

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, U.S.A.

MASONIC TEMPLE
225 NORTH CHARLES ST.
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201



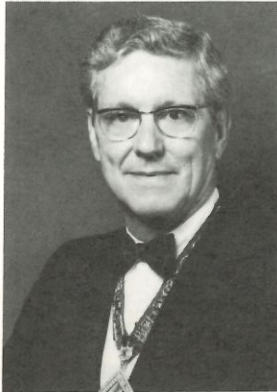
The FREESTATE FREEMASON

Volume 9, No. 3

Fall 1986



A MESSAGE TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND MASONIC FAMILY



The sands of the hourglass of this Grand Master's term are running out all too rapidly.

There is yet much to be done however, to assure that the sands of Masonry in Maryland will never run out.

My objectives and programs over the past two years have primarily dealt with instituting actions to safeguard our future.

- One of them was to unify, synchronize and mutually support the efforts of the Masonic Family in our future endeavors.

• Another was to rally and reinforce our Youth - the future of our Fraternity and our Country. Not only was this effort directed to the Jobies, Rainbows and DeMolays but also to our support of a National Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse among children.

- A third was to reverse the decline of membership through our Solomon II Program by publicizing the purposes and accomplishments of Masonry and attract men of high moral character.

- Then there was one where we marshalled our strength behind Bro. George Della and successfully fought proposed legislation which would have done away with the exemption of property taxes we now enjoy and threatened many of our Lodges with financial disaster. Brethren, we are not out of the woods yet. Let us ever be on the alert for political opportunists and proposed booby-trapped legislation.

- With the establishment of the Masonic Charities of Maryland, Inc., we have created a mechanism where contributions to Grand Lodge for educational and charitable purposes are made tax deductible for donors.

- Of paramount importance is our future financial security which underlies and energizes our institution. One measure taken was the establishment of the Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge No. 1787 where proceeds from memberships are placed in a fund from which the income is applied to worthy projects we could not otherwise maintain from our limited resources.

- Another and more crucial step towards future financial security is a series of amendments to the Grand Lodge Constitution to be voted on at the November Grand Lodge Annual Communication. In essence, an increase only in initiation and affiliation fees will enable us to fund substantial operating deficits which have occurred in recent years; the alternative being to raise per capita assessments. I urge you, my brothers, to do some soul-searching in your Lodges and be sure that your Lodge is represented to vote on these amendments in November. Each Lodge is entitled to two votes which may be cast by proxies if Lodge members are not available to attend Grand Lodge.

Although we are irresistibly drawn into a future which appears foreboding and veiled in darkness, I am convinced that we can survive by continuing to trustingly follow the paths mentioned above.

Congratulations to each of you, your family and friends! You have performed a most excellent job rekindling interest in and programs of Masonry. Your response to the recognition of The Masonic Family, the Solomon II Program and the Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge #1787 has been overwhelming. It is to you that Maryland Masonry owes a big "Thank You"!

My best wishes to you and yours for a future of fulfillment and health. And, again, congratulations!

Sincerely and fraternally,
C. David Haacke
Grand Master

HARVEST HOME DAY - A DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

October 18th is the date featuring food, fun and festivities starting at 6 a.m. Food will be served until 10 a.m. Parking only at the Executive Plaza of the McCormick Industrial Park. Guides will provide parking directions. Busses will be shuttling between the parking area and the center of activities. Special transportation arrangements will be available for the handicapped.

Under the leadership of Bro. John M. Smith, Jr. with Walter T. Peregoy, it takes over 30 members of some 13 committees to plan and bring off this event which is attended by thousands of Master Masons from Maryland and other jurisdictions. Some of the planners are shown in the following photo. Guessing who they are gets you an extra sausage on October 18th.



GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATION NOVEMBER, 1986

In addition to the regular order of business, including election and appointment of Grand Line officers, several amendments to the Grand Lodge Constitution will be considered. The purpose of these amendments is substantially as follows:

- To increase initiation and affiliation fees. (This is applicable only to new members; it does not affect existing members of Lodges). Clergymen are exempt from fees if the Lodge By-Laws so provide.

- To require along with the petition for initiation or affiliation an additional \$5.00 assessment for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. This amendment is not applicable to existing members of Lodges.

- To adjust allocations of that portion of initiation/affiliation fees transmitted to the Grand Lodge between the Grand Lodge Operating Fund Account and the Dr. John Coats Memorial Fund which is an endowment fund.

