

TROWEL

GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS • FALL 2013

Masonic Sebastians

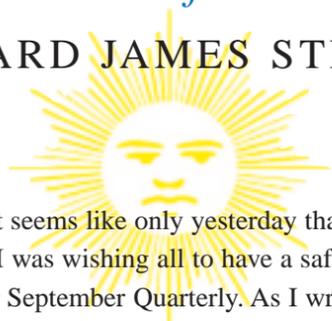
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Joseph Warren Medalists

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From the East of Grand Lodge
RICHARD JAMES STEWART



Dear Brethren:

Where has the summer gone? It seems like only yesterday that we were attending our June Quarterly Communication, and I was wishing all to have a safe and restful summer, and looking forward to seeing you at our September Quarterly. As I write my message for the fall Trowel issue, the September Quarterly is just around the corner.

The Craft is once again called from refreshment to labor. Lodges will be installing new lines of officers, preparing to execute the plans the masters have drawn on their trestle-boards.

Your Grand Lodge team of officers and committees did not go to refreshment but stayed at labor, working on and fine tuning various programs. The Budget Committee has been very hard at work looking into ways to reduce the budget and, again for the third straight year, they are proud to present the Board of Directors with a reduced budget for their final approval.

As many of you know, educating the lodge officers about running their lodges has been an issue high on my list since being installed your Grand Master. The Lodge of Instruction, a subcommittee of the Training and Education Committee, has been thinking outside the box and has come up with a new and exciting format for officer instruction that will be introduced starting this September. They are also working on a new concept for candidate training which we hope to introduce no later than the next Masonic year. Your Grand Lodge is making substantial financial investment in both of these programs and *failure of LOI will not be considered an option.*

I have a short four months before my term as your 87th Grand Master comes to an end. There are still many designs on my trestle-board; some that I hope to complete, and many others that time will not allow me to even start. The 88th Grand Master has been identified, and he will carry our Grand Lodge through its 283rd year. During my remaining time I want to assure you that I will not be slowing down. However I do plan on allowing time to work with our next Grand Master in a transition process that will enable him to be better prepared to take on the responsibility and challenges of serving as the Grand Master of the third-oldest Grand Lodge in the world.

May God bless each of you, and the men and women who are protecting our great country so that we may continue to enjoy the freedom to practice the Masonry that we all love so dearly.

Cordially and fraternally,

Richard James Stewart
 Grand Master

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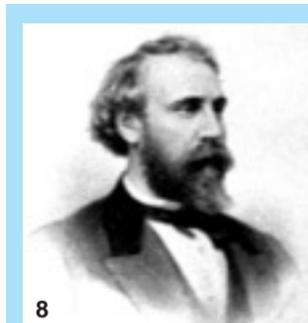
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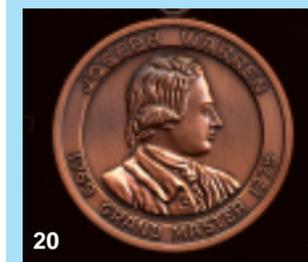
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TWO MODELS



Back in May, I attended the second leadership summit hosted by Grand Lodge. I was fascinated with two speakers.

The first, an Englishman on his first visit to America, had spent two weeks with Masons from various states. I was interested in his comparison: English Freemasonry has not changed in 200 years. American Freemasonry seems egalitarian, modern, democratic. He said English Freemasonry is too steeped in tradition and the class system; young men, especially from working-class areas, are put off by the fraternity's closeness to Royalty and the Establishment; they don't trust the aristocracy. His solutions for England included topics familiar to us: attracting new members, retention, mentoring, and—surprise—the American way.

He liked our fraternity's ways; he stood at a bar and had a drink with an American Grand Master. Imagine! The speaker had met only one English Grand Lodge officer in 15 years; the officer had grunted and moved away quickly. The Royal Grand Master, also known as the Duke of Kent, has been in office for 47 years. "Never in my lifetime, not in a thousand years," said the speaker, "could I ever be Grand Master." He marveled to think that any one of us could be elected Grand Master. Our leadership seems so connected to young members. We seem so interested in educating all members.

The second speaker, also English but living now in Virginia, sounded a different chord: "It is obvious that something is not right in Freemasonry here." We are obsessed with numbers. "We are letting the profane into our lodges." We accept anyone. We are diverting our attention on self-improvement with things like charity, one-day classes, family events, and—heavens forbid—television advertising.

This speaker's solution (perhaps reminiscing) was to return to the heart and soul of the fraternity: learning. A man must ask to be initiated and have the time and inclination to seriously study the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences. Masonry was meant to be exceptional; scarcity gives value.

You might think that these two views discomforted the audience. No. Both speeches were warmly applauded, photos were taken, and then everyone adjourned for a nice luncheon, elbow-to-elbow with our elected Grand Master.

Making my way down Boylston Street, my mind wandered a few blocks away to the taverns where our forebearers had gathered. Surely they must have spent at least some time contemplating the liberal arts and sciences. If only they had spent more time on this self-improvement; they would have had less time for the mischief that ignited a revolution!

Fraternally, *John Doherty*

Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts
MW Richard J. Stewart



TROWEL Staff

Executive Editor
John S. Doherty

Design and
Production
David A. Libby

Lodge and District
News Editor
Lee H. Fenn

Consulting Editor
Robert W. Williams III

Editorial Staff
Stephen C. Cohn
David P. Newcomb
Richard Thompson

Photography Staff
Philip A. Nowlan

Office Staff
George S. Fontana
Helena M. Fontana

Editorial Board:

Richard J. Stewart, Stephen H. Burrall, Jr.,
Richard H. Curtis, Jeffrey L. Gardiner, Donald G. Hicks Jr.,
David A. Libby, David C. Turner

E-mail to Executive Editor:

johnsdoherty@verizon.net

Telephone: 508-847-9081

E-mail to Lodge News Editor:

trowellodgenews@gmail.com

Address Changes for Massachusetts lodge members, and notifications of deaths should be sent to the individual's lodge secretary, and **not** to TROWEL Magazine.

All other inquiries should be sent to the Grand Secretary's Office, Masonic Building, 186 Tremont Street, Boston MA 02111

E-mail: grandsec@glmasons-mass.org

Grand Lodge telephone: 617-426-6040

Grand Lodge web page: www.MassFreemasonry.org

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Grand Master Rededicates the Old State House



The Old State House, located at the head of State Street, is the oldest surviving public building in Boston. The historic building's 300th anniversary is celebrated this year. It is owned by the City of Boston, and cared for by the Bostonian Society.

On Saturday, May 4, 2013, a suite of Grand Lodge officers led by Grand Master Richard J. Stewart, paraded in full regalia from Quincy Market Place to the Old State House. The procession was headed by the officers and members of

the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts. Commanding Cpt. Paul M. Colella officiated. In front of the site of the Boston Massacre, the Grand Master and Grand officers conducted the re-dedication service with corn, wine, and oil.

The solemn ritual was completed and speakers recited the legacy of the building and the history it represents. Remarks of the Grand Master completed the event.

— *Wor. Ronald T. Doucette*

Masonic Leadership Summit 2013 Leading the Fraternity Back to the Future

Grand Lodge's Masonic Education and Training (ME&T) Committee conducted its second annual Masonic education forum at Grand Lodge in May. This year's offering, again co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Lodge of Research, differed slightly from the 2012 Summit. Three well-known Masonic speakers were featured and the day concluded with an elegant noon-time dinner with the Grand Master.

The Leadership Summits are focused on energizing line officers and lodge members with ideas for initiating change and improvements in their lodges and at the district level of the fraternity. They are ideal for members ascending their lodge lines as well as for new or seasoned members wishing to make a difference in their home lodges. Unlike most of the programs offered by ME&T, these summits are fee-based. They are also well-attended.

This year's speakers were impressive: Wor. David Harrison, author of *The Genesis of Freemasonry* and a

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ME&T Chairman RW Ted Morang, Wor. David Harrison, Wor. Andrew Hammer, Grand Master Stewart, Wor. Cliff Porter, and Summit Chairman Wor. Alfredo Canhoto.



Joseph Warren Statue at Bunker Hill is Rededicated

Grand Master Richard Stewart accompanied by Masons from the Grand Lodge and King Solomon's Lodge, Somerville, participated in the rededication of the famous statue of Maj. General and Grand Master Joseph Warren located in the recently refurbished visitors pavilion at the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown. The building is known as the Bunker Hill Monument Lodge.

This year's commemorative exercises for the Battle of Bunker Hill began with an ecumenical service at St. Francis de Sales, which sits atop the actual Bunker Hill. Grand Chaplain, Rt. Wor. and Rev. Richard Haley offered the prayer service.

A procession was formed at the conclusion of the service and groups including the USS *Constitution* Color Guard, Charlestown Militia, Sons of the American Revolution, and the

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The Undiscovered Country

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

When we join a Masonic lodge, we embark on a unique journey, a journey into an undiscovered country. When we step into the lodge room for the first time, we visit a place we have never been before; it is an entirely unique and surprising experience. We discover something we have never previously known. That phrase “undiscovered country” is well known to Masons who have practiced their craft for many years. It describes perfectly that first experience we all have when we are initiated into the Craft. But where does that phrase come from? Many Masons think it comes from Holy Scripture.

Masonic ritual is in fact filled with scriptural allusions. Whether Masonic degrees illustrate the physical attributes of King Solomon’s Temple, proclaim the Psalms of David, or quote other passages of scripture, the spiritual realities of life are never far from the words spoken in the three degrees of Freemasonry. When we join the Blue lodge, we receive knowledge through a system of morality that is based on symbols of architecture. But those symbols are designed with one purpose in mind: to build spiritual buildings that are solidly erected and capable of withstanding the storms of contemporary life. But even those symbols are wrapped in the texture of Holy Scripture. And, we believe, “undiscovered country” must be found somewhere within the Bible.

But if we pick up our Bibles or the handy concordances that help us find certain words within that book, we are struck by the fact that “undiscovered country” does not appear. Although “country” does appear several times, the word “undiscovered” is indeed not to be discovered. It simply doesn’t occur anywhere in the Bible. That is because the phrase comes from Hamlet, the great play by William Shakespeare. It appears in perhaps the most famous dramatic monologue of all time, the soliloquy that begins with the words “To be or not to be.” Hamlet, the protagonist of that play, speaks these familiar words when he contemplates the afterlife: “But that the dread of something after death,

The undiscovered country from whose bourn / No traveler returns, puzzles the will...” Yes, in an odd corner of our Masonic ritual, the words of William Shakespeare are used to illustrate an important dimension of human life. We wonder about the afterlife and often fear the unknown.

But Masonic degrees teach us an important lesson about eternal life. Some of the first sounds we hear upon entering a lodge room are the words of the 133rd Psalm. It is recited by the chaplain of each lodge as it conducts the First Degree. It is quoted in its entirety. That psalm begins with the lovely phrase about brethren dwelling together “in unity.” It ends with the phrase “even life forevermore.” The 133rd Psalm provides a key to all of what will follow; brotherly love and affection are windows onto eternal life.



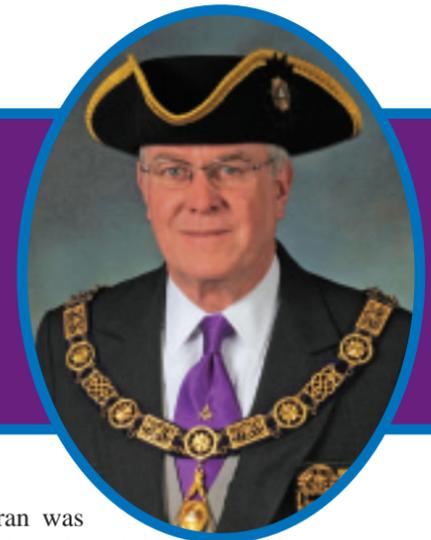
The fear that Hamlet conveys in Shakespeare’s great soliloquies are real. Shakespeare was a great psychologist; a psychologist who lived years before the profession was invented. He knew people. He portrayed them accurately. His insights into the human condition were truly remarkable. He conveys Hamlet’s isolation and fear, his separation from others, and his fears about an “undiscovered country.”

Masonic ritual offers us a different picture of the undiscovered country. It shows us, by illustration, that we should never fear the unknown. Our brothers in the Craft will be there to guide us, to protect us, and to lift us up when we fall. The First Degree offers us this hope, a hope that is realized in the Third Degree when, with an understanding of God’s promise and the assistance of our faithful brethren, we are symbolically lifted out of darkness and offered the promise of eternal life. ■

Rt. Wor. and Rt. Rev. Brian R. Marsh is a member of Vernon Lodge, Belchertown and Jerusalem Lodge, South Hadley Falls; past master of Vernon Lodge in 2002; past DDGM, of the 27th District; a grand chaplain since 2006; and a bishop in the Anglican Church in America.

The June 2013 Quarterly Communication

of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts



Grand Master Richard J. Stewart welcomed several hundred Massachusetts Masons to the June 2013, Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, held on a beautiful summer-like day in Boston. He also acknowledged special guests from other jurisdictions, including Past Grand Master of Rhode Island Douglas Connell and his Past Grand Marshal William Heath; Grand Senior Warden of Connecticut Rt. Wor. Donald Dean accompanied by Grand Junior Warden Michael Dodge; Past Grand Master of Massachusetts Prince Hall Masonry Nicholas P. Locker and his suite; Rt. Wor. Edward S. Newsham, president of the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, and his director of development, Rt. Wor. Ronald Kamp.

Grand Lodge Business

Rt. Wor. Mason Russell introduced a proposed amendment to Section 331 of the Constitutions regarding the method of calculating life membership dues. The present formula would be replaced with a schedule of multipliers based on a member’s age. At age 90 years, members would be exempted from any further payment. This change will be discussed at the September Quarterly Communication and voted upon at the December Quarterly Communication.

Rt. Wor. James Anthony Gilrein II was elected as senior grand warden, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Rt. Wor. Kenneth Sprague. Bro. Gilrein is past master of Mount Horeb (D) Lodge in South Dennis, and is a past district deputy grand master for the 21st Masonic District.

Rt. Wor. Donald Moran was elected to the Grand Lodge’s board of directors, also filling a vacancy created this spring.

Grand Master Stewart had the unpleasant task of announcing the expulsion or suspension of nine Masons for various acts of un-Masonic conduct. The Grand Master commented that we hold members to a high standard of behavior in everyday life as well as within the confines of the fraternity. When a member’s conduct is not in accord with this strict code, disciplinary procedures are firm.

