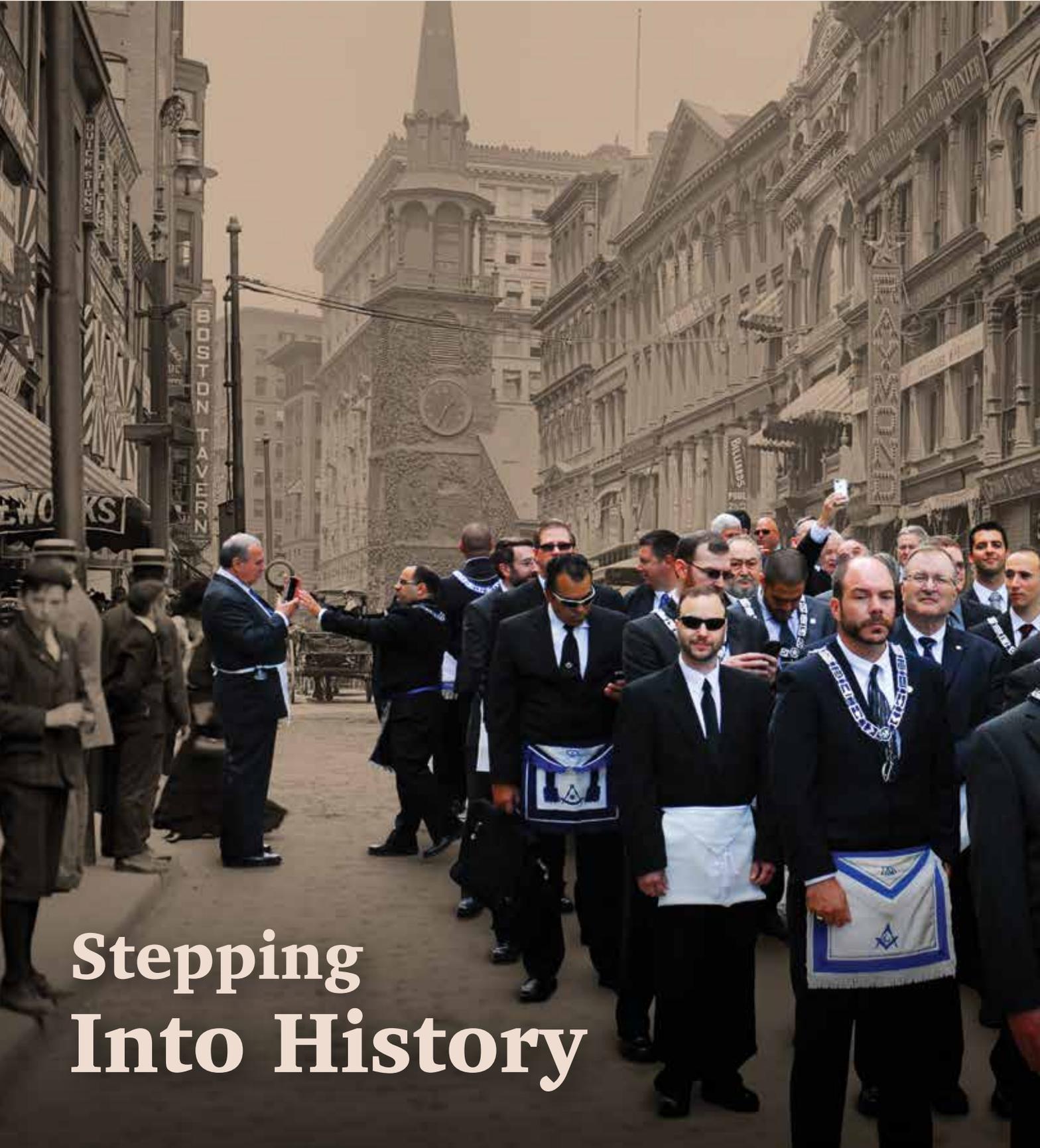


# TROWEL

GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS SPRING 2019



Stepping  
Into History



*From the East of Grand Lodge*  
PAUL F. GLEASON

Brethren,

There are two distinct parts to our practice of Freemasonry: fraternal and esoteric. The fraternal part with its emphasis on brotherhood and service is what makes us the world's greatest fraternity – united by the ritualistic and symbolic actions we pursue behind tyled doors. We enjoy the friendship and mutual support of our Craft and share it with each other and our families. Ritual and symbolism unite Masons around the world joining us “...into one sacred band, or Society of Friends and Brothers, among whom no contention should ever exist...”

On March 9 of this year, Massachusetts Masons enjoyed a rare opportunity to view and participate in an excellent demonstration of Masonic ritual as our Grand Lodge hosted a One Day Class. At the end of the day, 140 men were raised to the Sublime Degree and joined our ranks. That's 140 new Masons to swell our officer lines and contribute to the efforts of our lodge committees!

What a joy and pleasure it was to view all three degrees exemplified by some of the best ritualists in our jurisdiction! Chaired by R.W. Alfredo Canhoto, the Class Committee of over 100 brethren (100!) organized and achieved the activities normally conducted in conventional classes – even including brief Lodges of Instruction. Statistically speaking, 67 different lodges from 28 districts sent candidates (including three sets of brothers) who were entered, passed, and raised by 53 degree workers. Really impressive!

Personally, I was privileged to raise my son Arthur to the Sublime Degree at the conclusion of this very special day. Brethren, believe me when I say that all of the feelings fathers describe in raising their sons came true that day! The day was a most enjoyable and memorable experience for me as I hope it was for everyone - especially the candidates – who were present.

I express my personal appreciation to the Class Committee for their labors and skill that they devoted to this outstanding effort for our Craft. Thank you!

Cordially & Fraternaly,

***Paul F. Gleason***

Grand Master



## STEPPING INTO HISTORY

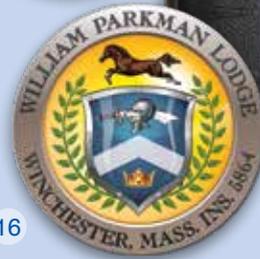
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Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts  
MW Paul F. Gleason



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TROWEL prefers electronic submissions and will accept unsolicited articles, with the right to edit and use when space permits. Articles and pictures, unless specified, become the property of the magazine. Submitters are requested to provide name, address, phone number, e-mail, and Masonic lodge, if any.

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## History: Then and Now

History is a funny place. Every day, scholars all over the world cast history in a different light, attempting to change the way we see these figures. While solid in fact, history is often fluid in opinion.

It is hard to remember that World War I wasn't World War I until World War II. The War to End All Wars disappeared when another war broke out. The war itself started and ended, the name changed, and the way we understood history changed along with it.

However, in Freemasonry, there is a constancy. The experience of initiation, the process of becoming a Mason, is now as it was then. Bros. Washington, Revere, LaFayette, Warren, Dawes, Franklin, and others all enjoyed the same experience as those who attended the recent One Day Class or were initiated through a Lodge.

When we step into that history, when we become Masons, we know certain personal elements about the Masons of the past and their impact upon our world that the scholars cannot understand. For example, while I do not know the history of the oath of Federal Employees, "I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God," I do know that it rings familiar.

Having that connection to the Founding Fathers, and many other men of that and other ages, carries a promise and a responsibility. It means that every Mason has the basic tools to help him strive to maintain and foment the same principles of the great Masons of the past.

While scholars view and review history, Masons make history every day. Most of us are not Washingtons or Reveres, but with our families, in our neighborhoods, in our places of work, we are part of the Masonic fabric that creates the history for the future to ponder.

Fraternally, *Lee H. Fenn*



**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE**  
**JULY 14, 2019**



## Aleppo Opens New Museum Room

Aleppo Shrine held the Grand Opening of its new Museum Room at their Ceremonial this year. The room is the culmination of the Aleppo Archives Project and houses a collection spanning Aleppo's 137 year history. The Museum Room will be open during major Shrine events and by special request. The collection is always growing, so if you have anything from Aleppo over the years, Shrine related in general, or something at your lodge that needs a new home, please reach out to our Historian, John Wilder at John.W.Wilder@hotmail.com, or to Aleppo's main office. We are happy to receive any donations of memorabilia, photos, and even stories so that Nobles for years to come can appreciate them as part of our history.

*-Bro. John Wilder, Aleppo Shrine Historian*

## Breadmen Of Mount Olivet

The "Breadmen" of Mount Olivet Lodge in Cambridge supports charities on an ongoing basis: St. Paul's Catholic Church in Cambridge, St Francis House in Boston, and the Lynn Shelter System in Lynn.

Mount Olivet volunteers distribute bread, pastries, and baked goods to feed the needy, courtesy of Greg Kalajian and company at Whole Foods in Fresh Pond Mall. The Project is in its third year, with pickups on Wednesday and Friday nights, for deliveries on Thursday and Saturday mornings.

Seeing needy folks receiving this support, and their smiles, is the best part of this important work.

*-Bro. Mike DeWitt*

*On Lodge night, Bro. Danny Mehigin, Greg Kalajian, and Bro. Thomas "Mike" DeWitt take a delivery for St. Paul's food pantry in Cambridge.*



## ► Grand Master's Appeal Correction

In the Winter 2018-2019 issue of TROWEL, the following donors were incorrectly included in the \$286-\$499 giving tier. They should have been listed in the \$500-\$999 category. We apologize for the error.

15th Masonic District Past Masters' Association  
John W. Alden, Jr.  
Amity-Mosaic Lodge  
Kenneth M. Andrews  
Ronald K. Bart  
Budleigh Lodge

Converse Lodge  
Corinthian Lodge  
Peter M. Culbertson  
James R. Franklin  
Golden Rule Lodge  
Republican Lodge  
Tahattawan Lodge

The Harvard Lodge  
Heath L. Verburg  
Roger W. Waugh Sr  
West Roxbury-Dorchester Lodge Rookie Association  
Worshipful Masters' Association of SE MA

# 25 Years Of Blessings in Masonry

*by Rt. Wor. & Rev. Matthew Wissell, Grand Chaplain*

March marked my 25th year as a Master Mason. I have spent the time immersed in the Fraternity. I have served in many different lodges and appendant bodies. I have traveled to many different places with the Craft. I spend most of my vacation time attending Masonic related events. Many outside the Fraternity wonder why it is such a big part of my life.

I always answer that from several different perspectives. It is not just one thing that makes me love this Craft. I have found many blessings. It has been a wonderful journey thus far. I thought I might use this opportunity to share my reflections with you.

I was invited to join a Lodge when I was appointed to my first church after graduating from seminary. A retired pastor who was a part of the congregation sponsored me. The night I was raised, the clergy degree team shared in the work.

Since then, I have found Brothers in every church I have served. I share something much deeper and more fulfilling with these men because of our membership in the Craft. It is a dimension of my life I could find nowhere else.

The ceremonial or ritual part of Freemasonry is a blessing to me as well. I am not specifically referring to the lessons. Although they are enriching, it is more the process than the content I find meaningful. The ritual provides each Brother with a singular, shared experience. The bond it creates is not confined by time or space. I am closer to my grandfather because we share that experience, even though we never sat together in Lodge. The ceremonies also create a comfortable expectation for when I attend a communication.

There are so many places I would not have thought of visiting were it not for the Fraternity. I have traveled all over this great country because of my involvement with the Craft. I have had the opportunity to see all kinds of different museums and natural wonders. I have been able to play some nice golf courses. I have dined at some famous restaurants. Even the not so great places provide me with a story to tell.

It has been a real pleasure to share some once in a lifetime experiences with my Brethren. The unique

events I have had the honor of being able to attend vary from Lodge Anniversaries, to laying cornerstones, to dedicating statues, and preaching at King's Chapel. I was even invited to offer the invocation at a meeting of the Boston City Council. All of these moments have left a deep impression upon me and made my life truly richer. None of this would have been possible without my being a member of the Craft.

Now, if you were to ask me what my greatest blessings have been over the years, the answer is obvious. It is the people I have met. It is the relationships. The friendships are the heart of Freemasonry. Let me give you an example.

Recently, I was in Columbus, Ohio, for a Masonic related meeting. An esteemed member of our group, who had recently turned 90, was in a rehab center an hour away due to some medical issues. We finished our work in a manner that provided us enough time to make the trip to visit him. I rode in a car with three other Brothers, one from Ohio, one from New York City, and one from Miami. Four Brothers from varied locations. Four Brothers who would not have known each other were it not for the Fraternity.

We were able to spend some time with our friend. We told some stories and shared some laughs. He had the staff bring some snacks and beverages for us to share. We were able to update him on our meeting. He was able to challenge and encourage us. We made his day and he made ours. On the way back to the hotel, we stopped for ice cream and spoiled our dinner.

