

# TROWEL



GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS WINTER 2018-19

## The Holy Saints John



The Grand  
Master's Appeal



# 2019 GOLDEN GAVEL WINNERS

*Best Charitable Event:*

**Joseph Warren—Soley Lodge: Charity Night**

Multiple local charities were invited to a regular communication where they educated the Masons about their charities and were educated about Freemasonry.

*Best Fellowship/Family Involvement Program:*

**14th/15n Districts: 300th Anniversary Gala**

Over 200 Masons, the Grand Master, two past Grand Masters, and their partners met, and many danced, at the Crowne Plaza in Natick to Celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England.

*Best Fundraiser:*

**Liberty Lodge: Cut—a—thon for Sal**

To honor Bro. Salvatore Castiello, who was a local Barber as well as an active Brother in Liberty Lodge, local Barbers from across the area offered their services to cut hair for free, if it meant the money went to “Big Sal’s Kids”, his surviving three children and his wife.

*Best Masonic Service Program:*

**Ezekiel Bates Lodge: Masonic Con**

The Masonic Con, now in its fourth year, brings vendors and lecturers in the Masonic Community from all over the country to Attleboro for a day of festivities and education. Over 400 Brothers attend each year to learn and enjoy fellowship. Masonic Con will be on April 27 Ezekiel Bates Lodge in Attleboro.

*Best Masonic Service Project:*

**John T. Heard Lodge: Ipswich Dinner Bell**

The Ipswich Dinner Bell is a Community meal program started by John T. Heard Lodge and two churches in 2010. Now it includes over 11 houses of worship, and countless community organizations and serves over 200 meals a week and delivers them to those in need. The Governor recognized it with a Proclamation and today is its own 501C3.

*Best Membership Initiative:*

**Tahattawan Lodge: Mentoring Program**

Tahattawan Lodge began a mentoring program in 2012, to engage their new Brethren to instill in them an understanding of our Ritual and the reasons we do what we do. The Program boasts a 95% retention rate of new Master Masons with in the Lodge.

*Most Original Presentation in a Regular Communication:*

**St. Paul’s Lodge: Outdoor Third Degree with the Colonial Craftsmen**

With the assistance of the Colonial Craftsmen, and dispensation from the Grand Lodge, St. Paul’s Lodge conferred the Master Masons Degree on two candidates outdoors on private

property which was followed with barbeque and fellowship.

*Best Presentation of an LOI Module:*

**Golden Rule Lodge: Masonic Knowledge Quiz**

For the Masonic Quiz the Brothers were then divided into five groups; Past Masters, Presiding Masters, Senior Wardens, Junior Wardens, and other Brothers. At the end of the night the winning group was announced. Brothers got to work together, learn more about Masonry, expand friendships, and create new ones.

*Best Public Relations Project:*

**United Brethren Lodge:**

**Marlborough Main St. Car Show**

The Marlborough Main St. Car Show has become a staple of the community, hosting over 300 cars. Over its ten years, since being conceived by Wor. Bob Archibald, it has raised nearly \$200,000 for numerous local organizations as well as for The Shriners Hospitals.

*Best Widows and Orphans Program:*

**Mount Moriah Lodge: Christmas with our Widows**

Each December, Mt Moriah Lodge contacts each of their Widows, checks in on their well-being, and sets up a time the Brethren can stop by visit with them and drop off a couple Christmas Gifts. The Brethren, in teams of two, deliver Poinsettia flowers, a Christmas card signed by many Brothers, and business cards. The cards allow the Widows to contact the Lodge and gets them a free breakfast at the Lodge.

*Best Rusty Brother Program:*

**Friendship Lodge: ROMEO’S for Blue Belles**

ROMEO is an acronym for Retired Old Masons Eat Out. For the past 10 years, older Brothers meet at a monthly luncheon to renew their Masonic ties. At every luncheon Brothers pitch in a few bucks for a springtime luncheon is held with the widows, “Blue Belles”, of the Lodge as guests.

*Best Activation Activity:*

**Scouters Lodge: Scouters Lodge Traveling**

Scouters Lodge traveled to the home Lodges of several of their affiliate members to hold their Regular Communication. The visit to Marine Lodge was the first time another Lodge had ever held a Communication in their apartments, a Grand Lodge Eagle Scout Certificate was presented, and the local Boy scout Troop assisted with serving dinner.

**Grand Masters Gavel:**

The Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction supports Grand Lodge in many ways and launched the Not-just-a-man-a-Mason campaign to support Blue Lodge membership and, eventually, Scottish Rite membership.

*From the East of  
Grand Lodge*

**PAUL F.  
GLEASON**

Brethren,

As we settle into another year of Masonic activities, I look back on many enjoyable meetings held and friendships formed. I also look forward to a full calendar of activities as we pursue our goals of membership growth and retention.

By now, we have learned about the great programs that our lodges were able to showcase at the Golden Gavel Awards. My sincere congratulations to the lodges who submitted their projects and concepts for the consideration of the judges. We certainly have a lot of creative minds out there!

Next, we prepare for the special class of over 150 new Masons who will be raised in our One Day Class on March 9. Along with the already successful recruitment efforts of our lodges, we must assimilate these freshly raised Master Masons who will be looking for ways to enjoy their new membership. It's up to you, Brethren! Put them to work: assign them to committee positions, use them to expand your Officer line, offer them (and yourselves) enjoyable activities that will make them want to come back next month. We always assure our new Masons that they will "get back more than they have put in" to Masonry. Let's design programs, projects, and goals for our lodges to pursue that will do just that!

I wish all of you a healthy and happy new year – and look forward to sailing with many of you in August as we launch the Grand Master's Cruise to Bermuda. Stay tuned!

Cordially & Fraternally,  
*Paul F. Gleason*  
Grand Master



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# Saints On Your Flanks

Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts  
MW Paul F. Gleason



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As I go to my job, shovel out another parking space, and serve on jury duty, I can forget that I am the center of the world.

I could be at a negative type of center of the world, my egotistical world. When I am in that center, I'm likely to get on the T and wonder how the people there could not applaud my arrival. I'm not always on the T, I have just arrived, and some applause might be the right thing for such an event.



But apart this negative center, I am still a center of sorts. I am in the middle of all my actions. As one friend pointed out, if I move my arms, they form the radius of a circle, with me in the middle. Leonardo da Vinci did a good job painting that concept. As a parent, I have recently said to my 15-year-old son, "A man makes choices and takes responsibility for those choices."

As a Brother, that circle of choices and duties of which we are the center is flanked by the Holy Saints John. Their presence is vague, except when I go into certain churches and see one of the Saints depicted with square in hand and often a triangle at his feet. I'm then reminded of the part of my life that is dependent on my playing my small part in my family, to help strangers when I can, and to conduct myself with kindness. The Saints guide me in that direction, but other parts of Masonry keep me in check.

One part of Masonry is the license plate. A person mentioned that they did not want a Masonic license plate because the way he drives would bring dishonor to the Fraternity. I have a Masonic plate, but I am a bicyclist at heart. Going on a highway is a bit of a shock to me. The 25 mph speed limit for Boston streets seems a bit quick.

I do, however, get angry - usually at indecisive drivers - and am tempted to honk, speed around the person, and hopefully release some anger on them. But I don't. Not because of innate virtue, not because of a belief that such behavior is wrong, but because I don't want to reflect badly on the Fraternity.

The Saints guide us in our actions and duties. But it is not always a statue in a church, or a painting in a lodge room. Sometimes, the Saints work through the everyday symbols of our Fraternity. Sometimes, they work through something as commonplace as a license plate.



Fraternally, *Lee H. Fenn*

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE**  
**APRIL 11, 2019**



## 26th District Crashes Franklin County Fair

The 26th Masonic District smashed and bashed its way into the annual Demolition Derby at this year's Franklin County Fair. Wor. Zach Billings, from Harmony Lodge, piloted the number 357 Volkswagen Jetta onto the muddy battle field, *continued on page 23*

*Bro. Sean Collins, the Volkswagen Jetta, and Wor. Zach Billings after the Demolition Derby.*

## A Cable Tow Story

### A Visit to a Restored Brother

Part 4 of 4

by Rt. Wor. Eugene A. "Cappy" Capobianco

I emailed Bro. Remsen, asking him to let me know when he intended on returning to the Lodge in Oriental, NC, because there was a Brother from St. John's Lodge who just happened to be in NC, and would be happy to accom-

pany him on his first visit back. This, mind you, was a small white lie. Before I continue, it's important to know that other than pictures he sent as a younger man, Bro. Remsen and I had never spoken, or ever met in person.

He gladly responded with a date, and I acknowledged and informed Bro. Remsen that Brother Hawkins would meet him at his house, and escort him to the Lodge. The day finally arrived, and Bro. Hawkins and I boarded a plane with the St. John's Lodge Bylaw Book, and headed off to North Carolina to take part in this

much anticipated, and soon to be unforgettable Masonic event. We rented a car upon landing, and headed to Oriental, a four hour drive, to meet Bro. Remsen for the first time ever. Although he only expected Bro. Hawkins, he was happy and surprised to see me there as well.

After an emotional hello, Bro. Remsen and his wife joined us for an enjoyable dinner downtown, before the three of us headed off to the Lodge for his much anticipated return. It was an unforgettable moment, sitting with Bro. Remsen in the *continued on page 32*

# Q

*by Rt. Wor. Rev. Dr. Richard E. Haley, Senior Grand Chaplain*

The seventeenth letter of the English alphabet begins two words important to our fraternity: quantity and quality, each referring to our membership. I have been a Mason for almost 43 years, and have been involved with Grand Lodge since 2001 as a Grand Chaplain and District Deputy Grand Master. In all of those years, membership has been the focus at some level, most often primarily emphasizing numbers - in other words, quantity. How do we best increase our membership numbers has been both the spoken and unspoken question.

The question is not solely that of Freemasonry. In my profession as a Christian minister and theological educator, the churches, seminaries, and denominations with which I have been professionally engaged ask the same question concerning increasing membership, enrollment, and participation. In both venues - Freemasonry and the Church - there is often a kind of 'bottom line' reality that forces the question to be asked. More members equal more money coming in, and thus more resources we have, and the better enabled we are to fulfill our missions in life. In both venues I applaud and support efforts to increase the quantity of members for I believe that both Freemasonry and the Church have something special to offer those who come and join.

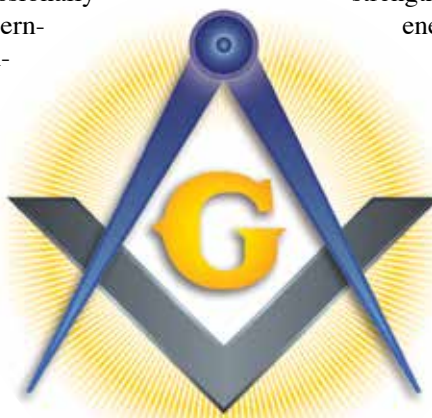
But the other Q word cannot be ignored, particularly in Freemasonry. In Freemasonry we begin with the assumption that we want good men to join our Fraternity who wish to become better men. This presupposes a certain quality of the person we are hoping will join our fraternity. Note: This is not a question of unfair judgment of a person's character - the end goal of faith communities is different from that of Freemasonry, so the word quality takes on a different, nuanced meaning for Freemasonry. In Freemasonry, we presume the work of a man's faith community has already made a difference in his life, but that's a topic for another essay in a different setting. My concern with Freemasonry is that we become so focused on

numbers of members for the bottom line reason of monetary resources, that we then pay less attention to the other Q word, quality.

In my years as a Mason, I have seen many men come and go. I have been sorry to see some leave our Fraternity due to dissatisfaction with what they found in Freemasonry - they were good men with high expectations of Freemasonry and went away disappointed for a variety of reasons. Others I have not been sorry to see leave because, in the long run, they joined for the wrong reasons, or, to be honest, were not very good men. Perhaps if these men had spent more attention to the goals of their faith communities and personal faith commitments, their goodness might have been strengthened, their self-understanding deepened, and their readiness to be made a

Mason more evident. As a fraternity we demand belief in God, after all, for a reason. On the surface it at least demonstrates allegiance to something greater and larger than oneself. At the same time, had we in the application process spent more attention on the quality factor and the sincerity of their belief, they may never have made it to the door of Freemasonry in the first place, thus avoiding misunderstandings and disappointments all around.

