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Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico
Has Emergent Session at
George Washington Masonic Memorial

THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

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Mission and Vision Statements of The Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia

The mission of the Grand Lodge of Virginia is to teach and perpetuate a way of life that promotes the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God and to assist its Lodges to grow and prosper.

The vision of the Grand Lodge of Virginia is to be the premier organization composed of men of integrity and character, who are honest, true to their word, believe in God, are devoted to family, charitable in their community, and courteous and helpful to each other. ✦

Grand Master's Message

THE LODGE EXPERIENCE 2011

Division Leadership Conference

What is a Mason? or Who are the Masons?

These are perhaps the two most frequently asked questions about Freemasonry and are the most difficult, if not embarrassing, questions to answer. To be convincing in our response, we need to rely on our personal knowledge, experiences, or training, and too many of us act as if we are indeed a secret society, so if we tell anything, we will have committed a major wrongdoing.

On the Grand Lodge of Virginia website, it states that we are good men trying to improve our lives through faith, hope, and charity. We help our communities and fellow man, serve our country, and protect our families.

Freemasonry is the oldest Fraternal organization in existence today. Written records about our Order date back to 1390. Freemasonry is a charitable organization and in North America, collectively we contribute well over two million dollars every day to charities throughout North America, providing direct services and funding research to physical and medical conditions which impair life.

To Be One, You Must Ask One.

The Original Masons

The story of the original Masons would describe the life of stone masons and those aspiring to obtain these skills. They organized into guilds or Lodges as a social order to obtain work and the training needed to advance in skill level. In those early days, the Master Mason was the skilled worker capable of reading the designs, executing the directions, and supervising the work of subordinate workers. The fellows (craftsmen) were capable of preparing the building materials according to the specifications for the builder's use. The Apprentice was the trainee or student who provided much of the physical labor and had to work to prove their ability and skill in order to advance to a higher level of worker.

During these early years, there was not a system of insurance, social service, or retire-



GRAND MASTER
M.: W.: John M. Chambliss, Jr.

ment systems, and the younger members of the family were responsible to take care of the needs of other family members, widows, and orphans. The principles were biblically based, yet even the Church was not capable of taking care of all of the needs of their people.

The early Lodge was much like a modern day union, similar craftsmen working together, protecting one another, securing the jobs, perfecting their practice, so the skill of their work was recognized. As the workers improved their ability, their work could be examined and if approved, they might be advanced or promoted to higher pay levels and responsibilities.

The social order would guide them to associate and assemble with like people for the common interest. They would protect and inspire their own. Together, they would seek out further work opportunities, for this was their livelihood, their jobs. They were in fact operative Masons.

Later, other family members or people with other skills were admitted into these

Grand Master's Calendar

MAY	
2	Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 2
3	Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 12
5	Warwick Lodge No. 336
6 - 7	Grand Commandery of Virginia, Charlottesville
9	Melrose Lodge No. 139
10	Roanoke Scottish Rite Bodies, 100th Anniversary
11	MAHOVA Board Meeting
	Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 6
12	Sharon Lodge No. 327
13	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 7 & 10
14	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 4
15 - 17	Grand Chapter of Virginia, Order of Eastern Star, Hampton
19	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 16
20	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 28
21	MAHOVA Ambassadors Conference
	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 15A, B, & C
24	Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 16
25	George Lodge No. 32
27	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 48 & 50
28	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 44 & 46
JUNE	
2	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 57
3	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 18
4	DeMolay Grand Masters Class, Luray
5	15th District Memorial Service, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond
7	William J. McMahon Lodge No. 303
8	MAHOVA Board Meeting
	B. Gerald Locher, Jr., 50-Year Veterans Emblem
10	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 25
11	Acca Shrine Center, Spring Ceremonial
16	National Sojourners Convention, Richmond
17	Manasseh Lodge No. 182, Strawberry Night
18	Hay Market Lodge No. 313, 100th Anniversary
24	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 39
25	Grand Assembly, Rainbow for Girls, Richmond
30	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 49
JULY	
1	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 24
2 - 9	Imperial Shrine of North America, Denver
12	Annual Session, Miss Job's Daughters, Ferrum College
13	MAHOVA Board Meeting
	Strategic Planning and Implementation Meeting
15	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 5 & 6
16	Peyton Randolph Lodge No. 1774
	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 9
22 - 24	Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, Newark, Delaware
29	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 17
30	Annual Conclave, DeMolay, Radford University
31	Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership
AUGUST	
1 - 3	Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership
4	J. Stanley Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament, Lexington
5	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 12 & 13
6	Victory Daylight Lodge No. 1778
10	MAHOVA Board Meeting
12	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 29
13	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 37
18	Bremont Lodge No. 241
19	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 5 & 633

Grand Master's Message (continued)

groupings in much the same way as we know of speculative Masons today. Their association was a grouping of people with similar interests, not the name or the building where these men met. The early Masonic Guilds or Lodges became much like our business groupings or employers today. The members needed to belong, to participate, and to grow. Without the skill and association, many would not be able to survive or earn a respectable living. The association also imposed the moral values needed within the society for the peaceable co-existence of the culture.

Fast forward to the modern Masonic Lodge

Today, we would be an assembly of Speculative Masons because we are not generally practicing stonemasons, and in fact, are not organized as such. We emulate the practice of receiving an initiate, imparting skills and education to them, and then advancing them through our three degrees or skill levels, sharing the stories of our heritage and the principles which they hold important. Today we join as a voluntary organization. We seem to feel or act as if we don't need to be as active, because we are not generally improving our vocational skills. As a result, we don't practice the other skills or improve our cultural or social skills and values as our forefathers once did.

Modern Lodge Meeting

Today, we have the required ritual elements and a sample outline for the meeting which almost all Masonic Lodges employ:

- Ritualistic Opening
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country
- Clear the Secretary's Desk (communications, required reading, petitions (and possible balloting), announcements and items of interest.
- Treasurer's report
- Recognition of members and guests
- Reports and Business
- Review of Minutes
- Ritualistic Closing and Charge

Successful Lodges also would add:

- Possible Program

- May invite Ladies or Non-Masons
- Possible meal or refreshments and fellowship time

Would it be better if we simply sent a trestle board, newsletter, e-mail or other notice to our members with the basic information, announcements, condition of members, etc.? The advantages are the dissemination of the same information to all of our members, not just those in attendance; we wouldn't need a building; we would in fact not need to attend the meeting, all of which would result in a tremendous cost savings; without the meeting, we would have more time to spend with our family, to attend children's programs or enjoy our other special interests. Would this be an improvement? I would further ask how we would grow the Fraternity, how would we receive new members; would we even need the Fraternity?

With this concept in mind, let me remind you of the question recited at the beginning of our Master Mason meeting; Brother, What induced you to become a Master Mason?

In contrast, don't we belong to a Lodge for some of the social value? We need to have the interaction with other people with similar interests, with similar needs, with similar abilities. The Lodge provides opportunity to learn leadership skills, to help or be helped. We state that we take good men and make them better. Isn't that what each of aspires us to do, to become better?

Consider the obligations we accepted: to spread Brotherly love and affection; to take care of distressed Brother Masons, their widows and orphans; etc. You see, it is not enough simply to have the written document and expect change or improvement in life to occur. Most families have a book of holy writings in their home, but without the interaction with others and the explanations of the teachings and the truths contained in the writings they will not grow to know or practice them.

Our legal system started with ten simple laws to frame or outline our relationship and behavior towards our God and towards our

Grand Master's Calendar (continued)

AUGUST (continued)

20	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 35A & 35B
21 - 23	Scottish Rite Biennial Session, Southern Jurisdiction
22	Pocahontas Lodged No. 240
25	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 47
26	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 31 & 32
27	Statewide One-Day Conferral Class
29	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54

SEPTEMBER

3	Hiram Club Ball, Virginia Beach
7 - 10	Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association, Virginia Beach
9	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 27
10	Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 11 Celebration for Charles F. Shuler, PGM
14	MAHOVA Board Meeting Strategic Planning and Implementation Meeting
17	Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Chesapeake Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 34
20	Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 34
22 - 24	South Atlantic Shrine Association, Myrtle Beach
23 - 25	Scottish Rite Conference, Newport News

OCTOBER

1	Lakeland Lodge No. 190, Dedication Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 22
7	MAHOVA Board Meeting
8	MAHOVA Family Day
12	Eureka Lodge No. 195
13 - 15	Grand Lodge of Ohio
16 - 18	Grand Lodge of Kentucky
21	Chamblissburg Lodge No. 179
24 - 26	Grand Lodge of Georgia
27	Piedmont Shrine Club

NOVEMBER

1	Khediye Shrine Center, Fall Ceremonial
4	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
5	Kazim Shrine Center, Fall Ceremonial
7 - 12	Grand Annual Communication



**“Make A Difference
Every Day”**

Grand Master's Message (continued)

fellow man. Yet mankind now has hundreds or even thousands of laws, rules, regulations or resolutions to interpret the basic laws or to give examples of how we should act towards one another.

My Brethren, I follow the logic of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who inspired the people and leadership of our country when I tell you – ASK NOT WHAT FREEMASONRY CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR FREEMASONRY.

Because you are here this evening, you are indicating that you have an interest in our great Fraternity. If you are an officer, you should be working the strategic plans needed to advance our Fraternity; you should be learning leadership skills that allow you to manage your Lodge efficiently; if you are involved in the projects and programs of our Fraternity, you should be helping to introduce and spread our efforts into the community; if you are a member, you should be seeking ways to use your skills and abilities to serve mankind, learn the ritual; and work to MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.

GET FIRED UP! is the name of the program introduced for 2011 to look at Lodge Improvement. This program is intended to look at the performance of your Lodge in prior years and to seek ways to grow during 2011. Many of the elements that you should look at include programs that you have tried in the past. If they were successful, try to continue them. If they were not successful, see if there are ways to improve them and try again. Many apply elements from the reasons given by the Senior Warden in our opening:

Travel in Foreign Countries – visit other Lodges, learn from the experience and share ideas.

“Work and Receive Master's wages” – grow to perfection in the skills and ritual of the Craft so you can do the work, the ritual, the business, the expansion of the Lodge.

“Contribute to the relief of distressed Brother Master Masons, their widows, and orphans” – carry out the work of the chari-

table efforts of our Fraternity and all of the appendant bodies and assist in raising funds and resources to make them successful. Our Fraternity contributes over \$2 million dollars each day to the actual delivery of services to our fellow man and research to reduce the impact of physical and medical conditions which hinder us.

We need to practice spreading Brotherly love and affection in all of our relationships with our fellow man, particularly a Brother in Masonry.

Today, I am probably singing to the choir, to the people who attend Lodge meetings and work with the programs, but I challenge you to improve the Lodge Experience.

Have monthly programs which provide educational programs, so participants can take home a nugget of value each time that they attend Lodge.

Learn to perfect the ritual, so the Lodge experience is good and the degree work for the candidate is meaningful, educational, and inspiring.

Even if you are not participating in the degree work, attend the program to show the candidate that we value them and welcome them into the Fraternity.

During 2011, have each Lodge make a personal contact with each member of the Lodge and the Masonic Sweethearts (widows), a well-being check. Find out information about the person and family (work situation, health, needs, etc). The relationship that you develop should lead to a mentor relationship between the two people. Invite the Brother back to the Lodge, get them involved, try to find interests or programs that would be meaningful to the member, find what would inspire the person to become more involved, if they are not active, see if they will share what caused them to lose interest, so the problem may be eliminated in the future.

Be a mentor to all members, not just for a few months, but for the lifetime with the Brother and their family.

Be patriotic, although we vow not to dis-

cuss religion and politics within the Lodge, we must do everything in our power to promote social virtue, civil pride, and responsibility within our community and our country.

Be visible and proud to be a Mason within the community. Wear the jewelry and insignia proudly, being careful to think, act, and speak as if you were wearing your white lambskin apron because your behavior and actions speak so loudly to those observing you that they may not hear a single word that you say.

The choice is yours. You can stay at home, not participate, not grow, not promote our Fraternity; in other words, in the comfort of your recliner, you act as one who is snoring. Or, you can get involved, use those principles which you learned inside the Lodge, and practice them outside the Lodge towards all mankind, helping the Lodge to be viable, vibrant, or as some would say, soaring. We need to improve the Lodge experience and share our beliefs with our Brothers in Masonry; with our family, with our community, and with our fellow man.

I encourage you to be involved, to be deliberate, and in everything that you think, or do, or say; work hard to MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.

I thank you for coming to participate in this training opportunity. I pray that God will bless you as men and Masons that he will challenge you and use you to grow our Fraternity, and that he will keep you safely in the palm of His hand.

