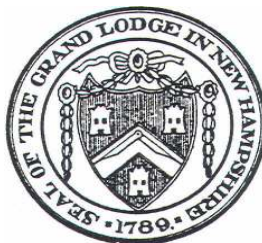


GRAND LODGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, F. & A. M



NOVEMBER 19, 2011

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

Your Committee on Constitutional Review is pleased to submit this report of progress for the period of the past six months. The purpose of this committee is to review and revise, as necessary, the Grand Lodge Constitution and Grand Lodge Manual.

Accordingly, the Committee has begun to draft a revision to both documents that will eliminate duplication, and reorganize how directive and suggestive procedures are presented. It is expected this process will reduce the extent/size of the Constitution, by introducing a new volume, to contain information, regulatory in nature, allowing it to be more easily revised if found necessary in the future.

The Grand Lodge Constitution, as revised, will provide a broad governance of Freemasonry in NH; the to-be-created volume of Grand Lodge Rules, Regulations, and Edicts will impart specific directive mandates; and the Grand Lodge Manual will describe methods to accomplish various tasks which do not require regulation.

An important part of the work will insure consistency throughout the three volumes, e.g., having all installation procedures and information for Grand Lodge and Constituent Lodges together in one area, with an easy means for updating available, should it become necessary. A cross reference will be established between the three manuals, utilizing a comprehensive index.

As the draft of these volumes is moving ahead, the Committee expects to receive input from many sources, not limited to committee members. It is expected that there will be critiques at every step of the process, as this will help to forge a solid body of work in the three volumes.

Following completion of the drafting process, the volumes will be submitted to the Fraternity for a thorough review, prior to presentation to this body for consideration for adoption.

The Committee thanks you for the opportunity to be of service in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas A. Welman, *Chairman*
Stewart L. Aronson, John F. Gordon, John E. Lobdell,
Kenneth A. Clay, David S. Collins,
George D. Van Dyke, Philip H. White

REPORT OF THE DEMOLAY COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

Brother George L. Baldwin of Concord is serving as Executive Officer for New Hampshire DeMolay.

The State Officers serving the DeMolays for 2011:

State Master Councilor	Bro. Tristan J. Benedict
State Senior Councilor	Bro. Matt McDougall
State Marshal	Bro. Alexander Whitbeck

The International Supreme Council approved the following Honors for 2011-2012:

Chevalier	Bro. Jay C. Taylor, Milford Bro. Brian M. Jenckes, Rochester
Legion of Honor	Bro. Thomas S. Lowe Bro. Richard D. Perry Bro. Mark C. Roth Bro. Michael T. Salisbury Bro. Marcus A. Weir

The Chevalier designates were recently invested, while the Legion of Honor will be conferred at the annual Observance in March.

The annual session of DeMolay International was held this past June 15th through the 19th in Grand Rapids, MI. Attending was Dad George Baldwin, Dad Chester LaPointe, State Master Councilor Tristan Benedict and State Marshal Alexander Whitback. They joined other Members from Region 1 (New England & The Atlantic Provinces of Canada) who chartered a bus for the trip. This enabled everyone to become better acquainted and become well prepared for the session.

In August, Dad Baldwin and the State Master Councilor attended the Massachusetts Conclave and six (6) DeMolays attended Region 1 Leadership Training Conference at Camp Lions Pride in New Durham. This is the first time in a number of years that NH DeMolay has been able to attend either event.

In September, The Executive Officer and Eight (8) Advisors attended a Region 1 Advisors Conference in Massachusetts. It is already paying benefits to our Advisors and DeMolays.

On October 8th, New Hampshire DeMolay State Officers and Members of Keene Chapter traveled to Auburn, Maine to participate in the DeMolay Region 1 Double Degrees. State Officers and Members of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine and Atlantic Provinces combined to initiate 12 new Members.

Following our statewide Masonic open house on October 15th, we welcomed Seven (7) new Members to DeMolay. A heartfelt thanks to the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Jewell Lodge #94 in Suncook for their hospitality and dinner for 100+ DeMolays, Rainbow Girls and Advisors. Afterwards, our DeMolays and Rainbows enjoyed an all night lock-in at the Concord Racquet Club.

Most importantly, DeMolay International notified us after this event that we had obtained positive growth for 2011!

We presently have four (4) Chapters located in Concord, Keene, Milford and Rochester.

Members in Cornish Flats have recently trained six (6) new Advisors and have Letters Temporary that are pending. The new DeMolay Chapter is to be known as Upper Valley. Thank you to the Members of Cheshire-Mt. Vernon Lodge #23.

Report of DeMolay Committee (continued)

New Hampshire DeMolay is now fully participating with the Region and many of our initiatives are furthered by this association. This re-engagement has been mutually beneficial to the jurisdictions involved and to our DeMolays specifically.

New Hampshire DeMolay wishes to thank all Lodges, Master Masons and Special Group Contributors to our DeMolay Uncle program, which supports the programs and activities of the Jurisdiction. Donations to New Hampshire DeMolay are tax-deductible contributions under the Internal Revenue Service Tax Code 501c(3). A special Thank You goes to the Lodge Secretaries who are a vital link in the annual distribution of the DeMolay Uncle Cards.

