

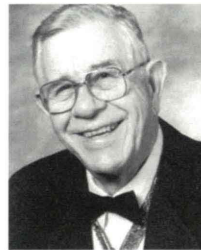
Free State Freemason



Summer 2003

From the Grand Master—

MASONRY FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM



My Brothers,

Life is a series of decisions. We start making them in the morning when we awake do we get up and go about the daily grind, or do we hide in our bed and hope the world will just go away? Do we speak to our children when we see them with friends who just make us nervous or do we act as parents and display our love and concern? We all made a conscious decision when we knelt at that Altar. The opportunity to vote, whenever we feel so moved, is a decision each of us must make as citizens of this great country. The list goes on and on. Since our Semi-Annual Communication on May 19, 2003, requests have been directed to this office seeking clarification on several Masonic matters that need to be addressed:

1. A proposed amendment to the Constitution was offered to reduce the time period presently permitted for the payment of subordinate Lodge dues and assessments. If passed, this amendment would reduce the grace period before suspension for non-payment of dues (NPD) from one year to thirty-one days. The present Constitutional regulation requires subordinate lodges to suspend a member who has not paid his dues by December 31 of the current year. If this new amendment receives a favorable two-thirds (2/3) vote at Grand Lodge, a Brother who had not paid his current year dues would be subject to suspension for NPD on January 31 of the current dues year.

I have been asked by various Brethren why such an amendment such as this would be permitted to come to the floor of Grand Lodge. The answer of course is, if it does not violate another regulation of the Grand Lodge Constitution, any amendment may be presented to the Grand Lodge for a vote (*continued on page 3*)

**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 & objectives of the Masonic fraternity.

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

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House Resolution 125

The following resolution has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and referred to a Committee. Whether anything further will happen with this Bill is unknown. If nothing further happens, it will never become effective. If it is adopted by both houses of Congress, Freemasons will be congratulated for the various things cited in the Bill. That's all.

Contact your Representatives in Congress to urge passage of this Bill recognizing the thousands of Freemasons in every State in the Nation and honoring them for their many contributions to the Nation throughout its history. The resolution is as follows:

Whereas Freemasons, whose long lineage extends back to before the Nation's founding, have set an example of high moral standards and charity for all people;

Whereas the Founding Fathers of this great Nation and signers of the Constitution, most of whom were Freemasons, provided a well-rounded basis for developing themselves and others into valuable citizens of the United States;

Whereas members of the Masonic Fraternity, both individually and as an organization, continue to make invaluable charitable contributions of service to the United States;

Whereas the Masonic Fraternity continues to provide for the charitable relief and education of the citizens of the United States;

Whereas the Masonic Fraternity is deserving of formal recognition of their long history of care-giving for the citizenry and their example of high moral standards; and

Whereas Freemasons have always revered and celebrated St. John's Day, June 24th, as dedicated to their patron saints: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the thousands of Freemasons in every State in the Nation and honors them for their many contributions to the Nation throughout its history.

Grand Lodge Cookbook

ATTENTION! Wives of Grand Line Officers (past & present) and Grand Line Officers without partners:

We are compiling a Grand Lodge of MD cookbook and would love to include your recipes. If you wish to participate, send me your name, address, telephone number, and email address. If there is enough interest and participation, you will receive further instructions at a later date. Please help us by contacting those who may not see this notice. Send information to:

glcookbook@yahoo.com

(OR)

Karen Belanger

2885 Karen Drive

Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732 Looking forward to hearing from **you**.



(continued from page 1) of the membership. The proposed amendment will then either pass or fail upon its own merit. I believe most Masons would agree that neither the Grand Master nor any other group of Masons should attempt to control the regulations that govern Freemasonry. Those brethren who compose this Grand Lodge are very capable of making their own free-will decision concerning the government of this fraternity.

2. On Monday May 19, 2003, a motion was made and seconded to recognize Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland. The motion was passed by the required majority of the attending and voting members of Grand Lodge. Since that vote there has been an undercurrent of concern from those who believe Grand Lodge and/or this Grand Master surely must have a hidden agenda. ***Nothing could be further from the truth!*** The motion that was presented to Grand Lodge at the Semi-Annual Communication spelled out all the conditions for recognition very clearly. An affirmative vote resulted in the recognition of Prince Hall of Maryland as a regularly constituted Grand Lodge, with visitation permitted by invitation at Grand Lodge level only. This means, in plain every-day English, the Grand Master of Maryland and the Grand Master of Prince Hall may attend each other's Grand Communication, upon invitation. No other member's visitation to either's subordinate lodge is authorized. No Plural/Dual Membership is

permitted by members of either Grand Lodge. Any future change to this action for recognition shall be presented, to each Grand Lodge memberships, for their approval or rejection. Those Maryland Grand Lodge brethren, who supported the motion made a conscious decision, and I welcome their compassion and willingness to understand the importance of that vote. Those Brothers who opposed the motion for recognition, I respect and am convinced, had the best interest of the Grand Lodge of Maryland in their decision. That vote is now over and we can all join together to make this Grand Lodge stronger in membership, and financially secure.

3. The amendment for a \$3.00 a year increase in Grand Lodge assessment failed to reach the required 2/3 majority vote because your Grand Master did not adequately communicate the need and reasons for this change. I accept that responsibility and will now do whatever is required to enlighten my Brethren on the financial conditions associated with Grand Lodge.

The Grand Treasurer, W. Raymond Bosley, and the Chairman of the Board of Managers' Budget Committee, Wayne Mason, P.M., each made a valiant attempt to explain the financial need, but it was too little- too late. Let me now say this, we will make those necessary corrections to our July 2003-June 2004 budget to permit us to operate this Grand Lodge in a professional and responsible manner. There will be some difficult deci-

sions made and not everyone will be pleased. My adult life has been predicated on living within my means. If I could not pay for an item I waited until I could. It is my desire to carry this belief into all our future budget discussions. We have not increased the Grand Lodge assessment since 1987 and I believe everyone would agree your \$1.00 today does not have the same purchasing power as before. We will communicate our story to the brethren and live with their decision.

