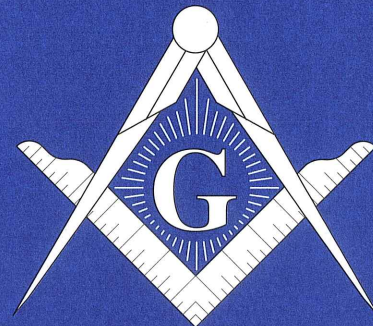


# Free State Freemason



Winter 2005

## 2005 Grand Lodge Officers

<i>M.W. Grand Master</i>	<i>Ronald G. Belanger</i>
<i>R.W. Dept. Grand Master</i>	<i>John R. (Jack) Biggs, Jr.</i>
<i>R.W.S.G.W.</i>	<i>David L. Schneider</i>
<i>R.W.J.G.W.</i>	<i>Thomas Winebrenner</i>
<i>R.W.G.S.</i>	<i>Herbert Y. Holcomb</i>
<i>R.W.G.T.</i>	<i>W. Raymond Bosley</i>
<i>W.GMar.</i>	<i>Harold A. Garren</i>
<i>W.S.G.D.</i>	<i>William E. Whitaker</i>
<i>W.J.G.D.</i>	<i>Robert W. Chase</i>
<i>W.S.G.S.</i>	<i>Dennis F. Nebel</i>
<i>W.J.G.S.</i>	<i>James L.T. Knighton</i>
<i>W.G.St.B.</i>	<i>Bradley D. Andrukitis</i>
<i>W.G.SwB</i>	<i>Julius H. Poston, Jr.</i>
<i>W.G.P.</i>	<i>Jackie M. Calloway</i>
<i>W.G.Dir.C.</i>	<i>Charles J. White, Jr.</i>
<i>W.G.T.</i>	<i>Wallace R. Jones</i>
<i>W.Asst..G.T.</i>	<i>Richard H. Uren</i>
<i>W.G..Chap.</i>	<i>Donald C. Stottlemeyer</i>
<i>W. Asst.G.Chap.</i>	<i>Elwood L. Ulmer</i>
<i>W. Asst. G. Chap.</i>	<i>Stephan D. Campbell</i>
<i>W.G. Organist</i>	<i>Ronald L. Unger</i>
<i>W.G. Ch. Emeritus</i>	<i>Lunda W. Laird</i>
<i>W.G. Lecturer</i>	<i>David L. Schneider</i>

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

## MARYLAND MASONRY.... MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

*From the Grand Master—*



Brethren:

Let me first begin by thanking each and every member of this wonderful fraternity for the opportunity you have provided in allowing me to serve as your Grand Master. I never dreamed I would be so fortunate as to be able to reach the pinnacle of Masonic service. You my Brethren have provided me the chance to "Make a Difference."

Congratulations to our new R.W.D.G.M., Brother John R. Biggs, Jr. for having been selected to serve as our Deputy Grand Master. I

have no doubt that R.W. Brother Biggs will continue to serve our Grand Lodge with distinction and great enthusiasm, as has been his trademark in the past and I look forward to having him serve at my side as we continue to move Maryland Masonry forward.

I would also congratulate R.W. Brothers David Schneider, Thomas Winebrenner, W.Raymond Bosley, and Herbert "Bud" Holcomb on their election to their respective offices. You my Brethren, by your vote, have assembled a team of officers any Grand Master would be extremely proud to serve with. I look forward with great anticipation and enthusiasm to working with this entire Grand Lodge team and expect much in the way of accomplishment over the next year. I would also take this time to thank those officers who have accepted appointments to serve this Grand Lodge for the upcoming year. I have no doubt they will all be excellent ambassadors to this Grand Lodge and will endeavor to make all Maryland Masons proud of their service.

Speaking of ambassadors to Grand Lodge, there can be no doubt the dedication and commitment to excellence demonstrated by our Board of Grand Inspectors and Deputy Grand Lecturers is unsurpassed at every level. To those Grand Inspectors who have completed six-year terms and those Deputy Grand Lecturers who have chosen to retire I say: "Thank you and a job well done!" Your dedicated enthusiasm will be missed and will (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.

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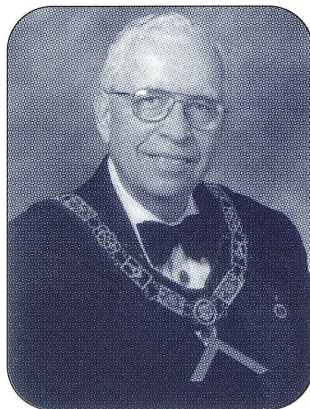
Deadlines for submitting articles & information for publication in the *Freestate Freemason*:

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

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



## Editorial

Brethren, my heart-felt thanks to you for having the confidence in me, to elect me as your Deputy Grand Master I will do my best to live up to your expectations .

One of my friends, not a member of our fraternity, asked me what the requisites were for one to become eligible for this position - my answer to him was: "Above all, an understanding and supportive wife; become as knowledgeable as possible about the functions of our Grand Lodge and Masonic Homes; work and support your Lodge and the Craft, and last but not least, the support of a lot of good friends, without which one could never attain such a position."

My congratulations to our new Grand Lodge Officers, and particularly to Bro. Dave Schneider who has been appointed to take over the duties of Grand Lecturer, and to Bro. Herb Holcomb, our new Grand Secretary - if these two Brothers do anywhere near as well as their two predecessors, Bro. Ed Kraft and Bro. Jack Frazier, they will be a success, and the fraternity will profit from their zeal and ability.

We would be remiss if we did not congratulate our Imperial Sir, Raoul Frevel, on the excellent address that he presented to Grand Lodge. Bro. Raoul has demonstrated throughout the Masonic World that which we work hard to teach in Maryland. We will soon have more national and international leaders from our great state - our Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Ray Bosley will be installed as Supreme Tall Cedar for 2005 this month. Our Grand Master has the honor to preside over the Conference of Grand Masters in Calgary in February of 2005. These are great honors, and we are very proud of these brothers who have given Maryland a place of honor in the Masonic World.

This will be my last issue as editor of the Free State Freemason; it has been an enjoyable opportunity, as well as quite a learning experience. Now, due to time constraints imposed upon me in my new duties as your Deputy Grand Master, it is time for someone else to take over the task. To this end, Bro. Keith Vivian has stepped up to the challenge and will be responsible for the publication beginning with the spring issue. Please continue to forward your articles to Grand Lodge, who will forward them to Keith.

I would be sorely remiss if I closed this last issue without giving a show of appreciation for, and thanks to Bro. Harry Scott, who has been such a huge help to me in preparing the issues of the Free State Freemason for the printer. Once I had all the articles and pictures in place, I would call Harry, who would then proof-read the issue for me, catching punctuation and typing errors. This tedious job provided you, the readers, with a more finished product. Harry, I really appreciated your behind the scenes effort. THANKS Harry, you are a prince among men, and a true friend!

