

THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

Vol. 105 No. 3

Fall 2012



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George Washington
Research Lodge #1732
A.F. & A.M.

Program

August 4, 2012



III^o Bro: George Washington * Born 2/22/1732 * Deceased 12/14/1799 *
* EA - 1/20/1752 * FC - 3/24/1753 * MS - 8/4/1753 *

Instituted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia - August 4, 2012
Photograph by William J. Baumbach, II



The Virginia Masonic Herald

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



QR Code to
Grand Lodge of Virginia
Website

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

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

Grand Master's Message

My Dear Brethren,

In the Winter 2012 issue of the Masonic Herald, I challenged Virginia Freemasons to make use of the tools that had been created by our Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers, and our Grand Lodge Committees, which were in place for your use. I have sought to educate you on their availability so that you and our Lodges could indeed “grow and prosper.” I ask that you please continue to explore the vast resources which are available to “improve yourself in Masonry.”

I have received many comments on the presentations made at my Official Visits to the Districts and individual Lodges. Most comments were favorable, some not, and that is to be expected. Following my own thoughts, most presentations have been adapted from *Blair's Bits of Booklore*, Volumes I, II, and III, published by our Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education. These publications, and others, are available from the Grand Lodge or through our website for your use.

Many have also asked for a copy of the Masonic literary piece, which I shared at each of my District Official Visits, entitled, *When is a Man A Mason*, by Brother and Reverend Joseph Fort Newton:

“When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage which is the root of every virtue. When he knows that down in his heart, every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as noble as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellowman. When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins, knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds. When he has learned how to make friends, and to keep them, and above all,



William Talbott Ellison, Jr.
Grand Master
167th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia

how to keep friends with himself. When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child. When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life. When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead. When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain and no hand seeks his aid without response. When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and see majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be. When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into

the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin. When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope. When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellow man, and with his God; in his hands a sword for evil, in his heart, a bit of a song - glad to live but not afraid to die. Such a man has found the only secret of Masonry and the one which it is trying to give to the world.”

As my Official Visits conclude, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who made them such fun events. The 2012 District Deputy Grand Masters, Worshipful Masters, Brethren, and the ladies have gone out of their way to welcome the Grand Lodge Officers, my wife Kay, and myself on each occasion, and I cannot express my gratitude for your gifts and generous donations to the Grand Lodge charities we are bound by obligation to support.

We are travelers on a one-way journey in life and, while here, we are charged to improve and build the Brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God. Since I pass this way only once, my hope is that some may be glad that I came and perhaps regret that I am leaving. I pray with humble certainty that I have received knowledge of God's will for me and have been given the power to carry that out as He has seen fit to direct me.

It is enough to know that there is a Divine Creator with a grand design for the world, and that you and I are very much a part of His plan.

My Brethren, I ask that you continue in the quest of “Spreading Masonic Light” that others may see the way, and that we might glorify our God, who is in Heaven. ☸

Sincerely and Fraternally,

William T. Ellison, Jr.

Grand Master



Grand Master's Itinerary 2011-2012

October

- 2 Staunton Lodge No. 13
- 3 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners
Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of '76
- 4 Waynesboro Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 2
Stevenson Commandery No. 8
- 6 Kena Shrine Center, Fall Ceremonial
- 8 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 10 Eureka Lodge No. 195
- 11 Lee Lodge No. 209
- 12 MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 13 MAHOVA Family Day
- 17 Highland Lodge No. 110
- 18- 20 Grand Lodge of Ohio
- 23 Augusta Lodge No. 111
- 30 Valley Council No. 56, Allied Masonic Degrees

November

- 1 Waynesboro Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 2
Stevenson Commandery No. 8
- 3 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
- 4-8 Grand Annual Communication



Mark Of A Freemason

The popular or outside world seems to be curious regarding how a Freemason can be distinguished. The answer is really a simple one, because the proper way by which a Brother can be distinguished is by his conduct of life.

It should be a sign of a constant endeavor to live a good life, in which respect Freemasonry does much to make those who are obedient to its precepts. It inculcates the useful lesson of natural equality in man, and teaches a man to be tolerant of his fellows, to help the needy on their way, and to offer consolation to the afflicted. It directs one to preserve a chaste life, to navigate the seas of human passion without quitting the field of rectitude, and M all works to have eternity in view.

Masonic signs are really secret in that they are cherished in the heart, but they can also be made plain to everyone by kindly charity and by a genuine endeavor to be of more extrusive service to mankind.

Masonic Chanticleer

(*Georgia Masonic Messenger*, February 2005)

Give the Gift of Life



L-R: Nurse Everlena Payne attending Most Worshipful William T. Ellison, Jr.

Most Worshipful Brother Ellison assisted by Red Cross Nurse Everlena Payne, makes a double-red cell blood donation during a Red Cross Bloodmobile collection recently held in Waynesboro, VA. Brother Ellison has been a blood donor for forty-four years and encourages the members of our Masonic Family to "Give the Gift of Life" whenever they can. 🇺🇸

John Powers Stokes Award



L-R: Wor. Joe Tugwell, R.W. Tom Lasher, R. W. John Godfrey, and R. W. Rex Gay, District 14A District MAHOVA Ambassador, at St. Tammany No. 5.

The John Powers Stokes Award is presented to Lodges whose annual gifts to the Masonic Home (from the Lodge, its members and widows) equaling or exceeding \$25.00 per member on the Lodge roster. Clearly, any Lodge earning the Stokes Award has proven itself to be a leader in our Fraternity's charitable efforts, much like the Past Grand Master for whom the award is made, M:W: John Powers Stokes. 🇺🇸

Mouth to Ear

In 1946, I travelled with a friend down to a little town called Abingdon, Virginia, to see what the Barter Theatre had to offer. It offered nothing except hard work and board. My friend, not accepting the work they offered him, stayed one day—I stayed five years. In that time I grew to love the town and all it offered. The people, in particular, were simply marvelous.

Occasionally I would be assigned to go down to the printing shop and get posters made for the upcoming shows at the Barter Theatre. One day, in talking to the owner of the print shop, one Elmo Vaughan, I found that he belonged to the local Masonic Lodge, No. 48, in Abingdon. My father was also a Mason and had advanced to the Thirty-second Degree in Scottish Rite Masonry, and I told this to Elmo. He was pleased, and sensing his pleasure, I asked him if maybe I could join. He said nothing, continuing his work, and a short while later, I took my posters and left.

The next time I saw Elmo, I asked him again about joining the Masonic Order - again he said nothing—and again my work took me away. We became good friends and finally one day I passed by and again I asked if I could join the Masons. Instantly, he whipped out an application, and I hurriedly filled it out. I didn't learn 'til later, that in those days, you had to ask three times.

I was thrilled! Not only was I going to be the first actor ever in Lodge No. 48, but I could just imagine my father's surprise when I would spring the old greetings on him! I wanted only to surprise my Dad—and was I surprised, when after I was made an Entered Apprentice, I found I had to remember everything that happened to me at that event and come back and answer questions about it!

I was assigned to a dear old man of about 92 years of age who, I felt, must have been there when the Lodge first started. He was really of the old school—and he started me out with the foot-to-foot, knee-to-knee



Brother Ernest E. Borgnine, 33^o
Abingdon Lodge No. 48

and mouth-to-ear routine of teaching.

Besides doing my work for the Barter Theatre and a little acting to boot, I was also going to that dear Brother for my work in Masonry. I would tramp all over those lovely hills and work on my "Whence came you's" and one day—oh, one fine day - I stood foot-to-foot with my Brother and answered every question perfectly! I was ecstatic! I was overjoyed and couldn't wait to get to Lodge to show my ability as an Entered Apprentice.

After I quieted down, that dear Brother said, "You've done fine, but aren't you really only half started?" I couldn't believe him! I knew my work; what else was there? He said "Wouldn't it be better if you knew all the questions too?"

I couldn't believe my ears! All that hard work and only half done? He gently sat me down

*I'm proud of the fact that I
belong to an organization that
made me a better American,
Christian, husband and neighbor;
and all it took was a little
self-determination ...*

foot-to-foot, knee-to-knee and mouth-to-ear and taught me all the questions. That didn't come easy, because I was almost doing the work by rote, but with careful listening and by really applying myself, I was soon able to deliver all the questions and answers perfectly! The night that I stood in front of the Lodge and was asked if I was ready to answer the questions of an Entered Apprentice, I respectfully asked if I could do both—questions and answers. I was granted that wish and later found that I was the second man in my Lodge to have ever done so! I am truly proud of that, never having demitted, I am still a member in good standing in Abingdon Lodge No. 48.

I tell this story not for the merit it might gain me, but to tell you that learning the Entered Apprentice obligation taught me a great lesson in acting as well: that before I ever attempt to do a part I should work, rehearse, feel, almost live that part to know what I am talking about! As I've advanced in Masonry, I have found we are an elite group of people who believe in God, country, family and neighbors. We work hard to help our fellowman; and through our charitable work, such as support for the Childhood Language Disorders Centers, we have made it possible to help many children grow into good American citizens. We should always be proud of the Order we belong to. Where in all the world do you find so many great men and Brothers who have helped the whole wide world? But—we are hiding our light under a bushel basket!

Recently I attended a dinner for a friend, and I ran across a Brother who identified himself in a hushed voice. I asked why he spoke in a whisper when talking about Masonry, and suddenly I realized he wasn't the only one who had ever done that. I speak out loud about Masonry to everyone! I'm proud of the fact that I belong to an organization that made me a better American, Christian, husband and neighbor; and all it took was a little self-determination by going foot-to-foot, knee-to-knee, and mouth-to-ear! 🙌

234th Grand Annual Communication

RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION NOVEMBER 6 - 7, 2012

RESOLUTION NO. 12-01

This resolution would change Section 2.05(a) of the Methodical Digest to amend when a Lodge of Sorrow can be opened and closed.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-02

This resolution would change Section 2.19 of the Methodical Digest to change the amount of Grand Lodge assessment for the Masonic Home of Virginia from \$3.00 to \$10.00 for each member for which the Lodge is liable for Grand Lodge dues.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-03

This resolution would change Section 2.59 of the Methodical Digest to amend how the reading of the minutes of a Lodge communication is handled.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-04

This resolution would change Section 2.95 of the Methodical Digest to amend how a petition is handled in order to allow time for a criminal background check on a petitioner to be performed and reported on back to the Lodge.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-05

This resolution would change Section 2.86 of the Methodical Digest to amend the amount of fees to be collected by the Lodge from a petitioner to include the cost of a criminal background check.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-06

This resolution would change Section 2.94 of the Methodical Digest to amend the information contained on a petition to contain a statement of consent by the candidate to have a criminal background investigation performed and the signature of the candidate on the petition shall be deemed to be his consent.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-07

This resolution would change Section 2.96 of the Methodical Digest to amend when the fee for the criminal background check is to be collected by the Lodge and that it will not be returned to the petitioner, if he is rejected.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-08

This resolution would change Section 2.147 of the Methodical Digest to amend what constitutes personal contact with a delinquent Brother prior to citation.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-09

This resolution would change the Standing Resolution adopted February 9, 1993 of the Methodical Digest to institutionalize the display of our Nation's Flag in stated communications and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

234th GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

The 234th Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia, will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump, 12042 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, commencing on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, at 8:00 AM. The Grand Master's Address will be delivered after the opening of Grand Lodge.

At 3:30 PM, on Tuesday, 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 Tuesday evening. On Tuesday, November 6 at 12:00 PM, a luncheon will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump for the benefit of the Masonic Home of Virginia.

Resolutions will be considered during Tuesday's and Wednesday's sessions. Election of Grand Lodge Officers will begin promptly at 10:00 AM, Wednesday morning, November 7.

An open installation of Grand Lodge Officers will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump that afternoon at 4:30 PM, with an Installation Dinner/Reception to follow at the Acca Temple Shrine Center at 7:00 PM.

Resolutions to be considered in 2013 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, 2012.

