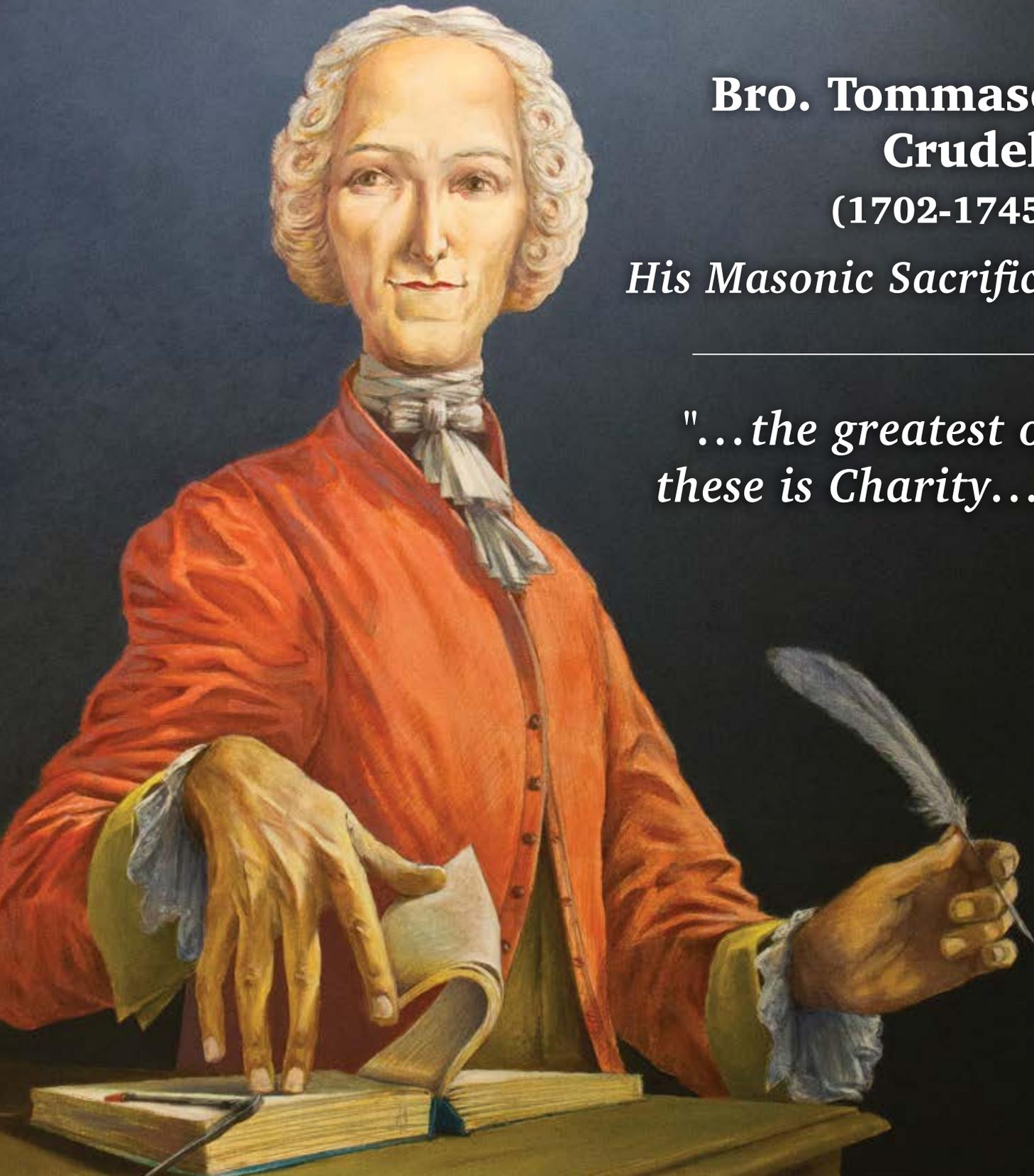


TROWEL



GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS WINTER 2015-16



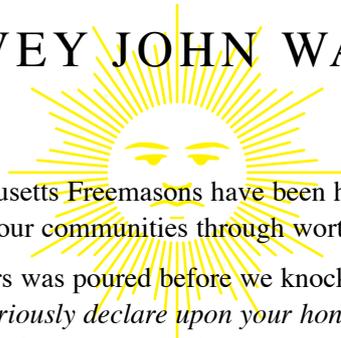
**Bro. Tommaso
Crudeli**
(1702-1745)

His Masonic Sacrifice

*"...the greatest of
these is Charity..."*

From the East of Grand Lodge

HARVEY JOHN WAUGH



Brethren:

For more than 280 years, Massachusetts Freemasons have been honoring our obligation to help our Brothers, aid our families, and assist our communities through worthy causes.

Our foundation for caring for others was poured before we knocked at the door of Freemasonry when the Junior Deacon asked, “*Do you seriously declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Freemasonry, by... a sincere wish to be serviceable to your fellow creatures?*”

During the Entered Apprentice degree, we participated in the Rite of Destitution. We were taught that “the greatest of these is charity,” and we learned the principle tenet of Relief. Progressing through the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees we promised to help aid and assist all poor and distressed Brothers, their widows, and orphans.

Service, charity, and relief are explored throughout our degrees as essential ingredients of what it means to be a Mason.

Because of the generosity, prudence, and planning of the brethren who came before us, Massachusetts Freemasons have long practiced these lessons in our Lodges and in our daily conduct.

We continue to practice them today.

One of the easiest and most popular ways brethren can help us continue this legacy is through a gift to the Grand Master’s Appeal. In this issue, you will find a list of Grand Master’s Appeal donors who have generously contributed more than \$50 in 2015.

If you would like to add your name to this list for 2016, a reply envelope has been inserted for your convenience. All donations support our educational and charitable programs and are tax-deductible.

Another way you can help is through a bequest, which creates a permanent legacy of your support and love for our fraternity. If this is an option for you, you might want to consider it after you have protected your family.

The way and manner in which we offer service, charity, and relief has adapted in response to the needs of our members, families, and society. What has never changed is our dedication to those principles so beautifully illustrated in our ritual, and to those we serve.

As we look ahead and prepare for our future, it is impossible to know the manner and form in which Freemasonry will respond to the demands of its time. What I believe with certainty is that as long as there remains a need, with your assistance and exertions, Massachusetts Freemasons will remain ever serviceable to our fellow creatures.

Fraternally,

Harvey J. Waugh
Grand Master

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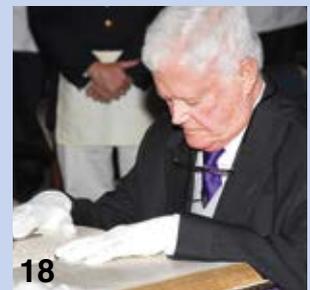


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MW Harvey J. Waugh



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Charity and Sacrifice

Bro. Tommaso Crudeli died to protect Freemasonry. He died to protect freedom of thought. His sacrifice of all he had for all he wanted is astounding. But, in the role of Secretary in a Florentine Lodge, Bro. Crudeli, up to the time of his capture and torture, did his job and embraced Freemasonry. He was a Brother in the halls of Freemasonry. He did what we all do: we take care of our life and our family; but for a better way of living, for a better world, we embrace Freemasonry.



Our following the guidelines of Freemasonry does not demand our death, as it did for Bro. Crudeli. It does, however, require different levels of sacrifice. Those sacrifices can be small: planting trees in Israel for a brother who has passed on the Celestial Lodge, talking to a Brother who is having a hard time, painting a wall, or putting in five dollars instead of one dollar to help with eye disease. All of these acts of charity are acts of love based on sacrifice. Thankfully, not many of us are called upon for the ultimate sacrifice as was our Bro. Crudeli.

This is the path of the Mason: to have a willingness to sacrifice ourselves in order to perform an act of charity for another. And Freemasonry offers a broad range of ways to help. From the Grand Master's appeal to flipping burgers at a cookout, there are ample opportunities to be charitable.

Being charitable, helping others, expressing our brotherly love for those in our Fraternity and love of all mankind, becomes a habit through Masonry. It brings rewards that are never commensurate with our efforts: we always get more than we gave.

But getting "more" is maybe not the right way to compare when discussing charity. If we give our time, we don't get more time in return. Charity's return is not a quantity, but rather charity returns a quality: we always get better than we gave.

In Church, I am often one of the collectors of gifts from the congregation. Everyone there has already given: they have sacrificed their time for their spiritual growth and the growth of others. Like with Freemasonry, the sacrifice is constant, the charitable love for your brothers and mankind is present in every lodge room or fraternal event. The sacrifice of Bro. Crudeli is an act of love that helped preserved Freemasonry. We all can perform such acts, usually without harm to ourselves or family, within our Fraternity. We all join in that loving, charitable quest toward betterment. To paraphrase the Grand Master about the feeling of the Fraternity, if we could bottle it, our halls would be filled and the world would be the better for it.

Fraternally, *Lee H. Fenn*

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
March 23rd

The Grand Master's Florida Schedule

Tampa

Monday, March 14, 2016
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
The Rusty Pelican
2425 North Rocky Point Drive,
Tampa, FL 33607

Fort Myers

Thursday, March 17, 2016
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Edison Restaurant Bar & Banquets
3583 McGregor Blvd
Fort Myers, FL 33901

Delray Beach

Friday, March 18, 2016
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Delray Beach Golf Club
2200 Highland Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33445

Contact the Grand Secretary's Office, 617.426.6040, or GrandSecretary@MassFreemasonry.org to make a reservation. The cost per attendee is \$15 per person. Checks made payable to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.



Bro. Howard C. Bender, of Major General Henry Knox Lodge, on the Battleship Iowa in commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor, which he survived.

Our Pearl Harbor Survivor Honored in California

At 9:30 a.m. Monday—marking the 74th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941—the national ensign on the Battleship Iowa was lowered to half-mast in honor of the 2,403 Americans who perished that day. At 9:48 a.m., a moment of silence was observed and a solo bugler played “Taps,” coinciding with the time that the Japanese attack began.

Monday’s ceremony on the Iowa in San Pedro featured Navy veteran and Pearl Harbor survivor Bro. Howard C. Bender, who was on board the USS Maryland that day. The ship was struck by two armor-piercing bombs but was later repaired and became the first

damaged ship at Pearl Harbor to return to duty and serve during World War II. Other World War II veterans also were in attendance.

Bro. Bender is a 70 veteran in Massachusetts Freemasonry and is a member of Major General Henry Knox military lodge. This article was featured in the Long Beach Telegram shortly after the ceremony which he attended with his wife Geneva.

For more than two decades, San Pedro Harbor was the home port for many of the ships attacked at Pearl Harbor, including the battleships California, Pennsylvania and Arizona.

(Reprinted with permission, the Long Beach Press Telegram, Steve McCrank / Staff Photographer)

Rowan and Liam Congdon enjoying their time in the East, and near a sword, at Boston Commandery #2's Christmas Observance.



Boys' Kindness Heralded by Boston Commandery

On December 16th, 2015, Boston Commandery #2 held its annual Christmas Observance in Ionic Hall at the Grand Lodge in Boston. This is a time where the Sir Knights invite family and friends to be with them to celebrate the Christmas season through words and song.

This year, two of the guest's present were not quite old enough to be Masons or Knights Templar, but made a huge impact on the evening. Rowen (age 8) and Liam (age 10) Congdon, the sons of Bro. Derrick Congdon and his wife Irene came to make a presentation to the Commandery. The boys had recently celebrated their birthdays. Over the past few years they have asked their friends to make donations to different charitable organizations instead of bring-

News & Events continues on page 24



Charity

by *Wor. and Rabbi Irving Luchans*

When a man enters Freemasonry, much of the imagery described and lessons taught in the ritual are focused on Charity. The form of lodge is described as infinite in size to denote the universality of Masonry and to teach that a Mason's charity should be equally extensive. He is further told that the three top rungs of Jacob's ladder denote Faith, Hope and Charity, but that the greatest of these is Charity, for Faith may be lost from sight, Hope ends in fruition, but Charity extends beyond the grave, through the boundless realm of eternity. Faith, Hope and Charity are the three theological virtues and the foundation of Christian moral activity.

The written origin in Christianity is the Apostle Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians. Paul wrote in Greek. His word for Charity was *Αγάπη* (*agape*), meaning an unconditional love for others; in particular, God's unconditional love for Man and vice versa. In the 4th century, Pope Damasus I had an official Latin translation of the Greek New Testament prepared. It is called the "Vulgate." The Greek "agape" became "caritas" in Latin. This became Charity in English though it has still retains its meaning as use as Love.

In Freemasonry, there are brothers of different religions and creeds. The manifestation of our Masonic Charity or Divine/Brotherly Love is often the same. Among them, we can express it in our daily lives by the moral way we live and relate to people. We can give money to the poor or volunteer as in a soup kitchen. We can be philanthropic. We can train people to have employable skills. However, there are differences framed by the goals and interpretations of different religions, sects and faith communities.

The goal of Christianity, according to *diffen.com*, "is for the individual to love God and obey his commandments while creating a relationship with Jesus Christ and spreading the Gospel so that others may also be saved." The Virtue of Christianity is based on Love. For the individual's public persona, acts of Charity and good works are an outward manifestation of his piety and Christian beliefs.

The goal of Judaism, according to *diffen.com*, is for the individual to celebrate Life by focusing on this world, to fulfill Abraham's Covenant with God, do good deeds and help to repair the world. There is a strong social justice ethic.

Central to both Judaism and Christianity are the biblical injunctions: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your might." (Deuteronomy 6:5) and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19, 18).

The Hebrew word for Charity is *tzedaka*. *Tzedaka* is a

mitzvah—a good deed and religious obligation. Throughout the bible, we are commanded to assist our brethren in need, to treat the stranger with hospitality and acceptance, to perform deeds of loving kindness in partnership with God, and to strive for an equitable and fair society. There are codified obligations such as tithing and leaving the corners of the fields unharvested so the poor can glean it themselves. *Tzedaka* is derived from the word *tzedek* which means righteous. The person who personifies all the qualities of a good, charitable and God fearing person who carries out God's moral and ethical obligations is called a *Tzadek*.

One of the greatest Jewish thinkers of all time is the esteemed and influential 12th century Jewish philosopher and Rabbi Maimonides. His brilliant commentary and codification of Jewish law, the *Mishne Torah*, lists his Eight Levels of Giving in the section named "Laws about Giving to Poor People". In ascending order from least to most preferred and effective, they are:

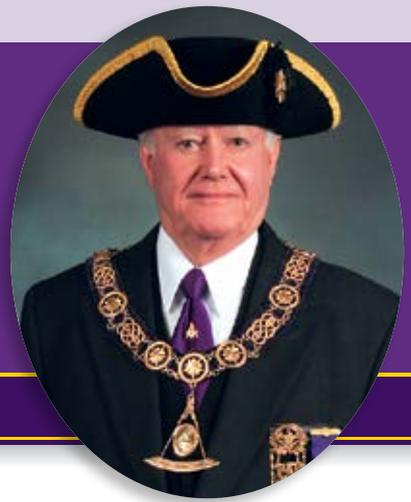
8. When donations are given grudgingly.
7. When one gives less than he should, but does so cheerfully.
6. When one gives directly to the poor upon being asked.
5. When one gives directly to the poor without being asked.
4. Donations when the recipient is aware of the donor's identity, but the donor still doesn't know the specific identity of the recipient.
3. Donations when the donor is aware to whom the charity is being given, but the recipient is unaware of the source.
2. Giving assistance in such a way that the giver and recipient are unknown to each other. Communal funds, administered by responsible people are also in this category.
1. The highest form of charity is to help sustain a person before they become impoverished by offering a substantial gift in a dignified manner, or by extending a suitable loan, or by helping them find employment or establish themselves in business so as to make it unnecessary for them to become dependent on others.