Is that not what Freemasonry is all about? Four guys who would have never known each other travel to visit another guy who is in distress. They lift one another's spirits and then eat ice cream at an inappropriate hour. Freemasonry at its best.

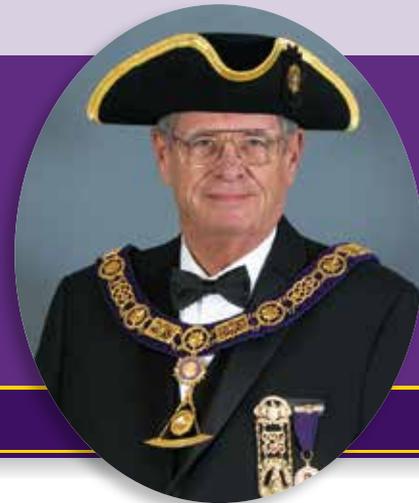
It has been twenty-five years of blessings for me. I look forward to many more years and many more blessings. ■



*Grand Chaplain Rt. Wor. & Rev. Matthew Wissell is pastor of Holy Trinity United Methodist Church in Danvers.*

# THE MARCH 2019 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

## OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS



by Wor. Lee H. Fenn

The Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, Most Worshipful Paul F. Gleason, received a standing ovation after entering the hall at 1:30pm on March 13, 2019, for the Spring Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts. The colors, the American and Massachusetts flags, were presented to the lodge by Massachusetts DeMolay.

Unlike at sporting events, the Brethren present, upon placement of the flags on either side of the Grand Master's place in the East, belted out a rousing rendition of *The Star Spangled Banner*.

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

M. Excel. Dana A. Jackson, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts  
M. Ill. Demetrios J. Sarantopoulos, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Massachusetts

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

Ill. Donald M. Moran, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts  
Ill. Peter R. Smith, 33°, Active for Massachusetts  
Ill. Robert C. Schremser, 33°, Active for Massachusetts  
Ill. C. William Lakso, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts  
Ill. Robert E. Godbout, Jr., 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts

M. Wor. Simon LaPlace, Past Past Grand Master of Connecticut and Executive Secretary, Masonic Service Association  
M. Wor. Thomas Edward Pulkkinen, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine

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

Rt. Wor. Gerald Thaxton, Senior Grand Warden  
Rt. Wor. Wilbur Evans, Sr., Grand Marshal Emeritus

Ill. Robert E. Havener, Potentate, Aleppo Shrine, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine  
Rt. Wor. and Dad Philip Drouin, Executive Officer, Order of the DeMolay, Massachusetts  
Wor. Lee H. Fenn, Executive Editor, Trowel Magazine  
Wor. Joshua Mantello, Photographer, Trowel Magazine

The Grand Master noted that this year is the 100th anniversary of DeMolay, which was started by Bro. Frank Land in 1919. "DeMolay is an organization that promotes finer virtues such as loyalty and courage. As young men, they learn from rituals and participate in allegories similar to the teachings of our Craft. It is true that 68% of the young men who are involved with DeMolay will become Masons. Joining in the One Day Class on Saturday were two active DeMolay and at least one Senior DeMolay," noted the Grand Master before dismissing the color guard.

After those present sang the hymn *Oh God Our Help in Ages Past*, the Grand Master opened the regular Quarterly communication in ample form.

Past Grand Masters present were M. Wors. Albert Timothy Ames, Arthur E. Johnson, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Jeffrey B. Hodgdon, and Harvey John Waugh.

The Grand Master installed Wor. Brian Hughes as Grand Steward. He accepted the obligation delivered by the Grand Master and received his implements from the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Lawrence E. Bethune.

Proxies for 218 lodges were recognized and the voting power of lodges were explained by M. Wor. Bro. Ames. Rt. Wor. Stephen C. Cohn reported the approval of by-law changes for eight lodges and at least a partial rejection of changes in by-laws by two lodges. Rt. Wor. W. Warren Richardson explained the status of the official records. All of the above were accepted by Grand Lodge.

In addition, three lodges petitioned for consolidation: Mount Holyoke Lodge, Chicopee Lodge, and Vernon Lodge. This was accepted by Grand Lodge. The lodge will conduct Masonic business under the name Mount Holyoke Lodge.

The Grand Master introduced Rt. Wor. Mason W. Russell to discuss changes in the Grand Constitutions. The following are the changes:

The following amendments are hereby proposed in accordance with the provisions of Section 710 of the Constitutions and Regulations:

1. To amend Section 208 (Rank and Titles of Officers, Etc.) as follows:
  - a. To identify Past Grand Lodge Officers as Past Grand



**Left:** Rt. Wor. Wayne M. Vinton, Past Junior Grand Warden; Rt. Wor. Joseph P. Denicola, Past Deputy Grand Master; Bro. Ryan W. Dukas, Deputy State Master Councilor; Montayo Cardoza, State Master Councilor; Bro. Donovan E. Cargill, Junior Past State Master Councilor; M. Wor. Albert T. Ames, Past Grand Master; and Rt. Wor. Paul R. Perkins, Past Senior Grand Warden present the colors for DeMolay. **Right:** Wor. Brian Hughes taking his obligation as Grand Steward.

- Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past District Grand Masters, Past Senior Grand Wardens, and Past Junior Grand Wardens; and*
- b. To confer the title "Right Worshipful" on Grand Chaplains and Grand Lecturers, and to propagate this change to the styling of Grand Chaplains and Grand Lecturers elsewhere in the Constitutions and Regulations as it may appear.*
2. To amend Section 420 (Lodge Membership) to incorporate the stipulations of the Edict issued by M.W. Jeffrey Black Hodgdon (Proceedings 2006, page 114) pertaining to signing of Lodge By-Laws and completion of all degree requirements prior to issuance of a dues card.
  3. To amend Section 422 (Affiliation) to establish criteria for a unanimous vs. majority ballot to accept an Application for Affiliation from a demitted member who was reinstated following suspension for non-payment of dues or for cause.
  4. To amend Section 710 (Amendments) to permit the Grand Secretary to email attested copies of proposed changes to the Constitutions and Regulations to Lodge Secretaries.
  5. To amend Section 713 (Grand Honors) to state correctly that there are five occasions on which Private Grand Honors can be conferred.
  6. To amend Section 812 (Particular Lodge Jewels) to state that the jewels of the Secretary, Chaplain, Deacons, Stewards, Organist, Inside Sentinel, and Tyler may be placed within a circle.
  7. To amend Section 815 (Collars: Chains and Collars of Officers of Particular Lodges) to state that collars and ribbons of officers shall be blue.
  8. To amend Rules As To By-Laws, Rule 1 as follows:
    - a. To state that Lodge By-Laws shall provide for the election or appointment of an Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary, in addition to those offices heretofore enumerated; and
    - b. To state that the Master and Wardens of a Particular Lodge shall be members in good standing of that Lodge, except when one or more such officers are put in place while a Lodge is in Receivership status.
- Fraternally submitted, M. Wor. Bros. Ames (Chairman),

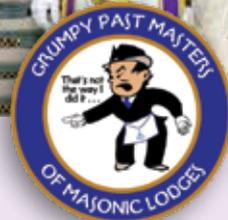
# THE GRAND MASTER'S

*William Parkman Lodge*



*Star of the East Lodge*





**Left:** Rt. Wor. Peter Culbertson receives his own Golden Gavel for his work on the Golden Gavel awards.  
**Right:** M. Wor. Simon LaPlace, the not so Grumpy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer, and Wor. Jonathan Sriberg share a rare moment of levity in the East for a presentation from the Grumpy Past Masters.

Johnson, Hicks, Rt. Wors. Robert V. Jolly, and Mason W. Russell, for the Committee. These changes will be sent to Lodge Secretaries in this jurisdiction within 30 days.

The Grand Master began the necrology with a tribute to Bro. Barry Kurt Johnson, stating, “Barry was born on January 12, 1942; raised a Mason on May 16, 1987. He presided as Master of John T. Heard Lodge in Ipswich in 1994 and served the 10th Masonic District as its Marshal and District Secretary. He joined the Grand Lodge Family as our Supply Officer on November 14, 2016 and did an incredible job to transform that office into an efficient department. He even proudly gave tours of our Grand Lodge building to visitors and guests. He said this was his “dream job.” Barry was very personable, liked a good laugh. He loved to golf and enjoyed jazz. He was a beloved husband, doting father, a treasured Brother and friend. He touched many lives with his simple smile and gentle demeanor. He will be missed.”

Rt. Wor. Bro. Bethune continued the necrology - a loss of almost 260 years of Masonic experience. Wor. Seth Landau, Grand Chaplin, united the Brethren in prayer.

“We want our members to be good members of society, and useful in the community,” the Grand Master said as he announced the indefinite suspension of one member who did not live up to “our strict code of conduct.”

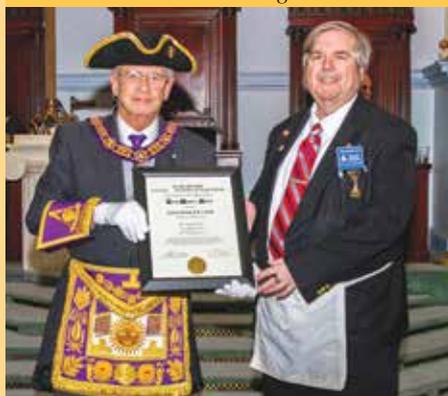
The Grand Master directed his Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Richard Maggio, to present Rt. Wor. Peter Culbertson to the East. Rt. Wor. Bro. Culbertson had the idea for the Golden Gavel awards, which was extremely successful. However, being the ‘founder of the feast,’ he did not himself receive a Golden Gavel. The Grand Master took this opportunity to present Rt. Wor. Bro. Culbertson with a plaque with a Golden Gavel on it.

Twenty-nine Lodges made the plan, did the work, and achieved the Grand Master’s Award. The Grand Master reminded incoming Master that if they don’t have a plan, go for the award. The awardees are pictured below and on pages 24 through 31.

The Grand Lodge Quarterly then got grumpy as only a Past Master can be. The Grand Master directed his Grand Marshal to bring grumpy Brothers to the East, Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer and Wor. Jonathan *continued on page 28*

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

*Artisan Lodge*



*Caleb Butler Lodge*



*Charity Lodge*



*continued on page 24*



# PRESERVING HISTORY ONE ITEM AT A TIME

by *Wor. Robert A. Caron, Waltham Triad Lodge*  
*Matthew W. Jones, Green Dragon Bindery*

Waltham Triad Lodge has the good fortune to be coming upon its 200th anniversary by virtue of its association to Monitor Lodge, one of its predecessors, founded December 13, 1820. As you can imagine, many in the lodge are excited to plan

special recognitions and activities in celebration of this milestone. Inevitably, we also looked around at all the stuff we've accumulated over 200 years (and four predecessors) to identify what might be significant.

As with many other lodges, we seem to have accumulated several Bibles. Now, you've heard the anecdotes that the Bible is the most printed, most stolen, most read, and so forth, book in the world. It would not be a stretch to say that about 10 billion Bibles have been printed since the invention of printing. That's why booksellers will tell you very old Bibles have no intrinsic value unless other factors exist. We have an old Bible that was presented to the lodge in 1903 by a new Past Master who went on to become a Grand Master of Massachusetts – Melvin Maynard Johnson, and he inscribed it personally. We decided it was worth preserving.

Wor. Caron brought the Bible to Matthew Jones at Green Dragon Bindery in Shrewsbury. This is what his initial reaction was:

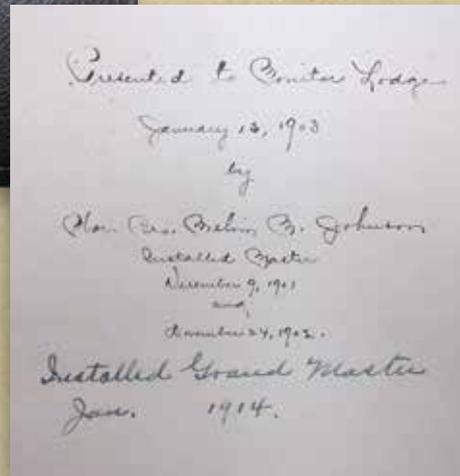
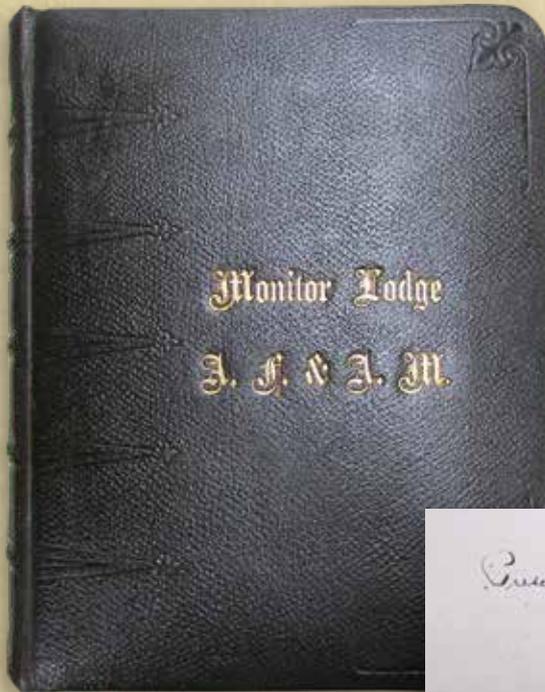
“Robert Caron came in to the bindery in November with a beautifully printed, large format King James Bible. This example was printed by A. J. Holman & Co. in Philadelphia and bound for the uses of a Masonic Lodge, circa 1900. The

original binding is a heavy pebble grained black leather over thick padded boards with remarkable gothic stamping on the cover and on the spine.”

