Warm Fraternal Greetings Brethren,

November is upon us, a time for harvest and quality family time. Without a doubt, my favorite time of year. I trust everyone enjoyed the fall foliage and you are now getting ready for the cooler temperatures. We will be busy this month with everything from visitations and inspections to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire Semi Annual Communication.

Just a quick update on the status of our Lodge room, but, first, special thanks to the Board of the SJMA and all that have helped along the way to complete this much needed project. The end result will be quite something I have no doubt. The ceiling has been repaired and coated to receive the clouds and stars which will be provided to us by Right Worshipful Ryan Flynn. I, for one, am looking forward to the final product! The walls and trim have been coated and repaired as needed and the new deep blue looks quite regal. Come to a meeting and let us know your thoughts. Please bear with us as we proceed. We will be using the Lodge room moving forward for all the various bodies, however, the protective covering on the floor will remain as Right Worshipful Flynn works his magic on the ceiling. We appreciate your patience and understanding through this process.

Speaking of the St Johns Masonic Association, November bring us the Annual Meeting of the Association, and with that, more detailed updates of the status of projects in the building as well as the election of officers. Be sure to join us and have your voice heard. This is your association, without your participation we can only do so much!

As mentioned we are still in Visitation season. If you can make these last few please make the effort. It is always beneficial to venture out within the District 1 and beyond, seeing friends from other areas of the state as well as making new friends along the way.

Keep in mind, next month will be the start of the Candlelight Stroll over at Strawberry Banke. This event is quite something to see, but, it takes a lot of work to make it happen. Let’s do our best to support Right Worshipful Rod Macdonald at the William Pitt Tavern. The dates run from December 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, and 22 2019. Saturdays from 5pm to 9pm and Sundays 4pm to 8pm

In closing, an interesting quote: "I violate no secret when I say that one of the greatest values in Masonry is that it affords an opportunity for men of all walks of life to meet on common ground where all men are equal and have one common interest." ~ Theodore Roosevelt

I wish you all a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving Holiday!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Worshipful Gregg W. Annis

From 1952 to 1957 and later from 1966 to 1970, the Honeymooners was one of television’s most popular shows.

As part of the show, bus driver Ralph Kramden and sewer worker Ed Norton were members of the Raccoon Lodge in Brooklyn, NY. During the show, the fraternity actually went by three different names; the International Order of Friendly Sons of the Raccoons, the International Order of Loyal Raccoons, or the Royal Order of Raccoons. The Lodge was founded by Toots Mondello and Herman Hildebrand in 1907 and their motto was “E Pluribus Raccoon”.

Bensonhurst Chapter

Ralph and Ed belonged to the Bensonhurst chapter—which had a membership of 300. Their uniform, costing $35, was a double-breasted military jacket with oversize epaulets on each shoulder, white shirt, dark tie and a coonskin hat with a raccoon tail. Morris Fink, a sewer worker with Ed, was the Grand High Exalted Mystic Ruler. He wore three tails on his hat. Monthly dues were $2.

Official club greeting

The handshake involved touching elbows (first right, then left), followed by a “Woooo” sound as they wiggled the raccoon tail on their lodge hat. They ended by chorusing “Brothers under the pelt.”

Raccoon of the Year Privileges

• Opening the first clam at the annual clambake
• Steering the boat on the annual ride up the Hudson River to Raccoon point
• Free burial—with spouse—at Raccoon National Cemetery in Bismarck, ND
• Opportunity to run for Grand High Exalted Mystic Ruler
• Throwing the first bag of water out of the window at the Raccoon convention
He was 42 years old. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

On September 26, 1970, Dr. Tredick died in Ormond, Florida; he was 81 years old. His wife Ida survived him and joined him in 1985 when she died at the age of 84 years. George was a good man, a good husband and father, a patriot and civic leader, and yes; he was also a Freemason. Brother George Andrew Tredick was Raised a Master Mason on March 6, 1918 and at the time of his passing from labor to refreshment was a 52-year member of St. John’s Lodge, No. 1 in Portsmouth.

By the way, Brother William H. Maybury, whose name was memorialized on the sanatorium in Michigan, became sick of the same illness for which the sanatorium was built, and in 1931 died of Tuberculosis in his farm house on the property.

