

From the Grand Master



Brethren:

It has truly been a wonderful honor to have served you and our Grand Lodge these last twelve months as your Grand Master, and it is truly amazing how quickly the year has passed. You are an outstanding and dedicated group of men, and I look forward to the many opportunities to visit and share fraternal brotherhood with you.

It is my personal belief that we are on the verge of turning membership around here in Maryland. Lodges are working through the summer in order to keep up with the influx of petitions.

However, with the current average age of our membership, it is very difficult to keep up with the grim reaper. This past year our Lodges received 582 new petitions while 469 members passed to the Celestial Lodge above. If these were the only numbers, we would be showing a very positive increase. The real killer to our membership brethren, is the 322 members that were suspended for non-payment of dues along with the 63 that demitted during the past year.

Not a lot can be done about a member requesting a demit, however, it is always a good idea to make sure it isn't being asked for because of internal Lodge problems. Suspension for NPD, however, remains the second largest drain on our membership, being surpassed only by death. We must be ever alert to those Brothers who fall by the wayside, and to make every effort to recover them. We must do a far better job in not allowing them to be lost in the first place. In some cases we are dropping members for NPD because of physical or financial needs that we should be assisting, and often due to the fact that we as a fraternity are not made aware of their situation.

Please, as Worshipful Master, officers, Past Masters and members of your Lodge, make every attempt to retain the members you already have, be certain a proper investigation has been conducted before you drop a brother for "NPD". I hope that your Lodge has a committee established to work on this important issue – do not leave it up to the secretary – he is already doing the most difficult job in the Lodge. This would be an ideal area for your new members to serve on a committee.

Unfortunately, we often lose members, due to petty piques and quarrels that are occurring in some of our Lodges. This is unacceptable in my way of thinking. It is always best to resolve these issues in Lodge without the help of the Grand Master, but rest assured, once brought to my attention, and assistance is requested, I will deal with the problem. I am not going to stand idly by and watch an individual, or group of individuals continue to cause discord in a lodge. We must be ever diligent in the practice of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

In addition, please remember that I have continued the Amnesty program for those that have been suspended for Non-Payment of Dues.

I look forward to visiting with many of you at the upcoming Lodge Installation of Officers in January, and also throughout the coming year. Pat and I wish you and yours a Very Merry Holiday Season, and a Happy New Year.

John R. Biggs, Jr.
Grand Master

2008 Grand Line Officers

M. Worshipful Grand Master John R. Biggs, Jr.
R. W. Deputy Grand Master Thomas M. Velvin, Jr.
R. W. Sr. Grand Warden Spyridon G. Treklas
R. W. Jr. Grand Warden Marvin E. Printz
R. W. Grand Secretary Herbert Y. Holcomb, III
R. W. Grand Treasurer William E. Gyr
W. Grand Marshal Julius H. Poston
W. Asst. Grand Marshal Jay W. Hodges
W. Grand Lecturer R. Gary Pierce
W. Asst. Grand Lecturer Paul H. Fishell
W. Grand Chaplain Elwood L. Ulmer
W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Walter F. Burgess
W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Jack R. George
W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Leslie G. Metcalf, Sr.
W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Richard C. Oursler
W. Asst. Grand Chaplain Randall A. Schoch
W. Sr. Grand Deacon Robert H. Hill, Jr.
W. Jr. Grand Deacon R. Bruce Tanner
W. Sr. Grand Steward Frederick A. Spicer
W. Jr. Grand Steward Dan B. Lane
W. Grand Standard Bearer Leslie G. Metcalf, Jr.
W. Grand Sword Bearer Shawn R. Winpigler, Sr.
W. Grand Pursuivant John B. Rogalski, Jr.
W. Grand Dir. of Ceremonies Ronald A. Hill, Sr.
Aide to Grand Master Thomas A. Keller
Aide to Grand Master Charles W. Winkler
W. Grand Tyler Gregory B. Hudnet
W. Asst. Grand Tyler Mark E. Hartz
W. Asst. Grand Tyler Richard H. Uren
W. Grand Organist Ronald L. Unger
W. Asst. Grand Organist Kenneth C. Mars
W. Grand Photographer W. Grant Gibson

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

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

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

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

FSFM@glmd.org

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

Article Submission

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

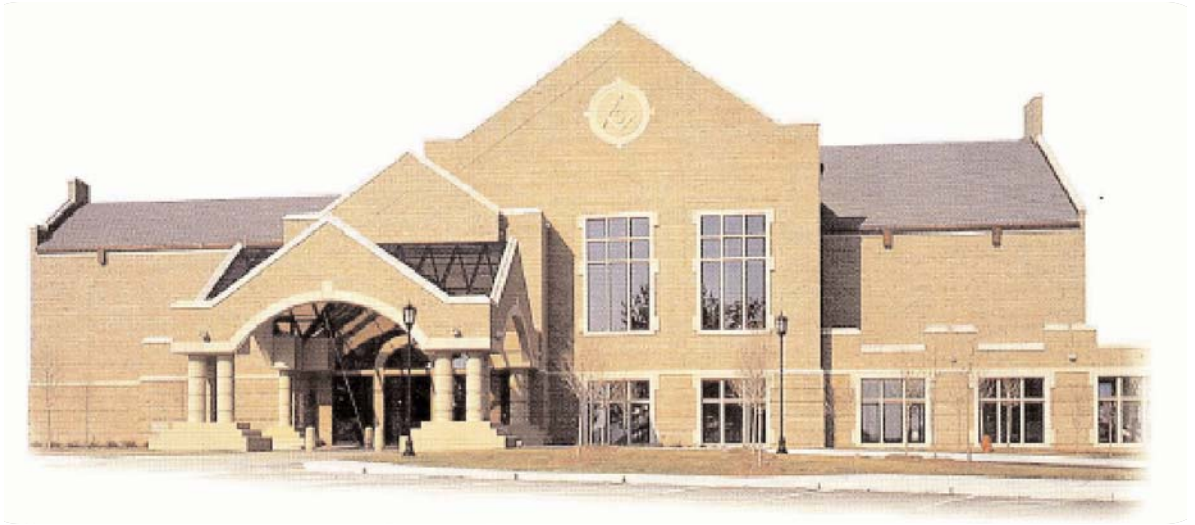
Original pictures or pictures from a digital camera on disk are fine - use the highest resolution.