As Matt Jones began to examine the Bible, this is what he found. The front hinge of the cover had become detached with age and repeated handling. A group of oft referred to pages in the middle also needed some conservation. This type of damage is common to large, heavy books. “Thankfully,” Matt said, “no tape or other adhesive repairs had been used to hold the cover on before it was entrusted to us for conservation and restoration, as this makes our job more challenging.” The prognosis for restoration was excellent.

Over the course of the next two months, Waltham Triad’s “M. M. Johnson Bible” underwent a thorough and meticulous restoration alongside many other historical treasures in the Green Dragon Bindery’s workshops. Just how thorough and meticulous? This is the way Matt Jones explained it:

“Our first step was to carefully peel back the elaborate interior hinges and marbled end papers. The first blank fly leaf had multiple inscriptions written on it by the presenter and the Lodge, so great care was taken to preserve this perfectly. This is where Melvin Maynard



Johnson’s inscription gifting the Bible to the Lodge, and his signature, are located. The spine was removed, and all the surfaces cleaned down to a base layer of paper or leather. The paper and linen tube structure which make up the interior of the spine was recreated, and the leather edges were lifted up using a special knife on the boards to allow for





new leather to be lapped in. Matching embossed leather was cut, skived, and dyed to color-match the original material. The original spine was trimmed and thinned at the edges for a near seamless overlay, and all the original leather was treated with a conservation gel to preserve, solidify and protect it.”

“The underlayment of new leather was adhered to the boards and unified with the text block, preserving the original internal hinges and marbled end papers. After drying for a day, the original

spine was positioned and laid over the new leather to complete the book. A final touch up of scuff marks and consolidation of bumped and rubbed leather was done, and a finish coat of leather dressing and wax was applied. At this point, it was safe to work on the conservation and tissue repair of many of the internal pages between pages 750 and 850. Some reddish paint was applied to the edges of the heavily repaired pages so that the bright new tissue would blend in. At this point, the book is ready for another 100 years of careful use.”

As Matt Jones noted, Bibles are a very common items that owners bring in for restoration, but in addition to books, restoration is possible on virtually all documents and printed matter. Masonic Lodges have many such unique items. As you look about your Lodge, consider what you value most and would like conserved. For example, do you have all your Bylaws books with every member’s joining signature? That would be a tremendous piece of history. How about that print of your first line of officers? Wouldn’t that look great restored, framed, and displayed? What about your charter? Could it use a little conservation to help it last forever? Brethren, as the unsparing ravages of time take their toll on us, we will eventually fail, but our historical treasures can be given a much, much longer life.

The Green Dragon Bindery, in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, has been conserving, restoring, and rebinding books since 1964. The staff has expertise in the restoration of books, prints, maps, documents, and other works on paper as well as globes, instruments, and small objects. A casual stroll through the galleries on its website shows the breadth of their services. They certainly restore a lot of Bibles as these are special to so many owners and often get handed down from generation to generation. Other large reference works are common projects at the bindery, as many of them are long out of print and cannot be easily replaced. Many histories and genealogies are quite rare and are commonly sought for as reference works, prompting their owners to preserve them. Personal and collectible books are also part of the regular repertoire of binding work. They would be delighted to work with you on the preservation of your books, records, and other treasures. Please visit the website at [www.greendragonbindery.com](http://www.greendragonbindery.com), or phone them at 508-842-8250. ■



*Matthew W. Jones*

# BROTHERS OF INSPIRATION

*By R.W. David P. Newcomb*

Throughout the years, as manhood nears,  
Good men seem to yearn,  
For a place with opportunities  
To socialize and learn.

Where do young men look today,  
To find some inspiration?  
Who might they look up to  
For positive motivation?

Are there places men may congregate,  
Where values still survive?  
Where are ethics and principles  
Still common and alive?

One place is found beyond the sound  
Of three knocks on their door,  
Just down the hall, within their walls,  
Is what you’re searching for.

Good men know the place to go.  
It’s unlike any other,  
Where good men seek good men to meet,  
And treat each other as Brothers.

The place is where men, once strangers, now friends,  
Have joined Masonic ranks.  
These men have mentored many of us  
For nothing more than, “Thanks!”

Brothers - Ty Cobb, John Paul Jones,  
And Norman Vincent Peale,  
Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere,  
And Cecil B. DeMille.

Red Skelton, Arnold Palmer,  
Mozart and Mark Twain,  
Prince Hall, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle,  
William Shakespeare, and John Wayne.

There’s Winston Churchill, Henry Ford,  
Davy Crockett, and John Glenn.  
Harry Truman, Gerald Ford,  
And George Washington, way back when.

Presidents, Generals, Athletes,  
Entertainers, and yet,  
All of them are Masons.  
Inspirational? You bet !!!

Are you seeking some inspiration?  
Follow this simple plan.  
Here’s what to do for a better you,  
And become a better man.

On the door with the compasses and the square  
Give three distinctive knocks.  
You’ll discover the Brotherhood of Man,  
And realize – Freemasonry rocks !!!



# RT. WOR. GRAEME MARSDEN

## REMARKS FROM THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN

Greetings. No, I don't feel strange wearing an 18th century costume. If there's one place in Boston where there are many types of costume, it's in this building! And when Scottish Rite meets, you can meet dozens of Brothers roaming the halls clad in long raiment and beards. So, I feel quite at home. And I've spoken at LoIs and lodges and given talks all over eastern Massachusetts wearing 18th century clothing. I've been a reenactor for over 30 years and I know many people whom I've never seen wearing regular clothes. I was surprised [on] a Boston street the other day by a fellow reenactor – a young woman who exclaimed loudly, "Wow, I've never seen you in your clothes!"

However, I do feel a little awkward about the cocked hat. I'm trying hard to not put it on my head in this meeting. We call it a cocked hat, not tricorn. As a civilian, it's normally worn without an edge trimming. Some folks wear it with a handy quill stuck into the side, or a clay pipe. Today my hat has a little card stuck in it in case I really do put the hat on my head. The card is my dues card.

I have been charged with talking about the life and times of Joseph Warren. After all, many of us are enjoying the Feast in the Joseph Warren Room, and there are portraits and images of Joseph Warren all over this edifice. Joseph Warren was America's first martyr, and a monument to his memory was erected on Bunker Hill, then subsequently replaced by the much larger Bunker Hill monument. The Bunker Hill monument still has strong Masonic associations. The first monument on Bunker Hill was erected by King Solomon's Lodge to commemorate Joseph Warren. It was later replaced by the much larger monument you see today. Remember the ceremonial re-laying of the cornerstone in 2007 under MW Jeffrey Black Hodgdon. Grand Lodge donated a large amount of money to the refurbishment of the monument, and the opening of the museum.

I'm not actually dressed as Joseph Warren. When I travel to lodges to talk about Joseph Warren, I portray his fellow Mason John Rowe, of Rowe's Wharf fame. I can't portray Joseph Warren because I'm twice the age he was when he died at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Joseph Warren was Grand Master at the time of his death. He was Grand Master of the St. Andrew's Grand Lodge. John Rowe was Grand Master of the St. John's Grand Lodge. As you're aware, the two Grand Lodges later combined to become the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, and the fact that Massachusetts does not have numbered lodges is the result of the merger in 1792.

Joseph Warren was very much the unsung hero of the American Revolution. Joseph Warren was the first martyr of the American revolution. He was killed in the front line

at the Battle of Bunker Hill. There are others who deserve more popular fame: Bro. and Gen. Hugh Mercer who died at the Battle of Princeton, and Gen. Nathanael Greene, just to name a couple, while there are other bit-players who deserve less popular fame: Molly Pitcher, Crispus Attucks, [and] Betsy Ross.

Joseph Warren was only 34 at the time of his death. He had accomplished much in his lifetime. He was Major-General of the American forces at Bunker Hill. He was the physician with the largest number of patients in Boston, including John Adams and his family. He trained the most medical apprentices. He was Grand Master of the St. Andrew's Grand Lodge. And most importantly, he was chairman of the Committee of Safety. That means he was the chief of the illegal shadow government in Massachusetts. He'd been appointed to that position because he was a master of organization. The couriers who rode out after the Lexington Alarm in 1775 didn't just randomly disperse. There was a complete plan put together by Joseph Warren to warn the countryside. By countryside, I mean couriers went out in a fan pattern to Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and beyond. This system caused militias to start marching from very far afield. In New Haven, the militia started marching the very next day under their patriotic commander Bro. Benedict Arnold.

Joseph Warren had been born locally in Roxbury. His father was of the middling sort. A farmer and landowner, important in local town government. He was one of the town fathers who founded the Roxbury Latin school which Joseph Warren was later to attend. Joseph Warren was a bright scholar and the townsfolk joined to give him a scholarship to Harvard College. This was particularly necessary, since his father had died when Joseph Warren was eight in an accident by falling out of one of his apple trees. Joseph Warren trained as a physician and later opened a practice in Boston. He became more and more involved in politics, working in concert with Sam Adams and Bro. John Hancock.

Freemasonry had been founded in America by Henry Price. They first met as an English Grand Lodge-sanctioned lodge and Grand Lodge in the Bunch of Grapes Tavern on King Street. King Street is now State Street, and although the tavern has gone, you can see a large bronze plaque on the site, commemorating the founding of Freemasonry. In 1769, the Grand Lodge of Scotland chartered a lodge and Grand Lodge that met at the Green Dragon Tavern on Union Street, and Joseph Warren was appointed GM. Back in London, the Grand Lodge of England had decided to bring order to the Craft by publishing an important book *The Constitutions of Freemasonry in*

*continued on page 32*



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# BROTHER THURGOOD MARSHALL

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by Bro. James D. Malary, Sr.

Brother Thurgood Marshall of Coal Creek Lodge No. 88, Tulsa, Oklahoma PHA, is an historical Mason who is an inspiration to me as he was instrumental in bridging the divide. Bro. Marshall served as the 96th United States Supreme Court Justice, appointed by the 36th President of the United States, Lyndon B. Johnson, in 1967. Bro. Marshall successfully argued in the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* case before the Supreme Court prior to his appointment as a justice, which held that racial segregation in public education is a violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

In his career he confronted the Jim Crow system of the south, rejecting discrimination and bigotry towards people belonging to various groups. He was the first black Supreme Court justice, and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, the first Greek-letter fraternity for black men at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, known at the time as the black Princeton, where he graduated from in 1925.

He also attended the all-black Howard University law school where he graduated first in class in 1933.

One of the first things a newly-made Mason learns is how he knows himself to be a Mason. Delta Lodge was first established after Orphans Hope Lodge in Weymouth petitioned the Grand Lodge in 1869. That historical event occurred five decades after the Period of Enlightenment, the Age of Reasoning, and during the Industrial Revolution. This occurred 94 years after Prince Hall petitioned for affiliation with Boston's St. John's Lodge and was rejected, but

soon after was accepted into Masonry by members of Lodge No. 441 of the Grand Lodge of Ireland on March 6, 1775, the year of our great American Revolution.

Playing a part in bridging the divide between the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Hawaii was an event in which I got to play a pivotal role in 2018. After seeking affiliation with Delta Lodge, I was required to redo the three degrees because my degree work from Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Hawaii was not recognized. The year after going through my degree work a second time, 13 years after first being raised to the sublime degree, and with encouragement from Delta Lodge Brothers, I petitioned the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Hawaii to seek recognition from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. They obliged my request and are now recognized. Henceforth, no Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Hawaii Mason seeking affiliation with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts will have to redo their degree work as a prerequisite to attain membership.