Rt. Wor. Ernest Pearlstein announced the Grand Master’s Class on November 2, 2013, which will be held in conjunction with the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite’s Valley of Boston.

The ninth annual Square & Compasses Day will be held on Saturday, October 19 at all of our lodges in Massachusetts.

Presentations

The Grand Master’s Award was presented to The Scouters Lodge. Rt. Wor. Jay A. Jolicoeur, past master, accepted on behalf of the lodge. A certificate of appreciation was also issued to Wor. Fred Santosuosso of the Service Department for his extraordinary efforts to deliver a hospital bed to a double amputee. Bro. Santosuosso of Mt. Olivet Lodge, drove, through a snowstorm, from Medford to Sutton to make the urgent delivery.

Wor. Peter Hall was pleased to announce that MyCHIP (Masonic Youth Child Identification Program) had now assisted over 300,000 children since 1988 and presented



Far left: RW Jay Jolicoeur receives Grand Master’s Award for The Scouters Lodge. Left: Wor. Fred Santosuosso receives a certificate of appreciation. Right: RW James Gilrein (L) and Wor. Peter Hall (R) present MYCHIP certificate of appreciation to GM Stewart.



Above left: Lodge and district officers line up to present their donations to the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. Center: RW William Yanakakis, District 10 DDGM, presents the district gift to MMRL. Right: RW Ron Kamp from MMRL expresses his thanks to Grand Lodge and all the lodges for their continued support of MMRL.

the Grand Master with a certificate of appreciation documenting the landmark event.

Several lodges and districts presented donations totaling \$23,500 to the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. Representatives from Essex, Columbian, William Parkman, Philanthropic, and Marine Lodges, as well as from Districts 10 and 28 presented donations.

Rt. Wor. Edward Newsham, president and Rt. Wor. Ronald Kamp, director of development for MMRL, pre-

sented five Vine of Life Awards, recognizing contributions to the MMRL. Presented with the Vines of Life were Marine Lodge, Waltham Triad Lodge, Rt. Wor. Bradford Pottle, Most Wor. Edgar Darling, and Most Wor. Arthur Johnson.

Grand Master's Address

Grand Master Stewart reported on trips made to other jurisdictions during the spring including Grand Lodge meetings

Below, left to right: PGM Arthur Johnson displays his Vine of Life, with Grand Master Stewart, RW Ed Newsham, and RW Ron Kamp; PGM Edgar Darling enjoys a moment with the Grand Master, receiving his Vine of Life; Waltham Triad Lodge was one of five recipients of the Vine of Life Award; RW Bradford Pottle with his Vine of Life.



PROPOSED CHANGE FOR DUES FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN GRAND LODGE

Current Provision Sec. 331. Any member may prepay all future Grand Lodge dues by remitting direct to the Grand Lodge a sum equal to the product of 34 multiplied by the then Grand Lodge dues, reduced however, by an amount equal to one-half of the then current Grand Lodge dues multiplied by the number of years in excess of twenty-one of the then attained age of such member, and thereafter no further assessments shall be made by the Grand Lodge upon said member or upon any Lodge on account of such member. All moneys so paid to the Grand Lodge shall be used by it for its charitable purposes and support and no refund shall be made on account of the death or demit of the member or for any other purpose. The investment and expenditure of all funds received for such payment of all future Grand Lodge dues shall be under the direction of the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise voted by the Grand Lodge, expenditures from the principal of the funds shall not in any one year exceed a sum equal to the then current Grand Lodge dues for each prepaid member.

Proposed Wording Sec. 331. Any member may prepay all future Grand Lodge dues by remitting direct to the Grand Lodge a sum equal to the product of the then current Grand Lodge dues and the multiplier specified in the Life Membership Schedule adopted by the Board Of Directors and revised from time to time, and thereafter no further assessments shall be made by the Grand Lodge upon said member or upon any Lodge on account of such member. A member shall be entitled to Life Membership commencing September 1 of the ensuing Masonic year upon attaining the age of 90 years. All moneys so paid to the Grand Lodge shall be used by it for its charitable purposes and support and no refund shall be made on account of the death or demit of the member or for any other purpose. The investment and expenditure of all funds received for such payment of all future Grand Lodge dues shall be under the direction of the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise voted by the Grand Lodge, expenditures from the principal of the funds shall not in any one year exceed a sum equal to the then current Grand Lodge dues for each prepaid member.

Right: RW Ed Newsham, Grand Master Stewart, and RW Ron Kamp front and center with all the donors to the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory at June Quarterly.

in Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, and Nova Scotia. He also was able to attend the New England Brotherhood meeting, the Annual Lantern Service at Old North Church, and the Colonial Craftsman's Dinner.

He was pleased to summarize what he learned from this year's Grand Lodge Listening Tour stops in nine locations around Massachusetts. There were two issues particularly that were raised repeatedly during the meetings. First, the Grand Master was asked several times if slowing down the membership development process would be acceptable to Grand Lodge. The feeling on the tour stops was that a more concentrated effort on educating candidates on the traditions of the Craft during the degree process would help not only better educate new Masons, but might also improve retention. The Grand Master said that there is nothing preventing lodges from doing this if they feel it would help their lodges prosper. Second, members often discussed how rising operating expenses were impacting their lodges. The Grand Master believes that the main source of escalating expenditures is the cost of maintaining so many of our older Masonic buildings. He suggested that lodges should explore the possibility of building consolidations in order to reduce their expenses.

Grand Master Stewart was very pleased with the support



for the recent gala held in Newton. Masons and their ladies enjoyed an outstanding evening of entertainment and fraternity and the Grand Master thanked them for their generous support of the Grand Lodge signature charity. He also congratulated the Masonic Education and Training Committee on their very successful 2013 Masonic Leadership Summit held in May and featuring three outstanding Masonic authors and speakers.

The Grand Master wished all Masons a pleasant summer and suggested they consider this question: "You know it can't be done, but if it could, how would you do it?" ■

ASK THE GRAND LECTURERS

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



As the fall season rolls around, we have a couple of questions that can relate to installations as well as a couple that deal with welcoming absent brothers back into their lodge.

Q At public lodge meetings such as installations, may non-Masons be presented to the East?

A Yes. The Grand Master has ruled that non-Masons may be presented to the East; however they cannot occupy seats there. The information in the Trestle-Board on this point is incorrect and will be changed in the next printing.

Q I have been unable to attend my lodge for some time and am now reluctant to do so because I am unsure what I have to do inside the lodge.

A Basically, you just have to know the signs. Many lodges have a Rusty Brother committee whose specific purpose is to make situations such as this comfortable for its mem-

bers. If your lodge does not have such a committee, speak to the master. No doubt he will take the necessary steps to insure that you are welcomed back.

Q Speaking of signs, are members required to adjust their feet.

A No.

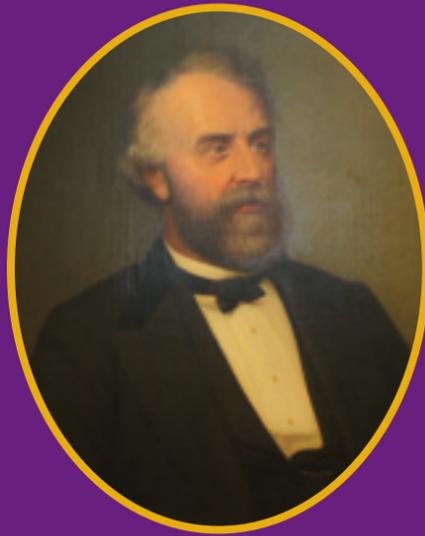
Q What is the protocol regarding standing ovations and escorting brethren once around the lodge?

A Standing ovations should be used only for very special occasions, such as a visit from the Grand Master or the district deputy grand master, the presentation of a Grand Lodge medal, or the retiring of an outgoing master. While it has become somewhat popular in this jurisdiction, masters and district deputy grand masters should refrain from conducting members once around the lodge. Any applause or standing ovation should be done in the East following the presentation or recognition and members should then be conducted to a chair in the lodge by the marshal, without any further fanfare.

Grand Masters of Massachusetts

by Rt. Wor. Walter Hunt

1869–1871



Most Wor.

William Sewall Gardner

*Holding the Scales
in Equipoise*

*The tenth installment in the continuing series
focused on our past
Massachusetts Grand Masters.*

Of those who had been called to lead our Grand Lodge in the 18th and 19th centuries, the vast majority were from Boston or its environs. This is hardly a surprise; Massachusetts Freemasonry was born and was nurtured in the Bay State's largest city, and the Grand Lodge's meetings had always been held there, since the days of Henry Price. There were a few exceptions: Isaiah Thomas had been a printer in Boston, but made his reputation and his career in Worcester well before his installation as Grand Master; Timothy Bigelow, John Abbot, and Caleb Butler were all from the area of Groton, north and west of the metropolis. Charles C. Dame was from the North Shore.

In 1869, however, the Grand Lodge elected a Grand Master from a city, Lowell, that had not even existed half a century before. William Sewall Gardner was a young man—just 42 at the time of his elevation—but had already made his mark as a lawyer outside the fraternity, and within it, as a prominent member of Grand Lodge and of the several York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies. Youthful, energetic, and extremely well-spoken, he was held in high regard by his brethren. As Past Grand Master Samuel Crocker Lawrence said of him twenty years later,

We must gratefully pay him the tribute due to his high attainments, his indefatigable industry and unselfish devotion, in every department of Masonic duty which was entrusted to his hands. His trained and exact habits of mind and scholarly love of research admirably fitted him for the labors of a Masonic historian and expositor, and the contributions of his pen have done much to enlarge the field of Masonic information. He was deeply versed in the ritualism of the Craft . . . His interpretation of Masonry doubtless borrowed something from the natural seriousness of his character; but it was beautifully enforced by the kindness of his manners, the gentle dignity of his bearing, the purity of his life, and the unquestioned integrity of his heart.

William Sewall Gardner was born in Hallowell, Maine, in 1827; as his biographer notes, "he came of sound Puritan ancestry;" a descendant on the maternal side from the Sewalls. As is true of the author of this article, he was a graduate of Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine; and like many young men of his time, sought his career in southern New England, entering a law practice with Theodore H. Sweetser in Lowell. In the previous quarter-century, it had grown from a mill town of 2,500 to a bustling, rapidly-expanding city of 33,000 (second largest in Massachusetts), primarily due to the booming textile industry.

There had been Masonry in the area since Paul Revere's time. He had signed the charter of Saint Paul Lodge in Groton, and his successor Samuel Dunn had granted one to Aurora Lodge, meeting in Fitchburg since 1844; Pentucket Lodge of Chelmsford, formed in 1807, had relocated to Lowell when its charter was restored in 1845. In 1852 a group of Masons from that lodge, including Jefferson Bancroft, Peter Lawson and Samuel Knox Hutchinson, received dispensation for a new lodge to help address the exceptional interest in the fraternity in Lowell. During its year under dispensation, Ancient York Lodge conferred the

degrees of Freemasonry on 25-year-old attorney William Sewall Gardner, who had just passed the Massachusetts Bar.

In 1854 he had already reached the office of senior deacon; in 1856 he was elected the lodge's fourth master, which chair he occupied for two years. His skill in Masonry and leadership in the Lowell fraternity, both Blue lodge and the York and Scottish Rites, attracted the attention of the Grand Lodge; Most Wor. John T. Heard, the young and dynamic Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, chose him as grand marshal—and there is considerable evidence that the well-traveled Brother Heard, who visited every lodge in the jurisdiction during his three years in office, was almost always introduced and escorted by Brother Gardner. Grand Masters Coolidge and Parkman appointed him as the district deputy grand master for the Third District in 1861–1863; he was elected as senior grand warden in 1864; and in December 1868 was chosen as Grand Master of Masons at the age of 41.

The task before him was daunting. Under his predecessor Charles C. Dame, the Grand Lodge had undertaken the task of replacing the Boston Masonic Temple destroyed by the Winthrop House fire of April 1864; it had been dedicated in impressive ceremony in June 1867. In Gardner's inaugural address to the Grand Lodge, he noted that Freemasonry in Massachusetts was enjoying a period of great prosperity

Men of all classes and conditions, in great numbers flock to our temples and gather about our altars. If brethren, members constitute the successful state of Masonry, then are we indeed fortunate. The number of lodges and of members was never before so large as at the present time, and the outward signs of prosperity were never more encouraging . . .

But the building of the new temple had imposed a huge burden of debt, nearly \$400,000, which required almost \$30,000 annually to service.

Before these liabilities accrued, the care of the Grand Lodge was comparatively light, and the duties of the executive officers few. Now the Grand Lodge has become a corporation, and its financial interests exceed all others . . . Thus Masonry which has carefully kept aloof from the influences and excitements of the world, has in a measure become mixed up with them. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has thus entered upon its new and untried experiment.

The care of the lodges, the preservation and perfection of the ritual, charity, which should be our great object, become subordinate to the greater duty of paying our debts and meeting our engagements.



Top: The Lowell Masonic block circa 1872 from a stereopticon slide. Below: The Lowell Masonic Building circa 1929.



In essence, he noted, the business concerns of the institution seemed to have become a greater concern than the ultimate reasons for its existence: to transmit the teachings and philosophy. But it should not be so: while the Grand Lodge—which, he indicated, was in essence all of the lodges in the Commonwealth—had to deal with the financial burdens, it was also the lodges' responsibility to do the work of Masonry: effectively, accurately, and uniformly. It had not been that long since John T. Heard had traveled the state, witnessing the work.

During his Grand Mastership, William Sewall Gardner granted 28 charters: four in 1869, ten in 1870, and fourteen in 1871. Some were new lodges where one already existed (including Charlestown, Amesbury, South Boston, Worcester, Lawrence, and in Valparaiso, Chile); others broke new ground for Masonry (Belchertown, Yarmouth, Cotuit, Brookline, Wilbraham). This period of enormous growth reflected the sentiments he expressed in his first address to Grand Lodge and impressed upon him that the custody of the Grand Lodge was a heavy and important responsibility, requiring hard work and close attention.