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

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

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

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



The Grand Lodge of Maryland Ballroom Rentals

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

E-Mail: glballroom@glmd.org, Fax 410-316-9410

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

Catering: Approved list of caterers.

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

Rates: Call for information.

Parking: Free on site, 178 spaces.

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



License Plates

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

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

Chair Plaques & The Tree of Life

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

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

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

SCOTTISH RITE SINGERS NEWS

In past days there have been as many as sixteen Scottish Rite Brothers raising up their voices in song. Today, due to age, illness and the grim reaper, there remain just enough of us at times to make up a hard working quartet.

For the "Singers" to remain a viable and progressive part of the Rite we must grow in numbers. Thus I make an appeal to each of you. That is if you are retired, have the freedom at times to get away from your business endeavor, or you are fortunate enough to be married to a very rich lady and don't have to be actively employed, here's the proposition:

First, it is important for you know that our S.G.I.G., Ill. Dr. Wilhelmsen, has agreed that I may recruit singers from the ranks of all Maryland Master Masons, so one does not have to be a member of the Scottish Rite to

join with the "Singers."

Now, as I have always said: "It is not necessary that one sings like a Crosby or a Como to join with us. Hey, just enjoy singing!" And I guarantee you'll have a good time too, for we are invited quite often to entertain the residents of retirement and assisted-living homes as well as Civic Centers and a number of our local Masonic Lodges for their Ladies Night, etc.

The "Singers" meet for rehearsal in the Scottish Rite Temple on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am. I earnestly encourage you to come join us. You will be most welcome, so give me a call at 410-721-1814 and I'll give you our next rehearsal date and attempt to answer any questions you may have about our group.

Sincerely & fraternally,
William (Bill) Clark, Jr., P.G.M.
Director

Change in Election of Grand Lodge Officers

Brethren,

Beginning in 2008, the Grand Lodge of Maryland will be electing its Officers and Board Members at the Semi-Annual Communication in May. They will then be installed at the Annual Communication in November. This will give the Officers the opportunity to learn their elected office prior to serving.

Also, you will see the resume's for these Officers in the Spring issue of the *Free State Freemason*. If you are interested in running for one of the Boards or an elected office in Grand Lodge, send your resume to fsfm@glmd.org for inclusion in the Spring issue scheduled for the end of March.

Remember Brethren, this is your chance to have a voice in Grand Lodge. Make sure your Lodge representatives attend the Semi-Annual Communication on May 17, 2008.

In Loving Memory of C. David Haacke Most Worshipful Past Grand Master March 1, 1925 – October 30, 2007



"Dad garnered many titles during his life, but I know that the ones most important to him were son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend. That was the true essence of my father. His compassion for others. His courage and strength in the face of overwhelming odds. His fierce loyalty and devotion to those he loved. His absolute and unwavering love for his family. His spiritual devotion to God and his belief in the inherent goodness in everyone. And while he could seem intractable at times, my father never expected less of anyone than he expected of himself. And that is perhaps the most enduring legacy that he leaves for us - the standard by which we have been taught to live our lives"

-Kathi Haacke Morehead, daughter

Personal Data:

Born March 1, 1925. Married November 25, 1950 to Kathleen D. Estep
 Father of Kathi, Terri, and Debbi. Presently have 3 grandchildren
 Graduate of Johns Hopkins University, 1950 with degree in Chemical Engineering
 Post graduate studies at Hopkins McCoy College in business, finance and accounting Member
 of Christ United Methodist Church. Served as Sunday School teacher, Trustee, Chairman of
 Finance, Lay Leader and Conference Delegate. Served on National Board of Pensions.

