

THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

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Summer 2012

Grand Master William T. Ellison, Jr.
Consecrating The Patriot Lodge No. 1957

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Photography courtesy of Brother William Baumbach

The Virginia Masonic Herald

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



QR Code to
Grand Lodge of Virginia
Website

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 Lecturer Presentation

Right Worshipful Moring E. Gravitt

Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins (1997) began the presentation ceremony of a fifty-year Masonic Veterans emblem. Most Worshipful William Talbott Ellison, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, read the Masonic History of Right Worshipful Hoen McGuire Edwards, Jr. Most Worshipful Adkins appointed a committee composed of his Masonic father and son, Most Worshipful William Franklin Perdue (1991), and Most Worshipful James Dean Cole (2001) to present Right Worshipful Hoen McGuire "Mac" Edwards, Jr., Grand Lecturer, at the dais. Most Worshipful George Bernard Dungan, Jr. (2007) offered the ceremonial prayer. Brother Adkins performed the ceremony in an eloquent manner. Our Grand Master, Most Worshipful William Talbott Ellison, Jr. presented the certificate.



L-R: Right Worshipful Hoen McGuire Edwards, Jr., Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins, Most Worshipful George Bernard Dungan, Jr., and Grand Master William Talbott Ellison, Jr.

*He spoke fondly of the twenty-six years
he has been on the Committee on Work.
He is serving in the tenth year of being
our Grand Lecturer.*

Present to honor the Grand Lecturer were six Past Grand Masters: William Franklin Perdue (1991), Alan Wayne Adkins (1997), George Bernard Dungan, Jr. (2007), James Dean Cole (2001), Jeffery Eugene Hodges (2009), and William Earl Rorer, Jr. (2010). All of the progressive Grand Lodge Line Officers were present. There was a host of District Deputy Grand Masters, several Masters and lots of Brethren and their ladies to observe and celebrate this auspicious occasion, held at the Wakefield 4-H Conference Center.

Right Worshipful "Mac" thanked the Past Grand Masters that assisted with the Veterans Presentation. He spoke fondly of the twenty-six years he has been on the Committee on Work. He is serving in the tenth year of being our Grand Lecturer. He thanked the Division Lecturers present for their tireless efforts in the Craft (Gerald Edward

*Our Grand Lecturer is not ordinary,
we only have one.*

*To our knowledge, this is the first time
a Grand Lecturer has received a
50 year certificate.*

Burks - Districts 14A, B and 57, Edward Titus Conner - Districts 22A, B and 39, George Bernard Dungan, Jr. - Districts 8, 9 and 11, Claude Thomas Fifer, Jr. - Districts 15A, B and C, Robert Lewis Gibbs - 15A, B, C and 16, George Gilbert Gregory - District 12, Emmett Moseley Pate, Jr. - Districts 36 and 56, William Joseph Schaffer - Districts 28, 31 and 32, and Robert Edward Simpson - Districts 7, 10, 18, and 19). 🙏

Grand Master's Itinerary 2011—2012

May 2012

- 2 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners
Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76'
- 3 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347
- 4 - 5 Grand Commandery of Virginia, Charlottesville
- 7 - 9 Grand Lodge of Maine
- 11 Official Visit, Masonic District 11
MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 12 MAHOVA Ambassadors Conference
Cornerstone Ceremony, Reedy Spring No. 203
- 14 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 18 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 20 and 23
- 19 Official Visit, Masonic District 8
- 21 - 22 Grand Chapter of Virginia, Order of Eastern Star, Roanoke
- 25 Official Visit, Masonic District 28
- 26 Official Visit, Masonic District 41
- 29 Official Visit, Masonic District 29

June 2012

- 1 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 22A and 22B
- 2 DeMolay Grand Masters Class, Luray
- 3 15th District Memorial Service, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Richmond
- 6 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners
Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76'
- 7 Berkley Lodge No. 167
- 8 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 7 and 10
- 9 60-Year Veterans Emblem, Charles F. Shuler, PGM
- 11 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 13 MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 14 Lee Lodge No. 209
- 15 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 15A, 15B and 15C
- 16 Manasseh Lodge No. 182, Strawberry Night
- 20 Army and Navy Lodge No. 306
- 22 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 14A and 14B
- 23 - 25 Grand Assembly, Rainbow for Girls, Richmond
- 29 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 26 and 27
- 30 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 35A and 35B

July 2012

- 1 - 7 Imperial Shrine of North America, Charlotte
- 9 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 11 MAHOVA Board Meeting

July 2012 continued

- 11 Strategic Planning and Implementation Meeting
Annual Session, Miss Job's Daughters, Ferrum College
- 13 - 15 Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, New York, New York
- 17 Official Visit, Masonic District 16
- 21 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 37 and 38
- 24 Official Visit, Masonic District 25
- 27 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 47 and 49
- 28 Annual Conclave, DeMolay, Radford University
- 29 - 31 Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership

August 2012

- 1 Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership
James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners
Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76'
- 2 Joppa Lodge No. 40
- 4 Official Visit, Masonic District 45
- 6 Westhampton Lodge No. 302
- 8 MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 9 Mountain Home Lodge No. 263
- 11 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 1A, 1B and 54
- 13 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 21 Varina Lodge No. 272
- 22 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
- 24 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 48 and 50
- 25 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 42 and 43
- 27 Suffolk Lodge No. 30

September 2012

- 1 Official Visit, Masonic District 19
- 5 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners
Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76'
- 6 Waynesboro Royal Arch Chapter No. 2
Stevenson Commandery No. 8
- 10 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 11 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
- 12 MAHOVA Board Meeting
Strategic Planning and Implementation Meeting
- 13 Transportation Lodge No. 337
- 15 Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Richmond
- 21 - 23 Scottish Rite Conference, Lynchburg
- 25 Snow Creek Lodge No. 90



Contributions to the George Washington Masonic Memorial

Most Worshipful John R. Quinley (2005)

Brethren, as Ambassador to the George Washington Masonic Memorial, I am pleased to use this article to thank each of you for your generous contributions to the Memorial. The Memorial is sustained by your generosity and your interest and support. Your continual support enables us to maintain the Memorial that reflects honor and dignity on Brother Washington and on American Freemasonry. George D. Seghers, PDDGM, Executive Director, has announced that the Board has established a new George Washington Memorial Society. This new Society will consist of Charter Members – contributions of \$1,000 or more with their membership application and \$250.00 annually thereafter; and, Regular Members - contributing \$500.00 with their membership application and \$250.00 yearly thereafter.

The Memorial is a 501(C) (3) organization, and your gift can be treated as a charitable contribution. Those whose contributions in 2011 have furthered the goals of our Memorial are: The Grand Lodge of Virginia (per capita), Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 (annual pledge), Mr. Andrew Corsun in memory of Frank and Madeline Corsun, Brother Albert Opp, Ms. Patricia Dyson, Brother Walter Davis, Brother Andrew Huttner, Brother Harry Lyon, Brother Wasfi Skaff, Richmond Valley, AASR, Brother George and Louise Seghers, David and Marium Browning, and Brother Kerry Kirk.

New Century Members

- Mountain City Lodge No. 67(2)
- Brother Eugene Luther
- Peyton Randolph Lodge of Research No. 1774
- Brother David Smith

Platinum Presidential Member

- Brother Gerald Bee
- Brother Robert Phillips
- Ms. Ann Dorman

Gold Master Member

- Brother Theodore Dickens

Silver Craftsman Member

- Brother Damon Riddle
- Brother Luiz Amaral
- Brother Frederick Dixon
- Brother Samuel M. Jones
- Brother Joe Hogler (2)
- Brother Wallace Bond
- Anonymous**
- Brother Thomas Buckley
- Brother R. Scott
- Brother Scott Buchanan
- Brother John Hardy
- Brother Frank Harris, III
- Brother George and Louise Seghers
- Brother John and Jill Quinley

Charter Member of the George Washington Memorial Society

- Brother Kerry Kirk

Additionally, four trees were dedicated on the grounds of the Memorial this year, two in memory of Brother Russell Bessom by Melody and Bryan Hooker, by the Russell Bessom Family, by Ms. Delores B. Soderburg in memory of Brother Allan Soderburg, and another by Brother Francis Jordan, Jr. in memory of Cdr. Francis Jordan, USN, KIA, WWII.

Thank you 🙏



The Lafayette Apron Symbolism

Worshipful Gregory R. McCarney



Lafayette Apron presented to Worshipful George Washington by Brother Lafayette
Picture courtesy of Bro. Steve McCall President of Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply

Virginia. Alexandria Lodge No. 39 was operating under a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. On April 28, 1788, Washington became the first of four Brothers who were charter members of the renamed Alexandria Lodge No. 22 when it received a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Brother Washington was unanimously elected Worshipful Master. He was also elected the first President of the United States in the same year. He served as Worshipful Master for two years and is the only Brother to serve as President of the United States of America and Worshipful Master at the same time. He declined to be the inaugural Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, due to his serving in the military. He felt he was not qualified to serve as Grand Master since he had not served as a Warden or Master.

Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette, or the Marquis de Lafayette, was a member of the French aristocracy who joined the Craft at the age of 17, although his mother Lodge is up for debate. In

1777, Washington and Lafayette became friends, quickly forming a father-son relationship. His connection to Washington as a father figure was due to the fact that his father was killed by the British in the Battle of Minden in 1757, when Lafayette was only two years old.

The Lafayette apron has a confused history. In August of 1784, during a visit to Mount Vernon, Washington's home, Marquis de Lafayette presented the hand sewn Masonic apron. It was presumed to be crafted by his wife, Lady Lafayette. New evidence indicates that the apron was made possibly in the Far East. The design of the apron and the symbols selected are credited to Lafayette. The apron was presented in a handmade wooden box which was black and decorated to appear like a book. As beautiful as the Lafayette Apron is it was misidentified for nearly 100 years.

