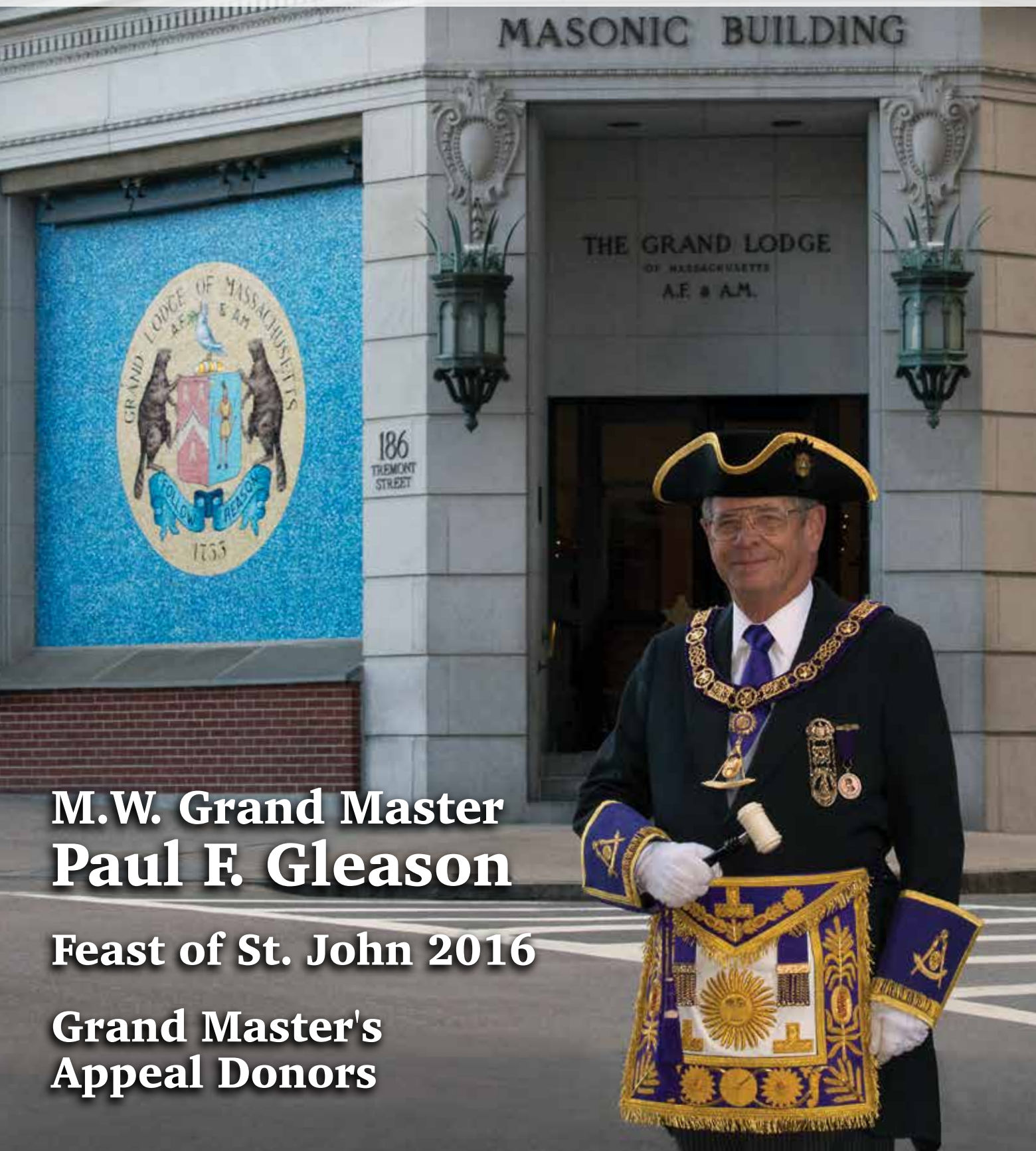


TROWEL

GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS WINTER 2016-17



**M.W. Grand Master
Paul F. Gleason**

Feast of St. John 2016

**Grand Master's
Appeal Donors**

From the East of Grand Lodge

PAUL F. GLEASON

Brethren,

A new year, a new Grand Master with new plans and an important theme. I thank you for your confidence in electing me your 89th Grand Master. Aided by an outstanding suite of Grand Lodge officers, I look forward to a year of new challenges and experiences as we go forward—together.

As you know by now our theme is MEMBERSHIP. Under the direction of Rt. Wor. Brother William Yanakakis' Membership Committee, a series of initiatives is being developed to advance that theme. First, continue our proud history of service and charity to make our great fraternity better known to the community. Develop new members—replace yourself! Finally, retain the members we already have—contact all members of your lodge often to make them feel welcome and needed. I expect and hope that all Massachusetts Masons will support Brother Yanakakis in this very important effort.

Perhaps a brief explanation of the cover on this edition of the TROWEL is in order. The Board of Directors has approved the renovation and rental of what used to be the Paul Revere dining room by a well-known Boston restaurant developer. As part of this renovation, the mosaic of our Great Seal on the outside of the Grand Lodge building will be covered—but not removed—by opaque glass. It is important to preserve the memory of that mosaic so I arranged for it to be in the background of the TROWEL'S cover. It was certainly “exciting” to stand in the middle of the Tremont/Boylston intersection in full regalia hoping that the camera would work before the traffic light turned green but I believe the historic benefit was worth the tension.

So, let us go “Forward-Together” in this New Year and remember—Replace Yourself!

Fraternally,

Paul F. Gleason

Grand Master



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Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts
MW Harvey J. Waugh



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Change Joyously

It is hard to imagine the ship of Freemasonry in our Massachusetts. How many elements are there? There are the Brothers, their lodges, the buildings in which their lodges sit, the districts with their governing structure, the Grand Lodge, and of course the appendant bodies. This is not counting places like The Overlook and other facilities, the building of Grand Lodge, or the financial structures. Nor does this count the huge number of people who rely on our charity for help and joy in their lives.



But everything on that list has to do with one thing, points to one thing: our future.

Many lodges now have new Masters. When I was Master of my lodge, God was laughing at my plans. Happily, I had a lodge of fantastic Brothers and we all joined in the laughter. I watched the Brothers of my lodge do more and show more virtue than I had. It was a joy.

But it was a change, it was a shift of direction, it was moving us toward a new future. Every new Master or Grand Master moves the ship of Masonry, be it your own beloved lodge or the entirety of Masonry. The fear, and the joy, in watching the ship of Masonry comes not only in the mystery of what is next, but also in the joy of helping in the Master's or Grand Master's newly envisioned direction, our new future.

The most important guarantor of that future is each and every one of us. In the last issue of TROWEL there was a card to help us talk about Freemasonry with a soon-to-be-brother. This, hopefully, will help us talk to our next brother at work, in the neighborhood, or elsewhere. This will ensure our future.

Now, we have a new Grand Master, M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason. I have watched our M. Wor. Bro. Gleason dutifully supply reports for the Charters & By Laws committee at nearly every quarterly communication of Grand Lodge for years. He has been a hard worker. Now, he is our leader. He will face challenges unforeseen, as every Master of every lodge faces. He will have goals, some within reach, some may be just out of reach, just like every Master of every lodge.

But the excitement of a new Grand Master is the direction we will all help to achieve. I don't know all the specifics of that direction, I have doubts that even our M. Wor. Bro. Gleason knows every of detail that direction. But I know that our working to replace ourselves and working to ensure the vibrancy of our lodge rooms, will bring to fruition our Grand Master's vision for our future.

Fraternally, *Lee H. Fenn*

Correction: In the last issue I wrote about Satucket Lodge. However, I spelled it Santucket. I apologize for my error.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
MARCH 22, 2017**

Quinebaug Lodge: Charity Pantry and Puppy

The Birth of Quinebaug Lodge Hiram Pantry

Serving our Brothers and their families and friends since 2005

It was the winter of 2005, a harsh one, and there was a call for help in the town of Webster. There was a house fire which displaced several families. The tenants lost everything and their immediate need was for food and shelter. The local pantry, located in the basement of the United Church of Christ, was operated by a brother mason and his wife, Ted and Donna Farrow of Webster. Brother Ted put the call out to all lodges within the 24th District for help. The members of Quinebaug Lodge came to their aid and started to bring food to the lodge for the families along with clothing and toiletries. The number of homeless families also increased in the community. The church wanted to open a shelter, in addition to the pantry/soup kitchen



From left: Bro. George Makara, Gwen Weissinger, Dr. Jim Fitzgerald founder and Director of the SLTP program at Nichols College and Jenn Hickey

en they already had. The only obstacle they had was beds. Hearing this, a brother of Quinebaug Lodge, who was a contractor, informed us that he was

working on a job site were portable beds were purchased for the workers but the new beds were never used. After gaining *continued on page 26*

Chloe the therapy dog working a table for International Therapy Dogs.



Quinebaug Lodge Therapy Dog Honored

This is a story of a Mason, Bro. Vincenzo Jimmy Falzone, and his therapy dog Chloe, the bond and love they both had for people and making children and the elderly smile. Chloe received her therapy dog license in 2005 and we immediately joined the Melha Shriners K-9's for Kids Unit. During her time as a therapy dog Chloe visited many children at the Shriners Children's Hospital in Springfield and the elderly at the Overlook Masonic Home in Charlton. Chloe belonged to 3 therapy dog organizations during her 8 years of service. We represented those organizations by the color working vests I had depending on the facility we visited at that time.

Chloe was a *continued on page 26*

“The Fellowship of the Light”

by *Rt. Wor. and The Rev. Brian R. Marsh*

“It is impossible for those who walk in darkness... Ignorance and vice to have fellowship with [the] light.” Few Freemasons would disagree with such a statement. This simple, straightforward sentence calls attention to the moral teachings that provide the foundation of all Masonic activity. The short sentence also calls attention to the importance of “light” in our Masonic endeavors. Masons should always seek out the light of truth in any worthwhile activity. It will come as no surprise, then, that a Freemason wrote these words. Who better to refer to the Craft as a “Fellowship of the Light” than one who has journeyed as a Mason from darkness into light. The entire Masonic degree system is predicated upon our desire, as Masons, to receive more light.

The author who coined the phrase “Fellowship of the Light” will be unknown to most Masons. Though he was a contemporary of George Washington, Paul Revere and Joseph Warren, most of us have never heard of Edward Bass. But this man had a long and distinguished career as both clergyman and Freemason. The Right Reverend Edward Bass was the first Bishop of Massachusetts in the Protestant Episcopal Church. He also served as Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

On St. John's Day in 1779, Bishop Bass preached a sermon at St. John's Lodge in Newburyport, Massachusetts. It was there that he introduced the phrase “fellowship of the light.” His biographer, Daniel Dulany Addison, notes that “This sermon contains many passages of beauty, some of epigrammatic power, and others which reveal something of the heart of the preacher.”¹ The heart of Bishop Bass was no doubt influenced by the Scriptures. But he was also no doubt influenced by the moral precepts of Freemasonry, which are certainly consistent with the religious princi-

ples of his religious faith.

