



# THE MAINE MASON

**ENJOYING MASONIC  
SIGHTS WHILE TRAVELLING**  
**STORY PP. 8-9**

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**WINTER 2018-19**





# THE MAINE MASON

THE MAINE MASON is an official publication of the Grand Lodge of Maine, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The material printed herein does not necessarily represent opinions of the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Members of lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions within the United States are invited to subscribe to THE MAINE MASON at \$3.00 per year. Cost for Masons outside the United States is \$5.00 annually. Please send check payable to THE MAINE MASON, with complete mailing address, to the Grand Secretary at PO Box 430, Holden, ME 04429.

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**All submissions** of photos and articles for inclusion in THE MAINE MASON should be mailed directly to the Editor at either the email or postal addresses below.

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## Grand Lodge Contact Information & Hours

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website: [www.mainemason.org](http://www.mainemason.org)

Grand Secretary's Office	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Grand Lodge Library/Museum	Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Deadline** for the next issue of *The Maine Mason* will be 15 March, 2019. All materials should be sent directly to the editor.

## line-o-type

by George P. Pulkkinen

"Behold how good and how perfect it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

That beautiful passage from the 133rd Psalm flashes across my mind's eye every time I step into a lodge room where brethren are assembled. My hope is that every Mason experiences that same sense of brotherly love and appreciation for the opportunity to gather in a place dedicated to the principles of brotherly love, relief and truth.

But alas, we are but mere humans, and our humanness, I fear, sometimes trips us up to the joy that is there for us to live with. And live by.

This issue of The Maine Mason, however, is brim full of articles demonstrating that the men who are active in their lodges must experience the same joy as do I. For example, it's good to learn how Lebanon Lodge brothers turned to when a tragedy struck their community. And how perfect it is when brethren gather at our Veterans facilities to show love and appreciation for the men who offered it all to preserve our freedoms.

There's so much more. Please read, reflect and enjoy the reports of brethren gathered to visit elderly brethren; of Masons assembling in spirit and number to provide life-saving equipment for their communities; of lodges assisting their towns and cities with any number of worthwhile projects.

Read, too, the thoughts of newly-raised Masons; of how their Masonic experiences have affected them and are preparing them for the beautiful *life journeys* provided by our Craft.

This season of Advent is perhaps the perfect time for us all to reflect just "how good and how perfect it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

To our Christian brothers, Merry Christmas; to our Jewish brothers, Happy Hanukkah, to our Muslim brothers a peaceful Mawlid al-Nabi al-Sharif

# From the Grand East

**Mark E. Rustin**

**Grand Master of Masons in Maine**

## To Be a Better Man ...

For most of the Masons I know, that simple phrase incorporates the foundational reason they petitioned the Craft for membership. After all, that concept and that promise is built into much of the conversation we have with prospective members. Petitioners seek to improve their lives and we promise to supply them with the information, brotherly love and care, and life experiences which will help them achieve their goals. The cornerstone of the entire Masonic endeavor is the belief that Freemasonry provides the intersection of our lives with the life-giving source of all being – the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

Masonic tenets, degrees, symbols, and teachings combine to provide each Mason with a call to a better life each day as we strive to become better men motivated by a vision of what it means to be a complete man — living in harmony with each other and the deity we encounter each day. It logically follows that the most “ancient landmark” of our profession is striving for the highest moral and ethical principles we can discover and achieve.

Freemasonry was called into being to allow men to achieve such standards and live by them each day. By so doing, we improve not only our own lives, but the lives of the people with whom we share our daily existence in the communities within which we reside. In every place and time people should be able to see the effects of our tenets and principles in the lives we live. Shedding light on the possibility of achieving the “moral high ground” as we work in our Lodges

and live in our communities is what undergirds the whole of Freemasonry. In short, we are called to be Freemasons to learn about and display manhood to every human being.

We are taught that every human being has a right to our good offices. By living an exemplary moral and ethical life we begin to respond to that teaching. Our good offices include recognizing the inherent dignity of all human beings; affirming in all that we do that people are not toys which, by virtue of our learning or station, are not to be manipulated but rather affirmed as they are; extending ourselves for the benefit of the other without regard to the possible rewards for ourselves; and living by the tenets and principles of our profession because it is the right thing to do and brings us into closer alignment with the Supreme Architect.

Conduct which does not conform with our tenets and principles is by definition unmasonic. Brothers who join the Craft seeking economic or political power; who use their membership to acquire accolades while shining a spotlight upon themselves; or mis-define “better man” as superior to those around him, do not understand the moral and ethical imperatives of a Mason.

Within each of our Lodges and Brothers, our role and our goal should always be to set a moral and ethical light on a hill providing illumination by which others may navigate their lives. Such is how we live our call to be a Mason.

Fraternally,

*Mark E. Rustin*

Grand Master



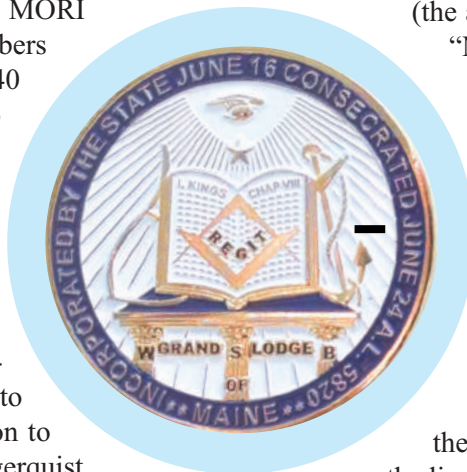
# Thoughts from our Grand Secretary...

**By Brother Dan Bartlett**

## **"The nuts and bolts"**

The idiom "the nuts and bolts" is generally defined as the mundane workings of something or the basics of something. Hopefully, you will read this to the end and, while it may seem a bit scattershot, my goal is to provide a general idea as to the day to day nuts and bolts of the workings of your Grand Lodge office and hopefully answer a question or two that you may have. The topics discussed are selected because we receive questions about them on a regular basis.

50 Year medals: This program is carried out by the Grand Lodge and managed on a functional level by Mrs. Theresa Hatch. We utilize the MORI database to alert us to 50 year members and we process and ship out 30 to 40 medals each month which equates to between 400 and 500 medals annually. If the member is still living near your lodge we ship the medal to the lodge secretary for presentation by hopefully a current or past Grand Lodge officer. If the member lives out of state we send it to the appropriate Grand Lodge office and ask them to present it on our behalf. The exception to this is Florida where Brother Jack Lagerquist, assisted by Brother Pete Forrest do their level best to present every 50-year medal to our Maine brethren.



The more important things we need lodges to do is to return the enclosed card after the medal has been presented. If you can't get the medal presented, send it back to us and lastly keep in touch with lodge brethren and keep accurate information in MORI. We spend countless hours chasing addresses and phone numbers for out-of-state Brethren for other Grand Lodges to present their medals.

Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation Grants: While there are numerous published resources about these programs, we constantly are asked questions. The Foundation no longer provides scholarships and hasn't for several years now. The Trustees of the Foundation moved away from individual scholarship awards and focused resources on the Matching Grant Program, specifically, Community Betterment, Bikes for Books, Youth Activities and Project Graduation. There is a booklet that explains these programs in detail that we would be happy to send to **anyone** who would like one.

There are also Relief Grants to relieve our distressed worthy Brothers, their widows and orphans. The process is not as burdensome as some might have you believe and we strive to keep the process moving and get it all done in a timely manner, usually in 2-3 business days. The Brotherhood Grant is designed to provide relief in an emergency situation that will help prevent a bigger problem further down the road. This grant is capped at \$500.00 and a check is usually mailed the same day as the Lodge rep (Master or Secretary) or the DDGM calls.

OLP: We have started to scratch the surface with this powerful and useful tool and as time goes on I think we will utilize it more and more. Signing up is easy. You need your MORI number from your dues card (the alpha numeric sequence that starts with "M") to sign up. You do not need a smart phone to sign up. Simply going to [ourlodgepage.com](http://ourlodgepage.com), clicking on "Create Account" and following the prompts will get set you up with your account. Some lodges in the state are using the "pay dues on line function" as well and it is just a great tool for the lodge to communicate with its members.

Email: We use email because it is the most cost effective and efficient use of the limited resources we have. We spend more than \$10,000.00 a year on postage. That's the equivalent of per capita for about 600 members. Of the 16,000+ members about 10,000 have an email address in MORI. Of those, only about 5,500 have current and correct email addresses. If you change your email address, or for that matter your postal address, please let the lodge secretary know! Also, if you email the Grand Lodge asking to be removed from our email list you will be removed from the one email list we all use (MORI) and you will not receive any email from your lodge or Grand Lodge.

I could go on and on but space will not allow it. Suffice it to say that there is a great deal that goes on here starting right at the beginning of the year with Annual Returns to budget cycles, fiscal year ending and beginning, Annual Communication, insurance billing, printing of directories and Proceedings to district meetings. It's kind of like that old Cool Whip container that's in the cupboard over the fridge that's full of miscellaneous nails, screws, curtain rod holders and mystery items. It's all here and it's all in one place.

Call us if you need us.



## SEASON'S GREETINGS — 2018

The Winter Solstice has held extraordinary meaning with human beings since before recorded history. Our forebears watched apprehensively as the length of daylight shortened and darkness, dreaded darkness, began to consume the day. Agricultural endeavors failed, hunting was restricted to the “safer” daylight hours, and fear of the unknowns cloaked by darkness became an animating force in their lives. In an attempt to encourage the “god — gods” to send back the life giving light into the world, many ceremonies and celebrations were designed to make the deity(s) happy and return the world to normal.

As organized religions began to develop, it is little wonder they each contain an echo of this search for light in life at their core — especially around the time of the Winter Solstice. Even though the particularities of the ceremonies may differ and the name for deity(s) are very different, they each reach for that expression of truth which brings light to — enlightens — the human mind and improves the human condition. That, above all things, is the reason for this annual season of light.

As Freemasons, we too, seek freedom from the darkness of unknowing and the fear of the other it evokes. Our basic tenets and principles recognize this common journey of humankind. We look not to organized religion but rather, as a religious people, to the source of all light and life we know as the Supreme Architect from whom comes the life and light we may use to become better men.

As we improve the nature of the men we are, we bring light to the fear-filled corners of the darkness, recognize the value of each life, and speak truth to the uninformed each Winter Solstice and every other day as well. Brotherly Love, Relief (charity — love), and Truth have been and always will be the inner light of better men's hearts and will, by our efforts, lead ourselves and others to the light that lights our path each day and builds a better world for all.

I wish you a safe and bright Seasons Greetings this Winter Solstice. May the blessings of light guide you successfully through each day.

Fraternally,

*Mark E. Rustin*

Grand Master of Masons in Maine



## Lebanon Lodge turns out for slain Deputy's family

Lebanon Lodge #116 of Norridgewock is a lodge that gets things done. And done well. One good example is how the brethren sprang into action following the death of Somerset County Sheriff's Deputy Eugene Cole who was killed in the line of duty April 25.

Brother Robert Smith, lodge Senior Warden, recalls how it all started. Shortly after Cpl. Cole was shot, RW Brother Eric Neilson DDGM/13 sent Smith a text asking if he thought we could do something. "Six days later, Smith said, "we had a plan. We would hold a benefit Supper on May 5."

Texts went out to brethren; a post went onto the lodge's Facebook page. The thought was that the lodge's benefit supper would feed about 100 people and \$1000 could be raised to help the family. Response was immediate. And unexpectedly heavy.