The bottom line for our membership should never be potential income, but rather the goodness of the individual candidate and his potential as a Mason. At the same time the quality of what we offer as a Fraternity also needs great attention so that when good men do come to us, they stay with us rather than go away disappointed. If we pay attention to the proper Q word first at all levels - the personal, the institutional, and the programmatic - I believe the numbers, both in terms of members and resources, will take care of themselves. ■



*Rt. Wor. Rev. Haley is a retired American Baptist minister and theological educator. He is a member and Past Master of Essex Lodge in Salem, and Past DDGM of the 9th Masonic District.*

# THE DECEMBER 2018 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

## OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS



by *Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

On December 12th, the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason, received a standing ovation as he entered the hall for the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

He welcomed the color guard, Order of the Eastern Star Grand Officers: Most Worthy Paula Burge, Worthy Grand Matron; Most Worthy Steven Donahue, Worthy Grand Patron; Ms. Karen Grabau; Rt. Wor. Michael Podymaitis; Wor. David Frizzell; Bro. Charles Jones; and Ms. Ruth Jones. After the presentation of the flags of our country and state, the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, and a robust

singing of the National Anthem, Most Worthy Paula Burge talked about the Order of the Eastern Star, the Rainbow Girls, and DeMolay.

Before opening the Grand Lodge Quarterly, the Grand Master received Patricia Latham and Lisa Hastings to present the Secretary of the Year award to Bro. Robert Khouri, Secretary of West Roxbury-Dorchester Lodge, and Wor. William S. McFadden, Secretary of Rural Lodge.

The Brethren assembled joined in singing *Oh God Our Help in Ages Past* and bowed in a prayer offered by Rt. Wor. and Rev. Matthew Wissell, Grand Chaplain. With a tap of the gavel, the Grand Master opened the Quarterly in ample form.

The Past Grand Masters in attendance were M. Wors. Albert Timothy Ames, Arthur Eugene Johnson, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Jeffrey Black Hodgdon, Richard James Stewart, and Harvey J. Waugh.

The Grand Master made the last call for ballots. Ballots to the voting Brethren are distributed prior to entering the hall; this last call is the last opportunity for the Brethren to secure their ballots. Without paper ballots, the Brethren allowed to vote will not be able to vote. M. Wor. Bro. Ames' report recognizing 193 proxies and voting powers were accepted in the "usual Masonic manner," by a show of hands.

Rt. Wor. Scott T. Jareo, Deputy Grand Master, sadly went through the necrology. We have lost over 300 years of Masonic experience, including a Brother with over 69 years as a Mason having passed away the day prior. The Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Richard Maggio, escorted Rt. Wor. John Hanson to the East for a necrology for his friend, M. Wor. Edgar William Darling. Rt. Wor. Bro. Hanson was M. Wor. Bro. Darling's Grand Marshal. He recounted M. Wor. Bro. Darling as a "charismatic speaker, always ready to spread the goodwill of the Fraternity. One of his proudest moments was representing not only our Grand Lodge, but all Grand Lodges in the New World (Western Hemisphere) when giving a speech on June 10th, 1992, at the



M. Wor. Darling

### The Grand Master introduced to the Brethren assembled the distinguished guests:

- M. Excel. Dana A. Jackson, 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

### Representatives of The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the USA

- 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 Emeritus for Massachusetts
- Ill. Ralph I. Sewall, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts
- Ill. Robert E. Godbout, Jr., 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts

- M. Wor. Thomas Edward Pulkkinen, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine

### Representatives of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

- Rt. Wor. Justin A. Petty, Junior Grand Warden
- R.W. Jubie S. Drakes, Grand Secretary
- Rt. Wor. Wilbur Evans, Sr., Past Grand Marshal Emerituss

- Rt. Wor. Rony Fernandes Pinto, Jr., Grand Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Grand Lodge of Rio Grande du Sul
- Rt. Wor. and Dad Philip Drouin, Executive Officer, Order of the DeMolay, Massachusetts
- M. Worthy Stephen E. Donahue, Most Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, Order of the Eastern Star



**Left: The Color Guard, the Grand Officers from the Massachusetts Order of the Eastern Star, saluting the flag. Right: Lisa Hastings and Patricia Latham flank the Grand Master when they awarded Bro. Robert Khouri, Secretary of West Roxbury-Dorchester Lodge, and Wor. William S. McFadden with their Secretary of the Year awards.**

275th Anniversary Meeting of the United Grand Lodge of England.” All bowed their heads in prayer as Rt. Wor. and Rev. Brian Marsh led us from the altar.

Before the opening of the ballot, the Grand Master turned the meeting over to Rt. Wor. Bro. Jareo and was escorted from the hall. From the East, the Deputy Grand Master opened the ballot. After a time, all were asked if they had voted. “All have not voted,” declared the Deputy Grand Master - he held his ballot in his hand. To the laughter of the hall, he placed it in the ballot box. A committee of Past Grand Masters, chaired by the Senior Past Grand Master, M. Wor. Bro. Ames, exited the hall to count the ballots.

Rt. Wor. Stephen Cohn of the Committee on Charter and By-Laws reported that nine changes were accepted, and only one was partially not accepted. The report was accepted in the usual Masonic manner. Rt. Wor. Warren Richardson’s report from the Committee on Records was similarly accepted.

The Committee of Past Grand Masters was assembled to the West of the altar where M. Wor. Bro. Ames joked that by a “very close margin” M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason has had a “resounding victory” for his third year as Grand Master. The Grand Master was reintroduced to the hall to a standing ovation. He accepted re-election and assumed the East.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Relations was delivered by M. Wor. Bro. Hicks. The Grand Lodge of Lebanon is not recognized, while the Grand Oriente do Parana’ in Brazil is recommended for recognition. The report was accepted in the usual Masonic manner.

The candidates for Senior Grand Warden, Rt. Wors. David J. Raymond and Geoffrey Kromer were presented to the East where the Grand Master expressed his appreciation

for both worthy candidates. The Grand Marshal escorted the candidates from the room, and the Grand Master opened the ballot. After all had voted, a committee of Past Senior Grand Wardens, chaired by M. Wor. Bro. Ames, assembled and departed to count the votes.

With no business at hand, the Grand Master called a brief recess. The Brethren enjoyed the break and spent some time chatting with each other throughout the hall and the outer apartments. The previously quiet, attentive lodge room became a raucous group of boisterous friends.

At the sound of the gavel, the Grand Master called the hall to order and received the report from the Chairman of the Committee: Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer received unanimous election to the office of Senior Grand Warden. He accepted the position.

The Grand Master immediately employed the Grand Marshal to present the candidates for Junior Grand Warden, Rt. Wors. Edgar R. De Leon and Timothy S. McGavin to the East. After complimenting them on their non-campaign, the Grand Master extolled the virtues of both Brothers and directed that they both would be excellent choices. They were

escorted from the lodge room.

The Grand Master opened the ballot. Once all had voted and the ballot was closed, he directed the Grand Marshal to assemble a committee of Past Junior Grand Wardens, chaired by Rt. Wor. Robert C. Schremser, to count the ballots.

During the count, M. Wor. Bro. Ames reported two petitions for consolidation as follows: Palestine Lodge and William Sutton Lodge will merge under the name William Sutton Lodge; and Simonds Lodge and William Parkman Lodge will merge under the name William Parkman Lodge.



**From the Oriental Chair of Grand Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master casts the final ballot in the election of Grand Master.**



The petitions were accepted. M. Wor. Bro. Ames also announced a petition for a new lodge, Lodge of the Royal Secret, which was also accepted.

The Grand Master made the following ruling:

### Grand Lodge Dues Amnesty Program for Suspended Brethren

*Presently, Section 507 of the Grand Constitutions requires that a brother suspended for non-payment of dues (NPD) must have both lodge and Grand Lodge dues paid to the date of his suspension in order to be reinstated.*

*To reclaim such suspended (NPD) brethren, I am instituting a temporary amnesty program solely for Calendar Year 2019, relieving a suspended Brother of the requirement to pay Grand Lodge dues owed up to the date of his suspension. A suspended Brother may take advantage of this program only once in his Masonic career and must still pay Grand Lodge dues for the current year.*

*Since the Grand Lodge credits any lodge with (no more than) one year's dues upon notification of a Brother's suspension, the prompt filing of such notification will result in no financial impact to the lodge resulting from this amnesty program.*

*I urge each lodge to take advantage of this special program and reach out by personal communication to their suspended brethren suggesting that they apply for reinstatement. (Your communication could be made even more persuasive by offering to relieve the further requirement to pay back dues owed to the lodge as well!)*

*Brethren, please consider making this modest effort. It can't help but benefit both your lodge and any suspended (NPD) brethren who take advantage of it.*

The Grand Master moved back to the election. The committee returned to the hall, Rt. Wor. Bro. Schremser announced the winner: Rt. Wor. Timothy S. McGavin by unanimous vote. Rt. Wor. Bro. McGavin accepted the decision, and was conducted to his seat. The Grand Master

received a motion for the Grand Secretary to cast one vote for the remainder of the ballot. The motion passed, and the ballot was cast.

The Grand Master was saddened to announce an indefinite suspension of a Brother who did not live up to our "strict code of conduct." The suspension was accepted by the Brethren.

Rt. Wors. Walter Hunt and Donald LaLiberte presented the Grand Master with a new publication of the writings of M. Wor. Joseph Earle Perry, entitled *The Masonic Way of Life*.

The Grand Master surprised Rt. Wor. Peter Culbertson, the Golden Gavel Chairman and the initiator of the Robert Johnston award—which has been expanded to include the Grand Lady Service award requested once a year by the lodge Master—with the Joseph Warren medal.

The Grand Marshal was directed to escort the Master of Simon W. Robinson Lodge to the East. The Grand Master invited M. Wor. Jeffrey Hodgdon to the level for a presentation of a new portrait of the Grand Master himself. Just before the presentation of the portrait, it was dropped to the collective gasp of the Brethren. M. Wor. Bro. Hodgdon said, "It was a good portrait." The portrait was not damaged and good laugh was had by all.

The Grand Master directed that Rt. Wor. Alfredo Canhoto be presented to the East. Rt. Wor. Bro. Canhoto discussed the Lewis Jewel Initiative. He and the Grand Master presented Rt. Wor. Fred A. Dobson, Jr. with a Lewis Jewel. Rt. Wor. Bro. Dobson's father passed away approximately 20 months after he was raised, and they never had the opportunity to receive the jewels.

The Grand Master presented Rt. Wor. Bro. Canhoto a certificate of appreciation for the Bowtie Benefit Banquet. Rt. Wor. Bro. Canhoto remained in the East to assist Rt. Wor. Edward Iacovelli in presenting to the Grand Master a donation to the Brotherhood Fund from the 15th District Past Master's Association. The Grand Master accepted presentations.

The Grand Master began his address *continued on next page*

**Left:** The re-elected Grand Master is escorted back into the Lodge room. **Right:** Rt. Wor. Peter Culbertson sporting his just bestowed Joseph Warren medal.



by wishing everyone a joyous holiday season and hoped “those of you who celebrated had a very Happy Hanukkah.”

He said this is more of a list of highlights than a speech. “We raised over 50 Master Masons than last year. Your efforts and the recruitment efforts of our Membership Committee are working! Keep up the good work, Brethren.”

“This year,” the Grand Master continued, “We will turn to increasing our retention efforts through increased reliance on our Lodge Ambassadors and District Membership Officers. Many are already responding. I commend them and urge a continuation of these efforts.”

He spoke of the 15 lodges helped by the Receivership Program and that only one has gone dark since beginning this program. He sent his personal thanks to Rt. Wor. Bro. De Leon “for his dedication and efforts in making this program the success that it is.”

He was looking forward to the first Golden Gavel Awards on January 26th, and to March 9th for the One Day Class to be held here in Boston. We will be “offering an opportunity for those potential candidates who cannot break away for three consecutive months. This special class offers the conferral of all three degrees by outstanding participants, many of whom were winners in our recent Ritual Competition.”

The Grand Master reiterated the Grand Lodge Amnesty program. “I urge each lodge to take advantage of this special program and reach out by personal communication to their suspended Brethren, suggesting that they apply for reinstatement. Your communication could be made even more persuasive by offering to relieve the further requirement to pay back dues owed to the lodge as well!” said the Grand Master.

The Grand Master reminded everyone “that social

media is a powerful tool for the dispersal of both good and bad impressions of Freemasonry. I have had to issue far too many reprimands to Brethren who were anxious to share inappropriate thoughts and pictures with the world while at the same time advertising their membership in the Craft. We will be re-issuing the Grand Lodge social media guidelines in our next e-mail newsletter this week – take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly.”

“Have you ordered your Masonic license plate yet?” asked the Grand Master. “Any RMV branch is able to issue you an MM series Massachusetts Freemasonry plate. This program allows you to show your pride as a Mason as you drive around, while also helping raise funds for Masonic charities. A portion of your registration fee gets donated to the ME & CT.

The Grand Master discussed the new lodge in Boston, The Lodge of the Royal Secret. “Its mission is to bridge the gap between membership in Blue Lodge and in the Scottish Rite. The lodge will be geared towards producing members who will be actively involved in both Masonic entities.”

