



Paul A. Cole, R.E.G.C.

**Grand Commandery Knights Templar  
Of Indiana  
December 2011**

Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies:

*Merry Christmas from the Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery*



### **December Birthdays:**

Brian Scott Du Bois, Rec. 15, 12/2  
J. Robert Fiers, GPE, 12/3  
Ronald Tungett, KCT, PGC, 12/4  
James D. Pinnick, DBC 7, 12/5  
Joseph C. Korschot, 14, 12/5  
Rowland C. Gorman, GPE, 12/6  
Dennis H. Rigsby, Rec. 8, 12/6  
Jerry O. Deeter, GPE, 12/8  
Joseph L. Scanland, 1, 12/8  
Lady Clorissa Jackson, wife of Adam Jackson, DBC 4, 12/9  
Lady Brittany Cottrell, wife of Clint R. Cottrell, DBC 8, 12/9  
Lady Marna Stahlka, wife of Clay Stahlka, Aide to the D.G.C., 12/9  
Steven J. Barton, KCT, PGC, PDC, 12/10  
Lady Verna Crussemeyer, wife of Phillip Crussemeyer, Rec. 30, 12/11  
Michael F. Robbins, DBC 7, 12/12  
Lady Karen, wife of Jerry O. Deeter, GPE, 12/14  
George Brutchen, Rec. 32, 12/15  
DeWayne Richmond, DBC 4, 12/15  
Gary A. Nicholson, 2, 12/17  
Donnie A. Robinette, DBC 5, 12/17  
James A. Iles, II, DBC 1, 12/18  
Michael A. Mang, Rec. 29, 12/18  
Joseph K. Hedges, 67, 12/19  
Lady Chere, wife of W. Kris Phillips, PGHP, Rec. 11 & 25, 12/19  
Lady Patricia, wife of Michael F. Robbins, DBC 7, 12/20  
Lady Monica, wife of Tony S. Peterson, Aide to the G.C., 12/20  
Norman Hittson, KTCH, 32, 12/21  
Lady Mickey Borchert, wife of Donald L. Borchert, GPE, 12/22  
R. Daniel Gaby, Rec. 13, 12/23  
Lady Rhonda, wife of Thomas Harper, Rec. 62, 12/24  
Carroll Joe Friend, GPE, 12/26  
Ronald D. Simpson, KCT, PGC, 12/27  
E. Stanton Davis, DGIG, 12/29  
Lady Beverly LaHurreau, wife of Henry LaHurreau, KCT, PGC, 12/30  
Lady Jill, wife of G. Donald Laudeman III, 31, 12/31

### **December Anniversaries:**

Terry & Wanda Kehrer, 12/7  
David & Vickie Gundrum, 12/7  
Duane & Georgia Vaught, 12/16  
Larry & Suanna Brown, 12/17  
Gary & Sally Nicholson, 12/17  
Paul & Margaret Cole, 12/18  
Norman & Helen Hittson, 12/21  
Virgil & Janice Humphrey, 12/24  
John & Marcia LaBounty, 12/24  
Roger & Denna Dimond, 12/27  
Henry & Beverly LaHurreau, 12/30

Dale & Nancy Foreman, 12/31

*If I have your birthday or anniversary wrong or if it is missing, please contact me at [Grandrecorder@aol.com](mailto:Grandrecorder@aol.com) or by snail mail to Larry Kaminsky, P.O. Box 1690, Highland, IN 46322*

**ANY COMMANDERY INTERESTED IN FIELDING A DRILL TEAM  
AT THE GRAND CONCLAVE IN APRIL 2012, PLEASE CONTACT  
STEVE BARTON AT: [ss.barton@comcast.net](mailto:ss.barton@comcast.net)**

### **Sickness & Distress:**

**John Bridegroom**, Arch 1 Officer Grand Council just found out on 10/26 that his youngest daughter, Phoenix has leukemia. She has responded to the therapy thus far, but has a long road ahead of her. She is currently in Riley's Children's hospital in Indianapolis. Please say a prayer for them tonight!

