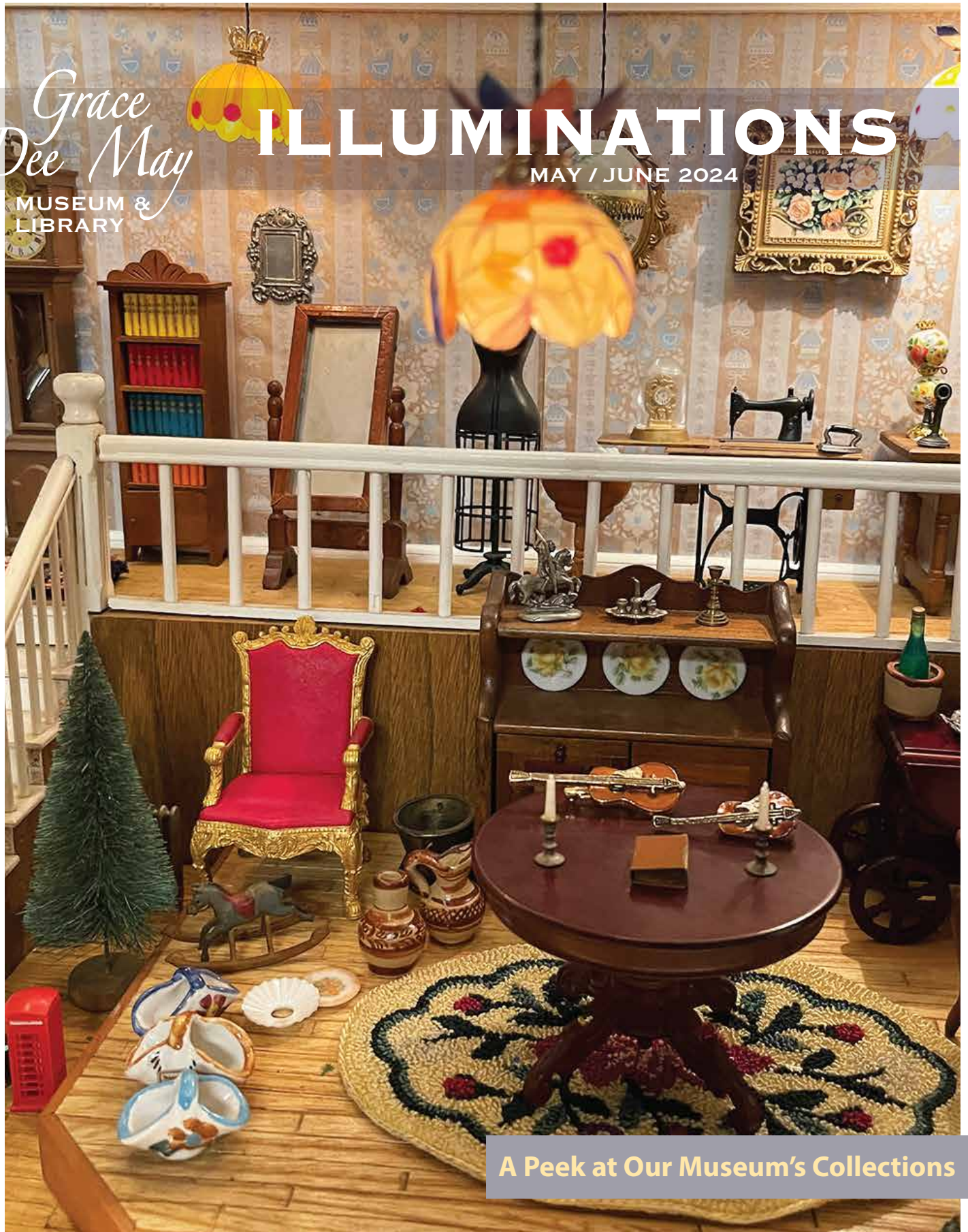


*Grace
Dee May*

MUSEUM &
LIBRARY

ILLUMINATIONS

MAY / JUNE 2024



A Peek at Our Museum's Collections

Grace Dee May Museum & Library • 665 W Jefferson Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007 • www.gracedeemay.org

ILLUMINATING THE LEGACY OF THE WEST

Grace Dee May

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Grace Dee May Museum

Museum Curator
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Museum Graphics
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Director Emeritus

Audrey Marie Stein

In 2004, Audrey Marie Stein established the Grace Dee May Museum. Audrey believed that she had been richly blessed by the *Grace* of God.

