

# Freestate Freemason



Winter 2002

*From the Grand Master—*

## MASONRY FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Brethren:

I would like to share the following letter I received from the Grand Lodge of New York that came in response to your many kind and thoughtful donations to their fund:

My Dear Special Contributor,

Please accept the warmest fraternal thanks from our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Carl J. Smith, the officers and members of the Grand Lodge for your most generous and kind-spirited gift to the Grand Lodge World Trade Center Relief Fund. The noted humanitarian and physician, Dr. Albert Schweitzer said it best, "There is no higher religion than human service. To work for the common good is the greatest creed. In memory of the many victims of the September 11th "Attack on America" and in cohesion with their families, we gratefully bear witness to your genuine and unselfish expression of charity.

We at the Grand Lodge of New York are trying to do our part towards answering the call of the distressed in providing a source of much needed help to those adversely affected by these cowardly acts of violence against our citizens. These unprecedented assaults were especially traumatic and harrowing to the population of our beautiful city, where peoples of many nations, religions and ethnicity visit, reside and work together for the betterment of society. The heartfelt compassion and empathy that you have displayed for your fellow human beings during this, our hour of darkness, has been a source and fountain of benevolent light. Together, we will emerge from this tragic and dispirited experience united with a renewed zeal of bringing back peace, harmony and brotherhood throughout the world. The essence of True Masonic Brotherhood will be a beacon of hope for all to see and emulate. Within the very near future, we will publish the names of all of the benefactors of the WTC (*Cont. on page 3*)

**The Grand Lodge of Ancient,  
Free, and Accepted Masons  
of Maryland**



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

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### **Send articles to the Editor**

Deadlines for submitting articles & information for publication in the *Freestate Freemason*:

Winter Issue – January 1  
Spring Issue – April 1  
Summer Issue – July 1  
Fall Issue – October 1

### **Submit Address changes to:**

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Cockeysville, MD 21030  
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<http://freemasonry.org/maryland/gl>

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## Editorial

January is a very active month in our fraternity. Lodges are busy conducting their Installations of Officers. Retiring Worshipful Masters are being welcomed into the ranks of Past Masters and incoming Worshipful Masters and line officers are assuming their new stations, places and duties.

We extend hearty congratulations to the outgoing Worshipful Masters for a job well done and to the incoming Worshipful Masters and lines for the effort they have expended in attaining their present positions.

Those joining the ranks of Past Master also become permanent members of Grand Lodge with the ability to enjoy continued service to this wonderful fraternity. Many doors are now open in Grand Lodge in the form of Grand Inspector, Deputy Grand Lecturer, Grand Lodge Officer, Board of Managers, Board of Trustees or the many committees that oversee the large variety of Grand Lodge activities. Services such as these can bring many rewards, not the least of which is the ability to expand your knowledge in Freemasonry and extend your circle of friends and brothers not only throughout the state but into other jurisdictions as well.

Officers assuming new stations and places have the opportunity to build on what has gone before. The opportunity is there to have an impact on your Lodge as well as the future of our fraternity. What an exciting time in your life this can be! It takes some careful planning on your part, consultations with your Past Masters and members, and the interest to make a difference. Your term in the East can be one of the most rewarding, and well may be one of the quickest years you will ever experience.

Visit Lodges in your surrounding area, and when you travel out of your area. Observe and expand upon those ideas you see and like. Your bounds are limited only by your imagination. Note the article on Centennial Lodge in this issue for one example of an innovative idea.

I urge each Worshipful Master to obtain a copy of the requirements for the **Grand Master's Award**. Fill as many of these goals as you can and you will be well on your way to having a great year.

*John R. Biggs, Editor*

## Article Submission

The following guidelines should always be adhered to: Original pictures only, no fax, ink jet prints or newspaper pictures. These do not reproduce well. Pictures should have the owner's name on the back and include pertinent information, such as who is in the picture and information on what the picture represents. Ideally an article will accompany the pictures. Articles should be type-written and can be submitted to the Editor by e-mail, fax, or U.S. mail.

Please keep the Freestate Freemason informed of activities planned in your Lodge and area.



(From page 1) Relief Fund in our Empire State Mason Magazine.

Currently, we, in collaboration with the City of New York, the New York City Police Department and the New York City Fire Department are compiling a list of widows and children of legitimate victims who are in need of our financial assistance.

Presentation of these charitable funds will be made at a suitable forum in a solemn and dignified manner during the spring of 2002. Rest assured that every penny received will be distributed to those in need and absolutely no monies will be deferred to cover expenses and related costs incurred by the Grand Lodge.

In closing, I would like to share a short but true story that is most apropos today as it was when originally told in 1941. During the height of World War II, the Pro Grand Master of Finland, R. W. Brother Marcus Tollet, spoke of a little boy at a local seaport in Finland who looking at the various sailing ships noticed one flying a strange flag on its masthead, asked his father, What flag is that? He knew the flags of the Scandinavian countries and of all the countries that border on the Baltic, but this was a different flag; and his father replied, It is the Freemason's Flag - It is the Stars and Stripes of the American Flag.

Thank you once again for your thoughtfulness and generosity for our fellow human beings during these trying times.

Gary A. Henningsen, P.G.M.  
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of New York  
Brethren, my thanks to you as well; you have come through again.

Bennie G. Owens,  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

## Grand Secretary's Corner

At the Grand Lodge Annual Communication November 19, 2001, Grand Master Owens initiated a new procedure for voting. Lodge voting representatives were required to register at the registration desk and obtain their ballots. We used the listing of the Lodges and their assigned representative to the Grand Lodge. If your name was not on the Lodge listing you were NOT eligible to vote. This created some confusion and disappointment for those members in attendance who wanted to vote for their Lodge. I advised them to check with their Worshipful Masters and suggest to him that he designate a qualified person to be in attendance.

The voting procedure was very smooth and the Grand Lodge was called off at 8:20 p.m.

We had twenty-two Lodges not represented at the Grand Lodge and nineteen of the Past Elected Grand Line Officers weren't present. The amendment, limiting the grace period for non-payment of dues to one year passed by one vote and goes into effect as of December 31, 2001.

This same voting procedure will be used at the Semi-Annual communication in May 2002.