As Freemasons, we are certainly members of a fraternity of the light. Our fellowship is bound together by a shared symbolic experience of passing from darkness into light. But the power of that symbol, repeated for us again and yet again, is designed to teach us the ongoing importance of becoming more fully who we can become as the light of truth is progressively revealed to us.

Light is also represented in a variety of ways within our lodges. Images of the sun and moon adorn many of our aprons and badges. We are constantly made aware of our need to seek out the light of truth in our ritualistic work. Certainly, the most dramatic aspects in every degree occurs when the candidate receives light for the first time. This unveiling is a memorable occasion, not only for the candidate, but for those present who witness the moment when that candidate receives the light of Masonry.

Masons are also aware of the Great and Lesser Lights of the Craft. Brother Edward Bass was, as a bishop in the church, particularly knowledgeable about one of the great Lights in Masonry. He carried its image

with him. When he served the Grand Lodge, the image of Holy Scripture, one of the Great Lights in Masonry, was sewn onto the apron he wore as a Grand Chaplain.

Doubtless when Bishop and Brother Edward Bass sat in Lodge with his brothers of the Craft, passages from Scripture would often come to mind. Perhaps, at certain times during the exemplification of Masonic ritual, we may imagine that this verse from St. John's Gospel came to his mind: “In Him was life and the life was the light of men.” ■



The Right Reverend Edward Bass

¹Addison, Daniel Dulany. *The Life and Times of Edward Bass*. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin and Company, 1897, p. 170.

Rt. Wor. and the Rev. Brian R. Marsh, Grand Chaplain, is a past District Deputy and a Bishop in the Anglican Church in America.

THE DECEMBER 2016 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS



by *Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

It was time. The cheers upon the entrance of The Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, the Most Worshipful Harvey John Waugh rang out as the Winter Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts began. The hall knew: this was the Grand Master's final quarterly communication.

The Color Guard, a contingent from the Colonial Craftsmen, was comprised of Rt. Wors. David Newcomb—Captain of the Guard—Walter Hunt, Charles Katsanos, Jack Mulhall and Wor. Theodore Hatch.

After pledging allegiance to our flag, and singing The Star Spangled Banner, the Grand Marshal retired to the ante chamber to bring in Patricia Latham and Lisa Hastings to the East. From the East, they explained the exemplary work of the winners of the Secretary of the Year Awards: Rt. Wor. Timothy J. Kelly of Boylston and Guiding Lights Lodges and Wor. Wally C. Therrien of George H. Tabor and Abraham H. Howland Lodges (not in attendance).

After the presentation, the brethren assembled sang the hymn Oh God Our Help in Ages Past, prayed with Grand Chaplin Rt. Wor. and Rt. Rev. Richard Haley, and the Grand Lodge Winter Quarterly communication was opened in ample form.

The Grand Master introduced to the Brethren assembled

the distinguished guests: M. Excel. Charles R. Austin, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts; M. Ill. Demetrios J. Sarantopoulos, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Massachusetts; Sir Knight Kenneth G. Sallale, Rt. Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, and the Appendent Orders, of Massachusetts and Rhode Island; Ill. Donald M. Moran, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts, Ill. Peter R. Smith, 33°, Active for Massachusetts, Ill. Robert C. Schremser, 33°, Active for Massachusetts, Ill. C. William Lakso, 33°, Active for Massachusetts, and Ill. Ralph I Sewall, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts, all from Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the USA; M. Wor. Thomas E. Pulkinnen, Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine; Rt. Wor. Wilbur Evans, Sr., Grand Marshal Emeritus, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Rt. Wor. Gerald Thraxton, Grand Secretary, Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Rt. Wor. James Whitehead, Grand Marshal, Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Rt. Wor. Wilbur Evans, Sr., Grand Marshal Emeritus, of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; M. Wor. Nicholas Locker, Past Grand Master and Grand Representative (G.L. of MA) of The Most Worshipful

Left: With a smile, The Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, the Most Worshipful Harvey John Waugh entered the Lodge Room for his last Quarterly Communication. **Right:** The Colonial Craftsmen serve as the Color Guard in their period gear.





Left: Lisa Hastings and Patricia Latham in the East with the Grand Master to recognize one of the Secretaries of the Year, Rt. Wor. Timothy J. Kelly. Right: The Grand Master introduces Rt. Wor. Paul F. Gleason, the candidate for Grand Master.

Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Ill. Theodore Polonsky, Potentate of Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; Rt. Wor. and Dad Philip A. Drouin, Executive Officer of DeMolay for Massachusetts; M. Worthy William A. Greene, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, Order of the Eastern Star, and Sir Knight Stephen R. Qualey, Grand Royal Patron, Grand Court of Massachusetts, Order of the Amaranth.

The past Grand Masters of Massachusetts Grand Lodge that were present were M. Wors. Albert Timothy Ames, Arthur Eugene Johnson, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Jeffrey Black Hodgdon, and Richard James Stewart.

The proxies were recognized and voting powers of lodges were described by M. Wor. Bro. Johnson, the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master announced that while the budget for 2017 was distributed and discussed, it was not voted upon. Rt. Wor. Mason Russell, Grand Treasurer, made the motion and the budget was adopted. Rt. Wor. Paul F. Gleason reported on the Committee on Charter & By-Laws as did Rt. Wor. Warren Richardson on the Charters Committee. Both reports were accepted.

A petition for consolidation, a merger, of Somerville Lodge and Mt. Horeb Lodge (Woburn) was read. In addition, there was a call to ratify the action of the Grand Master on the suspension of Richard C. Maclaurin Lodge, the M.I.T. lodge. Both actions were taken by the Grand Master.

Rt. Wor. David R. Lucas, Deputy Grand Master, delivered the sad news of the passing of Brothers of Grand Lodge. Rt. Wor. & Rev. Keith Alderman performed the

necrology prayer.

The Grand Master commenced the process of the Election of Officers. The Grand Master directed the Rt. Wor. Grand Sword Bearer to present the candidate for Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Paul Fulton Gleason, of William Parkman Lodge, District 13, and the Committee on Charters & By-Laws. The Grand Marshal escorted the candidate from the Lodge Room and the Grand Master declared the ballot open.

After the ballots were collected, the Grand Master appointed a committee of Past Grand Masters to count the ballots in the antechamber, to which the Grand Marshal escorted them.

During the count, the Grand Master received Rt. Wor. Glenn Kubick in the East. There, Rt. Wor. Bro. Kubick presented the Grand Master with a framed photo of the M. Wor. Joseph Warren Statue to commemorate the placement of the statue at M. Wor. Bro. Warren's grave site on October 22, 2016.



Left: The Grand Master receives a photo from Rt. Wor. Glenn Kubick commemorating the M. Wor. Joseph Warren statue dedication. Right: The Grand Master awards the Joseph Warren Medal to Rt. Wor. Glenn Kubick.

Much to Rt. Wor. Bro. Kubick's surprise, the Grand Master presented him with the Joseph Warren medal of distinguished service.

After an organ interlude, the committee of Past Grand Masters assembled to the West of the alter to announce the results: M. Wor. Bro. Ames announced the results: the new Grand Master has been elected.

Upon return to the Lodge Room, the Grand Master-elect was met with great rounds of applause. The Grand Master asked the Grand Master-elect if he accepts the position. With a smile, Grand Master-elect Rt. Wor. Paul Fulton Gleason accepted the position.

The Grand Master directed the Grand Marshal to present Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh Sr., to the East as the candidate for Senior Grand Warden. The Grand Sword Bearer escorted the candidate from the Lodge Room, the ballot was opened, after all choices were made, the ballot was closed. A committee of Past Senior Grand Wardens, with Senior Past Senior Grand Warden, M. Wor. Bro. Ames, as chair, retired to count the choices. From the West of the Alter, M. Wor. Bro. Ames announced the election of Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh Sr. as the next Senior Grand Warden. Upon return to the Lodge Room, the Grand Master asked if Rt. Wor. Bro. Waugh Sr. accepted the position. He accepted.

For Junior Grand Warden, there were two candidates: Rt. Wors. Sean E. LeBlanc and Robert C. Schremser. They were escorted to the East where the Grand Master explained that either would be a good choice after which the Grand Marshal escorted them from the Lodge Room.

The ballots were chosen, collected, and the Grand Master formed a committee of Past Junior Grand Wardens, chaired by Senior Past Junior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Richard Maggio.

While the ballots were being counted, the Grand Master made a special presentation. Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh Sr., Senior Grand Warden elect was award the Henry Price medal.

Upon return to the Lodge Room, Rt. Wor. Bro. Maggio announced the winner: Rt. Wor. Bro. Schremser. The candidates were escorted back into the Lodge Room and the winner was announced. Rt. Wor. Bro. Schremser responded to the Grand Master by accepting the position.

Balloting for the other offices was completed by a single

ballot cast by the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master announced a special ballot to replace an opening on the Masonic Education and Charitable Trust. The term currently held by Rt. Wor. Callum MacLean, set to expire in 2020. The Grand Master recommended Rt. Wor. Robert Clark Quinn to serve the remainder of the term. Grand Lodge assented to the recommendation. "It is a vote," proclaimed the Grand Master.

Sadly, two expulsions representing the deviation from good Masonic living were proposed by the Grand Master. Grand Lodge agreed and the two are expelled.

The Grand Master then received the following presentations: Rt. Wor. Jeffrey R. Gordon from Republican Lodge; Rt. Wor. John W. Knox from Worshipful Master's Association of Southeastern Massachusetts; Wor. John L. Carlson and Rt. Wor. Edward M. Iacovelli from 15th District Past Master's Association; Wor. John L. Carlson from Siloam Lodge; Wor. Kevin M. Conley from Somerville Lodge; Wor. Charles B. Coombs IV and Wor. Gregory B. Roche from DeWitt Clinton Lodge; Wor. Philip J. Privitera and Wor. Walter C. Wedlock from Mystic Valley

Lodge; and Bro. Steven M. Rosenthal from the 4th District.

The Grand Master thanked Bro. George Wiseman, Grand Organist, and said, "My Brothers, after three years of serving you and this Grand Lodge as Grand Master, I submit to you my final Quarterly report."

On September 29th, the Grand Master presented a charter to Scimitar Lodge at their new home in Shriners Auditorium in Wilmington. Under dispensation for one year, served by Rt. Wor. Harlan Woods, the Scimitar gavel was handed to its new Master, Rt. Wor. David Raymond.



After the vote, the Grand Master and Grand Master-elect share a laugh in the East.

Left: The Grand Master with Senior Grand Warden Elect Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh Sr.

Right: Rt. Wor. Robert C. Schremser receives congratulations on being elected Junior Grand Warden.