- To provide a framework for merger of Lodges.

THE FREESTATE FREEMASON

Issued By

The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, U.S.A. through its Committee on Public Relations, Seymour H. Lipshitz, Chairman B. Hope Harrison, William C. Herchenrother, and Harold G. Taylor.

It serves as a medium of keeping the Craft informed of pertinent activities of Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges. It also serves as a vehicle for encouraging and guiding subordinate Lodges to share with the press, community, family and friends those events, activities and personalities which exemplify the purposes and objectives of Masonry.

News items, suggestions, questions are welcome. Mail to:

Editor, THE FREESTATE FREEMASON

522 Nelson Street

Rockville, MD 20850

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FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

DR. JOHN COATS MEMORIAL LODGE #1787

Will be held at the Masonic Temple, Baltimore on Saturday, Oct. 4 at 9 a.m. Line officers will be elected. No person who has held or is holding an elected office in Grand Lodge will be eligible. A continental breakfast and buffet luncheon will be served. The cost of \$5 per person should be sent to Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge No. 1787, 225 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201 by Sep. 30. Regular membership is open to any M.M. in good standing or memorials for M.M.'s from family and/or friends.

SALUTES

• **TOLMAN WILLOUGHBY**, Joppa Lodge No. 132: Tom Chagouris, W.M. of Joppa Lodge can boast about a truly remarkable member. Raised in 1920, Bro. Tolman served as W.M. of Joppa Lodge in 1928, as Secretary for 30 years and as Junior Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Maryland. His memberships also included the York Rite Bodies and the Shrine. His wife Edith passed on early this year after 73 years of marriage. There is one daughter, three surviving grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Residing in Jackson, Missouri since 1985, Bro. Willoughby still attends and participates in the twice monthly meetings of Excelsior Lodge which recently honored him in celebrating his 100th birthday. Attending this event, was Grand Master Bob Gribler of Missouri who mentioned that Bro. Willoughby may be the only 100 year old active Mason in Missouri.

P.M. Willoughby has been a source of inspiration and a model of achievement. We wish him many more years of good health and activity.

• **ROYCE WATSON**, Pentalpha Lodge No. 194: The American Society for Medical Technology (ASMT) picked a winner at its convention this Summer. The "Member of the Year Award," the most coveted award to be given to an individual, was given to Royce Watson, a P.M. of Pentalph #194. He has twice been named Medical Technologist of the Year. He has been a member of the ASMT for 30 years and served as President and Treasurer of both the Maryland and Florida Societies. He is currently the Public Health Advisor at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Bro. Watson was a prime mover in organizing the Douglas MacArthur Chapter, Order of DeMolay. His wife and children have been active in youth organizations. Congratulations Bro. Royce, you are indeed a Mason in word and deed!

• The Supreme Forest, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America recently announced honors accorded Maryland Masons to include.

• **BRO. ANDREW J. "JACK" WILSON** of King David's Lodge #68 as the winner of the Tall Cedar Foundation Trustee of the Year Award.

• Bro. **JOHN W. JAMES** of Howard Lodge #101 as one of the finalists for the Grand Tall Cedar of the Year.

• Bro. **ALBERT A. FLEISHER** of Mt. Hermon Lodge #179 as one of the finalists for the District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar of the Year. Congratulations Brethren!

• **W.M. Bertram L. Edmonston III** of Lynch Lodge #163 recently announced presentation of 70 year service emblems to Bros. **MILLARD RICE** and **CLAYBOURNE M. ZIMMERMAN**; and a 50 year emblem to Bros. **HARRY O. SMITH** and **HOWARD M. SMITH**.

• **RWGS JACK R. FRAZIER**, Silver Spring Lodge #215 was designated as the Chairman of the meeting of Grand Secretaries at the 1987 Conference of Grand Masters of North America.

BONNIE BLINK'S NEW PAVILION

Honoring MWPGM Edward R. Saunders and in memory of P.M. Charles S. Nicewarner, Montgomery Lodge #195, a new 28' x 36' pavilion is completed at the Masonic Homes. Approximately two-thirds of the cost was borne by the York Rite Bodies and other Maryland Masons.

Located near the rear exit of the health care wing, guests having difficulty in walking or those confined to wheelchairs will have easy access to enjoy the fresh air and scenery.

The pavilion will be used for many purposes such as crab feasts and meetings for guests and various authorized Masonic organizations.

