

Spring 2012



The Maine Mason



Open House

On Saturday, April 21 at 1 p.m., these new Grand Lodge offices on Rte. 1A in Holden will be dedicated by the Grand Master and the officers of the Grand Lodge of Maine. Following the dedication, the building will be open for anyone wishing to tour the new facility which will also house the Grand Lodge Library and Museum. Because of the expected turnout for the event, last minute details will be posted on the Grand Lodge website (www.mainemason.org) including suggested car pooling locations, etc. as parking will be very limited.

If you have any questions please call the new office at 843-1086.

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.

At the 162nd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1981, legislation was adopted to provide THE MAINE MASON to every member of the constituted lodges within this Grand Lodge without additional charge.

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by George P. Pulkkinen

This issue of The Maine Mason is chuck full of material we hope you find of interest. Or importance. Or both. Take membership, for example. Membership is one of the prime interests of R.W. Brother Jim Ross.

In an attempt to assist every lodge attract and productively employ new members, our next Grand Master is planning six Regional Membership Seminars, strategically located around Maine in an attempt to make it possible for every lodge to participate. On page 23 you'll find the schedule, registration materials, and Brother Ross's words of encouragement to have 100% participation among our 185 working lodges.

Then there are several pages of what we believe to be comprehensive indications of the thought processes and ultimate goals of our five Deputy Grand Master candidates. Because of Maine's size it is difficult, if not impossible, for the candidates to meet every brother who has the right, and obligation, to elect the next leaders of our Grand Lodge. Understanding this, and firm in the belief that all good Masons want what is best for our brethren, the DGM candidates were asked to answer eight questions that should give all voting members an adequate grasp of the priorities of each of these fine men. They were invited to share their thoughts with you, and because of the complexities of some issues facing the Craft, no word limit was imposed.

Etcetera

We hope you'll also enjoy photos depicting the celebrations of Masonic veterans, articles on the Craft at work, recollections of exciting times past and fun and important things happening now

Maine Masonry encompasses a wide swath of humanity...men thinking and planning and doing all matter of things to improve the lives of those around us. We hope you enjoy meeting some of them on the following pages.

Cover Photos by R.W. Tom Pulkkinen

From the Grand East

W. Louis Greenier II Grand Master of Masons in Maine

There's a breath of Spring back in the air again, and how nice it seems to be looking forward to new greenery and glorious blooms!

And as we head into Spring, that means it's time to prepare for the Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Maine to be held this year in Bangor beginning with the banquet on April 30, and then the annual session on May 1 and May 2. (Be sure to check the Maine Masonic website www.MaineMason.org for information and registration forms.)

During this past year there have been (and still are) significant changes happening in our Grand jurisdiction. The changes are necessitated by factors concerning the long-established Portland location of the Grand Lodge office space. The main factors are 1) the antiquated condition of the building space and the lack of resources to make necessary maintenance, 2) inadequate convenient parking and inconvenient access to the office space, and 3) concerns for the financial challenges facing our Grand Lodge coffers.

In furtherance of these points, I would like to reiterate how these factors have been addressed and what measures have been taken to resolve the situation and help the GL jurisdiction move forward rather than continually having to address the problems over and over again. In order to address relocation to resolve the long-pending problems facing the Portland space, a directive was given to this GM to form a site-selection committee to evaluate all proposals submitted. (There were a total of FIVE site proposals submitted to the committee.) The site-selection committee was comprised of brethren from locations evenly and fairly representing our entire jurisdiction in order to avoid favoritism. My highest compliments to Ron Fowle and all the members of the site-selection committee for developing and establishing uniform and comprehensive categories and line items to use to evaluate all the sites proposed. Each and every site was considered exactly by the same categories and standards. Not only did the members of the committee scour the proposals' informa-

tion, they also made site inspections to ensure that all physical and visual aspects of each site was evaluated as well.

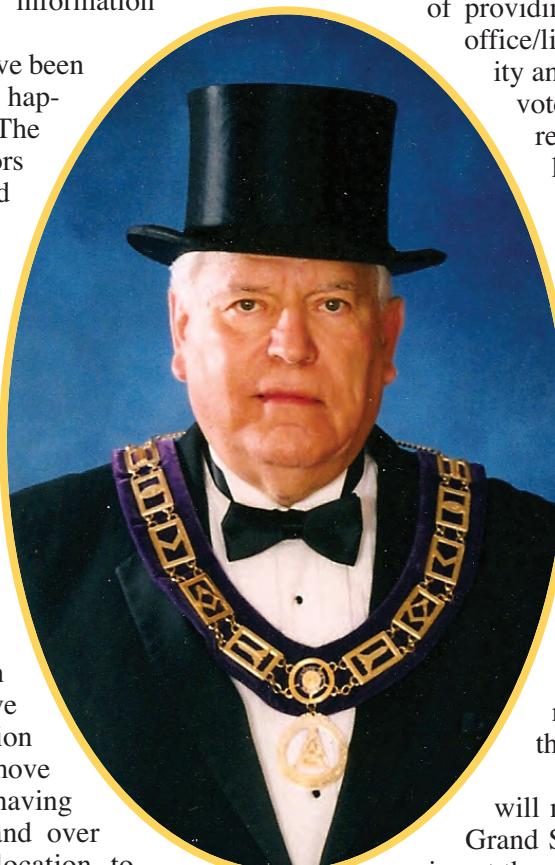
On December 10, 2011, at the special session, presentations were made to the brethren by Ron Fowle and Ed King regarding the committee's final recommendation based on the site-selection committee's evaluations. The BRETHREN VOTED IN FAVOR of 1) ownership of real estate in Holden, Maine, by the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation, and 2) lease of said real estate by the Grand Lodge of Maine to be used for the purpose of providing space for relocating Grand Lodge office/library/museum. Pursuant to the authority and directive given by that December 10 vote, The MMCF purchased the Holden real estate on December 30, 2011, and a lease was signed by the Grand Lodge of Maine.

A few of our brethren are finding this change difficult to accept. They seem very determined to cast this move in a dim light and have used their negativity to find ways to divide the brethren of our jurisdiction. That is very sad. To these few individuals, I would simply ask you to reconsider your motives for your spread of divisiveness. Are your actions in line with the proper conduct of a Mason? Do you have the best interest of the Craft in mind or is it simply your intention to continue to lash out with (unkind and mostly inaccurate) accusations against the current GM?

Hollis Dixon has indicated that he will not submit his name for re-election as Grand Secretary, and so he will not be working at the new Holden location. Hollis has served as Grand Lodge secretary for twelve years, and we do wish him the very best in his retirement (or who knows, maybe there's another career in his future!).

Harold "Mac" McKenney has indicated that he will not seek re-election to continue serving as Grand Treasurer and will retire at the conclusion of this year's annual session. To Mac, I extend my best regards and appreciation for your service to the Grand Lodge of Maine. We wish you happiness and good health for many years to come.

None of the individuals who have been employees in the Grand Lodge office have indicated interest in providing assistance at the new location. To them, we wish suc-



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A look into the thinking of the Five Brethren who would be Grand Master

With the exception of the Grand Master himself, the office of Deputy Grand Master is one of the two next-most-important offices to which a Maine Freemason may be elected. (The other being Grand Secretary, who serves as Chief Operating Officer of our Grand Lodge.)

Because of the importance of choosing wisely the presumed next “leader” of our Craft, we have submitted eight questions to the five Brethren who have offered themselves as candidates for the office of R.W. Deputy Grand Master at our 192nd Annual Communication to be held in Gracie Hall on the Husson College campus in Bangor on Tuesday, May 1, 2012.

We invite you lodge Masters, Wardens and other voting members to study well the answers, and cast your ballots based on how the answers correspond with your ideas, goals and objectives for the growth, support systems and management of our beloved Craft in the years ahead.

The candidate responses follow, complete and unedited, in alphabetical order. --*Editor*

THE QUESTIONS

- 1.** Why are you running for the office of Deputy Grand Master?
- 2.** If elected, what specific skills would you bring to the office that would help prepare you to wisely lead the Craft as Grand Master?
- 3.** What is your vision for your brethren and for the Grand Lodge of Maine?
- 4.** What do you see as the three biggest challenges facing our Grand Lodge, and how would you meet those challenges?

- 5.** Fundamentally, Masons have cared for their own; their own being their fellow Masons, widows, and children. But at times there appears to be a deviation from this fundamental practice. Do you share this observation and if so, what initiatives would you adopt to place a greater focus on caring for “our own”?
- 6.** Membership is the life-blood of any organization. Attention to actively attracting the right men to our organization, involving our current membership in worthwhile activities, retaining our ranks and seeking ways to restore Masons to active roles of membership must be a priority in order for Masonry to flourish. What would be your initiatives to address each of these four areas of membership that are so important to our “life-blood”?
- 7.** Our Nation is at war, our economy is sour and our collective morale as a society is at a low-point. One does not have to look beyond his own community to recognize that there are grave concerns about the financial and overall health of citizens. Do you feel that Masonry should take a leadership role in addressing these issues even if to seek restoring peace to troubling minds or to encourage the Craft to continue to have hope? What can Masonry do to respond to the ever-growing concerns of our communities?
- 8.** Good stewardship of the Craft’s finances must ever be a priority and practice of every good Grand Master. If elected Deputy Grand Master, what steps would you adopt in your planning to be Grand Master to insure sound fiscal policy and practice? What priorities would your budget reflect?

R.W. RANDALL L. ELLIOTT

1. I am running for Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine for several reasons First is I have received more from Freemasonry than I could ever give back. Freemasonry has changed me from the person I was to the Mason I am now. It would be an Honor for me to serve the Craft as Deputy Grand Master along side of the incoming Grand Master R W A James Ross. I feel I can contribute to the Craft with time and experience that I have learned from being a Past Master and a Mason for 31 years. I have been very fortunate to meet many Masons along the way and I share their sentiments and their goals.

2. I have served my Lodges as an officer in the line to being Master several times. I have been in the position of making some very difficult decisions. We sold our Lodge building a few years ago. To finding a new home for Mechanics Lodge which we did I have been on several committees and served the Craft with many wonderful men and Masons. If I had not become a Mason I would not have met these people. I have been on many committees and been fortunate enough to meet our goals.

3. I stay unified and keep moving in a positive manner promoting peace and harmony throughout this wonderful thing we have here called Freemasonry .We must protect it by striving to better ourselves and Freemasonry.