*Bro. Thurgood Marshall (left) and an unknown Brother.*

The experience serves as one simple example of an unexpected outcome of what one can accomplish when he sets out to do good through Freemasonry. I think of these Masons and imagine the other good men who came before and am always inspired to help another. In particular, the men, Brothers, unaffiliated and the like, who choose to join our great Fraternity in Delta Lodge and Weymouth United Lodge, where I am a member of both. ■

*Photo Published courtesy of Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.*



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# HIDDEN HEROES

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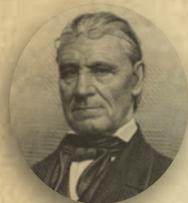
by *Rt. Wor. Walter H. Hunt,  
Grand Historian*

In the pages of the TROWEL we have memorialized many great men who have had the honor to serve in the East of Grand Lodge. It is undeniable that our Grand Masters have made major, and lasting, contributions to the success and greatness of our Grand Lodge and its

constituent lodges.

These are not the only heroes, however. There are many others whose service to the Craft in general, and to Massachusetts in particular, are worthy of recognition. A few of them appear in this article, but these are merely selected examples

for the many unsung, hidden heroes whose names and biographies are not given. As you read these few accounts, remember how many they represent – how many portraits hang in Masonic halls, unremarked, and how many asterisked names are listed on lodge notices, forgotten.



## **Edward T. Taylor, 1793-1871**

*MM 1820, Corner Stone*

*Charter Member 1823, Star in the East*

*Member 1846, Columbian*

*Grand Chaplain 1834-1837, 1840, 1841*

In his youth, Edward Taylor was a sailor, and all through his life his speeches and sermons – he became a Methodist preacher in 1819 – were filled with “quaint nautical phrases.” He was born in Richmond, Virginia, and he came to Boston after ten years at sea. One night in the fall of 1811, he had a remarkable spiritual conversion; as a consequence of this event, he turned to the clerical profession. It was his deep belief in Christianity, and his desire to do good with his fellow man, that led him to the Masonic Fraternity. He joined Corner Stone Lodge in 1820, became a charter member of Star in the East Lodge in 1823, and when he came back to Boston, he became a member of Columbian Lodge. He long served as its Chaplain, where his regular prayer included the concluding phrase, “Bless this glorious Order; bless its friends — yes, bless its enemies, and make their hearts as soft as their heads.”

His contributions as a Mason, even during the difficult Anti-Masonic period, were well known to his contemporaries; he grew old in service to the Craft – to his lodges, to the York Rite bodies (particularly Templary), and to Grand Lodge, in which he was a Grand Chaplain for several years. He was also of great service to his fellow man beyond the boundaries of the Fraternity. A contemporary biography identifies him as a “shouting Methodist,” one who sought to share the Good Word of his religion with anyone within earshot.

The most famous seat of his religious profession was the Seaman’s Bethel of Boston, located in the North End on what was then called “Methodist Alley.” The Bethel provided religious services for those involved in industries related to the sea – sailors, longshoremen, and others. His emotional, often fiery speeches proved very attractive to men who might be otherwise indifferent to religious matters, and he prospered in this position for many years, so much so that he became known as the “Sailor Preacher.” The Seaman’s

Aid Society, which later managed the Bethel, opened Mariners’ House, a temperance boarding-house for sailors. His charity and kindness knew no bounds, but it was his preaching that attracted attention. It was said of him that “there was no pulpit in Boston around which the lovers of genius and eloquence gathered so often, or from such different quarters, as that in the Bethel at the remote North End, where Father Taylor preached...he was, perhaps, the most original preacher, and one of the most effective pulpit and platform orators, America has produced.”



## **John Hoffman Collamore, 1816-96**

*MM 1890, Columbian*

*AASR, NMJ 33° 1893*

*Honorary Member of many lodges  
and York Rite Bodies*

Collamore, a wealthy businessman of Boston, came quite late to the Fraternity. He was only a member for a handful of years, but his philanthropic efforts are apparent more than a century after his death.

It is almost impossible to account for all of the charitable donations John H. Collamore made during his life and that his estate made after his death. He was an honorary member of 18 lodges, five Royal Arch Chapters, ten Commanderies, and a half-dozen Scottish Rite bodies. As his memorial described it,

“The gifts made by Bro. Collamore to various Masonic Bodies and to prominent Brethren are beyond enumeration. Among those worthy of special mention are the donations of a burial lot, with a handsome and massive sarcophagus erected thereon, in Pine Grove Cemetery, Lynn, Mass., to Mount Olivet Commandery, K.T., of that city; a burial lot, with a large and beautiful monument erected thereon, in Mt. Hope Cemetery, to Boston Commandery, K.T., of Boston; a burial lot and monument, in the same cemetery, to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in the Valley of Boston; and also a burial lot and monument, in the same cemetery, to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, A.F. and A.M. All of



these monuments are made of the finest Quincy granite artistically finished and polished, with suitable inscriptions, mottoes and emblems engraved thereon.”

“Bro. Collamore presented to Lafayette Lodge of Perfection, of Boston, a set of new and elaborate paraphernalia, furniture, wardrobe, etc., and to Joseph Warren Commandery, K.T., of Roxbury, one of the most expensive and most perfect organs placed in any Masonic Hall in the United States. He also presented numerous other Lodges and Orders with Bibles, squares and compasses, wardrobes, etc., and to an unknown number of Brethren he presented swords, and other valuables, indicative of his personal regard and Masonic interest.”

The burial lot in Mount Hope Cemetery was dedicated in a Special Communication of Grand Lodge in 1894, and the monument is in place to this day. In addition, he made a substantial grant of funds in his will for the benefit of Grand Lodge and “to the relief of members of the Masonic Fraternity, who have received the degrees in Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the wives, widows, and children under sixteen years of age, of such members.”

In numerous buildings around the state, one can find a portrait of Collamore. A handsome one hangs in the Commandery Armory on the sixth floor of our Grand Lodge building. When the Newton cornerstone box was opened in 1996, one of his calling-cards was found, as Gethsemane Commandery was one of the recipients of his contributions.

In sum, Brother Collamore’s generous spirit exemplified the best of the greatest Masonic virtue – charity.



### Jonathan Greenwood 1801-85

MM 1823, Middlesex

WM 1839-1842, Middlesex

DDGM, District 4, 1842-1848

R.W. Brother Greenwood is a figure who appears in many places in the records and histories of lodges in central Massachusetts. He was a farmer in Framingham, which was much more rural than it is now. He joined Middlesex Lodge, a Paul Revere lodge, when he attained majority and was a lifelong member of that lodge. He became an officer during a very difficult period in Massachusetts’ Masonic history and worked hard to help preserve the charter of this old lodge. He exerted his influence in many cases to assist neighboring lodges and their members to be steadfast in the face of the wave of prejudice and hatred that threatened to overwhelm them.

Greenwood was fast friends with Reverend Charles Train, who, like Greenwood, served as Master of Middlesex Lodge, and who refused to renounce the Fraternity during its most difficult period. It is said of Middlesex Lodge that “for six years the Lodge held its meetings in secret places known only to Masons; at one time in an attic and by the light of a single candle.” This accurately identified the hatred and fear that walked abroad in those days.

Brother Greenwood was also active in the Royal Arch, in Commandery, and in the Scottish Rite Consistory of Boston. He was admired for his strong principles and his great wisdom and was involved with the Craft until very old age. ■

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## RT. WOR. DR. JOHN HART

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by Bro. Brian Cortez

As a Revolutionary War reenactor, I have developed and recreated Dr. Hart for the public. Following ongoing research, I dress in 18th century period attire as I speak about his contributions to the founding of this country. I speak on topics of his life during the American Revolution, his exploits as a regimental surgeon for Col. Bailey’s 2nd Massachusetts Regiment (1777 - 1783). I also recreate and demonstrate colonial medicine such as musket ball removals after a mock battle and smallpox inoculations of the troops.

I was raised in and am currently the Jr. Warden of Golden Rule Lodge in Wakefield, MA. R.W. Hart was one of three men that petitioned the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to create a

new lodge charter in 1798. That lodge was known as Mount Moriah Lodge. Of note to his dedication to the Craft, during the Masonic period of persecution from 1826-1843, he built a lodge hall on the 2nd floor of the Hartshorne house he owned, particularly for secret meetings of the Mount Moriah Lodge. This lodge, although disbanded in the 19th century, was instrumental in the history of Golden Rule Lodge itself, in that his name was one of the finalists for the lodge name when the charter was petitioned from the Grand Lodge. ■

Anne Martin-Cortez (my wife and nurse matron of my Flying Hospital), Brian Cortez (Rt. Wor. & Dr. John Hart)



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# RT. WOR. LUCIUS ROBINSON PAIGE

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by *Wor. Keith MacKinnon*

For me, I think the person that influenced me to strive to be more than just an ordinary member of the Craft is Rt. Wor. Lucius R. Paige - to look at what I can do for the Fraternity, not what the Fraternity will do for me. I imagine what drive it took for him to help reform my mother Lodge in 1846 and become the first Master after the Anti-Masonic era. When he was not even a member of the Lodge yet, he stepped forward and was the guiding force behind the Lodge coming back from darkness. His selfless act of stepping up and volunteering brought him

to lead the Lodge during the reformation times. Just his pure dedication to the Craft as a whole impresses me. I do not think it was for the want of power or glory, or medals or admiration from others. To be humble and helpful, which reminds me of the beehive: to add to the common stock of knowledge, to be useful, to give back, to pass down his knowledge and understanding, and to be a useful Freemason and not stand idle. It must have been for this reason and just the pure love of him that the members of Cambridge voted to have the Prelates

Room at the Cambridge Masonic Temple dedicated in his name.

Though not very historical in the aspect of the world of Freemasonry, he is still looked upon here in Cambridge with admiration and gratitude for a well-spent life and his gift of his love for Freemasonry. I wish I could have met him, sat down with him for a few hours, picked his mind, and just talked Freemasonry. ■



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# WOR. EZEKIEL BATES

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by *Wor. Bryan Simmons*

When we think historical Freemason, most minds go right to the famously known. Mine does not, it goes back to a Past Master of the Lodge of Saint Andrew, Wor. Ezekiel Bates. Since joining Masonry and Ezekiel Bates Lodge, Wor. Bro. Bates has inspired me.

As a Brother, moving to Attleboro from Boston in the 1850s, he was instrumental in Bristol Lodge reinstating their charter. When 26 Brothers in Attleboro decided to start a lodge, they voted to name their lodge after Wor. Bro. Bates. This decision was due to the impact he made in his community, by the Brothers he touched and inspired, and not by his name or the rank he achieved during his Masonic career.

Deeper research into Wor. Bro. Bates reveals a most interesting man of the world. He was a veteran of the War of 1812, sailed with the first shipment of ice from New England to the West Indies, was a Master Craftsman, and "he had the honor of building the first railroad passenger depot ever erected in the United States, for the Boston and Worcester Railroad," and founded the Attleboro Savings Bank. The list goes on. When Wor. Bro. Bates passed to the Celestial Lodge, hundreds attended his service including half of the membership of the Lodge of St. Andrew, who then escorted him to his final resting place at the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge. When I go to Lodge and see his photo above our fireplace, it motivates me to strive to improve myself to Bro. Bates' standard of a great Freemason. ■



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# BRO. RUDYARD KIPLING

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By H. Robert Huke, III

Wor. Ronald Lincoln McKim, Rural Lodge, is a 2nd generation Past Master and serving officer in the Quincy Police Department. Wor. Bro. McKim's most admired historical figure is author and poet Bro. Rudyard Kipling. As a young man, long before he joined our fraternity, Bro. McKim saw the movie *The Man Who Would be King*. He was entranced by the story. He bought the movie and has watched it many times.

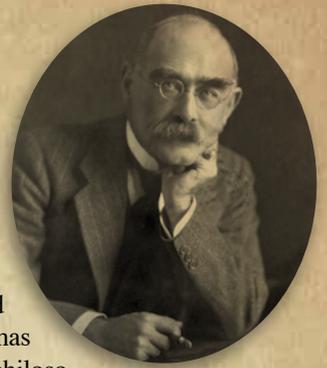


Wor. Ronald Lincoln McKim

As Master of Rural Lodge, he carried a pocket watch with a fob identical to the all seeing eye, and square and compasses symbol that

was central to the story. But it wasn't the movie alone that inspired him. He has read Kipling's stories and poetry, and has been inspired by his artistry and philosophy, especially the message of *The Mother Lodge*, where men of multiple faiths could not share a meal due to the restrictions of their creeds, but could find some way to be friends and Brothers within our Fraternity. This is a message he finds especially appropriate in these troubled times. If only we can spread the values of wisdom, strength, and beauty to the rest of the world.

Wor. Bro. McKim is the presiding Monarch of Taleb Grotto, a worker in Boston Lafayette Lodge of Perfection, and he and his wife Terry own a sailboat on which they enjoy spending time on Massachusetts Bay when they can. ■



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## THE MOTHER LODGE *by Bro. Rudyard Kipling*

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THERE was Rundle, Station Master,  
An' Beazeley of the Rail,  
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,  
An' Donkin' o' the Jail;  
An' Blake, Conductor-Sergeant,  
Our Master twice was 'e,  
With im that kept the Europe-shop,  
Old Framjee Edu'ljee.

