The Voice of Freemasonry

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 1, 2018

IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Summer Issue

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE VOICE OF FREEMASONRY

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 1
SUMMER 2018 ISSUE

Editors-In-Chief
Richard J. Bautista (Grand Master)
Jeffrey D. Russell, PGM (Grand Secretary)

Managing Editor
Jason Van Dyke, PM
(Director of Communications)

Creative Director:
Julie Palitto, Benesque Design
www.benesquedesign.com

dcgrandlodge.org

The Voice of Freemasonry is an official publication of the Grand Lodge of Free And Accepted Masons (F.A.A.M.) of the District of Columbia. Unless otherwise noted, articles appearing in this publication express only the private opinion or assertions of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Grand Lodge. The jurisdiction speaks only through the Grand Master, and when attested to as official, in writing, by the Grand Secretary.

The editorial staff invites contributions in the form of informative articles, reports, news and other timely information (of about 500 to 1000 words in length) that broadly relate to Masonic law, lore, customs, history, symbolism, philosophy, responsibility of membership, etiquette, current events, and/or general public interest. When possible, photographs that illustrate these informative articles should accompany the submission. Pieces submitted should be typed, double-spaced and preferably accompanied by a computer disk in a neutral PC format or via e-mail to: grandlodge@dcgrandlodge.org.

Articles are subject to editing and, when published, become the property of the Grand Lodge, F.A.A.M., of the District of Columbia. No compensation is allowed for any articles, photographs, or other materials submitted for publication.

Permission to reprint articles will be granted upon written request to the Editor from recognized Masonic publications and others. When reprinted, articles should note: "Reprinted with permission of The Voice of Freemasonry in the Nation's Capital, (volume), (number), (year)."

Please direct all correspondence to:
Managing Editor:
The Voice of Freemasonry
5428 MacArthur Blvd., N.W.
Washington, DC 20016-2524
grandlodge@dcgrandlodge.org

CONTENTS

3 Grand Master's Message
5 The Ritualistic Stamp on the Mind of Effective Leaders
6 DC Grand Lodge Family Picnic
7 Sketches of Masonic Spain
10 Are Lodges Immortal?
11 From Whence We Came: Honoring the Past with a Special Veil Degree
12 Photo Essay - Laying a Wreath at Arlington National Cemetery
15 Dean of Past Grand Masters, Mallorey, Honored for 60 Years of Service
17 *From the Archives:* Meeting the Enemy, Our Brothers: A Candid and Firsthand Glimpse of Life in D.C. During the Civil War
19 Printing from the Past: Historical Documents from the Archives
20 Universal Brotherhood Celebration 2018
22 DC Freemasonry Celebrates the Fourth of July
24 Arminius Lodge No. 25 Bids "Willkommen" to All Brethren, Wheresover Dispersed – A Short History of the Grand Lodge's Oldest Foreign Language Lodge
26 *From the Archives:* Notable Moments in DC Grand Lodge History
28 The Misunderstood Forget-Me-Not (Das Unverstanden Vergissmeinnicht)
30 Our First Building
31 In Memoriam: M.W. Bro. Charles S. Iversen, PGM (1920-2018)
32 Masonic Charities Come Together in PGM's Name to Give $30k to DC Public School
33 DCGL Rededicates Boundary Stone with DC DAR
34 Carl R. LeVine Grand Lodge Ritual Competition
35 2018 Grand Lodge Officers
36 Upcoming Events

Grand Master's Message

Brotherhood, Loyalty and Building Masonry within our Grand Lodge

Our Grand Visitations, thus far, have all been very positive and enlightening. As a DC Mason, it really does make me proud as I carefully listen to the reports of the Masters and learn more about the inner workings and unique cultures of each of our lodges. As your Grand Master, I have been time and again heavily impressed and heartened by a lodge's commitment to the ritual and the core principles and lessons that flow from it. One of the great joys of my term in your service has been the opportunity to meet and get to know so many more Brethren as I travel within our city Grand Lodge. Of course a lodge is not a building but rather the Brethren who populate it, and it's been my pleasure to continuously witness with awe the dedication and creativity of so many. It's almost enough to knock my black socks off.

Most Worshipful Brother Richard J. Bautista

In addition to all the successes, we still face a host of challenges and struggles that must be overcome. I believe an emphasis on Brotherhood and Loyalty is one factor in getting us to where we want to be.

If you think about it the history of mankind is a record of the challenges to man's life and his response to that challenge – a log of man's journey through the field of values. Because of the overwhelming domination of institutions today, and our necessary connections with them, the institutional values tend to squeeze out the human values. Man's subservience to cold institutions atrophies his soul. I'm glad that Masonry is around to fight back.

For all its simple clarity and beauty, many institutions have yet to learn how to make its format practical. Thus when Brotherhood is regarded as a universal tradition of the profane world, it seems out of place and its standing is tenuous at best. Fortunately, Masons understand the Mystic Tie and that by being Brothers we are enabled to discover what a truly great thing it is.

In the history of your own lodge, to achieve something is to respond properly to the challenge to take part in the building, strengthening, or, in some cases, re-building of a lodge which will survive and sustain the spirit of all good Brothers and fellows. The very spirit of Brotherhood, motivates that achievement. In the life of the lodge, to achieve wherever there are opportunities is a conscientious obligation. Things may not be perfect in your lodge, but a true spirit of Brotherhood can pack men more closely together in contentment than anything else.

A lodge perishes when the members no longer feel and see that there is a challenge to grasp and when they no longer feel that true spirit of Brotherhood. When this takes place, then the traditions which have resulted from a vigorous and upright response to the challenge are gradually abused and in a perverted form now become actual symbols of extinction. Have some of you seen these symbols or signs of pending extinction in your lodge?

(continued on next page)

In the history of your own lodge, to achieve something is to respond properly to the challenge to take part in the building, strengthening, or, in some cases, re-building of a lodge which will survive and sustain the spirit of all good Brothers and fellows.

We sometimes try bringing in "new blood" to help reinvigorate a lodge. Lodges can hope but too often assume that the men they initiate, pass and raise will maintain a bond with the lodge and the fraternity throughout their lives. We recognize such members as veterans who have attained 25, 50, 60 years of membership. But all too often, with so many distractions in today's society, retention is a larger issue than ever before. We can't do anything to halt the march of time and the resulting loss of members to the celestial lodge above. However, we do have significant control over the number of Brethren who having once knocked on our door, were made Masons, now find that their connection to the fraternity holds for them little value or interest.

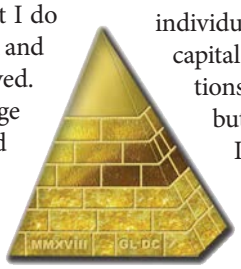
Somebody once said that the only sin in the world is un-neighborliness. Think of the Golden Rule. If this is true, Brotherhood is a singular virtue. Freemasonry itself is a microcosm of the world in perfect or ideal form: acts which make for constructive Brotherhood are a gain; behavior, conduct and attitudes which oppose the ideal of Brotherly Love are a loss. When the attitude is right and the proper goals are envisaged, the challenge will be there, and there will be a continuity of essential traditions and Brotherhood, to assure a thriving lodge. We build or rebuild an attitude and tradition of Brotherhood in the lodge when the members observe the truths and lessons of the ritual. The key to learning and labor, like the key to all behavior of the Mason, stems from the principles in our ritual – the answers are there.

The trait of loyalty goes with a giving a heart. When the heart is large, there is much love and loyalty in it, and the bond of Brotherhood becomes everlasting, almost eternal.

So we are to love our Brother, who is our neighbor. A passage of Scripture reads: *"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"* [Matthew 22: 37-40]

When men live in true Brotherhood as in a good lodge, or a good grand lodge, they are drawn to the terms of these commandments, even without knowing so. It follows as three lines by author Ernest Howard Crosby suggest: *"No one could tell me where my soul might be; I searched for God but he eluded me; I sought my Brother out and found all three."* I find that the commandment is particularly applicable to an understanding of Brotherhood. It tells man where to stand, who he is, who is Brother is, and where he and his Brother are going. What do you think?

Generational differences remain a significant challenge to be faced head on. I don't pretend to have all the answers but I do know that when Brethren focus on Brotherhood, the ritual and loyalty to the lodge and each other, much can be achieved. If a lodge belongs to the current members as the heritage of those who went before them, such ownership should bolster their pride and spirit so that they are bound to achieve great things with a proper loyalty and deep reverence for their forbears.



With due respect for the ancient landmarks so well known throughout the universe of regular Freemasonry, sometimes change or evolution is necessary. Of course, change may seem strange and off-putting to those who find comfort only in the status quo. If the very wise, experienced, longtime members, who have long labored in the quarries with zeal, really think about loyalty and dedication to the lodge they love, they will understand that it's a good thing to give serious consideration and active support to the newer or younger members who may actually have great ideas essential to the success of the fraternity in coming decades and keeping pace with a society that is very different from 50 or even 25 years ago.

It is an inconvenient truth that the members of a lodge in a struggling or poor state can scarcely be persuaded to rally around it when support is needed. Members inevitably drift away and let the lodge escape from their minds and hearts. Loyalty after all is a kind of love, and virtuosity is a requisite in a thing to be loved. A member does not have to be told to take pride in his lodge if it is a good one. Members have given generously of themselves, of their strength and their talents, to produce this greatness, and they feel compelled to give of themselves further to add to this greatness. When everyone works together to take the lodge from poor to good or from good to great, everyone is attracted to it and loyalty is cemented.

The capacity for loyalty is to some extent inborn and is one of a number of traits consistent with men of good will and character (read: Masons!) The trait of loyalty goes with a giving a heart. When the heart is large, there is much love and loyalty in it, and the bond of Brotherhood becomes everlasting, almost eternal. Brothers must sometimes move away, their destinies take them over the years to the far corners of the earth (especially in this grand jurisdiction). But pleasant memories serve to kindle the emotion of love, so that neither distance nor the weight of years extinguish the feeling of loyalty which a brother has for his lodge. But as with any relationship, loyalty is a two way street and needs to be cultivated and earned.

As your Grand Master and all the Grand Lodge officers travel among you, obtaining a deeper understanding of the achievements we have made and the challenges we are still facing, rest assured that we do so to help build a path to a more powerful Brotherhood and more ardent loyalty. As 40 plus lodges strive individually and collectively to make Freemasonry in the nation's capital truly a microcosm of a perfect or ideal world, our connections to the many communities that surround us cannot help but benefit and move the world just a bit closer to the ideal. In that laudable effort, the Grand Lodge is your partner. ▲

The Ritualistic Stamp on the Mind of Effective Leaders

Posted: 5/31/2018

BY RW BRO. CHARBEL FAHED, P.M. - Deputy Grand Master; Past Master of Justice-Columbia Lodge No. 3, Covass B. Dean Memorial Lodge, and La France Lodge No. 93

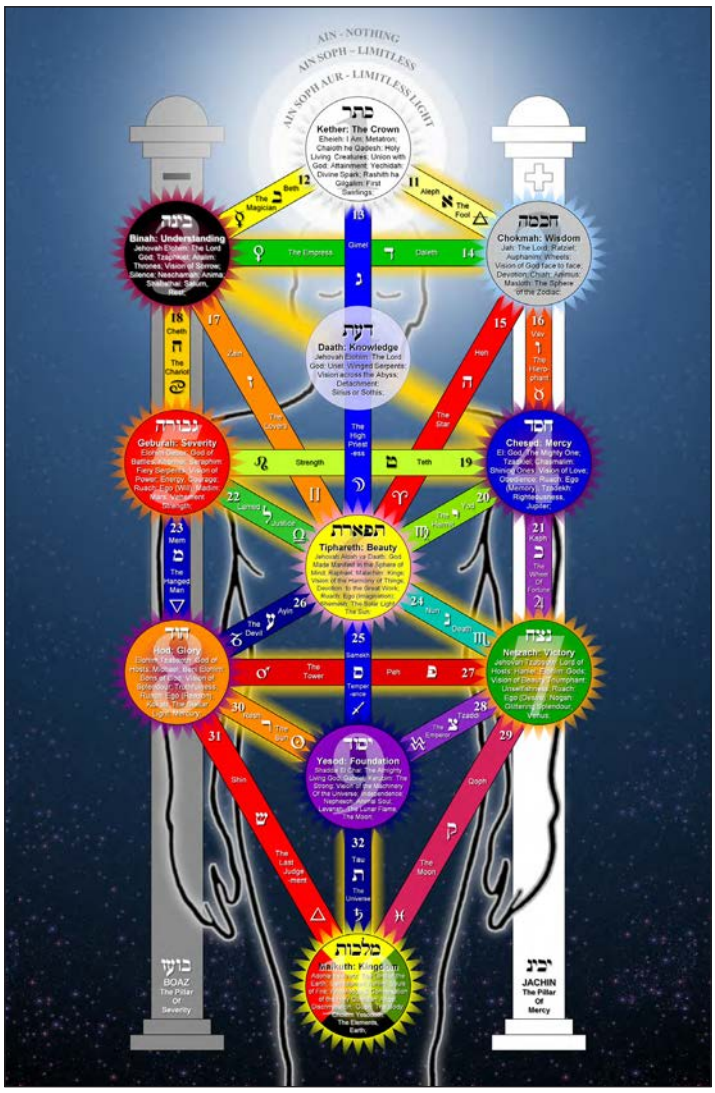
The sound of the Master's gavel resonated throughout the Lodge room brought to attention the assembled Brethren. Shortly thereafter, the gavel again sounded, penetrating the silence as the commanding voice of the presiding officer thundered throughout the tiled room which separated this august assembly from the profane world. The meeting started in a magnanimous atmosphere of solemnity and grandeur. There were several participants, namely the officers, who played a certain routine role which is by no means routine, while attentive ears hung on every word, with eyes fixed on every movement under the canopy of this sublime setting.

