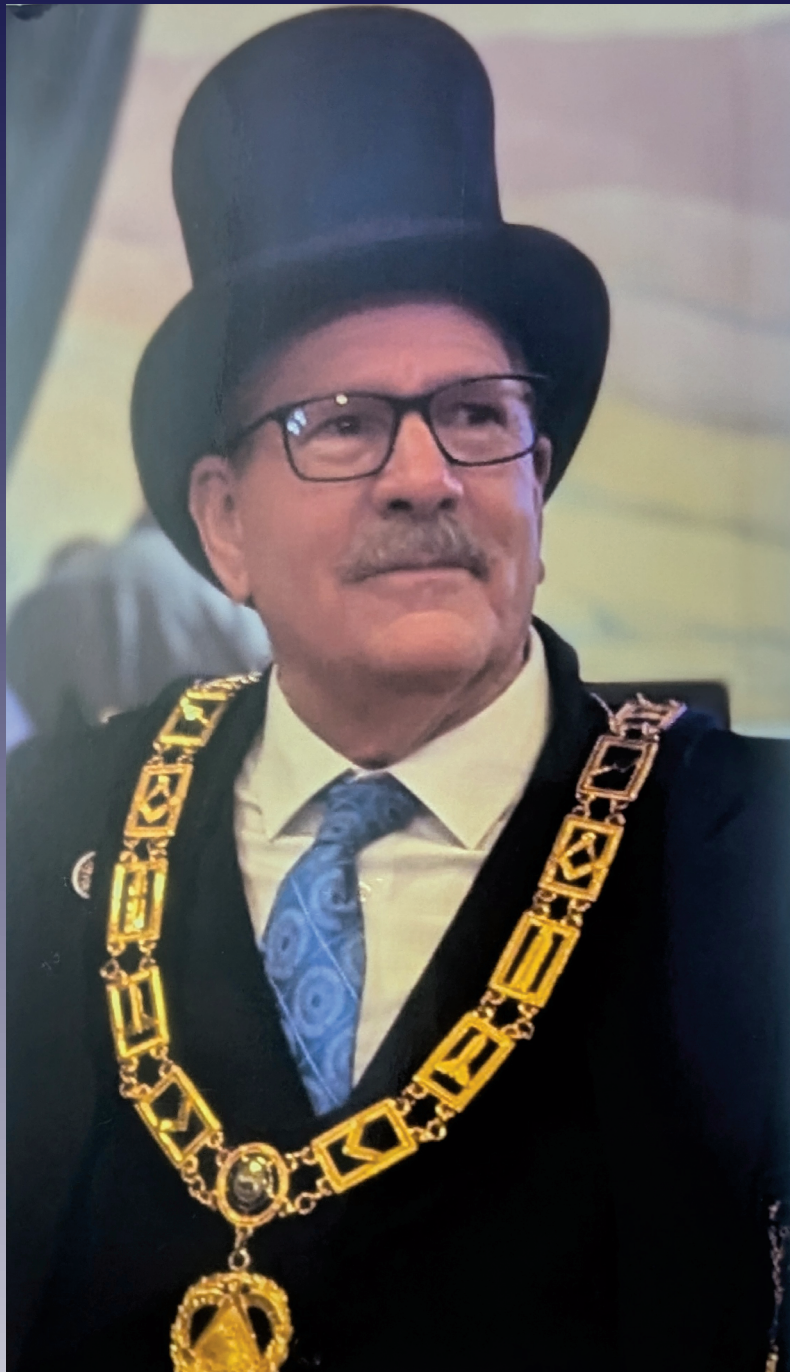


SUMMER 2024

THE MAINE MASON



**MW Donald W. Pratt,
Grand Master of Masons in Maine**

VOL. 50, NO. 3

When I got the call from MW Dan Barlett to discuss the Maine Mason and George Pulkkinen's interest in retiring from his post, I was immediately interested, full of ideas, excited, and raring to go. But, I was also hit with the weight of the project. Though I could call on my years in the publishing industry, would I be able to take on this beloved publication, that's been under the brilliant care of one of our most respected Grand Masters?

After agreeing (immediately) to throw myself into the mix, I had several discussions with George and some of the frequent contributors to the magazine. Then one afternoon I found myself sitting on George's back deck, surrounded by birds while we talked about his tenure at the magazine. With a few hilarious stories and words of encouragement, I felt a weight lift, and knew that things would work out.

This is one of the main reasons why I love Masonry: no matter what situation or time of life you are in, there are brethren who have been in like situation, and are more than willing to help you through with a few wise words of advice. Akin to calls with my Dad, we just need to tap into that wealth of knowledge that is all around us, always ready to listen, and more than happy to help.

So Brethren, please be somewhat forgiving on my first voyage out... we have some new features, and the continuation of some longstanding ones. Please read through this issue thoroughly, and let me know what you would like to see more (or less) of!

Fraternally,
Marlon E. Welch, Editor



George, fittingly at the helm of the USS Constitution. This issue is dedicated to his 25 years at the helm of the Maine Mason.

THE MAINE MASON

THE MAINE MASON is an official publication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The material printed herein does not necessarily represent opinions of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Members of lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions, or non-members, are invited to subscribe to THE MAINE MASON at \$5.00 per year within the United States. Cost for subscriptions outside the US is \$8.00 annually. Please call the Grand Lodge office to subscribe or send check payable to the Grand Lodge of Maine with complete mailing and email address, to the Grand Secretary at PO Box 430, Holden, ME 04429-0430.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Subscribers are advised to notify the Grand Secretary's office of any address changes.

All submissions of photos and articles for inclusion in THE MAINE MASON should be mailed directly to the Editor at either the email or postal addresses below.

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Deadline for the next issue of The Maine Mason will be November 15th, 2024. All materials should be sent directly to the editor.

From The Grand East

Greetings from the Grand East,

It has been just over two months since I had the privilege of being installed as Grand Master. I would like to thank the installation team, headed up by Most Worshipful Brother David Walker, for a truly memorable experience. At this writing we are preparing for the annual Northeast Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries to be held in Roanoke VA. Your Grand Secretary and I have also represented Maine at New Hampshire's, Rhode Island's, and Vermont's annual communications. The opportunity to share ideas and improve our fraternal relations is invaluable.

District Meetings

The majority of District Deputies have contacted our Grand Marshal, Wor. Bro. Leonard Goodine to schedule the annual visit from the Grand Lodge elected officers. All District meetings this year will be semi-public, and I look forward to many a great meal, and an opportunity to celebrate Maine Freemasonry. I encourage all Lodges to use the time to showcase their Districts with well-planned, well-attended meetings. Look for a list of the district meetings schedule on the back page of this magazine. You can also find dates on the Grand Lodge website under the calendar listings.

Future Planning

Each and every one of us needs to constantly plan for the road ahead at the local lodge level and at the Grand Lodge level. To that end, we have formed a committee for the 250th celebration of our country's independence. Masons were a big part of the founding of our country and Masons should be a visible part of this important milestone. If you want to become involved, reach out to our Deputy Grand Master Jeffery Simonton. He will welcome your thoughts and assistance.

I have also held a meeting of all Masonic body heads in our Grand Jurisdiction on Sunday July 28th at Anah Temple in Bangor. This was an opportunity for us to share ideas, talk about ways to assist each other, improve communication, and plan together for our future. We also had a presentation from our Charitable Foundation Executive Director Susan Scacchi. She was on hand to provide information about the Foundation and talk about ways to best use the resources at our disposal.

A training session for DDGMs, DERs, and DRIs is also

in the works. The number one question asked at the April training session was: When can we have more training? Look for an announcement on OLP in the near future.

Charitable Foundation

Your Charitable Foundation continues its good works. Brotherhood and relief grant requests are the cornerstone of our pledge to support our membership. Our Brother Grand Marshal will highlight information about those programs at the upcoming District meetings. The matching grants program continues to provide valuable assistance to the lodges, enabling them to be active, visible members of the communities they reside in. The program committee meets regularly to help provide a vision for the best use of our resources. They are tasked not only with current funding requests, but have an eye to the future. Answering the question: Where can we have the most impact as a foundation? The trustees have also approved funding for the purchase of two complete aluminum handicap ramps. These are to be loaned out on an as-needed basis. For further information on this program, please reach out to our Executive Director.

In closing, this is an exciting time for Freemasonry in Maine. The hard work of our many dedicated members has caught the attention of the public-at-large. The ideals that we as Masons hold dear are what the world is in need of today and every day. It is incumbent upon each and every one of us to be the best example of what it means to be a Mason.

Fraternally,
Donald Pratt,
Grand Master



From The Grand Secretary's Desk

Hello from Holden!

I'm going to share a few of the ways our lodges are making an impact in communities around the jurisdiction. There are numerous examples of Maine lodges helping in their communities, some for many years financially supporting the same organization.

Here's just a few examples: Our brethren in the Number 1 District have for more than 20 years supported the Aroostook Teen Leadership Camp. The 5-day camp being held this year at the University of Maine campus in Fort Kent brings County teens in grades 6, 7, & 8 together in a substance-free environment to develop leadership skills, make friends, and explore teen topics with behavior and medical professionals, college students, and teens who have previously attended.

Cruise down Boulevard 95 a couple hundred miles and we have Felicity Lodge No. 19 in Orland who earlier this year supported the Bucksport High School Robotics Team 6329 (a nationally ranked team!), Bikes for Books at the local middle school, and recently partnered with the Town of Bucksport and

others to provide funding for the local day-long Bay Festival that ends with fireworks over the Penobscot River. Their donation will fund 90% of the cost of a parking lot full of inflatables (bounce house, obstacle course, and the like) for kids to play on, all day, free of charge.

Another 130 miles or so down the Big Road and we have Presumpscot Lodge making a big impact on National Night Out being held this year at St. Joseph's College in Standish. Designed to promote law enforcement-community member partnerships and camaraderie, Presumpscot Lodge has joined with Maine Rainbow to make a difference financially and take part as well in this annual nationwide community event.

These few examples and the many other projects that 145 lodges in Maine take part in all use matching funds from the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation. If you were to scroll through the list of organizations that were helped last year you would be impressed at the sheer number and broad types of groups, we as Freemasons help. It is inspiring! For those lodges who haven't used a matching grant yet, why not? And you can't say you don't have any

money because many of the lodges that participate are not financially well off. They raise money by doing a supper or breakfast or soliciting local businesses for donations to the worthy cause the lodge is supporting. And, it doesn't have to be a lot of money. \$125.00 matched by the Foundation is a \$250.00 donation to a group in your community, who I assure you will be grateful for your support. That exemplifies that as Freemasons we do care about our communities and we show that in concrete ways, not just in words.

The next important thing is to talk about what your lodge is doing! Get it on a Facebook page! Ask the group you're helping to mention the Masons or your lodge and our Charitable Foundation when they are talking about their efforts to make the community better for all. You just have to take that first step and follow through. When that Brother in your lodge says he has an idea to help out a group in town, listen! Support him, because he obviously wants to make a difference and see the good men in his lodge be an engaged and successful part of the community!

MW Daniel Bartlett

"Found" Masonry

Ever come across an image, an object, or a bit of text that had no Masonic connection, but immediately struck you because it reflected one of our teachings or symbols? In this issue, we present a bit of wisdom from a fortune cookie, and the Volkl ski logo! Send in anything you think might fit in here for the next issue.



Day Spring Lodge Helps After April Nor'easter

Day Spring Lodge #107 in West Newfield, ME opened their doors to help their community warm up, charge devices, and enjoy a warm meal while they waited for line crews to clean up and restore power over the weekend following the April 4th 2024 Nor'easter. The high winds and heavy snow knocked out power to over 350,000 customers in Maine alone.

The brethren of the lodge and their spouses (many without power themselves) came together to set up and fuel generators and small heaters as well as make boiled dinners with ham and corned beef. They were open Friday evening and from 2 pm - 6 pm on both Saturday and Sunday after the storm. Many local residents attended, as well as two families who came from nearby New



Hampshire. The efforts and outreach of the lodge were well received and greatly appreciated by the community in a time of need.



Ross Receives 65 Year Star



RW S. Clyde Ross received his 3rd Bronze Star, for 65 years of membership in Maine Lodge #20, now of Wilton, Maine, on March 4th, 2024. Twice a Past Master of Maine Lodge #20, Bro. Ross was also District Deputy of the 15th District, Past Assistant Grand Lecturer, and former member of the Grand Lodge Education Committee under MW Walter MacDougall.