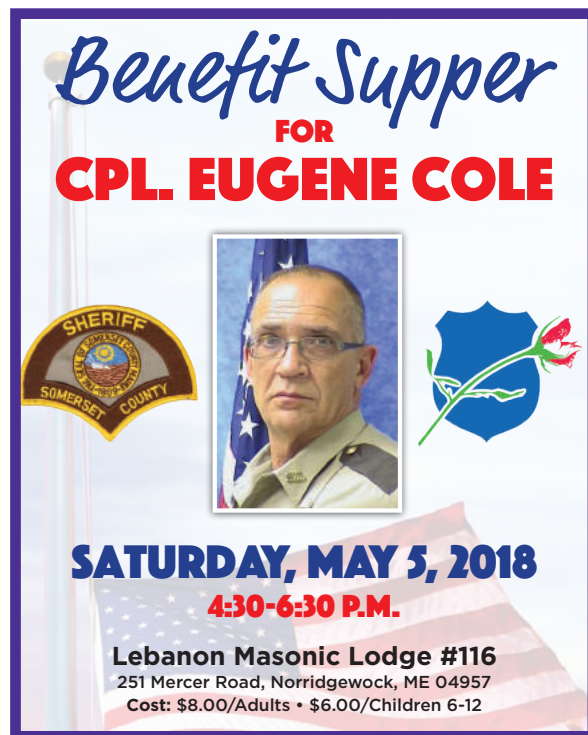
The numbers started to grow. By Friday close to 1100 people had indicated they'd attend the supper. Then it really took off. The Facebook post was picked up by the local radio station, Channel 6 contacted Smith and did interviews at the lodge. The day of the supper, Channel 6 was joined by Channel 13, and the Sun Journal and the Morning Sentinel showed up and did stories. The Sentinel also donated a quarter page ad to the cause.

The publicity generated additional response. People who knew the Coles stepped up and offered to help. Walmart called and asked what was needed to pull off the benefit. The manager invited the lodge to show up at the store and take what they needed.

Materials that had been given to the Fire Department also were donated to the effort. Two wooden cutouts in the shape of the State of Maine adorned with blue stripes and Cpl. Cole's badge number affixed were sold for \$600 and donated.



Brother Robert Smith, right, presents the check to the Cole family, daughter-in-law Kim Cole and Detective David Cole, Cpl. Eugene Cole's son.



Reality struck and momentary shock set in for the lodge which can feed about 80 in its dining room. How to feed 550? Or more? Quick thinking and a lot of muscle transformed the lodge room into a "pretty nice dining area" Smith noted, that would feed about 200 at a sitting.

An early morning power failure on "Supper Day" threatened the entire project but a brother who is an electrician, contacted CMP and the utility stepped up and had the lodge energized at 11 a.m. Cooking started as soon as the lights went on. The Sheriff's Office had someone in uniform on site at all times during the day, thanking people as they arrived.

The supper alone raised about \$5000. Other donations from Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery, and a match from the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation boosted the total. "All told", Brother Smith said, "we were able to give the Coles \$10,300."

Brother Smith reflected: "In addition to helping the Coles, the brethren that day showed the community what Masons do. With only 59 members of Lebanon Lodge, the effort also *proved to us* what we can do when we put our minds to it."

## Village Lodge Planning Ahead...100 Years

On Saturday, September 29, Village Lodge #26 of Bowdoinham held its first Table Lodge in nearly four decades. Attended by 50 Brethren from five different lodges, WM Marc Cram directed the Senior and Junior Wardens through their Commands with precision and ease.

As part of the continuing celebration of Village Lodge's 200th Anniversary, the Table Lodge Committee worked for months in the preparation for this special event. Throughout the evening, RW Brother Brad Blake read biographies of the charter members of Village Lodge.

Brothers from Bethlehem Lodge served the seven courses with cheer and merriment as two Past Masters from Village Lodge prepared the delicious meal.

As a result of this special occasion it was decided to establish a time capsule for Village Lodge. Memorabilia from the Table Lodge as well as documents and notable items celebrating our bi-centennial will be preserved in a special box to be opened in 2117 to celebrate the tri-centennial of Village Lodge.

Bro. Steven Edmondson  
Historian Village Lodge #26

### !!!!ATTENTION!!!!

#### MAINE MASONS WHO LIVE OR WILL BE IN FLORIDA ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

MW Mark Rustin, Grand Master of Maine, and the director of The Maine Masonic Foundation Amanda Larson, invite the Masons of Maine and their spouses to the 16th Annual Maine Masons in Florida Day at the SAHIB Shrine Center, # 600 N. Beneva Rd, in Sarasota, FL.

*This is intended to be a time of social enjoyment and a chance to meet and make new friends among Maine Masons and Maine Masonic Widows who reside or winter in Florida.*

The time to assemble is 11:00 to 11:30 allowing us time to socialize prior to lunch which will be served at 12:00 noon. Ladies will be guests of the Grand Master; the cost for men, \$25. You are asked to send a check for the meals (\$25/man) made out to **Ronald Forrest**, and send to him at 8027A, Carnoustie Place, #4212, Port St. Lucie, FL between Jan 5 and Feb 4 please.

Following lunch M. W. Brother Rustin and Amanda Larson will be making a presentation.

Directions to Sahib Shrine Center: Take exit 210 off I 75 and go west about 1-2 miles to N. Beneva Rd. Turn right and go north on Beneva about 2 blocks. The Shrine Center is on your right.

You may make reservations for this affair through R. W. Brother Pete Forrest in one of the following ways: Telephone: 207-745-0732 email: [rgpeteforrest@aol.com](mailto:rgpeteforrest@aol.com);

*Let's make this a great time with M.W. Brother Mark and Amanda!*

**Reminder Deadline for reservations is February 4, 2019**

The meal will consist of Smoked Pork Loin, Herb Roasted New Potatoes, Chef Choice of Vegetable, Rolls & Butter, Desert and Iced Tea and Coffee



# Sightings While Travelling Through Europe

by Brother Thomas E. Pulkkinen, MW Past Grand Master

Freemasons are known as “Travelling Men.” When touring, I’m always on the lookout for all things Masonic. Trip preparation includes researching where Lodges are located, creating city maps, and plotting walking courses to visit sites and meet Brethren.

Last spring, my wife and I enjoyed a European river cruise up the Danube, Main and Rhine Rivers, from Prague, Czech Republic, to Amsterdam, Netherlands. Many pictures taken during the cruise were shared via Facebook with appreciative Masonic and non-Masonic Facebook friends. By this article, many interesting venues are being shared with readers of *The Maine Mason*.



As in many countries, the Grand Lodge offices in Vienna, Austria, gave no outward indication that it was a Masonic building. Above the door was simply an ashlar suspended by stone carrying tongs.

Not far away is the home of Brother Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The Mozart museum prominently reveals the significant influence of Freemasonry on his life. On display are the notice of the meeting where he took his first degree; records showing lodge attendance with his father; period Masonic aprons; and a pictorial showing his contemporary Wor. George Washington. There also is a diorama of the original staging of his opera *The Magic Flute* that is well known to Masons.



Outside the entrance of the Masonic building in Bamberg, Germany, is a statue of St. John the Baptist with the Latin phrase “Ecce Agnus Dei” or “Behold the Lamb of God,” words spoken by St. John the Baptist before baptizing Jesus of Nazareth. Symbolism associated with the Lamb of God is prevalent throughout Freemasonry, including the lambskin apron. All Masons are referred to the Short Talk Bulletin on the lambskin apron (accessible on the Internet or in Lodges) published by the Masonic Service Assn. in November 1927.



On an ancient gateway to the formerly walled section of old Bamberg is an etching of an eye above a hand, a reminder that thievery would be severely punished in the

city...one shall not wrong, cheat or defraud. Not far away is a handsome building with an all-seeing eye, and across from it is an old Masonic building. When I posted a picture of the former Masonic building on Facebook, a Brother quickly pointed out the building’s symbolism: Three steps up to the door; the street number “57” (posted beside the window over the door); nine apertures on the front – eight windows and the door; or more, if the dormers are counted.



When in Budapest, Hungary, I searched for the statue of Brother Lajos Kossuth who led the Hungarian Revolution to give power to the people. Not only did I find that statue, I also found one of George Washington, Kossuth’s American counterpart. Statues of Kossuth may be found in NYC, Washington and Cleveland, Ohio.



So many beautiful sites were enjoyed on this trip both Masonic and non-Masonic – cathedrals, castles and dungeons from medieval times. Clearly a trip highlight from my perspective was a beautifully adorned complex with attributes well known to York Rite Masons.

## Home to the Order of Malta

When in Prague, Czech Republic, I crossed the Charles Bridge constructed in 1357. While the middle of the bridge has been replaced, both ends are original. A block from the bridge, looking down a side street, I spotted the Maltese Cross hanging from a tower. My curiosity aroused, I had to investigate. What I discovered was “The Church of Our Lady beneath the Chain of the End of the Bridge.” According to the website of the Grand Priori of Bohemia, this is one of the oldest and most notable religious sites in this country, dating to before 1153. Following the crusades, the church was given to an international order of knights devoted to John the Baptist of Jerusalem.

Entering through the outer door to the courtyard, my eyes first turned to the statue of





Christ on the Cross. The letters “INRI” are initials for the Latin title that Pontius Pilate had written over the head of Jesus Christ on the cross (John 19:19). The words were “Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum,” or “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

Passing then to the inner doorway, my eyes gazed upon the beautiful chamber within – the sanctuary pictured on the cover of this issue of *The Maine Mason*. York Rite Masons will take note of the Order of Malta insignias on both sides of the base of the pulpit. The



painting dating to circa 1640 depicts the Mother of God blessing the soldiers of the Order of St John of Jerusalem.

The church includes several beautiful chapels like the one pictured here.

The church is part of a large complex long owned by the Order of Malta, together with a substantial island and a water mill on the Vltava River.



### York Rite Masonry – Commandery, Knights Templar

American Templar Masonry dates to 1769 and its earliest members included Revolutionary notables Paul Revere and Joseph Warren. The Commandery includes three Orders: Red Cross, Malta and the Temple. The Red Cross emphasizes the importance of truth and teaches of Zerubbabel’s efforts to return to Jerusalem and build the second temple; Malta emphasizes the importance of faith and prepares one for martyrdom as a knight in the crusade to protect their faith; and the Order of the Temple teaches the lessons of self-sacrifice and reverence as exemplified by medieval Knights Templar.

The last Grand Master of the Knights Templar was Jacques DeMolay for whom the Masonic organization for boys is named. He was captured on Friday, March 13, 1314, and then burned at the stake by order of King Philip IV, as he would not divulge the secrets of the Order or surrender its treasures (which were never discovered and thought by many to have been removed to Scotland).

Masonic legend ties today’s Templary back to the medieval bodies and teaches important life values conveyed in the Holy Scriptures and Crusade lore. However, no direct lineage can be established between today’s Masonic bodies and the Crusaders of 900 years ago.

So is the Order of Malta in Prague Masonic? The short answer is no!

### Holy Catholic Order of St. John’s of Jerusalem

The Order of Malta in Prague directly traces its history to the Crusades, is tied to the Catholic Church and all members are reported to be of that denomination. The website of the Grand Priory of Bohemia, the Order of Malta, reports that the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta dates to around 1048 when it was a monastic order that ran a hospital. The constitution of the Kingdom of Jerusalem obliged the Order to take on the military defense of the sick and the pilgrims, as well as guarding its medical centers and main roads. The Order thus added the task of defending the faith to that of its hospitaller mission.