Shown below are members of the Board of Trustees' Phase III Building Committee - Harry S. Shipp, Jr. #179; Stephen J. Ponzillo, Jr. #219; and Bro. Hope Harrison, Chairman, inspecting concrete work.



YOU MADE OUR DAY, ALMA

Mrs. Alma R. Reisz, a member of Merchantville Chapter 125, O.E.S. was moved to write a letter to our Grand Master. The letter details the kind treatment accorded to her mother, Harriett Edwards Colbert, who was a guest at Bonnie Blink before she passed away early this year approaching her 96th birthday.

From the time she was greeted in 1980 by Bros. Stanley Uppercue and Phil Baer, Mrs. Slaysman and others, the gentle care she received at the loving hands of the "complete care staff" made this her home, never wanting to spend the night away from this haven. Her funeral was attended by nearly 100 mourners including nephews who are members of Waverly Lodge #152.

Thank you Mrs. Reisz for telling us that our Bonnie Blink is everything we ever hoped it would be.

A CELEBRATED WORKER STANDS IN DENMARK

Bro. Arthur Fields, Cornerstone Lodge #224 thought that we might appreciate the subject of the photo shown at right which was taken in Copehagen, Denmark during his travels with his wife, Elizabeth.



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LODGE NOTES

• **AMICABLE LODGE NO. 25:** W.M. Stephen H. Winer reports a unique event. When the EA Degree was conferred earlier this year on Bro. Ugur Sukru Edev, a member of the Moslem faith, the Koran was the Volume of Sacred Law upon which he was obligated. Some 50 members and visitors were present to witness this Amicable Lodge "first." Many Lodges having members of diverse faiths have the Volume of Sacred Law, representing each faith, resting upon their altars.

Bro. Edev has since passed a successful catechism along with 11 other EAs who are expected to be raised this Fall.

• **FISH FRY LODGE NO. 206:** Just kidding . . . But you'll have to admit the fish fries (35 since 1954) that M.W. Tom Webb and his predecessors of Roelma Lodge No. 206 put on are hard to beat for food, fellowship and entertainment.

The food department is pictured below under the watchful eye of GM Haacke who has declared it a Masonic trust.



Guests included the Delaware Grand Staff including MWGM Henry G. Law and RWDGM Frank A. Battaglia; and PGMs Hutchens, Schuler, Ellis and Blackwell. Present also were GM Haacke, DGM Bryan, other officers of the Grand Line and PGMs Koenig, Rothman and Hopkins.

The principal speaker was Bro. & Rev. Herb Gladden a modern "Friar Tuck" - a combination of wit, personality and spiritual advocate with a penchant for blessing the marriage of religion and Masonry. Appearing with him below, in full regalia, is Bro. Thomas E. Weir, #149, W. Grand Chaplain.



• **SILVER SPRING LODGE NO. 215:** The Lodge Room positively glowed when members of the local Masonic Family including the youth, Eastern Star, Scottish and York Rite bodies witnessed a program of honors in late Spring. GM Haacke, who was accompanied by the Grand Line, received a Certificate of Honorary Membership in Bethel #10 IOJD from Pamela Thomson. In turn, GM Haacke, assisted by W.M. John L. Crull, Jr., made presentations of 10 Charter memberships to the Dr. John Coats Memorial Lodge including a Patriot membership to PM Jerome Harris.

Distinguished members were called to the Altar and appropriately recognized. Among these were 10 PM's (including PGM George Moyer of D.C., an affiliated PM) and a most distinguished member, Bro. C. Fred Kleinknecht, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33°, A.A.S.R. of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. Bro. Kleinknecht was accorded special recognitions and is shown below between GM Haacke and RWGS Frazier.

Entertainment was furnished by the Chanters from the Almas and Kena Shrine Temples.



KENSINGTON LODGE NO. 198: W.M. Emile E. Joseph's communication before the Summer recess typifies the upbeat character of his year. GM Haacke, the Grand Line, the 15 Kensington PMs and other brothers present had an opportunity to break bread; meet the members of the Montgomery Assembly No. 11, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and members of the Kensington Chapter, Order of DeMolay. They also observed the presentation of charter memberships to the Dr. John Coats Lodge and presentations by the GM of 50 year service emblems to Bros. Jesse E. Farrell and Raymond D. Chapman. They viewed a MM catechism examination; participated in an informative question and answer period and were entertained by a quartette.

