A Note From The Editor

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For any comments, good or bad, you may also e-mail, write or call at the above information.

Please note: The deadline for the next issue Fall/Winter will be July 31, 2014

Special thank you to The Cedar Digest Committee, PGTC Marshall Gevinson for the cover.

Notice of Publication

THE CEDAR DIGEST is a publication of the Supreme Forest Tall Cedars of Lebanon of N. A.
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SUPREME FOREST OFFICERS

(L-R) Delvin L. Zeiders, SS, Robert E. Saul, SBSTC, Barry L. Sheaffer, STC, Curtis R. Beam, JBSTC, John M. Almacy, ST

SUPREME FOREST DIRECTORS

(L-R) Front Row: Mark Brumaghim, SB No. 3, A Ray Wingate, Jr., SB No. 2, Van M. Jodon, SB No. 4, William L. Greene, SB No. 11, Clayton E. Weber, SB No. 7. 
(L-R) Back Row: J. Eric Becker, SB No. 5, James E. Erlinger, SB No. 6, Robert V. Buchanan, SB No. 9, James R. Morrison, Jr., SB No. 10, Gerald Pokorny, SB No. 8. Missing from picture: William W. Ward, Jr., SB No. 1

TALL CEDAR FOUNDATION
Appointed Board of Directors

Ebbing membership, economic conditions, low participation, rising costs, lack of interest and societal changes; all of which creates challenges that threaten our fraternity’s very existence. The only constant we can depend on appears to be change itself. While change can be scary, it is not to be feared. “It has never been done that way before”, is no longer an acceptable excuse for not attempting to move forward. Embracing change is a hard task, but we need to accept change for the chance to gain improvement. Change for change sake is not advisable, but change that will strengthen and benefit our fraternity must be given an opportunity to mature. If we are to move forward we need to look for change that promotes growth and will help to solidify the future of our fraternity.

Membership is the lifeblood of any organization and the Tall Cedars of Lebanon is no exception. We are currently experiencing a surge in requests for the formation of new Forests within and without our current boundaries. The Growing Greener program has been extended for another year, albeit with changes to hopefully maintain the program into future years. The 2014 Membership Committee has been charged with the goal of developing a sustainable membership recruitment program that will span several years. Additionally, they will propose modifications to the current Key Club program.

Brothers believe that you can make a difference by asking another brother to join our Fraternity. Tall Cedar Masons are the definition of “fun, frolic and fellowship”. To promote and exemplify those tenets among our Masonic brothers should be an easy task for each of us. Your belief in this Fraternity is the strength and the force that has continued it for over one-hundred and eleven years. Each of us has an inherent responsibility to grow our Forests. My brothers we have a product to sell and the product is our fraternity, we need to share the “fun, frolic and fellowship” among fellow Master Masons.

For too long we have been the victim of what can be perceived as the loss of our identity as The Tall Cedars of Lebanon. We are more widely recognized as, “the guys in the funny hats” who raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. We need to reclaim our rightful position in the
great scheme of things. Before any of us were made a Tall Cedar, we were first made a Master Mason. Therefore, we need to begin marketing ourselves as Tall Cedar Masons, working for a cure for neuromuscular diseases in cooperation with the Muscular Dystrophy Association. This may sound trivial to some, but please consider it an important first step to enhancing our image. Our fraternity has stressed Masonic Unity for many years, and there is no better way to express that unity than by a simple change in the way we refer to ourselves.

Our product is ourselves, “Tall Cedar Masons”, and we need to advertise. Finding ways to advertising our product may be as simple or as complex as you wish and only limited by your imagination. Encourage your Forest to become active in your local community. Identifying opportunities that best exemplifies the values of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon in particular and Freemasonry in general is the place to start. Participation in the local community will bring attention to the Fraternity, additional support for our charitable objective and increased membership.

During the Tall Cedars of Lebanon National Dine-out Week for MDA, arrange to have Tall Cedar Masons at the restaurants to greet the customers and to thank them for participating. A Florida Forest has become a sponsor of “Pop” Warner Football Cheerleaders and will have a sponsor’s banner on the field fence. That is two examples of community involvement that equates to good advertising.

Today’s youth are tomorrow’s Tall Cedars of Lebanon; we need to enhance our support of these organizations. DeMolay, Jobs Daughters and Rainbow Girls should be considered important assets to every Masonic body. These young people are eager to learn and to participate with us in our ventures and they deserve our support and encouragement. Every Forest should be in contact with at least one Masonic youth group and offer their support. The level of support need not be financial; the youth are anxious to have members of the Masonic bodies attend their meetings. They look forward to hearing words of encouragement and congratulatory comments on ritual work and the many projects they successfully complete.

We as Tall Cedar Masons need to develop relationships with the Masonic youth because it is truly a win-win situation for both groups.

Waning Forest Meeting attendance is all too common throughout the Tall Cedar Kingdom. Using a popular term in today’s vernacular, “think outside the box” may be beneficial to enhancing attendance. If your Forest always operates in the “Closed Meeting” mode, trying the “Open Meeting” approach may be of value. Forests having members with children may see increased attendance if they invited the entire family to attend. Scheduling speakers on topics of general interest to the membership may help. Consider encouraging members to speak on their careers or hobbies. Meetings should be attractive to the brethren and thereby hopefully increase attendance.

Together, as Tall Cedar Masons we should have no trouble in believing that our Fraternity can be changed for the better. Each of us has an inherent responsibility to assist in the growth and development of our Forests.

During the coming year please join with me in believing that together we can make a difference resulting in a stronger fraternity with enhanced purpose to find a cure for those afflicted by neuromuscular diseases.

With belief in the benefits of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon and its teachings of “fun, frolic and fellowship” and belief in your own ability to achieve, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon will succeed for many more years.

In closing I ask each of you; Believe and Achieve.

Fraternally,
I would first like to thank each of you for your vote of confidence and continued support. It is indeed an honor to serve the Cedar Kingdom as Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar. I will do my best to uphold the tenets of the office.

Next, one might say, what a banner year for Brother and PSTC Dick Feerer. A big thank you goes to Dick for all you did, not only to increase membership in existing Forests but also in instituting and chartering new Forests. May good fortune and blessings be with you and past First Lady Pat.

Congratulations to STC Barry Sheaffer and First Lady Suzanne, Your time invested in the Supreme Forest over the past several years has impacted our administrative capabilities significantly. Also noteworthy, you are to be commended on a momentous and very successful Midwinter Conference.

Congratulations to Del Zeiders on your re-election and installation as Supreme Scribe for 2014. Your dedication to Cedarism and your office is very much appreciated.

Congratulations to Curt Beam, JDSTC and John Almacy, ST and welcome to the Supreme Forest line.

To all new officers, appointed and elected to the Tall Cedar Foundation and Supreme Forest, we truly appreciate your time and commitment. We couldn’t do it without you.

Brethren, membership continues to dwindle. Although there was a small net gain in membership in 2013, we continue to be plagued with deaths, suspensions and demits. Recently the Grand Master of Pennsylvania challenged Blue Lodge masons to become a first line “signer” on just one petition, thereby replacing themselves. In theory, this would cause a resurgence which would solve all our membership problems. But in reality, if just half our Cedars would become a first line “signer”, within the next 10-15 years we would be membership “solvent”. Will you do your part? The easiest way to find prospective members is to attend your Blue Lodge meetings and seek out just one master mason to ask to become a member of our great Fraternity.

Finally, please review the proposed legislation found elsewhere in this edition of the Cedar Digest. These legislative changes and amendments were proposed by you, the members, and deserve your attention at Convention in Wildwood. Remember, if you do not exercise your right to vote, neither do you then have the right to complain about the decision.

God Bless.

Cedarly
Bob Saul, SDSTC
Brother Tall Cedars,

I would like to congratulate Barry Sheaffer on being elected and installed as our Supreme Tall Cedar. I would also like to congratulate and thank him for a very good mid-winter. It was well planned and the hotel accommodations were wonderful.

I would also like to congratulate the new Senior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar Robert Saul, the Supreme Scribe Delvin Zeiders, and the new Supreme Treasure John Almacy on their election and installation.

I would like to thank Past Supreme Tall Cedar Richard Feeser for all his hard work and success throughout his year.

Dick and Pat can now relax and enjoy Pat’s retirement and I wish them well.

I would especially like to thank my Brother Cedars who have given me the honor of being your Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar. I look forward to working with Barry, Bob, Del, John, and the rest of the Supreme Board of Directors for you and the Supreme Forest.

My motto is Forecasting the Future of Cedarism. As we change and grow our membership, the future is looking brighter for the next generation of Cedars. It is very important for Masonry and Cedarism that we continue to support our youth for they are the next generation that we will pass our Fraternity onto. As our new Supreme Tall Cedar has said “We are Cedar Masons” and we are and should be very proud of that fact.

As I am writing this, I am reminded of all the Brothers I have met and good friends that my wife and I have gained through Cedarism. I remember my first Cedar meeting when I was approach by a PGTC that invited me to sit with him and thru that conversation I joined the Forest Rangers. That was the start of my love for Cedarism. I know that that PGTC is smiling in the Eternal Forest for it was his friendship that started me on this road. My wife, Margie, and I are looking forward to traveling throughout the Kingdom to meet and make some more new friends and Brothers.

Cedarly,

Curtis R. Beam, JDSTC.
It has been very enjoyable working as a member of the “team”, and I thank the membership for allowing me this opportunity for service.

First of all, Congratulations to Bro. Feeser, PSTC for his year of leadership. Congratulations also to our current STC, Bro. Barry L. Sheaffer. He has “hit the ground running” and is well prepared to provide the leadership for the Supreme Forest for the current year, and I am looking forward to working with him.

Membership for any organization is critical. Certainly this is true for Tall Cedars. You will find potential members everywhere. They are where you shop, Worship, when you go to your next Shrine, Consistory, and York Rite meetings, and certainly in your Blue Lodge Meeting. Always carry a Petition.

First of all I want to thank you for electing me as your Supreme Treasurer. I am looking forward to the challenges facing us in the coming year and wish to assure you I will do my best to assist the Supreme Forest to reach their financial goals.

For those of you who attended Mid-Winter at Dover, I hope you went back home with a little more money than you came with.

I have had an opportunity to go over the 2013 financial statements, the 2014 budget & the current investments of the Supreme Forest and was pleased with what I saw. Even with the loss of the gun raffle, 2013 didn’t look too bad. Although still operating at a deficit, partially due to paying over a significant amount of the profits from the 2012 gun raffle to the Tall Cedars Foundation in 2013, with the dramatic cost cutting efforts put in place by PSTC Dick & the Supreme Board along with good returns from the investments, the end result wasn’t as bad as originally feared.