“Finally, mark your calendars! We are in the initial stages of planning a cruise from Boston to Bermuda from August 9th through August 16th. No airplanes and you unpack once! Grand Lodge purchasing power is enabling us to include on-board credits and additional perks with every stateroom. More details will be available at the Feast of St. John and through our other media.

“I wish each of you who celebrate a very Merry Christmas – and I look forward to seeing you who are joining me at the Feast of Saint John. Thank you, Brethren!” After a standing ovation, the Communication was closed in ample form. ■



**Rt. Wors. Donald LaLiberte and Walter Hunt, Grand Historian, present the Grand Master with a newly printed copy of *The Masonic Way of Life* by M. Wor. Joseph Earle Perry.**

**Left:** M. Wor. Jeffrey Hodgdon laughing with the Grand Master about the dropping of his official portrait. **Right:** The Grand Master presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Rt. Wor. Alfredo Canhoto for his efforts on the Bow Tie Benefit Banquet.



## Presentations to the Grand Master

Mount Horeb Lodge, the 15th District Past Master's Association and Converse Lodge donated to The Brotherhood Fund, and the 19th District presented the Grand Master with a softball hat and jersey.



# ASK THE GRAND LECTURERS



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

**Q:** I notice the 2019 Exemplifications will include the Masonic Memorial Service. Is this necessary?

**A:** Absolutely. This is the single most important thing we can do for the families in their time of great sorrow. We must maintain the highest standards and the best way to do this is to continually review our procedures and insure we do not slip backward-even a little bit. Let me quote from the 2007 edition of the Trestle Board:

*"if the Master cannot be present or does not feel he can conduct the service in a way befitting the occasion (for whatever reason, be it his relationship to the departed Brother or his reaction to death) it is a sign of strength to select a suitably qualified Brother, usually a Past Master, to stand in his place"*

Brethren, I am not aware of any other official document from Grand Lodge that encourages a Master to delegate any of his assigned work. There is a very good reason for this exception.

**Q:** Can any brother call the Grand Lecturers with a question?

**A:** Absolutely. We are always willing to help. Grand Lecturer information is on the Educate Masons web site in the Officer's 2017 file. Also your District Deputy has the contact information for the Grand Lecturer conducting your exemplification. It is important to remember that questions concerning ritual should never be sent (and will never be answered) over E-mail or through any social media such as Face book, Twitter, etc.

**Q:** Is it correct that candidates for the degrees can participate in business meetings?

**A:** While a candidate may sit in on a business meeting provided the Lodge is open on a degree to which he has been obligated, he is not a Lodge member until he signs the by-laws. Thus he may not vote on Lodge motions or ballot on a candidate.

**Q:** Since Exemplifications this year are on the Second Degree, is it OK to bring candidates who have only completed their First or First and Second Degrees?

**A:** No. It could cause awkward situations-which was the case in an Exemplification last year. It is almost impossible to confine the agenda to a specific degree. A significant part of the discussions revolve around how the wording varies from degree to degree. We do not wish to discourage interested candidates but in this case it is best all around that they wait a year. ■



# GRAND LODGE





# INSTALLATION





# EVERY DARK CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

*By Wor. Robert A. Caron, Waltham Triad Lodge*

Once upon a time, there were three Masonic Lodges in Waltham: Monitor Lodge, Isaac Parker Lodge, and Waltham Lodge. These lodges lived amicably together in the historic Maynard Block of Waltham, located at 690-700 Main Street.

On Sunday, June 6, 1982, as dawn broke, an off-duty police officer saw smoke coming from the Waltham Masonic Building. A still unidentified arsonist, in this second attempt within a week, had managed to start the conflagration that marked the end for the building. Despite efforts from the entire Waltham fire department, and firefighters from Cambridge, Brookline, Watertown, Belmont, Arlington, Lexington, Weston, and Boston, the building was totally lost.

For the next six years, the three lodges sought ways to rebuild in Waltham, but were unsuccessful in this venture. In 1988, they decided to officially merge, and in June became chartered in Newtonville. Since then, they have continued their fine work as Waltham Triad Lodge, even welcoming Victory Lodge of Watertown into their fold in 2003.

Fast forward and we find a retired Past Master (yours truly) reading his Sunday paper one day, perusing an insert from the Massachusetts State Treasurer about unclaimed property. Wor. Caron knew this was a legitimate service, having recovered a small amount of unclaimed money in the name of his late mother-in-law years before, so he went to his computer and started entering familiar names into the FindMassMoney.com search field.

Much to his surprise, he found a listing for unclaimed property in the name of 'AM & FM Monitor Lodge' (sic). How could this be? Unclaimed property in the name of one of the predecessor lodges to Waltham Triad? There had been a thorough job during the merger process and everything was accounted for, or so they thought.

This is what happened. The fire occurred in 1982, throwing the lodges into disarray. The assets, funds, and other property of all three lodges, as well as the building association, were under constant discussion in the context of seeking to rebuild in Waltham. But, in 1985, the sole

trustee of that particular unclaimed property account died. In 1988, when the lodges merged, apparently no one remembered – or more likely no one there even knew about – this lost property.

Bro. Caron set out on a quest to resolve this situation. He had no documentation about the account or about Monitor Lodge, including not having its tax ID number. His mission would be to convince the state treasurer that Waltham Triad Lodge had a lawful claim to this property.

The task was to adequately lead the unclaimed property investigators through a chain of evidence drawing the line from the Monitor Lodge account in 1985 to Waltham Triad Lodge today. Bro. Caron filed a sworn, notarized affidavit explaining the complete timeline, explaining the misspellings, explaining the merger, and providing tax and exempt status information for Waltham Triad. Bro. Caron added an official death certificate for the trustee, and a copy of the Grand Lodge Proceedings recording the merger.

After several phone calls and personal visits with the unclaimed property division, they were finally convinced of the legitimacy of this claim, and that the best available evidence had been provided. Waltham Triad Lodge received a check from the state treasurer for the 1982 cash value of the Fidelity account, plus accrued interest since 1982 as required by state law.

Now that's a silver lining.

The moral of the story is:

- First, never place lodge monies in a single trustee's name. I believe Grand Lodge regulations address this.
- Second, take a moment to look at the state's unclaimed property website, FindMassMoney.com. As Bro. Caron browsed through the website, he noticed dozens of Masonic Lodge names, and many that had merged, but some that still operate today.
- Third, don't think it's an impossible task to get back what's rightfully your lodge's property. It may be difficult, but the state treasurer has a mission to reunite you with your lost property. ■

# THE HOLY SAINTS JOHN

## Why Are They Freemasonry's Patron Saints?

*By M. Wor. Thomas E. Pulkkinen, Past Grand Master of Maine*

Lodge officers spend countless hours mastering their ritual, and it is so important that ritual be delivered well. However, the true value of the ritual is not so much in the words themselves, but in the application of their meaning to how we conduct ourselves as men and Masons.

### The Importance of Masonic Symbolism

19th century Freemason Albert Pike, a learned philosopher and a profound student of religion opined that "Brotherhood and symbolism is the soul of Freemasonry." Masonic symbolism helps us recall and understand important perspectives, teachings, and concepts. It should also heighten our curiosity and desire to explore our faith, our God, and the fulfillment, in our lives, of the lessons contained in the good book, thus making us better men. The Holy Scriptures are integral to each degree. For example, the building of King Solomon's Temple, as taught in 1st Kings and 2nd Chronicles, serves as a metaphor and a challenge for us to build a great temple within ourselves – a temple of faith in God, and a temple of upright character – to believe in God and to live by His commandments. As such, Freemasonry is not a substitute for attending our houses of worship and is not in conflict with religious teachings. Instead, Masonry meaningfully complements the teachings and relationships of our church, synagogue, mosque, etc.

### The Holy Saints John

Freemasons gather to celebrate St. John the Baptist near the Summer Solstice, and St. John the Evangelist at the Winter Solstice when our Grand Lodge installs its officers. This has been done for centuries. As candidates, we learn that lodges are dedicated to the Holy Saints John. We are taught that by living by the teachings of the Holy Bible and limiting our desires and passions within the bounds of the circle and rods as depicted in the accompanying painting in Corner Stone Lodge in Duxbury, we might best live just and upright lives. Do we learn why Freemasonry adopted

these two Biblical characters as our Patron Saints? Rev. David A. Hoyt, a Methodist Minister and former Grand Chaplain has expressed his scriptural perspective that both saints were true men of God and had a vital God-given message that reports what God is about to do. Each one speaks with an authority that comes from the Divine Creator of the Universe. Most interestingly, each has a message for us as people of God and as members of the Masonic fraternity.

### Saint John the Baptist

Rev. Bro. Hoyt opines that John the Baptist stands in the Jordan River, clothed in a leather apron, crying out, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand!" John's challenge is for everyone to turn away from all wrongdoing and to prepare for the arrival of God's promised Messiah. John urges the people of his day to live uprightly, to cast off acts of darkness and wrong. He encourages us to put on a mantle of holiness, and to live our lives with compassion and kindness. Moreover, John's word is one of readiness. John prompts us to live as though we are about to encounter God at any moment.

For living out this profound, steadfast purpose, John the Baptist suffered death by beheading at the hands of Herod, for much the same reason that beset Hiram Abif - dying for, and living by, not wavering from his just and upright convictions. Living uprightly, compassionately, and in accordance with God's teachings surely are the marks of a good Mason. He encourages us to strive to be a good as we can be, remembering that according to Matthew 11:11, Jesus said, "Among those born of women, there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist."

### St. John the Evangelist

The message of St. John the Evangelist is about light. He speaks of the Light of God coming into the world. John writes, "The true Light that enlightens every man was coming into the world," and likewise he tells us "the Light



# Bow Tie Success



*By Rt. Wor. Alfredo Canhoto*

The Brethren brought their ladies, who all looked lovely, and enjoyed a formal night of revelry and Brotherly Love. The committee, Rt. Wors. Alfredo Canhoto (Chairman) Frank Gomes, Wors. Joe Turner, Patrick Fennelly, Rt. Wor. H. Robert Huke, Sr., Bro. Michael Scribner, Rt. Wors. Lawrence Bethune, and James Gilrein labored for the joy of over 200 revelers. Nearly \$25,000 was raised for the Brotherhood fund that night. ■



# Remarks of the Deputy Grand Master

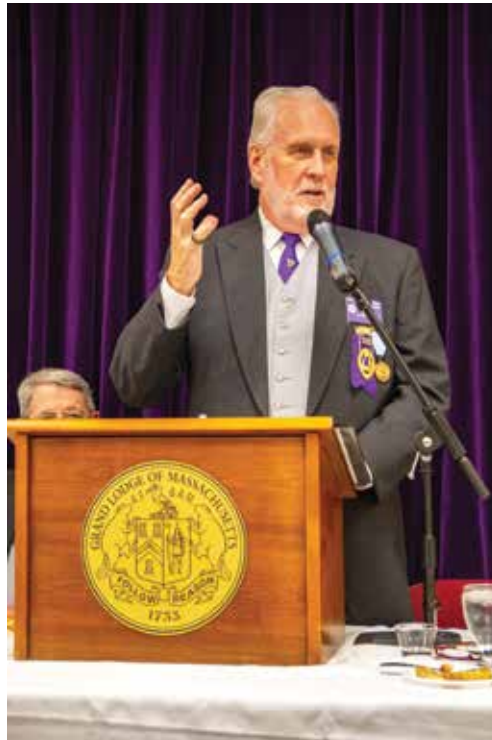
*Rt. Wor. Lawrence E. Bethune • Feast of St. John • December 27, 2018*

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters, members of Grand Lodge, distinguished guests, Brethren all, good evening. Grand Master, I humbly thank you for appointing me as your Deputy Grand Master. I am deeply honored and eager to serve and assist you this coming year. My Brothers, what a glorious and inspiring vision I have before me - men of honor, men of integrity, men full of Brotherly Love and affection for each other. How fortunate I am to be among such men who are my Brothers and my friends.

Because of my Brotherly Love for all of you, I want to give you all a gift tonight. I want to reveal to you the answer to one of life's greatest secrets the meaning of life. I heard something fascinating the other day. Did you know that there are more people alive today than have ever lived? This amazing observation got me thinking, about life, and the quality of life.

Once upon a time, there was a good man. This good man wanted more out of life; he wanted to be a better man. One day, when he was out in his yard raking leaves, his 87-year-old neighbor Larry Freeman came over to chat. In the course of their discussion, Larry told the good man a story about his woodworking shop that he owned along with his brother Claude. It seems that early one morning in 1960, they got a call that their shop was on fire.

They rushed to their burning building and began pulling equipment, projects, and expensive wood out of the building. About an hour into trying to save the building, out of the blue, a man showed up with nine other guys. They all started helping the Freemans save their business. Larry and Claude were amazed and thankful for the charity of these men, but they were not surprised, because these men and the Freemans were all brothers; they were all good Masons from Dalhousie Lodge in Newton, my Mother Lodge. And the Master of the Lodge who brought the Brothers to help save the company? He was Wor. J. Philip Bergquist, who, 21 years later, became Grand Master of our Grand Lodge.