At the end of his first year, he revised the requirements and duties of district deputy grand masters, requiring a report from them based on their inspection of each lodge's work, regalia, furniture, records, and activities—twenty requirements in all:

These are some of your duties; others of no less consequence, will impress themselves upon you . . . Avoid antagonism, impress upon the masters and wardens the necessity of their attendance upon the communications of the Grand Lodge, and that the destinies and control of the Grand Lodge are in their hands: and let the brethren understand that they have their representation through their chosen officers . . . as the representative of the Grand Lodge, it is your duty to encourage the zealous Mason, impart instruction where you can, cheer the lodges, and zealously labor, as a co-worker with your brethren, to elevate the moral standard of Masonry in the field assigned to you.

He was also more than willing to be firm and decisive with his authority. In a dispute in the fall of 1870 with Star in the East Lodge in New Bedford, which had refused to remit monies due the Grand Lodge, he moved at once to revoke their charter. It was restored in March after the dispute was resolved by payment being made, with interest and expenses added.

As a scholar, Grand Master Gardner also distinguished himself, most particularly in the last speech he gave as Grand Master in December 1871—what has

Sebastian

MINIATURES

An American—and Masonic—Tradition

by Wor. Joseph Goldstein

Americans love to collect American collectibles, from model train sets to U.S. coins and stamps, children's lunch boxes, Cracker Jack box prizes, and almost anything else you can imagine. When Prescott W. Baston, a young artist from Arlington, Massachusetts, began to design, cast, and paint small figurines of famous couples, he couldn't have imagined how America would come to embrace his work. First working part-time, Baston created the Sebastian Miniatures that would bear his name (of sorts) for three-quarters of a century. During that time Baston would form a relationship with Massachusetts Freemasonry that would become a part of the legacy he passed down to his son Prescott ("Woody") W. Baston, Jr. I had the pleasure of visiting with Woody and his wife Margery at their Wayland studio. Woody's love and pride for his father is clearly evident.

Beginnings

First made in 1938, Sebastian Miniatures have had a strong connection with Massachusetts and New England since their inception, with pieces first produced in the basement of Baston's Arlington home. Baston quit his other jobs to set up a full production studio there in 1939. The Arlington studio was run by Baston's wife, with women and even high school students helping with the painting of figurines, especially during the World War II years. In 1946, when his son Woody was a year and a half old, Baston moved to Marblehead and set up shop there. Years later Baston collaborated with a company in Hudson, Massachusetts (Lance Corporation), to manufacture some of his older designs in



pewter, and production of the entire product line was later moved to Hudson, as well as to a second plant in Lee, New Hampshire. For a short time Sebastian Miniatures were even produced on Martha's Vineyard. In the late 1980s the original Ceramastone—a plaster-like material used for nearly five decades—was replaced with a newer, stronger-bonded porcelain. When Lance closed its doors in 2000, Woody Baston moved the creation of the figurines to his Wayland Studios where he designs the original artwork, and his wife Margery and he do the painting of limited-run issues. The smaller issues are cast in Sterling, Massachusetts. Larger quantities are subcontracted to high quality companies overseas.

Masonic Connections

Prescott Woodbury Baston was born in 1909. He attended Arlington High School. After graduation he attended Boston's Vesper George School of Art part-time while working with his father at Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, the architectural firm that designed New York's Central Park, and Boston's Emerald Necklace park system. Baston held a series of jobs including some sculpting and painting commissions before working full time on his miniatures. He moved to Marblehead, and soon after joined Marblehead's Philanthropic Lodge, where he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in 1948. On his application for the degrees he listed his occupation as "designer and manufacturer of sculptures." Woody believes his dad was a member of DeMolay in his youth. He also remembers his father as becoming a 32°

Bro. Prescott Woodbury Baston in front of his Marblehead studio.



Scottish Rite Mason, but no official record of that can be located. Bro. Baston was called to the Celestial Lodge in 1984.

Among the many statues he created, Prescott designed and produced several Masonic-themed figurines beginning in the 1950s. Both Prescott's and Woody's work have been sought not just by our Grand Lodge, but also by the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Michigan. Woody Baston continues to create special designs at regular intervals for the Order of Eastern Star, statuettes for the Scottish Rite, the Rainbow Girls, and the Shriners. One of the accompanying photos depicts Shiner clown Rollo and a young child. Rt. Wor. Ernest "Rollo" Pearlstein commissioned this work in 2005, on the occasion of his installation as junior grand warden. The child is his daughter Leah. Individual lodges in Massachusetts have also commissioned figurines. In 1960, Bro. Prescott W. Baston created a Masonic Bible with square and compasses for the 200th anniversary of Philanthropic Lodge (originally the Marblehead Lodge) in Marblehead, Massachusetts. Woody Baston modified that same design for the lodge's 250th anniversary in 2010, truly a son following in his father's footsteps.

Grand Lodge Sebastians

The first Sebastian commissioned by our Grand Lodge was at the request of Most Wor. David B. Richardson in 1985. That year Woody Baston created the Charlton Masonic Home Tower figurine to commemorate the 75th anniversary of that structure. Commissioning Sebastian Miniatures



has become something of a tradition among our Grand Masters to commemorate their years in office. One of Woody's favorite creations was of Nobska Light in Wood's Hole, Massachusetts. He laughingly remembered putting out to sea in a small boat with Grand Master David W. Lovering to get a different perspective of the lighthouse.

Since then, Woody has created diverse designs for our Grand Masters, each kept in strict confidence until it's unveiled by the Grand Master at the December 27th Feast of St. John. His designs have included figurines of great Masons such as George Washington, Paul Revere, and Henry Price. In addition to the Charlton Tower, other memorable depictions include the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, the Pilgrim Monument, and our own Grand Lodge building at



Woody Baston working on a figurine while listening to audio books.

186 Tremont Street in Boston. Woody, who majored in sculpture at Boston University, has created nearly two dozen figurines for the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

This year's figurine is more than creative; it is unique. William Bainbridge, born in Princeton, New Jersey, was a U.S. Navy officer who quickly rose to the rank of captain by age 20, and commanded several warships. In 1803 he and his crew were captured off Tripoli, and imprisoned for about two years. After their release, Bainbridge served at different posts, and shortly before our second war with Great Britain he was given command of the USS *Constitution*, sailing her into battle during the War of 1812, and later returning to Boston as commandant of naval forces here. Bainbridge joined the Craft in Philadelphia in 1810. The statuette commissioned by Grand Master Richard Stewart is a beautiful rendition of Capt. Bainbridge in full uniform. However, the inscription on its base



has Bro. Bainbridge's name spelled incorrectly: as Brainbridge.

This error is a rare occurrence in the history of Sebastian figurines that could make the statuette a particular goal for collectors, who often seek out items if they have an error or anomaly in evidence. For example, the U.S. Bureau of Printing and Engraving produced a 24-cent airmail stamp depicting a biplane, the Curtiss JN-4; one sheet was accidentally printed upside-down. These rare so-called "Inverted Jennys" are highly desired. In another example, a die used to strike Lincoln cents at the Philadelphia Mint slipped slightly out of place during the production process, creating some doubling of the front of the coin, including the date. These rare 1955 "doubled die obverse" cents are also eagerly sought by collectors.

Information Sources for Collectors

In the late 1970s to early 1980s a Sebastian Miniatures Museum was started in Walpole, Massachusetts. Unfortunately the store that housed it ceased operation, closing the doors on the museum. Today the best sources of information about Sebastian Miniatures are through the Internet, or at the annual Sebastian Miniatures convention held during the summer at North Reading Lodge in North Reading, Massachusetts.

Woody Baston maintains a web site (www.sebastianworld.com) that lists the figurines, along with photographs of most. Also included are dates of issue and withdrawal, value ranges, production figures, catalog and production numbers, SML (Sebastian Miniature Listing) numbers, descriptions, and comments. As mentioned earlier he is kept busy designing the original artwork for the next delightful Sebastians. Woody recommends that anyone interested in purchasing Sebastians contact the only authorized Sebastian Miniature dealer, John Sliwoski in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. John can be reached at www.sebastianminiatures.org. Woody also recommends John as a great resource for Sebastian information. Today Woody sells his new releases and some older pieces through Sebastianworld News, the official Sebastian Miniature Newsletter, published thrice yearly, and which may be obtained



Woody Baston painting a Pilgrim Monument figurine



by subscription only from Sebastianworld, P.O. Box 339, Wayland MA 01778. The cost is \$20 annually.

The Sebastianworld.com website offers a wealth of information and entertainment. Clicking on links for the 2008 and 2009 issues that are posted reveals articles and photographs of interest to historians, Masons, and to Sebastian Miniatures collectors. There are articles on the original Bunch of Grapes Tavern in Boston and the figurine that was designed to represent it; a thorough history of the beginnings of Massachusetts Freemasonry and Henry Price, as well as the interesting creation of that figurine, is prominent in another issue. Woody Baston details the history of the 250th Masonic Bible creation in still another issue online. All articles are enriched with accompanying photographs or drawings. More recent issues are not yet posted, but may be available in print from Sebastianworld. The winter, 2012, issue (Vol. 12, No. 1) contains a wonderful article, filled with photos, that describes the process Woody followed to design, sculpt, and paint the Pilgrim Monument figurine commissioned by Grand Master Stewart, along with the history and architecture of that structure.

Investing in Sebastians

Since the first figurines were cast in 1938 by Prescott and later by his son Woody, some 1,300 to 1,400 designs, remakes and variations have been created. Remakes are not uncommon, as different groups may commission a design to be made several years after its original release. Remake issues always will differ slightly from the original. Several different remakes may be commissioned at different times by different groups or companies. For example, there are five Paul Revere figurines, six Son of the Desert (Shrine), and eight George Washington-Mason. Sebastian Miniatures are the longest continually produced figurine line in the United States, perhaps second in the world only to the Hummel line, and the company will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year.

Are Sebastian Miniatures a good investment? It's true that some figurines have enjoyed a moderate increase in price, some have increased substantially, and some are quite rare. Those commissioned by our



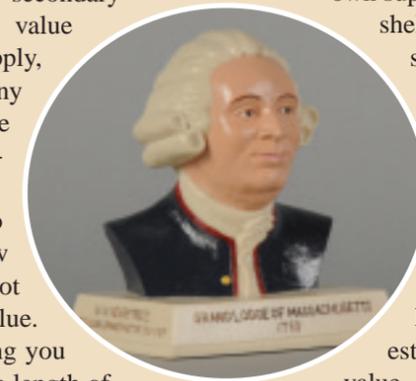
own Grand Lodge are all of limited edition. Their value will be dictated by their demand in the secondary marketplace. As with any collectible, value depends largely on condition, age, supply, and desirability. But the true worth of any collectible lies not in its intrinsic value alone, but also in the meaning and sentiment it represents.

Once you've made the decision to begin a collection you should follow some guidelines. Buy what you like, not what you believe may appreciate in value. Buy what appeals to you. Buy something you can live with for life. And buy within the length of your cable-tow. Much information is available on Sebastian Miniatures, and you can tailor your collection. Perhaps you'll buy only Masonic figurines. You may narrow that scope to just Massachusetts Masonic statues. Maybe a collection of Eastern Star Sebastians appeals to you. Perhaps nautical themes, or American historical representations, or Christmas ornaments interest you. Sebastian Miniatures also are collectible by their production period. For example, you may wish to collect pieces from the Arlington studio, or Marblehead, or Hudson, or from Wayland Studios. Although best known for the porcelain figurines that come to mind when we think of Sebastians, through the years the company has also produced pewter statues and plates, Toby jugs, ornaments, and plaques.

Several of the Sebastian Miniatures commissioned by our

Grand Lodge are available at a reasonable price from our own supply room, and many can be seen on the top shelf of the display case by the second floor staircase. They may be purchased from our Grand Lodge supply office by contacting Bro. Michael K. Worrell, supply officer, at 617-426-6040 x4216 or email mworrell@massfreemasonry.org.

In addition to our own Grand Lodge, Sebastian Miniatures may be found anywhere you may find other fine collectibles. The list is long. Garage sales and estate sales will probably offer the greatest value, but these sources are hit-or-miss. Antique and gift shops will likely have better selections, but will be



Sebastian Miniatures commissioned by Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Charlton Tower (1985) | SML-478 |
| 2. Paul Revere Silversmith | SML-516 |
| 3. Joseph Warren | SML-545 |
| 4. Roswell Lee | SML-589 |
| 5. Nobska Light | SML-636 |
| 6. Massachusetts State House | SML-647 |
| 7. Paul Revere Plaque | SML-674 |
| 8. Paul Revere Grand Master | SML-689 |
| 9. Trail to Eagle | SML-703 |
| 10. Family of Freemasonry | SML-708 |
| 11. USS. <i>Constitution</i> | SML-718 |
| 12. Old North Church | SML-729 |
| 13. Johnny Appleseed | SML-748 |
| 14. Henry Price | SML-760 |
| 15. George Washington Memorial | SML-773 |
| 16. George Washington | SML-784 |
| 17. 186 Tremont Street | SML-796 |
| 18. Henry Price Bust | SML-806 |
| 19. Bunch of Grapes Tavern | SML-815 |
| 20. Isaiah Thomas (printing press) | SML-820 |
| 21. Dr. John Warren | SML-827 |
| 22. Pilgrim Monument | SML-836 |
| 23. Capt. William Bainbridge (2012) | SML 839 |

more costly. Online sellers will surely have the broadest selection and real bargains are available. Be aware that the value of these figurines may be affected by the presence of certain original marks, stamps, engravings, or labels. Some may be signed or numbered. Sometimes the original box is a plus, but that usually doesn't affect the value. A few years ago I paid a modest price for a box lot of porcelain and glassware at a Worcester auction. When I got the box home I discovered several Sebastian Miniatures on the bottom. Three were in perfect condition. None were of interest to me, so I placed them for sale on eBay. Two of them were common figurines. One was listed as "rare" and brought a satisfying return. Thus was my interest in Sebastians kindled!

(continued on page 31)

Meet an Active Massachusetts Mason

It's refreshing for many of us to see young men join the fraternity and take an almost immediate interest in their lodge and its affairs. Not so much to make changes, but to learn more about the organization they just joined. Sometimes it's a family member that is the main influence on a new brother, sometimes it's a close friend, and sometimes it's sheer curiosity. In the case of Wor. Edward Felker, the presiding master of Saggahew Lodge in Haverhill, it was a combination of all three.

Bro. Felker's father was the only member of his family known to have been a Mason. In 1995, when the Grand Lodge began distributing some of the first brochures on Masonry, his father and one of his father's close friends suggested that Masonry was something he should consider. But, being focused on getting his career launched, he felt it was something he did not have the time to pursue.

