

## The Maul has a home

May 17, 2008

Occidental Lodge member have completed the transfer of an ancient Egyptian setting Maul to the National Heritage Museum, Lexington Massachusetts on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2008. Worshipful Master, Kevin C McGinnis recalls his first time in learning about the Egyptian Maul, "I received a letter from the National Heritage museum requesting permanent donation of the Maul to the Museum, I had no clue that such a thing existed, and that Occidental Lodge was the owner. When asking the Lodge, it seemed a few knew of its existence. The story starts like this, in 1927 Occidental lodge had a Masonic V.I.P. visit the Lodge. "R.W. Brigadier General Charles S. Wilson District Grand Master of Egypt and Sudan". In early 1928 RW Wilson for unknown reasons sent a gift to the Lodge, and Egyptian setting maul found in Pharaoh Djoser's mortuary temple. The pharaoh's reigned from c. 2667 to 2648BC (3<sup>rd</sup> dynasty). Djoser and his vizier, chief architect Imhotep were some of the most dynamic people of the ancient times. Under their direction the famous step pyramid of Sakkara was erected the first monumental building hewn in stone. The step pyramid is the center piece of a vast mortuary complex in an enormous courtyard surrounded by dummy buildings. The Lodge cared for this relic storing it in Lee savings bank along with the Occidental lodge charter for years. In 1977 the Scottish rite National heritage museum was being built, and Occidental Lodge Loaned the Maul. The lodge voted to make this a permanent gift and the paper work was finalized March 25, 2008. The final chapter was a picture session in Lexington. Members who accompanied Wor. McGinnis to this event were RW Paul A Moore, RW Charles H. Hunter Jr. D.D.G.M., and Wor. Robert H. Knight, Bor. Todd A Shoff. The Occidental party was greeted at the Museum by Richard Travis, Acting Director, Treasurer and chief financial officer, and Hilary Stelling, Director of Artifact and Exhibits. This Museum is run by fine people who love their work and it shows, and the Maul is in great hands and a place for all to share.



Bro. Todd A Shoff, RW Charles H Hunter Jr., Wor. Kevin C McGinnis, Wor. Robert H Knight, RW Paul A Moore