My Brothers, this is a true story. After I heard that story from my neighbor, I knew I had found some good men with whom I wanted to associate, men with integrity who could help me become a better man. So, I asked Larry to propose me for membership in his Lodge, Dalhousie Lodge. I don't have to tell any of you, but I have never regretted that decision. I had found the meaning of life, Masonic life - leadership, inspiration, fellowship, and education. L. I. F. E. Life.

Through remembering the word life and the letters that make up the word, I can easily focus every day on the tools I need for helping improve good men through Freemasonry.

Let me start with the third letter of life. F for Fellowship.

Fellowship is the most [important] tool in my bag. It is the very foundation of our beloved Fraternity. Fellowship is the breeding ground for all of our glorious dreams, ideas, and advancements. The Grand Master's priority is to increase membership. That is a great priority because it increases opportunities for more fellowship. Brethren, Fellowship is one of the main reasons why Freemasonry in Massachusetts exists. Fellowship is a major reason why good men join, and we must follow reason. The first line of the Preamble to our Grand Constitutions states, "Freemasonry seeks to proclaim its principles as widely as men will hear them." Brethren, we do not exist to be a small, select, unimportant men's club. No, our call is to actively

engage with as many good men as we can, so we may change the world for the better, one man at a time.

Let us not underestimate the power of good fellowship. Good fellowship directly impacts our happiness - and our effectiveness. Studies show that groups of friends consistently out-perform groups of acquaintances, in both decision-making and achievement of their goals. When friends work together, they are more trusting and committed to one another's success. They rejoice in each other's prosperity, and as long as they don't hold back on constructive criticism, and deal on the level with each other, they make

# THE GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL

## DONORS DURING 2018

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 2018 we received almost 1,300 contributions from more than 1,100 Brothers and friends totaling \$160,000. 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 2019 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

### \$7500 OR GREATER

Richard J. Stewart<sup>BF</sup>

### \$5000 TO \$7499

Columbian Lodge<sup>BF</sup>  
Mount Lebanon Lodge<sup>BF</sup>

Richard A. Phillips Sr<sup>SP</sup>  
*in memory of Henry R. and Rena C. Phillips*

### \$1734 TO \$4999

Donald G. Hicks Jr<sup>BF</sup>  
Naomi & Richard Howarth<sup>BF</sup>

The Lodge of Saint Andrew<sup>SP</sup>  
Mount Horeb Lodge (W)<sup>BF</sup>

Philanthropic Lodge<sup>BF</sup>  
Prospect Lodge<sup>BF, SP</sup>

### \$1733

Paul F. Gleason<sup>BF</sup>

Donald H. Laliberte<sup>BF</sup>

### \$1000 TO \$1732

Kenneth R. Blake<sup>BF</sup>  
Ezekiel Bates Lodge<sup>BF</sup> *in memory of*  
*Bro Eric A. Berghman*  
George L. Herbolsheimer IV  
Larry E. Houston  
J. Irving &  
Jane L. England Charitable Trust  
King David Lodge<sup>BF</sup>  
Richard D. Marden  
MA Association of School Committes<sup>BF</sup>

Timothy S. McGavin  
Mount Moriah Lodge<sup>BF</sup>  
Mystic Valley Lodge<sup>BF</sup>  
Norfolk Lodge<sup>BF</sup> *in memory of our*  
*Brethren who departed last year*  
Norumbega Fraternity Lodge<sup>BF</sup> *in memory*  
*of RW Joseph Goldstein*  
E. Joel Peterson<sup>BF</sup>  
Walter Peterson Jr  
Philip J. Privitera<sup>BF</sup>

St. Bernard Commandery #12<sup>BF, SP</sup>  
Star of Bethlehem Lodge  
*Given in celebration of the*  
*Lodge's 175th Anniversary*  
Donald S. Stevens<sup>BF</sup>  
David L. St Onge  
Theodore P. Theodores  
Harvey J. Waugh  
Wilbraham Masonic Lodge<sup>BF</sup>  
Kevin J. Willis

## \$500 TO \$999

2nd Masonic District <sup>BF</sup>  
13th Masonic District Lodge of  
Instruction <sup>BF</sup>  
Michael J. Boucher

Thomas W. Davies  
Alan D. Gray  
George W. Johnson  
Milton Lodge <sup>BF</sup>

Robert N. Morley  
Montgomery Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Donald F. Norton  
David A. Risgin <sup>SP</sup>

Mason W. Russell  
Eric J. Rzepka  
William D. Deadman Society <sup>BF</sup>  
William Parkman Lodge <sup>BF</sup>

## \$286 TO \$499

15th Masonic District Past  
Masters' Association <sup>BF</sup>  
John W. Alden Jr  
Christos P. Alex  
Amity-Mosaic Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Kenneth M. Andrews  
Ronald K. Bart  
Clayton A. Bemiss  
David G. Berube  
Windsor H. Bigelow III

Budleigh Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Caleb Butler Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
John L. Carlson  
Converse Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Corinthian Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Peter M. Culbertson  
Maik K. de Souza  
Stephen DiMarco  
Albert V. Ferguson  
James R. Franklin <sup>BF</sup>

Golden Rule Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Alan T. Gorrie  
David A. Libby  
Robert B. MacIntosh <sup>BF</sup>  
James M. McDonough  
Charles F. Nettleship III  
Philip A. Nowlan  
Republican Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Arnold Sarmanian  
Joseph Z. Steinberg

Tahattawan Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
The Harvard Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
*in appreciation of the Grand  
Master installing the Master*  
Heath L. Verburg  
Roger W. Waugh Sr  
West Roxbury-Dorchester  
Lodge Rookie Association <sup>BF</sup>  
William Sutton Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Worshipful Masters Association  
of SE MA <sup>BF</sup>

## \$285 IN RECOGNITION OF 285 YEARS OF MASSACHUSETTS FREEMASONRY

Frederick I. Alexander  
Richard G. Allison  
Albert T. Ames  
William R. Barnett  
Joseph P. Beaton  
Lawrence E. Bethune  
W. Eugene Bondurant  
Robert T. Bovill  
Alfredo J. R. Canhoto  
Frederick G. Christensen  
William K. Clapp  
Robert West Clarke  
Dean F. Clement  
John K. Cochran  
David B. Crest  
Leon H. Cudworth Sr  
Robert F. Doherty  
Robert S. Edmunds  
Terry L. Edwards  
Walter F. Emerson

Wellington N. Farias  
Charles A. Fijnvandraat  
Robert J. Freeman  
Donald P. Garrido  
Maurice E. Gibbs  
James Giragosian  
Eugene A. Haley  
William C. Hamm IV  
Alan H. Hanson  
Richard B. Hardy  
Jeffrey B. Hodgdon  
William E. Holland <sup>BF</sup>  
Russell E. Johnson  
Steven M. Jones  
Franklin W. Kelley  
James B. Kershaw  
Thomas H. Kirkaldy  
Ian T. Lane  
Roger H. Larsen  
Ernest W. Lattanzi

David J. Liberty  
Gary F. Lochhead  
Graham A. Long  
Mark A. Luhtanen  
Stephen J. McCarthy  
Patrick J. McNulty  
John Arthur Moore  
Roger J. Morin  
Frederic H. Morris  
Douglas E. Obey  
John K. Paulik III  
Paul R. Perkins  
Richard A. Pierce  
William C. Powers  
Peter K. Prime  
Thomas E. Pulkkinen  
Ali S. Raja  
Philip S. Rand  
David J. Raymond  
Joseph H. Repoff

Clayton S. Robinson  
Seth E. Roy  
Stephen A. Rubinstein  
*in memory of Phil Rubinstein*  
Stephen D. Sears  
Jeffrey D. Shaw  
Wayne E. Shaw  
Ashton D. Shoop  
James D. Spach  
Christopher M. St.Cyr  
Richard B. Taylor  
James R. Tedford  
Keith G. Vadas  
Richard W. Van Doren  
Robert-John Von See  
C. Macaulay Ward Jr  
Ross E. Weaver  
Charles W. White  
Scott R. Zalatoris

## \$100 TO \$284

1st, 2nd, & 4th Masonic  
Districts Lodge of Qualification <sup>BF</sup>  
Charles E. Adams  
Ludwig Alban  
William D. Alexander  
Richard W. Allen Jr  
Spiros C. Aloupis  
Otto W. Anderson  
Gregory P. Antman  
Robert J. Armour  
Charles R. Austin  
Hector G. Ballester  
Robert W. Bamford  
William A. Barrett

David S. Bayer *in memory of*  
*RW Charles L. Young*  
Herbert G. Bell II  
Paul A. Bennett  
George J. Bibilos  
Frederick R. Bieber  
Donald S. Bjerre  
Robert A. Bouchard  
Edwin J. Brailey Jr  
Allan K. Brier  
David L. Broderick  
Dale D. Bryant  
Richard B. Burgess  
Celestial Lodge <sup>BF, DM</sup>

Robert C. Chamberlain  
Charles W. Moore Lodge  
Cincinnatus Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Archibald H. Campbell  
John H. Campbell  
Thomas W. Campbell  
Anthony R. M. Caprio  
Michael S. Cavanagh  
Eric B. Chetwynd  
Ted B. Clatterbuck  
Arthur P. Clough  
Arthur D. Combs  
William R. Conary  
Paul B. Conlin

August R. Cote  
John T. Crosby  
Glenn L. Crowell  
William R. Currier <sup>BF</sup>  
William A. Danforth  
Robert S. Daniels  
Peter J. Demetre  
Walter Demoorjian  
Joseph C. Denicola  
James S. Ditello  
Charles S. Donovan  
Robert J. Downing  
Wilfred E. Ducharme Jr  
*continued on next page*

# 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.

**\$100 TO \$283 (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17)**

Robert A. Duris  
Howard M. Ecker  
Daniel J. Edmiston  
Elizabeth S. Egan <sup>SP</sup> *in memory of Bro Robert A. Daniels Jr*  
Leonard A. Ellis  
Mary-Louise Essaian *in memory of Bro. Garbis S. Essaian*  
Robert L. Evans  
Herbert I. Everett  
Richard F. Faust  
Leona Fenby *in memory of Bro Robert F. Fenby*  
Jack E. Ferebee  
Peter C. Ferguson  
Scott M. Ferguson  
Terrence P. Fetters  
Richard E. Fiske  
Jerome H. Fletcher  
John C. Fuller  
Neilson C. Gass  
Richard A. Gesualdo  
John Gianakouras  
Harold L. Gilmore  
Alexander H. Glass Jr  
Charles T. Glodas  
Golden Fleece Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Benjamin Goulston <sup>BF</sup>  
Grand Lodge Rookie & Master Builder Association <sup>BF</sup>  
Christopher P. Gugger  
Harry N. Gustafson Jr  
Susan & David W. Hamilton *in honor of RW Roger W. Waugh Sr*  
Stanley F. Hanson  
Richard P. Harmon  
George W. Haroutunian  
Paul M. Harris  
Rollyn H. Hatch  
Hollis I. Hawes  
Andrew C. Hayes  
Patrick S. Hayes  
Gordon T. Helme

William C. Henderson  
Ronald E. Jackson  
M. Howard Jacobson  
Sergio M. Jaramillo  
D. Alden Johnson  
Carlos A. Justus  
Joseph H. Kameese  
Frank J. Kautz II <sup>BF</sup> *in response to the Merrimack Valley gas fires*  
William R. Kennedy  
Arthur M. Kinne  
Earl R. Kittredge  
Peter T. Knox  
Ralph M. Krau  
James A. Krecek  
Keith A. Krewson Recurring  
Robert N. Krusell  
KTS, Inc. <sup>BF</sup>  
Glenn L. Kubick  
Michael Laura  
Kenneth Laurence  
Mark C. LeBeau  
Roy I. Lederman  
David R. Lee  
John M. Leslie  
Marcelo S. Lima  
Francis J. Lindquist  
Christopher J. Lindsay  
Mark R. Lindsay <sup>BF</sup> *in appreciation of the Installing Suite for Cawnacome Sunshine Lodge*  
John T. Lohr  
Timothy D. MacLellan  
Alan V. Malkasian  
Anthony J. Mandile  
Paul S. Maney  
Warren L. Marcy  
Ralph H. Marks Jr  
John Wm. McNaughton  
The Meadows Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
Daniel M. Mehigan  
Walter J. Meier  
David C. Melaragni

Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge  
Gary C. Miller  
Richard V. Minns  
Frank J. Mooney III  
Arthur A. Morneau  
Mount Carmel Lodge <sup>BF</sup>  
David A. Murphy  
Bernard P. Nally  
Wayne O. Newton  
Henry G. Nichols Jr  
Jeffrey C. Nutt  
Office of Alecia M. Giovinazzo, MD <sup>SP</sup> *in memory of Bro Robert A. Daniels Jr*  
David E. Pace  
John H. Parsons  
Roland A. Perkins  
Peter M. Perrin  
Richard E. Peterson  
David M. Petto  
Charles R. Philbrick  
Everett G. Pierce  
Alexander R. Pope  
George S. Pultz  
Willis F. Quimby Jr  
Wilton G. Rangel  
Everett H. Rhodes  
Sally E. Rihbany *in memory of Wor Simon E. Rihbany*  
Eugene A. Roberts  
Phyllis M. Rogers *in memory of Paul T. Burr*  
Robert C. Rohlfs  
David F. Russell  
Saint Martin's Lodge  
Louis G. Sardina  
Jonathan E. Sawyer  
Timothy M. Sawyer  
Ross E. Schacher  
John W. Schutack  
Karl O. Schwartz  
Lawrence A. Schwartz  
William H. Scott  
Robert S. Sedlacek  
William Seuss

Brian R. Sewall  
Ralph I. Sewall  
Jordan L. Shapiro  
Arthur H. Sharp  
Carlton J. Sherman  
Richard R. Sherman  
David J. Silva  
Robert C. Simpson  
G. Fredrick Slaney  
Marshall M. Sloane  
Peter M. Smith  
Richard B. Smith  
Russell E. Smith  
Robert J. Stallard  
Star in the East Lodge  
Bruce G. Stephens  
Gloria Streeter  
Raymond F. Sundstrom Jr  
Carl R. Swenson  
Bruce K. Taylor  
William W. Taylor  
Harold D. Thomas  
Richard G. Thomson  
Richard G. Thrasher  
Frederick L. Tibbetts  
Lawrence D. Tonini  
Robert O. C. Torres  
Joseph G. Turner  
Robert F. Verdonck  
Richard M. Wagner  
Craig W. Walsh  
Paul D. Watts Sr  
Bruce D. Wedlock  
William W. Welliver  
Wilbur W. Wheeler  
Edward W. White  
Darell R. Whitehead  
Charles E. Wilderman  
John E. Williams  
Wisdom Lodge <sup>BF</sup> *in appreciation of the Grand Master installing the Master Perry Wong*  
Clifford E. Young  
Donald J. Zidik Jr

**\$50 TO \$99**

Robert E. Abourjaily  
William R. Ainey  
Keith C. Alderman  
Anthony Alessi  
Edward R. Allen  
Sherman R. Anderton Jr  
Ronald D. Archer  
Ernest W. Arnold Jr  
Dickran Babigian  
Robert J. Bach  
Paul A. Bachand  
Stanley N. Baker  
Jeanne L. Balcom *in memory of Rev. John Balcom, PM*

Wellman J. Bartlett  
Donald A. Bates  
Harry E. Baum  
Kenneth L. Beaugrand  
Rodney W. Beck  
K. Michael Bent  
Philip Berman  
Stephen M. Berrini  
William Bilkic  
James H. Birch III  
Gordon F. Bird  
Michael J. Bisceglia  
David K. Blake  
Donald R. Blunt

William H. Bolton  
John O. Bond  
Malcolm F. Borden  
Jeffrey B. Bower  
Thomas P. Brady *in memory of Mathew L. Howe*  
John H. Brewer  
William L. Briggs  
Kenneth A. Brown  
Willard W. Brown Jr  
John S. Brownell Jr  
Chad E. Buczek  
Peter W. Burness  
Malcolm C. Burwell

Constantine P. Calliontzis  
Clyde F. Cameron *in memory of John B. Cameron*  
David M. Campbell  
Michael J. Cappellano  
Joseph F. Cappola III  
Stanley B. Carman  
David A. Caron <sup>BF</sup>  
John E. Carpenter  
Milton C. Carpenter  
Thomas D. Carriveau  
Melvin L. Cass  
John C. Chani  
*continued on page 20*



# The Prodigal Mason

by *Richard Thompson*



As 2018 was quickly turning into 2019, I started thinking of this year's New Year's Resolutions. It is something I do every year, despite my record of keeping them. There are some years when my willpower gives out before the clock finishes ringing in the new year.

While I was thinking about my old standby New Year's Resolutions, I thought about something new. Maybe I should

be looking at Masonic New Year's Resolutions as well. Of course, that led me to a problem: should a Masonic New Year's Resolution take effect when the calendar says it is a new year, or should it take effect at the start of a Masonic New Year?

As much as I think my Masonic New Year's Resolutions should take effect with the calendar year, there is something appealing about waiting until September. However, should our resolve to become a better person, a better Mason, have to wait until a certain date on a calendar? Maybe the resolution should take effect as soon as we think of it.

I was looking for two resolutions, actually. The first is, what can I do to make me a better Mason? We all want to chip off a piece of our rough Ashlar, but just how do we do it?

The second resolution I was thinking about is what can I do to make my lodge and the Masonic Fraternity better? This is the tougher of the two resolutions to accomplish since it may involve getting others involved. What can one person do to impact the entire Fraternity?

As I contemplated the difficulty in finding what I can do to help my lodge and the Fraternity, and how I can get others involved, I remembered a quote from cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead, "Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all that

*Richard Thompson is a past master, and the Secretary of Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge.*

ever have." Once I realized that the things I wanted for myself, my lodge, and the Fraternity could well be in reach, I started to think about what I can do.

I am sure we have all been in a situation where we are looking for an answer to a question, a solution to a problem, and suddenly realize it is right in front of you. That is what happened to me when thinking about a Masonic New Year's Resolution.

The Master of my lodge, Wor. David LaPlante, started a new program in Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge. It started on the day of our Installation, Oct. 16. He announced, "Call a Brother / Bring a Brother." The idea behind the program is that every active member calls one inactive member each month. And every active member brings one inactive member to a meeting each month.

At Daylight Lodge's November meeting there were 17 members in attendance. This may not sound like much, but when your total membership is 50, 17 is 34 percent. What lodge wouldn't like to get one-third of its members at a meeting.

Now, to temper my enthusiasm, Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge generally goes into darkness in January and February. When most of your members are retired, January and February can be tough months for driving for most of your members. Of course, I said that like I am some young man just starting his Masonic journey. As of January 2019, I have been on my Masonic journey for 48 years.

So, while I may not be able to invite members to attend a meeting until March, I can still call one. So, I guess I will be on the phone in January and February trying to talk to members we have not seen for some time. I think I will be inviting them to attend meetings and will be willing to drive those who cannot make it on their own.

We do have a few members who live some distance from the lodge, as well as some who live closer to the Pacific rather than the Atlantic Ocean. But I think I will call them as well.

There are a few I haven't spoken to in quite some time. Maybe the "Call One" part of "Call a Brother / Bring a Brother" is really meant to rekindle old friendships and maybe start a few more. ■

**\$50 TO \$99 (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)**

- Darren L. Chapman  
 A. Gregory Chase  
 Joel N. Chase  
 Paul M. Chase  
 Fred C. Chrisbaie  
 Phillip A. Christensen Sr  
 Robert Christo  
 Charles B. Clark  
 Robert W. Comeau  
 Edward A. Condon Jr  
 Christopher N. Cook  
 Paul W. Corbett Jr  
 James C. Cullen  
 David D. Curtis Jr  
 Philip T. Dancause  
 Dana M. Davis  
 Todd A. Dawson  
 David J. Dean  
 Richard P. Dembowski  
 Joseph Demetrio  
 Gilmar C. De Oliveira  
 George E. Desotell  
 David K. Dickson  
 Lincoln E. Dietz  
 Bradford Dillman  
 Thomas C. Doane  
 Joseph P. Doherty  
 John W. Donaghy III  
 John J. Driscoll  
 Joseph S. Drown  
 Peter R. Duncan  
 Elias N. Ede  
 William H. Eklund  
 Nathan S. Ellis III  
 Robert C. Endicott  
 Linwood M. Erskine Jr  
 Donald T. Fairburn  
 Richard B. Farrar  
 Merle Farrington  
 John I. Fenerlis  
 George M. Flanagan  
 Peter B. Forret  
 Donald A. Foss  
 Joseph G. Fournier Jr  
 Robert G. Frechette  
 Richard J. Freeman  
 Frederick C. Froebel  
 Charles N. Fuller  
 Samuel E. Gagliardi  
 Marc A. Gaston  
 Wayne R. Gebhardt  
 James J. Gonyea  
 Richard F. Goward  
 Donald S. Greene Jr  
 Peter C. Grimm  
 Alexander Gritsinin
- James H. Gronemeyer  
 Mark E. Guillemette  
 Richard K. Gunther  
 George B. Hacking  
 Frederick W. Hagman  
 George K. Haile  
 Robert S. Hamilton  
 John W. Hamlet  
 Earl N. Hansen  
 William F. Harney  
 George E. Harper  
 Leslie S. Harris  
 John A. Harrison  
 Daniel S. Harrop III  
 Richard A. Hart  
 Gerald R. Hartling  
 Charles A. Harvey  
 Allan L. Haskell  
 Calvin B. Hastings  
 George E. Hayeck  
 Stephen M. Hebert  
 William D. Hildebrand  
 John R. Hinves  
 Truman G. Hix  
 Stanley R. Holden  
 Scott W. Holmes  
 Paul H. Horan  
 Edward W. Horton  
 Charles J. Housman  
 Eric E. Husebo  
 L. Bradley Hutchinson  
 Peter P. Iannacchino  
 Keith D. Inchierca  
 Antoine B. Issa  
 George A. Janes  
 Guy H. Johansen  
 Philip F. Johnson  
 Walter W. Johnson  
 Warren E. Johnson  
 Leonard Kaner  
 A. George Kashian  
 Donald R. Kaupp  
 Paul G. Kay  
 Richard M. Kazanjian  
 Anastasia Kazarian *in memory of Bro George H. Kazarian*  
 Herbert H. Kiehn Jr  
 Eric P. Knight  
 Richard C. Knoener  
 Sheldon H. Konowitz  
 Steven G. Koon  
 George T. Kougianos  
 Karl A. Krassler  
 Gary A. Lambert  
 Karl H. Langmead  
 Victor G. Lavallee
- Philip H. Leavitt  
 James C. Leclair  
 Robert F. Lee  
 Charles C. Leonard  
 Allan R. Lepp  
 John R. Lilley II  
 Robert N. Littman  
 John P. Lowney Jr  
 Robert A. MacDougall <sup>BF</sup>  
 Ronald P. Mahoney  
 Erik A. Marks  
 Stanley Martin III  
 James M. Mason  
 Raymond R. Mason  
 Russell S. Mattson  
 Lawrence M. Mawhinney Jr  
 David L. Maxim Sr  
 Carl V. Mazzaferro II  
 Sherman D. McClaid  
 Robert B. McKay  
 Robert J. McNary  
 Patrick W. Mc Nerney  
 Douglas Mead *in memory of Wor Russell P. Mead*  
 Andrew M. Meincke  
 William J. Mender <sup>SP</sup> *in memory of Bro Robert A. Daniels Jr*  
 Chris G. Metros  
 Carl C. Metzler  
 Thomas A. Morris III  
 William T. Murphy  
 Alexander G. Nasrawi  
 David P. Newcomb  
 David B. Nicholson  
 Leonidas D. Nikolouzos  
 Roand L. Noel  
 Scott P. Nussey  
 Kenneth R. Olson  
 Frederick E. Pardey Jr  
 Robert G. Parsons  
 Gary C. Pentek  
 Lawrence A. Perkins  
 Thomas T. Perkins  
 Ulrick Petit-Homme  
 Albert A. Petruliss  
 Donald F. Phillips  
 Frank A. Phinney  
 Adam M. Pimentel  
 Jesse R. Plouffe  
 Philip G. Post  
 Robert Price  
 Ottmar Rau  
 William A. Reid  
 Thomas R. Richards  
 Russell E. Robbins  
 Nicolas I. Rodriguez Sr
- Glauciano R. Rosa  
 Mark D. Rossi  
 Wesley J. Rowe Jr  
 Charles A. Saari  
 Charles Saber  
 Dana E. Savery  
 Wayne L. Schofield  
 Wesley Shepeluk  
 Kennth W. Simpson  
 Jay R. Spahl  
 James W. Spurrell  
 Foster L. G. Soule  
 Robert F. Stanley <sup>BF</sup>  
 James I. Starratt  
 Kenneth A. Stein  
 Robert E. Stetson  
 Arthur E. Stewart  
 Thomas E. Stoakley  
 Robert R. Stocks  
 Wayne T. Szretter  
 Charles S. Tabor III  
 Robert W. Taupier  
 Mowry E. Tennant  
 George Terzides  
 John F. Thayer  
 Roy H. Thomas  
 William A. Thompson Jr  
 James E. Thurlow  
 Tony M. Thurston  
 Robert N. Tibbetts  
 David R. Timm  
 Edgar W. Torell  
 Joseph T. Tropeano  
 Robert A. Trotter  
 Raymond P. Trottier  
 Frederick G. Trudell  
 Gregory J. Tsongalis  
 G. Glenn Van Orman Jr  
 Leo Vartanian  
 Jose L. Vega Jr  
 Elmer Z. Voisine  
 William F. Wagner  
 Edward A. Walker  
 Roy F. Walters  
 James Watt Jr  
 David L. Weil  
 Henry G. Welsh  
 Richard R. Wenderoth  
 Roger D. Wentzell  
 Ellis R. Westcott  
 David S. Wirkala  
 Paul R. Woodley  
 Leonard R. Worthen  
 David T. Wright  
 Lloyd E. Wright Jr  
 Douglas C. Young <sup>SP</sup> *in memory of Bro Robert A. Daniels Jr*  
 Eric M. Zizza

BF: designated for The Brotherhood Fund  
 SCL: designated for the Samuel Crocker Lawrence Library

MYG: designated for Masonic Youth Groups  
 SP: designated for the Grand Lodge Scholarship Program

**461 additional donors gave to the Grand Master's Appeal in 2018. Thank you!**



# RED SOX VICTORY PARADE



It was Halloween, and Grand Lodge was ready for the Trick or Treaters. However, when the entire Championship Red Sox team came by, there couldn't be enough candy for them. The parade passed right by the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, and crowds gathered outside to cheer our conquering Red Sox. The windows at Grand Lodge were crowded with Masons and cameras. A special banner hung from Grand Lodge to thank the Red Sox for adding another jewel to the greatest sports city in the 21st century.