Freemasonry truly unites men of different religions and persuasions. The concept and actualization of Masonic Charity is but one illustration of this. Go and Do. ■

Wor. and Rabbi Irving Luchans is a Past Master of Perfection Lodge in Framingham and serves as its Chaplain. He has served Grand Lodge as a Grand Chaplain since 2005.

THE DECEMBER 2015 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS



by *Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

At 1:30 on December 9, 2015, the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, Most Worshipful Harvey John Waugh, received a standing ovation from the assembled Brethren as the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge commenced in a timely fashion.

The color guard, Scout Troop #74, presented the colors and the Grand Master with a photo and a coin thanking Grand Lodge for the support they received.

Before the opening of the Quarterly, Pat Latham and Lisa Hastings were escorted to the East. They presented the Secretary of the Year awards to Rt. Wors. Steven C. Cohn, of Garden City Lodge, Newtonville, and Peter D. Dorr, Fellowship Lodge, Bridgewater. This award is given for outstanding service in the position of Secretary and honors those who work diligently and consistently in that role.

After preparation, song and prayer, the Grand Master opened The Grand Lodge Quarterly communication in ample form.

The esteemed guests were: M. Excel. Charles R. Austin, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts; M. Ill. Robert C. Corr, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Massachusetts; Sir Knight Andrew C. Maninos, Rt. Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, and the Appendent Orders, of Massachusetts and

Rhode Island; Ill. Donald M. Moran, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts, Ill. Peter R. Smith, 33°, Active for Massachusetts, Ill. Robert C. Schremser, 33°, Active for Massachusetts, Ill. C. William Lasko, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts, and Ill. Ralph I. Sewall, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts, all from Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the USA; Rt. Wor. Wilbur Evans, Sr., Grand Marshal Emeritus, and M. Wor. Nicholas B. Locker, Past Grand Master and Grand Representative to Grand Lodge from The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Ill. David J. Raymond, Potentate of Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Rt. Wor. and Dad Brian S. Noble, Executive Officer of DeMolay for Massachusetts and Active Member, International Supreme Council; Wor. George K. Haile, Worthy Grand Patron, and Chapter of Massachusetts, Order of the Eastern Star; and Wor. Thadeous Owac, Grand Royal Patron, Grand Court of Massachusetts, Order of the Amaranth.

The Grand Master introduced the attending Past Grand Masters: M. Wors. Albert Timothy Ames, Arthur Eugene Johnson, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Jeffrey Black Hodgdon, and Richard James Stewart.

After the introductions concluded and proxies recognized, M. Wor. Bro. Ames described the changes proposed

Left: The boys of Scout Troop #74 with James Rivera, Benamin Galster, Ryan Willome, the Grand Master, Colby Morrill, Evan Platteel and Joshua DePasacreta. **Right:** Rt. Wor. Peter D. Dorr, Lisa Hastings, the Grand Master, Pat Latham and Rt. Wor. Steven C. Cohn after honoring the Secretaries of the year.





Left: Rt. Wor. Don LaLiberte assumes the East during the vote for Grand Master. Right: M. Wor. Jeffrey Black Hodgdon announces the re-election of the Grand Master.

to the Grand Constitutions. There are changes to 50 sections of the Grand Constitutions and M. Wor. Bro. Ames kindly did not read them all. Many are immaterial changes, but some are substantive. All secretaries, masters, wardens and Grand Lodge officers would receive copies of the changes in full. The Grand Master thanked M. Wor. Bro. Ames and noted that the Grand Constitution Review Committee had worked long and hard on these revisions and that he appreciated the effort.

In the necrology, Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Donald H. LaLiberte recounted the loss of six brothers, having of over 260 years of Masonic experience. Rt. Wor. & Rev. Brian S. Dixon led the brethren in prayer.

M. Wor. Bro. Johnson reminded the attending brethren of the voting rules of Grand Lodge. Grand Master gave the oriental chair to Rt. Wor. Bro. LaLiberte. The Grand Master was escorted from the hall. Rt. Wor. Bro. LaLiberte opened the ballot. Once all votes were collected, during an organ interlude, Rt. Wor. Bro. LaLiberte appointed a committee of Past Grand Masters, chaired by M. Wor. Bro. Ames. The committee returned and M. Wor. Bro. Hodgdon announced the results: M. Wor. Harvey John Waugh was re-elected to the office of Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. To applause, the Grand Master accepted the office and returned to the East to express his gratitude at the continued trust of the Brethren.

The Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh, Sr., escorted Rt. Wors. Thomas A. Rorrie and Lawrence E. Bethune from the hall for the vote for Senior Grand Warden. The Grand Master opened the ballot, checked that all voted, then closed the ballot. A committee of Past

Senior Grand Wardens left the lodge room and returned with the result: Rt. Wor. Bro. Rorrie was unanimously elected Senior Grand Warden.

Following the same procedure, Rt. Wors. Paul A. Cataldo and Dennis E. Reebel were balloted on for Junior Grand Warden. Upon returning, the committee of Past Junior Grand Wardens announced the winner, by unanimous vote: Rt. Wor. Bro. Reebel.

The new Senior and Junior Grand Wardens accepted their positions and expressed their gratitude. With the consent of the assembled, a single vote was cast by the Grand Secretary to complete the balloting.

Rt. Wor. Thomas A Rorrie being escorted to the East by M. Wor. Albert T. Ames after being elected Senior Grand Warden.



During the counting of ballots, the Jr. Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Richard Maggio discussed the Masonic license plate program. The Grand Master mentioned that one of the beneficiaries of this program can be wives and families. If a family member of a Mason is stranded by the roadside, with a Masonic license plate on their car, another Mason is obligated to stop and help. In addition, the funds collected via this program by Grand Lodge will go to charitable purposes.

Also during the counting of the ballots, the Grand Master recommended one expulsion for a man who failed to live up to the ideals of the Fraternity.

The Grand Master called Rt. Wor. Edgar R. de Leon to the East for a presentation. Rt. Wor. Bro. de Leon presented a tea box made of precious wood, metal embossed native Mayan designs, and native Mayan fabric to the Grand Master from the Grand Lodge of Guatemala. The Grand Master discussed an award Rt. Wor. Bro. de Leon had received in Guatemala which is equivalent to our Joseph Warren medal. Much to Rt. Wor. Bro. de Leon's surprise, the Grand Master

then awarded him the Joseph Warren Medal.

The Lodge of Saint Andrew, West Roxbury-Dorchester Lodge (Westwood) Rookie Association, Somerville Lodge (Woburn), The Worshipful Master's Association of Southeastern Massachusetts, in memory of Rt. Wor. Henry P. Burke, Wyoming Lodge (Melrose), Rt. Wor. Roy J. Leone, Commander in Chief, Massachusetts Consistory, and Rt. Wor. Donald M. Moran, Deputy for Massachusetts, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America approached the East and made donations to the Brotherhood Fund and Scholarship Program.

Rt. Wor. Ernest A. Pearlstein with others made an additional presentation in memory of Wor. Robert "Skip" Trahey for the Brotherhood Fund, a brother who worked tirelessly for the Craft.

The Grand Master thanked Grand Organist, Bro. George Wiseman, for his music during the communication and commenced his address.

The Grand Master recalled a moment two years ago when he felt humbled and honored to become the 88th Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts. He noted that in the intervening years, with the support of an active Board of Directors and the blessing of the Permanent Members, Grand Lodge has moved forward.

This year's advancement, like those of Grand Masters of the past, was focused on fiscal responsibility and control. Part of this advancement was the Board's authorization of Rt. Wor. Robert V. Jolly to negotiate with Eversource Energy Co. to switch all the lighting in Grand Lodge to LED. This included new, computer controlled, dimmers in Ionic, Tuscan, Doric and Egyptian halls. The dimers in Corinthian

and Gothic halls were reprogrammed and the project has been completed. "Because of special energy reduction programs offered by Eversource, \$200,000 cost was reduced to a total cost to Grand Lodge of \$60,000. After a two year pay back, the annual savings is estimated at \$30,000." The Grand Master thanked Rt. Wor. Bro. Jolly, the Budget Committee, and Board of Directors for this work.

The Grand Master noted that these savings were important, the cost of operating Grand Lodge programs and physical plant needs has come primarily through dues, investment income, and room rental. This was not enough to balance the budget. To address this shortfall, the 186 Committee was formed. This committee is looking into renting some space to local businesses. Several proposals are on the table and being discussed in terms of appropriateness and value to Grand Lodge.

But that is the work of Grand Lodge. The play, the Grand Master noted, comes in the form of brotherly events. Grand Lodge officers have enjoyed 150th celebrations at Charles W. Moore Lodge in Fitchburg and Mount Hollis Lodge in Holliston. Rt. Wor. Bro. LaLiberte was acting Grand Master at the 100th anniversary of Massasoitte-Narraganset Lodge in Fall River. Grand Lodge officers performed a Merger Ceremony between Crescent Pittsfield Lodge and Mystic Lodge, in Pittsfield. During the three hour drive to Pittsfield, the officers realized "the dedication of our western most jurisdiction lodge officers have in attending Grand Lodge meetings and functions held in Boston."

Grand Lodge officers attended the installation of officers at Harvard Lodge and installed the officers at St. John's Lodge. Two days after the Quarterly, Grand Lodge



Votes being cast for Junior Grand Warden.

Left: The Grand Master with Junior Grand Warden Rt. Wor. Dennis E. Reebel. **Right:** Rt. Wor. Edgar de Leon presenting a gift from the Grand Lodge of Guatemala.



officers installed the officers at Winslow Lewis Lodge.

The Grand Master attended, with or without officers, the Rookie and Master Builders award recognition dinner, the Masonic Secretary's Association dinner, the Marlboro Beefeater's dinner, the Bay State Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, the combined annual weekend convention on Cape Cod for the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and a meeting of the Societas of Rosecurciana. Other events included the Scottish Rite, Valley of Boston, One-Day-Class, Weymouth-United Lodge Veterans Night and the Lodge of St. Andrews in Boston.

The Grand Master also visited the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Maryland and Rt. Wor. Bro. LaLiberte represented your Grand Lodge at the installation of officers at the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

The Grand Master was in attendance with Rt. Wor. Bro. Jolly at the World Conference of Regular Masonic Grand Lodges in San Francisco. This was an exciting event: Grand Jurisdictions from 105 countries were represented. Each time this bi-annual event takes place it is on a different continent: next time, in 2017, it will be in Madagascar. "The sum and substance resulting from the Conference revealed a not so surprising fact" that "all grand jurisdictions throughout the world share the same problems, and all grand jurisdictions have the same hopes and aspirations. . .when visiting with other brothers and officers from all over the world—from Nigeria to Germany, Australia to Russia and India to Iran, fraternalism prevailed."

The Grand Master recalled delivering the 2005 words of

M. Wor. Bro. Hodgdon to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, "If it weren't for Masonry, I would not have the pleasure of knowing anyone in this room." The Grand Master noted that having his brother as Grand Marshal makes this statement hard for him to say; however, "when we are in a room full of Masons, we all have that special feeling" that new brothers are friends and share in our common bond of fraternal love and friendship. "If we could bottle these feelings and relationships, and explain to good men of character that they can enjoy these same pleasures of Masonry, I am sure many of them would love to be a member of our fraternal society," said the Grand Master.

The Grand Master reflected on the success of the Brotherhood Fund. This fund provides relief for brothers in need, who have suffered extreme losses. The Brotherhood Fund has provided this assistance, but in many cases was supported a financial partner: the Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction 33rd degree. The Grand Master pointed out the frontline brother of this support, the one who receives the call for help from the Service Director, Ill. Donald M.

Moran, 33° and the brother who made the Almoners Fund the driving force it is today, an enviable model of a charitable program, the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, Ill. John William McNaughton, 33°.

The Grand Master thanked all who contributed to the past year and wished every one the best of this holiday season and a most joyous new year. The Grand Master closed Grand Lodge in ample form. ■



Rt. Wor. Edgar de Leon after receiving the Joseph Warren medal.

Left: Representatives of many lodges crowd the East to make presentations to the Grand Master. Right: Rt. Wor. Donald Watson, Ill. David Raymond, the Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Ernie Pearlstein, Wor. Robert Stanley and Rt. Wor. Timothy S. McGavin presenting a check to the Grand Master.





The Prodigal Mason

by Richard Thompson



My formal introduction to Freemasonry came in March 1965 when I joined Lowell Chapter, Order of DeMolay.

I refer to this as my formal introduction since my actual introduction came in the mid-1950s when I started to accompany my father to Masonic events. He was a member of St. Paul Lodge, which at that time shared quarters with Caleb Butler

Lodge in Ayer, in a building above a bank. Today, St. Paul is meeting in Gardner.

I was always impressed by the pomp and ceremony that surrounds Masonic lodges. The officers in their tuxedos and the silver jewels with their silver collars told me at even a young age this is something special. But on that March night in 1965, the first thing that hit me was the Lowell Masonic Center.

When I walked through those huge and quite heavy front doors, the view of that lobby was awe inspiring. I didn't realize it at that moment, but my relationship with that building continued long beyond my years in DeMolay.

As an officer in Wamesit Lodge in Tewksbury, I attended Lodge of Instruction in that building five times a year. As a Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Master, I added 10 more nights to the list of nights in the Lowell Masonic Center.

When I finished my years as a lodge officer, suddenly, I wasn't spending all that much time there. And as my children grew and they themselves became active in a variety of things, I was never in a building that had once been so important to me.

That changed when Rt. Wor. John Appleby asked me to be his District Deputy Grand Secretary. I was back in the Lowell Masonic Center.

My first return trip to the center was disappointing. The building looked worn. I guess rising prices and declining memberships were taking their toll. I started to think I may see the end of this once beautiful building. I thought I may see the end for this Masonic monument in Lowell.

Last summer I got an invitation from Rt. Wor. Archie Campbell to tour the Lowell Masonic Center. Members of

the lodges there had spent some time working on the building and they wanted to show off what they had done. I didn't know what to expect.

I arrived on Saturday morning and met two of our brothers, Phil Girard and Jonathan Paquette. Rt. Wor. Campbell said the two were deeply involved in the work. About an hour into my tour were joined by Wor. H. Mark Leonard. Having Mark there was special. You see, he was in the lodge room the night I joined Lowell DeMolay. I've known Mark as long as I have known the building.

As I started the tour, I expected to see a new paint job on a couple of walls. What I saw, however, was a major restoration, a restoration that was still under way.

