

THE VIRGINIA MASONIC HERALD

VOL. 113, No. 1

SPRING 2020



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"The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all others, charity."

Most Worshipful Benjamin Franklin

The Virginia Masonic Herald

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Official publication of the Grand Lodge, A.F. and A.M., of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The views expressed in *The Virginia Masonic Herald* do not necessarily reflect those of the Grand Lodge or its Officers. *The Virginia Masonic Herald* is published four times a year and monthly supplements posted on the Grand Lodge's website, at the direction of the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia.

The *Virginia Masonic Herald* has applied for registration with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

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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

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

The Grand Master's Message

Part of life is looking for answers to one thing or another, answers surrounding the human condition and the good and really tough things that can, and most assuredly do, happen in life. Answers and solutions that propel us forward as we do the things we must, and yes, the things we want to do. Things like success in our jobs, building our faith, enriching ties with family and friends, making our communities better, catching that bass that got away. As Masons, what can we do now to sustain and grow our gentle Craft, ensuring its relevance long after we have departed this earth?

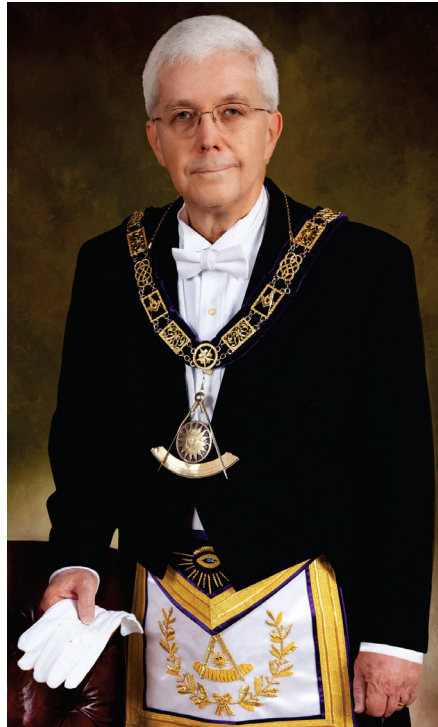
Some answers will never come. That is just the way life is. Success and failure, experience, and hard knocks are among our greatest teachers. I believe it is the simple and profound moments of everyday life that so often offer up the answers for which we are looking. Sometimes even before we have the question in the first place.

To me, it comes down to this, listen patiently, soak in those simple and profound things that happen around you every day, immerse yourself in good books, especially the *Bible*. Do not neglect art, music, conversation with smart people, or those who possess wisdom, do this, and the answers will come.

A question I get asked from time to time is, “how did you come up with your theme?”

The process is different for every Grand Master. For me, I had two or three ideas on the radar screen and then one morning, I was reading a devotional book of *Psalms* and *Proverbs* where I came across the words of *Proverbs* 3:3-4:

“Never let loyalty and kindness get away from you! Wear them like a necklace; write them deep within your heart. Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will gain a good reputation.”



Grand Master
M.:. W.: Douglas Vernon Jones

Those words from *Proverbs* resonated with me. They were what I was searching for, and communicated the thought better than what I was trying to say. I now realize that my finding them was likely no accident, because while as a Grand Master-to-be I was searching for a theme, perhaps the Supreme Architect was guiding me to a message. A timeless message on who we are as Freemasons, and a reminder that we have the tools to do some pretty good things.

Another version of the *Bible* uses the words “... love and faithfulness...” in place of “... loyalty and kindness...” Much mystery surrounds our gentle Craft. Yet the essence of our teachings and defining the men who have inculcated these teachings and made them a way of life can be found in these four words.

The words are cornerstones in our Masonic journey. Think of this defini-

tion, “a stone representing the nominal starting place in the construction of a monumental building, usually carved with the date and laid with appropriate ceremonies, something that is essential, indispensable, or basic.”

Sometimes in life, when it is least expected, you find what you are looking for. As we say in Freemasonry, “await a time with patience,” and the thing that is needed or desired will come. I found the theme I was looking for, yet maybe what I really found was a message.

So, What Is the Message?

Themes naturally come and go however the message endures, or at least it should. I hope that when the theme is long forgotten that the message of Loyalty and Kindness, wearing them like a badge, will continue to surround the hallmarks of who we are as Freemasons, just as they have for hundreds of years.

From my perspective the message is this, as Masons we have the tools to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. The values that we embrace, such as loyalty, kindness, love, and faithfulness, are values which resonate with American men. If we want to see our Lodges survive and thrive for the long-term, we need to understand there is nothing wrong with our product, but instead, it is our method of delivery that needs work.

My message for the 2020 Masonic year is that we need to be present, known, and understood in our communities. We need to work on those things that will make our Lodges strong and sustainable for many years to come. Let us not stand “... in the shadows of the past...” instead move forward to “... the light of the future.”

Yes, it is time to apply a fresh coat of paint while protecting our ritual and high moral standards.

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The Grand Master's Message

Continued from page 3.

The message is about guiding every Lodge in the Commonwealth of Virginia to the very best place, all two hundred ninety-one of them. It is fair to say some Lodges are doing very well, some Lodges stand as models of success. Other Lodges, through the years, have come to a point where they are struggling. It is not usually one single problem, however it is a series of tough circumstances that have them searching for answers and solutions. I believe the vast majority of our Lodges fall somewhere in between the two models, for

success and those that are struggling. Regardless of where we are on the scale, we have work to do.

The message is urgent. We need to get serious and take a look at the health of our Lodges, do an assessment, are we providing our members all that they need to grow and thrive in their Masonic journey? Beyond obedience to their obligations, what keeps the member coming back month after month, are there interesting programs and activities that attract their attention, is the Lodge a fun place to be? Are there opportunities for member, and family, engagement out-

side the stated meeting?

Also remember, the business of building a healthy Lodge is continuous. You do not reach a point and say, we have got it now, we are done. It is has to be ongoing, always refining and looking for new ideas and better ways to do things.

The second part of the message is this, what better time than now to be present and engaged in our communities, community festivals, parades, public service projects, providing scholarships, and Community Build-

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The Grand Master's Message

Continued from page 4.

ers Awards. Lend a helping hand and getting involved, being there... Holding a Lodge open house... Inviting the community in to see who we are. Yes, “every human being has a claim upon your kind office.” Yes, good and worthy men need to see the Fraternity in action. Who knows, they just may ask the right question.

With Loyalty and Kindness Leading the Way, Leave A Lasting Impression

With loyalty and kindness leading the way, the 2020 Masonic year is the time for clear vision, and a bold, forward thinking look at all that our Fraternity can and should, be.

Loyalty is not always easy to define, but you know it when you see it, a mystic loyalty that binds men together in brotherhood. Not blind loyalty. Instead a commitment to genuine friendship, built around truth and honesty. A promise to always be there. It involves loyalty to God and country, loyalty to our families, and loyalty to the Craft, ever embracing all the goodness it has to of-

fer. Kindness is a condition of the heart. It comes in many shapes and forms, some tangible, some not. It manifests itself in small and large extensions of generosity. All of these are understood by the well-traveled Mason, a gentle spirit, a kind word of encouragement, or concern from one Mason to another, and knowing you are always welcome and that you are missed when you are not around.

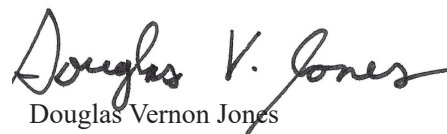
As I wrap this up, let me tell you about the second part of my theme, “A Lasting Impression.” In 2013, I heard part of a eulogy by former Governor Mike Huckabee for the legendary country music singer, George Jones. The Governor said, “the voice of George Jones was a paint brush, and the stage was his canvas.” I thought, there is a Masonic talk in those words, so I put together what turned out to be a pretty successful message, focusing on the idea that when we were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the Supreme Architect placed a paint brush

in our hands. As paint, he gave us the lessons of the Working Tools, and our stage, the Lodge room and our communities. Little did I know then, it would one day become a part of my theme as Grand Master.

Every day, you and I will find a blank canvas somewhere... The paint brush is in our hands, placed there by the Supreme Architect. Always remember, “You are not just a man, you are a Mason.” Create a masterpiece.

Conclusion

I was searching for a theme, and God gave it to me through His Holy Word. A theologian I am surely not. I just try, and all too often fail, to live a life of faith, one that is pleasing to God. What I have learned through all of this? If we will just listen patiently, He will speak to us about all kinds of things, even a Grand Master’s theme, and yes, maybe even a message.


Douglas Vernon Jones
Grand Master



The values that we embrace, such as loyalty, kindness, love, and faithfulness, are values which resonate with American men. If we want to see our Lodges survive and thrive for the long-term, we need to understand there is nothing wrong with our product, but instead, it is our method of delivery that needs work.

Most Worshipful Douglas Vernon Jones Itinerary 2019-2020

March 2020

24 - 26 Grand Lodge of Tennessee
28 Scottish Rite Workshop, Richmond

April 2020

3 Official Visit, District 31
4 Kazim Shrine, Potentate's Ball
6 Westhampton Lodge No. 302
7 SP&I Meeting
8 GLO & MAHOVA Board Meetings
10 Official Visit, District 33
14 Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
16 Ian M. Shipley, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament
17 Official Visit, District 17
18 Official Visit, District 14
24 Official Visit, Districts 5 & 6
25 Richmond Scottish Rite, Spring Reunion
28 Wreath Laying, James Monroe Gravesite, Hollywood Cemetery

May 2020

1 Grand Commandery of Virginia, Charlottesville
2 Reserved
3 - 4 Grand Lodge of New York
7 Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347
8 Official Visit, District 12
9 Wreath Laying, MacArthur Tomb, Norfolk
USS Wisconsin
Official Visit, District 35
12 SP&I Meeting
13 GLO & MAHOVA Board Meetings
15 Official Visit, Districts 2 & 3
16 Strawberry Festival, Manasseh Lodge No. 182
18 - 20 Grand Chapter of Virginia, Order of the Eastern Star, Roanoke
21 Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201
23 - 25 Reserved
29 Official Visit, District 29
30 MAHOVA Ambassadors Conference
Official Visit, District 57

June 2020

1 Vinton Lodge No. 204
5 Official Visit, Districts 22A & 22B
6 DeMolay Grand Master's Class, Luray
7 Districts 15A & 15B Memorial Service
8 Hay Market Lodge No. 313, 50-Year Veteran's Award
9 SP&I Meeting
MAHOVA Summer Solstice Dinner
10 GLO & MAHOVA Board Meetings
12 Official Visit, District 9
13 Official Visit, District 21
16 Temple Lodge No. 9
18 Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
19 Official Visit, Districts 7 & 10
20 Wreath Laying, Arlington Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
Official Visit, Masonic Districts 1A & 1B

July 2020

1 Outdoor Lodge, District 38
3 - 4 Reserved
5 - 9 Imperial Shrine, Kansas City, Missouri
7 SP&I Meeting
8 GLO & MAHOVA Board Meetings
9 Annual Session, Job's Daughters, Ferrum
10 Official Visit, District 19
11 Official Visit, District 41
13 Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
17 Official Visit, Districts 42 & 43
18 Official Visit, District 39
24 Official Visit, District 25
25 DeMolay Annual Conclave, Newport News
27 Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219
31 Official Visit, Districts 48 & 50

August 2020

1 Official Visits, Districts 37 & 38
6 Joppa Lodge No. 40
7 Official Visit, District 40
8 Official Visit, District 45
11 SP&I Meeting
Chickahominy Lodge No. 286
12 GLO & MAHOVA Board Meeting
13 James Stanley Johnson Memorial Golf Tournament
13 - 15 Reid James Simmons Academy
14 Official Visit, District 24
15 Official Visit, District 44
20 Bremond Lodge No. 241, Community Builder's Award
22 Khedive Shrine, Seafood Festival
28 Official Visit, District 20
29 Official Visit, Districts 47 & 49

Masonry was not made to divide men, but to unite them, leaving each man free to think his own thoughts and fashion his own system of ultimate truth. All its emphasis rests upon two extremely simple and profound principles, love of God, and love of man.

Joseph Fort Newton

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Most Worshipful Douglas Vernon Jones Itinerary 2019-2020

Continued from page 6.

- September 2020**
- 2 Cabell Lodge No. 328, 50-Year Veteran's Award
 - 3 Norfolk Lodge No. 1
 - 3 - 5 Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association, Virginia Beach
 - 5 Hiram Club of Tidewater
 - 7 Reserved
 - 8 SP&I Meeting
 - 9 GLO & MAHOVA Board Meetings
 - 12 Henry Lodge No. 57
 - 17 - 20 South Atlantic Shrine Association, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
 - 26 Official Visit, Districts 15A & 15B

- October 2020**
- 1 - 4 Scottish Rite Conference of Virginia, Lynchburg
 - 5 Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
 - 9 MAHOVA Retreat
 - 10 MAHOVA Family Day
 - 13 Amelia Lodge No. 101
 - 14 Eureka Lodge No. 195
 - 17 - 20 Grand Lodge of Kentucky
 - 26 - 28 Grand Lodge of Georgia

- November 2020**
- 4 Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
 - 5 - 8 Grand Annual Communication

Honor of A Lifetime

Brother Leonard I. Piercy

After serving eight years in the U.S. Coast Guard, I worked twenty-three years and retired from the Virginia Department of Corrections.

