



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF THE ORIENT OF MARYLAND | NOV/DEC/JAN 2018-19

RITENEWS

OF MARYLAND





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ON THE COVER: Aerial Picture courtesy of the Honorable Bro. Richard Thurfield, KCCH



Sovereign Grand Inspector GENERAL
Marlin L. Mills, 33°

Editor
Fred Spicer, 33°, GC

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A MESSAGE FROM

Ill. Marlin L. Mills, 33°



"THE WISEST MAN SOMETIMES ACTS WEAKLY AND THE WEAKEST SOMETIMES WISELY."

-LORD CHESTERFIELD

GREETINGS,

As always, I hope this issue of our Rite News finds you and your family well. By now a chill is in the morning air and we have begun our labors here at the Scottish Rite, as well as in our Lodges. Though I have never considered it "labor", I have enjoyed every part of my journey through every collateral and appendant body. Each offering something new; yet always the same basic principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Having said that, I must add that each is a great organization and each one in its own "rite" teaches and should practice the virtues of honesty, integrity, and of course those basic principles mentioned above.

Each of these principles is intended to make a better person and help transcend our petty differences. Sometimes a very difficult thing to do. We all have our differences, our own opinions, and our own personal problems. I often wonder "why did he say that" or "why did he do that." Then I try to think that everyone has a bad day or has a problem that I may not know about and may need to vent or may need a little kindness or friendship.

In a book of quotes that I often refer to, I read the following from Lord Chesterfield: "Mankind is made up of inconsistencies, and no man acts invariably up to his predominant character. The wisest man sometimes acts weakly and the

weakest sometimes wisely." I also found this one from Frederick Nietzsche: "Nothing on earth consumes a man more than the passion of resentment." Do you know anyone those would fit?

One last one that may help tie this rambling together. This comes from a late Brother, Henry Hancock: "Out of our beliefs are born deeds; out of deeds we form habits; out of our habits grow our character; and on our character we build our destination."

Why not let your destination be our Scottish Rite? You could invite a Brother from your Blue Lodge to learn from the lessons we teach. You will strengthen your fraternal bond and form habits that may improve character which may make this country a better place for your children and grandchildren who will someday be the leaders of what we hold so dear. Fall classes are forming and petitions are available.

I hope to see you and your friends and Brothers in one of our Valleys as we strive to spread the message of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth throughout this great country.



Sincerely and Fraternally,
Ill. Marlin L. MILLS, 33°
Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Maryland



The *Rite News of Maryland* is published quarterly for the members, family and friends of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Orient of Maryland. The views expressed in the Rite News of Maryland do not necessarily reflect those of the Orient of Maryland or its officers.

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Grand Master of Masons in Maryland

BY: MW KOSTAS VOURVOULAS, 33° - JEPHTAH LODGE #222



“HOW SHOULD WE AS Freemasons meet?” We all know the answer to that question. However, men new to the craft sometimes question the answer. When a newly initiated brother looks around the lodge, he observes men sitting on the sidelines wearing white aprons. Looking closer, he may see men wearing aprons with purple on the edges and wearing collars and jewels. Some men are sitting in chairs one, two, and even three steps above the floor. How, then, can we “Meet on the level” when we appear to be so different? We meet on the level because we are all Brothers. There is no difference of station within a lodge. Some have chosen to accept a position of greater responsibility and become officers. These brothers are recognized by the regalia they wear. Some serve their lodges in less conspicuous capacities but are equally as important as anyone in the

lodge. We come from all walks of life and from different social and economic standings. However, once seated in a lodge, we are all on the “Level”. We are all working toward the same goal; of becoming better men. Better

WE COME FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND FROM DIFFERENT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STANDINGS. HOWEVER, ONCE SEATED IN A LODGE, WE ARE ALL ON THE “LEVEL”.

morally, spiritually, and socially. Becoming better men is the great aim we have in view.

There are many reasons men have joined and remained members of our fraternity. Some of us enjoy learning and participating in the ritual. Many enjoy the esoteric aspects of the fraternity. The social functions of the local and Grand Lodges also attract and retain members. We have all found our little niche in the fraternity. But the common reason men join the fraternity is “brotherhood”. We enjoy being

able to associate with men that think as we do. A place where we can believe “love of country” is not just a phrase, but a way of life. A place where we are able to help our fellow man through the various charities in which we become involved. By getting involved in our communities, and attempting to make them better places to raise our families. These are just a few of the reasons men become Masons. We must give men a reason to join and even greater reasons to maintain their membership. If we do not provide what our members are seeking, they will lose interest and very soon walk away. We must show these men that we are able to meet their expectations and be the organization they are looking for.

It doesn’t matter in which body of Masonry you are active. You must promote our Craft and encourage good men to become members of it. This is how we will survive.

It has been my high honor and great privilege serving you as Grand Master for 2017 and 2018. It has been one of the highlights of my life and I want to thank each and every Maryland Mason for the opportunity.

May the Supreme Architect of the Universe bless you and our entire Masonic family as we continue spreading the Light of Freemasonry throughout the world.

WHAT IS THE FEAST OF TISHRI?

Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles after thou hast gathered in thy corn and wine.

Deut. 16:13

The Feast of Tabernacles also commemorates the ceremonies of the completion and dedication of King Solomon’s Temple, which was begun in the year 2992 *A.L., and finished in a little more than seven years. In the year 3001 *A.L., six months after its completion, in the month of Tishri, the seventh month of the Jewish sacred year, the Temple was dedicated with reverential ceremonies to the one Living and True God. That these ceremonies would reach the highest religious significance, King Solomon postponed the dedication until the Feast of Tabernacles, the 15th day of Tishri, a day he well knew would bring every zealous Israelite to Jerusalem.

The Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States has proclaimed the Feast of Tabernacles as the Feast Day of the Lodge of Perfection, the 15th day of Tishri, (October).

As did the Israelites of old and the New England Pilgrims, Scottish Rite Freemasons gather to acknowledge the mercies which God has poured upon them with lavish hand. It is a time of rejoicing, yet a time to pay humble adoration to the Great Architect of the Universe, without whose aid there would be no harvest.

**Anno Lucius - Freemasonry adds 4,000 years to our current calendar year (example: 2011 becomes 6011 A.L.).*

After the Ceremony, a “sit down” dinner will be served in the Banquet Hall & each attendee will receive a bag of fresh fruit

Date: Wednesday, November 28th, 2018 @ 7pm
Cost \$20.00 per person, children under 12 are free

Please RSVP to the Office by Monday, November 19th, 2018

410-243-3200



Valley of Baltimore

BY: ILL. E. RAY LEPP0, 33°, GC - PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE VALLEY OF BALTIMORE



A Mason And A Man

Brother C.E. Reynolds

My Brother, Masonry means much more than the wearing of a pin, Or carrying a paid up dues receipt so the Lodge will let you in.

You may wear an emblem on your coat, from your finger flash a ring, But if you're not sincere at heart, this doesn't mean a thing.

It's merely an outward sign to show the world that you belong; To this great Fraternal Brotherhood that teaches right from wrong.

What really counts lies buried deep within the human breast, Till Masonic teaching brings it out and puts you to the test.

If you can practice out of Lodge the things you learn within, Be just and upright to yourself and to your fellowmen.