The impression made by good Ritual is an uplifting experience that reinforces a sense of community in the Masonic body and imprints upon the mind the valuable teachings that the serious Mason adopts when, of his own free will and accord, he joins the fraternity. By enacting these repetitious acts, we, as Free and Accepted Masons, acquire a level of comfort and familiarity to the morals and elevated truths which hold in the Lodge as well as in the profane world. These scripted words and actions are symbolic of the deeper principles which Freemasonry espouses in allegorical plays and a myriad of uplifting and instructive lectures. They are meant to open the horizons for the intellect of man to soar beyond the boundaries of what is experienced on the concrete surface of everyday reality.

In his Knight of the Sun Lecture of the Scottish Rite's Eighteenth Degree, for instance, Albert Pike speaks of this role of Ritual uplifting us on an esoteric level – for example, in exploring the world of the mystical Kabbalah: "The Allusion of the Ritual, here, is obviously to the four Worlds of the Kabbalah. The ten Sephiroth of the world Briah proceed from Malakoth, the last of the ten Emanations of the world Aziluth; the ten Sephiroth of the world Yezirah, from Malakoth of Brian; and the ten of the world Asiah, from Malakoth of Yezirah… The Active and Passive Symbols are the Male and Female." (Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma*)

RW Charbel Fahed

While Ritual effectively transmits sublime absorption of the Tree of Knowledge and consequently its emanations, there is also a practical side to Ritual in making one an effective leader. Ritual gives us the courage and confidence for public speaking. It gives us, by way of tradition passed down, the example and authority to enact decisions in the realm of ethics. This courage, confidence, and moral authority makes a degree team an ideal conduit to transmit Masonic knowledge to the newly initiated candidate.



The "Tree of Life"

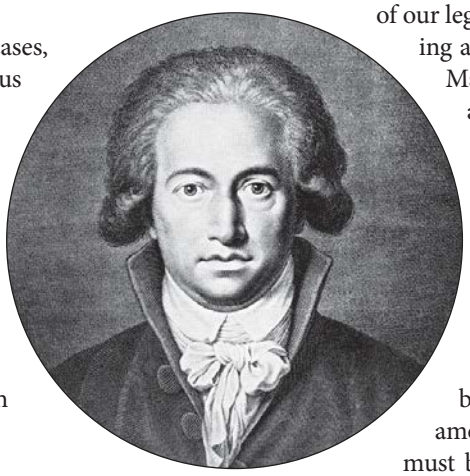
Indeed, the impression on the mind of an Entered Apprentice Mason depends on the actors of the ritualistic script. The candidate, ideally, should have the impression that nothing came out of the book, but rather, out of the mind and heart of the actor. In my view, a brother who reads the script may spoil, to use an analogy, the nutrition that the initiate is being fed, bite by bite, course after course. Another degradation of the theatrical ritual are those promptings that contaminate – taking our analogy even farther – the intended menu which is expected to be genuine and fresh to the taste of the learner hungry for knowledge.

Our Most Worshipful Grand Master Richard Bautista has emphasized time and again that the most important Mason in the Lodge is the Entered Apprentice. Nothing could be truer than this statement, for the foundation upon which an edifice is erected

(continued on next page)

depends on the quality of the foundation stone and solid ground upon which we lay the first principles of our most precious art and entrusted tenets. Brother Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, the great German writer, wisely enjoins us in his novel *Elective Affinities*: "When erecting a building, the foundation must be sound… the foundation is the mason's business… it is the chief business in the entire undertaking."

Accordingly, the ritualistic work, in most cases, makes a difference on the future of ambitious brethren desirous to learn, because it determines the level of membership skills we will have in our jurisdiction. This should be more especially impressed upon the mind of those Brethren who come forth to assume a leadership role. As our motto states that "no man should assume to a position for which is not fully prepared," so should those of us who find the time to serve the fraternity make sure that they are properly equipped with knowledge and light.



Brother Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A great actor is one who animates his role and lives each bit of its parts with all of its ingredients and then spices it with the special peculiarities of his own soul. Reciting a Ritual for the sake of recitation only is boring and useless, regardless of how well the actor may know it. A parrot-style recitation may become annoying and fails ultimately its intended esoteric message. Worse than that, a message read from a book, cell phone, iPad, or notebook is an inappropriate way to articulate philosophical allegories: this reduces them rather to a meaningless rattling of annoying words. Blame should not be placed on the candidate if during those sessions of the lecture, Degree conferral, or charge anything is not properly transmitted. The purpose of it all, most especially for the Entered Apprentice Mason, should be to excite the curiosity of the candidate to discover the secrets of our Royal Art.

In the Charge of the First Degree, a newly-made Mason is expected, in his leisure time, to converse with well-informed Brethren who are ever ready to give as he is ready to receive instruction. This is how we may maintain a healthy transition of our legacy and keep the torch of our institution shining as a beacon in the dark as well as in the Light. May we see more involvement and interaction among our Brethren to be a party to promoting our art, and thereby to deserve the titles they carry and satisfactorily attain. We must be in earnest in our business and set aside our differences, that we may head to the quarries and polish our rough ashlars. At the same time, we must exercise tolerance for the imperfections of those who may not yet be as skillful as we may deem ourselves to be. Civility and plain dealing must be practiced among us. Finally, as Scripture enjoins us, we must be ever prepared to "forgive the trespasses of those who have trespassed against us" and convert animosity to amity.

Many Brethren in the craft may be wondering how to address these issues and how to find a solution to what we may sometimes regard as an impasse. The best answer I can provide is: Read the Ritual! Read it once, read it twice, read it over and over and meditate upon it. You may find within its words the solution or answer to your question. In closing, my brethren, let us roll up our sleeves and labor with unanimity and concord, that we may distinguish ourselves in the Lodge, in the family, and in the world. Thus, will we be leaders par excellence, with the stamp of the supernal truth of Masonic Ritual upon our souls. ▲

DC GRAND LODGE

Family Picnic

September 29

Noon - 5 Glen Echo Park

Food • Beverage • Music • Face Painting • Merry-Go-Round • Fellowship

Sketches of Masonic Spain

Posted: 5/10/2018

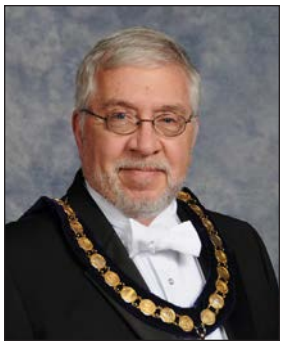
BY RW BRO. MICHAEL D. NICHOLAS, SR., P.M. - Senior Grand Warden; Past Master of La Fayette-Dupont Lodge No. 19, and current Senior Deacon of Arminius Lodge No. 25

While what happens in DC is the most important thing to our Grand Lodge, it is also important for our Grand Lodge to represent and speak for the Masons of DC in the larger, world community of Freemasonry. It was in that context that the Grand Master asked me to attend the Annual Assembly of the Grand Lodge of Spain in Madrid last February, where I joined approximately 40 foreign-nation delegates and 300 Spanish Freemasons and Grand Lodge officers at the meeting.

This particular weekend involved the re-election of their Grand Master, their Annual Meeting, and all of the dinners, tours, banquet, and celebratory activities associated with the event – all organized by the incumbent Grand Master. The Spanish Grand Master serves a term of four years and can run for re-election any number of times. The current Spanish Grand Master, MW Bro. Oscar Ortega, has been in the Grand East for 8 years (2 terms), and was seeking a third term.

The election of the Grand Master occurs towards the end of the two-day conference, so if an unexpected result occurs, the event can turn out to be quite awkward. Thankfully, this year there were no surprises, and MW Bro. Oscar Ortega was re-elected for his third four-year term.

One of the more interesting events to me was a conference MW Bro. Ortega organized of the attending visiting delegations held on the first afternoon of the meeting. These men were the Grand Masters and Deputy Grand Masters of countries throughout the world: Portugal, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Italy, Serbia, Albania, Moldova, Macedonia, the Ivory Coast, Paraguay, Germany, Austria, Brazil, Utah, New York, and others.



RWB Nicholas

The room had place-markers for each Grand Jurisdiction and was arranged with long tables in a "U" shape. MW Bro. Ortega chaired the meeting and he went around the room in order. Each delegation was offered the opportunity to provide an update on the status of Freemasonry within their country, and to highlight any issues or concerns. The meeting proved to be a lively and unique experience for me!

In the United States, we are accustomed to a provincial outlook, where our attention tends to focus on U.S. Freemasonry and its challenges: membership growth or decline, code issues, relationship issues among state jurisdictions, budgets, buildings, Shriners, Widow's Sons, and so on. It is a revelation to see some of the serious and life-affecting challenges that are faced by other countries.

They are dealing with wars and conflicts (Russia-Georgia, Russia-Ukraine, Serbia and the former Yugoslavia countries, the Middle-East, South America, and many more), worrying about the very survival of Freemasonry, let alone its growth.

They also face some serious challenges with whom to recognize. It is very difficult to figure out legitimate Masonic bodies,

(continued on next page)

particularly when they may even share the same name! And there seems to be a constant flow of new countries and organizations who seek to legitimize their Masonic identity. Some recent applicants included Lichtenstein, and entities from Mexico and Paraguay.

That afternoon's conference significantly helped to expose and discuss these issues in a productive and brotherly manner. This type of discussion, by the way, is not the norm for such conferences. After 8 years as a Grand Master in the midst of Europe, MW Bro. Ortega enjoys the respect of all who attended the conference, so he was in a somewhat unique position to offer advice.

There was some direct but respectful discussion. I was struck by the fact that Masonic etiquette prevailed, despite some very difficult and frank comments.

Puerta de Alca

One additional benefit to the experience was a better understanding of the history of Freemasonry in Spain – and a desire to know more. Of course, Spain is proud of its long and interesting history.

Freemasonry was introduced to Madrid and Gibraltar in 1728, not long after the formation of modern Freemasonry in England. In fact, the first Lodges in Madrid (*La Matritense*) and Gibraltar (*Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem*) were both English Lodges – which contributed to the suspicion that continued for centuries, that Freemasonry was a threatening foreign influence.

Puerta de Alca

The Catholic Church has been tightly integrated with the long history of Spain, and it has been a major influence. From the outset of the introduction of Freemasonry in Spain, there was a conflict between the Church and Freemasons. A discussion on this topic would fill a book – and there are many good references available to explore this conflict.

Consequently, the growth of Masonic Lodges from 1728 until 1936 fluctuated with the zeal in which Masons were persecuted by the Inquisition and the Spanish monarchy. A succession of foreigners as Masonic influencers and even Grand Masters, including Napoleon and his brother Joseph, continued to reinforce the perception within Spain that Freemasonry was a tool of foreigners.

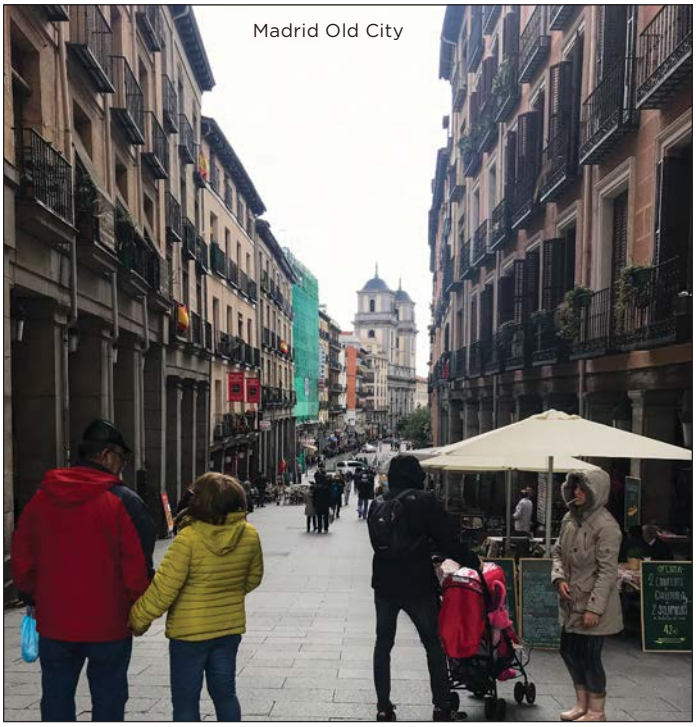
This suspicion reached a boiling point in 1936 and the Spanish Civil War, which pitted the "Nationalists" (Military, Church, and landowners, supported by Nazi Germany) against the "Republicans" (bourgeois, middle-class, communists, and socialists, supported by Russia.)

The Freemasons, although they had members in both camps, were associated with "free-thinkers" in the Republican side. They advocated things such as women's suffrage, free and open elections, and schools free from Church control. All of this was anathema to the Nationalists. Masons were viciously persecuted by the Nationalists, led by General Francisco Franco. This is even more surprising, when one considers that General Franco's father and brothers were all Freemasons.

By 1940, Franco had won the Civil War and consolidated control. Freemasonry was outlawed in Spain until 1979, four years after Franco's death. To even be accused of being a Mason meant loss of all property, employment, and a prison sentence. The authorities used Lodge records to track down all members. Lodges who continued to work resorted to no meeting minutes and no membership records. Freemasonry did not disappear in Spain, but it remained hidden until it could again thrive. It is alive and well today.