Pictured above are RW Ross (front left), RW Ernest W. Lowell (front right) presenting the Bronze Star, while Bro. Peter Wade (rear left) and Wor. Richard Dorian (rear right) look on.

Knife & Fork Club

An army marches on its stomach, as the saying goes, so here we highlight one of the chefs in our midst. If your lodge has a Brother who is devoted in the kitchen, JW or not, send him our way to be featured in a future issue.



Michael J. Chambers is a Past Master of Caleb Butler lodge in Ayer, MA. He is a member of Triangle #1, Hiram #180, and Cornerstone #216 lodges in Maine. Mike started his cooking career at the Digital Computer Corporate sales building in Stow, Massachusetts where he was taught to cook by Chef Jill Stimpson. One of his favorite meals to make is Jilly's Chili which he named after her. Interestingly, Mike has an allergy to black pepper, so he doesn't cook with it!

Mike loves to cook and has been seen helping in many lodge kitchens in Southern Maine. From Table Lodges to Lodge stated meetings, he is a cook at heart, and can often be found in the kitchen. Two years ago, the CPA firm he was working for was sold and Mike became the Scottish Rite Secretary for the Valley of Portland & Maine Consistory. He is a member of the Kora Klown unit, Joppa Chapter in York Rite, and the Grand Lodge Finance Committee. Here's one of his favorite recipes for a meeting.

Meatloaf for 25

Meatloaf Ingredients:

- 6 lbs ground beef
- 3 medium onions, finely chopped
- 6 eggs
- 7 Garlic cloves, minced
- 9 Tbsp Ketchup
- 2 cups Panko breadcrumbs
- 1 cup milk
- 4 tsp salt
- 5 tsp Italian seasoning
- Cooking gloves to wear while mixing

Meatloaf topping:

- 2 cups ketchup
- 4 tsp White vinegar
- 5 Tbsp dark brown sugar
- 3 tsp garlic powder
- 2 tsp onion powder
- Salt & pepper to taste

Recipe:

1. Line four 9" by 5" loaf pans with parchment paper and preheat oven to 375° F.
2. In a bowl, add all meatloaf ingredients. Mix well by hand to combine.
3. Gently press the meat down into each loaf pan and shape it evenly.
4. Bake at 375° F for 40 minutes. Remove from oven.
5. In a small bowl, mix all the topping ingredients. Spread the topping over the meatloaf and cook the meatloaf for another 15 minutes. Internal temperature should be 160° F. Rest for 10 to 15 minutes before slicing.



Masonic Graces—some hand-picked prayers for before a Masonic Meal.

1. Brethren, as we are gathered tonight, united in the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, let us give thanks to the Grand Architect of the Universe for the food, drink, and good companionship that we are about to enjoy. Amen.

2. Let us give thanks for the food and drink we have laid before us, and for the good companionship we enjoy each month, but most of all we ask that the Great Architect continue to help us to practice outside the lodge those virtues we have been taught in it. Amen.

3. Mason one, and Masons all, Masons here from wall to wall, Masons thick and Masons fast, all thanking God for a great repast. May our grateful thanks ascend, to him from whom all bless-

ings flow. May we have a square meal, within the length of our cable-tow. May the blessings of Heaven rest upon us, and all regular Masons! May brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement us. May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless that which his bounty has prepared for us, and may he give us grateful hearts and help us to supply the wants and needs of our fellow creatures. Amen. So Mote It Be.

**Contributed by Bro. Mark Coosard,
Fraternal Lodge #55, Alfred, ME**

Traveling Men

Brothers from the Valley of Aroostook traveled to the Scottish Rite Reunion at the Valley of Bangor on April 20, 2024.

Pictured left to right: Illustrious Jeff Simonton (Deputy GM and Deputy of SR for the State of Maine), Bro. Benjamin Boyden (Limestone Lodge #214), Bro. George Glew (Limestone Lodge #214), and Bro. Jonathan Purdy (Katahdin Lodge #98). All originally met at the reunion in October of 2023 in Portland when they joined the Scottish Rite, entailing a 7 hour round trip from Patten, and a 9 hour round trip from Limestone!



Operative, As Well As, Speculative Masonry

Brother Larry “Jake” Luce works on the restoration of the bell tower at the Pemaquid Lighthouse, which was destroyed by the back-to-back winter storms we just had in December and January. Owner of Larry Luce Masonry, Jake was selected by the restoration



committee for his fine craftsmanship and work ethic. He was able to salvage most of the bricks, cleaned them, and is now using them to rebuild the structure. He expects to complete the project by the end of the summer.

Jake is a member of Mt. Olivet Lodge No. 203 in Washington and was raised by his grandfather, World War II veteran, Wor. Roland Luce.



Ripley Receives 50 Year Medal



RW Brother Russell Thompson presented Brother Fred Ripley his 50 yr Medal in Port Charlotte, FL on March 14th, 2024. Brother Ripley is a 51 year member of Aurora Lodge #50 in Rockland.



Masonic Light in Dark and Lonely Times

As we travel along the level of time, we often encounter unexpected obstacles during that journey, most notably spending time in the hospital or an assisted living facility. These life events can leave a brother or family member discouraged as they cope with an extended illness.

Many of us are blessed with the support of family and friends who are there to bring love and positivity to a difficult situation. But the reality is that they can't be with us all the time. When left with no one we love nearby to keep us uplifted and comforted to deter loneliness from consuming our hearts and our thoughts, doubt and fear are often not far behind.

But caring brethren can help prevent those negative thoughts and feelings of loneliness and doom. As brothers, we are obligated to care for one another. A member of our Masonic family may need financial support or help getting essential tasks done. As members of this Masonic family, we are here to meet those needs. But often, we overlook a brother's non-tangible need: spiritual, emotional, and mental health. We try to be as supportive as possible, but sometimes, the little things can be of the most significant help.

Reminding a brother or family member that they are not alone, especially at night when doubt tends to creep in, is when those little things can make the most significant difference in a brother's mental and physical recovery. Webster Lodge has implemented a "Masonic Light" as part of our brotherly support program. This "Masonic Light" for brothers and family members undergoing inpatient care helps to fill the void loneliness brings. This is a simple Square and Compasses, backlit with a soft blue light.

When the need arises, we bring the brothers this light to place in their room. It is to remind them that in what may seem like their darkest hour, when loneliness starts to make its presence known, they are not alone. It reminds them that they are part of something greater than themselves. That there are people who care about them. When the member's stay has finished, the light is returned to the lodge until it is needed again. We cannot take credit for this idea. But when we heard of this concept, we embraced it and made it our own. We strive to do all we can to alleviate a brother's burden from their head and heart.

Contributed by Wor. Robert S. Latlippe, Jr.

Master, Webster Lodge #164

“Cuimhnich air na daoine o’n d’ thainig thu”

“Remember the men from whom you sprang”

Quote From
Journeying in Macdougall Country
by Brother Walter Marshall
Macdougall

“We sail the same galleys of human experience as those from whom we sprang no matter what new era rims our horizon. They stand beside us at the steering oar in the age old winds. In times of storms, we feel their hand on the oar and when the wind is fair and fresh we seem to hear their laughter and their call for sail”

In our 200 years of Masonry Governed by the Grand Lodge of Maine, we have had countless Brothers who we should remember. Below this are four Brothers who would fall into that category. A short biography for each follows their introduction.

Brother James Stuart Holmes esq. was born in 1792 in what was Hebron, later Oxford, Maine. In 1822, he moved to Foxcroft with his brothers. In 1824 he was raised in Penobscot Lodge # 39 in Garland, one of the earliest men in the county to join the Masons. In 1827 he was a Charter Member of Mosaic Lodge in Sangerville, later Dover-Foxcroft. William Miller proclaimed that the Second Coming of Christ was to occur in the spring of 1843. According to a March 7, 1845 article in the Piscataquis Farmer published in Dover, a group of followers had been holding meetings in Atkinson. They ”had been going about in Atkinson from place

to place begging.” They were led by “Israel Dammon, a common railer or brawler.” On Saturday February 15, 1845, 50 or 60 “Disappointed” Millerites had gathered in James Ayer Jr’s house in Atkinson. The group, led by Israel Dammon, featured “Visionary Prophets ” Ellen White Harmon of Portland & Miss Dorinda Baker of Orrington. As a child, Harmon had been struck in the nose with a rock and had been in a coma for 3 weeks. Subsequently, she had visions and was considered a Prophet.

Dammon was arrested at that meeting in Ayer’s house and subsequently arraigned. Being destitute, he lacked Counsel.

Brother Holmes, Graduate of Brown University, volunteered to represent Dammon without compensation. On February 17 a raucous trial lasting four days took place.

Throughout the trial “a series of interruptions took place including: praying, singing, shouting, groans, applause, prostrating, and other distractions. Testimonies for the Prosecution & Defense contradicted each other. The subject of kissing came up 26 times. Part of their faith - sisters kiss brothers – brothers kiss sisters. Which brothers went into the bedroom with Sister Baker for Prophecy and Spiritual inspiration? Which women crawled on the floor? Which men butting them from behind?” J. F. Sprague the Maine Historical Society May 20, 1886.

Throughout, Holmes kept his composure. From the Sprague Paper: “Above all these distracting sounds could be heard Mr. Holmes’ eloquent argument for religious freedom and toleration, and the right of every person to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, under his own vine and fig tree...one of the grandest defenses of religious toleration and freedom that has ever been.” Verdict – Not Guilty.

Brother Walter Morrill was raised in Piscataquis Lodge # 44 October

Oct. 22, 1869. In April 1872 he became a Charter member of Pleasant River Lodge in Brownville. On 7, 1876 he joined Penobscot Lodge # 39 in Dexter. In January 1893 he joined Meridian Lodge # 125 in Pittsfield.

Born 11/13/1840 in Williamsburg, Maine, he worked on his father’s farm and in slate quarries. In April 1861 he enlisted in the Brownville Rifles. They merged to become Co A 6th Maine Volunteers. In September he became Sergeant Morrill. In late 1862, he transferred to Company B of the 20th Maine Regiment where he was promoted to Captain. At Gettysburg on Little Round Top, he commanded Company B behind the stone wall, giving flanking fire on the Alabama troops. In March 1865, he was promoted to Lt. Colonel Morrill, Commander of the 20th Maine Regiment. He replaced Col Joshua Chamberlain after Chamberlain was promoted to Brigadier General. Col Morrill was in command of the 20th Maine Regiment at Appomattox when they, and other Union Troops, got in front of Lee’s army and forced the surrender. He was the 20th Maine’s last commander and led it in the Grand Review of the Armies in Washington D.C. 1865. He mustered out June 4, 1865. In 1898 he was presented the Medal of Honor for “Gallantry at Rappahannock Station.” At his death in 1935, sources said that he was arguably the Oldest Mason in Maine. April 2010 posting on Find A Grave Memorial. “Remembering you today, Col Morrill. May you rest in eternal Heavenly Peace. With utmost respect, SIR!”

Brother Dana Maxfield’s grave-stone in the China Village Cemetery, has a Square & Compass at the top and the inscription “Shot by a Desperado in Wellington Kansas Apr 27, 1872.” In 1860 at eighteen he enlisted in the 22nd Regt. Wounded June 27, 1862 at Gaines’ Mill, he was discharged for

Remember cont.

disability April 14, 1863 in Alexandria. In 1870 he was in Toulon, Illinois as a merchant. In 1872, he was a "town proprietor" in Wellington, Kansas. He was involved in the booming Texas cattle business living fifty miles south of the Chisholm Trail end in Wichita.

The Chisholm Trail Museum is located in Wellington KS. When contacted, museum staff returned a link to an article, posted on Newspapers.com. The article was published by the Wichita Eagle, Wichita Kansas 3 May 1872.

"On the heels of the killing of three men at Caldwell, within a few days comes news of a tragedy at Wellington, fifty miles below here. Last Saturday two men, Lynch and Hopkins, were drinking in the same saloon, an altercation ensued. Lynch drew his revolver and fired at Hopkins, the ball missing him and penetrating the heart of a Mr. Maxfield, one of the town proprietors sitting nearby. Maxfield was dead before he struck the floor. Lynch got in two more shots, one through Hopkins and the other through his own leg and foot. Hopkins will recover. Lynch was called upon by the vigilantes of Caldwell on Monday night, taken from the constable, whose hands were tied, and hung to a tree until dead. Maxfield was a member of their organization. Lynch was a frontier desperado."

