SPRING 2016

Grand Master James Edward Litten At his Official Visit to Ocean View Lodge No. 335.

THE VIRGÍNIA MASONIC

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The Virginia Masonic Herald

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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.

https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org/

Masonic Herald Deadlines

Spring Issue	February 1
Summer Issue	May 1
Fall Issue	August 1
Winter Issue	November 1

Front cover and back cover by Brother Claude Snead.

The Grand Master's Message

V. A. Christian and M. Christian and M. Christian and M. Vich

Brethren:

We have experienced Freemasonry at its best in Virginia during the first six months of 2016. My Grand Marshal, Right Worshipful Thomas W. "Tom" Self, III, and Kay, the Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master, Right Worshipful Gino W. Williams, my wife Ann, and I have already traveled over 25,000 miles visiting districts, Lodges, schools, etc. We have been received with much brotherly love and affection, and I am so proud that the Brethren are SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE for Virginia Freemasonry. The attendance at our Official Visits by the Brethren has been overwhelming. I feel our messages about Freemasonry, our love of God and the future of our Fraternity and our Country, and our theme, SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE, is touching many lives and making Brethren aware of what Freemasonry is all about.

One of our concerns is about three character traits that have been rapidly disappearing from American society and culture for many years. They are HONOR, COURAGE, and LOVE. As history bears out, and from the time the Bible began to be disparaged as having a place in American public life, these traits began their gradual decline. Without these traits, society will continue to deteriorate to a level of animal existence. HONOR has to do with a keen sense of right and wrong and adhering to the actions and principles, which we consider to be right. Integrity is also a part of an honorable person. At one time in our society, because a person's integrity could be counted on, many a deal was made between individuals by the shaking of hands. The persons involved in the deal knew it was as good as done. COURAGE is seeing that HONOR is upheld, no matter the circumstances. It does not matter the danger, difficulty, or pain involved. The person of courage



Grand Master M:. W:. James Edward Litten

will see that he remains true to his convictions. As for LOVE, there are many kinds of love. The scriptures speak of God's love, a love of the highest kind. He loves whether it is returned or not and results in action that is always with the highest good of His creation in mind. This is the kind of love that God wants his people to have toward the world and one another. It must be understood that this love is not necessarily based on emotion but upon a decision to seek the highest good in everyone's life. HON-OR, COURAGE, and LOVE must be restored into the soul of our society and culture, if America is to remain as our founders gave it to us, as a Nation of the people, by the people, and for the people. All in all, there must be a spiritual reawakening of Biblical faith and the conviction to restore the original intent of our founding documents: the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, back into the law of this nation.



As Masons, we each have a responsibility to be good citizens, obey the law, and work to make this world better for all who live in it. Masonry teaches the importance of doing good, not because it assures a person's entrance into heaven, that is a question for a religion, not a Fraternity, but because we have a duty to all other men and women to make their lives as fulfilling as they can be. Remember, that membership in Masonry is recognized as a standard of HONOR, of BROTHERHOOD, of UPRIGHTNESS and DECENCY. It is time now that we of the Masonic Order step forward and lead by example, as we reach out to those in pain, whether it is physical, spiritual, or emotional. My hope is that you are SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE in your everyday life in your home, in your community, in your church, in your workplace, and in your Lodge.

As we journey around the state in 2016, I see excitement in Virginia Freemasonry like I have never seen before. If anyone tells you that Freemasonry is on the downturn, do not believe it. We are alive and well because of Brethren like you, who are keeping our traditions alive and bringing new faces to our Fraternity. You are truly SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE. Thank you for what you do for Freemasonry.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the Official Visits and other events. God bless each of you. God bless Freemasonry, and God bless America.

James E. Litten

James E. Litten Grand Master

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The Grand Lodge also has a West Gate

Right Worshipful William E. Hershey, Jr. Grand Junior Warden

"Guarding the West Gate" is a phrase that applies to both the individual Blue Lodge and the Grand Lodge. The phrase as used in the Blue Lodge has multiple applications, but just how often do we stop and try to appreciate what it means to "Guard the West Gate"?

I believe our first opportunity to guard the West Gate begins when the vouchers sign a petition. On the petition, the candidate is asked to provide personal information. Just as we rely on the candidate to answer all questions honestly, it is equally incumbent upon the vouchers to seriously understand what they are signing. The vouchers attest to the candidate's good character and state they are "well acquainted" with the candidate, not just the Brother who asked you to sign the petition with him.

Although there may be errors in judgment from time to time, for the most part the Lodges do an excellent job when it comes to this responsibility.

Like the individual Lodges, the Grand Lodge also has the responsibility of insuring the West Gate of our Grand Lodge is also diligently guarded. So just how does the Grand Lodge insure it is applying due diligence in this arena?

At Grand Lodge, these responsibilities are discharged by the Grand Lodge Committee on Foreign Correspondence. The Committee's duties are spelled out in Section 1.75 (f) of the Methodical Digest, which in part states, "It shall be the duty of the Committee during the recess of Grand Lodge, to pursue, and if necessary, to answer all communications from corresponding Grand Lodges; during each Annual Communication it shall report any such correspondence, plus a review of the proceedings of sister Grand Lodges."

Just how does the Committee discharge its responsibilities? The Me-



thodical Digest tells us, "Application for fraternal recognition by a foreign Grand Lodge shall be referred to the Standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence which shall make a thorough investigation of the application, and make a recommendation to the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge may extend such recognition, if it appears to its satisfaction."

It is incumbent upon the Committee to investigate, and assure the Grand Lodge in question represents a substantial unity of the Freemasons of the territory over which it assumes jurisdiction, i.e., the country, province or state, or shares such territorial jurisdiction with another Grand Lodge by mutual consent.

The Committee must also determine if the foreign Grand Lodge has been lawfully organized by three or more regular Lodges, or that it has been legalized by a Grand Lodge recognized by our Grand Lodge. The foreign Grand Lodge must also be an independent, self-governing organization, having sovereign Masonic authority within its jurisdiction and of equal importance, its ritual is fundamentally in accord with the Ancient Landmarks, customs, and usages of the Craft.

Lastly, the Committee must determine that the foreign Grand Lodge makes Masons of men only, and is non-sectarian and non-political, i.e., that its dominant purposes are charitable, benevolent, educational, and moral. Although the Committee vets all applications for recognition, that act of recognition of a foreign Grand Lodge is voted on, and approved by the delegates to the Annual Communication. Therefore, just like in our Blue Lodge, the members vote on to whom we extend the privilege of recognition.

One can see there are many similarities between the Blue Lodge and the Grand Lodge with regards to "Guarding the West Gate." Just as the Investigating Committee is appointed by the Worshipful Master to investigate a candidate and consists of three Brethren, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence also consists of three Brethren, appointed by the Grand Master.

No doubt there are Brethren who took time to read this article that were not familiar with the duties and responsibilities of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. I hope this article will promote a better understanding of some of the responsibilities of your Grand Lodge. I also hope that it will help you to better appreciate the efforts on the part of the Grand Lodge to guard the West Gate of the Grand Lodge.



On Tuesday, December 8, 2015, Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge office staff, and friends assembled at the Masonic Home of Virginia to celebrate the retirement of Willis T. Ferguson. Willis, affectionately known as "Mr. Fantastic," started working at the Grand Lodge office six months after the building opened in 1973. Willis kept the building spickand-span for over forty-two years, as well as doing various other jobs as needed, such as painting, power washing the building and other duties.

The Grand Lodge office staff presented Willis with a pocket watch with a special inscription. Many of the attendees shared special memories of their association with Willis.

In his remarks, Willis spoke about his association with the Grand Lodge of Virginia, especially the office staff and the Past Grand Masters. He felt he was blessed by the close association.

Willis and his wife, Connie, are shown in the group picture taken at the conclusion of the evening's festivities.

Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82 Two Hundredth Anniversary

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On the evening of December 15, 2015, Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82 celebrated its two hundredth anniversary.

Most Worshipful James E. Litten, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, was the guest speaker. Dinner was served in the Lodge fellowship hall prior to the Grand Master's address.

Wytheville Fraternal Lodge was originally charted on December 9, 1798, as Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 55. The



Most Worshipful James E. Litten at the two-hundredth anniversary of Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82.

Lodge was active for years until it went dormant in the 1830's during a time of backlash against Freemasonry in the United States over the Morgan Affair.

It was chartered as Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82 on December 15, 1852.

Over the last two hundred years Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82 has produced three Grand Masters — William Terry (1867), William T. Trevillian (1972), and John R. Dean (1992).

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Contraction of the	Grand Master's
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E	2015-2016 Itinerary
a prese	
June 2016	
June 2010 17	Official Visit, Masonic District 18
18	Official Visit, Masonic District 44
20	Catawba Lodge No. 342
21	Pound No. 59
23	Official Visit, Masonic District 57
24 25	Official Visit, Masonic District 16 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
23	Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
26	Supreme Council Assembly, Order of the Amaranth, Norfolk
July 2016	
1	Official Visit, Masonic District 29
2 7	Official Visit, Masonic District 28
8	Carter Lodge No. 323 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 47 and 49
9	Official Visit, Masonic Districts 42 and 43
13	MAHOVA Board Meeting
14	Annual Session, Job's Daughters, Ferrum College
15 - 17	Northeast Conference of Grand Masters, Indianapolis, Indiana
22 23	Official Visit, Masonic District 5 Official Visit, Masonic District 4
23 - 31	Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership
August 20	•
1	Herndon Lodge No. 264
4	Covington Lodge No. 171
5	Official Visit, Masonic District 9
6 9	Official Visit, Masonic District 25 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
10	MAHOVA Board Meeting
11	James S. Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament
12	Official Visit, Masonic District 10
13	Official Visit, Masonic District 11
17	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
18 19	Bremond Lodge No. 241, Community Builders Award Official Visit, Masonic District 17
22	Isaacs Lodge No. 29
24	Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
27	Official Visit, Masonic District 12
September	
1 3	High Hill Lodge at Long Branch Plantation Hiram Club Ball
3 7	Midlothian Lodge No. 211
8	Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
9	Official Visit, Disticts 35A and 35B
13	Poquoson Lodge No. 49
14 15	MAHOVA Board Meeting Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201
15	Official Visit District 40
17	Wreath Laying, Arlington Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
19	Campbell Lodge No. 316
22	Bayside Lodge No. 218
23 - 25	Scottish Rite Conference, Richmond
30 October 20	Official Visit, District 46
1	Official Visit, Masonic Districts 37 and 38
3	Reserved
7	MAHOVA Board Meeting
8	Family Day, Masonic Home of Virginia
13 15	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Official Visit, Masonic District 39
$15 \\ 16 - 20$	Grand Lodge of Kentucky
20 22	Reunion of Seven Founding Lodges
23 - 27	Grand Lodge of Georgia
November	
3 7	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 Westhampton Lodge No. 302
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- 9 13 Grand Annual Communication
- 6





L-R: Wor. Joseph W. Carr, Bro. Chadwick W. Amburgey, Wor. Sterling W. Johnson, Rt. Wor. Greg Jackson (back row).

Brother Chadwick W. Amburgey, a State Trooper, suffered from advanced stage melanoma and was being treated in Texas, yet with his condition being dire, his desire to complete his degrees being time sensitive was granted a dispensation from Grand Master James E. Litten. The Grand Master's dispensation granted Franklin Lodge No. 151 the authority to confer the Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees upon Brother Amburgey.

