

*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 & Fraternaly,
Paul F. Gleason
Grand Master



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