Even a cursory study of the history of Freemasonry in Spain will convince a reader that Spanish members of our Craft have paid

a far higher price than we can understand here in the United States. Other than the Morgan Affair (about 1826), Freemasonry has been a well-established and respected part of the fabric of our society. For interested members, I'd recommend a quick Google search on the history of Freemasonry in Spain, which will lead you to many quick reads and in-depth articles and books on the subject. It will help you to better appreciate the gifts which we enjoy as Freemasons in the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia in Washington DC. ▲


Madrid Old City

Madrid Old City

Puerta del Sol

Are Lodges Immortal?

Posted: 6/7/2018

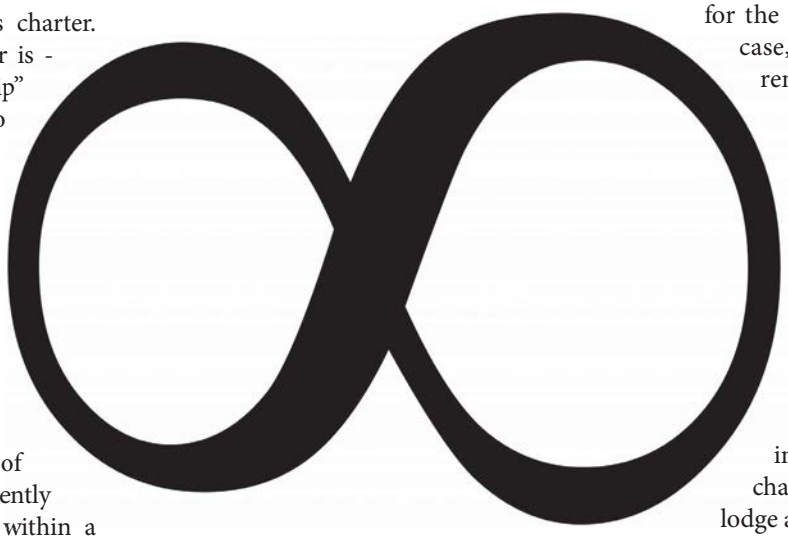
BY RW BRO. ALAN GORDON, P.M. - Junior Grand Warden; Past Master of Temple-Noyes-Cathedral No. 32, and member of Hiram-Takoma Lodge No. 25

Nothing lives forever. This is an immutable law of nature, against which there can be no disagreement. However, another law of nature is the human drive to resist that law. We constantly seek immortality, even though it is impossible.

What holds true for us, generally holds true for lodges, as well. Though their life cycles may be longer, eventually, a lodge may reach the point where it cannot hold meetings or conduct its business. When that occurs, what happens? Does the charter evaporate as the lodge dies, or does the charter pass to another lodge or group of men to continue the work ad infinitum? In other words, are lodges immortal?

I argue that while they can die, it is only in the most rare and dire of circumstances, when the Grand Lodge steps in and seizes a charter. Otherwise, a lodge may, in fact, be "immortal."

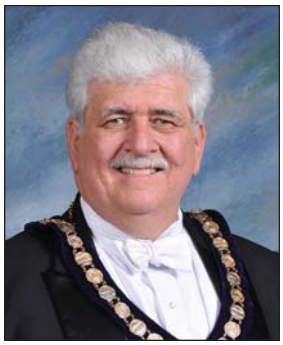
A lodge exists because of its charter. Let's not forget what a charter is - it is simply a "permission slip" given by the Grand Lodge to empower a group of men to meet and work as a lodge, with all the rights and benefits that conveys. There is no expiration date. The mandate is given without restriction or end. It is immortal. But, it might not be that simple.



In our case, the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia presently has 42 lodges, all contained within a less than 10 square mile area. In our history, we have indeed seen lodges (in rare circumstances) surrender their charter, or have their charter seized by the Grand Lodge when they stumble in their work – effectively killing those lodges. But today, we see little contraction or consolidation while we continue to create new lodges, even though some of our older lodges are struggling to fill the chairs or pay the bills. This artificial expansion is creating a bubble, in the economic sense of the term.

A bubble is a market phenomenon characterized by surges in asset prices to levels significantly above the fundamental value of that asset. The problem with bubbles, in this sense, is that they burst when the market corrects itself. When we apply this metaphor to our lodge scheme, we see how the artificial expansion in the number of lodges dilutes the whole over time. When that inefficiency corrects, many lodges are affected to the detriment of the Grand Lodge, as a whole.

So how do we fight off this dire consequence? Continuity.



RW Bro. Alan Gordon

The best-case scenario would be for the older lodge to offer its charter to a group of Masons seeking to form a new lodge. The new lodge could then honor the old lodge by incorporating the older lodge name into its own… or not. In either case, the new lodge would pick up where the old left off, continuing to work and grow. The members of the older lodge are kept on as members of the new lodge. Continuity is thereby preserved. History is preserved. A new vision and vitality encompasses the lodge. In some lucky cases, the money of the old lodge may transfer, which would provide an immediate source of funding for the new lodge's activities. In this case, it's easy to see that the lodge remains immortal.

However, absent the transfer of a charter, a struggling lodge is faced with tough choices: surrender its charter, or merge with another existing lodge. An even more rare circumstance is that the lodge has its charter arrested or abrogated by the Grand Lodge. There are instances where a surrendered charter is resurrected as a new lodge at a later date – further proving that lodges are immortal.

So, the only way for a lodge to truly "die" would be for the Grand Lodge to take the extraordinary step of seizing their charter. This is obviously a rarely used and irrevocable action on the part of the Grand Lodge. Think of it in terms of a "nuclear option." Thankfully we have only seen that happen 2 times in our Grand Lodges history – Alexandria-Brooke Lodge #2 (Chartered February 11, 1811) went extinct in 1833, and General George C. Marshall Lodge #55 (Chartered January 30, 2001) had their charter abrogated by vote of the Grand Lodge on May 12, 2004.

There is no easy answer to the question of the mortality of a lodge. It must be addressed through discussion, consensus, and the willingness to make the hard choice. The Grand Lodge can offer guidance and, of course, any action must be ratified by the Grand Lodge at one of its communications. But it seems to me that once chartered, it is neigh impossible for it to die. Therefore we must conclude that lodges are indeed immortal. ▲

From Whence We Came: Honoring the Past with a Special Veil Degree

Posted: 11/16/2017

BY RW. BRO. ADAM TAGER - Junior Grand Steward; Past Master: William R. Singleton-Hope-Lebanon No. 7; and Master: The Eagle Lodge No. 1893

& BRO. PETER BRUSOE - Treasurer: William R. Singleton-Hope-Lebanon No. 7; Senior Warden: The Eagle Lodge No. 1893; and Junior Warden: Éireann Lodge No. 98

Returning to the area that bears the name of our first master is like a homecoming for our Lodge. Over the summer, the Brethren of William R. Singleton-Hope-Lebanon Lodge No. 7 did just that, sojourning to the Glover Park area to honor their founding Master, Charles Glover, and his grandson, Charles C. Glover, by conferring a Master Mason degree in an outdoor Veil Lodge.

The Bowling Green on the grounds of the Tudor Place Historic Home and Gardens. Photo: Tudor Place

Veil Lodges are rare in the District of Columbia, largely due to the planning requirements and the difficulty of finding an area that can be properly tiled. However, when they come together, they are truly a special experience. So, in keeping with the idea of returning to our roots, we sought out a place whose lineage lined up nicely with our Lodge's. The location? Tudor Place Historic Home and Gardens, located just south of Glover Park in Georgetown.

The Glover family were very active Masons. In fact, Charles Glover was a member of Federal Lodge No. 1 in 1811 when he and eight other brothers petitioned the newly formed Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia to create Lebanon Lodge No. 7, the forefather of William R. Singleton-Hope-Lebanon Lodge No. 7.

Glover was also active in the civic life of Washington, DC, and his grandson, Charles C. Glover followed in his footsteps. Charles G. Glover, a prominent banker and active participant in the "city beautiful" movement, advocated for the creation of Rock Creek Park, the National Cathedral and other parts of the community. Later, he was honored by having the present-day Glover Park and surrounding community named in his family's honor.

RWB Tager presides over his Lodge on the Bowling Green at Tudor Place. Photo: Peter Brusoe

Tudor Place is a stately mansion tucked back from 32nd and Q Streets behind lush gardens and wooded lawns. It was purchased by Martha Parke Custis Peter, the granddaughter of Martha Washington with $8,000 left to her through George Washington's will. The home was designed by the architect of the U.S. Capitol building, Dr. William Thornton, and was completed in 1815, just a few years after Lebanon Lodge No. 7 was chartered.

Given the prominence of Martha Parke Custis Peter and her relationship to George Washington, many prominent Americans visited, including Josiah Quincy III, the Marquis de Lafayette, as well as Robert E. Lee shortly before his death. And it's likely that members of Lebanon Lodge No. 7 were also visitors to the home, attending social events and calling upon the Peter family. The estate was later added to the National Registry of Historical Places in 1960. This made Tudor Place an ideal location for us to hold the veil degree.

On July 8, we packed up our Lodge and made the drive down Wisconsin Avenue to assemble for a Special Communication on the "Bowling Green," nestled in the private grounds of the Tudor Place. Already a sunken, oblong square surrounded by trees, the Bowling Green offered a perfectly serene, private, and special spot to set up a Lodge. Additional privacy was provided by a special agreement between the Lodge and Tudor Place, whereby the grounds were closed to the general public and open only Singleton members and their invited guests.

Joined by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and several Past Grand Masters and Grand Lodge officers, the Lodge was opened under the setting sun. While Brethren from The Colonial Lodge served as roving Tilers (the prize resulting from the Lodge winning this year's Colonial Challenge), the Lodge set about the work of Raising three worthy men to the sublime degree of Master Mason. And over the course of the next several hours, each of the Fellowcrafts were led out onto the Bowling Green and received the degree in due and ancient form. It was

(continued on page 16)

Photo Essay

Laying a Wreath at Arlington National

Posted: 12/14/2017

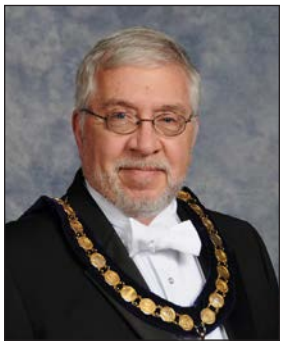
BY RW. BRO. MIKE NICHOLAS, SR. - Senior Grand Warden & Past Master - La Fayette-Dupont Lodge No. 19

As part of our annual celebration of the installation of our new Grand Lodge officers on December 9-11, our Grand Lodge hosted a number of visiting dignitaries at Arlington National Cemetery, where our Grand Master Roman Volsky led a delegation that laid a Masonic wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

The weather added to the drama, as our group of approximately 30 Masons walked in the season's first snowfall to the Tomb area. Before we laid the wreath, we witnessed the changing of the Tomb Guard, a brief ceremony that draws people from around the world. This simple, yet dignified transfer of responsibility demonstrates military precision and discipline for which The Old Guard is renowned. The ceremony takes place despite all weather conditions, in stifling heat or freezing cold, without a change in any movement of the soldiers.

After the changing of the guard, the guards returned with a beautiful wreath in the shape of the Masonic Square & Compasses. Our Grand Master, Roman Volsky led the Wreath Party, and he was accompanied by our Deputy Grand Master, Richard Bautista, the Grand Master of Massachusetts, WB Paul F. Gleason, and the 110th Grand Master Mason of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Most Worshipful Brother Charlies Iain Robert Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont.

The wreath party placed the wreath at the base of the Tomb of the Unknowns, and paused with their hands over their hearts, as the Old Guard soldiers saluted and a bugler played the sad notes of "Taps" as the wet snow fell on everyone.



RWB Nicholas

But the weather could not dampen the spirits or patriotism of our assembled group, who then were bused to meet their significant others at a wonderful luncheon at the Beacon Hotel in Dupont Circle.

This unique event was coordinated with Arlington National Cemetery many months in advance and sandwiched between the Friday night Annual Membership Banquet and the actual Installation of Officers, though it proved to be one of the highlights of the weekend for many of our guests. ▲

Arlington National Cemetery

(continued on next page)

Arlington National Cemetery

Dean of Past Grand Masters, Mallorey, Honored for 60 Years of Service

Posted: 3/23/2018

BY W. BRO. CARPENTER ARPA IV, P.M. - Grand Provost and Past Master, Maynilad Lodge No. 1521

The Dean of our Past Grand Masters, Most Worshipful Brother Donald L. Mallorey, (1983) was honored for 60-years of Masonic service in his Mother Lodge, East Gate Lodge No. 34, on the evening of March 19th, during that Lodge's annual Grand Visitation. March 19th, 2018 marked the actual 60-year anniversary of MW Bro. Mallorey's Raising.

The award and pin were presented to MW Bro. Mallorey by members of the Grand Lodge, led by our current Grand Master, Richard J. Bautista. And in an impressive show of unity and respect, accompanying the Grand Lodge Officers were ten Past Grand Masters: Richard E. Fletcher (honorary 1992), George R. Adams (1993), Robert F. Dreschler (1997), Robert H. Starr (2002), Jules S. Tepper (2003), Leonard Proden (2005), Akram R. Elias (2008), Jesse Villarreal (2011), Teko A. Foly (2013), and Jeffrey D. Russell (2015). Joining MW Bro. Mallorey was his son, Bro. Walter Mallorey, also a member of East Gate Lodge No 34.