Their membership has grown to 60 brethren and they have become financially stable. "All of Massachusetts Masonry rejoice in the creation of this new lodge and pray for their eternal success," the Grand Master said.

The Grand Master traveled to the Grand Lodges of Virginia and Maryland for their installation of officers. He was pleased to attend the combined annual weekend meeting of the York Rite Bodies in Mansfield. Included in that weekend were Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery. "I was honored by Grand Chapter by being presented their highest award, the Paul Revere Medal and equally honored by being the recipient of the Abraham A. Dame Medal from Grand Council," the Grand Master recalled.

The travels of other Grand Lodge officers are also notable: Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Lucas visited Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Senior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Thomas Rorrie, visited the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and Junior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Dennis Reebel, represented our Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of the

District of Columbia, where he witnessed a "Wreath Laying Ceremony," by the Grand Master, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The Grand Master mentioned the Square and Compasses day, October 15th, and reminded all lodges to work to capitalize on this program.

"On Saturday, October 22nd, a statue of M. Wor. Joseph Warren, Past Grand Master of our Grand Lodge, was dedicated at Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain." The Grand Master described the trials of Rt. Wor. Bro. Kubick and his committee to get the permits for the statue. After months of negotiation with the city of Boston and the Roxbury Latin School in W. Roxbury, the request was turned down.

The committee would not be deterred: led by Rt. Wor. Bro. Kubick, Rt. Wor. Stanley Gaw, and Wor. Robert Vartanian the committee proposed to have a bronze statue fabricated to be placed at the gravesite. The plan worked. "A glorious dedication ceremony, celebrating Joseph Warren, and his lifetime accomplishments was held at his resting place in Forest Hills Cemetery," the Grand



The Grand Master presents the Henry Price medal to Senior Grand Warden elect, Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh Sr.

The Grand Master received donations from Worshipful Master's Association of Southeastern Massachusetts, 15th District Past Master's Association, Siloam Lodge, Somerville Lodge, DeWitt Clinton Lodge, Mystic Valley Lodge and the 4th District.



Master said.

The leaders of the four bodies of Scottish Rite, Valley of Boston, named a class of candidates for the Grand Master. "I was proud to present each candidate their membership medal which featured the class name," said the Grand Master.

"Bringing a relative into our Craft is a very special occasion," explained the Grand Master, "On November 15th, Grand Marshal Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh, Sr., raised our nephew, Bro. Peter Waugh, in Solomon's Temple Lodge, Uxbridge. In the presence of his father, Bro. Samuel A. Waugh, and several Grand Lodge officers. What a proud moment for the family!"

The Grand Master described other events: celebrating the 150th anniversary of Celestial Lodge, attending the District Deputy Grand Master training weekend in Woburn, and enjoying the Feast of St. Andrew at William Sewall Gardner—Kilwinning Lodge in Lowell.

In addition, the Grand Master felt honored on December 10th by having a class of 15 DeMolay candidates named for him. "I thank Executive Officer, Rt. Wor. Phil Drouin for a wonderful program as he begins his position of DeMolay Executive Officer."

A contract with "Big Night Entertainment Group" has been signed, after much negotiation, the Grand Master noted. "The agreement authorizes the company [to] construct a restaurant called "Explorateur" to occupy the room currently known as the "Paul Revere Room", said the Grand Master. The 10 to 20 year lease will allow the restaurant exclusive use of the first floor restrooms and kitchen and will augment income for the building. "However, the search for revenue is not over," the Grand Master stated. The

Revenue Enhancement Committee has been formed and will work to discover other sources of income.

At the Board of Directors meeting, discussion was held about Motorcycle Clubs. The following was decided:
The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts will not prohibit Masonic Motorcycle Clubs from participating in their respective activities in Massachusetts, unless there is some specific ruling or edict prohibiting such body or their members acting in an un-Masonic manner which might subject them to disciplinary action. The sum and substance of this policy is to allow Masonic Motorcycle organizations to exist in Massachusetts, without any formal recognition, unless that organization is excluded by specific ruling or Edict.

"My Brothers, as my term of office ends in two weeks, I express to all of you thanks for our fraternal associations through the years. There are very few things more important than family and friendships, and I consider all of you as friends as we meet "on the level" and continue our Masonic experience.

"Thank you for being here at this Quarterly Communication. I wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

"Thank you very much," said the Grand Master to close out his final remarks at his final Quarterly Meeting. A standing ovation and peels of applause rang through the Lodge Room.

The Winter 2016/2017 Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts with Grand Master, Most Worshipful Harvey John Waugh of Wyoming Lodge was closed in ample form. ■



Grand Masters of Massachusetts

by Rt. Wor. Walter Hunt



Most Worshipful Herbert Harold Jaynes

1969-1971

“Walk Uprightly”

The twenty fourth installment in the continuing series focused on our past Massachusetts Grand Masters.

During the course of this series for TROWEL, the author has had a chance to become acquainted with many Grand Masters, and to introduce them to the magazine’s readers. In most cases, these distinguished Brothers served the Craft long ago, before the experience and acquaintance of the current membership; only Claude Allen—Spring 2014—was a well-known figure, and in this case to the new Grand Master in that year. This is not because more recent figures are less interesting: far from it; but presenting a biography of a more modern Grand Master has the difficulty of making observations that are at variance with recollection. This is perilous, and diverts from the positive, and informative, purpose of writing these articles in the first place.

Nonetheless, this essay discusses a Past Grand Master who served during the last half century—Most Wor. Herbert H. Jaynes (1969-1971). He passed to the Celestial Lodge in 1989, and thus is known to many active members of the Craft (though not personally to the author). Yet his work—and more particularly his character—recommend him not only to the admiration of both those who knew him and those for whom he is no more than a portrait on the wall of Ionic Hall. It is to be hoped that this presentation does him justice.

“Live for this day, for this is life . . . In its brief course lies all the variety and reality of your existence . . . for yesterday is but a memory; and tomorrow is but a vision. But today, well lived, makes every yesterday a glorious memory and every tomorrow a vision of hope / so live for this day.”

These were the words with which Herbert H. Jaynes completed his address at the March Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge in 1970, his second year in the Oriental Chair. It is a poetic statement, and not one of policy, but it conveys something of the approach that Bro. Jaynes took toward the great task of guiding the Craft in Massachusetts during one of its busiest and most turbulent periods.

By the time he was elected Grand Master in December of 1968, M. Wor. Bro. Jaynes had already served the Craft for thirty years, and had been associated with the Craft for twenty. In 1938, at age thirty-three, he was received a Mason in Belmont Lodge in Belmont, of which the then-presiding Grand Master, M. Wor. Bro. Joseph Earl Perry, was a member and Past Master. The Fraternity in Massachusetts was emerging from a difficult period of indifferent membership growth, with the newest lodge receiving a charter early in the decade and none since. Grand Master Perry was intent to reverse that trend, to energize the membership to help make it happen.

Eight years later, Bro. Jaynes had assumed the East of Belmont Lodge. Two years later, Grand Master Roger Keith chose him to serve Grand Lodge as a Grand Steward; a few years later, Grand Master Thomas S. Roy asked him to be Grand Marshal, in which position he traveled the jurisdiction, including a trip to Panama in January 1952, during which he and the Grand Master were received by each of the seven Canal Zone lodges and the Grand Lodge of Panama. In 1954, as is the custom of our Grand Lodge, he was the Senior Grand Warden.

Subsequent to his service in Grand Lodge, Bro. Jaynes ascended the officer line in Mount Olivet Chapter of Rose Croix, of which he was Most Wise Master from 1964 to 1966. He was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council in 1965. Subsequently, he served the Valley of Boston as Secretary of the four Bodies and the Massachusetts Council of Deliberation.

In December 1968, at the conclusion of the term of M. Wor. Bro. Thomas A. Booth, Bro. Herbert Harold Jaynes was elected Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. For the next three years, his integrity and compassion served him well.

What makes an effective Grand Master? Leadership is more than simply the assumption of authority; in Masonry, we confer power on leaders of lodges, of districts and of the Grand Lodge—it's written into by-laws and the Grand Constitutions. In an organization such as ours, however, motivation and inspiration play a great part in the success of a leader. From the time he assumed the Grand Mastership, Bro. Jaynes provided an abundance of each.

Freemasonry, in his opinion, needed to reach outside itself and introduce itself to the world. At the Conference of Grand Masters in 1969, shortly after he was installed as Grand Master, he suggested that both press releases and photographs were a good means of "dignified publicity." Many of his fellow Grand Masters were dubious about the idea. But Grand Master Jaynes had strong opinions about the purpose of the Craft. At the June Quarterly, he addressed the brethren of Grand Lodge with the following words:

"If you are for yourself convinced that the lessons and teachings of Masonry are good for a world that we know is bad, strengthen yourself . . . for that which can be the banner Masonic year of all that you so far has experienced. Think upon it; dare to do some radical dreaming."

As if this appeal to action—this challenge—was not enough, he felt that the world of Masonry could not afford to continue divided by race, as it had been for more than a century and a half. At the September Quarterly, he said

"I believe that the interests of our (Grand) Lodge and of our members is increasing . . . because of our increased awareness of the basic justice of civil rights. . . our country is Masonically divided in its reaction to the recognition of Negro Masonry. We can not view without dismay the prospect of Masonic disharmony in this country, whatever its

cause. . . Our principal purpose as Masons must always be to so strongly inculcate the teachings of Masonry . . . that those etchings will be evidenced . . . in the community and the world."

This became a much greater issue during the following summer, when the Conference of Prince Hall Grand Masters met in Boston. During the conference, Grand Master Jaynes had a private, unofficial lunch with the Prince Hall Grand Master, M. W. Bro. William Reed—which he called a "simple, friendly gesture." Bro. Reed urged Bro. Jaynes to consider reaffirming the Grand Lodge's 1946 resolution to examine 'Negro Freemasonry'. Bro. Jaynes was reluctant to bring this before Grand Lodge due to the position of the United Grand Lodge of England, which still considered Prince Hall Freemasonry 'unconstitutional.' But he noted

"Nonetheless, I want you to know that I have the greatest respect for those Prince Hall Masons who I have come to know. I only wish that there were more areas than appear to exist in which we might exhibit our admiration for the work that we are doing."

In 1970, this was not merely forward-looking, but a radical departure from the status quo.

Bro. Jaynes' commitment to the race issue—as the leader of a largely white organization—remained steadfast. To the Grand Lodge, he stated categorically,

"Increasingly I have become aware that one or more Bodies in Massachusetts, having a close tie to Masonry, restrict their applications to non-negroes, supporting their position by the statement that they take their

lead from the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, and stating that the Grand Lodge does not accept negroes as members.

"That is not true. I want to make it crystal clear that the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts makes no distinction between men because of the color of their skin, or of their race, or of their creed. I will no longer permit the misconception to be circulated in this jurisdiction without challenge."

