

The Corner Post



Worshipful Master: Matt Hedrick, PM

Marion McDaniel Lodge # 56

Edition: January 2023



Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972. 33rd President • April 12, 1945 – January 20,

1953. Initiated on February 9, 1909, in Belton Lodge No. 450, Belton, Missouri.

First Worshipful Master of Grandview Lodge No. 618, Grandview, Missouri in

1911. Elected Grand Master of Missouri on September 25, 1940 and served until

October 1, 1941. Received the 33rd Degree on October 19, 1945. Made Honorary

Grand Master of the Order of DeMolay on May 18, 1959. He was active in many

orders of freemasonry and clocked over fifty years in freemasonry. He went to

France during World War I as a captain in the Field Artillery. Returning, he married

Elizabeth Virginia Wallace, and opened a haberdashery in Kansas City.

Harry S. Truman assumed office following the death of President Franklin

Roosevelt (1882-1945). Upon assuming the presidency, Harry Truman, who had

met privately with Roosevelt only a few times before his death and had never

been informed by the president about the construction of the atomic bomb, faced

a series of monumental challenges and decisions. During Truman's initial months

in office, the war in Europe ended when the Allies accepted Nazi Germany's

surrender on May 8; the United Nations Charter was signed, and the president

participated in the Potsdam Conference to discuss postwar treatment of Germany

with Great Britain's Winston Churchill (1874-1965) and the Soviet Union's Joseph

Stalin (1878-1953). In an effort to end the war in the Pacific and prevent the

massive U.S. casualties that could result from an invasion of Japan, Truman

approved the dropping of atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima (on

August 6) and Nagasaki (on August 9). Japan's surrender was announced on

August 14, 1945; however, Truman's use of the atomic bomb continues to be one

of the most controversial decisions of any American president. Truman helped

rebuild postwar Europe, worked to contain communism and led the United States

into the Korean War (1950-1953). The threat of communism continued to be a

major focus of Truman's second administration. The president supported the

creation in 1949 of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a military

alliance of democratic nations, including the United States, Canada, France, the

United Kingdom and eight other countries, and appointed Dwight Eisenhower

(1890-1969) as its first commander, who later followed Truman as 34th President.



(See more pictures of events about Roosevelt at the end of this Trestle Board.)

Check out our Web Page at mm56.org.

From Our Worshipful Master:

Happy New Year my Brothers. I hope each and every one of you have had a joyful holiday season! As the sun rises on a new year I hope we all look forward to great things both in our personal lives and in the Lodge. The last few years have been rough on us all but as we continue to move on and up from the pandemic I am looking forward, and hoping, to see more and more attendance and participation from the Brethren in Lodge. As we all know the Blue Lodge is the foundation of Masonry. But it is more than that. It is the anchor that holds the brotherhood and camaraderie of the fraternity. So in the coming year I encourage each and every one of you to attend not only the stated meetings but also any practices or other activities we may put on. Yes, seven can hold a lodge but more are needed to strengthen and grow a lodge.

Again I wish a very merry and happy New Year to you all and your loved ones. May the blessing of heaven rest on each one of you.

Matt Hedrick, WM, PM,

Upcoming Events JANUARY 2023

January 2nd – Dinner 6:30pm and meeting at 7:30pm. Our cooks are out of town so we will be having Pizza for the Monday January 2nd meeting dinner.

We are working on a schedule for a 1st degree practice and conferral. More as dates are arranged.

Updates/Reminders:

From the Secretary and Treasurer: Brothers, please check your dues card. May we all take care of our annual dues by the end of the year so the Secretary and Treasurer can start their annual reports. There are Grand Lodge, City, County, State and Federal reports to be completed so insuring your dues are paid before the end of the year makes it easier to complete these reports. We thank each one of my Brothers for you dedicated help and support of our lodge.

Jim Click Jeep Raffle report. We didn't win any of the three prizes, but, they were won locally, (Oro Valley, and two from Green Valley). With your purchases of Jim Click Jeep Raffle we raised funds for Arizona Masonic Foundation for Children and also our other Lodge charities. Thank each of you for your support.

Through your financial support the Arizona Masonic Foundation for Children has trained over a hundred (100) more new educators to identify, intervene and help At Risk Students this year. Every day they are working to make our schools and society a safer place to live.

