

The Maine Mason

Vol. 42, No. 2
Spring 2016

Astronomy... **“A Walk Among Giants”**

**Maine’s Masonic College
Celebrates its Sixth Annual
Arts and Sciences Gathering
April 23 in Bangor**

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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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line-o-type

by George P. Pulkkinen

Some information About the Page 1 Image

Resembling an opulent diamond tapestry, this image from NASA's Hubble Space telescope shows a glittering star cluster that contains a collection of some of the brightest stars seen in our Milky Way galaxy. Called Trumpler 14, it is located 8,000 light-years away in the Carina Nebula, a huge star-formation region. Because the cluster is only 500,000 years old, it has one of the highest concentrations of massive, luminous stars in the entire Milky Way. (The small, dark knot left of center is a nodule of gas laced with dust, and seen in silhouette.)

Diamonds are forever, but these blue-white stars are not. They are burning their hydrogen fuel so ferociously they will explode as supernovae in just a few million years. The combination of outflowing stellar "winds" and, ultimately, supernova blast waves will carve out cavities in nearby clouds of gas and dust. These fireworks will kickstart the beginning of a new generation of stars in an ongoing cycle of star birth and death.

This composite image of Trumpler 14 was made with data taken in 2005-2006 with Hubble's Advanced Camera for Surveys. Blue, visible and infrared filters combine with filters that isolate hydrogen and nitrogen emission from the glowing gas surrounding the open cluster.

NASA, ESA, and J. Malz Apellaniz (Institute of Astrophysics of Andalusia, Spain)

Learn more about this cluster, and other heavenly bodies, at the Maine Masonic College's Celebration of the Arts and Sciences on April 23 in Bangor.

From the Grand East

David A. Walker Grand Master of Masons in Maine

I have been very busy since the last Maine Mason went to print. First, I was privileged to take part in laying Christmas wreaths at the Veterans' Cemeteries in Augusta and Togus. I was pleased to be able to be there along with many Rainbow girls and DeMolay boys. I have you all to thank for the fact that these Masonic Youth Groups were able to buy 1,000 wreaths this year, up from 586 last year. I put out the challenge to Maine Masons and you came through magnificently! Thank you.

Early in January, my job took me to our plant in Bradford, England. While there I was able to attend a meeting at one of the four lodges in that city. They moved a MM Degree up in order to have it while I was in attendance. What a privilege it was to sit in on the work. Their ceremonies are quite a bit different from ours, but the same values are taught. I was made to feel as though I was at my home lodge. The feeling of being a Brother to men I had never met before was extraordinary. I was even able to leave a little piece of Maine Masonry there, by presenting their Wor. Master and the Provincial Grand Master with their own Maine 200th Anniversary Challenge coins.

Also in January, I attended a meeting of the Directors of the Maine Commission for Community Service. The Charitable Foundation was recognized for our support of the "Your Maine Volunteer Roll of Honor." This program recognizes volunteers under the age of 18 who devote 50 or more hours of documented service to the community.

In February, Audrey and I traveled to Florida to



Wor. Gordon Bragg

attend Maine Day at the Sahib Shrine in Sarasota. It was well attended by more than 100 and I was privileged to present four 50 Year Medals. One of those was presented to a Mason who was one of the Masters in my home District while I was DDGM. It was a very pleasant surprise to see Wor. Dana Nowell and a real honor to be the one presenting his Medal. After dinner, we traveled across the city to present another Veterans Medal to a Brother who is battling health issues. We had a splendid visit with him and his wife.

While in Florida, we had the opportunity to travel to Inverness, where I was able to present another 50 Year Medal to a friend that Audrey and I have known for more than 50

years, Wor. Gordon Bragg. After visiting and dining with Gordon and his wife Joan, we traveled across town to see a Masonic Widow from Monmouth Lodge, who also happens to have been the first grade teacher for both Audrey and me. What a treat that was.



The Grand Master with Mrs. Irene Robertson, his first grade teacher.

More recently, I traveled to Sanford to take part in a Lodge of Rededication, organized by VW Brian Ingalls. There were dozens in attendance, including a contingent of Prince Hall Masons, led by RW Glen Paine, a friend of Maine Masons and a personal friend for many years. It was a very emotional meeting, especially to have the room filled with Brethren, reciting our Obligations in unison.

I have also been blessed to be asked by MW Wayne Adams to assist him and his group of Veterans who sit in the Lodge Officer chairs to conduct the MM Degree for active duty Masons. This has been a singular honor, for which I will always be grateful. To know that these young men will travel the world helping to preserve our way of life and will always take a piece of Maine Masonry with them is humbling.

Around the Grand Lodge Water Cooler...

R.W. Mark E. Rustin, Grand Secretary

THE “WORK” OF THE LODGES

Perhaps it is because I am an English major or maybe it is because I love the precision the correct word can bring to understanding — for whatever reason this issue’s article has to do with “work” and its meaning in Freemasonry. Most of us have heard the conferring of degrees described as work. This or that Lodge, or this or this or that Brother did wonderful work at last evening’s degree. For too many of us, this description suggests that so long as the Lodge hands off the correct words of the ritual -- making more Master Masons -- its work is done. The reality is that the work for the Lodge and the Brother begins after the degrees are conferred.

During the conferring of degrees, the Brother receives many valuable insights about the nature of the Craft, a cursory understanding of the core values of Freemasonry, and symbolic visions of life through the eyes of a Mason. All of these are contained within a tightly packed ritual couched in the language of another era. It is as if we have handed the new Brother a cubic foot of cement, told him it is full of gems, gold coins, wisdom. We then, intentionally or by neglect, deny him the tools and assistance necessary to retrieve the treasure from within the block — the real work of Freemasonry.

The work of the Lodge is to assist the new Brother in claiming the treasure we assured him was his. The Lodge has the necessary tools within its grasp. Our new Master Mason must be guided to a place of understanding and actualization of the value within the ritual. Nothing represents the true work of a Lodge any better than building a personal, brotherly relationship with a Brother on this quest. Whether it be by formal programs — The Rookie Program, Mentoring, etc. — or by the Lodge welcoming and surrounding a new member with acceptance and enlightenment, the work of the Lodge is to assist a new Brother in discovering the gifts and value in the ritual.

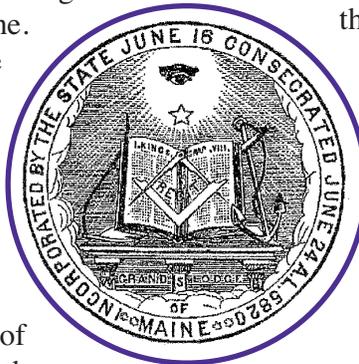
The Brother’s work is the work of wresting these

gifts from the ritual in a form that he can relate to, thereby making them his own. To do so, he must exhibit trust in the guidance of his “older” Brothers as they guide his efforts to make the gifts of the ritual an integral part of his life. As these gifts are discovered and understood, he must demonstrate a willingness to change his life — to become a better man. It is only through the work of changing a life that the genius of Freemasonry is made real for one more Brother.

Philosophical musings, while they might offer amusement to the dabbler, have not the power to change lives, or the world, inherent in Freemasonry.

This power is released in Lodges and in men through serious work — commitment, seeking, brotherly love, and trust. By comparison, the recitation of words is not work; the words are only the entry way to the possibilities to be discovered and made real through the work of Lodges and Brothers.

That’s it from here — back to work,



Grand Lodge Elections

The following Brethren have offered themselves for election to the several positions:

Grand Master: Thomas Pulkkinen

Deputy Grand Master:

Robert Hoyt

Ron Murphy

Mark Rustin

Senior Grand Warden: William Layman

Junior Grand Warden:

Kenneth A. Caldwell

Donald Pratt

Grand Treasurer: Scott Whytock

Grand Secretary:

Daniel E. Bartlett

Richard L. Rhoda

Finance Committee: James R. May

Charitable Foundation Trustees: *Vote for Two*

Richard A. Bergeron, Jr.

Ronald W. Fowle, Jr.

Claire V. Tusch

David E. Walker

Grand Lodge Business Session May 3rd and 4th

Brethren gathered together in Lewiston for the 197th Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge can truly expect to be gathered together in unity. There is little of expected controversy to be considered, but that's certainly not to say there is little of importance.

For the fifth consecutive year, per capita costs will remain unchanged, certainly welcome news. And we will be electing a new Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Grand Secretary, and possibly two new members of the Charitable Foundation.

There are several Constitutional matters to be decided; one for a final vote after being voted to accept and lay over for a year. That proposed amendment to SEC. 33 would, if adopted, allow for appointment of one Assistant Grand Lecturer in each of Maine's 24 Masonic Districts. This officer would assume duties and responsibilities of the District Ritual instructor, instruct on ritual text and meaning, schedule and oversee District Schools of Instruction and encourage initiatives to enhance ritual proficiency and understanding.

There are also three proposed amendments offered for their initial reading, and two Standing Regulations. If approved, the amendments will lay over for final disposition in 2017. Standing Regulation votes become effective immediately if approved this year.

SEC. 86 - APRONS - The apron is a part of the Masonic clothing and cannot be worn in public outside of the lodge room, **except to participate in Memorial or Divine Services, Grand Lodge approved processions, ceremonies to recognize Masonic veterans or to present Grand Lodge approved awards**; moreover no lodge shall form a public procession —funeral processions and processions for attendance upon divine service excepted— without dispensation from the Grand Master. Nor is it proper for a lodge, as such, to take part in any public demonstration except to perform some Masonic labor sanctioned by the Grand Lodge. **Red illustrates proposed change.**

75.3 LODGE HISTORIES - Each lodge in this Jurisdiction is encouraged to prepare its history for the preceding year and especially for significant anniversary years. Copies of histories filed with the Grand Lodge by March 1st will be reviewed by the Committee on History of Masonry in Maine for its report and recognition of Lodge histories at the Annual Communication.

SEC. 105.1 COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY - Proposed Addition. Each applicant for the degrees shall be subject

to a verification of facts reported on his petition for membership relating to his criminal background. The petitioner shall personally obtain and pay for a background verification by a recognized company contracted by the Grand Lodge, with the report sent by the vendor directly to the applicant. The Committee of Inquiry shall review the report to determine any matters of concern that might weigh on its recommendation to the Lodge, and record its review on the petition signed by committee members prior to a ballot on the application.

