

# THE NEW JERSEY FREEMASON

Winter 2012





# MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY

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TRAUTMANN

And the

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MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY

Development Office, 902 Jacksonville Road,

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*The Infernos Band is America's #1 Show Band and the area's premier live performance group. Two of the band's vocal powerhouses are Kenny Simmons, formerly of The Commodores and Richie Rosato, formerly of The Duprees. For more information about The Infernos, visit [www.theinfernosband.com](http://www.theinfernosband.com)*

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Entrée selection: ☐ Tenderloin of Beef ☐ Broiled Salmon ☐ Stuffed Chicken Guest's entrée selection: ☐ Tenderloin of Beef ☐ Broiled Salmon ☐ Stuffed Chicken

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April 2013  
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June 2013  
(Submission deadline May 1<sup>st</sup>)

September 2013  
(Submission deadline August 1<sup>st</sup>)

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# Letter from the Editor

## *"Surrounded by Brotherly Love"*

Brothers,

I bring you fraternal greetings during this holiday season. The last few months in our beloved State has been the most tumultuous and downright scary we have ever witnessed in our lifetimes. When hurricane Sandy landed upon our shores on October 28<sup>th</sup> many of our neighbors, family, friends, and Masonic Brethren had been effected forever.

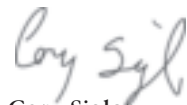
We often take our safety and wellbeing for granted. What should be a most joyful time of year that is filled with families coming together, presents for our children bring ripped open, officer installations and newly installed Worshipful Masters sitting in the East has been marred by Sandy's impact.

While these are indeed sad times, all is not lost and those Brothers in need are not left standing alone. By their side are 26,000 men that will do whatever they can to get them back on track. An outpouring of calls willing to help, aid and assist was seen from Mahwah to Cape May.

You will notice a reoccurring theme in many articles found in this issue of The New Jersey Freemason. Usually the goal of an editor is to sort through the submissions to make sure there are no duplications in stories or ideas. This time around I felt it was important to show multiple times what it truly means to be a Mason and how to act like a Mason.





It has been a blessing to be able to share with you these many examples of Brotherly love. Stay safe Brethren and always keep that light shining bright.

Sincerely and Fraternally,



Cory Sigler  
Editor in Chief

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**THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY**

Historic Trenton Masonic Temple  
 100 Barracks Street Trenton, NJ

**2013 Masonic Lodges of**

**The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey**



# Grand Master's Message



Grand Lodge

My Dear Brother,

This article is going to head in a completely different direction than originally contemplated. Several weeks ago I intended to address the celebration of the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the

Grand Lodge of New Jersey. That all changed on Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup> when a terrible storm struck our Garden State. It was immediately apparent that many Brothers and their families were impacted by this storm. Millions across the State were without power. Up north, if you were fortunate to have a generator, you were having a hard time finding gas to run it. To fuel up your car meant you were going to wait three hours or more in line to finally pull up to a pump. Until lines of communication were restored, most did not realize just how bad the New Jersey coast was hit. By Wednesday, offers of support and prayers were rolling in from all over the country. Five days into the tragedy, the first load of relief supplies arrived from Minnesota with Brothers Steve and Buzz who drove a rig with a 53' trailer full of supplies. They first stopped at Durand Lodge where Brothers from all over the State gathered to unload half of the supplies. Through the efforts of Brother Chip DiCorcia and several other Brothers, Durand Lodge has been acting as a muster station for volunteers to gather, pick up cleaning supplies and tools and receive the instructions as to which houses they will be working in for that day. After unloading, Right Worshipful Gary Olsen, who is a local Police Officer, drove us around to see the damage firsthand. From Point Pleasant, we headed to Tuckerton Lodge. Once again, there were many Brothers and their wives and children to assist in unloading. Afterwards, lunch was served to all of the workers. Prior to this day, I received a call from Right Worshipful David Glatly, who informed me that the Scottish Rite would be bringing prepaid debit cards to the coast for the Brothers and their families who were impacted. After lunch we gave out almost \$90,000 in debit cards. Since then, the Scottish Rite provided another approximately another \$70,000.00 in prepaid debit cards and just recently allocated \$1,000,000.00 in funds for disaster relief. We then took a ride around Tuckerton with Mayor Buck Evans, Buck is also a Brother of Tuckerton Lodge. The devastation was shocking. We stopped at Brother Tony's home. Tony is a Tuckerton Town Councilman. Buck and Tony spent the better part of the first week helping the community knowing full well the heavy damage suffered at their respective homes. They both have a positive attitude. In fact, in anticipation of a quick renovation of his home, Tony invited me back this coming summer to enjoy a cigar and a scotch on his deck. The next day, another truck was delivered to Lyndhurst where Right Worshipful Hal Fischer and many other volunteers were there to unload it. Since that first weekend several other loads were delivered from Brothers in all parts of the United States. Several Lodges throughout New Jersey were set up as relief centers and many others were feeding the volunteers and those left homeless. Brethren from all across New Jersey and well beyond have donated in excess of \$200,000.00 dollars to the Grand Lodge Hurricane Relief Fund. There are far too many people that need to be thanked for all they have done and continue to do but I do need to take this opportunity to thank Right Worshipful Dieter Hees, Right Worshipful Richard Holst, Right Worshipful Phil Divinagracia and Right Worshipful Ken Novakoff for their continuing efforts of coordinating the relief efforts.

Many Lodges have been supplying meals for the stricken residents and the volunteers. Where needed, these meals are

still being served. Others opened their doors for residents to stay when they had no place else to go. The next phase of the relief will be to triage each situation and where possible, use donated funds to purchase the needed building materials, put together teams of volunteers and start the rebuilding process. For this to work, we need Brothers who are professional contractors to lead volunteers as we help our Brothers and their families put their lives back together.

The devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy was far more extensive than that caused by hurricane Katrina in Louisiana or any other storm to hit the United States in recent history. Yet through it all, the attitude and spirit of the Brothers of New Jersey has been truly inspiring. From the day we knocked at the door of the Lodge we've called each other Brother, spoke about relief, charity and brotherly love. Often we hear the phrase "Mystic Tie". The Mystic Tie is frequently described as the intangible force that binds us together as Brothers and Friends. I contend today that it is not an intangible force but rather a force that is rarely felt or seen. It is this Mystic Tie, this delicate precious chain that winds through every disinterested Brothers heart that on rare occasions when truly needed is employed to unite us as one band, true Craftsmen again toiling in the quarries of the soul.

Finally, having just undergoing angioplasty and having two stents inserted, I truly thank each of you for your cards, prayers and thoughts of good wishes. It is once again a time where I have been fortunate enough to feel the tug of the Mystic Tie. Stacy has me eating healthier and I am working out on a regular basis. Just don't let her know of the scotch and cigars at Tony's.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Glenn R. Trautmann  
Grand Master

## January

- 3 GLI Acacia #20, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist. 6 PM
- 5 Crescent Shrine Installation. 2 PM
- 13 GM's OV to East Orange VA, time TBD
- 20 Scotch Plains Children's Learning Center Brunch, 11 AM
- 24-28 Charity Foundation Visit to Florida

## February

- 10 GM's Paramus VA Hospital Visit, 1:30 PM
- 16-20 Conference of Grand Masters' of North America
- 24 GM OV to Lyons VA. 9 AM
- 27 MCF Meeting. 12 PM
- 27 Masonic Home Employee Service Award Dinner, 5 PM

## March

- 1-3 York Rite Weekend
- 8 Past Grand Master Dinner. 7 PM
- 9 DeMolay Grand Master's Class. 9 AM
- 16 Council of Deliberation - Valley of Central NJ
- 17 DD/DRI Reunion, 1 PM
- 23 Chairman's Ball, 5 PM
- 27 North Jersey Candidates Night

## April

- 3 Central Jersey Candidates Night
- 6 South Jersey Candidates Night
- 7-11 GM's Myrtle Beach Golf Trip
- 13 Reception: 2<sup>nd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Districts for GMsh and S2GM
- 23 Grand Master's Banquet at Annual Communication
- 24-26 Annual Communication of GLNJ

## Grand Master's 2013 Calendar



## Deputy Grand Master's Message



Brethren,

It just seems like yesterday that we were preparing for hurricane "Sandy", by making sure we had the necessary items to get through a couple days without electric or grab a couple things and evacuate. We were warned and it happened. We got the worst of a massive hurricane and it cut through New Jersey like a knife. New Jersey is not accustomed to massive storms because of our geographic location.

Very shortly after the storm and when it was safe to fly, I was able to get a bird's eye view of the aftermath and for several days following. The destruction was immense and I began to realize how lives were going to be altered forever. People lost not just a house but a home. How do you start over when you have little or nothing left. We could not stop the storm but we are now testing our Masonic obligations by stepping up and showing the world who we are by putting our daily activities aside to help Brothers, neighbors and friends in need. Masons from all over the United States have sent supplies to New Jersey along with the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite providing monetary assistance. Lodges have opened their doors for the community and cooking warm meals for anyone that is hungry and needed to see a friendly face. If you ever had any doubts about what we can do, just look and see. This not the time to sit back, but a time for

helping. Masons helping Masons.

The Season of giving is upon us and now is the perfect time to make a difference in someone's life. Let's make a commitment to help others in need, especially Masons as we start a new year. We need to participate in this opportunity to make a difference. Please take moment to send a present, a donation to Grand Lodge with a notation to the Hurricane Relief. These donations will help to secure long term help to those Masons who need your assistance.

I want to give thanks to the Grand Master of the Universe for the blessings I have received, family, friends and knowing that I will recommit myself to helping others.

Happy Holiday Season and have a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Fraternally,



RW David A. Dorworth  
Deputy Grand Master



## Polar Bear Plunge February 23, 2013

It's Easy To Register-Join The Fun

**LONG BRANCH TO HOST EVENT AS  
SEASIDE HEIGHTS CONTINUES TO REBUILD**

For the benefit of  
The Special Olympics of New Jersey

- Plunge is at Pier Village, Long Branch, NJ at 1:00pm
- Meeting Place: Monmouth Lodge, 14 E. Garfield Ave  
Atlantic Highlands, NJ
- [www.monmouthlodge.com](http://www.monmouthlodge.com) for directions
- FREE Breakfast 9am-10:30am
- Shuttle to Pier Village
- Families and Friends Welcome

[www.njpolarplunge.org](http://www.njpolarplunge.org)  
Team Name: Hiram on Ice



For Further Information contact:  
RW Dieter Hees [dhees@mac.com](mailto:dhees@mac.com) 732-300-4860



## Junior Grand Warden's Message



Grand Lodge

My Brethren,

It is with great pride and honor that I write my first article for our own *New Jersey Freemason Magazine* to you the Brethren of this Great Jurisdiction. It is a

challenge and job I wanted and now I have been bestowed this privilege. It is finally sinking in that I am the Junior Grand Warden, and I am realizing and appreciating the new challenges ahead. I thank you all for your support and I certainly will work with you in the years coming up before and after I am installed your Grand Master. Again don't hesitate to call or ask me anything, any question or bring me a problem you think I may be helpful with.

Junior Grand Warden is a position of great responsibility; it is the beginning of learning and observing how the most detailed inner workings of The Grand Lodge and Charity Foundation work in the preparation for the ultimate leadership ahead.

In my travels around the State I spoke of **"Motivation and Focus on Freemasonry"**. I have spent a lot of time with the officers and members of our Lodge discussing their problems.... "That is where we have to focus to get the job done – **MOTIVATION AND SUPPORTING EACH OTHER**"

My Brethren, as some of our Lodges lose members either through death or simply members leaving for one reason or another we must study why they leave and "MOTIVATE THEM" to stay in our Great Fraternity. We must cling together and support each other both personally and professionally

I was in a Lodge in Central New Jersey this past winter talking about the Wheelchair Track and Field Meet. I will not

mention the DDGM but we were invited to stay for their program. They had some short Masonic amusing movie clips and a relaxing roundtable of ideas amongst the membership present. WM's, SW's, JW's, all the way down the line on "how to improve our meetings, attendance and many problems we face. I was very impressed and enjoyed this presentation.

**Motivation again, Motivation and simply caring for one another.**

Also this year, The Grand Master is traveling around the State with the Elected Line doing "Town Meetings" promoting his visions of our Craft and gathering ideas in the open forum of the DLI's; another Great Program. Get out to your DLI if possible and don't miss these informative evenings.

Ask in your Lodges for volunteers and you might be surprised who wants to get involved with different projects. I have said this before that you might have a kitchen crew in place for 50 years but others might want to help. Get everyone as possible involved; there is always room for one more.

We have many exciting events coming up in the next few months so keep a watch on the daily *njfreemason* and the *Freemason Magazine*.

Again my Brethren thank you for your support and I will certainly live up to your confidence.

Yours in the Craft,

Anthony W. Montuori  
Junior Grand Warden

## Feast of Saint Johns with Guest Speaker Brother Robert L.D. Cooper

By Bro. Cory Sigler

December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Burlington's Fellowship Hall was a packed house buzzing with the Brethren of New Jersey. There was excitement flowing around the room not only from the delicious food that was served or the spirits that filled our glasses but for the special guest speaker who came all the way from Scotland to speak that night.

This year however, we also had some other reasons to celebrate. Our Grand Master, Glenn Trautmann only two nights prior had a procedure performed to insert a shunt into his heart and was up running around the floor greeting everyone and enjoying the night.



Secondly, you can now call the Grand Master "grandpa" as he recently was given the gift of a new baby grandson named Nicholas Glenn.

The guest of honor for the night flew 11 hours from Edinburgh, Scotland to give a talk on "Scotland's influence on New Jersey Freemasonry". The entire audience was captivated by Bro. Robert L.D. Coopers ([www.robertldcooper.com](http://www.robertldcooper.com)) talk. As the curator of the Grand Lodge of Scotland Museum and Library, Masonic historian and a bestselling author, Brother Cooper attendance was enthusiastically welcomed. Before and after his talk Robert graciously spent hours speaking with all who had questions and signing autographs.





Grand Lodge

## Need Help? Go to the Masons

*By Bro. Mel Russen, Durand Lodge No. 179*

In the days after Super Storm Sandy devastated the Jersey Shore and power was restored to parts of Point Pleasant Beach, Durand Masonic Lodge No. 179 sprang into action and became the hub of local relief efforts.