Each of the conferred degrees were performed in a most impressive manner, by its membership under the direction of Right Worshipful Hoen M. Edwards, Jr., Grand Lecturer. Franklin Lodge's newest Master Mason was humbled for all of the Masons being present and involved with this special day, his day.

Brother Chadwick W. Amburgey was called to the Celestial Lodge above ending his earthly labors to wait upon the Grand Architect of the Universe only two months after being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. This marked the end of his valiant fight against an aggressive cancer.

The Bee Hive

Brother Michael John Brennan

"The Bee Hive, Masonically, is an emblem of Industry. The Ritual recommends strongly that industry be practiced by all created beings. It tells us that we should never be content to be idle, especially when we can help our Fellow Man by exerting a little effort."

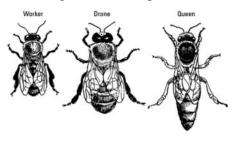
Brother Allen E. Roberts

The bee hive is a place where honey bees meet to work. In order for the hive to be successful, all bees should work toward a common goal. No member of the hive should be content to be idle, but should labor in some manner to contribute to the betterment of the hive.

There is but one queen bee, the leader of the hive. The majority of the hive is made up of worker bees, which contribute in different ways to the success of the hive. There are a proportionately small number of drone bees, which contribute little to the betterment of the hive.

There are thousands of worker bees in the hive each with responsibilities and duties to perform.

Some worker bees guard the entrance to the hive and will not let a bee enter, which is not a member of the hive. All bees look alike, I have no idea how the guard bees identify an interloper bee, but they do. I imagine they make use of some type of password spoken in beespeak, or through some other strict trial or due examination. The security of the hive is dependent on the guard bees.





Some worker bees tend to the queen bee. They support the queen bee in all her laudable undertakings. I like to think of the queen bee's support staff as the officers of the hive, carrying out the queen bee's orders. The support staff, or officers, job is to support the queen bee in her daily operations of the hive.

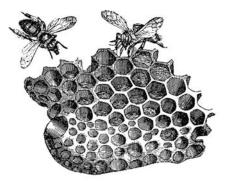
- Some worker bees gather nectar.
- Some gather pollen.
- Some clean the hive.
- Some build honeycomb.
- Some are charged with the raising and educating of new bees initiated into the hive.

All have assignments. All have responsibilities to their community in particular, and to the community at large.

The drone bees do no work in the hive and after their one duty to the queen bee is accomplished, the drone bee is no longer of any value to the hive. They sit idly by while other bees continue to work towards the betterment of the hive.

The Honeycomb

Honeycombs are remarkably symmetrical. Each cell is a perfect hexagon. All bees build this way. All bees in one hive know how to build the perfect hexagon. Bees in all hives in the world know how to build the perfect hexagon.



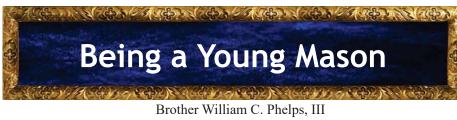
There is, for this young Mason, only one possible explanation for this Sacred Geometry. A gift from the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

Thousands of years ago, the Roman scholar, Marcus Terrentius Varro, observed that the hexagon is the shape that most efficiently breaks flat space up into little units, which is the most efficient way to hold the most amount of honey using the least amount of wax. I do not believe honey bees recognize this fact, but the Supreme Architect of the Universe most certainly does.

The ancient Greek philosopher, Pappus of Alexandria, thought that honey bees must be endowed with "a certain Geometrical forethought." Who could have possibly given them that wisdom, but God?

William Kirby, considered by many to be the father of Entomology, declared that bees are "Heaven instructed mathematicians."

Charles Darwin writes that the hexagonal honeycomb is "absolutely perfect in economizing labor and wax." Some people may want to believe that the honey bee just happened upon the perfect Geometrical shape for their use, but to me that doesn't make sense. Again, for this young Mason, the honeycomb is further evidence of the Supreme Architect of the Universe.



Even before I was a Master Mason, Masonry always intrigued me. Whether it was reading different articles online, seeing the regalia worn in parades, and other social events, my interest was peaked. After visiting the Lodge for the first time, I was reacquainted with a childhood friend with whom I had lost touch with over the years. Thankfully, we have become best friends and Brothers.

Among the most significant events during my Masonic journey have been traveling to other Lodges and attending district level schools. District schools may seem intimidating. Some of the Instructors of Work are exact in the wording and actions in the ritual work. This is, however, extremely important to keep the great tradition and rituals the same as they have been for many years.

Attending district and Lodge schools has introduced me to some of the best role models anyone could imagine. This has also opened my eyes to the different Brethren who are always ready and willing to extend a hand. Discussing Masonry with a more experienced Mason provides a different perspective

and a way to see Masonry through the eyes of other Masons, which helps better understand Freemasonry. The great thing about these conversations is the kind influence and constructive criticism they share; they are always as willing to give, as I am willing to receive it.

Being a new Master Mason, I strive to pick up different parts of the lectures

or rituals that I may have not remembered from the first few times I had seen or heard them. As I become a more seasoned Mason, I am learning the importance of the ritual work and their respective lessons, which they portray. These important lessons are molding me to be the best man I know to be.

As Lodge Educational Officer, I have made it my goal to travel with the Worshipful Master to Lodge events. What an incredible experience. We have traveled all across the local and neighboring districts in the Hampton Roads area. It is interesting to see other Lodge's cultures. One of my favorite visits was to Lake Drummond Lodge. Our Lodge, and several other lodges, went in search of the state traveling gavel and their famous Strickland banana pudding. Unfortunately, my home Lodge, Churchland No. 276, fell just short of retrieving the gavel.

The District Deputy Grand Master made his official visit on this same night, so the food was incredible. It was a bit comical to observe everyone looking around at everyone in attendance trying to decipher who was from the particular Lodge to get an idea who would take the state traveling gavel home. The dining hall was packed. I had never seen such a large attendance at any stated in my five years as a Mason. The actual feel for how many people were in attendance didn't hit me until the Lodge chairs were full, and they brought more in from the dining hall. There were one hundred and sixty people in attendance. My favorite part of the meeting is pledging allegiance to the flag of our great nation in unison. Hearing the one hundred and sixty booming voices brought chills down my spine. I think the only thing we were missing was a fly by from the Blue Angels. I am only beginning to scratch the surface of being a Freemason, and I am extremely eager to learn more day in and day out.





L-R: Wor. Fausto Daniel Fortin and Wor. Anthony Robb Minter.

Heart disease is the number one killer of adults in the United States. In an effort to combat this growing concern, Churchland Lodge No. 276 has stretched forth its hand to assist the local Brethren and their families by donating nine Automated External Defibrillators (A.E.D.) to Lodges in Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Newport News. An A.E.D. is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses life-threatening cardiac irregularities, and treats them through defibrillation, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. The audio and visual commands make using A.E.D.s easy to use, even for the untrained first-aid responder. 45% of heart attacks happen outside of a hospital. Using an A.E.D. can increase survival rates by 70%.

Worshipful Fausto D. Fortin said, "The median age of Lodge members makes us a higher statistical risk for heart disease, and although age is a major determining factor for those who suffer from heart disease, it is not the only factor. Therefore, Worshipful Anthony Robb Minter, who generously donated the A.E.D.s for dispersal, and I decided that we wanted to take a stand, and offer these life saving devices to local Lodges. We hope that if an emergency occurs, that Lodge would be better prepared for it. Knowing that this device could one day save a life makes this an invaluable resource for every Lodge to which I have the honor of donating it to."

Our Masonic Community

Right Worshipful Raymond M. Soltis

The phrase, "The Masonic Community," has multiple meanings. Most simply and broadly, it means all of us who are Masons, as well as our affiliated groups such as Eastern Star and the Masonic youth groups. In a tighter sense, it describes individual Lodges and chapters and the members in them.

We can look at ourselves as casual, worker, or professional members of a community. These words can mean the same thing for the Masonic community as it does for our communities at large. Additionally, within Masonry we could consider a district, as a collection of Lodges, as another community, and we often do things together as a district. Districts are grouped into regions, another community, and the Lodges, districts, and regions collectively are part of the Virginia community of Masons, the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

But what does community really mean? A dictionary definition might read like this: a group of people who typically live near each other, engage in activities together, and among whom there is one or more common factors that help bind them together socially.

A "community" exists not solely because of geographic closeness, common occupation, church membership, school affiliation, or a host of other social connections that may exist. It exists because the people with those commonalities want it.

In order for a community, of any type, to be anything more than just a social collection, leaders must emerge to move and direct it. Competent leadership understands the concept of community, sees it as part of larger and wider circles, perceives the needs of the group as a whole, of subsets of the group, and of specific individuals. A competent leader does not assume that Without our honor and integrity, we cannot be true to ourselves or to the people around us. Our actions would be without any meaning except selfish interests. The Mason sees the views of others. He listens and thinks

about what others are saying so as to understand them. The Mason does not belittle or slander others. His job is to see that anything that comes from his mind, emotions, or mouth is the highest it can be for him.

the needs or demands of those wider circles are automatically best for his or her community, nor that local needs will work across wider groups.

What attributes should we expect from a leader? Book after book after book has been written on this topic, with wide and sometimes differing views.

At a minimum, we expect honesty, integrity, vision, communication, caring, patience, and humility. Natural leaders are those who arise in time of crisis, whether an elected or appointed leader already exists. We know them when we see them, can sometimes describe them, and often marvel at their ability to perceive the key elements of a problem at hand and the solutions to it. Most organizations elect or appoint their leaders, many of whom may not fit naturally into that role. For them we expect, and sometimes resort to hope, they have sufficient management skills to see them through.

The obligation a new Worshipful Master takes at his installation offers a particular key phrase – be a good man and true and strictly to obey the moral law. In this, we find all the attributes listed above as applied to our own individual obligations as Masons. Without honor and integrity, we cannot be true to ourselves or to the people around us. Our actions would be without value, a sad expression of selfish interests. A good Master sees the views of others and honestly considers them in his decisions. He listens when Brothers speak, to understand their views. A good Master does not belittle or slander others, but respects their reputations and his own Masonic obligations. He keeps himself positive to forward the best interests of the Lodge as an institution and as a collection of Brethren. He also acts with Brotherly Love and Affection.





Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins (1997) Grand Secretary

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

The following Brethren served ten or more years as Secretary:

Joseph M. Voss	Princess Anne No. 25	10 years
Wayne E. Price	Spurmont No. 98	13 years
Michael A. Stewart	Henrico Union No. 130	25 years
Wilbur T. Duty, Jr.,	Dewitt Clinton No. 141	15 years
Allen R. Pierce	Berkley No. 167	15 years
David W. Cassell	Rich Valley No. 172	27 years
Lynwood L. Barbour	Morotock No. 210*	34 years
Herbert J. Smith, Jr.,	Bremond No. 241*	15 years
William C. St. Sing	Indian River No. 252*	10 years
Michael L. Garrett	Cochran No. 271	10 years
Frank B. Moore	Henry Clay No. 280	13 years
Kenneth Kaplan	Army and Navy No. 306	30 years
Joel N. Mobley	Edwards No. 308	30 years

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

Walter F. Dance, V	Blandford No. 3	James M. Faucett	Mann Page No. 157
Charles S. Sarbaugh	Metropolitan No. 11	George B. Filer	Covington No. 171
Benjamin L. Edwards	Staunton No. 13	Mark A. Whalen	Eureka No. 195
Charles P. Rutherford	Catlett No. 35	Allen R. Clark	Colonial Beach No. 199
Joshua S. Wilberger	St. John's No. 36	Edward D. Moffitt	Vinton No. 204
James W. White	Joppa No. 40	John T. Tillery	Mount Vernon No. 219
David L. Lawson	Tazewell No. 62	Thomas W. Lester	Stuart No. 224
Sidney W. Bush, Sr.	Pleasants No. 63	Ronald A. Wirt	Boone No. 247
Michael L. Garrett	Washington No. 78	Donald K. Reekes	Clover Hill No. 253
Diosdado L. Morales	Naomi No. 87	Bryant B. Clements	Alberene No. 277
Jayson L. Payne	Portsmouth No. 100*	Gary W. Grubb	Chickahominy No. 286
Timothy L. Runion,	Mt. Jackson No. 103	Gregory A. Lewis	Central No. 300
Thomas H. Otto	Highland No. 110	Robert J. Bartruff, Sr.	Occoquan No. 310
Gary M. Brogan	Augusta No. 111	August B. Janda, Jr.	Reedville No. 321
Kirk V. Johnson	Olive Branch No. 114	Leon H. Harding, III	Catawba No. 342
Charles H. Willis, Sr.	Chase City No. 119	Robert W. Harvie	Washington and Henry No. 344
Kirk V. Johnson	Olive Branch No. 114	Leon H. Harding, III	Catawba No. 342

*Deceased

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

Dowse Punch Bowl

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Celebrating 235 years of continuously serving God, country and Freemasonry, Richmond Lodge No. 10, chartered in 1780 as No. 13, has a rich Masonic history. For Masonic Family Day in October, 2015, Richmond Lodge arranged for long-term loan a display of some of their oldest artifacts, which can be viewed in the museum.

Among the items is the Dowse punch bowl. Brother Edward Dowse, a Mason and friend of the Lodge, was a ship master involved with the Chinese trade. His brother-in-law Major Samuel Shaw, a Revolutionary War Hero, was the first Ambassador of Trade with China. While in Canton, China, Brother Dowse had a punch bowl made to present to his friends in Richmond Lodge No. 10. News of the new Lodge number moved slowly, so the bowl says "Presented to Richmond Lodge No. 13." The Lodge number changed to 10 in 1787.

During its use at many events held by the Lodge, the bowl was broken. The bowl was mended by skilled craftsmen using staples. The repair method itself is remarkable. Research finds the lovely bowl, being the oldest piece of ceramic with the name Richmond on it, rendering it extremely valuable.

Another display item is the Holy Bible reputed to have been presented to William Mitchell, Jr. when General Gilbert Marquis de Lafayette visited the Lodge at Mason's Hall on October 30, 1824. The Bible was presented to the Lodge in 1895 from the Mitchell family.



Dowse punch bowl. Brother Edward Dowse, a Mason, was a ship master involved with the Chinese trade. His brother-in-law Major Samuel Shaw, a Revolutionary War Hero, was the first Ambassador of Trade with China. While in Canton, China, Brother Dowse had a punch bowl made to present to his friends in Richmond Lodge No. 10.

The display has a wide variety of artifacts from old by-laws, Lodge jewels, trumpet silver vase, a ballot box, an interesting old maul, and much more.

One of the oldest items of lasting interest not in the display is Mason's Hall, a wood frame structure, built with Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 in 1785. Mason's Hall is the oldest Masonic Temple and Royal Arch Chapter in the United States in continual operation by a Lodge since 1786. Richmond Lodge sold the Hall to Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 in December 1883. On a visit to Richmond come see the handsome display in the museum located on the grounds of the Masonic Home in the Grand Lodge building. The Grand Lodge of Virginia Library, Museum and Historical Foundation and its Allen E. Roberts Masonic Library and Museum is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

> Taken from *Notes* by Sam Dunn in *Display Brochure*

Masonic Family Day at the Masonic Home of Virginia on October 8, 2016



L-R: Wor. Glenwood D. Foster and Rt. Wor. Leonard S. Hughes.

Worshipful Brother Glenwood Dean Foster of St. Johns Lodge No. 144 receives his Gold Card from Right Worshipful Leonard S. Hughes, who is the District Instructor of Work.

Worshipful Brother Glenwood "Dean" Foster has been teaching the catechism, and doing degree work in the 26th and 27th Masonic Districts.



On February 23, 2016, the Prince William County Board of Supervisors declared March 2016 "DeMolay Month."



L-R: Chairman, Prince William County Supervisors, Mr. Cory Stewart, Master Councilor; Trevor Brady, Senior Steward; Alex Handy, Senior Councilor; Alex Hite, Advisory Board Chairman: Dad Norman King, Advisor; Dad Craig Brady, and Advisor; Dad Doug Handy.





Virginia Rainbow took our second trip to the Masonic Home of Virginia. We enjoyed bingo with the wonderful residents and had the chance to talk to them. This time, we brought a large basket full of funny gag gifts, and the residents had an absolute blast with them. As I called out the numbers for bingo, laughter filled the room over silly whoopee cushions. During one of the breaks when a resident called, "Bingo!" our very own Wally "Papa Smurf" Maybery made his way to the front of the room with a special presentation. Dad Maybery is the former state president of the Virginia Widows Sons Riders Association. He presented a charter to begin the new Masonic Home of Virginia Chapter of the Widows Sons.

I was honored to witness this event, as I am an Associate Member of my Lodge's own Naphtali tribe of the Widows Sons. Following this new chapter's beginnings and the final round of Bingo, I had the privilege of meeting up with my old friend Delores (a stuffed animal), whom I'd met at the previous bingo event. She gave me a precious stuffed animal that, when you pressed its foot, danced and sang a little song. I have yet to give my new furry friend a name, but he does keep my green hippo, Dee Dee, company.

Following our exciting day of Bingo, we traveled to Babcock Lodge No. 322 to hold our charity spaghetti dinner to benefit the Masonic Home. With the fellowship hall all "dressed up" in this year's Grand theme, the hall looked warm and inviting. Approximately seventy-five people enjoyed the baked spaghetti dinner prepared for us by Dad Ross Upchurch and Mom Tabi Ahmed.

We then made space for our Charity dance. As music began to filter through the speakers, the tables were rearranged and games were brought out. The adult coloring books, scratch boards, and miniature sports games brought plenty of joy to those not interested in dancing. Those who danced had a great time dancing with their fellow Masonic youth.

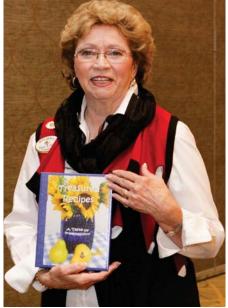
When the evening settled to a close, all were exhausted, yet happy with the time spent at the Masonic Home of Virginia and with their Masonic family members.



Ann C. Litten, Wife of the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia

When my husband was elected as Grand Senior Deacon, I came up with the idea of developing a cookbook, which would be dedicated to all Masons, giving some history and background of the Masonic Fraternity. From its conception, it was my desire that perhaps in a cookbook, not just recipes, but some brief highlights of Freemasonry might touch and encourage others to set a good example. Freemasonry is a Fraternity of Faith, Love, and Charity. The members believe in God. Recipes have been collected from Masons all over Virginia as well as my family. My daughter, Denise Stirewalt, came up with the design of the book cover and theme Treasured Recipes / A Taste of Freemasonry.

On March 25, 2015, Gerri Adkins, wife of our Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins (1997), passed away from T-Cell Lymphoma. Gerri was a true friend of Masons and the Litten family, and I decided to do the cookbook in her memory, and all proceeds from donations would go to the



Lady Ann C. Litten, with *Treasured Recipes / A Taste of Freemasonry.*

Masonic Home of Virginia. I am excited and honored that the cookbook was on display during April 2016, at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, along with

other Masonic Home material. I hope that you will enjoy our cookbook, and with God's blessings, may you nourish family and friends through the preparation of these recipes. We have sold approximately 1,000 books already at the Official Visits of the Grand Master, and with your donation of \$15 or more, the proceeds are supporting the Outreach Program of the Masonic Home of Virginia. If you would like to purchase one of the cookbooks, please attend one of the remaining Official Visits of the Grand Master, or you can contact me: Ann C. Litten, P. O. Box 768, Stuart, VA 24171. Phone 276-694-2449 or e-mail ann@jimlitten.com. Our mission of Freemasonry is to make good men better, to teach and perpetuate a way of life that promotes the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God, and to assist Lodges to grow and prosper. That can be accomplished, if we are "SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE." God bless each of you, and thank you for your support of my cookbook.



Grand Master's Pin

When a Grand Junior Deacon is elected to Office at the Grand Annual Communication, he begins immediately planning for his year as Grand Master. He selects Masons throughout the Commonwealth to be on his planning team, and they talk about a theme, their favorite charities, what they plan to accomplish during their year and design a pin for both the Grand Master and



Denise Stirewalt

first Lady. Above is the design chosen by Grand Master James E. Litten and Lady Ann for 2016. It took almost four years to make the final decision for a theme and design of pins. The team is called THE SUNSHINE TEAM and was named after the Grand Master's broadcasting name, SUNSHINE JIM. Both pins were designed by the Litten's daughter, Denise Stirewalt, who



Ann's Pin

is a member of the SUNSHINE TEAM. She wanted a design that was bright and depicted sunshine. As you can see, the Grand Master's pin has a sunburst in the background and Ann's pin is in the design of a Sunflower. Denise is a very talented amateur artist and has helped with designing programs and other items of promotion for the Grand Master's theme of "SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE."

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50-60-70-Year Masonic Veterans Between December 5, 2015 and May 19, 2016

FIFTY-YEAR VETERANS

Bro, Bernard Chapel Bro. Jules Melvin Wainger Bro, Bruce Irving Longman Bro. Loury Long Snipes Bro. John Bruce Hancock Wor. Clyde Anderson Harrell Bro. Theodore Thomas Ficken Bro. James Coval Milligan Rt. Wor. William Roger Phelps Bro. Arnold Merrill Frank Bro. John Dean Fountain Bro. Robert Frederick Nelson Wor, Warren Simon Crammer Bro. Lakis Florakis Bro. Buford Glenn Sturgill Bro. Luther Woodrow Story Wor. Richard Benjamin Salmon, Jr. Bro, Elton Gene Lavne Rt. Wor. Vernon Stuart Cook Bro, David F. Saleeba Bro. David Wilson Brown Bro. Clarence Segears Coxon, III Bro. Harold Eugene Wilhelm Bro. Jimmy Royce French Bro. John Carter Burton Bro. Burrel Dean Angell Bro. Franklin Delano Robertson Wor Lothar Arthur Bernhard Wor. Robert Gurney Bedell Bro. James Darius Owens Bro. William Lawrence Early Rt. Wor. Grant Thomas Patton Bro. John Pipta Bro. Billy Gene Blazer Bro. Allen Martin Bro. Randolph Eugene Kirby Bro. Harry Rexford Wooten, Jr. Bro. Richard Vernon Perdue Bro. John Allan Jackson Bro. Earnest Boyd Farmer, Jr Bro, Guy Edward Vermillion Wor. Ralph Pilling Breeding, Jr. Bro. Sherwood Wayne Ferrell Rt. Wor. John Howard Butler Bro. Jack Stewart Sandford Wor. Richard Henry Moore Rt. Wor. Russell Darol Weddington Bro. Herbert Donald Clifton Bro. Ralph Abner Galliher Bro. Charles Humphrey Moore Bro. John Edwin Hunt Bro. Robert Lee Austin Bro, David Warren Forrest Bro. Herbert William Wright Rt. Wor. Delbert Elston Sheads Bro, James Calhoun Felton Bro. Parnell Jearl Porter Bro. Frank Edward Chandler Rt. Wor. Ray Willis Sites Bro. John Stevens Hall Rt. Wor. Oakley Crockett Straley Bro. Edgar Straessley Robb Bro. Robert William Gerber Bro. Robert Boyce Harrill Wor. James Hirman Richberg Bro. Earl Sylvester Dunlap, Jr. Wor. Pinkney Calloway Austin, Jr. Wor, William Daniel Holly, Jr. Wor. James Edward Bailey Wor. Morris Jennings Hurdle Bro. Robert Alex Allison Bro. Roman Dolinka Bro. Wayland Franklin Jones Wor. John Smedley Darlington Bro. William Manuel Durham Bro. David Henry Thomps Wor. Henry R. Vess, Jr. Bro. Robert Raiford Hart Bro, William Richard Douglas Wor. William Conley Shaffe

