

TROWEL

GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS WINTER 2022-23



**Grand Master's
Appeal Donors**

**Most Worshipful
Grand Master
George Forest
Hamilton**



From the East of Grand Lodge
MOST WORSHIPFUL GEORGE HAMILTON

Brethren,

I am so pleased and honored to have been installed as the 91st Grand Master. We are blessed with so many talented and devoted brethren that make Massachusetts Freemasonry what it is, and I look forward to serving with all of you.

Over the next several years, we will have a chance to celebrate events commemorating the 250th Anniversary of our country. The cause of independence started right here in Massachusetts. We will have the privilege of participating in events and hosting our brethren from other states. Beginning with the Boston Tea Party in December, 1773, to “the shot heard round the world” at Lexington and Concord, the battle of Bunker Hill, and the evacuation of the British from Boston, Freemasons like George Washington, Henry Knox, Rufus Putnam, and scores of other patriots put their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor on the line to nurture a new idea that ordinary men could govern themselves.

As we celebrate all that our forefathers accomplished 250 years ago, it gives us a chance to connect with our Masonic history. In every corner of Massachusetts, there are stories of how Masons, men like Paul Revere and Joseph Warren are known to all, but you only have to look a little further and you’ll find Bros. John Glover of Marblehead (Philanthropic Lodge), William Walker of Lee (Evening Star lodge), William Seaver (Bristol and King David lodges), Benjamin Tupper of Chesterfield (Hampshire Lodge), Robert Treat Paine of Boston and Taunton (St John’s Lodge(B)), and Benjamin Lincoln of Boston (The Lodge of St Andrew), just to name a few. Over the next few years, we will tell the stories of these Masons, what they accomplished, and how they made our lodges what they are today. Let us use their example as inspiration to accomplish great things in our time.

The celebrations of the Sestercentennial give us a unique chance to remind the public of the time-honored virtues our Fraternity holds dear to this day. Virtues that helped the founding fathers promote the common welfare ahead of their own personal interests and provide a striking example of servant leadership.

The challenges we face today seem very different, even elusive and daunting perhaps. Our Fraternity can be a source of hope in these difficult times. Freemasonry has always provided men of good character, in every generation, who have been leaders in their churches, towns, and businesses, and set the standard for civility, respect, and tolerance. We are the same men in a new era, united by the same timeless Masonic values!

Like the patriots, we can accomplish great things when we remember our Masonic obligations and govern our actions by temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice.

God bless our beloved Fraternity and God bless America!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Most Worshipful George Forest Hamilton

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Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts
Most Worshipful George Hamilton



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The Most Wonderful, Hard, Job

I was surprised. When I heard that there was going to be a new Grand Master, I was surprised.

I thought of the three years of M. Wor. Richard Maggio. During the pandemic, there were so few events, so little happening, that I thought he may opt for another year. The icing on the cake of the office of Grand Master was lost to the pandemic. Why wouldn't M. Wor. Bro. Maggio stay another year? He missed out on so much Masonic fun. But then I thought about the office of the Grand Master.

Our new Grand Master, M. Wor. George F. Hamilton, hopefully, will get to enjoy the fun of the position. Anniversaries, dedications, social events, and various casual events will be on his docket. He has the most wonderful job. And there is the work.

It is hard for me to imagine the weight of that office, especially when I see only the fun stuff. Between the District issues, questions about the ancillary bodies, lodge building issues, the work concerning Charlton, general administration of the Fraternity, and things I can't imagine, the Grand Master carries a mighty load. The job is not for everyone.

But with the fun stuff, it must be wonderful. Shaking everyone's hand when you arrive creates a meaningful connection: this was lost on Zoom in the pandemic. Getting to celebrate and meet with the Brethren from all over the state must be fantastic.

Like the Master tends his Lodge and each Brother therein, M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton tends the Fraternity and every individual Brother.

A mighty and joyous position. I have great gratitude for M. Wor. Bro. Maggio for his herculean efforts during the rough seas of the pandemic and his future efforts as Grand Secretary, and to M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton for his zeal in assuming the helm of this strong ship of Freemasonry.

Fraternally, Lee H. Fenn



DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: APRIL 5, 2023



<https://tinyurl.com/MasonPlate>

Do you have an experience from seeing or having a Masonic plate? Send it to the Editor of TROWEL at editortrowel@gmail.com.

George H. Taber Lodge Helps Those With No One

Members of George H. Taber Lodge got into the Christmas spirit at the Fairhaven Old-Time Holiday Fair on December 10th. Twenty years ago, Rt. Wor. Eric Berg, current Worshipful Master of the George H. Taber Lodge, came up with the idea to sell cookies that will be delivered as gifts to nursing home residents without family. The booth has been a fixture at the fair ever since. Three nursing homes in the area supply the lodge with a list of over 80 names. When the cookies are bought at the fair, they are pre-labeled with the recipient's name and nursing home location. The buyers handwrite their name or message under the "From:" on the label. The cookies always sell out quickly thanks to the outpouring of kindness and generosity within the community.

-Wor. Michael Burke



Happy cookie salesmen Bro. Jeremy Taylor, Rt. Wor. Eric Berg, Wor. Gunnar Berg, Wor. Michael Burke.



Bell Ringing 2nd District

Rt. Wor. David Vogel, 2nd District Deputy, and Wor. Andrew Grove of Amicable Lodge worked the Salvation Army bells in front of Michael's.

-Wor. Andrew Grove



Toward Unity

by Rt. Wor. Rev. Henry I. Peirce

I'm sure you've seen the building. It is right across the street from the Grand Lodge entrance on Boylston Street. It's designed in the High Victorian Gothic style, with a multicolored sandstone street facade and once even sported a short clock tower. It's pretty, but the thing that caught and held my attention was not its design, but the words inscribed above the front door: Boston's Young Men's Christian Union.

What was the YMCU, I wondered? A predecessor of the Young Men's Christian Association? Were they somehow related? I even found myself jokingly rewriting the lyrics to the 70's disco hit to the mysterious name on this building. Doing a little research, I discovered a surprising link to my faith tradition. In the decades before the U.S. Civil War, there was a religious trend known as Muscular Christianity. It hoped to inspire a more masculine form of Christianity, that through athleticism, a strong moral worldview would develop. In 1851, the YMCA arrived in Boston from Great Britain and set up shop with a gym, as well as a place for bible study, and other educational pursuits. The problem was that their membership was exclusively for evangelical protestants, excluding two important religious groups in Boston at that time, Jews and Unitarians.

Soon, two new organizations began, the Young Men's Hebrew Association, who built their own building in Roxbury, and the YMCU. By 1875, the Union built their building to provide many of the same sorts of services that one would find at the YMCA at the time, and for many decades it was a growing concern. Eventually, however, the things that it provided began to fall out of fashion, and they closed. The building is now being used by St. Francis House, providing affordable housing to the previously homeless.

When I look at that building today, I see an interest-

ing structure with an interesting history. I see a tale of a religious minority not bending to the whims of a larger institution. Mostly I see a lot of missed opportunities. We live in a time when it is easy to see the fraying of our social fabric, where it is easy to live in our own bubbles, separated from those who seem different from us. It is easy to let the opinions of the world influence our understanding of our neighbors, to pick a side and stick to it, but that is not what I believe God wants.

The first scripture we hear while in lodge is the 133rd Psalm, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to live in unity." One of the things about

our Fraternity is that it brings men of different opinions together with a purpose larger than ourselves. As P.J. Roup, editor of the *Northern Light* magazine wrote, "When we focus on unity of purpose, we have less time to be concerned with the hows and whys that can easily divide us." Or as a brother in my lodge says with a wink, "In Freemasonry we become friends with men long before we realize that we don't like their politics."

The Masonic scholar and minister the Rev. Joseph Fort Newton once wrote, "Masonry was not made to divide men, but to unite them, leaving each man free to think his own thoughts and fashion his own system of ultimate truth. All its emphasis rests upon two extremely simple and profound

principles, love of God and love of man."

May the harmonizing lessons, ever present in our rituals, point us toward the truth that God wants us to be united in our thoughts, words, and actions, bringing support to all those with whom we share this world. ■

Rt. Wor. & Rev. Henry Peirce is a Grand Chaplain, Unitarian Universalist minister, and a Past Master of Amicable Lodge.



THE DECEMBER 2022 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS



by *Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

The Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, Most Worshipful Richard Maggio, on December 14, 2022, at 1:30 p.m., convened his last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts as Grand Master. The assembled Brethren, with a standing ovation, clapped and cheered as he entered.

“Our Colors will be presented today by the Aleppo Shrine Minutemen,” announced the Grand Master. After a heartfelt Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a rousing national anthem, the Grand Master introduced Captain John Wilder, who in turn introduced the other Nobles: Pvt.

Robert Havener, Pvt. Carlos Ramos Rivera, Pvt. Peter Mooradian, Pvt. Jonathan Buck, and Pvt. David Gasson. After the Color Guard retired, the Brethren sang the hymn, “Oh God Our Help in Ages Past.” Grand Chaplain, Rt. Wor. Benjamin Flax offered a prayer. “I declare a Regular Quarterly Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts opened in ample form,” the Grand Master gavelled the Quarterly open.

“Welcome Brethren,” said the Grand Master, “It now gives me great pleasure to introduce those guests who were invited to join us today.”

– Visiting Grand Lodge Jurisdictions –

- Rt. Wor. Sammy Belton, Grand Secretary, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (1775)
- M. Wor. Gary S. Kaufman, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Rhode Island (1791)
- M. Wor. Thomas E. Pulkkinen, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine (1820)
- Rt. Wor. Oscar M. Zepeda, Grand Representative, Grand Lodge of Baja California, Mexico (1933)

– Massachusetts York Rite Bodies –

- M. Exc. Ernest Arnold Bean, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts
- M. Ill. Manual Ferreira, III, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Massachusetts
- Sir Knight Eugene Blake Nichols, Rt. Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, and the Appendant Orders, of Massachusetts and Rhode Island

– Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the – Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America:

- Ill. George F. Hamilton, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts
- Ill. Donald M. Moran, 33°, Active for Massachusetts
- Ill. Robert C. Schremser, 33°, Active for Massachusetts
- Ill. Scott D. Inglis, 33°, Active for Massachusetts
- Ill. Robert E. Godbout, Jr., 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts
- Ill. Peter R. Smith, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts

– Shrine International –

- Ill. Robert H. Brown, Potentate, Aleppo Shrine

– Other Masonic Bodies –

- Wor. Dad Matthew S. Gerrish, Executive Officer, Order of the DeMolay, Massachusetts
- M. Worthy David E. Fournier, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, Order of the Eastern Star

- Rt. Wor. Kenneth R. Blake, Chairman of the Board, Masonic Health System of Massachusetts

– Streaming –

– District of Panama –

- Rt. Wor. Albert C. Hopper, District Grand Master

– Tokyo Japan –

- Rt. Wor. Anand J. Murti, Member of Sinim Lodge of this Grand Lodge and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Japan

– Past Grand Masters –

- M. Wor. Albert Timothy Ames
- M. Wor. Arthur Eugene Johnson (streaming)
- M. Wor. Donald Gardner Hicks, Jr.
- M. Wor. Jeffrey Black Hodgdon
- M. Wor. Richard James Stewart
- M. Wor. Harvey John Waugh
- M. Wor. Paul Fulton Gleason

– First Responders –

- Rt. Wor. Jerry Bergeron (Capt., First Responders)
- Rt. Wor. David Maxim
- Rt. Wor. Jeff Arnold
- Rt. Wor. Craig Ericson
- Wor. Jack MacNeill
- Wor. Ed Burg
- Bro. John Robinson, new to the team

– Production –

– Audio and Sound –

- Wor. Ethan Gilson
- Information Services (providing our Live Stream today) –
- Rt. Wor. Elliot Chikofsky
- Wor. Patrick DeVal
- Wor. Scott Sherman
- Bro. Timothy Maxwell



M. Wor. Ricard Maggio enters the Lodge room for his last Quarterly as Grand Master.



The Color Guard, the Aleppo Shrine Minutemen.