The Mason's in Lowell were determined to return the Lowell Masonic Center to its former glory. They have turned the building into something more spectacular than it was on that first night I walked through that huge front door.

The main lodge room, Grecian Hall, had color in it, something I don't remember being there. There was blue on the walls with ornamentation done in gold. I remembered the walls as yellowish beige. In fact, I remember the interior of the building in that same yellowish beige.

I learned the original plan called for the building association to hire a painter to do the work. The estimate was out of sight. So, the members decided to do it themselves, put a bit of sweat equity into the facility.

Seeing what was done and hearing how some determined Mason's made it happen reminded me of my own experiences. A year before I joined the officers line in Wamesit Lodger, the lodge opened. New building. We were operating on a shoestring and had to raise a good chunk off money each year to operate the building. This meant fundraising.

We spent a great deal of time raising funds. This meant we were always together, always working. I have fond memories of those years and the brothers who were involved in that effort. I suspect the Masons in Lowell will have leave this restoration job with a similar experience.

I was worried that we would someday soon lose the Lowell Masonic Center. I'm not worried any longer. And I shouldn't have been worried in the first place. I forgot that a determined group of brothers scan do anything they set their minds to do.

So, when you have a chance, head over to the Lowell Masonic Center to see the rebirth of a Masonic gem. And then think about what you and your brothers could do to accomplish something for your lodge. ■

Richard Thompson is the secretary for Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge and a Mason with fond memories of working hard with his brothers to make his lodge a success.



LODGE BUILDING IN FOCUS: **THE LOWELL MASONIC BUILDING**

by Wor. G. Edward Brown

The Lowell Masonic Building, built in 1928, houses 10 Masonic bodies. The building is owned by the LMA, the Lowell Masonic Association, Inc., which was founded in the mid 1800's. Each of the 10 bodies has 3 representa-

The building as it looked in 1928.



tives which comprise the LMA. There is a President and two Vice Presidents. They do their work through four committees: Executive, Finance, Charity, and Legacies committees.

With a great deal of work by the brethren in those bodies and the governing board, they have this year, gotten a new insurance carrier, replaced half of the sprinklers, 350 in total, painted the main lodge room, updated occupancy certificate and the heart machine, fixed the Egyptian room mural (restoration by a member), upgraded emergency lights and exit signs, changed all the lights in main lodge room, gotten new fire extinguishers, installed bathroom motion lights, cleaned the furnaces so they work efficiently, upgraded security computer, updated access list to building which included an audit of keys, employed a new building superintendent, collected about \$30,000 through an appeal letter, installed plexiglass in windows and lighted electrical switches, fixed air/ventilation system, finished the kitchen, painted the old museum room/sitting room, and performed the annual yard clean up.

The building has hosted an end of year football get together, a Rainbow Girls Ball, a Rainbow Girls overnight,



Wors. Mark Leonard and George Tournas cleaning the outside.



*Above: Wor. G. Edward Brown working in the Grecian room.
Below: Bro Matt Robinson works on removing the vines from the exterior of the building.*



One of the many Brothers who painted the banquet hall.



Many hands make light work in the Grecian room.

and was featured in Open Doors Lowell for National Preservation Month.

Next year they will address the handicap signs, fix ramp, paint ladies parlor, finish floor and windows in the banquet hall, complete sprinkler project, paint exterior fire escape and exterior canal side windows, do a spring clean-up, spruce up ladies parlor, decide about the tapestries (sale/auction?), consider a new lodge room rug, take down exterior vines, address the parking issue, and hang flag. ■



A Home for the Care of Aged Masons

by Rt. Wor. Walter Hunt

Within the past few years, Massachusetts has celebrated the centenary of its Masonic Home, a top-notch care facility that has been serving the needs of our fraternal family since 1909. We are indebted to the exceptional efforts of two Grand Masters—M. W. John Albert Blake and M. W. Dana Judson Flanders—who placed the institution on a firm footing so many years ago.

The idea of a Masonic Home, however, precedes their efforts by almost two decades, dating back almost to the establishment of the Masonic Education and Charity Trust.

In 1884, with the debt of the Grand Lodge retired, it moved to establish a new, separate organization to “receive, hold, invest, reinvest, and manage all gifts, devises and bequests.” This new Trust would have its own Board of Trustees, and its funds would be used for educational or charitable purposes “or for the relief of distressed Freemasons, their widows, or orphans”—the very admonition that appears in our rituals. From the time of its institution, the Masonic Education and Charity Trust lent its help not only to individual members but to organizations in need of assistance—the Trust lent its assistance to victims of the Galveston Fire and the Johnstown Flood.

In 1888 Past Grand Master Samuel C. Lawrence pointed out the lack of a Masonic Home in Massachusetts in his comments at the Feast of St. John. Following a tour of the Masonic Temple in Boston, Past Grand Master Nickerson was asked by an English Masonic dignitary about charitable institutions such as orphans’ or aged brothers’ homes, and needed to confess that Massachusetts had no such facilities. Lawrence observed that

It is evident that the charitable work to be performed by the Grand Lodge can be: no wider than its means; it must be based upon the funds at its disposal. The Grand Charity Fund . . . is destined in the future to be the great central fountain of the charities of the Craft in this State; it is a matter of deep concern to us that the volume of its outflow shall be commensurate with the wealth, dignity and beneficent character of the Institution. It is true that a wide-spread charitable work of an unobtrusive kind is being silently done by the Lodges of the State. . . but the Lodges cannot do everything. They are small Bodies, and their funds are inadequate to any wide-reaching scheme of benevolence. It is only the Masons of the State, by their concerted action, who can found asylums where their orphans can be cared for and provide refuges for aged and helpless Brethren. We have already seen that this is a work which is yet to be done by the Masons of this Commonwealth, and that so long as it remains un-performed, we fall short of the true ideal of our Fraternity, and fail to interpret rightly its beneficent injunctions.



At last in 1892, at the end of the term of Most Wor. Samuel Wells, a committee was appointed to “consider the expediency of establishing a Masonic Home for the care of aged Masons, and the wives, widows and orphan children of Masons; said committee to have authority to petition the General Court for the necessary legislation.” This was embraced by the new Grand Master, Richard Briggs, in his first address to the Grand Lodge at the Feast of St. John the Evangelist.

“I do hope that, during the coming year, we shall set up a Freemasons' Home. In regard to that Masonic Home I wish to say a very few words.

“To my mind a work of charity, founded and fostered by the Fraternity, in Massachusetts, has been too long deferred. . .

I am in favor of this proposed Masonic work, and our newly-elected Senior and Junior Wardens both authorize me to say that it has their hearty cooperation. Such a charity would not only help those in need, but would directly benefit the Lodges by placing before them a worthy cause, to which they could bend their energies.

“There are poor, aged and afflicted Masons, destitute and helpless orphans, in this jurisdiction. As a Fraternity teaching charity, have we done our whole duty towards them? I recognize the temporary charitable work done, but are there not more permanent demands? . . . Let us make a beginning. It may require time to accomplish it; but let us press on wisely and perseveringly, and a monument of Masonic charity will be erected which will honor the Brotherhood.”

Charles Levi Woodbury, Past Deputy Grand Master and one of the great Masonic speakers of the day, added the following comments:

“I have listened attentively to what has been said about a Masonic Home for Massachusetts. It requires serious consideration what we ought to do in the matter . . . Brethren who have belonged to Masonic institutions ought to be reminded when they are making their wills, they should not forget that they owe a duty to Masonic charitable institutions which have been long founded and which we are trying to carry on. The Masonic Home is an object which should be remembered in the will of every Masonic Brother. Put it in your hearts, Brethren, and act accordingly, and half a generation cannot go past before such an institution will be amply endowed with funds to carry it on in such a way that it will be a glory and an honor to the State.”

The establishment of such an institution in 1893 was not only a noble goal—the best demonstration of the good intentions of the Fraternity—it was a declared intention of the Grand Lodge and its new Grand Master.

At the June, 1893 Quarterly Communication, Grand Master Briggs reported on the work of the Masonic Home

(continued on page 30)



Most Worshipful Richard Briggs

MM 1852, Columbian

*Charter Member 1856, WM 1862, 1863, Revere
Charter Member 1865, WM 1867, Lodge of Eleusis*

Junior Grand Warden 1870

Grand Master 1893 (died in office)

Richard Briggs was a Boston businessman, born in Dedham in 1829, the son of a Mason who signed the Declaration of the Freemasons in 1831. He came to Masonry early in life, when he became a member of Columbian Lodge of Boston, and was a principal in the formation of two other Boston lodges—Revere and the Lodge of Eleusis, in each of which he served as Worshipful Master.

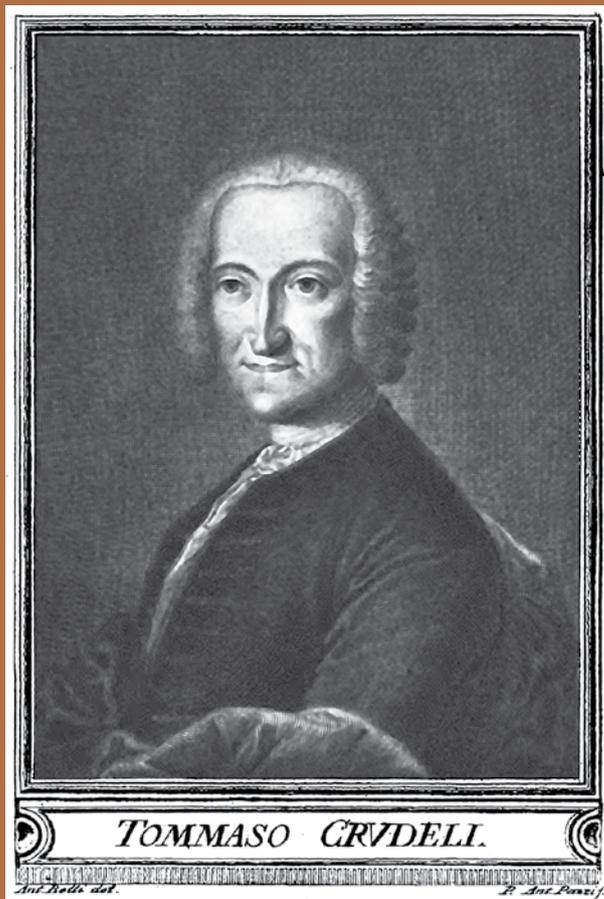
He was widely regarded for his “integrity and uprightness in all the relations of life,” and was respected not only for his Masonic activity—which was extensive—but also for his business dealings. He rose quickly in the esteem of his brethren, and was elected Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge in 1870 at the young age of 41, at which time he had already served a term as a Director.

He traveled a great deal in order to obtain stock for his business, and was not in ideal health, but his death—only seven months into his administration—came as a terrible shock to the Brethren who had acclaimed him as Grand Master so recently.

Rt. Wor. Harvey Shepard, his Deputy, who served out the remaining portion of the 1893 year, wrote in his memorial:

"How glad we all were when in December he was elected unanimously Grand Master of Masons of this Commonwealth. It was characteristic of Richard Briggs that his first official act looked to the provision of a Masonic Home for poor and needy Brethren and their widows and little ones. It was not for him to build a Temple, nor to free it from the burden of oppressive debt . . . A great and worthy charity, however, relieving sorrow and assuaging pain, founded during his administration, would have been a privilege and distinction full of satisfaction to his kindly nature. No better tribute to his memory can we provide than to carry on and complete this beneficent enterprise."

Regrettably, the work of erecting a Masonic Home was put aside for fifteen years, only coming to fruition long after his death. It is regrettable that such a philanthropic and generously-spirited man had so brief a time in service to the Masonic Fraternity. ■



Bro. Tommaso Crudeli Martyred for Freedom and Freemasonry: The right to freedom of thought and to change one's personal philosophy

Lecture on the occasion of the presentation to the Grand Lodge of Bro. Tommaso Crudeli's bust, First Martyr of Universal Freemasonry

By Katherine Burton Jones,
Director of the Museum of Tommaso Crudeli (HSTCI),
and Bro. Roger D. Dunn,
Ambassador of North America of HSTCI, Worshipful
Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Maryland

Above: A portrait of Bro. Crudeli by Ant. Betti, R Ant. Pazzis, 1747, made while he was alive, but published after his death.

Color portrait Cover: TOMMASO CRUDELLI (1702-1745) . Modern portrait by Clet Abraham, Florence 2003. By courtesy of Historical Studies Institute Tommaso Crudeli, Italy. This is the first public printing of this portrait.

Historical context of the Crudeli Affair

At the dawn of the Enlightenment, Tuscany was still under the influence of the late Renaissance. Many in the region aspired to a cultural and social renewal. Enlightened men of Florence, all belonging to the upper middle or noble class, fought for cultural renewal especially decades of harsh rule by the Medicis. The vanguard of the dissent was extensive and was based at the University of Pisa. The University was under special surveillance since Rome had experienced the first signs of loss of control with the changing society. This was just the beginning of the long conflict against the privileges of the Church, the power of the Inquisition, the abuses of the clergy, and the ecclesiastical feudal privileges of donations and positions inherited through stipulations in wills in favor of the Church.

At the same time an English "colony" complete with nobles, princes, ambassadors and even spies (both sides) settled in Florence. This migration was part of a strategic plan of the King of England, George II, to enter the Italian political chessboard in the upcoming post-Medici era. He promoted the candidacy of the Duke of Lorraine (a Mason) in the succession of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany.

This English polarity was a strong center of interest for intellectuals and the upper middle class. Florentines were attracted by the ideas beyond the Alps and the influence of religion reformist and therefore their interactions with the British circles was increasingly important. They were somewhat new to Masonic ideas, with the Grand Lodge of England being founded less than twenty years before (1717). These Englishmen decided to form a Masonic Lodge in Florence (1732) under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of England.

The English and Freemasonry were perceived as a new threat. The Holy See had decided to shut down once and for all any outbreak of unconventionality and renewal in Tuscany, and to:

- restore the "scolastica" doctrine and the "aristotelism" at the University of Pisa;
- disperse Freemasonry, protected by British schismatics considered a center of anti-clergy propaganda; and,
- finally, give a lesson which would serve an example for other small States in the peninsula and Europe as well.

Thus, that is why Rome decided to issue a Papal Bull (April 1738) against Freemasonry in eminent apostolorum specula that excommunicated the Societies or Associations of such Freemasons and their members.

When the Bull was communicated to the Government the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, it, along with France and many other European countries, refused to register it. Freemasonry was considered a topic of secular character and therefore not relevant to the Church. Nevertheless, given the tension that existed in Florence, Florentine Masons prudently decided to dissolve the Lodge.

The Edict of Cardinal Firrao, in January 1739, reinforced the severity of the recent Bull with the provisions of the death penalty for the Freemasons, felling the houses of Masonic meetings, and the seizure of land on which they stood. Yet

further, the Church needed to demonstrate its power over Freemasonry and choose the Florentine lawyer and poet, Bro. Tommaso Crudeli, as its scapegoat.