After the loss of the Holy Land in 1291, the Hospitaller Order of St. John transferred its seat and hospital to the island of Cyprus, and afterwards to Rhodes. Defense of the Christian world required a naval force so the Order built a powerful fleet and sailed the Eastern Mediterranean, fighting many famous battles. The Order was governed by its Grand Master (Prince of Rhodes) together with the Council. It minted its own money and maintained diplomatic relations with other states. The knights were forced to surrender in 1523 and remained without a territory of its own until 1530, when Grand Master Fra’ Philippe de Villiers de l’Isle Adam took possession of the island of Malta, granted to the Order by Emperor Charles V with the approval of Pope Clement VII. While it was decided that the Order should remain neutral in any war between Christian nations, the Order engaged in wars against the Ottoman Empire and then Napoleon, resulting in the Order moving to Rome.

In the second half of the 19th century, the original hospitaller mission once again became the main focus of the Order, growing ever stronger during the last century, most especially through the activities carried out by its Grand Priorities and National Associations in many countries around the world. Large-scale hospitaller and charitable activities carried out during both World Wars continue to this day, although all went dark in Prague during the Soviet occupation following World War II and then returned to prominence with the Velvet Revolution of 1989.

The Order employs about 42,000 doctors, nurses, auxiliaries and paramedics assisted by 80,000 volunteers in more than 120 countries; assisting children, homeless, handicapped, refugees, elders, terminally ill and lepers around the world without distinction of ethnicity or religion. Through its worldwide relief corps, the Order aids victims of natural disasters, epidemics and war.

I hope that the sharing of these sightings will urge you to always pursue more light in Masonry during your travels. It is very rewarding.





## Maine Masonic Charitable FOUNDATION

# Thank You!

The Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation received 895 donations totaling over \$163,000 during the year ending March 31, 2018, substantially more than in prior years. Donations from individuals are listed first in this issue of the *Maine Mason*, followed by those from Masonic and non-Masonic organizations.

Thank you one and all, for your gift helped make an important difference in the thousands of lives touched by our fraternity here in Maine. How? By providing support to many Masons and Masonic widows in needy situations; by encouraging children to read and serve others; by helping school teachers identify, reach out to and perhaps even save the lives of at-risk students; and by, again, purchasing more than 1,300 wreaths placed on the graves of our departed military veterans here in Maine.

Many gifts were made in loving memory, or honor, of family members and friends, identified below as IHO.

Richard Gunn Sr  
Thomas Pulkkinen

Edward Fowle IHO  
Edward W. Fowle  
Arthur Prentiss Jr  
Thomas Russell IHO Ellsworth  
Morris & Paul Higgins

Daniel Bulick  
Priscilla Bunker  
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Christopher Audley  
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William Austin  
Dale Avery  
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Marilyn Baggett  
Hubert Barber  
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Geraldine Bardwell IHO  
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Devereux Cunningham  
Harold Cutting IHO  
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Carroll Cutting  
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Robert Davis, Kenneth  
Potter  
Vivian Davis IHO  
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Maine Veterans  
William Diehl IHO  
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Stephen Dolley  
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Michael Doran  
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Robert & Melinda Dorr  
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Clinton Gammon  
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Albert Garland Jr  
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Arrolyn Gilbert IHO  
Chester Gilbert  
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Gerald Gilman  
Richard Goodness  
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*Continued on Following Page*

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John Waldman  
James Walker  
Colby Walker

*Continued on Following Page*



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 Everett Waterman  
 Sylvia Webb IHO  
 Raymond Webb  
 Calvin Weed  
 Curtis West IHO Dolly West  
 Robert Westgate  
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 Frank Whiting  
 William Whitlock IHO  
 Todd Whitlock  
 Jon Whitten Sr  
 Ronald Willard  
 Dolores Williams IHO  
 William A. Williams  
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 Louis Wilson  
 Richard Winchenbaugh  
 Reginald Wing  
 Gail Wood IHO  
 Delph Wood  
 Algy Wood  
 Burton Wood  
 Lendall Woodward  
 Richmond Yorke  
 James Young  
 Herbert Young  
 Joanne Zeboski IHO  
 Stanley Zeboski  
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 Masters & Wardens Assn,  
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 Assembly  
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 Evening Star No. 147  
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 Hermon No. 32  
 Hiram No. 180  
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 Lincoln No. 3  
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Oxford No. 18  
 Penobscot No. 39  
 Pine Tree No. 172  
 Piscataquis No. 44  
 Pleasant River No. 163  
 Preble No. 143  
 Queen Ester Chapter, OES  
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 Ralph J. Pollard No. 217  
 Rising Sun No. 71  
 Rural No. 53  
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 Waterville No. 33  
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Alcyone Chapter, OES  
 Aldworth Chapter, OES  
 Almeda Chapter, OES  
 Amazon Smile  
 Annette Chapter #184, OES  
 Arbutus Chapter, OES  
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 Beacon Chapter, OES  
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 Benevolent No. 87  
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 Cornerstone Chapter, OES  
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 Crescent No. 78  
 David A. Hooper No. 201  
 Deering Chapter, OES  
 Delta No. 153  
 Dirigo No. 104  
 Electa Chapter, OES  
 Elm Vale Chapter, OES  
 Euclid No. 194  
 Evening Star #147  
 Evening Star Chapter, OES  
 Felicity Chapter, OES  
 Franklin No. 123  
 Freeport No. 23  
 Genesta Chapter, OES  
 Gov. William King No. 219  
 Grace Chapter, OES  
 Granite No. 182  
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 Harmony No. 38  
 Harwood No. 91

Holiday Beverage  
 Horeb No. 93  
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 King Hiram No. 57  
 King Solomon's No. 61  
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 Oppalunski Chapter, OES  
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 Pioneer Chapter, OES  
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 Sarah Orne Jewett Chapter,  
 OES  
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 Tuscan Chapter, OES  
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# Arundel Lodge's Annual Table Lodge Packs 'Em In

*Text and Photos by Wor. Brother Dan Gaucher*

On November 3, Arundel Lodge #76 in Kennebunkport was the site of a Highland Table Lodge most grand. In traditional splendor, the haggis was marched into the room on a silver plate, with George Pulkkinen playing a rousing accompaniment on the bagpipes. Kilts were the order of the day as the packed house of Brethren raised a mighty cheer. Brandishing a large dirk, Bro. Pulkkinen recited the words of immortal poet Robbie Burns from his poem, *Address to a Haggis*:

***The first verse in Scots vernacular:***

Fare fa' your honest, sonsie face  
Great chieftain o' the puddin' race!  
Aboon them a' ye tak yer place  
Painch, tripe or thairm;  
Weel are ye worthy o' a grace  
As lang's my airm.

***The anglicised version of the same:***

Good luck to you and your honest, plump face  
Great chieftain of the sausage race!  
Above them all you take your place  
Stomach, tripe or intestines;  
Well are you worthy of a grace  
As long as my arm.



**Brother Phil Nystrom  
The Honored Guest**

The night was held in honor of Brother Philip Nystrom, long-time treasurer for Arundel Lodge. Like many a table lodge, several toasts were held for country, the military and for our Brethren wheresoever dispersed over the face of the globe. A special scotch toast was made to the haggis itself...a special treat on a special night at a lodge that takes its Table Lodge seriously!



**Wor. Master Jonathan Rosen and Bro. Nystrom toast the Haggis.**

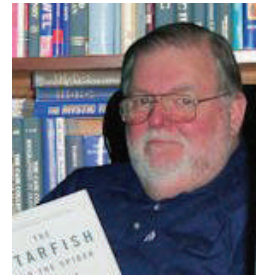
**“LANG MAY YER LUM REEK.”** (Literal translation: Long may your chimney smoke.) Actual meaning is to wish good luck and good fortune by suggesting if a man could afford coal for the stove, he'd also be able to feed his family.

***We hope to see you next year at this unique event, always the first Saturday in November.***

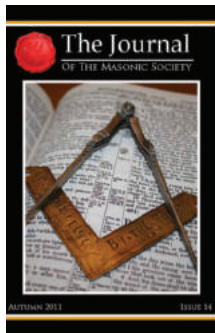


Do I harp on the need to read too much? Probably - but it's reading that will help you get ahead - in ALL walks of life! You can't appreciate what a difference it'll make until you do it for a while. Give it a try. PLEASE?

# The Old Webmaster's BOOKSHELF



And so one of the things I'd suggest to get you going is to avoid something like Pike's "*Morals and Dogma*". I



could probably count on one hand the number of folks I know who've read that cover to cover - and one of them is NOT me!. But how about a MAGAZINE? There are several good ones around which focus on Freemasonry. Let's take a look. For a comfortable browse with a mix of lighter and more contemplative articles, I'd start with *The Masonic Society Journal*. Mem-

bership in the Society is \$45/year and includes not only the quarterly journal but an online forum and much more. Maine Lodge of Research Fellow Michael Poll is the editor! Check it out at <http://themasonicsociety.com>

Another excellent choice is *the Philalethes Society*. Since 1928, this organization has been providing an outlet for Freemasons who weren't content to 'be drones in the beehive of life'. In 1946 they began publishing a journal and under current editor Shawn Eyer, there are thoughtful and instructive articles throughout. For \$50/year, the quarterly journal will provide you with much to stimulate your brain cells. Go to <http://freemasonry.org>

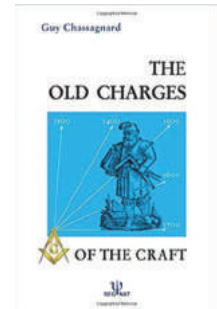
And for Brethren who might like to go a little further afield, I can highly recommend 'The Masonic Square' magazine from the world's oldest Masonic Publisher, Lewis Masonic. It's based in the United Kingdom and oriented towards that part of the world but it nevertheless has some great articles for those of us in the States. You can find print and online subscription at <http://thesquaremagazine.com> Especially if you have access to a tablet (like an iPad), do consider the electronic edition. It's \$12.99 a year (4 editions) and very easy to read online!



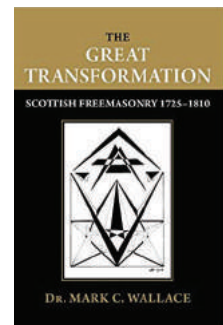
I'll have more for you next issue!

REMEMBER: A subscription makes a great holiday gift the recipient will remember throughout the year. And don't forget: we have all of these and more at the Grand Lodge Library where you can browse and see if they're something you might like before spending any money!

OK, ritual lovers: here's YOUR holiday present: "*The Old Charges of the Craft*" by Guy Chassagnard. This is an amazing book which takes you through all sorts of examples of how we got to where we are. Even browsing, you'll learn more 'bits and bobs' than you ever thought possible. (How about The Stranger's Challenge!?) It's 366 pages in fairly small type but is definitely the book that every Mason who wants to study ritual in detail must have in their library.

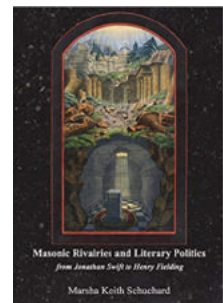


"*The Great Transformation: Scottish Freemasonry 1725-1810*" by Dr. Mark C. Wallace is a scholastic work but a number of you have said you appreciate learning about worthwhile books as they appear. This is one filled with footnotes and commentary and offers some great insights into not only the formation and development of an early Grand Lodge but also great information about the earliest times of our Fraternity. I've only gotten part-way through this but really felt it should be mentioned sooner rather than later!



And finally: "*Masonic Rivalries and Literary Politics: from Jonathan Swift to Henry Fielding*" is not for the faint of heart but it certainly is an interesting 725 page work by noted Masonic scholar/author Marsha Keith Schuchard. If you're someone who likes reading, you might really enjoy this one!