In Crewe Lodge No. 123, I was raised to Master Mason in 2003, now merged with Nottoway Lodge No. 147, where I held the position of Treasurer for fourteen years.

Before moving back to my hometown Danville, I visited Mount Vernon to see the tomb of the Commander in Chief and Worshipful George Washington.

When I had finished viewing the tomb, I saw a man resting on a bench with his wife seated beside him. I asked his wife, if he was okay; she replied he was and only waiting to lay the wreath on the tomb at three o'clock, as this is only done at 10 AM and 3 PM on that day.

I was wearing my Coast Guard veteran's ball cap, and was standing off to the side talking to a group of veterans. Ms. Alina Smith gave a speech about a letter sent to the Governors of the time by President Washington. The letter was about all the states staying together and starting a great nation by putting their trust in God and having obedience



Brother Leonard Piercy laying a wreath at Worshipful Brother Washington's tomb.

to government. The man on the bench was called to the front and asked to place the wreath. He looked over and pointed to me and said, "I will defer this honor to the veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, he having served in the service of our country." Shocked, I walked over, shook his hand, thanked him, and let him know I was not only a veteran but also a Master Mason.

What an honor of a lifetime for me to have him offer this opportunity to me and how grateful I was to be asked. I then placed the wreath at the gates of Worshipful Brother Washington's tomb and our Commander in Chief. Afterwards, a Certificate of Participation was given to me by Mount Vernon History

Interpreter Ms. Alina Smith.

It is a visit which all Masons should take and see the tomb of a great Mason and our First President and Commander in Chief. World leaders and past Brother Masons such as Marquis de Lafayette, Presidents James Buchanan, and Franklin Roosevelt have visited the tomb as well as other propionate leaders such as George H. Bush, George W. Bush, Thomas Edison, King George VI, Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Charles Prince of Wales, and Charles de Gaulle.



What Determines Lodge Dues?

Right Worshipful Moring E. Gravitt

What is included in subordinate Lodge dues?

Lodge dues are comprised of many factors. The major items are building rent or ownership, daily operation expenses to include initiation, passing, and raising candidates. Then add Grand Lodge dues and assessment, utilities, property tax, if your deed was not properly instituted, regular maintenance, and assessment by the city or county.

Expenses incurred by the Lodge renting a temple. Building rent runs anywhere from \$100 to \$400 per month. Ownership can be from \$0, if paid off, to \$2,000 mortgage payment per month.

Consider your Lodge of one hundred members rents at a cost of \$150 per month. Rental runs \$1,800 per year. You raise three candidates, add an apron \$80 each, a *Bible*, and a *Presentation Volume* \$50, and Master Mason Degree raising fee \$50, or \$540 for the three candidates. Office expenses, stationery, mailings, dues notices, and announcements can run another \$750 annually. Now add your Lodge utilities for the year: electricity \$1,000, water \$240, and gas or oil \$500. Your Lodge annual costs at this point are \$4,830.

There will always be minor or major maintenance items with which to contend. Bring-a-Friend evening, Open House, paper products, repair work, plumbing, lawn, driveway and parking repair, light bulbs, and other items, add another \$920 for miscellaneous

A budget must be set and followed.

If a Lodge is not run as a business, it will be out of business.

items. Your Lodge costs are at this point \$5,750.

Grand Lodge Assessments

Grand Lodge	\$42.00
Masonic Home	\$10.00
GWMNM	\$1.00
Scholarship Fund	\$0.90
DeMolay	\$0.20
Job's Daughters	\$0.20
Rainbow Girls	\$0.20
Library and Museum	\$0.50
Total	\$55.00

Grand Lodge Assessment per member is \$42 to Grand Lodge, \$1 for George Washington National Masonic Memorial, \$0.90 Scholarship Fund, \$0.20 each for DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow for Girls, and \$0.50 for Grand Lodge Library and Museum. This means \$55 each for 100 members assessment or \$550.

Your cost now stands at \$6,300.

These figures do not show other individual expenses of the subordinate Lodge, such as Secretary, Treasurer, or

Tiler fees. Widow gifts, Lodge scholarships, sending delegates to the Grand Annual Communication, paying part of the Official District Visit of the Grand Master, taking care of the District Deputy Grand Master visit, or possibly a Lodge visit from the Grand Master are other expenses. The Lodge may also be doing youth group sponsors. Lodge scholarships can run \$250 to \$2,000 per person. Official Visit for the Grand Master to the district can run around \$200 plus your donation to the Grand Lodge Charities during his visit. These expenses may collectively run \$4,000 or more.

Your cost now stands right at \$10,320, not counting insurance or city/county fees. Renter's insurance is encouraged for the furnishings and equipment of a Lodge.

A Masonic Lodge renting a building with one hundred dues paying members must set the annual dues at \$125 or \$0.34 per day per member to remain solvent. The Lodge may have an eighteen per cent margin, if all members pay dues in full.

A Lodge purchasing their building, yearly cost can run considerably more until paid off. There must be additional fees considered for roof, building and grounds, plumbing, fixtures, furniture, taxes, maintenance, and other miscellaneous repairs.

A budget must be set and followed. If a Lodge is not run as a business, it will be out of business.

There are two ways to increase your wealth. Increase your means or decrease your wants. The best is to do both at the same time.

Most Worshipful Benjamin Franklin

Whatever Happened to the Twelve Fellowcrafts?

Right Worshipful William A. Parks, Jr.

As the Master Mason's Degree winds down, the fate of the three Fellowcrafts who traveled West gets lost in the climactic raising of Grand Master Hiram Abiff and the adoption of the new Master Mason's Word.

Those three who had not repented of the vile plot were among fifteen Fellowcrafts to extort the Master's Word from Hiram Abiff and, failing that, to murder him and conceal his body. Upon disengaging themselves from the scheme, twelve of the plotters returned to the Temple and confessed their part in the heinous conspiracy. On Solomon's orders, the twelve split into groups of three each to track down the assassins.

Those who traveled West discovered some evidence of the plotters' escape route. Returning with that news to the unfinished Temple, they find themselves threatened with the fate of murderers for their failure to follow Solomon's orders to capture the killers and bring them before the King himself.

Traveling West a second time, they produce the plotters, but they are not done. Once more heading West, they find the body of Hiram Abiff. They again return to the Temple and so inform King Solomon. He immediately calls upon the Craft to accompany him to Hiram Abiff's grave.

Presumably, the three Fellowcrafts join the procession to the grave. The other nine Fellowcrafts have not returned from their travels East, South and North. What of them? In English ritual, the twelve do join the procession.

Upon arrival at the grave, initial attempts to raise the body result in failure. Do the three Fellowcrafts witness this failure? How closely do they follow King Solomon's Prayer? The King concludes:

"Yet, O Lord, have compassion on the children of Thy creation, adminis-

ter them comfort in the time of trouble, and save them with an everlasting salvation."

Does the King include the Fellowcrafts in that prayer? What of the nine who have yet to return to the Temple? Will the King welcome their return? Do the three receive any reward for delivering the murderers and their confessions of guilt to King Solomon? Will any of the twelve help finish the Temple? Will any of the twelve be invested with the first word spoken at the grave?

Will any of the twelve attain redemption? Does the salvation sought in the Prayer at the grave include advancement in the Craft?

The questions regarding the fate of the twelve repentant Fellowcrafts multiply, yet the Degree of Master Mason provides no answers.

The Royal Arch and Scottish Rite both detail various searches for the true word and even hint at the fate of the twelve. Those searches involve the lost word, the true word, and others.

How is it that the Sublime Degree of Master Mason omits King Solomon's ultimate disposition of the twelve who, at the very least, initially joined the conspiracy that led to the horrid death of Hiram Abiff?

How could such an enlightening tale of betrayal "end" without including a word as to their redemption (or lack of it)? Did they suffer punishment? Did they, or any of them, regain the trust of their King? Were they banished? Were

they allowed to participate in the completion of the Temple? Did Solomon continue to doubt the integrity of the three who traveled West?

Answers to such questions may well weaken the tale of the death of the Widow's Son. Freemasonry, after all, holds its secrets safe, and some remain a mystery to the most learned of Brethren.

On the other hand, those who witness the Hiram drama may deem themselves better served with seeking answers to the unanswered questions themselves. They must apply their knowledge of King Solomon and as well as their own Masonic knowledge and self-knowledge, to the dilemma inherent in deciding the ultimate treatment of the twelve.

Such questions miss the point of the Master Mason's Degree entirely. The Raising begins the new Master Mason's essence as such. The Charge proclaims: "You are now a Free and Accepted Mason and, as such, bound by duty, honor and gratitude, to be faithful to your trust; to support the dignity of your character on every occasion, and to enforce by precept and example, obedience to the tenets of our Order."

Further, "Let not motive, therefore, make you swerve from your duty, violate your vows, or betray your trust; but be true and faithful, and imitate the example of that celebrated Artist whom you this evening represent."

The Charge indispensably closes the circle of the Degree. The newly raised Master Mason must accordingly emulate the courage, virtue, and inflexible fidelity to his trust of the Widow's Son.

"Thus, you will render yourself deserving of the honor which we have conferred and merit the confidence we have reposed." Therein lies the truth there is no higher Degree than that of Master Mason.



The Influence of Masonry on Un

Worshipful Alex B. Bengtson



Bronze statue of Worshipful Brother George Washington in the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia.

When we teach the ritual, we are concerned with more than just rote memorization. Our ritual is a powerful tool by which we turn men into Masons and develop in them an understanding of the principles and values of our great Fraternity. Consequently, we go beyond the words to explain the symbols and teach the candidate and new Mason the underlying meaning of our ritual.

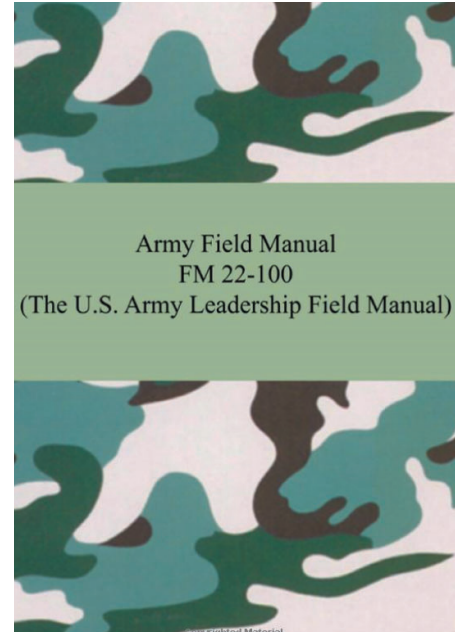
With this in mind, one often reflects on the similarity between the principles of Masonry and military leadership. Reflecting on both Masonic and military careers, one comes to the conclusion there has been a strong Masonic influence on leadership in the military. The military teaches “Principle Centered Leadership,” which is strongly focused on high moral principles and values. A

book could be written on the subject, but here we hope to illustrate it through a few examples.

This strong focus on principles and values can be directly attributed to George Washington being a Mason. Brother and General Washington was well known and highly regarded for his exemplary moral character and his ability to lead troops in adverse situations. When we think of patriots such as General Washington, we can only begin to imagine the selfless service and sacrifice of these great men.

One piece of evidence that suggests this strong influence of Masonry on military leadership goes back to the tradition of military Lodges and in recent history to the presence of Masonic Lodges on military bases. This was a common occurrence, until the practice stopped around 1949.

So, what is Principle Centered Leadership? *Webster’s Dictionary* defines principles as: rules or standards, especially of good behavior; and fixed or predetermined policies or modes of action, such as the golden rule. Value is defined as: a principle, standard, or quality regarded as worthwhile or desirable, such as traditional moral values. We would all agree these are attributes of a Mason.



The *U.S. Army Field Manual* describes Principle Centered Leadership in detail and teaches the “Be, Know, Do” philosophy. This article focuses on the “Be,” which is precisely what we must “Be” as Masons and leaders at work, in our communities, in our churches, and in other civic and charitable organizations of which we may be a member. I am sure that these characteristics will sound familiar:

- Loyalty
- Duty
- Respect
- Selfless Service
- Honor
- Integrity
- Personal Courage

As further evidence, there are two other examples worth noting: first, the Oath of Office for a Commissioned Officer, and second, “The Fouled Anchor, Symbol of a Navy Chief.”

As you listen to the Oath of Office for a Commissioned Officer, you will hear some similar terminology to our Masonic obligations:

Continued on page 11.

United States Military Leadership

Continued from page 10.



Masonic fouled anchor

“I, (state name), having been appointed an officer in the Army of the United States, as indicated above in the grade of _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will, well and faithfully, discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter; So help me God.”

There are even more similarities as you listen to “The Chief’s Fouled Anchor,” which is heard at every Chief Petty Officer’s pinning ceremony. It seems as if it might have been written

by a Mason because, like the Masons, the Navy here utilizes tools and implements of architecture, and symbolic emblems most expressive to imprint on the mind wise and serious truths. Here is how it goes:

“The Fouled Anchor” is the emblem of the rate of Chief Petty Officer of the United States Navy. Attached to the Anchor is a length of chain and the letters U.S.N. To the novice, the anchor, chain and letters only identify a Chief Petty Officer of the United States Navy, but, to a Chief, these have a more noble and glorious meaning.

The “U” stands for Unity, which reminds us of cooperation, maintaining harmony, and continuity of purpose and action.

