

From the Grand Master



Greetings Brethren,

As we arrive in the summer months, much, but not all of our Lodge work winds down. It has been a most enjoyable spring, and I have had the distinct pleasure to attend many of your Lodge meetings and functions, and visit with many of you during these times. The time I spend with you in your Lodge is one of the things this Grand Master treasures the most, and I thank you for this. Also, one of the highlights of the year is, that to date the Grand Line alone has raised over 40 new Master Masons – the interest in our fraternity continues to grow.

As a result of some of these many invitations, I have had the distinct pleasure to make several young men “Masons at Sight”. This was done for those young men who had petitioned a Lodge, and soon were to be on their way to the middle east prior to receiving their Degrees. By request of their Lodge, and often their fathers through their Lodge. The three Degrees were conferred on these young men. The ceremonies conferred are a short form of the first and second Degrees and a full form third Degree in one day. Personally, I can’t think of a better use of the Grand Master’s ability to “Make a Mason at Sight” than to utilize it for those young men on their way to serve this country, in the most dangerous of places.

During our Semi-Annual Grand Lodge Communication in May, several important pieces of legislation were passed. Foremost was the decision of those assembled to press forward with the addition to our Masonic Homes. This will be a wonderful project, and hopefully a place that many of you will want to call your home someday. It will contain a swimming pool, fitness room, and other amenities not currently available to our residents, but amenities that are provided by the majority of retirement homes surrounding us. In addition the members of Grand Lodge passed the amendment to our constitution governing elections of Grand ,Lodge officers. Beginning in 2008 Grand Lodge will vote on members seeking elected offices in May during the Semi-Annual Communication instead of Saturday evening in November. This will give those newly elected Brothers a period of six months to prepare for their new duties instead of one day. I looked at this carefully before submitting the proposed changes and could not find a downside. Elections for those seeking elected office this November will still be balloted upon in November.

Those that attended the recent Low Vale Lodge hosted by Pythagoras Lodge at the famous “Buffalo farm” were treated to great food, very good ritual, and a visit by our Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction Sovereign Grand Commander, Bro. Ronald A. Seale. It is always a treat to be with Bro. Seale – he is a most down to earth Brother, and always ready to chat with his brothers. And even though he hails from Louisiana, he regularly finds time to attend various Maryland Masonic functions. During this event, it was my distinct pleasure to make Bro. Seale an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and presented him with the appropriate certificate for this award. Bro. Seale, in my humble opinion, is a class act, and a staunch “Blue Lodge” Mason.

I invite you to attend and look forward to greeting you during our Grand Lodge Summer Schools of Instruction. This is another time when we can enjoy the camaraderie of our Brothers, and observe our ritual and its proper corrections. The school’s schedule is posted on the Grand Lodge web site under the Grand Lecturer’s page and is open to all Master Masons, and also to Fellowcrafts and Entered Apprentices on the appropriate nights. Grab a friend and come join us for a nice evening of fellowship.

Fraternally,
John R. Biggs, Jr.
M.W. Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Maryland

2007 Grand Line Officers

- M. Worshipful Grand Master John R. Biggs, Jr.**
- R. W. Deputy Grand Master Thomas M. Velvin, Jr.**
- R. W. Sr. Grand Warden Gerald E. Piepiora**
- R. W. Jr. Grand Warden Henry C. McDonald, Jr.**
- R. W. Grand Secretary Herbert Y. Holcomb, III**
- R. W. Grand Treasurer William E. Gyr**
- W. Grand Marshal Julius H. Poston**
- W. Asst. Grand Marshal Jay W. Hodges**
- W. Grand Lecturer R. Gary Pierce**
- W. Asst. Grand Lecturer Paul H. Fishell**
- W. Grand Chaplain Elwood L. Ulmer, *Pro Tem***
- W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Richard C. Oursler**
- W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Randall A. Schoch**
- W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Walter F. Burgess**
- W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Jack R. George**
- W. Sr. Grand Deacon Kostas Vourvoulas**
- W. Jr. Grand Deacon Charles L. Oursler**
- W. Sr. Grand Steward Frank H. Eberly, Jr.**
- W. Jr. Grand Steward John L. Shriver**
- W. Grand Standard Bearer Robert O. Ivey**
- W. Grand Sword Bearer R. Craig Wehrle**
- W. Grand Pursuivant Gene L. Purkey**
- W. Grand Dir. of Ceremonies Michael A. Caldwell**
- W. Grand Tyler Thomas F. Hess**
- W. Asst. Grand Tyler Patrick V. Drum, Sr.**
- W. Asst. Grand Tyler Richard H. Uren**
- W. Grand Organist Ronald L. Unger**
- W. Asst. Grand Organist Kenneth C. Mars**
- W. Grand Photographer W. Grant Gibson**

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

These dates are firm as the issue must be formatted and given to the printer the last day of these months.

Send mail to:
Grand Lodge of Maryland
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, MD 21030

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

FSFM@covad.net

Grand Lodge Website
<http://www.mdmasons.org/gl>

Article Submission

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

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

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

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

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

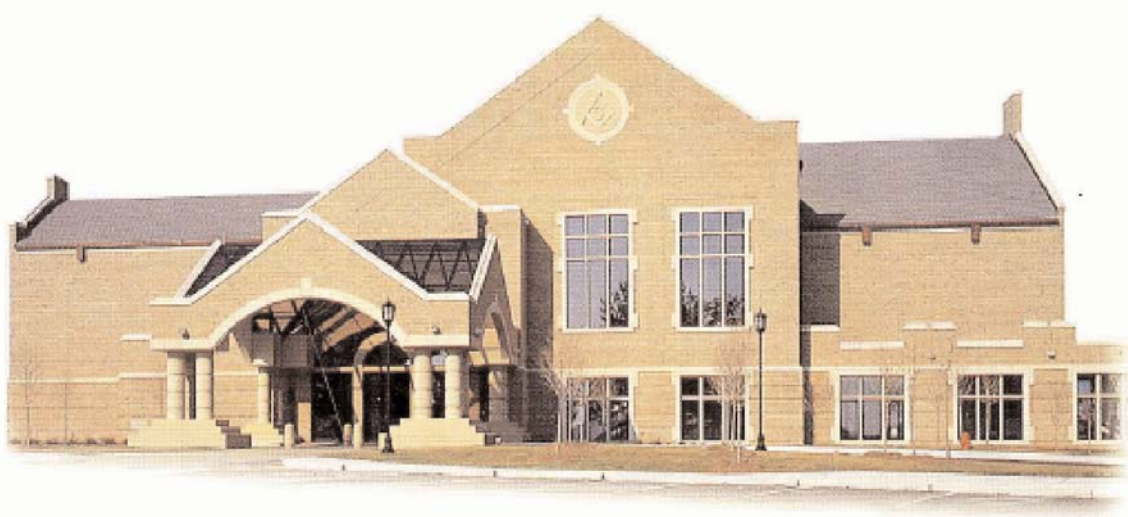
Articles can be submitted to the editor by e-mail, fax, regular mail or dropped off at the Grand Lodge office.

