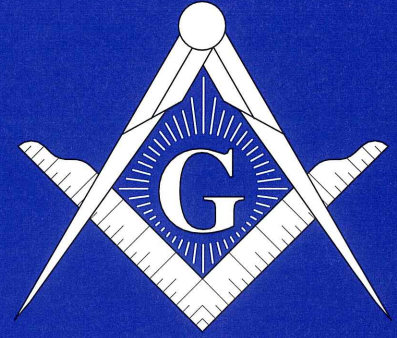


# Freestate Freemason



Winter 2000

## I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO MEET MY NEW FRIEND....

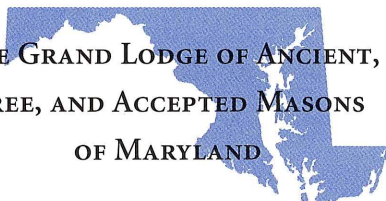
**T**HESE ARE SIMPLE BUT PROFOUND WORDS. SPOKEN BY A CHILD OR BY AN adult, they instantly convey the joy of discovery—the discovery of a new friend. And when you have a new friend, you want all of your other friends to know and to share in your joy. On Tuesday, January 18, 2000, W.M.G.M. Francis E. Larrimore said to the High Twelve Guild, “I’d like for you to meet my new friend, Sheldon Redden, Grand Master of Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland.” With these few words, M.W. Larrimore began in a new era for Freemasonry in the Free State.

This special day began with an invitation from G.M. Larrimore to G.M. Redden and his grand line to tour our Grand Lodge building and to stay for lunch. G.M. Redden immediately responded in kind by inviting our grand officers to attend the annual Emancipation Proclamation Service of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. On January 2, 2000 G.M. Larrimore and fourteen of his Grand Officers attended the special service at the Willard W. Allen Masonic Temple on Eutaw Place in Baltimore.

The visit by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge to the High Twelve Guild luncheon club was part of a larger open house held for the business community in the Hunt Valley area. This was done to showcase our Grand Lodge building and banquet facilities, the rental of which has become a good source of income for the Grand Lodge. The food was exceptional, the fellowship outstanding, and Bro. C. A. “Dutch” Ruppberger, Baltimore County Executive, was the speaker.

Our Grand Lodge also has accepted an invitation from Hiram Grand Lodge to join them in a parade later this year. These friendly fraternal gestures can only lead to greater understanding and cooperation among all Masons working in Maryland.

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







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

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*Send articles to the Editor; address changes to the Grand Lodge.*

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## Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

The Bible is an amazing source of wisdom for the ages. It provides advice, comfort, guidance, and revelation for its readers. The psalmist gave us these words above that have lasted over the millennia. They perhaps provide the best one sentence summary of what Masonry is all about.

Freemasonry does many things, but one of its major lessons is the value of tolerance and respect of others. The tenets of our profession are Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, and if we learn them well, then there is nothing more that Freemasonry needs to teach us. For me, the principal lesson is that of Brotherly Love, which I believe encompasses Relief and Truth.

By the exercise of Brotherly Love, we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family; the high and low, the rich and poor, who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support, and protect each other. On this principle Masonry unites men of every country, sect, and opinion, and conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.

First Degree, *Maryland Masonic Manual*

Now that's the theory. Where's the practice? It's hard to "regard the whole human species as one family," but no one said Freemasonry was easy—or for everyone. If we really believe in the principles of our gentle craft, then we have a duty to conciliate true friendship with everyone in our lodge (even that boring brother who always has one more joke to tell). And after we are friends with the members of our lodge, we have more lodges, and then "the whole human species." It's a tall order, but it's what Freemasonry is all about.

As we start this new Masonic year, we should reflect on what we want from our fraternity. Is it for us just a place to spend a pleasant evening with fellowship and refreshments, or is it truly "A way of life." Unless we are deaf to the lessons so frequently repeated in lodge, then we cannot help but reconsider how we deal with the world and with everyone in it. The lesson on Brotherly Love is very clear: It's not just other Masons who are our brothers, but everyone created by our one Almighty Parent.

This may be the reason why Freemasonry is so feared by tyrants and bigots. It teaches men to unite, not separate, to love, not hate, to work together, not apart. And if we do this, then what room is there for the division of humanity into little artificial clumps and clusters?

Don't tell anyone, but *this* is the true secret of Freemasonry.

*S. Brent Morris, Editor*





## What is Prince Hall Masonry?

Prince Hall Freemasonry is the largest African-American fraternity in the United States. It traces its origins to before the firing of the first shots at Concord and Lexington.

On March 6, 1775, Prince Hall and fourteen other African Americans were raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason in Boston. The degrees were most probably conferred by Lodge No. 441 of Ireland, attached to the 38th Regiment of Foot, part of Gen. Gage's forces.

Prince Hall and his brethren met for nine years under a "permet" issued likely by Lodge No. 441. In 1784 they petitioned the premier Grand Lodge of England for a charter, and on September 20, 1784, a charter was issued for African Lodge No. 459. At that time there were *two* competing Grand Lodges working Massachusetts, which did not unite until 1792. African Lodge never joined the new Grand Lodge. For that matter, St. Andrews Lodge, the lodge of Paul Revere, did not join the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts until 1809.