Console a Brother when he's sick or assist him when in need.

With no thought of personal reward for any act or deed.

Walk and act in such a way that the world without can see, That none but the best can meet the test laid down by Masonry.

Always live up to your best and do the best you can, Then you can proudly tell the world you're a Mason and a Man.

MY BRETHREN, I would like to share a poem with you by Brother C.E. Reynolds. I hope you find it as meaningful as I do.



Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection

BY: HON. WILLIAM A. ZARYCHTA, 32°, KCCH - ST. COLUMBA LODGE #150 - VENERABLE MASTER



BRETHREN, It is hard to believe my year as Venerable Master is coming to a close, it was truly an honor and a pleasure to serve. I would like to thank all the officers of the Albert Pike Lodge of Perfection for all the guidance and support you provided this year. Without all of the hard work and dedication to the Scottish Rite, this year would not have been as successful as it was. I also would like to wish Brother Senior Warden a prosperous and successful 2019.

As I write this, I am finalizing plans for the final lodge meeting of 2018 which should be an outstanding evening of fellowship and brotherhood. We are having Potomac Lodge #5 come and present on George Washington's gavel. One of the things that has always amazed me about freemasonry is the sheer size of the fraternity and the vast history we share as a group. One of the most visible aspects of our fraternity is its long tradition of ceremonially laying the cornerstones of

public and private buildings. This tradition contains great meaning for Masons and ties the fraternity closely to many cities around the country. The Washington gavel has been used on many of the historic buildings in our country.

Each of us should also use the principles of masonry to lay our own cornerstones. As this year draws to a close, reflect back on all the cornerstones you have placed and think about those you have yet to lay. Helping each of us build a strong foundation as masons and men is a "cornerstone" of the fraternity. I would like to share President Washington's closing prayer upon laying the cornerstone at the United States Capitol: "Certainly my

dear brethren, it must be as grateful to you as it is to me, possess the great pleasure of laying this corner stone, which we hope, expect and sincerely pray to produce innumerable corner stones; and that on every one of them, may spring immense edifices. We fervently pray to the Great Grand Master of Heaven, earth and all things, of his infinite wisdom, strength, goodness and mercy, to grant. So may it be."

During this holiday season, please reflect upon and enjoy all the cornerstones you have participated in laying. I would like to close by wishing everyone joy and happiness during the holiday season and into the New Year.

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Set to open in late 2021, Carsins Run at Eva Mar is Harford County's first and only Continuing Care Retirement Community featuring an unparalleled 60+ lifestyle in a park-like setting with resort-style amenities, activities and services as well as a continuum of care.

Sponsored by The Presbyterian Home of Maryland. The development of Carsins Run at Eva Mar as a CCRC is subject to the approval of the Maryland Department of Aging.

CARSINS RUN AT EVA MAR





Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix

BY: HON. ROBERT W. REYNOLDS, 32°, KCCH - IONIC LODGE #145 - WISE MASTER



AS THE FINAL HALF of the Masonic Year draws to a close, I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to all those who supported and assisted the Meredith Chapter of Rose Croix and me as Wise Master in making this a successful year. Many thanks to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General Marlin Mills, Illustrious E. Ray Leppo, and Illustrious Fred Spicer for all of their support that enables not just the Rose Croix Chapter but all the bodies at the Scottish Rite to continue to labor.

As too often is the case in our Masonic careers, we have a tendency to feel somewhat “relieved” when our tenure in a position comes to an end. With the hectic schedules from professional and personal

commitments as well as other Masonic duties, we feel the demand on our time and energy. We may even minimize the value of what we actually took away from the particular experience. That being said, we must stop and take a moment of reflection to ponder if our time was well spent. In my case, I am not only happy to have had the opportunity to serve as Wise Master but also to have been able to be part of the Rose Croix Chapter for the last eight years. One of the points that I feel is important to realize, as one moves up the line and becomes Wise Master, is gaining the inner understanding that those principles and ideas so often mentioned in the Rose Croix Degrees are gradually realized as being part of oneself and not just something to aspire to. In essence, we are continuing to move away from the “Rough Ashlar” and more toward the “Perfect Ashlar”. With this, we attain a greater sense of confidence and contentment in the way we live our daily lives.

The Maundy Thursday Ceremony has been special to me over these years as it is very meaningful and personal. It summarizes much of what is communicated in the Degrees of the Rose Croix. Faith, Hope, and Charity are at the base of how we should approach our lives,

whether in the daily execution of, or in the planning of where life will someday take us. The encouragement of earnest thought and introspection, expressed in the Eighteenth Degree, is an objective of the Ceremony. It allows each member who participates in it to have a very symbolic part that teaches the understanding of attaining further light. The position of Wise Master of the Rose Croix Chapter has encouraged me to continue learning what the five degrees within it are all about.

In closing, I would like to thank all those in the Chapter Line who have supported me throughout the year and done an outstanding job in their duties. I wish the best of luck to the new Wise Master, Lister Haughton-James, and hope that his year will be as successful for him as mine has been for me. I would also encourage other Scottish Rite Masons who have not been able, to look into furthering their experience at the Temple by joining one of the bodies and, if they choose, consider working towards becoming the head of it. It is one of the finest experiences offered at the Scottish Rite and helps us to better understand the journey through our Masonic lives.

Maryland Council of Kadosh

BY: HON. CORY S. WRIGHT, 32°, KCCH - MT. MORIAH LODGE #116 - COMMANDER

I'D LIKE TO START this message by thanking Dave Sandy, Fred Spicer, and Charles Matulewicz for being the only three brothers to read my article from the beginning of the year. After receiving such an abundant outpouring of support, I took it upon myself to skip the summer article. Now that it's fall, my favorite season, I figured I'd get back behind the keyboard and belt out a few words to my three favorite brothers (and anyone else adventurous enough to read this publication).

As fall approaches, we begin to take our activities indoors. Holiday parties come to mind. Tons of them! Especially throughout masonry. Here are a few things you can do to be prepared for the transition from fall to winter:

1. Buy yourself a new pair of blue jeans. I want to get my hands on a pair that are lined with flannel. Some of the best masonry is done without a tuxedo or sportscoat. Get out and practice masonry in your community.

2. White gloves are great for ritual. But they aren't very warm. Get yourself a good pair of driving gloves. I like leather ones. Every man should have a good pair of driving gloves. Best to buy them now versus when it's cold and they charge a premium. Allow these gloves to remind you


that not everyone has transportation to and from lodge. Carpool when you can. Check in with your elderly brethren. They want to come to lodge but sometimes their mobility is challenged.

3. If you can afford it, buy a snow blower. I overpaid last year for one a few days before a storm. The storm never came. It's great insurance against a major snowstorm. Remember that we have families and possibly widows who could use a hand with snow removal. Proactively reach out to your members and ask if they might like a team of brothers to check in to see if they'd like a hand. If you know someone, go help them out! Even if it means using a shovel and some salt!

4. Check the tread on your tires: If it's low, replace them. No need to be slip sliding around. Yes, tires are expensive. But a totaled car is worse. Not to mention the worst-case scenario here. Remember that a lodge meeting is never worth putting your members in danger. Make sure you have a plan in place for inclement weather.