Troop Support

The Brothers and Sisters of Highland Chapter No. 33 O.E.S. & Corinthian Lodge No. 93 A.F. & A.M. are proud to announce 1 year of our support program for those brave souls who serve our country in a time of war. We would like to take the time to thank all those who dedicated the much needed time, money & effort to make this a success this past year.

This month, 3 large boxes are being sent to the troops of the 9th Infantry Div. of Camp Corregidor in Iraq. A special thanks goes out to the Brothers of Tuscan R.A.M. and Bro. John Maclay, P.M., and the generous individual donations made by Bro. Louis Bandell, P.M. & Bro. Willard Ogden also R.A.M. members.

It gives me a great pleasure to announce that Liberty Lodge No. 219 has also established a troop support group. This was initiated to help Bro. Brian Sann of Liberty Lodge No. 219 and the Guard & Reserve Troops from Maryland, under his command, that are now serving in



The Grand Lodge of Maryland Ballroom Rentals

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

E-Mail: glballroom@covad.net, Fax 410-316-9410

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

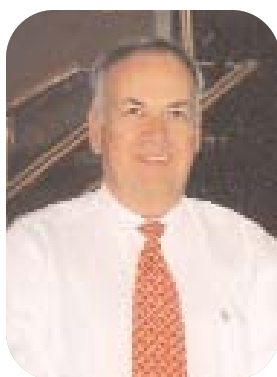
Catering: Approved list of caterers.

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

Rates: Call for information.

Parking: Free on site, 178 spaces.

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



License Plates

Masonic License plates are available to Maryland Masons, with vehicles registered in Maryland, as well as their wives, widows, and sons and daughters living at home.

You do not have to wait for renewal of registration. Call Ray Vogel at 410-527-0600 to find out how it works and how easy it is to put them on your vehicle. Ray is available during regular business hours Monday through Friday. **Be proud of your fraternity and display these plates on your car this year.**

Chair Plaques & The Tree of Life

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

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

The Chair Plaques and the Tree of Life leaves cost only \$200.00 each. This provides you with up to four lines on either, with twenty-one characters per line. What a wonderful way to remember someone. Call Ray Vogel at the Grand Lodge at 410-527-0600 to make arrangements for yours.

Iraq. Sgt. Maj. Sann was responsible for giving us our 1st contact in Afghanistan when our program first began.

Finally, to the Sisters and Brothers of Highland Chapter No. 33 O.E.S. who have so generously agreed to increase the amount of donation money from our budget this year, and to continue with the Fisher House Project supported by the Grand Chapter of MD. Thank you all so much again for making our 1st year such a success.

If you would like to make a donation to our project, find out about what we are sending and how, or give us information on someone you may know who would benefit from our program, you can contact us at the address below:

Roy M. Hodgson, P.M.
Corinthian Lodge No. 93
8909 Carlisle Ave.
Nottingham, MD 21236
Ph.# 410-529-0384

David Satterfield, W.M.
Liberty Lodge No. 219
806 Dartmoor Rd.
Lutherville, MD 21093
Ph.# 410-828-0967

Grand Chapter of OES Classic Custom Car Show and ARC Blood Drive

September 9, 2007
Noon until 5:00

**IBEW Local 1805 Complex
898 Airport Road
Glen Burnie, MD 21061**

Come join us for food, fellowship, and fun for the whole family while helping Maryland Charities, to include, but not limited to, Maryland Fisher House, T*A*P*S, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Cancer, Heart, etc.

Masonic Lodges, OES Chapters, IOJD Bethels, Rainbow Assemblies, and DeMolay are welcome to rent a booth and join us. Contact Karen Smith at 301-843-2568 or Nila Kay Coleman at 410-778-5722

Oktoberfest

Germania Lodge No. 160 will be hosting its 2nd Annual Oktoberfest on October 20, 2007 starting at 6:30pm until 10:30pm at the Grand Lodge Ballroom.

This event will feature Traditional German music by Heidi Und Heimat Echo Band, catering by Old World Deli, German beer, etc. including German folklore, Schuhplatter Trachten Dancers and other entertainment.

You are invited with spouses and friends to join us at this special happy event.

Tickets are \$35.00 per person. For tickets, call Rolf Sorg at 410-252-1386 or Wolfgang Herdecker at 410-391-2037.

John R. Biggs, Jr.

Candidate for the office of
Most Worshipful Grand Master



Masonic History: Past Master of Charity Lodge No. 134, Deputy Grand Lecturer in 1992, Deputy Grand Lecturer at Large in 2000, Grand Lecturer 2004, W. Sr. Grand Deacon 1998, R.W. Sr. Grand Warden 2000, Member of the Board of Trustees 2001-2004, Editor of the Free State Freemason 2001-2005, Elected R.W. Deputy Grand Master 2005-2006.

Masonic Affiliations: York Rite, Scottish Rite, Shrine, Knights of Mecca, Tall Cedars, Masonic Veterans Association and The Free State Shield and Square Club.

Thomas M. Velvin, Jr.

Candidate for the office of
R W Deputy Grand Master



Blue Lodge: Camp Springs Lodge No. 227; Raised May 12, 1978; Worshipful Master 1985.

Memberships: Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite since 1978; Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine since 1996; York Rite since 1998; Masonic Veterans since 2005; Chester River Shrine Club since 2005.