GET FIRED UP! 🚀

Sincerely and fraternally,



Grand Master

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge

OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Executive Order No. 3 2010-2011

SUMMARY: This Executive Order establishes a Statewide, One-Day Conferral Class on August 27 2011, and prescribes responsibilities for its conduct.

WHEREAS, there are circumstances when prospective candidates cannot be accommodated by the several month or year-long Degree process, and

WHEREAS, without disruption to the regular conferral of Degrees in the Lodge, we can take good men and make them better, in a one-day conferral once every few years,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John M. Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia do hereby establish and authorize a Statewide One-Day Conferral Class to be conducted on August 27, 2011, at Shelby Lodge No. 162, at these six Scottish Rite Valleys (Lynchburg, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond, and Roanoke), and at the Kena Shrine Center.

The District Deputy Grand Masters within each location will have primary responsibility and will be supported by the Committee on Work, and the Committee on Masonic Education, the Worshipful Masters, Lodge Officers, the District and Lodge Instructors of Work and the District and Lodge Educational Officers. There will be an elected Grand Line Officer or Past Grand Master at each Conferral site to serve as my personal representative.

Each candidate will be assigned a mentor, and it is recommended that the Petition signers be present as well.

Detailed guidance will be issued to ensure that the Degrees are conferred in a manner that is impressive and memorable to each candidate, and consistent across the Commonwealth.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Virginia at the City of Richmond this 7th day of March, A.L. 6011, A.D. 2011 and in the Two Hundred and Thirty-third year of our Grand Lodge.



John M. Chambliss, Jr.
Grand Master



Attest:



Alan W. Adkins
Grand Secretary

Statewide One-Day Conferral Scheduled

A statewide One-Day Conferral has been scheduled for Saturday, August 27, 2011. Executive Order No. 3 has been issued, and it outlines the guidelines for the conduct of this program. Lodges which participated in an area One-Day Conferral during 2010 will not be permitted to bring candidates to the 2011 program, because this privilege is not to be conducted on a yearly basis. The work will occur at eight sites across the Commonwealth, including Shelby Lodge in Bristol, Kena Shrine Center, and the Scottish Rite Temples at Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, Richmond, Lynchburg, and Roanoke. The work will be coordinated by the District Deputy Grand Masters in the respective areas, with the work being guided by the Grand Lodge Committee on Work and Committee on Masonic Education. An elected Grand Lodge Officer or Past Grand Master will also be at each site.

If you know of someone who has not made the time available to join the Fraternity through the traditional or alternative (educational) methods; or has not been able to complete the catechism work, the Lodge may wish to consider their petition for participation in this One-Day Conferral Program. Please note, this is not an open opportunity to solicit or invite candidates into the Fraternity. The same petition process is in place, and the required time to lay over remains the same.

There are several facts which should be re-emphasized:

- No Lodge is required to participate in the One-Day Conferral Program. If a Lodge is capable of conferring the degrees in the traditional method, they are encouraged to continue that basis and support the efforts of other Lodges.
- The Master of the Lodge, recommenders for the petitioner, mentor/coach should be present during the One-Day Conferral Program to support the candidate and help with the work.

- Before being issued a dues card, the candidate must demonstrate proficiency in several areas and be able to express in his own words the meaning of the obligations of Freemasonry.
- A mentor, who will conduct the educational program and prepare the candidate to be received into the Fraternity, must be assigned to the candidate. The candidate must be coached and his proficiency demonstrated prior to October 31, before the dues card can be presented. A letter that will allow visitation until that time will be presented after the One-Day Conferral Program.

Obviously, a person who enters our Fraternity through either the alternative method or One-Day Conferral method must learn the catechism and other ritual materials necessary to obtain the Warden's Certificate, before they can serve as Master of a Lodge. But the work and support of the assigned mentor and the officers and members of the Lodge should be to inspire the candidate to learn all of the three degrees, work with the candidate by giving him duties and causing him to feel welcomed into the Fraternity, and inspiring him to grow. Remember, we only receive from any good work in relationship to the time and energy and devotion that we invest in it.

This program is not intended to be a Membership Drive for numbers sake, but an opportunity to receive candidates who cannot manage to enter through the other avenues available. Please look around and present information to a worthy individual whom you feel would be a worthy addition to our Craft. ✦



John M. Chambliss, Jr.
Grand Master

Is The Journey Done?

Brother Earnest B. Irby, Jr.

Sailing on a sea of words into an inky dark, no moon or stars to navigate the compass rose, past south, then west, then east, then northeast, where the young Apprentice stops and stands erect, yet shaky and unsure, as with throat so dry it hurts to swallow.

The journey of the Fellowcraft, through sentences of shifting sands, past Greek and Roman columns broken, scattered in a Middle Chamber, so mindful of astronomy, geometry, he sits among the brethren, gazing without focus at the vacant spaces in the crowded room.

The Master candidate, much surer now than in the past, teeth and jaws locked tight, eyes still blurry from oceans of signs and symbols, trembles when reminded of other lightless trips, but soon sets out his journey to resume, as the sailing canvas is drawn taut, then the boom is raised, the crew is praised, smiles and handshakes all around.

One wonders is the journey done, or has it just begun? ✦



Another Chapter Is Closed

John M. Chambliss, Jr.
Grand Master

On March 4, 2011, Corporal Frank Buckles completed his journey in this earthly life, having been noted as the oldest American veteran of World War I. Brother Buckles was a Freemason, Shriner, and in the Knight Commander Court of Honour (KCCH) in the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction.

Brother Buckles enlisted in the Army in 1917 at the age of 16 (having misrepresented his age) and went into the Ambulance Corps so that he could go where the action was. He was later tasked with transporting prisoners. During World War II, he was in the Philippines in Manila when the Japanese attacked and he was taken as a prisoner of war and imprisoned for 39 months. At the time of his death, Corporal Buckles was one of three surviving World War I veterans and the only American of that group.

On March 15, 2011, his body laid in repose in the amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery where he was later laid to rest with full military honors in the area near General John Pershing's grave. Pershing had been the Commander of all forces in France during World War I and Corporal Buckles had served under his command. During his final years, Corporal



Buckles continued to fight for a national monument in Washington, D.C. for all who served in World War I, not just the memorial for the soldiers of the District of Columbia.

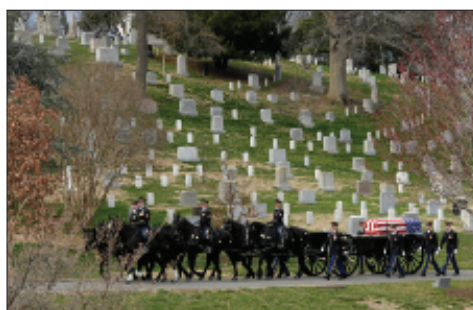
I had the privilege of representing the Freemasons of Virginia at the burial of Corporal Buckles, and the ceremony caused me to reflect on the closing of a chapter in our history. After World War I there was an influx within the Fraternity and that chapter is quickly closing with the passing of those members. After World War II, there was a larger influx and we are seeing the impact to the fraternity as they lose their ability to drive at night, with the diminishing memory, with the loss of great ritualists, the loss of mentors and friends by their passing. We should never

forget the gifts that they provided to each one of us.

Whenever you have the opportunity in your family, in your Lodge, and in your community to express our appreciation for the services that they gave to us, for the lessons that they have taught us, for the encouragement that inspires us to move forward and to do our very best, thank them and give them honor and quality time. Time is a precious gift and once it has passed by, it can never be replaced. Once a loved one or a friend has passed on, it is too late to mend relationships, express our feelings, or receive those final blessings. Do the right thing. Take the first step. In everything that you think or do or say, "Make a Difference Every Day" 🙏



Members of the Honor Guard hold salute during the changing of the guard, as Brother Frank Buckles lies in Arlington National Cemetery Chapel.



An Army caisson carries Brother Frank Buckles to the graveside service at Arlington National Cemetery.



The casket of Brother Frank Buckles is placed for the graveside funeral service at Arlington National Cemetery.

Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico has Emergent Session at George Washington Masonic Memorial

John Mason Chambliss, Jr.
Grand Master



Left to right: Worshipful John P. Olson, Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr., Most Worshipful Rafael A. Rosario, and Right Worshipful George D. Seghers

The Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico provided an exhibit at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia during the month of March, 2011. This effort acknowledged its celebration of 125 years as a Grand Lodge and the desire to share part of its heritage with the world.

Their emergent session of the Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico was held on March 30, 2011, under the leadership of Most Worshipful Grand Master Rafael Acosta Rosario. Nineteen brethren representing fourteen Lodges from Puerto Rico were in attendance. The Virginia delegation included Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master; Right Worshipful Grant P. Routzohn, DDGM for District 1A; Worshipful John P. Olson from Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22; and Right Worshipful George

D. Seghers, Executive Director and two staff from the Memorial. The Grand Lodge session was opened in Spanish and the work was like a symphony. The Grand Lodge of Puerto Rico has become the latest of a group of fifteen Grand Lodges who have pledged to support the Memorial with \$1 per member per year, and they have appointed an ambassador to work with the Memorial in the administrative and maintenance efforts. We welcome this delegation of Brethren to the Commonwealth of Virginia and hope that they will continue to visit our area in the future. Their graciousness and hospitality towards the Grand Lodge of Virginia during their visit were certainly appreciated. ✦



Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr. at the altar

167 Years of Masonic Service

March 16, 2011, in the Petersburg Masonic Temple, Powhatan Starke Lodge No. 124 had a very special Masonic Veterans Award Ceremony. The recipient, Worshipful Herbert Marshall Shelton, was conducted to the foot of the east by his Brother, Alvin "Bubba" Shelton, a 50-year Mason, and Worshipful Robert Lee Frazier.

It was noted during the presentation that Worshipful Frazier taught Worshipful Shelton his catechism in 1960. Worshipful Shelton was presented his fifty year veterans emblem by Rt. Wor. Henry Anderson Joyner in a most impressive manner. Worshipful Shelton stated he was very much moved by the support of the Brethren and the escort from his Brother and Worshipful Frazier.

The three Brethren represent more than 167 years of Masonic service. Worshipful Frazier is Powhatan Starke's senior Past Master, having served in 1961 - 1962. ✦



Left to Right: Wor. Herbert Marshall Shelton, Wor. Robert L. Frazier and Bro. Alvin "Bubba" Shelton.

Secretaries Night

Wor. Patrick C. Murphrey

At its April Stated Communication, Bremond Lodge No. 241 honored Lodge Secretaries from across the Commonwealth. In attendance were 15 Lodge Secretaries who were pinned with a carnation upon arrival, and enjoyed a roast beef dinner. Worshipful Master Steven Urban, invited the Secretaries of each of Virginia's Lodges to attend as honored guests.

The guest speaker was Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Most Worshipful Adkins served as Grand Master in 1997 and has served as Grand Secretary since that time. He served as Secretary of Mountain Home Lodge No. 263 from 1978 through 1991 and currently serves as Secretary of Westhampton Lodge No. 302.

In his remarks, he thanked the Worshipful Master and the Lodge for taking time to recognize some of Freemasonry's hardest workers – Lodge Secretaries.

He expounded on the duties and responsibilities inherent in the office of Lodge Secretary and saluted all those Secretaries in attendance. "One of the most important offices held in the Lodge and titles worn is that of Secretary. This is true because the member who serves in this office usually continues from year to year and serves to bring continuity to the affairs of the Lodge, to bind the old to the new and to preserve the hallowed traditions of the Craft and the Lodge. To stress the importance of continuity since the year 2000 a average of forty-six secretaries or fourteen percent (14%) of all Lodges either step down voluntary or are



Secretary's Night, MW Alan Adkins far right.

replaced each year. Of these forty-six secretaries eleven or twenty-four percent (24%) would have served ten or more years as Secretary. As a matter of fact the average tenure of these secretaries is almost twenty years. Three of them served fifty or more years, namely; Most Worshipful Charles F. Shuler, Elkton Lodge No. 74 (52 years), Worshipful William R. Mumpower, Big Stone Gap Lodge No. 208 (52 years); and Right Worshipful William H. Pierce, Kempsville Lodge No. 196 (50 years)."

Most Worshipful Adkin's closing is worth sharing,

"Will a Secretary Go to Heaven?"

If a secretary writes a letter, it is too long.

If he sends a postcard it's too short.

If he doesn't send a notice, he is lazy.

If he attends a committee meeting he is butting in, if he stays away, he is a shirker.

If he duns the member for dues, he is insulting.

If he fails to collect dues he is slipping.

If he asks for advice he is incompetent.

If he does not he is bullheaded.

If he writes his reports complete, they are too long.

If he condenses them, they are incomplete.

If he talks on a subject, he is trying to run things.