Public Installation of Officers took place on Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. This was well received by all in attendance. Brethren, there isn't anything more important than casting your vote whether it be for someone in public office or someone representing your Lodge on issues that can have an effect on the administration of your Lodge.

Jack R. Frazier,  
Grand Secretary

## Grand Lodge Trip

### Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island

Grand Master **Bennie G. Owens** and his **lady Ruth** invite you to join them on this eventful trip. Delight in fishing villages and the spectacular scenery of beautiful Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and the Cabot Trail.

Dates: **September 29, 2002 through October 8, 2002.**

Total cost for the trip is only \$1995.00 per person based on double occupancy and includes everything.

A deposit of \$400.00 per person is due in Grand Lodge prior to March 15, 2002 and final payment is due by July 15, 2002.

Proof of citizenship is required such as a valid passport or birth certificate with raised seal.

Included: Breakfast and dinner daily, round trip air, deluxe motor coach, professional tour guide and a meeting with members of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

### Itinerary:

Day 1 will find us in Halifax, enjoying a welcoming dinner (Cont. page 4)



(from page 3) at 7 p.m.

Day 2 we will tour Halifax - Sherbrooke Village-Liscomb Mills with a scenic Marine Drive north along the Atlantic Shoreline.

Day 3 we will take the Cabot Trail to Ingonish Beach, via the Canso Causeway to Cape Breton Island and travel along the Cabot Trail, considered by many to be one of the most scenic drives in the world.

Day 4 will find us in Ingonish Beach and Sydney and visit the fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park.

Day 5 we proceed south across the Strait of Canso to Pictou, known as the "birthplace of New Scotland". It was there that the first boatload of Scottish Highlanders landed in 1773. We then board a ferry that whisks you across the Northumberland Strait to Prince Edward Island.

Days 6 and 7 will find us in Charlottetown, the provincial Capital where we visit their National Park and visit Green Gables farmhouse, the setting of the famous novel, Anne of Green Gables. We then cross the new eight-mile Confederation Bridge to coastal Wolfville and visit nearby Grand - Pre National Historic Park.

Day 8 we will travel through Digby, Annapolis Royal and enjoy a Whale-Watching Expedition. Bring your cameras on this one.

Day 9 We travel to Nova Scotia's rugged southern shores, where a visit to Fisheries Museum is a must. Hugging the shoreline, we continue to Peggy's Cove, one of Canada's most charming fishing villages. We reach Halifax by mid-afternoon

where we will meet with members of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

Day 10 will find us winging home.

Travel protection insurance of \$69.00 per person is a highly recommended purchase.

Make checks payable to Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Maryland and forward to

William G. Gulley  
486 Williamsburg Lane  
Odenton, MD 21113-1923

For additional information contact **William G. Gulley** 410 674-7255 or by e-mail [gulley3@juno.com](mailto:gulley3@juno.com).

## Medal of Honor

Bro. **Jack R. Frazier**, Grand Secretary, receives Delaware's distinguished achievement award, the "Jesse Green Medal of Honor." The following comments were made during the presentation:

"There can be no full accounting in one brief citation of the many notable humanitarian services that so long have been a part of Freemasonry rendered by this distinguished Brother in his Lodge, community and the Grand Lodge of Maryland".

"He represents a rare combination of judgment, social imagination, immunity to pressure and fidelity to truth. His forthright, frank and honest attitude in relation to the Grand Lodge of Maryland in particular with the Grand Lodge of Delaware and Freemasonry in general, approves him as a recipient of the following Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Delaware's distinguished achievement award, the Jesse Green Medal

of Honor.

"It is my privilege to make this presentation with Most Worshipful **Charles H. Lengel, Jr.**, Grand Master, to Right Worshipful Jack R. Frazier, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Maryland.

"Brother Frazier is an outstanding example of a solid link in the chain of sincere affection that binds our Masonic fraternity together with our dedicated service. Our prayer is that you may wear this honorable award in good health for a long time as a visible symbol of our gratitude in bringing a Touch of Class to the Family of Freemasonry.

"Warren F. Schueler, P.G.M.  
Grand Lodge of Delaware"

*Friendship may be shortly defined [as] "a perfect conformity of opinions upon all religious and civil subjects, united with the highest degree of mutual esteem and affection."*

-Cicero

## Masonic Charities of Maryland

The Board of Directors of the Masonic Charities of Md., Inc. would like to extend their sincere appreciation to all of our Brethren who have generously supported and contributed to our continuing success story of "Helping Our Young People" throughout year 2001.

During the year 2001 your charity continued to address the problem of Drug and/or Alcohol Abuse among our young people through our sponsorship and partnership with the Maryland Student (cont. on page 5)



(from page 4) Assistance Program (MSAP) of our public school systems throughout the state.

During this period it is comforting to note that over 9,000 Maryland students with possible drug and/or alcohol related school problems were identified and more than 64% of these students had parent intervention meetings with student assistance teams. Those who are trained in the student assistance process with support and partnership with MSAP are doing the job they have committed themselves to do.

Also during this period 349 new Student Assistance professionals were trained during the year and will join MSAP's 300 active teams with over 2500 volunteer members. MSAP is helping Maryland families who have been affected by this terrible drug and alcohol abuse problem.

During year 2001 your Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc. awarded 48 scholarships through its scholarship program. Two scholarships were awarded per County plus Baltimore City. It is our intention that this scholarship program help encourage our youth to prepare as future leaders of society.

With this continuing success and the dire need for these programs among our young people, there is also a dire need for direct donations and endowments to support MSAP and all the other endeavors of the Masonic Charities of Maryland.

All Free State Freemasons can be extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Masonic Charities of Maryland who work hard to help Masonry make a big difference in our communities and state.

Masonic Charities of Maryland needs your help to assure this "Continuing Success Story."

For information as to how you can help, please contact the Grand Lodge or Bro. Vern Mules at 410 296-1015 or e-mail [vmules@aol.com](mailto:vmules@aol.com)

**Do your part now**  
**Helping our Young People**  
*Submitted by Vern Mules*

## Grand Lodge Activities

Most Worshipful Grand Master **Bennie G. Owens** has embarked on a new year and has charged the Activities Committee to make sure we include our wives and families in as many events as possible. Not wanting to disappoint the "Grand Boss" we have forged ahead with an ambitious schedule in the hope of providing you with an opportunity to share Masonry with your family and friends. We sincerely hope that you will find time in your schedule to join us on every convenient occasion.