Leadership Positions: Webmaster, Maryland Masonic Family since inception in 1994; Director of Work, AASR Baltimore Valley, 1998; Deputy Grand Lecturer, District 8, 2003; Board of Trustees, 2005; Executive Committee, 2005; Chairman - Policy Committee, 2005; AASR Holding Company Board, 2006; Right Worshipful Master, Southern Maryland Past Master's Association, 2006; Asst. Treasurer, Christ Church at I.U. Worshipful Junior Grand Steward, 1987; Advisory Council Bethel #41, IOJD, 1988 - 1993; Worshipful Master, Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge, 1990 - 1994; President, Camp Springs Temple Holding Corp., 1988 - 2003; Grand Inspector, 1994 - 2000. Served as

President from 1996 - 2002. First President of combined Board; Board of Trustees, 1998 - 2004. Executive Committee, 1998 - 2004; Chair, Personnel Committee, 1998 - 2003; Co-Chair, Imperial Shrine 2005 web site, 2002 - 2006; Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, 2004; Venerable Master, Lodge of Perfection, 2005; Treasurer, Episcopal Church of the Nativity, 1978 - 2006

Awards: Warren E. Sipe Award, November 1996; Coroneted Inspector General Honorary in Scottish Rite, October 2001

Publications: More than sixty technical computer hardware and software publications

Herbert Y. Holcomb, III

Candidate for the office of
R W Grand Secretary



Masonic Background: Past Master of Oriental Lodge No. 158 in 1982, 1989, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2002, and 2003. Past Grand Inspector, Past VP of the Board of Grand Inspectors, Past Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon, Past Member of the Board of Managers, Past President of the Past

Master's Association of Baltimore City/County and currently is the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Tall Cedars, Shrine, Knights of Mecca, Masonic Veterans Association.

William E. Gyr

Candidate for the office of
R W Grand Treasurer



Masonic Background: Past Master of Tuscan Lodge No. 202 and a plural member of Ionic No. 145. Currently serving as Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

Education: Certificate in Accounting from Johns Hopkins University. This curriculum is all the Major Accounting subjects

required for an Accounting Degree. Subsequently received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from the University of Baltimore. Attended frequent seminars in Finance, Management, Technology, Personnel and General Office Administration to keep current on these topics.

Professional Experience: Supervised all Accounting functions including Accounts Receivable, Payable and General Ledger. Controller positions have included the duties of preparing Financial Statements, Budgets, Systems Design and report analysis. Serving as Controller, I have been the primary representative with Auditors, Banking operations, Insurance Agents and Employee Benefit providers. Currently semi-retired, I am the Controller for a Manufacturing and Installation company serving as a sub-contractor to the building industry.

Masonic History: Former DeMolay, Tuscan Chapter, Legion Of Honor; Past Patron Gleaner Chapter No. 49, OES; Past Associate Guardian, Bethel No. 48, IOJD, Reisterstown. Master of Tuscan Lodge in 2000. Currently serving as Vice President, Board Of Grand Inspectors for the Central Region, Grand Inspector to Lebanon Lodge No. 175 and Worshipful Grand Pursivant 2005-06. Member of Masonic Veterans Association and will be the Senior Warden for the Past Masters Association, Baltimore this coming December.

Robert W. Chase

Candidate for the office of
R W Sr. Grand Warden



Masonic Resume: Raised in Mt. Moriah Lodge #116 1996. Appointed Line Officer Mt. Moriah Lodge #116 1997. Worshipful Master Mt. Moriah Lodge #116 2002

Grand Lodge of Maryland Appointed and Elected Positions: Appointed

Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon 2005. Elected Grand Lodge Board of Managers November 2005. Appointed Grand Inspector (Charity Lodge #134) 2007

Scottish Rite: 2007 - Junior Warden Meredith Chapter Rose Croix. Awarded the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honor 2005. Member of Scottish Rite 14th and 30th Degree Team.

Miscellaneous: Mt Moriah #116 507 Holding Company. President Mt Moriah #116 Past Masters Association, 2007. York Rite - Royal Arch Chapter, Baltimore Chapter.

Spyridon G. Treklas

Candidate for the office of
R W Sr. Grand Warden



Professional Career: I Graduated from Towson State University with dual major in Computer Science and Mathematics. Received a Master's Degree in Computer Science from Johns Hopkins University. I have been employed by Baltimore Aircoil Company Inc since 1988. Going

through several positions in the Information Technology Department, currently I am the System/Database and Security Administrator for the company's Oracle-PeopleSoft Enterprise Resource Planning system.

Masonic Career: Joined Amicable-St. Johns Lodge No. 25 in 1986. Served as Worshipful Master of St. Johns Lodge No. 34 in 1991. Member of the Past Masters Association for Baltimore since 1991. Served as a Grand Inspector 1995-2001. In 1997 served as Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer for the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master John C. Naquin. In 2002 accepted an appointment for Grand Inspector and since serving as Vice-President of the Board of Grand Inspectors for Baltimore

South. Chairman of the Masonic Law School for Baltimore North and South region from 1997 to 2001 and from 2002 to present. Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Greece to the Grand Lodge of Maryland. Joined Scottish Rite in 1991. In 1997 invested with the rank of Knight Commander Court of Honor. Served as Wise Master for the Lodge of Rose Croix in 2001. Since 1992 involved in multiple Scottish Rite administrative and ritualistic degree teams. Currently involved in multiple speaking parts in various Scottish Rite degrees. In October of 2005 coroneted with the honorary 33rd Scottish Rite Degree. Member of the Royal Arch Tuscan Chapter No. 42. Member of the Hiram Council No. 5. Member of Monumental Commandery No. 3. Member of Baltimore Forest No. 45. Member of the Royal Order of Scotland. Member of the Scottish Rite Research Society.

Marlin M. Mills
Candidate for the office of
R W Jr. Grand Warden



Masonic Resume: Member of Esdraelon Lodge No. 176 Cardiff, Maryland Raised: June 3rd, 1983, Master: 1999 - 2000 & 2003. Honorary Past Master of Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44. Member and Past Master of the Past Masters Association of Harford County Past Worshipful Senior Grand Steward, Grand Lodge of Maryland, year: 2000 Grand Inspector for Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 for six years. Vice president of The Board of Grand Inspectors, 2002-2006. Appointed Grand Inspector at Large 2006. Member Board of Trustees for Maryland Masonic Homes General Chairman Harvest Home Day Committee. Committee member Youth Day activities Grand Lodge of Maryland Member of Masonic Veterans Association.

