



# The Minnesota MASON

March–April 2006

VOL. 53, No. 6

## Local author claims Masons visited Minnesota in 1362 Lecture at Saint Paul Masonic Center on April 25th

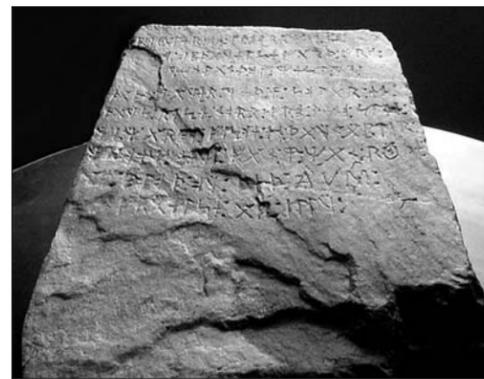
A well-respected author and scientist who is a leading expert in the field of forensic concrete, has just written a book claiming there is a connection between the Kensington Rune Stone and members of the Teutonic Knights and Knights Templar from the Swedish island of Gotland.

Scott Wolter, author of the new book *The Kensington Rune Stone—Compelling New Evidence*, is presenting a lecture of his findings, hosted by Macalester Lodge No. 290 at Saint Paul Masonic Center on the evening of April 25th. The lecture will take place at 7:00 p.m., and a dinner precedes the lecture at 6:00 p.m. Both are open to Masons and non-Masons alike.

The Rune Stone was found in 1898 by a farmer, Olof Ohman, near Kensington, Minnesota. Inscribed on it were ancient symbols called runes. It tells the story of a party of thirty Norse explorers who, as the stone narrates: “Were out fishing one day. After we came home we found ten men red with blood and dead.” The date inscribed is 1362—130 years before Columbus left for America.

Much of the evidence that will be presented at the lecture never made it into the book, and it is being presented publicly for the first time. Wolter explained, “As the book went to press, Dick and I were still working on the apparent encoded message that we believe explains the mysterious characters within the inscription. Many of these new findings show a Knights Templar origin of the inscription.” The author owns American Petrographic Services in St. Paul, and his usual work is what he calls “autopsies on concrete” or forensic geology to determine if there are flaws in concrete projects and, if so, whose fault they were. His research seems to show the Rune Stone is a genuine artifact from the fourteenth century. Even more interesting is that he claims it was the work of the Teutonic Knights, after the fall of their brother organization the Knights Templar, who were on a voyage of acquisition and carved the stone. What was the stone’s purpose? Wolter says it was “Intentionally buried as a land claim to provide future proof that they were here first.”

The lecture is free, but if you are coming for the dinner, a \$9.00 donation per meal is suggested.



Please RSVP for dinner by April 21. Call Dwight Watson at 651-454-2312 (cybercom@comcast.net) or Art Seaberg at 651-681-1381 (artsberg22@comcast.net). Reservations are not required for the lecture but may be subject to seating availability.

The presentation is sponsored by Macalester Lodge No. 290, in cooperation with the Grand Lodge. More information can be found on the Macalester Lodge web site located at [www.macalester290.org](http://www.macalester290.org).



**A year to remember**

page 2

**Grand Lodge News**

pages 1–4



**Lodge News & Views**

pages 6



**Minnesota Masonic Homes**

pages 5

**Masonic Family News**

page 7

## Masonic Hospital Visitation Program

It has been said that “one of the secrets to living a happy and fulfilling life is to get involved with something that is bigger than yourself,” and as Brother Lynn F. Perkins said in his book *New Age Youth and Freemasonry*, “People are never so happy as when they are doing something unselfishly for the benefit of others.” I think those two statements apply very well to the Masonic Service Association of the United States (MSA) Hospital Visitation Program, and especially to our Brethren who volunteer at the various Veterans Administration Medical Centers (VAMC), hospitals and nursing homes throughout the United States. They do a big and important job for us in visiting and bringing cheer to our veterans; the men and women who have been ready to fight to preserve our way of life and our freedom. Our Brethren who volunteer with the MSA also bring each and every one of us some pride and prestige by what they do.

The Brethren who volunteer for the MSA Hospital Visitation Program do a tremendous service for the veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States, and because of this program and the Brethren who carry it out, we in Masonry have had a valuable Masonic outreach program in a most favorable way, which is a real source of pride for Freemasonry. If we are concerned about maintaining our Masonic identity in our communities, this program, supported by Masons and their Lodges, is one way to show the kind of men we are and part of what we are about.

In Minnesota we have three Brothers who coordinate the volunteer efforts of the Masons of Minnesota who would like to help with the MSA Hospital Visitation Program. There is also an opening for the Silver Bay Veterans Home. Br. Peter Kloskowski – St. Cloud VAMC – 320-252-4208  
Br. John McBride – Minneapolis VAMC – 952-920-3072  
Br. Jack Boomgaarden – Luverne Veterans Home – 507-283-4500

In addition to these homes and medical centers, there also are Veterans Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Brainerd, Fergus Falls, Hibbing, Maplewood, Montevideo, Rochester, and St. James.

I heard about this program of the Masonic

Service Association when I petitioned my Lodge for the degrees nearly thirty years ago. Over the years I only heard about it each year when we who were attending Lodge would listen to the Master tell us a little about it and then remind us that the Blue Envelope drive was here again, and to donate to the MSA for this worthwhile program. So we would all put some money in an envelope and turn it in. While this Blue Envelope drive is good, there is a lot more that we as Masons can do to help out so worthy and enjoyable a volunteer effort as the Masonic Veterans Hospital Visitation Program.

On February 10th I was honored to be able to represent our Grand Master at the VAMC in St. Cloud for the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. The purpose of this day at the VA Hospital in St. Cloud, as in all the VA Hospitals around the country, is to pay tribute and express appreciation to hospitalized veterans, to increase community awareness of the role of the medical center, to encourage citizens to visit hospitalized veterans, and to become involved as volunteers.

One of the pleasures we, as Freemasons, have available to us is to become involved in the support of the MSA Hospital Visitation Program. Not everyone lives close enough to a VA medical center, hospital or nursing home to be able to volunteer on a regular basis, but for those who do, there is an opportunity to add happiness and fulfillment to their lives. For the rest of us, we can still be involved by monetarily volunteering. That way we can be a part of supporting our Brethren who are actually there bringing joy and conversation to our veterans in the VA facilities. Supporting this program is obviously important, but what some of us are not aware of is that many veterans in VA facilities have no family or friends nearby and really welcome the visit and time a volunteer provides.

Anyone who is willing to volunteer through the MSA Hospital Visitation Program for what ever time that person is able and willing to give is welcomed. The volunteer time can be as often and as regular or as infrequent as you’re able. A morning a week, and afternoon a month, or maybe the afternoon of the day of your Lodge’s Stated Communication might be a good way to extend your Masonic day by doing something

by Ed Halpaus, Grand LEO

worthwhile for some veterans who really could use some company, someone to take them to the canteen, or a little conversation.

In visiting with Masons of the Hospital Visitation Program I have heard how they also dip into their pockets quite a bit to buy things that the veterans in the VA facilities can use. Our Brethren can use our help in their efforts; we can dip into our pockets too! If you or your Lodge would like to make a donation to help out the Hospital Volunteers, send a check to the Grand Lodge office at 200 E. Plato Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55107-1618, and note that it’s for the Hospital Visitation Program here in Minnesota.

Some of the things that our Hospital Coordinators might buy for our veterans are ten-minute phone cards, writing materials and stamps, coffee mugs that have a lid, and personal comfort items. Also money can be used to buy tickets for veterans to attend a Twins Baseball Game or aviary maintenance. This could be a good project for a Masonic Lodge. Money can also be used to provide tickets to movies at theaters and meal certificates at restaurants located near the VA facility.

When it comes to volunteering, the VA can use volunteers in a wide variety of areas, and, if training or certification is needed, they will help with that too. Here again the Masonic Coordinator for the VA facility near you can give you help and information if you would like to volunteer.