For 2014, if all goes according to budget, along with the new 2014 per-capita assessment, the Supreme Forest would almost be operating close to break even. This budget continues to include a provision to fund the Growing Greener program to assist Forests in your membership recruiting efforts.

I’ve been attending board meetings since my election as Supreme Treasurer at Wildwood and have been extremely impressed with the commitment of PSTC Dick, STC Barry & the Supreme Board are making so that they don’t have to go back to the membership for additional increases after the 2015 per-capita assessment is instituted.
The Foundation Board met for the first time this year on Friday at Mid-Winter. We have several new directors and officers making this their first meeting, including me, Bill Ward, as Chairman. We also have a new liaison with MDA, he is Joe Alfano from the Harrisburg office.

During the general session on Friday we had the gavel exchange, with Aly Fisher (2013 GWA) handing the gavel over to Mary Kiehl, our 2014 Goodwill Ambassador. They were each presented with a 24 inch bear.

Our retiring Chairman, Don Erb, was not feeling well and could not make it to Mid-Winter, but sent his report on the 2013 year, which was read to the assembly. Summarizing his report; He thanked Vicki Berkowitz, our MDA liaison for all the help she provided. He reminded us that our Dine-Out Program will be replacing the Bear program which will be done after 2015. He also reminded the Scribes of the Forests that we have set up a separate accounting for the monies from the Dine-Out program, so they should note it as such when they send it in.

He reminded us that the program is twofold, one to raise easy money for MDA, and two to get our name out in the community. He remarked on the program to give some of the older bears to Police Departments for working with child victims, and that Aly Fisher presented bears to the Wildwood PD while we were there for Convention. He also thanked PSTC Dick Feeser for appointing him to the position of Chairman, and the Board of Directors, and the Trustees for their support and hard work and dedication.

I want to make you all aware that the MDA is having Muscle Walks all over the country. Aly Fisher (2013 GWA) will again have a team in the King of Prussia Muscle Walk. Last year her team raised over $7,800.00 for MDA. Please get involved with one in your community if possible.

Two awards were presented at Mid-Winter, Trustee of the year went to F Hamer Campbell Jr., PGTC #139, and Forest MDA Chairman of the Year, Robert Conner, PGTC #4.

A reminder to all of the Forests, if you want to have GWA Mary Kiehl at one of your activities, you have to contact Foundation Director James O. Walmer, 1225 Meadow Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17113. Phone 717-919-9935 or jomdwalmer@verizon.net.

Maj. Bill Ward
NER CDO

William W. Ward, Sr.
We all have a mountain to climb, 
we had it from the start. 
It started at the time of birth 
and grows with in your heart. 
Now how you climb your mountain 
is entirely up to you. 
A lot depends upon your faith 
and what you say and do. 
There may be many obstacles, 
you just might want to stop. 
But keep the faith with in your God 
and he’ll great you at the top. 
No matter how steep your mountain, 
the Lord will climb it with you. 
He will brighten your path of darkness 
and his hand will guide you through. 
There is really nothing 
in this vast world to fear. 
God hears all your questions 
and he sends his answer so clear. 
Have faith my child he teaches, 
in the stars that shine at night. 
Believe in Christ your Savior 
and you will be alright.
Mary was born on May 17th 1999 and lives in Dover, Pennsylvania, with her parents Elizabeth and Christopher.

Her diagnosis of Congenital Muscular Dystrophy – Merosin Deficient was confirmed in 2011 at the Hershey Medical Center’s MDA Clinic in Hershey, Pennsylvania. While she has never walked, aside from the diagnosis, she is in good general health.

A bright and spunky young lady, she attended public school through the 8th grade and is now a home schooled 9th grader. She is adaptable, bright, optimistic, confident, helpful, and to quote her mom, “She is the definition of resilience.” She loves dogs and horses, and while she can’t ride a horse, she loves spending time with them. She attends Bethany Church in Dover and sings in their Praise and Worship team. She has played in the Hosanna Ringers Bell Choir which is a part of Jessica & Friends. She is also a member of the York Homeschool Choir.

We are positive Mary will be a great Ambassador for the Tall Cedars of Lebanon.

To request Mary’s attendance at a Forest function contact:
Foundation Director James O. Walmer
1225 Meadow Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17113
717-919-9935 - jomdwalmer@verizon.net.
## Candidates for Supreme Forest Office

### At the 2014 Convention

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Robert E. Saul
PGTC No. 199

Born on November 21, 1945 in Lykens, PA. Graduated from East Lycoming High School in Hughesville, PA in 1963, joined the U.S. Navy and served on active duty from 1963 until 1970. Graduated from the School of Cardiopulmonary Technology, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD in 1967.

Upon discharge from the Navy, Bob spent the next 25 years organizing, developing and implementing Cardiopulmonary Departments in central PA community hospitals. In 1995, he became President of Susquehanna Diagnostics, Inc. and most recently owned Nittany Ultrasound, Inc. He retired in December of 2012.

He served as a Board Member of the American Red Cross and is a 17-gallon blood donor. At his church, Phelps Chapel, he has served as Lay Leader, Trustee, Liturgist and Usher.

He has served for 6 years as a member of the Board of the Clinton County Camp Cadet program. Bob’s Masonic history includes serving as Worshipful Master in 1983, 1990, and 2008. He has been a Trustee for 16 years and currently serves as chairman. He is a member of the Masonic Education Committee, the Lodge Instruction Committee and chairs the Sick and visitation committee.

He is a member of the Grottos of North America and is a Past Monarch and currently serving as treasurer of Zafar Grotto in South Williamsport, PA. He is a permanent contributing member of the Humanitarian Foundation.

He is a member of Irem Shrine and Clinton County Shrine Club. He has been a member of the Scottish Rite for 36 years. He served as Assistant Chairman of the Board of Trustees and serves on the finance and investment committees. He is also a member of the Foundation Board. He is Junior Warden in the Chapter of Rose Croix and serves as a cast member in the 31st and 32nd degrees. He serves as Cast Director for the Feast of the Paschal Lamb.

Bob joined the Tall Cedars in 2000 and served as GTC in 2006. In 2008, he was appointed District Deputy of District #12 and served 4 years. In 2009, he received the District Deputy of the Year Award. He is currently Senior Deputy STC, and is chairman of the Policy and Ritual Committee. He is Past President of the District #12 Officers and Past Officers Association. He is a Life Member of the Tall Cedar Foundation and became a member of the Key Club in 2005. He served 3 years on the 2011 Committee.

Bob is married and has a son Bob (who is also a Cedar) and two daughters, Dawn and Raychel. He also has 4 grandsons. In addition to other interests, Bob and his wife Mary, own and operate a 70 site Campground in the pristine Valley of Pine Creek in Central PA.
Curt was born on July 29th 1963 in Easton, Pa. He graduated from Easton Area High School in 1981. He attended Northampton Area Community College studying Design Engineering. He is a sub contractor for Quality Cable and runs his own contracting and home repair business. Before starting his own business he worked for Bushkill Park for over 25 years. Curt started as a ring boy in the merry go round at the age of 14 working his way up to head maintenance manager and park manager until it closed in 2005. He was also a licensed ride inspector for the State of Pennsylvania.

Curt married Margie in 1983. They have 3 children, 2 boys and 1 girl. Curt Jr. age 31 married to Amanda, Tom age 28, and Jenny age 22. He also has a grandson, Ben age 3 and granddaughter, Elizabeth who is 9 months old. Curt is the oldest of 6, he has 3 sisters and 2 brothers. Curt grew up in Easton where he lives today. He and his wife are of the Lutheran faith.

Presently, Curt is starting his term as Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar, and has served 4 years as a Supreme Director of Region #5. He also has been District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar of District #8. He belongs to Easton Forest #35 where he has served as Grand Tall Cedar in 2006 and 2007 and is presently a Trustee and Chief Sidonian. Curt also was a Marching Ranger for the Forest where he has been President and Vice-President. Curt has received Cedar of the Year of his Forest in the years 2009 and again in 2011. Curt is a member of O.P.O. of District #8, where he is a Past President (2011) and currently secretary. Curt has also received The Tall Cedar Award in the Year 2008. Curt is a member of Easton Lodge #152 where he is a Past Master (2006) and is still very active in the lodge as a ritual instructor and is the assistant secretary. He received Mason of the Year in 2007. He belongs to Easton Chapter 173 and Hugh De Payens Commandery 19. Curt is also a member of Lehigh Consistory. Curt also belongs to Rajah Shrine and Forks of the Delaware Shrine club where he served as 2nd Vice-President. Curt is also a member of the Masonic Kilties of New Jersey.
MARK BRUMAGHIM
PGTC NO. 43

MASONIC MEMBERSHIPS:
• William S. Snyder Lodge #756 F&AM of Pennsylvania
• Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Harrisburg
  The Capital Area Scottish Rite Club
• Tall Cedars of Lebanon Harrisburg Forest #43 - GTC 2009
  Harrisburg Forest Ranger Unit
  Harrisburg Forest Clown Unit
  Harrisburg Forest Golf Unit
  Supreme Forest Key Club

• Aide to the 2010 Supreme Tall Cedar
• Supreme Director for Region #3
  Chairman of the Supreme Forest Expense Cutting Committee
  Member of the Supreme Forest Special Activities Fund Committee
  Member of the Supreme Forest Computer Committee
  Supreme Forest Judge of Elections

MASONIC AWARDS:
  2009 Grand Tall Cedar of the Year Award
  2009 Scrapbook Award-First Place
  2009 Publication Award-First Place
  2010 Tall Cedar of the Year Award

BIOGRAPHY:
I served in the Air Force as a Security Policeman from 1978-1982 when I was honorably discharged. After a two year break in service, I enlisted in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard where I served from 1984 until 1992 as a Heavy Equipment Operator in the 193rd Civil Engineering Squadron.

I am currently a Detective with the Lower Paxton Township Police Department where I have been employed for 25 years. My wife, Sue, and I have been married for 35 years; we have no children and enjoy traveling. Sue works for a payroll company in their Tax Department. We are members of the St. Thomas United Church of Christ where we serve as greeters and ushers. Other offices I have held are Chapter Director for the Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Chapter K in the Harrisburg area and two terms as President of the Greater Harrisburg Area Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 78. I have been a Mason since 2004 and have been active in my Lodge, the Valley of Harrisburg, where I have participated in degree work. I have been most active in the Tall Cedars serving as Grand Tall Cedar of Harrisburg Forest #43 in 2009 and Aide to Supreme Tall Cedar Harry “Hap” Horgan from 2008-2010. I am currently serving a Supreme Director for Region #3.
Candidate for Supreme Scribe

Delvin L. Zeiders
PGTC No. 43

In April of 1982 I became a member of Forest #43, Tall Cedars of Lebanon. In 2007 I began through the elected chairs and served as Grand Tall Cedar in 2010. For 2011 I was appointed a member of the Membership Committee for Supreme Tall Cedars of North America. I am currently serving as the Supreme Scribe for 2014.