Masonic Affiliation: Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. Received 33° Degree 2005. Lodge of Perfection: currently hold position of Senior Warden. Scottish Rite Diplomat Program, "Diplomat" for Esdraelon Lodge # 176 Past President, Conowingo Scottish Rite Club. Member of Chesapeake, Carroll & Frederick Scottish Rite Clubs Member of Maryland Sojourners. Boumi Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. Member since 1983. Member Knights of Mecca. Member Susquehanna Shrine Club. Tall Cedars of Lebanon Har-Ce Forest No. 142 Life Member and Past Grand Tall Cedar. Member degree team Order of Eastern Star, Member Penn Mary Chapter No. 72. Marshall for Penn Mary No. 72: 2001, 2002, 2003 Associate Patron 2004 & 2005 Free State Shield & Square Club Charter member

Marvin E. Printz
Candidate for the office of
R W Jr. Grand Warden



Masonic Career: Raised in Eureka Lodge No. 105 in 1972. Served as Worshipful Master 7 times; Past Treasurer. Served as Worshipful Master of Medairy Lodge No. 140 twice. Served as Worshipful master of Hagerstown Lodge No. 217 three times. Honorary Member of James W. Bowers Lodge No. 173.

Grand Lodge: Grand Inspector - Six year term. Appointed Deputy Grand Lecturer in 1995. Worshipful Grand Pursuivant in 1997. Temple Board for all Lodges that i am a member. Grand Lodge Committee for Reinstatements.

Masonic Affiliation: Charter Member of the Free State Shield and Square Club. Plural Member of Olive Branch No. 34 and Hagerstown No. 89 Chapters - Order of Eastern Star. Three time Worthy Patron of Areme Chapter, OES. Member of Masonic Veterans Association. Member of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Member of York Rite.

Edward B. Kraft
Candidate for the
Board of Managers



Masonic Career: March 1959 - raised in Palestine Lodge No. 189, located in Catonsville, Maryland. After serving several years on the Instruction Committee I was appointed Junior Steward in 1966. I progressed through the chairs and served as Worshipful Master in 1972. At the

Grand Lodge Communication in 1973 I was invested as the Worshipful Junior Grand Steward in M.W. Past Grand Master Philip B. Matthew's line of Officers. I have served the Grand Lodge in the following capacities: Grand Inspector - 1974 - 1978, Deputy Grand Lecturer at Large 1975 - 1985 Worshipful Grand Lecturer 1985 - 2004, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Hospitality Committee - 1986 - 2004 Grand Representative to New Jersey - 2001 to present, Elected R.W.J. Grand Warden - 1992-93, Chairman of Grand Master's One Day Class for Grand Masters Larrimore and Owens, Awarded the Warren S. Seippe Award - November 2000 Retired as W. Grand Lecturer in May of 2004, Elected to the Board of Managers - November, 2004 Awarded the Title of Grand Lecturer Emeritus - June, 2005 Appointed Grand Inspector - 2007

Masonic Affiliations: Baltimore Past Master's Association -1971 to present Masonic Veterans of Maryland - 1980 to present. The Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge No. 1987 -1985 - Charter Member, Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge No. 1 - Charter Member.

Honorary Memberships: Ionic Lodge No 145 - 1971, Oriental Lodge No. 158 - 1998 Pythagoras

Lodge No. 123 -1999 Free State Shield and Square Club -1999 Charity Lodge No. 134 - 2005. Freedom Lodge No. 112 - 2007.

Professional Background: I was employed by the National Cash Register Company (NCR) for thirty-eight and a half years. While employed by NCR I serviced cash registers, book keeping machines and bank proof equipment. For eight years I served as the Shop Foreman of the Baltimore Region Repair Facility.

Ron Schwartz
Candidate for the
Board of Managers



Masonic Career: Worshipful Master of Patmos Lodge No. 70 in 2003 and 2004, he now serves as the Lodge's newsletter editor, ritualist, and catechism instructor as well as currently serving as Junior Warden. He is a plural member of Amicable-St. John's Lodge No. 25, where

he serves as a Catechism instructor. He has been a faithful participant in the Grand Lodge Summer School Lodges of Instruction and holds Gold Cards in Catechism and Ritual. He is a 32° member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Baltimore where he has served on the Degree Team. In the York Rite, he has served as Excellent King in Druid Royal Arch Chapter No. 28, and is also a member of Hiram Council No. 5, R. & S. M. He is also a member of Boumi Shrine Temple.

Active in the support of Masonic research, he is the Regional Secretary of Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle and a Life Member of the Scottish Rite Research Society. Among his activities, he developed and presented an instructional program, Introduction to Hebrew for Masons, and is the author of the research paper, Evolution of the Charges to the Candidates as Used in the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

He has held several volunteer positions in the Boy Scouts of America, and is currently a member of the Baltimore Area Council Interfaith Committee. In recognition of his Scouting service, he received the Daniel Carter Beard Community Service Award.

Brother Schwartz is a retired CPA with an engineering background and is a graduated of the University of Maryland.

Multi State Degree Day

Brethren, on the 17th and 18th of August, we will host a Multi-State Degree Day in Grand Lodge. Friday the 17th a Maryland Degree team composed of individuals selected by the Grand Lecturer will confer the Master Mason on a worthy candidate at 7 p.m. Saturday morning, the 18th we will have coffee and donuts at 8 p.m. and a Degree Team from Prince Hall Grand Lodges will raise one of their Brothers. If you have never seen this Degree done by these Brothers, you are truly missing out on something. Following them will be the "Country Boys" Degree team from Oklahoma.

Charles J. Morgan, Jr.
Candidate for the
Board of Managers



Professional: Chairman of the Maryland State Board of Practical Plumbing since 1993, Chairman Complaint Committee of the Maryland State Board of Practical Plumbing from 1967 to 1993, Administrator of Journey and Master' Plumber Test from 1976 to 1987 President of the Morgan Plumbing Company from 1962 to 1990, Plumber for Charles J. Morgan and Son's from 1947 to 1962. Proven track record in business and government relations. Strong presentation and leadership skills.

Talented and determined individual who accomplishes results.

Masonic History: Raised in Oriental Lodge No. 158, 1955, Installed Worshipful Master Oriental Lodge No. 158, 1978, Installed Worshipful Master Oriental Lodge No. 158, 1980, Installed as Secretary of Oriental Lodge No. 158, 1982 - 2003, Installed Worshipful Master Oriental Lodge No. 158, 2004

Masonic Affiliation: Scottish Rite, York Rite, Boumi Temple Shrine Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Knights of Mecca, Masonic Veterans Association, Past Master's Association, Baltimore Highlands Square Club.

Henry C. McDonald
Candidate for the
Board of Trustees



Masonic History: I was Raised in Concordia Lodge No. 13 in 1997. Installed as Worshipful Master in 2001. I served for three consecutive terms during which time Concordia Lodge received the Grand Master's Award with Distinction each year. I currently chair the Catechism Committee and have chaired or served on numerous others. I am a plural member of Washington Lodge No. 3.

