

THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

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Winter 2012

M.:W.: William Talbott Ellison, Jr.
167th Grand Master of Masons



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The Virginia Masonic Herald

2011-2012 Grand Lodge of Virginia Elected Officers

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

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

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

Grand Master's Calendar 2011-2012

Grand Master's Message "Spreading Masonic Light"

JANUARY 2012

- 2 Waynesboro Chapter No. 105, Order of the Eastern Star
- 3 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners, Bennington Banquet
- 5 Waynesboro Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 2 Stevenson Commandery No. 8
- 7 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 2, 3, & 4
- 9 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 11 MAHOVA Board Meeting Strategic Planning and Implementation Meeting Lee Lodge No. 209
- 12 Official Visit, Masonic District 17
- 14 Kempsville Lodge No. 196
- 17 Official Visit, Masonic District 18
- 21 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 36 & 56
- 27 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 44 & 46
- 28 Official Visit, Masonic District 40

FEBRUARY 2012

- 1 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76'
- 2 Bayside Lodge No. 218, 50th Anniversary
- 3 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 31 & 32
- 4 Official Visit, Masonic District 57
- 6 Herndon Lodge No. 264
- 8 MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 9 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
- 10 Lynchburg Scottish Rite Bodies
- 11 Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274, 100th Anniversary
- 13 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 16 Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth, Williamsburg
- 18 - 22 Conference of Grand Masters of North America, Atlanta
- 24 Babcock Lodge No. 322, 100th Anniversary
- 25 Khedive Shrine, Potentate's Ball

MARCH 2012

- 1 Waynesboro Royal Arch Chapter No. 2 Stevenson Commandery No. 8
- 2 Division Leadership Conference, Eastern Shore
- 3 Division Leadership Conference, Norfolk
- 7 James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners Jack Jouett Camp, Heroes of 76'
- 8 Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220, 50th Anniversary
- 9 Official Visit, Masonic District 9
- 10 Acca Shrine, Potentate's Ball
- 12 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 14 MAHOVA Board Meeting
- 16 Division Leadership Conference, Waynesboro
- 17 Division Leadership Conference, Alexandria
- 23 Division Leadership Conference, Keysville
- 24 Division Leadership Conference, Richmond Kena Shrine, Potentate's Ball
- 27 - 29 Grand Lodge of Tennessee
- 31 Scottish Rite Spring Workshop, Richmond
- Official Visit, Masonic District 12

APRIL 2012

- 4 Midlothian Lodge No. 211
- 5 Waynesboro Union Royal Arch Chapter No. 2 Stevenson Commandery No. 8
- 6 Division Leadership Conference, Big Stone Gap
- 7 Division Leadership Conference, Ft. Chiswell
- 8 Division Leadership Conference, Roanoke
- 8 Grand Encampment, Easter Sunrise Service, Alexandria
- 9 Acca Shrine, Hillbilly Unit
- 10 Henry Lodge No. 57
- 11 MAHOVA Board Meeting Strategic Planning & Implementation Meeting
- 12 Edward N. Eubank Lodge No. 262
- 13 Official Visit, Masonic District 39
- 14 Statewide One-Day Scottish Rite Class Kazim Shrine, Potentate's Ball
- 15 100th Anniversary, Passing of Brother Oscar Scott Woody (Titanic)
- 17 Official Visit, Masonic District 21
- 19 Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37
- 20 Official Visit, Masonic District 24
- 21 Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865, Stuart
- 25 - 28 Grand Lodge of South Carolina
- 30 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 5 & 6

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made Heaven and earth."

He has granted His abundant blessings to this Fraternity – and it is good! Glory be to God.

My emblem for 2012 is in the shape of an oval, never ending, as is our Freemasonry. The colors are the valiant red, white, and blue, representative of our great country, this United States of America. The lettering and symbols are in gold acknowledging the richness of our heritage. Emblazoned in the oval are the Three Great Lights in Masonry, the Holy Bible – or Volume of Sacred Law – the Square and Compasses. These are surrounded by the Three Lesser Lights. Uppermost are the words "Spreading Masonic Light" and underneath are the words "Faith, Hope, and Charity"

The charge of "Spreading Masonic Light" reminds us that we, as Masons, have so much to offer others, not only to our Masonic families, friends, and Brethren, but to all of those in our communities, state and nation. "Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices do good unto all." We have learned many great lessons through our journey in Freemasonry and we must share them freely, always seeking to perform God's will. The term "Masonic Light" has many meanings, perhaps as many as there are of us who seek after it. It certainly has an educational connotation, but more importantly, it leads us on a spiritual path in our interactions with our God and our fellow man.

The Square and Compasses on my logo are set as an Entered Apprentice would first see them. I thought that setting appropriate because it is at that moment when he is brought "from darkness to Masonic Light." I believe that well-mentored Entered Apprentices also have "Masonic Light" to share, however limited it may be.

(The Square and Compasses of a Master Mason are not always the only ones displayed



GRAND MASTER

M.: W.: William Talbott Ellison, Jr.

to the Craft and public. You might be surprised to learn that the Square and Compasses displayed on the front of our Virginia Grand Lodge office - and on the dedication plaque to the right as you enter the building, are those of an Entered Apprentice.)

"Faith, Hope, and Charity" are watchwords of Freemasonry, three key virtues, and are what we, as Masons, profess to do. It is also during the Entered Apprentice lecture that the new Brother is informed of the meanings of these three words.

These virtues were very important to me in my life even prior to my joining the Craft.



Grand Master's Message

"Spreading Masonic Light"

Our ritual tells us to have "Faith in God, Hope in Immortality, and Charity toward all Mankind." By Faith we believe in God and believe all that He has revealed to us. By Hope we desire, and with steadfast trust, wait from God eternal life and the grace to merit it. By Charity, we love God above all things, and our neighbors as ourselves.

This lapel pin/logo is applicable to all Masons - not only Master Masons.

Our every thought, word, or deed as Masons has consequences and we must constantly strive to be deliberate in our efforts so that we may be able to share what we have so blessedly received.

Each time we wear this emblem, let us remember it in the same fashion as we would by tying on the white leather apron of a Master Mason, remembering those solemn and sacred obligations we took upon ourselves at the altar in our Lodges, signifying to all others that we are steadfast in our principles and believe fully in the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the Immortality of the Soul.

For all Masons, and for the non-Masons, I would like to share with you the following which were developed by the Grand Lodge Officers in the past few years:

"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."

"To assist its Lodges to grow and prosper."

As Grand Lodge Officers, we often hear from subordinate Lodges expressing their concerns about Lodge leadership and membership.

The Past Grand Master's, Grand Lodge Officers, and our Grand Lodge committees over the years have developed and provided for our use, many resources that are not yet being used by many of our Lodges to the full extent intended: booklets, training manuals, educational programs, Blood and Child Identification pro-

grams, Life Memberships in Perpetuity, Lodge Services, Public Relations, Membership, the Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership, correspondence courses, and the like. These are now in place and it is my intention to make certain that all Lodges are made aware of the many resources readily available to them from their Grand Lodge to help them "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."

It is a tall order - yet we continue to stand for Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth; Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice; Faith, Hope, and Charity.

I readily admit to you that many times in my life, I have found it challenging to live up to these virtues and ideals and have often fallen short. Yet through "time, patience and perseverance" - and by Faith, Hope - and the will of Almighty God - He has been charitable - and allowed me to continue working in the quarries of Freemasonry for His purpose.

How privileged we are to be Freemasons! We celebrate our heritage and our good works openly so that all will know that this is not a secret society, but a Brotherhood whose members proudly proclaim their affiliation and give honor to the tenets of our institution.

Our ideals and principles are rooted in the most sacred books of civilization and embodied in the wisdom of our preceptor, King Solomon himself.

They have been cherished across the centuries by Masons and whose powerful impact on the American Revolution brought respect and prestige to the Craft in the days of Brothers Washington, Franklin and Lafayette and their colleagues.

There is no evil in Masonry. It is of

Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love. It is of Charity, Loyalty, and never infringes upon our allegiance to our country or our God.

There is no selfishness in Masonry. It is a shining light on a hill that beckons all. It honors the wives, the widows, and the orphans. It stands with the gracious sisters of the Eastern Star and the Amaranth, the blossoming Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls, and the stalwart youth of DeMolay.

Our world no longer disciplined by the Cold War struggle, faces uneasy times where wars proliferate. It needs more Masonry - not less.

Our nation beset by class and ethnic tensions, is developing into a society of those who take but do not give. It needs more Masonry - not less.

Our population in general benefits from the dedicated work of the members of the Shriner's Children's Hospitals, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and Holy Land Pilgrimages, the Scottish Rite Language Centers, the York Rite's Alzheimer's Research - to name but a few. It needs more Masonry - not less.

In closing, I ask you to continue to do what is right; keep Faith, Hope, and Charity in your hearts, and as our ritual teaches us "as to who can best work and best agree", let us work together "Spreading Masonic Light" like the beacon on the hill to insure that peace and harmony will prevail in our Lodges, in our communities, and among each of us and our families.

Thank you and may God continue His blessings and speed us on our journey! ✨

Sincerely and fraternally,

William T. Euson, Jr.

Grand Master

William Talbott Ellison, Jr.

Grand Master

167th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia

William Talbott Ellison, Jr. was born in Staunton, Virginia, on September 12, 1950. He attended the Waynesboro public schools through the eighth grade and graduated in 1969 from Fishburne Military School. He attended Belmont Abbey College where he majored in Political Science. Brother Ellison started part-time work for the City of Waynesboro Public Works Department during the summer of 1967, and after college, returned to work for the city advancing to the position of Superintendent of Public Works Operations until his retirement in 2007.

Brother Ellison became a member of John T. Smith Chapter, Order of DeMolay in 1966. He was raised a Master Mason in Lee Lodge No. 209 on April 17, 1979, where he is a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 1984. He served as Lodge Secretary from 1995 through 2010. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 19 in 1995, Grand Senior Steward in 1997, Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master in 2001, Grand Provost from 2003 through 2006, and was elected Grand Junior Deacon in 2006. He served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education and the Committee on Finance. He is currently serving as the Grand Representative from the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, near Virginia.

Most Worshipful Brother Ellison is a fifth generation Freemason and also holds Life



Membership in the five Virginia Research Lodges, Lodge Fraser No. 267, A.F. & A.M. in Strichen, Scotland, as well as Lodges in Israel and Russia. He holds membership in the Valley of Lynchburg, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, received the Knight Commander Court of Honor in 2007 and was coroneted a 33 Degree, Inspector General Honorary in 2011; Life membership in Waynesboro Union Chapter No. 2, Royal Arch Masons; Life membership in Stevenson Commandery No. 8, Knights Templar; Life membership in ACCA Shrine Center, A.A.O.N.M.S.; is a Past Captain of the ACCA Hillbilly Unit and Raban of the Clan Emeritus of Clan No. 17, Grand and Glorious Order of the Hillbilly Degree; Valley Council No. 56, Allied Masonic Degrees; the Royal Order of Scotland; the Scottish Rite Research

Society; Charter member and Life member in James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners; Jack Jouett Camp, Heros of '76; the Southern California Research Lodge; the Confederate Military Lodge of Research; and the Philalethes Society. He is a Life Member of DeMolay International and is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Virginia DeMolay Foundation, Inc. Brother Ellison is a recipient of the City of Waynesboro Public Service Award, the Legion of Honor from DeMolay International, and the John Blair, Jr. Service Medal from the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 2005.