One of his friends from his teen years was Wor. Terrence DeGrenier, who joined the fraternity around 2000 and became master of Saggahew lodge in 2006. The younger Bro. Felker saw Bro. DeGrenier inspire his father, the senior Bro. Felker, to return to lodge after many years of absence. It was at Bro. DeGrenier's installation in 2006 that Ed Felker decided to join, saying he just had to find out what all those inside jokes meant!

Wor. Ed Felker tried to take his degrees in a one-day class but the timing did not work for him. He opted to take his degrees in the traditional manner—a decision he does not regret at all. Sadly, six weeks before he was initiated, his father passed away. On his deathbed, his father told him he was proud that he was taking his degrees one at a time; after having done that, he understands why. Wor. Bro. Felker says the training between the degrees is absolutely essential to creating a stronger bond between a man and his fraternity.

Bro. Felker soon learned that one of his co-workers was a Mason by noticing his ring. When he jokingly asked if he was one of the Shrine clowns, the co-worker produced his clown card and Bro. Felker "just about fell over!" He told the man he was considering joining a lodge; the clown's words of encouragement and support only served to get

Felker more excited about the prospect of joining. It was something he had to do, and soon.

Following his raising, Bro. Felker had no intention of getting into the line of officers. But, soon an older brother asked if he had a tuxedo. He thought he made it clear that he would help out occasionally and serve on a committee but did not want to get in over his head too quickly. The following year, the master asked if he'd sit in as inside sentinel saying, "It's only one line and you don't need to do much." So, Brother Felker went out and bought a tuxedo. The natural progression being what it is, he was installed senior steward the following year, and began his trip to the East a lot sooner than he was anticipating.

As the master of his lodge, he tries "to lead by example and generate enthusiasm." One of the biggest improvements he sees in his lodge is the addition of a truly functional and strong membership committee. A weekly e-mail letter was started, informing members of activities in the lodge and other related events. He says this has definitely improved attendance at the stated meetings, visits, and other events.

Because of his background in the video-editing business, he is keenly aware of the Ben Franklin promotional series. He finds it interesting that men coming through the

doors of his lodge mention the radio ads more than the television spots. Bro. Felker would like to see something new on television that would appeal to a younger demographic. He suggests using men from all walks of life and ethnicity who proclaim "I am a Freemason." This message might sell better on television.

He suspects that Masonry in Massachusetts might be at a crossroads. He has noticed a bit of panic from some Masons due to the numbers declining, but he does not see it as a sign of doom. He says, "I think that some feel that, as our brethren from the Greatest Generation enter the Celestial Lodge, we should somehow be replacing them one Mason for one Mason." He continues by saying, "I am not even sure that this is necessary or even a good idea, let alone possible. The number of Masons that joined in the post WWII years was an anomaly and likely will not be repeated again. Do numbers matter? Yes, to a certain extent: we need to continue to make Masons. But more importantly, we need to make sure that we inspire and educate those new Masons so they feel an unbreakable bond to" (continued on page 31)



Wor. Edward P. Felker

On a recent visit to Canada and the northeast region of the United States, I was fortunate enough to give a number of talks to various Masonic conferences and lodges in Winnipeg, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. After leaving Winnipeg, where I was a keynote speaker for the 64th Midwest Conference on Masonic Education hosted by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba founded in 1875, the center of my activities for the next two weeks became Boston. During my stay I gave a number of presentations to the Massachusetts Lodge of Research. There I met the present Grand Master Most Wor. Richard Stewart, who still wears a tricorn hat as part of his ceremonial dress. I was given a tour of the Grand Lodge building, learning about the fascinating history of Freemasonry in Massachusetts—a history entwined in the American War of Independence.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts traces its origins to 1733, when Boston merchant Henry Price obtained a deputation from the Grand Lodge of England. Price formed a Provincial Grand Lodge on July 30, 1733, meeting at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in King Street, Boston, and constituted a lodge called First Lodge, which was later renamed the Royal Exchange Lodge (when it met at the Royal Exchange Tavern) and was later renamed St. John's Lodge. The lodges in Massachusetts do not have numbers (unlike lodges in many of the other states) and the Massachusetts ritual is a localized variation on the Preston-Webb Ritual; a ritual common in the U.S.A.

The St. John's Lodge still meets in Boston at the present Grand Lodge building, and there are other old lodges still meeting in the state which have a rich history. For example, Philanthropic Lodge which still meets at Marblehead, was constituted in 1760 and has in its possession a Square and Compasses which was taken from the British ship *Hope* during the American War of Independence. (When I met some of the brethren of the lodge, they were still nervous

Dr. David Harrison spoke at the 2013 Masonic Leadership Summit in Boston in May. He has written three books on the history of English Freemasonry; *The Genesis of Freemasonry* (Lewis Masonic 2009), *The Transformation of Freemasonry* (Arima 2010), and *the Liverpool Masonic Rebellion* (Arima 2012). Another book entitled *A Quick Guide to Freemasonry is due to be published by Lewis Masonic in the Fall of 2013. Dr. Harrison is a member of the Lodge of Lights No. 148, based in Cheshire, England.*

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Dr. Harrison speaking at the 2013 Masonic Leadership Summit.

MASONRY IN MASSACHUSETTS

by Dr. David Harrison

about letting me handle the artifact just in case I reclaimed it for the British!) Many members of the Philanthropic Lodge during the Revolutionary period vigorously supported the movement for independence, one celebrated brother being John Glover who served as the colonel of the 14th Continental Regiment of Infantry, his Marblehead Mariners helping to evacuate the American Army from Long Island. Glover later served as a brigadier general in the Continental Army.

The Lodge of St. Andrews, which met at the famous Green Dragon Tavern in Boston, has attracted many legends regarding the Boston Tea Party, which took place on December 16, 1773 and was the pivotal event which preceded the American Revolution. The lodge, long connected to the planning of the Tea Party (which resulted in men dressed as native Americans boarding a British vessel and throwing the over-taxed tea overboard) included amongst its members the likes of John Hancock, a Boston merchant and future governor of Massachusetts, Dr. Joseph Warren, a physician and soldier who fought the British, and Paul Revere, famous in American history for his midnight ride from Boston to Lexington to warn Hancock that "the British were coming." These were all local leaders of the community who played a central role in the Revolution, Hancock being the first to sign the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The original Green Dragon Tavern has long since gone, but there is now another Green Dragon Tavern which celebrates the historical pub, though the service is questionable as they wouldn't serve tea when I ordered drinks!

Dr. Joseph Warren, who died fighting the British at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775, was the Provincial Grand Master of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge from 1769–1775. This particular Grand Lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and in 1792 united with the aforementioned St. John's Grand Lodge organized by Henry Price in 1733, to form the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts which exists today—an example of a unification of Freemasonry over twenty years before the English Masonic union. Paul Revere became Grand Master, and there are still a number of 'Revere Lodges' founded in the area by Revere.

In the state of Maine, to the north of Massachusetts, I visited Boothbay Harbor, and I was soon finding evidence of established Freemasonry. There were old graveyard plots situated every few miles along the roadsides, and a

(continued on page 18)

A SMOOTH TRANSITION How InfoSource Helped

The health-care system can be difficult to navigate. As a free public service, InfoSource provides answers for questions or concerns you may have regarding health and wellness for you and your family. No matter what those concerns may be, the InfoSource team can help put your mind at ease. You will be provided with the information you need, or referred to the most appropriate source. InfoSource is the single resource for all your health related questions and concerns and it is accessed by simply calling 866-657-7000.

“The following story exemplifies the supportive skill of Masonic Health System (MHS) and how each resource works together to meet the needs of our clients. All parties involved experienced immediate and reliable customer service as their requests were met and the end result was extremely positive,” said Kate Granigan, vice president of geriatric care management, at Overlook CARE.

A member of the Masonic fraternity received a call from a friend, a fellow Mason and former patient with Overlook Visiting Nurse Association. This friend explained that he was about to be released from a rehabilitation facility in Massachusetts and was highly concerned that his home was not safe enough for him to return to in his current condition. The Mason who received this call instantly got in touch with MHS to find out about the best options available to his friend.

The internal MHS network quickly sprang into action to assist this former OVNA patient. Brianna DiBona, an InfoSource representative contacted this individual to talk about his situation in detail and to assure him that the MHS employees would do everything in their power to ensure a safe discharge for him. After a thorough consultation with the gentleman in need, it was determined that a short-term admission to the Post-Acute Center at the Overlook in Charlton would be an ideal solution.

Brianna acted as this gentleman’s advocate and reached out to the Mason who made the initial call, the OVNA nurse, the admissions coordinators at the



Brianna DiBona

NEWS FROM OVERLOOK

Lifelong Friends Reunited at the Overlook



When campuses are developed, we often look at them as an opportunity to build new communities. Taking people from varied backgrounds and bringing them together to share life experiences and interests, helping one another to continue the journey of growth throughout their entire lifetime. Sometimes, we have the great fortune of reconnecting relationships from long ago and bringing old friends back together.

Claire Roy (*at right in photo*) and Juliette McGrath, independent living residents at the Overlook Life Care Community, recently renewed a lifelong friendship. Both women grew up just a few doors down from each other on Charlton Street in Southbridge.

They were inseparable as playmates and schoolmates until graduating from Mary E. Wells High School in 1942. After graduation, as people do, they each found their own path and went in different directions.

Overlook, and the discharge planners at the rehabilitation facility. She also contacted other individuals and resources to assist with getting this gentleman the proper insurance he needed. After a week of vigorous InfoSource and MHS teamwork, this gentleman was safely discharged from the rehabilitation facility and admitted to The Overlook. He is extremely happy and absolutely amazed with the work that was done to assist in his smooth transition through the system and with the magnificent care he now receives.

Brianna said, “This is just one example of how InfoSource helps callers on a daily basis. The Mason and non-

Claire relocated to Pennsylvania to attend Bryn Mawr College, while Juliette went to work at American Optical (AO), where she became the first (and only) Miss AO in 1946.

Both women married and raised a family. Over the years they were each widowed and each started contemplating the benefits of moving to an active-living community.

Juliette grinned as she recalled how she learned of where her friend was living, “I knew that she was here from a story in the paper. I thought it was my old friend.”

Shortly thereafter Juliette decided it was time for her to join the fun at Overlook and moved in, reconnecting with her friend, in 2012. “When I moved here, they told me Dr. Roy’s wife was here, and I said, ‘Oh Boy!’”

Their friendship picked up exactly where they left off, thanks to a friendly community, set on a hill in a town adjacent to where they played as children. ■

Mason callers who utilize this service have benefited greatly by receiving guidance and direction which has resulted in effective, empowered, and informed decision making around their own health care. InfoSource assistance can go beyond connecting an individual to MHS services. It also locates non-related MHS programs and services within the caller’s community, and increases their awareness of the many options that are available. We have had one-time callers and frequent callers who have said, ‘I don’t know what I would have done without the assistance of InfoSource and MHS.’ ■

BRIDGING THE GAP Overlook at Northampton

Every year, students at Hilltown Cooperative Charter Public School (HCCPS) and the residents of the Overlook Health Center at Northampton take part in an intergenerational education program known as “Bridging the Gap.” Every student in the K-8 school spends time engaged in activities with the Overlook residents. The projects range from academic study, such as the residents’ histories, to creative projects, such as arts or music, to physical activities such as yoga. Each class determines its own project, with the assistance of their teacher. Additional experiences include visits to Overlook at Northampton by the HCCPS chorus and string bands.

The project brings important lessons to both students and residents. “By the end of a student’s eight years, he or she has literally grown up with the relationships developed at Overlook,” says Carrie Royce of HCCPS. “These relationships are important in developing a sense of increased civic awareness and the knowledge that anyone can take action and have a beneficial impact on their community.” Overlook residents appreciate the time with the students, as well—some have come up with the idea of delivering pizzas to the classrooms at the end of the school year as a way of showing their gratitude.

The K-8 school has eight mixed-age classrooms, and every student is involved in the program for some period of time during every school year. Before each class begins its project, students and teachers participate in sensitivity trainings to gain a deeper understanding of the circumstances of the residents and other issues that may be of use during their sessions. As students grow older, the sensitivity trainings become more detailed and their participation in planning becomes more involved.

At the end of the school year, a day-long celebration is held for students on the school grounds, hosted by the residents; achievements are recognized, and the participants share experiences, and enjoy songs and food together. ■



OVERLOOK CARE AT HOME Using Technology to Improve Care and Efficiency

The future of effective health care delivery will be impossible unless organizations adapt and successfully use technology wisely. Overlook Care at Home has worked to use and optimize technology with electronic medical records, scheduling, billing, telehealth, personal emergency response systems, communications, and supply management. Overlook Care at Home embarked on the ambitious project of selecting and fully implementing an electronic medical record and a new platform for its business functions through the implementation of Homecare's Homebase system.

The goals of the project that were identified and achieved were to: minimize all paper; have the ability to enable our patients, families, and staff to directly access information; enable all of the company's programs and processes to run off of a singular platform; enable clinicians to document in the home; streamline all billing and business functions; standardize all scheduling functions; centralize payroll functions; identify a system that would take less time to train and was easier for clinicians to use; provide management daily real time dashboards on key metrics;

ensure that review of planning was optimal; standardize our personnel processes.

It was an exciting and challenging eight-month process from selection to implementation at all eight Overlook Care at Home branches including all of the various programs and services provided. The team selected Homecare Homebase, a nationally known vendor based in Dallas, Texas for the project. The system conversion had to be accomplished while continuing operations, care, and service to our 2,000 patients each day.

The project leader was Shirley Edwards, director of information technology implementation and compliance for Overlook Care at Home. "Shirley and our operations team members were tireless, committed, and totally dedicated to the success of the project," said Elaine Stephens,

executive VP for Homecare and Hospice. "A project of this magnitude is impossible to successfully accomplish without a great vendor selection and the dedication of a team of leaders and the faith and commitment of the staff. We have a great deal to do to optimize and improve how the system works for our teams, but, we are glad the initial implementation went so smoothly." ■



Above: Homecare Team "Manager" Shirley Edwards.
Below: The project roll-out team celebrates at Fenway Park.