### Special Announcement

**Mesaba Lodge No. 255 in Hibbing and the Grand Lodge of Minnesota announce**

#### A One-Day-to-Masonry Class

**Saturday, May 6, 2006**

**at the Hibbing Masonic Center  
1939 East 4th Street, Hibbing  
Check-in 8:00 a.m.**

**1st Degree starts at 9:00 a.m.**

**Advanced registration required and due in the Grand Lodge office by April 28**

**Cost will be \$250 per candidate.**

**The experience will be priceless...**



## A year to remember

**M.W.B. Andrew J. Rice**  
Grand Master

Greetings, my Brothers,

This will be my final opportunity to address you in the format of the Grand Master's message in the Minnesota Mason. This has been a wonderful year for the craft in Minnesota. Throughout this year I have been learning how to be a Grand Master. It has been challenging in many ways and I think I can safely say that one doesn't fully realize—until in the office—what it means to be Grand Master of this great jurisdiction. The only life experience I can equate this experience to was that of being a first time parent. My world turned upside down by the experience, and I realized how I patronized all the wisdom offered to me by so many before that blessed event.

I don't think I will ever really get accustomed to the wonderful way in which you greet your Grand Master. I truly do appreciate the respect you always show for the office, which, by the time you read this, I will very temporarily hold.

I can sincerely say that I have been able to work throughout this year with some of the finest men I have ever known. I am deeply indebted to all of the Grand Lodge officers for their assistance and support and most especially for the friendship. I believe much has been accomplished—not by me or to my credit—but to the credit of those who have contributed their energy, enthusiasm, and ingenuity to moving Masonry in Minnesota forward during this year.

Minnesota Masonic Charities has and will enable us to substantially increase our charitable efforts in the coming years. I believe history will herald this event in Minnesota Masonry's History

The Masonic Cancer Center Fund, which supports the cancer research efforts at the University of Minnesota, is in the process of the largest fund raising effort in its fifty-year history.

Minnesota Masonic Foundation has elected to enhance the mission of scholarships through local lodges with Masonic Charities and continue the all-important mission of Masonic relief through the Grand Lodge Help, Aid and Assist Fund.

The Minnesota Masonic Historical Society and Museum, who are charged with preserving our heritage, have great plans in the near future.

My Brothers, the honor you gave me when you elected me to this office was to give me the opportunity to learn from all of

these talented brothers. The greatest joy in being your Grand Master was found right here within the borders of Minnesota. I always found wonderful meals, great lodge buildings, charming communities, and a warm receptions. Without a doubt, the best part of being a Grand Master is getting to know the wonderful men who make up our fraternity. The chance to spend an evening with you and get to know you was worth every mile I drove, every twenty-hour day trying to balance my family's needs, my career obligations, and my Masonic obligations and undeniably, to quote a friend, every green bean I ate.

My brethren, what you did with your generous expression of confidence at the ballot box last year was to give me a chance to actually live my Masonry every day for a year. And for that I will never be able to thank you enough. There are no words to adequately express the depth of my gratitude for what you did for me.

I had thought when I began this year in the Grand East that I would have an opportunity to repay just a small portion of the great debt that I owe to you and our fraternity. But now that it's almost over I realize this was but a vain hope, the fulfillment of that obligation has only just begun.

Finally, as your Grand Master, let me say that I have done all in my power to maintain the integrity of the Fraternity. We should always seek positive change, improvement, and modernization but we must strive never to compromise our tenets or principles.

Thank you for the courtesy you have shown throughout this year to my wife, Christine, and me and to the office that I am so privileged to hold. May God bless the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. And may God bless each and every one of you.

I hope to see many of you at our annual communication.

Fraternally,  
Andrew J. Rice, Grand Master of Minnesota

### Three cemetery lots at Acacia Park Cemetery in Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

The buyer must have a Masonic or Eastern Star affiliation, either their own or through a close relative. Thought to be worth \$900 each, will sell for \$400 each. If interested contact the Grand Lodge office to reach the potential seller.

651-222-6051 or grandlodge@qwest.net

### The Minnesota MASON

March-April 2006 VOL. 53, No. 6

*The Minnesota MASON* (USPS 593-460) is the only official publication of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Minnesota. It is published bimonthly in January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October, and November-December.

Office of publication of *The Minnesota MASON* is the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, 200 East Plato Boulevard, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107. Telephone number is 651-222-6051. Periodicals Postage Paid at Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101 and additional entry offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to *The Minnesota MASON*, 200 East Plato Boulevard, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107.

Design & Layout  
Bobbie Lampi

RSL desktop publishing services  
rlampi@astound.net

## Minnesota Masonic Charities, part 6 Wish List Report Card

Undoubtedly we have all had wish lists at some time, written down or in our thoughts. It is also true that most of us, having gone through the public school system, know the experience of receiving a report card. But what if your wish list was graded? Hopefully, such a report card would provide a service: it would highlight the wishes that successfully became a reality, and underline those that still remain to be fulfilled. Perhaps such a report card could impart motivation to work on those not yet met and still allow plenty of room for new ones to be added.

What might such a report card look like for Minnesota Masonic Charities? We asked around...

In the last issue of the Minnesota Mason, Part 5 of a 6 part series, *A New Year, A New Opportunity for Dreams*, reflected that Minnesota Masonic Charities was created as an organization to support the ideas and creative philanthropic desires of the Masons of Minnesota, and to help fulfill the dreams of the members of our Lodges. By supporting programs and initiatives that are begun in the community by Lodge members, MMC, through matching funds grants, can **extend the reach in outreach** and help Minnesota Masons help others.

The wish that such a relationship could be developed between the Lodges of Minnesota and a central supporting charity of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota has been expressed by many over the years and successfully came to fruition when the charter to establish Minnesota Masonic Charities was ratified at the 2005 Grand Lodge Communication. **Wish granted: A**

The MMC Board of Directors also developed their own form of wish list shortly after their appointments to the Board. At an all-day meeting in 2005, which was scheduled to begin the work of designing the programs and policies of MMC, the Directors were asked to offer their thoughts on what needs they saw and what programs or services they would wish for to answer those needs.

There was definitely a group wish to provide ongoing support for the *legacy charities* of Minnesota Masonry—those which were already established over the years, and which continued to provide services and programs that were born from the commitment of Masons to look after one another and also those beyond the Masonic family.

Minnesota Masonic Homes was the first to come under the umbrella of MMC. While the needs of our elders have changed dramatically over time, the legacy of providing quality care and appropriate senior living options remains constant. Even now, new projects are being evaluated and developed at the Homes in the security of the support from Minnesota Masonic Charities.

The Masonic Cancer Center Fund, another cornerstone legacy charity of Minnesota Masons, now looks to receive the support and commitment of Minnesota Masonic Charities as MCCF continues its support of cancer research and has launched a *Partners for Life* Campaign for that purpose. Minnesota Masonic Charities recognizes the long-term relationship between MCCF and the University of Minnesota and will continue to support this collaboration which seeks a cure that could benefit millions of people.

The Minnesota Masonic Historical Society and Museum is another legacy charity whose very existence is to preserve and promote through education the legacies of Freemasonry itself. In becoming part of MMC, that historical connection will continue to be upheld.

The Minnesota Masonic Foundation was created to provide assistance to fellow Masons in times of crisis and to sponsor the scholarship program through matching funds with Lodges. Those two needs will

continue to be met through strong and enhanced programs overseen by MMC.

The goals of the Minnesota Masonic legacy charities not only remain intact; they will now be more strongly ensured through the union of resources and commitment under MMC. **Wish granted: A**

Filling gaps in services in communities where our constituents reside was the theme of another expressed wish. The creation of a Lodges and Community Outreach Services group under the auspices of MMC would allow for new programs to be created and brought to Minnesota Masons everywhere within the state. Certain trial programs such as *Telehealth*, which monitors the vital signs of seniors in the comfort of their homes is under development; ongoing programs such as *reading in schools*, *coats for character*, and programs supporting those victimized by domestic abuse are just examples of the services that are being given a high priority for support in the next year. Some of this requires the time and patience of connecting with all those who will be involved: from those administering the services to those receiving the services; thus, it is currently viewed as a very important work in progress. **Grade is pending.**

Finally, there were wishes that the stories of Minnesota Masons and their day to day commitment to doing good things for others could be told somehow, communicated in order to promote the benefits of programs and to interest others in becoming involved.