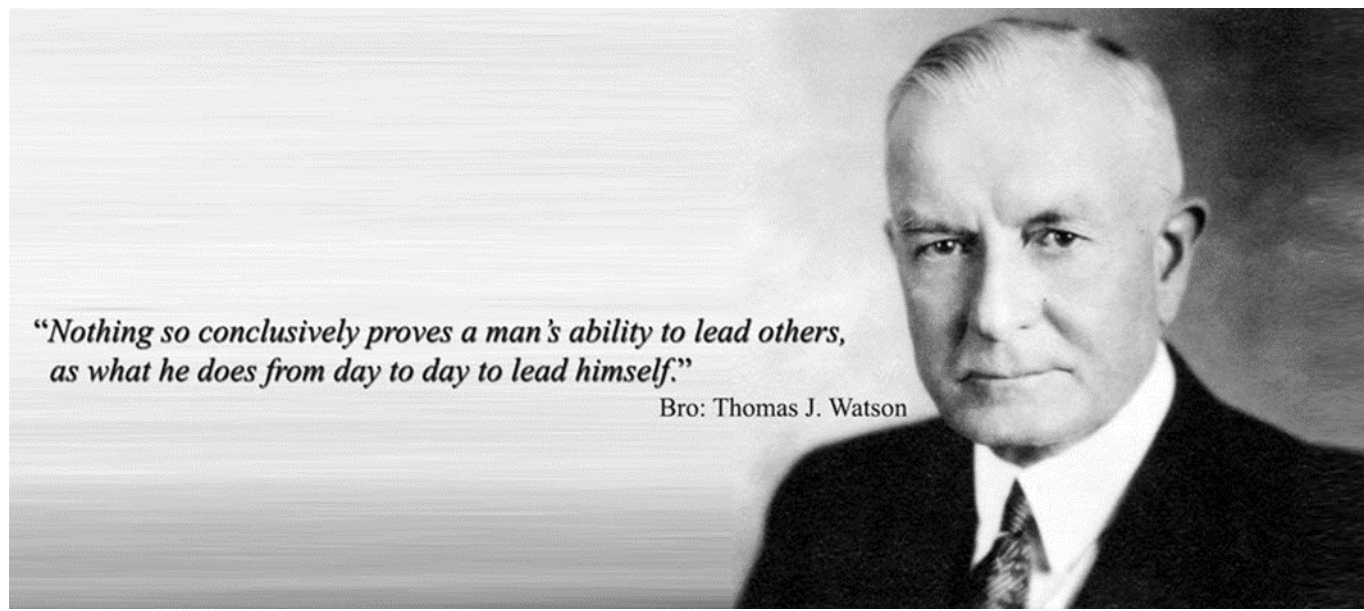
In need of a hand? *Brothers, some of us are healthier and in better shape than others and some may need some help. If you are in need of some minor help, please reach out to your brothers, maybe we can give you a hand.*

If you or you know of one of our Lodge Brothers who has fallen on hard times and needs help with his dues or help in general, please let WM Matt Hedrick or Secretary Dave Brown know. The lodge and Brothers are there to help you. Please let someone know so we can help.

If you would like to participate in a degree, please contact, Josh Sticht at joshsticht@gmail.com. He will work to schedule practices.

Please contact the Senior Warden to obtain a blank form for Ritual Proficiency that you can fill out. This form will give the him information as to who is current and able to provide certain Ritual Work. This will greatly help him when planning degrees and also when other lodges request help.

Educationally:



“OUR MISSION” FROM EXAMPLE AND THROUGH LEADERSHIP.

January 20, 2018 823 views

“OUR MISSION” FROM EXAMPLE AND THROUGH LEADERSHIP

R.W. Bro. V. Burnie Kyle, S.G.W. Grand Lodge of British Columbia

My Thanks to M.W.Bro Stephen Godfrey for allowing me access to his personal library.

Our mission and responsibilities within the Craft and how we relate to them in our daily affairs, is very indicative to the principles of sound leadership and the high standard of moral tolerance we project by our examples. Freemasonry is an organization of men who are banded together in a dignified common purpose of making this a better world by which to live in, becoming better men, men of character, men of courage, men of conviction, men who follow Masonry and its teachings, men who in their daily lives are projecting by their leadership and example true brotherly love, relief and truth.

Our mission appears at times to get sidetracked, particularly in our modern world with its continual pressure of business, family, and social life. There is the easy ever-present path of least resistance which is not necessarily the proper course to follow. We, therefore, require a guide or symbols to ensure we do not err. Freemasonry provides this track to run on for those who desire to follow it. Within the Craft we come to realize that we are not the only ones who are tempted to stray. We learn from being accepted by our brothers to accept ourselves, that there are many others like us who need the strength, charity and love of our fellowman.

Then may I ask

– What are our responsibilities as Masons? What example should we be portraying?

Masonry is not just to be practiced in the lodge room. It must be carried into our daily lives. We must constantly conduct our affairs in the community, in our homes, our business, and outside activities, in a manner which will at all times, express our image, our dignity, and reflect the honor of our order.

The Craft is not a secret society but a closely knit group of brethren of leadership – yes, leaders – for you my brethren would not be here if that were not the case. We have the desire to lead our families, our associates and our friends toward a better way of life. We have the responsibility of communicating by our actions these Masonic teachings to our fellow man.

Through our image we can recognize a Brother Freemason. Freemasonry serves its purpose if one can say “I recognize you as a Mason by your square conduct, your uprightness, and your Love for your fellowman.” Our conduct is the most important way by which we should demonstrate to the world that we are Freemasons. The divine principles of our honored craft are brotherly love, relief and truth, which if practiced in their true meaning, will shed rays of light and glory of recognition to all.

Brethren, we have other ways of shedding this light of recognition, such as the Masonic emblems we wear on our clothing, our rings, and on our lodge buildings. Let us not be ashamed to render and display our proud image and let us remember that they represent to us, recognition through a symbolic meaning only. To be recognized as a true Freemason, we must forever practice our principles in their true meaning.

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational, and yes, a responsible fraternity, religious only because we profess our belief in God, secret only in our method of recognition, charitable – not for the purpose of monetary gain but for the devotion, welfare and happiness of mankind.

Reverence for God is ever-present in all our teachings and ceremonials, and we are reminded constantly of morality.