Finally, the Members of the Committee are most appreciative to you, Most Worshipful Grand Master, for the privilege of serving on the DeMolay Committee.

For God, for Country, For DeMolay.

Respectfully submitted,
Arthur A. Dunham, Jr., *Chairman*
George L. Baldwin

REPORT OF THE DEMOLAY FOUNDATION, INC.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

It is our pleasure to report to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire the financial condition of the DeMolay Foundation, including the Robert Hallquist Memorial Fund, the George Bradford Ward Memorial Fund, the Thomas R. Nielson Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Winslow E. Melvin Scholarship Fund. These memorials, with the exception of the Winslow E. Melvin Fund, were established to honor distinguished Masons. The Winslow E. Melvin Scholarship Fund was established by Scottish Rite Masons to honor one of their own. In addition, the General Fund includes the funds held in trust from the bequest of the late Brother Stuart Davis.

The Foundation General Fund now stands at \$368,792.00.

The George Bradford Ward Fund now stands at \$39,757.00.

Donations during the year totaled \$725.00. The income from these donations will assist many DeMolay students for years to come. It should be noted that the current market conditions have resulted in a net increase in our assets of about 3.7% since last year.

It is also our pleasure to report the names of the DeMolay members who were awarded scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year at the Foundations annual meeting on August 22, 2011. The total amount awarded was \$5,400.00.

Jacob G. Richard, Keene Chapter, Keene State College

Brian Anderson, Souhegan Valley Chapter, Colby Sawyer College

Joseph E. Meany, Keene Chapter, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

The committee is working to revise the application procedure so we can better determine the qualifications and need of our applicants. We were privileged to have Executive Officer George L. Baldwin join us for our meeting and will be working closely with him as we move forward.

We appreciate the continued support of this Foundation by the many individuals, Constituent Lodges and Appendant Organizations in our Grand Jurisdiction. The consistent donations from the Scottish Rite Bodies of Portsmouth-Dover and the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard E. Melvin, *Chairman*, Earl W. Cole, Jr. Vice President, Ronald J. Brown, Secretary
Lee A. Holliday, Jeremy J. Sawyer, Past Grand Master, Daniel R. Hotchkiss, Grand Treasurer
Thomas S. Lowe, Grand Secretary, Paul M. Leary, Grand Master

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AMONG CHILDREN (D.A.R.E.)

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted
Masons of the State of New Hampshire:*

On behalf of the committee members, we thank you Grand Master for entrusting us to serve on this important committee.

To our many brethren who have served on this committee since the Grand Lodge voted unanimously to support the 'National Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Juvenile Drug and Alcohol Abuse' program in 1986, we cannot thank you enough. Your service and commitment to keeping this program alive and well is greatly appreciated. In particular, Most Worshipful Robert G. Hatfield, who served as chairman of the committee from the beginning. I for one, was impressed with your dedication and hope I can live up to the high standards you set.

An impressive aspect of the DARE program, is that it is pro-active rather than re-active to an issue that effects so many. We believe if more children could learn the excellent lessons taught in the classes, before they have the wrong temptations presented to them, our future society could not help but be better and stronger.

One lesson taught to our young people in the program is the importance of making the right decisions and how making the wrong choices can have a lasting effect on their lives. With this and other lessons, they will have the tools to lead our society as good citizens.

Several members of the committee attended the graduation banquet and others the graduation ceremony this past September. However, the annual donation from the Grand Lodge was not made at this time. The Grand Master decided that another date will be selected when he and the committee will travel to the State Police headquarters to make the donation directly to the commanding officer. Every effort will be made to get substantial publicity for the event throughout the State.

To the several Lodges that have supported the program on either the local or state level over the years, we congratulate you for doing so. Hopefully, as time goes on, more and more Lodges will find a way to support NH DARE.

Rest assured, this committee is looking forward to encouraging that we, the New Hampshire Masons continue to support the DARE program throughout the jurisdiction. This is an excellent manner in which we can make a difference to the young people as we watch them grow and become the leaders of tomorrow.

Fraternally and respectfully submitted,
Mark E. Langis, *Chairman*
Dwight D. Dodd, Richard G. Tuck
Lloyd S. Doughty II

REPORT OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

*To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons
of the State of New Hampshire:*

The George Washington Masonic Memorial was built in Virginia on a hill overlooking our nation's capital. The Memorial's cornerstone was laid in 1923 and the building was dedicated in 1932. New Hampshire has direct ties with the Memorial, including the huge pillars supporting the building with granite originating in our Granite State.