Led by the Lodge Junior Warden Chip DiCorcia, clean up crews were organized and began assisting town residents in the arduous task of cleaning out their homes and garages. Furniture, appliances, carpets and the entire contents of homes were moved to the curb in front of their homes.

Word spread of the help coming from the Lodge and as that word spread more volunteers arrived to help more families.

Officers from Port Authority NY/NJ came. The High School Football and Basketball Teams came. The College of New Jersey sent students as did an AmeriCorps group from Loch Haven University in Pennsylvania. The LHU students even spent two nights in the lodge. In one case the students moved a hot tub that was against a house, and many participated in a survey of residents, so that the local volunteer groups could assess their needs.



### **The word was out "Need help - Go to the Masons."**

The effort spread to the neighboring towns of Point Pleasant Borough and Bay Head. Donations from Home Depot, Lowe's, The Red Cross, neighbors and residents, and companies as far away as Vermont were received as the word spread. These donations included bleach, buckets, mops, brooms, paper towels, dust masks, gloves, and all sorts of other cleaning which were given out as quickly as they were donated. In the weeks to follow the shovels and iron racks that were donated were used by the crews to shovel beach sand out of houses and clean up back yards filled with debris and garbage washed in by the ocean.

Maura DiCorcia continues to take requests for help, which so far has a running total of 350 families assisted by a total of 850 volunteers. Every volunteer

was given a name tag and assigned to crews of 4-5 helpers. No crew was sent to a home unless the resident was there to show them what help they needed. The timing of the assistance was crucial, as the municipalities were initially removing the storm damaged debris with the use of private contractors. After December 8<sup>th</sup>, residents will be required to secure a dumpster at their own cost. The volunteer effort saved many people a lot of money.

Jersey Mike's Subs furnished subs for the work crews. Brigg's Transportation picked up and dropped off work crews to those in need. The Lodge Senior Steward Robert Kennedy kept hot coffee going and would make hot soup when he had a chance. W.B. Richard Hurley kept all the donated goods in an orderly fashion, which were dispersed to the work crews or those who visited the lodge asking for help.

All this took place despite some damage to the Lodge roof, which was temporarily repaired by the Lodge Senior Warden Mel Russen and two men, one a local carpenter who stopped by to see if the Lodge needed any assistance. Brother Russen took them to the roof and three hours later the repairs were done. One man asked how do you become a Mason. Guess the answer?

Ten days after "Sandy" the area was hit with a Northeaster. This only added to the need for help in the community.

While all these efforts were taking place a 53' tractor-trailer arrived from Minnesota with food, clothing, cleaning supplies and 17 pallets of water. Half of these supplies were sent to Tuckerton Lodge. The truck was driven by two Brothers from The Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Brothers Buzzy Olson and Steve Willet. Before they returned home they were made honorary members of Durand Lodge. They are planning a second trip in the near future.

Durand Lodge was the command center, wherein all of the volunteer organizations met and decided who was responsible for what, which prevented the duplication of efforts in the same area. In this aspect many church groups, business entities, and other citizen groups came together for one common good.

The towns all along the Jersey coast have suffered serious damage and it will be years before they will have any sense of normality, but in each of the are as there are Masonic Lodges there to help their community.



**Visit Durant Lodge on the web  
at <http://durandlodge.com>.**



# Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts



Grand Lodge

Hurricane Sandy paid an unwelcome visit to New Jersey on October 29<sup>th</sup>, causing mass destruction in what many determine, was the worst storm ever to strike the Garden State. Immediately, MW Glenn R. Trautmann, Grand Master, began relief efforts for the Masonic family who were hit the hardest by the storm. Power outages and much devastation on the shore line created difficult communication at the start, but efforts began.



The first of many outside relief efforts began on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, when a 53 foot tractor trailer arrived, driven by two dedicated Brothers from the Grand Lodge on Minnesota. The first stop was to Durand Lodge in Point Pleasant Beach where a large group of volunteers were waiting to unload, including many Grand Lodge officers. After half of the truck was unloaded, the move was made to Tuckerton Lodge where another large group of volunteers had gathered to assist. The many hands there included the Grand Master, the Elected Line, DeMolay, and many Brothers and their ladies. Supplies of all kinds were unloaded included many cases of water, clothing, sleeping bags, food and even dog food. Masonic families of the area had first shot at the delivery followed by the supplies being available to the community.

Assisting Grand Lodge financially in the first wave of help, was the Scottish Rite Supreme Council Almoner's Fund, thanks to Ill. John William McNaughton, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, who dispatched Brother Steve Pekock, Director of Development

for the Supreme Council, to deliver \$90,000 in prepaid debit cards to RW David Glattly, Deputy for New Jersey. RW Brother Glattly, coordinating with the Grand Master and the District Deputy Grand Masters, began distribution of these prepaid debit cards, basically providing needed cash, to the Masonic Brothers and widows who lost primary homes because of the hurricane. The coordination of the Brothers in need was done through RW Dieter Hees, PDDGM #20, who is still constantly updating the list of Brothers in need. Commander McNaughton has since committed more funds to New Jersey Masons, and promises to assist as much as is possible.

The DDGM's of our coastline Districts, along with many other Grand Lodge officers and Brother Masons, are diligently working hard to help all in need. All distribution of funds are being coordinated through the DDGM's.

"We sincerely appreciate the outstanding support of the Scottish Rite to assist the Masons in need of New Jersey" said Grand Master Trautmann, "And the outpouring of support and working together in brotherhood by our Masons of this state is heartwarming."

MW Brother Trautmann has set up a Grand Lodge of New Jersey "Hurricane Relief Fund" where all may donate to continue our Masonic relief effort. Donations may be sent to our Grand Lodge office payable to the "Grand Lodge of NJ", 100 Barrack Street, Trenton, NJ 08608, with hurricane relief in the memo. Donations can also be made by credit card calling the office at 609-239-3950.

This is a very unique time in a partly devastated New Jersey, where many Masonic families are in great need. Brother helping Brother is what our Fraternity is all about.



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Grand Lodge

# 225<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA CELEBRATION

*By Bro. Cory Sigler*

Hundreds of Freemasons collected on a beautiful Saturday morning in Trenton to help celebrate the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. Grand Master Glenn Trautmann and his staff put together a day to remember for all in attendance.

The day's festivities started at noon with the opening of Grand Lodge followed by a service and wreath laying at St. Michaels Episcopal Church. The procession down State Street was a site to behold with what looked like a sea of white aprons and dark suits.

Several programs were presented to the guests. Highlights included NJ Senator Robert Menendez thanking the Freemasons for their service to the communities and the rededication service to the "Old Masonic Lodge".

The day's celebration came to a close with the Gala Banquet in the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple. Some of the guests were lucky enough to get a sneak preview of the new museum that has since opened in the Temple.











Grand Lodge



# GRAND LODGE MASONIC LEADERSHIP MASONIC CONFERENCE CENTER M. W., GLENN R. TRAUTMAN





Grand Lodge



**OF NEW JERSEY  
IP CONFERENCE 2012  
ENTER - ELIZABETHTOWN, PA  
TMANN - GRAND MASTER**

# DAVID A. DORWORTH

## GRAND MASTER 2013-2014

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Itinerary	Port	Arrive	Depart
Saturday, January 11, 2014	San Juan - Puerto Rico	--	08:30 PM
Sunday, January 12, 2014	Tortola - BVI	08:00 AM	05:30 PM
Monday, January 13, 2014	Philipsburg - St. Maarten	08:00 AM	05:30 PM
Tuesday, January 14, 2014	Basseterre - St. Kitts	08:00 AM	05:00 PM
Wednesday, January 15, 2014	Roseau, Dominica	08:00 AM	05:00 PM
Thursday, January 16, 2014	Bridgetown, Barbados	08:00 AM	05:00 PM
Friday, January 17, 2014	Cruising	--	--
Saturday, January 18, 2014	San Juan - Puerto Rico	06:00 AM	--

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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# A Beacon of Light



Education

By Bro Moises I. Gomez

We do not often have the opportunity to honor and remember extraordinary patriots and freemasons, but on October 13, 2012 freemasons from many jurisdictions were in attendance to honor and dedicate a bronze plaque at the grave of ILL Daniel D. Tompkins 33°, SGC. On August 5, 1813, Brother Tompkins was chosen as the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, in New York City where the headquarters of the Supreme Council, NMJ was founded.

Brother Tompkins was born in Scarsdale, NY on June 21, 1774 and was a very accomplished politician and freemason, having graduated from Columbia College as a lawyer. He led a distinguished career serving in the New York State Assembly and later on as an associate judge of the New York State Supreme Court. His Political appointments continued when he was elected as the 4<sup>th</sup> governor of New York in 1807. He was elected our 6<sup>th</sup> Vice President of the United States in 1817, having served with President James Monroe - who was also a freemason. While Governor of NY, he mustered the NY State militia to join in the War of 1812 and paid for many militia soldiers at his own expense.

His Masonic career started at Hiram Lodge No. 72 in Mount Pleasant, NY when he was initiated on February 3, 1800. He moved up in the ranks and served as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York from 1802-1805. He then went on to become Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York in 1820-1821. He was dubbed a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret 32° on November 8,

1808, and became Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33° on August 5, 1813.

This past October 13, 2012, the dedication service was held at St Mark's on the Bowery Church at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave in NYC where he is interred. ILL. Bro. Tompkins passed away on June 11, 1825. In attendance at the ceremony were

members of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite along with officers of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The plaque that was presented commemorated his many Masonic contributions and accomplishments.

The corn, wine and oil ceremony was performed by ILL John William McNaughton 33° Sovereign Grand Commander, A.A.S.R. NMJ, ILL Peter Samiec 33° Deputy for New York, and R.W. William J. Thomas, Deputy Grand Master of Masons for the State of New York. Tompkins Lodge No. 471 of Staten Island provided the Tompkins family Bible for use in the ceremony, which happened to be the Bible ILL Daniel Tompkins took his oath of office on as Vice President.

This event was sponsored by the Scottish Rite Valley of N.Y.C., Grand Lodge of N.Y., Scottish Rite Council of Deliberation of N.Y. and the Scottish Rite Valley of Northern New Jersey.

What a fitting tribute to an extraordinary American and Freemason, during our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

*Moises I. Gomez 32° MSA is Worshipful Master of Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10 of Westfield, New Jersey, and Most Wise Master of Northern New Jersey Chapter of Rose Croix.*



## MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN Most Worshipful Glenn R. Trautmann

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DoubleTree Suites Tampa Bay\* • 3050 N. Rocky Point Drive West • (813) 888-8800

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For more information, please contact the Development Office at (609) 239-3999

\* indicates NEW location





## An "Altared" State of Mind

By Bro. Martin Bogardus, Collingswood Cloud No. 101

Breathing new life into objects that other folks feel have outlived their usefulness is something I enjoy since it allows my creative side to emerge. My latest project involved repurposing an old Masonic altar I received after my good friend Bro. Sal Corelli won it in an auction. The altar had resided in Florence Lodge in Woodbury, NJ, until 2012, and had been originally built in memory of Bro. William Elwood Speakman, a man who had been a successful businessman and member of several historical groups including: the Historical Society of New Jersey, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the New Jersey Society Sons of the Revolution.

According to the memorial plate stamped on the front of the altar, Bro. Speakman had been regularly initiated into Freemasonry, February 7, 1894, and had passed on to that great Celestial Lodge on high, May 18, 1915. During those 21 years of service, Bro. Speakman was both Worshipful Master of his lodge and District Deputy Grandmaster, as well as a Knights Templar. And although I haven't been able to confirm who the original craftsmen were and the date made, *(please write to the editor if you know the answer)* judging from its architectural style, it looks to have been built sometime between 1915-1930.



As for the altar, Florence lodge had gotten many years of faithful service from its altar until merging with Paulsboro-Swedesboro Lodge to become Clarksboro Lodge No. 87 in 2011. And since Paulsboro-Swedesboro lodge already was in possession of two altars of their own, the two altars at Florence lodge were deemed superfluous, and were among several items put up for auction to raise money for the newly consolidated lodge.

So, when Bro. Corelli initially told me he had placed a bid for a Masonic altar, my first question was less than enthusiastic, **"What in the world are you are you going to do with a Masonic altar?"** He said he really wasn't sure, but that the thought of something so beautiful and central to our Fraternity shouldn't wind up being bashed and broken in a

landfill. I paused thoughtfully for a moment, "I wonder how many brothers had taken their solemn oath or obligation on that altar over the years?" Now, I'm sure a lodge historian or someone with access to New Jersey Grand Lodge proceedings could tally up the total number in short order, but I'm sure it would be a really big number. What a waste it would be if we couldn't save this altar, I lamented; this silent sentinel which had long stood vigil over the decades, bearing quiet witness to that transformative moment when good men bound themselves before God Almighty in mystic brotherhood and friendship, to become brothers.

**But what could I do about it?** Repurposing this altar had created some personal conflict I wasn't quite prepared for. My mother lodge, Collingswood Cloud Lodge No. 101, had a special relationship with Florence Lodge. Florence Lodge was named for the daughter of Worshipful Brother Benjamin Cloud, who was the first Worshipful Master of Cloud Lodge in Gloucester City, NJ. Later, Cloud Lodge would merge with Collingswood Lodge to become Collingswood Cloud Lodge in 1994. Given the unique relationship between our lodges, I wanted to preserve something our own brothers' could appreciate and enjoy for years to come that was respectful of the altars' storied past. Firstly, I didn't want to break it apart and use it for scrap wood. The altar was too well preserved, with no discernible signs of wood rot or termite damage, to rip it apart. It would be a shame to dismantle something so expertly crafted. Secondly, I wanted it displayed in a place of prominence and lovingly used on a daily basis, not covered with an old bed sheet and left in an unused corner of the lodge. So, I thought about it some more and asked my friend, **"Well, if it's not sacrilegious: what about making it into a mobile kitchen island with a granite top and castor wheels so it could be moved around where needed?"** This way the integrity and provenance of the altar could be preserved and we would be sure to get more utility out of it.