African Lodge continued to make returns to England and to send money for their Charity Fund. Prince Hall's letter book has an 1806 letter to the Grand Secretary complaining that he had not received any answers to his correspondence since 1792. In 1813 the two rival Grand Lodges in England, Antients and Moderns, united. As part of their post-union bookkeeping all



Francis E. Larrimore, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Maryland, and Shelton D. Redden, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland, F. & A.M. Photo courtesy of the Doric Chapter, Phylaxis Society, P.H.A.

American lodges, including African Lodge, were removed from their register.

In 1824 the members of African Lodge, not realizing they had been removed from the register, wrote to the Grand Lodge of England requesting a charter for a Royal Arch Chapter (which the Grand Lodge of England controlled). The *Boston Advertiser* of June 26, 1827, published a declaration of June 18, 1827, by African Lodge stating itself to be "free and independent of any lodge

from this day." It is from this date that Prince Hall Masonry began its independent existence.

On February 2, 1825, Friendship Lodge No. 1 was constituted in Maryland by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and in 1845 three Maryland Prince Hall lodges formed their own Grand Lodge. Today, there are 102 Prince Hall lodges in Maryland and its jurisdictions: 70 within the state, 22 in Germany, 6 in England, 3 in Italy, and 1 in Belgium.





## The Level and The Square

*This poem, written in 1854, has been called "the favorite and best known Masonic poem in America."*

WE MEET upon the Level  
and we part upon the Square;  
What words of precious meaning  
those words Masonic are!  
Come, let us contemplate them!  
they are worthy of a thought;  
In the very walls of Masonry  
the sentiment is wrought.

We meet upon the Level,  
though from every station come,  
The rich man from his palace  
and the poor man from his  
home;  
For the rich must leave his wealth  
and state  
outside the Mason's door,  
And the poor man finds his best  
respect  
upon the Checkered Floor.

We act upon the Plumb—  
'tis the orders of our Guide—  
We walk upright in virtue's way  
and lean to neither side;  
Th' All-Seeing Eye that reads our  
hearts  
doth bear us witness true,  
That we still try to honor God  
and give each man his due.

We part upon the Square,  
for the world must have its due;  
We mingle with the multitude,  
a faithful band and true;  
But the influence of our gatherings

in memory is green,  
And we long upon the Level  
to renew the happy scene.

There's a world where all are equal—  
we are hurrying towards it fast,  
We shall meet upon the Level there,  
when the gates of Death are  
passed;  
We shall stand before the Orient,  
and our Master will be there,  
To try the blocks we offer  
with His own unerring Square.

We shall meet upon the Level there  
but never thence depart;  
There's a Mansion—'tis all ready  
for each trusting, faithful heart—  
There's a Mansion, and a Welcome,  
and a multitude is there  
Who have met upon the Level,  
and been tried upon the Square.

Let us meet upon the Level, then,  
while laboring patient here;  
Let us meet and let us labor,  
though the labor be severe;  
Already in the western sky  
the signs bid us prepare  
To gather up our Working Tools  
and part upon the Square.

Hands round, yet faithful  
Brotherhood,  
the bright fraternal chain,  
We part upon the Square below,  
to meet in heaven again!  
What words of precious meaning  
those words Masonic are—  
We meet upon the Level  
and we part upon the Square.

—Rob Morris

## Grand Lodge Bull & Oyster Roast To Be Held on April 15

The 213th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland will be celebrated with a Bull & Oyster Roast on April 15, 2000, from 1:00-5:00 P.M. on the Grand Lodge grounds at Cockeysville. This great feast is open to all Master Masons, members of collateral bodies, and their guests.

Tickets have been mailed to every Maryland lodge and are available from your lodge secretary at \$25 per person.

The name of the winner of the 2000 Lincoln Town Car raffle will be drawn at the Bull and Oyster Roast. Tickets for the drawing cost \$50, and are limited to 1,500. All funds raised will go to the John Coates Memorial Lodge endowment fund, which provides an important source of operating capital for the Grand Lodge of Maryland. For information on raffle tickets, contact your lodge, the Grand Lodge at 410 527-0600, or J. Allen Lytle at 301 863-5593.

Here is the sumptuous menu:

Oysters on the Half-Shell  
Oyster Stew • Oyster Fritters  
Top-Neck Clams on the Half-Shell  
Pit Beef • Pit Ham • Pit Turkey  
Grilled Sausages & Hamburgers  
Foot-Long Hot Dogs  
Potato Salad • Macaroni Salad  
Cole Slaw • Baked Beans • Sauerkraut  
Cheese & Vegetable Platters  
Bread, Rolls, Condiments  
Ice-Cold Draft Beer & Sodas  
Coffee & Tea  
Assorted Ice Cream • Sheet Cake





## Shriners Hospitals Receive Special Achievement Award for Children's Work

Shriners Hospitals for Children have been singled out as an "unsung hero" in the United States for promoting the causes of people with disabilities and serving as an example and inspiration to others in their efforts to help children in need. Shriners Hospitals was among a group of seven outstanding disability advocates that received Special Achievements Awards presented by the National Rehabilitation Awareness foundation. Accepting the award on behalf of Shriners Hospitals was Mahlon W. Hessey, Past Potentate of Boumi Temple and Trustee Emeritus of the hospitals' Board of Trustees. The presentation was made by Tom Curley, honorary chairperson of the 1999 National Rehabilitation Awareness Celebration and president and publisher of *USA Today*.