We gather and meet in numbers so as to form a social atmosphere and provide more material for the primary work of education, of charity and worship. Freemasonry continues to seek, improve, and strengthen individual character, thus impressing upon its members the principles of personal responsibility and righteousness, inspiring us all with that feeling of human welfare, charity, and good-will towards all mankind, stimulating and putting our convictions into action. By this action we are bound to truth and justice, enlightenment of orderly and civil liberty, of loyalty to the government of our country to which we owe allegiance.

We, as true Freemasons, must believe that if we are searching for attainment of these objectives in our new members, we must first look for the quality within the men whom we have admitted into our ranks. Every man has an individual quality of intellect hidden well within the resources of his being. It is our responsibility to search and assist in the development of these resources; search for the motivation and dignity each man possesses; inspire him on to his greatest abilities so he can and will, cherish his ultimate achievements but more important, he will then be a living example with self-motivation and determination to express the best image of Freemasonry in his home, community, and to his associates through those excellent precepts and principles for which we stand.

I believe the example and strength of our fraternity is best achieved through being united together, determined in the obedience of our creeds and principles which are laid out before us, remembering by that true example, we will all act and live our Masonic lives according to our individual judgement through the dictates of our conscience because our conscience is our lifeline to the G. A. O. T. U.

Now that I have expressed my thoughts of our examples and responsibilities, let me relate to you a very important and grave part of my thoughts of "Leadership and Direction." Freemasonry begins within the heart of the individual. Carried into active operation it is like a stone thrown into a calm lake causing ripples which start with a small circle, but gradually enlarging until the ripples reach the shore in an ever-widening circle. To illustrate this same principle in Freemasonry, this theory also begins in the hearts of our leaders of the Craft by placing that stone of education and brotherly love within each lodge, to start that small ripple of leadership from the Worshipful Master that will eventually encircle and inspire every member to attend and participate giving them the moral courage and desired rewards, creating an atmosphere that will command their earnest respect and devoted attendance.

It takes courage to be a leader of the Craft, or to be a master of one's lodge. He must be above reproach and be willing to accept real responsibility; responsibility for himself and for his decisions and also for the soundness and success of our enterprises and our institution.

There are some, of course, in any organization who are less willing to accept and carry any real weight of responsibility, who seem to feel they have the unlimited license to criticize the sincere decisions, and mistake the motives which other brethren make. Every honor of every office, every privilege or right, carries with it real responsibility. There is no honor without a sacrifice,

but in lieu of any adversity we may encounter, we must maintain an open mind willing to be responsive, and remember, brethren, some men are wiser than others, some more informed, and we stand united in the knowledge of their integrity and intelligence; from them and their assistance, we lead the way. Let's always lend an ear to their awareness and guidance, and be willing to accept and share in the prosperity and responsibility we all owe The Order, for if we are NOT prepared to share and be responsive, we have little right to criticize. Brethren, there is absolutely no substitute for good knowledgeable enthusiastic leadership. Without it we have no proper direction, we perform no service, we make no sacrifice, we destroy our image and identity, our road we travel is not true and straight. These are some of my deepest concerns and so should they be yours.

Let me relate just a few of some of the adversities I feel that we need to amend, to look at, and to study very closely. Brethren, first let me state there is nothing wrong with Freemasonry; there is little wrong with our lodges; then what is left? – is it us, the members, the leaders? It is not new to anyone that our membership has declined. Some lodges are experiencing very poor attendance, so what is the problem? The Grand Secretary of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of British Columbia, R.W. Brother Charles Lorimer, perhaps placed it in its proper perspective when he stated and I quote “Lack of attendance is not the problem in our lodges, but is the result of the problem.”

Let me further relate by asking, are we unconsciously, down-grading our, craft -Freemasonry? Yes, brethren, there are some in our ranks who have failed in the task of digesting the true meaning and principles of our Order. Like eating an apple, they devour the peel and throw away the fruit. When we submit our honored Craft to all sorts of indignities, look upon it with contempt, label it as something hardly worth mentioning or belonging to, then what can we expect, if these master masons no longer give to their lodges their full measure of loyalty and devotion. Yes, we have failed unconsciously, and our craft has had to suffer.

Have we lost by default the esteem and enthusiasm the craft once held? We I'm sure, have all asked ourselves this very frustrating question, receiving much the same frustrating and blank answers. Masonry today, as in years past, has had its share of ups and downs. Masonry, as we know it today is not held in the high esteem which it has enjoyed in the past. There is not the same appeal for the brotherly love, relief and truth, and certainly not for the moral law. How unfortunate for those who do not understand, and see fit to flaunt our fraternal society. Take heed, brethren, the tide is changing -we are beginning to see new light, to experience new awareness – It is time for us to rededicate, to re-establish our genuine beliefs in our tenets and principles so when we hear that knock, we are not found wanting or absent at the gate. Have we in our haste to accept more candidates, overlooked the internal qualifications of man and have we substituted “Quantity for Quality?” Let us forever be aware that it is only the inner qualities of a man and his dedication to the G.A.O.T.U., his devotion and loyalty to society that should make him a qualified candidate to join our great fraternal order.

Have we failed to provide new members with the opportunity to express their talents thereby losing them to other concordant bodies? With all due respect this is a sincere and delicate question, As for myself I too belong, and am a member of these very worthy concordant bodies, but I remain loyal and supportive to my masonic lodge. Brethren, every member of the masonic

order deems `fellowship' the most precious jewel in our masonic diadem – a quality which is the very existence of our fraternity. If brethren cannot find it in their masonic lodges, their search will continue elsewhere. It is our duty as officers and brethren of our lodges to see to it that these new members are properly prepared. Let us seek to find their given talents, and above all, to cultivate that masonic fellowship to the best of our ability and with great zeal, so they will not feel their lodges have denied them.