Brother Granville A. Hayden was born in 1837, in Corinna, son of Freeman and Sarah Hayden. He married Irene Sargent Rose in 1863. In 1866 he joined Trinity Lodge # 130 in Presque Isle. He was a store owner and a popular, respected Sheriff's Deputy in Presque Isle.

This account is derived from several sources, including: Officer Down Memorial Page www.odmp.com, Bangor Daily News - June 17, 1965,

and Digital Commons at UM Vol 40 #2 by Dena Lynn Winslow York. A number of other versions also exist.

While dates vary among accounts, the episode took place between April 26 and May 2 in 1873.

A pair of boots had been stolen from Dudley's store in Mapleton sometime during the night of April 27, 1873. By their size, 14, it was generally assumed that Jim Cullen had to have been the thief and something must be done. On April 28, an arrest warrant for Cullen was issued in Presque Isle. Deputy Granville Hayden volunteered to go after him and deputized William Hubbard to accompany him. On April 29, they set out for Swanbeck's Shingle Mill in Chapman Plantation where Cullen was reported to be.

Arriving late that afternoon, they found Jim Cullen. Here, the different stories diverge. Some say that Hayden took Cullen outside the camp and showed him the warrant. He told him that, if he ran away during the night to New Brunswick, nothing further would be done. Others say that Hayden tried to secure Cullen overnight somehow in the sawmill and take him back to Presque Isle the next day. Regardless of which one Deputy Hayden intended, Cullen sneaked back into the camp in the early morning of April 30th. Grabbing an ax from the wall, he first struck sleeping Hayden and then Hubbard in the head, killing them instantly. Mill owner Swanbeck and employee Minot Bird, awakened by the noise, begged for their lives. Cullen agreed, on the condition that they help him dispose of the bodies by burning the camp. They agreed and, when they saw a chance, escaped in only their underwear and stockings. They ran barefoot in the snow without stopping, until the first house to tell their tale.

Men from Mapleton immediately began searching for Cullen. He was found and brought back to Dudley's store where he was tied to a post since they had no jail. By that night, a small group started out to take Cullen to Presque Isle. Just outside the village, a group of masked men took him away, lynched him, and put him back on the wagon in a box. A little further down the road they encountered a second mob containing up to 100 men who also intended to lynch him. The mob dispersed after finding he was already dead. The Coroner's Jury found Cullen had been killed by a mob of unknown masked men. After a few days, his body was buried in the Presque Isle town dump.

My Great Grandfather Potter, eleven at the time of the murder, wrote a poem, later in life, describing the murder. A copy is held at the UMPI Library in Presque Isle. The last stanza of his poem is written below.

"The Murder of Granville Hayden" by LF Potter

*"Now the simple country people
Tell you with bated breath
Of Cullen's fearful executions
Of Hayden and his comrade's death
And the spot where once the camp
stood
Is marked by a hemlock tree
Flitting neath whose somber shadows
Spirit forms they think they see."*

"Cuimhnich air na daoine o'n d' thainig thu"

Contributed by Donald McDougal

Continue Your Masonic Journey

Scottish Rite – Shrine One Day Class

Kora Shrine, Lewiston, October 19, 2024



The three Blue Lodge degrees represent the beginning of a lifelong journey where men pursue self-improvement as morally upright, educated, spiritual men, while building strong ties with like-minded individuals. The degrees launch a journey where we selflessly share our time, caring, knowledge and charitable giving to benefit our brothers, families, communities and society. The trip becomes a fulfilling and life-changing experience.

As meaningful and rewarding as our Blue Lodge experience is, it may be but the beginning of an exciting values-based journey available to Freemasons; an opportunity to grow personally while benefiting our family and friends as well as strangers that we may never meet.

These first steps lead us to the Scottish Rite, Shrine and other Masonic organizations offering brotherhood and charitable opportunities. So why is this a great time to become a Scottish Rite 32 degree Mason and Shriner?

The Scottish Rite is recognized worldwide for its 29 philosophical degrees; substantial college scholarships; brotherly relief; and 45 children's dyslexia centers serving over 1,300 children each year while training hundreds of teachers to tutor these children, one-on-one.

The Shrine is also world renowned for its 20 orthopedic and burn centers. And the Shrine is fun-focused, with its clowns and other units appearing in parades throughout Maine,

across the country and beyond.

October 19th is your first opportunity to participate in a Scottish Rite/Shrine one-day class in Maine in ten years.

Master Masons may join both bodies in one day. It's a great opportunity to experience additional Scottish Rite degrees and expand your circle of friends and brothers. We also urge Shriners to become members of the Rite, and members of the Rite to become Shriners.

ALL Shriners and Scottish Rite Masons are encouraged to attend their meetings on this day to welcome new members and join in a great day of camaraderie that only Masonic brothers can appreciate. Let's pack the house!

To encourage Master Masons to join in this unity class, the Scottish Rite is offering a reduced application fee of \$125 and, if you also join Shrine, Kora will also charge only \$125. Please contact the Shrine offices for more information. The Registration deadline is October 10th.

Reservations for the 5 pm dinner (\$25) must be made with the Kora office. (Email khansen@KoraShriners.org or visit www.KoraShriners.org.) Scottish Rite members need to make lunch reservations with the Portland Valley Secretary to help arrange for noontime meals during the singing woodsmen presentation of the 22nd degree.

Event Schedule

- 8:30 am – Registration and coffee
- 9:30 am – Open Scottish Rite, 4th & 7th Degrees
- 12:00 pm – 22nd Degree & complimentary lunch
- 1:30 pm – Scottish Rite, 15th & 32nd Degrees
- 4:30 pm – Social & Dinner (With Reservations)
- 6:00 pm – Shrine Ceremonial

Shrine Contact Information

Anah Shrine (Bangor) – Peter Loiselle,
207-942-2254, Peter@anahshriners.com

Kora Shrine (Lewiston) – John Knox,
207-782-6831, jrknox@korashriners.org

Scottish Rite Contact Information

Androscoggin (Auburn) – Thomas Pulkkinen,
207-350-9525, TEPulkkinen@aol.com

Aroostook (Presque Isle) – Lee Oliver,
207-538-7119, trestleboard96@yahoo.com

Augusta – Bruce Rueger, 207-314-1617,
AugustaValleySecretary@gmail.com

Bangor – Christopher Robison, 207-942-0144,
Secretary@BangorValley.org

Portland – Michael Chambers, 207-772-7711,
Secretary@ValleyofPortland.org

Rockland – Jeffrey Sukeforth, 207-691-2270,
JandC79@myfairpoint.net

Scottish Rite Degrees

4th – Builder – A Master Mason seeks divine guidance. Philosophy: Brothers grow together in the Scottish Rite. Core Values: Reverence for God, Integrity, and Service to Humanity.

7th – Provost and Judge – In a dispute among the workmen honesty and justice prevail. This degree teaches us to judge with patience and impartiality, for impartial justice protects person, property, happiness, and reputation. Philosophy: We should render justice to all mankind. Core Values: Justice and Integrity.

15th – Knight of the East – By emulating Zerubbabel who, even when tempted, would not violate his obligations, we learn to persevere in the face of difficulty and discouragement, maintaining fidelity to our obligations and purpose. Philosophy: Loyalty to conviction, fidelity to duty, and devotion to truth are the essences of integrity. Core Value: Integrity.

22nd – Prince of Libanus – A brother is introduced to wood cutters who test his willingness to put aside his rank and status, and emphasizes the value of a good work ethic. Philosophy: Honest work is honorable and noble in the sight of God and man. Core Value: Service to Humanity.

32nd – Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret – The degree dramatically teaches us to choose between personal advancement and service to humanity. Philosophy: The degree represents the victory of the spiritual over the human in man. Core Values: Devotion to Country and Service.

PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES

To the Officers and Members of the Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of:

___ Portland ___ Androscoggin (Auburn) ___ Bangor ___ Augusta ___ Rockland ___ Aroostook
and the Consistory located in ___ Portland ___ Bangor ___ Aroostook (Presque Isle)

I, the undersigned hereof, respectfully show that I am desirous of being admitted as a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies and request that I may be received among you and that I will pray for the prosperity and glory of the Fraternity and the welfare of the Brethren.

In making this application I promise on my word of honor that should I be elected and become a member of your honorable body, I will swear true faith, allegiance and fealty to the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and last degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, sitting at its Grand East in the Town of Lexington, Massachusetts, and will support and abide by its Constitutions, Orders and Decrees.

That I will hold allegiance to the said Supreme Council and be loyal thereto, as the supreme authority of the Rite; that I will hold illegal and spurious every other body that may be established within its Jurisdiction claiming to be a Supreme Council and every other Body of said Rite within the same Jurisdiction that does not hold its powers from said Supreme Council and will hold no communication whatever in Scottish Rite Masonry with any member of the same nor allow him to visit any Body of the Rite of which I may be a member; that I will dispense justice to my brethren according to the laws of equity and honor.

And should I violate this, my solemn vow and pledge, I consent to be expelled from Scottish Rite Masonry, and all rights therein and in any Body of the Rite, and to be denounced to every Body of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the world as a traitor and forsworn. And may God Aid me to keep and perform the same. Amen.

Print Name in Full: _____

Place of Birth: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(City and State) (Month/Day/Year)

Name of Spouse (if applicable): _____

I have resided in Maine since _____ and in _____ since _____
(Month and Year) (City or Town) (Month and Year)

Mailing Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Occupation _____

(Give Details even if Retired)

I am now a member of _____ Lodge No. _____, at _____

Have you ever before petitioned the Scottish Rite and been accepted or rejected? YES: _____ NO: _____

If yes, where and when: _____

Please check with the Valley Secretary on the amount of degree fees to be paid to the Valley that you will be joining.

Make checks payable to your Valley or pay by credit card. Please mail application and payment to the Valley Secretary or register online at <https://scottishritenmj.org/membership-application>

Circle one: Visa or Master Card Name on card: Card #: Expiration Date: Security Code:

Signature in Full: _____ Date: _____

Recommended by the following two members of the Lodge of Perfection in the Valley indicated above:

(1) Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Member number on Scottish Rite Dues Card: _____

(2) Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Member number on Scottish Rite Dues Card: _____

Candidate must present his current Blue Lodge Dues Card at time of registration.



PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP SHRINERS

TO THE POTENTATE, OFFICERS AND NOBLES OF _____ SHRINERS,
SITUATED IN THE OASIS OF _____, DESERT OF:
_____;

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in _____
Lodge # _____ located at _____
*City**State*

which is a Lodge recognized by or in amity with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months, as required by the Bylaws of The Imperial Council. I respectfully pray that I may be made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and become a member of your temple.

If I be found worthy, and my request granted, I promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of The Imperial Council and the Bylaws and Ceremonies of your temple.

Birthplace _____ Date of Birth _____

Were you ever a DeMolay? _____ If so, what was the Chapter name and location? _____

Profession or occupation _____

Have you previously applied for admission to any temple of the Order? _____

If so, what temple? _____ When? _____

Residence Address: _____
*Street**City*

_____ *County* *State* *ZIP*

Business Address: _____
*Street**City*

_____ *County* *State* *ZIP*

Business Phone: _____

Mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Wife's name: _____

Date _____ 20 _____ Signature _____

Print Full Name Here _____
Name in full, initials not sufficient

Recommended and Vouched for on the Honor of Noble _____

Noble _____

Fez size: _____ Method of payment _____

Applications for Shrine membership may also be made at BeAShrinersNow.com

A Special Historical Remembrance, Memorial Day in Houlton

Following and separate from regular Memorial Day Services by the Houlton American Legion Post, Monument Lodge No. 96 held a Special Remembrance Service on May 27th, 2024, focused on the origin of Memorial Day and the memory of the four Houlton Veterans who died in the Civil War.

Worshipful Master Patrick L. Bruce explained how Memorial Day, (formerly Decoration Day) was established in 1868 when Commander-in-Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic ordered that May 30th be designated as a "memorial day" for the purpose of "strew-



Capt. Addison P. Russell, Member of Monument Lodge



Lt. & Adj. Charles H. Hasey, Member of Monument Lodge

ing with flowers or otherwise for the purpose of decorating graves of comrades who died in the rebellion..." This was following the tradition which had begun two years earlier in some southern states of the Confederacy. In 1972, the U.S. Congress changed the observance day to be the last Monday in May.

