

# THE MAINE MASON

**As Lighthouses  
Guide the Mariner,  
so Freemasonry  
Guides the Man.**

**VOL. 49, NO. 3  
FALL 2023**

# THE MAINE MASON

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

Members of Lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions, and any non-members, are invited to subscribe to the THE MAINE MASON. Cost within the United States is \$5.00 per year. Cost outside the United States is \$8.00 per year. Please call the Grand Lodge Office to subscribe or send check payable to The Grand Lodge of Maine, with complete mailing address AND email address, to the Grand Secretary at P.O. Box 430, Holden, ME 04429-0430.

**Address Changes:** Subscribers are advised to notify the Grand Secretary's office of any change of address.

**All submissions** of photos and articles for inclusion in The Maine Mason should be mailed directly to the Editor at either the email or postal addresses below.

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## Elected Officers of the Grand Lodge of Maine

GRAND MASTER	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
Daniel E. Bartlett	Donald W. Pratt
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website: [www.mainemason.org](http://www.mainemason.org)

Grand Secretary's Office	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Grand Lodge Library/Museum	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Deadline** for the next issue of *The Maine Mason* will be 15 November, 2023. All materials should be sent directly to the editor.

## line-o-type

by George P. Pulkkinen

## A Time to Commit

For many of us, September is the month of meteorological dichotomy. It tends to rack us with a seasonal yin and yang.

The shortening days . . . the increasingly clear air. The brightening colors . . . the beginning of leaf drop. The flurry of activity to finish projects yet undone . . . and the realization that time is not a friend.

So what to do? We move on, confident in the belief that forward motion is as essential to progress as blood flow is to nurturing our bodies.

As we look forward to gathering in our lodges after a short and wet summer, let us commit to fully support those who have been chosen to lead. Let those of us who've been around for a while offer to mentor new brethren. Let us resolve to connect with brethren we've not seen recently. Let us reach out to widows and other family members of departed brethren. Let us fully enjoy the many opportunities we are provided as members of this great fraternity.

The season of installations is just ahead for most lodges. New officers assuming new responsibilities is an exciting time. New ideas, new ways of doing things, while not always readily accepted by us older guys, often refresh activity in our lodges and for our brethren.

For many years I've been privileged to be a part of installation ceremonies throughout our jurisdiction and beyond. It's always a distinct pleasure to witness the pride and enthusiasm as an officer dons his new collar and assumes his chair for the ensuing year.

This celebration of new beginnings is available to all Masons. I hope you will join me in taking full advantage of this and the many other experiences Freemasonry offers.

**Cover Photos by Bro. Tom Pulkkinen**

THE MAINE MASON



# White Gloves and Freemasonry

by Bro. Ed Tooma  
Rising Virtue Lodge #10

What White Gloves mean to Freemasonry. There are pages of information on this topic, but I have excerpted a tiny bit just to give you an idea on the wearing of white gloves. The very first recorded evidence of the wearing of white gloves by Freemasons dates back to January 15, 1599, in the records of Kilwinning Lodge in Scotland.

It's easy to understand the purpose of an apron for stone workers as it served to carry their tools and protect their clothing. Likewise, gloves were a necessary part of their wear to protect their hands and the hands were critical to their work. To the early Masons, the hands were the source of their labor and represented the builder within them. The hands were the seat of feeling and allowed the stone worker to perform the action of creating buildings from stone. Not only to protect the hands were gloves needed, but they were also to preserve the cleanliness of the hands, thus ensuring the perfection of the work. Our hands are the source of our actions and we should guard them accordingly.

The left-hand serves as a constant reminder of equity and justice toward all. Always maintaining true and sincere freedom from bias, we should strive to be fair in all of our actions. The right hand is recognized as the seat of fidelity and, since fidelity means a strict faithfulness to an obligation, trust, or duty, we must pay due attention to the protection of the right. The white glove should always remind us of that sincerity and we should act accordingly. The white glove represent innocence and purity. It also is a means of demonstrating that differences of social strata do not indicate differences of value. A man who works with his hands is equal to a royal in the eyes of a Mason. Whether calloused or smooth, a Mason's labors cannot be determined through a glove.

Gloves are the toughest item to maintain as they get dirty quickly. And regardless of how you wash them, white gloves never tend to be as white as they were when new. The investiture with the gloves for Masons is very closely connected with the investiture with the apron, and the consideration of the symbolism of the one, naturally follows the consideration of the symbolism of the other. The symbolism of the white glove, as is the apron, is purity.

White gloves worn by Masons as a part of the clothing - allude to the symbolizing of clean hands and a pure heart.

In Europe, the ritual presentation of white gloves is still retained. Gloves given to the candidate are intended to teach him that the acts of a Mason should be as pure and spotless as the gloves given to him.

When a candidate in Europe is initiated, the Worshipful Master presents him with two pairs of white gloves, one a gentleman's the other a lady's informing him that one pair is for himself to wear in lodge and the other he is to present to her, whom he considers most worthy to receive them from the hands of a Freemason.

These gloves are of cotton or knit. Years ago, they were Kid Leather. You can imagine how uncomfortable and cumbersome these might have been. Normally, you do not see anyone wearing white gloves in Lodge meetings today. However, on special visitations, from high ranking officials from the Grand Lodge, or representatives thereof, such as the District Deputy Grand Master, you will see white gloves being worn. Even by those introducing the Grand Lodge visitors.

In many lodges, the Worshipful Master and officers wear them as a part of their regalia at meetings and at all other lodge functions. You will also see white gloves worn during the third degree when the Fellowcrafts appear before King Solomon professing their innocence. Another occasion for the white gloves is at Masonic Funeral Services.

A couple if interesting facts about other uses of the white gloves:

In the courtly etiquette days, if the knight offered perfumed white gloves to a lady and she accepted them, this established a relation of dependency between them.

Gloves were a customary New Year gift, sometimes substituted by "glove money." Also, gloves were a traditional present of lovers to their fiancés.

And, if you were ever slapped by one's glove - that meant you were invited for a duel.

Thus, we have a brief history of gloves.



# Grand Master Bartlett Goes to Washington D.C.

There are usually opportunities during the term of a Grand Master to take part in events that do not often occur such as lodge consolidations, lodge anniversaries, cornerstone dedications and the like. And then some events come along only once in a lifetime. Many of you may remember MW Brother Thomas Pulkkinen representing Maine in 2017 at the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England. The pandemic prevented us from a timely celebration of our own 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020 but MW Brother Richard Nadeau was able to lead several celebratory events of our very own once in a lifetime event.

I had the distinct honor of representing Maine Freemasons in June at the Universal Brotherhood Celebration hosted by the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia. This year was one of those once in a lifetime opportunities as our fraternity celebrated the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the publication of James Anderson's

Constitutions of the Freemasons in 1723. Commonly referred to as Anderson's Constitutions, it is inarguably one of the most important documents of our fraternity, not only in England but around the world.



Grand Master Bartlett with Maine Wreath

Attending this celebration representing the United Grand Lodge of England was the Pro Grand Master, Brother Jonathan Spence. He represents the Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent when Royal duties prevent his participation in Masonic duties. It has been more than 20 years since the leader of the United Grand Lodge of England was in this country. Also attending were the Grand Masters of the Grande Lodge Nationale Francais, the Grand Lodge of Denmark, and the Grand Lodge of Austria. There were 16 Grand Masters from the United States including those from each of the 13 original colonies.

We were welcomed to our nation's Capital with dinner and entertainment on Thursday evening at the University Club hosted by MW Brother Annas F. Kamara, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. Friday

morning, we traveled to the U.S. Capitol where we enjoyed a breakfast and were welcomed by several Congressmen including Brother James Clyburn of South Carolina and the European Grand Masters spoke as well.

We then traveled just a few miles to The House of the Temple, headquarters of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction where the Grand Masters all signed multi-print prints of a Proclamation signed by HRH The Duke of Kent entitled The Constitutions of the Free-Masons



Grand Masters from the six New England states.

*Continued on Following Page*



## From the Grand East

Tercentenary. After the signing was completed a bronze plaque was unveiled in the George Washington Memorial Banquet Hall. Maine's signed proclamation will be framed and displayed at the Grand Lodge office in Holden.