From July 2002 to June 2003 our income from member assessments, Lodge room rentals, program revenues, miscellaneous and investment income total was \$624,959. Our expenses, for the same period, for meetings, conferences, programs, travel, supplies, FFSM publications, service emblems, salaries, taxes, office expenses, professional and miscellaneous fees, insurance, Grand Lodge and Free Mason Hall maintenance, etc. was \$845,346. We now have a total Grand Lodge financial shortcoming of \$220,387.

It should be obvious to all, the proposed \$3.00 per year increase for approximately 21,000 members, (\$63,000.00), even had it passed, would not have solved our financial problems, but it would have helped lessen the load. We need to review the budget. Are there areas, in the present Grand Lodge budget, where we can cut expenses? Of course there are and we will make those necessary reductions. We especially need the financial (continued on page 4)



(continued from page 3) conditions of our investments on Wall Street to improve and provide us with a more stable return. Our total portfolio has decreased in value by over one million dollars. Now I realize this is only a paper loss as we are not selling our portfolio, but the individual dividends are down, and we need to return to a more stable income flow.

This Grand Master is not unaware of the general distrust among many members of Grand Lodge over the management of funds through the years. Others feel that because they are retired and live on a "fixed income" that no increase can be supported. We all are in the same "boat" and unless we work together this Grand Lodge will become as stagnant as some of our subordinate Lodges.

Many members of this Grand Lodge donate their valuable time and effort to manage our funds without any recognition or reward. They need your confidence and support.

We will gather together the facts of income versus expenses and let the Brethren decide. Our Grand Inspectors, who are outstanding as my representatives, will carry that message to each Lodge. I ask that you listen with an open mind and send your questions and possible solutions to me. I will read them and respond accordingly.

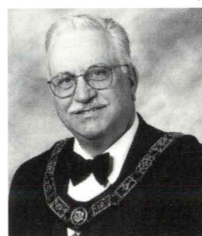
Permit me to end this message on a more positive note. It is apparent to me that many Lodges are beginning to hear my message and are responding by supporting their community activities. The recogni-

tion, by the profane, of our good deeds and proud history of patriotism to this great nation must be told over and over again. Our children and grandchildren no longer hear the beautiful story of how this great nation began. The integral part that Masons shared in the historical battles of the Revolutionary War, both political and military, is largely unknown to the children of this generation. Freemasonry can no longer remain in the shadows. We need to be a part of every program when members of the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars lay wreaths at the graves of our heroes. To those Lodges, and we have more and more cooperating: this Grand Master THANKS YOU. Please join me in this crusade to make our community aware of Maryland Masonry.

IS YOUR LODGE READY FOR NEW MEMBERS?

Ronald G. Bélanger, R.W.D.G.M.

For those of you who attended the Grand Master's Regional Meetings earlier this year, the following question may sound somewhat familiar: "What would you do if I presented you with 20 new members at your next stated communication?"



The answer to the question may help you identify just how healthy your Lodge may be. Most of you will say, "I'd put them to work," or "I'd put some of them in the Line."

I admit you may be able to put a few of them in line, but then what? What do you do with the other fifteen or sixteen "New Members?" What do you have to offer new members who choose not to "go in the line?"

I suggest that most of our Lodges do not have programs in place right now to keep the members they have coming to Lodge, let alone any new ones. Yes, historically we are steeped in ritual and the teaching of it. I'm not suggesting for a minute that we get away from this tradition or that we do away with our ritual. It is after all what separates us from other service organizations. I am suggesting that most Lodges have only the ritual to keep their members returning to Lodge. While this may be enough for some of us there are others who would rather spend their time supporting other "community" endeavors but, would still consider being active members of the Lodge if they could be more closely involved in their community.

Before we talk about new members we should look at what some of our "Old Members" have to say about why they no longer attend Lodge. We need to fix what is broken before we can move ahead. The five most frequent reasons to why a Brother no longer comes to Lodge are:

1. It takes too much time.
2. It was not what I expected.
3. I was bored. Nothing ever happened in Lodge.
4. Lodge was (continued on page 5)



(continued from page 4) a very unfriendly place.

5. The leadership was not up to the task at hand.

Now let's look at the given reasons a man would join our Fraternity or any organization for that matter.

1. (85%) To make new friends.

2. (Nearly all) To make new connections in their community.

3. (Nearly all married men) Quality time with their families.

4. (80%) Wanted to have a role of importance in their communities.

5. (60%) Wanted an opportunity to lead.

One would think that armed with that information alone we could come up with enough ideas to overcome the problem of membership. Interestingly enough we have Lodges in our jurisdiction that have done just that. Howard No. 101, Harmony No. 53, Esdraelon No. 176, Evergreen No. 153, Kemp No. 154 and St. Columba No. 150 to name just a few. Interestingly enough each one of the Lodges I've mentioned are located in a different part of the state, each is pursuing different programs, yet each is enjoying levels of success. What, you may ask, is the secret to their success? I can only offer the one common denominator found in each Lodge's programs: Consistent exposure in the community!

If we look at the history of our Fraternity and how it grew, not just here in Maryland but across the country, we can safely say it grew a Lodge at a time in a com-

munity at a time. Can we therefore expect it to regenerate itself by any other means? I think not. There is no panacea or magic wand to be waved. We must make our presence felt once again in our local communities. While I could fill this entire issue with facts, figures and ideas, I can not give your Lodge the positive image in your local communities that will make the slightest bit of difference.

You as a Lodge must go out and find a need in your community. One that is not being addressed or that is in need of your Lodge's assistance.