Brother Ellison has been married to the former Wanda Kay Falls for thirty-six years. They are the parents of a daughter, Ashley Marie, a member of Waynesboro Chapter No. 105, Order of the Eastern Star, who is married to Worshipful Brother Brian L. Flock, a Past Master of Lee Lodge No. 209. They have one grandson, James Ellison Flock. He is a member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waynesboro, Virginia. 🙏



James Edward Litten

Grand Senior Deacon

James Edward Litten was born in New Market, Virginia, on April 17, 1940. He graduated from Mount Jackson High School in 1958 and attended the American Disc Jockey School in Norfolk, Virginia from 1961 - 1962. From 1962 to 1969, Brother Litten was employed in radio communication, working in Virginia, Texas, and Pennsylvania. He owned and operated Community Broadcasting, Inc. in Stuart, Virginia, from 1969 until 1986. Since 1986, he has been in the real estate business; and from 1989 until the present, owns and operates as broker, Jim Litten Real Estate.

Brother Litten was made a Master Mason in Mountain Home Lodge No. 263 on September 25, 1987. He is a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 1992 and 2007 and is currently the Secretary. He was District Deputy Grand Master in Masonic District No. 39 in 2004. He was the Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master in 1997 and Grand Pursuivant in 2001. He served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Unfinished Business and is the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Ohio, near Virginia. He was elected Grand Senior Deacon in November 2011.

He is a member of the Valley of Danville, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and was invested Knight Commander Court of Honour in 2003 and coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary in 2007. He is a member of Martinsville Chapter No. 66, Order of



the Eastern Star. He was a recipient of the Outstanding Worshipful Master Award in 1992 - 93. Brother Litten is a recipient of the John Blair, Jr. Service Medal from the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 2001. Brother Litten has been recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution with their Award of Excellence.

Brother Litten has also been very active in the community. Within Patrick County, he is a Past President of the Unit of the American Heart Association, Patrick County Jaycees, and Charter President of the Patrick County High School Band Boosters Club. He is a Life Member in the Virginia Jaycees and Past

President of the Life Membership Council, a Jaycee International Senator, and United States Jaycee Ambassador. He has been recognized by the Stuart Rotary Club and Virginia Jaycees as a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and by Epsilon Sigma Phi, the National Honorary Extension Fraternity, Virginia Tech, as a recipient of the Outstanding Public Service Award. He was recognized by the Board of Supervisors in 1977 and 1984 when the Board proclaimed "Jim Litten Day" in Patrick County. He is an honorary member of the Patrick County Agricultural Fair Association, Stuart Lions Club, the Stuart Rotary Club, and several fire departments and rescue squads. He is a former board member of the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, the R. J. Reynolds-Patrick County Memorial Hospital, and served on the Town of Stuart's Centennial Committee, and fundraising committees for the American Heart Association, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and Patrick County Public Library. He is an active member and Deacon of Stuart Baptist Church, where he has served on the Pastor Search, Pulpit, Long Range Planning, and Apple Butter Committees.

Brother Litten is married to the former Ann Crocker of Smithfield, Virginia, and they have two daughters, Cynthia Holt and her husband, Roland; and Denise Stirewalt and her husband, Gene; four grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild. 🙏



"Spreading Masonic Light"

Vernon Stuart Cook

Grand Junior Deacon

Vernon Stuart Cook was born in Richmond, Virginia on April 9, 1943, and has been a life-long resident of the Richmond area having spent the last fifty years in Hanover County. He was educated in the public schools in the City of Richmond and graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Administration of Justice and Public Safety. He is also a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy. Brother Cook joined the Richmond Bureau of Police in June 1965, and worked his way through the promotional system to the rank of Colonel. During his twenty-five years with the Richmond Bureau of Police, he worked in every Division and served as Deputy Chief of Investigative Operations for twelve years. In 1970, he assisted in the formation of the Bureau's Task Force; in 1972, he established the Internal Affairs Division and, in 1973, he was instrumental in establishing the Bureau's SWAT Team. On August 1990, Colonel Cook was appointed Sheriff of Hanover County by Judge Richard H. C. Taylor and throughout his career, unanimously won re-election five times. Under his watch, this agency achieved its first international and state accreditation, started its first High Risk Entry Team along with many other special teams. He enhanced the Crime Prevention Program and began the Adopt-a-Senior Program, which won the prestigious Webber-Seavey Award in



1996. Additionally, he reached out to all ages of the community, where he started the Citizen's Police Academy, followed by the Youth and Senior Academies. He retired on September 16, 2010. In addition to his law enforcement career, he served as an adjunct faculty member at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Brother Cook was made a Master Mason in Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 on March 17, 1966. He is a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 2009. He affiliated with Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 on December 13, 2004, where he is also a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as

its Worshipful Master in 2008. He was District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 15A in 2010. He has served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance and the Grand Lodge Committee on Security. Also, he was a member of the Commission on Background Investigation of Candidates. He was elected Grand Junior Deacon in November 2011.

He is a member of the Valley of Richmond, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and was invested Knight Commander Court of Honour in 2011 and serves as Assistant Expert in the Lodge of Perfection. He is the President of the Richmond Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center. He holds membership in Acca Shrine Center.

His professional and community involvement includes service on the Advisory Board for Curriculum Development at the Community College for the Criminal Justice Program, the Board of Directors at the Rappahannock Regional Criminal Justice Academy, and the Board of Directors for the Hanover Adult Care Center, where he currently is a member on the Honorary Board. He is a member of the Mechanicsville Businessmen's Association. He is also an active member of Enon United Methodist Church.

He is married to the former Barbara Tyler, and they have three grown children, who were raised and educated in Hanover County, and they keep active with their six grandsons. 🙏



"Spreading Masonic Light"

The Ballot Box and the Act of Balloting

Edward R. Gearheart, P.D.D.G.M.

From the start I emphasize that your ballot is sacred and secret, no one has the right to inquire as to how you balloted or in any way challenge your ballot. All members present must ballot on a petition. It is a Masonic offense to disclose a ballot whether it be for or against a petitioner. Balloting is the safeguard of Peace, Harmony and Unity for which all Lodges strive.

To spread a ballot is an expression that is becoming rare, but is regularly used in Virginia Lodges. Black cubes are used instead of black balls in most Lodges as an additional precaution against errors.

The practice of white cubes cast into different receptacles can be traced to Ancient Greece and Rome, where voting for various purposes required the voters to cast shells or pebbles into various jars.

The impression is that the secrecy of the ballot is an ancient and fundamental tenet of Freemasonry. There is little evidence of a secret ballot until late in the 18th century and no ballot box until the 19th century.

Albert Mackey believed that an unfavorable report from the investigating committee on a petitioner was tantamount to a rejection by the Lodge, in such cases it was unnecessary to spread the ballot on the petitioner. Mackey stated that, if the committee made an unfavorable report they would surely vote against him. He also held that the Secretary was to call a roll of the Craft and each would advance to the Altar, salute and deposit their ballots. Think if you had to call the roll of a Lodge with a membership of 300 members, it would take quite a while to ballot.

To re-spread the ballot is common practice in Virginia Lodges, and in most other Grand Jurisdictions in the United States. When there are only one or two black balls or cubes deposited, provided the ballot has not been disclosed by the East. The Master and both Wardens inspect the ballot to see no mistake has been made.

There are decisions declaring it is a Masonic offense to abuse the ballot box by voting against a petitioner out of spite. It is difficult to see how one can be convicted on evidence, the disclosure of which is unlawful.

Still, no man is perfect, and the Lodge is a moral workshop. When we elect a candidate it means adopting him into an inner circle of friendship by a moral and spiritual tie as close and binding as between two blood brothers of a family. If the Lodge has been too exacting, none of us would have gained admission.

Imagine a ballot box as the valve that controls the flow of the men

into our Fraternity. It determines who shall have the privilege of transmitting the precepts of our Fraternity, which have been entrusted to our care, to future generations. We all know that the West Gate must be protected. We know we are guilty when we vote for someone known to be unworthy, just as it is improper to vote against someone we know is worthy. Balloting upon a petition is a vital function of Masonry. Your ballot is secret and sacred. Balloting is not a landmark of Masonry, but a tradition handed down to keep us strong where other orders have failed.

I would like for you to think about the solemnity of the occasion and the important role you play when balloting. Picture the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses resting on the Altar. They are located in the center of the Lodge, half way between the wisdom of the East and the strength of the West, and halfway between the beauty of the South and the darkness of the North. It is here, at the most sacred spot in the Lodge; we advance salute and deposit our ballot. At this most sacred spot, only you and your God know how and why you balloted.

How do we determine between a petitioner who gives a little extra effort in what he does and who would be a valuable asset to the Lodge and a petitioner who is too aggressive and who would not fit into the Lodge family?

Masonry makes better men out of good men, but none of us are perfect. When we come into this world we are as the rough ashlar and we work to fashion our temples and our souls,

so that they will be acceptable to God. We know that we are going to make mistakes in finishing our Temple. We will erect part of it with materials, our acts and deeds, which will not be acceptable in His sight. We will eradicate these and reconstruct with good materials and are stronger by having this experience. The Supreme Grand Master forgives us and accepts the rebuilt temple.

Balloting is not a popularity contest. If you dislike an individual, but he would be an asset to the Lodge and you don't know of any moral wrongdoings then it is your obligation to the Lodge and to yourself to cast a white ball.

It cannot be over stressed that this article is not telling you how to ballot, rather to think before you cast your ballot. Remember a black cube protects Freemasonry. Use thoughtlessly, carelessly and without Masonic reason, the ballot has the power to crush, not only he against it is aimed, but also he who casts it. A well-used black cube goes into the ballot box, ill-used it drops into the heart and blackens it. 🙏

*A well used black cube
goes into the ballot box,
ill used it drops into the heart
and blackens it*

Summary of Resolutions Presented at 2011 Grand Annual Communication

RESOLUTION NO. 11-01 — ADOPTED

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

RESOLUTION NO. 11-02 — ADOPTED

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

RESOLUTION NO. 11-03 — REJECTED

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

RESOLUTION NO. 11-04 — REJECTED

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

RESOLUTION NO. 11-05 — WITHDRAWN

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

RESOLUTION NO. 11-06 — ADOPTED

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

“At this season, when the year is drawing to a close, tradition suggests and our hearts require that we render humble devotion to Almighty God for the mercies bestowed upon us by His goodness. Devoutly grateful to Divine Providence for the richness of our endowment and the many blessings received, may we continue to give a good account of our stewardship by utilizing our resources in the service of mankind. May we have the vision and courage to accept and discharge honorably the responsibilities inherent in our strength by consecrating ourselves to the attainment of a better world.”

President Harry S. Truman, P.G.M. of Missouri
The Freemason Network Team
<http://www.FreemasonNetwork.org>



Summary Grand Lodge 2011

SUMMARY - GRAND LODGE – 2011
233rd GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
HILTON RICHMOND HOTEL & SPA,
12042 WEST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
NOVEMBER 11 – 12, 2011

Most Worshipful John Mason Chambliss, Jr., Grand Master greeted the Brethren and distinguished guests.

