

THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

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Winter 2016



| | |
|----|------------------------|
| 3 | Grand Master's Message |
| 5 | DLC Schedule |
| 13 | Lewis Jewel |
| 18 | District Alignment |
| 28 | A Home for Family |

**Most Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook
172nd Grand Master of Masons in Virginia**

The Virginia Masonic Herald

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Next Herald Deadline: January 1, 2017

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

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

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

<https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org/>

Masonic Herald Deadlines

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Spring Issue | January 1 |
| Summer Issue | May 1 |
| Fall Issue | August 1 |
| Winter Issue | November 1 |

Back cover by Worshipful Dennis W. Berry

The Grand Master's Message

Brethren, I am humbled and honored that you elected me as your Grand Master for the ensuing year. I know of no greater honor than to have been chosen to lead this Grand Lodge of the greatest and oldest Fraternal Organization on earth.

It is an awesome responsibility to represent all my Brother Masons within our great Commonwealth. I assure you that I will work as hard as I can as your ambassador to our gentle Craft, wherever my journey takes me, however smooth or rough I find the path, a path that has been well traveled by outstanding dedicated Brothers before me.

As I look out across this great Commonwealth, I see so many to whom I owe so much. And, I know that many more are wishing me well from above as I begin this journey of which they were such an important part.

First and foremost, I thank God the Creator of All, for it is He who delivered me to my loving family, the most wonderful mother anyone could ask for, and a loving father who worked tirelessly for his family. I know that they are both here in spirit with us this evening. I am also proud to say that my father was a Brother Mason, a member of Meridian Lodge No. 284 until his death.

God also blessed me with a wonderful wife, Barbara, I call her my favorite wife, of fifty-four years and counting. Also, we have three of the best children for which any parent could hope. Two fine sons and a wonderful daughter. We are also blessed with two terrific daughters-in-law, and a son-in-law who joined our two sons as Brother Masons to present me at the altar earlier. Barbara and I are also blessed with six very special grandsons whom we thoroughly enjoy and love with all our heart.

Now I would like to offer a special thank you to my good Brother, mentor, and dear friend, Worshipful George Bennett Wood. Brother "Benny" passed away at ninety-eight years young, shortly after presenting me as Grand Senior



Grand Master M.: W.: Vernon Stuart Cook

Warden. Benny taught many of us so much about Masonry, and about being a true friend. He often told me that he wanted to live long enough to see me installed as Grand Master. Benny, I am finally here, and I know you are too.

Our Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins, what a perfect example of what a good Mason should be. A perfect Southern gentleman, a mentor, a God fearing Christian, and a true Brother in every sense of the word. I do not know enough superlatives to describe Most Worshipful Alan, and how much he means to us all.

Our ritual tells us to offer, "proper reverence, respect and veneration for age, and with age comes an inevitable increase in knowledge." As I look at myself and my Brothers, including our Past Grand Masters, I can say with great certainty that there sure is some age here.

What is most comforting, however, is all the wisdom that is present in our past and future Grand Masters. Most Worshipful William Talbott "Terry" Ellison, Jr. placed my name in nomination for Grand Junior Deacon.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my installing officers, Most Worshipful John Randall Quinley, Most Worshipful

Frederick Garrison Martin, III, and the one man who works diligently, pulls his hair and gnashes his teeth as he strives to make sure that we are all lined up appropriately, know our respective places, look halfway decent, and know what to say and to do, Most Worshipful James Dean Cole.

There is also one other dear Brother who often goes unnoticed, but is year after year conducting the newly elected and appointed officers to the altar for installation. He never mispronounces the full name of each and every one, even to the Jr., II, or III, or whatever may be the name, and if you have not noticed, he never uses a note. Of course, I am speaking of our beloved Grand Lecturer, Right Worshipful Hoen McGuire Edwards, Jr.

Brethren, my comments should not be focused on me. They are about our wonderful Fraternity, and how we must work together, even harder in this troubled environment, which we find our great country today.

I begin by saying that this is the oldest and greatest fraternal organization on earth, and that is a true statement. Brethren, each of you is a vital part of this Fraternity, and together we are the gatekeepers responsible for maintaining its vibrancy, greatness, and value.

Throughout our history Freemasonry has been what I call a "A Force for Good" and the examples are evident throughout the world, more especially here in America.

As Masons, we should always strive to harness our positive energies that are within, and direct them outward to have a meaningful and beneficial effect on those around us. By living more purposeful lives, we help to create a more peaceful, harmonious world. That is what truly makes Freemasonry a "A Force for Good."

No one needs to ask why, because we already know the answers. But let me give just a few examples.

Continued on page 4.

The Grand Master's Message

Continued from page 3.

First, our Masonic Home, where we care for our Brethren and widows in a manner which no other organization can compare. It is a place where friendship and brotherly love does prevail, and where our residents are truly at home, safe and protected in a loving, caring environment.

Next, our Scottish Rite Childhood Language Centers throughout the Southern Jurisdiction of our Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. In the Richmond Valley alone, we have provided speech therapy to over ten thousand young children. Most of those children came from families who could not afford to have them treated. Virginia Masons have unselfishly expended countless dollars to help give them a better life and future filled with hope.

Our twenty-two Shriner Hospitals throughout the country have provided treatment to so many young persons in dire need of major surgeries, burn treatments, and other medical problems, again, at no cost to the families. Just one more example of how Masonry is indeed, "A Force for Good."

I could go on with examples, but let me sum it up by reminding you that Masons throughout our great country provide charitable programs over two and half-million dollars in philanthropic work each and every day.

Yes, Masonry is "A Force for Good," and we should be especially proud to be a vital part of this. You elected me as your Grand Master and elected an outstanding line to lead our Fraternity. We have much work to do. You, me, and your elected Officers, and I do mean all of us.

We need to continue to tell and show the rest of the world what you and I already know, that Masonry is "A Force for Good." We know who and what we are, but I often worry that our friends and neighbors do not have a clear understanding of us. What we stand for,

Brethren, remember this lesson: The beautiful music we play in life are the good deeds we do for others. They come from within us, within our hearts, and minds.

and what we do, is no secret. We must continue to find ways to shed more light on the good deeds we do.

Here are some of the ways we can do just that:

- Through news articles when we recognize newly made Eagle Scouts.
- When we announce and give out college scholarships.
- With news articles on our Scottish Rite Language Centers and our Shrine Hospitals.
- By opening our Lodges, as many of you already do, for neighborhood blood drives.
- By sponsoring blood drives in your district.
- By partnering with our local law enforcement agencies to do Child ID work.
- By working with our churches in building handicap ramps.
- And so many other good works that our Brethren perform.

Brethren, I have been fortunate in my career and have led men and women in two different law enforcement agencies for a period of over forty-five years. As a Deputy Chief in the City of Richmond Police Department, where I spent twenty-five years, and then as the Sheriff of Hanover County, where I spent the last twenty years of my career.

Both law enforcement and Masonry are organizations that are forces for good despite the voices of dissent that we so often hear these days. Throughout my career, I have shied away from the words: I, me, my, or mine. I have always preferred the terms: we, you, us, and ours. As your Grand Master, I might

be the one setting the Craft to work, but you are the ones doing the hard labor in the quarries, and making our world a better place, and making Freemasonry "A Force for Good."

Our Past Grand Masters, with your assistance, have put into action many outstanding programs and charities. I am planning no new major programs this year, but I am encouraging all Lodges to put in place a Widows Program, if you do not already have one.

Our District Deputy Grand Masters have all been given the booklets on how to put a Widows Program in place in those Lodges where one does not currently exist. If you need a booklet on this, your Grand Lodge has them in stock. Brethren, please work on this. In my mind, there are few areas that are more important than what we do to aid and assist our widows and our young people.

Speaking of our young people, Barbara's charity of emphasis this year will be our Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund. I will continue to stress financial support for our Masonic Home as well as our Outreach Program. In lieu of any personal gifts, she and I would hope that you can find it in your hearts to contribute to the Scholarship Fund or our Masonic Home.

The other Grand Lodge Charities and programs remain very important to us, and we will continue to stress them, as well.

Thank you for placing your faith in me to be your Grand Master. I pledge to work hard to keep your trust. Be proud to be a Mason. Show others how proud you are to be a Mason. It is not what you say you do that matters, it is what you do.

I will leave you with this story. It illustrates the concept of how each of us was first made a Mason, in our hearts.

The story is about Niccoló Paganini a famous Italian violinist, considered by

Continued on page 5.

Grand Master's Message

Continued from page 4.

many to be the greatest violinist of all time. One night, Paganini walked onto the stage of a packed house.

As he placed his violin up to his chin, he suddenly felt panicked, realizing that he had mistakenly picked up someone else's instrument. He could not just walk off the stage, so he did what any professional would do, he began to play. Believe it or not, he played one of his finest, most beautiful concerts ever. As he was sitting in his dressing room resting after the concert, a fellow violinist walked in and told Paganini that he had performed one of the most wonderful and heartfelt concerts ever witnessed. Paganini's response was this, "You know, before tonight, I always felt that my beautiful music came from the violin, tonight I realized that it came from deep within me."

Brethren, remember this lesson: The beautiful music we play in life is the good deeds we do for others. They come from within us, within our hearts, and minds. Never put yourself in the position of looking back and feeling guilty about all the good things you did not do.

Let us remember Paganini's lesson and telling ourselves that yes, "Masonry is A Force for Good," and with God's blessing, it will always be so.

Thank you, and may the Supreme Architect continue to shine down His blessings upon each of you, your families, our Nation, and upon our great Fraternity. Godspeed, my Brothers, and friends.

Sincerely and fraternally,



V. Stuart Cook
Grand Master

Division Leadership Conferences 2017

Waynesboro: *(new location)*

Saturday, February 11, 2017
Bridge Christian Church
1275 Goose Creek Road
Fishersville, 22939

9:00 A.M. - Registration and Fellowship
9:30 A.M. - Conference begins
11:45 A.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Wor. Kenneth W. Dameron

Keyville:

Friday, March 3, 2017
John Daniel Community College
200 Daniel Road
Keyville, 23947

6:00 P.M. - Registration and Fellowship
6:30 P.M. - Conference begins
8:45 P.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Rt. Wor. Lonnie L. Godfrey

Richmond:

Saturday, March 4, 2017
Richmond Scottish Rite Temple
4204 Hermitage Road
Richmond, 23227

8:00 A.M. - Registration and Fellowship
8:30 A.M. - Conference begins
10:45 A.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
TBD

Abingdon: *(new location)*

Friday, March 10, 2017
Virginia Highlands Community College
100 VHCC Drive
Abingdon, 24210

6:30 P.M. - Registration and Fellowship
7:00 P.M. - Conference begins
9:15 P.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Rt. Wor. T. Eric Skeens

Roanoke:

Saturday, March 11, 2017
Roanoke Valley Scottish Rite Temple
622 Campbell Avenue SW
Roanoke, 24016

8:00 A.M. - Registration and Fellowship
8:30 A.M. - Conference begins
10:45 A.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Rt. Wor. H. Lee Arritt, Jr.

Norfolk:

Friday, March 17, 2017
Norfolk Masonic Temple
7001 Granby Street, Norfolk, 23505

6:00 P.M. - Registration and Fellowship
6:30 P.M. - Conference begins
8:45 P.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Rt. Wor. Ralph M. Clark

Newport News:

Saturday, March 18, 2017
Scottish Rite Masonic Center
65 Saunders Road
Newport News, 23601

8:00 A.M. - Registration and Fellowship
8:30 A.M. - Conference begins
10:45 A.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Rt. Wor. Woodrow L. Brown

Warrenton:

Friday, March 31, 2017
Highland School
597 Broadview Avenue
Warrenton, 20186

6:30 P.M. - Registration and Fellowship
7:00 P.M. - Conference begins
9:15 P.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Wor. James E. Kraut

Alexandria: *(new location)*

Saturday, April 1, 2017
Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple
1430 W Braddock Road
Alexandria, 22302

8:00 A.M. - Registration and Fellowship
8:30 A.M. - Conference begins
10:45 A.M. - Counterpart Sessions end
Site Coordinator:
Rt. Wor. John Shroeder



Most Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook's Itinerary 2016-2017

January 2017

7 Official Visit, Masonic District 26
9 Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
11 MAHOVA Board Meeting
12 Lee Lodge No. 209
14 Official Visit, Masonic District 28
17 Acca Shrine, Potentate Installation
19 Official Visit, Masonic District 11
20 Official Visit, Masonic District 19
21 Official Visit, Masonic District 8
27 Official Visit, Masonic District 25

February 2017

3 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 31 and 32
4 – 5 Four Temples
8 MAHOVA Board Meeting
9 Hunter's Lodge No. 156
10 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 36 and 56
11 Division Leadership Conference, Waynesboro
13 Piedmont Lodge No. 152
15 Cabell Lodge No. 328, 100th Anniversary
16 Grand Court Session, Order of the Amaranth, Williamsburg
18 – 21 Conference of Grand Masters of North America, Omaha, Nebraska
22 Wreath Laying, Mount Vernon
23 Babcock Lodge No. 322
28 Khedive Shrine, Potentate's Ball