New Hampshire received special recognition this year. During the month of July 2011, New Hampshire served as "Grand Lodge of the Month" at the Memorial. This recognition included the following: memorabilia in

REPORT OF THE GWMM COMMITTEE (continued)

a display case, New Hampshire state flag posted at the display and flown atop the Memorial, and special recognition on the Memorial website. Brethren from throughout the State loaned items of New Hampshire Masonic significance including; District pins, a 1700 era apron, decorative plate, banner, pictures and wall hangings. This committee wishes to thank the many brethren who assisted in highlighting Freemasonry in our great State of New Hampshire. This committee also wishes to thank W.:Bro. Jerry Becker for procuring a decorative banner and R.:W.:Br. John Lobdell for traveling south to pick up and return these cherished items. The committee also wishes to thank our Grand Master, M.:W.: Br. Paul M. Leary for making a special trip to Arlington, Virginia to view the display.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial serves as a highly visible public demonstration of the values of our great fraternity. On behalf of the Memorial committee, I thank the Masons of New Hampshire for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., *Chairman*
Jeremy J. Sawyer, Richard R. Kelley

REPORT OF THE GRAND LODGE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of New Hampshire:

The Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee has evaluated the applications submitted on the basis of their relationship to a Mason, their academic work, SAT scores, activities, Letters of Recommendation and Financial need.

From the many applications submitted, the committee has selected the following recipients for the academic year 2011-2012:

STUDENT	AMOUNT	SCHOOL ATTENDING
1. Amelia G. Aznive Concord, NH	\$400.00	New Hampshire Technical Institute Concord, NH
2. Jamie L. Aznive Concord, NH	\$400.00	Wheelock College Boston, MA
3. Jared H. Barnett Westmoreland, NH	\$400.00	Keene State College Keene, NH
4. George C. Tyros Gardner, MA	\$400.00	University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA
5. Angela N. Zukas Fremont, NH	\$450.00	University of New Hampshire Durham, NH
6. Heather E. Zukas Fremont	\$450.00	University of New Hampshire Durham, NH

Grand Lodge Scholarship applications are available from the Grand Lodge Office and we encourage your children and grandchildren to apply. Applications must be completed by the applicant and submitted to the Grand Lodge Office in triplicate by May 1st.

Respectively Submitted
Richard F. Doble, *Chairman*
David J. Lamprey, Sr., Brent W. Washburn

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of New Hampshire:

This committee was established during the tenure of M.:W.: Bro. C. Wayne Libby Jr., and had previously worked to address the issue regarding the perceived stagnation of the Grand Representative program. The committee recommended in 2009 and by vote of Grand Lodge in 2010 changed the Constitution to give further powers to the Grand Master with respect to appointments of Grand Representatives and further, set criteria for those Brethren who had been entrusted with engaging in Masonic correspondence with counterparts across the globe.

Reappointed in 2011, the two-member committee held a training session at the Concord Masonic Temple on June 18 and invited all Grand Representatives to attend and learn their responsibilities and formalize procedures regarding submitting a yearly synopsis, how to get in touch with counterparts, utilizing our Grand Lodge office and the like.

Soon thereafter the Grand Master attended a Masonic gathering in Washington, D.C. and met representatives of the Confederación Masónica Interamericana (Inter-American Masonic Confederation) who volunteered to help bridge language barriers with our Central & South American Grand Lodges for our Grand Representatives, and while we have as yet not required their services, we are expecting such will happen soon.

In October the Grand Master appointed several Brethren from varying Masonic backgrounds to become Grand Representatives to jurisdictions all over the world and some will be presented at the session.

One of the goals of this committee has been to adequately disperse the proper information to new Grand Representatives and keep them apprised of their responsibilities to said office. All Grand Representatives are required to submit their yearly report to this Committee by April 1 to be made available to all New Hampshire Brethren by the date of the Annual Communication if they are interested.

On a personal note, this committee would not be able to do its work without the talents of Mrs. Roberta Langis in the Grand Lodge Office. She has been a delight to work with and the fraternity benefits as a whole with her there.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul C. Smith, *Chairman*
Roger A. Becker

REPORT OF THE GRAND LODGE INSURANCE COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of New Hampshire:

Your Grand Lodge Insurance Committee continues to welcome all inquires on questions related to the insurance for each Lodge. Constituent Lodges should be speaking with their agent at least annually to review this.

It is our belief that many Lodges in this State continue the “status quo” on the Lodge insurance program, never looking to see if the coverage they purchased 10+ years ago is still sufficient. It is the responsibility of each Constituent Lodge and, in particular, the Master of each Lodge, to see that this is something that is reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The Insurance Committee is always willing to come out and meet with any Lodge Members who would like to review the insurance the Lodge has obtained, and how it relates to the Grand Lodge’s own coverage. Feel free to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,
David S. Collins, *Chairman*
Darrell A. Louis

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LODGES (By-Laws)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

Your Committee on Lodges is pleased to report that it has reviewed the various proposed changes to constituent Lodge By-Laws which have been submitted for Grand Lodge approval.

Where changes requested did not conflict with the Grand Lodge Constitution nor the usages and landmarks of Masonry, the Committee recommended their approved and forwarded them to the Grand Master.

Sometimes suggested modifications were made and on occasion the entire request was returned to the individual Lodge for clarification and rewrite.