OFFICERS GRAND LODGE, A.F. & A.M., OF VIRGINIA 2010-2011

MOST WORSHIPFUL JOHN MASON CHAMBLISS, JR.	<i>Grand Master</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM TALBOTT ELLISON, JR.	<i>Deputy Grand Master</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LOUIS KERFORD CAMPBELL.	<i>Grand Senior Warden</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL PAUL DAVID SLEEPER	<i>Grand Junior Warden</i>
MOST WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM LEE HOLLIDAY.	<i>Grand Treasurer</i>
MOST WORSHIPFUL ALAN WAYNE ADKINS	<i>Grand Secretary</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WAYNE SAWYER FLORA.	<i>Grand Senior Deacon</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL REESE EDWARD CARROLL, JR.	<i>Grand Junior Deacon</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DAVID NATHAN SILVER.	<i>Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master</i>
BROTHER ROBERT WAGNER DAY.	<i>Grand Marshal</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GEORGE WILLIAM THOMAS, JR.	<i>Associate Grand Marshal</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL EDWIN CLIFTON WHITLOCK.	<i>Grand Chaplain</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL HOEN MCGUIRE EDWARDS, JR.	<i>Grand Lecturer</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WALTER WINCHELL YOUNG	<i>Grand Provost</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL STEVEN WELDON SANFORD	<i>Grand Pursuivant</i>
BROTHER GARY DWIGHT HUFFMAN	<i>Grand Purveyor</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JOHN QUINTON SHEPPARD	<i>Grand Senior Steward</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JOHNNIE CLIFTON DODSON.	<i>Grand Junior Steward</i>
WORSHIPFUL FRANCIS REED BROWN.	<i>Grand Organist</i>
WORSHIPFUL SAMUEL MOSELEY JONES.	<i>Grand Physician</i>
BROTHER FRAN ERIC TURNER	<i>Grand Tiler</i>

OFFICERS EMERITUS

RT. WOR. EDWARD CLEVELAND BARDEN, JR.	<i>Deputy Grand Secretary</i>
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The Grand Master proceeded to open the 233rd Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Friday morning's session included the ADDRESS TO GRAND LODGE of Most Worshipful John Mason Chambliss, Jr., as well as a memorial service conducted by Most Worshipful Charles Franklin Shuler, P.G.M.

James Noah Hillman Awards and Seymour Jonas Levy Awards will be presented to those Lodges, which qualified by the District Deputy Grand Masters when they officially visit the Lodges during 2012.

The Perfect Ashlar Award was presented to Brother Harry Glenn Harvey, a member of Edward N. Eubank Lodge No. 262.

John Blair, Jr. Awards were presented to Brother Donald Lewis Ratliff of Big Stone Gap Lodge No. 208 and Right Worshipful Edwin Clifton Whitlock of Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178. The George Washington Distinguished Service Medal was also presented to Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen of Henry Lodge No. 57.

The Grand Master's Award of Excellence for the Outstanding Sponsoring Body of a Virginia Chapter of the International Order of DeMolay was presented to Herndon Lodge No. 264 by Right Worshipful Michael Earl Williams, Executive Officer in Virginia.

During Friday afternoon's session Most Worshipful Brother Chambliss recognized his distinguished guests as well as the Past Grand Masters of Masons in Virginia. The Report of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia was presented and approved. Committee meetings were held 3:30 P.M., and a banquet for the delegates and distinguished guests was held on Friday evening at 6:30 P.M.

The Grand Master called the Craft from Refreshment to Labor at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday morning, November 12, 2011.

233rd Grand Annual Communication



Saturday's agenda included a report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which submitted the following resolution: "Be it resolved that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of the Commonwealth of Virginia, shall extend fraternal recognition to the National Grand Lodge of Azerbaijan, the Grand Lodge of Maritius, and the National Regular Grand Lodge of the Principality of Monaco." This resolution was adopted.

The Grand Master appointed a special commission to study the feasibility of implementing a Background Investigation Program. The Chairman of the Commission submitted a report on their findings and recommendations to the delegates at the November 2011 Grand Annual Communication. The report was approved by the delegates.

The booklet of Committee Reports was adopted as printed. The report of the Finance Committee was given and the budget for 2012 was presented and approved. The Report of the Past Grand Masters was presented by Most Worshipful Charles Franklin Shuler and adopted. Resolutions 11-01 through 11-06 were acted upon with the results as listed elsewhere in this summary. Most Worshipful James Dean Cole conducted the election of Grand Lodge Officers with the following results:

OFFICERS GRAND LODGE, A.F. & A.M., OF VIRGINIA 2011-2012

MOST WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM TALBOTT ELLISON, JR.	<i>Grand Master</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LOUIS KERFORD CAMPBELL.	<i>Deputy Grand Master</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WAYNE SAWYER FLORA.	<i>Grand Senior Warden</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL REESE EDWARD CARROLL, JR.	<i>Grand Junior Warden</i>
MOST WORSHIPFUL JOHN MASON CHAMBLISS, JR.	<i>Grand Treasurer</i>
MOST WORSHIPFUL ALAN WAYNE ADKINS.	<i>Grand Secretary</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JAMES EDWARD LITTEN.	<i>Grand Senior Deacon</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL VERNON STUART COOK.	<i>Grand Junior Deacon</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JOHN KIRBY CRAFT.	<i>Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JACK KENT PURVIS.	<i>Grand Marshal</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LONNIE LEE GODFREY.	<i>Grand Chaplain</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL HOEN MCGUIRE EDWARDS, JR.	<i>Grand Lecturer</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WALTER WINCHELL YOUNG.	<i>Grand Provost</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SAMUEL EMMITT DUNN.	<i>Grand Pursuivant</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL PAUL WESLEY PENNYBACKER.	<i>Grand Purveyor</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DONALD ELLIS STREHLE.	<i>Grand Senior Steward</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL HOBERT MCKINLEY BOWERS.	<i>Grand Junior Steward</i>
WORSHIPFUL FRANCIS REED BROWN.	<i>Grand Organist</i>
WORSHIPFUL SAMUEL MOSELEY JONES.	<i>Grand Physician</i>
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL EMORY HUGHES MERRYMAN, JR.	<i>Grand Tiler</i>

OFFICERS EMERITUS

RT. WOR. EDWARD CLEVELAND BARDEN, JR. *Deputy Grand Secretary, Emeritus*

The newly elected Grand Master, Most Worshipful William Talbott Ellison, Jr., announced his appointments to the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia for a three-year term. They are Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins, Right Worshipful Gordon Hector Sprigg, Jr. and Right Worshipful Harris Trail Luscomb, III.

The Committee on Credentials gave its report. There were 255 Lodges represented with 1,237 registered by the Committee.

A motion was entertained and passed to pay the bills of this Grand Lodge.

At the conclusion of all business, the Grand Lodge of Virginia was closed in Ample Form until the Friday preceding the second Monday in November 2012 unless sooner convened in emergent or special communication at the will and pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The Installation of District Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Lodge Officers were held at 4:30 P.M. in the ballroom of the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa. The newly elected Grand Master, Most Worshipful William Talbott Ellison, Jr. gave an address outlining his goals for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan W. Adkins, Grand Secretary

AWA:ksm

Military Lodges

Worshipful Wayne E. Sirmon

The Tennessee Grand Master James McCallum called on the Freemasons of both the United States and the Confederacy to remember that the special bond of Fraternity remained even across the terrible fields of battle. Freemasonry displayed itself in a wide range of actions during the American Civil War. There are numerous accounts of life-saving and comforting deeds done by soldiers wearing both the blue and gray. In addition, the development of “military” Lodges that were attached to army units provided a “sacred retreat of friendship and virtue.”

Among the units formed and trained at Fort Morgan was the Second Alabama Infantry Regiment. Organized in the spring of 1861, this isolated post would be home for those men for ten of the twelve month life of the Second Alabama. They were to be separated from their family and friends. They no longer could rely on the stabilizing influences of their churches and business pursuits. But a few of these novice soldiers were able to bring a small part of their pre-war life with them. They formed the first Alabama Masonic Lodge of the Civil War. On October 7, 1861, Grand Master S. F. Hale granted a dispensation to fifteen Masons to operate as Confederate Lodge No. 292.

There are scattered references to military Lodges being formed during the Mexican War. In a report to the Grand Lodge of Michigan in 1848, A. C. Smith reported that correspondence from the Grand Lodges of Virginia and Illinois indicated they had authorized military Lodges for “regiments of Volunteers serving in the present war with Mexico.” Although his committee recommended a similar action by Michigan, there is no record of the creation of such a Lodge by that Grand Lodge. Rufus Greene, Grand Master of Alabama in 1848, granted a Dispensation for a “traveling Lodge in the Alabama Battalion bound for the late seat of War which Lodge commenced its labors at the City of Orizaba, Mexico, and afterwards at St. Juan, where it closed its Dispensation.” This was

a battalion of volunteers raised in Mobile and commanded by John I. Seibels, but did not reach Mexico in time to participate in combat operations. It was placed “on garrison duty in the interior principally at Orizaba, till the peace.”

The American Civil War saw the creation of the greatest number of military Lodges in the history of the nation. This was due to the duration of the conflict and the large number of men mobilized. The then common practice of ceasing major campaigning during the winter months provided opportunities for increased fraternal association.

There are a few scattered references to military Lodges in post-Civil War conflicts. Military Lodges were authorized by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and North Dakota during the Spanish-American War.

There do not appear to have been any military Lodges created during World War Two. The increased mobility of warfare, the more national makeup of the army units of battalion and greater size worked against the state-based structure of the traditional American traveling Lodge.

There have been a number of Masonic meetings reported to have taken place in Iraq during Operation Enduring Freedom.

While this reoccurrence of a desire for military Lodges has not been adequately studied, two factors involved may be the increased deployment of National Guard units and the static nature of this form of warfare.

The concept of Military Masonic Lodges is far from new. Freemasonry owes much of its world-wide nature to the Regimental Lodges of the

British armies. Accommodations were made for the professional soldiers when Grand Lodges began issuing warrants or charters for Regiments to have Military (traveling) Lodges. Using the system of warrants, the Irish Grand Lodge established Lodges in the British army and navy. The First Battalion, the Royal Scots, received its warrant in 1732. This

Masonic Lodges were established by members of several American Regiments in the War of Independence and there is some evidence of Lodges formed during the Mexican, Spanish-American and First World Wars.

But if all efforts fail, if every appeal for peace shall be thrust aside, if the sword must still be the last resort, and accepted as the final arbiter, we beseech the Brethren engaged in the awful contest to remember that a fallen foe is still a Brother, and as such is entitled to warmest sympathies and kindest attentions. If war cannot be averted or turned aside, let every Brother use his utmost endeavors, and, as few as lies in his power; rob it of some of its horrors.

Lodge traveled with its regiment for over a century. By 1813 the Grand Lodges of Ireland, Scotland and the Ancient and Modern Grand Lodges of England had a total of 218 military Lodges on their rolls.

Following their opponent's example, the American Army hosted ten military Lodges between 1775 and 1780. These were attached to the regiments of the Continental Line. Seven of these Lodges held warrants from Pennsylvania. Three of these were for troops raised in that state. The others were for regiments from North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey. New York furnished a warrant for one Lodge and each of the two competing Grand Lodges in Massachusetts authorized one Lodge.

Masonic Lodges were established by members of several American Regiments in the War of Independence. There is some evidence of Lodges formed during the Mexican, Spanish-American and First World Wars. The reduction in the formation of military Lodges over time may be due to the change from the use of state volunteer regiments to units lacking a strong tie to a particular locale. Beginning with the military draft during World War One, the shift from state organized units to individual draftees continued until the end of the draft in 1973. It was not until the Persian Gulf War that Reservists and National Guardsmen again went to war as identifiable units.



Masonic Meeting at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan

The tradition of Military Lodges is not as strong today as it was two centuries ago, but it continues wherever troops have answered the call of duty. Lodges serving American and Allied forces and meeting in forward locations include Cross Swords Military Lodge No. 150, Tigris Military Lodge No. 151, VBC Euphrates Military Lodge No. 152, all under the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland. The newest lodge to proudly continue this tradition "down range" is Canada Lodge, U.D. under the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

On October 7, 2010, Canada Lodge initiated two candidates at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. The new Entered Apprentices are Major Robert Kelly and Corporal Satraj Toor.