4. Declining membership as I see it is the biggest challenge we as Masons face. We must head it off and get it stabilized and keep it from declining further. There are several steps we can try, one way is for Lodges with Colleges and Universities is to meet with the heads of the campus fraternities and let them know “what we are about” . As I have found they are very good at listening and asking questions, and get ourselves and Our Lodges into the public eye. We have several members from the UMO and are working some of them right now. By speaking to them and having them come to suppers we have several of them have joined our Lodge. Lodges closing and consolidating is another obstacle we have to overcome. Several of the Lodges in



the outskirts of town have not had enough members present to do work and to run their Lodges, several of them have to import officers from around the district. Several members have dual membership that has helped several Lodges keep going it is a problem that we have to address promptly. At this day and time we are going to see some Lodges close that is a fact. However we can offer to help them stay the course, going to their degree work, calling on members to go to their Lodge with you. There is not a simple solution to this problem but we must persevere I have seen this work firsthand .

Declining Participation is another problem we should be striving to find the answer to this problem. It has gone on for many years and is still going on today around the state and the country. We must find a way to get them back, we put a lot of effort into making new Master Masons we need to retain them . One way is contact them with a phone call or if you know them well enough drop by and see how they are and if they have any problems or questions we need to have a couple of veteran masons stay with them from their EA degree on even after they are a Master Mason, go to other lodges and visit we encourage this practice and it does work fairly well. I was asked by a member of my lodge to attend an outdoor degree and we went I was standing talking to a few friends I happened to look around and saw this young man standing all alone , I went over and asked him what was up his words were “I didn’t want to bother you guys” needless he did not and has

Deputy Grand Master Candidates

R.W. Thomas E. Pulkkinen

1. Why are you running for the office of Deputy Grand Master?

Masonic membership and influence has declined greatly over the past 50 years, but its moral values and teachings remain at the core of how we as a society should interact with one another. My love of the Craft; proven ability to work with others to create positive change; and desire to put my years of retirement to productive use within the fraternity, lead me to run for this office that is essential to the advancement of these teachings among a growing body of men.

2. If elected, what specific skills would you bring to the office that would help prepare you to wisely lead the Craft as Grand Master?

During my 23 years in Masonry, I have worked closely with ten presiding Grand Masters who exhibited differences in vision, strategies, tactics and style; in leading with enthusiasm; in adopting the good ideas of others; and in engaging committees and other Masons to improve the “value” of membership and the health of Freemasonry. I have tried to emulate what I “have seen praiseworthy in others” and have thereby learned well from these respected Masonic leaders.

My preparation also comes from many years leading organizations with as many as 140 people, and performing duties as exacting as assessing the health of the nation’s banking and insurance industries, analyzing business operations and providing services to the public. Effective communications – listening, speaking and writing – was a critical aspect of these positions. Experience creating budgets for governmental organizations and Masonic bodies, most recently for our Grand Lodge, is vital to prudently allocating our Craft’s financial resources so as to achieve critical priorities. Many years of creating Masonic strategic plans, beginning and overseeing leadership programs, writing on Freemasonry, and speaking frequently before Masons are all skills



essential to becoming an inspiring and successful Grand Master.

3. What is your vision for your brethren and for the Grand Lodge of Maine?

As “Quality is job one” was the vision of the Ford Motor Company, and “Turning vision into reality” was the aspiration of MetLife, so must these statements govern all that we do in Maine Freemasonry. We often say that “Freemasonry makes good men better.” Well, the Craft will regain its luster when brethren, their families and communities witness Masonry **“developing caring, moral men and leaders.”** Towards that end, Freemasons need to: 1) place more emphasis on Masonic education – on the meaning and application of Masonic ritual to our lives, not just the correctness of the words; 2) remember that we are a fraternity, and get back to helping our Masonic families; 3) ensure that brethren see real value in being a Mason and belonging to their respective lodges – that their time is well spent; and 4) stretch the leadership abilities of those who are entrusted with heading Grand Lodge and our blue lodges.

4. What do you see as the three biggest challenges facing our Grand Lodge, and how would you meet those challenges?

While implementing a new membership database,

Continued on Following Page

PULKKINEN *Continued*

training new staff and creating a well-managed business office will be challenging in the near term, our most critical challenges are at the core of the mission or purpose of Freemasonry: 1) creating value and excitement in the Masonic experience; 2) attracting more of the “right” men to Masonry; and, 3) establishing a trusting, productive relationship between Grand Lodge and lodge leaders to strengthen the Craft and address her needs.

To address these challenges, I would reorganize the committee structure and appoint enthusiastic brethren committed and qualified to carry out defined roles. The future of our fraternity dictates that all committees know what is expected of them and then go about achieving those objectives. Of particular importance are those committees charged with addressing our membership and leadership challenges – areas where I would urge Grand Lodge and blue lodges spend more resources and work more closely to achieve positive results. Finally, I would have District meetings become or be supplemented with traditional New England town hall meetings where, through effective and forthright communication, brethren can better get to know and understand one another, learn what is happening in our Craft, and share each other’s ideas and concerns.

5. Fundamentally, Masons have cared for their own; their own being their fellow Masons, widows, and children. But at times there appears to be a deviation from this fundamental practice. Do you share this observation and if so, what initiatives would you adopt to place a greater focus on caring for “our own”?

American Freemasonry has long been more of a public philanthropy than in other parts of the world. While recognizing that many of our initiatives help others and benefit Masonic awareness, I would endorse an inward redirection of charitable emphasis.

One such example might be in the substantial scholarship aid awarded by the Masonic Charitable Foundation to students from non-Masonic families. If other Masonic jurisdictions and bodies such as the Scottish Rite require a Masonic, DeMolay or Rainbow affiliation while maintaining their favored

IRS status, why can’t or don’t we? Requiring a Masonic affiliation would amount to taking care of our own as they face one of life’s most stressing financial challenges.

However, charity is not only financial; it also involves helping and caring for others. I would encourage and recognize lodge initiatives to help our Masonic families – especially our seniors, injured veterans and widows, such as by undertaking projects around their homes, providing needed medical transportation, or actively visiting hospitalized or shut-in members.

6. Membership is the life-blood of any organization. Attention to actively attracting the right men to our organization, involving our current membership in worthwhile activities, retaining our ranks and seeking ways to restore Masons to active roles of membership must be a priority in order for Masonry to flourish. What would be your initiatives to address each of these four areas of membership that are so important to our “life-blood”?

Did you know that there are nearly as many Maine Masons ages 88 and older as there are below age 38? Or that while 26 lodges (14%) have NO members under age 33, ten lodges enjoy having at least 10% of their members in this age group? These numbers demonstrate we need to attract more good men and that some lodges have been much more successful in doing so than others, due to fellowship nights, open houses and other approaches to bring men into our lodges. These efforts must be fully supported by Grand Lodge, with training provided to lodge officers. Grand Lodge also needs to introduce programs, such as the new Rookie Award Program, to encourage our brethren to become involved in their lodges. Officers and members need to actively consider who in their communities would benefit from becoming Masons and who would benefit the Craft – that is to create a “target list” of the right men, and then bring these individuals to lodge events.

Regarding retention and restoration, it’s procedurally too easy to suspend a brother for not paying his dues; lodges need to visit and reach out to inactive

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Deputy Grand Master Candidates

R.W. Richard L. Rhoda

1. I am seeking higher office because of my abiding passion for Masonry. Since the age of 21, its values, fellowship and opportunities have shaped my life. We each have an obligation to give back and leave better than which was entrusted to our generation. Higher office would provide me the opportunity to continue promoting the values of Masonry within the Craft and to affirmatively promote the Craft within our communities. What we value is only as important as we believe it to be. To me, Masonry is beyond value.

After consultation with our Grand Master to-be, I find we share many similar concerns for Maine Masonry and the needed approaches to help resolve them. I foresee four years of consistency with no pendulum swings between Grand Masters upon my election.

2. Leadership is an attitude before it is an ability. Throughout my 47-year Masonic career, I have learned and practiced leadership. If elected I recognize that a higher level of leadership will be required. I am fully dedicated and knowledgeable about Maine Masonry having served as a Grand Lodge officer the past six years. I worked closely with many lodges as they caught up over 425 years of delinquent histories.

I highly value teamwork and cannot overvalue communication to accomplish goals. I realize every issue has two sides; therefore all communications must be open, fair and consistent. The Craft must be able to rely on that consistency.

3. I foresee the Brethren receiving value for their time spent in an active Masonic experience where they affirm values, build relationships and strengthen communities. They will find renewed personal pride in their Masonry. For their personal growth, I would encourage development of leadership principles in lodge which would inevitably enhance family and community life.



It is critical for Grand Lodge to become aware of the needs and desires of local lodges and work jointly to respond to them. We need ideas coming up the ladder. Over the next two years a warden of each lodge should expect at least one evening phone call from me to discuss those issues. Reestablishment of trust and communication must flow both ways.

For all Grand Lodge officers and District Deputies and their lodges, I will have expectations with follow-up on their progress and accountability for the same.

4. The three main challenges facing Grand Lodge are restoring personal pride in Masonry, competent leadership and fun in the experience of brotherhood. The response to these issues lies within each of us. Our collective response will determine our success. If we achieve these goals, then issues of membership, money, building upkeep and the recycling of Past Masters will resolve themselves in each lodge in their own way.

We learn that Masons should not be drones in the beehive. Maine Freemasonry is each of us. We are obligated to support it. I would promote involvement and follow up with more follow-up. It is alright to be a “wannabe” in lodge so long as you

RHODA *Continued*

want to be the best you can and make the effort. This would be an abiding message from me.

5. I share this concern which I find rooted in the exercise of trying something new to fix a recurring problem as the fortunes of Masonry swing back and forth. Masonry is neither a civic organization nor a club. We are unique and have been the original model for all fraternal organizations. We need to return to our roots and center our attention on our members, widows and orphans. In the long run, actions speak louder than words and money. In business terms, "What has been the 'payback dividend' in new members when we have sought to be like other civic organizations?" Recognizing that it will take some money, strategic planning and work to return to our roots, I believe we must make the effort because the principles of Masonry are worth it!

6. Too many lodges seek to ride a multispeed bicycle as fast and straight as possible with work being done in as few meetings as possible. Doing degree work and lodge business at a stated meeting leads to a single rut of going to a lodge meeting with a goal of simply getting it done.