Imprisonment and torture

On May 9, 1739, Bro. Tommaso Crudeli came home alone late at night after spending a long evening with friends. He was surrounded by two teams of the constabulary and taken to the prison of the Bargello in Florence without being given any reasons. Two days later he was transferred in a cramped cell of the Inquisition. The cell was in an attic, six paces long and three wide, so that Tommaso, over six feet tall, could not walk or even stand up. The garret had no windows and light, there was only straw on the ground and no bucket. He was held in such atrociously inhuman conditions for three weeks and then was transferred to a cell with slightly better conditions (he could stand up but there was no light and no fresh air).

After three months of such torture, Bro. Crudeli, who had no contact with anyone other than his jailors and did not know the charge of arrest, was subjected to the first interrogatory. The Inquisitor Ambrogi hoped for a physical collapse that would unnerve even the morale of the prisoner, in order to force him to invoke pity and to admit that horrors and abominations were being committed in the secrecy of the Masonic lodge.

It was necessary that these revelations come from a spontaneous confession. He was accused as a heretic because they could not condemn him as a Freemason: the Papal Bull of 1738, not being registered, had no validity in the Grand Duchy. Inquisitors kept him sitting on a stool for two days while they questioned him about Freemasonry and especially the names of the members of the Florence Lodge. Bro. Crudeli would not comply and was returned to his cell.

After 90 days of total darkness, another interrogation was made in a bright room with windows with a view of the lawn of the courtyard: he could gaze at the beauty of the light, the greenery outside, the birds singing, and hear the sound of the human conversation. At this point the Inquisitor was kind to him trying to sway him into signing the false confession. Instead Tommaso held out for two days of tormenting interrogation with explicit threats. The Martyr instead did not sign the minutes submitted to him and did not reveal the names of the brethren of the Lodge,

even though he was the secretary because he knew English. The Inquisitor found in front of him a resolute man with a psyche not affected by the harsh treatment. He sent Bro. Crudeli to jail for another four months, in the same conditions as before. All of Florence was stunned and the Brethren were in turmoil. The affair became international and the Grand Lodge of England sent funds to the Lodge in Florence to try to facilitate the release of Bro. Crudeli.

With a ploy, the prisoner managed to drop summaries of the ordeal through a small crack to a Brother who presented them to the Minister of Justice Rucellai, a Mason. This information was then submitted to the Governor Richcourt, also a Mason. The Grand Duke of Lorraine, residing in Vienna, was informed of the Crudeli Affair. The Regency of the Grand Duchy (in Florence) developed an escape plan to get Bro. Crudeli to Genoa and then to Switzerland, but at the last minute it could not be implemented.

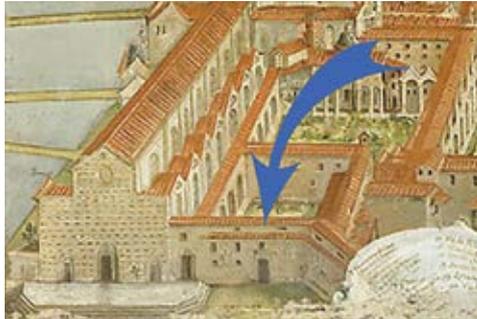
Tommaso's father begged the religious authorities to secure the release of his son; however this was in vain and due to his deep regret and sadness over the treatment of his son, he died of a broken heart.

Bro. Crudeli was subjected to another interrogation, lasting two more days, with the same questions asked hundreds of times, with the same continuous denial of the prisoner, who now was vomiting blood, the same refusal to sign the confession already prepared and in which appeared names of brother Freemasons.

Near Christmas (1739), Tommaso's brother, Antonio, who was impulsive and reckless, tried to help him flee. The plan failed and the discovery of tools for the escape following the searches of the cell, worsened the position of the Martyr: to the Inquisitor this was an admission of guilt.

After another four months of imprisonment with the previous harsh interrogation, Tommaso was brought in, almost dying, to a new confrontation with two Inquisitors who soon abandoned the attempt as Tommaso did not even respond, though this time the questions focused only on religious matters. The Inquisition had failed in its objective to get him to give details of Freemasonry, and, instead, tried to convict him on charges exclusively religious before he died in prison.

After being imprisoned for fourteen months, the Martyr was transferred to a fortress in Florence and in August 1740 the Inquisition tried to again to get him to recant. Tommaso,



Location of the Tribunal of the Inquisition, the Cloister at the side of the Basilica of Santa Croce (about XVII), Florence, Italy where Bro. Crudeli was imprisoned.



Palazzo Crudeli (XV), Poppi (Florence), where Tommaso Crudeli died in 1745 after five years of illness for the after-effects of torture and imprisonment in the Tribunal of the Inquisition of Florence. This site is a regularly visited by Freemasons. (by courtesy of Historical Studies Institute Tommaso Crudeli, Italy).



'Excerpt from the Minute book of the Moderns' Grand Lodge, 1739. Copyright, and reproduced by permission, of the Library and Museum of Freemasonry, London, UK'

squatting on a bench, did not speak. His gasping, with a mouth full of blood, was interpreted by Inquisitor as assent to the accusations. He was sentenced to death, but immediately graced and commuted into perpetual residence in his palazzo in Poppi (a small village in Tuscany), where he remained confined to bed until his death (1745). This confinement lasted almost five years and was exacerbated by the fact that, twice a day, some monks came to pray in his room to seek his repentance and his return to the sacraments of salvation.

The Grand Duke of Lorraine asked Bro. Crudeli for a detailed report while he was under house arrest. He was able to dictate to a faithful brother Mason and based on what emerged the Grand Duke closed the Tribunal of the Inquisition in 1742 (the first case ever in the world) while Tommaso was still alive: his Martyrdom was not in vain.

Subsequently the Grand Duke, who was truly enlightened, physically demolished the Inquisitor Tribunal and turned toward the cancellation of the death penalty, also the first in the world.

Considerations on inhumanity and antihumanity perpetuated to Bro. Tommaso Crudeli

L'affaire Crudeli is the first specific aggressive act towards a vision of tolerance of a multicultural, multiethnic and multireligious society that is the cornerstone of Freemasonry. The affair is not tied to schismatic mysticism or magic metaphysical visions, but the fear that self-discipline of moral and social virtues such as Freemasonry could undermine the supremacy of religious mono-thought.

It is important to remember the courageous spirit and mental determination of Bro. Crudeli as a singular example of this lengthy challenge that has faced Freemasonry. Through

his imprisonment and torture Bro. Crudeli was denied human rights covered in several articles of



The bust of Bro. Tommaso Crudeli in the East of Grand Lodge after being presented to M. Wor. Harvey J. Waugh prior to the installation of Grand Lodge.

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed by the UN in 1948, primarily articles 3, 5, 9, 18, 19 and 20. Special emphasis is put in particular on Article 18; the principle of differentiation of thought and interpersonal communication, that is the basis of our coexistence democratic, multi-cultural respect and mutual tolerance. Exactly what Freemasonry advocated for almost three centuries.

The imprisonment of Bro. Crudeli because he was Freemason, despite the severe health conditions, was an attempt to forcefully change him towards a belief discarded, though previously held since birth. This constant physical and psychological coercion was intended to reduce or annihilate his desire for the "freedom of thought" and conscience (precisely what is noted in article 18) and for him to abandon his principles.

He is the first link in the long struggle by Freemasonry in time and, unfortunately, it has not yet ended as we have seen in Paris in January 2015 where three Freemasons in the office of Charlie Hebdo were killed.

Conclusions to date

Despite many severe cases of fundamentalism in the world, the results of tolerant coexistence and respect are growing and an important step for all mankind is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 that, although some States have not even signed the basic ones of 30 articles, is the only "milestone" on which to base our human relations in the context of individual Liberty and collective Liberties. A possible interpretation of this "milestone" is also, if not above, that Freemasonry has been strong component for achieving what we eventually can trust as "peaceful coexistence between peoples beyond every creed, culture and color" that the Brotherhood was the predecessor in saying and supporting it.

The work the Institute of Historical Studies of Tommaso Crudeli (HSTCI)

Our work is to identify the martyrdom of Bro. Tommaso Crudeli. In this long campaign (over 25 years) that the Institute has undertaken rediscovering relevant facts and correspondence of the affair. We are convinced that the First Martyr of Universal Freemasonry is a candidate to become the champion of Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which stabilizes freedom of thought, conscience, religion - in perfect harmony with Article 1 which states that "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood." These three liberties of integral human are interdependent and indivisible and, compared to other Human Rights, have an inherent power of resistance; they are stronger than death.

Look for a nomination of Bro. Tommaso Crudeli as the champion of article 18 and the First Martyr of Universal Freemasonry. The question before us is: "After three centuries, can we say to his butcher 'Where is your victory?'" ■



LODGE BUDGETS

by Bro. Yotam Mendlinger

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.

—Benjamin Franklin

When a brother asks about the lodge budget he usually gets a reply that starts and finishes with, we will use last year's budget this year, and in many cases the budget will work.

This, however, is not the right way to view or review the budget. In Masonry, things move slowly and it takes time for things to change. This is one of the main reasons that lodge budgets have been able to fit with a 95% success on a year to year basis, and in majority of cases using the last year's budget will work for this year and the following one. In the long run, however, this is not the case.

The best analogy I have for how often we should work and update the lodge budget comes from fishing, something that I learned once I moved to Massachusetts; I grew up in the desert of the Holy Land. When you go fishing one of

the most important things to do is bait the hook, for without it nothing can be caught. So we bait the hook, throw it into the ocean, and wait. Yet how long do we wait? If you leave it in the water for an hour or so and feel nothing what does that mean? Is the bait still on the hook or has it been taken? In order to figure that out, you need to reel the line in and check. If the bait was taken you bait it again and throw it back in. If the bait is still good, then throw the line back in.

However, if you decide to check it every few minutes you will end up wasting time and energy. This happened to me when I went on the Charity Lodge charity fishing trip. Every 4 to 5 minutes I brought the rod up to see if I caught something. By the end of the day, not only were my arms hurting, but I spent more time reeling the rod than fishing. I caught no fish.

Lodge budgets are the same. We do not need to tweak them every few months or do very big changes on a year to year level however if we do not follow up on them regularly; within a few years we can find that they are not working. What usually happens is that we start taking money from

(continued on page 29)



ASK THE GRAND LECTURERS

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

We have a couple of old and one new topic this time:

Q *I've read and heard that non-Masons can be presented to the East when a Lodge is open. But I've also read and heard that non-Masons cannot be presented. Which is correct?*

A In the early 2000s MW Donald G Hicks Jr. who was then the Grand Master ruled that non-Masons could be presented to the East but could not occupy seats there. Unfortunately the 2007 edition of the Masonic Trestle Board—which remains the most current edition—was not updated to reflect this ruling. However the ruling remains in force and non-Masons can be so presented.

Q *I notice that in the Cipher there is a paragraph called the Tyler's Obligation. When is that used?*

A While not generally used in Massachusetts, a number of other jurisdictions use it as part of their examination of visitors. Thus if you are traveling out of jurisdiction and wish to visit a Lodge it would be a good idea to review the paragraph.

Q *I notice the 2016 Exemplifications will include the*

Masonic Memorial Service. Is this necessary?

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

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

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

Q *Is it a Masonic Funeral service or a Masonic Memorial service?*

A We used to call it a Funeral Service although Memorial Service is more accurate and now strongly encouraged. Of course, how we perform the Service is much more important than what we call it. ■

A Grand Installation



The Grand Master deep in prayer before assuming the East.

In attendance were the following guests: M. Excel. Charles R. Austin, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts; M. Ill. Robert C. Corr, Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Master

Massachusetts DeMolay (and Master Mason in Howard Lodge of South Yarmouth); Rt. Wor. David J. Raymond, Illustrious Potentate, Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order—Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; Wor. George K. Haile, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, Order of the Eastern Star; and Wor. Thadeus J. Owac, Grand Royal Patron, Grand Court of Massachusetts, Order of the Amaranth.

Masons of Massachusetts; Sir Knight Andrew C. Maninos, Rt. Em. Grand Commander, The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island; Ill. Donald M. Moran, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts, Ill. Donald G. Hicks, Jr., 33°, Active for Massachusetts, and Ill. Peter R. Smith, 33°, Active for Massachusetts, all with the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America; Rt. Wor. and Dad Brian S. Noble, Executive Officer for Massachusetts and Active Member International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay; Bro. William H. M Blake, State Master Councilor,

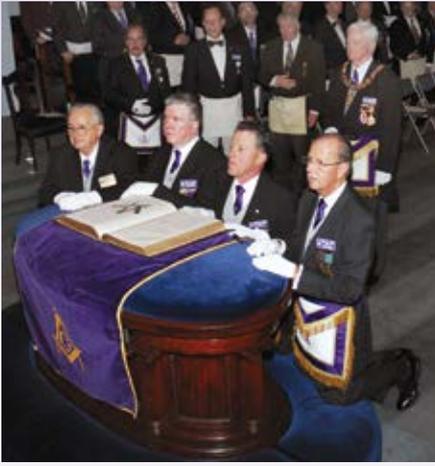
Past Grand Masters of Massachusetts in attendance were: M. Wors. Albert Timothy Ames, Arthur Eugene Johnson, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Jeffrey Black Hodgdon, and Richard James Stewart.

From outside of the United States, M. Wor. Peter J. Ponsford, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, Ancient Free & Accepted Mason is preceded, like all visiting Grand Lodge officers, by a flag from their jurisdiction or country. Representatives from the United States jurisdictions were received in order of the age of their Grand Lodges. They were:

- Rt. Wor. James W. Golladay, Jr., Grand Junior Deacon of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Virginia, founded 1778



Left: Prior to opening the communication, Katherine Burton Jones, Director of the Museum of Tommaso Crudeli (HSTCI), and Wor. Roger D. Dunn, Ambassador of North America of HSTCI, Wor. Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Maryland presented the Grand Master with a bust of the first martyr of Freemasonry, Bro. Tommaso Crudeli. Center: During the procession around the hall, Bro. William H. M. Blake, State Master Councilor Mass. DeMolay, carries the white candle. Right: Standing in the East at the left of the Grand Master, the new Deputy Grand Master, Rt.Wor. David R. Lucas smiles after hearing his song on the organ: the theme to Indiana Jones.



Left: Grand Lodge officers kneel at the altar before being sworn in. They are: M. Wor. Arthur E. Johnson, Grand Secretary; Rt. Wor. Mason W. Russell, Grand Treasurer; Rt. Wor. Dennis E. Reebel, Junior Grand Warden, and Rt. Wor. Thomas A. Rorrie, Senior Grand Warden. They were escorted to the altar by the Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh, Sr. Center: Rt. Wor. Roger W. Waugh, Sr. takes his oath as Grand Marshal. Right: Rt. Wor. Gerard A. Dowden, District Grand Master (Panama) takes his oath.