Bro. **Glen Clary** is heading up the Bull and Oyster Roast and assures us that Bro. **Tom Chagouris** will again provide us with outstanding table fare. We're planning to hold this event outside at the pavilion so plan on wearing a jacket. If the weather gets chilly we can move inside.

*April 21, 2002 - 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

The usual gathering of the Clans will be held once again on July 4th up on the "Hill." This event grows every year and I suspect it will be even larger this year. Bro. **Jack Biggs** is coordinating with Bro. Tom Chagouris to provide us with his usual outstanding fare. Despite the

drizzle and rain, last year's event drew nearly 400 people to enjoy fireworks from Oregon Ridge and they were as spectacular as ever and everyone had a great time.

The Grand Master's Ball is being upgraded to full blown Black Tie sit down dinner. Bro. **Jerry Piepiora** assures us that it will be a first class event and an excellent opportunity to spoil our ladies. Our goal is to allow you the Brethren to treat your Lady to a romantic evening of dining and dancing as a way of thanking her again for all of her support over the year. Final preparations are being made at the time of this printing.

*July 20 - 7:00 p.m. to midnight*

Once again Bro. **Rick Andrew** has agreed to take on the **John Coates Memorial Crab Feast** and once again if the price of crabs warrants taking out a mortgage on one's home, we'll have a seafood festival and pig roast. Rest assured that the Barn Yard Bingo players will not be disappointed and this event is scheduled to return as a part of the festivities.

*August 24 - 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

The **Oktoberfest** was a first for the Grand Lodge last year and those who attended had such a great time we will, by popular demand, be holding this event again. The food was wonderful and the Bavarian Band was nothing short of spectacular. This year there may even be a little added surprise for those of you who choose to join us. Bro. **Ron Belanger** for this one.

*October 26 - 7 p.m. to midnight*

At the time of this writing all programs are in their(cont. on page 6)



## Freestate Freemason

(From page 5) final stages of preparation. By the time the Grand Master holds his regional meetings in February tickets will be available for all of the functions listed below.

The Family Day Picnic and Harvest Homes Day are hosted by the Masonic Homes and are staples of the Grand Lodge schedule. The dedicated Brethren who plan and man these activities deserve our support and appreciation. Mark your calendars and make your plans now to attend as many of these events as you can. Good food, a good time and most importantly great fellowship can be found at any and all of these events. Come on out and join us!

*Submitted by Ronald G. Belanger*

### Pull-Tab Program

Brethren, the Pull-Tab program for the Ronald McDonald House is alive and doing well.

To date, due to your efforts, the Grand Lodge of Maryland has collected a total of 839 pounds of pull-tabs providing total revenue for the Ronald McDonald House of \$256.

For those of you that are not aware of this program and haven't been saving pull-tabs from soda-cans, beer-cans, etc. please consider this worthy effort. Throw them in a paper bag, or whatever you may have lying around and when you have saved a bag full send them or hand them to the Grand Secretary, Bro. **Jack Frazier**. Thanks!

### Promotion

During a program held at the Dundalk Community College on July 6, 2001, Bro. **Charles Burdette**, P.M. of Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116, and

recently appointed W. Sr. Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, received a promotion to Auxiliary Colonel in the Baltimore County Auxiliary Police program. Charlie has served 26 years with the Auxiliary, progressing through the ranks to head up this Unit and has contributed over 15,000 hours of volunteer service during that period.

During this service, he has received recognition and awards such as "Officer of the Year;" two Congressional "Certificates of Merit;" two "Governor's Volunteer Awards;" nine "Department and Auxiliary Police Appreciation Awards;" and, most recently, the "Chief of Staff's Award" from his predecessor, Colonel John Dietz, who retired May 1, 2001.

Charlie is well known around Grand Lodge and the Scottish Rite for his cheerful personality and dedicated and diligent approach to the fraternity. He also serves as Grand Inspector for the Grand Lodge.

The Baltimore County Auxiliary Unit is a trained, uniformed volunteer adjunct to the Baltimore County Police Department that was originally organized during World War II (1942).

The auxiliary unit requires that new members undergo an initial screening and successful completion of the Unit's recruit training program.

Currently in its 59th year, the Unit continues to serve the citizens of Baltimore County with the same level of commitment, integrity and professionalism that is expected of Members of the Department.

For more information on this Unit, they have a web site at [\[lice.org\]\(http://lice.org\), or talk to Bro. Charlie when the Grand Line visits your Lodge. He is always ready with a smile and a chat.](http://www.auxpo-</a></p></div>
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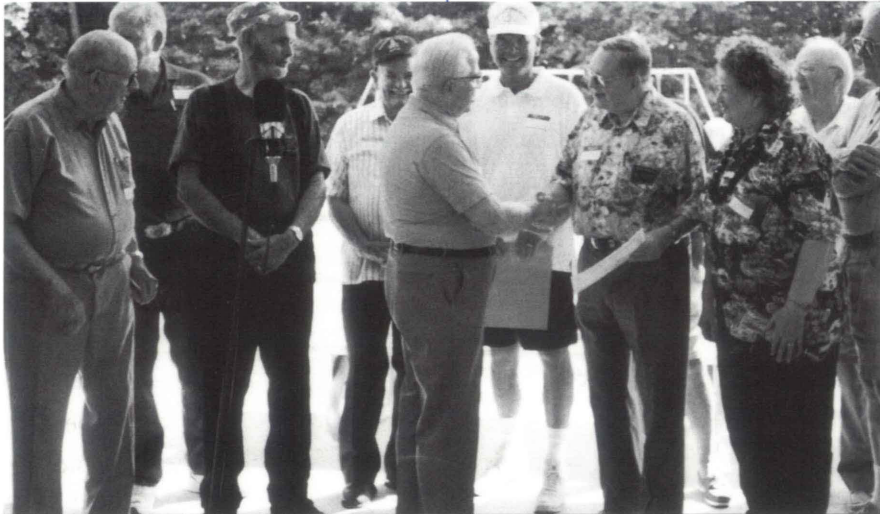
### Police Serving Lodges

The **Shield & Square Club Degree Team** is an extremely proud group. Five police officers that this team has raised, are presently serving as officers in their respective Lodges. They are: Bro. **Jim Hovis**, State Trooper, will serve as Junior Warden of **James W. Bowers No. 173** (*Jim was the very first Brother raised by this Degree Team*), Bro. **Ben Coppage**, State Trooper, will serve as Junior Warden of **Chester No. 115**, Bro. **Jeff Dean**, State Trooper, will serve as Senior Deacon of **Temple No. 128**, Bro. **Randy Taylor**, Deputy Sheriff, will serve as Junior Warden of **Esdraelon No. 176** and Bro. **Jackie Miller** Cumberland Police, will serve as Jr. Deacon of Ohr Lodge No. 131. Jackie traveled to Missouri with the Degree Team and was raised there in 2000.