5. We move indoors during the fall/winter. Invite some of your brothers and their friends over. Masons shouldn't only see each other at masonic events. This can provide a great opportunity to get to know each other as well as those who aren't masons but might be curious.

I hope everyone has an awesome fall and winter.



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Chesapeake Consistory

BY: ROBERT N. CARHART, JR., 32° KCCH - MASTER OF KADOSH



MY WAY, OR THE HIGHWAY?
REALLY?

BROTHERS, Labor Day is just around the corner and Maryland's blue lodges (and your Scottish Rite) are getting set to resume their fall labors as I pen this, my final article as Master of Kadosh. In early January, I'll formally turn over responsibilities to Hon. Roger D. Dunn, 32°, KCCH - who I've gotten to know and watch over the years; I assure you the Consistory is in capable hands. In the meantime, as I noted in my previous article, the fall/winter calendar offers much for you to consider participating in, culminating (but not ending) with the Reunion on Saturday 10 November. I hope to see as many of you there as possible and I also look forward to your presence at some of the informal, holiday-themed events in December. These are all worth your while.

Before (and at the risk of)

briefly delving into a sensitive area, I'm first reminded of the basic tenets of our craft, as well as our greater duties as Masons, let alone Scottish Rite Masons—and that the core meanings of the Level and Plumb (and always the Square) continually serve as our guideposts. I'm speaking of the increasing lack of civility in our country, writ large, and closer to home, occasionally even amongst us and our fellow brothers, particularly with what passes for current-day politics.

Having markedly different political opinions and preferences is nothing new (nor should it be, of course), but how we treat those who hold beliefs at odds with ours does, in part, define who we are—and how we are perceived, both within the craft and without. In my 50+ years on this green Earth, I've yet to see any party, any officeholder, any platform, at any level—whether it's the White House or the statehouse—get it completely right, 100% of the time.

And yet we find ourselves in a nation divided along such strongly polarized lines, each side believing (erroneously, I might add) that their view is always the correct one, while simultaneously vilifying the “other” as some sort of unpatriotic “enemy” and conceding nothing. Brothers, I don't really care where you fall on the

political spectrum, but do you really subscribe to this particular way of “thinking”?

When you look at your Brother, one who may have a different political view (in whole or in part) than yours, what do you see? Do you really see him in a new, and perhaps unfavorable light? And more broadly speaking, in what other sphere of our lives would we agree with zero-sum outcomes? None, of course (because life & reality doesn't behave in a zero-sum fashion), so why should we go in for this in the political (non)sense? This is not what we would (or should) teach our children, I think you'd agree.

I find that part of the appeal of the Scottish Rite is its emphasis on service, reflection, and further study—all with the worthy aim of perfecting our ashlar. We are all complex, imperfect men, with our own foibles, idiosyncrasies, and quirks—and beliefs—that make each of us unique; indeed, it's what distinguishes us inasmuch as it's part of the cement that binds us. My call to you, as well as myself, is to remember and demonstrate the better aspects of our nature, especially those which bind us as men and Masons. We are all the better for it, as are our family, friends, and neighbors by our example. Be well, my brothers.

*Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Maryland
Marlin L. Mills and Lady Brenda
Cordially Invite You to Attend Our*

ANNUAL SCOTTISH RITE CHRISTMAS SOIRÉE

“Death by Chocolate”

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9TH 2018
2:00PM UNTIL 5:00PM

Scottish Rite Masonic Center
3800 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21218



*Featuring Christmas Music, “A Walk through Bethlehem” Nativity Scene
and a Train Garden, Chocolates to Die for... Plus Wine, Hot Cocoa bar,
Chocolate Fountains, cookies and other tasty treats
By Chef Tommy & Chef Patty Morris*

**Families & Friends are invited | \$5 per Person, Children under 12 Free
Please call the office to RSVP (410) 243-3200**



Valley of Frederick

BY: BRO. ADAM RIVERA, 32° - COLUMBIA LODGE #58 - VENERABLE MASTER, FREDERICK LODGE OF PERFECTION #3

AS THE YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE, it amazes me how fast the days have passed. When the year started, I looked at what we were going to accomplish, and while it seems daunting at first, a good plan and a great team make everything run smoothly. This has been a year of change, but the more things change, the more they stay the same. In Frederick, we continue to redefine what it means to be the best we can be. When I look back on the year, we have spent so much time and effort not in trying something new, but in trying new ways to do things. We started doing a two-day reunion so that we could present more degrees, and we are able to do much more than we had previously because of it. Our next reunion, on November 2nd and 3rd, will be just as good, if not better, than our Spring Reunion. Our degree teams continue to push

the boundaries of excellence. Our Annual Trap Shoot was moved to the spring and we had tremendous support from the local and Masonic communities.

IT HAS TRULY BEEN AN HONOR AND A PLEASURE SUPPORTING AND REPRESENTING THE VALLEY NOT ONLY IN FREDERICK, BUT ACROSS THE ORIENT.

Our feasts and festive boards continue to be some of the best I have ever been to. If you have not been to one, you will have an opportunity at the end of January for our annual Burns

Dinner on January 26th.

It has been an amazing and wonderful year for our Valley and for myself as Venerable Master. I cannot believe that my term is coming to an end, but it also feels like I am just getting started. It has truly been an honor and a pleasure supporting and representing the Valley not only in Frederick, but across the Orient. I thank those who have supported me, and I look forward to supporting the next generations of leaders in the Frederick Valley. I know that we are in great hands and that those who have chosen to take up the mantle of leadership will do well.

For those taking notes, I said last issue that by the time this one comes out, my daughter will be walking. As I write this, she is only just starting to crawl, so the crystal ball is a bit cracked but there is still time. You may have to come out to Frederick to ask me if it's true!



Valley of Susquehanna

BY: HON. JASON Q. STANDISH, 32°, KCCH - MT. ARARAT LODGE #44 - VALLEY SECRETARY



AS THIS IS BEING WRITTEN, we are in the "dog days" of summer and it is hard to imagine that when it is being read it will be cool and crisp

and our Fall classes and Lodges will be well underway. As 2018 winds down, the Susquehanna Valley is eagerly looking toward 2019. We have some exciting new plans in the works to expand on our "traveling" degree team and not only bring the degree work but our Lodge of Perfection and Chapter of Rose Croix meetings to our Brethren in the northeast corner of the Jurisdiction. Schedules and locations TBA.

The Chesapeake Lodge of Perfection will hold our annual Feast of Tishri and Fall Ring Ceremony on Thursday, November 15, 2018. All Brethren and friends are warmly invited! While the ceremonies are

open, dinner is by reservation. Please visit our website www.susquehannasr.org or email secretary@susquehannasr.org for tickets and menu.

Congratulations to Sir Wade A. Giles, 32° on being elected Knight Commandant for the Susquehanna Knights of St. Andrew for the 2018/2019 term. Sir Wade was an instrumental driving force in the establishment of the charter for Susquehanna and we are very fortunate to have his energy and passion as he presides over the Chapter!

Best wishes to all for a healthy and prosperous 2019. Please visit our website for updates to the 2019 calendar.