The apron which Washington wore in many portraits, including the Cornerstone Laying of the Capitol Building, was believed to be the Lafayette Apron. In fact, the apron he is wearing is referred to as the Watson-Cassoul Apron is named after the two Brothers who gave the apron to Washington. Brother Elkana Watson of Plymouth, Massachusetts and his business partner Brother Monsieur Cassoul of Nantes, France presented the apron simply to show affection and esteem for service to his country. The apron was handmade in Cassoul, France, by nuns. It has an American and French flag with a skull and crossbones in the center. An additional reason for the confusion could be that Washington was often seen and portrayed wearing the Watson-Cassoul apron. The Watson-Cassoul Apron remains in the possession of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22.

The Lafayette Apron is decorated with over 40 different Masonic emblems and symbols which have connections to Masonry. Brother Frank W. Bobb, librarian and curator of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, is credited on the website of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

The Lafayette Apron Symbolism continued

as identifying the symbols on the Washington apron and identifying the most common descriptions of those symbols. We can start by looking at the typical symbols found on the apron:

- Red symbolizes courage, zeal, the blood of life, and fire. It is the color of Royal Arch Masonry.
- White has throughout the ages represented purity and innocence. Blue has been esteemed since antiquity as a beneficent color, denoting immortality, eternity, chastity and fidelity. It is the color of Symbolic Masonry, "the Blue Lodge."
- All-Seeing Eye, a symbol of watchfulness and of the Supreme Being.
- Rays or Glory, symbolic of the power of the Supreme Being to penetrate the innermost reaches of the human heart.
- Rainbow is sometimes associated with the Royal Arch. It is also part of the architectural arch, being the 9th arch under Solomon's Temple. It is supported by two Pillars. Another interpretation calls it the Arch of Heaven supported by pillars (Job 26:11). The pillars which support the arch are emblematical of Wisdom and Strength.
- Moon, one of the lesser lights in Freemasonry, governing and ruling the night.
- Pillars of Enoch. Enoch, fearing that the principles of the arts and sciences might be lost, erected two pillars. The one of marble to withstand fire, the other of brass to resist water. On each he engraved that which he feared would be lost. The Globes are symbols of Unity and Peace and Plenty
- Pillars B. and J. were within the porch of King Solomon's Temple. Boaz the name of the left pillar means "in strength"; the right pillar, Jachin, means "God will establish." The globe on the left pillar represents earth; that on the right, heaven. These brazen pillars with their globes are today the columns of the Senior and Junior Wardens.
- Dove in early Masonry is a symbol of Noah's messenger. In ancient symbolism, the dove represented purity and innocence.
- Forty-seventh Problem of Euclid's first book of



The Watson-Cassoul Apron is named after the two Brothers: Elkana Watson of Plymouth, Massachusetts and his business partner Cassoul of Nantes, France. The apron was handmade in France by nuns.

geometry is said that when Pythagoras solved the problem he exclaimed, "Eureka!" which signifies "I have found it." It is, however, not a problem, but a theorem. It has been adopted as the symbol on the Past Master Mason's Jewel in Pennsylvania (The Ahiman Rezon, Art. XVI, Sec. 3 and 4).

- Hope is sometimes shown as a female with an anchor, also as an anchor near the ark. Anchor, an emblem of a well-grounded hope and a well-spent life. With hope, an Anchor holds the soul both sure and steadfast.
- Plumb, the proper Masonic Jewel of the Junior Warden, admonishes us to walk uprightly before God and man. It is one of the working tools of operative Masons, used to try perpendiculars.
- Jacob's ladder without a clouded canopy or star-decked heaven, which he saw in a vision ascending from earth to heaven. The three principal rounds are denominated faith, hope, and charity.
- Square within bounds is a symbol formed by four stonemason's squares of equal arms superimposed one on the other to form a central square. This symbol has not been found

in American or English books of Masonic symbolism and therefore may well be of French origin. There has been no interpretation found for it to date.

- Lights or burning tapers, like the three principal Lodge officers, refer undoubtedly to the three stations of the sun: its rising in the East (Worshipful Master), its meridian in the South (Junior Warden), and its setting in the West (Senior Warden).
- Trowel, a working tool of the operative mason, is used symbolically for spreading the cement of Brotherly love and affection.
- Five-pointed star represents the five points of fellowship. Within the star is the letter "G," a well-known symbol of Freemasonry representing both God and geometry.
- Mosaic pavement, a representation of the ground floor of King Solomon's Temple. The Masonic Pavement is emblematical of human life, checked with good and evil.
- Steps are usually three in number. The six steps are said to represent degrees Washington received.
- Holy Bible, the great light of Freemasonry.
- Coffin has always symbolized death. It is found on tracing boards of the 18th century and, in that time, constituted a part of the esoteric symbolism.
- Skull and cross-bones are symbols of mortality and death and are so used in French degrees.
- Sprig of Acacia. The acacia tree is supposedly the shittah wood of the Old Testament. The name is sometimes spelled Cassia. It has long been used as a symbol of immortality.
- Square is the proper Masonic Jewel of the Master of the Lodge. It is one of the Great Lights in Freemasonry. It is the stonemason's square of two equal arms.
- Compasses, the proper Masonic emblem of the Craft, and one of the Great Lights in Freemasonry.
- Brick wall appears to represent the place in the Lodge occupied by the Altar. The Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses rest upon it, as do the three Lesser Lights. It composes nine rows of

A View of Mentorship, Membership and Education

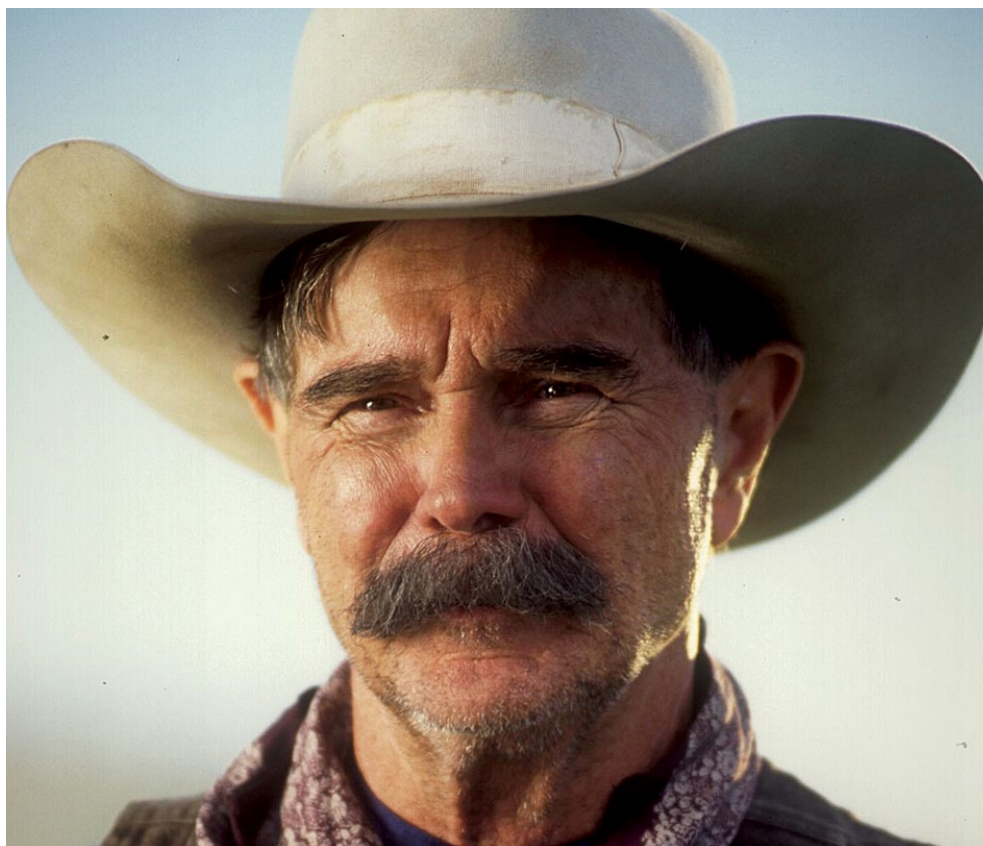
Brother Alan Edmonston

Mentorship refers to a personal developmental relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps a less experienced or less knowledgeable person. The receiver of mentorship has been traditionally referred to as a protégé, or “apprentice”.

In Freemasonry we perceive coaching an individual through the degrees as his being “mentored.” As a whole, we have somehow lost sight of the importance of the coaching (mentorship) time. In our Degree work, the Brothers are so busy correcting each other’s recital that one would scarcely know that the entire exercise is supposed to be for the Candidate’s benefit.

We should become friends with the Brethren first and foremost. Memorization does not make a good Mason nor does it guarantee active participation in the Lodge or a desire to become an officer in a Lodge. True mentorship builds loyalty, friendship and respect between the coach and candidate. Too many times I have heard the phrase, “Let’s just get him through the degrees and then he will be able to be more active.” This is a mistake; we should make him a part of the Lodge as soon and as much as possible.

While watching the movie “Tombstone” years ago, I noticed a character wearing a Square and Compass. I went online and found the actor playing the character “Turkey Creek Jack Johnson,” Buck Taylor. His website had a phone number, so I left a message. Two weeks later I received a call from Buck Taylor’s wife. I explained my questions and she told me Buck was out of town, but she would have him call me. Twenty minutes later she called back. She



Besides his work in films, Brother Buck Taylor, 73, continued to appear in Western-themed TV shows including: “Gunsmoke” “Dallas” and “Walker, Texas Ranger.”

