

A Publication of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia

# The Virginia MASONIC HERALD



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Fall 2011



Grand Master John Mason Chambliss, Jr.  
with One-Day Conferral Class  
at Kena Shrine Center

## THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

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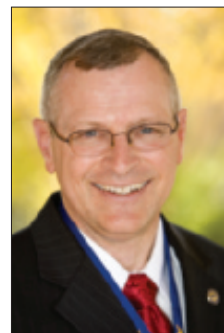
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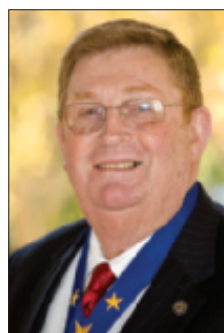
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## Mission and Vision Statements of The Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia

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

## REMARKS TO ED JONES LODGE NO. 324

### June 22, 2011

Brethren,

As the Psalmist proclaimed, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

On behalf of the 39,000 Masons of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, I bid you a warm greeting and thank you for allowing this delegation to meet and work together this evening. There has been much planning, much coordination, and a kindred spirit at work to allow this gathering to occur. I express my sincere appreciation to Most Worshipful Herman Eggleston, Jr., Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons, Incorporated, for allowing this meeting to occur and to the multitude of other Masonic leaders from both organizations for working together in unity, striving to make this momentous occasion a reality.

In the past, there have been several visits between delegations from Lodges across Virginia as a result of the Visitation Compact signed by representatives of the two Grand Lodges on January 11, 2004. In September of 2010, our two Grand Lodges worked together for a cornerstone laying for the new Judicial Center in Lancaster County, Virginia. There have also been many activities where brethren from both Grand Lodges have worked together for the common good or charitable activities and in the promotion of the Brotherhood and well-being of others.

When we leave our titles, our distinctions, and our distractions without the doorway of the Lodge, we can see more clearly the brotherhood that exists among us. We can understand that the blood in our veins is derived from



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

the same Almighty Parent. We can appreciate that we can work and worship together under the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man without delineating our methods of worship. And we can practice the art of doing good unto all, not only to our Brothers in Freemasonry, but to every human being who may have a claim upon our kind offices.

I believe that we are created in the image of God, not in the sense of our physical appearance, but with an ability to think, to act, and to communicate like He would. God placed man on Earth to have dominion over it, to care for it, and as such we became the first environmentalist. With the privilege of making choices, however, we must live with the consequences of our decisions, good or bad.

Those thought processes determine our course of action and for our well-being. We communicate with others to share those

## Grand Master's Calendar

### 2011

#### SEPTEMBER

- 2 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 2
- 1 Treadwell Lodge No. 213
- 3 Hiram Club Ball, Virginia Beach
- 6 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 44
- 7 - 9 Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association, Virginia Beach
- 9 Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 27
- 10 Charles F. Shuler, PGM, Celebration
- 12 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 57
- 13 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 43
- 14 MAHOVA Board Meeting  
Strategic Planning and Implementation Meeting
- 16 Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 1A, 1B & 54
- 17 Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, Richmond  
Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic Districts 33 & 34
- 19 Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
- 20 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 34
- 23 - 25 Scottish Rite Conference, Newport News
- 26 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 37

#### OCTOBER

- 1 Lakeland Lodge No. 190, Dedication  
Official Visit, Dinner, Masonic District 22
- 4 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 18
- 7 MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 8 MAHOVA Family Day
- 11 Official Visit, Tiled, Masonic District 49
- 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
- 29 Khedive Shrine Center, Fall Ceremonial

#### NOVEMBER

- 4 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
- 5 Kazim Shrine Center, Fall Ceremonial
- 9 - 12 Grand Annual Communication



**"Make A Difference  
Every Day"**

## Grand Master's Message (continued)

thoughts and if we compare those thoughts, we can work together to learn from one another's experiences or education, we can work together to lighten the burden of our load and our required labors. Then, hopefully, we will accomplish greater results from the combined efforts.

The compassion, the emotions, and the feelings that we experience are also a part of the learned knowledge that we each have. Although the pain may seem to be a weight upon our heart, it is actually a part of our thinking, which influences our processing and our actions. We are taught that man disobeyed one of the early directions given by God that he was not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When tempted to eat of this fruit, woman was told by the serpent that surely she would not die if she ate of the fruit from the tree, but would be more like God in her understanding of good and evil. We have seen the result of her disobedience, and today we still are required to live with the consequences of our choices and actions.

The Grand Architect of the Universe while laying the design for our lives and well-being on the TrestleBoard, agreed to be the Great Provider, taking care of all of our needs (you will note that I did not say wants). Has He not provided the food, the clothing, the shelter for all of His creation? It is, however, our responsibility to put forth the effort to achieve or obtain these gifts. We have been admonished that we must first seek, then ask, then knock, and the doors of opportunity will be opened unto us. We are not to be like the man struggling to stay afloat in the raging waters of a flooding stream. He believed that God would provide for him and that he did not have to do anything. The drowning man turned away from the rope being tossed to him from the shore. He swam

away from the help being offered by a man in a boat. The man even failed to grasp a lifeline being lowered by a helicopter flying overhead, and he drowned. Those three opportunities for safety could have been the plan for his survival and well-being sent by God, and we need to see that we are seeking His will and following His plan, or the results of human thought may cause us to perish as did the drowning man.

I believe that we are on the pathway for a great beginning in our relationship together. As we travel side by side we must work together to share our knowledge, our experiences, and our resources. We will face many choices, some simple, some complex, either of them taking us to a destination, although not necessarily the same destination.

As Master Masons, we have been taught to read the designs on the TrestleBoard. Sometimes we must interpret the image laid before us. We must identify and choose the stones and materials for the builder's use. We must prepare those stones using the tools of our trade, breaking off the corners from the rough ashlar for the better use by the builder. We must make sure that our efforts have been well measured, (measure twice, cut once) because a beam that is one foot short will not provide the support, strength, and stability required for our task. Square your work, make sure that your work is level and plumb, and make sure that the eye is always on the design to accomplish the desired results.

These descriptions have depicted a building or project with natural materials, yet as speculative Masons, we must visit the quarries for man, the living stone. We must likewise treat him as a rough ashlar, suitable for the builders use. We must try him with the square, level and plumb for suitability. We must use the gavel of our minds and hearts to divest him

of the vices and superfluities of life. We must make sure that we provide a firm foundation to use this perfected ashlar so that the task may be accomplished. Using the trowel, we must bond these living stones together with the cement of Brotherly Love and Affection. Afterwards, our work will be examined by public opinion and by other builders. We only have one opportunity for the first impression. If our mark has been affixed to the living stone, we hope to be proud of our work, and hope that the architect will be satisfied with our accomplishment.

My theme for the Grand Lodge of Virginia AF & AM this year is to "Make A Difference Every Day", not Masonic words, but an attitude that describes our work to perfect those rough ashlar and opportunities that we face each and every day. By our thoughts, our words, and our deeds, we can influence those who watch and listen to us. If we are careful and deliberate about each of the things that we think or do or say, I am confident that we will indeed make a difference every day. I hope that our efforts to our fellow man and to our fraternity will be pleasing and bring glory to the Great Architect of the Universe. May He continue to bless you and keep you safely in the palm of His hand. Thank you for the privilege of meeting with you this evening and sharing this time together. ✨

Sincerely and fraternally,



Grand Master

# 233rd Grand Annual Communication

## Schedule for November 11 – 12, 2011

### COMMITTEE ON WORK SCHEDULE

All sessions will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel Richmond West, 6624 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia. All Master Masons are cordially invited to attend any and/or all sessions.

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011

7:30 P.M.—Exemplification of the Degree of Entered Apprentice

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011

9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.—Exemplification of the Degree of Fellowcraft and Degree of Master Mason

### RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION NOVEMBER 11, 2011

#### RESOLUTION NO. 11-01

This resolution would change Section 1.102 of the Methodical Digest to amend the name of Region I to its current usage of “Southwest” Region.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 11-02

This resolution would change Section 2.95 of the Methodical Digest to insert the role and the responsibility of a Recommender to be present the petition when it is to be considered by the Lodge for balloting. It also states the requirement that a Recommender who belongs to a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction must have his Good Standing verified by the Lodge Secretary through Grand Lodge channels.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 11-03

This resolution would change Section 2.147 of the Methodical Digest to add other methods of making contact with a delinquent Brother prior to issuing a citation for non-payment of dues.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 11-04

This resolution would change Section 2.16 of the Methodical Digest to remove the prohibition of no public ceremonies, except the Masonic funeral service, being held on Sunday to support the spirit of a day of rest as is established in our ritual and custom, without establishing a particular day, which is confined to one religion or denomination of religion.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 11-05

This resolution would change Section 2.05(a) of the Methodical Digest to clarify the ambiguities of the opening and closing of a Lodge of Sorrow which are found in the Manual of Ceremonies, Presentation Volume, and the Methodical Digest by having a Lodge of Sorrow opened and closed in a Master Mason’s Lodge, either at a called or stated communication.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 11-06

This resolution would change Section 3.08 of the Methodical Digest concerning the use of alcohol in a Lodge and by whom..

### 233rd GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

The 233rd Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia, will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel Richmond West, 6624 West Broad Street at I-64, Richmond, Virginia, commencing on Friday, November 11, 2011, at 8:00 AM. The Grand Master’s Address will be delivered after the opening of Grand Lodge.

At 3:30 PM, on Friday, the Grand Lodge Committees will meet. Delegates are urged to attend and inform themselves regarding pending matters.

A banquet will be held for the Brethren on Friday evening. On Friday, November 11 at 12:30 PM, a luncheon will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel for the benefit of the Masonic Home of Virginia.

Resolutions will be considered during Friday’s and Saturday’s sessions. Election of Grand Lodge Officers will begin promptly at 10:00 AM, Saturday morning, November 12.

An open installation of Grand Lodge Officers will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel that afternoon at 4:30 PM, with an Installation Ball to follow at the Acca Temple Shrine Center at 7:00 PM.

Resolutions to be considered in 2012 must be drafted in proper form as required by Section 1.16 of the Methodical Digest and submitted to the Grand Secretary by December 31, 2011.

Resolutions to be considered at the 233rd Grand Annual Communication are listed above.

Requests for fraternal recognition will be presented by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the following: the National Grand Lodge of Azerbaijan, the Grand Lodge of Maritius, and the National Regular Grand Lodge of the Principality of Monaco. ✦

# Little Known King

Brother L. L. Walker, Jr.

An ancient Eastern Monarch, Hiram, King of Tyre, occupies a peculiarly significant place in Masonic Lore, yet he remains only a name to most Masons. Recorded in the *Bible*, his assistance and aid to King David of Israel and to David's son, Solomon, has immortalized his name; yet Masonic Lore, Biblical record and historical evidence are seldom brought together to complete a picture of this enormously wealthy and powerful ruler.

According to *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, his name is thought to be a contraction of the name "Ahiram", meaning "brother of the Exalted One". The significance of the name is not altogether clear, but it probably alluded to the relationship which was then thought proper between the royal person and the Deity of the people or the "Exalted One".

History places the time of Hiram as after 1,000 B.C. and scholars have dated him from 986 to 935 B.C. Beyond this; we know little of actual fact. That he was a friend of both David and Solomon we learn from the *Bible* (I and II Chronicles). That he was associated with Solomon and with one of his own countrymen, another Hiram, in a special kind of relationship, we learn from the Masonic story of the building of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem. Fortunately, we know a great deal more about King Hiram's kingdom than we do of the man himself. From this knowledge, we may infer a great deal more about the stature, wealth and power of Hiram, King of Tyre.

Hiram's Kingdom was one of the most unusual in all of history, consisting for the most part of the island of Tyre, which was only a mile long and three-quarters of a mile wide, and the adjacent tiny island of Melkart.

His kingdom exerted influence vastly out of proportion to its size. Some additional land on the mainland seems to have come and gone according to the military fortunes of the island kingdom. The two islands of Hiram's kingdom, lying less than a mile from the shores of present day Lebanon, were virtually impregnable. For more than a thousand years, they resisted all sieges and assaults.

Also included in his kingdom was the port city of Sidon, equally famous with Tyre in the ancient world. Although we speak of Hiram as the King of Tyre, he was actually King of Phoenicia, which was the true name of his kingdom. From the port cities of Tyre and Sidon, Phoenician merchant-sailors spread Phoenician Culture and traded Phoenician products throughout the Mediterranean world. It was these skillful commercial adventurers who established the cities of Carthage and Utica on the northern coast of Africa, probably in the ninth century, B.C.

Hiram reigned over a kingdom already old when he was born. Some have suggested the date of its founding to have been as early as 2800 B.C., but a somewhat later date seems more likely. We do know that historical evidence clearly established the Phoenicians as navigators and traders as early as 1250 B.C.

Phoenicians (or Sidonians) were famous as artisans as well as sailors and traders, being noted for their dyes, glassware, woven products and for their skills as metal workers. In addition, the Phoenician scholars are credited with developing the alphabet which was to later form the basis for the more lasting Greek alphabet.

Thus, Hiram's Kingdom was tiny in size, but enormous in wealth and influence. Hiram

was born to wealth and power but, happily for history, he was one of those hereditary monarchs whose personal traits and abilities adorned the throne with wisdom, strength and beauty. But, for all of his powers as king and man, had it not been for two other men and his association with them, the name of Hiram of Tyre might well have perished and his accomplishments been lost in the ages of history.