If he remains quiet, he has lost interest in meetings.

If he goes on an errand and someone comes to the office, he is taking time off from work and never does his job.

If the phone rings and he doesn't pick it up he is never there.

If he picks it up on the first ring he has nothing to do but listen for the phone to ring.

If it rings a few times, he is trying to look important.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust; if the others won't do it, the Secretary must.

Following Most Worshipful Adkin's remarks, Worshipful Steven Urban took a moment to honor Wor. Herbert J. Smith, Jr. for 10 years of service as Bremond Lodge's Secretary. Wor. Smith was presented with a handsome quill and ink set on behalf of the Bremond Lodge.

Also in attendance were Most Worshipful William F. Perdue (1991); who served as Grand Secretary from 1995-1997, Most Worshipful Clifford A. Parker (2002), and Most Worshipful William E. Rorer, Jr. (2010).

At the conclusion of the evening, the Lodge was closed by Most Worshipful's Adkins, Parker and Perdue occupying the East, West, and South respectively. ♣

Right Worshipful David A. Burkus Editor Extraordinaire

Rt. Wor. David Alex Burkus tendered his resignation as Chairman of the Masonic Herald Publications Board and Editor of the Virginia Masonic Herald at the end of 2010. The members of the Board deeply miss his guidance, advice, and leadership.

Appointed Chairman of the Board by MW George Harry Chapin in 1999 and as Editor by MW Clifford Alan Parker in 2001, Brother Dave has overseen vast improvements in the layout and content of the Herald.

Under Bro. Dave's leadership, the cover and banner of the magazine became cleaner, more appealing, and more professional in appearance. The layout developed consistency in article headings, captions, and citations. Story selection moved from local news to articles of more general Masonic interest, state-wide features, educational and historical items, and thought pieces.

During his tenure, Bro. Dave introduced regular columns such as "Ask Hiram" and book reviews. He opened the publication to advertising and helped bring its budget under control. Herald Supplements now regularly appear on the Grand Lodge website where regular issues are also archived.

While overseeing such innovations and improvements, Bro. Dave constantly recruited and retained a Publication Board with diverse talents in editing, photography, research, computer graphics, Masonic education and layout. He treated his Board members with fraternal respect, encouragement, gentle guidance, good humor, patience and brotherly love that rewarded him with reciprocal loyalty, productivity, and affection.

As a result, Bro. Dave's efforts produced a Masonic Herald that the Brethren actually read because it has become more interesting,



R. W. Burkus presenting M. W. Rorer all the issues of the Herald for his year, 2010.

readable, and relevant. It now has a national audience on-line.

No less an authority than Masonic scholar and Blue Friar Wor. S. Brent Morris, Ph.D., Editor of the Scottish Rite Journal has said: "The Virginia Masonic Herald is consistently in the top five Masonic Publications in the United States." Bro. Dave made that happen with the full support of the Herald's Board.

Bro. Dave brought an impressive array of Masonic memberships, offices, and honors to his Editorship of the Herald.

Rt. Wor. David A. Burkus was raised in Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 in November of 1994. He served for three terms as Worshipful Master of Mariner Lodge No. 215, where he was known affectionately as the "Penguin." He is Past District Deputy Grand Master (2004) of Masonic District 14B.

Coroneted a 33° Degree Inspector General Honorary by the Scottish Rite in 2009, he has served as Master of all four Scottish Rite Bodies. He is a Past Sovereign Master of Allied Masonic Degrees, the research body of the Royal Arch, and Past President and Secretary of his District's Masters and Wardens Association.

Bro. Dave held the Grand Lodge Offices

of Grand Junior Steward in 2002 and Grand Pursuivant in 2009. He currently serves as Junior Warden in Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 and Peyton Randolph Research Lodge No. 1774 and as Viceroy in the St. Thomas Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine.

He holds memberships in Warwick Royal Arch Chapter, Hampton Commandery, and Newport News Scottish Rite, and is a LMIP in three Blue Lodges, as well as Langley-Fort Monroe Chapter, National Sojourners and Hap Arnold Chapter, Heroes of '76.

He has also been recognized with the DeMolay Cross of Honor and the Rainbow Grand Cross of Color, the highest awards of those youth groups.

Bro. Burkus has two daughters, Katherine and Nicole, and a son, Bryan. He served with distinction in the U.S. Navy as a submariner for twenty years, achieving the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Virginia Freemasonry owes Rt. Wor. David Burkus its profoundest gratitude and appreciation for his tireless, distinguished, meritorious, and outstanding service to the Craft in general and to the Virginia Masonic Herald in particular. 🙏



M. W. Hodges (2009) acknowledging R. W. Burkus' service to the Craft

Reid James Simmons Academy

July 31 through August 3

Brethren,

We all have very busy schedules, yet we know in our hearts that we need to set aside some time to devote to perfecting our ritual, growing in Masonic education, or obtaining leadership skills. Many times we look around and find that suitable training opportunities are at an inconvenient time, too costly, or offered by less than quality instructors.

The Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership has been developed to serve all of these needs with a cadre of quality ritualists, educators, and leaders from our great Fraternity. This opportunity provides one-on-one time, which will allow you to:

- perfect your own skill;
- work towards or obtain your certificate;
- learn leadership skills to help you serve as an officer in your local Lodge;
- grow in your knowledge of Masonic education;
- participate in the exemplification of the degrees and ceremonies;

- make or renew friendships with Masonic leaders from all walks of life;
- and have a wonderful experience that will last a lifetime (July 31 through August 3).

Each time that I have attended the Academy, I have learned much and made many new friends. I hope that you will seize the opportunity to improve yourself in Masonry this year and attend the sessions, so you will be better prepared to “Make a Difference Every Day” as you continue your Masonic journey. ✨

Fraternally,



John M. Chambliss, Jr.
Grand Master

2011 Area Masonic Ritual Schools

NAME	LOCATION	DATE(S)	DISTRICT(S)
Stewart Arthur Deem	Norfolk	May 14	35 A, 35 B
Harry C. Wallace	Wise	May 16-18	48, 49, 50
Dr. Walter A. Porter	Galax	May 24-26	43
James Noah Hillman	Gate City	June 13-15	48, 49, 50
Elmo J. “Bo” Norfleet	Suffolk	June 15, 16	33, 34
James Alfred Butts, Jr.	South Hill	June 25	28
Robert Lewis Gibbs	Richmond	July 20-23	15 A, 15 B, 15 C, 16
Scott Alvin May	Bedford	July 25-28	22, 24
Edward Page Henry	Prince George	Aug. 13	16, 29
James Henry Parkerson, Jr.	Virginia Beach	Aug. 20	56
Lewis Q. Moore	Abingdon	Aug. 23-25	44, 46, 47
C.S. Revell/B.D. Hudson	Hampton	Sept. 19-21	14 A, 14 B
L.N. Cridlin	Jonesville	Sept. 19-21	49, 50
William Edward Ray, Sr.	Fairfax	Sept. 16-17	4, 7
J. J. Johnson	Kinsale	Sept. 24	8, 9, 11
Starks/Baumgardner	Bland	Oct. 10-12	41, 42
Lon Norman Dooley	Lebanon	Oct. 17-19	46, 47
Joseph T. Stewart	Courtland	Oct. 26-27	31, 32
O.B. Omohundro	Gordonsville	Oct. 22	7, 10
Charles T. “Bucky” Gilbert	Marion	Oct. 24-26	42, 43, 44
Reid James Simmons Academy	Fork Union	July 31, Aug. 1-3	Statewide

Note: Always verify the date(s) and location of any school you are planning to attend

Alternative Sources of Revenue

R.W. Matthew T. Szramoski
Chairman, Committee on Finance

Most of us use credit cards on a daily basis in our lives, to pay for gas, groceries, clothes, etc. By utilizing the Grand Lodge VISA program you will receive a card with an outstanding rewards program and competitive interest rate. In addition, there is no annual fee. How does the card benefit Grand Lodge? For every application that is made and a card approved Grand Lodge receives a \$50 bonus if a charge is made within 90 days of it being issued. Also receive a small percentage of each charge you make with the card. This is a great way to support your Grand Lodge with no out of pocket expense to you! All applications are kept confidential by the provider, we do not receive any of your personal information and the only marketing is done by the Grand Lodge.

In our Grand Lodge we have primarily relied on two sources of income to meet our expenses-raising fees and a per capita fee. Due to a reliance on these sources of income we have been being forced to continue to raise the per capita fee. This is primarily a result of the continued loss of membership and subsequent loss of income.

Each year, the Grand Lodge Finance Committee looks for opportunities to reduce expenses while maintaining the programs necessary to sustain the Craft in Virginia. We have eliminated budget items, when possible, streamlined operations, and taken reasonable steps to maintain our budget within our income.

In order to lessen the reliance on dues and fees, the Grand Master directed the Committee on Finance to look for alternative sources of income that could provide new streams of income for the Grand Lodge. We are pleased to announce the first of these new programs, the Grand Lodge VISA card.

I encourage you to apply for a card today and begin helping your fraternity build financial strength while enjoying the benefits of an excellent credit card program. This is the first step in developing “alternative revenue streams” and reducing the need for frequent increases in assessments and fees. Working together, we can and will address our monetary and membership challenges and build a stronger craft in the 21st century. 🌟

Exploring Masonry Confederate Gold

Wor. Gerald Frey

Several times in the past few years rumors of a Confederate Lodge has surfaced. First I had heard of it in Civil War Research Lodge discussions, then at work shops, conferences and even stated meetings. So I began the search for the illusive Confederate Lodge. Now don't think it became an obsession, it did not, but the mind's ear was attentive to the mention of this mysterious Lodge. Here is what I found out, it did exist and does exist, at least in passing.

If you are pulling out your Masonic Directory 2010-2011, it is not listed. Neither is it in the Tiler's Book, it is a rumor for a reason. The name was not officially granted to any Lodge in Virginia, but was used as a term of non-endorsement for this particular Lodge, whose story is a point where we can hold our Masonic heads high as well as a little low.

A Confederate Lodge was an outgrowth of the late unpleasantness, or rather its aftermath. Soldiers, then and now carry their burden long after the smoke and dust settles, and in Tidewater Virginia it was no different.

As they return to hearth and home, they wished to be among men of honor and integrity, much as their former brothers in arm. Men of arms want to associate with men of like character and it has been that way since time immemorial. Masonry's magnetism is a natural fit for such men. Many former soldiers of the Cause petitioned and were accepted to receive the degrees in Freemasonry. Yet, in one particular area they were not welcomed, indeed were rejected, nearly wholesale, (a low moment in our Craft's history).

Soldiers are by experience resourceful, and were not easily deterred. They found a few Master Masons of similar experience applied for and were duly a chartered, Wednesday, May 20, 1868, finally a Lodge ready to accept men of character, without distinction of side or cause. Perhaps a bit un-Masonically, the rejecting Lodge dubbed the new Lodge, the Confederate Lodge. Undeterred, by hard times and the future uncertain, their membership slowly increased as did their coffers, the new Lodge was frugal and flourished.

However, the Lodge that had originally rejected these men, now Brothers, fell upon financial difficulty. Facing monetary collapse, they earnestly requested aide from the Fraternity at large. The hand that extended was none other than the former men in grey, without condition or rebuke, to their Brothers in need (a high moment in our Craft's history). The rejecting Lodge is still around, thanks in large part to the Brotherly generosity of the Confederate Lodge, which long ago ceased being called the Confederate Lodge.

What makes me think the story is true or better put based on truth? First is the legend has it, the jewels of the officers of the Confederate Lodge were made from gold coins, Confederate gold coins.

From a historical prospective this is doubtful since the Confederacy did not hand out silver much less gold specie to its troops, but instead paper fiat currency. But if there is one thing history teaches, rumors often grow from a single tiny seed of truth, before taking on a life of their own.

In a novel a hero appears and saves the day – this is not a novel. A Brother called me to shed some light and something tangible to the story. R. W. Leonard A. Fredette and Wor. Raymond “Ray” M. Soltis, had their Lodge's antique jewels appraised for insurance purposes in the vault (hence the crude photography).

continued on page 19

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Open House

Grand Lodge of Virginia Library, Museum and Historical Foundation Masonic Family Day, Saturday, October 8, 2011

Thank you for the ways you continue to support the work of our Grand Lodge Library, Museum and Historical Foundation and the Allen E. Roberts Masonic Library and Museum. I want to welcome you and your family and friends to our Annual Open House during Family Day at the Masonic Home of Virginia. This year we will have a special exhibit on Freemasonry in Henrico County During Four Centuries. We have invited Henrico County Officials to help us open the exhibit at 9:00 A.M. and this is an official event under the sponsorship of the Henrico 400th Anniversary Celebration. More than a dozen Masonic Lodges were started, or continue to this day, in Henrico County, which has been the home of the Grand Lodge of Virginia and the Masonic Home of Virginia.