Many of the By-Law changes dealt with fees charged for membership and dues while others involved more extensive revisions. Whenever a Lodge is uncertain regarding its proposed amendment, it might be expedient to call or speak to any of us on the Committee prior to its submission.

A complete list of all changes approved by the Grand Master will appear in the Annual Proceedings as part of his address.

The Committee recommends that this Grand Lodge approve the action taken by the Committee and the Grand Master with respect to changes in Constituent Lodge By-Laws.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy J. Sawyer, (*Chairman*)
Wendell L. Woodward, John E. Lobdell

REPORT OF THE MASONIC AWARENESS & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

The Masonic Awareness & Publicity Committee (MAP) had its inaugural meeting on May 16, 2011, only 5 days prior to the Grand Lodge Annual Meeting. Initially tasked to publicize Grand Lodge events and put out a newsletter, our mission is still evolving.

Choosing the name of "Masonic Awareness & Publicity" (MAP), our goal is to raise awareness and to publicize NH Freemasonry both within the Craft as well as within the "Masonic Family" and to the public. This may be done through all media types, including various internet resources. We also closely liaise with the Grand Lodge of NH website.

We publish the Grand Masters Quarterly Newsletter (which resides on the NH Grand Lodge website under "News"), which includes news and stories from various Masonic sources. Although it is not a replacement for the former "NH Freemason" publication, it does have the advantage of "zero cost" to publish, many color photos, and may be printed by anyone who so desires. We encourage all to read it.

While our committee members have varying talents, we need the INPUT and SUPPORT from the Brethren in order to grow and survive. If YOU are, or know, a good writer and/or publicist, please write about and/or take some photos of YOUR MASONIC EVENT and email them to us at bkominz@yahoo.com.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve and promote the interests of our Grand Lodge.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bruce Kominz, *Chairman*
Bill Sawyer, Robert Sutherland, Jr., P.T. Sullivan
Robert Padian, Karl Olsen, Don Sullivan
Kenneth Weyler, Joan Smith, Susan Kominz

REPORT OF THE MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

It is a pleasure to report on what is occurring with the Masonic Education Committee and to recognize the untiring efforts that the District Education Officers devote to their duties and responsibilities. The first EdCom Meeting was held at Doric-Centre Lodge No. 20 in Tilton on June 5, 2011, in conjunction with the Grand Master's Planning Session, and the four new District Education Officers and one new Grand Historian were introduced and welcomed to the Grand Lodge Officer family.

The Grand Master addressed the group and informed them how important their position is to the District and its members, and he encouraged them to share ideas and work together for the good of Masonry.

The District Education Officers were informed that they would be manning the book tables at the Lodges of Instruction, and a schedule was established whereby the DEO for the District holding the LOI would be in attendance and the DEO for the next LOI would also be there to transport the books to his location. This eliminated confusion on how the books were getting to each LOI location. If the DEO was unable to transport the books, he was responsible for getting someone to do this. This arrangement worked well. A better system was set up to account for book sales and a greatly improved book list was developed by Brother Malcolm Wooff, DEO for District #2, to track cash received, book inventories, and book sales. Furthermore, the District Education Officers are required to work the book table at the Annual Communication and Semi-Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

The District Education Officers are also responsible for going around the District during official Visitations, attend Veteran Programs when the Grand Master is in their District, and support the DDGM and DDGL in the performance of their official duties.

The Education Committee continues to work on two projects of importance. The first project is to update the Travel Guide. This booklet has been a very important reference source for many years to Grand Lodge Officers and Masons who travel to other lodges to seek Masonic Light, fellowship, and education. The new booklet is nearly ready for printing and should be available, at a nominal cost, shortly after the first of the year. The second project is a reference tool to be used by the District Education Officers. It is called a DEO Manual and each District Education Officer and Historian is asked to provide two programs, which will be stored on a CD for future use by current and new District Education Officers. I want to thank Worshipful Brother Jack Caynon, DEO for District #2, for being the point of contact for this program and for the Travel Guide, and for all the time and effort he has devoted to these two projects.

Your Grand Lodge continues to participate and support the highly successful Mason's Day event at Strawberry Banke, and I'm pleased to say that the District Education Officers were there to answer questions and speak with the large number of families and friends about our great fraternity. They did a great job in spreading the light of Masonry.

The Grand Master changed the format for the Lodges of Instruction programs this year by not requiring the district officers to develop and present a program. This is an entirely different approach from years past. The Grand Lodge Line Officers utilized this timeframe to address the requirements on how to conduct an investigation and how to ballot on a prospective candidate.

A new and innovative change was initiated by the Grand Master this year, which required the District Deputy Grand Master and District Deputy Grand Lecturer to conduct separate official visits. The DDGM, in particular, would conduct an Official Visitation, as required by the Grand Lodge Constitution, and at his program, the DEO was required to put on a 10 to 15 minute program on a topic that could be selected by the lodge. The reason for this philosophy was to allow the DDGL to conduct his evaluation of lodge degree work and floor work on a live candidate at a regular meeting and for the DEO to provide Masonic Light and education to a much larger audience at a visitation setting. This format seemed to work reasonably well.