March 2017

2 60-Year Presentation, Most Worshipful William F. Perdue
3 Division Leadership Conference, Keysville
4 Division Leadership Conference, Richmond
8 MAHOVA Board Meeting
9 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
10 Division Leadership Conference, Abingdon
11 Division Leadership Conference, Roanoke
Friends Dinner, Richmond Scottish Rite Bodies
Acca Shrine, Potentate's Ball
14 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
15 Dale City Lodge No. 319
17 Division Leadership Conference, Norfolk
18 Division Leadership Conference, Newport News
DeMolay Legion of Honor Banquet, Richmond
22 – 23 Grand Lodge of Tennessee
23 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 48 and 50
25 Scottish Rite Workshop, Richmond
Official Visit, Masonic Districts 7 and 10
31 Division Leadership Conference, Warrenton

April 2017

1 Division Leadership Conference, Alexandria
Official Visit, Masonic District 27
3 Mountain City Lodge No. 67
6 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347
7 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 33 and 34
8 Morotock Lodge No. 210
10 Hay Market Lodge No. 313
11 Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
12 MAHOVA Board Meeting
13 Sharon Lodge No. 327, 100th Anniversary
17 Pleasants Lodge No. 63
20 Ian M. Shipley, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament
21 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 20 and 23
22 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 35A and 35B
28 Wreath Laying, Hollywood Cemetery
Official Visit, Masonic District 21
29 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 14A and 14B

May 2017

1 – 3 Grand Lodge of New York
4 Norfolk Lodge No. 1
5 – 6 Grand Commandery of Virginia, Charlottesville
9 Henry Lodge No. 57
10 MAHOVA Board Meeting
12 Official Visit, Masonic District 57
13 Official Visit, Masonic District 12
15 Manchester Lodge No. 14
16 Corinthian Lodge No. 266

18 Donovan Lodge No. 75
19 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 37 and 38
20 Masonic Home Ambassadors Conference
Manasseh Lodge No. 182, Strawberry Night
22 Grand Chapter of Virginia, Order of Eastern Star, Williamsburg

June 2017

1 Berkley Lodge No. 167
2 Official Visit, Masonic District 9
3 DeMolay Grand Master's Class, Luray
4 15th Masonic District Memorial Service
8 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
9 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 42 and 43
14 MAHOVA Board Meeting
16 Official Visit, Masonic District 18
20 Temple Lodge No. 9
23 Official Visit, Masonic District 45
24 Wreath Laying, Arlington Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
26 Williamsburg Lodge No. 6

July 2016

6 Joppa Lodge No. 40
7 Official Visit, Masonic District 40
8 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 41
9 – 12 Imperial Shrine Session, Daytona Beach, Florida
12 MAHOVA Board Meeting
13 Annual Session, Job's Daughters, Ferrum College
14 Annual Assembly, Rainbow for Girls, Williamsburg
18 Varina Lodge No. 272
21 Official Visit, Masonic District 1A, 1B and 54
20 Annual Conclave, DeMolay, Newport News
27 – 30 Reid James Simmons Academy of Masonic Leadership

August 2017

1 Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
3 James S. Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament
4 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 44 and 46
5 Official Visit, Masonic District 24
9 MAHOVA Board Meeting
12 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 2, 3 and 4
17 Bremond Lodge No. 241, Community Builders Award
18 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 5 and 6
20 – 23 Biennial Supreme Council Session, Washington, DC
23 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
25 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 47 and 49
26 Official Visit, Masonic Districts 22A and 22B

September 2017

1 – 2 Hiram Club of Tidewater
7 Day Lodge No. 58
8 Official Visit, Masonic District 39
9 Official Visit, Masonic District 29
13 MAHOVA Board Meeting
15 Official Visit, Masonic District 16
16 Official Visit, Masonic District 17
19 Mann Page Lodge No. 157
21 – 23 South Atlantic Shrine Association, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Official Visit, Masonic Districts 15A, 15B and 15C
29 – 30 Scottish Rite Conference, Portsmouth

October 2017

6 Cornerstone Ceremony, University of Virginia, Charlottesville
Childhood Language Golf Tournament, Manakin Sabot
Grand Lodge Convention Reunion, Fredericksburg
7
12 Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220
13 MAHOVA Board Meeting
14 Family Day, Masonic Home of Virginia
17 Seaboard Lodge No. 56
24 – 26 Grand Lodge of Georgia
28 – 31 United Grand Lodge of England, 300th Anniversary

November 2017

1 – 2 United Grand Lodge of England, 300th Anniversary
4 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
8 – 12 Grand Annual Communication

Area Masonic Ritual Schools - 2017

| Name | Location | Date(s) | District(s) |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Melvin Eugene Huff | Salem | Feb. 23-25 | 22A, 22B, 24 |
| William Dean Conner | Appomattox | Feb. 25 | 26, 27 |
| Kenneth O. Shelton | Lovettsville | Mar. 4 | 2 |
| Wickham/Smith | Clifton Forge | Mar. 11 | 20, 23 |
| James Alfred Butts, Jr. | South Hill | Mar. 18 | 28 |
| Charles A. Sinclair, Jr. | Herndon | Mar. 17, 18 | 4 |
| Fred D. Bowman | Woodstock | Mar. 18 | 3, 5, 6 |
| George Robert Marshall | Amelia | Mar. 18 | 26, 27 |
| Charles Eldon Fulgham | Windsor | Mar. 21, 23 | 31, 32, 33 |
| James Bolling Myers | Midlothian | Mar. 22, 23 | 16, 29 |
| Richard E. Loving | Culpeper | Mar. 25 | 7, 10 |
| Boitnott/Myers | New Castle | Mar. 27-29 | 40, 41 |
| Campbell Area School | Rustburg | Mar. 27-30 | 21, 24, 25, 26, 37, 38 |
| Ben Clements/James McFarland | Martinsville | Apr. 3-5 | 38, 39 |
| Willard D. Monk | Tazewell | Apr. 4-6 | 45 |
| C. Frank Hicks | Chesapeake | Apr. 8 | 36, 56 |
| James Henry Parkerson, Jr. | Virginia Beach | Apr. 10 | 36, 56 |
| Robert R. Kennedy, Jr. | Waynesboro | Apr. 14, 15 | 18, 19 |
| C. A. Whitted | Scottsville | Apr. 17, 18 | 17, 18 |
| Showalter | Blacksburg | Apr. 26-28 | 40, 41, 42 |
| E. Tyree Mountcastle | Williamsburg | May 1-3 | 57 |
| Ira Curtis Hudson | Onley | May 6 | 12 |
| **Johnson/Rowell/Dungan | Kinsale | May 13 | 8, 9, 11 |
| Stewart Arthur Deem | Norfolk | May 13 | 35A, 35B |
| William Hiram Wood | Alexandria | May 13, June 17 | 1A, 1B, 54 |
| Harry C. Wallace | Wise | May 15-17 | 48, 49, 50 |
| Dr. Walter A. Porter | Galax | May 16-18 | 43 |
| **Sherman Montell Smallwood | Bedford | June 26-29 | 22A, 22B, 24, 25 |
| Elmo J. "Bo" Norfleet | Churchland | June 27-29 | 33, 34 |
| Robert Lewis Gibbs | Richmond | July 19-22 | 15A, 15B, 15C, 16 |
| Lewis Q. Moore | Abingdon | Aug. 22-24 | 44, 46, 47 |
| William Edward Ray, Sr. | Herndon | Sept. 15, 16 | 4 |
| C. S. Revell/B. D. Hudson | Newport News | Sept. 18-20 | 14A, 14B |
| L. N. Cridlin | Jonesville | Sept. 18, 19, 21 | 49, 50 |
| Edward Page Henry | Petersburg | Sept. 25-27 | 16, 29 |
| James Noah Hillman | Gate City | Oct. 9-11 | 48, 49, 50 |
| Starks/Baumgardner | Bland | Oct. 9-11 | 41, 42 |
| Lon Norman Dooley | Lebanon | Oct. 16-18 | 46, 47 |
| Charles T. "Bucky" Gilbert | Marion | Oct. 23-25 | 42, 43, 44 |
| Joseph T. Stewart | Courtland | Oct. 24-26 | 31, 32, 33 |
| O. B. Omohundro | Gordonsville | Oct. 28 | 7, 10 |

** = Name Change

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.

NOTE: The Committee for the Reid James Simmons Academy for Masonic Leadership and the Grand Lodge Committee on Work has decided to suspend the Academy for 2017. The Committee is working on a plan to reinstate the Academy in 2018 and are exploring new and previous venues, as well as the format and content of the Academy.

Grand Master's Biography

Vernon Stuart Cook was born in Richmond, Virginia on April 9, 1943, and has been a life-long resident of the Richmond area having spent the last fifty years in Hanover County. He was educated in the public schools in the City of Richmond and graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a Bachelors and Masters Degree in Administration of Justice and Public Safety. He is also a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy. Colonel Cook joined the Richmond Bureau of Police in June 1965, and worked his way through the promotional system to the rank of Major. During his twenty-five years with the Richmond Bureau of Police, he worked in every Division and served as Deputy Chief of Investigative Operations for twelve years. In 1970, he assisted in the formation of the Bureau's Task Force; in 1972, he established the Internal Affairs Division and, in 1973, he was instrumental in establishing the Bureau's SWAT Team. In August 1990, Colonel Cook was appointed Sheriff of Hanover County by Judge Richard H. C. Taylor and throughout his career, unanimously won re-election five times. Under his watch, this agency achieved its first international and state accreditation, started its first High-Risk Entry Team, along with many other special teams. He enhanced the Crime Prevention Program and began the Adopt-a-Senior Program, which won the prestigious Webber-Seavey Award in 1996. Additionally, he reached out to all ages of the community, where he started the Citizen's Police Academy, followed by the Youth and Senior Academies. He retired on September 16, 2010. In addition to his law enforcement career, he served as an adjunct faculty member at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community Col-



Grand Master
M.: W.: Vernon Stuart Cook

lege and at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Brother Cook was made a Master Mason in Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 on March 17, 1966, where he is a 50-Year, Masonic Veteran and Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 2009. He affiliated with Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 on December 13, 2004, where he is also a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 2008. He was District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District 15C in 2010. He has served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance and the Grand Lodge Committee on Security. Furthermore, he was

a member of the Commission on Background Investigation of Candidates. He was elected Grand Junior Deacon in November 2011 and was elected to the Office of Grand Master on November 12, 2016.

He is a member of the Valley of Richmond, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and was invested Knight Commander Court of Honour in 2011 and coroneted a 33^o Inspector General Honorary in 2015. He served as Venerable Master in 2013 and was appointed Personal Representative to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in 2014. He is a Past President of the Richmond Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center. He holds membership in Washington Royal Arch Chapter No. 9, Saint Polycarp Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Acca Shrine Center, Richmond Court No. 16, Royal Order of Jesters and Life Membership in Fort Lee-Richmond Chapter No. 72, National Sojourners. He is a Honorary DeMolay and a recipient of the Legion of Honor from the International Order of DeMolay.

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

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



Grand Junior Deacon's Biography

Donald Ellis Strehle was born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, March 28, 1956. He is the third son of Frank E. Strehle and the late Thelma G. Strehle. Don's father, Frank E. Strehle, is a sixty-three-year member of Washington Lodge No. 59, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a dual member of Yorktown Lodge No. 205. Brother Strehle moved to Newport News, Virginia at age seven and graduated from Denbigh High School in 1974. He graduated from Radford University in 1978 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. He moved to Arlington, Virginia, where he began his banking career in 1979 with Continental Federal Savings Bank and attended Commercial Lending School at the University of Virginia, Darden School of Business. His last position with Continental Federal, now SunTrust Bank, was Senior Vice President in charge of commercial and consumer lending. Later, he held the management position of Executive Vice President with F&M Bank Northern Virginia. In 2005, he was named Regional President for BB&T in Northern Virginia. He currently is the Managing Director for the Washington, D.C. office of Sterling Capital Management, a wholly owned subsidiary of Branch Banking and Trust Company (BB&T).

Brother Strehle was made a Master Mason in Cherrydale Lodge No. 42, Arlington, Virginia, October 19, 1996, where he is a Life Member in Perpetuity and served as its Worshipful Master in 2001. He has been Lodge Treasurer and Trustee since 2002. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 54 in 2008. He served as Grand Senior Steward in 2012



Grand Junior Deacon
R.: W.: Donald Ellis Strehle

and also served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance for eleven years. He is the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of the State of Bahia, Brazil, near Virginia. Brother Strehle was elected Grand Junior Deacon in November 2016.