We were marched into the cemetery by R.W. Robert McLeod, of Campbelltown, N.B. (P.G.S.W. of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick), playing "Scotland The Brave" on the bagpipes. Upon approaching the first grave site for **Capt. Addison P. Russell**, whose obelisk stone bore the Square and Compasses with the letter "G," the bagpipe music then and for the remainder of our march from stone to stone, was "Amazing Grace."

At the first stone, W.M. Bruce recounted the military history of Bro. Capt. Russell, and placed a wreath in his memory. The remaining three gravestones were about a 2-3 minute walk from each other, while accompanied by "Amazing Grace." A personal history was given for each soldier in turn by the Wardens and Chaplain, and each placed a wreath in his honor and memory.

Remembrance cont.

We were fortunate to obtain pictures of each of the four men we were honoring:

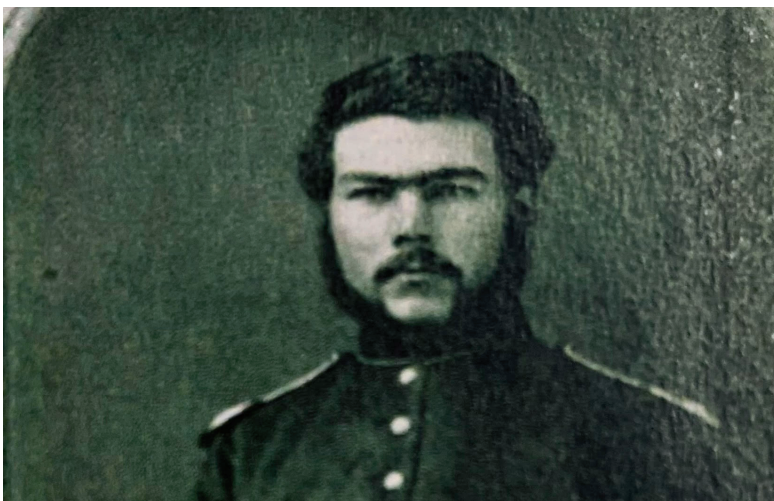
Capt. Russell, Member of Monument Lodge. He was of the 1st Maine Cavalry. He was wounded at Front Royal, Va. on Sept 20, 1864, and died in a field hospital at Sandy Hook, Va., 120 miles away, on Oct. 21, 1864, age 28 yrs.

Lt. Col. Robert J. Gray, 9th Maine Regiment. He had been ordered to occupy a line of rifle pits within sixty yards and directly in front of the enemy's line at Fort Gilmer, Va. He was killed Sept. 29, 1864, age 23 years, 11 months. His promotion came in just after his death.

Adj. Charles H. Hasey, Member of Monument Lodge. He had been 1st Lt. of Co. I, 7th Me. Cavalry. He was wounded on May 14th in The Battle of the Wilderness and died the next day. He had served in the Peninsular Campaign and at Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. He was survived by his wife and two young boys. Age 29 yrs.

Sgt. James McGinley, Co. A 7th Me. Vol. Inf. Regt. Died Sept. 22, 1864, in Andersonville Prison in Andersonville Georgia. Age 22. In 1864-65 there were 45,000 Prisoners of War there, of which 12,912 died from dysentery, malnutrition, overcrowding, and exposure. His tombstone in Houlton bears the inscription:

"In an unknown grave he sleeps,
No marble marks the spot:
Yet memory her sentry keeps,
Her vigils slumbers not."



Sgt. James McGinley



Lt. Col. Robert J. Gray

This brought to mind the families who have lost a loved one in war or even in peacetime. May this remind us as does our Masonic Obligation "...to help, aid, and assist a Masonic Widow." So today should we remember and reach out to do the same for all women and men still alive who lost a child, spouse, or loved one in our more recent wars and conflicts. We honor them not only in our remembrance but in our commitment to their loved one.

This Special Public Meeting of Monument Lodge was attended by some three-dozen people and was reported by local radio station WHOU and television station WAGM of Presque Isle.

The meeting was concluded with a 21 gun salute by the American Legion and then "Taps" by their local bugler, Gerald Riley, and finally the piper played, from a distant knoll, a soft and solemn rendition of "Amazing Grace" as if from the other side..."So Mote it Be."

Contributed by RW Richard L Rhoda

Camino de Santiago, a Pilgrimage by Two Brothers

The Camino de Santiago is a well known pilgrimage in the northern part of Spain that ends in the town of Santiago de Compostella. Santiago, or Saint James, is identified as the patron saint of Spain and is rumored to be buried beneath the cathedral in Santiago de Compostella. The first pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella was undertaken in 814 A.D. by Alfonso II of Asturias. He traveled from the capital of the Kingdom of Asturias, Oviedo, to Santiago (then named Libredon) and built the original shrine to Saint James. It was this route (now known as the Camino Primitivo) that two Brothers from Deering Lodge endeavored to travel in May 2024.

Bro. Evan Mills put a call out to hiking friends midwinter to gauge interest in the Camino. While many were interested, only Bro. Stephen Nutt had the two-week availability to complete the trek. They set to planning and soon had a working itinerary of hiking 8 days followed by a rest day in the town of Lugo, then finishing with a 3 day

“sprint” to the end. The Camino can be traveled in many different ways. They planned to utilize a bag carrying service to shuttle luggage to the next destination each day and carry only

day packs, thereby easing their passage over the high miles. Rather than stay in alberges (or hostels), they opted to spring for hotels, thereby ensuring a roof over their heads and a shower at the end of a long day. Others carry everything in backpacks, staying at hostels or camping. Some even bicycle the Camino, giving proof to the saying that we all “walk our own Camino.”

Evan and Steve met up in Oviedo on Saturday, May 11, taking advantage of the good weather to explore the city and enjoy some fine Asturian food and cider. The latter is generally poured from a bottle held above the head to a



Bros. Nutt (left) and Mills (right).

glass held at waist level. They departed Oviedo the next day and immediately set the tone for the rest of the trip by taking what became the first of many “variants.” In this case they broke from the official path to visit two churches, the Iglesia de Santa Maria del Naranco



and Iglesia de San Miguel de Lillo, both built in the 9th century. Both churches are examples of “pre-Romanesque” architecture. This variant added



a couple of miles but was worth it. At the end of the day they ate their first “pilgrim’s meal” at the hotel. This three course affair began with a hearty soup, a gigantic portion of roasted pork and potatoes, and either a coffee or desert to finish it up.

The following days were very similar; walking through the Spanish countryside, past centuries-old churches and monasteries, to small towns and villages. Lunches were either purchased at cafes or made from ingredients purchased at local markets. Each day they followed the ever-present



scallop shell way markers. The scallop has been a symbol of the pilgrimage for quite some time, way marks the trail, and identifies pilgrims who typically wear a shell suspended from their neck or backpack.

The fourth day was the ascent of the “high route,” which took them past the ruins of mountain hospitals that were originally set up to support the medieval pilgrims in their arduous journey. This was by far the most remote section of the trail and had the flavor of being true to the original pilgrim experience.



Bentley Receives 50 Year Veterans Medal



More than 60 brethren gathered in Kennebunk's York Lodge on June 17th to witness a Master Mason degree for Brother Wayne Bedard, performed by the Widows Sons Degree Team, and the **presentation of a 50-year Veterans Medal to Brother Bentley Warren** (above). In attendance were R.W. Brother Ronald Gering, who attended Brother Warren's raising 50 years ago at Acacia Lodge in Gloucester, Massachusetts, Wor. Brother Andrew Barden, Master of Tyrian-Ashlar-Acacia Lodge, R.W. Brother John Monahan, DDGM of the 10th District of Massachusetts, who made the presentation on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, R.W. Brother Randy Burleigh, Master of York Lodge, and R.W. Brother Wayne Johnson, DDGM/19. Brother Warren is also an affiliated member of York Lodge.

Camino cont.

At the end of the eighth day of hiking, they arrived at Lugo, which has some of the best preserved Roman era walls in Spain, if not the world. The walls are 30-45 feet high and form a 1.7 mile circuit around the old city. Steve and Evan took a "zero" day here, taking advantage of the larger city to do laundry, rest, and visit the cathedral which was originally built in 1129.

Fully rested, the two peregrinos (the local term for pilgrims) embarked on the last three ambitious days of the hike. They endeavored to cover 100km, or 62ish miles. The trail out of Lugo proceeded over the river Minho via a Roman era bridge. At this point the trail was far more crowded because many people only do the requisite 100km to earn the certificate or "Compostella" at the end. The trail along the last section had far more services in the way of cafes and bars to



stop for a coffee and snack. That said, the rural character of Galicia was on full display as they passed by many horreos, or grain drying/storage sheds. These are constructed high above the ground to prevent rodents from accessing them and to prevent moisture from spoiling the crops.

The last day was the most ambitious as Steve and Evan walked more than 25 miles into Santiago. Along the way they passed by a statue of the Templar Pilgrim and Chapel of the Souls, which is devoted to the souls suffering in purgatory. Finally, the

pair arrived at the plaza in front of the cathedral exhausted and gratified that their 200 mile journey was over.

Along the way they met people from all over the world, including an older Spanish couple whose daughter had studied in Portland. The experience of completion is known only to one who has walked. Steve and Evan recommend the journey to all who are up for a challenge and experiencing the Spanish countryside. "Buen Camino!"



Contributed by RW Evan Mills





150 years of Masonic Service for District # 2

Three 50 year Service Awards were given out recently to Lloyd Noyes (left), Marvin Owen (center), and Richard S. Pottle (right) by DDGM Tom Parks, RW Scott Johnson, and RW Dennis Bryant of St. Croix Lodge # 46. Lots of smiles for all the miles from all three of the recipients.

Legacy Memorial Reflection Park

R.W. Wally Kyllonen and I first started our journey with the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation when we were tasked by M.W. Jerry Leighton to oversee the first fundraiser for the Foundation. Today we are on a committee to develop a Legacy Memorial Reflection Park ("LMR Park") at the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation Campus in Holden Maine. We have looked at many different proposals and designs and are now in the process of developing a Park that will encompass most of the perimeter of the property. It is now envisioned that the perimeter of the property will depict the Masonic Journey from the North, the West, the South, and finally to the Grand East; along the way highlighting and promoting significant Masonic symbolism and principles.

In developing the new design, we are excited at the prospect of how it will represent the Masonic Journey – for new and old Masons, and non-Masons alike. Exploring such questions and principles as: the first question you were asked when you were presented at the lodge room door; the progression from the Rough Ashlar to the Perfect Ashlar, always striving towards the latter; and, "I now present to you the letter G." The design is now focused on the goal to further educate the brethren and share some level of our tenets with the public at large.

Each Mason has a unique journey – some moments in the journey are highly singular to the individual, while others are shared. There are many stories to be told and symbols that can and should be included in this park, and we welcome your input and thoughts regarding the inclusion of Masonic symbolism and philosophy.

The fundraising aspect of this park is meant to honor the Legacy of those who have brought us to this place, honoring their mentorship and leadership, all while preserving the Foundation's long-range ability to fulfill its

mission – *Improving lives in Maine through charity and good works.*

In case you have not seen it, our Executive Director has developed a Legacy Memorial Reflection Park section on the Foundation's website (two-thirds of the way down on the landing page at www.mainemcf.org) where donations can be made in honor of some of the Granite Grand Artificers of our Fraternity. I have put out a challenge to the brethren to contribute to the memory of these great Masons whose exemplary journey along the path between the Rough and the Perfect Ashlars will be a lasting memory. My wife and I have just contributed \$5,000, five separate \$1,000 donations in honor of the men who helped shape my Masonic journey, and we invite Masons and Masonic family members with the means to do so to join us. It is our hope that there are 30 or more such individuals willing to contribute to the Foundation, and this very forward-thinking concept of a Legacy Memorial Reflection Park.

All interested and so inclined to make a donation are more than welcome to contribute in any amount, in any or all of the honoree categories already established to honor these distinguished Masons as they see fit, or contact the Executive Director and start a campaign for a Mason that inspired you on your journey.

It is well understood that not everyone has the means to be able to make a large contribution, but there are ways to raise the money to honor those who have been an influence in our Masonic lives. There are Masons around the state willing to work with any lodge that may have an interest in raising money to honor someone of significance in their Masonic past. Please feel free to reach out to me or any of our committee members, or to the Executive Director of the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation if you have any questions or would require more information.

Contributed by R.W. Bob Hoyt, (207) 475-8247

JULY 2024



Maine Masonic Charitable FOUNDATION

Newsletter

Our Mission

Improving lives in Maine through charity and good works

Those nine words mean a lot
What do they mean to you?