“Please join me in wishing Bro. John Driscoll a very Happy Birthday,” announced the Grand Master. He led the Brethren in singing “Happy Birthday.”

M. Wor. Bro. Ames explained the voting powers of the lodges and announced the recognition of Proxies which was submitted, seconded, and approved. “Brethren, this is the last chance for your lodge to pick up ballots in Doric Hall,” said the Grand Master, “We will take a very short 5-minute break for any lodges who have not yet picked up their ballots.”

Upon returning from the break, Deputy Grand Master Rt. Wor. John F. Sullivan read the necrology of our Brethren who have passed. The four new Brethren of the Celestial Lodge made those of us here poorer by taking with them over 275 years of Masonic experience. Grand Chaplain Emeritus, Rt. Wor. Keith Alderman offered a prayer for the departed.

The Grand Master opened the vote for his successor as Grand Master. “The candidate for Grand Master is Right Worshipful George Forrest Hamilton. Are there any nominations from the floor? Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed,” said the Grand Master. “Rt. Wor. Grand Marshal, you will conduct the candidate out of the Lodge Room.” The Grand Marshal escorted Rt. Wor. Bro. Hamilton from the room to a thunderous applause.

The Grand Master declared the ballot open. After voting and collecting the ballots, the Grand Master declared the ballot closed. “I appoint a committee of Past Grand Masters to count the ballots. As Chairman of the committee, I appoint the Senior Past Grand Master present, M.W. Albert T. Ames.”

The Grand Marshal escorted the Past Grand Masters from the lodge room to the counting room.

During the counting, Rt. Wor. W. Warren Richardson, Jr. reported from the Records Committee and Rt. Wor. Robert V. Jolly, Jr. reported on the Committee on Charters and By-Laws - three approvals and one partial rejection. Both reports were approved.

After a brief musical interlude, the count was completed. The Grand Marshal conducted the Committee of Past

Grand Masters to the west of the altar to announce the results. Despite “one hanging chad,” M. Wor. Bro. Ames announced the election of Rt. Wor. Bro. Hamilton as the next Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. Rt. Wor. Bro. Hamilton humbly accepted the position as the 91st Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts to the cheers of all the Brethren present.

“Rt. Wor. Grand Sword Bearer, you will present to me Rt. Wor. John Emerson Kelley, Jr., our candidate for Senior Grand Warden,” announced the Grand Master. The Grand Sword Bearer conducted the candidate from the lodge room and the Grand Master declared the ballot open. Once all the ballots were collected, the Grand Master appointed a committee of Past Senior Grand Wardens to count the ballots. The Chairman, M. Wor. Bro. Ames, and the committee were escorted from the lodge room to the counting room. Once the ballots and committee left the lodge room, the candidate returned.

Upon his return, the Grand Master called for the report from the Committee on Foreign Relations, from M. Wor. Bro. Hicks. He reported that The Grand Orient de Minas Gerais, Brazil, requested recognition, which was granted. He also reminded that, “*It is important that no lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge admit any brother from a lodge that is not listed in the The Acacia Book, published by Copiri, Inc., in Wilmington, Delaware. This book replaces the book titled List of Lodges - Masonic, published by Pantograph, in Bloomington, Illinois.*” The motion for acceptance was approved.

The Grand Master called the Committee of Past Senior Grand Wardens to be escorted to the west of the altar for their report of the count. M. Wor. Bro. Ames announced the election of Rt. Wor. John E. Kelley as Senior Grand Warden, which, when asked by the Grand Master, he humbly accepted.

The Grand Master brought the candidates for Junior Grand Warden, Rt. Wors. Alfredo J.R. Canhoto and Christopher Anthony Tonini, to the East. Both were escorted from the lodge room and the ballot was opened. Upon all

having voted, the Grand Master closed the ballot. The Grand Master created a committee of Past Junior Grand Masters to be chaired by Rt. Wor. Christopher M. St. Cyr. They retired to the counting room. The candidates were returned to the lodge room.

M. Wor. Bro. Ames presented three Petitions for Merger: William Sewall Gardner-Kilwinning Lodge and Pentucket Lodge, to operate under the name of Pentucket Lodge; Occidental Lodge and Wisdom Lodge, to operate under the name of Wisdom Lodge; and North Reading Lodge and Samuel Crocker Lawrence Lodge, to operate under the name North Reading Lodge. After a motion and a second, the Grand Master accepted the Petition for Mergers.

The Grand Master directed the Grand Marshal, the Senior Grand Warden Elect, to present M. Wor. Bro. Ames to the East for a presentation to the Grand Master, a certificate of appreciation from the Masonic Service Association. "I'm going to take you back myself," said the Grand Master. "Oh, is that something else I can't do?" he joked with the Brethren. "On your last day in Masonry, you can do anything you want," quipped M. Wor. Bro. Ames as he took his seat.

The Grand Master called for representatives from Mystic Valley and Meridian Lodges in commemoration, celebration, and congratulation for their 225th Anniversaries.

The Grand Tyler announced the count was complete. The committee was escorted back into the lodge room to the west of the altar. Rt. Wor. Bro. St. Cyr announced that Rt. Wor. Bro. Canhoto had been elected to the position of Junior Grand Warden. The Grand Master thanked and dismissed the committee. The candidates hugged, congratulated, and consoled each other. Rt. Wor. Bro. Canhoto was escorted to the East and humbly accepted the position.

The remaining ballot being unopposed, M. Wor. Bro. Ames moved that the rest of the candidates can be elected by the casting of one ballot by the Grand Secretary. The motion was seconded and passed. The Grand Secretary cast the ballot.

The Grand Master made a special presentation "to a Brother, who has surpassed most, if not everyone in Massachusetts Masonry, with regard to his help with the American Red Cross. His dedication at Wamesit Lodge in Tewksbury has resulted in record numbers of blood drives and donations to the Red Cross from the Tewksbury Masonic Building. To my knowledge he has orchestrated more blood drives and his actions have resulted in thousands of units of blood collected since the pandemic and led the Commonwealth by opening the Tewksbury Building during the pandemic. Rt. Wor. Grand Marshal, you will conduct Wor. David Howard Hicks to the East." In the absence of Wor. Bro. Hicks, the Grand Master noted that he would make the presentation at Wamesit Lodge.

The Grand Master noted his intent to present a Certificate of Appreciation to Bro. and Brigadier General Enoch Woodhouse, a Tuskegee Airman who was commemorated at the arrivals level of Terminal C of Logan Airport. He suggested all Masons see the mural.

The Grand Master called the following to the East. They "served our Grand Lodge in 2020 at the start of the COVID pandemic [and now can] receive their Recognition of Service."

- Wor. Gordon L. Forsberg, Jr., Grand Lecturer*
- Rt. Wor. John M. Bell, Jr., Junior Grand Deacon*
- Rt. Wor. Scott T. Jareo, Director*
- Rt. Wor. Robert C. Quinn, ME&CT*
- Rt. Wor. Michael J. Petit, DDGM: District 1*
- Rt. Wor. Paul J. Malagrifa, DDGM: District 2*
- Rt. Wor. Alan H. Jones, DDGM: District 3*
- Rt. Wor. Kenneth L. Brown, DDGM: District 5*
- Rt. Wor. Evangelos Liapis, DDGM: District 9*
- Rt. Wor. Nicholas A.J. Collins, DDGM: District 11*
- Rt. Wor. G. Edward Brown, DDGM: District 12*
- Rt. Wor. John C. Toto, DDGM: District 14*
- Rt. Wor. Danny C. Vogel, DDGM: District 15N*
- Rt. Wor. James L. Holmes, DDGM: District 15S*

Grand Lodge pledges allegiance to the flag.



The Color Guard presented the Grand Master with one of their tricornered hats.



Rt. Wor. Raymond R. Harvey, Jr., DDGM: District 17
Rt. Wor. Thomas A. Morris, III, DDGM: District 18
Rt. Wor. Wally C. Therrien, DDGM: District 19
Rt. Wor. Herbert G. Bell, II, DDGM: District 21
Rt. Wor. Michael S. Cavanagh, DDGM: District 22
Rt. Wor. Richard G. Howarth, Jr., DDGM: District 23
Rt. Wor. James J. Gonyea, DDGM: District 24
Rt. Wor. Ryan A. Maslak, DDGM: District 25

“The following presentation is to a Brother who has served his lodge and Grand Lodge many times. This is a partial list: Worshipful Master three times, Trustee, Grand Steward, District Deputy Grand Master, Grand Tyler, and Grand Sword Bearer. “Upon completion of his duties in 2019, I asked him if he would consider the role of Grand Sword Bearer. He agreed, and unknown to me at the time, he sold his home in Massachusetts, bought a home in Maine, 2.5 hours from Boston, and a winter home in South Carolina. All the Grand Lodge Officers have done an outstanding job in the past three years, and all have had great attendance. Bro. Bruce Marshal has accomplished this while commuting from Maine and South Carolina, making any event that I requested he attend, regardless of his location. Rt. Wor. Grand Marshall, you will conduct Rt. Wor. Bruce Thornton Marshal to the East. For your continuing dedication to Massachusetts Masonry over the last 33 years, all you have done, continue to do, and will do in the future, it is my pleasure to present to you the Henry Price Medal as special recognition for your service to me and this Grand Lodge.” The Brethren present erupted in applause and a



The candidate for Grand Master, Rt. Wor. George F. Hamilton is escorted out of the Lodge room.

standing ovation.

The Grand Master then called for M. Wor. Bro. Ames to the East. There, the Grand Master presented M. Wor. Bro Ames with a Certificate of Extended Gratitude for the extensive influence of this “pillar of the Fraternity.” M. Wor. Bro. Ames is now Grand Secretary Emeritus. He received cheers and a standing ovation.

Rt. Wor. Don Moran, Master of the Masters Lodge, was escorted to the East to present to the Grand Master a donation from that lodge to the Brotherhood Fund. Rt. Wor. Ian MacKenzie and Wor. Michael Centola presented a donation to the Brotherhood Fund from the lodges of the 5th District. Rt. Wor. William Kessler, DDGM 26th District, presented a bag of checks as a donation in appreciation of the Grand Master. Wor. Brad Marston and Bro. Evan S. Fisher, recent recipient of the Master Builder’s Award, had collected in “the Master’s hat” at every dinner. They presented those proceeds from the collections for the Brotherhood Fund. Wor. Russell Heamer of Pilgrim Lodge, Bro. Bill Carpenter, Chair of the 1st Annual Bro. Al Boragine

Memorial Golf Tournament, donated the money collected from that tournament to the Brotherhood Fund. Em. Sir Phil Drouin, on behalf of the officers and members of St. Bernard Commandery #12, presented the Christmas Purse for the coming 300th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Rt. Wor. Nicholas Mantello, along with all the Grand Lecturers, presented the Grand Master a professional set of bocce balls. Wor. Mike Goldsmith and another Brother of Middlesex Lodge, presented a donation to the Brotherhood Fund. On behalf of the Past Master’s

The votes are cast and collected.



The ballots are combined into one ballot box.



