

The Maine Mason



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The MAINE MASON

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line-o-type

by George P. Pulkkinen

This issue of *The Maine Mason*, the first in what is now the 41st year of publishing the magazine for the enjoyment of Maine Masons and their families, is filled with a broad range of information. Your Editor is both delighted and appreciative with the variety of items submitted for inclusion.

Some material is from brethren who are frequent contributors; some from Masons who have never before submitted news and feature articles for these pages.

As this issue was prepared just before our Thanksgiving holiday, it seems appropriate to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to every brother who has made the effort to submit material to share with his brethren. Please continue to do so. This is your magazine, and it will enjoy success only so long as you take an active part with your submissions.

As you receive this issue, we are approaching the end of 2014. I hope the year has been good to you. I also hope you enjoy the merriest of holiday seasons with family, friends, and, of course, your Masonic brethren. May 2015 prove a happy, healthy and rewarding year for you and yours.

And, as we're now in the thick of our season for electing and installing new leaders, may your lodge be blessed with effective, inspiring officers and committed, supportive sideliners.

The changing of the guard at lodge level is one of the most exciting times of the year. We reflect on the year just past and look forward to new brethren assuming leadership roles.

If I were limited to one Masonic wish, it would be that each of Maine's 186 active lodges experience stimulating leadership and brethren eager to learn how the mysteries of Masonry can enrich the lives of us all.

The potential for excitement, enthusiasm and success abounds. And it's so close by, well within reach. It all lies within our own hands.

The Cover Photo

As every active Freemason knows, the broken column denotes an untimely death. The cover photo shows the elaborate broken column memorial in Haverhill, Massachusetts. It is used to illustrate an article by R.W. Brother Tom Pulkkinen which appears on page 5 of this issue.

From the Grand East

David A. Walker
Grand Master of Masons in Maine

As I write this article, Thanksgiving is fast approaching. The first three months of the fall are mostly behind us and what I have seen in many parts of our Grand Jurisdiction is remarkable. Lodges are finding that putting the Brethren to work is paying big dividends. Those that are following that model are seeing gains in attendance and membership. One half of the District Meetings for this year are in the books and the reports that I have been hearing at those meetings tells me that many things are working well for many Lodges. Several Districts report degree work in most, if not all, lodges.

There are a few items I feel the need to address. The first topic is insurance. After all of these months, there are still some lodges that cannot understand why the Appendant Bodies can no longer be covered by the lodge liability insurance. The explanation is that there is no way for Bodies not operating under the same Constitution to be a part of the insured group. It would be like me trying to insure my neighbor because they live in the same area. There have been cases where Bodies thought they were covered and found that when a claim was made, they were not. When this happens, each and every member of that Body is personally liable for the damages, including their homes and possessions. That is not a scenario that any of us wants to see happen.

There are also some Lodges that are pursuing building insurance from carriers who may be unfamiliar with our organization. Some have been saving themselves money by purchasing insurance as an office building. In talks with our insurance advisors, it has been noted that if a claim is made under those rules, the Lodge risks serious losses, due to inadequate coverage. I do not want to see that happen to your Lodge. If you have questions, please contact the Grand Lodge Office, who can put you in touch with the head of our Grand Lodge Insurance Committee.

The next item I need to address is our Constitution. The Grand Lodge Committee on Amendments to the Constitution has spent many hours in a complete re-edit of the Constitution. In looking over the document, they discovered that over the years there have been many

errors that have crept in. There were incomplete sentences and omissions, not voted on at Grand Lodge Annual Sessions. They have worked to correct these errors and to consolidate all like items, to make our Constitution a document that all Masons can read, understand and use as a resource.

Brethren, I believe that having a document we can all read and understand is vital for our Craft. The entire corrected document is available on the Grand Lodge Website and a full copy has been placed in the Annual Proceedings, a copy of which is sent to every Lodge. Please take some time to review this proposed copy, which will be voted at the Annual Communication next May.

A few words about Bikes for Book: For those Lodges that have adopted this program, congratulations! For those that have not, you are missing a golden opportunity. This program is doing wonderful things for Lodges. It provides a very positive public image for Masons. In the schools that are receiving those bikes, they certainly know who we are. They have seen increases

in reading among their students. I had one school administrator, also a Mason, tell me that one young man in particular had read 30 books. My wife who has been a librarian in a school system for many years will tell you that is astounding. It is also very likely that young man will be a reader for life. Don't forget that the Charitable Foundation will match up to \$500 the monies you raise for bikes. It is also a great way to get Masons involved who might have no other reason to be an active Mason.

I would like to close with this thought. I am very thankful for all of our Service Men and Women, who are making sacrifices every day to preserve our freedoms. I am also reminded that I am very thankful for all of our Police Officers, Firefighters and EMTs. They are out there every day protecting us, sometimes from ourselves. Your dedication and willingness to give of yourselves is truly a gift to all of us. THANK YOU!

I look forward to seeing you somewhere in my travels during the coming months. Stay true to your vows and be a Brother to all.

Your Friend and Brother,
Dave



Around the Grand Lodge Water Cooler...

R.W. Mark E. Rustin, Grand Secretary

In the center of every Lodge Room, elevated upon an altar, is a book of Holy Writing. We take oaths and make our promises upon it as an affirmation that between its covers lies a richness of light and insight that will help us become better men. I call your attention to one such opportunity for enlightenment contained therein.

“But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

During my years as an ordained minister, I studied this passage and pondered its implications upon my life and the life of the churches I served. Try as I might, I never have found a loophole or a counteracting passage which I could use to escape the light shed by those words. You will take God, and all that implies, as the Master of your life *or* you will allow your life to be economically determined with the separation from God implies. There is no happy meeting place where one can serve God and wealth — period.

When I became a Freemason in 1985, I learned that the Craft I joined held the Supreme Architect — God — in awe. I learned, that if I was willing to circumscribe my desires and passions, I could be enlightened. The letter “G” lecture removed any concerns I had about a conflict between my faith and the tenets of the Craft embodied in that letter. The letter “G” within the square and compasses placed the Supreme Architect’s teachings — His Trestle Board — at the center of Freemasonry. I was confident that, by following the lights of Masonry, I could become a better man.

At our last Annual Communication my confidence was assaulted by some of the decisions that came from the meeting. From my perspective the letter “G” in our masonic symbol was replaced by the “\$” as some misguided expression of the good old boy system. As a Craft, we set aside our obligations

to one another embodied in the letter “G” to effect “a line item veto” of our core obligations and in so doing allowed the unfettered passions of another to call into question the very core principles that make us one.

In the same day we expelled a member over the misuse of funds without affirming his ability to exercise a “line item veto” on the part of the obligation he chose to ignore. I can only conclude that his fate was economically determined without regard to our obligations or the finding in the other case.

We live each day as a progression into the future. The Supreme Architect provides the capability to renew our allegiance to the principles inherent in the “G” anytime we choose.

The vibrancy of Freemasonry is dependent upon the choices we make each day. If we allow the core principles of our Craft to be supplanted — no matter how tempting siren’s song — our ability to trust one another, to befriend one another, and to encourage others to become Brothers will fade away like a morning fog on a clear day. We must be conscious each day whether we serve “G” or “\$”, defined in the Holy Writ as wealth — money or friendships we value more highly than God.

Freemasonry by definition occupies the moral high ground within the land in which it resides. If we settle for less, we relegate the Craft and ourselves to the ranks of college fraternities, special interest clubs, self interest societies, and political parties. While these others may have a place in society none of them has accepted the principles of revealing a visible expression of morality by which society may find a direction for the present and a vision of the future. Simply put, Freemasonry without the “G” is not Freemasonry.

We need to be conscious of the difference between our master (“G”) and the tools we use to serve the master each day. Only when we lose that distinction do we lose the light by which to travel into a bright future. Together, let’s discover the future of Freemasonry using all the tools we have to serve the “G”.

That’s it from here — back to work.



Remembering the Past...Contemplating the Future

R.W. Thomas Pulkkinen, Deputy Grand Master

For most people, the first week of November, 2014, is remembered as the time when we elected leaders to important government positions. But for many in Maine Freemasonry it is remembered for the loss of three friends; as a time when Masons provided much needed strength and support, and extended sympathy and love to the families most affected.

MW Brother A. James Ross said what many were feeling, "Man, it has been a difficult week for Maine Masonry, too much sadness and grief this week."

Maine Lodges say fond farewell to more than ten Masons each week, most being our Masonic veterans of 40, 50, 60 or more years. Brethren who long practiced the tenets of our Craft; who were upright pillars of our fraternity; who helped faithfully pass down our rites and rituals from generation to generation.;Brethren fondly remembered and sorely missed.

Such a man was RW Brother Edward W. O'Brien of Saccarappa Lodge in Westbrook. As election returns continued to roll in on that first Wednesday of November, so did more than 80 Masons to remember Eddie at his Masonic Memorial Service that was led by our Grand Master, MW Brother David A. Walker.

Brother O'Brien had an active and fruitful life, both within Masonry and without. Perhaps the large attendance of Masonic friends at his service was "pay-back" for the countless times over the years that he had turned out for the services of others. One Brother was heard asking, "I wonder how many services Eddie attended? He always remembered his departed Brethren."

At age 86 and with 55 years in the Craft, Eddie truly was a Brother to be remembered fondly for all he had done in the past, but more than that, for the friendship and brotherly love that he always extended warmly to his Brethren. His time had come and he was now in the Celestial Lodge above, where the weary shall find rest. All knew that he had been relieved of his poor health and that he was now at heavenly peace.

But the emotions, the gut-wrenching feelings, were much different for two young men who passed in a tragic auto accident that same week. Brother Isaac Moore, 19, of Drummond Lodge, was carrying the Masonic application for the degrees of his best friend, Andrew Stanley, 18, on the night that the car in which they were riding hit a pole. The application was to be read in Lodge on the night that many Masons and other friends came to pay their respect for Andrew, and to express their sorrow to Jim and Nancy, Andrew's parents.

Wor. James Stanley said that Andrew would have

been the fifth generation from his family to be Masons in Drummond Lodge. "That line has now been cut." Andrew was so proud to be joining his father's Lodge and that of generations of Stanley men. Looking around the funeral home that night, all could view the many acknowledgements of his athletic prowess in four sports, of his academic achievements. He worked many jobs and was pursuing his education in preparation for a career in nursing. And he eagerly wanted to be a Mason alongside his father, who said he was always there for his son, playing pass, going to sporting events – being there as every dad should. And Andrew wanted to be a Mason alongside his best friend, Isaac.

Bro. Isaac Moore also was an accomplished athlete in multiple sports. He too was working while pursuing his college education. He was raised to the sublime degree on May 17, 2014, and was installed Marshal of Drummond Lodge less than three weeks later, alongside his father, Brian, who serves as Senior Deacon. He became a 32^o Scottish Rite Mason just three weeks before that tragic accident. A heartfelt outpouring of love for this promising young man and Mason flowed from his Sacopec Valley High School classmates, the community of North Parsonsfield, as well as some 75 Masons from throughout the 18th Masonic District and as far away as Rangeley, all of whom attended his Masonic Memorial Service.