Norfolk Lodge No. Norfolk Lodge No. Norfolk Lodge No. Atlantic Lodge No. 2 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 Hoge Lodge No. 8 Temple Lodge No. 9 Richmond Lodge No. 10 Richmond Lodge No. 10 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Staunton Lodge No. 13 Manchester Lodge No. 14 Manchester Lodge No. 14 Manchester Lodge No. 14 Manchester Lodge No. 14 Petersburg Lodge No. 15 Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17 Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 Oriental Lodge No. 20 Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 Taylor Lodge No. 23 Taylor Lodge No. 23 Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27 Fincastle Lodge No. 33 Catlett Lodge No. 35 Marshall Lodge No. 39 Marshall Lodge No. 39 Farmville Lodge No. 41 Farmville Lodge No. 41 Farmville Lodge No. 41 Farmville Lodge No. 41 Abingdon Lodge No. 48 Abingdon Lodge No. 48 Poquoson Lodge No. 49 Henry Lodge No. 57 Henry Lodge No. 57 Henry Lodge No. 57 Henry Lodge No. 57 Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 Mountain City Lodge No. 67 Nansemond Lodge No. 77 Nansemond Lodge No. 77 Nansemond Lodge No. 77 Nansemond Lodge No. 77 Hudson-Morris Lodge No. 80 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82 Urbanna Lodge No. 83 Mt. Pleasant Lodge No. 84 Courtland Lodge No. 85 Lancaster Union Lodge No. 88

Wor, Nat Raser Barker Rt. Wor. Roland Lee Helms Bro, James Randall Dickson Bro. Michael Joe Marcus Wor. Charles Smith Hutchinson Bro. Howard Freeman Davis Wor. Henry Marvin Austin, Sr. Wor. Clarence Bennie Bowden Bro. Richard Terry Bundick Bro. William Lee Bundick Bro. Clyde Lee Davis Bro. James Lloyd Miller Bro. Bobby Ray Goir Bro. Don Karl Neal Bro. Earl Walter Davis Bro. Frank Matau Thompson Bro. William Ralph Raynor, Jr. Rt. Wor. Joseph W. A. Childress Bro. Edward W. Hughes, Jr. Bro. Thomas Wynn Short Rt. Wor. Samuel Operrell Butler, Jr. Bro. Armand Flynn Harrell Bro. Donald Keith Cunningham Wor. Bernard Furman Chumney Bro. John Duncan Ghee Bro. Kerry Stephen Bandy Bro. Ralph Lee Campbell Bro. Raymond Edwin King Bro. Charles William Parsons Wor. John Wesley Pendleton Bro. Park Alton Dodd, Jr. Bro. Donald Ray Fields Bro. Dwight W. Atkins Wor. Robert Eugene Riggle, Sr. Bro. Thomas George Underwood Bro. Herman Arthur Whisenant, Jr. Bro. Donald Earl Ratcliff Bro. Charles William Hecker, Jr. Bro. Robert Merle Carlisle Bro. Homer Jennings Cullifer Bro David Harrold Curtis Rt. Wor. Thomas McGowan Bro, Waverly Routten Bro. Sam C. Canavos Wor. Omar H. W. Quillen, Jr. Wor. Thomas Clinton Campbell Wor. James Edward Trent Bro. William Monroe France Bro. Edward George Haslam Bro. Maurice Eugene Pease, Jr Bro. Franklin Theodore Doepel, Jr. Bro. James Noel Kelly Bro. John Anthony Martishius Bro. Ernest Leroy Ivan Bro. Daniel Dean Dehart Bro. Edelvn Lee Hubbard Bro. Frank Joseph Marsh, Jr. Bro. Bobby Jack Melvin Rt. Wor. Kenneth Dale Young Wor. Garnett Allison Taylor Bro. Thomas Edward Mason Bro. Glenn Ray Bass, Sr. Bro. Larry Thomas Harper Bro. William Clinton Taylor Bro. Alfred Wesley Nichols Wor. David Wayne Cook Bro. Nelson Charles Molony Wor. Harry Taft Rutherford, Jr. Bro. James Henry Counts Bro. Frederick Christolph Chniel, II Wor, Julian Edward Newbern Bro. William Mitchell Crace Bro, Glenn Homer Hagy Bro. Ellis Stanley Martz Bro. John Bradbury Sinclair Bro. John Lockridge Trevey, Jr. Bro. Garry Glenn Debruhl Wor. Clifford Edward Evans Rt. Wor. Bernard Leslie Colgin, Jr Bro. Ronald Irvin Jones Bro. Joseph Randall Jones

Valley Lodge No. 93 Liberty Lodge No. 95 Liberty Lodge No. 95 Coeburn Lodge No. 97 Amelia Lodge No. 101 Norview Lodge No. 113 Prince George Lodge No. 115 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 Melrose Lodge No. 139 Melrose Lodge No. 139 Dewitt Clinton Lodge No. 141 Dewitt Clinton Lodge No. 141 Unity Lodge No. 146 Widow's Son Lodge No. 150 Franklin Lodge No. 151 Piedmont Lodge No. 152 Piedmont Lodge No. 152 Staunton River Lodge No. 155 Hunter's Lodge No. 156 Craighill Lodge No. 160 Shelby Lodge No. 162 Shelby Lodge No. 162 Shelby Lodge No. 162 Williamson Road Lodge No. 163 Ashland Lodge No. 168 Ashland Lodge No. 168 Mentow Lodge No. 180 Manasseh Lodge No. 182 Manasseh Lodge No. 182 Manasseh Lodge No. 182 Hill City Lodge No. 183 Hill City Lodge No. 183 King Solomon's Lodge No. 194 Kempsville Lodge No. 196 Kempsville Lodge No. 196 Kempsville Lodge No. 196 Monitor Lodge No. 197 Monitor Lodge No. 197 Colonial Beach Lodge No. 199 Reedy Spring Lodge No. 203 Midlothian Lodge No. 211 Westmoreland Lodge No. 212 Springfield Lodge No. 217 Bayside Lodge No. 218 Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219 Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220 Harman Lodge No. 222 Mouth of Wilson Lodge No. 223 Waddell Lodge No. 228 Accomack Lodge No. 243 Accomack Lodge No. 243 Accomack Lodge No. 243 Accomack Lodge No. 243 Boone Lodge No. 247 Lebanon Lodge No. 251 Indian River Lodge No. 252 Pruner Lodge No. 254 Clinchfield Lodge No. 256 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 Cedar Bluff Lodge No. 260 Edward N. Eubank Lodge No. 262 Edward N. Eubank Lodge No. 262 Edward N. Eubank Lodge No. 262 Mountain Home Lodge No. 263 Corinthian Lodge No. 266 Varina Lodge No. 272 Varina Lodge No. 272 Varina Lodge No. 272

Valley Lodge No. 93

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50-60-70-Year Masonic Veterans Between December 5, 2015 and May 19, 2016

Bro. John Jerome Waterfield, Jr. Wor. Wilbur Franklin Clements Bro. Patrick Eugene Brown Bro. James William Bright, Jr. Wor. David Lee Stoneburne Bro. Samuel Owens Entriken Bro. Jack Donald Warf Bro. Raymond Thomas Cook Bro. Howard Norman Jones, Jr. Bro. Graham K. Tiller Bro. Peter Green Brockwell, Jr. Wor. Aaron Douglas Johnson Bro. Henry Vival Young Rt. Wor. Robert Lewis Gibbs Bro. Stephen Green Cowan, III Bro. Timothy Fletcher Sanders, III Rt. Wor. Bobby Dean Hines, Sr Bro, Carroll Frazier Neblett Wor. Clarence G. Albert Wor. Stanley Lewis Smith, Sr. Bro. Martin Judson Shows, Jr. Wor. Manuel Gill Haynie Bro. Clarence Charles Grubbs Rt. Wor. Joseph Gerald Sanders Wor. Warde Russell Abernathy Bro. Harry Leon Mann Rt. Wor. Jonathan Eldridge Mills Bro. Paul Edward Rich Wor. James Woodrow Sadler, Sr. Bro. Waldy Vincent Sulik, Sr. Bro. Emery Walter Dixon Bro. Bryan Ramsey Bro. John Arthur Childress Bro. Tony Auby Bro. Kenneth Ray Robertson Bro. Thomas William Roberts Wor, John Charles Blake Bro. Vearl R. Hileman Bro. Eddie Lee Ingle Bro. Frederick Allen Ryan Bro. Olyn Gay Long Bro. Richard Carl Turochy Wor Edward Lee Walker Bro. Donald Frederick Kassilke

Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274 Achilles Lodge No. 281 Achilles Lodge No. 281 Columbia Lodge No. 285 Columbia Lodge No. 285 Columbia Lodge No. 285 Columbia Lodge No. 285 Dupont Lodge No. 289 Dupont Lodge No. 289 William Burchfield Lodge No. 294 South Hill Lodge No. 297 Central Lodge No. 300 Westhampton Lodge No. 302 Westhampton Lodge No. 302 Victoria Lodge No. 304 Kent Lodge No. 305 Edwards Lodge No. 308 Edwards Lodge No. 308 Eggleston Lodge No. 309 Eggleston Lodge No. 309 Dillwyn Lodge No. 315 Reedville Lodge No. 321 Babcock Lodge No. 322 Babcock Lodge No. 322 Babcock Lodge No. 322 Babcock Lodge No. 322 Carter Lodge No. 323 Sharon Lodge No. 327 Warsaw-Bauman Lodge No. 332 Warsaw-Bauman Lodge No. 332 Ocean View Lodge No. 335 Warwick Lodge No. 336 Warwick Lodge No. 336 Warwick Lodge No. 336 Transportation Lodge No. 337 Transportation Lodge No. 337 Catawba Lodge No. 342 St. Paul Lodge No. 343 St. Paul Lodge No. 343 Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347 Fort Hunt-Skidmore Daytime Lodge No. 353

SIXTY-YEAR VETERANS Atlantic Lodge No. 2

Bro. Robert Edward Milligan Bro. Lawrence Clifton Hamner, Jr Bro. Luther Junius Derby, Jr. Bro. Richard John Hartung Bro. Lon Warneke Weber Bro. Robert H. Magarian Bro. John George Halages Wor. Jack Coleman Shelton Bro. Joseph Elvin Austin, Jr. Bro. William Byrd Dawson Bro. Joseph Lewis Biggs Bro. Robert Braxton Miller Bro. George Richard Lowrance Bro. Robert Roland Hudgins Rt. Wor. Charles Lester White Bro. Robert Lee Morris, Jr. Bro. Jackson Kasper Jenkins, Jr. Bro. Arthur Lewis Dillon, Jr. Bro. Shirley Wallace Williams Bro. Robert James McDonald Bro. Robert W. McConnell Bro. Edward Downy Hurd Bro. Rush Albert Sutphin Bro. William Carlton Nester Bro. Joseph Thomas Garrison Bro. James Emanuel Holland, Jr. Wor. John Richard Hanson Wor, James Carleton Thomson, Bro. Carl Roosevelt Jenkins Bro. Jesse Ronald Williams Wor. Eugene Benjamin Kenyon Bro. Charles James Lentz, Jr. Bro. F. Crail Rowe Bro Michael Edward Sullivan Bro. David Douglas Compton