Brother Strehle is a member of the Valley of Alexandria, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. He holds membership in Cherrydale Royal Arch Chapter No. 35 and Kena Shrine Center. He is a Past Patron and current trustee of Unity Chapter No. 201, Order of the Eastern Star. He served as Treasurer of the Order of Eastern Star Home Board of Governors from 2009 to 2015, and currently serves as the Associate Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, Order of the Eastern Star. He is a Past Associate

Guardian of Bethel No. 1. He served as Grand Chaplain in 2006-2007 and Associate Grand Guardian of Virginia in 2013-2014, Job's Daughters International. He has served as the Treasurer of the Masters' and Wardens' Association for Masonic District 54 for the past sixteen years and is Vice-President of the DeMolay Foundation of Virginia. Brother Strehle is also the recipient of the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

Brother Strehle has also been very active within the community. In Northern Virginia, he is a Board Member, Community Foundation for Northern Virginia; President, Northern Virginia Community College Educational Foundation; Member, Radford University President's Business and Economic Advisory Council; Member, Bailey Crossroads Rotary Club; Life Member, Prince William Chapter/Northern Virginia Building Industry Association; Past Member, Northern Virginia Association of Realtors; Past Member of Arlington Jaycees; Past Chairman of the Visiting Nurse Association of Northern Virginia; former Vice-Chairman of Capital Hospice and served on the Foundation Board for INOVA Health System. He is an active member of Cherrydale United Methodist Church, serving in many capacities and presently a Trustee and Chairman of the Finance Committee. In his leisure time, he enjoys playing golf.

Brother Strehle is married to the former Mary Lee Dodge of Arlington. They have three daughters, Sara Strehle Duke, Laura Ellen, and Lee Anne, all Past Honored Queens of Bethel No. 1. He also has a son-in-law, Dr. Kevin W. Duke and one grandson, Thomas W. Duke.





Most Worshipful Charles Franklin Shuler
Grand Master, 1971

Mother Lodge Elkton Lodge No. 74, Elkton, Virginia
Born - June 10, 1926, Shenandoah, Virginia
Occupation - Postmaster

Charles Franklin Shuler

1926-2016

Charles Franklin Shuler was born on June 10, 1926, in Shenandoah, Virginia, the oldest son of Fred Amos Shuler and Alma Comer Shuler. After graduation with honors from Shenandoah High School in 1942, he attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State Institute and received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Agricultural Education in 1947. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society. His studies were briefly interrupted while serving his country in the United States Army during World War II as an interpreter with Headquarters Company, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Kyoto, Japan. He taught Vocational Agriculture at Marshall High School and was Director of Membership Relations for Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau before becoming Postmaster in Elkton, Virginia, retiring with thirty-nine years of service in 1989. He was Past President of the Virginia Association of Postmasters, serving as its Secretary-Treasurer for six years, and a member of the Executive Committee and Vice-President of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States.

Brother Shuler was made a Master Mason in Elkton Lodge No. 74 (now Charles Franklin Shuler Lodge No. 74) on May 5, 1952, where he was a 60-Year Masonic Veteran and honorary member. He served as its Worshipful Master in 1958 and as Secretary from 1959 to 2010. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic

District 5 in 1960 and 1961 and District Educational Officer for Masonic District 5 in 2009. He was elected Grand Junior Deacon in 1966, and served as Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in 1971. He was the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Alabama, near Virginia. He served as a member of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia and held the office of President for three years.

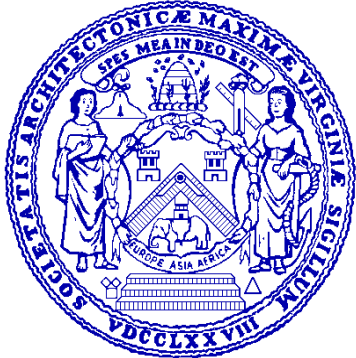
Most Worshipful Brother Shuler held honorary membership in Staunton Lodge No. 13, Ashlar Lodge No. 125, Lafayette Lodge No. 137, Magnetic Lodge No. 184, and Varina Lodge No. 272. Also, he was a member of Eureka Lodge No. 195.

Brother Shuler was a member of the Valley of Richmond, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. He received the investiture of Knight Commander Court of Honour in 1971. He served the Richmond Valley as Venerable Master in 1978 and was coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary in 1997. He was a Past High Priest of Luray Royal Arch Chapter No. 4; Luray Commandery No. 19; Acca Shrine Center; Samis Grotto; Past Puissant Sovereign of Saint Polycarp Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine; Royal Order of Scotland; Past Patron of Milnes Chapter No. 3, Order of the Eastern Star; and Virginia Eastern Star Home Board. He was a recipient of the George Washington Distinguished Service Award and the John Blair, Jr. Medal.

In the community, Brother Shuler was an active member of First Christian Church, Shenandoah, Virginia, where he served in many capacities throughout the years. He was Past Chairman of the local Board of Sovran Bank, Past President of Elkton Lions Club, Past District Deputy Governor of Lions Club International, Life Member of Gooden Brothers Post 9292, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Past President of Chapter No. 164, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Board member of Rockingham Memorial Hospital and Trustee of Rockingham-Harrisonburg United Givers Fund, and President of the Coverstone Cemetery Board.

He was married to the former Martha Kelly Newton (now deceased) for almost fifty-seven years and is survived by two children, Mary Valentino of McGaheysville, Virginia, and Lee Bryant Shuler, and his wife, Elizabeth, of Elkton, Virginia; three grandchildren, Ryan Joshua Pettie, Bryant Austin Shuler, and Grace Elizabeth Shuler; two sisters and two brothers. He was preceded in death by his son, Charles Newton Shuler and a sister.

Most Worshipful Brother Shuler was called to the Celestial Lodge above on Saturday, May 28, 2016. A Memorial Service was held at First Christian Church, Shenandoah, Virginia, on Thursday, June 2, 2016, followed by a Masonic Graveside Service at Coverstone Cemetery, Shenandoah, Virginia conducted by the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

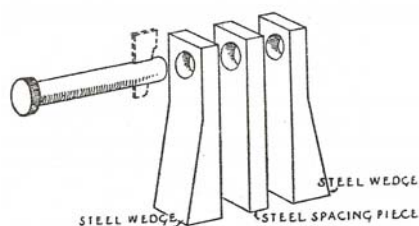


What is a Lewis?

Worshipful Gerald L. Frey

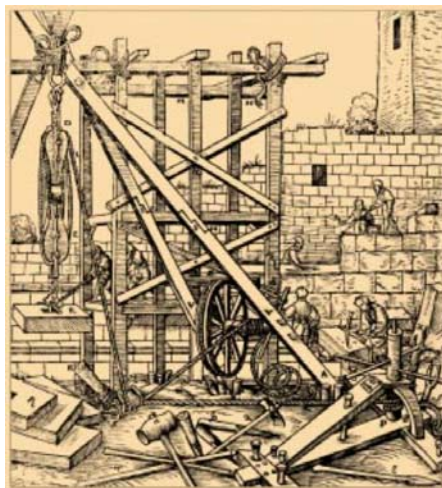
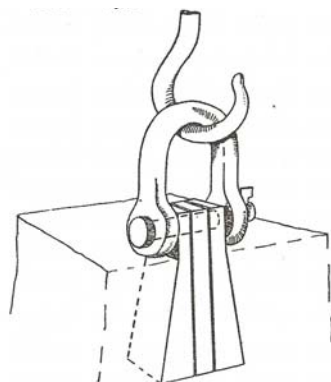
This article started off as an Ask Hiram item, however, Most Worshipful Brother Abiff decided it warranted greater explanation than he could devote to the topic.

If you are familiar with British Freemasonry, the word Lewis is well known, for the rest of us, a brief background might be beneficial to better understand its Masonic meaning. As with most words it has had more than one meaning. First, it is used to describe a lifting device, a grapple, for raising and lowering heavy objects precisely without leaving scarring on the finished exterior surfaces. Most recently, it is a word synonymous with a Master Ma-



son's son.

Let us begin with the lifting devices. "A lewis, louis, luis, or a lewisson is one of a category of lifting devices used by stonemasons to lift large stones into place with a crane, chain block, or winch. It is inserted into a specially prepared hole, or seating, in the top of a stone, directly above its center of mass.¹" An iron contrivance for raising heavy blocks of stone. Also called lewisson, the three legged grapple, "It consists of three pieces arranged so as



Left center of the image, is lewis hole with what looks to be a three-legged lewis device.

to form a dovetail, the outside pieces being fixed in a dovetail mortise by the insertion of the middle piece. The three pieces are then connected together by the pin of the clevis passing through them."²

This device is remarkable for a number of reasons. A single stone cutter can make a "lewis hole" quickly (relative term), without assistance, with a single chisel using standard dimensions. The standard three legged lewis device can then be easily connected and disconnected by placing the two ears into the "lewis hole" slipping the middle spacer in between the ears, connect the shackle, set the bolt through both the shackle and the lewis pins, place keep or locking pin into the bolt (this prevents the bolt from slipping out during raising or lowering), again by one Mason.

Devices of this type are adopted and adapted around the world and have been used since the time of Rome's Empire. There are some that contend that the word lewis comes from the Latin *levo-avi-atum*, meaning to levitate or lift. The Oxford English Dictionary indicates it may be a dialect form of *levis* (Whitby Gloss, 1876) suggesting a connexion with the French *lever* to raise;

but the formation and the phonology are not easily explained on this hypothesis,³ and concludes that its etymology and history is "obscure," going so far as to state that the word may derive from a personal name. Once again, the mists of time give up their mysteries, grudgingly, if at all.

None the less, the device is real, regardless of its murky naming origins. As a matter of full disclosure, there are at least three types of lewis lifting devices: split-pin lewis, two-pinned lewis, and the three-legged lewis. Masonically, it is the three-legged lewis that is relative to our focus.

From an operative Mason's perspective, a lewis is an appropriate symbol of strength and name of a son, a.k.a. Lewis, son of a Master Mason. In England, a Lewis is a well-known Masonic word for a son of a Master Mason. This is a portion of a late eighteenth-century British catechism that gives us a frame of reference:

- Q. What do we call the son of a Freemason?
- A. A Lewis.
- Q. What does that denote?
- A. Strength.
- Q. How is a Lewis depicted in a Mason's Lodge?
- A. As a cramp of metal (etc.).
- Q. What is the duty of a Lewis ... to his aged parents?
- A. To bear the heavy burden (etc.) so as to render the close of their days happy and comfortable.
- Q. His privilege for so doing?
- A. To be made a Mason before any other person, however dignified by birth, rank, or riches, unless he, through complaisance, waives this privilege.

From this information, it would be a quaint story, if that was all there was to the matter. But no, there is more. Lewis did not become respectable in Masonry

Continued on page 13.

What is a Lewis?

Continued from page 12.



This three-legged lewis dates from the time of the Roman Empire.

until the Grand Lodge of England legitimized it in both Masonic song and Anderson's Constitutions during the early 18th century. Until then, it was a commonly used Scottish word synonymous with a Cowan or eavesdropper. Words have ever changed in meaning, and no less so than in the turbulent language of English.

There was a time when candidates in the Scottish Masonic system had a rule that stated, "sons of Master Masons under Grand Lodge," may be initiated at the age of eighteen, and in some Lodges allowing reduced fees. Virginia welcomes the custom of a Lewis to its Fraternity. Lewis, son of a Master Mason, a position born to, inherited.

Note: Yes, there is a twist. A Mason's daughter has an inherited word derived from 'lewis' that is, at least in Britain, as distinctive as their male counter-part. Here is an example, "Our Brother Delarant presented the Lodge with a bowl of punch on his having a Lewisa born, and her health was drunk in form." Naturally, there are rituals and toasts to accompany the Lewisa, e.g., "To all our royal and loyal, great, and little Lewises wherever dispersed, not forgetting the Luisas."⁴ Masonic history is much like the layers of an onion.

References

¹ Freemasons Guide and Compendium, Bernard E. Jones

² Oxford English Dictionary, CD.

³ Freemasons Guide and Compendium

⁴ Minutes of the old Lodge meeting in 1739 at the Turk's Head, Fleet Street, now No. 20.

Lewis Jewel

Right Worshipful Gary W. Taylor
Deputy Grand Master

During the 2016 Grand Annual Communication, the voting membership passed a new resolution now addressed in *Section 3.09* of the *Methodical Digest* as follows:

Section 3.09: "Use of the Lewis Jewel: The Lewis Jewel is permitted to be worn on Masonic occasions by Master Masons whose fathers are Master Masons in good standing or were at the time of their death and likewise by Master Masons whose sons are Master Masons in good standing or were at the time of their death."

The Lewis Jewel is suspended from two chains, with two bars. The upper bar containing the name of the father and the date he received the Sublime Degree of Master Mason and the lower bar containing the same information of the son. Additional bars may be added when required, such as Grandfather, Son, and Grandson.

The cost of the jewel, to include shipping, shall be born by the individual Mason applying for the jewel.

A Virginia Mason in possession of a valid Lewis Jewel issued by another Grand Jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of Virginia will be authorized to wear his jewel.

The passage of the resolution promotes pride in Freemasonry and in members having a multi-generational link to the Fraternity.