Friday evening, we traveled to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, VA where a Universal Lodge was opened by brethren of the Washington, DC lodges. Each lodge officer during the opening and closing spoke in a different language, highlighting the worldwide universality of our fraternity. It was a remarkably interesting lodge meeting, and it was obvious that a great deal of preparation went into the work of the evening. After the lodge was closed we adjourned to the Grand Masonic Hall for a Festive Board. A toast was offered for every Grand Lodge present with a response by the respective Grand Master. It was a wonderful evening of celebration and fellowship with Freemasons from around the world.

Saturday morning, we were off to Mount Vernon. After a presentation of a proclamation to the Mount Vernon Museum, we formed a procession and proceeded to Bro. Washington's tomb where masonic wreaths representing each Grand Lodge were placed. After completing our work at the tomb, tours of Bro. Washington's home were available. We returned to the hotel in the afternoon and that evening a Celebration Banquet was held at the JW Marriot Hotel in Washington D.C.

I returned to Maine on Sunday and reflecting on the weekend during the flight to Bangor I was struck by several thoughts. While it is easy to say we are a world-wide fraternity, it has much more meaning when one is actually in the company of Freemasons from around the world. The brethren I met and dined with during the course of the weekend were friendly, engaging and interested in learning about our little corner of the world, (Yes, I did get asked if it was easy to get lobster!?!). I also pondered on the importance of the Constitutions of 1723 and how much of an impact that document has had, not only in our fraternity but in the organization of our country.

Those early Freemasons were speaking of principles such as constitutional government, religious tolerance and promoting education and science. Principles we take for granted and don't often consider that 300 years ago monarchies ruled the countries, decades long wars were fought because of religious intolerance and comparatively very few people received an education. I also thought about just how fortunate I am to be representing all of you. I was humbled beyond measure and filled with pride to step forward when the "Grand Lodge of Maine" was called out for these celebrations. Moving forward, I encourage you to learn more about our history and pass on to our newer members an appreciation for just how important our fraternity is and how we need to continue our work as good and civil men.



Attendees at the Universal Brotherhood Celebration.

## Observations from our Grand Secretary

It has been a busy summer at the Grand Lodge office, attending to the usual summer tasks. The proceedings will again be distributed to those who requested it in writing and will as always be available electronically in the files section of Grand Lodge's OLP page. The constitution was updated and the insert sheets for the changes will be mailed to all Lodge secretaries. The List of Lodges will need to be updated in your lodge this year as the last distribution was three years ago and our code requires one current in three years or in electronic format. We will have those copies sent in mid to late August for those who ordered them and an electronic version distributed for free. If you forgot to order one, head over to the amity website and do so if needed. Insurance bills have been sent to the Master, Secretary and Treasurer of each Lodge. Please try to pay or make arrangements to pay by mid October.

And lastly new plastic dues cards have been ordered and will be sent to each Lodge Secretary in August so that you have them for your fall dues billing. The new cards will only be sent for primary memberships (the Lodge you pay per capita to). As there are many topics to deal with here for every Lodge, please don't hesitate to give us a call at the office or send an email if you have any questions or need clarification.

I have given Grand Master Bartlett my resignation with a month's notice. August 7, 2023 was my last day as your Grand Secretary. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the Craft for the past 3+ years and will always be grateful for the relationships that I have formed with all of you. I love this Fraternity and still plan to be an active member, but felt a change in my life was needed. Thank you for your support and kind words during my time here, they were very much appreciated.

I would also like to thank my staff April Cruz and Jerrett Davis for their continued hard work and dedication. Without them, I couldn't have been successful in running your Grand Lodge Office. I hope you have gotten a sense of our dedication to service of the Craft during my time. A tradition I have tried to continue from those who served before me. We can only be successful if our lodges are successful and for that reason I will leave you with a quote from Past Grand Master and Past Grand Secretary MW Peter C. Schmidt, "This is your office. Use it"

I look forward to seeing you at Lodge!

Respectfully and Fraternally,

Scott Walton

### Calais Masons Supporting Scouts

St. Croix Lodge #44, Calais, presented a \$1500 check to the Friends of Scouts 132 on April 3, the most recent donation lodge brethren have made to the group. This donation will help pay

heating bills in the new Scout hall. Previously the lodge helped with construction and with laying the cornerstone of the hall. They also invite Scouts to sell concessions at the Festival of Trees. Attending the presentation were Master, Jamey Gower; SW, Ross Langille; JW, Rick Seeley; Scout Master, Jason Croman; Friends of Scouts 132 President Ray Smale and Scouts Noah Gillespie, Reid Ramsdell and Connor Croman.







# Maine Scottish Rite Grand Master's Class

**October 21, 2023  
Portland Masonic Hall**



The six Scottish Rite Valleys of Maine are pleased to announce a statewide biennial Grand Master's Class. We will welcome many Master Masons to Scottish Rite Freemasonry and express appreciation for the contributions and accomplishments of the Grand Master of Maine Freemasonry, Most Worshipful Daniel E. Bartlett. Perhaps you served as a member of his team, serving as a Grand Lodge officer or committee member, or you were a Lodge officer who benefitted from his strong leadership. NOW is the time to recognize and thank this hard working Mason.

This is also an exciting opportunity to become a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and an active member of the Valley near you, while deepening your knowledge of Freemasonry and its guiding principles for living our lives as just and upright men. Become a member of the Scottish Rite, and live according to its inspiring core values and vision: "We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members."

## The Degrees to be Presented

**4th – Builder** – A Master Mason seeks divine guidance.

**Philosophy:** Brothers grow together in the Scottish Rite. **Core Values:** Reverence for God, Integrity, and Service – (Conferred by the Delta Club from Downeast Maine, Valley of Bangor)

**15th – Knight of the East** – By emulating Zerubbabel who, even when tempted, would not violate his obligations, we learn to persevere in the face of difficulty and discouragement, maintaining fidelity to our obligations and purpose.

**Philosophy:** Loyalty to conviction, fidelity to duty, and devotion to truth are the essences of integrity. **Core Value:** Integrity – (Conferred by the Valley of Augusta)

**16th – Prince of Jerusalem** – The court of King Darius contemplates what motivates man. **Philosophy:** We learn that devotion to truth surpasses secular motivations. **Core Value:** Reverence for God – (Conferred by the Valley of the Androscoggin)

**29th – Knight of Saint Andrew** – An incident in the long wars between Islam and Christianity in Europe is resolved by Masonic teachings and tolerance. This degree teaches the virtues of love of God, loyalty, faithfulness, and resistance to unfair judgment. **Philosophy:** No one religion has a monopoly on truth. **Core Value:** Tolerance

**32nd – Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret** – The degree dramatically teaches us to choose between personal advancement and service to humanity. **Philosophy:** The degree represents the victory of the spiritual over the human in man. **Core Values:** Devotion to Country and Service – (Conferred by the Valleys of Bangor, Portland and The Androscoggin)

All candidates and Scottish Rite Masons are invited for lunch and the social and dinner following the degrees. Reservations are required and must be made through the Secretary of your respective Valleys (see below).

**If you plan to attend as a Candidate or a Current Scottish Rite Mason, please make your lunch and dinner reservations by Friday, October 13th.**

Nearly 50 Maine Master Masons joined during the first biennial Grand Master's Class in 2021. With your support, we could welcome 100 new Scottish Rite Masons in the 2023 Grand Master's Class! Invite your Brethren to join.

## Candidate Registration Process

Master Masons are encouraged to conveniently register for this statewide Scottish Rite Reunion and pay degree fees on-line at <https://scottishritenmj.org/join>. Paper applications are available from Valley Secretaries and via Valley and Grand Lodge Facebook pages. **All on-line and paper candidate registrations with registration fees must be received by Friday, October 13th.**

All Scottish Rite Masons are urged to participate in this special Scottish Rite Reunion. Let's strive to fill the hall. All candidates and members should wear a coat and tie, and members are reminded to bring your Scottish Rite passport!

Day of event registration sign-in will be from 8:45-9:30 am at the Portland Masonic Hall located at 415 Congress St. The Elm Street garage opens at 8 am. The degrees will begin promptly at 10 am and are expected to conclude by 5 pm, followed by a social period and dinner.

