

Winter 2003

2003 Grand Line Officers

M.W. Grand Master - John A. Young, Jr. - 145 R.W. Deputy Grand Master - Ronald G. Belanger - 227 R.W. Senior Grand Warden - R. Gary Pierce - 125 R.W. Junior Grand Warden - Wayne C. Penley, Sr. - 116 R.W. Grand Secretary - Jack R. Frazier - 215 R.W. Grand Treasurer - Wm. Raymond Bosley - 146 W. Grand Marshal - William D. Hooper - 202 W. Grand Chaplain - Leslie G. Metcalf - 181 W. Senior Grand Deacon - Jeffrey L. Sherman - 145 W. Junior Grand Deacon - Jesse M. Mills - 173 W. Senior Grand Steward - Douglas A. Lauf, Jr. - 116 W. Junior Grand Steward - Jonathan S. King - 44 W. Grand Standard Bearer - George E. Ward - 147 W. Grand Sword Bearer - Angel A. Paraoan - 231 W. Grand Pursuvant - Charles Winebrenner - 3 W. Grand Director of Ceremonies - Michael Sirk - 223 W. Grand Tyler - Milton H. Arrington - 68 Worshipful Grand Lecturer - Edward B. Kraft - 189 W. Grand Organist - Ronald L. Unger - 165 W. Grand Chaplain Emeritus - Lunda W. Laird - 51 Assistant Grand Chaplain - Elwood L. Ulmer - 123 Assistant Grand Tyler - Richard H. Uren - 13

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

From the Grand Master—

MASONRY FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

My Brethren,

Thank you for your show of confidence by electing me as your Grand Master. It is an honor beyond comprehension to serve you in this most honorable office. I pledge to serve you and the Grand Lodge of Maryland to my fullest capability.

The members of the 216th Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge elected a strong team of Masonic craftsmen to work together, move the Grand Lodge forward, and begin the arduous task of earning your confidence and trust. We will demonstrate, by deed not word, that your interests and concerns are valuable to this office. I sincerely hope to have your support of my "One Family" program. For without your support, no Grand Master's program can or will survive.

My vision of this Grand Lodge is one of a constant forward movement, while leaning heavily upon a strong Masonic history. We can make those changes to the fraternity that will not alter our basic beliefs and traditions. We need however to demonstrate a twenty-first century mentality and attract new members from other generations. Your input, thoughts, words of confidence or even criticism are welcome. My only request is that you also offer alternatives to our program. I can not move this fraternity ahead alone, and I do not consider myself the holder of all wisdom. I need you, my Brother, to help me. We have less time to accomplish our goals than one might suppose. Together we can build this fraternity.

There are many subordinate Lodges within our jurisdiction who seek our help. They need assistance with finances, membership, obtaining line officers, ritual instructors, and the list goes on. We have *(continued on page 3)*



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.

Seymour H. Lipshitz, P.S.G.D. Founding Editor

John R. Biggs, Jr., R.W.P.S.G.W.
Editor
1222 Walker Road
Freeland, MD 21053
410 329-6665 telephone
410 329-6664 Fax
MSPAA@comcast.net
Asst. Editor Harry Scott

Send articles to the Editor Deadlines for submitting articles & information for publica-

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Grand Lodge of Maryland
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, MD 21030
410-527-0600 tel
410-527-1276 fax
email: glmaryland@erols.com
Web http://freemasonry.
org/maryland/gl

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Editorial

It is widely recognized that we are not attracting enough good young men, but worse yet, many of those 40 and under that do petition our Lodges are often not active. The average age of members of our Fraternity is becoming very old, even elderly. This is in contrast with that of the population of the United States where the average age is still very much in their prime productive years.

When a 45 year old man petitions the Fraternity, he is considered a young man. In a corporate environment, a man 45 years of age would be considered established.

Our members are not replacing themselves - which causes our overall membership to decline. If this trend continues, we will cease to exist.

One of the strongest assets we have in our Fraternity is the experience and knowledge we gain from our active members. However, will we still be able to rely on them in the year 2020? It is for this reason that we need to find ways to attract and retain those men who will most likely be active at that time - men who are currently under the age of 40.

We also realize that there are other demands on their time at this period of their lives. We hope that once their children are grown, careers are developed, and other demands lessen, that they will become active and productive members of the Craft.

The need to improve communications with our members and keep us connected in the 21st century, nourish our youth organizations, and a desire to bring more fun into Masonry are steps in the right direction. Other ideas that could be developed include training of Masons, advertising, and the public visibility of Masons, and the fine work that is accomplished by this fraternity.

The latter is to be the prime focus of M.W. Bro. John A. Young, Jr., our new Grand Master. Toward this goal, he has two committees that are available to assist you and your Lodge; the *Committee on Public Relations*, and the *Committee on Membership*. While it would be wonderful if these committees could, in one year, make sweeping changes to solve all of our problems, certainly we realize that will never be possible.

It is the goal of these committees to work with you and your Lodge in creating ideas to attract and retain younger members. The plan is to offer a variety of ideas to the lodges. This will allow each lodge to pick from a menu of good ideas that will be well received by younger men and Masons. We hope these ideas will come from you and your Lodge.

