

TROWEL



GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS FALL 2024

**Bro. Lafayette's
Return
Celebrated**



 **250**
SAME MEN. DIFFERENT TIMES



From the East of Grand Lodge
MOST WORSHIPFUL GEORGE HAMILTON

Brethren,

Autumn has arrived in full force and the beautiful foliage is all around us. The summer is just a memory now, but we had some wonderful Masonic events across the jurisdiction!

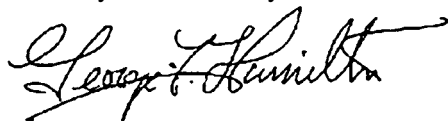
As I have mentioned in the past, the idea of a Masonic unity fair was the brainchild of M. Wor. Bro. Maggio, with a lot of encouragement and enthusiasm from M. Wor. Bro. Ames. Although COVID might have slowed down the plans, it could not stop us! On August 11th, Brethren and family members gathered at the American Heritage Museum in Hudson, MA, for the Masonic Family Fun Day. It was a beautiful sunny day, 82 degrees and low humidity. Over 2,700 guests were in attendance. Districts, appendant bodies, and Masonic clubs manned 50 booths to serve up fellowship, food, entertainment, and a great time for all. It was wonderful to see so many families, children and guests having fun at that beautiful venue.

At the last Quarterly, I recognized the members of the committee and volunteers that worked so hard to make the event a success. I think it speaks to the success of the whole event, that the committee unanimously recommended holding another Fun Day in August of 2025, and the committee promptly volunteered to stay on and start the planning now. There are many lessons learned, and ideas to make the event even better. The committee was able to bring the absolute best elements of the Grand Master's Country Fair to this new event, and show a whole new generation of Masons how we "do fun" in the Fraternity. I know that next year, the districts and appendant bodies will take it even further.

I want to say a few words about membership. I passionately believe that we have to maintain our high standards for membership in our Fraternity. The largest motivator for new members is the chance to surround yourself with high caliber men who share our values and interests, and without that, no other membership efforts will be successful. I am, however, concerned about the modest number of Brothers raised each year over the last 14 years, since our last large-scale membership campaign. Except for the 3 years following the campaign (which I would attribute to momentum from the campaign and lodge efforts), the number of Masons raised each year in Massachusetts has declined from the high of over 1,500 in 2009, to an average of 500 for the last several years. I am confident that we can get that back to over 1,000 per year. This is only an average of 5 new members per lodge. That number may seem a little daunting if your lodge only brings in 1-2 members each year, but remember, this is an average, and many lodges bring in double digits.

By now, I hope that many of you have seen some of our latest videos that are being run on television and social media for our membership campaign. In this election season, there are many viewers watching TV, and participating in social media, who will hear our unifying message of what our Fraternity stands for. Please use the videos to spread the message wherever you can, so we can find those men who are looking for greatness. I am counting on each lodge to do its part in following up on the leads and working with the district ambassadors so we can add the best men to our ranks as Freemasons. Even those leads that do not pan out give us critical information to refine the media campaign and our message. As I have previously stated, I believe that the current social climate will start driving good men forward who are motivated to give back to their communities. We need to show them the way!

Sincerely and fraternally,



Most Worshipful George Forest Hamilton
Grand Master



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Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts
Most Worshipful George Hamilton



TROWEL Staff

Executive Editor
Lee H. Fenn

*Design and
Production*
Kevin J. Papierski

Copy Editor
Brian McHale

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

Office Staff
George S. Fontana
Helena M. Fontana

Information Officer
Elliot Chikofsky

Photographers
Marcus Griep, Frank Kautz, Jim McIntosh, Joshua
Mantello, Joe Raviele, Allan R. Sinclair, Bob Wallace

Editorial Board:

George Hamilton, Stephen H. Burrall, Jr.,
Jeffrey L. Gardiner, Donald G. Hicks, Jr., David A. Libby

E-mail all stories to Executive Editor:
editortrowel@gmail.com
Telephone: 617-401-7587

Address Changes for Massachusetts lodge members, and notifications of deaths, should be sent to the individual's lodge Secretary, and **not** to TROWEL Magazine. All other inquiries should be sent to the Grand Secretary's Office, Masonic Building, 186 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

E-mail: grandsecretary@massfreemasonry.org
Grand Lodge telephone: 617-426-6040

Grand Lodge web page: www.MassFreemasonry.org

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1776 is Now

Our Revolutionary Brethren created our wonderful country, the United States of America. They took their different parts. Bro. Washington led the army, Bro. Lafayette, and later the country. The Knox Expedition featured Bros. Knox and Putnum. M. Wor. Bro. Revere did just about everything. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude, as does the world.



Did Bro. Lafayette look to Bro. Washington and think, "Well, this is an opportunity to change the world for hundreds of years?" Did Bro. Knox think, "If I move these cannons, it will give us the win against the British?" Did M. Wor. Bro. Revere think, "I can, with Bro. Dawes, start a new country?"

Maybe. Maybe the thought flitted across their minds as a hope, a possibility, a dream. But, was that their guiding light for all their actions that led to the United States of America?

I think that perhaps Bro. Lafayette was helping his friend with tactics and plans for the next battle. Like the portrait being created for the Knox Expedition, they were far more mentally consumed with how to move the cannons. A proper harnessing of the horse, and his route, likely weighed heavily on M. Wor. Bro. Revere's mind before his ride. Our Revolutionary Brethren took care of what was in front of them, and they created a great country.

I carry in my back left pocket a challenge coin, from Alpha Lodge, the Grand Master's home lodge. Rt. Wor. Robert Stanley offered this idea, "Keep it in your back left pocket all the time. When you do a good deed, when you live the principles of Freemasonry, move it to the back right pocket." I hate to say, my back left pocket is worn in the shape of the challenge coin. But I try.

Our Revolutionary Brothers did the little things, the helpful things, the right things. They answered the calls of friends, family, and country. When I move the virtues we learn in Freemasonry from my mind to my hands, then I, too, am a Revolutionary Brother.

Fraternally, Lee H. Fenn



About the Cover: Bro. Travis Simpkins created the original art of Bro. Lafayette. The "Masonic Artist" Bro. Simpkins has done many portraits of important Masons.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: JANUARY 8, 2025



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

<https://tinyurl.com/MasonPlate>

Masons Working Together, while Roasting Pigs

On Saturday July 20, Bros. Clay Tull of Quinebaug Lodge in Southbridge and Fred Aubin of Oxford Lodge in Oxford, both in the 24th Masonic District, had an idea to have a fund-raising event. They were at their children's DeMolay meeting, and were talking about how to raise money for their respective lodges. Bro. Tull mentioned how he would love to have a pig roast, and Bro. Aubin said he can help. They decided to open the invitation up to the 24th Masonic District, and make it a family and friends event, held at Oxford Lodge.

The parking lot was packed with Masons from the 24th Masonic District, with their family and friends. Cornhole and badminton games were set up so the kids and adults could have fun. The pig they roasted was over 150 lbs. and the aroma was driving people crazy because it smelled so good. BBQ Chicken, corn on the cob, pasta salad, potato salad, corn bread, coleslaw, and much more was served. Money raised at this great event will go towards the lodges' needs and scholarship funds. It was great to see and hear people laughing, the children running around having fun, and most of all the comradery and fellowship that Freemasonry is all about.

-Bro. Jimmy Falzone

Above: David Mackencie, Fred Aubin, and Clay Tull are all smiles after successfully cooking and removing this big roasted pig from the grill. Below: Bro. Fred Aubin of Oxford Lodge, and Bro. Clay Tull of Quinebaug Lodge.



SKI AGAIN!!



King Solomon Ski Club members (left to right): Bro. Gregory Miller, Rt. Wor. William Kessler, Wor. Steven Hastings, M. Wor. Donald Hicks, and Rt. Wor. Thomas Berry are getting ready to ski again. *-M. Wor. Donald Hicks*

Do Most Masons Really Follow These Ideals?

by Rt. Wor. & Rev. Richard Haley

It was towards the end of a combined lodge merger and installation ceremony that my wife leaned over and whispered the above question to me. Later, I gave her kind of a noncommittal generic answer, “Well, I’m sure some do and some don’t.” I suppose that answer is somewhat accurate. However, I couldn’t let her question go away. It continues to linger with me. Do we really follow our Masonic ideals of brotherly love, relief of those in distress, the pursuit of truth, the importance of spirituality and maintaining a sense of personal morality, and cherishing wisdom, strength, and beauty, etc.?

As a retired religious professional, I often asked myself a similar question regarding the people in my various church or educational settings. “Do they really believe all this stuff about loving neighbors and enemies, doing right, advocating for justice, forgiving others, etc.?” I realized as I dealt with people in the ups and downs of life, the joys and difficulties of life, the confronting of evil in life, and the abject confusion and questions surrounding the reality of God, God’s grace, and God’s promise of peace, that yes, they really do believe that stuff. I also realized, while believing in these theological concepts, no one ever does these things perfectly or consistently, or integrates them perfectly and consistently into their lives and world views. I only have to look in the mirror to know that this is true.



Back to our Masonic ideals. I said to my wife, “Yes, we really follow these ideals. At least we try. We don’t do them perfectly or consistently or integrate them perfectly or consistently into our lives or world view. But, every time we meet, we have our opening and closing rituals. Our degree work and their lessons. Our participation in other Masonic bodies, their rituals, and work. These rituals and participation are always there to remind us of our ideals. They are always with us. Deeply ingrained in some, lesser so in others. But always, through our ritualistic reminders, in some way, growing stronger in us all.”

And now to you. How deeply embedded in you are our Masonic ideals? In what ways do you reflect them in how you interact with the world around you? Most importantly, with the people in your lives, even with those you find troublesome? My hope for us all is that we keep our ears open in Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, York Rite, and any other Masonic engagements we may have, and simply listen. Every time we hear about and pay attention to Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, and all the other Masonic ideals and teachings, the fresher they can become, the deeper they can go, and the more easily they are lived. ■

Rt. Wor. & Rev. Richard Haley is the Senior Grand Chaplain of Grand Lodge.

THE SEPTEMBER 2024 QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION

OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS



by *Wor. Lee H. Fenn*

The Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Michael R. Durocher, boomed into the crowded lodge room, “Brethren, the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master...” but he was drowned out by the cheers of the Brethren assembled because M. Wor. George F. Hamilton, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, was in the room. At 1:30, on the solemn day of September 11, 2024, the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts commenced.

The Color Guard consisted of three Brothers from the Knights of St. Andrew, Bro. Lanning Levine, Bro. David Lyko, and Rt. Wor. Michael Nemeth. After the “Pledge of Allegiance,” and “The Star Spangled Banner” - both said and sung with gusto - a hymn and a prayer offered by Rt. Wor. Hank Peirce, Grand Chaplain, that paid due homage to the losses suffered by the United States of America in the terror attacks of 9/11/01, the Grand Master opened the com-

munication in ample form.

“Keeping with adoptive tradition, we will utilize the one clap to show our appreciation for their attendance,” said the Grand Master before he introduced his guests.

The Grand Master acknowledged the absence of Rt. Wor. G. Edward Brown, who is streaming from Mass General. “He has been on the mind of all the Brethren. Rt. Wor. Bro. Brown acquired the nickname at the Supreme Council Session in Louisville of “Hot Brown.” So now I would like, on the count of three, that everyone should say the four words, ‘Right Worshipful Hot Brown.’ One, two, three.” The Brethren joyously greeted their absent Brother.

The Grand Master called for reports. M. Wor. Bro. Maggio, the Grand Secretary, explained the voting rules and listed the recognized proxies, the latter of which was approved. The budget for this year had been distributed

The Grand Master introduced the guests as follows:

Visiting Grand Lodge Jurisdictions:

- M. Wor. Justin A. Petty, Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (1775)
- M. Wor. Kenneth A. Clay, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of New Hampshire (1789)
- M. Wor. Thomas E. Pulkkinen, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of Maine (1820)
- Rt. Wor. Samir C. Bichara, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge Rio De Janeiro (1927)
- Rt. Wor. Leone Brandao, Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Minas Gerais (1927)
- Rt. Wor. Oscar M. Zepeda, Grand Representative, Grand Lodge of Baja, California, Mexico (1933)

Massachusetts York Rite Bodies:

- M. Excel. George L. Herbolsheimer IV, Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts
- M. Ill. Manual Ferreira, III, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal and Select Master Masons of Massachusetts

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

- Ill. Scott D. Inglis, 33°, Deputy for Massachusetts
- Ill. Donald M. Moran, 33°, Active for Massachusetts
- Ill. Robert C. Schremser, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts
- Ill. Peter R. Smith, 33°, Active Emeritus for Massachusetts (streaming)

Other Guests:

- Ill. Michael R. Cote, Potentate, Melha Shrine Wor. & Dad Matthew S. Gerrish, Executive Officer, Order of the DeMolay, Massachusetts
- Bro. Mark J. Collins, Jr., State Master Councilor, Order of the DeMolay, Massachusetts
- M. Wor. Carl F. Kersting, Worthy Grand Patron, Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, Order of the Eastern Star
- Rt. Wor. Kenneth R. Blake, Chairman of the Board, Masonic Health System of Massachusetts

Past Grand Masters:

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

First Responders:

- Rt. Wor. Jerry Bergeron (Captain, First Responders)

Information Services (providing the live stream):

- Wor. Patrick DelVal



The Grand Marshal escorts the Grand Master into the lodge room.