Audrey's nickname was *Dee* and she had been born in the month of *May*. So, as Director of the Foundation, she named the Museum the *Grace Dee May*.



Grace Dee May Inc. (EIN: 03-0591428) is a qualified tax exempt entity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

MAY / JUNE 2024 **ILLUMINATIONS**



"Freemasonry is very sentimental. It holds on to its history."

*Mark Tabbert, Curator 1999-2005),
National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA.*

Exploring Masonic Collectibles

Do you have a passion for collecting? Well, you are not alone. Archeologists have discovered that more than 500,000 years ago, the earliest humans collected keepsakes that touched the heart and mind of prehistoric man.

So, way before the PBS series "Antiques Roadshow", aired on television, humans have searched for rare and beautiful objects as well as items of historic value and assembled them for personal or public display.

The genesis of the Grace Dee May Museum began with a young girl's fascination with buttons. When Audrey Marie Stein, the GDM's Director Emeritus, was growing up in rural Kansas, she began collecting buttons. Prior to recent decades, homemade clothing was the norm and many of us can still remember our mother's or grandmother's prized "button box".

As a child, Audrey was fascinated with both the decorative and functionality of unique vintage buttons. Her original button collection remains a part of our Museum's collections of Americana. Throughout her life, Audrey expanded her horizons as a collector from buttons to a significant collection of French bronzes, Western art, Masonic artifacts and historical documents and so much more. As a professor, Audrey's vision and dedication to sharing knowledge guided her ambition to found the Grace Dee May Museum.

In this issue of *Illuminations*, we're digitally sharing more of the collections from the GDM – with a focus on some fascinating Masonic collections. We invite you to explore these rare and wonderful treasures.

Sean Foran
Curator & Board President

In future issues, we'd like to illuminate the lives and accomplishments of Masons from your Lodge. Please share their stories by contacting Ron Cooper at 818-383-9265 or email: info@gracedeemay.org

The Beddoe Collection of Miniatures



"The Idealized Antique Shop"

Arthur and Margaret Beddoe, at one time, were in the antique business. This "shop of their dreams" was imagined and created in miniature by the talented craftsman, Arthur Beddoe.



"The Allegorical Lodge" Created by Arthur S. Beddoe, P.M.

This exquisitely detailed "Allegorical Lodge" was donated to the Grace Dee May Museum. It is a representation of all the symbols of a lodge room completely encased and in a scale as small as the size of a book. Arthur is a member of Burbank Lodge No. 406. He and his wife Margaret are also active in the Order of Eastern Star.



The Hope Collection of Medals & Ribbons



“A Master Collector of Masonic Medals”

Kenneth Hope’s extensive collection of York Rite medals covers two centuries, all states plus many countries.



Victoria Preceptory & Priory No. 78



1907 Saratoga, Fort Sumter South Carolina Commandery No. 1



Great Falls 1911 Grand Commandery K. T. of Montana



San Francisco Commandery



Ninth Triennial Assembly Boston, June R&SM 1906 General Grand Council U.S.A.



23rd Triennial Conclave St. Louis, Missouri, 1886



Woonsocket Commandery



J. M. H. Frederick, Past Commander Lakewood Holy Grail



Santa Monica Bay No. 61 K.T. For Merit, Saint Monica



Phoenix, Ariz. Feb. 9-12, 1914



Boston G.G.R.A.C.U.S. Massachusetts Ye Green Dragon Tavern June 19, 1906



St. John’s No. 1 Prov. R.I. 1802



De Molay No. 12, K.T. Louisville, Kentucky

The Beddoe Collection of Masonic Glassware



Souvenir Masonic Glassware 1893-1911

It took Arthur and Margaret Beddoe many years of combing through antique stores, auction houses, flea markets, thrift stores, and online auctions to assemble this extensive collection of elaborate and finely detailed souvenir glassware.