Former member of Zembo Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. in Harrisburg, having received my membership in 1983, and served for many years in the Zembo Color Guard.

Made a member of the Royal Order of Scotland in October of 1983.

Member of Philalethes Society, 1985.

Member of Trinity Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, in 1988, and served as Puissant Sovereign 2005/2006.


Member of Constance Council, Allied Masonic Degrees; serviced as Sovereign Master in 2000. Received the Red Branch of Erie in 2001.

Member of National Sojourners, Harrisburg Chapter #76 in June of 1990 and then became a Member of Heroes of 76 Harrisburg Chapter #76 in February of 1993.

Made a Fellow of the Grand College of Rites of the United States of America on February 18, 1989.

Received the DeMolay Legion of Honor on July 19, 2003.

PERSONAL AFFILIATIONS:
Currently a member of the Sell Chapel at the Masonic Village in Elizabethtown, PA. In the past I have served as Chairman of Administrative Board, a member of Finance Committee, Adult Sunday School Teacher, tenor soloist in the Harrisburg area for many years, member of the Church Choir, as well as other positions. For seven years I was the Director of a traveling little theater group. I was also chairman of Religious Drama for the PA Council of Churches in Harrisburg.

Registered Professional Engineer. Retired as Chief Engineer with the Pennsylvania Energy Office.

Married to the former Elaine Groninger Hamilton on November 25, 1952; two children, six Grand Children and five Great Grandchildren. Elaine is now deceased.

Currently engaged to Catharine Dattlo.

MILITARY SERVICE
Enlisted in the United States Army Security Agency, serving from November of 1952 to 1955, two years of which were spent in Europe. Discharged Honorably.

MASONIC AFFILIATIONS:

District Deputy Grand Master, Second Masonic District, for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from 12/27/88 to 12/27/94.


Coroneted a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, and made an Honorary Member of Supreme Council; 1986 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1979 I became a member of Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter #21, Harrisburg Council #7 and also Pilgrim Commandry #11 all in Harrisburg.

In April of 1982 I became a member of Forest #43, Tall Cedars of Lebanon. In 2007 I began through the elected chairs and served as Grand Tall Cedar in 2010. For 2011 I was appointed a member of the Membership Committee for Supreme Tall Cedars of North America. I am currently serving as the Supreme Scribe for 2014.

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Currently engaged to Catharine Dattlo.

MILITARY SERVICE
Enlisted in the United States Army Security Agency, serving from November of 1952 to 1955, two years of which were spent in Europe. Discharged Honorably.
Born in Bensheim, Germany in 1946, John is the son of an Army Sergeant and has lived in many areas of the United States and Germany. The first in his family to attend college, John graduated from the University of Maryland in 1970 and became licensed as a Certified Public Accountant. By 1972 he was operating his own CPA firm. John has continued his practice of tax and accounting services in Montgomery County, Maryland ever since. This year, after tax season, John and his wife, Terri (also a CPA) moved their offices to Frederick County where they reside to cut down on their daily commute.

Professionally, John is not only a CPA, but also a Certified Financial Planner and Registered Investment Advisor. His accounting and tax skills have kept his business growing for over 40 years. John is the proud father of a son and has two grandchildren. He and Terri were married in 2000 and he has been an active step-father to her three children and now shares another grandchild with her.

John’s father was a Master Mason, although John knew little about Masonry when his father passed in 1997. His marriage to Terri brought an active Masonic life to the family and in 2006 he became a Master Mason in Columbia Lodge #58, Frederick, MD. He was attracted to Tall Cedars after hearing of their Fun, Frolic and Fellowship and most importantly, that they support the Muscular Dystrophy Association. John was looking for an organization that made a difference to those in need, and the Tall Cedars of Lebanon fit the bill! He has served his Forest for two years as Grand Tall Cedar and is currently serving his third year as Treasurer.

John is also a 32 degree member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Baltimore, Jaques DeMolay Commandry, Enoch Chapter Royal Arch and Council, Ali Ghan Shrine in Cumberland, the Royal Order of Scotland, Frederick Shrine Club and the Order of the Eastern Star, PWP, Frederick Chapter.

John enjoys working with youth and has coached youth soccer at a highly competitive level in travel leagues for 30+ years. A sports enthusiast in his youth, John still enjoys tennis and golf. His other hobbies include reading and travel.
I was born July 3rd, 1947 in Baltimore Maryland. 
In 1969 I received a B.A. degree from Salisbury State University. 
The same year I married Paula, my wife of forty three years. We 
have been blessed with two sons, Sean and Brian, my daughter 
in-laws Michele and Brenda and three grandchildren, “the twins” Conner and Camryn and their 
younger brother Dylan. 

In August of a very busy 1969, I began a career in retail management where I held local, district 
and regional assignments in human resources, operation and merchandising. I retired after 38 years 
in 2007.

I was raised a Master Mason June 19th, 1999 in Corinthian Lodge #93, Maryland. In April of 
2000 I was initiated as a Tall Cedar in Baltimore Forest #45.

I had the honor of serving as Worshipful Master of Corinthian Lodge #93 in 2007 and 2008, and 
currently serve as Secretary of the Lodge. Recently, I have been appointed as a Grand Inspector for 
the Grand Lodge of Maryland. I am a member of Calvary United Methodist Church and have served 
on their financial board.

As a Tall Cedar, I have spent years as the Scribe/Treasurer for Baltimore Forest No. 45, Trustee 
for District No. 14, Tall Cedar Foundation Director of Region No. 2, and currently serve as Supreme 
Director for Region No. 2.

I respectfully request your support allowing me to serve The Tall Cedars as Director of Region 
#2.

Thank you
I was born and raised in Glasgow, Montana. With a lot of chagrin and the realization that I was not a farmer or a rancher; everything I’d ever planted and raised either never grew to fruition or just died I came to the realization that I’d better get an education and find my future. Right after graduating from High School I joined the Army to obtain the GI Bill. While serving in Germany one of the non-commissioned officers introduced me to DeMolay and shortly after that I joined DeMolay as the Junior Steward in the Heidelberg Chapter of DeMolay. Upon returning to the states in 1976 I again spent some soul searching time at college and shortly after that went back into the military and parachuted onto my future wife and shortly after that I joined the Perseverance Lodge in Indian Head, MD. I completed my progression in Masonry in an Alabama Lodge of Masons, “Yes, I can speak Alabama”.

After serving 22 years in the Army in four very different jobs I finally retired from the military in 1997 after which I joined Booz Allen Hamilton as a “Senior Consultant”; I think that was in difference to my ‘scattering’ of gray hair…. I crisscrossed our beautiful country as a subject matter expert concerning the rendering safe of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Explosive items used by terrorists and the detection, decontamination, mitigation and cleanup of those areas that were exposed to these items. After training in over 100 major cities, Alaska, Hawaii, Japan and four US territories I then took a change of pace to the Environmental side and learned among other things that worms were the lifeblood of a healthy soil; with at least 300 worms per cubic meter of soil!! During this time Wilbur Carr asked me to attend a Tall Cedar meeting; I noticed right away these were my ‘kind of folks’ and joined up. In the meantime my wife was following her own ways and received the Advisor’s Honor Key from DeMolay for her service to the DeMolay, completed her Bachelors Degree (University of Maryland), and completed the Woodbadge Leadership training course (BSA)!! My son completed his Eagle Scout and my two daughters went off and got married; one to a former submariner and the other to an IRS agent!

I was attending a dinner in which, while my mouth was full, a Tall Cedar (Mr. Wilbur Penley) asked if I wanted to be a Tall Cedar officer… I tried to say no but it came out yes which was how my ‘career’ as an officer in Tall Cedars began. After completing my time as GTC of Har- Ce Forest I continued to visit the Forests within District#14 and outside of District#14. Someone noticed and suggested that I should volunteer to be the District Deputy for District#14 which I took on at the end of 2010 and have been eating my way through ever since!! I was particularly pleased with our ‘Mini’ DD School in which we completed a portion at every meeting which has been well received by the Forest officers.

God takes care of fools and has surely had his hands full taking care of me but I am forever grateful for his loving care of myself, my wife, my children, grandchild and my extended family in Tall Cedars!!

I look forward to continuing to serve the Tall Cedar organization, its charity and its members that has brought me so much reward!!
PERSONAL AFFILIATIONS:
• I was married for 37 years before my wife passed in August of 2003. I have been a widower for over 10 years. I have 5 children; 3 boys and 2 girls.
• I worked for General Motors for 30 years. During that time, I worked on the Assembly Line for 25 years until I transferred to the Material Handling Department. In October of 1996 I retired from General Motors.

MILITARY:
I joined the United States Army in May of 1961. I was stationed at Fort Eustis, Virginia, in the Transportation Unit. I was deployed to Viet Nam in June of 1964 and returned stateside on March of 1965. I returned to Fort Eustis to finish out my term of service and was honorably discharged in January of 1969 as a Specialist-4.

MASONIC AFFILIATIONS:
• I was raised to the degree of a Master Mason at Red Lion Lodge No. 649 on April 2001.
• In October of 2001, I joined York Forest No. 30, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America. I was Grand Tall Cedar in 2009. I served the Supreme Forest as District Deputy of District No. 11 from 2010 thru 2013.
• I joined the Consistory on November 16th 2001 and was made a 32nd Degree Mason. I then joined Zembo Shrine and was made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine on December 2001. I am a life member of the Motorcycle Touring Unit. In 2005 I joined the Square Club of York, and served as President in 2006. I am currently serving as Financial Secretary for the past two years.
• I joined the First Capital High Twelve Club in 2004. I am currently serving as Sergeant-at-Arms and Head Steward. I received the High Twelvian of the Year Award for 2001-2011.
• I was President of the National League of Masonic Clubs Incorporated in 2009.
Born into a military family on May 8, 1948, in Washington, DC, Bill lived in various locations until 1961 when they settled in the Hagerstown, MD, area prior to his dad’s retirement. He is a 1966 graduate of South Hagerstown High School and in 1970 graduated with honors in mathematics and religion/philosophy from Shepherd College (now University), West Virginia.

After a forty year career in computer and information technology as a programmer, analyst, supervisor, and manager for Mack Trucks, he retired in 2010.

Bill is the proud father of two daughters, Cynthia and Elizabeth, a granddaughter Kelli, and a grandson Noah. He married his wife Linda in 1985, thereafter their combined family includes her son Sean. He has lived just east of Waynesboro, PA since 1998.

As a member of Waynesboro Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bill has been a member and president of the Church Council, chairman of the Mutual Ministry committee, a member of various other committees, and sings on the cathedral choir.

He is currently president of the Franklin-Fulton County Chapter of Thrivent for Lutherans and also serves as director of the Brown Bag food distribution project.