2018 SPRING CLASS

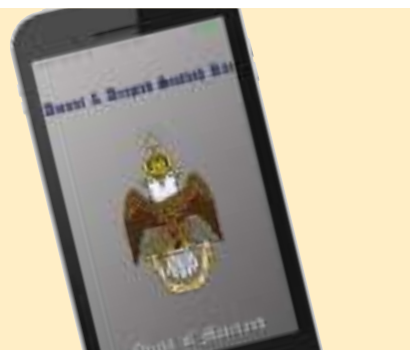
VM Greg Smith, 32° and SGIG Marlin Mills, 33° with our Spring 2018 class: Bros. John Merbach, 32°, Rich Mainley, Jr., 32° and Greg Payne, 32°



Sign Up For Scottish Rite Reminder Texts

Reminders for meetings, lunches, events, ceremonies and degree work can be received on your cell phone via text.

Text "baltsr" to "292929" on your mobile phone to sign up.





2018 Fall Reunion Day

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 10, 2018

6:45AM
Coffee and Donuts

7:15AM
Class meets
in the Classroom

7:45AM
Opening
Ceremonies

8AM
Conferral of
the 21st, 27th &
30th Degrees

11:15AM
Class Exercise
& Picture

11:30AM
Lunch
\$5.00 per Person

12:45PM
Conferral of
the 32nd Degree

2:15PM
Closing
Ceremonies

*Times subject to
adjustment

The Master Mason Friend Who:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1.
Is interested in learning of the philosophies of the World, both of this and other ages.</p> <p>2.
Would like to join with other earnest men in an absorbing study of present day problems;</p> <p>3.
Would appreciate turning, for just a little while, from the constant struggles of day to day existence to commune with the noblest intellects of all time, brought to him in matchless degrees.</p> | <p>4.
Enjoys viewing worthwhile drama, well presented;</p> <p>5.
Finds the hearty fellowship and good-will of other men inspiring and enjoyable.</p> <p>6.
Is willing to enter into true fraternity with other men when he finds them worthy; and</p> <p>7.
Has caught the gleam of Masonic inspiration from his Blue Lodge work and is ready to seek the truth still further;</p> |
|--|--|

Should petition to become a Scottish Rite 32° Mason!

Visit www.mdscottishrite.org to download a petition

LOOKING FOR RAINBOWS

Freemasonry helps us sharpen our focus and look for those things of importance, of meaning and worth, and those things which add to rather than subtract from a meaningful life's experience.

IT WAS a bumpy flight that early summer afternoon, crowded and jam-packed like most commercial flights these days. Crying babies, not enough overhead space, and certainly not enough "knee space" added to the misery on that June day as we made our approach into the New Orleans International Airport for landing. Yet, we were looking forward to a wonderful weekend with friends and good Scottish Rite Masons in Mississippi as we descended to the runway. In spite of the pleasant plans for the weekend, at the moment I was looking forward to getting off the airplane, nothing more and nothing less.



Ronald A. Seale, 33°

As we landed, the skies opened and rain pelted the tarmac as we taxied to the gate. While expected in Louisiana for this time of year, the thought in my mind was not joy in being back in my old stomping grounds but the more immediate threat that everything in the luggage was going to get wet. As indeed it did.

Wrestling the wet and soggy baggage from the conveyor after an interminable wait led to more griping and complaining on my part, I'm embarrassed to say. As we started our trek to the rental car counter, even my glasses wouldn't cooperate as the blast of Louisiana's humidity left them fogged over and virtually worthless. Leaving the airport and heading to the Mississippi Gulf Coast on Interstate 10 out of New Orleans, I discovered that the rain had not let up, intensifying if anything, and we inched forward in the evening rush hour traffic out of New Orleans. With embarrassment, I now recall that from the time we presented ourselves for boarding at Reagan National Airport in Washington, I could, and did, find something wrong and something about which to complain at every step along the way. Ever had a day like that?

I breathed a sigh of exasperation and inched forward in the traffic jam, determined that no one gained an advantage in traffic. My wife, who was riding in the passenger seat, looked out from the window and exclaimed almost with the joy of a child,

"Look, there's a rainbow!!" And in that split second of a moment, it brought me—jerked me, rather—to a central ground-point. Where I saw clouds and thunderheads, she saw rainbows. Where I saw wet suitcases and traffic jams, she saw a weekend of adventure with friends. Where I saw difficulties, she saw opportunities and promise. And, indeed, as we drove eastward for a few miles, the clouds broke and sun brought forth the promise of a beautiful afternoon. It has become yet another teaching moment for me—this dense student. What you see depends on what you're looking for.

I've thought about that weekend drive over the past several days and the axiom that seeing depends on looking, and looking depends on focus. What we expect to find often determines what we see. How often do we see the storm clouds and miss the rainbows?

Freemasonry helps us sharpen our focus and look for those things of importance, of meaning and worth, and those things which add to rather than subtract from a meaningful life's experience. God's handiwork is all around us and evident to the discerning eye, not only in nature but in the lives and times of our fellows, and, indeed, of our very selves. The prolific author and great Freemason, the Reverend Joseph Fort Newton, reminds us that a man is truly a Mason "when he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin." With his first steps as an Entered Apprentice, our candidate is instructed to look for the Divine in the ordinary, the majesty in the commonplace and the hand of God in all our undertakings and endeavors. Thus is the benefit of entering upon the Masonic journey and receiving her instruction and counsel.

I would hope that you find your Masonry not only in the degrees and the lodges and meetings but, also, in your everyday encounters and with all whom you come in contact. Just as importantly, I would hope that others will find their Masonry in you—your attitude, your humility, and your grace and kindness. Of course, everyone is entitled to have a bad day and miss the mark once in a while. That's when you need a nudge from a loved one: "Hey, chump, don't miss the rainbow out there." ≠



Lobsterfest 2018!





Capt. Azariah Nelson

BY: W. ROBERT J. PURNELL, JR., 32° - W. GRAND SWORD BEARER - PM OF CHESAPEAKE LODGE #147

I CAN START BY SAYING that he is my 1st cousin four times removed. His father was the brother to my GGG Grandmother Elizabeth "Betty" Nelson... Azariah Nelson was her nephew... Azariah lived in the part of Crisfield known as Mariners, and his house still stands today, of which his father built. Azariah was a small farmer and involved in hauling freight to and from the New York area on his Schooner. He, along with several other (Somers Cove) Schooner Captains did the same for the living... Azariah's Schooner was named the Australia, and, along with several other Schooner Captains, become friends with many boat builders and Captains in the New York area. They became Masons in the New York Lodge, Ocean Lodge No. 156 A&AM.

On May 16, 1869, Chesapeake Lodge No. 147 became a member of the Maryland Grand Lodge by Charter.

On August 2, 1869, Captain Nelson and Captain Christopher Sterling demitted from Ocean Lodge No. 156 and submitted a petition for membership into the newly Chartered Chesapeake Lodge No. 147. Both Brothers were passed and became members of Chesapeake Lodge No. 147 on August 30, 1869, in Crisfield, Maryland.

Captain Nelson continued his



➤ Clockwise, from top left: Captain Azariah Nelson, Azariah's Schooner, the Australia, Azariah's grave.

sailing for several years, and upon the fateful night returning to Crisfield, via the Little Annemessex River, the sail, while tacking, came around and knocked Captain Azariah into the dark cold evening of November 11, 1871.