Brother Taylor has a plaque on the Walk of Western Stars in California, alongside his “Gunsmoke” co-stars James Arnes, Dennis Weaver and Amanda Blake.

had spoken to Buck and relayed the following:

- Buck Taylor is Brother Buck Taylor, a member of two Lodges, one in Texas and one in Louisiana.
- The real Turkey Creek Jack Johnson was known to be a Freemason.
- If I had any further questions, Brother Buck would be happy to contact me himself.

Now this information is not earth shattering, but the fact that Brother Buck Taylor returned my call and answered my questions was a sign of respect to me and Freemasonry. How many times have we all heard the story of a new Mason telling us how hard it was to

get information “from us, about us, so they may become one of us?” Brother Taylor didn’t know who I was, but thought it important to contact me.

It is not as important to concern ones self with how fast a candidate learns, as how much he understands. When I coach we discuss the philosophy and history of Masonry. There have been nights when a candidate and I just talk about “stuff,” everything from Freemasonry in the movies to why some Masons wear their rings facing in or out.

That all men have the right to speak without ridicule with open discussion, is one of

A View continued

the basic principles that makes our Fraternity great. It doesn’t mean we have to agree, but we should respect a Brother’s opinion. How many times have we seen Brothers fight their way through a crowd to shake the hand of GM’s, DDGM’s, etc., compared to the number of times we have seen new Brothers standing or sitting ignored? These are the ones we should be beating a path to, they are the future of our Fraternity!

I decided to go through the chairs because it is my duty to my Lodge. Once I felt I was needed as part of the Lodge and not just a person to fill a seat on the sidelines, the Lodge gained a dedicated Brother. I have gained the learning experience of a lifetime, and I am eternally thankful.

It is not as important to be concerned with how fast a candidate learns, as how much he understands

For the record, when becoming a Master Mason I did not know anyone in Lodge. It was almost ten years before I became active and that was a direct result of a young man asking me to assist him in becoming a Freemason. I signed his petition and learned the skills to coach him. Since then I have coached almost two dozen men. 🇺🇸

The Lafayette Apron Symbolism continued

- bricks, one upon the other. To give the symbolic meaning of the wall would be mere speculation.
- Ark is emblematical of that Divine Ark which safely carries us over this tempest-tossed life. It is often shown with the Anchor.
- Setting maul, in operative Masonry, is used for setting stones, that is, tapping them to a firm seat in the mortar or urging them sidewise into place. It is considered by some to be a symbol of untimely death.
- Treasurer of the Lodge wearing the Apron of his office and holding the emblem of his office, crossed keys.
- Twenty-four inch gauge symbolizes the twenty-four hours of day divided into three equal parts devoted to God, usual vocations, and rest.
- Sword pointing to a naked heart demonstrates that justice will sooner or later overtake us; and that although our thoughts, words and actions may be hidden from the eyes of man, they are not hidden from the All-Seeing Eye.
- Tassel consists of a cord with tassels on the ends. It alludes to the Care of Providence which surrounds and keeps us within its protection while we govern our lives by the four cardinal virtues: temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice. The tassel may also represent the Mystic Tie, that sacred bond which unites men of diverse opinions into one band of Brothers.
- Level, the proper Masonic Jewel of the Senior Warden, symbolizes equality and reminds us that we are traveling upon the level of time; It is one of the working tools of an operative mason.
- Sun, one of the lesser light as a source of light it reminds the Mason of that intellectual light of which he is in constant search.
- Seven six-pointed stars. The number seven represents the Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences: Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Arithmetic, Geometry, Music and Astronomy. The six-pointed star symbolizes Divine Providence, the star of David or Shield of David. It comprises two interlaced triangles, which have a number of Masonic interpretations.
- Letters used symbolically in the Mark Master Mason’s degree, Chapter of Royal Arch Mason.
- Beehive is the emblem of industry. It teaches us that as we came into this world rational and intelligent beings, so we should ever be industrious ones.
- Apron, which derives from the working apron of the stonemason, is in itself a symbol. It is an emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Freemason.

After Washington’s death on December 14, 1799, the apron was kept at Mount Vernon. It was presented to the Washington Benevolent Society of Philadelphia on October 26, 1816. The apron was then presented to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania by the Washington Benevolent Society on July 3, 1829 where it remains on display in its museum. 🇺🇸

Resources

- | | |
|---|---|
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| Grand Lodge of Virginia, www.grandlodgeofva.org | Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, www.pagrandleofpa.org |
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Time For A Customer Review

Right Worshipful William E. Hershey, Jr.

In 2008, Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen 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 that district.

In this article, I am asking you to let me know how we are doing. At present, the Grand Master has 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 14 A and B and 35 A and B.

A number of Lodges in other districts 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 the Membership Committee needs to hear from individual Master Masons, Lodge Officers, Worshipful Masters and District Deputies concerning their opinions on the effectiveness of the BAF program in your Lodge or district. I also need to ask, which is perhaps a bigger question, the question, do you see the 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 it is 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, let me hear from you. 🙏

Why I Am a Mason

A new addition to the Grand Lodge website is "Why I Am A Mason" [click on Membership (right hand side of the main page) then click on "Why I Am A Mason" and select the story that interests you] telling why we joined the Oldest Fraternity in the world.

Or pass this link along to a friend who has shown interest in our Fraternity: http://www.grandlodgeofvirginia.org/membership/Why_Im_A_Mason.htm.

Why did you become a Mason? Send your story to the Grand Lodge office at: grandsecretary@grandlodgeofvirginia.org with the subject WHY. Ladies, what is your point of view as to the impact on your husband since he became a Mason? Email us at grandsecretary@grandlodgeofvirginia.org with the subject WHY. 🙏



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Website

Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur



Pictures taken in ETO (European Theater of Operations) circa 1944 of Brother Johnson with his B-26 crew and Brother Johnson seeing the sights

In April of this year, Glebe resident Worshipful and Colonel Joseph G. Johnson, USAF, Retired, received the highest honor the French government can bestow, The Legion of Honor, for his service in WWII and specifically on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Madam Nicole Yancey, an emissary from the French Ambassador to the United States, spoke of the bravery and service of Brother Johnson flying 40 missions over occupied France and then his service on D-Day when he flew his B-26 on two missions. One to bomb Utah Beach and the other to bomb a German troop train rushing soldiers to the front.

Brother Johnson received the coveted Legion of Honor, Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, on his suit coat by Madam Yancey with a simple, "Merci beaucoup."

Brother Johnson thanked the French president and the people of France. He spoke of

his service and his life. He spoke very highly of The Glebe where he is affectionately known as, "The Mayor." He also spoke of his late wife, Dreama Ann Waid Johnson, whom he married on April 16, 1945.

His daughters Donna Powell and Dreama Kattenbraker, their husbands, children, grand-



Madam Yancey, emissary from the French Ambassador to the United States' making the presentation to Brother Johnson.

children, in-laws and great grandchildren were in attendance.

People from all over the area gave best wishes to Brother Johnson at an afternoon reception held at Fincastle United Methodist Church where Johnson has been a member since 1971, when he retired from the Air Force.

Worshipful Brother Johnson was Master of Catawba Lodge No. 342 in 1978. He is a 60-Year Masonic Veteran, having served Catawba Lodge No. 342 as Secretary and as Blood Coordinator. For his service to his God, his country, his family and his Lodge, Catawba Lodge No. 342 has made Brother Joseph G. Johnson an Honorary Member. 🙏

Roanoke Times article and photographs referenced with appreciation.
<http://www.roanoke.com/>

"I just wanted to help as many of my Lodges as I could."

Right Worshipful Barry L. Evans
Chairman

Grand Lodge Committee on Life Membership In Perpetuity



L-R: R. W. Barry L. Evans, M. W. John M. Chambliss, Jr. and R. W. John D. Denton, Jr. receiving the Life Member in Perpetuity plaque.

As Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Life Membership In Perpetuity (LMIP), I was doing my annual research many months prior to Grand Lodge, in selecting awards for Lodges and perhaps individual Masons, that had gone above and beyond toward the promotion of and even shown tremendous leadership of the LMIP program.

Which individual Mason purchased the most LMIP's since the inception of the program in 1992? There were actually two Masons that had purchased eleven total LMIP's over their Masonic careers. One was R. W. Howard Bledford Cohen, now deceased. The Committee on LMIP recognized this Brother posthumously for his extraordinary love and generosity.

At the time of this writing I learned of R. W. John D. Denton, Jr.'s serious health condition. R. W. John he did not feel he could make it to Grand Lodge to receive his Award due to his illness, I actually begged him, not for himself, but for... us!