Lodges are needed to step to the plate, work with these committees, and volunteer to host an effort to publicize the worthiness of our fraternity, and why it is a viable and desirable fraternity to belong to.

Are you ready to assist in these most important endeavors?

John R. Biggs, Editor

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(continued from page 1) many problems in our subordinate Lodges; I prefer to call them opportunities to solve. It is my sincere belief that working together, and using the brain power we possess, nothing is beyond our ability to accomplish the goals we have set.

I am reviewing the needs of the Worshipful Grand Lecturer to insure the purity of our ritual, the needs of our anticipated candidates who have a limited time divided among home, occupation, and Lodge, and the ability of our Lodges to attract new members. What will be the final result of the meetings we will conduct may foretell the future of this Grand Lodge. We have many difficult questions to answer; hopefully the answers will be for the ultimate good of the fraternity.

John A. Young, Jr., M.W.G.M.

Channel 67

On August 11, 2002 at 6:30 p.m., the following brethren assembled at the broadcast studio of Maryland Public Television (channel 67) to answer the telephones and record pledges during the station's pledge drive.

Upon arrival, the brethren were given an excellent buffet dinner and a briefing as to what to expect during the evening.

At approximately 8 p.m. the following brethren, in tuxedos, jewels and aprons, filed into the studio to perform their duties for



Volunteers at Channel 67 - Maryland Public Broadcasting from left to right: John R. Biggs, D.G.L.A.L; George E. Ward, W.G.Std..B.; LeAnne Kamish, Channel 67's Master of Ceremonies for the evening, and John Lister, W.P.G. Marshal

the evening: Bennie G. Owens, M.W.G.M. John A. Young, Jr. R.W.D.G.M.; Jack R. Frazier, R.W.G.S.; George T. Weisbecker, R.W.S.G.W.; John Lister, G. Mar.; William Ernst, G. Pursuvant; Carl Baker; John R. Biggs; Teddy Barkley; John Brittingham; Steven Dean; John Hooks; Leslie Isaacs; Melvin Mason; Thomas Velvin; Wayne McKenna; Oswald Kinat; Murray Lilley; Wayne Penley; Gerald Piepiora; Al Schuele: David Schneider: Edward Ward; Craig Wehrle; Ray Wilner and Charles Winebrenner.

Regional Meetings

This year the schedule for our Regional Meetings is as follows: February 1 - Mt. Ararat No. 44 February 8 - Grand Lodge March 1 - Hagerstown No. 217 March 8 - Centennial No. 174 March 15 - Centennial No. 221 March 22 will be used as a snow date should any meeting be cancelled due to bad weather.

All Lodge officers and interested

Masons should strive to attend. Communication is the life blood of all organizations, more especially this of ours.

Grand Master Young looks forward to greeting <u>you</u> during these important meetings, and earnestly solicits your input.

Function of a Lodge

It is not the primary function of Masonry to initiate candidates, or to enlarge its membership. Were it so, there would be no basis for our laws against proselytizing. The ordinary function of a Masonic Lodge, indeed, the primary function of our Craft, is to train its members to an understanding of the truths which its ritual and its ceremonies are calculated to inculcate, to develop its members as benevolent men, to cultivate the social virtues among men, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

The chief concern of the Lodge is with its welfare, the happiness, (continued on page 4)

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(Continued from page 3) and the Masonic development of its members, not with the admission of those who seek entrance at its doors.

Its success as a Masonic Lodge cannot be gauged by the length of its membership roll or by the size of its accumulated funds.

The beauty of our ritual, and the good fellowship among the members of our Lodges cannot be conserved when the chief aim is to gain members and money, for a man's life consists not in the abundance of things which he possesses and a Lodge's life does not consist in its acquisitions, but in the contributions which it makes to civilization and society through the influence of those whom it has helped to train to what we call Masonic character. Therefore, it should be the duty of every Masonic Lodge to put in action a plan for the education of its members in Masonic history, symbolism and philosophy, devoting more of its meetings to this much neglected function. Dec. 2001 issue of Masonry in Manitoba.

As iron is eaten away by rust, so the envious are consumed by their own passions. -Antisthenes

Scottish Rite

This year the Scottish Rite in Maryland will honor Ill. Brother William O. Devilbiss, Jr., 33° by dedicating the spring class to the memory of this distinguished brother.

For those interested in pursuing further light in Masonry, on Wednesday, April 2, 2003 at 6:00 p.m., the Scottish Rite Valley of Baltimore will commence their Spring Class by balloting on petitions. On April 9 the 4° and 14° will be conferred. Maundy Thursday will be celebrated on April 17 and the 18° will be conferred on April 23. Spring Reunion Day will be held on Saturday April 26, beginning with the conferral of the 21°, the 30° and ending the day with conferral of the 32°.

Saturday will begin at 6:30 a.m. with coffee and doughnuts and registration of candidates. Promptly at 9:00 a.m. the Degree conferrals will begin, ending with the 32° shortly after lunch.

Take advantage of this great opportunity to become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason. Contact your Lodge Diplomat for further information on this. For other Scottish Rite events, please contact the Scottish Rite office Monday through Friday during the hours of 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. at 410 243-3200.