Resolutions to be considered at the 234th Grand Annual Communication are listed above.

Requests for fraternal recognition will be presented by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the following: the Grand Lodge of Albania, the Regular Grand Lodge of Tahiti and Archipelagoes, and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska. 

Grand Annual Communication

This is a reminder that the Grand Annual Communication will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump, November 6-7, 2012. The Committee on Work School will be held on the evening of November 4 and conclude in the afternoon on November 5.

A letter was sent on February 10 of this year, detailing some of the contact information for reservation purposes. Unfortunately, the Hotel cannot accommodate everyone due to other functions; therefore, arrange-

ments have been made with Wingate by Wyndham, which is located within walking distance of the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa. Please communicate the change in meeting dates, which is a Tuesday and Wednesday, instead of the usual Friday and Saturday. The 2013 and 2014 Grand Annual Communications will be back on the normal schedule. Additional information has been posted on the Grand Lodge website and will be sent to various list serves.

Tickets

Each Lodge has been sent a letter from the Grand Lodge office concerning the Delegates' Banquet and Grand Master's Dinner/Reception. Tickets for the Delegates' Banquet, at a cost of \$35, may be purchased directly from the Grand Lodge office no later than October 26.

Seating will be arranged by table. Tickets for the Grand Master's Dinner/Reception, which is open to all Brethren and their ladies, may be purchased directly from the Grand Lodge office, no later than October 26. The cost is \$25 per ticket.

Also, each Lodge should have received a letter concerning the Masonic Home of Virginia luncheon to be held on Tuesday, November 6, at 12:00 Noon. The cost of the ticket is \$100, with \$70 being tax deductible. Each Lodge is encouraged to purchase a ticket, which will allow one of the Home's residents to attend. The tickets must be purchased directly from the Masonic Home of Virginia, ATTN: Shauna Boehmer.

Consolidation

Valley Springs Lodge No. 265 consolidated with Millboro Lodge No. 28, effective July 1, 2012. Currently chartered under the Grand Lodge of Virginia, are three hundred and eleven (311) Lodges, which includes the five Research Lodges.

Proceedings

The 2011 Proceedings are being finalized and will be mailed to each subordinate Lodge. As has been the practice for the past several years, the Proceedings will be in CD format. However, a notice will be sent out to the Lodges indicating if you would like to receive the Proceedings in a PDF format for future years.

Proxy Forms

Those Lodges that have not submitted their proxy form for use by the Credentials Committee during the upcoming Grand Annual Communication are reminded to submit it promptly. The form can be filed electronically and is found on the Grand Lodge website: www.grandlodgeofvirginia.org. Currently 71 Lodges have not submitted the Proxy form.

Research Lodge

The George Washington Research Lodge No. 1732 was instituted by the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers on August 4, 2012. The Lodge will hold its meetings at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. 🕯️



James Carlton Tennant

At barely 20 years old, Jim Tennant stood in the open bomb bay doors of a shrapnel-shredded B-24 bomber limping along on one engine, looked down at the cold North Sea some 8,000 feet below and jumped!

After splashing down safely, he began to fight for survival in the frigid waters, bobbing in the seven to eight foot waves as he clung tenaciously to life. Later, he was told his time in the water was three times longer than anyone had survived before.

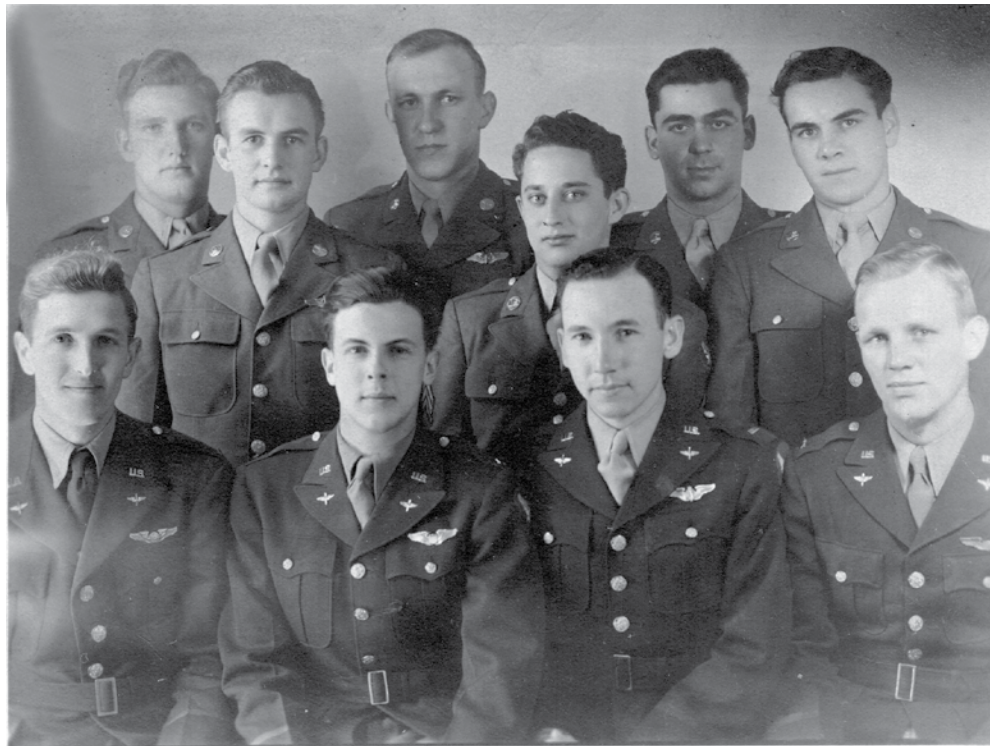
Minutes before he blacked out from cold and exhaustion, he was picked up by a British seaplane. He doesn't remember anything from the time he was helped onto the plane until he woke up in an English hospital under a bank of heat lamps.

A few days later, Tennant, a life-long resident of Bath County, walked back into his barracks near Norwich, England. Over the next eight months he would complete 27 more missions over Europe in B-24's. According to Tennant, he "never received a scratch or lost a drop of blood."

James Carlton Tennant was born and raised near Williamsville, near the old flour mill beside the Bullpasture River. He swam in that icy mountain river often while growing up and recalls that he and his friends were all excellent swimmers. "We even used to jump in the river in the wintertime," Tennant laughs. He thinks perhaps spending all that time in those cold waters helped him survive his North Sea ordeal.

Brother Jim is better known around Bath County for his active Freemasonry, unselfish civic and church activity, and the store he opened in 1947 at the base of Warm Springs Mountain, than for his remarkable survival during World War II.

Jim's story, as he tells it, began in March 1943, when, at eighteen years old, fresh from



L-R: The crew; navigator Albert Jablonichy, co-pilot Walter Tudser, bombardier Tony Falsone, and pilot Jack Eley, all second lieutenants; and (second row) enlisted men, radio operator James Tennant, tail gunner Victor Lacourse, waist gunner Robert Koems, ball turret gunner Arthur Daly, flight engineer Howard Crepp, waist gunner Charles Osborne. (Photos courtesy James Tennant) Only Eley, Crepp and Tennant survived.

the Allegheny Mountains of Western Virginia, he was inducted into the U.S. Army Air Force, now the Air Force. He received twenty weeks of training as a radio operator, learning Morse Code, military codes, and maintenance and repair of the radios he would use in flight.

In the spring of 1944, his bomber group flew to Norwich, England, where he spent the next eight months with the 389th Bomber Group. On May 26, 1944, he flew on his first mission. Two days later he flew his third mission over occupied France and deep into Germany, a flight forever etched in his memory.

Tennant's plane was in a formation of several hundred allied bombers on a fairly routine flight to a target zone. Upon reach-

ing the target, his plane dropped its three-ton load of bombs on a piece of the German war machine at about three o'clock in the afternoon. Anti-aircraft fire was intense over the target, Tennant recalls, "It looked like you could get out and walk on it." His plane was hit, cutting power to one of its four engines. The trip back to base was not routine.

About an hour later, a second engine quit. Pilot Jack Eley, who survived as a German prisoner of war, ordered the crew to ditch the plane in the North Sea, closer to Fortress Europe than the white cliffs of Dover. Everything loose, guns, ammunition, and spare parts, were tossed out to lighten the plane, and avoid having the gear flying around the cabin during

James Carlton Tennant continued



Brother Jim Tennant in front of the Mountain View Store he started in 1947. Although he sold the store some years ago, he continued to work there part time for some years after the sale. The store is located at the eastern base of Warm Springs Mountain on U.S. Route 39.

the planned crash landing.

But as the plane and its terrified crew limped toward the English coast, a third engine conked out and the crew was running out of options. Instead of being able to ditch, the pilot now battled desperately just to keep the plane level enough for the crew to bail out. Starting with the tail gunner, the men headed for the open bomb bay doors, knowing their chances for survival were slim.

When Jim's turn to jump came, he found waist gunner Charles Osborne clinging to the bomb racks. Jim forced Osborne's hand loose and followed him out. Osborn was one of seven crew who didn't survive.

"We had no training on how to jump," Tennant points out, but he remembered some basic instructions he heard in class. He knew to

pull the ripcord to open the chute, and he knew he was supposed to release himself from its harness before he hit the water. Failure to do either could mean death. The rest was just instinct.

"I didn't get unhooked in time," Tennant says, but his chute spread over the water away from him. Otherwise he might have been trapped under it when he surfaced. "I didn't think I was coming back up," he thought when he hit the water.

After surfacing, Tennant inflated his Mae West and began the long, bitterly cold wait for rescue. About two hours later, a seaplane spotted signs of life, landed nearby and picked up flight engineer Howard Crepp. As the seaplane began to take off, Crepp spotted Tennant and directed the rescuers to his position. Crepp survived and visited Tennant in Bath on several occasions. He has since died. Tennant and pilot Eley have not met since the incident.

Tennant remembers climbing into the rescue plane before passing out. He learned later that the longest anyone had been known to survive in water that cold (about 50 degrees) had been thirty-eight minutes. He was immersed for one hundred and twenty minutes.

When Jim arrived at the hospital, he found a Gideon Bible on the table next to him. He opened it to Psalms 40: "I waited patiently for the Lord, and he inclined unto me and heard my cry."

After recovering, Tennant stayed in England and completed the standard 30-mission tour of duty. "I knew I had to fly again. On the next few flights, I was pretty well shook up." Two of those flights ended with crash landings on bases in England. After one mission the ground crew counted 96 holes in the plane.

Until recently, Jim worked in the Mountain Grove store, mowed 14 lawns a week in season, served on the BARC electric co-op

board and the Bath County Electoral Board, as Treasurer of Windy Cove Presbyterian Church, as Secretary of Millboro Lodge No. 28, and engaged in other activities that would wear out a man half his age.

Unlike modern aircraft, the B-24 was extremely cramped with un-insulated metal walls between the crew and frigid air at high altitudes. At 26,000 feet, the temperature inside the plane was below zero. Each member of the crew wore an oxygen mask and a heated suit. But with all that discomfort, Tennant declares he "wouldn't want to fly the modern stuff in war. We were told mission details at 5:00 a.m.: when, where and how long. Look at (Space Shuttle) Columbia," he says, "In the same amount of time, it goes around the world a few trips."

Right Worshipful Brother James Carlton Tennant was initiated in Millboro Lodge No. 28 on January 23, 1950, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on March 31, 1950, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 11, 1950. He served as Worshipful Master in 1961, 1966-73, and 1982-85, Secretary in 1987-2010, and District Deputy Grand Master in 1963.

Brother Jim was a member magnet for Millboro Lodge for over sixty years with his generous service to his church, his community, and to the Craft. A true gentleman of courtesy, caring, and kindness, he has set an example for his Brethren of everything a true Freemason should be. His work for the Lodge contributed hugely to its widespread reputation for hospitality, fellowship, and great meals. 🌿

The Virginia Masonic Herald gratefully acknowledges the kind permission of The Recorder, the excellent weekly newspaper serving Highland and Bath Counties, for its generous consent to publish as part of this article long excerpts and photographs from its story about Brother Jim published on November 7, 2003.