Bill is a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron No. 15, the Legion Home Association of Waynesboro, and the Waynesboro Fish and Game Association.

Bill’s Masonic journey began in 2004 when he was initiated into Acacia Lodge No. 586, Waynesboro, PA. Bill is a member of George Washington Chapter No. 176, George Washington Council No. 66, where he serves as Recorder, Continental Commandery No. 56, Good Samaritan Mark Lodge, and Sovereign Council No. 103, Allied Masonic Degrees, of the York Rite. He is a member of the Valley of Harrisburg, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Bill is a member of Mount Vernon Chapter No. 398, Order of the Eastern Star where he has served as Associate Patron and Secretary. He is a member of Zembo Shrine and the Franklin County Shrine Club. He is currently serving as Treasurer of the Franklin County High Twelve Club. Bill is a member of Hagerstown Forest No. 95, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, where he served as Grand Tall Cedar in 2011 and 2012. He is a Life Member of the Tall Cedar Foundation. He is Secretary-Treasurer of the District Twenty-One Officers and Past Officers Association. He is completing his third year as chairman of the 2014 Committee. Bill is in his second year serving as Tall Cedar Foundation Trustee for District Twenty-One.
2013 Awards

BROUGHTON AWARD
Gareth G. Diem, PSTC

GRAND TALL CEDAR OF THE YEAR
David A. McDade, Harrisburg Forest No. 43

DISTRICT DEPUTY STC OF THE YEAR
H. Lynn Stahle, PGTC No. 95, District No. 21
Dwight J. Gerst, Sr., PGTC No. 30, District No. 11

TALL CEDAR AWARDS
S. Jesse Miller, Jr., GTC No. 34, DDSTC No. 10
Howard M. Beardsley, PGTC No. 142, DDSTC No. 14
Irvin R. Hopkins, PGTC No. 206, DDSTC No. 26

FOUNDATION TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR
F. Hamer Campbell, Jr., PGTC No. 139, District No. 20

FOREST MD CHAIRMAN OF THE YEAR
Robert J. Conner, PGTC No. 4
JOHN S. BROUGHTON AWARD RECIPIENT

Gareth G. Diem, PSTC

This award is named after the first Supreme Tall Cedar. It is intended for the Tall Cedar who has by his unselfish service to his country, community, Freemasonry, and/or Tall Cedarism reflected favorably on the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America.
Proposed Supreme Forest Constitution & By-law Changes

Date: February 2014

To: Supreme Forest Members

From: Delvin L. Zeiders, Supreme Scribe

Subject: Proposed Supreme Forest Constitution & By-law Changes

The following proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Supreme Forest have been properly submitted in accordance with the Supreme Forest Constitution and By-laws.

These proposed changes will be acted on at the 112th Annual Session of the Supreme Forest on May 9th 2014 in Wildwood, New Jersey.

The Supreme Tall Cedar requests all Tall Cedars to wear their pyramids at all Supreme Forest Sessions.

Registration Badges will be required at all social functions.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

It is important for every Supreme Forest member & Delegate to have his credentials validated by the Credentials Committee so that he can vote in the annual election. Members who do not have a current dues card will not be issued Credentials.

CREDENTIALS VALIDATION SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 8th - Wildwood Convention Center, 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Friday, May 9th - Wildwood Convention Center, 8:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *
PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE SUPREME FOREST CONSTITUTION

14-01 ARTICLE VI – ELECTED OFFICERS – THEIR DUTIES – VACANCIES

B. Duties of elected officers

6. Vacancies of elected officers
   f. In event a vacancy occurs in the Office of Supreme Scribe, Supreme Treasurer, or Supreme Director, the Board of Directors by majority vote utilizing secret written ballot, shall fill such vacancy. The certification thereof shall be published and filed as heretofore noted. All members of the Supreme Forest shall be eligible for consideration. The member so elected shall be recognized as Acting Supreme Scribe or Acting Supreme Treasurer, or Acting Supreme Director, and shall serve as such to complete the term, except the Supreme Director who shall serve only until the end of the year following the next Supreme Forest Election. Members elected by the Board of Directors to the vacated position of Supreme Director shall be recognized as Acting Supreme Director and shall serve only until the end of the year following the next annual election. In the interim, he shall petition for and must be elected to a full three year term.

Signatures:
Barry L. Sheaffer, PGTC No. 43
Curtis R. Beam, PGTC No. 35
Robert Saul, PGTC No. 199
Robert Aungst, PGTC No. 199
John E. Shoop, PGTC No. 199

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SUPREME FOREST BY-LAWS

14-02 ARTICLE III – COMMITTEES

B. Standing Committees

13. The Tall Cedar Room Maintenance and Updating Committee—consisting of three (3) members, shall be responsible for the maintenance and updating of the Tall Cedar Room which is located in the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Effective as of January 1, 1987, three (3) members shall be appointed; one for a term of three (3) years (1987, 1988, and 1989), one for an interim of two (2) years (1987, and 1988), and one for an interim term of one (1) year (1987). Each year one member shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Annually, the Committee shall submit a written report of its activities to the Supreme Forest Board of Directors and, for the enlightenment of the Fraternity-at-Large, said report shall be published in the Supreme Forest Proceedings.

Signatures:
Robert Saul, PGTC No. 199
Bruce Neubauer, PGTC No. 77
Lawrence Donis, PGTC No. 31
Delvin L. Zeiders, PGTC No. 43
James C. Erlinger, PGTC No. 149

14-03 ARTICLE VI – HEADGEAR

B. Color and Trimmings (Effective June 1, 1990 – Pyramids currently in use may continue to be worn.)

5. Past Scribes and Treasurers of Constituent Forests who have served for five (5) three (3) years or more, and Trustees of Constituent Forests who have served for five (5) three (3) consecutive years or more, thus becoming members of the Supreme Forest—Red Pyramid, White Tassel, Yellow Trimming, Yellow Lettering/Forest Name & Number.

Signatures:
Robert Saul, PGTC No. 199
Bruce Neubauer, PGTC No. 77
Larry Donis, PGTC No. 31
Delvin L. Zeiders, PGTC No. 43
John Almacy, PGTC No. 132
14-04 ARTICLE VI – HEADGEAR
B. Color and Trimmings (Effective June 1, 1990 – Pyramids currently in use may continue to be worn.)
24. Any member of a Constituent Forest who has served three (3) consecutive years as a Delegate – Green Pyramid, Yellow Tassel, Green Trimming, Yellow Lettering/Forest and Number.

Signatures:
- Robert Saul, PGTC No. 199
- Bruce Neubauer, PGTC No. 77
- Lawrence Donis, PGTC No. 31
- Delvin L. Zeiders, PGTC No. 43
- Van Jodon, PGTC No. 129

14-05 ARTICLE VII–JEWELS OF OFFICE, INSIGNIA, AND DRESS
D. A regular tuxedo will be worn by all Forest Officers when participating in regular meetings, degree work, memorial service, installations, and parades. Regular tuxedo consists of black coat, white shirt, and black accessories. The regular summer tuxedo consists of a white coat, white shirt, and black accessories, and is to be worn between May 1 through August 31. Upon approval by the Constituent Forest Executive Committee, officers, both elected and appointed, may choose an optional dress. Optional dress will consist of golf, polo or dress shirt and slacks, with or without jacket and/or tie or any combination thereof. There shall be strict adherence to the uniformity in color and style among Constituent Forest line and appointed officers.

Signatures:
- Robert Saul, PGTC No. 199
- Bruce Neubauer, PGTC No. 77
- Mark Brumaghim, PGTC No. 43
- James Ferguson, PGTC No. 49
- Delvin L. Zeiders, PGTC No. 43

14-06 ARTICLE IX – CONSTITUENT FORESTS
C. Fees, Dues, Assessments
2. Initiation Fee
   a. No person shall be made a Tall Cedar in any Constituent Forest for a fee less than twenty-five ($25.00) dollars two and one-half (2 ½) times the annual Supreme Forest per capita tax rounded to the next highest dollar.

Signatures:
- Barry L. Sheaffer, PGTC No. 43
- Russell Fuscia, Jr., PGTC No. 1
- James Ferguson, PGTC No. 49
- Mark Brumaghim, PGTC No. 43
- Curtis Beam, PGTC No. 35
- Delvin L. Zeiders, PGTC No. 43
- Lawrence Donis, PGTC No. 31
- Robert Saul, PGTC No. 199
- Richard G. Feeser, PGTC No. 49

* * * * * * * * * * *
## PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET

### INCOME:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Fees</td>
<td>$178,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management Fees</td>
<td>1,970.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publication Fees</td>
<td>1,100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>4,800.00</td>
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<td>TCL Functions</td>
<td>46,000.00</td>
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<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>25,100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising/Reserves</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCF Fees</td>
<td>40,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Land/Building Rent</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$298,970.00</strong></td>
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### EXPENSES:

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Operations</td>
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<td>Building</td>
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<td>Appointed Officers</td>
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<td>Committees</td>
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<td>Elected Officers</td>
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<td>48,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Replenish drawdown in assets</td>
<td>35,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>(over past several years)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$294,000.00</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Excess income over expenses $4,970.00

- This budget was not increased by annual GDP.
- Note: Budget prepared from actual YTD September 2013 Supreme Forest Financial Report.
PROPOSED SESSION AGENDA FOR CONVENTION – 2014
Wildwood Convention Center, Wildwood, New Jersey
Friday, May 9th
Opening at 8:30 A.M.
Recess at approximately Noon & Reconvene at 1:00 P.M. if needed

Opening
Introductions of Supreme Forest Board of Directors
Introductions of Past Supreme Treasurers, Past Supreme Scribes, & Past Supreme Tall Cedars
Introduction of Distinguished Guests
Introduction of 2014 Goodwill Ambassador & family
Key Club recipients’ recognition
Supreme Forest Memorial Service
Proposed Agenda
Present 2015 Budget
List Candidates and receive nominations
Report and voting on Convention Site
Voting on Supreme Forest Officers
Voting on changes to Constitution & By-laws
Committee Reports
Results of Election

OTHER CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Thursday, May 8th
8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. Credentials & Convention Registration – Convention Center
Vendor area Open – Convention Center

6:30 P.M. Celebrate America Theme Party – Convention Center
Doors open 6:00 P.M. - Ticket required

Friday, May 9th
8:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. Credentials & Convention Registration – Convention Center

8:30 – 4:00 P.M. Vendor Area Open – Convention Center

Noon Ladies of Cedarism Luncheon – Convention Center - Ticket required
Doors open 11:30 A.M.

Tall Cedars of Lebanon Luncheon – Convention Center – Ticket required
Doors open at 11:30 A.M.