*Outside - "Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!*

*Inside - "Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.*

*We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,  
An' I was junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!*

We'd Bola Nath, Accountant,  
An' Saul the Aden Jew,  
An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman  
Of the Survey Office too;  
There was Babu Chuckerbutty,  
An' Amir Singh the Sikh,  
An' Castro from the fittin'-sheds,  
The Roman Catholick!

We 'adn't good regalia,  
An' our Lodge was old an' bare,  
But we knew the Ancient Landmarks,  
An' we kep' 'em to a hair;  
An' lookin' on it backwards  
It often strikes me thus,  
There ain't such things as infidels,  
Excep', per'aps, it's us.

For monthly, after Labour,  
We'd all sit down and smoke  
(We dursn't give no banquets,  
Lest a Brother's caste were broke),  
An' man on man got talkin'

Religion an' the rest,  
An' every man comparin'  
Of the God 'e knew the best.

So man on man got talkin',  
An' not a Brother stirred  
Till mornin' waked the parrots  
An' that dam' brain-fever-bird.  
We'd say 'twas 'ighly curious,  
An' we'd all ride 'ome to bed,  
With Mo'ammed, God, an' Shiva  
Changin' pickets in our 'ead.

Full oft on Guv'ment service  
This rovin' foot 'ath pressed,  
An' bore fraternal greetin's  
To the Lodges east an' west,  
Accordin' as commanded.  
From Kohat to Singapore,  
But I wish that I might see them  
In my Mother-Lodge once more!

I wish that I might see them,  
My Brethren black an' brown,  
With the trichies smellin' pleasant  
An' the hog-darn passin' down;  
An' the old khansamah snorin'  
On the bottle-khana floor,  
Like a Master in good standing  
With my Mother-Lodge once more.

*Outside - Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!'*

*Inside- Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.*

*We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,  
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!*

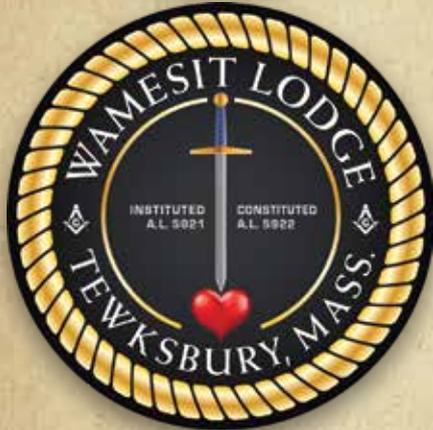
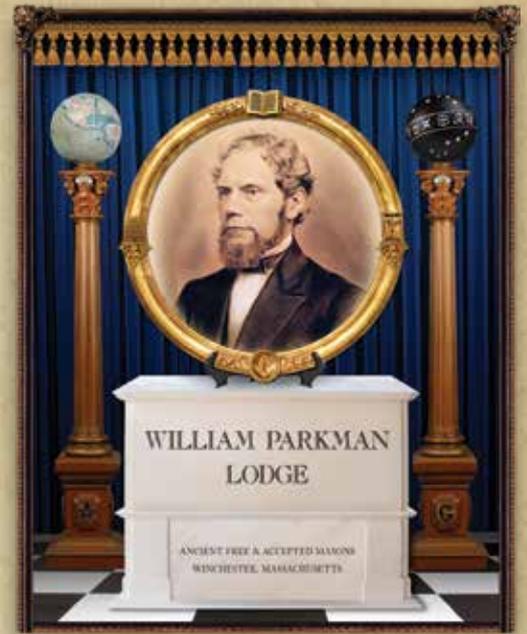
*Reprinted from the Kipling Society, <http://www.kiplingsociety.co.uk/>.*



# REVITALIZED LOGOS

by *Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

Wor. John “Jay” Garrett is a professional graphic artist and the Junior Past Master of Golden Rule Lodge in Wakefield. He has been revitalizing logos for the 13th District and graphics for other Masonic purposes. “My passion is to try to restore artwork of the craftsmanship that was custom designed in the past,” he said. A sample of his work appears on this page. ■





# MASONIC SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS

by *Rt. Wor. George J. Bibilos, President*

This past November I had the honor of being installed as President of the Masonic Secretaries Association of Massachusetts by our Grand Master, M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason. This organization, which is open to all Secretaries of Masonic organizations and former Secretaries, is now in its 99th year of existence.

We have had a number of prominent Massachusetts Masons who have served as President of this organization, including M. Wor. J. Philip Berquist, Rt. Wors. Terence Stephens, James C. Holmes, Kenneth W. Sprague, and our current Senior Grand Warden Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer, just to name a few.

The officers for the Association this year are: Rt. Wor. George J. Bibilos (Golden Rule Lodge), President; Rt. Wor. David E. Pace (Wilbraham Masonic Lodge), 1st Vice President; Rt. Wor. William E. Yanakakis (John T. Heard Lodge), 2nd Vice President; Rt. Wor. Russell E. Lowe (Joel E. Prouty Lodge), Treasurer; Rt. Wor. Kenneth W. Sprague, Jr. (Converse Lodge), Secretary; and Wor. William E. Cheetham (Ezekiel Bates Lodge), Chaplain. These Brethren represent a great cross section from the jurisdiction.

The motto of the organization is "In Unity There Is Strength." We all know that the Master is the head of the lodge, but the lodge Secretary is vitally important to the success of the operations of the lodge. It is our goal to re-energize this group to get more Secretaries involved and cross-pollinate ideas and best practices to help strengthen our lodges across the jurisdiction.

The Association meets four times a year and we start with a social period, followed by dinner, a brief business meeting, and then a guest speaker. More recently, we have been making a concerted effort to cultivate the social side of the club to make it enjoyable for our members. The social period, along with an effort to upgrade the dinners, has resulted in increased attendance.

As we all know, the reality is that a good Secretary can go a long way toward making a lodge successful and conversely, a bad Secretary can do just the opposite. With this

Association, we seek to cultivate a positive comradery among our members to support each other and hopefully make us all more successful. Again, the goal is being stronger Secretaries by working in unity.

Our group has a great relationship with the offices of both the Grand Secretary and Business Manager, in addition to the strong support of our Grand Lodge. At our January 2018 meeting, we were fortunate enough to have R.W. Donald M. Moran, our Business Manager, address the group and take questions. Additionally, for many years, we have been very fortunate to have had our Grand Master install the new President and officers each November.

If you are the Secretary for your lodge, or another Masonic body, or you formerly served in one or more of these positions, this is your club! My immediate predecessor, Rt. Wor. William R. Currier, commissioned a beautiful lapel pin with our organization's logo, and we have adopted the Churchill style navy blue with white polka dots bowtie as our club tie. Those not inclined to wear bowties are encouraged to wear a navy blue with white polka dots pattern in a regular neck tie.

We don't want this organization to be a well-kept secret, which in some ways it has been. Rather, we want to promote this group to help foster success – both in terms of engaging more of our Secretaries to become members and achieving our goal of supporting each other by sharing best practices and experiences to support our lodges

that will ultimately strengthen Masonry in this jurisdiction.

For those of you who are eligible, we hope you will consider joining our merry band. Hopefully, you will learn a few things, meet some of your colleagues from across the state, and have a little fun while doing it. Applications are available at [massmasons.org](http://massmasons.org) and through the QR code; it is very affordable to join. Think about it and make a difference. Remember – "In Unity There Is Strength." ■



*Previous President Rt. Wor. William R. Currier with M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason as he installs the current President Rt. Wor. George J. Bibilos of the Masonic Secretaries Association of Massachusetts.*





The Overlook Vista Adult Day Program, or as we like to call it, the Overlook Vista Club is what's new. The Overlook Vista Club is a daytime social program that specializes in meeting the needs of people who are suffering with the challenges associated with Alzheimer's and related dementias, yet still wish to live independently in the community.

An estimated 5.8 million Americans have Alzheimer's dementia, with someone in the United States developing the disease every 65 seconds, according to the Alzheimer's Association. Over 18.5 billion hours of care are being provided by more than 16 million family caregivers. This loving care is often provided by family members and is physically and emotionally exhausting. Family caregivers who work or need a break often struggle to find a solution, uncertain where to turn for support.

The Overlook Vista Club provides members with the opportunity to engage in a program of purposeful daily activities in a safe, comfortable space. In turn, this provides peace of mind for their loving caregivers, knowing their loved one is safe and happy, and allows them time for respite, self-care, and leisure activities. While at the Overlook Vista Club, members enjoy the benefit of meaningful activities, healthy meals, and the focused attention of our professional staff. Unique to this program is that it is a 'social model' rather than a medical model as is typical of most adult day programs. In a social model program, Team Members devote their time to engagement and socialization with members, while in a medical model program, Team Members spend much of their time attending to the medical needs of clients, some of whom may also have dementia, and less time on stimulating activities.

In our social model program, the exclusive focus of The Overlook Vista Club is on individuals with dementia and their quality of life. This important distinction allows our professional Team Members to be fully focused on gaining an understanding of the unique needs of each Club member and designing a dynamic program of engagement opportunities.

The Overlook Vista Club Team Members have become

Certified Dementia Practitioners (CDP) - reflecting the highest level of training for programs such as this one. Our CDP professional Team Members are simply the best! They are trained to discover the unique interests, abilities, and talents of each member, allowing for the development of our specialized engagement program.

The Mission of The Overlook Vista Club is to assist people with Alzheimer's and related dementias to remain at their highest level of functional independence through participation in a customized program of purposeful engagement. This allows the person to age in place, resulting in a longer residency in The Overlook Independent Living, or in their home in the community.

For our Club Members, their participation in the full day of social-based program opportunities give members a chance to make new friends, try different activities, and feel a renewed sense of purpose. Very importantly, this allows for the family caregiver to have a respite, time to replenish, and time to renew. This helps to preserve their own health and wellness and is a key to their ability to remain at home.

The Overlook Vista Club is held in a completely renovated space on campus. Everything is designed with a focus on creating a comfortable and supportive environment for our Club Members. A continental breakfast and nutritious, hot lunch are served daily, along with healthy snacks and beverages. Staff engage with members during the lunch time meal to create a social dining experience. Members engage in a life-enhancing program designed to meet each Club Member's needs, interests, and abilities, which emphasize independence.

Activities include yoga, Walking Club, chair exercise, music, art, current events, word and memory games, trivia, puzzles, gentle sports, reminiscing, pet therapy, entertainment, intergenerational activities, baking, cooking, birthday and holiday celebrations, discussion groups, and outside trips.

The Overlook Vista Club joins our continuum of outstanding Alzheimer's and related dementia services provided in our Fieldstone Neighborhood. Fieldstone is a memory care assisted living community that provides special care and specialized programming for residents with Alzheimer's and related dementias. Residents of the Fieldstone program are provided with supportive personal care services such as, but not limited to, *continued on page 32*



**The Overlook Vista Club members enjoying their daily activities.**



# The Prodigal Mason

by *Richard Thompson*



It is early Spring, a time when my lawn starts losing its winter brown and that hint of green appears. The snow that covered the ground is gone, revealing all the leaves I missed the previous fall. It is also the time when lodge officers around the state head out to that annual spring event — Exemplification.

In the late days of winter and the early moments of spring, district lodges gather to present one of the degrees of the Masonic Fraternity. A Grand Lecturer is there to be sure we are all using the correct words, and that little errors have not entered our presentations.

The ritual for lodges in Massachusetts is written in a book called the Official Cipher. The ritual is coded, but not a code that can be cracked. The code is simply the first two letters of each word in the ritual. These first two letters, or in some cases the first three letters, are simply a reminder of what the words are. Of course, in some instances, a half dozen appropriate words match the letters in the cipher. At the Exemplification, we relearn which one word is connected to those two letters.

As I am the Secretary for Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge, I went to the Exemplification for the 12th District on the last Saturday in March. In the ritual of the Fraternity, the Secretary speaks only two times. One time is in the full opening of a lodge and the other is in the Third Degree. Since we were exemplifying the Second Degree, I was down to just one paragraph in the full-form opening. As luck would have it, that is the part of the ritual my lodge was asked to do.

During the Exemplification, the Grand Lecturer, Rt. Wor. Francis Mitrano said something I've often told new Masonic officers, know the story you are trying to tell a candidate. He advised officers to read the ritual over and

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*Richard Thompson is a Past Master of Merrimack Valley Daylight and Wamesit Lodges who fondly remembers an earlier time in his Masonic journey.*

over until you know the story. After that, memorizing the words comes easier.