Leadership and direction, where does it begin and what is its purpose? Brethren, leadership through ability and knowledge is the divine and wholesome requirement of every worshipful master. It will command the utmost of loyalty, interest and genuine respect of every Freemason belonging to his lodge. This is the direction he should take and this is where it all begins. Every worshipful master is charged with a keen responsibility. The honor, the usefulness, and the reputation of the lodge is charged to him. The skill and ability with which he governs the lodge affairs requires a sincere effort. He must be worthy of the humble and loyal support the brethren have endeared in him. He must, through his leadership and education, endeavor to maintain the interest and prestige the Craft and his lodge deserves, thereby inspiring his members and satisfying their desires whereby he will receive the benefits and rewards of their worthy support and faithful attendance.

A worshipful master is the supreme ruler of his lodge; he must exercise just and wholesome authority with tolerance and understanding for the welfare of his members, to lead them with the courage of his convictions and with the knowledge and obedience to the precepts of our Order.

With this desire of achievement, he would then require more chairs to accommodate that loyal respect and attendance of his members. The Craft, his lodge, and the community at large would then forever endure and share in that grace, and would thereby be surrounded by those genuine tenets and principles of brotherly love, relief and truth which would then forever prevail. Let me finish by leaving you with this final thought. Freemasonry can, and is a great teacher to all who search for examples that can somehow lead to a life less encumbered by the hurt that can arise from human relationships.

Comment. Brethren this paper, presented in 1982, has a familiar ring to it and 41 years later we seem to be experiencing the same issues. From my perspective, it would seem that many Lodges appear to be repeating the same processing of candidates, without adequate Education being provided. Currently, as Director of Masonic Education in my Lodge we are working on creating an Education Committee, the purpose of which will be to guide the Candidate at all times. This is a very new project and my hope is to share our progress and findings as we move forward.

Have a Wonderful Day & God Bless, Norm. This is from the book of papers provided by Norm in 2018, to whom I thanked so very much. Henry

Wisdom

ADVICE TO A POTENTIAL CANDIDATE

Taken from “A Masonic Minute” & written by the late M.W. Bro. Raymond Daniels (2014)

A Personal Note to a Potential Candidate from an Old Past Master

I understand that you would like to explore your interest in Freemasonry. I was hoping that we might arrange a personal chat, but time and circumstances seem to make that a long-term goal. And so I will revert to this means. First let me hope that you are settling in after graduation to life in the real world using the skill and ability that you possess in such ample form. Above all, that you are enjoying life. Like many serious-minded, well-educated, well-read young men of your generation, many have expressed a curiosity and an interest in what Freemasonry is all about. I expect that you have explored some of the vast amount of information posted on the World Wide Web – both positive and negative – and probably discussed it with your friends. It is a matter not to be entered into lightly. Being a thoughtful young man with superior intelligence, you will have many questions. That fact, in itself, qualifies you as a potential candidate.

When I am asked what Freemasonry is about, the best answer I can give in simple terms is that it is a global fraternity – the oldest and largest in the world – an ancient institution rooted in tradition with modern relevance. In this sense it is a gentleman’s philosophical society based on high standards of ethical behavior and moral conduct. It provides a means of self-discovery through self-discipline: self-examination, self-analysis, self-realization, and self-fulfillment. As such it is personal and individual for every man engaged in his own quest for knowledge, wisdom, and understanding.

What do young men in the twenty-first century find attractive that draws them to the fraternity? Each year about 1300 candidates are initiated in Ontario. Having the privilege of meeting and talking with many of them, I have discovered that their motivation takes many forms, but falls into a relatively few categories: providing stability in a changing world, continuity in the midst of uncertainty, intellectual and spiritual stimulation, and male bonding. I feel certain that you would find many like-minded kindred spirits among the members of a Masonic lodge.

In our formative years we all need role models to inspire our own hopes and dreams. In modern society, these have become rather few and far between. There is scandal in government and business, sports figures are sullied by allegations of drug abuse or sexual indiscretion, respect for leaders in the church has been reduced by unacceptable moral behavior, the family unit has disintegrated in the “me first” hedonistic atmosphere. Freemasons make serious promises to act according to the principles of virtue and morality that the Fraternity is based upon. No, none of us are gods or heroes, but there are role models among us worthy of emulation as men in society.

One of the first serious questions that concerns most young men is about religious belief. One of the great glories of Freemasonry is its universality. It professes no dogma, neither does it demand conformity to the specific belief of any religion. It does require what we term “a belief in a supreme being” – in other words, a greater power than mere mortals possess. This is left to each individual to define for himself. There are religious aspects to our Rites and Ceremonies, but the emphasis is on the spiritual rather than any established religion. Unlike the established religions, each of which is based upon a prescribed body of dogmatic beliefs, which makes them exclusive, we are inclusive. The language of Freemasonry is careful to avoid a definition of God

– preferring to use descriptive attributes: “Supreme Being,” “Great Architect,” “Grand Geometrician,” “Most High”. All discussion of sectarian religion and party politics is strictly forbidden in the lodge.