The Minnesota Masonic Charities web site, [mnmasoniccharities.org](http://mnmasoniccharities.org), was developed and is being transformed into such a vehicle. A visitor to the site will be able to view the multiple offerings of programs and services, donate online, even volunteer their time online and stay current with the charitable events of the season. In addition, the success of the very first MMC fundraising GALA last November, with over \$55,000 raised in one evening, has itself become a way to promote the good works of Minnesota Masonry. By popular demand, the next GALA is set for November 11, 2006. **Wish granted: A**

This is not to say that all wishes have been successfully achieved. In creating an entirely new, charitable organization that fully answers to the original vision, it takes a great deal of time and commitment. All legal and charitable processes need to be completely and conscientiously designed and documented to satisfy both state and federal obligations. A Board of Directors, all volunteering their time, has to develop the appropriate policies and procedures so that grants and distributed funds are fully accountable. Programs need to be evaluated for their best practices and for being the best option to provide benefits according to the mission and values of Masonic charity. There is a desire to have it all in place as soon as possible but the obligation must be to proceed with complete due diligence in every aspect. This first year for Minnesota Masonic Charities has been challenging and work intensive.

The truth is more likely that the wish list will never be completed, and the report card will always reflect how the commitment to fulfilling the Mission—*enhancing the ability of the Fraternity to deliver services and support to its members, families and others*—can never be less than our best effort. Perhaps, reading this article, you know of a wish that should be placed on the list. Contact us. Minnesota Masonic Charities is both the wish and the promise. Working together we can make it **Granted: A.**

For more information about Minnesota Masonic Charities, call Eric Neetenbeek at 952-948-6213, or Sara Beddow at 952-948-6202. You can also email to [eric.neetenbeek@mnmasonic.org](mailto:eric.neetenbeek@mnmasonic.org) or [sara.beddow@mnmasonic.org](mailto:sara.beddow@mnmasonic.org).

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address \_\_\_\_\_

Old City \_\_\_\_\_

Old State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

New City \_\_\_\_\_

New State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

New Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Effective date of change \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Office of the Grand Secretary  
200 East Plato Blvd  
Saint Paul, MN 55107-1618

Or call: 651-222-6051 or 800-245-6050

## LEO – Lodge Education Officer Leadership, Education, Oration – LEO

Ed Halpaus, GLEO

The duties and the position of the LEO should be enjoyable for the Mason who holds the position, and the LEO is an officer that the Master and Wardens of a Lodge can use for the betterment of the Lodge.

As a Lodge officer, the LEO has other duties in addition to making certain there is some Masonic education at each stated communication of his Lodge. In the Minnesota Masonic Code; section G13.20 (c) it says: "There shall be a standing Committee on Programs in each Constituent Lodge, and it shall be the duty of the Master, immediately after his installation, to appoint a Committee on Program, consisting of four (4) members—the Junior Warden, a Past Master, the Lodge Education Officer, and one (1) Brother. They shall prepare, submit to the Lodge for approval and promote a suitable program of social and educational events in harmony with the teachings and principles of the Fraternity."

The LEO should be aware of everything he can be involved in to assist in the betterment of Freemasonry and his Lodge. The possibilities for social and educational programs are numerous, and I won't try to make a list here; however, I do have a couple to suggest.

At the installation of the Master of a Lodge, he is told by the Installing Officer to search the Book of Constitutions at all times, and to make certain it is read in his Lodge so that the Brethren can hear what it contains. With everything that goes on in many, if not most, stated Communications, this part of the duties of the Master will sometimes be neglected. (Using an agenda at stated communication is a good idea; it helps to get everything in that the Master wants in.)

The Committee on Programs could find a Brother in Lodge to select a portion of the Masonic Code to read and explain at each stated communication. Doing this will get another Brother involved in the Lodge with an important job to do, help the Master in his responsibilities, and provide valuable information for the Brethren.

The Program Committee should be involved with the Mentor Program for the Lodge. The Mentor Program helps a new Mason get a proper introduction into Freemasonry. Since the committee is composed of the Junior Warden, the LEO, a Past Master and one other Brother it is composed of four Masons who have the best interests of the Lodge and the Brethren—especially the newest Brethren—at heart. Whoever heads it up should become well versed in it, and the LEO could easily be that Brother. The program can include appointing the ritual coach, as well as the mentor for a new Brother, but the mentor program is separate from teaching the new Mason the ritual proficiency.

Our Mentor Program was developed about ten years ago, and Lodges who put it to use attest that it is a good way to get a new Mason established in Freemasonry. We have developed a candidate notebook that the new Mason and his mentor can use to supplement the Mentor Program. The notebook is available on-line on the LEO Resources page of our Grand Lodge web site at:

<http://www.mn-masons.org/gleo>. It can be viewed and read there, or it can be printed.

Another important part of the LEO's duties is to make certain there is a program for Masonic education at every stated communication. The interesting part of that is that, while it is the duty of the LEO to make sure there is a program of Masonic education, it does not mean that the LEO must be the only one who does it. It is good to involve other members in presenting Masonic education from time to time. He does this by recruiting Brethren, who are interested in Masonic education, and by helping to select interesting topics and locate resources that can be used. The LEO doesn't leave him alone to fend for himself.

A LEO can also bring in a speaker to talk on some aspect of Freemasonry. The Speaker's Bureau is on the LEO Resources

page of our web site. A LEO who helps develop other Masons and who gives them the opportunity to learn and grow is doing what a Lodge Officer ought to do. He is also helping his Lodge by developing future Lodge officers.

Our Grand Lodge has some things in place to help the LEO in his duties when it comes to education—in an easy way. The LEO's job should be enjoyable and not become a burden. We provide subjects and papers a LEO can use by providing two issues of *T.F.S.* each month and the *Short Talk Bulletin* monthly to each LEO in Minnesota. In addition, the Education Committee is ready to help with questions, research tips, and assistance for anyone who asks. We do our best to answer questions submitted to us from any Mason; in fact we like to get questions on Freemasonry from our Brethren. All past issues of *T.F.S.* can be found on the LEO Resources page of our web site.

If a LEO or another Brother would like to put together their own education program for their Lodge, that's the best, but I would suggest to do it on something that is interesting to you. Chances are if it's interesting to you it will be interesting to others as well, and you will really enjoy researching and preparing your talk. However, if you were to use something someone else wrote, I suggest you read it aloud a number of times before you read it in Lodge. Better yet, put it in your own words. When you deliver it that way, it will be presented better and be better received.

Finally, another program that has been successful in many Lodges comes to us from our good Brothers in Michigan. This program helps promote fellowship in a Lodge by allowing members to let the lodge know who they are, what they do, what their lives are like; about their hobbies, sports interests, and backgrounds. Prior to your next meeting, select two Brothers—be sure to give them plenty of advance notice—to prepare a ten-minute talk about "Who I Am." If the lodge has a dinner after the meeting, have the talks at that time. If you just have snacks or refreshments, you might have the talks in the lodge room. Introduce the first Brother to the lodge, give his name, station, etc, and then turn the floor over to him. The format isn't as important as the Brother learning to feel comfortable talking in front of his brothers. When he is finished, introduce the second Brother. Some of the Brothers may really make a program out of this by using a Power Point program and projector. Let them know this is not going to be graded! We just want to get to know our Brothers better. It is important to give the Masons who agree to do this as much time and help as they need to prepare their talks; assistance from a Brother is usually welcome if only for moral support.

As the Lodge year progresses, the Program Committee ought to make sure to have at least one Brother make a presentation at every stated communication. At the 3<sup>o</sup> of a new Mason, the festive board between the sections might be an excellent time for him to give a presentation about himself, or otherwise at the next stated.

The need to know who our members are, what they find rewarding in life, what they have experienced, what their hopes are for the future, and what their expectations are for the fraternity, is very important—not only to the member who is giving his talk, but also to the members on the sidelines. Our lives are enriched by the members of this fraternity. Let's take the time to get to know them, who they are, where they are from, and where they hope to go. When we do these things, their lives are better, our lives are better, and the fraternity becomes much stronger.

If you have specific questions, please contact me, and I will do my best to help. Contact me at 763-552-0466, at [ed@halpaus.net](mailto:ed@halpaus.net), or through our Grand Lodge office.

Enjoy Freemasonry; live it in every aspect of your life.

## Masonic Conundrum

by Dan Lang, Education Committee

Greetings from Northwestern Minnesota! What a beautiful winter we've been enjoying. I've been as happy as a snowman in a snowball fight with the mild winter thus far and have been taking advantage of the mild weather to enjoy the great outdoors using snowshoes! That's right...snowshoes. The land is pretty flat up here so downhill and telemark skiing simply will not work for me. So this year, I determined to enjoy the beautiful weather by getting out into the woods and living a little! Of course a side benefit has been dropping a pant size or two in the process! Besides, I think my wife is taking notice, because she's always encouraging me to go out on longer and longer excursions! In fact, she even helps me out the door when I'm taking too long getting ready. Hmm...wait a minute...