6:30 P.M. Convention Center – Doors open at 5:00 P.M.
Reception of Distinguished Guests
Color Guard Competition
Supreme Forest Clown Competition
Color Guard Competition Awards

Saturday, May 10th
8:30 A.M. Tree Planting, Cedar Park, Wildwood & New Jersey Avenues

10:00 A.M. Parade start time

3:00 P.M. Awards Presentations – Parade
Publications & Scrapbooks
Clown Competition

4:00 P.M. Worship Service - Convention Center
RECOMMENDED 2014 CONVENTION DRESS CODE

Thursday, May 8th

Celebrate America Party: Casual – Wear your Red, White & Blue or dress as your favorite American Hero.

SF Hospitality: Casual

Friday, May 9th

Supreme Forest Session: Supreme Forest Officers – Tuxedo (white coat)  
Supreme Forest Members – Dress Casual (no jeans or T-shirts)

Evening Competitions: Elected & Appointed Officers, PSTC, DDSTC/Trustees, TCF Officers, and our Fraternal Relations Guests – Tuxedo (white coat) for the men and dresses for the ladies.

SF Hospitality: Casual

Saturday, May 10th

Parade: SF Elected & Appointed Officers, PSTC, DDSTC/Trustees, TCF Officers, and our Fraternal Relations Guests – Tuxedo (white coat) for the men and street length dress for ladies.

Award Presentations: Participating Supreme Forest Officers – Tuxedo (white coat)  
All others, Casual

Worship Service: Participating Supreme Forest Officers – Tuxedo (white coat)  
All others, Casual

SF Hospitality: Casual

Remember our Charity - Wear a Rose
Members should wear their pyramids to all events
Conventioneers must display their Registration Badge for all events & hospitality
CELEBRATE
102 Years of Fun, Frolic and Fellowship

With an evening of Dinner and Dancing to the music of Giovanni & The 5th Element

Music to please everyone
September 27, 2014

MENÜ
Salad

Your Choice of Entrée: Marinated London Broil with Peppercorn Glaze or Herb-Encrusted Chicken with Smoked Tomato Beurre Blanc
Chef’s selection of starch and seasonal fresh vegetable
Rolls and Butter
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Decaf, Hot Tea, Iced Tea
$32.00 per person

DEADLINE FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS: SEPTEMBER 15, 2014
COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND WITH SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE TO:

William Martz
383 S OLLER AVE WAYNESBORO PA 17268-3824
717-765-0077

ROOMS AVAILABLE AT HOTEL FOR TALL CEDAR RATE OF $82.95 PLUS TAXES CALL 717-561-2800

2014 TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON CELEBRATION

Name: ___________________________ Forest No. _____

Entrée choice:
Marinated London Broil with Peppercorn Glaze _______ @ $32.00 = _______
Herb-Encrusted Chicken with Smoked Tomato Beurre Blanc _______ @ $32.00 = _______

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 2014 COMMITTEE
Enclosed is my check for: _______
2014 Midwinter Conference
Dover, Delaware

Officer Installation 2014
STC Sheaffer

JDSTC Curt and Margie Beam

SDSTC Robert and Mary Saul

Officer Installation ST Almacy shares a moment with his lady Terri

Supreme Scribe Del and his lady Catharine

STC Sheaffer and his lady Suzanne

Supreme Clown Eric Frank discusses the Clown Competition

Harrisburg #43 Color Guard

Bob Hopkins, PGTC York #30 discusses plans for the upcoming parade at Convention
2014 Midwinter Conference
Dover, Delaware

Greg Dimoff, PDSTC #18 talks about membership to the members.

PSTC Feeser making a FEW brief remarks.

STC Feeser presenting the Broughton Award to PSTC Diem with PSS Bill Klinefelter looking on.

STC Feeser presenting the Broughton Award to PSTC Diem for his continual efforts to our Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America as well as his many other accomplishments and recognitions for his efforts on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America and other Civic organizations.

Past Broughton Award recipients present to congratulate PSTC Diem.

STC Barry Sheaffer presenting First Lady Pat Feeser with Flowers in Thanks from the Tall Cedars for her efforts during the 2013 year.

GWA Mary with her parents, Elizabeth and Christopher Kiehl and TCFD Jim Walmer.
LADIES LUNCHEON

Ladies In Regalia: (R-L): Margie Beam, Mary Saul, FL Suzanne

[ Image ]
54TH ANNUAL
SUPREME FOREST
BOWLING TOURNAMENT

April 26 & 27, 2014

Lincoln Lanes
2071 Lincoln Way E
(US 30 East)
Chambersburg, PA 17202-3329

JOIN IN THE FUN, FROLIC AND FELLOWSHIP!

Hosted by Valley Forest No. 145

Contact:
Tony Reasner  717-261-6628
Richard Witmer  717-352-3529
The Supreme Forest Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America will host

The 36th Annual Tall Cedar Clown Competition
Friday, May 9th, 2014
Convention Center, Wildwood New Jersey

Balloon Competition
Makeup Competition to include:
  White Face
  Auguste
  Hobo / Tramp Character

Skit Competition to include:
  Individual Skits
  Group Skits

For information contact:
Eric "Bouncy Bobber" Frank  
236 E. Glenn Rd.  
Hershey, PA 17033  
717-533-5985 home  
bouncybobber@gmail.com

Come join the fun, frolic and fellowship
CELEBRATE AMERICA

2014 TALL CEDAR CONVENTION

THEME PARTY

Wear your RED, WHITE and BLUE or come dressed as your favorite American Hero

Thursday, May 8, 2014

6:30 PM

Wildwood Convention Center  ★  4501 Boardwalk, Wildwood, NJ

RED WHITE BLUE BUFFET

Patriotic Garden Salad
Coleslaw  ★  Potato Salad
BBQ Chicken Breast Strips  ★  BBQ Beef Brisket
Slider Burgers with Cheese/Onion on the side
Nathan Hot Dogs - diced onion, cheddar cheese, chili, mustard, ketchup
Succotash  ★  Baked Beans
Corn Muffins

APPLE PIE

Cost: $ 34.00 per person

Name: ___________________________________________  Number of Reservations: _________

Forest: ___________________________  No. _________  Total Amount Due: _________

Deadline for Reservations is Thursday, April 24, 2014

Please Make checks payable to: 2014 Committee

MAIL TO:  William W Martz, PGTC  383 S Oller Ave  Waynesboro PA 17268-3824
As many of you know, my name is Eric “Bouncy Bobber” Frank, and Bouncy Bobber has been my clown name since I joined the clown unit in my Forest. Have you ever wondered how someone picks a clown name? Well, here is how I picked the name Bouncy Bobber.

My wife gave me a sardine can filled with three stuffed trout. These trout were stuffed with beans. There were instructions in the can, but who needs instructions? After a quick demo, I started throwing these trout around and they kept falling on the ground. I finally started to catch them and then I could make one revolution with the trout without dropping them. This went on for a few weeks, until ta-da, I could juggle them for about one minute.

I then moved on to golf balls. This wasn’t a good idea! I hit myself in the head quite a few times before I got the routine down. I chased those golf balls as they bounced down the street so many times.

So this is the how I came up with the first part of my name “Bouncy”.

Now we move on to the second part of my name “Bobber”. This came from my love of fishing when I was a little boy. My dad and brother took me out fishing for sunfish. I would always love to try to get that bobber out as far as I could. Until one day, the rod and reel went further than the bobber. This wasn’t good. How could I explain my rod and reel are in the water and I’m on the shore? That was the day I learned to wade in the water with the help of my dad and brother. So now you know where the name “Bouncy Bobber” comes from. I hope you have a better understanding of how a person picks a clown name!

At the upcoming clown competition at Convention, I’m looking forward to seeing all of the clowns. The many skits, balloon art, and the costumes and makeup are really something to see. There are lots of laughs to be had! The clowns really work hard to put on a great show every year. For those of you who have never attended the competition, I encourage you to fit it into your convention schedule. Bring your friends, your families, and join in the laughter and fun!

Sincerely, Bouncy Bobber

Join in the fun!
The 36th Annual Tall Cedar Clown Competition
Friday, May 9th, 2014 at the Convention Center, Wildwood
Doors open at 5 PM
Friday, May 9, 2014
Wildwood Convention Center
4501 Boardwalk
Wildwood, NJ

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS April 18, 2014
DOORS OPEN 11:30 A.M. LUNCHEON AT NOON

COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND TO

CINDY HOSSMAN
970 SILVER LAKE RD
LEWISBERRY PA 17339-9716
717-938-8850

2014 CONVENTION LADIES LUNCHEON
Name: ___________________________ Forest No. _____
Enclosed is my check for: _________ Tickets at $22.00 each
Special dietary needs: ________________________________

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 2014 COMMITTEE
2014 ANNUAL CONVENTION
TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON LUNCHEON
Friday, May 9, 2014

Wildwood Convention Center
4501 Boardwalk
Wildwood, NJ
DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS April 18, 2014

DOORS OPEN 11:30 A.M.  LUNCHEON AT NOON

COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND TO
William Martz
383 S OLLER AVE
WAYNESBORO PA 17268-3824
717-735-0077

2014 CONVENTION TALL CEDARS OF LEBANON LUNCHEON

Name: ___________________________  Forest No.  ____

Enclosed is my check for: _________  Tickets at $22.00 each

Special dietary needs: ________________________________

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: 2014 COMMITTEE
A J Pangratz – Goodwill Ambassador of Har-Ce Forest No. 142 receiving a much needed electric wheelchair. Presentation was made by Howard Beardsley, PGTC Har-Ce Forest No. 142 and PDDSTC of District # 14 who secured the 1 year old wheelchair from its owner who donated it.

Evergreen Forest No. 49 member Lucien T. Lenhart on the occasion of his 100th birthday on November 7, 2014. Lucien was also presented with a 65 year membership certificate.
Initiation into Annapolis Forest No. 126
on November 19, 2013

(L-R) Les Metcalf, Jr — Supreme Preceptor and DDSTC, Glenn Clary, S T C Feesser, Deputy Grand Master of Maryland — Kenneth S. Wyvill and Paul Romer, SDGTC

Albert Fleisher, PSD and father of Linda Gevinson, along with his son in law Russell Spitzer

Albert Fleisher, PSD with PSTC Richard Feaser

Members of Seminole Forest No. 193 and PSTC Feesser on Feb 1, 2014
Norristown Forest No. 31 was pleased to celebrate having a full slate of officers again.

(L-R): Robert Koellner, Treasurer; Jesse Miller, Jr, District Deputy STC; Paul Little, JDGTC; William Keller, GTC; Jack McGranahan, SDGTC; Pete Updegraff, PSTC, Scribe.