If you happened to read Dan Brown’s latest novel, *The Secret Symbol*, he makes the point: “In a world where people are killing each other over whose definition of God is better, perhaps the Masons have it right.” Brown is not a Freemason, but it could not have been said better. Our members include Jews, Christians, Muslims, and every other degree and shade of belief, respecting each other in the universal brotherhood of man.

There is a long term commitment required to realize the benefits I have outlined. Freemasonry is known as a ‘progressive science.’ It’s principal purpose is ‘the cultivation and improvement of the human mind.’ That is a life-long process. There are also certain financial obligations – initiation fee and annual dues. Members of the lodge are required to observe a dress code, usually a dark business suit. Formal dress is worn by the officers. Having said all this, and based on a lifetime of involvement, and despite giving many speeches and writing many articles on the subject, I must admit that mere words cannot really explain the profound meaning of Masonry. It must be experienced to be understood and appreciated fully. Obviously, I would encourage you to pursue your interest, and I would feel privileged to discuss further any questions you might have.

Freemasonry has played a major role in my life. I truly believe that, with all my inadequacies as a person, it has contributed to making me a better man than I would otherwise have been. I have learned so much from the fraternal affection and example of the good and great men in the fraternity that I have been associated with now for more than a half century. I look forward to hearing from you. I wish health, happiness, and satisfaction.

From the Editor: Brethren, the information herein gives us so much insight. We each must venture forth and increase our skills and presentation of Masonry.

Word Scrambler:

January Scrambled Word is: CTNIULMAMRUBICOA – Meaning what?

December Scrambled Word is: ROIPTPNROOS – Proportions, 2nd degree lecture - Pat Zeck

November Scrambled Word is: SVLITUCEAPE – speculative solver by Pat Zech

October Scrambled Word is: RRCIMIBSDCCUE – circumscribed solved by Pat Zech

Trivia Questions

(Answers and Information on last page)

1) **Where is the driest place on Earth?**

- A. Kufra, Libya
- B. Sahara Dessert
- C. Namib Dessert
- D. McMurdo, Antarctica

2) How many Earths could fit inside the sun?

- A. 800,000
- B. 1.3 Million
- C. 2.1 Million
- D. 3.2 Million

3) What was the predecessor to the United Nations?

- A. United Countries
- B. League of Nations
- C. United World Allies
- D. Nations for Peace

4) Who is the only person to win Nobel Prizes in two different sciences?

- A. Marie Curie
- B. Pierre Curie
- C. Albert Einstein
- D. Henri Becquerel

BIRTHDAYS

Name			DOB	Masonic BD
Turner	James	Winn	1/8/1986	6/23/2014
Mark	William	McKee	1/19/1962	10/17/1983
Donald	Frank	Brodeur	1/2/1951	3/26/2012
James	Edward	Harris	1/19/1952	11/8/1978
Donald	MacArthur	Crowell Jr	1/16/1946	1/19/1987
Saul		Chaidez	1/8/1963	2/16/2002
Frank	Martin	EGge	1/10/1934	8/3/1959
Paul	Robert	Howe	1/20/1957	9/17/2018
Kenneth	Thomas	McColley	1/29/1981	10/19/2002
Carl	Stewart	Warren	1/31/1974	2/24/2020

Officers for 2023

Worshipful Master—Matt Hedrick, PM	Senior Warden--Josh Sticht	Junior Warden—Carl Warren
Secretary--David Brown PM	Treasurer--Pat Zech PM	Chaplain—Jim Wilds PM
Sr. Deacon— Sam Talvy	Jr. Deacon— Joe Santisteban PM	Tyler— Henry Spomer, PM
Sr. Steward—Gordon Beatty	Jr. Steward—Joe Felix	Marshal--- Jeff Horton, PM
1 yr. Trustee--Jim Wild PM	2 yr. Trustee--Gordon Beatty	3 yr. Trustee-Joe Felix, PM

The Business Meetings are only about an hour in length. Come join us as we move into the future. Let us all come together and take a small job to make our lodge stronger. See you in Lodge.

Fraternally,

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More on President Harry S. Truman



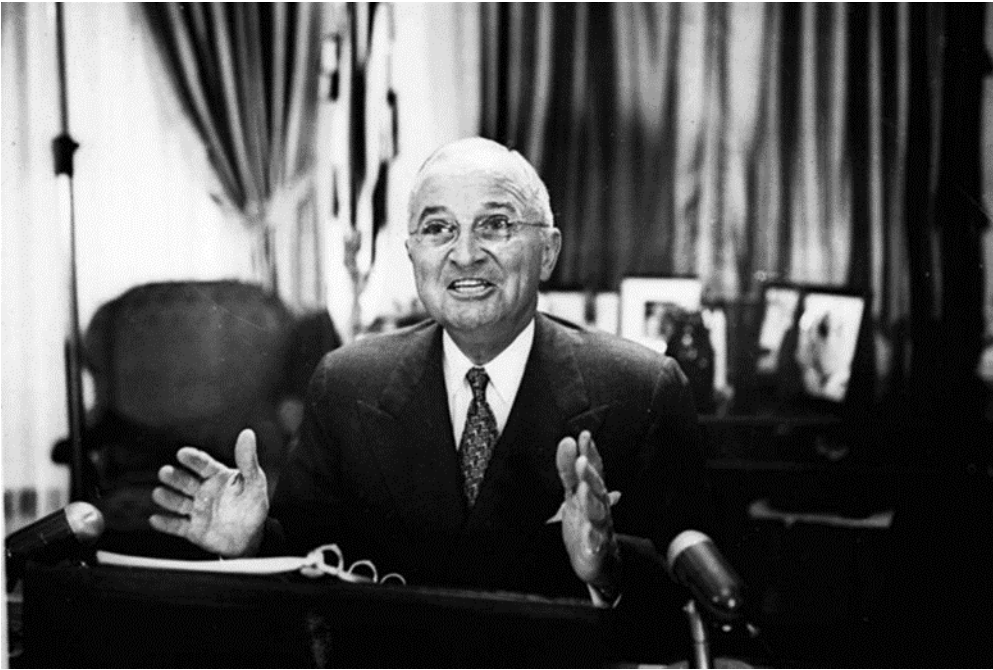
Harry S. Truman, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin. President Harry S. Truman (centre), flanked by Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin (on his left) and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill (on his right).