Masonic History:

Raised in Tuscan Lodge No. 202 on December 14, 1953. Affiliated with Chester Lodge No. 115
 on October 16, 1958. Worshipful Master of Chester Lodge No. 115 in 1973
 Served on Board of Trustees of Maryland Masonic Homes; 1975-83
 Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master 1983-84
 Most Worshipful Grand Master 1985-86
 Cecil Royal Arch Chapter No. 34; Chestertown
 Adoniram Council Royal & Select Masters No. 21; Denton
 Chesapeake Commandery No. 10; Denton
 Maryland Old Line Council. Allied Masonic Degrees
 Maryland York Rite College No. 58
 Maryland Council No. 9, Knight Masons
 Maryland College Societas Rosicruciana in Cibitibus Foederants
 Grand College of Rites, Purple Cross
 Scottish Rite, Valley of Baltimore., Orient of Maryland; KCCH
 Honor Men's Club, Conowingo Club
 Red Cross of Constantine, St. Cyprian Conclave; Past Puissant Sovereign
 Royal Order of Scotland
 Tail Cedars of Lebanon, Baltimore Forest No. 45
 AAONMS, Boumi Temple, Baltimore
 Knights of Mecca, Camel Wheels, Clowns
 AAONMS All Ghan Temple, Cumberland
 Royal Order of Jesters, Baltimore Court No. 82
 National Sojourners, Bethesda No. 445
 Heroes of 1776, Bethesda Chapter
 Maryland Masonic Research Society
 Order of DeMolay; Legion of Honor, Degree of Chevalier
 Order of Eastern Star, Chestertown Chapter No. 86, Worthy Patron 1963 and 1966.
 Honorary Member of many Blue Lodges in Maryland
 Served as Chairman of 1986 Conference of Grand Masters of North America
 Awarded Pierpont Edwards Medal of Connecticut for Distinguished Masonic Service in 1986
 Awarded Philip C Tucker Medal of Vermont for- Distinguished Masonic Service in 1987
 Awarded Grand Cross of Color of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls in 1994
 Served as Director of Masonic Charities of Maryland from 1986 until 2007.
 Made Masonic Charities of Maryland Chairman Emeritus 2006
 Served as Charter Master of Magnolia Lodge No. 53 of Grand Lodge of FAAM of DC, Consecrated April 27, 1997
 Awarded the Thomas J. Shryock Medal May 19, 2007



(Grand Master Haacke with his daughter Terri)

Masonic Programs Initiated:

Created significant programs during term as MWGM
 Solomon II to increase membership and activity in local lodges
 Dr. John Coats Lodge No. 1787 established as base for an Endowment Fund for Masonry in Maryland
 Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc., a charitable foundation to serve youth of Maryland and gain public recognition of Masonic presence.
 MCM has been used as model for similar programs throughout USA.
 Original Director and member of Executive Committee of National Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse among Children.
 Had prepared Instruction Manual for Lodges to use as a guide in creating lodge holding companies.
 Established the Family Day Picnic at Bonnie Blink for Masons, their families and friends to foster public recognition of Masons and their programs.

National Sojourners CAMP NEWS LAFAYETTE CAMP (Baltimore No. 7)

On November 14, 2007, six members of Baltimore Chapter No. 7 sojourned to the home of Mrs. Patricia Bruce in Annapolis, Maryland, and met with 8 other members of the Peggy Stewart Tea Party Chapter, NSDAR, to present "The Flag Building Program". It is interesting to know how this DAR Chapter got it's name and, quoting from the DAR website, here is how it happened:

"You probably have heard about the Boston Tea Party. A similar incident took place in the Annapolis port but it was no "tea party".

On October 19, 1774, the owner of the Peggy Stewart, Captain Anthony Stewart, and several other merchants of the colonial port city of Annapolis, were forced to burn the brig in the Annapolis harbor for having several hundred pounds of tea brought directly from London with tax and duties to be paid. The Peggy Stewart, named after the Captain's daughter, was built and registered in Patuxent, MD, only a year and a half before she was destroyed.

In 1889, when ladies of Annapolis formed the DAR chapter, they chose to be known as the "Peggy Stewart Tea Party", commemorating this historic event. For over a hundred years, our chapter has been promoting patriotism, supporting our Veterans and educating our youth in Maryland's capital of Annapolis through the programs of the NSDAR."



Pictured (L - R) are Brother Sojourner Kenneth D. Lewis, P.P., ADJ., Mrs. Jacqueline "Jackie" Ruffing, Regent; and Brother Sojourner Oswald E. Kinat, P.P., CMDR. Not pictured are Flag Team Members: Lewis F. Bandell, Jr.; Craig R. Benson; Howard E. Roe, and Oliver W. Strong, P.P.; PCMDR.

Your interest in the Daughters of the American Revolution, in general, and the Peggy Stewart Tea Party Chapter, in particular, may be directed to Jackie Ruffing, 410-280-2576.

Your interest in having "The Flag Building Ceremony" performed for your organization may be directed to Ozzie Kinat, 410-761-8567 or Ken Lewis, 410-527-1843.

Traveling Brother Update

Brothers all,

I just returned from the latest trip to Jerusalem with an unexpected visit to Ramala and the West Bank. Not many pictures, but a few interesting things. The picture is near West wall ("wailing wall") and after acquiring appropriate head covering, I went down respectfully to feel the wall myself: it is somewhat of an experience that I have yet to figure out how to translate into words, but inspiring none the less. The visit to the old city was brief and my social observations could fill a volume alone, but more of that at another time. I was unable to locate the local Lodge of the Temple, but I was unable to get word from any of the local Israeli brothers I had emailed prior to the trip so it was probably just as well... it seems that the disdain for the Crusaders is on par for their distrust of each other or more so, and our order is considered somewhere between that.



The weather was nice. Ramala is unimpressive much like the majority of the ancient world as it has not been well maintained by its inheritors; lends much to my social theory about many things, and this place in particular. Nothing like driving by Hamas HQ and playing nice, but I suppose that is what temperance and restraint are as virtues and they would be like empty words if not practiced. I can honestly say that I earned every bit of my pay this trip and continue to ask myself all those questions that are key indicators that it is time to leave the game, except for the fact that there is a part of me that still enjoys the excitement while the majority of my whole tells me that it is a good time to walk away while I still can... but I can't shake the feeling that there is still work left to do and that the experience is not only good for the soul, but it prepares me for the path that lies yet ahead.