Captain Nelson was found several months later and given a Masonic Funeral and Masonic Grave Side Service. He was survived by children and a wife, Ms. Nelson

His obituary: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun

"Sad Drowning Case"

CRISFIELD, MD., NOV 16, 1871: Capt. Azariah Nelson, one of the most worthy as well as highly esteemed citizens of Annemessex, was drowned on Saturday night, in the gale. He was within a mile of Crisfield, when, in putting the

Continued on page 20

Salisbury Capping Spring 2018





Band of Brothers

BY: SIR TOMMY J. MORRIS, 32°, P.K.C., PVM, PGTC, WISE MASTER - COLUMBIA LODGE #58

THE SCOTTISH RITE STORY
is chiseled in stone and inked on the parchment of our constitution signed nearly a century ago by Freemasons with a vision.

Our story belongs to all Scottish Rite Family members who have fulfilled – and continue fulfilling – that vision through their individual obligation to God, our Country and Ourselves.

Members are the lifeblood of our organization. Because without a strong membership, our voice will not be heard. Our premiere youth programs, such as the DeMolay, will not put forth America’s future leaders. Our support to those who

need us, Freemasons and their families, will be lessened. I’m proud to be a Life member of the Scottish Rite. As my time as the Wise Master of Frederick Valley comes to an end, I prepare for my new role in the most influential masonic organization in the country if not the world. We cannot take for granted that it will always be that way. We individually have a responsibility to build our membership, as a large Scottish Rite Family is a strong Scottish Rite Family.

I pose a challenge to you. We need your to help kick off our New Year right and set our Orient up for success. Stand by our side for another year by renew-

ing your membership early, donating to the Scottish Rite Temple Preservation Fund and participating in our Masonic Programs. Programs like two of our upcoming events; Marlin’s Annual Chocolate Soirée on 09 December 2018, 2:00 pm, (this year’s theme is “Death by Chocolate” and includes creations by Chef Tommy & Chef Patty—Patty’s famous Orange Dream and the Morris’s World’s Best Peanut Butter Fudge), followed by the Frederick Valley Annual Burns Supper on 26 January 2019, 5:00 pm (this year’s theme is “A Red Red Rose”) and the food will be nothing less than Poetic.

Continued from page 18
vessel on another tack, he was thrown overboard by the boom, and sank before the crew could get him a line or go to him in the rowboat. Vessels almost without number have been fruitlessly engaged ever since in dragging for the body. This has caused, in conjunction with the continuous rains, a gloom to settle upon the men in the oyster trade which only a brisk northwester and several heavy frosts can dissipate. The Baltimore Sun, November 17, 1871

Bro. Azariah had several children and after his death,

they still worked the waters and shipyards, with the exception of one son, John Wesley Nelson, who was at the age of 16 when his father died, He came to California as a young man and was a traveling salesman of soap and candles to the miners in the Mother Lode country. He later worked for a wholesale grocery and organized and operated the Oakland Preserving Company until it was one of the five companies which became the California Packing Corporation. He retained with that concern in an executive capacity and was also secretary of the San

Jose Fruit Packing Company. He originated one of the trade names, “Del Monte” still seen on every grocery shelf.

1. Bro. Azariah’s son, John, also became a Mason as his father was, and became a member of Live Oak Lodge No. 61. AF&AM of Oakland, CA.

2. According to Masonic Records, a reward was given to find him. Another schooner Captain found him in February of 1872. The brothers then carried him to his home where Masonic Ceremonies were given in the house and at the grave.

Wise Master Valley of Frederick
Sir Tommy J. Morris and Lady Patty
Cordially Invite you to attend our

ANNUAL SCOTTISH RITE “BURNS NIGHT OUT” “A Red Red Rose”

SATURDAY JANUARY 26TH 2019
5:00PM UNTIL...

Frederick Masonic Temple, 6816 Blentlinger Road,
Frederick, Maryland 21702



Join us for a full evening of live music and classic Burns night traditions will make it the most Scottish experience you’ll get this side of Hadrian’s Wall.

*Featuring three courses of Burns Night classics with other Tasty Treats...
By Chef Tommy & Chef Patty Morris
The drink: Nothing special, however bring a little Scotch for tasting to leave you spoilt for choice.
The fun: Bagpipes, traditional haggis address and bill of toasts*

Families & Friends are invited
\$45 per Person

RSVP with Payment by 14 January 2019,
No tickets will be sold at the Door.

RSVP to: Hon Don Vollmer
Make check payable to “Tommy Morris”
Mail to: Hon Don Vollmer
3802 Cherry Lane
Jefferson, MD 21775
or Pay via PayPal link
<https://www.paypal.me/MorrisTj>



Scottish Rite Photos



MARYLAND "SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY" LICENSE PLATES



Available through the Baltimore Office for SR Masons and their spouses.

The Office is open M-F from 9am to 4pm @ 410-243-3200 or you may email aasr@verizon.net and the forms will be mailed to you. **Cost is \$30.00**

They Had Their Problems Too

EXCERPTS FROM GRAND MASTER LIVINGSTON'S ADDRESS, BALTIMORE, MD
SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION - MAY 16TH, 1933

I T IS NOW BELIEVED that the reason why so many men lost interest in the Masonic Fraternity has come because the Fraternity has lost interest in them. Too many men have come into our Masonic Lodges, received their degrees and gone away, never to be heard of again. This is simply because the only interest that the Lodge had in them was to exact a prescribed fee charged for annual dues and to harp at them until they paid it. More than one candidate has left a Masonic Lodge room at the close of the third degree without receiving the felicitations of his brethren. It is no wonder that men lose their interest in the Fraternity when the Fraternity indicates by its remissness that it has no interest in them. It is going to be necessary hereafter to show some interest in newly raised candidates

World conditions at this time are truly alarming. More and more it becomes evident that peace and prosperity can come only when selfishness shall cease to be the compelling force

actuating men and nations.

I feel that in the great crisis of the United States, the Masonic Fraternity is destined to play an important part, made up as

IT IS NO WONDER THAT MEN LOSE THEIR INTEREST IN THE FRATERNITY WHEN THE FRATERNITY INDICATES BY ITS REMISSNESS THAT IT HAS NO INTEREST IN THEM.

it is in our nation, of more than three million men, scattered the length and breadth of our land. It has the opportunity to exercise its influence in an aggressive

manner, to hasten the day when the Golden Rule shall be accepted not only as the basis for the settlement of all domestic questions but the deciding factor in the attitude of our government toward other nations of the world.

There is nothing the matter with Masonry, but a great many Masons who talk Masonry do not live Masonry. We may fear little danger from without; Masonry has the confidence and good will of every community, but we are not free from dangers that may arise from within.

We read of the fabled eagle, who, as he lay wounded and dying upon the plain, grieved not that he was about to die, but that the fatal shaft that had pierced his vitals was guided in its deadly course by a feather dropped from his own wing. Let us not have occasion to grieve over the prostrate form of our beloved and cherished institution because of a wound, inflicted by a blow, administered by its own hand.

Editor's Note: This address was given after having just come through 1932, arguably the worst year of the Great Depression and as Europe was gearing up for a World War. The previous six months, of the 33,706 members in Maryland: 139 demitted, 478 Suspended NPD, 5 Expelled and 25 passed into the Great Beyond. During the same time 200 were raised, 43 affiliated and 13 re-stated - for a net loss of 641.)