- Rt. Wor. Charles Catapano, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the State of New York, founded 1781
- Rt. Wor. Dieter B. Hees, Senior Grand Warden of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey, founded 1786
- M. Wor. Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr., Grand Master and M. Wor. Gerald E. Piepiora, Past Grand Master both of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Maryland, founded 1787
- M. Wor. Charles W. Yohe, Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut, founded 1789
- M. Wor. John F. Gordon, Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., Senior Grand Warden, and Rt. Wor. David S. Collins, Junior Grand Warden, all of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient & Honorable Fraternity of Free & Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire, founded 1789
- Rt. Wor. Stephen McGuire, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, founded 1791

- Rt. Wor. Dale T. Irwin, Deputy Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Delaware, founded 1806
- M. Wor. Robert C. Rill, Jr., Grand Master, and M. Wor. C. Michael Watson, Past Grand Master, Grand Secretary, both of the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio, founded 1808
- M. Wor. Kenneth D. Fuller, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, Free & Accepted Masons founded 1811
- M. Wor. David A. Walker, Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Thomas E. Pulkkinen, Deputy Grand Master, and M. Wor. George Pulkkinen, Past Grand Master all of the Grand Lodge of Maine, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons founded 1820
- Rt. Wor. William Finkel, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, Free and Accepted Masons founded 1844
- M. Wors. R. Michael Wick and David H. Fryday, Past Grand Masters both of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Oregon, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. ■

Look for the St. John's Feast coverage in the next issue.



Left: The Grand Lecturers take their oath, with a proxy Rt. Wor. Robert F. Doherty, at the altar. Right: While swearing in the Grand Chaplains, the Grand Master took time to recognize the first chaplain to hold the position of Grand Chaplain Emeritus, Rt. Wor. & Rev. John R. S. Higgins.

THE GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL

DONORS DURING 2015

The Grand Master's Appeal is the foundation of the charitable and educational programs of Massachusetts Freemasonry. Each year, your Grand Master sends a letter to every Massachusetts Mason encouraging him to consider a tax-deductible donation to support programs such as The Brotherhood Fund, Grand Lodge Scholarships, and DeMolay and Rainbow.

In 2015 more than 1550 contribution were made by Brothers and friends of Massachusetts Freemasonry. To all those who supported the Grand Master's Appeal: Thank you very much! Because of you, we are able to help others every single day.

Following is a list of donors whose cumulative giving totaled \$50 or more in 2015.

I am very appreciative of the support we have received, but it does not diminish the continuing need for the assistance we can provide. Please consider a donation to the 2016 Grand Master's Appeal. A convenient reply envelope has been inserted into TROWEL for your use.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and all that you do for Massachusetts Freemasonry.

Sincerely & fraternally,



Harvey J. Waugh
Grand Master

\$10000 OR GREATER

The Lodge of Saint Andrew^{BF, SP}
Massachusetts Consistory^{BF}

Douglas J. Peters^{BF} *in memory of Wor. Robert "Skip" Trahey Jr*
Supreme Council, 33° Northern Masonic Jurisdiction — USA^{BF}

\$5000 TO \$9999

Boston Lafayette Lodge of Perfection^{BF}
Giles F. Yates Council Princes of Jerusalem^{BF}
Giles F. Yates Council Princes of Jerusalem^{SP}
in honor of M.W. and Ill. Harvey J. Waugh, 33°
Giles F. Yates Council Princes of Jerusalem^{SP}
in memory of Ill. H. Rushton Howard Jr., 33°

Giles F. Yates Council Princes of Jerusalem^{MHS}
in memory of Ruth Johnson
James A. Manninen^{SP}
Richard A. Phillips Sr^{SP}
in memory of Henry R. and Rena C. Phillips
Prospect Lodge^{BF, SP}
Richard J. Stewart^{BF}

\$1000 TO \$4999

23rd Masonic District^{BF}
Colonial Craftmen's Club of Colonial
Massachusetts^{BF}
Macedonian Lodge^{BF}
in honor of M.W. Arthur E. Johnson's
50th Masonic Anniversary
Richard D. Marden
Massachusetts Consistory^{SP}

Mount Olivet Chapter Rose Croix^{BF, SP}
Norumbega Fraternity Lodge^{BF}
E. Joel Peterson^{BF}
Philanthropic Lodge^{BF}
Rural Lodge^{BF}
Joseph Somario
in honor of M.W. Arthur E. Johnson's
50th Masonic Anniversary

Somerville Lodge
Theodore P. Theodores
Brian N. Watson
Harvey J. Waugh
Kevin Willis
Worshipful Masters
Association of SE MA^{BF}
in memory of R.W. Henry P. Burke

\$500 TO \$999

David G. Berube
Lawrence E. Bethune
Theodore E. Cooledge
Corinthian Lodge^{BF}
Jean E. de Valpine Esq
Excelsior Lodge^{BF}
Garden City Lodge^{BF}
Golden Fleece Lodge^{BF}

Grand Lodge Youth
Committee^{BF}
Alan D. Gray
Hellenic Square & Compasses Club
George W. Johnson
Robert V. Jolly Jr
Joseph Webb Lodge^{BF}
Keith A. Krewson

Donald H. LaLiberte^{BF}
Mariners Lodge^{BF}
Timothy S. McGavin
North Reading Lodge^{BF}
Walter Peterson Jr
Bradford H. Pottle
Philip Privitera^{BF}
Republican Lodge^{BF}

Clayton S. Robinson
Preston H. Saunders
Donald S. Stevens^{BF}
The Harvard Lodge^{BF}
Thomas Lodge^{BF}
Thomas Talbot Lodge^{BF}
George L. Unhoch Jr
William Parkman Lodge^{BF}

\$283 TO \$499

15th Masonic District Past Masters Association ^{BF} Ronald A. Benaski Columbian Lodge ^{BF, SCL} Joseph Demetrio Stephen DiMarco	Phillip A. Drouin Richard S. Fredholm Donald G. Hicks Jr Jeffrey B. Hodgdon Leonard Johnson Franklin J. McCarthy	John Wm. McNaughton Harryman A. Moe Mount Moriah Lodge Mystic Valley Lodge ^{BF} Palestine Lodge ^{BF} Saint James Lodge ^{BF}	Michael A. Sandberg Craig W. Walsh Ross E. Weaver Winthrop V. Wilbur Jr Michael D. Wolfe
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\$282 IN RECOGNITION OF 282 YEARS OF MASSACHUSETTS FREEMASONRY

Thomas R. Appleton II David J. Azanow Ronald K. Bart Herbert G. Bell II Clayton A. Bemis Kenneth R. Blake W. Eugene Bondurant Robert L. Burke Francis E. Carlson John L. Carlson Frederick G. Christensen William K. Clapp Dean F. Clement	Robert M. Cooper Jr Robert C. Crocker Sr Victor D. Cruz Leon H. Cudworth Sr James W. Currie Eugene A. Degre Mark F. Douglas John D. Eleoterio Charles A. Fijnvandraat James A. Gilrein II Edward A. Hatchigian George L. Herbolsheimer IV Leonard A. Irvine	Edward T. Johnston Michael J. Jones Stephen Kaloyanides Franklin W. Kelley Sam H. Kokkanen Geoffrey Kromer Roger H. Larsen Evangelos Liapis David A. Libby Gary F. Lochhead John W. Maloney Gordon C. McMurdo Philip A. Nowlan	Douglas E. Obey Allan D. Parker III Richard A. Pierce Joseph H. Repoff Mason W. Russell Eric J. Rzepka Boris Sapozhnikov Peter R. Smith Aaron D. Spencer Elden C. Tabora Keith G. Vadas Robert-John Von See Robert N. Worthington
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\$100 TO \$281

Jeffrey C. Adam Christos P. Alex William D. Alexander Amity-Mosaic Lodge ^{BF} David A. Anderson Otto W. Anderson Kenneth M. Andrews John A. Anezis James L. Angelos Gregory P. Antman Lorrimar Armstrong Jr Artisan Lodge Harry N. Atamian Charles R. Austin Azure Lodge ^{BF} Stanton D. Barclay Jr William R. Barnett Robert W. Bashian Stig E. Bergquist Wallace E. Berry George J. Bibilos William H. Bolton Boston University Men's Hockey Team ^{SP} <i>in memory of</i> <i>Bro. Francis J. Rice</i> Boston University Lodge ^{BF} Hortis R. Braga Clifford A. Brightman Kenneth A. Brown Peter B. Cameron Archibald H. Campbell John H. Campbell Millard L. Campbell Thomas W. Campbell Alfredo J.R. Canhoto Michael J. Cappellano Lawrence J. Capriotti Russell E. Carter Donald H. Chase Kenneth H. Clark Robert W. Clarke Gould H. Coleman George D. Comley	August R. Cote Glenn L. Crowell Ademir R. Da Silva Paul W. Darling Thomas W. Davies Dana M. Davis Aristides Barria de Leon ^{BF} Walter Demoorjian William C. Dempsey Jr Joseph C. DeNicola Robert F. Doherty William A. Doubleday Jeffrey P. Dragon Joseph S. Drown Nathaniel N. Dummer Robert A. Duris H. Lincoln Easterbrooks Garbis S. Essaian Essex Lodge ^{BF} Richard F. Faust Mark E. Feder ^{BF} Albert V. Ferguson Peter C. Ferguson Terrance P. Feters Gregory J. Fitch Thomas J. Foster Jr Jerome Foureau Christopher P. Fraker James R. Franklin Richard J. Freeman James C. Full John C. Fuller Howard M. Gabbert II Michael S. Gagne Walter E. Gerstenlauer John Gianakouras Maurice E. Gibbs Harold L. Gilmore Paul F. Gleason Murray L. Goldberg Alan T. Gorrie Thomas F. Greeley Jr Daniel E. Greenblatt	Harry N. Gustafson Jr Eugene A. Haley Herschel C. Hall Richard B. Hardy Paul M. Harris Hollis I. Hawes John R.S. Higgins ^{BF} William E. Holland ^{BF} Scott B. Hollis Larry E. Houston Elaine M. Hunter ^{SP} <i>in memory</i> <i>of Bro. Francis J. Rice</i> Edward G. Hyder ^{SP} Gerald A. Isaacsen Arthur W. Iworsley Ronald E. Jackson M. Howard Jacobson Scott T. Jareo Daniel Jeffers Lance C. Jensen Arthur L. Johnson Jr Jordan Lodge ^{BF} George E. Joseph Richard M. Kennedy Robert G. Kesten Sr Earl R. Kittredge George A. Koljian Jared H. LaLiberte ^{BF} Robert M. Lane Jr Gerald R. Latham Ernest W. Lattanzi Kenneth Laurence Roy I. Lederman David R. Lee Edward A. Lewis David J. Liberty Francis J. Lindquist David R. Lucas Lynnfield-Zetland Lodge ^{BF} John C. MacDonald III Anthony J. Mandile Warren L. Marcy Richard D. Marden <i>in memory</i>	<i>of Bro. Walter O. Farrell</i> Ralph H. Marks Jr Allan J. Martin MA Grand Assembly of Rainbow for Girls ^{MHS} Stephen J. McCarthy Samuel R. McClure Jr Richard J. Mcelhinney ^{BF} William A. McKibben Norman D. McLoon Jr Patrick W. McNERney Walter J. Meier Robert W. Menyhart George Migridichian John A. Moore Frederic H. Morris Whitney B. Morse Mount Hollis Lodge ^{BF} Herbert W. Mower Lonja Nachmann Matthew A. Niedermeier Jeffrey C. Nutt Neal R. Olsen Steven N. Orgettas David E. Pace Clyde A. Painter John L. Patten Richard E. Peterson Charles D. Phipps Pilgrim Lodge ^{BF} Donald H. Plant Douglas L. Pollard Alexander R. Pope Joseph R. Pugia Sr Thomas E. Pulkkinen George S. Pultz Philip S. Rand Ottmar Rau James H. Ray Mark K. Reed Andrew A. Rempis Sally E. Rihbany ^{SP} <i>in memory of</i> <i>Bro. Simon E. Rihbany</i>
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\$100 TO \$281 (CONTINUED)

Robert C. Rohlfs
Paul W. Rolston
Thomas A. Rorrie
Donald M. Ross Jr
Earle R. Rowe
David F. Russell
John H. Russell
Satuit Lodge^{BF}
Gary A. Savignano
John W. Schutack
Karl O. Schwartz
William H. Scott
Brian R. Sewall
Ralph I. Sewall

Dana H. Shaw
Harold A. Shedd Jr
Richard R. Sherman
G. Fredrick Slaney
Marshall M. Sloane
Peter M. Smith
Nicholas S. Soter
Foster L.G. Soule
Thomas A. Stark
Kenneth A. Stein
Charles W. Stockbridge^{BF}
Gloria G. Streeter
John J. Sullivan III
Elmer M. Swanson

E. Kent Swift III
William W. Taylor
James R. Tedford
The Scouters Lodge^{BF}
John T. Thomson
Richard H. Thorngren
Frederick L. Tibbetts
David R. Timm
Arthur D. Timmins
Lawrence D. Tonini
John C. Toto
Joseph G. Turner^{BF}
Union Lodge (D)^{BF}
George C. Upper Jr

Robert F. Verdonck
Walter L. Walker Jr
David M. Watnick
Roger W. Waugh Sr
Henry G. Welsh
West Roxbury-Dorchester
Lodge Rookie Association^{BF}
Charles E. Wheeler
Wilbur W. Wheeler
Darell R. Whitehead
Donald F. Wilson
Perry Wong
Robert N. Wood
Clifford E. Young

\$50 TO \$99

James T. Aaron
Keith C. Alderman
Robert B. Alexander
William M. Alexis
Jaime E. Alfaro
Jerry F. Allen
Mervyn M. Allen
Richard G. Allison
Stuart B. Anderson
Ronald D. Archer
John V. Armenta
Ernest W. Arnold Jr
Kenneth E. Atkins
Leonard Axelrod
Samuel L. Bagdasarian
Richard N. Barker
Belmiro J. Barros Jr
Raymond Barton
Ellis F. Bateman
Donald A. Bates
John J. Beaton
Joseph P. Beaton
Geoffrey A. Bemiss
Paul A. Bennett
Kenneth M. Bent
George W. Bentley^{BF}

Steven M. Berrini
Candido M. Berrios-Perez
Stanley Bettencourt Jr
William Bilkie
Richard S. Bird
Albert S. Birrell
Paul T. Boghosian
David C. Boisvert
Richard F. Booth
Victor P. Bove
Frederick J. Bowe
Jeffrey B. Bower
Thomas W. Boyle
Edwin J. Brailey Jr
John H. Brewer
Austin C. Buchanan
Budleigh Lodge^{BF}
Roland S. Burke
Adam G. Burkitt
Claude W. Burr
William J. Carpenito
Milton C. Carpenter
George J. Cassello
Kenneth H. Chadwick
David E. Chaffee
Philip R. Chaffee

Eric B. Chetwynd
Dennis V. Christo
Robert Christo
David R. Clark
William E. Cohane Jr
Arthur D. Combs
Lorne A. Compton
George F. Conlin
Paul B. Conlin
Loring S. Corkum
Edward H. Cowden
Robert L. Craig
James C. Cullen
Philip T. Dancause
Arthur O. Davidson Jr
Mario H. De Souza
Norman L. Diegoli
Lincoln E. Dietz
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David N. Erving
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Charles N. Fuller
Guilford W. Full
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Allan W. Gaspar
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Harry F. Giberson
Park R. Glass Jr
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Earl N. Hansen
Carl R. Hanson
Richard P. Harmon
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John A. Harrison
Donald O. Hartson
Samuel S. Hartson
Charles A. Harvey
Allan L. Haskell
Calvin B. Hastings
Robert P. Havlicek
David R. Hearn
Charles E. Heitman^{SP}
in memory of
Bro. Francis J. Rice
Norman W. Hicks
Paul F. Highet
Anthony Hill
John R. Hives
Stephen C. Hofmann
Edward E. Holden
James L. Holmes
Kenneth L. Hower
H. Robert Huke III

THE MASONIC EDUCATION AND CHARITY TRUST

by Wor. Robert Huke IV

In *Stalwart Builders: A History of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts*, the author, M. Wor. Thomas Sherrard Roy, Grand Master, 1951–1953, describes the origins of the Masonic Education and Charity Trust (ME&CT).