“Not keeping the tongue of good repute; the end of Brotherly Love and Affection in the life of our third Grand Master and another distinguished Brother”

Most Worshipful Jeffery E. Hodges (2009)
Grand Lodge of Virginia, Committee on History, Chairman

Most of us think the past history of Freemasonry is full of examples of nothing but good and peaceful harmony. Although we don't want to dwell upon piques and quarrels or philosophical differences of our Brethren, an occasional review of how life's experiences tend to change the course of human events is a beneficial educational tool. Here is a short story of how such an event occurred in the life of some of our most noteworthy Brethren from the early years of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Most Worshipful Edmund Randolph was born on August 10, 1753 to the influential Randolph family in Williamsburg, Virginia. He was educated in the basics of reading at local schools by tutors and then at the College of William and Mary grammar and philosophy schools from 1770 – 1771. After graduation, he began “reading law,” although some scholars question if it was with his father, John Randolph, who was a prominent lawyer in Williamsburg, Virginia serving as the King's Attorney. His uncle, Peyton Randolph, served as the speaker of the House of Burgess, and first president of the Continental Congress, or someone else. No doubt, he was accepted by the court and gained prominence in the profession. In 1774, Thomas Jefferson retired from his law practice and turned his clients over to Edmund Randolph, his cousin. Edmund practiced law until his death, although he did so only part-time while he held public office.

Randolph was selected as one of eleven delegates to represent Virginia at the Continental Congress in 1779, and served as a delegate through 1782. During this period, he also remained in private law practice, handling numerous legal issues for George Washington among others.

Randolph was elected Governor of Virginia in 1786 and that same year, led a delegation



Most Worshipful
Edmund Jennings Randolph
Grand Master of Masons in Virginia
1787-1788

to the Annapolis Convention. As governor of Virginia (1786 – 88), he effected the state's ratification of the Constitution. Also in 1786, he was installed Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in Mason's Hall in Richmond, Virginia. In 1787, as a delegate to the Federal Constitutional Convention, he presented the Virginia Plan, impressing the Convention with his “most harmonious voice, fine person, and striking manners,” as well as with his keen sense of the

dangers of tyranny.

While in the Governor's office and when serving as Grand Master, he resided in Richmond, Virginia, and he remained there until his death. The History of Richmond Lodge, No. 10 states that he “was easily the most conspicuous figure in the history of No. 10 at its beginning. We do not know whether he was one of the charter members or not – possibly not – but, if not, he joined very soon after the origination of the Lodge, as in 1784 we find him representing the Richmond Lodge at the first Grand Lodge meeting held after the organization of the Lodge.”

From the *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, 1777–1823*, it is noted that at a meeting which the Grand Master, Most Worshipful James Mercer, could not attend, but so ordered on October 27, 1786, the Grand Lodge of Virginia unanimously elected Brother Randolph as its Grand Master. During his tenure, the Grand Lodge passed a resolution that all new members would contribute five guineas to a Grand Charity fund, a number of new Lodges were chartered, including Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 (on October 29, 1787), as well as Smithfield Union, Kempsville, Staunton, Manchester, Petersburg, Portsmouth, and Charlotte. The Brethren were so pleased with his service that they re-elected Brother Randolph Grand Master. Brother Randolph served through 1789; however, the duties devolved upon him challenged his attendance at Grand Lodge sessions in the latter two years.

As Virginia's Governor and Delegate to the Continental Congress, Randolph introduced the Virginia Plan as an outline for a new national government. He argued against importation of slaves and in favor of a strong central government, advocating a plan for three chief executives from various parts of the coun-

*Thomas Jefferson called Randolph,
“the poorest chameleon I ever saw,
having no color of his own and
reflecting that nearest him.”*

“Not keeping the tongue of good repute; the end of Brotherly Love and Affection in the life of our third Grand Master and another distinguished Brother” continued

try. With all the questions about the creation of a new national government, the issues of Federalist versus Anti-Federalist were omnipresent. Randolph was a Federalist, perhaps by persuasion. It is noted by Rutyna and Stewart in the History of Freemasonry in Virginia: “Had pressure from George Washington brought them to the Federalist cause? In the case of Randolph, in particular, the answer is clearly affirmative.” George Wythe, a mentor and fellow delegate, “was a solid Federalist.” The Virginia Plan proposed two houses, where the delegates were chosen based on state population. Randolph also proposed, with the unanimous approval the Convention’s delegates, “that a National Judiciary be established” (Article III of the Constitution established the federal court system). The Articles of Confederation lacked a national court system for the United States.

Brother Randolph was also a member of the “Committee of Detail,” which was tasked with converting the Virginia Plan’s fifteen resolutions into a first draft of the Constitution. Randolph refused to sign the final document however, believing it had insufficient checks and balances, and published an account of his objections in October 1787. He nevertheless reversed his position at the Virginia Ratifying Convention in 1788 and voted for ratification of the Constitution because eight other states had already done so, and he did not want to see Virginia left out of the new national government. *Washington: A Life*, Ron Chernow quoted Thomas Jefferson in remarking about his cousin’s change of view calling Randolph, “the poorest chameleon I ever saw, having no color of his own and reflecting that nearest him.” None the less, Virginia was the tenth state to ratify the Constitution.

Randolph was appointed as the first U.S. Attorney General in September 1789, maintaining precarious neutrality in the feud between Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton.



Worshipful George Washington
First President of the
United States of America

When Jefferson resigned as Secretary of State in 1793, Randolph succeeded him. The major diplomatic initiative of his term was the Jay Treaty with Britain in 1794, but it was Brother Alexander Hamilton who devised the plan and wrote the instructions, leaving Randolph the nominal role of signing the papers. Randolph was hostile to the resulting treaty, and almost gained Washington’s ear. Near the end of his term as Secretary of State, negotiations for Pinckney’s Treaty (a 1795 treaty between the US and Spain recognizing the boundary between the US and Spanish West Florida and navigation on the Mississippi) were finalized.

Shortly after serving as Secretary of State, he was “the author of a history of Virginia, which aside from its literary and historic merit, reveals the real moral greatness” wrote Reverend Brother Walthall, “of the man, and his natural

sweetness of disposition, in the full justice which he does to his political foes, as well as friends.”

A scandal involving an intercepted French message led to Randolph’s resignation in August 1795. The British Navy had intercepted correspondence from the French minister, Joseph Fauchet, to the United States and turned it over to Washington. Washington was dismayed that the letters reflected contempt for the United States and that Randolph was primarily responsible. The letters implied that Randolph had exposed the inner debates in Washington’s cabinet to the French and told them that the Administration was hostile to France. At the very least, Stanley Elkins and Eric McKittrick conclude, there “was something here profoundly disreputable to the government’s good faith and character.” Washington immediately overruled Randolph’s negative advice regarding the Jay Treaty. A few days later Washington, in the presence of his entire cabinet, handed the minister’s letter to Randolph, and demanded he explain it. Randolph speechless, immediately resigned. Ron Chernow and Stanley Elkins conclude that Randolph was not bribed by the French, but “was rather a pitiable figure, possessed of some talents and surprisingly little malice, but subject to self-absorbed silliness and lapses of good sense.” However, Randolph’s own published *Vindication* illustrates his concerns regarding both public and private perceptions of his character, which concerns held great value in the 18th century. Jefferson wrote to Madison in response to the *Vindication* that while it “exonerated Randolph of the Bribery charges, ‘it does not give . . . high ideas of his wisdom or steadiness.’” Washington thereafter referred to Randolph as a rascal or a villain. What a tragic result for such trusted confidants as our two Brothers, Washington and Randolph. 🍷

*Washington thereafter referred to
Randolph as a rascal or a villain.*

"Patriotism" Through Faith, Hope, and Charity

Brother Rob Allen

Like so many Brethren, I have had the privilege of serving this great Republic in uniform or otherwise. No doubt most of us who have served or are serving feel that we served as patriots, humanitarians, and protectors of the weak against the might of the wicked. This is a common theme of warriors or citizen patriots throughout our nation's history.

Unfortunately, we are now witnessing governments and citizens of the world attempting to pervert, diminish or re-brand the meaning of the word "Patriot." World governments cannot tolerate patriotism or national pride. This is because when people bind together for a common good, they are more powerful. We proved it by banding together thousands of farmers, tradesmen, lawyers, doctors, and statesmen to defeat England, the most powerful empire in the world at the time.

Patriotism! The word quintessentially means pride and love of one's homeland, and the willingness to defend it. Globalists believe that the meaning of patriotism is universally appropriate, regardless of any country's founding or existence. You may have heard that some newscasters have said that the Taliban, Al-Qaida, and terrorists are "Freedom Fighters" or renegade/insurgent patriots, like our Founders. Never mind that the causes they are fighting for impose the worst types of tyranny.

This is an attempt to de-validate America's greatness. After all, how dare we think we are better than someone else? But, my Brothers, America is different from any other country. Americans are different than other nationalities. America is the shining city on the hill, triumphing over evil and opposing tyranny wherever it rears its head. We have the fire of freedom in our bellies that has been sanctified by the blood of millions of men and women in our history.



L-R: Brother Aubrey H. Owen, Jr. and Brother Robert "Rob" Allen, presenting a Tribute Flight Press Kit to Ocean View Lodge No. 335.

Patriotism is directly supported by those Masonic virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity.

Constitutionally, we are not supposed to meddle in foreign affairs. But Liberty is boundless. All people yearn to be free. So American patriots take the fight to the enemy to provide those basic fundamental rights we enjoy. I'm not trying to spark a debate either way. Wrong or right is not my point, when the chips are down, individual American Patriots do what they feel must be done. It is unavoidable human nature to help one another and people have a natural affinity for freedom. We are the only nation left on the face of the earth whose founding principles still resonate throughout the world, hundreds of

years later. Why? Because our founding was in response to tyranny of the mind, body and soul. Americans have done more than any nation in history to make freedom a reality to millions of people. This is why so many have sought the refuge of our shores.

The times are a changing. To most Americans, we still are that beacon of light and would die for our country. We must fight hard for our rights, for like a muscle, if not used they will be lost. Patriots will secure this for our nation as they have always done, but the price is always high.

To be a true patriot, doesn't always require one to take up arms against tyranny. But it does require one to stand in principle for the liberties that we know, love, and work to protect and defend. There is no better way to foster this than through the tenets of Freemasonry. We work to free ourselves of vices and superfluities, to learn to subdue our passions and improve ourselves, to be pillars of society and lead by example. We know that there is abundant historical evidence proving that a large number of the most influential founding patriots were Freemasons. We have quite a legacy, and our sworn obligations bind us to higher purposes. This is a major responsibility.

The new battlefield is not that of our forefathers. There will always be shooting wars. But the real battle for humanity is to bring it back from the brink of self-destruction. Patriotism is directly supported by those Masonic virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity. We must have Faith in our God and each other to remain steadfast and resolute through the darkest hours. We must never lose Hope that individuals can make a difference and that America's best days are not behind her. Finally, we should always provide Charity to those in need. We must lead

"Patriotism" continued

by example, stand against all forms of tyranny and help to elevate mankind through our tenets.

Share and foster the purest tenets of Faith, Hope, and Charity. What better cause to stand for than opposition to tyranny, particularly to

A true patriot doesn't always require one to take up arms against tyranny. But it does require one to stand in principle for the liberties that we know, love and work to protect and defend.

preserve our great nation that gives Faith, Hope, and Charity to countless millions of people.

I challenge each of you to stand united as individuals to protect our greatest institutions by implementing our most perfect tenets.

May God bless us all and the greatest nation on Earth. 🇺🇸

The Herald Board wishes to thank Ms. Riley G. Allen, a Tribute Flight Crewmember and its Public Relations representative to Virginia, for coordinating the Press Kit and the presentation.



Ask Hiram

If a Brother wishes to ballot against a petitioner and finds that there are no black cubes left in the ballot box, what should he do?