Blandford Lodge No. 3 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Manchester Lodge No. 14 Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18 Oriental Lodge No. 20 Oriental Lodge No. 20 Oriental Lodge No. 20 Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21 Taylor Lodge No. 23 Taylor Lodge No. 23 Princess Anne Lodge No. 25 Fincastle Lodge No. 33 Elizabeth Lodge No. 34 Virginia May Lodge No. 38 Marshall Lodge No. 39 Marshall Lodge No. 39 Doric Lodge No. 44 Poquoson Lodge No. 49 Seaboard Lodge No. 56 Henry Lodge No. 57 Henry Lodge No. 57 Henry Lodge No. 57 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 Charles Franklin Shuler Lodge No. 74

Wor. Samuel Crawford Anaya Wor. Charles Howard Mitchell Bro. Andrew Randolph Mitchell Wor, William Andrew Llovd Bro. Earl Lee Childers Bro. Melvin Dickler Wor. Henry Neill Ware Wor, Keith Everett Edmondson Bro. William F. Thomas Wor, John Peyton Brooking Bro. Joseph Clifton Harcun Bro. Hal Whitting Boldin Bro. Harold Martin Boldin Bro William Herbert Watson Wor. Basil Cromwell Haraway, Jr. Bro Don S Smith Bro. Frederick Lee Harrison Wor. June Davis Spivey Wor. Loren William Brown Bro. Axtell Wilson Carder Bro. George Andrew Allen, Jr. Bro. Archer Harold Garland Bro. Norman Francis Nicholas Rt. Wor. Robert Cecil Claud Bro. Richard Lionel Templeton Bro. Graham Wilson Renfrow, Sr. Bro. Floyd Morris Gilbert Bro. Emmett William Fitzge Bro. John Elwood Dillon Bro. Billy Raymond Bryant Rt. Wor, Jake George Zalumas Wor. Jack Milton Quel Wor. Robert Joseph Whitley Bro. Calvin Page Woodford Wor. William Charles Waddell, Jr. Wor. Bernard Thomas Rakes Wor. Tyler Monroe Gore, Jr. Bro. Mark Hannon Hodges, Jr. Bro. Louis Eldridge Carson Bro. Richard Barrett Bagby Bro. John Elliott Barnes, Jr. Bro. Waldo Primm Bornemann Bro. Edward Howell English Rt. Wor. Calvins Shields Jones Rt. Wor. Richard Otis Carden Bro. Robert Frederick Brown Rt. Wor. Robert Watson Wessells Wor, Roger Ernest Comley Wor. Arthur Owen Houston Bro. Russell John Merriken Wor. Charles Fredrick Eaton, Sr. Wor, William Clifton Phillips Rt. Wor. Joseph Talmadge Mason Bro Robert Dale Smith Bro. Carl Leo Schmitz Bro, Charles Lear Ponton Bro. Tyson Perry Tolbert Wor. Berkley Ivey Bro. Philip Franklin Giles Bro. Harry Eugene Franklin Bro. Gordon Ellis Grant

Bro. Allen Morrison Bro. Luther W. Nicar, Jr. Wor, William Justin Olsen Bro. Clinton Dewitt Turner, Jr. Bro, Edwin Basil Hanev Bro. Carl N. Wallnau, Jr Bro. Stanley P. Shapiro Bro. Lawrence Alan Greenwood Bro. Norris D. Hickman Wor. Prentiss N. Miles Bro. Donald Beverly Wilson Bro. Farrar Wakefield Howard Bro. Drayton Lee Mabry Bro. Walter Ellnor Horton Bro. Joseph Lenwood Sink Bro. Otis Eugene Mullins, Jr. Bro. Roy A. Lassiter Bro. Jesse Harold Ellsworth Bro. William Albert Gray, Jr

Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 Snow Creek Lodge No. 90 Snow Creek Lodge No. 90 Chester Lodge No. 94 Liberty Lodge No. 95 Liberty Lodge No. 95 Arlington Lodge No. 102 Liberty Hall Lodge No. 104 Capeville Lodge No. 107 Barboursville Lodge No. 112 Norview Lodge No. 113 Chase City Lodge No. 119 Chase City Lodge No. 119 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 Mountain Lodge No. 140 Franklin Lodge No. 151 Piedmont Lodge No. 152 Hunter's Lodge No. 156 Hunter's Lodge No. 156 Mann Page Lodge No. 157 Clifton Forge Lodge No. 166 Purdie Lodge No. 170 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178 Kempsville Lodge No. 196 Colonial Beach Lodge No. 199 Colonial Beach Lodge No. 199 Reedy Spring Lodge No. 203 Yorktown Lodge No. 205 Sandston Lodge No. 216 Bremond Lodge No. 241 Bedford Lodge No. 244 Boone Lodge No. 247 Mountain Home Lodge No. 263 Cochran Lodge No. 271 Varina Lodge No. 272 Varina Lodge No. 272 Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274 Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274 Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274 Churchland Lodge No. 276 Alberene Lodge No. 277 Cumberland Lodge No. 283 Columbia Lodge No. 285 Central Lodge No. 300 Westhampton Lodge No. 302 Westhampton Lodge No. 302 Army and Navy Lodge No. 306 Eggleston Lodge No. 309 Campbell Lodge No. 316 Campbell Lodge No. 316 Richlands Lodge No. 318 Sharon Lodge No. 327 Warwick Lodge No. 336 Warwick Lodge No. 336 Warwick Lodge No. 336 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347 Fort Hunt-Skidmore Daytime Lodge No. 353

SEVENTY-YEAR VETERANS

Norfolk Lodge No. 1 Taylor Lodge No. 23 Elizabeth Lodge No. 34 Doric Lodge No. 44 Piedmont-Stella Lodge No. 50 Fraternal Lodge No. 53 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121 Piedmont Lodge No. 152 Mann Page Lodge No. 157 Snowville Lodge No. 157 Snowville Lodge No. 155 McAlister Lodge No. 185 Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201 Suthers Lodge No. 287 Westhampton Lodge No. 302 Ocean View Lodge No. 335



There is an opportunity to enjoy a little Masonic variety in your life, and it might just add a little spice to your Masonic attitude as well.

The Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership will take place from July 28 through July 31. It is the kind of event that does not come along every day. It brings many aspects of Masonry together in one place, to enjoy for a weekend and then take home, to benefit yourself, and your Lodge.

The Academy provides an environment where a Mason can work to improve his ritual proficiency. He can participate in some presentations on Masonic leadership and education. He can work on Leadership Correspondence Courses; take part in small-group discussions about topics currently impacting Freemasonry, and renew or make acquaintances with Brethren from all over Virginia.

The Academy is located in Waynesboro, a central location that makes it within a reasonable driving distance for all Brethren. It is open to all Master Masons looking to improve their Masonic ritual proficiency and increase their Lodge leadership skills. It offers instruction by Brethren, who have many years of ritual and educational experience in Freemasonry.

The ritual instruction is managed by the members of the Committee on Work. Our Masonic ritual is a very important part of Virginia Masonry that forms the

Worshipful Paul A. Miller Grand Provost

framework of the lessons, which are instrumental to our Craft, and encourages us all to continue to seek more light in Masonry. Enlightened men tend to be productive members of society, practice charity, and solve problems through reason. Our ritual helps good men to become better men.

The Committee on Masonic Education will provide a number of presentations about various aspects of Lodge leadership and education to increase the tools available to the Brethren as they seek to become knowledgeable leaders of the Craft. In this way, we can seek to learn more about our Freemasonry. We seek a better understanding of the lessons taught in the ritual, and strengthen our Lodges and Fraternity by becoming leaders, who encourage the Brethren to live our Freemasonry daily.

There will also be an opportunity to work on any of the four Leadership Correspondence Courses, which are programs for Masonic self-improvement available to all Master Masons within the Grand Jurisdiction of Virginia. This program has been developed to assist the individual Mason to understand many different aspects of Virginia Freemasonry. They are based upon the materials found in the Methodical Digest, the Manual of Ceremonies, the Mentors Manual, and other guides used to govern our Lodges. Many Brethren complete the courses by signing up on the Grand Lodge website, www.courses.vamasons.org. However, the option provided at the Academy will be a classroom setting with assistance available to help find answers to questions in the courses.

There will also be a Grand Lodge publication sales table available for Brethren seeking to build their Masonic library.

The Grand Lecturer and the Grand Provost will be available throughout the sessions of the Academy providing additional perspectives on the ritual and educational material presented during the weekend. The elected Grand Lodge Officers will be present to interact with the Brethren and take part in the relaxed fraternal environment at the Academy. A large number of your Brethren from around the state will be present to make the weekend a positive Masonic experience.

So, take advantage of this opportunity to seek more Light in Masonry.

You can find the registration form here:

https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org/ education/reid-james-simmons-academy-of-masonic-leadership#faqnoanchor

Your Lodge Secretary can get you a copy to submit, also the program for the Academy can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/ file/d/0B4PtzaELp8fvT1RQaX-NpTlB4N28/edit?usp=sharing

Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership Waynesboro, Virginia July 28-31, 2016 Statewide



Area Masonic Ritual Schools - 2016

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Name	Location	Date(s)	District(s)
Elmo J. "Bo" Norfleet	Suffolk	June 28-30	33, 34
James Wilson Updike	Bedford	July 19-22	22A, 22B, 24
Robert Lewis Gibbs	Richmond	July 20-23	15A, 15B, 15C, 16
Lewis Q. Moore	Abingdon	Aug. 23-25	44, 46, 47
C. S. Revell/B. D. Hudson	Hampton	Sept. 19-21	14A, 14B
L. N. Cridlin	Jonesville	Sept. 19-21	49, 50
C. A. Whitted	Scottsville	Sept. 22, Oct. 19	17, 18
William Edward Ray, Sr.	Warrenton	Sept. 23-24	4
Edward Page Henry	Hopewell	Sept. 26-28	16, 29
James Noah Hillman	Gate City	Oct. 10-12	48, 49, 50
Starks/Baumgardner	Bland	Oct. 10-12	41, 42
Lon Norman Dooley	Castlewood	Oct. 17-19	46, 47
O. B. Omohundro	Gordonsville	Oct. 22	7, 10
Charles T. "Bucky" Gilbert	Marion	Oct. 24-26	42, 43, 44
Joseph T. Stewart	Courtland	Oct. 26, 27	31, 32
Reid James Simmons Academy	Waynesboro	July 28-31	Statewide

NOTE: Always verify the date(s) and location of any school you are planning to attend E. Tyree Mountcastle School locations: Chickahominy, Mann Page, and Williamsburg.



At Westhampton Lodge No. 302, a 50-Year Masonic Veterans Award was presented to Right Worshipful Robert Lewis Gibbs. The ceremony was conducted by the Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins (1997). The prayer was given by Right Worshipful R. Grant Morley. Right Worshipful V. Stuart Cook, Deputy Grand Master, and Right Worshipful J. Kevin Lipscomb served on the presentation committee.