Association of the combined North and South 15th District, Rt. Wors. John Carlson and Paul Gaudet donated to the Brotherhood Fund.

The final presentation was from District Deputies, Rt. Wors. John Scribner, Neil Packard, and Gordon Craig (the three-year District Deputies), with Rt. Wor. Bro. Scribner going into his fourth year.

They carried a large wrapped rectangle to the East. Rt. Wor. Bro. Gordon, in celebration of the Grand Master's success in his three years in office, his leadership, and guidance during the COVID pandemic, commissioned a portrait of the Grand Master. The portrait proclaimed the Grand Master the King of COVID. The portrait was met with gales of laughter from the Brethren present.

The Grand Master thanked Rt. Wor. Joseph Camara, the Grand Organist, for his inspiring music this afternoon. The Grand Master showed a gift, a beautiful Square and Compasses, crafted by and from Wor. Ed Packard, who spent two years in the East of Budleigh Lodge when he was 90 years old.

"Brethren, it has and continues to be extremely busy this year for me and the Grand Lodge Officers," the Grand Master opened his remarks, "We have all experienced many wonderful events throughout the jurisdiction and outside Massachusetts, almost every day since the September Quarterly." In September, on the 8th, the Grand Lodge Officers and their ladies visited Garden City Lodge. "I installed Brother Christopher N. Kelley as Worshipful Master." The 10th was a sad day - the internment of Wor. George Wiseman, Grand Organist. The internment was at Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett, his



Bro. George Whitney Hamilton awaits the election of his son to be Grand Master.

widow Barbara Wiseman was there. Later that afternoon, the Grand Lodge Officers attended Montgomery Lodge on the occasion of their 225th Anniversary, followed by a fine dinner and gala at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Milford. On the 12th, the Grand Lodge Officers attended the 225th Anniversary celebration of Corinthian Lodge at the Concord Masonic Building. On the 13th, "The Grand Lodge Officers attended William Parkman Lodge. I installed Bro. Anthony Aufiero as Master. M. Wor. Paul Fulton Gleason installed the Senior Warden and Junior Warden. Past Grand Master of New Hampshire, M. Wor.

Stewart Lee Aronson installed the Secretary and Treasurer. The appointed officers were then installed by their counterpart Grand Lodge Officers," said the Grand Master. On the 27th, the Grand Lodge Officers attended Olive Branch Lodge on the occasion of their 225th Anniversary.

"I witnessed several Installations this year and participated along with the Grand Lodge Officers," said the Grand Master. "Including, on the 21st, the installation of Officers at Meridian Lodge. The suite

included M. Wor. Bro. Ames, Installing Master; Rt. Wor. Richard Ames, Installing Marshal; Rt. Wor. Edwin C. Sloper, Installing Chaplain; and Bro. Joseph Skorupa Jr. The Brethren and Ladies then retired to the dining hall for a bountiful collation and refreshments."

On the 24th, the celebration of Saint Matthews 200th Anniversary was held at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Andover, MA. A highlight of the evening was a presentation of the Joseph Warren Distinguished Service Medal to Bro. Frank Gouveia by the Grand Master, accompanied by

The Grand Tyler, Rt. Wor. Arthur B. Dunham, guards the counting room.



M. Wor. Albert T. Ames announces the election of the new Grand Master.



Rt. Wor. John Edward VanKuilenburg, Rt. Wor. Stephen Arthur Corthell, and Past Master Wor. Keith Mitchell Bishop. The history of the lodge was presented by Rt. Wor. Bro. Corthell.

On the 25th, a public Masonic Military Memorial Service was performed aboard the *USS Massachusetts* in Fall River, with the Grand Master and a Suite of Grand Lodge Officers. Approximately 150 Masons, ladies, and guests were in attendance. Rt. Wor. Rabbi Benjamin Flax and Rt. Wor. Rev. Richard Haley conducted a non-denominational Memorial Service. Heartfelt reminiscing by both Chaplains, along with Bro. Michael Magni's historical readings of our deceased Brother Rt. Wor. Harold Nye, a decorated sailor and veteran serving on the *USS Massachusetts*, made the day incredibly special for the Brethren and our Veterans. The Ceremony concluded with remarks by the Grand Master. He presented a citation from Grand Lodge to Ms. Meghan Rathburn, Executive Director of Battleship Cove, with thanks for the continual preservation of the ship and historic educational services offered to the public. The Grand Master placed a wreath upon the waters in remembrance of our Veterans with these words, "All gave some, some gave all, we will never forget! God bless our Veterans."

On the 25th, "I had the pleasure of installing Rt. Wor. Fred Arthur Dobson as Worshipful Master of John Hancock Lodge in Andover."

In the first four days of October, the Grand Master, along with the Grand Marshal, attended the Grand Lodge

of Delaware's Annual Communication and Installation of Officers in Atlantic City. On the 2nd, the Senior Grand Warden and Acting Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Glenn Kubick, attended the North Berkshire Fall Foliage in North Adams. On the 8th, "I installed Bro. Michael Magni, Worshipful Master of Pythagorean, in a public installation 159 years after M. Wor. William Parkman constituted the lodge and installed the officers at the 1st public display of Masonry in Marion, MA, on Old Long Wharf." Between the 8th and 10th, the Junior Grand Warden, "Rt. Wor. Russell Lowe represented me by attending the Annual Communication and Installation of Officers at the Grand Lodge of Illinois." Also on the 8th, "the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. John Sullivan, represented me at the opening of the Time Capsule and Quatercentenary Celebration hosted by Paul Revere Lodge, A.F. & A.M., held at Brockton Masonic Building." From the 9th to the 11th, "The Senior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Glenn Kubick, represented me at the Annual Communication and Installation of Officers at the Grand Lodge of West Virginia." On the 15th, the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers took a tour of George H. Taber Lodge, followed by a fine meal at the church next door to the lodge. "That evening we were entertained by a world-renowned member of George H. Tabor Lodge and Mentalist, Bro. Jon Stetson," recalled the Grand Master.

On the 15th, all lodges in Massachusetts opened their doors to the public for the annual Open House. Several lodges reported the potential of multiple candidates from their efforts. On the 18th, "I attended Bethesda Lodge for

PRESENTATIONS IN THE EAST OF GRAND LODGE



M. Wor. Bro. Ames presents the Grand Master with a Certificate of Appreciation from Masonic Service Association.



Mystic Valley and Meridian Lodges honored for their 225th Anniversary.



Pandemic Grand Lodge Officers recognized.



Rt. Wor. Bruce Thornton Marshal is surprised with the Henry Price medal.



M. Wor. Bro. Ames becomes Grand Secretary Emeritus.



Rt. Wor. Nicholas Mantello and the Grand Lecturers presented the Grand Master a professional set of bocce balls.



Wor. Michael Centola and Rt. Wor. Ian Mackenzie donate to the Brotherhood fund on behalf of the 5th District.



Rt. Wor. William Kessler donated a bag of checks from the 26th District.

a presentation by Rt. Wor. David Newcomb, his lady Diane, and the Shrine Clown Unit. I accompanied the unit in full clown makeup and was delighted that no-one recognized me!”

“I attended a dinner with the Past Commanders of the Massachusetts Consistory, where I was presented a newly restored 33° jewel by the Valley of Boston Scottish Rite, previously worn by Ill. David R. Richardson, 33°, presented on December 7, 1986, and Ill. Stephen C. Luce, 33°, presented on September 23, 1953,” remembered the Grand Master of the events on the 20th. “In attendance were: 1994 – 1997 Ralph I. Sewall, 33°; 1997 – 2000 Robert E. Godbout, Jr., 33°; 2006 – 2009 James R. Franklin, 33°; 2009 – 2012 Peter R. Smith, 33° MSA; 2012 – 2015 Scott D. Inglis, 33°; 2015 – 2018 Roy J. Leone, 33°; 2018 – 2021 Eugene Capobianco, 33°; and 2021 – 2024 David S. Sewall, 33°.

On the 22nd, the Grand Lodge Officers attended St. Martin’s Lodge in celebration of their 150th Anniversary to perform the Masters Carpet Rededication Ceremony. “The Grand Lady and I took our first vacation, from the 24th to Nov. 6th,” said the Grand Master. On behalf of the Grand Master, from the 27th to the 31st, the Deputy Grand Master and Acting Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Sullivan, attended the York Rite Annual Sessions. And on the 29th, The Senior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Bro. Kubick, attended Fellowship Lodge’s 225th Anniversary, which included the unsealing of a time capsule followed by a social gathering.

On November 5th, the Junior Grand Warden and Acting

Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Lowe, and the Grand Lodge Officers, installed the Officers of the Meadows Lodge. On the 9th, “The Grand Marshal and I attended the Annual Sessions of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey where M. Wor. Robert Monacelli bestowed Honorary Membership to Rt. Wor. Bro. Kelley and made me a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. I was honored to give welcoming remarks on behalf of all the visiting foreign jurisdictions.” On the 10th, “The Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Sullivan, attended the Grand Lodge of Virginia Annual Sessions and Installation of Officers on my behalf.”

From the 12th to the 13th, the Grand Master attended District Deputy Grand Master training with his successor and the Grand Marshal. “I attended the 125th Anniversary of the Newton Masonic Building,” remembered the Grand Master about the 26th. “Where our Grand Lodge Officers performed the Masters Carpet Rededication Ceremony.” [See page 26.] On the 28th, the Grand Master attended the Massachusetts Secretary’s Association and installed the Officers.

On the 30th, “The Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Bro. Kelley, and I attended the Feast of St. Andrew at William Sewall Gardner-Kilwinning Lodge while the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Sullivan, and the Senior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Bro. Kubick, represented me by attending the Feast of St. Andrew at St. Andrews Lodge.”

On December 3rd, “I was honored to attend the Valley of Boston’s One-Day Class held in my honor. One hundred nineteen Masons were elevated to the 32nd degree, includ-

continued on page 25



Wor. W. Brad Marston and Bro. Evan S. Fisher, recipient of the Master Builder’s award, donated to the Brotherhood Fund monies they had had collected in “the Master’s hat” at every dinner.



Wor. Russell Heamer and Bro. Bill Carpenter donated the proceeds from the 1st Annual Bro. Al Boragine Memorial Golf Tournament to the Brotherhood Fund.



Em. Sir Phil Drouin, on behalf of the officers and members of St. Bernard Commandery #12, donated the Christmas Purse for the coming 300th Anniversary of Grand Lodge.



Rt. Wor. Donald Moran donated to the Brotherhood Fund on behalf of the Masters Lodge.



Representatives of Middlesex Lodge donated to the Brotherhood Fund.



North and South 15th District Past Master’s Association, represented by Rt. Wors. John Carlson and Paul Gaudet, donated to the Brotherhood Fund.



Rt. Wors. John Scribner, Neil Packard, and Gordon Craig coronated the Grand Master as King of COVID with a portrait.

Grand Lodge Installation



**Address of the
Deputy Grand Master,
Kenneth Scott**

Most Worshipful Grand Master, very distinguished head table, and dear brothers all,

To be standing here before you is a very special privilege and honor I never expected. Thank you, Grand Master, for your confidence and humbling appointment. Please know I will work diligently and with delight to promote the tenets of our beloved Fraternity, the undertakings of our Grand Lodge, the true joy of being a member of the Craft, and the commitment to helping each other. Having said “helping each other” and having been charged with an important oratory this evening, what I really want to do is [gives a sign of distress.] and say, you know what I’m thinking.

I must say that the true joy and honor in being a Mason began when I was 15 and joined Order of DeMolay. Whether we realize it or not, what preschool is to public education, DeMolay is to Masonry. It was started by Brother Frank S. Land, and other Masons, in Kansas City early in 1919, in response to a request for some help for a fatherless young man. The teachings of DeMolay are Masonic teachings distilled for young men to learn and grasp.