ANSWER: Let us assume that the Senior Deacon and Master have examined the ballot box prior to balloting and determined that there are a sufficient number of white balls and black cubes inside it. When the Brother discovers that there are no black cubes left inside the ballot box he will know that they have all been used; one more cube will at that point make no difference. The Brother can now decide to either cast a white ball or fake a vote by not casting any balls. If he were to publicly state to the Master that he is not able to cast his ballot due to the absence of cubes, he would in effect be disclosing his ballot, which is prohibited.

I am a new member of my Lodge and have many questions. It appears that many of my questions are answered well by the members, but in some cases I receive different answers. Why is there no consistency in the answers? For example, the origins of Freemasonry or what actions to take when certain situations arise in the Lodge?

ANSWER: Hiram commends the Brother on his quest for knowledge; it is a worthy one and can at times be frustrating when not one, but several answers are given to what may seem to be a straightforward question. We should not forget, though, that not every question has a single answer. Accepting such ambiguity is difficult for Brethren who look for concise references and rules to everything that surrounds them, yet other Brethren accept it quite well. Let us apply the analogy of "Building the Temple," which all Masons do to varying degrees, to build the temple within ourselves. If we were all supplied with exactly the same information, if rules were in effect for every possible situation we encounter, if a single answer was available to every question,

then the Temple we build would be indistinguishable from another Brother's temple; we would all be mere clones of each other. Building our Temples with the information available to us and our own interpretation of it, allows us to erect a structure that is unique, thereby adding our own distinct qualities to the whole of mankind.

Does a member of a Lodge have to ballot? If so, is it in the Methodical Digest? What are the penalties?

ANSWER: The Methodical Digest, Section 2.95, Decision 8, 1924 states that, "Every member of the Lodge is charged with the duty and responsibility of passing on the moral qualifications of those seeking admission to Freemasonry and cannot be excused from balloting. (J. H. Price)." If we were to strictly apply Masonic law, we would find in Section 4.01 that "Masons owing allegiance to the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia, ... must ... preserve and obey the laws and resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Virginia... Willful failure to comply with any of these requirements shall constitute a Masonic offense and subject the offender to Masonic trial, and, if found guilty, to discipline."

What exactly constitutes a "clandestine" Lodge, and is there a way to look up/research/distinguish a valid from a non-valid Lodge?

ANSWER: A very good question, one that is asked quite often by newer members of our Lodges. A Clandestine Lodge is a Lodge holden under a jurisdiction that is not recognized by the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Virginia. The best way to research whether or not a Lodge is recognized is to use the "List of Regular Lodges" to see if the jurisdiction (State, Country) and its associated Lodges are included. If so, the Lodge and its parent jurisdiction are not considered clandestine by the Grand Lodge of Virginia. 🇺🇸

Putting Masonry into Men Beyond the Ritual

Right Worshipful John Shroeder

"There can be no Masonic dedication without Masonic education."

Right Worshipful Allen E. Roberts, Masonic Author, PM, Babcock Lodge No. 322, PDDGM, Masonic District 15B, Philalethes Society Fellow and Past President

Our beautiful ritual teaches all of the moral lessons a Mason needs to become a better man, husband, father, employee, employer, and member of the community. If we periodically review the degree obligations, lectures, and charges, we will be able to internalize the high moral precepts they contain, and make them our own. Moreover, continued exposure to the Blue Lodge degrees and the additional dramatizations of the Masonic moral allegories and symbols in the York Rite and Scottish Rite degrees serve to reinforce these lessons. In addition, the practical application of many of these principles in the charitable activities of Craft Masonry and the appendant bodies, including the Shrine, can further etch these principles on our character.

Of course, there may be periods in our lives when we are exposed to the degrees rather infrequently, and since few have memorized all of the lectures, and many may have forgotten the catechisms, the valuable tenets of Freemasonry may not be in the front of our minds when we are confronted by distracting problems in our daily lives. However, even during these periods, and even if we only have a few minutes to spare, we can avail ourselves of the benefits of individual Masonic reading and study. Such reading and study provide an important way to gain more light and understanding, to help develop our character and strengthen our spiritual temple.

We would do well to start with the *Presentation Volume* of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which each member of the Craft should have and keep close at hand. In this volume, are to be found the *Book of Constitutions* and the *Virginia Mentor's Manual*, which

provides answers to many practical questions about the degrees, about the Fraternity, and about being a Mentor.

A second important source of individual Masonic education and reading is found in the work of Reverend Doctor Joseph Fort Newton (1880-1950). When Brother Newton was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in Illinois in 1907, he asked, "Where can I read more about Masonry, its history and tenets?" He was told that there were no books on Masonry because nothing could be written down about Masonry.

Fortunately, he set out to correct that misimpression. In 1914, he published *The Builders*, which many believe to be the most inspirational book written about the tenets of Freemasonry. He later became Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge of Iowa, which directed that his book be provided to all who were raised in Iowa, and it is still being re-published in paperback editions that are available for purchase at reasonable prices on the Internet. Many of his addresses were published in *Men's House Masonic Addresses and Papers*, and some portions of his written works are still available as pamphlets such as: *The Masonic Lodge*, *The Future of Masonry*, *The Wonders of Masonry*, *Masonry and the Bible*, and *The Masonic Letter G*. No better source for private reading exists to keep the flame of Masonic enthusiasm and the spirit of brotherhood actively burning in one's breast than the books of Joseph Fort Newton.

A very entertaining Masonic book that tells a series of short stories about a Lodge and its members, set in an earlier and simpler time in the United States, is *The Lodge in Friendship*

Village and Other Stories, which was published by The Masonic Book Club. It sets a high example of true Masonic Brotherhood in an interesting series of tales, which will be long remembered like the scenes from a favorite movie. With a little searching, a copy of this book can still be found on the Internet.

There are also a number of books that will be useful for those who have an interest in more esoteric studies of the meaning of Freemasonry, its philosophy, and symbols. You may wish to start by exploring the works of an English Mason, William Lesley Wilmshurst (1867-1939). These include: *The Meaning of Masonry* and essay selections, "The Ceremony of Initiation," "The Ceremony of Passing," "The Mystical Basis of Freemasonry," and "The Working Tools of an Old York Master." Several of these volumes are available for reading on the Internet site of the British Bradford University on a section known as The Web of Hiram.

Another esoteric Masonic author for those who are looking for additional interpretations of Masonic symbolism and meaning beyond that explained in our ritual lectures is George H. Steinmetz. His book *Freemasonry: Its Hidden Meaning* is a spiritual interpretation of the esoteric work of the Masonic Lodge that analyzes the lectures and symbols of the three degrees. Another of his books, *The Lost Word, Its Hidden Meaning*, provides a correlation of the allegory and symbolism of the Bible with that of Freemasonry. You may also wish to read a third book he wrote, *The Royal Arch, Its Hidden Meaning*. These books are not difficult to follow, and provide very interesting reading for the Mason searching for added meaning.

There are many Internet websites replete

Putting Masonry into Men Beyond the Ritual continued

with Masonic essays. One such is the website of *Pietre-Stones Review of Freemasonry* which is styled “The Masonic Magazine on Freemasonry and Research into Freemasonry made by Freemasons.”

Of course, beyond individual reading, one of the most effective ways to understand the moral lessons of Freemasonry is by becoming a Mentor to a newer Mason. Many wise educators have said that the best way to learn a subject is to teach it. By becoming a Mentor, a Mason has to make himself sufficiently knowledgeable about Freemasonry and of Masonic reference material in order to answer questions

asked by an interested and inquisitive Brother. Thus, mentoring often helps the Mentor at least as much as the one being mentored and, in accordance with Masonic precepts, sets a good example, in modern parlance, it’s called “walking the talk.”

So to conclude, going through the degrees is essential to becoming a Mason, but becoming a Master Mason takes more than that. The process of making Freemasonry a guiding principle in your life requires study, reflection, and practice, and what I call “putting Masonry into men beyond the ritual” is greatly facilitated by mentoring, both by having a Mentor

and by being a mentor. And, as you mentor others and set a good example, you will be remembered with great fondness and respect as one who followed the advice in that poem by Albert Camus, which was often mentioned in talks by our much-loved late Grand Master John Robert Dean, “Don’t walk in front of me, I may not follow; Don’t walk behind me, I may not lead; Walk beside me, and just be my friend.” 🕊

Grand Lodge of Virginia, A.F. & A.M.
Committee on Masonic Education
June 2012 Lodge Presentation Program

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≈ Grand Lodge of Virginia



Brianna Clark
UVA



Aaron Foster
Emery and Henry College



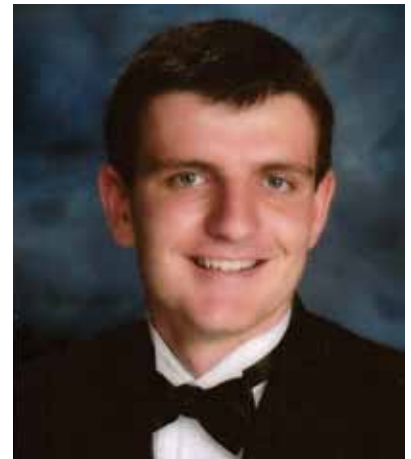
Alexis Evans
Virginia Tech



Brooke Dinwiddie
Lynchburg College



Brooke Carson
Newman College



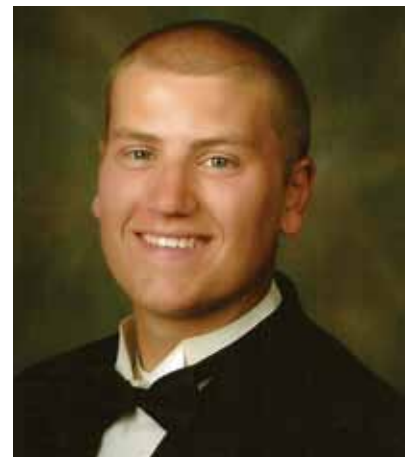
Cody Cahoon
Virginia Tech



Jason Snider
UVA



Kaleb Jessee
NC State



Kolton Helbert
VCU

2012 Scholarship Recipients ~



Ryan Willis
Virginia Tech



Taylor Jones
Virginia Tech



Tyler Hazlett
Virginia Tech



Lillian Matthews
UVA



Alexis Taylor
VCU



Myrtle Mines
JMU



Kristen Obenchain
Virginia Tech



Mi Zheng
Berea College



Rosemary Harris
College of William and Mary

Area Masonic Ritual Schools 2012



SCHOOL NAME	LOCATION	DATE(S)	DISTRICT(S)
Starks-Baumgardner	Bland	Oct. 8-10	41, 42
Lon Norman Dooley	Lebanon	Oct. 15-17	46, 47
Charles T. "Bucky" Gilbert	Marion	Oct. 22-24	42, 43, 44
Joseph T. Stewart	Courtland	Oct. 24, 25	31, 32
O.B. Omohundro	Gordonsville	Oct. 27	7, 10

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

Committee On Work Schedule 2012



All sessions will be held at the Hilton Richmond Hotel and Spa/Short Pump, 12042 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia.
All Master Masons are cordially invited to attend any and/or all sessions.

Sunday, November 4, 2012	7:30 P.M. - Exemplification of the Degree of Entered Apprentice
Monday, November 5, 2012	9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. - Exemplification of the Degree of Fellow Craft and Degree of Master Mason

Grand Annual Communication

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

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

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

Masons Capturing Great Moments

(some examples)

Right Worshipful Moring E. Gravitt

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

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

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

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

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

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



L-R: R. W. Layle Barker and R. W. Lewis Gibbs



Former Grand Lodge Room on Broad Street, Richmond



Key stone with Square and Compasses

RITUAL AMERICA:

Secret Brotherhoods and Their Influence on American Society, A Visual Guide

You're browsing the book shop, trying to find a gift for your nephew, who's just been raised in your mother Lodge. You find the dusty corner where they hide the stuff on the occult, spot a few tempting tomes, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry*, or maybe *Is It True What They Say About Freemasonry?*

But your nephew's not an idiot and the other looks too heavy, perhaps even disturbing, so you pick this one up. A more promising title for the Masonic bibliophile is hard to imagine.