Hiram's association with David, King of Israel, and later, with David's son, Solomon, was dictated by mutual need. However, there are indications that his personal feelings would have been the basis for association regardless. Hiram's tiny kingdom, for all of its technical skills and general self-sufficiency, was deficient in agriculture production. Thus, it must have seemed a reasonable and business like transaction to exchange the materials and skills of Tyre for the foodstuffs of Israel.

When David decided to build a palace, he turned to Hiram for the craftsmen and many of the materials, for Israel had neither the vital timbers needed for construction nor the craftsmen to design and build such an edifice as David envisaged.

Following David's death, the great Solomon determined to build a mighty temple. Realizing Israel's deficiencies, he, too, turned to Hiram of Tyre for assistance. The terms of the original contract between the two kings are found in II Chronicles, 2:10, Solomon paid Hiram 20,000 kors of crushed wheat, 20,000 kors of barley, 20,000 baths of wine and 20,000 baths of oil each year. Although modern equivalents cannot be determined precisely, researchers have found that a bath was a liquid measure of from 4.4 to 8.6 gallons and that

# Little Known King

(continued)

ten baths equaled a kor. Thus, the contract provided for from 880,000 to 1,720,000 gallons of wine and oil, with roughly the same number of bushels of wheat and barley.

As time progressed, the costs of Solomon's building projects soared and Hiram loaned Solomon vast sums of money. In exchange, Solomon deeded to Hiram 20 cities in the province of Galilee.

This transaction has its note of irony, for the Bible reflects that when Hiram went to inspect his new possessions, he found them to be not at all what he expected. He then wrote Solomon saying plaintively, "What kind of cities are these which you have given me, my brother?" (I Kings, 9:10-14). Perhaps he had a right to question the transaction. After all, he had loaned Solomon 120 talents of gold. Variations in the value of ancient coinage make it difficult to compare to modern values, but it would have probably been in the neighborhood of 12 to 25 million dollars.

Hiram's aid was not limited to unbelievable sums of money, for he had also provided great numbers of craftsmen to the Hebrew king. He had also provided seamen to assist the Hebrews in learning the ways of the sea.

The greatest talent, was in the person of another Hiram, Hiram Abif, the widow's son. Not only was this man the most skillful founder and worker in brass and bronze in his day, but also in the Masonic legend, at least he came to occupy a position of leadership among the temple craftsmen subordinate only to that of the two kings themselves. In this manner did Hiram, King of Tyre, perpetuate his own name and record for history the skills of his people.

We know almost nothing more than this of Hiram the King. His tiny island kingdom flour-

ished for another 600 years until conquered, in 332 or 333 B.C. by Alexander the Great, who accomplished the feat by constructing a causeway from the mainland while holding the island under siege. This remarkable piece of engineering was nearly a mile long and probably 300 to 600 feet wide. Not only did it lead to the fall of the hitherto impregnable island, but centuries of silting around it created a neck of land which changed the island to a peninsula. Even so, Tyre remained an important city until it was finally destroyed by the Moslems in 1291 A.D. Today, the small town of Sur occupies the site, basking in the knowledge that modern archaeologists have defined and identified its once thriving harbor.

By the reckoning of many historians, Hiram of Tyre died at the age of 51. It is probably not too much to say that even the great Solomon himself would have enjoyed somewhat less glory, but for the timely help and assistance of the little-known king, Hiram of Tyre. ✦



## "Make A Difference Every Day"

# Millboro Bring a Friend Night

Moring E. Gravitt, PDDGM

August 11, 2011 Millboro Lodge held a whale of a Bring a Friend Night.

R.W. Winfred Otto Isgett, Sr. spearheaded a wonderfully entertaining evening. Entering town, there was a large lighted sign advertizing a free barbeque dinner and musical entertainment at Millboro Lodge. About 35 townspeople showed up for the dinner, music and a refreshing informational talk.

Millboro Lodge opened their stated communication at 5 PM. The five piece bluegrass band started playing about 6 PM. The community was served a barbeque dinner, with cole slaw, baked beans and apple pie for dessert at 6:30 PM. After dinner, Most Worshipful Jeffrey E. Hodges (2009), took the microphone and gave an inspirational talk on why one should become a Mason. The crowd was very focused on his presentation.

About 7:45 PM the Master, Steven Curtis Quick, instructed the Masons to return to the Lodge room. There were three new petitions received that evening. The band continued playing bluegrass and other spirited music while the Brethren went into Lodge.

Lodge having been called to labor, R.W. Isgett assumed the East for a special presentation.

He asked Most Worshipful Loyd Davis (2009), in Utah and Most Worshipful William E. Rorer (2010), to present Most Worshipful Jeffrey E. Hodges (2009), at the Altar. After being saluted in the ancient custom of the Craft, Most Worshipful Hodges addressed the Brethren. R.W. Isgett then presented M.W. Hodges Honorary Membership in Millboro No. 28, his grand-father's mother Lodge. This happy moment caught M.W. Jeff off guard. Several of his 2009 team were in attendance and had kept mum on the subject.

Photograph courtesy of James F. Dickerson, PDDGM ✦



L-R front: R.W. Winfred Isgett, Sr., M.W. Loyd Davis, M.W. Jeff Hodges, M.W. Bill Rorer. L-R rear: R.W. Steve Sanford, W.M. Steven Curtis Quick, R.W. Moring Gravitt, R.W. James Dickerson

# 2010 Recipients for Grand Lodge Scholarships



KACIE GRUNAU  
Radford University



VICTORIA COX  
Virginia Tech



SUSAN W. HAILEY  
Longwood University



KRISTOPHER 'KRIS' D. SEAMSTER  
J. Sargeant Reynolds  
Community College



BROGAN E. JAMES  
James Madison University



MORGAN E. DEAN  
University of Virginia



RYAN M. COLES  
VCU



VALENE HOLLAND  
Virginia Tech



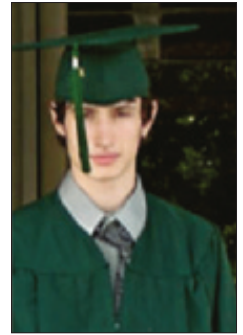
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South Dakota State  
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VCU



QUINTEN MARSH  
VCU



LEANDRA L. BROWNELL  
Christopher Newport  
University



AMANDA WIEHRS  
Virginia Intermont  
College



MARALIE H. E. BUNN  
Vanderbilt University



KELLY D. WILSON  
Longwood University



# Charity

Stormy Thorson, PDDGM

Charity has been around a long time since nearly the beginning of man. Maslow advises us that Charity began after man's physiological needs (food, water, etc.) and safety needs (shelter, protection, etc.) were satisfied. Charity began with man's social needs and continued into his esteem needs.

Charity is not a simple act. The great Jewish Sage, Maimonides lists eight separate grades of Charity. Neither is there a simple definition for charity. Black's Law Dictionary says charity is "every gift for a general public use, to be applied consistent with existing laws, for the benefit of an indefinite number of persons. Designed to benefit them from an educational, religious, moral, physical or social standpoint." While The World Book Encyclopedia Dictionary says it is, "love of one's fellow man," Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia says it is "a kindly, tolerant, considerate and helpful attitude toward everybody." Other reference books say it is mercy, help, Agape, goodwill, assistance, almsgiving, forgiveness, and the list continues.

In Christianity, charity is the greatest of the three theological virtues, but other religions and disciplines also embrace charity. Charity is number four, under 'Right Actions' in the Buddhist Noble Eightfold Path. In Sunni Islam, Charity, called Zakat, is one of the five pillars that form the basis of the Muslim religion. It is the fourth vow that a Samurai makes daily and it is the most sought after virtue in Mormonism; 1 Nephi 11:23. A translated Chinese Proverb says: "You will discover that you have two hands. One is for helping yourself and the other is for helping others."

In a survey taken on the aims of Freemasonry, the top two answers were:

1. To make a good man better
2. Charity

In reality, Charity is one of the many aspects in Freemasonry that helps achieve the aim of our Fraternity, which is to improve a good man. 🍀

## Some of the References Used

<sup>i</sup>One of the most widely referred to sections of the Mishneh Torah is the section dealing with Tzedakah (commonly translated 'charity'). In Hilkhot Matanot Aniyim (Laws about Giving to Poor People), Chapter 10:7–14, Maimonides lists his famous Eight Levels of Giving:

1. Giving an interest-free loan to a person in need; forming a partnership with a person in need; giving a grant to a person in need; finding a job for a person in need; so long as that loan, grant, partnership, or job results in the person no longer living by relying upon others.
2. Giving Tzedakah anonymously to an unknown recipient via a person (or public fund) which is trustworthy, wise, and can perform acts of Tzedakah with your money in a most impeccable fashion.
3. Giving Tzedakah anonymously to a known recipient.
4. Giving Tzedakah publicly to an unknown recipient.
5. Giving Tzedakah before being asked.
6. Giving adequately after being asked.
7. Giving willingly, but inadequately.
8. Giving "in sadness" – it is thought that Maimonides was referring to giving because of the sad feelings one might have in seeing people in need (as opposed to giving because it is a religious obligation; giving out of pity). Alternate translations say "Giving unwillingly."

| Division                          | Eightfold Path factors | Acquired factors          |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wisdom<br>(Sanskrit: prajñā)      | 1. Right understanding | Superior right knowledge  |
|                                   | 2. Right intention     | Superior right liberation |
| Ethical conduct<br>(Sanskrit: la) | 3. Right speech        |                           |
|                                   | 4. Right action        |                           |
|                                   | 5. Right livelihood    |                           |
| Meditation<br>(Sanskrit: samdhi)  | 6. Right effort        |                           |
|                                   | 7. Right mindfulness   |                           |
|                                   | 8. Right meditation    |                           |



“Make A Difference Every Day”



Gerald L. Frey, PM

Usually this space is for the discovery of a Lodge's hidden treasures, its beautiful location, its membership, its fellowship warmly extended, so that you, dear Brother, might be encouraged to visit other Lodges in other areas of the Commonwealth. Somehow that does not seem appropriate in this issue of your Herald. Too many Lodges have been damaged this summer and early fall, and not solely in Virginia's Grand Jurisdiction.

The upper mid-west, the gulf coast, the Carolinas, New England, and the Atlantic seaboard in general, have been ravaged, which by proximity, means those Lodges and the Brethren who guard them for Masons yet to come, are sorely pressed. Our thoughts and prayers are first and foremost



Fredericksburg No. 4 roof damage

hand removed from a dusty glove, a bit of shade on another hot day, or a dry place when all is wet. It is not simply cash, but the expenditure of our personal treasure, the currency, investment of our time and energy that speaks loudly of our true intentions.

When we explore our personal Masonry (it is the internal), often the more we do, the less we feel we are accomplishing. It is equally true that what we take for granted as less, is a large and meaningful contribution to others of the Craft and to communities unseen. A starfish may be an analogy, but when a child smiles over a sandwich in a dry and comfortable place, it comes to life.

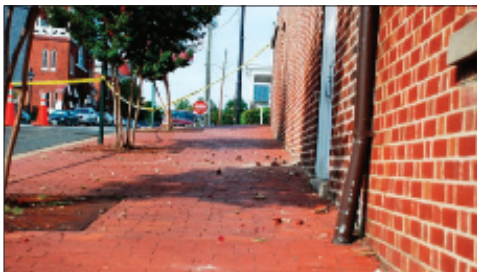
We find our footing when we think of others first and ourselves second. Yet to move forward we must first know our family is secure. With our families cared for, Masons become a force, a force to be reckoned with when conditions are hard. Nature hurls hurricanes, tornadoes, storms of snow and ice, and even shakes the foundations under foot. It is our faith in the Supreme Architect that makes what happens afterwards the thing to watch and wonder. The back aches, the muscles strain, the sweat pours and we are not nineteen any more, but we do endure to the task before us.

Light comes from within, through knowledge, and knowing what we are capable of mentally and physically. Perhaps more important is the where and how we choose to shine that light, for it defines us both as individuals and as a Fraternity.

If there is a Masonic season, perhaps it is the time of year when storms come hard before us, a few are inflexible like the oak while others are able

to adapt as the willow, proud but not prideful. Some of us have been humbled by the storm (weather) and power companies (of men) of late. Storms are not one dimensional, they are not just weather, but often they are personal, financial, community, and yes national in scope and impact.

Some have recognized the blessing of having fewer less distractions and a time of peaceful reflection upon those serious things, for "we walk by faith not by sight 2 Cor. 5:7" some longer than others. It is a forced opportunity to dilate, contemplate and think upon those important things. Forgoing hardship or inconvenience as completely void of any type of blessing. There are blessings to be found albeit unscheduled in: solitude, conversations with-



Fredericksburg No. 4 street view

for our Brothers and their families. Here is where Freemasonry stands in the gap, when no one else will, or worse where some have stood and now abandon those who still need help.

For those of us blessed with light damage and good fortune, please find a method to help those less blessed than ourselves. Not simply with money, ever a good start, but with time. If they are near at hand and if not, take a trip with tools and materials; give the precious gift of your time. To extend a hand to a Brother is an obligation, but to do that with tool, sweat and the desire to build or repair is priceless.

An unselfish gift of time extends past the present, leading in most cases to positive outcomes of restored power, a leak repaired, refurbished glass or flooring, a hot meal, a ready smile, a cool drink, firm grip, a



Fredericksburg No. 4 with chimneys before removal

out interruption, meals without noise, the ability to share with those without electricity, hot water and hot meals. In part, the appreciation of the many things we all take for granted when unimpeded by climatic conditions.