We will never know how far these two young men might have traveled in Freemasonry, the lives they might have affected, the good they might have done. Yet in the short season in which they experienced Freemasonry – as a Brother and as sons of Masons, these two energetic, aspiring young men gave us good reason for being hopeful for a strong future of our great fraternity. They took the lessons taught by their parents and their Masonic friends to heart, thereby preparing themselves for lives filled with success and goodness. Tragically, their lives were cut short far too soon, as symbolized by the broken column Masonic pin given to each mother.

While our hearts were darkened at their loss, the beauties of Freemasonry blazed brightly in early November, like a "supermoon" in the clear, starry decked heaven where our friends now reside. Literally hundreds of friends and Brothers reached out to provide heartfelt strength and support to one another and to grief-stricken families. Masons outwardly demonstrated genuine, brotherly love and affection; feeling pain while assuaging broken hearts!

At difficult times such as these, each of us learns first hand "What it means to be a Mason!" And such expressions of love should make us proud to be Masons!



Bookshelf to Brotherhood

by Bro. Jason Carey

Bethlehem Lodge #35, Augusta, received a special donation at the end of the summer here in central Maine. The anonymous gift to the lodge was arranged after Brother Ted Libby, of Litchfield, suggested a challenge for brothers of the lodge - a challenge to get a new book shelf into the building so it may be filled with educational and inspirational books and create yet another opportunity to strengthen the brotherhood within.

A few weeks after Brother Ed posed his challenge, there was a bit of movement - a little thinking, a few emails, maybe even a telephone call or two. The next thing we knew, a brand new, hand made, hard wood book shelf was delivered to the historic lodge in downtown Augusta.

Brother Cedric Novy and Worshipful Lewie Manter were in position to receive the donation on August 27th. As usual, they were ready with a cordial and warm welcome. Cedric and Lewie eagerly awaited the delivery under the arching doorway of the lodge's main entrance. Dressed in green polo shirts, they assisted in lifting the book shelf from the delivery vehicle to the second floor library where it waits to be filled with great reading.

After completing the first part of the challenge, Brother Libby supposes the next part of the challenge is to fill the shelf with books. We all know how infectious a little good will can be so Bethlehem Lodge is encouraging travelers to stop in and take a quick look at the wonderful craftsmanship of the shelf. And, if you have a book to offer, you can feel great about helping fill the shelf and satisfying the next step of the challenge. There are so many great ways to increase the knowledge of our craft. Bethlehem Lodge wishes to publicly thank its anonymous benefactor and wishes everyone the happiest and most prosperous new year.



King Solomons Lodge #61, Waldoboro, presented a 50-year Veterans Medal to Bro. Wesley Waters on Monday Nov. 10th. Pictured here are, l-r: RW Randy Raymond who pinned the medal on Bro. Waters, Wor. Alfred Mckay, Sr., Lodge Master, Bro. Waters with his wife, two daughters and son-in-law.

The Grand Lecturer's Corner: **Compass or Compasses?**

Following is the second of what we hope will be a series of Maine Mason columns discussing and explaining some of the words, phrases and terms that are sometimes outside our cultural lexicon but very much a part of our ritual. –Ed

In the last issue we discussed the question of why we use the word “compasses” in our ritual. As a follow up to that Compass/Compasses article, RW Brother Christian Ratliff graciously forwarded references to that topic from the 1864 and 1878 Proceedings of Grand Lodge.

Annual Communication of Grand Lodge of Maine, 3 May 1864 at Portland

Address of the Grand Master

“VII. The principal authorities for the Grand Lodge of Maine using the word *compass* instead of *compasses*, are Isaiah, chap. 44, verse 13. Thomas’ Edition of 1792 of the Constitutions, Webb’s Monitor editions of 1805 and since, particularly that of 1816, the one adopted by this Grand Lodge, and C.W. Moore’s Trestle Board. (Letter Book, p. 107)” Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maine **1864**, pg. 12

Adjourned **Annual Communication of Grand Lodge of Maine, 8 May 1878 at Portland** - “The Grand Master announced that Atlantic Lodge would now exemplify the work of the third degree. Atlantic Lodge entered the hall and the officers took their stations. A lodge of Master Masons was opened, and Bro. Albert L. Merry was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Atlantic Lodge was then closed and its officers retired.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, and sundry points in the ritual were discussed. It was Voted, That the word ‘Compasses’ be adopted at(sic) the authorized word in Work and Lectures, instead of ‘Compass’.” Proceedings ME, Vol. 9, 572 **1878**

The following are some of the quotations referenced by the Grand Master in his address at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge 1864.

King James Version: Isaiah 44 v.13 “The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the **compass**, and maketh it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man; that it may remain in the house.”

pg 62 **The New Masonic Trestle Board** Charles W. Moore 1850

“The **Compass** teaches us to limit our desires in every station, that, rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected, and die regretted.”

The following is from a speech by Paul Revere GM of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at a cornerstone laying July 4, 1795 while Isaiah Thomas was SRGW “May we my Brethren, so Square our Actions thro life as to shew to the World of Mankind, that we mean to live within the **Compass** of Good Citizens that we wish to Stand upon a Level with them.”

As mentioned in a previous article, according to Mirriam Webster dictionary the first known usage of “Compasses” was in 1563. Apparently the usage of the word “Compasses” gradually came into the common vocabulary so that 315 years later its use was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Maine in 1878.

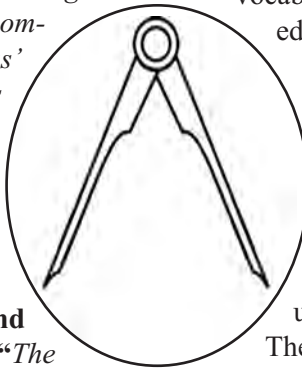
We are left to speculate on the discussions and differing opinions surrounding the use of compass/compasses taking place within the craft prior to the 1878 vote. In 1864, it was a timely and important enough topic for the Grand Master to include in his address. He briefly outlined the reasons and defenses for using the word “Compass” within our Ritual.

Therefore there must have been ongoing discussions, speculations, and suggestions for the use of “Compasses” instead of “Compass”. For the next 14 years, those discussions and opinions must have continued until finally, by 1878, a consensus of opinions had formed in favor for the use of “Compasses”.

This record of the 1878 vote allows us to definitively state with great confidence and authority why we use “Compasses” instead of “Compass” within our ritual. - It is because, at the Grand Lodge session in 1878, ‘It was Voted, That the word “Compasses” be adopted at(sic) the authorized word in Work and Lectures, instead of “Compass.”’

Now ... wonder why and what the reasoning was for the 1878 attendees to vote as they did and replace the longstanding use of the word ‘Compass’ with ‘Compasses’??? I guess I am left with my original query. “I wonder the real reason why we use ‘Compasses’ instead of ‘Compass’ in our ritual.”

However, then as now, whatever the reasons and whatever the political motivations, we can certainly be most confident that all discussions and rhetoric within and among the Brethren surrounding these sorts of issues were centered solely around “who best can work and best agree”.



Hamlet and the Level of Time

By Michael Hopkins
Saco Lodge #9

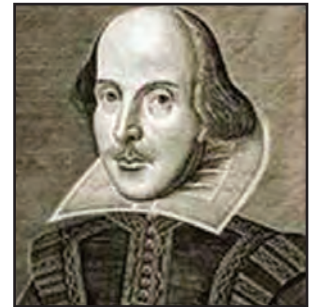
In the Fellow Craft lecture, we are taught the use of the level, which reminds us that we are all traveling upon the level of time, “to that undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveller returns.”

Not all brothers may know that the passage quoted above is itself a direct quotation from the famous “to be or not to be” speech in Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*. In that long speech to himself, Hamlet meditates on the question of whether life is worth it. Do the pains and sufferings of life (slings and arrows) merit going on, or might the alternative be worse still? The actual sentence from Act III, Scene 1 in which the quoted passage appears reads as follows:



Hamlet

*“.....Who would [burdens] bear,
To grunt and sweat under a weary life,
But that the dread of something after death,
The undiscover’d country, from whose bourne
No traveller returns, puzzles the will,
And makes us rather bear those ills we have
Than fly to others that we know not of ? “*



Shakespeare

The chronology of Shakespeare’s plays is not certain, but most scholars place *Hamlet* in 1601, in the middle of his working career and at the height of his powers. It is his longest play and perhaps his most subtle and complex.

Shakespeare was popular in his own time, but not revered. It was not until the 1800s that his reputation moved toward adulation. There were many reasons for this. One is that the Romantic poets of that period such as Coleridge and Wordsworth recognized and praised his genius. Another is that his reputation began to be spread abroad and his work was championed by Goethe in Germany and Voltaire and Hugo in France. Also, as England’s empire grew, Shakespeare seemed to be there as a cultural icon indicative of England’s greatness.

In our own time, he continues to be seen as the greatest English writer as our modern sensibility esteems his ability to reflect human emotions in an authentic way which transcends time and culture.

“Bourne” (also spelled bourn) is a word meaning limit, boundary, destination, or goal. It was not invented by Shakespeare, which is a legitimate question to ask as he coined or brought into usage over 1700 words. Many are still in common use.

Even more striking than the coined words are his remarkable expressions and turns of phrase. If you don’t understand me and say “It’s Greek to me,”

you’re quoting Shakespeare. Similarly if you “play fast and loose,” “recall your salad days,” “slept not one wink,” “stood on ceremony,” are “more sinned against than sinning,” think “that’s the long and the short of it,” “suspect foul play,” think that “the game is up,” or believe that something is “a laughingstock” or “an eyesore”; you are quoting Mr. Shakespeare. Believe me, there are dozens of other examples.

Although Shakespeare did not invent the word “bourne,” he clearly liked it, using it seven times in his plays and sonnets. After his death, the word seemed to lay dormant until the Romantic poets mentioned above discovered it. Thus you will find it used by Keats, Wordsworth, Tennyson, and others.

It is a matter of scholarly dispute where Shakespeare got his “undiscovered country” reference. The metaphor of a journey of no return is not uncommon in classical literature and also appears in the Bible in the Book of Job (x, 21). It also appears in Christopher Marlowe’s play *Edward II*. Marlowe was a contemporary of Shakespeare and his *Edward II* appeared in 1593.

The rise of Shakespeare’s popularity in the late 1700s and early 1800s coincided with the writing of the degree lectures by Preston, Calcott, Webb, and others. Their echo to the great playwright seems another testimony to the richness of their work.