Grand Lodge: I was elected R.W. Junior Grand Warden, 2007, and appointed President, Board of Grand Inspectors, 2007. I am also chairman of the Hospitality Committee. I served in the 2004 Grand Line as W.G. Sword Bearer and was appointed a Grand Inspector in 2002.

I am a member of the line of the Baltimore City/County Past Master's Association, an instructor in the Masonic Law School, and a working member of the Harvest Home Day Committee. I previously served on the Board of Trustees, 2005-2006.

Masonic Affiliation: Scottish Rite - Serve on the staff of the Director of Work, Degree Master 18°, Diplomat for the Valley of Baltimore, Fraternal Relations Committee.

In 2003, I received the rank of KCCH. Appointed to the Lodge of Perfection in 2001, I currently serve as Venerable Master. Boumi Shrine - Member of Ambassadors, Highlanders and the

Knights of Mecca, currently serving as first VP of the latter. Boumi Ceremonial cast. I became a Nobel in 1998.

Other Masonic Organizations: National Sojourners, 2002, Royal Order of Scotland, 2003.

Professional: BS in Commerce, University of Virginia, 1961; MBA in Finance, George Washington University, 1969. Since 1989, I have been an active Realtor specializing in the acquisition and sale of investment properties. I have professional experience in real estate financing, development, and property management.

From 1973 - 1989, I was president of a Baltimore based investment banking and financial consulting firm. In addition to my duties as CEO, I was involved in providing client services in real estate finance and development, working with owners/executives, attorneys, and accountants in the acquisition and marketing of properties. Previously, I was a regional manager for a NYSE member firm where I had begun my career as an account executive.

Avrum Tamres
Candidate for the
Board of Trustees



Professional: Westinghouse, University of Maryland (Biomedical Research), Met Electric Testing, Duratek. Part time Electrical Engineering, Volunteer at N.W. Senior Center, Computer Instructor, Professional Electrical Engineer, Registered Master

Electrician

Masonic History: Raised March 11, 1981 in Amicable - St. John's Lodge No. 25, Past Master in 2003; Secretary of Amicable - St. John's Lodge No. 25. Plural Member of Warren Lodge No. 51, Secretary of Warren Lodge No. 51. Chairperson of Lunda Laird Honoree Committee. Plural Member of Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge No. 1. Secretary of the Board of Grand Inspectors. Member of the Board of Trustees, Grand Lodge of Maryland

Masonic Affiliations: Scottish Rite, Boumi Shriners, Past Master Association, Temple Committee, Masonic Veteran Association, Knights of Mecca, Past Master Association of Amicable - St. John's Lodge No. 25

Raymond J. Vogel, Jr.
Candidate for the
Board of Trustees



Masonic Career: Corinthian Lodge No. 93.

Masonic Affiliation: Tall Cedars of Lebanon. Grand Tall Cedar of Baltimore Forest No. 45 - 1989; Supreme Tall Cedar - Supreme Forest 2001.

Professional: Manager of Sears Roebuck 1965-1993 (retired). President of Crystal Charities, Inc. 1990-2006. Past President - Baltimore 45 Association. Active member on the Board. Boy Scouts of America - Committee on Fund Raising for local troop. Convention Chairman for Tall Cedar National Convention - 2005.

Richard P. Naegele
Candidate for the
MCM Board of Directors

Educational: Baltimore County Public Schools. Graduated 1974 Loch Raven Senior High. Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts - History and Elementary Education - University of Maryland Baltimore County - 1979. Graduate: Masters of Education - Special Education Learning Disabilities - Loyola College - 1985

Post Graduate: Goucher College - current student for certification in Supervision and Leadership. Various workshops and courses offered through Anne Arundel County Public Schools and Anne Arundel Community College

Professional: Teaching Assistant - 1979 - 1981.

Elementary School Teacher - 1981 to 2006. Current Position - AAA Reading - Glendale Elementary. Teacher-in-Charge - 1997 to 2005. Lead Teacher Intermediate - 1997 to 2005.

Member School Improvement Team - 1993 to present. Educational Management Team Chairman - 1997 to 2004. Lead Math Teacher - 2002 - 2006. Lead Social Studies Teacher - 2003 - 2006. Lead Science Teacher - 2000 - 2003.

SYSOP (Computer) - 2000 - 2006.

Masonic: Lodge: Mount Nebo No. 229. Raised - 1978. Worshipful Master - 1988 & 1990. MCM Scholarship Committee - 1997 - present. MCM - Board of Directors - 2004 - present.

Chapter - Druid Royal Arch No. 28. Exalted - 1979. Most Excellent High Priest 2000 - 2003; 2007. Phoenix Chapter No. 7. Current Secretary. Grand Principal Sojourner - 2004, 2005. Council - Hiram Council No. 5. Thrice Illustrious Master - 1994 - 2000. Jerusalem Council No. 2. Thrice Illustrious Master - 2003 - 2006. Recorder - current. Grand Council Youth Award - 1997. Illustrious Grand Steward - 2003.

Deputy Grand Master - current. Commandery - Crusade Commandery No. 5. Eminent Commander - 1985. Right Eminent Grand Commander 1999 - 2000. Knight Commander of the Temple - 2003. Past Commander's Association - President 2003 - 2004. Grand Inspector General - present. Recorder - current.

Knight York Cross of Honor - 2002. Registrar - 2004 - present. York Rite College - Order of the Purple Cross - 2005. Scottish Rite - Knight Commander Court of Honor 2002. Tall Cedars of Lebanon - Baltimore Forest No. 45. Boumi Temple Shrine - 1979. Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest - Preceptor 2002 - 2003. Allied Masonic Degrees - Sovereign Master 2002 - 2003. Knight Masons - Worthy Chief 2003 - 2004. Universal Craftsman Council of Engineers - 2003. Maryland DeMolay - Member - Overlea Chapter 1971 - 1977. Advisor - 1979 - present. Active Legion of Honor - Active Member - DeMolay International (2004 - present). Current DAD Trainer for Advisors.

Community: Maryland Cocker Spaniel Club - Treasurer 1987 - 2002. Baltimore Kickers - Secretary (2 years), Treasurer (3 years). Club Fidelitas - Past Board Member. Deutsche Geselligkeit

Robert O. Ivey
Candidate for the
MCM Board of Directors

Masonic Background: Member of Patapsco Lodge No. 183. Raised 6-19-99, Past Master 2004 and 2005. Currently Treasurer of Patapsco Lodge No. 183.