The worthy admonition of our Grand Master is "Make a Difference Every Day." Thankfully it has no limitation or expiration date, or quantity or quality of difference to be made, nor is it defined by location or jurisdiction. Lodges in Virginia and elsewhere are taking up this saying. Some not knowing or seeing the words spelled out, except in their hearts.

As Masons (Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason), taking a few moments to reflect on one of many facts might be this; exploring Masonry means we are the Lodges. Our greatest treasure is

## Exploring Masonry (continued)

our fellowship, that bond of friendship and Brotherly love, we are more than a building, we are what makes the Lodge full or empty, happy or sad, we (the Brethren and our families) are the Lodge.

This list is not exhaustive and only lists those that have been reported on from the Brethren in the past weeks:

- Grand Lodge of Virginia and the Masonic Home suffered no damage.
- Masonic buildings in general came through without major damage, just walls cracking, ceiling tile falling out, etc., and some cleanup work needed.
- Kena Shrine Center has some wall cracking, some ceiling tile falling out.
- Murray Lodge No. 175 has some cracks in the walls.
- Fairfax Lodge No. 43 building was inspected, no structural damage, just the inside plaster concerns. Some buildings in Culpeper have serious damage.
- Day Lodge No. 58 and the church has suffered damage from the earthquake. Some is structural. There were quite a bit of bat droppings coming through the damaged ceilings at the Senior Wardens and Master Stations. Clean up should be completed by the time you read this.
- The George Washington Masonic Memorial, the tallest and most visible structure in Alexandria, Virginia. The George Washington Masonic National Memorial appears to be unscathed by the earthquake. Pictures were knocked off the walls and some exhibits suffered minor damage. Engineers will be inspecting the entire building in the immediate future. Nobody was injured either within the Memorial or on the grounds.
- Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 is still determining damage done compounded by the storm, so we are acting quickly on this. The officers and committees are on top of this situation. The city has ordered all four chimneys to come down and they have taped off the front of the Lodge and sidewalk in order to protect bystanders from falling bricks. Only safe way into the Lodge is by the side door. 🍀

Photographs by Brother William J. Baumbach, II

# Thoughts On the Newly Raised Master Mason

William E. Hershey, PDDGM  
Chairman, Committee on Membership

The month of August is behind us and what a momentous month it was for many Lodges in particular and for Freemasonry in Virginia in general. Of course I am referring to the Grand Master's One-Day Conferral Class that took place statewide last month.

I know there are those who will read this article that will find fault with the One-Day Conferral Class and make statements like; yeah but how many of them will get active? How many will demit or get suspended for non-payment of dues?

I sincerely wish I could answer that question but unfortunately can't. What I can tell you factually is that in 1967 membership in the Grand Lodge of Virginia was at 71,295 members. Fast forward now to 1997 and the membership figure is 49,659. Given 1996 was our first One-Day Conferral Class, we certainly cannot attribute the decline in membership to men who became Master Masons by way of the One-Day Conferral Class. On the contrary, the decline can be attributed to deaths, demits and suspensions for one reason or another. It is my belief that with the exception of death, these Brethren who demitted or were suspended, particularly for non-payment of dues, came to believe they were not pleased with their Masonic experience for one reason or another and therefore chose to demit or allow themselves to be suspended for non-payment of dues.

Now fast forward with me again if you will please, to 2011 and ask yourself what you can do personally to help slow the decline in membership and perhaps participation in your Lodge. We certainly cannot do anything to stop a Brother from being called to the Celestial Lodge, but I think we can all do something to reduce the number of demits and suspensions for non-payment of dues. We can all do some-



Grand Master Chambliss, Jr. with the Kena One-Day Conferral Class

thing about the decline in membership if we take it upon ourselves to make a commitment to being a Mentor. We can start by reflecting on the words uttered by the Worshipful Master in the Charge at Closing; reflect on our duties as Master Masons, reflect on the five points of fellowship and reflect on what kind of a letter grade we would earn if we graded ourselves on how well we performed as a Mentor.

Across this Grand Jurisdiction, the One-Day Conferral Class raised new Master Masons. The number of these newly raised Brethren who will attend Lodge regularly, perhaps learn the Catechisms, get in line, or identify friends who want to become Masons. These are all areas that will be a direct reflection on how well "we" Master Masons mentor these "new" Masons.

I do not ask these questions to put you, the reader of this article, on the spot. Rather, I ask these questions in the hope you will perform a self analysis with regards to your performance as a Mentor. I also ask that you take it upon yourself to get to know our "new" Master Masons and remember it is incumbent upon all of us to work together in our efforts with regards to taking good men and making them better. 🍀

# Meeting Our Obligations in Resolving a Conflict with a Brother

Stephen L. Young, PM

On a few occasions, I have observed a paradox in Masonry – espouse lofty principles and then we sometimes act in petty ways. We take on sacred and binding obligations as we advance through the degrees, and then we sometimes act in ways inconsistent with those obligations. One of the most troubling inconsistencies between principle and action is the way we allow conflicts to develop between members of our Fraternity, and how we sometimes allow these conflicts to linger without resolution.

Fortunately, this does not happen too often, but when an instance occurs, it is the obligation of the Worshipful Master to address it. It is also the obligation of each Brother to work to resolve these differences, and when we ourselves are a party to the conflict, we have a personal duty as a Master Mason to reconcile with our Brother.

These obligations are at the core of what it means to be a Master Mason and should compel us to exemplify the tenet of brotherly love, especially toward a fellow Mason, and take the necessary steps toward reconciliation.

I believe we should take our guidance from the many examples of friendship and brotherly love that are presented to us as moral lessons as we advance through the degrees in our ancient Craft.

The Degree of Entered Apprentice is marked by a passage of scripture that is as simple and direct as it is instructive: “Behold, how good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity; it is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments: As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.” (Psalm 133: 1 – 3)

This goal of unity and the rewards it brings are one of the first lessons we learn in Masonry. Another early lesson is the importance of charity. Charity is not merely the donation of money to a worthy Brother in need or another cause, it is also that generosity of spirit that allows us to forgive a wrong, admit a mistake, and practice another tenet of Masonry: the tenet of Brotherly Love.

In the Degree of Fellowcraft, we are reminded that our ancient operative Brethren worked six days in the quarries before receiving wages. That work was hard physical labor with an expectation that the result would be “good work, square work, just such work as is needed for the temple.” Sometimes, our labor in the speculative quarries of friendship and brotherly love can be just as demanding. As speculative Masons, we are building a temple of living stones. Our work here also needs to be “good work, square work,” if we are to be successful in our endeavors. It is not easy to overcome our own pride and the hurt feelings that come from a perceived wrong, or to admit that we made a mistake. But sometimes, this is the labor required of us. Be assured that Master’s wages will be paid to those who can accomplish this difficult task.

An idea that is made plain in the Degree of Master Mason is that our time in our earthly Lodges is fleeting. Each day slips by as grains of sand in an hour glass, almost imperceptibly. But all too soon, the grains of sand, and our days on earth, are exhausted. This is a potent message – each of us should attempt to finish our work here before we – or the Brother we have a difference with – may be called to the Celestial Lodge above. As reconciliation is one of the tasks you should complete, you must take steps to accomplish this work while there is still an opportunity.

Finally Brethren, at the closing of each

stated communication, we are reminded how Master Masons should meet, act, and part. We should meet on the level - no difference in our station in life or past disagreements should divide us. And we should part upon the square – each feeling that the other has dealt fairly with us according to Masonic principles. We should act by the plumb – with actions that are upright and unbiased.

The ideas above represent only a few of the lessons of friendship and brotherly love available to us as Masons. I hope this talk will remind you of other lessons that will convey this important concept in a way that is meaningful to you.

Let me conclude by quoting the very relevant words of Worshipful James Rockland Meehan, Past Master of Lee Lodge No. 209, who said in one of his Lodge programs: “I know that each man who enters by the West Gate is a good man. At least two of my Brothers have vouched for him. Many others may have spoken on his behalf. An investigating committee has recommended him. And all present during balloting have agreed that he should be admitted. I know I can accept him as a Brother, because my Brethren guarding the West Gate have admitted him to the Lodge.”

I would add that any man who has been accepted as a Brother is worthy of an attempt to reconcile, unless he has been expelled or suspended. So how are we to proceed in reconciliation? Maybe a way to start would be at the beginning, by exchanging the Entered Apprentice grip and saying “Behold, how good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity!” But, how you begin is less important than that you do begin the reconciliation process. Masonic principles from time immemorial and your Brethren support you in this important work. ✦

# The Great Train Raid

Worshipful Raymond M. "Mickey" Moats  
Civil War Lodge of Research No.1865

In June of 1861, then, Colonel Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson supervised the greatest overland movement of locomotives and railroad equipment during the Civil War. The locomotives and equipment confiscated from the B & O Railroad, was a result from a raid on the Federal troops encamped at Martinsburg, West Virginia. The citizens that lived along the Valley Pike, (Route No. 11) stared in wonder, as forty horse-teams pulled their loads southward, toward Strasburg, Virginia. The locomotives and equipment were then sent toward Manassas, Virginia after being re-assembled on the tracks in Strasburg, Virginia.

In conjunction with the 250th Anniversary of the Town of Strasburg, and the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, "The Great Train Raid" was re-enacted on May 29, 2011.

A replica of the 1860s Engine No. 208 rolled into the Town of Strasburg, pulled by a team of beautiful black and white horses, with Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865 (CWLR No. 1865) member Arthur Candenquist in the cab of the engine.

The Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865 had a table set up in the Strasburg Rescue Squad Building, which contained Civil War



artifacts and numerous Masonic literatures, to promote the Masonic Fraternity and the Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865.

Thanks to Brother John T. Dubbs III, Abraham C. Treichter Lodge No. 682 of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, for providing most of the artifacts for the display. Moreover, the Civil War Lodge of Research is gratefully appreciative of the Confederate Battle Flag he donated to the Lodge, for the use of labeling the flag with locations which the Lodge will be visiting.

This labeling of the Confederate Battle Flag was a common practice by southern troops, as to, which battles they fought.

Brother John T. Dubbs III, and Right Worshipful John Shroeder were very helpful in explaining questions asked by visitors who stopped by the display about Masonry and the role of the Civil War Lodge of Research as it pertains to Masonry.

Worshipful Neil G. Lilly, Brothers James W. Herendeen and Thomas O. Canterbury were a big assistance at the Spurmont Lodge Building, with greeting visitors from out-of-town, and with setting up the Lodge for the Award Winning Bar-B-Q chicken feed (prepared by Bro. Duke Compton) held at the end of the day. All Masonic Brothers and their families, who traveled from various Masonic

locations, joined us in the Fraternal fellowship, fun and the meal.

In attendance for the re-enactment, there were eighteen CWLR No. 1865 members plus, eight volunteers from Spurmont Lodge No. 98. Members present were from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, and Scotland.

Those attending from Scotland were Right Worshipful James L. Jack with his wife Helen, and Brother John Millar, who joined us for this once in a lifetime event. Their attendance at this event made the day even more enjoyable.

All in all, it was a delightful day with lots of great brothers and friends, and down to earth good old-fellowship.

What a way to put Masonry in the "eye of the public." 🍷



Left to Right: Bro. John T. Dubbs III, Rt. Wor. John Shroeder and Wor. Raymond M. "Mickey" Moats



Wor. Moats with Ms. Lauren Collins of Strasburg, VA at CWLR No.1865 Masonic Table

# Retiring Secretaries For the Masonic Year 2010

M:W: Alan W. Adkins, 1997, Grand Secretary

This year we welcome fifty-six 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 Lodge(s).