Numerous Brethren, ladies and visitors witnessed the ceremony, including his wife, Virginia, and the Gibbs family. All members of the Grand Lodge office staff and several of their spouses were present for this special occasion.



L-R: M. W. Alan W. Adkins (1997), Rt. Wor. V. Stuart Cook, Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. R. Lewis Gibbs, and Rt. Wor. J. Kevin Lipscomb.



Right Worshipful Donald W. Martin

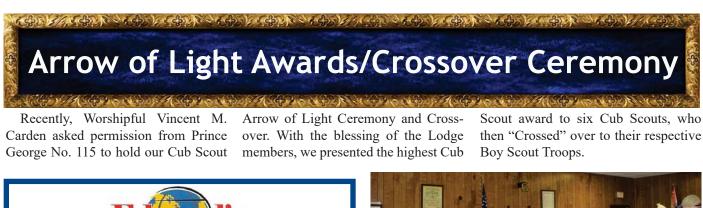


Rt. Wor. Gary Dean Tickle with a shop of toy boxes.

\$14,000 annually and still counting. Right Worshipful Gary Dean Tickle from Newport Lodge No. 261 decided eight years ago that he would like to do something extra for the disadvantaged children within the area, which includes Giles and Craig Counties and Munroe County, West Virginia. Gary owns his own oil and propane business and has several employees. He designed and built the first toy box in his shop. He then taught one of his employees to build them and now builds thirty-six boxes a year to distribute to the local schools at a cost of approximately \$400 each (filled) to be given to selected students. Without Right Worshipful Brother Tickle's help, many of the children within the area would not have a very merry Christmas. Not only does he donate the toy boxes, his wife Rhonda finds out from the schools the sizes of the students to receive the gift boxes and buys a coat, pants, underwear, socks, and shoes, plus a toy for each child. These are then placed inside the toy box with the child's name on the box and delivers them to each school.

Gary and Rhonda have two children of their own, and a grandchild. Gary works seventy hours a week, and Rhonda works forty hours per week at their jobs. Gary cuts the trees from his farm himself, has it sawn locally, and dries it for next year's toy boxes.

Rhonda has been a longtime supporter of Masonry and Shrine because she received treatment from the Shriner's Hospital fifty-three years ago. She can now walk with difficulty, but gets around on her own. Neither ever ask for recognition. Wouldn't it be nice if more people displayed this type of Masonic teachings in the world today?







L-R: Webelo 2's Pack 902 Prince George, Viginia, Wor. Vincent M. Carden, presenting Arrow of Light Awards/Crossover Ceremony.

Service With Love And Fun

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Virginia Job's Daughters love to have fun while doing service projects and making life better for others.

Last October, they gathered in Virginia Beach for their annual boardwalk HIKE (Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment) Fund to raise money for hearing-impaired children. The 30th annual HIKE for Job's Daughters International's philanthropic charity raised money to help others from birth to twenty years of age who need hearing devices and whose families cannot afford them. The girls raise the bulk of their money from pledges for the hike or hold special projects such as dinners, yard sales, sponsored dance recitals, and sales of various items.

So far, Virginia Job's Daughters has raised \$14,352.35. Bethels No. 13, 39, 37, 46, and 48 made awards to youth from age 1 to age 17, ranging from \$1,500.00 to \$3,000.00 that were presented at various events. These presentations are heartwarming, and the girls and adults usually present gifts to the children as well as a check to their parents.

Thanksgiving weekend, Jobies gathered in Williamsburg for their annual Miss Job's Daughters Pageant. Representatives from each Bethel are tested and interviewed by a panel of judges, and finally one girl is selected to represent Virginia. She gives a speech at each Grand Visitation and at Masonic Family events, such as Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, competes for Miss International Job's Daughter, attends events in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware (commonly referred to as the Quad Squad).

For 2015-2016, Misha Capuno from Bethel No. 1, Arlington, was selected as Miss Virginia Job's Daughter and Camran Kekoa-Dearheart from Bethel No. 39, Yorktown, was chosen by her peers to serve as Miss Virginia Congeniality.



December gave the girls many opportunities to serve. Bethel No. 24, Hopewell, and No. 51, Midlothian made and decorated Gingerbread Houses, which were taken to the Masonic Home of Virginia for the residents to enjoy and vote for their favorite. This year, Bethel No. 24 won.

Several of the Bethels gave Christmas cards to each of the two hundred-twenty residents to increase their enjoyment of the season. It also let them know they have not been forgotten. Hundreds of gifts were donated to the Masonic Home of Virginia, so everyone received something. Additionally, Job's Daughters visited their adopted grandparents. Approximately seventy-two Daughters and adults attended the Annual Christmas Caroling event on December 19 at the Home, where they and Santa went through the halls, singing and entertaining. This culminated with refreshments and visiting. The residents are always welcoming and appreciative. Bonnie White is always helpful in seeing that the events are advertised and distributes the gifts.

Job's Daughters have also been acknowledging our service people. Our Associate Grand Guardian, Justin Gray, is serving on the USS Gonzalez. With his help, many Jobies and adults were given a tour around the ship. Following that, a number of the Bethels have sent cards and small gifts to those serving on the ship to thank them for serving our Country.

Another fun thing we have done is to donate rituals to our sister Philippine Bethels. This year, nine Bethels and several interested adults donated a total of one hundred and three rituals; the Grand Guardian Council donated three Bethel Flags; another adult donated one, and another individual donated a number of headbands. Regulation items are very expensive in the Philippines, so Virginia has donated several times. Prior to this, many of their Bethels only had 2 or 3 rituals, which the girls had to share. The girls sign the rituals, and greetings have also been written in their native language. Some also included pictures of their members. We thank Dad Eddie and Mom Carlota Cantada, Past Associate Grand Guardian and Past Grand Guardian of Virginia, for transporting and distributing the items during their January trip to their homeland.

Many Bethels are fortunate to help their Lodges by serving dinners. Bethel No. 51, Midlothian, has been very lucky in that they serve monthly at Amelia No. 101 and were asked to prepare and serve at the Grand Master's Official Visit to the 27th Masonic District held at Amelia Lodge.

Virginia Job's Daughters also work at blood drives, Child ID events, visit nursing homes, pack food backpacks at neighbor food programs, provide items for abused women and children staying in safe houses, collect items for animal shelters, make hats and scarves for cancer patients, donate school supplies, and many more worthwhile projects. They not only serve, but do it with a smile and have fun while doing it. Grand Guardian Debbi Caviness and Associate Grand Guardian Justin Gray are very proud of all that "their Daughters" do.



L-R: Rt. Wor. Wayne A. "Rocky" Robison, Dennis J. Barbaro, President of Sedona Taphouse, Wor. Michael G. Atkins.

Right Worshipful Wayne Robison is the Central Region Deputy Emeritus for DeMolay, and Worshipful Atkins is the Chapter Dad who is helping to rebuild the Midlothian Chapter. Right Worshipful Robison and Worshipful Atkins presented a plaque to Mr. Barbaro for the Sedona Taphouse charity steak night donation.

Sedona Taphouse (located in Westchester Commons in Midlothian) offered steaks for \$6.00 on Monday nights, and donated \$1 for each meal served during the month. The total raised was \$2,229, one of the highest charity donations ever, all to support the A. Douglas Smith Chapter of DeMolay in Midlothian.



L-R: Wor. Stanley L. Smith, Sr. Rt. Wor. Charles R. Carner, Wor. Barry A. Williams.

At Masonic Lodge No. 309, a very unique presentation of a 50-Year Masonic Veteran Emblem was conducted.

Under the direction of Worshipful Master, Barry A. Williams; Right Worshipful Charles Robert G. Carner, nintey-two years old, of McCoy, Virginia, was called to the East along with Worshipful Stanley Lewis Smith, Sr., also of McCoy. Worshipful Brother Smith was presented his 50-year Masonic Veteran Emblem by the same man who raised him in 1966, Right Worshipful Brother Carner.

Right Worshipful Robert G. Lucas also presented him with a lapel pin from the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, James E. Litten.

Prayers were led by Right Worshipful Joe Broce, Grand Chaplain for the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

This was a rare presentation to have the same Brother that raised Worshipful Smith to present his 50-Year Veteran pin. This would be like having the same minister that married you presiding at your 50-year anniversary celebration.

Congratulations to Worshipful Stanley Smith and Right Worshipful Robert Carner.

70-Years

Image: Construction of the second second

L-R: Rt. Wor. James E. Morrison, Rt. Wor. David H. McPeak, Wor. Jeffrey L. Warf, Bro. Drayton L. Mabry is seated. Brother Mabry received his 70-year

Masonic award recently. He was born March 3, 1920, and was raised a Master Mason in Snowville Lodge No. 159 on February 8, 1946. Brother Mabry is a local retired merchant and is a current resident of English Meadows Assisted Living Facility in Christiansburg, Virginia. He is the oldest living member of Snowville.



L-R: Bro. Joseph L. Sink receiving his 70-Year plague presented by M. W. James E. Litten.



Re-Enactment of Ceremony for Laying Cornerstone Historic Masonic Theatre

510 Main Street, Clifton Forge, Virginia

Saturday, July 30, 2016

The original Masonic Hall and Opera House, commissioned by Low Moor Lodge No. 166 and built in high Victorian style in 1905, has undergone a \$6.3 million + renovation and holds its Grand Re-opening in July. To celebrate the preservation of the oldest continuously operating theatre in Virginia, the Freemasons of the 23rd Masonic District, as the guests of the Theatre Foundation, will re-enact the Masonic Ceremony for Laying Cornerstones. The Grand Lodge of Virginia has granted a Dispensation for this event, and admission is free.

Schedule

- 2:15 PM: Viewing of Masonic Videos;
- 2:45 PM: Introduction to Ceremony and Procession of Brethren
- 3:00 PM: Re-enactment of Cornerstone Ceremony on Main Stage
- 3:45 PM: Remarks by Most Worshipful James Edward Litten, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia
- 4:00 PM: Remarks by John Hillert Historic Masonic Theatre Foundation
- 5:00 PM: Theatre Tours, Social and Reception
- 6:00 PM: Dinner, Upstairs Dining Room

(Dining Room accommodates 150 persons. \$18.00 per person)

Theatre seating is limited to 532 persons. Dinner seating is limited to 150,

so space is limited for these events.

Please reserve your place for the re-enactment and for dinner

by email to Wor. Glen Bryant, 23vachip@gmail.com or

Rt. Wor. Jeremiah Walker, DDGM, jeremiahmw@gmail.com.

First come, first served.

For further information about the Theatre itself, please go to:

www.historicmasonictheatre.com.

For accommodations, please visit:

http://www.visitalleghanyhighlands.com/stay



Masonic Veterans

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The March meeting of Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 was attended by over one hundred members, visitors and ladies. After a tasty beef dinner, everyone was invited into the Lodge room for Masonic Veteran Ceremonies.

A 60-Year Veterans Award was presented to Brother John George Halapes. The ceremony was performed by Right Worshipful John Q. "Twiggy" Sheppard. He was presented by Right Worshipful Lambros G. Deligan, and Brother John S. Toutsi. Brother Sheppard did the entire ceremony by memory.

A 50-Year Veterans Award was presented to Right Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The ceremony was done by Worshipful J. Thomas Wadkins, III. The prayer was done by Right Worshipful Barrye L. Absher. Right Worshipful Charles S. Sarbaugh, and Right Worshipful Claude A. "Buddy" Bass conducted Brother Cook for the ceremony.