As an operative Mason's tool: "the lewis is a simple, but ingenious device employed by operative Masons to raise heavy blocks of dressed stone into place. It consists of three metal parts: two wedge-shaped side pieces, and a straight center piece, that fit together. A dovetail recess is cut into the top of the stone block. The two outer pieces are inserted first and then spread by the insertion of the centerpiece. The three pieces are then bolted together, a metal ring or shackle is attached and the block



Father and Son Lewis Jewel.

is hoisted by hook, rope, and pulley. By this means, the block is gripped securely. Once set in its place, the Lewis is removed leaving the upper surface smooth with no clamp or chains on the outside to interfere with the laying of the next course of stones."

The son of a Mason in England is called a Lewis, "because it is his duty to support the sinking powers and aid the failing strength of his father," or, as Oliver has expressed it, "to bear the burden and heat of the day, that his parents may rest in their old age, thus rendering the evening of their lives peaceful and happy."

My Brethren, I truly hope you will wear your Lewis Jewel with great pride. I know I will.

NOTE: Information and applications will be forwarded to the Lodge Secretaries.



Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa, 12042 West Broad Street
 Richmond, Virginia
 November 11 - 12, 2016

Most Worshipful James Edward Litten, Grand Master, greeted the Brethren and distinguished guests.

**OFFICERS
 GRAND LODGE, A.F. & A.M., OF VIRGINIA
 2015 - 2016**

| | |
|---|--|
| MOST WORSHIPFUL JAMES EDWARD LITTEN | Grand Master |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL VERNON STUART COOK..... | Deputy Grand Master |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GARY WALLACE TAYLOR..... | Grand Senior Warden |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM EDWARD HERSHEY, JR. | Grand Junior Deacon |
| MOST WORSHIPFUL JOHN MASON CHAMBLISS, JR..... | Grand Treasurer |
| MOST WORSHIPFUL ALAN WAYNE ADKINS | Grand Secretary |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DOUGLAS VERNON JONES. | Grand Senior Deacon |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JAMES WINFIELD GOLLADAY, JR..... | Grand Junior Deacon |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THOMAS WILLIAM SELF, III..... | Grand Marshal |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GINO WARREN WILLIAMS | Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JOE GILBERT BROCE | Grand Chaplain |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL HOEN MCGUIRE EDWARDS, JR. | Grand Lecturer |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DOYLE LEE MILLER | Assistant Grand Lecturer |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL PAUL ALAN MILLER | Grand Provost |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JAM-ES REVERE BOWYER, JR..... | Grand Pursuivant |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WAYNE EUGENE PRICE..... | Grand Purveyor |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL RONNIE LEE SHOUGH..... | Grand Senior Steward |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL RONNY LESTER LEWIS..... | Grand Junior Steward |
| BROTHER DONALD FRANCIS MORO, JR..... | Grand Organist |
| WORSHIPFUL SAMUEL MOSELEY JONES, md..... | Grand Physician |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL EDWARD TITUS CONNER | Grand Tiler |

OFFICERS EMERITUS

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL EDWARD CLEVELAND BARDEN, JR. DEPUTY GRAND SECRETARY, EMERITUS

The Grand Master proceeded to open the 238th Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Friday morning's session included the ADDRESS TO GRAND LODGE of Most Worshipful James Edward Litten, as well as a memorial service conducted by Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins, P.G.M.

James Noah Hillman Awards and Seymour Jonas Levy Awards will be presented to those Lodges that qualified by the District Deputy Grand Masters when they officially visit the Lodges during 2017, if the awards are available.

The Perfect Ashlar Award was presented to Brother Seymour Harold Kern, a member of Covington Lodge No. 171.

One of the John Blair, Jr. Awards was presented to Most Worshipful George Jerome Deblon, Grand Master of Vermont.

During Friday morning's session, Most Worshipful Brother Litten recognized his distinguished guests and the Past Grand Masters of Masons in Virginia.

The Report of the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia was presented and approved. The report of the Finance Committee was given, and the budget for 2017 was presented and approved.

Friday's agenda included a report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which submitted the following resolution: "Be it resolved that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of the Commonwealth of Virginia, shall extend fraternal recognition to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Estonia." This resolution was adopted.

The Grand Lodge of Vermont presented its prestigious Philip C. Tucker Medal to Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins, Grand Secretary.

Committee meetings were held at 3:30 P.M., and a banquet for the delegates and distinguished guests was held on Friday evening at 6:30 P.M.

The Grand Master called the Craft from Refreshment to Labor at 8:30 A.M. on Saturday morning, November 12, 2016.

The Reid James Simmons Award for Ritualistic Excellence was presented to Right Worshipful Doyle Lee Miller of Henry Clay Lodge No. 280.

The other John Blair, Jr. Award was presented on Saturday to Right Worshipful Owen Tee Wade of Henry Clay Lodge No. 280. Also, the George Washington Distinguished Service Medal was presented to Right Worshipful Sheldon Barnett Richman of Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120.

The Grand Master's Award of Excellence for the Outstanding Sponsoring Body of a Virginia Chapter of the International Order of DeMolay was presented to Masonic Districts 22A and 22B by Right Worshipful Richard McCoy Young, Executive Officer in Virginia. Right Worshipful Arthur Lee Pendleton, on behalf of the Virginia DeMolay Foundation, also presented the Odie R. Howell Leadership Award for individual support of the Virginia DeMolay Foundation to Worshipful David Wayne Murray.

The Report of the Past Grand Masters was presented by Most Worshipful William Franklin Perdue and adopted.

Summary 2016

Annual Communication

The booklet of Committee Reports was adopted as printed. Resolutions 16-01 through 16-03 were acted upon with the results as listed elsewhere in this summary. Most Worshipful James Dean Cole conducted the election of Grand Lodge Officers with the following results:

OFFICERS GRAND LODGE, A.F. & A.M., OF VIRGINIA 2016 - 2017

| | |
|---|--|
| MOST WORSHIPFUL VERNON STUART COOK | Grand Master |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GARY WALLACE TAYLOR..... | Deputy Grand Master |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL WILLIAM EDWARD HERSHEY, JR. | Grand Senior Warden |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DOUGLAS VERNON JONES..... | Grand Junior Deacon |
| MOST WORSHIPFUL JOHN MASON CHAMBLISS, JR..... | Grand Treasurer |
| MOST WORSHIPFUL ALAN WAYNE ADKINS..... | Grand Secretary |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JAMES WINFIELD GOLLADAY, JR..... | Grand Senior Deacon |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DONALD ELLIS STREHLE..... | Grand Junior Deacon |
| Brother THOMAS ALEXANDER CLARK, JR..... | Grand Marshal |
| WORSHIPFUL J. THOMAS WADKINS, III..... | Administrative Assistant to the Grand Master |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BARRYE LANE ABSHER..... | Grand Chaplain |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL HOEN MCGUIRE EDWARDS, JR. | Grand Lecturer |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DOYLE LEE MILLER | Assistant Grand Lecturer |
| WORSHIPFUL PAUL ALAN MILLER..... | Grand Provost |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THOMAS EDWARD LASHER..... | Grand Pursuivant |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL AMUEL EMMETT DUNN..... | Grand Purveyor |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL LINWOOD RAY SPEARS..... | Grand Senior Steward |
| RIGHT WORSHIPFUL JACK KAYLE LEWIS..... | Grand Junior Steward |
| BROTHER DONALD FRANCIS MORO, JR. | Grand Organist |
| WORSHIPFUL SAMUEL MOSELEY JONES | Grand Physician |
| WORSHIPFUL GEORGE SANCHEZ ALCARAZ..... | Grand Tiler |

OFFICERS EMERITUS

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL EDWARD CLEVELAND BARDEN, JR. DEPUTY GRAND SECRETARY, EMERITUS

The newly elected Grand Master, Most Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook announced his appointments to the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home of Virginia for a three-year term. They are Most Worshipful James Milton Scearce, Jr., Right Worshipful George Lambros Deligan, and Right Worshipful Sheldon Barnett Richman.

The Committee on Credentials gave its report. There were 244 Lodges represented with 1,226 registered by the Committee.

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

At the conclusion of all business, the Grand Lodge of Virginia was closed in Ample Form until the Friday preceding the second Monday in November 2017 unless sooner convened in emergent or special communication at the will and pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The Installation of District Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Lodge Officers was held at 4:00 P.M. in the ballroom of the Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa. The newly elected Grand Master, Most Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook gave an address outlining his goals for the coming year. Respectfully submitted,



Grand Secretary

AWA:ksm

Summary Of Resolutions Presented At 2016 Grand Annual Communication

RESOLUTION NO. 16-01 – REJECTED

This resolution would change Section 5.03 of the Methodical Digest to increase the Life Membership Fee to twenty-five (25) times the amount of the Annual Dues and assessments of his Lodge at the time of purchase, or \$300, whichever is greater.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-02 – ADOPTED

This resolution would change Section 2.88 of the Methodical Digest to increase the fee to be paid to the Grand Lodge of Virginia to forty dollars for each member from another Grand Jurisdiction affiliating with a Virginia Lodge.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-03 – ADOPTED

This resolution would add Section 3.09 to the Methodical Digest containing detailed information about the Lewis Jewel.


Grand Annual Con



Most Worshipful James E. Litten at the memorial service conducted by Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins



Most Worshipful James E. Litten presents the John Blair, Jr. Award to Right Worshipful Owen T. Wade of Henry Clay Lodge No. 280



Most Worshipful James E. Litten receives the bust of Tommaso Crudeli from Most Worshipful Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr., Grand Master of Maryland



Most Worshipful James E. Litten receiving a plaque from Simon R. LaPlace, Executive Director of the Masonic Services Association



Most Worshipful James E. Litten presenting the Perfect Ashlar Award to Brother Seymour Harold Kern, of Covington Lodge No. 171



Most Worshipful James E. Litten presents Certificates of Appreciation to members of his Committee and Appointed Officers

ommunication 2016



Most Worshipful James E. Litten presents the George Washington Distinguished Service Medal to Right Worshipful Sheldon B. Richman of Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120



Most Worshipful James E. Litten with Virginia's Masonic Youth Leaders



Most Worshipful James E. Litten receiving an award from Right Worshipful George D. Seghers, Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial



Most Worshipful James E. Litten presenting the Odie R. Howell Leadership Award for individual support of the Virginia DeMolay Foundation to Worshipful David Wayne Murray



Most Worshipful George J. Deblon of the Grand Lodge of Vermont presented its prestigious Philip C. Tucker Medal to Most Worshipful Alan W. Adkins



Most Worshipful James E. Litten expresses his heartfelt appreciation for the opportunity to serve the Masons of Virginia as their 171st Grand Master

District Alignment Commission

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

It should come as no surprise to the reader that membership in our Lodges has seen a steady decline for several years. In fact; since the early 1980s membership in our Grand Lodge has seen a membership reduction in excess of 50%. Understandably, this reduction in overall numbers is most vividly reflected in our Lodges and districts, with some Lodges finding it necessary to surrender their Charter or merge with another Lodge in the district. The resultant success of Lodge mergers has varied from district to district. In view of the decline in membership numbers, coupled with other statistical data as pertained to our individual Lodges and districts, the Grand Master, earlier this year, appointed a Commission to examine this situation.

The Commission members included: Most Worshipful Reese Edward Carroll, Jr. (2015), Chairman; Most Worshipful Wayne Sawyer Flora (2014); Right Worshipful William Edward Hershey, Jr., Grand Junior Warden; Worshipful Rhey Maurice Solomon, Ex-officio, Chairman, Grand Lodge Committee on Strategic Planning and Implementation.

The Chairman added two additional Ex-officio members: Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins (1997), Ex-officio, Grand Secretary; and Right Worshipful Emmett Mosley Pate, Ex-officio, Member, Grand Lodge Committee on Work.

In the performance of this review, the Commission consulted the *Methodical Digest* and examined a number of statistical documents. These statistical documents included the Lodge Annual Reports, District Leadership Conference attendance figures, and the District Deputy Grand Master's Official Visit Report. The districts in all parts of the state were examined using the information contained in the aforementioned documents. After a detailed review, the Commission recommends

a number of districts be combined. In addition, Lodges in some districts will be aligned with an adjoining district and the district to which these Lodges were assigned would be dissolved. The Commission briefed its findings and recommendations to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge Officers on August 9, 2016 and the recommendations of the Commission were accepted and approved by the Grand Master at that meeting. As required by the *Methodical Digest*, this action by the Grand Master was a part of his Address at the Grand Annual Communication. As, required by our law, the Grand Masters Address was reviewed by the Past Grand Masters, who agreed with the action of the Grand Master.

The Grand Master approved the following realignment actions, effective as of this 2016 Grand Annual Communication, and these actions will be implemented effective with the 2018 – 2019 Grand Lodge year:

- Combine District 1A and 54
(residual District 1A)
- Combine 14A with 14B
(residual District 14)
- Combine Districts 20 and 23
(residual District 20)
- Combine Districts 31 and 32
(residual District 31)
- Combine Districts 33 and 34
(residual District 33)
- Combine Districts 35A and 35B
(residual District 35)
- Combine Districts 44 and 46
(residual District 44)

In view of the decline in membership numbers, coupled with other statistical data as pertained to our individual Lodges and Districts, the Grand Master, earlier this year, appointed a Commission to examine this situation.