**Update 11/1/2011:** John Bridegroom wrote 45 minutes ago: Hello everyone. I just wanted to give you another update on Phoenix. Things are still going well, she received more chemo today and her vital signs all continue to be stable. They are weaning her off the ventilator, which may take a week or two, and backing off of the sedation to try and wake her up. They need to see how she responds neurologically at this point, looking for her to breathe on her own, and respond to our voices. We are optimistic... it just all takes time. She is showing no signs of infection yet, and if that continues they will be able to back off of the antibiotics. Lots of little improvements, and she blinked, moved her head, mouth and arms yesterday. She is losing her first tooth, naturally and unrelated, so it looks like the tooth fairy might need to make a visit to Riley's. :) There are still some issues with her eyes, but we are unsure what it means in the long run. Hopefully it can all correct itself if the Leukemia is treated fully. Thank you for your concern... hopefully this all goes well and we can eventually get her onto the Oncology floor and out of ICU... Again, you are all amazing and Tammy and I cannot ever express what your love and support has done for us and Phoenix. God bless you all.

**Update 11/3/2011 9 AM:** Hello everyone, Phoenix had a good day today! I waited until now to send an update to try and be sure the progress would continue. This morning they took her off of the ventilator, and she has been breathing on her own all day! They removed her arterial line, which indicated they don't need to monitor her blood pressure as close which is great news as well! She is responding to questions by nodding her head or shaking her head, she has opened her eyes, squeezed hands, wiggled her toes and even gave us thumbs up! She appears to be having some withdrawals from the pain meds, so they are slowly backing off of those, and it's hard to watch her in discomfort, but this too will pass. We hope to be out of ICU in a few days and onto the Oncology floor with our little baby. Thank you all for your continued prayers, you did this, by Gods grace, and we love you all!

**Update 11/5/2011 8 AM:** John Bridegroom wrote about an hour ago: Ok everyone today was another good day, brought to us by your prayers and support! As of 6pm today, Phoenix was moved off of the ICU and onto the Oncology floor! It is wonderful that she is well enough to move out of ICU, because that tells us that the doctors think she is very stable. She is off of almost all her various medications and pain meds. She is mildly responsive to us, but still very weak and has difficulty moving in a deliberate manner. She has wiggled her toes, nods yes and no, opens her eyes a bit... but everything appears very difficult for her. It is unclear if this is because of her weakened condition, or if there has been neurological damage, and we will likely only know in time. I believe that your prayers have helped her through the first phase of this struggle, and now I would ask that we focus our prayers on her regaining her faculties and her abilities, and pray for her neurological health and recovery. Today is a great

milestone in Phoenix's journey, and wonderful news that we needed to share with all of you who made this possible with the will and grace of God. Thank You!

**Update 11/7/2011 12 PM:** Things have been calm here at Riley's for a couple days. Phoenix has settled into her new room on the Oncology floor, and we hope to be able to move to a private room today. She has had some little improvements with her movement today, scratching her nose with her right hand, raising her left arm up to her head... her Leukemia treatments continue, but what we really need to see is her responsiveness improve and her neurological functions come back. We know this may take time. The sooner we can get her on track with those things, the closer we are to being able to go home. All in all, I know this isn't much of an update, but these little victories are what will lead us to the bigger ones. Thank you all very much for your continued support, and know that we are telling Phoenix all about your love and prayers. John

**Update 11/10/2011 8 PM:** Hello everyone, the past few days have been very hard... The treatments for the Leukemia continue as scheduled, and Phoenix is still responding well to them. We are at day 18, and we will really have a better picture when they do the bone marrow test at day 29. Our current struggles are still with her neurological state. She is still very sleepy, and most days moments of clarity and alertness are few, if at all. The issue is the multiple brain lesions caused by the Leukemia early on. We are unable to know for sure if the damage done to her brain is permanent or not, and they are unable to treat the leukemia in her brain until phase two of the treatment, after day 29. We have had to have some very hard discussions with the doctors about the possibility that neurologically she may not improve from this point, and that there is a possibility of her even deteriorating further from the treatments. I cannot express how hard that is to hear. Over the next few days, tests and specialists will be taking a closer look at the situation and try to get a more accurate prognosis in regards to all of this sometime next week. Things are further complicated with the fact that the Ophthalmologist tells us she cannot see out of either eye, due to the cloudy leukemic cells that are present. They tell us that down the road, there is a surgery that could possibly correct that, if in fact it is caused by that. There is the possibility that the loss of vision is caused by the damage to the brain as well. We just don't know yet. They expected her to be much more aware and coherent by now, but we are also told that with multiple diffuse brain lesions an extended period of recovery is required. Despite all of these things, I must confess that Tammy and I still have a lot of hope for her recovery, and know that much of it is in God's hands. When I look into her eyes, I can see her in there... and that fills me with strength and love. We do not feel like a statistic, and refuse to let our hope be based or influenced by them. May your faith and hope continue with us, and thank you all for the love and support you continue to send. Let our love for one another be not diminished by darkness... John