Salem Masonic Hall, and there was a notable difference to the ceremonies conducted in English lodges; the masters wear hats, no tracing-boards are used (though the Grand Master of Massachusetts has re-introduced the Master's Carpets, one for each degree, similar to English Tracing-Boards), and it is not uncommon for brethren to wear casual clothes in the lodge. The ceremonies however were perfect and a pleasure to watch, and only in Freemasonry could you travel to another continent and be made to feel welcome with like-minded people.

Thanks to Wor. John Soderblom and Bro. Daniel Killpartrick for organising the Boston leg of my trip and the invitation to speak at the Massachusetts Lodge of Research. ■

THE EXCITABLE HEART Mechanisms of Cardiac Arrhythmias

Part II of a Five-Part Series

by Dr. Charles Antzelevitch, Executive Director, Masonic Medical Research Laboratory

Like the hum of a well-tuned car, the beating of a healthy heart goes largely unnoticed. Both depend on a highly sophisticated electrical distribution system. In the case of our heart, that distribution system is comprised of special tissues and cells designed to conduct electrical impulses, unlike the vast majority of heart cells which are designed to contract. As discussed in Part I of this series, it is the flow of ions such as potassium, sodium, and calcium across the cardiac cell membrane that produces the electrical impulse that triggers the contraction of individual muscle cells, thus making possible the pumping action of the heart.

The electrical signal that sets the heart in motion originates in the right upper chamber (right atrium) in a structure known as the sinus node. Traveling through specialized pathways, the impulse spreads throughout the right and left atria and then squeezes through an isthmus that connects the upper and lower chambers (ventricles) of the heart. This junction known as the atrioventricular (AV) node serves as a relay station where the impulse is delayed, providing enough time for the blood in the atria to empty into the ventricles. Because it serves as the gatekeeper for the ventricles, the AV node is also referred to as a "safety valve," regulating the rate at which impulses can propagate from the atria to the ventricles. From there the electrical impulse journeys down a divided cellular highway (bundle branches), simultaneously activating both ventricles. The conduction system terminates in a webbed network of specialized (Purkinje) fibers that permit nearly synchronous activation of the cells of the ventricles from the bottom up so as to effectively squeeze out the blood. This well organized sequence of activation, the result of millions of years of evolution, allows for quiet and efficient pumping of blood by the heart for the purpose of providing oxygen and nutrients to the rest of the body.

The healthy heart follows this same pattern of electrical activation about 70 times each minute; this is the basis for the normal heart rate. The efficiency of the heart as a pump can become seriously compromised when the electrical distribution system breaks down. Just as a faulty distributor can cause a car to stutter and sputter, a faulty distribution system in the heart can cause rhythm disturbances, or

arrhythmias, that can alter its normal function. An arrhythmia occurs when the heart beats too slowly (bradycardia), too rapidly (tachycardia), or erratically.

A very slow heart rate results when either the sinus node, the primary pacemaker of the heart, is defective, or the AV node, the structure through which the sinus impulse must pass to activate the ventricles, is defective. When impulse conduction between the atria and ventricles is blocked (heart block), the heart does not stop completely

because subsidiary (backup) pacemakers located in the ventricles take over control of the heart. However, their rate, usually less than 40 beats per minute, is too slow to maintain normal function and in some cases is too slow to maintain consciousness. Fortunately, the problem is easily remedied by the implantation of an artificial pacemaker, a device that provides electrical pulses to stimulate the heart and thus restore normal rate and rhythm.

Although very slow heart rates can be life-threatening, most arrhythmic deaths result from abnormally rapid heart rates.

A tachycardia results when either the atria or the ventricles beat too rapidly. There are several mechanisms by which this can occur. Abnormal impulse formation due to altered movement of ions across the membrane of pace-making cells is one mechanism. Another, more common mechanism, involves the recirculation (reentry) of the electrical impulse around a real or functional obstacle in a never ending loop characteristic of a dog chasing its tail. The normal pattern of electrical distribution is therefore disrupted, resulting a short-circuiting of a part of the heart. Tachycardia can degenerate into fibrillation, also known as sudden cardiac death when it occurs in the ventricles, if the electrical activity becomes further disorganized.

Because the ventricles do most of the pumping, a rapid rate in the ventricles is generally more serious than in the atria. Inasmuch as the AV node limits the number of atrial beats that reach the ventricles, an abnormally fast heart rhythm can exist in the atria while the ventricles beat at a near normal rate. Medical treatment of fast heart rhythms ideally should be tailored to the underlying mechanism responsible for the arrhythmia. Artificial pacemakers, automatic defibrillators, antiarrhythmic drugs, and ablation



Masonry in Massachusetts *continued from page 15*

quick look in these graveyards would never fail to find a Masonic grave, some dating from the mid-nineteenth century. Various Masonic halls could be found in the surrounding small towns; the lodges of Maine, unlike Massachusetts, are numbered. Freemasonry had a long-established foothold in Boothbay, the Harbor Lodge meeting in its own room in the Pythian Opera House by the early twentieth century, and the names of the local lodges echoing the traditional seafaring nature of the area; such as Seaside Lodge No. 144 and Bayview Lodge No. 196.

Back in Boston, I visited a number of lodges, such as North Reading Lodge and Essex Lodge which met in

THE QUIET MEDAL



The Distinguished Service Medal was approved by Grand Lodge in 1930 to be conferred "upon such brethren as may have rendered distinguished service to the lodges of which they are members." This medal is more frequently called the Joseph Warren Medal because it carries the stamped likeness of the famous patriot and Past Grand Master on its obverse side.

The medal was adopted with little fanfare in 1930 and when it is awarded today, recipients are generally known only to their lodge brothers and not to our broader fraternity. Trowel Magazine reports the award recipients because wider recognition for the achievements of these Masons in service to their lodges is appropriate. The contributions made by these 55 Masons to their lodges ultimately strengthens all of Massachusetts Freemasonry.

Recipients of the Joseph Warren Distinguished Service Medal were last reported in the 2012 fall issue of Trowel. Here are the names of the distinguished Masons who were presented their medals between January, 2012 and June, 2013. If you think a name might have been omitted, please contact Trowel Magazine.

- Wor. William Hugo Amaru *King Hiram's Lodge*
- Wor. Stephen Paul Anderson *Amity-Mosaic Lodge*
- Wor. John Francis Belanger *Philanthropic Lodge*
- R.W. Henry Park Burke *Nauset Light Lodge*
- Wor. Alfredo Jorge Rodrigues Canhoto
Middlesex Lodge
- R.W. James Edward Carroll *Saint Alban's Lodge*
- Wor. William Earl Chetwynd *Golden Rule Lodge*
- R.W. John Ernest Cottrill *Quittacus Lodge*
- Wor. Nicholas Ernest Creanza
Wilbraham Masonic Lodge
- Wor. Eduardo Crocama *Eloy Alfaro Lodge*
- Bro. David Lysle Cross *Philanthropic Lodge*
- Wor. Peter Demirdjian *Mount Vernon-Galilean Lodge*
- R.W. Peter Delmar Dorr *Fellowship Lodge*
- Wor. Stephen Gray Eriksen *Ancient York Lodge*
- Bro. Robert Elliot Feinberg *Daniel Webster Lodge*
- Wor. John Alfred Fritscher *Mount Zion Lodge*
- Bro. John Francis Gallagher *Satuit Lodge*
- R.W. Frank Bishop Gomes Jr. *Mount Lebanon Lodge*
- Wor. Bernard Joseph Goulding Jr. *Dalhousie Lodge*
- R.W. Richard Earle Haley *Essex Lodge*
- R.W. Leon Halperin *Moses Michael Hays Lodge*
- R.W. William Richard Hammatt *Saint Martin's Lodge*
- Wor. William Robert Harland Sr. *Tahattawan Lodge*
- R.W. George Alfred Harris III *Columbian Lodge*
- Wor. Peter Daniel Howell *DeWitt Clinton Lodge*
- Bro. Laurence Bradley Hutchinson *Wyoming Lodge*
- Wor. Alden Stewart Jack *Mystic Valley Lodge*
- Wor. Jose Manuel Jorge *King Solomon's Lodge*

- Wor. Anthony Langone Sr. *The Meadows Lodge*
- Bro. Malcolm Dudley MacKenzie
Matthew John Whittall Lodge
- Wor. Douglas Gordon Massey *Paul Revere Lodge*
- R.W. Ted Noble Morang Sr. *Mount Horeb (W) Lodge*
- R.W. Richard Stephen Nicoll *Thomas Talbot Lodge*
- R.W. Frederick Nichols Nowell III
Saint Matthew's Lodge
- Wor. John Jay Papianou *Brigham Lodge*
- Wor. Thomas Alfred Pardy *Macedonian Lodge*
- Wor. Francis Thomas Parker *Saggahew Lodge*
- Wor. Robert Joseph Parron *Thomas Lodge*
- Wor. Conrado Augusto Ploche Munoz *Gatun Lodge*
- R.W. Bradford Herman Pottle *Golden Rule Lodge*
- Wor. David Earl Reed *North Reading Lodge*
- Wor. William Petrie Renny *Fellowship Lodge*
- Wor. John Warren Richardson *Satuit Lodge*
- R.W. Jerry Allen Roach Jr. *Amicable Lodge*
- Wor. Joel Robbins *Level Lodge*
- Bro. Clayton Townsend Ryan Jr. *Pilgrim Lodge*
- Wor. Harold Henry Sargent Jr.
Frank W. Thompson Lodge
- Bro. Gerald Robert Sjogren *Siloam Lodge*
- R.W. Ronald Frederick Spicer *Azure Lodge*
- Wor. Henry MacDonald Tanner Jr. *Golden Rule Lodge*
- Wor. Kenneth Edward Taylor *The Meadows Lodge*
- Wor. Leon Kent Wendell *Merrimack Lodge*
- Wor. Cortney Squires Wheeler *Globe Unity Lodge*
- Wor. Darell Roger Whitehead
William Sewall Gardner-Kilwinning Lodge
- Wor. William Alexander Zukowski *Hayden Lodge*



The Prodigal Mason

by Richard Thompson



I was walking into the Grand Lodge building in Boston last May when a thought struck me. I have been inside that building countless times but this night was unique. It was the first time in my 42 years as a Mason that I was going to be in that building to attend a lodge meeting. I was heading to The Consolidated Lodge with a member of the lodge, a friend I met through our fraternity.

That friend is Bro. Herb Steinberg. Like me, he first joined the fraternity in Massachusetts and then later affiliated with a lodge in New Hampshire. We are both members of Rising Sun No. 39 in Nashua.

I often say, and have on a couple of occasions written, my favorite piece of ritual is in the master's lecture for the Entered Apprentice Degree. It is at that point in the lecture where the master tells candidates that Freemasonry affords its members with opportunities to forge true friendships with men they meet only because they joined the Masonic fraternity. That is how I got to know Bro. Herb Steinberg and why I was heading to The Consolidated Lodge that night.

We were running a bit late, so we arrived outside the lodge room a few minutes after the door was tyled. Once the lodge was open, we were admitted. Up to that moment I figured Herb was the only member of The Consolidated Lodge I knew. As I stood West of the Altar, however, I saw a familiar face: Rt. Wor. Ernie Pearlstein.

I have known Rt. Wor. Bro. Pearlstein for a couple of decades, but it had been a couple of years since we were together. It is a funny thing about the fraternity. It doesn't matter how long brothers have been apart. Inside five minutes it is as if they were last together a week ago.

I really enjoyed the meeting. The lodge was performing the Fellow Craft Degree, which just happens to be my favorite. I like that degree because that is the moment the senior deacon takes center stage. On the way up the line, that is the first moment an officer becomes the featured player in the production.

Senior Deacon Bro. Keith R. Pierce, did himself proud.

Richard Thompson is a past master and a former senior deacon for two lodges, Wamesit and Merrimack Valley Daylight. You can contact him at Richard_J_Thompson@comcast.net.

It was his first time doing the Middle Chamber Lecture and he was facing a nearly full room of Masons. He did a good job and the lodge showed him its appreciation at the end of the degree.

As Bro. Pierce was delivering the lecture, I couldn't help but think about the first time I delivered that same piece of ritual. It was November 3, 1980. Now, I really didn't remember the date. I had to look it up. It was an easy task however. In all the years I was an officer in Wamesit Lodge, where I first served as master, there were at least three classes of candidates every year. The installation of officers is in September, making October the first Entered Apprentice Degree for the new term. That means the Fellow Craft Degree was always in November. What made it even more interesting is the November meeting was always the district deputy's official visit. So the first time I delivered the Middle Chamber Lecture, the southeast corner of the lodge was filled with the masters and wardens of the district, as well as past and presiding brass from around the jurisdiction.

So, as I watched Bro. Pierce deliver the Middle Chamber Lecture, I was rooting for him and remembering my time out on the floor. One of the things I remembered is I started learning the Middle Chamber Lecture the summer before I was installed as junior deacon—18 months before that first performance. I can also remember how I felt as I walked toward the preparation room door to take charge of the candidates and start the lecture. I was not nervous. I was way beyond nervous. I was entering into terrified.

When I went through my treatments for cancer, I lost huge portions of the ritual. I can't remember any part of the Entered Apprentice Degree lectures. I can remember the master's work in the second section of the Master Mason Degree, but the third section is gone. However, that Middle Chamber Lecture is still there. It is there like it is 1980 and I am preparing for that first Fellow Craft Degree as a senior deacon.

As I said before, it may have something to do with the fact that senior deacon is my favorite position in the lodge. During degrees you are always busy and you really get to know the candidates. I hope all the senior deacons out there are having a great time. Shortly, you will be moving up the line and that means the administration of the lodge has to become a part of your focus. Enjoy the time when the ritual and floor work are your greatest concern. Enjoy the time you are standing in the limelight. ■

continued from page 3

Can You Save a Life?

New CPR Program to Train 500 Masons

The Service Committee of Grand Lodge is conducting training for CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) and AED (Automated External Defibrillator). The goal for 2013 is to train 500 Masons. Recently the American Heart Association presented new standards for CPR and in the use of the AED for all rescuers. These changes simplified how CPR is accomplished for adults as well as children and infants.



New "dummies" available for practicing the AHA's latest CPR techniques.

The Service Committee is looking to establish a Masonic CPR instructor network throughout Massachusetts. Each Masonic district will have instructors who can conduct training in their lodges. The CPR and AED training can be used as a community awareness program for a lodge or a district.

Can you save a life? Yes you can, and it starts with taking a class; pump hard and pump fast! You reach out a hand as a brother; now reach out two to save a life. Contact Wor. Bob Stanley for more information at starsh@comcast.net.

