

Brethren,

What is "The Masonic Service Association of North America"? I would like to take this opportunity to give you some background on this topic.

Freemasonry formed in the United States as a series of independent Grand Lodges, the United States did not have a National Grand Lodge, but rather 51 independent and sovereign Grand Lodges. During World War I, the Grand Lodges of the United States, who had a significant number of Masons in the Armed Forces, wished to help the servicemen. The Federal Government would not deal with 51 separate Grand Lodges, but if the Freemasons would provide one organization with whom they could work, they would be delighted to accept Masonic assistance. In 1919 the Grand Lodges of the United States formed what is now called "The Masonic Service Association of North America".

What does the M.S.A. do? Originally they provided aid to servicemen. However, it soon became to include, the publishing of "The Short Talk Bulletin" which covers a wide variety of Masonic subjects. It also produces digests, statistical information, informational lists, and in many ways acts as a clearing house for Masonic information.

They also have a Disaster Relief Program, whereby if a natural catastrophe occurs within a Grand Jurisdiction, an appeal is sent out to aid that Grand Jurisdiction. For example, in recent years appeals were received by South Carolina and Puerto Rico for damage caused by hurricane Hugo, earthquake damage in California, and the list goes on! 100% of all monies collected are sent to the parties involved! No charges are made for administrative costs.

The third aspect of the M.S.A. is the Hospital Visitation Program. The M.S.A. which is active in 159 of the 172 V.A. Medical Centers, and State Veterans' Homes, and in two cases public Hospitals around the U.S. This program consists of countless volunteers contributing thousands of hours of service. For instance, they read to the residents, write letters for them, do personal errands, take them to Chapel Services on Sunday morning, or sponsor activities for them.

In short, our role is to be humanitarian, and help them with things that are difficult for them to do for themselves. We have to remember that many of these Veterans have no family or friends, and are all alone! If we can help to spark a smile, or a ray of hope, in a segment of the population that is most often forgotten. Then is it not our duty as Masons to do so? Brethren the M.S.A. is active at the N.J. Memorial Home in Vineland, N.J., if you could help please give me a call, or better yet, come out to our next communication and let me add your name to our M.S.A. volunteer list. The M.S.A. is there to show that "MASONS CARE AND WILL ALWAYS BE THERE!"

At Shekinah Lodges' Regular Communication on May 1st, 1998, we will have a short business meeting and then close lodge, after which R.W. John S. Ryan, N.J. State Coordinator for the M.S.A. will be here to speak to all the brethren, their family, and friends about the M.S.A. Please make every effort to attend this most important evening!

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Robert W. Estell
Worshipful Master

MOST WORSHIPFUL GERALD H. GROSSKOPF
Grand Master of Masons of the State New Jersey
 1102 Curtis Avenue, Point Pleasant, N.J. 08742.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL RICHARD W. WESTERGAARD
District Deputy Grand Master of the 22nd Masonic District
 15 Madison Ave., Newfield, N.J. 08344 (609) 697-1015

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WARREN J. COLES
District Ritual Instructor of the 22nd Maronic District
 23 Devonshire Pl., Bridgeton, N.J. 08302 (609) 455-6059

Brethren, You are cordially invited to attend the following communications:

REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS

Friday, April 3rd, 1998 - 7:30 PM – Business meeting. Balloting on the petition for membership of Mr. Joseph John Gross, age 39. He resides at 1311 Fairton Road, Millville, NJ, and is employed by Chrysler Corporation as a Tool-Maker. Refreshments.

Friday, May 1st, 1998 - 7:30 PM – Business meeting. R.W. John S. Ryan, N.J. State Coordinator of "The Masonic Service Association of North America" will be the speaker for that evening. All Brethren, Family and Friends are urged to attend. Refreshments.

EMERGENT COMMUNICATION

Friday, April 24th, 1998 - 7:30 PM – The Entered Apprentice Degree will be conferred upon Mr. Thomas Riggio, and all eligible candidates. Refreshments.