Norristown Forest No. 31

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR MDA

Once again this past December York Forest No 30 and their Clown Unit sponsored a Christmas Party for MDA patients living in York and Adams counties of Pennsylvania. A traditional Christmas dinner of turkey and all of the associated delights was served. Ice cream sundaes along with homemade cookies made by members of the Clown Unit topped off the meal. PGTC John Schmitt donated poinsettias for each of the patients who also received a Wal-Mart gift card and a stocking stuffed with items donated from local businesses. In addition to the Clowns Unit entertainment is provided to the guests after the dinner. This event has become a much anticipated tradition for the members of York Forest and those afflicted with Muscular Dystrophy. Below are pictures from this past December’s event.
Palm Beach Forest No. 113
located in West Palm Beach, FL.

STC Feeser presenting Dispensation Certificate to Ewell Menge, Jr. GTC – Palm Beach Forest No. 113 at the Institution on October 26, 2013

Membership assembled at the Institution of Palm Beach Forest No. 113

Officers and their Ladies being installed

Grand Tall Cedar – Ewell Menge, Jr being presented his Jewell and Pyramid by his wife.

Membership assembled at the Institution of Palm Beach Forest No. 113

Officers and their Ladies being installed
When I was asked to serve as the treasurer for the Tall Cedar Foundation, I started wondering. Why was I asked? How did they think of me? Can I really do it? These thoughts led me to remember when I had just become a Mason and then a Tall Cedar. I read in the magazines of the men about to take office in the Grand Lodge and the Supreme Forest. All of these men had a list of accomplishments that filled over half a page. How did they do so much? How do you even get started to do so much for our fraternities? Then I realized that my list was starting to grow.

My accomplishments are in no way on the level of our Grand and Supreme leadership but I had been a part of helping them. I remembered a quote from my days in the Army (U.S.), “No man can be a great leader without the enthusiastic, willing support of those following him.” I was building my list of supporting roles. How did I get here? As an American, we all know we can do a better job than the guy doing it now. That must have been it. I opened my mouth and said I had an idea. I was seated in the junior deacon’s place and I never got a chance to stop. A simple, “Can you help out here?” turned into a lot of time and another job on my list. Join another group because they needed my help? Well, ok. Then I did it again. I said, “I’d like to ….” At some point here, district deputies caught a glimpse and I was in their sights. I just hung on for the ride. I have loved every minute of it!

If you are a new brother though, how do you get to help without that long lead until you are spotted? How do you even know what position or committee to look at? There are a lot of them. Step one is talk to your Grand Tall Cedar. There will also be a District Deputy at almost every meeting and they have been known to have an idea or two. Both of them will have a Roster of Constituent Forests. That book lists all the Supreme committees. You may be surprised to see what all is covered. Discuss with them your background and what you would like to do.

All the Masonic organizations say, “You will get out of it what you put into it.” I am amazed and grateful every day for what I am getting out of it.
Jesse Miller, Grand Tall Cedar of Spring City Forest No. 34, DDSTC, is exceptionally pleased to announce the initiation of nineteen new members at one and the same time. Since this is a rather extraordinary event for our fraternity we had to ask him how.

Jesse is the tyler of his lodge. He gets to keep company with men as they wait for their turn in the preparing room. He gets to talk to the District Deputy Grand Master as he waits to be admitted. He gets to talk to the visiting line officers of the other district lodges as they wait to be admitted during district visitations. WAIT! I’m starting to see a pattern. He likes to talk. Well we’ve all sat in meetings and endured our DDSTC talking so that is no surprise. What Jesse does though is he talks about the Tall Cedars and what they mean to him. He is passionate about the Tall Cedars. He gives each brother he talks to an invitation to join the group that has given him so much in his life.

District Deputy Grand Masters do listen when the brethren talk to them. Brother Tim Pletcher, DDGM had listened to Jesse and started talking about the Tall Cedars when he visited lodges. Well with Jesse talking about us and then the DDGM talking too, nineteen petitions were brought in. To help welcome the new cedars was Right Worshipful Grand Master Jay Smith in a suit and green pyramid. Shown seated in the picture are; Harvey “Bud” Willard, PSTC; Jim Reed, PSTC; Jesse Miller, GTC, DDSTC; RWGM Jay Smith; Larry Donis, ST; Ellis “Pete” Updegraff, PSTC and Curtis Beam, JDSTC (elect). Behind are the newest Tall Cedars and their guides.
Submitted by
Bruce Gratz, PGTC Norristown #31

At 6’ 9” I am definitely a Tall Cedar. Having just been appointed as a Foundation Trustee, I am feeling taller and smaller at the same time. I am wondering if I will be able to do a good job for our kids. While wondering, I thought about what I had been able to do for my Forest. We had been having an “All you can eat” breakfast on the fourth Sunday of every month. When the previous chairmen decided to retire, this became my baby. We built it up to where we would have an average of 225 diners each month. This event has been a substantial revenue maker for both the Forest and MDA. I must also say that it would never have been possible to do any of it without the untiring efforts of the Breakfast crew: Pete Updegraff, PSTC; Larry Donis, PST; Robin Donis; Tom Lebish, PGTC; Bea Lebish and Bobby Brooke, Rose Chairman.

Knowing how Masons like to eat, I started having a number of dinner dances that featured “The Music Masters.” This group had a loyal following of dancers that followed them around their performance circuit. I was also able to get Mark Reno, an Elvis impersonator to come out and entertain for the last three years at separate dinner dances. Mark has become so appreciative of our charity that he has also made personal contributions. These dinner dances have earned thousands of dollars for our Forest and our charity.

Our newest fundraiser that I was able to get off the ground is our semiannual flea markets. Like all new ventures it takes time to become a big success. We were in the black for the first one and have made more each successive one. Our flea markets are on the way to becoming a big success for our Forest. An idea that our webmaster Tom Lebish and I have started working on is to use the internet. Probably the most used internet payment method is PayPal. Your Forest will need an account. In the Merchant Services area there is a small piece of software they will give you that you insert on your webpage. Create payment buttons for your website from this and you are ready to start receiving money.

Don’t forget the old standard, a Rose Sale. For many years, my wife Janet and I have been at the Trooper Acme at our annual Rose Sale. We have worked hard through our Rose Chairman Bobby Brooke to have a great relationship with the store. Labor Day Weekend is a time most people want to take off but it works so well for us.

Hopefully these programs that have worked so well for Norristown #31 will give your Forest some ideas for fundraisers in your own Forest. Now I am ready to start helping the Forests of District 10 as their new Foundation Trustee.
On October 26, 2013 Susquehanna Forest No. 199 had their first MDA Pancake breakfast. Help was plentiful, fellowship was great, and frolic seemed to abound as the Forest served some 200 guests. Thanks to all who worked in making this a successful event for our most honored, worthy charity.

Baltimore, Maryland

Members of Annopolis Forest No. 126 are manning the Tall Cedars Booth.

L-R: Paul Romer, GTC, Les Metcalf Jr, DDSTC, Barry, Robert, Roy Stevens, JDGT, Harris Asheil, MDA chair
On December 28, 2013 SDSTC Robert Saul installed the officers of Sullivan Forest #210 for the year of 2014. A dinner was held and fellowship was enjoyed by all in attendance.

L-R: Lawrence Ward, SGTC; Ray Bagley (DDGM#6), JDGTC; Miles Randall, GTC, and SDSTC Robert Saul

50 Year Member

GTC Bob Kessler, Millersburg Forest #125 presenting a 50 year membership certificate to Kenny Romberger
The Supreme Forest Tall Cedars of Lebanon want to take this opportunity to personally thank Mr. Steve Patton, President/CEO, of Watsontown Trucking, Watsontown, Pennsylvania for his support of our fraternity, and his sponsorship of transportation for the Little League World Series Grand Slam Parade. Mr. Patton has provided the TCL (and other masonic bodies) a tractor and flatbed trailer for the past several years, which allowed us to participate in the “Show Case Parade” allowing the TCL exposure to be seen by people from all over the world when they have visited Williamsport, PA. Watsontown Trucking also aids the TCL annually in late August which allows us to participate in the most celebrated baseball series involving children 12 years and younger, known as the Little League World Series.

Steve came to Watsontown Trucking in 1993, and since has become President and CEO of a trucking company with more than 200 trucks on the road, traversing our country hauling commodities east, west, north, and south.

The Cedar Kingdom thanks Steve for his continuing generosity and support.
Early in the spring of 1913 a group of Freemasons from the Lancaster area held several meetings at Brinkman Hall in Lancaster to discuss whether or not to have a local Tall Cedar Forest. These meetings became the foundation of Lancaster Forest No. 27 to be instituted August 27, 1913 by G. Fowler Kline Supreme Tall Cedar at Manner Choir Hall in Lancaster PA. The degree work was conferred on a class of 131 by West Chester Forest No. 22. The Supreme Tall said the Charter would remain open until the end of one year and the charter closed on August 27, 1914 with 151 Charter Members. The Charter with all the names and addresses of Charter Members is in tact.

Frank Burroughs was installed as the first Grand Tall Cedar of Lancaster Forest in 1913 and in 1916 was elevated to Supreme Tall Cedar.

The first Publication for Lancaster Forest was named "The Cedar Bulletin" the official organ of Lancaster Forest No. 27.

The first Ranger team was organized in 1913 and the first Band was organized in 1917 under the direction of Gabby Bear. Meetings and Ceremonials held during the first ten years were at different locations like Brinkman Hall, Knights of Golden Eagle Lodge, the Fulton Theater, Moose Hall and the Convention Hall in Lancaster.

The members and Rangers travelled to various country towns, Ephrata, New Holland, Quarryville, and Columbia in six chartered trolley cars.

In 1922 the Forest purchased The Lincoln Hotel which had a Bar and Restaurant for an investment and social activities.

In 1923 the original Membership grew from 151 to 1,133 and reached 1,167 at the end of 1924. In 1933 with the Depression starting the Membership dropped to 992, but the Band, Rangers and Color Guard paraded at the Supreme Forest Conventions. In 1928 William A. Brinkman was elected Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar and was elevated to Supreme Tall Cedar in 1930. It was this Convention that Lancaster Forest largest Delegation attended.

During the Depression years and involvement in the Second World War members were retained on the roster and per capita dues to the Supreme Forest and believed times would get better and their dues would be paid up to date.

Sometime between 1934 and 1936 the Scribe sent out notices for the collection of delinquent dues and warned the members if they did not pay, they would be suspended. One member replied written as follows.

"Dear Scribe; I got your letter about what lowes you. Now be pachant I aint forgot you Please wait. When some folks pay me I pay you. If this was Judgment Day and you wuz no more prepaired to meet your Maker as I am to meet your account you sure would have to go to hell. Trusting you will do this, I am"

Signed - T - C - L -

$3.25 Paid Now Will Entitle You to Your 1936 Card

Income from the Lincoln Hotel also declined and became a losing proposition that the Forest finances came to a point that it was no longer possible to pay the Supreme Forest per capita tax for non paying members in 1936 and several hundred members were suspended.