John R. Biggs, R.W.D.G.M.  
Editor

*Query - Does anyone know who the Grand Alarm Tester is??  
Wally knows!*





*(Continued from page 1)*

provide a benchmark for those who follow in your footsteps. To those of you who are staying on or are newly appointed I challenge you to continue in your pursuit of excellence. You must remember that you wear your respective "collars" 24-7 and are viewed by the Craft as the best of the best. You have been appointed or re-appointed because the President and/or Grand Lecturer have great faith in your abilities to strive to be the best. You are the front line and the workers in the quarries and I look forward to working along side each of you in "Making a Difference!"

I have every intention of holding the line when it comes to budgetary constraints. We, the Grand Lodge have come a long way in restoring trust back into the leadership of this jurisdiction. It has not been easy but, with your support and vote of confidence on critical financial issues you have shown an understanding of our situation and I pledge my every effort to continue to build on that trust and be forthcoming with all information as regards your Grand Lodge finances. At the time of this writing we are on the threshold of signing a lease agreement with our chosen developer. The members of the Land Lease Committee under the leadership of R.W. Brother Schneider have been most diligent in securing the best possible deal for the long-term financial health and security of our Grand Lodge. We owe a great deal to P.G.M. Young and the Board of Managers for having the vision to lead us down this path to what should be a sound and stable financial base for our Grand Lodge. I know many of you are anxiously awaiting the

results of the negotiations but, let us not forget: "....time, patience and perseverance....."

Letters explaining the Grand Master's Amnesty Program should already be on your Secretaries desks. This is a program I have given much thought to and have consulted with other Grand Lodge jurisdictions that have embarked on similar programs. It is my firm belief we have Brethren out there who are unaware of how to be reinstated or are afraid they will be rejected at the ballot box for not having continued maintaining their membership. From November 17, 2004 until October 17, 2005 I am therefore offering any Brother who has been dropped for "NPD" a chance to re-join the world's greatest fraternity without fear of rejection. Much as the Prodigal Son was received home with opened arms we shall receive back into our fraternity any Brother who remits the current year's dues (2005) without re-petition or ballot. Your lodge secretary has been instructed to attach a dues notice to a form letter written by myself inviting any Brother dropped for "NPD" to rejoin us and whether it be one Brother or one hundred Brethren I trust you will join me in welcoming them back into Lodge. Remember, this is a Program and not an edict. It is simply a tool to be used by any Lodge that feels it could benefit from its use.

We have heard for years now that it's time for us to get our light out from under the bushel basket. My Brethren the time has come to burn the bushel basket and to make our light even brighter. Some of you have heard me quote the Greek historian and philosopher Herodotus: "It is better by noble boldness to run the risk of

being subject to half the evils we anticipate than to remain in cowardly listlessness for fear of what might happen." Essentially he is telling us to have no fear. We must be willing to tell the public and not each other about our fraternity. Have discussions with your friends about how great a man Brother George Washington was. Do they even know Washington was a Mason? If not, that is our fault. We hear stories about how masonry wants to establish a "New World Order." Do your friends know that this new order is already in existence in the form of these United States and that it was Masons who had a large part in its formation? At a time in our society when we have so much turmoil and what seems to be a lack of integrity and character among some of our leaders we stand here an organization whose basis are those very tenets. I believe in my heart the answer to membership lies within each of us. Live your lives as "MASONS"..... every day! "Let your light so shine among men that they may see your good works..." and let them know you're a Mason. If each of us would only follow that which we have been taught and that which we preach to each other, what a difference we could make not only in our own lives but in our communities. If Maryland Masonry would only come together and unite as the family we should be, how bright a light that could be. Together Maryland Masonry can make a difference but, **WE MUST ALL SHINE TOGETHER!** With the grace of our Divine Creator and a little hard work we can prove to the world just how viable Masonry as an institution can and should be. I hope you *(Continued on page 4)*





(Continued from page 3)

will join me in allowing Maryland Masonry to Make a Difference, one Mason at a time. Onward my Brethren, ever Onward! Together Maryland Masonry can make a difference, but WE MUST ALL SHINE TOGETHER!

## Land Lease Program

The Grand Lodge is providing this information to keep everyone informed as to the progress of the Land Lease Program. Possibly by the time you are reading this article the lease will have been completed and signed. However, good things take time and the information presented to you is as of December 23rd, 2004.

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, with approval of the Board of Managers and the Land Lease Committee, along with the Shelter Group has reached an agreement in principle regarding the business areas for the proposed lease. The lease is being prepared by the Shelter Group and will be submitted to our attorney, Richard Rubin, for review and comments. The lease will be provided to the Grand Lodge Lease Committee for their review, comments and approval, modification or rejection. Our projection for completion of the total lease agreement is about two months from the date (1/3/05) it is submitted to the Land Lease committee.

The business provisions agreed upon are:

Maximum of 99 years- (No extensions).

Possible signing date January 3, 2005, deposit of (\$25,000)

April 30, 2005 (approximate date) end of feasibility study, deposit (\$125,000).

September 30, 2006 (approx.

date) final plan approval, deposit (\$350,000) total of (\$500,000) retained by the Grand Lodge if Shelter defaults.

March 31, 2007 (approx, date) At Closing - All 99 years of rent will be paid to the Grand Lodge of Maryland. A single check for (\$8,450,000).

### NOTE CAUTION==RISKS

There are two issues that the Shelter Group must resolve:

There is a height restriction in our covenant.

There is a height limitation in the zoning regulation.

All parties knew these issues from the beginning. Shelter presented in their proposal a plan to overcome these problems. If they cannot be resolved then we will not lease the property under this lease agreement.

*Dave Schneider, R.W.S.G.W.  
Committee Chairman*

## FREEMASONRY - SECRET OR NOT SECRET

Many people are of the opinion that Masonry is a secret society, but I hope to dispel this misconception. There is much that may be told to wife or mother, father or friend - told to the glory and the help of the Ancient Craft with no violation of the solemn pledge sacredly to keep secret that which is secret.

It is no secret that he who becomes a Freemason joins an order which reveres womanhood, which upholds law and constitutional government, which cares for the widow and the fatherless, which inculcates the highest moral and religious principles, which fosters patriotism, which instructs in toleration and obliges conscientiousness in human relations.

The most careful brother may

tell his wife that in his Lodge the Holy Bible lies open upon an Altar. The fact is written in a thousand volumes, and is proclaimed in Masonic books of the law.

The manuals and monitors of many Grand Lodges set forth the prayers which are uttered in the degrees -- what is printed by a Grand Lodge cannot in its very nature be a secret from any one. That all Lodges are opened and closed with prayer -- that every Lodge has a Chaplain -- is a secret from no one.

It has been well said that Freemasonry is not a secret society, but a society with secrets. A secret society is one of which only its members know; a society with secrets may be one of which the world knows much.