The Color Guard, Brothers of the Knights of St. Andrew, duties completed, exit the lodge room.

prior to the start of the Quarterly. It had already been approved by the Business Manager, Budget Committee, and Board of Directors. The Brethren present raised their right hands in approval. Rt. Wor. W. Warren Richardson, Jr.'s report on the Committee on Records, about the transcribed minutes of the special communication of May 19, was ready for printing. This report was accepted. The report of the Committee on Charters and By-Laws, delivered by Rt. Wor. Peter J. Lawson, was accepted and contained four approvals.

Rt. Wor. Basilios E. Tsingos, of Foreign Relations Committee, reported on three Grand Lodges: Grande Oriente Independente de Pernambuco (GOIPE), Grande Oriente do Rio Grande do Norte (GORN), and Grand Lodge of Paraguay. The first two were approved, and the third, the Grand Lodge of Paraguay, is under investigation in the normal manner.

Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Matthew A. Niedermeier, delivered the Necrology. The Brethren mourned, with the help of Rt. Wor. Rev. Dr. Richard E. Haley, the loss of two Brothers, who enhanced the Celestial Lodge above with over 100 years of Masonic experience.

The Grand Master introduced the candidates for the Grand Wardens of Grand Lodge. For Jr. Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. Michael S. Nemeth, Esoteric-Sherwood Lodge, Feeding Hills, and Rt. Wor. Travis B. Sawyer, Berkshire Lodge, Adams. For Sr. Grand Warden, Rt. Wor. William D. Kessler, North Quabbin Lodge, Athol, and Rt. Wor. John C. Toto, Joseph Warren-Soley Lodge, Lincoln. (See articles on page 18.) The Grand Master proclaimed them all trusty and true, and appreciated their willingness to serve.

The Grand Master announced two who fell short of our high Masonic standards. Both were expelled with the vote of the Brethren.

Bro. John Mitchel, Wor. Robert Caron, and Wor. Evan Fisher were conducted to the East, where they discussed donations for the 250th Cannon. Wor. Bro. Caron made an

individual donation, and The Henry Price Lodge, represented by their Master, Wor. Bro. Fisher, also donated \$1733. They are therefore charter members of the Cannoneer's Society, the ceremonial unit to fire the cannon.

The Knox Expedition Committee's mission is to forge a ceremonial cannon that will make its way from Fort Ticonderoga, NY (four hours from Boston), to Dorchester Heights, with events in New York, Great Barrington, VT, Springfield Armory, Worcester, Wayside Inn, and the Scottish Rite Museum, culminating with the unveiling of a life-size statue of Colonel Henry Knox in the Dorchester Heights National Park.

The Grand Master called Rt. Wor. Russell Smith and Bro. Richard Tuccini to the East, who in turn called M. Wor. Bro. Maggio to join them on the level. They joked about being on "work release from prison," to the laughter of the Brethren present, and presented a Masonic license plate with most of M. Wor. Bro. Maggio's name on it. "I think you owe me a G," joked M. Wor. Bro. Maggio. The Grand Master pointed above the Master's seat and said, "It's right there!" After the laughter subsided, M. Wor. Bro. Maggio thanked the Brothers, remarking that donations to date to Masonic Charities from the license plate program is \$356,000.



<https://tinyurl.com/MasonPlate>

The Grand Master stood on the level in the East for other presentations. Rt. Wors. Gordon Craig and Thomas M. McClintock, and Wor. Jim Field donated to the Brotherhood Fund from their fourth annual hair cutting fundraiser, in honor of late Bro. Eric Wickberg. They were joined by the Brothers of the Single Malt in their fundrais-



**The candidates for Junior Grand Warden,
Rt. Wor. Michael S. Nemeth and Rt. Wor. Travis B. Sawyer.**



**The candidates for Senior Grand Warden,
Rt. Wor. William D. Kessler and Rt. Wor. John C. Toto.**

ing efforts. The Brothers of the White Ash, represented by Bro. Darrell McTague and Bro. David A. Chase, donated to the 250th Committee.

Representatives for the 15th Masonic District assembled on the level with the Grand Master to express their appreciation for the return of the Grand Master's Fair, now the Masonic Family Fun Day. In addition, as the result of their cooking over 200 waffles that day, they were able to donate part of the proceeds to the Brotherhood Fund. Representatives for The Scouters Lodge assembled to present the Grand Master with the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award and medal. This award is to honor Freemasons who practice the ideals of Freemasonry and help young men in their growth toward those ideals.

The Grand Master began his address, with joy about the beginning of the Masonic year.

"On June 17th, we celebrated Bunker Hill Day in Charlestown, in an effort to make connections and prepare for next year's 250th celebrations. On June 23rd, the Grand Lady and I joined the brethren of District 28 for a Masonic Service at the First United Methodist Church in Chicopee. Rt. Wor. Ronald Jackson gave an inspiring message and reminded the Brethren how great it was when events like that were an annual event for

most districts."

"On July 9th, the Grand Lodge Officers joined our friends in the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company for a special program on the commissioning of the USS Massachusetts, joined by a panel consisting of Admiral John Richardson, the 31st Chief of Naval Operations, and several Department of Navy staff involved in the strategic planning of our Virginia Class Nuclear Submarines. The commissioning is planned for 2025, and we will have an opportunity to join in the celebration."

"On August 24th, we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the Marquis De Lafayette's visit to America in 1824. [See page 12] From greeting an actor playing Lafayette at the 1805 Commandant's house, to the parade and wreath laying at Lafayette mall on Boston Common, to the distinguished guest reception at our Grand Lodge, it was a memorable event and a chance to showcase our beautiful building to

the members of the community. I joined the Colonial Craftsmen of Massachusetts in greeting Lafayette at the Rider Tavern in Charlton on September 3rd," the Grand Master recounted.

He recalled the Grand Lodge officers joined John Hancock Lodge for their summer BBQ and fireworks on



Bro. John Mitchel after inducting Wor. Robert Caron, and Wor. Evan Fisher Cannoneer's Society, the Ceremonial Unit to fire the Knox Cannon. Closeup: The Cannoneer's Society challenge coin.

July 27th. “We joined Lafayette Greylock Lodge for their annual Hill degree in Williamstown on August 3rd. On August 11th, Brethren and family members gathered at the American Heritage Museum in Hudson, MA, for the Masonic Family Fun Day. It was a beautiful sunny day with 82 degrees and low humidity. Over 2700 guests were in attendance. Districts, appendant bodies, and Masonic clubs manned 50 booths to serve up fellowship, food, entertainment, and a great time for all. It was great to see so many families, children, and guests having fun at that beautiful venue,” said the Grand Master.

The Grand Master called out the Brethren that made the day a success. (See photo on page 26).

“We were happy to celebrate several lodge anniversaries during the quarter,” the Grand Master continued. “The Senior Grand Warden led our Grand Lodge in celebrating the 200th anniversary of Liberty Lodge on June 15th. The brethren of Norfolk Lodge celebrated their 150th anniversary with a Carpet Ceremony and luncheon at the Needham Masonic Building on August 10th. I thank all the lodges for including us in their celebrations!”

The Grand Master called attention to the members of

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F & AM of Massachusetts. “As you well know, it has taken many years to establish recognition of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge. This was first proposed in 1946, and there were many false starts before it was successfully completed during M. Wor. David Lovering’s term as Grand Master in 1995. At the June Quarterly on June 14, 1995, M. Wor.

Edgar R. McLean was received along with his cabinet: Rt. Wor. John G Bynoe, SGW; Rt. Wor. Walter R Butler, III, JGW; Rt. Wor. Joseph Snowden, Grand Secretary; M. Wor. Lloyd B Miller, PGM; M. Wor. Patrick E Knight, PGM; M. Wor. Chester R Isles, PGM; Wor. Wilbur Evans, Grand Marshal; and Wor. Robert Huguley, Grand Steward.

“It has been my honor to attend the installation of M. Wor. Justin Petty back in December, and to attend 11th Biennial

reopening of African Lodge 459 in April, where I was elected a member. It has also been my privilege to accompany the Grand Master to several civic events in Boston. We continue to look for ways to support our brethren in the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F & AM of Massachusetts. We seek to promote your welfare and



M. Wor. Richard Maggio shows off his personalized Masonic License plate to the Brethren.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE GRAND MASTER



Rt. Wors. Gordon Craig, Thomas M. McClintock, and Wor. Jim Field donated to the Brotherhood Fund from the 7th District’s annual haircut fundraiser.



The Brothers of the White Ash, represented by Bro. Darrell McTague and Bro. David A. Chase, donated to the 250th Committee.

rejoice in your prosperity.”

“I thought it would be a nice tradition to hang a portrait of the Current Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F & AM of Massachusetts here at 186 Tremont Street so all the brethren would recognize him when they meet him in their travels. M. Wor. Bro. Petty was kind enough to provide me with his official portrait, and I am pleased to say that you can see it displayed prominently on the second floor,” said the Grand Master.

After the Rt. Wor. Grand Marshal, Rt. Wor. Michael R. Durocher, conducted M. Wor. Bro. Petty to the East, the Grand Master said, “M. Wor. Bro. Petty, I have read some of the history of Prince Hall Masonry and you can be justifiably proud of the legacy of M. Wor. Brother Hall. In our tradition, we revere M. Wor. Henry Price, who brought regular and duly constituted Freemasonry to Boston in 1733, and was installed as Grand Master of North America at the time.”

“Our highest service medal is the Henry Price Medal. M. Wor. Bro. Lovering presented this medal to M. Wor. Edgar R. McLean on Jun 14, 1995. It is my pleasure and honor to now present you with the Henry Price Medal for your efforts in promoting the good of the Craft in Massachusetts,” said the Grand Master to the cheers and standing ovation of the Brethren.

M. Wor. Bro. Petty invited all Masons to visit the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and attend any of their lodge communications. The Grand Master, with the Grand Marshal, attended the Universal Brotherhood celebration, hosted by the Grand Lodge of Washington, DC, and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia on June 13-16. This celebration was held in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Wreaths were placed at the Lincoln and Martin Luther King, Jr., memorials on Friday in a public ceremony. A

universal lodge was opened at the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia on Saturday, and they were pleased to witness an exemplification of the first degree by the degree team.

“On June 22nd, our Grand Lodge Officers joined the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire in visiting Lafayette Bible Lodge, No. 41, on the occasion of their 200th anniversary celebration aboard the *USS Constitution*,” said the Grand Master.

M. Wor. Bro. Maggio, representing Grand Lodge, attended the Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, COGMNA, on July 19-21 in Roanoke, VA. “I want to thank M. Wor. Bro. Maggio for representing our Grand Lodge as the Grand Marshal and I spent the whole day in the airport dealing with travel delays and cancellations due to the CrowdStrike global IT outage, and we were never able to make it to our destination,” recalled the Grand Master.

“The Grand Marshal and I joined 150 other golfers at the Scottish Rite Teddy Bear Classic Golf Tournament on July 22nd at Juniper Hills Golf Course. The event raised money for the three Massachusetts Children’s Dyslexia Centers. I want to thank Rt. Wor. Thomas McClintock, DDGM, District 7, for chairing this event.”

“It was my pleasure,” continued the Grand Master, “To attend the Rainbow Grand Assembly and installation of officers at Nichols College on June 28-29 and the DeMolay Conclave, also at Nichols College on August 3rd. Both organizations continue to have strong youth leadership and dedicated adult advisors. Congratulations to Mom Diane Collins on being selected as the youth leader of the year for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the AASR.” [See page 28.]

“It was my pleasure to visit Weymouth United Masonic Lodge on June 18th to recognize four outstanding Masons for 50 years of service to the Craft: Rt. Wor. Philip Arthur



Representatives for the 15th Masonic District donated proceeds from waffle sales at the Family Fun Day to the Brotherhood Fund.



Members of the Scouters Lodge presented the Grand Master with his Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award and medal.



M. Wor. Justin A. Petty, Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts with his Henry Price medal.



M. Wor. Justin A. Petty with his portrait on the 2nd floor of Grand Lodge.

Drouin, Rt. Wor. Clayton Arthur Bemis, Rt. Wor. John William Knox, and Rt. Wor. Wayne Leslie Robbins.”

The Grand Officers did two installations in one day, Sept 7th, at Philanthropic and West Roxbury Dorchester Lodges. The Grand Master surprised the brethren at Norumbega Fraternity Lodge and installed the Master on Sept. 9th.

Looking forward, “June 2025 promises to be a very busy month. June 11th will be our spring Grand Lodge Quarterly. June 17th will be the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill and the death of M. Wor. Joseph Warren. The Massachusetts Council of Deliberation annual meeting will be June 18th.”

“All interested Massachusetts Masons are invited to board the Norwegian Jewel on June 20th for a 7-day cruise to Bermuda. There will be four days at sea and three days in Bermuda, where there will be an opportunity to see the three Grand Lodges on the island - the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and the Grand Lodge of Scotland. We hope this will be a very relaxing trip for our Massachusetts Masonic Family. Save the date. June 20-27, 2025.”