In the spring of 1970, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls withdrew recognition from Auburn Assembly following the visit of the Supreme Deputy. According to the Grand Master, who reported on it to Grand Lodge at the September Quarterly,

"shortly after the Supreme Deputy for Massachusetts, on the occasion of her first visit to Auburn Assembly, noticed a colored young lady among the members." The GM received much correspondence and noted "This has

"We can not view without dismay the prospect of Masonic disharmony in this country, whatever its cause"

continued on page 30

The Journey of a Mason: An On-Going Draft

By M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason

With asides relevant to our quest for membership

The journey began one Sunday morning in 1971 as my wife Phyllis and I sat down in a pew in front of one of her relatives, Tom Raphael. After some conversation, Tom leaned forward, tapped me on the shoulder, and asked "Have you ever thought about becoming a Mason?" My wife immediately replied

"Yes!" and the rest is history. See how easy it can be? "if you don't asks, you don't gets!"

After submitting the requisite forms, some of which asked for references from my place of employment (The MITRE Corporation), I sat back and waited. I didn't have to wait long. Soon, fellow employees (many of whom I had not previously known) approached me and welcomed me to a "very special fraternity". These employees were part of an extensive Square & Compasses club that added much to my upcoming membership.

A new member? Don't let him sit alone on the sidelines!

Next, I was invited to supper at William Parkman Lodge. Good food, a cigar with dessert, and officers in Tuxedos! This could be a good thing!

Give VALUE for membership!

Soon enough, one summer night in June, I was raised to the Sublime Degree. Maybe one hour after signing the By-Laws, the Senior Warden asked me to join his line as a Junior Steward.

(INVOLVE) new candidates - in your line or on a committee - but get them involved!

They'll come back once or twice to witness the Degrees

In four short years I found myself in the East, gavel in hand, wondering what came next. Soon enough, our landlord doubled our rent and presented me with my year's project: move the Lodge! I

* but if they don't have a reason to keep coming, we'll lose them!

truly believe that the Supreme Architect stepped in here; our neighbor, Mt. Horeb Lodge in Woburn, had just purchased and modified new apartments on the Winchester-Woburn line. Their presiding Master worked in the same building with me at MITRE. They needed tenants! Problem solved.

A truly enjoyable term as a District Deputy Grand Marshal and service as High Priest in the Woburn Royal Arch Chapter was followed by a "valley" in my Masonic journey. We had been

transferred by MITRE to Virginia for a two-year special assignment. After we returned, I did not attend lodge again until 1994! I was indeed "out of the habit of attending"—my journey could have ended right there.

Not once in this time did anyone contact me and wonder where I had gone!

Then I read a simple paragraph in William Parkman's notice seeking a replacement for our secretary, Wor. Charlie Koch. It struck a chord. I assumed and maintained that important office until this year. I have never regretted noticing that paragraph.

** Do you need an office filled? CALL potential candidates—TELL them they are qualified and NEEDED. A "show of hands" is a poor substitute.*

Taking note of my willingness to assume a difficult office, our District Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Don Carriger, nominated me to succeed him. Excited but concerned how I could possibly fill his shoes, a Past DDGM overheard my concerns, put his arm on my shoulders, and said "Don't. Fill your own shoes. Be yourself!"

I have followed that advice ever since. Be yourself!

Following my election as a Permanent Member of Grand Lodge through a term as Junior Grand Warden, I came to appreciate the scope of the responsibilities and services of our Grand Lodge.

Consequently, I became involved in service projects including H.E.L.P., MyCHIP, and local lodge breakfasts.

Work together to have a positive impact on both the Craft and the public.

Involve candidates and new members in these service projects—they will enjoy it!

I have always valued education. I gravitated towards the major Grand Lodge initiatives of Master's Path, Future Leaders Identification Committee (FLIC), and the DDGM Resource Group—each finding, encouraging and educating our next leaders.

Throughout this journey, my wife, Phyllis, has been my constant support. Organizing dinners, finding/suggesting that "just right" gift, being a realistic "sounding board" and—most important—sharing her years of experience gained as head of three major organizations of volunteers—she has been a welcome companion.

From its valley, the journey peaked this spring with The Phone Call. I was presented with the steepest learning curve I have ever encountered. It is a climb made easier by the help and support of the Brethren—indeed friends—who stand ready to help.

What's next? "Forward, Together!"



Living Freemasonry

by Rt. Wor. Steve Cohn

Meet an Active Massachusetts Mason, Wor. Robert M. Koerber

It is often said that Masonry takes men from all walks of life, from scientists to attorneys, from management to labor, from engineers to pilots, and just about everything in between. But one of the few professions to draw men from is that of religion. Such is the situation with Wor. Robert M. Koerber, the presiding master of Chicopee Lodge, and an ordained Priest.

Wor. Bro. Koerber was raised in March, 1991, in Chicopee Lodge. His father was a 45-year Mason before he passed and had also served as Master of the same lodge. Wor. Bro. Koerber's father was a blue-collar worker and a U.S. Air Force reservist. But he was unlike many of his fellow workers who went bowling or played pool. He instead became involved in Freemasonry.

Everyone is influenced by someone while growing up and becoming an adult. Some of the men who influenced his actions were Wor. Joseph Zajac whom he has known for more than 50 years, and Rt. Wor. Walter F. Southard. It was Bro. Zajac who set the example for him of what it meant to be a Mason and of his service and love for the Craft. And although only knowing Bro. Southard for less than one year, Bro. Koerber says Bro. Southard comes from the same mold as Bro. Zajac and has been an inspiration to him as well.

Even though he was raised in 1991, he was required to take time off from attending lodge due to his job as a "shift worker." Years later, once he was able to work regular hours, he started attending lodge once again and became its chaplain. In 2015 he was elected Senior Warden and installed as Worshipful Master in 2016.

He finds, as with many first-time masters, each day brings not only new challenges but new opportunities. He hopes his efforts will contribute to future growth of the lodge.

Being an ordained Priest for more than 44 years, he has a somewhat different approach to the fraternity. As a Reserve priest, he travels to different parishes throughout New England. He is currently strengthening a parish in nearby Enfield, CT, and involved in several other ecclesiastical committees as well as being, as he describes, a core member of the Scouting program within the Diocese of the Church. Additionally, he's involved in the writing and developing Christian education programs for children as well as adults.

One of the problems he's facing is that his lodge shares a building outside of his home community of Chicopee, but he is taking steps to become re-established in that locale through various civic programs which are being discussed within the Lodge.

Wor. Bro. Koerber says Masonry does have a lot to offer the individual man. He says he has rediscovered Masonry through learning its ritual. He looks at social media such as Facebook, and a working website that, when properly used, are vehicles to stimulate interactive discussions and education.

He hopes that he has a positive effect on his fellow Masons as other Masons he has met have had an effect on him. Masonry definitely has positively affected his personal life, and he says it has given him a true appreciation of what masonry stands for.

One of the hardest obstacles he and his Lodge are trying to overcome is that of being a lodge operating under receivership. He says they have made much progress in the past six to eight months by updating their records and increased transparency between the secretary and treasurer. They have a committed line of officers for the upcoming year and many brothers stepped up to take on new or added responsibilities. But, a major obstacle they are trying to overcome is that many of the members work evenings, so they and others are considering establishing a daytime lodge to accommodate their wants and needs, Masonically. Having worked shift work and 12-hour rotating shifts, with a lot of time spent out of state, his rationale for a daytime lodge is that this would not only affect those shift workers but those elderly members who find it difficult to travel at night.

Being the Master of a Masonic Lodge is hard enough, especially when it has to be done right. With the added difficulties of operating under receivership, it tries to bring out the best in him, complete with the requisite and additional challenges. But when the membership is behind you and striving to survive, the daunting task becomes a little more palatable.

Worshipful Bob Koerber no doubt has his work cut out for him, but he is confident in his skills and abilities calling upon his secular, religious, and Masonic training to overcome adversity and make Chicopee Lodge a better Lodge once again. ■



Presented to
Most Worshipful Paul F. Gleason
by the William Parkman Lodge

Grand Master's Reception



Above: M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason receives a small statue of Charles Dickens from his Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Kevin J. Willis.
Below: The Grand Master's Gavel at the ready.



Top of Page: William Parkman Lodge presented an engraved chair to their lodge member, the new Grand Master, M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason.
Above: M. Wor. Harvey J. Waugh shares a joke with the assembled Brethren.
Below: The Grand Master presents his suite to the Master of William Parkman Lodge, Wor. Paul James DeLuca.



THE GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL

DONORS DURING 2016

The Grand Master's Appeal is the foundation of the charitable and educational programs of Massachusetts Freemasonry. Each year, your Grand Master sends a letter to every Massachusetts Mason encouraging him to make a tax-deductible donation to support programs such as The Brotherhood Fund, Grand Lodge Scholarship Program, the Samuel Crocker Lawrence Library, and many other great and important undertakings.

In 2016 we received 2,150 contributions from more than 1,600 Brothers and friends totaling more than \$220,000. Following is a list of donors whose cumulative giving throughout the year totaled \$50 or more.

To everyone who gave a gift to the Grand Master's Appeal: Thank you very much! Because of you, we are able to help others every single day.

I am very appreciative of the support we have received, but it does not diminish the continuing need for the Relief we can provide. Please consider a donation within the length of your cable-tow to the 2017 Grand Master's Appeal as part of your charitable giving this year. A convenient reply envelope has been included in this magazine for your use.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration. And thank you for everything you do on behalf of Massachusetts Freemasonry!

Sincerely & fraternally,

Paul F. Gleason

Grand Master

\$10000 OR GREATER

Massachusetts Consistory^{BF, SP}

\$5000 TO \$9999

Boston Lafayette Lodge of Perfection^{BF, MYG}
Columbian Lodge^{BF, MLI, SCL}

Giles F. Yates Council Princes of Jerusalem^{BF, SP}
In honor of M.W. and Ill. Harvey J. Waugh, Grand Master; in memory of Past Sovereign Prince Ill. Walter C. Brown, 33°
Richard M. Kennedy

John J. Maihos
Mount Lebanon Lodge^{BF}
Richard A. Phillips Sr
In Memory of Henry R. and Rena C. Phillips
Richard J. Stewart^{BF}

\$1000 TO \$4999

Colonial Craftsmen's Club of
Colonial Massachusetts^{MHS}
Garden City Lodge^{BF}
Donald G. Hicks Jr^{BF}
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Timothy S. McGavin^{BF} *In appreciation of*

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Mount Olivet Chapter of Rose Croix^{BF, SP}
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St. Bernard Commandery #12^{BF, SP}
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Worshipful Masters' Association of
Southeastern Massachusetts^{BF}
In the name of our departed Brethren
Wyoming Lodge^{BF}

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Lawrence E. Bethune
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Richard A. Waterhouse^{BF}
Roger W. Waugh Sr
William D. Deadman Society^{BF}
William Parkman Lodge^{BF}

\$284 TO \$499

15th District Past Masters'
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Senior Past Masters Roger W.
Tansey, William W. Reid, and
Robert E. Randlow
Otto W. Anderson
Kenneth M. Andrews
Lorrimer Armstrong Jr
Steven E. Barnicoat
Ronald K. Bart
Clayton A. Bemis
Ronald A. Benaski
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Essex Lodge^{BF}
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Scott T. Jareo^{BF}
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tion of the Installing Suite for
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Darell R. Whitehead
Michael D. Wolfe

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of Brother Sach and M.W.
Richard J. Stewart's 50
years in Masonry
Christopher M. St. Cyr
Preston H. Saunders
Elden C. Tabora
Clifton J. Toothaker Jr
Robert-John Von See
Robert J. Walsh
Glenn S.K. Williams
In memory of Wor. Kendrick
B.A. Williams
Kendrick A. Williams
Scott R. Zalatoris

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Ludwig Alban
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James A. Gilrein II
Carleton N. Goff
Murray L. Goldberg
Golden Fleece Lodge
Donald S. Greene Jr
continued on page 19

In Memoriam

While we appreciate all donations to the Craft, gifts in memory of our departed Brothers are particularly meaningful. Just as these Brothers practiced the tenet of Relief during their lives, their passing inspired others to make a contribution in their memory. We are honored to be part of their legacy.