I don't give that advice today. Most members of Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge are members of other lodges, and many of the members are Past Masters. A standard Masonic officers' line has 14 officers, 16 with the Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary. In Daylight Lodge, of the 16, 11 are Past Masters. Of the 11, four are Past District Deputy Grand Masters.

When I got home, I was still thinking about the Exemplification and Rt. Wor. Mitrano's comments on knowing the stories. At the same time, the Lodge of Instruction and the District Deputy's official and fraternal visits slipped into my thoughts. As I was thinking about these three events on our Masonic calendar, I realized they have something in common. While the Exemplification helps us get the right words in the right places, the Lodge of Instruction passes on some Masonic information, and the visits allow us to accompany the District Deputy as he makes his rounds, they all do something unspoken, but of great importance.

I realized that as I was going through the chairs in the late 1970s and early 1980s, I got to know the officers of the other lodges in my district. By the time we got to the East, the Master of every lodge in the district knew every other Master. I had forgotten about all that. I forgot how important it is for the senior officers of the district lodges to know one another. I forgot how we supported each other and came to each other's aid. I forgot that when we had a Table Lodge, the Lodge of Instruction became our ticket selling location, as well as the ticket selling location for Ladies' Nights and other events. I forgot the lifelong friendships we formed in those years and at those many meetings.

The words I did not like to hear when I was a Master were, "Back when I was Master..." I have tried not to use them now that I am a Past Master, but I must admit I have caught myself saying it. This time, however, I am going to allow myself to say it. Back when I was Master, we had perfect opportunities to enlarge our circle of friends and to help each other be successful residents of the East. I wonder if we can have it again. ■



Simon W. Robinson  
Masonic Lodge  
A.F. & A.M.

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**Simon W. Robinson Masonic Lodge**

March 2 at 12:01 PM • Lexington, MA

Noon Saturday, 3/2/2019 was the 10th Annual Simon W. Robinson Masonic Lodge "I Just Can't Wait for Summer" Lobster Bake. It was certainly another great time for all! Cream pie in the face, Birthday cherry pie, and all-around shenanigans!



## ASK THE GRAND LECTURERS

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

**B**y the time you read this, a successful One Day Class will have been completed.

**Q:** We use the phrase Oblong Square many times in our Ritual. Exactly what is an Oblong Square?

**A:** There are a great many articles on this on the Internet, many with extensive discussions and observations. The most common Masonic usage is that it is a rectangle where the four angles total 360 degrees, but the angles are not equal.

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

**A:** Basically, you just have to know the signs. Many Lodges have a Rusty Brother Committee whose specific purpose is to make situations such as this comfortable for its members. If your Lodge does not have such a committee, speak to the Master. No doubt he will take the necessary steps to ensure that you are welcomed back.

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

**A:** No, they are not.

**Q:** Are Lodges required to maintain a selection of different Volumes of the Sacred Law?

**A:** There is no such requirement. It is, however, a good idea to inform applicants, preferably at their pre-application meeting, that they will be expected to take obligations at the altar and make them aware that they may use their own volume if they so choose.

**Q:** Do the portions of the degree work written out in English have to be given during an exemplification?

**A:** Absolutely. While the reading of the English may be omitted at ritualist's workshops in order to allow more time for questions and floor work review, at Exemplification the entire degree must be done, and if possible, it should be done by installed officers. It is very important for all Masters, Wardens, and Deacons to understand this. ■

# ST. EDOUARD LODGE



This book is an annotated translation of a rare Masonic manuscript of Saint Edouard, an early Scottish Rite Lodge in 1748 Paris. It is a rare document of one of the embryos of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. The Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction commissioned it and made it available in both a regular printed version, as well as an elec-

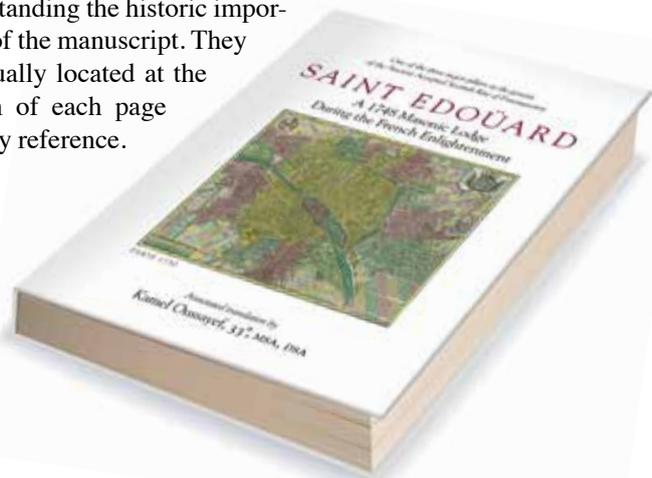
tronic one. In this work, Rt. Wor. Brother Kamel Oussayef uses a simplified version of prosopography, “a tool that, in some historic studies, identifies and relates a group of persons in a particular historical context.”

It observes the members of St. Edouard Lodge in their environment and takes into consideration their personal lives and human characteristics rather than scrutinize the society in which they lived, as most historians do. Observing individuals, rather than a society, also helps make the reading of the document more pleasant and livelier. As you read about the fascinating members of St. Edouard Lodge, you get the feeling that each of them is introducing himself to you. The description of their places of work and lodging, their avocations, professions, employments, or for some, the lack of any occupations, illustrates the connection that existed between Freemasonry and the societal life of these men.

Above all, this work unveils the links that have existed between Freemasonry and the political, cultural, and social life of the turbulent and ingenious era of the Enlightenment in 18th century Europe. Four decades later, this abundance of uninhibited, uncommon, and sometimes astonishing ideas would inexorably ignite the French Revolution of 1789, a cataclysmic upheaval of universal proportion, in which some of the members of St. Edouard Lodge were definitively involved.

It is most probable that the Brothers of St. Edouard Lodge were aware that anything could happen, and everything was possible. We know that some members of the Lodge eventually joined the Revolution, others sided with the royalist counter-revolution, and others went into exile to protect their lives, wealth, or freedom. Still others fell victim to the infamous guillotine.

The footnotes are an essential part of the book and help with understanding the historic importance of the manuscript. They are usually located at the bottom of each page for easy reference.



## One Day Class Fills Grand Lodge

There were murmurs. At the One Day Class, in every break, in every pause, the Ionic Lodge room—filled to the rafters with men becoming Masons and their mentors—buzzed with murmurs.

In a One Day Class, the murmurs are hushed explanations, gentle moving of the new Brother’s hands, and there is a care and a concern from the mentor to the Mason. That concern echoed through the room.

Rt. Wor. Scott T. Jareo, in full beard, cautioned the candidates not to look on the exemplar, the person physically going through the degrees, as someone showing what happens in a degree. In truth, in a One Day Class, every candidate in the room is the person going through the degrees. All are participating. That reality of each Mason taking the degrees was echoed in the hall when, for each degree, each candidate in the hall said the obligation, supplied his name, and, as one, committed themselves to building better men of themselves through Freemasonry. *-Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

I waited a number of years before a Grand Master’s One Day Class occurred. On my way to the Grand Master’s One Day Class, you wonder how things are going to go. My mentor, my son in law, Mark J. Collins, Sr., the Master of Waltham Triad Lodge, made it a lot easier during the long day. At 82 years old, I was probably one of the oldest in the class. Everyone was so nice.

The degrees were very informative and much material was presented. The ritual was great and gave you an understanding of many things in the Masonic Fraternity. The discussion panels at the end of each presentation brought up different thoughts that should be of interest to the members of the One Day Class. I took a quick visit to the library and found it very interesting.

At the end of the day, we went to the Grand Master’s Dining Hall where we were able to meet many new Masons and their mentors. It was a nice finish to the day.

*-Brother Joseph R. D’Eon, Waltham Triad Lodge*

# FRATERNITY News & Events

## Joseph Webb Serves Arlington Street Church

Brothers of Joseph Webb Lodge have served the local community in recent months by volunteering at The Arlington Street Church. Over the course of three visits, members of the lodge including Wor. Joseph M. Kostka II, the current Master of Joseph Webb, served more than 100 people, providing them with food and basic items like toiletries, socks, and boots. The Brothers who attended these events served an estimated 150 individuals with food during every visit, with many of these recipients becoming familiar faces over time.

These visits were spearheaded by a committee chaired by Bro. Pavan Mallur of Joseph Webb Lodge. Bros. John DeBarros, Andrew Zucker, and Rob Lavoie were also in attendance. "It has been very rewarding to be a part of this charitable endeavor," said Wor. Kostka. "It's great to see the Brothers of Joseph Webb Lodge out in the community, helping out where they can for those in need." "We hope to continue to be involved with the organization in the future as well," he added.

*-Bro. Charles L. Bovaird II*



*Left to Right: Wor. Joseph M. Kostka II, Bros. Pavan Mallur, John DeBarros, Andrew Zucker, and Rob Lavoie.*

## Therapy Service Dog Inspires Teen to Raise Money

15-year-old Hannah Langevin, of Dudley, was watching the funeral ser-

vice of our late President George H. W. Bush on television. She saw his therapy service dog, Sully, laying on the floor and it brought tears to her eyes.

Hannah loves animals and respects our service men and woman of this country and wanted to do something.

She approached her father, Bro. Eric Langevin, of the Quinebaug Lodge in Southbridge. She decided to raise money and donate all the proceeds to the nonprofit organization America's VetDogs, the group who trained Sully. The father/daughter team rattled off some ideas and her father suggested having a movie night for lodge members and their fami-



lies in his District once a month.

The movie is free to all lodge members and families within the district; all donations are greatly appreciated. Hannah runs the concession stand, selling candy, snacks, steamed hot dogs, and sandwiches all at very low prices. All money collected goes to America's VetDogs.

*-Bro. Vincenzo Jimmy Falzone*



## Passport for Shriners Hospital Administrator

After coming to Massachusetts in 2015 to take on the role of administrator of Shriners Hospitals for Children in Springfield, H. Lee Kirk was of course strongly encouraged to become a Brother and Shriner. He wisely deferred, explaining he needed a couple of years to focus solely on his new responsibilities as Chief Executive of one of the State's two

Shriners hospitals. However, he followed through in 2017, joining Wilbraham Lodge, which subsequently merged with The Meadows Lodge in East Longmeadow. Aside from a visit to a Lodge in the Republic of Cyprus during a business trip, these are the only Lodges in which Bro. Kirk has witnessed ritual.

Happily, in February, Bro. Kirk paid a visit to United Brethren Lodge in Marlborough to express his gratitude for the UB Brothers' continued support through their annual Main Street Classic Car Show fundraiser (a Golden Gavel Award-winning program). UB took the opportunity to surprise Bro. Kirk with his own Traveling Man Masonic Passport, complete with profile photo and initial stamp from the Lodge. In the presentation, Rt. Wor. Dan Vogel, DDGM for the 15th North Masonic District, encouraged Bro. Kirk to visit as many Lodges as his duties will permit, and thanked him for starting his travels off with United Brethren.

*-Bro. Richard Pastore*



## Occidental Spread Cheer

Wor. Ed Fiske, Master of Occidental Lodge and Past Master Wor. William Isenhart made a holiday visit, as part of the Lodge's Widows' Program, to Sister Eleanor Moore, widow of Rt. Wor. Paul A. Moore, to deliver to her a holiday Yule Log and spread some holiday cheer.

*-Bro. Joshua David Hall*

## 5th District Welcomes New DDGM

An audience of 125 members and guests were present February 4th to witness Rt. Wor. Kenneth L. Brown's first Fraternal Visit to his home lodge, Waltham Triad Lodge. Of the lodge's 44 Past and Affiliated Past Masters living in Massachusetts, over half turned out to form the Reception Committee that greeted him. Rt. Wor. Brown's suite consisted of 34 Brethren including the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Lawrence E. Bethune, and Senior Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer. Special guests on his suite were two of Waltham Triad's Past Masters who received their 50 year Past Master diplomas that evening. Waltham Triad Lodge is a consolidation of three lodges chartered in Waltham – Monitor, Isaac Parker, and Waltham Lodges, and one chartered in Watertown – Victory Lodge. Rt. Wor. Brown is Waltham Triad's first District Deputy Grand Master since consolidation, with the late Rt. Wor. Harry E. Sneider of Isaac Parker Lodge being the most recent DDGM from the constituent lodges in 1986 and 1987. Rt. Wor. Brown received the District Deputy Grand Master jewel last worn by the late Rt. Wor. Benjamin B. Worth, also of Isaac Parker Lodge, who served as DDGM in 1970 and 1971.