You open it up, flip through the pages, and find dozens of nifty illustrations, including two dozen full page color plates in the middle and a generous smattering of square and compasses.

Your eye catches articles by famous Freemasons like Danny Thomas, and Ernest Borgnine. You catch pictures of Tris Speaker and lots of other guys wearing fezzes.

This must be one fine book, cheap at twice the price, that your nephew will proudly display on his coffee table. Maybe you'll even pick up an extra copy for your Lodge, one to loan out to prospects.

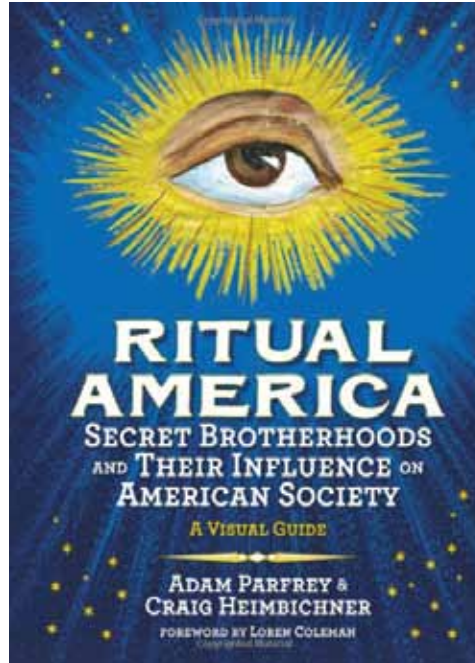
You have one copy gift wrapped, proudly present it to your nephew, and he's thrilled.

Next Lodge meeting, your nephew is absent.

Troubled, you track him down. Cornered, he says, "Uncle Ned, how could you? That book's garbage, absolute dreck, has nothing good to say about the Craft. I had no idea that Masonry was so corrupt, so nutty, so weird, so racist, so downright evil."

Uh-oh. You take the other copy home and start to actually read it. The book is big, bulky, beautifully illustrated, but the text, good heavens, such spite, such blanket condemnations, such a strenuous, convoluted effort to demean your beloved Fraternity.

It's laid out like a tenth grade history book,



RITUAL AMERICA: *Secret Brotherhoods and Their Influence on American Society, A Visual Guide*

By Adam Parfrey and Craig Heimbichner
(Feral Press, 2011, 337 pages,
\$19.95 at Amazon.com)

Review by William A. Parks, Jr.



with columns, pictures, multiple headings, varying fonts and print sizes, full of glittering generalities, and just as unreliable.

You recognize much of the material has been cut and pasted from anti-Masonic websites

and Wikipedia articles you've surfed before. Subjects pop up randomly, apparently in the order in which the "authors" found them online or pulled them out of a shoe box full of scribbled notes and scraps of articles.

The more you read, the more you realize how aggressively ignorant the authors are as they mindlessly toss out ancient critiques of Albert Pike, dredge up the Morgan Affair, misrepresent fraternal relations with Prince Hall Lodges, and cherry-pick bits and pieces from nineteenth century racial debates long since condemned, but scattered here and there lie tasty morsels like Kipling's "*The Mother Lodge*" and Ray Stevens' "*Shriners Convention*."

And Lady Gaga's thoughts on the Illuminati. Really. Just to be sure you get it, JFK's comment on "secret societies" appears twice.

Nor have these "authors" omitted the seminal kitchen sink in the anti-Masonic junk pile, that notorious anti-Semitic forgery, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

So, what, you think, are Kipling, Stevens and a first day cover of Mel Blanc supposed to not make it fair and balanced?

The book veers aimlessly from one topic to the next and you're feeling whiplashed by its sudden swerves, reversals, tedious repetitions, and bursts of mindless bigotry towards the Craft. You come across article after article without attribution, copyright or date, pieces that find every excuse imaginable to mock all things Masonic from ritual to Shriner hijinks.

The authors obviously ran Google searches to find articles relating misdeeds committed by Jesters, Masons, and anybody who has perverted, twisted, misunderstood, and misrepresented the true nature of the Craft. Finally, at page 254, they admit resorting to the vitriolic anti-Masonic website *MasonicLeaks.com* as a source.

RITUAL AMERICA:

continued

Throughout, the authors conflate the Illuminati, Rosicrucianism, and Crowleyism into a bubbling caldron of anti-Masonry.

You realize that this book contains meager information on Masonry's "influence on American Society." It aims with the accuracy of a blunderbuss to smear the entire Craft by collecting tales of the misdeeds of the few. The book is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

You shut the book and find that one of the "authors" has contributed to *Paranoia* magazine. Therein hangs a tale.

The other "authored" *Blood on the Altar: The Secret History of the World's Most Dangerous Secret Society*, a fundamentalist polemic against a "Masonic" body, Ordo Templi Orientis. Oops. Indeed, he's quite widely published, having a couple dozen books to his credit. But, oh, let's see, he's the publisher of *Feral Books*, so that means...

You now hope that your nephew has studied logic, one of the liberal arts commended to him as a Fellowcraft, that he can perceive the falsity of generalizing the idiocies of the few into blanket condemnation of all, and that he will forgive you.

You recall your own education in the Craft, your pride in its genuinely excellent "influence on American Society," its condemnation of religious intolerance, its devotion to the Shrine and Scottish Rite Hospitals, its generous support of those afflicted with language disorders, autism, and glaucoma, its tireless efforts to take good men and make them better.

You recall Masonry's support for Liberty Bonds during World War I.

You remind yourself of the Scottish Rite's support of George Washington University and its 1920 commitment to the establishment of free public education in every political subdivision in the United States and creation of a Federal Department of Education with a Secretary at the cabinet level, goals finally reached in the 1990's.*

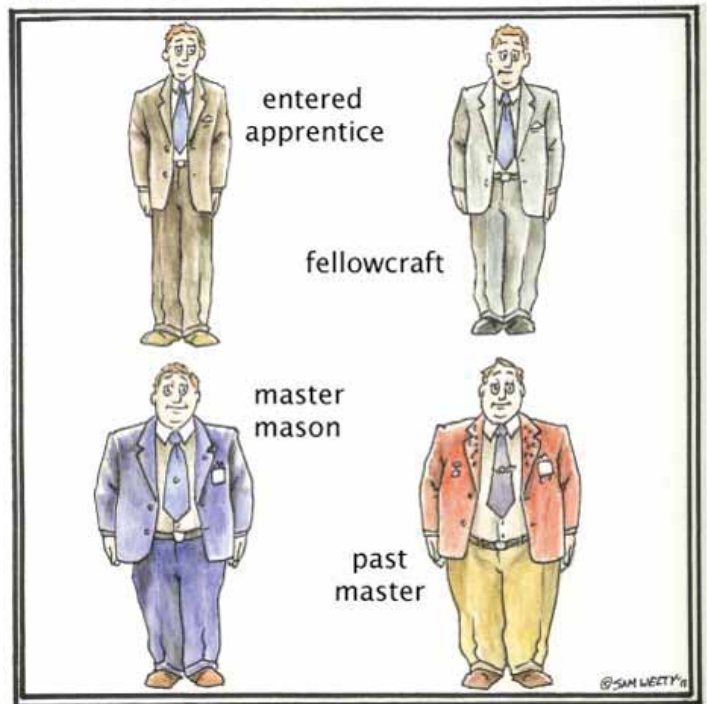
Next time you see your nephew; you apologize, give him a copy of *Is It True What They Say About Freemasonry*, and hope that the book shop accepts returns.

As for judging a book by its cover... The Internet is not the only medium infected by viruses. 🦠

**Lodge of the Double-Headed Eagle*, Fox, William L, (University of Arkansas Press, 1920) pp192-193.

LIKE ANSWERS RETURNED

by Sam Welty



... as we grow in Masonic knowledge ...

Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too well pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we have dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.

We ask You to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.

Sir Francis Bacon
The Freemason Network Team
<http://www.FreemasonNetwork.org>

The Foundations of Modern Freemasonry: The Grand Architects - Political Change and the Scientific Enlightenment, 1714-1740

It's big; has a really long title; has nothing about "secrets" or "mysteries" on the cover, not even the Square and Compasses or a "G" and it's really expensive.

Why would a Brother bother? Because seldom has so much solid Masonic history about so many actual living, breathing Freemasons been crammed between two covers.

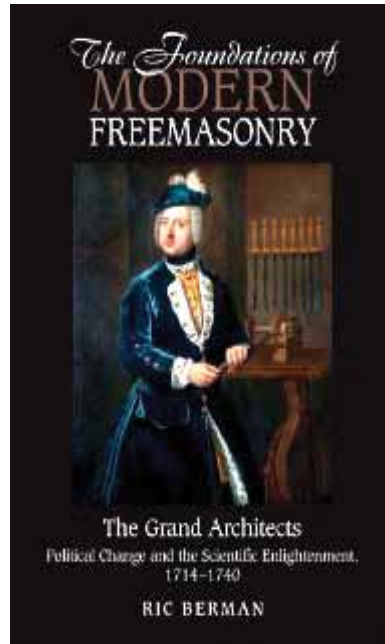
Sometimes a history comes along that rewards the reader for slogging through the opening chapters. In *Foundations*, the prize comes in its rigorous research and minute details that vividly and factually bring the origins of Grand Lodge Masonry to life.

This work relies so much on primary sources that the reader almost feels like he's sharing a desk with the author in eighteenth century Lodges and the United Grand Lodge of England poring over original minutes and manuscripts, discovering the identities of the men who first took Freemasonry public.

Better yet, few narratives provide the feel of Freemasonry's early public decades better than *Foundations*.

Setting the context, Professor and Brother Ric Berman takes us through early seventeenth century Freemasonry's remarkable progression from operative Masons' Lodges to eighteenth century gentlemen's clubs devoted to the Enlightenment's scientific discoveries and medical advances.

Brother Berman catalogues the names of the Brethren and their accomplishments as they cross pollinate The Royal Society, the Royal College of Physicians, and Britain's military establishment with Freemasons. Central to this development stands John Theophilus Desaguliers, scientist, Freemason, popular



*The Foundations of
Modern Freemasonry:
The Grand Architects - Political Change
and the Scientific Enlightenment,
1714-1740*

By Ric Berman,
(Sussex Academic Press, 2012)
Paperback \$39.95 at Amazon.com)

Review by
Right Worshipful William A. Parks, Jr.



showman, and eye of the Masonic birth pangs.

Desaguliers, born a poor French Huguenot, immigrated to France, entered Christ Church College at Oxford at age 21 in 1705 and succeeded brilliantly.

According to Berman, "Desaguliers recognized that personal and commercial success lay in the application of natural philosophy to engineering and to the solution of practical commercial problems. Experiments and demonstrations under the auspices of the Royal Society and otherwise were a part of a process of the commercialisation of science."

But the story of Brother Desaguliers, his Newtonian proselytizing, and political maneuverings as Deputy Grand Master of the emergent Grand Lodge of England, merges with other fascinating biographical bits about his contemporaries.

Berman digs deeply into the establishment of the first Grand Lodge. The development of Anderson's Constitutions becomes a tale of intrigue.

Berman presents Anderson's work alongside the Old Charges to demonstrate not only the philosophical transition from operative to speculative Masonry, but also the Fraternity's radical new idea of respect for all sincerely held religious beliefs during an era riven with bitter doctrinal and political debate.

Even the creation of the colony of Georgia involved heavy investment and the guidance of Major General James Oglethorpe, who co-founded the first Masonic Lodge at Savannah in 1734.

While lists may bore the reader, those in *Foundations* provide evidence of the actual make-up of early English Lodges; the military

What previously could have been regarded justifiably as a disparate set of largely moribund local groups was reconfigured to emerge in the 1720s as one of the most dynamic, attractive and structured contemporary organizations.