Syria Temple Pittsburg(h), PA
San Francisco June 10, 1902



Shrine Plate



Syria Temple Pittsburgh, PA
Saratoga 1903



Tancred Commandery No. 48 K.T.
Pittsburgh, PA, Court House Headquarters 1898



Ascalon Commandery
No. 59, K.T. 1898



Syria Pittsburgh, PA
New Orleans, April 1910



Duquesne Commandery No. 72, K.T.
Pittsburgh, USA



Syria Temple Pittsburg, PA
Louisville, KY 1909



Syria Temple, Pittsburgh to
Cleveland, 1896



Syria Temple, Pittsburgh, PA
St. Paul, Minn. 1908



Medinah Temple Ladies Night
October 24th 1902



Syria Pittsburgh
Los Angeles, May 1906



World's Fair, 1893
Chicago - Masonic Temple
Commemorative Wine Glass



Meyrick Lodge No. 7295
Consecrated 5th Oct, 1953



Syria Temple, Pittsburgh, PA
Atlantic City, July 13, 1904



Syria Shrine Glass
Rochester, NY 1911



Syria Shrine Pittsburgh
Niagara Falls Shrine Glass 1905

The Audrey Marie Stein Collection of Buttons



"It All Began With Collecting Buttons"

As a little girl, Audrey Marie Stein began watching for interesting shapes, materials, and colors as she went through countless button boxes. Her collection includes many rare and unusual American, European, and Asian buttons.



The Smookler Collection of Masonic Postcards



"Wish You Were Here"

The Philip Smookler Collection is especially notable for images of Masonic buildings from around the world. Many of these edifices are, sadly, no longer standing.



Library and Masonic Temple, Catskill, N.Y.



"Melha" Shrine Temple Camel, Springfield, Mass.



Are You a Mason? Riding The Goat.



Alabama Masonic Home, Montgomery, Ala.



Shrine Postcard



Masonic Temple, Fargo, N. Dakota 1909



Masonic Temple and Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Cumberland, MD. Site of Fort Cumberland, Built in 1755



Masonic Temple, Beatrice, Nebraska



Masonic Library and Museum, Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Masonic Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah



Boston Tea Party, December 16, 1773, Boston, Mass.



Masonic Temple, Atlantic City, N.J.



Masonic Temple, Port Arthur, Texas



Scottish Rite Temple, Balboa, Canal Zone



Masonic Temple, Laconia, N.H.



View of Confederate Park showing Scottish Rite Temple, Jacksonville, Florida



Drawing Room - Int'l. Eastern Star Temple Washington, D.C.



Shrine Temple Civic Center, Helena, Mont.



Masonic Temple, Buffalo, N.Y.



A little SHRINER wearing his first PIN



Lulu Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.



Masonic Temple, Portland, Ore.



Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.



A little MASON wearing his first PIN



Charms of Masonry



Colored Masonic Temple, Birmingham, Ala.