This will be a day of exceptional brotherhood and personal enlightenment in the philosophy and values taught in Scottish Rite Masonry. Please visit <https://scottishritenmj.org/> to learn more about The Rite, or talk with a Scottish Rite Mason in your lodge or your local Valley.

## Valley Secretary Contact Information

**Androscoggin (Auburn)** – Richard Bergeron, 207-240-5752, [RickBergeron@gmail.com](mailto:RickBergeron@gmail.com)

**Aroostook (Presque Isle)** – Lee Oliver, 207-538-7119, [trestleboard96@yahoo.com](mailto:trestleboard96@yahoo.com)

**Augusta** – Bruce Rueger, 207-314-1617, [AugustaValleySecretary@gmail.com](mailto:AugustaValleySecretary@gmail.com)

**Bangor** – Christopher Robison, 207-942-0144, [Secretary@BangorValley.org](mailto:Secretary@BangorValley.org)

**Portland** – Michael Chambers, 207-772-7711, [Secretary@ValleyofPortland.org](mailto:Secretary@ValleyofPortland.org)

**Rockland** – Jeffrey Sukeforth, 207-691-2270, [JandC79@myfairpoint.net](mailto:JandC79@myfairpoint.net)



The Kora Kraftsmen have been busy recently working in eight lodges, the Shrine Ceremonial and Kora installation. It has been a productive time. The 33 club members get to do what they enjoy; spreading the word and good work as Shrine Masons. This photo was taken at Nezinscot Lodge in Turner when two grandsons of R.W. Barry Gates, Dylan McGarr and Austin Gates, were raised as Master Masons.

## ***A Tradition Continued . . .***

### **District Ten Masons Enjoy a Train Ride to a Master Mason Degree**

June 10, 2023 the 10th Masonic District Boosters Association held its 10th annual Railroad Degree at Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington Railroad in Alna, Maine. The event started with a train ride to the pavilion where the degree was being held. Waiting for the riders was a big BBQ prior to the degree work. RW Mike Alley and his Bay View Lodge brethren from East Boothbay who did the cooking of burgers and dogs with all the fixings.



**All Aboard!**

The 3rd degree was performed on Brother Scott St. Amond, of Lincoln Lodge #3, Wiscasset, who did his lesson in open lodge. A great job. Congratulations to Brother Scott to being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Thank you to all the brothers of District 10 who participated in the work of the day and the great job of Worshipful Jeff Norwood of Seaside Lodge who presided in the East for the day's work. And thank you to all the brothers from around the state and out of state for attending this year's event. There were more than 50 brothers from 13 lodges and 1 member from as far away as Reno, Nevada. A BIG thank you to the Wiscasset, Waterville, & Farmington Narrow Gauge Railroad for supporting this yearly event.

Thank you to all and put this event on your calendar for the date to be determined in June of 2024.







# Maine Masonic Charitable FOUNDATION

Newsletter - July 2023

## FOUNDATION FACTS

**ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024** **\$ 1.44 MILLION**  
(APRIL 1ST, 2023 TO MARCH 31ST, 2024)

**TOTAL AMOUNT PLANNED TO BE GIVEN AWAY** **\$ 1.10 MILLION**

MATCHING GRANTS	\$600,000
BROTHERHOOD & RELIEF GRANTS	\$166,000
STATEWIDE NONPROFIT AND MASONIC PROGRAMS GRANTS	\$335,000 (SEE NOTE 1)

**FOUNDATION INVESTMENTS**  
**MARKET VALUE (AS OF JULY 4TH 2023)**  
**\$ 25.3 MILLION**

**FOUNDATION INVESTMENTS 5 YEAR**  
**TRAILING AVERAGE MARKET VALUE**  
**(DEC 31ST 2018 TO 2022) \$ 23.9 MILLION**

RECOMMENDED SPENDING ALLOCATION FOR NONPROFIT FOUNDATIONS IS A  
RANGE OF 3% TO 5% OR ROUGHLY \$716,000 TO \$1,200,000

**DONATIONS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE OUR FISCAL YEAR 2024**  
**BUDGET FROM LODGES, MASONS AND THE PUBLIC** **\$ 262,000**

**NOTE 1: THE FOUNDATION PROVIDES DIRECT FUNDING TO:**  
CHILDREN'S DYSLEXIA CENTERS (PORTLAND & BANGOR)  
MSA VETERANS VISITATION PROGRAM IN MAINE  
MAINE RAINBOW GIRLS  
NAMI MAINE  
DEMOLAY MAINE  
MAINE MASONIC COLLEGE  
AND THE STATEWIDE EXPANSION OF THE  
UNIFIED CHAMPION CLUBS THROUGH ITS PARTNERSHIP  
WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS MAINE

**AVERAGE BROTHERHOOD**  
**GRANT IN FISCAL YEAR**  
**2023 WAS \$898**

**AVERAGE RELIEF GRANT**  
**IN FISCAL YEAR 2023**  
**WAS \$5,019**

**IF EVERY LODGE USED ALL**  
**\$5,000 OF AVAILABLE**  
**MATCHING FUNDS THE**  
**FOUNDATION WOULD**  
**NEED TO BUDGET FOR**  
**\$880,000 ANNUALLY**

**AVERAGE MATCHING GRANT IN**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2023 WAS \$1,206**

**156 LODGES APPLIED FOR AT LEAST ONE**  
**MATCHING GRANT IN FISCAL YEAR 2023**





Maine Masonic Charitable  
FOUNDATION

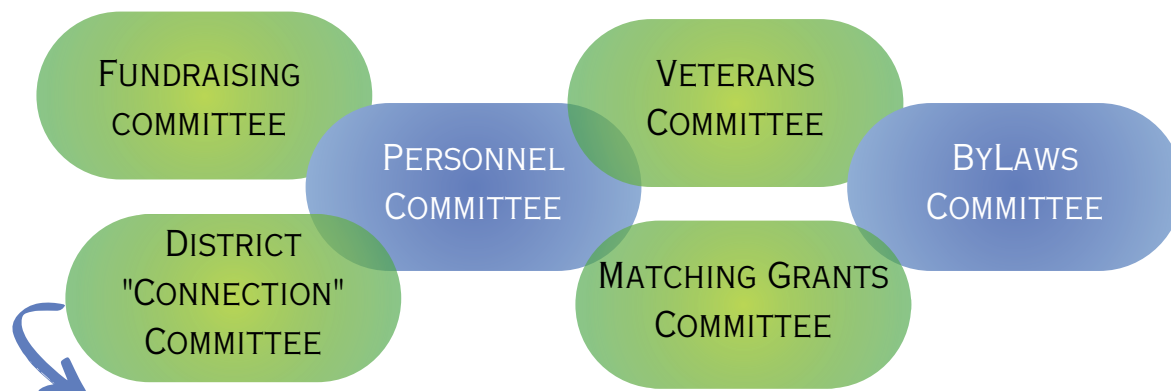


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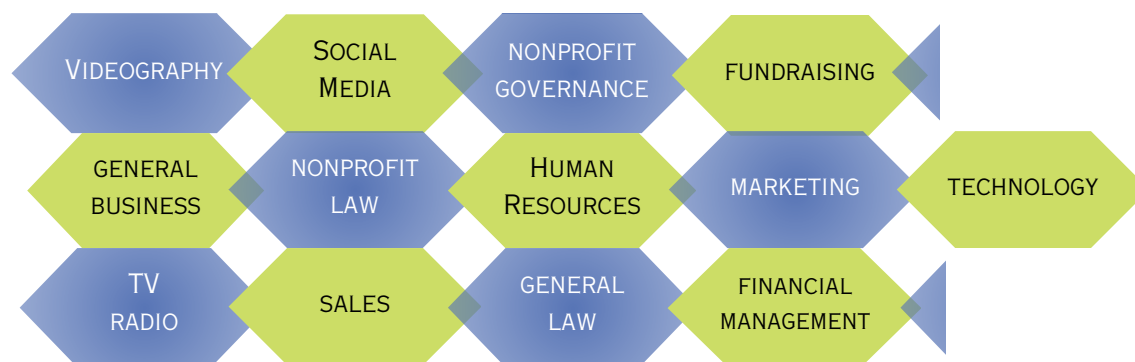
# FOUNDATION TALENT SEARCH

YOUR FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP...  
BUT ONLY IF YOU HAVE TIME TO OFFER YOUR TALENTS



The District "Connection"/Information Committee (*needs a better name obviously*) was organized to have at least one representative from each District attend quarterly meetings to learn more about Foundation activities and what other Districts are doing in their communities.