The Foundations of Modern Freemasonry: The Grand Architects - Political Change and the Scientific Enlightenment, 1714-1740

continued

men of all ranks, every grade of royalty, shopkeepers, scientists, physicians and quite a few tradesmen and operative masons.

The lists include the names, occupations and political persuasion of the early Grand Masters, almost all of them Whigs, possessed of a liberality that kept religion and politics outside Lodge walls.

The lists become flesh, most especially in the character of Phillip Wharton, Duke of Wharton, proclaimed Grand Master in 1722.

“Handsome, intelligent and rich, Wharton was an eccentric and a classic rake” whose interests out of Parliament revolved around “whoring, gambling, drinking and mischief making.” Wharton’s politics differed from that of most of his Brethren, and he constantly clashed with the Reverend James Anderson.

His Mastership brought charges of “irregularity,” “breach of Harmony,” and “utmost disorder and confusion.” Wharton’s chaotic administration led directly to Anderson’s revised Constitutions of 1723.

Foundations takes the reader on the complex, conflicted, not always harmonious, often disorderly journey that resulted in the establishment and remarkable perpetuation of Grand Lodge Masonry.

Brother Berman tells the story not only with recitations of already familiar events, but with biographical portraits of many of the men who assured the venture’s success as well as a few whose machinations nearly made it stillborn.

With appendices listing the Grand Lodge of England officers for 1717-1740 and an enlightening line-by-line comparison of the Constitutions to the Old Charges, Brother Berman more than fulfills his thesis:

What previously could have been regarded justifiably as a disparate set of largely moribund local groups was reconfigured to emerge in the 1720s as one of the most dynamic, attractive



Frontispiece to the 1723 Constitutions depicting Lord Montagu, 1721 Grand Master, in the robes of the Order of the Garter, presenting the Constitutional scroll and a set of compasses to his successor, Wharton. Desaguliers, wearing clerical robes, is on the far right. Reality was not so harmonious.

and structured contemporary organizations.

Foundations tells the tale of how Freemasonry was, and is, built to last.

And, by the way, that gentleman on the cover is John Montagu himself, 2nd Duke of

Montagu (1690-1749), Grand Master, 1721. Nice duds, huh? The back cover blurb tells us that Oxford Senior Visiting Research and Brother Berman “is presently researching a follow-up book.” That’s really good news. 🙌

60-Year Masonic Veterans



L-R: Right Worshipful Rodney Francis Riddle, Honorable Judge Ernest Pleasants Gates, and Most Worshipful Donald Maynard Robey.

Three 60-year veterans in Chester Lodge No. 94 were honored: Judge Ernest Pleasants Gates, Rt. Wor. Rodney Francis Riddle, and Brother Higinio Gregory Garcia. Brother Garcia was presented his award at his home.



L-R: Rt. Wor. Bob G. Hall, Bro. Barney G. Gilley, and Wor. Joe D. Rasnick.

Brother Barney G. Gilley is presented his 60-Year Masonic pin by Wor. Joe Rasnick and Brother Ronald Rasnick, who assisted as Chaplain.



L-R: Most Worshipful Charles F. Shuler, Grand Master William Talbott Ellison, Jr. Seated: Worshipful Richard D. Schuder, Jr.

Members, relatives, and friends of Charles Franklin Shuler Lodge No. 74, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, assembled at the Elkton Area Community Center to honor Most Worshipful Charles Franklin Shuler and Worshipful Richard Daniel Schuder, Jr. Most Worshipful William Talbott "Terry" Ellison, Jr. presented them 60 and 50-year Masonic Veteran's Emblems and Certificates respectively.

Right Worshipful Emory Hughes Merryman, Jr., introduced Most Worshipful William Talbott Ellison, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia and Most Worshipful Glover Hunter Jones, III, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in 2006.

Most Worshipful Brother Ellison, Most Worshipful Brother Jones and Right Worshipful Brother Merryman served as Presenting Officer, Chaplain and Secretary respectively for both the 60 and 50-year presentations.

Worshipful Shuler pinned the 60-year Masonic veteran's emblem on his father. Most Worshipful Brother Shuler made an appropriate response in which he challenged Brothers in attendance to renew their commitment to Freemasonry.

Brother Schuder pinned the 50-year Masonic Veteran's emblem on his father. Worshipful Brother Schuder made an appropriate response recalling when he first moved to the town of Elkton, emphasizing the deep and lasting impression several Brothers of his Lodge including Most Worshipful Brother Shuler made on him at that time.

60-Year Masonic Veterans



L-R: Worshipful Avery L. Nipper, Worshipful Master Daniel D. Larned and Brother Fawley.

Covington Masonic Lodge No. 171, AF & AM celebrates Brother G.C. Fawley's 60-Year Masonic Anniversary



R. W. David P. Clifton Jr. presents Worshipful Wesley Wayne Utley of Joppa his 60-year pin.

Worshipful Wesley Wayne Utley of Joppa Lodge No. 40 was presented his 60-Year Pin at his home by R.W. David P. Clifton Jr., with two Past Masters and a Brother Present.



L-R: Right Worshipful Clifford Cardwell Grotz, Jr. receiving his 60-year Masonic Veteran's emblem from Most Worshipful G. Bernard Dungan, Jr.

Right Worshipful Clifford Cardwell Grotz, Jr. received his 60-year Masonic Veteran's emblem from Most Worshipful G. Bernard Dungan, Jr. The presentation was at Metropolitan Lodge No. 11, on the same month and day Brother Grotz was originally raised. At the stated communication, the members enjoyed fried oysters provided by Brother Grotz.



L-R: Wor. Anthony Lake, Wor. Keith Wright, Wor. John Kish, Wor. Steven Wheelock, and Wor. John Nansen.

Worshipful John Kish was presented his 60-Year Masonic Veteran's Pin by members of Traverse City Load No. 222, in Traverse City Michigan, where he resides.

Worshipful Brother Kish's Mother Lodge is Williamsburg No. 6.

60-Year Masonic Veterans



L-R: Worshipful Merritt L. Raiford presents Brother Joseph E. Raiford with 60-year certificate and pin.

Brother Joseph Edmund Raiford received his 60-year Service Award from his brother, Worshipful Merritt L. Raiford at his residence in Virginia Beach. Brother Russell S. Dunlow, Senior Warden of Pur



L-R: Worshipful Charles C. Daniels, of Purdie Lodge No. 170, presented Worshipful Merritt L. Raiford with his 60-year certificate and pin.

Worshipful Charles Cody Daniels, Worshipful Master of Purdie Lodge No. 170, presented Worshipful Merritt Lloyd Raiford with his 60-year certificate and pin. Wor. Bro. Raiford served as Worshipful Master of Blackwater Lodge No. 134 in 1968. His brother, Joseph Edmund Raiford received his 60-year pin earlier in the year.

Hey Brother can you spare a Dime (Dollar)?

Worshipful Ralph M. Clark

The present economy is almost as bad as during the Great Depression, but during that time even a dime would buy something to sustain a body for a day. Today you would need at least ten times that amount.

Do you remember that part in our Closing Charge, “every human being has a claim upon your kind offices, do good unto all”? In our current economic environment, every dollar is accounted for at least twice. We, as Free and Accepted Masons, are charged with ensuring we support each other before we fall. Yet, the accepted thing to do is turn away or look for someone else to support a Brother, or anyone else for that matter. I heard one Brother state that apathy has taken the place of “Three Cardinal Virtues.” I had to go and look up the definition of the word apathy, because even though I had heard it before I did not really know what it meant.

Apathy – the absence or suppression of passion, emotion or excitement or the lack of interest in or concern for things others find moving or exciting; indifference.

So apathy may fit our current economic situation, but it should never exist within Freemasonry. We should never feel apathy towards our Craft. We should never feel indifferent towards our Brethren or our Lodges. We should never think that someone else will take care of a Brother, his widow, orphans, or our own Lodge. What are a few dimes/dollars amongst our Brothers to ensure that we “help, aid, and assist” our Brethren and their families?

But the Brother was right, I’ve seen it with my own eyes, felt it with my own heart. Freemasons we call Brother have actually shown apathy towards Freemasonry by not attending Lodge, DLC’s, Masonic Schools, or even Grand Lodge.

I think to myself, why would you ask to join an organization, pay the annual dues, yet not participate and receive the benefits the organization provides? I just cannot understand it. Each Lodge needs active membership to keep the Lodge viable and growing. And yes, money and support for a Brother in need, or his widow, or his orphan, ensuring we remember the “charge” and our obligations.

Think about it, if you heard of a Brother, widow, or orphan in need, would you provide assistance? Would you actually show apathy towards your Craft? Times may be difficult in the non-Masonic world, but within our Craft we have principles which each of us must live by to keep us “within due bounds” toward each other and ourselves. Have you seen a Brother in need of assistance of any kind and remembered your obligation? Remember Brethren, each of us “have a claim upon your kind offices.” A Brother in need is a Brother indeed. 🙏

Things Really Do Change

Most Worshipful Jim Cole, (2001)
CEO of the Masonic Home of Virginia

Things have really changed since I graduated high school in 1976. I used to think it was “cool” that my gas cost the same as my graduation year – 76 cents a gallon, although it sure did seem expensive to an eighteen year old. After all, my eight year old hand-me-down Chevy was getting almost eighteen miles to the gallon, so I was set! I was a little concerned, though, since I was getting ready to enter Virginia Tech that fall, and it would cost me almost \$1,800 to attend. One reason I was concerned was that my Dad had to retire on disability the year before due to an injury at work. I knew that even with full retirement age, he could only have drawn \$168 a month, since that was the maximum social security payment in those days. At that time, I had never heard of a Masonic Lodge. After all, I was only eighteen years old, so I was not eligible to become a member, even if I had known about the Lodge.

Of course, I made it through college and in looking back, I really could never have imagined in 1976 how much things would change. I would really love to pay 76 cents for a gallon of gas instead of four dollars today. Wow, gas has gone up *five times* in cost since the 1970's. Interestingly, if I could have afforded a new Chevy in 1976, it would have cost \$3,000, but


that car today would cost more than \$26,000, more than eight times its cost in the 1970's. If I could ever get the grades to attend Virginia Tech again today, it would cost me about \$18,000, ten times what it cost in the 1970's. Fortunately, even the government has realized that costs have increased, so the minimum social security payment these days is \$698 per month for an individual. Unfortunately, that is only four times what the amount was in the 1970's.

Since I did not know about the Masonic Lodge in the 1970's, it is safe to assume that I had no idea that the Masons of Virginia were gathering at their Grand Lodge and passing a resolution that each Mason would contribute three dollars per year from their annual dues to support the Masonic Home of Virginia. What I also did not know in those days was that it was so natural for Masons to give money to support their Brethren and wives and widows. Only later, I learned it was so natural because before they became full-fledged members of the Lodge, each Mason made a whole bunch of promises. A lot of those promises (I learned later they were called “obligations”) had to do with helping others.

With the passing of the years, I learned a few things about Freemasonry, finally join-

ing a Lodge and even getting to serve in a few Masonic offices along my journey. I even learned how to recite the Fifty-Year Masonic Veteran's Emblem ceremony, in which it says we recognize “in the passing of the years an inevitable increase in knowledge.” I think that means we are supposed to learn as time passes.

In looking back, a few things are clear. Costs have really increased since the 1970's, but income has increased as well, even for retired folks, although surely not as much as it should have increased. Since way before the 1970's, the Masonic Home has been in Richmond, ready to provide a place for people who need it, or, since 2001, even ready to provide care in any Mason's (or Masonic Widow's) home if they need it.

So, the care provided by the Home, which merited the three dollars from each Mason in the 1970's, is still here today. Hopefully, the continuing commitment of Masons to their obligations will also be shown as they attend their Grand Lodge and thoughtfully consider whether the three dollars from the 1970's should be increased to ten dollars. I know that is only a little more than three times the 1970's value, but given who the Masons are and what the Masonic Home *does*, it surely must be worth it. 