Recent Charitable Contributions

AS OF AUGUST 30, 2018

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Royce A. Watson
 Jan C. Varada
 Carl W. Lee
 Wedding 411
 Leah K. Faust
 Rite Cheer Club
 E. Ray Leppo, Jr.
 William and Beverly Hunter
 Highland Lodge No. 184
 Joseph and Betty Ann Waltherhoefer
 Jesse and Hertha Adams Charitable Trust
 Frederick KSALA
 Grand Chapter of Maryland, Order of the Eastern Star
 America's Charities
 Wayne C. Penley, Sr.

Baltimore Coffee & Tea Co., Inc.
 Wockenfuss Candy Co., Inc.
 James and Harriet Hill
 Dr. Steven J. Abramedis
 Edward R. Daughaday
 Michael G. Faby
 Gerald R. Phillips
 Richard A. Strich
 Paul W. Lendle, Sr.
 Jack R. George
 William I. Kissinger
 Benjamin O. Brookhart, III
 Glen B. Clary
 John M. Raines, Jr.
 David W. Pierce
 J. Wendell Davenport
 Larry J. Loftice
 William M. Lynch

TEMPLE DONATIONS

Jan C. Varada
 Corey Millington
 Tommy Morris
 David R. Sandy
 Frederick KSALA
 Spring 2018 Class
 James J. Malcolm, Jr.
 James and Harriet Hill
 Edward R. Daughaday
 Donald D. Walters
 Donald M. Smith
 Logan E.H. Starr, Sr.
 Richard A. Strich
 Paul W. Lendle, Sr.
 Michael G. Faby
 Jack R. George
 William I. Kissinger
 Albert B. Carrozza

Glen B. Clary
 John M. Raines, Jr.
 Robert E. Rosenbaum
 Charles J. Moore, III
 Winston O. Henderson
 David L. Jacobs
 James L. Cook
 Robert D'Antonio
 J. Wendell Davenport
 Timothy P. Anderson
 William M. Lynch
 Raymond F. Cook
 Charles R. Dashiell, Jr.

IN MEMORY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

In Memory of Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°, PGM by Ill. T. Scott Cushing, Sr., 33°
 In Memory of Elsa Marie Caskey by Harold and Helen Saxton

In Memory of Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°, PGM by Ill. Warren H. Green, 33°

In Memory of Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°, PGM by Morris and Sharon Bohlayer

In Memory of Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°, PGM by Ill. Frederick J. Reitz, 33°

In Memory of Hon. Gordon J. Turner, 32°, KCCH by Ill. Frederick J. Reitz, 33°

In Memory of Hon. Warren W. De Coligny, 32°, KCCH by Ill. Frederick J. Reitz, 33°

In Memory of Hon. Warren W. De Coligny, 32°, KCCH by Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Strong

In Memory of Ill. Bennie G. Owens, 33°, PGM by Ill. Charles B. Burdette, 33°

In Memory of Ill. B. Hope Harrison, 33°, PGM by Ill. Charles B. Burdette, 33°

IN HONOR OF CONTRIBUTIONS

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Arthur and Elaine Moler

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Harold and Doris Utz

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Morris and Sharon Bohlayer

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Janet H. Kraft

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Thomas F. Hess

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by William E. Gyr

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Ollie and Christa Strong

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Kenneth R. Tayloe

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Elise Armacost

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Tim and Deb Talbert

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Wanda Sparks

In Honor of Paul and Ann Lloyd's 63rd Wedding Anniversary by Peg and Dan Millender

Brothers Called From Labor To Eternal Rest

Frank H. Clark, Jr., 32°
 George V. Brown, 32°
 Harold F. Davis, 32°
 Robert L. Murphy, 32°
 Charles R. Taylor, 32°
 Alvin P. Parks, Jr., 32°
 Hon. Gordon J. Turner, 32°, KCCH
 Hon. Irvin Montrose Harvey, 32°, KCCH
 Robert L. Burris, 32°
 Hon. Richard T. Kreh, Sr., 32°, KCCH
 Charles O. Thompson, Jr., 32°
 Hon. Warren W. De Coligny, 32°, KCCH
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 James W. Street, Sr., 32°
 Gilbert W. Mc Millan, 32°
 Donald L. Burgess, 32°
 Carl F. Meinecke, Jr., 32°
 William A. Chalk, 32°
 Andrew A. Hevesy, 32°
 Calvin L. Blades, 32°
 Terrence N. Daniel, 32°
 George G. Fry, 32°

OUR SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

We pay tribute to the Officers of our clubs, to the founders and leaders, past and present, and to the members for their cooperation in promoting the Scottish Rite way and the Masonic understanding and fellowship that go with it. For year round activities and meetings of these clubs, call:

Arundel Scottish Rite Club

Hon. S. Dirk Wiker, 32°, KCCH
 443-321-2724

Chesapeake Scottish Rite Club

Bro. Neil M. Noble, 32°
 410-736-9245

Conowingo Scottish Rite Club

Hon. William D. Gunn, 32°, KCCH
 410-939-1798

Carroll Scottish Rite Club

Ill. Paul M. Lloyd, 33°
 410-374-2569

Eastern Shore Scottish Rite Club

Ill. Arthur H. Tawes, 33°
 443-235-8950

Mid Shore Scottish Rite Club

Bro. Robert Sparks, 33°
 410-634-2235

Scottish Rite Cheer Club

Ill. J. Fred Hobine, 33°
 410-243-3200

Washington County Scottish Rite Club

Bro. Robert Reiff, 32°
 301-302-6550



The Clinic Corner

BY: MIRIAM MANDEL, M.S., CCC-SLP



HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the speech-language pathologists at the Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Center! We are having another wonderful Fall and Winter season at the Scottish Rite Clinic. We have had some exciting changes in our clinic this fall. This year we are fortunate to have Sara Frederick helping to cover our contract with Friends School of Baltimore. She saw students at Friends two years ago and is excited to be back. We are thrilled to have Sara on board!

We'd like to wish Sarah Spicer congratulations on her wedding and wish her best of luck with

her new life in South Carolina! We will miss working with her, but we know she belongs with her new husband, Sean Jacobs. Sarah has been working at our clinic since summer of 2015 and we are so grateful for all the wonderful work she has done for the past 3 years.

We would also like to thank Miriam Mandel for helping the clients of the Scottish Rite Childhood Speech and Language Center for the past five years, starting as an intern in the summer of 2013. Miriam is now working for Baltimore County Public Schools and with the preschool-age population.

In September, we held our annual Basket Bingo to support the Charitable Fund. The families and staff enjoyed the activities and food, and we were able to raise money to help support the important work we do in the clinic. Thank you to all the individuals who attended this event and contributed to its success! We are so grateful for all the generous donations that will benefit the children of our clinic and directly assist them with their communication needs.

Our annual holiday party will take place in December. This event is always well-attended and enjoyed by the clients of our clinic and their families. The children love the raffles, crafts, refreshments, and activities.

As the year comes to a close and we enter 2019, we would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the Scottish Rite Masons for your support and generosity this past year. We wish you and your families an enjoyable holiday season and a happy and healthy new year!