REHEARSALS

Thursday, April 16th, & 23rd, 1998 - 7:00 PM – Shekinah Officers are asked to make every effort to attend!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, March 31st, 1998 - 7:00 PM - Past Masters, Masters & Wardens Assoc. of the 22nd Masonic District will meet at DeTomas's 5 Points Inn West, E. Landis Ave. & Rt. 47, Vineland. Election and Installation of 1998 Officers. For reservations (A MUST!) call R.W. P. Wayne Astheimer (692-2679) or R.W. Richard W. Westergaard (697-1015).

Tuesday, April 21st, 1998 - 7:00 PM – Shekinah Square Club. Meets every 3rd Tuesday for refreshments, and social get-together. Any member can attend!

Tuesday, April 21st, 1998 - 7:30 PM – District Lodge of Instruction at Elmer Lodge #160, Elmer, N.J. All Officers are required to attend, all brethren are welcome.

Tuesday & Wednesday, April 28th & 29th, 1998 – Grand Lodge Banquets at the Tropicana Hotel & Casino, Brighton Ave. at the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, N.J. Royal Swan Ballroom, Fourth Floor, North Tower (both nights). Social Hour: 6:00 PM (cash bar) – Dinner 7:00 PM. Cost: \$35.00 per person. Menu: Tuesday - Salmon; Wednesday - Prime N.Y. Steak.

Wednesday & Thursday, April 29th & 30th, 1998 - 211th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the Tropicana Hotel, Brighton Ave. at the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ, Election of the 1998-1999 Grand Lodge Officers; followed by the Installation of the Grand Master and his Staff on Thursday at 1:00 PM.

In Memoriam

ALBERT ASHTON HAYES

E.A. 5-13-66

F.C. 6-10-96

M.M. 9-23-96

Raised on High February 25, 1998

HARRY ADAMS

E.A. 1-28-69

F.C. 2-27-69

M.M. 4-8-69

Raised on High March 4, 1998

FRANK D. MCDANIELS, JR.

E.A. 6-8-65

F.C. 9-14-65

M.M. 10-26-65

Raised on High March 10, 1998

OFFICERS FOR 1998

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ROBERT W. ESTELL, PM | Worshipful Master |
| 802 Wheaton Ave., Millville, NJ 08332-2166 – (609) 825-7864 | |
| BRIAN N. MYERS | Senior Warden |
| 3422 Vaux St., Philadelphia, PA 19129-1437 – (215) 438-5331 | |
| RICHARD C. PANAS | Junior Warden |
| 1106 Esibill Ave., Millville, NJ 08332-4715 – (609) 293-1164 | |
| E. LEE MYERS, PGC | Treasurer |
| 1106 Earle Ave., Millville, NJ 08332-4712 – (609) 825-3383 | |
| MILTON MOROZ, PJGD | Secretary |
| 1806 E. Main St., Millville, NJ 08332-3514 – (609) 327-2629 | |
| BYRON J. WHITE | |
| BRUCE FERGUSON | Senior Deacon |
| ROBERT G. SMITH | Junior Deacon |
| JAMES L. SHEATS | Sr. Master of Ceremonies |
| CHARLES F. HOOVER | Jr. Master of Ceremonies |
| RONALD G. DEHAINUT | Senior Steward |
| MARK W. LEIGH | Junior Steward |
| JAMES A. HINES | Marshal |
| HAMMOND T. FERGUSON | Organist |
| CHARLES F. HOOVER | Historian |
| WILLIAM H. ALLEN | Tyler |
| RONALD N. SPIELS, PGC | Director of Work |
| C. RANDALL QUAY, PDDGM | Asst. Director of Work |

TRUSTEES

Thomas H. Litterer, PM - 1 yr.
Byron J. White - 2 yrs.
C. Randall Quay, PDDGM - 3 yrs.