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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.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 6, 2019</td>
<td>SJMA Meeting</td>
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<td>Nov 9, 2019</td>
<td>Grand Lodge Leadership Training Seminar</td>
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<td>Nov 16, 2019</td>
<td>NH Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication</td>
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<td>Nov 20, 2019</td>
<td>NH Grand Lodge Inspection</td>
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<td>Nov 24, 2019</td>
<td>Gideon Lodge Kingston (Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30)</td>
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<td>Nov 28, 2019</td>
<td>Rockingham Lodge Candia (Dinner 6:00, Meeting 7:00)</td>
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St. John’s Lodge  

Historical Sketch

George Andrew Tredick, MD

Since ancient times, a particularly deadly and highly contagious disease has plagued humankind. It’s called Tuberculosis or TB and often called ‘consumption.’ A bacterial infection, it generally affects the lungs and if left untreated, kills about half of those affected. The symptoms involve a chronic cough, fever and weight loss. The disease is easily spread through the air when infected people cough, sneeze or even speak. In the early 1800s, consumption had killed one in seven of all people that had ever lived. From the early 1800s until the mid-1900s, TB patients sought a cure in facilities called ‘sanatoriums,’ where it was believed that rest and a healthful climate could change the course of the disease. Whatever the benefits of the fresh air and care in the sanatoria, even under the best conditions, half of those who entered died within five years. In the early to mid-1900s, Maybury Sanatorium in Northville, Michigan was one of the better facilities for caring for TB patients and in 1953 they had on staff a very experienced physician by the name of Dr. George Tredick.

George Andrew Tredick was born on March 31, 1889 in New Castle, NH, the son of John Locke and Julia A. (Ford) Tredick. He grew up with his sisters Agnes and Mary and he graduated from Portsmouth High School in 1907. In 1913, he graduated with honors from Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine at the University of Vermont. While at the university, he was a student athlete and played golf and managed the baseball team. He performed his medical internship in the German Hospital in New York City and was granted a license to practice medicine in 1914. At about that same time, he joined the military and was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, serving with distinction during World War I.

Following his military service, Dr. Tredick came back to Portsmouth and practiced medicine as a family physician for the next 37 years from his medical office at 414 State Street. In addition to being a respected physician, Dr. Tredick was appointed Portsmouth city physician, inspector and bacteriologist by the mayor and city council and served in that position for many years. He served as a very active chairman of the city’s Board of Health from 1937 to 1945, and was a member of the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce. He was also a regular and popular speaker on matters of health at meetings of local civic organizations. He was a fine golfer and a longtime member of Portsmouth Country Club. He was Club Champion three times – in 1924, 1925 and 1928.

George married Marion Agnes Harmon of Portsmouth and they lived at 182 Richards Avenue. They had a son, George Andrew Tredick, Jr. and a daughter Dorothy (Mrs. Russell H. Taber). George and Marion’s marriage ended in divorce. She remained in Portsmouth and died in July 1974 at the age of 84. She is buried in the Harmon family plot in the South Cemetery.

George married for a second time to Esther Robeck of Portsmouth and they lived at 55 Wentworth Street. She was a registered nurse and seven years younger than him. On February 5, 1950, she died unexpectedly from respiratory paralysis as a result of “excessive use of compounds of barbituric acid” which she had been taking for two years, presumably to treat depression. She was only 43 years old.

In the years after Esther’s death, George had some difficulties managing his alcohol consumption and on several occasions was detained by the authorities. On one of those occasions in July 1950, he was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol after driving into a ditch off Route 101 in Exeter; he pled guilty to that offence and was fined.

In 1953, Dr. Tredick left Portsmouth and joined the staff of Maybury Sanatorium in Michigan. He practice medicine there and helped treat the resident patients who were suffering from TB. Fortunately, he had a new antibiotic called streptomycin that was very effective in combatting the disease. After a few years, he retired to Ormond Beach, Florida, where he married his third wife, Ida.

George’s son, George Jr., graduated from Dartmouth College and served as a commander in the U.S. Navy. On March 29, 1961, after just about 20 years of service and while serving in Naples, Italy, he died while en route to duty in Ankara, Turkey.

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