Wor. Brother Russ Shetenhelm, a Past Master of Naval Lodge 184 in Kittery, made a very special trip to Tawas, MI last May. He travelled west to raise his son, Brian, to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Brother Brian is the family's fourth generation Master Mason. Great-grandfather Earl Francis started the family affair. He served as Master of Lake City Lodge #408 in Lake City, MI. He was followed by Brother Brian's grandfather, Bernard Shetenhelm, who also served as Master of Lake City Lodge. Pictured here, left to right: Wor. Brent Ferns, Master of Tawas Lodge #274; Wor. Bruce Olson, a Past Master of Lake City Lodge and an



uncle of newly-raised Brian; Brother Brian; Wor. Paul Perry, a Past Master of Mio Lodge #596; and the proud father, Wor. Brother Russ Shetenhelm.

!!!!!!ATTENTION!!!!!!

MAINE MASONS WHO LIVE OR WILL BE IN FLORIDA ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2015

M W. Bro. David A. Walker invites the Masons of Maine and their spouses/friends to the 13th Annual Maine Masons in Florida Day at SAHIB Shrine Center, # 600 N.Beneva Rd, in Sarasota.

This is intended to be a time of social enjoyment and a chance to meet and make new friends among Maine Masons and Maine Masonic Widows who reside or winter in Florida.

We will assemble between 11:00 and 11:30 which will allow time to socialize prior to lunch being served at 12:00 P.M. Following lunch M.W. Brother Walker will be making a presentation.

It would help us if the visitors would share their temporary Florida addresses.

Directions to Sahib Shrine Center: Take exit 210 off I 75 and go west about 1-2 miles to N. Beneva Rd. Turn right and go north on Beneva about two blocks. The Shrine Center is on your right.

You may make reservations for this affair through R.W. Brother Pete Forrest in one of the following ways: Telephone: 772-344-6564; email: rgpeteforrest@aol.com; mail: 609 SW Treasure Cove, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986.

Cost is \$21 for men; Ladies will be guests of the Grand Master

Deadline for reservations is February 2, 2015

**The meal will consist of
Yankee Pot Roast, Herb Roasted New Potatoes, Chef Choice of Vegetable,
Rolls/Butter, Chef Choice of Dessert Iced Tea/Coffee**

Note: There will be a vegetable plate for those who cannot eat beef.

Proposed Grand Lodge Library Build Out

The Charitable Foundation Trustees have approved a fund raising effort to expand the Masonic Library at the Grand Lodge Office Building in Holden. The plan includes closing in the former bank drive through lanes and adding an additional 620 sq. ft. of library space at an estimated cost of \$140,000.

The addition will enhance the ability of the library to provide educational opportunities for the Craft, and with the addition of a general interest section, make lending library services available to the Holden area. The space will also be offered to local schools, pre-schools, and daycare facilities as a place for “reading times.”

Will you join with the Trustees in making this project a reality? All donors will be memorialized in a book made part of the permanent collection in the Library. Suggested categories of giving are:

Reader	\$1.00 thru \$500.00
Researcher	\$501.00 thru \$2500.00
Educator	\$2501.00 thru \$5000.00
Master Teacher	\$5001.00 thru \$20000.00
Master Designer	\$20001.00 thru \$40000.00
Master Builder	\$ 40000.00+

“Researchers”, “Educators”, and “Master Teachers”

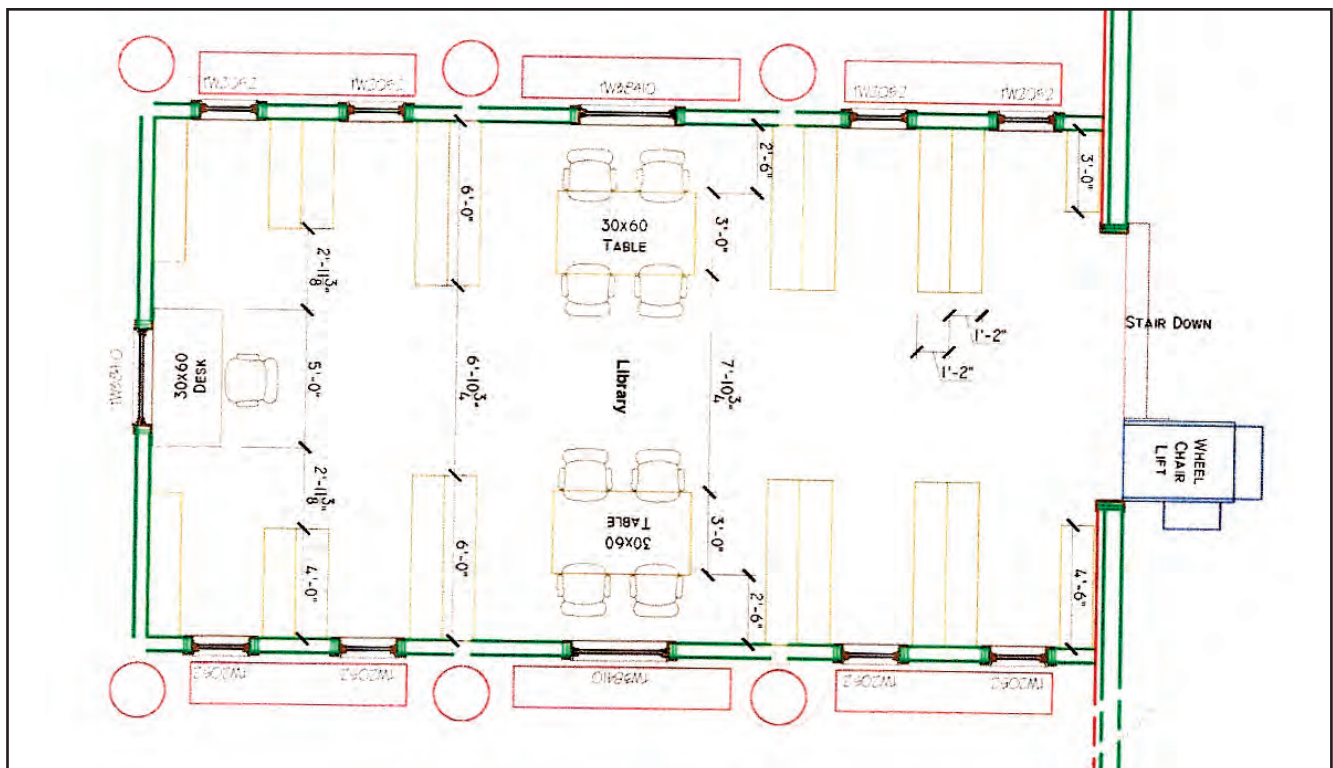
will be noted on special engraved plaques. The “Master Designer” will be named on a plaque recognizing the donation for providing the furnishings in the library. The “Master Builder” will be accorded the right to name the Library with the name affixed at the entry.

The first 10 “Researcher” donors will be offered the opportunity to select up to five volumes that are duplicates in the collection. All “Educators” will receive a pen and pencil desk set from the Foundation. The first three “Master Teachers” will be have their donations noted with their name on an office or Conference Room in the Grand Lodge Office Building.

All donations are tax deductible.

Go to masoniccharitablefoundation.org and select the Donate button below this page to become an integral part of this exciting endeavor. If you wish to pledge over two or three years or to send a check for a one time pledge, please write:

Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation
Library Build Out
PO Box 430
Holden, ME 04429



The Proposed Library Build Out Floor Plan

Rural Lodge Helps Needy with Annual Food Drive

Brethren from Rural Lodge No. 53 (Sidney) scattered across the town on a warm and sunny October Saturday to conduct their annual food drive to support the Second Baptist Church of Sidney's Food Cupboard.

A week earlier, brothers hung hundreds of bags donated by Hannaford Supermarkets on mailboxes throughout the town, each containing a letter asking for donations to be left at the mailbox the following Saturday to help the poor and distressed residents of town. On the day of the drive brothers reconvened with volunteers from the Food Cupboard and, in the spirit of fellowship, paired up in pick-up trucks and set off across the town to retrieve the bountiful donations left by the generous townspeople.

Many hands made light work and upon returning to the Food Cupboard it took little time for the brethren and church volunteers to unload the donations. Many pounds of food were collected along with cash donations, perhaps making the upcoming holiday season a little brighter for those truly in need.



Food donations gathered during Rural Lodge No. 53 Food Drive.

Brothers of Rural Lodge No. 53, Sidney Maine (from L to R): Brother Edward "Fluffy" Libby, Wor. Mike Philbrick, Wor. Brandon Keene, Wor. Peter Johnson, Wor. Dale Blethen, Wor. Larry Tibbets, Brother Matt L'Italien, and Wor. Floyd Luce.



Wor. Brother Warren "Jake" Enos was born Aug. 12, 1924 and has been a valued member of Whitney Lodge #167 in Canton for 57 years. He was raised January 17, 1957 and served as Master in 1963-64. Jake has had quite a year. He sat in the East as Master at the lodge's October stated meeting when he celebrated his 90th birthday. He then went on to the District 20 Meeting and was named Co-Mason of the Year with our District Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Worshipful Gary Young. Jake is a World War II Veteran and is very proud of his service to our country. He is a two time Purple Heart recipient and still feels the effects from his wounds. This photo was taken while he presided at the October meeting. Congratulations Brother Jake! And thanks for your service.

First District Meeting Looks Forward and Back

The First District Meeting held at Monument Lodge was wrapped around visions of the past and for the future. Grand Master David A. Walker finished his opening reception of special people in Maine Masonry by receiving Mildred B. McIntosh, 1961 Grand Matron of the Order of the Easter Star in Maine. A nonagenarian, Sister Mildred attended many a Masonic lodge about the State with her late husband, R.W. Herschel K. McIntosh, who served as Senior Grand Warden in 1973. She was thrilled to be at lodge again.

Bro. Luke Shorty of Limestone No. 214 was recognized as the newest recognized Maine Masonic Rookie with a presentation from Grand Master Walker.

Bro. Shorty is a graduate of, and has been Executive Director of, The Maine School of Science and Mathematics in Limestone for four years. With an exceedingly demanding schedule he makes time for Masonry to bring equilibrium to his life.

Of receiving this award he says "The Master Mason Rookie program is a great way to help and engage a new Mason into the Craft. It exposed me to key aspects of fellowship, charity and community. I have found my Masonic experience to be very rewarding to me personally."

Let's all get excited about our Maine Masonry with our new Masons and do something while we have the chance. Good mentoring can lead to a great future for all of us.

177 Years of Masonry



Brother Liuke Shorty looks ready to do a revival of the Pointer Sisters' song, "I'm so excited" after being recognized as Maine's newest Masonic Rookie by Grand Master Walker.



Mildred McIntosh receives warm greetings from Grand Master Walker.