Grand Lodges publish "Proceedings" in which the actions of the Grand Lodge at annual and special communications are set forth. Many of these contain the names of every man who is a Freemason. To be found in Libraries the world over -- these are no more secret documents than is a telephone or city directory.

There is nothing secret about a man being a Freemason -- he is proud of the fact and the Fraternity is proud of him,

Freemasonry appears at times in public -- usually to lay a cornerstone, or to conduct a Masonic funeral. Such ceremonies are performed by Masons who have met and opened a Lodge; the members wear Masonic aprons. Yet some men are so over-cautious they do not dare tell such simple facts as these.

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational and religious society. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its (Continued on page 5)





*(Continued from page 4)*

only secrets are in methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction.

"But my wife wants to know what we do in Lodge" - someone states.

Tell her what you do in Lodge! You meet and open. The opening is a ritualistic ceremony in which brethren are reminded of that which is high and holy in Freemasonry. The chaplain invokes the blessing of God. Minutes are read, visitors welcomed, matters of business and charity are discussed, action is taken. The ill are heard from through the Committee on the Sick; letters from absent brethren are read. Is there anything here, except the words and form of ritualistic ceremony, that the world may not know?

A degree is conferred. Here, indeed, is secrecy! But the degree is but a manner of teaching, and if Freemason's desire to keep it to themselves, it is because those who are not Masons cannot understand. The instructor of mathematics would gladly teach the binomial theorem to a kindergarten child, but the child would not know even the meaning of the words. He must have knowledge before he can comprehend. So it is with the degree -- it can be understood only by those who have been taught -- and it is itself that teaching.

The degree over, there follows a social hour, a fraternizing and fellowship. Then the Lodge is closed, again with a ceremony which is uplifting and inspiring. Again the blessing of the Most High is asked and the brethren return to their homes. He is poor of spirit indeed who takes not with him something of inspiration from

this that he has heard as simple as it is profound.

If there be anywhere a member of the Order who is not a loving husband and father; who does not give loyalty to his friends and government; who is not honored of men and reverent before God; who is not charitable and compassionate in act as well as thought; who is not honorable before all men; such a one has not abided by that which Masonry teaches, nor lived up to the obligations he has most solemnly assumed. And of this there is no secrecy -- Masonry proclaims these teachings as her own, and any Freemason may tell them to whom he will.

Freemasonry is meaningless unless we shape those ideals into actual life and work. Only then will it and our work become real and effective.

The heart of the message of Freemasonry must be in our hearts and its ideals of brotherhood must be in the living practice of our work and lives in whatever form it takes.

A true Mason in his work inspires others, understands others, reasons with others, helps others, appreciates others and yet may even disagree without being disagreeable.

A true Mason in his work also recognizes others and knows that a thank you now and then strengthens the bond of goodwill among men.

If a person at his job is to be a moving force he must bring to it a sincere understanding heart and see each man's need as a challenge to service and to get the best out of our work or life we must put the very best into it. The art of true living includes the power of seeing good in others, in all our

fellow men.

To be successful in our work we must remember those basic fundamentals - tolerance and love.

Masonry may be pushed aside at times for our job, TV, sports, service clubs, etc., but to be successful in whatever work we do we cannot push its principles aside, they must be a part of us.

A man is as great as the truth he speaks, as great as the help he gives, as great as the destiny he seeks, as great as the life he lives.

Let's get down to positive facts and positive life, as we can make it. Rather than waste our energy crying the blues, pointing at problems and practices which are often cited as sure evidence that the world and its people are headed for Hell, non-stop -- we would be better off and more people would listen if we would only Eliminate the Negative and Accentuate the Positive. If we can keep an open mind and have no prejudices toward our fellowman, have more tolerance toward his shortcomings and problems, our outlook on life will improve and strengthen through sharing and being a part of the community in which we live. For, as a rule, people are ready and willing to accept us; the only requirement is that they be given half a chance.

One of our main contributors to breakdown in our relations with others is poor communication. Whenever people fail to express their feelings meaningfully, the distance between us freezes over. It happens between nations too, unfortunately. When a person neither speaks his mind nor listens carefully to what is said by others, then he is on very thin ice. The result is usually a horrible death for personality or a nation.

*(Continued on page 6)*





*(Continued from page 5)*

There are times to forget Self and think of others. For instance, the Bumble Bee is built in a rather interesting fashion. Scientists say that physically speaking he should not be able to fly. The size and weight of his body do not provide a positive ratio when compared to the span and action of his wings. Aerodynamically the Bumble Bee is a Bungle. Sheer objectivity contends that he should never make it off the ground - but the Bumble Bee doesn't know that, so he flies anyway.

Many people are so conscious of themselves, so inhibited by their fears and so dominated by their own shortcomings or the opinion of others, that they never get off the ground either, not in their personal lives or in the field of productive living. They may know the facts of life and be completely familiar with the habits of the birds and bees, but life only begins there. Hopefully it will not end before what appears to be impossible has been achieved by transcending personal and physical failings. Let's not forget that funny old Bumble Bee in our approach to love and marriage and life in the community.

Every day is a present. How do you open it? Are you excited about how you will use it? There is nothing much sadder than to hear someone say, as we often have, "You know I have wasted my life, if only I could live it over again". Comments like this come from people over 40, who have taken life pretty much for granted. They have managed to fill in the time with the usual rounds; eating sleeping and earning a living. Then suddenly they realize that better than half their life span has slipped away and they haven't

been living at all - just existing.

There is a great deal more to life than this. We have minds which transcend the body and talents which, when developed, nurture the soul. Most, I am sure, would agree and say, "Yes, life is more than existing". Perhaps even those who do little more than exist would agree. This leads me to believe that there must be still another key to life. Indeed, there is the conviction that each new day is not just time to be spent but a treasure to be wisely invested.

## **Past Master Degree**

The requirements to become a Worshipful Master under the Grand Lodge of Maryland include receiving the Past Master's Degree prior to his installation as Worshipful Master. The degree has one of the most significant lessons for anyone who is about to assume the role as a leader. The responsibility of conferring the Past Master's Degree is that of our Past Masters Associations. Just a gentle reminder, each Association should have a minimum of one full rehearsal, preferably two, with a Deputy Grand Lecturer in attendance. The forms and ceremony are well known and should be consistent throughout the State. I am asking regional Deputy Grand Lecturers to contact each PMA to establish a rehearsal for next years conferring of the degree. Also, I am asking each Lodge to attend the degree in their area. Please remember each of us who are Past Master's reached this position because Past Master's took the time to attend and confer the degree for us.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation.

*Dave Schneider*  
*Grand Lecturer*

## **Formal Signing**

On April 10, 2005, a formal signing of the recognition between the Grand Lodge of Maryland, A.F. & A.M. and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge will occur in our Grand Lodge.