Maryland DeMolay

BY: DAD CARL A. MICHEL JR., 32° - EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FOR 100 YEARS, DeMolay has been building men of character and tomorrow's leaders from young men between the ages of 12 to 21, through time-honored traditions and ever adapting programs! Thank you for being part of that journey.

DeMolay began its Centennial Year celebration during the Annual Sessions in Alexandria, VA on June 23rd. This year will be chock full of Centennial events throughout the world. Several events Jurisdictions will take part in simultaneously, including a worldwide Initiation on Monday, April 1, 2019, at 7:45 PM. This was the day of the first recorded meeting of Mother Chapter in Kansas City. These Centennial events will culminate next June at the Annual Sessions in Kansas City, Missouri where it all began with Dad Frank S. Land, 33° and a young man named Louis Lower ending with a Pilgrimage to Paris, France. All those who travel to France will trace the footsteps of

Jacques DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar and the martyred hero who is our namesake. As the year progresses, Maryland DeMolay will be inviting all our Masonic

of the DeMolay year for all the participants.

One of our next big events will be our Centennial Grand Master's Class to be held in Cumberland. We will be honoring Grand Master Vourvoulas by conferring both our degrees on a class of young new initiates. We will also be reopening the Warren Seipp Honorary DeMolay Chapter. This Honorary Chapter was begun for those who never had the opportunity to join when they were younger. Petitions are available for those who wish to join by emailing cmicheljrfamily@aol.com or downloading off www.mddemolay.org.

In closing, we ask you to consider what talents you may have that would benefit our members. We are always accepting new Advisors to work with Chapters, assist with training programs, IT initiatives, mentorships and ideas we have not thought of. Consider what you might bring to the table that could change a young man's life forever.

WE ASK YOU TO CONSIDER WHAT TALENTS YOU MAY HAVE THAT WOULD BENEFIT OUR MEMBERS.

Advocates, you our sponsors, to join us in celebrating this year.

Maryland DeMolay held its Annual Conclave in August on the campus of Salisbury University. Bro. Rafael Rodriguez, IV of Bowie-Collington Chapter was installed State Master Councilor and Bro. Alex Blenman of George Fleming Moore Chapter was installed Deputy State Master Councilor. This annual event continues to be the highlight

MARYLAND SCOTTISH RITE SOCIAL MEDIA & APPS

WWW.MDSCOTTISHRITE.ORG/MEMBERSHIP/SOCIAL/



Mobile Web App



Maryland Orient Facebook Group



Supreme Council Twitter



Maryland Orient Android App



Supreme Council Instagram



iPhone/iPad App (Currently not working)



Youtube Channel



A&ASR sub-Reddit



Freemason Network



SR Chirp Mobile App



A Short History of Mountain Lodge No. 99 A.F. & A.M.

BY: BRO. NICHOLAS J. COSTELLO, 32°, P.M.

MOUNTAIN LODGE NO. 99, Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons, is located in Frostburg, Maryland, and is the oldest continuously existing lodge west of Hagerstown. Mountain Lodge No. 99 was founded and chartered in 1854 and has existed continuously as the Masonic Lodge in Frostburg since that time. The first minute book of Mountain Lodge documents that the lodge came into existence under a dispensation from Bro. Charles Webb, Most Worshipful Grand Master, on September 22, 1854, which authorized “a number of brethren” to open a lodge in Frostburg.

The same minute book shows that a Master Mason Lodge was opened in Frostburg on Thursday, October 26, 1854, at 7:00 p.m. The first and only order of business at this meeting was the adoption of a set of by-laws, and they chose to use those of Cumberland Lodge No. 61. Many of these early members had been members of the then-defunct Cumberland Lodge No. 61.

The early minutes also reveal that during the next meeting, held on October 31, 1854, the name “Mountain Lodge No. 99 of the state of Maryland” was adopted. A third meeting was

held on November 4, 1854, during which four Entered Apprentices were initiated—the first initiates of Mountain Lodge No. 99.

On November 22, 1854, a charter was issued to Mountain Lodge No. 99 by M.W. Grand Master Webb and the Grand Lodge of Maryland. The Mountain Lodge minutes show that the charter was physically presented to the members on January 23, 1855, by Past Grand Master Charles H. Ohr, on behalf of the M.W.G.M. According to the minutes, P.G.M. Ohr duly installed the officers present, consisting of the Worshipful Master, Junior Warden, Secretary, and Treasurer. Some others had been “partially” installed by him previously, before the arrival of the charter.

In addition to outlining the activities of the early meetings, the first Mountain Lodge minute book records that Mountain Lodge rented its meeting location from other fraternal organizations during these very early years, namely, the Order of Red Men and the Odd Fellows. The location where the lodge first met is not recorded; however, an early entry shows that the lodge met at a rented location at the intersection of First Street

and Water Street in Frostburg.

A history of Mountain Lodge compiled in 1954 by Bro. Joseph L. Evans, Past Master of Mountain Lodge, reports that from 1861 through 1878, members of the lodge met in private homes, as the Civil War and associated national tensions had disrupted and divided the community. In 1878, the lodge began renting the third floor of the Frostburg National Bank building on Main Street. This building still stands at 1 East Main Street. In 1923, the lodge purchased a building at 74 E. Main Street where the lodge continued to meet until the building was sold and a new temple erected in the 1970s.

In 1975, Mountain Lodge purchased a plot of land in the Braddock Estates area of Frostburg where a new Masonic temple was constructed over the next four years. The new temple was completed in 1979 and was dedicated in a ceremony with the Grand Lodge on October 13. The new temple was built as a beautiful red brick building, having a portico with archways outside, an inviting lobby, a beautiful and spacious lodge room, and a sizeable dining hall.

Major portions of the new temple were built and developed largely by the members of



> Above: Tuesday, August 9th, 2018—Grand Lodge Summer School of Instruction was hosted by Mountain Lodge #99

Mountain Lodge. The construction saw Masons from a wide variety of trades and professions working side by side as friends and brothers in a common pursuit. Mountain Lodge continues to meet in this beautiful building today, and it remains a lasting monument to the skill and assiduity with which the members at the time managed the lodge, as well as to the zeal the members of Mountain Lodge have always had for Freemasonry.

In late 2013, the brethren came together and installed large ionic columns and an entablature, styled after ancient temple stonework, over the Worshipful Master’s station. The final touch on the project included a large wooden square and compasses, which was handcrafted by a member of Mountain Lodge. It was hung above the Worshipful Master’s chair.

Today, Mountain Lodge No.

99 has about 170 members. Mountain Lodge No. 99 regularly confers degrees, performs high-quality ritual work, holds special events and Masonic education presentations, visits other lodges, hosts family events, and is active in the community. Mountain Lodge No. 99 has participated in cornerstone laying ceremonies for some of Frostburg’s most prominent buildings, including the State Teachers College (now Frostburg State University) in 1899 and the Frostburg Post Office in 1913, among others.

Mountain Lodge has always exemplified the Masonic ideal of bringing good men from all walks of life together to become better men. This egalitarian practice has produced a lodge of men who are businessmen, attorneys, police and correctional officers, emergency services workers, railroad workers,

accountants, road and public utility workers, doctors, teachers, and retired men, among many others. While the lodge regularly holds a diverse array of Masonic activities and brings many men together, most importantly, it is a lodge composed of friends and brothers who try every day to live by our Masonic ideals.