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

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| James C. Tennant, Millboro No. 28                 | 11 years |
| Leonard A. Fredette, Seaboard No. 56              | 18 years |
| Stewart S. Diamond, Broadwater No. 71             | 11 years |
| Charles F. Shuler, Elkton No. 74                  | 52 years |
| Robert L. Ingwersen, Williamson Road No. 163      | 38 years |
| William T. Ellison, Jr., Lee No. 209              | 16 years |
| George H. Wade, Springfield No. 217               | 29 years |
| Joseph Russo, Jr., Bayside No. 218                | 11 years |
| Gerald R. Cyrus, Sr., Buckingham No. 242          | 11 years |
| James S. Love, Mountain Home No. 263              | 19 years |
| Victor E. Baker, Willis V. Fentress No. 296       | 11 years |
| Carlton L. Gill, Jr., Ocean View No. 335          | 10 years |
| Paul T. Gibson, St. Paul No. 343                  | 14 years |
| George W. Allison, III, Henry Knox Field No. 349* | 16 years |

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

|   |
|---|
| Thomas M. Lewis, Kilwinning Crosse No. 2-237  |
| William R. Bish, Jr., York No. 12             |
| Clifford D. Harmon, Staunton No. 13           |
| Fred L. Alcock, Smithfield Union No. 18       |
| Douglas H. Wood, Alexandria-Washington No. 22 |
| James S. Jones, Catlett No. 35                |
| David Williams, III, St. John's No. 36        |
| Paul H. Bock, Jr., Hamilton-Thompson No. 37   |
| Harris T. Luscomb, III, Poquoson No. 49       |
| William A. Seymour, Jr., Pleasants No. 63     |
| Joe A. Fannin, Clintwood No. 66               |
| Harry L. Patton, Old Town No. 68              |
| John W. Hardin, James Evans No. 72            |
| Spencer C. Burch, Urbanna No. 83              |
| Raymond D. Steele, Spurmont No. 98            |

|   |
|---|
| William C. Terry, Portsmouth No. 100            |
| Ray W. Sites, Rockfish No. 108                  |
| David A. Ayoub, Jr., Olive Branch No. 114       |
| Clifford S. Free, Freedom No. 118               |
| Daniel B. Koch, Mt. Carmel No. 133              |
| Arthur D. Gasparik, Dinwiddie No. 136           |
| Marvin T. Rideout, III, Mann Page No. 157       |
| Dallas L. Cox, Snowville No. 159                |
| Robert H. Oliver, Jr., Chesterfield No. 161     |
| Claude S. Fitz, Jr., Virginia No. 177           |
| Gene Glasco, Wakefield No. 198                  |
| Ernest C. Hoch, Rocky Mount No. 201             |
| Joseph H. Hagerman, Jr., Lynnhaven No. 220      |
| Clifford T. Little, Harman No. 222              |
| Bryon Muldoon, Glade Spring No. 236             |
| Richard J. Martin, Pythagoras No. 229           |
| Jerry L. Stinson, II, Lebanon No. 251           |
| Arthur L. Lane, Jr., Alberene No. 277           |
| Stephen I. Bruce, Jr., Ivor No. 291             |
| Gary M. Martin, Victoria No. 304                |
| Ray E. Whitley, Kent No. 305                    |
| Anthony C. Eaton, Eggleston No. 309             |
| William E. Hershey, Jr., Hay Market No. 313     |
| Gaylord G. Ambrose, Sr., Transportation No. 337 |
| Harold L. Powell, Jr., John A. Lejeune No. 350  |
| Victor A. Shumaker, Peyton Randolph No. 1774    |
| James E. Glovier, James Noah Hillman No. 1883   |

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

Why, in a Past Master's Jewel, are the compasses open at a 60 degree angle on a quadrant instead of on a square?

**ANSWER:** The compasses are opened at varying degrees in different jurisdictions. Virginia opens the compasses to 60 degrees. There are many geometric methods of erecting a square; the obvious one would be to position the square and compasses (set at 90 degrees) to form a perfect geometric square. A less obvious, yet simple and often used method, is hinted at by the 60 degree angle in the Past Master's jewel. The Master has worn the square during his year in the East; now, as a Past Master, he is supposed to be in possession of the knowledge necessary to make a square (using the compasses alone) and transmit knowledge in instructing his successor, hence the position of the compasses and the quadrant in the Past Master's jewel.



Are there anachronisms in the Masonic ritual?

**ANSWER:** The word "anachronism" means "an error in chronology; especially: a chronological misplacing of persons, events, objects, or customs in regard to each other..."

There are several anachronisms in our ritual. In one of the degrees, an instrument not made until hundreds of years after the time of King Solomon (the striking clock) is used. The Celestial and Terrestrial Globes on the tops of the pillars are "out of time" as the world was considered flat during the period of our ritual setting. "Print, paint . . . or engrave" is an anachronism because printing and engraving were unknown until after the 14th century.

Our Lodge had a called communication at the beginning of the summer. The Master was on vacation and the Junior Warden was on a business trip out of town. At the beginning of the degree work the Senior Warden excused himself as he had to leave for a private engagement but was told by a Past Master that Masonic law would not allow him to leave. The Senior Warden disputes this and has asked for a written explanation. What do we tell him?

**ANSWER:** The Methodical Digest, in Section 2.05 very specifically spells out that "A Lodge cannot be opened or stand open without the presence of one of its stationed officers except during the election of a Master." The Lodge must have at least one of the Wardens, or the Master, present at all times when open.



Our Lodge has decided to pursue the Hillman award next year but there is some confusion about who should be involved in different activities. Can we have an explanation of the differences between Stationed Officers, Line Officers, Elected Officers and Lodge Officers?

**ANSWER:** The *three* Stationed Officers were referred to in the previous question and consist of The Worshipful Master, and two Wardens. These three, with the addition of the two Deacons, comprise the group known as Line Officers, those *five* officers that progress through the officer line to the Oriental Chair. Adding the Secretary and Treasurer we have the *seven* Elected Officers. Finally, by complementing these with all Appointed Officers, i.e. Stewards, Chaplain, Marshal and Tiler, we end up with the group of *twelve* Lodge Officers.

I have been working with our Senior Deacon for some time, helping him learn the Junior Warden's parts for the coming year. He is doing well but has a problem remembering his part in the balloting process, especially his response to the Master when the ballot is being examined. Is there a mnemonic that can be used to help him remember what to say?

**ANSWER:** Hiram congratulates the Brother on his efforts in helping the Senior Deacon prepare for the coming year; we wish that many more Brethren took it upon themselves to mentor our officers as they progress through the line. In response to this question, Hiram urges the Brethren to study the Virginia Manual of Work. The section dealing with balloting has the exact wording written out and, as a mnemonic help, consider the following: When asked about the status of the ballot, the three stationed officers' statements form part of one long sentence. The Junior Warden begins the statement by saying "The ballot . . . . . etc", this is followed by the Senior Warden's " . . . . . in the West", and concluded by the Master's statement "and . . . . . in the East." In other words, one sentence split up between three speakers, with the Junior Warden being the first. ♣



# Bikes-for-Books Program & Youth Bowling Fundraiser

Brother Michael E. "Mike" Bryan

Masonic District 36 is working to "Make A Difference Every Day" by improving the lives of our youth. For example, Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 appropriated funds during its November stated communication to create a Bikes-for-Books Reading Incentive Program at Chesapeake's Southeastern Elementary and to purchase new white robes for our District's Bethels No. 11 and 37.

The Bikes-for-Books program aims to increase student reading and comprehensive skills by providing incentives for achieving reading goals set by the school. In early January, Great Bridge delivered the first installment of four bikes and seven Barnes & Noble gift cards to Southeastern Elementary.



Officers of Great Bridge No. 257 with the first installment of four bikes

On March 20, under the leadership provided by DDGM Steven W. McGowan, the Lodges in Masonic District No. 36 held its inaugural bowling fundraiser. This family-friendly event exemplified the tenets of Freemasonry through a combination of fun, fellowship, and fundraising. Fifty-four bowlers, half of which were wives and children, helped raise \$1,100 toward expanding the Bikes-for-Books program and supporting the District's two Bethels.



Our Job's Daughters Bowling team

Steven W. McGowan, PDDGM, was presented the MVP Award at Great Bridge's stated communication on March 23 as a token of appreciation for his leadership and support. The pin was signed by all fifty-four bowlers.

As a result of the bowling fundraiser, a second installment of eleven bikes was delivered to Southeastern Elementary and checks were given to the Bethel Guardians for Bethels No. 11 and 37. As a special "Thank You" from the Jobies, a brief presentation on the opening and closing of a Job's Daughters Bethel



The winning bowling team was from Berkley Lodge No. 167 (Steven W. McGowan, DDGM; Allen R. Pierce, PDDGM; Alan G. Cannon, PM; and Joseph B. Ramsey), and the individual high average winner was Sean Eastlick, son of Bro. Todd M. Eastlick (Doric No. 44).

was provided for attendees at the Great Bridge Family Night on March 30.

On May 6, Southeastern Elementary administrators and staff awarded fifteen bikes to students in kindergarten through second grade, and fifteen Barnes & Noble gift cards to students in grades 3-5. Students had three ways to earn a chance to win: (1) get nominated by their teacher for outstanding improvement and effort in reading, (2) reach their April Accelerated Reader goal, and (3) do three book reviews to be displayed outside classrooms. Everyone who entered won in some way, each entry that did not receive a bike or gift card received a small treat.



Individual High Average – Sean Eastlick [far right]

The bowling fundraiser will be an annual event for Masonic District No. 36 as we continue to make a difference in the lives of children in our public schools and Masonic youth organizations. For those interested in contributing funds to the Bikes-for-Books Reading Incentive Program, or to learn about establishing your own program, contact Bro. Michael E. "Mike" Bryan ([michaelebryan@gmail.com](mailto:michaelebryan@gmail.com)). ✦



# 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, who was 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 Collection we are able to continue with

this long overdue conservation program. Don't hesitate to ask how you may participate.

Here are some recent additions to our conservation and preservation program.

One of the early oil portraits restored by Richmond Conservation Studio is the portrait of Past Grand Master, 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. During Lafayette's time in Richmond 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](mailto:Library@GrandLodgeofVirginia.org). The Librarian, Mrs. Marie Barnett, directs the work

at the museum and library and she would love to welcome 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



# Reborn Lodge

Dan Weatherington, PM  
Wilson Lodge No. 712 (NC)

The Lodge was like many. Some said it was dead; just hadn't laid down. It once had a heyday when the candidates flocked through on their way to the rites and to the Shrine. But those days were over. All there was now was a sincere little group who were honest, and trusting and spent much of their time recanting how it used to be.

However, last night a rare event occurred. A Brother brought in a Petition; the first one in quite a while. The Secretary read it in the normal way, then someone asked a question... "Why?"

"What do you mean?" the Master asked.

The one who asked the question in proper form said, "Why did the man Petition our Lodge? I'm happy he did, but I really don't understand. From what was read, I gather he's a young man; a family man; a man with a promising job. Look at us; we're gray; we've lived our lives, most have long retired. Why would such a man seek us?" he asked.

The Master looked toward the Brother who brought the Petition. "Some won't believe it, but this is the way it is supposed to be. He asked to join the Masons because he knows Brother Elmore, Brother Whitaker, Brother Jones and even me. And all I can do is repeat what was said to me. He had dealt with us in business and has known us most of his life. He knew us to be honest men who never put a dollar before integrity regardless of the cost."

"He knew us to be family men in a world where fidelity and honesty in marriage are rare. He knew us to be church men whose belief in a God was more than just words; it was a guiding force."

A tear began to run down the presenter's cheek.

"He said, we knew something that the world didn't know about integrity and honor and doing what was right. And most of all, he said we knew the secret of Masonry, which wasn't some silly password or mumbo-jumbo of a club. It was the strength of knowing that when we did something right in a world where the popular thing is wrong, we didn't stand alone."

"This young man petitioned because of what we have done. He comes to us because of what we are. Isn't that the way it's supposed to be?"

There was a pride that night in Lodge. Each man knew that the days of searching for gimmicks and the easy ways were over. They knew that night, that the ways of the ancients actually worked, and that this man was their future. He had seen them; and others would see him. What those others would see now depended on them. ✦

# Why This Credit Card?

Matthew T. Szramoski, PDDGM  
Chairman, Committee on Finance

Since its implementation earlier this year, the Grand Lodge credit card program has raised several thousand dollars to assist with the expenses of the programs and activities of our Craft in Virginia. The card is administered by UBS Bank, a top rated credit card provider. The program was adopted to provide members with an opportunity to raise funds at no personal cost to them and to help our Fraternity.

For each new card that is activated and a charge is made within 60 days, we receive \$50 from the credit card provider. In addition, a small percentage of each charge is contributed to Grand Lodge.

There is no annual fee for the card and it has a very competitive interest rate. This program provides an additional revenue stream to help lessen our reliance on dues and fees for income.

Some common questions about the program:

**1. *Is there a toll free number I can call to apply?***

No. All applications must be made online. This was agreed upon to maximize our income and reduce program expenses. A toll free number is available once you have applied and been approved for a card with 24 hour service to check your balance, available credit, etc.

**2. *I tried to apply but my web browser will not let me get to the site?***

We have learned that some internet providers in southwest Virginia do not allow access to the application's web site. If this is the case with your browser, please try to use a family member or friend that has a different internet provider. We are working to correct this situation.

**3. *What is the web site where I can apply for the card?***

<http://www.cardpartner.com/app/glv>

**4. *I have a PO Box and the online application will not accept my address, what should I do?***

You must provide a physical address for the application process. You can use a PO Box to receive your monthly statement and approved credit card.

**5. *Are there any hidden fees?***

No. There is no annual fee for the card and all of the income the Grand Lodge receives is from the card provider, not from any fees or costs to you.

We hope that you will support this great program and help us strengthen our Fraternity's financial structure! By using your Grand Lodge Visa card you will be making a difference every day! ✦

**Every credit card sends you a statement.  
This card lets you make one.**

## **Introducing the new Grand Lodge of Virginia A.F. & A.M. Visa® Platinum Rewards Card.**



- No annual fee.
- Ongoing contributions made when you continue using the card.
- Low Introductory APR on purchases and no balance transfer fees for 6 months.
- Enhanced Visa Platinum benefits, including 24/7 emergency customer service.
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- Earn points at hundreds of participating online retailers redeemable for name-brand merchandise, event tickets, gift cards or travel reward options.

**Make your own statement with your choice of custom  
Grand Lodge of Virginia A.F. & A.M.  
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**VISA**

<http://www.cardpartner.com/app/glv>

The GLV Visa card program is operated by UMB Bank, N.A All applications for GLV Visa credit card accounts will be subject to UMB Bank N A's approval, at its absolute discretion. Please visit [www.cardpartner.com](http://www.cardpartner.com) for further details of terms and conditions which apply to the GLV Visa card program

**CardPartner.com**

# Rainbow Girls Message

Nicole McLaughlin  
Grand Worthy Advisor 2011-2012

The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Virginia had its annual Grand Assembly Session on June 25 through 27, 2011. Michelle Baise presided as Grand Worthy Advisor and had many guests at her “Stand Out, Be You, Be True” Grand Session. She planned a Charity Splash where many of the visiting Grand Worthy Advisors got soaking wet as well as the Supreme Deputy, Mrs. Linda Jenkins, and me. The Rainbow Girls had a lot of fun at the dance that evening with many visiting DeMolay boys and Job’s Daughters. Michelle’s year came to a close as I was installed as Grand Worthy Advisor on the morning of June 27, 2011. This was the beginning of the “Rainbow Roundup” Grand Year.