Many Brethren and ladies witnessed the ceremonies, including three Past Grand Masters, Alan Wayne Adkins (1997), Frederick Garrison Martin, III (2003), and Reese Edward Carroll, Jr. (2015). The Grand Junior Warden, Right Worshipful William Edward Hershey, Jr., and Grand Senior Deacon, Right Worshipful Douglas Vernon Jones were also present.



L-R: Rt. Wor. John Q. Sheppard, acting Master-Robert Edward Cook, Bro. John George Halapes, 60-Year Masonic Veteran.



L-R: acting Master-Robert Edward Cook, Rt. Wor. Vernon Stuart Cook, 50-Year Masonic Veteran, and Wor. Tom Wadkins.



1.16

L-R: M. W. James E. Litten and Rt. Wor. Robert C. Claud, Sr., receiving his 60-Year Veterans' Award.

On the Official Visit of Most Worshipful James Edward Litten to the 31st and 32nd Districts at the Wakefield 4-H Center, in Wakefield, Virginia, he presented Right Worshipful Robert C. Claud, Sr., a member of Purdie Lodge No. 170 in Windsor, with his 60-Year Veterans Award. Right Worshipful Brother Claud has served as Secretary of Purdie Lodge for twenty-four years and previously served as District Educational Officer and District Masonic Home Ambassador for the 31st District. His family attended the event.

The Grand Master's Official Visit was attended by approximately one hundred and seventy-five Masons and guests.

Working Tools

I now present you the working tools of the Pessimist and Chronic Objector: they are the hammer and monkey wrench.

The hammer is a tool used by an operative mechanic to adjust his work, drive nails, and for other useful purposes in construction; but in the Order of Pessimists and Chronic Objectors, it is used to undermine our fellow man, to nullify and destroy their works.

The monkey wrench is a tool used by an operative mechanic to assist him in assembling machinery, to tighten nuts and bolts that there may be no breakdowns in the finished assemblage; but in the Order of Pessimists and Chronic Objectors, it is used for the more ignoble and inglorious purpose that it may be cast into the well-oiled machinery of a Lodge and to gum up the works.

Brethren, please do not confuse this order with another order's working tools: Ignorance and Apathy.



Right Worshipful Lambros G. Deligan, President, Scholarship Fund, Grand Lodge of Virginia

The 19th Annual Shipley Golf Tournament was held on April 20, at the Kiskiack Golf Course in Williamsburg, Virginia to benefit the Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund. Golfers from across Virginia arrived in Williamsburg on a beautiful spring day. The event was kicked off with a welcome by Right Worshipful Lambros G. Deligan, an Invocation by Most Worshipful James D. Cole (2001) and remarks by Grand Master, Most Worshipful James E. Litten, as he thanked everyone for participating and "Setting a Good Example."

Fifty-six golfers exhibited their skills and talents on the golf course. It was a day of wonderful fun, fellowship and great golf followed by a delicious barbecue lunch and prizes. Congratulations to all participants as they were all winners for the youth of Virginia. In addition, placing first in the tournament with a score sixty, were Most Worshipful Clifford A. "Skip" Parker (2002), Mike Johnson, Robert Parker, and Richard Parker. Placing second with a score of sixty-one were Thomas Wayne Andrews, Reid Andrews, Russ Carmichael and Mason Drickson. Many thanks to our golf players and hole sponsor contributors for making the 19th Annual Ian McLaurin Shipley, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament a great success!

Because of the success of the Ian Shipley Golf Tournament, the Scholarship Fund Board was able to award sixteen scholarships this year to deserving students pursuing higher education in the fall.

The Scholarship Fund was created on July 6, 1978, and operates exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a Virginia Corporation licensed by the State Corporation Commission.

The purpose of the Fund is to provide

scholarships, fellowships, and other forms of financial assistance to deserving men and women from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Scholarship recipients receive \$4,000 total in scholarships payable at \$1,000 per year pending annual verification of good standing and acceptable grade point average.

Since it was established thirty-seven years ago, the Scholarship Fund has sought to award ten to eighteen Scholarships each year. To date, over four hundred and fifty scholarships have been awarded.

The Scholarship Board meets annually following the annual Scholarship submission deadline of March 1 to choose from among the eligible applicants the top choices and submit their names to the Grand Master recommending their approval for the \$1,000.00 scholarship for a period of four years.

Contributions via the Ian M. Shipley, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament are vital for the perpetuity of the scholarship program. These contributions make up a significant portion of the money awarded for scholarships every year. Thank you for your support!

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund are always welcome and may be made payable to:

The Scholarship Fund, Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Virginia

For further information, please contact Lambros Deligan at:

LDELIGAN@DLGN.NET (804) 275-2699 (H) (804) 275-9886 (Fax) (804) 307-3631 (Cell)

Our golf teams were:

1. V. Stuart Cook, Gary W. Taylor, Larry Dixon, and Dan Dixon



- Alan W. Adkins, James D. Cole, James M. Scearce, and Joseph D. Grist
- 3. Ronny L. Lewis, James E. "Jim" Litten, Thomas W. "Tom" Self, III, and Gino W. Williams
- 4. Louis K. "Kerry" Campbell, Art Pendleton, Bill Campbell, and Hi Nicely
- 5. Earl T. Dodson, Jr., Ronald Saunders, Lin Spears, and Richard Hinson
- J. Thomas Wadkins, III, James W. Burton, Carlton A. Hall, and James C. Bradford
- 7. Thomas Wayne Andrews, Reid Andrews, Russ Carmichael, and Mason Drickson
- 8. C. A. "Skip" Parker, Mike Johnson, Rob Parker, and Richard Parker
- Wayne Golden, Paul Pennybacker, Donny Baines, and Ray Connard
- 10. Gary Williams, Ted Ferrell, James Williams, and Mark Hill
- 11. John Waller, Bo Bolton, Wayne Aylor, and James Crinkley, Jr.
- 12. Tom Clark, Bob Dillard, Phil Fritz, and Ronald Tidd
- 13. Roger Hartman, Mark Barham, Kevin Pettrey, and Brennen Ogletree
- 14. Chuck Brock, Pat Garrison, Dave Davis, and Donny Groh

Masonic Veterans



L-R: Wor. William D. Barnett and Wor. James E. Sturgill.

Worshipful James E. Sturgill of Hoge Lodge No. 8 in Wise, Virginia, recently received his 60-Year Veteran's Certificate from Worshipful William D. Barnette. Worshipful James E. Sturgill was very proud to receive it as Worshipful William D. Barnette was honored to present it. He was Worshipful Master in 1960. Congratulations to Worshipful James E. Sturgill.



L-R: Rt. Wor. V. Stuart Cook and Rt. Wor. Robert M. Hall.

Right Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook presented a 60-Year Veterans Certificate to Right Worshipful Robert M. Hall at Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982.

Right Worshipful Robert "Bob" Hall was a District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) in 1978. His DDGM apron had been worn with regularity, and shows the use. The members of Black Heath Daylight Lodge purchased a new apron. Many favorable comments were offered during the apron presentation. Brother Hall asked to meet the gent about whom the Brethren spoke.



L-R: Rt. Wor. Downing D. McCoy, Rt. Wor. C. Brad Holsinger, Jr., Wor. James G. Watkins, Rt. Wor. Ernest R. Blevins, Rt. Wor. Brian K. Plum, Bro. William E. Mills, and Bro. Harry E. Hedlund.

Lafayette Lodge No. 137 was pleased to present Brother Gordon B. Sims his 60-Year pin and certificate at his home. Brother Sims is an emblematical Freemason.



At Mountain Lodge, Brother Clyde Michael Paxton received his 60-Year Masonic Veteran award. The presentation was made by Most Worshipful Louis Kerford Campbell (2013).

All members present were very pleased to see Brother Paxton and to be able to take part in the celebration of this very important milestone of his Masonic journey. He spoke of looking forward to receiving his 70-Year award.

The celebration was continued after the meeting with cake and ice cream in the Lodge Social Hall.

"Whilst the newly admitted Freemason is freely likened to the rough ashlar, he is nowhere likened to the perfect ashlar. If he were, it would be tantamount to saying that perfection had a terminus. Whereas whenever the ritual refers to the possibility of perfection being attained it is always with a qualification. We cannot put a stop to the working of the law of evolution by saying that there is any point at which improvement becomes impossible. That is why life is described as a battle in which there is no pause in the fighting, a journey towards a goal which is forever receding. The perfect ashlar is a witness to this because an absolutely perfect cube is unattainable."

Brother John T. Lawrence Excerpt from *The Perfect Ashlar and Other Masonic Symbols*. (London: A. Lewis, 1912)

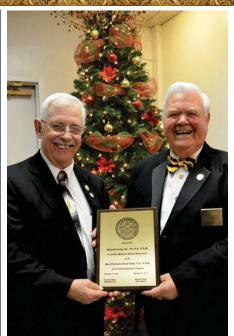
Masonic Awards

L-R: Wor. Reuben V. Martinez, Wor. Alan "Odie" Case, and Bro. Robert J. Worthington.

The Officers and Brethren of Olive Branch Lodge No. 114 in Leesburg, Virginia, awarded the Worshipful George Thomas "Doc" Hocker Award for Masonic Excellence to Worshipful Alan "Odie" Case.

Worshipful George Thomas Hocker, MD, or "Doc" as most of us knew him, was a member of Olive Branch Lodge No. 114. A humble small town doctor, in a humble small town Lodge. For some, this is as far as they advance, while others go on to fill officer chairs, and eventually some even serve in the East. Some, having traveled thus far, choose to be satisfied with this advancement, while others go on to much greater enlightenment. Some excel in ritualistic endeavors, and a smaller portion of Brethren go on to exemplify the ritual, and continue providing light to others. Doc held every color card they give out and passionately lived the ritual! Doc was a Mason, leader and beacon of light for us all to emulate.

The officers of Olive Branch Lodge have the pleasure of watching Worshipful Alan "Odie" Case live Masonry, but more importantly have been inspired by his personal actions. He exemplifies the true spirit of this award – inspiration through an upright life; without seeking recognition; while exemplifying the true tenets of our institution; through his own personal example; and, by the actions of those he has inspired. He is



L-R: Rt. Wor. William E. Allmond, III, accepts plaque from M. W. James E. Litten.

Wakefield Lodge No. 198 celebrated their 150th anniversary at the Virginia Diner in Wakefield, Virginia. There were approximately seventy members and guests on hand to witness this celebration and receive very nice remarks from Most Worshipful James E. Litten, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia.

well known in his Lodge, his district, and Northern Virginia. There are many there who are inspired by his faith, and may seek further light and inspiration in the Holy Scriptures because of his example. Some have the added privilege of meeting with him on the level as a true and inspired Brother, not dimmed by his light, but enlightened alongside of him by his example and willing support; being strengthened by his good counsel; and, lifted by his encouragement. Worshipful Alan Case is a stellar example of what we should all strive for and hope to achieve in our Masonic journeys.

Most Worshipful Litten referenced the strengths and determination of keeping any organization viable for one hundred and fifty continuous years and gave praises to the many past and present members for their efforts. He also emphasized his theme for the year "Setting A Good Example" and gave many words of encouragement of the importance of this in life and the influences we all have on others by doing so. There were many challenges throughout our nation in 1865, right after the Civil War when our country was to begin rebuilding and the economy was in ruins, and so many men had been wounded or killed. But this tight little community came together with their local leadership and formed the Wakefield Masonic Lodge, which has now survived so many obstacles, including the Great Depression, several recessions, two World Wars, the Korean War, Vietnam, and now continues to struggle in the Middle East. Few organizations continue for one hundred and fifty years and Wakefield is lucky to have Wakefield Lodge No. 198 as a part of their community. Most Worshipful James E. Litten presented Right Worshipful William E. Allmond, Master of Wakefield Lodge, a plaque recognizing this 150year anniversary.