“Through generous donations, Honor Flight New England transports our heroes to Washington, D.C., to visit and reflect at their memorials at no cost to the Veterans. Top priority is currently given to our most senior Veterans, along with those other Veterans who may be terminally ill,” informed the Grand Master. There are around 200,000 surviving WWII Veterans of the 16 million that served; approximately 180 are passing each day. Korean War Veterans are not far behind, they are in their 80s and 90s. Although Vietnam Veterans are younger, they are experiencing health problems related to their war service.

“Our goal is to have an Honor Flight trip consisting of all Masonic Brothers, both Veterans and guardians, in the late spring of 2025. This would take 60 Veterans

and 60 guardians.”

“Our immediate goal is to identify qualifying Veterans, collect as many applications as possible, and get as many guardians registered as we can over the next few months. Qualifying Veteran applications, as well as guardian applications, will be collected and submitted to HFNE for their review and approval.”

The Grand Master included that each application, Veteran and Guardian, could be sponsored for \$750 each. Grand Lodge “will be available to provide necessary marketing materials or do presentations for districts in person or over zoom when requested as time allows. We have already had several lodges, as well as individual brothers, step up to help fund this endeavor, and we look forward to more support to come. If a lodge would like to donate towards the Masonic Honor flight trip, please reach out directly to Rt. Wor. John A. MacLeod and Wor. George H. Raymond. Sponsorships range from apparel, to lunch, to bus transportation, and anything can be customized to help make this trip memorable while supporting the incredible efforts of HFNE,” said the Grand Master.

“I want to thank the Brethren for the numerous cards, phone calls, and messages of condolence at the passing of my father. I want to repeat my thanks to all the Brethren of his lodges, the appendant bodies, and our Grand Lodge. Your kindness to him made a big impact in his final years and, for that, I will be forever grateful.”

“Thank you for all the support and encouragement I continue to receive from the Past Grand Masters, the business office, the Grand Lodge Officers, committees, and countless brethren I have met on my travels.”

“May God bless the United States of America and our beloved Fraternity,” concluded the Grand Master to a standing ovation.

The Grand Master closed the communication in ample form. ■

MASONIC LIGHTS

by Rt. Wor. David P. Newcomb

By the simple act of three distinct knocks,
Freemasonry's door opens wide.
An enlightening, wonderful Brotherhood,
Is patiently waiting inside.

Freemasonry is a search for light,
A truly enriching movement.
It's a human search for ultimate truth,
And a journey of self-improvement.

A Mason sees in his three degrees,
Lessons with working tools,
Symbolizing lights of life,
To help understand life's rules.

Freemasonry highlights Three Great Lights,
The Compasses, Bible, and Square.
They set us on a journey,
To guide us through life's affairs.

Light derived from the Compasses,
Keeps passions under control.
Light from the Square brings morality,
To our minds, our hearts, and our souls.

The Volume of the Sacred Law,
Freemasonry's greatest Light,
Directs our paths to happiness,
And guides us to truth and right.

Freemasonry brings the light of God,
Into the life of men.
A Mason's journey through his degrees,
Reveals Light – again and again.

God said, "Let there be Light,"
And Brother Masons progressed.
Light, more light, and further light,
Are candidates' solemn requests.

It helps us see things differently,
In a different light, per se.
Providing an understanding for
The lives we lead today.

The light we seek illuminates
Our tools of cultured teaching.
Shared with those encountered,
These tools are quite far-reaching.

Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth,
More lights in our profession,
All shared with those we daily meet,
Lights of Masonic expression.

May our journeys get brighter and brighter,
To illuminate our minds.
With the light we find, let our own lights shine,
And leave darknesses behind.

North Adams Fall Foliage Parade





250th Anniversary

LAFAYETTE'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY VISIT TO RIDER TAVERN

by Bro. Bill Kenyon

I don't know what the weather was like 200 years ago when Major General Marquis de Lafayette visited the Rider Tavern in Charlton, Massachusetts, but it turned out to be a near perfect day when a large crowd witnessed the celebration of the anniversary of the General's visit. A crowd of over fifty individuals applauded as the Marquis de Lafayette marched down the road toward the tavern with his entourage. Charlton Selectman David Singer greeted the General and introduced him to the audience. After reading a proclamation, the General proceeded to review the troops. Massachusetts' Most Worshipful George F. Hamilton attended the ceremony, along with several other Masons, and he personally greeted the General, thanking him for visiting

Charlton. The troops wore several different uniforms, reflecting the diversity of our country's military. The audience consisted of a cross-section of individuals from all over Massachusetts. Members from the Masonic Colonial Craftsmen attended, along with their wives.



The tavern is part of the three-story building's history. It was built in 1797 by Wheelock and Morey, and for many years served as a stop on the stage-coach route. The tavern operated as a hostelry until 1839. On September 3, 1824, the Marquis de Lafayette visited the tavern, where he reviewed the troops.

Across the street is a large field that was used for conducting military training. Several markers can be found in the field, recording some of its history. ■



THE HEART OF THE REVOLUTION

Wor. Lee H. Fenn

I've been there only about three times, and always as a tourist. In the shops, getting things for people out of town, and wondering why the prices for food are so high. This was my fourth time, and Faneuil Hall's importance in the history of the United States of America is enshrined on the third floor, the place where tourists do not go. The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts and others were invited to this incredible space where the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company holds their headquarters. They have been active since 1638, and still play a role with the Governor of Massachusetts.

Prior to the General Lafayette Parade, during breakfast, the space was filled with Masons, re-enactors, and members of the Ancients, as they are called, many of whom are Masons. Every corner of the hall is covered in history. Portraits hang on every spare piece of wall space. Many are the leaders of the Ancients, and like at Grand Lodge, they are arranged in order. You can see the progress from portraits to photographic images. You cannot see the places

where the wall touches the floor of this historic space, the display cases are everywhere. They commemorate battles, equipment, and moments when the Ancients played a part.

As you walk amongst women in period clothing, men in prior uniforms of the Ancients and others, you are in a living history lesson. With friends from our jurisdiction, as well as Rhode Island, Prince Hall, and others, the convivial atmosphere was everywhere. Laughing, enjoying breakfast, and having fun conversations was the rule of the day as we prepared for the parade to Boston Common.

Then, as though a bird flew through the room, with no announcement, the large crowd slowly, some sadly, left the heart of the American Revolution to assemble for the parade. As we said goodbye to our new and old friends, we said goodbye to the hallowed hall of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company. One woman looked up at the flags, ran her hand on a display case, adjusted her bonnet, and like all of us, was on her way out. ■



250th Anniversary

LAFAYETTE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

by Bro. John Mitchell

Commemorating this occasion, the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts (AHAC) hosted events on 23-24 August 2024, honoring Lafayette's legacy. Friday evening and Saturday morning's events were hosted at the Shirley Eustis House. The AHAC provided honor and color guards, while Aleppo Shrine Minutemen (ASM) celebrated Lafayette with a musket salute. Major Fish and Cpt. Wilder led a reenactment and presentation of a French NCO sword to General Lafayette. The Marquis graciously returned the sword for posterity. Early Saturday, General Lafayette, the AHAC, and the ASM paraded down Rockford Street, into the Ingersoll-Gardner Carriage House for breakfast and remarks.

After breakfast, MG Lafayette, accompanied by descendants Virginie, Heloise, and Adélaïde, arrived and were greeted at the stairs of the historic Commandant's house by the 316th Captain Commanding, Major Fish, 2nd Lt Collins, Adjutant BG Driscoll, Lt Col Wabrek, and Lt. Mitchell.

A welcoming committee included M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton, GM Petty, IP Veo, Rt. Wor. Bro. Durocher, RADM Platt, Superintendent Creasey, Deputy Superintendent Stearns, CDR Schaefer, Senator D'Allesandro, CASA (NH) Corsetti, Lasell University President Turner, President Ordre Lafayette Charpentier, BG Davis, Commissioner Santiago, Deputy Secretary Gayle-Bennett, SAR Secretary General Elston, SAR MA President Holmes, Revolution 250 Lane, Commander Egan, and Lt JG Arroyave.

This historic group passed through an Honor Guard of Ancients, Minutemen, and *USS Constitution* crew. The 215th Army band welcomed Lafayette, while the 1812 Marines provided a musket salute. General Lafayette enthusiastically welcomed the crowd from the grand stairway.

The reception ended with a group photo in front of the *USS Constitution*. Buses arrived at the Cradle of Liberty, where we joined 35 military and patriotic units, marching from Faneuil Hall to the Boston Common. Wreaths were presented at Lafayette Mall. Recipients were the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, represented by Secretary Jon Santiago, City of Boston Commissioner Robert Santiago, Grand Master Hamilton, AFL President Hoffman, and Ordre Lafayette President Charpentier. *La Sonnerie aux Morts* was performed, followed by a musket salute from the ASM and SAR.

General Lafayette and Major Fish led the guests to the pass in review tent while the 101st Field Artillery greeted General Lafayette with a howitzer gun salute. Commissioner Santiago made a proclamation on behalf of the City of Boston, and a second proclamation was made by NH Senator D'Allesandro. BG Fiorentino presented a commemorative artillery shell to Major Fish and the AHAC. The final presentation was from BG Bro. Enoch Woodhouse II, and Lt Col Michael Wabrek. While in France for the 80th anniversary of D-Day, General Woodhouse and Colonel Wabrek retrieved sand from Utah and Omaha beaches. Patriotic urns were presented to CC Fish, M. Wor. Bro.



Hamilton, MG Lafayette, BG Fiorentino, Secretary Santiago, Commissioner Santiago, BG Gayle-Bennett, and President Hoffman. The events ended with huzzahs from BG Driscoll, and a musket salute from the ASM and SAR.

Receptions and lunch were hosted by M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton at the Grand Lodge. Second Lt Collins and Ordre Lafayette President Charpentier coordinated special accolades in Gothic Hall. Several individuals were inducted as knights, including M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton. This event closed with a two-bottle sabrage—the opening of champagne with a saber—and a toast to the new knights. Following the accolades, guests enjoyed a lavish reception in the Boston Commandery #2 armory. ■



NEW KNIGHTS OF THE ORDRE LAFAYETTE

by Rt. Wor. Paul Malagrifa

The Marquis de LaFayette is universally recognized as the “Hero of Two Worlds,” and one of the “Founding Fathers” of modern democracy for his decisive role in both the American War of Independence (1775-1783), and the French Revolution (1789-1799). These two events, influenced by the spirit of the Age of Enlightenment, gave birth to the United States of America and the French Republic, and established the principles of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity between individuals and people as cornerstones of a new democracy and humanism.

The Ordre Lafayette Order America is a nonprofit “memorial organization” that aims to perpetuate the legacy of Lafayette which transcends the bond of friendship between France and the United States and all the people. Today, each Knight of the Ordre Lafayette Order aspires to be an “Agent of this Humanism,” as Lafayette was. On August 24, 2024, several highly respected men, many who are Freemasons like the Marquis, were entered into The Ordre Lafayette, and made Knights. The knighting and following collation were particularly noteworthy because they coincided with the 200th anniversary of the Marquis de Lafayette’s last visit to the United States in 1824. The celebrated visit in 1824 was a remembrance and tribute to the Marquis for his all-important support of the founding fathers during America’s war of independence in 1776, and consisted of a national tour across the United States, stopping in major cities, where the Marquis was received with bountiful love and admiration.

Among the men receiving their knighthood was the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, M. Wor. George Forrest Hamilton, as well as several other well-known Masons, and members of the Ancient and Honorable

Artillery Company. The knighting took place after a procession from Faneuil Hall in Boston, to Boston Common, and then to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The procession followed the route originally taken by the Marquis in 1824. On the Common, a detachment of Minutemen from the Aleppo Shriners, as well as gunners from the Ancients, offered a volley of musketry and cannons shot as a fitting tribute to this “Hero of Two Worlds.” ■



2024

MASONIC ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the more than 600 Massachusetts Masons raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason who, being blessed with long life and great lodges, have achieved the important milestones listed below. The celebrants are grouped by the number of years since being raised—80, 75, 70, 65, and 60—and under their current lodge regardless of where they were raised. These anniversaries are based on the date a Mason was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Please contact your lodge Secretary if you have any concerns about your seniority or status. It is possible that some recent demits, or recent deaths, have not been reflected in the listings.