A Religious Service will be held in the Corinthian Room at 11:30 a.m. - this will be followed by a "No Host" buffet lunch, the cost of which is being worked out now. Cutoff date for your lunch reservation will be no later than April 6, 2005. Reservations will be taken by Jason at the Grand Lodge - 410-527-0600. Space is limited, so don't delay in making your reservation.

The Ceremonies of the formal signing will follow lunch, at approximately 2:00 p.m. The format, and content is being developed at this time, and will include at the least, a history of the Grand Lodge of Maryland by Bro.. Steven Ponzillo, and a history of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge by one of their members.

## **Harmony at Work**

Harmony Lodge No. 53 of Port Deposit, MD is working in unity on the second Saturday of each month. September through June, serving a buffet breakfast to the public and to the Brothers, as one of our fund raising activities. Fifteen to twenty Brothers work diligently preparing the meal of eggs, sausage, bacon, scrapple, pancakes, homefries, home made biscuits, sausage gravy, and chipped beef gravy, coffee and orange juice.

The average attendance for the breakfast is about 200. In May of 2004, as special fund raiser for a local Boy Scout Troop No. 92 was held. Over 330 meals were served. The earning of over \$1000.00 was presented to the troop toward the construction of an addition *(Continued on page 7)*





*David Blakesly, who for some unknown reason, is now being called "Biscuit." Anyone know why? He sure cooks one that will melt in your mouth though! And he is known to smile occasionally. Seriously, Dave is one of this crew of hard-working Brothers that sets out a fine breakfast. It might even slow Bro. Harold Garren, Hm, no I doubt that. Harold, Gene Utterbach, Gary Ashby, and Jules could surely put a hurting on that food line, couldn't they?.*

*(Continued from page 6) to their scout cabin.*

Another activity of Harmony Lodge, is parking cars at the Cecil County Fair in July. A group of over thirty men park thirty to thirty-five thousand cars in nine days and nights. This is a major source of money to keep the Lodge operating.

The Lodge presents four \$500.00 scholarships to two local high schools. Money from the breakfasts and parking cars help support these activities. Last year we had twenty two applications for the scholarships.

In the future Harmony would like to start an endowment fund for scholarships for higher education. This will be a major undertaking, and will take a period of time before it can be operational.

**Editor's note:** *I have been there, and you will look long and hard to find a better breakfast, or a harder working bunch of guys! If you want a hardy breakfast, head to Harmony Lodge on the second Saturday of the month, and bring a car-load - you won't be disappointed, and if you go away hungry, it isn't the fault of the guys of Harmony.*





### Bro. Plott

On Nov. 21st, 2004, the Brethren of Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142 were privileged to present a 60 year Service Award to Bro. L Norman Plott on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Va. Bro. Plott has been a resident of Calvert Nursing Home for a number of years and the ceremony was held at that facility. From the left: Bill Kugel, P.M.; Larry Wilson, P.M.; Page Bowen, W.M.; Joe Roberts, S.W.; Bill Schwallenberg.; Donald Himes, G.I. and Donald Q Hall, P.M.

Following the presentation the residents and guests at the Home were treated to a party with cake, ice cream and punch, provided by the Lodge.

Ironically, ten years ago William L. Kugel, P.M. and Lawrence E Wilson, P.M. and several brothers of Prince Frederick Lodge presented a Fifty Year Service Award to Bro. Plott at the same facility.

### Why Ritual?

Most often when I hear this question, I also hear this answer given, "The ritual is the only thing that distinguishes us from other organizations and fraternities. However, I believe there is a better answer or rather explanation. In the Summer 2000 edition of the Empire State Mason, a publication of the Grand Lodge of New York I read what I consider the best explanation of the reason and purpose of Masonic ritual that I have ever come across in all my Masonic reads.

Q. Why do we have a Ritual and why so much care in the matter of its correct rendition?

A. The best answer has been given by Right Worshipful Henry G. Meacham in his book, "Stations

and Places." In the book he states, "Most people are inarticulate in one way or another. By this, I mean that many of us find it difficult to express ourselves exactly as we wish. This is not altogether a matter of formal training, for I have known men with a considerable scholastic background who have found it difficult to express themselves clearly and to the point. A precise manner of expressing certain truths makes it easy for all engaged in the work of character building in the course of conferring a degree (for that is precisely what we attempt when conferring a degree), to express certain ideas of accuracy. The man without an extensive education and whose occupation does not lead him to consider the exact shades of meaning in words, by

use of the Ritual discovers himself as articulate as his Brother more fortunate in the matter of formal training. That was William Preston's idea as he wrote the Middle Chamber Lecture.

As a Deputy Grand Lecturer in Southern Maryland, I have often paraphrased Right Worshipful Meacham to defend our pursuit of "letter perfect" ritual. Masonic ritual ensures one thing - the lesson of Freemasonry is imparted to each new candidate in exactly the same words, if not the same manner, regardless of who is presiding in the East. The Worshipful Master could be a college dean, a farmer, a banker, a jeweler, a gardener or a clerk. He could have finished grade school or he might be a P.H.D.. He could be poor, middle-class or rich. The point is whatever the Worshipful Master's station in life, as Worshipful Master he is going to pass on the lessons of our fraternity, just like every one before him and everyone behind him, as pure and unimpaired as possible. We are all human and do not do perfect ritual but it conditions you and reminds you again of a most important virtue - discipline.

I conclude this article by calling your attention to "the gardener". President Theodore Roosevelt was a Freemason, one of 14 U.S. Presidents that have been Freemasons, and belonged to a lodge on Long Island in his town of Oyster Bay. It was at a time that he he was President of the United States and he was home and decided to attend lodge. The lodge opened and he was sitting on the sideline with his brethren and when lodge opened, he observed that his neighbor's gardener was Worshipful Master. The lodge events of (Continued on page 9)





(Continued from page 8) the evening went on and when lodge was closed, another side-liner brother came up to Brother Teddy Roosevelt and asked, "How does it feel to be President of the United States sitting in lodge as a side-liner and your neighbor's gardener is serving as Worshipful Master?" Brother Teddy Roosevelt is purported to have replied, "It is good for him, and it is good for me" Brother Roosevelt certainly knew the lesson our ritual teaches - "We Meet On The Level-----".

Why Ritual? If you do not understand by now, you may be part of the crowd that is "racing today's time clock. Heavy foot on the gas pedal - racing for an immediate destination, not the ultimate one. Something to think about.

Fraternally submitted,  
Carl W. Todd  
D.G.L., District 17

## Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc.

### Raising Funds for Today's Youth - Tomorrow's Leaders

Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc. is very pleased to announce an exciting new fund-raising activity, which, hopefully, will generate additional funds to help strengthen support for our Educational Grant Program (scholarships), our Student assistance Program (drug and alcohol abuse intervention), and the Child Abuse Program (an extension of our drug and alcohol abuse program).