On April 6, 1864, a devastating conflagration destroyed the Winthrop House on the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, Massachusetts Freemasonry's home since 1859. The Fraternity immediately set out to build a replacement. Three

years later, on Saint John the Baptist Day, June 24, 1867, a new Masonic Temple was dedicated at the same location.

For the next 16 years, Grand Lodge was so focused on raising money to retire the debt incurred to build the new Temple that it lost sight of its charitable obligation. In fact, the original Grand Lodge Charity Fund, established in 1811, had been used to finance construction of the first Temple at Tremont Street and Temple Place. The loan was intended to be repaid by issuing a mortgage on the Winthrop House. However, after the 1864 fire, the mortgage was discharged to permit Grand Lodge to borrow money to build the new Temple - effectively ending the Grand Lodge Charity Fund.

The Craft's leaders, understanding their mistakes of the past, set out to create a Charity Fund that could serve no other purpose than that for which it was formed. In response, the Grand Lodge Constitutions were amended and an Act of Incorporation was obtained from the Legislature of the Commonwealth to form the Masonic

Richard F. Humber
 Alfred G. Irish
 David F. Jamieson
 D. Alden Johnson
 Philip F. Johnson
 Kevin T. Jones
 Steven M. Jones
 Milton S. Jordan
 Anthony R. Juozaitis
 Joseph H. Kameese
 Donald R. Kaupp
 Timothy J. Kelly
 Jason M. Kennedy
 William F. Kennedy
 James W. Killam III
 Thomas L. Knowlton
 Gerren R. Kopcinski
 Anthony A. Kounelas
 Karl A. Krassler
 Ralph M. Krau
 Glenn L. Kubick
 C. William Lakso
 Mark C. LeBeau
 John B. Leitch
 Charles C. Leonard
 Peter T. Leonard
 John M. Leslie
 Martin I. Lesnik
 John R. Lilley II
 Elmer B. Lincoln
 Ronald E. Lincoln
 Robert W. Linehan Jr
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 Edwin R. Lofgren Jr
 John T. Lohr
 Graham A. Long
 Russell E. Lowe
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 John R. MacKenzie
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 Joseph S. Malek
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 Robert J. McNary
 Chester C. McPhail
 Chris G. Metros
 Sarkis R. Michaelian
 Frank J. Mooney III
 David B. Mortenson
 Neil T. Mulrain
 Richard L. Munroe
 David A. Murphy
 William T. Murphy
 Ryan T. Nagle
 Kenneth M. New
 Matthew D. Newhall
 Wayne O. Newton
 David B. Nicholson
 Roger E. Nicoll
 Leonidas D. Nikolouzos
 Roland L. Noel
 James V. Oliveto Jr
 William G. Otenti
 Robert G. Parsons
 Donald D. Payne
 Walter E. Perkins
 Lloyd M. Perry
 James A. Petrie
 David M. Petto
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 Frank A. Phinney
 Jesse R. Plouffe
 Arthur H. Post Jr
 Philip G. Post
 Bruce K. Pratt
 Robert Price
 Robert R. Priest Sr
 Juan A. Prieto
 A. Paul Prifti

Robert C. Prince
 Willis F. Quimby Jr
 Eggert Ragnarsson
 Wilton G. Rangel
 Sean F. Reilly
 Gregory A. Reynolds Sr
 Ken L. Rich
 Robert J. Riley
 Napoleon T. Robinson Jr
 Robert L. Rodd
 Nicolas A. Rodriguez
 Nicolas I. Rodriguez Sr
 Van Rogers
 Donald Ryan
 Charles Saber
 George R. Sachs
 Demetrios J. Sarantopoulos
 Sarkis M. Sarkisian
 Timothy M. Sawyer
 Paul M. Scannell
 Raymond E. Scott Jr
 Jordan L. Shapiro
 Arthur H. Sharp
 Brian J.B. Shea
 George E. Shepard
 Richard N. Sheppard
 Robert L. Sherwood
 George M. Shimko
 Joseph F. Shirley
 Murray G. Shocket
 Ashton D. Shoop
 Samuel Sicchio
 David J. Silva
 Robert T. Smales
 Forrest N. Smead Jr
 Russell E. Smith
 Andrew J. Sohn
 Stephen St. John
 Elias Stavropoulos
 Robert L. Steadman
 Charles H. Steeger
 Bruce G. Stephens
 Ralph N. Stevens Jr

James R. Stevenson
 Arthur E. Stewart
 Don and Karen Stewart^{SP}
in memory of Bro. Francis J. Rice
 Thomas E. Stoakley
 Robert R. Stocks
 Stanley I. Strachman
 Dale F. Stuart
 John P. Sullivan
 Peter J. Suszanski
 John C. Sutterley
 Peter S. Talanian
 Reginald E. Tatro
 Robert W. Taupier
 Daniel H. Taylor Jr
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 Frederick M. Tobman
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 Robert A. Trotter
 John A. Truesdale
 Wesley C. Tucker
 Glenn G. Van Orman Jr
 Parker Vanderhoof
 Philip R. Varney
 William J. Varnold
 Wayne M. Vinton
 Samuel D. Wade
 Richard M. Wagner
 Edward A. Walker
 Edward A. Watters
 David L. Weil
 Frank L. Wellcome
 George W. Wells
 Edward W. White
 Robert L. Whitmore
 Jasper A. Wilcox
 Warren Wilmarth
 Frederick R.L. Wise Jr
 James D. Wolfe
 Sylvester M. Wrenn Jr
 Michael K. Yotts

BF Indicates gift designated for the Brotherhood Fund • MHS Indicates gift designated for the Masonic Health System
 SCL Indicates gift designated for the Samuel Crocker Lawrence Library • SP Indicates gift designated for the Scholarship Program

Education and Charity Trust “to receive, hold, invest, re-invest, and manage” charitable and educational funds.

M. Wor. Abraham H. Howland Jr, Grand Master, 1884-1886, in his annual address to Grand Lodge on December 10, 1884, spoke on the importance of establishing the ME&CT:

“We have thus well and truly laid the foundation of a second Temple, whose glory and blessing will survive, we trust, when the granite walls about us shall have crumbled to dust. Upon this foundation ... we hope to build an enduring edifice, a permanent yet overflowing benevolence.”

The ME&CT is comprised of eight trustees. One new trustee is elected each year at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication. Therefore, the term of a trustee may last for eight years. A trustee may be reelected for a new term after a one year absence. Trustees generally have a professional background in finance, investments, or accounting. The Grand Master is the President of the Masonic Education and Charity Trust.

The trustees of the ME&CT for 2016 are:

- Robert C. Quinn**, *Satuit Lodge, Term Expires 2016*
- Callum J.F. Maclean**, *Columbian Lodge, Term Expires 2020*
- Thomas A. Rorrie**, *Celestial Lodge, Term Expires 2017*
- Donald H. LaLiberte**, *Norfolk Lodge, Term Expires 2021*
- Thomas L. Bruce**, *The Harvard Lodge, Term Expires 2018*
- Joseph C. DeNicola**, *Old Colony Lodge, Term Expires 2022*
- Michael J. Boucher**, *Caleb Butler Lodge, Term Expires 2019*
- Thomas R. Appleton II**, *The Lodge of Saint Andrew, Term Expires 2023*

For more than 130 years, the Masonic Education and Charity Trust has been the steward of the Grand Lodge’s charitable funds; enabling Grand Lodge to carry out its mission of Relief for distressed worthy Brethren and their families, and to support many other charitable causes.

As a recognized 501(c)(3), all donations to the ME&CT are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. ■

FRATERNITY News & Events

Boys' Kindness *continued from page 3*

ing gifts. A year ago, Rowan had suffered an eye injury, so the decision was to ask for donations to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the principal charity of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States and thus the Grand Commanderies throughout the world, including the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Bro. Congdon contacted Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer, both members of Caleb Butler Lodge, about how to go about making the donation. Rt. Wor. Bro. Kromer, the Generalissimo of Boston Commandery spoke with the Eminent Commander, Wor. and Sir Knight Michael Worrell, Master of Saint John's (B) Lodge. He thought the Christmas Observance would be a perfect time for the boys to make

their presentation.

The two young men were escorted to the East. They stood in front of well over 150 people. They shook a little when they made their presentation. The boys were quickly informed the Boston Comandery was going to more than double their donation to the Eye Foundation. Then the smiles came out. They were shocked and received a rousing round of applause. After the meeting, before dinner, they wanted to see the swords.

During the dinner, a hat was passed to the Sir Knights present. The donation doubled again, plus some. The boys were extremely pleased, and received many handshakes and thanks from all present. It was a wonderful night that showcased exactly the lessons of giving that we learn in the Commandery, especially at Christmas.

-Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer



Rookie award at Morning Star Lodge

Bro. Mahendra Vichare, Senior Steward at Morning Star Lodge, received his Rookie Award during a Fraternal Visit. That night, he stepped up to the role as Marshal for the Entered Apprentice degree and performed very well. "He is well deserving of this award and a true jewel to his lodge," said Rt. Wor. Gegory L. Stahl. (Left to right: Wor. John Sullivan, Master of Morning Star Lodge, Bro. Mahendra Vichare, and Rt. Wor. Gegory L. Stahl)

- Rt. Wor. Gregory L. Stahl



After one of the tyled events at the 2015 North American Academic Convocation.

Academic Convocation Coming

The 2016 North American Academic Convocation will be held from Thursday, March 31st to Sunday, April 3rd. This year's festivities will include: Joscelyn Godwin, author of *Upstate Cauldron: Eccentric Spiritual Movements of Early New York State*; Brother Sanford Holst, author of *Sworn in Secret: Freemasonry and the Knights Templar*; breakout discussions; a Lodge meeting; social events; and much, much more! Some of the events will be tyled and open to only Brothers, while others will be open to signifi-

cant others, friends, and family members. Attendance is absolutely not restricted to academic Lodge Brothers, so if you're interested just let us know.

The academic convocation has been an annually-held tradition with a jointly held Lodge meeting comprised of the three academic Lodges in the Boston area: Boston University Lodge, Richard C. Maclaurin (MIT) Lodge, and The Harvard Lodge. In recent years, it has evolved into multi-day event which has brought together over a hundred Masons from Lodges, regardless of any affiliation with an academic institution. It generally includes a social gathering, a Lodge meeting, a keynote presentation on a topic related to Masonry, and breakout sessions of an academic nature which explore topics from Masonic symbolism to meditation to career networking. It is a great opportunity for Masons and non-Masons alike to continue their search for more light.

While details are being finalized, the dates have been set. If you are interested in being placed on the mailing list, please contact Wor. James J. Howard, III at ddgs2nd@gmail.com and you will be kept informed. As these discussions are enhanced by the attendance of our Brothers (and friends), we strongly encourage you to pass along this to anyone you know who would be interested.

- Wor. James J. Howard III

Receivership: Tough Love Helps Lodges

It starts with three unexpected knocks, but it didn't start there. After a long period of assessment with the District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lodge, after a close look at a lodge, and after a determination of the need, then lodge receivership begins with three unsuspected knocks.

In law, receivership is the situation in which an institution or enterprise is being held by a receiver, a person "placed in the custodial responsibility for the property of others, including tangible and intangible assets and rights".

No one wants this to happen, but sometimes it's necessary for the good of all. In Freemasonry receivership happens as a last resort to help a lodge survive and repair. It is not done just because Grand Lodge had nothing better to do that day. All lodges deal with having a proper line in place, financial responsibilities and numerous other challenges. Most lodges, handle these issues with little to no problems, some do not. The ones that cannot effectively manage "issues" at some time will come under the microscope of Grand Lodge.

Why should The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts care what happens in your lodge? Shouldn't they just be happy being paid what is owed? No they should not. Why you ask? Simple, at some point in the past your lodge approached the Grand Lodge and asked for a Charter. Having been granted that Charter, your lodge now exists at the will and pleasure of The Grand Lodge. Your lodge activities or in activity directly reflect on Grand Lodge as well as all other lodges in the jurisdiction. District Deputies are the direct representative of the Grand Master and they insure lodges are following the rules and hopefully having a lot of fun in the process. But they must deal with the good and bad, making hard recommendations when needed.

Again, receivership is a last resort, but if it happens the world does not stop for your lodge. It is a way to help your lodge get back on track! If it happens, new officers, in most cases, will be appointed; this may include a new Master. A person to closely monitor and be a part of the lodge will be



Rt. Wor. Edgar de Leon, Rt. Wor. Philip Nowlan and M. Wor. Harvey H. Waugh celebrate the conclusion of the receivership of Major General Henry Knox Lodge.

designated by the Grand Master. The time in receivership can be as much as 12 months, maybe longer. At the end of that time period, the Grand Master will be given feedback and will decide if the lodge continues stronger and better, merge with another lodge or in the worst case the charter is pulled entirely.

Major General Henry Knox Lodge came out of receivership on December 18, 2015. It was a day of triumph for the lodge and the "double brothers" therein. Rt. Wor. Edgar de Leon thanked every member of the lodge for their efforts to come back from receivership and M. Wor. Harvey J. Waugh expressed hope and confidence in the continued viability of the only military lodge in the jurisdiction.

So how do we avoid receivership? DO NOT become complacent; elect the right people for the right job. Do not elect a Master or other officers that are not ready. Ensure the Secretary and Treasurer are following all rules and are working to move the lodge forward. Spread the knowledge, don't have one or two people in the same position forever and they alone have all the "know how" locked in their heads. Address issues as they happen. Embrace change, technology and new brothers. It's not 1970 anymore, stop acting like it. Your lodge is either relevant and positive or it isn't.

- Bro. William Maldonado

Know the difference between a "selfie" and an SLR?

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TROWEL is seeking skilled photographers in the northern, southern and western regions of the state. If you think you have what it takes, contact the editor at: editortrowel@gmail.com



George Washington Masonic National Memorial Grand Lodge of the Month

Each month, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, VA features a different American Grand Lodge as part of its “Grand Lodge of the Month” program. The state flag of the designated Grand Lodge flies over the Memorial’s grounds, and their website features a short article about Freemasonry in that jurisdiction.

The Memorial also treats visitors to a display of the Grand Lodge of the Month, as part of its The Form and Function of American Freemasonry exhibit. The displays generally provide a brief description of Freemasonry in the highlighted jurisdiction, along with some photographs and a few commemorative items.

Grand Lodges are usually scheduled in the order in which their state, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, joined the Union. In December 2015, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had its turn to participate.

