

The Trestle Board



Messalonskee Lodge #113

Oakland, Maine

www.messalonskeelodge.org

Phone 207-465-2021

R.W. Steven W. Bucknam, Master

Meetings on the Third Tuesday at 7:30 PM

December 2011, February 2012 Edition

FROM THE EAST

It is hard to believe that a year has passed. We've had a fairly eventful year at Lodge. There were a couple of candidates starting their Masonic journey. Committees for the Bikes for Books programs have been checking on this great endeavor to encourage kids to read. The Grand Lodge MECHIPs (Maine Child Identification Program) project has called upon the brethren of Messalonskee Lodge to participate and make IDs for probably several hundred kids in the area. Scott Bonnell and others have visited at Togus to assist our veterans.

As this year draws to a close, let's keep in mind what Masonry is about. We think and act with charitableness, and I'm proud to be a part of this organization.

I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and healthy and prosperous New Year.

With fraternal warmth,
Steven W. Bucknam
Worshipful Master.

50 YEAR JEWELS PRESENTED

Two brothers of our lodge, Raymond Nutter and Robert Reed, who are also members of Drummond Royal Arch Chapter 27, were presented with 50 year pins from The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine.

THE- FORGET-ME-NOT

Last year I mentored a young man in his lessons during his advancement in Freemasonry. We spent many hours in the basement of Messalonskee Lodge. During that time we became not only Brothers but friends.

The father of this young man was Raised in a lodge in Germany and was present at his son's Raising.

At the end of the evening, after his Raising he requested that I be conducted to the East and he presented me with a 'Forget-Me-Not' lapel pin.

This is the story of the 'Forget-Me-Not'

"In 1934 soon after Hitler's rise to Power, it became evident that Freemasonry was in grave danger, the Freemasons went undercover and adopted a little blue flower,

the forget-me-not,  to replace the Square and Compasses as the symbol whereby the Brethren could identify each other in public as well as the concentration camps of Europe. In 1948, when the lodges reopened following World War II, This became the official Masonic emblem in honor of the valiant Brethren who carried on their Masonic work under very adverse conditions."

I will cherish this pin forever and thank him for his friendship. (Editor)

Daddy WARBUCKS

of Little Orphan Annie fame was a Mason - Did you know that?

The long-running newspaper comic strip *Annie* ended in 2010 after 85 years, with the last cliffhanger installment on Sunday, June 13th.

Brother Harold Lincoln Gray (1894-1968) created the strip originally as Little Orphan Annie on August 5, 1924 in the *New York Daily News* and later in the *Chicago Tribune*. According to the Grand Lodge of British Columbia & Yukon web site it's height it was syndicated in some 250 newspapers; now it appears in just twenty. While few today would ever think the strip was controversial, at various times, *Annie* got herself involved with gangsters, vigilantes, pirates, evil labor union socialists, and even a plot involving the bombing of a German U-boat.

As the frame illustrates, Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks was clearly a Freemason, so naturally he



would care for an orphan. According to his Wikipedia biography, Oliver Warbucks studied engineering for a few semesters in college, became a

successful industrialist, and amassed a fortune of 'ten zillion dollars?' In recognition of his service during WWII he was promoted to Lieutenant General. It is thought that Bro. Warbucks was coroneted a 33rd Inspector General Honorary by a Supreme Council in the orient; though no records exist...

Brother Gray continued to write and draw the comic strip up until his death in 1968. He was a charter member of Lombard Lodge No. 1068, Lombard, Illinois.

From the Scottish Rite Journal, July-August 2010

MASONIC APRON

The white, cloth apron familiar to most as the Masonic attire usually worn in lodge is somewhat new to the scene. In an article appearing in the *Kansas Mason* (February 2011) Brother Patrick Craddock opines on the development of the apron from its origins to the present day usage. According to Craddock, Masons traditionally were responsible for their own aprons, sometimes making them themselves, or crafted by a family member, and they brought them to lodge with them. Additionally, many of these aprons were decorated with Masonic symbolism from the simple to the intricate.

It is a comparatively recent development that Masonic lodges supply white aprons to their members and guests," but it hasn't always been.

GRAND LODGE OFFICES TO MOVE

At a special meeting of the Grand Lodge of Maine, a proposal was put to the Brethren to rent a building from the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation which the Foundation had taken an option to purchase subject to obtaining a rental agreement from the Grand Lodge of Maine. The conditions of the purchase were that a rental agreement be signed between the Grand Lodge and the Charitable Foundation, that the building not be sold for 5 years and the sale be completed by Dec. 31, 2011.

The 6000 sq/ft building was built for a Bank in Holden, Maine and has been empty for several years due to that bank being bought out by another bank in the area. The building is at the intersection of US 1A and SR46 and is about 7 miles from Bangor.



View of the North side of the building.

The vote was held and the results were 263 for and 233 against. The Grand Lodge now needs to complete a rental agreement with the Charitable Foundation and complete the sale by the end of the year.

ELECTED AND PROPOSED OFFICERS

Worshipful Master	Wor. Brett E. Hoskins
Senior Warden	Wor. Kevin G. Davidson
Junior Warden	Wor. Linwood E. Hall
Treasurer	Wor. Scott E. Bonnell
Secretary	Wor. Dana W. Wrigley
Chaplain	R.W. Steven W. Bucknam
Marshal	Bro. Shawn M. Gibson
Senior Deacon	Bro. Steven G. Craig
Junior Deacon	Bro. Michael S. Brochu
Senior Steward	Bro. Benjamin F. Clifford
Junior Steward	Bro. Travis W. Wood
Tyler	Bro. Gerald Reese Grams
Historian	R.W. Peter Davis Couture
Webmaster	Bro. Gerald Reese Grams

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Self-respect is the root of discipline; the sense of dignity grows with the ability to say no to oneself."

I believe that our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but, we are responsible for who we have become.