Pictured below is a group of DeMolays. The one without a costume is GM Haacke, one of the boys.



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to preserve our traditions
and objectives*

A GRAND MASTER'S CREED

In his talk on the revered PGM Thomas J. Shryock during Roelma Lodge's 76th anniversary, PGM Tom Middleton quoted GM Shryock's religious philosophy as follows: "I believe in the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, in the teachings of the great light of Masonry which rests on every Masonic altar. The roof of my church is the starry-decked Heaven which covers the world. I consider all men my brothers and I am every man's friend. I am a firm believer in what I have always pleased to call the 11th Commandment, given by the Redeemer of the world himself and that is 'Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself' "

STILL GOING STRONG

The oldest Masonic Lodge in continuous operation in the United States is Solomon's Lodge No. 1, F. & A.M. which was organized by General Oglethorpe in 1734. It is now located in the Cotton and Naval Stores Exchange at 100 Bay St., Savannah, Georgia. The exchange was the center of commerce when Savannah was the world's foremost cotton port. The building shown below is the first to straddle a public street according to the legal principle of "air rights."



By the way, the oldest Masonic Lodge in Maryland is Washington #3 which was instituted in 1770. At least, that's what it says on a commemorative plate owned by Bro. Tom Harvey of Temple Lodge #11, Wilmington, Delaware. The plate was issued on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Bro. George Washington.

REPATRIATION OF WAR ARTIFACTS OR SOUVENIRS

M.W. Bro. Chester L. Ditto, G.M. of Japan is soliciting support of a special project announced at the communication of the Grand Lodge of Japan recently. The objective of the project is to locate war artifacts picked up by military personnel during WW II and return them to families as possibly the only tangible evidence or remembrance of a deceased person. Items such as diaries, personal photos, letters, flags, sen-ninbari (a white cloth band containing a red sun emblem embroidered with the names of family and friends) and other personal items of the Japanese military person may be forwarded either to Mr. Wesley C. Fairbanks, Metro Dental Laboratory, 609 Industry Drive, Hampton, VA 23661; or Mr. Robert D. Stansbury, 117 Del Rey Drive, Vacaville, CA 95688. The following accompanying information would also be appreciated: Name and address of the donor; place and date of finding the item; and circumstances under which the item was discovered.

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M.S.A. PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Commissioners of The Masonic Service Association of the United States have just announced that M.W. Bro. Richard E. Fletcher, PGM of Masons in Vermont has been selected to succeed R.W. Bro. Stewart M.L. Pollard, Executive Secretary/Treasurer of M.S.A. whose resignation is effective on December 31, 1987. M.W. Bro. Fletcher will join the M.S.A. "family" in August 1987.

DEMOLAY ACTIVITIES

• Highlights - 1986 Conclave: The 50th Conclave of the Maryland State Association of DeMolay Chapters (MSADC) was held at Salisbury State College, August 8-10th. As reported by Bro. Ed Garrant, Editor of the "Maryland DeMolay Monitor," there were many activities featured, including athletic events, degree work, a business meeting and elections.

MIKE McGUFFIE was elected State Master Councilor, JEFF DILL, State Senior Councilor and MIKE McKAY State Junior Councilor.

As the result of the Sweetheart Competition, Miss JOYCE LITRELL of Frederick MSADC was designated Sweetheart for 1986-1987 and Miss SANDY JOHNS of Glen Burnie as Miss Congeniality for 86-87.

At the closing banquet, it was announced that the installation of officers would be on September 12 in the Corinthian Room of the Baltimore Temple at 8 p.m. The guest speaker at the banquet was MWGM C. David Haacke.

The MSADC thanks all Maryland Masons for their support over the past 50 years, looking forward for at least 50 more years of a unified Masonic Family in Maryland.

• MASONIC YOUTH NIGHT: Sponsored by the ILL. Potentate, Charles W. Thomas, Jr. this event was held on Sep. 19th at Boumi Temple. Entertainment and refreshment as usual.

• YOUTH DAY ACTIVITY CRUISE: GM Haacke has again reserved the craft Port Welcome. The date is Oct. 11 with boarding from 11:30 to 12 Noon returning at 3 p.m. Tickets are now available.