18,000+ volunteer hours by Masons

those are just the hours tracked through the Matching Grants program so it is probably more than double that if you include all the various Masonic bodies

Over \$414,000 provided to local nonprofits

through the Matching Grants program in partnership with 147 of the 175 Masonic Lodges in Maine, putting the combined total at over \$800,000

\$50,000 in support of Masonic nonprofits

direct support for the Children's Dyslexia Centers (both Portland & Bangor), the Masonic College, the MSA Veterans program, DeMolay & Rainbow Girls

Over \$160,000 in direct support to

help organizations like NAMI Maine, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Maine D.A.R.E, various Veterans programs and further expand the Unified Champion Clubs

**Keep up the good work, your communities need
your leadership now more than ever**

SOME "GOOD WORKS" YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT...

DID YOU KNOW...

- * The Lodges of the **6th District** worked together to fundraise and use their matching grant funds to provide enough funding (roughly \$17,000) to purchase three (3) Lucynt Sytems - a new interactive treatment for dementia care - for the residents of the Maine Veterans Home in Bangor?

Learning of this success, we now have several other districts leading fundraising efforts to be able to provide Lucynt Systems to the Maine Veterans Homes near them - Caribou, South Paris, Scarborough and Augusta.

If you would like to help support the effort in your area,
visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/lucyntsystemfundraiser>
or scan this QR code to make a donation



- * The current Grand Master (hint, hint...M.W. Donald Pratt) has for years coordinated an inventory of temporary ramps here in Maine and helped deploy them statewide, where and when needed. Under his leadership, the Trustees recently approved purchasing two more ramp systems, roughly \$18,000 worth (with approval for a third ramp system if needed). If you know of someone in need of ramp access to their home, please reach out to the Executive Director at director@mainemcf.org.
- * The **Legacy / Memorial / Remembrance "LMR" Park Project** is now well underway. The Committee members and Trustees have listened to your feedback and are working with another local designer to incorporate all the great ideas. If you have already read Bob Hoyt's article in this edition (*if not please look for it*), you will know that the new design will now encompass the entire property footprint/perimeter and include symbolism to represent and depict the entire Masonic Journey. If you would like to join the Committee, make a contribution or fundraise to honor a fellow Mason, or learn more about this project, please call or email the Executive Director at director@mainemcf.org.

DONOR RECOGNITION



1820 Society

The **1820 Society** was formed years ago to recognize those very generous donors who contributed over \$500 during the most recent fiscal year. Please join me in thanking the new members of the **1820 Society** for fiscal year 2023-2024!

Individuals

Daniel Bartlett

Floyd L Belmain

John Burnham

Rita Defeo-Cohen

Blaise DeSibour

Carlo DiCelico

Winfred Dodge

Louis Doucette

Paul Foster

Ruth Gibson

P. Andrew Hamilton

Gary Hanscom

Floyd Harlow

Timothy & Gail Haskell

Robert & Patricia Hoyt

Troy L. Johnson

Walter Kyllonen

Paul Laird

Mark Lane

Eric Macdonald

James McKinley

James Oliver

Jon & Winifred Prime

Thomas & Sharon Pulkkinen

Deborah & Steven Redmond

Susan Scacchi

Nancy Shablom

Barbara Trafton

Barry Unnold

Lisa Costello

Nicole Waite

Charles Waite III

David & Audrey Walker

Anthony & Sarah Yorke

Nicholas G and Carol L. Xenos

DONOR RECOGNITION

(continued)



1820 Society

Masonic Lodges, other Masonic Bodies and Foundations

Ancient Brothers Lodge #178

Aroostook Lodge #197

Arundel Lodge #76

Asylum Lodge #133

Bethlehem Lodge #35

Central Lodge #45

Dresden Lodge #103

Dunlap Lodge #47

Euclid Lodge #194

Eureka Lodge #84

Ira Berry Lodge #128

Jefferson Lodge #100

Mechanics' Lodge #66

Messalonskee Lodge #113

Penobscot Lodge #39

Saco Lodge #9

Siloam Lodge #92

St. Aspinquid Lodge #198

Tranquil Lodge #29

Village Lodge #26

Waterville Lodge #33

Webster Lodge #164

York Lodge #22

Anah Shriners

Bangor Savings Bank

Foundation

Camden National Bank

Foundation

Franklin Savings Bank

Foundation

Genuine Parts Company

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of

Maine

HM Payson

International Order of the

Rainbow for Girls Maine

Grand Assembly

Machias Savings Bank

Scottish Rite Charities

Sukeforth Family Foundation

True Enterprises, LLC

Versant Power

Thank you!

Cheering on the Shrine

When the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic was played in Lewiston on Saturday July 20th, 2024, Machias Bulldogs graduate Mackenzie Schors was there, cheering on the West team. Schors, a 2024 Machias Memorial High School graduate is the first basketball cheerleader to be selected by Maine football coaches to cheer in this annual Shriners fundraiser.

Schors is no stranger to fundraising, establishing her own nonprofit as a youth, and organizing Mackenzie's Miles for Miracles, to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. She was born 12 weeks premature and her twin sister did not survive, so she has been a dedicated supporter of those babies in the N.I.C.U. ever since.



Mackenzie is seen here receiving donations from Jonathan McClure, Master of Washington Masonic Lodge in Lubec, Past President of Washington County Shrine Club, and Secretary of Anah Shrine Mini Car Unit. Donations were also

pledged from other area Masonic Lodges, as well as Washington County and Schoodic Shrine clubs. Mackenzie was the cheerleader who raised the most for Shriners Children (\$5K) and helped by cheering the West team to victory!

For more information on Mackenzie or Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic please visit: <https://maineshrinelobsterbowl.com/athlete/schors-mackenzie/>



Wor. Gavett of Oriental Lodge #13 Receives Diploma, with Familiar Faces in Attendance



The Master of Oriental Lodge #13 in Bridgton received his Past Master's Diploma recently, with all four of his sons (also all Past Masters) at his side. Pictured Left to Right: Wor. Michael Gavett (2014), Wor. Marcus Gavett (2015 & 2019), Wor. Matthew Gavett (2016), Wor. Morgan Gavett (2017), Wor. Scott Gavett (2023 & 2024), and RW DDGM Dana Gregson.



An *entablature* refers to the superstructure of moldings and bands which lie horizontally and above columns, resting on their capitals.

THE MAINE MASONIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

THE ENTABLATURE

Whole Number 48

Summer 2024

<https://masoniccharitablefoundation.org/maine-masonic-college/>



The College Briefly...

Our name inspires us to a “higher educational calling.” We are not a bricks and mortar school, but a “Temple of knowledge,” offering a growing variety of learning opportunities in various modalities.

We believe that Freemasonry is relevant in society today, helping to create a continuum of knowledge for those who are interested in personal enrichment.

Masonic ritual exhorts us to broaden our knowledge of the seven liberal arts and sciences. Thus, our programs include topics of interest to anyone with an inquisitive mind: ethics, astronomy, logic, public speaking, and more. We have molded the Maine Masonic College on the best features of not only traditional and modern Masonic-oriented education, but also “senior college” and lifelong learning endeavors.

In addition, we are developing audio and video material along with reading lists and more. At the Maine Masonic College, we encourage your input, your recommendations, and most of all, your INVOLVEMENT!

#42 The Minutes of “Old Builders Lodge #1000”

Brother George M.A. Macdougall

This is one article in a series on the people who created, discovered or redefined how modern architecture, engineering and science came about.

This edition of the Minutes is inspired from my days at UMaine just like the first edition of the Minutes on Euler that came out 15 years ago!! After plowing through three semesters of calculus plus, Differential Equations was like a breath of fresh air. It was like shoveling your driveway and finding the plow had not dumped a ton of ice and snow at the end! Most of the reason for this was the Laplace Transform. This allowed you to take a section of a very complex equation and

transform it into a simpler form that you could actually deal with and then solve the equation. Then ‘retransform’ it back and you had the answer!! It was incredible.

But who was Laplace? I was wondering about that when I got thinking about what my next article should be about. When I looked him up, I was expecting to find he was a mathematician, but I was quite surprised by what else I found.

Pierre-Simon Laplace was born in 1749 in Normandy, France and died in 1827 in Paris. He was a French mathematician as mentioned above but also an astronomer, and physicist who was best known for his investigations into the stability of the solar system!

In 1766 Laplace entered the University of Caen to read theology as his father wanted him to be ordained in the Church but he quickly showed his brilliance in mathematics and moved on without obtaining a degree. He arrived at Beaumont with a letter of recommendation to the well known mathematician Jean d’Alembert, who, after testing Laplace to make sure he was good enough, helped him secure a professorship at the École Militaire, where he taught math from 1769 to 1776.

In his mathematical career Laplace formulated “Laplace’s equation,” the “Laplace transform” as I learned in college and which appears in many branches of mathematical physics, and the “Laplacian differential operator.”

In the field he is actually most known for, he restated and developed the nebular hypothesis of the origin of the Solar System; ok not sure what that is but it led him to be one of the first scientists to suggest an idea similar to that of a black hole! This was about the time of the American Revolution! Stephen Hawking stated that “Laplace essentially predicted the existence of black holes.” He also suggested that gravity could influence light and that there could be massive stars whose gravity is so great that not even light could escape from their surface. This was widely ignored at Laplace’s time as there was nothing to really help prove or disprove it and no one could really even fathom it!!



Pierre Simon Marquis de Laplace

Old Builders Lodge cont.

In 1773 he began his major life-work—applying Newtonian gravitation to the entire solar system—by taking up a particularly troublesome problem: why Jupiter’s orbit appeared to be continuously shrinking while Saturn’s continually expanded. The mutual gravitational interactions within the solar system were so complex that mathematical solution seemed impossible; indeed, Newton had concluded that divine intervention was periodically required to preserve the system in equilibrium. I would have loved to use that answer a few times on tests!! Laplace announced the invariability of planetary mean motions (average angular velocity). This discovery in 1773, the first and most important step in establishing the stability of the solar system, was the most important advance in physical astronomy since Newton. It won him associate membership in the French Academy of

DID YOU KNOW??

Ever wish you could see a Maine Masonic class right now and not have to wait for the next scheduled one?? Of course you have! The ability is there right online and has been for years!! We recorded our classes during the pandemic, and you can still watch them whenever you wish. Use the link below and enjoy!!!

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1j7tEA8qtmK7ioB-E_P30Q

Sciences the same year.

In other aspects of his life, Laplace was president of the Board of Longitude (their goal was to find a way to determine longitude on board a ship), aided in the organization of the metric system, helped found the scientific Society of Arcueil, and was created a Marquis. He served for six weeks as Minister of the Interior under Napoleon.

In the next installation of in ‘the Minutes’ we will continue with someone who expanded the theories of gravity, space itself, and energy.

Upcoming Schedule for the Maine Masonic College

August 17th, 2024 - Masonic Fashion presented by JA Shapira from Winnipeg Canada, at Columbia-Doric Lodge #149, dinner will be at 6pm and the course will be 7pm to 9pm.

September 19th, 2024 - Critical Thinking with Bro. Donal McDougal, Bro. Brian Ellis, and Bro. Eric Kuntz, at Bar Harbor Lodge #185 at 7:00pm

October 12th, 2024 - Annual Convocation, Finding Meaning featuring two virtual guest speakers; Lloyd Capilit from the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction and JB McKnowlton from the Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction and two in person guest speakers Lewie Manter from York Rite & Appendant Bodies and Erik Kuntz speaking as a member of Blue Lodge. At Bangor Masonic Center.

November 9th, 2024 - Music, the Sixth Liberal Art presented by Bro. Phil Amidon, MD at Bethlem Lodge #35 in Augusta from 8am-12pm with refreshments served by Eastern Star

The Maine Masonic College is excited to offer **Virtual Courses** to be announced for December and January. In person courses will resume in February with **Fellowcraft** presented by Bro. Luke Shorty, with date and location to be announced.

Please follow Maine Masonic College on Facebook to keep up-to-date with current courses and information. Updated Course and contact information can also be found at <https://masoniccharitablefoundation.org/maine-masonic-college/>

For any questions about current courses, upcoming courses, becoming a Regent, or questions in general, please contact mainemasoniccollege@mainemason.org or call (207) 843-1086.