EXPERIENCE WITH ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SKILLS WOULD HELP...



## GOT TIME?

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH THE FOUNDATION, THEN SERVING ON A COMMITTEE IS A GREAT WAY TO START. MOST COMMITTEES MEET FOUR (4) TIMES A YEAR AND DEPENDING ON MEMBERS' SCHEDULES, THE MEETINGS CAN BE DURING THE WORK DAY OR AFTER HOURS.

TO ENCOURAGE STATEWIDE PARTICIPATION MOST MEETINGS CAN BE ATTENDED VIRTUALLY.

INTERESTED OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? CALL OR EMAIL THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
(603) 677-2436 DIRECTOR@MAINEMCF.ORG

## ***Augusta Freemasons a Force in Capital City***

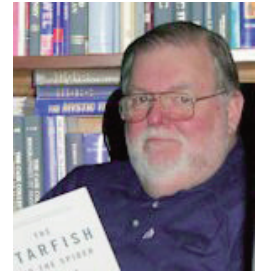
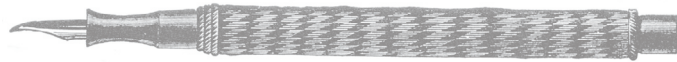
Bethlehem Lodge #35 AF&AM of Augusta provides assistance to numerous organizations to support great work being done in the community. Recently, Wor. Lewie Manter, Wor. Bud Pringle and R.W. Bob Stretton visited the Chelsea Food Bank, Angel Food Network (with R.W. Rev. Nate Richards), Bread of Life Food Kitchen, Girl Scout Troop 1168, Cony High School, Augusta Emergency Overnight Center (with R.W. Rev. Richards), Salvation Army, and Lithgow Library Children's Collection. Additional donations were presented to DeMolay, Rainbow, Boy Scout Troop 631, and VFW Post 3335. Many thanks to the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation, whose matching grants make these outreach efforts go much further!



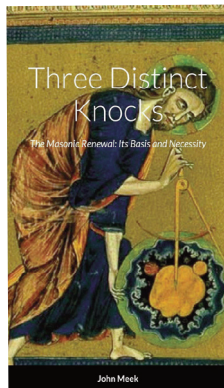


Reading can enrich and enlighten your life far more than you might otherwise imagine. Put down the TV clicker and read (or listen) to a good book. **You won't regret it!**

## The Old Webmaster's BOOKSHELF

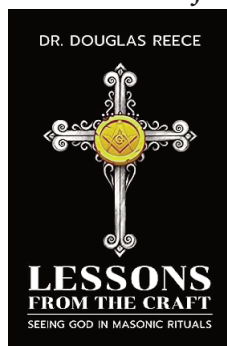


You may have heard a lot (or nothing) about ChatGPT but it truly has the potential to change our lives in SO many ways. I've already seen three books published 'artificially' by this technology along with a couple of Masonic poems. It's scary and is very hard to spot whether the product you have is based on a machine spitting back what a computer thinks are the facts or if it's research done by a real person. The years ahead will be daunting for all!

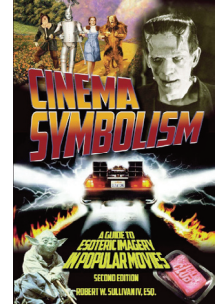


Bro. John Meek has written a short but very insightful work: "*Three Distinct Knocks*". Not to be confused with a book of the same title written a century ago, this work is subtitled "*The Masonic Renewal: Its Basis and Necessity*" and it's not quite what you might expect. This is a second edition and clearly shows the growth and development of his understanding of Masonry. It's a short read but a thoughtful lesson for us all. Help one another and we'll survive as the great organization that we were, are and can continue to truly be!

Bro. Douglas Reece's, "*Lessons From The Craft: Seeing God in Masonic Rituals*" gently but with many supporting facts that show how the de-Christianization (some would say the removal of faith beliefs) in our fraternity has made Freemasonry less than what it was originally. He uses many ritual examples and debunks justifications we see and may even ourselves use. Many today will argue, almost to the extreme, that we should encourage broad thinking, not bound by any political or religious ideology yet this book shows, by specific examples and some homilies as well, how we came to be and why a return to at least a nod to our religious origins could help many potential members find what they seek. An open mind to this well-reasoned work will benefit us all.



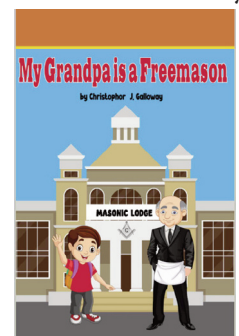
Unlike many, I've watched very few movies in my life but just listening during collations, it's clear that some of you do. If so, you may find this series of (now) three books by Masonic author Robert W. Sullivan, IV, to help you through both a hot summer and long winter. Starting with "*Cinema Symbolism: A Guide to Esoteric Imagery in Popular Movies*" there are now three volumes exploring the many facets of symbolism in the theatre. Want to enjoy your movie subscription more? You'll want to get them all.



Bro. Christopher Earnshaw not long ago published an acclaimed set of four books he referred to as "*The Spiritual Freemasonry Series*". His fifth book is now available: "*Freemasonry: Thirty-Three Lectures*" is an interesting collection of the lectures he's presented to his brethren in Japan and although one might quibble about a few of his conclusions (the 1717 date of our formation, for example, is now under scrutiny), these lectures are, on the whole, well worth your time and study. They cover a very broad range of topics and represent questions put to him through his research lodge membership. This is a work that - like the four preceding volumes - will enrich your Masonic knowledge and will give you much to consider and discuss with your Brethren.

Finally "*My Grandpa is a Freemason*" by Bro. Christophor Galloway is just the book that so many of you want and need! Written for a child in the 8-12 range, it gives a LOT of information in a simple and relatable way for a young man. And, best of all, it will get your grandson ready for Freemasonry by encouraging him to join DeMolay when he's 12. Definitely worthwhile.

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**Don't let your mind atrophy: READ!**

I would love your suggestions and recommendations for things to read and review! Drop me a line at [masonicreading@gmail.com](mailto:masonicreading@gmail.com) Though my checking account isn't always happy, my soul certainly is! Help a Brother learn and share.

## S. HOADLEY GRANDFATHER CLOCK

# A Travelling Clock for Travelling Men

by Brother Robert H. Perry  
Evening Star Lodge #147, Buckfield  
*PDDGM/20, Past Grand Lecturer*

To the best of my knowledge, the owners of this clock have all been members of the Masonic Order. I now refer to it as **The Travelling Grandfathers Clock**, the reason becomes clear in the following text.

Silas Hoadley age 20 and Seth Thomas age 34 were employed by a Mr. Terry who owned a clock manufacturing business in Greystone CT. In 1809-10 Terry sold the factory to Hoadley and Thomas. Together they continued making 30-hour wood movement Grandfather Clocks till 1813 when Thomas sold his share in the business to Hoadley who continued at Greystone, later renamed Hoadleyville, CT, until his retirement in 1849.

This much-travelled clock was bought new by Andrew Keene of Lawrence, MA on Feb 23, 1837.

On Nov. 7, 1891 Horace A. Irish of Hartford, ME (my great, great, great grandfather) bought this clock from Mr. Keene, and brought the clock with him when the family moved to High Street, Buckfield, ME. Some time later it was sent to Ida Shaw in Fort Lauderdale, FL for repairs. It was returned to Buckfield, to Elizabeth (Irish) Perry (my mother) and husband Albert (my dad) as he was a Mason. I purchased the family home in Buckfield after serving in the Army and the clock remained with the house.