Sources

The Cumberland News, November 20, 1954, “Many Historical Items Presented Frostburg Lodge: Masons Observing 100th Anniversary,” *Newspaper Clipping*.

Evans, Joseph, November 1, 1954, *A Brief History of Mountain Lodge #99, A.F. & A.M. Frostburg, Md. 1854-1954, Mountain Lodge No. 99 Archives*.

Mountain Lodge No. 99 A.F. & A.M., 1854, Minute Book 1, Mountain Lodge No. 99 Archives



Prudence Lodge #190

807 EAST RIDGEVILLE BLVD., MT. AIRY, MD. 2177

WORSHIPFUL MASTER - BRO. ALFRED T. LETLE - SECRETARY - BRO. JAMES C. STARGEL

Continued from previous issue

A BIT OF HISTORY ON OUR NEW PROPERTY

Sometime in the 1960's, the Warren Chapel church became a part of the United Methodist denomination, although it closed its doors as a United Methodist congregation in June 2007. In October 2007, a new organization named Warren Community Church-Love Chapel, was formed with Reverend Ernest Thomas at the helm as the founding pastor. Renovating The Building (Our Vision Of King Solomon's Temple) under the direction and supervision of PM Burner (a Builder), and assisted by Bro. Daniel Clearwater, both carpenters by trade, renovation of our new building began in earnest soon after settlement. When the members first started demolition, many asked how much did we intend on removing. PM Burner just said, "Keep going and I'll let you know when to stop". Between the mold and the old, dangerous electrical wiring, and a total lack of insulation, the building needed to be completely opened up. So, by summer's end, most interior walls were removed, and all the exterior wall framing was now exposed. Also, after an inspection, the floor joists were found to be inadequate so that would require additional time and money to

correct. But by October, building permits were obtained and the build-out began in earnest. Bro. Dave Webber, a professional engineer, provided the necessary design and stamped drawings for the structural issues.

One interesting feature of the new temple is the painted tin ceiling directly above the altar. Our old lodge room also had a painted tin ceiling and carrying the same theme over to our new building was meant to pay tribute to our former lodge home. After many discussions about the new ceiling design, the members who worked on the renovation on a regular basis finalized the current design. Tin ceiling panels and crown molding were picked and the pastel colors of the old ceiling were duplicated. Untold hours were spent by brethren hand painting the design on the tin panels.

New stairs and a handrail design were also decided and much thought went into choosing the carpeting and designing the tile work. The center floor tile pattern was actually finalized as it was installed. Except for the electrical, ductwork, drywall, handrails and heavy carpentry, all the demo, carpentry, painting, and flooring work was carried out by the operative members of the lodge. The architecture, design, and all

finishes were also chosen by the members.

Renovation costs are currently borne by members of the lodge. Donations by the membership toward that cost have unfortunately fallen short of expectations, simply because we believe many members who do not regularly attend meetings do not read their trestle board and therefore aren't fully aware of the situation. We hope, however, that this matter will be rectified in the future.

In a preceding paragraph, you might have noticed that the word "builder" was capitalized when included in the description of Brother and Past Master Ron Burner. Brother Ron is a builder in the truest masonic tradition. Over the forty plus years of his construction career, he has renovated several old and historic structures.

Ron sees renovating old structures as more of a calling than a job. He approaches a project like ours not with budgets and drawings and the latest version of the niftiest project management software on the market, but more so like a steward or historian. Jokingly, some of us refer to him as the "Temple Whisperer" because he insists that he didn't design the new temple; that he had no grand plan or vision but rather let the

building speak to him and then just followed its instructions.

The lodge room design turned out to be minimalist and strikingly very different.

Interestingly we never drew up exact plans to work from, the actual execution of what to do next simply evolved from the rooms as we went along. The walls are mostly bare and this has caused some to question the lack of wall decorations. However, we believe the room's plain design allows us to better showcase the beautiful original lodge room furniture we are so fortunate to have. The beauty of these items was never really noticed or appreciated before, simply because our old lodge room was filled with too much "stuff". And the room architecture, even without any furnishings, is strikingly beautiful and a true gem. But now let's get back to our progress...

THE PROJECT IS A SUCCESS!

JRPM Jim Stargel served as our lodge's liaison between all the building inspectors and contractors during the 11-month

renovation. On April 6, 2015, he had the honor of traveling to the county seat at Westminster to pick up our newly issued occupancy permit and on April 7th, even though the lodge building was not quite finished, WM Kevin Drabczyk banged the gravel to open our first lodge communication in our very own temple building. We then spent every day until the dedication, which was scheduled for Saturday, May 9th, trying to get the building ready. The laying of sod was completed only the day before the dedication was held and we prayed it wouldn't rain.

On dedication day, fifty-four masons marched down the street and assembled in front of the building along with other guests. Speakers at the ceremony included GM Kenneth Wyvill, WM Drabczyk, PM Burner, Town Councilman Ken Phebus, and Carroll County Commissioner Richard Rothschild. Finally, the ribbon was cut, and everyone retired to our very own social hall for food and drinks.

The fact that we have a social hall is very significant to the

brethren at Prudence Lodge. Previously we had no such hall and any dinners or social activities had to be conducted in our former lodge meeting room or at an off-site location. But now with our new building, we were enjoying the fruits of our labors as we and our honored guests made use of the social hall that came with the new building.

During the entire process of acquiring and renovating the property, it was evident that the Great Architect of the Universe had blessed Prudence Lodge by bringing together a group of men who could perform much of the needed work themselves, gratis, rather than the lodge having to pay for the services of a general contractor and for other services needed to complete the project. Many of the members brought skill, enthusiasm, and dedication to the job. And as masonic tradition would expect of master masons, those with the greatest skill and vision taught those with limited or no operative building experience so that they too could pitch in and help make our new lodge home an affordable reality.

Upcoming Events 2018–2019

Wednesday, October 17th	Baltimore – Confer – 9th, 10th, 11th & 13th	7pm
Thursday, October 18th	Susquehanna – LOP & Chapter	7pm
Thursday, October 18th	Frederick – LOP	7pm
Wednesday, October 24th	Baltimore – 14th & 15th Degrees	7pm
Saturday, October 27th	Susquehanna – Reunion Day – 4th, 14th, 18th	8am
Saturday, October 27th	Cumberland – Reunion Day	8am
Sunday, October 28th	Baltimore – Memorial Service	2pm
Friday, November 2nd	Frederick – Fall Class Orientation, 4th & 5th	7pm
Saturday, November 3rd	Frederick – Fall Class Reunion, 14th, 18th, 30th	8am
Monday, November 5th	Cumberland – LOP	7:30pm
Wednesday, November 7th	Baltimore – Confer – 18th & 20th Degrees	7pm
Sunday, November 18th	Cumberland – Capping & Feast of Tishri	4pm
Saturday, November 10th	Baltimore – Reunion Day 21th, 27th, 30th, 32nd	7:30am
Monday, December 3rd	Cumberland – LOP	7:30pm
Sunday, January 6th	Cumberland – Installation of Officers	4pm
Sunday, January 13th	Baltimore – Installation of Officers	2pm

Schedule subject to change