Rather than doing a generic display about Massachusetts Freemasonry, the Grand Lodge’s Business Manager, Rt. Wor. Robert V. Jolly Jr., and the Communications and Development Office, consulted with the Memorial’s Director of Collections, Wor. Mark A. Tabbert (Mystic Valley Lodge, Arlington) about focusing on the Massachusetts Statehouse Cornerstone Rededication Ceremony, held on June 17, 2015.

Based on the international media coverage generated when the time capsule was removed from the cornerstone, as well as the enthusiasm displayed for the Rededication Ceremony, it was the shared belief that a display describing the fraternity’s relationship with the time capsule and cornerstone would be interesting to the Memorial’s guests.

To tell the story, Wor. Kevin J. Papierski (Charity Lodge, Cambridge) designed a visually compelling text panel that briefly explained the history of the time capsule and cornerstone from July 4, 1795 to the present.

Visitors were further engaged by showing Resetting

the Cornerstone, the four minute high definition video produced by the Grand Lodge after the event last summer. The video played in a 10” digital picture frame with HD video capability. The frame featured a motion detector that would only play the video when someone approached the display cabinet.

High resolution photographs of the three silver plates inserted in the time capsule from the 1795, 1855, and 2015 cornerstone ceremonies were printed in their original sizes

Rededicating the State House Cornerstone

At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, two brethren in assesting dress exited the Boston Masonic Building carrying the banner of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts A.F. & A.M. Thus began a procession of more than 1,300 Freemasons to the grounds of the Massachusetts State House to witness an event with roots going back 220 years.

Late in the afternoon of a chilly, snowy day last December, the Head of Objects Conservation from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston removed a small leaden time capsule from the cornerstone of the State House. The event received national attention because it is believed to be the United States' first time capsule, with ties to Revolutionary War heroes Sam Adams and Paul Revere.
The story of the time capsule and cornerstone was news in many, but it was common knowledge among Massachusetts Freemasons.

On July 4, 1795, Paul Revere, in his capacity as Grand Master, presided over the deposit of the time capsule and conducted a Masonic Cornerstone Ceremony. He was assisted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. In 1855, after repair workers accidentally discovered the time capsule, Winthrop Lewis M.D., Grand Master, replaced it. And on the 200th Anniversary of the original event, David W. Lovinger, Grand Master, requested the ceremony first led by his predecessor, Revere.

Blessed by the Grand Architect with a picture perfect day, current and former Grand Lodge Officers marched in a column ahead of Most Worshipful Harvey John Waugh. Behind the Grand Master, in rows of four, were Freemasons from across the state and beyond who travelled to Boston to demonstrate their pride in their fraternity and to be part of history. At one point, the procession stretched the entire length of Boston Common – a distance of more than 500 yards!

Greeting the Grand Lodge Officers at the dais where the Cornerstone Ceremony would be performed were Governor Charlie Baker, and Secretary of State William Galvin. Following them with his remarks, Brother Waugh observed “just as the history of these United States has the history of this Commonwealth at its foundation, the history of this Commonwealth has that of Freemasonry embedded in its core.” And the history of the Massachusetts State House Time Capsule and Cornerstone is equally embedded with that of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS A.F. & A.M.
f @MassFreemasonry



Siloam Lodge's Masonic Model A in Parade

On a cool winter night, the 5th of December Westborough Ma held a “lighting” ceremony and Siloam Lodge was proud to make its first entry in this ceremony. Entrants were asked to “light up” their cars trucks or other vehicles with Christmas lights and join the parade. Rt. Wor. Carmen Borgia having a dandy 1931 Model A Ford, gratefully donated the use of this vehicle which was strung with about 300 lights in the Christmas tradition. Rt. Wor Borgia meticulously created a replica of the Square and Compasses, affixed lights, and attached it to the front of his car. Many of Siloam’s Brothers participated and carried a banner which is being used to celebrate Siloam’s 150th anniversary happens to be next year, 2016.

- Wor. John Carlson

and mounted on foam board so that everyone could see replicas of the artifacts.

Finally, a copy of *Stalwart Builders – The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts – 1733 – 1970* opened to the page describing the 1795 event, and the Summer 2015 Special Edition of TROWEL dedicated to the event were also included in the display.

Although the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts display was removed at the end of December, a visit to the George

Washington Masonic National Memorial should be on the list of sites to see for any Mason visiting Washington D.C. or Northern Virginia.

To read the George Washington Masonic National Memorial's article about the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, visit <http://www.gwmemorial.org/glotm/2015-12-massachusetts.php>.

To view *Resetting the Cornerstone*, visit https://youtu.be/AeCOoQ0b_Do. - *Wor. Robert Huke IV*

Rt. Wor. Edgar de Leon Honored in Guatemala

In Guatemala on November 19, 2015, at the Meritorious and Centennial Lodge Firmeza No. 3, Rt. Wor. Edgar de Leon was invested and received the Order and Medal "Tomás Villamar Contreras". "Because we know of your commitment to the Universal and Guatemalan Freemasonry, we are witness to the work, dedication, and devotion with which you have fulfilled your role in various positions you have held in your lodges in the United States and in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts," recounted the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Guatemala Brother Julio César Aldana León.

Most Wor. Bro. Aldana León recounted the life of Bro. Villamar Contreras, "Respectable and Brother Tomás Villamar Contreras was born in Guatemala City on December 10, 1921, son of Respectable, Illustrious Brother Tomás Robles Villamar and his distinguished wife Mrs. Ernestina Contreras de Villamar. He married the noble lady Zoila Ramírez Monasterio de Villamar, with whom he had 4 sons and 4 daughters, who are: Tomás y José Antonio, (Both Brothers), Leonel, Gerardo, Rosamaría, Zoila Libertad, Ana Lucrecia y Claudia, all surnamed Villamar Ramírez."

Bro. Villamar Contreras had the honor of being Worshipful Master of Firmeza No. 3 from 1952 to 1959. He also held several positions at the Grand Lodge of Guatemala, including Coordinating Secretary of the Central American Masonic Confederation and Grand Master. He was a distinguished member of

Firmeza No. 3 Lodge and Member of Honor of the Respectable Lodge Prometeo No. 30, of the Grand Lodge of Cuscatlán, El Salvador. The Grand Lodge of Costa Rica presented him with the orders Salvador Marbán Santos and Buena Ventura Echeverría.

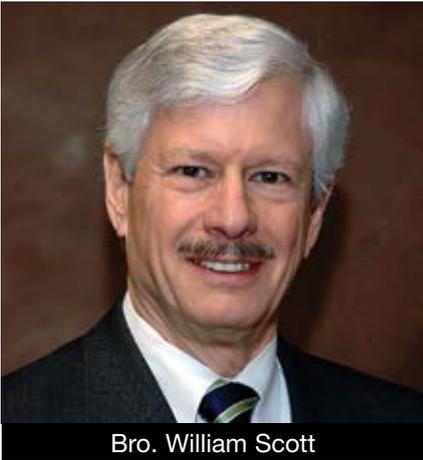
"In the Scottish Rite Freemasonry, he received all degrees. On September 5, 1969, the Grand Consistory of Guatemala bestowed him with the 33rd Degree and he was crowned with the Sovereign Grand Commander position and assumed the First Judicial Presidency of the Rite. At his death, he was Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree for the Republic of Guatemala," said Most Wor. Bro. Aldana León.

"Bro. Edgar Rolando de León . . . allow us to reiterate that we" most especially value "your presence, fraternity, and friendship," said the Grand Master of Guatemala. The order and medal constitutes a material representation of your high merits as a man and as a Mason. For this distinction being an Honor, demands a commitment to the supreme goal of the Universal Freemasonry which your qualities and attributes that have brought you here today. The Grand Master of Guatemala expressed confidence that Rt. Wor. Bro. de León will remain true to this lofty goal.

(Paraphrased from the documents generated at the event by the editor.)

Rt. Wor Edgar de Leon is inducted into the Order of Tomás Villamar Contreras and honored with the Tomás Villamar Contreras medal by the M. Wor. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Guatemala Julio Julio César Aldana León.





Bro. William Scott

Grand Lodge Tour Guide Profile

Four days a week, the iconic and stunning lodge rooms on the edge of Boston Common are open to the public.

When guests want to see inside the Boston Masonic Building, they first meet a friendly and welcoming tour guide.

Bro. William Scott (Daniel Webster Lodge, Marshfield) is one of the friendly faces that greets them.

“I’ve always been fascinated with the building, structure, and beauty of the Grand Lodge,” he said.

Bro. Scott (Bill) was driven to volunteer as a tour guide because the opportunity provided a confluence of his two major interests: history and Freemasonry.

After a 44 year career as an insurance underwriter with Liberty Mutual, Bill turned to the fraternity to help him get reacquainted with people from his community. Now a Mason for over 10 years, he gets to share his passion for the Craft with others on a regular basis.

Bill has been serving as a volunteer tour guide for five years off and on. Guided tours of the building are given regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 10:30 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. by a volunteer staff of Master Masons.

Those who serve as guides are only asked to come in as often as they are willing; there is, however, a monthly schedule. Whether it’s two hours a month or two days a week, brethren are encouraged to volunteer their services at their convenience.

Bill cherishes each opportunity he gets to give a tour. Tour guides have the opportunity to meet tourists from all over the world; guests regularly

come from as close by as Malden and as far away as Vienna, Austria.

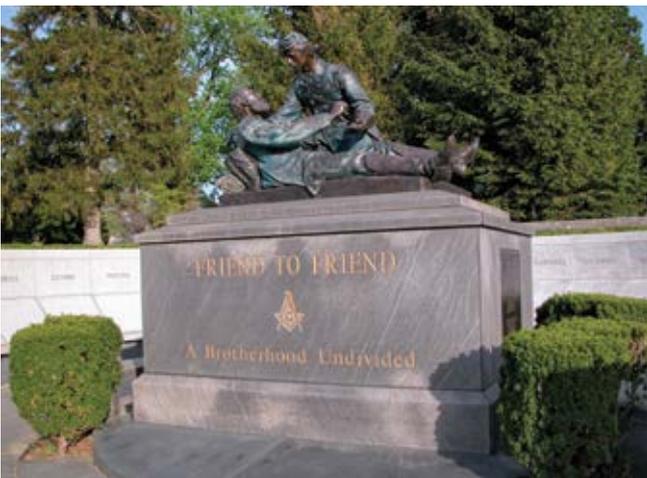
“Many times, the individuals on the tour have some experiences they want to share that are enlightening” Bill said, adding, “it’s always fascinating to find out the reasons why someone wanted to come visit the Grand Lodge. People don’t just pop in to see this place—there is a drive to come here.”

That drive affords each Grand Lodge tour guide the opportunity to meet visiting Masons from all over the world. You never truly know who you’ll meet.

“Giving tours is fun,” Bill says, “and I would recommend being a part of this program to anyone who is interested in an opportunity to spread the light of Masonry to others.”

On Thursday, March 31st, there is a training session at 6:00pm for all brethren who are interested in serving as tour guides. To register to attend, visit www.massfreemasonry.org/tour-guides, or call Christopher Rooney, the Associate Director of the Communications & Development department at (617) 426- 6040.

- Bro. Christopher Rooney



Gettysburg Story

Bro. James Fisk, of Saint Matthew’s Lodge in Andover, asked about the most recent cover of TROWEL. The following information is on a plaque on the side of the Friend to Friend monument in Gettysburg.

Union General Winfield Scott Hancock and Confederate General Lewis Addison Armistead were personal friends and members of the Masonic Fraternity.

Although they had served and fought side by side in the United States army prior to the Civil War, Armistead refused to raise his sword against his fellow Southerners and joined the Confederate Army in 1861.

Both Hancock and Armistead fought heroically in the previous twenty-seven months of the war. They were destined to meet at Gettysburg.

During Pickett’s Charge, Armistead led his men gallantly, penetrating Hancock’s line. Ironically, when Armistead was mortally wounded, Hancock was also wounded.

Depicted in this sculpture is Union Captain Henry Bingham, a Mason and staff assistant to General Hancock, himself wounded, rendering aid to the fallen Confederate General. Armistead is shown handing his watch and personal effects to be taken to his friend, Union General Hancock.

Hancock survived the war and died in 1886. Armistead died at Gettysburg July 5, 1863. Captain Bingham attained the rank of General and later served 32 years in the United States House of Representatives. He was known as the “Father of the House.”

Shown on the wall surrounding this monument are the names of the States whose soldiers fought at the Battle of Gettysburg.

PHOTO USED WITH PERMISSION © MARK A. ADAMS, JR.

The Rookie Makes His Debut

Nearly 300 years after our Grand Lodge's formation, engagement is more important than ever. Fortunately, the Membership Development Committee has spearheaded several initiatives to keep brothers involved.

A perfect example of these efforts is the newly formed Rookie and Master Builder Association, which was kicked off at the Annual Rookie and Master Builder dinner on Friday, Sept. 18. While the association was created recently, the idea for it was proposed by M. Wor. Richard J Stewart at the first annual rookie dinner in 2009.

Approximately 60 brothers attended the recent event. The dinner was open solely to recipients of the Master Mason Rookie Award and the Master Builder's Award, introduced in recent years to increase engagement, as well as distinguished guests and the Membership Development Committee. Most Wor. Grand Master Harvey J. Waugh, Deputy Grand Master R.W. Donald H. LaLiberte, Senior Grand Warden R.W. H. Robert Huke, III and Junior Grand Warden R.W. Richard Maggio were all in attendance.

While the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has more than 30,000 members, only about 550 received invites to this event. In the coming months, these brothers will have the opportunity to join the new association, which seeks to actively promote both the Master Mason Rookie Award and the Master Builder's Award.

"I envision the members of this new association being the foot soldiers of engagement," said Bro. James

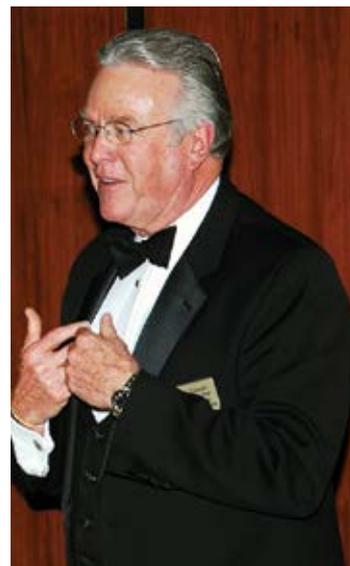
Uzdarwin, President of the newly formed organization.

During the dinner, brothers recounted their experiences fulfilling the requirements for these awards. Some attendees told heartwarming stories of how they convinced inactive brothers to once again come to lodge. Others reminisced about how they worked with another brother to meet the requirements.

While these anecdotes showed how effective the program can be in increasing engagement, even more brothers would benefit if a greater number of lodges actively promoted these awards.

Bro. Uzdarwin requested that attendees lead by example, working directly with new brothers in their lodges to help get them engaged. The association hopes that by taking this initiative, its members can lead the way in terms of bolstering engagement.

- Bro. Charles L. Bovaird II



The Rookie and Master Builder Association was proposed in 2009 by then Grand Marshal, M. Wor. Richard J. Stewart, pictured here at the 2010 Rookie award dinner.