If we slow down, relax and enjoy our Masonry on a tricycle, we of necessity make three ruts: (1) we can do our necessary business at stated meetings; (2) at another we have the opportunity to better know and work with our candidates and make them feel that they indeed are special on their degree nights; and (3) finally we can provide programs of interest which may bring members back to lodge who are not interested in business and degree work meetings. The tricycle approach to our lodge meetings can be the transfusion that will rejuvenate our "life-blood" to the four membership areas of concern.

A strongly recommended tool for lodges wanting to get involved with special programs is the Mark Twain Program sponsored by the Masonic Service Association. This program allows a lodge to compete against itself, not other lodges, because the

award is based on the merits of the endeavor itself. Lodges about the state have different local problems; nevertheless, all can be winners if each lodge makes the commitment to work as a lodge to succeed.

7. Masonry per se should not be so involved as I believe this would lead us into the political market place. However, when active Masons serve as local leaders, then Masonry, by and through the leadership skills which they exhibit, is present before the public eye. Masons need to share the leadership skills they have learned in lodge and, for some, the lessons learned going through the chairs. Masons should return to being leaders within their communities.

8. I would consult with present and former members of the Finance Committee to seek advice as to what has worked and which pitfalls to avoid. I would review past practices and policies to determine their relevancy to today's needs. I would seek methods to maximize income and savings while facing a declining membership without having to raise per capita dues. I would make a careful and responsible review of essential services and of the efficiency by which they are provided.

It is premature to state what priorities my budget would reflect. The fixed costs items are mandatory. I would use the Grand Master's contingency fund to service the needs of the Craft as determined at that time.

Deputy Grand Master Candidates

R.W. Kenneth L. Richardson

1. Why are you running for the office of Deputy Grand Master?

I want to be part of the rebuilding of Maine Freemasonry. Organizations don't fail because of outside influences; they fail because of inside influences, or the lack of them. I want to see all masons working together to meet common goals and objectives. Grand Lodge is only as good as its Blue Lodges which is the foundation of all our Masonic Families. I would work with the district officers to provide them with the tools to make this successful.

2. If elected, what specific skills would you bring to the office that would help prepare you to wisely lead the Craft as Grand Master?

I'll bring experience and a strong work ethic to work through the challenges at hand. I've been involved in Grand Lodge since 1992. Over these years, I've had the pleasure of working with all the Grand Masters and have learned many ideas that I would incorporate into programs that I know would become successful. One of the most important things I've learned is to pick the right team. Everybody working together and being on the same page works. Working together, we can make a difference.

3. What is your vision for your brethren and for the Grand Lodge of Maine?

My vision would be to have all masons working together to achieve common goals for the best of Freemasonry in Maine. We will certainly have different opinions on certain matters, that is human nature. After a decision or vote has been made, we all need to work together to see that it come to light. Most of all, I envision our Blue Lodges providing mentoring and education to our Candidates, Lodge Officers, and especially to our Members. Again, I would be looking at Grand Lodge Officers to be assisting in this process.



4. What do you see as the three biggest challenges facing our Grand Lodge, and how would you meet those challenges?

First I would say, moving our Grand Lodge Office to Holden is a task that we all must see come to light, and all of us doing whatever is needed to see this through. This is the inside influences I was mentioning earlier. I hope this only makes us stronger and good will come from it. Another challenge is work within our annual budget. I would work closely with our Finance Committee to spend the money where it will be most useful to Maine Masons. But, the three biggest challenges I would work towards are our Candidates, Lodge Officers, and Lodge Members. With strong Blue Lodges, comes a strong Grand Lodge. Again, I would work through Grand Lodge Officers to see this work, providing programs to keep their interest up and wanting to get and stay involved.

5. Fundamentally, Masons have cared for their own; their own being their fellow Masons, widows, and children. But at times there appears to be a deviation from this fundamental practice. Do you share this observation and if so, what initiatives would you adopt to place a greater focus on caring for "our own"?

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RICHARDSON *Continued*

Most masons have too much pride to share their misfortunes. Often we find out after the fact. We need to stress to our members there's help if needed. Blue Lodges need to communicate to its members about this in all their correspondence with its members. One avenue is Grand Lodge using the Maine Mason to get the word out. As secretary of my Lodge, I found the application for Grand Lodge Relief very detailed and asks too many personal questions, which is why I think not many fill them out and submit them. Again, masons pride is at stake and digging that deep in their personal life is overbearing. We should keep the application as brief as possible and count on the Blue Lodges to do their part in seeing that the need is actually warranted.

6. Membership is the life-blood of any organization. Attention to actively attracting the right men to our organization, involving our current membership in worthwhile activities, retaining our ranks and seeking ways to restore Masons to active roles of membership must be a priority in order for Masonry to flourish. What would be your initiatives to address each of these four areas of membership that are so important to our "life-blood"?

Fellowship Nights have worked in the past in a lot of Lodges and they are still working at present. I would encourage lodges and districts to continue having them that are presently and those Lodges that aren't to give it a try. Grand Lodge could give any support that would be needed as far as a Program is concerned. I would see the District Deputy Grand Master helping with this and asking for whatever help is needed. Having an Open House once a year in which all Lodges invite Masons and their guests in for some informational program has worked. If every Officer would invite just one non-mason to attend, we would be surprised at the results. I envision having support teams made up of Past Masters, Past District Deputies Grand Masters to be available to help with our Candidates, Officers, and members in each district. The District Deputy Grand Master and District Educational Officer would play a major

role in this. They would have the tool boxes in which to work from.

7. Our Nation is at war, our economy is sour and our collective morale as a society is at a low-point. One does not have to look beyond his own community to recognize that there are grave concerns about the financial and overall health of citizens. Do you feel that Masonry should take a leadership role in addressing these issues even if to seek restoring peace to troubling minds or to encourage the Craft to continue to have hope? What can Masonry do to respond to the ever-growing concerns of our communities?

I believe Blue Lodges should take an active part in our communities as they desire to do so. Being visible will attract interest in our Fraternity from non-masons. Taking a leadership role in addressing these issues, is something I don't feel is something we need to start doing in that sense. If we continue to do what most lodges are already doing, word will get out in the communities and will draw interest in what we do as Masons. If we take a more active role in helping our own when hardships arises, that too gets around the community and lets everyone know that masons take care of masons. Programs such as the Bikes for Books, CHIPS Program, and the Scholarship Program are proof that Masons do care about their community members.

8. Good stewardship of the Craft's finances must ever be a priority and practice of every good Grand Master. If elected Deputy Grand Master, what steps would you adopt in your planning to be Grand Master to insure sound fiscal policy and practice? What priorities would your budget reflect?

I would work closely with the Finance Committee in producing a budget within our income. Those programs that support our livelihood of our Grand Lodge and of our Blue Lodges would surely take precedence. Our Blue Lodges are the foundation of our Masonic Families, programs to aid their success would be top priority. Areas where we're not getting the benefits needed would be reduced or eliminated.

Deputy Grand Master Candidates

R.W. David A. Walker

1. I am running for Deputy Grand Master because I believe I can work well with the next Grand Master and I believe that I can provide leadership and have a positive influence in the our Grand Jurisdiction as Grand Master in 2 years.

2. I have served as Wor. Master, District Education Representative, District Deputy Grand Master, Sr. Grand Warden and Grand Marshal and I believe that these experiences have prepared me for the duties of Grand Master. I have also served Grand Lodge on the Masonic Education Committee since 1992. I have also served as Chairman of our local School Board and spent several years as Vice Chairman of our local Credit Union, which enhance my experience and abilities, especially in leadership abilities and budgeting.

3. I see the Lodges moving forward with increasing activities and growing enrollment in the next few years, with the Grand Lodge providing leadership development and local assistance to the Lodges to make this possible.

4. One of the biggest challenges I see for the Grand Lodge of Maine is helping the lodges in their efforts to not only gain members and increase activity, but to make sure that new members are properly prepared to be Masons in the truest sense of the word. If we lose sight of what it is to be a Mason and only strive for greater membership, we will be no different than any service club. While those clubs are very valuable, they do not provide that special bond and meaning which can only be found as a member of our Craft. Along with those two challenges, I feel that another is increasing communication throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. Far too often, many members have no knowledge of what is happening in Grand Lodge and with our Grand Master. I think monthly (or more) communication from the Grand Master is imperative, not only to other Grand Lodge Officers, but to the Craft as well.

5. I agree that at times we make more effort to pro-



vide assistance outside of our Masonic Family than within. I believe that in many cases this is done to promote what Masonry is to non-Masons. Serving the world and our communities is important but there are other ways to promote Freemasonry and we should be spending at least as much effort caring for our extended Masonic family. The need is there and we need to fulfill our Masonic obligations.

6. I would like to see Masonry promoted to prospective members by more promotion of our core values, Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Those are the essence of Masonry. We also need to use means available to us to promote the outreach programs we offer, such as the CHIPS programs. Parts two and four of this question I see as the same. We need to try to engage our inactive members in activities in the Lodge and out. Helping with degree work, suppers and general maintenance of our Lodges would be an internal use of members. Our District has engaged Brethren from several Lodges to come together to assist elder members who needed a helping hand maintaining their homes. This has happened on two occasions over the past three years and has been a Godsend to those Brothers who needed that assistance and a really exciting way to bring together our Brethren thus exercising our second tenet, Relief. If we can do these things, these Brethren will feel more involved with Masonry and so find a reason to stay as active, involved members.

Continued on Next Page

WALKER *Continued*

7. I believe that as Masons, we should actively assist in our communities. We could focus on Military families, who really need the attention at these troubling times. We also need to be watchful of our elder Brethren and members of our communities with the ever more difficult task of heating and maintaining their homes.

8. I believe it is the responsibility of the Grand

Master to work with the Finance Committee to develop responsible budgets, keeping in mind the difficulties many of our Lodges have in funding their activities. I think funding programs for Lodges which teach leadership is very important. Promoting education for the Craft, for new members and some members who have been inactive and want to better themselves in Masonry and in the world at large is also needed.

ELLIOTT *Continued from Page 5*

not stood all alone since. This was a huge lesson for me as well as my friends as we talked about it several times since. Anything we as Brothers can do to make sure it does not happen again is well worth the effort.

5. I have been involved in this activity for several years. We deliver food and fruit baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas, we also make sure our needy people we have taken care of from time to time have the basics it is very rewarding to see some of the looks we get when we go out into the public as we drop off a present or food or even a check I feel we have to look after our own, At my Lodge we practice our Widows program we call these ladies our "Special Ladies" each meeting we take care of their lunch we help them along if they have a problem or sick or need something medical. We also stay in contact with our older members and make sure they do not need "Anything", I feel it is the least we can do for them in their golden years.