Fraternally,
Will Barrell

Highland Chapter No. 33 OES

Masonry and Patriotism is alive and well in Maryland. The Brothers & Sisters of Highland Chapter No. 33, are proud to announce that for the first time, in the month of November, 2 shipments of at least 7 large boxes each will be sent. The first is all boxed up and going out this week. Those great people over at Ken-lee Precision were at it again last month and have supplied us with so much stuff. I just know Bro. Ken Lewis of Howard Lodge No. 101, (the "Big Dog" over there) is as proud of his employees, as we all are of their participation in our program.

On the 1st of November, I had the honor to visit with Worshipful Master, Bro. Melvin J. Mason, Jr. and the Brethren of Wheaton Lodge No. 228. I was invited to talk on our Troop Support Program. We enjoyed a great evening of fellowship, that was centered around Veterans and the Marines. Worshipful Master Dan B. Lane of Kensington Bethesda Lodge No. 198 gave an informative talk on The Marines, and also invited all present to attend an Ice Cream Social, which his Lodge was sponsoring at The Bethesda Naval Hospital that Saturday, for the Troops who are there receiving treatment. Wheaton Lodge No. 228, presented our Program with the most generous donation we have ever received, and this will allow us to make a 2nd shipment this month. It will be done in Honor of the generosity of the Brothers of Wheaton Lodge.

Worshipful Master Melvin Mason said it best that night, "It just seems right that Veterans Day comes in the same month as Thanksgiving, because we all should remember to be thankful for our Veterans". The 2nd shipment will go out about mid month. My Thanksgiving list this year, will certainly include the members of Wheaton Lodge No. 228.

In closing I would just ask you all to remember, especially this month, that most of the things you have to be thankful for in this country, more than likely, a Veteran had a hand in it. Please remember them in your Prayers

If you would like to hear about our Program, interested in getting your own started, or make a donation, Please contact me at:

Roy M. Hodgson P.M. , G.I.

8909 Carlisle Ave.

Nottingham, Md. 21236-2110

'Ice Cream Man' Delivers Morale to Wounded Troops

Brethren One and ALL,

I want to thank the following Brothers who showed up Saturday, Nov. 3, to attend the Masonic 2007 Veteran's Ice Cream Social at National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda: Dan B. Lane, WM, Kensington-Bethesda No 198 Jack Fuller, SW, Kensington-Bethesda No 198 Richard Utyro, Tr, Kensington-Bethesda No 198 Ed Johnson, WM, Pentalpha No 194 Bill Renner, Pentalpha No 194 Tom Marraffa, WM, Montg.-Corner. No 195 Bernard Moorin, PM, Montg.-Corner. No 195 Melvin Mason, PM198 WM Wheaton No 228 Charles Joseph, PM SW, Wheaton No 228 Thomas Mason, PM198 Sec Wheaton No 228 Paul Slayton, SD, Wheaton No 228 Bob Swanson, SS, Wheaton No 228 Keith M. Vivian, PM, St Columba No 150 Wendell Miller, St Columba No 150 Bradley Gilson, Collington No 230 and his lovely Wife Scott W. Baumbaugh, Collington No 230 Joshua Poling-Goldeme, FC, St. Albans Bob French, PM, Corner Stone Lodge, Massachusetts

Thanks to you, it was a HUGE SUCCESS!

The Test

Several years ago, the story is told of a Mason who always wore his Masonic ring and lapel pin when in public. On some occasions, he rode the bus from his home to the downtown area. On one such trip, when he sat down, he discovered the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change.

As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter; who would worry about this little amount. Anyway, the transit company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet."

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver with a smile replied, "I noticed your Masonic ring and lapel pin. I have been thinking lately about asking a Mason how to join. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. You passed the test. Can you tell me how to become a Mason?"

When the Mason stepped off the bus, he said a silent prayer, "Oh God, Grand Architect of the Universe, I almost sold you and my beloved Masons out for a mere quarter."

Our actions are the only Masonic creed some will ever see. This is a really almost scary example of how people watch us as Masons and may put us to the test even without us realizing it! Always be diligent, whether it be at the theater, restaurant, grocery, service station or just driving in traffic.

Remember, whether it be a lapel pin, a ring, or an emblem on the car, you carry the name of our great fraternity on your shoulders whenever you call yourself a Mason. You never can tell who might be watching!

Hele, Conceal, and Never Reveal

A law passed in 1562 (Act 5 Eliz. C.4, s.30) refers to the occupation or art of the "Tyler, Slater, Healyer, Tilemaker..." We are well aware of the use of the title Tyler for the one who keeps off cowans and intruders, but Healyer is an interesting synonym as it turns up in a related and Masonic context.

The word also occurs in Dublin in 1502 when a Charter was issued to the Guild of Carpenters, Millers, Masons, and Heilers.

The heiler or healyer, then, is one who covers a house with a roof of slated or tiles and the word comes from the verb to hele (or 'heal', and in Scotland, 'heil') meaning to cover, hide, conceal or keep secret. Although nowadays used in our Obligations, it was apparently still in use 100 years ago: an 1894 property advertisement offered for sale some 'slate-heled modern cottages'.