I know every Lodge has programs for the ladies and widows. These are necessary and important programs and should by no means be neglected, but these programs are; Masons doing for Masons. Remember I said a positive and consistent image in the "Community." Adopting a highway, Christmas in July, Habitat for Humanity, Make a Wish Foundation. There are literally hundreds of opportunities waiting for your participation. Yes, some take money, but there are so many more programs looking for volunteers. Mentoring programs and programs through schools and libraries that help children to read don't cost money. They do take time and effort but the rewards are great. If you never gain a member and help one child to learn the basic skills it takes to read and write, what greater gift can you provide to the future of that one child?

So I leave you with the same question I asked at the beginning of this article:

"What would you do if I presented you with 20 new members at your next stated communication?"

Hopefully you have a better idea of what it will take to answer that question in a positive manner. Masonry is not dead or dying. It is in most instances just dormant, waiting for us to re-energize it. Onward!

Maryland DeMolay Honored

Maryland DeMolay just returned from their Annual International Sessions in Buffalo, New York. It was a very enjoyable and successful trip for Maryland DeMolay and we returned with many honors.

Our Executive Officer, Dad Robert England, was honored to receive the Grand Cross. This award goes to all Past Grand Masters of the Order of DeMolay. This is only the third time the award has been presented to someone who has not served as Grand Master for DeMolay. Dad England received the honor for his continued dedication and service to the jurisdiction of Maryland, as well as the jurisdiction of Delaware during the search for a new E.O. there. Grand Master Kell said in his presentation that Dad England is always ready and willing to assist DeMolay when called upon, whether in his own jurisdiction or in a neighboring jurisdiction.

Our own Most Worshipful Grand Master Bro. John A. Young, Jr., was elected to (continued on page 6)



(continued from page 5) receive the Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor. Brother Young will be invested with this honor at the Maryland DeMolay Awards Day on Sunday, October 5, 2003 in the Gothic Room of the Grand Lodge at 2:00 p.m. This is a public ceremony and we invite all who would like to attend this special event.

Several DeMolay were elected to receive the Degree of Chevalier, which is the highest honor an active DeMolay can receive. Those elected are Brother Thomas Sheridan of Catonsville Chapter, Brother Kristopher Greenwell, Brother Stephen Walker, and Brother Mike Hoglund (Advisor) of Chesapeake Chapter. Elected to receive the DeMolay Legion of Honor, which is the highest award for adult service to DeMolay, were Brother Jeffrey Revis of Chesapeake Chapter, Brother William Gyr and Brother Joel Todd, Sr. of Berlin Chapter. The DeMolay Cross of Honor is being awarded to Brother Salvatore M. Cremona of Frederick Chapter. All of these Brothers will receive their honors at the Maryland DeMolay Awards Day on October 5.

Maryland DeMolay was also honored to receive the Outstanding Communication Award for our publication of the Maryland DeMolay Reflections.

We are very proud of the young men of Maryland DeMolay. We challenge you to come out and see what it is about. DeMolay needs YOU! Why not become a DeMolay advisor? We provide training and the DeMolay provide the inspiration!

New Web Site Url's

The new Maryland Masonic Family is now at <http://www.mdmasons.org> and from this site, many of the Maryland Masonic web sites can be accessed. The Grand Lodge web page is now located at: www.mdmasons.org/gl/default.asp Please update your computer browsers to reflect these new web addresses. While the sites may still be found at the old addresses, they won't be updated, and will soon be removed.

Golf Tournament

Friends and Brethren: Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142 announces their 1st Annual Golf Tournament. It is to be held at Chesapeake Hills Country Club in Lusby, MD.

Proceeds from the tournament will be used to fund a number of projects such as our Scholarship Fund, Santa Claus project, and others. We are asking for your support both in spreading the information to your friends and through your Lodges or other groups that you may associate with, and also to ask you to find "Hole Sponsors" and players. Forms are available to provide additional information and to register sponsors and players.

Please give this your serious attention and spread the word throughout the state. Help us kick off a great event that we hope will be an annual event. This is a perfect chance to get who we are and what we do out

into the public eye. Search out those sponsors and get up a team and come enjoy fellowship with us in this endeavor.

Please contact Bro. Donald Q. Hall at 410-535-0354 for the proper forms to register sponsors and players, or if further information is needed.

Prince Frederick Lodge No 142's 1st Annual Golf Tournament to support Masonic Charities in Southern Maryland, September 6, 2003 – Chesapeake Hills Country Club

PLAYER/TEAM REGISTRATION \$75.00/Player \$280/Team. Includes breakfast, greens fees and cart, lunch, and awards. Pay as you go beverage cart will be available on the course. Individual players will be joined randomly into teams.

Schedule:

7:00 AM to 8:00 A.M.
Registration/Breakfast

Shotgun Start or Captain's Choice (Scramble) at 8:00 AM to 8:30 AM. Registration deadline is Friday, August 22, 2003. Entry fees must accompany registration

Sponsorship Opportunities

- Business Hole Sponsorship \$75 (Includes sign at the tee box)
- Personal/non-profit hole sponsorship \$50 (Includes sign at the tee box).
- Door prizes (Sponsorship will be recognized in program and at door prize award).

Kindness is in our power, even when fondness is not.

-Samuel Johnson



Grand Lodge Election November

Brethren, below you will find the Brothers that have submitted a resume to the Free State Freemason. Study their contributions to our fraternity, and vote for the one you feel best suited.

Senior Grand Warden



George E. Hunt is a candidate for R.W. Sr. Grand Warden

Education/Professional:

B.S. Mechanical Engineering, Johns Hopkins University. Advanced Studies-Industrial Management, JHU, Arch-itectural Engineering, Tulane University.

Member:

American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Assoc. for Facilities Engineering. Registered P.E., State of Md.

Masonic Service:

1977: Master Mason in Mt. Nebo Lodge No. 229

1989-91: President, 9420 Holding Corp. Mt. Nebo Lodge

1995: Worshipful Master of Mt. Nebo Lodge No. 229.