This new fund-raising activity consists of a raffle featuring a new 17' Boston Whaler Center Console Boat, Motor and Trailer. This beautiful Boston Whaler is equipped with a 90 horsepower-four-stroke Mercury engine and fully rigged with many options for your fishing

and navigating pleasure. A limited number of tickets (1,000) will be sold at \$50.00 per ticket. The drawing will be held on April 15th, and the winning ticket will be determined by the 3 Digit Maryland Evening Lottery number held on the evening of April 15, 2005.

Masonic Charities of Md. needs your help in order to make this a successful fund-raiser. Do your part by helping us sell these tickets. Please take the time to read the following details.

All Free State Freemasons can be extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Masonic Charities of Maryland; which works hard to help Masonry make a big difference in our community and state. Masonic Charities of Maryland needs your help thru direct donations.

For more information in regard to this fund-raiser or how you or your Lodge can help thru a dona-

tion, please contact:

Wayne Wilson – 410-320-5316

Ed Blake – 410-960-8250

edblake@cablespeed.com

Vern Mules 410-296-1015

vmules@aol.com

Do your part now Helping young people! Support the Masonic Charities of Maryland!

## Potomac No. 100 150th Anniversary

In 1884 a fire destroyed all the records from the Masonic Lodge in Cumberland. Without the records of the Lodge, it was decided to start a new Lodge. This new Lodge applied to the Grand Lodge for a new charter. The charter was granted, and on May 16, 1885, Potomac No. 100 was chartered.

Potomac No. 100 has since had a long and proud tradition. To commemorate the Lodge's 150th anniversary, a celebration is planned for the week of May 16th - 22nd, 2005.

On Thursday, May 19, 2005 a



Most Worshipful Bro. Ronald G. Belanger receives a "Shingle" from William D. Killen, Worshipful Master of Collington Lodge No. 230. The shingle was presented to W. Bro. Killen upon his retirement from Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and was taken from the renovation of the Presidential Cabin at Camp David.





From the left: M.W. Bro. B. Hope Harrison, P.G.M.; Ronald C. Reiss; Charles Oler, S.W.; William C. Reiss and M.W. Bro. Ronald G. Belanger, Grand Master of Masons in Maryland. This father and son team were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Granite Lodge No. 177 on December 15, 2004. This was Most Worshipful Bro. Belanger's first conferral of the M.M. Degree while presiding as Grand Master.

Master Mason Degree will be conferred by the Past Masters of the Lodge.

On Saturday, May 20, 2005 the Cumberland Masonic Temple will open its doors to the community from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. All Masons and non-Masons will be welcomed. It is planned that Fort Cumberland No. 211, East Gate No. 216 and Ohr No. 131 who also occupy the Temple, will participate in the open house. Beginning at 6 p.m. a banquet with entertainment is planned. The Grand Master and Grand Line have confirmed their attendance. All Master Masons and guests are welcome. The cost is \$15.00 per person, and the cut-off date is March 15, 2005.

For information on this gala affair contact Gene Purkey, W.M. (301) 729-4781 (W) or (304) 738-3441 (H) or J. Richard Wheeler, P.M. (301) 784-3000 (W) or (301) 722-5896 (H)

*Happiness is not achieved by the conscious pursuit of happiness; it is generally the by-product of other activities.*

-Aldous Huxley

## Grand Master's Amnesty Program

As mentioned in my comments this past November, I am instituting an "Amnesty Program" for all Brethren dropped in the past for non-payment of dues, and non-payment of dues only! A directive has been mailed to all Lodge Secretaries and to each Grand Inspector with instructions as to how to proceed in the implementation of this program. Included is a letter from your Grand Master inviting any Brother who so chooses, to re-affiliate with Freemasonry in general and his Lodge in particular without fear of rejection. Each invitation letter will have attached to it a current years dues notice and will not require the Brother to repetition his lodge for admission. It will simply require our Brother to remit the current year's dues and his name shall be returned to the rolls of his respective lodge.

My Brethren, we have all been taught the tenets of our institution

are: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. I submit to you all, that as the Prodigal Son was returned to his father so we must be willing to receive our lost Brethren back into our Lodges with open arms. It is my fervent belief that we can only imagine what some of these Brethren have been through in their lives. Maybe some of them have fallen on hard times or become disillusioned with our fraternity. Quite possibly a private pique or quarrel has caused them to not return to lodge and now, later in life some might like to re-associate themselves with our fraternity but are fearful their absence might cause them to be rejected. This program removes all such impediments and I invite them all to seriously consider this offer.

This program will continue until midnight October 17, 2005 at which time I will require each lodge to prepare and present to the Grand Secretary's Office a report reflecting the results of this program. This report is to be submitted no later than October 31, 2005. I realize this will create some extra work for our Secretaries but, the Secretary and the Worshipful Master may appoint a committee to take on the necessary work to complete this task and I expect every lodge to put forth the utmost effort to contact each and every Brother affected by this program. I have been asked how this would affect an application to the Masonic Homes. Let there be no mistake, the requirements for admission into our Masonic Homes state: you must be a Maryland Mason in GOOD STANDING for ten years and a resident of Maryland for five years. Enough said!

(Continued on page 11)





*Continued from page 10)*

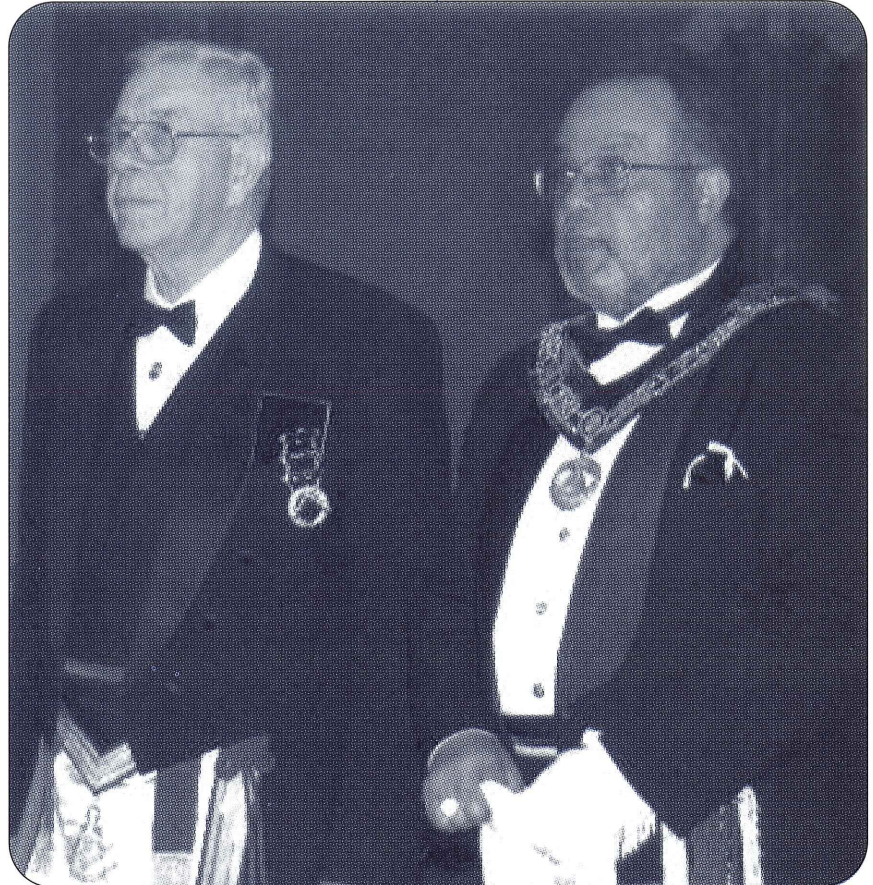
My Brethren, it is my fervent prayer that we reclaim our lost Brothers. If you know of a Brother who has been lost to us by "NPD" contact him and inform him he is welcomed to re-join his Brethren and then, make him feel welcomed. In the short time I have been given to serve our Grand Lodge I intend to make the best of each and every minute given me to "Make a Difference!" The time has come to show the world who and what we are. The time has come to think outside of the box, just a little. The time has come to "Let our light shine among all men!" If we save one Brother or one hundred Brethren I am committed to this program and I pray you will all join me in this effort.