At this point the clock was not working. My wife's uncle, Earl Kimball, had taken up clock making and repair in his retirement. The clock works were sent to him in Brookline, MA. Unfortunately he passed away before repairs were completed. Again it was returned to Buckfield and then sent to Vista, CA to my sister Elaine and friend who is a master clock smith for repairs. Back in good running order, the clock was returned to my home in Buckfield where it remained until our retirement home was built in 2003 in Sumner, ME where the clock still keeps nearly perfect time. This old Grandfather Clock will be passed on to my son, Bro. Stephen R, Perry, when the time is right. As you can see, this clock has traveled quite extensively, at least nine times, thus earning its nickname, The Traveling Grandfathers Clock.

Information pertaining to Silas Hoadley and the history of his clock making was provided by my wife's uncle, Earl Kimball, in the late 1960s/early 70s while preparing to make repairs prior to his passing. Owner information is taken from messages written on the inside of the door accessing the winding mechanism. This information is very hard to read due to age and being written in pencil. Other history of the clock has been passed down from older family members and my own endeavors to keep this wonderful piece of history in working order.





# MY DAD'S GRANDFATHERS CLOCK (AKA) THE TRAVELING CLOCK

by Bro, Robert Perry

The Grandfathers clock that stood in the hall  
It held many mysteries when I was small

Its face all painted with pictures and things  
Some of which I had seen on my Dad's Masons  
ring

I asked my father, these symbols, what they mean  
Their purpose, their meaning, I wanted to glean

His answer quite simple, "be patient my son,  
For they might be known when you reach twenty  
one"

His answer seemed strange, I knew not why  
I would just have to wait as the years passed by

The years have passed; much has changed, since I  
was a Lad  
Now I'm older, wiser, a Veteran, a Husband, a  
Dad

My Father I queried of their meaning once more  
A petition received, the ballot was clear that  
opened the door

These pictures and symbols, I now hold dear  
As a Mason, their purpose, their meaning now  
clear

That same old clock in the same old house  
Still keeps time, for me and my spouse

This clock was Grandfather's, then Dad's, now  
mine  
My Son, now my Brother, is the next in line

As he shows this clock to his Son one day, he may  
add  
This grandfathers clock belonged to my Dad



"S. HOADLEY PLYMOUTH" Is printed around the perimeter of the calendar dial. In the four corners surrounding the clock face are raised red and gold banner type designs, with gold dots circle the face. A second hand dial is located just below the numeral 12; a calendar dial is located just above the numeral 6. Painted above the dial face of this clock are many Masonic symbols as follows. All SEEING EYE, SUN, MOON, STARS, COMET, JACOBS LADDER, MOSAIC PAVEMENT, BLAZING STAR, THREE STEPS, THREE BURNING TAPERS, GAVEL, TWENTY FOUR INCH GAUGE, SQUARE, COMPASSES, POT OF INCENSE, SWORD AND HEART, TWO BRAZEN PILLARS SUPPORTING A GOLD ARCH, CHARTER, SECRETARYS KEYS, AND SPRIG OF ACACIA. The movement in this clock is all made of fruit wood, commonly known as a wooden works clock.

CLOCK MANUFACTURER  
SILAS HOADLEY (1786-1870)  
Plymouth, CT.

# ***The Origins of Our Ritual . . . and the Cultural History it contains***

***By RW Bro. Don McDougal***

As we enter our Masonic Rituals, we enter the world of symbolism. To explore the foundations of our Masonry, we must be aware of the cultural, philosophical, legal, and religious world our forerunners inhabited. Those factors and the accepted (at that time) physical laws of the universe give us an indication of what they were intending within the Degrees.

Symbolism can be used to create a particular mood or express complex ideas and emotions beyond the literal activity. "Symbolic Speech" would include hand gestures, marching, being blindfolded, clothing worn, body positions, and other nonverbal activities.

Our predecessors entered this world of symbolism for very pragmatic reasons. Only a few elites could read or write and, if you could read, books were extremely limited until Gutenberg invented the printing press in 1400's. In that medieval world, most knowledge had to be transmitted orally and stored in memory. Symbolism was used as an aid to that memorization process. It seems to trigger our brains to delve deeply into those recesses of stored thoughts and memories like a library catalogue allows us to access particular information stored in books on the shelves.

Vision was not understood as we now know it. It was believed to function like sonar does. Rays were sent out from the eye and bounced back by what was being seen. This belief was reenforced by being able to see cats and other animal's eyes "shine" under low light conditions at night. It was further reenforced against the thought that light bounced off an object back into the eye because it would be impossible to get that entire reflection from an ox into that little hole in our eye. By the year 1000, Persian scientist Alhazen had contributed a modern explanation of how vision works. It was 600 years later, in the 1600's, that the first Europeans began to echo that same explanation. One of our first lectures we hear in the degrees, tells us that knowledge began in the East and was transmitted to the West.

Dating back 5000 years is the thought that those rays emitted by the eyes contained both positive and negative energy. It's reported that up to fifty percent of people today still believe in "The Evil Eye". If there is any jealousy or envy in a gaze, a silent curse or "Evil Eye" can be sent out.

This evil eye can impose bad luck or misfortune for the person focused on. To protect the Members of a Lodge, a candidate would remain hoodwinked until he had taken an oath and obligation on his Holy Scriptures. Members were protected at that point. If he violated any tiny shred of his obligation, he sacrificed his entire hereafter because only those who were buried in Hallowed Ground could be admitted into Heaven. Hallowed Ground had to be consecrated by the church and that had to be an area which would never be flooded. Criminals and other non-desirables often were buried in non-sanctified Ground to ensure that they would never "Rest in Peace."

In our ritual, we encounter many words which in current usage convey a different connotation than in that era of the operative Masons. Eavesdropper, cowan, and Tyler would be among that group. In using these terms, we delve into the thoughts, concerns, and status of a private workman as he pursued his life's occupation a thousand years ago.

We call the Lodge Member who protects the outer door of our Lodge Rooms during meetings our "Tyler". His duty is to block entry by anyone who is not a Mason in good standing. Tyler is an older spelling of tiler, one who works with tiles including ceramic, clay, or slate tiles. Tylers became of great importance after more than a century of disastrous thatched roof fires throughout Europe. In 1212, an ordinance was passed in London banning the use of any flammable thatching materials like straw or reeds as roof coverings. Tylers became viewed as protectors because they protected people from thatch fires destroying large sections of cities. Tilers did have Operative Guilds but more often were associated with Tilers & Bricklayers Guilds.

In The Masonic Trowel is an article about the use of the term "Cowan". The article examines and discusses the Schaw statutes of 1598. They were written in 1598-99 by William Schaw.

*'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.'*

"(15) No master or fellow of craft shall accept any cowan to work in his society or company, nor send any of his

***Continued on Following Page***

THE MAINE MASON



## Eureka Lodge Celebrates Gen. Henry Knox Birthday

On July 22 in Thomaston, Eureka Lodge #84 of St. George, placed a wreath to honor the memory of our fellow brother Mason Major General Henry Knox on the occasion of his 273<sup>rd</sup> birthday. General Knox, a Revolutionary War patriot hero and Founding Father who served as the first Secretary of War under President George Washington, was born in Boston on July 25, 1750. He was called to the Celestial Lodge on October 25, 1806 and is interred in Thomaston, ME. The celebration



of General Knox's birthday is an annual event coordinated by the Thomaston Historical Society and the Major General Henry Knox Museum. The event includes participants from several Masonic bodies, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Sons of the Cincinnati and several other organizations. Eureka Lodge hosts an annual lobster dinner for the Major General Henry Knox Lodge of Boston, one of the Masonic bodies that always participate prominently in the celebration. Pictured here, L to R: Bob Munchbach, Tyler; Dennis Leight, Master; David Emery, Senior Warden; Tony Garratt-Reed, Treasurer.

servants to work with cowans, under the penalty of twenty pounds as often as any person offends in this matter.”

Oxford English Dictionary “*cowan* (‘kəʊən) Also *kowan*, [Derivation unknown.] One who builds dry stone walls (i.e. without mortar); a dry-stone-diker; applied derogatorily to one who does the work of a mason, but has not been regularly apprenticed to the trade.” In Scotland, a dike is a dry-stone wall separating properties.

Before governments licensed members of the Trade Unions as they do now, Guilds were the only way workmen could protect themselves and their livelihoods from unskilled workers. Those dry stone workers, Cowans, would claim to be competent Masons for cut rate wages. Therefore, rules were developed against hiring any person who had not served his full apprenticeship and developed the expected skills of the trade.