I still remember being told, when taking my initiatory degree, that “a DeMolay’s word is as good as his bond.” I had never heard that, but knew what it meant. “I could be counted on.” I joined with five others, and we were welcomed into the brotherhood. I’m glad to say that bond still exists decades later, though life took us all in different directions. Of the 25 or so active members in our chapter, 12 of us joined the lodge at 21, and a few others, later on. Not a bad return for the lodge who supported the chapter.

I do not intend my words this evening to all be about DeMolay and why we should promote it. However, it would be wrong and ungrateful of me not to recognize its influence in my life. I would not be here tonight were it not



for the Order of DeMolay and the influence of Masonic men when I was teenager. Today, what Massachusetts DeMolay needs more than anything is Masonic men who will volunteer, a wee bit as my father would say, of their time to be Dad Advisors, to help guide young men. We know society isn't doing the job molding them! There are young men in 19 chapters across the Commonwealth now, some of whom will be leading Massachusetts Freemasonry in the coming decades. Their success needs your inspiration.

Now that you know how I feel about DeMolay, I want to switch gears. On my very first day as a Master Mason, something very positive and telling happened to me! I was attending college and working part time in the maintenance department of the First National Bank of Boston, at Devonshire and Milk Streets. My boss told me to take a cart up to see a Mr. Titus, a vice president who needed something picked up to be burned. When I arrived and told him why I was there, he looked me up and down and said, "Well, do you realize there is over ten thousand dollars in negotiable securities here that need to be destroyed and I'm not about to let any maintenance employee take them?!"

I told him I understood and as I started to leave, he noticed the ring on my finger and asked what it was. I explained that it was a Masonic ring that had been given to me the night before by my dad. He then said he was a member of Charles C. Dame Lodge in Georgetown, and we

proceeded to chat about my raising, Masonry, and life. As I said goodbye and started to leave, he said, "Aren't you forgetting what you came for?"

I still remember my thoughts as I headed to the furnace room. Upon meeting me, he was very clearly telling me "No way!" But after a few minutes of conversation, I was entrusted to take everything. The only thing that had made a difference was that he had recognized me as a fellow Mason. It struck me very powerfully that being a member of the Craft meant something. In that moment, it was trust between two strangers who, at another level, were brothers. It was an enlightening and profound lesson to a newly raised 21-year-old. Think about it! Being in the Craft is not like being a member of the exchange club or some social group. We are trusted in ways we might not readily realize as we go about our tasks. We all know our obligations and can still repeat them in part, if not entirely. Obligations mean something. "To help, aid, and assist" is as important as saying "I love you" to someone special. But as Freemasons, we do indeed help, aid, and assist routinely because we use the tenets of Masonry in our lives every day.

Take, as an example, the Masonic equipment loan program which started in the old Malden-Melrose 7th, now the 4th District. What began in a Stoneham garage in the mid 60s has grown steadily over the past 55 years and is now in a large facility in Woburn, known throughout eastern



Massachusetts by a fair percentage of the general public. It speaks volumes of good about us, especially to those who know little or nothing about Masonry. Question: Wouldn't it be nice if there was another hospital equipment loan program in western Massachusetts so people would not need to travel so far?

Freemasonry can indeed be proud of the many and various good works done by our lodges and the appendant organizations. From the Shrine Hospitals, and Scottish Rite Learning Centers, to local lodge endeavors such as the Angel Fund. Think of our Brotherhood Fund and what it has become in the last 15 years. We can be, no, we are proud of them all!

We give of our time, our strength, our skills and talents, and our compassion. Yes, we provide money too, but it is our intent, our motivation, that makes "to help, aid, and assist" reflect well on our beloved Fraternity. Actually, we could say, if we wanted to, that we lead the way in doing for others. Masons give over two million dollars a day in charitable donations, more than any other organization in the world! If I might use a variation of the words, Massachusetts Freemasonry is leading the way in "Helping, Aiding, and assisting All."

Many Brothers were probably influenced at an early age by teachers, coaches, or Scout leaders who reinforced the correctness and necessity of responsible behavior. Many of

us grew up with the concept that loyalty was as much a part of employment as ability and ethics. Social media might indicate that those ideas are passé, no longer viable, but Masons, in any lodge or country, by the oath that they took, not only uphold, but live these precepts every day. We are so fortunate to be Freemasons in this time so we can set an example of what is right and needed, now more than ever.

Early in life, I worked at Eastman-Kodak, Co., and went to train in Rochester, NY. As a new hire, I met the president of the company, Colby Chandler, a fellow New Englander from Maine. He visited a roomful of trainees and spoke with each one of us. He said something that made a huge impression on me. "Always remember when you are at a company, you are Eastman-Kodak Company." Just as "We are Freemasonry."

At this time in history, to set an example of what is right is needed more than ever. Being members of the Craft, we must always be aware that our behavior, our attitudes, must represent not only our personal values, but those to which we pledged. We must always remember that how we live daily and govern ourselves is Freemasonry in action. All we do in our seemingly mundane or insignificant lives is Masonry to others. Let them know, our beliefs are neither mundane nor insignificant! Let us all strive to live in all ways, that when our time has come, others may say, "We lived respected and died regretted." Thank you. ■





From The West (of Boston)

by Bro. Brian McHale

Garage Lodge #1

Hy Pro Body Shop has a very unassuming facade. I get there through back roads on the west side of Scranton, Hyde Park to be precise, twisting and turning at the seeming whim of my GPS. You can easily drive past it while navigating Morgan Highway in Scranton if you are not paying strict attention to Google Maps. I know, because I did that very thing, and had to execute a dodgy u-turn, on my motorcycle, at Fiegleman’s Recycling Center next door. Parking is its own version of Tetris, you don’t want to block the vehicle entrance to the garage. Inside, it is clearly a functioning place of business, with a few significant differences. On any given day, one will likely see several Masons gathered here, discussing any number of topics.

Bro. Carl Sherman, a US Navy Veteran, is the proprietor, and a member of Union Lodge 291, as well as a Past Master of the same. My first visit was to purchase raffle tickets for Union Lodge. If you saw my article last issue, you know that raffles in Pennsylvania are seemingly always for meat or firearms. This one was no different. This visit would not be my last.

Bro. Carl, by all accounts, is a ritualist like no other, with a gift for imparting his knowledge to others. He originally held instructional sessions in his home, sometimes for hours at a clip. At a certain point, the decision was made to relocate his school to his place of business, the garage on Morgan Highway. Thus, Garage Lodge #1 was born.

Every Mason who knows Bro. Carl, which seems to be every Mason in the area, has a story about Garage Lodge #1. Time was, way back, that the ritual had yet to be committed to paper. The only way to learn it, to truly internalize it, was

verbally, by rote and repetition. Every man who learned it, apparently, had Bro. Carl as his teacher, and therefore pointed new students of the Craft to this gifted instructor.

The Garage is truly a place of serious instruction, and consequently, unlimited learning. The charter, pictured here, is pure poetry. It states:

Warrant

Be it known that Carl R. Sherman P.M. of Union Lodge #291, has dedicated incalculable hours and energy to the advancement of Masonic Education and ritualistic work by providing his place of business as a center of instruction for Members of the Craft throughout the years.

Whereas the origin of Masonic Teachings can be traced to the Guilds formed in the shelter of the Great Cathedrals of Europe and

Whereas this location, 328 Morgan Highway, Scranton, PA, has served in a similar capacity in facilitating the teaching of ritualistic work and

Whereas this center of Masonic education has served as the crossroads of the surrounding Masonic Districts.

Be it known that for as long as Masonic Education and Ritualistic work is taught here, this location will be now known, effective this 2nd day of February in the year of our Lord 2013 A.L. 6013 as Garage Lodge #1

*Sincerely and Fraternally,
Jay W. Smith, R.W. Grand Master*

The amazing thing about this lodge is that it’s always open. I have personally stopped by on several occasions, at different times of day, on different days of the week. One of the toughest things about Garage Lodge is leaving. Everyone, especially Bro. Carl, is welcoming and friendly. A few of the thoughts Brothers in the area have shared with me include, “This is the lifelong work of Carl Sherman.” “You gotta’ work! No fooling around.” “[Bro. Carl makes] time for anybody willing to work.” “This is where the rubber meets the road.” My two favorites have to be, “Brotherhood is exposed and practiced in form,” and “Friendship is on full display every moment there.”

As I have illustrated, Masterful things can occur in the most unlikely of settings. Bro. Carl has created something truly extraordinary, and Scranton Masonry is lucky to have him. ■



Garage Lodge #1
Warrant and
Customized
Storage Box



THE GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL

DONORS DURING 2022

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 2022, we received over 500 contributions totaling over \$150,000. 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 2023 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,

Most Worshipful George F. Hamilton, Grand Master

\$10,000 OR MORE

Boston Lafayette Lodge of Perfection
Columbian Lodge
Richard J. Stewart

\$5000 TO \$9999

Saint Bernard Commandery No. 12

\$1734 TO \$4999

7th Masonic District
Kenneth M. Andrews
Jonathan J. M. Arata
The Consolidated Lodge
George L. Herbolsheimer IV
Donald G. Hicks, Jr.
Richard G. & Naomi Howath
Donald M. Moran

Norfolk Lodge
Mount Olivet Chapter Rose Croix
George J. Bibilos
Walter Peterson, Jr.
Prospect Lodge
Eric J. Rzepka
Worshipful Masters' Association SE MA

1733 IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOUNDING OF OUR GRAND LODGE IN 1733

Kenneth R. Blake
Paul F. Gleason
George F. Hamilton
Donald H. Laliberte

Richard Maggio
Philip J. Privitera
David L. St. Onge

\$1000 TO \$1732

5th Masonic District
Brothers of the White Ash
Richard J. Davidson
Philip A. Drouin
Armen E. Eghian
James R. Franklin
Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star
J. Irving & Jane L. England
Charitable Trust

William S. Hildreth
Richard E. Johnson
James B. Kershaw
Geoffrey Kromer
Richard D. Marden
Ian C. Mackenzie
Timothy S. McGavin
The Meadows Lodge
Moses Michael Hays Lodge

Philanthropic Lodge
Pilgrim Lodge
Carlos O. Ramos Rivera
Donald S. Stevens
Basilios E. Tsingos
Richard A. Waterhouse
Harvey J. Waugh
William D. Deadman Society

\$500 TO \$999

15th N/S Past Masters Association
John W. Alden
Anonymous
Mark G. Cerel
Robert C. Chamberlain
Robert West Clarke
Daniel W. Clink

Patrick A. Dipietro
John J. Driscoll
Robert D. Gilligan, Jr.
Alan T. Gorrie
Larry E. Houston
Glenn L. Kubick
David A. Libby

Herbert Lukomski
Mountain Lodge
North Quabbin Lodge
Past Masters Association of
Middlesex Lodge
Republican Lodge
Saint Paul Lodge

\$290 TO \$499

Abraham H. Howland, Jr. Lodge
Clayton A. Bemis
David G. Berube
John L. Carlson
Lee H. Fenn
Golden Rule Lodge
Frederick E. LaVergne

Norfolk Union Lodge
Robert V. Jolly, Jr.
William D. Kessler
Raymond C. Lantz, Jr.
Paul R. Perkins
Philip S. Rand
Leland F. Ross

Uwe Schneider
Peter R. Smith
Star of Bethlehem Lodge
Craig W. Walsh
C Macaulay Ward, Jr.