— Wor. Robert Stanley



Masons Join Memorial Day Parade in Scituate

(Center) wearing tricorne Bro. Charles Stockbridge, on his right PDDGM Arnold Johnson, and on his left RW Joe DeNicola DDGM District #18; Satuit Lodge brothers in back row; South Coastal DeMolay boys in front. Taken at Scituate green following the parade.

Joseph Warren Statue cont'd from page 3

Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, marched a few blocks to Breed's Hill, the site of the Battle Monument.

The commemoration exercise was held at the monument. Visitors and guests were welcomed by John Alves, past president of the Bunker Hill Monument Association and they heard remarks from several speakers including Wor. Joey Lacey, master of King Solomon's Lodge and George Wildrick who is a direct descendant of Maj. Gen. Joseph Warren. Each year, an Orator is selected to give keynote remarks. Grand Master Stewart was honored as the 238th Orator. The Grand Master recalled the connection between the original Boston lodges and the beginnings of the American Revolution in Boston and reminded the audience of Bro. Joseph Warren's service to Freemasonry.



Following the exercises, guests were invited to join the Grand Master in the Lodge Building where a brief rededication ceremony was conducted at the Joseph Warren statue. The National Park Service completed a refurbishment of the statue last year in connection with the opening of the service's new museum. Superintendent Cassius Cash pointed out that most of the previous exhibits had been moved to the new museum facility, but the statue was kept here in the Lodge because ➤



Dancers enjoying the band "Hush."

400 Masons, Ladies, at Grand Master's Gala

The Grand Master's Gala in April was a Masonic event, but also a beautiful night out for Masons' ladies. The idea behind the gala was simply that: it was not to raise money, increase awareness, or teach any Masonic lesson other than to enjoy your lady and the fellowship of the evening.

"It was 14 months of work to get the Gala from idea to fruition," said Rt. Wor. Kenneth Scott, chair of the committee for the Gala. "The committee members, Rt. Wors. Eliot Chikovsky, James Moller, Ted Morang, Richard Taylor, Kevin Willis, and Wors. David A. Libby and Ethan W. Gilson, all

brought their own special talent to the process."

The convenience of the Newton Marriott Hotel with free parking along with the choice of hors d'oeuvres instead of a sit-down dinner made the event cost effective and accessible to more of the brethren. Hush is a premier Boston band, to which the crowded dance floor enthusiastically attested. "Couples walked through the balloon archway into a haven of Masonic fellowship and that is what we wanted," said Rt. Wor. Bro. Scott, "a gathering of your 400 closest friends."

— Wor. Lee H. Fenn

of the importance of Maj. Gen. Warren's contributions during the Battle of 1775.

Joseph Warren, medical doctor, Son of Liberty, writer, provocateur, and Mason served as Grand Master of the Massachusetts (Provincial) Grand Lodge from 1769 to 1775. He was not one of the more visible Patriot leaders and his involvement is not well known. He wrote the *Suffolk Resolves*, was a brilliant speaker, dispatched Paul Revere on his Midnight Ride, and coordinated the siege of Boston. He declined a medical role during the hostilities around Boston and served instead on Bunker Hill, as a private soldier, where he died June 17, 1775.

King Solomon's Lodge, originally in Charlestown, has been closely associated with the Bunker Hill Monument and its history. In 1825 The lodge donated the land for the monument as well as a stone model of the original monument design. — John Doherty

Three Generations at Mt. Vernon-Galilean Lodge

In April, Bro. Peter V. Demirdjian was raised by his father, Wor. Peter Demirdjian, past master of Mount Vernon-Galilean Lodge, who was assisted by his father (the candidate's grandfather) Rt. Wor. Hagop V. Demirdjian, past master of Mount Vernon-Galilean Lodge, and PDDGM. New Bro. Demirdjian was also presented a Lewis Jewel by the lodge that afternoon. Photo, left to right: Wor. Peter Demirdjian, Bro. Peter V. Demirdjian, RW Hagop V. Demirdjian.



Leadership Summit cont'd from page 3

noted Masonic historian in the United Kingdom; Wor. Andrew Hammer, author of *Observing the Craft: The Pursuit of Excellence in Masonic Labour and Observance*, and international consultant; and Wor. Cliff Porter, an author of *The Secret Psychology of Freemasonry*, detective, and Biography Channel celebrity.

Each speaker offered his perspectives on this year's theme, "Leading the Fraternity Back to the Future." Individual views differed, as you might expect. The first speaker was very impressed with the efforts of various Grand jurisdictions to educate and involve young members in the task of leading their fraternities. The second speaker talked about the successful efforts he had been personally involved with to bring traditional observance practices to his lodge. The final speaker reminded attendees that Masonic education involves more than excellence in ritual; returning to the original idea of encouraging study and reflection on the seven liberal arts will contribute to a resurgence of the "Craft that changed the world."

—Bro. John Doherty



Vest for Local Police Dog

Saint Paul's-Algonquin Lodge of Braintree presented a check to Officer Joshua Knowlton (right) of the Holbrook Police Department for the purchase of a custom-fitted bullet-proof vest for K-9 dog "Bo." Officer Knowlton is the son of Bro. Robert Knowlton (left); in center is Rt. Wor. Bro. Barry Waldman. Matching funds were supplied by the Randolph Savings Bank. Officers Knowlton and "Bo" recently completed specialized training and are now on the job protecting the residents of Holbrook. Photo: Bro. Jon Wilbur



Mass. Masons Active in Masonic Family Camping Club

The late Bro. Myron Fox and members of 21 Masonic families founded National Camping Travelers, Inc. (NCT) in 1966 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. There are 12 districts throughout the US, and Canada with 66 chapters in 45 states and two chapters in Canada. District 1-New England includes a Connecticut chapter, a Massachusetts chapter, and a Vermont chapter. Their district rally will be held September 13–15, 2013 at Travelers Woods Inc. in Bernardston, Massachusetts.

In July at the national rally in Talladega, Alabama, Rt. Wor. Jack Mulhall was installed as first vice-president



and Bro. David Fant from East Longmeadow was installed as national secretary/treasurer.

A member must be a Master Mason in good standing in a lodge recognized by any Grand Lodge in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. It does not matter what type of recreational camping style you have: tent, pop-up, travel trailer, conversion van, or RV with the biggest motor made. All are welcome to join NCT!

To learn more about NCT you may go to www.gonct.org or contact district director, Wor. Ted Hatch at 508-429-6605 or e-mail: tahatch@verizon.net.

—*Bro. Jack Mulhall*

Masons Float Celebrates “Living Documents”



Simonds Lodge’s parade float “Living Documents” won first place at the Burlington July 4 Parade, besting some great competition.

“We are celebrating the charters that form the cornerstone and foundation of America’s liberty and freedom,” said Wor. Douglas Dodge, the master of Simonds Lodge. “In order of their creation, the Declaration of Independence, the Massachusetts Constitution,

the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, have a lot to tell us about our growing understanding of our freedoms, rights, and responsibilities. We wanted to give everyone in Burlington a chance to meet these documents face-to-face.”

The lodge’s parade and float chairman, Bro. Wayne Higden, went on to explain, “What unites us all on the level of patriotic citizenship is our recognition that the fundamental principles and values expressed by these documents are as meaningful today as they were when they were written.”

In photo: Wor. Forrest Knowles—*Declaration of Independence*, Wor. Douglas Dodge—*Mass. Constitution*, RW Elliot Chikofsky—*U.S. Constitution*, Bro. Thomas McCracken—*Bill of Rights*. —*Rt. Wor. Elliot Chikofsky*

Update for 2013 DeMolay Congress

The International Congress of DeMolay met in Bloomington, Minnesota on June 12–16. The Supreme Council Session for advisors was quite productive and informative. The International Congress for the young DeMolays was very productive as well and it was certainly rewarding to see the young men at work. In prior years, the two sessions were run back-to-back; they now run concurrently, so the advisors do not get to see as much of what the DeMolay brothers are doing.

Members of Supreme Council from Massachusetts who attended were Dad Brian Noble (Active), Dad Wayne Sztetter (Active), Dad Paul Perkins (Active), Dad Alan Jelalian (Active), Dad Keith Rushlow (Deputy), Dad Jeff Northrup (Deputy), Dad Wayne Vinton (Deputy), Dad Don Hicks (Honorary) and Dad Will Currier (Honorary).



Attendees representing our DeMolay brothers from Massachusetts were: Douglas Rankin, state master counselor; Brandon Thorne, deputy state master counselor; and Justin Cargill, state junior counselor. Brothers Rankin and Cargill were the voting delegates for Massachusetts and Brother Thorne was the regional cabinet member for Region One, consisting of New England, the Maritime Provinces, and Germany. —*Rt. Wor. Will Currier*



Bros. Elmer Bailey and Will Jubinville holding the banner for Mount Holyoke Lodge, prepare to march in the annual South Hadley Memorial Day Parade.

Photo: RW Paul A. Cataldo

DeMolay’s New State Master Councilor

Brother Brandon Lewis Thorne was installed as the state master councilor of Massachusetts DeMolay in August at Nichols College in Dudley. Brandon joined DeMolay in 2006 as a member of Worcester Chapter, and quickly rose through the line, became master councilor in 2008.

Brandon worked with his father, Grant Thorne and several members of Wilder Lodge in Leominster to form David Allen Hill Chapter, where Brandon became the first master councilor in 2010.

Brandon has earned several DeMolay awards including the Lamp of Knowledge for completing the leadership correspondence courses, the Representative DeMolay Award, a Blue Honor Key for bringing ten young men into DeMolay, and has received the Degree of Chevalier which is the highest award

Masonic Builders of the Future! The Grand Lodge Youth Committee Challenges all Lodges and/or Districts to hold a Youth Prospect Event!

As a Masonic Builder of the Future, you can help grow DeMolay and Rainbow by working with a youth group in or near your district to put on a Prospect Event. You provide the location, some fun and refreshments, and assist young men and women to attend. The local chapter or assembly will have the resources to run the event during Open House Day or some other mutually agreeable day between September 1, 2013 and January 31, 2014. Your lodge or district could be invited to receive a presentation by the Grand Master at the March Quarterly!

The Challenge: To get the largest number of signed petitions to a chapter or assembly by February 15, 2014. The Winner: Gets a Rainbow or DeMolay Campership, given in your lodge’s or District’s name. For more information: See the YOUTH STAMP on EDUCATE-MASONS.ORG.



that can be bestowed upon an active DeMolay.

Brandon is a fourth-generation Master Mason and is a member of Wamesit Lodge in Tewksbury, where he was raised to the sublime degree in May 2012 by his father, with his grandfather and several other relatives taking part in his degrees.

“My goals are to make DeMolay a more household name by getting news out to the lodges. Masonry is our supporting body and I want every Mason to know what DeMolay is. I also want to bring some changes by trying some new events and reviving some old favorites. Lastly I want to educate the members about how to bring in their friends and talk to them about DeMolay.”

Brandon is an electrical engineering major at UMass Lowell and resides in Leominster with his parents, Grant and Karen, and his little sister, Emily.



Rainbow’s Grand Worthy Advisor Installed

In June, Miss Amy E. Randall of Middleboro Assembly #58 was installed as the grand worthy advisor of Massachusetts, International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Amy has served two terms as worthy advisor in Middleboro Assembly, and several terms as pro-tem worthy advisor in Taunton Assembly #13. Amy proudly served the Grand Assembly of Massachusetts as grand representative to New Jersey, Ohio, and Mississippi. In 2011 she received the Grand Cross of Color—the highest honor a Rainbow girl may receive.

Amy is studying nursing at UMass Dartmouth; she is an active member of the sorority Delta Pi Omega and very involved with helping her community. She is a lifeguard, and loves to spend time at the farm milking dairy cows. She is also a member of Angle Stone Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

This year, the focus for Massachusetts Rainbow is teamwork. Massachusetts will be “Weaving the Web of Friendship” through teamwork. Amy states, “It only takes one girl to bring in a new member, but it takes the entire membership to keep her. Through teamwork, we can accomplish our personal, assembly, and state goals in the hopes of making our community a better place to live.”

Amy has set a goal to collect 2,600 pounds of non-perishable items for this year’s state charity, the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Amy is the daughter of Rt. Wor. Peter and Holly Randall.

Grand Master Stewart Honors 275 Years of Masonry in Canada

At left: In June, during one of his many trips outside our jurisdiction, Grand Master Richard Stewart visited the province of Nova Scotia and presented M.W. Reo J. Matthews, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, a framed certificate acknowledging 275 years of Freemasonry in Canada.

Three Days in July – 150 Years Ago

The year 2013 marks the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. That historic engagement lasted for three days in 1863, yet the memories and stories live on.

More than three million Americans fought in the Civil War; approximately 320,000 were Masons. It is no wonder that brothers would meet brothers on the fields of battle, and their bonds of friendship, morality, and brotherly love would be tested.

There were over fifty thousand casualties in three days. On the final, fateful day, the fields were strewn with so many casualties that some doctors said that their feet never touched the ground while crossing the fields.

There are several stories about Masons using signs and phrases during the combat. One such story concerned Confederate General Lewis Addison Armistead and Union General Winfield Scott Hancock: two friends and Masonic brothers who served side by side in the US Army, but found themselves on opposing sides during the Civil War.

During Pickett's Charge, Armistead were fatally wounded. It was said that Armistead showed a "sign of distress" which was recognized by the Masonic brothers in the vicinity. One witness was assured that Armistead "called for



help as the son of a widow." The Masons nearby carried Gen. Armistead off the battlefield, leaving his personal effects in the hands of a true and trusty brother, in whose fidelity, Armistead had safely confided.

The beautiful Friend to Friend sculpture depicts Union Captain Henry Bingham, a staff assistant to General Hancock, rendering aid while Armistead hands to him his watch and personal effects to be taken to his friend and brother, Gen. Hancock. A Masonic Square and Compasses are clearly visible.

For every Mason, especially history buffs, Gettysburg offers a wonderful place to visit. The Friend to Friend Monument honors our fraternity and the principles of our brotherhood.