Bro. **Robert Creech**, Anne Arundel Co. Police, is the new Worshipful Master of **Glen Burnie No. 213**. Bob is a member of the Degree Team but was not raised by them.

It is wonderful to see the dedication these young Masons have to their Lodges and to our fraternity. They juggle the demands of shift work in a difficult job in trying times, along with the needs of their families, yet still find time to devote to attending their Lodge rehearsals and meetings and to learning the required ritual necessary to arrive at these important chairs in their respective Lodges.

***Congratulations brethren!***



*During the picnic M.W. Bro. Bennie Owens presented a 60 year certificate to Bro. F. Roger Headley of Seat Pleasant Lodge.*

## Masonic Picnic

The **Southern Maryland Masonic Family picnic** was held on the 9th of Sept. for the 24th consecutive year. The Lodges of Southern Maryland alternate as the host lodge each year. All of the Eastern Star Chapters, the Job's Daughters' Bethels and the DeMolay Chapters in Southern Maryland also participate

This picnic is open to all, and many family and friends of our Masonic Families come to enjoy a day of fellowship and fun. There are paddleboat rides, horseshoes, balloon battles, and egg tosses for the young and old alike.

We were honored this year by a visit from **Grand Master** and **Mrs. Bennie G. Owens**. The Grand Master was delighted to present a 60-year certificate to **Bro. F. Roger Headley** of **Seat Pleasant Lodge**. **Oswald Lockard**, W.M. of Seat Pleasant, has for years towed his large cooker to the site and prepared the hamburgers and hot

dogs for over a hundred people.

Everything is free for those attending as the Lodges, Chapters and Bethels make donations each year, which pays for the site rental and food.

The picnic this year was held in memory of **Bro. Wally Zinn**, who for many years was the first to arrive and help set up and the last to leave after cleanup.

Come join the fun and fellowship the first Sunday after Labor Day each year. The picnic is held at the Gilbert Run Park on Route # 6 in Charles County.

*Submitted by H. Edward Potts, G.I.*

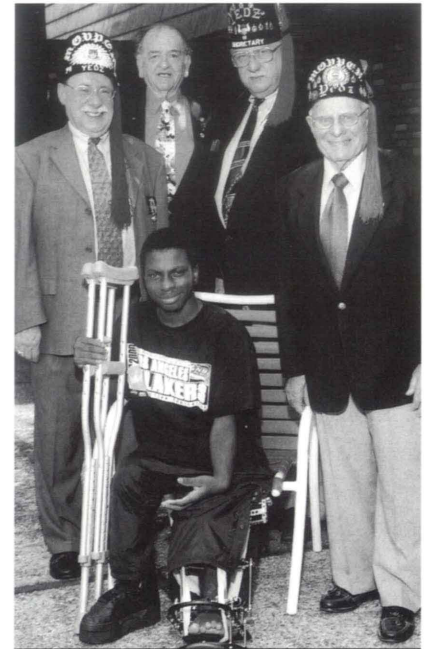
## Yedz Grotto

Yedz Grotto reaches out once again to help a youth with *Dentistry For the Handicapped Child* services funded by the Humanitarian Foundation.

On August 16, 2001, **George Miller** of Darlington, S.C. returned to Baltimore for a follow-up of his latest surgery and the members of Yedz sponsored a lunch for him and several family members to show their

continued support for his well being.

Through the tireless efforts of our Doctor of Smiles, **Baird I. Michelson**, P.M. and the generous contributions of the members of Yedz Grotto, we are once again able to "reach out and help someone" who is not able to enjoy a better quality of life.



*Left to right are Harold Schlossenberg, Past Monarch, Louis Citrenbaum, Murray Lilley, Secretary, and Nathan Schaffer, Past Monarch.*

## Boumi Temple News

**John R. Dunnigan, Sr.**

**Illustrious Potentate**

The Illustrious Potentate, Divan, and all Nobles of Boumi Temple extend greetings and best wishes for a prosperous and successful 2002.

This year's festivities began on Saturday, January 19 when the annual Unit Heads Installation and Dance was held at the Mosque. This was an excellent opportunity to witness all the Units in full uniform or costume.

Begin the year by (cont. page 8)



(From page 7) attending Boumi Temple's most elegant and spectacular party, the Potentate's Inaugural Show, Dinner, and Dance, to be held at Boumi Temple on Saturday, February 2.

Entertainment for this event will be "Ireland in Song," featuring Irish Classic, Inspirational Songs, Duets, and Broadway Show Tunes.

The Club Presidents and Officers will be honored and installed on Saturday, February 23rd during the annual Clubs' Night celebration at the Temple. As usual, all guests are cordially invited.

On Sunday, March 10, the annual **Bull and Oyster Roast** will be held at the Tall Cedars' Hall in Parkville. Ladies and guests are invited to attend and enjoy this special treat.

Illustrious Potentate John and First Lady Janice invite you and your friends to join them on a fabulous trip to the beautiful emerald isle of Ireland on May 10 to May 19.

First-class Hotel accommodations will include stops at Killarney, Waterford, Dublin, Galway and Ennis. Deluxe motor coaches will escort you throughout your vacation for transfers and tours. Make your reservations NOW!

The philanthropy of the Shrine of North America is the care and treatment of the crippled or burned child, and the Shriners Hospitals are always eager to learn of any child who is in need of this treatment.

