Warm Fraternal Greetings Brethren!

Autumn is upon us, the leaves are turning to beautiful shades and the temperature is dropping allowing for very peaceful sleeping. I hope you are all enjoying this wonderful time of year and the beauty it affords us all!

I would like to start out with a huge thank you to the St. Johns Masonic Association and the members of the Board who are working diligently to preserve our wonderful building. The third floor is essentially complete; we do have some touch ups to complete however. When you have the opportunity, head on up to watch some television or play a game of pool! As we all know the Lodge Room is still in process with plaster and paint, but we are making progress. Hopefully we will be back to normal function by the next Stated meeting in November. For the exterior of the building; we have a sharp new paint job on all the trim and fire escapes and the new front deck looks fantastic! Special thanks to Cub Scout Troop 164 who have chipped in with community service to sharpen up our landscaping, things are really looking good!

Remember, the Association currently meets just prior to the Stated Communication on the first Wednesday of every month, all members of St. Johns belong to the Association, come on by!

NH Freemasonry Open House will occur on October 19, 2019 from 9am to 3pm. Come on down and show off our beautiful building and talk to the public about who we are and what we do.

Please join us for the Stated Communication on October 2, 2019 as in the past, the October Stated is typically step up night! Come to Lodge and support the current line of Officers as they proceed in their journey in the government of our Lodge. Additionally, the program of the evening will be a presentation from our own RW William Sawyer about English Craft Masonry and his experiences in the United Kingdom.

HELP WANTED: Candlelight Stroll is coming up quickly, the William Pitt Tavern is looking for volunteers to cover the Tavern on upcoming dates. Please check with RW Roderick Macdonald with the dates you are available. This is really time well spent and helps out Portsmouth Masonry!

Lastly, a quote from William Howard Taft; “The secret of Masonry, like the secret of life, can be known only by those who seek it, serve it, live it. It cannot be uttered; it can only be felt and acted. It is, in fact, an open secret, and each man knows it according to his quest and capacity. Like all things worth knowing, no one can know it for another and no man can know it alone.”

Please be safe and enjoy the harvest season.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Worshipful Gregg W. Annis

organizing the latter Commandery in San Juan and was eminent commander there for three years. He was also a member of San Juan Consistory, AASR. By the way, Maude’s brother, Robert Clyde Margeson, was also a member of St. John’s Lodge.

Brother Nathaniel Walcott died on January 6, 1951 at the age of eighty-two years in Altadena. His remains are interred in a vault in Mountain View Cemetery and Mausoleum in Altadena. His wife Maude died ten years later on November 2, 1961 and her remains are with her husband.

Alan M. Robinson, PM
Historian

St. John’s Masonic Association
Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars. The annual meeting of the St. John’s Masonic Association will be at the November Stated, November 6th. The meeting will start no earlier than 7:30PM and no later than 8:00PM.

Your dinner can be free!
Each meeting, we will draw the name of a brother for a free dinner. In order to qualify, you MUST have made a reservation for that night’s dinner.

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They sailed to San Juan, Puerto Rico where they purchased a 500 acre plantation in the district of Santurce. For the next 25 years, they lived there and raised vegetables, grapefruit and pineapples; and in December 1906, they had their third child, Roger.

During their years in Puerto Rico, Nathaniel served as a United States Commissioner for the District of Puerto Rico (1916-18); Food Commissioner of Puerto Rico during World War I; a Director of the local Department of Agriculture; and chairman of the Insular Commission, a unit of the United States Department of the Interior that oversaw the federal administration of Puerto Rico.

In 1927, Nathaniel and Maude sold their citrus plantation and moved to Altadena, a town just north of Pasadena, California. They also purchased a second home on South Laguna Beach. He continued to strongly support and lobby for statehood for Puerto Rico and in 1936, he was a Delegate to the Republican National Convention from Puerto Rico (Committee on Permanent Organization; Resolutions Committee).

Nathaniel was a past commander of his camp of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War; a member of the Sons of the American Revolution in Massachusetts; and a member of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Hampshire. He was also a very active member of the Masonic fraternity. He was Raised a Master Mason in St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in Portsmouth on May 2, 1895. He was an active York Rite mason and held membership in Washington Chapter, No. 3, RAM; a charter member of Baringuein Chapter, No. 1, RAM in San Juan; Davenport Council, No. 5, R&SM; DeWitt Clinton Commandery, Knights Templar and Puerto Rico Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar, in San Juan. He was responsible for

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Located at 171 Vaughan Street in Portsmouth was a furniture store called Portsmouth Furniture Co. It was opened in June 1890 by R. S. Margeson and N. A. Walcott and was known for its quality furniture, mattresses and flooring. From a nearby office at 23 Deer Street, the partners Margeson & Walcott also sold a full line of caskets and served in the role of funeral directors, undertakers and embalmers.

Nathaniel Adams Walcott was born in Boston on December 14, 1868, a son of Aaron Francis and Harriet Maria (Adams) Walcott. Along with his sister Ella and brother Charles, Nathaniel attended The English High School in Boston. Originally called The English Classical School, it was founded in 1821 and is now located in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston.

For a short time following graduation from high school, Nathaniel attended Bryant and Stratton Commercial College in Buffalo, New York. In 1886, he traveled to Chicago where he was employed in the sales department of John V. Farwell & Co., one of the country’s largest wholesale dry-goods houses. In 1890, after four years in the Midwest, he moved to Portsmouth where he and Richman Stanley Margeson opened the furniture store and the undertaking business.

One June 24, 1891, at the age of twenty-two, Nathaniel married twenty year old Ada Maude Margeson, the oldest of seven children of his now father-in-law and business partner, Richman, and his wife Isabella Matilda (Hay) Margeson. Nathaniel and Maude were married at the Winthrop Street Church in Roxbury, Massachusetts. They had three children including Clarence Margeson Walcott, Ernestine Maude (Walcott) Whiting and Roger Adams Walcott.

In 1895, Nathaniel purchased his father-in-law’s interest in the furniture business and at the same time, gave up being a funeral director. About three years later on May 18, 1898, Richman died at the young age of fifty years. Nathaniel ran the very popular furniture store with excellent success until he sold it to his brother-in-law, Richman’s son, Robert Clyde Margeson in 1900. Robert ran the business until he died in 1948 and at that time, his son, Ralph Clyde Margeson became its proprietor. It was around that time that Portsmouth Furniture became Margeson’s furniture. Today the furniture store is in the same building but it has a different address, 64 Vaughan Mall, and it has a different name – Cabot House Furniture & Design.

On Saturday morning, November 9, 1901, Nathaniel and Maude and their two children Clarence and Ernestine boarded the steamship San Juan in New York harbor.

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