent doors.

I was nervous because I couldn't see;
But I was told no one would do harm to me.

When I opened my eyes I saw the lights;
There were three to be precise

When I stood before the East;
I knew not what to say, not in the least

I listened and walked;
But my guide, he had to talk.

After I passed all three degrees,
I knew my grandfather would have been pleased.

My Dad just smiled and grabbed my hand;
He then said, "You're now a Travelin' Man."

My father raised me in more ways than one;
I am a Mason, but honorably a Mason's Son.

John Henry Conway, Jr.
Oriental Lodge No. 158

Editor's Note. This poem was written as an expression of appreciation by Bro. Conway for his father.

Crab Feast & Bull Roast on August 12

The Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge No. 1787 will holds its Fifth Annual Crab Feast and Bull Roast on the grounds of the Grand Lodge, Maryland Masonic Homes, on Saturday, August 12, 2000, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The cost per adult will be \$23, children aged 7 to 12 will be \$11, and children under 6 will be admitted free. There will be entertainment for the children, snow cones and cotton candy, and a tour of Bonnie Blink.

Reserve your tickets by sending a check payable to the "Grand Lodge of Maryland" to the Grand Secretary, Attn: Mrs. Cindy Moyer, 304 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD 21030. You may charge your tickets by calling the Grand Lodge at 410-527-0600 and asking for Mrs. Moyer.

It is impossible to plan sufficient food if we aren't sure of the number to be in attendance, so advance ticket purchases are a **MUST!**

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE GATE OR ON THE GROUNDS.

~ THE MENU ~

Steamed Maryland Crabs
Crab Soup
Pit Beef, Pit Ham, Hamburgers, & Foot-Long Hot Dogs
Cole Slaw & Potato Salad
Corn on the Cob & Sliced Tomatoes
Chilled Sliced Watermelon
Ice Cream Bars
Condiments, Rolls, & Breads
Beer & Sodas



A New Years Celebration



The Grand Lodge of Maryland, AF&AM
will host a gala
New Years Eve Celebration
in the Grand Lodge Ballroom
304 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD. 21030
From 7:00 P.M. until 1:00 A.M.

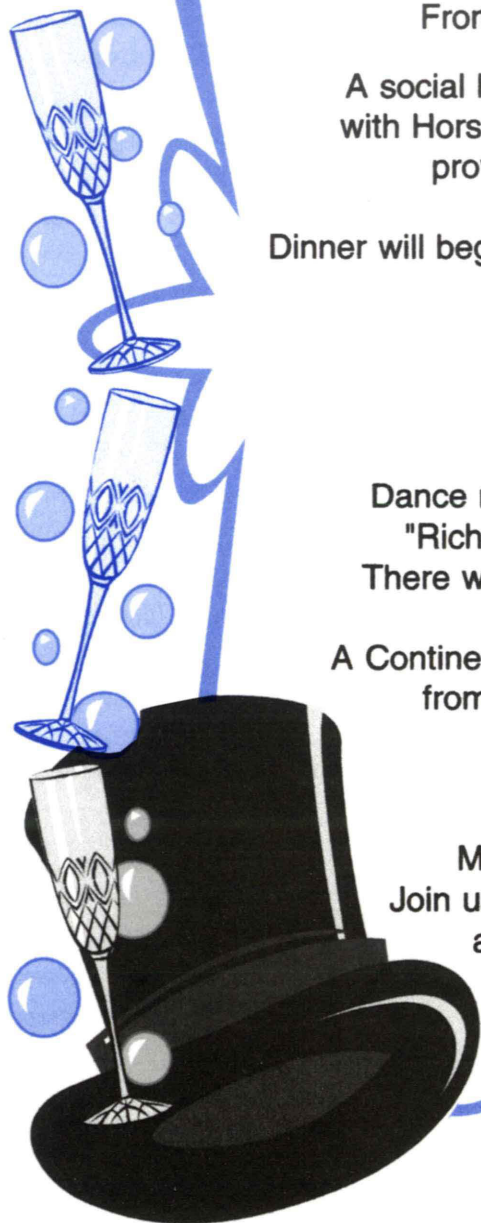
A social hour will begin at 7:00 P.M.
with Hors d'oeuvres and an open bar
provided for the evening.