This year we will be rounding up our Masonic Youth Organizations, sponsoring orders, and friends to join us in many of the events that we have planned. We are continuing to strengthen the bond with our Masonic Family. We began continuing this bond by attending the Job’s Daughters Session. We met so many dignitaries who were present, and saw many of them again when we traveled to DeMolay Conclave. We had so much fun dancing and took lots of pictures.

My motto is “Don’t give up, just keep trying” because you cannot accomplish anything in life if you just give up. We are going to keep trying to bring in new members, keep doing well in our ritual work, and accomplish many tasks that we have planned throughout the year.

We all gathered together at the Rainbow Girls Retreat on August 6 for a fun weekend. We had a blast with the many team building activities that were involved in the Low Ropes



Challenge Course at the Jamestown 4-H Camp. We had free time and went swimming at the pool, played games, and worked on my service project for the year.

Throughout the year we are putting together care packages and creating cards that will be sent to a non-profit organization that will then send them to soldiers as a thank you for serving our country. This non-profit organization is “Operation Gratitude” and is also my charity for this year. We will be selling Rainbow beach towels, koozies, hats, pins, and many other items to help raise money.

With my mascots “Cowboy Woody” and “Cowgirl Jessie,” I had the privilege to travel to Pennsylvania and New Jersey for their Grand Sessions. It was so nice to see many familiar faces as well as make new friends. I know that I will continue to make more friendships and meet many Rainbow Girls as we travel to more places during the year.

On September 17, we raised money for our Rainbow Scholarship Fund by having a golf tournament. We had a mini putt-putt

challenge for the girls while many men and women golfed. Some of our girls took turns driving the golf-carts providing drinks and snacks for the golfers. We also had lunch and brought many items to put care packages together. Overall, the day was successful and entertaining.

Our Masonic Family gathered in a parade at Masonic Family Day. We Rainbow Girls enjoyed wearing our cowgirl attire and chanting in the parade. We hope to continue bonding with our Masonic Family and rounding everyone up to our events throughout the year.

Last, but by no means least, I want to congratulate all of our new Grand Officers, State Rainbow Dad, Worthy Advisors and their officers, as well as every new member that joins this wonderful organization. Also, on behalf of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, I want to thank you for all of your continuing support and invite you to attend our functions. May everyone have safe travels! ✨

# The Little Lodge That Could

Moring E. Gravitt, PDDGMM

A 2010 visit to an open air Lodge in the Summerset sparked the imagination of one of the members of George Lodge No. 32. This experience was shared with the twenty eight, 28, members of George Lodge. Most of the Brethren had never attended an outdoor Lodge and they were very excited about having one. The Brethren took to the idea and put a dream into practice.

Ronnie Palmore, DDGM 17, was requested to arrange a change of location dispensation. The Grand Lodge was contacted. Before the Grand Master and Grand Secretary would sign off on the dispensation, the location would have to meet with the certain standards. The Grand Secretary was sent pictures of the secluded location. The Grand Master, MW John M. Chambliss, made a personal inspection of the property owned by the Grand Junior Deacon, RW Reese E. Carroll, and his lady, Mary. A huge picnic area was set up on the southern side of a large pond for dinner. The Lodge was to be held on the north side of the pond with the only access being across the dam. The pond is surrounded by dense woods.

George Lodge knew of the progress of the DDGM and their excitement was enhanced. For something of this magnitude, a lot of pieces had to fall into place. Members of the little Lodge thought they could make it come to pass. Their ladies took to the task as well.

A huge retired military missile transporter was used as a fire pit for flag disposals. Steve Amos, Worshipful Master of Buckingham No. 242 and a Mini Patroller along with Jack Marshall, Worshipful Master of Taylor No. 117, and RW Harry Bryant, DIW of George Lodge No. 32 were major contributors to the success of the event.

RW Reese Carroll, past commander of the ACCA Mini Patrol Unit, shared George Lodge momentum and excitement with the ACCA Mini Patrol. The ACCA unit was caught up in the momentum and took on the responsibility of parking vehicles and transporting Brethren to the site. 17 ACCA Mini Patrol members in summer uniform, some with golf carts, came to work and enjoy the event.

The simulated door needed a suitable alarm; this task was taken on by R.W. Jerry Cyrus of ACCA Mini Patrol.



Retired flags met conflagration with honor and decorum.

130 plus Masons representing 34 Lodges from various districts and states attended the open air Lodge. High attending Lodges were, George Lodge No. 32 with 20, Marshall Lodge No. 39 with 20, Chester Lodge No. 94 with 14, Buckingham Lodge No. 242 with 11. There were 13 Worshipful Masters in attendance. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Senior Deacon, and Grand Junior Deacon along with several appointed officers and 3 Past Grand Masters were in attendance. RW Richard P. Freeman DDGM of the Courtland-Madison District, New York and RW Charles E. Toombs, Grand Lecturer, Grand Lodge of New York both remarked about the wonderful new experience of the outdoor Lodge in Virginia.

Several of the 20 Marshall Lodge Brethren attending from made the proud statement that George No. 32 was their mother Lodge. Marshall Lodge No. 39 was formed from George Lodge No. 32. George Lodge No. 32 had one Grand Master of Masons in VA, Charles Yancy in 1822. He was also the 1st WM of Buckingham Union No. 38 which went dark for 4 yrs. After many moves it became Buckingham No. 242.

A delicious dinner of fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans, fruits, cheese, rolls and desserts was served by the ladies of George Lodge. 13 ladies were welcomed into the Carroll home while the Brethren attended Lodge.

David Edmondston, Worshipful Master, opened the Outdoor stated meeting of George Lodge No. 32. Brother Roger Tyree, Senior Warden, celebrated his birthday today, said he was nervous with all the gold present. After brief business was conducted by the Secretary, RW James D. Crews, the Master called for introductions.

The program was by MW Jeffrey E. Hodges, 2009. MW Hodges did the "Toast to the Flag" by John Jay Daly. The Flag Disposal Ceremony was scripted by the National Sojourners, Inc... James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners, Inc. and the Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76 performed the Disposal Ceremony. As the evening faded into twilight, the retired flags met conflagration with honor and decorum. Jack Marshall, WM of Taylor 117, DDGM select for the 17th District for 2012, was the "fireman" for the outdoor Lodge. His great, great grandfather was former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Marshall, and Grand Master of Masons in Virginia 1793-1794. Jack stoked the flames just before the incineration process began. The flags were declared unfit and each met with a proper disposal. Their flames and smoke ascended into the night sky with an orange and black plume.

Most Worshipful John Mason Chambliss, Grand Master, took center stage in total darkness, except for the illuminated flag of the United States of America and the lesser lights on the altar. He complimented George Lodge for the excellent evening. He further complimented MW Hodges for the solemn ceremony we had just witnessed. He remarked the plume of smoke and embers lifting up in the night sky symbolized the flags were retired to the Celestial Lodge above. The Grand Master congratulated George Lodge on their high ideals and the success of the evening.

The twenty eight members of George Lodge did a fantastic job to make it all happen. They were back on the site "early" the next morning to clean-up. George Lodge No. 32 proved they are the little Lodge that could. 🍀

# The Plot: The Secret Story of the Protocols The of Elders of Zion

By Will Eisner  
(Norton 2005)

Reviewed by William A. Parks, Jr., PDDGM

“One may consider *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* the most widely disseminated book in the world after the Bible.” Henri Rollin, *The Apocalypse of Our Times* (1939)

“Yet it is a story very much worth telling, for one must fight the Big Lie and the hatred it spawns.” Umberto Eco, Introduction to *The Plot*, December, 2004.

Few Freemasons may realize that *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* is the source of the conspiracy theory that the Freemasons are going to take over the world. This is the Big Lie, the forged self-fulfilling prophecy that is both the source of the Masonic Myth of world dominance and the inspiration for The Holocaust.

Here we have three divergent presentations of the *Protocols*, one by a graphic artist (Eisner), one by a brilliant novelist (Eco), and one by the Curator of the Grand Lodge of Scotland Museum and Library (Cooper). Each approaches the *Protocols* from different angles.

Read together, these three works provoke loathing, disgust, and horror at the effectiveness of the all-time champion Big Lie. Eco’s take manages to provoke quite a few laughs.

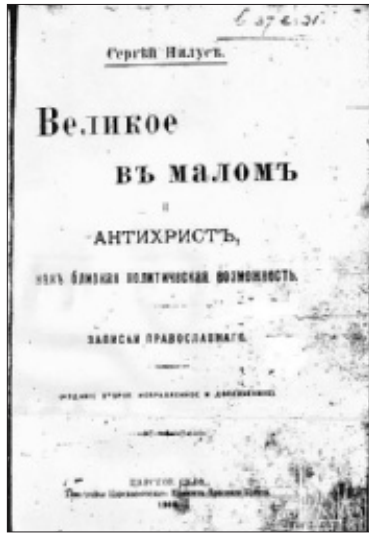
Briefly, *Protocols* purports to be the minutes of a meeting of the descendants of the Elders of the Twelve Tribes of Israel in the Cemetery of Prague around 1880 to plot the Jewish takeover of the world’s banking, currency, economic, manufacturing, law enforcement, judicial, political and industrial systems by nefarious means, including the infiltration of Masonic Lodges.

Previously, the *Protocols* had evolved from works of fiction and anti-Semitism dating back to the 1840.’s

This, Brethren, is how that nasty rumor about the Craft got its start.

Eisner’s *The Plot* serves well as a beginner’s introduction to *Protocols*. Will Eisner’s skill as a graphic artist is so widely acclaimed that the awards in his field are called “Eisners.”

The son of Jewish-American immigrants,



First Edition of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* as the work of Sergei Nilus, advisor to Tsar Nicholas from The Cemetery at Prague.

Eisner composed *The Plot* to remind the world again of the devastating impact of the clever anti-Semitic stereotyping found in the *Protocols*. With his penetrating visual genius, he depicts the faces of the men who invented and devel-



Masonophobic postage stamps from The Red triangle

oped the fictional but frightening plot over several decades.

*The Red Triangle* refers to the badge forced upon Freemasons to make them recognizable as enemies of the Nazi states during the Holocaust. Brother Cooper, a Masonic historian, also relates the development of the *Protocols* but concentrates on their impact on Freemasons during Hitler’s attempt at the Final Solution.

Cooper admits that, in gathering information about the number (80,000+) of Masons persecuted, tortured and executed by Fascists and Nazis in the 1930’s and 1940’s, he relies on existing historical sources.

Nevertheless, he issues a more compelling challenge to historians to delve deeply into primary sources to develop accurate information concerning the precise impact of the Holocaust on Freemasonry.

Along the way, Cooper asserts the view that prejudice against Masons as Masons should be viewed as a deliberate form of prejudice he terms “Masonophobia.”

For example, he argues that if, as anti-Masons claim, Freemasonry is indeed a religion, then the Craft and its members should be accorded the same Constitutional protections as the practitioners of any other religion, including freedom from discrimination, persecution, and taxation.

Cooper’s position goes beyond fanciful speculation. He details recent efforts in Europe to force Masons in law enforcement and public service to disclose their Craft affiliations publicly because of perceptions that Masonic oaths compel extra-legal protections among Brethren.

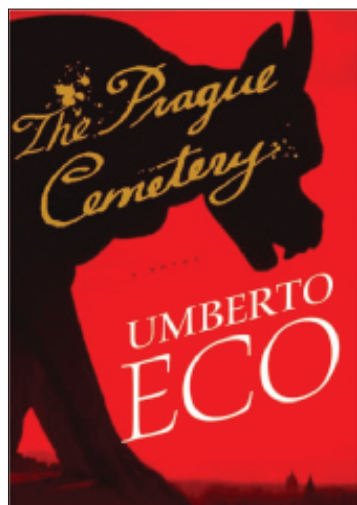
Such requirements have destroyed careers in Great Britain and Italy. But Cooper relates the details and outcomes of cases before the European Court on Human Rights that have exonerated Brethren and protected them from Masonophobic attacks based upon...*The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

*The Red Triangle* concludes with an appendix that includes the *Protocols* them-

## The Secret Story of the Protocols The Elders of Zion (continued)

selves. Cooper thinly veils his own anger with anti-Masonry.

In exposing the falsehoods inherent in the purveyors of Masonophobia, Brother Cooper maintains his ranking as one of the top debunkers of mythologies surrounding the Craft.



### *The Prague Cemetery*

By Umberto Eco

(Houghton Mifflin-Harcourt, Released date 11/08/2011)

Umberto Eco (*The Name of the Rose*, *Foucault's Pendulum*) loads up *The Prague Cemetery* with enough bigotry, xenophobia, ethnocentricity, and racial and political animus to provide to a "final solution" to the ignorance, fabrication, stereotyping, and mythologizing at the root of all bigotry.

Simon Simonini, said to be the only fictional major character in *Cemetery*, involves himself with Dumas, Freud, Garibaldi, Dreyfus, Leo Taxil, and, eventually, the Russians, who commission Simonini to forge the final version of the *Protocols*, which became the final blueprint of Hitler's Final Solution.