- Realign District 15A by moving Lodges in District 15A to District 15C, with the exception of moving Meridian Lodge No. 284 to District 15B, (residual District 15C).
- Realign the Lodges currently assigned to District 18 by reassigning the following Lodges to other districts, (this means there will no longer be a District 18).
Piedmont-Stella Lodge No. 50 moves to District 7
Widow's Son Lodge No. 60 moves to District 10
King Solomon's Lodge No. 194 moves to District 19
Alberene Lodge No. 277 moves to District 21
- Realign the Lodges currently assigned to District 26 by reassigning the following Lodges to other districts, this means there will no longer be a District 26.

Continued on page 19.

District Alignment

Continued from page 18.

Farmville Lodge No. 41
moves to District 27
Cumberland Lodge No. 283
moves to District 16
Monroe Lodge No. 301
moves to District 25

- Realign the Lodges currently assigned to District 28 by reassigning the following Lodges to other Districts, this means there will no longer be a District 28.

Chase City Lodge No. 119
moves to District 27
Widow Son's Lodge No. 150
moves to District 32
South Hill Lodge No. 297
moves to District 27
Twin River Lodge No. 338
moves to District 37

Additionally, three Lodges were identified to be realigned to an adjoining district and are identified as follows:

Elmer-Timberman Lodge No. 54
moves to District 1A
Herndon Lodge No. 264
moves to District 2
Cochran Lodge No. 271
moves to District 4

As stated earlier, the Grand Master, included information about the Commission as a part of his Address at the Grand Annual Communication. Additionally, realignment information provided by the Grand Master in his address was provided to the District Deputy Grand Masters nominees at the District Deputy Grand Masters Conference this past September. Similarly, realignment information was provided to the Lodges when the Executive Order pertaining to the nomination of District Deputies for the year 2019 was disseminated.

In closing, let me give you some additional information regarding what the impact will be on the districts and Lodges identified in this article. The

Continued on page 21.

Note of Appreciation

I want to personally thank each Mason in the Commonwealth for your wonderful support of our programs, visitations, your friendship, and love. In my travels, I have emphasized my theme ...Setting A Good Example. We must continue to display what we have learned in Freemasonry by being examples of friendship, morality, and brotherly love.

Each Grand Master praises their District Deputy Grand Masters, and as far as I am concerned, 2016 has undoubtedly been the best group to ever support a Grand Master's programs. One of my pet projects was for Lodges to earn the James Noah Hillman Memorial Award, and I am happy that there were forty-nine entries this year, and a total of forty-four Lodges qualified. Eighty Lodges received the Morlock Award, which is a considerable increase. The support for the Child Identification Program (VACHIP) showed an increase in financial contributions, one district received a ten-thousand-dollar gift for new Child ID computers. The greatest amount of financial support from the Lodges was for the Masonic Home Outreach Program.

When I was first elected in the Grand Line, I formed the Sunshine Team. We met on numerous occasions to talk about how we can best promote the Fraternity, establish a theme, design the pins, choose programs to support, promote, and enjoy Masonic fellowship. This team was instrumental in making 2016 a wonderful and memorable year. Some special thanks go to two Brothers in particular, my Administrative Assistant, Right Worshipful Gino Warren Williams, and my Marshal, Right Worshipful Thomas William Self, III. I cannot find the words to describe these two Brothers. We have laughed together, cried together, shared ideas, and worked diligently to be good examples of Freemasonry. What a great team!

To my lovely wife, Ann, who has

supported me unselfishly for fifty-five plus years, she is a blessing in my life. If there ever was a Lady Mason, it is you. You have been by my side at every visit this year and sold one thousand three hundred Masonic Cookbooks to support the Masonic Home Outreach Program. Your efforts raised over sixteen thousand dollars for the Masonic Home.

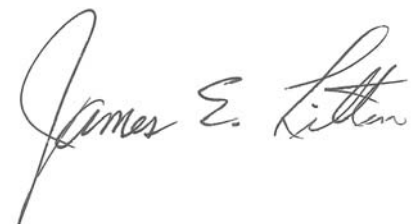
Lastly, but not least, is my respect and love for our Grand Secretary, Most Worshipful Alan Wayne Adkins. He is the Brother who signed my petition, taught me all three catechisms, helped raise me a Master Mason in Mountain Home Lodge No. 263, and has been a friend to me and my family since 1969.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart to the Grand Lodge committeemen, Grand Lodge office staff, Past Grand Masters, Youth organizations, and all who made 2016 a great year in Virginia Freemasonry.

As we look forward to another year, I ask you to work hard to support Most Worshipful Vernon Stuart Cook as he leads Virginia to another successful year in Freemasonry.

This has been one of the most rewarding ventures in my life, and I will always cherish the memories we shared together. I thank God for his guidance through this endeavor. God bless each of you, God bless Freemasonry and God bless America.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Most Worshipful James E. Litten
(2016)

Backbiting

Brother James V. Cady

How universally accepted is the belief that backbiting is considered a bad thing? This appears to be an easy question. We know it is a bad thing, and good people should not behave badly. Yet, it prevails and persists to plague us daily. To resist a thing, we must understand it. Let us take a look at some sources addressing and defining this “affliction of the tongue.”

In a quote from the *Book of Constitutions*, Section III, we read, “...that

Sometimes, gossip is just based on the misinformation received by the backbiter who is passing it on. If you know the information to be incorrect, gently point that out. An honest person will immediately realize his true error.

all who would be true Masons, should learn to abstain from malice and slander, evil-speaking, backbiting, unmannerly, scornful, provoking, reproachful and ungodly language...” There is a whole subsection (Section IV, 5) devoted entirely to the spread of resentment, backbiting, calumny, and more. Please read and read it again. We can easily find it in our *Presentation Volume*.

Webster’s 1828 dictionary defines backbiting as, “The act of slandering the absent; secret calumny.” Calumny is defined as, “...Slander; false accusation of a crime or offense, knowingly or maliciously made or reported, to the injury of another; false representation of facts reproachful to another, made by design, and with knowledge of its falsehood...” At Dictionary.com, we see the

modern definition. “...backbiting, to speak unfavorably or slanderously of a person who is not present.” Finally, *Black’s Law Dictionary*, Sixth Edition: “Calumny: Defamation, slander, false accusation of a crime or offense.”

Let us make a quick survey of the viewpoints of faith. In the *Holy Bible*, Proverbs is full of observations on the power of the tongue: “There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise is health” (Proverbs 12:18). “There are six things that the Lord strongly dislikes, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers” (Proverbs 6:16-19).

In Psalm 15, we read, “Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill... He that...speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue...nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor.” Let us not forget the Commandment designed to prevent the corruption of justice, “Thou shall not bear false witness...”

According to the *Talmud* (Yoma 9b), the First Temple was destroyed in 587 BC because of the sins of idolatry, immorality, and bloodshed, but the Second Temple was destroyed in 70 AD because of what the sages call “baseless hatred.” This baseless hatred, known as *sinat chinam*, is considered a more serious offense than the earlier sins that led to the destruction of the First Temple. *Sinat chinam* literally translates to “hatred of their grace” which includes acts of malicious speech and backbiting.

In Islam, there are those who believe that backbiting is a more serious offense than even adultery. To quote the *Holy Qur’an*:

“O you who believe! Avoid much suspicion, for some suspicions are a sin. Do not spy on one another, nor backbite one another. Would one of you love to eat the flesh of his dead brother? Nay, you would abhor it, so similarly, avoid backbiting. And fear Allah” (Qur’an 17:36).

In the *Baha’i Faith*, followers are called to regard backbiting as grievous error. When we occupy ourselves with the faults of others, we put out the light

What about the wider toll?
On trust? Morale? Unity?
The greater damage is very real. Fallout from backbiting, which can last for years and sometimes lifetimes, sap the very life and productivity out of an organization.

in our own hearts and extinguish life in the soul.

The following is from Lao Tzu (d 531 BC), a Chinese philosopher, who is considered the father of Taoism:

- Watch your thoughts, for they become words.
- Watch your words, for they become actions.
- Watch your actions, for they become habits.
- Watch your habits, for they become character.
- Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.

Nearly, if not all, religions and faiths, secular law, our *Book of Constitutions*, and other ancient wisdom all firmly place backbiting very high on their “Do Not Do These Things” lists. So, why?

Continued on page 21.

Backbiting

Continued from page 20.
What is the damage?

If you have been on the receiving end of backbiting, you know some of the toll. Disillusionment, betrayal, it hurts, and it stings more especially when you do not expect it. To be surprised by a betrayal of trust is one of the most hurtful experiences in life. Yet, this is just the personal and inward side of gossip and backbiting.

What about the wider toll? On trust? Morale? Unity? The greater damage

- Watch your words, for they become actions.
- Watch your actions, for they become habits.
- Watch your habits, for they become character.
- Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.

is very real. Fallout from backbiting, which can last for years and sometimes lifetimes, sap the very life and productivity out of an organization. A group suffering from continual distrust can be rendered useless and a mere shell of its original design and mission.

Especially to the public, petitioners, and to a new and impressionable Mason, there is little more that can destroy credibility than backbiting behavior, and the disunity it creates. Even more devastating in the long run is the loss of the wisdom, experience, and participation of senior, experienced membership because of low morale due to un-Masonic gossip.

The cost, the damages, the ill will in the long run from division and suspicion... is it really calculable? Remem-

ber that once our words are uttered, they are out there forever and can never be taken back.

Alright. We are human after all, and we err. In life, backbiting is going to happen. When it does, then what?

Do not give it any energy, and it would not live. "Neglected, calumny soon expires; show that you are hurt, and you give it the appearance of truth," states Tacitus.

Our immediate reactions are probably the most important one, the one that can make it better or worse. If you are not the target of the backbiting, politely move on to another subject. Give it no life. It is an undermining game. It is a game of egos, so do not give it anything it does not deserve.

We are charged to defend a worthy Brother; not tear him down. We can also respond with positive energy and point out what is great about him, and smile. Let the uncomfortable silence ring loudly, and continue to smile.

Sometimes, gossip is just based on the misinformation received by the backbiter, who is passing it on. If you know the information to be incorrect, gently point that out. An honest person will immediately realize his true error.

Please consider these final thoughts. Someone, years ago, said something to me that still sticks to my conscience. They admonished me during my rather "colorful" harangue about something I cannot recall. They told me, "Be very careful with the power of the words you say. After all, the universe was created with words."

If our words can so easily destroy, why not redirect our words to build instead? Are we not Masons after all?

District Alignment


Continued from page 19.

total number of Masonic Districts was reduced from 57 to 46. For the affected districts that use the "Lodge rotation" practice to identify a candidate for District Deputy Grand Master, adjustment to address the changes will be necessary.

Hopefully, the actions to be taken as a result of implementing the Commission recommendations will lessen the burden on the districts in a number of ways. First, it will reduce the burden to identify candidates to fill a position on the District Team and thereby allow the Lodges to use that talent at the Lodge level. For those districts that had fewer Lodges and lower membership numbers the burden of frequently identifying a candidate for District Deputy will be lessened as a result of combining districts. This same benefit will result in those instances where Lodges were assigned to an adjoining district. Needless to say, these District Alignment actions will result in questions from the Lodges. Please start the question process by directing your questions to your District Deputy Grand Master. The Grand Lodge Officers will work diligently to answer those questions and insure the District Deputy is a part of the process, as we respond to the changes I have addressed in this article.



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How Does Your Lodge Smell?

Worshipful Ross C. Morland

What is a scent that recalls a certain memory in you? What fragrances evoke specific emotions or feelings in your heart? For me, it is the scent of fresh cut lumber, drywall, carpet, and paint of a newly constructed house, when I was nine years old and the excitement of my parents building our home. Or the pungent smell of used oil, engine degreaser, and sweat in my grandfather's loving embrace after a long day in the shop, working on cars. Every time I sense these, I am instantly transported in time in both mind and heart.

Do you know that Masonic Lodges have their own signature scent? Lodges have their own perfume. Consider a custom performed within the ancient temples.

According to the Old Testament, Jewish priests used sacred oil, consisting of olive oil, spices, and perfumes, to anoint themselves, the altar, the Ark of the Covenant, and everything else within the Tabernacle. This act was performed to consecrate the Temple and its contents to make them holy. It is easy to imagine everything in the tabernacle having an intoxicating aroma of holiness, purity, and godliness.

King David was the warrior-poet who wrote Psalm 133, stating, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity; It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." What a pleasing fragrance is produced when God's people live in harmony with each other.

Let us pause for a moment and think about two serious questions: What does your Masonic fellowship smell like? Like the aroma of refreshments, when you walk into the building or the

odor of dirty carpet that needs to be replaced? Not the mixture of colognes, deodorants, and aftershaves.