Dinner will begin at 8:00 P.M. with your choice
of:
tenderloins of beef
or
Chicken Marsalla

Dance music will be provided by:
"Rich and the Roadrunners."
There will be a Champagne Toast
at Midnight.

A Continental Breakfast will be served
from 12:30 until 1:00 A.M.

Cost: \$95.00 a person
dress: Black Tie optional
Make your reservations now!
Join us by Calling Mrs. Beth Kennedy
at the Grand Lodge Office.
410-527-0600





News from the Hill

Joe Edmonds

Things continue to happen here at Bonnie Blink. We have had population increases in all phases of the "Homes." On May 10 the new arrivals were welcomed with a pizza party and other refreshments accompanied by the "Boom Box" of oldies but goodies. The Recreation Department did their usual great job. We residents say, "Job well done—many thanks." Additional residents are expected in the near future. The present census is 106.

Recently the residents have had the opportunity to visit the library and museum on the second floor of the Grand Lodge building. Most residents enjoyed looking up family members in the many volumes of proceedings and records that are housed in the library. The two brothers working in the library were very knowledgeable and helpful as the residents searched through their past to locate loved ones and other members of the Masonic Order.

The museum is a masterpiece for the space available—well planned and laid out in such a manner as to prompt one's interest to continue to research further into the history of the organization. The library and museum are open every Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

Now Hear This! Harvest Home day is just around the corner, scheduled for September 16, 2000. This will be the FIRST Harvest Home of the new millennium—a momentous occasion. YOU BE THERE, YA

HEAR? Y'ALL COME NOW! Join in the festivities and take one or more of the great handcrafted items home to your lady. There will be more about Harvest Home Day in the next *Freestate Freemason*.

In the past few months the residents have enjoyed trips to places such as Lunch Out at Hillcrest in Littlestown, Pa., and many shopping centers including Bay Bridge Outlet Shopping, Hunt Valley Mall "Dutch Market," White Marsh Mall, and a Carroll County Jubilee Trip.

The Lady's Social continues to be popular as is the "Can you Recall?" conducted by our Social Services Department, as does swimming at the Marriott. And of course there is the well attended Bible Study group now meeting in the Board Room. And we must never forget the memorable Mother's Day held on the Clinic patio with plenty of ice cream and other goodies. Last, but by far the not least, was the Father's Day celebration.

The woodshop continues to produce items for Harvest Home Day. With the help of a volunteer the work load has been reduced and the products are flowing to the able ladies for finishing. In the meanwhile the ladies continue doing needlework and to create new and useful items to be on sale in the Ball Room on September 16th. The flower ladies are developing arrangements and potting plants. You will have to visit the crafts show and sale in the Main Ball Room.

On May 18th twenty residents were guests of the Doric and Ionic Resident Council of Bonnie Blink.

They went by bus to Essex Community College for entertainment by the "Senior Variety Show" folks. This group of seniors is anything but "old"—what a great show they put on! On May 31 the Homes held "Public Service—Picnic & Senior Health Fair" out in the Clinic lawn area. Present, as our guests, were representatives of the local Fire Department, Police Department, 911 and GBMC Emergency Room.

Saturday, June 10, was Family Day here at BB. It was also a dedication at Boumi Temple, the dedication of the Grand Council Monument and Walk of Remembrance at the Grand Lodge, and it was a very hot day. All this seems to have held the usual crowd down a bit at the festivities, nevertheless we had a great day of it. Plenty of the most tender pit beef, corn on the cob, vegetables and deserts—great stuff! Then there were the rides, games, and a band that played forever (most delightful). And what would family day be without the residents at the ever famous White Elephant tables? This was indeed a fun day for all—thanks to all responsible!

Trinity Chapter No. 99, O.E.S., was honored at its regular meeting in June by the Grand Chapter Officers' visitation here at the Homes. Ninety-seven officers and members were in attendance. After a well-conducted meeting we enjoyed a luncheon in the cafeteria.

Back to Harvest Home Day. I tried to interject this throughout this writing so that all readers will get the idea: WE WANT YOU HERE SEPTEMBER 16, 2000!