Most Worshipful Bro. Donald L. Mallorey
Grand Master of Masons, 1983

The ceremony was conducted by MW Bro George Adams, who called on our Grand Secretary to read MW Bro. Mallorey's impressive and extensive Masonic history. After which, the Grand Master presented him with his 60-year pin and certificate.

MW Bro. Mallorey thanked all those assembled for honoring him and reminisced about his many years in Masonry and what they have meant to him and his family.

MW Bro. Bautista then called upon each of the Past Grand Masters to share their fond memories of MW Bro. Mallorey. Each remarked how privileged they have felt to follow in the footsteps of such a great man.

Lastly, MW Bro. Bautista took a moment to personally thank MW Bro. Mallorey on behalf of the entire jurisdiction for his long and faithful contributions to Freemasonry in the District of Columbia. ▲

(continued on next page)

From Whence We Came: Honoring the Past with a Special Veil Degree

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

It turns out, you CAN fit an entire Lodge into a standard four-door sedan.
Photo: Adam Tager

truly a special experience for the candidates, the Brethren, and for the Lodge.

Post Script: This is not the only connection between Tudor Place and the Fraternity. Peter Wadel was the Artist in Residence at Tudor Place when he created *The Initiated Eye: The role of Freemasons in the Creation of the Federal City*. The series of paintings just returned from their special exhibit in Wisconsin, and are back hanging in their regular home in the refectory of the DC Scottish Rite. ▲

From the Archives:

Meeting the Enemy, Our Brothers: A Candid and Firsthand Glimpse of Life in D.C. During the Civil War

Posted: 12/21/2017

BY BRO. CHRIS RULI - Member: Potomac Lodge No. 5

From the Archives highlights interesting stories of past D.C. Freemasons and other hidden historical gems found in archives of the Grand Lodge of D.C. - *ed.*

Several weeks ago, while conducting research for next year's bicentennial anniversary of Washington-Potomac Chapter No. 8, I stumbled upon a curious entry in one of its ledgers: an early account of life in the District of Columbia during in the Civil War. It's a remarkable find especially considering that masonic ledgers are almost always entirely focused on the business inside a lodge and any outside commentary was rarely captured.

The entry is split into three district parts. First, the author provides a brief history of the events that led up to the War and identifies its two causes: Slavery and the act of Secession by the "Cotton States." Second, a recap of the first shots fired at Fort Sumter and the Baltimore Draft Riot. And third, he gives a brief view of the current life in the District.

Throughout the short entry, the author paints a portrait of daily life in a state of uncertainty and discontent. The military presence was overt. A blockade in Alexandria prohibited freight ships from traveling up the Potomac, cutting off access to mail and commerce. Businesses struggled, the value of money and real-estate depreciated 25 and 90 percent respectively. The entry concludes with several clippings from Northern newspapers.

There is a trace of uneasiness and sorrow infused into the author's words. His final remarks are perhaps the most profound and touching: "*And now you see the dashing cavalry hurrying forward with orders, the dull tread of the infantry next falls upon your ear, who are preparing to meet the enemy, their brothers.*" The author reminds us that the war was not fought with foreign troops but neighbors, friends, family, and in our case, brothers. (A full transcript follows the pictures below.)

Bro. Ruli has many leather-bound books, and they smell of rich mahogany. Photo: Chris Ruli

FULL TRANSCRIPT:

INCIDENTS DURING THE WAR OF 1861

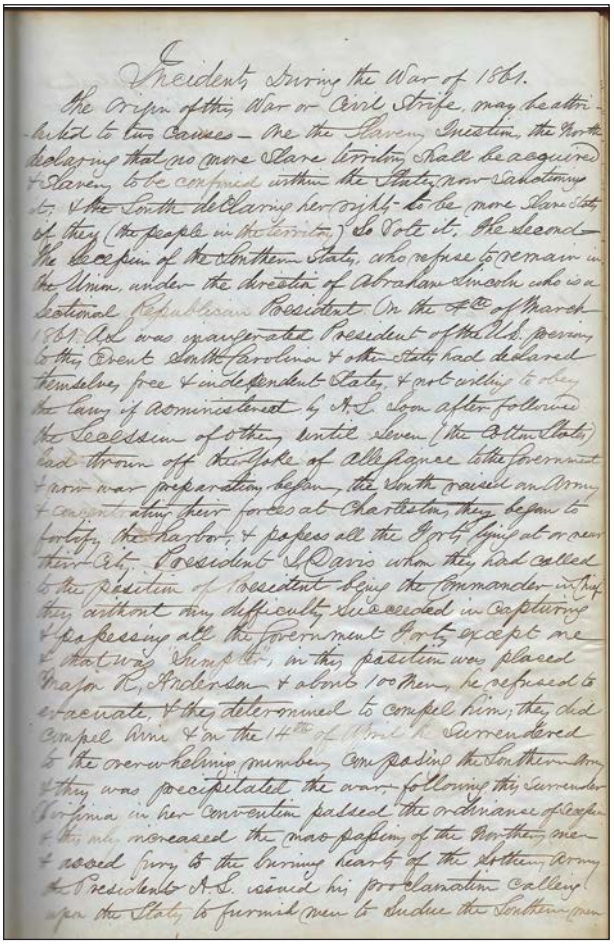
The origin of this War, or Civil Strife, may be attributed to two causes – one, the slavery question, the North declaring that no more slave territory shall be acquired and slavery to be confined within the States, now sanctioning it, and the south declaring her rights – to be more slave states if they (the people in the territory) so vote it. The second, the secession of the Southern States, who refuse to remain in the Union, under the direction of Abraham Lincoln, who is a sectional Republican President. On the 4th of March 1861 [Lincoln] was inaugurated president of the US, previous to this event South Carolina and other states had declared themselves free and independent and soon after followed the secession of others, until seven (the cotton states) had thrown off their yoke of allegiance to the government and now war preparations began,

The south raised an army and concentrating their forces at Charleston, they began to fortify the harbor, and possess all the forts, lying at or near their city. President [Jefferson] Davis whom they had called to the position of President begin the Commander in Chief, they without any difficulty succeeded in capturing and possessing all the government forts except one and that was "Sumpter." In this position was placed Major R. Anderson and about 100 men, he refused to evacuate, and they determined to compel him; they did compel him and on the 14th of April he surrendered to the overwhelming members composing the southern army and there was precipitated the war.

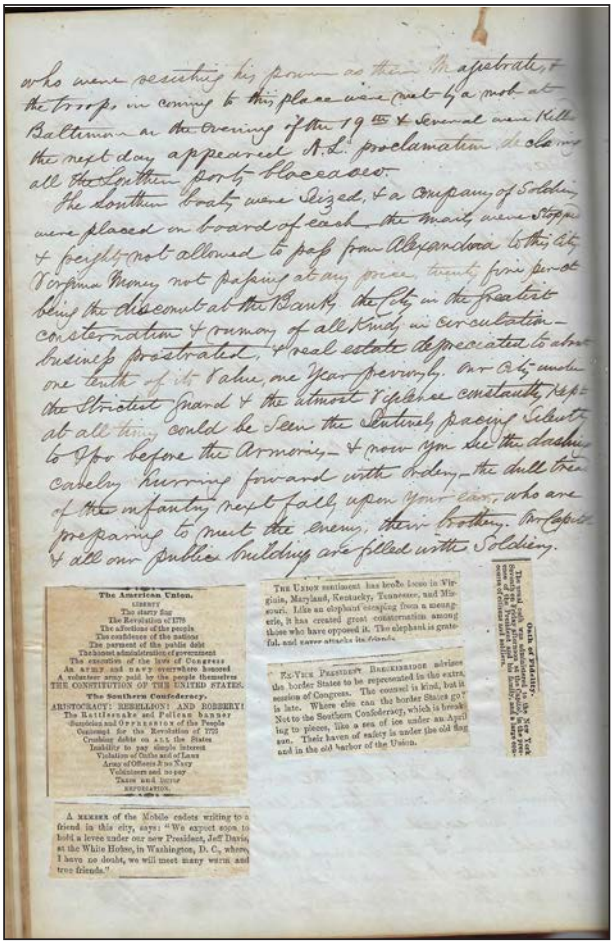
Following the surrender, Virginia in her convention passed the ordinance of secession and this only increased the mass passing of the northern men and raised fury to the burning hearts of the southern army. The President [Lincoln] issued his proclamation calling upon the states to furnish men to subdue the southern men who were resisting his power as their magistrate and the troops in coming to this place were met by a mob at Baltimore. On the evening of the 19th and several were killed the next day appeared [Lincoln]'s proclamation declaring all the southern ports blockaded.

The southern boats were seized and a company of soldiers were placed in board of each, the mails were stopped and freights not allowed to pass from Alexandria to this city. Virginia money not passing at any price, twenty five percent being the discount at the bank, the city in the greatest consternation and rumor of all kinds in circulation, business prostrated and real estate depreciated to almost one tenth of its value, one year previously. Our city under the strictest guard and the utmost vigilance, constantly kept at all times could be seen the sentinels pacing silently to and fro before the armories. And now you see the dashing cavalry hurrying forward with orders. The dull tread of the infantry next falls upon your ear, who are preparing to meet the enemy, their brothers. Our Capitol and our public buildings are filled with soldiers. ▲

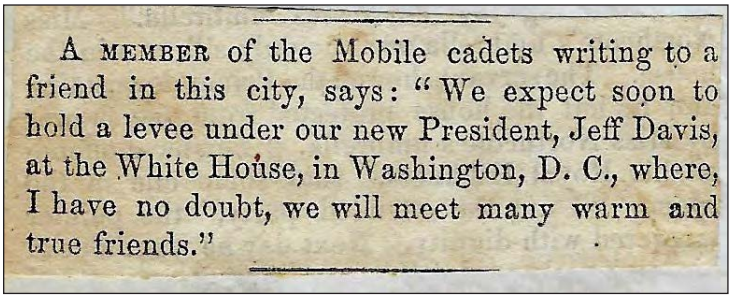
(continued on next page)



Page 1, full text of the ledger from the Archives of Washington-Potomac Chapter No. 8, Royal Arch Masons
Photo: Chris Ruli

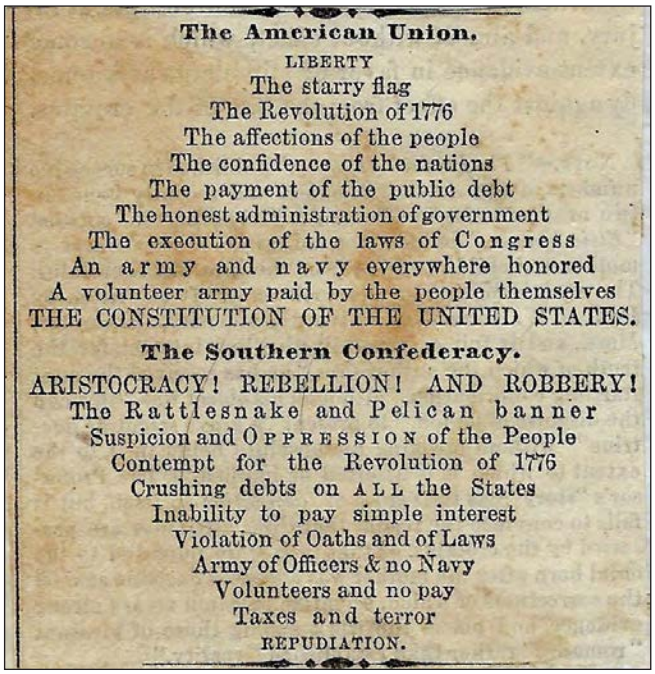


Page 2 of the ledger. Photo: Chris Ruli



A MEMBER of the Mobile cadets writing to a friend in this city, says: "We expect soon to hold a levee under our new President, Jeff Davis, at the White House, in Washington, D. C., where, I have no doubt, we will meet many warm and true friends."

An excerpt from a personal letter to a D.C. resident. During the early period of the War, the Confederacy scored numerous victories against the Union and, with morale high, the author sent the note predicting the removal of Abraham Lincoln as President and a levee held (more commonly known as a party or social gathering) at the White House under the leadership of the Confederacy's Jefferson Davis. The author had no doubt that the South "[would be met] by many warm and true friends."
Photo: Chris Ruli



The American Union.

LIBERTY
The starry flag
The Revolution of 1776
The affections of the people
The confidence of the nations
The payment of the public debt
The honest administration of government
The execution of the laws of Congress
An army and navy everywhere honored
A volunteer army paid by the people themselves
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Southern Confederacy.

ARISTOCRACY! REBELLION! AND ROBBERY!
The Rattlesnake and Pelican banner
Suspicion and OPPRESSION of the People
Contempt for the Revolution of 1776
Crushing debts on ALL the States
Inability to pay simple interest
Violation of Oaths and of Laws
Army of Officers & no Navy
Volunteers and no pay
Taxes and terror
REPUDIATION.

Political advertisement supporting the northern effort.
Photo: Chris Ruli

Printing from the Past:
Historical Documents from the Archives

Posted: 1/26/2018

BY W. BRO. JASON VAN DYKE - Grand Lodge Director of Communications; Past Master - The Colonial Lodge No. 1821

In the days before InDesign and Photoshop, printing was both an art and a skill. Like the law, it was a profession with its own arcane and specialized language; but like architecture, it also required an element of aesthetics and mechanical skill. A good printer would understand inks and papers, but also proportion, typefaces, and style.