Worshipful Brother Vasta wrote this about Canada Lodge:

"Due to operational requirements we did not (all who had parts) have the chance (though try we did) to do a complete run through before the big night.

"If I may say so myself, the ceremony was done as well as any I have seen back home (in my limited Masonic experience, mind you)." All of the parts came together seamlessly and it was quite evident that all of the brethren had put their heart and soul into the perfection of their work.

"I am truly honored to have been a part of this historic Masonic event.

"Our evening ended with a truly Afghan flavor as we were posing for photographs we came under rocket attack and had to hit the floor."

There are striking parallels with Rudyard Kipling's description of the activities in his Lodge in India more than a century before.

Outside — "Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!"

Inside — "Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.

*We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!*
From Rudyard Kipling, "The Mother Lodge Lodge"

Reprinted courtesy of The Scottish Rite Journal

DUTY

"But we can hold our spirits and our bodies so pure and high, we may cherish such thoughts and such ideals, and dream such dreams of lofty purpose, that we can determine and know what manner of men we will be, whenever and wherever the hour strikes and calls to noble action."

Brother Joshua Chamberlain
The Freemason Network Team
<http://www.FreemasonNetwork.org>

2012 DLC Locations and Dates

March 2, 2012 - DLC Eastern Shore (Nandua Middle School)

Registration 6:30 P.M. Conference begins 6:55 P.M. Conference ends 9:15 P.M.
Contact: Jack Watson Bonniwell 757 787-3775

March 3, 2012 - DLC Norfolk (Masonic Temple)

Registration 8:30 A.M. Conference begins 8:55 A.M. Conference ends 11:15 A.M.
Contact: Aaron Sheldon Zeno 757 898-7887

March 16, 2012 – DLC Waynesboro (Tinkling Springs Presbyterian Church)

Registration 6:30 P.M. Conference begins 6:55 P.M. Conference ends 9:15 P.M.
Contact: Joe Wayne Murphy 540 887-8333

March 17, 2012 - DLC Alexandria (Scottish Rite)

Registration 8:30 A.M. Conference begins 8:55 A.M. Conference ends 11:15 A.M.
Contact: John Shroeder 703 321-7047

March 23, 2012 - DLC Keysville (Southside – John Daniel Community College)

Registration 6:30 P.M. Conference begins 6:55 P.M. Conference ends 9:15 P.M.
Contact: Lonnie Lee Godfrey 434 821-4183

March 24, 2012 - DLC Richmond (Scottish Rite)

Registration 8:30 A.M. Conference begins 8:55 A.M. Conference ends 11:15 A.M.
Contact: Hans Rainer Lindquist 804 225-2584

April 6, 2012 - DLC - Big Stone Gap (Mountain Empire Community College)

Registration 6:30 P.M. Conference begins 6:55 P.M. Conference ends 9:15 P.M.
Contact: Tommy Eric Skeens 276-935-2847

April 7, 2012 - DLC – Ft. Chiswell (A.M.) (Ft. Chiswell High School)

Registration 8:30 A.M. Conference begins 8:55 A.M. Conference ends 11:15 A.M.
Contact: Owen Tee Wade 540 674-9437

April 7, 2012 - DLC – Roanoke (P.M.) (Scottish Rite) Afternoon Session

Registration 12:30 P.M. Conference begins 12:55 P.M. Conference ends 3:15 P.M.
Contact: Hafford Lee Arritt, Jr. 540 977-0430



"Spreading Masonic Light"

Winding Up and

William E. Hershey, Jr., PDDGM Chairman, Grand Lodge Committee on Membership

The month of December is significantly different from any other with respect to what takes place in the Lodges and Districts throughout our Grand Jurisdiction. During December Lodges begin to reflect on projects begun and completed. It is also time to reflect on the past months with regards to accomplishments and in some cases opportunities missed. Regardless of how well your Lodge may have fared these past months, we can all agree that in a few short weeks the Grand Annual Communication will have taken place, elections will have been held and we will be preparing for the coming Masonic year.

In many Lodges, the Senior Deacons will

*I am sure there are Wardens
putting the finishing touches on
their ritual in order to obtain
their Wardens Certificates...*

be looking forward to receiving the Past Master's Degree in anticipation of being elected Junior Warden. Likewise, I am sure there are Wardens putting the finishing touches on their ritual in order to obtain their Warden's Certificates and Lodge Secretaries are busy updating their files and sending out the dues notices.

Another event which I hope has already taken place is the meeting between the incoming District Deputy and the District Team. I would also hope plans have been made with regards to what your Lodge or District will do in the coming year to promote some form of

Moving Forward

Membership event. It is my sincerest hope your Lodge sees Bring A Friend and Bring A Mason events as ways to attract new members and as a vehicle for the Lodge to see Brethren who may have been absent for some time. Wouldn't it be great if during the District Deputy Grand Master's Official Visit he could look out into the Lodge room and see a dozen or more members of your Lodge who had been absent for some time? Perhaps by doing something as simple as making a phone call or the offering of a ride to Lodge might just make that happen.

I offer any and all support your Lodge or District may require to organize and host a Bring A Friend or Bring A Mason event. Any one of the Brethren on the Membership Committee stands ready to assist you or your District Membership Coordinator to help you to get the job done. This past year has seen a

... is common to all of these events is their successful introducing good men and their families to Freemasonry.

number of Lodges and Districts hosting Bring A Friend events with many different venues. Common to all of these events is their success in introducing good men and their families to Freemasonry. I would welcome the opportunity to answer any questions that may have come to mind as you read this article.

My e-mail address phone number are wehershey@comcast.net (540) 972-1692. Let us know what the Grand Lodge Committee on Membership can do to assist you, your Lodge or District in the coming year. 🍷

2012 Division Leadership Conference

Registration and Fellowship

All Brethren Assemble Together - Auditorium

Conference Begins

Opening Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions – Division Provost

Membership – RW William Edward Hershey, Jr.

Introductory remarks – MW William Talbott Ellison, Jr., Grand Master

Break

Counterpart Sessions As Listed Below:

Grand Master

(meet with the Worshipful Masters and 2012 DDGMs)

Deputy Grand Master

(meet with the Senior Wardens and 2013 DDGMs)

Grand Senior Warden

(meet with the Junior Wardens)

Grand Junior Warden

(meet with the Senior and Junior Deacons)

Grand Treasurer & Grand Secretary

(meet with the Lodge Treasurers & Secretaries)

Grand Senior Deacon & Grand Junior Deacon

(meet with all other Brethren – Auditorium)

Regional Rep. – and District MAHOVA Ambassadors

(meet with GSD and GJD)

Regional Rep. – District & Lodge Blood Coordinators

(meet with GSD and GJD)

Regional Rep. – Public Relations Committee

(meet with GSD and GJD)

Regional Rep. – District Membership Coordinators

(meet with GSD and GJD)

Grand Lecturer

(meet with the COW, DIWs, LIWs)

Grand Provost

(meet with the COME, DEOs, LEOs)



Edwin C. "Cliff" Whitlock, PDDGM, Grand Chaplain, is presented the John Blair, Jr. Award by M.:W.: Chambliss



M.:W.: Chambliss with Karen Anne-Liller, Miss Congeniality, Job's Daughters of Virginia; Valorie Koogle, Grand Guardian; and Bruce L. Shepherd, PM, Associate Grand Guardian



S. Robert Marsters, State Master Councilor; Michael E. Williams, PDDGM, State Executive Officer; and M.:W.: Chambliss present Philip B. Brooks, W.: of Herndon Lodge No. 264, with Grand Master's Award of Excellence



The President of the Widows Sons of Virginia, Masonic Riders Association, presents M.:W.: Chambliss his vest and made him an honorary member



M.:W.: Chambliss presents awards to Outstanding District Deputy Grand Masters and Worshipful Masters during the Delegates Banquet



M.:W.: Chambliss presents The Patriot Lodge No. 1957 Officers their Charter. M.:W.: Cohen and M.:W.: Rorer are Charter members

Communication



Wayne S. Flora, Grand Senior Deacon, and Reese E. Carroll, Jr., Grand Junior Deacon, escort M.:W.: Chambliss at the Grand Annual Communication



M.:W.: Chambliss opens the Volume of Sacred Law prior to the opening of the Grand Annual Communication



Brother Harry G. Harvey responds upon receiving the Perfect Ashlar Award from M.:W.: Chambliss



M.:W.: Chambliss presents his Address to the assembled Brethren at the Grand Annual Communication



William G. L. Turner, PM, President, National Sojourners, presents the colors at the Grand Annual Communication



M.:W.: Edmund Cohen making remarks after receiving the George Washington Distinguished Service Medal

The Need for Program Committees in Lodges

Donald M. Robey, P.G.M.

One of the major problems today in Masonic Lodges is the constant lack of regular attendance by a majority of the members. When asked, "Why don't you attend your Lodge more regularly?" many of them replied with the same answer, "I would attend if there were some interesting programs presented following the usual Lodge business."

Perhaps we have brought this problem on ourselves because we always depend on the Worshipful Master to plan most programs for the stated meetings of his Lodge. In this busy world in which we find ourselves today, perhaps we need to provide some assistance to the Worshipful Master by asking three or more members of the Lodge to serve on a Program Committee to plan, organize, and schedule all programs to be presented at the stated meetings of a Lodge.

Many successful organizations today depend entirely on their Program Committees to allow their membership to attend meetings and enjoy a variety of different types of programs presented by qualified people who enjoy attending meetings and sharing their experiences and ideas with others.

While a man is serving as the Senior Warden of his Lodge and knows he will advance to the office of Worshipful Master for the next year, this is when he would most certainly appreciate the work of a Program Committee. Many Senior Wardens obtain the necessary certificates to allow them to be elected and installed as the next Worshipful Master, but they fail to plan effective programs for each stated meeting of their Lodge. Communicating with the membership about what will occur at the next meeting of the Lodge is another major problem.

The January trestle board should have a schedule of all of the planned programs for the entire year listed so the members may mark their calendars as to what the program will consist of for that particular month in their Lodge. It is not necessary to provide intimated details for such a schedule, but at least let the membership know that some planning is taking place and that their attendance is needed at the meetings of the Lodge.

The following list of programs has become very standard in some Lodges across the country but many Lodges have some special programs that are done each year in their Lodge due to the date of their

charter or the involvement of some very special person in the history of the Lodge.

January is traditionally the month to observe a Memorial Service for those who have passed on to the Celestial Lodge during the year. This is also the month when those Lodges who have held Open Installations must open their Lodge of Sorrow.

February is the charter month for many of our Lodges, due to this being the month our Grand Lodge met and issued charters to Lodges for years. Many Lodges have programs which involve the Masonic life of George Washington.

March is a good month to have a program on Rededication to all that we stand for in Freemasonry.

Many of the District Educational Officers would be delighted to come to a Lodge to present a program on this subject.

April would be a good time to have a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Work or a District Instructor of Work to present a program on the history of the Virginia Masonic Ritual and how much of it came to evolve into the beautiful ritual we all enjoy so much today in Virginia.

May would be a good time to have a program concerning the reason why Masonic Lodges have historically not participated in public service programs in our communities as many other organizations have done to allow the public to know who they are and what they stand for. This has been a very controversial subject for years and perhaps should be addressed.

June is traditionally the time to have a Patriotic program presented to the membership. June is traditionally Flag month and there have been many famous Freemasons involved in events that have helped make our nation what it is today.