In November, Manchester Lodge No. 14, celebrates its 225th Anniversary. We will have a special exhibit on this too. The Manchester Lodge Charter was signed by Grand Master Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia at the time and later Attorney General of The United States under Brother and President George Washington. His name appears on many of our Lodge Charters.

Since we last met, we have restored portraits of a number of our Past Grand Masters. We hope that Lodges will want to adopt portraits of Grand Masters that had an association with their Lodge. Thanks to support from the Brethren and a generous gift from Haymarket Lodge No. 313 in support of our Grand Master Portrait



PGM Beverley Randolph Wellford (1878-1879) and PGM Mordecai Cooke (1824-1826)



Collection we are able to continue with this long overdue conservation program. Don't hesitate to ask how you may participate.

One of the early oil portraits restored by Richmond Conservation Studio is the portrait of Beverley Randolph Wellford (1828-1911). He served as Grand Master in Virginia in 1878-1879. He was raised a Master Mason in Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. He served as President of the Masonic Home Board of Governors from 1897-1903.

The most recent Past Grand Master oil portrait restored by Richmond Conservation Studio is the portrait of Mordecai Cooke (1785-1845). He served as Grand Master in 1824-1826. He was raised a Master Mason in Portsmouth Naval Lodge No. 100. It was in his term as Grand Master that General Lafayette made a visit to Virginia and he visited Mason's Hall on

East Franklin Street. Mason's Hall is the oldest Masonic Temple in the United States in continuous use by a Lodge. Funds for the restoration projects come from Lodges, individual members, proceeds from fundraisers and the 2008 wish list gifts of Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen.

Two upcoming displays will feature Freemasonry in Virginia in the Civil War 1861-1865 and Freemasonry in Virginia in the War of 1812.

We hope you will visit us or contact us at Library@GrandLodgeofVirginia.org. The Librarian, Mrs. Marie Barnett, directs the work at the museum and library. She welcomes you during the week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Her phone number is 804-222-3110. She is encouraging all Lodges to update their Lodge history. We like to say that "History is too fragile to be left to chance," and after years of not writing important information down, some may be lost.

Thank you again for your support and we hope you will rediscover the rich Masonic history of your Lodge when you visit us. We are glad you are a part of Freemasonry as your Grand Lodge continues to make history in Virginia. ✦

Fraternally yours,

John R. Quinley, PGM
President



“Make A Difference Every Day”

Chase City Lodge No. 119 Celebrates Its 150th Anniversary

R. W. Harold Crowder & R. W. Jack Gregory

On December 12, 2010, Chase City Lodge No. 119 celebrated its 150th Anniversary with an open reception. We had the honor and pleasure of welcoming Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. He presented the Lodge with a plaque from Grand Lodge recognizing the Lodge for 150 years of service. He gave an inspiring message on Masonry.

The Honorable Eddie Bratton, Mayor of Chase City, presented the Lodge with a resolution plaque from the Town of Chase City recognizing it for its accomplishments and being older than the Town of Chase City.

In the year of 1859, several Master Masons had the desire to establish a Lodge in the western part of Mecklenburg County. On November 7, 1859 a petition was sent to Most Worshipful Powhatan B. Starke, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, for a Dispensation to establish a Lodge. The following signed the petition: Robert S Powell, Samuel Saunders, Edward A. Wilson, John J. Brown, William L French, Bartley C. Smithson and Samuel G. Johnson. A letter signed by J. H. Stokes, the Secretary of Free State Lodge No. 83, which met in Lunenburg Court House, accompanied the petition that vouched for the "Masonic and moral qualifications of the petitioners". In a letter dated November 14, 1859 from the Grand Master to the Grand Secretary, Right Worshipful John Dove, directed him to issue the Dispensation. The following year, on December 12, 1860, at the Grand Annual Communication a Charter was granted with the designation of Meherrin Lodge No. 186 with Brother Samuel G. Johnson as Worshipful Master, Brother Bartley C. Smithson as Senior Warden and Brother Robert S. Powell as Junior



Left to Right, Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Worshipful Master Jeffrey D. Lang and Right Worshipful Henry B. Davis, District Deputy Grand Master of the 28th District

Warden. On December 10, 1861 the Grand Lodge changed the number from Meherrin No. 186 to Meherrin No. 119. At the Lodge's request approved by the District Deputy Grand Master on December 4, 1902 the Grand Lodge approved the change of name from Meherrin Lodge No. 119 to Chase City Lodge No. 119.

At the time of the Lodge's beginning, the Lodge came to realize some of the difficulties of travel, which was essentially done by horseback or horse drawn buggy. Even so, it was not easy to attend meetings due to the necessary time for travel.

Indeed many rural Lodges, such as ours, met on or near the full moon to provide some light for travel. This is particularly so for the Grand Masters and District Deputies of those times to make their visits, although they attended to their duties regularly.

In the beginning, and for the first 12 years, the Lodge met in homes of its members. It initially met in the home of William L. French in Charlotte County near the village of Finneywood. The Post Office was "Wayside"

which was located in Mecklenburg County.

In spite of the Civil War raging in these early years, the Lodge seemed to thrive in membership. However, the Lodge did encounter some difficulty during the war years in maintaining officers. Some of the members served in the military.

By 1872, having met in members' homes since the beginning, they moved to a Lodge in North View in Mecklenburg County. The lodge moved to several locations in the county. In 1886, the Lodge moved to Chase City and met in several locations. The exact location of the meeting places and the dates have been difficult to establish. It appears that the Lodge has met in the present location for about 70 years.

The Lodge began the twentieth century on a strong note with the membership of 50.

In the history of the Lodge, it was found that the Lodge experienced two fires. On October 27, 1903, a disastrous fire consumed a large part of the business section of Chase City. The Lodge was in one of the nine buildings that were literally swept away. The Lodge lost their charter, all of the furniture and jewels but the records were saved. The Most Worshipful Grand Master granted them a duplicate charter free of all charges. On April 30, 1956, the adjoining building to the Lodge building was destroyed by fire but the Lodge only received smoke and water damage.

Worshipful Brother J. A Pugh served as Worshipful Master for a total of 12 years between the years 1873 and 1895. The highest number of years anyone served as Master in the history of Chase City Lodge.

Worshipful Brother B. A. Garner served constantly as Worshipful Master for six years in the early thirties. He was instrumental keeping

Chase City Lodge Anniversary (continued)

the Lodge together during the great depression. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master in 1942. He was proficient in the Work and taught many candidates the catechism.

Worshipful Walter Earnest Boldin, Sr. served as Worshipful Master for the years of 1941, 1942 and 1943. He initiated, passed and raised all 6 of his sons and gave the lecture for the degrees. In 1952 he was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 28th Masonic District. On June 6, 1968, a resolution was presented to express the appreciation of the Lodge to him for the many years of untiring service to the Lodge.

On September 15, 1983, the Lodge celebrated "Brother William Rutledge Night." Most Worshipful William M. Johnson was present for the occasion. Brother Bill had, at that time, served as Treasurer for about fifty years. It was reported that he had missed only two stated communications during his Masonic career. At the stated meeting in June, 1994 he received his 60-year veterans presentation pin from the Grand Lodge.

In June 2007, due to the fact that Worshipful Henry B. Davis spearheaded and gave so much of his time to the remodeling the dining room and kitchen, a motion was made that we officially name our new dining room and kitchen "THE HENRY B. DAVIS FELLOWSHIP HALL" and to place a sign or plaque in the hall to that effect. Right Worshipful Brother Davis is currently serving as District Deputy Grand Master of the 28th District for 2011.

We have mentioned several brothers for their accomplishments. We could recognize many more as the Lodge has worked together for many years without interruptions. ✦



When I travel around the Lodges in my area I notice that the stones representing the two Ashlars are positioned differently in different Lodges. Where should the stone representing the Perfect Ashlar be located?

ANSWER: Hiram was once asked a similar question about the positioning of the Square when it is presented to the Candidate in the Fellowcraft degree. The response given was that the Candidate should see the tool in the same way that it is viewed in Virginia's Manual of Work, i.e. with the shorter end pointing the same way. Following the same logic, we would place the Perfect Ashlar and its counterpart within the lodge room the same way they are seen in the Manual of Work. The Perfect Ashlar should therefore be placed to the left (South) of the sitting Master.



Has Virginia ritual changed to require a ballot or vote on the proficiency of the Master Mason's catechism?

ANSWER: M.W. Cohen, in 2008, authorized a voice vote to be taken on Masonic proficiency (Ref: Methodical Digest, Sec. 2.110, 2008 D-3). The Grand Lecturer, in March 2009, declared that a voice vote shall be taken to test a Brother's proficiency on the Master Mason's catechism prior to his receiving a certificate from Grand Lodge. The wording to be used shall be the same as when balloting on proficiency in the preceding degrees, with appropriate changes in wording, of course..

Is it correct to have three separate religions' VSLs on the altar at the same time??

ANSWER: This is permissible during degree work in those cases where a Lodge may have three candidates, each subscribing to a different religion, being obligated simultaneously. Each VSL shall have a set of Square and Compasses placed on it in the appropriate manner. Note that the words of the ritual do not change in any way; the VSL is referenced by the same word always used in Virginia Ritual, regardless of which VSL is being presented to the candidate. Following the degree portion of the communication, the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses shall be placed alone on the altar. If only one candidate is present, a VSL of the Candidates' choosing may be placed on the altar next to the Holy Bible. There is not any reason for a third VSL to be added to these. It is important to remember that the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses form part of the furniture of a Lodge and should never be replaced. ✦



Masonic Principles

Mt. Wor. Norman R. Buecker

PGM, Grand Lodge of Illinois

When the Great Creator breathed into man the breath of life, He included a number of strengths and a great many weaknesses. One of the strengths he imparted to man was the ability to comprehend that in union there is strength.

From the dawn of time man has been able to overcome his weaknesses by banding together in organizations. The first organization was the family which ultimately expanded into tribes and tribes into nations thereby providing a more efficient defense against enemies and the ability to obtain food and shelter. As a result the hunter and fisherman, the builder and artisan, the priest and chieftain, the counselor and many others developed specialties in their various fields and so a wide variety of organizations came into being.

No matter how unfair it may seem we are not judged solely as individuals but are judged also by the organizations, or in our case, the Masonic organization to which we belong and by how well we live up to our Masonic principles.

An additional function of an organization is to maintain a bridge with the past so that the valuable experiences of the past can be used in the present to extend the bridge from the present to the future enabling us to move forward in security and confidence. The past is so great, the present so colossal and the future so unlimited that organizations are needed to tend the bridge. That is why we have civic clubs, labor unions, professional societies, commercial associations, art and music societies and fraternal organizations. And that is why we have this great fraternal organization called Freemasonry.

PRINCIPLES

We know that Freemasonry was imported to our shores from England .by the early founders of our country. They took the Masonic principles of love, brotherhood,

morality, honor, integrity, concern for others. All of these were woven into the fabric of our government, our institutions, our entire culture. Masons dominated the leadership of our country in its founding years. Many of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were Masons. We know of the reliance that Brother George Washington placed on the officers under his command who were Masons. The cornerstones of our Nation's Capital and the White House were laid by the Masonic Fraternity. This country was conceived in the womb of Masonic principles, and this has created a form of government and a way of life that is the envy of the world.

As Freemasons today we are custodians of a bridge, the custodians of Masonic principles which can help preserve freedom in the world. But principles, in and of themselves, have no power to preserve anything! It takes people to put life and meaning into principles. It takes people bonded together in fellowship.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship has always been a most important factor in Freemasonry. When Lodges were first formed in this country some 270 years ago there were no large cities, only small wilderness settlements, and no transportation except by foot, horseback or horse and buggy. There were no communication or dissemination of news except by word of mouth or special messenger. The individual Lodge was designed for those isolated and rural communities and provided a place for fellowship.

When transportation, communication and commerce began to improve people began to move about, towns and cities became larger and Masons moving to them naturally sought the fellowship of brother Masons as men they could trust. This caused a need for Masonic fellowship on a wider basis than the individual Lodge could provide. Automobiles, telephone,

radio, television and the internet have succeeded in bringing about a drastic change in the fellowship requirements of people. We are no longer satisfied with Masonic fellowship in small groups — today it seems that we can't have a satisfying Masonic fellowship unless there are 20 to 25 men present and if there are 50, 100 or 500, so much the better.