Many times in life, we grow accustomed to the unhealthy smells around us. It could be dirty laundry, cigarette smoke, or even the family dog. This can be true about Masonic Lodges, as well. Some Lodges reek to high heaven. Not because of the actual building or the meals, but because of gross disharmony and brokenness among Brethren. Factions, disruptions, envy, slander, gossip, backstabbing, and division can be stenches in the nostrils of the Brethren. If our ancient Brethren could smell this scent, they would exclaim, "That is not the Fraternity we started. Those cannot be our Brethren." Unfortunately, some Lodges have experienced this for years because too many are used to the smell. They believe this is what Freemasonry is. This is what the Lodge does. This is what the Craft looks like. This is what it smells like. But that is not Freemasonry. That is not what the tenets of our Institution call us to do.

What else stinks up a Lodge? Gossip, jealousy, rivalry, name-calling, and a sense of superiority. If you go to a Lodge like that, if we as a Fraternity are like that, no one is going to leave with a positive impression. No one is going to say, "I was in a Lodge of friendship, brotherly love and fraternal unity." Instead, they will say, "I was in a broken Lodge, where people can't get along."

I believe in a spiritual way a Lodge that does not have unity or the love

of one Brother for another, must have a stench that emanates to others like burning sulfur or a rotting carcass. Do you know of a Lodge that smells like that? Unloving attitudes in a Lodge or towards a Brother Mason never results in anything pleasant?

What grievance do you have with someone in Lodge? Get rid of them. It could be the Brother you sit beside at the monthly stated, it might be groups of Brethren, or maybe the Worshipful Master. Let go of it. The *Holy Scripture* commands us to forgive one another as does the *Constitutions of Freemasonry*.

As a Mason, you are a man of good character, set apart as a member of a very special and elite Fraternity. Have you forgotten that moment in which you knelt at the sacred altar and the obligations you swore? The square and compasses on your ring, lapel pin, or shirt, do you recall what they stand for? Friendship, morality, and brotherly love. It is brotherly love, which we must reflect towards one another through compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Speaking of unity, some members refuse to engage in the work of the Lodge. Whether it be degree work, a Lodge fund-raiser, a Child ID, or a community blood drive event, we let others serve. We let others give of their time. We let others sweat the details and volunteer. That, too, can stink up a Lodge.

It is understood the Craft will experience the occasional unpleasant situation, a troubling circumstance, or a disagreeable conversation between Brethren. Some of these events may smell worse than others, but we should remember to try and live in harmony to achieve a pleasant smell, at least, with a goal of emulating the intoxicating aroma of unity and the service to others. Does Freemasonry smell like that to you, or does your Lodge have the scent of something else?

A remark generally hurts in proportion to its truth.

Will Rogers

Mysteries at the Museum

Right Worshipful Wayne W. Grindle, Sr.

The Grand Lodge Museum and Library are co-located within the Grand Lodge Headquarters at: 4115 Nine Mile Road, Richmond, Virginia. The Museum and Library reflect the history of our Grand Lodge. Among the artifacts and treasures on display, are the portraits of our Past Grand Masters, one hundred and seventy-two to date. The portraits of our Past Grand Masters are prominently displayed on the walls of the Museum; however, we are missing the portraits of eighteen of our Past Grand Masters. This led to an effort called, the Mysteries at the Museum.

We embarked upon a quest to solve the missing portraits by instituting a project dubbed “The Missing Past Grand Masters Portrait Project.” Through research of Right Worshipful Robert E. Simpson, Widow’s Sons’ Lodge No. 60, photographs of Most Worshipful Edmund P. Hunter (1852), Most Worshipful Ed-

ward H. Lane (1865), and Most Worshipful Lewis B. Williams (1861), were obtained. The photos were not in great shape; however, with the assistance of Brother James Young of Lee Lodge No. 209, the photos were enhanced making them suitable for use as source material to create portraits.

These three completed portraits now hang on the walls of the Museum, solving three of the mysteries. However, fifteen of these mysteries remain, and this is where all your history buffs, fledgling investigators, Lodge historians, and others can help. If you can identify or provide a photo of any of the remaining fifteen Past Grand Masters, please contact me at wwgrindle@comcast.net, or Right Worshipful Robert E. Simpson at pddgm81@gmail.com. Alternatively, you may also contact the Grand Lodge Library with your findings or recommendations for sourcing the needed

photos.

Funding for this project to date has been provided by the members of this Committee. However, if there are those of you out there who may not be able to assist with the identification of a source of a photo, there are still ways you can participate. To further our efforts, contributions from individuals or Lodges to support this project are most welcome and should be forwarded to the Grand Lodge Museum and Library and noted that they are for “The Missing Past Grand Masters Portrait Project.” The Grand Lodge Museum and Library is a 501(c)(3) entity, and monetary contributions to this project are tax deductible.

The Library, Museum, and Historical Foundation are most grateful to this team of Brethren for their efforts. Right Worshipful William E. Hershey, Jr. envisioned this project and sought funding. His untiring efforts are an example to us all. Right Worshipful Wayne W. Grindle, Sr., has worked tirelessly to make the three portraits we are adding to the Museum collection possible. Right Worshipful Robert E. Simpson published his booklet on the Past Grand Masters and was the basis for this project. This is an ongoing effort, and we encourage the Lodges where the missing Past Grand Masters were members to assist us in continuing this most worthwhile endeavor.

Most Worshipful John R. Quinley (2005)
President

Right Worshipful William E. Hershey, Jr., Grand Senior Warden, asked me if I would help to resolve some of these Mysteries. After consulting Mrs. Marie Barnett, Librarian with the Grand Lodge Library and Museum, it was determined that these mysteries were further identified as:

| Name | Year | Mother Lodge |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Alexander Montgomery | 1789 | Richmond No.10 |
| William Austin | 1800 | St. John’s No.36 |
| John H. Foushee | 1809 | St. John’s No.36 |
| Samuel Jones | 1821 | Richmond No.10 |
| Thomas Mathews | 1790-1792 | Norfolk No. 1 |
| James Byrne | 1803-1804 | Blandford No.3 |
| David Robertson | 1807-1808 | Blandford No.3 |
| Robert Brough | 1813-1815 | Norfolk No. 1 |
| Charles H. Graves | 1815-1816 | Jefferson No.65 |
| Archibald Magill | 1817-1818 | Winchester Hiram No.21 |
| William H. Fitzwhylsonn | 1832-1833 | Richmond Randolph No.19 |
| Oscar M. Crutchfield | 1840-1841 | Fredericksburg No.4 |
| Sidney S. Baxter | 1846-1847 | St. John’s No.36 |
| James Evans | 1850-1852 | Richmond Randolph No.19 |
| Thomas F. Owens | 1870-1871 | Norfolk No. 1 |

50-60-70-Year Masonic Veterans

Between August 4 and November 27, 2016

FIFTY-YEAR VETERANS

Bro. Theodore Baker, Jr.
 Bro. Gilbert Franklin Jackson
 Bro. Eugene Hoffer Mullen
 Bro. Clyde Franklin Estes
 Bro. Robert Kenneth McDilda
 Bro. John Arliss Campbell
 R.W. Claude Ashley Bass, Jr.
 Bro. Charles Frederick Beorn
 Bro. Don Earl Keene
 Bro. Ralph Frank Braun
 R.W. Richard Lee Stewart
 Bro. John Bailey Rollins, IV
 Bro. Harlan Baker Forbes, Jr.
 Bro. Michael Moore Spessard
 Bro. Thomas Davis Weaver
 Bro. Willis Eugene Heninger
 Bro. Larry Allen Ritchie
 Bro. Edward Hagan Richmond, Jr.
 Wor. William Allan Rodgers, Sr.
 Bro. Cleveland Wayne Glover
 Bro. Carl Francis Clemmons
 Wor. Carl Rolland Lunsford
 Bro. Henry Melvin Lawson, Jr.
 Wor. Evander Franklin Bowman
 Bro. Robert Eugene Wimbrough
 Bro. Ronald Eugene Crytzer
 Wor. Lowell Thomas Meade
 R.W. Charles Avis Via
 Bro. Taliaferro Crawford Dickerson, III
 Bro. George Daniel Hale, Jr.
 Wor. Harry Grant Lutz
 Bro. Jim Louis Hardwick
 Bro. Albert M. Anderson
 Wor. James Winfred McDonough
 Bro. Kenneth Bernard Munsey
 Bro. Paul Louis Blum
 R.W. Clyde Henry Mull
 Bro. O. Dee Owens
 Bro. Edward Lee Rothgeb
 Wor. Milton Edward Moore, Jr.
 Bro. John Wiley Sammons, Jr.
 Bro. George Ronald Ricks
 Bro. Kenneth Eugene Fry
 Wor. Jack Innes Williams, Sr.
 Bro. Donald Lee Houck
 Bro. Robert Lee Bailey, Jr.
 Bro. William Faulconer
 Bro. Wesley Alonzo Sykes, Jr.
 Bro. Herbert Hall Troupe
 Bro. Douglas Harris Tapscott
 Wor. Jerol Gordon Fox
 Wor. Earnest Milton Doughty
 Bro. John Howard Zechman, Jr.
 Bro. Ralph Marshall
 Bro. James Richard Lockerman, Jr.
 Bro. Willis Paul Snoots
 Wor. Kenneth Whittinton Burnett
 Bro. William David Mayes
 Bro. Bobby Lee Rosenthal
 R.W. Karl Eugene Hawk
 Bro. John Paul Harrison
 Bro. Horace Stanley Sykes
 Bro. Edward Franklin Rainey
 Bro. Jimmy Vernon Smallwood
 Bro. Jack Dean Smith
 Bro. Amos Cephas Johnson
 Bro. Joseph Edgar Marshburn
 Wor. Wesley Floyd Garriss
 R.W. Cecil Edgar Walton
 Bro. Thomas Guyann Meiggs
 Bro. Larry Staples Kight
 Bro. Eugene Hobart Farley, Jr.
 Bro. Dennis Dean Hylton
 Bro. William Francis Griggs, Jr.
 Bro. Preston Conrad Perkins
 Wor. William Harry Wirt, Jr.
 Wor. Thomas Wayne Morgan
 Wor. Robert Elva Smith
 R.W. William Tucker Woodson, Jr.
 Bro. Herbert Linwood Carter
 Bro. Warren Louis Aleck
 Bro. Thomas Lee Dishman, Jr.
 R.W. John Daughtry O'Berry
 Wor. Lewis Coleman Booth, Jr.
 Bro. Ronald Thomas Morris
 Bro. John Earl Hayes
 Wor. Robert Lee Collis, Jr.

Norfolk Lodge No. 1
 Atlantic Lodge No. 2
 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
 St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
 Hoge Lodge No. 8
 Richmond Lodge No. 10
 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
 Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
 Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
 Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19
 Oriental Lodge No. 20
 Oriental Lodge No. 20
 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
 Taylor Lodge No. 23
 Taylor Lodge No. 23
 Taylor Lodge No. 23
 Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
 Catlett Lodge No. 35
 Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37
 Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37
 Marshall Lodge No. 39
 Abingdon Lodge No. 48
 Poquoson Lodge No. 49
 Piedmont-Stella Lodge No. 50
 Seaboard Lodge No. 56
 Henry Lodge No. 57
 Pound Lodge No. 59
 Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
 Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
 Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
 Mountain City Lodge No. 67
 Mountain City Lodge No. 67
 Clinton Lodge No. 73
 Nansemond Lodge No. 77
 Nansemond Lodge No. 77
 Nansemond Lodge No. 77
 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81
 Chester Lodge No. 94
 Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
 Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
 Mt. Jackson Lodge No. 103
 Norview Lodge No. 113
 Norview Lodge No. 113
 Taylor Lodge No. 117
 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121
 Temperanceville Lodge No. 121
 Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122
 Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122
 Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122
 Linn Banks Lodge No. 126
 Independence Lodge No. 129
 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
 Melrose Lodge No. 139
 Dewitt Clinton Lodge No. 141
 Widow's Son Lodge No. 150
 Franklin Lodge No. 151
 Franklin Lodge No. 151
 Miles Lodge No. 165
 Berkley Lodge No. 167
 Ashland Lodge No. 168
 Ashland Lodge No. 168
 Purdie Lodge No. 170
 Covington Lodge No. 171
 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
 Hill City Lodge No. 183
 Western Branch Lodge No. 189
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 King Solomon's Lodge No. 194
 Kempsville Lodge No. 196
 Kempsville Lodge No. 196
 Monitor Lodge No. 197
 Wakefield Lodge No. 198
 Reedy Spring Lodge No. 203
 Yorktown Lodge No. 205
 Yorktown Lodge No. 205
 Treadwell Lodge No. 213