—RW David P. Newcomb

Re-enactment at Gettysburg

The father-and-son team of Bro. Dean Whalen and Joe Whalen (*shown at the Massachusetts 10th Infantry Division monument., left*) were in Pennsylvania the week of July 4 to take part in the annual re-enactment of the battle of Gettysburg. Bro. Whalen wears a Masonic patch on his uniform; during the Civil War, should a Brother be injured or killed, this patch identified him to others as a Mason. Members of the Craft would tend to their injured Masonic brother—even across battle lines. If killed, brethren would see to a proper burial for brothers who died and they made their best efforts to get word to next of kin.

— Rt. Wor. Paul Cataldo and Joe Whalen

Mount Holyoke Conducts Service

Mount Holyoke Lodge conducted the June 23 service at Faith Methodist Church in Chicopee. Rt. Wor. Ronald E. Jackson was in the pulpit of the well-filled church with guest of honor, Grand Master Richard Stewart in attendance. Rt. Wor. Bro. Jackson spoke on the topic "We All Must be Builders" from the book of I Kings. He described the Masonic lessons learned in the building of King Solomon's temple.

Mount Holyoke has led similar services over the years at both Faith United and the Congregational Church of South Hadley Falls.



Also taking part in the service were greeters: Wor. Karl F. Ferguson and Wor. Tyler W. Seavey; reader: Wor. James A. Cassidy; ushers: Bros. John H. Maclean of Mount Holyoke Lodge and Stanley Kruszyna of Chicopee Lodge. *In photo: (L to R) RW Ronald Jackson, bagpiper Bro. Robert McCray, GM Richard J. Stewart.*

— Rt. Wor. Paul A Cataldo



Veteran's Medal at Simonds Lodge
Brother Robert N. Wood traveled down from Maine to have his medal presented in Simonds Lodge, Burlington. (L to R) Wor. Douglas W. Dodge, Bro. Wood, RW Douglas J. Ellis.

— Rt. Wor. Doug Ellis



Bro. Adam Menges (L) presenting Eric Hieser the 600th laptop for Kidz

Cape Cod Angel Fund

There was a rumor that someone with Masonic Angel Fund (MAF) owned the CapeCodToday.com website. Untrue, but Cape Cod Today has published over 80 stories about the Masonic Angels in the past three years.

The most recent story covered the Fund's Laptops for KidZ project awarding their 600th laptop in July to the Sturgis Charter Public School in Hyannis. This project takes donated laptops, refurbishes them, re-configures the machine with a fresh Windows license, and donates them to schools for students who don't have access to a home computer.

Another Cape Cod Today article featured the Fund's Beehive Food Program, which is sponsored by Universal Lodge in Orleans, St. Martin's Lodge

Back to the Future for MWA Ames

In September, M.W. Albert T. Ames will be celebrating his 50th Past-Master anniversary by being re-conducted to the Oriental Chair for another term as master of Meridian Lodge. Bro. Ames first assumed the East in 1963 and has had a fulfilling Masonic experience serving as Grand Master in 1987-89.

In keeping with the Grand Master's pledge of "Back to the Future," Bro. Ames says he is "looking forward to working with the younger line officers who are the future leaders of our fraternity." The installation will occur on September 18, 2013, fifty years to the day of his prior installation.



Universal Lodge Promotes the Craft in Orleans Parade



Universal Lodge members wave from their float during the Orleans Fourth of July parade. (L-R), Wor. Donald V. Kochka, Jr., Bro. James Whalen, and Wor. Robert E. Felt, Sr. The float featured past master portraits for the last 96 years and a mock-up of a lodge room. More than 4,000 brochures describing the lodge's charity programs and the Masonic Angel Fund were distributed during the event.

—Rt. Wor. Robert W. Fellows

in Chatham, Mariner's Lodge in Cotuit, and Winslow Lewis Lodge in Boston. Their 500th food package was delivered in January. Food is purchased and packaged by the brethren and then distributed through the schools to needy families. Their 1000th delivery is coming in August 2013.

MAF co-founder and president, Robert Fellows of Universal Lodge, has won extensive coverage of their activities and this has built tremendous community support. Within two days of the article about the 600th Laptops for KidZ donation, the project received a donation of at least an additional 20 laptops. —Rt. Wor. Robert W. Fellows

Grand Historian honored by Prince Hall Masons



Past Grand Master Leslie Lewis, Wor. Larry Singleton, RW Raymond T. Coleman. William G Butler Lodge, #12, of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts recently honored Rt. Wor. Raymond T. Coleman, who is one of the fraternity's noted authors, scholars, researchers, lecturers, and is the 58th master of William G Butler Lodge, the past worthy patron of Eureka Butler Chapter #16 Order of the Eastern Star, and Prince Hall grand historian for over 30 years.

Bro. Coleman has tirelessly researched the origins of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, including the raising of 15 men of color to the sublime degree on March 6, 1775 in British Army Lodge #441 of the Irish registry, the eventual petitioning to the Grand Lodge of England for a charter, and ultimately the grant of its charter on September 29, 1784.

—Bro. Gregory C. Hatton, Sr.

Trowel Deadlines

Winter 2013

Articles: September 21, 2013
Lodge News: October 19, 2013

Spring 2014

Articles: December 21, 2013
Lodge News: January 18, 2014

Summer 2014

Articles: March 21, 2014
Lodge News: April 18, 2014

Fall 2014

Articles: June 20, 2014
Lodge News: July 18, 2014

Please send Articles to
johnsdoherty@verizon.net

Lodge News items to
trowelodgenews@gmail.com

Celestial Lodge Expands Blood Drives

The Dana-Farber, Brigham & Women's Hospital Blood Mobile (*in photo*) visited Celestial Lodge on one of its first trips outside Boston. The lodge has a long-standing relationship with the New England Patriots owner's charity, the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center at Dana-Farber and recently expanded this relationship to include the new Blood Mobile.

In their July newsletter, the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center gave a special thanks to the Westwood Masons who sponsor the Blood Mobile. Rt. Wor. Peter Randall, Wor. George Fontana, and Bros. Eric Amoedo and Robert Joyce were pictured making donations. Several lodge



brothers carpool to Dana-Farber every two weeks to donate platelets.

Celestial Lodge sponsors five Westwood Community Blood Drives each year. The Dana-Farber, Brigham & Women's Hospital Blood Mobile will be back in January, 2014 and hopefully become a regular fixture on the schedule. —*Bro. Jeff Jarvis*

TROWEL NEEDS PHOTOS

The winter issue of TROWEL, which will be mailed in late November, will feature anniversary listings for Masons celebrating special dates in their Masonic careers. Please think of the magazine when your lodge makes presentations to members celebrating their 60, 65, 70, and 75-year Masonic anniversaries.

Please e-mail your photographs to us by OCTOBER 22!

Send photographs to Lee Fenn at trowelodgenews@gmail.com or to John Doherty at johnsdoherty@verizon.net

HINTS FOR BETTER PHOTOS

Try to use a digital camera when taking photos this fall.

Cell phone cameras are fine for sharing snapshots online with friends. Computers, tablets, and phones are all backlit and can show low-resolution photos well. But when photos are reproduced on a paper-and-ink, 4-color printing press (like the one that produces Trowel Magazine), low-resolution files don't work.

Small files, and their low resolving power, are a major drawback. This is a particularly difficult factor for pho-

tographing in our dimly lit lodge rooms. There are other reasons too for poor photos from cell phones:

1. Cell phones are usually held at arms length while the shutter is pressed. It's the rare person who can do this without shaking the camera and introducing blur in the photo.
2. Almost all cell phone cameras use a passive auto-focus system. They don't really focus at all; they calculate a focus position that creates a focus zone. Getting a well-focused face can be hit-or-miss.
3. Our lodge rooms are dimly lit; light needs to be added to the photographs taken there. Few cell phones today have a flash feature, and those that now do are very weak.

Even an inexpensive digital camera has features that can overcome these problems:

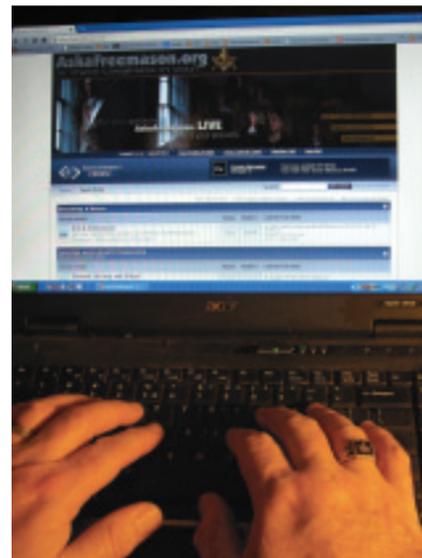
1. A viewfinder that is held against the photographer's face allows him to steady the camera while shooting.
2. An auto-focus system that allows the photographer to selectively focus on a person's face.
3. A flash that allows picture taking in a dim lodge at a speed setting of 400 or lower.
4. The camera can be set to make large-sized files that allows better resolution in the pictures.

Askafreemason.org

I am a nerd. I have been for a long time, even though I have never owned a pocket protector! The Internet was my playground long before I became a Mason. After I was raised, I found the forums on askafreemason.org. The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts owns these forums. (They were set up as the web portal to accompany the Ben Franklin ads that started back in 2005.) The site is attractive and very active. It started out serving only people who wanted to become Masons in Massachusetts but has since grown to be a global resource for anyone who has a question about Masonry.

There are four sections of the forum: Ask a Freemason; Masonic History and Ritual; Controversy, Rumor and Secrecy; and the New Mason Section. The most active is Ask a Freemason. The rules are simple: anybody can ask a question. But if you want to answer questions, you must be a Master Mason and have your lodge listed in your electronic signature—the "from" section of your post.

The tone of the forums is always respectful. Most of the people who visit are merely curious, but I have seen some strange things written about us there. So I consider it my responsibility well enough to address these dark tales and put the curious person at ➤



Bro. John Ruggiero, Jr. types as "Windrider" in askafreemason.org forums.



Jerusalem Lodge Supports Local Shelter

Jerusalem Lodge in Hatfield prepares and serves meals for folks at the Cot Shelter in Northampton. A committee of brothers at Jerusalem Lodge makes all the arrangements for the meals and Wor. Erik Fawell, an executive chef, prepares the meals. *In photo: 1st row, Bro. Barry Labbe, Wor. Erik Fawell, 2nd row, Wor. Mark Stevens, Benjamin Labbe, 3rd row, Wor. Richard "Scott" Smith.* —*Bro. Barry Labbe*

ease so we can move on to what the Craft is really all about.

Amazing things have started in the forum's electronic world. I once agreed to met in person—someone who turned out to be one of the tallest men I had ever seen—to answer some further questions after initial discussions in the forum. Eventually, he asked and I sponsored him to join my lodge. Our friendship has grown and both our lives are richer for it. Another time, someone looking for a lodge in New Hampshire came to the forum. I had been to a number of lodges there and directed him to one of them. After he was raised, I presented him with a square and compasses pin in his new lodge. It was the first time we met in the real world. I don't think he could have been happier if I had given him a stack of \$100 bills. Well, maybe. There are many other such forum stories.

Grand Lodge has created a forum where we can explain our Craft to the world, and where we can meet on the level electronically. I can't think of a better use for technology or a better way to open communications with the curious, those new to Freemasonry, and yes, even nerds like me!

When you log into the forum, I am "windrider". Say Hi. I'll answer.

—*Bro. John Ruggiero, Jr.*



Mystic Valley Presentation

Dr. Dean J. Saluti, President of the Greater Boston Renaissance Lodge (the largest Sons of Italy lodge in Massachusetts), presented Wor. Philip J. Privitera with the Roman Legionnaire's Sword in June. The sword is the highest honor that the Greater Boston Renaissance Lodge can bestow, and was awarded to commemorate Wor. Bro. Privitera's installation as master of Mystic Valley Lodge. *Shown: Wor. Philip J. Privitera holding the Roman Legionnaire's Sword*

—*Wor. Frank Kautz*



40-year Anniversary at Celestial Lodge

Forty years ago, George Fontana and Harry Kubick made their way through the degrees at Constellation Lodge. Sadly, Bro. Harry Kubick passed last year. However, his son, Wor. Glenn Kubick, a past master of Constellation Lodge of Dedham (which merged with Eliot-Hyde Park in 2009 to form Celestial Lodge) presented his father's friend, Wor. Bro. Fontana with his 40-year anniversary plaque.

—*Wor. Jeff Jarvis*

Family Fun Day at Webster Lodge



Webster Lodge held its first Family Fun Day in June. Over 100 people attended the event, which featured a chicken BBQ with all the fixings. Children enjoyed face painting, bounce houses, a Shrine clown (*in photo*)—Bro. Myrle Francis from Oxford Lodge—and an assortment of toys. The adults mingled and listened to the music by the Pulaski Band, a staple in the area since 1889. The event was planned by the Merriment Committee led by Master-elect, Bro. Paul Davidson.

—*Wor. Don Davidson*



Lobster Fest at Lawrence United

Lawrence United Lodge hosted their second annual lobster fest in May. Nearly 40 brothers and guests enjoyed shrimp cocktail, nine gallons of homemade seafood chowder, two lobsters, cole slaw, corn on the cob, and strawberry shortcake.

Lodge historian, Bro. Andrew McKeon spoke to the guests about the 90th anniversary of the Lawrence Masonic Temple and displayed the ceremonial trowel which was used for the cornerstone laying ceremony.

—*Bro. Ken Crouch*

Passing of the Flag At Hope Lodge



In May, Masons from all over the 22nd District as well as wounded warriors, active duty, and reserve duty members of the 181st infantry Regiment conducted a Passing of the Flag ceremony at Hope Lodge.

The lodge's flag was damaged during hurricane Sandy. A special replacement flag was donated: it flew over Camp Al-Taqaddum in Iraq. The ceremony began with a short greeting from Wor. Doug Cormier and Rt. Wor. Cliff Bohnet, DDGM of the 22nd Masonic District.

DeMolay Master Counsel Nathan Hollis, started the Honor Guard and passed the flag to Hope Meighan McCarthy of the Rainbow Girls. The flag was passed, with the highest degree of respect by being saluted, released, and saluted again, from one person to another toward the raising by wounded warrior Staff Sergeant Bro. Brian Porter and newly raised Private First Class Bro. David Hood.