He agreed, so the first thing that needed to be done was to make it mobile. This way it could easily be moved around with little or no difficulty when it wasn't actively being used. Fortunately, my Dad had a set of matching vintage castors that were a perfect fit for the job. We cut a plywood bottom to fit and screwed it beneath the altar finishing the look by



# As our Ability to Give Permits



Education

By Bro. Jason Vigorito, Adoniram Lodge No. 67, Lyndhurst

The recent massive storms of this year's end have taken an immense toll on New Jersey, as well as other states. Every New Jersey resident has been greatly affected by the historic phenomena of Hurricane Sandy and the follow-up Halloween Blizzard. While these storms' victims are too numerous to count, the efforts of our Masonic brethren to aid and assist those devastated have also been numerous, strong and vital. Here illustrated is one of those operations...

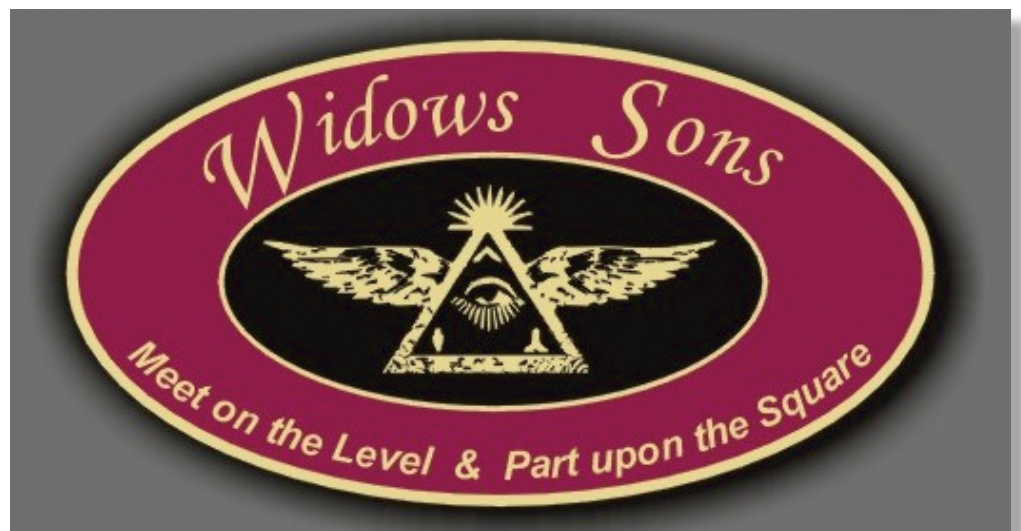
The Senior Warden of Adoniram Lodge #80, in Lyndhurst, received a phone call from WB Carlos Gandara of Lessing-Passaic Lodge No. 67. *"Brother Vigorito, the Stonecutters Chapter of the Widow's Sons Masonic Riders' Association is putting together a load of relief goods for Hurricane Sandy victims. We need a lodge in northern New Jersey to drop off these items for distribution, may we use yours as a Center?"* Phone calls were made, everyone agreed, and a dozen Brethren—including WB Gandara and the Fourth District's DDGM, RW George Mackanin—came to Adoniram to help unload the truck's supplies.

It only took a couple days, but the Association's many chapters from Maine to Pennsylvania were able to not load one—but FOUR—box-trucks, filled to the brim with goods! With the assistance of two dozen Association members, an estimated four to five tons of relief supplies were unloaded in Adoniram's parking lot and carried downstairs to the lodge's banquet hall where RW Hal Fischer coordinated organization efforts. There were cases of canned food; dried food; pallets of bottled water; baby supplies, including diapers, wipes, formula,

car seats, and cribs; clothes of all sizes, many high-quality with tags still on them; winter clothing, shoes, dresses, and suits; bedding and blankets; toys; pet food; health & beauty aids; cases of flashlights and batteries; even a generator. In fact, there were so many items the lodge couldn't bring it all inside! Outside there were two piles of bagged clothing, one of them standing ten feet high by twenty feet wide!

Throughout the day and near midnight, other Brethren and their families came to help and assist in the efforts. In the following week, many calls were made to distribute the goods. They were all distributed to clothing drives, animal shelters, churches, other charitable organizations, municipal shelters, Emergency Management Centers, and individual families who were hungry and homeless, from Sussex to Jackson, Moonachie to Fort Monmouth, Jersey City to LBI.

DWA Brother Karl Petry, heavily involved in the process from start to finish, captured it all on film. You can find his many pictures on Adoniram Lodge's website: [www.lodge80.com](http://www.lodge80.com). So many gave the Brethren their thanks through tears, smiles, and hugs. Truly, we are known as a magnificent Fraternity who does great works!



## An "Altared" State of Mind

*continued from page 16*

adding a wood skirt around the edge to hide the castors. The hardest part was mixing up the stain to match the existing mahogany wood, but after trying several different samples, we found a close facsimile. Deciding what to make the top out of was the next challenge. Although I had briefly entertained the idea of using Corian or plastic on top, I very much liked the durability and permanence of granite. The granite top was beyond my ability to cut myself, so after visiting several granite countertop establishments; I found a place nearby with a remnant that was a perfect fit. From there, it was just a matter of giving them the dimensions I needed and waiting for it to be delivered. I was happy with the result; but more importantly, we had accomplished our initial

goal of keeping the altar intact, and now the piece could be utilized to its full advantage for years to come.

Our Lodge's physical possessions are a tangible reminder of our shared common Masonic heritage and give us a sense of connection with our storied past. As we update and modernize our facilities, with a little imagination and elbow-grease, we can re-purpose our furnishings to be cherished possessions for years to come.

*To see more examples of Bro. Bogardus' and other brothers' Craft preservation efforts, login to Facebook and search for Freemason Craftsmanship Club. It provides a forum for people to meet, post, and discuss Masonically themed projects. Bro. Martin Bogardus is at labor in Collingswood Cloud No. 101.*



# My Masonic Family: Lessons in Brotherly Love

*By Bro. Ricardo J. Fernandez, PM, Trenton Cyrus No. 5*

Hurricane Sandy has come and gone, causing significant hardships to many people in our area. Although not as severely affected as others, I too have felt her impact. It has also granted me opportunity for personal reflection.

In times of trouble, my mother would recite an old Spanish poem to us. The actual words escape me but I have always remembered the closing stanza. The destitute subject of the poem, lamenting his sad and tragic plight, turns to witness a poorer soul trailing him and surviving on the few crumbs the narrator has left behind. The lesson: No matter how catastrophic our experience, there is always someone else who is suffering more. From a more positive perspective, we can express this similarly with "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade."

With this in mind, with the snow softly falling outside my bedroom window, I thought it best to Masonically reflect on my current dilemma... and make some lemonade.

Just about a fortnight ago, I prepared to leave for the 2012 Masonic Leadership Conference (MLC) in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. This year I was given the honor and opportunity to co-chair the education component with a dear Brother and I was looking forward to the long weekend both with excitement and trepidation. After much work during the summer, we had thoroughly revised the previous program. Would this radically new and different approach be well-received, effective?

As I packed, I heard my teen daughter ask my wife my destination. "A Masonic meeting, honey," my wife stated. My daughter replied with sarcasm "Oh, his other family." Brethren, upon hearing this I felt a sense of embarrassment, dare I say, even some shame and guilt. Was she saying that this other family had a priority, a higher value to me than she and my biological, my nuclear family? I said nothing and chose to stay with my feelings and reflect further.

Arriving at the MLC, I was soon caught up in the fraternal experience of the weekend; the old faces, the new ones, the hugs, the smiles. I set about preparing for my first presentation that evening.

Choosing to open with a little humor, I retold the tale of my daughter's comment, shared my feelings and also told them that she was right - my Brethren are my other family and, at least for the next three days, this other family of men

would not be yelling at me for leaving the seat up when I used the toilet!

We came home early due to Sandy's anticipated arrival. In less than 24 hours, I had no power, no heat, no hot or cold water, no toilets and no home security. I was a sixty year old "man of the house" with a wife and three teenage daughters, in a semi-rural setting.

We struggled valiantly for a few days but with no relief in site, my young children and the precarious situation, we chose to seek refuge. Ironically, this month I am also celebrating fifty years residing in the USA as a Cuban exile. Here I was, fifty years later, a "refugee" once again.

With my biological extended family too remote to be of help, to whom did I turn? My other family, my Masonic family. My Brethren reached out to help. At first with

supplies. Finally, a Brother and his dear wife took us in to his home without hesitation. We have been living there ever since. This charity was offered even as they struggled with severe losses they have also suffered at their beachfront property. It is from their warm guest bedroom that I write this essay as the snow gently falls.

We have had many wonderful evenings with warm meals in a warm home full of heart, love, and, on occasion, visits from the other local "refugees". I have grown much closer to my brother and his wife. I have seen aspects of them I would otherwise never have witnessed and experienced.

We have been here almost a week with no relief in sight. I spoke to him about an extended stay being likely. Believing in

hand-ups and not hand-outs, I offered money in compensation. Although he understood my motivation, and would consider it, he refused my initial offer.

We take solemn oaths and obligations at that altar. Most of us take those oaths to heart and try to live our lives by them, "Should you ever meet a friend, especially a brother mason..." We are a family, a very special family of men who are there for each other for better or worse, foot to foot and hand to back. I have witnessed it in action with other brethren and now me and mine have been the recipient of this great benevolence.

I could say that my brother assisted me because I am a Mason but I know him much better than that. He extended his hand to me not because I am a Mason but rather because He is one. God bless our Masonic family. God bless Freemasonry.





# Treasures in Library & Museum of Masonic Culture



Education

By Bro. Glenn T. Visscher, PGMar, Cincinnati Lodge No. 3  
Chair - Library and Museum Committee

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey continues to forge a new Masonic Path as well as preserving its Historical treasures. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012, at the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gala, the **New Jersey Grand Lodge ~ Library and Museum of Masonic Culture** celebrated its own Grand Opening and welcomed the public to view the Museum's Antique and Current Masonic cultural treasures.

The Library and Museum currently reside in the Grand Lodge Building on Barracks Street in Trenton, NJ. The Stokes Room, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, contains the Library while the Museum inhabits the Corinthian Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Currently, admission to the Library and Museum is by appointment with the Grand Lodge Office in Trenton. Thanks to donations from MW William Morris, PGM and Grand Secretary, and the Grand Lodge itself, the Corinthian room received major structural / ceiling renovations and new carpeting prior to the opening.



Charles D. Visscher

In the true spirit of Masonic collaboration, the Museum collection is a consolidation of exhibits from both the Grand Lodge Museum, formerly housed in Burlington and Trenton, and the C.D. Visscher Museum of Masonic Culture, formerly housed at the Valley of Northern New Jersey in Lincoln Park, NJ. The Museum of Masonic Culture at the Valley of Northern New Jersey was founded in 1998 by Ill. Charles

D. Visscher, 33<sup>o</sup>. What started out as a few boxes in a closet, blossomed to a 10+ year labor of love involving his whole family and finally encompassed 6 rooms packed with treasures from Masons of the entire region. It was truly a Museum which focused on "Masonic Unity" - Something by everyone and something FOR everyone.

The current collection goes far beyond those of the previous Museum incarnations, however. The Museum hosts a wide variety of Masonic Treasures that are Historical and Antique in Nature and some that celebrate our current and Not-so Current Masonic Culture. There is truly something for everyone in the Collections of the Museum! In one area, the reader may see a Brick from the White House, donated by President and MW Harry S. Truman in 1952 next to a Letter from President John Adams from 1799. In the next case, a set of letters from 1924 inviting the Governor of NY to dinner with the Marquis de Lafayette next to a collection of Antique Masonic Firing Glasses. Another viewer may enjoy the exhibits featuring our Masonic Appendant Bodies, including; Antique DeMolay Robes from 1920's, Eastern Star Cygnets from the late 1800, Full collection of Rainbow Girls Officer Jewels and a complete set of Shrine Fez' from all over the Americas and Europe. Still more may focus on the colorful exhibit of approximately 60 Masonic Aprons from Jurisdictions around the world and the exhibit of Masonic Automobile Emblems which are seen on all of our streets and highways!

Focusing on Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, the Museum celebrates the recognition between the NJ Grand Lodge and the NJ Prince Hall Grand Lodge with the Gavel and Pen used to sign the compact as well as a full exhibit of Prince Hall Regalia. The focal point of our Museum is the Minutes of the First meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in 1786, handwritten by our first Grand Secretary, MW John Noble Cummings and signed by our first Grand Master ~ MW David Brearley. It is a thrilling sight to see the formation of our Grand Lodge at work.

Future articles will highlight specific exhibits within the Library and Museum, including:

- An Antique Magic Lantern and Painted Glass Slides
- An Antique Blue Lodge Ballot Boxes and other paraphernalia
- An exhibit of Aprons and Regalia from the Grand Lodge of Norway and the Swedish Rite
- Non-Masonic Fraternal Regalia and their link to Freemasonry

The Library and Museum is supported by a dedicated Committee and Staff, who will continually setup, clean, repair, catalog, and find new and interesting items which highlight our Masonic Culture. The members and supporters of the committee include: Jeffrey Alexander, George Chidley, Moises Gomez, Rick LaBaw, Bill Morris, Billy Phillips, Robert Stutz, Barbara Visscher, Karyn Visscher, and Charles D. Visscher.

The history of New Jersey Freemasonry is made by its members, and we welcome any interesting or dynamic new items which may enhance our Museum. It is not uncommon to find a gem amongst the boxes in a basement or attic.

Please contact Glenn Visscher, Chair of the Museum Committee ([gvisscher@aol.com](mailto:gvisscher@aol.com)) if you feel you have something that may be of interest. We will evaluate the item and decide if it fits our needs.

We welcome all Masons and Non-Masons to visit and learn from the Museum and Library. Tours are welcomed



Magic Lantern



Antique Master's Pedestal



1<sup>st</sup> Minutes of Grand Lodge (1786)



Norwegian Aprons



# Our Patron Saints

## Education

By Bro. Raymond C. Thorne, PGT

P.M. Lodge of Masonic Research and Education, No. 1786

One might assume that if an organization or trade group had a patron saint, that saint would have some connection with that trade. Among the patron saints of stone masons, three are biblical characters.