Bro. Julian Towe Perry
 Bro. Paul Frederick Baird
 R.W. Charles Robert Bryant, Jr.
 Bro. Hugh Harold Blankenship
 Bro. Billy Herman Carter
 Bro. Raymond Harold Heim, Jr.
 Bro. Fred Jackson Sims, Sr.
 Bro. Gerald Wells Cook
 Wor. Norris Stiff
 Bro. James Montgomery Horton
 Bro. James Kenneth Rhoton
 Bro. Johnny Allen Hackney
 Bro. James Horton Miller
 Wor. Billy Lee Flanary
 Bro. Peter VanDeman
 Bro. Aubrey Carl Whitlow
 Bro. Colin Roy Williamson
 Bro. Elwood Leroy Raborg, Sr.
 Wor. Ervin James Powell
 Wor. George Stephen Pruitt
 Bro. Herbert Ned Kramp
 Bro. Edward Newton Frye, II
 Wor. Jolly Bunn Armstrong
 Wor. George Willard Dings
 Bro. Linwood Bradford Regan
 Wor. William Parks Hickman
 Bro. Lucius James Kellam, III
 Wor. Roland Brice Walker
 Bro. Reynald Wayne Browning
 Bro. William Vernon Collins
 Bro. Wilbur Jene St John
 Bro. Thomas Elmo Lewis
 Bro. Larry Cecil Morgan
 Bro. Donald Haydon George
 Bro. Richard Douglas Mitchell
 Bro. Albert Ellsworth Krise, III
 Bro. Richard Edward Cone
 Bro. Clarence Early Snyder, Jr.
 Bro. Robert Carlton Hoard
 Bro. Clinton Arthur Hogg
 Bro. James Owen Baker
 Bro. Andrew Jackson Hughes
 Bro. Charles Herbert Thayer
 Bro. James Homer Frye
 Bro. John McRae Covington, Jr.
 Bro. Gerald Leroy Hase
 Bro. Henry Albert Peterson, Sr.
 Wor. Harold Leo Powell, Jr.
 Bro. John Carl Kriska
 Bro. Robert Edward Preston

Bayside Lodge No. 218
 Bayside Lodge No. 218
 West Point Lodge No. 238
 Boone Lodge No. 247
 Clinchfield Lodge No. 256
 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
 Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
 Newport Lodge No. 261
 Newport Lodge No. 261
 Corinthian Lodge No. 266
 Clinchport Lodge No. 267
 Clinchport Lodge No. 267
 Clinchport Lodge No. 267
 Clinchport Lodge No. 267
 Clinchport Lodge No. 267
 Cochran Lodge No. 271
 Varina Lodge No. 272
 Varina Lodge No. 272
 Varina Lodge No. 272
 Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274
 Churchland Lodge No. 276
 Achilles Lodge No. 281
 Columbia Lodge No. 285
 Dupont Lodge No. 289
 Powhatan Lodge No. 295
 South Hill Lodge No. 297
 Central Lodge No. 300
 Central Lodge No. 300
 Central Lodge No. 300
 Central Lodge No. 300
 Central Lodge No. 300
 Monroe Lodge No. 301
 Westhampton Lodge No. 302
 Hay Market Lodge No. 313
 Reedville Lodge No. 321
 Babcock Lodge No. 322
 Ocean View Lodge No. 335
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 Black Heath Daylight Lodge No. 1982

SIXTY-YEAR VETERANS

Bro. Herman Joseph Lowenthal, Jr.
 Bro. James Byron Knapp
 Bro. Robert Lee Jodon
 Bro. Arnold Walker
 Bro. Stuart Thornton Creasy
 Bro. Edward Brady Gotwald
 Bro. Preston Lee Keen
 Bro. Bobby Ingram Hudgins
 Bro. William Floyd DeLoatch, Jr.
 Bro. Carlos B. Hart
 Bro. Riley Emory Brubaker
 Bro. Rodeheaver H. Hicks
 Bro. John Robert Gouldman
 Wor. Howard Lee Roop
 Bro. David Richard White
 Bro. Thomas Howard Albertson
 Bro. George Leslie Spindler
 Bro. Ivory Elmo Steffey
 Bro. Donald Duncan Lowe
 Bro. Kenneth Dean Hubbard
 Bro. Worth Eugene Anderson
 Bro. Nathaniel Burwell Harvey, Jr.
 R.W. John Lavelle Head
 Bro. Raymond Franklin Beahm
 Bro. Ellis Fred Reeves, Jr.
 Bro. Ernest Brown Irby, Jr.
 Wor. William N. Wood
 Bro. George A. Bull
 Bro. Dallas Lee Wolford
 Bro. Wilton Farrell Creef
 Bro. Benjamin Brooke
 Bro. Archibald Barwell How
 Wor. Moody Clayton DeVaux
 Bro. Suttie Economy
 Bro. Robert Merle Carlisle
 Bro. Meredith Eugene Edmondson
 Wor. William Carroll Evans

Norfolk Lodge No. 1
 Blandford Lodge No. 3
 Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
 Manchester Lodge No. 14
 Manchester Lodge No. 14
 Petersburg Lodge No. 15
 Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
 Oriental Lodge No. 20
 Oriental Lodge No. 20
 Taylor Lodge No. 23
 Isaacs Lodge No. 29
 Marion Lodge No. 31
 Marion Lodge No. 31
 Marion Lodge No. 31
 Marshall Lodge No. 39
 Marshall Lodge No. 39
 Seaboard Lodge No. 56
 Clintwood Lodge No. 66
 Old Town Lodge No. 68
 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81
 Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81
 Liberty Lodge No. 95
 Prince George Lodge No. 115
 Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120
 Independence Lodge No. 129
 Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
 Unity Lodge No. 146
 Unity Lodge No. 146
 Craighill Lodge No. 160
 Berkley Lodge No. 167
 Berkley Lodge No. 167
 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 Lakeland Lodge No. 190
 King Solomon's Lodge No. 194
 Yorktown Lodge No. 205
 Westmoreland Lodge No. 212

Masonic Veterans

Between August 4 and November 27, 2016

Bro. John Hoy Moss
 Bro. Roger Thomas Crew
 Wor. C. William Dawson
 Bro. Norman Gay Williams
 Bro. Vernon L. Collier
 Bro. Joseph Frederick Henry
 Bro. Donald Eubank Wright
 Bro. Merwin Grant Lozaw, Jr.
 Bro. Robert Cyril Clark
 Bro. James Augusta Rook
 R.W. Garnett Russell Bailey
 Bro. George William Geyer, Jr.
 Bro. Donald Richard Briner

Forest Lodge No. 245
 Corinthian Lodge No. 266
 French Lodge No. 270
 Churchland Lodge No. 276
 Boykins Lodge No. 287
 Northside Lodge No. 292
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Henry Knox Field Lodge No. 349
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350

SEVENTY-YEAR VETERANS

Bro. Leary Green Baker
 Bro. James Virgil McRoberts
 Wor. Jason Worley Snyder
 Bro. Dalacs E. Anderson
 Bro. John H. Rayfield
 Bro. Raymond Eugene Wimbrough
 Bro. Edgar Leigh Venzke
 Bro. Cassius Wingfield Enos
 Bro. Aubrey Lankford
 Wor. Elmer J. Cocke
 Bro. Elijah Norfleet Bradshaw
 Bro. Edward B. Hale
 R.W. Dixie James Grinnalds
 Bro. Herbert Edgar Ing, Jr.
 Bro. Hilmer Henry Krebs
 Bro. Donald Eubank Wright
 Bro. Merwin Grant Lozaw, Jr.
 Bro. James Augusta Rook
 Rt. Wor. Garnett Russell Bailey
 Bro. George William Geyer, Jr.
 Bro. Donald Richard Briner

Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
 Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
 Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
 Marion Lodge No. 31
 Seaboard Lodge No. 56
 Seaboard Lodge No. 56
 Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
 Henrico Union Lodge No. 130
 Franklin Lodge No. 151
 Anderson Lodge No. 258
 Corinthian Lodge No. 266
 Intermont Lodge No. 269
 Central Lodge No. 300
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 Fort Hunt-Skidmore Daytime Lodge No. 353
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 Warwick Lodge No. 336
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
 John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350

EIGHTY-YEAR VETERANS

Wor. Roman Elmore Rollins, Jr.

St. Tammany Lodge No. 5

70-Year Masonic Veteran



Center: Brother Raymond E. Wimbrough receiving his Seventy-Year Masonic Veteran's plaque. Brother Raymond Wimbrough is a member of Seaboard Lodge No. 56.

You've got to go out on a limb sometimes, because that's where the fruit is.

Will Rogers

Midlothian Lodge Celebrates 150-year Anniversary

Brother Gary E. Hutchinson

Midlothian Lodge, chartered in 1866, has been celebrating their one hundred and fiftieth anniversary throughout 2016 in several ways. During each stated communication, a brief Masonic Moment in Lodge History is presented to enlighten those present about some of the many interesting things that have occurred during these years.



Memorabilia, hats, and tokens, were provided to the Brethren. A one hundred and fiftieth year history book has been completed and is being printed for those interested.



A picnic was held to commemorate this anniversary. Nearly one hundred and fifty Brethren and their families attended. A brief, but special program was provided by the keynote speaker being Right Worshipful Douglas V. Jones, Grand Senior Deacon. Right Worshipful Brother Jones provided an outstanding and well received message. A presentation recognizing Midlothian Lodge for their one hundred and fifty years of community participation and contributions was made by Delegate R. Lee Ware, Virginia House of Delegates.



L-R: Rt. Wor. Douglas V. Jones and Wor. Gary E. Hutchinson.

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550 Platelet Donation

Right Worshipful Wayne Markel

It was in the early 1980s, when the late Worshipful Tom Wipperman, 14A District Blood Coordinator, and past Master of Monitor Lodge No. 197, recruited Worshipful Les Kahn to donate whole blood and platelets. Worshipful Les Kahn visited bloodmobiles and blood donation centers, where Masons were donating blood and hosting blood drives.

Worshipful Brother Kahn, a 50-Year Masonic Veteran, had some early memories of donating blood and platelets to support the community and Masons in general. The main Red Cross Donation Center was constantly on the move to different locations in Norfolk, and the staff was pretty small. There was a satellite station in Hampton that was very convenient but had to close due to staffing concerns. The Donation Center is now in a permanent location with ample staffing and a comfortable setting, making the platelet donation experience very pleasant.

Brother Kahn has always thought that platelet donations were one of the most vital and useful gifts a Brother could render. Unlike whole blood, platelets



Wor. Les Kahn has always thought that platelet donations were one of the most vital and useful gifts a Brother could render.

has a much reduced shelf life, five days vs forty-five days. Also, platelets can be donated every two weeks. Finally, platelets are used to treat cancer, brain tumors, and pre-natal conditions just to name a few of the many medical uses for platelets.

By February 2016, Worshipful Les Kahn had donated five hundred and fifty platelet units and by this writing, he is close to surpassing five hundred and sixty donations. He continues to donate every two weeks like clock-

work, which is one of his most rewarding endeavors each month. His donated platelets have literally been shipped coast to coast, to meet the medical needs of patients.

Worshipful Brother Kahn is very active throughout the Masonic community, not only donating his time as a volunteer at blood drives hosted by Army and Navy Lodge No. 306, but also has served as Master of McMahon Lodge No. 303 and is serving as the Region X Masonic Home Ambassador.

70-Year Masonic Veteran



L-R: Wor. Jesus S. Paule, Wor. Leonard L. Levin, Wor. Charles L. Turner, and Wor. Milton J. Reid, seated is Bro. Morrison.

Norfolk Lodge No. 1 presented a 70-Year Masonic Veteran’s plaque to Brother Allen Morrison at the Norfolk Masonic Temple to the enjoyment of the Brethren and his family.

Brother Morrison was pleased with the presentation and grateful for the opportunity to receive it in the Lodge room, which he had not been able to visit for a number of years.

Brother Morrison laid down his working tools on September 1, 2016.

“Men are wrong who look upon work as a curse pronounced on the first man. The result is, that from not exercising their powers they do not know what they are, and thus they arrive at thinking themselves incapable of numbers of things; while experience will show them that they have more cleverness in accomplishing than strength to begin them.”

Robert South

Smile on the Masonic Home Of Virginia



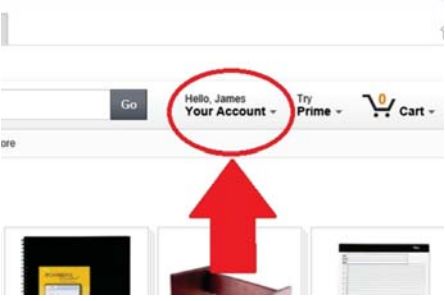
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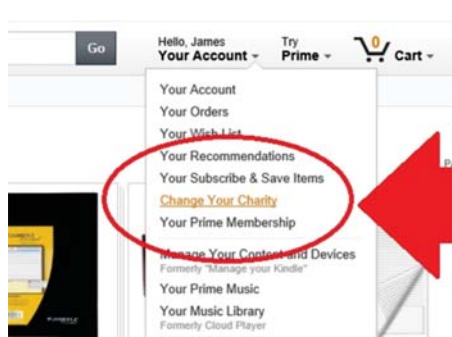
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6-Type in the blank, Masonic Home of Virginia, as illustrated.



