

Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22

August 2002

Master's Message

Brethren,

At our second stated meeting last month, the Lodge unanimously elected **Brother James M. Stevenson** to serve as Senior Warden for the rest of this Masonic year. Jim assumes this office well qualified, having served the Lodge previously as a Steward, Deacon, and Warden. He presently manages our website, and is an excellent ritualist. We congratulate Jim as he rejoins the officers' line, with confidence that he will labor with distinction and make many more contributions to our fraternity.

Also at the meeting on July 25th, we presented the **Community Builder's Award** to the **Franconia Neighborhood Patrol Unit** of the Fairfax County Police Department. This small bicycle unit brings policing to the people as members of the communities they patrol. Each year they host a cycling event, and this year decided to raise funds to support Fairfax Hospital's Regional Trauma Center - the only such facility serving northern Virginia and the one which responded to the crisis at the Pentagon last September 11th. They have dedicated this year a "Ride to Remember" honoring the victims and the heroes of that day and its aftermath. Over 200 cyclists will pedal 250 miles over four days from the World Trade Center site to the Pentagon, culminating with a memorial and rededication ceremony on the morning of the attack's first anniversary. As a mobilized Reservist, I am privileged to participate in this event with my son. Please contact me if you are interested in sponsoring us to benefit the Trauma Center.

By the time some of you read this, a contingent of brothers and ladies will already be on its way to visit **Liberty Lodge** in Beverly, Massachusetts. They will host us as we spend two days and nights enjoying New England Masonic brotherhood: theater, dining, sightseeing, a picnic, a Master Mason degree, and of course a little shopping! Read the Historical Anecdote this month to learn more about this perennial tradition.

The **Reed James Simmons School of Masonic Leadership** begins as we return from our trip to Massachusetts on Sunday, August 4th. All officers and prospective officers are strongly encouraged to attend all or part of this four-day opportunity to learn both ritual and Lodge administration.

Mr. **Jim Slicer** will be our guest speaker at the first stated communication in August. Jim is a lifelong presidential history enthusiast who will discuss our Masonic Presidents. Take note of the centerfold in this Bulletin to learn their Masonic affiliation. The Lodge will be called to Refreshment for his address, so guests are welcome.

Our second stated communication for August will be a **joint communication with Archer Bailey Gay Lodge**, whose Master **Mark Arbeen** is also one of our own. Brother **Jim Rees**, Director of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, will address the brethren concerning the multi-million dollar campaign designed to improve the facilities at Washington's estate, and to educate the visiting public about the exciting life and times of our Charter Master and first President, George Washington.

We have another active month of degree work, including the courtesy conferral of the Master Mason Degree on a Fellowcraft who, like me, was mobilized to active duty with the Air Force last year. Coincidentally, we are assigned to the same agency and hold the same rank, so it is a special treat for me to raise him to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Daniel M. Clark

Worshipful Master

SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE FUTURE:

- September 14 (Sat) - **DISTRICT PICNIC**: Coast Guard Station, Alexandria
- October 12 (Sat) - **FAMILY DAY**: Masonic Home, Richmond
- October 19 (Sat) - **LADIES' NIGHT**: George Washington Masonic National Memorial - Organ recital by Gordon Turk

ALEXANDRIA-WASHINGTON LODGE No. 22
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
The George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Post Office Box 4330
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Memorial Phone: (703) 683-2007 -- Lodge Phone: (703) 299-6122

August 2002 - Trestleboard

Day	Time	Activity
Fri 8/2/2002 - Sun 8/4/2002		VISIT LIBERTY LODGE: Beverly, Massachusetts
Sun 8/4/2002 - Wed 8/7/2002		REID JAMES SIMMONS ACADEMY OF MASONIC LEADERSHIP: Fork Union Military Academy
Thu 8/8/2002	7:30 pm	STATED COMMUNICATION: Refreshments to follow Guest Speaker: Jim Slicer, Presidential Historian
Sun 8/11/2002	1:00 pm	OFFICERS' LUNCHEON: Army Navy Country Club, Arlington
Sun 8/18/2002	7:00 pm	LODGE RITUAL SCHOOL: Master Mason Degree
Mon 8/19/2002	7:00 pm	CALLED COMMUNICATION: Master Mason Degree
Wed 8/21/2002	7:00 pm	VISITING LODGES: Six lodges from Scotland
Thu 8/22/2002	7:30 pm	STATED COMMUNICATION: Dinner at 7:00 PM Joint communication with Archer Bailey Gay Lodge Brother Jim Rees, Director, Mount Vernon Association Masonic birthday recognition
Sat 8/24/2002	6:00 pm	SCOTTISH RITE BLUE LODGE VISITATION: Dinner and Program
Sun 8/25/2002	7:00 pm	LODGE RITUAL SCHOOL: Fellowcraft Degree
Mon 8/26/2002	7:00 pm	CALLED COMMUNICATION: Fellowcraft Degree