BLOOD BANK (Account #4582)

George Carly, PM (Chairman) – (609) 825-7932
Richard A. Hincley, PM (Co-Chairman) – (609) 327-1689

RELIEF COMMITTEE

Norman H. Peek, PDDGM (Chairman) - (609) 825-5411
Paul E. Lokey - (609) 327-4488

SICK COMMITTEE

Scott Cossaboon (Chairman) – (609) 825-1771
Paul E. Lokey - (609) 327-4488

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chester M. Goodwin, III (Chairman)
Wilbert R. Goodwin
Richard A. Hincley, PM

HOUSE COMMITTEE

James A. Hines (Chairman)
George Dehainaut
Ronald G. Dehainaut
Gordon Wayne Levick

LIVING PAST MASTERS

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Frank B. Lutz..... 1943 | Richard A. Jervis, PGC..... 1972 | Randall C. Quay..... 1982 |
| Horace B. Hand*..... 1948 | Robert F. Andrews..... 1973 | Paul N. Pantelis..... 1983 |
| Lewis E. Ferguson, Jr. 1949 | Lawrence Smith, PGC..... 1973 | William C. Parr, Jr. 1985 |
| Charles F. Finch..... 1952 | William H. Stiles..... 1975 | Kirk A. Karrer..... |
| James J. Malloy, Jr. 1953 | Charles S. Lehman..... 90-1975 | Marvin White..... |
| Robert F. Friant [†] 1954 | Ronald N. Spiels, PGC..... 91-1976 | Albert L. Smith..... |
| Robert T. Shannon..... 1955 | Robert W. Karrer, PGC..... 89-1976 | Gary R. Lawson..... 88-1987 |
| John A. Shea..... 1957 | Norman H. Peek, PDDGM .. 90-1977 | Robert A. Tesoroni, Jr., PGC..... 1988 |
| William S. Stagg, Jr. 1961 | Earl R. Gassaway..... 1977 | Terry R. Sherman [†] 89-1988 |
| Herbert W. Dunham, Jr. 1963 | Frank B. Camp..... 87-1977 | Floyd G. Taylor..... 1989 |
| William H. Bowen..... 1964 | Thomas H. Litterer [†] 1977 | Robert J. Riggins..... 1991 |
| Milton Moroz, PJGD*..... 1964 | J. Douglass Abdill..... 1978 | Charles V. Shropshire, PGC..... 1991 |
| James S. Wylie [†] 1965 | Russell C. Parsons, Sr. 84-1978 | Howard J. Young, PDRI..... 1992 |
| Robert D. Barber, PGC..... 1966 | Robert W. Estell..... 1979 | E. Lee Myers, PGC..... |
| Robert F. Morgan [§] 1967 | Robert L. Davidson..... 1979 | William S. Davis..... 1993 |
| F. Edward Barsuglia..... 1968 | J. Roy Oliver..... 1980 | Robert Thornborough..... 1994 |
| Harry H. Potter..... 1969 | Royce E. Robinson [§] 83-1980 | Richard A. Hincley..... 1994 |
| Donald B. Pike..... 1969 | George Carly..... 1981 | Brian A. Thomas..... 1995 |
| William H. Goshen, PGLT..... 1970 | Frank Rosiejka [§] 1981 | David E. Exel..... |
| C. Randall Quay, PDDGM..... 1970 | Leonard R. Potter, Jr. 1982 | Wm. Anthony Loteck..... 1997 |
| Russell A. Roberts, PGC..... 1971 | John G. Keeler, PGC..... 1982 | [†] Affiliated [‡] Dual [§] SPD-NPD [¶] Dimitted |
| Herbert E. Reback [†] 1971 | Ernest S. Barry, PGC [†] 1982 | [¶] Withdraw |

HONORARY MEMBERS

Edgar N. Peppler, PGM
Morgan T. Morris, Jr., PGM

Richard R. Boston, PDDGM
Norman W. Timberman, PDDGM