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.



A Home for Family

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

About a decade ago, I received a small essay from one of our hardworking District Deputy Grand Masters. The author is unknown. Perhaps this is one of those stories that simply grew on the Internet, an accumulation of ideas from more than one person. It does, however, remind me of many of our Masonic teachings, and it also reminds me of what the Masonic Home of Virginia is all about. The Home is a place for members of our Masonic family to enjoy life.

Family

The ninety-two-year-old, petite, well-poised and proud lady, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with her hair fashionably coiffed and makeup perfectly applied, even though she is legally blind, moved into a retirement home today.

Her husband of seventy years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the facility, she smiled sweetly when told her room was ready. As she maneuvered her walker down the hall, I began providing a visual description of her new room, including the curtains that had been hung on her window.

"I love it," she replied with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy. "Mrs. Jones, we haven't gotten to your room just wait."



Home decorations from B-Wing

"That doesn't have anything to do with it," she replied.

"Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not, doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged... it's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it."

She further explained, "You see, it's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do."

"Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away, just for this time in my life."

Old age is like a bank account, you withdraw from what you have put in; so, the best advice is to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories.

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

Family

Are you aware that if we died tomorrow, the company that we are working for could easily replace us in a matter of days, but the family we left behind will feel the loss for the rest of their lives?



Come to think of it, we pour ourselves more into work than into our own family, an unwise investment indeed, don't you think?

So what is behind the story? Do you know what the word FAMILY means?

FAMILY equals

- (F)ATHER
- (A)ND
- (M)OTHER
- (I)
- (L)OVE
- (Y)OU

The little essay quoted above is something that I have kept for inspiration during my years of working at the Masonic Home. We do our best to make our Home a place where neighbors in a community become a family. My only frustration is that so often, new residents complain about the same thing... a big regret that they did not arrive sooner to join the family.

Far too many Masons, their wives, and Masonic widows are waiting too long to enjoy life, to join the family. Our community is always open to visitors and those interested in joining. Call our Admissions Coordinator toll-free at 1-800-262-4644, extension 77295.

Join the family.



D-Wing Home decorations

Masonic Home of Virginia Honorariums and Memorials

Many Lodges and individuals contribute a gift to the Masonic Home to either honor a living person or a Lodge out of respect and appreciation or to generate a legacy of care in honor of one who has passed to the Celestial Lodge above. As these tax-deductible gifts are received by the Home, 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 August 1, 2016 through October 31, 2016. Persons HONORED are on the left, followed by the donor's name on the right.

| Honor/Memorial | Donor Name | Honor/Memorial | Donor Name |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| John G. Alley | Campbell Lodge No. 316 | | John M. Carpenter |
| Charles B. Barbee | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 | | Judith H. Houchens |
| Marvin R. Beacham | McAlister Lodge No. 185 | | Barbara T. Smith |
| | Nansemond Lodge No. 77 | | Lois M. Potts |
| | Bayside Lodge No. 218 | | James D. Blinson |
| Robert W. Benish | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 | | Thomas H. Payne |
| Hobert R. Bolling | Pound Lodge No. 59 | | Gordon Prior |
| Lewis A. Butler | MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class | William E. Hershey, Jr. | Springfield Lodge No. 217 |
| Mary Carroll | James F. Dickerson | William L. Holliday | Barbara M. Wilkinson |
| George H. Chapin | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 | Frank C. Jones | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| Ollie H. Chaplin | George W. Field | Stanley R. Kennedy | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | Harry C. Glenn | Gordon M. Kingman | Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 |
| Robert R. Chapman | Nansemond Lodge No. 77 | Richard A. Klehm | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| Vernon S. Cook | Barbara M. Wilkinson | Elwood G. Lawson | Barbara Lawson |
| Charles L. Cooper | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 | Evelyn Lee | Carlos Acosta |
| Eugene R. Daniels | Nansemond Lodge No. 77 | Paul K. Lucey | William F. Perdue |
| Clifton T. Davis | Sarah A. Mundy | | MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class |
| | William E. Harper | Clyde B. Lupton | Rieves S. Hodnett |
| Christopher J. Decker | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 | James W. McDonough | Elizabeth P. Bohannon |
| William H. Dorsey | Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60 | Bobby D. Merritt | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| Edgar F. Douglas | Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18 | William J. Micklos | Esther Kulakowski |
| Thomas J. Echols | Hudson-Morris Lodge No. 80 | | Carole M. Adams |
| Mary Ferguson | Franklin Lodge No. 151 | | Robert E. Parsons |
| Wayne S. Flora | Kempsville No. 173 O.E.S. | Claude M. Morris | MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class |
| Robert H. Foxwell | Joseph F. Thornton | Michael T. Moses | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| George M. Harrell | Joseph F. Thornton | Shirley Mucha | Lorraine Robertson |
| Curtis L. Harver | Elizabeth P. Bohannon | Samuel E. Newton | Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865 |
| Janey Herring | Helen L. Payne | Clifford A. Parker | Joseph G. Sanders |
| | Philip Adams | Franklin G. Parker | Purdie Lodge No. 170 |
| | Barbara Hogge | Harold L. Powell | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | Milton P. Wilson | Edwin E. Puckett | Michael A. Colley |
| | Paul S. Bollinger | Barbara P. Pyle | David T. Shufflebarger |
| | Mildred Milby | | Martha P. Beale |
| | Carolyn Hahn | | Boy Scout Troop 22 |
| | H. S. Classmates, 1958 | Charles B. Quade | John B. Quade |
| | Beverly W. Snukals | Welford R. Redford | Babcock Lodge No. 322 |
| | Martha V. Hagy | Ronald F. Reuschling | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | William W. Leggett | Norman L. Roach | Piedmont Lodge No. 152 |
| | Bev Beaver | Donald M. Robey | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | Elizabeth F. Wilson | Alberta R. Roche | Southwark Hunt Club Inc. |
| | Frances G. Coleman | Joseph G. Sanders | David A. Brown |
| | Burnett Miller | | MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class |
| | Richard L. Andrews | Pleasant C. Shields | Carter Lodge No. 323 |
| | Stella N. Paxton | Charles F. Shuler | Emory H. Merryman |
| | Janet McGrew | | William F. Perdue |
| | James M. Foster | Ross D. Upchurch | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | Martha V. Singdahlsen | Jeffrey P. VanCuren | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | Evelyn Holliday | Harry A. Walch | Cherrydale Lodge No. 42 |
| | Nancy Seal | Andrew B. Walker | Colonial Beach Lodge No. 199 |
| | Walter L. Olphin | Dave S. Washburn | Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 |
| | John W. Shipley | James S. Whitt | Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220 |
| | Helen M. Lape | Francis Wilbur | Franklin Lodge No. 151 |
| | Samuel C. Anaya | Linda F. Young | Evelyn Holliday |

Masonic Home of Virginia

Resident Birthdays

| Date | Resident Name | Lodge Name |
|----------------|----------------------|---|
| January | | |
| 1/1 | Jane Barnes | Richmond Lodge No. 10 |
| 1/3 | Voncile Baughman | Sandston Lodge No. 216 |
| 1/4 | Carolyn Allen | Faulkner Memorial Lodge No. 91 |
| 1/6 | Samuel Anaya | Arlington Centennial-Glebe Lodge No. 81 |
| 1/7 | Elizabeth Bohannon | Manchester Lodge No. 14 |
| 1/8 | Dolores Ridings | Transportation Lodge No. 337 |
| 1/11 | Elizabeth Anton | Norview Lodge No. 113 |
| 1/12 | Roland Scott | Manchester Lodge No. 14 |
| 1/15 | Jimmie Lucas | Edwards Lodge No. 308 |
| 1/18 | Annie "Ruth" Bracken | Bayside Lodge No. 218 |
| 1/19 | Richard Carden | Cumberland Lodge No. 283 |
| 1/21 | Joyce Burgess | Richmond Lodge No. 10 |
| 1/22 | James McDonough | Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64 |
| 1/23 | Mildred Johnson | Dupont Lodge No. 289 |
| 1/24 | Sylvia Matthews | Bremond Lodge No. 241 |
| 1/25 | Betty Long | Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 |
| 1/26 | Lois McCarn | Northside Lodge No. 292 |
| 1/26 | Virginia Phipps | Seaboard Lodge No. 56 |
| 1/27 | Blaine Lenhart | Chase City Lodge No. 119 |
| 1/27 | Gordon Paschall | Manchester Lodge No. 14 |
| 1/30 | Nathan Barrey | Treadwell Lodge No. 213 |

February

| | | |
|------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2/1 | Joan Setliff | Barboursville Lodge No. 112 |
| 2/9 | Robert Gadoury | Army and Navy Lodge No. 306 |
| 2/11 | Dorothy Davies | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 |
| 2/13 | Fay Gardner | Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 |
| 2/14 | Bunion Bussey | Great Bridge Lodge No. 257 |
| 2/14 | Jean Johnson | Babcock Lodge No. 322 |
| 2/14 | Gypsy Rollings | Wakefield Lodge No. 198 |
| 2/15 | McClellan Burgess | Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 |
| 2/19 | Betty Burnette | Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 |
| 2/19 | Norma McCullough | Babcock Lodge No. 322 |
| 2/23 | Richard Neiswander | Chester Lodge No. 94 |
| 2/25 | Joyce Deputy | Oriental Lodge No. 20 |

March

| | | |
|------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3/2 | James Fox | Westhampton Lodge No. 302 |
| 3/4 | Betty Gillie | Babcock Lodge No. 322 |
| 3/5 | Harold Bohannon | Manchester Lodge No. 14 |
| 3/5 | Frances Coleman | Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344 |
| 3/6 | Georgeen Carden | Cumberland Lodge No. 283 |
| 3/14 | Bertha Lilly | Sandston Lodge No. 216 |
| 3/18 | Robert Banton | Manchester Lodge No. 14 |
| 3/18 | Patricia Graves | Chesterfield Lodge No. 161 |
| 3/22 | Betty Burgess | Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 |
| 3/23 | Martha Kersey | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 |
| 3/23 | Irene King | Virginia Lodge No. 177 |
| 3/24 | Carol Friis | Franklin Lodge No. 151 |
| 3/24 | Lillian Yearwood | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 |
| 3/26 | John Pierce | Norfolk Lodge No. 1 |
| 3/28 | Jean Taylor | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 |
| 3/29 | Virginia Von Gemmingen | Babcock Lodge No. 322 |
| 3/30 | Charles Klebert | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 |

Resident Anniversaries

| Date | Resident Name | Lodge Name |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| January | | |
| 1/14/1950 | Lansing and Dorothy Fulcher | Oriental Lodge No. 20 |
| February | | |
| 2/11/1961 | William and Evelyn Holliday | Norview Lodge No. 113 |
| 2/20/1971 | Pat and Darlene Wilson | Mann Page Lodge No. 157 |
| March | | |
| 3/5/1949 | Donald and Dorothy Davies | Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 |

New Resident

| Date | Resident Name | Lodge Name |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| August | | |
| 8/17/2016 | Harold Garland | Mann Page Lodge No. 157 |
| September | | |
| none | | |
| October | | |
| none | | |

Resident Deaths

| Date | Resident Name | Lodge Name |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| August | | |
| 8/1/2016 | Barbara Pyle | Ruth Lodge No. 89 |
| 8/1/2016 | Claude Morris | King Solomon's Lodge No. 194 |
| 8/13/2016 | Janey Herring | Richmond Lodge No. 10 |
| September | | |
| 9/14/2016 | Evelyn Lee | Monitor Lodge No. 197 |
| 9/21/2016 | Paul Lucey | Ruth Lodge No. 89 |
| October | | |
| 10/3/2016 | Blanche Quel | Sandston Lodge No. 216 |
| 10/29/2016 | Irma "Teddy" Thornhill | Transportation Lodge No. 337 |



Masonic Home of Virginia



2016 King and Queen being escorted in for their coronation



Residents Priscilla Sensabaugh and Robert Young
2016 - 2017 King and Queen



Resident Hattie Crebbs enjoying a visit from the Queen, Priscilla Sensabaugh



Residents Phyllis Rowe and Paul Cantor enjoy a dance



Priscilla Sensabaugh and Robert Young during their first dance as King and Queen



Residents Ed and Paula Swansey dancing



Residents enjoy a luau



Penny Cowne with her dog



Residents enjoy an ice cream outing

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Past Grand Masters of Virginia

M.W. William F. Perdue (1991), M.W. Alan W. Adkins (1997), M.W. James D. Cole (2001),
M.W. Frederick G. Martin, III (2003), M.W. James M. Searce, Jr. (2004), M.W. John R. Quinley (2005),
M.W. George B. Dungan, Jr. (2007), M.W. Edmund Cohen (2008), M.W. Jeffery E. Hodges (2009),
M.W. William E. Rorer, Jr. (2010), M.W. John M. Chambliss, Jr. (2011), M.W. Louis K. Campbell (2013),
M.W. Wayne S. Flora (2014), M.W. Reese E. Carroll, Jr. (2015)