St. Peter was the rock, the foundation, on which the Church was built. The English name 'Peter' is derived from the Greek word *petra* (stone) or *petros* (rock). Peter has several feast days, the primary one (with St. Paul) is June 29.

St. Stephen the Martyr was the first person mentioned in the New Testament to be killed for his beliefs. He was stoned to death and is associated with a stone pile. His feast day is December 26.

St. Thomas the Apostle became associated with construction through the apocryphal *The Acts of Thomas*. In the book, Thomas went to India to build a palace for a certain king. Thomas did build him a palace—not on earth, but in heaven. He is associated with the builder's rule. His feast day is July 3.

While these three saints offer presumably valid reasons to be chosen as patron saints for Freemasonry, our operative brethren chose two other New Testament figures, St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. Neither are patron saints of anything remotely connected with the building trade.

Masonry teaches that we should educate ourselves, so perhaps St. John the Evangelist was chosen because he is associated with the book. He is patron saint of, among other things, authors, bookkeepers, booksellers, editors, printers and writers. Or maybe he was chosen because he is the patron saint of friendships.

The choice of St. John the Baptist, based on what he is patron saint of, is more problematic. He is the patron saint of, among other things, baptism, epileptics, lambs, motorways and... printers.

Most likely the reason these two Saints John were chosen lies elsewhere.

John the Baptist was a cousin of Jesus and about 6 months older. There are two dates of the calendar associated with him: August 29, the date of his death, and his primary feast date June 24, the date of his birth. Feast dates for biblical saints were established early in the Church's history. Most saints have one feast day, the presumed date they died/were martyred. A feast day for the birth of a saint is unusual, but there were unusual events connected to John's conception, gestation, birth and circumcision.

John the Baptist might have described himself as "The voice of one crying in the wilderness" but he was an active man who drew a large following. He was considered a prophet by followers and non-followers alike and even had disciples. He predicted the coming of the Messiah and had his followers baptized, a ritual act of purification. Even today most Christians are baptized at some point in their life.

John the Baptist lived a simple life and saw things in black and white, good or bad. He talked truth to power, condemning the sinful ways of some of King Herod's family. Flavius Josephus wrote that Herod was concerned that John was becoming so popular that he might cause a rebellion. Either way, Herod had John arrested in an attempt to silence him. He was killed by beheading about age 30.

John, the son of Zebedee, was a fisherman. One of the first

to be called, it is said that he was the youngest of the twelve disciples. Several times in the Gospel of John is mentioned a disciple that Jesus loved and even had his mother move into this disciple's house so she could be cared for. This was while Jesus was on the cross and the beloved disciple was the only one of the twelve to be mentioned actually at the Crucifixion. The common assumption over the centuries has been that this disciple is John the Evangelist.

The feast day of John, Apostle and Evangelist, is December 27. He also has a second feast day, May 6, St. John Before the Latin Gate. According to the story, Emperor Domitian had John brought from Ephesus, in modern-day Turkey, to Rome. On May 6, 95 A.D. the Roman Senate ordered John to be taken to the Latin Gate on the southern edge of the city and there thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil. He stepped out of the cauldron uninjured and more energized than before he was thrown in. Domitian then had John exiled to the island of Patmos. In England from at least the twelfth century, if not before, to the time Henry VIII broke from the Church of Rome, May 6 was a second rank holiday, a day off for most laborers.

If St. John the Evangelist is John of Patmos, the author of Revelation (or Apocalypse)—there is a school of thought that says he is not—then he is a contrast to St. John the Baptist. John of Patmos saw not the stark reality about him, but prophetic visions cloaked in symbolism. It is said that John, Apostle and Evangelist, is the only one of the twelve who did not die a martyr's death but died of natural causes at age 100 after returning to Ephesus.

John the Baptist could represent the passion of youth and John the Evangelist could stand for the wisdom of age.

In Masonic symbolism St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist are represented by two parallel lines connected by a circle upon which rests the Holy Scriptures. This conjunction could suggest that we should plan our activities (St. John the Evangelist) and then clearly see them through (St. John the Baptist). Planning without execution is just unproductive daydreaming. Action without planning could easily be a futile or unproductive waste of time. And whatever your thoughts, whatever your actions, be guided by the Holy Scriptures.

Another reason these two saints were chosen was because of when their feast days fall on the calendar. St. John the Baptist, June 24, falls almost on the summer solstice and St. John the Evangelist, December 27, falls shortly after the winter solstice. (*Of course, the feast dates of the three saints mentioned above are also close to the two solstices*).

The Grand Lodge of England, the first Grand Lodge in the world, was instituted in 1717, on the feast day of St. John the Baptist. Today many grand jurisdictions, including New Jersey, have their lodge installations in December, on or before the feast of St. John the Evangelist.

While time can be considered cyclical, going from winter to summer and back to winter, it can also be considered linear. Both Sts. John in their own way looked forward to the end times, a time when God's plan for planet Earth and those who lived on it will be fulfilled, when hopefully we will inherit the kingdom prepared for us from the foundation of the world. And we are admonished several times in the ritual to look forward to and prepare for our own end time.

Perhaps this is the message of the Holy Saints John..



# The Season of the Evergreen



Education

By Bro. David Daehnke, Hawthorne Fortitude No. 200

The symbolic meaning of Christmas trees originates in pagan culture where the evergreen represents life, rebirth, and stamina needed to endure the winter months.

Scandinavian and Norse traditions honored the winter solstice (December 25) by decorating evergreens. At this time fir trees were also burned to commemorate the life that stirs even in the most frigid grips of winter. These traditions also marked the end of the old year and the beginning of a new year.

Pagan lore indicates the time between December 25 until about early-mid January are some of the coldest days of the year. It was believed evil spirits were at their strongest during these months. To thwart the spirits, evergreens were brought into the home as symbols of protection. These evergreens were alight with candles, the idea here was to "light up" the darkest, coldest conditions and thereby shoo away evil spirits.

It wasn't until about the nineteenth century that we find Christianity absorbing the bright, cheery symbolism of the Christmas tree. The Christians had long held the fir as a symbol of the Tree of Life. Early Christians knew their symbolism well, as they added candles and apples to their Christmas firs. These candles represented the light of Christ. The apples symbolized knowledge which spawned man's original sin according to Christian belief. Here we see the light of Christ absolving the "fall of man" within the immortal symbol of the Christmas tree.

Masonically, an evergreen plant is a symbol of the immortality of the soul. The ancients, therefore, as well as the moderns, planted evergreens at the heads of graves. Freemasons wear evergreens at the funerals of their brethren, and cast them into the grave. The acacia is the plant which should be used on these occasions, but where it cannot be obtained, some other evergreen plant, especially the cedar, is used, as a substitute.<sup>1</sup>

## Selecting your Christmas Tree

**FRESHNESS** - As every newscaster will tell you the Friday after Thanksgiving, check the tree for freshness. Run your hands lightly gripping the branch from the inside of the tree to the outside. You will have needles dropping, but there should not be a handful. You have to keep in mind that most Christmas trees, unless purchased at a cut-your-own farm, will have been cut in the beginning to middle of November. They are then kept in cold storage until delivery time to the garden center or corner lot. So when someone tells you that they were cut a week ago, don't believe them unless it is

the Friday after Thanksgiving. Also "bounce" the tree on the ground and see how many needles fall. There will be some, because even evergreens lose their older needles, which are located towards the inside of the tree. A good example

of this is the members of the pine family, such as white and Scotch pine. A tree lot will spend a good deal of time bouncing these trees to remove the dead needles from the inside of the tree to help sell it quicker. No one likes a tree that is full of dead needles! Once you have determined that the tree is fresh, you can move onto the next step.

**TREE TYPES** - Now you may be asking why we started with freshness instead of the type of tree. It is more important to get a fresh tree than a particular tree. Also, some trees do have the tendency to dry out quicker than others. Below is a listing of trees that are grown for Christmas trees, including pines, spruces and firs, including their best qualities and their drawbacks.

**THE PINES** - Pines are the Christmas tree grower's best plant; they grow rapidly, are ready for sale in

a short period of time, and can grow in a wide range of climates and soil types. On the other hand, they do need heavy annual shearing for them to attain that "Christmas Tree" look. With all of this shearing, the stem can be quite thick compared to the size of the tree, so check your tree stand for diameter size before purchasing.

1) **Austrian Pine** (*Pinus nigra*) - These trees make good "living" trees, or trees that come with a root ball. They can withstand the conditions inside and will do quite nicely outside in your landscape. Unlike most pines, the Austrian pine keeps its lower branches even after reaching a large size.

2) **Jack Pine** (*Pinus banksiana*) - This pine has very short needles (1"), but tends to have a yellow tinge to the needles for the winter, so the tree only enjoys a limited popularity.

3) **Scotch Pine** (*Pinus sylvestris*) - These trees were originally imported from Europe for fast reforestation of cut-over areas. It proved to be a disappointment because it tended to be short-lived and it grew crooked. Resourceful growers began shearing it as a Christmas tree, especially since it can grow in milder climates where spruces and firs will not. There is a wide variety of Scotch pines (French, Spanish and Greek) and they vary greatly. Most Scotch pines tend to yellow for the winter, and to compensate the growers will spray a colorant on these trees to make them look better, with limited success. Scotch pines also suffer from crooked stems, so always look at the bottom of the tree as well as the





By By Bro. Franklin Melnick

## MASONIC MEDITATION

*"Know him by a contemplation of His wondrous works."* This line, from the preamble to the Master Mason degree, is the clearest directive from our forefathers to live in a meditative consciousness. **Which, of course, leads to the question 'what is meditation'?** In this article I will delve into what is Masonic meditation, and how it is presented in our Masonic teachings, and fits into the life of a Mason and, as a practical tool, improves your life.

Meditation, in its simplest meaning, is anything that quiets the random thoughts of the mind that distracts us from totally being Here and Now. To make it easier to talk about, I'm going to divide meditative practices into three categories. The first I call **accidental meditation**. That's when you're playing music, or painting your masterpiece, or fishing, or reciting a piece of Masonic ritual, and you're just so focused on and involved in the experience, that all your worries, concerns, and mental distractions, just go away and you feel incredibly fulfilled and at peace in the moment.

The next is **purposeful, prescribed format meditation**. This is where you are usually sitting, probably cross-legged, back erect, breathing slowly and deeply, and focusing on a format that occupies the attention of your thoughts. Commonly used techniques to achieve this distraction are: counting your breathes, reciting a mantra, gazing at a candle, etc.

As Masons, we practice **contemplative, or existential, meditation**. I like to call this 'through the eyes of a child' meditation. Of course I'm referring to the context that we should see the world as if we were seeing it for the first time, every time, without all of the long history of assumptive associations that we have attached to these objects from our past experiences. This can only be accomplished when we view, or perceive, the world in its geometrically measurable truth, as width, depth, breadth, mass, vibratory level and wave length.

You've seen a tree a thousand times and in a thousand different situations. The various emotional interactions and memories attached to those experiences have become part of your mental library of interactions and emotions. When you see a tree it may stimulate an emotional and even visual thought pattern that brings you to a place that is other than Here and Now and colors the tree with your emotional history. As a child, seeing a tree for the first time, you were totally absorbed in being with the tree. You marveled at its mass, how its texture felt to your touch, amazed by its vibrant colors, and the coolness of its shade. Of course this is somewhat exaggerated to point out how being with something, totally in the Here and Now, is an experience of childlike bliss in knowing Him in the presence of His wondrous works.

In the book Heart of Buddhist Meditation it says "Right mindfulness snatches the Pearl of Freedom from the Dragon Time". Right mindfulness comes with contemplative meditation and is the practice of intentionally seeing an object in its

Geometric existential truth, just as it is. The Pearl of Freedom is having the wisdom to free ourselves from the slavery of our subconscious conditioned response patterns that control how we perceive the Geometric Truth of what we are experiencing and react just to the truth of Here and Now. The Dragon Time is our own subconscious slave master which links our habitual response patterns to remembered experiences in that immense subconscious thought library created from our past associations, both good and bad, that configures and colors our actions in the Here and Now.

When I manage to grab someone's attention and guide our discussion to Freemasonry I explain these ideas by saying; "Freemasonry is based on Geometry. Not the geometry you learned in high school math, but the philosophical Geometry of men like Plato and Socrates in which everything that is real, everything that is true, can be measured geometrically. This table we're sitting at (or any other object close by), has a width, a depth, a breadth, a mass which we perceive as weight, a vibratory level which we perceive as temperature, and a wave length which we perceive as color and form. As long as we are using the same measuring tools, the same units of measure and the same atmospheric conditions, we will always have exactly the same results; no possibility for debate, or discussion. It just is. What we build upon that truth is our perception, our construct, our tapestry, our theatre of life. If we are coming from a good place, Morality, Brotherly Love, and Charity, we'll say, 'what a wonderful table. It's such a great place for people to develop a friendship and share some good food'. If we're coming from a negative place, Fear, Greed, Envy, Jealousy, Hatred, we'll say, 'this table is a piece of crap. These people want me to think they're so great and uppity and they own this old piece of junk'. Neither is true. The only truth is its width, depth, breadth, mass, vibratory level and wave length. The word free in Freemasonry refers to the fact that we are all slaves to our conditioned response patterns. If Mommy hated the kind of wood this table is made from and every time she saw this wood she'd say "this reminds me of your father's coffin, and how horribly he died, and how it left us in such poverty and misery", every time you saw this wood it would guide you, without even knowing it consciously, toward a negative response. We as Masons, are taught to become free from this slavery by first consciously perceiving the world as it's Geometric Truth and then consciously being the Master Builder of our thought structure, the Master Author of our life story, the Master Architect of our beautiful world by choosing the Perfect building blocks of Morality, Brotherly Love and Charity. And if the conditioning is so strong that we can't break the shackles, at least we know to take the responsibility that we are choosing our response and not being made to feel this way by 'the table'."

Couched in Masonic reference points meditation is described something like this:

The purpose of Masonic Meditation is to train our minds to first, and foremost, be conscious of Geometric Existential





top on this type. With it being sheared, this tree is good for a “lights only” display as well as most pines. There are no real spaces for Ornaments.