## Free State Shield & Square Club To Go To Missouri

The Free State Shield & Square Club Degree Team has been invited to attend and take part in a four state degree conferral in Defiance, Missouri. This event will take place over the weekend of July 15 & 16, 2000. Degree teams from Mississippi, Illinois, Missouri, and Maryland will each confer their Master Mason Degree. Mississippi and Maryland will confer on Saturday afternoon, and Indiana and Missouri will confer on Sunday afternoon. Degree work will be in the form of a "Lodge of Low Vale."

PLEASE NOTE: The FSS&SC is looking for a candidate that would enjoy being raised in Missouri. Should your Lodge have such a candidate, please contact Bro. Jack Biggs, R.W.S.G.W. and Degree Master for the team. He can be reached by phone at 410 329-6665, by e-mail at K3SP@hotmail.com, or

by regular mail at 1222 Walker Road Freeland, MD 21053-9536. This would be quite an experience for the candidate, one enjoyed by no other Mason in Maryland. Please assist them in finding a candidate.

This event is sponsored by "Charlie's Angels," the Missouri Degree Team. Their web site can be seen at [www.geocities.com/Athens/Sparta.5425/cangels.html](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Sparta.5425/cangels.html). The details are there if you would like to attend. Our hosts have planned an exciting weekend with evening entertainment following the degree work.

Previous teams from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Georgia have conferred Degrees at this event in the past. The FSS&SC feels it is an honor to be a part of this event.

To date this Maryland Degree Team, composed of approximately twenty dedicated Masons, has been invited into 17 lodges throughout Maryland during the past year where they have conferred EA, FC, and MM Degrees to a packed lodge.

Upcoming dates are February 23 in Prince Frederick Lodge and March 1 in Granite Lodge. All Degree work is done in full dress uniform of the various law enforcement agencies represented. Should your Lodge be interested in hosting this team, contact Bro. Jack at the above addresses.

## Action On Grand Lodge Legislation

Two amendments to the Grand Lodge Constitution were voted on at the November 1999 Annual Communication. The amendment to allow 18-year old men to be initiated in Maryland lodges failed. The amendment to allow Maryland lodges to work on any degree passed.

Patmos Lodge No. 70 of Ellicott City took advantage of the new legislation the night after it was passed. They balloted on the proficiency of a brother on his Second Degree catechism. W.Bro. Jim Coker, W.M. of Patmos, said he believes his was the first such action since 1842.





At a special meeting held September 14 at Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 two new Masons were Raised with family help. Bros. William Whitaker and Benjamin A. Carr were given the obligation by Bro. Carr's grandfather, W. Bro Wilbur F. Carr, P.M. W. Bro. Ernest Whitaker, P.M. Raised his son, and Bro. W. Jack Carr participated in the raising of his son. Pictured from left to right are Wilbur F. Carr, P.M., W. John Carr, Benjamin A. Carr, Gerald Piepiora, W.M., William Whitaker, and Ernest Whitaker, P.M.

## Long-Term Care: What You Need To Know

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

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

a prolonged stay in a nursing home.

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

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

- 1) *Use your own assets.* Depleting your own assets may seriously affect your financial well-being and independence.
- 2) *Qualify for government assistance.* If you meet federal

and/or state poverty levels for both income and assets, the government may pay your long-term care bills. However, choices for your care may be limited.

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

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

WHAT DOES A GOOD POLICY INCLUDE? There are certain things to look for in long-term care insurance. Be sure the company offering the policy is financially secure. Find an affordable level of coverage that offers what's important to you. For example, if you are concerned about being unable to care for yourself, and you don't want to rely on a stranger to do so, then make sure your policy provides for a friend or family member to take care of you. Ask for an outline of coverages that describes policy features. If you have questions, ask them.

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





## A Millennium Celebration Event

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Maryland is raffling a 2000 Signature Series Lincoln Town Car to raise money for the John Coates Memorial Lodge endowment fund. Dividends from this endowment fund are an important course of operating capital for the Grand Lodge. Only fifteen hundred chances will be sold, and the winner will be announced at the Bull & Oyster Roast to be held on April 15, 2000 on the grounds of the Grand Lodge in Cockeysville.

This elegant luxury car is the perfect way to get to lodge or anywhere else. The raffle is an innovative way to raise money for the Grand Lodge endowment, thus insuring out long-term financial stability. Your participation is most fraternally solicited.