STANDING REGULATIONS

S.R. 14. Resolved: That all written or printed notices of lodge communications or other matters of lodge business containing any Masonic information beyond the time and place of stated or special communications shall be mailed in sealed envelopes. Such sealed notice **may should** include the name, **physical** address, age and occupation of **a candidate an applicant** for any of the Degrees, together with the names of the brethren who have recommended him, **after his application has been balloted upon and he accepted for the Degrees.** [1970 p. 342] Email or other electronic messaging cannot be considered 'sealed'.

Recommend addition of above text in bold and deletion of that in red, so as to read:

Such sealed notice should include the name, physical address, age and occupation of an applicant for any of the Degrees, together with the names of the brethren who have recommended him.

S.R. 18, is a two paragraph regulation that, in effect, allows for any chartered lodge in this jurisdiction to vote to become a sponsoring body for a Chapter of the International Order of DeMolay, and to contribute from its Charity Funds for the support of DeMolay and the Pine Tree Youth Foundation provided the lodge's by-laws allow for such support.

The proposed change in S.R. 18 would allow a lodge to also sponsor, and provide monies from its Charity Fund, for the support of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls if the lodge's by-laws approve.

A third (and new) paragraph in this proposal would also allow any chartered lodge under this jurisdiction to vote use of its general funds to contribute to the support of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, provided the lodge's by-laws so permit, and that such proposal has been before the lodge one month and notice of the intended vote is included in the summons for the meeting at which said vote is to be taken.

Your 200th Anniversary Grand Lodge Challenge Coin

By **Richard L. Rhoda, P.G.S.W., Grand Historian**

The Grand Lodge 200th Anniversary Committee, chaired by R.W. Christopher DiSotto has commissioned a 200th Anniversary Challenge Coin to help fund special programs promoting our Bicentennial in 2020.

The history of challenge coins is long indeed. They have existed since the days of the Roman Empire when they were given to soldiers to recognize special achievements.

The next four years will be a wonderful time to put forth Maine Masonry as the men's fraternal organization which enriches lives. With a proud historical heritage behind us, we must endeavor to build up Maine Masonry for what it can mean and do for young men and their families in the 21st Century.

Your anniversary coin will bear the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge of Maine on its front. The perimeter circle reads "Incorporated by the State June 16 Consecrated June 24 A.L. 5820 Maine." The reverse presents the Square, and Compasses with the letter "G" with the perimeter circle reading "Maine Freemasonry Enriching Lives 1820-2020."

The coins are 2.5" made of zinc alloy with gold plating. Engraving is 3D with soft enamel.

2020 is also the 200th Anniversary of the State of Maine. Your Grand Lodge was created by the fifth legislative bill passed by the newly formed State of Maine. It was passed by a unanimous vote in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. Today the Grand Lodge is the second oldest existing organization established by the State of Maine.

It is interesting to note that in 1820, Maine Masonry included Bro. William King, our first Governor and Grand Master; Bro. John Chandler, first President of the Maine Senate who was elected by that body to be one of Maine's first two U.S. Senators; and Bro. Benjamin Ames, first Speaker of the House of Representatives and the only man to also serve as President of The Maine Senate and as Governor of the State.

A major thrust of the Anniversary Committee will be to present a "living history" of Maine Masonry and of its importance in society today and tomorrow. A few of the early projects under consideration include making a video suitable for the public and members, a special music concert, and special regional banquet/programs about the State.

What might you suggest for special consideration for the 200th Anniversary? What will you do to be an active part of this exciting event? We want to hear from you.

"So what is on your Grand Lodge's seal?" The following was taken from a Maine Lodge of Research paper by Past Grand Master Peter M. Schmidt as printed in its "Transactions" Volume III, Page 21.

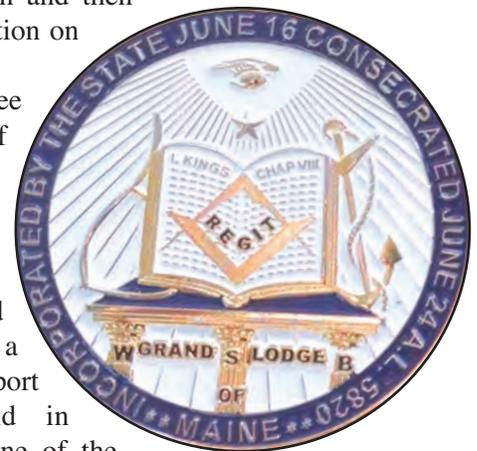
Why are 1 Kings Chapter VIII and "Regit" on our Volume of the Sacred Law? Read, enjoy and be able to tell others about this special Maine Masonic Challenge Coin.

The Great Seal of The Grand Lodge of Maine, A.F. & A.M.

With the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Maine there came the necessity of having a seal to be entrusted to the Grand Secretary to verify official documents and letters issuing from his office.

The Great Seal of the Grand Lodge of Maine, like many of our lodge seals, is rich with symbolism, overt and discrete. Freemasonry teaches moral lessons using symbols to gain and then focus our attention on the lesson.

A Committee consisting of R.W. Nathaniel Coffin, Joseph M. Gerrish and Eleazer Wyer was appointed to procure such a seal. Their report can be found in Volume No. One of the



hand-written records of The Grand Lodge of Maine. On page 24 the following description is given of the seal:

"The Committee appointed to procure a Seal with the proper device, made the following report, which was accepted: 'The form, a circle, surrounded by the words "Incorporated by the State June 16th, Consecrated June 25th, A.L. 5820." Within this circle the words

GRAND LODGE OF MAINE, upholding on its three pillars the Bible, Square and Compasses, supported on the right by a Scythe, and on the left by an anchor, (part of the arms of the State) having within the compasses, REGIT, (the Bible rules and directs us) irradiated by the polar star, (the emblem of Maine) and having above the whole, The All-seeing Eye."

This was followed by an insightful explanation of the reasoning of the Committee and what they took to be the

Continued on Following Page

Grand Lodge Challenge Coin *Continued from Preceding Page*

significance of the various representations on the seal.

“The following are some of the reasons which have led to this form and device:

We are incorporated by the State, and by placing the polar star, which is the emblem of Maine, upon our seal, casting its ray upon the Bible, Square and Compasses, which in this represents the Masonic Family, we acknowledge our allegiance to the State. By placing the Scythe and Anchor as our supporters, they being also part of the arms of the State, we acknowledge our obligations for the support afforded us, not only by granting us an incorporation without a dissenting vote, but by other public acts expressive of their regard for the Institution.

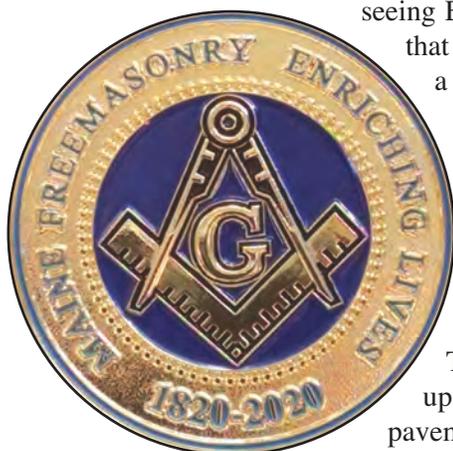
Above the whole we place the All-seeing Eye, to remind us, that all our actions, of a political as well as of a Masonic nature, are under Divine inspection. These emblems being surrounded with the indented Tessel, resting upon a tessellated pavement, remind us of

that variety of blessings with which we are surrounded by Divine providence while passing through the chequered scenes of life. And as the whole rests upon Pillars having their foundation in the Grand Lodge, the device reminds us that the State and the Fraternity should always find a steady support in the patriotic and benevolent principles and labors of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Nathaniel Coffin, Chairman.”

One aspect of the Great Seal is worthy of further consideration: the reference to “1st Kings Chapter. VIII” which is inscribed above the Square and Compasses. 1st Kings Chapter VIII was more likely to be known two hundred years ago than it is today. This 11th Book in the Old Testament is a historical account of the gathering of the people, the dedication by King Solomon and the feast of celebration on a most sacred occasion. Work on the Temple had been completed. It was to become the home of the Ark of the Covenant which held the two stone tablets upon which the Ten Commandments were written. Masonry uses King Solomon as the First Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in Jerusalem and his Temple as symbols and allegories to teach moral lessons.

We know these lessons well and have heard them many times. May we be reminded of them yet again when we look, really look, at the Great Seal of the Grand Lodge of Maine with greater understanding.



Dear Grand Secretary:

I want to be an early supporter of Maine Freemasonry's 200th Anniversary.

Please send _____ Maine Masonic Challenge Coins to.

Name _____ Address _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (\$13.15/per coin, tax and postage)



Village Lodge Veteran Members

At the February stated meeting of Village Lodge #26 in Bowdoinham, Brothers Dennis Purington and Robert Curtis received their 50-year Veterans Medals. Present to make the awards was Right Worshipful Loy Mitchell, PDDGM/14.

Deputy Grand Master

Three Brethren Who Would Be Grand Master

A new Grand Master will be elected and installed at our 197th Annual Communication. Arguably, the second most-important election will be choosing a Deputy Grand Master, the man who will be expected to use the next two years to observe, learn, plan and prepare himself to lead the Craft as we prepare for the third century of our Grand Lodge. He must do all this even while being an important, supportive member of the new Grand Master's leadership team.

Three Masons have offered themselves as candidates for Deputy Grand Master; Brother Bob Hoyt, Brother Ron Murphy, and Brother Mark Rustin. Each has served the Craft extensively at the local level, and each has previously been elected to state-wide office. Brothers Hoyt and Murphy have served as Junior Grand Warden, and Brother Rustin is leaving his current position as Grand Secretary to run for the DGM position.

To help voting members decide which man will best provide the kind of leadership we need, each has been asked eight questions concerning his reasons for seeking the office, his vision for the Craft, and his opinions of how best to attain those objectives.

Their answers are included here for your information. The candidates' responses are printed as received, in the order in which they were received.