Grand Lodge: Currently the Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer

Masonic Affiliation: Member of the Scottish Rite Baltimore Valley 32 degree. Shriner member of Boumi Temple. Member of St John's No. 19 York Rite

Professional: Employed at Univ. of Md College park as an HVAC supervisor for 23 years.

A Journey in Seeking the Light

We are reprinting this article publish in an earlier edition and will continue the series in succeeding issues.

The year is 1783 and the new United States of America has ratified a treaty of peace with Great Britain. American independence has been recognized. Throughout the former colonies, state governments are functioning almost as independent countries within a Confederation of States. On December 23, 1783, George Washington resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces in Annapolis, Maryland on the desk that is on view at the Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. Library and Museum of the Grand Lodge of Maryland. For Freemasons in Maryland, the urge to establish their own Masonic destiny takes root in a meeting called by five lodges at Talbot County Court House. Their purpose was to found a Grand Lodge and place John Coats, M.D. as their Grand Master. These lodges, as well as Dr. Coats, himself, who was a Deputy Grand Master of Pennsylvania, were primarily composed of Pennsylvania Freemasons who petitioned the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a charter to form a new Grand Lodge. Perhaps due to some debate as to its power to so act, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania delayed action on this petition.

Meeting once again in April of 1787, the same five lodges established the Grand Lodge of Maryland on April 17, 1787 and elected Dr. John Coats as their first Right Worshipful Grand Master. The Grand Master's title was changed from "Right Worshipful" to "Most Worshipful" Grand Master well into the 1800s.

At the formation of Grand Lodge, there were lodges in Maryland chartered by Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, England and Ireland. After 1787, most of these lodges were re-chartered by the new Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Prior to the 1780s, Masonic activity had existed not only on the Eastern shore, but also in Southern Maryland and at Fells Point. Records in our Grand Lodge Museum show Masonic Lodge activity in Leonardtown, Maryland as early as 1762. In 1750, Masons were active in Annapolis and other lodges existed in Port Tobacco, Joppa, Talbot Court House, Frederick and, no doubt, other locations.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania chartered lodges in 1765 at Georgetown, No. 6 and Chestertown, No. 7. In 1770, Pennsylvania chartered Fells Point, No. 15 (later Washington,

No. 3) and, in 1773, Baltimore, No. 16.

During the Revolution, Masonry in Maryland grew rapidly. Prior to 1776, it is estimated that the five Maryland lodges had 250 members. Again, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania chartered Maryland Military Lodge, No. 27, attached to the Maryland Line. Worshipful Master Mordecai Gist, who became one of Washington's generals, presided over the lodge. Many celebrated figures belonged to lodge including Baron de Kalb, General William Smallwood, Colonel John Eager Howard, Colonel Otho Holland Williams, Colonel Nathan Ramsey, Colonel Paul Bentalou. Masons of note, who belonged to other Maryland Lodges during the pre-Grand Lodge of Maryland period, included young Samuel Smith and Joshua Barney, both of whom were heroes in the War of 1812. Commodore Barney's apron is on display in our Museum. Dr. Frederick Wiesenthal of Lodge, No. 16, headed the Hospital Service during the Revolution.

Under Dr. Coats, himself a Revolutionary War officer, the Grand Lodge of Maryland grew. In 1793, the Grand Lodge of Maryland began holding the Annual Communication in April in Baltimore. Until 1822, Grand Lodge met in the lodge rooms of Concordia Lodge, No. 13. On April 13, 1793, in Baltimore, Concordia became the first lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Maryland and first met on Water Street in the City. Today, City Hall, in Baltimore, sits on Concordia Lodge's second meeting site that, in 1813 was the second floor of the Old Watch House on Guildford Avenue, then called Belvedere Street.

In 1822, The Grand Lodge occupied its new home on St. Paul Street near Lexington, now the site of the Mitchell Court House.

During the first forty-five years of its existence, the Grand Lodge participated in several notable public events. On September 18, 1793, the Grand Lodge, together with Alexandria Lodge, No. 22 of Virginia (President Washington's lodge of which he was past master) and Amanda Lodge, No. 13 of Annapolis, joined in the Grand Procession for the laying of the cornerstone of the national Capitol building in the capital city of Washington. In Masonic attire, President Washington, joined by Joseph Clark, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, functioning as Grand Master pro-tem laid the cornerstone. In 1818, the Grand Lodge laid the Cornerstone of the Washington Monument at Mount Vernon Place in Baltimore with the Governor of Maryland, Grand Master Levin Winder presiding. The trowel used at this event, as well as the 1814 cornerstone laying of the St. Paul Street Temple, is on display in the Grand Lodge Museum.

In 1823, when General, the Marquis de Lafayette, toured the United States, he was entertained by the Grand Lodge when visiting Baltimore and was made an honorary Maryland Mason.

On July 4, 1828, Grand Master Benjamin C. Howard, former Congressman and son of Brother John Eager Howard, together with the Grand Lodge, laid the cornerstone of the first railroad in America, the B & O. Brother Howard was assisted in breaking ground by the 91 year old, last remaining signer of the Declaration of Independence, Charles Carroll of Carrollton. Despite the depiction in the film National

Treasure, Mr. Carroll was not a Freemason. A print of the painting of this event made in the 1920s for the B & O Centennial is on display in our Museum as well as Masonic aprons worn in the Grand Parade held to commemorate the cornerstone laying. In 1829, Grand Lodge conducted a similar cornerstone laying for the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad (Northern Central) later a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

We end this first installment of the history of the Grand Lodge of Maryland in 1828 on the eve of the Morgan affair and the advent of anti-Masonry. Our next installment will take us from 1829 through 1885.

Much assistance in this effort is attributable to the writings and efforts of Edward T. Shultz, Charles Everstine and Charles Stein and their respective histories of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Stephen J. Ponzillo, III
Librarian and Curator

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

Message from the Potentate Ali Ghan Shrine

In the last edition of the Maryland "Free State Freemason" publication, I expressed how proud I am of the actions, words and deeds of our Ali Ghan Shriners and to date, that pride has been elevated to a higher level due to the outstanding efforts of our Nobility.