4) **White Pine** (*Pinus strobus*) - This tree is very important to the lumber industry as well as the Christmas tree industry. It is mostly grown in the mid-Atlantic states, and buyers admire it for the soft green color and woody fragrance. Again it is a lights only tree.

**THE FIRS** - Firs are the most popular type of tree grown for Christmas. They have an attractive, deep green color and conical shape and have needles that are flatter and softer in texture. In general, they are the longest lasting tree in terms of needle retention and have the most fragrance, a citrus-orange scent.

1) **Balsam Fir** (*Abies balsamea*) - This tree is grown in the colder climate where winters are cold and summers are cool. To many on the east coast, a balsam fir is the only Christmas tree. It is naturally cone-shaped, needles that are rich green on top and silvery white underneath. Most only need three to four shearings before sale and are relatively quick growing. Of the firs, this is the mid-priced model.

2) **Douglas Fir** (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) - It is not a true fir, but does resemble the fir family, especially with its citrus fragrance. In the Northwest, British Columbia and Rocky Mountains, this is the tree of choice. Douglas firs have a blue-green color, excellent needle retention, but be wary of split trunks. I have seen hundreds of Douglas firs that have a split trunk 1 foot from the bottom, which will only complicate the cutting for the stand.

3) **Frasier Fir** (*Abies fraseri*) - They still don't know whether this is a different species from the balsam fir or just a climatic variation. The needles are short and hug the stem and its growth habit is denser than balsam. This is my personal favorite as well as the tree I have gotten for the past 15 years.

4) **Noble Fir** (*Abies procera*) - This attractive tree only grows in the Northwest. This fir is the best with needle

retention, but the problem arises that it is a slow grower, so not only will you pay more for this tree, but the trunk will be quite large.

**THE SPRUCES** - Spruces have stiff square needles, rough bark, strong branches which make it perfect for heavy ornaments. On the other hand, it is often too prickly for children to decorate and can drop needles quite quickly. Spruces need to be watered frequently, and if you forget, the tree needs to have a new fresh cut on the trunk so it will be able to absorb water again. Spruces absorb water quickly, so get a large water capacity tree stand.

1) **Blue Spruce** (*Picea pungens*) - Known for its landscape use as well as a Christmas tree, blue spruce are definitely and eye catching tree. They do not tolerate indoor conditions, so don't bring it in until it is almost Christmas.

2) **White Spruce** (*Picea glauca*) - A nice tree for its green color, but again a heavy needle dropper when watering is not kept up.

There are many new varieties being grown today, and it is really up to your own personal choice. After selecting your tree, only give the tree a fresh cut just before you are going to bring it inside. Make sure you have a large enough stand for the tree. Sometimes it is better to have one too big than too small, for the larger one will hold more water and cut down your watering times. I have also heard to use aspirin, tree fresh and other assorted chemicals to help preserve the tree. The simple, most effective way to keep your tree fresh is to make sure to never let it run out of water...plain and simple. Good luck and have a safe and happy holiday season my Brothers!

#### Footnotes

1. <http://masonic.wikidot.com/evergreen#Rom>

(WB David Daehnke is Past Master of Hawthorne Fortitude Lodge in Ramsey, New Jersey, and is widely known as The Gardening Guru. You can visit his website at [www.thegardeningguru.com](http://www.thegardeningguru.com) or read his online gardening publication, Organic)

## Know Him by a Contemplation of His Wondrous Works

*continued from page 22*

Truth, and to associate this contemplation of Truth as His wondrous work. I use the shift in geometric alignment of my body, one of His best works, with the inhalation and exhalation of my breath, as often as I can remember to, as my Geometric focus.

The use of Masonic Meditation is to know, in your heart and mind and spirit, that Geometry is the foundation on which we erect the superstructure of Freemasonry in our life. On that unshakeable bedrock of truth we, as the Master Mason and Architect, create an upright life built with the Masonic principles of Morality and Brotherly Love and Charity.

The benefit of Masonic Meditation is to diminish the power of our Ruffian thought patterns of fear, greed, envy,

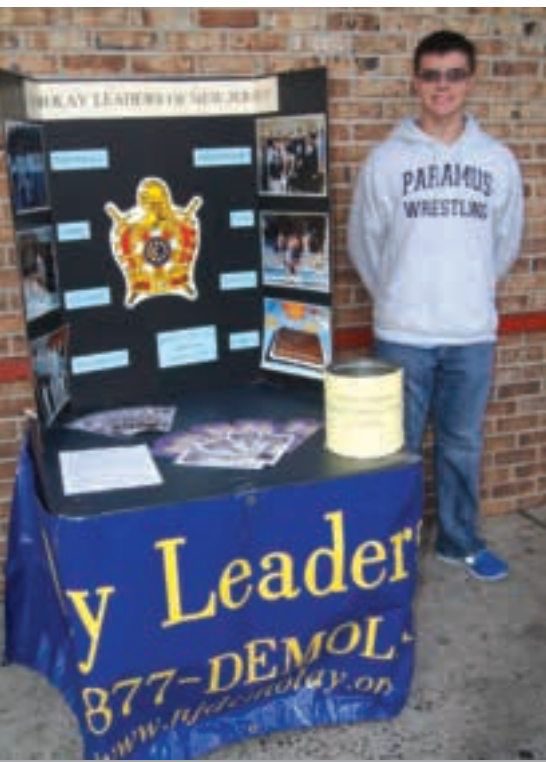
jealousy, hatred, etc.... I say diminish because they represent very deeply rooted and strong emotions that will slay our inner Hiram, and the Masonic Meditation will raise Him again and again.

The Fraternal function of Masonic Meditation is to create an environment in which we can practice the injunctive from our Masonic closing, “Be Ye All of ONE Mind”. This group state of higher awareness is achieved when we are all focused on Geometric Truth.

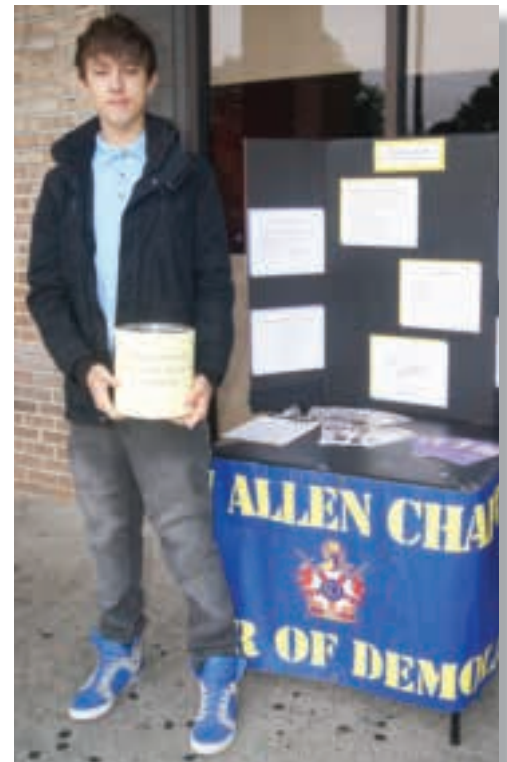
Consciously practice making Geometry part of your life.



# DeMolay Supports Learning Center



The Ethan Allen Chapter of the DeMolay Leaders of New Jersey held a coin drop fundraiser on September 29<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Scottish Rite Dyslexia Learning Center in Tenafly. The chapter has supported this organization over the past several years on behalf of one of the chapter's senior members who was tutored there as a child. The fundraiser took place at the Stop & Shop in Tenafly. Despite the chilly weather, donors were very generous. A total of \$306 was raised in about 4 1/2 hours with 100% of the proceeds going to the center to provide free tutoring for children with dyslexia. Dad Dave Glatty, Deputy for NJ, AASR, Center Chairman Dad Doug Ford, and Center Director Georgette Dickman expressed their gratefulness for the efforts of the young men of the chapter. Dad Ford said, "It is wonderful to see these young DeMolays working hard and learning lifelong benefits of community service."



**200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scottish Rite Commemorative Polo Shirts**

These Fine Quality Short Sleeve Polo Shirts are available as a Fundraiser for the Children's Dyslexia Centers Inc. The white shirts with Blue trim around the collar are 60% cotton, 40% polyester. You will be amazed by the quality of the material and embroidery.




**Order your shirt today!**

Name

Street Address

City/Town, State, Zip Code

Phone #  Email

Size  Quantity  Total for Shirts

Shipping Charge  = Total Enclosed

All Sizes are Men's sizes; Small, Medium, Large, Xtra Large and 2X are \$25 ea.  
 Sizes, 3X, 4X are \$30.

Shipping in the continental US is by USPS Priority Mail \$6.05 per shirt.

Please make check payable to: Children's Dyslexia Centers Inc. and mail to  
 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Shirts c/o Roger Quintana, 75 Cameo Pl, Colonia, NJ 07067

Any questions please contact: [rquintana@gmail.com](mailto:rquintana@gmail.com). Thank you for supporting the Learning Centers

The Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey offers these scholarships to students interested in pursuing higher education:					
Scholarship Name	Amount	Who is Eligible	Major	Grade Point Average	Comb. SATs
<b>Chairman of the Board Scholarship</b>	\$10,000 (\$2,500/year for 4 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Must Available: 3	Graduating H.S. Senior	Any	B or 3.0	1800
<b>Taylor Scholarship</b>	\$4,000 (\$1,000/year for 4 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Must Available: 2 - Comments: Must do 30 hours of community service each summer prior to fall semester	Graduating NJ H.S. Senior	Any	B or 3.0	1500
<b>Patterson Engineering Scholarship</b>	\$16,000 (\$4,000/year for 4 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Preferred, not required Available: 1 - Comments: Emphasis on teacher recommendation and student's statement	Graduating NJ H.S. Senior	Engineering	C+ or 2.5 over last 2 years	1250
<b>Culver DeMolay Scholarship</b>	\$4,000 (\$1,000/year for 4 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Active DeMolay preferred Available: 3	Graduating NJ H.S. Senior	Any	B or 3.0 over last 2 years	1500
<b>Serewitch DeMolay Scholarship</b>	\$20,000 (\$5,000/year for 4 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Must be active DeMolay Available: 1 - Comments: Emphasis on teacher recommendation and student's statement	Graduating NJ H.S. Senior	Any	C+ or 2.2 over last 2 years	1300
<b>President of the Board Scholarship</b>	\$5,000 (\$2,500/year for 2 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Must Available: 1	2-Year Comm. College Student	Any	B or 3.0 over last 2 years	1800
<b>Asbury Jordan Lodge Scholarship (in honor of Christian Hoggensen and John D. Post)</b>	\$4,000 (\$1,000/year for 4 years) Relative of NJ Mason: Preferred, not required Available: 1	Graduating H.S. Senior	Any	B or 3.0 over last 2 years	1400

For complete details about each scholarship's eligibility requirements, or for an application, visit: [www.njmasonic.org](http://www.njmasonic.org) or [www.newjerseygrandlodge.org](http://www.newjerseygrandlodge.org)  
 COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 15, 2013.

Masonic Charity Foundation of New Jersey, 902 Jacksonville Road, Burlington, NJ 08016-3896 • (609) 589-4032





## 2012 Food Baskets Drive

Masons in Action



On Saturday Morning, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the Brethren of Merchantville Lodge #119, F.&A.M. led by the Worshipful Master, WB Chris Kochon (*in middle with US Army Hat*) assembled for the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Baskets Drive for needy families at Merchantville Lodge. *Photo by RW Philip M. DeRoxtra, PSGM.*

Over 120 Christmas Baskets were delivered to needy families in Camden & Burlington Counties as well as families of Military Personnel at Joint Base Lakehurst/Maguire/Dix in Browns Mills, New Jersey. Additional turkeys, bags of potatoes, vegetables, bread and other food items were also sent to Tuckerton Lodge for dinners of those Brethren, families and friends who were victims of Superstore Sandy.

Bro. Eugene Fratz of Merchantville Lodge is seen in photo on right unloading truck of Food Items at Tuckerton Masonic Lodge sent by the Brethren of Merchantville Lodge for the Hurricane relief efforts. More than 400 Dinners a day are being prepared by our Brethren at Tuckerton Lodge aiding in this effort. *Photo by RW Henry Fratz, DDGM 19<sup>th</sup> Dist. and Dual Member of Merchantville Lodge.*



Covenant Lodge #161 held a breakfast with Santa on December 1, 2012. Following is a photograph of the daughters, and grandchildren of Brother Richard Dreby a member of Covenant.

*Pictured left to right Shane, Brody, Brian, Santa, Cantlin and Heather Dunlap, with Nate, Dana, and Logan Collins in the front of Santa.*

## Masonic Pipe Club Starts Smoking

Masons who are pipe smokers will have a new social night out every month starting in January when the Craftsmen's Calumet Club begins hosting its meetings at smoker-friendly establishments around northern New Jersey.

The group aims to build a fellowship of pipe enthusiasts simply to enjoy wholesome periods of refreshment.

"While there certainly are rituals inherent in pipe smoking, this venture is free of labor," promises co-founder Jay Hochberg. "It's all about the pleasure of setting gentle flame to fragrant leaf."

The group's organizers have been scouting out suitable meeting spaces, varying from taverns that permit smoking, to lounges intended specifically for smoking, to smoke shops that provide seating for customers. A number of options are up for discussion, and suggestions are welcome. Visits to historic smoke shops in Manhattan are possible also.

The group's name derives from American Indian traditions, where the "calumet," or pipe, and the act of pipe smoking, had ritual purposes with very spiritual connotations. "The tobacco smoke rising from the pipe to the sky was considered prayer-like," Hochberg explained, "much like how Masons describe our Pot of Incense in the Third Degree."

For more information, the club can be contacted at [calumet357@gmail.com](mailto:calumet357@gmail.com) or look them up on Facebook.



## Copestone-Ophir Lodge No. 108 Honors Members

*Submitted by Bro. Joe Halpin*

On Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup>, Copestone-Ophir Lodge No. 108 honored two members for their service to Country and Craft.

Both received special military masonic pins with their branch of service attached. RW John A Driscoll PGC, Colonel John S Driscoll spent 32 years in the USMC and authored a book Eagle-Globe and Anchor a history of the Marines from 1868 to 1968.