The following brethren can provide you with information on the sale of chances:

Ron Belanger	301-855-4616
Jack Biggs	410-357-0134
Ron Block	410-721-1099
Tom Chagouris	410-685-2020
Ben Dyer	410-586-9660
Jack Frazier	410-527-0600
Harold Garren	301-599-6110
Dave Hall	301-729-8220
John Hall	410-326-3750
Fran Larrimore	410-859-1390
Al Lytle	301-863-5593
Jack Middleton	410-749-7751
Jere Place	410-398-7553
Fred Reel	301-791-6117
Bill Sorrel	410-268-5459
Tom Velvin	301-292-5253



M.W.G.M. Francis E. Larrimore speaks at the cornerstone ceremony of the new Masonic Temple of Columbia Lodge No. 58, Frederick, December 4, 1999. R.W. S.G.W. Ronald G. Belanger uses plumb to symbolically try the stone. The brick building is located at 6816 Blentlinger Rd, cost \$1.3 million, and sits on 5 acres of land donated by the late Bro. Blentlinger. A public open house will held this spring. Photo courtesy of Richard T. Kreh, Sr., P.M.

## Shriners Hospitals Budget Tops Half Billion for 2000

There's just one word to describe the 2000 budget for Shriners Hospitals for Children: **WOW!** The Shriners have been part of the Family of Masonry since they were formed in 1872, and their hospitals have been an important part of our philanthropy since 1920.

The budget for 2000 is \$1.48 million a day—almost \$62,000 per hour! Over the past 78 years, approximately 625,000 children have

been helped by the free medical care available at the 22 Shriners Hospitals. Eighteen of the hospitals are dedicated to orthopedic care, three to burn care, and the Northern California hospital handles both.

The distinguishing feature of Shriners Hospitals is their simple fee structure for patients: \$0. The average stay for patients is just over 7 days. Any child may be eligible for care at Shriners Hospitals if: the child is under the age of 18, and there is a reasonable possibility the child's condition can be helped. For information call 1-800-237-5055.





## Considering a Retirement Community?

How do you know when it's time to consider moving to a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC)?

- If you intend to make one move rather than several.
- If you want to maintain and maybe even improve your health.
- If your current living situation isn't safe.
- If you want to do something you enjoy everyday.
- If you're not driving and still want to participate in community activities.
- If you're tired of cooking and housekeeping.
- If you or someone you care for needs more care than you can provide.
- If family, friends or your doctor recommend it.
- If you're looking for help that is personal and respects your dignity.
- If you're concerned about future needs and want to plan for them.

Continuing Care Retirement Communities are uniquely able to adjust services according to the level of care you need. Many people find they stay healthier longer because they're receiving preventive health-



Bro. S. Claus, P.M. of North Pole Lodge No 1 helps the members of Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142 with the second annual "Visit with Santa Claus."

care and monitoring at a convenient location—their home! In these changing times, it's nice to know that you're in a place where people are committed to your safety. Activities abound, and you participate as you wish. Transportation to local spots is available. There does come a time when you'd like to leave the cooking and cleaning to someone else! Sometimes we have to seek help in caring for someone we love. If your support system is recommending you investigate a CCRC—do it! They have your best interest at heart. Many times personal care improves the quality of daily life. The most compelling reason residents of Maryland Masonic Homes made an inquiry was their openness to planning for future needs.

If you would consider making our home yours, call, Katherine A. Simons, Director of Resident Services, Maryland Masonic Homes, to schedule a tour: (410) 527-1111. she looks forward to a long and healthy relationship with you all!

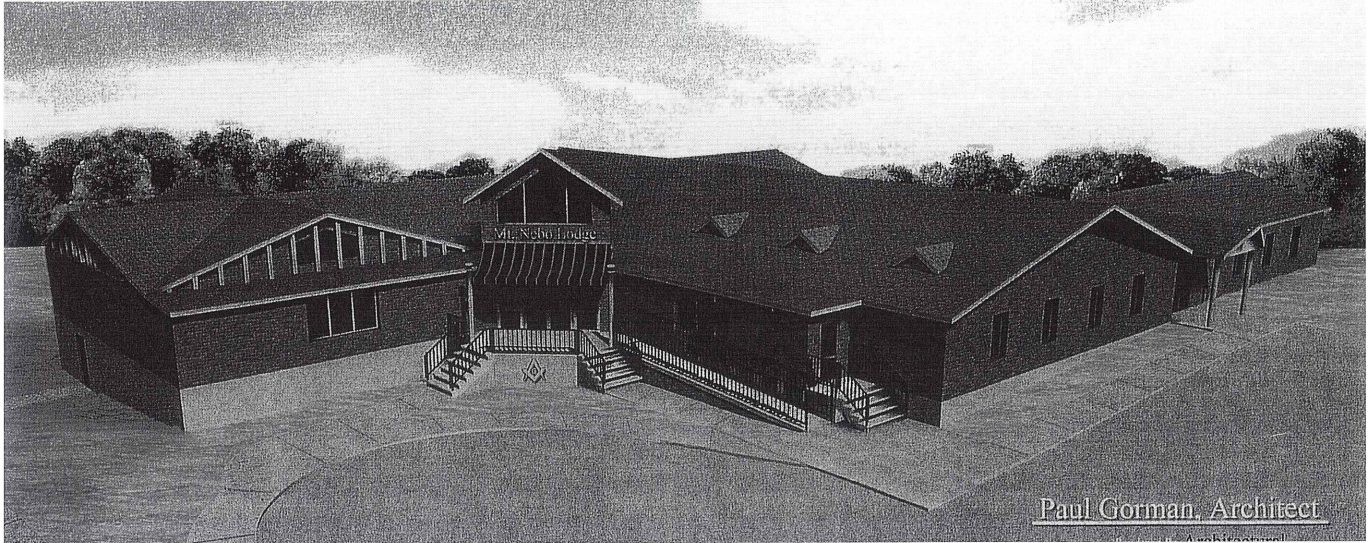
## Christmas in Prince Frederick

Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142 continued its holiday tradition by hosting its second annual "Visit with Santa Claus" for children. Over 100 children and parents attended during the two days devoted to this holiday treat.