July would be a perfect time to have a video presented to the membership concerning the many things that have occurred in this country in July. This may involve calling from Labor to Refreshment to allow those who are not yet Masons to attend the meeting or even to have another organization to participate in this special program.

August could be utilized to have a program on famous Freemasons which could be planned around the physical location of the Lodge to

... the appointment of a "Program Committee" by the Worshipful Master may well prove to be one of the most important ...

Many successful organizations today depend entirely on their Program Committees ...

allow the program to include anyone from their area to be included. There are many publications which cover this subject.

September is traditionally the month to hold a Past Masters night in the Lodge. Usually Past Masters occupy the officers' positions for the opening and closing of the Lodge and one of the more active and well known Past Masters is the speaker for the evening's program.

October is the founding month of our Grand Lodge in Virginia. Traditionally a proclamation is issued by the Grand Master each year requesting the Lodges to have a program on the founding of the Grand Lodge of Virginia during October. If the stated meeting of the Lodge in November occurs after the Grand Annual Communication, someone should review the Call to Grand Lodge to allow the Worshipful Master to hear the feelings of the membership concerning the resolutions that he will have to ballot on during the Grand Lodge session.

November is traditionally the month when a summary of everything that occurred during the Grand Annual Communication is read to the members to make them aware of any changes in our laws and who are our new Grand Lodge Officers.

December is the month when we hold our annual election of Officers, hear the reports of the various committees of the Lodge, close our Lodge of Sorrow and install the new Officers for the coming year. Many Lodges now hold open or public installations of their officers. It is extremely important to have this information announced in the local newspapers, to send detailed information to the membership, and request them to bring any family members or friends whom they feel would enjoy membership in the Fraternity. We are not allowed to ask someone to join our Lodges but what they hear and observe at an open installation may be the thing they need to ask for a petition.

Again, the appointment of a Program Committee by the Worshipful Master may well prove to be one of the most important moves toward insuring the continued activity of a Lodge which has begun to show a loss of members and a lack of attendance at the meetings of the Lodge because of the lack of effective programs to induce the members to attend more regularly. Again, it is very important that the membership be made aware of the planned programs early in the year due to the very busy world in which we find ourselves today. 🌟

The Perfect Ashlar

Brother David T. Lang

My Brethren, as we approach another season of remembrance and reflection I wanted to share something I wrote for a Brother who laid down his working tools some years ago.

Born to this world roughhewn and jagged,
a stone as yet poorly shapen and ragged.

Helped to grow by kindness of others,
shown our errors in whispers from Brothers.

With this and the aid of the Common Gavel,
sharp edges soon turn to discarded gavel.

With Further Light, we explore new tools,
working with Fellows to uncover more Jewels.

With Plumb, Level, and Square we hearken to hear,
sacred guidance known to the Attentive Ear.

To More Light we then are led,
that Brotherly Love be widely spread.

With our Ashlar true (good work and square),
soon comes the time we must repair.

With Trowel in hand, Ashlar polished and square,
we depart this world and all we built there.

Leaving behind in the hearts of our Brothers,
the tools to teach, lead, and love others. 🌟

“It should not be the desire or work of a Brother Mason to restore the former glory of Freemasonry. The labor ought be to build upon, and if possible, exceed the great accomplishments of our forbearers.”

Brother Kevin Noel Olson

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

Area Masonic Ritual Schools - 2012

NAME	LOCATION	DATE(S)	DISTRICT(S)
Melvin Eugene Huff	Salem	Jan. 21	22, 24
Ira Curtis Hudson	Cape Charles	Feb. 18	12
Wickham—Smith	Lexington	Feb. 25	20, 23
William Dean Conner	Appomattox	Feb. 25	26, 27
Ben Clements—James McFarland	Martinsville	Mar. 3	38, 39
C.A. Whitted	Scottsville	Mar. 7, 14, 15	17, 18
Fred D. Bowman	Woodstock	Mar. 10	3, 5, 6
Kenneth O. Shelton	Purcellville	Mar. 10	2
George Robert Marshall	Blackstone	Mar. 17	26, 27
Charles Eldon Fulgham	Windsor	Mar. 20, 21	31, 32
Charles A. Sinclair, Jr.	Fairfax	Mar. 23-24	4
Richard E. Loving	Culpeper	Mar. 24	7, 10
Boitnott—Myers	Pearisburg	Mar. 26-28	40, 41
Campbell Area School	Rustburg	Mar. 26-29	21, 24, 25, 26, 37, 38
Willard D. Monk	Tazewell	Apr. 3-5	45
Robert R. Kennedy, Jr.	Waynesboro	Apr. 13, 14	18, 19
James Alfred Butts, Jr.	South Hill	Apr. 14	28
C. Frank Hicks	Chesapeake	Apr. 14	36
James Henry Parkerson, Jr.	Virginia Beach	Apr. 16	56
James Bolling Myers	Midlothian	Apr. 25, 26	16, 29
Showalter	Radford	Apr. 25-27	40, 41, 42
William Hiram Wood	Alexandria	Apr. 28	1A, 1B, 54
E. Tyree Mountcastle*	Williamsburg*	May 7-9	57
Stewart Arthur Deem	Norfolk	May 12	35A, 35B
Harry C. Wallace	Wise	May 14-16	48, 49, 50
Dr. Walter A. Porter	Galax	May 21-23	43
James Noah Hillman	Gate City	June 11-13	48, 49, 50
Elmo J. "Bo" Norfleet	Suffolk	June 13, 14	33, 34
Robert Lewis Gibbs	Richmond	July 18-21	15A, 15B, 15C, 16
Leroy Leland Harris	Bedford	July 23-26	22, 24
Lewis Q. Moore	Abingdon	Aug. 21-23	44, 46, 47
C.S. Revell—B.D. Hudson	Hampton	Sept. 10-12	14A, 14B
L.N. Cridlin	Jonesville	Sept. 17, 18, 20	49, 50
William Edward Ray, Sr.	Warrenton	Sept. 21-22	4, 7
Charles H. Rowell	Kinsale	Sept. 22	8, 9, 11
Edward Page Henry	Prince George	Sept. 24-26	16, 29
Starks—Baumgardner	Bland	Oct. 8-10	41, 42
Lon Norman Dooley	Lebanon	Oct. 15-17	46, 47
Charles T. "Bucky" Gilbert	Marion	Oct. 22-24	42, 43, 44
Joseph T. Stewart	Courtland	Oct. 24, 25	31, 32
O.B. Omohundro	Gordonsville	Oct. 27	7, 10
Reid James Simmons Academy	Fork Union	July 29-31, August 1	Statewide

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

*E. Tyree Mountcastle School locations are Chickahominy, Yorktown, and Williamsburg Lodges (in order).

Rainbow Girls Message

Nicole McLaughlin
Grand Worthy Advisor 2011-2012

The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls has been traveling to many events over the past couple of months.

After the Masonic Family Day Parade, our first Grand Visitation was to the Smithfield Assembly performing a program to honor the dads and the State Rainbow Dad. The Smithfield girls did a beautiful job.

At Grand Annual Communication, the Grand Master, John Chambliss, introduced everyone. My dad (Kevin McLaughlin), Mom J (Linda Jenkins), and Dad J (Jerry Jenkins), accompanied me to meet and greet with all of the dignitaries.

The next event on the agenda was the Grand Cross of Color Observance. Many members of the Grand Cross of Color got together at Carini's for fellowship and to break bread together.

At the Convention for Grand Royal Arch Chapter, I had the pleasure to get to know the Grand High Priest, Danny Bowman, and his wife, Debbie. Speeches were given during the banquet. I had the opportunity to talk with the new Grand Master, Terry Ellison, and receive his pin and his wife's pin.

Next the girls and I traveled to Hampton for our second Grand Visitation. The Hampton girls performed the Founder's Day Program. They did a wonderful job explaining how the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls began. The girls had fun helping me create a Thanksgiving story that I read during my remarks.

Then it was November 26, a fun evening with many dignitaries and girls who traveled to the Job's Daughters Pageant. It was very nice getting to know Maralei Bunn and Karen-Anne Liller, and I look forward to getting to know the new Miss Job's Daughter, Kelsey Koser, and Miss Congeniality, Tasha Cook and I look forward to traveling with them.

On December 3, we had our Cowgirl Pledge Party for all of our pledge- age girls and possible Pledges, ages between six and ten. The girls learned about Rainbow as they made flowers in the colors of the rainbow. Before they left, they learned a line dance to the song "Good Times" since they all had a good time at the Cowgirl Party.

Later that evening we had a great turnout for the Sadie Hawkins Dance and Carnival with a delicious BBQ dinner with carnival games around the room and a photo booth. There was an amazing fortune teller. We also did a few line dances to several songs. It was a fun-filled evening enjoyed by all.

The girls, Mom J, and I look forward to continuing our travels at the upcoming events after the New Year. ❄️



Washington's Birthday Gala

The celebration begins with a Special Communication of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 on Tuesday evening, February 21, 2012. Celebrations will continue with a wreath-laying at the tomb of George Washington in the morning.



In conjunction with its February 22, 2012 Gala Celebration of George Washington's Birthday, the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia will hold the fourth George Washington Memorial Symposium and present the George Washington Memorial Award. This year's George Washington Memorial Award recipient is Dr. Henriques, a Professor of History, at George Mason University. He specializes in Virginia history, with particular emphasis on the American Revolution and the Virginia Founding Fathers. Henriques's most recent work is *Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington* (2006).

Following the presentation, guests will enjoy a musical celebration in Memorial Theater, then the Birthday Banquet in Grand Masonic Hall with appropriate Birthday Toasts and short remarks.

The Association looks forward to sharing with you the Gala Celebration of George Washington's Birthday. ❄️

Masonic Photo Contest

Moring E. Gravitt, PDDGM

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

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



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

Send Photos to: vmheditor@gmail.com and put Masons Capturing Great Moments in the subject line of the email. Send only one (1)

Master Quarryman Award

Dear Brethren,

I hope this letter finds you well as we begin the journey into a new Masonic year.

During the 2011 Division Leadership Conference series you were introduced to the "Master Quarryman Award."

Each and every Master Mason in Virginia should be able to qualify for this award. It was developed for you with your direct input. The Master Quarryman Award is unlike the George Washington Distinguished Service Award (one issued each year) and the John Blair, Jr. Citation (two issued each year) which you must be selected for.

I had been serving as the public face for advertising and promoting this award among the Craft. With my departure from the Grand Lodge line your Grand Lodge progressive elected officers want to ascertain if YOU, the Craft, would like to keep this award in place.

In order to keep the "Master Quarryman Award" program in place, you MUST, contact me ASAP to express your interest in participating in the award. If a sufficient number of Brethren do not express their desire to participate, the Grand Lodge progressive, elected officers may decide to eliminate this program.

Please be advised; you need to contact me NOW, before a decision is made to either maintain or abolish the "Master Quarryman Award."

I would encourage you to take a moment out of your busy schedule to make a call or send out an e-mail expressing your interest. Remember, you are in control of your own destiny. Consider the Master Quarryman Award as a "thank you" for the hard work which you do on a daily basis.

PLEASE Contact me ASAP so that I may inform your Grand Lodge Officers of your interest:

Paul Sleeper
P O Box 400
Fincastle, VA. 24090-0400
540-520-7390
paul.sleeper@gmail.com

If you need a copy of the award I can easily e-mail one to you in PDF format.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Paul Sleeper, PDDGM

photo per email. You may enter six (6) photos per year. With each photo, send a detailed description of the subject, when and where taken, and the reason for the picture. List the photographer's name, Lodge number, and camera used. Detailed stories accompanying the photo are encouraged. These pictures and stories may be made into an article in the printed version of the Herald.