R.W. Brother Ron Murphy

1. I offer myself as a candidate for the office of Deputy Grand Master because I feel with the many positions I have had since 2002 in Grand Lodge have qualified me. I have been on the finance committee for the last three years and helped keep our finances in line. In running my own business, I have had to keep my budget in line also. I have had to be a leader to my employees and help keep them motivated so they continue to grow with the company. The last three years as Assistant Grand Lecturer I have traveled to other districts and understand the issues of our brethren.

2. My vision is a craft that has more educational programs at their stated meetings. One thing that is missing, in my opinion, is discussion about our ritual and our masonic customs that help us work towards that perfect ashlar. Our customs have very real and very practical purposes. They are the tools for teaching and the tools for learning. I also would like to see more social events to keep our families involved. In turn, that may help keep

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THE EIGHT QUESTIONS

1. Why are you running for the office of Deputy Grand Master?
2. What is your vision for your brethren and for the Grand Lodge of Maine?
3. If elected, what specific skills and experience would you bring to the office that would help prepare you to wisely lead the Craft as Grand Master?
4. Membership is the lifeblood of any organization. Attracting the right men to our lodges, involving current membership in worthwhile activities, retaining our ranks and seeking ways to restore inactive Masons to active roles in the fraternity must be priorities for Masonry to flourish. What would you do to address these four areas of membership that are arguably so critical?
5. The Grand Lodge and Charitable Foundation have introduced, refocused or expanded several programs in the past few years. Are you supportive of these efforts? Do you think they are effective and, if not, how would you improve them? Please give your opinions on each of the five listed below:
 - * the Rookie Program
 - * the Dirigo Leadership Program
 - * the Maine Masonic College
 - * the Mentoring Program
 - * the reallocation of funding from scholarships to the matching grant programs with lodges
6. What do you see as the three biggest challenges facing our Grand Lodge and Charitable Foundation, and how would you meet those challenges?
7. Our Grand Lodge will be celebrating its 200th Anniversary in 2020. What are your thoughts on how we should celebrate our Masonic bicentennial? Should our bicentennial be tied in with the State of Maine bicentennial inasmuch as they occur simultaneously? And, if so, how might that be done?
8. Good stewardship of the Craft's finances must be a priority and practice of every Grand Master. If elected DGM, what steps would you adopt in your planning to be GM? What priorities would your budget reflect for both Grand Lodge and the Charitable Foundation?

R.W. Brother Murphy *Continued from Preceding Page*

our members more active especially our younger brothers.

3. My background and experience of many years of running a parts store and machine shop, where we were number one for many years and always in the top five profitable stores out of 4300 stores nationwide. Now running my own business, starting out as a one man operation ten years ago and we have grown to having two divisions with twenty employees in the peak of the season. We have done this because of our employees. One of the things we do is have a meeting every week so they know how the company is doing. They help make decisions as to where the company is going so they feel part of the growth. This is a good way to help them grow in their roles. When leading people you have to be a good communicator and a good listener. I was a captain on the local fire department and lead many training programs on interior fire attack. I was on an advisory board at Eastern Maine Community College. I am currently on the police committee for the town of Hermon to make sure the department is on the right track for the citizens of the town. I believe those life experiences will guide me to lead the craft as Grand Master.

4. These membership issues are so important that is why I believe at our lodge meetings we need more programs on education. We need to make sure to get all lodges involved with the Rookie Program, as well as having open houses and have the brethren invite someone, fellowship nights are also very important tools that we should use. We are all struggling for membership. We all need to work to get new as well as inactive Masons involved. The Grand Lodge as well as the appendant bodies need to work together to accomplish our goals to increase our membership. We all know what is going on in the world today and there are a lot of men that need our values and customs.

5. *The Rookie Program* is without a doubt one of the best programs we currently have. This program is a great way to have our newest EAs get involved. It has been proven that the Rookie Program is an effective tool for keeping them as a member and taking an active role in lodge.

The Dirigo Leadership Program is also important to all members of the lodges. It is currently being offered in more districts which will allow for greater participation for those who are interested in receiving the benefits being offered. The district officers as well as the members of Grand Lodge of Maine need to promote this program at every opportunity to make it worthwhile.



The Maine Masonic College really stimulates the mind into deeper thinking and is a great opportunity for all masons to expand their knowledge. These are exceptional courses for the lodge leaders who are interested in furthering their masonic knowledge within their own lodge.

The Mentoring Program is one that I strongly support and suggest that every lodge have a brother assigned as a mentor. From one who has been mentored from the start, it has helped me understand what it really means to be a mason. This is a program that as Grand Master, I will promote and with the assistance of the district leaders will make sure that all lodges understand the necessity of this program.

Reallocation of funding from scholarships to matching grants has been beneficial for everyone. Simply put — we all have a say to who receives the grant and it gets the masonic name out in the public with as to what we are about.

6. Challenges. One of the biggest is membership. As I have stated before increasing membership is something we all need to work on to accomplish. The strength and weakness of every individual needs to be identified so that every member can be assigned a duty that encompasses his expertise. There are many programs that can be paired to those brothers who feel comfortable doing them.

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R.W. Brother Mark Rustin

Question 1. Freemasonry is the vehicle by which men may bind themselves together in Lodges to become better men tomorrow than they are today. By so doing, the purpose of Freemasonry — to build a world of peace and harmony benefitting all the people of the world — is accomplished one life at a time. I am offering myself for the Office of Deputy Grand Master because it seems to me I possess a unique skill set which would benefit the Craft to achieve that purpose.

Question 2. The locus of Freemasonry is in the lives of the Brothers bound together in Lodges. To that end, my vision for my Brothers is one of encouragement — supporting their efforts to grow and strengthen their Lodges. By so doing, the Brothers will be allowed to enhance themselves and thus build a unique vision of the Lodge in the community it serves. The Grand Lodge should focus its efforts encouraging and supporting the several Lodges in this endeavor.

Question 3. Wisdom is the integration of innate gifts, education, experience, and empathy to reach proper conclusions. As a law enforcement officer, owner/operator of a small business, and pastoral leader of churches, I have honed leadership skills including fact finding, consensus building, personal interaction, public speaking, and decision making. This combination, in the Office of Grand Master, will provide an effective skill set to meet the demand for wise leadership.

Question 4. I disagree with the premise of the question. Knowledge of, and acting upon, the fundamental understandings and purposes of an organization is its lifeblood. To the extent that “lifeblood” nurtures its members determines its future as an organization.

When Freemasonry knows its fundamental lessons and acts upon those lessons in its Lodges and



Members, attracting the right men, value added activities, retaining active members, and restoring interest in the men who have lost interest will no longer be “issues.” The nutrients in our Fraternity’s lifeblood will bring vitality to our Lodges and new and improved life to our Brothers.

Strong, purpose driven Lodges and Brothers who will be better men tomorrow than they are today because of their relationship with the life giving principles of Freemasonry -- our lifeblood -- will reveal this potential to the world around us. A man seeking to be a better man will be attracted to the Craft. Communities will rally around Lodges of such men. Freemasonry’s future is in its beginning -- faith in the founding principles and the

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R.W. Brother Murphy *Continued from Preceding Page*

Another challenge is some of our lodges are struggling with finances. Some lodges have a very small membership and their buildings are starting to cost them more than their income. Are they going to lose the buildings? This is a very real question. We at Grand Lodge need to give them as much help as possible.

7. To celebrate our 200th anniversary, I would like to see some of our state officials join us at the events. The appendant bodies usually have programs yearly that could be tied in as well. This is

something that I will be working on if I am elected and I believe we can do this at a low cost.

8. As Grand Master I would make sure to be a good steward of the craft’s finances, making sure we keep the administrative costs down. Over the past few years we haven’t had a per capita increase and I would like to continue to make that possible. Barring any emergency, this should continue for many years and keep Grand Lodge running in an efficient manner as we have become accustomed to.

R.W. Brother Mark Rustin *Continued from Preceding Page*

“hand” that drew them on men’s hearts then and now.

Question 5 Adherence to founding principles is not a reason to be unaware to the changes in the culture we live within. Rather, our principles require us to be constantly innovating in order to be relevant to our Brothers and the world around us.

As support to Lodges as they innovate and to our Brothers as they gain more light in Masonry, these programs can be effective tools when they meet the demands of the task at hand. Used by a Lodge to improve themselves and their members, the Rookie Program, Dirigo Leadership, Maine Masonic College, the Mentoring Program and matching grants can bring strength to a Lodge and assist a Brother’s discovery of a better man within the rough ashlar. As “builder’s tools” I support these initiatives being offered to the Lodges and the Craft with the caveat that, as with all such offers, they must be routinely reviewed and adjusted to improve their effectiveness for the Craft. If Freemasons and their Lodges are to build a better place in this present environment, they will need a greater and more expansive level of skill sophistication than was demanded in the last century.

Question 6 1) From the beginning of this Grand Jurisdiction the relationship between the Grand Lodge and the constituent Chartered Lodges was designed as a

symbiotic, covenant relationship. The Grand Lodge “owns” the authority to do Freemasonry in all its facets. At the same time, the Grand Lodge built a system of Chartered Lodges authorized to use that authority in particular, far flung locations around the Grand Jurisdiction. These Chartered Lodges maintain the authority to do, promote, and live Freemasonry by fulfilling the obligations of their Charter and conformity to the Grand Lodge Constitution. The Grand Lodge, as the Chartering Organization, works to support and assist the Chartered Lodges from time to time as the situation requires.

The ongoing challenge with this mutually beneficial relationship is conscious mindfulness of the nature of the relationship and the responsibilities of each party in the covenant. When the relationship becomes skewed — a Chartered Lodge is not fulfilling its responsibilities or the Grand Lodge is inappropriately interfering with the Chartered Lodge or is not sufficiently supportive of a Chartered Lodge — the very fabric of Freemasonry in this Grand Jurisdiction will suffer.

I would meet this challenge through awareness of the relationship and diligence in responding to imbalances as they occur. A Grand Master has no greater chal-

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R.W. Brother Bob Hoyt

I woke up on Christmas morning with a thought in my head that just wouldn’t go away. It was as if the hand of the lord was pressed firmly on my shoulder. I began to make phone calls to different brethren to confirm or deny if this was just heartburn or if this was a calling. As I made call after call my resolve became stronger and stronger. Masonry is a calling for me. My passion for the fraternity and specifically for our community outreach and charitable endeavors are of my highest priorities.