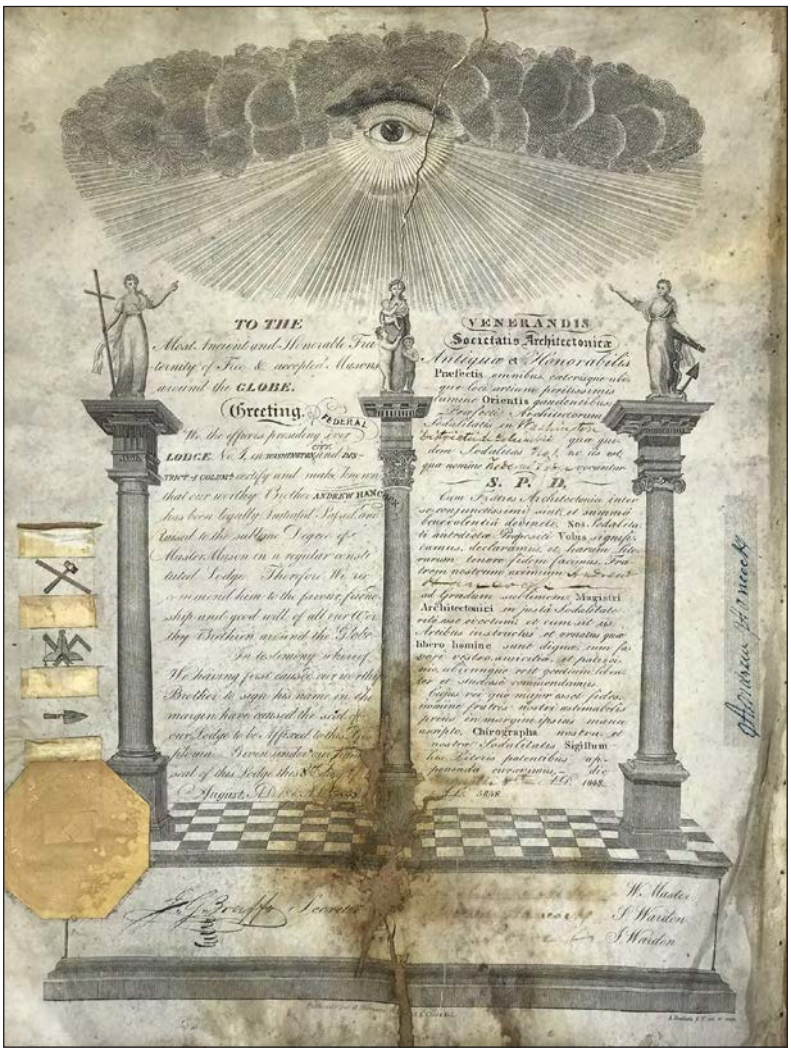
While those characteristics still define a good graphic designer, desktop laser printers have largely replaced the printer and the easy availability of desktop publishing software has democratized even design. But like most things, the product of these old master craftsmen reveals a stunning dedication to their art – physical evidence that they truly don't make 'em like they used to.

Following are examples of old printed material from the archives of the Grand Lodge. Each are notable for their remarkable craftmanship and attention to detail. But moreover, they display incredible artistry the layout and choices of graphics and typeface. (Notice the total and blissful absence of Papyrus.)

You might be able to reproduce or even improve on these documents today, but the costs would make Caligula blush. So enjoy these artifacts of a bygone day when craftsmanship was king. ▲

All photos: Jason Van Dyke. Copyright: The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia

W. Bro. Van Dyke. What he lacks in knowledge, he makes up for in confidence.



Universal Brotherhood Celebration 2018

BY RW. BRO. DANIEL A. HUERTAS - Senior Grand Deacon and Chairman of the Universal Brotherhood Committee

The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia continued its honored tradition by celebrating the universality of the craft in big fashion during the second weekend of June.

We kicked off the celebration by honoring one of the South America's liberators, Brother Simon Bolivar, who in similar fashion to our beloved Brother George Washington, was the main character in bringing freedom to five nations. The Grand Masters of Maryland, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Spain and DC, along with representatives from Guatemala and El Salvador laid a wreath at the monument dedicated to Simon Bolivar, located on Virginia Avenue, while speaking about Simon Bolivar's amazing accomplishments and their inherent similarities to those of our Illustrious Brother Washington.

On Friday evening, several lodges of the jurisdiction prepared a delicious international feast encompassing the many flavors of the world. Our guests and families were able to sample Filipino, Peruvian, German, Italian, French, Turkish, Cameroonian, Haitian, and Sierra Leonean cuisines, as well as several other dishes from the Middle East and Africa. We topped off the delicious cuisine by indulging in a round of All-American desserts appropriate for the summers months. The evening continued with entertainment by an excellent Latin band, who played classic American and Latin rock, as the crowd moved to dance the night away.

On Saturday morning, our wives and friends, toured DC and enjoy a unique opportunity to learn about the history and landmarks of our great city.

Meanwhile, the brethren were busy at the Scottish rite exemplifying the universality of Freemasonry by sitting together in our annual Universal lodge. We opened, labored, and closed employing a myriad of languages, representing the brethren of our jurisdiction and those visiting. The universality of our fraternity presents us with a universal language through which we are able to communicate harmony and peace. Several Grand Masters addressed the brethren, speaking to what they had witnessed and the importance of such symbolism in our great fraternity and for the world at large.

We were delighted to culminate the weekend's fruitful activities with our Universal Brotherhood Gala at Almas Temple. Our Grand Marshal, WB Chetin Durak, served as Master of Ceremonies, introducing the Past Grand Masters of the District of Columbia along with all visiting dignitaries. He offered his initial welcome and thoughts, and then introduced our Senior Grand Deacon and Chairman of the Universal Brotherhood Committee, RWB David Huertas, who coordinated the weekend's events and programs. RWB Huertas proceeded to thank all the committee members who worked diligently on the weekend's celebration, as well as his wife. The Master of Ceremonies then introduced, our Grand Master, who spoke about how fantastic the weekend had been with all of the families and friends together. He closed by recognizing and honoring the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, MWB Phillip David and thanking the visiting Grand Masters.

After a delicious dinner and cultural exchange from traditional South American dance groups, the salsa band took the stage and welcomed all to the dance floor.

It was undoubtedly a most memorable weekend to celebrate the universality of brotherhood in our jurisdiction, with brethren, family, and friends from the around the world. ▲

DC Freemasonry Celebrates the Fourth of July

BY W. BRO. CHETIN DURAK - Grand Marshal

As America celebrated its birthday, the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia continued its annual tradition of commemorating our nation's independence by marching with family, friends, and fellow brethren in four of the District's parades.

Our Grand Marshal, WB Chetin Durak, chaired a committee of dedicated brethren to organize parade activities throughout the jurisdiction. Despite the temperature reaching close to 100 degrees, over 300 brethren, family, and friends came out to honor our beloved nation.

In the National Parade, WB Durak led brethren from across the jurisdiction, as they patriotically carried the American flag balloon down Constitution Avenue. This is rapidly becoming an annual tradition of service for our Grand Lodge.

On Capitol Hill, our lodges who meet in the Naval Masonic Hall, proudly supported their community as they marched down Pennsylvania Avenue.

In Takoma, the crowd readily awaited the iconic square and compasses as our Takoma Masonic Center brethren, accompanied by our sisters from the Order of the Eastern Star, continued to serve as the neighborhood's cement alongside various community organizations and bands.

In the Palisades, home to our Grand Lodge offices, the Grand Commandery led the charge down MacArthur Boulevard, as brethren ensured that every child had an American flag to wave. In a bit of confusion, DC politicians found themselves in the middle of our procession with our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Richard Bautista, and the Widow's Sons coming up behind them. Back at the recreation center, our brethren continued to serve tirelessly by rolling up their sleeves and cooking thousands of hot dogs in the blistering heat for the Palisades community.

The DC Mayor, Council Members, Senators, and other dignitaries adamantly expressed their appreciation for the DC Freemasons' active role in the community. It continues to be a pleasure to ceaselessly serve and a privilege to take a leading role in honoring our dear nation. ▲

SONS OF SOLOMON

SONS OF SOLOMON

Arminius Lodge No. 25 Bids "Willkommen" to All Brethren, Wheresover Dispersed –

A Short History of the Grand Lodge's Oldest Foreign Language Lodge

Posted: 4/23/2018

BY W. BRO. MARK DREISONSTOK, P.M. - Immediate Past Master: Arminus Lodge No. 25

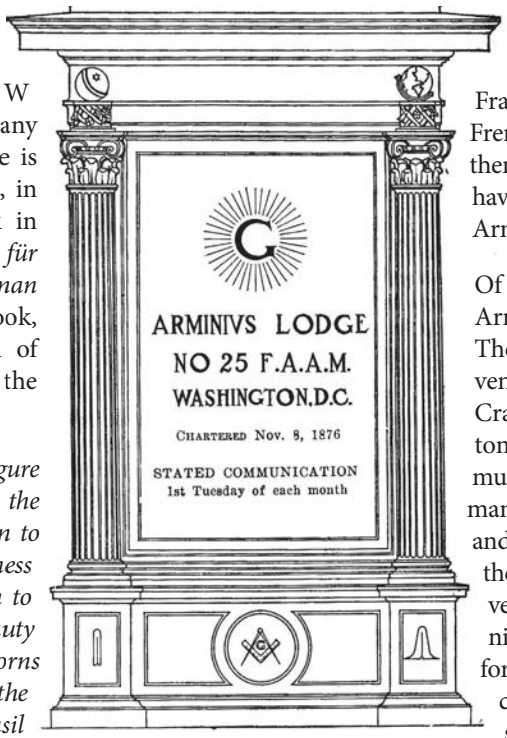
The first known meeting of Arminius Lodge was held more than 142 years ago on July 10, 1876 for the purpose of accepting the dispensation for the founding of Arminius Lodge No. 25, U.D., from the Grand Master, MW Bro. Isaac L. Johnson. The purpose of this Lodge was to conduct Masonic Ritual in the German language. As such, Arminius Lodge is the oldest of the foreign-language Lodges under the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. The Arminius Lodge charter bears the date of 8 November 1876, the day of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge that year.

The Lodge Seal to the right was created in 1876 at the founding of our Lodge, one year after the completion of *Germany's Hermannsdenkmal im südlichen Teutoburger Wald (Hermann Monument in the southern Teutoburg Forest)*, honoring the Germanic hero Arminius. An image of this Arminius monument, the Masonic Square and Compasses, and our date and city of founding can be viewed within the Seal. Encompassing the Seal is the Mystic Tie which binds all Free-Masons wheresoever dispersed.

The Seal of Arminius Lodge No. 25
Photo: Mark Dreisonstok

The first Master of Arminius Lodge was W Bro. Hermann H. Gerdes. Among the many unusual historical facts of Arminius Lodge is the fact that three years after its founding, in 1879, Arminius Lodge published a book in German in Washington entitled: *Handbuch für deutsche Freimaurer (Handbook for German Free-Masons)*. In his introduction to the book, Past Master Gerdes makes a comparison of Free-Masonry with the Yggdrasil tree of the early Germanic past:

"We find in Scandinavian mythology the figure of the Yggdrasil tree – its branches rising to the highest heavens and its roots reaching down to the nether-most regions of the eternal darkness of earth. Its branches grow from generation to generation, bestowing blessings, life, and beauty to Humanity. Before it stand the three Norns [Sisters of Fate], ever watering the roots of the tree to nourish it with power and life. Yggdrasil is a symbolic representation of Free-Masonry, for the Mason's secret is represented by this tree, as Humanity goes from darkness to light…" (M. Dreisonstok, trans.)



Arminius Lodge bulletin cover (1955)

Germania Lodge No. 160, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Baltimore, Maryland, visited Arminius first on February 26, 1877. Arminius Lodge reciprocated, visiting Germania Lodge on April 13, 1877, and annual visitations between these two German-speaking Lodges continue through the present day, as does an annual joint-visitation or *Kirchgang (Church going)* to Baltimore's Zion Church the Sunday after Easter.

W Bro. Dreisonstok (PhD)

Over the last 140 years, Arminius Lodge has played a very positive role in the Craft, here in the District of Columbia. One of the kernels of the annual June International Brotherhood Celebration took place on June 9, 1993, when Arminius hosted International Masons Celebration and invited the Farsi-language Mehr Lodge No. 90, the Scottish Lodge Sojourner Kilwinning No. 1798, the Spanish-speaking Allianza Fraternal Americana Lodge No. 92, and the French-language La France Lodge No. 93. Since then, international lodges in the Nation's Capital have — with the full support of the Brethren of Arminius — expanded.

Of course, after 140 years, the membership of Arminius Lodge has undergone certain changes. The Lodge was founded initially to provide a venue for German immigrants to join our gentle Craft and participate fully by using their mother tongue. During the mid-twentieth century, much of the membership consisted of later German immigrants involved in small businesses and seeking in Arminius a cultural link with their earlier years spent in Germany. In this vein, Arminius Lodge created a parallel organization, Arminius Social Club, that was active for much of the twentieth century. Today, the current Arminius Lodge membership consists of German immigrants, as well as civil servants and former servicemen who were born in the United States, but came to appreciate German language and culture by being stationed in or studying in Germany.

Approaching its ***sesquicentennial***, Arminius Lodge continues to thrive, and is a welcome portal of German-language Freemasonry for Brethren from German-speaking countries overseas. Arminius Lodge continues to open, close, and perform Degree work in German, but business and talks are given in English. We encourage non-German-speaking visitors, especially, to come and experience what a German-language Lodge is like!