1996: Appointed to the Board of Grand Inspectors

1998: Appointed Chaplain of Mt. Nebo Lodge No. 229.

1998: Served as W. Grand Director of Ceremonies.

1999-2002: Appointed Vice President of the Board of Grand Inspectors, Baltimore City and County-Northern Region.

1999 to Present: Member of the Board of Trustees, Chairman Building committee.

2001 to Present: Chair-Executive Committee, Board of Trustees.

Awards:

1995: Grand Master's Award With Distinction.

Masonic Affiliations:

Member, Boumi Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Baltimore, Md., Knights of Mecca, and Past President-Hamilton Shrine Club,

Member, 32° - Scottish Rite Bodies, Orient of Maryland in the Valley of Baltimore, Member, York Rite Bodies of Baltimore City/County, Md., Past Commander of Crusade Commandery No.5, Knights Templar; Assoc. of Past Commanders, Knights Templar of Maryland,

Member, Past Masters Association of Baltimore City, The Philaethes Society, Maryland Masonic Veterans Association, and Baltimore Forest No. 45 Tall Cedars of Lebanon.

Employment Brief:

Since my retirement in 1992, I have been involved in Engineering Consulting and Project Management including Field Project Coordinator for the construction of Boumi Temple.

Prior to 1992 I was primarily involved with supervising and managing professional and non-professional employees and technical operations involving the full spectrum of manufacturing related activities, facilities design, project and construction management in

medium to heavy industry.

Personal Note:

Member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and past Board Member.

Fourteen years with the United States Naval Reserve, graduated from NROTC and assigned to Fort McHenry Reserve Unit as an instructor. Avid woodworker, camper and white water canoeist. After (53) years...remain happily married to Kathleen L. (Budd) Hunt of Virginia heritage, with three children (two sons, one daughter), and eight grandchildren.

What more could one ask?

Junior Grand Warden

Robert Kotchenruther is a candidate for R.W. Jr. Grand Warden.



Born August 23, 1941 in Baltimore, MD. Bob graduated

from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (High School) in 1960.

He served in the U.S.A.F. from 1960 to 1964.

Bob and his wife Doris have three children, Debbie Dee, Robert V., and Kenneth.

Bob retired from Verizon in 1998.

Masonic Background:

Petitioned J.H.B. Latrobe No. 165 in 1966. This was his father's Lodge. He was raised in 1967 by P.G.M. W. Norman Penn.

In January of 2000 he was elected Worshipful Master of Columbia Lodge No. 58 in Frederick, MD., and still holds that station.

Bpb was appointed W. Grand Director of (continued on page 8)



(continued from page 7) Ceremonies in 2001, serving under Bennie G. Owens, P.G.M.

Bob is the Grand Representative for the Grand Lodge of South Dakota; Secretary of Frederick Co. Past Masters Association; and a member of Ali Ghan Shrine in Cumberland, MD.

Freemasonry, the fellowship of the men whom I have met in my travels throughout the state can only be one of the most rewarding experiences of a man's life. I thank all of you for that fellowship.

Junior Grand Warden

Thomas M. Velvin is a candidate for R.W. Jr. Grand Warden.



Bro. Thomas Velvin's Masonic exposure started early in life because his Father and Grandfather were both Past Masters of Prairie City Lodge No. 60 in Prairie City, Oregon. He petitioned Camp Springs Lodge No. 227 in 1977 and was initiated on Colts Night in September of that year. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 12, 1978 at Reynoldsburg, Ohio when Camp Springs Lodge paid a fraternal visit to Reynoldsburg Lodge and conferred the Third Degree to demonstrate Maryland ritual to Ohio Masons.

Professionally, Bro. Velvin is the Information Systems Manager for Mathtech, Inc. in Falls Church, Va. and has held various professional and management positions with Mathtech and Control Data

Corporation during the more that forty years he has worked in the computer industry. Prior to entering the private sector he served in the U.S. Navy for nearly ten years as one of the first group of computer technicians. He attained the grade of Data Systems Technician, First Class.

Bro. Velvin has been married for 36 years and has a daughter and a grandson.

Masonic Chronology:

November 2002 Appointed Deputy Grand Lecturer

Spring 2002 Joined York Rite Bodies

October 2001 - Coroneted Inspector General Honorary, 33° in the Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore.

April 2001- Appointed Director of Work, Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore,

November 2000 Appointed President of Board of Grand Inspectors.

November 2000 - Elected to a three year term on Board of Trustees and served as a member of Executive Committee and Chairman of the Personnel Committee.

November 1999 - Appointed to the Board of Trustees to fill remainder of a term.

November 1998 - Appointed President of the Board of Grand Inspectors.

November 1998 - Recipient of the Warren G. Seipp award from the Grand Lodge of Maryland

November 1997 - Appointed as Grand Representative of Oregon to the Grand Lodge of Maryland

October 1997 - Selected as a Knight Commander Court of Honor by the

Orient of Maryland

November 1996 - Appointed President of the State Area Board of Grand Inspectors.

June 1996 - Appointed co-chairman of Masonic Law Course Committee.

August 1995 to June 1996 - Wrote new Maryland Masonic Law Course.

June 1995 - Appointed to newly formed Masonic Law Course Committee.

November 1994 - Appointed Grand Inspector for Centennial Lodge No. 174 and Mt. Hermon Lodge No. 179.

May 1990 - Appointed to the dual role of Promoter of Finance and Promoter of Fraternal Relations for Bethel No. 41 International Order of Jobs Daughters.

November 1989 - Elected to Board of Directors of Camp Springs Temple Holding Corporation and elected President of the Board by the Directors.

1988 elected Worshipful Master of Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge No. 1787

1986 - Appointed W. J.G.S.

1986 appointed Ritualist for Camp Springs Lodge No. 227

1985 - Installed Worshipful Master of Camp Springs Lodge No. 227

October 1978 - Member of Fall Class at Scottish Rite Valley of Washington.