REPORT OF THE MASONIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE *continued*

Another innovative idea was developed by the Grand Lodge Line Officers that will make educational programs more exciting and informative at Lodge meetings. The idea was to have the DEOs of District 1, 2, 3, & 4, and the DEOs of Districts 5, 6, 7 & 8, get together and develop an educational program to be presented at a lodge stated meeting. This will require coordination and teamwork to bring this to fruition. The Grand Lodge Historians are also required to do a program at the same event.

The Grand Lodge Historians are doing a great job in researching and developing new programs to present at Lodges of Instruction and lodge meetings. They have taken the position to a new level of management by redefining their duties and responsibilities, by adding recent current events to their program and by working with individual lodge historians in an attempt to get them actively involved in providing information on important current events in their lodge.

I would like to recognize Brother Malcolm Wooff, DEO for District #2, for the outstanding job he has done in tracking book sales, maintaining sufficient inventories, ordering books, and researching new titles. This is a very time consuming assignment and Brother Wooff does a great job in this area. I would also like to thank all the District Education Officers and Grand Lodge Historians for their untiring efforts, for their commitment to Masonry, and for their service to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. In conclusion, it has been an honor and privilege to work with Right Worshipful Brother John Lobdell, Junior Grand Warden and I want to thank him for all he does for the Education Committee and Grand Lodge.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it is an honor and privilege to serve you and this Grand Lodge as the Chairman of the Masonic Education Committee. I want to thank the other members of the committee for their service to Masonry and this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Gordon, *Chairman*

Stewart L. Aronson, John E. Lobdell, Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., David S. Collins,
District Education Officers, Grand Historians

REPORT OF THE MASONIC RITUAL COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

We are pleased to report to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire the progress of the newly formed Masonic Ritual Committee.

Thus far we have been working diligently on the current New Hampshire Ritual. We have followed the lead of other Jurisdictions and have completed a “ Plain Text Version “ of the Ritual Cipher with the exceptions of the obligations and penalties , and the Candidate’s lessons at the end of each degree.

The committee will now meet and take a good hard look at the ritual itself and discuss flaws that we have found, and talk over recommendations for changes in wording, etc., that have been suggested by numerous Brethren.

We would like to note that it is not the intent of the Grand Master or of this Ritual Committee to make changes to the catechism that has been practiced over the years. We feel that the Candidate still needs that one on one, mouth to ear, communication as he learns his lessons.

We realize that this process will consume a lot of time, but we are hopeful that at its completion the New Ritual Cipher will be easier to read, easier to understand, and hopefully easier to learn.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Smith, *Chairman*

Paul M. Leary, Stewart L. Aronson, John F. Gordon, John E. Lobdell, Kenneth A. Clay Jr.
David S. Collins, Allen S. Wright, David R. Spiller, Michael T. Salisbury. Alfred R. Chesley
John P. Woolf, Ronald N. Crane, Brian F. Godfrey, Wayne S. Curtiss, Craig M. Shippee

REPORT OF THE MASTERS CLASSES

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire

It's been 15 years since the Masters Class program began, and it's time to take a hard look at how it has traveled, and what we can do to bring it back home. At its inception, and its goal today, the program was and is intended to provide current Worshipful Masters and progressive line officers who are on their way to become WM, with tools needed to lead their Lodge. We have gotten off course.

Let's examine the original format. Each class was to run two hours, and be dedicated to a single topic. The classes were to be held at times avoiding any other District meetings, and preferably, to move about within the District to allow each Lodge to host. The list of topics was provided, and has grown to 18 topics as of this writing. If each District Coordinator were to schedule one class a month, and keep a revolving schedule of the topics, every progressive line officer in the District would have the opportunity to attend each topic in approximately two years, conservatively speaking.

Individual Districts have taken it upon themselves to change the format. Sometimes, there are two topics per session, sometimes, the sessions are as short as 45 minutes, and sometimes they're done at Stated Meetings. Often, there is now one set location where all the classes are held, which can make it difficult for people at opposite ends of the larger Districts. Additionally, topics that are not on the list of 18 have been added ad hoc by Coordinators who see a need for a certain topic, but have no particular program with which to provide the class.

Brethren, it is time to get back to the original intent of this program, if we expect to see the success we saw early on. We are calling on all District Coordinators to re-arrange the current scheduling of Classes that do not adhere to the defined program, and to schedule two hour classes once a month at times not to conflict (or include) other programs. One topic at a time is to be presented, and preferably, the classes should be moved around the District in fairness to everyone.

We also need a renewed effort on the part of our District Officers to promote the Masters Class program at every opportunity. Although certificates have been given for the completion of 15 topics, we have strayed from the purpose of the program, and certificates have become more of a competition. These classes are a means to an end. The certificates are only meant as a personal recognition. The real reward is for a prospective WM to attain the East in his Lodge with a set of tools be able to lead and manage that Lodge and increase its success, visibility and Masonic activity.