The “S” stands for Service, which reminds us of service to our God, our fellow man, and our Navy.

The “N” stands for Navigation, which reminds us to keep ourselves on a true course, so we may walk upright before God and man in our transactions with all mankind, especially with our fellow Chiefs. The Chain is symbolic of flexibility and reminds us of the chain of life that we forge day by day, link by link, and may it be forged with Honor, Morality, and Virtue.

The Anchor is emblematic of the hope and glory of the fulfillment of all God’s promises to our souls. It is by the golden or precious Anchor that we must be kept steadfast in faith and en-



“The Fouled Anchor”

couraged to abide in our proper station amidst the storm of temptation, affliction, and persecution.

In conclusion, Brethren, we must encourage each Mason to follow “Principle Centered Leadership.” Each day we are faced with choices. Our character is determined by the actions we take and choices we make. We should encourage each Mason to listen closely to the closing charge recited by the Worshipful Master at the conclusion of the meeting, for when our actions are guided, and our choices are made in accordance with that charge, we cannot materially err.

As you listen to the Oath of Office for a Commissioned Officer, you will hear some similar terminology to that of our Masonic obligations...

Sharing Masonic History

Worshipful Paul A. Miller

Masonic artifacts are often lost when families are cleaning out the property of Masons who have passed away or are downsizing to a smaller home. These artifacts may represent a significant event or beautiful craftsmanship, but are at times thrown away, put in estate sales, or melted down for their metallic substance. This is the story of one family member who diligently worked to get some Masonic artifacts where they would be best appreciated.

Mr. David Levy of Washington, D.C. was working to resolve the estate of his late father, Brother Gerald Frank Levy of Virginia Beach. David knew that his father was a Freemason and was not surprised to find Masonic materials included in his possessions. Brother Levy was raised in 1974 in Charles T. Morton Lodge No. 232 (merged with Norview Lodge No. 113) and was also a member of Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777, when he passed away in 2018.

His belongings included a dozen books related to Freemasonry, as well as an onyx pendant and a Past Master's jewel from Colorado. His son was interested in seeing these items get into the hands of those that would fully appreciate them.

Mr. Levy was advised that the books could be given to a Masonic Lodge to add to its library, which he promptly did, and they have expanded the resources available at Norview Lodge No. 113.

The pendant had a note included with it stating it should be given to a Mason-



ic museum. Mr. Levy contacted Mrs. Marie Barnett at the Grand Lodge of Virginia Library and Museum and has arranged for this item to be sent to the Museum for display.

The Past Master's jewel has an inscription from Cripple Creek Lodge No. 110 in Cripple Creek, Colorado. Mr. Levy contacted the Grand Lodge of Colorado Library and Museum asking if they were interested in receiving this Masonic artifact. Ms. Julie Doellingen, the curator for their Museum, was thrilled to get his email. She said that she is always interested in getting pieces of Colorado Masonic history back into their collection. She informed Mr. Levy that Cripple Creek Lodge No. 110 was chartered on September 19, 1900, and on January 27, 1919, it merged with Mount Pisgah Lodge No. 96 to form Cripple Creek Lodge No. 96, which still exists today. Be-



cause the merger took place over one hundred years ago, they have virtually nothing with the original Lodge number on it save a little bit of paperwork, so this is an important addition to their historical record.

The Brethren of Virginia and Colorado have new items to appreciate in their museums due to the perseverance of Mr. David Levy in working to get these artifacts where they will be cherished. Thank you!

Freemasonry must stand upon the Rock of Truth, religion, political, social, and economic. Nothing is so worthy of its care as freedom in all its aspects. "Free" is the most vital part of Freemasonry. It means freedom of thought and expression, freedom of spiritual and religious ideals, freedom from oppression, freedom from ignorance, superstition, vice and bigotry, freedom to acquire and possess property, to go and come at pleasure, and to rise or fall according to will of ability.

Theodore Roosevelt

Question and Answer

Question: What is the correct application of the residency requirements for petitioners when they are in active duty status with the U.S. military? The *Methodical Digest*, Section 2.93 states:

“The petitioner must have resided in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia for the twelve months last past.”

It goes on to state:

“A petitioner, who is on active duty status with the Armed Forces of the United States and stationed in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, with orders for deployment, can be exempt from the twelve months residency requirement, if the Worshipful Master so chooses. A Lodge accepting a petition under this exemption must notify the Grand Lodge of this action when the petitioner is raised.”

From reading this section, it appears that military personnel, who petition a Lodge must comply with the twelve (12) month residency requirement unless they can produce official orders for deployment. It would not seem enough to rely on a verbal, “I might go on deployment soon.” Would proper protocol dictate the Lodge see the official orders for deployment before accepting a petition with less than twelve (12) months residency, and then to notify Grand Lodge this exemption was used after he was raised to Master Mason?

Answer: Yes, the Lodge would have to be in receipt of a copy of his “official” orders prior to acting upon his petition. However, there is one change, Grand Lodge has to be informed prior to voting on the candidate, so a criminal background investigation can be performed on the can-

didate in accordance with *Methodical Digest*, Section 2.94, which states:

“...The petition will be accompanied by a signed Authorization for Release of Information form to have a criminal background investigation performed...”

After the Masonic month has been completed from being first read in, committee investigation completed, and report from the Grand Secretary on the status of the background check; the Lodge can then vote on the petition and proceed from there.

This is a little bit different from what the *Methodical Digest* states for Section 2.93, and I have been advised by the Grand Secretary this will be changed by a revision to the *Methodical Digest* or a Grand Master’s decision later this Masonic year.

The genius of Freemasonry is not our Masonic buildings and temples or the trappings of our organizations. It is not our great charities or community activities. It is not our beautiful rituals or their teachings! It is the 'practice of Freemasonry' by the Freemasons. Yet we cannot practice that which we do not know or understand. Thus, Masonic education is the foundation for our Fraternity.

In *The Master's Book*, Brother Carl H. Claudy says, “... one thing and only one thing a Masonic Lodge can give its members, which they can get nowhere else in the world. That one thing is Masonry.”

Illustrious Carl H. Claudy

Volume of Sacred Law

Brother Stewart K. Robinson

Most of our Lodges are religiously homogeneous. Because much of Virginia is Christian, we assume that the Lodge we attend is composed primarily of Christians and that is true. In a recent discussion however, I referred to the *Holy Bible* as a “Volume of Sacred Law.” Some of the Brothers present were not familiar with the term and skeptical of it as “political correctness.” It is used however, just as Grand Architect of the Universe is used, to be inclusive of Brethren of other faiths.

I decided to research Virginia Grand Lodge directives to determine how this principle of inclusion was incorporated. One need not look far. On page 5, the *Constitution*, Chapter I, Section I, Concerning God and Religion, states in part:

“For although in ancient times the Christian Masons were charged to comply with the usages of the countries where they sojourned or worked (being found in all nations, and of diverse religions and persuasions), yet it is now thought only expedient that the Brethren in general should only be charged to adhere to the essentials of religion, in which all men agree, leaving each Brother to his own private judgment as to particular modes and forms. Whence it follows that all Masons are to be good men and true, men of honor and honesty, by whatever religious names or persuasions distinguished; always following that golden precept, of doing unto all men as (upon a change of conditions) they would that all men should do unto them.”



There is other evidence that persons of diverse faiths are welcomed in Lodge. For example, Virginia's *Methodical Digest*, Section 3.01, the 1991 decision states: “A petitioner who is otherwise qualified shall not be rejected because he is required by his religious beliefs to wear a headdress at all times outside the confines of his home. This does not authorize the wearing of a headdress in a tiled Masonic Lodge for those who simply wish to wear the same and are not required by their religious beliefs or physical condition.”

Methodical Digest Section 1.04 requires the presence of the *Holy Bible* at all communications but does not preclude the presence of volumes containing the sacred law of other faiths. The *Mentor's Manual* included in the *Presentation Manual* states:

“The Great Light of Freemasonry is the *Volume of Sacred Law*, and it is

an indispensable part of the furniture of a Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Virginia uses the *Holy Bible* as the *Volume of Sacred Law* on their altars, but the candidate who is not Christian or Jew is entitled to have his own sacred book substituted for the *Bible*. In some Lodges in other jurisdictions, the altars of Masonry have more than one *Volume of Sacred Law* on them, and the candidate may choose the one on which he is obligated.”

Not all major religions, including Christian denominations, embrace Masonry. Some theocratic nations even persecute Masonry. At the same time, all major monotheistic religions espouse principles that we, as Masons, embrace and practice. For example, the concept that we refer to as “The Golden Rule,” is not unique to Christianity but is mirrored in virtually all major religions.

Since we are not a religion, however religious, we do not address religions on any institutional basis such as denying membership to its adherents. We can only be inclusive of those who practice our principles in peace and harmony, whatever their religion.

We are a nation of immigrants. People from all faiths and cultures come to our shores for the same reasons our forebears did. It is appropriate that we recognize and accept those believing in the Grand Architect, when of lawful age and properly vouched, for as “good men and true.” All humans have a demand on our good offices.

Not all Masons are obligated on the Christian *Bible*. Masonry is universal and men of every creed are eligible for membership so long as they accept the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. Therefore, the candidate should be obligated on the *Book of the Sacred Law* which he accepts as such since his obligation is a solemn and binding one.

Worshipful George Washington

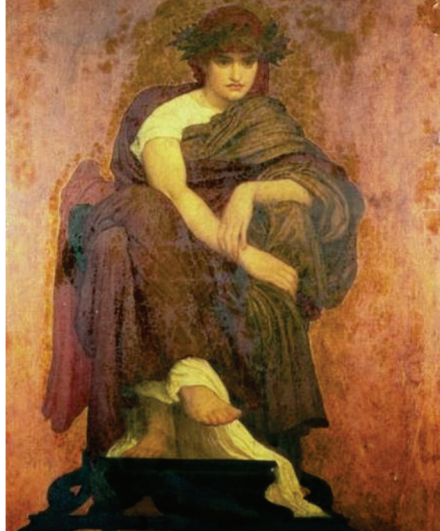
The Goddess of Memory

Brother Wesley H. Latchford

Standing your examination on the Entered Apprentice's catechism... learning the Senior Deacon's Lecture... standing before the altar as Worshipful Master obligating your first Master Mason. These are titanic tasks worthy of assistance from the most titanic of Titan goddesses, Mnemosyne (pronounced nee-MOS-uh-nee), Greek goddess of memory, inventress of language and words, and mother of the Nine Muses, inspirational goddesses of the liberal arts and sciences.

Mnemosyne was one of the Titans of Greek mythology, daughter of Uranus and Gaea. She was the oracular goddess of the underground oracle of Trophonios in the region of Boeotia. Zeus slept with Mnemosyne for nine consecutive days, eventually leading to the birth of the nine Muses. While not one of the most popular divinities, Mnemosyne was the subject of some minor worship in Ancient Greece. Statues of her are mentioned in the sanctuaries of other gods, and she was often depicted alongside her daughters the Muses. There was a statue of Mnemosyne in the shrine of Dionysus at Athens, alongside the statues of the Muses, Zeus, and Apollo, as well as a statue with her daughters the Muses in the Temple of Athena Alea.

In Hesiod's *Theogony*, the kings and poets were inspired by Mnemosyne and the Muses, thus getting their extraordinary abilities in speech and using powerful words. The name Mnemosyne was also used for a river in the Underworld, Hades, which flowed parallel to the river of Lethe (which means forgetfulness). Usually, the souls of the dead would drink water from Lethe, so that they would forget their past lives when they would be reincarnated. Here's a sample of consuming Mnemosyne's water from part of the rituals at the oracle of Trophonios at Lebadeia, Boiotia from Pausanias', *Description of Greece* 9.39.3:



Mnemosyne
Goddess of Memory

“He [the supplicant] is taken by the priests, not at once to the oracle, but to fountains of water very near to each other. Here he must drink water called the water of Lethe (Forgetfulness), that he may forget all that he has been thinking of hitherto, and afterwards he drinks of another water, the water of Mnemosyne (Memory), which causes him to remember what he sees after his descent... After his ascent from [the oracle of] Trophonios, the inquirer is again taken in hand by the priests, who set him upon a chair called the chair of Mnemosyne, which stands not far from the shrine, and they ask of him, when seated there, all he has seen or learned. After gaining this information, they then entrust him to his relatives. These lift him, paralyzed with terror and unconscious both of himself and of his surroundings, and carry him to the building, where he lodged before with Tykhe (Fortune) and the Daimon Agathon (Good Spirit). Afterwards, however, he will recover all his faculties, and the power to laugh will return to him.”

As the goddess of memory, language, and words, Mnemosyne represented the rote memorization required to preserve the stories of history and the sagas of myth before the introduction of writing. She was also the source for the mnemonic device, or memory stratagem, which is any learning technique that aids information retention or retrieval. Mnemonics in antiquity were most often considered in the context of what is today known as the art of memory.

Mnemonics make use of elaborative encoding, retrieval cues, and imagery as specific tools to encode any given information in a way that allows for efficient storage and retrieval. Mnemonics aid original information in becoming associated with something more accessible or meaningful, which, in turn, provides better retention of the information. Commonly encountered mnemonics are often used for lists and in auditory form, such as short poems, acronyms, or memorable phrases, but mnemonics can also be used for other types of information and in visual or kinesthetic forms. Their use is based on the observation that the human mind more easily remembers spatial, personal, surprising, physical, sexual, humorous, or otherwise relatable information, rather than more abstract or impersonal forms of information.