1978 - Raised to Sublime Degree of Master Mason at Reynoldsburg Lodge, Reynoldsburg Ohio by Camp (continued on page 7)

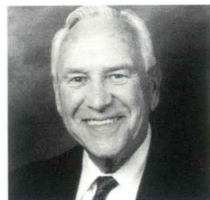


(continued from page 8) Springs Lodge No. 227 on the occasion of a Fraternal Visit to Reynoldsburg.

1977 - Initiated in Camp Springs Lodge No. 227

R.W. Grand Secretary

Jack R. Frazier is a candidate for



R.W. Grand Secretary.

Education:

B.S. Degree in Industrial Engineering and advanced academic education, majoring in

Personnel Management.

Professional Background:

Familiarity with all facets of personnel management, including labor-management relations, contract negotiation, administration and budgeting.

Performs all the duties of the position of Grand Secretary as outlined on page 5 of the Constitution. Maintains a good rapport with the Grand Secretaries of our Sister Jurisdictions to insure a rapid flow of information and services. Designed, developed and implemented the first computer system for the Grand Lodge of Maine. Savings to the G.L. of Maine was over \$70,000 in R. & D.

With the cooperation of the Secretaries and Worshipful Masters of the Maryland Lodges, advancing technology has been implemented in the Grand Lodge to better serve the membership. We are constantly

reviewing and updating the computer systems to include modem capability for the Lodges.

Masonic Background:

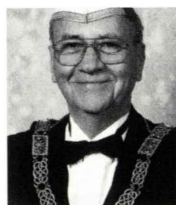
Past Master of No. 215; Past Grand Inspector; Member of the Scottish Rite, Masonic Veterans Association, Tall Cedars, National Sojourners, Heroes of 76, Royal Order of Scotland, Past President of the Conference of Grand Secretaries of North America, Chapter, Council and Commandery of the York Rite, the Red Cross of Constantine; and the York Rite College #58.

Awards Received:

The Grand Lodge of Maryland's Warren G. Seipp Medal; Grand Lodge of D.C.'s Meritorious Service Award; Grand Royal Arch Medal for distinguished Service; Honorary Past Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina; and Grand Lodge of Maine's Josiah Hayden Drummond Medal for Distinguished Service beyond the call of duty.

It is my desire, with the concurrence of the membership vote, to continue serving the Craft of this Grand Lodge.

R.W. Grand Treasurer



Wm. Raymond Bosley is a candidate for R.W. Grand Treasurer.

Ray was born in Baltimore on October 28, 1930 Ray and his wife Anita have been married since January 5, 1955

and have three daughters and eight grand children.

Retired from the State of Maryland as Director Of the Office of Real Estate.

Ray graduated from the University of Baltimore Law School J. D. in 1954, and School of Business in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting.

In between college he served two years active duty as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps, upon completion of which he joined the USMC Reserve, retiring with the rank of Colonel in 1985

Masonic Affiliations:

Raised in Pickering Lodge No. 146 in 1952; Worshipful Master 1979; Secretary 1993 - 1994, and Treasurer in 2000.

Served as Grand Inspector from 1986 - 1989.

Elected R. W. Grand Treasurer 2001-2002.

Member Scottish Rite Valley of Baltimore, Orient of Maryland.

Member Boumi Shriners

Baltimore; Member Knights of Mecca and Member Legion of Honor.

Member Towson Chapter No.70 OES.

Tall Cedars Achievements:

Joined Baltimore Forest No.45 1961.

Member Sentinels 1962 -1969.

Parade Marshal 1969-1971.

Audit Committee 1969-1971,

Junior Deputy GTC 1972

Senior Deputy GTC 1973.

Grand Tall (continued on page 10)



(continued from page 9) Cedar 1974. Life Member Baltimore Forest No.45.

Housing Chairman 1983-1989. President Baltimore 45 association 1971-1973, 1985-1992, 1996, 1998, 2001.

Life Member Tall Cedar Foundation.

Member District 14 Officers and Past Officers Association. Supreme Forest Appointed and Elected:

Insurance Committee 1974 - 1976; Convention Committee 1975-1976; Midwinter Committee 1975-1976.

Supreme Director 1979.

District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar District No.14 1985.

Secretary Tall Cedar

Foundation 1996-1998.

Convention Chairman 2001.

Recipient John S. Broughton Award 2001.

Supreme Treasurer 2000, 2001, 2002.

Other Affiliations:

Life member American Legion

Marine Post No.1 Baltimore.

Life member Marine Corps.

Reserve Officers Association.

Life member Reserve Officers Association.

Past Treasurer Maryland Classified Employees Association.

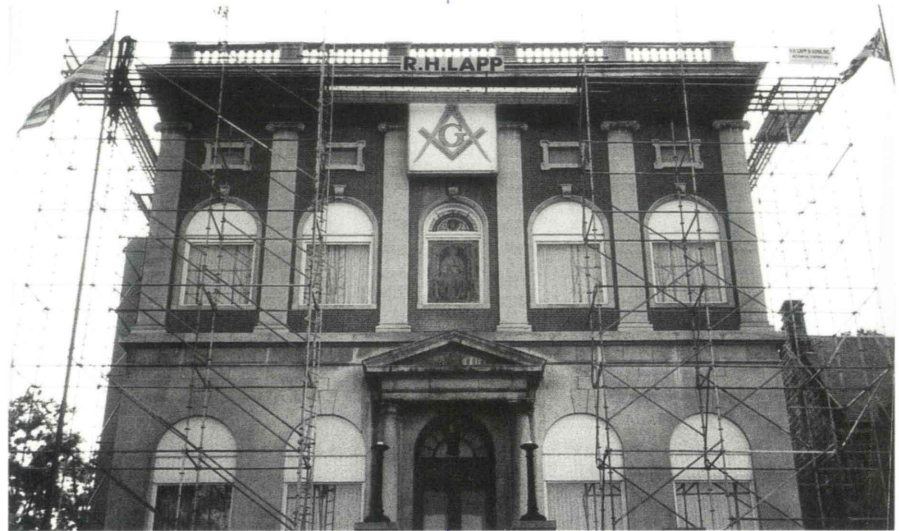
Member Maryland State Board of Public Accountancy 1989 - 1996.