Reproduction of photograph depicting Ron Rosser with President Harry Truman and another soldier at the ceremony where Truman presented Rosser with the Congressional Medal of Honor, 1952. Rosser was a corporal with the Heavy Mortar Unit, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, United States Army. During service in the Korean War he received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his single handed attack on enemy bunkers.



Truman holding Chicago Daily's early release declaring Dewey defeating Truman. As the count went on Truman beat Dewey by over 100 electrical votes and 6% of the total votes.

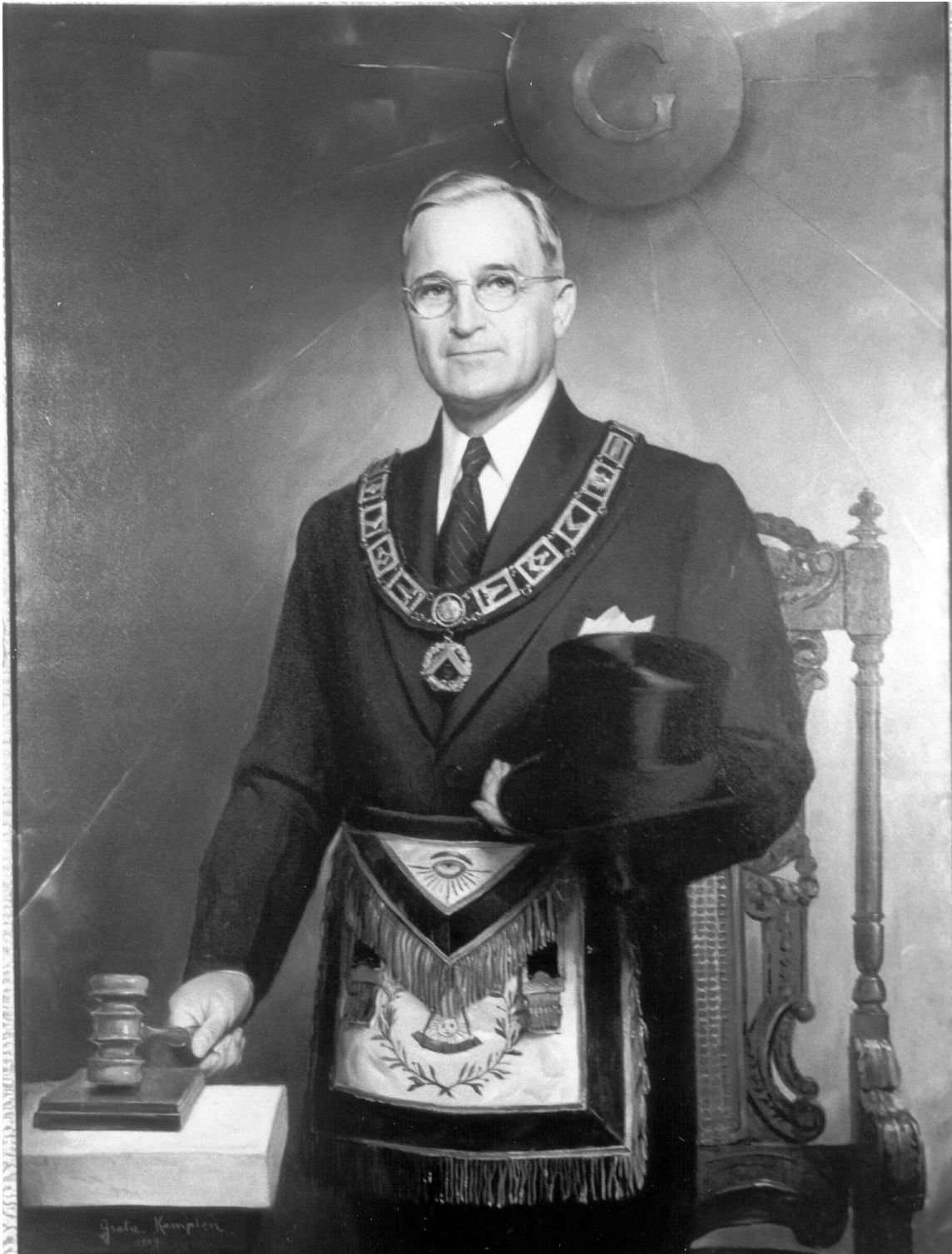


Truman declines to seek another term, March 29, 1952

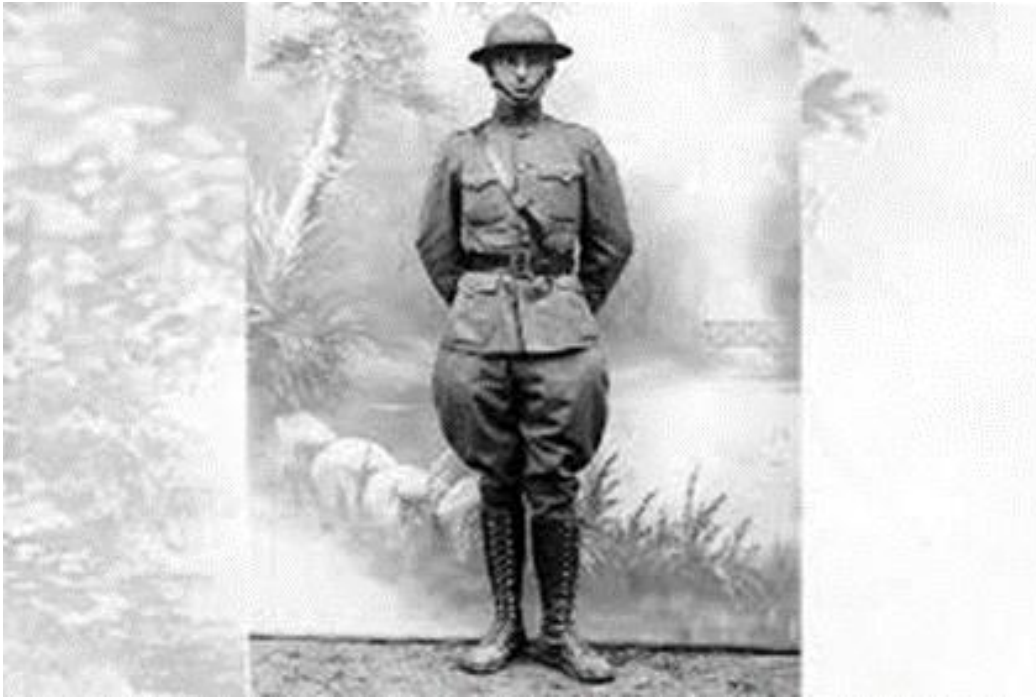
The Making of Medicare. LBJ had traveled to the “Show-Me-State” to sign the Medicare Act of 1965 into law and to praise the 81-year-old Truman who, as Johnson drawled in his thick Texas accent, was “the real daddy of Medicare.”



President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the Medicare Bill at the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. Former President Harry S. Truman is seated at the table with President Johnson. Lady Bird Johnson stands behind the president. Archive photo from the White House Press Office.



Date 1949 Oil painting. Credit Line: Owner: Grand Lodge of Missouri Masons. This record is part of the Catalog of American Portraits, a research archive of the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution.