## Big Rocks

One day, an expert in time management was speaking to a group of business students and, to drive home a point, used an illustration those students will never forget. As he stood in front of the group of high-powered over-achievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz" and he pulled out a one-gallon Mason jar and set it on the table in front of him. He also produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar. When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is this jar full?" Everyone in the class yelled, "Yes." The time management expert replied, "Really?" He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. He dumped some gravel in and shook the jar causing the pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks. He then asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?" By this time

the class was on to him. "Probably not," one of them answered. "Good!" he replied. He reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in the jar and it went

into all of the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is the jar full?" "No!" the class shouted. Once again he said, "Good." Then he *(Continued on page 12)*



**Thomas J. Shryock Award  
Presented to:  
M.W.P.G.M. John A. Young, Jr.  
and  
M.W.G.M. Shelton D. Redden**

*At the Open Public Installation of Grand Line Officers this past November, M.W. Grand Master Ronald G. Bélanger presented the Thomas J. Shryock Award to the two preeminent Masonic leaders in Maryland.*

*Both Grand Masters have distinguished themselves in their service not only to Freemasonry in Maryland but, to bringing the "Light" of Masonry to the community by attempting to make a difference.*

*Their unselfish dedication and service to our Fraternity, and their concerns about the image of Masonry in the public eye have pointed them out as proper objects of our admiration and esteem. We congratulate both leaders for their vision and courage in extending the hand of "Brotherly Love and Affection" across the span of 156 years.*





*(Continued from page 11)*

grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?" One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it!" "No," the speaker replied, "that's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all. What are the "big rocks" in your life – time with your loved ones, your faith, your education, your dreams, a worthy cause teaching or mentoring others, i.e., Freemasonry?"

Remember to put these BIG ROCKS in first or you'll never get them in at all. So tonight, or in the morning – perhaps the rest of your life on earth, when you are reflecting on this short story, ask yourself this question: What are the "big rocks" in my life? THEN PUT THOSE IN YOUR JAR FIRST.

*Submitted by Bro.. Carl Todd  
Deputy Grand Lecturer*

## **HOWARD LODGE NO. 101 150th YEAR CELEBRATION**

Howard Lodge No. 101 will host their 150-Year Celebration on May 16, 2005. We are located at 5585 Levering Ave. Elkridge Md. 21075, just off Washington Blvd. as you cross the Patapsco River Bridge from Baltimore County.

For those who are not familiar with our organization the following may provide some insight as to what we are about.

This significant milestone celebration marks the existence of one of the most successful and unique lodges in the State of Maryland. The Grand Lodge of Maryland chartered the lodge on May 16, 1855. The

lodge really began on November 20, 1854 when Grand Master, Charles Webb, gave 8 Master Masons a dispensation to start a new lodge. Elk Ridge Landing was chosen as the site for the new lodge. A building on Main Street in Elk Ridge Landing (known as Temperance Hall) was chosen as the first facility to house the lodge. Notice the spelling of the town of Elk Ridge (two words). The spelling varied through the years until 1929 when everyone began to use its present spelling of Elkridge, Maryland. The original building is still there and as of the year of 2002, the Lodge room, which was located on the third floor, was still set up as a lodge. Past Master Hugh E. Hines, who died in the year of 2002, visited the lodge during the summer of 1971 and took pictures of the room for our history book. We moved to our present location on Levering Ave during the summer of 1904. The cornerstone was laid by the Grand Lodge of Maryland on August 20, 1904 and was dedicated on May 16, 1905 on our 50th year anniversary. We believe we are successful because our lodge has continued to promote Freemasonry throughout the community. We have and continue to provide scholarships for many students of local high schools and give freely to various charities, and provide financial assistance to the needy, while remaining a good neighbor to the community.

We are proud to have supported our younger generation with organizations, such as; the Jobs Daughters for girls and the DeMolay for boys. Also, we have supported the ladies of the Eastern Star. Howard Lodge has provided a meeting place for many organizations that could not find other facilities.

We are unique because we are the only lodge in the state of

Maryland to be chartered to meet every week. Howard Lodge is the only lodge in the State of Maryland to have 3, 5, and 7 steps and two pillars located on its front porch leading to the temple.

Come celebrate with us the 150 years of our Masonic heritage. Our schedule of events is listed below for your information.

### **Calendar of events for 2005:**

- Installation of Officers January 10, 2005. Dinner begins at 6:15 P.M. Held at Howard Lodge No. 101 A.F. & A.M. Elkridge Maryland. Master Masons only.

- May 16, 2005 - 150-year Celebration Evening – The Most Worshipful Grand Master Ronald G. Belanger and the Grand Lodge Officers will attend. Master Masons and Invited guest. Dinner begins at 6:15 P.M. Held at Howard Lodge, Elkridge.

- Howard Lodge's first charitable golf outing will be held at the Oakmont Green Golf Course in Hampstead, Maryland on May 25th, 2005. All proceeds will be given to charitable organizations and used to support college scholarships for worthy students of our local high schools. This event will assist Howard Lodge in continuing our tradition of providing two scholarships each year. We began this donation during the year of 1999.