Grand Tall Cedars worked hard to preserve our Forest and keep its members in good standing.
The Grand Tall Cedar Officers and members attempted to present a comedy play to raise money to save The Hotel Lincoln. The comedy called "The Wedding of Ima Mann" was presented at Rocky Springs Theatre, August 30-31, 1933 at Rocky Springs Park, Lancaster PA. The cast all members of Lancaster Forest included many Past Grand Tall Cedars and Past Supreme Tall Cedar William Brinkman and Music by the Tall Cedar Orchestra with an added attraction "THE WEDDING OF DOLLS" with a cast of the Tall Cedars Wives and Daughters. Another attempt was the production of a Movie called "Mamas Baby Boy"

But the producer, film and proceeds disappeared nowhere to be found.

It became impossible to make interest payments on the Hotel Lincoln and the mortgage was foreclosed. Meetings continued to be held in the Moose Hall, and the Seventh Ward Republican Club.

Finances no longer permitted the Forest to attend the Supreme Forest Convention. With Membership in decline the Band and Rangers remained active as many Past Grand Tall Cedars serving in many vacant Offices. Several were active in the Supreme Forest with Forest Major serving three years as Supreme Preceptor, Olin K. Zook three years on the War Service Committee and Alford Flury three years on the Committee of Community Service. In 1942, Karl B. Kuhlmann of Lancaster Forest No.27 served 22 years on the Supreme Forest finance committee and was honored by being elected Supreme Trustee and was re-elected 5 times serving a total of 19 years.

Between 1944 membership dropped to its lowest point when it dropped to 514.
Between 1946 and April 1949 the Forest Publication changed from "The Cedar Bulletin" to the "NEW CEDARWOOD".

In 1947 membership started to grow. Fred Bear kept the Band active with a few members until 1947. In 1949 the Band was reorganized under the leadership of Leigh Wittel, who in 1952 requested that Robert Barber be named his Assistant. A few months later Leigh became ill but under the leadership of Bob the Band continued to grow and became one of the finest in the Cedar Kingdom, giving concerts at the Masonic Homes. In 1953 the Band started to participate in the parade at the Supreme Forest Convention. Robert Barber served as Band Director of Lancaster Forest # 27 from 1952 through 2012.

In 1949 Lancaster Forest had its largest growth since 1921 with a net gain of 111 or the sixth largest year of the Forest.

November 8, 1958 the 45th Ladies Night held at the Grand Ballroom Ephrata American Legion in Ephrata, PA. Entertainment--The Singing Cedars. Grand Prize Awards: First Prize $250.00, Second Prize $75.00, Third Prize $50.00.

Sometime between 1947 & 1950 the Publication changed from the Cedar Wood to the Cedar Knot.

November 7 1959 the 46th Anniversary Ladies Night held at Grand Ballroom Hotel Brunswick Lancaster, PA. Entertainment --Stage Show. Grand Prize Awards: First Prize $600.00 Mink Clutch Stole, Second PrizeRoyal Portable Typewriter, Third Prize Ladies 14KT. Gold Wrist Watch, Forth Prize Silver Chafing Dish

When I was asked to get some of the History I thought this would be a piece of cake, But after searching through old files that I picked up and they fell into little pieces it became a challenge. So if I missed something or someone important, "I Apologize". If anyone has any kind of information from 1959 through 2013 I would like to bring the Forest History to the present.

Past Grand Tall Cedar Lancaster Forest # 27
Past Supreme Tall Cedar
Gareth G. Diem
Lancaster Forest No. 27 Celebrates 100th Anniversary

The crowd was entertained by the Moonlighters and the Big Band Sounds.

(PGTC #27) Don Erb, Foundation Board Chairman and (PGTC Evergreen #49) Crabby Williams, Foundation Trustee District #13

PSTC James Reed (2009) and PSTC Richard Barringer (1991) share a moment.

Pat Alrichter sharing wisdom with DBSTC #11 Ike Gerst.

PGTC #27 Richard Alrichter, SDGTC Glen W Henry, and his lady Laura pause for a moment of fellowship.

GTC #43 Eric Frank and SS Delvin Zeiders sharing in the fellowship and celebration of Lancaster Forest’s 100th Anniversary.

Jonathan Welch, GTC #27 making remarks to the Cedars and their ladies during the celebration of the 100th Anniversary.

SDSTC Barry Sheaffer presents a Certificate of Recognition from Supreme Forest to Jonathan Welch, GTC.

Cedars and their ladies dancing.
I don't know about the rest of the Cedar Kingdom, but from where I live, we've had about enough of this winter weather. Curse that Groundhog! It makes us long for the coming Spring with the resurgance of growth and raising of spirits. Our annual Cedar calendars are marked far in advance for the upcoming Tall Cedar Convention in Wildwood, NJ. Your Parade Features Committee looks to capture this resurgance of growth and raising of spirit in the 2014 Tall Cedar Convention Parade. This year the Parade takes place Saturday May 10 at 10:00 AM and we need the help of the Tall Cedars and Ladies in every Forest.

Last year I told this personal story at Tall Cedar meetings across District 11. In 1974, as a young man I ventured to Atlantic City, NJ to celebrate completion of my junior year of study in college. On Saturday after celebrating long into the night before, I was awakened to sounds of marching bands and fanfare about a half block up the avenue. It was 10:15 in the morning and I decided it was better to get a bit more rest. About an hour later I was again awakened. This time I ventured into the street and witnessed the bands, floats, marching units going by, but decided (by the pounding in my head) that more rest was required. This went on a few more times until I awoke once more and checked my watch to find that it was early afternoon and the Parade was still going strong. This, I thought, was quite impressive. I sought to find what organization was responsible for such a fine display. The answer of course is Tall Cedars of Lebanon.

In 1974 Masonic and Tall Cedar membership was booming. Now forty years later our fraternity has seen a gradual but marked decrease in membership roles. Unfortunately, that trend has been evident in the size of our Convention Parade. The Tall Cedar Parade is a great tradition where we celebrate our collective efforts to fight muscular dystrophy. We are proud of the accomplishments but the real reason behind this public display is our caring and love for those stricken with MD and other neuro-muscular diseases.

Please join us at the Tall Cedar Convention this May and help grow again this fine tradition of Cedarism. Our goal of course is participation from all Forests. May is fast approaching, but with continued efforts we hope to reverse this trend of diminishing returns. With the help of Supreme Directors and District Deputies we will spread the word to each Forest to attend the Tall Cedar Convention and be part of the great tradition with much Fun, Frolic, and most of all Fellowship with one another.

Each Forest's Scribe should have received the 2014 Convention registration form by now. There are numerous categories in which to participate; Rangers, Motor Units, Cedarettes, Clown Units, Floats, Color Guard, as well as guest units from the Masonic youth groups DeMolay and Job's Daughters. Get the word out within each District and Forest. If your Forest doesn't have a Convention Committee, start one. Encourage all members and families to attend the Tall Cedar Convention. Together we can re-establish this great tradition and stand strong, united in our fight against muscular dystrophy.

Currently, the deadline for registration forms is April 1. The Parade Features Committee wants to hear from you regarding any questions or concerns you have. We want to make this a memorable event for all. Remember the creedance for 2014, "Believe and Achieve". This we can do together.

Yours in Cedarism,
2014 Parade Features Committee
Bob Hopkins, Trustee, PGTC York Forest No. 30
717-840-9836  srophkins@verizon.net
Mike Couch
SDGTC Harrisburg Forest No. 43
Thomas Keller
PGTC Annapolis Forest No. 126
David Manter
PGTC Pocono Forest No. 124
**FLORIDA HAPPENINGS**

PSTC Richard Feeser, PSTC 2013 surprises Brother Irvin R. Hopkins with one of three Tall Cedar Awards he presented for 2013. Brother Hopkins has served the Supreme Forest as District Deputy in Districts #14 & #26 and is a Past Grand Tall Cedar of Baltimore Forest #45 and Tamiami Forest #205.

Brother Richard Feeser, PSTC, installs A.J. Ahrens III as District Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar for District #26 during his visit to Tamiami Forest #205 on February 09, 2014. Brother Ahrens is a Past Grand Tall Cedar of Suncoast Forest #165 in Tampa, Florida.

Tamiami Forest #205 on February 09, 2014 enjoys dinner with our PSTC.
Since joining forces with MDA in 1951, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America has pledged its unwavering support to the Association’s preeminent mission — finding treatments and cures for more than 40 neuromuscular diseases.

As MDA’s first official national sponsor, the Tall Cedars organization supports MDA through rose sales, pancake breakfasts, golf tournaments and other events. Each Forest has its own set of fundraisers, filtering proceeds into the Tall Cedar Foundation.

With support from Tall Cedars, MDA is making headway in many areas of muscle disease research. Gene therapy is one of them.

**Finding the Dystrophin Gene**

The year was 1986, and the Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) community was more excited than it had been for decades. A group of MDA-supported researchers had identified the genetic cause of the disorder — any of a number of different flaws (“mutations”) in the gene for a newly identified muscle protein, one that would come to be called dystrophin.

It would soon be known that dystrophin plays an important role in skeletal muscles and in the heart. Located near the membrane that surrounds each muscle cell, it provides structural support to contracting skeletal-muscle fibers and constantly beating heart-muscle cells.

Mutations in the dystrophin gene that lead to a complete absence of the protein cause DMD, while mutations that result in a protein that’s either diminished in quantity or less than fully functional result in the less severe Becker muscular dystrophy (BMD).

Dystrophin, it was learned, is also one of the largest proteins in the body, with a correspondingly large gene. What remained unclear was whether dystrophin genes could be used to treat disease.

**A New Approach**

By the early 1990s, scientists and patients alike were asking a new question: Now that we know that DMD and BMD are caused by a lack of dystrophin, why not just add dystrophin genes to DMD-affected muscles to treat the disease?

Simple in concept, but extremely complex in execution, the idea of inserting therapeutic genes into tissues was dubbed “gene therapy,” also known as gene transfer or gene replacement, although there was no plan to get rid of a patient’s existing genes, making “replacement” somewhat of a misnomer.

Experiments in cells, mice, dogs and monkeys showed that dystrophin genes and other muscle protein genes might be used to treat genetic disorders caused by muscle protein deficiencies. Among the many disorders in this category, besides DMD and BMD, are limb-girdle muscular dystrophy (LGMD), congenital muscular dystrophy (CMD) and myotubular myopathy (MTM). (Gene transfer strategies for DMD are likely to have implications for at least some BMD patients.)
CHALLENGES AND DEAD ENDS

But challenges — expected and unexpected — soon followed. The response of the immune system to the therapy, the enormous size of the dystrophin gene, the need to target the vast territory of skeletal muscle tissue in the human body as well as the crucial heart muscle, and the potential impermanence of gene transfer all became apparent.