Worshipful John A. Smith Day Of Ritual

By RW Michael V. Shaw

On Tuesday, March 14th, 2023, the passing of Worshipful Brother John A. Smith created a huge hole in the 18th Masonic District as well as Masonry in general. John was 56 years a Mason and a fierce believer that “things had to be done right,” not only regarding administrative and procedural applications but particularly our beloved ritual. This belief was well known to anyone that knew him. In honor of John and his exemplary character, a group of Brothers within the 18th District formed a committee for the purpose of creating a day of fellowship to be referred to as “The Worshipful John A. Smith Day Of Ritual.” The object of the committee’s labors came to fruition on Saturday, April 20th, 2024, and what a day it was!

This event took place at Arion Lodge #162 in Goodwins Mills as a special Communication of that lodge. Each lodge had a particular time slot in which to do the Entered Apprentice Opening as well as the first half of the degree. The first gavel fell at 8:00 am and the final obligation was completed at 3:30 pm. Eight of the ten lodges in the District were represented and each brought their best ritual that day.



There were even some Widows Sons there who put together an impromptu “degree group” to fill a slot left open by one of the lodges not in attendance. It was quite a treat to watch these brothers do the ritual, as this particular group had never worked together before. They did a great job and were a big part of the day’s success.

As the reader may have gathered, there was a ritual competition going on that day. You would also please note that it is not referred to as a “Ritual Challenge.” This was a day of fellowship, an opportunity to show pride in our Lodges, and to break bread with our Brothers. The competition was nothing more than a vehicle to accomplish this.

Speaking of “breaking bread,” breakfast casseroles were served at 7:00 am to anyone there at the time. Italian style sandwiches were served at the lunch break and pulled pork, brisket, and sides were served after the ritual was completed. Food was available all day long and no-

body went hungry thanks to the efforts of W. Brother Gary Barclay, W. Brother Jeff Kelly and all the Brethren who assisted in the kitchen that day.

The ritual competition was evaluated by a panel of five judges consisting of RW D.K. Horne, RW Bruce Scrimger, RW Dana Gregson, RW Jody Hersey, and RW Rich Otten. The evaluations covered enunciation, floorwork and deportment, and were made by four of the five judges. RW Rich Otten covered the evaluation of word accuracy for each lodge. Score



sheets were supplied to the judges for this purpose. These judges did a wonderful job that day and the 18th District’s heartfelt thanks go out to them.

The winners of the competition were announced at the annual meeting of the District’s Masters and Wardens Association on Tuesday, June 25th. Orchard Lodge #215 received third place honors with a score of 168.50. First and second place honors were separated by 1.25 points, with Arion Lodge #162 receiving second place with a score of 227.25, while Buxton Lodge #115 received first place honors with a score of 228.50. Congratulations and thanks to all the lodges of the 18th District that participated that day.

Special thanks go out to the three brothers who participated as mock candidates. Brother Will Torres who was an EA from Orchard #215 at that time, Brother Jason Bassett who was a FC from Dunlap #47 at that time, and Brother William Griswold who was an EA from Humane Lodge in Rochester, NH at that time. We hope to see you all next year on Saturday, April 26th, 2025 for the Second Annual W. John A. Smith Day Of Ritual.

I’m sure John is looking down from The Celestial Lodge Above, smiling and nodding because we all got it right that day.



Judges for the day. RW Jody Hersey, DDGM 17th District. RW Dana Gregson, DDGM 16th District. RW Michael Shaw, DDGM 18th District and one of the coordinators of the event. RW D.K. Horne, PJGW. RW Rich Otten, DDGM 18th District. RW Bruce Scrimger, AGL

We often hear the question, “**What (or Who) is a Mason?**” An astute Freemason will quickly reply that it is a good man, who believes in God, practices charity, and has taken his obligations on the Bible. And while that is true, there is so much more to it than just that.

I grew up watching my grandfather go off to some meeting the first Wednesday of the month, and I never knew where he went. After he died, I learned where he was going: to lodge.

When I was raised in the same lodge as my grandfather, I thought a Mason was someone who was good at the ritual. So, as I worked my way up the chairs, I worked on perfecting my ritual. When it came time to head up charity events, I thought being a Mason meant coordinating all of those events, so that’s what I did. Both of those do make one a good Mason.

But then I truly learned what it meant to be a Mason on October 9,

2023. At 2:52 am, my daughter, Phoebe Moriah (yes, like Mt. Moriah) was born. Shortly thereafter, I attended a Master Mason degree and was in tears.

While ritual and charity do have a part in being a good Mason, the obligation was finally made clear to me. My daughter, just a few days old, was protected by five million Masons worldwide, 13,000+ in the state of Maine alone. She would be protected because I promised to protect a brother’s mother, wife, sister, and daughter.

It is not simply enough to know the ritual or go through the motions. To be a Mason, one must live as a Mason; to take to heart the lessons taught by our ritual which are rooted in Scripture and discussed in lodge. For us to protect each others’ families and to come to the assistance of one another. So to the 13,000+ fellow Maine Masons, thank you for having my back, and you know I will always have yours too.

Worshipful Forrest B. Genthner
Assistant Grand Chaplain

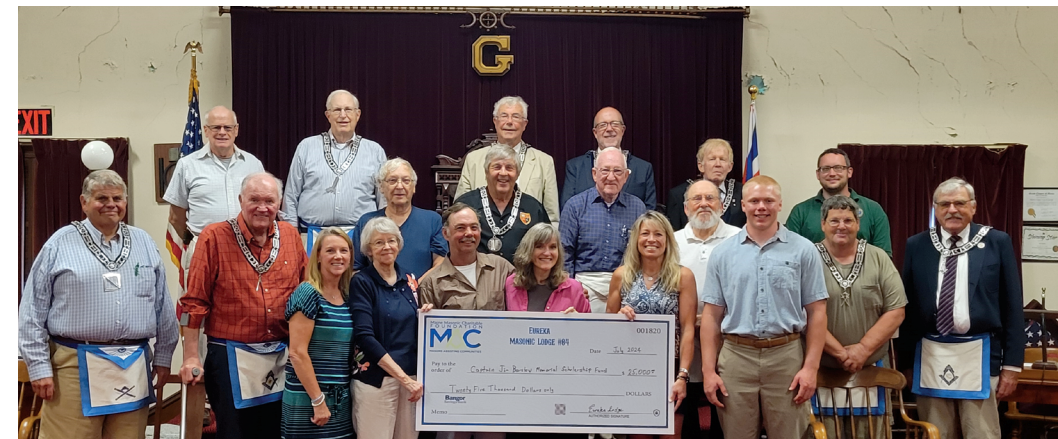


Jim Barstow Scholarship

At its stated meeting on July 11, Eureka Lodge #84 of Tenants Harbor welcomed the family of the late Wor. Jim Barstow, to celebrate the establishment of a scholarship at the Maine Maritime Academy in honor and memory of Bro. Jim.

Jim Barstow was a member of both Eureka Lodge and of Knox Lodge #189 of South Thomaston, and at the time of his unexpected death in 2023 was Worshipful Master of Knox Lodge, where he had initiated discussions which finally led to the merger of Knox and Eureka Lodges. His agreeable nature and seemingly endless store of anecdotes—often self-deprecating—hid a deep respect for the values of Masonry and a love for other people, and many members of both Lodges could tell of how Bro. Jim had touched their lives, always for the better. Beyond Masonry, he was a beloved figure in the community, for several decades being the owner/captain of the Monhegan Boat Line out of Port Clyde, and a willing benefactor, both in cash and sweat equity, to many local causes on the St. George Peninsula.

The members of Knox Lodge proposed setting up the scholarship, using part of



the proceeds from the earlier sale of their building (a transaction negotiated by Bro. Jim), but it was not possible to finalize the arrangements before the merger. The members of Eureka Lodge had been aware of the efforts of the Barstow family, who were also proposing a memorial to their husband/father/grandfather, and following discussions, it was decided that the (now merged) Lodge would contribute \$25,000, the minimum amount to “seed” a scholarship endowment at Maine Maritime Academy. The endowment remains open for donations, and the family hopes to make regular contributions to grow the fund.

The actual money, including a matching contribution from the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation, has been forwarded to the Maine Maritime Academy, which

Photo: Members of Wor. Jim Barstow’s family (front row, L to R, Jen Winters, daughter, Judy Barstow, wife, Andy Barstow, son, Amy Barstow, daughter-in-law, Karen Barstow, daughter, Michael McGonagle, grandson) posed with members of Eureka Lodge after the symbolic presentation of a check for \$25,000 to establish a scholarship in memory of Bro. Jim. Photo by Steve Gibbons (DDGM, District #9).

will manage the endowment. The Lodge made a symbolic presentation of a check for \$25,000 to the members of Bro. Jim’s family, representing the Captain James Barstow Memorial Scholarship Fund Board. The scholarships will be available to students from Knox, Waldo, and Lincoln counties, and will be awarded starting in 2025 or 2026. In the meantime the family intends to fund a scholarship for the academic year 2024-2025, using other monies.



Maine DeMolay is turning 100 this year and we want you to help us celebrate!

Join us as DeMolay and Rainbow Alum gather to celebrate 100 years of DeMolay here in Maine. Festivities will begin at 6pm on September 7th at the Kora Temple in Lewiston.

There will be hors d'oeuvres , a cash bar, a slide show, dancing, and lots of reminiscing with friends old and new.

This is what we need from you.

1. Let us know you are coming and if you are bringing a guest. Please contact John Knox at: jrknox50@roadrunner.com.
2. We would love to see and share some pictures from your DeMolay days. Bring them with you or, even better, send them to us digitally and we'll add them to the slide show. Include a little information with the pictures if you can. Who, where, what, and approximate year would be great.
3. Tell us some of your favorite songs from your days in DeMolay. We'll have dancing through the ages.

There is no upfront cost to attend. However, we will accept donations that will benefit the Laurie Knox Small Memorial Scholarship Fund.

For additional information you may also contact Rok A. Morin, Executive Officer of Maine DeMolay at: drrok@myhwcw.com or via cell at 207-319-4042.

Support from Buxton Lodge #115

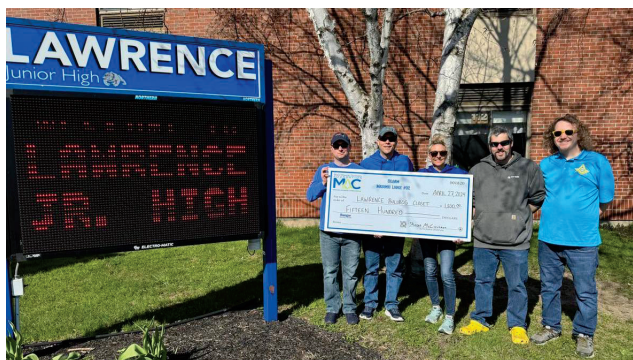


(Left) Olivia Garland receiving a \$1,000 scholarship presented by RW Butch Gannett of Buxton Lodge #115. (Center) Keegan Neptune receiving a \$1,000 scholarship presented by RW Gannett. (Right) Hutchinson/Boulter American Legion Post #130 in Hollis, Maine receiving a \$2,000 donation thanks to the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation. From left: Wor. Jason Sicina, WM, Wor. Rick Hawkes, Chaplain, seated is Harold Smith 101+ years old member of the Legion Post #130 and Wor. Wayne Butler, Commander of Post #130.



Saturday, April 27th was Indeed a Glorious Day for Siloam Lodge #92 in Fairfield, Maine!

On that beautiful, crisp Spring morning, members of Siloam first met to present their charitable work to the Lawrence Jr. High School "Bulldog Closet" Manager, Angie Dooley. The Bulldog Closet provides students and families of LJHS with basic necessities from school supplies to clothing, to food items, and beyond. Not only did the Brethren of Siloam contribute several hundred pounds of clothing, the Matching Grant program from Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation matched Siloam's contribution and provided a check for \$1500 toward this fantastic program that gives back directly to the local community!!



Officers from Siloam Lodge #92 present a donation to Angie Dooley (center) for the Lawrence Jr High School 'Bulldog Closet,' Fairfield.

Later that same morning, the Brethren of Siloam turned their collective direction inward as they gathered at the Lodge with fellow Brothers, family members, and friends for a special luncheon, put together by the Brotherhood Committee. This was the 2nd year that Siloam has held the luncheon, which was specially established to re-connect



with brethren (and families) who are, for various reasons, unable to attend regular stated meetings. This year's gathering also happened to coincide with Siloam's 165th Anniversary!