The real tragedy of life is not being limited to one talent, but in failing to use that one talent.

Edgar Watson Howe

Masonic Temple Improvements

The Masonic Temple in Cumberland, Maryland, was



designed by Wright Butler, architect, and constructed by Olin Gerlach of Frostburg, MD. The contract to build the Temple was signed February 1, 1911. The Temple Board sold stock certificates to obtain monies to erect the building. This magnificent building's cornerstone was laid on November 1, 1911. The members of the Masonic Temple Association, past and present, have dedicated many hours of service to maintain the Masonic Temple in all its grandeur.

This year major restoration was necessary to restore the building to good condition. The R H Lapp Company replaced the ornamental copper cornices and architectural copper rain spouting. The Tri-State Sheet Metal and Roofing Company replaced the front roof with new

rubber roof. The majority of restoration to the inside of the building is being handled by Edgar Parsons, custodian, and Robert A Brodie, Sr.,

Temple Board Secretary. Many members of the Temple Board are also helping with various projects.

The official clean-up day on May 10, 2003, was a prime example of the dedication of 13 members representing the four blue lodges, Scottish Rite, and other bodies. They worked to make the Temple a brighter and cleaner place to meet. The continuing major restoration will last all year long as many targeted problems still exist.

Paul G. Shircliff

President

Masonic Temple Association

"I will strive to live with love and care,

Upon the level by, the square."

1507 AD



Award of Excellence

The ABC Award of Excellence was presented to Mr. Jeffrey L. Brown, Managing member of Jeffrey Brown Contracting, LLC.

Every year the Associated Builders & Contractors Baltimore Metro Chapter issues several Awards of Excellence to contractors for their outstanding design and performance on a major project.



George Hunt, Jeffrey Brown and Paul Costello, Dir. of Plant Operations.

A 2003 Award of Excellence went to Jeffrey Brown Contracting, LLC for their challenging and extensive renovation to the Masonic Homes while the Homes remained open and occupied. The project involved four phases, each of which required moving residents off each floor during that phase of construction.

Complicating matters was the installation of a floor product known to be extremely difficult to work with, only to have the product buckle after three days due to a defect in the materials. After the manufacturer agreed to replace the defective product, a fifth phase had to be added to



Bro. Michael S. Sirk, P.M. No. 223, and W. Grand Dir. of Ceremonies, was proclaimed "Tree Farmer of the Year" in 2002. Pictured from the left: Cass Taylor, Speaker, House of Delegates; John Bohannon, State Delegate; Michael S. Sirk; Dr. Robert Crouse; Gretchen Sirk; Johnnie Wood, Delegate and Tony O'Donald, Delegate.

Mike came into tree farming with the help of rangers from the Maryland D.N.R. Mike employed the service of a company that sends out about ten workers to plant 6,000 trees. It took less than half a day to plant the 12" seedlings.

install the new product. With strong project management and tight scheduling the project was successfully completed to the satisfaction of everyone.

This project, thus, has enhanced the marketability of both the contractor as well as the Maryland Masonic Homes.

147 Years of Masonry

Represented in the following picture are three generations of Masonry.

Bro. Maurice F. Weisberg, P.M., reports that due to jobs and locations, it took his 60th wedding anniversary to bring all of the family together for this picture. He is very proud to call his children brothers!



Front row from the left are: Charles B. Weisberg, son and member of Jephthah Lodge No. 222; Maurice F. Weisberg, Sr. and father, also of No. 222; Maurice F. Weisberg, Jr. son, and member of Pearl of the West No. 146 in New Port Ritchey, Florida. Back row from left are: William M. Oettel, Jr., Grand son; William M. Oettel Sr. son-in-law, both of No. 222; Michael Govora, grandson of St. John's Lodge No. 260 in Carlisle, PA.



Letter of Appeal

The list continues of those who contributed to the Annual Grand Master's appeal letter. The rest of the donors will be included in the Fall issue.

John Maclay
 Rober Madel
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 Osten Magneheim
 Glenn Maguire
 Louis Maisel
 Robert Malone
 Earl Malwitz
 Leroy Manlove
 Leroy Mann
 Yale Marcus
 James Markley
 John Markline
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 Terry Myers
 Charles Myers
 Stanley Myllo
 John Neal
 Dennis Nebel
 William Neff
 Donald Newell
 Maurice Newnam
 John Nichols
 Edward Nocar

Melvin Noland
 Gilbert Noll
 Angelo Nopulos
 William Nordeck
 Ronald Norford
 George Norris
 Frank Novak
 Ernest Nuetzel
 Louis Numkin
 Columbus Nunnally
 Hilliard O'Day
 Charles Oler
 Harry O'Neal
 Horace Opel
 Charles Orlick
 Gordon Otis
 Mark Paddack
 Mark Page
 Thomas Page
 Charley Page
 George Palmer
 George Papadopoulos
 Michael Parameros
 Walter Park
 David Park
 Quentin Parker
 Lee Parker
 Thomas Parker
 James Patterson
 Francis Paul
 Edward Paylor
 George Payne
 Richard Payne
 Alan Perkins
 Roy Peterson
 William Peterson
 Calvin Peterson
 William Petrie
 Randall Phillips
 Robert Phillips
 Henry Phipps
 Thomas Phoebus
 Gerald Piepiora
 Maynard Pitcher