R. W. Brother John is a Past Master of both Mount Vernon No. 219 and Fort Hunt Skidmore Daytime Lodge No. 353. He was appointed by Most Worshipful Brother Morlock to Chair the Awards Committee created by M. W. Morlock, and as a result R. W. Denton was the co-author of the Reid James Simmons Award of Ritualistic Excellence. As the

District Deputy Grand Master in 1998 of district 1A, R. W. John wanted to help the Lodges in his district financially. When I asked R. W. John why he purchased so many LMIP memberships his answer was without hesitation, "I just wanted to help as many of my Lodges as I could." So as a true believer of the Life Membership In Perpetuity Program, R. W. Brother John purchased eleven LMIP Memberships in the following Lodges:

1. Alexandria-Washington No. 22
2. Elmer Timberman No. 54
3. Kemper-Macon Ware No. 64
4. John Blair No. 187
5. Mount Vernon No. 219
6. Skidmore Daylight No. 237 (merged with No. 353)
7. Washington and Henry No. 344
8. Henry Knoxfield No. 349
9. Fort Hunt-Skidmore Daytime No. 353
10. Civil War Research No. 1865
11. A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Research No. 1949

R. W. Denton did not stop with just 11 LMIP Memberships in his fellow Lodges, but continues supporting with eight LMIP's in other organizations:

1. LMIP and "Past TALL" of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon
2. LMIP of the National Sojourners and Honorary Member of the "Heroes"
3. LMIP of the ACCA Shrine
4. LMIP of the Scottish Rite
5. LMIP of the York Rite
6. LMIP of the Royal Arch Chapter
7. LMIP of the American Legion
8. LMIP of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

For those of us at Grand Lodge this past November, we will always remember this great man and Mason. Sadly, R. W. John D. Denton, Jr., recently passed away. 🕊

Retiring Secretaries For the Masonic Year 2010

Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins, Grand Secretary

This year we welcome forty-two new Lodge Secretaries. We say "thank you" to those secretaries who have either retired or asked to be replaced. In the subordinate Lodge, one of the most important offices is that of Secretary. This is true because the member who serves in this office usually continues from year to year and strives to bring continuity to the affairs of the Lodge. We have been fortunate to have Brethren to serve faithfully for many years in their respective Lodges.

The following Brethren served **ten or more** years as Secretary:

Charles S. Sarbaugh	Metropolitan No. 11	26 years
Richard A. Forgey, Jr.	Elizabeth No. 34	11 years
Willis A. Wilson	Wytheville Fraternal No. 82*	25 years
Carl H. Wells	Liberty No. 95	27 years
Kenneth H. Hackenbracht	Mt. Jackson No. 103	20 years
Robert E. Neely	Liberty Hall No.104	28 years
Sherman M. Smallwood	Chamblissburg No. 179	20 years
Paul J. Cave	Magnetic No. 184	38 years
William R. Grant	Appalachia No. 229	22 years
Ollie W. Kirkland	Boykins No. 287	42 years
Glenwood W. Talbott	Twin Rivers No. 338	12 years

The following Brethren served from **one to nine** years as Secretary:

Lawrence B. Smith	Blandford No. 3	Thomas M. Taylor	William King No. 227
Joseph M. Voss	Princess Anne No. 25	Max C. Rupe, III	Pythagoras No. 239
Lloyd J. Goddard	Tazewell No. 62	Ronal W. Mason	Forest No. 245
Barry D. Light	Pleasants No. 63	James M. Searce, Jr.	Webber High Twelve No. 282
Gaylord G. Ambrose, Sr.	Jefferson No. 65	Clay C. Neal	Elbert Munsey No. 298
James H. Lawrence	James Evans No. 72	John P. Griffin	Dillwyn No. 315
Tim S. Jenne	Hudson-Morris No. 80	Robert M. Moss	Reedville No. 321
Jeffrey B. Galusha	Arlington Centennial-Glebe No. 81	David M. Sturgill	Dryden No. 326
Rickey D. Lawson	Coeburn No. 97	George H. Wade	Ft. Hunt-Skidmore Daytime No. 353
Derek T. Almarode	Augusta No. 111	Freeman L. Shupe, Jr.	Edward H. Cann Daylight No. 1752
Brian K. Schreffler	Olive Branch No. 114	Paul W. Pennybacker	Peyton Randolph No. 1774
William D. Mitchell	Andrew Jackson No. 120	Edwin R. Carpenter, Jr.	A. Douglas Smith, Jr. No. 1949
Ricky L. Dix	Roman Eagle No. 122	Joseph N. Pack	Kilwinning Crosse No. 2-237
Patrick W. Smith, Jr.	Dinwiddie No. 136		
Kenneth W. Gay	Franklin No. 151		
Johnny S. Johnson	Piedmont No. 152		
Dwight D. Hazard	Virginia No. 177		
Matt B. Locke	Treadwell No. 213		

As you can see from above, the length of service varies from one to fifty-two years. Whenever you meet one of these Brethren, take the opportunity to express your appreciation for their service to the Craft.

*Deceased

Ways to Help Increase Attendance

Worshipful Edward P. Tooma

Our Grand Master, William T. Ellison, Jr., theme this year is "Spreading Masonic Light."

Spread Masonic Light on how to increase Lodge attendance. Attendance is rather low in some Lodges and outstanding in others. I've given some thought to how we might be able to make the "outstanding" turnout throughout. We need to discuss ways of improving Lodge attendance with one another and make recommendations to the Worshipful Masters and the Officers. This way we're on the level with each other, so we can take the necessary steps to make it work.

A Lodge Trestleboard with a new contemporary design in its layout helps. A Trestleboard

ability of rides to a meetings.

There's another source for making mention of Lodge meetings. Use your local radio stations to get the word out. All broadcast operations offer public service announcements (PSA's) or a bulletin board to air town functions. Newspapers are another outlet, but there is an expense. The idea of increasing Lodge attendance is to have an effective way to get the word out.

Regardless of how we do it, it needs to be effectively followed through. If there is a change in our scheduled plans, it is necessary to get the word out as quickly as possible.

The Worshipful Master, officers and the membership should all have a list of the Brethren, phone number, and e-mail address. Another way to communicate by the internet. Having a Lodge website would be a wonderful tool for expansion in keeping our Brethren totally informed. Our younger Brethren who are computer savvy should be able to help in setting up an electronic way of communicating, including text messaging.

We need to take advantage of this medium as many district's and by having our own Lodge website on the internet, we're unlimited in what we can do. You'll be amazed at how these tools will only increase attendance, and at the same time will make coming to Lodge something which we can look forward.

We have Brethren that do not have computers. Call these Brethren, nothing beats personal contact, and it shows that you care.

Here are some other ways to increase attendance and awareness of our Fraternity.

Having a dinner prior to Lodge meeting. Not just for the membership. Invite your spouse. Invite a friend. How about giving an invitation to a prospective candidate, so he can meet the Brethren? This is first-class fellowship, and it shows that we're family and friendly oriented. Good deeds like this are always remembered.

How about having a guest speaker prior to Lodge meeting? Invite the Mayor, Chief of Police, or Chief of the Fire Department to give a presentation. This is outstanding public relations and it might even result in a new member. Bring the family along when you have speakers like this. After all, they need to be informed as much as we do. These talks do

How about having a guest speaker prior to Lodge meeting? Invite the Mayor, Chief of Police or Chief of the Fire Department to give a presentation. This is outstanding public relations and it might even result in a new member.

not have to be long. A good time frame is about 15 minutes is sufficient.

The fact that you took the time to personally invite a town spokesperson really counts.

During the Lodge meeting, the Lodge Educational Officer or any member can present a program. Surely they have something that would be of interest to all.

Cassia Lodge No. 142 has a program called, "Meet a Mason," in which a member

Ways to Help Increase Attendance

of the Lodge speaks for 3 to 5 minutes telling about himself, sort of a mini-introduction. I think this is rather unique. Many of us only get to meet a Brother while attending Lodge, and the only thing we know about this Brother is his name, and we may not even know that. "Meet a Mason" isn't a bad idea.

There are many ways to offer an interesting evening for our Brethren. Remember, not all presentations need to be Masonically related. Our goal is to make our Brethren look forward to coming to Lodge and to keep them coming.

Are you aware that we can invite a Grand Lodge Officer to give a program? How about the Appendant Bodies? They too would be delighted to give a talk. Ever thought of inviting a Brother from another District who might have something interesting to share? Brethren, this is all food for thought, so we can boost attendance.

I betcha' if the word was out that it was shrimp night, we'd have an excellent turnout.

During one of my visits to Eureka Lodge No. 195, they invited the Eastern Star to tell about their organization. It was an interesting and informative talk given before Lodge and it lasted about 15 minutes.

If I were not the District Educational Officer, I probably wouldn't be relating this information to you, but I feel its my responsibility to do so, and my duty to do so.

Otherwise, I'm not fulfilling the requirements of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Virginia Masons, and that is to Educate and Inform. We do that? By "Spreading Masonic Light."

It's a pleasure to be a District Educational Officer. Knowledge is Power! It's like that tiny instrument known as the trowel, "which spreads the cement that unites the building into one common mass or whole." Its binding power is everlasting, and so is knowledge. It's one of the few things in life that's still "Free." 🧡

Printed courtesy of Grand Lodge of Virginia Committee on Masonic Education

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Application for Membership

The Application for Membership form has recently undergone some minor revisions. A small supply of the form will be provided to each Lodge in the near future. It has been brought to the attention of the Grand Secretary that Lodge Secretaries are not communicating with other Lodge Secretaries concerning the good standing of the Virginia Mason before voting on the membership application.

Rainbow Girls Message

Nicole McLaughlin
Grand Worthy Advisor 2011-2012

The Rainbow Girls started the New Year with Installations; each Worthy Advisor serves a term for six months. It is so much fun learning what each has planned.

February was next with Fredericksburg and Fairfax Assemblies reciting the Parents Program at the Grand Visitation. Then the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth Session, in Williamsburg; Honored Lady, Audrey Wilson, and Sir Knight, Robert Thompson, Jr. had a very successful term as Grand



Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron. Honored Lady Marguerite Ketchum and Sir Knight Rex Rockhill were installed as the 2012-2013 Grand Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron and had each youth organization represented in their Grand Installation Ceremony.

Rainbow Sunday was April 15, during the Grand Representative and Grand Officer trip. The Grand Officers joined me in rededicating themselves to Rainbow with the Obligation Ceremony on the beach. We also had our annual Ritual Competitions where many girls competed in their age groups and in groups of two or four at the Rodeo Competitions. The winners are able to quickly and accurately set up the assembly room without talking. The winners will be announced at Grand Assembly in June.