\$289 IN RECOGNITION OF 289 YEARS OF MASSACHUSETTS FREEMASONRY

Robert H. C. Archibald
W. Eugene Bondurant
Jonathan D. Buck
Robert A. Caron
Frederick G. Christensen
Steven P. Collins
Gordon M. Craig
Leon H. Cudworth, Sr.
Thomas W. Davies
Eugene A. Haley

John R. Harrington II
Richard L. Heider, Jr.
James C. Holmes
Joseph H. Kameese
Jason M. Kennedy
David S. Keyes
Curtis J. Litterer
Eugenia Mosac
Mount Hope Lodge
Kenneth M. Murnane, Sr.

David A. Murphy
John K. Paulik III
David A. Risgin
Joyce C. Robinson
Stephen A. Rubinstein
Louis G. Sardina
Martin E. Schmieg
John M. Vining
Eric J. Zimmerman

continued on next page

\$100 TO \$288

19th West Masonic District	Albert V. Ferguson	Edwin R. Lofgren	Timothy M. Sawyer
26th Masonic District	Terrence P. Fetters	John T. Lohr	Nelda R. Sedlacek
Charles E. Adams	Joseph G. Fournier, Jr.	Laurence P. Macdonald	Ralph I. Sewall
Denis A. Ako	Jeffrey L. Gardiner	Robert B. MacIntosh	Arthur H. Sharp
Spiros C. Aloupis	David A. Glattly	Alan V. Makasian	Carlton J. Sherman
Albert T. Ames	Frank B. Gomes	Steve P. Marangoudakis	Ashton D. Shoop
Thomas D. Baird III	Dana J. Gould	Allan J. Martina	Foster L. G. Soule
Ralph H. Bartlett	Grand Lodge Membership	Walid Massad	Aaron D. Spencer
Kay J. Bauer	Committee	Kenneth M. Matthews	James I. Starratt
Ernest A. Bean	Mark E. Guillemette	Thomas M. McClintock	Jeffrey T. Stewart
Herbert G. Bell II	Michael H. Haire	Wilfried Mehring	Ray F. Sundstrom
William O. Bennett	Joshua D. Hall	Kevin C. Miller	Daniel Swiecanski
Thomas R. Berry	Jeramie D. Hammond	Richard V. Minns	The Harvard Lodge
Lawrence E. Bethune	Harmony Lodge	Mount Moriah Lodge	Alex Thiongo
Christopher I. Borglund	George W. Haroutunian	Mount Sugar Loaf Lodge	John T. Thomson
Edwin J. Brailey, Jr.	George E. Harper	Michael A. Nepi	Richard G. Thomson
Paul B. Brousseau	Gilbert K. Ho	Hugh R. Nisbet	John C. Toto
Lawrence R. Burbridge	Stephen M. Hubbard	Jeffrey C. Nutt	Lawrence D. Tonini
Dennis F. Calnan	Jacques D. Jean	Donald D. Payne	Lawrence L. Trecartin
George W. Caldwell III	Robert N. Littman	David E. Pace	Robert F. Verdonck
David M. Campbell	Paul J. McMahon, Jr.	James A. Peterson	Wampatuck Lodge
Robert J. Campbell	John T. Heard Lodge	Kenneth W. Pfeiffer	Rufus R. Ward
Thomas B. Carroll	Philip F. Johnson	Donald F. Phillips	Bruce D. Wedlock
Joseph T. Chilton, Jr.	Boris O. Kalinichenko	Everett G. Pierce	David L. Weil
Cincinnatus Lodge	Herbert I. Kepnes	Linton A. Ranson	Ronald W. Wetmore
Christopher N. Cook	Kids Co. Inc.	James K. Ray	Philip J. Wildman
Glenn L. Crowell	King Philip Lodge	Carlos O. Ramos Rivera	Thomas L. Winter
James C. Cullen	Roger Landay	John C. Robinson, Jr.	Douglas E. Woessner
Walter Demoorjian	Joan R. Lavin	Robert C. Rohlfs	Harold W. Woodbury
Peter D. Dorr	Roy I. Lederman	Thomas A. Rorrie	E. Gray Woodfin
Robert J. Downing	David R. Lee	Richard H. Ryder	Donald N. Woodruff
Robert A. Duris	Richard P. Legier, Jr.	George A. Sarafinas	William E. Yanakakis
Mary-Louise Essaian	Christopher J. Lindsay	M. Robert Sarkisian	Benjamin D. Zoll

\$50 TO \$99

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Kenneth E. Atkins	Dennis J. Drislane	Ronald D. Jackson	W. Warren Richardson, Jr.
Frederick R. Bieber	Wilfred E. Ducharme, Jr.	H. Lee Kirk, Jr.	Merrill J. Rosenberg
Donald R. Blunt	David W. Dunn	John E. Knowles	John L. Sahagian
Craig F. Boulais	George E. Durfee, Jr.	Gerren R. Kopcinski	Charles P. Serene III
Joseph W. Brine	Jeffrey S. Edmiston	Paul S. Koss	Frederick L. Sewall
Kenneth A. Brown	Linwood M. Erskine, Jr.	C. William Lakso	Gregory Shugal
John S. Brownell, Jr.	Robert C. Farmer	Todd B. Loehr	Felipe A. Silva
John D. Burns	Patrick R. Feeney	Russell E. Lowe	Bruce E. Smith
Andrew A. Butz	Hugh C. Findlay	Joseph A. Manzo, Jr.	Arthur E. Stewart
Alfredo J. R. Canhoto	Walter A. Gabreil	Taylor A. Mills	Barry G. Stringfellow
Jon P. Carlson	Nachiket S. Gadre	William C. Morrow	Dale F. Stuart
Bruce E. Chapman	James Giragosian	Richard L. Munroe	Robert W. Taupier
Paul M. Chase	Alan D. Greene	David P. Newcomb	William A. Thorndyke
Stephen C. Cohn	Robert R. Hall	Scott P. Nussey	John H. Thornhill III
Robert W. Comeau	Daniel S. Harrop III	Michael A. Pacheco	Edgar W. Torell
Paul E. Contois	Richard A. Hart	Christian R. Parker	Roger W. Waugh
Leslie E. Cook, Jr.	Gerald R. Hartling, Sr.	John L. Patten	Ellis R. Westcott
Robert H. Counsell, Sr.	Jeffrey B. Hodgdon	Gary C. Pentek	Donald R. Wright
Christian L. V. Di Spigna	Leonard W. Hooton	Gordon H. Pilgrim	

The Prodigal Mason

by *Wor. Richard Thompson*



It was December, and I attended a meeting for one of the organizations under what I call the Masonic umbrella. After the meeting, there was the standard and somewhat mandatory collation for the members to enjoy. That collation included crackers, cheese, cookies, cakes, and other sweet treats. It was what most would assume is a standard post-meeting light snack. To say I have a “sweet tooth” would be a gross understatement. I love chocolate in all forms. When helping to plan meals, I normally say, “If it isn’t chocolate – it isn’t dessert.” I thoroughly enjoyed the cookies, cakes, and other sweet treats. This would not seem like a big problem until you realize that like more than one-third of Americans, I have Type 2 Diabetes.

The next morning I checked my blood sugar. My number was so high it was like swinging that heavy hammer at a carnival. I rang the bell loud and clear. My number was higher than I had ever seen. In fact, I didn’t know my blood glucose meter was capable of showing such a high number. I know better, but my love of sweets overtook the message from my mind. As it says in the Bible, “The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

While I was thinking about it, I suddenly realized I am not the only member who has dietary restrictions. I know Masons who are lactose intolerant. I know Masons who have to be gluten free. I know Masons who are vegetarians and even some who are vegan. Logic tells me I should just stay out of the banquet hall and then I won’t be tempted. But that would take me out of the best part of a lodge meeting. I often say, “In the lodge room we perform ceremonies. In the banquet hall, we practice Masonry.” It is in the banquet hall where we get to know our brothers and we get to form those “friendships that last a lifetime.”

Richard Thompson is the Secretary of Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge and a Type 2 diabetic.

Given we don’t want to ban members from the banquet hall because they have dietary restrictions, that leaves us with just one solution. We have to allow for those dietary restrictions in our collations and dinners. This means it will be up to our Junior Wardens. I have been a Master twice, but a Junior Warden just once. On my trip to becoming Master in Wamesit Lodge in Tewksbury, I went from Senior Deacon to Senior Warden. On my trip to becoming Master in Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge, which is now in Tewksbury, but at that time was in North Andover, I spent some time as Junior Warden, but I had no traditional duties to perform. The wife of one of our members prepared the luncheon. So, I’m going to advise Junior Wardens on how to do their jobs even though I have never had to perform those duties myself.

So, what can we do? Just remember there are members with dietary restrictions and we have to plan for them. We may not know who those members are. Until this minute, I have never revealed my Type 2 Diabetes to anyone from the lodge. For our vegetarian and vegan members, we just need a platter of vegetables. But, we have to remember that vegans will not eat or drink anything from an animal, so we have to be sure there are alternatives for the liquids, such as non-dairy cream for coffee. Non-dairy options also help our members who cannot tolerate milk products.

For those members who have to eat only gluten-free goods, we have to have a supply of that as well. And the same goes for the diabetics in the banquet hall, except we are looking for sugar-free. When you are looking at sugar-free, you have to stay away from artificial sweeteners, such as aspartame, sucralose, and saccharin. There are people out there who have violent allergic reactions to artificial sweeteners. I learned this at the coffee hour at my church. My pastor cannot eat anything that contains artificial sweeteners. You should stick to plant-based sweeteners, such as Stevia, which comes from a South American plant. That is what I use.

We pledge to “help, aid, and assist” a brother, and we don’t have to wait for him to ask. Sometimes we can help a brother just by keeping his welfare in mind and acting accordingly. ■

To Affinity, and Beyond!

by Rt. Wor. Peter Culbertson

My Brethren, how great would it be to be able to meet your Brethren who share common hobbies and activities. To meet beyond the lodge room, to share experiences doing the things you love to do, and to not only be able to share those experiences with your brethren in the Craft, but to also be able to bring your wife, son, daughter, friend or colleague along. That day has arrived, my brethren.

The Membership Committee of your Grand Lodge has been hard at work over the past few months creating a program to get our brethren together for exactly that purpose. We are calling them Affinity Clubs, and they are a new direction designed to build the bonds of fraternalism and friendship across lodges, districts, and potentially jurisdictions. This isn't a new concept, it was in fairness created first by the Grand Lodge of California, who began a process of building Affinity lodges, and has, in fact, been done by some of our most successful lodges for some time. However, to our jurisdiction and region, it is a first on a statewide level.

When you fill out the survey on massmasons.org about your interest, those answers are culled together to show common interests, which are Affinity Clubs.

Many of you, as well as myself, became Masons for very diverse reasons. In my case, as in many of yours, I'm sure chief among those reasons was to meet like-minded men I could build friendships with and share common experiences. Much like the Shrine Clubs, which have proven through the years to be a great avenue to build fraternal ties, these clubs will hopefully do the same. Smaller groups

allow one to build personal relationships while sharing a common interest, doing it within the bonds of Brotherhood, while maintaining the tenets and conduct we expect from the Craft.

So, what does this look like? Where can you find it? What are the limits? Let's look at a potential example. Say you love backpacking, but find it difficult to find hiking partners, or just want to do it more frequently. Go to massmasons.org, to the new Affinity Club page and click on the Backpacking Club. You'll see, as an example, that the club is planning to climb Tuckerman Ravine on May 1st, departing at 9am. Sign in so they know to expect you, and off you go.