Masonic Home of Virginia Honorariums and Memorials

Many Lodges and individuals contribute to the Masonic Home to either honor a living person or a Lodge out of respect and appreciation or to generate a legacy of care in honor of one who has passed to the Celestial Lodge above. As these tax-deductible gifts are received by the Home, acknowledgements of the gift, but not the dollar total, are sent to the person honored or to the family of the person memorialized. In grateful recognition of these touching gifts and to recognize those persons so honored, we call attention to the following combined list of memorial and honorarium gifts that were made to the Masonic Home during the period December 1, 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				
Bobby M. Abercrombie	Virginia May Lodge No. 38			John W. Gilfillan	Columbia Lodge No. 285
Carole M. Adams	Nancy M. Holder			William E. Gill	Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865
Frederick W. Adams	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class	William B. Cheek	Roy M. McKenney	Preston M. Givens	Harry and Patricia Kellett
Louise Adams	Barbara and Alan Miller	Stephen C. Christie	Richard A. Glass		Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale
	Garland N. Rollins	Rawleigh G. Clary	Bedford Lodge No. 244		Samuel C. Anaya
	Robert and Edna Lea Gregory	Louise Clay	Army and Navy Lodge No. 306		Robert and Elizabeth Johnson
	Richard A. Glass	Annie H. Clayton	Bayside Lodge No. 218		Richard D. and Linda G. Giles
Alan W. Adkins	Ronald N. Morris		Powhatan Lodge No. 295		Montrose Chapter No. 176
George W. Allison	Bayside Lodge No. 218	Rueben M. Cobb	Garland N. Rollins		Wayne and Deborah Tennent
Leonard M. Allmond	Roy and Sylvia Lacks	James D. Cole	Mrs. Helen L. Payne		MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Mildred Ammons	Mr. and Mrs. Alden Hannum	Lois Collier	Samuel C. Anaya		Varina Lodge No. 272
Sandy Andrews	Bayside Lodge No. 218	William G. Converse	Wakefield Lodge No. 198		Garland N. Rollins
Richard O. Applebach	Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865	Edward M. Cook	Alan and Gerri Adkins		Stella Paxton
Denetrios A. Armenakis	Carl O. Atkins, Jr.	Vernon S. Cook	Army and Navy Lodge No. 306		Betty C. Gillie
Carl O. Atkins	Chester Lodge No. 94	Walter S. Cook	Bayside Lodge No. 205		Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe
William G. Atkinson	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351	Lester O. Craig	Bayside Lodge No. 218		Mrs. Helen L. Payne
Gary H. Atwood	James F. Hardee	Joseph W. Crane	Alan and Gerri Adkins		Warwick Lodge No. 336
Chester C. Baity	Garland N. Rollins		Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe	Donald S. Glover	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273
	Mrs. Helen L. Payne	Luther P. Crockett	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class	Alfred G. Gray	Bayside Lodge No. 218
	Samuel C. Anaya	Alvin G. Crymes	Garland N. Rollins	Billy David Greene	Henry Knox Field Lodge No. 349
	John and Betty Long	Mr. and Mrs. Lyman	Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274	David L. Greenspan	Edward L. and Carolyn G. Cauble
	Brother and Mrs. Klebert	C. Daughtrey	Victoria Lodge No. 304	Vernon J. Grinstead	Richmond Lodge No. 10
	Steve Bollinger, II	Howard L. Davies	Thomas K. Daughtrey	Hallie Gunn	Alice and George Kellam, Jr.
	Laser & Skin Surgery Center Of Richmond	Aubrey G. Davis			John D. Lambert
	Stella Paxton	John D. Denton	Bedford Lodge No. 244		Charlotte Nester
	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe		Western Branch Lodge No. 189		Maria Booker
	Simeon J. Phipps, Jr.	George E. Dewese	Garland N. Rollins	James E. Hagee	Samuel C. Anaya
	Stephen V. Mitchem	Charles W. Dodson	John and Betty Long	Arnold R. Hamlet	Morris and Brenda Gunn
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	Oriental Lodge No. 20	George B. Dungan	Simeon J. Phipps, Jr.		Westmoreland Lodge No. 212
	Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale	Randolph A. Dyer	Samuel C. Anaya		Williamson Road Lodge No. 163
	Mr. and Mrs. Philip Worst	Patrick I. Eaton	Susan Workman		Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class		Betty Wakeman		A. David White
	Joseph and Barbara Hogge	Daniel P. Edwards	Williamsburg Montessori School		Kenneth D. Reid
	Robert and Gloria Hall	Elsie M. Edwards	Shiloh United Methodist Church	Luther R. Hicks	Warwick Lodge No. 336
John A. Baldwin	Western Branch Lodge No. 189	Spotswood F. Eggleston	Mt. Olive United Methodist Church	Marvin E. Hobbs	Purdie Lodge No. 170
Edwin G. Ball	Arlington Lodge No. 102		MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class		Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
Mrs. Maynard P. Baltimore	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	William T. Ellison, Jr.	Susan McGray	Walter D. Hoffman	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Matthew J. Barr	Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274		Betty C. Gillie	Thomas M. Holder	Nancy M. Holder
Donald J. Bean	Taylor Lodge No. 23	Frank A. Esposito	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Carl E. Hollar	Patricia A. Cooke
Eula Beasley	Manchester Lodge No. 14	James F. Ewing	Paul E. Clark		Jonathan S. Rockett
	Garland N. Rollins	James A. Fields	Richard and Lillian Shumate	Bessie R. Holmes	Garland N. Rollins
	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe	Georgie Fleshman	Spurmont Lodge No. 98	William R. Hood	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
	John and Betty Long	Mary A. Flora	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class	Dale W. Horton	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
	Janet C. Faudree	Wayne S. Flora	Bayside Lodge No. 218	Willie W. Hudson	David A. Brown
Frank J. Behnke	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Joyce Z. Foiles	James O. Ash	Austin D. Hurt	Taylor Lodge No. 23
Harry M. Bluford	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class	Charles T. Foster	Snow Creek Lodge No. 90	Jesse M. Hutcherson	Carter Lodge No. 323
Everett S. Boggs	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60	Stuart W. Fowler	Eggleston Lodge No. 309	Barbara D. Hylton	Thomas K. Daughtrey
Basil W. Bollings	Piedmont Lodge No. 152	Archibald C. Frame	Charles F. Eaton Sr.	Dr. Richard D. Hylton	Thomas K. Daughtrey
Thomas B. Boyce	Bayside Lodge No. 218	David D. Francis	Mrs. Fred N. Edwards	Ada Jennings	William E. Rorer, Jr.
	Bayside Lodge No. 218		Alan and Gerri Adkins	Gloria Johnson	Newport Lodge No. 261
Audrey Brown	Salem Baptist Church	Robert J. Frank	Snow Creek Lodge No. 90	Langston L. Johnson	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Julian R. Burgess	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class	Booker T. Freeman	Alfredo C. Lintag	Lillie Mae Johnson	Washington Lodge No. 78
	Garland N. Rollins	William D. Freeman	Jeffery E. Hodges		Charles R. Seaford
	Elmer K. Dunn	Harry L. Fremd	Alan and Gerri Adkins		Edward N. Powell, Sr.
Bradford F. Burnett	Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82	Stephen E. Fuller	Hunter's Lodge No. 156	William C. Johnston	Mr. Jerry O. Talton
Thomas E. Butt	Bayside Lodge No. 218	Ashley L. Garrett	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60	Lillian R. Jones	Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
Lewis N. Cahoon	Alan and Gerri Adkins		James F. Dickerson		Harvey P. Diehr
Louis C. Campbell	Steve Bollinger, II		Gregory D. Hosaflook		Shalom Baptist Church
Agnes C. Carpenter	Richard P. Willis		Alan and Gerri Adkins		Mr. and Mrs. Gary Atwell
	Garland N. Rollins		Robert L. Harrison	Luther A. Jones	Edward and Bettye Weihs
	Charles W. Hughes, Sr.		Wayne and Mary Ann Flora	William C. Jones	Garland N. Rollins
	John and Betty Long		Mackey Lodge No. 69	David H. Kent	Robert E. Epps, III
	Virginia Lodge No. 177		Sandston Lodge No. 216		Colonial Beach Lodge No. 199
	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe		Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982		Lancaster Union Lodge No. 88
	Samuel C. Anaya		Mills H. March		Garland N. Rollins
	Linda and Aubrey Utz		McAlister Lodge No. 185	Evans L. Kline	MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
	David L. Miller		Warwick Lodge No. 336	Claudene Kluksdahl	Robert E. Lee
	Lee and Doris Johnston		Army and Navy Lodge No. 306	Braxton J. Knight	John A. Williams
	American Amphibious Force Assoc.		St. Tammany Lodge No. 5	Alonzo P. Laforce	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Reese E. Carroll	Alan and Gerri Adkins		Bayside Lodge No. 218	Lloyd I. Laing	John R. Stafford
Claude R. Carson	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5		Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18	Louis F. Landerer	John C. Marion
William Cash	Army and Navy Lodge No. 306		Nancy M. Holder		Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865
John M. Chambliss	Alan and Gerri Adkins				Achilles Lodge No. 281

Masonic Home of Virginia

Honorariums and Memorials continued

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Warren H. Lawrence
Harry L. Leonard
Walter Lester
Edward L. Lewis
Hoover B. Lide

Richard F. Lippert
James E. Litten
John I. Long
Isaac N. Louderback
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Jean A. Lupton
Audrey Mann
Carey P. Martin
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Raymond F. Martinez

Aubrey H. Mason

Thomas E. Mason
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Luther E. Owens
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Gerard Pain
John N. Parker
William C. Paschall

Warwick Lodge No. 336
Williamson Road Lodge No. 163
Eggleston Lodge No. 309
Purdie Lodge No. 170
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Virginia State Police Alumni
Garland N. Rollins
Samuel C. Anaya
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Alan and Gerri Adkins
Dr. Jeffrey B. Spence
Spurmont Lodge No. 98
Purdie Lodge No. 170
Franklin Lodge No. 151
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Warwick Lodge No. 336
Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
Steve Bollinger, II
Garland N. Rollins
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class

Joseph T. Mason
Hill City Lodge No. 183
Evington-Newman Lodge No. 333
Marshall Lodge No. 39
Mackey Lodge No. 69
Staunton River Lodge No. 155
Edward N. Eubank Lodge No. 262
Campbell Lodge No. 316
Thomas Jay Traylor Lodge No. 348
Reedy Spring Lodge No. 203
Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
George and Constance Chapin
Alan and Gerri Adkins
Hoen M. Edwards, Jr.
Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
Princess Anne Lodge No. 25
Wayne and Mary Ann Flora

Warwick Lodge No. 336
Piedmont Lodge No. 152
Washington Lodge No. 78
Nancy M. Holder
Sandston Lodge No. 216
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220
St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Chester Lodge No. 94
Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
William E. Rorer, Jr.
Thomas K. Daughtrey
Old Town Lodge No. 68
Cleveland R. Nelms
Virginia May Lodge No. 38
Old Town Lodge No. 68
William L. Luthie
William E. Rorer, Jr.
Yorktown Lodge No. 205
Warwick Lodge No. 336
Warwick Royal Arch Chapter No. 80
Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
Bedford Royal Arch Chapter No. 60
Murray Royal Arch Chapter No. 22
Princess Anne Lodge No. 25
Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
Yorktown Lodge No. 205
Wayne and Mary Ann Flora
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Dr. Jeffrey B. Spence
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Frank E. Spencer, Jr.
Taylor Lodge No. 23
Sheldon B. Richman
McAlister Lodge No. 185
Samuel C. Anaya

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Piedmont Lodge No. 152
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John W. Patterson
Lois M. Payne
Ludwell L. Pickett
William K. Plunkett
Clarence D. Porod
Harry A. Powell

Donald L. Price
Olivia E. Price
Gerald P. Pulley
Michael T. Puskarich
Charles Quillin
Helen B. Rackley
Billy W. Ray
Cecil K. Richardson

Friedrich W. Richardson
Mary Richardson
Benny C. Ridpath
Judson H. Rodman
Clarence H. Roggmann
Elva L. Rollins