— Wor. Douglas Alan Cormier



Boy Scouts Honored at Celestial Lodge

In May, Celestial Lodge presented the 8th Annual Donald H. MacLellan Masonic Scout Award to Justin Hui from Westwood and Justin Vitiello from Dedham. This award recognizes one scout from each town for scholastic achievement, service to the community, and the embodiment of the scouting spirit. Each scout received a handsome plaque, a \$500 scholarship, and their names inscribed on the permanent award plaque in the Westwood Masonic Building. (L to R): RW David Laronde, Justin Hui, Wor. Jeffrey Jarvis, Justin Vitiello, and Bro. Kenneth Shaw.

— Wor. Jeffrey Jarvis



150th Anniversary at Day Spring Lodge

Day Spring Lodge in Monson celebrated its 150th anniversary on June 30, 2013 with an afternoon of events including a history lesson on the lodge given by Wor. Ryan Wheaton. The brothers planted an apple tree in the front lawn of the lodge, followed by a cook-out for all the members.

—Doug Battige

Excitable Heart continued from page 19

techniques are today available to treat and prevent the development of life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias.

These therapeutic modalities are available today due in part to the vital research conducted by the internationally renowned Experimental Cardiology team at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. The research findings of the MMRL's scientists together with those of researchers at other institutes worldwide have translated into therapies and preventative measures that have saved countless lives. In the next segment of this series, I hope to expand on the causes of tachycardia and fibrillation and to further discuss how research can provide a new lease on life for many patients.

The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory (MMRL) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation founded and sponsored by Freemasonry. Recognized as a one of the finest biomedical research centers in the world, the MMRL has contributed importantly to the modern day practice of cardiology. Over the past five decades MMRL investigators have been credited with either discovering or unraveling the mechanisms of a majority of known cardiac arrhythmias and is currently one of a handful of medical research institutes worldwide capable of studying the genetic causes of the lethal cardiac arrhythmias responsible for sudden death in young adults, children and infants. The MMRL is leading the way in the development of innovative safe and effective pharmacological treatment for atrial fibrillation, one of the greatest unmet medical needs facing our society.

The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory is the Signature Charity of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The institute is also supported by several Masonic grand jurisdictions and concordant bodies, the general public as well as through corporate, foundation, National Institutes of Health and American Heart Association grants. On average, 84 cents of every dollar donated goes to cardiac research.

Please visit www.mmrl.edu
or www.massfreemasonry.org
to learn more.

Sebastians continued from page 13

Brethren who are thinking about beginning a Masonic collection might consider buying Sebastian Miniatures. They are attractive and affordable. They have great eye appeal, and may appreciate in value. Also, these little figurines are well-thought gifts to Masonic relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers, or candidates you have sponsored to our great fraternity. Remember, Sebastian Miniatures celebrate not only Craft Masonry, but also several appendant bodies. The gift of a Sebastian Miniature is one that a Mason can share with his family, and display with pride.

The author wishes to thank Patricia Latham, Wor. Kirk A. Knowlton, and especially Woody and Margery Baston for their valuable contributions to this article.

Wor. Joseph Goldstein is an avid collector of things Masonic and a frequent contributor to Trowel Magazine. He is the district deputy grand secretary of the 5th District. He is a past master of Garden City Lodge in Newtonville, and an affiliated past master in Boylston Lodge. He is a 2010 recipient of the Joseph Warren Distinguished Service Medal. Cover photography and all photos of miniatures by Rt. Wor. Phil Nowlan. Photos of Woody at work and Prescott Baston courtesy of Woody Baston.

Felker continued from page 14

this fraternity and thereby increase the only number that matters: the number of active Masons.”

The training offered to lodge officers and candidates is very good. He says the pieces are in place; the manuals have been written; but not all officers are benefiting from these aids. Wor. Bro. Felker took it upon himself to attend Masters' Path three times as well as the New Wardens Workshop to learn about new ideas and reinforce those already learned. He says this proved to be very beneficial to him and makes him a better-educated master. He feels, “If we care enough about training officers and candidates correctly, they will likely care enough to stay.”

Brother Felker is a graduate of the Masonic Leadership Institute and says the greatest benefit has been realized at his job. As at the lodge, he finds himself better able to build a consensus and has a better rapport with those he supervises as well as with his supervisors. He says it was a tremendous experience and recommends it to all potential officers. He finds his Masonic training has actually made him more tolerant of big mistakes at his job by using the lessons of the First Degree. As video editors say, “It's only a big problem if it makes air.” Otherwise, he will take the employee aside as he would a brother who had forgotten a sign or grip, make the correction with a friendly smile, thank him for his effort, and make him feel good for having fixed the problem. He says, “This may be an oversimplification of the process, but the bottom line is that if the people I supervise are happy and like me, they will make

every effort to do a good job.”

Worshipful Brother Felker has a very understanding and supportive wife. It was New Year's Day 2012 when he learned his wife was pregnant with their second child—almost nine months before he was to become master. He was all set to inform the lodge that he would not be able to serve, but his wife insisted that he continue. Two weeks before his installation, the child was born, and both children were in attendance at his installation. The four-year-old child in a tuxedo too!

Worshipful Edward Felker certainly “gets it.” He knows what it takes to lead, he knows what it takes to train, and he knows what it takes to manage and motivate. With this combination of skills, it is no wonder his lodge is experi-

Acting Masonic

by Rt. Wor. David P. Newcomb

What makes a man a Mason?
The lapel pin that he wears?
The symbols on his stylish ring
Of Compasses and Square?

For a man to be Masonic
It's a life-long, noble quest.
To serve the world around him
A Mason gives his best.

He holds the door for strangers.
He'll offer a lady his seat.
He's truthful, courteous, fair and square
To all those he might meet.
He cares how others prosper
And is quick with words of praise.
He shares his smile more than once in a while,
And follows the Good Book's ways.

A Mason stands for respectfulness;
He's helpful to those in need.
Faith and Hope will guide his life
With Charity to all – indeed.

He believes in religious liberty;
He tolerates different views;
The tenets of his fraternity
Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

These qualities may be familiar.
These virtues – sacred to few.
The way to that end is seeking new friends.
Masonry's here for you.

Remember:

It's not the symbol on the coat
Or decals that adorn the car.
Acting Masonic when no one is watching
Reveals the true Mason you are.

come to be known as the "Henry Price Address." At the time he delivered it, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania had entered into a dispute regarding the seniority of its own body with respect to that of Massachusetts, a disagreement that has not completely subsided in the present day. Brother Gardner's Henry Price Address traces the early history of Freemasonry, provides a superb biography of Price and an account of his Grand Mastership, the provenance and validity of the Massachusetts Grand Charter, and the work of Price's successors in St. John's (Provincial) Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Accompanied by pictures and a facsimile reproduction of Price's commission, it is the first great work of Masonic scholarship to appear in the Proceedings.

After serving as Grand Master, Brother Gardner returned to the practice of law, and was called to the bench in 1875 and ultimately to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in 1885; in the records of our Grand Lodge, he was usually referred to as Judge Gardner, and was often called upon to interpret cases of Masonic Law; as Grand Master he issued a lengthy ruling on the definition of a Masonic offense, and another important edict reinforcing the 1794 declaration of Grand Master John Cutler regarding territorial jurisdiction (in connection with the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Chile, in which country, Massachusetts had a chartered lodge since 1854). He was a frequent speaker at the Feast of St. John, offering remarks in 1875, 1876, 1880, 1881, 1882, and 1884.

In the fall of 1887 he fell ill; according to the memorial of Grand Master Hutchinson, it was due to "serious nervous prostration, the result of unremitting application to his professional labors." He was commended by Governor Ames for his hard work as a judge, and it was hoped that a trip through Europe would help him to recover; but in the first week of April 1888 he died, just over 60 years of age. His death, along with that of Grand Master Howland in 1887 and the subsequent loss of Grand Master Briggs partway through his first and only year in the Oriental Chair in 1893, constituted a difficult loss for the Grand Lodge; all of these men had been expected to dispense wise counsel in their older age, yet were struck down by the all-devouring scythe far before their time.

Grand Master Gardner's legacy continues to the present. He was a mentor for Grand Master Charles C. Hutchinson and Senior Grand Warden William Salmon, who served in the East of Ancient York Lodge after him; he was a charter member and the first master of Kilwinning Lodge, Lowell's third Masonic lodge; and in 1928 the Masonic community in Lowell honored him by giving his name to a new lodge—William Sewall Gardner Lodge—which merged with Kilwinning Lodge in 2007. Lowell has since given us many distinguished Masons, including Hutchinson and two other Grand Masters: Arthur D. Prince and Andrew G. Jenkins; but among the prominent Masons of Lowell, Gardner must be held among the foremost. He was a gifted, capable, and learned man who truly held the scales of justice in equipoise. ■

CREATE A NEW MASONIC TRADITION!



Tradition is an important part of Masonry. This Masonic Challenge coin is a simple and effective way to promote Freemasonry, encourage camaraderie in lodge, and support the Grand Lodge signature charity, the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory.

The basic tradition is similar to that of a military challenge coin, which, when presented to servicemen, is expected to be carried at all times. The first impression made by the coin is the prestige of the presentation itself, from a particular place of service or from an officer. Thereafter, the coin becomes a symbol of personal pride in the organization or of the honor bestowed by the officer who issued the coin.



When presented to a Mason, more particularly a new member, the coin will gain the prestige of the Masonic organization or individual brother who presented it. It will thereafter become a symbol of pride to both the individual and the Fraternity.

Started as a Masonic Leadership Institute project in 2008, the coin originally had the words "275th ANNIVERSARY." Now, years later these original coins are collector items. The current coin now has the words that every Mason knows, "Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth," the tenets of our profession.

Support the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory

We Masons can support the charity by challenging our brethren, who have a coin, to display it; if they cannot, to make a small (e.g., \$1) contribution to the MMRL.

Create Your Own Lodge Tradition

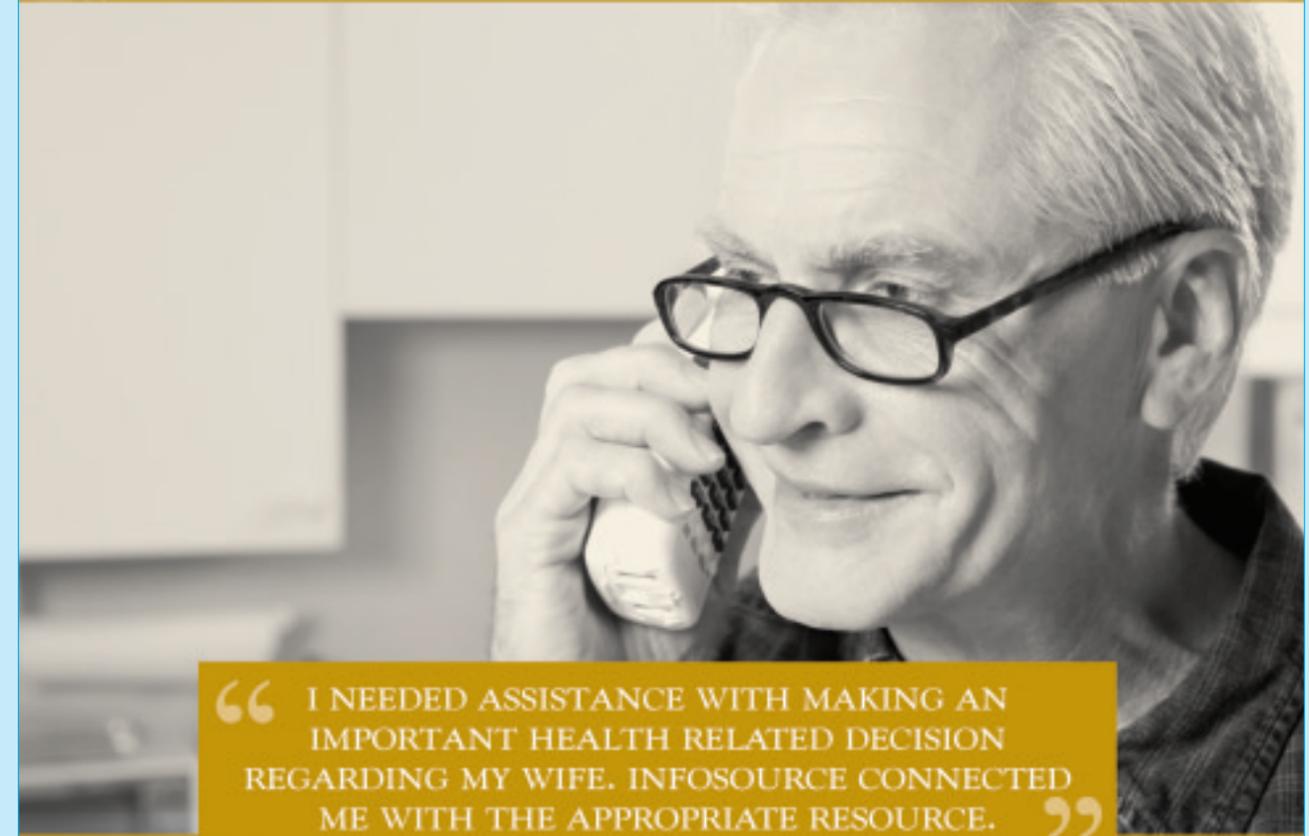
The coin may also be used to encourage camaraderie by creating new traditions. When the coin is presented as a challenge, a request is made. The request is directed to anyone without their coin, or to the original presenter if all present have theirs. These challenges could be used to determine who washes the dishes after collation; who buys the coffee. Stewards could use it to see who sets up the regalia, etc. These Masonic challenge coin traditions support our charities and provide a source of fun and fellowship, which show our communities that Masons are champions of spirit and fun!

The coins are only \$10.00 each!

Contact Brother Leo Kenen at 508-878-4601 or e-mail masonic.coin@fwthompson.org

Thank you for your support. This is a Masonic Leadership Institute project. This design and project was approved by the Grand Master.

BROTHERLY LOVE | RELIEF | TRUTH



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OVERLOOK OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION & WELLNESS | OVERLOOK HOSPICE
THE GROVES IN LINCOLN | MHS PROGRAMMING AND FITNESS





2013 Grand Lodge Service Fair



November 3, 2013 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

East Longmeadow Masonic Building, 43 Chestnut Street, East Longmeadow

Plenty of parking. Coffee and refreshments will be available.

Each area of Masonic Service will be represented.

Find out about on-going service projects in our jurisdiction.

Find out how to get involved as an individual, a lodge, or a district.

Discover what the Grand Lodge Service Committee can do for you and your lodge.

Remember your sincere desire to be serviceable to your fellow creatures!