Several years ago, in working as fundraising chair and overseeing the work of our professional fundraiser we learned several things: First, that our charity had to be more focused on the kids and second that our Charitable Foundation wasn’t charitable enough, and that we had to increase our budget for charity and more importantly have a plan to raise funds through donations to match that increase on a year to year basis. Those donations keep our Charitable Foundation a public trust and are essential to its continued existence. Third, every time a lodge partners with a community group supporting kids we are introduced to fathers of those kids who can and should be the

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MASONIC FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday, June 11th

10 A.M. to 3 P.M.



290 Norlands Road, Livermore, Maine 04254

The entire Maine Masonic Family, and all our children, are invited to enjoy a Family Fun Day at historic Norlands in Livermore. There'll be plenty for everyone to enjoy as families get a close-up look at life in Maine during the mid-nineteenth century, and get to learn something about the remarkable Washburn family.

The Washburn-Norlands Living History Center in Livermore, Maine, preserves the heritage and traditions of 19th-century rural life, celebrates the achievements of Livermore's Washburn family, and uses living history methods to make values, activities, and issues of the past relevant to present and future generations. The Norlands' living history experience has become a cornerstone of Maine history lessons for school children and adult learners over its 42-year history. Nineteenth-century local history comes to life through the talents and enthusiasm of skilled historical interpreters

The Washburn-Norlands history can be traced back more than 200 years. It was on this wind-swept rise in Livermore in 1809 that Israel Washburn, Sr. built a home, a family and a business. In 1829, the business failed, throwing his wife and ten children into poverty. This family rallied together and four teenaged sons went off to work, to help pay their father's debts. Throughout the years, they not only helped to support their younger siblings, but supported each other, as well.

With humble beginnings, the seven Washburn sons rose to gain prominence with state, national and international politics, business and industry, diplomacy, and military affairs. No other American

ON SITE EVENTS

- ✿ *Wagon Rides*
- ✿ *Kid Craft Tables*
- ✿ *1853 School Classes in the one-room school house*
- ✿ *1850s Fashion Exhibit*
- ✿ *Tours of the Mansion, Barn, Library and School*
- ✿ *1850s Outdoor Games for Kids*
- ✿ *Kora Clowns*
- ✿ *Civil War Re-enactors*
- ✿ *Lunch*

family has produced an equivalent level of political and business leadership in a single generation than that of the Washburns from Livermore, Maine. The family's stories touch so many American history themes, and bring them all home to Maine in a visit to the Norlands' farm.

It is listed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks and consists of a





working farm depicting rural life in the 1870s, a preserved 200 seat 1828 Universalist meeting house, the Washburns' 1867 mansion and attached farmer/s cottage, an 1883 granite library, and a restored 1853 one-room school house.

In this authentic setting, interpreters present a series of programs called "Journeys" for people of all ages. School children and general tourists have the opportunity to experience history using the resources of the Washburn-Norlands' property to recreate a sense of the environment, activities, community, and personal relationships of a 19th-century American family farm. Programs range from general site tours to 90-minute and half-day programs that are compatible with the goals of the Maine Department of Education's Maine Learning Results. The Norlands also offers "Live-Ins" for the purpose of immersing individuals and families into 24 hours of historical farm life.



The Great Washburn Family...and the Masonic Influence

By RW Thomas E. Pulkkinen, Deputy Grand Master

"Freemasonry makes good men better!" How often have we heard that? Our Grand Master, MW David A. Walker, often just shakes his head when he hears that message from a Grand Lodge officer. "No it doesn't," he insists; "it provides an opportunity for good men to make themselves better!"

Better men indeed, as a result of their Masonic experience. The cover of our new brochure emphatically proclaims: Maine Freemasonry...Enriching Lives through Education, Charity and Spiritual Growth. The new 200th anniversary Maine Masonic challenge coin carries that message further: Maine Freemasonry Enriching Lives 1820-2020.

One of the ways Freemasonry enriches a Brother's life is through the mentoring afforded new Masons and budding officers. This special personal relationship allows Brethren to share and broaden their knowledge, perspectives and life experiences, thereby benefitting

both individuals as well as the entire fraternity.

A Mason's moral and spiritual growth will also be advanced by his personal quest for a deeper understanding of the symbolism contained within our Masonic degrees. Introspective judging of ourselves from the vantage point of these new found "Masonic" perspectives allows us to perhaps set a higher standard for the man we wish to become, and a different vision of what we want to do with our lives. The great opportunity afforded Masons by applying these symbolic lessons to our personal lives, to our pursuit of living just and upright lives, was the basis for the proposed Constitutional change to have an Assistant Grand Lecturer for each District, rather than a single ritual teacher for as many as four Districts and 35 Lodges.

So what do symbolism and mentoring have to do with the Washburn family of Livermore, Maine? Did Martha

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The Great Washburn Family

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“Patty” Washburn’s appreciation for the potential influence of symbolism contribute to the impact each of her sons made upon society here in Maine, across the country and even upon distant shores? And from where might her perspectives have originated?

The story begins upon the birth of Israel Jr., the first of seven Washburn sons. Patty Washburn instructed her husband Israel to carry their newborn son to the highest point in the house, property once owned by the family of Hannibal Hamlin, who served as Vice President under Abraham Lincoln. In a story shared in the book *My Seven Sons*, Israel obediently did what he was told. Asked why that trip upstairs was so important to the new mother, her answer was simple: “...so he may rise in the world.” And yes, Israel traveled up those stairs with each of the seven newborn sons.

So did these Washburn sons “rise in the world?” Well two became state governors. Four served in Congress, from four different states, with three serving at the same time – during the Lincoln-Hamlin administration and the Civil War; one served in the US Senate; two were foreign ministers; and one was the US Secretary of State. One was a Civil War general and another was a naval officer. In business, one ran a newspaper, another started a railroad, two owned banks, and two started flour companies (now named Gold Medal and Pillsbury/General Mills). This “Washburn Dynasty” is studied in the book, *America’s Political Dynasties*, by Stephen Hess.

Before each young Washburn son left home to pursue his destiny, his mother gave him a small gold ring. This token was to serve as a constant reminder that wherever their travels might take them, they were family with ties to each other and to home back here in Maine. The sixth son, Samuel Benjamin Washburn then living in Wisconsin, wrote in his diary: Feb. 21, 1861 – “I would be glad if it were so I could go to Washington D.C. so as to be at Lincoln’s inauguration, but fear it will not be possible... The Washburn brothers (Israel Jr., Algernon Sidney, Elihu Benjamin, Cadwallader Colden, Charles Ames, and William Drew Washburn) will all be there.” A few months later when the seven sons returned home from across the country following their mother’s passing, each son was wearing his gold ring.

The power of symbolism: the climb up stairs ... to rise in the world; the wearing of a ring ... with no beginning and no end that the family ties must live on forever. Simple yet powerful!

Several of the sons were mentored in the study of law by their uncle and our Eighth Grand Master, Reuel Washburn (1834-1837), who was also heavily involved in state government. Given the great success of the Washburn sons in government and business, it is clear that MW Bro. Washburn taught them well. Clearly each son was also mentored well by their strong-willed mother.

The seven Washburn sons came to age during the “anti-Masonic” period following the Morgan affair when Masons were accused of murdering a Brother for disclosing Masonic secrets. Many Lodges stopped operating for 15 or more years. While Oriental Star Lodge in Livermore didn’t relinquish its charter, there were no Lodge meetings from February 1829 until December 1843, a period when many of the Washburn sons might have joined the fraternity.

Why is this anti-Masonic period of particular note to the story of the Washburns?

Patty Washburn’s ties to Freemasonry began before she met her husband’s brother, Reuel. Her uncle Nathaniel Livermore, her mother’s brother, was a charter member in 1805 of Amicable Lodge in

Cambridge, Massachusetts. He surely influenced her, directly or indirectly.

Bro. Livermore signed the 1831 “Boston Declaration” in response to the Morgan affair. The public avowal was “a solemn and unequivocal denial of the allegations” against Freemasonry. The Declaration concluded with, “...the undersigned can neither renounce nor abandon it (Freemasonry). We most cordially unite with our brethren of Salem and vicinity, in the declaration and hope that, “should the people of this country become so infatuated as to deprive Masons of their civil rights, in violation of their written constitutions and the wholesome spirit of just laws and free governments, a vast majority of the Fraternity will still remain firm, confiding in God and rectitude of their intentions for consolation, under the trials to which they may be exposed.”

While the Oriental Star Lodge was closed when the



Israel Washburn

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The Great Washburn Family

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adult sons were in Livermore, some did become Masons. Most of these young Washburn men moved far from Maine, so the full extent of their Masonic lives is unclear. Yet it is known that Samuel Benjamin Washburn was a member of Oriental Star Lodge in Livermore; William Drew was a member of Orono's Mechanics Lodge before transferring membership to an out-of-state lodge.

The Maine Washburn family of the 1800s left a legacy that lives on in many ways, but in no place more prominently than at the Norlands living history museum and farm in Livermore. A visit to their home on Masonic Family Day ought to be on your summer "to do" list. And buy one of the many new books available on this most interesting and remarkable family.

The Washburn Brothers' Amazing Accomplishments

Elihu Benjamin Washburn (1816-1887), **U.S. Representative from Illinois** 1853-1869, considered "Father of the House," Chairman of House Appropriations Committee," Lincoln Campaign biographer, U.S. Secretary of State 1869, U.S. Minister to France 1869-1877, candidate for Republican nomination for President of the United States 1880, candidate for Republican nomination for Vice President of the United States 1880, pall bearer for President Lincoln, brought back to Norlands the ink stand used by Grant and Lee at the surrender signing at Gettysburg.

Cadwallader Colden Washburn (1818-1882), **U.S. Representative from Wisconsin** 1855-1861 1867-1871, Governor of Wisconsin 1872-1874, Major General, timberlands speculator, owned power companies, gave the University of Wisconsin its observatory.

William Drew Washburn (1831-1912), Minnesota State Representative 1861, appointed Surveyor General for Minnesota by Lincoln, **U.S. Representative from Minnesota** 1879-1885, U.S. Senator from Minnesota 1889-1895, lumberman, bank founder, railroad man - first President of what would become the Soo Line Railroad.