Well, last week my e-mail started clogging up with Conundrum participants. Man! They were flying in fast and furious! Luckily, I have my e-mail sorted by date and time so I can determine what day and what time an e-mail has been submitted, otherwise I could never keep track of who sent in the correct answer when. As it was, the majority of people who responded answered within the first three days of the *Minnesota Mason* hitting the streets. (I still haven't received mine though!)

Once again, our brothers from near and far have proven themselves to possess incredible Masonic knowledge and tenacity in ferreting out the correct answers to these Conundrums. I'm going to have to really think hard about future riddles since the internet simply makes it harder and harder to make you work for these! Nonetheless, congratulations to the following brothers who were the first in their area to provide the correct answers to Conundrum #1!

- NE Area Brother Craig Kvale of Lake Superior Lodge No. 349
- SE Area Brother Norman Davis of Tuscan Lodge No. 77
- MW Area Brother Don Severson of Arcana Lodge No. 187
- ME Area Brother Troy Brown of Jasper Lodge No. 164
- NW Area Brother Mike Kvarnlov of Roseau Lodge No. 268
- SW Area Brother Dick Bowdin of Chain Lake Lodge No. 64

These six brothers edged out many other brothers who also deserve honorable mention for their efforts, but who missed being first to submit their answers, sometimes by mere hours. Please join me in spirit as we recognize the following 25 brothers, all of whom also submitted correct answers to Conundrum #1:

### Northwest Area

Brother Jim Goldesberry of Northern Lodge No. 236

### Northeast Area

Brother Brad M. Linsten and Brother Roger Philbrick of Mesaba Lodge No. 255  
Brother Tom Westby of Grand Marais Lodge No. 322  
Brother Kenneth Falk of Euclid Lodge No. 198

Brother Adam Stevenson of Lake Superior Lodge No. 349

### Metrowest Area

Brothers Richard Allen and Wayne Perkins of Cataract Lodge No. 2  
Brother Robert Burnam of Lake Harriet No. 277  
Brother Ron Halpaus of Sherburne Lodge No. 95  
Brother Reed Noble of Excelsior Lodge No. 113  
Brother James S. Barth of Monticello Lodge No. 16  
Brother Mark Moriarty of Arcana Lodge No. 187  
Brother Adam Grau of Compass Lodge No. 265

### Metroeast Area

Brothers Paul Robinette, Sean T. Bulenrose, Ed Jankus, and Jim Barbour of Tusler-Summit Lodge No. 263  
Brother Pat O'Connor of Forest Lake Lodge No. 344  
Brother Clarence Anderson of St. Paul Lodge No. 3  
Brother Frank Spevak of Newport Lodge No. 118  
Brother Henry Johnson of Jasper Lodge No. 164  
Brother Thomas Jackson of Grand Lodge of Minnesota  
Brother Ken Kinser of Garnet Lodge No. 166

### Southeast Area

Brother Richard R. Pavsek of Rochester Lodge No. 21  
Brother David McCormick, II of Carnelian Lodge No. 40

### Southwest Area

Brother Keith Myhre of Chain Lake Lodge No. 64  
Brother Mike Kuehn of Sibley Lodge No. 209

### Conundrum #1:

Please name this brother who has contributed so much to Americans and greater freedom for all in America. The correct answer is W.E.B. (William Edward Burghardt) Dubois.



### Now, on to our 2006 Conundrum #2

Brother Harold E. "Phil" Phillips, Jr., our Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota to the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, sent us our next conundrum. Refer to the boxed paragraph below. To correctly answer this conundrum, please number and name the books of the Bible, 1 through 30, in the order they are presented, reading from the top of the paragraph to the bottom. Having numbered them in correct order, please submit the answers to: (Yes, I did it too!)  
Brother Dan Lang  
61084 290th Street  
Warroad, MN 56763  
[snoble@hotmail.com](mailto:snoble@hotmail.com)

### Books of the Bible—Find the hidden 30 books of the Bible!

There are 30 books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? If you can, please send me the list of books in the order they are found (from top to bottom, left to right), and you will be listed as a winner in the next issue of the *Minnesota Mason*. This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was actually given to me by Brother Harold E. "Phil" Phillips Jr. last month. Before he came upon it, it was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends. One friend from West Virginia worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers I have received, I am forced to admit it usually takes a minister or a scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books names in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha-Delta-Phi lemonade booth set a new record. The local newspaper, *The Chronicle*, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "The books are all right there in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found. God Bless!

# Resolution Number 1, 2006

## General Regulations Amendment

### Creating Certification Program for Lecturers

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Custodians of the Work have, for many years, performed an essential and valuable service in maintaining the quality of the ritual in Minnesota.

**WHEREAS**, due to decreasing membership, it has become increasingly difficult to find members who are willing to commit the ritual to memory, resulting in some lodges being unable to properly demonstrate the ritual with their own members.

**WHEREAS**, there are many Masons who have expended the effort to memorize one or more of the sections of the lectures of each degree, and are frequently called upon to deliver these in their home lodges and neighboring lodges.

**WHEREAS**, there is no recognition program that identifies these members for their accomplishments in memorizing and performing these lectures.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that Section G18.22 be added to the General Regulations: that the Board of Custodians has established a program to recognize and reward Masons who demonstrate proficiency in the lectures of the three degrees. The Brothers so certified shall be called "Lecturers" and designated in the same manner as the three Monitorial classes, with the highest Lecturer grade being Grade One.

The certification program is administered by the Board of Custodians with the aid of Monitors previously certified in the appropriate degree. The criteria of the program will be:

**Lecturer Third Grade** Complete a satisfactory examination in the 1st section of the lectures of the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees

**Lecturer Second Grade** Complete a satisfactory examination of the 1st section and 2nd section of the lectures in the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees.

**Lecturer First Grade** Complete a satisfactory examination of the 1st section, 2nd section and 3rd section of the lectures in the Entered Apprentice and Master Mason degrees and the 1st section, 2nd section of the lectures, together with the work of the Senior Deacon in the 2nd section of the work in the Fellowcraft degree.

Upon a successful examination, the member would be awarded a certificate of the appropriate grade identifying the Brother as a "Lecturer."

Fraternally submitted by David E. Olson, Chairman  
Board of Custodians

# Resolution Number 2, 2006

## General Regulations Amendment

### Proficiency Lectures To Be Used at the Option of the Lodge Master

**WHEREAS**, Article V, Section G5.01(a) of the General Regulations adopted the work and lectures as taught and exemplified in this Grand Jurisdiction stated as thus: The Grand Lodge having in 1869 formally adopted the work and lectures of the degrees as then exemplified by its District Deputies in its presence, and as then amended, as the work and lectures of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, said work and lectures are confirmed and re-adopted; and all Lodges of this Jurisdiction are required to conform thereto, save as to modifications which were then orally communicated and allowed and as since taught and exemplified by the Custodians of the work, and except as to the modification of the language of any charge or lecture thereof, to correspond with these regulations. The second section of the Second Degree lecture may be given at the discretion of the respective lodge.

**WHEREAS**, the 1st section lectures embody the complete initiation ritual as set forth in Masonic practice and tradition, and

**WHEREAS**, the 1st section lectures reinforce for candidates, the full experience of initiation to each degree, and

**WHEREAS**, the 1st section lectures exemplify numerous allusions to types, usages and customs of Masonic practice, and

**WHEREAS**, learning of the 1st section lectures provides an abundance of opportunities to discuss Masonic values with candidates, and

**WHEREAS**, some lodges perceive the importance of candidates learning the numerous Masonic values embedded in the 1st section lectures;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that it be permissible for a lodge to require either the proficiency exam or the 1st section lecture as the proficiency standard at the Master's discretion.

Fraternally submitted,  
Gregory Deegan, W. Master, Montgomery Lodge No. 258

# Minnesota-Texas Reunion

For the twenty-sixth time Minnesota Masons gathered in South Texas to welcome and honor the sitting Grand Master of Minnesota. M.W. Brother Andy Rice extended the hand of brotherly love and friendship to Masons of Minnesota and many other jurisdictions, the evening of February 4, 2006, at a dinner held at the Rio Grande Shrine Club in LaFeria, Texas. The Grand Master's wife Chris attended with him and was welcomed along with many other wives.