If you are depressed, you are living in the past.

If you are anxious, you are living in the future.

If you are at peace, you are living in the present.

Lao Tzu

Masonic Awards



L-R: Bro. Zachary A. Smith, Wor. Dennis A. Wilt, and Rt. Wor. V. Stuart Cook.

Right Worshipful V. Stuart Cook, Deputy Grand Master, presented a certificate of proficiency to Brother Zachary Allen Smith, in the presence of his mentor and instructor, Worshipful Dennis A. Wilt.

Brother Smith was balloted upon a Wednesday, and initiated the next day. Two weeks later, he was passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft. One week later, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. He sat in at the next stated communication, all in one month.

Brother Zachary A. Smith is nineteen years old. Worshipful Wilt, his grandfather, taught him the work, and is a Past Master of Blackheath Lodge No. 1982. Zachary has dramatically reduced the mean age of this Lodge.



visitors.

Brother Timothy W. Conway, IV, 36th Masonic District Blood Coordinator, presents Doric Lodge No. 44 with an award from the Grand Lodge of Virginia for donating 1,194 units of blood. Receiving the award is Worshipful Master George C. Walton, Doric Lodge No. 44. Observing are Right Worshipful Frederick T. Whittington, as well as members of Doric Lodge No. 44 and

The stated also included awarding Worshipful Rodney G. Crowder with his 25-year veteran's pin. Right Worshipful Frederick T. Whittington presented Bibles to the two newest members of the Lodge, Brother Ellwood J. "Joseph" Joyner, III, and Brother Willmont G. Griffin.

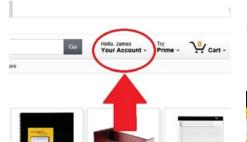
The Rough Ashlar

We cannot regard the rough ashlar as an imperfect thing, for it was created by the almighty great architect, and he created nothing imperfect, but gave us wisdom and understanding, so as to enable us to convert the seemingly imperfect to our especial use and comfort. What great alterations are made in a rough ashlar by the mallet and chisel! With it are formed, by the intelligent man, the most admirable pieces of architecture. And man - what is he when he first enters into the world? Imperfect, and yet a perfect work of god, out of which so much can be made by education and cultivation.

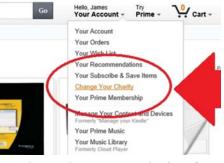
Johann Christian Gadike's *Lexicon of Freemasonry* (in German), quoted by Laurence Dermott in *Ahiman Rezon*, Second Edition. (Philadelphia: Leon Hyneman, 1855), 183.



- 1-Go to https://smile.amazon.com (You must always use this address instead of amazon.com. The Masonic Home of Virginia will not receive money if you do not.)
- 2-If you already have an Amazon login, log in here.
- 3-If you do not have an Amazon login, create an account by clicking on "Create an account."



4-Once logged in, click on "Your Account."



5-Select "Change Your Charity" from the drop-down window.



6-Type in the blank, Masonic Home of Virginia, as illustrated.

- nic Home Of Virgi Home of Virginia West Virginia Masonic Home 7-Click the "Search" button.
 - 8-Make sure you choose Masonic Home Of Virginia by clicking the correct "Select" button.



- 9 -Verify your choice by looking at the "Supporting:" field near the top left of the page.
- 10-Remember. You must always log in to https://smile.amazon.com in order for the MAHOVA charity to receive funds.
- 11-This wonderful feature is being made possible by Amazon, at no cost to the buyer.





Most Worshipful James D. Cole (2001) Masonic Home CEO

The Masonic Home is at it again, evolving to meet the changing needs of our residents, investing gifts donated in a way that saves money in the long run.

The Home is highly regarded in the mid-Atlantic region for the quality of care provided to our residents. Our care planning is closely integrated with our space planning. After all, our facilities are intended to assist in caring for our residents. Over the last several years, all interior public spaces at the Home have been refurbished, implementing a decorating plan that has allowed our facility, which was built in many stages over six decades, to take on a much more cohesive appearance. One of the final adjustments to our space included the creation of a new fitness center, which occupies the former sun porch.

The fitness center offers state of the art exercise equipment and within its

first days of operation was clearly a great success, attracting dozens of residents. The physical therapy room has been relocated to be adjacent to the fitness center, so that physical therapists can utilize the fitness equipment in their efforts to assist our residents. When not in use by residents, the center is also utilized by the Home's staff as part of the wellness program for our employees. The employee wellness program itself over the last three years has saved the Home thousands of dollars in health insurance premiums for our employees. These savings were used in part to provide the funding for the equipment in the new fitness center.

The ability of the Home to respond in these creative and effective ways to meet the changing needs of the residents entrusted to our care is solely dependent on the generous support of

the Masons of Virginia who donate funds to support the Home. Improving the health and physical fitness of our residents will, over the long run, help the Home more effectively manage the cost of care. Healthier, more physically fit residents will require less costly care and will live more enjoyable lives.

The donations made by our supporters are always put to good use. We always act responsibly in managing the gifts shared by Masons and their families, so we can most effectively meet the care needs of our residents. The Home is a living fulfillment of the obligations of every Mason. We need each donor to continue to give, as often as possible, and we need any Mason who has not given recently, to rejoin the effort.

Improving the lives of others is a real opportunity for every Mason, the chance to help is as simple as making a gift.

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*	Masonic Home	CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER	
	New Res	idents	
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Date	2	Resident Name	Lodge Name
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12/15/2015			
	12/23/2015 Blanche Quel Sandston Lodge No. 216		o. 216
January			
1/18/2010	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Bremond Lodge N	
1/20/2010		Barboursville Lodge No. 112	
1/25/2010		······································	
1/25/2010	1/25/2016 Shirley Armistead Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344		
1/26/2010	1/26/2016Jack QuelSandston Lodge No. 216		
1/27/2010	6 McClellan Burgess		
1/27/2010	6 Betty Burgess	Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19	
February			
None	e		
March			
3/4/2010	6 Richard Carden	Cumberland Lodge	e No. 283
3/4/2010	6 Georgeen Carden	Cumberland Lodge	e No. 283
3/7/2010	6 Hazel Woodward	Joppa Lodge No. 4	0
April			
None	e		
28 The Virginia Mason	ic Herald-Spring-Summer 2016		

## Masonic Home of Virginia Honorariums and Memorials

#### CARGEN AS CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR

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, acknowledgments 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, 2015 through November 30, 2015. Persons HONORED are on the left, followed by the donor's name on the right.

Uanar	/Memorial
Honor	/Memorial

Gerri Adkins Dean P. Agee Clarence M. Blankenship Hobert R. Bolling

Floyd Bradd Robert R. Burrell Reese E. Carroll, Jr. Louise Clay William T. Congleton Bill Craft John E. Crawford Nelson B. Curtis

Lyman C. Daughtrey Welvin M. Davis Ronald B. Dickerson Walter S. Downs Tad C. Fithian Stanley D. Freed

Johnnie Garcia Ashley L. Garrett Edgar L. Harrison Thomas F. Hayes Gerald J. Higginbotham Thomas M. Holder Charles W. Hughes

Barbara D. Hylton Dr. Richard D. Hylton William R. Jeter Jimmy H. Matthews Garret Jones Joseph E. Kerss Donald B. Lacy

Michael G. Hayes Day Lodge No. 58 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Lester E. Prince Garv W. Tavlor Lifecare Ambulance Service James D. Cole Alan W. Adkins St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865 Donald I Kerr Powhatan Lodge No. 295 Bayside Lodge No. 218 Hill City Lodge No. 183 Waddell Lodge No. 228 Nachman Marks Foundation Milton P. Wilson Thomas K. Daughtrey Temple Lodge No. 9 Varina Lodge No. 272 David H. Smith Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865 Moring E. Gravitt Chester Lodge No. 94 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Nancy M. Holder Temple Lodge No. 9 Harry G. Harvey Cave Spring Lodge No. 230 Nancy M. Holder Gary R. Allen John M. Litaker Temple Lodge No. 9 Frank R. Gough Allan Tissari Don and Sherri Schomaker Robert and Melissa Netemeyer Frieda Schomaker Mary Lou Schomaker Thomas K. Daughtrey Thomas K. Daughtrey St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Wayne S. Flora Thomas C. Gilman Wytheville Fraternal Lodge No. 82 George H. Marshall

Day Lodge No. 58

Donor Name

James T. Ley James E. Litten Robert G. Lockwood John I. Long Audrey Mann Ann C. McDaniel Irving G. Meadows Eugene L. Mill Joy Mitterer Steven A. Moss Shirley Mucha

Honor/Memorial

Howard G. Myers Yvonne M. Olphin Sally Oprison George A. Page Hunter F. Payne Lois M. Payne Simeon J. Phipps

Frances L. Pugh Samuel W. Purviance Charles B. Quade Mary Richardson Samuel R. Robertson Lewis C. Rogers Daryl E. Saunders

Earl H. Slaughter

Sue Marie and Norman O. Spatig Jeffrey B. Spence John and Virginia Stafford Thelma Sturgis Walter S. Terry Clara Tucker Bobby J. Weatherford Mrs. Raymond E. Whitehurst Emmet M. Williams Sara Wright James R. Wysong Linda F. Young Danville Scottish Rite Jeffrey B. Spence Michael D. Johnstone John W. Pierce Powhatan Lodge No. 295 Jane R. Atkinson Nancy M. Holder Babcock Lodge No. 322 Powhatan Lodge No. 295 Anderson Lodge No. 258 Virginia Institute of Pastoral Care William A. Young Thomas K. Daughtrey Barbara A. Lewis Powhatan Lodge No. 295 Robert E. Simpson Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865 Harold F. Gladding Helen L. Payne Kempsville No. 173 O.E.S. Paul S. Bollinger Christopher P. Hamilton Wakefield Lodge No. 198 John B. Quade Powhatan Lodge No. 295 Northside Lodge No. 292 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5 Ronald N. Morris Ricky W. Gardner Matt Madonna Montrose Chapter No. 176 Varina Lodge No. 272 Temple Lodge No. 9 Susan S. Schmidt Helen Hodges William M. Stafford Daniel L. Rose Sandston Lodge No. 216 Royal S. Tucker Midlothian Ruritan Club Powhatan Lodge No. 295 Babcock Lodge No. 322 Alan W. Adkins Northside Lodge No. 292 Evelyn Holliday

Donor Name



OF VIRGINIA



# Masonic Home of Virginia

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Resident Becky Bollinger receiving orientation in the new fitness center.



Residents Earl Scott and Sylvia Matthews enjoy a therapy pet visit.



Open house for the new fitness center.



Residents receiving orientation in the new fitness center.



The Resident Queen, Agnes Cash, and Brenda Kerrick prepare for the Easter play.



Resident Florine Johnson playing the drum with the music therapist.



Residents enjoying the Easter play.



Residents enjoy the Valentine's Dance.



The Resident Queen, Agnes Cash, and King, Curtis Harver, visit Gladys Simmons.

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Most Worshipful James Edward Litten on his Official Visit to Ocean View No. 335.

Ocean View 335