St. Croix Lodge No. 46 of Calais held a stated meeting on July 7, but it was a "special" stated meeting. That evening the brethren of the lodge witnessed 93-year-old Bro. Harold Scholl receive a third star for his 50-year Veterans Medal, signifying 65 years of service to the craft. Pictured here are Brother Scholl flanked by Wor. Brother Philip Ross, left, and Wor. Bro. Harold Silverman. These three brothers collectively constitute 177 years of Masonry with Bro. Silverman a 59-year member and Bro. Ross a 53-year member. Brother Scholl now lives in the Farmington area and attends lodge there on a regular basis. Brothers Ross and Silverman are much younger; they are 84 and 80 respectively.

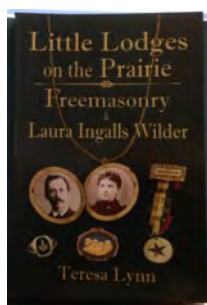
There are SO many great books about Freemasonry being published today that it's hard to pick 'the best of the best' for these reviews. If we miss one you've really enjoyed, tell me so it can be shared with all of your Brethren!

THE OLD WEBMASTER'S BOOKSHELF



A couple of years ago I was asked to propose ideas for a major Masonic educational program. My suggestion was to do a SWOT Analysis of Freemasonry. Using this well-established business process, attendees would examine Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats, the results of which could help them better position their lodge for the future. Apparently no one could quite understand the concept and the idea was ignored. Now comes New York Mason John R. Hill, Jr. who, rather than simply slapping business processes onto Masonry, has actually thought about how we could benefit from them so we can move from where we are "...to a better place." In **"Third Degree: Leadership, Project Management & Old-School Masonry"** he has explained a number of these methodologies which could absolutely help any Masonic body at whatever level understand and redefine their way of 'doing business', while concentrating on our most important asset: the MEMBERS. From servant-leadership to Pareto Charts, there's LOTS here and I encourage everyone who cares about Masonry to consider this book.

Most readers of the Maine Mason Magazine will remember the television series "Little House on the Prairie" derived from the book series of the same name by Laura Ingalls Wilder. In a new and excellent book, Teresa Lynn recounts the importance of Freemasonry to Wilder and her family. Further, she shows the important contributions it made to the many pioneers in the midwest, done in a way which will make you proud of your own membership. Beginning with a history of Freemasonry itself, **"Little Lodges on the Prairie: Freemasonry & Laura Ingalls Wilder"** covers the trials and tribulations of those in a new and barren land, often sustained by the principles of our Order. It's a work of love by someone who deeply appreciates our fraternal ties, found similarly in her own family. This would be a great book to curl up with on a snowy winter evening and would also make a superb gift for your favorite Eastern Star member.



"Education by Degrees

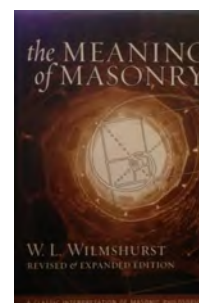
- **Masonic Notes**" by Raymond Apple is a small, simple book which consists of short but profound essays. An Australian Rabbi, Brother Apple kicks more than a couple of sacred cows, but does so in a thoughtful and contemplative way. While I altogether disagreed with his thoughts on a couple of things, others easily could propel any Mason to positive action. Want some motivation? Try this book!

I never imagined that I'd be writing about a book first published in 1922 but it really is necessary due to the continued interest it elicits. **"The Meaning of Masonry"** by W. L. Wilmshurst is a true classic which has stood the test of time and 'speaks' to today's new Masons with much the same intensity as it did when originally published. A true 'Masonic Mystic', Wilmshurst provides an interpretation of Masonic philosophy which stimulates and motivates. Although written for English Masons, any Brother could relate to the thoughts and interpretations and it's a book you really should read. There's an excellent revised and expanded new (2007) edition available but it's also easily found in its original format in numerous places online including the great source for free out-of-copyright works, Google Books.

Brethren: we're already seeing support for the Grand Lodge Library expansion into the former bank drive-thru area of our building. I hope both you and your lodge (or ANY Masonic body) will consider contributing to this worthwhile endeavor for future generations. Learn more at www.masoniccharitablefoundation.org. Thank You!

Don't forget too that you can now search our entire book catalog online 24/7. Go to www.mainemason.org and in the lower right, there's a link for you. We update this weekly and as new books arrive. Start reading ~ and **ENJOY FREEMASONRY MORE!**

Although many think Bro. Ed King spends his life online, he's an avid reader and writer as well. His personal website at www.masonicinfo.com - Anti-Masonry: Points of View had over 3.2 million individual visitors last year. He is our Grand Librarian and (the husband of the) Webmaster for our Grand Lodge.



Membership: *the Whos, Whats, Whens, Wheres & Whys*

by Brother Ed “Fluffy” Libby
Membership Committee

Membership is many things to many different people. Although most Brothers don't think of it at all, we certainly should. We can all affect our Fraternity in a positive way. How many of us know a family member, friend or business acquaintance who displays the ideals that we have chosen to live by? Are you reading this article but haven't been to lodge in far too long? Do you go to one of the appendant bodies, Shrine, Commandery, or maybe Eastern Star but haven't made it home to Blue Lodge? Do you go to Lodge once a month, or attend when there's a degree, but haven't had the time to volunteer on a committee, fundraiser, special program or to be a mentor? Do you know a Brother who hasn't been to lodge in far too long because he's busy at home watching TV? How about a Brother who can't get around like he used to? Do you know a “former” Brother? Do you know someone who neglected to pay his dues for any number of reasons and has been suspended?

Whether or not we realize it, we are all part of the membership and mentoring teams. We all, each and every one of us, leave our mark on the fraternity and on our Brothers. The time and effort we put into our Fraternity has an effect far beyond our lodges. Fruits of our labors are enjoyed by many in our communities who aren't Masons. Each Brother can speak to friends about our Fraternity. We all know men who would bring good things to the craft while enjoying opportunities to accomplish good works and allow their finest qualities to shine. Recruitment.

A new brother is the center of attention during his first three degrees. Once he becomes a Master Mason, we too often turn our attention to the next candidate. The

Rookie Program was designed to give our new Master Masons a choice of specific objectives while effectively establishing “good Masonic habits.” Has your lodge embraced the Rookie Program? Are you giving the new Master Mason a reason to come to lodge?

Retention.

All of us lead busy lives. Some of us make the time to attend lodge once or twice a month. Some are more active, with appendant bodies, affiliation memberships or duties that come with offices and/or committees. Many of us know a Brother, whose home we drive by on the way to lodge, who just might attend if we invite him. Brothers are more likely to attend on a regular basis if they are involved. The ways one can be involved are numerous. One could learn ritual, lectures or charges, mentor new candidates or assist brethren in learning new ritual, serve on a committee or participate in a program, (Bikes for Books, CHIP or a blood drive). These are a few ways to get Brethren active in lodge.

Re-involved.

What about the Brother you know who was suspended for non-payment of dues? Can you reach out to him? Unfortunately there also are those Brothers who were offended, or had a falling out with another Brother, and stopped attending and paying dues because of it. Maybe time has healed those wounds. Perhaps they miss the Lodge, but are too embarrassed and believe they wouldn't be wanted back. Perhaps an invitation could bring him back?

Restoration.

If we all work together spreading the word and sharing the great blessings of our Fraternity, it will be stronger and continue to flourish. Who knows? Perhaps each of us will be blessed and find enlightenment from the new, returning, invigorated and long lost Brothers.

11TH DISTRICT MENTORING ALIVE AND WELL

The 11th district has been holding study groups on the 4th Thursday of the month at BETHLEHEM LODGE for any Mason who wants to come in and learn or help fellow brothers learn. Study groups are for learning anything from EA lessons, obligations, charges to the various lectures. Attendance has ranged from two to 14 brothers on any given month and from entered apprentices to fifty-plus year members. Brothers are coming from six or seven different lodges in the district. There have been many newer brothers showing up to learn and help mentor. Some of our older brothers have mentored in ways not taught in books. They share stories of some of the old customs of lodges they've witnessed in other countries. Having a lot of young members coming in and asking questions causes others to find answers. The group even pulled out a 1861 dictionary from the library to find an answer. Everyone has had a good time. With such success the MORNINGSTAR /HERMON LODGE has decided to start a study group there on the second Thursday of the month. As one can see mentoring is alive and well in the 11th district!

-- by Brother Jaison Hall

Freeport Lodge #23 Celebrates 200th Anniversary

By Wor. Brother Pete Cutler

On September 13, 2014 Freeport Lodge #23 celebrated its Bicentennial Anniversary, recognizing a history rich in connections to the fabric of Maine coastal life.

The rolls of the Lodge contain well-known names such as Leon Leonwood (LL) Bean, inventor of the world famous Maine Hunting Shoe and founder of the iconic sporting goods store that today anchors the shopping mecca of downtown Freeport, his brother Guy Bean who served as postmaster for the town and Master Mariners such as George Bacon, Captain of the famous privateer "The Dash."

From shipbuilders to farmers to tradespeople, Freeport Lodge supplied movers and shakers to help the growth of not only the town but also the surrounding area and even including notable members of the State Legislature.

Four members of the Freeport Lodge have gone on to become Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Maine including Edmund Mallett, William Estes, Paul Powers and Charles Ridlon.

The festivities began with the introduction of Most Worshipful David Walker, current Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, and Most Worshipful Harvey J. Waugh, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and their suites, preceded by the stirring sound of bagpipes provided by Past Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother George Pulkkinen.



M.W. Brother Harvey Waugh, Grand Master in Massachusetts, shares a light moment with M.W. Brother David Walker.

Following an oral presentation of the history of the Lodge by Past Master Pete Cutler, the gathering broke for lunch served in the Lodge dining hall where more than 100 Masons and their wives and guests enjoyed good food and fellowship.

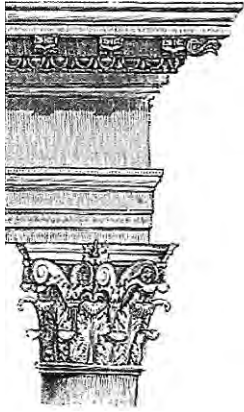
Lunch was followed by a presentation by local historian John Mann on the impact of the Ulster Scots on the history of mid-coast Maine.

Additional entertainment surfaced from repartee between the two Grand Masters over the formation of the Grand Lodge of Maine following the separation of the Province of Maine from Massachusetts in 1820. The Grand Master of Massachusetts reminded the Grand Master of Maine of the sizable donation given to the new Charitable Fund initiated by the Grand Lodge of Maine and M.W. David Walker not only thanked his Massachusetts counterpart but advised him that through the expert husbandry of Maine Yankees the fund had grown exponentially. M.W. Harvey Waugh replied that since he has recently purchased property in Maine, Massachusetts is in the process of reclaiming the land that it once owned whereupon a voice from the audience remarked, "Yep, we're selling it back one lot at a time."

M.W. Walker closed the Lodge in peace and harmony and it was apparent that a good time had been had by all.