All of the above comes from the 20-volume Oxford English Dictionary, except for the Guild Charter which is mentioned in the history of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland by J.H. Lepper and P. Crossle (1925).

Highland Lodge No. 184

Below are some pictures from our June Lodge meeting where we handed out scholarships and awarded a 60-year pin.

The Brother receiving the 60-year pin is George Henry Popp. Also in that picture is Grand Inspector Julius Poston and WM Jack Grieve.



The students receiving the scholarships are Adam Taylor, Kelly McAphee, and Ambler Kistler.



(Adam Taylor receiving scholarship from Worshipful Master John B. Grieve)



(Kelly McAphee receiving scholarship from Worshipful Master John B. Grieve)



(Ambler Kistler, along with her mother, receiving scholarship from Worshipful Master John B. Grieve)

Happy Holidays from the Hill!

**Paula O'Neill, Executive Director
Maryland Masonic Homes**



We have had an active Summer and Fall and look forward to the upcoming holiday season. As the leaves change and cold temperatures sweep in, we are afforded the 'beautiful view' from the Hill. We have lost many special residents this year and we rejoice in the friendships we shared. Our memories and thoughtful remembrances reflect the true spirit of giving and caring that is unique to MMH. We are one family, dedicated to each other and the Masonic mission.

The leadership team is now complete with the return of Dave Sevinsky, Recreation Director and the addition of Ele' Lundgren, Quality Assurance Coordinator. Both bring extensive years of health care experience to us. Within each department, we have a renewed focus of employee education and skill enhancement. Core competencies and new technology are a small part of this program to teach and train our staff.

There have been many facility improvements and upgrades during the past few months. A new telephone system with enhanced features was added and a security system that includes an increased number of security officers, front gate activation and secured access to the building. A new wheelchair van has greatly aided our residents and we are diligently working on the cafeteria to offer a meal choice for residents and staff.

We are very excited and anticipating the growth at Bonnie Blink as preparation begins for the new apartment and community buildings. The residents are anxiously awaiting the next phase of this process and the staff is ready to extend the high quality of care and services to this new addition. I have been asked to serve on the marketing committee and am eager to get started.

Our annual Office of Health Care Quality survey was a success. This grueling process reviews the health care environment, nursing and dietary practices, resident charting and a multitude of related areas. I am proud to be a part of this team who shows their commitment every single day. We celebrated by having the leadership team dress as 'cheerleaders' for the day, and serve breakfast to the staff in appreciation of their hard work.

The new organ has been an awesome addition to our beautiful Chapel. Thank you to the generosity of many who donated funds to this worthy cause, and especially to the Board of Trustees for this purchase.

I was once again given the opportunity to represent Maryland at the Masonic Homes Executive Association of North America conference in Pasadena, CA. This well attended conference gives us the chance to share ideas and practices that focus on the Masonic mission and purpose. I understand from sev-

eral attendees that Maryland hosted this conference in 1983. We have not been able to locate any information related to that and are asking anyone who remembers or has information, to please contact me. It is my hope that we will be able to host the MHEANA conference in the future.

Come visit us as we proceed into this beautiful season. Our residents are busy with preparations for the upcoming holidays.

Excellence isn't a sometimes thing. You have to earn it and re-earn it every single day.

Blessings and good wishes to all,

Paula O'Neill
Executive Director

Grand Lodge of Maryland Listserve

Are you subscribed to the Grand Lodge ListServe?

A recent check of the subscribed members reveals we only have about 200 subscribers. That means about 18800 of you are missing out on late breaking news about Lodges, events and members of the Fraternity in Maryland. For instance:

An upcoming breakfast; Golf Tournament; The death of a respected member; The dedication of the building; etc...

If you are not yet a subscriber, and you have a valid email address, you can subscribe by sending an email message to glmaryland@listserve.com with the subject of the message "Subscribe" without the quote marks. That is all that is required. You will receive a confirmation message as soon as one of the administrators approves your subscription. You should then receive all postings to the Listserve.

If you are a subscriber, and would like to post a message that is of general interest to the subscribers, just create the message and send it to glmaryland@listserve.com. The administrators will be notified that a posting awaits approval. Once an administrator reviews the message and approves it, the listserve will send it to all subscribers. The only guidelines are that the posting pertain to Masons in Maryland and that it is free of vulgarity and derogatory content.

Should you have difficulty subscribing, unsubscribing, or posting a message, please send an email to rwdgm@glmd.org.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The Grand Lodge has retained Third Age, Inc., a Philadelphia based marketing and planning firm, to conduct a member survey regarding the planned expansion to the Maryland Masonic Homes. The survey was mailed mid-November to a random sample of our membership. If you do not receive a survey, but would like to participate in this market research, please contact Paula O'Neill, Executive Director at 410-527-1111. Your input is greatly needed to ensure that we design our retirement community to meet the needs and desires of our membership.

From the Potentate of Ali Ghan Shrine



BRETHREN,

Singer Rod Stewart composed and sang a song entitled, "Never Give Up on a Dream" and each of us need to follow his recommendation as one young man, Terry Fox, did. Mr. Terry Fox was a high school runner and, at the age of 18, was diagnosed with cancer and eventually lost a leg. Terry decided to make cancer research a priority in his life and, made a commitment to raise \$1 million by running across Canada collecting donations along his journey.