STATED COMMUNICATIONS - The stated communications of this Lodge shall be held at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial (GWMNM), Alexandria, Virginia on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, except on the fourth Thursday of November and December, on December 27th (the anniversary of Saint John the Evangelist) for installation of officers, at 7:30 pm, and at 4:00 pm on the day observed by governmental regulations or the GWMNM in celebration of George Washington's birthday. When such dates fall on a Sunday, the stated communication shall be held on the Saturday before or the Monday following.

CALLED COMMUNICATIONS - Usually on Mondays as announced herein.

YOUTH MEETINGS AT GWMNM - Alexandria-Washington Chapter, International Order of DeMolay, meets the first and third Sundays at 2 pm in the North Lodge Room. Bethel No. 22, International Order Jobs Daughters, meets the first and third Sundays at 6 pm in the North Lodge Room.

HISTORICAL ANECDOTES

Fraternal Relations with Liberty Lodge, Beverly, Massachusetts

From August 2nd-4th, Alexandria-Washington Lodge members and wives will visit Liberty Lodge in Beverly, Massachusetts, a trip we make every four years. These visits between our lodges began with Liberty Lodge members and wives visiting Alexandria-Washington Lodge in May 1958 and again in May 1964. Alexandria-Washington members and wives responded by visiting Liberty Lodge in September 1958 and in September 1964. These visits have continued every two years on even years, alternating between Virginia and Massachusetts.

Liberty Lodge's relationship with the George Washington Masonic National Memorial actually began in October, 1852, long before the construction of the temple. In that year, Fredricksburg Lodge No. 4 requested donations toward erecting a monument to George Washington. Liberty Lodge responded and became the first lodge to subscribe to the Memorial building fund.

Then in 1889, Liberty Lodge attended the 100th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as President. On February 22nd of the following year, our lodges began joint annual celebrations of George Washington's birthday. Alexandria-Washington member Charles H. Callahan, who became Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in 1924, visited Liberty Lodge in 1891. Frequent visits by individual members continued thereafter. The custom developed such that Liberty Lodge now sends a representative to our Washington birthday celebration in odd years, and we send a representative to Liberty Lodge's celebration in even years. Worshipful George Seghers represented us in Massachusetts this year.

Fraternal Relations with Constitution Lodge No. 294, Beverly, England

In 1891, two English sea captains docked in Boston and visited Liberty Lodge. That led, in June 1893, to Liberty Lodge sending formal congratulations to Constitution Lodge No. 294, Beverly, England, for the celebration of their 100th anniversary. Constitution Lodge then began celebrating George Washington's birthday annually in 1894. All three lodges have also since then presented noteworthy gifts to each other and had honorary members in the other two lodges. In May 1972, Liberty Lodge and Alexandria-Washington Lodge first visited Constitution Lodge together. The visits with Constitution Lodge have continued every three years, alternating between the United States and England. A contingent from Alexandria-Washington Lodge and Liberty Lodge visited Constitution Lodge in 2001. Right Worshipful Jack Canard leads a committee to prepare for Constitution Lodge's visit to us in 2004.

*Compiled from notes furnished by Worshipful George Haile, Liberty Lodge
Lucian Guthrie, Lodge Education Officer*