The Bennett Brothers have long been important parts of Freeport Lodge. Pictured here, l-r: Will Bennett, his dad Bill Bennett and uncle Paul Bennett, Jr. All three served as Master of the lodge as did Paul and Bill's dad, Paul Bennett, Sr.



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



Maine Masonic College Holds Fourth Annual Convocation

Richard L. Rhoda
Grand Historian

The Fourth Annual Convocation of the Maine Masonic College in Bangor in early October was a landmark occasion. The College held its first graduation ceremony and had 6 people, including one woman, receive their certificates for having completed the core courses of studies and two Brothers received their Diploma.

Receiving their Certificate of Masonic studies were M.W. Walter Macdougall, Judy Macdougall, and R.W.'s George Macdougall, Donald McDougal, Richard Bowden and Eric Kuntz.

R.W. Donald McDougal is the first Maine Masonic College student to receive his Diploma having completed a Journey in Leadership.

M.W. Walter Macdougall was also presented an Honorary Diploma in all Journeys for having been the inspiration and moving force behind the College since its inception and for his service as the first Dean of Academic Affairs, an office he held for many years.

The Convocation was commenced with remarks from Maine Masonic College Chairman Steve Nichols and M.W. David Walker, Grand Master of Masons in Maine. The topic of the day was 'Civility' which has also been chosen as a pri-

ority by the Grand Master. Speakers at the all-day Convocation included M.W. Bro. Walter Macdougall and R.W. Bro's. Eric Kuntz, Charles Plummer, George Macdougall and Mark Rustin.

The convocation concluded with a panel discussion by Maine Masons following a video presentation on "Civility" by the Grand Master of California, M.W. Ron Chivonia. This distinctive panel was made up of Bro. Perry Clarke; R.W. Bros. Larry Vennell and Randy Elliot; and M.W. Wayne Adams. There were numerous Past Grand Masters of Maine in the attendance as well as Past Grand Master Wayne Hitchcock from New Brunswick.

Maine's Masonic College *...an idea from long ago*

In 1848, M.W. Alexander H. Putney, in his Grand Master's Address, commented on "(t)he subject of education, the moral engine above all other human institutions calculated to raise man to his proper sphere, (which) has ever engaged the attention of our fraternity...." He then commented on the establishment of Masonic Colleges in Missouri and Kentucky.

Being favorably disposed to

Continued on Page 18

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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Facebook**



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

Brother George M.A. Macdougall

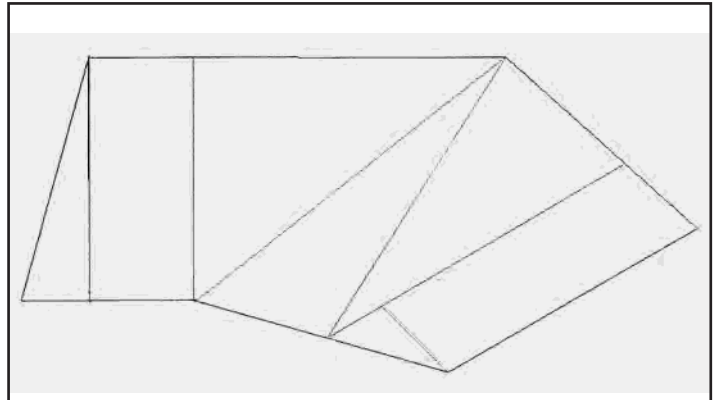
This is one article in a series on the people who created, discovered or redefined how modern architecture, engineering and science came about.

As we learned last time, our continuing subject probably wasn't a mason, but may have been the model for the calling out of 'Eureka' that is credited to Pythagoras in the ritual.

In the first installment we learned about Archimedes and his Principal involving water displacement. How he could use that principle to measure the volume of very complicated objects. Last time we explored some of the other discoveries he made in his lifetime such as screw pumps, leverage and pulley systems. In the last installment, we learned that Archimedes' calculations were so important to him, he asked a soldier to not attack him until he finished them. This time we will take a more in-depth look at those calculations that Archimedes worked on.

In an earlier 'Minutes' we found out that Sir Isaak Newton was the father of Calculus. Newton actually put together modern calculus but the roots of calculus go way back to Archimedes. Remember Newton felt that he built on what others had done before? We see this in his quote "If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants". One of those giants was Archimedes.

According to some, the greatest invention of Archimedes is 'integral calculus'. Using this, he measured the areas of irregular shapes. He broke the irregular shapes into a number of rectangles and triangles and then added the areas of those rectangles and triangles together. This principle is known as 'integration'. But the rectangles and triangles did not always fit perfectly so this method is really an approximation of the real area. Integral Calculus is a mathematical way to make infinitely small rectangles and triangles to cover all the area and get a very accurate measure of the irregular shaped area.



In this figure, you can see one way of calculating the approximate area of an irregular figure by breaking it down into right triangles and rectangles. What calculus does is make an infinite number of these areas to improve the accuracy of the calculated area obtained. (See the second installment on Newton for a more in-depth discussion on Calculus.)

Archimedes was a big believer that everything could be measured or counted. To prove this, he set out on the task of counting the number of sand grains the universe could contain. He was told this was impossible but he said that even though the number of grains would be very great, it was still finite and therefore could be counted.

In order to accomplish this, he first had to develop a system of very large numbers as up to that point, no one had one! The number system of the time only went up to a myriad which was 10,000. He then took his system to a myriad myriads (10,000 X 10,000) or 100,000,000.

Everything up to this number was considered 'first' numbers and this number itself was the base unit for the 'second' numbers. The second numbers went up to 100,000,000 X 100,000,000 or 10,000,000,000,000,000. He kept going in this fashion until he topped out at 1 followed by eighty quadrillion zeros (remember, he was going to count the number of sand grains in the universe!). In order to facilitate this huge system of zeros, he also developed the exponent system where numbers are signified by powers of ten (i.e. $10^8 = 1,000,000,000$).



Receiving recognition at the Maine Masonic College Convocation were Judy Macdougall, Richard Bowden, Donald McDougal, Walter Macdougall, Eric Kuntz and George Macdougall. They were congratulated by M.W. Brother David A. Walker, third from right.

The Diploma Program of the Maine Masonic College (*in brief*)

George Macdougall, Vice Chairman MMC

The Maine Masonic College (MMC) Diploma program is made up of the following two phases:

Certificate Program

This is the completion of specifically chosen courses that are felt by the board to be essential to anyone continuing on with their education. Completion of these courses demonstrates a strong commitment of time and determination to become a lifelong learner. This is also a stage of the Journey Program described below.

Diploma (Journey) Program

Completion of The Diploma or Journey Program is a crowning achievement of study at the Maine Masonic College. It takes initiative and work on the student's part, as I am learning from firsthand experience. It is something to brag about or even put down on a resume or letter for a brother running for Grand Lodge office. There is no end to the number of Journeys you can take with the Maine Masonic College.

What is a Diploma or as you have heard it called, a Journey? It is really a covenant between you as the student, an Instructor, and the Board. You choose what you want to study and approach the Board. The Board works with you to find an Instructor and develop an acceptable curriculum. You then work with the Instructor until you complete your personal journey. Part of this accomplishment is completing the core courses as speci-

fied in the Certificate program.

To see if you qualify for a certificate or want information to begin your journey, contact George Macdougall at george.macdougall@maine.gov

MMC, an idea...

Continued from Page 16

the idea, he said "... may we not, make a beginning, even though the completion of the project be left to after ages? I make the suggestion for your serious consideration." "After ages" turned into almost 8 score years until 2004 when M.W. Claire V. Tusch appointed M.W. Walter M. Macdougall "to design programs of Masonic education." On August 13, 2004, in Newport, the first meeting of the aptly named "Light Brigade" was convened.

R.W. Charles Plummer served, for many years following its inception, as M.W. Macdougall's aide-de-camp in the establishment of the College. The first Chairman of the Board of Regents was R.W. George M.A. Macdougall.

On May 6, 2005, the Maine Masonic College received its charter from the Grand Lodge of Maine "to provide an educational environment for the purpose of inspiring members of the craft and others to explore the nature of purposes of Masonry."

Inspirational Class at Masonic College

R.W. Rev. Mark Rustin brought out a large group of Masons from the 1st and 24th Districts at a Masonic College Program hosted by Monument Lodge in Houlton on Saturday, November 22, 2014. His lecture on “Bonds of Fellowship and Spirit” was attended by some thirty Masons and non-Masons.

Those in attendance included non-Masons ranging in age from eighteen years to a Quaker over eighty years who came to learn and to dialogue. A luncheon was served following the lecture and question and answer period.

A gifted speaker, Bro. Mark kept the audiences' attention focused on diverse aspects of the essence of Masonry. He began with the early operative Masons who knew that work on their cathedral would never be finished in their life time. He spoke of their fellowship amongst one another and of the abiding spirit in their souls over the generations it took to complete the work.

He referenced that special twenty minutes of the Third Degree which unites all Masons, a shared common experience never forgotten so that trust and commitment are points of beginning which need not be established when Masons first meet one another.

He stressed the importance of the spiritual bonds of fellowship which have made lodges survive through the ages. It is not the lodge hall, be it country simple or city ornate, either of which can become its own albatross, but rather that spiritual bond which truly unites us into one common society of friends and brethren.

He reminded us that the great cathedrals were built

as places of worship and safety, not just places to look at to enjoy their beauty.

Rev. Bro. Mark stressed that we do not live in a religious homogenized world or even country. “Masonry is not a religion” he said and “different views of deity is part and parcel of the Craft.”

Each Mason is in awe of the deity which he sees and tries to understand in his own way but which he does not fully comprehend.

He spoke of Masonry's ability to have three Volumes of the Sacred Law upon the altar and for the adherence of each to still come together as a body and sit as one.

Bro. Mark spoke of the continuing need of men to have a place where they may come together, share thoughts, and build spiritual relationships. The Masonic lodge has been and continues to be a unique place for men in the 21st Century.

Senior Past Senior Grand Warden, N. James Coolong, who attended the class, says that “All lodges should attend this program when offered in their area by the Maine Masonic College. It will enlighten them and motivate them in their lodge experience. Don't miss it.”



Pictured left to right:
District Deputies
Richard Work, 1st;
Larry Greenlaw,
24th; Jody
Anderson, Master of
Monument Lodge;
Rev. Mark E. Rustin;
and Harrison Roper,
Quaker.

Brother Donald Drake of Tyrian Lodge *Shares His View from the Rookie Chair*

Just under a year ago I was raised to a Master Mason at Tyrian Lodge #73 in Mechanic Falls. In that time I have jumped into many aspects of Masonry. As many before me, I had a desire to learn what Masonry is about. I had a Grandfather who was a Mason and died long before I thought about becoming one. My mother was a Rainbow Girl, and after many talks with her about what it entails, I got the usual reply; "I can't really tell you what it is all about, you will have to find out for yourself."