Budgets *continued from page 17*

our long term investments. So what do we need to do regarding budgets? How are we to look at them for the long term well-being of the lodge?

Each lodge must deal with each of the three areas of expenses:

Must spend

- room rental
- Grand Lodge dues, etc.

May spend

- food expenses
- mailing costs, etc.

Shouldn't spend

- subsidizing non-destitute members
- subsidizing all members with falsely low dues, etc.

How these are handled is a combination of lodge preferences and lodge financial well-being. However, the one main thing is at the forefront: "keeping the lodge lights on" is a must.

I know of a lodge that subsidized the price of ALL the meals. Following the monthly meeting they would all go to a tavern nearby and the lodge would cover 100% of the costs of the meals and drinks. Is this a foolish way to spend the lodge's money? It depends on the situation. When this was first started the lodge could not fill half of the officer line and was close to going dark. Finding a master to govern the lodge was hard and only after it was agreed that the lodge will pay for the meals was the lodge able to sustain the ability for at least three Brothers to come to hold meetings. Additionally, this was a great tool for new members who knew that they will not only join our great fraternity but also get a good meal with the great company.

However, five years later things changed. The lodge was able to draw many new and young members, the officer line got filled and the benches in

the sideline got used. At this point if the lodge would have still paid for the meals the cost would have been so large that it would be hurting the future financial standing at the lodge. Luckily, they had members who saw the risk and since the lodge building had a kitchen they decided to start making their own meals and eat in. This move not only saved a lot of money for the lodge but it also added an extra level of comradeship since they would all eat together within the Masonic building with no interruptions from the noises of a tavern. More importantly it allowed the stewards to do the part of their duty that they did not perform prior.

A balanced and knowable budget is a fundamental aspect for the long term stability of a lodge and staying in the dark regarding this issue should go against all we stand for. We bring light to darkness, let this also be to the lodge budgets. ■

THE YOUNG TYLER

by Wor. Lee H. Fenn

The Young Tyler arrived at Whole Foods right on time: just before they closed. He brought a few carts back to the bread department and was greeted by the Sr. and Jr. Wardens, each with shopping carts.

“Hey, glad you made it,” said the Jr. Warden.

“It was close,” replied the Young Tyler.

“What do you mean? There was no traffic, it’s not raining. This is easy peasey,” said the Sr. Warden as he opened the large bags that would hold the bread.

“Well, I started watching *Breaking Bad* again on Netflix, and, well you know how it is with that show. At the end of each episode, I just want to watch another. The episode was almost over when I had to leave to get here. I was so tempted to stay.”

“Whole Foods is now closed. Please take your purchases to the cashier and have a wonderful evening,” sounded over the loud speaker.

“That’s our cue,” announced the Jr. Warden.

“Ok, guys, everything in these racks go. Here are some pens. This stuff stays,” said the Whole Foods baker.

“What are the pens for?” asked the Young Tyler.

“We have to put a mark through the barcode to be sure the folk don’t try to return the bread for money. We are giving them food, not money for other things,” replied the Jr. Warden.

They each took one of the sharpies, lined out the barcodes, and put loaf after loaf into the huge plastic bags.

“That is a good show,” said the Sr. Warden.

“Love it, but left it tonight.”

“Why didn’t you stay and watch it?” asked the Jr. Warden.

“Well, I promised I’d help tonight and I thought it might

be I’d be missing out on something if I didn’t.”

“Missing something? Like what?”

“I don’t know, but you guys do this every month and there must be a reason.”

The Jr. and Sr. Wardens looked at each other, smiled, and kept loading the marked loaves into the bags.

“Why do you do it?”

“Well, it isn’t hard, it isn’t fun, but it does do something. I know it helps people,” replied the Jr. Warden.

“I’ve been doing stuff like this for years, ever since I became a Mason,” said the Sr. Warden while wheeling the carts of bread to the car. “I rarely see the people I help, I almost never get a thank you, I get nothing from it. But I keep doing it. After a while, helping folk has become a habit. I noticed that I wanted to, and did, shovel my neighbor’s walk. Now, I bring my housemates Amazon packages into our building—my upstairs neighbors never have their packages stolen. Eventually, I’ve grown to be a friend to my neighbors and even people I don’t know. It does something, but I don’t know what.”

“I know what it does,” said the Jr. Warden.

“What?” asked the Young Tyler and Sr. Warden.

“It makes my car smell like bread for a day,” replied the Jr. Warden.

They all laughed and, after a while, parted ways. On the way to his car, the Young Tyler took out his cell phone and made a recurring event in his calendar for packing and delivering bread. ■

Do you have a Young Tyler story? If so, contact the Editor of the TROWEL, editortrowel@gmail.com, to get it published.

Masonic Home *continued from page 13*

committee. “. . . some difference of opinion existed among the Brethren as to the expediency of inaugurating such an enterprise in our jurisdiction . . .” but that a committee report would be presented in September. As far as can be determined, however, that presentation never happened, because at the end of July Grand Master Briggs died after a short illness. The Acting Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Harvey N. Shepard, declined to take any action on the process, and his successor, M. W. Otis E. Weld, was largely disabled by illness during the single year of his Grand Mastership.

In 1895, Grand Master Edwin Holmes’ primary focus was on the fire that rendered the Boston Masonic Temple unusable; by the end of the year, a decision was taken to empty and pull down the existing structure and build a new, more fireproof one in its place. This process altogether took seven years, and there was no attention paid to the proposal for a Masonic Home from that time until the administration of Most Wor. John Albert Blake.

In the fall of 1905, the Grand Lodge was named as ben-

eficiary in the will of Brother John Clarke, who offered real estate in Warren, R. I. and Fall River, Massachusetts for the establishment of a “home for destitute Masons”; the home would bear Brother Clarke’s name in perpetuity, and there were certain other provisions, including a prohibition of the property’s sale, lease or mortgage for twenty years. The Grand Lodge was given ninety days to decide.

The Grand Lodge was most appreciative of the offer made by Brother Clarke and noted that “our warmest feelings of regard and remembrance should be placed on our records in consideration of the thoughtful kindness that a Brother has thus shown in giving a substantial portion of his estate to the Institution that he loved so well.” Nonetheless, the conditions imposed—particularly the need to retain the property for two decades for the designated use—made it impossible to accept the gift thus offered.

Instead, the Grand Lodge turned to the idea of establishing a Masonic home on property which it would acquire. Grand Master John Albert Blake, early in his first year in office, presented the question to the Grand Lodge, directing his District Deputy Grand Masters to inquire whether mem-

bers of constituent lodges would be willing to pledge \$1 per year for five years to defray the expense. At the June Quarterly Communication, he reported that

It was clear . . . that there was a very general willingness to contribute in the manner proposed, or in any other that might be found advisable. The response was so gratifying and encouraging as to seem to justify the submission of the whole subject to the Grand Lodge for such action as might be deemed expedient.

The Grand Lodge accordingly formed a committee to consider the matter, which reported in December, surveying the hopes and aspirations of recent years, and noting that they remained unfulfilled. As a result, the committee unanimously recommended that action be taken at once to remedy this, resolving the following:

That the initiation of the movement for a Masonic Home contemplates no call for any part of the invested funds of the Grand Lodge.

That the beginnings of such a Home shall be upon so modest a scale as to avoid imposing any burden upon the Grand Lodge.

That the major part of whatever sum is pledged ought to be set aside for the purpose of providing a maintenance fund for the home.

There are two important points regarding the matter of establishment that should be considered as we review this history. First, it should by no means be inferred that the Masons of one hundred years ago were uncharitable: quite the opposite, as the M. E. & C. T. was established so that the charitable funds and charitable works of the Craft could be maintained even if Grand Lodge was in financial straits; the endowment could only be used for charitable purposes.

Second, the members of Grand Lodge, as guided by this committee, were determined to establish an institution that would survive and be self-sustaining.

In conclusion, the committee observed that

Of those who have favored similar action in the past, many have passed on to the great majority without attaining the fruition of their hopes, the relief of those who through the infirmities of age, of illness and misfortune are unable to care for themselves and the loved ones dependent upon them. Let us hope that there be some standing here who shall not taste death until they have seen a part of the kingdom of heaven begun on earth.

And thus, with lofty aims and a desire to build a lasting structure, the Masonic Home was established in Massachusetts.

As with any institution with such serious purpose and involving the investment of substantial capital, the Masonic Home did not spring forth and flower from nowhere, and the movement to establish it did not come into existence overnight. When Past Grand Master Lawrence described the lack of such a facility in 1888, it was with no small measure of chagrin; when Grand Master Briggs made the matter a priority when he took office in December 1892, it was with a sincere belief that it should exist—and should have existed well beforehand.

But when Grand Master Blake proposed its erection in 1907, and established the framework for its creation and maintenance from 1908 onward, it was with the intention that it should exist for years to come. And thus, through a succession of years, it has continued; neither wars nor economic downturns nor changing society has made it outmoded or irrelevant. What exists today is due to the work of many hands, some belonging to men who never saw it come to fruition. It is a testament to all of them. ■

*'Twas three weeks before Christmas
And a boat chugged along.
Out to where the bell buoys gong.*

*This special vessel with colored lights all aglow
Was not carrying fish but other precious cargo.*

*'Twas a boat full of trees, scented with pine
For families to celebrate at Christmas time.*

*Joining the crew in his red suit and Cap
Was Santa himself, that right cheery old chap.*

*With the resounding horn blast,
The boat pulled up to the pier while
Kids of all ages met Santa with cheer.*

*While parents waited happily, faces lit up with glee,
Christmas trees were given to each family.*

*There were hugs from Santa, and candy canes too,
While the men of Pilgrim Lodge made sure no one's
holiday would be blue.*

*With help from the Family Pantry and the
lower cape outreach Council,*

the donated trees put a smile on every face.

When the last tree was delivered, the last candy cane doled,

*It was time for Santa to return north to the cold.
But before he departed he thanked the Masons once more
And wished all a Merry Christmas from shore to shore.*

- Wor. Andrew Eldridge with apologies to Clement Clarke Moore

*Lacking water reindeer, the brothers of Pilgrim Lodge deliver
Christmas trees by boat.*





MASONIC HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. OF MASSACHUSETTS

Masonic Health System, Inc. (MHS) of MA is a non-profit organization offering independent living, enhanced and assisted living, memory care, post-acute rehabilitation, skilled nursing and hospice. MHS has operated its flagship campus in Charlton, MA since 1911, serving thousands of seniors and their families. While originally intended to serve Masonic members and their families, MHS now also includes non-Masons. Approximately 60% of residents have some connection to Masonry though this is not a requirement. Charlton Overlook also provides extensive services to Massachusetts Freemasonry as a venue and facility for meetings, functions, and a variety of organizational activities. MHS also manages Briarwood Communities, a senior living community located in Worcester, MA.

• In 2014, recognizing the organization could no longer rely on its Masonic multi-million endowment fund to support its daily operations, the MHS Board of Directors reaffirmed its mission; this called for immediate action and remedy to refocus its efforts on the organization's flagship campus, The Overlook in Charlton.

◦ The Board hired a new CEO in August 2014, and in conjunction with leadership and a skilled consulting team, has spent the past year reorganizing and transforming the business, consolidating several business lines and implementing over 25 strategic initiatives to reduce expenses and augment revenue by millions of dollars. In addition to these operating initiatives, the Overlook management team has begun an aggressive effort to reach out to all Massachusetts Masonic Lodges and their members and local communities, describing the many features and benefits of its Life Care services.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR CAN MAKE!

• 2015 has been an extraordinary year for MHS, with outstanding progress in financial and operational stability and improvements in numerous practices, processes and performance measures.

Sales and Occupancy

• The Overlook is projected to end 2015 with more than 25 sales and/or move-ins to its Independent Living. By comparison, 12 moves to Independent Living occurred in 2014.

◦ These results equate to The Overlook realizing a 100% increase in sales/move-ins for 2015!

◦ The Overlook's dually certified Medicare/Medicaid Health Center and Rehabilitation continues to exceed 95% occupancy.

Financial Performance

• MHS' financial performance has improved substantially over the past year.

◦ MHS' finances have experienced a \$2.8 million improvement in annual net operating income compared to the prior year. Combined with the sale of The Overlook in Northampton and some improvements in the Overlook Visiting Nurses Association, MHS' overall finances have improved by \$5 million annually in the past 13 to 15 months. These annual operating improvements are projected to continue.

◦ Through October 2015, draws on the endowment to fund daily operations have been reduced by more than 75%, when compared to prior years.

◦ The Trust will continue to support MHS through this transition until the organization reaches its goal of self-sufficiency.

Opening of Fieldstone Memory Support

• In June 2015, The Overlook furthered its Masonic Heritage and Mission with the opening of The Fieldstone at the Overlook, a specialized assisted living, providing 14 private suites in an intimate and secure setting, specifically designed for the unique needs of individuals with memory impairments.

◦ Fieldstone represents the first new unit that has opened on the Charlton campus since 2006, fills a missing link in The Overlook's existing continuum of care and provides the organization with an annual gross revenue of \$1 million per year.

◦ Today Fieldstone has 13 of 14-units occupied and strong demand for more units.

◦ MHS plans to expand its Memory Support neighborhood in the future to accommodate existing and new residents, as their health care needs evolve.

THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FROM HERE

• MHS continues to make unprecedented progress in its goal to become financially self-sustaining, while also continuing its extensive range of Life Care services to its Masonic and non-Masonic clientele.

◦ MHS' goal is to refinance its existing long-term debt or replace it with a new bond issuance during 2016 or 2017 to further secure the organization for longstanding future success.

◦ The Board of Directors and Leadership remain committed to the residents, employees and the Masonic family, and the general community it has the privilege to serve. Serving as responsible stewards of the lives and resources entrusted to MHS is one of The Board's and Leadership's most important responsibilities.

◦ MHS and The Overlook intend to continue operating for another 100+ years.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

• We ask that District Deputies kindly convey this information to district lodges.

• We encourage you and your Masonic membership to visit The Overlook to see first-hand what we offer.

• If you prefer a personal visit and presentation for you district please contact John Hanson at The Overlook in Charlton to schedule a convenient time. John may be reached at (508) 434-2484.

Thank you and Happy New Year,

Tameryn Campbell
MHS President and CEO

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State House Cornerstone Ceremony Commemoratives

*The Corner Stone of the Massachusetts State House
having been removed relative
to repair work to the Building,
the original deposit first placed in 1795,
along with a deposit placed in 1855,
are replaced together with this plaque and inscription by
the Most Worshipful HARVEY J. WAUGH,
Grand Master,
and other Officers and Brethren of the
GRAND LODGE of Massachusetts
in the presence of
His Excellency CHARLES BAKER, JR.,
Governor of the Commonwealth
and
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth
and Chair of the Massachusetts Historical Commission,
on the 17th day of June, AD 2015
A1. 6015*

MICHAEL A. MARINCO
Assistant Secretary of
the Commonwealth

HELAN MONTAGNANO-VIOLA
Division of Capital Asset
Management and Maintenance

PAMELA DE LAUCHVILLE
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

MICHAEL CAMPARI
Massachusetts Archivist

CATHERINE ANNE MONTAGNANO
Division of Capital Asset
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- 20 minute documentary
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