Ancient Greeks and Romans distinguished between two types of memory: the natural memory and the "artificial" memory. The former is inborn and is the one that everyone uses instinctively. The latter in contrast has to be trained to and developed through the learning and practice of a variety of mnemonic techniques. Mnemonic systems are techniques or strategies consciously used to improve memory. They help use information already stored in long-term memory to make memorization an easier task.

The Study of Fre

Worshipful Robbie L. Robinson

In our search for Masonic light, we are encouraged to seek out and discuss the Fraternity with more informed Brethren. But we can reach further than the Brethren in our Lodge or district as we pursue our studies.

Over the centuries, Freemasonry has inspired authors, poets, artists, and musicians to create works motivated by the rich traditions and philosophy of our Fraternity. As a result, there are a remarkable number of books, art, and music produced for and about this great Fraternity for us to peruse.

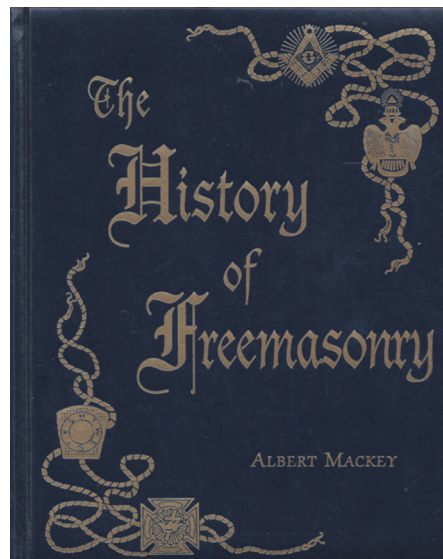
You may begin with a book suggested by a Brother and find in that book references to other books. You might look at the books in your Lodge library or explore the holdings of one of the many fine Masonic libraries that exist in and around Virginia. There is the incomparable library at the House of the Temple, the headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, and the library at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. There are also the resources available at the Grand Lodges of Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

Of course, once you are grounded with a good reading list from one of these sources, you can find on the Internet a myriad of booksellers with the books you are looking for, often at a very good price. As you examine blurbs and book reviews available on the Internet, your book list will grow; and over time, you may accumulate a fairly respectable Masonic library of your own.

Given the awesome wealth of reference material about Freemasonry, and the fact that the amount of material continues to grow every year, there is virtually no end to the topics and subjects you can pursue as you explore various aspects of Freemasonry. Moreover, as you wander through the literature on the Fraternity, the subjects you start



with will likely suggest additional topics, lead you down new Masonic paths of study, and cause you to contemplate aspects of the Fraternity that you may not previously have even considered.



The study of Freemasonry divides itself into many parts, but you may wish to start by thinking primarily about history, ritual, symbolism, philosophy, and jurisprudence.

When we talk about Masonry, we quickly find ourselves considering its history. The written record of Masonry covers over six centuries of time. One of the oldest documents written about Masonry is the *Regius Poem*, which was penned in the year 1390 A.D., and I must note that the Craft was already old at that point.

Of course, Masonry inherited and borrowed much from other organizations that existed before its time, and so Masonic historians search back farther than 1390 A.D. and often discuss other organizations with which Masonry is historically connected or seek to address particular subjects relevant to its founding.

Masonic history has many subdivisions. For example, a study of its history of our Fraternity, country by country and Grand Lodge by Grand Lodge, and a study of the evolution of different rites and degrees. There is also the history of particular Lodges, and other important subjects, such as Masonic buildings, Masonic biographies, and the study of ancient manuscripts.

A second focus of our attention might be on our ritual and Masonic symbolism. Masonic scholars and writers have attempted to explain the various symbols and ceremonies, to explore their origins, interpret their meaning, and to examine changes over time. They have gone beyond the Craft degrees to explore the rich Masonic meanings in the symbolism of the Scottish and York Rites.

Since ritual and symbolism is central to our Fraternity, and to our search for Masonic light, this is an area of study

Continued on page 17.

Freemasonry

Continued from page 16.

that can pay huge dividends for every Brother. Of course, the interpretation of our symbols is open to each of us as we seek to relate the teachings of Freemasonry to our own lives. But clearly, an understanding of the interpretations given these symbols by learned Brethren over the years is a useful aid to our own explorations and intellectual growth.

A third essential focus is philosophy, about which much has been written. Masonic philosophy can be understood in a couple of ways. It can mean an effort to study Masonry itself by philosophical methods as philosophers study other subjects, or it can mean a study of Masonry's own philosophy of life, that is the study of its teachings, what Masonry stands for, its principles and ideals, and its mission in the world. This includes the study of the principal strands of philosophy from which Freemasonry has borrowed, among which are the Ancient Mysteries, Alchemy, Gnosticism, Hermeticism, the *Kabbalah*, and Renaissance and Enlightenment thought. Needless to say, there is magnificent literature devoted to Masonic philosophy, which awaits our rediscovery, and this is a fertile field for our research and study.

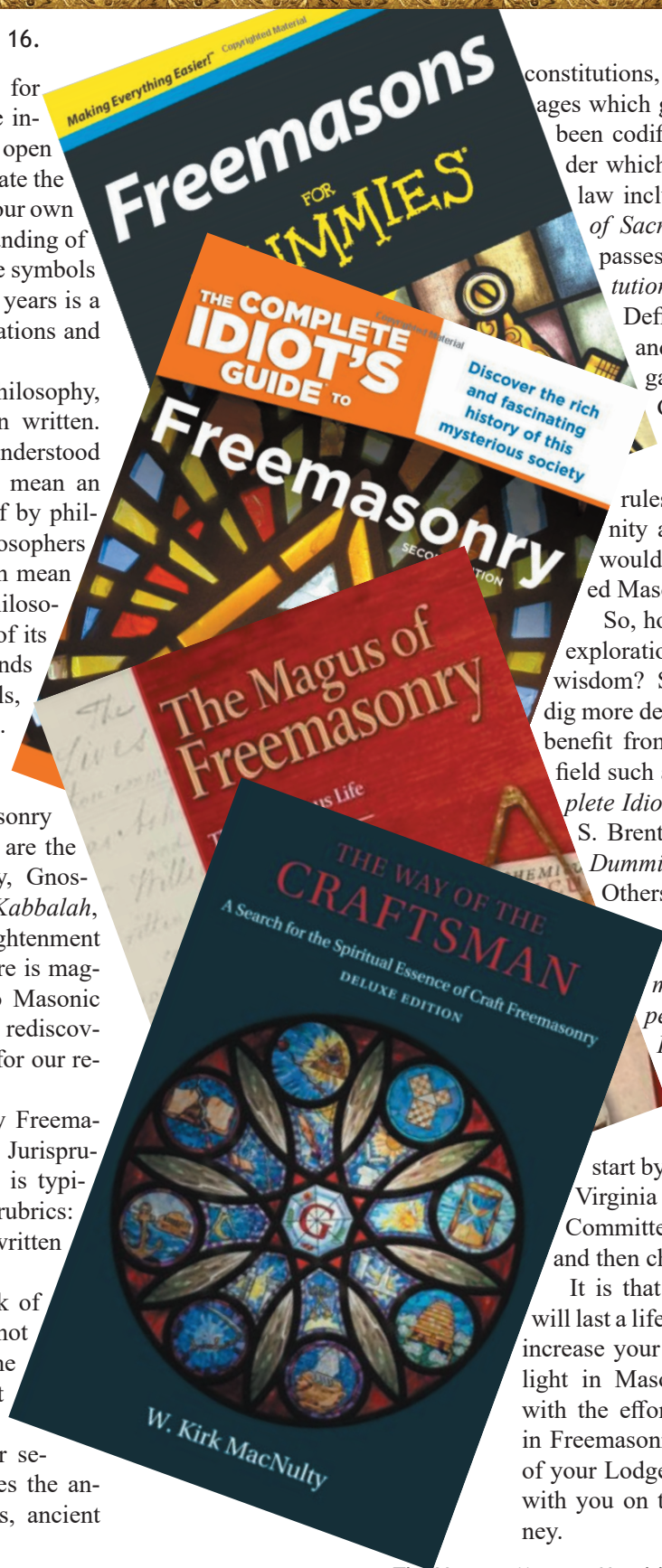
Finally, if we are to study Freemasonry, we should not forget Jurisprudence or Masonic law. This is typically considered under two rubrics: The unwritten law and the written or codified law.

Of course, when we speak of the unwritten law, we do not mean "unwritten" in the same sense as when we talk about the "unwritten" ritual work. The unwritten law is neither secret nor unwritten. It includes the ancient landmarks, old charges, ancient

constitutions, traditions, customs and usages which guide us, but which have not been codified by the Grand Lodge under which we are holden. The written law includes, for example, the *Book of Sacred Law*, but it also encompasses the Grand Lodge *Constitutions*, Codes, Statutes, Rules, Definitions, Regulations, Edicts and Lodge By-laws promulgated under the authority of a Grand Lodge. A deep understanding of our traditions, customs and usages, and the rules which govern our Fraternity are essential to anyone, who would consider himself an educated Mason.

So, how might we start our further explorations in this sea of available wisdom? Some Brethren, before they dig more deeply into the literature, might benefit from a general overview of the field such as can be found in *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry* by S. Brent Morris or *Freemasonry for Dummies* by Christopher Hodapp. Others may want to search through such publications as *Mackey's Revised History of Freemasonry*, *Mackey's Encyclopedia*, *Mackey's Symbolism of Freemasonry*, or other similar books to find particular topics, themes, or issues to explore. Finally, you might start by going to the Grand Lodge of Virginia website, go to the tab for the Committee on Masonic Education, and then check under Cyber Library.

It is that easy, but your explorations will last a lifetime and your rewards as you increase your knowledge and gain greater light in Masonry will be commensurate with the effort. As you improve yourself in Freemasonry, reach out to the Brethren of your Lodge and encourage them to join with you on this important Masonic journey.



50-60-70-Year Masonic Veterans

Between November 13, 2019 and February 18, 2020

Fifty-Year Veterans

Wor. Henry William Waite Baker
Bro. Walter Keith Wigglesworth
Bro. Cornelius Adelbert Driscoll, III
Bro. Richard Charles Arnold
Bro. Robert Lewis Larsen
Bro. Jerry Lee Parkinson
Bro. Kenneth Wayne Jones
Bro. John Henry Smith, Jr.
Bro. Hughes Kennedy Reveley, Jr.
Bro. Paul Lee Rollison
Bro. Christopher Robert Grubb
Wor. William Wood Childs, Jr.
Wor. Charles Henry Thorpe, Jr.
Bro. Floyd Thomas Fallen
Bro. Gene Carl Byer
Bro. Paul Barron Ridout
Bro. Thomas Warren Hall, Jr.
Bro. Paul Vernon Barry, Jr.
Bro. William Wesley Griffith, Jr.
Bro. William George Yates
Bro. John Jackson Judge
Bro. Robert Spencer Kenerley
Bro. James Grant Wilson, Jr.
Bro. Frederick Clayton Hammond
Bro. Carlus Wayne Breland
Bro. Eddie J. Brown, Jr.
Bro. William Dutton Kee, Jr.
Bro. Norman Dewey Holcomb, Jr.
Bro. Martin Luther Stroble
Bro. Thomas Gene Ross
Bro. William Clay Brown
Wor. David Adams Ingram
Wor. Francis William McManus, Jr.
Bro. Dieter Horst Muenich
Bro. Royd Maurice Nuckols, Jr.
Mt. Wor. James Milton Scearce, Jr.
Bro. James Burton Kiser
Bro. George William Kumpf
Rt. Wor. Robert Garland McBride
Bro. David Casper Cox
Bro. James Lowell McCoy
Bro. James Edmondson Burns
Bro. Kenneth Wayne Maples
Wor. Ronald Ray Lawson
Bro. Philip Neal Mullins
Bro. Bobby Dean Funk
Bro. William Elbert Stapleton
Bro. Donald Olen Downey
Wor. Robert Lee Murphy, Jr.
Bro. Edward Earl Brewer
Bro. Billy Delbert Hamilton
Bro. Kenneth Layton Griffith
Bro. Alton Ray Raynor
Bro. Laverne James McNamara
Bro. Alfred Douglas Ensley, II
Bro. Stanley Earl Griffin
Bro. Lewis Franklin Templeton
Bro. Duff Green Porter, III
Bro. Kenneth William Singletary
Bro. James Alfred Perry
Bro. Linwood Cahoon, Jr.
Wor. Gene Stephen McMahan
Bro. James William Cardwell
Bro. Theodore Roosevelt Beckloff
Bro. John David Holshouser
Bro. Charles Wayne Howerton
Bro. James Clyde Lewis
Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
St. Tammany Lodge No. 5
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
Stanton Lodge No. 13
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
Oriental Lodge No. 20
Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
Pittsylvania Lodge No. 24
Princess Anne Lodge No. 25
Princess Anne Lodge No. 25
Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
Cherrydale-Columbia Lodge No. 42
Fairfax Lodge No. 43
Doric Lodge No. 44
Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
Seaboard Lodge No. 56
Pleasants Lodge No. 63
Clintwood Lodge No. 66
Donovan Lodge No. 75
Ruth Lodge No. 89
Coeburn Lodge No. 97
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Coeburn Lodge No. 97
Coeburn Lodge No. 97
Spurmont Lodge No. 98
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
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Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Arlington Lodge No. 102
Giles Lodge No. 106
Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120
Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122
Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122
Roman Eagle Lodge No. 122