At the start of his quest, he dipped one toe into the Atlantic Ocean and began his trek and never once gave up on his dream even though the trip was too painful and thoughts of quitting entered his mind. BUT HE NEVER GAVE UP and kept on going and going and going. Unfortunately, he only made it just passed Toronto and, had only collected a total of \$600,000. Even though discouraged, but still never gave up on his dream. Terry Fox ran a total of 3250 miles and suffered a relapse and consequently died.

After he died and because of his commitment, the people of Canada were so impressed with the young man's dream and commitment to raise money for research, they established a period called the "Terry Fox Month." Even though he was dead, his dream never ended. In that one month, the people of Canada raised \$20 million. YES, Terry Fox was gone but his dream never ended. Each of us needs to develop and maintain that same spirit for our fraternity and for Freemasonry..... Dream, Believe, and Achieve.

Probably being the last article that I will have the pleasure and honor of writing for this publication as Potentate of a very proud Ali Ghan Shrine Center, I wish to relay my most heart-felt thanks to MWGM Jack for encouraging me to submit articles, but more importantly for his friendship. Also, I offer my most sincere thanks to each Noble and Lady of Ali Ghan Shrine Center for their commitment to excellence, their support, and dedicated efforts. Ali Ghan Shriners, again, I remind you to take pride in how far we've come; and have faith in how far we can go."

This is one year that my Lady Sue and I will retain in the deepest section of heart and mind. I will close with HOW GREAT IT IS TO BE AN ALI GHAN SHRINER. Always remember, "Dreams are the seedlings of reality. To accomplish anything, you must first dream, believe, plan and act." May our Supreme Architect of the Universe invoke his blessings on each and everyone.

Yours in the Faith,
Keeping Dreams Alive,
R. Francis "Fran" Shives, Potentate
Ali Ghan Shriners



(Pictured above: Ali Ghan Shrine Divan with 4 trophies awarded our Shrine Center during the recent Mid-Atlantic Shriners Association convention in Virginia Beach. Pictured (front, left to right) O.G. Mark Recard, A.R. Jeff Buser, C.R. Gary Miller, III. Sir Fran Shives. (Back, left to right) Recorder Fred Widmyer, Treasurer Jim Kreiling, HP&P Glenn Markley. Parade trophies were presented during the MASA President's Dinner on Saturday, September 8. Ali Ghan Shrine Motor Corps (3rd place) for their antique firetruck; Ali Ghan Shrine Director's Staff (2nd place); Ali Ghan Shrine Band (2nd place); and, Ali Ghan Shrine Center (1st place) for "Best Overall Shrine Center" with a membership under 2500.)

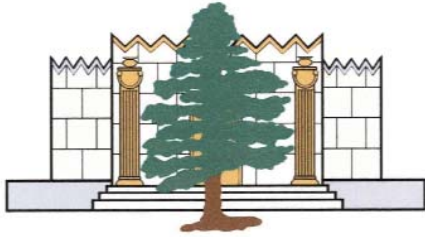
BONNIE BLINK DAYLIGHT LODGE No. 1 HONORS PAST MASTERS

On June 12th, the Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge No. 1 recognized and honored the Past Masters of Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge No. 1. A tribute was made to the eight Past Masters who have been called from labor. To the surviving Past Masters, they were presented with a Certificate and a Past Master's Jewel designed by Louis F. Bandell, PM. Assisting the Worshipful Master, Charles A. Beckhardt, Jr. with the presentation was Past Grand Master John "Jack" Young. The following Past Masters were in attendance to receive their Jewels and Certificates: Brothers Leo A. Frantz, PM "95", Frederick L. Emkey, PM"96", Ted R. Barkley Jr., PM "02", Robert C. Shinnick, PM "03", Joseph L. Edmonds, PM "04", John R. Middendorf. PM "OS", Louis F. Bandell Jr, PM "06". The Past Masters who could not attend were: Charles J. Truitt Jr., PM"98" and John W. Hooks, PM "99".

In addition, Brother Norman L. Collison, Secretary, was recognized and made an Honorary Past Master of Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge No. 1. Brother Collison was also presented with a Certificate and Jewel.

As this year's Worshipful Master, on behalf of the officers and brethren, we would like to say "Thank You" to the Past Masters for their year of service to this Lodge. May The Supreme Architect of the Universe continually bless and keep you.

Fraternally,
Charles A. Beckhardt Jr. Worshipful Master
Bonnie Blink Daylight Lodge No. 1
If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact me at 410-833-6881 or Email at cabir@carr.org.



**Tall Cedars of Lebanon
of North America**
<http://www.tallcedars.org>

Come and join us in our "Fun, Frolic and Fellowship."

Travel with us to the many Forests (Lodges) in our area. Attend our Conventions and help us raise money for Muscular Dystrophy Research.

Masonic related, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon was chartered in Trenton, New Jersey in 1902.

Beginning in 1951, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon became the first organization to offer continuing financial assistance to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. This year marks our 56th Anniversary supporting MDA.

"Visit our website, use the Forest Finder to locate a Forest nearest to you & contact the Scribe for more information on how to become a Tall Cedar"



Care Packages For Our National Guard Troops

Warren Lodge No. 51 has begun a project that is providing packages for our National Guard Troops in Iraq. The packages contain many small, but necessary items that are not available at their bases.