Put down that Facebook and do some worthwhile reading! :-)



Bro. Ed King is the Grand Librarian and Museum Curator. You're encouraged to contact him with ideas, suggestions and recommendations for anything relating to YOUR Library and Museum. He really loves to hear about books you've enjoyed!

## Winthrop 'won', Vandals 0

# Masons' Generosity Wins the Day

A senseless act of vandalism was discovered early last summer at the Veteran's Memorial on Norcross Point in Winthrop. A granite Memorial Bench, donated in part by the brethren of Winthrop's Temple Lodge, had been ripped from its place and its back shattered.

A week later, at the annual cookout of Webster Lodge in Wales, Bro. Ryan Sherman, a Monmouth Police Officer, spoke about the damage. He had contacted representatives of Collette Memorials who had offered to replace the bench for \$3000, about half the usual price. Bro. Sherman spoke passionately about this crime and asked the brethren to consider making a donation toward replacing the bench.

It was determined that the project would qualify for a Charitable Foundation Community Betterment Grant. Several brethren from Monmouth Lodge who had attended the cookout suggested that Monmouth raise \$500 and Webster raise \$500 with each Lodge applying for a Foundation grant. With the grant assistance the entire cost of the \$3000 project was covered and the funds were delivered to members of the Winthrop VFW who arranged to have the bench replaced.

A phone call was made to the Grand Master to ask if he would convene Grand Lodge in Winthrop to rededicate the bench. He was very much in favor. The Master of

Temple Lodge in Winthrop was excited at the idea.

Everything came together on September 30th when the Grand Master and his suite convened a Special Communication and performed a rededication of the Veterans Bench which was followed by the VFW rededicating the entire site. Brethren from Webster, Monmouth and Temple Lodges, as well as members from other local lodges also attended.

This was an excellent example of how one dedicated brother sparked the fire which led to Masons turning a very sad event into a very positive one. Masonry is fortunate to have Bro. Ryan Sherman as a member of the Craft.



## 75 Years a Mason

Brother A. Vinton Lewis was presented his 75-year service star by RW Brother Richard Nadeau, Deputy Grand Master, on May 29. Brother Lewis is 103 years old. He was raised in Hiram Lodge #180, South Portland, on June 22, 1943. Looking on is RW Tim Bushey, DDGM/17.



## ***“It’s What a Mason Does for a Mason”***

To paraphrase Sir Francis Bacon from his *Essays* (1625) “If Bro. Fred cannot come to the lodge, then the lodge will go to Bro. Fred.” That is exactly what Monument Lodge No. 96 of Houlton did. “It’s What a Mason Does for a Mason.”

Bro. Fred A. Bither, Jr., at age 100 years and 8 months, for many years had not been able to attend lodge while residing in an assisted living complex in Portland.



**Brother Bither reflects on the altar prepared before him.**

Wishing to recognize and honor Bro. Fred, the lodge sojourned to Portland, only a four-hour drive, on Thursday, October 25, 2018 and held a one - hour special meeting in the Chapel Room at Birchwood at Canco.

In early summer Bro. Fred wrote his lodge seeking assistance for a 96-year-old Mason, Bro. Robert Erichron, who Fred felt was

in need of brotherly assistance, a need above and beyond the excellent care he was receiving from his facility. A couple of phone calls and his needs were being met by Bro. Jason Tarr, incoming Master of Buxton Lodge, who stops to visit him once or twice a week. But the real Masonic story about Bro. Fred is that here was a 100-year-old Mason concerned for a 96-year-old Mason and reached out to do something about it. What a story. It doesn’t get much better!

M.W. Bro. Mark Rustin has been speaking at his District meetings about how we are central to our lodges and how we need to keep Freemasonry relevant in our lodges. He has observed how non-members will be drawn to it by what they observe. He stresses that they will, or perhaps not, join because of what they see us do.

Monument Lodge finds Bro. Fred’s concerns, followed up by his action, exemplifies the best in our fraternity. While outside community projects and concerns speak well of us, our essence, our *raison d’être*, is our unequivocal commitment to help a brother Mason in need if we can. It matters not how old or young we are, or when we last attended lodge, we are still bound to act by the commitment we made when we joined. Bro. Fred

remembered that.

And what of Bro. Fred, the man, the Mason. Born in 1918, Fred was a graduate of Bryant College and enlisted in the U.S. Army. Because of his secretarial skills he quickly received a promotion to the rank of Sergeant First Class. He served as Chief Clerk to General Willis Crittenberger during the planning and preparation for the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944.

While in the Army he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, captured 7 German P.O.W.s, and was awarded the Croix de Guerre by France, presented to individuals who distinguish themselves by acts of heroism involving combat with enemy forces. Upon returning home he received his Master Mason Degree in Monument Lodge 72 years ago on May 29, 1946. He spent his working career in administrative capacities with The Bangor and Aroostook Railroad and then The Maine Central Railroad.

Bro. Fred served as a reminder and inspiration to all Maine Masons, that no matter our age we are still bound by our special obligation which we share with all Masons. Our adherence to our obligation, and our commitment to a brother, may well be what a young non-Mason will judge our fraternity by.

Among those who attended and were inspired by Bro. Fred were our Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden and three Past Grand Masters. Brother Fred, with a keen mind and sense of humor, shared stories of W.W. II and what it is like being 100 years old. He related that one member of his family quipped that “he has become a tourist attraction!!”

### **Brother Masons of Maine:**

It is with profound sorrow that I share with you that our special Brother, Fred A. Bither, Jr., passed away in Portland on November 4th after a very short illness. Bro. Fred was a special Mason from a special generation.

We are grateful that we didn’t put off for a month the special recognition we wished to bestow upon him. With his age approaching 101 years, we moved ahead even though we talked of putting it off for a month to a more convenient time. In two weeks and two days he was no longer with us.

As Masons, may we never fail to seize the day when the need exists to reach out to help, aid, assist or honor a Brother Mason. It’s What a Mason Does for a Mason.

Bruce A. Folsom, P.M.

Secretary of Monument Lodge No. 96

## Discover the Magic at Rainbow

Maine Rainbow began its 2018-2019 Grand Year on May 27, 2018 as Madeleine Theriault was installed Grand Worthy Advisor with her new slate of Grand Officers. Maddy has chosen the theme “Discover the Magic of Rainbow”. She and the Grand Officers will be traveling the state this year sharing the magic of Maine Rainbow with Harry Potter themed meetings and decorations.

Each of our Grand Families this year (when the Grand Officers gather to initiate new members) are themed for places or events in the Harry Potter book series. On Saturday, September 15th, we gathered in Windham for the Honey Dukes Grand Family. Honey Dukes is the candy store in the book series. We enjoyed chocolate frogs and Bertie Botts’ every flavored beans.

In addition to this being our first Grand Family, we also celebrated the Grand Master’s class of initiates. We were thrilled to have Most Worshipful Brother Mark Rustin in attendance as we initiated two new Rainbow Girls into our Masonic Family. The girls were presented with certificates signed by the Grand Worthy Advisor and the Grand Master. In addition to their certificates, Maine Rainbow continued the long-standing tradition of having our Grand Officers sign rituals presented to the new sisters. Since this was the Grand Master’s class, our Grand Master also signed their rituals.

We hope you will join us at one of our remaining Grand Families this year and Discover the Magic of Rainbow for yourselves!



**Grand Worthy Advisor with the Grand Master.**

March 10<sup>th</sup>—Quiddich Grand Family (in the Bangor area, location tba—1:00)

April 28<sup>th</sup>—Hogwarts Grand Family at the Waterville Masonic Hall—1:00—This is also Maddy’s homecoming Grand Family

## Federal Lodge #6 Honors Two Veteran Brethren



Members, family and two well-known and respected brothers of Federal Lodge #6 met over a luncheon August 18th after which these two were presented with some very important Masonic awards. Brother Les Ames, left, was presented with his 70-year service star and RW Herb Annis was presented with his 60-year service star.

Together they represent 130 years of service to the lodge and our great fraternity. Brother Ames, who resides in China, Maine, makes the effort to attend Federal Lodge whenever he can, demonstrating the affection he has for the craft and the lodge.

RW Herb Annis is currently serving as Federal Lodge #6 Worshipful Master after Amity & St. Paul’s Lodges consolidated in 2017. Herb also served as St. Paul’s master in 1966 and 2006.



# A Newly-raised Freemason Shares His Journey

by Brother Michael Kelewae

Being a newly raised Mason I thought that I would share how I felt after being raised. Though I am sure everyone of us have felt different feelings and we all had different reasons for joining, I will go through my story and my journey so far. Though I will not reach too far into my past, I will touch on what is relevant, or what I think is relevant.

For the past eight or ten years I have been in sort of a rut. Never seeming to be happy, or maybe complete would be a better word. I had a job, a home, and a daughter who is my world. But there was always something missing, some little hole in my being that I couldn't fill. In 2013 the hole seemed to get bigger when my father told us that he was diagnosed with stage four colon cancer. He told us that it already had spread to his liver. For four years he fought it. Never letting it slow him down. He continued to spread his love around to everyone. He baked bread for churches, shared his wonderful voice in the choir, loved our mother with everything that he had, and continued to teach my brother and me how to be good men and good fathers. On August 12, 2017 my father lost his battle. That is where I hit bottom.

My Masonic journey started one day on the job. I was working with someone who I knew to be a Mason. We were talking about history and that slid into talking about Freemasonry. Of course, there were many things that he couldn't share with me, but he did share what he could, and it finally got down to the point where I asked, "How do I become a Mason?" He then spoke the three words that would change my life: "You ask me." He spoke those three words and there was a small click inside me. Right then and there he printed off a petition and I filled it out.

On January 31, 2018 I found myself in a small room where I was prepared by a Mason, asked some questions and stood there waiting, I will admit to being a bit nervous. I was then led into the lodge room. After my first degree was finished I knew I wanted more. My mind absorbed the ritual. I was passed on April 7<sup>th</sup> and the sponge between my ears was fed again! I absorbed that ritual. On June 7<sup>th</sup> I was raised to the sublime degree. The moment I was raised I felt different. Every hand that I shook and every Brother I hugged had, at one point, gone through the exact same thing I had gone through. I was finally in a room of equals.

At first, I thought I was a new person. Possibly I was given a second chance. But it wasn't until the visit from the Grand Master and his officers that I realized what had happened. It was something that the Deputy Grand Master said that made it all click into place. He talked about how as an Entered Apprentice we are given a rough

ashlar. And we work on that ashlar throughout our journey until, when we are called to the Celestial Lodge, we are holding a much-smoother stone. It was then that I realized that it wasn't a second chance I was given. I was given the working tools to perfect my ashlar.

The cipher, the rituals, the textbook, the friendships; these were all working tools for me to use to smooth out my ashlar and to help Brothers and future Brothers smooth theirs as well. "Making good men better." It now makes sense to me.

So that is where I am in my journey. I have come to realize that I now have approximately 6 million new brothers throughout the world. I can walk into any lodge in the world and be accepted as a Brother and as an equal. I also know that when I am called to judgement, and stand before God, I will be holding a stone I've worked on diligently to perfect.



R.W. Brothers Harold Beisaw and Harland Harnden just shared their 90th birthdays. Both are very active, are good friends, and have a combined 118 years in the Craft. "I see you've traveled some."



An **entablature** refers to the superstructure of moldings and bands which lie horizontally above columns, resting on their capitals.

### The College Briefly...

Our name inspires us to a 'higher educational calling.' We are not a bricks and mortar school but a "Temple of Knowledge," offering a growing variety of learning opportunities in various modalities.

We believe that Freemasonry is relevant in society today, helping to create a continuum of knowledge for those who are interested in personal enrichment.