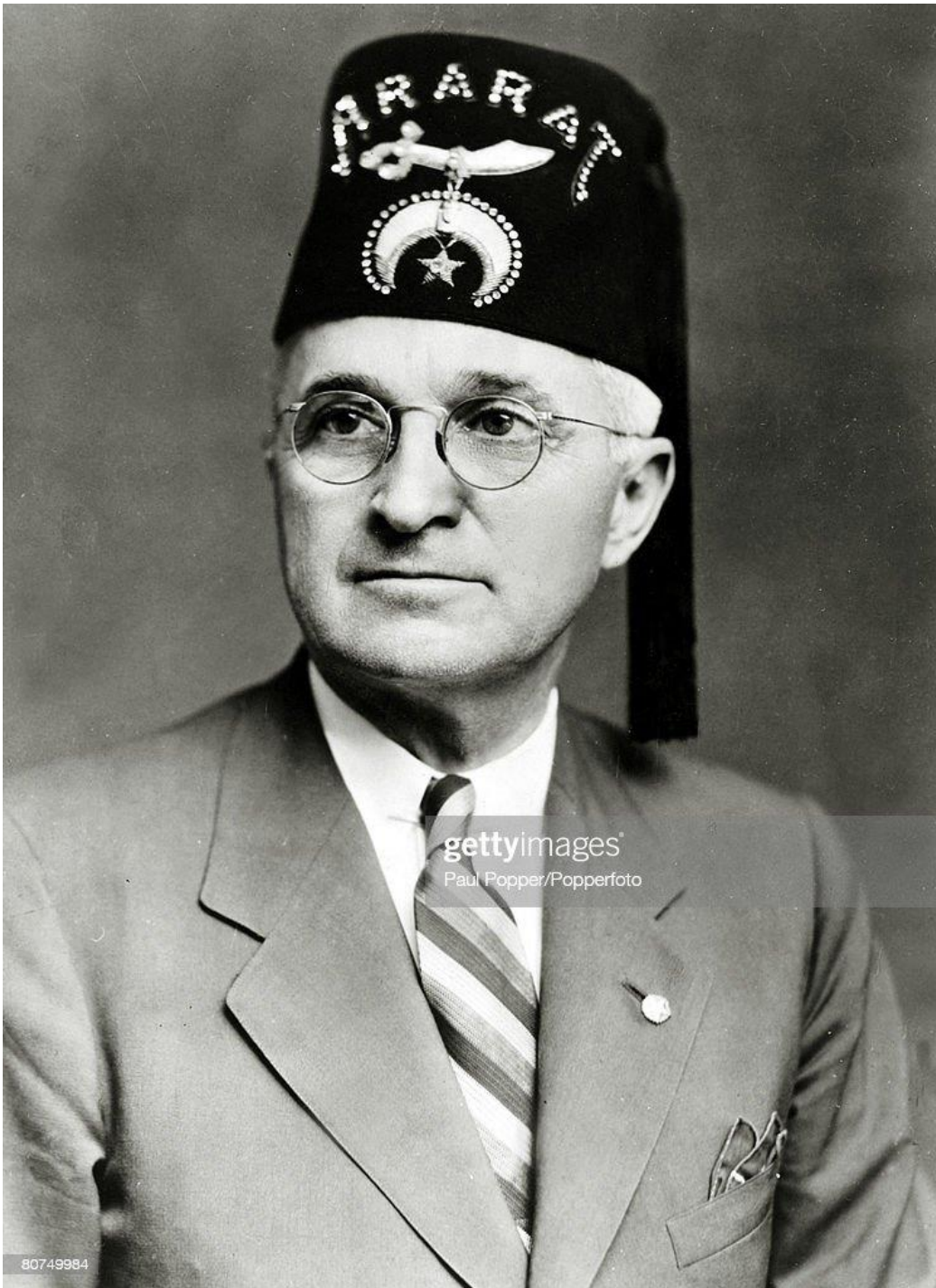


This Future President Turned a Burly WWI Troop into a Crack Combat Unit. On June 14, 1905, the man who would become America's 33rd president enlisted in Light Battery B of the Missouri National Guard. The 21-year-old Harry S. Truman was so proud of his new uniform that he promptly went to a photographer's studio and had a series of portraits made. However, his pride was dashed at home when his grandmother, a staunch supporter of the late Confederacy, told him that she wouldn't have a blue uniform in the house.

Nevertheless, young Truman remained a member of Battery B and served as its clerk until he was discharged as a corporal in 1906. When the United States declared war on Germany in 1917, Truman was a farmer of 33 who could easily have avoided service. He reenlisted with the National Guard, where he was elected first lieutenant. On Aug. 5, 1917, the 2nd Missouri Field Artillery was sworn into the regular Army as the 128th Field Artillery of the 35th Division. The unit was sent in 1918 to France, where Capt. Truman took command of Battery D on July 11. Advertisement

Battery D had been organized in Kansas City and was a burly group of first-generation Irish and German Catholics. Truman felt he would have to work very hard to gain their acceptance and approval. By the end of the summer, he had developed his battery into a tight combat unit. They won regimental records for firing accuracy and range assembly speed, and participated with distinction in the Vosges, St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne campaigns.

Truman won something greater -- his men's confidence, support, and respect. At war's end, Battery D presented its commander with an engraved silver loving cup as a token of that respect. In turn, Truman told them, "Right now, I'm where I want to be -- in command of this battery. I'd rather be here than president of the United States."



Politics, Personalities, USA, pic: circa 1930's, Harry S, Truman, pictured wearing a fez, while a member of the Kansas City Ararat Temple, Harry S, Truman (1884-1972) became the 33rd President of the United States 1945-1953, He helped instigate the Berlin Airlift (1948-49) and the forming of NATO, (1949) (Photo by Paul Popper/Popperfoto via Getty Images/Getty Images)



After serving as president, Truman returned home to Independence, Missouri. This undated photo shows Truman in front of his home at 219 North Delaware. [Gerald R. Massie Photographs, P0016-353]