York Rite

A special two-day class is being scheduled for the Chapter and Council Degrees on Saturday, February 22, 2003. Plans are being discussed to confer the Order of Malta in full form.

Bro. Keith Brown, Grand Commander of Knights Templar, advises that Dr. Hans Wilhelmsen, 33°, and Deputy to the Supreme Council, A.A.S.R., has petitioned the York Rite. If you are interested in petitioning this class, contact Richard Naegele at 410 665-5947 for further details.

Iron Worker Drama

In many Masonic Temples throughout the world, one will most likely find hanging on the wall a lithograph of "King Solomon and the Ironworker." How does this incident fit in with Masonry? When did it happen? Why did it happen? What was the result? In The Holy Bible and our Masonic Lectures, we learn that "there was not heard the sound of axe, hammer, or any tool of iron on or about the building." This picture comes alive as this drama unfolds as a "Masonic Degree" in full regalia under the auspices of the Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers.

As a member of the "U.C.C. of E.", you would be entitled to witness this Drama which teaches the "The Dignity of Labor."

The Universal Craftsmen Council of Engineers was organized as a national body in 1903 by a group of "Masonic Engineers" for the better education, improvement and elevation of engineers (consulting, electrical, chemical, chief, operating), master mechanics and craftsmen of all trades. Membership is open to all Master Masons who work with (continued on page 5)



(Continued from page 4) tools, supervise, or design the work of tools, or furnish tools and materials.

Euclid Council No. 14 of Maryland was chartered in 1905 and has been revitalized as an important part of the Heritage of Maryland Masonry. The Council has monthly meetings, usually on a fifth week night date so it will not conflict with lodge meetings. Often, it will include a tour of a local industry, such as one we are having at the Allison Transmission plant in White Marsh.

All Councils of U.C.C. of E. award scholarships to sons, grandsons, daughters and granddaughters of members in good standing.

In addition, they conduct an "employment service" to help Master Masons find employment, or are in search of Masons to employ.

As a Master Mason who uses tools in his daily life or trade, whether it be tools of iron or the computer that commands today's work-load, you are invited to join Euclid Council No. 14.

The Iron Worker Drama will be conferred on Saturday, May 31, 2003 at the I.O.O.F. Hall, 7801 Bradshaw Road, in Upper Falls, MD which is halfway between U.S. 1 (Kingsville) and Route 40 (Joppatown). The Initiation Fee is \$50.00, which includes your dinner on May 31st. and your first year's dues. You may also be received in the

Council prior to that date in order to take advantage of our factory tours. For information and applications, please contact the Secretary, Brother Edward A. Foreman, Jr., 40 Lyndale Avenue, Baltimore, MD, 21236, or phone 410-661-0139, or by email: efore@erols.com.

Exclusive

When a Masonic Lodge burned down, the Lodge received permission to hold their meetings in a local hotel while the new building was under construction.

One meeting night, a guest was registering at the front desk. "Who are those guys with the aprons on?" he asked the clerk.

"Oh, those are the Masons," the clerk told him.

"I have heard of them; they are pretty exclusive, aren't they?"

The clerk leaned across the desk and told him, "Exclusive? I'll say! You see that one with the sword in his hand? He has been knocking on the door for the past five months, and they haven't let him inside yet!"

The world belongs to the enthusiast who keeps cool. -William McFee

Picnic

Over two hundred people attended this twenty-fifth anniversary Southern-Maryland style picnic, which was held at Gilbert Run Park on September 8, 2002. The picnic was in remembrance of P.M. Rupert C.

King of Thomas J. Shryock Lodge No. 223, who in 1977 started this annual event.

The picnic, open to all who wish to attend, is hosted on a rotating basis by the Lodges in Southern Maryland.

All Eastern Star Chapters, Job's Daughters Bethels, DeMolay Chapters, the Scottish Rite Valley of Southern Maryland, and Blue Lodges in the area contribute financial assistance and manpower to make this event the success it has been over the years. It is free to all who wish to attend.

We have been privileged to welcome Grand Masters and their ladies, Grand Line Officers, and other dignitaries to the festivities. Bro. Bennie Owens, P.G.M. and his lady Ruth made it a point to drive up from Virginia Beach after the Shrine convention to participate in this event.

Kudos to Bro. Carl Todd, P.M. and Secretary, Bro. Ivory "Ike" Purser, P.M., Treasurer; the members of the committee who labor for this day of fellowship year after year, and especially to Bro. Oswald Lockard who each year transports his large trailer-mounted cooker to the site, and spends hours slaving over a hot stove.

I hope those whom I have not mentioned will forgive me because you are too numerous to mention, but you know who you are and you are appreciated by all.

H. Edward Potts, W.P.J.G.D.



Pull-Tab Program

From January 16, 2002 through December 14, 2002 the Masonic Family, their friends and neighbors, contributed 960 pounds of pull-tabs to the Ronald McDonald House program. This was a monetary value of \$288.91, just for saving pull-tabs from soft drink or other similar cans.

Thanks to your efforts the McDonald House will be able to use this money to purchase food, furniture, clothing, and provide housing to those needy persons who have friends and relatives in the hospital.