Worshipful Master Mike Strempek reminds the Brethren of the many sacrifices the troops are making for us by leaving their professions, their careers, and families while we enjoy the comforts of home. With the support of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, Brother Roy Brimer of Warren Lodge No. 51 is collecting purchased items and financial donations to assemble Care Packages for our Maryland National Guard Troops. Why the Maryland National Guard? Not forgetting all the other branches of the Armed Forces involved; the Brothers of Warren Lodge No. 51 believe that "Charity Begins at Home", and feel more responsibility to those men and women from Maryland.

Items being received are as follows: First on the list is MONEY. Money is necessary to pay for discounted shipping costs to APO addresses. The Government does not pay for APO shipments. 2. Basic snacks (beef jerky, sunflower seeds, peanuts, chewing gum, powdered Gatorade, hot sauce (wrap glass bottles in duck tape and place in double zip-locked plastic bags), potato chips (in boxed containers), etc. 3. Avon's Skin-So-Soft (to repel bugs)

4. Feminine items, 5. Eyewash or eye drops
6. Plain white on brown T-shirts, 7. DVD's, magazines, books, or newspapers. Please remember that our Troops are fighting a war ... John Wayne subjects and romantic topics should be avoided.
8. Batteries (all sizes), 9. Disposable cameras
10. Socks, 11. Chap Stick, 12. Bug spray and Sunscreen , 13. Microwaveable meals and similar items (Easy Mac, Hamburger Helper Singles, Ramen Noodles, popcorn, etc.)
14. Razors and shaving cream

The items listed above are those proven to be useful to the Troops and recommended by Troopers who have been there! However, individual creativity and suggestions are encouraged.

Yellow collection bins with black lids will be provided at four collection points throughout the Grand Lodge Campus. These locations are:

1. Lobby of the Grand Lodge Building
2. Lower-level Common area of the Grand Lodge Building
3. Main Entrance Lobby of the Bonnie Blink Masonic Home
4. Lobby of the Grand Lodge Offices

Cash donations should be mailed to Brother Roy Brimer, 154 West Chestnut Lane, Reisterstown, MD 21136. Please make your checks payable to Warren Lodge No. 51 and memo the check for: Care Packages for the Maryland National Guard. Call Brother Brimer (410)-833-8547 for more details.

Our Brothers have been very generous with

their private cash donations. However, we must remember, the need is continuous. This is our opportunity to show our troops that they are not forgotten and that Marylanders care.

Warren Stitt Seipp

By Stephen J. Ponzillo, III for the Rededication of GM Seipp's Gravestone

It is an honor for me to be asked to present a tribute to M.W.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Maryland, Warren Stitt Seipp, who served for ten years as our leader.

Masonry in Maryland has been present since the 1760s and our Grand Lodge dates to 1787. Thus, for over 220 years, we have been dedicated to the proposition that there is a brotherhood of mankind under a fatherhood of God. We believe that by brotherly love, relief and truth, we serve each other in making our selves better men and better servants to the community in which we live.

Warren Stitt Seipp, and so many more who lie under the green grass of Prospect Hill Cemetery, exemplified those ideals. Our Grand Lodge will remember G.M. Seipp's service at a date in the near future, when the current Grand Master and his staff will come to Prospect Hill and pay their respects. However, Warren Seipp is remembered by Masons today for his great work known as the Maryland Masonic Homes.

Let me begin by telling you something about the man, who as a living, active Baltimore County son accomplished so much.

Warren Stitt Seipp was born in Towson, Maryland on February 21, 1873, the son of George W. Seipp, a Union veteran and Freemason, and Anna Goodwin. They lie not far from here. He was educated in Baltimore County and Baltimore City schools and became a member of Polytechnic Institute of Baltimore's teaching staff.

He left teaching to work for Title Guarantee and Trust Company of Baltimore, eventually serving as its vice president. Always interested in education, he served on the School Board of Baltimore City from 1920 until his death in 1930. In fact, what was to be his fatal heart attack occurred at a meeting of the school board.

On June 26, 1894 he married Miss Minnie Held, daughter of Louis Held, a member of the Fraternity. For many years, Brother Held served as a Judge of the Orphans Court of Baltimore County. Minnie and Warran S. Seipp had two children, Mrs. Elizabeth J. Perry and Warren S. Seipp, Jr. who lies in this plot with his wife. Warren, Jr. was also a Mason, proposed for membership by Reverent Brother Dr. Edger Cordell Powers. Dr. Powers served as Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge and pastor of First Methodist Church of Towson, now Towson United Methodist Church, and President of the Maryland Bible Society.

Upon M.W.G.M. Seipp's death on April 11, 1930, he reposed at his home at 4119 Roland Avenue and then lay in state at the Grand Lodge at 225 N. Charles Street in Baltimore. Over 15,000 people paid their respects as his body lay in state.

City and State Police escorted the funeral cortege including over ten flower trucks, to the County line where County Police escorted the funeral procession to Prospect Hill for burial services.

Masonically, Warren Seipp served many organizations as its leader. He was made a Freemason on May 15, 1900 in Mt. Moriah Lodge in Towson and served as its Worshipful Master from 1904 through 1907. He served in several elected Grand Lodge or state offices and in November of 1920 was elected as head of Masons in Maryland, the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

He loved freemasonry and additionally presided over the three local York Rite Bodies and each of the three State York Rite Bodies. At his death, he was the Deputy General Grand Master for a National Body known as the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons. He also served as the leader of many honorary Masonic bodies and was a member of many more.