Coordinators who find it difficult to present the program according to its guidelines should consider finding someone else within the District who will be able to adhere to the schedule. District Deputy Grand Masters should be monitoring the progress of the program within their Districts, and help in securing a coordinator who is able to fulfill the intent of the program.

The one thing we MUST remember is that the Masters Class Program is an opportunity. With new Masons and officers, and increasing visibility, we have got to continue our own internal growth to move New Hampshire Masonry forward, and this program is a free opportunity for us all.

Respectfully submitted,
Stewart L. Aronson, *Chairman*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NEW LODGES

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

The members of North Star Lodge No. 8 of Lancaster and Gilkey Lodge No. 101, now of Groveton, have requested that the membership of Gilkey Lodge No. 101 be permitted to merge with the membership of North Star Lodge No. 8. This committee feels that the merger of membership will be in the best interest of both Lodges and recommends that this Grand Lodge approve the requests effective this day.

The members of Olive Branch Lodge No. 16 of Holderness and Mount Prospect Lodge No. 69, now of Holderness, have requested that the membership of Mount Prospect Lodge No. 69 be permitted to merge with the membership of Olive Branch Lodge No. 16. Olive Branch Lodge No. 16 has also requested that the Lodge be permitted to change its name to Olive Branch Mount Prospect Lodge No. 16. This committee feels that the merger of membership and the changing of the name will be in the best interest of both Lodges and recommends that this Grand Lodge approve the requests effective this day.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas S. Lowe, *Chairman*
John C. Marden, Jeremy J. Sawyer

REPORT OF THE RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire

During these hard economic times over the last year few years, the yield from the foundation's conservative investments have been low. As in the past few years, the scholarship came from both the foundation with assistance from Rainbow.

At the Grand Assembly of Rainbow, M.:W.:Brother Paul M. Leary, Grand Master had the pleasure of assisting Lisa F. Britko in presenting the seven recipients their scholarships and congratulating them. The seven recipients for 2011 were, Jamie Aznive, Haley Brittain, Amanda Bridge, Sami Fowler, Samantha Fowler, Stephanie Morrison, and Courtney White. The smiles on their faces showed how much they appreciated the financial assistance with the cost of their education. The educational development of our youth, particularly these young ladies, will help secure our Masonic "Families" future.

The Committee wants to thank all those who work and contribute to this worthwhile program, and especially Lisa F. Britko.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul M Leary, *Chairman*,
Stewart L. Aronson, John F. Gordon, John E. Lobdell and Daniel R. Hotchkiss

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

Previously this was the Daniel Carter Beard Award Committee, with a small compliment of committee members. The Grand Master has been accommodating of changing the title to the Committee on Scouting so as to expand our duties and promote the relationships between our organizations and to broaden the numbers of the committee. Our committee covers a great distance in terms of geography and Masonic experience.

The committee was initially called to meet on the evening of August 31 but cancelled so that members could attend the presentation of the Daniel Carter Beard Award to committee member, Wor. Bro. Daniel Fleetham Jr. at his lodge's visitation in Canaan.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING (continued)

Following this presentation the committee exchanged some emails with respect to developing a Grand Lodge certificate to those Boy Scouts who attain the rank of Eagle Scout and to those Girl Scouts who attain the Gold Award. These are notable life accomplishments and the pinnacle of success in Scouting. We looked at a couple different examples of Grand Lodges who present similar certificates and decided that we liked the model of the Grand Lodge of Virginia certificate. We will work on the layout and hope to have it ready in early 2012, the 100th anniversary of the first awarding of Eagle Scout to Arthur Eldred. Along these same lines, we will work to develop a letter to put in to all "Eagle packages" that the local Boy Scout councils send to the troop leaders informing them of our certificate and how to apply. The last leg of this stool is to work toward an online request form, similar to the Grand Lodge of Texas, where the form can be filled out on our website and automatically sent to the Grand Lodge office for processing. This will take some time undoubtedly, but we have a solid group dedicated to strengthening the bonds of Scouting and Masonry.

Again, we are willing and available to speak to individual lodges about the Daniel Carter Beard Award as well and encourage those lodges that have members who are involved with the Boy Scout program to initiate the award process; this is a major recognition worthy of your support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul C. Smith, Chairman
George W. Clay, David W. Coombs,
Richard W. Elliot, Daniel W. Fleetham Jr.,
Thomas W. Haslam, Thomas S. Lowe, Alan D. Lugg

REPORT OF THE WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

This Committee is pleased to report on the excellent progress made to-date in developing, launching and maintaining a state-of-the-art New Hampshire Grand Lodge web site. After initiating a Request for Proposal process and reviewing numerous submissions, the decision was made to select Brother Don Sullivan as the web master.

Over the course of several months, Don submitted various designs which were reviewed and commented on by the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Line Officers. After the culmination of countless hours of work on behalf of Don and his new company, the New Hampshire Grand Lodge website was launched on Tuesday, May 10, 2011. Since that time, over 17,000 visitors have viewed the site!!!