Jere Place	Frederick Reel	Joseph Royer	Leonard Scroggs
Samuel Plott	James Reger	Ernest Ruby	Coolidge Seale
Samuel Poist	Copeland Reihl	George Ruggles	Russell Sears
Anthony Ponzillo	Ernest Reinmuth	John Runyan	William Seibert
Stephen Ponzillo	Frederick Reitze	Charles Ruppertsberger	Edward Seidling
Charles Porreca	Jean Rimmel	Clarence Russell	Nathaniel Seidman
Rodney Post	William Renner	Edward Rutledge	Curt Selby
Bertram Potemken	Carroll Rev	John Sachs	Adolph Seligman
Henry Potts	Claude Revis	Gabriel Sackerman	Harry Sell
Harry Powell	William Rhoads	Salim Sackleh	Saul Seltzer
Christopher Powers	Charles Rhoten	Kennard Saffer	Ellis Seymour
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Augustus Price	Carl Richards	Stephen Sakalski	Chester Shaffer
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Hugh Proutt	Norman Riebsam	William Sarraf	Milton Shimmel
Michael Prucell	James Riley	Robert Sarsitis	Robert Shinnick
Melvin Pruchniewski	Durward Rinaca	Robert Sauerhammer	B Jack Shirk
Thomas Pruitt	Robert Ritchie	Robert Sauerhoff	Lester Shockley
Robert Pugh	Ferdinand Ritter	William Saunders	John Shone
Arthur Pulket	Robert Rizer	Raymond Saunders	Hamilton Shoop
Michael Punko	Ralph Roach	William Schaefer	Stanley Shores
Robert Purcell	Ronald Roberts	Clayton Schaeffer	Kenneth Short
Lester Pyke	James Robertson	Edward Schafer	Robert Shucker
John Quillen	Millard Robey	George Schafer	Clyde Shugart
Howard Quillin	Paul Robinson	John Schaffner	Frederick Sieling
Antonio Quintos	Walter Robinson	Orville Scheel	Frank Simmonds
Fredrick Raabe	Orem Robinson	Robert Scheller	Talmadge Simons
Eugene Racz	Earl Robinson	Howard Schildt	Robert Singer
Robert Raetz	Robert Rock	I Morton Schindler	Michael Sirk
Roy Rakes	Edward Root	Mark Schlottman	William Skinner
Raymond Ralston	Carlyle Rosen	Arthur Schlueter	Charles Skipper
Clarence Rappold	Robert Rosen	George Schmidt	Allen Slagle
Walter Rasmussen	Barry Rosen	Robert Schneider	Sylvan Slamovitz
Leroy Rassa	William Ross	David Schneider	Ernest Sligh
Lowell Rau	Ronald Ross	Fred Schrecengost	Howard Small
James Rawls	John Roth	Charles Schuhart	Aaron Smelkinson
James Reck	George Rothermel	William Schwallenberg	Stanley Smith
Lloyd Reed	Bernard Rothman	Harry Scott	Joe Smith
Frederick Reed	Henry Rowe	Allan Scott	Thomas Smith
Alfred Reed	John Rowling	James Scott	



Maryland Public Television

Bro. Ronald Belanger, D. G.M., advises that we will soon make our fourth visit to assist Maryland Public Television in their pledge drive. This visit will be on Monday, August 11, 2003 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Arrival time should be no later than 6:30 P.M., at which time a buffet supper will be served. Judging from past experience, it will be good.

We are again asking all officers to wear their tuxedo, aprons and jewels. If you are not a Blue Lodge or Grand Lodge officer, a dark suit will be fine. We want to look GREAT for the viewing audience. We have received many positive comments concerning our appearance and I know you are proud to be identified as a Master Mason. Won't you sign up to help out?

Thanks in advance for your assistance. I am very pleased we have once again been invited, and made this commitment. I believe the Television exposure we receive from this type of venture is beneficial to the fraternity. If you can attend, please advise Grand Lodge at 410 527-0600.

The line between failure and success is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it: so fine that we are often on the line and do not know it.

-Elbert Hubbard

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.

The Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc. fourteenth annual Regional Charity Golf Tournament for the benefit of our Educational Grant Program (Scholarships) and our Student Assistance Program (addressing the problem of drug and alcohol abuse among our young people) was held June 9, 2003. This fundraiser was again a huge success. A great time was had by all and all for the benefit of a great cause. Our humble thanks reach out to all the participating golfers, corporate sponsors, individual contributors, Talbot Country Club and the General Golf Committee for helping to make this golf tournament such a "Great Success."

Educational Grant Program

Masonic Charities is pleased and privileged to report that 48 scholarships have been awarded to an outstanding group of high school seniors. The criteria for a scholarship award, as printed on the student's application, stresses leadership, service, scholarship, need, and organization of their application. Applications were received from all 23 counties and Baltimore City. It has been noted that the lodges appear to continue doing a better job in the selection process; however, we still receive worthy candidates' applications directly from the schools. Many thanks to our Lodges for their participation and to our Scholarship Committee for the hard work and conscientious efforts in reviewing and evaluating each and every scholarship application.

The following outstanding students are the scholarship recipients of this year's awards:

County	Name	High School	Lodge
Allegheny	Bethaney R. Heavner	Allegheny HS	No.131
	Jennifer Lee Raines	Westmar HS	No.161
Anne Arundel	Sarah E. Silanski	Chesapeake HS	No.219
	Joan E. Mulligan	Broadneck HS	No.89
Baltimore City	Tina Maria Morris	Patterson HS	No. 184
	Myron Antonio Brown	Southside Academy of Environmental Science	No. 184
Baltimore Co.	Laura M. Cavanaugh	Towson HS	No. 116
	Melissa Joy Magnuson	Dundalk HS	No. 51
Calvert	Megan A. Cratty	Patuxent HS	No. 142
Caroline Carli A.	Borcherding	General Richardson HS	No. 172
	Jessica M. Walls	North Caroline HS	No.128
Carroll	Jamie L. Ridgely	North Carroll HS	No.175
	Rachael D. Heeter	North Carroll HS	No.175
Cecil	Tara Dawn Iracki	Perryville HS	No.125
	Ashley M. Davis	Bohemia Manor HS	No. 48
Charles	Lacey L.Holt	McDonogh HS	No.208
	Lora C. Miller	Thomas Stone HS of Environmental Science	No.150