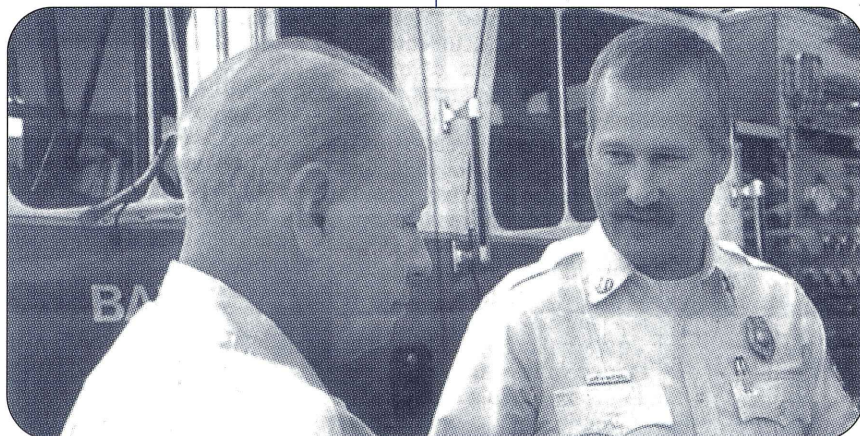
- Family Picnic – July 9, 2005 - 12 noon until! Held at Patapsco State Park at the Patapsco area. Members, families, and friends are welcome at no charge.

- Ladies night October 10, 2005
- Bull and Oyster Roast November 13, 2005

Call Mike O'Malley 410-691-9005 or Ralph Bathgate 410-465-5486 for information regarding any of our events.

*A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.*

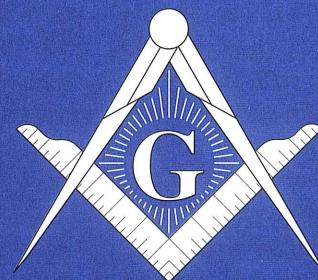




## Bear Project

Palestine Lodge No. 189 embarked on a "Bear Project" where we would present to the Catonsville and Arbutus EMS Stations a stuffed Teddy Bear to be given to a child who was traumatized due to an accident or fire. Our Sr. Steward, Bro. Richard Dale Smith, spearheaded this program. It all came to fruition by the presentation of the Bears to representatives of these EMDS stations. Attached is a copy of the photo which appeared in the local edition of the Sun. Upon examination of the photo, you can see the square and compass, and the card naming Palestine Lodge as the presenter. A total of twenty-three bears were given them. For your information, when Palestine visited Manasseh Lodge No. 182 in Manassas, Virginia we were informed the seven year old grandson of the Worshipful Master, Ronny Dean, P.N., has a spinal virus, and was placed in a cast. Palestine sent him one of the bears. I will advise the Officers and Brothers regarding the success of this project at our Past Master's Night and Memorial Service, which is open to the Ladies and family on Thursday, November 11.

*William E. Zentgraf, P.M. Palestine Lodge No. 189*



# 2 BE 1 ASK ONE

## Lodge Courtesy

It is illegal to enter or leave the Lodge room during a ballot; it is discourteous to leave during a speech, or during a degree, except at the several natural periods which end one section and begin another.

Likewise, one should always enter by the Tiled door, approach the altar and be greeted by the Worshipful Master. Exiting the Lodge should be done in the same manner. To slip in unannounced by the preparing room is not proper Masonic conduct, **and should never be done.**

One does not talk in church. God's House is not for social conversation; it is for worship and the learning of the lesson of the day. A good Mason does not talk during the conferring of a degree. The lodge room is then a Temple of the Great Architect of the Universe, with the

## Deluxe Bull, Oyster Roast and Dance

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2005 Place: Ballroom: 302 International Circle  
Time: 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Food 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm - Dancing

### Menu

- On the Pit, Beef, fresh ham, country smoked ham with bread and rolls.
- Oysters on the half shell with cocktail sauce.
- Fried padded oysters.
- Oyster stew, Meat lasagna, Bar-B-Que chicken, Sauerkraut & Kielbasa, Hot dogs and Baked Beans, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, String Beans, Cole Slaw, Spaghetti Salad.
- Fresh Fruit, Assorted Cheeses and Crackers, Pickled Beets, Seasonal Vegetables with assorted dips.
- Last hour-Coffee, iced tea, and cake.

**Call Grand Lodge for tickets, 410.527.0289**

Price - \$25.00 per person Tickets paid in advance.  
\$15.00 children under 12. Cut off date April 18th.

In order that we don't under or over commit to the caterer, there will be NO tickets sold at the door. Please make your reservations early. Thanks for your understanding.





brethren working therein doing their humble best to make better stones for His spiritual Temple. Good manners as well as reverence dictate silence and attention during the work; officers and degree workers cannot do their best if distracted by conversation, and the irreverence cannot help but be distressing to candidates.

A man in lodge is the servant of his brethren, if he engages in any lodge activity. Therefore, no Mason sits while speaking, whether he addresses an officer or another brother. This does not refer to conversation on the benches during refreshment, but to discussion on the floor during business meeting.

The Worshipful Master in the East occupies the most exalted position in the gift of the lodge. A lodge which does not honor its Master, not because of what he himself may be, but on account of the honor given him, is lacking in Masonic courtesy. The position he occupies, not the man, must be given the utmost respect, if the traditions of the Fraternity are to be observed.

It is, therefore, to the Master, not to Jim Smith who happens to be the Master, that you offer a salute when you enter or retire from lodge. Like any other salute, this may be done courteously and as if you meant it, or perfunctorily as if you did not care. Similarly, the salute to the Master is your renewed pledge of fealty and service, your public recognition before all men, of your obligation. It is performed before the Master and the Altar to show him your veneration for his authority, your respect for all that for which he stands. To offer your salute as if you were in a hurry, to lazy properly to make it, or bored with its offering, is to be, Masonically, a boor.

## Grand Lodge Summer School

This year (2005) our Grand Lodge Summer School will return to 8 evenings. However, we will be making some modifications to shorten the evening and provide closer attention to the corrections of the ritual. The schools will begin at 7:00 P.M. Example: We will have two nights for the first degree. There will not be a catechism after each degree. The lecture will be given after the Lodge has been closed, and only those interested in hearing the lecture can stay. This allows those who want to leave early to do so.

The three catechisms will be given on a special evening along with opening a Lodge of Sorrow, and possibly some other short items of interest.

We will select the line for conferring the third degree for the last night of School. However, we will not do the lecture. We will hand out the certificates of attendance. Refreshments to follow.

There will be a Special Events evening.

The schedule for our school this year is:

JULY 5 - 7 P.M. Grand Master's Lodge will open our School.

The three Catechisms and the Lodge of Sorrow will be given.

July 12 - 7 P.M. – E.A. Degree **(Lecture After Degree Is Closed)**

July 19 - 7 P.M. – F.C. Degree

July 26 - 7 P.M. – M.M. Degree **(Lecture After Degree Is Closed)**

August 7 - 7 p.m. Special Events

August 9 - 7 P.M. – E.A. Degree **(Lecture After Degree Is Closed)**

August 16 - 7 P.M. – F.C. Degree

August 23 - 7 P.M. – Final Evening M.M. Degree, Certificates, refreshments

**Don't Forget The New**

## Starting Time Is 7 P.M.

State Schools will held at the following locations (Starting times and degrees will be announced at a later date)

Hagerstown 217 - July 7

Brunswick 191 - July 21

Friendship 84 - August 4

Potomac 100 - August 16

Wicomico 91 - July 14

Cambridge 66 - July 28

Temple 128 - August 18

Centennial 174 - July 21, 28;

August 4, 11

We hope these modifications will improve our attendance. If you have any suggestions please send them to me or any DGL. I will publish the Degree worked for the State schools in the next issue.