The New Hampshire Grand Lodge website includes; the Grand Master's message, information on the process for becoming a Freemason, a list of Lodges and associated contact information, a list of Grand Lodge officers, a History page, a listing of affiliate bodies, a calendar, and recent news. As well, we continue to improve the site. In the coming months we will be expanding the book store portion of the site and offering password protected access for commonly accessed forms.

In addition to the outstanding efforts of Brother Sullivan, this committee chairman wishes to thank Brother Scott Ayen for his technical guidance, and the various contributors, Brother Dennis Sheridan in particular, which have provided frequent, informative and entertaining website content.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth A. Clay, Jr., *Chairman*
Donald J. Sullivan, III, Kristopher G. Furtney, Michael R. Steward
Christopher J. Busby, Ryan J. Flynn, Scott M. Ayen, Karl R Olsen
Eric S. Gregoire, David J. Correa, Thomas A. Ladd, Dennis A Sheridan
Patrick J. Gaudette, Robert R. Roakes, Jeffrey C. Grant, Brian F. Godfrey
Daniel W. Fleetham, Jr., Richard A. Ellis, Patrick A. Michelson, Bruce H. Kominz



William Pitt Tavern Masonic Museum

REPORT OF THE WILLIAM PITT TAVERN COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

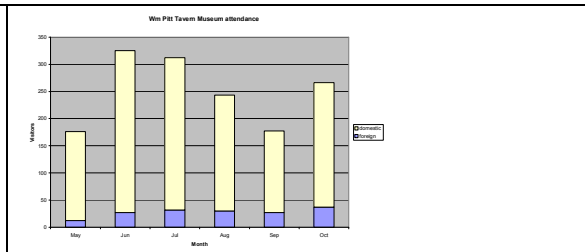
Mission

The Tavern Museum and Lodge Room are to promote the story of Freemasonry in New Hampshire, to present the history of our Fraternity and to promote our activities to all.

Operations

Open 44 days in 6 months. I committed to open Tuesdays, as was done in 2010, and was open 26 times, missed one. We had

- 1499 visitors,
 - 1334 from 40 States
 - 165 from 16 other countries
- NH led the way as expected, with 654.



I was at the Museum without opening an additional 10 days to work on the collection.

Work time:

- Curator 329 hrs over 54 days
- Bro Rod MacDonald gave 129 hrs over 25 days,
- Bro Nick Pesarik 51 hrs over 19 days.

Five other brothers contributed 16 hrs, mostly for moving equipment.

Masonic Family Day saw 80 visitors, the largest crowd of the season. July 4 was the busiest regular day with 56 visitors, and I only opened for half the day!

A single staffer can handle most crowds but not at all well. The stairs take their toll. We need some commitment from more than St John's Lodge for volunteers on a regular basis.

Therefore I strongly recommend a commitment to being open more than a single day each week. Long weekends bring larger attendance.

Also, getting prior arrangements for school groups will help. It often takes more than one volunteer's vigilance to keep children from wanting to handle the artifacts, particularly the swords and the Lodge room furnishings. (Most everything else is locked in cases.)

Admin

I built an Access database of the acquisition documents. I entered the location of each catalogued item as I found it in the displays or storage. There are 2041 items recorded. I have not yet located 1170.

Several items on display lack acquisition numbers or labels or have incorrect labels. I have been correcting that slowly.

REPORT OF THE WILLIAM PITT TAVERN COMMITTEE (continued)

I have identified 300 items as being in storage – in boxes off display.

Among other things learned, we have catalogued

- 106 aprons,
- 72 books (clearly many are not recorded with the artifacts but in the Library),
- 116 chairs,
- 110 documents,
- 214 medals,
- 350 photos,
- 184 pins,
- 16 swords and
- 9 pewter tankards.

Very little of that is on display now. For instance only 9 swords and 60 aprons are out. The collection needs a lot of administrative and curator work.

Acquisitions

A few donations came in, reported in the monthlies. The most notable was a bequest through Anniversary Lodge of Research, including a jewel, a commemorative plate, and a binder of research reports for the Library. Another which visitors find fascinating was a photo, patch and pin set from the Widows Sons motorcycle group

St John's lodge also donated a set of their 275th anniversary souvenirs, a flask, pin, coin and holiday tree ornament.

Expenses

Reported in detail in the monthlies. We spent \$467.82 all season, with \$182.97 for a printer and \$19.95 for 3 lamps for the desks, to improve lighting for the Lodge Room and office as permanent "fixed assets" for the Museum. \$264.90 went for consumable supplies, like flash sticks to back up the computer work, batteries for lights, glue for repairs, paper for the printer (heavy stock and photo) and cleaning products.

I also bought a shadow box to display Table Lodge glasses. It makes a focal point for introducing an interesting Masonic tradition. (As well as a possible origin for the "shot glass" term.)

Using the Lodge Room

This is a special aspect of the Museum mission, keeping the restored Lodge Room available for all Masons in New Hampshire.

There have been 4 meetings: Grand Lodge/Wm Pitt Tavern Lodge in July, AMD and Benevolent Lodge in August, William Whipple Military Lodge in September. St James and Olive Branch have asked to use the room in November and January.