County	Name	High School	Lodge
Baltimore Co.	Laura M. Cavanaugh	Towson HS	No. 116
	Melissa Joy Magnuson	Dundalk HS	No. 51
Calvert	Megan A. Cratty	Patuxent HS	No. 142
Caroline	Carli A. Borcharding	General Richardson HS	No. 172
	Jessica M. Walls	North Caroline HS	No. 128
Carroll	Jamie L. Ridgely	North Carroll HS	No. 175
	Rachael D. Heeter	North Carroll HS	No. 175
Cecil	Tara Dawn Iracki	Perryville HS	No. 125
	Ashley M. Davis	Bohemia Manor HS	No. 48
Charles	Lacey L. Holt	McDonogh HS	No. 208
	Lora C. Miller	Thomas Stone HS	No. 150
	Kimberlie A. Sage	McDonogh HS	No. 208
Dorchester	Andrew D. Johnstone	Cambridge S. Dorchester HS	No. 66
	Thomas R. Gray	Cambridge S. Dorchester HS	No. 66
Frederick	Emily Frazier	Middletown HS	No. 200
Garrett	Heather J. Lander	Northern Garrett HS	No. 103
	Jessica Niochole Sharon	Southern Garrett HS	No. 192
Harford	Edward M. Rychwalski, III	Harford Tech HS	No. 187
	Justine C. Hendricks	Havre deGrace HS	No. 130
Howard	Julie Anne Towne	River Hill HS	No. 181
	Sonia A. Mbah	Hammond HS	No. 121
	Kayla J. Fowler	Howard HS	No. 101
Kent	Rence L. Cox	Kent Co. HS	No. 115
	Mary F. Yerkle	Kent co. HS	No. 115
Montgomery	Brittaney E. Parrish	Seneca Valley HS	No. 194
	Tara M. Sorrells	Col. Zadok Magruder	No. 195
Prince Georges	Henok T. Woldeab	High Point HS	No. 188
	Rachelle G. Gloriosio	Oxon Hill HS	No. 231
Queen Anne's	Kristy L. Wolski	Kent Island HS	No. 180
	Stephanie E. Meredith	Queen Anne's Co HS	No. 180
St. Mary's	Benito Omar Perez	Great Mills HS	No. 223
	Geary A. Cox	Chopticon HS	No. 223
Somerset	Jessica Leigh Grangier	Washington HS	No. 106
	Tracy A. Kraft	Washington HS	No. 106
Talbot	Amber N. Miller	St. Michaels HS	No. 177
	Casey N. Cep	Easton HS	No. 102
Washington	Kara C. Hoffman	Williamsport HS	No. 140
	Stephen J. Kurz	Smithsburg HS	No. 196
Wicomico	Hamza Khurram Jilani	Wicomico HS	No. 91
	Molly R. Quell	James Bennett HS	No. 221
Worcester	Brian C. Philips	Snow Hill HS	No. 193
	Katherine Y. Galanova	Stephen Decatur	No. 153

Empty Chair Degree

Last year the combined Lodges of Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia laid the groundwork for an annual Masonic assembly to celebrate the memory of our fallen Brothers from both North and South.

This year we have secured one of the most recognizable structures on the historic Antietam Battlefield. The Dunker Church, that little whitewashed building that withstood the fury of two struggling armies only to be leveled at a later date by a wind storm; but through the auspices of the National Park Service, this structure has been rebuilt and now we as Freemasons have the opportunity to convene in this structure during the celebrations of the 141st anniversary of the Battle of Antietam.

This event will occur on Saturday, the 20th of September at 2 p.m. The Empty Chair Degree will be performed outdoors, weather permitting, for the general public. This is a great chance for Freemasonry to demonstrate our ritual to the unknowing public.

We ask for your help and support to bring this plan to fruition. Your donation of \$25.00 from your Lodge will support these efforts and for this you will become a sponsor of this anniversary event. We ask that your Lodge provide two members as liaisons for the committee and provide us with e-mail or phone numbers to contact them. Each Grand Lodge jurisdiction will have a separate committee working in conjunction to facilitate all aspects of this ceremony. Your event will be well publicized and all amenities will be addressed.

Jeff Souffer, W.M., No. 197

Antietam Anniversary Committee

Maryland Masonic Calendar



Schedule of Events

AUGUST

8 - Grand Lodge to participate in the MPT fund-raising event. A minimum of 30 brethren will be required for us to participate. Tux, apron and Jewel are suggested wear. Dark suit and tie if you do not have a tux. Contact Grand Lodge at 410-527-0600.
24 - Crab Feast **has been cancelled**

SEPTEMBER

20 - Harvest Home Day

Schedule:

6:25 First bus leaves Executive Plaza for blood donors.
7:00 Food will be served
6:30 Blood donors start

7:00 Gates open - Harvest Home Day festivities begin
7:15 String band entertainment
8:00 Grand Master to address assembly
8:15 Highlanders entertainment
Tours of Grand Lodge & Museum begin (weather permitting)
8:30 Drum Corp
9:00 Tours of Masonic Homes begin - Cooking stops - Pie served
9:30 Serving stops
Second tour of Masonic Homes
10:00 Festivities concluded
10:30 Last bus leaves hill

OCTOBER

18 - Grand Master John A. Young, Jr., assisted by the Grand Line, will replace the present Activities Lodge cornerstone with a new cornerstone, indicating that this edifice is correctly named the Grand Lodge of Maryland A.F.& A.M. All members and their families are invited to attend. Light refreshments to follow the program.

25 - Oktoberfest cancelled.

NOVEMBER

17 - Annual Communication of Grand Lodge

Daylight Lodge - meets on the second Tuesday at 10:30 A.M.

Freestate Freemason
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, MD 21030

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