-Wor. Lee H. Fenn

# FRATERNITY News & Events

## 30 Quilts Presented to Shriners Hospital for Children

On Friday, June 8, 2018, five members of Converse Lodge, the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts M.W. Paul Fulton Gleason, his lady Phyllis, Grand Treasurer R.W. Mason Russell, Converse Lodge member and Aleppo Temple Potentate R.W. Harlan L. Woods, along with the three ladies who made the quilts for the patients, visited the Shriners Hospital for Children in Boston, and presented Jean Moynihan, the Director of the hospital, with 30 hand-made quilts. Converse Lodge donated \$3,100 for the cost to make the quilts. The Master's wife, Sharon, and her two friends from a local quilt shop, Mary and Janet, spent over nine months making them.

On the day of the presentation, the only stipulation for the donation was that priority on the distribution was to be to patients who may not survive their stay. Unfortunately, there are patients at the Shriners Hospital for Children who cannot be saved, and do pass away. The



officers and members of Converse Lodge wanted the families of these patients to be able to take something home with them as a memento of the care and love they received at the hospital, as well as a tangible item of something their child held.

With 29 patients at the hospital on the day of the donation, the only recognition the Master of Converse Lodge hoped for was a smile on at least one patient's face. When you look at the main photo, you will see a young boy with a huge smile and two thumbs up. Mission accomplished!

*-Rt. Wor. Kenneth W. Sprague, Jr.*

## Grand Master breaks ground in Quincy

Five years ago, the landmark building of Rural Lodge burned down in a tragedy that destroyed remarkable architectural art. Finally, Quincy's sole lodge, founded in 1801, has acquired another building, which is now being converted into a lodge edifice. The building was formerly a church, located on Hancock Street,

*The Grand Master addressing the gathering.*



only two blocks from the original building.

In a recent ceremony, the Grand Master, accompanied by his Suite, symbolically broke ground on the construction project, which is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2019. While Brethren miss the venerable and elegant building, we do look forward to having over 50 parking spaces, instead of the six spots at the old premises!

*-Rt. Wor. Graeme Marsden*

*L-R The Grand Master, the Master of Rural Lodge, Wor. Patrick Shelton, and the Mayor of Quincy, Tom Koch.*







**▶ Crash** *continued from page 3*

and pounded his way - hit after hit - through the competition, proudly displaying the Square and Compasses to the crowd. Although we didn't advance to the final round, Wor. Bro. Billings did finish a very respectable runner-up in his heat. The idea for this endeavor came from Bro. Sean Collins, Harmony Lodge.

At a Lodge of Instruction earlier this year, Rt. Wor. Donald J. McKinnon challenged those in attendance to find new and exciting ways to get Freemasonry out to the public. Bro. Collins rose to the challenge and acquired a vehicle that could be used for the upcoming Demolition Derby. With assistance from many Brothers, and non-Masonic family members, the car was stripped down and painted

in a Blue Lodge shade of blue with "26th Masonic District" stenciled across the trunk, and the Square and Compasses featured prominently on the hood in yellow. Prior to the Demolition Derby, the car was featured in the Franklin County Fair Kick-Off Parade, along with a float for the District, and members of the Melha Shriners.

**-Bro. Mark Hutchinson**

## An AED for Every Lodge

When New Moon Lodge, in Pittsfield, decided to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators for their building, they had no idea exactly where this would lead. At one of their regular monthly meetings early last spring, it was suggested and voted upon to purchase two new AEDs for their building, given the size of the building, age of membership, visitors to the building, and response time for emergency medical services.

This was all well and good, however, during the course of discussion, it was noted that there were three other Masonic buildings in the 31st District as well, none of which possessed AEDs either. An amendment was introduced to the original motion, and it passed with flying colors to purchase three additional reconditioned units to be presented to those lodges at the next Deputy's visit on May 21st.

The evening saw a large turnout for the event, with every lodge in the 31st District represented. Wor. John A. Wood received R.W. Christopher A. Tonini, D.D.G.M. for the 31st District, and his Suite, and requested that the Marshal escort the Masters from the other four lodges of the district to the East, where he made the AED presentations.

Subsequently, it was discovered that of the five lodges located in the 30th District, every lodge except Globe-Unity in Dalton had an AED. New Moon Lodge then voted to also furnish Globe-Unity with a reconditioned unit, which is

tentatively scheduled to be a surprise presentation at their installation of officers this fall, making AED usage available for every lodge in the 30th and 31st Districts. Thank you New Moon for making your goodwill available to, and for the hearts of all!

**-Rt. Wor. Lawrence D. Tonini and R.W. Christopher A. Tonini**

*From left to right: Wor. Allen W. Laurent, Master, Wisdom Lodge, West Stockbridge; Wor. Kenneth B. Newberry, Master, Occidental Lodge, West Stockbridge; Wor. John A. Wood, Master, New Moon Lodge, Pittsfield; Wor. Ralph A. Packard, Master, Evening Star Lodge, Lee; Rt. Wor. Lawrence D. Tonini, Master, Cincinnatus Lodge, Great Barrington; Rt. Wor. Christopher A. Tonini, D.D.G.M., 31st Masonic District.*





## Satuit Lodge Keeps “The Match” Lit

Our ancient and wonderful association offers many opportunities to make God’s work on earth our own, and despite biblical admonitions against the sin of pride that we, as Masons, take seriously, it is a selfish pleasure when we get to benefit the world.

We are taught, as the great brotherly charge from the Virginia Masonic tradition tells us, “to do good and to recommend it to the house of the faithful.” Thus, it was hardly surprising that Worshipful Robert A. Smith, of Satuit Lodge, decided to incorporate the “Be The Match” campaign of the National Bone Marrow Registry into his open house activities during his first year in the East several years ago. Wor. Bro. Smith and the lodge hoped the activity would help register a good number of people, and further expose the lodge and its worthwhile purposes to prospective new members. Signs were set up around town, the activity was spoken of in our churches, and when we met others downtown at the local market.

The October Open House produced enough encouragement to continue it in the second term that Wor. Bro. Rob,

as he is affectionately known, served. The October Grand Lodge sanctioned Open House created some further interest, and two candidates for our lodge. Somehow though, we came to the thought that we could do more and make an even bigger splash in our little town by the shore.

The first weekend in August is the time of Heritage Days, an annual event hosted by the Scituate Chamber of Commerce in the downtown area, attended by thousands of people. Front Street is blocked off, and vendors selling everything from art glass, to candy and ice cream, set up booths. Satuit Lodge decided to sponsor a booth for the weekend, promoting registration, DNA matching, the opportunity to one day save another person from blood cancer, and Freemasonry as a way of life. The weekend was a remarkably happy and emotional time for the lodge and prospective donors, as stories were told about successful donations, and how other factors besides DNA go into successful bone marrow and stem cell transplants. Seventy percent of donations must come from outside the immediate family, and this treatment remains the most successful means of addressing an otherwise fatal disease.

Satuit Lodge is grateful to Grand Lodge for sanctioning this activity, to the team at the Masonic Leadership Institute that originally got this ball rolling with their project, to Jackie McLoon from the Rhode Island Blood Bank who was with us from the beginning, to our brethren who financially supported this remarkable opportunity, and to the chance to help some prospective brothers learn what is really going on in the grey Greek Revival building on Country Way. Finally, Satuit Lodge suffered an incalculable loss just before this weekend began with the sudden and untimely death of our beloved Brother Wor. John Warren (Jack) Richardson, five-time Past Master, who raised many of us, and was an inspiration to all whose lives he touched. None of the above could have happened without him, and as someone wiser than me once wrote, “We are the life he longed for and we bear his vision every day.”

-Wor. Michael L. Smith

*Wor. Mario Marchese, Master of Friendship Lodge, receives the Past Masters’ Jewel from Wor. Don G. Hill, 4th.*



## Hill Past Masters’ Jewel Returned

It’s traveled with me to Florida and all around California. One time, I was attending a lodge meeting in Sacramento, and I was robbed after the meeting while going to my car. They took my wallet and the jewel case. I reported it to the police, and showed them a picture, but they offered little hope on retrieving it.

A year later, I received a phone call asking about one Don Gleason Hill, 4th from Friendship Lodge -

me. The man talking to me said that he had my jewel. The night of the robbery, one of the waitresses was a Rainbow Girl and spotted the jewel. She took it home, but could not find a Friendship Lodge with a number in California.

Her family went to a Rainbow Convention, and she gave the jewel to the Secretary of Grand Lodge of Washington. It took six months of research for him to find me. He told me that the identity of the Rainbow Girl was to remain anonymous. So, Hill Past Master jewel is now home.

-Wor. Don G. Hill, 4th



*Wor. and Rev. Al Hoyt, Wor. Lars Wolters, Rt. Wor. David Catten*

## Dusseldorf, Germany

Rt. Wor. David Catten, his wife Rhea, and Wor. Rev. Allen Hoyt, with his wife Verna, travelled to Dusseldorf, Germany to participate in the installation of Bro. Lars Wolters as Master of Johannes Rosen Acacia Lodge in Dusseldorf. Wor. Wolters was introduced to Freemasonry when he was given a tour of DeWitt Clinton Lodge in Sandwich, MA, a number of years ago. Wor. Bro. Wolters and his wife Sandra had been vacationing on Cape Cod for many years. After touring the lodge in Sandwich, Bro. Wolters applied for membership in Johannes Rosen Acacia Lodge. Soon after achiev-

ing the third degree, Bro. Wolters affiliated with DeWitt Clinton Lodge.

Over the years, the Wolters have made many good friends among the Fraternity, especially in the 20th Masonic district. At the banquet following Wor. Wolter's installation, Rt. Wor. Catten presented the newly installed Master with a framed certificate of congratulations signed by M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason. Wor. Rev. Bro. Hoyt also presented Wor. Bro. Wolters with a Grand Master of New Hampshire's lapel pin, and a volume on the history of Freemasonry in New Hampshire.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Catten is past DDGM of the 20th Masonic district. Wor. Rev. Bro. Hoyt is past DD Marshall of the 20th district, and a life member of the Kilwinning Club of Boston. Wor. Rev. Bro. Hoyt recently moved to Milford, NH, where he is the senior Pastor of First Congregational Church, and attends Benevolent Lodge #7. During their time in Germany, Rt. Wor. Bro. Catten and Wor. Rev. Bro. Hoyt had the opportunity to attend Johannes PBT Solingen Lodge, and were privileged to witness a full-form third degree.

*-Wor. Allen Hoyt*



## John Hancock Lodge Donates Tree

John Hancock Lodge of Methuen donated a tree, fully decorated by Linda Luciano, to the Methuen Festival of Trees. The photo shows the tree with Worshipful Master Jeff Rousseau and Senior Warden Eurick Dorsett beside it.

*-Wor. Jeff Rousseau*

## The Traveling Gavel Returns

Back in 1998, Wor. Steve Eriksen was looking for a way to encourage visitation between the lodges in the district. The idea he came up with was to have a giant gavel constructed and invite other lodges to come to the lodge where it currently resided and bring it back to their lodge where it could be "stolen" again. The gavel has made the rounds since then, traveling from Ancient York Lodge in Lowell, to as far away as Canada.