Eco narrates *Cemetery* through the medium of "Captain" Simonini's diary. The Captain portrays himself as a gluttonous pig who details every course of each meal he consumes while plotting with nineteenth century revolutionaries, royalists, conspirators, bombers, anarchists, murderers and other varied sociopaths bound together by their rabid anti-Semitism.

Simonini also despises Germans, French, English, Arabs, Muslims, Russians, Prussians

and Italians. The Jesuits, he says, are Freemasons dressed as women. He lavishes his most lethal venom on Jews and Freemasons.

Captain S. hires himself out to forge the documents that lead to the condemnation of the Jewish French Army Captain Dreyfus as a traitor. He runs an employment agency for clients in need of bombers, murderers, double agents, spies, and anyone else aiming to condemn, libel, and persecute Jews into extinction.

When Leo Taxil needs assistance extracting evidence of Masonic atrocities from Diana Vaughn, Simonini attends the interrogations. In the guise of his alter ego, the Abbe Della Piccola, the Captain helps Taxil with retraction of his anti-Masonry, exposure of himself as a hoax, and humiliation of the Catholic clergy who had instigated Taxil's defamation of Freemasonry.

Eco portrays Leo Taxil as an egotistical manipulator, taking positions and switching sides just to stir up sensational reactions and attract attention to himself.

Captain Simonini even manages to find himself present in the Cemetery of Prague just when the Elders meet to plot their takeover of the world. The *Protocols* undergo several drafts and, for a time, suffers exposure as a forgery in Western Europe.

But it turns out the Tsar is in big trouble, and Simonini's enhanced and improved version of the *Protocols* fills the bill to convince

revolutionary Russians for a time that Marx was just another Zionist plotting the takeover of the world by suppressing and impoverishing all the gentiles, except, of course, the Freemasons.

Eco's satire ends Simonini's diary in 1898. Eco's plot device of involving Simonini in so much of the ethnic plotting of nineteenth century Europe renders the characters' bigotry utterly absurd and at times hilarious.

In *Cemetery*, Eco's genius turns the racial joke on its head by portraying the purveyors of racial hatred themselves as bumbling, dishonest, bullying, insecure, incompetent and laughable morons.

The reader, of course, knows that the *Protocols* will grow in influence. According to Brother Cooper, Hitler blamed Germany's loss of World War One and the condition of post-war Germany on Freemasons and Jews.

Although Hitler himself knew that the *Protocols* were a fake and a forgery, their genius lay in their believability, so Hitler claimed that it was the truth of the *Protocols* that provoked the charges of forgery.

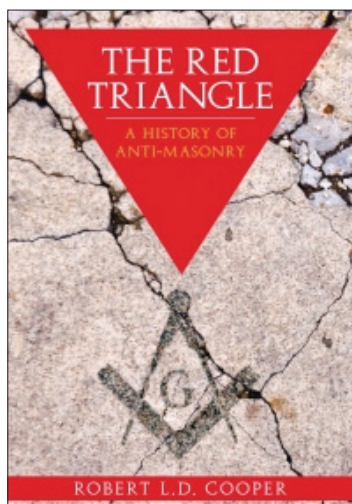
According to Eisner, the *Protocols* still sells in bookstores around the world. Recently, Arab television broadcast a serial, "Knight without a Horse," based on the *Protocols*. In 2001, an Egyptian weekly claimed that the *Protocols* are the central theme of Israeli policy.

Eisner documents several incidents evidencing the continuing pernicious influence of the *Protocols*.

Checking out [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWuAH3P9s1k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWuAH3P9s1k) will demonstrate the continuing perverse appeal of the *Protocols*.

Eco's brilliant satire, as well as Eisner's exposure and Cooper's Masonic cri de coeur may not suffice to bury the Big Lie of the *Protocols*, but they do brilliantly illuminate the insidious, seductive power of bigotry. One hopes that Simonini is wrong when he remarks that it is hate, not love, which fires up the human soul. ✨

<sup>1</sup>Note: Since the English translation of *The Prague Cemetery* will not be available until November 8, 2011, *Le Cimetiere de Prague*, translated into French from the original Italian by Jean-Noel Schiano (Bernard Grasset 2010) was used for this review.



### *The Red Triangle: A History of Anti-Masonry*

By Robert D. L. Cooper

(Lewis Masonic 2011)

# Blair's Bits of Booklore Volumes 1-3

Collected articles, quotations, etc. of Right Worshipful Blair Via  
Grand Lodge of Virginia, Compiled 1989, \$6.00

Reviewed by William A. Parks, Jr., PDDGM

Can't find a program? Are you having trouble getting that Masonic education so many Brethren say you need, but can't seem to find? Ever wonder how Masonry is expressed, explained, and extolled by lovers of the Craft?

*Blair's Bits of Booklore* may be the answer.

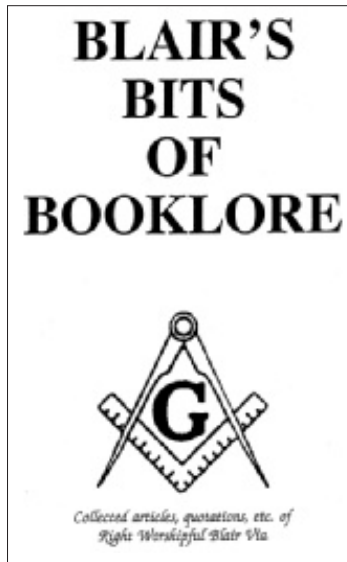
"Bits" precisely describes this treasure trove of Masonic scraps of philosophy, poetry, wisdom, speculation and even downright nonsense.

The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education collated this selection of articles on symbolism, speeches by Grand Masters, parables, lamentations on the current state of the Craft, rants on the Fraternity's precipitous decline, fables, myths, allegories, articles on the value and values of Masonic education, and practical suggestions for actually educating the Brethren and improving the Fraternity.

Along with the rare but occasional chunk of coal, this meandering collection contains gems, nuggets, truths, myths, and even political discourses on all things Masonic.

This odd compendium was a set of scrap books compiled over decades by Rt. Wor. Blair Via, Master of Staunton Lodge No. 13 in 1950-51 and DDGM of the Masonic District 19 in 1969. He also served on the Grand Lodge Committees on Masonic Information, Research and Publications (1966-1968), Masonic Education (1969-1973), and Lodge Extension and Development (1977-1982.)

Brother Via laid down his working tools on



June 6, 1998, but in 1989 his family presented his scrapbooks to the Grand Lodge of Virginia. These contained hundreds of bits of Masonic lore cut and pasted from various and mostly unidentified sources, by hand, using actual human intelligence, not mindless cybernetics.

These have been organized, collated and printed in three loose leaf volumes. The original collection is lodged at the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.

While there is no index, no organization of pieces by subject matter, and appallingly few attributions of source, author and date of publication, there is some sense of progression to this collection.

"Bits" rewards the reader as the seashore rewards the beachcomber.

Volume I really is a collection of "bits," with few pieces filling more than half a page.

Many of them extol the value of Masonic education, while a few explain how to actually impart it. An example: "The marks of a Mason are not glib phrases, ready answers, and shining jewelry, but an insatiable curiosity, a love of learning, and an irrepressible desire to know. Truth, the radiant angel, driving men onward and upward, a flying ideal, forever pursued and never overtaken, this is the ideal of the Mason." Attributed to the Virginia Masonic Herald without date of issue or authorship, this pretty piece neglects to concretely advise how to pursue the ideal.

The second volume takes us to the practicality of Masonry: "Many of our members have thought that Masonry was an organization to belong instead of something to be done, or a kind of life to be lived. Before Masonry can be as effective in the world as it is capable or ought to be, there will have to be an awakening of the Craft in general, and a realization that there is a vast difference between the two conceptions of Masonry which have little or nothing in common." So who said that? When? How was it published? *Bits*, unfortunately, provides no credit for this gem.

Nevertheless, such absences of attribution focus the reader on the quality and value of the pieces themselves. There is no need to regard such pieces as the products of established Masonic "authorities" such as Pike, Mackey or Coil. Each unattributed "bit" stands alone.

By Volume III, the bits attain more length, including the 27-page "Reflections on Masonic



## Blair's Bits of Booklore (continued)

Symbolism From Light Shed By Previous Craftsmen." This article covers the symbolism, philosophy, and ritual of the Blue Lodge. It soars with metaphor: "It is hoped that Freemasonry by her teaching of that special wisdom which deals with human relations, may pour the oil of brotherhood upon the tempestuous seas of discord and misunderstanding." But is this a collection of articles? Brother Via's own thoughts? A set of Short Talk Bulletins?

There is refreshment in the opportunity to browse and plunder Blair's Bits, most of it (them) quite enlightening, provocative, and entertaining, without feeling guilty about whether one is feeling inspired, motivated, critical, disagreeable or downright dismissive towards some highly revered Great Masonic Mind.

Brother Via gives us the words, the thoughts, the ideas, unadorned by date, by author, by publisher, as the beachcomber finds his treasures without labels, provenance, or price tags. *Bits* is almost all pure content.

The six bucks for this collection makes it just about the best bargain ever. All proceeds go to the Grand Lodge Library, Museum, and Historical Foundation. Thanks to Marie Barnett at the Library for background on Brother Via and his collection. To order, just send an email to [supplies@grandlodgeofvirginia.org](mailto:supplies@grandlodgeofvirginia.org).

# Walking With The Widow's Son

By Heather Carver  
(Grave Distractions 2011)

Review by William A. Parks, Jr., PDDGM

This 78-page pearl contains more common sense per page about Freemasonry than just about any other book with the square and compass on its cover.

Heather Carver, a Mason's wife from Tennessee, has taken quite an interest in her husband's fraternity. Raised a Roman Catholic, she has recovered from her church's reservations about the Craft and become a cheerleader for the Fraternity.

To Ms. Carver, Masonry presents no great mystery. Its symbols are just symbols. They stand for something, they evoke lessons, they inspire good conduct, and do not represent anything sinister.

She poo-poo's any suggestion that Masons are trying to take over the world, but wouldn't mind if they did because; from what she's seen about the way Brethren conduct themselves, the world would indeed be a better place if the Masons would take it over. Ms. Carver says, "After hearing all the horrible things people were saying about these men, I made it my mission to write a book for everyone to understand Freemasonry. A very simple, easy-to-read, honest and accurate book of facts."

The product of that goal is *Walking with the Widow's Son*. Ms. Carver has accomplished exactly what she set out to do, and for that she gets an A+.

*Walking with the Widow's Son* makes a fine introduction to the Craft by homing in on the simple basics of Masonic ritual, symbols, mutual commitment and even the penalties of the Obligations, that too often, get lost in the fog of convoluted and baseless



*Walking with the Widow's Son*

speculation and scholarship.

Even the most sophisticated Mason should appreciate Ms. Carver's accomplishment in stating the basics of the Craft and for just plain making sense of it.

### LIKE ANSWERS RETURNED

by Sam Welty



"Guys, I can't tell what's going on here. This team can't see past the feathers on their heads, and that team has three different colored uniforms. . ."

# Masonic Veterans

## July 2011 through September 2011

Editor's note: This is a listing of all Brethren in the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia who have received their 50-year plus Veteran's Awards from Date July 2011 through September 2011. Due to not being able to get as many pictures in as we would like, the Board has decided to honor all Masonic Veterans in this manner.

### SEVENTY-YEAR VETERANS

Wor. Clyde W. Tuck Anderson Lodge No. 258

### SIXTY-YEAR VETERANS

Wor. James John Andre Metropolitan Lodge No. 11  
 Bro. Anthony M. Juranis Metropolitan Lodge No. 11  
 Bro. John Howard Marion Metropolitan Lodge No. 11  
 Wor. W. Chester Bolling Pound Lodge No. 59  
 Bro. William Wells Clark, Jr. Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60  
 Bro. Douglas Denham Hudson Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60  
 Bro. John Wilson Crumb Capeville Lodge No. 107  
 Bro. Lucius Saunders Jacob, Jr. Capeville Lodge No. 107  
 Wor. James Waddell Stanley Henrico Union Lodge No. 130  
 Wor. George Thomas Matthews, Sr. Mann Page Lodge No. 157  
 Bro. Charles Preston Tolley Clifton Forge Lodge No. 166  
 Bro. James Fred Long Fidelity Lodge No. 173  
 Bro. Harry Elam Hamilton, Jr. Southside Lodge No. 191  
 Bro. Frank Edward Spencer, Jr. King Solomon's Lodge No. 194  
 Wor. William Thomas Johnson Stonewall Lodge No. 200  
 Bro. Ernest Woodrow Warner Wynn Lodge No. 221  
 Bro. Carl Henry Hampton Corinthian Lodge No. 266  
 Bro. James Frederick Thornton, Jr. Corinthian Lodge No. 266  
 Bro. Joseph A. Vivas Dupont Lodge No. 289  
 Bro. George William McCall, Jr. Richlands Lodge No. 318  
 Bro. Arthur Dyer Mullins Richlands Lodge No. 318  
 Bro. Billy Clayton Cathey Babcock Lodge No. 322  
 Bro. Frederick Otto Roland Babcock Lodge No. 322