Murat Temple, Indianapolis, Indiana

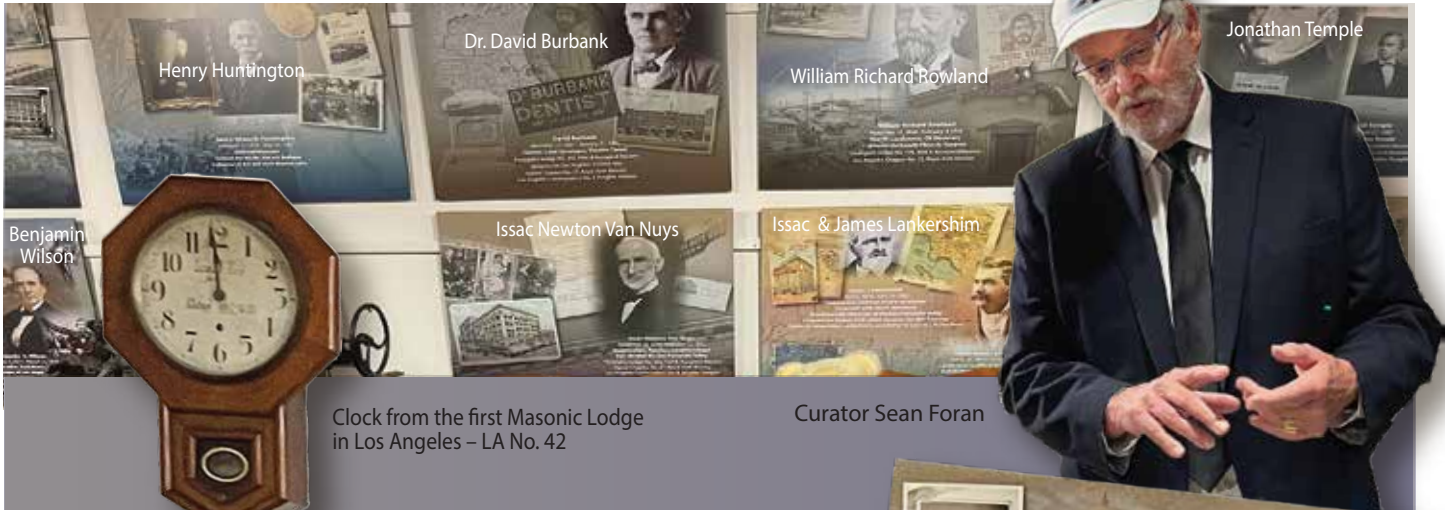


Ye SHRINER'S Mecca



The Masonic Temple, Washington, D.C.

The GDM Collection of Historic Stories of Masons



Henry Huntington

Dr. David Burbank

William Richard Rowland

Jonathan Temple

Benjamin Wilson

Issac Newton Van Nuys

Issac & James Lankershim

Curator Sean Foran



Clock from the first Masonic Lodge in Los Angeles – LA No. 42

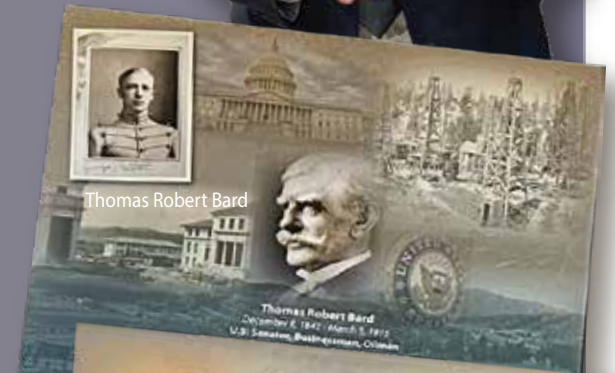
“Time-traveling Through Masonic History”

Welcome aboard the Grace Dee May Museum’s time machine – let us guide you through centuries of events and meet Freemasons who have changed the course of history.

Just call us and we will be happy to schedule a visit to your Lodge and custom tailor a program for your upcoming event.

We are ready to share stories from our vast collection.

Contact our Curator Sean Foran :
info@gracedeemay.org



Thomas Robert Bard

Thomas Robert Bard
December 6, 1847 - March 5, 1912
U.S. Senator, Washington, Oregon



William H. Workman



Bronze of Charles S. Walton



Kaspare Cohn

Our Vision:

The Grace Dee May Museum will seek to present a thematic look at the American West by utilizing its extensive collection of Western Art, and incorporate California history to broaden and deepen the public knowledge and appreciation of the men and women that settled the western part of the United States.

Our Mission:

The Grace Dee May Museum is committed to advancing the public knowledge and understanding of the American West and the contributions that Freemasonry has played in its development.

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MUSEUM & LIBRARY
located at the historic Shrine Auditorium
665 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007