That is one of the purposes of our appendant bodies; not to develop any new principles of Masonry, not to provide so-called higher degrees (because we know that the third degree is the highest degree in Masonry) not to teach the lessons of Masonry by symbols, ritual and required memory work as does the Symbolic lodge, but to teach Masonic principles in unforgettable drama with lighting, staging and costuming. In this way they attract larger groups of men and provide the finest kind of fellowship.

BROTHERHOOD

A great many organizations make a claim to brotherhood, but none can begin to approach the brotherhood of Freemasonry which is based on the Biblical injunction: we are our brother's keeper. The basic Masonic pledge to come to the aid of a distressed Brother Master Mason, his widow and orphan, does not have a great deal of direct application in our present society with its retirement plans, Social Security, Aid to Dependent Children and Medicare. But this Brotherhood is now expressing itself in great Masonic Charities such as Homes for the Aged, Children's Homes, Knight Templar Homes, Knight Templar Eye Foundation, a Scottish Rite Benevolent Foundation now expanded to help children with learning disabilities and the Shrine with its help to crippled and burned children. All of these and countless others have combined to make Freemasonry the greatest charitable organization in the world. As Masons, the song, "America the Beautiful" has

Masonic Principles (continued)

Exploring Masonry (continued from page 13)

a special meaning for us when we say:

“America, America, God shed His Grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea.”

PATRIOTISM

Since the time of General Washington, patriotism has been a basic precept of Freemasonry. Many of our country's greatest patriots have been Masons. That is why we say “No man can worthily serve in the ranks of Freemasonry unless his heart thrills to the sentiments of a lofty patriotism that will express itself in loyal obedience to his country's laws as well as in defense of his country's flag.” So fellowship, brotherhood and patriotism are three of the great principles of Freemasonry, the things that give it vitality and meaning.

The principles of Freemasonry are not inherited traits, like being born white or black, with two legs and arms, with brown or red hair. Our principles must be taught to each succeeding generation or they will die. We are living in a land which our Masonic predecessors helped establish upon the principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity. Even if this wonderful land of ours would plunge down the road of self-interest and be dashed on the rocks of secularism, there will still remain a voice preaching morality and conscience, of brotherhood, patriotism and concern for others. That will be the voice of Freemasonry; and never underestimate its importance.

Time was, time is, but no man may say that time shall be. For Masons, therefore, the hour is always now, with its needs and inspirations, its opportunities and its powers, its service which is joy, and its love, fellowship and brotherhood which joins us with God in the work of the world. I have mentioned several times, a bridge. How, why and what is to be done with this bridge? A poem by Will Allen Dromgoole may be the answer:

*An old man, going a lone highway,
Came at the evening, cold and gray
To a Chasm, vast and deep and wide
Through which was flowing a sullen-tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
For that sullen stream had no fears for him;
But he turned, when he reached the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.*

*“Old man,” said a fellow pilgrim new;
“You are wasting strength in building here.
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again must pass this way.
You have crossed that chasm, deep and wide,
Why build you the bridge at the eventide?”*

*The builder lifted his old gray head.
“Good friend, in the path I have come,”
he said
“There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building the bridge
for him.”*

Let each of us so live and act, according to our Masonic principles, that we bring no discredit on this great Fraternity called Freemasonry!

—MSA Editor

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Each jewel is a buckle (the attachment pin on the back), with an officer's jewel hanging from the buckle, a Masonic blue ribbon (these appear original) loops through the buckle behind the jewel itself, to set off the jewel, even more than its detailed craftsmanship would by itself. Each jewel is in remarkable condition.

Since the late 1800's, a complete set of officers jewels has been in the continuous custody of the Lodge. Sovereign gold is gold used in the minting of gold coins. And yes, the jewels are made of 22 karat gold, or sovereign gold. While we may never know if they were made of Confederate gold coins, it is pretty sure they were made from gold coins of some type.

R. W. Fredette related the story of the Confederate Lodge, about its members being rejected from a local Lodge, that the Lodge records show the loan-gift to the rejecting Lodge to keep it afloat, and the rumor that the jewels were made from melted down gold of the Confederate treasury. He went on to say that for many years the jewels were kept in a drawer of a garage workbench.

Is this good history? No it isn't, but it makes for a good story, one that someone with an interest can verify, one way or the other, so that it can be historically accurate.

One last item, while at Royal Arch in Portsmouth, I saw an ornate frame lying on the floor of a passageway. An old certificate slightly obscured, which proved to be a certificate issued on the 9th of February 1897, “A Certificate of Life Membership in the Masonic Home of Virginia,” issued to Seaboard Lodge No. 56. The Confederate Lodge was and is a generous Lodge, hard times or not.

Times are always hard, membership is never what we want it, but the lesson that is most obvious, seems to be this: character counts – it makes a difference every day. 🙏



Master's Jewel (1890's)

Recalling Brother & President James Monroe

Bro. G. Mark Walsh



Brother James Monroe

It was two great days for Virginia Masonry, and indeed for all Americans. On Thursday, April 28th, and Saturday, April 30th ceremonies were held to commemorate the 253rd birthday of James Monroe, 5th President of the United States and the second Mason to serve in that capacity (1816-1824). Brothers George Washington and James Monroe are the only two presidents acclaimed to a second term. They are also the only two Presidents to have served in the Continental Army during the War of Independence.

The April 28th event was originally scheduled in Richmond to visit Monroe's tomb



M.:W.: John M. Chambliss speaking at the Monroe Birthplace

in Hollywood Cemetery. Inclement weather forced most of the presentations inside at the nearby Virginia War Memorial, including the Masonic wreath and presentation by Deputy Grand Master William T. Ellison, Jr. In addition to bringing greetings from the Grand Master, R.W. Ellison spoke of the high bar set by Brother Monroe for Brotherhood and morality, of note and value to all Americans today.

M.W. John M. Chambliss Jr. addressed attendees at the Monroe Birthplace in Westmoreland County on April 30th. His remarks delved into Brother and President Monroe's values, service, and his personification of Masonic ideals.

For Masons at both events, these were truly proud moments.

Congratulations to the James Monroe Memorial Foundation (JMMF) for sponsoring these and other presentations that focus on the life and service of Brother Monroe. For more information on this and past Monroe events, visit the JMMF website at www.monroefoundation.org.



Masons at the Monroe Wreath Laying, Richmond, April 28th 2011. (Photo courtesy W. Nash)

What is in a Title?

M. W. Alan W. Adkins

The titles of Freemasonry are many and all of them are high-sounding as they are spoken in our Lodges and the other Masonic bodies to which we may belong. They are bestowed as a means of recognizing the fact that, by the suffrage of his Brethren, one has been given the privilege of occupying a Masonic office of dignity.

Every such office is one which should be worn with dignity and with the title goes certain obligations to carry out responsibilities which the office imposes upon the Brother selected to occupy it for the time being.

In like manner, each man who comes into the Lodge has a title given him. He is a Master Mason or Brother. On the other hand, if we accept a Masonic title and do nothing to earn the right to wear it, it becomes as a tinkling brass or a sounding cymbal, which clamors loudly for attention, but soon fades out upon the air and has produced nothing to be remembered by men.

Let us remember our obligation to preserve unsullied the reputation of this great Fraternity by earning every title which is given us by the hands of the Brethren.



Community Service Award

Brother William J. Baumbach, II

On April 8 at Unity Lodge No. 146, John O. Feehan, Jr., of Front Royal was presented a special Community Service Award by John Mason Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master. Approximately 70 people from the six counties of the Third Masonic District attended. Recipients of these awards are singled out for the significant difference they make in their community. Mr. Feehan has worked tirelessly in Warren County to help those with special needs. He has a long history advocating for people with disabilities, beginning as a member of the Warren County Educational Advisory Committee and serving over 10 years as its chairman. He has served on the Community Policy and Management Team, authorized under the Federal Community Services Act to help at-risk youth. He also served the as the Warren County Public School Surrogate Parent for children with disabilities who are in foster care. He and his wife, Suzie, volunteered as emergency foster family to help children needing an immediate home during a crisis.

John has been actively involved in Special Olympics and is currently working to develop an independent chapter for the Front Royal/Warren County Special Olympics. For over 18 years he also has provided leadership as a coach and manager with the Challenger Division of Front Royal Little League Baseball. In 2005, John joined the Board of the then Warren County Workshop, becoming Chair that year, helping direct the recovery of the Workshop and its transition to the new Blue Ridge Opportunities where employees with disabilities work with pride. Despite being fully disabled since 1989, receiving a kidney

and pancreas transplant in 1992, and a second kidney and pancreas transplant in 2010, John has remained committed to Blue Ridge Opportunities, their expansion, growth and the clients they serve. In addition to working with those with disabilities, John has also been active for many years as a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks holding various leadership and committee roles helping youth of the community.

The Shenandoah County Community Service Award was presented to Gary Holsinger of Strasburg, who has steadfastly provided full service to all patrons of his Exxon service station -- checking oil, washing windows and providing all the extra attention that used to be the practice of service stations across the coun-

try. His longtime reputation as a concerned citizen included house calls to those in need of automobile, tractor repairs, or other services. This extra effort to assist has continued despite family illness and the recent passing of his wife. While many fuel stops are just that, Gary Holsinger continues to provide true community service which is an American hallmark.

The Frederick County Community Service award went to Harrison E Keeler, Fire Chief of North Mountain Fire Station. Sheriff Anthony Roper received the Community Service Award for Clarke County; and Dr. Norris A. Royston was the recipient for Fauquier County. Sheriff Connie Compton-Smith was recognized for her outstanding community service in Rappahannock County. ♣

LIKE ANSWERS RETURNED

by Sam Welty



Brother Jones suddenly began to regret his eagerness to stand in as third ruffian.

Time For A Customer Review

R. W. William E. "Bill" Hersey, Jr.
Chairman Committee on Membership

Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen (2008) established the Grand Lodge Committee on Membership, which the delegates to the 2009 Grand Annual Communication voted to establish as a Grand Lodge Standing Committee. One of the goals of the Committee was to establish the position of District Membership Coordinator (DMC) in each of the 57 Districts throughout the state. This goal was born out of a desire to identify a Brother who could work with the District Deputy and Worshipful Masters of a respective District to address the issues of membership development and retention as might need to be addressed. In this article I am asking you to let me know how we are doing. At present the Grand Master has been appointed a DMC in 49 of the 57 Masonic Districts around the state.

Last year, a number of Lodges and Districts

hosted Bring a Friend (BAF) Events in the form of dinners, picnics and Lodge social events. At present I am aware of a number of aggressive Lodge BAF Events in Districts 14A and B and 35A and B. A number of other Lodges around the state are opening their doors to non-Masons to be present for dinner before the Lodge calls on or to attend Lodge social events that are open to the public. I am told efforts are currently underway in Districts 10, 31 and 38 to host District-wide BAF Events.

All of these events are very encouraging but it is my belief the Membership Committee needs to hear from individual Master Masons, Lodge Officers, Worshipful Masters and District Deputies as to their opinions on effectiveness of a BAF program in your Lodge or District. I also need to ask what is perhaps a bigger question. Do you see the continuing need for a Grand

Lodge Committee on Membership?

If, as you read this article, you are inclined to share your opinions about your Lodge or District and the effectiveness or the necessity of a Membership Committee, I would very much like to hear from you. I need and value your opinions because they are the only means whereby I can advise the Grand Master regarding the necessity and the effectiveness of the Membership Committee. I would really like to hear from you and can be reached at 540-972-1692 (H), 540-270-9665 (C) or wehershey@comcast.net. Your response is important if the Grand Master is to adequately assess the necessity and effectiveness of the Committee On Membership. Please, my Brother's, let me hear from you. ✦

Prince William County Declares March as DeMolay Month

Supervisor John D. Jenkins arranged during the Prince William County Supervisors' meeting on March 15 for Chairman Corey Stewart to present to Occoquan DeMolay Chapter a Declaration declaring March as DeMolay Month. It was an impressive civic ceremony honoring the DeMolay youth group's great achievements. The auditorium was crowded and there were five Occoquan DeMolay present supported by four Advisors. The Chapter is sponsored by Occoquan Lodge No. 310. The DeMolay were great representatives for the Fraternity and the Board Members and Chapter Dads were proud of them. ✦



Chapter Dad Brett Hurm in the background with Chairman of the Board, Corey Stewart and Board Member John Jenkins with Master Councilor David Ford at the podium.



Left to right, Dad Michael Ford, Mike Ford, Mark King, Joshua Ford, MC David Ford, Chapter Dad Brett Hurm and Dad King.

Do a Good Deed Every Day

Make a Difference Every Day

Building our Temple Through Love and Service

These themes are relevant to both the Boy Scouts of America and our Fraternity. Most Worshipful John Mason Chambliss, Grand Master and Most Worshipful Charles Franklin Shuler, were in attendance at a Court of Honor Ceremony in Elkton on March 27, 2011 recognizing David Carroll Moubray and Dakota Brown Shifflett, Troop 46's two most recent Boy Scouts to earn the rank Eagle Scout in particular and all of Troop 46's previous Eagle Scouts.