Samuel Benjamin Washburn, (1824-1890) **Naval Lt., ship's master** on routes from Boston to Liverpool and New Orleans, Commander of a division in the Gulf Squadron under Admiral Farragut during the Civil War, returned to Norlands and to care for his father and work the farm.

Algernon Sidney Washburn (1814-1879), **Maine Banker**, in 1853, his brothers Elihu and Cadwallader asked him if he would become a cashier at their new bank: The Bank of Hallowell. In 1862, he organized The First National Bank of Hallowell.

Charles Ames Washburn (1822-1889), U.S. Diplomatic **Commissioner to Paraguay** 1861-1863, U.S. Minister to Paraguay 1863-1868, author, editor of the *San Francisco Times*, invented the Washburn Typograph that was sold to Remington.

Israel Washburn, Jr. (1813-1883), Maine State Representative 1842, **U.S. Representative from Maine** 1851-1861, Governor of Maine 1861-1863; major organizer of the Republican Party; instrumental in forming and equipping Maine soldiers for the Civil War, president of the Rumford Falls Railroad.

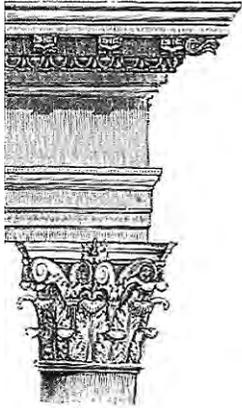
Sources: *My Seven Sons*, by Lillian Washburn, 1940, and *America's Political Dynasties*, by Stephen Hess, 1966, Doubleday & Co., New York



H. Abiff's Working Toolbox

Who will be the first to identify where this famous toolbox can be found? The first correct answer to arrive at your Editor's mailbox will win a very classy and much sought-after Maine Masonic Ball Cap.

That email address:
boatpiper@maine.rr.com



The

ENTABLATURE



Whole Number 23

www.MaineMasonicCollege.com

Spring 2016



ANNOUNCEMENT OF COURSE OFFERINGS

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

The College Briefly...

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

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

Masonic ritual exhorts us to broaden our knowledge of the seven liberal arts and sciences. Our programs include topics of such as ethics, astronomy, logic, public speaking and more.

In its continuing effort to offer "more light in Masonry" the Regents of the Maine Masonic College announce the following course offerings. As with all College offerings, they are designed to provide brethren the opportunity to expand their vision of Freemasonry and its principles. Whether you are on the path to a Masonic College Diploma or simply want to be a more enlightened Mason, these programs are for you. As the bright season of Spring comes upon us, these offerings of the Maine Masonic College will add light.

APR 16

COLBY COLLEGE STAFF-LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
WHERE: BANGOR MASONIC CENTER 9AM-12PM

APR 23

CHARLIE PLUMMER-UNDERSTANDING WORLD
WHERE: SPRINGVALE LODGE, SPRINGVALE 9AM-12PM

MAY 7

SAM MCKEEMAN-CRITICAL THINKING
WHERE: MERIDIAN LODGE, PITTSFIELD 9AM-12PM

JUNE 18

SAM MCKEEMAN-ETHICS
WHERE: WATERVILLE LODGE, WATERVILLE 9AM-12PM

Please Note: There will be a lite luncheon served after each class. The charge is \$5.00. If you plan to attend the meal you must pre-register for the class by calling Theresa at the Grand Lodge office at 843-1086.

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Facebook



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Astronomy
"A Walk Among Giants"
MAINE MASONIC COLLEGE
Sixth Annual Celebration of the Arts and Sciences
April 23, 9 a.m. to 2 - Anah Shrine Center
1404 Broadway, Bangor

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

Brother George M.A. Macdougall

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

This installment of the *Minutes* takes a different twist from our usual subjects which have been along the lines of architecture and engineering. The subject of this issue was a scientist who made one of the biggest, if not THE BIGGEST, contribution to the world. In 1928, Sir Alexander Fleming discovered the first antibiotic and named it Penicillin.

It has been said that Penicillin is probably the greatest single advance in medical history, and most likely there isn't a person in the world who is not in Alexander Fleming's debt. In fact, I am due for a root canal due to an infection and have my prescription of penicillin all ready to go!

Alexander Fleming was born in Ayrshire, Scotland in August 6, 1881 and died on March 11, 1955. At the age of 13, he was sent to London to live with his brother, Thomas. In 1901 at the age of 20, he decided to enter the medical profession, but before being accepted by the St Mary's Hospital medical school, Fleming had to take an entrance exam. His Scottish education did really well for him as he was acknowledged as the top entrant that year. Upon graduating, he joined the bacteriological department of that same hospital where he was to remain for the rest of his days.

In September 1928, Fleming returned to his laboratory after a month away with his family, and noticed that a culture of Staphylococcus Aureus he had left out had become contaminated with a mold. He also discovered

that the colonies of staphylococci surrounding this mold had been destroyed. He later said of the incident, “When I woke up just after dawn on September 28, 1928, I certainly didn't plan to revolutionize all medicine by discovering the world's first antibiotic, or bacteria killer. But I suppose that was exactly what I did.” He at first called the substance “mold juice,” and then named it “Penicillin” after the mold that had produced it. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1945 for his discovery.

What good is an antibiotic? Why was this discovery so important? Well, most diseases and infections are caused by one bacterium or another getting into the human body and multiplying. This growth is what makes the body sick. These bacteria are killed by antibiotics. Diseases such as Tuberculosis, Cholera, Typhoid, Tetanus, the Plague and a lot of others were killing many hundreds of thousands of people every year before Antibiotics were discovered.

In fact, in 1350, it was estimated that the plague, or Black Death, killed off 30 to 60% of Europe's population. It is thought to have reduced the World population from 450 million to 375 million (or less) in just a few years. It would take about 300 years to get back to the 450 million mark, all because of a bacteria which could have been killed by an antibiotic.

Alexander Fleming joined Freemasonry in 1909, being initiated into Santa Maria Lodge No.2682 London and becoming the Master in 1924. He was installed as Master of Lodge Misericordia No.3286 London in 1935, elected Senior Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) in 1948. Fleming was a member of the Territorial Army, and served from 1900 to 1914 in the London Scottish Regiment.



Your Masonic College Participants

Dr. François Amar, Dean of the Honors College, University of Maine, is back with us for a much appreciated second time. His topic: The New Astronomy and Galileo's Logical Information.

Dr. Elizabeth McGrath is Luce Professor of physics and astronomy at Colby College and a leader in the largest sky imaging survey ever carried out by the Hubble Space telescope. Her presentation is entitled: A Walk Among Giants: Exploring the Formation of the Largest Galaxies in the Universe.

Another treat, a group of seniors from the Honors College will present their honor dissertation topics and seek questions and comments from Celebration participants.

Contact Theresa Hatch for reservations: 207-843-1086 or GrandLodge@MaineMason.org

R.W. Brother Bob Hoyt *Continued from Page 11*

masons of our next century. Our value as a fraternity is self evident to them when they observe these demonstrations of Masonry. I also feel that we should always be on the lookout for that next, "hot" Bikes for Books project to support and develop. Being ever diligent at our lodges and our district associations to what their needs are and how we can assist them in being more charitable.

Managing by traveling around, provides us with the opportunity to hear first hand the needs of our brethren, enabling us with the vision to address their needs. Whether it is a new member or one that has become disconnected in one way or another. It is essential to discover how they fit in the organization, matching their interests with the workings of and/ or the projects supported by the lodge. Remembering, that through listening to their interests that the lodge will be transformed to give them ownership, enabling them to make it their lodge.

As for questions about my qualifications, I would invite anyone who is interested to email me at rhoyt@maine.rr.com and I would be happy to send you a copy of my announcement letter to further articulate my philosophies on actions necessary to improve our craft and how to provide that leadership.

I am a firm believer that masonry is never about me. The greatest leaders among us have been selfless individuals, and I assure you that whatever we can accomplish it will be about us and what we can do to help them.

As for Grand Lodge programs, I believe that the Rookie Program and the Mentoring Program are very valuable in involving and providing a new mason ownership and comfort in his lodge, and as many of our new brothers come to us with little or no real meaningful leadership experience the Dirigo Leadership program is an essential tool, as is mentoring from one with strong leadership skills in many cases.

As for the Maine Masonic College, I feel that this could be one of our greatest assets, but we must get the next generation to promote it through social media in addition to traditional means to provide further growth. We as masons are still hesitant to promote and market ourselves, old standards die hard.

As for transitioning from support of DARE to scholarships to CHIP to matching grants to district grants, I think that the Charitable Foundation could make a smoother transition when support is dropped from one focus to the next.

It must be recognized that the brethren have a lot invested in these programs and although success statewide might be dwindling, many lodges may still be

fully invested in that project. More and better communication will be required when transitioning away from such well established and supported projects. That being said, I understand that all programs and support for them have a life span and even our beloved "Bikes for Books" could run its course. I just feel we could have done a more supportive job in both the scholarship program and the CHIP program with a specific supportive program in place to smooth the transition and the understanding of the same.

Programs are a tool box and they can be very helpful if lodges have the time and desire to implement them. Time is a commodity that is in the shortest supply. This makes our willingness and ability to listen to what our lodges need from us and to respond to those questions and needs in the most efficient and effective manner. The Lord gave us two ears and one mouth and if we use them in that proportion it's amazing what we can learn.

Our 200th Anniversary needs to be a rebirth of our Masonic Spirit. That being said the plans need to be made from the local level with the thoughts and ideas coming from the districts and lodges taking the fore. That rebirth needs to include a focus on promotion of the craft, expansion of our local charity, and a focus on the family. The question to be answered is "How do we make Freemasonry stronger 100 years from now than it is today?"

I would encourage lodges to take advantage of as many matching grant opportunities in their communities as possible, forming a lodge team for community outreach to partner with community groups that support kids and families. The increase in grants would force the Charitable Foundation to find new and innovative ways to fund raise to support the increased demand, also meeting IRS requirements for increased fund raising.

As for the Grand Lodge budget I would work hard with the Grand Lodge team and the finance committee to keep our dues structure stable, while maximizing the value of the dollars for strong operations to best support the needs of our brethren.