For the first time in quite a number of years, Ali Ghan was very honored to witness 35 Shrine Masons traveling the "Hot Sands" during our Ceremonial on June 9. Of utmost significance and importance is that the majority of these new Nobles have become involved in a Shrine Unit or Club. Other evidence of the positive attitude and enthusiasm Ali Ghan Shriners have demonstrated is the attendance and support of an outstanding Fish Fry, Shrine Family Picnic and, our temple's sincere dedication to our philanthropy- Shriners Hospitals for Children . Yes, I could continue to cite many of our other successes, but will not because of limited space. However, I do wish to reiterate the pride I have in our Nobility and, the tremendous effort they've put forth.

We entered the 2007 Shrine year with numerous and lofty "dreams" and are on the edge of making those dreams a reality. Yes, Ali Ghan Shriners have witnessed many positive achievements thus far and, it is my request that we do not become complacent in our last half-year together. William James once said, "Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out they have got a second. Give your dreams all you've got and, you will be amazed at the energy that comes out of you." We can NEVER give up on our dreams because, at this point, each dream is well within our reach. Yes, we will have to stretch farther and higher than before but have no fear.....as long as we put forth our very best effort for our Fraternity and philanthropy each and every day, all of our dreams will come true.

Keeping Dreams Alive
R. Francis "Fran" Shives, Potentate
Ali Ghan Shriners

Dispensations

Brethren, the Grand Lodge office continues to receive requests for dispensation on the day the dispensation is needed, or within a day or so of it. This is not an acceptable practice – how can you possibly notify the members of your Lodge of the requested change, or the denial of it? From this time forward, requests that are not of an emergency nature must be post marked and received in the Grand Lodge office at least 10 business days prior to the date the dispensation is needed. **NOTE: If you do not receive a response to your request for dispensation, you are to consider your request not approved!**

St. Columba Lodge No.150 Annual Golf Tournament

In conjunction with the Southern Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross the annual golf tournament was held at the Wicomico Golf Club on Monday, June 4th. With over sixty golfers and thirty sponsors we raised over \$4000 profit. The Lodge donated \$2100 to the Southern Maryland Disaster Relief Fund of the American Red Cross.

Pictured below from L. to R. are Jim Salyers, S.W.,Bro, Jerry Simms, Jim Simpson, Steve Vallandingham, Bill Jenkins and Kip McConnell, W.M. Kip and Jim made the presentations to the 1st place team which included "The Wally Zinn Memorial Plaque" and prizes. The Red Cross provided many door prizes and volunteers for the day.



Lodge volunteers included Bros. Gary Entzian and Bill Holt as cooks, Steve Shlagel and Maurice Rackey did the hole signs and drove the beverage carts, along with Sisters Pat Shlagel and Judy Vivian. Bro. Scott Morris did general work.

Thank you to the Sponsors, Golfers, Volunteers and The Wicomico Golf Club, especially Pat Meyers and her staff. This year's tournament was our best yet. See you next year on the first Monday in June 2008.

The Brethern of Saint Columba Lodge.

The Grand Master is looking for an ordained minister that would be interested in being a part of the Grand Line for 2008. Areas that need coverage are the Central Baltimore area and the Eastern Shore. Duties would be to attend functions with the Grand Line, particularly on Degree conferrals. It isn't necessary to be a Past Master to fill this Grand Line position. If you are interested, contact the Grand Master at 410-527-0600 during normal business hours.

Circumambulation More Ancient than Freemasonry

One of the most ancient portions of our three degrees is the rite of circumambulation, or literally, "walking around." This custom of walking about a sacred or significant place or thing dates from pagan times.

It was originally associated with sun worship with all turns being made with the right hand toward the altar as in our modern ceremonies. The custom was known among the ancient Hindus as well as among the Druids of ancient Britain.

Moslem pilgrims at Mecca still ritualistically circumambulate the sacred stone or Kaabah that marks the spot where Mohammed ascended into heaven.

Masonry continues this ancient practice following the candidats entrance into the Lodge. The additional round of the altar made in each degree is symbolic of the candidate's advancement in masonic knowledge and light. Each circuit ends at the Master's station in the east from which all Masonic enlightenment emanates.

By James P.W. Goss, 1993 Grand Historian of Vermont, The North Dakota Mason

School of Law

The 2007 Regional Grand Lodge School of Masonic Law will be held in the common area of the lower level of the Grand Lodge Building on Saturday, September 22nd and 29th. The times on both dates will be from 9:00am until 12:00 noon.

Senior Wardnes are required to take this course and satisfactorily pass the examination. Junior Wardens are also invited to take the course, and the Worshipful Masters are invited to sit in.

The Board of Grand Inspectors is looking forward to working with each of you.

Grand Lodge of Maryland ListServe

Are you subscribed to the Grand Lodge ListServe? A recent check of the subscribed members reveals we only have about 200 subscribers. That means about 18800 of you are missing out on late breaking news about Lodges, events and members of the Fraternity in Maryland.

Some instances:

The upcoming breakfast at Odenton #209.

The Mt. Moriah #116 Golf Tournament.

The death of a respected member.

The dedication of the building and placing of the cornerstone at Chester #115.

If you are not yet a subscriber, and you have a valid email address, you can subscribe by sending an email message to glmaryland@listserve.com with the subject of the message: Subscribe. That is all that is required. You will receive a confirmation message as soon as one of the administrators approves your subscription. You should then receive all postings to the ListServe.

If you are a subscriber, and would like to post a message that is of general interest to the subscribers, just create the message and send it to glmaryland@listserve.com. The administrators will be notified that a posting awaits approval.

Once an administrator reviews the message and approves it, the listserver will send it to all subscribers. The only guidelines are that the posting pertain to Masons in Maryland and that it is free of vulgarity and derogatory content.

Should you have difficulty subscribing, unsubscribing, or posting a message, please send an email to dgmmaryland@covad.net.

Fulfilling Masonry

(Message posted to the Scottish Rite Forum)

It was brought to my attention that sometimes we focus too much on the negative. I think that is a reasonable assessment and I find myself doing it sometimes.

So what about the current system is fulfilling young men that join the Craft?

What is Masonry doing right, right now?

What can you share about good programs and interesting new developments in the Craft? I will start: I am a zealot for progression in the Craft. I have often espoused the necessity for progression and I make no apologies for this.

So the other day I am visiting a very small town country lodge. The kind that I often feel will be the slowest to change and the quickest to yell, "It's never been done that way."

Then, when the time came for good of the order type stuff, one of the Brothers still crippled and on oxygen from a recent automobile accident stood up. He began to go around the room and thank the brothers.

"Brother A, thank you for giving me a ride home from the hospital when no one else was able."

"Brother B, thank you for cutting the fields on my many acres of land the entire time I was laid up."