MORE THAN 75 YEARS

ANCON LODGE

Bro. John Harley Ruth (1947)

BAALIS SANFORD LODGE

Bro. Robert Weston Moore (1948)

BOYLSTON LODGE

Bro. Raymond Eugene Tibbetts (1948)

BRIGHAM LODGE

Wor. Philip Arthur Christensen, Sr. (1942)

CHARITY LODGE

Bro. Arthur Richard Albrecht (1946)

COLUMBIAN LODGE

Bro. Alfred Edwin McKenney (1948)

CONVERSE LODGE

Wor. Martin Weiner (1947)

ELM-BELCHER LODGE

Bro. Warren Brindley Baker (1947)

ESOTERIC-SHERWOOD LODGE

Bro. William John Tribelhorn (1944)

GATUN LODGE

Bro. Clare Harrison Comins (1946)

Bro. James Cornelius Cullen (1945)

Bro. William Lee (1947)

GLOBE UNITY LODGE

Bro. Leonard Russell Alexander (1947)

GOOD SAMARITAN LODGE

Bro. James Arthur Shuttleworth (1946)

HAMPSHIRE LODGE

Bro. Edward Thomas Claydon (1946)

KING DAVID LODGE

Bro. Milton Craig Francis (1948)

LAFAYETTE-GREYLOCK LODGE

Bro. Franklin George Estes (1946)

Bro. Earl Russell Kittredge (1944)

MORNING STAR LODGE

Bro. Roy Erling Johnson (1944)

MOUNT HOREB (W) LODGE

Bro. Delfar Davis Grant (1943)

MOUNT ZION LODGE

Bro. Roger Howard Vaughan (1947)

MYSTIC VALLEY LODGE

Bro. Robert Hilton Marsh (1947)

Bro. Grant Cecil Wonn (1946)

OLIVE BRANCH LODGE

Bro. Christie Ligor Pojani (1947)

REPUBLICAN LODGE

Bro. Allan Cameron Carpenter (1946)

RURAL LODGE

Bro. James Walter Peddie (1947)

SAINT JOHN'S (B) LODGE

Bro. William Edward Brooks, Jr. (1946)

SAINT JOHN'S (B) LODGE

Bro. Robert Eugene Desautels (1948)

Bro. John Clifford French (1945)

SAINT MARK'S LODGE

Bro. Frederick William Hirsch (1944)

SAINT PAUL LODGE

Bro. Charles Edward Malin (1945)

SOJOURNERS LODGE

Bro. James Albert Correll (1948)

Bro. Edward James Sullivan (1942)

THE HENRY PRICE LODGE

Bro. Maurice Epstein (1948)

Bro. Warren Philip Goodman (1943)

THE TYRIAN-ASHLER-ACACIA LODGE

Bro. Herbert Alfred Anstess (1947)

UNITED BROTHERS LODGE

Bro. Fontinelle Scott Carpenter, Jr. (1944)

WALTHAM TRIAD LODGE

Bro. Winslow Haskell MacDonald (1948)

WYOMING LODGE

Bro. Lowell Franklin Wentworth (1948)

75 YEARS - RAISED IN 1949

ASCENDUS LODGE

Bro. George Savas Karavasiles

CHARLES RIVER LODGE

Bro. George Emery Whiting

CONVERSE LODGE

Bro. John Americo Ciano

Bro. Arthur Fentin

EASTERN STAR LODGE

Bro. Henry Marcel Dumoussaud

FELLOWSHIP LODGE

Bro. Joseph Albert Salhaney

FRANKLIN LODGE

Bro. John Brewster Robinson

FRATERNAL LODGE

Bro. Byron Russell Hall

GOOD SAMARITAN LODGE

Bro. Robert Elbridge Dearth

JOHN T. HEARD LODGE

Bro. Donald Garfield Kirk

JORDAN LODGE

Rt. Wor. Bogos Willis Peligian

Bro. Warren Stevens

KING SOLOMON'S LODGE

Bro. Edward Douglas Harrison

LIBERTY LODGE

Bro. Charles MacDonald Dallas

75**YEARS - RAISED IN 1949****MASSASOIT-NARRAGANSETT LODGE**

Wor. William Barraclough McIlwaine, Jr.

MONTGOMERY LODGE

Bro. Ronald Ellsworth Mitchell

PHILANTHROPIC LODGE

Bro. Leslie Sheldon Harris

SAINT ALBAN'S LODGE

Bro. Robert Julian Ferestien

SIMON W. ROBINSON LODGE

Bro. Philip Byron Brown

SOJOURNERS LODGE

Bro. William Edwards Daniels

WALTHAM TRIAD LODGE

Bro. Edward Hagop Mesrobian

WEBSTER LODGE

Wor. John Pattison Trull

WILLIAM PARKMAN LODGE

Bro. Richard Allan Mancib

75**75 Years and Counting -
Rt. Wor. Bogos "Bogey" Peligian**

October 12, 1949 is a date not many of you reading this will remember. Bogos Willis Peligian remembers it. That's the day he was raised a Master Mason in Orpheus Lodge #36, in Providence, Rhode Island. Several merges later, it's now part of St. John's Lodge #1, Providence. Seventeen years later, "Bogey," as he is affectionately known to many, became Master of that lodge, serving from 1966 to 1967. The following January, he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, and served for two years.

Life happened, and Bogey found himself in Massachusetts in 1995. He joined several lodges, and became Organist for many of them. Lodge mergers and other changes occurred, and at last count, Bogey is or has been a member of 18 lodges and the Organist for 12. Along the way, he was appointed Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the Grand Lodge of Armenia on December 9, 2009, by M. Wor. Roger W. Pageau, Grand Master. A few months later, M. Wor. Bro. Pageau again summoned Bro. Bogey to the East of Grand Lodge for the purpose of presenting him the Joseph Warren Medal "for his dedication and service as Organist to numerous Lodges."

What makes all of this even more incredible is that Bogey will celebrate his 97th birthday in October. Earlier this year, Rt. Wor. Joseph Manzo of the Fifth Masonic District presented Bogey a 75-year lapel pin and his hearty congratulations. The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island also wanted to recognize this milestone for their native son, so they notified Bogey he would be receiving a 75-year recognition from them as well. Hesitant to travel to Rhode Island, Bogey told them to "just mail it." Not taking that for an answer, they pressed him, and he admitted he could easily get to Waltham Triad Lodge in Newtonville from his home in Waltham. Members of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island contacted Waltham Triad Lodge and asked if they could come to a meeting and make a presentation. Rt. Wor. Ken Brown, the presiding Master of Waltham Triad Lodge, thought this would be a great idea because, of course, Bogey is a member and the Organist there as well. Knowing the high regard everyone has for Bogey, Rt. Wor. Bro. Brown invited officers and members from all the lodges



Bogey belonged to or played for over the years.

At the regular meeting of Waltham Triad Lodge on Monday, June 3, 2024, the house was packed! Visitors from many of Bogey's lodges came out for the occasion. Rt. Wor. Bro. Brown formed a suite of nine Past Masters of Waltham Triad Lodge, chaired by none other than Bro. Peligian, to receive any distinguished guests. Received were Rt. Wor. William E. Yanakakis, Senior Grand Warden, Acting Grand Master, accompanied by his own son, Chris, who was Grand Marshal. On Bro. Yanakakis's suite were many distinguished visitors, including M. Wor. Wyman P. Hallstrom, Jr. and M. Wor. Raymond E. Hassell, both Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, Rt. Wor. Ronald D. Reed, presiding Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, and Wor. Joseph J. Bernier, presiding Master of St. John's Lodge #1 Providence, Bogey's home lodge.

After the introductions, the group of Rhode Island Masons was escorted to the East, where Wor. Joseph Bernier presented Bro. Peligian with a 75-year membership pin and heartfelt congratulations. The Acting Grand Master of Massachusetts presented Bogey with a proclamation from the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master, congratulating him on his 75 years of outstanding service to the Craft. After the Acting Grand Master closed the lodge, all in attendance retired to the banquet hall for a five-star meal, and a rousing, four-toast festive board with the fourth toast to Bogey himself as "a shining light in our darkness." The evening was adjourned with a warm round of "Auld Lang Syne," while everyone held hands. **-Wor. Robert Caron**

GRAND WARDEN

CANDIDATE FOR SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

Rt. Wor. William D. Kessler



I believe all of us, Brothers, find our way to Freemasonry in different ways, in different times of our lives, for various reasons. The one thing that binds us together is the fellowship and desire to be the best version of ourselves.

I was born and raised in Berlin, MA, and found my way to Athol in 1986, where both of my parents grew up. I was new to the community of Athol and was finding ways to meet good people. My Masonic journey began then. It was 35 years ago at Athol Lodge, now known as North Quabbin Lodge that everything started. Since then, I have enjoyed creating and enhancing relationships both in my financial planning

and Masonic careers. My grandfather was a member of Athol Lodge and was involved with other appendant Masonic bodies.

I have always enjoyed helping others. Let me correct myself. I LOVE HELPING OTHERS! It is one of the things that gives me the most joy in my life. My personal mission statement in my life and business is “I choose to unselfishly help others with servant leadership so to positively affect their lives.” I have found that being involved in Freemasonry has given me the opportunity to expand my community and live my mission. When I look back at the different organizations that I have been involved with such as Rotary International, Athol YMCA, Boy Scouts, and other local community events, I see how close relationships are formed. Freemasonry has helped me to create great relationships, and friendships throughout Massachusetts.

I truly loved my time as Master of North Quabbin Lodge. We hosted many breakfasts, dinners, and community events where we enjoyed introducing others to this great fraternity. We started a “Taco Tuesday,” where many Freemasons meet weekly at a local Mexican restaurant. This is where we introduced prospective Masons to our Fraternity. I especially enjoyed bringing the Grand Master and many Massachusetts Freemasons *continued on page 30*

CANDIDATE FOR JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

Rt. Wor. Travis B. Sawyer



I’ve been asked, many times, how I found Freemasonry. I’ve only been asked a handful of times about why I joined. I’ll tell you about how I found the Craft, after I tell a story. In a small lodge, nestled just north of the heart of Berkshire County, I learned about the

allegory, symbols, and deeper meaning of the 3rd degree. You may have surmised I was at my 3rd degree Lodge of Instruction. Our LoI was at Upton Lodge that month, the smallest lodge by member count and by square footage in the 30th District. When the lessons were complete, the group ascended the stairs to the lodge room to rejoin the brethren. I was last to enter, and was still standing, when I heard, “Brother Sawyer, why did you join, and have you found what you were looking for?”

I was surrounded by men, most of whom I had not yet met. All eyes were on me, waiting. Though thoughts raced through my mind, it felt like time stood still. It wasn’t like I had never spoken publicly. Not only do I often present for customer meetings, but I have often given classes in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, as part of my duty, training the younger soldiers in my platoon. Yet, there I stood. Finally,

I mustered some strength, gathered those racing thoughts, and said, “Well, Worshipful, I was missing something in my life. I knew something was missing, but I couldn’t put my finger on it. And, after only three months, I think I found it. Comradery.”

From my Entered Apprentice’s Obligation, through that Tuesday night at LoI in Cheshire, Berkshire Lodge pulled me in and made me feel at home. I was invited to work at the monthly All You Can Eat Breakfast, where I met brothers that did not partake in Stated Communications, the Masons that helped to provide the funds for lodge operation, the ones that worked behind the scenes. All these new friends, the kitchen crew, the officers, my sponsor and mentor, and brethren on the sidelines, made me feel as if I truly belonged. I was home. Comradery, something I had in the Army, was missing from my life. That isn’t all I gained. I *continued on page 32*

CANDIDATES



CANDIDATE FOR SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

Rt.Wor. John Craig Toto



It was truly humbling to be asked again by Most Worshipful George Hamilton to stand for Senior Grand Warden of our Grand Lodge. It has been an exciting year for me, as I was also asked to chair the Education and Training Committee after revitalizing the

Lodges of Instruction as the chairman of that sub-committee. I keep thinking back to how my life has changed because of Freemasonry. Ever since that day in 2009, when my wife reminded me of the open house at Joseph Warren-Soley Lodge in Lincoln. My wife Debby's support and love has enabled me to really experience Masonry. Of course, after 37 years of marriage, we know each other well, and

Debby has told me that Masonry has made me a better husband and father. Imagine that from just one night a month!

Of all the things I have learned in nearly 15 years of being a Mason, I can tell you with certainty that traveling the jurisdiction will expand your Masonic experience and allow you to learn new traditions and new approaches. Most importantly, you find friends not yet known. This is what I have loved about traveling around the state. It is my honor to visit as many lodges as I can over this 12-week sprint to the December Quarterly. Being on suites at official visits, attending parades, installations, Lodges of Instruction, and regular communications makes for a very busy week. It is without a doubt a challenging course to cover, but with some planning and exertion on my part, I intend to visit all the districts and dozens of lodges. No matter how my workday evolves, I always look forward to seeing the brethren. Getting a big hug from my brothers around the jurisdiction keeps me going. I discover something new at each lodge I visit, and develop friendships.

Some brethren ask me, "What can we do to retain members and attract new candidates?" There are many components to the answer, but in the simplest terms, the two easiest things to do. Give value to your membership. This means everything from new events for *continued on page 30*

CANDIDATE FOR JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

Rt. Wor. Michael S. Nemeth



The Love of Brotherhood

Research on the concept of Masonic Brotherhood suggests that it may have originated from a 16th century legal definition of "Brother" as being someone who had taken an oath to

support another. This naturally fits with the chief lesson of our First Degree, wherein we are shown that Brotherly love teaches us to regard the whole human race as one family. This crucial tenet is central to our Craft, and is intended to be practiced in daily life, as well as within the lodge. It is a model that every Mason obligates himself to, and involves not only brotherhood, but tolerance, support, compassion, and charity.