Eavesdropper is another word which has a different connotation in current usage from its original use in Anglo-Saxon laws. Those laws prohibited building so close to a neighbor's property that water running off a thatched roof, the “yfesdrpe”, would fall on his land. “Eavesdropper” became the term for a person who would stand under the eaves of someone else's house to listen to conversations and activities from within the house.

In Medieval England common crimes for arrest were Eavesdropping, Scolding, and Nightwalking. A Scold was a troublesome angry woman who by brawling and wrangling “breaks the public peace”. The information gotten through eavesdropping was often made public through scolding. A Nightwalker was someone (usually male) who prowled around after dark. Eavesdropping, since those times, has become the act of listening to private conversations. An eavesdropper has been sort of dismissed as a snoop, a spy, a meddler, an intruder, or just plain nosey. It had become just a rude person and activity.

However, in more recent times; with computers, the worldwide web, and social media; eavesdropping has become a critical concern for society. The growth of electronic snooping, online fraud, libel, slander, cyber-crime, phishing, and other AI attacks is reported to be up by 600% since 2020. A report from 2021 reported a global economic cost of 6 trillion dollars (\$6,000,000,000,000) caused by cyber-crime at that time.

So, the opening lines of our Ritual again remind us, we still have important obligations ahead of us. Humans, with our basic nature, will always need some protective person(s) working ‘round the clock’ to protect us from each other.

# A RECAP

## of the 204th Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge

Masons representing lodges from every corner of Maine gathered with Grand Lodge Officers and Permanent Members for the 204th Annual Communication on May 1 and 2 to elect officers for the ensuing year, adopt a budget and make choices about pending legislation. The adopted budget resulted in a 10% increase in the per capita making the amount \$22.25.

Officers re-elected were Brother Dan Barlett as M.Wor. Grand Master, Brother Donald Pratt as R.W. Deputy Grand Master. Bro. Scott Whytock as R.W. Grand Treasurer and Bro. Scott Walton as R.W. Grand Secretary. Brothers Whytock and Walton resigned from their positions during the summer to pursue other interests.

Bro. Jeffrey A. Simonton was elected R.W. Senior Grand Warden and Bro. Paul (Mike) Blank was elected R.W. Junior Grand Warden.

Elected to the Finance Committee were. Bro. Roland Francis, RW Ronald Murphy and RW Michael Tremblay, and serving on the Maine

Masonic Charitable Foundation will be RW Kevin Campbell, RW Audie Gould, RW Frank Theriault, Jr, and Wor. Parkin A. Hamilton.

Among the legislation enacted was an amendment to Section 78.2 of the Constitution which will allow regular business to be conducted in a lodge when a quorum of five Master Masons who are members of the lodge are in attendance.

Also adopted was a proposal to amend Sec. 92.1 of the constitution to allow the required List of Lodges to be present either electronically or printed with a printed copy to be current within three years.

Also adopted was a proposal to create a new section of the Constitution to allow the Lewis Jewel to be awarded and worn in Maine Lodges. The jewel represents generations of Masons and denotes whether the individual has either a son or grandson as a member of the Craft or if the individual has a father or grandfather as a member of the Craft. Cost of the jewel is the responsibility of the brother purchasing it.

**Grand Lodge Photos  
on Pages 22 and 23**

Traditionally, Springvale Lodge #190 celebrates its June Stated as a "dress down" meeting. WM Tim Beals chose to make it a Hawaiian theme this year. Brethren were encouraged, if they had a great print shirt, to wear it. During the meeting, awards were presented to brethren reflecting years of service to the craft. Pictured are WM Ellis Beals, right, being presented a fifty year pin by WM Tim Beals [his son]. Then RW Rich Otten, DDGM/19, left, presented WM Beals his twenty-five year pin.





# The Man Who Was Aware of Death

By Wor. Michael G. Hopkins,  
PM York Lodge #22  
Maine Lodge of Research

A holy man embarked on a journey by sea. As other passengers came aboard the ship, they saw him and, as was the custom, asked for a piece of sage advice. The holy man said the same thing to each, as if it were a formula.

He said, "Try to be aware of death, until you know what death is." Few of the passengers welcomed this advice.

Presently a terrible storm rose up. The crew and passengers fell to their knees, imploring God to save them. Alternately they screamed in terror, gave themselves up for lost, or prayed out loud for divine assistance.

Throughout all this the holy man sat quietly, reacting not at all to the chaos surrounding him.

Eventually the storm subsided, the sea and sky became calm, and the passengers realized how serene the holy man had been through it all. One of them asked, "Do you not know that during the tempest there was nothing more than the thin plank of the ship between us and death?"

"Oh yes, indeed," said the holy man, "I knew that at sea it is always thus. I also knew and had often reflected when I was on land that in the normal course of events there is even less between us and death."

So many lessons of Masonry admonish us to prepare our spiritual temple while here, so that when we leave this life we may die in the hope of a glorious immortality. The invisible hand of death is above us all, from the youngest Entered Apprentice to King Solomon on his ivory throne. The Supreme Architect has provided all the tools for accomplishing this: it is only up to us to pick up those tools and learn how to properly use them. Memento Mori!

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*The above story is an ancient one, written by one Bayazid of Bislam, an area we now identify as northern Iran or Turkmenistan. Bayazid incorporated spiritual teachings from Zoroastrianism, which his grandfather adhered to; from Islam; and from Hindu rituals as he received his esoteric training in India. He died in the ninth century. The tale above, freely edited by me, is related in Tales of the Dervishes by Idries Shah (Penguin, 1970)—M.Hopkins*



At Springvale Lodge's stated meeting in May a group from the Sanford Regional Technical Center was escorted to the East. They featured Skills USA in which those involved become future leaders in their field. In this case the firefighting program led by WM Harold Smith were recognized. Members from this group will be going to the national competition in Atlanta, GA. They were presented a check for \$3000 towards the cost of attending the national competition. Of the \$3000, one thousand came from the Lodge and \$2000 came from matching funds from the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation.



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. Thus, our programs include topics of interest to anyone with an inquisitive mind: ethics, astronomy, logic, public speaking and more. We have molded the Maine Masonic College on the best features of not only traditional and modern Masonic-oriented education but also "senior college" and lifelong learning endeavors.

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

INVOLVEMENT!

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The

# ENTABLATURE

Whole Number 45

www.MaineMasonicCollege.com

Autumn 2023



## #39 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.*

A few editions ago of the 'Minutes' we talked about people measuring the circumference of the planet by the angle that the sun shines down a well in ancient Egypt. In the last edition we talked about the people who determined the speed of light (186,282 miles per second). In this edition of the Minutes, we are going to slow it down a little, Actually, quite a bit. In this edition of the 'Minutes' we will explore the speed of sound!!

The speed of sound is 1,100 feet per second (750 mph). Yeah, that's fast but nothing like what we got used to in the last article, right?? Well, as it turns out, light and sound are two very different things. Let's start with that and then move on.

First of all, light is energy. One definition is "Light or visible light is electromagnetic radiation (energy) that can be perceived by the human eye". It's like its own thing. It travels in waves through the air, but it is not dependent on air as it can travel through a vacuum too. Now wait George, I took my flashlight and tried to shine it through my Electrolux, but it only cast a shadow so light cannot travel through a vacuum!! But I don't mean that kind of vacuum. A vacuum is the absence of air. Like space, Outer Space that is. But Sound is completely dependent on a medium like air. A sound wave is the pattern of disturbance caused by the movement of energy traveling through a medium (such as air, water or any other liquid or solid matter) as it propagates away from the source of the sound. Sound waves are created by object vibrations and produce pressure waves, for example, a ringing cellphone or shouting. Sound in the air is air movement, so it is really affected by temperature or density of the air. Sound can't travel through any vacuum, whether it be an Electrolux or Space!