You'll meet up with a handful of like-minded brethren who will be there to assist you climbing the boulder section, to encourage you when you grow tired, to share a mug of coffee while overlooking the majesty of the Mt. Washington Valley. At the top, you might share a lunch, click a few pictures, and plan your next adventure on the descent.


If you are new to the sport, you will have brethren to help you plan and look out for you, but you will certainly build some ties from the experience.

That's what they are all about, but whether it's backpacking, skiing, motorcycles, photography, fishing, ballroom dancing, or a book club, it's all possible. Believe me, if you enjoy doing it, you have brethren who also enjoy it, and are looking to do it too. The possibilities are endless, and we have room for all of them. If you don't find what you're looking for, add a club with the simple process that has been created for you. ■



The Golf and Theater Affinity Clubs have begun.





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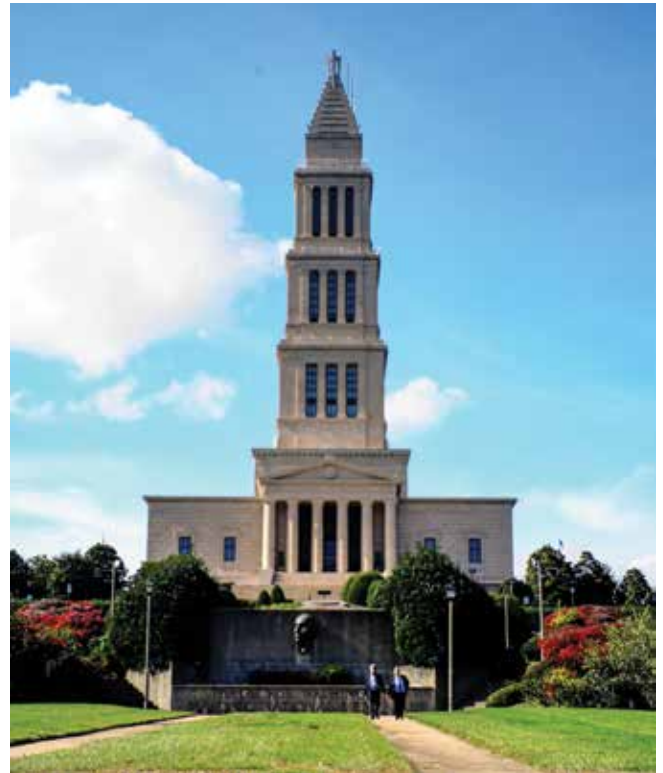
FRATERNITY News & Events



A Weekend of Fraternalism in Virginia

Union Lodge (D) - Norwood is always coming up with ways to think outside of the box when it comes to Freemasonry and Masonic events. This year, Wor. Shawn Robichaud came up with the idea to join the Society of Washington Lodges. By doing so, it helps support the Washington Masonic Memorial. Our members were very supportive of this idea and it grew from there. Shawn brought forth the idea of a group trip to Alexandria, Virginia, to perform a 3rd Degree in the George Washington Memorial Lodge room.

On November 4th, Union Lodge, accompanied by members of Lafayette-Dover Lodge and guests, traveled to Virginia. Eighteen brothers made the trip. On November



5th at 9:00am, the lodge was organized, and the degree began. In attendance was M. Wor. James Winfield Golladay, Jr., the Grand Master of Virginia. After the degree, the visiting brethren were given a private tour of the memorial, which included a full replica of George Washington's lodge. The lodge housed many items from his time, as well as his personal chair which sat in the East. Each floor of the memorial has information and artifacts regarding the different branches of Masonry. The top of the monument has a wrap-around balcony with gorgeous views of the city.

The weekend was packed full of fraternalism, history, and friendship. If you're ever in the Virginia/Washington, D.C. area, it is highly recommended that you take a tour of the monument and see the Masonic history contained therein.

-Bro. Andy Knight



Modern Masonic Family at Phoenix Lodge

In October, when Wor. Robert Terman was installed as Master of Phoenix Lodge, his family, all involved with Masonic activities, was on hand to show their support. His wife Sharon is a Mom Advisor to Plymouth Rainbow Assembly #86 where daughter Eliza is the current Worthy Advisor as well as Grand Representative to Vermont and New South Wales, Australia. His son, Zack, is a Past Master Counselor of South Coastal DeMolay and is counting the days until he can apply for membership at Phoenix Lodge. Robert's father-in-law Bro. Roger Leslie and brother-in-law Bro. Chip Leslie are both members of Phoenix Lodge.

-Bro. Jonathan Bond

Gavel Raiders Attack Quinebaug Lodge

On Monday, December 5th, the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge had a regular monthly meeting. In attendance were a group of men not seen in our lodge before. These two groups of men from different parts of the state came to our lodge for a fraternal visit. We found out these men were

Left to right: Wor. R.J. Parron, Meadows Lodge; Wor. Bill Bellanger, Master of Quinebaug Lodge; Meadows Lodge members Wor. Daryl Amaral, Wor. Brent Thompson, and Wor. Michael Jarzabek.



Left to right: Wor. Bill Bellanger, Master of Quinebaug Lodge; Thomas Day Spring Lodge members Wor. Dylann Mann, Bro. John Dillon, (Fellowcraft) Bro. Christopher Gonzalez, and Wor. R.J. Parron.

from the 28th Masonic District which is near the Springfield, MA, area, and they were on a mission. One group of brethren were from the Meadows Lodge from East Longmeadow, and the other group of men were from Thomas Day Spring Lodge of Monson. Well, these two lodges heard about the Traveling Regalia Gavels that the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge had in possession and wanted to take them to their home lodges.

-Bro. Jimmy Falzone

Hiram Goes To The, Baa, Library!

Visitors to Webster and Dudley, MA, may be surprised to see that a flock of sheep have taken up residence in this part of southern Worcester County. A unique breed of sheep, these Ovis aries are made of fiberglass and are part of a community art project fundraiser in support of the newly opened Samuel Slater Experience (samuelslaterexperience.org). Quite different from Little Bo Peep's lost flock, the "Slater's Sheep" are part of the Samuel Slater Experience's effort to bring to life the area's role in the history of the nation's early industrial development. The Samuel Slater Experience, through a variety of exciting, unique, and innovative exhibits that run the gamut from old looms to touch-screen interactive experiences, brings the past alive for young and old.

Constructed of fiberglass, the individual sheep have been painted in a variety of colors, some featuring attachments that represent businesses or organizations in the Webster, Oxford, and Dudley areas. To be sure, these sheep are vastly different from any nineteenth century sheep that Samuel Slater may have known. One of these colorful animals is positioned in front of Webster's Gladys E. Kelly Library and near the Town Hall. Hiram by name, this sheep is sponsored by Webster Lodge, A.F & A. M., and is fes-

tooned with several Masonic symbols. Hiram was painted by artists Karen Malo, Kaitlin Dowds, and Michelle Dowds. Webster Lodge's Hiram looks out proudly on the town's Veterans Memorials and welcomes all to that place of quiet reflection.

As Masons, we attach special significance to the lamb-skin, and Hiram is Webster Lodge's visual reminder of that link. Specially coated to survive whatever Mother Nature might bring our way, Hiram and his flockmates will be with us for many years to come.

-Wor. Richard Clark





The audience outside at the gazebo listening to the Grand Master M. Wor. Richard Maggio

Bristol Lodge A.F. & A.M. 225th Anniversary Celebration

On June 14, 1797, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts issued a charter in the name of Bristol Lodge F. & A.M., signed by the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Paul Revere, which specified that the lodge was to be located in Norton, MA. It was the twentieth lodge to be organized in the Commonwealth under the new Grand Lodge and the seventeenth of 23 ‘Paul Revere Lodges,’ chartered during his administration from 1795 to 1797. Through a series of relocations and the expansion of Freemasonry in Massachusetts, Bristol Lodge landed in its current location in North Attleboro, MA, in 1928.

On June 4th of this year, Bristol Lodge celebrated its 225th Anniversary, which was attended by Most Worshipful Richard Maggio and his suite from Grand Lodge in Boston. Upon opening the lodge, all visitors, guests, and Freemasons formed a procession and walked across the street to a gazebo in the town park. A carpet ceremony was held inside the gazebo to re-dedicate the lodge. Following the re-dedication and closing of the lodge, the attendees went back across the street for a celebration in the function room. There were appetizers, raffles, 225th Celebration items for sale, and live music performed by Brothers of the Craft. Overall, there were about 175 attendees at this event. As DDGM Bro. William Cheetham said, “It was a great day for Freemasonry.”

-Bro. Tom McKenzie



Recipient of the Certificate of Meritorious Service, Bro. Eugene Jojo Dweben, with Rt. Wor. Michael Craven, Bro. Stephen Karnas Jr., Rt. Wor. Andrew Chung Wai MacKinlay, and Rt. Wor. Allen G. Huies, PDDGM.

Sinem Lodge Honors Bro. Dweben

For every ten that watch, only one comes forward to help. Bro. Eugene Jojo Dweben was that unique and selfless individual, spending countless hours serving our lodge with a very challenging issue at Sinim Lodge, in Japan. On October 18th, 2022, he was given a Certificate of Meritorious Service. We appreciate Bro. Dweben for being a tireless brother and setting an excellent example for us, not only concerning this issue. He is an active volunteer representing our lodge well within the community, from helping with orphans to cleaning the cemetery where some of our brothers who labored in the vineyard are resting. We respect his hard work immensely and are grateful for his diligence, and we all are proud of his official recognition.

-Rt. Wor. Michael S. Craven, DDGM

Nine Fellowcrafts Passed by Star in the East

On November 19th, Star in the East Lodge of New Bedford traveled to Boston to pass nine Entered Apprentices to the Fellowcraft Degree at Grand Lodge with dispensation from Most Worshipful Richard Maggio. Executing the degree with such a large number of candidates required quite a bit of coordination among the officers who put in many hours and gave up many nights for rehearsals. In the end, it was worth it as the performance was worthy of the occasion and setting. The first-time Master of Star in the East, Wor. Adam M. Pimentel, was extremely grateful for the commitment made by all of those who participated, and was very proud of the work they did that day. In particular, the work of Senior Deacon Bro. Filipe Silva, who did a fantastic job delivering the Middle Chamber lecture for the first time, and in Grand Lodge no less. His work was commended by all brethren present.

Star in the East was extremely appreciative and honored to have the assistance of brothers from other lodges and districts that day. Bro. John Kareores from Quittacus Lodge and Bro. Josh Romero from King Philip Lodge acted as conductors. Also involved in the degree were Wor. Dino Valenti from Noquochoke Lodge, Bro. Adam Miranda from Abraham H. Howland, Jr. Lodge, and Wor. Bob Cook of Waltham Triad Lodge, who is a Grand Lodge organist. The District Deputy of the 19th East Masonic District, Rt. Wor. Bryan Simmons, was also present to witness the work.



Many of those in attendance arrived at Grand Lodge via a chartered bus, generously donated to the lodge by Senior Warden Bro. Brian Fernandes. Everyone helped pack and unpack the bus with candidate kits, lodge equipment, and food for collation following the degree. After a long and successful day, the ride home was filled with fraternal spirit thanks to Wor. Larry Santos.

The candidates who were passed that day were Bros. Jay Lewis, Robin Souffiant, Ian Harcourt, Kevin Fernandes, Gary Arvelo, Zachary Orme, Justice Andrade, Nathan Lantz, and Christopher Wyman, Jr.. Regrettably, a 10th candidate, Richard Kirby, was unable to attend because of an unexpected work commitment. Star in the East Lodge, which is celebrating its bicentennial this year, is fortunate to have this large class of candidates that will surely never forget this special occasion.