PATRIOTS WIN!

THEN VISIT GRAND LODGE



Most of us were at work. Many of us were too busy. Some of us couldn't make it. For those in their offices at Grand Lodge, it was a difficult burden. Grand Lodge was having guests: the world champion, New England Patriots. Ok, they could not come in for a lunch. Alright, they didn't actually come into the building. But, the burden of being right on the parade line was borne by your Grand Lodge staff with joy. So if you were like most of us and could not make it downtown for the party, here are some photos of what you missed taken by your Grand Lodge staff from the thrilled windows of their offices. ■



continued on next page



\$100 TO \$282 (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17)

Arne Grepstad
 James H. Gronemeyer
 Christopher P. Gugger
 Harry N. Gustafson Jr
 Eugene A. Haley
 Hershel C. Hall
 David W. Hamilton
*In Honor of Harvey
 J. Waugh, Grand Master
 & Past Master of
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continued on next page

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ASK THE GRAND LECTURERS

by Rt. Wor. Robert F. Doherty, Chairman of the Grand Lecturers

On January 5, 2017 the Grand Architect of the Universe called Bob Johnston home.

When his necrology is read in Grand Lodge this March it will state that Bob was a Mason for 59 plus years. While this is correct in the context of when Bob took his degrees, it is also correct that Bob was practicing Masonry for the entire 94 years he was with us. Bob would frequently comment how nice people were to him without mentioning how nice he was to all of us.

To list all of Bob's accomplishments, Masonic, church, military and so many others, would take multiple pages of this magazine. Suffice to say he



Rt. Wor. Robert Johnston on Iwo Jima Day in 2011. Rt. Wor. Bro. Johnston was a Veteran, WWII, Marine Corp. Iwo Jima.

always lead by example and never lost sight of the tenets of our profession. However, that is not how we will best remember him.

We will always remember Bob for the time we spent with him, his warm smile, his wonderful stories which could be both amusing and poignant. He was as good a listener as he was a talker. Bob made us feel special. It was always a good day when you were with him.

Bob never took the fun out of his Masonry and more importantly-he never took Masonry out of his fun.

Just one question this time:

Q: What is the definition of the phrase "A Mason's Mason?"

A: For me the answer will always be Bob Johnston ■

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651 additional donors gave to the Grand Master's Appeal in 2016. Thank you!



The Prodigal Mason

by *Richard Thompson*



The first time I was a Master was in the early 1980s. That sounds like it was a long time ago, even to me! And at that time lodges were both blessed and cursed.

We were blessed because there was a continuous stream of men wanting to become a part of the Fraternity. Lodge had three to five classes each year and each class contained three to five candidates for the degrees. We didn't have to work hard to get new members.

We were cursed because there was a continuous stream of men wanting to become a part of the Fraternity. We didn't have to think about or even work at retention. If just one member of a class became an active member, then we had three to five new active members each year. A lot of men were made Masons, but few got to know the lodge. As I sit here today, I realize just how bad that curse was.

There were so many new active members each year I had to wait five years to become an officer. While I was waiting I busied myself helping with activities and serving on committees. At that time those looking to get appointed to office did anything to get noticed.

When I was going through the officers' line that first time there was a phrase I would often hear that would sometimes make me cringe. "Back when I was Master ..." It was obviously spoken by a Past Master who was about to tell us an old war story. He was just trying to help, to spur us on.

And to be completely honest, no matter how hard I've tried, I've actually caught myself starting a sentence with those same words.

I mention this only because I am about to do the same thing here. I will be talking about the past and at the same time I hope I am talking about the future.

In the life of my lodge back in the 70s and 80s, and sometime before that, there were two major events every-one in the lodge looked forward to – the Table Lodge and the Ladies Night. Both were well attended.

Table Lodges were big in what was then known as the Lowell 12th District. There were 10 lodges in the district and at least seven Table Lodges each year. For my lodge,

Wamesit Lodge, there were easily more than 100 Masons at every Table Lodge. Our only restriction was the size of the banquet hall.

We would go to a Lodge of Instruction with fists full of tickets and walk out with fists full of dollars or pledges of dollars. And every one who pledged to pay for a ticket actually paid for that ticket.

What made our Table Lodge even more fun was an arrangement we made with Corinthian Lodge in Concord, which was in our district at that time. They always served at our Table Lodge and we, in turn, served at theirs. It was fun serving, but more fun in how the two lodges helped each other and grew Masonic friendships.

Members of other lodges bought tickets from us because they knew when it was their turn we would buy tickets from them. I'll bet I went to about five or six Table Lodges every year I was an officer in the lodge. It was fun!

Ladies Night was a different story. While members of other lodges would attend, mostly the members and ladies of Wamesit Lodge filled it. It was a special night to honor our ladies and thank them for allowing us to be as active in the life of the lodge as we hope we were in the lives of our homes.

Just as a side note, if you read the records of the Town of Tewksbury, the Wamesit Lodge Ladies Night of the 1920s and 1930s was the social event of the year. People from across the town, Masons and non-Masons alike, would attend the event.

I realize those days are long past. Today, lodges have to work at getting new members and retaining as many of the new members as is possible. It is difficult for some lodges and impossible for others to hold events that require a large number of people to be called a success.

Lately I have been talking about lodges banding together to hold Table Lodges or Ladies Nights. What individual lodges can't do alone, districts might be able to do with its lodges working together. In my own district if just 10 members and their ladies from each lodge attended a Ladies Night, that would mean 180 in attendance. And that same formula puts 90 Masons at a Table Lodge.

These are just a couple of ideas, but lodges have to build programs that reflect the age in which we are now living. Maybe we have to come up with new things to do to excite our members and keep them involved. Maybe the lodges and activities I remember from the past really do belong in the past. ■

Richard Thompson is a Past Master and the Secretary of Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge.

Deputy Grand Master Addresses the Feast

By Rt. Wor. Kevin J. Willis

When giving his speeches, Most Worshipful Harvey John Waugh has a practice of notifying his audience of how long he intends to speak. This is a good and admirable practice because it ensures self-discipline on the part of the speaker and sets expectations for all. As much as I admire that practice, it is difficult for me to give you an estimate for this address for a variety of reasons. Foremost among them is that it has been my experience that my speeches are usually interrupted by repeated—yet disregarded—pleas from the audience for me to sit down and stop talking. Nevertheless, to give you an idea of the length of this particular endurance test, I fully expect that by the end of the evening the Grand Master will call an emergency meeting of the Board of Directors to approve the construction and installation of a neon sign above the entrance of 186 Tremont Street to be lit whenever he has left the jurisdiction leaving me as the Acting Grand Master, which will read: “Abandon All Hope, Ye Who Enter Here!”

Most Worshipful Grand Master, distinguished guests, brethren all: first, I must publicly thank the Grand Master for his confidence in selecting me to serve as Deputy Grand Master. When I first became a Mason twenty years ago last month I would never have dreamed that I would be asked to accept such a role, and if I had dreamt such an unlikelihood, I would have characterized the alleged “opportunity” as a nightmare. At the then age of twenty-eight and enjoying a full head of hair, my greatest fear as a young man and Mason was speaking in public; and by public I mean a crowd of fewer than 3, 5, 7, 9 or more. Fortunately, since that time Masonry has provided me the opportunity to improve myself and build my self-confidence to the point that addressing a crowd of this magnitude is now only marginally terrifying. Suffice it to say, therefore, I never expected to be in this position. Thank you, Most Worshipful Brother Gleason, I hope I exceed your expectations over the course of the next twelve months. Second, I must presume

there are an infinite number of more qualified brethren who declined Most Worshipful Brother Gleason’s offer to serve as Deputy Grand Master in 2017, leaving him no choice but to pick this last kid available for the Masonic dodge-ball team. To those of you in the audience who declined to take on this role, thank you for stepping aside.

Before proceeding further, I wish to acknowledge several brothers without whose guidance, mentorship, and support I would not be standing before you this evening: my late father-in-law, Brother Harold Alfred Bufe, and his father, Worshipful Harold Amandus Bufe, both of whom were raised in the former Mystic Lodge, now known as New Moon Lodge, in Pittsfield; three Past Masters of Mount Horeb Lodge in Woburn: Worshipful Warren Johnson, Worshipful Bill Irving, and the late Worshipful Tom Moore; and my friends and brothers, Right Worshipful Richard Maggio, who appointed me to be his District Secretary in 2010, Right Worshipful Ted Morang, Sr., who is one of the hardest working members of the Craft I know and who counseled me not to say no to wearing the color purple if I were ever asked, and Most Worshipful Richard James Stewart, who appointed me to serve as a Grand Steward and then a Grand Lecturer during his term as Grand Master. Thank you, brethren.

State of the Fraternity

Given that in the coming months Freemasons wheresoever dispersed upon the face of the earth will be celebrating the 300th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge system in England and we in Massachusetts will simultaneously enjoy our 284th year as a Grand Lodge, I have been giving some thought concerning the state of our Fraternity. How might we assess our current condition?

To borrow from Charles Dickens, I would suggest that it is the best of times, it is the worst of times, it is the age of wisdom, it is the age of foolishness, it is the epoch of belief, it is the epoch of incredulity, it is the season of Light, it is



Deputy Grand Master Rt. Wor. Kevin J. Willis photographed at the reception of the Grand Master at his home lodge, William Parkman.

We are in the friendship business and we need to take care of our customers.

continued on next page

the season of Darkness, it is the spring of hope, it is the winter of despair, we have everything before us, we have nothing before us, we are all going direct to the Celestial Lodge above, we are all going direct the other way.