6. As membership goes it is our biggest problem we face as Masons. But we must stay the course and keep working to overcome this problem. My Lodge is now unique as we do not have a building. We sold it several years ago when the oil crunch was going strong. We had 85 members and most nites not enough to have a quorum and we were seriously contemplating closing the door and joining somewhere else. We had to make several phone calls to arrange for enough people to hold degrees, some nites it was a rather thin crowd and we still pulled it off. We kept at it and now we have 115 members with 12 in the works. We just stayed with it and it finally came around, and now have a very active Lodge. We need to contact our inactive members and try to get them to attend one way we do it is ask them what part of the work would you like to do from a paragraph in a lecture to a gate or working tools usually you can find them a job they can do.I have had grown men and Brothers who attended a degree for a friend or relative especially a 3rd Degree and had them Raise the new MM ,at first they

said I can't do it. I convinced them they could and now they realized just what it meant and they are extremely happy that they did indeed Raise their friend or relative. Another way is to show an interest in them and it will catch on and be a positive thing.

7. With our nation involved in fighting 2 wars at once we must look out for our veterans and our active duty soldiers. Our Veterans are fighting for us and the least we can do is look out for their families, as they have a very large and real duty to stay alive and safe in their roll as soldiers. If it was not for our veterans I might not be writing this letter, so we must watch over them and their families. The 6th Masonic Districts Officer Association have come up with a very worthwhile charity to help, It is called Maine Infantry Foundation. They are a 501c 3 and have only been around for a few months. This was a charity set up to Help aid and assist the soldiers and their families, we have taken a very active stance in this Foundation for donating money and having a raffle helping them to set up their Heroes Room it is being set up now to recognize the 2 Soldiers who lost their live protecting us , It is the least we can do as Masons they should not have to be at war and worry about weather their families have food lights and heat. They should be concentrating on one thing and that is staying alive and safe. Masonry should be on the front line to show them and the rest of the public "What We Are About".

8. The first priority should be keeping the assessment where it is now or even lower we have a new office and that should keep costs down. We need to make sure the programs we are supporting are worthy and working. The Crafts money is just that The Crafts Money we need to be watchful of it make sure it is not wasted on programs or activites that are not worthy of the crafts money. I also feel that we should be doing some fund raising as we have many talented brethren who are very eager to do a little of this. By doing this we would raise some moneys to put toward the betterment of the Craft.

PULKKINEN *Continued from Page 7*

members, share in their joys and sorrows, assist in their times of need. We need to more actively extend a hand to those who might become suspended or demitted members because of current financial and personal situations. We should consider another “amnesty program” for brethren who may have left the craft, perhaps unknowingly, and may be receptive to reestablishing their Masonic connections.

But more than anything else, Masonic leaders need to forthrightly assess what IS the value of belonging to our beloved Craft and individual lodges, and take steps that will create good reasons for men to become Freemasons and maintain their Masonic affiliation.

7. Our Nation is at war, our economy is sour and our collective morale as a society is at a low-point. One does not have to look beyond his own community to recognize that there are grave concerns about the financial and overall health of citizens. Do you feel that Masonry should take a leadership role in addressing these issues even if to seek restoring peace to troubling minds or to encourage the Craft to continue to have hope? What can Masonry do to respond to the ever-growing concerns of our communities?

A sailor must ensure that his “craft” is seaworthy and well supplied before he sets sail for a long journey in troubled waters. I doubt our fraternity is sufficiently wealthy with financial resources and experienced leaders capable of positively influencing social mores and spirit. While it might be a worthy vision for the Craft, I feel that we need to take care of our own.

Healthier Masonic organizations will result from a stronger and more focused commitment to leadership development, so I fully support the introduction of the new Dirigo Leadership Program. The Maine Masonic College commitment to deepening our understanding of Masonic teachings and how they can better our lives, as well as other top-

ics, uniquely positions us to build strong leaders and good men who understand the importance of working together to solve problems. When Masons learn these lessons well, they will be further prepared to contribute their talents to the many community, social, religious and governmental organizations that so many Masons have long sought to help, aid and assist by their works and example.

8. Good stewardship of the Craft’s finances must ever be a priority and practice of every good Grand Master. If elected Deputy Grand Master, what steps would you adopt in your planning to be Grand Master to insure sound fiscal policy and practice? What priorities would your budget reflect?

Two years on the Grand Lodge Finance Committee has afforded me an opportunity to assess not only the financial condition and affairs of our Grand Lodge but also its business operations. As Committee Chairman, I authored the 2012 budget report that expresses the financial direction that I and other committee members feel must be followed within Maine Freemasonry. We must establish and fund our priorities; commit resources (men, money and materials) to build a strong, active, educated and well led fraternity; and control, if not reduce, administrative costs. Grand Lodge must tap the energy and ideas of our brethren and carefully enlist qualified Masons to serve as Grand Lodge officers and committee members, just as all lodges must do.

And like every Mason must do at home, Freemasonry must: live within its means, that is, pay current operating expenses with current revenues, without whittling down our savings that have been accumulated over many generations; invest available moneys wisely to provide funding for unexpected emergencies and to leave the Craft financially stronger for future generations; and, while limiting increases to the per capita tax paid by all Maine Masons, ensure that the future of this great fraternity is not compromised by inadequate funding of programs essential to the vibrancy and value of Maine Freemasonry.

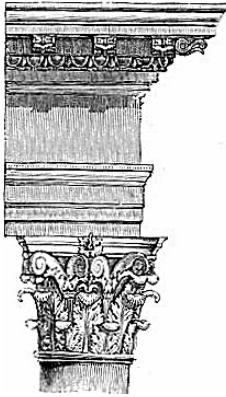


Wednesday, September 21, 2011, was a busy night at Fraternal Lodge #55 in Alfred. Wor. Harold Jamieson, Jr. presented the lodge's Mason of the Year plaque for 2011 to Wor. Frederick Pierce. Pictured, left to right, above, are: Wor. Brother Jamieson, Wor. Brother Pierce and Wor. Brother Sidney Emery who was Master of the lodge when Brother Pierce was raised on May 20, 1953.

At the same September 21 meeting, RWDDGM/19 Larry Vennell presented 50-year Veterans Medals to Bro. Roger Chick and Bro. Robert Davidson. Bro. Chick was raised in Fraternal Lodge on June 23, 1961. Bro. Davidson was raised in Gov. William King Lodge, Scarborough, on May 25, 1961 and affiliated with Fraternal Lodge on April 20, 1983. Pictured below, left to right: RW Brother Vennell, Brother Chick, Brother Davidson and Wor. Harold Jamieson, Sr.



Awards Night at Fraternal Lodge #55



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

HAVE YOU WONDERED why the Junior Warden reports that it is his duty to "observe the sun at its meridian height"? Well, as we all know, it's so that he can call the Craft from labor to refreshment at noon. How does he know when the sun is at its meridian height? He can't just eyeball it. He needs to know exactly when noon occurs. As Masons, we need to know how to find true north—just in case it's cloudy or the sun dial is broken. It's a pretty simple operation, but far too many Masons don't know how it's done, especially some Junior Wardens. It can be determined by the use of just two of our working tools: the 24-inch gauge and the compasses. One observes the sun as it first rises in the east and then as it sets in the west. The 24-inch gauge placed between these points. Then you swing two arcs with your trusty compasses from points equidistant from your observation point so that the two arcs intersect, draw a line between the two points of intersection, and you have a true north-south line.



Whole Number 11

The

The Maine Masonic College Newsletter

Entablature

www.MaineMasonicCollege.com



Spring 2012

Maine Masonic College Holds Annual Celebration of the Arts and Sciences



Dr. Kirsten Jacobson

On the fourth of February, 2012, the Annual Celebration of the Liberal Arts and Sciences was held at Meridian Splendor Lodge in Newport.

This celebration, sponsored and arranged by the

Maine Masonic College, was dedicated to a greater awareness of the importance of the arts and sciences in our individual lives and in the welfare of civilization as a whole.

The event was led by Professor Kirsten Jacobson of the University of Maine's Philosophy Department. Dr. Jacobson gave new meaning to the masonic phrase "an instructive tongue and attentive ear". With insight and feeling she set the stage for a unique interactive discussion.

Utilizing a number of brief texts from Greek dramas and philosophies, those present explored the role that philosophy and the arts and sciences have had in enhancing the reach of our minds, in bringing new joy and in helping each of us in our quest for a responsible understanding of many issues that have no easy answers.

Contributions from the participants were provocative and insightful. Dr. Jacobson skillfully gave background



Small Group Discussion

and wove together the various strands generated by the enthusiastic small group discussions. It was an extraordinary experience!



A delicious banquet was served at noon by the Newport Masonic Association under the capable direction of Norma Leighton.

Participants are looking forward to next year which will focus on the creative role of art in human history and development.

THIRD ANNUAL MAINE MASONIC COLLEGE CONVOCATION

Plans for the third annual convocation are on the trestleboard and preparations are underway! Today would be a good time to mark **Saturday, July 28th and Sunday, July 29th** on your calendar and to start building your summer around those dates. We are in for another stimulating, entertaining, and thought provoking event. We will hear from speakers from Maine, Florida, Maryland, and New York—and they will have a chance to hear from you as this will be another interactive session. The theme is "**Masonry in Our Time**" and we shall cover the waterfront, from a consideration of contemporary books concerning Freemasonry (The Da Vinci Code, The Lost Symbol, and others) to what we need to do to keep up with a fraternity that is threatening to expand its membership, reversing a long-term trend towards shrinking.

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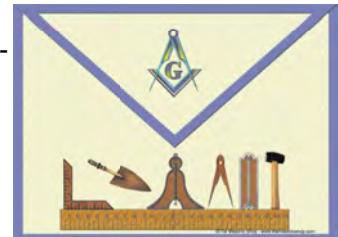
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We'll be meeting in Bangor again, at the newly re-named Hollywood Casino Hotel. Once again the Convocation is open to spouses, significant others, friends, and prospective Masons.

In a new wrinkle, the M.E.A.L.S. (Masonic Education and Lodge Service) Committee is joining us and will offer presentations that may be more practical than philosophical, e.g., leadership, public relations, mentoring, and forming daylight lodges, to mention just a few topics. You get to choose which presentations in which you wish to participate at any time of the day.