In April, the Homecoming Grand Visitation was held in Richmond. The girls surprised me with a skit and then performed an Initiation bringing in a new Rainbow Girl. We were fed a wonderful dinner and then it was off to the MCHQWA Ball where all the youth organizations got together and danced the night away.

In May, I was off to Grand Annual Conclave in Charlottesville for the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Sir Knight, William Thomas Hargrove was installed as the 2012-2013 Right Eminent Grand Commander. This event helped me learn about the Grand Commandery of Virginia.

I traveled next to the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star in Roanoke, where I met with the 2011-2012 Worthy Grand Matron,

Rita Jo Banner, and the Worthy Grand Patron, Paul Turner. I also enjoyed getting to know Kathy Miles and E. Van Pearce who were installed as the 2012-2013 Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron.

I had the pleasure of visiting many jurisdictions in Rainbow this year, which included: Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Connecticut, and Louisiana. I have made friends in Rainbow, and our many Masonic organizations, which I will have for a lifetime.

On June 2, we will institute a new Assembly in Manassas. The Grand Officers will initiate the new members into the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. The girls will then be installed into their several positions, and we are excited to have a brand new Assembly in Virginia.

The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Virginia has grown tremendously this Grand Year. The Grand Officers have learned the ritual work, and participated in special marches for Grand Assembly. We cordially invite you to the "Rainbow Roundup" Grand Session at the Crowne Plaza Richmond West June 23 through June 25. We hope to see many of you there! ♀

The Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M.
of Virginia presents the

5TH ANNUAL

James Stanley Johnson
Memorial Golf Tournament
Benefitting the Masonic Home of Virginia
August 16, 2012



LOCATION

Vista Links Golf Course
100 Vista Links Dr.
Buena Vista, VA

TEE TIME

August 16, 2012
Check in @ 9:00 AM
Shotgun Start @ 11:00 AM
(Rain Date: Thursday,
August 23, 2012)

ENTRY FEE

\$100 per player
or \$400 per team
TAX DEDUCTIBLE

FORMAT

4 man Florida Best Ball,
(Captain's Choice)
Includes: 18 holes with cart,
beverage during play, gift bag,
family style picnic & awards
presentation

Awards: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place in
Three Flights, Door Prizes,
Hole Prizes
& Long Drive Prizes

For Masonic Home Information:
The Masonic Home of Virginia
1-800-262-4644
www.mahova.com

HOLE SPONSORS

TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Platinum
\$1,000
(Includes fees for 4 Golfers)

Gold
\$500

Silver
\$250

Bronze
\$100

TEAM REGISTRATION FORM

Captain: _____ **Player 3:** _____
Phone: () _____ **Phone: ()** _____
Player 2: _____ **Player 4:** _____
Phone: () _____ **Phone: ()** _____
Mailing Address: _____

For Further Information Contact:

Bruce Lupton
5911 Flamingo Drive, Roanoke, VA 24018-5105
Phone: 540.761.6315 Email: brucelupton@yahoo.com

Make checks payable to:
MASONIC HOME of VIRGINIA

Area Masonic Ritual Schools 2012



NAME	LOCATION	DATE(S)	DISTRICT(S)
James Noah Hillman	Gate City	June 11-13	48, 49, 50
Elmo J. "Bo" Norfleet	Suffolk	June 13, 14	33, 34
Robert Lewis Gibbs	Richmond	July 18-21	15A, 15B, 15C, 16
Leroy Leland Harris	Bedford	July 23-26	22, 24
Lewis Q. Moore	Abingdon	Aug. 21-23	44, 46, 47
C.S. Revell-B.D. Hudson	Hampton	Sept. 17-19**	14A, 14B
L.N. Cridlin	Jonesville	Sept. 17, 18, 20	49, 50
William Edward Ray, Sr.	Warrenton	Sept. 21-22	4, 7
Charles H. Rowell	Kinsale	Sept. 22	8, 9, 11
Edward Page Henry	Prince George	Sept. 24-26	16, 29
Starks-Baumgardner	Bland	Oct. 8-10	41, 42
Lon Norman Dooley	Lebanon	Oct. 15-17	46, 47
Charles T. "Bucky" Gilbert	Marion	Oct. 22-24	42, 43, 44
Joseph T. Stewart	Courtland	Oct. 24, 25	31, 32
O.B. Omohundro	Gordonsville	Oct. 27	7, 10
Reid James Simmons Academy	Fork Union	July 29-31, August 1	Statewide

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

*E. Tyree Mountcastle School locations are Chickahominy, Yorktown, and Williamsburg Lodges.

**School change of date

Grand Annual Communication

The Grand Annual Communication will be held during the General Election this year. You can fill out and mail in an application for an absentee ballot. The link is:

http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Absentee_Documents/VA_Absentee_ballot_application.pdf

The Grand Master set the law aside to hold the Grand Annual Communication on November 5 and 6, due to unavailability of meeting space at the Hilton Richmond Hotel and Spa, Short Pump.

Masons Capturing Great Moments

(some examples)

Right Worshipful Moring E. Gravitt



L-R: R. W. Lyle Barker and R. W. Louis Gibbs

The Virginia Masonic Herald Publications Board announces a new and interesting contest. The contest will determine the best photos taken by Masons in Virginia.

Masons are asked to share their favorite shots with the Herald. We are looking for photos in two principal categories: Masonic and non-Masonic. These can include portraits, landscapes, snapshots, family, fun events, Masonic gatherings, everyday items and items of interest. If it catches your eye and is worth sharing, snap a picture. We are looking for happy moments, unusual happenings, solitude, grace, or just great memories. These photos should be under the banner of **Masons Capturing Great Moments**. Send us some great shots of things, happenings, or people in Virginia. Masonic items from outside the Commonwealth will be considered.

Photos will be accepted in electronic form only. These should be in jpg format and not larger than 2 MB. **Please do not send prints.** We do not have resources to deal with pictures in this format. The Virginia Masonic Herald Publications Board reserves the right to use any photo submitted for Masonic publication (The Herald, GLoVA website, etc.) without compensation to the photographer. Proper credit will be given where appropriate. All rights, not specifically outlined here, remain the sole property of the photographer.

Send Photos to: vmheditor@gmail.com and put **Masons Capturing Great Moments** in the subject line of the email. Send only one (1) photo per e-mail. You may enter six (6) photos per year. With each photo, send a detailed description of the subject, when and where taken, and the reason for the picture. List the photographer's name, Lodge number, and camera used. Detailed stories accompanying the photo are encouraged. These pictures and stories may be made into an article in the printed version of the Herald.

An ad-hoc committee from our Board will preview these photos. Selected photos will be published in the monthly web supplement of the Masonic Herald.

The Masonic Herald Publications Board is fortunate to have some excellent photographers on the staff. Two of these Brethren are professionals and will serve as judges for the contest. There will be several categories to include, landscape, portrait, and snapshot. Each group will have a first, second, and third place chosen. There will also be an overall Best in Show chosen.



Under RR trestle outside of Waynesboro, Virginia

60 Year Masonic Veterans



L-R: Worshipful Master Tommy W. "Tom" Steffey, Brother W. Chester Bolling, District Deputy Grand Master Freddie R. "Shotgun" Branham, and R.W. James A. "Aubrey" Ward

Brother W. Chester Bolling, a member of St. Paul Lodge No. 343, (holding certificate) received his 60-year Masonic Veteran's certificate at St. Paul Lodge No. 343 stated communication. The certificate was presented by Freddie R. "Shotgun" Branham, District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District 47 (second from the right). Also pictured are R. W. James A. "Aubrey" Ward, Grand Lodge Committee on Work (far right) and Tommy W. "Tom" Steffey, Worshipful Master (far left).

Brother Bolling is a U.S. Navy WWII Veteran. He retired from Pittston Coal Company after thirty-seven years of service in 1986. Brother Bolling enjoys vigorous daily walks, garden work and plenty of mowing. He and his wife Ina will celebrate sixty-one years of marriage on June 29, 2012.

Power of Prayer

I have never made but one prayer to God, a very short one:
 "O Lord make my enemies ridiculous."
 And God granted it.

Brother Voltaire



L-R: Right Worshipful George Abbott Page, Joyce Page and Worshipful Master Robert M. Hicks

Right Worshipful George Abbott Page, Treasurer of Westhampton Lodge No. 302, Richmond, received his 60-year Masonic Veteran's emblem from Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins (1997). Also present is Right Worshipful Page's wife, Joyce Page, seen holding Right Worshipful Brother Page's hand, and Robert M. Hicks, Worshipful Master. The presentation took place at the Lodge's stated communication.



L-R: Wor. William D. Barnette, Rt. Wor. Johnny R. Day, and Wor. Collins.

Worshipful Carlis Ray Collins received his 60-year Veteran Masonic Certificate at Hoge Lodge No. 8. He was initiated 9/10/1951, passed 10/3/1951, and raised 10/20/1951 and served as Worshipful Master in 1957.

70 Year Masonic Veteran



L-R: Thomas O. Layman, Wilbur R. Grizzard, and Guy P. Richardson. All Past Masters of Westhampton Lodge No. 302.

Worshipful Wilbur Roy Grizzard of Westhampton Lodge No. 302 received his 70-year Masonic Veteran's plaque from Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins (1997), Grand Secretary, with the assistance of Ronald Leroy Carter, DDGM Masonic District 15C. The presentation took place in the Fellowship Hall prior to the February stated communication. Worshipful Brother Grizzard retired from Virginia Power and is the Senior Past Master of the Lodge serving in 1949.