Bro. James Robert Leonard
Bro. Donald David Park
Wor. Walter Linwood Reid
Wor. Clyde Milton Harding
Bro. Luther Weldon Dinkel
Rt. Wor. Frank Genues Bond
Bro. Willie Nelson Conner
Bro. William Chapman Bannester, Sr.
Bro. Donald Eugene Elson
Bro. Harold Langen Turner
Bro. Danny Bernard Hill
Bro. Louis Wesley Devincenzi
Bro. Francis Woodrow Seader
Bro. Robert Lawrence Bass
Bro. John Victor White
Bro. Joseph Virgil Clontz
Bro. William Franklin Grice
Bro. Charles F. Edwards
Mt. Wor. Glover Hunter Jones, III
Bro. Albert Lee Miller, Jr.
Bro. Robert Love Gible, Jr.
Bro. William Donald Osborne
Wor. Bradford Berlin Porter
Bro. Michael Eugene McGee
Rt. Wor. Andrew Kendall Linton, Jr.
Bro. Robert Lee Tull, Jr.
Bro. Elmer White Sawyer
Bro. Donald Maurice Tatem
Bro. William Warren Rhodes
Rt. Wor. Joseph Leon Stocks
Rt. Wor. Donald Wayne Martin
Bro. John Michael Carmichael
Wor. Sylvanus Bryan York, Jr.
Bro. Clyde Eugene Bryant, Jr.
Bro. Allen Lionel Gabriel
Bro. David Gerald Henley
Wor. George Randolph Crocker, Jr.
Rt. Wor. James Alfred Butts, III
Rt. Wor. George Hunter Wolfe
Wor. Martin Parks Bull, Sr.
Bro. Norton Byrd Newton
Wor. John Tankard Williams
Bro. Benjamin Robert Harvey, Jr.
Bro. Edward William States
Bro. Stephen Cole Matteson
Bro. Billy Charles Patton
Bro. Robert N. Reamy, Jr.
Bro. Robert Douglas Copeland
Wor. Richard Wayne Henson, Sr.
Rt. Wor. James Aubrey Ward
Bro. Melton Eugene Donaldson

Independence Lodge No. 129
Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
Mt. Carmel Lodge No. 133
Melrose Lodge No. 139
Melrose Lodge No. 139
Kerns Lodge No. 143
Franklin Lodge No. 151
Hunter's Lodge No. 156
Ashland Lodge No. 168
Covington Lodge No. 171
Virginia Lodge No. 177
Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178
Manassah Lodge No. 182
Manassah Lodge No. 182
Kempsville Lodge No. 196
Kempsville Lodge No. 196
Reedy Spring Lodge No. 203
Bland Lodge No. 206
Bayside Lodge No. 218
Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220
Ivanhoe Lodge No. 235
Accomack Lodge No. 243
Accomack Lodge No. 243
Accomack Lodge No. 243
Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
Newport Lodge No. 261
Herndon Lodge No. 264
Varina Lodge No. 272
Frank P. Moncure Lodge No. 279
Ashburn-Sterling Lodge No. 288
Powhatan Lodge No. 295
South Hill Lodge No. 297
South Hill Lodge No. 297
Central Lodge No. 300
Central Lodge No. 300
Central Lodge No. 300
Monroe Lodge No. 301
Westhampton Lodge No. 302
Occoquan Lodge No. 310
Richlands Lodge No. 318
Reedville Lodge No. 321
Warwick Lodge No. 336
Transportation Lodge No. 337
St. Paul Lodge No. 343
Henry Knox Field-John Blair Lodge No. 349

Sixty-Year Veterans

Bro. Michael Harris Galumbeck
Bro. William Charles Hollingsworth
Bro. Edgar Lee Brown, Jr.
Bro. Robert William Costner
Bro. John Hansford Chichester
Bro. Thomas Metts
Bro. William L. Barton
Bro. Robert James Sandidge
Bro. Michael Sanford Sirkis
Bro. Jack Pitman Kirtland
Bro. John Albert Brockwell
Bro. Howard William Reardon
Bro. Leland Benjamin Williams
Norfolk Lodge No. 1
Atlantic Lodge No. 2
Atlantic Lodge No. 2
Blandford Lodge No. 3
Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Hoge Lodge No. 8

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50-60-70-Year Masonic Veterans

Between November 13, 2019 and February 18, 2020.

Continued from page 18.

Bro. Robert Ray Adkins
Bro. Philip Ray Johnson
Bro. Thomas Gerald Baber
Bro. Robert Franklin Gullede
Bro. Harry Preston Marker
Wor. Herbert Marshall Shelton
Bro. Nicholas Doyle Street
Bro. Larry Frank Wallace
Bro. Sidney Mayfield, Jr.
Bro. Kenneth Lee Adams
Wor. Franklin Jay Pepper
Bro. Thomas Madison Phillips
Bro. George Marble Farry
Bro. Ernest G. Moore
Bro. John Marshall Stone
Bro. Eugene Good Holsinger
Bro. William Wirt Bird, Jr.
Bro. Orlando Wilson Smith
Bro. Ronald Lee Filer
Bro. Carlton Eugene Walker
Bro. Frank Calvin Marcey, Jr.
Bro. Ralph Lenwood Deacon
Bro. Howard E. Morrell
Bro. Robert Elvin Deane
Rt. Wor. George Shelton Ferebee
Bro. Bland McLaughlin Wade
Bro. George Millard Harvey, Sr.
Wor. Walter Turner Gross
Bro. Herbert Ewell Newbern
Bro. Billy Long Neal
Wor. Marvin Woodruff Johnson
Bro. John Robert Hearn, Jr.
Bro. John Andrew Arrington
Bro. Arthur Lloyd Williamson
Bro. Thomas Alva Whitley
Bro. Floyd Bennett Twiford
Bro. Harry William Torrey
Bro. Elvin Monroe St. Clair
Bro. James William Rose, III
Bro. Thomas Ray Phillips
Bro. Ralph Elwood Owens
Bro. James Ambrose Spitzer
Wor. Clarence Ray Tapscott
Rt. Wor. John William Underwood
Bro. Harold Collins Wingate
Bro. Bernard Marvin Coleman
Bro. Belden Hill Bell
Bro. Benjamin Wayne Nelson
Bro. Harry Franklin Bowen, Jr.
Wor. Landon Shipman Birsch, Jr.
Bro. Harold George Kirk
Bro. Lowell H. Broadwater
Bro. James Albert Middleton
Bro. Alexander Doniphant Carson, Jr.
Bro. Gene Milton Williams
Bro. Richard Escott Morgan
Bro. John Joseph Leeper
Bro. Richard William Winkler
Bro. Howard Carson Runions
Bro. Samuel Robert Sayers
Bro. George Alvin Harris
Wor. Leon Desmond Compton
Bro. James Clinton Sparks
Wor. John Porter Griffin
Bro. Charles Henderson Michaux

Hoge Lodge No. 8
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Petersburg Lodge No. 15
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22
Taylor Lodge No. 23
Taylor Lodge No. 23
Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27
Millboro Lodge No. 28
Elizabeth Lodge No. 34
Marshall Lodge No. 39
Cherrydale-Columbia Lodge No. 42
Fairfax Lodge No. 43
Abingdon Lodge No. 48
Piedmont-Stella Lodge No. 50
Day Lodge No. 58
Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
McDaniel Lodge No. 86
Liberty Lodge No. 95
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
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Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Barboursville Lodge No. 112
Taylor Lodge No. 117
Linn Banks Lodge No. 126
Independence Lodge No. 129
Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
Mt. Carmel Lodge No. 133
Cassia Lodge No. 142
Unity Lodge No. 146
Owens Lodge No. 164
Miles Lodge No. 165
Fidelity Lodge No. 173
Hill City Lodge No. 183
Hill City Lodge No. 183
Lee Lodge No. 209
Springfield Lodge No. 217
Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219
Mouth of Wilson Lodge No. 223
Intermont Lodge No. 269
Webber High Twelve Lodge No. 282
Westhampton Lodge No. 302
Kent Lodge No. 305
Army and Navy Lodge No. 306
Dillwyn Lodge No. 315
Campbell Lodge No. 316

Wor. Donald George Grabar
Bro. Stanley Blanks Hankins
Wor. Ryland James Hall, Jr.
Bro. Thomas Cread Edwards, Jr.
Bro. Joseph Junior Hogge
Bro. Patrick Nelson Delavan
Bro. William Vernon Rucker
Bro. Billy Franklin Allen
Bro. James Walker Kelley
Bro. Allie Brook Stevens, Jr.
Bro. Robert Lee Hundley
Bro. Robert Stuart Glascock
Bro. George Stanley Krum

Reedville Lodge No. 321
Carter Lodge No. 323
Carter Lodge No. 323
Warwick Lodge No. 336
Warwick Lodge No. 336
Transportation Lodge No. 337
Transportation Lodge No. 337
St. Paul Lodge No. 343
St. Paul Lodge No. 343
Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350

Seventy-Year Veterans

Bro. Gene Stanley Putnam
Bro. Erwin Halwachs
Bro. Paul Argiriou
Bro. Thomas Edmund Rodgers, Jr.
Bro. Joseph Turner Layne, Jr.
Bro. Archie Thomas Thornton
Bro. Glenn Ballard Cole
Bro. Elmer Franklin Mack
Bro. Benjamin Hoskins Fitchett
Bro. Eugene Clayton Campbell
Bro. Alton Frank Catlett
Bro. William Donald Allman
Bro. Paul Ward Robinette
Bro. Joseph Alexander Walker
Wor. Harry Barranger, Jr.
Bro. Thomas Owen Nutt, Jr.
Bro. Harold Daniel Hankins
Bro. Tandy J. Fleming
Bro. George Hughes Hensley
Bro. Richard Taylor Russell, Jr.
Bro. Victor Daub Freudenberger
Bro. Robert Bruce Bussler

Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
Richmond Lodge No. 10
Manchester Lodge No. 14
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Sandy Valley Lodge No. 17
Smithfield Union Lodge No. 18
Oriental Lodge No. 20
Liberty Lodge No. 95
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Portsmouth Lodge No. 100
Norview Lodge No. 113
Mt. Carmel Lodge No. 133
Hunter's Lodge No. 156
Richlands Lodge No. 318
St. Paul Lodge No. 343
Henry Knox Field-John Blair Lodge No. 349
John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350
Fort Hunt-Skidmore Daytime Lodge No. 353

Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw wages in gold or silver will be disappointed.

The Wages of a Mason are earned and paid in their dealings with one another. Sympathy that begets kindness, helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason.

Most Worshipful Benjamin Franklin

Area Masonic Ritual Schools - 2020

Name	Location	Date(s)	District(s)
Kenneth O. Shelton	Ashburn	Mar. 28	2
Richard E. Loving	Culpeper	Mar. 28	7, 10
James Alfred Butts, Jr.	South Hill	Mar. 28	27
Wickham/Smith	Clifton Forge	Mar. 28	20
Boitnott/Myers/41st District	Narrows	Mar. 23-24-25	40, 41
Campbell Area School	Rustburg	Mar. 23-26	21, 24, 25, 37, 38
Charles Eldon Fulgham	Windsor	Mar. 24-26	31, 33
James Bolling Myers	Midlothian	Mar. 25-26	16, 29
Willard D. Monk/45th District	Tazewell	Mar. 31, Apr. 1-2	45
Fred D. Bowman	Front Royal	Apr. 4	3, 5, 6
Robert R. Kennedy, Jr.	Waynesboro	Apr. 17-18	19
William Hiram Wood	Alexandria	Mar. 28, Apr. 18	1A, 1B
C. Frank Hicks/36th District	Chesapeake	Apr. 11	36, 56
James Henry Parkerson, Jr.	Kempsville	Apr. 13	36, 56
C. A. Whitted	Scottsville	Apr. 20-21	17
Showalter/40th District	Blacksburg	Apr. 22-24	40, 41, 42
Johnson/Rowell/Dungan	Kinsale	May 9	8, 9, 11
Stewart Arthur Deem	Norfolk	May 16	35
Dr. Walter A. Porter	Galax	May 19-21	43
Harry C. Wallace	Wise	May 11-12-14	48, 49, 50
Elmo J. "Bo" Norfleet	Portsmouth	June 16-18	33
James Revere Bowyer, Sr.	Bedford	June 22-25	22A, 22B,
Robert Lewis Gibbs	Richmond	July 15 -18	15A, 15B, 16
Lewis Q. Moore	Abingdon	Aug. 28-30	44, 47
E. Tyree Mountcastle	Williamsburg	Sept. 7-9	57
C. S. Revell/B. D. Hudson	Newport News	Sept. 14-16	14
L. N. Cridlin	Jonesville	Sept. 14-15-17	49, 50
Lon Norman Dooley	Lebanon	Sept. 28, Oct. 5-7	44, 47
Edward Page Henry	Hopewell	Sept. 29-30	16, 29
Starks/Baumgardner	Bland	Oct. 12-14	41, 42
James Noah Hillman	Gate City	Oct. 13-15	48, 49, 50
O. B. Omohundro	Gordonsville	Oct. 24	7, 10
Charles T. "Bucky" Gilbert	Marion	Oct. 26-28	42, 43, 44
Joseph T. Stewart	Courtland	Oct. 27-29	31, 33
Reid James Simmons Academy	Roanoke Scottish Rite	Aug. 14-15	Statewide

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



Masonic Awards



Worshipful Milton Reid of Norfolk Lodge No. 1 presenting a check to Mrs. Miki Donovan, Community Grants Manager, and Mrs. Tammy Mullins Rice, Community Engagement Coordinator. Norfolk Lodge No. 1 supported the Susan G. Komen Cancer fund this year in their community effort to help eliminate Breast Cancer for our loved ones.