In fine, charity through community outreach is my passion and I have always demonstrated my masonry in that way. I firmly believe that our success in our next century will be a direct result of how we treat our next generation "The Kids." I have been told, "That service is the rent we owe for the privilege of living on this planet." Service to our Lodge and its principles, service to our lodge family, and service to our community are of the utmost importance.

R.W. Brother Mark Rustin *Continued from Page 11*

lenge. The future of Freemasonry as we know it depends upon a healthy relationship between Grand Lodge and the Chartered Lodges.

2) As noted in other answers, Grand Lodge is challenged to be responsive to the best interests of the Craft dealing with an increasingly technical and regulated culture. Two Officers, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, must have necessary skill sets in order to perform their roles in a manner which provides proper service to the Craft.

The challenge for Grand Lodge going forward is to have competent people in these positions. Electing these Officers offers no guarantee of competency. I will work with the Grand Lodge to amend our Constitution allowing for the appointment of these Officers based upon skills and position related experience. Their performance, relating to the job description and expectations therein, would be reviewed annually by a Committee consisting of the Grand Master, elected Officers, and the Finance Committee. If the Committee finds the performance unacceptable, they can be removed by vote of the Grand Lodge in Annual Communication. This change would strengthen the ability of Grand Lodge to maintain finances in good order and keep a strong service motive undergirding the Grand Lodge Office. Additionally, the Grand Lodge should benefit from the continuity of service achieved.

3) Our Charitable Foundation has been very effective growing the size of funds under investment while providing charitable donations, relief, and matching grants. Our fund raising has been volatile from year to year. As a 501c3 Public Foundation we must raise a certain percentage of our income by donations to maintain that favorable status. Additionally, fund management and spending priorities need constant attention. In short, we have been well served by Trustees who establish policies at meetings.

In my view the challenge is to have a staff implementing policy, seeking donations, reviewing spending requests on a daily basis and working with the Grand Treasurer and Trustees in budget preparation. I will support the appointment of a part-time Executive Director for the Foundation at the Annual Communication and will work with that person to build an even stronger Foundation to serve the Craft.

Question 7 This celebration of 200 years of service to our Grand Jurisdiction provides us a great opportunity to review and lift up our accomplishments and to poise the Craft to enter the third century of Freemasonry empowered by the core fundamentals that make us Masons ready to innovate our actions to make the third century

our best so far. By way of marking the anniversary, I would make the District meetings in the year 2019 -2020 a District celebration of Freemasonry. These events should include Brothers, significant others, guests from the community and open to the media. These District events would be supplemented by a public awareness campaign, cultural events, and availing ourselves of every opportunity to interface with the Maine's celebration of the anniversary. All these events would culminate in a statewide celebration, perhaps at the Augusta Civic Center, marking the "official" establishment of Freemasonry in Maine.

The Grand Master must seek out and seize every opportunity to publicly represent Freemasonry thus building awareness of the Craft, our purposes, and the opportunities offered for men to better themselves and their communities. This pivotal event should serve as the backdrop for increased vibrancy in our Lodges and increased awareness of Freemasonry across the State. I believe my public speaking skill set would be of particular value to the Craft in pursuing the above outlined agenda.

Question 8 Good financial stewardship is best defined as proper investment and conservation of the Craft's assets and the proper use of those assets to achieve the desired organizational goals. As DGM I will work with the Finance Committee and Grand Master to develop annual budgets reflecting these principles. Money is a tool to implement goals not a goal unto itself. Properly managed, our funds should be directed toward our goals.

For the Grand Lodge these goals are defined by interaction with the Chartered Lodges and the GL Officers. Once defined, budgeting should reflect these priorities by allocating funds accordingly.

For the Charitable Foundation the process is the proper interaction between the Chartered Lodges and the Trustees seeking the best ways the Foundation support can serve the Craft. Again, once defined, budgeting should reflect these priorities by allocating funds accordingly.

From time to time Grand Masters will propose initiatives they feel will benefit the Craft. The process described above should properly vet these ideas and assign the proper budget priority and funding.

In the final analysis, sound fiscal policy should be defined by the core values of Freemasonry. To the extent that we allocate our resources to reveal these core values, we build a better world for all people to live within. Our Lodges and our Brothers will be recognized as better men by the light we share meeting on the level with people everywhere.

Keep Off All Cowans

by Brother Michael Hopkins, Saco Lodge #9

In contrast to other old words used in Masonic ritual, the origin of the word “cowan” is obscure. *A Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue (up to 1700)* states that fact, giving a definition of “one who builds dry stone walls or dykes.” The word appears in the first Schaw Statutes (1598),

“Item, that na maister or farow of craft ressaue ony cowanis to wirk in his societie or cumpanye, nor send nane of his servands to wirk w’cowanis, under the pane of twentie pundis sa oft as ony persone offendis heirintill.”

This reinforces that the proper use of mortar was a guild secret, highly valued by operative masons. The later *Scottish National Dictionary (1700–)* adds the variations *cowane* and *cowaner* and gives the same definition as the older source, adding that the word is used contemptuously of one who does the work of a mason without having served an apprenticeship. Attestations are of interest. A late eighteenth century article in *Edinburgh Magazine* is quoted,

“The walls of the dwelling house are, perhaps, mason work, but the other buildings are reared by . . . cowans (common labourers), with clay instead of lime for mortar.”

Also, from an 1830s source,

“Peter McCorkle was a kind of half-bred mason, or “cowan,” as the country folks call them, who had never served a regular apprenticeship, and did not pretend to execute any ornamental piece of masonry.”

The later *Scottish dictionary* also adds the term we use as *Masons*, as one who is outside the Brotherhood, and also the sense of “[a]n unskilled or uninitiated person; an amateur, a bungler.”

The *English lexical sources* generally follow the *Scottish*. The *Oxford English Dictionary* gives the same primary definitions, citing from 1707 that *Mother Kilwinning Lodge* terms *cowans* as *Masons* “without the word.” It also cites a 1767 edition of *James Anderson’s Constitutions of the Free-Masons* (Anderson died in 1739) as saying, “The Working Masons...ever will have their own Wages...let Cowans do as they please.” [ellipses in the source document] It also adds an additional slang definition, suggesting a general slang use in *British English*, of “[a] sneak, an inquisitive or prying person.”

The new Mason will learn that *Masonry* uses some old words, perhaps archaic words, as part of its ritual. Those words are part of the charm of *Masonry*, but also should be used to help imprint on the memory wise and serious truths. It is an important task of lodge ritual instruction to help the new Mason understand those words not just as isolated definitions, but within their *Masonic* and general historical context. A *cowan* would not have that understanding, so hele it not, So mote it be.

Above *Scottish lexical references* come from *The Dictionary of the Scots Language*, which can be used online at <http://www.dsl.ac.uk/>.

The Little Lodge on Main Street—

By Bro. Michael P.H. Stanley
Springvale Lodge #190

There’s a

Little lodge on main street
Where men meet on the square.
And standing, plumb and level
In Friendship do they share.
For by the truth of guiding lights
Protected by the sword,
We preserve the building site
Laid down in mind and word.

Just above the local bank
Beside the firehouse,
Men of each and every rank
Are soon seen gathered ‘bout,
To step away from profane times
For loftier affairs.
Some sit on the sidelines
While others take their chairs.

The business is directed
By a Master who knows best
And the gavel’s sounds projected
Through the room from East to West.
The ballot is as clear as day.
The committee gives regards.
The candidate will surely say
Each and every charge.

The floorwork and the ritual
Are given special care
To grant a stunning visual
For a philosophy so fair.
So when our Fellow’s vision
Is brought to light from dark
He observes with great precision
A most sublime landmark.

When ancient rites have all been wrought,
The brothers soon depart.
These trav’lers leave with what they sought
Encompassed in the heart.
This little lodge on main street,
Where men meet on the square,
Offers to you this retreat.
Just knock, the door is there!

Join the Brethren of Lincoln Lodge #3 at their MM Train Degree



On June 18th at the WW&F Railroad in Alna, the brethren will be treated to a light cookout overlooking a lovely, expansive field. After socializing, a Master Mason Degree will take place. Dinner and degree is \$20 with tickets available at the station. Train leaves the depot at 2:30. Please bring a chair.

If the weather is uncooperative, the event will take place at the lodge. For more information contact Wor. Jim Munson at 882-7531 or Wor. Jeffrey Averill at 882-6945.

Meridian Lodge a leader in Pittsfield's Annual Community Christmas Project

30 years ago the Pittsfield Food Pantry was launched in the shed of our late brother Earl Dean and the Community Christmas Project eventually grew out of this program.

Under the leadership of RW Sumner Jones the program has grown to fulfill Christmas dreams of thousands of children of financially challenged homes in the Pittsfield, Burnham, and Detroit area. A few years ago PM Michael Lynch assumed the role of managing the lodge's continued participation in this endeavor. It all begins with Mike collecting names and wishes of kids registered at the food pantry. He delivers lists to seven local businesses and organizations and they, along with their employees, generously shop for gifts. Members of Sebasticook Valley Elks Lodge also participate. During the past two years alone more than 300 children have benefitted.

The week before Christmas, Michael and lodge volunteers prepare the lodge dining hall, rent a U-Haul, and travel around the area to collect presents, taking them back to the lodge where they are sorted and tagged by family. To ensure that all children in a family receive the same number of presents, the lodge Charitable Trust provides funds and Mike, with the assistance of Rebecca Johnson, who is incidentally a PWGM of Grand Chapter OES, go on a shopping trip and fill all requests.

Through the following day families come to collect the gifts for their families. For some who can't make it Mike will load up those gifts and, playing Santa Clause, make special deliveries. At times this includes a trip back into the woods down some treacherous roads. He always finishes up with a warm feeling and anecdotes of his delivery adventures. Meridian Lodge is very proud of the efforts of the Masons who make this all possible.



At the stated meeting of Meridian Lodge #125 of Pittsfield on January 26, 2016, Wor. Brother Leroy Starbird of Clinton Maine, at 90 years old, received his 50-year Veterans Medal. It was presented by RW Sumner "Bud" Jones who is himself a 65 year veteran this year. In his acceptance speech Brother Starbird stated that joining our fraternity was one of the best things he ever did and is only sorry that he did not join until he was 40 because he missed so much. He also thanked Brother Bud, asking him if he remembered that, in fact, Bud had signed his application. In this photo, from the left, Wor Bro Starbird stands beside his brother-in-law Bro. Charlie London, Lodge Master Wor Brian Philbrick Sr. and RW Brother Sumner Jones.