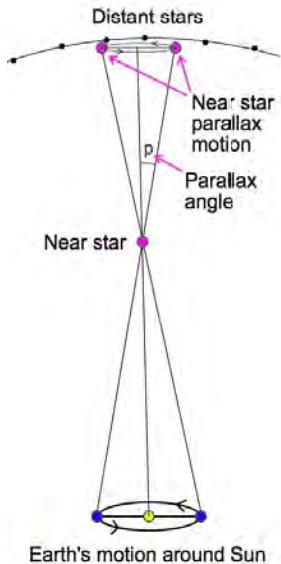
If you are hesitant about attending in July, ask someone who has attended the first two Convocations and ask what they recommend. We believe that they are our best advocates. We'll be putting out more information about the Convocation soon, but you may mark your calendar now. Except for meals and hotel accommodations, everything is free!

Submitted by: Bro Stephen Nichols, Chairman, MMC Board of Regents



#10 The Minutes of ‘Old Builders Lodge #1000’

By: Brother George M.A. Macdougall



Have you ever wondered how scientists know how far away a star or galaxy is? For instance, you will be reading an article on Astronomy (the study of the stars) and all of a sudden the fact pops out that the Hubble galaxy is 300 light years across and 220 million light years away from the Earth. (A light year is defined as the distance that light travels in one year. One light-year is 5,900,000,000,000 (5.9 trillion) miles. That means that if the Hubble galaxy is 220 million light years away, it took the light that forms the image of the galaxy 220,000,000 years to reach your eye! The galaxy might not even be there anymore!) Well, obviously, no one jumped in their space ship and flew out there and measured the distance on their odometer. So how do they know? Scientists and Astronomers are able to do this by using Parallax and the Pythagorean Theorem. In our last three installments of ‘The Minutes’ we talked about the idea of heliocentrism. In doing that research I came across the discussion of Parallax (remember in the article on Copernicus, they used parallax against him) and shared it with you as a separate installment of ‘The Minutes’.

Earth's motion around Sun

As the Earth revolves around the sun, near stars seem to shift their position against the farther stars. This is called parallax shift. By observing the distance of the shift, and knowing the diameter of the Earth's orbit, astronomers are able to calculate the parallax angle across the sky.

The smaller the parallax shift, the farther away from earth the star is. Once they know the angle, Astronomers use the Pythagorean Theorem to calculate the distance. This method is only accurate for stars within a few hundred light-years of Earth. When the stars are very far away, the parallax shift is too small to measure.

The method of measuring distance to stars beyond 100 light-years is to use Cepheid variable stars. These stars change in brightness over time, which allows astronomers to figure out the true brightness. Comparing the apparent brightness of the star to the true brightness allows the astronomer to calculate the distance to the star. This method was discovered by American astronomer Henrietta Leavitt in 1912 and used in the early part of the century to find distances to many globular clusters.



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TO THE EDIT- OR

MW. Brother Pulkinen, I am writing to you as Editor of The Maine Mason in reference to the article in the Winter issue 2012 beginning on page 7 of that issue, THE DOG IS TIRED AND THE PONY LAME.

Let me begin by saying that no Mason should ever tell a Grand Master how he should structure his term in office. However, I would like to express my feelings as to the issues being discussed. I have never felt it necessary for the Grand Master to meet with the Lodges on a District basis during his term of office, nor do I feel it necessary to travel out of State to visit other Grand Lodges. Both of those issues should be left to his discretion. There should be no hard and fast expectation, other than those required by the Constitution. District visits by the Grand Master should not be expected.

What I feel truly needs to be done is for the Grand Master to devote more time in selecting the best District Deputy that can be found in a District and then not only allow, but expect, him to exercise his duties as the Grand Master's representative, much like it was in the early days when travel was somewhat restricted and then during the war years when gas was rationed. The Grand Master's time would then be freed up so that he might provide more personal direction and be able to lay more explicit expectations for his deputies.

I truly feel that giving the District Deputy more responsibility for the Lodges in his district would go a long way to solving some of our problems. The District meetings, as they are presently structured, provide no great service to the craft, and the expected attendance by the Grand Master is, in my opinion, an unnecessary burden on his office. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

R.W. Reginald W Wing



Corinthian Lodge #95 in Hartland participated in the Books for Bikes Program last year and gave 20 bikes out to deserving students at the Hartland and St. Albans schools. The youngsters read more than 1,000 books during the campaign. Pictured here are R.W. Brother Ron Fowle II, Brother Craig Russell of Cambridge Lodge whose daughter participated in the program, Brother Dan Hanson, Wor. Brother Matt Fowle, Master, R.W. Brother Richard Weymouth and Wor. Brother Lester Goforth.

Reflections on Being a Fully Alive and Fully Human Freemason

By R.W. Brother Charles W. Plummer

Sydney Harris, a syndicated columnist back in the sixties and seventies, enjoyed telling the story of accompanying a friend to a newsstand. While in the act of purchasing a newspaper, his friend extended a courteous greeting to the vendor but the service and response he received in return was less than courteous. The paper was rudely thrust at him across the counter without so much as a thank you.

Disregarding the rude response he had received, Harris' friend smiled politely and wished the newsman a nice weekend. As the two friends walked away Harris asked him, "Does he always treat you so rudely?" to which his friend replied, "Unfortunately he does." Harris then asked, "And are you always so polite and friendly to him?" "Yes I am," was the response. Harris felt compelled to ask one more question. "Why are you so nice to him when he is so rude and unfriendly to you?" Looking Harris in the eye, and with a slight smile on his face, his friend answered, "Because I don't want him to decide how I am going to act."

His friend's answer implies that a fully human individual is his own person and that he is not one who sways or bends to every wind that blows, so-to-speak. He will not let himself be placed at the mercy, anger, meanness, impatience, pettiness, or rudeness of others. In other words it is not those kinds of external atmospheres that transform us but it is we who transform them.

Based on my personal experiences, observations and interactions with others, I have come to believe that too many people in our present-day, fast-paced society live their lives much like a boat afloat at the mercy of winds and waves. They appear to lack ballast and you often hear them say things like "he makes me so angry," or "I am saddened at the very sight of him," or "his comments make me feel so embarrassed."

An analysis of these responses reveals that the person or persons making them are letting the other person or persons determine how they feel. Or to

express it another way, the person expressing statements like these is making the assertion that it is the other person doing something to him that creates his emotional response and that he has no control over his anger, or sadness, or depression, etc. In other words, the level of personal satisfaction obtained by statements such as these is obtained by blaming others for the circumstances one finds himself in or by placing the blame on bad luck. Or both. But if one is a fully human being he understands, full-well, the meaning of Shakespeare's line in his play, Julius Caesar, "The fault, dear Brutus, lies not in our stars but in ourselves."

The profound lesson that each of us learned from the legend of Hiram Abiff's death in the Master Mason degree is that we can persevere and rise up

above the dust
and turmoil of the
daily obstacles we
face, those obsta-
cles that can

choke, overwhelm and blind us. This is exactly what is asked of us in our growth process as human beings and as Freemasons. And it is exactly this that is expressed so well in our four Cardinal Virtues, "Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice."

I do not want to leave the impression that we should repress our emotions and senses for that is an important part of our brain-mind system. Nor do I want to imply that we should repress that which would deny us from achieving happiness and fullness in our lives. What I am suggesting is that we should not lose sight of the importance of balancing and integrating our emotions in our interactions with others.

The fully human Freemason recognizes full-well that there can be no such thing as either deadening or surrendering unconditionally to his senses or emotions. The fully alive and human Freemason listens to, and is tuned into, his senses and emotions. He is well aware that surrendering to them would result in the abdication of intellect and choice which are those special human qualities and powers with which he has been endowed by the Great Creator of Heaven and Earth and which makes him higher than the animals but a little lower than the angels.

Taking Stock of What's Important

by RW Thomas E. Pulkkinen

Several days ago, I traveled to a lodge to address Masons and their ladies. The topic for the evening was "What Every Woman Should Know about Freemasonry."

One of my comments was really addressed to both the ladies and their Masonic husbands, and comes directly from the *Book of Ecclesiastes*...the words of the wise King Solomon: "For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven."

Often, men become Masons and so love their new Fraternity that they become total engrossed, fully absorbed in its workings. My message that evening on this point was twofold. First, Freemasonry is important, it can be life changing in a very positive way, but it should never become a Mason's highest or only priority. Our families must come before the fraternity; our God must come before our Craft; our vocations must come before Masonry.

In setting our priorities, we should place our families, our God and our means of livelihood above our interest in and dedication to Freemasonry. To the extent that we can fit involvement in Freemasonry into our daily lives, we should do so, for associating with good men who live diligently by Masonic principles will make us better men, husbands, fathers, co-workers and followers of God's word.

Following up on that point, I emphasized that we should always make every effort to fulfill our Masonic responsibilities, but not to the extent that by doing so we compromise our other duties and responsibilities, especially as a husband and father. The ladies were asked to remember those words and to remind their husbands of the message should occasion require.

There are many brethren who can fill a chair for a night; who can deliver a lecture with feeling and compassion. But there is only one Dad who can be at his daughter's first dance or piano recital, his son's big baseball game, or at another important event in the life of your children, where your presence means so much, and your absence can never be made up. There's no TiVo in life! If you miss that special moment, you have missed it for a lifetime...and you have sent an unspoken but clear message to your children on what is most important to you.

Freemasonry should be "a" priority, not "the" priority in your life. Every day, take stock of what is most

important in your life, and set your priorities accordingly.

Masonic leaders know well and should understand that brethren become more or less active in their lodges based upon what else is going on in their lives. There is a season when you can be intimately involved in the Craft, but there are other times when you must step away, if only for a short period.

Meeting Bro. Cecil Simpkins

One of the first brothers that I met before dinner that evening was a 90-year old pistol, a widower who was spending two or three nights a week in Masonry – as a sideliner, as the chaplain, and as a member of the Kilwinning Club for which he was most proud. At this time in his life, Freemasonry was an active and essential part of Cecil's social life. His love of the Craft was perhaps only exceeded by his brothers' love of and respect for him.

Bro. Simpkins came up to me, a stranger to him in his lodge, introduced himself and said that he knew my brother, an oftentimes bagpiper with the Kilwinning degree team. We chatted for a long time, broke bread together, and went to lodge.