More importantly the (now) annual luncheon afforded Siloam with the opportunity to honor distinguished, long-standing members and Past Masters, by awarding a variety of Service Medals and Pins to many of the numerous Brethren who were able to attend.

Receiving special honors that day were the following:

Frank Hatch, Ed Lord: 55 year Service Star Pin
Harry Lyons, Dana Michaud: 50 Year Service Medal
Valier Bard: 40 Year Service Pin
Paul St. Amand: 30 Year Service Pin
Gilman Madore: 25 Year Service Pin
Matt Gorman: 5 Year Service Pin



(Top) Bros. Bill Page, Ed Lord, Dana Michaud, and Harry Lyons receive their Service Awards. VW Dave Bucknam greets the Brethren as WM S. McCutcheon and SW D. Bizier look on.



(Bottom) Bro. Ed Lord is pinned with his 55 year star!

Presentations were made by WM Shaun McCutcheon (above, background L) and VW Dave Bucknam.

During the course of the event, it was discovered that another attendee, Bro. Bill Page (member of Waterville Lodge, not Siloam) was also due his 55 Year Star. As it just so happened to be, Wor. Bro. Dan Bizier is not only Sr. Warden for Siloam, but is also the current Wor. Master for Waterville Lodge, and presented Bro. Page with his Star.

Wor. McCutcheon plans to continue the Brotherhood Luncheon for Siloam Lodge, as it's provided a fantastic opportunity to re-connect with Brethren and recognize their dedication to the Craft.



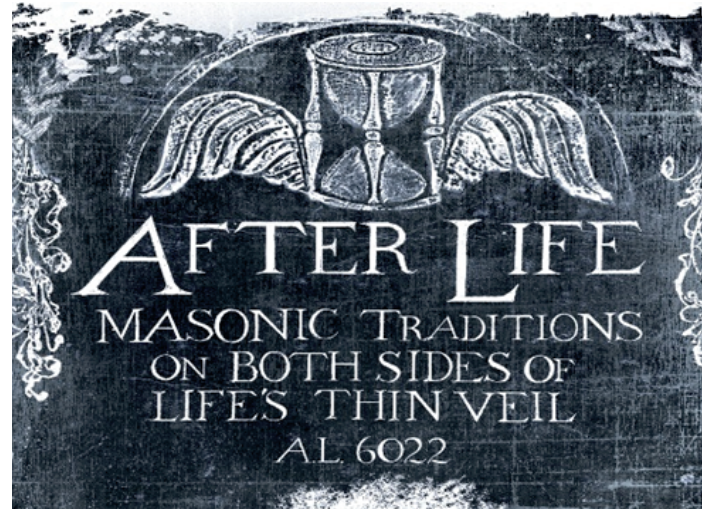
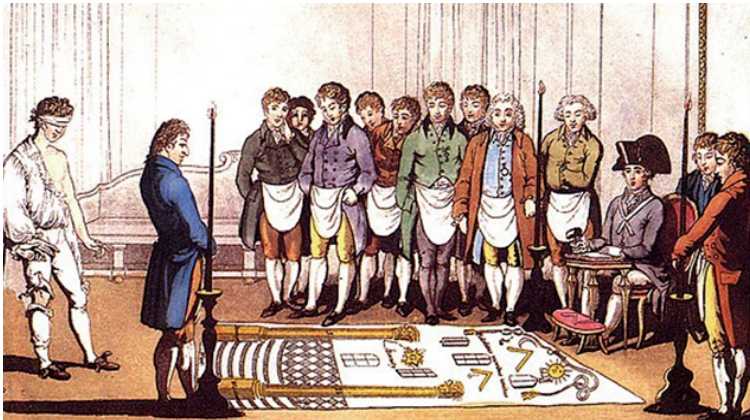
Brothers, friends and family members gathered to celebrate 165 years of Siloam Lodge #92 in Fairfield on April 27, 2024.

Masonic Tradition Worldwide Adheres to the Existing Principles Established Over 307 Years Ago and Beyond¹

Society has changed, yet Masonry, with some speed bump encounters, remains within historical and human bounds.

“Rejuvenating Masonry in Masons!”

By Wor. Richard C. Lumb, Ph.D.²



Introduction.

Speculative Masonry (today) emerged in 1717 in England from Operative Masonry (those who labored constructing buildings, cathedrals, churches, and other structures, and is described as:

“Operative Masonry or The Worshipful Society of Free Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plasterers, and Bricklayers or simply The Operatives is a fraternal guild claiming a history of hundreds of years over which customs, traditions, knowledge, and practices were developed and handed down. It is an invitation-only Masonic society dedicated to preserving the history, rituals, and traditions of medieval operative stonemasons’ guilds in England and Europe that were the precursors to modern speculative Freemasonry^{3 4}.”

Speculative Masonry emerged from Operative Masons, those who toiled in building ancient cathedrals, churches, and numerous other physical buildings. Today’s speculative Masons have adopted the moral characteristics of operative Masons, as showed by commitment, beliefs, education, development of men who are symbols of uprightness, and citizenship of caring for others, charity, and leading examples of men with characteristics that show leadership and concern for others in the brotherhood of man. The following aptly describes today’s speculative Masons as emerging from the operative Masons of earlier times:

“As men not affiliated with Operative Masonry began entering the lodge communities, they became known as ‘accepted’ or, ‘speculative’ Masons while the craftsmen adopted the moniker of, ‘free’ Masons. Together, they became known as the ‘Free and Accepted’ Masons from which modern Freemasonry has descended.

Speculative Freemasonry can be defined as applying Operative principles for moral and intellectual development. Operative Masons use their rules, tools, and science to build physical structures. Speculative Masons use many of the former operative artisans’ rules, guild standards, and tools as metaphors for building their character as men.

Today, stonemasons’ tools, such as the square, compasses, and Masonic apron, have become symbols synonymous with the fraternity. Even the levels within the stonemason’s guild—Apprentice, Journeyman, Master Masons—reflect the Freemason’s journey of self-improvement. Today, the men of the Craft complete a series of three degrees to confirm they are ready to move up through the roles offered by the Lodge.”

1. F/D/Masonic Folders/EDUCATION/06.02.24, “Masonic Tradition Worldwide Adheres to the Existing Principles Established Over 307 Years Ago and Beyond.”

2. P.M. Orchard Lodge #215; P.M. & Secretary Wilton Lodge #156; Treasurer Mystic Tie Lodge #154.

3. Operative Masonry - Wikipedia.

4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operative_Masonry

Masonic Tradition cont.

As part of our discussion, understanding this transference of aspects of the operative masons, we learn how and why many of their practices were adopted by the speculative Mason of today. Secularism (the principle of seeking to conduct human affairs based on naturalistic considerations, uninvolved with religion) has risen as a model, which says that the principle indicates a separation of the state from religion. We must ask why. Are not the elected officials persons of some religious belief and with a trust in God? Are we so arrogant to believe that the earth, the seasons, the nature of all things, the miracle of life, and many examples are not satisfactorily explained as a human creation? Of course not, for we also realize in seeing this world, while capable of many achievements, man cannot replicate life, natural beauty, planets, and the multitude of examples only by the hand of God.

Masonry is centered on the belief in God, prayer, and the well-being of humanity. The world has encountered a tsunami of conflict, but God-fearing and decent people shall challenge and overcome.

Complexity of Role is Often Enhanced by Example and Engagement.

Humanity comprises a complex mixture of race, culture, beliefs, or ideology; has cultural references, pride, and a sense of belonging; and is not one model, one set of beliefs, actions, or how we relate and reach out to others. We are a large mixture of thoughts, statements, actions, positive and negative comments, and many of our values and beliefs. There is a clear voice across all humanity, and if we listen, asks why Free and Accepted Masonry? Once planted, we consider, ask, watch, and learn why a Mason serves a needed role in society.

A purely personal reason emerged from my acceptance to the Maine State Police in 1964. I had five months before the next MSP primary training school and worked out of the Scarborough Barracks. This was my initiation to Masonry, as I got to know many Troopers who were Brother of the Craft, and, in asking, would discuss their membership, Lodge, and Officer roles taken. The single message showed the combination of being a member of the Maine State Police and a Mason was a proud tradition. What that came to mean was that, following my Master Mason degree, whose chairs and roles were filled by Maine State Police Officers, I was a proud member of both the MSP and Masons. Fifty-nine years later, that meaning is the invisible badge of honor I carry daily. When too many American citizens do not verify and determine truth from fiction, we diminish the greatness we possess. Masonry is a fraternity, and every member holds equality. The Lodge Officers change, but they represent the

membership of the Lodge, district, and Masons while in office. We must not lose sight of this foundational principle. As with one's faith in God, we are led to believe it has diminished, is frowned on, and some overt acts are taken to show another's disdain. However, I doubt this is nearly as deep as often reported, as people's faith remains strong, cannot be intimidated or diminished, and has not disappeared.

We have witnessed an erosion of trust in America. Yet Masonry withstands and offers each Mason what they seek! This strength must remain front and center of each Lodge, as the consistency of Masonry holds regardless of the challenges.

One's faith is personal, lives within us, is maintained, repeated, and intense. In Masonry, we state that belief during the Entered Apprentice degree. We attend prayer before supper, again at Lodge opening, during degrees, and when closing a lodge. This ritual is comforting to all brethren and a substantial value in our masonic history that contributes significantly to men and Masons. The people of this country and the whole earth are aware of Masonry—some more than others.⁵ Proof has multiple sources, and as the short list below illustrates, the Masons listed used this knowledge to lead and maintain the cohesion of the country and the world.

Examples of some famous Masons and their contributions: **Presidents** George Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Gerald Ford.

Prime Minister of Great Britain Winston Churchill.

Founding Fathers like George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Aaron Burr, and other leaders of the American Revolution.⁶

Civil Rights Activists like Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, and Medgar Evers.

Explorers like Davy Crockett, Lewis and Clark, Charles Lindbergh, and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, to name a few.

The list is much more extensive and can be sought by the reader by searching online.

Religion and Christianity.

Regardless of your faith or lack of it, it matters! Believe as you want, but realize that the question cannot be answered with any surety until you die. What comes next rests on the discovery that everyone will find out. Religion has many beliefs, each with its ritual and formalization. Common is a belief in some higher power exercised by worshiping a deity or set of deities. For example, Christianity is based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Religion is focused on ritual and tradition, living a belief system centered on God and Jesus or other deities whose names and labels include Buddha, Zen, and many others. To our fellow brothers, we pray for their assertion of the Celestial Lodge above, to take a role in God's plan, and to carry out that duty as they did on this earth. Assurance of this belief is not questioned!

5. famous masons in history - Search (bing.com)

6. <https://freemason.org/famous-freemasons/>

Masonic Tradition cont.

Masonry in the United States remains true to its principles, and many are of the Christian faith. While many other religions exist and are accepted and represented in Masonry, each carries solid beliefs and practices. At the core of each lie the man and the Mason. Humanity's principles of morality, honor, and other characteristic traits remain the same. We can be proud of the world's Masons (estimated to be two to six million men), representing men of the Craft worldwide.

Other Influences that Demand Eradication of Splintering and Adoption of Confidence.

Trust in media has flown the coop, as the distancing of many long-time traditions, beliefs, and multiple other descriptions is clear. This has led to distrust and lowered the truth bar in all aspects. A Gallup poll⁷ from 2016 states that trust in the media to be accurate, fair, and fully disclosing fell from 68% to 32%, a significant loss.

The same is true with trust in the U.S. government (1957-2003), which remains at historic lows, with a low percent trusting the government (Worse, 2024). Thus, we are left with a declining populace where lying, moral decay, corruption in politics, spiritual diminishment, the emptiness of moral deterioration, spiritual barrenness, and weakness of secularism are overwhelming.

There is an absolute need for religious teaching and a corresponding lifestyle. What matters is not the change agent but the conscious choice to do so. Masonry remains a source of comfort to many men of the Craft. We must not lose sight of this and encourage education, study, discussion, and efforts to incorporate this into each man, Lodge, and worldwide existence.

The Man and the Mason.

The individual must choose why he applies. The decision rests with the individual, followed through belief, perhaps knowing someone who is a Mason, and a desire to belong to an organization that appears solid and upright. Masonry offers a place of peacefulness, of Brothers who have experienced the same steps forward, of firm beliefs in people, community, and morality. We give of self, charity, help, and camaraderie of purpose and ritual, which brings comfort. We take part in Lodge and degrees for new Masons, volunteer, engage, and help where needed, for it fulfills a sense of belonging, meaning, and comfort in the presence of other Masons. Yet, while we least forget, explaining this to new members is critical, for what one man knows, another needs

to learn.