A Tribute to the American Flag

Duane E. Anderson, J.G.W.
Grand Lodge of Minnesota

As Masons we should ever be mindful of the wonderful privilege we enjoy in this great country of ours. Without the special freedoms that are protected by our system of government, we could not assemble as we have done here today to deliberate for the betterment of our great fraternity. Freedom of speech, the right to assemble, the right to worship in the church of our own choice, due process of law, and numerous other rights and benefits are all too often taken for granted by each of us.

Until very recently, millions of people in eastern Europe had no hope of ever enjoying such privileges. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, the collapse of Communism, the dismantling of the Warsaw Pact, and many other recent startling events, these people now have a reasonable expectation of experiencing personal freedoms, practicing the religion of their own choice, and voting in a Democracy. Our gentle craft, so long persecuted and suppressed by dictators such as Stalin, Hitler, Mussolini, Franco, Castro, Kohmeini and others, is now slowly returning to some of the countries of the old Eastern Bloc.

If our Flag could speak to us, perhaps it would remind us of some of the important lessons of history. Perhaps it would tell us to guard carefully our precious heritage. It

might even say something like the following:

I am the American Flag!

I was born June 14th, 1777.

I am more than just a piece of cloth shaped into a design.

I am the emblem of the mightiest sovereign nation on the face of the earth.

I am the inspiration for which American Patriots sacrificed their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. I was in the hands of my first President in the blood and snow of Valley Forge. I was there when my nation was born, small, with a wilderness at her back and seas at her sides, and not one friendly neighbor to whom she, as a struggling infant nation, could apply to for help when in distress.

I have led your sons into battle from that cold, cruel Valley to the deadly jungles of Viet Nam, and recently through the sands of the Persian Gulf. I still see in my memory those bright, beautiful young men who died for me at Pork Chop Hill, Verdun, Normandy, Iwo Jima, Pearl Harbor, the Coral Sea, Okinawa, Corrigidor and the Asian jungles half a world away.

And when they died for me, I wrapped them in my love and draped honor over their caskets in the sizzling deserts, steaming jungles, and stormy seas. I walk in silence with each of your honored dead to their final resting place beneath the silent White Crosses, row upon row. I fly proudly over their green graves in all those places, praying that wars might end

forever.

Yes, I, the American Flag, have lived long, traveled far, and endured much. A million lives and more were sacrificed to keep me as the majestic symbol of Freedom under Constitutional Government. Beneath my protecting folds Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity have become the heritage of every citizen, while the oppressed of many nations have found peace and happiness in this great land over which I float.

I call out to all everywhere: "Come to my shores and my sides, all who are tired, poor, oppressed, and yearn to breathe free. Come, and I shall be your guarantee of Liberty!" Be proud, I say, of your country! There is so much about her that is beautiful, compassionate, tender, powerful, and yet gentle.

Yes, in spite of her sins, and there are many, and in spite of her shame, and she has her share, I am proud of America. Show me any other country that is stainless, spotless, sinless, or shameless over whose people I could fly with greater honor. No country knows greater freedom than my country. No country offers greater opportunity to her people than America. Be proud of our imperfect, yet great, America. I, your American Flag, speak!

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives, your fortunes, and your sacred honor. Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return. Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of

See FLAG on p. 15, col. 1



230 Years for Washington No. 3

S. Brent Morris, P.G.D.C.

On Tuesday, June 28, 2000, Washington Lodge No. 3 celebrated its 230th anniversary aboard the USS Constellation in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. This historic meeting was attended by over 80 Masons from Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. Washington Lodge is the oldest Lodge in Maryland, originally chartered by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on June 28, 1770, as Lodge No. 15. By 1794 it had become known as "Washington Lodge" and was No. 3 under the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

The evening began with the W. Master of the Lodge, R. Frederick Lunn, calling the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. After invoking the blessings of God upon the proceedings, the members and visitors sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and heard a brief history of Washington Lodge No. 3. Among the many historical highlights, it was recounted that Bro. David Stodder, won the original contract in 1795 to build the US Frigate Constellation, which was launched from Fells Point in 1797. Thus the anniversary meeting held below decks on the USS Constellation was particularly appropriate.

Following the history reading presentations were made to the Lodge, including an original piece of wood, two original cut nails, and a copper spike, all from the hull and keel, and a coin struck from the

brass of the USF Constellation, presented by Bro. William Ferguson, whose father was Master in 1914. The Master was given a tulip poplar gavel turned from the St. John's College Liberty Tree, which was blown down this past winter. This gavel was presented by Bro. Ray Lunn on behalf of his sister, Renate, a 1996 graduate of the College.