Bethel No. 1, Job's Daughters in Arlington, had their stated meeting attended by all nine Worshipful Masters, Right Worshipful David E. Potts, Masonic District 1A, and thirty-five Master Masons.

Masonic Law

Freemasonry is an orderly society, which has a code of laws for the government of the Lodge and the individual Mason. Such laws are enacted by the Grand Lodge. In Virginia, all of the applicable laws are printed in the *Methodical Digest*; in it also are found the decisions of Grand Masters, which have been approved by the Grand Lodge and have the effect of law. These decisions are in the form of annotations.

In addition to the written law to which reference has been made, there are those ancient usages and customs which have, over the centuries, become a part of the unwritten laws of the Fraternity. Most of these are simple, yet they have in them the essence of all of Freemasonry.

The basic Masonic law rests upon the old Charges and the *Constitutions of Masonry* as these were compiled by the Reverend James Anderson, George Payne, and John T. DeSaguliers around 1722-23. Our own Virginia law began with these and has expanded as the times and circumstances have required, until our present system of Masonic jurisprudence has evolved. The original *Book of Constitutions* was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1791. It is divided into six chapters of varying length and has laws governing such things as that titled "Concerning God and Religion," "Concerning Government and the Civil Magistrate," and many other titles. It also covers the officers of a Lodge and their duties, the officers of the Grand Lodge, and other regulations concerning it. The book ends with the chapter headed "Of Grand Visitations and Communications." The

reading of the *Book of Constitutions* should be recommended to every new Brother, who comes into our Craft.

An explanation of Masonic law is available in several excellent books written on the general subject of Masonic jurisprudence. Albert G. Mackey's *Jurisprudence of Freemasonry* covers a basic explanation of the subject and is highly regarded by students of Masonic law. *Masonic Law and Practice*, written by L. A. Lockwood, and Silas H. Shepherd's *The Landmarks of Freemasonry* also cover some part of the field of Masonic jurisprudence which is of general interest.

Specifically, Virginia Masonic law is divided into five general classifications dealing with the Grand Lodge in all facets of its operation; with the subordinate Lodge and matters concerning its operations; with the individual Mason and his conduct; with Masonic offenses, trials and penalties; and with Life Membership in Perpetuity.

The enactment of Masonic law is done by the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communications. Amendments or new laws may be offered at the Communication with the unanimous consent of the Grand Lodge or with the approval of the Grand Master. The new Brother should be told that the voting power of the Grand Lodge is centered in the representatives of the subordinate Lodges in Virginia, and that the laws are enacted by their vote. If he has an interest in Masonic law, he should be encouraged to purchase a copy of the *Methodical Digest* for his own use and enjoyment.

Presentation Volume, pages 344-45.

Freemasonry is an ancient and respectable institution, embracing individuals of every nation, of every religion, and of every condition in life. Wealth, power and talents are not necessary to the person of a Freemason. An unblemished character and a virtuous conduct are the only qualifications for admission into the Order.

Most Worshipful Andrew Jackson

Masonic Awards and Recognition



A crowd of more than seventy gathered at Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201 for the annual dinner to honor veterans. The Masons have been hosting the dinner for about ten years.

Worshipful Keith Snead, one of the event organizers, who is also a veteran, said the dinner is a way of expressing gratitude to veterans for their service.

“It is always an honor to have the veterans come in and share a meal with us,” Snead said. “It is an opportunity for us to give back to them.”

Worshipful Brother Snead’s father, Brother Robert, is also a veteran and Lodge member.

After the meal and presentation of colors from the Franklin County High School Air Force JROTC, a team from Faith Fellowship Veterans Ministry performed a flag-folding ceremony.

Frank Flora, founder of the ministry and a Navy Vietnam War veteran said, “when veterans finish their service, they often do not get together with other veterans.” The ministry brings veterans together for fellowship and healing.

The Masons are a fraternal organization dedicated to serving the community and helping members improve their own moral standards. The Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201 donate part of their building to Heavenly Manna Food Bank and have monthly meetings the third Thursday of each month.

Wayne Parks is a retired veteran who served in the Army for twenty years as a combat engineer. He also helped organize the dinner.

“It is nice to meet the other veterans and let them know they’re appreciated,” he said.

After the ceremony, about twenty veterans introduced themselves.

Don Riggs and his wife, Pat, have been to several of the Lodge’s dinners for veterans. He said he enjoys listening to what others did in the service and getting to share his story. He retired in 1988 with thirty-one years of service as a Navy fighter pilot.

Worshipful Leon Roberson of Rocky Mount Lodge No. 201 and a veteran, said that feedback about the evening was positive and felt it was one of the best veterans’ dinners the Masons have hosted.

“It is something we look forward to every year,” Worshipful Brother Roberson said.

Reprinted courtesy of the *Franklin News Post*, by Leigh Prom.

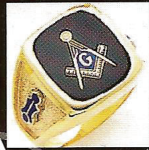


Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220, Lynnhaven Chapter No. 184, Order of the Eastern Star, Navy Wives Club Princess Anne Chapter No. 143, and the Virginia Beach Yacht Club teamed up to provide over fifty food baskets for Christmas to needy families in Virginia Beach.

Donation and distribution efforts were coordinated by Worshipful Jerry Anderson and his wife Nancy Anderson, Worthy Matron of Lynnhaven Chapter No. 184. Over a two-month period, Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220 served as the collection point for non-perishable food items, clothing, and monetary donations. Ms. Alice Harrell, a member of Navy Wives Club Princess Anne Chapter No. 143, worked with a local Food Lion store, which donated enough non-perishable food items to fill thirty food baskets. This windfall of food-stuffs allowed monetary donations to be spent towards the addition of a turkey or ham for each food basket, filling the Lodge’s freezers. As a result of all the donations, and the time and effort of the volunteers from these four organizations, fifty families in need were able to receive much needed food and have their own special holiday dinner.



Community Builders Awards presented to Mr. Michael Ashe [Holocaust survivor], Ms. Ciara Whitty, Mrs Elana Barr Baum, Director of the Holocaust program, by Right Worshipful Robert G. McBride of Norfolk Lodge No.1



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Masonic Awards and Recognition



Worshipful James W. Holtman

Brother Ralph R. Willenberg, my grandfather, began his journey in Freemasonry in 1919 by petitioning Milan Lodge No. 31 in Milan, Indiana. According to Lodge records, he received his degrees in Masonry at Wilmington Lodge No. 52 in Wilmington, Ohio. Later on, after moving to Cincinnati, Ohio, he affiliated with Madisonville Lodge No. 419 in Madisonville, Ohio. This

Lodge later became Madisonville-Maderia-Mariemont No. 419. In 1963, Brother Ralph completed his journey and laid down his working tools.

His grandson, Worshipful James W. Hotman of Mountain Lodge No. 140 made the journey to visit his grandfather's Lodges to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of his grandfather's Masonic journey.

Milan No. 31 was first on the agenda. The Lodge building is a beautiful, historically significant brick structure, dating back to the early 1900s. It reminded this Brother of his own Lodge in New Castle. I was warmly greeted and accepted by the Brethren and thoroughly honored when asked to participate in the ritual as Junior Deacon.

Next on the agenda was Madisonville-Maderia-Mariemont Lodge No. 419 in Loveland, Ohio. I enjoyed, not only a delicious meal with the Brethren of "3M" Lodge, but a wonderful evening at the stated meeting, with the company of Right Worshipful Ernie Brown. At the end of the meeting, I was honored to be elected an Honorary Member of Madisonville-Maderia-Mariemont Lodge No. 419.

I plan to travel back to Ohio to visit Wilmington Lodge No. 52 and complete the celebration of my grandfather's journey in Freemasonry.

This whole experience has been enlightening as to what it really means to be a "Traveling Man."



Local residents often wonder what goes on in the Buena Vista Lodge No. 186. Many know the organization is comprised of good men and promotes brotherhood, morals, and friendship. Importantly for this community, the organization quietly makes a significant impact in charitable giving in and around Buena Vista.

A significant need in caring for patients with cognitive impairment was met this past year. Members of the Buena Vista Police Department have been looking for funding recently to assist Virginia Tech Engineering students with a project. The students are close to

adding ways for law enforcement and care givers to monitor and track patients who are at risk due to their cognitive impairment, including those with Alzheimer's Disease.

Through local contacts, the Master of the Lodge, Worshipful Joe Boatwright, was contacted. The Lodge quickly considered and approved a donation in the amount of two thousand dollars, just what was needed to support the project.

Lt. Mitch Harrison, from the police department, presented the donation to the Virginia Tech Mechanical Engineering Program to assist in their Senior Design Project. The system they are upgrading is called CareTrak and their efforts focus on adding drone technology for additional patient locating measures. Buena Vista Lodge No. 186 and others are

excited to see the donation support the program, so the new initiative will continue to keep patients safe.

Buena Vista Lodge No. 186 is comprised of men who believe in faith, charity, and brotherly love. The local Lodge provides high school scholarships, donates to the Junior Womens' Club Angel Tree Program, the American Legion's Boys State, and supports members and non-members through hard times. Together with the Mountain City Lodge No. 67 in Lexington, and Glasgow Lodge No. 233 in Glasgow, they offer values-based fraternal experiences to men in and around Rockbridge County.



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Masonic Awards and Recognition



For at least two centuries, local Freemasons were regularly seen as an integral part of the communities in which they resided. But after the dawn of the 21st century, that image has drifted out of the public common knowledge used to bind cities and towns together in civic participation. This does not mean your local Lodge cannot get back on your town's radar, not by a long shot.

In case you are under the misapprehension the idea is to plunder your treasury, making a difference usually takes far more initiative and imagination than money. Consider this story out of Bluefield.

Harman Lodge No. 222 just voted unanimously to pay off the unpaid school lunch debts for two local schools, and send donations to two local career centers. The total tab? Just \$1,000. But Bluefield residents have just been reminded that the Masons are alive and well and dedicated to helping their neighbors and children.



L-R: Rt. Wor. Joe F. Rose, Wor. Kenny R. Acton, and Wor. Jacky R. Fannon

Worshipful Kenny R. Acton was very pleased to receive his 50-Year Veteran's certificate and pin, from the Grand Lodge of Michigan and Peninsular Lodge No. 10 in Dowagiac, Michigan. Worshipful Brother Acton was initiated June 16, 1969, passed July 14, 1969, and raised a Master Mason on October 11, 1969. He is a Past Master of Big Ridge Lodge No. 171 in Big Ridge, Michigan (1988). The courtesy presentation was made by Right Worshipful Joe F. Rose at Coeburn Lodge No. 97 with Right Worshipful Jacky R. Fannon.



L-R: Rt. Wor. Grant Morley, Bro. Rob Baird, Bro. Thomas McCracken, JoAnn McCracken, Wor. Al Haddix, and Rt. Wor. Randy Kendall.

Brother Thomas McCracken received his 60-Year Veteran's presentation at his residence with his wife and friends. Brother McCracken is a member of a Midlothian Lodge No. 211.



L-R: Bro. Howard C. Chitwood, Rt. Wor. Johnnie Cole with his family.

Brother Howard Carson Chitwood, received his 70-Year Masonic Veteran's certificate and pin at Abingdon Lodge No. 48. Right Worshipful Joe Matthews made the presentation.



L-R: Bro. Paulo Alvez, Bro. Matthew Bentel, Bro. Brad Newcomer, Wor. Matthew Frakes, Bro. Wayne Wenger, Wor. Dave Silcox, Bro. Chris Walker, Bro. Ray Cleary, and Bro. John Kaltenborn.

Newly installed Lodge Officers of Rockingham Union No. 27.

The true Mason never hesitates to use the working tools to correct personal flaws.

Worshipful William H. Taft



L-R: Rt. Wor. Johnnie Cole and Mr. Brad Farmer.

Right Worshipful Johnnie Cole presents Mr. Brad Farmer and Faith in Action with the Community Builders Award in Abingdon Lodge No. 48

Masonic Awards and Recognition



Norfolk Lodge No. 1 presented the Community Builders Award to Father Derrick, the priest at St. John's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth. Father Derrick takes the Lord's words and puts them into action with the poor and homeless. After a service and communion, Father Derrick provided the Christmas Observance for the Knights Templar, followed by a dinner.



L-R: Wor. Felcar S. Somera, Bro. Zell Walker, Jr., and Rt. Wor. Richard M. Young.

At Naomi Lodge No. 87, Right Worshipful Richard M. Young presented the 50-Year Veteran's Award to Brother Zell Walker Jr. Brother Walker was raised in Naomi Lodge No. 87, on November 21, 1969.



L-R: Wor. Shawn Morris, Bro. Alan Newman, Bro. John Cheek, Bro. Jimmy Gordon, Jr., and Rt. Wor. Larry Huff.