This is the state of Massachusetts Freemasonry as we enter 2017. In other words, depending upon your vantage point, we are the same as we ever were—a tale of two Lodges, or more accurately, a tale of two basic conditions of varying degrees of success and failure in our Lodges. Individual Lodges are currently enjoying some of the best times of their existence and others are suffering some of the worst. We are led by Worshipful Masters with wisdom rivaling that of King Solomon and Worshipful Masters supposed to have that degree of wisdom, but finding themselves missing the mark by a considerable degree. Lodges are working candidates and Lodges are becoming atrophied. Lodges are delivering Masonry to their membership and Lodges are doing nothing but collecting dues (and in some cases, not) from their neglected membership. After 283 years, this is nothing new.

Mount Horeb Lodge

I am a member of four Blue Lodges, but my mother Lodge is Mount Horeb Lodge in Woburn. When I joined the Lodge in 1996, the Lodge was experiencing what I surmise was a fairly typical existence for a mid-1990's era Lodge. That is, membership was relatively high, but few brethren as a percentage of membership were attending meetings. The remaining brethren of the World War II generation were enjoying their twilight years in Masonry with very few Baby Boomers and men from Generation X filling the gap.

Fewer and fewer Brothers were coming out for the meetings, and fewer and fewer candidates were being proposed and worked. In the 1950's and 1960's the Lodge was often meeting twice per month to run ten candidates per month. How shocking must it have been to see the drop off in Lodge attendance from 1966 to 1996. But it was not shocking. It was so gradual that few noticed until it became a crisis—not unlike the proverbial frog being slowly boiled to death.

By the turn of the new millennium, the leadership of the Lodge knew we were experiencing dysfunction, but we were not truly cognizant of the severity of our situation. By 2004, it was not unusual to see fewer than eight to ten brothers attending meetings, including the Tyler and Organist. We typically opened the Lodge at 7:00 PM, held a quick business meeting to pay the bills, exemplified a brief portion of the work (ironically, usually the hour-glass), then closed by 7:45 PM. Those of us who lived nearby were safely home by 8:00 PM to feel the warm glow of the television as we sat alone on our couches on Lodge night. Fortunately for Mount Horeb Lodge, though not at all appreciated at the time, the Grand Master's personal representative paid a visit

to the Lodge and sounded the alarm. The then fresh-faced District Deputy Grand Master for the recently formed Thirteenth Masonic District, a future leader of this Grand Lodge by the name of Right Worshipful George Bibilos and his distinguished Suite of Masons, attended our Installation of Officers in the fall of 2004. To enable the Lodge to receive Bro. Bibilos for that visit, we had to borrow members from his Suite to serve as Stewards. Being an outsider, Bro. Bibilos quickly recognized the dysfunction. Immediately following the installation, he pulled the newly installed Master aside and with the bedside manner of Dr. Kevorkian instructed him to start looking for a Lodge to merge with. Even though we had all been witnesses to the decline, none of us thought we were anywhere near the stage of needing to merge, but Bro. Bibilos's assessment was correct. It was quite a shock to the senses. Fortunately for Mount Horeb Lodge, there were a few of us naïve enough to believe we could turn things around without merging. Spoiler alert: Mount Horeb Lodge is still with us and now enjoying some of the best times of its existence.

So what did we do to stave off disaster?

A Renaissance

Those of us who remained held a number of meetings over the course of the next several months. As we entered the Lodge building for each meeting we passed the photographs of the eleven Charter Members from 1855. I remember thinking to myself as I passed those ancient photographs, “3, 5, 7, 9 or more; if these eleven could build a Lodge facing all the difficulties a brother faced in 1855, why couldn't the 200 of us remain-

ing at the dawn of 2005 rebuild this once great Lodge?” The active members among us each did a self-assessment to see what we could do to help turn things around. We talked with our wives to manage expectations, we examined our personal situations, and we considered the possible consequences of proposed action versus inaction. Over the course of the next several years, we worked hard to make our meetings interesting, planned and executed activities, and made Lodge night an event not to be missed. We put ourselves out into the community by hosting a monthly breakfast, attending worship services at our local churches, participating in St. John's Sunday services each June, marching in parades, hosting comedy nights and dinners, and issuing press releases in the local newspapers for every event.

We raised our Lodge dues almost four-fold. We tripled our initiation fee. Keep in mind, most of the membership was from working-class Woburn, not Weston, Wellesley, or Winchester. As the comedian Adam Carolla has been known to say, we were not “high falutin!,” we were “low falutin!” Yes, there were howls from some of the “frugal” and “parsimonious” members, who argued that they could not possibly pay an extra 19¢ per day in dues, but most did

Create a program to ensure that every brother in your Lodge and District feels the same level of friendship and brotherly love that many of us have experienced in our Masonic careers.

so without objection. Prospective candidates did not even blink at the thought of a \$300 initiation fee—truthfully, most thought it would be (and should be) hundreds more. We gave our hardworking membership value for their dollar. We advised our prospective candidates that meetings would be held on the first Wednesday of the month for the rest of their lives, and we expected to see them each month.

Most importantly, we re-established personal contact with our brethren and their widows. Every brother received a handshake at the meetings, and no one sat alone. If a brother was sick or otherwise distressed, he received a card from the Lodge and a visit when possible. We recognized milestone birthdays and Masonic anniversaries with cards. Flowers were sent to our widows, hand-written cards were sent to every brother at Christmas, and fruit baskets were delivered to our elderly shut-ins. If a brother was absent from a meeting, inquiries were made and personal invitations were issued. We were not perfect, but we endeavored to practice proper Masonry, which improved ourselves and our Lodge. As a result, brethren were eager to introduce their family and friends to the Craft and we began seeing large classes of candidates year after year. It was not 1960 again, but the Lodge was working candidates on a regular basis. Catastrophe had been averted, but it easily could have played out differently. It took about five years to bring us back from the edge, but we began to feel the change almost immediately after focusing on our membership issues. Even now, we are not safe from slipping back into our bad habits.

Examples of Success

Brethren: to the extent there is a membership problem in Masonry as we enter 2017, it is no different than it was in 1717 or 1733, or 2004. For too many of our members and their families the only contact received from the Lodge is to collect dues or to perform a Masonic memorial service. We need to change the culture back to what it was when each of our Lodges was first chartered. We are in the friendship business and we need to take care of our customers. If your Lodge is struggling and you wish to see an example of Masonry practiced well, pay a visit to Friendship Lodge in Wilmington, Golden Rule Lodge in Wakefield, St. Paul's Royal Arch Chapter in Boston, or Mount Olivet Chapter of Rose Croix in the Valley of Boston. What these Lodges and Chapters have in common is that they are enthusiastic, vibrant, and focus on personal connections with the membership.

The B.F.F. Program

When I became District Deputy Grand Master of the Thirteenth Masonic District three years ago, I introduced a program in my District, which I facetiously referred to as the "B.F.F." program. For those of you without tween and teen daughters, "B.F.F." is what one best friend calls another, meaning, "best friend forever." Under the B.F.F. pro-

gram, I charged the Lodges in my District to establish a program where each brother in the Lodge was given the name of two or three members and instructed to establish personal contact with those brothers after each meeting. This would be a way for the brethren to get to know one another better. The idea was not to browbeat the missing brother for failing to attend that month's meeting, but simply to inquire whether the brother and his family were well, if he needed a ride to Lodge, or to find out if the Lodge could be of assistance to him or his family in any way. Not every Lodge in my District adopted the idea, but those that did were better for it.

Year after year we beat our breasts lamenting the waning of our membership rolls. We need to focus on our membership, not just prospective candidates, but our existing members. By the exercise of Brotherly Love we conciliate true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. If we can fix our relationships with our existing members, our reputation for doing good for God, our country, our neighbors, and ourselves will grow and we will attract new candidates. Sons will want to share the Masonic experience of their fathers, nephews of their uncles, and neighbors and co-workers of each other.

Charge to the Worshipful Masters and District Deputy Grand Masters

Worshipful Masters and District Deputy Grand Masters, you are in a unique position within your Lodges and Districts to effectuate a return to the best of times in your Lodges. Be the facilitators of those life-long friendships many of us have come to know for ourselves

through Masonry. Give the members of your Lodge the job of getting to know one another. Create a program to ensure that every brother in your Lodge and District feels the same level of friendship and brotherly love that many of us have experienced in our Masonic careers. Set the Craft at work and give them necessary instruction.

Charge to the Brethren

Brethren, all, to you I say this: think back to the night of your initiation. Recall what your expectations were for how you thought one brother Mason would treat the other in this great and mysterious fraternity known as the Freemasons. Live up to that expectation! Do not wait for the Master of your Lodge to put you to work, ask your Lodge Secretary for a membership roster and start reaching out to your brothers. Pick up the phone, hop in your car, walk down the block and get to know your brothers! In Masonry (and in life), practice the Golden Rule! Practice Masonry the way you expected it would be when you knocked on the door as a candidate while in darkness wishing for light. Do this, and you and your Lodge, too, may enjoy the best of times in 2017 and beyond.

Thank you, brethren. Thank you, Grand Master. ■

Recall what your expectations were for how you thought one brother Mason would treat the other in this great and mysterious fraternity known as the Freemasons. Live up to that expectation!

FRATERNITY News & Events



Chloe in her place on the K9s for Kids Wall of Fame.

► **Therapy Dog** *continued from page 3*

regular visitor at the Overlook Masonic home in Charlton and the residents there

couldn't wait for her to come and visit.

Chloe in the past 8 years participated in many Masonic Open House at Quinebaug Lodge to help in recruitment

of potential candidates to join our lodge and events. Chloe was well known to the Brothers of the lodge and their family's through the years and would love to play with her while she was at the lodge. One of the officers of the lodge made a remark that the Therapy Dog Ambassador came to the lodge more than some of the brothers did for the monthly meetings.

Chloe was loved by all the children she met at the Shriners Children Hospital. She brought so many smiles and laughter to the children and their parents while they were going through their treatments and helped them forget about their pain and discomfort.

In July 2013 my beloved Chloe was 10 years old and she passed away. I received a very emotional phone call from the Shriners Childrens Hospital in Springfield in October of 2014 telling me that Chloe was elected and inducted into the Shriners Childrens Hospital K-9's for Kids Unit Doggie Wall of Fame. Quinebaug Masonic Lodge dedicated a plaque in Chloes honor for her 8 years of service as the lodges Therapy Dog Ambassadors in January 2015 and is hanging in the main lobby of our lodge.

- Bro. Vincenzo Jimmy Falzone

► **Quinebaug Lodge Hiram Pantry** *continued from page 3*

permission from the owners of this job site, the beds were donated to the church, thus creating the new shelter.

After the winter passed, the brothers of Quinebaug Lodge continued to bring donated food and supplies to the lodge. An unused closet was cleaned out, shelves installed, and 'Hiram's Pantry' was born. It is currently maintained by Brother George Makara.