The actions we must then carry out in accordance with our conviction in the exercise of Brotherly love are respecting others' convictions, aiding those in distress, seeing the best in others, and demonstrating good will and love for all mankind, respectively. All of this is done without regard to distinctions, circumstances, or outward appearance. Certainly, the Masonic practice of Brotherly love does not require that we must like everyone we meet, but it does require that we respect

them and treat them with dignity.

Wor. H.L. Haywood, in his book *Teachings of Masonry*, writes the following:

"Brotherhood does not demand of us that we privately like people who are obnoxious to us, or that others should like us who find our company distasteful. Such things are in the domain of one's intimate likes and dislikes and have to do with private friendship rather than with Brotherhood. If I cannot like this neighbor of mine, I can be a Brother to him, nevertheless. I can give him exact justice in all my dealings with him. I can always refuse to do evil to him or speak evil of him. I can always maintain an attitude of good will to him, and wish for him good fortune and happiness. I can ever stand ready to help him to fullness of life, insofar as circumstances make that possible, and I can always refuse to place any obstacles in his path. If I have a difference *continued on page 31*

70 YEARS - RAISED IN 1954



Bro. James Paul Reynolds of Golden Rule Lodge celebrates 70 years.

- ALPHA LODGE**
Bro. Richard George Colcord
- AMITY-MOSAIC LODGE**
Bro. Richard Clayton MacWhinnie
- ANCIENT YORK LODGE**
Bro. Arthur Edwin Cohen
- ARTISAN LODGE**
Wor. Maurice Roderick Bateman
- BOYLSTON LODGE**
Bro. Anthony Demetrios Gregoriou
- BRIGHAM LODGE**
Bro. Morton Bertrum Levine
Bro. Selwyn Joseph Smith
- COCHICHEWICK LODGE**
Bro. Albert Richard Midgley
- CORINTHIAN LODGE**
Rt. Wor. John Henry Hart
- DELTA LODGE**
Bro. Arthur Roland Swanberg

- EASTERN STAR LODGE**
Bro. Donald Hilton Brown
Bro. Stuart Barker Mason
Bro. Ellis Royden Westcott
- ELM-BELCHER LODGE**
Bro. Robert Francis Quigley, Jr.
- ESOTERIC-SHERWOOD LODGE**
Bro. Theodore Peter Carellas
- EZEKIEL BATES LODGE**
Bro. Vernon Andrew King, Jr.
- GARDEN CITY LODGE**
Bro. Harold Leon Lowenstein
- GOLDEN RULE LODGE**
Bro. Herbert James Furness, Jr.
Bro. James Paul Reynolds, Jr.
- HOPE LODGE**
Bro. George Carl Erickson, Jr.
- JERUSALEM LODGE**
Bro. Paul Charles Colodny
- JOEL H. PROUTY LODGE**
Bro. John Robert Lilley II
- JOHN HANCOCK LODGE**
Bro. Henry Kalil Hyder, Jr.
- KING DAVID LODGE**
Bro. Israel Jacob Helfand
- LAFAYETTE-GREYLOCK LODGE**
Wor. Donald Robert Millberry
- MACEDONIAN LODGE**
Wor. Carl Lee Douglas, Jr.
- MAJOR GENERAL HENRY KNOX LODGE**
Bro. Robert Alan Baer
- MATTHEW JOHN WHITTALL LODGE**
Wor. Donald Ralph Gray
- MERIDIAN LODGE**
Bro. Robert Erwin Marcus
- MORNING STAR LODGE**
Bro. Roger Emerson Brooks, Jr.

- Bro. William Henry Eklund
- MOUNT HOLYOKE LODGE**
Bro. Bernard Melvin Crosby
- MOUNT HOREB (W) LODGE**
Bro. William Francis Miller
- MOUNT ORTHODOX LODGE**
Bro. Peter John Vogian
- MOUNT TABOR LODGE**
Bro. Alfred Stone Gardner
Bro. Edward Peter Mabardi
- MOUNT ZION LODGE**
Wor. Harold Stephen Goldsmith
- MYSTIC VALLEY LODGE**
Bro. Robert Henry Ellefsen, Sr.
Bro. William Hamilton King
- NORFOLK LODGE**
Bro. George Cameron Greene
- OLD COLONY LODGE**
Bro. Henry Frederick James
- PHILANTHROPIC LODGE**
Bro. Glover Fulford Broughton
Bro. Richard David Gardner
Bro. Ralph Burton Melen
Bro. Benjamin Butler Morrill II
Bro. Harold Sydney Rubin MD
Wor. James Irving Starratt
- PHOENIX LODGE**
Wor. Kenton Winfred Greene
- PILGRIM LODGE**
Bro. Joseph E. McAleer
- PLYMOUTH LODGE**
Bro. George R. Hansen, Jr.
- PURITAN LODGE**
Bro. Stanley Roger McKay
- QUABOAG LODGE**
Bro. Robert Bradford Tuttle
- QUINEBAUG LODGE**
Bro. Ralph Alvin Eastman

- RUFUS PUTNAM LODGE**
Bro. Ronald Ellis Berube
Bro. Kenneth Wellman McCauley
- RURAL LODGE**
Bro. Richard Palmer Greenside
- SAGGAHEW LODGE**
Bro. Harold Allen Fernald, Jr.
- SAINT ANDREW, THE LODGE OF SAINT MATTHEW'S LODGE**
Wor. William Albert Thorndike
Bro. Phidias George Dantos
- SCIMITAR LODGE**
Bro. Stanley Andrew Hoff
- SILAO LODGE**
Bro. Robert Alden Miller
- SIMON W. ROBINSON LODGE**
Bro. Frank Edward Armstrong
Bro. Frederick Stewart Robertson, Jr.
- SOCIAL HARMONY LODGE**
Bro. James Edward Ladd
- STAR OF BETHLEHEM LODGE**
Bro. James Alexander Hain, Jr.
- THE HARVARD LODGE**
Wor. Charles William Rudiger
- THE HENRY PRICE LODGE**
Wor. Marvin Jason Fox
Bro. Earle Groper
Bro. Edward Israel Masterman
- THOMAS TALBOT LODGE**
Bro. Nathaniel Kirkegaard Brown
- WAMPATUCK LODGE**
Bro. Francis Adams Brooks, Jr.
- WEYMOUTH UNITED MASONIC LODGE**
Bro. John Braidwood McCulloch
- WYOMING LODGE**
Bro. Harry Maxwell Brettell

65 YEARS - RAISED IN 1959

- AMITY-MOSAIC LODGE**
Bro. Charles Kemp Brown
Bro. John Lowell Newbegin
Bro. Bernard Born Twombly, Jr.
- ARTISAN LODGE**
Wor. Frank Richard Ladeau
- ASCENDUS LODGE**
Bro. William Melvin Cole
Bro. Charles Roland Henry, Jr.
Bro. Robert Irvin Lait
- AURORA LODGE**
Rt. Wor. C. William Lakso
- AZURE LODGE**
Wor. Charles Albert Lipsett, Jr.
- BAALIS SANFORD LODGE**
Bro. Davis Hinckley Scudder
- BOSTON UNIVERSITY LODGE**
Wor. Laurie Cohen

- BRIGHAM LODGE**
Bro. Karnig Michael Melikian, Jr.
Bro. Saul Leonard Michaelson
Bro. Sanford Gary Orenstein
- BRISTOL LODGE**
Bro. Thomas William Boyle
- CALEB BUTLER LODGE**
Bro. Robert Dean Kemis
Bro. Daniel Henry Taylor, Jr.
- CARIBBEAN NAVAL LODGE**
Bro. Paul Ervin Neidlinger
- CELESTIAL LODGE**
Bro. Robert Leslie Anderson
- CHARLES W MOORE LODGE**
Bro. Walter Edward Perkins
- DELTA LODGE**
Bro. Francis Edward Major
- ELM-BELCHER LODGE**

- Wor. Seth Harvey Crowell
- ESOTERIC-SHERWOOD LODGE**
Bro. Martin Gordon Rubin
- EUCLID LODGE**
Bro. Melvyn Mark Simons
- EXCELSIOR LODGE**
Bro. Clayton Fuller Harvey, Jr.
- FRANK W. THOMPSON LODGE**
Bro. Emmett Young Dunnivant
- FRIENDSHIP LODGE**
Bro. Robert Albert Mills
- GATUN LODGE**
Bro. Elliott Bennum Alter
Bro. Robert William Hollingsworth
Bro. George Lawrence Poyer
- GLOBE UNITY LODGE**
Bro. Alan Bookstaver Taplow
- GOLDEN RULE LODGE**

- Bro. Frederick Bernard Pouliot, Jr.
- GOOD SAMARITAN LODGE**
Bro. Warren Reed LaMack
- HAYDEN LODGE**
Wor. Robert Emerson Bishop
- HOPE LODGE**
Bro. Robert Earl Hunter, Jr.
- HOWARD LODGE**
Bro. Robert Franklin Chapman
- JERUSALEM LODGE**
Bro. Frederick Carl Froebel
- JOEL H. PROUTY LODGE**
Bro. Russell Edwin Kobel, Sr.
- JOHN T. HEARD LODGE**
Bro. Douglas Aldrich Woodman
- JOHN WARREN LODGE**
Bro. Robert Donald Hood

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From The West...of Boston

by Bro. Brian McHale, MSET

The Freemason Underground - Cities of the Underworld

Cities of the Underworld is a Discovery Channel show hosted by Don Wildman. “Freemasons leave behind hints about their role in the rise of America in tunnels beneath Boston and in a water world still intact in Philadelphia.” “Nine of the fifty-six men who signed the Declaration of Independence were members of a mysterious brotherhood - one that was behind almost every major event in our nation’s history - the Freemasons.” The host goes on to mention that “the founding of our nation has been dubbed the Masonic Experiment.” We start in Boston, investigating the use of “narrow streets and subterranean tunnels” in the North End. Wilder ascends to the Old North Church bell-ringing chamber with a Reverend from the church, where the story of Paul Revere and the lanterns being lit during the Revolutionary War is told. They proceed from there to the tombs under the church.

Fewer than 40 tombs are in the tunnels beneath the church, and they have been host to approximately 1,100 bodies. The class of the person interred has run the gamut. The Battle of Bunker Hill also contributed to the crypts. On occasion, the number of bodies was so large, it necessitated the inclusion of vents along the base of the church, to release the smell. The tunnels were originally purposed for smuggling “to avoid the revenue agents.” The purloined angels flanking the pipe organ were gifts from the privateer Captain Thomas Gruchy.

Across from the church, we visit the house formerly owned by Gruchy. Unfortunately, the tunnel in its basement has been sealed. Sonny regales Don with how, after the Brinks robbery on 17 Jan, 1950, he “got a knock on the door like you just knocked.” It was FBI agents, asking to see the tunnel. “How do you know I have a tunnel,” he asked. “We know everything,” was their reply. “Boston’s soil is full of secrets.” It surprised me that the show’s host did not visit Grand Lodge or speak with the Grand Master.

Next stop, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, where he is met by Grand Master Ronald A. Aungst. The building is magnificent, and if you blink, you will miss a shot of the old mosaic on the GL of MA. The GM discusses Hiram and the 3rd Degree, explaining that “instead of temples, we build men.” Fort Mifflin, near Philadelphia Airport, has been

referred to as the fort that saved America. Ben Franklin was involved in its construction. A tunnel under the fort that had been buried for over 130 years, its existence unknown, was discovered while mowing the lawn.

After investigation, it was believed to be an ammo depot, and a prison for criminals and POWs during the Civil War. The access shaft is very narrow, requiring the men to slide on their bellies. Inscriptions on the wall from Civil War prisoners are clearly visible, as no daylight has touched them since being written. The tunnels were used as barracks for Revolutionary War soldiers; its six to ten foot thick walls would not allow cannonballs to enter the fort. Don muses how the Freemasons “both literally and figuratively helped to build our nation.” The shape of the fort is a pantograph, possibly a connection to the Masons in Philadelphia.

The municipal water works for Philadelphia, constructed in the late 18th century, was funded in part from Ben Franklin’s will. Freemason Benjamin Latrobe designed it. He also worked on the White House and Capitol building in DC. These very tunnels are still under the streets. At its inception, 7,500 gallons per day were pumped up from the Schuylkill River to a reservoir.

Our next stop is Concord, MA, specifically the Concord Center for Visual Arts. In this building, a possible link to the Underground Railroad was uncovered accidentally, during a renovation in 1922. The hidden room is behind a chimney. Its dimensions are only three feet by six feet, with a low ceiling. A cave behind the house connected to it via tunnel, and was used as an access point. “It’s hard to calculate just how much...the Freemasons changed the world we live in.”

Masonry go deep in both Boston and Philadelphia. As with most roots, those depicted here actually go underground. They were waiting to be discovered by Don Wildman, and shared with all of us. I encourage everyone to explore the history of our great fraternity, whether on or below the surface, locally and when traveling. “Clues...lie both above ground, and below.” ■

The Freemason Underground can be found on YouTube (<http://bit.ly/4fakO1F>).

65 YEARS - RAISED IN 1959



Rt. Wor. Richard Stake of Olive Branch Lodge celebrates 65 years.



Bro. Karl Mascott of Ascendus Lodge celebrates 65 years.