The Grand Lecturer's Corner: *The Regius Poem*

by R.W. Don McDougal, Ass't Grand Lecturer

This is the third in a three part series about the Regius Poem or Halliwell Manuscript. It is based on the translation found on the website of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon.

The poem was written around 1400 in response to a 1388 Parliamentary writ requiring writs of returns for each Craft Guild. Medieval Craft Guilds existed in a culture rigidly controlled by a powerful church and a monarchy based on primogeniture controlled by the Nobility. Individuals from lower classes within that culture had very few personal freedoms or rights. Personal control of those was wrested from the central government by force nearly four hundred years later during the American Revolution.

The Poem's significance is said not to have been recognized before 1838. However, parallels between it and our Ritual lead us to wonder if the Authors of our Ritual, writing before 1820, weren't aware of the contents of the Regius Poem of which much has been included in our Ritual.

The Poem contains fifteen articles and fifteen points. "Fifteen articles they there sought, And fifteen points there they wrought". Following are the fifteen points contained in the manuscript. These outline the personal responsibilities, qualifications, skills, merits, ethics, behavior, and character of a Mason.

The first point is a love of God and your fellow man.

That who will know this craft ...He must love well God...And his master...And thy fellows thou love also,

Do your best in all you do.

The second point as I you say, That the mason work upon the work day, As truly as he can or may, To deserve his hire....,

Protect the Lodge.

The third point must be the 'prentice know it well,

*The privities of the chamber tell he no man,
Nor in the lodge ...
Whatsoever thou hearest or seest them do,
Tell it no man ...*

Protect the Fraternity and your Brothers

*The fourth point teacheth us also, (also)
That no man to his craft be false;
Nor no prejudice he shall not do
To his master, nor his fellow also;*

Give timely notice of layoffs.

*The fifth point is without nay, (doubt) ...
Yet must the master by good reason,
Warn him lawfully before noon,
If he will not occupy him no more,*

Put petty disputes away. They hinder the work of the Craft.

*The sixth point is full given to know,
Both to high and even to low, ...
Through envy or deadly hate,
Oft ariseth full great debate.
Then ought the mason if that he may,
Put them both under a day;...
Till that the work-day be clean gone*

Do not come between others and those they love.

*The seventh point he may well mean,
Thou shalt not by thy master's wife lie,
Nor by thy fellows', in no manner wise, ...
Nor by thy fellows' concubine,...*

Be a peacemaker.

*The eighth point, he may be sure, ...
A true mediator thou must needs be
To thy master, and thy fellows free;*

Always cheerfully serve each other.

*The ninth point we shall him call,
That he be steward of our hall,
If that you be in chamber y-fere, (together)
Each one serve other with mild cheer;
Week after week without doubt,...*

Continued on Following Page

The Regius Poem *Continued from Preceding Page*

*Stewards to be so all in turn about,
Amiably to serve each one other,*

Live uprightly and not be an enabler. Our actions affect and reflect on others.

*The tenth point presenteth well good life,
To live without care and strife;
For if the mason live amiss,
And in his work be false ...
May slander his fellows without reason,
If he do the craft such villainy,
Do him no favour ...
Nor maintain not him in wicked life,
Lest it would turn to care and strife;*

Warn others before they make a mistake.

*The eleventh point is of good discretion, ...
A mason, if he this craft well con, (know,
That seeth his fellow hew on a stone,
And is in point to spoil that stone,
Amend it soon if that thou can,*

Attend to Civic Duties. “Assemblies” were held, like we hold public meetings or town halls. There matters of common importance were decided. Craftsmen were to attend and support those gatherings and decisions.

*The twelfth point is of great royalty,
There as the assembly held shall be,
There shall be masters and fellows also,
And other great lords many mo; (more)
There shall be the sheriff of that country,
And also the mayor of that city,
Knights and squires there shall be,
And also aldermen, as you shall see;
Such ordinance as they make there,
They shall maintain it all y-fere (together)*

Neither commit nor support illegal activities.

*The thirteenth point is to us full lief,
He shall swear never to be no thief,
Nor succour him in his false craft,*

We should “be steadfast and true” to all Articles and Points within this Poem.

The fourteenth point is full good law

*To him that would be under awe;
He must be steadfast and also true
To all this ordinance, wheresoever he go,*

We have an obligation to attend the annual assembly of our craft (Annual Communication of Grand Lodge?)

*To all these points here before,
The fifteenth point is of full good lore, ...
They ordained there an assembly to be y-holde,
(hold)
Every year, wheresoever they would,
To amend the defaults, if any were found
Among the craft...;*

The Regius Poem was a return submitted to a ruling body. **It emphasized the religious obligations and manners expected of all Masons.**

*Look thou come not to church late,
For to speak harlotry by the gate;
But always to be in thy prayer;
In that place neither sit nor stand,
But kneel fair down on the ground,
And both your hands fair uphold,*

Emphasizing Masons’ roles in Biblical Events

*The tower of Babylon was begun,
Seven miles the height shadoweth the sun.*

Common courtesies.

*Good manners make a man.
When thou comest before a lord,
Hold off thy cap and hood also,
Fair and amiably hold up thy chin;
Foot and hand thou keep full still,*

When Dining:

*First look that thine hands be clean,
If thou sit by a worthier man,
Suffer him first to touch the meat,
In thy mouth there be no meat,
When thou beginnest to drink or speak.
In chamber, among the ladies bright,
Hold thy tongue and spend thy sight;
Nor thou shalt no man deprave,
Amen! Amen! so mote it be!
So say we all per charity.*

Fourth Night Program Successful at Arundel Lodge



On Tuesday, December 15, Arundel Lodge #76 of Kennebunkport was joined by Grand Master Walker, several members of the Grand Lodge, Fraternal Lodge, York Lodge of Kennebunk and other brethren to hold a successful Fourth Night program for new Master Masons from Arundel and Fraternal Lodges. Fourth Night includes the formal lectures of the Third Degree, but then takes a more casual and relaxed approach in the second half of the program as officers of the lodge share, in their own words, the various practical lessons of being an active member in the Fraternity. Knowledge was communicated, questions were asked, discussions ensued and a laugh or two was shared among the Brethren. In the end, our new Master Masons felt welcomed and informed. A good time was had by all

The following lists the order of Masons, left to right, appearing in the photo on facing page

- * Rep. Thomas H. Skolfield, Past Master of Mystic Lodge #152, District Deputy Grand Master, 15th Masonic District, House District 112
- * Rep. Kevin J. Battle, Hiram Lodge #180, House District 33
- * Rep. Lloyd C. Herrick, Oxford Lodge #18, House District 73
- * Rep. Timothy S. Theriault, Central Lodge #45, Past Master, Past Grand Lodge Steward, 32 Degree, Shriner, Chapter, House District 79
- * Rep. Jeffery K. Pierce, Junior Warden, Dresden Lodge #103, Chapter, Council, KT, House District 53
- * Rep. Kenneth W. Fredette, Parian Lodge #160, House District 100
- * Rep. Stephen J. Wood, Webster Lodge #164, House District 57
- * Rep. Robert W. Alley, Sr., Jonesport Lodge #188, House District 138
- * Rep. Jeffery L. Timberlake, Nezinscot Lodge #101, House District 75
- * Rep. H. Stedman Seavey, Arundel Lodge #76, House District 9
- * Rep. Matthew A. Harrington, Arundel Lodge #76, House District 19
- * Rep. Donald G. Marean, Buxton Lodge #115, Past Master, House District 16
- * Rep. James S. Gillway, Howard Lodge #69, House District 98
- * Sen. Andre E. Cushing, Mystic Lodge #65, Senate District 10

Maine Mason Legislators Meet and Part in Rare Form

by Jason Carey

From the simplicity of a brook trout sipping a bug in a cold spring stream to the complexity of navigating the state of Maine's most important issues, you can find a Maine Mason there enjoying it in his own performance of grand form. Without further ado, it is my distinctive pleasure to present you our most distinguished Maine Masonic Caucus.

This is a tale of man's journey, of man and his intent, of man in today's world - a fast-paced, nonstop, relentlessly demanding world that can and will lay claim to your every second. But man has a choice, rather, a series of choices. He frequently chooses continuity as the usual brand of making passage through yet another day, but that was not what happened today. March 15, 2016 - on this very day, Masons of the House and Senate intended to seek asylum in the Abnaki Club, a long standing private Masonic social club, in downtown Augusta, Maine, which has been host to many of Maine's great men. At the time of this historic return of Maine's leadership to the club we also mark Maine's one hundred and ninety-sixth birthday.

Many of the Brothers here assembled, had not the benefit of prior relationship. In other words, many arrived as "strangers" to one another. But you and I know that we are never really strangers in the company of

Brothers. Each one of these men here today made a conscious decision to be present for this historic photograph. While at work in the same House and Senate, many never knew each other to be Brother Masons. Today, on the House floor, Bro. Jeffery K. Pierce stood and announced there would be an off site luncheon in the Abnaki Club chambers, the rest is history.

Representative Thomas H. Skolfield and Representative Jefferey K. Pierce decided to raise the Brothers and accomplish this historic photograph. Their discussion was held just a fortnight ago. Since that time, they were successful in identifying interested parties, coordinating a time, and executing the plan, and did I mention they didn't know each other very well at all.

"This is what Brothers do." Rep. Jeffrey K. Pierce said while responding to my question about how fourteen of the state's busiest men made time to get this done.

The fourteen men in this photograph represent some 165,000 Mainers and while this snapshot in time may be an inspiration to us all, let it also serve as a testament to our moral and upright character as we Masons benefit from our rigid school of social virtue which offers us simplicity and asylum in a time of complexity and rapid change.

Photo Identification on facing page.



Masonic Veterans Receive 50-Year Veterans Medals



RW Pete Forrest presents a Veterans Medal to Wor. John E. Cooledge, raised in Deering Lodge #185 on June 14, 1956, and served as Master in 1979 to 1980.



Edgar E. Coron, Sr., of Presumpscot Lodge in Windham, received his Veterans Medal from RW Forrest in Clearwater, FL.