During that time I found out that a friend of mine was a Mason. So I asked him what it was about. In very vague answers, he hinted at some of the aspects of Masonry, careful not to divulge much, but enough to entice my curiosity to ask about joining. So I did. The following is brief synopsis of what it has been like in the past year and a half since I was accepted and then raised to a Master Mason.

Since being accepted, I have jumped at every opportunity to learn more about what it is to be a Mason. Since becoming a part of Tyrian Lodge, I have had nothing but an exceptional experience. Every person in our lodge is open and inviting. This made the comforts of joining much easier, as I was delving into my Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and finally my Master Mason degrees; learning lessons, working through my cipher to try to figure out what I was reading and understanding the purpose of what was written. I had an elder brother who helped me translate things when necessary.

I can say I had no idea what to expect with each degree and I was very glad to finally watch from the sidelines after going through them. It didn't take long for me to want to participate and be more involved. As our new Master was getting ready to take his place this past year, I was asked if I would like to take a chair. I jumped at the chance. Thankfully it has had few speaking parts, as I sit back and try to memorize everyone else's parts during lodge. I have tried to absorb everything around me for my future positions in the lodge. Knowing that I will be jumping a chair next year I will need that knowledge sooner than I thought.

I have had the chance to work on many events in our lodge. Bikes For Books, Strawberry Festival, Masonic Building Association meetings, and many other lodge-related events that I participated in were so much fun. Each of these events has been such a benefit to our community. I have visited a few lodges now to watch how other lodges perform their degree work. It has given me

ideas for when I finally make it to Worshipful Master.

The brothers involved genuinely care about what is going on around them, and strive to help out any place they can. I have no way to really explain to others about what it means to be a brother and part of the Masons. It's not an easy thing to do because there are so many different aspects of being a Mason. The more involved you are, the more you get out of it.

I guess my quick answer to people asking about it is; Masonry is a great philanthropic organization that benefits the community, and through that, other people benefit in many ways. I joined because of an inherent curiosity about what it is, and because of family that had been involved in Masonry. I liked the idea of continuing that tradition. I hope to instill the same values in my own children, and when they are old enough, encourage them to join this great fraternity I am proud to be part of.

The last thing I did of great importance this past year was to join Kora Shrine with two very close brothers. It was a great event at Summer Ceremonial. My brothers and I had an exceptional time with our wives and everyone there. We were fortunate to meet some very great people. I have now started on my next journey of Masonry as a Kora Shriner.



The mystery is solved, the question of what Past Senior Wardens do with their spare time has been answered. RW Robert J. Landry is shown here with the well house he designed and built using appropriate working tools. Nice job, Brother Landry. From here it looks perfectly square, level and plumb.

THE MAINE MASON

The Scholastic Heritage of the Freemasons

Donald G. Beane, Ph.D.

The following article was submitted by Brother Donald G. Beane, retired Air Force officer, now a professor in southern Maine and a new member of York Lodge #22 in Kennebunk. It is Part I of a two-part study.

PART I

From approximately 1100-1700 AD in Western Europe a new way of thinking, for modern Western Europe, began to develop. Called scholasticism it was an evolution in thought by some Church groups and individuals such as Blasé Pascal and Erasmus on how to reconcile the ancient, Greco-Roman Hellenistic approach of reason to philosophical questions and the Church's Judeo-Christian, non-reasoning, faith-based approach to those questions. From before this time until today these two approaches have been diametrically, and at times, often violently, opposed as witnessed by events in our world today. Their conflict grew out of two very different, conflicting, but intertwined, at least in Western Europe, cultures of thought. Simplistically, it was an Asiatic vs. Western conflict, over what the cultural approach to the process of thought would be; what intellectual ideas would dominate the cultural, intellectual environment. Scholasticism, along with various more specific organizations, like the Masons, sought to reconcile this conflict.

The Greco-Roman approach arose from the result of the struggles between the Greek city states during the golden Age of Greece from approximately 500-300 BCE. This period saw the emergence of the Hellenistic culture which would be adapted by the Romans, and long after Greece had ceased to be a significant World political power, serve as one of the main basis for the development of Western society. Several things of note for this discussion, the two powers which came to primarily dominate this development, during this period, were Athens and Sparta. It was their struggle for power with each other which drove the evolution of the overall Greek culture's direction. They were very different societies.

Particularly after the Lycurgus' reforms in Sparta, in approximately 800 BCE, called the Greek Rhethra (Spartan Constitution), transformed the city-state into a highly disciplined, military camp. The city became something similar to the society described in Aldus Huxley's Brave New World. Totalitarian, highly regimented, with the individual submerged in the group's unity. All thought, focus, and function were completely absorbed in absolute service to the state. Individual

endeavors were repressed in favor of the group's demands. Also any questioning or dissent was dealt with by draconian measures.

Athens was the opposite. As illustrated by Solon's reforms in 594 BCE, Athenian culture became increasingly individualistic. It not only evolved politically into the World's first democratic form of government (which is based on individual desires), with individual legal protections, but it inspired a huge explosion in ideas, art, and culture—all developed through individual endeavor. A major trend which grew out of this was the Socratic ideal. Simply, it argued, the goal of life was for the individual to come to know themselves. And they did this through an individualized, questioning method of reasoning. He would sit around a meal with his students, asking them questions, whose answers would serve as the basis for further questions, slowly leading them to a point of self-awareness/realization of an idea. With his guidance THEY discovered their answers. This was the beginning of the empirical method of investigation called the scientific method. It relied strictly on human reasoning—not revelation.

As a result of this intellectual approach Athenian culture climbed to new heights in all the intellectual endeavors of man with fundamental developments in art, science, history, academic pursuits, medicine, etc. For example, Aristarchus, through his research, became the first recorded person in history to believe in what we now widely accept as an astronomical given, a heliocentric solar system. After this period, this idea was repressed eventually by the Church-based system of Western Europe and would not develop again for another two millennia with Copernicus, Brahe, and Galileo during the period in which scholasticism helped drive the enlightenment.

Athens came to dominate the Peloponnesian peninsula, particularly with the formation of its dictatorial Delian League. And despite the twists and turns of its political fortunes and cultural changes (it eventually was defeated by a Spartan led coalition), these cultural values, did not die, but were exported, developed, and absorbed and adapted by first the Roman culture, then the Arabic and eventually came back to Western Europe, particularly during the Renaissance and Enlightenment, and challenged the Church's faith based system. They became the bases of the Hellenistic ideal, one of the main foundation stones of Western culture and thought

An important note here; Greek religion did not play a dominating role in their culture. There was a collection

Continued on Next Page

The Scholastic Heritage *Continued from Previous Page*

of Gods, who hung out on Mt. Olympus, but they were very “human” in behavior, attitudes, and appearance. Given to all the human frailties, their impact on mankind was frequently arbitrary, unilateral, and had little to do with any ethical system which transcended man’s life as deeply and extensively as the Judaic-Christian ideal would. They focused on the individual’s desires-not group obligations or commitments.

The other side of the intellectual debate was based in the Judaic-Christian heritage out of which developed our Christian belief system. Approximately 3,000 years ago, during the Bronze Age, with the immigration of a herdsman called Abraham from the city of Ur in the Fertile Crescent region, towards what is now Israel, a new, monotheistic, unitary religion began to develop heavily influenced by Asiatic culture. Several major precepts of this religion which developed and became the basis of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam were: 1) God is unknowable and cannot be discovered by reason. 2) He exclusively wants our love and worship above all else. 3) The measure of our love is our faith. 4) His worship is in everything we do, in all aspects of our lives. 5) He has given us his laws, as explained to us by His church, and our unquestioning faith in those laws are a measure of our love for him. 6) The laws, which cover all aspects of our lives, are beyond question since they come from Him, and they are not derived from reason. 7) The promise to man for this devotion and faith, was that God would protect and take care of him, particularly in his afterlife. The degree of this protection; however, was dependent on the degree of the individual’s devotion and worship. In contrast to the Greeks, Jewish religion dominated and was intertwined with the culture.

The great Jewish philosopher, Maimonides, put this approach into 13 specific governing points of faith, which though speaking of the Torah, would, in turn, apply respectively to the Bible and Qur’an as well:

1. I believe with perfect faith that the Creator, Blessed be His Name, is the Creator and Guide of everything that has been created; He alone has made, does make, and will make all things.
2. I believe with perfect faith that the Creator, Blessed be His Name, is One, and that there is no unity in any manner like His, and that He alone is our God, who was, and is, and will be.
3. I believe with perfect faith that the Creator, Blessed be His Name, has no body, and that He is free from all the properties of matter, and that there can be no (physical) comparison to Him whatsoever.
4. I believe with perfect faith that the Creator,

Blessed be His Name, is the first and the last.

5. I believe with perfect faith that to the Creator, Blessed be His Name, and to Him alone, it is right to pray, and that it is not right to pray to any being besides Him.

6. I believe with perfect faith that all the words of the prophets are true.

7. I believe with perfect faith that the prophecy of Moses our teacher, peace be upon him, was true, and that he was the chief of the prophets, both those who preceded him and those who followed him.

8. I believe with perfect faith that the entire Torah that is now in our possession is the same that was given to Moses our teacher, peace be upon him.

9. I believe with perfect faith that this Torah will not be exchanged, and that there will never be any other Torah from the Creator, Blessed be His Name.

10. I believe with perfect faith that the Creator, Blessed be His Name, knows all the deeds of human beings and all their thoughts, as it is written, “Who fashioned the hearts of them all, Who comprehends all their actions” (Psalms 33:15).

11. I believe with perfect faith that the Creator, Blessed be His Name, rewards those who keep His commandments and punishes those that transgress them.

12. I believe with perfect faith in the coming of the Messiah; and even though he may tarry, nonetheless, I wait every day for his coming.

13. I believe with perfect faith that there will be a revival of the dead at the time when it shall please the Creator, Blessed be His name, and His mention shall be exalted for ever and ever.

When Christianity came along in approximately 33 AD, these basic tenets of Judaism, became the basic tenets of Christianity and later, in the 700s, Islam. From this Asiatic approach to religion-religious domination of all society, strictly faith based, etc.- a movement came which swept away the polytheistic religions of the Romans and Greeks and transformed the power relations of society, adding a new major player-the Church. With the sweeping away of the Greco-Roman approach, the idea of using reason to address society’s questions was also swept away. The answer to those questions now derived from a faith based adherence to the dictates of God’s definer and interpreter-the Church. Society became much more authoritarian, and as the later inquiries demonstrated, totalitarian.

There were several reasons the Greco-Roman approach initially lost its dominance in the Northern

Continued on Next Page

They Know How to Pitch 'Em at Lebanon Lodge #116

September 27, 2014 was ringer of a day! That was the date Lebanon Lodge hosted its 2nd Annual Horseshoe Tournament. Four teams participated. From the youngest to the oldest, everyone had a blast. Tournament winners were Robert Farmer and Brian Thebarga, second place went to Gil Taylor and Robert Smith, third to Myron Smith and Jeremy Kaherl and fourth place to Gary Foss and Phillip Kaherl.