Left to right: Bro. Ralph J. Reed III, Bro. Rodney Cleaves, Bro. William Berard, Wor. John Ruggiero Jr., Bro. Philip Berard, Wor. O. David Laplante (St. Matthews Lodge), Rt. Wor. Archibald H. Campbell, Wor. G. Edward Brown, Bro. Andrew Olden, Bro. Michael Geeley.

The rules are simple. At least seven members of the visiting lodge must attend the entire meeting. Before closing, the lodge possessing the gavel counts the visitors from each lodge, and the lodge with the most visitors takes the gavel. It is displayed during their meetings until another lodge comes to take it away. All the details are covered. For example, if a brother belongs to more than one lodge, he may choose which he will represent during the meeting. If you are on the DD's Suite, you may leave to be with the DD, but you must be there from the opening until the Suite

forms, and stay for the closing.

The gavel has only returned to Ancient York twice, once in 2015, and again in October of this year. Saint Matthews Lodge held it for quite some time. Worshipful Rodriguez challenged us to retrieve the gavel and we came with nine brothers. It was on display at our business meeting on October 11th, but no visitors were present. We will continue to display the gavel until a lodge can come with the required number of members to take it away.

*-Wor. John Ruggiero, Jr.*





## MA Represented at OH Communication

The Grand Master sent Rt. Wor. Fred A. Dobson to represent him at the Grand Lodge of Ohio Annual Communication. The Grand Master of Ohio, M. Wor. Jesse Raines, with Rt. Wor. Bro. Dobson are holding a sword that was presented to Bro. Rufus Putnam by Bro. George Washington in 1783. The sword is owned by American Union Lodge #1, Marietta, OH which was originally chartered in West Roxbury, MA in 1776 as a traveling military lodge before Bro. Putnam landed with the Lodge in Marietta after the revolution.

*-Rt. Wor. Fred A. Dobson*



### ► Deputy Grand Master *continued from page 15*

better choices and get more done.

Fellowship allows us to develop and practice trust and respect - between and among each other. Trust and respect are the pillars of good human relationships. And good Fellowship can be just plain old good fun for the sake of having a good time. Brethren, we have the power to provide meaningful and inspiring Fellowship for good men, so they may work and play together and become better men.

The second letter of life is I, for inspiration. The word inspire itself means to breathe life into, and to fill someone with the urge or ability to do or feel something. As leaders, we need to inspire the good within the good man, the good that is yearning to rise up, and to flow out of each of us. We must help the good man find his internal spark, his genuine passion, his true fire.

Let me tell you a very short story to demonstrate this concept of intrinsic, or internal, motivation, versus extrinsic, or external motivation. There once was an old man who lived in a house on a quiet cul-de-sac. Every day at 4 o'clock, he would settle down in his easy chair by the front window to relax with a nice cup of tea and a good book. One day, while reading his book, five neighborhood teenage boys decided to skateboard in his cul-de-sac while blasting their boom-box. These rambunctious boys were very noisy. The poor old man could not relax. He could not read his book. His quiet oasis was destroyed. This was very upsetting.

So, the old man thought, and he thought, and he thought some more – just how could he resolve this problem? After a while, he went down to the cul-de-sac and confronted the

boys. He smiled and quietly told them that he really appreciated that they were skateboarding near his house and making so much noise. He feared he was losing his hearing, but their sounds elated him, he could hear them clearly. He was overjoyed that he was not losing his hearing. He was so thankful that he offered to pay each of them \$1 to return every day and be as noisy as they liked.

This made the boys very happy and they easily agreed to be noisy every day, and for the next few days the old man came out and paid them each \$1 to be noisy. After about a week, the old man told them that he could not afford to pay them \$1 each anymore, but that he could pay them 50 cents, instead. The boys were not very happy about this but, after thinking it over, they agreed to keep coming every day, and skateboarding, and making noise, and so the old man paid them 50 cents each for another week. But, at the end of the second week, the old man told them that he could not afford to pay them at all anymore, but asked them to be noisy for free. The boys were outraged and refused to be noisy for free, so they decided to go elsewhere to skateboard, never to be seen by the old man, again.

We must continuously search for our inspiration and hold onto it tightly. I know that you all already understand this. I am not preaching, just acknowledging what is inside all of us. My Brothers, what inspires you? I'm inspired by being among all of you men of honor and integrity, full of Brotherly Love. You are why I wanted to be a member of this honorable society. We all know that one reason that bad men and weak Lodges do not get better is that they have not found, or they have lost their secret inner spark, that good that is inside them, and sadly, they are not willing or able,



## Impressive Scottish Rite One Day Class

211 candidates were present on November 17, 2018 at the Scottish Rite One Day Class at Grand Lodge. 51 addi-

tional Brothers became Scottish Rite members after witnessing the 4° at the Museum in Lexington on January 12, 2019. There will be a Spring class on April 27, 2019 also in Lexington. *-Rt. Wor. Kamel Oussayef, 33°, MSA, DSA*

or do not know how to help themselves.

As our Masonic lessons have taught us - though others may assist us, we cannot rise toward the perfect ashlar unless we employ our own exertions. The Grand Architect helps those who help themselves. Brethren, we, have the power to inspire good men to find their inner goodness to help themselves to become better men.

The fourth letter of life is E, for education. I confess am a lover of lifetime learning and education. It is one of my greatest passions. And for me, there is a very important distinction among the concepts of instruction, versus training, versus education. I was fortunate to work for the New England Patriots for 18 years, where I learned a lot about the differences among instruction, training, and education. Instruction is when I show you or [a] Brother how to grip and throw a football. Training is practicing throwing that football over and over again, in various situations to achieve many different desired outcomes until you become proficient.

But education draws out that which is within you – your drive, desire, innate knowledge, passion, persistence, talents, understanding, and the myriad of other secrets within you that can turn you into Tom Brady. Before me just may be a roomful of Masonic goats. The word education itself is a beautiful word. It comes from the Latin ‘ed-u-CAH-ray,’ and means to lead or draw out that which is within. The Italian astronomer Galileo said, “You cannot teach a man anything, you can only help him find it within himself.” I love the concept of the Lodge of Instruction. The team here at Grand Lodge has done a good job reimagining the delivery of instruction. But, you know I sometimes dream of Lol standing for the Lodge of Inspiration.

Actually, every Lodge in our jurisdiction could morph itself into a Lodge of Inspirational Education. To be sure, there is a need for instruction and training, especially when it comes to the business and ritual of our Lodges. But, our ritual and our education need to soar beyond instruction and training. Our ritual is education and it must inspire. What a beautiful thing it would be if instruction and ritual went hand-in-glove with Fellowship, Inspiration, and Education. Brethren, we have the power to provide inspired education. Education to help draw out those secrets, those lost words, so good men may better understand themselves and the world around them as they strive to become better men.

Lastly, the first letter of life is L, for leadership. All Masons crave fellowship, all Masons thirst for inspiration, and we all seek self-improvement through education, but we in this room have hopes and dreams beyond fellowship, inspiration, and education, for we have answered the call to be leaders of men. I believe that every great leader must be a great educator. As Masonic leaders, we must teach good men our Masonic wonderful values. We must proclaim our principles as widely as men will hear them. I believe that one of the best ways to do this, as my father, a career Navy officer taught me, is through leadership by example. We must live and demonstrate our Masonic values every day and through every interaction with others.

I created another tool for my use. I collected our Masonic values that I gleaned from our lessons, rituals, and degrees. At each of your place settings, you should find a copy of the booklet I put together as a gift to each of you. I hope you will use it and find it as useful as I have. I suggest that you choose one value and practice for a whole day, or practice

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## ► **Deputy Grand Master** *continued from previous page*

one value for a whole week. Practice makes perfect. I'd like to end my remarks with two short stories that demonstrate the power of combining leadership, inspiration, fellowship, and education. Linda Jones was a successful New York publisher. Her marriage broke up and she was awarded sole custody of her 11-year-old son, David. Despite Linda's determination to provide him with every material and emotional advantage, David had a hard time growing up as a lone child of a single parent. He had behavioral problems at school, became truant, and was truculent when challenged about this at home. David never showed much affection for his caregiver, Maria, though she was highly trained, and did everything she could to win the boy's trust and regard.

Linda decided the situation was so serious that she needed to tackle it more systematically. She told Maria to keep a list of David's misdemeanors and to make sure that each day when Maria picked David up from school, to ask his teacher how he behaved in school that day.

"He must learn," said Linda, "that I will go through the list with him every evening - quietly, methodically, and thoroughly, explaining why what he has done is wrong and unacceptable. I am sure we will soon see a big improvement. He's a bright enough youngster. He just needs to have things pointed out to him in a consistent way. Once he sees that we are on to him, he will change."

Sadly, David's behavior did NOT get any better; in fact, it became worse after his mother's list-and-tell regimen was begun.

Now, 1,500 miles to the west, the Lakota people in Crow Creek Reservation in South Dakota also have a delinquent young man. He is named Kohana, meaning the one who is fast. He has been seen damaging people's cars and trucks in the parking lot outside the general store. When challenged, he has been rude, and dismissive of the authority of the elders. One evening, the whole clan is called together and forms a large circle. The young man's father walks with him into the middle of the circle and then returns to join the other adults on the perimeter.

The father speaks first.

"Kohana, you are our first born, our most precious one. Your mother and I rejoiced the first time we felt you kick in her stomach. We ran from house to house, telling all these people that you were alive, and well, and strong, and so you were. You were born crying with a shout so loud they heard it three hundred yards away above the radio. How proud we were! How happy! You have always made us happy. Your first few steps - oh, how you fell over into a puddle. The look on your face! How we laughed..."

On and on, the father recounts, sharing the happiest memories of his son's life. No word of criticism is uttered. The father's purpose is to remind the young man of all that he means to the family to the clan to the people, of all the joy and happiness he has brought, of the delight his whole tribe has in him. When the father is finished, it is the uncle's turn. Then Kohana's two grandfathers follow the uncle. The sky is darkening, the stars plainly visible. It will be long past midnight before they all have finished. After the men, the women speak, in gentler tones, in softer cadence for it



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Columbian Lodge A.F. & A.M.

January 3 at 11:48 PM

Another great night at Columbian Lodge. We enjoyed a great presentation about one of our charities, the Shriners Hospital, and then went to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company for dinner and a nice historical presentation about the history of the AHAC, including its historical ties to Columbian Lodge.



is on them that much of the work, from first labor pains to saving enough for schoolbooks, has fallen.

Finally, the clan chief speaks. He summarizes all that has been said. He speaks slowly, with long pauses, as though searching for the deepest ways of saying what has to be said. His theme, from which he never deviates, is the same - the pride and pleasure Kohana has brought to all the Lakota people, the living, the departed, and those not yet born. Like all the earlier speakers, he never mentions the vandalism and the malicious damage, the shame, the anger, the futility, the mindlessness. He leaves all of that unsaid. The sole refrain is that this young man is a beautiful gift to the whole people, one of inexpressible value. When the old man has finished speaking, he makes a small sign. The ring of people stands still, almost at attention, looking ahead of them at the young man in the center of the circle. Then they melt silently into the night.

Which young man do you think has the better chance of transformational change? David, whose faults are catalogued and reviewed each day? Or Kohana, who has been ritually assured of his place in the hearts of all his people? As Masonic leaders, what does Kohana's story tell us? For me, it is a story about a good boy, about wise leaders who knew the boy had good inside of him. Wise leaders, who through caring fellowship, and inspired education, hoped to draw out that good from inside of the boy to help him become a better man.

My brothers, it is not lost on me that I have just spent the past 15 minutes preaching to the choir. Look about you My Brothers. We are blessed to be surrounded by the best and

the brightest of Massachusetts Freemasonry. Now, I would be a fool to think that I have just told you things that you don't already know. I've seen proof of your awareness and actions. I have traveled all around this state and visited Lodges full of joy, with so much wonderful fellowship and offering inspirational programs and education, all due to your leadership. Grand Lodge itself is filled with committees and Brothers doing amazing work every day to improve our jurisdiction and help good Brothers better themselves.

No, my purpose was not to enlighten you about the magic of which you are all well aware. I simply wanted to reflect for a moment on our duty and the magical power that we in this room possess to help good men become better men. Brethren, we have the power to lead this Grand Lodge to rise to become the Grand Lodge of Inspiration and Education. You have the secret sauce. You are the leaders who realize that what makes Freemasonry different than other fraternal orders. Freemasonry is special because of our love, respect, and honor for true inspirational education dedicated to bringing out the best in ourselves and our fellow Masons.

And so, my good Brothers gathered in this room tonight, I humbly and simply implore you all to continue your good work, to spread that secret sauce as widely as men will hear. What a glorious and inspiring vision I have before me. Men of honor. Men of integrity. Men full of Brotherly love and affection for each other. How fortunate I am to be among such men who are my Brothers and my friends. To life. ■

*The speech by Rt. Wor. Graeme Marsden will be featured in the Spring issue.*

2018 has been an extraordinary year of achievement for Masonic Health System of MA and The Overlook in Charlton!