*Dave Schneider*

*Grand Lecturer*

## Temple Committee Report

Brethren, 2004 is now behind us, and what a great year it has been for the Temple Committee.

There have been many accomplishments, such as: new tables, new ball and cord and new clocks in the lower level common area; the lower wall were painted below the chair rails; pool tables were repaired; new cue sticks and supplies were purchased; a dart board was added; a permanent pull-down screen was installed in the Roman Room, and soon we will add them in the other two rooms; we removed shelves and a collection of debris from behind the Roman Room; the game wall was repaired and painted; the wall paper in the Doric and Tuscan rooms was re-glued; the State of Maryland flags in all the rooms were shortened; the Roman Room was painted, and the partitions in the East and West were lowered; soon the same will be done in the





other Lodge rooms. The list can just go on and on. There were other accomplishments as well. As the New Year gets under way we are compiling a list of additional projects that need our attention and completion. We couldn't have done any of this without the cooperation of the many Brothers that use these rooms.

In addition, our supplies are subsidized from donations from the Lodges that meet in our building. If you have contributed in the past, please continue to contribute in the future. If you haven't been able to contribute in the past, then we hope times are better for you, and you can see fit to help us out. It's your Temple, and your Lodge rooms. You use it along with the other members of the Lodges that meet there. All donations, large and small are greatly appreciated, as is any time and/or skill you can donate to assist on the projects we undertake.

It is now time to nominate or re-nominate a member of members (the more the merrier) to the Temple Committee. We have great, dedicated and unselfish workers now and could always use more. Won't you join the group, and help beautify our Lodge rooms and areas? To do so, just contact Pat Green, or any of the Temple Committee members.

I can't close without recognizing the staunch support our committee received from Past G.M. Young, Deputy G.M. Ron Belanger, the Board of Managers, et al. I am looking forward to the support of our new Grand Master Bro. Ron Belanger, and his line of Officers. We, the Temple Committee, wish them the best of times in their new endeavor, and much good luck throughout the year.

*Pat Green  
Chairman*

## Grand Line Officer To the Celestial Lodge

My Brethren:

I have the sad duty to inform you that W.Brother Stephan D. Campbell, W. Asst. Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Maryland passed to the Celestial Lodge above on Jan. 5, 2005 as we awaited to be received into Amicable Lodge No. 25 for the purpose of conducting an Installation of Officers.

Our Brother was rushed to GBMC and all efforts to save him were met with failure. At this time I would ask each of you to send your thoughts and prayers to his wife Marie and son Stewart and indeed all the members of his family. There are no specific plans at this time and further information will be passed along as it is made available. The entire Grand Lodge family is saddened at this sudden loss of one of our most devoted Brothers and we beg your indulgence as our schedule in the next week or two may reflect the needed changes to accommodate the immediate needs of the family. I remain humbly,

*Ronald G. Belanger  
Grand Master*

## Grand Lodge Annual & Semi-Annual Communications

Brethren, please note that per the recent changes to our Grand Lodge Constitution, the dates of Annual and Semi-Annual Grand Lodge Communications have been moved from the third Monday to the Saturday before the third Monday, thus the upcoming Semi-Annual Communication of Grand Lodge will convene on Saturday, May 14, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. Please take due notice of this change and govern yourselves accordingly.



## York Rite College

On Saturday, May 22, 2004 York Rite College No. 58 met at Odenton Lodge and after a short business meeting the officers for 2004-2005 were installed as follows:

Preeminate Governor - Harry Miller, Jr.  
Eminent Dpty Gov. - R. H. McWilliams  
Eminent Chancellor - Randolph B. Sayre

Eminent Treasurer - Philip A. Tilson  
Eminent Secretary - Donald M. Miller  
Noble Primate - Patrick Curtis  
Noble Preceptor - Robert Lumbert  
Noble Senseschal - Roy E. Haugh  
Noble Marshal - Fred J. McDaris  
Noble Sentinel - Vacant

## June 24th Dinner

On June 24, 2005 there will be an evening dedicated to two brothers who worked long and hard for this Grand Lodge - R.W. Bro. Edward B. Kraft and R. W. Bro. Jack Frazier. Dinner will be served, and other events are being planned - this is just an early notice that you may place it on your calendar. Come help us give these worthy Brothers the evening they deserve.

Additional details and necessary information will be forthcoming in the Spring issue of the Free State Freemason.

*If you wish success in life, make  
perseverance your bosom friend,  
experience your wise counselor,  
caution your elder brother, and  
hope your guardian genius.*

*-Joseph Addison*

*17th Century English essayist*



# Maryland Masonic Calendar



## Schedule of Events

### February

**5** - Regional Meeting at Grand Lodge - coffee and donuts @ 8:00 a.m. - Meeting convenes at 9:00 a.m.

**12** - Regional Meeting at Mt. Ararat Lodge No. 44 in Bel Air - coffee and donuts @ 8:00 a.m. - Meeting convenes at 9:00 a.m.

**18 thru 22** - 27th Conference of Grandmasters

### March

**5** - Regional Meeting at Wicomico Lodge No. 91 in Salisbury - coffee and donuts @ 8:00 a.m. - Meeting convenes at 9:00 a.m.

**12** - Regional Meeting at Wicomico Lodge No. 91 in Salisbury - coffee

and donuts @ 8:00 a.m. - Meeting convenes at 9:00 a.m.

**19** - Regional Meeting at Wicomico Lodge No. 91 in Salisbury - coffee and donuts @ 8:00 a.m. - Meeting convenes at 9:00 a.m.

### April

**10** - Official signing of Recognition Between our Grand Lodge and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland - Details are still being drafted, but the plan is to begin with a Religious Service at 11:30 a.m., to be followed by a buffet lunch, and then a short program and the Official Signing. **YOU ARE INVITED** - Be a part of this most *historic day*!

**23** - Annual G.L. Bull & Oyster Roast. \$25 per person. Under 12, \$15.

### May

**14** - Semi-Annual Communication of Grand Lodge - Coffee & Donuts will be served at 8: a.m. Grand Lodge Convenes at 9:00 a.m.

### June

**24** - A dinner honoring Ed Kraft and Jack Frazier, please put this date on your schedule - more details to follow.

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

*Four Rules For Life: Show up. Pay attention. Tell the truth. Don't be attached to the results.*

-Angeles Arrien

Freestate Freemason  
304 International Circle  
Cockeysville, MD 21030

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Free, and Accepted Masons  
of Maryland