Bro. Richard William Quintal
JOSEPH WEBB LODGE
 Wor. Stuart Arkadysz Liwski
KING DAVID LODGE
 Bro. William Howard Bennett III
 Bro. Gilbert Lee Elliott
KING HIRAM'S LODGE
 Bro. Harold Nevins
KONOHASSETT LODGE
 Rt. Wor. Emmett Billings Baker
 Rt. Wor. Nelson Carlyle Pratt, Jr.
LAFAYETTE-GREYLOCK LODGE
 Bro. Archibald Edward Munro
LEVEL LODGE
 Bro. Carl Paul Sherr
 Wor. Jerome Sol Sigel
LYNFIELD-ZETLAND LODGE
 Bro. Robert Conrad Johnson
MANCHESTER LODGE
 Bro. Allen Craige McCoy, Jr.
 Wor. Kenneth Watson
MERIDIAN LODGE
 Bro. John Manfred Blomgren
MONTGOMERY LODGE
 Bro. Edward Norman Clem
MOSES MICHAEL HAYS LODGE
 Bro. Sumner Malcolm Barnett

Bro. David Perry Brown
 Bro. Norman Garber
 Bro. Benjamin Louis Jacobs
 Bro. Barry Arthur Sahl
 Bro. Stephen Myron Sugarman
MOUNT HOLYOKE LODGE
 Bro. William Edgar Jenkins, Jr.
 Bro. Herman Richard Minkley
MOUNT HOREB (D) LODGE
 Wor. James Edward Thistle, Jr.
 Bro. Donald Earl Williams
MOUNT HOREB (W) LODGE
 Bro. John Richard Boyce
MOUNT MORIAH LODGE
 Bro. Carl Edward Meissner, Jr.
 Wor. Frank Edward Tokas
MOUNT ORTHODOX LODGE
 Wor. Fred Leroy Brown, Jr.
MOUNT TABOR LODGE
 Wor. Elliot Israel Ectman
MOUNT TOM LODGE
 Wor. Harry Leonard Chandler
 Bro. Harry Robert Dawson
 Bro. John Nagy
MYSTIC VALLEY LODGE
 Bro. William Oman Bennett
 Bro. John Peter Kalivas

Bro. James Hunter McKenney
NORFOLK LODGE
 Bro. Charles Bartlett Dutton
NORTH QUABBIN LODGE
 Bro. Phillip David Cameron, Sr.
NORTH READING LODGE
 Bro. Hartnell John Bartlett
OLIVE BRANCH LODGE
 Bro. Donald Eskel Jernberg
 Bro. Chester Richard O'Leske
ORIENT LODGE
 Bro. Roland Herbert Bjelf
 Wor. Homer Eugene Everhard
OXFORD LODGE
 Bro. Roger Drake Bacon
PACIFIC LODGE
 Bro. Denison Hartman Jones
PAUL REVERE LODGE
 Bro. Owen Frederick Hayes
PHILANTHROPIC LODGE
 Bro. David Brewster Bartlett
 Bro. Norman Albert Goodwin
 Bro. Roland Westwood Seed
PHOENIX LODGE
 Bro. Robert Mathews Clark
 Wor. Bruce Scott MacInnes
 Bro. William Leander Morse II
 Bro. John Torrey Thomson
PILGRIM LODGE
 Bro. Charles Elbert Corkum
 Bro. Stanley Dean Porter
PYTHAGOREAN LODGE
 Bro. Gilbert Ronald Winters
QUITTACUS LODGE
 Bro. David Alan Gates
 Bro. Wesley Ellsworth Lake
RABBONI LODGE
 Wor. William Noun
 Rt. Wor. Joseph Somario
RUFUS PUTNAM LODGE
 Bro. Richard Leon Brunelle
 Wor. Robert Smith Hansson
 Bro. Raymond Joseph Philblade
 Bro. Everett Enos Wentzell
RURAL LODGE
 Bro. Harold Robert Johnson

SAINT MARK'S LODGE
 Bro. Elliott Bernard Fishbein
 Bro. Charles Leland Fowler
SAINT MARTIN'S LODGE
 Bro. Maynard Winslow Walker
SAINT MATTHEW'S LODGE
 Wor. Robert Alton Domingue
SILOAM LODGE
 Bro. Lee Blanding Proctor
 Bro. Terrance Blaine Tripp
SIMON W. ROBINSON LODGE
 Bro. John Barrett Douglass
 Wor. Richard I. Lowe
 Bro. Robert Carl Nielsen
THE HENRY PRICE LODGE
 Bro. Bruce Richard Balter
 Rt. Wor. Mark Lichtenstein Esq
 Bro. Robert Charles Marvit
THOMAS DAY SPRING LODGE
 Bro. Robert Lawrence Meacham
TRINITY LODGE
 Bro. John Emil Wolfe
UNION LODGE (D)
 Bro. George Eugene Smith
UNION LODGE (N)
 Bro. Philip Whitney Read
 Bro. Jack Lewis Watson
UNITED BROTHERS LODGE
 Bro. Edward Richard Allen
 Bro. Lloyd Lee Parker
 Bro. Richard Franklin Varney
WALTHAM TRIAD LODGE
 Wor. Ernest Edward Fay
 Bro. A. Paul Prifti
 Bro. Albert Tashian, Jr.
WEST ROXBURY-DORCHESTER LODGE
 Bro. George James Sarmaniote
WEYMOUTH UNITED MASONIC LODGE
 Bro. John George Williams
WILDER LODGE
 Bro. Donald Evan Booth
WILLIAM NORTH LODGE
 Bro. Nicholas Charles Dadoly
 Bro. Malcolm Henry Pearson
WYOMING LODGE
 Bro. Laurence Bradley Hutchinson

60 YEARS - RAISED IN 1964

ABRAHAM H. HOWLAND, JR. LODGE
 Wor. Robert Keddy Gardner, Jr.
 Bro. Robert Lee Lytle
AMITY-MOSAIC LODGE
 Bro. Clement Harold Ford, Jr.
 Bro. Robert George Snyder
ANCON LODGE
 Bro. David Blair Ganoe
 Bro. Frederick Leedon Walton, Jr.
 Bro. Richard Alexander Zirkman
ASCENDUS LODGE

Bro. Paul Hugh Johnson
 Bro. Nicholas Kontoules
AZURE LODGE
 Bro. Alan Paul Danovitch
 Bro. Robert Frasier Rodowsky
BOYLSTON LODGE
 Wor. Frank William Cummings
 Bro. Howard William Edison
 Rt. Wor. Robert Eugene McDuffie
 Bro. Gordon Stewart
BRISTOL LODGE

Bro. Robert Raymond Hall
BUDLEIGH LODGE
 Bro. Robert William Atherton, Sr.
CALEB BUTLER LODGE
 Bro. Robert Stephen Wood
CELESTIAL LODGE
 Bro. Donald Robert Jacobs
 Bro. Frank Robert Sibley
 Bro. Kenneth Robert Westgard
CHARLES RIVER LODGE
 Bro. Frederick McLarnon Dudley

CHARLES W MOORE LODGE
 Bro. Henry George Condon
 Wor. Kurt Erland Olofsson
CINCINNATUS LODGE
 Bro. Stephen Woodin Agar
 Bro. Courtney Steven Brickman
CONVERSE LODGE
 Bro. Harvey Charles Felton
CORINTHIAN LODGE
 Bro. Robert Gordon Robinson

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The Prodigal Mason

by Wor. Richard Thompson



I sometimes ask myself just what would I be doing with all my time if I didn't join a Masonic lodge? I have this vision of me with lots of free time to do whatever I would want. Although that is my vision, I'm sure I would be as busy, just in different ways. I grew up in a Masonic household, so I have known Masons and Masonry for my entire life. I am a member of one of those multigenerational Masonic families – grandfather, father, uncles, cousins, and any other relation you can think of. There are so many Masons in my family that a cousin (Wor. David Hicks, who I'm sure many of you know) and I have said if we ever have a family reunion, we could get a charter. At one count, we knew of at least 25 Masons in the family, and I'm sure we missed a few. I jokingly say that when a son is born, most fathers run out and buy a bat, ball, and a glove. In our family, when a son is born, his father arranges his pre-application meeting.

For the record, I should note the Masonic nature of the family is not limited to the men. My mother and grandmother were members of the Order of the Eastern Star, as well as an aunt (Wor. Hicks' mother), at whose home I was an (almost) daily visitor. My lodge, Merrimack Valley Daylight, keeps me somewhat busy, because I'm the Secretary. The rest of my time is filled by Scottish Rite and its four bodies. I'm a Scottish Rite Mason in New Hampshire, where I live, and just finished a two-year term as the presiding officer in one of the Valley of Nashua's Scottish Rite bodies.

To help fill those quiet moments, I'm also a member of two Eastern Star chapters, one in Massachusetts, and one in New Hampshire. I just completed a term as Worthy Patron in my New Hampshire chapter. Will I be taking a break? No way! In August, I was installed as the Grand Chaplain for the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire. To complete my

Richard Thompson, a Past Master and the Secretary at Merrimack Valley Daylight Lodge, is grateful for what our early brothers did on June 24, 1717.

Masonic resume, I should note I am a Senior DeMolay, and at one time, I was a Royal Patron in the Order of the Amaranth. I am not a member of two other prominent Masonic groups, however – the York Rite and the Shrine.

As I was thinking about this article, I started thinking about all the groups Masons have formed in the 300 years since the first Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of England, was formed. I started looking, and couldn't believe the number of groups that are under that Masonic umbrella. Of course, there are the Blue Lodges, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, Eastern Star, Amaranth, Order of DeMolay, and the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. In some states, girls have the opportunity to join Job's Daughters, but Massachusetts isn't one of them. I'm sure most everyone has heard of these. But, there are some I have never heard of.

I have heard of the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm, or the Grotto, as it is more commonly known. There are five Grottoes in Massachusetts, and one in Rhode Island. I must admit I did not know about the Grotto until one of its members visited my lodge. Another I have heard of is High Twelve, but there are no High Twelve groups anywhere in New England. The closest group is in New York. I also know about Daughters of the Nile, but admit I only know about it because my wife is a member. I came across one group, the Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots, a social group for Master Masons, which is new to me. Other groups I found are: Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Order of Quetzalcoatl, and Organization of Triangles, a group for young girls in New York. I'm sure there are scores of other groups that I have yet to find. It looks like there are Masonic groups beyond the blue lodge for every interest.

On June 24, 1717, representatives of four Masonic lodges met at the Goose and Gridiron Tavern in St. Paul's churchyard, London. It was there they formed the Grand Lodge of England. Every Masonic group, including our lodges and our Grand Lodge, can trace its origin to that moment. There are six million members of the Masonic fraternity worldwide. I wonder if our brothers at the Goose and Gridiron on that June 24th night could have imagined where that decision would lead. ■

60 YEARS - RAISED IN 1964



Bro. John Murphy of Delta Lodge celebrates 60 years.



Wor. Ralph Tarricone of Friendship Lodge celebrates 60 years.

- DELTA LODGE**
Wor. Ronald Thomas Brake
- ELM-BELCHER LODGE**
Bro. Lawrence Lee Coil
- ESOTERIC-SHERWOOD LODGE**
Rt. Wor. Allen Gerald Zippin
- EXCELSIOR LODGE**
Bro. Milton Russell Webber, Jr.
- FELLOWSHIP LODGE**
Bro. Robert Walter Doherty
- FRANKLIN LODGE**
Wor. Wayne Richard Modig
- FRIENDSHIP LODGE**
Wor. Harry Nishan Atamian
- GATUN LODGE**
Bro. Howard Markland Gabbert II
- GOLDEN RULE LODGE**
Bro. William Locklin Moran
- GOOD SAMARITAN LODGE**
Wor. Raoul Eldon Daigle
- HARMONY LODGE**
Rt. Wor. Archie Robin Nahman
- HOPE LODGE**
Bro. John Douglas Mercer, Jr.
- JOEL H. PROUTY LODGE**
Bro. Wilbur Alvin Johnson
- JOHN HANCOCK LODGE**
Bro. Bruce Dearden
- JOHN WARREN LODGE**
Bro. William Richard Ainey
- KING DAVID LODGE**
Bro. Belcher William Stanley, Jr.
Bro. Van Peter Weingarten
- KING HIRAM'S LODGE**
Bro. Alvin Sanborn Tibbetts
- KING PHILIP LODGE**
Bro. Frank Noble
- KING SOLOMON'S LODGE**
Bro. Elmer Lee Evans
- LAFAYETTE-DOVER LODGE**
Wor. David Hartley Foshey
- LAWRENCE UNITED LODGE**
Bro. Kenneth Abel

