MSA Hospital Volunteers
Rebuild Post-Covid Services

During the World War II years, the Masonic Service Association’s programs of serving our military veterans adapted to new conditions. Today, as the Covid pandemic is hopefully drawing to a close, these programs need to adapt anew.

Veterans Administration Hospitals were created as a result of World War II, and MSA focused its primary veteran-service efforts at VA Hospitals. In recent years, MSA volunteers were helping at nearly 200 VA hospitals and clinics, providing more than 125,000 hours of volunteer service annually.

When the Covid pandemic began, virtually all visitation access at the VA Hospitals was shut down, seriously impacting the MSA Hospital Visitation Program.

Now, Lodges, which are located near a VA Hospital, have an excellent opportunity to supply volunteers. Masonic youth organizations, and women’s organizations, such as the Order of Eastern Star, can provide valuable assistance.

There are many Vets with no friends or family to visit them, sitting alone in the hospitals. MSA volunteers stop by to talk with them and give them comfort. Our volunteers, often during just a few hours a week, help the VA with welcoming visitors, giving directions, valet services, helping with paperwork or computer questions, Bingo games, barbecues, serving coffee, giving out comfort items which MSA supplies, and many other services and needs.

If you are interested in learning more, or volunteering, please reach out to us: msaoffice@gmail.com

For a brief glimpse of MSA Hospital Visitation programs, go to: msana.com/about-the-program-2/

Restore Core Values

Steven G. Tiner, is General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International. In his message in the Summer, 2021, issue of The Royal Arch Mason Magazine, he made this appeal for Freemasons to live up to American ideals, and thereby truly transform the world.

American society today reveals there is a desperate need to restore core values. Our great civic institutions are riddled with scandal. Debate, which is meant to bring light and not heat, has disintegrated into hurled insults, negative campaigns, and memes on social media.

We no longer love our neighbors. We fear them. Trust in society is crumbling or gone. More than ever, there is a deep longing for moral standards shared by all citizens.

The truth is, these things aren’t restored by leaders or institutions but by each individual. We have, for too long now, been glued to our computer and phone, isolating ourselves from others.

We live in a society in which individuals are too self-absorbed, ignoring others and forgetting that what makes our nation great is shared experience and mutual commitment.

Men like our Brother and President George Washington, represented our best ideals. It was easy for them to have widespread support because they portrayed our beliefs and aspirations. You and I must release those values in our own lives if we are to create such leaders, again, and restore our values.
Masonic Hall of Fame

The Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, has unveiled its “Masonic Hall of Fame,” which is a formal recognition for members of our Craft who have made incredible contributions to mankind and our fraternity.

The first class of inductees includes some well-respected individuals. The formal induction will occur later in 2021. Here are the initial inductees, in order of their life spans:

Benjamin Franklin, 1706-1790
George Washington, 1732-1799
Prince Hall, ca.1735-1738-1807
Meriwether Lewis, 1774-1809 and William Clark, 1770-1838
Mark Twain, 1835-1910
John Lejeune, 1867-1942
Harry Truman, 1884-1972
Irving Berlin, 1888-1989
John Glenn, 1921-2016
John Lewis, 1940-2020

Card Tricks to Masonic Service

S. Brent Morris received his doctorate in mathematics from Duke University. His doctoral dissertation on the mathematics of card shuffling was based on a card trick he learned in high school.

Brother Morris’ Masonic career has been long and significant in many areas of the Fraternity. He is the Founder of the Scottish Rite Research Society and Past Master of the world-prestigious Quatuor Coronati Lodge in England. Brother Morris recently retired as Managing Editor of the Scottish Rite Journal. He has been a valuable supporter and worker for the Masonic Service Association for many years. Of course, he is already eyeing many retirement projects. Best wishes!

Shriners Hospitals Lauded

Shriners Hospitals for Children have been recognized by U.S. News and World Report in its “Best Children’s Hospitals” rankings, with six different Shriners Hospitals named in this report.

These rankings are designed to help families, facing complex and rare conditions, to find the best medical care for their children.

U.S. News and World Report is considered a global leader in quality rankings that empower consumers to make better, more informed, decisions about important issues.

The “Best Children’s Hospitals” rankings evaluate medical centers in 10 pediatric specialties. This year’s rankings will be published in the “U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals 2022 Guidebook,” available in stores October 5.

Treasured Quotes from Albert Einstein:

“A smart person knows what to say. A wise person knows whether to say it or not.”

“A ship is always safe at shore, but that is not what it’s build for.”

“I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction. The world will have a generation of idiots.”

When Albert Einstein met Charlie Chaplin, Einstein said, “What I admire most about your art, is its universality. You do not say a word, and yet, the world understands you.” To which, Chaplin responded, “It’s true, but your fame is even greater! The world admires you, when nobody understands you!”