

Thirty-Third Degree Masons at Washington, D.C. Meeting

LEXINGTON, MA – More than 3,500 Thirty-third Degree Masons and their Ladies also gathered in the nation's capitol recently for a unique meeting of Scottish Rite Masons.

For the first time since their founding in the early 1800's, the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions met in joint session. Sharing the platform were the leaders of the two Scottish Rite Supreme Councils in the United States, Ill. **John Wm. McNaughton**, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, and Ill. **Ronald A. Seale**, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Those in attendance included Grand Masters from the Grand Lodges in most states and 46 representatives from Scottish Rite Jurisdictions around the world.

Although many events during the week-long meeting in Washington, DC, were held jointly, each jurisdiction independently conferred the Thirty-third Degree on a limited group of Masons who were selected for dedicated service to Scottish Rite Freemasonry or service reflecting credit upon the Masonic fraternity.

Five new members were elected to the governing board of the Northern Supreme Council. the new Active Members are: **M. Ray Bradford Jr.**, Bangor, ME; **Jeffrey W. Coy**, Shippensburg, PA; **David R. Bedwell Sr.**, Superior Township, MI; **C. Keith Hoskins**, Angola, IN; and **William R. Powers Jr.**, Cincinnati, OH. Retiring to Active Emeritus status is **Verdon R. Skipper** of Burlington, NJ.

New officers include: **Robert F. Ogg Jr.**, Deputy for Rhode Island; **Michael DeWolf**, Grand Keeper of the Archives; **Robert E. Godbout Jr.**, Grand Master General of Ceremonies; and **David P. Spencer**, Grand Standard Bearer.

The Medal of Honor was presented by Grand Commander McNaughton to **C. DeForrest Trexler**, Active Member for Pennsylvania and chairman of the Rituals Committee, and **Richard H. Curtis**, retired editor of The Northern Light.

The meeting concluded with a joint gala banquet at which former U.S. Senator and astronaut **John Glenn** was presented the Gourgas Medal from the Northern Jurisdiction. Glenn is among a group of 36 distinguished Masons who have received this

award since its creation in 1938. The medal is given in recognition of notably distinguished service in the cause of Freemasonry, country or humanity.

The Northern Jurisdiction will hold next year's meeting in late August at Providence, RI. The names of 105 Scottish Rite Masons have been selected to receive the Thirty-third Degree at that time.

Those to be elected to receive the Thirty-third Degree at Providence, RI, on August 26, 2008 from this area are:

Massachusetts:

Alexander A. Bird, Arlington; **Alexander D. Campbell**, Marlborough; **James R. Franklin**, Teaticket; **Robert E. Godbout**, Hanson; **Kendall G. Jones**, Buzzards Bay; **Peter R. Smith**, Marstons Mills; **John A. Truesdale**

Rhode Island:

Frank Allen Jr., Warwick; **Thomas R. Yeaw**, Hopkinton

Connecticut:

Francis G. Way, Wethersfield; **Paul L. Chello**, Guilford; **Richard C. Memmott**, West Haven

Local Masonic Leaders are Honored

LOCAL area Freemasons were among a group of 174 selected to receive the Thirty-third Degree, the highest honor of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. The ceremony took place recently in Washington, DC, during the annual meeting of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council. The degree is awarded for outstanding service to Freemasonry or for significant contributions to humanity that reflect credit upon the fraternity. The 2007 recipients were chosen from 15 northern and midwestern states that comprise the 230,000-member Northern Jurisdiction of the United States. Those from Massachusetts were (from left to right):

front row: **F. Brian Emery**, South Weymouth; **Jeffrey L. Gardiner**, Needham; **Robert H. Hartley**, North Dighton

back row: **John Appleby**, Tewksbury; **Thomas H. Hargreaves**, Methuen; **Judson W. Greene**, Middleton; **Robert A. Goewey III**, Huntington; **Bruce E. Chapman Sr.**, Worcester.

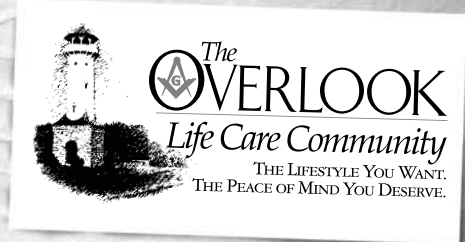


Saturday
ANOTHER GREAT DAY!



The day could not have been more perfect. Phil and Jenna came to visit with Sarah and we walked the campus (I still can't get over how beautiful it is!). We stopped and had ice cream and played a game of croquet – Sarah's idea! She has SO much energy, and there is so much here to keep US ALL occupied! She wants to come up next weekend for the watercolor class! Maybe I'll take Sarah to the neighborhood gardens in the morning. We could cut some flowers for her to bring into class. Roses happen to be her favorite. *MINE, TOO!* I love having them visit! This is *BETTER* than I ever imagined!

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