Greek R. Rosenbaum
Oscar D. Royals
James H. Russell
James L. Rutherford
James M. Searce
Robert C. Seat
Theodore E. Sellman

Michael J. Sergides
Howard P. Short
Reuben S. Shrader

Goldie A. Simmons

Edward M. Skelton

Dorothy S. Smith
James B. Smith

Lynn R. Smith
Robert M. Smith

Howard M. Sobel
Marvin H. Sowers
Robert M. Spencer
Marian Spita

Horace K. Ledbetter
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Lisa Nussey
Kathryn Stitzer
Garland N. Rollins
Ray C. Goodwin
John and Betty Long
Lee W. Painter
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe
Betty C. Gillie
Arlington Lodge No. 102
Harold F. Gladding, Jr.
Botetourt Lodge No. 7
Cave Spring Lodge No. 230
Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220
Russell E. Thompson
Frank and Patty McLaughlin
Kathy Dravis
Deven Bhatt
Kenneth and Linda O'Bannon
Westmoreland Lodge No. 212
Mizpah Chapter No. 32, O.E.S.
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865
Army and Navy Lodge No. 306
Garland N. Rollins
Old Town Lodge No. 68
Yvonne P. Cox
Mildred R. Thomas
Robert and Patricia Richardson
Virginia B. Stevens
Henry Clay Lodge No. 280
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Virginia May Lodge No. 38
Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273
Cleveland G. Grizzard, Jr.
Troy W. Brown and Mrs. Elizabeth L. Brown
Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale
Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82
St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Chester Lodge No. 94
John F. Ewell
Richard A. Glass
Virgilia Lodge No. 248
Samuel C. Anaya
Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982
Franklin Lodge No. 151
Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Betty C. Gillie
John and Betty Long
Garland N. Rollins
Garland N. Rollins
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peroe
Terry F. Hilton
Betty W. Perkinson
Joann H. Smith
Job's Daughters Bethel No. 51
Barbara D. Haney
Grace K. Hinchman
David A. Brown
Joppa Lodge No. 40
Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982
Alan and Gerri Adkins
Garland N. Rollins
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Nancy Besenfelder
Brenda L. Rutherford
Mattoax-Pine Grove Churches
Carol Whittaker
Ms. Barbara Neely
Amelia Lodge No. 101
Dr. Jeffrey B. Spence
Taylor Lodge No. 23
Joppa Lodge No. 40
Robert White, III

John W. Patterson
Lois M. Payne
Ludwell L. Pickett
William K. Plunkett
Clarence D. Porod
Harry A. Powell

Friedrich W. Richardson
Mary Richardson
Benny C. Ridpath
Judson H. Rodman
Clarence H. Roggmann
Elva L. Rollins

Greek R. Rosenbaum
Oscar D. Royals
James H. Russell
James L. Rutherford
James M. Searce
Robert C. Seat
Theodore E. Sellman

Michael J. Sergides
Howard P. Short
Reuben S. Shrader

Howard M. Sobel
Marvin H. Sowers
Robert M. Spencer
Marian Spita

Virginia Stafford
Carl E. Stahl
Jimmie Stamper
James H. Stanley
Charles W. Starkey
John C. Steinberger
Dewey L. Stinson
Richard L. Tawney
Carl L. Taylor
George M. Taylor
Richard W. Taylor
Robert D. Texter
Harry B. Thomas

Willard R. Thompson
Carlisle L. Tiller

Carl L. Torrence
Arthur L. Traylor
Phyllis N. Troy
Frances Truett
Phelan E. Tyler
George L. Waddell
Bryan P. Wade
Kermit F. Wall
Alice Walton

Robert D. Walton
Kenneth I. Ward
Edward M. Ware
William H. Warner
Ronald P. Watkins
John L. Watson

Ira Weintraub
Jerry D. Weygandt
Mrs. Raymond E. Whitehurst
Margaret Whittaker
Paul C. Wickert

Elsie Wickham

William E. Wilcox
James B. Wilkinson

Charles A. Wilson

Ralph J. Wimmer
Rae Yates
Leslie K. Yonce

Catawba Lodge No. 342
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6

William M. Stafford
Bayside Lodge No. 218
St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Williamson Road Lodge No. 163
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Robert White, III
Warwick Lodge No. 336
Franklin Lodge No. 151
Frances F. Taylor Trust
Sheldon B. Richman
Warwick Lodge No. 336
David A. Brown
Garland N. Rollins
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Steve Bollinger, II
Varina Lodge No. 272
Garland N. Rollins
MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
Robert L. Morris, Jr.
Army and Navy Lodge No. 306
A.K. and Judith Davis
Bonnie M. Quesinberry
Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982
Allen W. Saunders
Virginia Walker
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Henry Knox Field Lodge No. 349
Williamson Road Lodge No. 163
Princess Anne Lodge No. 25
Bayside Lodge No. 218
John and Martha Beall, Jr.
Garland N. Rollins
Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale
Connie Edwards
Areme Chpt. No. 17, O.E.S.
Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
Army and Navy Lodge No. 306
Arlington Lodge No. 102
Achilles Lodge No. 281
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982
David A. Brown
McAlister Lodge No. 185
Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220
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George W. Field
Roderick F. Creigh
Cheryl Barrett
Bruce R. Barrett
Walter D. Hubbard
Don and Bev Fedewa
Jean A. Kinser
James and Barbara Bowman
Verna W. Graff
Susan M. Trulove
Morris and Brenda Gunn
Phyllis C. Gasser
Dorothy Waleski
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Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865
St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
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William L. Barnett
Ms. Carol Applier
Robert and Pam Simpson
Susan M. Palmer

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Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Barbara and David Hershey
William L. Barnett
Ms. Carol Applier
Robert and Pam Simpson
Susan M. Palmer

Masonic Home of Virginia

Resident Birthdays

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
OCTOBER		
10/3	Martha Mason	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
10/3	Luther Zirkle	Cumberland Lodge No. 283
10/3	Gladys Simmons	Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91
10/3	Donald Davies	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
10/4	Laura Singleton	Botetourt Lodge No. 7
10/5	Cora Simmons	Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
10/6	Annie Davis	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
10/8	Ruth Walker	Varina Lodge No. 272
10/10	Helen Wood	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
10/11	Virginia Hobson	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
10/13	Gloria Martin	Sandston Lodge No. 216
10/14	Lucy Lamp	Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
10/24	Irma Tunstall	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
10/26	Ethel Hutcherson	Meridian Lodge No. 284
10/27	Welvin Davis	Arlington Lodge No. 102
10/28	Gloria Hall	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
10/31	Irma Thornhill	Transportation Lodge No. 337
NOVEMBER		
11/3	Mildred Butler	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
11/4	James Friis	Franklin Lodge No. 151
11/4	Catherine Busbee	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
11/5	Margaret Jordan	Chesterfield Lodge No. 161
11/9	Louise Gooding	Edwards Lodge No. 308
11/9	Betty Lide	Broadwater Lodge No. 71
11/10	Lois Roan	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
11/14	William Martin	Sandston Lodge No. 216
11/16	Carolyn Kaufman	Churchland Lodge No. 276
11/19	Glenn May	Varina Lodge No. 272
11/23	Martha Sugg	Sandston Lodge No. 216
11/24	Helene Peters	Sandston Lodge No. 216
11/24	Walter McCuiston	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
DECEMBER		
12/5	James Herring	Richmond Lodge No. 10
12/7	Alice Britton	Northside Lodge No. 292
12/7	Joyce Beninghove	Varina Lodge No. 272
12/11	John Hall	Joppa Lodge No. 40
12/18	Edwin Ragsdale	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
12/18	Mary Lee Peroe	Northside Lodge No. 292
12/18	Sommerville Wickham	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
12/19	Luvirda Mitchell	Elbert Munsey Lodge No. 298
12/21	Lucille Corcoran	Naomi Lodge No. 87
12/25	Norma Klebert	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
12/28	Earl Slaughter	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
12/29	Morton Conwell	Edwards Lodge No. 308
JANUARY		
1/1	Eunice Barnes	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
1/3	Voncile Baughman	Sandston Lodge No. 216
1/4	Carolyn Allen	Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91
1/6	Samuel Anaya	Arlington-Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81
1/7	Elizabeth Bohannon	Manchester Lodge No. 14
1/8	Dolores Ridings	Transportation Lodge No. 337
1/11	Elizabeth Anton	Norview Lodge No. 113
1/14	Anne Meyer	Edward H. Cann Daylight Lodge No. 1752
1/21	Boyd Ivester	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
1/22	James McDonough	Kemper Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
1/23	Jean Leamard	Petersburg Lodge No. 15
1/25	Leona Conwell	Edwards Lodge No. 308
1/25	Betty Long	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
1/26	Woodrow Owen	Anderson Lodge No. 258
1/26	Virginia Phipps	Seaboard Lodge No. 56

1/27	Gordon Paschall	Manchester Lodge No. 14
1/27	Theodore Koss	Central Lodge No. 300
1/30	Nathan Barrey	Treadwell Lodge No. 213
1/31	Evelyn Meyer	Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64

Resident Anniversaries

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
OCTOBER		
10/10/1969	William and Rose Mills	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
10/14/1951	Paul and Wanda Lucey	Ruth Lodge No. 89
NOVEMBER		
11/4/1950	Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
11/9/1951	William and Jean Johnson	Babcock Lodge No. 322
11/12/1955	Leon and Dolores Headley	Manchester Lodge No. 14
11/18/1956	James and Novella McDonough	Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
DECEMBER		
12/3/1970	Jerry and Patricia Clark	Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344
12/31/1960	Nathan and Dorothy Barrey	Treadwell Lodge No. 213
JANUARY		
1/14/1950	Lansing and Dorothy Fulcher	Oriental Lodge No. 20

Resident Deaths

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
4/7/2012	Harry Thomas	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
4/8/2012	Agnes Carpenter	Meridian Lodge No. 284
5/20/2012	Helen Rackley	Blandford Lodge No. 3
5/22/2012	Eula Beasley	Manchester Lodge No. 14
6/1/2012	Carlisle Tiller	Army and Navy Lodge No. 306
6/11/2012	Dorothy Wilson	Chesterfield Lodge No. 161
6/18/2012	Joseph Crane	Columbia Lodge No. 285
6/23/2012	Hallie Gunn	Richmond Lodge No. 10
7/1/2012	Irene Williams	Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
7/8/2012	Hope Cluverius	Yorktown Lodge No. 205
7/28/2012	Kenneth Almond	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
8/2/2012	Bessie Holmes	Northside Lodge No. 292
8/7/2012	Elsie Wickham	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
8/10/2012	Margaret Fainter	Manchester Lodge No. 14
8/11/2012	Clarence Harris	Ruth Lodge No. 89
8/16/2012	Florence Tayler	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
8/22/2012	James Smith	Warwick Lodge No. 336
8/26/2012	Percy Dugger	Amelia Lodge No. 101
8/31/2012	Harry Bluford	Westhampton Lodge No. 302

New Residents

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
5/31/2012	Leon and Dolores Headley	Manchester Lodge No. 14
6/7/2012	William and Jean Johnson	Babcock Lodge No. 322
8/1/2012	Nancy Martin	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
8/6/2012	Welvin Davis	Arlington Lodge No. 102
8/13/2012	Margaret Hurley	Urbanna Lodge No. 83
8/20/2012	Barbara Pyle	Ruth Lodge No. 89

Masonic Home of Virginia



Fathers' Day Social



Richard Neiswander, Becky Bollinger, and Emily Tosh enjoy lunch during a trip to a Charlottesville winery



Residents enjoy an outing to the Valentine Museum



Happy hour celebrating Cinco de Mayo



Administrators meet regularly with residents to keep them informed



Enjoying art displays at a Richmond Museum



Ernest and Martha Kersey dancing at the newcomers' social



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Grand Master William T. Ellison, Jr., Grand Line, and Officers of the
George Washington Lodge of Research, U. D. at its Institution.

Photograph by William J. Baumbach, II