-Wor. Adam M. Pimentel

▶ December Quarterly *continued from page 11*

ing Retired Brigadier General Enock O'Dell Woodhouse II and Retired Brigadier General John Driscoll." On the 4th, the Grand Master was "honored by all who served Grand Lodge during my time in the East of Grand Lodge at the Grand Masters Reception, hosted by the Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Bro. Kelley."

On the 5th, "The Grand Lady and I traveled to Marine Lodge where the Grand Lady was presented memorabilia relating to her Grandfather, Rt. Wor. Charles Frederick Holden, Past District Deputy Grand Master, and member of Marine Lodge, and other souvenirs belonging to Wor. James Nicol, Past Master of Marine Lodge. A wonderful dinner and conversation followed at the Flying Bridge Restaurant."

On the 6th, "I hosted a birthday party for all the Past Grand Masters. Birthdays of record include: M. Wor. Albert Timothy Ames, 90 yrs; M. Wor. Arthur Eugene Johnson, 86 yrs; M. Wor. Donald Gardner Hicks, 82 yrs; M. Wor. Jeffrey Black Hodgdon, 76 yrs; M. Wor. Richard James Stewart, 81 yrs; M. Wor. Harvey John Waugh, 80 yrs; and M. Wor. Paul Fulton Gleason, 79 yrs."

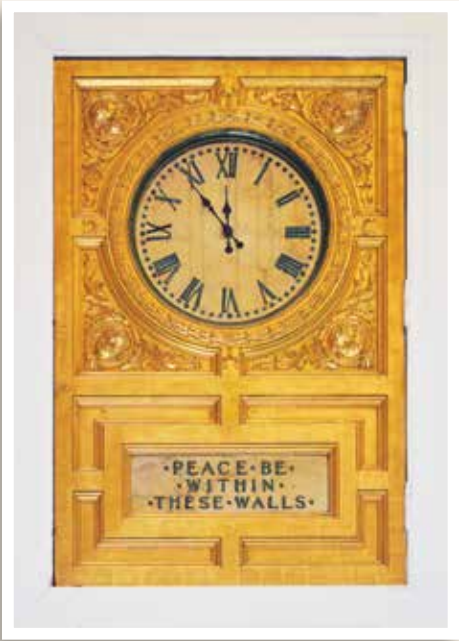
From the 9th to the 11th, "The Grand Marshal, John E. Kelley, and I attended the District of Columbia's 212th Annual and Installation of Officers. M. Wor. Annas

Fadluddeen Kamara was installed as Grand Master." "12/12/2022: I hosted the Rookie Association Dinner after the cancellation of last year's dinner due to the pandemic. It was a wonderful evening of enthusiastic Rookie Masons and Master Builders." "In addition to the aforementioned events," the Grand Master said, "I continue on a monthly basis to attend the Grand Lodge Board of Directors meetings, board meetings at the Overlook in Charlton, and many other business and social activities of the Grand Lodge that require my attention."

"Brethren, your charitable giving continues as we approach the holidays. Every donation, no matter the size, is valued and benefits many. Due to time constraints, I will offer public thanks to those who have contributed \$1,000.00 or more since our last Quarterly Communication in September: Columbian Lodge; M. Wor. Bro. Hicks; Norfolk Lodge; 7th Masonic District LOI; Meadows Lodge; Rt. Wor. Kenneth Blake; Bro. Richard G. Howarth, Sr.; Boston Lafayette Lodge; Rt. Wor. George J. Bibilos; Prospect Lodge; and Wor. David St. Onge," thanked the Grand Master.

He also recounted the revenue from the Masonic License Plate program. The average revenue per month to Grand Lodge from this program is almost \$4,500. With fewer than 300 plates needed to make the magic number of 3,000, which is the *continued on page 30*

NEWTONVILLE



Newton Masonic Building Celebration

On Saturday, November 26, there was a celebration in Newtonville that had nothing to do with Thanksgiving (sort of)! M. Wor. Richard Maggio and the Grand Lodge Officers came to the Newton Masonic Building and opened a Special Communication of Grand Lodge for the purpose of rededicating the building for its 125th anniversary. On September 23, 1896, Grand Master M. Wor. Edwin Bradford Holmes had similarly opened a Special Communication for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of a new



MASONIC ACTIVITY ABOUNDS



Masonic building. In doing so, he prophetically said, “The cornerstone of the contemplated edifice has been duly tried and is square, level, and plumb. Safely may it rest, a symbol of the permanence of justice and truth!”

A short 12½ months later, on October 6, 1897, Grand Master M. Wor. Charles Carroll Hutchinson followed suit and performed a traditional Masonic dedication ceremony, and the building was open for business. One hundred twenty-five years later brings us to 2022, so the building association and the nine Masonic bodies meeting in the building decided a rededication was in order. M. Wor. Bro. Maggio and his line of officers ably conducted the carpet ceremony in the main lodge room to a crowd of nearly 100. The Grand Master was received by a committee consisting of the five presiding Masters of the five Blue Lodges that meet in the building, chaired by the Vice President of Newton Masonic Associates (the building association). Once in the East, the Grand Master also recognized the presiding officers of Newton Royal Arch Chapter, Cryptic Council of Royal and Select Master Masons, Gethsemane-DeMolay Commandery of Knights Templar #7, and Palestine Chapter No. 114 Order of the Eastern Star, who also meet in Newtonville.

So I guess this was a Masonic Thanksgiving after all.

-Wor. Robert Caron



Newtonville Knights Celebrate Christmas

On December 22nd, 2022, Gethsemane-DeMolay Commandery #7, stationed in Newtonville, conducted the final Christmas Observance for 2022 in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The Christmas Observance is a long-standing tradition for Knights Templar that is looked forward to all year long. It exemplifies the spirit of the Christmas season and shares the story of the Nativity through words, light, and song. While the observances have a similar theme throughout the Grand Encampment of the USA, each one has its own unique characteristics.

Gethsemane-DeMolay Commandery #7's observance is open to all and includes lots of music and fun traditions, as well as paying close attention to the lessons the season brings with it. This year's observance was attended by over 160 guests, including the Mayor of Waltham, and a sizable contingent from the Newton City Council, as well as parents, children, and grandchildren.

Guests were treated to a mini-concert by the Victorian Carolers of the Reagle Players of Greater Boston. After the observance, all attendees repaired to the dining hall in Newtonville, which was transformed into a Festive Holiday Ballroom. Guests were treated to a magnificent meal, and most importantly, fellowship and the sharing of holiday spirit.

The Sir Knights of Gethsemane-DeMolay Commandery #7 wish you all Happy Holidays, and we look forward to seeing many of you next December!
-Wor. Peter Archie Mooradian



Newtonville Garden City Lodge hosts *USS Constitution*

At the November 10, 2022, communication of Garden City Lodge, the lodge celebrated Veterans Day and hosted Senior Chief Petty Officer and Brother Seth A. Miles, Command Senior Chief Petty Officer (CMDCS) of the *USS Constitution*, along with other Veteran members of the lodge. CMDCS Bro. Miles was conducted into the lodge room by Rt. Wor. Ian C. Mackenzie, District Deputy Grand Master, following his official visit to the lodge. Following the reception in the lodge room, the brethren retired to the dining hall for dinner and a presentation on the history of the ship. After which, the Worshipful Master and District Deputy Grand Master presented Bro. Miles with a custom flag plaque for the Commanding Officer, CDR Billie J. Farrell, and the ship.

-Rt. Wor. Stephen Cohn

Above right: Senior Chief Petty Officer Seth A. Miles, Command Senior Chief Petty Officer of the USS Constitution, is introduced to the lodge and Wor. Christopher N. Kelley, Worshipful Master, by Rt. Wor. Ian C. Mackenzie, DDGM.

Below right: Senior Chief Petty Officer Seth A. Miles, Command Senior Chief Petty Officer of the USS Constitution, is welcomed into Garden City Lodge by Veterans of the US Navy. Pictured are Wor. Christopher N. Kelley, Worshipful Master; WO1 Wor. Paul S. Koss; CMDCS Bro. Miles; HM1 Rt. Wor. Joseph A. Manzo, Jr., Grand Rep.; Rt. Wor. Ian C. Mackenzie, DDGM; HT2 Bro. Alan M. Jacobson; and CAPT Bro. Michael D. Barg.



number needed to return the \$60,000 bond to Grand Lodge, get your plate now. The plate benefits you and Grand Lodge. (Visit <https://tinyurl.com/MasonPlate>)



“At this time, I would like to read an excerpt from a letter received about a presentation: ‘Thank you for getting us the Veterans Medal expeditiously—we presented it last evening at the Veterans Hospital in Boston with a nice representation from Rising Star Lodge. As you can see from the email from Bro. French’s daughter and the look on his face—it was worth the effort and the visit. He was so proud to receive it, he had his Apron on, his Bible out, and was wearing a 33rd Degree Pin from M. Wor. Albert Ames. Fraternally, Rt. Wor. Bro. Craig - 7th District.’” Sadly, nine days later, beloved Bro. French joined the Celestial Lodge. He, no doubt, brought this joyous Masonic moment with him.

“Brethren, first, congratulations to Rt. Wor. George Hamilton on his election to be our 91st Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. I have no doubt his leadership and skills will continue to prosper into the future while preserving our past traditions. I know, under his leadership he, and you, will continue to enjoy being the #3 Grand Lodge in the World and the #1 Grand Lodge in the Western Hemisphere!”



Bro. Karl Richard French Sr. receiving his 50 yr. Veteran’s Medal in the Veterans Hospital.

The Grand Master congratulated all the elected and appointed officers, and thanked the Brethren “to be your Grand Secretary. I have very large shoes to fill,” referring to M. Wor. Bro. Ames. “Today marks the last time I will address you as Grand Master at a Quarterly Communication of our Grand Lodge. Since our last quarter, there have been many lasts for me. Many ask me if I am counting the days or if I am looking forward to being referred to as Past. The answer to both questions is NO! I have enjoyed serving YOU for the past three years in the East of YOUR Grand Lodge.”

“I have been honored and humbled to be your Grand Master,” said the Grand Master, holding back the tears. “I have always held what is best for the Craft above all. I thank all of you for your support, as we, together, worked to keep Freemasonry in Massachusetts alive and well during the pandemic and as we continue to do so today. Your zeal and love for the Fraternity continues to make the world a better place and continues to show the world



MASONIC HUMOR: Obituary for a T-Shirt



Do you have a funny Masonic story? Send it to the Editor, editortrowel@gmail.com.

T-Shirt, Massachusetts Freemason, of Howard Lodge, Yarmouth, died unexpectedly of excessive wear and a life well lived. He is survived by his owner, Wor. Barry L. Kromer. With Massachusetts Freemason T-shirt’s passing comes the impressive lesson, often repeated but soon forgotten, that every t-shirt must ere long pass through the portal and experience that fate toward which all t-shirts are advancing.

Massachusetts Freemason T-Shirt had a long life, though his origin is unknown. Allegedly, he was born in a silk screen shop somewhere in Massachusetts. He is predeceased by his Brother, Caleb Butler Lodge T-Shirt,

and will soon be interred to that rag bag from whose bourn no t-shirt returns.

The T-Shirt Brothers have, over the years, elicited countless questions, excited interest in Freemasonry, most especially Massachusetts Freemasonry, and have developed new friendships. Alas, now both have frayed collars, holes front and back, and sad bleach stains. But there is hope for T-Shirt’s immortality. The owner, Wor. Bro. Kromer, is on a quest to have the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts revive the production of these beacons of light for the use of all Freemasons in Massachusetts, wherever disbursed, and is willing to buy one, when they are commissioned.