As a result of the overarching success of The Overlook, for the first time ever, Masonic Health System / The Overlook was able to reinvest \$1.2 million dollars (year-to-date through Nov. 2018) in the Masonic Education and Charity Trust, thereby confirming its newly achieved financial security. Moreover, The Overlook has now paid off 100% of its bank debt and has begun expanding its services.

MHS continues to make unprecedented progress in its operational, financial, and satisfaction ratings. Overlook Visiting Nurse Association, an Overlook business corporation, providing hospice and home care services to 216 communities in three regions across MA, reported 18 consecutive months of profitability as of November 2018. OVNA is now poised and positioned for continued success and is in the process of expanding its hospice services to 168 communities in three regions across MA.

In the Fall, over 250 OVNA Team Members and support staff were honored and recognized for being named a Top 25% National Best Practice Agency and receiving the 2018 Patient Satisfaction Award of Distinction by a division of CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services), Fazzi's Home Health Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers.

In October, a new Respiratory Clinical Program opened on

The Overlook Campus. This program services both Overlook patients and those from the surrounding areas discharged from chronic and acute care hospitals, typically with a diagnosis of Respiratory Failure, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), or Congestive Heart Failure (CHF).

The Overlook is also in the process of opening a new program in Charlton, known as "Overlook Vista Adult Day." This private pay program for adults with Alzheimer's and related dementias will be available to both existing Overlook Residents and those from neighboring communities. It will offer relief to family members and caregivers, allowing them to go to work, handle personal business, or just relax while knowing their loved one is well cared for and safe.

The Overlook ended the 2018 year as a nominee for the annual Worcester Telegram and Gazette's Readers' Choice Contest. Thousands of businesses across central MA competed against each other, vying for a top five position in a variety of categories, including Food and Beverage, Entertainment and Leisure, Health and Well-Being, Local Shops and Services, Vehicles, and Others.

Residents, Team Members, friends and families demonstrated tremendous support by casting their votes for the best senior living community that provided outstanding services and lifestyle. The top three finalists in each category were invited to attend a gala dinner affair, held at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. In addition to The Overlook, Briarwood Retirement Community, The Overlook's sister community that MHS has successfully managed since 2011, was a top three finalist as well.

Winners were announced from the podium by Miss Massachusetts 2018. For the second consecutive year, The

## The Pot of Incense

*By Wor. Mark Pearrow*

The emblems of the Third Degree begin with one that might not initially resonate with many of us. The Pot of Incense, we are told, is an emblem of a "pure heart," and that it is "always an acceptable sacrifice to Deity." One might wonder why that is, exactly. After all, incense is not typically a part of our daily lives. At best, we might encounter it in a place of worship. Otherwise, we might only encounter it in gift shops. As we unpack the meaning of this symbol, however, we can find some instruction that is useful in many situations.

While not all incense is fragrant—some is burned exclusively for the generation of smoke, often symbolic of the prayers or spirits rising to the heavens—smell has played an important role in much of the history of incense. The sense of smell itself is an ancient sense and is the only one of the five senses with a visibly distinct substructure in the brain, the olfactory bulb. Smell is the sense that is most tightly interwoven with our most ancient thoughts. A whiff of a fragrance can instantly conjure up strong memories of a summer evening from childhood, the first time we had a certain food, or a long-departed relative's perfume. Smell connects us through memory to our distant past, both as individuals and as a species. When used in conjunction with wise and





Overlook was awarded the Best Senior Living Community in Central Massachusetts. Receiving this distinguished first place award is deeply meaningful. The award is a tribute to our Overlook family and the greater community. We owe a debt of gratitude for the unwavering loyalty and support we have received over the decades, particularly during difficult times.

We ask that the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts District Deputies kindly convey this important information and the exciting news about The Overlook's recent financial growth to your respective district lodges. We also strongly encourage you and your lodge members to visit The Overlook to see first-hand what we have to offer.

As you know, each lodge has appointed a Masonic Home Representative, a crucial role that we greatly appreciate. Please note that we have rebranded to better align with the times and are no longer using the former 'Masonic Home' name. We are now proudly known as The Overlook and are incredibly blessed to be sponsored by Masonic Health System of Massachusetts. To that end, we would appreciate a change in title from Masonic Home Representative to MHS Overlook Representative. We look forward to seeing all the lodge MHS Overlook Representatives when they visit us here in Charlton.

If you would like to arrange personal visits and/or a presentation by Overlook staff for your district, please contact Danyel Darger to schedule a convenient time. Danyel oversees business development at The Overlook in Charlton and may be reached via email at [ddarger@overlook-mass.org](mailto:ddarger@overlook-mass.org) or by phone at 508-434-2331. If your lodge is interested in providing a special program and/or volunteer opportunities at the Charlton Campus, please contact Overlook's Directors of



*Tameryn Campbell, The Overlook's President & CEO, honoring Ernesto Moreno, Executive Director, Overlook Visiting Nurse Association (OVNA).*

Life Enrichment, Stephanie Hill at [shill@overlook-mass.org](mailto:shill@overlook-mass.org), or by phone at 508-434-2315, or Stephanie Nikopoulos at [snikopoulos@overlook-mass.org](mailto:snikopoulos@overlook-mass.org), or by phone at 508-434-2247 to assist you with these arrangements. We welcome your greater engagement and involvement in our numerous Resident Programs and organizational initiatives.

We believe strongly that our rich, enduring history, heritage, and Mission and Core Values will guide us toward an even brighter future together. Thank you again for your on-going support and renewed confidence in The Overlook. We look forward to working closely with the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts and all its lodges and members to continue the exciting progress that has been made in recent years. ■

serious lessons, it can imprint, for many generations, the truth of the lessons.

It has been argued often that a "pure heart" can be described as sincerity, for no other virtues can exist where there is not sincerity. Throughout history, the offering of something valuable to Deity has been an expression of sincerity. One's willingness to part with something of value, like rare oils, essences, and resins, provided concrete evidence of one's conviction, not only to oneself, but also to others, as well as to Deity. As heat and oxygen transform the physical incense into "spirit" (smoke), lifts us to a higher state.

This alchemy—the conversion of the physical incense to the spiritual smoke—is evidence of our sincerity, the pure heart we have, in the business in which we are engaged. As the incense burns, it gradually diminishes to nothing, just as we begin "burning" at birth, until extinguished by the all-devouring scythe near the other end of the emblems. When we think about our own children, one of the greatest feelings we can have is when we know they have done their best, worked their hardest, and have been sincere in their undertakings—worked with a pure heart. Might the Great Architect think this way about us? Thus, a pure heart would always be an acceptable sacrifice to deity.

There's another lesson this emblem teaches us—our hearts should glow with gratitude for the manifold blessings that surround us. At first, this might seem like little more than a platitude, but upon further inspection, it reminds us that incense cannot burn without oxygen. Neither can we! This is true in the literal sense, but also in the figurative sense. We become totally unaware of the air we breathe and the life-giving power it imbues—until we don't have it! In the same way, we become unaware of the manifold blessings and comforts that surround us constantly.

It is so easy to lapse into a bad mood when things feel like they are not going your way, and to lose sight of the fact that each day is a gift, rich with blessings that we might take for granted. Gratitude is not only an outward sign of thanksgiving to the author of our existence, it is an inner process of mindfulness that can have a real and positive effect on our well-being and outlook on life. Many religions have reinforced this lesson throughout human history. In recent years, science has corroborated the mind-body connection consequent of an attitude of thankfulness.

Each day, take a moment to reflect upon the pot of incense, remember that you have a place in the universe, and approach your work with a pure heart. ■

shines through the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.” As Masons we should always pursue further light. The great and abiding lesson of St. John the Evangelist is to love one another. He concluded in learning and eloquence, what St. John the Baptist had begun with zeal.

### **Their Lessons for Us**

What powerful lessons the patrons of Freemasonry reveal to us! As we, Masons and non-Masons, seek to live our lives within the circle, let us endeavor to walk uprightly, cast off every work of darkness, and seek to live in the light of God’s countenance that others may see our good deeds and glorify our Father who is in heaven. The Fellowcraft Degree reading is from 1st Corinthians, Chapter 13, that ends with “and now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love, or charity.” Each of us, Freemason or not, is taught to love one another, to help one another, to serve one another,

er, to perform acts of charity in His name’s sake.

It is said in James 2:26, “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” We must not only learn of God’s will for us, we must labor to fulfill His expectations of us. Likewise, to learn Masonic ritual without practicing its teachings leaves the value and potential our fraternity for naught. I remember Past Grand Master Fred Kirby Bauer often saying that before making any decision or undertaking any action, he would ask himself whether his impending thought, word, or deed would move him closer to the perfect ashlar, which we learn is achieved through a virtuous education, our own endeavors, and the blessings of God.

As we attend God’s house and live out our lives, may each of us make every effort to build a great temple of faith, and a temple of upright character and living within us, in the name of the Lord our God, and allow His grace to guide us towards becoming more perfect ashlar, as taught by the example of the Holy Saints John. ■

### ▶ **Cable Tow Story** *cont’d from p. 3*

Lodge, proudly wearing his Temple Lodge Past Master’s jewel in his pocket, as he once did before. During the business meeting, the Master called Bro. Remsen up to the West of the altar, and although surprised by this request, Bro. Remsen happily obliged. The Master then called me to the South of the altar. I went up with the bylaw book in hand, and I explained how Bro. Remsen technically wasn’t an official member of St. John’s Lodge in Boston, the oldest duly constituted Lodge in the western hemisphere, until he signed the bylaws.

Once the book was placed on the altar, despite a previous stroke, Bro. Remsen managed to sign his name in the presence of his Brothers in open Lodge, and it was recorded. During their meeting, Bro. Remsen was also presented with a low numbered new St. John’s Lodge neck jewel, along with copies of the history of St. John’s Lodge. This was a night I will cherish as one of the most memorable Masonic events of my life. I then received an email that I think is worthy of sharing:

“Dear R.W. Bro. Capobianco,

Words fail me. At a time in my life when things were grinding me down, and my faith was faltering, you came along. Fate is a strange thing, Brother.

My act of despair brought us together and your first thought was to “help a fallen brother.” I will be eternally grateful for all that you have done on my behalf. To the Master, Wardens, and Brethren of St. John’s Lodge, I am humbled by their kindness and generosity. I will have a very interesting letter to write my grandson in the next few days. It is really quite amazing, the turn of events and how we came together, you and I.

Thank you again, my friend.

Larry Remsen”

It’s important to remember that even though you do it by the book, that doesn’t always make it right. Let Brotherly love and common sense prevail, always.

Note: The series of events that led up to this occasion was not only a new beginning for Bro. Remsen, but for other Brothers as well. Brother Remsen informs us of the following:

“Greetings WB Cappy,

On Tuesday night, October 24th, at Mt. Vernon Lodge in Oriental, NC, DDGM Bobby Headows of the 7th Masonic District presented a 50-year award on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, to Brother Warren Johnson. Warren Johnson was one of the first people I met when Clair and I first arrived in Oriental 17 years ago. In the photo where the Brothers gathered to

help me with the construction on my home, Warren is the second from the left, and the only one of these Brothers still with us today. He called me one night, and asked if I would take him to the Lodge presentation. Thanks to you Cappy, I could tell him that I would be proud to take him to Lodge. It was semi-public, so we brought our wives, and after a wonderful dinner that was well attended, we retired to the Lodge room where one 25 year, and two 50 year awards, were presented. You made a difference that changed the lives of people you may never know. When I thought it was over and done, it turned out to be a new beginning. Back when I was a young man, and new to the Craft our old Tyler gave me his favorite poem:

*‘But once I pass this way, and then,  
the silent door  
Swings on its hinges, Opens, Closes,  
and no more I pass this way.  
So while I may, with all my might,  
I shall essay sweet comfort and delight  
to all I meet,  
along this Pilgrim Way.  
For no man travels twice this Great  
Highway that winds  
through darkness up to the Light:  
From Night to Day’*

Love long and prosper Cappy,  
Larry” ■

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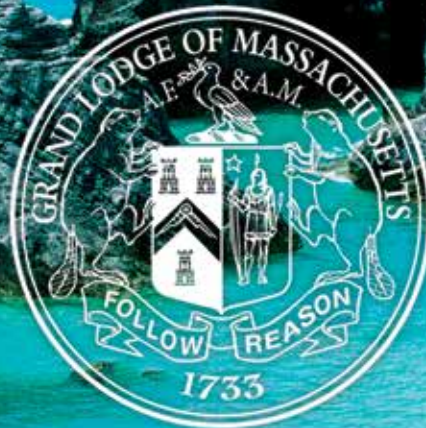
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