Our concession stand, staffed by Gwen Thebarga and Mary Taylor, was busy turning out hamburgers, hot dogs, potato chips, soda, water and some great homemade desserts. The ladies also kept score for us.

Mark your calendars for the 2015 tournament which will be held on Saturday, September 26. We're inviting more teams to come and play and enjoy some good times.

We look forward to seeing you next year.



The two ladies who made it all work.



Front Row: Myron Smith, Back Row (L to R): Phillip Kaherl, Jeremy Kaherl, Gary Foss, Robert Farmer, Brian Thebarga, Robert Smith and Gill Taylor.

Scholastic Heritage *Continued from Preceding Page*

Mediterranean and developing Western Europe. Starting about 200 BCE the Roman Empire's center (Rome) began to ethically and morally decline. As Descartes' maxim states: "power corrupts and total power corrupts totally." Rome's elite had total power over the largest empire known to that time. Every whim among the elite became indulgeable. Greco-Roman reasoning largely serviced the rationalization necessary to justify these abuses of that power.

Also, to govern the Empire, Rome opened the door to every cult and system of belief. With this vast flood of

ideas into the earlier Roman ethical and belief system, which had driven the creation of the Empire, the dilution of the system caused it to lose its meaning and social value. By the time of Tiberius, when the development of Christianity was starting in the remote province of Israel, the traditional ethical/moral system at the Empire's center was irretrievably corrupted and collapsing. The Greco-Roman intellectual approach without a core ethical and moral center, failed to provide a cohesive, unifying sense of values to the highly diverse culture of the Empire which could have helped it to maintain the sense of culture and values which had initially created it.

Is Maine Masonry Shooting Itself in the Foot?

By R.W. Bob Mercer

This article was inspired by reading two books written by Dwight L. Smith, Past Grand Master and Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana entitled “Whither Are We Travelling” and “Why This Confusion in the Temple?” Published by The Masonic Service Association, the first printings were in 1962 and 1964 and although that goes back 50 years and more, the messages still ring true today.

Brother Smith pointed out that we all became Masons of our own free will and accord but that doesn’t exempt us from being productive members. With membership we have an obligation to make ourselves into better men and in doing so keep the Craft a sound institution.

At the risk of being labeled a heretic I would like to offer something to think about. From the time I became a brother I have tried to read as much as possible about the craft. Do I know everything about Masonry? Not by a long shot. But I do have some thoughts about how we, as Masons, have possibly weakened our beloved institution.

Why do we have 50+ year members who remain active? The first thing I get from those I have talked with is that they were schooled on the cipher, were told in no uncertain terms what was expected of them, and that it was a privilege – not a right – to be a Mason. What has changed?

We have become soft on new members for fear of losing them. It is my opinion that if we want an active brother we must demand more of him from the start. If the new Mason leaves because of that, what have we lost? Maybe just another brother who never attends meetings and, after a time, loses his membership for non payment of dues.

So what is the new idea, you may ask. Truth is, the idea is not new. It’s much older than I am. The idea – the truth – is that there must be work involved to obtain something of real value. Real value must be earned.

Are all new Masons duly and truly prepared? From what I’ve observed, for far too many the answer is “no.” The effort is not being made. Little things like not being able to give the signs of the degrees is an early clue. The haste to raise a new brother had led lodges to let him slide because degree night is here and we don’t want to go home without doing the work of the evening.

Is this not a disservice to the candidate, and to the craft? Would it not be better to postpone the work and help him really earn his next degree. It’s the same for encouraging the new Mason to give his lesson in open lodge. It takes some labor to prepare for that but the reward for both candidate and craft is well worth the effort. The sense of accomplishment gives him courage and pride and helps prepare him to assume an active role in the lodge later on. The new Mentoring Program, properly utilized, should provide the new Mason with needed skills and support to accomplish these goals.

Things in life that have value are not, for the most part, free. Whether it be creating a good marriage, job, or children, success at any of these challenges must be worked for. Freemasonry is no exception.

*The Rev. Dr. Michael Glidden,
a frequent contributor with his
poetry to The Maine Mason, is
newly appointed Chaplain of
York Lodge #22 in Kennebunk.*

Son of Liberty

Man on a rider
How I must admire

Your life of
Liberty and
Freedom

You warned many
Of
Impending doom

Coming afar across the
sea

A lantern lit
To warn others

Man of silver
Your bowl pours forth

Below the stone
There is but dust

Hope goes on
We carry on

Like a rider
High on a horse

Bro Michael Glidden
7-10-13



Brethren on the right side of the tracks at Alna Station.

Wiscasset Masons Enjoy Second Annual Railroad Degree

The second annual Railroad Degree was conferred by Lincoln Lodge #3 of Wiscasset on June 21st.

Nearly 50 brethren from 13 lodges gathered at the Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway Museum in Alna and traveled by two-foot narrow gauge railroad cars along the restored railway bed to Alna Crossing and then to a field deep in the woods to enjoy a great cookout and confer the Master Mason Degree. Wor. Brother Jeff Averill was in the East for the degree. Candidates were Jessie J. Lee of Phippsburg and Lynn J. Talacko of Whitefield.

The railroad operated from 1894 until 1933. At

one time it was owned by Brother Frank Winter of Auburn who planned to haul lumber by train to Wiscasset, then ship it market on his well-known coastal schooners, the Hesper and Luther Little, tied up for decades just down river from the Route 1 bridge in Wiscasset.

The museum and railway restoration project was inspired by Brother Harry A. Percival Jr. of Dirigo Lodge in Weeks Mills. He grew up along the railroad right of way.

Lincoln Lodge members expect an even bigger time next year as the entire District 10 has taken on the project as an important Masonic event.



M.W. Brother Walter Macdougall has been a most productive member of the craft for many years, 55 years in fact. He was presented his 55-year star at Piscataquis Lodge's Past Masters Night on November 14th in Milo. Pictured here are Brother Macdougall; and Wor. Brother David Pullen, Master of Piscataquis Lodge.



Movin' on down the two-foot line.

A Masonic Time Capsule

by Bro. Steve Edmondson

It has been a year since I was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason in a rare outdoor ceremony. This past year has been remarkable as I have grown as a Freemason and learned more about just what it means to be part of this brotherhood.

A significant factor in becoming a Mason and specifically joining the Village Lodge in Bowdoinham was learning that my Grandfather was a member and past Master of this Lodge. My Grandfather died in 1964 when I was just 8 so I had no exposure to his involvement in Masonry.

As I progressed through the Degrees, I queried several family members about my Grandfather's personal effects, hoping and praying his Mason ring had been handed down or preserved. Unfortunately, time and the deaths of some of my mother's siblings left me with little information and no ring. Some speculated he was buried with it if he had one at all while others simply had no recollection after five decades. Believing this to be a lost cause, I purchased my own Mason ring shortly after being raised.

When my Grandfather died 50 years ago, family members at that time gathered his personal effects and packed them away. Over time, those items were simply forgotten about. Recently an aunt of mine passed away in Bowdoinham. Living next door to my mother, several boxes from the aunt's home ended up in her kitchen. As my mother sifted through the boxes to help in dis-

posal, she was taken aback by what she discovered in one of the boxes; a fifty year old Freemason time capsule.

My mother immediately called me when she discovered the items. She first pulled out a well-worn leather wallet with my Grandfather's initials engraved on one side. On the other side was the unmistakable symbol of Freemasons; the Square and Compasses. Digging further she came across a small leather bound book which turned out to be my Grandfather's cypher book. Could this be happening?

Next were two letters addressed to my Grandfather, one dated in 1963 and the other 1964, the year he passed away. One envelope contained the schedule of the Village Lodge for the calendar year of 1964. The second envelope had the program for installation of officers for Village Lodge set for October of that year. It is noteworthy to mention the postage for the envelopes was four cents. My mother said she would bring these items to me on her next visit. I hadn't bothered to ask about a ring as she would have told me. Or would she?

A week later my mother arrives at my house with a small bag. She pulls out the cypher book, wallet and envelopes. I enjoyed looking at these items as it was a snapshot in time 50 years ago for the Lodge and of my Grandfather. Without saying a thing, my mother hands me a small box. I could tell something was up by the increasing smile on her face.

Adequate words do not exist to describe the feeling that overcame me when I opened the box. Showing signs of wear and with a dent on the band but with the unmistakable shine of the gold, I had been handed the Holy Grail of Masonry memorabilia; my Grandfather's Freemason ring.



The Masonic Holy Grail.



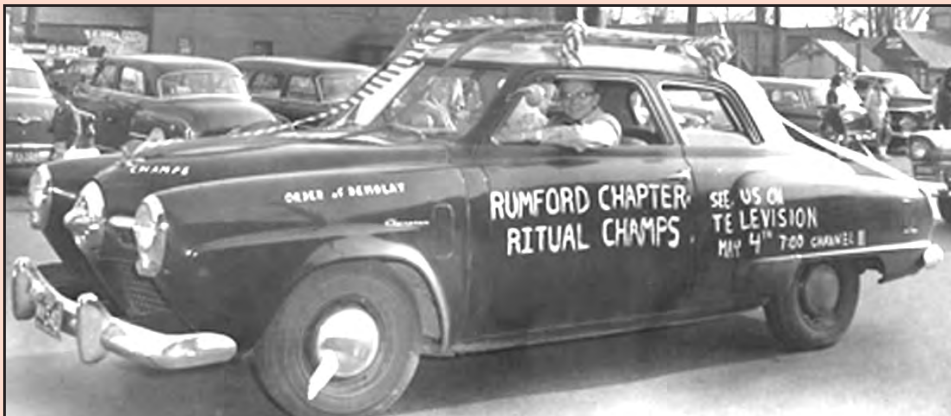
The well-worn wallet.

Worth Checkin' Out



Star In The West Lodge #85 in Unity is sporting a brand spanking new sign replacing the original one erected when the lodge was built in 1996. The posts on the old sign had rotted and the signage was badly faded. There was also no practical way for tenant, Cassie's School of Dance, to advertise on the old sign. This new sign is a collaborative effort among several members of the lodge. Lodge Master Pete Quimby extends sincere thanks to Charles King, Barry McCormick, Bill Allen, Maurice Call and all the others who helped make this long term goal become reality. "It's always nice to greet visitors to our lodge," Brother Quimby says. "This new sign will help direct them to our hall."

Third Degree Southern Maine Chapter Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association (WSMRA) held a chapter breakfast in September at Fraternal Lodge in Alfred prior to attending the funeral for Brother Ellsworth Chabourne. The breakfast was made possible by Springvale Lodge Brother Gary Nadeau of Hannaford who supports our Thanksgiving and Christmas community relief efforts.