### FIFTY-YEAR VETERANS

Bro. Ernest Leonard Hale St. Tammany Lodge No. 5  
 Bro. Robert Thomas Banton Manchester Lodge No. 14  
 Bro. Walter Roger Powers Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17  
 Bro. Frederick Hennen Austin Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18  
 Wor. Walter Kelly Murray Marion Lodge No. 31  
 RW Harry Willard Bryant, Jr. George Lodge No. 32  
 Bro. Charles Albert Fleeman Virginia May Lodge No. 38  
 Wor. Raymond Douglas Tyus Joppa Lodge No. 40  
 Bro. Christopher Sylvanus Robinson, Sr. Poquoson Lodge No. 49  
 Bro. Robert Stanley Parrott, Jr. Piedmont-Stella Lodge No. 50  
 Bro. Max Lavern Neuman Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54  
 Bro. James Charles Russell Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64  
 Wor. Charles K. Daren Blackstone Lodge No. 79  
 RW Clark Andrew Anderson Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81  
 RW Hoen McGuire Edwards, Jr. Courtland Lodge No. 85  
 Bro. Howard Laylor Hopkins Ruth Lodge No. 89  
 Bro. John Morgan Crews Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91  
 Bro. Ray Edward Fowler Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91  
 Bro. Espey Roy Jones, Jr. Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91

RW Carl Holland Wells Liberty Lodge No. 95  
 Bro. William Victor Hall Coeburn Lodge No. 97  
 Bro. William David Brown Spurmont Lodge No. 98  
 Bro. Clayton Edward Doucette Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120  
 Bro. Robert Lee Harrington Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120  
 Bro. Harvey Frank Harris Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120  
 Bro. Wilbur Arthur Jones Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120  
 Bro. Sidney Derrick McCauley Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120  
 Bro. Charles Singhas Yates Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120  
 Bro. Charles Henry Bowman Powhatan Starke Lodge No. 124  
 Bro. Carlton Lee Lewis Powhatan Starke Lodge No. 124  
 Bro. William Thomas Anderson Ashlar Lodge No. 125  
 Bro. John Edward Jackson, Jr. Fork Union Lodge No. 127  
 Bro. Herbert Edward Taylor Widow's Son Lodge No. 150  
 Bro. John Hamilton Brenner, Jr. Franklin Lodge No. 151  
 Wor. Hursell McClain Fowler Franklin Lodge No. 151  
 Bro. Robert Bascom Pratt Shelby Lodge No. 162  
 Bro. Andrew Jackson Gordon Williamson Road Lodge No. 163  
 Bro. Truman Dorland Baxter, Jr. Owens Lodge No. 164  
 Bro. Edward Lee Baynor Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178  
 Bro. Carroll Russell Gibbs Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178  
 Bro. Jack Edward Atkinson Manassah Lodge No. 182  
 Bro. William Amos Harvey Manassah Lodge No. 182  
 Bro. Bennett Gordon Richardson Southside Lodge No. 191  
 Bro. John Roeland Lassiter Kempsville Lodge No. 196  
 Bro. Luther Ray Ashworth Wakefield Lodge No. 198  
 Wor. Charles Allen McCarty Vinton Lodge No. 204  
 Bro. John Campbell Zion Wynn Lodge No. 221  
 RW Adrian Lee Eure Bremond Lodge No. 241  
 Bro. Julius Cullen Rosen Buckingham Lodge No. 242  
 Bro. William Lee Ross Mountain Home Lodge No. 263  
 Bro. James Glenn Johnson Corinthian Lodge No. 266  
 Wor. Cyrt Leo Cyrtnus Cochran Lodge No. 271  
 Bro. Joseph Peter Dettmer Churchland Lodge No. 276  
 Bro. Joe Norflett Grizzard Columbia Lodge No. 285  
 Bro. Cornelius Gregory Poletis Columbia Lodge No. 285  
 Bro. Ryland Franklin Clark, III Chickahominy Lodge No. 286  
 Wor. Raymond Abbitt Coleman Monroe Lodge No. 301  
 Bro. Emory Wilson Lewis, Jr. Westhampton Lodge No. 302  
 Bro. Robert Noel Woodward Westhampton Lodge No. 302  
 Bro. Fred D. Brown, Jr. William J. McMahon Lodge No. 303  
 Bro. Eugene Wallace Vann Army and Navy Lodge No. 306  
 Wor. George Walter Eberhardt, Jr. Edwards Lodge No. 308  
 Wor. Clifford St. Clair Johnston Dale City Lodge No. 319  
 Bro. Alfred Guy Hall Warwick Lodge No. 336  
 Wor. Julian Wesley Owen Warwick Lodge No. 336  
 Bro. Albert Charles Nolan Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351

# 60-year Masonic Veteran George Abbott Page

Right Worshipful George Abbott Page (left) of Westhampton Lodge No. 302 (Richmond) received his 60-year Masonic Veteran's emblem from Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins, 1997. Also pictured is Joyce Page (center) and Robert M. Hicks, Worshipful Master (right). The presentation took place at the June 6, 2011 stated communication of the Lodge. ✦



# THE CIRCLE OF LIFE

M.W. Jim Cole, 2001, CEO

When I was in college, a popular song at the time had the words “all my life’s a circle, sunrise and sundown.” I remember listening to that song and reflecting on that idea.

Change is inevitable, even though some cycles of change, like each sunrise and each sunset, recur routinely.

As one of our Grand Masters said, “Change is NOT a four letter word.”

Any Mason who has visited the Masonic Home recently has probably seen many changes. Over the last two years, all of the interior public areas of the Home have been updated. In some cases, the updates changed finishes and appearances that had been in place for thirty years or more.

As Masons, perhaps we also need to think of change in terms of our support to the Home. I look back a decade or more ago and I see that our fundraising efforts for the Masonic Home, though successful, provided limited choices for our donors. We provided no opportunities for donors to give their money to the Home in a way that allowed the donor to receive income for life and still get a tax deduction. Even in the 1990’s, you either wrote a check to the Home or you named the Home in your will. Not many other choices.

Just over twelve years ago, the Masonic

Home set up our first gift annuity. That donor, a brother who was a former President of the Home, gave us money, received income for the rest of his life and got an instant income tax deduction. On top of it all, his courage to do something different established a long-lasting gift for the Home. He led a CHANGE.

Prior to 1890, for almost eighty years, discussions were reflected in the Proceedings of Grand Lodge on the issue of establishing a Masonic Home. The only way the matter was settled was that a good brother stepped forth and gave a gift that made the Home a reality in 1890.

That was a change! Not just talk, but action!

At the Masonic Home, we changed some of our appearance, but we did not change the quality of care we offer. Our name says it all... MASONIC...THAT is our brand of care and it will NOT change.

Freemasonry teaches action. By simply recalling the charge at the closing of our meetings, we are reminded that Masonry extends beyond the walls of the Lodge. Action CAN make a BIG change. Call us toll-free at 1-800-262-4644. Let’s talk about changing things...in ways that can help you and others as well. ✦



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

# By Their Works

Freemasonry is more than a Fraternity of men. It is more than an organization. It is more than Lodges of Masons working together with objectives which are charitable, and humanitarian. And it is more than a quest for Brotherhood.

Freemasonry is a way of life.

It is a pattern for living which challenges each individual Mason to walk, act and live in such a manner that he will always be in search of becoming a better man, not better than someone else, but better than himself. This is the essence of Masonry, with its emphasis not upon the group, but upon the total, and complete responsibility of each individual Brother.

Based upon this premise, and organization, an association, a society, a Lodge, as such is nothingness unless each individual member is devoted, dedicated, and consecrated to the principle that as he himself lives, so will the Lodge live. No great symphony of music was composed by an organization. Not one of the fine works of art was painted by an association or a committee. Thus Masonry’s appeal is to the responsibility of each individual man to make the Fraternity an effective force for good by the manner in which he thinks and conducts himself, not only in the Lodge, but more importantly, in his everyday actions with all people.

If Freemasonry is indeed a way of life that challenges each Brother to give of his best, to live up to his responsibilities, think of the power, and action for the good of mankind that can be generated by the sum total of all.

“By their works ye shall know them.” What a challenge! ✦

*Blair’s Bits* excerpt

# 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 April 1, 2011 through August 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 | Warwick Lodge No. 336                                | Judy Chambliss           | Masters & Wardens Assoc 15A,B & C Districts<br>Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347   | Gerald R. Martin     | Tony Edward Middleton                              |
| Carl B. Andrews        | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351                        | Frances B. Charlesworth  | Helen M. Lape<br>Irma P. Thornhill<br>Anna Marie Blatt<br>Samuel Crawford Anaya<br>Garland Neville Rollins<br>Alan Wayne Adkins | Gilbert C. Martin    | Wayne Sawyer Flora                                 |
| Irene Baughan          | Garland Neville Rollins                              |                          |   | Joyce C. Mason       | Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54                       |
| Eula Beasley           | Manchester Lodge No. 14                              |                          |   | Gary A. McAlexander  | Dinwiddie Lodge No. 136                            |
| Ernest L. Beazley      | Kilwinning Crosse Lodge No. 2-237                    | Glen P. Cole             | Alan Wayne Adkins   |                      | William Clifton Phillips                           |
| David H. Blank         | Blue Ridge Scottish Rite Club                        | James D. Cole            | 34th Masonic District School<br>Glen Allen Lodge No. 131  | Irving G. Meadows    | Terry Francis Hilton                               |
|                        | Debra A. Gilley                                      |                          |   | William B. Millican  | David Immanuel Vincent                             |
|                        | George William Field                                 | Kent B. Cornell & Family | Achilles Lodge No. 281  |                      | Nancy Holder                                       |
|                        | Howard F. Simmons                                    | Robert B. Crowder        | Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273  | Victor M. Moon       | Wayne Sawyer Flora                                 |
| Lillian Bolton         | Alfred A. Scheibner                                  | Convern E. Dalton        | Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82   |                      | Victoria Lodge No. 304                             |
|                        | Arthur Owen Houston                                  | Bobby J. Dobbins         | Virginia May Lodge No. 38   | Leo J. Moylan        | Warwick Lodge No. 336                              |
|                        | Garland Neville Rollins                              | Wallace R. Doughtie      | McAlister Lodge No. 185   | Eugene M. Mull       | Patricia and Michele Jenkins                       |
|                        | Edna R. Clark  | Mary Katherine Duffy     | Franklin Lodge No. 151  | Elwood S. Nichols    | Botetourt Lodge No. 7                              |
|                        | Samual Crawford Anaya                                | Francis C. Duval         | Botetourt Lodge No. 7   | Lynwood E. Overman   | Army and Navy Lodge No. 306                        |
|                        | Helen L. Payne                                       | Garnett C. Edwards       | Alan Wayne Adkins   | Hamilton E. Pape     | Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54                       |
|                        | Robert Kern Butler                                   | Henry G. Eley            | Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18   | Peyton D. Perkins    | Cave Spring Lodge No. 230                          |
|                        | Richard Edward Peroe                                 | Robert J. Elliott        | Cave Spring Lodge No. 230   | Henry S. Pittard     | Jerry A. Waller                                    |
|                        | Robert D. Pfeiffer                                   |                          | Lee Lodge No. 209   |                      | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351                      |
|                        | Parky Parkman  | Estate of Maxine Fitch   | Garland Neville Rollins   | Eugene Puckett       | Donlie Ray Henderson                               |
|                        | Susan M. Landen                                      | Grover C. Farmer         | Army and Navy Lodge No. 306   | Hugh A. Rader        | Campbell Lodge No. 316                             |
|                        | David W. Major                                       | Josephine Faulkner       | Garland Neville Rollins   | George N. Ripley     | David Immanuel Vincent                             |
|                        | Mike Byrd  | Julian M. Fender         | Old Town Lodge No. 68   | Thomas S. Ross       | Williamson Road Lodge No. 163                      |
|                        | Churchland Baptist Church Pathfinders Class          | William N. Ferro         | Carter Lodge No. 323  | Orlando F. Salinas   | Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273                           |
|                        | Nancy Tinsley  | Robert Gannon            | Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220   | Edward R. Saunders   | Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274                       |
|                        | Mary H. Perry  | Jon R. Geer              | Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274  |                      | Hunter's Lodge No. 156                             |
|                        | Susan B. Ayres                                       | Gayleen Gilbert          | Wayne Sawyer Flora  | Raymond R. Schnierer | Unity Lodge No. 146                                |
| Thomas B. Boyce        | Elizabeth N. Compton                                 | H. Bruce Green           | Harry Bruce Green   | Claude M. Seymour    | Cochran Lodge No. 271                              |
|                        | Alan Wayne Adkins                                    | Melvin L. Green          | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351   | Kent B. Shaffer      | Cochran Lodge No. 271                              |
|                        | John Irvin Long                                      | Cecella B. Grennan       | Robert Leroy Harrison   |                      | Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865                  |
|                        | Wayne Sawyer Flora                                   | Louise H. Guise          | William Thomas Guise  |                      | Cave Spring Lodge No. 230                          |
|                        | Richard Edward Peroe                                 | Robert M. Hall           | Lewis Dewitt Kemper   |                      | Edinburg FCE Club c/o<br>Charlotte Heishman, Tres. |
|                        | Herbert Banks Milby                                  | John S. Harrell          | Columbia Lodge No. 285  | William J. Smith     | William L. Viands                                  |
|                        | Stuart A. Shipley                                    | Margaret W. Hayes        | Curtis Franklin Kirby   | Adolph M. Sobel      | Chester H. Johnson                                 |
|                        | Garland Neville Rollins                              | Robert W. Hedge          | Williamson Road Lodge No. 163   | Ralph F. Searly      | Robert Leroy Harrison                              |
|                        | Scott and Carol Locklear                             | Thomas M. Holder         | Nancy Holder  | Marian Spita         | Sheldon Barnett Richman                            |
|                        | Samual Crawford Anaya                                | Andrew J. Holland        | McAlister Lodge No. 185   | Emmett D. Stewart    | Hill City Lodge No. 183                            |
|                        | David B. Wilkinson                                   | Charles F. Hollis        | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351   | John N. Stine        | Columbia Lodge No. 285                             |
|                        | Deborah B. Clough                                    |                          | Elaine Fraser   |                      | Franklin Lodge No. 151                             |
|                        | Lynn F. Goodrich                                     | Bascome D. Hudson        | Varina Lodge No. 272  |                      | Philip and Kathy Crandall                          |
|                        | Marcel Lambrechts                                    | Lillie Mae Johnson       | Warwick Lodge No. 336   | Bertie Stubblefield  | Ken Pepper   |
|                        | Larry and Barbara Smith                              | Ben Jones                | Unity Lodge No. 146   | John E. Taylor       | Concord Lodge No. 307                              |
|                        | Robert E. Smith                                      | Elisabeth B. Jones       | Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18   | John W. Thomas       | Garland Neville Rollins                            |
| Jerry S. Brown         | Kilwinning Crosse Lodge No. 2-237                    | Jesse S. Julian          | James Sidney Jones  | James S. Thornton    | Western Branch Lodge No. 189                       |
| Walter Brown           | Elkton Lodge No. 74                                  | Joy W. Kent              | Hill City Lodge No. 183   | James W. Thweatt     | Oriental Lodge No. 20                              |
| Bernard C. Buchanan    | Warwick Lodge No. 336                                | George L. Kyle           | Garland Neville Rollins   | Dennis C. Uselmann   | Sandston Lodge No. 216                             |
| McDonald L. Burbidge   | Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865                    | Elise Lacy               | Sandston Lodge No. 216  | Clinton L. Varner    | Victoria Lodge No. 304                             |
| William H. Burruss     | Kilwinning Crosse Lodge No. 2-237                    | Floyd Lassiter           | Charles Leonard Rollins   | Ronald P. Watkins    | John H. Stenstrom                                  |
| Joseph T. Carson       | Day Lodge No. 58                                     |                          | Garland Neville Rollins   |                      | Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273                           |
| James A. Carty         | Beverly and Randy Godding                            | Winnie Lauderbade        | Collas Eldridge Lowry   | Dennis E. West       | Robert Leroy Harrison                              |
|                        | Barrie E. Parrish                                    | Terry W. Loop            | Carolyn P. Graham   | Edward D. West       | Princess Anne Lodge No. 25                         |
|                        | Williamson Road Lodge No. 163                        | Ethel V. Louderback      | Unity Lodge No. 146   | John B. Wicker       | Western Branch Lodge No. 189                       |
|                        | Carter Machinery Company, Inc                        | John C. Lucy             | Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274  | Elizabeth Wilkinson  | Achilles Lodge No. 281                             |
| Joseph E. Catron       | Taylor Lodge No. 23                                  | Horace B. Malbone        | Lokie Leo Voight  | James B. Wilkinson   | Warwick Lodge No. 336                              |
| John M. Chambliss      | Donald Lewis Ratliff                                 |                          | Emory Heath Lucy  | Raymond B. Wilson    | Warwick Lodge No. 336                              |
|                        | Masters & Wardens Assoc 15 A,B & C Districts         |                          | Robert Leroy Harrison   | Willie A. Wilson     | Garland Neville Rollins                            |
|                        | Roanoke Lodge of Perfection                          |                          | B. L. Tillman   |                      | Robert Walter Davis                                |
|                        | Larry James Lloyd                                    |                          | Howard B. Jones   | John C. Wooldridge   | Piedmont Lodge No. 152                             |
|                        | Botetourt Lodge No. 7                                |                          | Princess Anne Lodge No. 25  | Joel C. Wootton      | Robert Walter Davis                                |
|                        | Urbanna Lodge No. 83                                 |                          | Melva & Forrest Davis   |                      | Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82                  |
|                        | Master Masons Association -<br>22nd Masonic District |                          |   |                      | Hill City Lodge No. 183                            |
|                        |  |                          |   |                      | Burke Lodge No. 147                                |