Proclamations declaring "Washington Lodge No. 3 Day" were received from Capt. James E. Kelly, USN, Captain of the aircraft carrier USS Constellation CV64, and Parris Glendening, Governor of Maryland. Martin O'Malley, Mayor of Baltimore and C. E. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger, Baltimore County Executive, proclaimed this Washington Lodge Week in their jurisdictions, and Bro. William Donald Schaeffer, Comp-

troller of Maryland, sent a Certificate of Recognition.

Concluding the presentations to Washington Lodge No. 3 were three flags: a Baltimore County flag presented by Bro. Cory Ruppertsberger on behalf of Bro. C. E. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger, a 50-star flag flown aboard the aircraft carrier USS Constellation CV64, and an historic 34-star flag which flew over the USF Constellation that evening.

After hearing the history of Washington Lodge and receiving the many presentations, the members closed with two verses of "America the Beautiful" and a benediction. They then departed to continue their community activities, mutual support, and philanthropy that has marked the Masonic fraternity for 250 years in Maryland.



Bro. Cory Ruppertsberger presenting W.M. R. Frederick Lunn with proclamation and flag from Baltimore County Executive, Bro. C. E. "Dutch" Ruppertsberger.



Tall Cedars Hold Master Mason Night

Baltimore Forest No. 45, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America held a Master Mason Night on Thursday, March 16, 2000. M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Maryland, Francis E. Larrimore, and members of his line were in attendance. The North Carroll Ensemble provided entertainment for those present.

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon is a Masonic-affiliated organization, closely tied to the principles of Freemasonry. All Tall Cedars are Master Masons. Besides Fun, Frolic, and Fellowship, the Tall Cedars are well-known for their support of medical research to find a cure for and ultimate elimination of Muscular Dystrophy. Baltimore Forest's largest fund raiser for Muscular Dystrophy is a Pancake Breakfast which will be next held on Saturday, November 4, 2000, from 7:00 AM to noon. For more information on the Tall Cedars, contact Grand Tall Cedar Bro. Jay Sonntag, 410-686-6168.

Washington Lodge Annual Cruise

Washington Lodge No. 3 continues setting the standard as one of the most active Masonic bodies in Maryland. The lodge is planning an 11-night Alaska-Canada cruise on the Sky Princess from August 22 through September 2. The cost is from \$2,125. For more information on how you can join them in this exciting activity, contact W.M. Fred Lunn, 410-329-4003.



Baltimore Forest No. 45, T.C.L. Master Mason Night. Pictured from left to right are Sr. Deputy Grand Tall Cedar Paul Huber, Grand Tall Cedar Jay Sonntag, Trustee Al Street, Grand Master Francis Larrimore, Trustee Ray Clife, Trustee Richard Melvin, Trustee Charles Whiteford, Jr. Deputy Grand Tall Cedar Bill Champness, District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar Edsel Crouse, Treasurer Ray Hennighausen, Chaplain Elwood Ulmer, and Scribe Harold Sorrell.

Masonic Charities and the United Way

Bro. Abner Kaplan, P.M. reminds us that Masonic Charities of Maryland is a qualified charitable organization and participates in the United Way campaign. Be sure to look for Masonic Charities of Maryland when you designate your charitable contributions this fall.

Candidates for Grand Lodge Offices

Continuing last year's new policy for candidates for elected Grand Lodge offices, the Fall 2000 *Freestate Freemason* will publish pictures, biographies, and statements of all brethren who intend to run for an office at the Annual Communication, if there is more than one announced candidate for that office. The purpose of

this change is to have a better-informed membership.

The offices for which biographies of candidates will be accepted are Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Sr. Grand Warden, Jr. Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary. Any brother who intends to have his name placed in nomination is invited to submit a photograph (a head shot is recommended) and 275-word statement to the Grand Secretary's office. There is no restriction on the content of the information, though a brief biography, qualifications, and position statement are recommended. Consult the Fall 1999 *Freestate Freemason* to see what others have published. Information received by October 1, 2000, will be published in the Fall 2000 *Freestate Freemason* for each office with more than one candidate.



Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.