- LEVEL LODGE**
Bro. Steven Rotman
- LIBERTY LODGE**
Bro. Robert Arnold Lewis
- MARINE LODGE**
Bro. Ahmed Ali Mustafa
- MATTHEW JOHN WHITTALL LODGE**
Bro. Pierce Thomas Ellis
- MERIDIAN LODGE**
Bro. Richard David Galeucia
Bro. Paul Gabriel Lawler
Wor. Frederick Whitney Welch
- MILTON LODGE**
Wor. Raymond Roderick MacNeil
- MORNING STAR LODGE**
Bro. Gregory Alan Apkarian
Bro. George Amador Boggs, Jr.
Bro. Alan Paul Engstrand
Rt. Wor. Samuel Robert McClure, Jr.
Wor. Donald Robert Werme
- MOSES MICHAEL HAYS LODGE**
Wor. Merrill Jacob Adler
Bro. Joel Gerald Berman
Wor. Joseph Ganz
Bro. Sidney Jacob Wartel
- MOUNT HOLLIS LODGE**
Rt. Wor. Edward Alton Condon, Jr.
- MOUNT HOPE LODGE**
Bro. John Robert Hives
- MOUNT HOREB (D) LODGE**
Bro. Robert William Waugh
Bro. George Zorlouian
- MOUNT HOREB (W) LODGE**
Bro. George Earl McDonald
Bro. Peter Revett Wedlock
- MOUNT MORIAH LODGE**
Wor. Peter Halton McCready
- MOUNT ORTHODOX LODGE**
Bro. Richard Orville Allen
Bro. Robert LeRoy Wheeler
- MOUNT TABOR LODGE**
Bro. Leonard Hillman
- MOUNT TOM LODGE**

- Bro. George Warren Breen
- MOUNT ZION LODGE**
Wor. Ronald William Rich, Sr.
- MYSTIC VALLEY LODGE**
Bro. David Gosslor Taggart
Bro. Earle Carroll Young
- NORFOLK LODGE**
Rt. Wor. Ralph Irving Sewall
- NORFOLK UNION LODGE**
Wor. Carl Victor Dahlgren
Wor. John Douglas Hadfield
Wor. Vincent Arnold Moulton
- NORTH READING LODGE**
Wor. Wendell Anderson Berry, Jr.
- NORTH STAR LODGE**
Bro. Meyer Manuel Monchick
Norumbega Fraternity Lodge
Bro. Arthur Nicholas Poly
- ORIENT LODGE**
Bro. Donald Bennett Glaser
- PAUL REVERE LODGE**
Bro. Allan Douglas Gilman
- PENTUCKET LODGE**
Rt. Wor. Herbert Warren Mitchell
Bro. Charles Theokas
- PEQUOSSETTE LODGE**
Wor. David Wendell Smith
- PHILANTHROPIC LODGE**
Bro. Edward Stuart Bell
Bro. Charles Graham Burton III
Bro. William Edward Conly
Bro. Emery George Glass
Bro. Donald Edwin Risteen, Jr.
Bro. Russell Morrison Veale
- PILGRIM LODGE**
Bro. Paul Alfred Fischer
Bro. Wayne Francis Richardson
- PIONEER LODGE**
Bro. Howard Joel Sonion
- PLYMOUTH LODGE**
Bro. Jay Arrow
- PROSPECT LODGE**
Wor. Bruce Arnold Berry
Bro. Richard Leonard Fakkell
- PURITAN LODGE**
Bro. Stuart Gurney Sheldon
- RISING STAR LODGE**
Bro. Richard Peter Randlov
Wor. Sarkis Minas Sarkisian
- ROSE OF SHARON LODGE**
Bro. Dana Jerrard Gould
- RUFUS PUTNAM LODGE**
Bro. Malcolm Brian Chandler
Bro. Frederick Chester Martin
Bro. Marshall Herbert Mason
- RURAL LODGE**
Wor. Robert Donald Parry
Bro. George Dewey Robbins
- SAGGAHEW LODGE**
Bro. George Harry Bejian, Jr.
Bro. James Basilios Giannatsis
- SAINT ALBAN'S LODGE**
Bro. Bruce Bond Roberts, Sr.
Bro. Chandler Hutchins Wells, Jr.
- SAINT JOHN'S (B) LODGE**
Bro. Paul Henry Katz
- SAINT JOHN'S (N) LODGE**
Bro. Daniel Anton Graf
Bro. Richard Carleton MacIntosh
Bro. Norman Page Smith, Jr.
Bro. Isaac Raymond Webster, Jr.
- SILAM LODGE**
Bro. Harrison Kenyon Cook
Bro. Ludwig John Stepanian
- SIMON W. ROBINSON LODGE**
Wor. Kent Larson
Bro. George Duncan Sinclair
Bro. Melville Walter Webb, Jr.
Wor. George Ballard Wilson, Jr.
- SOJOURNERS LODGE**
Bro. Leonard Ray Barnett
Bro. Johnnie Louis Smith
- SOLOMON'S TEMPLE LODGE**
Bro. John Samuel Hogarth
Bro. Ralph Emerson Pendleton
Bro. Samuel Alexander Waugh, Jr.
Bro. Emerson Freeman White
- STAR OF BETHLEHEM LODGE**
Wor. James Anastos Carabineris
Wor. Robert Loring Sterling
Bro. Harold Willis Woodbury
- TAHATTAWAN LODGE**
Bro. Donald Fletcher MacDonald
- THE HENRY PRICE LODGE**
Wor. Burt Jagolinger
- THE MEADOWS LODGE**
Bro. David Alan Trites
- THOMAS DAY SPRING LODGE**
Bro. Robert Mesheu
- THOMAS TALBOT LODGE**
Bro. John Ridgway Comley III
- TRINITY LODGE**
Bro. Martin Dennis Meilinger
- UNITED BRETHREN LODGE**
Bro. Thomas Hugh Ferris, Jr.
- WALTHAM TRIAD LODGE**
Bro. Stanley Winston Goldberg
Wor. Jordan McDonald Jenks
Bro. Arsin Hanna Kozelian
- WEYMOUTH UNITED MASONIC LODGE**
Bro. William Henry Scott
- WILLIAM NORTH LODGE**
Bro. Paul Leroy Davies
- WILLIAM SUTTON LODGE**
Bro. James Edward Carter
Wor. Alan Douglas McLellan
Wor. John Nels Olsen
Bro. Robert Gordon Specht
- WISDOM LODGE**
Bro. John William Whitehead III
- WYOMING LODGE**
Bro. Richard Harwood Dodge
Wor. Robert Moulton Nichols

ONE DAY, ONE FULL HOUSE, ONE GIFT

by Wor. Lee H. Fenn

There was no parking: not in the lot, not in the overflow lot, not in the street. None. The majestic Worcester Masonic Building was surrounded by the cars of the candidates, sponsors, and degree teams for the One Day Class. After a light breakfast in the basement, the candidates and sponsors climbed the stately staircases to two lodge rooms. In one, the Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Matthew A. Niedermeier, sat to the Master's right, and in the Egyptian room, the Grand Master, M. Wor. George F. Hamilton, occupied a similar seat. They traded rooms as the degrees progressed.

The candidates went through their first degree via an exemplar. For the first half, the exemplar was a Master Mason, who stood in for the candidates. Rather than using a candidate, this allowed all present to have the same experience. For the second half, a candidate stood in as exemplar. The ritual was flawless, which is what all the candidates, present for the one day class and in our lodges, deserved.

A Lodge of Instruction separated the degrees. The candidates were given their aprons and instruction, and were taught the other required things for that degree. In addition, the deeper meanings of the various elements of the degrees were explained. The much deeper meanings were also pointed toward. The candidates sat, took notes, and paid extremely close attention.

The candidates came for many reasons. Bro. Keith Van Scyoc saw a great organization composed of fine moral men. Bro. Jason Bates enjoyed the opportunity to get his degrees on a single day, due to his complicated time schedule. Bro. Shayan Bhattacherya was inspired by a friend, who couldn't be there that day, to become a Mason. Bro. Luther J. Miles, Jr., was inspired by his sponsor, who is also his father! People came for many more reasons, but they all received the same thing: the gift of membership in Freemasonry, and a start on self-betterment. ■



Candidate Keith Van Scyoc, and Sponsor, Bro. Jeremy Folster



Candidate Luther Miles, Jr., and Sponsor, Bro. Luther Miles, Sr.



Candidate Shayan Bhattacherya, and substitute Sponsor, Rt. Wor. Gordie Forsberg



Candidates Jason Bates and Jon Fonseca, and Sponsor, Wor. William Findlay

Masonic Family

Sunday, August 11, 2024



The Committee and Volunteers for Family Fun Day.

Committee Members:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Rt. Wor. Jerry Bergeron | Wor. Erich Horgan |
| Rt. Wor. G. Edward Brown | Wor. Robert Huke |
| Rt. Wor. Elliot Chikofsky | Rt. Wor. Arnold Johnson |
| Bro. Khris Crosse | Rt. Wor. William Kessler |
| Rt. Wor. Douglas Ellis | Rt. Wor. Russell Lowe |
| Rt. Wor. Craig Erickson | Rt. Wor. Travis Sawyer |
| Bro. Pedro Gonzalez | |

Volunteers:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rt. Wor. John Bell | Wor. Frank Kautz |
| Bro. Paul Bruk | Bro. Bob Kefalas |
| Wor. Bob Caron | PW Peter Lawson |
| Rt. Wor. William Cheetham | Bro. Bob Lightbody |
| Rt. Wor. Mark Collins | M. Wor. Richard Maggio |
| Rt. Wor. Tad Connelly | and Jodi Maggio |
| Bro. Jeremy Coyle | Rt. Wor. Matthew Niedermeier |
| Rt. Wor. Peter Culbertson | Wor. Jose Romanelli |
| Rt. Wor. Patrick DelVal | Wor. John Spradlin |
| Bro. Peter Demirjian | Bro. Dan Stead |
| Bro. Peter Fedders | Bro. Charles tower |
| Wor. Manny Ferreira, III | Bro. Patrick Ventola |
| Rt. Wor. James Gilrein | Bro. Chris Vicklund |
| Rt. Wor. Fran Hart | Rt. Wor. Alan Welch |
| Rt. Wor. Ron Higgins | Rt. Wor. Stephen Whitmore |
| Bro. Vincent James | Rt. Wor. Ken Zeller |
| Bro. Charlie Jones | |



Fun Day

American Heritage Museum, Hudson, MA



Grand Lodge of Masons in
Massachusetts presents

MASONIC FAMILY FUN DAY!

American Heritage Museum
- 568 Main St, Hudson, MA 01749 -
AUGUST 10, 2025

SAVE THE DATE!



FRATERNITY News & Events



Rainbow Installation

Massachusetts Rainbow held their 99th Grand Assembly Session, “Be a G.I.R.L.,” in Massachusetts Rainbow, June 28-30, 2024. Grand Worthy Advisor Erin B. and the 2023-2024 Grand Officers got our session started on Friday night with our amazing Grand Officers Drill. We got seated and began our formal opening with all our ritualistic parts, and the introduction of our

distinguished guests. We had the honor to have with us that evening the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, M. Wor. George F. Hamilton, and heard his inspiring remarks.

We reunited Saturday for our memorial service, to honor those who have passed into the golden gates of beyond. At our awards banquet later that evening, we celebrated the many accomplishments of our girls, adults, and assemblies throughout the year. As we closed that night, some were very emotional as it was their last time as active members, and they took part in our closing ritual. Sunday morning came very fast.

It was time for our 2023-2024 Grand Family to retire, and this was a whirlwind of emotion for all, as we had to say goodbye to an amazing year, and enter a new one. The 100th year of Massachusetts Rainbow was about to begin. Grand Worthy Advisor Ashlei W. and the 2024-2025 Grand Officers were installed to take on the exciting

new year. Our theme this year is “Dive into the Sea of Discovery and Possibility” with our friend George the sea turtle, named after GWA Ashlei’s grandfather, who is her biggest supporter and someone who inspires her.

This year, we are collecting items for the New England Wildlife Center, a non-profit organization that helps wild animals that are sick, injured, or homeless, and are in need of care. Their centers are not just hospitals. They are educational centers that teach people not only interested in this field, but anyone who wants to know more. This year, our jurisdiction is taking a trip to their center to tour their hospital, and see what they do on a daily basis. We were honored to introduce once more, Most Worshipful George F. Hamilton, Grand Master of Massachusetts, welcoming him to our Installation of Officers on Sunday morning. It was an honor to have him, and hear his amazing words about what family is, and what unites our Masonic families together. We formally invite you to our 100th Grand Assembly session, “Dive into the Sea of Discovery and Possibility,” in June of 2025, to celebrate with us as we enter the next 100 years of Massachusetts Rainbow.

-Grand Worthy Advisor, Ashlei R.W.

Brothers Take Honor Flight

Rt. Wor. Clifford Brightman, a World War II Veteran, a surgical technician, and a member of Noquochoke Lodge of Westport for 73 years, recently attended an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Rhode Island Fire Chiefs. George Farrell, retired Fire Chief of Providence, organized the event. Since 2012, Mr. Farrell has transported many Veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, to a day in Washington, D.C., to visit several memorials such as those for World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, as well as Arlington Cemetery. All expenses are paid through donations, sponsors, or fundraising. The Veterans do not pay anything for this memorable experience. All Veterans are

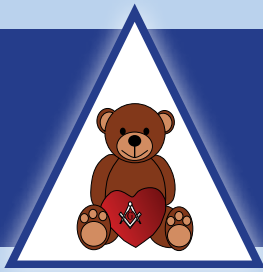
accompanied by a guardian who supports them during their trip. Rt. Wor. Bro. Brightman was accompanied by his wife, Judith Brightman.