The group was welcomed by Past Grand Master of Texas, Mike Gower, who invited the Winter Texans to visit the Lodges located in the Rio Grande Valley. Masons from at least seven other jurisdictions were present along with Minnesota Masons. During dinner, forty ten-pound bags of grapefruit were given as door prizes, all donated by Engert Farms of Alamo.

Following dinner, Grand Master Rice presented a Widows Pin to Margie Porter, introduced the many dignitaries attending the dinner, then closed out the evening with a very informational speech. He spoke of the many Masonic activities happening in Minnesota, but his emphasis was on the charitable giving of the Minnesota Masons. He described the new umbrella approach, which unites the efforts of the Minnesota Masonic Home,



Chris Rice was presented a LARGE Texas grapefruit by Past Grand Patron Tom Morgan of the Order of Eastern Star, Louisiana.

the Masonic Cancer Center Fund, the Minnesota Masonic Foundation and the Minnesota Masonic Historical Society & Museum in their fund raising. The Grand Master's remarks were well received and at the close of the evening many Masons gathered around to visit with him.

The committee, chaired by PGM Ward Sonstebly, is already planning for next year. The tentative dates are February 3 for the Texas Minnesota Reunion and the February 5 for the Arizona Minnesota Reunion.

# Resolution Number 3, 2006

## General Regulations Amendment

### Benevolence Fund Assessments and Per Capita Payments

**WHEREAS**, The Grand Lodge of Minnesota has established that \$2.50 shall be deducted from the per capita dues payment of every Minnesota Mason and that \$12.50 shall be deducted from the raising fees paid by every new Master Mason of Minnesota and that such amounts shall be paid over to the Minnesota Masonic Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, The Minnesota Masonic Foundation, through the unanimous vote of its Board of Directors as authorized by its members, has transferred all of its assets to Minnesota Masonic Charities and to cease operations due to the more favorable tax status of Minnesota Masonic Charities as a public charity as defined by the Internal Revenue Service; and

**WHEREAS**, SECTION G3.07 Currently reads: "A payment of Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$12.50) is required from every new member of each Constituent Lodge for the benefit of the Minnesota Masonic Foundation, Inc. The Grand Secretary shall transmit all such payments monthly to the Minnesota Masonic Foundation, Inc. The Grand Lodge shall not require the payment of Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$12.50) from members more than once from any member of this jurisdiction."; and

**WHEREAS**, SECTION G3.02 (c-1) currently reads: "Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2.50) of each amount received as per capita shall be apportioned to the Minnesota Masonic Foundation, Inc.";

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that, Section G3.07 be amended to read: "A payment of Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$12.50) is required from every new member of each Constituent Lodge for the benefit of the Grand Lodge Benevolence Fund. The Grand Lodge shall not require the payment of the Twelve Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$12.50) from members more than once from any member of this jurisdiction.";

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, Section G3.02 (c-1) be amended to read: "Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2.50) of each amount received as per capita shall be apportioned to the Grand Lodge Benevolence Fund."; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall apply to all funds collected, but not yet paid to the Masonic Foundation as of February 28, 2006.

Fraternally submitted, Steven R. Johnson, Deputy Grand Master;  
John Cook, Junior Grand Deacon; Neil Neddermeyer, Past Grand Master

## A Mission for Masonry in Minnesota

by Tom McCarthy, SGD

*One day Alice came to a fork in the road and saw a Cheshire cat in a tree. "Which road do I take?" she asked. His response was a question: "Where do you want to go?" "I don't know," Alice answered. "Then," said the cat, "it doesn't matter."*

Lewis Carroll, *Through the Looking Glass*

Where is Minnesota Masonry heading? We each have an idea of the goal of Masonry, but when asked to state it, it becomes fuzzy. How will we know when we've reached our goal? How will we know when we've taken the wrong fork in the road?

The only way to know is to set the direction—articulate a Mission Statement for the Craft in Minnesota.

Confucius has written: A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Richard Branton has added: A journey of 10,000 miles begins with a single step—in the wrong direction. Branton adds a third possibility: A journey of 100,000 miles begins with everyone stepping off in a different direction.

Is Minnesota Masonry on a journey of 1,000, 10,000 or 100,000 miles? Are we stepping off in different directions? Are we stepping off in the right direction? Have we even recognized the fork in the road?

The officers of the Grand Lodge progressive line have begun a process to articulate a Mission Statement for Minnesota Masons. A Mission Statement can be as simple (and profound) as "To make good men better." Or, "To make our votaries wiser, better and consequently happier."

A draft of a proposed Mission Statement was prepared at the Grand Lodge progressive line officers' fall planning meeting. The officers reviewed past efforts at Mission Statements in Minnesota, as well as Mission Statements from other Grand Lodge jurisdictions. The draft presented in the box below is meant to start the discussion among the Craft at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in April, and continue it throughout the ensuing year. The plan is to have a final version of the Mission Statement ready to be adopted at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in 2007.

The draft Mission Statement retains our ancient tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and

Truth. The draft wants to make clear that we continue to value our fraternal and social relationships, our charitable endeavors and our quest for Masonic Light.

To these ancient tenets, three other more modern and yet familiar attributes are added: Freedom—Integrity—Toleration.

Masons have long recognized the value of personal political freedom. Many scholars maintain that the seeds of modern democracy were sown in local Masonic lodges, where the officers were elected by their brethren and did not assume office by right of birth of social station.

Personal integrity is a hallmark of Masonry. No man is knowingly admitted to our fraternity who is not a moral and upright man. We discipline and even expel members who do not maintain the high ideals we have established.

All Masons believe in a Supreme Being—no atheist may be admitted into our fraternity. Since we are required to believe in a Supreme Being, but are not required to be a member of any particular religion, religious toleration is an essential element of our Craft.

It must be recognized that by including these elements in the draft Mission Statement, we have omitted many more. Other jurisdictions have included, for instance, an emphasis on family. The question for the next year is: Have the correct elements been incorporated in the draft Mission Statement? Are there others that should be included? Should one or more be replaced? Should there be a different way of expressing our Mission?

The Corporate Board needs your input—now, at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication and throughout the coming year. Visit the Grand Lodge web site ([www.mn-masons.org](http://www.mn-masons.org)) for more information and links to Mission Statements from other Grand Lodge jurisdictions. Give your feedback by contacting the Grand Lodge Office (e-mail or letter preferred so your comments can be accurately relayed) or by contacting a Grand Lodge Officer.

Together, we can make the Mission of Masonry in Minnesota a relevant and living principle.

**The Mission of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota is to engage and inspire charitable men, who believe in a Supreme Being, to conduct their lives according to Masonic tenets and values.**

Our Mission is guided by the enduring and relevant tenets of our fraternity—Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth—and our core values, which include:

#### Freedom

Freemasons champion the liberties and values outlined in the founding documents of the United States.

#### Integrity

We strive to be honest, truthful and reliable, living life in an honorable and upright manner.

#### Tolerance

The Craft respects diversity of opinion, and religious, ethnic, cultural, social and educational differences.



# MINNESOTA MASONIC HOMES

For Admissions Inquiries, contact:

**Bloomington**  
(952) 948-7771

**CareBreak**  
(763) 592-2666

**North Ridge**  
(763) 592-2620

Main Phone Numbers:

**Bloomington**  
(952) 948-7000

**CareBreak**  
(763) 592-2666

**North Ridge**  
(763) 592-3000

Minnesota Masonic Homes are tobacco-free communities.

**Our Mission:** Caring for the Masonic family and others, guided by the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief and truth.

## Two Communities — One Mission

## A Great Place to Call Home

### MINNESOTA LIFE COLLEGE STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT MMH BLOOMINGTON



Four Life College students with their coach (center back) learn about our long-term-care facility while they provide beneficial volunteer service to our community. Two days per week, three hours per day they serve in housekeeping, dietary and in the General Store.

The mission of Minnesota Life College (MLC) is to help young adults achieve personal and financial self-sufficiency. The program serves high school graduates teaching them independent living, vocational readiness, social development, and wellness skills. After completing MLC, students move into the Graduate Living Program (GLP) which enables them to live independently in the Twin Cities. GLP provides life-long social activities, emergency support and career assistance as needed. Currently, four students volunteer two days per week at MMH in housekeeping, dietary and in the General Store.

### GRAND FAMILY SOCIAL JANUARY 28



Our Landmark Assembly was filled with Eastern Star members, some of whom traveled great distances to host this special annual event.