Three Brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at Preston Lodge No. 47. It is the first time the Lodge can recall raising three Brethren on the same night. They were all eager and quick to learn the degrees. They have all recited their Master Mason's Catechism and were all proficient. We welcome the Brethren and know they will make a fine addition to our Lodge and the Fraternity.



Wor. Paul A. Miller, Rabbi Dr. Panitz, and Rt. Wor. Robert G. McBride

Norfolk Lodge No. 1 presents Rabbi Dr. Panitz's the Grand Lodge of Virginia Community Builders Award for his outstanding community programs and charity to the City of Norfolk.



Right Worshipful Donald F. Ritenour received his 60-Year Masonic Veteran's Award in John A. Lejeune No. 350 from Right Worshipful James A. Newcomer, Jr. He was escorted to the East by his two grandsons; Brother William S. Thurston and Brother Tory N. Thurston, both of whom he raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.



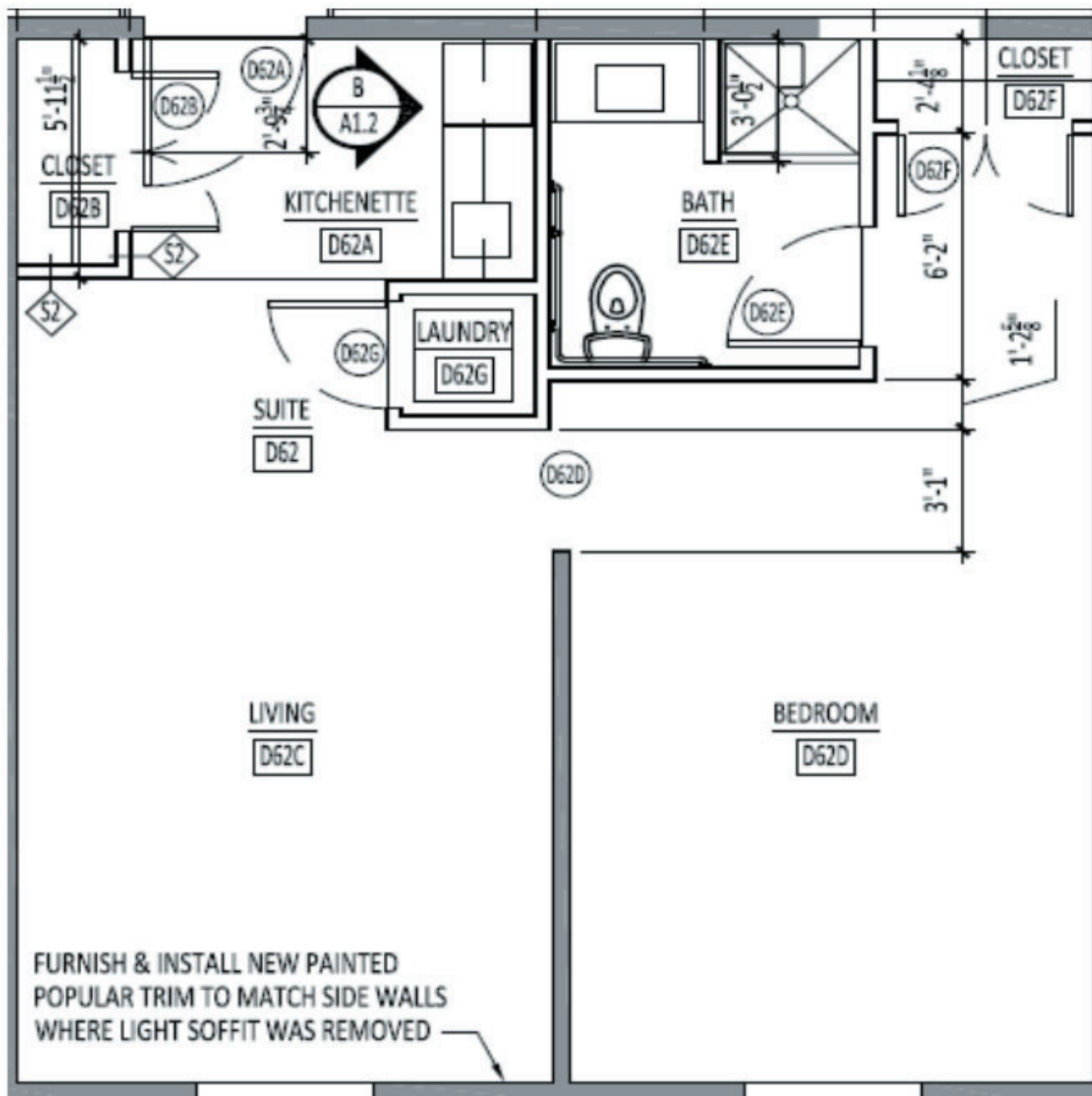
L-R: Rt. Wor. Ed Cribbs, Rt. Wor. Goldie Tomlin, Rt. Wor. Scott Fielding, and Rt. Wor. Harvey Flashman

The Colors were presented at the 241st Grand Annual Communication by the Jack Jouett Camp, Hero's of 76. They are a member of the James Monroe Chapter No. 549, National Sojourners.

We Masons are among the fortunate ones who are taught to meet together with other's opposing convictions or competitive ideas and yet respect each other as Brothers.

Albert Pike

New One Bedroom Suites



Susan Berryhill,
Admissions Coordinator

The Masonic Home is abuzz with excitement and anticipation surrounding the renovation of six D-Wing Suites. The contractors are anticipating completion of this project by the end of January 2020.

These new units will offer one bedroom/one bath with a walk-in shower, kitchenette, and a laundry area. The

granite counter-tops, ceramic foyer, and bath are both elegant and inviting. These suites are located in the adult home, with convenient indoor living, dining, and a whole host of activities that make living at The Home such a comfort and joy.

As the Admissions Coordinator, I would be happy to send you a floor plan

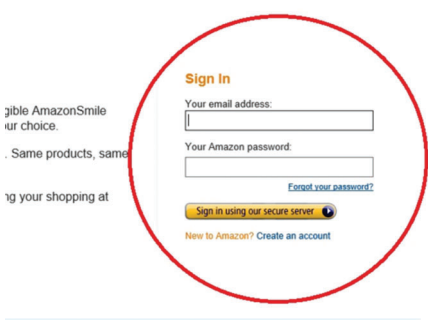
and price list for your review. Since there are only six of these new floor plan suites. You may want to check out our website for more information and get your selection reserved. (www.mahova.org)

Please come out and visit anytime to check out the newest features of your Masonic Home.

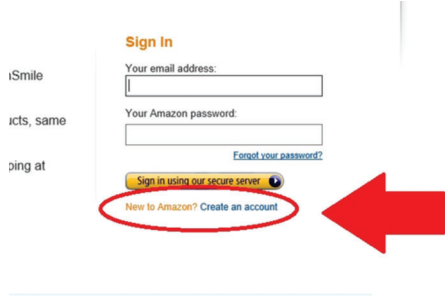
Smile on the Masonic Home Of Virginia



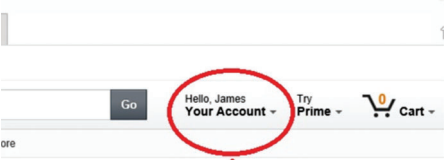
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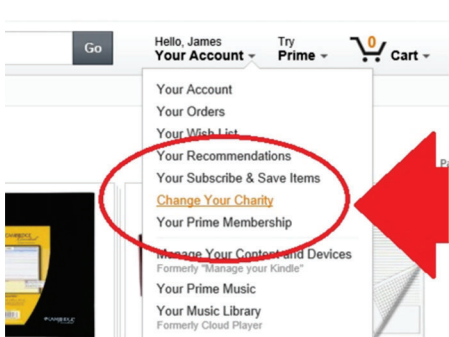
2-If you already have an Amazon login, log in here.



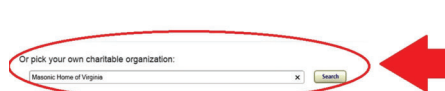
3-If you do not have an Amazon login, create an account by clicking on "Create an account."



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



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



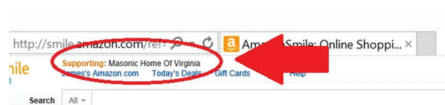
6-Type in the blank, Masonic Home of Virginia, as illustrated.



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.



Masonic Home of Virginia

Right Worshipful Terry F. Hilton
Director of Development

Many of us are quickly approaching retirement age. Have you given any thought as to what retirement means to you? Thousands of seniors are facing true dilemmas in planning their retirement. Most of us hope we would be able to live out our lives worry free from financial burdens and expensive healthcare costs while still being in an active social community. If this type of retirement sounds appealing to you, perhaps it is time to take a closer look at the Masonic Home of Virginia, the Crown Jewel of Freemasonry in Virginia.

One of the most amazing aspects of living at the Home is finances are normally not a problem for an applicant. If financial resources are limited, or the applicant would like more support from the Home, the Cornerstone program is an excellent option. For a percentage of assets and a percentage of income, a Mason, wife, or widow can receive care, which includes room, board and all medically necessary care under the Cornerstone contract also known as a life care contract. If resources are more plentiful, then the pay-as-you-go option can be a way to manage your assets and income while receiving the care you need in a supportive private community. Of course, the Home offers transfers to the Cornerstone program for paying residents whose financial resources become limited during their lifetime.

The Home is staffed with a well-trained medical team ready to assist residents with their healthcare needs. Our staff will schedule and transport residents to outside medical appointments. We also offer therapy services from a reputable third-party vendor allowing our residents to receive therapy on campus utilizing their Medicare benefits. Many of our life care contract residents receive restorative therapy to increase their stability, flexibility, and

endurance. The Home also provides an on-campus fitness center and offers weekly group exercise classes, as well as a library to encourage physical and mental stimulation.

Early admission in your retirement, especially into our independent units, allows many of our residents more opportunities to enjoy life than they did when they were living in their prior residence. The Home averages over thirty activities offerings per week or over sixteen hundred per year. These activities are held on campus, as well as off. Shopping, yoga, card games, choir, overnight trips to destinations like the Biltmore, gourmet dinners, crafts, live entertainment, sip and paints, and themed dances are just a few of the regular activities provided. As a resident at the Home you can choose as many or as few as you would like. If you can imagine it, we provide it.

If you decide to move forward with an application, the application process is free and easy. Here's a quick walk through and explanation of the application process. While the Home provides retirement opportunities for independent living, residential, assisted living, memory support and skilled nursing care, the Home's admission criteria is limited to residents, who may need no more than limited assistance with activities of daily living. Based on our admission criteria, which is regulated by licensing standards and receiving all required documentation, the Home conducts two health assessments, one at the applicant's home and one at the Masonic Home. These assessments help the Home gauge the level of care needs of each applicant. In addition, each applicant is asked to complete a financial application. Both applications are taken to the respective committees (Finance and Resident Life) of the Board of Governors. These are submitted to the

entire Board of Governors for approval at their monthly meeting. The applicants are then notified of the Board's decision. This process may sound extensive; however, please be assured our staff will work swiftly and efficiently to help ensure an effortless process for you.

When is the last time you have visited us? Come see our residents and vibrant campus. Come take a tour, have a delicious meal and visit with our residents and staff. We are confident you will leave feeling proud and pleased with the retirement life of those who live on our campus. Whether you wish to live in one of our maintenance free independent Village cottages or apartments, or whether you are looking for assistance with certain daily activities from our well-trained professional and caring staff, we recommend that you take the time to tour the Home by contacting our Admissions Coordinator, Susan Berryhill, at (800) 262-4644 or sberryhill@mahova.com.

The Home is one of the few privately run Masonic Homes remaining in the United States and is located on ninety-three beautiful well-maintained acres. This year, the Home is celebrating one hundred and thirty years of caring. As many of you well know, the Home began as a home for children of Masons and transitioned to a home for seniors in the mid 1970's. Several of the children cared for by the Home have returned for care in their retirement years. Life here at the Home is designed to allow the residents to enjoy life worry free from financial and expensive healthcare burdens. The Home continues to be a blessing for many; hence, the name Crown Jewel of Freemasonry in Virginia.

We look forward to your next visit, especially in our celebratory year of 2020.

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 November 1, 2019-January 31, 2020. Persons HONORED are on the left, followed by the donor's name on the right.