The contributions, made through the efforts of Masons, have earned the Grand Lodge a place on the list of contributors to the Ronald McDonald House. Thank you brethren.

John A. Young, Jr. Grand Master

Chair Plaques

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

Tree of Life

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

The Chair Plaques, and the Tree



The 5th Annual St. Columba Lodge No. 150 Open Golf Tournament was held on June 3, 2002 at Wicomico Shores. The tournament raised \$2000.00 for the Relay for Life Cancer Fund. Presenting the Plaque to the winning team, from left to right is: Bob Pine, Chairman; Jerry Simms; Lenny Painter; Andy Anderson, Secretary; Tom Barksdale, and Kip McConnell, W. M., assisted in the presentation. St. Columba Lodge wishes to thank our sponsors for their support.



On Sunday, November 10, Saint Columba Lodge No. 150 dedicated a new flagpole and flag in honor of the Veterans of the Lodge. The flag used in the dedication was flown over the U.S. Capitol. Pictured from left to right are: William Macpherson; Kip McConnell; Ben Parker; Shawn McConnell; Henry L. Pierce, III; Ray Cuerveo; Brad Vittrup and Keith Vivian. Back row from the left: Al Thomas; Lenny Painter; Jerry Simms and Dennis Tucker. Members then participated in the Veterans Day Parade in the town of LaPlata. The original founding of the Lodge is about 1750 in Port Tobacco. Keith Vivian, P.M.

of Life leaves, cost only \$200.00 each. This provides you with up to four lines on either with twenty-one characters per line. What a wonderful way to remember someone.

Call **Ray Vogel** at the Grand Lodge during their normal business hours at **410 527-0600** to make

arrangements. Call now - don't delay!

Hospital Beds Available

Bonnie Blink, our Masonic Homes, has upgraded their hospital beds (continued on page 7)

P.M. and Bro

(Continued from page 6) to electric controlled models. As a result of this upgrade, thirty "crank-up" hospital beds are now available for use by any member of the fraternity that has a need of one. Contact the Masonic Homes Administrator at 410 527-1111 should you be able to utilize one. No cost involved to members of the fraternity that have a real need for such a device.

Harvest Homes Coins

The Grand Lodge has just received a shipment of September 21, 2002 Harvest Home Day coins.

They will be on sale to anyone interested in them, from the Grand Lodge office for the price of \$2.00 a coin, plus postage if mailed. If you desire, they can be placed on your credit card for ease of purchase. In addition, we also have Harvest Home Day coins available from prior years upon request. Same price, same agreement. Call the Grand Lodge office at 410 527-0600.

New Appointment

Bro. Bennie G. Owens, 33°, P.G.M., has been appointed Personal Representative for the Orient of Maryland, A.A.S.R. Southern Jurisdiction.

This appointment was previously held by Bro. B. Hope Harrison, 33°, P.G.M. Bro. Hope had held this position since 1996 and recently resigned.

Masonic License Plates

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

You do not have to wait for your renewal of license plates. Call Ray Vogel at 410 527-0600 to find out how it works and how easy it is to put them on your vehicle. Ray is available



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Master Mason

during normal Grand Lodge business hours during the week. Be proud of your fraternity and display these plates on your car this year.

Service Awards

During the October 14 meeting of Fort Cumberland Lodge No. 211, five members were honored for their years of service to our fraternity.

Bro. J.W. Cochrane, G.I., presented four brothers with Fifty-Year service awards and one brother, a sixty-year award.

While fifty or sixty years of membership is quite an achievement in itself, several of the brothers receiving the pins had more unique reasons to feel honored. Two of the members receiving their fifty-year awards, Bro. Don Brakeall, P.M. and Bro. Charles Brakeall, are brothers and became Master Masons in 1952.

Fifty-year member and Tyler of Fort Cumberland Lodge, Bro. Ralph Buser, received his pin from his son, the current Worshipful Master of Fort Cumberland Lodge, R. Jeffrey Buser. Bro. Paul Angle received his sixty-year award, and Bro. Karl Kolb, his fifty-year award.

In addition to their Service Award pins and certificates, each brother also received a gift from the Lodge. After the meeting, refreshments were served and the brethren caught up on old times. *R. Jeffrey Buser, W.M.*

Wild Game Night

On April 5, 2002, Harmony Lodge No. 53, Port Deposit, hosted their 30th Annual Wild Game Dinner. The dinner was held at the Lodge, located at 1510 Tome Highway. The meal consisted of venison roast, venison chops, bear meat, bear chili, goose, muskrat, wild turkey, pheasant, wild boar, Bro. Lou Peterson's famous Snapping Turtle soup, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, and assorted pies and cake. What a feast!

This event has become a much anticipated dinner with 102 brothers from MD, DE, NJ, and PA attending this year. A brother came from as far away as Ontario, Canada to attend this event.

Carl Wiggins, W.M., received R.W. Bro. (continued on page 8)



(Continued from page 7) John Young, then D.G.M., and M.W. Bro. Bennie G. Owens, 2002 Grand Master of Maryland, and M.W. Bro. James Russell, 2002 Grand Master of Delaware, into the Lodge meeting. W.M. Wiggins invited the two Grand Masters to join him in the East. The Grand Lines of Maryland and Delaware were in attendance as well.