For Star members this Social means investing an entire Saturday of their time to deliver one hour of joy to our residents. This is an investment they make several times each year—and have made since we opened our doors in 1920. They wouldn't have it any other way! THANK YOU!



Past & Present: Left – Worthy Grand Matron Ellie with PGM Grace Clingman. Right – Alice Floten requested that her photo be taken with PGM Doug Steele who didn't hesitate a moment.

### RECOGNITION OF MARK MAYOR 35-YEAR EMPLOYEE OF MMH BLOOMINGTON

Thirty-five years ago when Mark applied for a job at the Home, our farm was still in business and the water tower was a fixture on the Bloomington city skyline. Mark has seen many changes at the Home since 1970. But those who know him say that in those 35 years he has never changed. He reports to work every day on time and often walks six miles round-trip regardless of the weather. He still has his gentle nature and his shy response when praised for work well done—for instance, at the Employee Recognition Dinner held March 9 when he received a standing ovation from his fellow employees and was named a "saint" by his supervisor.



Mark, looking as young as ever, with his sister Michele Angel who was invited to enjoy this special occasion with her brother. Mark has touched the lives of thousands of people at MMH in his 35 years of service.

New hours of  
MMH Bloomington  
Sunday Worship Services  
beginning April 9, 2006, are  
8:30 and 9:30 a.m.  
Catholic Mass is held the  
first and third Mondays  
of each month at 9:30 a.m.  
All services are open to the public.

### CONGRATULATIONS FRED AND ANNIE



Fred Wennie of Environmental Services and his wife Annie of Dietary Services were sworn in as United States Citizens on February 15, 2006 at the Minneapolis Convention Center along with 1300 others!

The enthusiasm and joy of Annie and Fred are inspirational. We are honored that they have become citizens of our country and members of our Bloomington Masonic Home family.

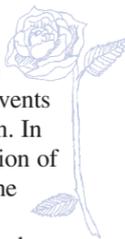
### HOW DOES OUR GARDEN GROW?

Zuhrah Shrine Mobil  
Nobles' September 2005

Spaghetti Dinner was the last in a long tradition of fundraising events for Masonic Home Bloomington. In celebration and in commemoration of their dedication to our Homes the Nobles purchased a Rose in our Garden of Giving Program from the proceeds of the dinner.

The Nobles' gift has great significance since the Garden was created by two Zuhrah Shriners, PGM Joseph Seltzer and Past Potentate John Hendrickson. It was the strong friendship between these two men that gave birth to the Rose Program in 1991. John sent a personal note to the Nobles thanking them for recognizing the significance of the Garden and its benefit to the lives of MMH residents.

In addition to fundraising for MMH through spaghetti dinners, for years the Nobles volunteered hundreds of hours of time providing our residents with old-fashioned Sunday drives around town. Their time and wheels were a blessing to those who relinquish their cars for various reasons.



### JEANIE BURTON, NEW CHAPLAIN

Chaplain Jeanie has developed a following among those who have attended her memorial services since her arrival last fall. Her sincerity, intuition and sensitive nature are talents she uses to develop warm and personal eulogies that touch the hearts and souls of her audiences.

Jeanie's Pastoral Care Program includes Bible Studies, Sunday worship services, visitations, memorial services, and interaction with families and staff dealing with illness and loss. We are blessed that she answered the call to serve our Home.

#### Jeanie Burton

- A native of Arkansas
- A speech pathologist for six years before answering the call to the ministry.
- Education: B.S. – Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX), M.S. – Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN), M.Div. (Saint Paul School of Theology (Kansas City, MO)
- United Methodist pastor in local churches in Arkansas for twenty years
- Married to Greg Burton, a medical science liaison for Abbott Laboratories



Jeanie Burton  
Chaplain at MMH Bloomington

Donors often ask how they can show their appreciation to our staff for the exceptional care they give to residents. A special fund *Family Ties* has been established for this purpose. Among many things, donations to this fund help to offset the costs incurred by employees becoming U.S. citizens.

# News & Views from the Lodges

## Colonial Mason visits Compass Lodge



To celebrate Worshipful Master George Washington's 274th birthday, Compass Lodge No. 265 and WM Keith Johnson, left, welcomed Brother John Pierce (portrayed by WB Mark Kipp) at their stated meeting on February 27th. Brother Pierce was introduced by correspondence dated Monday, January 30, 1799, from the Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 of Alexandria, Virginia.

Brother Pierce took the Compass brothers through WB Washington's life from early childhood to his death. The brothers heard several bits of information that aren't told in modern history books, such as he converted his farming cash crop from tobacco to wheat, was an early practitioner of soil conservation, was an early innovator of farming technology,

## Polar Plunge for Special Olympics



Here is our Senior Grand Steward Tom Hendrickson emerging from icy waters. The event was the Polar Plunge for the Special Olympics held on January 21, 2006, at White Bear Lake. Tom was sponsored by his Lodge Cataract No. 2.

and actively ran his Mount Vernon estate while away serving as commander-in-chief during the Revolutionary War, and later as our country's first President. WB Washington also served as the Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 while President.

Brother Pierce also presented information about Freemasonry in the 1700's including a video re-enactment of a St. John's the Evangelist procession from the 1770's and video-taped comments on Freemasonry by someone who portrayed a non-Mason, Thomas Jefferson.

## Valley Lodge No. 174 installs officers



Shown at the recent Installation of Officers for Valley Lodge No. 174, Glenwood, are Installing Master, Past Grand Master Terry Tilton, far left, and Installing Marshal, District Representative Robert Darling, far right. Installed as the 100th Master of Valley Lodge No. 174 was Bob Vandenburg, front and center, surrounded by the other new Valley Lodge Officers.

## North Star No. 23 presents Hiram Award



WB Bill Ross, WB Dennis LacQuay, and WM Bruce Christofferson are pictured above.

On November 14, at North Star Lodge No. 23 in St. Cloud, 2005 Worshipful Master Bruce Christofferson awarded the 2005 Hiram Award to William G. (Bill) Ross. Over 80 people were in attendance.

WB Dennis LacQuay, master of ceremonies, introduced WB Jerry Oliver, SGIG for Minnesota, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, SJ, who gave an excellent speech about Hiram, King of Tyre, and his role in building King Solomon's temple. He discussed how the role of a recipient of the Hiram award in his Lodge is Masonically intended to be a modern mirror-image of that performed by King Hiram so many centuries ago. WB Ed Halpaus, Grand LEO; and WB Lane Hagemeyer and WB Charles Linnell of North Star Lodge, also gave remarks, each recounting their Masonic experiences with WB Bill.

## Albert Pike celebrates Washington's birthday

Albert Pike Lodge No. 237 celebrated Brother George Washington's 274th birthday with a wild-game dinner on February 22 at the Albert Pike Masonic Center in Hopkins. More than fifty Masons, spouses and friends enjoyed a dinner of pheasant, smoked pheasant, prime rib, and venison stew prepared by Senior Steward Bill Sherman, a professional chef. Each plate was artfully arranged by Brother Bill and his wife. A contingent from Ida McKinley Chapter of the Eastern Star delivered each plate to the guests.

During the Social Hour, the Zuhrah Shrine Dixie Katz provided Dixieland jazz to accompany the selection of appetizers.

The program began with the presentation of the Colors by the colonial-uniformed Sojourners Color Guard. Emcee Junior Steward, Bob Schermerhorn introduced Brother Ed Halpaus, Grand Lodge LEO, who highlighted Brother Washington's Masonic career and noted that the wild game theme of the evening's dinner was appropriate to Washington's taste.

Cherry pie and birthday cake topped off the meal. All agreed that it was one of the best Washington's Birthday celebrations they had ever experienced.

## One-Day-to-Masonry raises sixty-three Masons



January 21st was another great day for Minnesota Masonry. Shown pictured with Grand Master Andrew J. Rice (center, back) are the 63 new Master Masons who were part of a day they will never forget. Thank you to each Brother who made this day the special day it was. The degree work was splendid and the behind-the-scenes efforts of everyone involved made this a wonderful event.