The Boy Scouts of America is an organization which takes boys and helps them become good young men. Masons take good men and help them become better. M. W. Shuler's theme compliments M. W. Chambliss's theme by their support of the Boy Scouts of America.

MW Chambliss on behalf of our Grand Lodge and Elkton Lodge No. 74 presented both of these Eagle Scouts with a Grand Lodge Certificate of Recognition of their achieve-



From Left to Right: MW John Mason Chambliss, Eagle Dakota Brown Shifflett and Eagle David Carroll Moubray

ments and contributions to the community in earning the rank of Eagle.

Eagle Scout Shifflett is the nephew of Brett Shifflett, a Past Master of Ashlar Lodge No.125.

One of the previous Eagle Scouts, Maurice Thomas Lough, who earned his Eagle Award in 1959, is a son of Maurice W. Lough, a Past Master of Elkton Lodge No. 74. ✦



“Make A Difference Every Day”

Why Do We Do Things?

Wor. Samuel Welty

In reference to Masonic tradition, were any of the people we learn about really necessary for the building of King Solomon's Temple? Even the name King Solomon's Temple is only accurate because he is the one who happened to be the guy with the idea. Would not the Great Architect have found another person to build a temple? Could we have spent time learning of the building of Fred's Temple, or whoever happened to get the memo? Not one of the people in the story is truly vital to it.

Why then bother? In this day and age of endless reasons to just let well enough alone, what is the true motivation to invest the time, energy, and dedication to a fraternity that will most likely be just fine without any of us?

The answer my Brethren is – Selfishness. Not selfish, as in only caring about yourself, but rather in the sense that there is only one person on the planet for whom we can ever be truly responsible – ourselves. It is by recognizing the the only true beneficiary of any of our actions is ultimately ourselves, that we can justify the efforts we make in our Masonic journey.

Others may benefit greatly from our actions as we perform our duties but the “if” and “how much” of it, is entirely up to them. We are seeking light for ourselves to help in our own individual journeys. Others may choose to borrow our lamp, yet they can always light their own, or choose to close their eyes. I do what I do in Lodge for my own betterment. My service from presiding over a meeting, to giving a lecture, to washing the dishes after the meal, is an ongoing exercise in making myself into the person I'd like to become. We act in accordance with the desired result.

If we focus our efforts on getting others to see how great we are and what good Masons we have become, we have missed one of the most vital lessons of our Craft. It is by not caring about the admiration of others, but earning our own, that the lessons are learned. If we are all self-centered, and sow seeds within ourselves of the improvements we would like to see in others, our Fraternity will never go out of plumb. After all, which of you will be standing next to me when I am held accountable for my actions?

Don't worry about what we think, dear Brothers, be proud of yourself, for yourself. ✦

Meeting of the Minds

Wor. Gerald L. Frey

A regulator style time piece ticks off the minutes on the North side of Lodge room as the meeting settles in. The gavel and stroke of the clock as if synchronized strike to begin the stated meeting of the Virginia Research Lodge. Momentary silence marks the next stroke of the Lodge clock as the meeting comes to order and proceeds.

Everyone seems to know something is different at this meeting. Joint meetings are not new to Masonry, but when a unique meeting occurs, some say historic, as it did on March 19, at Babcock Lodge No. 322 in Highland Springs, it is worth noting. Virginia Lodge of Research No. 1777 hosted the other research Lodges of the Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia, of which there are five, with their respective Masters filling the chairs:

- Worshipful Master, Worshipful Peter J. Gordon, Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777
- Senior Warden, Worshipful Raymond Michael “Micky” Moats, Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865
- Junior Warden, Worshipful Stormy Thorston, Peyton Randolph Research Lodge No. 1774
- Senior Deacon, Worshipful Jonathan Mark Mills, James Noah Hillman Research Lodge No. 1883
- Junior Deacon, P.M. Rhey M. Solomon, A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Research Lodge No. 1949

Worshipful J. Mark Mills of James Noah Hillman Research Lodge gave the program, which was on the origins of this Lodge of research. While Virginia’s research Lodges are relatively new to the Grand Jurisdiction, it was the first time anyone present had heard a program based upon a “plank-owner” or original participants in a research Lodge. It was equally interesting to be afforded a brief history of Most Worshipful (1938) James Noah Hillman, remarkable Mason so often mentioned, both in Virginia and Masonry at large.

Paraphrasing Worshipful Mill’s program, “The good Doctor was a brilliant scholar, careful historian and beloved educator. Though



LR-Wor. Jonathan Mark Mills, James Noah Hillman Research Lodge No. 1883; Wor. Peter J. Gordon, Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777; Wor. Raymond Michael “Micky” Moats, Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865; Wor. Stormy Thorston, Peyton Randolph Research Lodge No. 1774

by intellect, personality and training, he could vie with the greatest in the fields of education, religion and Fraternal endeavor, yet he never lost the common touch. The humblest was made to feel at home in his presence. He wrote well and spoke fluently, with perfect diction, yet his approaches to problems were simple and understandable to all. His addresses were homey and had great warmth of expression.

“He erected monuments of memory in the hearts of many people. Each carries its own inscription. Foremost was that of “Counselor.” His office was always open. Here they found a sympathetic understanding and a challenge to face the future unafraid.

“Most Worshipful Brother Hillman was proud to be considered a Fraternalist. To him, obligations were to be lived in both the letter and the spirit; our philosophy was to be interpreted; our history was to be accurately recorded, but above all, Brotherhood was the most important.

“He loved the hills, it seemed appropriate that his mortal remains were laid tenderly to rest close by the college that he served so well in the mountain empire of Southwest Virginia.”

Worshipful Mills ovation was well deserved.

During this assemblage the Virginia Research Lodge, a part of Masonic District 15A, received Right Worshipful Claude Ashley “Buddy” Bass, Jr. Rt. Wor. Bass thought it appropriate to have this, his last Official Visit with such an important gathering of Virginia Research Lodges. He pointed out Most Worshipful Chambliss’ theme “Making a difference every day” and the Research Lodges perform that sentiment though sharing knowledge with their individual member as well as Virginia Masonry in general.

Most Worshipful George Bernard Dungan, Jr., (2007) a member of several of the Research Lodges, was in attendance and was recognized by both the District Deputy Grand Master and the Worshipful Master of the Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777.

Among the distractive ornaments of Babcock Lodge are three arched stained glass windows, with a background checkered with pale yellow and dark amber, each with its own theme. In the East, the arch is dominated by the Square and Compasses, as one would expect, with several different, but complementary colors. Over the Treasurer’s desk is an arch portraying the hourglass and scythe. Here the hourglass is set larger than the scythe and each of the stained glass elements portrays the characteristics of glass, sand, metal, and wood. Above the Secretary’s desk is an arch with a beehive, of a rich golden color. These works of craftsmanship are back lit to give off a distinctive light – as if from the sun rising in the east. While this effect is subtle, when it is pointed out, most nod knowingly.

As the stated meeting closed, pictures were taken, light switched off, thermostat moderated, and the fellowship took its leave of the Lodge room, leaving the clock’s prominent ticking to resume its ritual rhythm. 🍀

¹Excerpts extracted from Worshipful Mills program and references from the website history of the James Noah Hillman Lodge of Research No. 1883, <http://www.mastermason.com/jnh1883/JNH.html>

Museum and Memorial: Ten Years of Masonic Writings

By Mark A. Tabbert (Cornerstone 2011)

Reviewed by R.W. William A. Parks, Jr.

Now here's a book that will have us clearing out every closet, attic, vault, safe, nook and cranny of our Lodges, Temples and Centers scabbling for Masonic treasure. At 165 pages, *Museum and Memorial* not only delivers a wealth of advice on dredging up Masonic history, artifacts and Masonica in general, but also provides guidelines for appreciating the Craft's past and setting goals for its future.

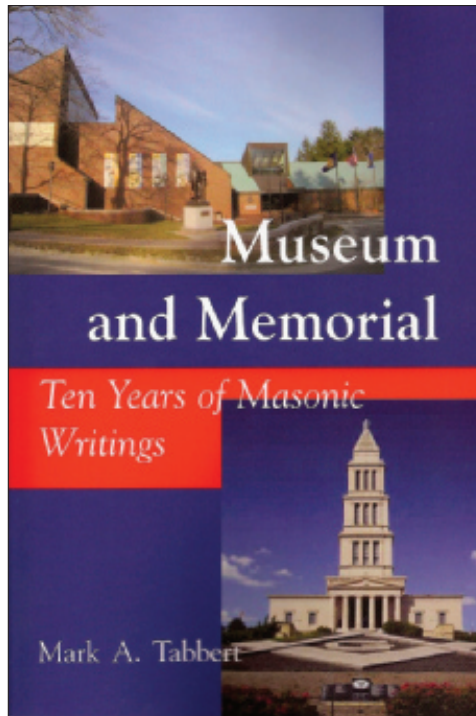
In addition, it offers provocative and deliberately controversial ideas for dragging the Craft into the twenty-first century and beyond.

If jealousy were a vice permissibly indulged by Freemasons, Wor. Bro. Mark A. Tabbert, professional Mason, would be the most envied Brother in America.

As a professional historian, he developed exhibits at the Masonic National Heritage Museum, a project of the Scottish Rite, ND, in Lexington, Massachusetts, that evolved into *AMERICAN FREEMASONS: Three Centuries of Building Communities*, a comprehensive ode to the richness and uniqueness of the Craft as practiced in the United States.

In 2006, Brother Tabbert became the Director of Collections at the George Washington National Memorial in Alexandria. In both positions he has enjoyed access to countless Masonic artifacts, letters, tracts, manuscripts, Lodge minutes and priceless objects of Masonica.

Throughout the pages of *Museum and Memorial*, Brother Tabbert bares his soul as both a dedicated member of the Fraternity and as an American historian. This collection of sixteen articles, mostly from *The Northern Light*, the magazine of the Scottish Rite, ND,



and *The Journal of the Masonic Society* (www.themasonicsociety.com), describes vividly the thoughts, concerns, issues, competing interests, value judgments, detective work and plain old love of the Fraternity involved in searching for, collecting, and effectively displaying the multiplicity of items that comprise the history of the Craft.

The result is an indispensable handbook to guide us in the collection and presentation of our treasures in a manner that educates our members and deepens their love and appreciation for the Fraternity and, as importantly, suggests how to make such displays appealing and comprehensible to the public.

And right smack in the middle lies the priceless gem of this book: the previously unpublished conclusion to *American Freemasons*. This stunning piece challenges the reader to

confront unflinchingly the uncertain future of Freemasonry:

Now in the twenty-first century Freemasonry's future path remains unclear. Confronting Freemasons is a fundamental choice. The seven historical reasons - self-improvement, ritual presentation, mutual benefits, social activities, business connections, family participation, and community service - for joining that provided direction through three centuries are now, it seems pulled in two directions. One way leads to becoming a community service social organization and the other returns it to a private self-improvement fraternity. Dividing these two paths are the Masonic milestones of ancient custom and ritual.

There follows Brother Tabbert's lecture to the Society of Blue Friars (www.bessel.org),

Freemasonry and the Digital Revolution, in which Bro. Tabbert raises yet more challenges: "Through the ill-directed and uncoordinated efforts of thousands of inspired and well-intentioned individual brothers the temple of Masonic knowledge is being ravaged. The liberation of knowledge that the 'Digital Revolution' is bringing to the world, is bringing confusion and disorder to the craft."

Yet we need not despair, for Bro. Tabbert fears not to answer his own challenges, to pick up his own gauntlets. And therein lies his value as a contemporary Masonic commentator. Possessed of the education, deep thinking and passion of both a dedicated Mason and a talented historian, he unflinchingly faces the alternative futures open to the Craft.

continued on page 26

Freemasonry An Introduction

By Mark E. Koltko-Rivera, Ph.D
(Turner/Penguin 2011)

Reviewed by R. W. William A. Parks, Jr.

Reasons abound to welcome this nifty 5 x 7 ½, 181 page handbook. The author, a Scottish and York Rite Mason, holds a doctorate in counseling psychology. An earlier manuscript of this book was reviewed by no less a Masonic scholar than Arturo de Hoyas, assuring the reliability of its content. Brother Koltko-Rivera fulfills his goal of “how to sort myth from fact” about Freemasonry with common sense, reliable history, and a balanced approach to symbolism and ritual.