Scholarship Recipients for 2000

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc. is proud to announce its scholarship recipients for 2000. A total of forty-seven \$1000 scholarships were given out this year to high school scholars, two scholarships per county and Baltimore City. Each public High School is assigned to a Maryland Masonic Lodge which in turn gives applications to the school and explains the program to the principal. Each school accepts applications from its students and returns the applications to the sponsoring Lodge. The Lodge reviews the applications and forwards the top three to the Masonic Charities of Maryland for final selection. The recipients are presented their check in a ceremony arranged by the Lodge. For more information on this exciting program, contact the Master of your Lodge or Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc., Mercantile Bank Building, Suite 900, 409 Washington Ave., Towson, MD 21204.

Allegany	Potomac Lodge No. 100	Fort Hill H. S.	Jennifer Alama Joy
	Allegany Lodge No. 157	Westmar H. S.	Sarah Dawn Gattens
Anne Arundel	Liberty Lodge No. 219	Chesapeake H. S.	Erinin Paige Sawyer
	Amos Lodge No. 226	Severna Park H. S.	Ryan Patrick McGarry
Baltimore City	Corinthian Lodge No. 93	Baltimore Polytechnic H. S.	Albert Hosea John Plenty
	J. H. B. Latrobe Lodge No. 165	Baltimore City College	Chanel Sabrina Weaver
Baltimore Cnty	Warren Lodge No. 51	Dundalk H. S.	Kara Elizabeth Franz
	Adherence No. 88	Pikesville H. S.	David Alexander Freiman
Calvert	Pr. Frederick Lodge No. 142	Northern H. S.	Rebecca Cheryl Green
	Pr. Frederick Lodge No. 142	Northern H. S.	Brandy Michelle Green
Caroline	Temple Lodge No. 128	North Caroline H. S.	Sandi Renée Carney
	Nanticoke Lodge No. 172	Col Richardson H. S.	David Bryan Cohee
Carroll	Lebanon Lodge No. 175	North Carroll H. S.	Sarah Elisabeth Schlichter
	Plymouth Lodge No. 143	Francis Scott Key H. S.	Brian David Cohee
Cecil	Cecil Lodge No. 125	North East H. S.	Amanda Kay Burton
	Union Lodge No. 48	Elkton H. S.	Laura A. Pacanowsky
Charles	Saint Columba Lodge No. 150	Westlake H. S.	Angela Marie Preziotti
	Perserverance Lodge No. 208	Maurice J. McDonough H. S.	Jill Amber McKay
Dorchester	Roelma Lodge No. 206	Cambridge/S. Dorchester H. S.	JoAnna Caroline Redmer
	Roelma Lodge No. 206	Cambridge/S. Dorchester H. S.	Sarah Elizabeth Vannoy
Frederick	Brunswick Lodge No. 191	Brunswick H. S.	Christopher Martin Coy
	Brunswick Lodge No. 191	Brunswick H. S.	Holly Elizabeth Osborne
Garrett	Hiram Lodge No. 103	Northern Garrett H. S.	Leslie Eerin Swearman
	Oakland Lodge No. 192	Southern Garrett H. S.	Stephanie Nicole Forman
	Oakland Lodge No. 192	Southern Garrett H. S.	Elizabeth Ann Sauder
Harford	Aberdeen Lodge No. 187	Edgewood H. S.	Kathryn Elizabeth Ekey
	Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44	Bel Air H. S.	Rebecca Ann Miller
Howard	Howard Lodge No. 101	Howard H. S.	Lisa Marie Grable
	Patmos Lodge No. 70	Centennial H. S.	Alison Ann Woods