I usually ask visiting brethren from NH Lodges to consider coming in for a meeting in the historic room. Especially for degree work, although the room is a bit cramped. (Fire code limits it to 49 but a group of 40 crowds the Altar.)

At least the heat works so the room remains available in Winter.

For 2012

Among suggestions already received are displays on Masons and the Civil War, and on Masons and WW II. We have reached the point where we get few visitors with first-hand knowledge of the latter era.

We are now in the Civil War sesquicentennial, approaching the bicentennial of the Anglo-American conflict which affected New England directly and fascinates Canadian visitors and the centennial of WW I for which no veterans remain.

Wish List

I have prepared a separate report for the Grand Master and District 1 DDGM, the chain of command for the Wm Pitt Tavern Museum. We will review that off-line to bring some proposals for maintenance and new equipment forward.

Most rooms have not been painted in many years, some walls, doors and shutters need repairs, the light is poor for working. Air conditioning, especially for the comfort of visitors and volunteers but also to control dust and humidity for the collection, is still a goal.

Several items, notably 18th and 19th century aprons, need conservation. Most recent additions have had professional attention but more need restoration and resetting. That means a couple of hundred dollars each, and half a dozen come to mind for work. We must invest in preserving what we have as well as better displaying it.

As examples, we have an apron worn at the dedication of the Bunker Hill Monument, itself a project of King Solomon's Lodge, Somerville MA. Its silk fabric has spent too long on display in direct sunlight. (It may also be related to the drummer boy at the battle. Research opportunities abound.)

Another is a rare 44-star flag (1891-96) which has been left too long in light and is now noticeably deteriorating. Each would cost about \$250 to reframe properly.

Summary

The Tavern Museum ended its 2011 season well. We had a slow start from taking responsibility in May but over time saw what attracted the interest of visitors and, now knowing more of what is in the collection, have some idea of what we can put together for next year.

Visitors had a few questions that need work. That indicates that the Museum can spark some curiosity about Freemasonry, past and present.

I also learned that we need to be open more than 1 day each week, especially for holiday weekends at least. That means more volunteers. That means a feeling of real ownership shared by all Lodges and the brethren of NH.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert E. Padian
Curator, William Pitt Tavern Museum
Grand Archivist, Grand Lodge of the Free & Accepted Masons
of the State of New Hampshire

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

Your committee on Unfinished Business has reviewed the Minutes of the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge and finds that at the start of today's communication, all business had been satisfactorily disposed of.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S. Lowe, *Chairman*
John C. Marden, John F. Gordon, Charles E. Connell

REPORT OF THE UNITY COMMITTEE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

As most of you know, the Unity Committee is comprised of the top two officers of each of the recognized Masonic bodies in New Hampshire. Meetings are held on an irregular basis, and tend to be clustered around any upcoming activities of the committee.

The first involvement of the committee in the summer of 2011 was to assist in the Fabulous Fraternal Family Feast that was sponsored by the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, and was held on June 18 at Stratham Hill memorial Park. We had fantastic weather, and therefore had to add another word to the title, which now reads, "Fantastic Fabulous Fraternal Family Feast". Larry Gullett, the NH Masonic Grill Master, and his crew provided the equipment and cooking services. Games were held at the park, some got soaked, despite the sunny weather, and other than a lost hat, the day was a success.

This past year, the committee took part in the annual St. John's Day celebration at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, NH, on June 19. Building on the success from the previous year, the committee planned on a cookout to be held after the services in the beautiful outdoor Cathedral. And as was the case in 2010, a great crowd turned out, with representation from all our concordant bodies both at the service and at the cookout. The committee would like to continue to take part in this annual celebration, and welcomes any constructive feedback on how we can improve, along with our annual plea for volunteers to help with the tremendous amount of work involved. We do send particular thanks to Larry Gullett and his crew for once again providing the excellent job on the grills.

The next big item on our annual agenda has always been the Fraternal Holiday Party. Here is our first bit of bad news. The continuing sluggishness of our economy led us to cancel that party this year for several reasons. To ask people, in the midst of the holiday season to pay between \$50-\$60 a couple was shaping up to be a very poor plan for getting a good turnout. Additionally, we continue to get more comments on the fact that the traditional Sunday night schedule for this party tends to be a difficult time to accommodate for those who have to get home early to prepare for Monday morning work and school schedules. Add to these issues that potential for some people looking at adding to the expense by increasing their wardrobe, the committee commiserated and decided to cancel this year's holiday party, and come back next season with some new ideas to pump some life into the historical format. Please let the representatives on the committee know of your ideas and wishes so we can plan appropriately for next year.

Despite the fairly large number of people on the committee, we continuously find ourselves needing lots of help in planning, executing and selling tickets to the various events we plan for the year. Please consider helping out, as the body heads are already fairly busy with so many other calendar items.

This is one committee that never has to worry about Ritual, dues cards and other matters that put the "business" in the Fraternity. We truly appreciate the opportunity to add to the important social aspects of our great organizations in NH, and look forward to a great year in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Stewart L. Aronson, *Chairman*