DWA Brother William Heberer served as a Tech Sergeant in the US Army Air Corp during WW II. Bill is also the Tyler of his lodge and Chairman of the Auditing Committee. These two men are part of the remaining "Greatest Generation"

Receiving a special DDGM Masonic Pin was RW Fredrick I Waldron, PDDGM who served Copestone-Ophir Lodge and Boiling Springs Lodge No. 152 as Master. He also served the Grand Lodge of New Jersey as Senior Grand Deacon and DDGM of the 8th District. Fred is also a Past President of the Masonic Kilties. Fred is well known for his "Presentation of the Haggis" to Brother Robert Burns a well-known Scottish author and poet.

All three of the brothers are well known in and about the Temples for their membership in many of the appendant bodies of Masonry.



*Pictured left to right RW Fred I Waldron, PDDGM, RW John A Driscoll PGC, DWA, William Heberer, WM Augustine Martinez, William L Hutcherson PM Secretary.*

## Navesink Helps Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation

As caring father and event coordinator for the Pediatric Hydrocephalus Foundation (PHF), Brother Freddy Stein of Navesink Lodge No. 9, Red Bank, has been proactive in raising needed funds for the PHF. Brother Stein is the Event Coordinator for NJ for the PHF, an all-volunteer non-profit 501(c) (3) charitable organization.

Stein attended and received welcome donations for the PHF at Navesink Lodge No. 9 and Durand Lodge No. 179 Point Pleasant Beach, and from the 17<sup>th</sup> District.

More information at: [www.hydrocephaluskids.org](http://www.hydrocephaluskids.org).



*Navesink Lodge Worshipful Master James K. Mueller presents PHF Vice President Mike Illions with a check for the PHF*

His son, Josh, is a junior at Monmouth University and was first treated with hydrocephalus when he was 21 months old. Hydrocephalus is an incurable brain condition characterized by an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid. Josh first had a cranial shunt implant in December 2009 and has undergone eight brain surgeries in the last three years for hydrocephalus complications.

Since December 2010, the PHF has awarded \$70,000.00 in grants and donations to hospitals, neuroscience institutes and medical research centers for hydrocephalus research and education. Recently Brother



*Durand Lodge No. 179 Worshipful Master Martin Anton presents their donation to Mike Illions, with PHF coordinator Brother Frederic Stein and Mr. Illions' son Cole.*





# Scottish Rite Medals Presented

Masons in Action

*Submitted by Bro. David Glattly*

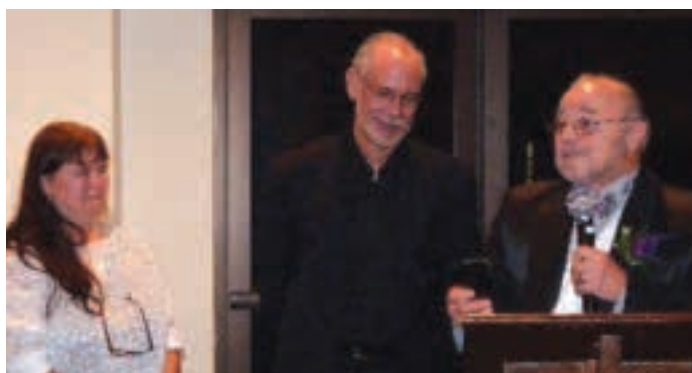
Unlike other medals and awards presented to worthy Brothers for exemplary service to the Scottish Rite or to the country or community, the Medal for Masonic Service may be awarded to a Brother Mason who fully embodies the tenets of the Masonic Fraternity, even if he is not a member of the Scottish Rite. This award is generated on a local level, based on the recommendation of three Scottish Rite members and approved by the Deputy for the state.

Three distinguished New Jersey Masons were recently surprised with this presentation, one at each Scottish Rite Valley in New Jersey:

**RW George Mackanin, DDGM** of the 4<sup>th</sup> Masonic District, on September 28, 2012, in East Hanover, NJ (Valley of Northern NJ)

**WB George A. Chidley**, Mt. Moriah #28, on October 16, 2012, in Bordentown, NJ (Valley of Central Jersey)

**RW William J. Krassan, PDDGM** of the 18<sup>th</sup> Masonic District, on October 26, 2012, in Collingswood, NJ (Valley of Southern NJ)



*Pictured left to right Cindy Chidley (wife), George Chidley, WB William Morelli, Executive Secretary, Valley of Central Jersey*

of the trustees for the Historic Trenton Masonic Temple, inc., and is active with several charities. RW Brother Krassan can always be seen with a camera, volunteering his profession for the Grand Lodge and other Masonic bodies, and is another Brother very active with charities.

This is a very worthy honor and highly regarded by Scottish Rite, as these Brothers names will be forever recorded in the Proceedings of the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, AASR.

We congratulate these three outstanding New Jersey Masons!



*Pictured left to right George Mackanin and David Glattly*

RW Brother Mackanin has distinguished himself as a dedicated District Deputy of the 4<sup>th</sup> Masonic District, serving several charities and as a member of the board of governors of the Hasbrouck Heights Children's Dyslexia Center. WB Chidley, a former mayor of Bordentown, serves as the chairman



*Pictured left to right RW John F. Daugherty, PSGS, Thrice Potent Master of the Excelsior Lodge of Perfection, RW David A. Glattly, PGMar, Deputy for NJ, RW William J. Krassan, PDDGM #18*

## Peninsula Lodge No. 99 Hits a Home Run

*Submitted by Bro. Gennaro Addresso*

Peninsula Lodge No. 99 in Bayonne held its 20<sup>th</sup> annual charity softball game against the local Knights of Columbus council in September to raise money for Matthew Dziekan, a Bayonne boy who was born with restrictive cardiomyopathy, a disorder that stiffens the heart and prevents it from properly filling its chambers with blood. He was given a transplant at three months of age and unfortunately suffered a heart attack last February, and is now in the hospital awaiting another transplant.

The Mason-Knights Charity Softball Game is played every year for a different Bayonne charity. Bro. John Mescavage, chairman for the committee, wanted 2012 to be a banner year

as it was the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event. Bro. Richard Roman, secretary for the committee, challenged the brethren of Peninsula to raise \$20,000 to complement the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Worshipful Master Robert Kacsma told his committee they had his full support to make this challenge a reality. The rest of the committee consists of Brothers Jim Redando, Luciano DaGosto, Joe Czaplak and RW Gennaro Addresso.

Meanwhile, Bro. Dave Demanco and his wife Dawn approached the committee about holding a tricky tray after the game to help raise funds for Matthew. Again the Peninsula brethren went to work, resulting in a total of more than \$25,000 was raised to help the Dziekan family.

Peninsula Lodge No. 99 Website - <http://peninsula99.org>.



## 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Scottish Rite Recipients

The following Freemasons from New Jersey were elected to receive the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of Scottish Rite. This was announced at our NJ State Banquet in Cleveland at the Supreme Council Session of the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, on August 28<sup>th</sup>:

### Valley of Southern New Jersey:

WB Allan D. Kline (Medford #178)  
RW Gerald J. Sharpe, SGW (Keystone #153)  
RW Robert Thornborough, PGC (Shekinah #58)

### Valley of Central Jersey:

RW Henry P. Fratz, DDGM #19 (Mount Moriah #28)  
WB William J. Morelli (Mount Moriah #28)

### Valley of Northern New Jersey:

RW William J. Anderson, PSGS (Secaucus Hudson #72)  
WB Rajaram Rao (Lafayette #27)  
RW Charles Secallus, PDRI (Acacia #20)  
MW Ferris O. Tryon, PGM (Blue Stone - Mystic Tie Malta Doric #35)  
WB Ronald J. York (Atlas Pythagoras #10)

These Brothers will receive the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree at the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Session of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction Scottish Rite in August of 2013 in Washington, DC. (August 17-22, 2013)

At the Cleveland Session, the Franklin Publication Award for Medium-Large size Valleys was presented to the Valley of Central Jersey with RW Dennis Bator as editor.

Illustrious John William McNaughton, Sovereign Grand Commander, presented the Killian Van Rensselaer Membership Award to MW Glenn R. Trautmann, GM, for the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. This award recognizes a Grand Lodge for taking care of its members.

The following NJ Brothers were coroneted 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Masons in Cleveland:

### Valley of Southern NJ:

WB Francis J. Conway (Hightstown Apollo #41)  
RW David A. Dorworth, DGM (Covenant #161)  
WB Mickey J. Guarduci (Atlantic #221)

### Valley of Central Jersey:

WB Gary W. Filson (Union #19)  
RW Ian P. Korman, PGC (Rising Sun #15)

### Valley of Northern NJ:

WB Robert H. Peterson (Azure Masada #22)  
Bro. Thomas J. Prescott, JW (Clifton #203)  
WB Martin L. Spacht (Caesarea #64)  
MW Glenn R. Trautmann, GM (Acacia #20)

*Congratulations to all!*

MeetTheMasonsShow.org  
info@MeetTheMasonsShow.org



Journey with us

### Meet The Masons Radio Show

Freemason Radio



THE ALL NEW IDEA FOR A FREEMASON RADIO SHOW IS HERE!

The **Meet The Masons Show** which debuts in January 2013 is an internationally broadcasted radio show which aims to promote Masonic education and Masonic entertainment to listeners all over the world. The show will include a variety of content such as Masonic news, trivia, announcements, upcoming show topics, interviews and more. The show is hosted by Bro. Steven D. Zamouzak of Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10 and Bro. Rosario Panzarella of Mount Zion Lodge No. 135.



The radio show is available for listening at [MeetTheMasonsShow.org](http://MeetTheMasonsShow.org) and on iTunes. Please visit the website for further information and to find out how you can be a guest or writer on the show.

## Burlington Lodge No. 32 Lends a Helping Hand

*Submitted by Bro. Albert Brusco*

As has been our custom at Burlington Lodge No. 32 F&M for years our Charity Committee has helped many people in organizations with donations. We have been blessed with extra money this year so we have helped as many as we possibly could. Some of those that we helped are listed below:

Acacia Hospice - ran by Administrator, Bro. Joseph Franken  
Scottish Rite Masoinc Learning Center - Based at the Home

Burlington Township Food Pantry

Home for Battered Women

Wounded Warriors

Ladel of Love (soup kitchen)

Sandy Storm Victims (via Grand Lodge donation)

We at Burlington No. 32 wish all of our Brothers a Peaceful Holiday and Prosperous New Year.







## Masonry Fulfills a Need

Masons in Action

*Submitted by Bro. Harold Buchanan, St. John's Lodge No. 1*

It had been an earlier custom that the Mountain Lakes High School Track coaches would have a pre pasta meal before a meet with all the team members present. In the early days of the team, with the small number of athletics; this was easily accommodated at one of the parent's home. With the team growing in popularity and the total approaching some 150 members it was absolutely out of the question, at one parents home. The coaches had always felt that a meal with all present would promote team unity and camaraderie and really enhance team sprite.

W.B. Paul Lewandowski a Past Master of St. John's Lodge, who had a son on the track team thought he saw clear solution; have the team meet at the Lodge dining room, have the parents prepare the meal as they have done in the past

and let the team grow as much as possible. The idea was presented to the Lodge and it was heartily endorsed. It was readily acknowledged that a Lodge dining room usually sat idle many evenings of the month and would present no hardship on the Lodge. At the same time it would promote awareness and serve a worthwhile community need. The meal was planned for a night not used by the Lodge, the parents were very impressed by the hospital and several turned out to have had previous Masonic connections.

So after two evening meals it proved not only to be a very positive community affair but the team succeeded in significant winnings. The girls State Sectional Champions for 2012 and the boys took Group I State Champions which had not occurred since 1954.

Visit St. John's website at <http://saintjohns1.org>



## Keystone Lodge No. 153 Hosts Sunday Brunch

*Submitted by Bro. David Kroger*

On December 2, 2012, Keystone Lodge No. 153 Linwood, NJ held a very nice Sunday Brunch for our ladies and widows. We had a respectful turnout of 39. This event was held a Renault Winery in Egg Harbor City, N.J. Keystone has for a very long time had a ladies dinner, lunch, or brunch which always included our widows. Each of our ladies were given a small Lenox vase to take home. Visit Keystone Lodge website at <http://keystonelodge153.org>.