Kent	Chester Lodge No. 115 Chester Lodge No. 115	Kent County H. S. Kent County H. S.	Robert Andrew Glenn Latoya Ann Williams
Montgomery	Montgomery Lodge No. 195 Pentalpha Lodge No. 194	Rockville H. S. Damascus H. S.	Natalie Kay Cochran Zachary Jordan Mitchell
Prince Georges	Birmingham Lodge No. 188 Birmingham Lodge No. 188	Eleanor Roosevelt H. S. High Point H. S.	Ashley Deborah Foster Rebecca Lee Fugua
Queen Anne's	Centreville Lodge No. 180 Centreville Lodge No. 180	Kent Island H. S. Queen Anne's Cnty H. S.	Nearry Ouk Damika Danelle Baker
St Mary's	T. J. Shryock Lodge No. 223 T. J. Shryock Lodge No. 223	Leonardtwn H. S. Leonardtwn H. S.	Joseph Christopher Krafty Bethany L Stevens
Somerset	NO APPLICATIONS		
Talbot	Granite Lodge No. 177 Coats Lodge No. 102	St Michael's H. S. Easton H. S.	Melissa May Tabor Melissa Susan McCarty
Washington	Friendship Lodge No. 84 Friendship Lodge No. 84	North Hagerstown H. S. Clear Spring H. S.	Stephanie Lynn Gullace Heather Louise Seavolt
Wicomico	Centennial Lodge No. 221 Wicomico Lodge No. 91	James M Bennett H. S. Wicomico Senior H. S.	Devon Ann Pearce Kurt Benjamin Twining
Worcester	Sinepuxent Lodge No. 193 Evergreen Lodge No. 153	Snow Hill H. S. Stephen Decatur H. S.	Katie Lee Hancock Jennifer Leigh Davis

From FLAG on p. 11

democracy, worship Eternal God and keep His commandments, and I, your American Flag, shall forever remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

The flags of mighty empires have come and gone, but I, your American Flag, still remain. Alone of all flags I express the sovereignty of the people which endures when all else passes away. Speaking with their voice I have the sanctity of revelation. For he who lives under me and is loyal to me, is loyal to Truth and Justice everywhere. So long as I, your American Flag, fly, government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Editor's Note. R.W. Bro. Duane E. Anderson was called from labor on March 8, 2000. He was an internationally recognized Masonic author and leader.



Past Masters' Night at Columbia Lodge

Columbia Lodge No. 58, Frederick, celebrated its annual Past Master's on May 1 in Frederick's new Masonic Temple. The Past Masters conferred the Third Degree on Bro. Gary Lee Short, shown above being congratulated by W. Bro. Arthur Volpe, his principal sponsor. The attendance at this degree was the largest in Columbia Lodge's new building. The Officers of the Lodge invite any brethren who are visiting in their area to come and see their new home. Please call W.M. Robert V. Kothentreuther at 301-694-7376, for details. Photo courtesy of Richard T. Kreh, Sr., P.M.

Maryland Masonic Calendar



AUGUST 2000

- 1 Sum. School, *Special*, 7:30 PM
- 3 •Sum. School, M.M., 7:30 PM
Centennial No. 174
- Sum. School, E.A., 7:30 PM
Cambridge No. 66
- 8 Sum. School, F.C., 7:30 PM
- 10 Sum. School, *Special*, 7:30 PM
Centennial No. 174
- 12 Dr. John Coats Lodge Annual
Crab Feast & Bull Roast. Adults
\$23; ages 7-12 \$11; ages under
6 free. 1:00-5:00 PM, G.L.
- 15 Sum. School, F.C., 7:30 PM
- 17 Sum. School, F.C., 7:30 PM
Hagerstown No. 217
- 22 Sum. School, M.M., 7:30 PM
- 24 Sum. School, F.C., 7:30 PM,
Temple No. 128
- 29 Sum. School, M.M., 7:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 2000

- 16 Harvest Home Day
- 23 Cumberland S.R. Banquet,
100th Anniversary Celebration.
For information, call Paul
Shircliff: 301-777-0498

OCTOBER 2000

- 23 Hagerstown York Rite dinner,
Reservations: 301-797-0569

NOVEMBER 2000

- 10 Prayer Breakfast honoring
veterans, 7:30 AM, G.L.,
Reservations: 410-527-1111
- 19 G.L. Religious Services, Bonnie
Blink, dark clothes, 10:00 AM
- 20 G.L. Annual Communication,
G.L., 2:00 PM

DECEMBER 2000

- 31 Gala New Year's Eve Celebra-
tion in G.L. Ballroom, 7:00 PM
to 1:00 AM. •Hors d'Oeuvres,
•Open Bar, •Dinner, •Dance
music by "Rich and the Road-
runners," •Champagne Toast,
•Continental Breakfast. (See
p. 9 for more details). \$95 per
person.

Reservations: Mrs. Beth
Kennedy, 410-527-0600.

High Twelve Guild Luncheon,
Tuesdays, G.L., 12:00 NOON, \$10

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