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

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

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CardPartner.com

Ask Hiram

Where can I find educational materials that tell me more about Virginia Masonry?

ANSWER: The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education (COME) produces and publishes talks on Masonic education topics for presentation in Lodge or at District Schools. These are prepared on a monthly basis and are sent to the Masters and Secretaries of each Lodge, and to District Educational Officers through the Division Provosts. The COME makes these talks, as well as many other educational publications, available on the Grand Lodge web site. Follow links to “Masonic Education” on the right side of the Home Page.

Is there a requirement somewhere that everyone who is present at a meeting shall be introduced every time the Lodge meets?

ANSWER: Virginia ritual does not require everyone present to be introduced every time a Lodge meets; in fact there is no strict requirement to introduce anyone. The Grand Lodge publication “*Masonic Etiquette, Protocol, and Decorum*” specifies protocol to be used when introducing distinguished visitors but does not in any way require that every Brother attending the meeting shall be introduced. Many Lodges, as a courtesy to their long-serving members, give special recognition to 50, 60, and possibly even 70, year members. Residents of the Masonic Home are also given recognition by many Worshipful Masters.

A foreign visitor to our Lodge mentioned the term “visitator a latere” and explained that this is a person responsible for examinations. I have never heard of this type of position. What type of examination does this refer to and in which jurisdictions is this common?

ANSWER: The term “visitator a latere” originated with the Vatican. In ancient times, popes often exercised their right of inspecting the dioceses of various countries through their representative, the “Visitator”. Their duty was to inspect the state of the Church in the country confided to them and then to draw up a report to the Holy See.

The term is used in some European jurisdictions to mean an appointed examiner, responsible for examining the work of subordinate Lodges, providing a report to the Grand Master, and, if necessary, to issue guidance for improvement when work is considered to be substandard.

Can the light over the altar be used during a stated or called communication, what is the protocol?

ANSWER: The light positioned directly above the altar should not be used during any communication of a Masonic Lodge. It is used by other Masonic bodies as part of their ritual but is not to be used by a Lodge holden under the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Several members of my Lodge are distraught by the way our WM conducts the business of the Lodge and his general attitude towards what we consider to be standard Masonic protocol and behavior. We noticed this type of behavior during the years he served in line and tried to speak with him about it, but to no avail. After he took over as WM we have voiced our objections to him repeatedly but have not been successful in making him change his ways. As the Master, he rules and governs his Lodge but what recourse does the Lodge have if a majority of the members consider the Master to be unsuitable for the position after he has already been elected and installed?

ANSWER: The Brother raises a very sensitive subject, one which comes up from time to time in our Lodges. Hiram urges the Brethren to keep in mind that Virginia Masonic Law does not in any way guarantee a line officer’s progression through the stations. This progression is achieved solely through elections by the Lodge membership. It has been said repeatedly that every Lodge deserves the Master it elects; this may seem harsh but, as pointed out by the Brother in this case, the objectionable behavior was observed and commented on during the years the current Master was in line. Despite being unsuccessful in getting the man to change his ways the Lodge elected him Master. Hiram has difficulty understanding the rationale behind this.

The prescribed way to address a situation like this is for the Brethren of the Lodge to present their concerns, in writing, to the District Deputy Grand Master, who will review the matter and, if warranted, pursue it at a higher level. Please remember that the DDGM is only interested in facts, not hearsay. The members of the Lodge should then wait patiently for a communication from the DDGM or Grand Lodge concerning what the next step should be.

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

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

50, 60 and 70 Year Masonic Veterans

BROTHER	LODGE	YEARS
Bro. Fred Belmont Rankin	Acacia Lodge No. 16	50
Bro. William Trainham Perkins	Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19	50
Bro. Leonard Neal Ford	St. John's Lodge No. 36	50
Bro. Elwood Arnold Woolwine	Abingdon Lodge No. 48	50
Bro. Robert Eugene Hobson	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	50
Bro. Nelson Morgan Goff	Mackey Lodge No. 69	50
Bro. J. W. Hundley	Courtland Lodge No. 85	50
Wor. William Estes Dawson	Fleetwood Harmony Lodge No. 92	50
RW Walter Junior Kessler	Portsmouth Lodge No. 100	50
Wor. Charles Jackson King	Amelia Lodge No. 101	50
Wor. Albert Thornhill Baber, Jr.	Taylor Lodge No. 117	50
Bro. John Daniel Mullins	Chase City Lodge No. 119	50
Bro. Douglas Randolph Strother	Powhatan Starke Lodge No. 124	50
Bro. Thomas P. Hern	Covington Lodge No. 171	50
Bro. Troy Michael White	Chamblissburg Lodge No. 179	50
Bro. Norman Earl Fanne	Western Branch Lodge No. 189	50
Bro. Frederick Hoggard	Western Branch Lodge No. 189	50
Bro. John Bennie Jennings, Jr.	Western Branch Lodge No. 189	50
Wor. Franklin Orville Quier	Western Branch Lodge No. 189	50
Bro. Robert Merrill Shelburne	Kempsville Lodge No. 196	50
Bro. Claude H. Frick, Jr.	Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201	50
Wor. George D. English, Jr.	Westmoreland Lodge No. 212	50
Wor. Thomas W. Moss	Westmoreland Lodge No. 212	50
Wor. George Thomas Hawkins, Jr.	Bayside Lodge No. 218	50
Bro. Lee Roy Kelly	Corinthian Lodge No. 266	50
Bro. Leland Alvie Cobb	Dupont Lodge No. 289	50
Wor. Charles Slusher Spence	Elbert Munsey Lodge No. 298	50
Bro. Louis Anthony Bruno	Central Lodge No. 300	50
Wor. Robert Leroy Parker	Central Lodge No. 300	50
Wor. Robert Dean Hankins	Carter Lodge No. 323	50
Bro. Claude Dent, Jr.	John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350	50
Bro. Robert Dill Brugh	Norfolk Lodge No. 1	60
R.W. Clifford Cardwell Grotz, Jr.	Blandford Lodge No. 3	60
Wor. Vernon Coze Walton	St. John's Lodge No. 36	60
R.W. Thomas Earl Krouse	Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64	60
Bro. Donald Edward Miller	Shelby Lodge No. 162	60
Bro. Frederick Brown Case	Monitor Lodge No. 197	60
Wor. Robert Lee Bonney	Corinthian Lodge No. 266	70

LIKE ANSWERS RETURNED by Sam Welty



Astronomers still can't explain the gravitational anomalies causing an abrupt annual shift in the center of the known universe.



Book Review

The Secret Power of Masonic Symbols

William A. Parks, Jr., P.D.D.G.M.

“Now a fully accepted brother, albeit a mere ‘entered apprentice,’ I left the temple feeling that something special had happened; but I did not have a clue as to what any of it might mean... The mysteries of the Craft certainly had not been revealed. Perhaps, I thought, all will become clear at the next ceremony. It did not.” Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas, *The Hiram Key* (1996)

More than a dozen books about Freemasonry later, Brother Robert Lomas delivers *The Secret Power of Masonic Symbols*, etc., etc., etc., arguably the most promising and grandiose title ever bestowed upon a book about the Craft.

“A promise made is a debt unpaid,” as Robert Service told us, and Brother Lomas still owes us.

If records were kept on the vertical height of leaps of logic, Brother Lomas would hold such records in perpetuity.

In short, Lomas portrays *The Secret Power of Masonic Symbols* as some sort of contagion spread to the profane by mere association with members of the Craft.

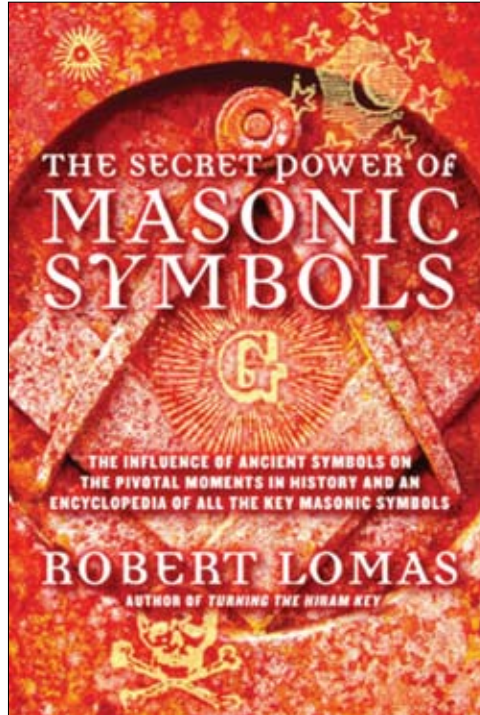
To fairly present Brother Lomas’ thesis in a balanced summary, it becomes necessary to quote him directly and at some length. Lomas still insists that Masonic ritual delivers little more than bewilderment.

As he states, “the symbols are never explained in a straightforward manner... [The candidate] is immersed in the significance of the symbol and feels its meaning in a way no rational explanation can hope to emulate.”

Nevertheless, “symbols are nothing less than the words of a cosmic language that lays bare the secrets of the universe.”

The great symbol that allowed Freemasons “to read and understand the plans of the Great Architect of the Universe” is the sign for equality, that is “=,” first used in 1557. The significance of that sign, Lomas asserts, was first recognized by the British mathematician John Wallis, a Freemason and member of the Royal Society, which was founded in 1662.

“Before Wallis, no one had realized the great power inherent in the symbol of equal-



ity and the Masonic philosophy of balance and harmony that it symbolized.”

How did Wallis accomplish this miraculous insight? “A symbol that was used by Masons to stand for equality and balance was rotated through ‘an angle of ninety degrees or the fourth part of a circle’ to reveal a whole new meaning. Today, it can be found on every computer keyboard: the equals sign (=).”

Before Lomas reveals the precise symbol that became “=,” he presents a history of mathematics that suggests that the Masonic rotation of that symbol to form the equals sign made all modern algebra, trigonometry and calculus possible. Says Lomas: “Even [Sir Isaac] Newton’s discovery of the hidden secrets of the symbol of equality gave a totally new view of how the universe is controlled and ordered... Newton’s understanding came from his study of Masonic symbolism.”

That symbolism further enabled modern research, resulting in “two symbolic discoveries: two different types of atom bomb.” And by the way, President Franklin Roosevelt, instigator of the

Manhattan Project, was “himself a Freemason.”

The identity of this all-powerful symbol emerges more clearly when Lomas turns to history and politics: “Without the inspirational Masonic symbol of the two pillars, no truly democratic government would have emerged or succeeded.”

Lomas finds proof of this in the dollar bill. “Each pair of 1s [that is, the numeral one] represents a pair of pillars.” According to Lomas, the original dollar sign contained two pillars as well, even though the first dollar sign was made by superimposing the letters “U” and “S” upon each other. Eventually the “U” lost its bottom [too easy] and the two vertical lines merged into one.

Here’s the secret, omnipotent symbol, according to Lomas: the two pillars, the secret, powerful symbol that Wallis knocked on its, their, side(s), are Jachin and Boaz, symbolizing strength and beauty, temporal and religious power, church and state, balance and equilibrium, etc.

Accordingly, “Perhaps the most recent use of a currency symbol incorporating the parallel lines of the two-pillar symbol can be seen in the Euro symbol (€).”