*Pictured from left to right Kay Munson, Joann Bingenheimer, Janice Fugee, Millicent Mossman and Joyce Bank. Back row Dennis Huey PSGD, Bro. Greg Southward JD, Matt Macready PM 2010, Alfred Johnson WM 2012, incoming Master 2013 David Kroger, Jeffrey Quicksall PM 2007 Sec., Edward Mowbray PM 2011, Bro. Rich Brosziet and R.W. DDGMA. Kenneth Novakoff.*





# Fraternal Snapshot

## Newly Raised Brethren July - December 2012

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Wayne P. Liberty	Atlantic	221
Ryan P. Hughes	Blue Stone-Mystic	35
Nicholas D. Guthrie	Tie-Malta Doric	32
Roger Thomas Benedict	Burlington	64
Daniel J. Santos	Caesarea	64
Edmund E. Anyzek	Clarksboro	87
Shaun M. Dickey	Clarksboro	87
Marc S. Urban	Clarksboro	87
Brian C. Drouin	Collingswood-Cloud	101
Raymond A. Cree	Darcy	37
Glenn A. Langston	Darcy	37
Guillermo Concepcion	Enterprise	31
Rodney H. Hadley	Enterprise	31
Emad G. Missak	Enterprise	31
Orjon Pali	Enterprise	31
Jacques Phanord	Enterprise	31
Joseph E. Attalla	Harmony	8
Keith E. Eickhorst	Harmony	8
Gerard A. Gauthier	Harmony	8
James G. McBain, II	Harmony	8
Christopher Roberts	Harmony	8
Scott Waselik	Harmony	8
Ryan T. Westra	Harmony	8
Ryan Brady	LaFayette	27
John C. Richards	LaFayette	27
Jeffrey J. Spatola	LaFayette	27
William J. Towney	LaFayette	27
Rommel P. Casibang	Laurel	237

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Joseph S. Cvikich	Laurel	237
John A. Delabo	Laurel	237
Adrian M. Graciano	Laurel	237
James D. Griggs	Laurel	237
Richard S. Hessert	Laurel	237
Michael J. Jugan	Laurel	237
Robert S. Outlaw	Laurel	237
Miguel C. Jardiel	Loyalty	33
David A. Lippincott	Loyalty	33
Robert P. Miller	Loyalty	33
Ricardo M. Sarte	Loyalty	33
Vincent J. Fean	M.B. Taylor	141
Michael E. Lawrow	M.B. Taylor	141
Michael J. Belsanti	Mantua	95
Matthew J. Palmerchuck	Mantua	95
Jordan R. Tuttle	Mantua	95
Arthur J. Campbell	Matawan	192
Nicholas J. Michaels	Matawan	192
Nelson S. Saavedra	Matawan	192
Kyle R. Down	Merchantville	119
Bryan M. Ethier	Merchantville	119
David A. Infante	Merchantville	119
Michael Passio	Merchantville	119
Pedro J. Sime	Merchantville	119
Harry A. Edmiston	Mizpah Haddon Heights	191
Vincent P. Carlomagno	Monmouth	172
Michael K. Neylan, Jr.	Mount Moriah	28
Barclay Townsend	Mount Moriah	28
Shaun Bailey	Mozart	121
Bruce T. Tretheway, Jr.	Mozart	121
Christopher J. Valver	Mozart	121
Joseph B. Valver	Mozart	121
Michael Diaz	Nutley	25
Ricardo Feliciano	Nutley	25

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Joel Finnerty	Nutley	25
Michael A. Liebman	Nutley	25
Javier Osorio	Nutley	25
Jermaine Santiago	Nutley	25
Nicholas A. Repertorio	Ocean	89
Joseph N. Heaton	Olive Branch	16
John Perri	Olive Branch	16
Lloyd Booker	Peninsula	99
James Dillon	Peninsula	99
Robert J. Napoleon	Peninsula	99
Rico A. Rivera	Peninsula	99
William L. Holmes, III	Penns Grove-Excelsior	54
John S. Shuman	Penns Grove-Excelsior	54
Joseph J. Katona, IV	Princeton	38
Brian M. Day	Shekinah	58
Matthew J. Lamanteer	Shekinah	58
Joseph V. Bermudez	Sons of Liberty	301
Juan Pablo Posada	Sons of Liberty	301
Ross P. English	Star	65
George W. Pierpoint, IV	Star	65
Mark C. Consiglio	Theodore Roosevelt	219
Jerry J. Derillo	Theodore Roosevelt	219
John R. Markowitz	Theodore Roosevelt	219
Marcus A. Rosario	Theodore Roosevelt	219
Benjamin P. Dailey	Trenton Cyrus	5
Raymond J. Whittaker, IV	Trenton Cyrus	5
David M. Adkins	Unity	96
Louis S. Crisafulli	Warren	13
Michael A. Inscho	Warren	13
Dennis I. Paola	Warren	13
Scott Wikander	Warren	13
Michael J. Dileo	Williamstown	166
Kevin M. Karcher, Sr.	Williamstown	166
John L. Holup	Wyckoff	287

## 50 Year Members May - December 2012

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Edwin R. Cardinal	Acacia	20
James F. Hale	Acacia	20
William J. Kehoe	Acacia	20
Robert L. Miller	Acacia	20
George P. O'Brien	Acacia	20
William W. Perkins	Acacia	20
Donald A. Scott, Sr.	Acacia	20
John R. Tasin	Acacia	20
William E. Bullard	Adoniram	80
Arnold E. Dworkin	Adoniram	80
Warren E. Holck	Adoniram	80
William N. Leger	Adoniram	80
John W. Pickup	Adoniram	80
Richard R. Beecker	Amwell	12
Norman A. Mirne	Asbury Jordan	142
Allan J. Clelland	Atlas Pythagoras	10
Donald G. Tisch	Atlas Pythagoras	10
Thomas S. Clendining	Audubon Parkside	218
George F. Corkery, Jr.	Audubon Parkside	218
Robert P. Hawkins, Jr.	Audubon Parkside	218
Percy G. Sussex	Audubon Parkside	218
Robert H. Peterson	AzureMasada	22
Robert E. Shapiro	AzureMasada	22
Paul Williams	AzureMasada	22
Steve M. Zimmerman	AzureMasada	22
John S. Keenan	Belcher	180
Theodore I. Serewitch	Belcher	180
Firman H. Abdill, Jr.	Beverly Riverside	107
Francis D. Hopkins	Beverly Riverside	107
Robert W. Jobes	Beverly Riverside	107
Louis Krichovitz	Beverly Riverside	107
John J. Pennell	Beverly Riverside	107
Harold H. Wilmerton	Beverly Riverside	107
Dorson D. Benson	Blairstown	165
Walter H. Hufford	Burlington	32

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Willard H. Noble	Burlington	32
Earl J. Nielsen, Jr.	Caesarea	64
Guy Jensen	Cape Island	30
John R. David	Central	44
Alexander A. Laurie	Cincinnati	3
Neil McLaughlan	Cincinnati	3
Charles D. Visscher	Cincinnati	3
Eugene A. Abbate	Clifton	203
Andrew Exarchos	Clifton	203
Omar J. Crawford	Collingswood Cloud	101
Thomas H. Mott	Collingswood Cloud	101
Stanley W. Steigerwalt	Collingswood Cloud	101
Arthur A. Arntz	Colonial	24
Malcolm Lines	Colonial	24
E Haas Galloway, Jr.	Congdon Overlook	163
Kenneth E. Simone	Congdon Overlook	163
Herbert D. Vollers	Congdon Overlook	163
Henry D. Girdwood	Copetone Ophir	108
Jack Palmer	Copetone Ophir	108
Richard D. Fausch	Covenant	161
Richard A. Gant	Durand	179
Roger W. Kemp	Durand	179
Charles Ronk, Jr.	Durand	179
Arthur W. Weber, Jr.	Durand	179
John F. VanEvelde	Eclipse	259
Henry Vonderosten	Eclipse	259
Thomas S. Watt	Enterprise	31
John H. Buschman	Essex	7
William T. Collins	Evening Star	97
Donald I. Sherman	Fulton Friendship	102
Howard E. Altemus	Genesis	88
Frederick Feld	Genesis	88
Fred Gresovic	Genesis	88
Richard H. Riley	Genesis	88
Hugh J. Black	Gothic Fraternal	270
Richard A. Johnson	Gothic Fraternal	270
Elmer R. Potent	Gothic Fraternal	270
William E. Gwyer	Harmony	18
Kenneth R. Robinson	Harmony	18
Robert H. Corby	Jerusalem	26

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Jene F. Hendershot	Jerusalem	26
Thomas R. Mayer	Jerusalem	26
Harry Brown	Justice	285
David Leavy	Justice	285
George E. Engelbrecht	Keystone	153
Roy E. Aber	Kittatinny	164
Robert Burke	Lafayette	27
James R. Decker	Lafayette	27
Wilbur G. Mulhollem	Lafayette	27
Walter R. Rodgers	Lafayette	27
Irwin Roff	Lafayette	27
Richard Samer	Lafayette	27
Alexander Zlata	Lafayette	27
Edwin W. Griffiths, Jr.	Laurel	237
Fred J. Maiden, Jr.	Laurel	237
John B. Mumie	Laurel	237
Alfred W. Strater	Laurel	237
Milton Brown	Lessing Passaic	67
Gary B. Fieman	Lessing Passaic	67
Leonard G. Rosenberg	Lessing Passaic	67
David Smith	Lessing Passaic	67
Robert W. Stenger	Lessing Passaic	67
Charles J. Flannagan	Little Falls	263
Jack C. Chaiklin	Livingston	11
Richard Gillman	Livingston	11
Russell N. Jones	Livingston	11
Richard H. Kunz	Livingston	11
Ralph G. Scannelli	Livingston	11
Richard T. Scannelli	Livingston	11
Frederick W. Hettenbach	Loyalty	33
George Jamieson	Loyalty	33
Bruce A. Nelson	Loyalty	33
Russel P. Richter	Loyalty	33
Edward Wales	Loyalty	33
Ronald C. Weiss	Loyalty	33
Allen L. Lewis	Mansfield	36
Norman H. Dupont	Mariners	150
Robert O. Krampetz	Mariners	150
Floyd G. Bennett	Mercer	50
Lewis K. Thorn, Jr.	Mercer	50



# Fraternal Snapshot



Masons in Action

## 50 Year Members

May - December 2012

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
James J. Walton	Merchantville	119
Gerald G. Broxmeyer, Jr.	Milltown	294
Robert W. Olson	Milltown	294
John A. Van Dyke	Milltown	294
Jack Kwitchoff	Mosaic	194
Ernest J. Laios	Mosaic	194
Robert McLellan	Mosaic	194
Clayton W. Bailey	Mountain View	154
Joseph S. De Vries	Mountain View	154
Melvin J. Palicia	Mountain View	154
Andrew J. Madajewski	Mt. Zion	135
Joseph A. Schneider	Mt. Zion	135
Raymond N. Hill	Musconetcong	42
Charles D. McNear, Jr.	Musconetcong	42
Roy S. Sargeant	Musconetcong	42
Aubrey V. Adkins, Sr.	Navesink	9
Arthur R. Atwater	Navesink	9
Ronald N. Cook, Sr.	Navesink	9
Remsen Hunnewell	Navesink	9
Herbert Watkins	Navesink	9
Stewart T. MacFarlane	Nutley	25
William Spaar, Jr.	Nutley	25
Archie H. Gifford	Ocean	89
James B. Kirk	Ocean	89
William J. Rohaly	Olive Branch	17
Sidney J. Aumack	Palestine	111
Lester Carlsen	Palestine	111

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Harry Sandvik	Palestine	111
Jerome Schneiderman	Palestine	111
Robert Gollob	Peninsula	99
Arthur J. Hendra	Peninsula	99
Henry J. McKernan	Peninsula	99
Nicholas J. Milos	Peninsula	99
David J. Denelsbeck, Jr.	Penns Grove-Excelsior	54
Dale Van Osten, Jr.	Penns Grove-Excelsior	54
John R. Streader	Phillipsburg	52
John H. Wilton	Philo	243
Raymond W. Groff	Pitman	197
William J. Shaw, IV	Pitman	197
Charles L. Suplee, Jr.	Pitman	197
James B. Wolffbrandt	Pitman	197
William A. Hunter	Princeton	38
Richard M. Dixon	Pyramid	92
Leonard B. Galyean	Raritan Valley	46
William J. Gross	Raritan Valley	46
Alf H. Rix	Raritan Valley	46
William H. Bromley	Rising Sun	15
Roger B. Brown	Rising Sun	15
William B. Chain	Rising Sun	15
Edward L. Fayer	Rising Sun	15
Edward W. Flowers	Rising Sun	15
Walter W. Haswell, Jr.	Rising Sun	15
Elwood Keating, Jr.	Rising Sun	15
Rodger Lindsay	Rising Sun	15
Steven L. Shapiro	Rising Sun	15
Glenwood R. Bath	Samaritan	98
Daniel Borstad	Samaritan	98
Robert DeGraaff	Secaucus Hudson	72

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Curt Kelley	Sextant	286
George Carty	Shekinah	58
C. Randall Quay	Shekinah	58
Arthur A. Sievers	Silentia	168
Kurt W. Braun	St. Johns	1
Harold R. Buchanan	St. Johns	1
John R. Marra	St. Johns	1
George L. Bratsano	St. Stephens	63
Frederick D. MacDonald	St. Stephens	63
Clinton J. Johnson	Sunrise	288
Milton F. Showell	Sunrise	288
James L. Sprague	Sunrise	288
Carl C. Sterling	Sunrise	288
Irving N. Isaacs	Theodore Roosevelt	219
John J. McGrath	Theodore Roosevelt	219
Clifford L. Deaner	Trenton Cyrus	5
James R. Deaner, Jr.	Trenton Cyrus	5
Bernard W. Epstein	Trenton Cyrus	5
Russell N. Gilmore	Trenton Cyrus	5
Andrew A. Kniewicz, Jr.	Trenton Cyrus	5
Frank A. Diefenbeck	Trinity	79
Thomas C. Keck	Trinity	79
Richard Berry	Tuckerton	4
Wayne A. Frenzel	USS New Jersey	62
Platte M. Trevito	USS New Jersey	62
Ernest J. Wilhelm	William F. Burk	230
Frederick A. Ewell	Williamstown	166
Louis E. Neirle	Williamstown	166
Walter P. Chapman	Wyckoff	287
Robert Q. Rogers, Jr.	Wyckoff	287

## In Memoriam

July - December 2012

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Willard H. Hawley	Acacia	20
Paul L. Norris	Alpine Tilden-Tenakill	77
Donald Hullfish, Sr.	Amwell	12
Frank Albright	Atlantic	221
August D. Becht	Atlas Pythagoras	10
Eugene M. Uhlig	Atlas Pythagoras	10
Robert S. Hughes	Audubon Parkside	218
Morey E. Ershow	AzureMasada	22
Norman Wilkenfeld	AzureMasada	22
Clyde C. Deets	Beverly-Riverside	107
John Zakar	Blue Stone-Mystic Tie-Malta Doric	35
Harry E. McConnell	Burlington	32
Frederick M. Cain	Cape Island	30
Eugene A. Abbate	Clifton	203
Arthur W. Koester	Clifton	203
Charles L. Poole, Jr.	Collingswood-Cloud	101
Kenneth G. Neer	Copetone-Ophir	108
Harold E. Dombrowsky	Darcy	37
Norman C. Dunbar	Darcy	37
Dennis A. Maycher	Eclipse	259
Lawrence L. Sass	Eclipse	259
Dorson S. Mills	Elmer	160
George J. Lockhart	Essex	7
Charles L. Bechtold	Euclid	136
Evan T. Krieger	Fulton Friendship	102
Sidney Schiffman	Garfield	276
Peter Backer	Genesis	88
George A. Roberts	Gothic-Fraternal	270
John C. Rheinbold	Haddonfield - Cherry Hill	15
Raymond E. Sticher	Haddonfield - Cherry Hill	15
Thomas E. Ball	Harmony	18
Parker N. Leach, Jr.	Harmony	18
Everett D. McAllister	Harmony	18
Walter C. Miller	Harmony	18
Roger A. Purdy	Harmony	18