Merry Christmas is the greeting from President Harry S. Truman as he sets forth from his home in Independence, Missouri, to deliver Christmas gifts to members of his family who live nearby. Whether they are in Washington or Independence, Missouri, the President and his family celebrate Christmas by putting gifts under the Christmas tree and by singing Christmas carols around the piano. Independence is often blanketed by snow at Christmas. Similar to 59-1558 and 69-635. Date: December 1945

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1) **McMurdo, Antarctica**

When you think of dry, you usually think of sweltering heat and a massive sun. But, extreme cold temperatures can lead to incredibly dry areas as well. McMurdo, Antarctica, is known as the driest place on earth. Found in an area called the Dry Valleys, McMurdo has seen no rain for nearly 2 million years. There has been no precipitation in the area for nearly as long, covering over 4800 square kilometers of no water, ice, or snow. The lack of water in the area is due to extremely cold temperatures, where temperatures never get higher than -10 degrees Celsius.

2) **1.3 million**

The Sun is 864,400 miles (1,391,000 kilometers) across. This is about 109 times the diameter of Earth. The Sun weighs about 333,000 times as much as Earth. It is so large that about 1,300,000 planet Earths can fit inside of it.

3) **League of Nations**

The United Nations - commonly known as the UN for short - is a collection of many of the countries across the world. The organization plays a massive role in keeping the world safe and on the same page, with their main goal being maintaining the relationships between countries and acting as a third party for any business going on. Before there was the United Nations, there was the League of Nations, which was conceived after World War 1 and established in 1919.

4) **Marie Curie**

Marie Curie, along with her husband Pierre Curie, won the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics along with their partner Henri Becquerel for their work in radioactivity. She was the first woman to ever win the award. She later won the 1911 Nobel Prize in chemistry, again for work on radioactivity. Not only was she the first woman to win these awards, she remains the only person to ever win two different science awards at the Nobel Prizes. She later died of acute radioactive poisoning, but her work on the subject has lived on forever.