By the mid-1990s, altered viruses became the method of choice for transporting genes into muscles. Known as viral vectors, these tiny transport vehicles are the shells of viruses — without the ability to cause viral disease or replicate in the body, but with the advantage of attaching to docking sites on muscle cells and thereby gaining entry into the cell’s interior. Once inside cells, a new dystrophin gene could, researchers found, be “read” by the cell and used to make dystrophin protein.

An early challenge surfaced when it was found that a popular viral vector — the AV — caused an immune response in patients in a gene therapy trial for a metabolic disorder. Unfortunately, the other front-running viral vector — known as the AAV and less likely to cause an immune response — wasn’t large enough to hold the huge dystrophin gene.

To fit inside an AAV vector, the dystrophin gene had to be miniaturized — parts of it removed, with the hope that the remaining parts would lead to a protein that was still functional. Today, MDA scientists continue in their quest to create miniaturized dystrophin genes that provide maximal function to muscle cells.

Another potential obstacle was that the new genes didn’t always last very long in muscle cells. For instance, if a damaged muscle fiber is repaired by muscle stem cells (a natural process), the new genes can be lost along the way. One solution may be to target muscle stem cells rather than mature muscle cells, but there may be other approaches as well.

In 2006, MDA-supported researchers at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, began testing the safety and feasibility of dystrophin gene transfer therapy in a small group of boys with DMD. They used a miniaturized dystrophin gene inside an AAV vector — both developed by an MDA-supported company called Asklepios BioPharmaceutical — and injected it into a biceps muscle in each boy. (The biceps muscles on the other arm received a placebo injection, for comparison.)

Although the treatment was safe, the result was less than ideal: Very little dystrophin was produced. Further analysis revealed that the culprit was probably an immune response, apparently against the newly made dystrophin protein, and possibly against the AAV vector as well. Today, several MDA-supported researchers are investigating ways to get around unwanted immune responses to dystrophin gene therapy. Some propose using a different protein — utrophin — which resembles dystrophin but appears less likely to cause an unwanted immune response.

MDA grantee Jeffrey Chamberlain at the University of Washington, Seattle, is interested in outwitting the immune system by using medications that suppress it or by using utrophin instead of dystrophin genes. He’s also interested in combining gene transfer therapy with treatments like anti-inflammatory drugs and stem cell transplants, to get the best solution possible for DMD.

Dongsheng Duan, an MDA grantee at the University of Missouri, Columbia, is interested in tweaking the miniaturized dystrophin genes used for gene transfer as well as the viral vectors used to deliver them. He’s particularly interested in ensuring that a section of the dystrophin gene needed to help regulate blood flow to muscle tissue is included.

Duan says his team is trying to capitalize on the newest developments in the field.

And Hansell Stedman of the University of Pennsylvania, who has MDA support, is probing the nuances of the “inflammatory environment” that exist in dystrophin-deficient muscle fibers, and wants to use this knowledge to accomplish utrophin-based gene transfer that will “fly below the immune system’s radar.” He says his group is gearing up to “move forward into rational and appropriate clinical trials.
BEYOND GENE TRANSFER

Gene transfer therapy for DMD is still an important strategy in development for the disease, and there also are several MDA grantees actively working to advance research in this area.

But the term “gene therapy” has expanded recently to mean not only inserting new genes but also blocking existing ones or changing their structure. So some MDA grantees are pursuing strategies that change the structure of existing dystrophin DNA rather than inserting new dystrophin genes to treat DMD or BMD.

At the University of California, Los Angeles, Carmen Bertoni is repairing flawed dystrophin genes using laboratory-engineered compounds that trigger a natural cellular editing mechanism. The approach is working in mice, and Bertoni hopes to take it into clinical trials in the not-too-distant future.

And at Duke University, Charles Gersbach is correcting error-containing dystrophin DNA sequences using enzymes called nucleases. He and his colleagues have recently succeeded in correcting the dystrophin gene in human muscle cells in a lab dish. He now plans to take the strategy into laboratory animals and ultimately into the clinic.

This article has been excerpted, with permission, from the January 2014 issue of Quest, the magazine of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.
### 60-Year Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Initiated</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert E. Kessler</td>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ray E. Mosser, PGTC</td>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lee E. Anthony</td>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
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<td>George E. Morelock</td>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
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<td>William L. Mountz</td>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert E. Frantz</td>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
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<td>Kenneth L. Strohm</td>
<td>November 1954</td>
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### 50-Year Members

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<tr>
<td>Harry R. Hinshaw</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Vernon C. Sanders</td>
<td>April 29, 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reese W. Jenkins</td>
<td>April 29, 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward L. Peterson</td>
<td>October 27, 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan B. Weiser, PGTC</td>
<td>October 27, 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edwin R. Junkin</td>
<td>October 27, 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald C. Singer</td>
<td>October 27, 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard L. Basehore</td>
<td>October 27, 1964</td>
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### 25-Year Members

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<tr>
<td>Harry W. Sheaffer, Jr.</td>
<td>April 27, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Andrew Bitner</td>
<td>April 27, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. Trayer, III</td>
<td>April 27, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. Koser</td>
<td>April 27, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles L. Fogelsonger</td>
<td>April 27, 1989</td>
</tr>
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2013 FOUNDATION AWARDS

DIAMOND AWARD

QUITTAPAHLA NO. 25
Robert H. Kime, GTC

WESTMORELAND NO. 77
Timothy A. Neubauer, GTC

FRIENDSHIP NO. 146
Charles L. Wahl, GTC

OHIO NORTHERN NO. 188
David L. Vassar, GTC

SPRING CITY NO. 34
Samuel J. Miller, Jr., GTC

JUNIATA VALLEY NO. 88
George J. Harman, GTC

SHENANDOAH NO. 150
Stephen L. Cramer, GTC

TAMMIAI NO. 205
Arthur Pokorny, GTC

SO-RA-BO NO. 48
Michael J. Hltake, III, GTC

HAGERSTOWN NO. 95
Michael E. Barnes, GTC

SHAWNEE NO. 167
Karry Joe Teeter, GTC

ADONIRAM NO. 209
John W. Patterson, GTC

EASTERN SHO' NO. 53
James Bezold, GTC

FREDERICK NO. 132
Shawn R. Winpigler, GTC

FRANKLIN NO. 172
Mark S. Froehlich, GTC

SULLIVAN NO. 210
Neil T. Coy, Sr., GTC

RICHMOND NO. 66
Gilbert A. Schweiger

LA-ME-BU NO. 144
John R. Spears, GTC

ERIEZ NO. 175
Bernard D. Hanmore, GTC

WESTMORELAND NO. 77
Timothy A. Neubauer, GTC

CHIEF LOGAN NO. 131
Steven Earl Myers, GTC

BURLINGTON NO. 207
George J. Kelley, GTC

JUNIATA VALLEY NO. 88
George J. Harman, GTC

VALLEY NO. 145
Gerald L. Blackford, GTC

POCONO NO. 124
Jason R. Smith, GTC

BETHLEHEM NO. 61
Mark Gall, GTC

MILLERSBURG NO. 125
Robert C. Kessler, GTC

SPACE COAST NO. 196
Kenneth E. Windsor, Sr., GTC

WARREN COUNTY NO. 14

MILLERSBURG NO. 125
Robert C. Kessler, GTC

SAN FRANCISCO NO. 126
Brian K. Lewis, GTC

SCHUYLKILL NO. 141
Jody R. Dudley, GTC

NEPA NO. 137
Michael Cucura, GTC

GEORGIA STATE NO. 181
Walter D. Waddell, Jr., GTC

HARRISBURG NO. 43
David A. McDade, GTC

WASHINGTON NO. 142
Gregory A. Bruce, GTC

HARR-CE NO. 143
Robert W. Hollister, GTC

BURLINGTON NO. 207
George J. Kelley, GTC

NEVERSINK NO. 32
William R. Keller, GTC

NORRISTOWN NO. 31
Scott A. Smeltzer, GTC

NUTMEG NO. 116
David C. Toomey, Jr., GTC

PORTSMOUTH NO. 143
Robert W. Hollister, GTC

WASHINGTON NO. 143
Robert W. Hollister, GTC

VAWRIGHT NO. 49
Andrew Partyka, GTC

NEVER-SINK NO. 32
George R. Fields, GTC

MONTGOMERY NO. 134
Royce A. Watson, GTC

BATTLEFIELD NO. 170
Harless T. Dobbins, GTC

PORTSMOUTH NO. 143
Robert W. Hollister, GTC

PRINCE GEORGE'S NO. 139
Ronald F. Perkins, GTC

NORTHWEST NO. 187
Ted Eugene Hill, GTC

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“The Supreme Forest is running out of money and is raising our dues. The Tall Cedar Foundation has over one and a half million dollars. Why doesn’t the Foundation help out the Supreme Forest?” Maybe this is a question we as Tall Cedars have wondered about, but never had an opportunity to ask. Here is the answer with some excerpts from the Internal Revenue Service Code.

The Supreme Forest is a Fraternal Society and as such is a 501(c)(8) organization. “It must have a fraternal purpose. An organization has a fraternal purpose if membership is based on a common tie or the pursuit of a common object. The organization must also have a substantial program of fraternal activities. It must operate under the lodge system or for the exclusive benefit of the members of a fraternal organization itself operating under the lodge system. Operating under the lodge system requires, at a minimum, two active entities: (i) a parent organization; and (ii) a subordinate (called a lodge, branch, or the like) chartered by the parent and largely self-governing.”

The Tall Cedar Foundations is a Charitable Organization and is regulated by 501(c)(3) section of the Internal Revenue Tax Code. “To be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, an organization must be organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes set forth in section 501(c)(3), and none of its earnings may inure to any private shareholder or individual.”

Brethren, we have fundraisers for our Forests. We have fundraisers for the Foundation which is our arm to support MDA. If we want to keep from having to increase dues again, maybe it is time to start thinking of having a fundraiser for our Supreme Forest. Remember, keeping our Forests tax exempt means we have to have our Supreme Forest.

**Remember, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon is YOUR fraternity. The Cedar Digest is YOUR magazine. The “Ask Away” column is one of YOUR ways to bring light to an issue that one of your brothers in another Forest may have in common with you. Submit these questions to any member of the Public Relations Committee as listed in the Roster of Constituent Forests. All Forest line officers and District Deputies will have copies and can assist you.

District Deputies, if a question is posed to you, please forward it along with your answer to us so we may share it with the Cedar Kingdom. Our view is, “If you had to answer the question, another Tall Cedar somewhere will also ask that question soon. You can help your brother District Deputy with any research and help provide uniformity to our fraternity.”

We also would like to welcome Dr. Leslie Metcalf, Supreme Chaplain as our newest public relations committee member.
The Rose is a fight against Muscular Dystrophy