Masonic ritual exhorts us to broaden our knowledge of the seven liberal arts and sciences. Thus, our programs include topics of interest to anyone with an inquisitive mind: ethics, astronomy, logic, public speaking and more. We have molded the Maine Masonic College on the best features of not only traditional and modern Masonic-oriented education but also "senior college" and lifelong learning endeavors.

In addition, we are developing audio and video material along with reading lists and more. At the Maine Masonic College, we encourage your input, your recommendations and - most of all - your...

INVOLVEMENT!

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The Maine Masonic College Newsletter

The

# ENTABLATURE

Whole Number 31

[www.MaineMasonicCollege.com](http://www.MaineMasonicCollege.com)

Winter 2018-19



## MAINE MASONIC COLLEGE COURSES

In its continuing effort to offer "more light in Masonry" the Regents of the Maine Masonic College announce the following course offerings. As with all College offerings, they are designed to provide brethren the opportunity to expand their vision of Freemasonry and its principles. Whether you are on the path to a Masonic College Diploma or simply want to be a more enlightened Mason, these programs are for you. As the colorful season of Autumn comes upon us, these offerings of the Maine Masonic College will add light.

**All Classes are subject to change. Please check website for any changes!**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unless otherwise noted, there will be a light luncheon served after each class. The charge: \$5.00. If you plan to attend the meal you must pre-register for the class by calling Theresa at the Grand Lodge office, 207-843-1086.

### Jan12

#### Polishing the Stone:

In every Masonic Lodge Room, one enters one will find two stones prominently displayed – one rough cut the other smooth. These two stones – The Ashlars – bear special symbolic insight and significance to every man who has ever been or is now a Mason. They portray a man from the beginning to the end of his Masonic life and set before him a goal. This course is a study of these symbols and the meaning inherent within.

**Instructor: MW Mark Rustin**

**Location: Meridian Splendor Lodge, Newport 9AM-12PM**

### January 19

#### Examining the Modern Social Landscape: Implications for Freemasonry

The seminar serves as an introduction to understanding the complexities of demographic, social, and economic trends. We would focus on both the United States as a whole and the State of Maine specifically. Masonic lodges have been an integral part of the social landscape for centuries. To maintain our viable and relevant presence, we need to develop an enhanced awareness of and critically examine the changing sociocultural factors that impact our fraternity.

Dr. Christopher Howard is the Chair for the Social Science division and an

*Continued on Page 22*



## #27 of the Minutes of “Old Builders Lodge #1000”

**Brother George M.A. Macdougall**  
*george.macdougall@maine.gov*

*This is one article in a series on the people who created, discovered or redefined how modern architecture, engineering and science came about.*

So, let's summarize a little of what we learned about those who gave us the gift of Mathematics (There are those who would argue that the math was always there waiting for us to discover it!!) We learned that Euclid was the Father of Geometry and that Newton gave us Calculus. There is a step in between that connected the two. It is analytic geometry, also known as coordinate geometry or Cartesian geometry, and it is the study of geometry using a coordinate system. This gift was presented to us by René Descartes.

René Descartes was born in La Haye en Touraine, France, on March 31, 1596. His mother, Jeanne Brochard, died soon after giving birth to him, and so he was not expected to survive. Descartes' father, Joachim, was a member of the Parliament of Brittany at Rennes. René lived with his grandmother and with his great-uncle. In 1607 he entered the Jesuit Collège



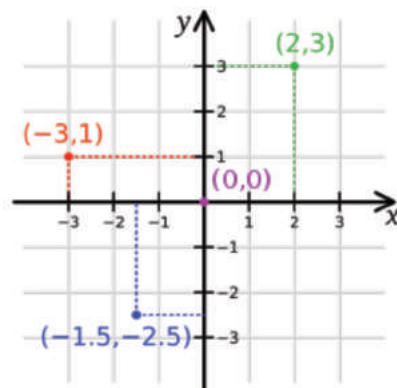
Royal Henry-Le-Grand at La Flèche, where he was introduced to mathematics and physics, including Galileo's work (See The Minutes #9). After graduation in 1614, he studied for two years at the University of Poitiers, earning a degree in canon (church) and civil law in 1616, in accordance with his father's wishes that he should become a lawyer.

At this point in his life Descartes recalls, “I entirely abandoned the study of letters. Resolving to seek no knowledge other than that of which could be found in myself or else in the great book of the world, I spent the rest of my youth traveling, visiting courts and armies,

mixing with people of diverse temperaments and ranks, gathering various experiences, testing myself in the situations which fortune offered me, and at all times reflecting upon whatever came my way so as to derive some profit from it.”

Given his ambition to become a professional military officer, he undertook a formal study of military engineering. He, therefore, received much encouragement to advance his knowledge of mathematics. He became acquainted with Isaac Beeckman. Both believed that it was necessary to create a method that thoroughly linked mathematics and physics.

In *La Géométrie*, (1637) Descartes advanced the discoveries he made with Pierre de Fermat, in the paper, Introduction to Loci. This later became known as Cartesian Geometry. This work was the first to propose the idea of uniting algebra and geometry into a single subject and invented an algebraic geometry called analytic geometry or Cartesian Geometry.



**Cartesian coordinates of four points in the plane.**

This involved translating geometric shapes into algebraic equations. For instance, we can derive the mathematical equation for a line,  $y = mx + b$  by using Cartesian geometry. For its time, this was groundbreaking. It also contributed to the mathematical ideas of Leibniz and Newton (See The Minutes # 4&5) and was also important in the development of calculus. Cartesian geometry is the study of geometry using a coordinate system and is instrumental in physics, engineering, and in air and space travel.

So let's summarize again what we learned about those who gave us the gift of Mathematics; Euclid was the Father of Geometry, Newton gave us Calculus, and René Descartes gave us analytic geometry.

But there is actually a step before all of these and you may be surprised to find out where that came from in our next edition of “The Minutes”.

## Masonic College Course Offerings *Continued*

Associate Professor of Psychology at Husson University. Christopher is currently serving as the Worshipful Master of Seminary Hill Daylight Lodge as well as the Dean of the Maine Masonic College.

**Instructor:** VW Christopher Howard

**Location:** Rising Sun Lodge, Orland 9AM-12PM

### February 2

#### Ethics—

New class now being presented by Dr. Bill Johnson, Professor at Husson College.

**Location:** Belfast Lodge, Belfast 9AM-12PM

### February 9

#### Jurisprudence:

“A survey of the sources of Masonic principles and usages, of Masonic law and an analysis of how the former are expressed in the latter.”

**Instructor:** MW Wayne T. Adams

**Location:** David A. Hooper Lodge, Sullivan 9 AM-Noon

### March 2

#### Vitruvius and the Foundations of Freemasonry:

In the reign of Caesar Augustus, Vitruvius was an engineer who wrote a series of texts on Architecture and the art of building. We read those texts with amazement. So often what Vitruvius has to say shares with the world-view of modern Freemasonry- a “virtually seamless relationship... between the critical, rational methods of science and the maintenance of the ancestral traditions including religion” or perhaps as better phrased, a spiritual reverence for the beauty and the order of the universe.

**Instructors:** RW George Macdougall, RW Don McDougal

**Location:** Lynde Lodge, Hermon 9AM-12PM

### March 9

#### Myth and Freemasonry

The purpose of this class is to express the basic and central nature of the spiritual life of the local lodges as the foundation upon which Freemasonry is properly built.

**Instructor:** MW Mark Rustin

**Location:** Morning Star Lodge, Litchfield 9AM-Noon

## Own Your Own 200th Anniversary Challenge Coin... ...or Gift One to a Favorite Brother



These handsome commemorative coins feature the Grand Lodge Seal on the face; on the reverse, our Square and Compasses with the letter “G”. The perimeter message reads:  
“Maine Freemasonry Enriching Lives 1820-2020”

*Actual Coin measures 2.5”*



**To receive your Challenge Coin, please send your request to the Grand Lodge of Maine, PO Box 430, Holden, ME 04429.**

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ Maine Masonic Challenge Coins to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$14.05/per coin, includes tax and postage)*



## ***From the Maine Masonic College Annual Convocation***

### **Civility in Crisis: A Call to Masonic Action**

**Wor. Dannel Starbird**

Who best can work and best agree? In this question, familiar to Freemasons, may be a response to today's growing lack of civility. Changes within American society and throughout the world have demonstrated a widespread decline of civility. In political and religious speech, technological communication (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) and in much private and public discourse, the lack of civility has become increasingly obvious. Without civility and respectful dialogue allowing parties to understand each other's positions, consensus and cooperation don't develop. No point of view emerges into mutual acceptance. The decline in civility is not just about manners or politeness, it is about effectiveness. Human beings need to cooperate, respect each other, and understand each other's positions in order to prosper. Freemasons understand well the rules of civil discourse, and these provide a safe framework in which dialogue can occur, mutual understanding result, and effective compromises emerge.

Civility is justly within the domain of Freemasonry. Freemasons have long been charged to cultivate a civilization of the mind and actions as a duty, among themselves and in their communities. This prepares Freemasonry and individual Masons to play a crucial role in reestablishing and furthering civility in our communities, and the world at large.

M.W. Russ Charvonja, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California and head of the Masonic Family Civility Project, was the keynote speaker at the October 13, 2018 Maine Masonic College Annual Convocation in Bangor. A recognized leader in the effort to engage Freemasons in restoring civility in our society, M. W. Charvonja outlined concerns and possible solutions for Maine Masons. He proposed that unless corrected, uncivility could become so engrained it may become "the way it is." Saying Masons can play a valuable role in reestablishing civility, he said, "The journey begins with each of us." In an overview of civility, he indicated that civil dialogue includes generous listening, is not superficial, is not simple, and is not about prevailing. It is about sharing perspective, gain-

ing mutual understanding, and conveying mutual respect. When our interactions are within due bounds, we can be passionate but not hostile, say how we feel but avoid argument, be truthful but avoid attacking, disagree but avoid demeaning, listen respectfully with empathy but not criticism, attend patiently and not interrupt, and focus not on what we will say next, but what we are hearing and understanding. He pointed out that while a civil dialogue might not be for the purpose of finding a solution, resolving an argument, or even finding agreement, honestly pursuing a back-and-forth dialogue may have these results. Through civility in our actions, we may realize, decide, experience, change, facilitate growth, increase balance, and produce resolution in our relationships with our fellow men.

M.W. David Walker was the second Convocation speaker, followed by a panel of Past Masters convened by M.W. Mark Rustin and including Past Grand Masters of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine Walter Macdougall, Wayne T. Adams, James Ross, David Walker, and Thomas Pulkkinen. This second section was personalized to Maine Masonry, and amplified M. W. Charvonja's presentation. It was pointed out that civility is not just politeness, but reflects the right to dignity, respect, and helping all to reach a greater worth. Valuable guidance included that "Civilization is not possible without civility," "We can't wait for civility to rise by itself, we need to raise it," "Civility does not just emerge or reemerge, but needs to be taught," "It won't come on its own, it needs to be built, practiced, and embodied." "We need to practice active listening," "Avoiding talking down to others is essential." The excellent rules and useful maxims put forward by our Grand Masters was capped off with a paraphrased quote from Ghandi, *You have to be the world you want to see.*

The skills of civil communication are embedded in our Masonic degrees and are crucial in the oaths we take and obligations we make. Masons have had special instruction in civility. Remember that when we quit the sacred space of the Lodge to mix again with the world, our obligations go with us. We are enjoined to be temperate and discreet. We are told that every human being has a claim on our good offices. We are to do good unto all! We don't need to be re-taught these lessons, but we need to remember to practice them. The message of the recent convocation was that as Masons we can be role

***Continued on Following Page***

## District 4 Brethren Make Major Contribution to Boy Scout Council

A new, state-of-the-art Cardiac Science G5 fully automated Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) and accessories were presented to Boy Scouts of America Katahdin Area Council Executive Scott Harvey, Camp Roosevelt Director Charles Major and Hancock District Executive Sandy Smith at a brief ceremony held at the Grand Lodge headquarters in Holden on August 12. Making the presentation was AED project coordinator Brother Stephen “Jack” Spratt, DDGM/4 David Rackcliffe, and Bro. William Perkins, Master of Ira Berry Lodge #128.