*-Wor. Robert A. Caron*

*Rt. Wor. Lawrence E. Bethune, Dept. Grand Master and Rt. Wor. Geoffrey Kromer, Sr. Grand Warden, flank Rt. Wor. Kenneth L. Brown on his first Fraternal visit to Waltham Triad Lodge.*





**Left:** Andrea Sprague (Master's wife), Wor. David B. Sprague (Master), Caroline Brady **Right:** Back L to R: Bro. Brendan Elliot, Bro. Vic Nordberg, Wor. Douglas O'Roak, Wor. Robert Drake, Bro. James Hammond, Wor. Andrew Simon; Front L to R: Elizabeth Pineault (Past Philharmonic Board member), Wor. Vic Hansen, Wor. David Sprague, Paul Jean (Chairman of the Philharmonic Board), Gene Weiner (Philharmonic Board member)

## Plymouth Lodge Formal Fills Philharmonic's Charity Coffers

In March, Plymouth Lodge A.F. & A.M. hosted the first annual Formal for the Phil, a black-tie fundraising event to benefit the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra, which raised over \$4,000 for the Phil's community outreach programs. The dinner was well attended by brethren in tuxedos, their ladies in cocktail dresses, and nearly a hundred guests in total from the local community. On hand were members of the Phil, including the conductor, Steven Karidoyanes, who gave a moving speech on the mission of the Phil.

The evening included a social hour with classical solo chamber performances, a silent auction with many wonderful donated prizes including home and away jerseys signed by New England Patriots legendary receiver Julian Edelman, lively music and dancing, a gourmet dinner, and great fellowship. The lodge formed a host committee to plan and organize the event, which was chaired by Wor. Vic Hansen, who also served eloquently as the evening's emcee. His committee consisted of Wors. Doug O'Roak, Andy Simon (who also serves as treasurer for the Phil), Robert Drake, David Sprague, Bros. Kent Phillips, Jim Hammond, Vic Nordberg, and Brendon Elliot. These Brothers worked tirelessly for

nearly a year to plan, promote, organize, and host the event.

The Plymouth Select Board invited the host committee to their town hall meeting to present the check to the Phil. At the presentation, the chairman of the board, Ken Tavares, gave a moving speech about the mission of the Phil and how great it is to see how active Plymouth Lodge is in supporting the local community. Plymouth Lodge recognizes that part of its mission is to contribute to worthy causes within the community, both financially through fundraisers, and also by promoting awareness. The lodge agreed that the Phil was a very worthy benefactor, as they not only serve the community in a positive way in Plymouth, but their reach extends throughout the entire 18th Masonic District.

The Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra, a non-profit professional orchestral ensemble, presents a wide range of live music and educational programs to people of all ages and backgrounds on the South Shore of Massachusetts. In addition to their Holiday Pops, Fourth of July concert, and other major performances, the Phil also runs a number of youth programs in conjunction with local schools, promoting the arts and fostering musical appreciation among the children that includes education, instruction, and free performances. The Phil also awards musical scholarships within the community.

**-Bro. Paul R. Horwitz**

## THE GRAND MASTER'S AWARD RECIPIENTS

Charles W. Moore Lodge



Columbian Lodge



Cornerstone Lodge



# The Grand Master in Florida

On his annual trip to Florida, M. Wor. Paul F. Gleason visited with our Masonic Brothers.



*Our Masonic Brothers in Tampa.*



## Saggahew Lodge Visits Florida Brothers

Wor. Frank Parker (far right), Secretary of Saggahew Lodge, and Rt. Wor. Jim Antonopoulos (2nd from right) took a trip down to Florida this January to visit three of our retired members, Wor. Ted Bitomski, Bro. James Gianatsis and Bro. Lloyd Smith (left to center), who are enjoying the warm winter weather in Florida.

*-Wor. Ed Felker*



*Our Masonic Brothers in Fort Myers.*



*Our Masonic Brothers in Lake Worth.*

*Daniel Webster Lodge*



*Ezekiel Bates Lodge*



*Golden Rule Lodge*



*continued on next page*



*The Grand Master, with Rt. Wor. Ace Cutter, arrives to perform the merger ceremony.*

## After 150 Years, a Poignant Merger

On the evening of its regular Communication on January 17, 2019, William Sutton Lodge gathered with the Brethren of Palestine Lodge for the formal ceremony that would consolidate those two historic lodges, as had been announced a few weeks earlier at the Grand Lodge Quarterly. Palestine Lodge had observed its 150th Anniversary in December, and William Sutton Lodge had observed the same milestone a year earlier. After Wor. Ralph E. Gibbs of William Sutton Lodge and Wor. William Boulay of Palestine Lodge declared their respective lodges open, a short business meeting was dispensed with quickly in anticipation of the events of the evening.

At precisely 6:30pm, M. Wor. Paul Fulton Gleason, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, was received into the lodge room, accompanied by a suite of 14 distinguished Masons, including Rt. Wor. Sergio R. Deassis, DDGM of the 4th Masonic District. The Grand Master presided over the merger ceremony with efficiency and élan, declaring it a time of loss and a time of hope, and a celebration of the future of the new lodge. The petitions and certifications of both lodges were read, and the Grand

Master called for the charter of Palestine Lodge to be surrendered to the Grand Lodge archives. As Secretary of both lodges, and a 13-year member of Palestine Lodge, I will admit to some mixed emotions as I watched the charter being carried around the room.

In an action that won the hearty approval and praise of the Grand Master, the regalia of Palestine Lodge had already been donated to the newly formed Lodge of the Royal Secret. Declaring the two lodges united under the name of William Sutton Lodge, M. Wor. Bro. Gleason emphasized strongly that the new William Sutton Lodge is now not only enhanced by the history and members of Palestine Lodge, but also strengthened for happy and prosperous years ahead.

There followed a presentation of a Palestine Lodge 150th Anniversary commemorative coin to the Grand Master by Wor. Boulay. Upon closing the new William Sutton Lodge for the evening, the Brethren retired for a sumptuous roast beef dinner with much laughter and hearty camaraderie. What a memorable and fantastic night!

*-Bro. John J. Cole*

*The Grand Master with Rt. Wor. Sergio R. deAssis at the merger.*



## THE GRAND MASTER'S AWARD RECIPIENTS

*King David Lodge*



*Konohassett Lodge*



*Marine Lodge*



# On Social Media

by Bro. Chris Rooney



What's your favorite flavor of Deletos? One of the things I am most proud of as an employee of Grand Lodge is when I see any of you proudly sharing your status as officers of a Lodge or of Grand Lodge on social media. It helps put a friendly face to an otherwise unfamiliar organization in the eyes of the general public. That friendly face becomes someone's best impression of Freemasonry – who we are, what the organization stands

for, and what we believe in. Everyone's entitled to hold their strong opinions, and to share them with others amicably, which is why I am sharing my own personal strong opinion here, now, with each of you.

By representing ourselves as Masons, that means we also accept the responsibility of always conducting ourselves in a manner that reflects well on our fraternity. You can certainly guess where this is going, so I'll get to my point - if you're looking to share a meme or a post you found funny on social media, I think all we can ask of you is this: Ask yourself before you share something, "By sharing this, am I likely to excite personal animosities?" Is this something our preamble suggests we should all strive to avoid? If the answer is yes, well, it's then something to think about.

You absolutely have the right to post that meme, to share that video, and to write out that witty line in your head and put it on the internet for everyone to see. No one is denying you that. It is also 100% selfish to not care about how anything you say, do, or post makes someone feel. The selfless

act is always to consider the feelings of others, and to understand that by becoming a Freemason, you become a part of something that is bigger than just yourself, and that your actions affect others in ways you cannot possibly imagine.

It is especially important to understand that your actions could, in fact, prevent someone who might have had a lot to offer your Lodge from seeking membership. Our membership numbers as a fraternity have been declining since 1959 in this country, according to the Masonic Service Association of North America. We cannot afford to publicly conduct ourselves in ways that might alienate potential Masons and stop them from considering joining Lodges entirely. One of the fastest ways to do that is to try and 'own the libs' or insult the 'MAGAts' on the internet. In DeMolay, young men are reminded of the ancient injunction to think twice before speaking once when they take their membership obligation. I ask each of you to do the same. Otherwise, you might need to go purchase a fresh new bag of Deletos. ■

Middlesex Lodge



Milton Lodge



Montgomery Lodge



continued on next page

Sriberg, along with M. Wor. Bro. Laplace. After making a presentation to the Grand Master, complaining, explaining “That’s not the way I did it,” the grumpy trio departed the East with a hearty harumph.

Presentations were made for the Brotherhood Fund from Rt. Wors. Alfredo Canhoto and Joseph P. Denicola for St. Bernard Commandery #12, Meridian Lodge, Mt. Vernon Lodge, Rt. Wor. William K. Clapp for Bro. Barry Kurt Johnson, and Fraternal Lodge.

“What a great One Day Class we had!” said the Grand Master to open his remarks. “Under the direction of Rt. Wors. Alfredo Canhoto and William Yanakakis, over 140 candidates were raised to the Sublime Degree in just one day. These are new Brothers for officer lines, committee assignments, and just plain fraternalism.”

Planning started over a year ago. 140 Brethren and ladies labored creating schedules, rosters, photographs, and diplomas. The work was during a special communication of the Grand Master’s home lodge, William Parkman. “The stars of the show were the cast of officers in each degree and accompanying Lodge of Instruction. Displaying the talent promised in ritual contests earlier in the year, three complete degree teams delivered letter-perfect ritual—and floor work—for the enlightenment of our candidates,” the Grand Master was pleased to announce. “I cannot emphasize enough the pride I felt witnessing this performance and—as if it weren’t obvious—raising my son to the Sublime Degree! A heartfelt ‘Well Done’ and thank you to all of you who made this memorable event possible!”

The Grand Master recounted the joys of the ‘job’ of Grand Master. One is reading all the requests for the Robert Johnston Award which recognizes and thanks a particularly helpful and essential member. Once a year, the Master of a lodge can write a letter to the Grand Master explaining why he thinks a given member is deserving special recognition. “I tell you that those letters, taken together, summarize and present the strength of our fraternity,” said the Grand

Master. “It is such a pleasure to read the charitable, thoughtful, and downright useful acts that our brethren perform—all year long—that strengthen our fraternity and make us much of what we are!”

The expansion of this award was the idea of Executive Assistant Rt. Wor. Jim Orgettas, which allows the recognition of the ladies of our lodges. After receiving a written request from the Master of a lodge, Grand Lodge will create a custom, unframed certificate featuring a rose in a Square and Compasses watermark, and included will be a specially cast brooch of this watermark for those ladies who also work so hard to make your lodge a success. “Thank the people who do [make your lodge a success]; it’s easy—and the right thing to do!” said the Grand Master.

The Grand Master reminded the Brethren of two educational initiatives that are absolutely essential for our lodge officers: the Master’s Path for Wardens and Masters-elect, and the Treasurer/Secretary training for, well, Treasurers and Secretaries. The Grand Master listed the dates and urged all line officers to attend.

Membership, the Grand Master noted, was greatly boosted by the One Day Class—the ‘Replacement’ part of the membership effort is doing well. “As I stated at the last Quarterly, our emphasis now focuses on ‘Retention,’” he said. “I remind you again of the amnesty program now in place for the year 2019. The program relieves a suspended brother of the requirement to pay Grand Lodge dues owed up to the date of his suspension. However, he must still pay Grand Lodge dues for the current year.”

The Grand Master urged each lodge to take advantage of this special program and reach out by personal communication to their suspended brethren, suggesting that they apply for reinstatement. The Grand Master indicated that this communication “could be made even more persuasive by offering to relieve the further requirement to pay back dues owed to the lodge as well! I was told at the One Day Class of one lodge that contacted 130 former brothers who had been suspended for NPD. Six of them subsequently applied for reinstatement! Six members who were there for

## THE GRAND MASTER'S AWARD RECIPIENTS

*Mount Moriah Lodge*



*Norfolk Lodge*



*Norumbega Fraternity Lodge*



the asking to fill out committees and an officer line. I would like for every lodge to repeat that success.” By using MORI, the Grand Master’s office has the procedure to make it easy to contact former members who were suspended for NPD. It generates address labels automatically. Call Grand Lodge for a PDF version of the procedure.

The Grand Lodge building tour guides are the first—and sometimes only—introduction the public gets to Massachusetts Freemasonry. They are thereby a very important representative of our Fraternity. “I thank the many brethren who have taken the time to learn how to conduct tours of our Grand Lodge building and now devote one, two or many hours each week conducting tours,” the Grand Master said. More volunteers are needed to open the tours on more days of the week. “Please consider donating a few hours to this worthwhile effort. All trained Tour Guides receive a snappy blue blazer, official Grand Lodge tie, and a name badge as the ‘jewels’ of their office. We will reimburse you for your travel and lunch expenses,” the Grand Master informed all present.

“One of the greatest gifts of Masonry is the friendships and bonds between us,” said the Grand Master. He pointed out that a wonderful venue where we can enjoy that friendship is resting and relaxing on a cruise.