**Update 11/14/2011 8 AM:** Well, it has been a quiet weekend here at the hospital, which we like! I know the first fundraiser for Phoenix happened and went well, and we are so grateful for everyone's efforts and support. Our 13 year old daughter Diva was able to attend, and she has said she would be our little ambassador at these events when possible... :) Phoenix has had a good past few days. From our perspective, she is improving steadily in her body control and is more alert and interactive. She has smiled a whole lot, responding to jokes and funny moments on her favorite shows. She is lifting her head on her own a bit, and moving her arms in specific ways when asked. She is touching her nose and the top of her head when we ask her to. She plays little games with me, like racing to see which one of us can touch the top of her head first... And she wins. :) These show us a real cognitive presence, and it's what we need. The Doctors seem pleased as well, and feel she is stable and doing well in the expected areas. They continue with the treatment, and may even perform the spinal chemotherapy they have been holding off on next week, if she continues to show improvement. Her rash is gone, and her smile is as beautiful as ever... She did get a haircut from mom and grandma, and though most of it is disappearing anyways, she just lights up the room. Your continued prayers are making a real difference in this little girl's life, and her battle, like a suit of armor made of love and compassion. Thank you! John.

**Update 11/18/2011 8 AM:** I know so many of you have been very busy on our behalf these days, and please know it has not gone unnoticed. I wish we could be there to see how wonderful everyone has been, but we feel the love all the way down here in Indianapolis. While you have all been praying and raising awareness and funds for dear Phoenix, she has been working very hard as well! She has been visited every day by Physical therapy, Occupational therapy and Speech therapy, trying hard to rehabilitate and restore many of her physical abilities. She has impressed all of them, and we are very proud of her. She is regaining a lot of her body strength, and can hold her head up on her own for long stretches. She can do many things with her right side, though her left side is slower. She has been drinking tiny amounts of water and eating Jello a little. This is one step closer to the day we can remove the feeding tube and feed her on her own. She hasn't found her voice yet, but we are trying and occasionally we get little sounds. Though she cannot see out of either eye, she follows sounds well and can do a lot of what we ask her to. Tammy has been showing her some sign language, like yes and no, and I love you. She has used them a little and that is exciting. It is a slow process, but we are in it to win it! Next week, on Tuesday, they will administer her first spinal treatment for the Leukemia, which we have been unable to do the last 3 weeks because of worries about swelling in the brain. This is good because we feel that means this is not a concern anymore. They will also test her bone marrow to get a clear picture of how well the treatments are working on the Leukemia, and we are hopeful to see positive result there! All in all, we are encouraged and happy, and we know your prayers are making a big difference in this little girl's fight of a lifetime. John

**Update 11/21/2011:** As we move into Thanksgiving week I can't help but be filled with emotion. On one hand, we are doing our best to handle the Holiday while in the hospital. On the other hand, we find ourselves with a million reasons to be thankful in the face of these tough times. We are thankful for all of you, your love and support; your tender affection for our daughter, and your unending compassion for our family. Thank you, Thank you God, for each of you and your capacity for love. This week is a very big week for us. Believe it or not, tomorrow is day 29 at Riley's. This is important because at day 29, Phoenix receives her first spinal chemotherapy, a very big part of her treatment which we have been unable to receive thus far due to the brain injury. It is also the day they take a sample of her Bone Marrow to test and see if she is in remission. The goal of the first phase of treatment has been to force the Leukemia into remission, and this test which we receive tomorrow will tell us if it has been successful in that regard. We will have the results within the week, and we are praying for a positive report. In the meantime, she continues to impress us with her abilities, and we are very pleased with her strength and tenacity. She has been communicating with Tammy and me with some sign language we taught her, and giving us and the nurses the peace sign... We want to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving, and hope that regardless of what is happening around you, you can find many reasons to pause and be thankful for something special in your life. We are thankful for you. John & Tammy