Cecil was an important part of this meeting. After being escorted from his Chaplain's chair to the altar, he opened the book of his favorite prayers, led the assembled in an offering to God, and returned to his station.

The adoration of his brethren was evident throughout the evening. His involvement in conversations! The Marshal or Master escorting him up and down the stairs on that path he had traveled for so many years between his station and the altar! As a retired Superior Court Chief Justice offered, "He is a special man and Mason."

Our lives can change in an instant

The lodge closed and brethren gathered in conversations of meetings to come. Out of the corner of my eye, I spotted Bro Cecil Simpkins falling, tumbling down the stairs from his Chaplain's chair. Unbeknownst to his brethren, after the meeting Cecil had returned to his chair to retrieve a personal item, turned and fell, his head hitting the floor with tremendous force before I could reach him. He lay motionless...the paramedics were called...he was taken to the hospital...and days later I am confident that when he passed he was raised by the right hand of God to that house not built with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Continued on Next Page



Carlton Finethy of Rumford turned 100 last October 1. Perhaps almost as remarkable, he was made a Mason in Rumford's Blazing Star Lodge #30 on June 4, 1944. That's almost 68 years ago, in the heat of WW II. M.W. Brother Charles Crossland was Grand Master of Masons in Maine at the time, and as of May 2, when Brother Jim Ross is installed into that position, that will be 35 Grand Masters ago. Brother Finethy was honored at a supper last fall, recognizing his years of service to the Craft as well as his 100th birthday. He has been married to his wife, Kathleen, for 75 years. He is the longest serving Mason in Blazing Star Lodge which was chartered March 11, 1819, the final lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts before Maine became a state and formed its own Grand Lodge. Pictured here are, from left: RWDDGM/20 Timothy Turner, Brother Fred Allen and Wor. Brother John Hall, both 50-year members, Brother Finethy and Wor. Brother Jeffrey Roy, Master of Blazing Star Lodge.

Taking Stock Continued from Previous Page

His brethren accompanied Cecil to the hospital and others met him there. Those who showed their affection for him in lodge were there for him during his hospital stay. If they couldn't be physically with him, he was in their prayers and remembered through their cards.

I dare say there is not one of his Masonic brothers who does not believe that when Bro. Cecil Simpkins arrived in heaven undoubtedly with his black binder of prayers under his arm, he opened the book, spread God's word and said Amen, to which there was a chorus of "So Mote it be" by the many Masons who went there before him. The will of God be done.

Taking Stock of What is Important

As the long, productive and meaningful life of this vibrant individual was changed and taken in an instant, so might it be for any of us. Bro. Cecil Simpkins knew what was important to him: his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, his God, the law, and his fraternity – Freemasonry. To him, this was the season to

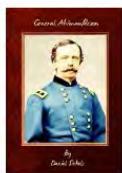
be an active, good and faithful Mason, leading his brethren in prayer to the one and only, true and everlasting God.

But what about for the rest of us? Have each of us taken stock of what is truly most important in our lives? Do we regularly express our feelings to those we love? Are we present at events that are important to those we love? Do our thoughts, words and deeds reflect our values and our correct priorities?

May we all find true value in the fraternity we call Freemasonry, but let not Freemasonry devalue those other truly more important relationships in our lives! "What Every Woman Should Know about Freemasonry" is the important teaching of the twenty-four inch gauge, whereby Masons are taught how to prudently divide their time! That division, that allocation of time must give due priority to our families, our God, our vocations and Freemasonry. So Mote it be!

And to Bro. Cecil Simpkins, well done good and faithful servant! Till perhaps we meet again.

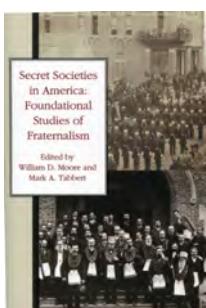
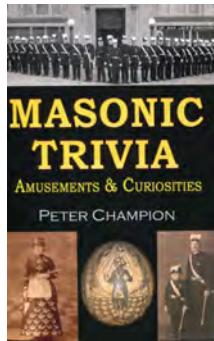
We begin with a word of caution to those looking for good Masonic reading: 'Be careful out there!'. This admonition applies to those who purchase paper or hardcover works but it's even more relevant to those with electronic reading devices. There are at least a dozen new Masonic books reaching the market every day - but many aren't really new at all. They're merely reprints of works mostly forgotten - and for perhaps good reason. I've been tripped up myself so don't be embarrassed if you get caught too. Just remember that a LOT of unscrupulous people, many of whom don't even speak English, to lure you in.



General Ahiman Rezon by Daniel Sickels (Feb 12, 2012) - Kindle eBook	
Formats	Price
Kindle Edition	\$1.99
Auto-delivered wirelessly	
Kindle Edition	\$2.79
Auto-delivered wirelessly	

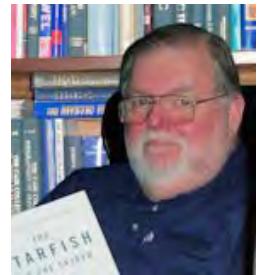
Some will immediately see the comedy in the picture above but if you're just staring out in Masonic reading, the Ahiman Rezon was a 'general' Constitution written for the Ancient Grand Lodge of England in 1751. Nothing whatsoever to do with the military in the U.S. a century later. Sickles created a version for Pennsylvania - but still, no 'General' involved!

Are you old enough to remember 'Ripley's Believe it or Not?' Ah, you kids: you don't know what you've missed. A trivia buff's paradise, Ripley had great cartoons with pithy captions, perfect for the comics in the newspaper. **Masonic Trivia: Amusements & Curiosities** doesn't have those great drawings but it does have the stories: page after page after page of them - and they're really great to read. If you want to impress your Brethren, you can memorize a few of these 'factoids' and you'll be the talk of the Lodge. This could REALLY spice up a night of Masonic *Jeopardy*. You'll wonder whether some are true or not but based on the strength of the work overall, I'd be surprised if any were simply made up. A book you can pick up for just a few minutes and truly enjoy.



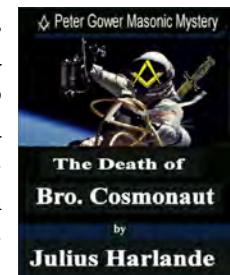
Secret Societies in America: Foundational Studies of Fraternalism, is edited by William D. Moore and Mark A. Tabbert who, some Maine Masons will remember, were two of the presenters at the Maine Masonic College Convocation in 2010. This compilation of essays helps understanding of the

THE OLD WEBMASTER'S BOOKSHELF

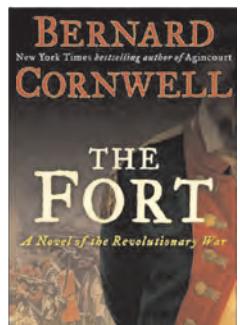


very important role Freemasonry (and other imitative groups) played in America during the 'Golden Age of Fraternalism'. Moreover, when read with the current situation in mind, there are some 'roadmarks' for what we can do to help our Masonic groups return to their place of importance in society moving forward. This is worth reading!

Many Masons, myself included, enjoy reading a good mystery. Finding ones which involve Freemasonry is awfully difficult though. However, with the ease of publishing electronically these days, I think we're on the brink of a trend that will open some of these genres to budding authors and we'll be pleased with many of the results. Quite by accident, I found a listing for **The Death of Bro. Cosmonaut** on Kindle (Amazon's electronic book reader which you can also use on your computer without buying the separate physical device) and bought it on a lark. Yes, there are some things that would make you grit your teeth (two secret lodges - one in the US and one in Russia trading secrets about space travel along with a 'high ranking' female Freemason who was also a call girl and more) but overall, it was a pretty good read and seems to be the start of a series that should get better as it goes along. If you want to read it, download the free Kindle app from Amazon and you can. For a couple of bucks, it's well worth it.



Those interested in our region's history should enjoy **The Fort** by Bernard Cornwell. Set in 1779 with Penobscot Bay playing a major role, it's a thrilling story that features Boston Silversmith and Freemason, Paul Revere, who will face charges of disobedience and cowardice. Told by an author with an outstanding record of exciting historical fiction, this is good stuff!



Although many think Bro. Ed King spends his life online, he's an avid reader and writer as well. He also occasionally publishes essays on the web as "The Old Webmaster". His personal website at www.masonicinfo.com - Anti-Masonry: Points of View had over 3 million individual page views last year. He's (the husband of the) Webmaster for our Grand Lodge.

The Future of Masonry in Maine is in your hands

Masonry is alive and vibrant in many Maine lodges, often producing or the result of increasing membership. The average age in these lodges is usually under 60, officers are in their thirties or forties, and none of the chairs are filled with Past Masters. These lodges usually work at least one degree every month; and work throughout the year – no summer or winter off. Who are they? A few are: Saco Lodge #9, Webster Lodge #164, Mechanics Lodge #66, Tuscan Lodge #106 and Benevolent Lodge #87.

The not-so-good news is that since 1959, we have seen a steady decline in the number of Maine Masons; from a high of about 48,000 to under 20,000 today. Every fraternity – the Elks, Eagles and others – is going through the same thing. Fortunately, the Masonic stalwarts of past generations continue to give and give to the fraternity they love so much, hoping that the time will come when more new Masons will step forward to assume the reins and the work-load.

This news is not surprising. We have all heard about declining membership over the years. In fact, many Masons (including myself) were never around in those hay days when lodges were steadily showing increases and working every week. So, what's the answer? Why are some lodges welcoming so many men to the Craft, while others do not? Why do some lodges have a large cadre of Masons in their 20s and early 30s, while other lodges have none?

There is no one magic solution, but perhaps the answer lies in the individual lodge's culture. Once lodge members all work together towards the same goal, view the lodge's success as their own personal responsibility, and determine what will attract men to their lodge, the lodge will begin to turn the corner.



Times change and, yes, so must how we attract the interest of good men and how we involve them in the fraternity. Albert Einstein once defined insanity as “doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.”

But the question is what do we need to change? The basic fundamentals of Freemasonry must never change. We must stay true to our Masonic principles, our love for each other, our love for country, and our love for the Grand Architect of the Universe.

Those of us engaged in membership development – which needs to be ALL of us – must also stay true to our vision; “Freemasonry, a growing fraternity of actively involved men of good character.”

We must also work together towards achieving our mission; “to actively attract, engage and retain men of good character.”

Towards those ends, our Deputy Grand Master, R.W. A. James Ross is asking every lodge to be represented at one of the regional membership seminars.