Arminius Social Club seal

Arminius Lodge publishes a monthly Bulletin featuring events as well as articles on Free-Masonry and German culture, articles which have been later published in the *Voice of Freemasonry* as well as periodicals of the Royal Arch, the Knights Templar, and the Scottish Rite.

Please visit our website to learn more about Arminius Lodge at **www.arminius25.com**. ▲

In the East of Arminius Lodge: Weisheit (Wisdom)

Dispensation, Freibrief,

NEBEN - GESETZE

und

Ordnungs-Regeln

der

Arminius Loge Nr. 25,

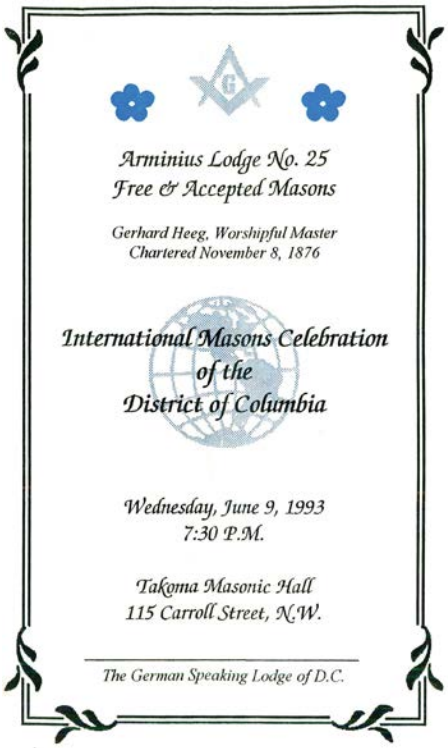
F. A. G A. M.

des

Distrikts Columbia.

Freibrief erhalten am 8. November 1876.
Revidiert 1937.

Title page of the Arminius By-Laws (Revision 1939)


Arminius Lodge No. 25
Free & Accepted Masons

Gerhard Heeg, Worshipful Master
Chartered November 8, 1876

International Masons Celebration
of the
District of Columbia

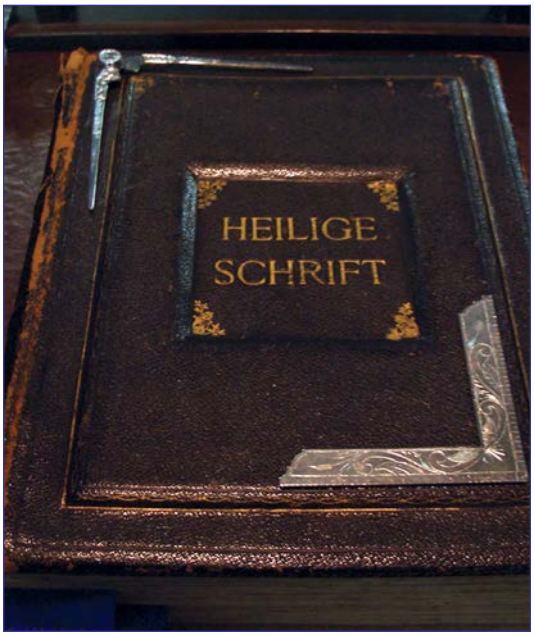
Wednesday, June 9, 1993
7:30 P.M.

Takoma Masonic Hall
115 Carroll Street, N.W.

The German Speaking Lodge of D.C.

Cover of program from the first Universal Brotherhood Celebration (1993)

The Three Norns of the Ygdrassil tree. (Heck's Pictorial Archive of Art and Architecture [1851], reprinted by Dover - public domain)



The Arminius Lodge German bible: Heilige Schrift

From the Archives:
Notable Moments in DC Grand Lodge History

Posted: 5/17/2018

BY BRO. CHRIS RULI - Member: Potomac Lodge No. 5

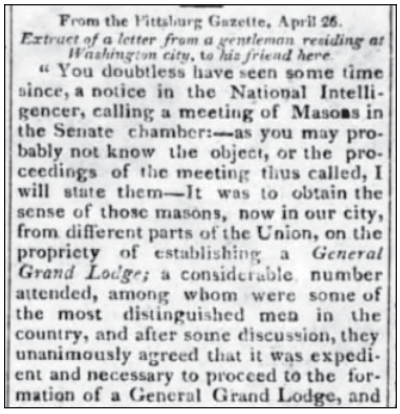
From the Archives highlights interesting stories of past D.C. Freemasons and other hidden historical gems found in archives of the Grand Lodge of D.C. - *ed.*

Most Worshipful Brother Ray Baker Harris, (GM 1957)

In 1961, Ray Baker Harris, Past Grand Master of the District of Columbia and Librarian of the House of the Temple, published the sesquicentennial history of the Grand Lodge of D.C. The purpose of the book was to bring up-to-date the official History of the Grand Lodge that was published 50 years earlier by the Grand Lodge's Grand Historian, Kenyon Harper. Harris' history provides a concise but remarkably through account of memorable Masonic moments in the District. The following are a few interesting excerpts from his historical update:

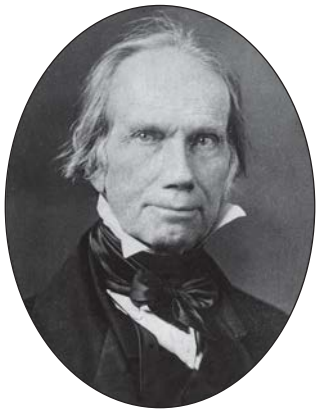
- **1820:** While the first constitution for the Grand Lodge was adopted in 1811, the first printing of 100 copies was not completed until 1820; nine years later.

- **1821:** The office of Grand Lecturer was proposed in 1821 and formally established during the 1822 Semi-Annual Communication. The office, however, was not filled until 1824, when Jeremiah Elkins of Lebanon No. 7 was elected the first "Grand Lecturer and Visitor."



From the Pittsburg Gazette, April 26.
Extract of a letter from a gentleman residing at Washington city, to his friend here.
"You doubtless have seen some time since, a notice in the National Intelligencer, calling a meeting of Masons in the Senate chamber:—as you may probably not know the object, or the proceedings of the meeting thus called, I will state them—It was to obtain the sense of those masons, now in our city, from different parts of the Union, on the propriety of establishing a *General Grand Lodge;* a considerable number attended, among whom were some of the most distinguished men in the country, and after some discussion, they unanimously agreed that it was expedient and necessary to proceed to the formation of a General Grand Lodge, and

Clipping from the *Pittsburg Gazette*, describing the meeting in the U.S. Senate about a "General Grand Lodge" of Masons.



U.S. Senator, Congressman, Secretary of State, and PGM of Kentucky, Henry Clay.

- **1822:** On March 9th, members of Congress who belonged to the Craft met in the Senate Chamber to discuss several topics including the possibility of creating a General Grand Lodge of the United States. Senator Henry Clay (above), Past Grand Master of Kentucky in 1820, offered a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, to engage with the Grand Lodges to bring representatives to meet a year later to draft a Constitution for ratification across the Grand Lodges.

- **1825:** The first Grand Lodge Funeral Service was conducted on September 26th for Junior Grand Warden John Frank.

Bro. Ruli
Photo: Chris Ruli

- **1838:** The first appointment of a Grand Lodge representative to another jurisdiction occurred in 1838. Upon the Grand Master of D.C.'s nomination, the Grand Master of New York appointed a District brother as New York's representative. This was reciprocated by our Grand Lodge to New York.

- **1831-1840:** For a brief period of time, the Grand Lodge adopted a system of three Deputy Grand Masters, which served across the three distinct parts of the District of Columbia: Washington "City", Alexandria, and Georgetown. Georgetown and Washington City, while on the same side of the Potomac, were considered separate entities. The practice served a purpose for a time but was eventually returned to one Deputy Grand Master.

- **1843:** The Grand Lodge of DC attended a national masonic conference on May 8th, to consider the possibility of forming a national General Grand Lodge. No action was taken due to lack of support across the states.

- **1848:** At its annual communication on November 9, the GL received a petition for, and subsequently chartered California Lodge No. 13. The Lodge was made up of Masons from D.C. who moved to California during the Gold Rush. (In 1850, Lodge No. 13 was one of several lodges to form the Grand Lodge of California, at which time No. 13 became California No. 1)

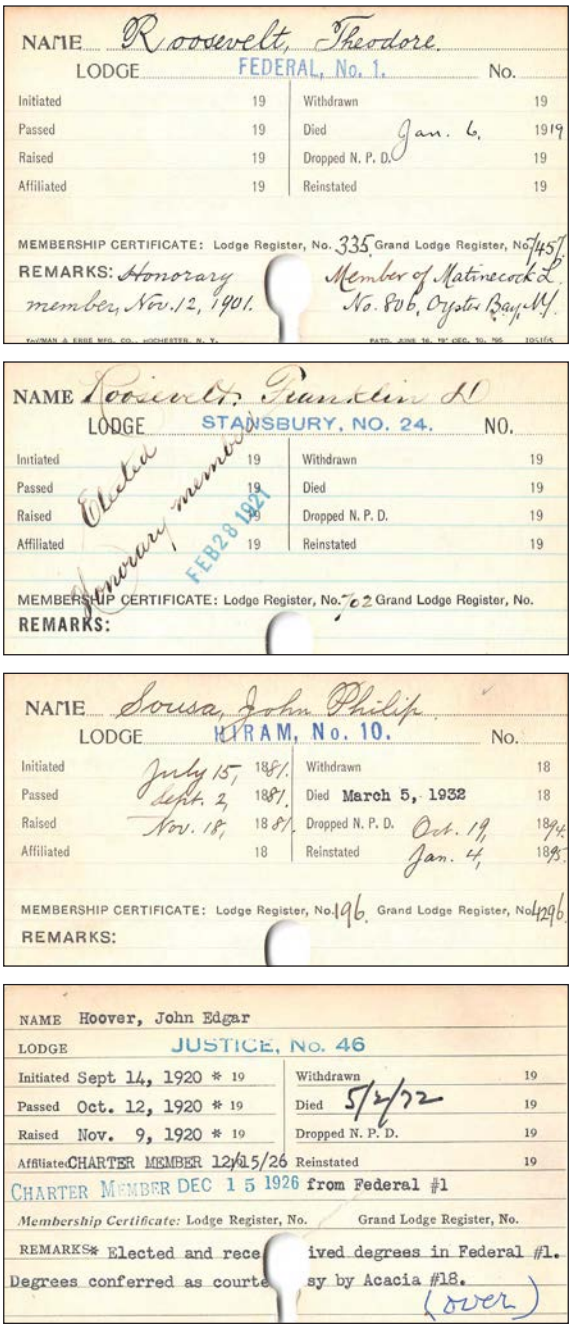
- **1858:** A proposal was brought up to the Grand Lodge by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association for financial support to purchase Mt. Vernon - George Washington's estate in Alexandria. The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution to assess each member of the Jurisdiction $1 to send to the Association in aid of their cause.

- **1863:** For the first time since its founding, a Grand Master died during his term of office. MWB Yelverton Page was succeeded by Past Grand Master, Benjamin B. French.

- **1899:** Grand Master John H. Small confers the degrees upon Admiral Winfield Scott Schley "at sight." This is the first instance of GM conferring all the degrees upon a candidate at a single instance. Small used the term "at sight" in his annual report, which becomes part of the lexicon moving forward.

Most Worshipful Yelverton Page. (1863)

- **1902:** The GL establishes its first database, the Membership Card Index, based on returns from 1811 to date. The index can still be found in the GL Office.



NAME Roosevelt, Theodore.
LODGE FEDERAL, No. 1. No.
Initiated 19 | Withdrawn 19
Passed 19 | Died Jan. 6, 1919
Raised 19 | Dropped N. P. D. 19
Affiliated 19 | Reinstated 19
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE: Lodge Register, No. 335 Grand Lodge Register, No. 7457
REMARKS: Honorary member, Nov. 12, 1901. Member of Matinecock L. No. 806, Oyster Bay, N.Y.

NAME Roosevelt, Franklin D.
LODGE STANSBURY, NO. 24. NO.
Initiated 19 | Withdrawn 19
Passed 19 | Died 19
Raised 19 | Dropped N. P. D. 19
Affiliated 19 | Reinstated 19
Elected Honorary member FEB 28 1921
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE: Lodge Register, No. 62 Grand Lodge Register, No.
REMARKS:

NAME Sousa, John Philip
LODGE HIRAM, No. 10. No.
Initiated July 15, 1881 | Withdrawn 18
Passed Sept. 2, 1887 | Died March 5, 1932 18
Raised Nov. 18, 1881 | Dropped N. P. D. Oct. 19 1894
Affiliated 18 | Reinstated Jan. 4, 1895
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE: Lodge Register, No. 196 Grand Lodge Register, No. 1296
REMARKS:

NAME Hoover, John Edgar
LODGE JUSTICE, No. 46
Initiated Sept 14, 1920 * 19 | Withdrawn 19
Passed Oct. 12, 1920 * 19 | Died 5/2/72 19
Raised Nov. 9, 1920 * 19 | Dropped N. P. D. 19
Affiliated CHARTER MEMBER 12/15/26 | Reinstated 19
CHARTER MEMBER DEC 15 1926 from Federal #1
Membership Certificate: Lodge Register, No. Grand Lodge Register, No.
REMARKS* Elected and received degrees in Federal #1.
Degrees conferred as courtesy by Acacia #18. (over)

- **1902:** The GL declines a petition from several brethren living in China to charter a Lodge in Tientsin; citing the difficulty of supervising the Lodge from such a long distance.