Doctor of Ministry



Right Worshipful and Most Excellent E. Clifton Whitlock will receive his Doctor of Ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary, a United Methodist Seminary in Washington, DC at the National Cathedral.

What Is This?



An addition to the Virginia Masonic Herald is the use of QR (Quick Response) codes, which will accompany internet links used in articles, announcements and advertisements. The distinction between QR Codes and internet links is that smartphones can directly use QR Codes. QR Code readers are available as free apps for all smartphone platforms, e.g., Android, Apple, Microsoft, and BlackBerry cell phones.

QR Codes have been used commercially for years, specifically in manufacturing, and can carry an enormous amount of information in a small matrix.

So point your smartphone at the QR code and go directly to the information without keying in a single letter. 📱

Grand Lodge Committee on Lodge Services

Worshipful Jeffery D. St. Onge

Worshipful Masters and Lodge Officers, picture this: you are having dinner just before the stated communication, your speaker for the evening calls and says he cannot make the meeting. You are now in a panic, no program! Who do you call? What are your options? Conduct the stated with no program? Give monthly Lodge programs from Committee on Masonic Education. Your best option is to approach your District Lodge Services Representative (DLSR) and ask him to present a short program. This is one example of how a Lodge Services Committee member can assist a Worshipful Master in a pinch.

The DLSR is here to help and assist you or your Lodge with whatever problem or questions that you might have. We are like a “help desk,” if the situation is not something that our Committee is directly responsible for, we will get you in touch with the right Committee, person, e-mail address, and phone number in a timely manner, and follow up with you.

The DLSR is a resource that the Worshipful Master can reach out to for support in any situation. The key is that the Worshipful Master must request the assistance of a DLSR or Lodge Services Committee member.

What is the Grand Lodge Committee on Lodge Services (GLCLS) and what do we do? Here are some of the services that we provide for you:

- District Representatives are the direct local action arm of the GLCLS
- Lodge Services, including District Reps will only provide assistance to a Lodge if the Worshipful Master is aware and invites Lodge Services assistance, or committee charter drives this mandate
- Any Lodge member may request information from the Committee or District Representative for his own personal edification, not on behalf of his Lodge. Only the Worshipful Master can make that request
- District Reps are an integral part of the local District Team headed by the DDGM
- Assistance rendered to a Lodge will be reported to the Chairman of the Lodge Services Committee or his respective Committee Division Rep for tracking and statistical purposes
- All issues handled by the Lodge Services Committee and District Reps are confidential, privacy of each Lodge is the first priority
- We are authorized to cut across any Grand Lodge communications lines to identify/recommend solutions to a Lodge problem

Tools typically used to assist a Lodge:

- The Solvency and Viability Review (SVR) Tool
- Strategic Planning
- Finances and fund raising
- Membership programs (e.g., “Bring a Friend Night”)
- Improved Lodge programs and stated communications
- Lodge Revitalization
- Assistance in the use and application of all guides and Lodge Service publications

Contact your DDGM for your District Lodge Services Representative or go to the Grand Lodge of Virginia website http://www.grandlodgeofvirginia.org/committee/lodge_service_committee.htm for contact information for our Committee members. While you are there, you are highly encouraged to become familiar with all of the resources and publications that are available to you from your Grand Lodge. ✦



QR Code to Lodge Services Committee Website.

Ask Hiram

How does a Lodge get credit for donations made to MAHOVA using the United Way?

ANSWER: Proper donor credit for gifts to the Masonic Home is entirely dependent on the policy of the United Way, Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), or Combined Virginia Campaign (CVC). If the United Way, CFC, or CVC to which the Mason sends his payroll deduction sends the donor names to the Masonic Home, the donor and his Lodge will be credited with the gift. However, many campaigns, especially CFC campaigns for Federal employees refuse, as a matter of policy, to provide the donor names to the Masonic Home. In those cases, the Home must rely on the donors themselves to advise the Home in writing (note, copy of payroll deduction, etc.) of the gift. Otherwise, all we can report is that a United Way sent the Home a check.

The Masonic Home of Virginia urges all of its great supporters who use United Way, CFC, or CVC to let the Home know the amount that has been donated, so the donor and his Lodge will get credit. If the Home is not told, it cannot give the Lodge or donor the credit.

The MAHOVA Development Assistant can help with this and can be reached toll free at 1.800.262.4644, extension 77223.

When a petitioner is first introduced into the Lodge it is necessary for him to leave all metallic items outside. What is the reasoning behind this?

ANSWER: The belief that metallic objects provide the bearer with some form of supernatural protection against evil forces is very old indeed. In ancient times, even as late as the 18th century, when Freemasonry began to make inroads into European societies, people would place metal at thresholds, above doors, by windows, and even under the bed in order to prevent the forces of darkness from entering the home. By leaving defensive items like this outside the Lodge room, the candidate enters Freemasonry in what could be seen as a “pre-birth” state, fully trusting in the protection of Deity and the Brethren.

When a visiting Brother is introduced at his chair by the Senior Deacon, who speaks first, the Worshipful Master as the gracious host of the Lodge or the visiting Brother who gushingly declares what an inexpressible honor and pleasure it is to be visiting that Lodge?

ANSWER: It is the custom in Virginia Lodges that the Brother (visitor) being introduced speaks first.

Does a Past Master serving as Treasurer wear the Treasurer’s apron, or can / should he wear his Past Master’s apron? Similarly, if a Past Master is elected to take a stationed officer’s chair for the year, should he only wear the apron of the office?

ANSWER: The practice in Lodges holden under the Grand Lodge of Virginia is described below. Other jurisdictions will treat the “owner-

ship” of aprons vs. jewels differently. Before officer installations begin, the Installing Officer will instruct the officers to wear the apron of the office to which they have been elected or appointed. Although the jewel of any office may be passed to another Brother, who temporarily occupies the chair, at a called communication, for example: the apron of the office is not passed to anyone until a successor shall have been chosen and installed. Hiram reads this to indicate that any Brother, whether Past Master or not, shall wear the apron of the office to which he has been elected or appointed for the ensuing Masonic year.

The 2011 GAC delegates voted favorably approving Resolution 11-06 to amend Section 3.08 of the *Methodical Digest*. Does this mean that we will now be serving alcohol in Masonic Lodges?

ANSWER: The proposers of Resolution 11-06 did not seek to change the protocols disallowing the use of alcohol for Masonic Lodges. Their solution, approved by the delegates, only applies to appendant bodies, not to Masonic Lodges. It was proposed, so fundraising dinners (which the Scottish Rite Valleys are encouraged to host), might be held in the Scottish Rite “Centers.” At these dinners, the Supreme Council allows the moderate consumption of alcohol; both for the fund-raising aspect as well as social convention. Thus, it is still illegal for a Mason to bring alcohol to any social function in a Masonic Temple, unless the ritual allows it (such as a Table Lodge, etc.).

What are some topics that an Investigating Committee must cover with a petitioner?

ANSWER: Before addressing what questions should be asked by the committee, Hiram wishes to remind every Brother that the committee should spend more time Listening, than Speaking. The purpose of the Investigating Committee’s visit is to get to know the petitioner well enough to be able to provide the Master with a report on the petitioner’s moral character. Therefore, the question about belief in a Supreme Being must be discussed, as should questions regarding the petitioner’s ability to pay dues and his family’s acceptance of the time required to be spent on Masonic work. It is unfortunate that some committee members see this as an opportunity to talk about themselves, forgetting that the impression left by the Investigating Committee on the petitioner and his family is representative of the Fraternity as a whole.

CLARIFICATION: In a previous issue of the Virginia Masonic Herald, Hiram stated that “*there is no strict requirement to introduce anyone*” at Lodge communications. The exception to this is, of course, the prescribed formal introductions of visiting dignitaries at official Lodge visits by the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master, as outlined in the Presentation Volume. ✦

Observing the Craft

- Stunning
- Outrageous
- Revolutionary
- Reactionary
- Radical
- Back to Basics
- Astounding
- Controversial

Observing the Craft is all of the above, and much more. It should inspire endless, healthy, vigorous debate tempered by lots of brotherly love and affection.

Here's a challenge from a Virginia Past Master, now Masonic District 1A District Instructor of Work, that will inspire, annoy, galvanize, provoke, and inflict palpitations upon even the most dedicated, sophisticated and self-congratulatory members of the Craft.

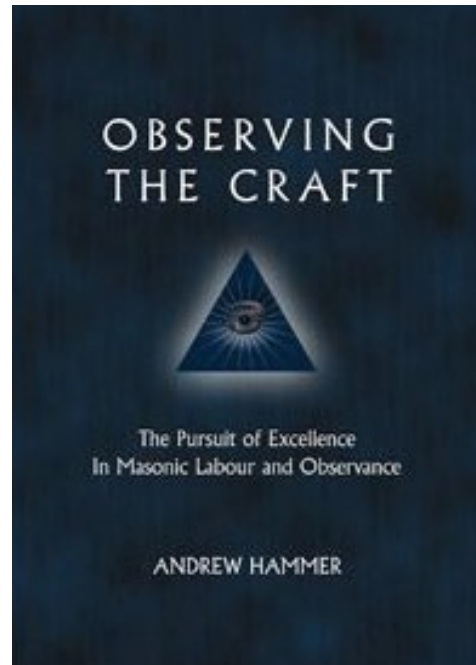
In brief, Brother Hammer preaches that Freemasonry's claim to making good men better means that its members are obligated to strive for excellence. As he states: "The book will steadfastly support the definition of the Craft as a philosophical society which demands of its members the highest standards in all areas of its labor."

Accordingly, only multiple quotes from *Observing the Craft* can convey its true feel, rigor, passion, and distinct point of view. Mere paraphrasing would do it no justice.