Need some help here! R.W. Brother Blad Blake submitted this old photo but has no information to go with it. Can anyone fill in the blank spaces? When did the Rumford Chapter of DeMolay earn the Ritual Championship, and who are the boys pictured in this old Studebaker?

Two Past Senior Grand Wardens Back at Labor

Brothers Forrest and Lagerquist Presenting Veterans Medals

R.W. Brothers Pete Forrest and Jack Lagerquist have proven to be a valuable team in presenting Veterans Medals to Maine Masons now living in Florida. Brother Pete usually makes the award and Brother Jack, identified as "myself" in the following write ups, records the events in word and photo.



ON Nov. 13, RW Pete Forrest, and myself, travelled to Port Charlotte to deliver a Grand Lodge of Maine 50-Year Veterans Medal to Brother John P. Wellington, a member of Monument Lodge, #96, of Houlton. Brother Wellington, now 86 years young, is a very entertaining and interesting person. He originally went to Houlton back when Interstate 95 was being constructed. He is a Civil Engineer, and his Boston firm was contracted by the State of Maine to do the engineering for the interstate. Brother Wellington especially remembered RW Herschel McIntosh, PSGW, from his time in Houlton. Pete and I advised him that we had both been bagpipers in Anah Temple Shrine Band and proudly wore the McIntosh Tartan in RW Herschel's honor.

ON No. 20, RW Pete Forrest, and myself, travelled to Lakeland to deliver a Grand Lodge of Maine 50-Year Veterans Medal to Brother Sherman E. Harrington, a member of Narraguagus Lodge, #88, Cherryfield. He joined the US Air Force shortly after graduating from high school and served for twenty years in the US Air Force in the security forces service and retired as a Master Sergeant in 1972. He then went on to serve in the Security area of the FAA at Boston's Logan Airport. Upon his retirement from the FAA, he and his wife Betty, moved to Lakeland, FL, and established their retirement home.



ON Nov. 18 RW Pete Forrest, and myself, travelled to New Port Richey to deliver a Grand Lodge of Maine 50-Year Veterans Medal to Worshipful Brother Alfred J. Cortis, a member of Pownal Lodge #119, Stockton Springs. He joined the US Coast Guard shortly after graduating from high school and served four years in the North Atlantic District. Shortly after his discharge from the USCG he enlisted in the US Air Force, as he had enough of the North Atlantic sea duty. After completing his initial US Air Force training he was detailed to rescue boats due to his prior USCG experience. Following that tour of duty he transferred to Alaska and was highly involved along the DEW (Defense Early Warning) Line. He was suited up in seal skins, and flown in a civilian aircraft by a civilian pilot to numerous outposts along the DEW Line to perform his duties. While he did not give specifics of what he was actually doing it is fairly clear that his work was highly classified. He retired as a Senior Chief Master Sergeant. Following his military career he went on to work for twenty years with the State of Florida.



Why a Masonic Lodge of Research?

By RWB Lorne Urquhart
Senior Warden, MLR

Entering the mystical and enigmatic world of Freemasonry is so unlike anything else we have previously experienced in life, that we are overwhelmed. Sadly, many attempting to seek clarity on the many issues that elude our understanding feel uncomfortable not knowing who to ask, or worse, feel so embarrassed they refrain from asking questions. So many of us will continue on our Masonic journey shrouded in darkness and simply just go with the flow. This is unfortunate because it is not the intended design for the Masonic experience to be so elusive. Ignorance represented as barriers encumbers our ability to further define ourselves as Freemasons.

The Craft is indeed a lifelong study that begins with some basic interpretations of ritual that together with the proper input help propel us along our Masonic path. Even when dimly illuminated like a night light in a dark corridor, you begin to realize that you are not only on the right path but your demeanor reflects it. Recalling the answer to the words, "My Brother in your present situation what do you most desire?" The answer is simple, but as a quester, having some idea of where and how to begin would be extremely helpful. None of us came into this world running, we crawled and with supporting adults took baby steps and eventually were walking on our own. We would like you to think of a lodge of research as being composed of supporting mature adults who will do all in their power to help you get up to speed. It is said that the more you learn, the more you realize how little you really know. With Masonic knowledge comes understanding and a positive transmutation that will impact your life and those around you.

For those of you who are aware of the Maine Lodge of Research (MLR) but may not have taken the time to inquire on its reason for being, consider this a personal invitation for you to come and visit. We guarantee you will not feel uncomfortable or out of place. For by the very act of attending, this is your place! The papers delivered and discussed are on such topics as history, philosophy, symbolism as well as others of Masonic interest. The brethren attending this fine lodge all share a common interest, to enrich their Masonic knowledge through communication. Allow us to enrich yours. Don't cheat yourself of your potential, after all, it is your destiny.

The MLR meets quarterly on the fourth Saturday of March, June, September and the first Saturday of December at the Bangor Masonic Center, 294 Union Street. For more information contact Brother Richard Bowden at BowdenRL@aol.com



Basrelief sculpture
"Research holding the torch
of knowledge" (1896) by Olin
Levi Warner. Library of
Congress, Thomas Jefferson
Building, Washington DC

Wor. Brother Raymond L. Spaulding received his third 5-year star to attach to his 50-year Veterans Medal at a meeting of his "new" home lodge, Zephr Lodge #198 of Zephyrhills, Florida. Once Brother Spaulding moved to Florida, he wasted no time becoming an active member of the local lodge. Raised on March 8, 1949 in Rising Virtue Lodge #10 in Bangor, he served as Master in 1964 and now stands as Senior Past Master of that lodge. MW Brother Leighton remarked that the reception for Brother Spaulding from the brethren of Zephr Lodge, as well as from the ladies of the local Eastern Star chapter, certainly demonstrated that our brother is held in as high regard and is as well respected in his adopted community as he is back home.



Lynde Lodge Demonstrates: 'So Very Thankful'

By Ed King

"WOW! What a meal. I am STUFFED!" It was all that and more at the 5th Thanksgiving Day dinner hosted by Lynde Lodge #174 in Hermon. A foot of snow in the Bangor area overnight was only a minor hindrance as lodge members and volunteers got up early, shoveled out their cars and headed to the town center where they prepared and served meals of turkey, ham, potatoes, veggies, pies and more to make a full Thanksgiving feast. Multiple servings were encouraged and those who attended were quite clearly pleased.

The cost? Not a penny. Since the event started, no payment for meals has been requested or accepted! Local businesses have supported the lodge's efforts and have been generous beyond all expectations. The principle organizer, Past Master Audie Gould, gives all of the credit to his lodge members and the rest of the volunteers who give up their meal at home to serve others. It is just one way in which the lodge maintains an active presence in the community where it has existed since 1874.

Last year saw a total of 170 meals served including 30 which were delivered to those unable to come to the lodge. Because of



Brother Russ Maynard preparing to serve from the first of several hot trays full of turkey.

the snow, this year there were a few less served on site (161) with requests for 40

take-out meals delivered. Prior to the event, a larger attendance was anticipated so there was much food left over. A truck was loaded and enough food for approximately 50 meals was delivered to the Bangor Homeless Shelter for residents there.

In years past, meals were served on plastic plates but, during the summer, the lodge installed a new dishwasher so that china could be used, making the occasion even more home-like. Fresh flowers and candles on the tables, along with Cub Scouts who had volunteered to bus tables, all made for a comfortable and caring atmosphere.

Some of those attending saw the signs which appear on and alongside the lodge immediately after Halloween. Many who were present had also come in the past, returning again to share in the good food and fellowship. Sitting family-style with a large group really was reminiscent of that first Thanksgiving meal and the attentiveness of everyone involved made it a very relaxed atmosphere.

It was indeed a wonderful day and a truly great example of Freemasonry letting their community know that **Masons Care!** After watching the hub-bub of activity, never overwhelming despite the many who were there during the three hours that meals were served, I asked Brother Gould what he planned to do differently for next year. In his unassuming fashion, he replied simply, "Get better weather!"

Remember, if you're anywhere near the Bangor area next Thanksgiving, you *should* attend. You'll understand why so many now look forward to this extraordinary event.



A group of guests getting their dinners.

8th ANNUAL
“Scottish Rite Ladies Weekend Out”

All Master Masons and their Ladies are cordially invited to attend our 8th
“Ladies Weekend Out” to be held
Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 23th, 24th & 25th, 2015
at Point Lookout Resort in Northport, Maine

Accommodations:

One Bedroom King Studio Cabin; \$99 per night.

Two Bedroom Queen, Two Bath Cabin; \$139 per night.

Three Bedroom, Two Bath Cabin; \$179 per night.

Please make your Cabin reservations with Point Lookout Resort
67 Atlantic Highway (US Route 1), Northport, Maine
Tel: 800-515-3611

Room Reservation must be made by December 24, 2014 for these prices.

Activities reservations below must be made through the Scottish Rite Office by **Jan. 15th**

Checks payable to Valley of Portland, and mailed with Registration Form below to:

Valley of Portland, PO Box 303, Bowdoinham, ME 04008

Any questions call Brad Blake at 207-772-7711

Friday Night Dinner at the Rockport Masonic Center
361 Main St, Rockport 6:00 PM Social 6:30 PM Dinner

Saturday Afternoon - Bowling Tournament & Card Playing at the Resort 1:00-4:30 PM

Saturday Night Banquet / Dancing 6:00-7:00 Social Hour, 7:00 Dinner

Sunday Morning Breakfast at The Summit at the Top of the Resort 8:00-10:00 AM

Couples Package #1 - For those spending 2 nights at the Resort - **\$89**

(Fri.) Dinner at Masonic Ctr; (Sat.) Bowling, Banquet & dancing; (Sun.) Breakfast; all at Resort.

Couples Package #2 - For those spending 2 nights at the Resort - **\$79**

(Friday) Dinner at Masonic Ctr; (Saturday) Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at Resort.

Couples Package #3 - For couples spending 1 night at the Resort - **\$69**

(Saturday) Bowling; Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at Resort.

Couples Package #4 - For couples spending 1 night at the Resort. - **\$59**

(Saturday) Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at the Resort.

Saturday night dress; Jacket & Tie; Ladies dress appropriately. - All other events casual.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Lady: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Package #: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

The --- MAINE MASON ---

Grand Lodge of Maine
PO Box 430
Holden, ME 04429

Nonprofit Organization
U.S.POSTAGE

PAID

Portland, Maine
Permit No. 256

If undeliverable, please do not return.



Masonry's Universality...

Many new Masons hear of Masonry's universality and likely have questions about the claim of universal brotherhood. Here's a bit of proof in the form of the stained glass star above the front door entry of the active Masonic Temple in Amsterdam, Holland. The photo was taken by R.W. Brother Tom Pulkkinen last Spring while on a trip through parts of western Europe. Lodge buildings, some grand, others far simpler, are homes to millions of Freemasons throughout the free world. Seek them out on your travels. You'll find a brother ready to extend a welcoming hand.