Anyone who is in need, can come and collect food from Hiram's Pantry, no questions asked. Over the years, the pantry has been involved in many different charitable endeavors, from selling and donating Christmas trees, to flowers and plants, to yard sales, anything to raise money and awareness for Hiram Pantry.

In the summer of 2010, a program at Nichols College, in Dudley Massachusetts, called (SLTP) the Student Leadership Training Program, caught the attention of Brother George Makara, who happens to work at Nichols College. George introduced himself to the founder and Administrative Director Dr. Jim Fitzgerald. Dr. Fitzgerald runs and teaches the student program at Nichols College. The student leadership program starts in July of each year

and runs for 4, week sessions. Students that sign up for the program each week is required to bring non-perishable food items, toiletries and clothing as part of the entrance fee. The items are collected each week from the donation boxes by Brother George Makara, and delivered to Hiram's Pantry. (see photos below). For more information on the Student Leadership Program go to website www.SLTP.info

The clothing from the program is also picked up and delivered to the Take 2 Consignment store in Webster, which is operated by the Center of Hope in Southbridge. The consignment store has several businesses' that operate in this building. They include a clothing store, a bakery and a used furniture store. All proceeds from the sales of items at the Take 2 consignment store goes to an organization within the Center of Hope called Lifeskills Inc. Lifeskills Inc, supports people with disabilities in the community.

Due to the dedication and persistence of Brother George Makara, Quinebaug Lodge's Hiram's Pantry is very active today. It has served our fellow brothers and their families for over a decade. On behalf of the Quinebaug Lodge, we would like to thank Brother George for all you do and have done to keep Hiram's Pantry running.

- Bro. Vincenzo Jimmy Falzone

What it means to me to be a K-9 For KIDS Unit member

Being a member of this K-9 unit is very rewarding and it is very hard to explain in words at times the feeling that comes over you after a visit. The feeling of accomplishments that you can only see on the peoples' faces that you visit and the looks you get and stories you hear about the dog they have at home or a dog they had a long time ago. I would like to tell you a story of a visit I had a few years ago at the Overlook Masonic home on the 4th floor, which is there Alzheimer's floor.

It's a Saturday Morning around 10am when I visit the activity rooms on each floor. That is when most of the residents are in the room doing a sing along, exercising, or whatever is on the schedule for that morning for that particular floor.

I do my usual thing: I stand at the door, get the recreation staff's attention, and ask permission to come in the room to do a visit. The looks on the resident faces while Chloe and I are waiting at the door is nothing but smiles and fingers pointing to the dog and waving for us to come in. The recreation staff has all the residents lined up in a horse shoe shape like position which makes it much easier for Chloe and me to approach and visit each one of them, especially the ones in the wheelchairs.

Chloe and I were making our rounds to each person and I notice this one lady in her wheelchair in the back row. This lady was just staring with her head tilted down and not responding to the voices of excitement of the other residents petting Chloe. I asked this lady's husband if she liked dogs and if I could approach her. With a big smile on his face he says "Yes, yes please my wife loves dogs."

I make my way around the back of the row, position Chloe to the side of her wheelchair, and gave her the sit, stay command so the woman could pet Chloe. I started talking to this lady but was not getting any response from her at all. I gave my

dog a command, pointed to her hand, and said "Give kiss, kiss." As Chloe gives this lady a big wet kiss several times in her hand, the lady started to move her hands and fingers and tilting her head to the side where the dog was sitting on and made a smile. While doing this, I look at her husband. There are tears running down his face. He is smiling. I immediately apologized for anything I did wrong and he says no, no please don't stop and asks me to continue. He said to me "It has been a long time since my wife has responded or made any kind of movement, or emotion of any kind." At that moment I almost broke down in tears. I tried to continue with the visit without showing any facial emotion, but it was hard.

This is the overwhelming feeling of accomplishment that goes through your body when you've made this persons day just by having a dog there that loves people and sharing that love for people with others. This is why I'm a K-9 for Kids Unit member and a dog handler.

Please contact K-9 for Kids President Jim Russell 1-413-567-0700 for more information about joining our unit.

- Bro. Vincenzo Jimmy Falzone

Bro. Vincenzo Jimmy Falzone with his Chloe, members of the K9s for Kids unit at the Aleppo Shrine.



Politics, Religion and Freemasonry

By Rt. Wor. David P. Newcomb

*It's a great, long standing tradition,
and part of our history,
That politics and religion aren't
discussed in Freemasonry.*

*Why would Masons make such a rule?
What benefits might be gained?
One answer is quite simple. Peace
and harmony are maintained.*

*The topic of religion in a tiled lodge,
won't be found;
This unwritten, accepted practice
provides a common ground.*

*A Book of Holy Scriptures may
be prominently displayed,
But talks about religion in the
lodge room won't be made.*

*Religious freedom does exist
within our hallowed halls,
And harmony in Freemasonry
exists for one and all.*

*The other subject, politics, in
lodge remains unspoken.
Our forefathers said peacefulness
should always be unbroken.*

*Everyone has an opinion.
Some differ from our own.
Accepting them with wisdom
will set the proper tone.*

*Our brotherhood learns prudence.
Be sensible, careful and wise,
Concerning thoughts and actions.
That's what prudence implies.*

*All of us have heard the words,
"to everything a season."
Our Brethren have a motto.
Quite simply, "Follow reason."*

*As politics and religion give
pause for some reflection,
Just remember those truly Masonic
virtues, silence and circumspection.*

*The character of the brother
is what a Mason builds.
It's a better way of living, thus,
a Mason's life fulfilled.*

*The message in these verses
has wisdom from the past.
Our strength and support is harmony,
one reason Freemasonry lasts.*



facebook

by Bro. Bryan Simmons

At this point, most of us have heard our website is the front door to our lodge in young people. Well that was so last year, now it is social media (not to take away from a well-maintained website). Social media is the fastest way to connect with people all over the world.

Globally there are 1.79 billion active users on Facebook. Every lodge, along with a well-maintained website, should have a lodge public Facebook page, a private Facebook group for members to stay informed in between meetings as well as have their members be a

part of a district group which is ideal for posting LOI events, Exemplification, Fraternal and Official Visits, and other District Events.

Ultimately, the most important is the public lodge page. This is your connection to approx. 1,500,000 Men on Facebook 18 + in Massachusetts alone (As of 2/3/17). That is an amazing opportunity. How do we reach them? This is where the value of a lodge Page comes in.

Any lodge can set up a Facebook page and it is free. A few tips to get started. First, use your official name i.e. Ezekiel Bates Lodge AF & AM not EB Lodge or any other variation. When you Google search EB Lodge, you will find a Performance Horse Farm in Australia. When you Google search Ezekiel Bates Lodge you will find, several websites linking to our lodge. There is no reason to compete with other businesses on search engines.

Second tip is fill out the about page with as much information as you can. This should include a lodge email address, mission, address, and phone number. You can get a free Google phone number that will ring to

more than one person's phone of your choosing. If a person leaves a voice mail they will transcribe it fairly accurately and text it to the phones that are attached to the account. You should have your Facebook page mirror your website and vice-versa. Keeping both up to date and relevant.

Third is working with Facebook rather than against. Facebook is a business and they want you to spend money to advertise. To push the matter, they use algorithms to limit the amount of people who like your page to see the posts you put up. The more regular you post the more people will be able to see the posts without spending money to boost. Which gets us into what do you post?

Most lodges are over 100 years old, some much older. A bit of digging and you most likely will find a history that can be set to a time line so you can work of that. For example, every year on April 9th Ezekiel Bates Lodge will post: On this day in 1870 Ezekiel Bates Lodge received their official charter. We add a photo of the charter and post is complete. While this does not seem like much we may be exposing someone to Masonry for the first time. Maybe someone sees our charter and notices a family name on the charter.

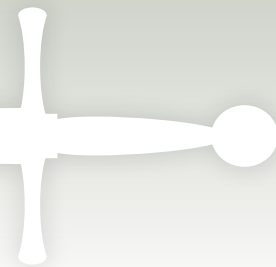
As Masons, we have so much pride for our past, but do little to record our present. While the convenience of a cell phone



setting up an "about page"

- Address is a must
- Make username your website
- Add a phone number (make sure you have voicemail set up)
- Fill in as much information as you can
- Link other social media accounts (i.e. Twitter or Instagram)
- Add your charter date
- Add a valid email
- Include your Lodge story, mission and awards

THE YOUNG TYLER



by Wor. Lee H. Fenn

“What I usually do is keep the sword in the scabbard. I know it is tempting to mess with it, but you will be really embarrassed if you cut yourself. Granted, it isn’t very sharp, but it can still happen,” said the Old Tyler to his replacement.

“It rides kind of funny, wouldn’t it be better if it were on a leather belt rather than this chain?” asked the Young Tyler as he fiddled with the implement of his office, his apron, and his collar.

“Well, you are the Tyler and you can make your choices,” replied the Old Tyler as he adjusted the Young Tyler’s collar, “but for me, the chain worked well.”

“It does seem nice, I guess. Certainly heavy duty.”

“Yep, it’s pretty strong. Not a link has been replaced.”

“How old is it?” The Young Tyler was getting curious.

“Nobody really knows. I heard that this chain has been used by Tylers for years.”

“Nice as it is, I think leather would be better,” the Young Tyler concluded.

“If that is your choice, fortunately, our Jr. Warden works in leather. Maybe he could work with you on it.”

The Young Tyler used the chain for that night and sought out the Jr. Warden. They discussed, designed, and made a new belt and scabbard for the sword. When the Jr. Warden met the Young Tyler at the lodge building, just before their next communication, they worked with the new scabbard and sword.

“Wow that looks fantastic. I love the way the sword slides in,” said the Young Tyler, “And the leather is so thick, this will last forever.”

“You see the way the right side hangs a bit lower?”

“Yeah, do they always do that?”

“No, but let me show you something.” The Jr. Warden took the Young Tyler over to a wall of photos. “I’m sure you don’t know my nickname, but the Brothers call me the Curator.”

“Why?”

“Well, I take care of all these photos, all the items, all the history in this building. I read about the lodges, active and inactive, all around this area. It is a labor of love, but it also makes me a source for the officers. Ah, here’s the photo I wanted to show you. It’s an early photo of the Tyler for your lodge. See, he has a leather belt very much like the one I made for you. This is from the 1800s.”

“Wow, so I’m not the first to find this chain annoying.”

“Well, I don’t know everything, so I don’t know about that! However, look at this other picture. You can see the chain. This is just a few years later.”

“What’s that metal piece in the frame?”