These seminars will begin with a light dinner at 6:00 pm, after which we will outline the steps, goals and measures we plan to take to strengthen our Craft, including a review of the very successful fellowship night program, the fall open house, the new Rookie Program, and how to identify good men as potential Masonic candidates. The sessions will end by 8:30 pm.

Who should attend? Any Mason who has an interest in the success of his lodge and the success of Freemasonry in Maine. At a minimum, all District Deputy Grand Masters and each lodge should be represented. Every Master is asked to ensure that at least one brother represents his lodge. To ensure there are sufficient food and program materials, all participants are asked to pre-register for the program.

Regional Membership Seminars

Tuesday, May 29th – Auburn Masonic Hall, 1021 Turner Street, Auburn

Friday, June 1st -- Bangor Masonic Center, 294 Union Street, Bangor

Tuesday, June 5th – Saco Lodge #9, 285 Main Street, Saco

Tuesday, June 12th – Bethlehem Lodge #35, 317 Water Street, Augusta

Friday, June 15th – Harwood Lodge #91, 10 Center Street, Machias

Saturday, June 16th – Houlton Masonic Building, 20 Market Square, Houlton

Membership Seminar Registration

Name:	Lodge:	Tel.:
Email:	Seminar Location:	

Please return this form to: R.W. Richard Bergeron, Jr., 81 Everett Rd, Poland, ME 04274, or email the information to rickbergeron@fairpoint.net. For more information, call 207-240-5752.

Waiting for Hiram Not An Option

by Richard Rhoda SGW

As Masons we revel in our history as set forth in our ritual and especially in the telling of the story of Hiram Abif and the building of King Solomon's Temple. We often, though, lose sight of the fact that Hiram is but an archetype of the man we hope to emulate as we seek to build our lives, our families, and our communities to each be better in its own way.

As Masons we know that he died but we cannot spend our time waiting for Hiram. It is not an option for us. We need to keep going forward and responding to our needs and those of the society which we find thrust upon us.

Sixty odd years ago Samuel Beckett gave us his tragic characters Vladimir and Estragon in his play "Waiting for Godot" with its threnody of hope but seeming lack of advancement.

Vladimir represented the conscious, thoughtful mind as he reflected on their situation. Estragon, on the other hand, presented the unconscious mind as he just lived from day to day only worrying about his next meal and his sore feet.

They spend a lifetime of life without time waiting for Godot. The opening line spoken by Estragon is "Nothing to be done." It is this lamentation for the rest of the play and Godot's nonarrival that keeps them going but they go no place.

Vladimir gives a thoughtful reworking of Hamlet's "To be or not to be" soliloquy as he seeks a self-analysis of himself and his companion and their purpose in life. He is not quite able to set himself free and to move on. They conclude the play just as they began, waiting for Godot.

Our Hiram provided leadership to the craftsmen in the building of the temple for King Solomon and the building of their temple within themselves. It was he to whom the workmen sought direction each day after high noon.

We have, each of us, been exposed to the fate of Hiram. We know that he is not dead for he is alive in each of us if we will but awaken him.

When Hiram's trestleboard could no longer provide direction from his hand there was confusion

yet the building of the Temple continued onward. This was accomplished through the application of the lessons he had previously given the workmen.

Unlike Vladimir and Estragon they did not spend their time waiting. They laid out the work to be done on the trestleboard and took action.

Over almost three centuries Freemasonry has survived and adapted to changing circumstances in society. Our Masonic forefathers did not wait for Hiram but took action to meet the needs of the day by involvement and the application of the lessons they had learned in lodge.

We have learned that Masonry speaks by affirming values, building relationships and strengthening communities. We know that the ritual we hear and learn in lodge in the three degrees are only teaching aids and devices to lead us onward. The title of Master Mason is but a passport to allow us to continue on, not to sit idly by and wait for Hiram.

There are times when we need to look at ourselves in the mirror. Do we like what we see? Do we need to be poked and prodded to stop waiting?

Consider well the words of Vladimir to friend Estragon. (Two changes of the word "mankind" has been made to reference Freemasonry for the purpose of this paper.)

"LET US NOT WASTE OUR TIME IN IDLE DIS-COURSE! LET US DO SOMETHING, WHILE WE HAVE THE CHANCE! IT IS NOT EVERY DAY THAT WE ARE NEEDED. NOT INDEED THAT WE PERSON-ALLY ARE NEEDED. OTHERS WOULD MEET THE CASE EQUALLY WELL, IF NOT BETTER. TO ALL FREEMASONS THEY WERE ADDRESSED, THOSE CRIES FOR HELP STILL RINGING IN OUR EARS! BUT AT THIS PLACE, AT THIS MOMENT OF TIME, ALL FREEMASONRY IS US, WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT. LET US MAKE THE MOST OF IT, BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE."

The future of our beloved Freemasonry lies within us. Will you wait or take action?? Let's get to work!!

A Personal Perspective.....a Personal Appeal

While listening to the discussion prior to the vote to move the Grand Lodge Offices, I was reminded of the following story:

A long time ago there lived a Chinese man who grew so infirm with age and hard work that he had to move in with his son's family. At first things went well, but eventually the old man required more support and care because his needs had been neglected through no fault of his own. The son, who had a young and growing family, became increasingly impatient and upset with his old father, even though his father had worked hard to offer him the best he could.

Time passed and the old man watched as his son began to build a box. Each board cut and each nail driven was done so with frustration, resentment, anger and fear. The box was strong, dark and menacing and became an overbearing presence in the house. And the old man watched. Then, early one morning, the son picked up the frail old man, put him in the box, fitted the lid on the box, lifted the box onto a cart and began to push the cart up a high hill near the house. The son was tired when he got to the top, but had fortified himself with reasoning why ridding himself of his father was necessary and right: "the old man is too much work, I can't have a future while taking care of him, he is costing more than I can possibly bear." All this he thought and mumbled to himself as he unloaded the box from the cart and began pushing it to the edge of the cliff that was at the top of the hill he had struggled to climb.

Just as he reached the edge and began his final effort he heard the soft voice of the old man, his father, from inside: "Son, I understand why you are doing this and I forgive you. Recently life has become hard and you struggle each day to get by. You have convinced yourself that by ridding your life of me things will get better. Well, to that I don't know, but this I do know – you should save the box, your son will need it for you."

Epilogue: And so sometime this year the Grand Lodge will move out of the Masonic Temple of Portland. Presumably this will make life easier financially, without the burden of the old building that has been its home for so many decades. Once an icon and symbol of pride for Masons throughout Maine, it is now spoken of as a liability, like the old man in the story.

I have watched and listened for many years, as a box has been built by those reasoning that the Temple is no longer fit for Masonic use. This box too was built with frustration, bitterness, fear and anger. I cannot imagine how anyone, most especially Masons, whose historic

beginnings are in the spiritual and practical knowledge of great construction, could justify the weak and silly prospect of selling a few mugs and t-shirts as reason for abandoning the Temple. But the box has been built; the Temple put inside and brought to the edge of the cliff. But wait! Save the box, future Maine Masons will need it for us when they understand what was done to their legacy.

Again, I ask anyone wishing to work with the Masonic Trustees of Portland to keep the Temple functioning in the Masonic spirit for which it was built to please contact us. Anyone who understands the spiritual, symbolic and inspirational Masonic tenets embodied in the Temple, we welcome your help. Thank you.

Robert H. Kahn
Chairman, Masonic Trustees of Portland



R.W. Brother Norman Morehouse and his grandson Joshua Crommet spend some time together at Dirigo Lodge #104, Weeks Mills, on November 21st. Brother Morehouse is a Past District Deputy of the First Masonic District and a long-serving Representative of the Masonic Services Assn. at Togus VA Hospital. Brother Josh is Junior Deacon of Dirigo Lodge.

Brother Bill Wing inducted into Maine Hall of Fame

Brother Bill Wing was raised in Richmond Lodge #63 on January 16, 1956. He has been a member of Village Lodge #26 since October 15, 1983 when the two lodges consolidated. A pitcher of exceptional ability, he was inducted into the Maine Baseball Hall of Fame at induction ceremonies held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland on Sunday, July 31, 2011.

--Editor

Bill Wing discovered his fastball in the school-yard at Richmond Grammar School in the mid-1940s. A pitcher from the beginning, Wing's first official start on the mound came against Oakland High School played on the Richmond diamond. Later, pitching for Morse High School in Bath, he struck out 17 Brunswicks in an Andy Valley League game, setting a State of Maine record. In the summer of 1949, led by Wing's dominant pitching, Smith-Tobey American Legion Post of Bath captured the state championship.

Wing was an overpowering fast-baller but with a deceptive curve. In the words of friend and teammate Bill Haggett, "Bill Wing was a dominant baseball pitcher in Maine in the 1940s and early 1950s...blessed with a major league fastball, good stuff, and excellent control."

After graduating from Morse in 1950, Wing left Richmond for Ricker College in Houlton and pitched summers for the Houlton Collegians of the Maine-New Brunswick League, a fast class of ball that was then said to compare with Class B minor league play. Nineteen years old during his first summer in Houlton, Bill posted a 2.84 earned run average, struck out 35 and, in his second start, he was called on to stop a Houlton five-game losing streak. He did it with a five-hit win over Fredericton, New Brunswick, knocking the Capitals out of first place.

The next year, 1952, Wing's Collegians won the

league pennant. Bill improved his e.r.a. to 1.53, struck out 45 and logged the best won-lost record in the league, 5-1. The next season, Bill Wing's Collegians won a second league championship. But he was to play one more game for the Collegians.

In October, the Birdie Tebbetts All-Stars, a barn-storming medley of post-season major leaguers, arrived in Houlton to take on the Collegians who had been bolstered by the addition of a Canadian player or two. Bill Wing was named starting pitcher for Houlton. Mike Garcia, the Cleveland Indians 22-game winner, started for the visiting major leaguers.

Johnny Pesky led off the game with a ground ball that caromed over Wing's head into center field. But Wing retired the next nine All-Stars -- Mickey McDermott, Vic Wertz, Bobby Thomson, Al Rosen, Walt Dropo, Eddie Pelligrini, Jim Hegan, Garcia, and Pesky -- in order. No more hits. No walks. One strikeout. At the end of three innings, Bill had dueled Garcia to a 0-0 tie.

Bill Wing pitched for the Colby College Mules in 1953 and 1954. In his second season there, Wing swept the State Series. He opened the season against Bowdoin, striking out 15 Polar Bears.