“Pink sands, colorful underwater life, golf at one of the world’s top pub-

## Presentations to the Grand Master

Presentations were made to the Grand Master by Rt. Wors. Alfredo Canhoto and Joseph P. Denicola for St. Bernard Commandery #12; Rt. Wor. Philip W. Lambert for Meridian Lodge; Mt. Vernon Lodge; and Rt. Wor. William K. Clapp, for Bro. Barry Kurt Johnson, and Fraternal Lodge.



lic golf courses and more...what’s your pleasure? Please join me August 9th for a wonderful cruise to Bermuda. No air fare, just a short trip to Boston and our vacation begins! Grand Lodge has blocked 50 cabins at special guaranteed rates with additional perks for our

group. Cruising is the most economical way to visit Bermuda and this cruise will be with a wonderful group of Masonic families!”

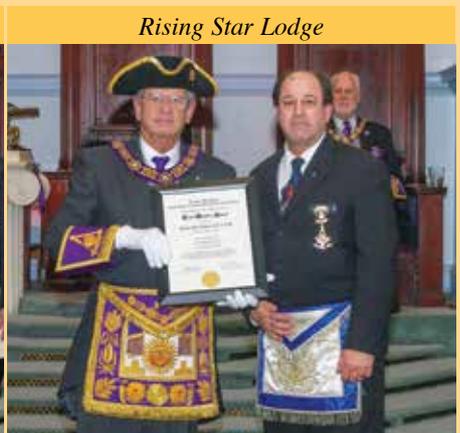
After a standing ovation, the Grand Master closed Grand Lodge in ample form. ■



*Old Colony Lodge*



*Orient Lodge*



*Rising Star Lodge*

*continued on next page*

# MONTGOMERY LODGE



On September 16, 1797, Montgomery Lodge received its Charter from Most Worshipful Paul Revere, one of the 23 Lodges Brother Revere chartered during his term as Grand Master. Originally located in Franklin, MA, Montgomery Lodge has been situated in Milford since 1852. The Lodge is named after General Richard Montgomery, an officer in the British army during the French and Indian War, and a strong supporter of the American colonists within the British Parliament. During the American Revolutionary War, General Montgomery served as a second-ranking Brigadier General, leading the Colonial Army into Canada by capturing Montreal. Unfortunately, General Montgomery fell on December 31, 1775, during the offensive to capture Quebec at the side of Colonel Benedict Arnold.

In recent years, Montgomery Lodge has become more prominent within the town of Milford and the surrounding areas through the publicity of various activities. Some of these activities are focused on the Brethren and their families, and some activities are more public in nature.

Montgomery Lodge has an established relationship with local print and radio media, which has helped considerably in broadcasting the events. Additionally, Montgomery Lodge utilizes Facebook for not only sharing our own events, but also for sharing papers and events regarding Masonry around the world.

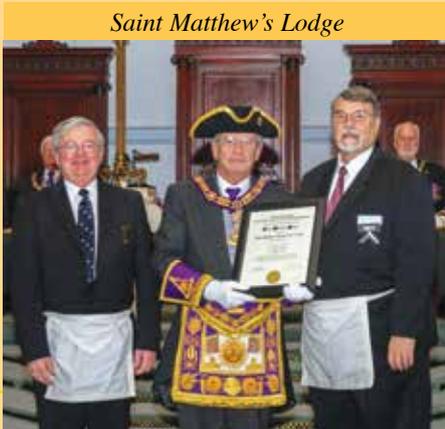
The most widely publicized event occurring at Montgomery Lodge recently is a public performance of the Empty Chair Degree, honoring all Brothers who have fallen in battle. As the Lodge is named for Major General Richard Montgomery, this represents our yearly homage to our namesake. Invitations are sent to local service personnel, politicians, and are posted in public areas around town. The event follows the Milford Memorial Day Parade, in which Montgomery Lodge also participates.

Montgomery Lodge is fortunate to have a sizeable building located on Main Street where several York Rite Bodies also assemble for their meetings. Looking around the building, you can still see Oddfellows artifacts; they owned the building until 1963. The old basement of the building houses much of the hospital equipment which can



## THE GRAND MASTER'S AWARD RECIPIENTS

*Saint Matthew's Lodge*



*Tahattawan Lodge*



*The Scouters Lodge*

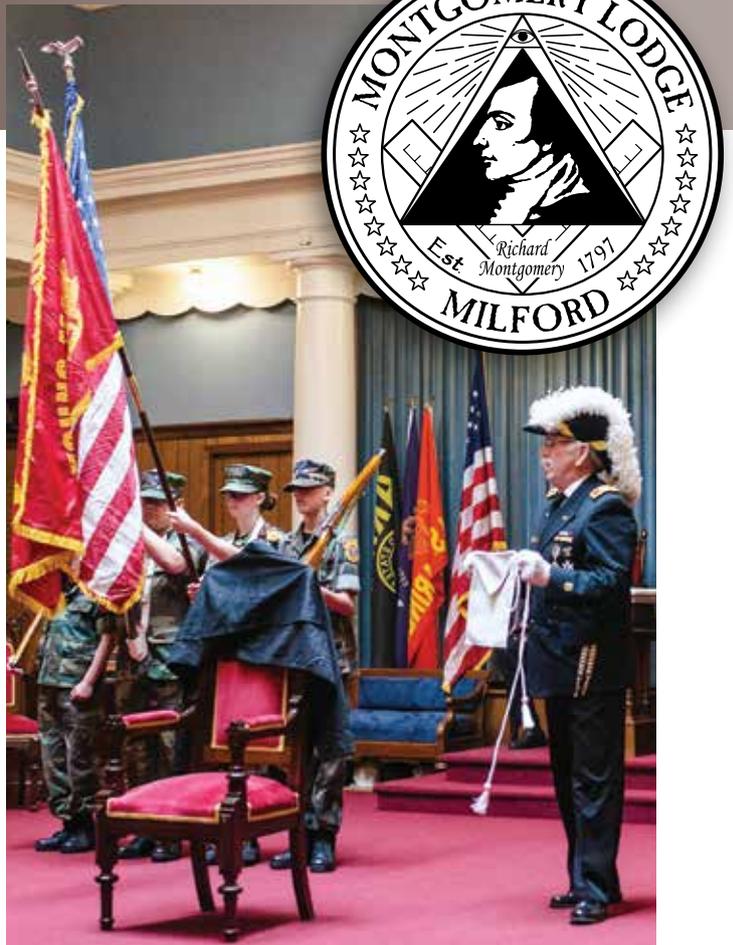


# A.F. & A.M., MILFORD, MA

be made available on loan for any Brother or local citizen in need. The building is used for several non-Masonic purposes as well, including a Boy Scout Troop. Montgomery Lodge recently became the Chartered Organization for the aforementioned Boy Scout Troop, bringing a strong breath of youth into the building as well.

Recently, Montgomery Lodge has been working with the Milford Unitarian Parish on a community supper, held on the 5th Sunday of the month. Several Brothers and their families assemble at the church on Sunday afternoon to prepare a meal the needy. Approximately 20-30 people show up for the meal, including families, which has made a profound impact on all of those involved in the effort.

One of the most heartwarming events hosted by Montgomery Lodge is the annual pilgrimage to the Milford Regional Medical Center on Christmas Eve. On this night, the Brethren and their families assemble at the hospital with fruit baskets and song books in hand. Escorted by hospital security, the party moves from floor to floor, delivering fruit baskets to the nurse's stations and singing carols to the patients upon request. On more than one occasion, we hap-



pened upon Brothers from other Lodges, and reminded them that they are never alone. The most touching moments, however, are singing "Silent Night" to the newborn babies in the Maternity Ward - Wor. Dale Martensen has personally welcomed 27 newborns over the years.

My Brothers, Montgomery Lodge isn't a special Lodge, although it remains incredibly special to the author. Many of these events can be very successful with a handful of motivated Brothers. Find them, and make your impact. Memento Mori.  
-Wor. Robert Edward Jackson

United Brethren Lodge



West Roxbury-Dorchester Lodge



William Sutton Lodge



► **Overlook** *continued from page 18*

assistance with bathing, dressing, and medication management, in an environment intended to maximize resident privacy and independence. Our Fieldstone mission is similar to that of The Overlook Vista Club in that the program is focused on creating an environment for people living with dementia that promotes a sense of autonomy and choice, love and belonging, self-esteem, and the ability to make a contribution. We understand that each resident is unique with a lifetime of experiences and memories that remain accessible and can be shared and understood.

Both the Fieldstone and The Overlook Vista Club programs are under the direction of Kathy Walker, CDP, who

is our resident expert on social model-based programs. Kathy brings years of dedication to this career field and has a true love and dedication for creating enriching, life-enhancing environments for those living with Alzheimer's and related dementias.

Team members for each program participate in specialized dementia training, and we share Team Members between the two programs, allowing our staff to enjoy caring for individuals at slightly different stages of the disease process. These are two truly great programs from the Overlook campus that we are proud to share with you.

For more information, please contact Kathy Walker via e-mail at [kawalker@Overlook-Mass.org](mailto:kawalker@Overlook-Mass.org), or by telephone at 508-434-2551. ■

► **Marsden** *continued from page 10*

1723. It was written mostly by a Scot, Dr. James Anderson, so it's usually referred to as Anderson's Constitutions.

I urge you to take a look at probably the most important book in Freemasonry. Our Grand Historian RW Walter Hunt always has a copy on view in the library upstairs. It was such a seminal book that Bro. Ben Franklin reprinted it in Philadelphia in 1734. Masons at the time owned no meeting places. They met in taverns, most notably the Bunch of Grapes and the Green Dragon. The hostelrys they met in were highly reputable establishments, with a large room that was available for meetings of any kind.

If you want to see what a typical gentleman's tavern looks like, you should visit the Pitt Tavern which is in the Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The top floor has been set up as a Masonic meeting room, and is maintained, and occasionally used, by St. John's Lodge No. 1 of Portsmouth.

What were these early meetings like? Masons assembled at the tavern, and often arrived early and had a couple of drinks at the bar, to fortify themselves. Entertaining Freemasons in regular meetings was profitable for the landlord, and many of them became Masons. The inn signs sometimes displayed the square and compasses to show their affiliation. There are examples in the collection of the Scottish Rite National Heritage Museum in

Lexington. It also gave the establishment a certain cachet, even back then. Sometimes the meeting room – we would call it a ballroom – was filled by a large table. In such cases, the Masonic meetings would be conducted at the table with the officers promenading as necessary around the table. This would seem to be the origin of the Table Lodge or festive board.

Moreover, drinks might well be consumed during the meeting and frequently after. The popular tippale of the time for gentlemen was Madeira, a strong fortified wine that would never spoil. The most popular and cheapest drink in Boston was rum. There were several distilleries in Boston and rum, along with shipbuilding and fish, were the three major export industries in Boston. Remember that the St. John's Grand Master, John Rowe, donated a carved codfish to be hung in the House of Representatives. When the government moved to the new State House on Beacon Hill, they took the codfish with them, and it's still there. But rum was a working man's drink. Gentlemen wouldn't be seen dead drinking the stuff. But it was okay if you put it in a mixed drink. And that mixed drink was called punch. Gentlemen quaffed it by the bowlful, and the bowlful.

Just to show, I have here a copy of a bill from the Bunch of Grapes Tavern. When Governor and Bro. John Hancock threw a party at the Bunch of Grapes in 1792:

80 dinners L8 – 0 – 0, Brandy 2/6, 21 bottles sherry 4 -14 – 6, Punch 15 -6

– 0. 136 bowls!

Bro. Ben Franklin even wrote a ditty praising the benefits of punch:

*Boy bring a bowl of China here  
Fill it with water cool and clear  
Decanter with Jamaica right  
And spoon of silver clean and bright  
Sugar, twice-fined in pieces cut  
Knife, sieve and glass in order put  
Bring forth the fragrant fruit and then  
We're happy 'til the clock strikes ten*

In London, the 18th century was the era of gentlemen's clubs, and the success of Freemasonry was a part of that social establishment. There were clubs, singing clubs, drinking clubs, and clubs for men of different trades or professions. At the conclusion of Masonic meetings, it was common to call for a bowl of punch, or two. It was also common for the gentlemen to raise their voices in song. Which brings us to that very serious and sober publication, Anderson's Constitutions. The back pages are a collection of Masonic songs that would have been used at the time. Some of them are not attuned to our modern ear, but there is one that is a stormer that I encourage Masons to use in their meetings.

If you have been lucky enough to have seen the new Netflix series on the Freemasons, you will witness English Masons enjoying a toast and a song on many occasions. The song I recommend is "The Entered Apprentice's Song." You will find a copy of a few of the verses. (I get assembled brethren to sing two verses.) ■

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