United States Presidents and Freemasonry

14 presidents are generally considered to have been Freemasons

- **George Washington** (1732-1799) served as President from 1789-1797
EA Nov 4, 1752, FC Mar. 3, 1753, MM Aug. 4, 1753, in Fredricksburg Lodge (later No. 4), Virginia, MM 1753, named Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge #22, in Alexandria, VA, April 28, 1788, and reelected Dec. 20, 1788.
- **James Monroe** (1758-1831) served as President from 1817-1825
EA in Williamsburg Lodge #6 at Williamsburg, VA, Nov. 9, 1775, but there is no record of his taking any further degrees. The records of Cumberland Lodge #8 in Tennessee, June 8, 1819, show a reception for Monroe as "a Brother of the Craft" possibly received the MM in 1776
- **Andrew Jackson** (1767-1845) served as President from 1829-1837
MM 1800?, his lodge is un-known but he is said to have attended at Clover Bottom Lodge under the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. He was present in lodge at Greeneville in 1801 and acted as Senior Warden pro tempore. The records of St. Tammany Lodge #29 at Nashville, which became Harmony Lodge #1 under the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, show that Jackson was a member. Very active in Freemasonry, Grand Master of Tennessee 1822-1823
- **James Knox Polk** (1795-1849) served as President from 1845-1849
EA, FC, MM, in Columbia Lodge #31, Columbia, Tenn., 1820, exalted a Royal Arch Mason in LA; Fayette Chapter #4 at Columbia in 1825
- **James Buchanan** (1791-1868) served as President from 1857-1861
EA Dec. 11, 1816, Lancaster Lodge #43, Lancaster, PA, FC & MM 1817, Junior Warden 1821-1822, Master 1825, exalted in Royal Arch Chapter # 43, in 1826, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
- **Andrew Johnson** (1808-1875) served as President from 1865-1869
EA, FC, MM, in Greeneville Lodge No. 119 now #3 at Greeneville, Tenn. in 1851, probably a member of Greeneville Chapter #82, Royal Arch Masons, since he joined Nashville Commandery of Knights Templar #1 in 1859; received the Scottish Rite degrees in the White House in 1867
- **James Abram Garfield** (1831-1881) served as President from March 4, 1881 - September 19, 1881 (died in office)
EA & FC Magnolia Lodge #20, Columbus, Ohio, MM Columbus Lodge #30, 1864, Affiliated with Garrettsville Lodge #246 in 1866, Affiliated with Pentalpha Lodge #23 Washington, D. C. as charter member in 1869. Exalted in Columbus Royal Arch Chapter 1866, and Knight Templar 1866, 14th Degree Scottish Rite 1872
- **William McKinley** (1843-1901) served as President from 1897-1901
said to have received the EA, FC, and MM in Hiram Lodge #10 in Winchester, West Virginia in 1865 (William Moseley Brown is the authority for the statement that this event took place in Hiram Lodge #21 at Winchester, Virginia in that year). McKinley affiliated with Canton Lodge #60 at Canton, Ohio in 1867 and later became a charter member of Eagle Lodge #43. He received the Capitular degrees in Canton in 1883 and was made a Knight Templar in 1884
- **Theodore Roosevelt** (1858-1919) served as President from 1901-1909
EA, FC, MM, in Matinecock Lodge #806, Oyster Bay, NY in 1901.
- **William Howard Taft** (1857-1930) served as President from 1909-1913
EA Feb. 18, 1909, MM "Mason at Sight" in Kilwinning Lodge #356, Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1901?, Evidently, that made him a member at large, for the Grand Lodge issued him a demit and he became a member of the Lodge.
- **Warren Gamaliel Harding** (1865-1923) served as President from 1921-1923
EA Lodge #70, Marion, Ohio, Jun 28, 1901, received no other degree until after becoming U.S. President. FC & MM in Marion Lodge #70 in 1920; MM Aug. 27, 1920; Royal Arch Chapter degrees in Marion Chapter #62 in 1921; Knight Templar in Marion Commandery #36, in 1921, Scottish Rite and Shrine in 1921
- **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** (1882-1945) served as President from 1933-1945
EA Oct 11, 1911, FC, MM, in Holland Lodge #8, New York City, in 1911, Scottish Rite in Albany Consistory 1929, Shrine in 1930.
- **Harry S. Truman** (1884-1972) served as President from 1945-1953
EA Feb. 9, 1909, Belton Lodge #450, Grandview, Missouri, MM 1909. In 1911, Truman was the 1st WM of the new Grandview Lodge #618. Grand Master of Missouri 1940-1941. Very active and supportive of Freemasonry, Master of Missouri Lodge of Research while U.S. President, Masonic Ritualist, district lecturer and deputy Grand Master for several years, buried with Masonic rites in Independence, MO, in televised ceremony.
- **Gerald Rudolph Ford** (1913-xxxx) served as President from 1974-1977
EA Sep. 30, 1949, Malta Lodge #465, Grand Rapids, Michigan, courtesy FC & MM Columbia Lodge #3, Washington, D.C., Apr. 20 & May 18, 1951

Also...

- **Thomas Jefferson** (1743-1826) served as President from 1801-1809

There have been reports that he was a Freemason, but most researchers now believe there is no evidence to support.

- **Lyndon Baines Johnson** (1908-1973) served as President from 1963-1969

It is reported that he took the Entered Apprentice, or 1st Degree, but did not continue to the 2nd and 3rd degrees. EA Oct. 30, 1937, in Johnson City Lodge #561, Johnson City, TX.

From the website of brother Paul M. Bessel at www.bessel.org