He followed that outing with a three-hitter to subdue the University of Maine, the Black Bears' only loss in its run for the State Championship; and then he toppled the Bates Bobcats 5-3, striking out six. He was named pitcher on the All-Maine baseball team. And Colby awarded him the Edward C. Roundy trophy as the most valuable player on the Mule nine.

Following the 1954 Colby season, Wing pitched for the Auburn Asas in the Down East League until the Red Sox signed him to a minor league contract.

The Red Sox sent Bill to the Bluefield (West Virginia) Red Sox in the Appalachian League. By mid season he was pitching well enough -- winning his first four starts, two of them shutouts -- to be promoted to the contending Salem Rebels, also in

Continued on Next Page

Wing *Continued from Preceding Page*

the Appalachian League, where he helped the team win the league pennant. Wing's record on the season was twelve wins, four losses, and a league-leading 2.79 earned run average.

At the end of the 1955 baseball season, Bill Wing met Sarah, and they married. He did not return to professional baseball. He and Sarah now live in Ooltewah, Tennessee. They have two children: son Steve and family in Billings, Montana; daughter Diana and family in new Albany, Ohio.

Bill is retired from the General Electric Company. His induction into Maine's Baseball Hall of Fame," Sarah says, "culminates Bill's dream of a lifetime."

We congratulate Brother Wing for his recognition as one of Maine's outstanding baseball players...and for his more than 56 years as a member of the Craft.



Brother Bill Wing today. Opposite page:
on the mound for Colby College in 1954.

FREEMASON

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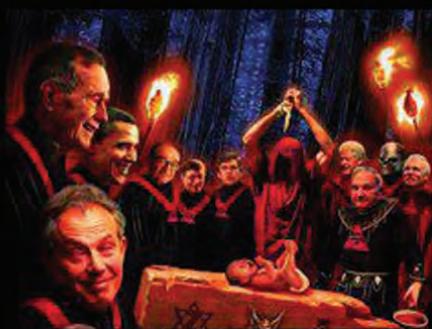
What my friends think I do



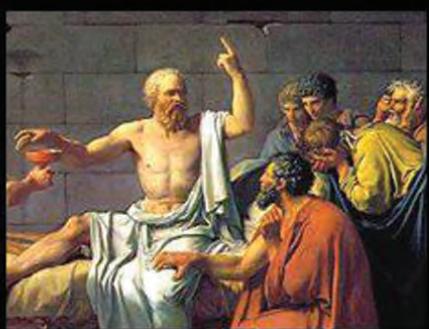
What my mom thinks I do



What society thinks I do



What conspiracy nuts think I do



What I think I do



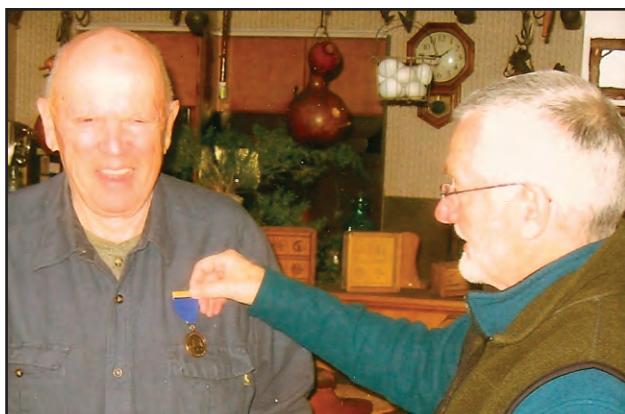
What I really do

Freedom Lodge Contributes



Freedom Lodge #42 in Limerick recently donated \$500 to St. Matthews food pantry in Limerick. Pictured here is Brother Jack Butler, left, Senior Warden, handing a check to Vince Cain (local food pantry officer). The need is greatest during hard times, but it's also when donations slow down. In addition to Limerick, the food pantry serves needy folks in the towns of Cornish, Limington, Parsonsfield, Waterboro and Newfield. The lodge's donation enabled the pantry to buy approximately \$4,500 worth of food which provided two weeks of distribution.

50-Year Veteran



Brother Edward Whitaker of Pythagorean Lodge #11 in Fryeburg, is shown here receiving his 50-year Veteran's Medal from R.W. Brother Robert Daigle, PDDGM/16.

Grand Master Cont. from Page 3

cess in their future endeavors and wish for it to be known that we hold no piques or quarrels.

On December 10 after the special session vote, I received an email message from Tom Heath which read: "...my schedule will not allow me to provide ROLLS support to the new Grand Lodge Office staff in Holden. Please direct the Finance Committee to find a replacement for MEROLLS as soon as possible." Tom developed his ROLLS system and its database a few years back, and it became a very valuable and useful tool to the brethren of the Grand Lodge of Maine. We became quite dependent upon it . . so much so that who could imagine our Craft without access to this or a similar database program My only recourse was to research what other database programs might be available to us. With my research results and with the inexhaustible assistance of Ed King, we looked into the Masonic Online Registry Interface (MORI) system. In our own investigation, the MORI system came highly recommended by its current patrons, so we pursued obtaining the system for use in Maine. We are hopeful that this new MORI system will be up and running by the printing of this publication. To Tom Heath, we thank you for your past service to the Grand Lodge of Maine and trust that with your new schedule you will find all the stress-free time that you are hoping for.

Back to the relocation of the Grand Lodge office/library/museum space: We are pleased to announce that the work needed to ready the space for occupancy is nearly complete. We extend our appreciation to Gerald S. Leighton and his Lady Norma, and to many others who have volunteered countless hours of service and leadership toward this goal. We are fortunate to have had the excellent workmanship of contractors Brent R. Dorman and Ryan J. McGuire. By this printing, we anticipate the move will be complete with minimal interruption to Grand Lodge services.

To ALL the brethren who have volunteered their assistance with this move, whether you helped with the Portland packing, and/or the transport, and for the Holden unloading, we extend monumental appreciation and point out that your generous contributions of time and labor have very significantly reduced the transition expenses. Thank you, and thank you again.

The mailing address of the new Grand Lodge office is Post Office Box 430, Holden, Maine 04429-0430.

Tele Number: (207) 843-1086 FAX: (207)843-1088

Physical location: at the intersection of U.S. Route 1A and Rte 46 in Holden, Maine. The office will have a volunteer staff until after the 2012 Annual Session of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

We invite you to visit the new facility and see for yourself the quality of the property and its location and the promise it holds.

Remember: Make your plans now to attend the Annual Session in Bangor

6th District Supports Families of Active Duty Servicemen

Wor. Don Rogerson, Master of Mechanics Lodge, Orono, is pictured here with Major and Brother Darryl Lyons, head of the Maine Infantry Foundation, and R.W. Randy Elliott. The photo was taken February 19th at Mechanics Lodge when the lodge donated \$1,000 to the Foundation. The donation was the result of the 6th Masonic District's Officers' Association commitment to help the fledgling association, which just recently received a 501 (c) 3 designation from the IRS. The Infantry Foundation provides assistance to the families of active duty servicemen and women so they don't have to worry if there's sufficient heat, lights and food for the families back home. The effort is being funded by a raffle and by a matching grant from the Masonic Charitable Foundation. Contributions to the Maine Infantry Foundation are most welcome. If you want more information on the Foundation, or desire to make a contribution to it, please contact Brother Elliott, who headed up the project, at 285-3080 or 944-0233.



55-Year Star Presented to Wor. Brother Harold Silverman



Wor. Brother Harold L. Silverman was presented his 55-year bronze star as part of a Past Masters' Night in St. Croix Lodge #46 in Calais. Taking part in the presentation were, left to right: R.W. Brother Norm Howe, DDGM/2; R.W. Brother Bill Case, PDDGM/2; Brother Silverman; Wor. Brother Patrick W. Burke, Master of St. Croix Lodge; and R.W. Brother David G. Beckett, PDDGM/2, Secretary of St. Croix Lodge.

Maine's New 33^o Masons

Distinguished Maine Masons who received the 33rd degree at the 2011 Meeting of the Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in Chicago included, front row, left to right: Brother Rufus Cox, Brother Richard Farrington, and Brother David Billings. Rear row, same order: Brother Gordon Kimball, Jr., Brother Douglas Swasey, and Brother Alan Townsend. Brother Dwight Whitney and Brother Milton Smith were also scheduled to receive the degree but could not get to the windy city because of weather problems.

They will receive the degree later this year in Cleveland, Ohio. They will be joined by Brother Donald B. Young of Hudson, Brother James Edwards of Gorham, Brother John Bunker of Holden, Brother Richard Bergeron, Jr. of Poland, Brother Thomas Holman of Casco, and Brother Gordon Smith of Augusta who have been elected to receive the 33rd degree.



Veteran Mason Honored



Richard "Tagwe" Lowell received his 50-year Veterans Medal on his 92nd birthday, March 7, in Kemankeag Lodge, Rangeley. Pictured here, left to right: Bro. Edwin Innes, a 50-year member; Wor. Harold Spiller, a 50-year member; Bro. Lowell; R.W. Harry Clark. Back row: Wor. George Dunham, Bro. Allen Plog, Wor. Thomas Hyatt, Master; Bro. Gris Farmer, and Wor. Robert Wilber.



Run to Benefit Masonic Youth Charities

Sponsored by York Lodge #22

Saturday, May 21, 2011

(Rain date May 22)

REG. FEE \$20.00 per bike (includes t-shirt)

8:00 AM Sign-Up

Optional Breakfast Buffet—\$5.00

10:00 AM On The Road

Stop for refreshment

Return to Bentley's for a Raffle,

Live Music & Dancing

PIG ROAST AND BBQ



Sponsoring many
Youth Programs



Maine CHIP
Child Identification Program



Scholarships

**US ROUTE 1, ARUNDEL ME 04046
(207) 985-8966**

**For Registration and Additional Information:
Call Steve 207.490.0990 or 207.205.0009**

The ————— **MAINE MASON**

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If undeliverable, please do not return.

The 193rd Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine

**Will be held Tuesday and Wednesday
May 1 and 2, 2012
in Gracie Hall on the Husson College Campus,
1 College Circle, Bangor, Maine**

Sec. 1, Paragraph 3 of our Constitution directs that “It shall be the duty of each chartered lodge under this jurisdiction to be represented in each Grand Lodge Annual Communication by at least the Worshipful Master or one of the Wardens or a legally appointed proxy who is a member of said lodge.”