Adding special help to the festivities was W. Bro. S. Santa Claus, P.M. of North Pole Lodge No. 1. (Some members of Prince Frederick Lodge commented that he looked very much like Bro. Gene Utterback, J.D.)

Each child got to sit on Santa's lap and received a photo, a candy cane, and an orange. The fruit was provided by Calvert County Lions Club which worked closely with the Lodge to make this event the success it was. Advertisements preceding the big day were heard on radio station 92.7, the local cable Channel Six, and in two local newspapers. The Lodge plans to continue the tradition again this year.





Architect's rendering of the new Mt. Nebo Masonic Center, which will have its cornerstone laid on May 20, 2000.

## New Mt. Nebo Masonic Center

Mt. Nebo Lodge will celebrate the millennium with a dedication ceremony of the new Mount Nebo Masonic Center in Perry Hall. Our M.W. G.M., Francis E. Larrimore, assisted by the Grand Lodge Officers will preside over the cornerstone ceremony scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2000, at 10:00 a.m.. Tours of the new facility will be conducted at the conclusion of the ceremony.

The capacity of the Mount Nebo Masonic Center has been expanded from 3,820 square feet to 26,000 square feet. The main floor features a meeting room for Masonic Lodges and another meeting room for Eastern Star Chapters, accentuated by a Social Hall with a seating capacity in excess of 200 which is accompanied by a certified kitchen. The lower level features a multi-purpose room, a memorabilia Room, and a general purpose room that can be

used by fraternal, business and community organizations. The entire facility is A.D.A. approved which provides access to our elderly and handicapped members.

Currently there are two Masonic Lodges and three Eastern Star Chapters meeting at the Mount Nebo Masonic Center. One of the reasons for creating this beautiful building is to promote Masonry within a growing community. For any Lodge or Chapter that is interested, the Masonic meeting room is available for occupancy on Monday and Thursday; the Eastern Star meeting room is available on Monday. Pending a more thorough review of scheduled events Friday, may also become available.

Plans for landscaping and memorial gardens will be revealed during the May 20th ceremony. Mt. Nebo members look forward to having their Fraternal Brothers and Sisters join them to celebrate this joyous occasion.

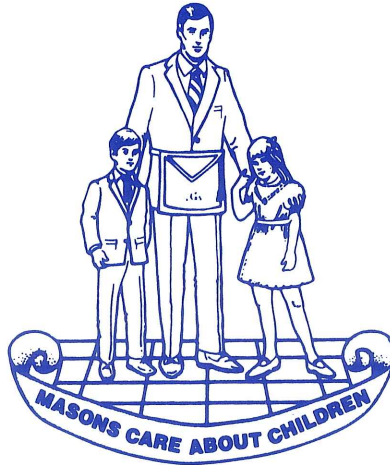
## Dad Fought In the War—the Civil War

Bro. Albert Comer of LaVale is like many other brothers; his dad fought in the war. What make this story unique is that his father James J. Comer, fought in the Civil War.

James J. Comer joined the Confederate Army soon after his 14th birthday, serving as the youngest infantryman in Stonewall Jackson's 33rd Brigade. After the war Comer returned to the Shenandoah Valley and raised a family. When his first wife died, he remarried Lucy Sly, 34 years his junior. The couple had seven children, including Albert, the youngest, who was born in 1921 when his father was 74 years old.

Bro. Comer is a Kelly-Springfield retiree who spends most of this afternoons golfing. He takes a low-key approach to his celebrity status among Civil War buffs. "When I would tell people, they thought I was pulling their leg."





## INVEST IN THE FUTURE THROUGH MASONIC CHARITIES OF MARYLAND

Maryland youth are benefitting from the Masonic Charities of Maryland Educational Grand Program (scholarships), the Student Assistance Program (Drug Education and Intervention) and a Child Abuse Program. Through the support of Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughter's, Demolay, the Maryland Student Assistance Program and an appropriation of \$48,000 in college scholarships, Masons and Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc. are leading the way into the new millennium.

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc. needs your gift for a brighter future for our youth. **Donations are tax deductible!**  
Give now—M.C.M., Inc. Needs your support

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### Make Checks Payable to Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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*Mail to:*

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.  
Mercantile Bank Building, Suite 900  
409 Washington Ave.  
Towson, Maryland 21204

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Grand Lodge of Maryland Staff, from left to right: Linda Zollars, Beth Kennedy, Linda Hagan, Charlotte Daugherty, Cindy Moyer. These are the ladies who “keep the gears oiled.” Their biographies appeared in the fall 1999 *Freestate Freemason*.