- **1905:** Past Grand Master Baird recommends the creation of the Good Standing Card system, which today we know as the Dues Card, and is used across the Jurisdiction to confirm a brother's standing in a particular lodge. He recommended the card be pressed with the seal of their lodge and mark receipt of payments made.

- **1905:** The constitution, rules, standing resolutions, landmarks, and Grand Master's decisions had accumulated to such a high proportion that the Grand Lodge moved to publish their first annotated Masonic Code of D.C.

- **1915:** The Grand Lodge authorized the creation of the Masonic Employment Bureau in D.C. for the purpose of assisting Master Masons, members of the Eastern Star, and those in their immediate families find employment. By 1919, the Bureau reported that it had filed 548 applications and placed 473 persons in a variety of professional and non-professional positions across D.C. The group lasted until 1928 when it was reorganized under a separate group.

- **1934:** The Grand Lodge authorized the presentation of the first set of 50-Year Membership Pins to Master Masons across the Jurisdiction who attained fifty years of continuous membership in a D.C. Lodge. Unlike today, the first set of 50-Year pins were made of gold.

- **1937:** The Grand Lodge established the Lodge Fidelity Medal award

- **1942:** The Grand Lodge established the Distinguished Service Medal award

- **1960:** The Grand Lodge approved the creation of the Masonic Foundation of D.C. ▲

The Distinguished Service Medal of the Grand Lodge of D.C.

The Valentine Reintzel Medal

The Misunderstood Forget-Me-Not
(Das Unverstanden Vergissmeinnicht)

BY W BRO. NEIL MARPLE, P.M. - Past Master of Elmer Timberman Lodge No. 54 and A. Douglas, Jr. Lodge of Research No. 1949 in the Grand Lodge of Virginia; Member of George Washington Lodge No. 820, Zum Felsenstempel No. 424 and Alt Heidelberg Lodge No. 821 in Germany, and Kemper-Macon Ware Lodge No. 64, also in Virginia

All of us have heard the story of the German forget-me-not lapel pin. We have heard that it was used by German Masons as a means of recognizing each other and to fool the S.S. and other National Socialist (Nazi) organizations in World War II. You can go to various Grand lodge web sites such as the one for the Grand Lodge of Maryland or supposed Masonic research sites, such as Phoenix Masonry and find this exact story. And, you can also go to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial gift shop, or even to Amazon.com and you will find the same story imprinted on a card that accompanies the small lapel pin.

This story is particularly significant to me in that I was raised in a lodge under the American and Canadian Grand Lodge in Germany, and at that time was given one of these pins with the card and told this story. A story that is heart-warming to all Masons.

Well, maybe not to all. When I was first initiated an Entered Apprentice in Germany, I was very surprised in that half of the lodge was filled with Germans that I knew but did not know them to be Masons. Afterwards, I often attended the Zum Felsen Temple lodge No. 424 in Idar Oberstein. Each time that I attended the lodge I dutifully wore my little forget-me-not pin.

After several visits, one of the brothers presented to me another pin and asked if I knew the forget-me-not story, immediately explaining - it did not happen. What?! How could this be?! How could this so beloved story, symbolic of the challenges of German Masonry not be true? Now, like Paul Harvey, here is the rest of the story…

Hilter had written in his manifesto, *Mein Kampf*, that "…the general pacifistic paralysis of the German national instinct of self-preservation was begun by the Freemasons." Further, he claimed that Freemasonry was one of the causes of the German defeat in World War I. The president of the Reichstag, Hermann Göring, proclaimed that "In the National Socialist State, there was no place for Freemasonry." And on January 8th, 1934, the German Ministry of the interior, using powers granted under the Enabling Act (*Ermächtigungsgesetz*) of 1933, ordered the disbandment of Masonic lodges in Germany and confiscation of all property.

On August 8th, 1935, Adolf Hitler announced (in the Nazi Party Paper, *Voelkischer Beobachter*) the final dissolution of all Masonic lodges in Germany. In fact, some of the older members of the lodge I often visited, Zum Felsen Temple, had been members of that lodge in 1935 when it was broken into by the *Schutzstaffel*

(SS) – although some had claimed that it was remnants of the "brown shirts" or *Sturmabteilung* (SA). Either way, luckily, the lodge was not in session, but from pictures on the walls they were able to round up some of the brothers who were taken away never to be seen again.

The ones that I talked to who were Masons at that time still felt deep guilt that they were the lucky ones who simply were not in town that day, or their picture was not recognizable on the lodge wall. Hitler had turned on the Masons and had made being a Mason a crime. Estimates ranging from 50,000 to over 200,000 Masons were arrested and taken to internment camps or killed. Simply being recognized as a Mason could get you arrested or worse. In this environment, who would take the chance of wearing a small blue pin to advertise that you were a Mason? So how did the story start? How did it become such a prominent symbol so associated with German Masonry?

Germany had several Grand Lodges in existence after World War I. One of them, *Grossloge zur Sonne* (Grand Lodge of the Sun) held annual meetings similar to our Grand Annual Communication here in Virginia. For each annual meeting, the Grand Master would select a pin to be given to each attendee. In 1926, the forget-me-not pin was selected and a small factory in the town of Selb, near Bayreuth, was chosen to make the pins for the meeting. And the Masons in attendance went home with the small flower pin on their lapels.

After Hilter came to power, he established a program called "*Winterhilfswerk*." This was started in 1934 and advertised as a charity to assist handicapped and other distressed people in need to get through the winter. Although collections were made by children's groups (*Hitlerjugend and Bund Deutscher Mädel*) and the SA, donations were not really voluntary. Solicitations were actively done on the streets, and the "Can Rattlers," as they became known, were relentless in their pursuit of making sure every good German citizen gave their fair share. The collections were made during the winter months with each person who donated given a pin or other trinket (*Abzeichen*) to wear on their lapel as a visible sign that they had paid the donation. Anyone seen without a pin would be accosted on the streets by the collectors until they paid. This pin was to be worn only during the collection period, and each year a new pin was selected, so someone could not use the one from the previous year.

(A small side note: During this time period, the Germans were forbidden under the reparation acts after World War I from building offensive armaments. Any military-type weapons and vehicles were to be for local police actions or defense only. The winter relief program did provide a lot of help to the distressed, but a significant part of their proceeds was diverted in order to fund the rearming of Germany.)

In 1937, a factory in Selb was selected to make the pin for the 1938 *Winterhilfewerk* charity collection. The molds saved from the 1926 forget-me-not castings were used by the workers to make the pins for the collection effort. Some Masons who had saved the pin from the 1926 convention simply used that identical pin and in a small way, cleverly beat paying the donation to the war effort that year!

Later, on June 19, 1949, the United Grand Lodge of Germany was established. Most Worshipful Brother Dr. Theodor Vogel (1901-1977) was elected to serve as the first Grand Master of this newly formed United Grand Lodge of AF&AM of Germany. Brother Vogel used the tradition from the Zur Sonne Grand Lodge and had a small pin struck as a souvenir of the convention. He intentionally selected the same factory in Selb to strike the forget-me-not pin to be handed out to all attendees.

And in 1953, when MW Bro. Vogel came to the Grand Master's Conference in Washington D.C., he brought with him a big bag of these pins. And as he travelled extensively through the United States after the meeting, he visited several lodges, each time taking with him his diminishing bag of forget-me-not pins.

During his travels, he regaled the masses with stories of Masonry in Germany and the tribulations under the National Socialist regime. Over the years his story changed, and his presentation evolved into one in which the pin was more a sign of recognition. He later claimed that he had been misquoted about the history of the forget-me-not pin and it must have been a problem in translation. However, the story lives on and has become a part of our Masonic heritage. But now, you know the rest of the story. ▲

More About the Author

Oral McNeil "Neil" Marple II was born into a military family in 1951 and spent his youth between Germany and various cities on the eastern seaboard of the US.

He attended the University of Maryland receiving his BS in Engineering in 1974 before embarking on his career in Computer Science. He received an MBA in 1977, an M.S. in Computer Systems in 1987, and a Ph.D. in Computer Science in 1997. He has worked as an Engineering lead, Chief Engineer, Project and Program Manager, Chief Technology Officer, and adjunct professor around the world.

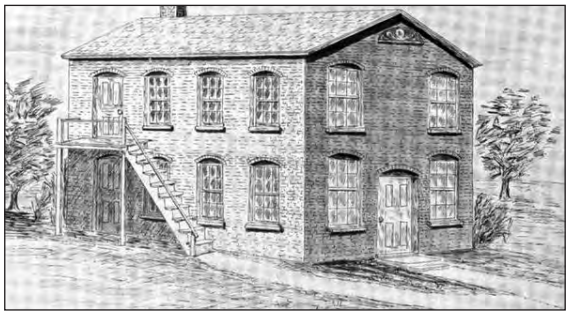
Brother Marple is a third-generation member of George Washington Lodge No. 820 in Kaiserslautern, Germany, where he was raised in November 1989. In addition to the George Washington Lodge, brother Marple is a member of several other German-speaking lodges in the US and Germany. ▲

Our First Building

Posted: 10/26/2017

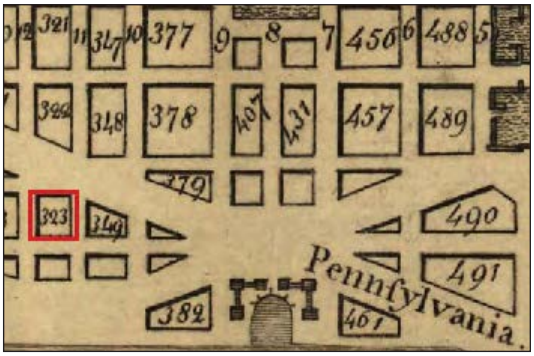
BY W. BRO. CARROLL COLLINS, PM - Past Master - Naval Lodge No. 4

We know from Harper's *History* that the first purpose-built Masonic structure in the District of Columbia was known as Union Lodge Room, on Eleventh Street NW, near Pennsylvania Avenue, and was a joint venture[1] of Federal Lodge No. 15 (now No. 1) and Columbia Lodge No. 35 (now Justice-Columbia No. 3).



An etching of Union Lodge Room. Photo: Carroll Collins

Additional detail about the building is found in an article from the January 31, 1900 edition of the *Evening Star*, in which we are informed that the property was purchased for $75.00 from Nicholas King[2], a member of Federal Lodge, and that it was a 23' x 50' parcel of ground in lot 14 of square 323. It was described as being a brick building of two stories, with an exterior stairway on the south side that provided access to the lodge room. Although a logical conjecture might place the building on the southern portion of lot 14, adjacent to lot 1, the exact position of the building is unknown: it is reasonable to assume that the building fronted on 11th Street.



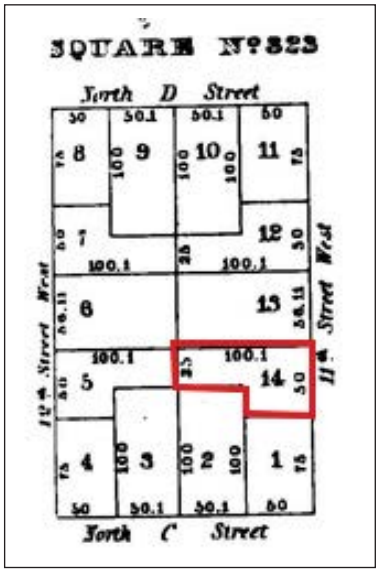
The location of square 323 on Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Photo: Caroll Collins

Union Lodge Room was used as a Masonic meeting place from 1804 to 1827, first by the two lodges that built it, and after the formation of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia in 1811, they were joined by Lebanon Lodge No. 7 and the Grand Lodge.

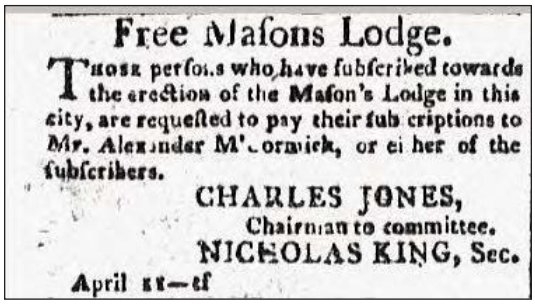
As with DC Masonic buildings today, the lower floor was rented to provide income for upkeep and expenses. The *Evening Star* article tells us "it afforded accommodations for the boards of aldermen and common council," and "was also used for many years by the old Washington library and the Vine Lyceum Society." The article goes on to say that "before proceedings were instituted to condemn the site for the government, it was under rent to colored Masons."

W. Bro. Collins, pictured here as the Master of Naval Lodge No. 4. Photo: Carroll Collins

The whole square was razed for the erection of the magnificent Richardson Romanesque city post office, with its grand clock tower. However, the location was not geographically conducive as the District's main postal facility, and ceased being used for that purpose in 1914. For decades thereafter, the structure was used as an office building. Today the site is occupied by the Trump International Hotel Washington, D.C. ▲



The subdivision of square 323. Lot 14 cost $75. Photo: Carroll Collins



Free Masons Lodge.

THOSE persons who have subscribed towards the erection of the Mason's Lodge in this city, are requested to pay their subscriptions to Mr. Alexander M'Cormick, or either of the subscribers.