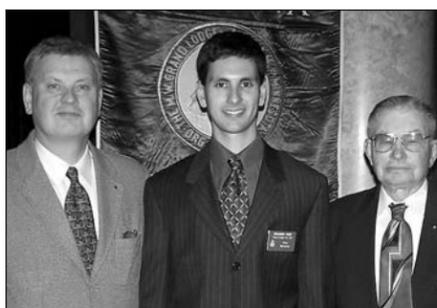
## Accacia Lodge No. 51 presents awards



Pictured left to right, George Peterson (50-year), Ralph McHattie (60-year), Hiram Award recipient Andrew Goldman-Gray, Lyle Rhein (60-year), and Grand Lodge District Representative Ron Larson. Accacia Lodge No. 51 awarded five service awards (three are pictured) with a combined total of 250 years of service to the Craft.

## Tracy Lodge No. 155 has three generations

Three generations of Masons of the Pamp Family, members of Tracy Lodge No. 155 in Tracy, are shown at the recent One-Day-to-Masonry. Pictured from left to right, Douglas E. Pamp, W. Master; new Brother Benjamin W. Pamp; and William H. Pamp, Past Master.



## Director of Fraternal Operations Calendar

### March 2006

- 16 Lodge meeting Nashwauk No. 331
- 20 Lodge meeting Canby No. 147
- 21 Lodge meeting Sibley No. 209, Winthrop
- 27 Lodge meeting North Star No. 23, Saint Cloud
- 28 Prepare DFO annual report
- 30 Compile articles for *Plumblin*e

### April 2006

- 9 Grand Lodge Installation and informal meeting with ADGMs and DRs
- 12 Lynnhurst Turkey Dinner
- 14 Lodge meeting Star No. 62, Rockford
- 18 Lodge meeting Plymouth No. 160, Crystal
- 21 Lodge meeting Braden No. 168, St. Paul
- 25 Lodge meeting Crookston No. 141
- 26 Lodge meeting Red River No. 292, E. Grand Forks
- 27 Lodge meeting Stephen No. 279
- 28 Compile articles for *Plumblin*e; meeting at the GL office
- 29 Tusler-Summit Lodge No. 263, Roseville, 100th Anniversary
- 30 Minneapolis Scottish Rite one-day

### May 2006

- 2 Lodge meeting Fortitude No. 188, Two Harbors
  - 3 Lodge meeting Taconite No. 342, Silver Bay
  - 4 Meetings with local Lodge leaders
  - 5 Lodge meeting Grand Marais No. 322
  - 6 One-Day-to-Masonry, Hibbing
  - 11 Metrowest DR meeting 7:00 p.m., Mound
  - 13 Corporate Board Meeting
  - 17 Lodge meeting Monticello No. 16
  - 18 Breakfast meeting Fairhaven No. 182, Annandale
  - Lodge meeting Oriental No. 34, Cannon Falls
  - 20 Membership meeting
  - 21 Zuhrah Shrine Ceremonial, St. Paul SR one-day reunion
  - 23 Lodge meeting Star in the East No. 33, Owatonna
  - 24 Meeting with local Lodge leaders, Tuscan No. 77, Waseca
  - 25 Meeting with local Lodge leaders Mankato No. 12
  - 26 Lodge meeting Western Star No. 26, Albert Lea
  - 30 Memorial Day
  - 31 Articles for *Plumblin*e
- Metrowest Masters & Wardens, Osseo

# News from the Masonic Family

## Mt. Tabor Santa Project recounted

Story by Vicki L. Gerdes is reprinted by permission of the Detroit Lakes Newspaper; printed December 25, 2005.

It's been about a decade since the members of the Mt. Tabor Masonic Lodge in Detroit Lakes first began playing Santa Claus to local families in need.

This Tuesday night, ten families from DL, Frazee, Hawley, Lake Park, Rochert and White Earth received a surprise visit from St. Nick and his Masonic helpers. The gifts they received were the result of over \$2,500 in net proceeds raised from the Masons' "Santa Project."

During the first three weekends in December, "Santa" and about 30 Mason volunteers gathered in Santa's Village at Washington Square Mall to raise the funds by selling pictures with Santa to all those who would like one.

All those who bought one of the 5x7-inch, 8x10-inch or floppy disk copies of their Santa photos were given free popcorn, cider and a Dairy Queen gift certificates. Since the Santa Claus Fund was created nine years ago, Mt. Tabor Lodge No. 106 has raised about \$15,000 for distribution to families in need.

Kim Mollberg, the Mt. Tabor Masons' newly-elected worshipful master, said about 400 photos were taken in all. Some of the families receiving funds through this project included those who had suffered unexpected changes in their lives such as the loss of loved ones, loss of a

home to fire, unanticipated medical problems and the need to suddenly take in additional family members.

One National Guard member on active duty, who had used all of his money to come home on leave for the holidays, was given a little help so he could buy Christmas gifts for his family, Mollberg added.

Jerry Bursaw, a longtime participant in the Santa Project, said the group tries to buy one present for each member of the family, and then gives each family a gift of Chamber Bucks that can be used throughout the year—which also ensures that the money is spent locally. "It gives them (the families) a little shot in the arm," he added.

Rick Johnson, one of the Masons involved in the project, said being able to help so many families celebrate Christmas "gives you a warm, cozy feeling inside that's indescribable! I just wish we could give more."

"We try to help all the families the best we can," said project volunteer Eric Abrahamson. "We can't make all the wishes come true, but we do our best."

"The Santa Project is a good deal," said Roy Estes, Jr. "We've been able to help out a lot of families and children over the years."



Members of Mt. Tabor Lodge No. 106 in Detroit Lakes gather around Santa during their Santa Project that was held in December 2005.

## Metroeast Area Events

- Apr 1 Bunco Night, 6 pm Dinner, 7 pm Games, Ancient Landmark 5, St. Paul
- Apr 9 Palm Sunday Breakfast, Fraternal 92, Princeton
- Apr 18 Annual Meeting, Masonic Motorcycle Club, Winslow Lewis 125, Osseo, 6:30 Dinner
- Apr 23 Pancake Breakfast, 8 am, Helios 273, Cambridge
- Apr 28 1st Degree Table Lodge, ticket required, Newport Lodge, St. Paul Park
- Apr 29 Scholarship Table Lodge, 6 pm, Helios 273, Cambridge
- Apr 30 Pancake Breakfast, Forest Lake 344
- May 2 Rusty Square & Compass Night, Hiram 287, Lindstrom
- May 4 Rabbi Adam Spiler "King Solomon & the First Temple" at Braden 168, St. Paul
- May 7 Pancake Breakfast, starts 8 am, Accacia 51, Cottage Grove
- May 7 Pancake Breakfast, 7-1, Garnet 166, White Bear Lake
- May 11 Ladies Night, 6 pm Dinner, 7 pm Program, Ancient Landmark 5, St. Paul
- May 16 Masonic Motorcycle Club, ride starts at Winslow Lewis 125, Osseo, 6:30 pm

We have compiled a calendar of events taking place in the Metroeast Area lodges. If you would like events listed on future calendars, please contact me. While we are a fraternity with some secrets, our fund raisers should not be among those secrets. Contact below for additional degree dates. Enjoy and visit the lodges.

Fraternally yours, WB Kenneth White  
 Metroeast Area Deputy Grand Master  
 763-545-0491 Home phone  
 Valkyrie99@comcast.net Home e-mail  
 kwwhite@parker.com Work e-mail

Olive Branch Lodge No. 47, Sturgis, South Dakota, welcomes all Masons to a Special Meeting of the Lodge during the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and Races (first full week of August)

Wednesday, August 8, 2006, 7:30 p.m.  
 Dress is casual, and motorcycle attire is acceptable.

For more information contact:  
 Thoms Secret, Board of Custodians  
 Grand Lodge of South Dakota AF & AM  
 605-717-1115 or Email: crest@rushmore.com

## Humanitarian Foundation of the Grottoes of North America

The Humanitarian Foundation was started in 1949 and began accumulating money for its first project "Cerebral Palsy Research" that same year. In 1969 the Humanitarian Foundation, along with Illinois Masonic Medical Center, agreed to establish a Dental Clinic of which the Foundation would help fund dental care for special needs children under the age of 18, afflicted with Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy or Mental Retardation. Children and their parents from all over the nation were transported to the clinic for inpatient and outpatient treatment. In 1973 an Extension Program for Dentistry began, when it was realized that many more children could be treated in their local area at a lesser cost without the burden of transportation and housing in the Chicago area.

Our program currently covers children under 18 afflicted with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, mentally-challenged (covers from profound to two years) as well as pediatric transplant patients. Funding for the general dental needs is provided for the treatment to the dentists, hospitals and anesthesiologists. Since inception of the dental program, we have provided care for over 9700 children and, in an average year, we assist approximately 952 families.