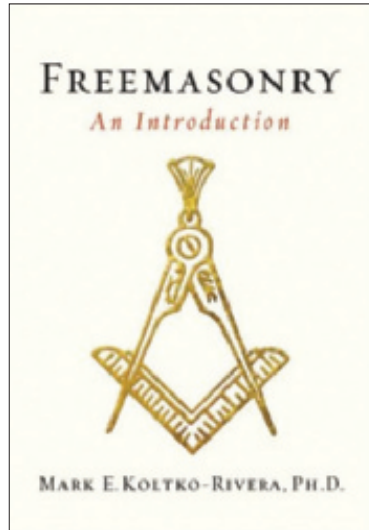
Brother K accomplishes the rare feat of making the “esoteric” accessible: “Masonry offers knowledge of the inner mysteries through its initiations and symbolism. The symbols of Masonry teach lessons involving philosophy, morality, and ethics. There is much in Masonry that can help a man address the larger questions of life.”

As for “the so-called higher degrees of Freemasonry, Masons are exposed to a variety of esoteric [inner] traditions....Here, too, the focus is on inner development.”

In summary: “Symbols, ancient wisdom about God and man, inner development: these are the mysteries of Masonry.” Seldom does enlightenment arrive so compactly.

Among the proliferation of books bearing the Square and Compasses on their covers that seem engaged in a competition to mystify the reader with their mind-numbing, convoluted “secrets” that obfuscate rather than shed light on the Fraternity, Brother K’s little book explains the Craft with the brilliance of a sunrise straight out of Rudyard Kipling. This is the genius of intelligent simplicity.

Designed as a guide for the prospective candidate, *Freemasonry’s* chapter titles reveal its sensible organization: Freemasonry: What It Is; Why Men Become Freemasons; How Freemasonry Works; Masonic Symbolism,



Masonic Controversies; Anti-masonry: Accusations Versus Truths; Freemasonry in fiction: Myth Versus Reality; How to Become a Freemason, concluding with Learning More About Freemasonry.

That last chapter includes a brief, but very helpful bibliography of solid works covering Masonic subjects.

This book has to be considered one of the Masonic essentials. It belongs in every Lodge library and on every Grand Lodge and Masonic web site.

Most importantly, any Brother looking for a short, easily digestible, clear, comprehensive and enlightening book to give to a son, brother, father, uncle, friend or any other prospective candidate, Brother K’s book is the one.

It will also aid Brethren finding themselves overwhelmed, even mystified, by the quantity of “Masonic” books available.

The back cover blurb on this book says: “It may be the single most reliable short guide to Masonry.” Between the covers, *Freemasonry An Introduction* is one of those rare books that actually lives up to its blurb. ✨

Museum and Memorial (continued from page 25)

One of Bro. Tabbert’s proposals is the creation of a national Masonic digital data base with six elements:

- Every Grand Lodge Proceeding 1733-Present
- US Regular Grand Lodges 1730-Present
- US Masonic Lodges, 1730-Present
- Deceased US Freemasons, 1700-1980
- Unified on-line catalog of Masonic Libraries
- Unified on-line catalog of Masonic Artifacts

Otherwise, says Brother Tabbert: “If the Fraternity does not cultivate and encourage professional scholarship of the Craft in the digital Age, then we open ourselves to be exploited, exposed, investigated, bamboozled, sued, and bankrupted by squatters, claim jumpers, atheists, libertines, madmen and fools.” No minced words from the Tabbertinator!

Further on, Bro Tabbert presents a lengthy article, “Restructuring American Freemasonry,” which includes some eye-popping suggestions for radical change in both Blue Lodge and Appendant Masonry.

These ideas, the author hopes, “will spark serious debate, or at least cause enjoyable idle conversations....While many...may be foolish, their goal is not.” They are certainly worthy of debate, having the goals of retaining members “for longer than two years” and “actually improve them intellectually, morality [sic] and spiritually.”

Seldom, if ever, have so much Masonic lore, history, advice, good humor, exciting and entertaining ideas, and just plain interesting stuff been crammed into one slim volume. This wonderful book belongs in reach of every Mason. More than just food for thought, *Museum and Memorial* offers a sumptuous feast of Masonica to be read, digested, absorbed and enjoyed by every member of the Craft. ✨

Purdie Lodge No. 170.



60 year Service Award presentation
R. W. Edward L. Lewis

Brother Edward Lee Lewis, second on left, received his 60 year Service Award on February 19th from Wor. John D. Royals, Jr., third on left, Worshipful Master of Purdie Lodge No. 170. Rt. Wor. Robert C. Claud, Secretary, first on left, and Brother William S. Floyd, Jr., Junior Deacon, fourth on left, accompanied the Worshipful Master from Windsor to Lynchburg to make the presentation at Brother Lewis's home. He is 95 years old and in remarkable good health. ✦

Editor's Comments

The Craft knows Brother David Burkus has a unique and compelling sense of humor, which he shares, when ever appropriate. Rt. Wor. David A. Burkus has for many years been seen formally attired (Penguin suit), or suitably attired (business casual). This is a side few have witnessed, Brother Dave at Hawaiian Night, though his Board is at a complete lose as to what this form of attire is called.



Thank you David for all of your service to the Fraternity. ✦

Helping Masons Throughout Virginia with the Outreach Program

M. W. James D. Cole

The Masonic Home's expanded Outreach Program is available to assist every Brother, every Brother's wife and every Masonic Widow who want to stay in their own homes.

Approved in 2001 by the Masonic Home of Virginia as an effort to assist Brethren, age 65 or older, their wives and widows, it is available to eligible members of every Virginia Lodge. Eligibility for the program is very similar to the Home's normal admission requirements, such as age and Masonic relationship. This program is part of the overall charitable effort of the Home, in accordance with its mission. The program is funded through gifts donated by supporters of the Masonic Home.

Services available include support of medical and health needs, similar to care that would be provided if the recipient were to move to the Masonic Home. This program recognizes that many people from other areas of the Commonwealth might not be able to easily move to Richmond and also recognizes that in some cases, care can be provided in the person's own home more economically than it would cost to move them to Richmond. The Masonic Home has established contacts with local agencies in Virginia to provide these services. Sometimes, these services are available at no cost, but at other times the Masonic Home pays the local agency for the care. EITHER WAY, the recipients do NOT pay the Masonic Home for basic services provided in their own residences.

Some examples of those assisted:

- Just north of Gate City, an elderly Masonic widow was provided trans-

portation to a hospital each week, for rehabilitation services.

- In Lee County, a Mason was assisted in a conflict with Medicare, which was decided in his favor.
- A member of Pound Lodge has a wife who suffered from a muscular disease and must use a walker or wheelchair to get around her home. The Masonic Home arranged, at its cost, for a health care aide to come to the home three days a week and for hot meals to be delivered each day. The family has proclaimed these services as "a lifesaver."
- Another couple, living in Coeburn, received an aide for two afternoons a week.
- Currently, we are working with local agencies to address issues for lodge members in Suffolk and Virginia Beach.

Anyone in need of help in this program can call the Masonic Home, toll-free at 1-800-262-4644, extension 77295 and ask about the Outreach Program.

Please look at what we are doing and try to send us a gift to support this effort. Gifts to the Home can TRULY help Masons and their wives and widows through this program. Masons, we have for centuries, are making a difference in the lives of those around us. What better way to Make a Difference Every Day than to support such an effort? ✦

Honorariums and Memorials

Many Lodges and individuals contribute to the Masonic Home to either honor a living person or a Lodge out of respect and appreciation or to generate a legacy of care in honor of one who has passed to the Celestial Lodge above. As these tax-deductible gifts are received by the Home, acknowledgements of the gift, but not the dollar total, are sent to the person honored or to the family of the person memorialized. In grateful recognition of these touching gifts and to recognize those persons so honored, we call attention to the following combined list of memorial and honorarium gifts that were made to the Masonic Home during the period December 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011. Persons HONORED or memorialized are in **BOLD** on the left, followed by the donor's name on the right.

HONOREE	DONOR	HONOREE	DONOR	HONOREE	DONOR
Clayton E. Ahrensfield	David A. Burkus	Richard D. Gerard	George W. Field	George L. Reed	Westmoreland Lodge No. 212
George W. Allison	Henry Knox Field Lodge No. 349	Harry C. Glenn	Patricia K. Glenn	Edwin I. Reeves	Linn Banks Lodge No. 126
	Michael R. Aulicino	Charles D. Grubb	George W. Field		Barbara Eamigh
	Ronald N. Morris	Ann M. Hale	Old Town Lodge No. 68		Joyce and Joseph Lennert
Robert E. Amos	Washington Lodge No. 78	William W. Halsey	Old Town Lodge No. 68		Fairfax High School Alumni No. 1
Carl O. Atkins	Carl O. Atkins, Jr.	Warren G. Harris	Virginia May Lodge No. 38		George and Janice Stover
Harold B. Bailey	Richard E. Baughan, Jr.	Maynard S. Hedge	Henry Clay Lodge No. 280		Maxine Taylor and Tom Giusto
Mrs. Maynard P. Baltimore	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	Jo Henry	Wesley E. Farrish		Jean Wilder
Perry L. Barnett	Princess Anne Lodge No. 25	Sheldon Herondorf	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5	Donald E. Reynolds	Lee Lodge No. 209
George K. Bassford	Columbia Lodge No. 285	William E. Hershey	Hay Market Lodge No. 313		Michael and Virginia Daly
William J. Baumbach	Cherrydale Lodge No. 42	William L. Hiltibran	Princess Anne Lodge No. 25		Waynesboro Chapter No. 105 O.E.S.
Arnold S. Bazer	Willis V. Fentress Lodge No. 296	Thomas M. Holder	Nancy Holder		Charles H. and Jane Talton
Marvin R. Beacham	Sambra M. Beacham	Bascome D. Hudson	Richard E. Baughan, Jr.	Mary Richardson	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Allen D. Beckner	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Willie W. Hudson	Harvey L. Snellings, III	John P. Riddell	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
Linda Beckner	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Barbara D. Hylton	Thomas K. Daughtrey	William E. Rorer	Queens Purple Circle
Edmond M. Bedsworth	Broadwater Lodge No. 71	Dr. Richard D. Hylton	Thomas K. Daughtrey	James L. Rutherford	Edward N. Powell Sr.
Harry H. Black	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Cecil T. Irvin	Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82	Edward D. Ryan	Taliaferro C. Dickerson III
Royal M. Bond	Virginia May Lodge No. 38	Charles A. Johnson	Columbia Lodge No. 285		Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
William M. Boyd	Western Branch Lodge No. 189	Leon D. Johnson	Gail J. Morrison	Frank W. Saunders	Victoria Lodge No. 304
Thomas L. Broocks	John C. Emory, Jr.		Chester Lodge No. 94	Ernest P. Sawyer	Princess Anne Lodge No. 25
Lester B. Brown	Urbanna Royal Arch Chapter No. 59	Irvin F. Kennedy	Joppa Lodge No. 40		Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
Joseph H. Burge	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5	Everett S. Ketchum	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5		Robert L. Harrison
David F. Chester	Columbia Lodge No. 285	Leonard M. Kilian	Wayne and Mary Ann Flora	Judy Searce	James M. Searce, Jr.
Ronald C. Childress	Kilwinning-Crosse Lodge No. 2-237	Donald L. King	Williamson Road Lodge No. 163	Ruth Scruggs	Garland and Elva Rollins
Robert L. Clare	Colonial Beach Lodge No. 199	Claudene Kluksdahl	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	John W. Shafer	Western Branch Lodge No. 189
Edward C. Clarke	John C. Emory, Jr.	Charles P. Lawson	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	James R. Simpson	Hunter's Lodge No. 156
Louise Clay	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	Michael & Denise Lehman	Raymond F. Martines	Ralph Smith	Columbia Lodge No. 285
Raymond J. Cobb	Purdie Lodge No. 170	James D. Lilly	Sandston Lodge No. 216	Lloyd C. Sorrell	Columbia Lodge No. 285
Edmund Cohen	Lois Stuebinger	Ralph D. Long	Harvey L. Flesham	Robert E. Sowers	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Lewis H. Collins	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273		Day Lodge No. 58	Gordon H. Sprigg	Manchester Royal Arch No. 48
Robert C. Cooper	Robert and Cheri Smythers	Stefan C. Long	Columbia Lodge No. 285	Frederic A. Tayler	American Legion Post 175
	S. Renee Dutton	John C. Lucy	Glenn C. Allen	Roy W. Trainum	Herman E. Row II
Homer J. Crafton	Varina Lodge No. 272	Nell Lumsden	Roy and Sylvia Lacks	Frances Truett	Day Lodge No. 58
Kenneth W. Dameron	Lee Lodge No. 209	William D. Mackenzie	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5	Clara Tucker	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Mr. and Mrs. Lyman	Thomas K. Daughtrey	Audrey Mann	Powhatan Lodge No. 295		Richard and Mary Peroe
C. Daughtrey		Robert E. Martin	Day Lodge No. 58		Thomas Casserly
Stewart A. Deem	Hoen M. Edwards Jr.	Woodrow E. Martin	Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18		Robert and Martha Garian
Charles R. DeRemer	Kilwinning-Crosse Lodge No. 2-237	Robert & Laya Martines	Raymond F. Martines		Marilyn and Lawrence M. Tierney
Lonnie B. Dickens	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60	James G. Massie	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5		Garland and Elva Rollins
John R. Dixon	Nansemond Lodge No. 77	Gary A. McAlexander	Midlothian Lodge No. 211		William N. Riley
Hobart G. Dooley	Williamson Road Lodge No. 163	Irving G. Meadows	Nancy Holder		Royal S. Tucker Jr.
Cary L. Dowdy	Nancy Holder	Montie S. Meeks	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60	Norman H. Upchurch	Joppa Lodge No. 40
Henry C. Durbin	John T. and Cheryl H. Durbin	Charles E. Mertig	Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18	Carl E. Walker	Nansemond Lodge No. 77
	John T. Durbin, Jr. and Family	Doris Messer	Linda K. Gainey		Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273
	Julee Durbin Roerty and Family		Garland and Elva Rollins	Stephen R. Ward	Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
John A. Elam	Willis V. Fentress Lodge No. 296	James H. Miller	Yorktown Lodge No. 205	Mable Ware	Naomi Chapter No. 4, OES
Raymond A. Evans	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Ross H. Mise	Sandston Lodge No. 216	Ronald P. Watkins	Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
Carl A. Fanning	Loujean Goetz	Robert S. Mitchell	Richard E. Baughan, Jr.	William E. White	Western Branch Lodge No. 189
	Richard A. McClure	Victor M. Moon	David A. Burkus	Mrs. Raymond E. Whitehurst	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Add A Deck, Inc.		Bonnie Caudle	Margaret Whittaker	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Donald M. Fraser	A. Howard Mason Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Howard	Thomas K. Daughtrey	James B. Wilkinson	George and Constance Chapin
Norman H. Frink	Babcock Lodge No. 322	G. Myers			Westmoreland Lodge No. 212
Robert L. Frye	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Sally Oprison	Powhatan Lodge No. 295		Catherine H. Busbee
Alean Fulford	Ann S. Holladay	George C. Overton	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273	Billy L. Williams	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273
	Shirley A. White	Joseph N. Pack	Kilwinning-Crosse Lodge No. 2-237	Robert E. Williams	Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
	Garland and Elva Rollins	James A. Packett	Urbanna Lodge No. 83	James S. Wright	George and Helen Wood
	Joseph C. Cox Jr.	Maver C. Parker	Richard E. Baughan, Jr.		George and Helen Wood
	Dr. and Mrs. David A. Peskin	Lois M. Payne	Harold F. Gladding Jr.	Theron S. Wynn	Willis V. Fentress Lodge No. 296
Ashley L. Garrett	Nancy Holder	Danny & Monica Pelkey	Raymond F. Martines	Rae Yates	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Nancy Holder	Edward N. Powell	Kevin J. Davidson		
Chauncey E. Gaylord	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Wiley H. Quisenberry	Snowville Lodge No. 159		