For those who feel that they "don't need these things in Masonry at all, ... it is respectfully suggested to you that you have gone through all of Masonry in as much darkness as when you started, and that your understanding of the Craft is not any different than that of any service organization [sic] or mutual benefit club."

That's just page 3, so the reader should be prepared for Brother Hammer's, well, severity, which, to many, will appear long overdue.

Along the way he suggests rigorous steps he believes the Craft should take to become more "observant."



Observing the Craft
by Worshipful Andrew U. Hammer
(Mindhive Books, 2010)

Reviewed by
Right Worshipful William A. Parks, Jr.

It would be a grave error to dismiss Brother Hammer's positions without pausing to consider their merits.

His overall theme is that the failure of our Fraternity to pursue uniquely Masonic excellence will render it impossible "to tell the difference between the Lodge and any other social club within the community." Brother Hammer addresses several subjects dear to the Craft.

*Let the debates
begin.*

APPENDANT BODIES

He doesn't like either appendant or associated Masonic bodies: "Masons today are being distracted from the three Craft degrees by all sorts of fabricated additional organizations [sic] which have been associated with Masonry, but which are not Freemasonry."

For example, "The Knights Templar are therefore a separate organization, one which was formed in such a way that it excludes those who are not Christians, in the name of an institution - Freemasonry - which strongly insists on an inclusive and non-sectarian relationship to deity... [The York Rite is] a distraction from the universal principle in Masonry that affirms the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God."

As for the "hierarchy" of the Scottish Rite, it "has ignored the core of what it has to convey to its members to instead promote the accumulation and misconception of a high numerical rank."

Brother Hammer reserves special opprobrium for the Shrine: "As a jesters' club, the ritual and behavior of the Shrine seemed to go against every instruction of temperance, prudence, and morality inculcated by Freemasonry....The joke seemed to be on Freemasonry, as the Shrine set about breaking the same rules of decorum that Masons had been obligated to observe If the end result is a pattern of behavior that brings disrepute to the Craft, how can an observant Mason or indeed any Mason, have anything to do with it?"

Ultimately, "When one seeks to get away from the solemnity and decorum of the Symbolic Lodge, one is seeking to get away from Freemasonry."

As for Eastern Star and Masonic youth groups, "there is simply no need," they are just plain not Masonic and children are not "capable of understanding" the "process of initiation."

So "Freemasonry is suffering from an epi-

Observing the Craft continued

demical of brethren [small "b"] who appear to think that Freemasonry itself is not enough."

Bottom line: "the further we get away from the Symbolic Lodge, and into other bodies staking a claim to it, the less time a Mason has to build, develop and improve the work he has obligated himself to do in that Lodge." And, by the way, just think of how excellent our physical Lodges would be if all that appendant/associated bodies money went to Lodge dues exclusively.

ONE-DAY CLASSES

"The proliferation of so-called one-day classes, through no fault of the brothers who go through that way, does not equip men with the knowledge they need to be useful members of this Fraternity." So much for the Grand Lodge requirement that candidates fulfill certain educational requirements before they are entitled

Every Masonic meeting should end with the "Chain of Union," with the Brethren encircling the altar, arms about each other, to reaffirm brotherly affection.

to a dues card within sixty days of their classes.

EXCELLENCE IN DRESS

Next, we come to Brother Hammer's concrete suggestions to enhance the Brotherhood's observation of the Craft: dress, Ritual, and Dining. Brother Hammer asserts that "the Freemason is ideally known by his ultimate standards in Western Dress, his precision in his ritual, and the traditional celebratory feast of Western culture.

SURPRISED?

Thus, "[T]he observant Mason ... sees dress as the physical manifestation of his effort to bring his mind and soul to a state of excellence." Not even a polo shirt which "has the square and compasses on the breast" is acceptable Lodge attire. "[T]hat emblem does not excuse any man from taking the time to look his best in an environment where he is expected to be at his best."

Brother Hammer's argument: "By putting thought and effort into how he best presents himself physically to his Lodge and his [small "b"] brethren, the observant Mason is declaring outwardly that he is serious about his pursuit of the Craft, and that he expects to be taken seriously among his fellows. It is difficult to understand how or why anyone who believes in a system of self-improvement would want to take a position in opposition to such an endeavor."

Our Brother plumber, electrician, auto mechanic, heat pump installer, building inspector, and various other Brethren may be surprised, if not insulted, to learn that the observant Mason's excellence means outward appearance, not sincere struggles for perfection.

And by the way, our Lodges, by providing plain white aprons left in the Lodge after meetings, deprive the Brethren of "one of the implements of that occupation that designates him as a 'travelling [sic] man'." Brother Hammer asserts that every Brother should have his own personalized apron and helpfully provides www.craftsmanapron.com as a source. We also leave behind the square, compasses, trowel, level and plumb in the Lodge.

RITUAL

Observing the Craft includes several suggestions for improving the solemnity of ritual. Brother Hammer has no patience for the Brother who commits to a part but fails to nail it, thus requiring multiple prompts distracting, no

doubt, to the candidate. He suggests music to enhance the seriousness of degree work.

Interruptions of any kind are an "outrage." Real candles, not representatives thereof, should light the altar, not even a Masonic light bulb, which is an "unbecoming item of kitsch."

The use of incense would also contribute to the atmosphere of sacredness essential to effective ritual.

Inarguably, knowing one's part, using a single prompter when needed (rather than everybody jumping in when a performer hesitates), and using candles, incense and music make for excellent ritual.

Each degree, according to Brother Hammer, should be preceded by the candidate spending time in a "chamber of reflection," preferably small, with black walls, lit by a single

Brother Hammer deserves sincere commendation for introducing his ideas to the Craft. He serves the Fraternity well by initiating debate on the issues that define Freemasonry.

candle, with a table decorated with a skull and cross bones.

Every Masonic meeting should end with the "Chain of Union," with the Brethren encircling the altar, arms about each other, to reaffirm brotherly affection.

Those with the temerity to join and become active in appendant bodies are, of course, familiar with chambers of reflection and the chain of Union, which, Brother Hammer maintains, were originally part of the ritual of the Symbolic

Observing the Craft

continued

Degrees. However, their present absence from the ritual brings Brother Hammer back to appendant bodies.

“Rather than trying to understand our own symbols and actions, and encourage our initiates to do the same,” he says, “We have instead removed elements of our ritual and symbolism which might be deemed ‘scary’ or which could be misunderstood by the ignorant. No pursuit of light is served by such cowardly reactions. We have to decide whether we will have Freemasonry for ourselves or for others.”

THE FESTIVE BOARD

Brother Hammer lobbies strenuously for restoration of the Festive Board, a social dinner following the Lodge’s stated communications, because “Some Lodges...have allowed the Masonic banquet to lapse into nothing more than a cheap dinner with no other purpose than feeding people.”

OBSERVATIONS

Brother Hammer deserves sincere commendation for introducing his ideas to the Craft. He serves the Fraternity well by initiating debate on the issues that define Freemasonry.

His comments on appendant bodies neglect the life-enhancing experience they offer. After all, the Symbolic Lodge, while it has inspired libraries full of books, has finite content. Brother Hammer’s own credentials include membership in the Quatuor Coronati Correspondence Circle, the Philalethes Society, Allied Masonic Degrees, and the Executive Committee of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association, so not all of his “Masonic” time is devoted to the Symbolic Lodge.

His comment on Shrinedom overlooks its vow, which binds its candidates “to the obligations prerequisite to this fellowship, and the Ceremonial’s “Inspired Charge,” which poetically and persuasively teaches respect for the

*As for Eastern Star and
Masonic youth groups,
“there is simply no need,”
they are just plain not Masonic
and children are not
“capable of understanding”
the “process of initiation.”*

sincere religious beliefs of others.”

Brother Hammer also belongs to the Scottish Rite, whose Eighth Degree, Intendant of the Building, teaches the right of the laboring classes and that every laboring man is your Brother, entitled to your regard and assistance.

One-day classes, like rote memorization of catechisms, are just the beginning of a Freemason’s journey in search of Masonic light and philosophy. We are all charged to nourish and cherish one another and to share good counsel, while the candidate is admonished to converse with knowledgeable Brethren.

Enforcing a dress code would eliminate from our ranks thousands of excellent Brethren who have never owned a suit, will never own a suit, and will appear in one only in their caskets. There are sincere Brethren, some of them doctors, who eschew neckties as discomfiting relics of ages past. Their acts of generosity, caring and courtesy cannot and will not be overshadowed by any Brother’s excellent dress in Lodge.

Brother Hammer’s comments on “cheap” and “quick” meals would surprise Brethren who

have partaken of oyster feasts on the Eastern Shore or “game nights” at a mountain Lodge with their deer barbecue and other delicacies of the hunter’s art.

There’s nothing “cheap” or “quick” about a potluck covered dish meal prepared by Brethren eager to display their excellent culinary attainments. And there are Eastern Star chapters whose excellent feasts are widely known and appreciated and attract plenty of visitors to fill Lodge halls. The festive board thrives in a spirit of outstanding Masonic hospitality.

No doubt, many Lodges need ritual improvement and, as Brethren, we should extend a helping hand to school and educate Brethren towards ritual excellence. Brother Hammer’s rigorous suggestions will certainly inspire improved ritual and not one true Freemason disputes the indispensable need for presenting our best product with as much excellence as each Brother can muster.

Just the same, several evenings per week, all over the Commonwealth, many Lodges do perform excellent ritual - and some of the parts are acted with excellence by so-called “one-day wonders.”

Finally, it must be said that thousands of us have found in Freemasonry unexpected and even miraculous “self-improvement.” We do try to adhere to our obligations and we do whisper good counsel to one another. And we listen and we act upon such “Masonic” advice.