The Foundation is exempt under 501(c)(3), 509(a) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the IRS code.

The Foundation is proud to be a Masonic Charity and has been operated by member volunteers from its inception.

## Lynnhurst Turkey Dinner 2006

Lynnhurst Lodge No. 317 will host their 72nd Annual Turkey Dinner Tuesday, April 11, 2006 Zuhrah Shrine Center 2540 Park Avenue South, Minneapolis

This dinner honors the newly installed Grand Master of Minnesota Masons. If tradition prevails, Steven R. Johnson will be honored that evening.

Cost: \$15.00 each  
 \$150.00 for a table of 10  
 Fraternalism 5:00 p.m.  
 Dinner (promptly) 6:30 p.m.

Reservations are a must and can be made by contacting W. Brother Chris Ronich at 612-961-3051.

This event is for Master Masons only.

## Reception for Grand Master Planned

Should tradition prevail and Deputy Grand Master Steven Johnson is elected to be our next Grand Master, Sibley Lodge No. 209 in Winthrop is planning a reception for him to be held on the night of the first stated communication following his installation.

The special event, open to brothers only, will begin with dinner at the Winthrop VFW (102 North Carver Street) on Tuesday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. Following dinner, lodge will open at the VFW, with the formal reception of the Grand Master and other Grand Lodge officers.

Following the stated communication, brothers are invited to remain at the VFW for socializing.

Cost is \$10 per brother. Reservations are required to ensure a meal for everyone. Please contact Past Master Steve Saxton (507-647-2333) or Junior Warden Don Lannoye (507-647-3394) to make your reservation.

**All You Can Eat!!**  
**Annual Shrimp Dinner**  
**Anoka Lodge No. 30**  
**April 14, 2006**  
**4:30 - 7:00 p.m.**  
**\$15 per person**  
**Entertainment by the**  
**Zuhrah Dixie Kats**  
**1900 Third Avenue South**  
**Anoka, Minnesota**



**Minnehaha Masonic Center**  
**Pancake Breakfast**

Sunday, April 2, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
 Tickets available at the door.  
 5149 Bloomington Ave S, Minneapolis

**Robbinsdale Area Shrine Club Annual**  
**Pancake Breakfast (made with hard durum wheat)**

Sunday, April 23, from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
 Plymouth Middle School  
 10011 36th Ave North, Plymouth (just west of #169)  
 Contact Rick Ackerman, Chairman, 763-545-1233

**Lake Harriet No. 277 Pancake Breakfast**

Sunday, April 30, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
 Lake Harriet Masonic Center  
 4519 France Avenue South, Minneapolis  
 Dale Seubert 952-926-4312  
 Proceeds to Benevolent Fund



## TEXAS HOLD 'EM NIGHT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

(Sponsored by Selim Grotto)

**When:** Saturday April 22, 2006  
**Time:** 7:00 - 10:00  
**Drawing:** 10:30  
**If interested** call Dick at: (612) 363 - 1890

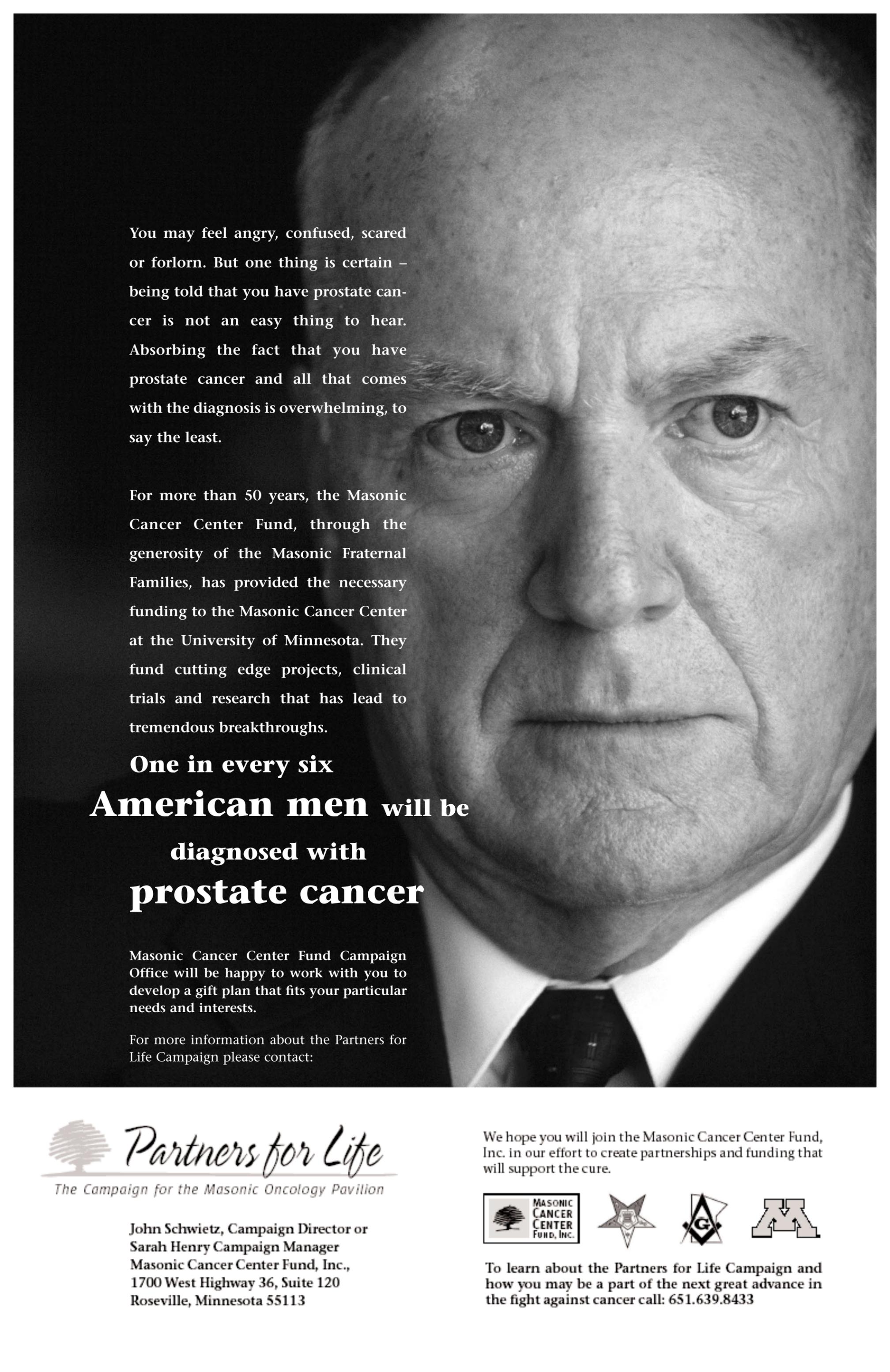
**Location:** Bloomington Knights of Columbus Hall  
 1114 American Blvd. West  
 Bloomington, MN

(952) 888-1492

All proceeds going to:

**The Grottoes of North America**  
**Humanitarian Foundation**

(Donations are tax deductible)



You may feel angry, confused, scared or forlorn. But one thing is certain – being told that you have prostate cancer is not an easy thing to hear. Absorbing the fact that you have prostate cancer and all that comes with the diagnosis is overwhelming, to say the least.

For more than 50 years, the Masonic Cancer Center Fund, through the generosity of the Masonic Fraternal Families, has provided the necessary funding to the Masonic Cancer Center at the University of Minnesota. They fund cutting edge projects, clinical trials and research that has led to tremendous breakthroughs.

**One in every six  
American men will be  
diagnosed with  
prostate cancer**

Masonic Cancer Center Fund Campaign Office will be happy to work with you to develop a gift plan that fits your particular needs and interests.

For more information about the Partners for Life Campaign please contact:

 *Partners for Life*  
*The Campaign for the Masonic Oncology Pavilion*

John Schwietz, Campaign Director or  
Sarah Henry Campaign Manager  
Masonic Cancer Center Fund, Inc.,  
1700 West Highway 36, Suite 120  
Roseville, Minnesota 55113

We hope you will join the Masonic Cancer Center Fund, Inc. in our effort to create partnerships and funding that will support the cure.



To learn about the Partners for Life Campaign and how you may be a part of the next great advance in the fight against cancer call: 651.639.8433