Having located the two pillars on two of the most powerful currencies in the world, Lomas next relocates the Second Continental Congress of 1776 from Philadelphia to Williamsburg where, in the Declaration of Independence, “the fifty-six signers,” of whom there “were eighteen Freemasons,” espoused certain “self-evident truths” which “had been taught by Freemasonry for the previous 300 years.”

Lomas delves more deeply. James Madison, although a non-Mason, attended the Constitutional Convention in 1787 at which the Freemason George Washington presided in the presence of Freemason Benjamin Franklin.

Some may be surprised by Lomas’ statement that a “key thinker about Masonic symbolism who influenced Madison was George Washington.” Contagious, that Freemasonry.

“Madison’s inspiration for the system of checks and balances is often reported to have

Book Review (continued)

come from Charles Montesquieu... and John Jay,” whose Craft membership Lomas relies upon to extend his theory.

Indeed, “Madison’s own writing makes it clear that he had thought through the ideas that had been put forward by Masonic philosophers such as Montesquieu. Montesquieu’s ideas were based upon the Masonic symbol of center, which is two pillars standing on either side of a circle.”

But wait, the Convention adopted a three branched government and so far we have only two pillars and have just added a circle. What shall we do?

Well, that’s no problem, just add a column because we also have the symbolic Masonic pillars of Strength (the Presidency), Wisdom (the Congress [again, too easy]), and Beauty (the Judiciary).

The mind reels in astonishment at Madison’s invention of such a fundamentally and obviously Masonic Constitution without ever witnessing the Inner Temple Lecture. Such is *The Secret Power of Masonic Symbols*.

As if all of that were insufficient to demonstrate *The Influence of Ancient Symbols on Pivotal Moments in History*, Lomas’ next logical leap is over the moon, literally, virtually, and historically.

Again, Masonic symbolism inspires yet another non-Mason to act. This time it’s President John F. Kennedy’s determination to land men on the moon.

Kennedy’s infusion of *The Secret Power of Masonic Symbolism*, according to Lomas, came from his Vice President, Lyndon B. Johnson, who “remained an Apprentice, but all Masonic Apprentices are taught about the symbolic importance of the moon.”

Lomas’ view of NASA’s official insignia of Apollo 11, the project that landed men on the moon, brings his argument full circle: “The two ones that make up the figure 11 echo the symbol of the two pillars that were so successful in supporting the fledgling United States on the dollar bill. [It] shows an eagle landing on the moon and bearing in its talons a sprig of acacia, which is the Masonic symbol of eternal life.”

Well, not exactly. The patch of Apollo 11 was designed by Michael Collins, the module commander. He chose an eagle as the symbol, put an olive branch in its beak, and drew a lunar background with the Earth in the distance.

NASA officials said the talons of the eagle looked too “warlike” and after some discussion, the olive branch was moved to the claws. The crew decided the Roman numeral XI would not be understood in some nations and went with Apollo 11. Collins, Michael (2001). *Carrying the Fire: An Astronaut’s Journeys*, Cooper Square Press, pp. 332–333.

So much for two columns and a sprig of acacia. The Eagle has landed. At least it’s in a circle, which Lomas fails to mention.



The balance of *The Secret Power*, pp. 134–261, is Lomas’ Encyclopedia of All the Key Masonic Symbols. Even Faith, Hope and Charity are called “symbols” rather than their representatives, the cross, anchor, and heart, further evidence that even so prolific an author as Lomas can mistake the symbol for the thing symbolized.

The study of Allen Roberts, Kirk McNulty and Stephen Dafoe will reward the student of Masonic symbolism far more rationally, fittingly, logically, accurately and Masonically than *Secret Power*.

Finally, at the end, Lomas claims that “some Freemasons believe Lomas is the inspiration for the protagonist, Dr. Robert Langdon,” in Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code* and *The Lost Symbol*.

Not a few Brethren may suspect that Umberto Eco, the internationally acclaimed

semiotician (“symbolist” to Dan Brown), holds a superior claim to that distinction.

In summary, *The Secret Power of Masonic Symbols* masterfully and with the flimsiest of foundation, source or basis, indulges symbolism on steroids.

Lomas’ argument claims that symbols evoke powerful emotions; that the emotive power of symbols inspires and directs “pivotal moments in history;” and that, but for the power of uniquely Masonic symbols, creation of the Royal Society, invention of the = sign, erection of Rosslyn Chapel, inclusion of “self-evident truths” in the Declaration of Independence, the presence of three branches of government in the U.S. Constitution, development of the atomic bomb, and the American moon landing would not have occurred.

All that from two, or maybe three, columns. And a circle.

A counterpoint suggests itself for what Lomas terms the “emotive power” of Masonic symbols.

In the Blue Lodge Degrees, the candidate enters the Lodge blindfolded, attends Lodge prayer, circumambulates the Lodge room, and is caused to kneel and assume solemn obligations sealed by his wish for severe penalties for the violation thereof, following which he receives light.

In that state he is presented with his working tools with both their operative and symbolic meanings. Ultimately he participates in a drama in which he stars, again blindfolded, as the victim of a vile murderous conspiracy.

Then he is resurrected.

Those rituals pack real emotional wallop which binds the candidate to the oldest, strongest and most successful fraternity in history.

Meanwhile, Brother Robert Lomas, as evidenced by *The Secret Power of Masonic Symbols*, remains befuddled, bewildered and clueless when it comes to the genuine, binding, enriching, and beautiful meaning of Craft symbolism.

The saddest result of his hoodwinked state is the voluminously silly image he imposes on our benevolent Fraternity. 🙄

100 Years

Dillwyn Lodge No. 315 received its 100th Anniversary Plaque from Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr.



Pictured are Right Worshipful John E. Staton, Jr., Worshipful Master, and Most Worshipful John M. Chambliss, Jr. 2011.

“Be at war with your vices,
at peace with your neighbors,
and let every new year find you
a better man.”

Brother Benjamin Franklin

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

Learning from a Ceremony

M. W. James D. Cole, CEO

Everyone knows that Masons love a good ceremony. During the holiday season, Masons, like all Americans, gather around tables, normally taking the same seats as in years past, staring at traditional menus of food, perhaps even served in the same dish as in prior years. Ceremony and tradition are important to our lives. We enjoy the “ceremony” of eating a good meal... well perhaps, eating too many good meals. Yes, holiday meals take on the role of a regular ceremony of sorts. Each of the cooks brings his or her “special” recipe of whatever. The children, no matter what their age, “know their places,” and they all know very well what time the meal is served.

Meal times are probably the center of life at the Masonic Home. Every few days I stroll through our Dining Room, greeting the residents and chatting with them. Each time I walk into that room, I recall fondly the Ceremony of Dedication of the Dining Room which occurred on October 11, 1997.

During that ceremony, conducted by our Grand Lodge, I recall that as Grand Senior Deacon at the time, my main goal was to hold my deacon’s staff low enough to avoid puncturing the room’s brand new ceiling, yet high enough to avoid toppling the hat off the head of our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins. It now seems odd that such a seemingly small balancing act was so important at the time.

However, I am reminded that small things usually add up to larger things. Almost every detail is important to someone. I am also reminded what the dedication taught to those present at the ceremony.

Like all Masonic Lodges, the Dining Room was dedicated to Freemasonry’s efforts to “enliven the spirit of Philanthropy and promote the cause of Charity.” That is why the Masonic ceremony for Lodges and other facilities dedicates the facility to Universal Benevolence.

That day, we were told that every Mason must dedicate his affections and his abilities

to the same generous purpose; that while each should display a warm and cordial affection to those who are of the Household of the Faith, each must also extend his benevolent regards and good wishes to the whole family of mankind.

The American Heritage Dictionary (4th Edition) defines benevolence as “an inclination to perform kind, charitable acts or, simply a kindly act.” For more than one hundred twenty years, the Masonic Home of Virginia has been the most visible and successful example of Masonic Benevolence in our Commonwealth.

Each and every day, gifts from the Masons of Virginia support this Home and provide a community full of kind acts. We have created a continuing care retirement community where the primary “selling point” is the caring Masonic spirit evident among our residents and staff.

Yes, just like at the dedication ten years ago, details are important. At YOUR Masonic Home, fees are less than those charged at comparable communities. Financial assistance is offered for those who cannot afford to pay the entire fee. We have beautiful grounds. We provide first rate care. The buildings are clean and in good repair. The food is flavorful, nutritious and served with a smile. Thousands of hours of activities are planned each year for residents. Most of our residents frequently travel, attend Lodge meetings, shop at local stores and enjoy a full and active lifestyle.

Yes, we have our “details” in order, but the significant difference we offer is that we are a community of neighbors who share basic Masonic beliefs in God, our Country and our fellow human being. That special view of the world is what makes us head and shoulders above any other retirement community.

After all is said and done, the Masonic Home and the Masons who give so generously to it truly live up to what was taught at that dedication ceremony. 🙏

Masonic Home

Honorariums and Memorials

Many Lodges and individuals contribute a gift 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 September 1, 2011 through November 30, 2011. Persons HONORED are in **BOLD** on the left, followed by the donor's name on the right.