Katahdin Area Council BSA strives to follow the scout motto “Be Prepared”, and will use the AED to help ensure rapid access to this critical life safety device for all participants at its remote, 1,800-acre Camp Roosevelt Scout Reservation in Eddington. Camp Roosevelt supports a multitude of year-round outdoor activities for both youth and adults.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) takes more than 350,000 lives every year and is one of the leading causes of death in America. SCA can happen anytime, anywhere, and to anyone - regardless of age.

An AED is most effective when used within 3 minutes after cardiac arrest; a victim’s chance of survival

decreases 7-10% for every minute that passes.

The AED donation was made possible through the coordinated effort of the six lodges of Masonic District #4 (Rising Star #4-Penobscot, Rising Sun #71-Orland, Ira Berry #128-Blue Hill, Felicity #19-Bucksport, Marine #122-Deer Isle and Naskeag #171-Brooklin) which each raised funds and then cooperatively applied for a 2:1 matching grant from the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation.



Back row, l-r: DDGM/4 David Rackcliffe, Wor. William Perkins, Sandy. Smith, Scott Harvey. Front; Bro. “Jack” Spratt, Grand Master Rustin, a former Boy Scout, and Charles Major.

*Photo: Logan Spratt*

## Civility in Crisis *Continued from Page 23*

models for civility in our various stations in the world; a serious charge worthy of commitment.

The Convocation articulated many of the ways Masons are prepared to be role models for civility. Masons are committed to, and actively appreciate diversity, practice acceptance of others, and embody cultural sensitivity including to place of origin, language, race, disability, gender, sexual identity, religion, and social station. We meet on the level, are neither overbearing nor condescending, value good judgment, act on the square, avoid prejudice, interest, or favor, circumscribe our desires, keep our passions within due bounds, and practice charity.

Lack of civility is un-Masonic, and finger-pointing, demeaning, closed-mindedness, name calling, vile language, turning a blind eye, mean spiritedness, false attribution, and dishonesty have no place. Uncivil action debases the dignity of our Masonic profession.

If in our Masonic journey we absorb and practice the messages in our lectures and charges, we slowly become that example which we are being told can change the world. And while perfection is not of this world, the good actions of a man that Masonry makes better may be enough to reestablish civility in our communities, and perhaps in the world at large. Let’s see who best can work and best agree.



## ***‘Twin Brother’ Brothers Feted at Table Lodge***



**The moment of discovery!**

A surprise Table Lodge was held at Scarborough's Gov. Wm King Lodge on October 27th. The two honorees, Brothers Joe & Jeremy Shaw, had no idea the Table Lodge was in their honor until they discovered the "surprise" while setting out the cannons for the evening.

The Table Lodge was presided over by PGM Wayne Adams in the East, PGM George Pulkkinen in the West and PGM James Ross in the South.

Among those attending were current Grand Master Mark Rustin, PGMs Claire Tusch, David Walker, and Tom Pulkkinen, SGW Richard Holman, RW Tim Bushey DDGM/17, DRI Jon Cail, and other past and current Grand Lodge officers.

Bro. James Shaw, the "boys" dad, shared the head table with Joe and Jeremy. All had a very enjoyable evening and a delicious 7-course meal prepared by Chef Garry Garrison.

*The Portland Masonic*  
EVENT & WEDDING VENUE

SAVE THE DATE TO CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR 2019

*2nd Annual Masonic New Year's Eve Gala*

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 | 7pm – 1am

The Portland Masonic sets the stage for a magical New Year's Eve. Gather & enjoy a festive black-tie evening alongside your Brethren & Guests as we ring in the New Year together. All proceeds to the building restoration fund.

FOR DETAILS & INFORMATION VISIT [PORTLANDMASONIC.COM/GALA](http://PORTLANDMASONIC.COM/GALA)

THE PORTLAND MASONIC | 415 CONGRESS STREET, PORTLAND ME 04101 | 207.761.1190

# Pythagoras, Burr, Hamilton, Sumner, Brooks

## CIVILITY and MASONS

by Brother Donald McDougal

At the 2018 annual convocation sponsored by the Maine Masonic College the topic for the day was “CIVILITY”. During the course of the day and afterwards, I began musing about the causes and sources of lack of civility within human cultures and its historic recurrence within societies. Civility is one of the “higher” attributes of our human psyche. According to Kaja Nordengen in “**Your Superstar Brain**”, the Frontal Lobe “Constrains” us and helps us maintain Civility and “Self Control”. Incivility toward others is controlled by a more primitive part of our brain. Commonly called the “Reptilian Brain”, the Amygdala controls our “fight or flight” responses.

I thought of the Mathematician, Pythagoras; Alexander Hamilton, former Secretary of the Treasury; Aaron Burr, sitting Vice President of the United States, Charles Sumner, Senator from Massachusetts; Preston Brooks, Representative from South Carolina. And, appallingly, many others spring to mind from history.

During the 30 years prior to 500 BC, Pythagoras and his followers had marked political influence in their society. At one time they held political control of Kroton but later were ousted by their political rivals. Notwithstanding their mountainous contributions to mathematics, as political figures, (just like today) they became targets of their political rivals and encountered widespread animosity, accompanying lack of civility, and violence. Most of us have heard of Pythagoras but we cannot have much confidence in the available accounts respecting him and his life. Apparently no records from his time exist. Some say that his father was a man of Tyre but the existing narratives we have were written much later by people with personal agendas.

We can have some certainty that he and the Pythagoreans were extremely secretive. Detractors, calling them a cult, say this was because they felt their knowledge was only for the limited few elite. They did believe that everything was based on number and that truth plus all reality was in numbers and that all knowledge had a number.

Some of the “beliefs” recorded as held by him and the Pythagoreans included:

New converts were required to spend five years without speaking.

Even numbers represented women, odd numbers men.

Music could purify us.

Beans were sacred and must be protected at all costs and not eaten.

He taught his followers that you must put the right shoe on first.

He worshiped numbers and prayed to the number 10. “Bless us divine number”.

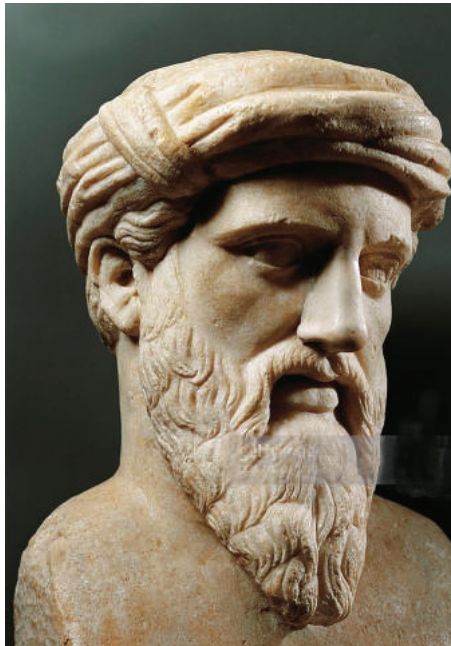
He taught that our entire life is controlled by opposing forces. (Good-Evil, Love-Hate, Civility-Contempt and Rudeness, etc)

There is agreement that his birth was around 570 BC. Records of his death are varied and contradictory. Most agree that it occurred between 500 and 470 BC. Some say he committed suicide because of attacks on him and his followers. Others say he starved himself to death. Most seem to agree that he was persecuted by his political enemies and his death somehow stemmed from violence by his opponents. Some say he died as a result of his refusal to trample a field of beans by running through them to escape. They said he would rather die

than step on a bean so he let those chasing him cut his throat to allow the beans to live. Other accounts say he was killed by Syracusans when he became involved in their quarrel with Agrigentum. He might have been killed by the fury of a mob or perhaps he died when the public building he was in was set on fire by the crowd outside or maybe it was just one man who burned his house down. He died in Croton or possibly Metapontum. Whatever the circumstances of his death, a fairly common account includes some setting involving his reverence for beans. We will never be able to know the actual facts of his death but it seems to be universally accepted that they involved mobs, anger, violence, and complete disregard for any semblance of Civility.

The history of our own nation includes too many similarities to the problems of the Pythagoreans. On July 11, 1804 longstanding malicious political animosities

*Continued on Following Page*



The Great Pythagoras



## Civility and Masons

*Continued from Preceding Page*

between two opposing parties in our nation came to a fatal clash. The final engagement was a fateful duel between the sitting Vice President Aaron Burr and former Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton who died the next day from the wound from Burr's dueling pistol.

On May 22, 1856 differences of opinion about slavery between abolitionists and slavery supporters let South Carolina Representative Preston Brooks feel justified in attacking Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner, with a cane. Sumner working at a desk bolted to the floor was unable to quickly rise and protect himself from blows to his head. Brooks was supported by two companions, Lawrence Keitt and Henry Edmunson, who prevented

*The history of our own nation includes too many similarities to the problems of Pythagoras.*

reports of "Sumner's Chastisement". These uncompromising political

immediate help for Sumner. The short lived attack still allowed Brooks time to give, as he said, "30 good stripes" to Sumner's head before others could intervene. Enough votes (two thirds) could not be mustered to expel Brooks from the House of Representatives. So he voluntarily resigned and was reelected at the next election. Using value-laden verbiage, northern news reported the "Cowardly Assault" while southern sources carried

differences foretold the rising regional animosities and political differences that culminated in the start of the Civil war five years later.

During recent years, within our own country, there have been escalating political, social, and regional differences leading to expanded hatreds, animosities, incivility and violence. Much of this has been fueled by foreign interference. An October 2017 article by Tom McCarthy said in part foreign (online) "...trolls and bots focused on controversial topics in an effort to stoke political division on an enormous scale – and it hasn't stopped..." He went on to say that "The broader strategy is...about destabilizing the country by focusing on and amplifying existing divisions, rather than supporting any one political party. ...these became staging grounds for an attack on American Democracy... imposters had hundreds of millions of interactions with potential voters who believed they were interacting with fellow Americans" An April 2018 article by the Brennan Center NYU Law, "Social Media is Now Prime Conduit for Foreign Interference", said that \$1.4 billion was spent online in the 2016 election. Unless we take preventative steps "any bad actor – not just Russia - will have the power to covertly sow chaos in our politics."

So what is our responsibility as Masons? Brethren, unless we wish to continue a journey into the disorder, shambles, and abyss that befell Pythagoras around 500 BC, Alexander Hamilton in 1804, or the United States of America in 1861, we have a duty and obligation to turn humanity away from the hatreds, animosities, enmities, and hostilities currently infesting human culture and societies. These have led worldwide to the current lack of Civility with its accompanying rudeness, insensitivity, anger, and violence. We must lead the way toward a return to truth, forbearance, moderation, harmony, order, friendship, gentleness, agreement and civility while maintaining our own civility, fidelity, honor, uprightness, integrity, values, principles, and brotherly love.