The first person to experiment with finding the speed of sound was Sir Isaac Newton. While at Trinity College, he set his experiment up in the Colonnade which is a long porch. He clapped his hands at one end and then measured how long it took to hear his echo. Simple, right? Not really as it was 1/3 of a second as determined in a reenactment!! But Newton didn't have a fancy computer like people who reenacted his experiment had, he didn't even have a good clock! What he did

*Continued on Following Page*



## Old Builders Lodge *Continued*

have was a great understanding of math and physics and a pendulum. He adjusted the length of his pendulum so that it made one swing in the time it took to hear the echo. He devised the equation:  $(\text{Time} = 2 (\pi)(\text{SQRT } (L/g) )$

Which says the time it takes for the pendulum to swing is equal to 2 times  $\pi$  (which is 3.14...) times the square root of the length of the pendulum divided by gravity. Newton figured out the pendulum needed to be 8.5 inches long. So the time Newton calculated was 0.43 seconds or about 15% too slow. Other factors that can affect the speed of sound is elevation as air thins out the higher you go; Humidity as air is denser the more water it is holding; these would all contribute to Newton's error but not as much as not being able to accurately measure the time!



Sir Isaac Newton

All through history, firing a gun was the preferred method to try to determine the speed of sound. It was noted that you could see the flash from the barrel long before you heard the explosion so I guess they figured it would be a good device to use. It certainly proved that light travelled much faster than sound!!

In 1864, Henri Regnault, a French scientist especially known for his work in thermodynamics, came very close to today's accepted number for the speed of sound. He devised a way to measure the speed of sound automatically, again by using a gun, but without relying on human reaction time. Regnault covered a rotating cylinder with paper, and positioned a pen to draw a line as it turned. Next, he wired the pen to two electrical circuits, placing one in front of the gun some distance away, and the second near the cylinder, threaded through a diaphragm sensitive to sound. When the gun fired, the bullet broke the first circuit, making the pen jump to a new position on the rotating cylinder. When the sound reached the diaphragm by the cylinder, the pen jumped back to its original position. Because Regnault knew how far the gun was from the cylinder and how fast the cylinder turned, he calculated that sound travels through air at 750 miles per hour, very close to the speed physicists accept today.



### THE LAW OF STRINGS

In 6<sup>th</sup> Century B.C., philosopher, mathematician and lyre player, Pythagoras, spent time investigating the way sound works. Legend has it that his work on sound was inspired by seeing the way different sized hammers created different tones in a blacksmith's shop. It's more likely that experimenting with the length of his lyre's strings inspired his discovery that frequency is inversely proportional to the length of string. It is known as the first law of strings and is some of the first recorded work about sound waves.

## ***Photos from the Annual Session in May***



Brethren recognized for achieving Rookie Award designations during the year

### ***Grand Lodge Photos by Bro. Brian Ellis***



Brethren from Fort Kent Lodge #209 won the Raymond Rideout Award for Outstanding Educational Programs.



Grand Master M. Wor. Dan Bartlett with the Grand Master of our Mother Grand Lodge, M. Wor. George Hamilton of Massachusetts.





V. Wor. Dan Fink of York Lodge #22, Kennebunk, was presented the Simon Greenleaf Medal for Meritorious Service



R. Wor. Don Wiswell of Ralph J. Pollard Lodge #187, Orrington, was presented the Simon Greenleaf Medal for Meritorious Service



R. Wor. John Lord of Lafayette Lodge #48, Readfield, was presented the Josiah Hayden Drummond Distinguished Service Medal.



Grand Master Bartlett and Grand Lecturer R. Wor. Michael Roy present brethren from Ira Berry Lodge #128, Blue Hill, the Benjamin Gleason Award for Outstanding Ritual.



R. Wor. Ron Murphy of Mystic Lodge #65, Hampden, was presented the Josiah Hayden Drummond Distinguished Service Medal.



M. Wor. Bartlett and DGM Don Pratt with brethren receiving the Grand Master's Certificate of Merit.



## Arundel Lodge Supporting Graduates



Arundel Lodge #76, Kennebunport, raised \$3,816 in sales and matching funds from the lodge and the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation to support the Kennebunk High School Class of 2023 Project Graduation. The lodge extends a big *Thank You* to all who supported the effort and attended the breakfast put on by the brethren with the help of students, parents and teachers.

## 110 Years and Counting

Last Fall, Yorkshire Lodge #179, North Berwick, celebrated a combined 110 years of Masonry by Brothers and Past Masters (1972 and 1973) Ralph and Cecil Guptill. Pictured L/R: RW Rich Otten DDGM/19, Wor. Cecil Guptill, Wor. Ralph Guptill, and lodge Master, Wor. Art Sullivan.





## An Exceptional Masonic Evening, Indeed!

*By Wor. Steve Hoekstra*

On April 19th, 2023, 58 Brothers descended upon Benevolent Lodge 87 in Carmel for an impressive Masonic Evening. A celebration of 230 years was about to take place!

The Brothers were first treated to an excellent Supper of Shepherds Pie, Salad, Rolls and Dessert prepared by Wor David Richardson and Brother Kris Donovan. After the meal, all retired to our Lodge Hall for an unparalleled Awards Celebration.

Our Grand Master, MW Bro. Dan Bartlett, was assisted by our DDGM, RW Aaron Mower, and by Benevolent's Master, Rob Turner with the Award presentations. First up were 4 recipients who received their 40 Year Service Pin. They were Wor. Brother Dean Washburn, Brothers James Pike, James Stanhope and Harold Stevens Jr. Next on deck was E. Fritz Day. Fritz was awarded his 50 Year Veterans Medal. The final presentation of the evening went to Brother Gordon Smith. Brother Smith was presented his 60 Year Service Star. Assisting was Gordon's son-in-law PJGW, RW Ron Murphy.

Topping off the evening was a Master Mason Degree. The work of the evening was done by the Past Masters Unit of Anah Temple Shrine. The unit did an outstanding job! Thank you to Wor Brother Ken Swett for inviting the unit to Carmel. Their work will leave a positive lasting impression upon our newest Brother, David Blackwell.

*Photos by Brother Peter Parson*



Left to right: R.W. Aaron Mower, DDGM/6, RW Ron Murphy, 60-year member Brother Gordon Smith, and Grand Master Bartlett.



Left to right: R.W. Aaron Mower, 50-year member Brother E. Fritz Day and Grand Master Bartlett.



New Master Mason David Blackwell flanked by the Anah Shrine Past Masters' Unit.

## Tranquil Lodge #29, Auburn, Supports Lobster Bowl



Shout-out to Tranquil Lodge and MMCF for their combined donation in support of Damen C. Chandler, representing Westbrook High School in the 33rd Annual Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic. Pictured here, left to right: Jane Olfene, Damen's uncle Andrew Olfene, Damen in his Game uniform, his Mom, Lindsay Olfene and proud grandfather, Bro. Rick Olfene.

### The Gates of Paradise

by Wor. Bro. Mike Hopkins  
York Lodge #22, Maine Lodge of Research

There once was a good man. He had worked hard to cultivate those qualities enjoined on those who would reach Paradise. He gave to the poor. He loved his fellow men and served them. He patiently endured great hardships, often for the sake of others. He made journeys in search of knowledge. He had such humility and good behavior that his reputation as a good and wise man was known afar.

All these good qualities he did indeed exercise—when he remembered to do so. But there were some poor people he did not help, because from time to time he was insensitive to their needs. Love and service also were at times forgotten when his personal needs or desires arose in him. He was aware of this shortcoming in himself but balanced against the good he did exercise he regarded it as a small fault.

He was also fond of sleep, and because of that some opportunities to seek knowledge or to improve understanding, or to practice real humility, or to exercise or improve good behavior—such opportunities passed him by.

And then he died. He found himself making his way to the doors of Paradise. He saw that the gates were shut: and then a voice addressed him saying, “Be watchful, for the gates will open only once in every hundred years.” He settled down to wait, but deprived of the chances to do good to mankind as he had done he found that his habit of inattention overcame him. After watching for what seemed a very long time, his head nodded in sleep. For an instant his eyelids closed, and in that infinitesimal moment the gates of Paradise yawned open. Before his eyes could fully open again, the gates closed; to the roar of his shout loud enough to wake the dead.