Those of us who have found in Masonry paths from alcoholism to sobriety (“Temperance”), from philandering to fidelity (“Prudence”), from dishonesty to probity (“Justice”), and from anger, self-pity or depression to level-headedness, thoughtfulness and equilibrium (“Fortitude”) advertise best the real “excellence” of the Craft.

Let the debates begin. 🍷

Form 990

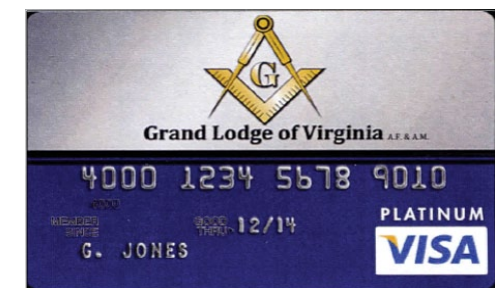
The Internal Revenue Service has advised The Grand Lodge of Virginia, that seven of our Lodges have lost their tax-exempt status for failing to file a tax return for the years 2007 – 2009. At this point in time, each of the Lodges will have to file a Form 1023, along with an anticipated fee of \$850, to regain their tax-exempt status. All Lodges must file some type of tax form every year, NO EXCEPTIONS.

LIKE ANSWERS RETURNED by Sam Welty



“Brethren, we have been debating this point for over an hour! Can we please just put it to a vote? All in favor of Spaghetti say, AYE!”

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Send the Rain

Most Worshipful James D. Cole, CEO

We have all had those days, we wake up and it is raining..... a “damp, dreary day.”

Or is it?

I travel a lot for Freemasonry, but I do not let it interfere with my daily Bible readings, each morning and each night. I awoke today in yet another room, in another place, a few hundred miles from home. My outlook for the day was for a lot of work and very little chance to get outside for rest and relaxation, given both the fear of drowning in the steady rain, and my full workload. I wondered what to read for

Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. James 5:18

OK, rain and a quote from the Book of James. I figured it was time to pay attention! Once again, God, in His own way, was calling.

The lesson in the devotional narrative reminded me that rain is simply a method God has of both replenishing the earth and bringing forth the harvest. Rain you see, is good, it supplies what is needed and produces new growth in the ground that receives it.

I realized that since each of us is formed in God’s image, since each of us are supposed to be more like Him, then we probably have the ability to bring a “rain” of sorts into the lives of others. I then began to realize that my day full of work on resident policies, care management plans, correspondence with donors, work on Board reports and everything else was simply my part in a bigger plan to help people’s lives.

My work at the Masonic Home and my work in other fraternal roles are intended to make a few lives “just a little better.” If each life is in need of some rain, then by “doing my part,” I bring a little nourishing rain into the picture. In fact, as residents are admitted to the Home, we “replenish” them like a needed rain. Many new residents immediately receive enhanced healthcare, a steady nutritious diet, and necessary items that may have long been put off, such as new hearing aids, new dentures, dental work, new eyeglasses, the list goes on.

Come to think of it – have you ever been REALLY thirsty? If so, how did you feel when someone gave you a glass of cool water? It only took a sip or two and the change began. Just like the Masonic Home, in only a few days, the change begins, the smile broadens, and the new resident (as they almost all do) blurts out that special sentence... “Why did I wait so long?”

More importantly, if you have not made a gift to the Home, or if you yourself may have thought about moving into one of our beautiful cottages, are you thinking the same thing... WHY have I waited so long? New residents and

“Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.”

James 5:18

donors alike can all take part in the replenishing, life-enhancing “rain” that is the Masonic Home of Virginia. Don’t wait! 🙏

I realized that since each of us is formed in God’s image, since each of us are supposed to be more like Him, then we probably have the ability to bring a “rain” of sorts into the lives of others.

inspiration and the idea came to me to use one of the online devotionals that have been useful in the past.

From the DAILYWORD.com I read the verse for the day:

Masonic Home

Resident Birthdays

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name			
JUNE			AUGUST		
6/1/1916	Ersell Brinser	Manchester Lodge No.14	8/2/1930	Nell Owen	Richmond Lodge No.10
6/4/1925	Mildred Ammons	Warwick Lodge No.336	8/6/1920	Bessie Holmes	Northside Lodge No.292
6/8/1922	Emily Tosh	Temple Lodge No.9	8/6/1928	Walter Olphin	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
6/8/1936	Novella McDonough	Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No.64	8/12/1926	Julian Burgess	Carter Lodge No.323
6/11/1926	Juneth Hite	Faulkner Memorial Lodge No.91	8/14/1935	Dorothy Barrey	Treadwell Lodge No.213
6/11/1928	James Walker	Varina Lodge No.272	8/17/1918	Lois Payne	Central Lodge No.300
6/11/1935	Gordon Kirby	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344	8/19/1931	Irene Slaughter	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
6/13/1938	Carol May	Varina Lodge No.272	8/19/1917	George Wood	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
6/14/1917	Irene Baughan	Joppa Lodge No.40	8/19/1928	Harry Jones	Franklin Lodge No.151
6/16/1930	Richard Peroe	Northside Lodge No.292	8/19/1927	Myrtle Bussey	Great Bridge Lodge No.257
6/16/1924	Lansing Fulcher	Oriental Lodge No.20	8/24/1920	Virginia Yeatts	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
6/20/1933	Florence Wager	Chickahominy Lodge No.286	8/24/1940	Janey Herring	Richmond Lodge No.10
6/22/1914	Lillian Jones	Manchester Lodge No.14	8/24/1916	Clinton Kennedy	Clintwood Lodge No.66
6/22/1929	Hugh Kirkland	South Hill Lodge No.297	8/26/1925	Barbara Thornton	Sandston Lodge No.216
6/23/1927	Catherine Murray	Urbanna Lodge No.83	8/31/1925	Nancy Walker	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
6/25/1936	Charles Goens	Smithfield Union Lodge No.18	SEPTEMBER		
6/26/1916	Eloise Mosby	Richmond Randolph Lodge No.19	9/1/1922	Mable Paschall	Meridian Lodge No.284
6/27/1911	Carl Torrence	Meridian Lodge No.284	9/5/1930	Sarah Jones	Franklin Lodge No.151
6/30/1929	Florine Johnson	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344	9/6/1917	John Harrington	Westhampton Lodge No.302
JULY			9/8/1923	Stella Paxton	Kempsville Lodge No.196
7/1/1921	Margaret Hardin	Richmond Randolph Lodge No.19	9/8/1922	Sarah Cheatham	Manchester Lodge No.14
7/4/1927	Frederick Wright	Babcock Lodge No.322	9/8/1919	Margaret Fainter	Manchester Lodge No.14
7/4/1928	Hoover Lide	Broadwater Lodge No.71	9/11/1917	Richard Yearwood	Glen Allen Lodge No.131
7/6/1931	Barbara Hogge	Mariner Lodge No.215	9/11/1912	Dorothy Wilson	Chesterfield Lodge No.161
7/7/1929	Wanda Lucey	Ruth Lodge No.89	9/13/1921	Jennings Marshall	Northside Lodge No.292
7/7/1929	James Wright	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344	9/14/1926	Shirley Mucha	Chesterfield Lodge No.161
7/8/1920	Edna Henderson	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351	9/16/1930	Juanita Ragsdale	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
7/8/1925	Edward Lanford	Glen Allen Lodge No.131	9/17/1918	Thelma Sturgis	Capeville Lodge No.107
7/10/1928	Dorothy Denton	Skidmore Dalight Lodge No.237	9/18/1934	Herbert Milby	West Point Lodge No.238
7/10/1936	Patricia Clark	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344	9/20/1926	Simeon Phipps	Seaboard Lodge No.56
7/10/1939	Sara Wright	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344	9/23/1932	Ruby Childress	Babcock Lodge No.322
7/11/1919	Chester Baity	Oriental Lodge No.20	9/25/1930	Thomas Benton	Washington-Lafayette Lodge No.176
7/11/1923	Burton Lester	Roman Eagle Lodge No.122	9/26/1925	Helen Duke	Metropolitan Lodge No.11
7/13/1932	John Long	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344	9/27/1927	Edith Koss	Central Lodge No.300
7/14/1929	Yvonne Olphin	Metropolitan Lodge No.11	9/28/1931	Helen Melton	Washington and Henry Lodge No.344
7/14/1932	Barbara Rice	Richmond Lodge No.10	9/29/1925	Mary Thompson	Colonial Beach Lodge No.199
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 and 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			



Masonic Home

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		
7/10/1974	George and Helen Wood	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No.351
7/18/1953	Ned and Sarah Jones	Franklin Lodge No.151
AUGUST		
8/18/1950	Theodore and Edith Koss	Central Lodge No.300
8/10/1977	John and Dorothy Denton	Skidmore Daylight Lodge No.237
8/25/1951	Hoover and Betty Lide	Broadwater Lodge No.71
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

“Read not to contradict and confute, not to believe and take for granted, not to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider.”

Sir Francis Bacon

Masonic Home



Richard and Mary Lee Peroe at Oscar Night



Several residents shared gifts with other residents in the Care Center on Valentine's Day



Residents and guests dancing to the "electric slide" on Valentine's Day



MAHOVA King and Queen (Jim Herring and Judy Burton) share gifts in the Care Center



Residents enjoy the Oscar Night celebration

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**Grand Master William T. Ellison, Jr., Grand Lodge Officers, and Officers of
The Patriot Lodge No. 1957 at the Consecrating and Constituting of the first
new Lodge in Virginia in 35 years.**

Photograph courtesy of Brother William Baumbach