### George Washington's Rules of Civility



*A gift from  
The George Washington Masonic  
National Memorial Association*

So great was the recognized need for Civility that Brother Geo. Washington penned his 110 "Rules" now available from the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. *Get your copy!*

## Horeb Lodge Remembers Maine's Doughboys

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, people of Maine gathered in Lincoln to pay homage to the American Doughboy of World War I, 100 years to the hour on Armistice Day.

This special observance of the "war to end all wars" was conducted by Carl E. Burrill, American Legion Post No. 77 with special coordination from R.W. Byron Sanderson on behalf of Horeb Lodge No. 93. Some 100 people attended the gathering despite the bitterly cold wind and 30° temperature.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 David F. Cheney of the Maine National Guard was introduced by Post Commander Darrell Savage. He spoke of the effect of WWI on the people of Maine and of the three soldiers from Lincoln who were wounded.

Under dispensation from Grand Master Mark Rustin, Worshipful Master Robert Gauthier led 17 Masons from Horeb Lodge and other area lodges. This was the first time the lodge had been invited to

take an active part in this observance. R.W. Richard L. Rhoda, Past Grand Historian, was invited to speak on Lincoln's "Doughboy" statue.

Officially known as "Spirit of the American Doughboy," it is one of 134 statues that still exist of the almost 160 built in the 1920's and 1930's. Lincoln's "Doughboy" is really Maine's Doughboy as it is the only one in the state. It was dedicated in 1927 and cost \$1,000 or about \$14,000 current value.

Sculptor E.M. Viquesney designed and built it to honor the victims and casualties of WWI. With 134 still spread throughout the country, it is believed to be the most viewed sculpture in America, after the Statue of Liberty. Viquesney said of his "Doughboy," "I do not urge the building of War Monuments to perpetuate War but to impress on American youth the desirability of PEACE."

*Continued on Following Page*



Brethren gathered to honor the Doughboy and Lincoln's WW I veterans.





**Brother Rhoda delivering remarks  
at the Lincoln observance.**

While WWI brought into combat “aero-planes” with their bombing capabilities; mustard gas with its silent death; and tanks replacing the “Horse Calvary,” it was still the foot soldier who carried the day.

Rhoda said, “Few if any other war monuments reflect the reality of the foot soldier’s war as does “The Doughboy.” We see but do we comprehend or feel what we see? Look closely at the young boyish face with a far-off look in his eyes, about to throw a hand grenade because he is too close to use his rifle. But look closer at the stumps blown apart from artillery bombardments of the battle-field. See the barbwire stretched across the ground by the enemy to protect their position that he had to step over. Never stop looking for this is a reality of war.

To remember and honor the three men listed on the honor rolls affixed to the monument who died in action, Patrick Desmond, Aaron Flanders, and Vance Lowell, Rhoda concluded with an old Roman blessing:

*Sit tibi terra levis.” May the earth rest lightly on you.”*

W.M. Gauthier then presented to the American Legion Post, on behalf of Horeb Lodge, a specially commissioned painting of “The Doughboy” by Bro. Roger Morin of Monument Lodge No. 96.



**Presenting Bro. Morin's painting to the Legion Post.**

## Honoring our Masonic Veterans



Bro. Mike Vittum, Nollesemeic Lodge #205, Millinocket, recently received his 50-year Veterans Medal from the Grand Master, MW Brother Mark Rustin. Bro. Vittum is a retired Maine State Trooper.



Wor. Brother Harley Dwelley, a member of Piscataquis Lodge #44, Milo, received his 50-year Veterans Medal from RW Brother Lagerquist on Nov. 15 in sunny Florida. Bro. Dwelley is a graduate of Calais Memorial High School.



Wor. Brother Brian Bowdoin, a member of St. Andrews Lodge #83, Bangor, received his 50-year Veterans Medal from RW Brother Jack Lagerquist on Oct. 30. Bro. Bowdoin now resides in Lakeland, FL.



V.W. Brother Tom Ray was surrounded by good friends and brothers when he received his 50-year Veterans Medal at Tranquil Lodge #29 in Auburn on September 12th. Pictured here with his support group, left to right, front row: RW Rich Nadeau, Deputy Grand Master, RW Dick Pulkkinen PDDGM/23, Brother Ray, Assistant Grand Chaplain Aaron Burke, Bro. Fred Bockus, Bro. Bob Drake, RW Paul Gardner DDGM/23 and Wor. Rick Bouchard. Back row: VW Crawford Perry, Bro. Tom Boyer, Wor. Craig Rubner, Bro. Peter White, and Bro. Dwinal Pulkkinen.



## Corinthian Lodge Stepping Up in the Community

Corinthian Lodge #95 of Hartland provided a monetary grant to the Town of Hartland and to Steeves-McCormack American Legion Post of that community to purchase markers for veterans' graves in area cemeteries. Pictured here, left to right: Bro. James Deering, lodge treasurer; Wor. Daniel Hanson, Master; R.W. Bro. Ronald Fowle II, chaplain; Town Manager and Bro. Chris Littlefield; Post Commander Durwood Hayden; and Legion Finance Officer and Bro. Richard Weymouth.



*Photo by Post Adjutant and Brother Bob Hodgkins.*

## Does Masonry Make Good Men Better?

by David Walton, PDDGM/23

We have all heard this statement many times in our masonic journeys. But is it true? Can we make good men better? The tenets of our profession say yes. We learn about brotherly love, relief and truth. "Brotherly love" admonishes us to watch out for each other. We gather for fellowship at meetings and degrees. We enjoy each other's company at suppers, table lodges and semipublic events. We gather together for family outings and converse with our brethren's families and treat them as our own. "Relief" teaches us to practice charity. We put together "CHIPS" programs, visit veterans, and take care of widows and much, much more. We go out of our way to help each other as far as we can without injury to ourselves. We help our youth groups by becoming advisors; support them by sitting in on their meetings and encouraging their works. We volunteer our time to help with their fundraisers or just to spend time with them at a fun event. "Truth" has many meanings. Dealing honestly with each other is the more direct meaning. Teaching new brothers the rituals and meanings behind them is also a way that leads to truth. As officers and members, we practice truth by fulfilling our duties and following through on our promises. Is not trying to live by our obligations also a truth?

Now we return to the original question. Does masonry make good men better? In my opinion the answer is no. Take it easy brethren and let me explain. I believe

"masonry takes good men and gives them the opportunity to make themselves better". As it says in some rituals "we cannot compel our brethren to live by the lofty principles taught in our degrees". We can express what these ideals are and explain their meaning to them. As a whole, Masonry can impress upon them the meaning and worthiness of these principles. By doing degree work and explaining their meanings, we enlighten brethren as to the importance of their lessons, but we can't force them to listen. By having fellowship nights, table lodges and other like events we can encourage comradeship and a family-like atmosphere but we can't make brethren friendly. By putting on charity programs, visiting veterans and helping one another we show our charity to our fellow beings but we can't make brethren attend or be charitable. By dealing honestly and openly with each other, trying to live by our obligations and fulfilling our duties we can set the example but we cannot force brethren to be truthful. A good man must be willing to use the tools and examples set before him to make himself better.

Masonry is a shining example of many excellent traits and encourages those who wish to make themselves better. Isn't it up to the man himself to determine if this is the path he will follow? So brethren, does Masonry make good men better? I believe it does *if* the man wants to make himself better! If not, all we can do is help him on his path and be his brother.

## Sanford's Preble Lodge #150 Celebrates 150 Years

May 7, 1868 was an important date for Masonry in Sanford; it was the date when Preble Lodge was chartered under the Grand Lodge of Maine. The lodge met in several locations before raising funds and constructing a permanent home in the spring of 1956. The new building sits on a parcel of land on Elm Street and is home to five Masonic bodies.

On October 7, 2018, Preble Lodge celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> year of practicing the craft of Masonry with a re-dedication ceremony and cornerstone laying.

The symbolic ceremony was performed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Maine, Mark E. Rustin, along with several grand lodge officers. Also attending were Brethren from Preble Lodge and neighboring lodges, members from the International Order of Rainbow Girls, Sanford Assembly #7, and Maine State Representative Anne-Marie Mastraccio.

The corner stone or the "Rough Ashlar" was donated to Preble lodge by the International Order of Rainbow Girls, Sanford Assembly #7, and was taken to Heritage Memorials where it was engraved and made into a



"Perfect Ashlar." The stone was then set in the southwest corner of the building by two lodge brethren.

During the ceremony, the Grand Master, with the assistance of the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, symbolically used the "working tools of a Mason" to set the stone in place, confirm that it was square, level and plumb, and consecrated the cornerstone with corn, wine and oil.

Afterwards, the brethren retired to the lodge where they enjoyed refreshments and time of fellowship.



Wor. John Derosie and Brother Frank Milinski flank the cornerstone as Grand Master Rustin proclaims the cornerstone "square, level and plumb."





RW Brother Norman Howe received the award as Mason of the Year for the Second Masonic District at the annual District Meeting. Pictured here, left to right: Brother Mark Rustin, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. John F. Howe, the honoree's

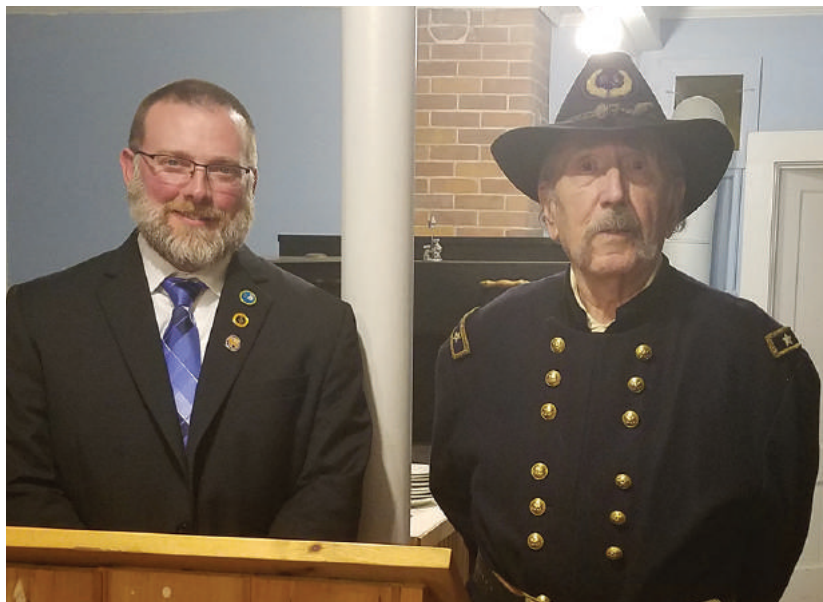
brother; Wor. John D. Howe, Norm's dad, RW Brother Howe, and RW Brother Scott Johnson, DDGM/2. With the exception of the Grand Master, all are members of Crescent Lodge #78 in Pembroke.

## ***Delta Lodge Honors Veterans and Ladies***

On Veterans Day, brethren of Delta Lodge #153, Lovell, gathered to recognize and pay homage to veterans past and present, and to honor the ladies.

RW Brother Charles Plummer presented an excellent program about Civil War Gen. and Brother Joshua Chamberlain, about the war, about the Town of Lovell's support for the soldiers who went off to fight in that bloody conflict to preserve the nation, and about the families who stayed behind.

There were approximately 40 interested men and women in attendance, and, reports are that all enjoyed the event.



Lodge Master Wor. Alden Brown and RW Charles Plummer

# What Masonry Means to Me: Three Paradoxes Toward Light

by Brother Rich Gravelin

On October 23, I had the honor of being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at United Lodge #8 in Brunswick. As in preceding degrees, when I was asked to place my trust in a friend, whom I later would find to be a brother, I accepted the guidance of those who led me around the lodge. But this time was different — perhaps it was the privilege of taking part in the allegory of Hiram legend, but as I laid my trust in my conductor and brothers, I felt an ease, calmness, and humility in the experience — a paradox of seeing further light, despite the darkness behind the hoodwink.