"Brother C, thank you for the repairs to my home while I was sick."

"Brother D, thank you for the ride to Lodge tonight." This went on for sometime.

I was humbled and reminded that Masonry exist in the hearts of the men who practice it. It does not make a difference where the men meet, the size of the room, or the price of the adornments. It is the "goodness" of the men and the Fraternity that brought them together that matter.

Masonic Charities of Maryland Appreciation

Each year MCM awards forty-eight \$1,000 scholarships to students in local subdivisions in the state. These scholarships are awarded to seniors in the Public High Schools. As we go to press, here are some notes of appreciation to MCM and, by extension, to every Freemason in Maryland.

•"Thank you very much for the scholarship! I greatly appreciate your consideration and generosity. Your scholarship award will be a great help for my college tuition. Thanks again for your kindness!"

•"To the Maryland Masonic Charities and Pentalpha Lodge, #194, I am very honored to accept this scholarship and sincerely thank you for helping me to keep in touch with you in the future."

•"Thank you so much for choosing our

daughter as the recipient of a Masonic Charities Scholarship. Her aspiration is to become an attorney. This scholarship will help her to be able to afford law school by coming out of University of Maryland debt-free. I don't think she will let you down. WORDS cannot express our gratitude. p.s. We have 16 year old twins right behind our daughter. I can't tell you how much this helps our family! God Bless."

"Thank you very much for the honor of receiving a scholarship from the Masonic Charities of Maryland. This will help fund my college experience. I was wondering if there was anything else that I needed to do for this scholarship."

"I wish to thank you for selecting me as a Masonic Charities Scholarship Winner. I promise I will use the \$1000.00 to my fullest ability as I work on my college education. I am honored and grateful to receive this generous award."

"I have graduated from Kenwood High School. I would like to thank you and your organization for the scholarship I received. I am planning to attend the University of Pittsburg as a pre-medical student in the fall. This scholarship will help me immensely during my first year of college and I look forward to updating you with my success. Again, thank you."

Dress in Lodge

Recently a question was posed to the office of the Grand Master as to whether tuxedo dress was mandatory for Lodge meetings, and if so, what governed this issue as the questioner was unable to locate it in article 16. The correct response to this is: Not everything governing the operation of our fraternity is in the constitution – some falls under "ancient custom", and other issues are governed by the desires of the Grand Master.

Grand Master Ponzillo, during his term as Grand Master, issued an order that all officers, including the Secretary and Treasurer, would be in Tuxedo. This order still stands. Worshipful Masters wishing to deviate from this policy for a particular meeting or event must request a dispensation to do so. Otherwise they are in violation of the Grand Master's directive, and this is never a good thing. In the event that a Lodge has no air conditioning and it is a hot and humid evening, there would be no problem with the W.M. allowing his officers to remove their tuxedo coats for that evening only.

Note from the Grand Lodge Office Staff

Within the next couple of weeks, the email addresses for the office staff will be changing. We will be slowly phasing out our covad.net accounts and substituting our own domain. Please pay attention to our addresses as mail is sent to you. Notice will be sent once the change has been finalized.

Scholarship Recipients



(Above: Justin Artz, 2007 graduate of Williamsport High School, is presented a \$500.00 scholarship by James M. Plunkett, Worshipful Master of Medairy Lodge No. 140)



(Above: Andrea MacMillan from Westmar High School is presented a scholarship check from Kenneth W. Metheny, Worshipful Master of George's Creek Valley Lodge No. 161.)

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Today, any lodge that is not connected with its community needs to consider becoming involved for the following reasons:

1. Future members are in the community and when the Lodge is involved, they will discover what Masonry is all about.
2. Future members demand that any organization they join be active in community outreach.
3. The community is the responsibility of everyone - including Masons.
4. The Lodge is a perfect community-service organization.
5. Masons will be proud of their role in the community.
6. Any organization, to grow, needs to be able to involve all its members in some way.

The best way to get members involved, is to respond to a need in the community. Here are some ideas:

1. Hold a special dinner in the Lodge and accept contributions from members for the local library. Members can also man a booth outside the local supermarket and raise money as well as distribute information and answer questions regarding Masonry.
2. Give a Scholarship. Host four events during the year on weekends for members and guests. Members can prepare food, run games and hold a collectibles auction.
3. Meals on Wheels route. The lodge can adopt a route that would serve two meals a day for eight families for a year.
4. Masons can join with youth groups (Demolay, Rainbow, etc.) to maintain a section of the roadway in town.

5. The lodge could take on the fix-up, paint-up, clean-up of a local playground.

The real importance is not to change what the Lodge is doing, but to increase member interest, participation, awareness and pride through family and community involvement. Local government is trying to establish partnerships with organizations in the community that can solve community-related problems without a lot of fuss. Individuals in the community tend to evaluate the relevance of organizations by the degree of their involvement.

These are things that a small Lodge with less than 100 men can accomplish.

1. Sponsor a 4th of July celebration and picnic.
2. Sponsor a grade school sports tournament.
3. Provide medical supplies for a local EMS unit.
4. Provide funds/labor to renovate a local ball-field.
5. Sponsor a local youth to a Shrine Bowl Band Camp.
6. Adopt a needy family at Christmas.

Lodges that are larger can:

1. Adopt a local elementary school, meet with the PTA to determine a schedule of volunteer events.
2. Volunteer to raise \$10,000 for three to five significant awards for teaching excellence in a school where the lodge is located. Present the awards at an assembly that includes teachers, students, parents and the local media.
3. Partner with another civic organization in the community to solve a problem that may be larger than the resources available.
4. Develop a major senior-center volunteer effort to help the aged in some area of need.

These are a few ideas that will establish your Lodge as a relevant force within your community. The idea is to create favorable public awareness of our Fraternity, who we are, and what we do. This will begin to attract good men, who will want to join an organization committed to making a difference.

TO BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER Two (2) Artic Cat 4 Wheeler ATVs with Trailer

These items are available to be sold to the highest bidder. MCM offered 1,000 tickets for sale for its annual raffle. No one purchased the winning ticket for the number chosen as the three digit number of the Maryland Lottery on the April 20, 2007 drawing. The estimated value of the package is \$18,000.

MCM is making available, to the highest bidder, these new ATVs. All bids must be received by the close of business on Friday, October 5, 2007. The winner will be announced on Harvest Home Day, October 6, 2007 at "Bonnie Blink."

Mail all bids to:

MCM
c/o Grand Lodge of Maryland
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, Maryland 21030