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Wilfred H. Swinson	Harmony	8
Robert W. West	Harmony	8
Francis R. Pullis	Hiram	17
James F. Henle	Hiram T. Dewey	226
Leland E. Williams	Jephthah	233
Russell A. Bauer, Sr.	LaFayette	27
Wilfred Eberle	LaFayette	27
Edward G. Geiger, Jr.	LaFayette	27
Stephen Lutz	LaFayette	27
Jerry D. Rybeck	LaFayette	27
Joseph F. Testa	LaFayette	27
Donald C. Lever	Laurel	237
Walter R. Mumie	Laurel	237
Jean W. Beardsley	Livingston	11
Harold O. Walker	Livingston	11
Donald O. Quier	Loyalty	33
Wesley F. Pollard	Madison	93
Leroy Lisk, Jr.	Mansfield	36
Earl G. Gillman	Mantua	95
Joseph F. Byrne	Maple Shade-Moorestown	281
Stanley L. Cluck	Maple Shade-Moorestown	281
Clarence E. Musselman	Maple Shade-Moorestown	281
Emil R. Nardachone	Mariners	150
James A. Noddings	Matawan	192
Charles R. Watson	Matawan	192
Barry W. Croll, Sr.	Medford	178
Richard E. Trimble	Medford	178
Norman A. Clowes	Mercer	50
Charlie Daniel	Mercer	50
Dennis J. DeBonis	Mercer	50
Kurt Hansen	Mercer	50
George L. Wright	Mercer	50
Kenneth Cohen	Milltown	294
Norman I. Price	Milltown	294
Harold L. Griffith, Sr.	Mizpah Haddon Heights	191
Rodman A. Doty	Mount Holly	14
Thomas W. Wilson	Mount Moriah	28
Ralph J. De Wilde	Mountain View	154
Eric J. Newell	Mozart	121
John Nichols, Jr.	Musconetcong	151

Name	Lodge	Lodge #
Ronald D. Ennis	Navesink	9
Frank F. Invernale	Navesink	9
Harold R. Kirchhof	Navesink	9
Ralph C. Latham	Navesink	9
Richard W. Height	Ocean	89
Edward V. Willver	Ocean	89
Robert A. Clark	Ocean City	171
Frederick A. Engel, Sr.	Ocean City	171
Robert C. French	Ocean City	171
Lawrence Wagner	Olive Branch	16
Richard W. Bagnell	Palestine	111
Lester Carlsen	Palestine	111
John R. Nicholas	Palestine	111
Samuel Shulman	Peninsula	99
Joseph W. Hymer, Jr.	Penns Grove-Excelsior	54
Michael J. Chomzuck	Philo	243
Clifford S. Frederick	Pioneer	70
Charles F. Schoenbaechler	Pioneer	70
John C. Yeoman	Princeton	38
Lyle E. Armstrong	Raritan Valley	46
Willard L. King	Saint Stephen's	63
David W. Conn	Samaritan	98
Robert K. Robbins	Shekinah	58
Edwin Gillman	Silentia	168
Roy Schwartz	Silentia	168
Otilio E. Grave De Peralta	Sons of Liberty	301
Robert Gasko	Star	65
Thomas E. Abruscato	Sunrise	288
Robert C. Hobson	Trenton Cyrus	5
Frederick S. Bell	Union	19
David G. Monahan	USS New Jersey	62
John F. Burke	Warren	13
James M. Kennek	Warren	13
Ronald Formella	William F. Burk	230
George M. Gill	Williamstown	166
I. Edward Weiss	Williamstown	166
Curtis B. Reiber	Woodstown	138
Joseph W. Hughes	Wyckoff	287
William J. Hulbert	Wyckoff	287



## High Twelve Will Grow Your Lodge!

*Submitted by Bro. Joe Keresztury*

When I joined a Masonic Lodge, there were about 80,000 Masons practicing our craft as members of our New Jersey Lodges. Somewhere, we have lost some members. As is true in every organization in the world, if we're not growing, we're dying; and with our members moving, and moving on, and becoming more active in other groups, or just choosing to sit at home; we have to find a way to re-involve our members in our fraternity. So here's an idea: give our members what they want and need from the fraternity!

When we first joined, we were overwhelmed and inspired with the ritual and philosophy, the pomp and formality, the decorum and precision. As we grew in the fraternity, became involved, attended degrees and meetings, we started to long for more. When we joined, usually, we had new Brothers to join in this fellowship and share our journey. We were special in the Lodge, and the focus of the efforts of so many members. But as we remained, the Lodges' focus moved on to new officers, new candidates and members, and new agendas. Where do we fit in to find the fellowship we so enjoy in the fraternity? Many of us don't work the hours we used to, although many of us have some time available during the day, many of us don't like to drive at night in the dark, many of us want to make a difference and participate in our groups.

If you want to grow your Lodges, satisfy your members' needs! Give them the fellowship freemasonry promised them! Retaining members is as important as making new members. Keep your existing members interested in the Fraternity and they will help you grow your membership. High Twelve doesn't distract your members from your lodge;

High Twelve enhances the masonic experience.

Fellowship, fun, participation, food, informality, Masonic fellowship with respect to our Grand Architect and our Country. Include the schedule for the Masonic High Twelve Clubs in your area in your Trestle board each and every month. Let your members know that there are activities for them within the Fraternity during the day. Lunch, once or twice a month, in an informal setting without ritual. Just fun and fellowship near home, at noon, as freemasons.

Keep your membership informed and active by including the local High 12 club in your trestle board and your district websites, and your Lodges will grow forever. If there isn't a High Twelve Club in your area, call our State Association Secretary, and we will do all of the work to help you start one! Call Ed Adamek, Secretary, njhi12sec@aol.com (732) 604-9405.

Joe Keresztury, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, NJ State Association of Masonic High Twelve Clubs. joekeresztury@msn.com

**Cherry Hill area:** Nelson Craig Club, Coastline Restaurant, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays.

**Scotch Plains area:** Union High 12 Club, Stage House Restaurant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday.

**West Orange area:** East Orange High 12 Club, Pal's Cabin, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at noon.

**Farmingdale area:** Freehold High 12 Club, Woody's Restaurant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday.

**Burlington:** Masonic Home High Twelve Club, Grow Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at noon.

**Mt. Laurel area:** Mt. Laurel High 12 Club, Bob Evans Restaurant, last Thursday.

## Nutley Lodge No. 25 Performs "Defense of the Ruffians"

*Submitted by Bro. Cory Sigler*

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Nutley Lodge No. 25 performance of Thomas B. Davis' "Defense of the Ruffians: A Dialogue with Conscience" was a site to behold and a thrill to experience. The cast was made up of seven Brethren consisting of Worshipful Master Jerry Lukowiak, Worshipful Brother Jose Villalta, Brothers David Reed, Bill Lobay, Javier Osorio, Riccardo Feliciano, and Jermaine Santiago.

Brother David Reed was brilliant as Jubalum, the Ruffian whose final blow killed our operative Grand Master Hiram Abiff. The play which centers on Jubalum and his conscience (Brother Lobay) having a dialogue about the murder after the execution

of his Brothers. We travel along watching how he first believed that he was justified in his actions to the final point in self-discovery. Through a series of questions and answers Jubalum provides the audience with a background in his younger days, working on King Solomon's Temple and finally to his capture.

This surely was no simple task to put together and all the Brethren of Nutley Lodge should be congratulated in this excellent form of Masonic education.

If you are interested in purchasing the play for only \$3.50 it can be found at: <http://www.macoy.com/Defense-of-Ruffians-P2263.aspx#>.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Masonic Secretaries Association  
Looking for New Members  
Saturday, January 19, 2013 9:30 am  
Where: Grow Hall, Masonic Home  
Campus, Burlington  
Contact Wayne Thomas for more  
information at 609.470.1591**





## WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR HOSPICE BENEFITS?

End Stage Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease • End Stage Cardiovascular/ Congestive Heart Failure  
Metastatic Malignancies • End Stage Pulmonary Disease (COPD) • Stroke (CVA)  
End Stage Renal Disease • Parkinsons/ALS • Multi-System Failure

## WHO PAYS FOR HOSPICE?

100% covered by Medicare, Medicaid, Veteran Health Benefits  
No out of pocket expenses or co-pays. Includes all medications, supplies & equipment  
related to diagnoses • Most private Insurers offer hospice coverage



*"As Primary Care physicians, the relationship we develop with our patients is paramount. They entrust us with their health, their well-being and their end-of-life issues. The experience we have had with Acacia Hospice over the years enables us to continue to earn this trust. The thorough and compassionate manner in which Acacia has dealt with our patients and their families has been everything we could hope for. The staff goes above and beyond to provide dignity and comfort during difficult times. The level of communication is unsurpassed and we are grateful for the care they have provided."*

Dr .Cathleen M. Finan • Finan Family Practice, P.C. • Cherry Hill, NJ

*"You brought a sense of hope and calmness to our otherwise anxious family as we lived more than 1,500 miles away. The line of communication was wide open, as were the hearts of those that communicated with us on a regular basis. Our Aunt left this world with the dignity and grace she deserved, in part because of your team's respect and care."*

MW, Austin, TX

## WE HONOR VETERANS: A MISSION TO SERVE

The Veterans Administration and Acacia Hospice are committed to assuring that all veterans receive comprehensive hospice and palliative care services where ever they reside.

Hospice is a covered benefit for all enrolled Veterans. Our single purpose is to provide comfort and support to veterans and their families at the end of life.



## BRIDGE PROGRAM

Available to anyone facing:

- A serious illness or life-limiting diagnoses -includes those still receiving curative or palliative treatments
- Navigate you through your goals for care
- Connect you with community resources
- Provide informational and educational visits; phone support and ongoing clinical evaluation in coordination with your physician visits
- No cost program committed to empower you to make informed decisions and choices



## ACACIA HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS TRAINING IS PROVIDED.

No healthcare experience needed. We have our own unique talents that can be shared with those we serve. You will be trained so you feel prepared and comfortable to serve. Your willingness to share yourself is the first step in becoming a hospice volunteer. If you are experienced a significant loss of a loved one, we ask that you wait one year before volunteering so you can take time to heal. Veteran volunteers are needed to serve veteran families.



Christopher S. Abbott  
Director of Development

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Web: [www.njmasonicgiving.org](http://www.njmasonicgiving.org)

PLANNED GIVING BRIEFS

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There are few things in life we can do for ourselves that also benefit others. A **charitable gift annuity (CGA)** is one of them. A CGA is a simple contract between you and us, where you agree to donate a sum of money to our organization. In return, we agree to pay you a fixed percentage of that amount every year for as long as you live.

### Funding a CGA is simple.

Write a check  
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### We will provide you a detailed illustration showing:

Your personal payment rate  
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You will receive payments every year, or every three months, whichever you choose. The payments continue at the fixed annual amount for life. The payment rate is based upon the funding amount and never changes.

Call or click for more information.

## PLAN TODAY FOR A FUTURE YOU CAN COUNT ON

Perhaps you like the idea of a **charitable gift annuity**, but you want an even higher rate than the one designated for your age. You do have options especially if you are just starting to think about your retirement, or are already retired and can wait awhile for your gift annuity to begin.

A **deferred gift annuity** is exactly like a charitable gift annuity except you must wait a

few years for the first payment. The longer you wait, the higher the payment rate will be, even if you are funding one for two people, not just yourself. The **deferred gift annuity** also features a fixed payment rate and tax benefits, but the income tax deduction is generally higher for a **deferred gift annuity** than a **charitable gift annuity**. Call or click today!

### SAMPLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES

AGE	RATE
70	5.1%
75	5.8%
80	6.8%
85	7.8%
90	9.0%



# One Simple Act. Many Great Results.



Masonic Home

The next time you are in a line at the post office, bank or theatre consider this: only one in three people around you has a Will. As you ponder the people in line with you, it does not matter how rich, poor, young or old they may be. The simple fact is that most people in this country do not have a legally binding Will or estate plan.

While the cost of making a Will is low, the price of not having one is high. Here are the benefits of having a Will:

1. You determine your wishes, and not a judge who does not know you.
2. You can avoid estate tax by making sure your priorities are met, and not the government's.

3. You can care for your family and favorite causes beyond your lifetime.

4. You have the peace of mind knowing your life's work does not end with an unforeseen event.

The Development Services staff at the Masonic Charity Foundation stands ready to serve as your estate planning resource. We have the expertise in estate planning and administration to assist you with achieving your estate planning goals. For more information, please contact Christopher Abbott, CFP® at (609) 239-3999 or visit our website at [www.njmasonicgiving.org](http://www.njmasonicgiving.org).

## Burlington Lodge No. 32 Challenged Again

Edwin J. Pearson, Jr. has issued a challenge to his fellow brethren of Burlington Lodge #32, F & A.M. He will donate \$1,000 to the Masonic Home – if the members of the Lodge will donate funds matching that amount as well. The challenge runs from September 1 through year-end.

This year marks the third time that Brother Pearson has made this challenge. The idea came to him in 2010. At the time, his father, Edwin J. Pearson, was a resident of the Home, and Ed saw first-hand the high quality care his father was receiving. He also saw the significant impact that the brethren's charitable donations had in providing for additional amenities for the residents. His challenge grant helps spotlight both the

Home and philanthropy in a positive way.

Both the 2010 and the 2011 Burlington Lodge challenges were very successful. In each instance, the total funds raised exceeded \$3,000 – amounts that entitled the Lodge to dedicate a room at the Home. If you would like more information about issuing a challenge grant at your lodge, please contact Christopher Abbott, Development Director at the Masonic Charity Foundation, at (609) 239-3999. As the Brethren of Burlington Lodge have discovered with Ed Pearson's help, doing so provides many benefits to our Masonic Home's residents!

## *Donate your vehicle to the* **Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ**

*It's fast, easy and hassle-free!*

**Call toll free: 1-888-71-MASON**

The donation specialist will ask you information about your vehicle, and will arrange for free and fast pick-up. There's no paperwork for you!

You'll receive a tax deductible receipt when you make your donation. Moreover, you'll know you've helped the residents of the Masonic Home of NJ. Trust the Masons to get the most good out of your "old clunker."



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