If you know of such a child, please call the phone number listed below and you will be put in touch with the proper Nobles who will contact the family and set up an evaluation appointment. For infor-

mation concerning any of the above, please call the Boumi Temple office at 410 391-6400 - Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Bonnie Blink News

With the Grand Master's approval, four residents have formed a Bonnie Blink presentation group. Our mission is to visit any Lodge, OES chapter or other interested group who would like to know more about Bonnie Blink - our Maryland Masonic Homes; what housing is available, what services are offered and why we chose to take up residency on the "Hill."

This has been a worthwhile experience and we feel we have enlightened our sisters and brothers about Bonnie Blink and how you and your loved ones can become residents. We encourage all lodges and chapters to request a presentation. We bring slides, literature and personal knowledge of living here at Bonnie Blink.

I must commend the present group for their devotion and enthusiasm in learning the use of the equipment and the excellent presentations they have made - the Chapters and Lodges we have visited have welcomed us with open arms and really seemed pleased with the presentation. This experience has been very rewarding for me personally.

The presentations are free, just pick up your phone and call 410-527-1111 and ask for Paula in the Homes office. Paula will make all arrangements for a presentation to you or your lodge.

The Masonic Homes continues to be a busy and happy place - plenty to do, places to go, eating out, trips, and

people with whom to communicate.

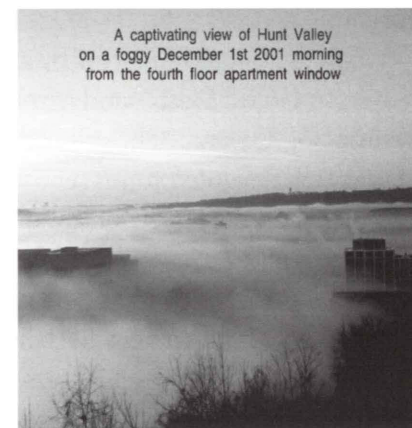
In addition to regular lodge meetings held, there is a Daylight Lodge. This lodge brings together Brothers who work at night, have difficulty attending night meetings of their parent lodge, or are retired and prefer to attend lodge during daylight hours. All Master Masons in good standing are invited, and encouraged to attend.

Daylight Lodge is held every second Tuesday morning of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the Roman Room, in the Grand Lodge Building.

Lunch is served after the meeting for \$5.00. With most Daylight Lodge meetings - ladies are invited to the luncheon and the topic of the day.

Our next meeting will be January 8, 2002 at 10:30 AM and will be an Open Installation of Officers. Wives, friends and family are invited.

One of our recent events was the annual Christmas Service in the Chapel. The Most Worshipful Grand Master **Bennie G. Owens** and his lovely wife, along with the Grand Line Officers, were present. The residents always appreciate the presence of the Grand Line Officers. Their procession into the chapel is inspiring and gives the residents the feeling and warmth of others caring.



A captivating view of Hunt Valley on a foggy December 1st 2001 morning from the fourth floor apartment window



*Left to right are Paul Seman, P.M. Baltimore No. 210 - Joseph W. Seman, Pawley's Island No. 409 - Joseph Seman, P.M. Baltimore No. 210 - David W. Bass, W.M., Pawley's Island No. 409 - Greg Seman, Baltimore No.210 - David Seman, Baltimore No. 210*

## Masonic Family

Bro. **Joseph Seman** was Worshipful Master of Baltimore Lodge No. 210 in 1982. During his lengthy time in the fraternity, he had the pleasure of raising four sons in Freemasonry - **David M. Seman, Greg A. Seman** and **Paul F. Seman**, P.M. of Baltimore No. 210 and most recently **Joseph W. Seman** of Pawleys Island Lodge No. 409.

Bro. Joseph Seman began a lengthy career as an apprentice machinist at the U.S. Coast Guard in Curtis Bay. He moved up the chain of command, finishing his career with the Navy Dept. as one of the top survey team leaders in their shipbuilding program. Hard work and effort to raise a family and devote time to a career and the Masonic fraternity are not always glamorous and the rewards are long term - his sons are thankful for the guidance of their parents and built their character based on the teachings of their parents.

On April 18th, 2000 Bro. Joseph raised son Joseph W. Seman in Pawleys Island Lodge No. 409.

Brother Joseph and his wife Genevieve retired following his 40-year career and moved to Port Charlotte, Florida where they continued to enjoy their leisure time activities together.

Son Paul, while reflecting upon his father's life, realizes just how fortunate he and his brothers were in having him as a father in company with their mother during a marriage that grew for 54 years.

Bro. Paul says the lessons in life that he taught them were by example and hard work. His love and devotion to his family and dedication to his Lodge enriched their lives. He was called from labor on April 24, 2000. But the values he instilled in us live on and we shall pass them on to others and live by them in our travels through life.

*Submitted by Paul F. Seman, P.M.*

## Scottish Rite

Bro. Hans Wilhelmsen extends his greetings and a wish for a very happy and prosperous New Year.

The Valley of Baltimore will begin the year with an Installation of Officers for the four bodies, on January 20 at 2:00 p.m. Reservations should be made by calling the Scottish Rite Office at 410 243-3200.

On January 27 at 2:00 p.m. Officers and members of the Scottish Rite will attend an open meeting to officially welcome Dr. Hans Wilhelmsen, our newly appointed Deputy to the Supreme Council for the Orient of Maryland. *Reservations are necessary.*

In April, class assembly will be held on April 17 at 7:00 p.m. Petitions for the Spring Class should be turned in to the Scottish Rite office prior to that date. The Scottish Rite Reunion will be held on April 27 with the conferral of the 30th and 32nd Degrees on that day.

The Ring Ceremony and Ladies Day will be held on May 5 at 2:00 p.m. Again, *reservations must be made through the Scottish Rite office* if you wish to attend. Ladies and guests are welcome.

## Special Night

Warren Lodge No. 51 will honor Bro. **Lunda Laird**, P.M., and Assistant Grand Chaplain, for birthday number ninety nine.

In addition, Bro. **Bennie G. Owens**, M.W.G.M., will present Bro. Laird his 70 year service award.

This event will take place

*(cont. on page 10)*



(from page 9) during a meeting in Warren Lodge on February 12, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. **Reservations are a must!**

Contact **Beth Kennedy** at Grand Lodge office or Bro. **Joel Davis**, W.M., of Warren Lodge or their secretary, Bro. **Vernon Huebschman**.