Freemasonry is "A beautiful system of customs, or method of living, which, if followed, results in one's discriminating between right and wrong, being chaste, just, and ethical." While the source of this statement is forgotten, it can be validated using experience, study, and logic. Using illustrations, images, participation, help from another brother, and repetition are all excellent teaching methods.

Applying the rationale of life lessons, seeking the truth of narrative and meaning, and seeing and experiencing as a candidate or participant help cement the lessons and sharpen inquiry. Using logic, experience, and example allows a symbol to assume meaning. As a new symbol applies to life examples or is used to represent meaning, we can often connect with what we value and, thus, adapt.

We discern truth from narrative, actions, and engagement. As we hear of Masons engaged in community and with individuals to assist in their life and well-being, we find such stories of value representative of our ideals, and we are proud that a Masonic Lodge is engaged.

New members are the focus of kindness, help, sincerity, and purpose. Entering the brotherhood is but the beginning. Realizing that there is a commonality of purpose, person, and beliefs, continued learning and assimilation are necessary. Instruction of degrees, personal assimilation, more excellent knowledge, and fulfillment of self cannot be set aside.

The history of Masonry is extensive and emerges from work, the purpose of the guild, the foundation of the Craft built on commonality and desire to be good citizens, allowed by our character and Masonic history and becoming a member of an organization that shares history, duty, ritual, and experiencing a worldwide set of beliefs and participation that is unique, purposeful and fulfilling. Jesus and God discussed the Brotherhood of Man and brotherly love, displayed within a well-run Lodge, to be cherished and supported. It is seldom discussed, but it should be a small part of asking at the end of every meeting. Meaning to the individual brothers enriches personal knowledge and awareness.

Humanity comprises beliefs, practices, choices, and differences from good to bad. Masons add many positive characteristics. That must be included in the members' repertoire of offerings. Perhaps use short-duration presentations where the brother comments on presentation questions?

In Closing.

The reasons behind this widespread erosion of governmental and institutional engagement are diverse. On the one hand, we have seen a series of scandals and failures that have



7. <https://news.gallup.com/poll/512861/media-confidence-matches-2016-record-low.aspx>

Masonic Tradition cont.

exposed the corruption and incompetence of our institutions. We also have a “closed” and selfish body of elected officials who have neglected the reason for their existence, the citizens, and the public of Americans who entrusted them but have been cheated by some, and the results are harmful.

The bottom line is that the credibility of our American institutions has been severely and irreversibly compromised. Masonry remains beholden to tradition, but suffers because of the chaos of society and customs. As happens, custom may experience harm through benign neglect. There is no outside fix. It rests within every Mason, each man,

and Lodge Officer to step up, assume a leadership role, take part, and engage as assumed. The meaning of Brotherly love and Masonry is cast in granite and cannot be ignored for reasons that carry no or little meaning.

“So believed Presidents George Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Gerald Ford. As did our Founding Fathers and the Prime Minister of Great Britain, Winston Churchill.”

**Fraternally,
Richard Lumb**

P.M. Orchard Lodge #215; P.M. & Secretary Wilton
Lodge #156; Treasurer Mystic Tie Lodge #154

Somerset Lodge #34 Providing Some New Wheels & Visiting a Brother at Home



**Lucky recipients
of Somerset Lodge
#34's 2024 Bikes-for-
Books program at
the Margaret Chase
Smith school in
Skowhegan on
June 3, 2024.**

**Officers of Somerset Lodge
#34 presenting an ailing
Brother with a Masonic bible
on June 9, 2024.
Left to right: Wor Bro Aron
Bishop (SW), Bro Chris Clarke
(JW), RW Bro Erik Nielson
(Sec), Bro Sam Jencks (seat-
ed), Bro Matt Jencks (SS), Bro
Phil Jencks (JS).**



Wor. Frank Morris PDDJGW E.C. of Arundel Lodge No. 76

Frank Morris is a remarkable man and Mason who overcame adversity early in life to become a leader in our fraternity and an exemplar of its principles.

Frank was born July 21, 1929 and orphaned 14 years later. He soon set out with a friend in an aged and suspect Model T along the east coast, finding himself in North Carolina when it broke down for the last time. He heard of a farmer who needed a truck driver to deliver his produce. Now, Frank's older brother had taught him to drive truck with a semi-trailer when he was 14, but he was still slightly unsteady, causing Mr. Wright to comment casually, "You've never driven a tractor trailer before have you?" to which Frank replied "No sir, but I'm a fast learner." For the record, Frank admitted that he had quite a time getting out of Mr. Wright's yard. Sheer determination combined with the barest of training got him on his way, and Mr. Wright somehow knew that this was just the beginning of Frank's journey towards making a new life for himself.

Shortly after WWII, Frank attempted to enlist in the armed services but was rejected after spending what little money he had on a train ticket to Boston. He returned to Arundel as a short order cook, all the while keeping his ear to the ground for other opportunities. He soon learned of work building the first leg of the Maine Turnpike from York to Kennebunk. Frank signed on.

Ironically, Frank was drafted during the Korean conflict in 1951. He was initiated, passed and raised from June 9 to June 19, 1951 by Arundel Lodge of Kennebunkport to accommodate his entry into the service. Later, with his deployment imminent, Frank asked for leave to get married and was denied. He appealed the decision to his Commanding Officer who awarded him time off on the promise of his Brother Mason's timely return. Frank hitchhiked home to Maine where he and Beverly were married on Groundhog Day (he didn't see his shadow!). True to his word, Frank then found his way to Manchester, NH where he hitched a ride on a "flying boxcar" for the promised return to Fort Drum, NY. And so began a journey for Frank and Beverly that was to last for 70 years.

He returned to Maine and the ongoing Maine Turnpike after his discharge at 25 years old, this time extending it through Gray. In 1969 he remodeled a Kennebunkport home for a brother who worked for the Rockefeller Foundation. This connection afforded him the opportunity to remodel a former British military barracks into a hospital on the isle of St. Lucia in the Caribbean. The Director of the Hospital - Dr. Peter Jordan - asked Frank to be his assistant; upon accepting the role, Frank became the "Administrator of Infrastructure

and Transportation" at the hospital in Castries, St. Lucia's capital.

The brotherhood soon "adopted" Frank and he began to drive Gov. Sir Allen Lewis and, later, his successor to lodge. Frank joined Abercrombie Lodge 2788 E.R. in 1969, served as its Master and later became District Deputy Jr. Grand Warden E.C. (English Constitution). He also became Past Master of the Mark Lodge E.R. and held the title of Mark Master Mason.

Frank retired in 1992 after 24 years of working for various construction and oil companies in the West Indies. He and Beverly had plans to travel leisurely in their motor home across the country as far as Alaska, but were deterred by the price of gas so they made their way back to Maine to visit relatives. In 2000 Frank found himself driving trucks and heavy equipment on the Turnpike for the third time, as it was then being widened. He was the only person there who had worked on its original construction. He has now completely retired (we think) to Florida.

Frank recently celebrated 73 years of Masonry and is the senior Past Master of Arundel Lodge, having served in 1965. As Master, Frank had the privilege of raising his brother Donald Morris and with the cooperation of his brethren in St. Lucia, he also initiated, passed and raised his son Scott between December 1979 and January 1980, due to his active duty in the U.S. Army.

We not only celebrate his Masonic longevity but also the inspiring example he has set in pursuing the Tenets of Our Profession throughout his years of service to the Craft and to the communities he has called home. Wor. Frank Morris is a truly hard working, honorable and upstanding man. We are proud to call him Brother.



L-R: Donald Morris (brother), WM Frank Morris PDDJGW E.C., and Scott Morris (son).

Contributed by Bro. Larry Vennell

The Grand Lodge Building That Never Was

By Bro. Mike Tremblay, PJGW

Last summer I enjoyed a cruise of southern New England seaports. In preparing for the voyage, I checked out the Providence, RI Renaissance Hotel on the internet and was intrigued to find many Masonic symbols in a few of the hotel pictures.



My interest piqued, I booked in and was excited to see for myself the various familiar symbols and words designating various function rooms in the hotel.

As it turned out, the hotel manager had been a Rainbow Girl, and was quite eager to explain the Masonic connection. She said the building had been constructed in the 1920s to be headquarters for the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, but because of financial pressures created by the Great Depression, the project was abandoned and languished for more than 80 years, until the Marriott Hotel organization purchased it early in the 21st Century.

Wor. Brother Richard Lynch, Curator and Librarian of the Grand Lodge of RI, provided additional information, and we thank him for his valuable assistance. He provided the following timeline for this Masonic Temple that never was.

1910: Work begins on plans for a new Grand Lodge building across from the Rhode Island State House.

1925: Plans are ready to build the Grecian Design Temple building of brick and limestone along with a public function auditorium.

1926: Ground-breaking ceremonies take place, with Grand Master William Sweet officiating.

1928: Despite a vigorous fundraising effort, and the building reaching 35 percent completion, work is halted due to the Depression and lays dormant for 14 years.

1942: A committee of the Rhode Island Legislature convenes to explore use of the unfinished structure. The State purchased the building with the intent of using it for state offices and the auditorium for public functions.

1949: After being stalled by World War II efforts, work begins on the auditorium.

1950: The auditorium is completed, but the state never fulfills its intention to create office space in the Temple.

2001: Rhode Island enters into an agreement with Algen Development Co. to convert the Temple building into a hotel, but in 2002 the deal falls through and nothing is done.

2003: Sage Hospitality acquired the building and followed through with plans to create a 274-room Five Star hotel, with completion by 2006.

An interesting aside to the story involves the Marriott family. The Marriott brothers were also Masonic brothers. I believe they knew the history of the building, and were determined to retain the Masonic symbolism. A plaque describing the building's history and its Masonic affiliation is prominently displayed in the lobby.



A Masonic chair displayed in the lobby of the Renaissance Hotel, Providence, RI.

THE MAINE MASON

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District Meeting Schedule

District	DDGM	Number	Location & Times	Scheduled
1st	RW Ralph C. Conroy	(207) 493-4270	TBD 5:30pm	Oct 12th
2nd	RW Walter "Tom" Parks	(207) 590-6922	Calais 12pm	Aug 24
3rd	RW Ronald E Dunphy	(207) 458-3287	Calais 12pm	Aug 24
4th	Vacant			
5th	RW Bryan C Boyce	(207) 343-3766	Mt Kineo Lodge 6pm	Nov 9
6th	RW Troy M Bagley	(207) 249-5483	Bangor Masonic 5:30pm	Sept 28
7th	RW Randy B Stearns	(207) 975-1479	Union Lodge 11:30am	Sept 21
8th	RW Gerald E Knight	(207) 505-5705	Liberty Lodge 6pm	Nov 7
9th	RW Steven J Gibbons	(207) 323-2583	TBD 5:30pm	
10th	RW Joshua L Atkinson	(207) 512-6440	Morning Star Ldge 6:30pm	Aug 31
11th	RW Michael P Clinton	(207) 713-0250	TBD 6pm	Sept 25
12th	RW David A Bucknam	(915) 491-2955	Euclid Lodge 6:30pm	Sept 20
13th	RW James A Owens	(207) 696-5338	United Lodge 6:30pm	Sept 6
14th	RW Edward A Caron	(207) 735-5653	Harlon Harnden Lodge	Nov 16
15th	RW Jacob D Richards	(207) 620-4355	6pm	Sept 26
16th	RW Jan W Newhouse	(207) 752-3527	TBD 6pm	Oct 22
17th	RW Justin M Wesley	(207) 650-8128	Casco Lodge 6pm	Oct 17
18th	RW Roy C Trombly	(207) 318-8048	TBD 6pm	Nov 2
19th	RW Wayne R Johnson	(603) 498-8040	TBD 6pm	Oct 24
20th	RW Thomas J Williams	(207) 357-9741	Jefferson Lodge 6pm	Oct 18
21st	RW Jeffrey D Alley	(207) 963-2015		
22nd	RW Forrest C Simpson Jr	(207) 416-5036	Meridian Splendor	Nov 15
23rd	RW Jason E Davis	(207) 576-9764	Auburn Masonic 6pm	Dec 6
24th	RW Dale M Fiske	(207) 217-8591	TBD - 6pm to 9pm	Oct 11