**Update 11/23/2011:** Thanksgiving is at our door, and we all have much to be thankful for. We are thankful for all of you. I hope all of you are thankful for the gift of prayer, and thankful that your prayers are heard! Why do I say that? Let me tell you... 30 days ago we discovered the horrible news that Phoenix had Leukemia. We spent weeks with her hanging on by a thread just to stay alive. Terrified, our tears flowed nonstop. We were uplifted by your overwhelming prayers, from across the country, and around the world. I am not exaggerating when I say that either... so many prayers that I could not keep count. So much love for a little girl fighting so hard... On day 29 they did her first bone Marrow test. The test has 3 stages of review, each a little more detailed. We received the results of the first test, and don't expect the others to be different, only confirming in greater detail the same results. Phoenix's Leukemia is in Remission! This was the goal of the first phase of treatment, and it appears as if we have succeeded! On top of that, she continues to improve neurologically. She is laughing, communicating to us with sign language, almost sitting up on her own. She continues to impress her therapists, and she has been eating some small items, and drinking from a straw... and even though she hasn't found her voice just yet, today she whispered some things to us, including Hi Mom, Hi Dad and I love you... These are the things we are

thankful for this holiday, and I hope you can see that what you have done is making a real difference. By the Grace of God, we will overcome this, and your hearts and voices reaching heavenward as one are making it possible. Thank you. John & Tammy

**Update 11/21/2011:** I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Phoenix has been doing well the last few days. She had some time to relax over the Holiday, and her blood counts are up, which means her body is doing a good job of making new cells as she recovers from the first round of Chemotherapy. We will be moving into the second round very soon, and we are praying that she does well as we move forward. She has been talking more, though it is soft and timid. She tires very easily, but she is determined and works very hard. She can nearly sit herself up in bed on her own, and she has been taking some rides around the Hospital in a wheelchair. She even walked a few steps for us the last few days, with someone helping her with her balance. This is a long road, we know, but we are so thankful for her progress so far. We discussed the treatment plan for the next stages, and we know this is no easy road, or short road, but we are going to fight through to see what the other side looks like. Thank you all for thinking of us, and letting us send you postcards along the way! Go Phoenix Go! :)

**Donald Borchert, GPE:** Don had surgery for a hip replacement last week. Tuesday everything was fine. Today woke at 8:30 with steady drainage so I called the surgeon. Appointment at 8:00 AM at surgeon's office, than to hospital. He has an infection. Nursing home called the surgeon and told him the sample they took Sunday came back positive! Will probably have the surgery tomorrow night to flush everything out.... Please keep us in your prayers. Mickey Don was readmitted today and will have the surgery at 6 PM hopefully to clean out the infection. Larry V

**Update:** Don is now home and on a regime of antibiotics for the next 6 weeks.

**Burt Cloud:** This is Burt Cloud's daughter writing. I wanted to know if you and others knew of my dad's accident on Oct. 25th. He fell and broke his hip and shoulder in three places - all on his right side. Hip surgery was done on the 26th but shoulder surgery could not be done due to other health conditions as he would need a total replacement. He was in ICU at Gateway, but on Mon. 10/31 we moved him to Solarbron Rehab Facility. He is going to have a long road ahead of him with his recovery. We have moved my mother in to the assisted living section so she can be with him during the days. They eat all their meals together and she even goes to PT with him. They are in the same building (The Terrace) which is a blessing for us. I wondered if you could pass on this information as they can have visitors for short periods of time during the day or evenings. Cards can be mailed to their home address: Mr. and Mrs. Burtis Cloud, 1701 McDowell Rd., Apt. 231, Evansville, IN 47712; Phone # 401-1712, Thank you very much, Linda Bullock