-Wor. Barry L Kromer



Grand Lodge Gets Organized

M. Wor. George F. Hamilton presiding over the organizational meeting with the District Deputies, Grand Lodge Officers, Committee Chairs, and Past Grand Masters.

-Wor. Lee H. Fenn



Patriotism Comes to Cambridge

Brigadier General (Ret.) Bro. John Driscoll signed autographs at St. Paul's Choir School after a long question and answer period with the boys. He also gave his talk on patriotism to a combined meeting of Mount Olivet and Major General Henry Knox Lodges. Both events took place in Cambridge. If you want Bro. Driscoll to give a similar talk to your lodge, school, or other organization, contact him at johndrisco@aol.com.

-Wor. Lee H. Fenn

Massachusetts Freemasonry is number one in the Western Hemisphere!" "For me, the last three years have been like the sands in the hourglass. I am astonished how quickly the last three years have passed, almost imperceptibly, and my term is coming to a close. Hopefully, I have a few more years left in me to serve the Craft before my time comes to enrich our mother earth!"

"I want to thank you ALL for all that you do for Freemasonry, as well as your friendship. My sincerest thanks to the Past Grand Masters for their constant support and mentorship. And thanks to ALL the Grand Lodge Officers whose dedication to the Craft and friendship is cherished by me. Freemasonry has been a wonderful experience for me. My only regret is I didn't start sooner. The high point of my journey has been my relationships started because of Masonry. I will repeat what I have often said. The old saying is, 'It's not the destination, but the journey.' "For me, it's not the journey, but those who I have chosen to travel with on my journey. Thank you for the memories!"

"Before I close, I have a few requests. My wish for the future is that each of you show our new Grand Master and the newly elected and appointed Grand Lodge Officers the

Brotherly Love and respect you have shown me. Please start off 2023 fresh and renewed. PLEASE, take the time to return to the basic tenets of our profession: Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Take the time to visit our Brethren who may not be able to attend lodge. Visit our widows, and above all, always be Kind. You never know what is happening in a Brother's life, and you may never appreciate how a few kind words or encouraging remarks and actions will affect them forever."

"Never forget the feelings you had when YOU first crossed the threshold of Freemasonry and became a Mason. Finally, please, continue to preserve our past traditions as you plan for the future, one that I am sure will be a bright future for Massachusetts Freemasonry and mankind. With that, I leave you with my warmest holiday wishes, success and to you and to our Grand Lodge in the New Year. May the Grand Architect bless, counsel, and direct you in all you do. Thank you."

The standing ovation was instantaneous, and the applause was deafening. The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Richard Maggio, closed his last Quarterly Communication in ample form. ■



ASK THE GRAND LECTURER

by Rt. Wor. Nicholas J. Mantello

Senior Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts



Master's Work

Q: I have heard the expression "Master's Work" referring to ritual. What does that mean?

A: As we look at our cipher books, we are all familiar with the notation before spoken words by the Officer who has that line, such as J.D., S.D., and so on up to W.M. (Worshipful

Master). Simply put, Master's Work is anything with the prefix W.M.

Q: Who is eligible to do Master's Work?

A: A Master or Past Master of a particular lodge of any jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge may participate in the ritualistic work of a lodge of this jurisdiction upon the invitation of its Master or Acting Master, provided that the work is done in accordance with the ritual of this Grand Lodge. Also, a Warden shall not occupy the Master's chair in any lodge other than his own. (*Constitutions and Regulations...*, 333 Work: Participation by Masters.)

Q: I have served as Master in more than one lodge

and was presented a Past Master's Jewel from each. Should I wear them? Is it permitted to wear them both?

A: The answer to "Should I?" is no. With the explanation in *Massachusetts Masonic Protocol*, Section 2.3, it is strongly recommended that if a Past Master has two Past Master's jewels, he refrain from wearing both at the same time. It is redundant and serves no practical purpose. But, the answer is yes. You may have a Past Master's Jewels that hold a very special meaning to you personally. But there is a limitation to the number of jewels, medals, and awards that can be worn, and their position on your tux or suit. We do not have enough room in this article to relay all of this information, but you may find it very informative by referring to *Massachusetts Masonic Protocol*. You do not need to purchase the book. You can download it from our web page, MassMasons.org. Once logged in, on the opening page, you will find it under Protocol and Conduct. [The *Constitutions and Regulations...* is also available online. In the top left corner, click on the three horizontal lines.]

To ask the Grand Lecturers a question, send an email to Rt. Wor. Nicholas Mantello, nicholas.j.mantello@gmail.com.

SPECIAL BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR OF GRAND LODGE

A special behind the scenes tour of Grand Lodge was organized and conducted by Bro. Lanning Levine of Philanthropic Lodge and Grand Historian and Grand Lodge Historian Rt. Wor. Walter Hunt. The first of three tours this year was conducted on Saturday, November 5, 2022.

-Bro. Lanning Levine

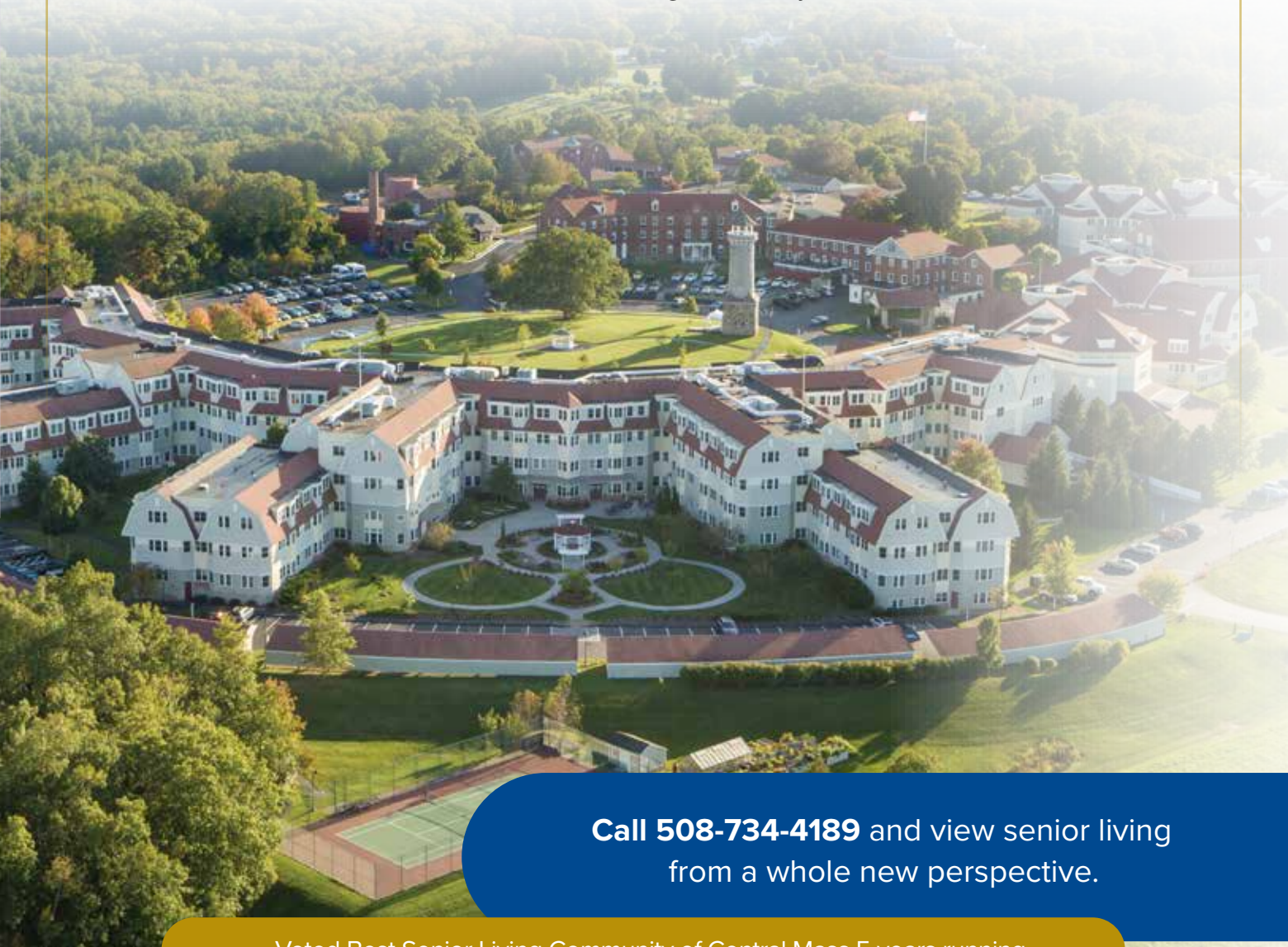
Attendees, not in order: Rt. Wor. Walter Hunt (center), Bro. Ryan Boisselle (Mountain Lodge), Bro. Ayrton Borges (Independence Lodge), Bro. Adam Broussard (Artisan Lodge), Bro. John Chadey (Meridian Lodge), Bro. John Faye (Massachusetts Lodge), Bro. Robert Ferola (Friendship Lodge), Bro. Adam Fink (Moses Michael Hays Lodge), Bro. Nash Gadre (Rural Lodge), Bro. Christopher Geggis (Ancient York Lodge), Bro. Andrei Grigore (King Solomon's Lodge), Bro. Derek Grimes (Hayden Lodge), Bro. Brennan Keesling (Cawnacome Sunshine Lodge), Bro. Corey Keesling (Cawnacome Sunshine Lodge), Bro. Walter Kloc (Charles C. Dame Lodge), Bro. Garrett Knapik (North Quabbin Lodge), Bro. Steven Sheeky (Orient Lodge), Bro. Albert Smith (Fellowship Lodge), Bro. Farshid Varasteh (The Consolidated Lodge), Bro. Kenneth Wilson (Montgomery Lodge), and Bro. Charles Smith (Amity-Mosaic Lodge). Bro. Lanning Levine is taking the picture.



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Best of all, world-class care is right here if you ever need it.



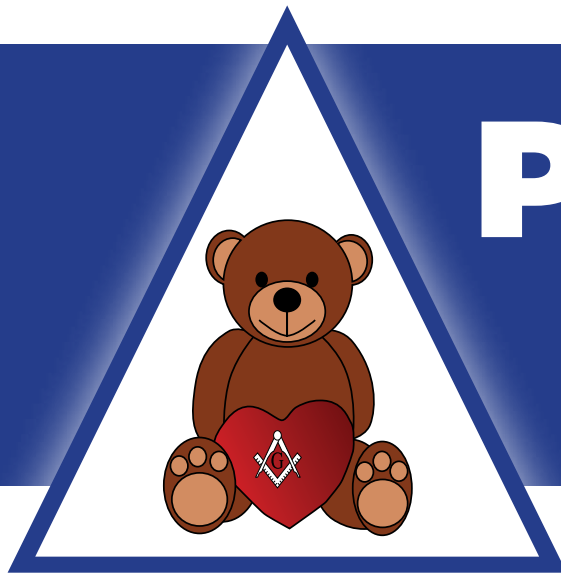
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Project Delta

Project Delta is a program that provides stuffed animals to First Responders for kids in crisis situations. All too often Police, Fire and EMS respond to calls where kids are put in unpleasant situations. This program can help enable a First Responder to comfort, soothe, and redirect the attention of a child in need with a simple kind gesture.



If you know of kids in crisis, First Responders who need this program, or would like to help with this project, contact Wor. Jon Hinthorne at hinthornejon@yahoo.com.