# Resident Birthdays

| Date            | Resident Name       | Lodge Name                              |
|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>OCTOBER</b>  |                     |   |
| 6/1/1916        | Ersell Brinser      | Manchester Lodge No. 14                 |
| 10/3/1929       | Donald Davies       | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131                |
| 10/3/1918       | Martha Mason        | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131                |
| 10/3/1919       | Gladys Simmons      | Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91          |
| 10/3/1938       | Luther Zirkle       | Cumberland Lodge No. 283                |
| 10/4/1915       | Laura Singleton     | Botetourt Lodge No. 7                   |
| 10/6/1913       | Annie Davis         | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11               |
| 10/8/1926       | Ruth Walker         | Varina Lodge No. 272                    |
| 10/10/1914      | Helen Wood          | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 10/11/1926      | Virginia Hobson     | Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54            |
| 10/13/1940      | Gloria Martin       | Sandston Lodge No. 216                  |
| 10/14/1923      | Lucy Lamp           | Winchester-Hiram Lodge No. 21           |
| 10/14/1925      | Harry Byrd Thomas   | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11               |
| 10/24/1923      | Irma Tunstall       | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 10/26/1919      | Ethel Hutcherson    | Meridian Lodge No. 284                  |
| 10/28/1922      | Gloria Hall         | Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345          |
| 10/31/1924      | Irma Thornhill      | Transportation Lodge No. 337            |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b> |                     |   |
| 11/3/1920       | Mildred Butler      | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 11/4/1922       | Catherine Busbee    | Westhampton Lodge No. 302               |
| 11/4/1932       | James Friis         | Franklin Lodge No. 151                  |
| 11/5/1926       | Margaret Jordan     | Chesterfield Lodge No. 161              |
| 11/9/1927       | Betty Lide          | Broadwater Lodge No. 71                 |
| 11/9/1925       | Louise Gooding      | Edwards Lodge No. 308                   |
| 11/10/1923      | Lois Roan           | Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345          |
| 11/14/1937      | William Martin      | Sandston Lodge No. 216                  |
| 11/19/1919      | Glenn May           | Varina Lodge No. 272                    |
| 11/23/1920      | Martha Sugg         | Sandston Lodge No. 216                  |
| 11/24/1923      | Walter McCuiston    | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 11/24/1922      | Helene Peters       | Sandston Lodge No. 216                  |
| <b>DECEMBER</b> |                     |   |
| 12/4/1923       | Preston Givens      | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 12/5/1938       | James Herring       | Richmond Lodge No. 10                   |
| 12/7/1925       | Joyce Benninghove   | Varina Lodge No. 272                    |
| 12/7/1920       | Alice Britton       | Northside Lodge No. 292                 |
| 12/7/1912       | Maude Griffey       | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 12/11/1920      | John Hall           | Joppa Lodge No. 40                      |
| 12/14/1914      | Annie Clayton       | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 12/16/1920      | Harry Bluford       | Westhampton Lodge No. 302               |
| 12/18/1931      | Mary Lee Peroe      | Northside Lodge No. 292                 |
| 12/18/1929      | Edwin Ragsdale      | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 12/18/1917      | Sommerville Wickham | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131                |
| 12/19/1932      | Luvirda Mitchell    | Elbert Munsey Lodge No. 298             |
| 12/21/1925      | Lucille Corcoran    | Naomi Lodge No. 87                      |
| 12/24/1922      | Reuben Shrader      | Northside Lodge No. 292                 |
| 12/25/1931      | Norma Klebert       | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131                |
| 12/28/1923      | Earl Slaughter      | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351           |
| 12/30/1925      | Kenneth Almond      | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11               |
| <b>JANUARY</b>  |                     |   |
| 1/1/1917        | Eunice Barnes       | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131                |
| 1/1/1932        | David Kent          | Lancaster Union Lodge No. 88            |
| 1/3/1926        | Voncile Baughman    | Sandston Lodge No. 216                  |
| 1/4/1929        | Carolyn Allen       | Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91          |
| 1/6/1926        | Samuel Anaya        | Arlington-Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 |
| 1/7/1925        | Elizabeth Bohannon  | Manchester Lodge No. 14                 |
| 1/8/1930        | Dolores Ridings     | Transportation Lodge No. 337            |
| 1/11/1930       | Elizabeth Anton     | Norview Lodge No. 113                   |
| 1/14/1914       | Anne Meyer          | Edward H. Cann Daylight Lodge No. 1752  |
| 1/19/1934       | Edgar Harrison      | Virginia Lodge No. 177                  |
| 1/21/1922       | Boyd Ivester        | Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344        |
| 1/22/1931       | James McDonough     | Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64          |

|           |                 |                                  |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1/25/1932 | Betty Long      | Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344 |
| 1/26/1920 | Woodrow Owen    | Anderson Lodge No. 258           |
| 1/26/1931 | Virginia Phipps | Seaboard Lodge No. 56            |
| 1/27/1928 | Theodore Koss   | Central Lodge No. 300            |
| 1/27/1932 | Gordon Paschall | Manchester Lodge No. 14          |
| 1/30/1922 | Nathan Barrey   | Treadwell Lodge No. 213          |
| 1/31/1911 | Evelyn Meyer    | Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64   |

# Resident Anniversaries

| Date            | Resident Name                 | Lodge Name                       |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>OCTOBER</b>  |                               |                                  |
| 10/5/1963       | Chester and Margaret Baity    | Oriental Lodge No. 20            |
| 10/10/1969      | William and Rose Mills        | Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345   |
| 10/14/1951      | Paul and Wanda Lucey          | Ruth Lodge No. 89                |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b> |                               |                                  |
| 11/4/1950       | Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale    | Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351    |
| 11/18/1956      | James and Novella McDonough   | Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64   |
| <b>DECEMBER</b> |                               |                                  |
| 12/3/1970       | Jerry and Pat Clark           | Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344 |
| 12/6/1942       | Richard and Lillian Yearwood  | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131         |
| 12/21/1983      | Steve and Rebecca Bollinger   | Eureka Lodge No. 195             |
| 12/29/1940      | Sommerville and Elsie Wickham | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131         |
| 12/31/1960      | Nathan and Dorothy Barrey     | Treadwell Lodge No. 213          |
| <b>JANUARY</b>  |                               |                                  |
| 1/14/1950       | Lansing and Dorothy Fulcher   | Oriental Lodge No. 20            |

# Resident Deaths

| Date      | Resident Name        | Lodge Name                     |
|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4/24/2011 | Frances Charlesworth | Manchester Lodge No. 14        |
| 6/15/2011 | Joy Kent             | Lancaster Union Lodge No. 88   |
| 6/19/2011 | Thomas Boyce         | Bayside Lodge No. 218          |
| 6/26/2011 | Irene Baughan        | Joppa Lodge No. 40             |
| 7/2/2011  | Lillian Bolton       | Northside Lodge No. 292        |
| 7/10/2011 | Maxine Fitch         | Manchester Lodge No. 14        |
| 7/15/2011 | Elise Lacy           | South Hill Lodge No. 297       |
| 7/20/2011 | Bertie Stubblefield  | Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 |
| 7/24/2011 | Floyd Lassiter       | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11      |
| 7/24/2011 | Elizabeth Wilkinson  | Northside Lodge No. 292        |

# New Residents

| Date      | Resident Name               | Lodge Name                |
|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4/27/2011 | Steve and Rebecca Bollinger | Eureka Lodge No. 195      |
| 5/2/2011  | William and Gloria Martin   | Sandston Lodge No. 216    |
| 5/23/2011 | Annis Hatcher               | Boone Lodge No. 247       |
| 6/13/2011 | Kenneth Almond              | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 |
| 6/14/2011 | William Hughes              | Meridian Lodge No. 284    |
| 7/6/2011  | Elsie Hoy                   | Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347    |
| 8/1/2011  | Harry Byrd Thomas           | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 |

# MAHOVA Events



Ms. Judy Burton being crowned as the 2011-2012 Masonic Home Queen.



Residents (Virginia and Simeon Phipps) congratulating the 2011-2012 King and Queen



Jim Herring, Masonic Home King for 2011-2012 receiving his robe from Bro. Ed Owen, Administrator



Residents Nathan and Dorothy Barrey on the Ferry ride to Surry, VA



Residents enjoying lunch at the Surry House located in Surry, VA



Residents and staff enjoying the food to celebrate surviving hurricane Irene.

# MAHOVA Events



Resident Shirley Mucha reading to students from a local daycare in the Masonic Home's Book Nook



Residents Betty Long and Shirley Mucha on an outing



Resident Carl Torrence with his cake for his 100th birthday party celebration.



Residents Jim Herring and Judy Burton having their first dance as King and Queen for the 2011-2012 year

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Non-Profit Organization



Approximately two hundred Masons attended the June 22, 2011 communication of Ed Jones Lodge No. 324, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free & Accepted Masons of Virginia, Inc. Right Worshipful Barrye L. Absher (Metropolitan Lodge No. 11) was instrumental in coordinating, planning, and publicizing the communication and the evening's festivities. Pictured above are some of the attendees: (left to right) Charlie Alexander, 2010 Worshipful Master, Ed Jones Lodge No. 324; Sheldon Riddick, Deputy Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia; Alan W. Adkins, PGM, Grand Secretary; Royal Cousins, 2011 Worshipful Master, Ed Jones Lodge No. 324; John M. Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master.