CHARLES JONES,
Chairman to committee.
NICHOLAS KING, Sec.

April 11—tf

A contemporary newspaper advertisement asking for subscriptions to finance the building of a Lodge hall. Photo: Carroll Collins

[1] From contemporary newspaper advertisements, it appears that the construction was at least partially financed by subscription.

[2] Brother King worked as a surveyor for the Board of Commissioners of Washington in 1796-1797, and was appointed City Surveyor by President Thomas Jefferson in 1804, a position he occupied until his death in 1812.

In Memoriam:
M.W. Bro. Charles S. Iversen, PGM (1920-2018)

Posted: 2/27/2018

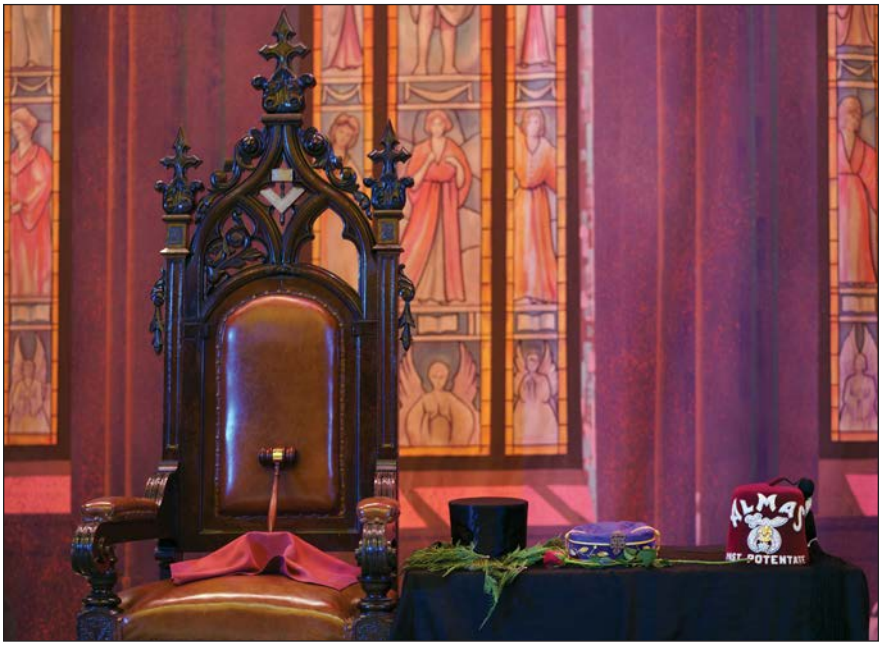
Charles "Charlie" Soren Iversen, Past Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia (1990), ascended to the Celestial Lodge above January 27th, 2018, he was 97-years-old.

A near-lifelong resident of the District Metro Area and a dedicated Freemason, Most Worshipful Brother Iversen will be dearly missed by his family and innumerable friends and brothers.

MWB Charles Soren Iversen

Charlie was born on December 9, 1920, in Cheshire, Massachusetts. His family moved to Washington DC in 1930 where he enrolled in H.D. Cooke Elementary on 17th Street, NW. After graduating Central High School in 1940, Charlie enrolled in Princeton University, where he graduated in 1943.

Later in 1943, after marrying his high school sweetheart, Eleanor Jeannette DeSale, and enlisting in the Army, Charlie was commissioned as an Field Artillery Officer in the US Army. That same year, he joined the Military Intelligence Service and was shipped to London, England for the start of World War II. He landed on Utah Beach, Normandy with the Army's 5th Infantry Division in June of 1944, and earned five Battle Stars for his service in the war.



After the war, he remained with Military Intelligence and was assigned as an interpreter to a War Crimes Investigation Team in Bavaria where he investigated murders committed by enemy combatants and civilians during the war.

Charlie returned to the United States in November 1945, and while in reserve, attained a Juris Doctorate and an L.L.B. from Georgetown University. He served as a Judge Advocate until 1950, when he resigned his commission and moved into private practice.

Brother Iversen was raised a Master Mason in Benjamin B. French Lodge No. 15 in Georgetown, on November 29, 1948, and served as Master of that Lodge in 1969. Most Worshipful Brother Iversen was elected and installed as the 146th Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia in December of 1990 and served his one-year term with great honor. In 1998, he was awarded the Valentine Reintzel Medal for Meritorious Service to the Grand Lodge. And in 2001, a window at the George Washington National Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, VA was dedicated to him. He received his 50 Year membership lapel pin in 1998, 60 Year membership lapel pin in 2008 and 70 Year membership lapel pin this year.

Most Worshipful Brother Iversen was a member and leader of dozens of other Masonic organizations and bodies, including the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, Royal Order of Scotland, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, the Grotto and the Order of the Eastern Star. He was also an active member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Rotary International and several clubs in the DC area. He traveled the world as a leader in many of these organizations and touched the lives of countless men and women with his generosity, keen intelligence and sharp wit.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Eleanor in 2015. He is survived by his daughter, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He will be forever loved and missed in the fraternity of Freemasons for his singular dedication and wise leadership. Most importantly, though, was his mentorship of countless young Masons that he encountered over his many years of service to the Craft. ▲

Masonic Charities Come Together in PGM's Name to Give $30k to DC Public School

Posted: 10/19/2017

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sadly, we lost one of our brightest lights, recently. Past Grand Master Charles S. Iversen will be remembered as a giant in DC Freemasonry, a reputation he earned over 60 years of service to this Grand Jurisdiction and his community. In fact, just months before his passing, he had organized a large gift from MESH, The Masonic Foundation, and the DC Scottish Rite to pay for badly needed computers at his public grade school alma mater, H.D. Cooke Elementary in Columbia Heights.

In the name of Most Worshipful Brother Charles S. Iversen, the DC Masonic Family (the Masonic Foundation, Masonic and Eastern Star Homes, and the Scottish Rite Foundation of DC) came together today and presented a check for $30,000 to H.D. Cooke Elementary School towards the purchase of new computers for their school.

MW Bro. Charles S. Iversen, PGM (center) tells students at HD Cooke Elementary School about his experience there in 1930.

Charles graduated from H.D. Cooke in 1932. We all know that Charles went on to do fantastic things, Princeton, WWII veteran, and Georgetown Law School. Masonically, he is not only a member of almost any Masonic body you can think of, he's probably been the head of it at some time, as well. That includes being the Grand Master of Masons in the District of Columbia in 1990.

It was with this in mind, that our three main Masonic foundations got together to make a gift to his first alma mater in the city. And thanks to the generosity of our foundations, the students at H.D. Cooke will soon have access to brand new computers – an absolute necessity today, the way pencils and paper were a necessity not long ago. ▲

Photos by Jason Van Dyke

DCGL Rededicates Boundary Stone with DC DAR

Posted: 5/29/2018

If you have ever traveled around the border of the District and Maryland/Virginia, it's likely that you've noticed the District's Boundary Stones, which are just what they sound like – simple stone markers set up to demarcate the 10-square-mile border of our Nation's Capital.

On April 15, 1791, the Freemasons of Virginia and the District of Columbia (then members of the Grand Lodge of Maryland), were invited to Jones Point, Alexandria to lay the first Boundary Stone of the District of Columbia. The event was also attended by Major Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker; the first surveyors.

Cutting the ribbon (from left): Grand Secretary Jeff Russell, PGM; RW Bro. Alan Gordon, Junior Grand Warden; Janet McFarland, State Regent DAR; Melissa Barrett, Chapter Regent DAR. Photo: Chris Ruli

For more than one-hundred years, the 40 Boundary Stones were left relatively unsupervised. Many were knocked down, chipped away, and left to the elements; one was even believed to have been used for target practice. However, interest in the stones began to resurface after D.C. historian Marcus Baker published a report in 1897 on the condition of the stones, which spurred the public to action. And in 1916, The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) took on the responsibility to preserve and protect these historical markers and began to erect small iron fences towards that effect. They have been the faithful stewards of these D.C. landmarks ever since. ▲

Boundary Stone NW No. 6

Members of the Grand Lodge of DC and the DC DAR pose in front of the rededicated stone and its protective fence. From left: Chetin Durak, Grand Marshal; Melissa Barrett, Chapter Regent DAR; Jeffrey Russell, PGM & Grand Secretary; Janet McFarland, State Regent DAR; Chip Mahaney, Grand Lecturer; Alan Gordon, Junior Grand Warden; Chris Ruli, Potomac Lodge No. 5.

RW Bro. Alan Gordon gives remarks on behalf of the DCGL. Photo: Chris Ruli

CARL R. LEVINE GRAND LODGE RITUAL COMPETITION

How does your ritual compare to that of your brethren?

The Carl R. LeVine Grand Lodge Ritual Competition is being held on Saturday October 27, 2018 at Almas Temple.

THIS YEAR'S AREAS OF COMPETITION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

EA Obligation
FC Obligation
MM Obligation
Obligation Trio

EA Degree Charge
FC Degree Charge
MM Degree Charge
Charge Trio

Funeral Oration

EA Lecture
FC Lecture (Middle Chamber)
FC Lecture (G Lecture)
MM Lecture

EA Opening and Closing (recitation only)
FC Opening and Closing (recitation only)
MM Opening and Closing (recitation only)

Working Tools Trio

New this year, the "Rookie of the Year" award will be given to a Master Mason who has been raised in the last 2 years, and competes with the "Working Tools Trio," and either the EA or MM Charges.

COMPETITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Open Division** – Anyone not in the Champion Division
2. **Champion Division** - The Champion Division will be made up of contestants that:
    a. have won in the category before,
    b. are sitting or past Grand Lecturers,
    c. hold a major certificate, or
    d. are assistant Grand Lecturers

The full competition rules and registration are available on the Grand Lodge website. Cost of registration is $25.

2018 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICERS

Front Row (L to R): Morgan P. Corr, Senior Grand Steward; Daniel A. Huertas, Senior Grand Deacon; Alan L. Gordon, Junior Grand Warden; George J. Stoklas, Jr., Grand Treasurer; Charbel T. Fahed, Deputy Grand Master; **Richard J. Bautista, Grand Master**; Michael D. Nicholas, Sr., Senior Grand Warden; Jeffrey D. Russell, Grand Secretary; Christopher K. Mahaney, Grand Lecturer; Annas F. Kamara, Junior Grand Deacon; Adam N. Tager, Junior Grand Steward

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Second Row (L to R): Franklin O. Gayoso, Grand Photographer; Quardricos B. Driskell, Assistant Grand Chaplain; Rev & WB Jeffrey G. Bodie, Assistant Grand Chaplain; Michael K. Greenwald, Grand Director of Ceremonies

Third Row (L to R): Kenneth I. Ranney, Grand Standard Bearer; Anand Trivedi, Assistant Grand Lecturer; Andre Vainqueur, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; Jean-Paul Dongmo, Assistant Grand Marshal; Eloi P. Kpamegan, Grand Photographer; Sylvanus J. A. Newstead, Grand Almoner; Pierrindo R.M. Palmer, Grand Organist; Frankel Petit, Grand Lodge Physician; Royes L. Gernandt, Grand Historian

Fourth Row (L to R): Brandon S. Bailey, Assistant Grand Lecturer; Santiago H. Gonzales, Aide to the Grand Master; Ivan A. Gaviria, Assistant to the Grand Master; Adam J. Goldman, Aide to the Grand Master; Gerhard Meinzer, Grand Tiler; Chetin Durak, Grand Marshal; Samuel Kanu, Assistant to the Grand Master; Pablo J. Cordova, Grand Sword Bearer; Carlos A. Landazuri, Grand Ambassador

Fifth Row (L to R): Joseph G. Baroudi, Grand Preceptor; Michael O. Spencer, Aide to the Grand Master; Richard C. Chandler, Assistant Grand Lecturer; Hector Ramirez, Assistant Grand Tiler; Erick Chance Koffi-Bella, Assistant Grand Tiler; Jason R. Van Dyke, Assistant to the Grand Secretary; James Frederique, Grand Photographer; Perry J. Blatstein, Grand Pursuivant; Elkanah E. Faux, Assistant Grand Chaplain

Not Pictured: Carpenter Arpa IV, Grand Provost; Bilal M. Raschid, Grand Chaplain

The Voice of Freemasonry
Grand Lodge, F.A.A.M. of DC
5428 MacArthur Blvd., N.W.
Washington, DC 20016-2524

NonProfit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 207
Dulles, VA

Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia
Richard J. Bautista, Grand Master Jeffrey D. Russell, PGM, Grand Secretary

Upcoming Events

September 8

Grand Lodge Leadership Conference

The Bolger Center

2018 Grand Lodge Leadership Conference
The Bolger Center
Potomac, MD

September 29

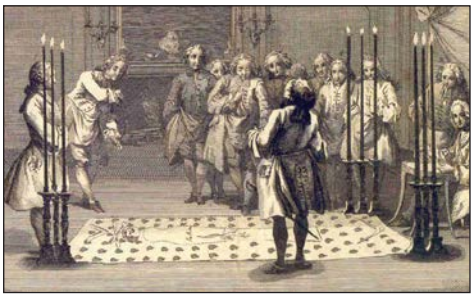
Annual Grand Lodge Picnic

Glenn Echo Park

October 13

Third Annual Carl R. LeVine Grand Lodge Ritual Competition

Almas Shrine



October 27

The Masonic Day of Thanksgiving

University of the District of Columbia

More information and registration can be found on our website at **dcgrandlodge.org/upcoming-events**

November 17

The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia

DC Scottish Rite

Scan with your smart phone.