## Job's Daughters

Grand Master Owens paid a visit on 12/2/01 to Miss **Stephanie Bushman**, *Honored Queen*, during the Jobie's Reception of the Grand Guardian.



Grand Master Owens, Stephanie Bushman and our First Lady, Mrs. Ruth Owens are shown above. Miss Bushman is "Miss Congeniality" for 2001.



Mrs. **Vanasse Fowler**, Supreme Grand Guardian, International Order of Job's Daughters, and **Brother Bennie G. Owens**, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Maryland.



### Student Information:

*Timothy J. Finley, Huntingdon, Calvert High School, University of Maryland*  
*Jessie Ann Hyder, Dunkirk, Northern High School, University of Maryland*  
*William L. Porter, Prince Frederick, Calverton School, University of Maryland*  
*Charlotte A. Utterback, Lusby, Patuxent High School, Salisbury State*

## Scholarships

**Prince Frederick Lodge No. 42** awarded scholarships to four Calvert Co. students. **Timothy J. Finley**, **Jessie A. Hyder**, **William A. Porter**, and **Charlotte A. Utterback** were selected to receive the awards based on scholastic achievement, community involvement and financial need.

**Masonic Charities of Maryland** funded three of the scholarships. The other was funded by the Prince Frederick Lodge's own scholarship fund. Masonic Charities of Maryland awards scholarships annually to deserving students in every county in Maryland. In 2000, \$25,000 in scholarships was awarded.

**Prince Frederick Lodge** was chartered on May 10, 1869 and has been at its current location on Main St. since 1951. **Harold G. Taylor**, P.M., in the rear left of the picture, is

Worshipful Master of this Lodge. Their web site can be found at: [www.pfmasons.org](http://www.pfmasons.org).

Can anyone identify Santa Claus in the above picture? The first one to call in wins a free issue of the *Freestate Freemason*.

## Santa Claus

The Officers and brethren of **Prince Frederick Lodge #142** held their fourth annual Christmas celebration at the Holiday Inn Express in Prince Frederick.

This function has grown each year, to the point where close to 200 children visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus on December 8 and 9.

There were over 200 adults who passed through, over the two days. Each child received a photograph of their visit along with fruit and a candy cane. The Officers of the Lodge, through dispensation, (cont page 11)



(from page 10) were in Tuxedo, Jewels and Apron for the occasion and presented a very favorable impression to the public. Again, the members of the Lodge owe a debt of gratitude to P.M. Lawrence Wilson for his generosity in allowing them to use his place of business for this worthwhile endeavor.

Bro. **Mike O'Kelly** entertained the children and adults with his magic show while they waited their turn to sit on Santa's lap. There are talented men in this Lodge.

Following Saturday's Santa visit all the members retired to the Lodge where a Tai-Chi-Chuan wedding ceremony was performed on Santa and Mrs. Claus by Santa's North American Bro. **Gary Utterbach**, a Shaolin Priest. Deputy Grand Master **John A. Young, Jr.** and Mrs. Young were in attendance for this seldom-seen ritual.

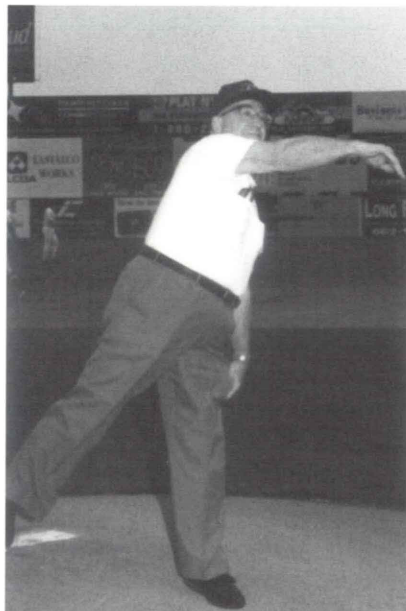
Southern Maryland Masonry is alive and well due to the efforts put forth by the Lodges and the generosity of their members.

*Long live this gentle craft.*

## Baseball in Bowie

Bro. **Bennie G. Owens**, M.W. Grand Master, accompanied by **Paul Camden**, DeMolay's State Master Councilor and Dr. **Diane Thornton**, Principal of the **C. Elizabeth Reig Special School** threw out the ceremonial first ball to start the baseball game between the **Bowie Baysox** and the **Akron Aeros** on Saturday, August 19, 2001.

The evening started with dinner in the Pavilion. Sixty-five Masons,



*Grand Master Owens throws out the first pitch - steeeeeeri!!!!ike!*

family and friends enjoyed burgers, hot dogs, chicken, beans, potato salad, watermelon, iced tea and lemonade. A number of guests were observed bellying up to the serving tables more than once. I must admit that I was with them until the food was removed. It was very tasty.

After the Grand Master completed his assigned mission, the Baysox and the Aeros took to the field and gave the crowd an evening of entertaining (?) baseball. Behind 3 to 0, a Baysox player tried to make a double into a triple. OOUUT by a mile. So the game went. When it was over, the Baysox had lost 5 to 0. The fireworks after the game were great as usual and everyone went home, having had a delicious meal, an exciting baseball game and some loud boomers.

The C. Elizabeth Reig School will again receive a donation from the efforts of Bowie's Collington Lodge

#230 and the brethren of Masonry.

*Submitted by Robert Madel, P.M.*

## Service Awards

Bro. **Bennie G. Owens**, M.W.G.M. and Grand Line Officers attended **Silver Spring Lodge No. 215** to present 50 year-service awards.

This was an historical night for Silver Spring Lodge, for assisting Grand Master Owens and presenting the 50-Year pins was Past Master **John B. Nutter**. The 50-Year pins John was presenting went to Brothers **Joel S. Steel** and **Gustavus R. Gray, Jr.**, the very two he had raised to Master Mason while he was Worshipful Master in 1951.

Past Master Nutter was unanimously elected to receive the title of "Worshipful Master Emeritus" for 2001 in honor of his 50 years as a Past Master of Silver Spring Lodge.