### **Indiana Death Notices:**

**James F. Garland**, age 75, of Chesterfield, IN passed away Sunday, November 13, 2011 at his home. He was born March 9, 1936 in Birdseye, IN to Anuel and Eunice (Crockett) Garland. James graduated from Royerton High School with the Class of 1954. He was a U.S. Army veteran and served from June 1959 until October 1962. After the military he worked as a tool maker at Delco in Anderson for 36 years, retiring in 1990. James attended Chesterfield Christian Church and was a member of Daleville Masonic Lodge #730 where he was a Past Master, the Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis and Ft. Wayne; the Shrine in Ft. Wayne; Royal Order of Jesters in Ft. Wayne; Middletown Chapter Royal Arch Masons #143 where he was Past High Priest; Anderson Cryptic Masons #69, Past ILL Master; Anderson Commandery Knights Templar #32 as Past Commander; Knights of York Cross Honor #8 and #62; Indiana York Rite College #55; Marlin L. Isley Rite College #129; Order of the Eastern Star, Daleville # 568; Order of Amaranth Past Patron and the Eagles Lodge #231. James is survived by his sons, Mark Garland (wife Misty) of Lebanon, OH, and Michael Garland, of Anderson, IN; daughter, Laura Wolfe,

(husband Marc), of TN; sister Shirley Orick, (husband Gene), of Muncie; 11 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents. Funeral services will be held Friday, November 18, 2011 at Noon at Garden View Funeral Home, 10501 N State Rd 3, Muncie IN 47303 with Rev. Dennis Trimble officiating. Burial will follow in Gardens of Memory Cemetery. A Masonic service will be held at 11:30 AM. Visitation will be from 10:00 AM until service times. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice. Garden View Funeral Home:

[http://www.gardenviewandgardensofmemory.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o\\_id=1315028&fh\\_id=10984](http://www.gardenviewandgardensofmemory.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=1315028&fh_id=10984)

**Garden View Funeral Home & Gardens of Memory Cemetery**, 10501 North State Road 3, Muncie, Indiana 47303 Phone: 765-284-1920

**Mike Barth, Jr.** It is with regret that I inform you of the passing of Mike Barth, Jr. on Monday. Our worthy frater was a 53 year Mason and served as Thrice Potent Master in the Valley of Indianapolis in 1975-76. He received his 33<sup>rd</sup> degree in 1977. He joined Indiana College, SRICF in 1984.

The family has planned a Celebration of Life gathering in the Ballroom of the Indianapolis Scottish Rite Cathedral on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 6 pm. There will be a Masonic memorial service by Centre Lodge at 5:30 pm. Please keep the Barth family in your thoughts and prayers. *Jeffrey K. Saunders, Secretary, Indiana College*

**Clint Elmer Hilt:** Please let the Companions and Sir Knights in your area know that Clint Elmer Hilt, a long time member of Lafayette York Rite, passed away this morning, 11-17-2011 around 1:15 AM. Showing will be Sunday 11-22-2011 from 3:00-6:00 PM at the Solar-Baker Funeral Home, 400 Twickenham Blvd. Funeral will be held 10:00 AM Monday.

**Directory Changes:**

Pat & Barbara Baird: [barbnpat11@yahoo.com](mailto:barbnpat11@yahoo.com)

Irvin L Bitting, PGC, 9091 N 950 W, DeMotte, IN 46310-8441

Change of address of the Grand Commandery website. The new address is:

[www.indianaknightstemplar.com](http://www.indianaknightstemplar.com)

**Important Dates:**

Frankfort #29: Inspection on the Order of the Temple at 2 PM (E); Reception following O.T.; Meal 5 PM (E); Open Reception, Ladies invited

Indy AASR - Children's Christmas Party 2 PM

Indy AASR December Stated Meeting - Table Lodge Format 6:30 PM  
Reservations are required.

Indy AASR Carillon Concert 2 PM  
Orchestra/Chorus Concert 3 PM

**Thurs. Jan 5, 2012.** 7:00 PM Raper Drill Corps, Indiana Freemasons' Hall, 525 N Illinois St., Floor 7, Indianapolis, IN 46204-1209

Grand Commandery Elected Officer's meeting in the Den at 7 PM (E)

Grand Commandery Winter Meeting at the Marriott East 9 AM (E)  
Newby Avery Dinner 6 PM (E)

Take down the Nativity Scene at the Masonic Home 10 AM (E).

Founder's Day for Grand Lodge at the Scottish Rite Temple in Indy.  
Please come in full standard uniform or Cap & Mantle. Meet at 8:30 AM (E) in the ballroom to form an escort for the Grand Master.