For the flight on May 5, Bro. “Sam” Manley, a Masonic Brother from Noquochoke Lodge and fellow Veteran, was also there. He served as a Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class from 1998-2004, and is a retired Deputy Fire Chief. He provided piping music for the activities. He piped in the airports in Providence and Baltimore, and at other times when the group was assembled. His music was amazing, and made the Veterans more recognizable as they traveled in the nation’s capital. A special ceremony on this flight was the “final mail call.” Many letters and cards were given to each Veteran from relatives, friends, and

members of the community, who shared their gratitude for the Veteran’s service and well wishes for a safe trip. It is a most memorable experience that gives Veterans a chance to visit the memorials that give tribute to their service and dedication to their country.

-Judith Brightman





Thomas Talbot and Project Delta Donate in Billerica

by *Wor. Thomas Masse*



Thomas Talbot Lodge in Billerica, in coordination with Project Delta (Delta Lodge of Braintree), honored the sacrifice of one of Billerica’s finest, Sgt. Ian Taylor, who was tragically killed while working a traffic detail in April. On August 13, at Billerica Public Safety Night, Thomas Talbot Lodge and Project Delta presented the Billerica Police Department with sixteen Project Delta Comfort Kits. These kits, a small backpack filled with stuffed animals, can be used by first responders to help calm small children in crisis situations. Project Delta produced special edition comfort kits emblazoned with Sgt. Taylor’s badge number, 114.

Thomas Talbot Lodge also presented Billerica Police

Chief Roy Frost with a check for \$700 for the Sgt. Ian Taylor Family Trust. The funds were raised during Thomas Talbot Lodge pasta dinners in May and June. “We are honored to recognize the legacy of Sgt. Taylor,” Thomas Talbot Lodge’s Master, Wor. Thomas Masse said. “The event was invaluable for the lodge, building bridges to the first responders within our community.” “We plan to expand our partnership with our first responders, as we find a lot of synergy in our respective missions,” Worshipful-Elect, Bro. Matthew Ahern said. “We also met several potential candidates and spoke to many people about Freemasonry.”

Thomas Talbot Lodge has become an enthusiastic sponsor of Project Delta. The lodge previously presented comfort kits to the Billerica Fire Department and the Middlesex Sheriff Office, as well as the Billerica PD, during its First Responder Appreciation Day in April. The lodge is planning to extend this program to surrounding communities that lack a Masonic presence. Thomas Talbot Lodge thanks Wor. Jon Hinthorne of Project Delta, families who attended the presentations at Public Safety Night, and Wor. Mark AuBuchon of Project Delta, who helped coordinate efforts in both April and August. ■



Golden Rule Lodge Honors Wakefield First Responders

On Thursday, April 11th, Golden Rule Lodge of Wakefield hosted a First Responders Appreciation Night, celebrating the dedication and service of the town’s police and fire departments. The event, open to the public, recognized the contributions of these vital community members. During the ceremony, the Wakefield Police and Fire Departments were each presented with awards of appreciation by the lodge members. In a gesture of ongoing support, the lodge also made charitable donations to two organizations selected by the departments. The charities selected were Cops for Kids with Cancer, a nonprofit dedicated to aiding families of children battling cancer and the Hundred Club of Mass., Inc., which provides a lifetime of support and care for the families of fallen police officers



and firefighters. The event featured a presentation by former Fire Chief David Parr, who spoke on the history of the Wakefield Fire Department, and significant fires that have impacted the town. *-Wor. Mario Marchese*

The OVERLOOK



Charlton Crafters Craft for Charity

The Overlook Crafters are thrilled to announce that they are donating all \$3,500 in proceeds from The Overlook's Fall Festival to two deserving charities: The Children's

Dyslexia Center of Central Mass and Charlton's Chip 'in Food Pantry. This impressive accomplishment is the result of months of dedicated planning and preparation. In addition to selling

handcrafted items made by the members, the Overlook Crafters received a generous donation of a handmade quilt from Virginia Belforte, which was raffled off at the festival. The lucky winner was Patti Sciarra.

All unsold knit hats from the festival were generously donated to Charlton Elementary School, while other items were given to local thrift stores and churches. A special thanks to Nancy Corkum for her invaluable guidance in organizing the group's craft display, sales strategy, and charitable contributions. The Overlook Crafters was founded over 17 years ago by Barbara Delano, who learned to make totes in a class. As more people joined and showed interest in crafting, the group grew into the vibrant community it is today.

When asked about participating in the Fall Festival and donating the proceeds to charities, Barbara Delano said, "It's a communal effort to give back to our community. Participating in the Fall Festival serves two purposes, giving back to charities and uniting in a communal effort with other residents." The checks were collected by Darlene Emco, from the Charlton Food Bank, and Ill. Robert Schremser 33°, from the Children's Dyslexia Center of Central MA. ■

▶ *Kessler* continued from page 18

to the Annual River Rat Parade in Athol. If you have never had the opportunity to experience this, I invite you to enjoy pancakes and the parade on April 12, 2025.

After my time as Master, I was graciously given the opportunity to serve as District Deputy Grand Master for the 26th Masonic District in 2022-2023. I truly enjoyed visiting the lodges in our District.

If you know me, you know I love a good parade! I have enjoyed coordinating Massachusetts Freemasons in the River Rat and the Franklin County Fair Parades. Our Masonic Family Fun Day event at the American Heritage Museum in Hudson, MA, brought smiles to us all. The Family Fun Day committee showed that all of us together could do amazing things. I am so grateful to have been on this committee. We loved creating and enhancing relationships with the Brethren of this great jurisdiction! Thank you for the opportunity to be your Senior Grand Warden. I look forward to continuing this

journey with all of you as a servant leader. Serving others is what truly makes me happy. ■

▶ *Toto* continued from page 19

members and family, different dinner offerings, leadership training from the Education Committee, and being more visible in your community. Second, reach out to those you know. Offer them the gift of Freemasonry. If 10% of our members brought in a candidate, we would have a banner year. Don't be afraid to reach out to those you know who would make good Masons.

Brethren, I am so excited to meet all of you in my travels, and to listen to your suggestions, concerns, and your excitement for the Craft. We are all fortunate to be each other's brothers. May God's blessing be on all of us, especially my good friend R.W. Edward Brown, who has had health challenges. Let us help each other, practice brotherly love, and do always what is right. ■



Bob Hall



Jack Campbell



Roger Tansey

Grand Master Visits Brothers at Overlook

Worshipful Master Charles Jones and his ritual team from Charles W. Moore Lodge in Fitchburg visited Rose of Sharon Lodge (RoS) on March 30, 2024, to perform the Second Degree on Bro. Chauncey Maynor. Before the ritual began, the lodge had the honor of receiving the Grand Master, M. Wor. George F. Hamilton, and his suite. Bro. Harry Manuel, RoS Junior Deacon, thought it was a good idea to invite the Grand Master to The Overlook so he could tour the Skilled Nursing and Stonebrook units, where former residents, including Masons, now reside in the health care sections. Harry planted the seed with RoS Secretary Bro. Steve Dragon. Steve thought it was meritorious and contacted the Grand

Master to discuss the proposal. The Grand Master agreed it would be a meaningful visit, and suggested getting together after the Board of Director’s meeting on September 20, 2024.

Bros. Dragon and Manuel conducted the tour, introducing the Grand Master to ten residents. They met in the Brothers’ rooms, and by the smiles on their faces, the Brothers were surprised and happy to meet M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton. The Grand Master was interested to know if they were happy with their accommodations, and how they were being treated. Their discussions ranged from favorite books, to neighborhoods they shared, and more. The visit was very inspirational, and made their day. M. Wor. Bro. Hamilton had as much enjoyment out of the visit as the residents. Two days later, the brothers still had smiles on their faces, and couldn’t stop talking about meeting the Grand Master. It was a wonderful experience they will never forget.

-Bro. Bill Kenyon

▶ *Nemeth* continued from page 19

with him I can differ with him as one man to another, honestly and openly, without childish petulance. Such an attitude is brotherly spirit, and it can flourish where private friendship is impossible.”

This, then, is the true value of our Brotherhood, that Masons stand out in a world that all too often seems to be ruled by human prejudice, weakness, greed, and insecurity. Brotherly love lights the way in such a shadowy environment, and in a manner which no other practice can duplicate. It is charity in the truest sense of the word and, in the final analysis, will be the only distinction that truly remains. What could be more sublime? I will close with the words of Bro. Edwin Markham, “There is a destiny that makes us Brothers; none goes his way alone; all that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own.” ■



60-YEAR PAST MASTER DIPLOMAS

Served as
Master in 1964

WOR. JAMES I. STARRATT
Benjamin F. Arrington Lodge, Lynn

WOR. ROBERT W. FORSBERG
Franklin Lodge, Grafton

WOR. PHILIP A. CHRISTENSEN, SR.
Hampden Lodge, Springfield

WOR. RALPH D. BROUGHTON
Jordan Lodge, Peabody

M. WOR. ALBERT T. AMES
Meridian Lodge, Natick

WOR. STANLEY F. HANSON
Meridian Sun Lodge, North Brookfield

WOR. LEO P. CONVERY
Oriental Lodge, Edgartown

WOR. FREDERICK W. LOWELL
Warren Lodge, Amesbury



ASK THE GRAND LECTURER

by Rt. Wor. Nicholas J. Mantello

Senior Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts



Q: *May an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft attend an exemplification of the First Degree?*

A: Although it may seem acceptable or logical that they could, having gone through the degree, and that they may benefit from it by reinforcing what they have learned, it is not permitted. The reason is that during the exemplification, many elements

of Freemasonry may be discussed. Also, changing from one degree to another and Private Grand Honors are presented, which are foreign to lesser degree candidates.

Q: *When an Officer, Brother, or visitor wishes to address the Worshipful Master, make an announcement, or ask a question, how should he go about being recognized?*

A: If it is during a discussion, wait for an opportune time. If it is a lodge business question, wait until the Master asks if there is any new business. Usually, the Worshipful Master will call for announcements towards the end of a meeting. This is an opportunity to ask your question or make your announcement. The proper procedure is to raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the Master. Stand when speaking. In some jurisdictions, it is required that the speaker

salutes the Worshipful Master. Keep in mind if the District Deputy is there, and has spoken at the end of a meeting, no one can address the lodge. It may only be closed.

Q: *When should the three questions be asked preceding the First Degree?*

A: The questions should be asked by the Junior Deacon, with the two Stewards in attendance, or two members of the lodge. They should be asked from memory after the candidate has been prepared, with the exception of the HW.

Q: *What Officers are involved with the balloting process?*

A: The Master has plenty to do, as written in our new *Trestle Book*. The JD tyles the door. The Secretary reads the petition. The SD circulates, or observes the ballot box, and makes sure all have balloted. The Wardens have the responses to declare. This is the condensed version of balloting. There are duties for the SS and JS that I have rarely observed. The JS, during balloting, should station himself at the untyled door, and the SS should station himself at any additional door in the lodge room, as necessary. You would be the wiser if you spend some time reading the *Duties and Responsibilities of Lodge Officers*.

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

▶ Sawyer continued from page 18

gained brothers, true friends, and a sense of community.

I mentioned earlier that I'd tell you about how I found Freemasonry, but in all truthfulness, Freemasonry found me. He sat next to me nearly every Saturday night for a year, at a restaurant where my girlfriend, his daughter, was a waitress. Nearly every time, he'd finish his dinner, take the last few sips of his beverage, turn to me and say, "Well, I'm off to..." where "off to" was a golf tournament, scholarship committee meeting, (I honestly don't think he ever played a round of golf), a Masonic event, or Shrine meeting. One of those nights, I turned to him and said, "Mark, where do you run off to, and what do you do?" He got a twinkle in his eye, explained to me what Freemasonry was, what the Shrine was, and what the Shriners support.

I mentioned this conversation to my girlfriend. She rolled her eyes and said, "I'll be a Masonic widow before I'm even married!"

I told you those two stories, so I could tell you this, what has made my journey so far, one of the most extraordinary parts of my life, is that I've always had a mentor. One brother who I could always turn to for answers, support, help, or just to chat. My father-in-law, Rt. Wor. Mark E. Feder (yes, I married her, with his blessing), was that Mason for me. Since his passing, I've tried to carry that torch for other brethren. I've found that providing that sponsorship, that mentoring, creates a special bond with a new Mason. It helps him find his niche within the lodge, be it an up and coming officer, a part of the kitchen crew, or a brother on the sidelines. ■



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The Overlook has been awarded Best of Central MA Senior Living Community by Worcester Telegram & Gazette for seven years running.



Follow The Portrait, Then The Cannon

Bros. Henry Knox and Rufus Putnum are alive in this portrait, a creation of Ryan J. Flynn, in his studio in Merrimack, NH.

The moment captured is their collaboration on the plan for the Knox Expedition, ordered by Bro. George Washington. Bro. Knox was charged to move cannons from Fort Ticonderoga, NY, to Boston.

Follow the progress of the painting and the (working replica) cannon coming to Boston in the Summer of 2025.



To learn more about the project, and to find out how you can get your very own numbered lithograph of this amazing work of art, please visit

<https://massfreemasonry.org/the-noble-train-of-artillery/>

To watch the progress on Facebook or Instagram, follow hashtag #knoxpaintingGLMA