## Oops! Our Slip Is Showing

The Freestate Freemason does nothing in a small way. Last month several thousand issues were printed with the word *criteria* misspelled on the first page—in ½" type in blue ink! Rather than reprint, we decided to declare these issues to be “Collector’s Editions.”

The phone and URL of Blue Lodge Travel and Tourism Services has changed: 1-888-638-7471 and [www.netrip.com](http://www.netrip.com). Please change your records accordingly. The general number for Blue Lodge Services, for information on their products, is 410-922-9600 or 800-222-9581.

## Looking to the East

It is never too soon for officers to start thinking about the day when they will assume the gavel of authority and take their seat in the East of the Lodge. The more planning that is done, the more successful your year will be.

There are many resources available, which a wise Sr. Warden (or any other officer) will study. The Masonic Service Association of America has many materials to help with your planning. You can order a catalog by calling 301-588-4010 or visiting [www.msana.com](http://www.msana.com).

The Masonic Renewal Committee of North America has three

exceptionally good guide books: *101+ Ways to Improve Interest & Attendance in Your Masonic Lodge*, *150+ Ways to Involve Your Lodge with the Family and in the Community*, and *A Masonic Leader’s Planning Guide*. To order these books, call toll free 888-891-8235 or visit [www.masonic-renewal.org](http://www.masonic-renewal.org).

Finally The Center for Leadership Excellence has produced five superb *Guides to Becoming a More Successful Leader*. Written by Bros. Ron Blue of Illinois and Dudley G. Davis of Maryland, these books step you through the planning process. To order these books, call 410-296-0026 or e-mail [dcginc@erols.com](mailto:dcginc@erols.com).





## Albert Pike And Lucifer: The Lie That Will Not Die

S. BRENT MORRIS, P.G.D.C.

Have you heard the sad story about the dog that someone tried to dry off in a microwave oven? What about the one where a jealous husband poured concrete into a new convertible, not realizing it was a surprise anniversary gift from his wife? Or maybe you've read about Albert Pike's so-called "Luciferian Doctrine," which teaches Masons that Lucifer is God?

These stories have one thing in common: they're all false. The first two are harmless "urban myths," innocently retold as cautionary tales. The story about Albert Pike and Lucifer, however, is a lie that will not die. Gabriel Antoine Jogand-Pagès (writing as Léo Taxil) conceived the hoax and designed it to slander Freemasonry and to embarrass the Catholic Church. It has been repeated for a century by anti-Masons who accept with childlike eagerness any slur against our gentle craft.

No other lie has captured the imagination of anti-Masons quite like this Léo Taxil hoax (just one of many he perpetrated against Freemasonry and the Catholic Church). Once our critics have twisted logic to convince themselves that Freemasonry is the work of Satan, they are ready to accept this perversion. It usually comes in the form of a quotation that starts, "On July 14, 1889, Albert Pike, Sovereign Pontiff of

*Universal Freemasonry, addressed to the 23 Supreme Confederate Councils of the world the following Instructions....*" That's all you need to read to know the author has fallen prey to this infamous hoax.

It's not entirely certain when the quote was fabricated nor where it was first published. We can, however, trace its modern appearances to Edith Starr Miller who wrote *Occult Theocracy* in 1933 under the pen name "Lady Queenborough." Her work is excerpted and treated as the gospel truth, usually without attribution. Such practices are known as plagiarism in other disciplines, but neither serious research nor intellectual integrity stand in the way of the headlong rush to slander Freemasonry.

Ms. Miller found her quote in the 1894 book by Abbé Clarin de la Rive, *La Femme et L'Enfant dans la Franc-Maçonnerie Universelle* (Woman and Child in Universal Freemasonry). Abbé de la Rive, like Ms. Miller, was duped by the hoax; they are guilty only of incompetent research and an eager willingness to believe the worst about Freemasonry. The ultimate source was the pornographer, anti-Mason, and anti-Catholic Léo Taxil (Gabriel Antoine Jogand-Pagès). Taxil publicly confessed his deception in 1897; his story is widely available for anyone willing to look for the truth. Just a few of these many references are listed below.

- R. Limouzin-Lamothe. *The New Catholic Encyclopedia*, s.v. Taxil, Léo.

- Henry W. Coil. et al., *Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia* (New York: Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., 1961 ), s.v. Taxil, Léo.
- *Great Soviet Encyclopedia*. 3rd ed., s.v. Taxil, Léo.
- Arthur E. Waite, *A New Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, new & rev. ed. (New York: Weathervane Books, 1970), s.v. Palladian Freemasonry.
- Alec Mellor, "A Hoaxer of Genius—Léo Taxil." *Our Separated Brethren, the Freemasons*, translated by A.W. Barnett and C.N. Batham (Richmond, Va., Macoy Publishing & Masonic Supply Co., 1964), pp. 149-55.

The entire passage from Ms. Miller is not worth quoting, though we will give the portion most repeated.

### THE BOGUS "LUCIFERIAN DOCTRINE" OF ALBERT PIKE

From Edith Starr Miller (Lady Queenborough) *Occult Theocracy*. 2 vols, 1933. Reprint. Hawthorne, Calif.: The Christian Book Club of America, 1980.