In 1999 this event was opened to the invited public guests as an introduction to the Brother-hood of Masonry, and has resulted in a number of petitions received by Harmony Lodge.

Regular business was conducted by the Worshipful Master, after which he opened the floor to comments from R.W. Bro. John Young, Jr., D.G.M., who thanked everyone and praised the cooks for a job well done. Worshipful Master Wiggins then asked M.W. Bro. Russell for his comments. After thanking everyone M.W. Bro. Russell gave an interesting talk on the merits of hard work and attitude.

The evening was a resounding success, and all attending are looking forward to the next event which will be held on April 4, 2003.

York Rite Sovereign College of North America

The 45th General Assembly



What is the oldest dues card you remember seeing? Bro. Melvin Evans sent this one to us recently. It belonged to his Grandfather, John W. Ritter, who joined King David Lodge No. 68 in 1907. As in so many cases, he was the inspiration that prompted Bro. Evans to petition our fraternity. Bro. Evans is a 62 year member of King David No. 68, but doesn't get to attend very often due to living in Virginia, where he belongs to Accomack Lodge No. 243. Thanks, Bro. Evans!

York Rite Sovereign College of North America was held July 25 -27 at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Mobile, Al. A class of 211 candidates received the Purple Cross Degree viewed by another (estimated) 300 members.

Attending was Urban Peters, Governor of Maryland College No. 45, Matthew Racioppa, Past Governor; Harry Miller, Chancellor & Past Secretary; William G. Gulley, Secretary and Donald M. Miller, Grand Governor of Maryland.

Donald Miller

Awards

On November 14 at 2:00 P.M., the 2002 Annual Service Awards Banquet was held in the dining room of our Masonic Homes at Bonnie Blink.

Following a lunch, a slide presentation was given, depicting

events of 5, 10 and 15 years ago. Awards were presented by Grand Master Young, assisted by Ron Belanger, D.G.M. and our new Homes Administrator, Steve Pozulski. The slide presentation was done by Mindy McNey.

Receiving an award for 15 years of dedicated and loyal service with our Masonic Homes were: Deward Freeland, Donna Holmes, Larry Lang and Annie Mc Coy; receiving an award for 10 years of service were: Rhonda Palmer, Maureen Rissmiller, Darlene Standiford and Marilyn Wilhelm; and receiving an award for 5 years of service were Bobby Ayers, Jane Dowridge, Karrin Harris, Natasha McKnight, John Nash, Michael Deeling and Diane Snyder.

Congratulations to these employees (continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8) for their years of dedication and service to the residents of our Masonic Homes. A thanks to Charles Codd for the Service Award certificates, and to the Dietary Department for a wonderful lunch. - Editor

New Grand Master Grand Lodge Installation

On November 16, during the Annual Communication of the



Pictured are M.W. Bro. John A. Young, Jr. and Lady Dee in the Grand East.

Grand Lodge of Maryland, Bro. John A. Young, Jr. was elected the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons In *(continued on page 10)*

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Monumental Commandery No. 3, K.T.

Constituted September 1868

Stationed at Gothic Asylum, Freemasons Hall, Cockeysville, Maryland Stated Conclaves: Second and Fourth Tuesdays, 7:30 P.M. except June through August

THE COMMANDERY OF firm belief in the Christian Arch Mason and a Cryptic petitioning a Commandery of The Orders are as follows The Order of Malta, and the Order

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR: A Religion, and being a Royal Mason are qualifications for Knights Templar. The Orders Order of the Red Cross, The of the Temple.

The Order of the Red Cross is a beautiful degree founded upon an experience of Cyrus, King of Persia, with Zerubbabel, who carried out the order of the king to rebuild the Temple which had been destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon.

The Order of Malta is the story of the ancient Crusaders of Christian religion. Here the Commandery turns to the Christian religion for its setting and prepares the candidate for the next Degree (or Order) which is the Order of the Temple.

The Order of the Temple is based upon the teachings of Jesus. It bases all its teachings upon the fundamental Truth, thereby adding greatly to your understanding of the symbolic significance of the first three degrees of Masonry.

In the exalted lessons of Templary you receive the most interesting, the most serious, and the most sublime experiences which are to make a deep and lasting impression upon your future life and conduct.

To be dubbed and created a Knight Templar is the completion of York Rite Masonry. This is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Christian.

For information contact: Don Miller, 410-285-5670



(Continued from page 9) Maryland, and on November 17 2002 he was installed the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Maryland during Installation Ceremonies held in Grand Lodge. A "No Host" dinner preceded the installation ceremonies. Our newest Grand Master is dedicated to making our fraternity more visible in the community and eagerly solicits your ideas on this endeavor.

Grand Master Washinton, D.C.

On December 21 Bro. Jules Tepper, member and honorary P.M. of St. Johns Lodge No. 34, was installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Washington, D.C.