York Rite Class honoring Grand Master Walbridge  
Chapter & Council Degrees in Bryan, OH (see attached flyer)

York Rite Class honoring Grand Master Walbridge  
Commandery Orders in Fort Wayne, IN (see attached flyer)

### **Around the Encampment:**

**John Harris Watts:** Masonry world-wide has lost an icon today. John Harris Watts, Past General Grand Master of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International departed this earth to take up residence in the Celestial Lodge above this afternoon (November 11, 2011). He was the Great Chief of the Grand Council Knight Masons (1994) and the Senior Grand Master General (1982-83) of the Knights York Cross of Honour. Past Grand Preceptor of the Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests (1994). A Sovereign of St. Ignatius Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, a Frater of the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. He was an Associate Regent (OPC) of the Sovereign York Rite College and was a 32° Knight Commander Court of Honour in the Scottish Rite. He not only belonged to these organizations he was active in them and also in his local bodies.

**Rufus Henry Brown:** Most Excellent Grand High Priest – 1983-84; Most Illustrious Grand Master, Honorary 2003; Funeral: Tuesday November 21, 2011, 2:00 p.m. at Kilbourne Park Baptist Church, 4205 Kilbourne Rd., Columbia SC 29209. Visitation: Tuesday, November 22, 2011, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. at the Church. Interment: at the Quaker Cemetery, 713 Meeting St, Camden, S.C. with Military Honors and Masonic Graveside Rites. Kershaw Masonic Lodge #29, A.F.M., 833 John G. Richards Rd, Camden, SC will open at 12:00 noon Tuesday. Born April 27, 1919; Died November 18, 2011.

**Robert David McMarlin:** PGC, Virginia 1977; Born August 24, 1916; Died September 11, 2011

**Vernon Leroy Marion:** PGC, Nevada 2004; Born: February 5, 1935; Died March 16, 2011

**Albert Moss Masters:** PGC, Iowa 1971; PNCDC 1997-2000; Born January 20, 1927; Died September 30, 2011

**Gleason "Gus" Ayers:** PGHP, Vermont 1985; It is with great sadness that to report the death of Companion Gleason "Gus" Ayers, Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest 1985. Companion Gus had been in the Woodbridge Nursing Home in Berlin and passed away on Friday evening. I will pass along more details as they become available. May the Lord bless our dear departed Companion Gus. May the

Lord make his face to shine upon him and be gracious to him. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon him, and grant him peace. Bruce R. Howard

### **Indiana Grand Lodge News:**

The Indianapolis Masonic Temple Association has secured a \$250,000 loan to complete numerous projects around Indiana Freemasons' Hall that will improve the Temple aesthetically and structurally, as well as improving our energy use and safety, and providing new services for our members. The many new projects approved by the Temple Board include:

- New energy-efficient windows for the whole building
- Repairs to steam traps and improvements to the condensate system that will allow the boiler to operate more efficiently
- Repairs to the ventilation dampers which will allow greater airflow and exhaust of heat in the summer
- Installation of internet, phone and cable TV wiring to all floors
- Plaster restoration and ceiling repair on the 7th floor from damage caused by a 20 year water leak, which has been repaired
- Replacement of wall sconces missing from the 7th floor
- Complete renovation of the fire escape, including replacement of the rusting decking with new galvanized decks
- Extensive repair of exterior limestone spalling
- Complete renovation and modernization of the 2nd floor kitchen, with new, modern appliances, a new commercial dishwasher, larger ice machine, paint and flooring

Because of the nature of the loan and the repayment structure, this will make up the total of our discretionary spending for new projects for several years, but it means we are able to accomplish it all in a much shorter period of time. Upon completion of these projects, the total spent on building improvements in the last five years will exceed \$800,000. Indiana Freemasons' hall receives its income from three sources: rental of cell phone towers on the roof, rent from lodges and groups that meet in the building, and The Temple Board certainly welcomes any financial assistance lodges or individual Masons may wish to contribute to these and other projects. Tax-deductible donations may be made to our 501c3 corporation with checks made out to Freemasons' Hall Inc. and mailed to the Indianapolis Masonic Temple Association, 525 N Illinois St, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

These are in addition to the many renovations undertaken around the building by the various lodges and the Commandery which have gone far to improve the appearance of the third, fifth and seventh floors. Freemasons' Hall looks and functions better today than it has in literally decades. Much credit goes to the Building Superintendent Randy Spaulding and to Board President James Dillman, who spend untold hours caring for the building, crawling through ductwork, tracing down hidden plumbing lines, or beating up contractors for the best prices for us.