Honor/Memorial	Donor Name	Honor/Memorial	Donor Name
Samuel C. Anaya	Donna Anaya	Shelton S. Mackey	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
	Alan and Lisa Soltis	Richard S. Maltz	Western Branch Lodge No. 189
	Michelle Riordan	Audrey Mann	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Leon E. App	Robert W. Mawyer	Meridian Lodge No. 284
George B. Barco	William R. Gurley	John C. Maxwell	Temple Lodge No. 9
John Blair	Frederick R. Dixon	Clara H. Meadows	Nancy M. Holder
Eugene E. Blankinship	John K. Phillips	Irving G. Meadows	Nancy M. Holder
Harold W. Bohannon	Yorktown Lodge No. 205	Michele Hershey	Mary Carroll
Stafford L. Bolton	Susan B. Ayers	Joy Mitterer	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
Frank G. Bond	Joanne Perry	Judith Moore	Wayne S. Flora
	Gary Walker	Gary L. Mowery	Spurmont Lodge No. 98
	Roger A. Immell	Sally Oprison	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Louis K. Campbell	Norman S. Palow	Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865
	Roanoke Valley Demolay	Larry A. Renner	David Gammon
	Mark K. Brinkley		David B. Holliday
	Ronald W. Broocks		Ruth Gregory
	Joel T. Bundy		Rex E. Ritchie
	William R. Gurley		Anne Hodges
	Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865		Shep Campbell
	Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21		Gerald N. Jenkins
	Reese E. Carroll, Jr.		Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
	Nansemond Lodge No. 77		William Brand
	Purdie Lodge No. 170	Mary Richardson	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Wayne S. Flora	George R. Roos	Gary Roos
	Doug V. Jones	Thomas C. Runnett	James F. Dickerson
	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	Charles W. Schlager	Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
	Staunton Lodge No. 13	David E. Scott	Moring E. Gravitt
	Yorktown Lodge No. 205	James E. Shifflett	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
	Varina Lodge No. 272	Vivian Speas	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Dale Dressler	Harvey W. Spurlock	Harvey Spurlock
	Purdie Lodge No. 170	Garry W. Stebar	David R. Lugar
	William R. Gurley	Garry W. Stebar	Dewitt Clinton Lodge No. 141
	Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865	Thelma Sturgis	Worldley D. Frye
	Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21	Lewis W. Swann	Westmoreland Lodge No. 212
	Wayne S. Flora	Edward F. Swansej	Darlene Wilson
	Nancy M. Holder		Eugene J. Rackel
	Piedmont Lodge No. 152		MAHOVA Masonic Ritual Class
	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60		Lester M. Gillenwater
	Harry C. Powell		Rebecca Schnatz
	James E. Trent		Jerrell S. Morton
	Warwick Lodge No. 336		Capital City PM-PP Club
	Virginia Widows Sons Motorcycle Riding Assoc.	Matthew T. Szramoski	Yorktown Lodge No. 205
	Donald J. Kerr	Charles S. Taylor	Westmoreland Lodge No. 212
	Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21	Bruce Thompson	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
	Nancy M. Holder	Harriett J. Thompson	Aaron J. Parizo
	James F. Dickerson	Robert E. Thompson	Andrew J. Parizo
	Lettie Muncy	Michael Tucci	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
	Mildred Milby	Virginia Lodge No. 177	Peninsula Bicycling Association
	Yorktown Lodge No. 205	Margaret Warren	Montrose Chapter No. 176
	Wayne S. Flora	Marje Wells	William Talbert
	Mary Carroll	Mrs. Raymond E. Whitehurst	Powhatan Lodge No. 295
	Susan Hollister	Milton P. Wilson	Robert W. Taylor
	Yorktown Lodge No. 205		Wallace R. Sterling
	Powhatan Lodge No. 295		Wordell J. Davis
	Civil War Research Lodge No. 1865	Raymond H. Wilt	Donna Hand
	Yorktown Lodge No. 205	Robert C. Wright	Yorktown Lodge No. 205
	Old Town Lodge No. 68	Archer L. Yeatts	George S. Davis
	Powhatan Lodge No. 295	Mary C. Young	Robert S. Young
Helen Clark			
Roy L. Clark			
Louise Clay			
Rachel Conner			
Christopher W. Douglas			
Lois W. Dowdy			
Charles W. Dressler			
Carl E. Eason			
Page L. Eaton			
Lauris M. Eek			
Kenneth W. Evans			
Irene Frost			
Ashley L. Garrett			
William E. Giesler			
Charles B. Goddin			
Jeffrey F. Goff			
Robert M. Hall			
George E. Harrah			
Leon E. Headley			
William E. Hershey, Jr.			
Roger L. Hileary			
Thomas M. Holder			
Gregory D. Hosaflook			
Judith H. Houchens			
Gregory B. Johnson			
Pat Johnson			
Frances C. Jones			
Harry E. Jones			
Bobby A. Kessler			
Claudene Kluksdahl			
David A. Kuklewicz			
Joseph W. Langdale			
Roland W. Lineberry			
Doris Lipscomb			



Masonic Home of Virginia

Resident Birthdays

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
April		
4/1	Frances Gillie	Babcock Lodge No. 322
4/1	Nancy Martin	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
4/4	John Carpenter	Meridian Lodge No. 284
4/4	Elizabeth Payne	Joppa Lodge No. 40
4/7	Frances Bailey	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
4/8	Clifford Grotz	Blandford Lodge No. 3
4/8	Thomas Kaufman	Churchland Lodge No. 276
4/12	Marcella Campbell	Cloverhill Lodge No. 253
4/17	Juliet Burton	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
4/22	Harold Jennings	Concord Lodge No. 307
4/24	Mary Colgin	Babcock Lodge No. 322
4/26	Peggy Roberts	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
4/27	Craig Sykes	Great Bridge Lodge No. 257
4/28	Helen Payne	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
May		
5/1	Seymour Kern	Covington Lodge No. 171
5/1	Brenda Kerrick	Mt. Carmel Lodge No. 133
5/2	Mary Brooks	Richmond Lodge No. 10
5/2	Bessilee Clay	Manchester Lodge No. 14
5/3	Alice Bond	King Solomon's Lodge No. 194
5/4	Ruth Blunt	Sandston Lodge No. 216
5/8	Lettie Muncy	Sandston Lodge No. 216
5/8	Raymond Taylor	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
5/10	John Martin	Oriental Lodge No. 20
5/11	Mildred Milby	West Point Lodge No. 238
5/12	Sue Grizzard	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
5/13	Robert Hall	Woodland Heights Lodge No. 345
5/16	Valerie Hall	Ashland Lodge No. 168
5/16	Shirley Smith	Nansemond Lodge No. 77
5/17	Daisy White	Piedmont Lodge No. 152
5/19	Evelyn Holliday	Norview Lodge No. 113
5/19	Anne Winder	Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19
5/22	Cleveland Grizzard	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
5/22	Joseph Hogge	Warwick Lodge No. 336
5/22	David Jenkins	Babcock Lodge No. 322
5/24	Charles Hinkle	Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219
5/25	Ann Spain	Southside Lodge No. 191
5/30	Gardner Rollings	Wakefield Lodge No. 198
5/31	Bernard Colgin	Varina Lodge No. 272
June		
6/1	Ersell Brinser	Manchester Lodge No. 14
6/2	Shirley Armistead	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
6/3	Penelope Cowne	Manasseh Lodge No. 182
6/4	Mildred Ammons	Warwick Lodge No. 336
6/8	Novella McDonough	Kemper Macon Ware Lodge No. 64
6/8	Mary "Molly" Perdue	Warwick Lodge No. 336
6/9	Albert Knapp	Richmond Lodge No. 10
6/11	Gordon Kirby	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
6/12	Bernard Blunt	Sandston Lodge No. 216
6/21	Virginia Lancaster	Temple Lodge No. 9
6/23	Catherine Murray	Urbanna Lodge No. 83
6/23	Dolores Reinhold	Widow's Sons' Lodge No. 60
6/27	Anna Sherrod	Northside Lodge No. 292
6/28	Rebecca Lenhart	Chase City Lodge No. 119
6/30	Deborah Sanford	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4

Resident Anniversaries

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
April		
4/18/1953	Theodore and Beatrice Holm	Chickahominy Lodge No. 286
May		
5/6/1978	Raymond and Chris Taylor	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
5/16/1961	Albert and Jean Knapp	Richmond Lodge No. 10
5/21/1955	John and Betty Long	Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344
5/22/1998	David Jenkins and Evelyn Harding	Babcock Lodge No. 322
June		
6/1/1947	Bernard and Ruth Blunt	Sandston Lodge No. 216
6/2/1973	Steven and Deborah Sanford	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
6/8/1963	Richard and Linda Dudley	St. John's Lodge No. 36
6/15/1963	Donald and Emily Carver	Varina Lodge No. 272
6/20/1959	Charles and Althea Hinson	Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54
6/22/1963	Cleveland and Sue Grizzard	Westhampton Lodge No. 302
6/26/1948	McClellan and Betty Burgess	Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19
6/30/1956	Blaine and Rebecca Lenhart	Chase City Lodge No. 119

New Residents

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
November		
11/5/2019	Doris Larson	Manchester Lodge No. 14
December		
12/4/2019	Frank McAllister	Manchester Lodge No. 14
12/10/2019	James Butts	Manchester Lodge No. 14
12/11/2019	Julius "Cullen" Rosen	Buckingham Lodge No. 242
12/11/2019	Sarah Rosen	Buckingham Lodge No. 242
January - 2020		
1/7/2020	Harold Jennings	Concord Lodge No. 307
1/22/2020	Margaret Nevins	Northside Lodge No. 292

Resident's Deaths

Date	Resident Name	Lodge Name
November		
11/1/2019	Virginia Yeatts	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11
11/2/2019	Edward Swansey	Manchester Lodge No. 14
December		
12/9/2019	Lillian Yearwood	Glen Allen Lodge No. 131
12/28/2019	Judith Houchens	Cloverhill Lodge No. 253
January - 2020		
1/31/2020	Doris Grotz	Blandford Lodge No. 3



Masonic Home of Virginia



Residents enjoying the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Christmas Lights.



Gardenfest of Lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden on a resident outing.



Resident's Christmas party on Magnolia Court.



Residents Sandra Young and Marion Wright ready for the Christmas Pageant.



Residents and staff celebrating the 130th Anniversary.



Resident's New Year's Dance.



Resident Maurice Beachum playing the keyboard.

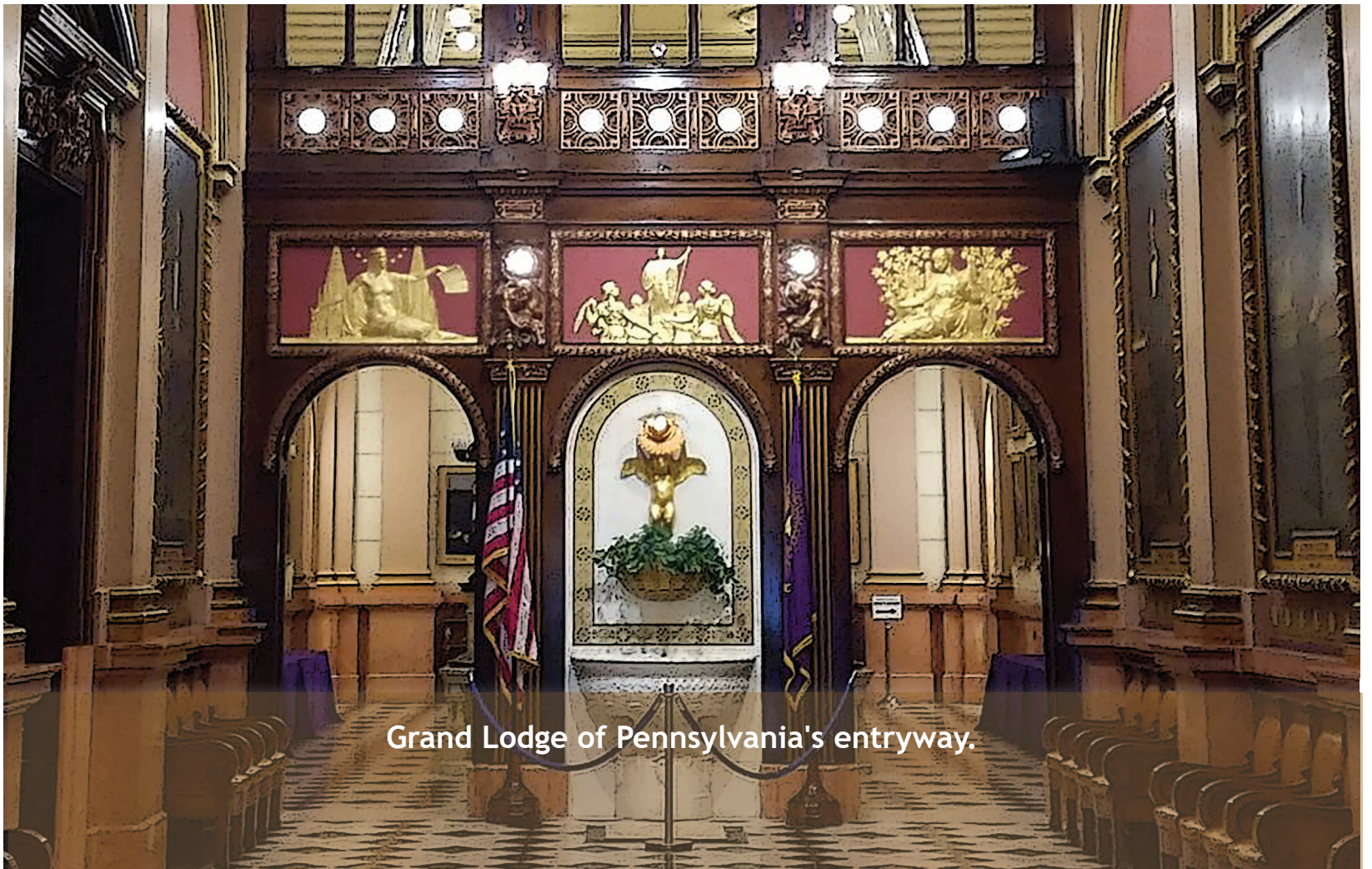


Resident Pat Herald relaxing with art.



Residents enjoying the Super-bowl with a party.

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Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's entryway.