On January 8, 2001, by dispensation of Grand Master Owens, Bro. Nutter installed Donald B. Gatling a



*Past Master Nutter and Gatling*

Worshipful Master of Silver Spring Lodge. This will be a memorable occasion for both, because when Bro. Gatling, as a teenager, was active in the Silver (cont. on page 12)



(from page 11) Spring Chapter of the Order of DeMolay in the late 1950s. Bro. Nutter served as the "DeMolay Dad" of the Chapter. Bro. Nutter attends all of the Lodge Stated Communications and actively assists the Worshipful Master with all Lodge rituals.

The illustrious Silver Spring group are pictured on the right.

## Long Term Care

You have worked hard for your financial independence. You're planning for a comfortable retirement. But what would happen if you or your spouse would need home health care or nursing home care? More than half of the U.S. population will require Long-Term Care in their lifetime and the average cost of nursing home care is \$50,000 per year.

We at Blue Lodge Services, Inc. offer Long-Term Care Insurance exclusively to Maryland Masons and their families. The program is offered with group rate discounts and the premiums may receive favorable treatment from both Federal and State income tax.

Please contact us for information without obligation. Only brother Masons will be responding to your inquiry. Thank you.

## Regrets

We are sorry to report that Bro. **George W. Lacey, III**, Worshipful Master of **Charity Lodge No. 134** and Asst. Grand Organist and Past Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, was struck and killed in a head-on motor-vehicle accident on Saturday, January 12, 2002.



Left to right: John B. Nutter, P.M., Gustavus R. Gray, Jr., P.M., Jack R. Frazier, Grand Secretary, Joel S. Steel, P.M. W. Frank Soper, Jr., Grand Inspector and M.W. Bro. Bennie G. Owens, Grand Master, gather in Silver Spring Lodge.



Bro. John Young, R.W.D.G.M., and his crew of volunteers, man the telephones and computers at the Maryland Public Television Station, channel 67, on December 9, to assist in the station's pledge drive. This is the second time that members of the Grand Lodge of Maryland performed this task. They have been invited back again in June. Call R.W. Bro. **John Young** to join the group.

## Maryland Masonic Homes

Should you consider Bonnie Blink as your retirement Home? You Bet!

The comfort of knowing your neighbors are Brothers and Sisters who truly care about you.

Spacious, beautiful, cozy dining

rooms on every level of care with wait-ress service. Numerous lounges, day rooms and beautiful grounds to stroll.

Our location! A magnificent stone facility on a mountain overlooking the beautiful Hunt Valley/Towson area of Baltimore County. Convenient to shopping, golfing, transportation, hotels, etc.. (cont. on page 13)



(from page 12) A complete continuum of care from Independent Apartments to Assisted Living to Long-Term Nursing Home needs at competitive rates.

Masonic and Eastern Star activities and fellowship on grounds.

Activity level is high. Shopping, sightseeing, eating out, and much more.

For three hundred years the Masons have supported one another in America. Our mission continues this tradition.

Shop around, but then call us.

410 527-1111

**This is your home - Welcome.**

## Rededication

In the aftermath of the events of September 11, 2001, our society today needs Freemasonry as much if not more than ever. We Freemasons are builders and we need to pick up our Masonic tools and renew our labor for the future of Freemasonry and the principles it upholds. Edmund Burke, a British statesman who was sympathetic with the American colonies at the time of the Revolution said: "The only thing that has to happen in this world for evil to triumph, is for good men to do nothing." That thought has never been more true than at present.

The mood of an age is revealed in many ways - through its music, its literature, and its art, through the movies and TV. A hundred years ago we used to say, "Do your best", and now too many say, "Take it easy." We need to return to doing our best. The motto used to be, "Save for a rainy day." Now it is, "Enjoy now, tomorrow will take care



## Friend to Friend Sporting Clay Shoot

Bro. **Frank Wilburn**, W.M. of **Centennial Lodge no. 174**, reports on a unique concept his Lodge uses to have fun and to place their Lodge in front of possible candidates. Bro. **Ken Wyvill**, P.M., came up with the idea of holding a "Friend to Friend Sporting Clay Pigeon Shoot." The Lodge has been repeating this event for three years and it is still going strong. All in attendance enjoyed great fellowship, great food, and some great shooting.

In addition that evening, **Earl Houghton**, P.M. was presented his 50-year pin by **Norman Broyles**, G.I. **Larry Philpott**, P.M., accompanied by his daughter **Gwynn** and **Stan Temple**, P.M. were presented their Past Master's aprons by Worshipful Master Milburn.

On May 4, 2001 Centennial no. 174 celebrated their Lodge's 124 birthday. They honored their "Special Ladies" (widows) that evening. Twelve attended and were introduced by **Carl Todd**, W.G.S.B.. and chairman of the "Widows Program." **Marlboro O.E.S. Chapter no. 61** served a great meal.

On May 11, 2002 Centennial Lodge intends to celebrate their 135 birthday with a gala celebration. Their committee is presently planning this event.

of itself." We need to retreat from a plastic money economy. Never has there been a greater need for men of quality and character as we take up the challenges of the future. We must again begin to live in deeds, not years; in thought, not in markings on a dial.

The future will definitely bring changes and the question is, "Are we ready to meet them?" We are if we are ready to make our future happen and not just let it happen. That will require rededication to the Masonic principle of service. What Freemasonry will have to offer

future generations depends on us. The brethren who have preceded us have completed their labors and it is time for us present brethren to begin or to renew our labors to carry our legacy forward. So today I challenge each and every Maryland Master Mason to get behind your Worshipful Master, to give him your total support and truly rededicate yourself to our "Gentle Craft." By so doing, Freemasonry will not yet have seen its finest hour nor will have America.

*Submitted by Carl Todd, DGL, W.G.S.B.*



## Masonic Square Bears

Brethren, Thank you for your participation in this program. It is a very good way to get your Lodge's name out into the community.

To date, 2000 bears have been distributed to Maryland Lodges and Maryland Masons within and out of the state. Several retired brothers who now reside in other states have requested and received bears and have distributed them in their communities.

The Masonic Square Bears will speak for themselves once they have been distributed to some frightened, or abused child, but we must first get them to those agencies who must attend to these children in time of their greatest need. Brethren it is up to you to spread the word, Masons Care, throughout your communities.