In other news around the Temple, the Grand Secretary's office has temporarily moved to the third floor while the office is gutted and completely remodeled. Both the Scholarship Board office and the state office for Indiana DeMolay have recently moved into the Temple. The international research origination, the Masonic Society, also leases space in the building, along with the Masonic Relief Board of Indiana and the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation.

The Library and Museum on the 5th floor will be open in time for Founder's Day. New cases are being installed, along with dramatic new lighting, and the Museum Board has hired two interns from IUPUI to

assist with cataloguing and display ideas to preserve Indiana's priceless Masonic heritage.

Indiana Freemasons' Hall is your Temple. It is not simply the home of the lodges that meet there, but it is the headquarters of our entire fraternity in Indiana, and every Indiana Freemason should be proud of it. Like the Schofield House, the Grand Master has issued a standing dispensation so that any Indiana lodge may confer up to three degrees per year in one of its four lodge rooms without requesting special permission. Simply make a reservation for one of the rooms at the security desk. Chris Hodapp



## Tri-State York Rite Festival

Honoring  
Most Worshipful Grand Master  
Gregory C. Walbridge 33°



To: York Rite Chapter, Council and Commandery Bodies of Indiana, Ohio and Michigan:

The Tri-State Festival Committee requests your assistance to promote candidates for the festival, as we honor Sir Knight Gregory C. Walbridge, Grand Master of Masons in Indiana.

The Chapter and Council Degrees will be conferred at the Bryan, Ohio Masonic Lodge on Saturday, February 25, 2012, beginning at 9 AM, EST. The Orders of the Commandery will be conferred in Angola, Indiana Masonic Lodge on Saturday, March 3, 2012, beginning at 9 AM, EST. Come early each Saturday for coffee and refreshments.

Information you need to know is:

- 1) The cost for each day is \$10.00 for meal and refreshments. Pay that day.
- 2) Registration begins at 8:00 AM EST each day. Degree work starts at 9:00 AM EST.
- 3) Local York Rite pays for candidate meals. Members pay own meal costs.
- 4) Run all petitions/candidate fees through your local York Rite body.
- 5) Local York Rite to verify Blue Lodge membership—furnish Penny and Malta jewel.
- 6) Meal reservations deadline is February 11 to your State Coordinator:
  - IN: Mike Anderson, 484 N 600 E, Angola, IN 46703; 260-665-9376  
[candacraig2@re-comm.net](mailto:candacraig2@re-comm.net)
  - OH: Ken Crouch, 01171 CR 12, Bryan, OH 43506; 419-460-0296  
[kc33rd@yahoo.com](mailto:kc33rd@yahoo.com)
  - MI: James Hawn, 41508 Woodland Creek Dr, Novi, MI 48375; 248-890-9402  
[jehawn@yahoo.com](mailto:jehawn@yahoo.com)
- 7) Meal reservation form and petition form available upon request.

Fraternally yours,

Paul W. Friend, Chairman

Email questions to: [pifriend67@yahoo.com](mailto:pifriend67@yahoo.com)

## Think about it:

# Do You Build Fences or Bridges?

Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side-by-side, sharing machinery and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch.

Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference and finally, it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days' work," he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?"

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbor. In fact, it's my younger brother! Last week there was a meadow between us. He recently took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll do him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence an 8-foot fence — so I won't need to see his place or his face anymore."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day — measuring, sawing and nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job.

The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all.

It was a bridge .. A bridge that stretched from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, handrails and all! And the neighbor, his younger brother, was coming toward them, his hand outstretched.

"You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done."

The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder.

"No, wait! Stay a few days. I've a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but I have many more bridges to build."

**Dear Friends, this month instead of building fences resolve instead to build more bridges in your interactions with one another. Life is short – make the most of it! Be fraternal and remember these words found in Matthew 22.36-40**

*Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."*