(p. 233) "In *La Femme et l'Enfant dans la Franc-Maçonnerie Universelle* page 578, A.C. De La Rive states that on July 14, 1889, Albert Pike, Sovereign Pontiff of Universal Freemasonry, addressed to the 23 Supreme Confederate Councils of the world the follow-





ing instructions, which we quote herewith in part

(p. 220) *"That which we must say to the crowd is;—We worship a God, but it is the God that one adores without superstition.*

*To you, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, we say this, that you may repeat it to the Brethren of the 32nd, 31st and 30th degrees—The Masonic religion should be, by all of its initiates of the high degrees, maintained in the purity of the Luciferian doctrine. If Lucifer were not God, would Adonay (The God of the Christians) whose deeds prove his cruelty, perfidy, and hatred of man, barbarism and repulsion for science, would Adonay and his priests calumniate him?*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Thus, the doctrine of Satanism is a heresy; and the true and pure philosophic religion is the belief in Lucifer the equal of Adonay: but Lucifer, God of Light and God of Good, is struggling for humanity against Adonay, the God of Darkness and Evil.*

There are several problems with this quotation, some obvious and some subtle. To start with, about 1,000,000 out of 2,500,000 American Masons have the 32° in the Scottish Rite, including ministers, rabbis, bishops, and other devout worshippers of God. It is inconceivable that there would not be mass resignations if these men were taught this disgusting "Luciferian doctrine." Is it believable that the mil-

lions of Scottish Rite Masons during the last two centuries could be cowed into such total silence?

The quote is riddled with logical inconsistencies. There is no position of "Sovereign Pontiff of Universal Freemasonry." There is no "Confederation of Supreme Councils." In the United States virtually all Scottish Rite Masons receive the 32°, so why would Albert Pike suggest special treatment for 30°, 31°, and 32° Masons, when that would have included everyone?

The real evidence of a hoax comes in De La Rive's footnote, which neither Ms. Miller nor anyone else bothers to quote. It refers to Diana Vaughan, the matchless creation of Léo Taxil's twisted mind. The footnote (and a translation) are printed below.

Ce fut la Soeur Diana Vaughan d'Albert Pike.—*afin de lui donner la plus grande marque de confiance*,—chargea d'apporter son encyclique luciférienne, a Paris, pendant l'Exposition Universelle.

Abbé Clarin de la Rive, *La Femme et L'Enfant dans la Franc-Maçonnerie Universelle*. Paris: Delhomme & Briquet, Editeurs, 1894, p. 589.

It was the Sister Diana Vaughan that Albert Pike,—*in order to give her the greatest mark of confidence*,—charged to carry his luciferian encyclical, to Paris, during the Universal Exposition.

The Diana Vaughan hoax is well known and has been explained time and time again for nearly a century. Here's what the *New Catholic Encyclopedia* (R. Limouzin-Lamothe, s.v. Taxil, Léo) says about Léo Taxil.

*Taxil purported to reveal the existence of "Palladium," the most secret Masonic order, which practiced devil-worship. He recounted the story of its high priestess Diana Vaughan; and ended by publishing the Memoires d'une ex-Palladiste after her conversion to Catholicism. When doubts began to spread, Taxil realized the time had come to end the deceit. In a conference in Paris (April 19, 1897), he cynically admitted his hoax, whose aim, he said, was to hold up Catholicism to derision.*

After Taxil's public confession, Abbé de la Rive expressed his disgust and recanted his writings on Diana Vaughan in the April 1897 issue of *Freemasonry Disclosed*, a magazine devoted to the destruction of the Craft. As much as he hated Freemasonry, de la Rive had the integrity to admit Taxil's hoax.

*With frightening cynicism the miserable person we shall not name here (Taxil) declared before an assembly especially convened for him that for twelve years he had prepared and carried out to the end the most extraordinary and most sacrilegious of hoaxes. We have always been careful to*

See ALBERT PIKE, p. 14, col 1





**ALBERT PIKE**, from p. 13  
publish special articles concerning  
*Palladism and Diana Vaughan*.  
We are now giving in this issue a  
complete list of these articles.  
which can now be considered as  
not having existed.

Quoted in Alec Mellor, *Strange  
Masonic Stories* (Richmond. Va.:  
Macoy Publishing & Masonic  
Supply Co., Inc., 1982), p. 151.

Anyone interested in the plain  
truth can easily discover the story of  
Léo Taxil. Recent critics of Masonry,  
however, are not interested in simple  
facts. These detractors have con-  
vinced themselves that Freema-  
sonry is the work of the devil. Thus  
they apparently justify their pervers-  
ions with the thought that they are  
doing the Lord's work—saving an  
unsuspecting world from Satan. No  
misquotation, no distortion, no lie is  
too great if it accomplishes what  
they perceive as their holy mission.  
This includes gleefully perpetuating  
the bogus "Luciferian Doctrine" of  
Albert Pike. All this is done in the  
name of Him who said, "I am the  
way, the truth, and the life."

Freemasonry teaches its mem-  
bers tolerance, even of its assailants.  
If you are presented with the story  
of Pike and Lucifer, quietly but firm-  
ly state, "It's a lie." Don't let it pass  
without comment, but don't provoke  
an argument. The truth is on our  
side.