Resident Birthdays

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
JUNE		
6/1/1916	Ersell Brinser	Manchester Lodge No.14
6/4/1925	Mildred Ammons	Warwick Lodge No.336
6/8/1922	Emily Tosh	Temple Lodge No.9
6/8/1936	Novella McDonough	Kemper Macon Ware Lodge No.64
6/11/1926	Juneth Hite	Faulkner Memorial Lodge No.91
6/11/1928	James Walker	Varina Lodge No.272
6/11/1935	Gordon Kirby	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
6/13/1938	Carol May	Varina Lodge No.272
6/14/1917	Irene Baughan	Joppa Lodge No.40
6/16/1930	Richard Peroe	Northside Lodge No.292
6/16/1924	Lansing Fulcher	Oriental Lodge No.20
6/20/1933	Florence Wager	Chickahominy Lodge No.286
6/22/1914	Lillian Jones	Manchester Lodge No.14
6/22/1929	Hugh Kirkland	South Hill Lodge No.297
6/23/1927	Catherine Murray	Urbanna Lodge No.83
6/25/1936	Charles Goens	Smithfield Union Lodge No.18
6/26/1916	Eloise Mosby	Richmond Randolph Lodge No.19
6/27/1911	Carl Torrence	Meridian Lodge No.284
6/30/1929	Florine Johnson	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
JULY		
7/1/1921	Margaret Hardin	Richmond Randolph Lodge No.19
7/4/1927	Frederick Wright	Babcock Lodge No.322
7/4/1928	Hoover Lide	Broadwater Lodge No.71
7/6/1931	Barbara Hogge	Mariner Lodge No.215
7/7/1929	Wanda Lucey	Ruth Lodge No.89
7/7/1929	James Wright	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
7/8/1920	Edna Henderson	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
7/8/1925	Edward Lanford	Glen Allen Lodge No.131
7/10/1928	Dorothy Denton	Skidmore Daylight Lodge No.237
7/10/1936	Patricia Clark	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
7/10/1939	Sara Wright	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
7/11/1919	Chester Baity	Oriental Lodge No.20
7/11/1923	Burton Lester	Roman Eagle Lodge No.122
7/13/1932	John Long	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
7/14/1929	Yvonne Olphin	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
7/14/1932	Barbara Rice	Richmond Lodge No.10
7/17/1924	James Dunn	Arlington Lodge No.102
7/18/1927	Louise Adams	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
7/18/1945	Jerry Clark	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
7/23/1927	Percy Dugger	Amelia Lodge No.101
7/24/1923	John Denton	Skidmore Daylight Lodge No.237
7/25/1921	Janet Sparks	Babcock Lodge No.322
7/27/1918	Carlisle Tiller	Army and Navy Lodge No.306
7/30/1925	Paul Lucey	Ruth Lodge No.89
7/30/1920	William Pierce	Kempsville Lodge No.196
7/31/1930	Helen Lape	Clover Hill Lodge No.253

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
AUGUST		
8/2/1930	Nell Owen	Richmond Lodge No.10
8/6/1920	Bessie Holmes	Northside Lodge No.292
8/6/1928	Walter Olphin	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
8/12/1926	Julian Burgess	Carter Lodge No.323
8/14/1935	Dorothy Barrey	Treadwell Lodge No.213
8/17/1918	Lois Payne	Central Lodge No.300
8/19/1931	Irene Slaughter	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
8/19/1917	George Wood	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
8/19/1928	Harry Jones	Franklin Lodge No.151
8/19/1927	Myrtle Bussey	Great Bridge Lodge No.257
8/24/1920	Virginia Yeatts	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
8/24/1940	Janey Herring	Richmond Lodge No.10
8/24/1916	Clinton Kennedy	Clintwood Lodge No.66
8/26/1925	Barbara Thornton	Sandston Lodge No.216
8/31/1925	Nancy Walker	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
SEPTEMBER		
9/1/1922	Mable Paschall	Meridian Lodge No.284
9/5/1930	Sarah Jones	Franklin Lodge No.151
9/6/1917	John Harrington	Westhampton Lodge No.302

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
9/8/1923	Stella Paxton	Kempsville Lodge No.196
9/8/1922	Sarah Cheatham	Manchester Lodge No.14
9/8/1919	Margaret Fainter	Manchester Lodge No.14
9/11/1917	Richard Yearwood	Glen Allen Lodge No.131
9/11/1912	Dorothy Wilson	Chesterfield Lodge No.161
9/13/1921	Jennings Marshall	Northside Lodge No.292
9/14/1926	Shirley Mucha	Chesterfield Lodge No.161
9/16/1930	Juanita Ragsdale	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
9/17/1918	Thelma Sturgis	Capeville Lodge No.107
9/18/1934	Herbert Milby	West Point Lodge No.238
9/20/1926	Simeon Phipps	Seaboard Lodge No.56
9/23/1932	Ruby Childress	Babcock Lodge No.322
9/25/1930	Thomas Benton	Washington-Lafayette Lodge No.176
9/26/1925	Helen Duke	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
9/27/1927	Edith Koss	Central Lodge No.300
9/28/1931	Helen Melton	Washington & Henry Lodge No.344
9/29/1925	Mary Thompson	Colonial Beach Lodge No.199

Resident Anniversaries

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
JUNE		
6/15/1946	Lewis and Mildred Butler	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
6/17/1950	Charles and Norma Klebert	Glen Allen Lodge No.131
6/2/1951	Richard and Mary Lee Peroe	Northside Lodge No.292
6/21/1952	James and Luvirda Mitchell	Elbert Munsey Lodge No.298
JULY		
7/18/1953	Ned and Sarah Jones	Franklin Lodge No.151
7/10/1974	George and Helen Wood	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
AUGUST		
8/18/1950	Theodore and Edith Koss	Central Lodge No.300
8/25/1951	Hoover and Betty Lide	Broadwater Lodge No.71
8/10/1977	John and Dorothy Denton	Skidmore Daylight Lodge No.237
SEPTEMBER		
9/13/1947	Walter and Jean McCuiston	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
9/15/1950	James and Ruth Walker	Varina Lodge No.272

Resident Deaths

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
12/10/2010	Clara Tucker	Covington Lodge No. 171
12/25/2010	Doris Messer	Sandston Lodge No. 216
1/16/2011	Ruth Scruggs	Clinton Lodge No. 73
3/31/2011	Josephine Faulkner	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131

New Residents

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
1/24/2011	Josephine Faulkner	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
2/7/2011	Ned and Sarah Jones	Franklin Lodge No. 151
3/2/2011	Bunion and Myrtle Bussey	Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
3/22/2011	Hallie Gunn	Richmond Lodge No. 10
3/28/2011	Julian Burgess	Carter Lodge No. 323

MAHOVA Events



Masonic Home Residents enjoy their own art works. A discussion, led by a local art lecturer helped explain some of the fine points of art and provide answers about art in general.



Masonic Home of Virginia
P.O. Box 7866
Henrico, VA 23231-0366
804.222.1694

Read all About It

Connecting Generations One Book at a Time

Ms. Debbie Preston

Social Worker at the Masonic Home of Virginia

Have you heard? Through the efforts of staff and our many supporters, the Masonic Home of Virginia has enhanced its capacity in promoting intergenerational relationships via the creation of the Children's Library aka the Book Nook. The Book Nook is open to all children and families who may be visiting their relatives in the Masonic Home.

The children's Book Nook is located within the Home's Magnolia Court Sun Porch and is designed to promote intergenerational activities (e.g., reading, games, socialization) between residents and their younger family members, within a spacious and fun learning environment.

The Home wishes to extend a heartfelt Thank You to the numerous residents, family members and staff who donated their time, talent and resources to make this resource a reality. A special Thank You is owed to the Westhampton DeMolay, Jobs Daughter's, Bethel No. 51 and the Rainbow Girls, Richmond Assembly No. 10 for generously contributing their time and talents toward the success of the Book Nook. Each of these Masonic Youth



Book Nook – The Book Nook at the Masonic Home is a place for children to enjoy time visiting their relatives.

organizations took time out of their busy schedules to participate in the Grand Opening Celebrations held on March 2, 5, and 8, 2011.

Many welcome donations were received, including the donation of a puppet theater by Midlothian Lodge No. 211 and sock puppets, which were made by the members of Bethel No. 51. The opening festivities included face painting and balloon-making by 'Honey Bee'

and Dimples the Clown (Virginia and Harry Moore), special appearances by the Cat-in-the Hat and the Masonic Home King and Queen, as well as special guest readers each night.

During the opening events, the residents enjoyed spending time with the Masonic youth as well as with younger members of their own families who attended. The Home has received a significant amount of positive feedback from residents and their families regarding the successful Book Nook. One resident commented, "I am so glad that I now have a place within my home to take my great-grandchildren and spend quality time with them."

The Book Nook is blessed to have received several hundred children's books (new and gently used), as well as educational toys and puzzles. The generosity of our supporters has been overwhelming and this effort will truly make a difference each day in the lives of our residents.

All families with children visiting the Masonic Home are encouraged to stop by and enjoy the Book Nook. 🐝



DeMolay – members of Westhampton DeMolay at one of the Book Nook celebrations



Job's Daughters – members Bethel No. 51 celebrate the Book Nook at the Masonic Home



Rainbow – members of Richmond Assembly No. 10 visit the Masonic Home's Book Nook

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Most Worshipful Rafael A. Rasario makes a special presentation to Grand Master John M. Chambliss, Jr.