He became a Scottish Rite Mason and, in 1913, a 33° Scottish Rite Mason in a class named for Brother Major Archibald Butt, President Taft's Military Aide, who perished as a hero as the Titanic sank in 1912.

In 1922, Grand Master Seipp was instrumental in bringing to Maryland the Masonic Youth Group for boys, The Order of DeMolay. The Youth Group became wonderfully successful in Maryland and "Dad" Seipp was most responsible and greatly loved by the boys of DeMolay.

Grand Master Seipp is considered by Maryland Freemasons as the guiding force in purchasing the Bonnie Blink farm in 1928. With the purpose of building a Maryland Masonic Home for members and their wives, "Bonnie Blink" in Cockeysville consumed the considerable talents of Warren Seipp. It was the Masonic Home that was closest to G.M. Seipp's heart at his death. Contemporaries report that waking or sleeping, the efforts to build the home were never far from his mind.

Although not a farmer, it seemed that not a crop was planted, an animal bought or sold, a building constructed or repaired, an acre of land acquired, nor an employee engaged until he had personally examined and approved the transaction. He worked incessantly to increase the Masonic Homes Fund. Like Moses of old who never saw his promised land, Seipp was never to see his beloved Maryland Masonic Homes at Bonnie Blink completed. The Masons of Maryland in 1930 dearly loved and respected M.W.G.M. Warren S. Seipp and laid him to rest erecting a testimony of that affection and love on this spot. It was said then that you could see Bonnie Blink from this spot.

While trees and buildings may challenge us to see the Maryland Masonic Homes from here, they do exist and have grown larger. They prosper, as does the Grand Lodge now housed on Bonnie Blink's grounds. All made possible by the vision and leadership of Warren Stitt Seipp, M.W.G.M. of Masons of Maryland.

It was a debt of gratitude that caused the Freemasons of Maryland today to restore this

site commemorating the heritage of leadership and service represented by our Grand Master. He lies here surrounded by family and brother Freemasons. As Freemasons today, we believe that M.W.G.M. Seipp long ago earned his eternal reward by his faith, a faith that urged men to serve their fellows for the betterment of those here on earth.

Tuscan Lodge No. 202 Raises Youngest Member

On July 16th, by dispensation from Grand Master John R. Biggs, Jr., Tuscan Lodge No. 202 raised Bro. John Berg Kauffman to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. As he turned 18 years old in June, he is one of the youngest Master Masons in the State of Maryland.



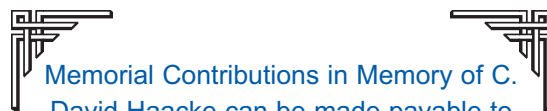
Worshipful Master William D. Hooper Proudly stands behind John, with his father Mark Kauffman, Hurst Hessey, Senior Steward and long time friend, John A. Young, Jr. MWPGM and Senior Deacon for this very special evening. Brother Kauffman is off to college, but says he would like to join the line of officers at Tuscan lodge after his college career is over and finish his journey to the East.

Items For Sale

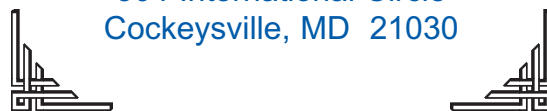
The Grand Lodge office has Masonic books, mugs, and miscellaneous items for sale. Some of these include:

- Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry \$20
- Oktoberfest Steins \$10
- 2007 Harvest Home Day Coins \$2
- Past Harvest Home Day Coins \$1
- Grand Lodge History Books \$5
- GM Biggs Coffee Mugs \$10
- GM Biggs Golf Polo \$30
- MMH Collector's Plate \$5

Contact the office if you are interested in purchasing any of these items.



Memorial Contributions in Memory of C. David Haacke can be made payable to **Masonic Charities of Maryland or Maryland Masonic Homes.**



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

Note from the Grand Lodge Office Staff

The office staff has recently changed their email addresses. Please make the following changes:

- Grand Master: gm0708@glmd.org
 - Deputy GM: rwdgm@glmd.org
 - Grand Secretary: rwgs@glmd.org
 - Grand Treasurer: rwgt@glmd.org
 - General Email: office@glmd.org
 - Linda Hagan: lhagan@glmd.org
 - Linda Zollars: lzmembership@glmd.org
 - Bettie Dunkin: bdunkin@glmd.org
 - Rosie Frevel: rfrevel@glmd.org
 - Ray Vogel: glballroom@glmd.org
- Any mail sent to the covad.net accounts will not be received. Thank You. -Office Staff

MEMORIAL WALL

By now, I hope that many of you have had the chance to see the latest addition to our beautiful campus. During the Family Day Picnic in June, a ground breaking ceremony was held for our Memorial Wall, and during the Harvest Homes Day, the wall was dedicated by the Grand Line. The committee, chaired by consisting of Brothers James B. Coker, Edward A. Foreman, Jr., Albert C. Kaestner, Jr., William R.C. Grau, designer of the wall, Gary A. Harthousen, Sr., builder of the wall, and Stephen J. Ponzillo, III, chairman, have given us a very attractive and important edifice, commemorating all those that served this great country in times of war.



(First Stages of the Wall)



(Nearing Completion)



(The Masonic Memorial Wall in completion)