“While he was forging that chain, he stamped every link with that tool. You can still feel the square and compasses on most of the links. He died very young and didn’t make it past Tyler. As you make your choice, remember, you will be passing this on to the future Tyler. Consider well.” ■

camera is on almost everyone today, they lack the quality. We all love to recognize our members, whether it be a 50-year medal, Masonic Diploma, Joseph Warren Medal the list goes on. A lodge or the presenter knows when this is going to happen. Bring a decent camera take a few good pictures of the ceremony. This is the exact content that we should be sharing on social media. If it is a 50-year medal or significant award, why not also take the picture do a write up and submit it to the newspaper.

There are endless possibilities as to what you can use as content. I will not sugar coat it, this all takes time and

patience. Our Facebook page has been close to 5 years in the making to get it to where it is now and we still are not where we want to be. It becomes a lot easier when you begin to see the return on investment. Last year we brought about 15 people into the building through our Facebook page. now all of them did not become Masons, some wanted to join for the wrong reasons some were not ready, but they all left with respect for the Craft.

In late January, we held a Facebook 101 class which had roughly 30 attendees. A lot of good information came from the class and I think there is a good chance we will hold it again in

district groups

- Perfect for LOI events
- Each lodge can and should add all their members to the group
- Lodge page events can be shared to the group
- All district events should be on this page (i.e. Exemplification, LOI and Qualification

the Summer months. If you want more information on when the next workshop will be, well, give the Ezekiel Bates Page a Like. ■

Holiday Independent Living Chorus Concert



The Residents trimmed this year's Christmas tree in the Great Room at The Overlook.

Tree Trimming at The Overlook

The magnificent Great Room at The Overlook in Charlton is a frequented gathering place all year round. The majesty of this wonderful location was the perfect setting for the annual resident Tree Trimming on December 9th.

Our Tree Trimming is an annual custom, where Residents hang a Christmas ornament of their own on a common tree. This tradition truly captures the spirit of The Overlook community. A personal story behind every ornament yielded wonderful conversations, while seasonal music played on

the piano created a festive atmosphere (and may have led to singing a carol or two in between refreshments!)

A favorite holiday activity for our residents, the annual Tree Trimming is sponsored by the Welcome Hospitality Committee. This collective of gracious and helpful residents do an outstanding job of making new neighbors feel right at home.

The end result of this festive event is a beautiful tree adorned with memories, lights and special touches that all can enjoy throughout the season.

- Marie O'Malley

The independent living Chorus at The Overlook in Charlton burst forth in resounding melody during their annual holiday concert on December 8th. Held in the Performing Arts Center, a 280-seat, 2-tier venue on our campus, the ensemble of 20 men and women, led by Director Kiel Krommer, performed songs of the season to a very appreciative audience.

The lovely melodies resonated amidst beautiful seasonal décor, resulting in a festive and heartwarming experience to ring in the holidays. The chorus had piano accompaniment and the group joyfully entertained a full house.

A delightful combination of music selections was enhanced when Bro. Bob Burnham stepped up to the microphone for a soulful, solo rendition of "Silent Night" on his harmonica. The sweeping tone of the music he produced captivated all in attendance. Bob is self-taught on the instrument, having played his first one at age 16. He currently owns over 20 harmonicas, each unique, and enjoys sharing a sampling of each. Why so many? "Harmonicas can't change key."

Following the concert, a refreshments reception was held in the

▶ **Most Worshipful Jaynes** *continued from page 11*

greatly disturbed the members of Auburn Assembly and of course their advisors as well."

Grand Master Jaynes' inquiry into this matter—which was done carefully, since Rainbow was not specifically answerable to the Grand Lodge—gave him a most unsatisfactory answer. The Order of the Eastern Star, the governing authority of Rainbow, had a standing rule that prohibited "any percentage of Ethiopian blood" from attaining membership. This flew in the face of Grand Master Jaynes' own pronouncement. Consider his situation: regular Freemasonry in Massachusetts was, as noted, largely—

almost exclusively—Caucasian, as it was almost everywhere in the United States. The issue was from an associated, but not dependent, body, and it was one young girl in one Rainbow Assembly. Bro. Jaynes could have expressed his disapproval and taken no action; but instead he noted how much his daughter, a past Worthy Advisor, had enjoyed participating in, and been enriched by, Rainbow—and that all he could truly do as Grand Master was to order Massachusetts Masons to disassociate themselves (and their facilities) from the organization. He had no compelling power to change the situation.

He had only the power to walk uprightly, to speak from conscience, to be true to the words he had already spoken.

foyer of the Performing Arts Center. There was no shortage of merriment, friendly smiles and accolades for the performers.

A community in every sense of the word, residents of The Overlook exemplify the warm and welcoming culture found here every day, not only during the holiday season.

- Marie O'Malley

Bro. Bob Burnham plays *Silent Night* for the Independent Living Chorus Concert.



Charitable Endeavors at The Overlook

There is a wonderful spirit of community and a desire to serve others found amongst the residents of The Overlook in Charlton. There are numerous ongoing charitable endeavors, be it volunteer work or donations. It is a heartwarming experience to see the level of dedication and enthusiasm people have for sharing their time and talents.

Claire Merchant has been a resident of The Overlook for just over a year. She comes to our community after retiring as an employee of the Masonic Home! Claire was the Administrative Assistant to the Building Superintendent and, as such, knew almost every nook and cranny of the Home. Her husband, an active Mason, also worked here.

A resident of the town of Charlton for 46 years, Claire began volunteering for the Charlton Helping Hand Society, Inc. and continues her activity to this day. The Society believes in helping individuals or families of Charlton during sickness, crisis or times of hardship. This is offered from a community that embraces the spirit of our past, present and future.



Some of the work of Claire Merchant to raise money for Helping Hand Society.

The Society, located in Dodge Chapel and composed of all volunteers, raises money throughout the year to provide funding to cover the needs of town residents and especially children. Their efforts consist of raffles, Apple Pie Sales and an annual Craft Fair, to name a few. This year's Craft Fair netted the Society \$1000.

Claire remains as actively involved as she can, as do some other residents of The Overlook. So, if you are looking for opportunities to share your time and talent, perhaps the Charlton Helping Hand Society is the opportunity for you too! - Cynthia Clark

What was Masonry to M. Wor. Bro. Jaynes? At the Feast of St. John in 1970, he spoke of the Craft in these terms:

"In its teachings and philosophy and in its great inspirations which we receive from those strong and great Masonic leaders among us, we find the incentive to throw our weight in the community and in the world strongly and happily on the side of the right."

Without doubt, he believed those words, and carried them with him before, after and especially during his term of office.

In the spring of 1971, the General Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star took up the matter of "Ethiopian blood", and changed its rules. The organization would

never declare that it was due to Grand Master Jaynes' principled stand, but there was clearly some effect.

Grand Master Herbert Jaynes left office in December 1971. In his final address to the Grand Lodge, he told the Brethren:

"For your selection of me I shall always be grateful beyond my ability to express. It has been a rich and rare experience. . . My Brethren, I thank you from deep in my heart for the opportunity to serve you and all Masons in Massachusetts to the best of my ability."

As an honest, energetic, and principled Grand Master, his legacy is one that we should endeavor to remember and celebrate. ■

Last Act As District Deputy

by Rt. Wor. Lester Davis

December 2016 was my last month as the District Deputy of the 9th Masonic District. These were the most enjoyable 2 years of my involvement in the Masonic Fraternity.

I had the opportunity to be more involved with the inner workings of our Grand Lodge and its outstanding suite of Officers and Office Staff as well as to form close bonds with all of the Officers and Members of the lodges in the 9th District. I will miss it immensely.

As my last act in the office of District Deputy, it was my Honor and pleasure, to present two Joseph Warren Distinguished Service Medals to two great men of the Fraternity, Rt. Wor. Russell Franklyn Walters of North Reading Lodge and Wor. Dana Alan Jones of Mount Carmel Lodge.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Walters has been a member of North Reading Masonic Community for than 29 years.

He was in North Reading's DeMolay Chapter which included brothers such as Rt. Wor. William Currier and Wor. Bill Medugno. He served his lodge with great energy and distinction. As the ultimate Masonic Utility player, Rt. Wor. Bro. Walters can serve in any chair flawlessly and with great cheer.

Not just serving as a leader (two terms as Master of North Reading) but also as an extra hand at North Reading events or as a member of a committee. The Blood Drive would be less successful w/out Rt. Wor. Bro. Walters help and donation.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Walters is not just a North Reading guy. Rt. Wor. Bro. Walters served as DDGM for the 2nd District from 12/27/2006 to 12/29/2008, as WM for the DeMolay Lodge from Oct 2001 to Oct 2004. He spends a lot of energy working as a craftsman, and helping the craft grow in the Community.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Walters stands out in the crowd for his wit and interesting puns. Always the first with a joke or an interesting observation. He takes his lodge work seriously

and is an outstanding example of what a dedicated man and Mason really is.

Wor. Dana Alan Jones served as my District Deputy Grand Marshal for my second term as District Deputy of the 9th Masonic District. He selflessly volunteered to take over for Rt. Wor. S. Raymond King who had medical issues and could not complete the second year as my Marshal. Wor. Bro. Jones previously served as the District Deputy Grand Marshal for Rt. Wor. Robert Waugh who was DD of the 9th District in 2001.

Wor. Bro. Jones has provided many years of distinguished service to Mount Carmel Lodge and the 9th District. He served as Master of his Lodge on two occasions, once

for a three year term while he was waiting for me to work my way to the East and the second time for two years when the line of officers was depleted due to men resigning from the line to attend to family, military and professional commitments. Had it not been for Wor. Bro. Jones assuming the East of his lodge for another two years the lodge would not have had time to rebuild the line stay active.

Wor. Bro. Jones has been active with many of the events the lodge has run and has taken a special interest in the sick and shut in members, calling them and visiting them to make sure they know that the lodge is concerned about them and then making reports to the lodge at every communication. He is also very active by staying in touch with the widows of our deceased members and up until the last few years spearheaded the annual presentations of Fruit Baskets to the sick and distressed brethren and Flowers to the Widows at Christmas Time.

In addition to his involvement with Mount Carmel Lodge, Wor. Bro. Jones worked his way through the line and became High Priest of Sutton Chapter as well as Noble Grand of the Odd Fellows Lodge in our building and served with distinction in both capacities.

I personally witnessed his kindness and dedication to his family as he was the main caretaker of his mother for many years and would take time away from work and other matters to serve her lunch and dinner and take care of her personal needs on a daily basis. Wor. Bro. Jones is another shining example of what it means to be a Mason. ■



Rt. Wor. Russell Franklyn Walters (left) receiving his Joseph Warren medal from Rt. Wor. Lester Davis (center) with Rt. Wor. & Rev. Dr. Richard Haley (right).



Wor. Jones- His girlfriend Virginia-his children and Grand Children and Rt. Wor. Lester Davis: Wor. Dana Alan Jones, his girlfriend Virginia, his children, and Grand Children receiving a Joseph Warren medal from Rt. Wor. Lester Davis.

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And many, many other
great and important
undertakings.