Bro. Dana Hardy of Trinity Lodge in Presque Isle received his Veterans Medal at home in Port St. Lucie, FL.



Richard Smith of Aurora Lodge, Rockland, received his Veterans Medal from RW Pete Forrest in Brooksville, FL on Jan. 26.



RW Forrest presented a Veterans Medal to William Whitten in Lake Worth, FL. Brother Whitten is a member of St. Andrews Lodge in Bangor.



Brother David House of Alna - Anchor Lodge in Damariscotta, received his Veterans Medal from RW Ralph Knowles.



Brother Allan Adams of Evening Star Lodge #147 in Buckfield received his Veterans Medal from MW Gerald Leighton.



Brother Andrew Davis of Parian Lodge #160 in Corinna, received his Veterans Medal from MW Gerald Leighton.



Bro. Carlton Moore of Keystone #80 in Solon receives a Veterans Medal from the Grand Master.



Bro. Albert Kaleel of Saco #9 receives his Veterans Medal from the Grand Master.



Bro. Dana Nowell of Hermon #32, Gardiner, receives his Veterans Medal from MW Walker.



Bro. Harold Abbott of Alna-Anchor Lodge #43, received his 50-Year Veterans Medal from RW Ralph Knowles

Masonic Veterans Honored *Continued from Preceding Page*



Wor. Alton Bryant, a member of Ocean Lodge #142 in Wells, and a PGSD of the GLME, presented a 50-Year Veterans Medal to Bro. Peter Briggs in Green Valley, AZ. Brother Briggs is a member of Trinity Lodge in Presque Isle.



R.W. Pete Forrest recently presented a 50-Year Veterans Medal to Brother Leslie Alonzo in Tampa, FL. Bro. Alonzo is a member of Trinity Lodge in Presque Isle.



R.W. Pete Forrest and RM Jack Lagerquist traveled over to Fort Meyers, FL, recently to present Bro. Carl Scribner, a member of St. Croix Lodge, in Calais, ME, with his 50-year Veterans Medal.

Pistis

By Brother Michael Glidden, D.Min

I enjoy etymology, looking up words and the meaning of words. Recently, I was preparing for a sermon when I stumbled upon the Greek word for “faith.” The word is “pistis.” I’ve always understood the word “faith” as meaning to have a trust in something. In fact, one might call it a blind trust. But, as I did a little Greek word study one morning, I found a definition much deeper. Pistis literally means to be compelled by something outside of itself to do something.

I found this to be rather profound. Faith is not just something that I can do or be motivated to do. It requires something greater than me to enable me to do it. I’d say that I had a rather “aha” moment here. I realized that yes, I am never alone. I am being compelled to do great things. This point was illustrated in my mind as I thought about the brotherhood in Freemasonry. As a brother, I know that I am never alone. The brothers are always there to help me ever under the constant watch of God. I am being prodded. I am being led. I always have friends that care about me. I know that the Great Architect has a plan for me and is currently drawing my life’s objectives on the great trestleboard. It’s amazing what can happen when one sits down for a few moments and looks up the definition of a word.



Brother Matt McCue of King Solomon’s Lodge #61 in Waldoboro received his Rookie Award pin at lodge on January 11. It was presented to him by Wor. Brother Alfred McKay, a past master and Rookie Program coordinator for the lodge. Pictured here, left to right: Wor. Brother McKay, Brother McCue, Wor. Brother William Dail, and R.W. Jeffrey Curtis, DDGM/9.

Village Lodge wins “Spirit of America” Award

On December 8, Village Lodge #26 of Bowdoinham was one of the recipients of the 2015 Spirit of America Awards for Sagadahoc County. Recommended for the award by the Town of Richmond, Village Lodge was recognized at a ceremony held at the Sagadahoc County Courthouse for their tireless effort and support for various projects and organizations over the past years.

Mentioned at the ceremony was the support of the CHIPS Program and donations to local area food banks. Other efforts contributing to the recognition for the award are the Richmond Police Department Bicycle Safety Program, donations to the Wreaths Across America, secondary education grants to local area high schools, contributions to the construction of the Umberhind Library in Richmond, money and labor to aide a fire victim and assisting elder citizens with winter chores.

Originating from an idea by former Governor John McKernan in 1987, the establishment of the Spirit of America Awards came to fruition with the first award being presented in 1991. Every year the Spirit of America Foundation Tribute is presented in the name of 100+ Maine Municipalities.

In many instances Municipal Governments choose their town’s recipient and honor them at the annual town meeting. In Sagadahoc County, all of the municipalities gathered together to recognize and present their respective awards at one ceremony. Hosted by the Sagadahoc County Administrator and County Commissioners, the event was emceed by Sheriff Joel Merry. Representing Village Lodge #26 and receiving the award were WM Jeremy Devore, SW Peter Warner, JW Dave Richards, JD Keith Dirago and Marshal Mike Benjamin.

Photo and story by Bro. Steven Edmondson



Village Lodge brethren who received the award for their lodge are, from left to right: Junior Deacon Keith Dirago, Junior Warden Dave Richards, Master Jeremy Devore, Senior Warden Pater Warner, and Marshal Mike Benjamin.

67 Years a Mason

Dwight C. Whitney, Sr., known as “Mr. Mason” by many, was raised in Harwood Lodge #91, Machias, nearly 67 years ago in 1949. He served as Master in 1959, District Deputy of the 3rd Masonic District in 1974 and 1975 under M.W. Brother George Pushard, and continues to serve the Grand Lodge of Maine as Assistant Grand Chaplain.

In York Rite he has served as High Priest of Washington Chapter #16 and was elected Grand High Priest in 1977; served as Most Illustrious Master of St. Croix Council in



1969; and was elected Commander of St. Elmo Commandery in 1966-69. Brother Dwight is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of Bangor, Maine Consistory and is a 33rd degree Mason. He also is a Past Sovereign of Tamerlane Conclave #4, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, and a Past Prior of KYCH, Knights of the Red Cross of Honor. Dwight was a member of the first committee to organize and form a Masonic Learning Center for Children in Bangor and served on the Board for nine years. He has served both DeMolay and Rainbow for many years, receiving both the Legion of Honor and Cross of Honor from DeMolay and the Rainbow Grand Cross of Color. An active member of the Order of Eastern Star since 1952, Dwight served several years as Worthy Patron and in 1981 served the Grand Chapter as Worthy Grand Patron.

At a meeting of Harwood Lodge #91 in Machias, R.W. Patrick Whitney, P.J.G.W., is pictured here presenting his Dad with his 65-year service star.



11th Annual Teddy Bear Scramble Charity Golf Tournament

AUGUST 2016 *(Exact Date to be Announced)*

**to Benefit Scottish Rite Children's Dyslexia
Center of Portland**

Spring Meadows Golf Club

Route 100, Gray, Maine

(Across from Cole Farms Restaurant)

Players can register as individuals or in teams of four. Sponsors are also needed for this event. Details will be distributed when available. For more information, contact Jerry Dewitt at jdewitt@tcmhs.org or 207-576-0376.



Bro. Seth White Awarded Boston Post Cane

Cape Elizabeth, presented the Boston Post Cane to the town's oldest resident, Seth M. White, 32⁰, who at 103, is a member of Hiram Lodge in South Portland, the Scottish Rite bodies and Kora Shrine of Lewiston. The Boston Post Gold Cane has been presented to the town's oldest resident since 1909, and White is the 22nd citizen to receive it.

In his early teens, Brother White acquired a Model T which he used to deliver mail after school. He spent most of his career working for the Maine Publicity Bureau, serving as a field representative and as its executive director. Seth noted that his duties for the bureau had taken him to every town in Maine. After retirement, he continued to serve on the bureau's board of directors, and in 1999 he was awarded the Hall of Fame Award by the Maine Tourism Association.

When asked the secret to being so spry at 103, he replied with a smile, "I'm still trying to figure that out."

This article compliments of the Supreme Council, Scottish Rite.

Delta Lodge Helping Neighbors

December 3rd was a special night at Delta Lodge #153 in Lovell. Brethren, thru their efforts, had the pleasure of presenting checks to two Community Assistance Programs.

For the third year Delta held its Annual Grocery Raffle with a prize of \$250 gift card from Shaw's as the prize. Winner Mike Stephens generously turned his winning ticket back to the Lodge. It was divided into five \$50 gift cards and given to the Town of Lovell to disburse. Friends Helping Friends received a check for \$1626.

The lodge also presented a check for \$120 to Ms Christine Gillespie, the woman in charge of the "Sunshine Back Pack Program" which assists youths in SAD #72 by providing youth friendly food for weekends during the school year. The gift represented the fruits of the lodge's efforts realized by running a spaghetti supper.

These amounts are greatly enhanced with the grants afforded lodges by the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation. Many thanks to the Foundation and to all who assisted us with these successful efforts.

Nollesemic Lodge Funds library effort

Nollesemic Lodge #205 presented a check for \$2,000 to the Friends of the Millinocket Memorial Library as part of the lodge's "Building our Community" project. The effort was assisted by the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation.

Pictured below, left to right: Brothers Michael Rock, Jim Michaud, Mark Bigge, John Farington, Byron Sanderson, DDGM/24, Alice Morgan from the library association, Wor, David Duplisea, Master of Nollesemic Lodge, Ben Farr from the library association, and Brothers John Furlotte, Bill Hamlin, Mark Pelkey, Mike Laporte, Derward Shedd and Don Copeland, DER/25.





**Run to Benefit
Masonic Youth Charities**
Sponsored by York Lodge #22

Saturday May 21, 2016

Rain Date May 22

Reg. Fee \$20.00 per bike (includes t-shirt)

8:00 AM Sign-Up

Optional Breakfast Buffet Available

10:00 AM On The Road

Stop for refreshment

**Return to Bentley's for
Live Music & Dancing**



Sponsoring many
Youth Programs



MAINE MASONS

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The 197th Annual Communication of the
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine
will meet at Kora Shrine Center, 11 Sabattus Street, Lewiston, Maine
May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2016

Information about the session and where the candidates stand on the issues can be found on Pages 5, 8, 9 and 10 of this issue.

Credentials Committee members will be at their stations at 7 a.m. Tuesday, May 3. Every Brother will need to show a valid 2016 dues card to gain admission to the session.