*Bears Named Barry & Becky  
Bring Cheer to Little Ones.*

This letter comes from an Emergency Medical Technician in Wisconsin. I hope it will generate even greater efforts to spread the comfort that Masonic Square Bears bring to children in times of need:

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is **Becky Bear**. My twin brother is **Barry**. We are two bears that you sent to join the Hustiford E.M.S. We wanted to thank you for making us members of their squad.

Barry and I were warmly greeted and accepted as the newest members. We were able to do some training, and got to know the members quite well. We rode along in the squad several times. We enjoyed the

ride-alongs. We watched each crew as they carefully took care of each patient. We were beary patient as we waited for our chance to go to work.

Late one afternoon our opportunity arrived. The call was for a little three-year old boy. You would have been proud of Barry. He volunteered before I even had a chance. The little boy was so sick he couldn't even talk. Barry rode with him to hospital, and stayed next to him through the whole thing.

That night I sat in the rig all alone. I was happy for Barry. He was adopted by a little three-year old that really needed him. I waited for my chance.

After months of training and waiting, my chance to be adopted happened the very next day. A little girl had darted into traffic and was hit by a vehicle. She was very seriously hurt. They moved her from one hospital to another one. I was beary glad to be there to help her whenever she got scared.

We just wanted you to know we were both happily adopted. *Bear hugs are beary good medicine.*

Thank you,  
**Barry and Becky Bear**

P.S. We understand that you sent **Brent and Brenda** to be our replacements. I'm sure the Hustiford E.M.S. will find them wonderful kids too!

For information on this very worthwhile project call **Glen Clary**, at 410-721-1375 or write to him at:

2532 Cheval Drive,  
Davidsonville, Md. 21035.

or by Email [CACL29@JUNO.COM](mailto:CACL29@JUNO.COM)

*Thanks again for your participation!*



## Masonic Family # 2

Brother **Walter C. Stark** of **Odenton No. 209** sends us the above picture of his grandfather, **John Lathan Caskey** seated in the front row right, and his brother **Will Caskey** in the back row right. It was taken when they were raised to Master Mason at Lancaster or Camp Creek, S.C. It was thought to have been taken in the late 1920s or early 1930s. The exact date is unknown.

Six of Bro. Caskey's sons later became Master Masons. His only daughter, **Margaret E. Stark**, mother of Bro. **Walter Stark**, is a member of O.E.S. **Chapter No. 29**.

## Masonic Plates

Display your Masonry Brethren! You, as a Master Mason, are entitled to display **Masonic license plates** on any automobile or pickup that is titled in Maryland in your name, or in your name and someone else's name.

Take the opportunity to proudly display the *Square and Compasses* as you travel on the highways and byways. Contact Bro. (cont. page 15)



Anyone care to try a little "Barnyard Bingo?" No reports on who won the contest but here is our Grand Master giving it a go. See Rick Andrew for pertinent details.



Kemp Lodge participates in Iron Rail Days at Mount Savage on Oct. 20 & 21. Charles F. Schelble, W.M. and Leon Conner, M.M. portraying "Uncle Sam" at the booth the Lodge maintained, selling Chili and Apple Dumplings.

(from page 14) **Ray Vogel** via the Grand Lodge office to obtain an application. Fill it out, include your check in the proper amount, and mail them to Grand Lodge, attention Ray Vogel. In a few short weeks you will have a sharp looking set of Masonic plates to adorn your car or pickup.

## Ritual Competition

Congratulations are in order to the line officers of **Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44**, who captured *first place* in the *ritual competition* for 2001 and to

the line officers of **Door to Virtue Lodge No. 46** who were the *second place* winners. We extend congratulations to the line officers of all Lodges that participated in last year's competition. They all exemplified competitive spirit. The competition was very close, with only a few points separating the teams.

Bro. **Ed Kraft, G.L.**, is ready for **you** and **your Lodge** to sign up for the **Ritual Competition of 2002**. Contact him now to enter your Lodge. He plans to begin this year's



Charles Schelble, W.M. of Kemp Lodge, receives a trophy for participation in the Labor Day Parade. Making the presentation is Gerad McGann, President of Mount Savage Volunteer F.D. Kemp Lodge stays very active in community activities.

competition around the end of March or the first part of April.

Having observed quite a bit of ritualistic work during the past year, he knows there are other Lodges out there that are well equipped to compete. He hopes *they* will consider entering this year.

## Regional Meetings

**Regional Meetings for 2002** will commence in **February**. All sessions will begin at **9:00 a.m.**, with coffee and doughnuts served at 8:30 a.m.

The first session will be held on **February 2** in **Grand Lodge**. On **February 9** it will be held in **Camp Springs**. On **March 2**, the location will be **Cambridge Lodge** and on **March 9** in **Mt. Ararat Lodge**. The final session will be held in **Hagerstown Lodge No. 217** on **March 23**.

Grand Master Owens looks forward to meeting and greeting you during the meetings.

# Maryland Masonic Calendar



## February 2002

- 02 Regional Meeting in Grand Lodge - 9:00 a.m.
- 09 Regional Meeting in Camp Springs Lodge No. 227 - 9:00 a.m.

## March 2002

- 02 Regional Meeting in Cambridge Lodge No. 66 9:00 a.m.
- 09 Regional Meeting in Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 Bel Air 9:00 a.m.
- 23 Regional Meeting in Hagerstown Lodge No. 217 9:00 a.m.
- 31 Easter Sunrise Service Masonic Homes Chapel

## April 2002

- 21 Bull and Oyster Roast - 2:00 p.m. thru 6:00 p.m.

## May 2002

- 19 Semi-Annual Communion - Dinner 6:30 p.m.

## June 2002

- 15 Family Day at Maryland Masonic Homes 11:00 a.m. thru 5:00 p.m.

## July 2002

- 04 Fireworks - Grand Lodge 7:00 p.m. thru 10:00 p.m.
- 20 Grand Master's Ball

## August 2002

- 24 Grand Lodge Crab Feast

## September 2002

- 21 Harvest Homes Day
- 28 Grand Lodge trip to Nova Scotia

## Luncheons

High Twelve Guild Luncheon is held in the Grand Lodge Ball Room on the second Tuesday of each month following the Daylight Lodge meeting at 12:00 noon.

Cost \$5.00.

and

on the second Thursday following the Daylight Chapter meeting at 12 noon.

Cost \$5.00

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