Quite a number of Maryland Masons traveled to the Scottish Rite



M.W. Bro. Jules Tepper

Temple in Washington D.C. to attend M.W. Bro. Tepper's installation, including M.W. Grand Master John A. Young, Jr. and Lady Dee, R.W. Bro. Jack R. Frazier, Grand Secretary. Bro. Wayne Penley, R.W. J. G. W., Bro. Holliday, Potentate of Almas Temple, Ed Kraft, Grand Lecturer, and Jack



Presenting the colors, during the D.C. Installation, were two Royal Canadian Mounted Police in full dress red and blue uniforms, complete with spurs. They made quite an impression on those attending. They are each Past Masters of their respective Lodges.

Photographs by Paul Bessell, W.S.G.D., Wash., D.C.



Biggs, Editor. Bro. Penley piped in the D.C. Grand Line, as well as at other occasions during the ceremonies.

Editor

Ten Reasons to Become a Mason

Masonry is a place to spend time with good men who will make you want to improve.

Masonry is a place where moral virtue is taught and respected as the cornerstone of life.

Masonry is a place where the spiritual growth of every member can rise to its fullest potential.

Masonry is a place to become better prepared for service to your family, your church and your community.

Masonry is a place where you can be part of a great fraternity that believes in Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Masonry is a place where you can support others and give them encouragement as well as receive it yourself.

Masonry is a place where outstanding individuals from every walk of life will greet you and call you "Brother."

Masonry is a place to meet community leaders and take an active part in community activities.

Masonry is a place where you will find unlimited opportunity to acquire leadership experience, self-development and personal growth.

Masonry is a place where you can be sure every man is a true and trustworthy friend.

Courtesy: First Masonic Dist. of Ohio

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Keeping A Secret

On September 24, 2002, the Shield and Square Club Degree Team conferred the Master Mason Degree on Bro. Jeff Brewer.

What made the evening so unique was that Jeff's father is a Master Mason from Wauseon Lodge No. 349 in Wauseon, Ohio. Jeff had absolutely no idea that his father would be present, and was lamenting the fact that he could not be there to witness his receiving the Master Mason Degree. Unbeknownst to Jeff, his father arrived at the house after Jeff had gone to work, took Jeff's wife and children out for the day and dropped them off prior to Jeff's arriving home from work.

His father arrived at Kemp Lodge early and went up to the Lodge room. Jeff, of course, arrived at the appointed time and waited downstairs for the Degree to start. During the first half of the first section, Jeff's dad was there, and at the appropriate time, left the Lodge room. Then at the appropriate time he returned to Lodge to witness the second section of the Degree. When it came time for Jeff to be raised, his father stepped in and raised his son. When the blindfold came off Jeff was heard to utter "Oh my Lord!" Suffice to say, this really made his night and the Lodge was commended on keeping everything "secret."

On September 27, 2002, Kemp Lodge No. 154 presented a Masonic blanket to Allen Shirk, Potentate, at the Ali Ghan Shrine Temple dinner.

Kemp Lodge thanks Bro. Charles "Chuck" Gover for the donation and installation of an electric lift on the Temple stairway. Handicapped Masons may now be able to attend future Lodge functions.

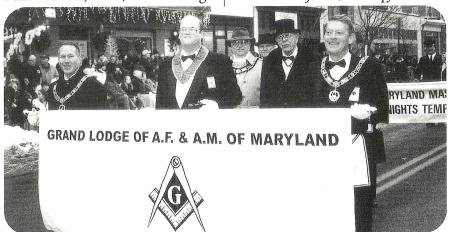
We also wish to thank Bro. Paul Werner, P.M., for clearing

the brush bordering the parking lot of our Temple.

On October 12, 2002, the Grand Master and Grand Line raised three brothers to Master Mason. We are now processing four additional petitions, and rumor has it that several more are on the way.

Masonry is alive and well in Kemp Lodge; come see us.

Terry Beal, Worshipful Master



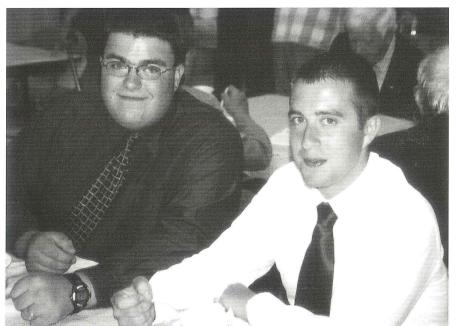
On December 16, M.W. Bro. John A. Young, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Maryland, R.W. Bro. Ronald Belanger, D.G.M., and Grand Line Officers participated in the "Annual Mayor's Hampden Parade in Baltimore City. The parade route followed Falls Road in the Hampden area. Grand Master Young invites **you** to join him in next year's parade and help him present the largest showing ever for Maryland Masonry.

Carrying the banner: left to right are Jonathan S. King, W.J.G.S., John Lister, D.G.L. and Jeffrey L. Sherman, W.S.G.D.



Following the Grand Master and Grand Line, in the Mayor's Hampden Parade, is a group of the Maryland York Rite Knights Templar.





Youngest Master Masons

James C. Davis, III and Michael Sean Ryan, in the picture above, from left to right, were raised this year to Master Mason in their repective Lodges.

James C. Davis, III was raised in Palestine Lodge No. 189 on April 25, 2002. Michael was raised in Tuscan Lodge No. 202 on June 10, 2002.