*We are not set impossible tasks. Masonry teaches us to be charitable, but not to the extent of injuring ourselves and family. We are charged never to sit down contented while our fellow creatures are in want, and certainly when we can relieve their want without inconvenience to ourselves. We are also taught to add to the stock of knowledge and understanding, lest we be deemed a drone, a useless member of society. The good man in the teaching story above seemed to meet the requirements of charity and good behavior when it was convenient to himself. He also seemed to have an eye to the rewards to himself of a heavenly paradise, concluding he had done enough to earn it. One never knows when opportunities to do good will arise.*

**The above is a favorite Islamic teaching story. Its origins are unknown. Some attribute it to Hazrat Ali, the fourth caliph, who died in 661 AD. Others say it was so important that it was secretly passed down from the Prophet himself. The version above, freely edited by me, is related in Tales of the Dervishes by Idries Shah (Penguin, 1970)—M.Hopkins**



## ***Pine Tree and Nollesemic Working Together***



Twenty six brethren from Pine Tree Lodge in Mattawamkeag and Nollesemic Lodge in Millinocket attended a June 9 double Master Mason Degree at Pine Tree. This photo pictures Bro. Galen S. Hale, right, with oldest son Galen F. Hale, current Master of Pine Tree Lodge, and youngest son Nathan, one of the two candidates raised that evening. The second candidate was Bro. David Fernald from Nollesemic.



### ***60-Year Veteran Honored***

Monday evening, May 1, Brother Edward Tooma of Rising Virtue Lodge #10, Bangor, was presented his Veterans Medal with two stars signifying 60 years as a Mason. The event took place in Spurmont Lodge #98 in Strasburg, Virginia. The Grand Lodge of Virginia also presented Bro. Tooma with a certificate and lapel pin. Pictured here, Bro. Tooma receives congratulations from M. Wor. Brother Jim Golladay, Past Grand Master of Virginia. Brother Tooma is a frequent contributor to *The Maine Mason*.





Brothers Joey Burke and Nate Leger surrounded by their Brethren and brethren-in-arms.



Grand Master Bartlett, one of the few vets present who still fits into his uniform, explained the Working Tools for new new Master Masons.

Your Armed Forces Degree Team exemplified the MM degree on two prior-service brethren at Acacia Lodge #121 in Durham on July 25.

The first candidate was Joey Burke, who was active duty Air Force and now an active Air National Guard member in Bangor. Early in August he left for the Police Academy and will be joining the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department. In addition to his service, his father and grandfather are both Masons and Veterans. His father is Chad Burke, a 24-year Air Force veteran, and an Afghan war veteran; his grandfather, Don Burke, was a Marine.

The second candidate was Nate Leger who spent 10 years on active duty with the Coast Guard. He's the Finance Officer for Amvets Post 13 in Durham and is very active.

The first Military Degree Team work was in the early Spring of 2007. It was at Naval Lodge in Kittery; the candidate a seaman stationed aboard a boat in for repairs at the Naval Shipyard. Brother Jerry Leighton was Grand Master at the time and served as Senior Deacon that night.

With M.Wor. Brother Wayne Adams leading, the team worked 53 MM Degrees on active duty servicemen. Since M.Wor. Brother Rich Nadeau took over, the team had worked one more before Acacia Lodge. So now the team has worked 56 degrees.

*Historical information courtesy of RW Bro. Randy Burleigh, an original member of the team.*



# Meridian Lodge Honors Family and Veterans

by RW Jim Lemieux

In Masonry it's always a special occasion to see Grandfathers, Fathers, Sons, and family members being raised. On January 22nd of this year Meridian Lodge #125, Pittsfield, installed its incoming officers for 2023 and it was a special occasion indeed. RW David Wright had the distinct pleasure of installing his son, Brother Brandon Wright as Master of the Lodge. RW Wright was Master of Meridian Lodge from 1992 to 1994 and again from 2009 to 2012. It is certainly satisfying to see a son follow in his father's Masonic footsteps. We suspect that young Beau Wright, being held by his father Brandon in this photo, will do the same in the future.



On June 27th 2023 Meridian Lodge #125 was proud to award anniversary pins to two deserving brethren. RW Brother David Breau was presented with his 50 year medal by RW Brother,

Lewis Fitts and RW David Wright. Both brothers offered words of praise and years of memories to honor RW Breau. RW David Breau was raised May 22nd, 1973 and served as Master of the Lodge in 1979 and 1980 after progressing through the various chairs. He held Grand Lodge offices including, DDGM, DER and Grand Standard Bearer. He is a member of Anah Shrine, 37 year member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Bangor and Stevens Royal Arch Chapter.



Brother Breau receiving his 50-year Veterans Medal.

Brother Breau receiving his 50-year Veterans Medal. Lewis Fitts and David Wright who offered kind words and memories of Brother Lynch who was raised March 26th, 1968. Brother Lynch is also a 54-year member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Augusta and a Life Member of the Valley of Portland.

Brother John "Jac" Lynch was presented a 5-year star to accompany his 50-year Veterans Medal by RW Brothers



Brother Lynch, 55 years a Mason and a friend to all.



## York Lodge Recognizes Young and Old(er)



RW Brother Rich Otten, left, DDGM/19, was on hand this spring to honor Wor. Richard Russell on his more than 65 years a Mason. Brother Russell is the lodge's longest-serving Past Master, having presided in 1966. He is flanked by his grandson, Brother Xander Spooner, who's following in his grandfather's footsteps as a lodge officer, and lodge Master Wor. Dan Fink,



Wor. Ed MacDonald was all smiles after receiving his 50-year Veterans Medal from RW Rich Otten and congratulations from Wor. Master Dan Fink. Brother MacDonald served as Master 46 years ago in 1977.



# Is There No Hope for the Widow's Son?

*by Brother Harry Orcutt*

Actually, in the case under consideration, the Widow's son, being a Civil war veteran, is taken care of; it is the Widow and her other two children that require assistance.

In Greenwood, opposite the Town Beach, there was, and will be again, a family cemetery created by one of the Town's early settlers. Content that they would lay undisturbed in eternal rest, they did not foresee that their repose would be destroyed when their resting place was used as a log landing. What remained of the substantial granite stones that marked their graves was, apparently, disposed of.

The cemetery is known as the Cummings Plot. In it are buried three Josephs — grandfather, father, and son, the father's wife (the Widow), their daughter, and their toddler son. Joseph Cummings (14 June 1751 – 14 December 1843) was a Revolutionary War soldier, serving in the 12<sup>th</sup> Mass. Regt. Next to him lies Joseph (5 September 1827 – 24 January 1910) who served in the 13<sup>th</sup> Maine Regt. in the Civil War, and was accorded a Masonic Burial conducted by Woodstock's Jefferson Lodge #100. Above them, in the center, is Joseph (31 May 1791 – 10 March 1876) who served in the War of 1812 in Foxcroft's Regt. of the Mass (Province of Maine) Militia.

A descendant of Joseph (War of 1812), Suzanne Nusbaum, with her husband Bob, are spearheading the rehabilitation of the plot. Among the volunteers helping are Greenwood Town Manager Kim Sparks, Harry G. Orcutt, Commander American Legion Jackson-Silver Post 68, Lockes Mills (Greenwood) — also a dual member of Bethel Lodge #30, Anthony Bouchard of Lewiston, who has been instrumental in securing numerous grave markers from

the Veterans Administration, Stephanie Burke, District 20 Past DDGM Bill McAloney, and Brother Clayton Bartlett (both Bethel #30, dual Jefferson #100).

Identifying the likely location of the graves was Greenwood Historian Blaine Mills (Jefferson Lodge #100), who played in the vicinity as a child, and reported the desecration of the Plot when he returned in the mid 1960's from the US Air Force. Suzanne hired experts with ground-penetrating radar to identify where the graves are located. (Blaine was correct).

Three grave stones supplied by the Veterans Administration are being stored at Jackson-Silver Post. Another three stones are needed, purchased by donation or by organizational grant. All the markers will then likely be installed by the Sons and Daughters of Union Veterans, headquartered in Woodstock (Bryant Pond). Susanne has set up a Go-Fund-Me page for private donations at: <https://gofund.me/c73342a8>



Before the first clearing, L-R: Stephanie Burke, Harry G. Orcutt, Sue Nusbaum.

# The MAINE MASON

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*Maine Masons will soon  
be back attending regular  
meetings, but there'll still  
be plenty of fish to catch,  
whether on the end  
of a fly line, or as this  
Mt. Vernon netter prefers.  
Make time to enjoy both!*