It was on the points of the compass that I was taught the ‘essential principles of life are found within the breast’, and it was through the Degree I was taught that “to betray a trust is a fate worse than death” — indeed, it was my trust in my brothers that guided me through the evening, and it was my obligations that allowed them to trust in me.

As I write this, I’m six weeks shy of my 50th birthday. These milestones often cause men to reflect on the life they lived and how they’ll spend their remaining time — I’m no different. In Howard Stevenson’s 2004 book *Just Enough*, the author deconstructs the definition of success, pushing us to “recognize ‘just enough’ in a world of ‘infinite more’”, and further suggests that we should strive to transition from concerns of ‘achievement’ to those of ‘significance’ (and later, ‘legacy’).

David Brooks, in his 2016 book *The Road to Character*, adds to that premise, differentiating ‘resume virtues’ from ‘eulogic virtues’ by shining light on the paradox that “Success leads to the greatest failure, which is pride. Failure leads to the greatest success, which is humility and learning.” In her 2017 book *The Power of Meaning — Crafting a Life that Matters*, author Emily Esfahani Smith posits that people who base their definition of success on educational and career achievements feel happy and fulfilled only when achieving those successes, and often despair when they fail in those endeavors, with nothing of character to fall back on, no richness of human experience.

For the past 25 years, I’ve sought solace from personal achievement in my career — but it’s left me hollow. For as much as we may be thrust into teams in our work lives, personal achievement is, as the term suggests, an individual pursuit. But as Sebastian Junger points out

in his 2016 book *Tribe*, the more we turn into ourselves and away from the bonds of human closeness, the more we become ‘lost’; my third paradox, then, is that pursuing success for our own sake alone takes us further from — not closer to — real meaning in our lives.

I was truly humbled by the Master Mason Degree experience — not just in the precision of the Degree from UL8, or the elegance by which both Worshipful Masters Bob Webber and Marc Cram delivered the subsequent lessons, but by the attendance of brothers from other lodges like Bethlehem Lodge who never knew me, but warmly welcomed me as a brother into this most esteemed fraternity.

So what does this all mean? Being deprived of minerals and metals may prevent one from bringing something offensive or defensive into the lodge, but as we learn from our EA degree, symbolically it means that “individual wealth or special ability counts for nothing in the building of character; nor does either take the place of character. Even with these advantages, man is always dependent on his fellows.”

If you piece together the three paradoxes, then, they tell us that in order to find light, we must first endure the darkness. They tell us that personal achievement is a means, not an end — that to truly achieve light, we must be willing to fail, with the knowledge that our value is not wrapped up in whether we succeed in our job, but in who we are as men — our character, and our commitment.

And last, they tell us that we don’t go through this alone. Taken together, if we trust in one another and commit to the greater good, propping another up when one of us falls, together we can bring light to each other, and by doing so, find a little more of it for ourselves.

The Master Mason Degree is often described as the penultimate degree in the Blue Lodge, but for me, it’s just the beginning of my journey toward more light in masonry — perhaps the ultimate, and most rewarding, paradox of them all. I look forward to serving my brothers and the community and to honoring the traditions and covenants of our brotherhood, and to the light that comes with a life lived by the principles we espouse.



## 65 Years a Mason: 100 Years a Man

At 100 years old, Brother Philip Cook has an incredible vigor and zeal for life. On Friday, Oct. 19th, members of Triangle Lodge visited Brother Cook to celebrate his 100th birthday. They enjoyed some fraternal fellowship, and the District Deputy Grand Master presented Brother Phil with his 65-Year Service Star as daughter Carol looked on.

Born in Calais in 1918, Brother Cook moved to Massachusetts in the 1940s for work. He enlisted in the Armed Forces as a pilot, flying B-17s.

While in Massachusetts he married, and also took his three degrees in Orient Lodge in Norwood. He eventually moved back to Maine and became the long-time proprietor of Cook's Hardware in Gray and Gorham with his friend, brother, and business partner, RW Stan Sampson.

Bro. Phil affiliated with Ancient Land-Mark (now Triangle) Lodge in Portland in 1975.



Pictured, left to right: Wor. Chris Camire, RW Tim Bushey DDGM/17, Wor. A. Paul Williams, lodge Master, Bro. Philip Cook, Wor. Justin Wesley, and Bro. Eric Dexter.

## *From the Quarry*

*Rev. Bro. Michael Glidden*

### The Mariners' Light

Guiding Star  
Mariner Light  
Land afar  
Pilgrim Flight

Radiant rays  
Shine bright  
Upward gaze  
Glorious light

Eastward bound  
Sublime sound  
Wayward soul  
Finding ground

Guiding star  
Mariner light  
Traveling pilgrim  
See thy light

Alas we come  
Journey's end  
Wayward soul  
Rest in Him...

Note: I wrote this poem after seeing a beautiful piece of crafted glass in the sanctuary of the North Deering Meeting House in Portland. This "mariner star" was crafted by Donald Foerster, a member of the North Deering Meeting House.

# Another Offering from Bowdoinham's Mystery Poet

In the last two editions of the Maine Mason, I offered a continuing story of receiving an anonymous package at my home containing several poems about Freemasonry. The editor ran the first of the many poems entitled *Petition for Freemasonry* in the Spring edition, and in the Autumn issue, a second offering entitled *Committee of Inquiry*. With permission of our Worshipful Master, Marc Cram, I have been reading a poem in Lodge at our Stated meetings, spacing them so as to read the final poem at our December Stated. We print here the third and fourth offerings. I hope you enjoy all the poems published in the magazine.

Brother Steven Edmondson, *Historian*, Village Lodge #26, Bowdoinham

## Balloting

To assess your opinion upon a man  
After hearing all that you can

The petition and committee are all  
done  
It is time to vote and not to run

There are white balls to elect  
And black cubes to reject

Your duty as a Brother is at hand  
Conscience weighing heavy like a  
bucket of sand

Voting for the good of the order  
For the outcome will be set in mortar

Your obligation comes to mind  
As a Brother it is easy to find

Reaching in and drawing near  
Will this candidate be cloudy or clear

Ears are perked to hear the sound  
Was the noise heard square or round

Unanimous decision is what is needed  
To see if this man will ever be greeted

## The Master Mason

In the Preparatory room thrice around  
Dark once more with a knocking sound

In going around for Brethren to see  
Tonight you will a member be

You have cast all doubt on this path  
You cannot turn back in fear of wrath

Your obligation as a Master Mason is long  
Now you've heard it and it will make you strong

More light will be your reply  
Perhaps a look from an all-seeing eye

Next you will encounter even more learning  
For this is what you have been yearning

The working tools in all their glory  
They now tell the entire story

Further instruction is yours for the taking  
This is why your heart and soul have been aching

Finally, you are a Master Mason  
Now take a chair because time is wastin'



## Bro. Paul Berry a Fixture at Scarborough Vets Home

Brother Paul Berry, of Orchard Lodge #215, Old Orchard Beach, has served veterans at the southern Maine Veterans facility for many years and, according to reports, is “always there.” Brother Paul is pictured here, at right and center below, along with brethren from Dunlap Lodge #47 of Biddeford who were serving our vets this particular Sunday.

R.W. Brother Jeff Simonton, also a frequent visitor, was on hand to take these photos.



### ***Gen. and Brother Stephen Nichols Honored with Chamberlain Award***

The Autumn issue of *The Maine Mason* included an article identifying recipients of the prestigious Joshua Chamberlain Award.

Created in 1993, the award is to be presented by the Grand Master, in his discretion, to citizens of Maine, Mason or non-Mason, who best exemplify the characteristics of leadership, citizenship, honor and integrity demonstrated repeatedly by this great man, Civil War general, and Mason.

The article erroneously identified the “only eight,” recipients during the past 25 years. In fact there have been nine.

Unfortunately, we omitted the most recent recipient, Brother and Major General Stephen Nichols, a man certainly most deserving of the Award. It seems proper that we place the correction on this page because, among his many accomplishments, Brother Nichols served as an interim Administrator of the Scarborough Veterans Home.



## ***Springvale Lodge Recognizes Members' Years of Service***

Springvale Lodge #190 recently presented pins to members signifying their years of service to the craft. Pictured here, left to right: RW Scott Lister (25 years), RW Robert Ferguson, RW Brian Ingalls, Wor. Tim Beals (20 years), Brother Gary Nadeau (five years), RW DK Horne DDGM/19, Brother Lyndon Oak (10 years), Wor. Michael Hamme, lodge Master, Wor. Bill Otis (25 years), and Wor. Kevin Worden (20 years).

## **Franklin Lodge Honors Veteran Mason**

Brother Douglas E. Woods, Sr. of Franklin Lodge #123, New Sharon, was presented his 50-year Veterans Medal on March 18 of this year. Presentation was made by RW Michael Pratt, DDGM/15, RW Thomas Schofield, PDDGM/15 and Bro. Woods' son, Brother Douglas Woods, Jr. Standing behind the recipient, left to right: Wor. David Holt, RW Brother Pratt, Wor. Maurice Sawyer, RW Brother Schofield, Franklin Lodge Master William Chute and Bro. Douglas Woods, Jr.





# 12th ANNUAL "Scottish Rite Ladies Weekend Out"

*All Master Masons and their Ladies* are cordially invited to attend our 12th "Ladies Weekend Out" to be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Point Lookout Resort in Northport, Maine



## *Accommodations:*

*One Bedroom King Studio Cabin; \$99 per night.*

*Two Bedroom Queen, Two Bath Cabin; \$149 per night.*

*Three Bedroom, Two Bath Cabin; \$179 per night.*

*Please make your Cabin reservations with Point Lookout Resort*

*67 Atlantic Highway (US Route 1), Northport, Maine*

*Tel: 800-515-3611*

*Room Reservation must be made by December 28, 2018 for these prices.*

Website: [www.visitpointlookout.com](http://www.visitpointlookout.com)

The activities reservations below must be made through the Scottish Rite Office by **January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Checks payable to **Valley of Portland**, and mailed with Registration Form below to:

**Valley of Portland, PO Box 303, Bowdoinham, ME 04008**

Any questions call Brad Blake at 207-772-7711 or email him at [secretary@valleyofportland.org](mailto:secretary@valleyofportland.org)

*Friday Night "Pizza Party" at Erickson Hall located at Point Lookout 5:00-10:00 PM*

*Saturday afternoon - Bowling Tournament & Card Playing at the Resort 1:00-4:00 PM*

*Saturday Night Banquet / Dancing 6:00-7:00 Social Hour, 7:00 Dinner*

*Sunday Morning Breakfast at "The Summit" at the Top of the Resort 8:00-10:00 AM*

***Couples Package #1*** - For those spending 2 nights at the Resort - ***\$130***

(Friday) Pizza Party; (Saturday) Bowling, Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at Resort.

***Couples Package #2*** - For those spending 2 nights at the Resort - ***\$120***

(Friday) Pizza Party; (Saturday) Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at Resort.

***Couples Package #3*** - For couples spending 1 night at the Resort - ***\$100***

(Saturday) Bowling; Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at Resort.

***Couples Package #4*** - For couples spending 1 night at the Resort. - ***\$90***

(Saturday) Banquet & dancing; (Sunday) Breakfast; all at the Resort.

***Saturday night dress; Jacket & Tie; Ladies dress appropriately. - All other events casual.***

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lady: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Package #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

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