HONOREE	DONOR			
Losen L. Alexander	Warwick Lodge No. 336	Maude B. Griffey	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Edison	Mrs. Mildred Lockwood
John G. Anderton	Urbanna Royal Arch Chapter No. 59	Robert Hadley	Robert and Harriet Hadley and Family	William F. Perdue
	Urbanna Lodge No. 83	George R. Hale	Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220	Samuel C. Anaya
William P. Andrews	David A. Brown	Clifton U. Hayes	Warwick Lodge No. 336	Stella Paxton
Harold G. Archer	Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982	Robert D. Heeren	Franklin Lodge No. 151	Brother and Mrs. Klebert
	Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982	James W. Hogge	Kenneth M. Hogge	Teddy Thornhill
	David A. Brown	Thomas M. Holder	Nancy Holder	Joseph and Barbara Hogge
Chester C. Baity	Betty C. Gillie	Walter W. Hubbard	Joppa Lodge No. 40	Richard and Mary Peroe
Thomas W. Benton	Garland N. Rollins	Robert L. Jenkins	Warwick Lodge No. 336	Garland N. Rollins
	Edward F. Myers Jr.	Keith Johnson	Ralph E. Bartley	Alan and Gerri Adkins
	Randy & JoAnn Scully	Lillie Mae Johnson	Charles R. Seaford	Warwick Lodge No. 82
	Mr. Steven R. Faherty	Edsel T. Keister	Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82	Montross-Landman Lodge No. 293
Joseph R. Bishop	Nansemond Lodge No. 77	David Lacey	Virginia May Lodge No. 38	Unity Lodge No. 146
Margaret J. Black	Army and Navy Lodge No. 306	Dennis W. Lindsay	Warwick Lodge No. 336	Thomas C. Kaufman
Lillian Bolton	David W. Barnes	Aubrey H. Mason	Charles T. Foster	Kilwinning Crosse Lodge No. 2-237
Elvin L. Booker	West Point Lodge No. 238	Roy E. Mathis	Yorktown Lodge No. 205	Shirley J. Berends
Thomas B. Boyce	Bayside Chapter No. 181 O.E.S.	Claude H. McCloud	Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82	Emory H. Merryman
John Brickhouse	Nansemond Lodge No. 77	Ottis McKeithan	Nansemond Lodge No. 77	Donovan Lodge No. 75
	Suffolk Lodge No. 30	Irving G. Meadows	Nancy Holder	Franklin Lodge No. 151
Charles M. Britt	Warwick Lodge No. 336	Eloise M. Mosby	James and Shirley Uzel	Bedford Lodge No. 244
Bernard O. Brockenbrough	Piedmont Lodge No. 152		Mr. and Mrs. Johnson	Franklin Lodge No. 151
Audrey Brown	Robert and Amy Flicek		Anne R. Lyles	Joseph and Barbara Hogge
	Mrs. Niki A. Costianis		Gloria Blackwell	Garland N. Rollins
	Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. Saba		John and Betty Long	William C. McAllister
	Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Browning		George and Helen Wood	Richard and Mary Peroe
	Lisa Gilley		Richard and Mary Peroe	Stella Paxton
Gerald E. Burks	C. S. Revell Masonic School		Betty C. Gillie	Wiley K. Clawson
Joseph C. Butler	Warwick Lodge No. 336		Ms. Helen M. Lape	Samuel C. Anaya
James A. Carty	R. E. Harrison		Dennis & Donna Kielsgard	Mr. and Mrs. A. Wayne Ondich Jr.
John M. Chambliss	Eureka Lodge No. 195		Mr. and Mrs. Porter	Long & Foster Stony Point
Judy Chambliss	Wives of the 2011 Grand Lodge Officers and the PGMS		Gary L. Denton	Mr. and Mrs. Humphries
			Fairmount Memorial Baptist Church	Mrs. Andrew Dreelin
Ronald C. Childress	Kilwinning Crosse Lodge No. 2-237	Mary M. Moss	Fairmount Young at Heart Club	Frank B. McAllister
James K. Church	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Winfred L. Murphy	Louis K. Campbell	Glenn and Elizabeth German
Kenneth L. Clayton	Warwick Lodge No. 336	George W. Myers	Princess Anne Lodge No. 25	Henrico County Commissioner of Accounts Staff
Horace A. Cochran	Old Town Lodge No. 68	Albert C. Nolan	Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274	VDOT
Sherman A. Collins	Virginia May Lodge No. 38	Charles D. Padrick	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351	Suffolk Lodge No. 30
Raymond L. Cook	Sandston Lodge No. 216	George R. Ragen	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273	Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274
Joseph F. Cox	David A. Brown	William H. Rhodes	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273
Eugene W. Crews	Joppa Lodge No. 40	Barbara Rice	Tidal Wave Lodge No. 273	Leonard A. Rowe
Daniel E. Crisman	Sandston Lodge No. 216		Garland N. Rollins	Warwick Lodge No. 336
John W. Cutler	David A. Brown		Althea M. Billig	Gary W. Taylor
	Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982		Lynn S. Vitali	Richard and Mary Peroe
Charles R. Elliott	Joppa Lodge No. 40		Janet L. Rice	Samuel C. Anaya
William T. Ellison	David L. Glover		Andrea Mills	John and Betty Long
	Wanda Ellison		The Tri Club Woman's Club	
	Manchester Lodge No. 14		Ms. Marian B. Schleicher	
John C. Everly	Andrew R. Jackson	Robert E. Ritchie	Bradner Family Charitable Fund	
Robert L. Farmer	Virginia May Lodge No. 38	Elva L. Rollins	Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27	
Stephen M. Forcum	Kilwinning Crosse Lodge No. 2-237		Mrs. Donna A. Lawson	
William S. Freeman	Army and Navy Lodge No. 306		Robert and Gloria Hall	
Ashley L. Garrett	Nancy Holder		Mr. and Mrs. Jones	
Russell S. Gayle	Franklin Lodge No. 151		Herbert and Mildred Milby	
Henry W. Gill	David A. Brown		Mr. and Mrs. Paul P. Landrum	



Masonic Home

Resident Birthdays

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
FEBRUARY		
2/6/1923	Stuart Shipley	Varina Lodge No. 272
2/20/1921	Charles Wilson	Manchester Lodge No. 14
2/19/1919	Norma McCullough	Babcock Lodge No. 322
2/3/1918	Helen Anderson	Chesterfield Lodge No. 161
2/2/1919	William Mills	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
2/25/1917	Helen Rackley	Blandford Lodge No. 3
2/23/1936	H. Richard Neiswander	Chester Lodge No. 94
2/23/1926	Claude Morris	King Solomon's Lodge No. 194
2/19/1934	Edgar Harrison	Virginia Lodge No. 177
2/25/1927	Mary Gene Smith	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
2/4/1925	James Smith	Warwick Lodge No. 336
2/20/1920	Raymond Martines	Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219
2/11/1931	Dorothy Davies	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
2/14/1925	Bunion Bussey	Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
2/19/1926	Betty Burnette	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
2/27/1932	James Goodman	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
MARCH		
3/29/1927	Virginia VonGemmingen	Babcock Lodge No. 322
3/5/1923	Harold Bohannon	Manchester Lodge No. 14
3/24/1916	Rose Szentendrei	St. John's Lodge No. 36
3/4/1929	Betty Gillie	Babcock Lodge No. 322
3/30/1931	Charles Klebert	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
3/5/1928	Frances Coleman	Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344
3/24/1922	Lillian Yearwood	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
3/23/1926	Irene King	Virginia Lodge No. 177
3/9/1916	Annie McPherson	St. Tamany Lodge No. 5
3/26/1923	Dorothy Barton	Arlington Lodge No. 102
3/24/1936	Carol Friis	Franklin Lodge No. 151
3/4/1919	James Beasley	Wakefield Lodge No. 198
3/7/1923	Albert Noll	Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
3/7/1922	Florence Taylor	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
3/2/1925	James Fox	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
3/30/1923	Edith Holcomb	Ocean View Lodge No. 335
3/16/1919	Charles Hughes	Meridian Lodge No. 284
3/14/1927	Bertha Lilly	Sandston Lodge No. 216
APRIL		
4/6/1917	Elethia Cason	Atlantic Lodge No. 2
4/24/1924	Beatrice Milton	Blandford Lodge No. 3
4/5/1917	Rebecca Price	Blandford Lodge No. 3
4/29/1925	Frances Pugh	Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
4/25/1908	Eula Beasley	Manchester Lodge No. 14
4/17/1930	Jean McCuiston	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
4/7/1927	Margaret Baity	Oriental Lodge No. 20
4/4/1924	Maureen Doggett	Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344
4/27/1924	Juliet Burton	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
4/16/1918	Virginia Roggmann	Bremond Lodge No. 241
4/28/1923	Helen Payne	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
4/17/1918	Stafford Bolton	Northside Lodge No. 292
4/4/1921	Rose Mills	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
4/4/1921	Elizabeth Payne	Joppa Lodge No. 40
4/4/1936	John Carpenter	Meridian Lodge No. 284
4/29/1935	Agnes Carpenter	Meridian Lodge No. 284
4/2/1937	Kathryn Stitzer	Babcock Lodge No. 322
4/7/1922	Jean Noll	Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
4/4/1928	James Mitchell	Elbert Munsey Lodge No. 298

4/15/1931	Graham Simmons	Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347
4/30/1926	Robert Hobson	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
4/14/1934	Kendall Rowe	Montross-Landman Lodge No. 293
4/26/1937	Shirley Roberts	Stonewall Lodge No. 200
MAY		
5/28/1927	Garland Rollins	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
5/26/1914	Lewis Butler	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
5/13/1923	Robert Hall	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
5/23/1917	Goldie Simmons	Midlothian Lodge No. 211
5/22/1927	Joseph Hogge	Mariner Lodge No. 215
5/19/1924	Anne Winder	Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19
5/20/1919	Gwendolyn Hues	Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344
5/14/1912	Joseph Crane	Columbia Lodge No. 285
5/8/1926	Jack Golightly	Fairfax Lodge No. 43
5/3/1917	Ruth Carter	West Point Lodge No. 238
5/12/1923	William Paschall	Meridian Lodge No. 284
5/19/1930	Edna Alvis	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
5/19/1923	Blanche Feitig	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
5/11/1936	Mildred Milby	West Point Lodge No. 238
5/20/1927	Dorothy Fulcher	Oriental Lodge No. 20
5/26/1924	Jane Barnes	Richmond Lodge No. 10
5/3/1924	Elsie Wickham	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
5/11/1938	Elsie Hoy	Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347
5/10/1921	Beatrice O'Connell	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131

Resident Anniversaries

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
MARCH		
3/4/1954	Herbert and Mildred Milby	West Point Lodge No. 238
3/31/1963	Glenn and Carol May	Varina Lodge No. 272
3/22/1958	James and Janey Herring	Richmond Lodge No. 10
3/7/1958J	James and Sara Wright	Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344
3/19/1943	Albert and Jean Noll	Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
3/6/1949	Donald and Dorothy Davies	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
APRIL		
4/14/1979	Earl and Irene Slaughter	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
4/27/1946	Robert and Gloria Hall	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
4/17/1944	Harold and Elizabeth Bohannon	Manchester Lodge No. 14
4/22/1950	Joseph and Barbara Hogge	Mariner Lodge No. 215
4/3/1954	James and Carol Friss	Franklin Lodge No. 151
4/21/1945	Robert & Virginia Hobson	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
4/24/1948	Bunion and Myrtle Bussey	Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
MAY		
5/21/1955	John and Betty Long	Washington & Henry Lodge No. 344
5/12/1944	William and Mable Paschall	Meridian Lodge No. 284
5/4/1968	John and Agnes Carpenter	Meridian Lodge No. 284
5/14/1949	Walter and Yvonne Olphin	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
5/27/1955	James and Elizabeth Goodman	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11

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Resident Deaths

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
9/1/2011	Richard Yearwood	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
9/22/2011	Barbara Rice	Richmond Lodge No. 10
9/28/2011	Eloise Mosby	Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19
10/18/2011	Thomas Benton	Washington-Lafayette Lodge No. 176
10/20/2011	Elva Rollins	St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
10/26/2011	Maude Griffey	Thomas N. Davis Lodge No. 351
11/22/2011	Alice Walton	St. John's Lodge No. 36
10/23/2011	Carl Torrence	Meridian Lodge No. 284
11/25/2011	Chester Baity	Oriental Lodge No. 20
12/2/2011	Julian Burgess	Carter Lodge No. 323



Brethren enjoy the fellowship of Family Day, 2011

New Residents

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
4/27/2011	Steve and Rebecca Bollinger	Eureka Lodge No. 195
8/15/2011	Betty Burnette	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
10/5/2011	Kendall and Phyllis Rowe	Montross-Landman Lodge No. 293
10/11/2011	Shirley Roberts	Stonewall Lodge No. 200
10/17/2011	James and Elizabeth Goodman	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
11/1/2011	Jean Learnard	Petersburg Lodge No. 15
11/21/2011	Cora Simmons	Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
12/5/2011	Bertha Lilly	Sandston Lodge No. 216
12/6/2011	Clarence Harris	Ruth Lodge No. 89



The gift shop is open to family and friends



Masonic Home 2011 King and Queen, Bro. Jim Herring and Ms. Judy Burton



The Masonic Home Rhythm Band, during Family Day 2011

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Richmond, Virginia
Non-Profit Organization



Fourteen Past Grand Masters at the Altar during the 2011 Grand Annual Communication (L-R):
M.:W.: Spencer M. Rogers (1981), M.:W.: Donald M. Robey (1987), M.:W.: William F. Perdue (1991),
M.:W.: Alan W. Adkins (1997), M.:W.: James D. Cole (2001), M.:W.: Clifford A. Parker (2002),
M.:W.: Frederick G. Martin, III (2003), M.:W.: James M. Scarce, Jr. (2004),
M.:W.: John R. Quinley (2005), M.:W.: Glover H. Jones III (2006), M.:W.: G. Bernard Dungan, Jr. (2007),
M.:W.: Edmund Cohen (2008), M.:W.: Jeffery E. Hodges (2009), and M.:W.: William E. Rorer, Jr. (2010).