Both of these young men were raised by Senior DeMolay members. Both are in their teens.

James, or J.C. as he is known by his friends, had a very distinguished DeMolay career. He was DeMolay Rookie of the Year for 1997 and 1998. He was Palestine Chapter DeMolay of the Year for 1998 and 1999. James became Palestine Chapter Ritualist of the Year for 2001 and 2002. He also is a Past State Master Councilor, Maryland DeMolay.

James was appointed to the

chairs and this year has been appointed Sr. Steward of his Lodge. His goal is to become Worshipful Master of his Lodge before he is 30 and is well on his way to accomplishing this.

Michael Ryan also was an active DeMolay member. He joined the Palestine Chapter in 1998 and became "Chevalier" and an Honorary State Master Councilor in 2002.

He has also been a Past Master Councilor from July 2000 to January 2001. He received the "Founders Award" that year. Michael petitioned Tuscan Lodge No. 202 in Towson because his grandfather, Albert Kellner, Jr., has been a member of that Lodge for over 50 years and was Worshipful Master in 1986.

After college, Michael plans to return to his Blue Lodge and proceed through the Chairs toward his goal of becoming Worshipful Master of Tuscan Lodge.

We congratulate both of these young men and hope that by their excellent example, other Blue Lodges will be the recipients of their gift to Masonry - Youth!

Prince Frederick Welcomes Santa

Once again the Brethren of Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142 provided the children of Calvert County an opportunity to meet Santa Claus. The Holiday Inn Express in Prince Frederick once again provided an area that has affectionately become known as "Santa's Lodge" so that as many as 400 youngsters are able to meet and greet Santa.

This community outreach program has continued to grow every year since its inception some four years ago. What started out as a one-time project has mushroomed into an annual event that has the members of Prince Frederick Lodge in the community spotlight. Each child who visits with Santa is provided with a free picture of his or her encounter with "Old Saint Nick." Refreshments are suitably provided and a magician (Brother Mike O'Kelley) keeps the little ones amused while they wait their turn in line.

Santa, (Brother Gene Utterback) and Mrs. Claus, (Mrs. Wanda Utterback) are joined by Elf Fred, (Charlotte Utterback) and Elf Zelda (Jessica O'Donnell) making each visit (continued on page 13)





Christmas Party

On Friday, December 13, 2003 our residents of Bonnie Blink, our Masonic Homes, were treated to their Annual Christmas Party. This annual event was held in the Grand Lodge Ballroom. Those attending, other than our residents, were asked to bring non-perishable food items which were then donated to the "Texas Charge" food bank to be given to needy families over the Holidays.

In the picture, from left to right: Mrs. Clause, M.W. Grand Master John A. Young, Jr. and Santa Clause.

(Continued from page 12) a very special experience indeed. There can be nothing quite so heart-warming as that special smile from a child who has just shared his or her very special secrets with the world's number one "Elf."

A very special thank you needs to be conveyed to Mr. Nathan Centers and Shelley Marciano who contribute their time, talent, and materials to this special event. While Mr. Centers takes the pictures, Shelley Marciano places them in appropriate frames and presents them

to each child. While this may not seem extraordinary to some. It should be mentioned that Mr. Centers is neither a Mason nor even a resident of Calvert County, but rather a friend of the Lodge who resides in Delaware. Any one have a contact with the Grand Lodge of Delaware?

Congratulations to Prince Frederick Lodge and to all the members and officers who donated a weekend of their time to bring sunshine into the lives of so many children!

- Ronald G. Belanger, R.W.D.G.M.

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.

Review of a "CONTINUING SUCCESS STORY"

Masonic Charities Educational Grant Program for year 2002 was completed and 48 scholarships of \$1000 each have been issued. These programs afford an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the genuine interest that Maryland Masons have for the youth of Maryland at the same time obtain favorable publicity for Maryland Masons.

Thanks go to Brother PM's Stephen J. Ponzillo, III and Richard P. Naegele who reviewed the hundreds of applications in order to verify the winning applicants as received from the lodges. Masonic Charities wishes to thank the lodges, the collateral bodies and the Craft for their support and cooperation. In addition, on September 15, 2002, Educational Grant Program Assignments and Operating Procedures for year 2003 have been forwarded to each lodge's Worshipful Master and the Lodge Educational Grant Committee.

Also during this past year the Student Assistance Program continued to address the problem of Drug and/or Alcohol Abuse among our young people through our sponsorship and partnership with the Maryland Student assistance Program (MSAP) (continued on page 14)

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(Continued from page 13) 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 that 63% of these students had parental intervention meetings with MSAP volunteer teams.

It is these 300 plus active teams with over 2,500 volunteer members who have been trained and supported thru the partnership of MSAP and Masonic Charities of Md. who are doing the job to which they have committed. They are to be commended.