• BALTIMORE CHAPTER, ORDER OF DeMOLAY: As reported by Bro. Wayne C. Mason, Scribe Advisor of Boumi Temple, William J. Fletcher, Assistant Rabban, is committed to establishing a DeMolay Chapter within the city limits of Baltimore which will meet at Boumi Temple. The initial Advisory Council of the new Chapter has been formed. Their efforts to date have produced some recommended names along with names from three defunct chapters. Assistance of all Masons throughout the State is vital. Recommended names of prospective young men for this new Chapter should be forwarded to the Membership Committee of Baltimore Chapter, Order of DeMolay at Boumi Temple.

A target date of Sep. 18, 19, and 20th was set for the new chapter to begin.

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A VIEW OF THE AUGUST SCENE

As reported by Program Chairman, Carl J. Wisner, the Seventh Annual August Scene held in Westminster on August 1 and 2 proved to be another successful Masonic Summer highlight. This event is open to all Master Masons and their ladies.

Hon. Leroy L. Conaway, Mayor of Westminster welcomed all attendees to the city at the opening of the proceedings. The program was entertaining, enlightening and instructive with the theme "Let There be Light." The full slate of distinguished speakers including GM Haacke brought variety and interest to the program.

Some 45 ladies enjoyed a historical house tour followed by lunch and a talk by Mrs. J. Richard Kearney on "Shell Creations."

At the banquet on the second evening, 120 guests were entertained by the principal speaker, RWDGM Joseph C. Bryan, III.

Shown in the photo below are Program Chairman Carl J. Wisner, Mayor Leroy L. Conaway of Westminster and GM C. David Haacke.



DETERMINATION AND SPIRIT

Being a champion at softball, racquetball, basketball, an all-around athlete and competent umpire is an impressive profile for any person. Only, this one, Jim Leatherman, has no legs!

He lost them in 1965 at age 6, when he was run over by a train in East Baltimore. His case came to the attention of Bro. Lloyd E. Phillips who arranged to have him admitted to the Philadelphia Shriners' Hospital for crippled children. He was treated, fitted with artificial limbs and returned home.

Some time later, after numerous hospitalizations, Jim started playing sandlot softball without artificial limbs, managing to get around the bases as fast as his peers. He became extraordinarily capable as a softball umpire working for the Baltimore Department of Recreation. Jim also held the national title as Singles Racquetball Champion of the Handicapped for four years in a row.

Jim was selected to the U.S. All-Star Basketball Team which participated in the international wheelchair tournament this Summer in Madrid, taking first place; and London, where they won a bronze medal.

He is employed at the Social Security Administration and was married this past June to Miss Nancy Thompson.

As pointed out by John Steadman, sports Editor for the News American, in numerous articles, "Jim Leatherman is a remarkable example of what the human spirit can accomplish if given a chance to assert itself;" also, "that determination can carry a man to the heights of his potential whether he's three feet tall, without legs, or the size of a towering oak, if he will only give himself a chance."



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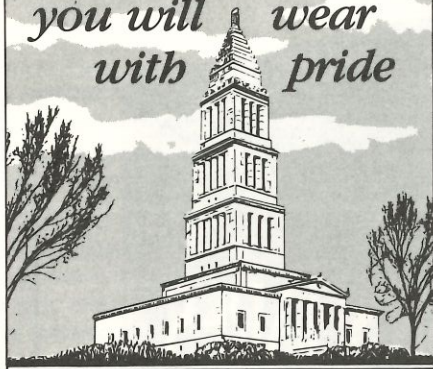
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October

- 1 Seat Pleasant #218
- 2 Sinepuxent #193
- 4 Dr. John Coats #1787, 1st Mtg.
- 6 Cambridge #66
- 7 Prudence #190
- 8 Esdraelon #176
- 9 Lynch #163
- 11 Youth Day Cruise
- 13 Montgomery #195
- 14 Camp Springs #227
- 15 Bd. of Trustees meeting
- 15 Hiram #107
- 16 Amicable #25
- 17 Bd. of Managers meeting
- 18 Harvest Home Day
- 20 Oriental #158
- 21 Camp Springs #227
- 22 Patmos #70
- 23 Palestine #189
- 24 Mt. Moriah #116
- 30 Boumi-Masters & Wardens

November

- 3 Evergreen #153
- 5 Granite #177
- 12 Bd. of Trustees meeting
- 13 Pentalpha #194
- 14 Bd. of Managers meeting
- 16 G.L. Rel. Svc. Bonnie Blink
- 17 G.L. Annual Communication

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