But remember the words attrib-  
uted to Edmund Burke: "The only  
thing necessary for the triumph of  
evil is for good men to do nothing."

*This article is reprinted with permis-  
sion from the June 1993 Short Talk  
Bulletin, vol. 71, no. 6, published  
monthly by the Masonic Service As-  
sociation of North America, 8120  
Fenton St., Silver Spring, MD 20910-  
4785, www.msana.com, 301-588-  
4010, \$4.00 per year.*

*A full translation of Léo Taxil's  
confession has been published in  
Heredom, the Transactions of the  
Scottish Rite Research Society, vol. 5,  
1996, pp. 137-68. For more informa-  
tion on obtaining back volumes or on  
joining the S.R.R.S., the fastest grow-  
ing Masonic research organization in  
the world, call 202-232-3579.*

*The Masonic Service Association  
(MSA) is the largest organization of  
Masonic Grand Lodges in North  
America. MSA publishes the monthly  
Short Talk Bulletin and informa-  
tional digests, coordinates disaster  
relief for Grand Lodges, and provides  
rapid, accurate responses to press  
inquiries through the Masonic Infor-  
mation Center. Their materials pro-  
vide excellent information for lodge  
programs or those who want to know  
more about our fraternity. A free cat-  
alog of all MSA publications is avail-  
able at no cost. June 1993*

## Need a Program?

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Contact: Kate Simons  
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410-527-1111

## Boumi Temple On The Move!

Boumi Temple Shriners have an  
exciting year ahead of them under  
the leadership of John W. Pickett,  
Illustrious Potentate. Their motto  
this year is "New Beginning" as they  
attempt new ideas and plans to  
increase membership and to im-  
prove participation in their Temple  
activities. Their new building is now  
open and is a very fine facility they  
show off with pride.

The Nobles ended 1999 with a  
wonderful New England Fall Foliage  
Cruise on the Queen Elizabeth II  
hosted by 1999 Potentate James  
McD. Hossbach.

February 2 saw the introduction  
of Boumi Bingo which will continue  
every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the  
Tall Cedars Hall, Old Harford and  
Putty Hill Rds.

On June 17 Boumi Temple will  
present "Roy Clark In Concert" at  
the Towson Arena. Tickets are avail-  
able from Ticket Master in April.  
Don't miss this Brother and Noble  
from the TV show *Hee Haw*.

When asked his feelings about  
being Potentate this year, Bro.  
Pickett replied, "I greatly appreciate  
the opportunity to serve as the  
Potentate of Boumi Temple during  
the year 2000, as we begin the third  
millennium. Boumi Temple looks  
forward to working with our Ma-  
sonic Fraternity to create more  
unity and fellowship in 2000."

For more information on any  
Shrine activities call the Boumi  
Temple office at 410-391-6400.





## **Maryland Masonic Millennium Registry**

Every Lodge in Maryland has received their pages for the "Maryland Masonic Millennium Registry. These pages will be a permanent record of every Mason who attends a Maryland lodge during the year 2000. Masons are asked to sign the registry just once for each lodge they visit. At the end of the year all of the pages from every lodge will

be gathered and bound into a book which will become part of the permanent archives of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

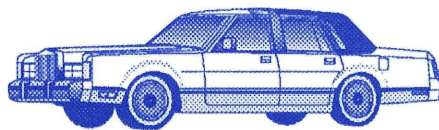
Each time you visit a Maryland Lodge you will have the opportunity to add your name to this enduring reminder of Freemasonry during the year 2000. It is easy to imagine historians decades from now checking the records of who attended which lodge. The Grand Master plans on giving special recognition

to Lodges who have achieved significant milestones in their lodge's attendance.

If you visit a lodge and are not given the opportunity to sign the register, be sure to remind the Worshipful Master that you want your attendance remembered for this special year. It is a unique opportunity for us to leave a record like this for posterity. Don't miss your chance to be included in this very special historical volume.

# ***Grand Lodge of Md. Millennium Celebration Raffle***

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**Grand Lodge: 410-527-0600  
J. Allen Lytle: 301-863-5593**

**Drawing: April 15, 2000  
\$50 per Ticket**



# Maryland Masonic Calendar



## February 2000

- 1 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 8 10:30, Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge, Corinthian Hall, G.L.
  - 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 15 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 22 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom

## March 2000

- 7 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 14 10:30, Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge, Corinthian Hall, G.L.
  - 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 21 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild

luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom

- 28 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom

## April 2000

- 1 **G.M.'s Accelerated Class, G.L., Cockeyville**
- 4 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 11 10:30, Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge, Corinthian Hall, G.L.
  - 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 15 1:00–5:00, Bull & Oyster Roast, G.L. grounds
  - Drawing for Lincoln Town Car
- 18 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 25 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom

## May 2000

- 2 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 5 10:00, Dedication of Mt. Nebo Masonic Center, Perry Hall
- 9 10:30, Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge, Corinthian Hall, G.L.
  - 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 15 Semi-annual Communication, Grand Lodge of Maryland
- 16 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 23 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom
- 30 12:00 noon, High Twelve Guild luncheon club, G.L. Ballroom

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