The Thirteenth Annual Golf Outing at the Talbot County Club in Easton, Chaired by Brothers Vernon W. Mules, cochaired by Charlie Thomas, Hal Eichen, Wayne Wilson and Jack Pickett, was held on Monday, June 10, 2002. It was another enjoyable event for the golfers, and a great opportunity to show the public what Masonry does and how it helps our youth. Next year plans are to make this a very special affair, and support from the lodges and individual Maryland Masons is earnestly solicited. It would be great if every lodge had a sign at the event and if every Worshipful Master or his representative attends at least the luncheon or especially the Social Hour and dinner in the evening. The date for next year's Golf Outing will be June 9, 2003.

The annual audit report of the operations of MCM is available from, and any special contributions of cash, insurance or securities should be made to:

Masonic Charities of Md.

Mr. Louis F. Friedman, Secretary, 409 Washington Ave. Suite 900 Towson, MD 21204

The continued assistance to and encouragement of all MCM activities in Maryland is essential for our continued success and Maryland Masonry. Visit our web page for further information:

www.freemasonry.org/maryland/gl/mem

Congratulations

Once again our fraternity has a "changing of the guard."

We congratulate all of the new Worshipful Masters who have been installed to govern their Lodges for the upcoming year. You have worked very hard to obtain the right to sit in the "Oriental Chair" and we are extremely proud of you.

It was noted that Bro. Timothy Maloney, newly installed Worshipful Master of Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 116, is 28 years old! And he has two young actual brothers behind him (Derrick and Henry Claussen) as Wardens. Our leaders of the future.

We also thank those brethren who are guiding their Lodges for one more year. Your dedication and efforts to preserve your Lodge are what makes this fraternity so special. Our heart-felt thanks to you as well. -Editor

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

Elbert Hubbard



Our new Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Ronald G. Belanger accompanied by his lovely wife, Karen.



Our Deputy G.M. admits to 235 at 6'1". That sure is one big Santa Claus, isn't it? And one of the few to be seen on a Harley.

On December 26, 2002 The Masonic Homes at Bonnie Blink suffered a fire on the second floor, west wing of Health Care.

While our medical staff responded in a most professional manner and none of our residents sustained injury, the same can not be said for several of the rooms at the Homes.

The damage sustained was mostly cosmetic in nature. We had to move a number of our residents to different rooms at our facility while we make the necessary repairs. There was no structural damage and the integrity of the building remains intact. Water did damage several of the rooms on both the first and second floors.

We are in the process of working with contractors to make the needed repairs. Our insurance will cover the cost of the entire renovation and we have been assured by Brother George Hunt, Chairman of the Executive Committee for the Homes that all repairs should be completed by the end of February and the residents returned to their rooms.

This has been a traumatic experience and it is important to note and applaud the actions taken by all the care-givers who work and provide medical care for our residents. It can not be stressed enough just how important their quick and decisive actions were in preventing a serious incident from becoming a catastrophe.

BOUMI TEMPLE A.A.O.N.M.S.

ERNEST L. CARTER ILLUSTRIOUS POTENTATE



The Illustrious Potentate and Divan of Boumi Temple extend greetings and best wishes for a successful and prosperous year in 2003.

Congratulations to Most Worshipful Grand Master John A. Young, Jr. upon his election as Grand Master of Masons in Maryland. Our sincere best wishes to him and the Grand Lodge for a successful term in office.

This year's festivities began on Saturday, January 18th when the annual Unit Heads Installation and Dance was held at Boumi Temple. This was an excellent opportunity to witness all the Units in full uniform or costume.

Boumi's most elegant and spectacular party, the Potentate's Inaugural Dinner and Dance, comes to Boumi on Saturday, February 1st. Entertainment for this event features the world renowned celebrity, Kohl and Company, combining classic vaudeville and magic.

On Saturday, February 15th, Boumi will honor the Clubs and their committees on Clubs Night, a tribute for their outstanding work throughout the



As the Spring Season approaches, Boumi's Annual Circus Dance will be held at the Mosque on Saturday, March 1st, kicking off festivities in preparation for our annual circus at Timonium Fairgrounds.

On May 4th until May 10th, Illustrious Potentate Ernie and First Lady Peggy invite you and your friends on a fabulous Bermuda Cruise aboard the elegant QE2 in her final season. This seven day cruise will be visiting Bermuda and Newport, Rhode Island and be fully escorted by a professional staff. Make your reservations NOW!

Also please mark your calendar for another delightful trip on a voyage around Italy coming up on June 16th to June 27th. More information on this trip will be forthcoming.

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 information concerning any of the above, please call Boumi Temple office at (410) 391-6400 Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

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Maryland Masonic Calendar



Regional Meetings February 2003 February 1 - Mt. Ararat No. 44

February 8 - Grand Lodge

March 2003 March 1 - Hagerstown No. 217

March 8 - Centennial No. 174

March 15 - Centennial No. 221

March 22 will be used as a snow date for any of the above meetings that are cancelled due to bad weather conditions.

March 28 - Brotherhood Night at Nur Shrine, DE.

Bonnie Blink

Daylight Lodge No. 1
304 International Circle
Cockeysville, Md.
Daylight Lodge No. 1
meets on the second
Tuesday of each month at
10:30 A.M. in the Grand
Lodge building. Following
the meeting, guests and
ladies are welcome to partake of the luncheon. Cost
- \$5.00.

Freestate Freemason 304 International Circle Cockeysville, MD 21030

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 4185 Baltimore, MD

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