

Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22

July & August 1979

FROM THE EAST

Brethren.

Occasionally a Master or Secretary receives a letter, note, or a comment from a brother indicating he should drop out, because he has not been to lodge in years, lives too far away, or is too old to ever return to lodge. Having been confronted with similar comments this year prompts me to refer our Brethren to a Pamphlet published by the 1973 Committee For The Advancement of Freemasonry & Masonic Education by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, which is quoted in full as follows:

IS MASONRY WORTHWHILE?

Masonry is like a lot of other attractive organizations: Men go to the trouble and expense of becoming members, then neglect to take an active interest.

This is understandable, because so many things compete for our interest, and we can't be active in every worthwhile project ... WITH ONE EXCEPTION, AND THAT ONE IS MASONRY. This is a big statement and deserves an explanation.

First, let us make this observation: The most active and honored men in Masonry invariably, claim that the rewards have far out-weighted their contributions to the Fraternity. This is a significant statement, for it drives home the fact that Freemasonry does things for its members if given a chance.

Should Attend And Take Part

If a man attends Lodge and takes part in its activities, he will be impressed over and over again with the great lessons of morality and philosophy; and he will be a part of a fellowship not available anywhere else. In the Lodge he finds brethren...they may be rich or poor... they may be rulers or subjects...they may be professional men or laborers...they may be Gentile or Jew, or some other religious faith...and they are all there for the same purpose...to make themselves, wiser, better, and happier...to make themselves better family men; better church men, and better neighbors.

A study of Masonry reveals that many great men of today and yesterday have traveled the same path that you did, seeking enlightenment and brotherhood; and this knowledge must give you a thrill... to know that you share the same truth and responsibility once shared by George Washington, Douglas McArthur, and J. Edgar Hoover, and now shared by thousands of others in many lands.

A reminder: Don't be afraid to attend Lodge and join in this fellowship. If you have forgotten the "secrets," your Lodge Secretary can vouch for you and see that you are admitted without an examination. BUT... suppose that for various reasons you can't attend Lodge very often or take part in its activities... under these circumstances, is Masonry worthwhile? Let us see...

First, if a Mason never went to Lodge, but wore a Masonic emblem and lived as a Mason should, he is contributing something by his example to the world. In just paying his dues he helps support destitute Masons, their wives, their widows, and their orphans. And he helps our youth by supporting the Order of Rainbow for Girls and the Order of DeMolay for Boys, both of which develop good citizens.

"Masonic Payday" Every Day

Having considered what you have gained by merely being a contributor; let us pretend that you still feel somewhat selfish and don't think that you are getting anything out of Masonry. All of us know that it is un-Masonic to wear an emblem merely for financial reasons or other matters pertaining to self-advancement. However, if a Mason were of this mind or thought about monetary gain, he would find that his investment in Masonry is one of the best that he ever made... Why? BECAUSE one Mason will usually try to help another in some way if he can... just because they are both Masons, and not because there is any obligation to do so. This is important in today's fast-moving world of many human contacts.

Brethren help one another through the joy and satisfaction that it gives them. Also, more often than not the man who receives such assistance never knows that some good brother was responsible. Therefore, if you happen to believe that Masonry is doing nothing for you, the answer is that you don't know how many times you had help, unsolicited and unknown. Of course, no good Mason evaluates his membership on dollars and cents, but he would be cheating himself if he dropped out because of the dues he hates to pay. To repeat, the Masonic member who drops out of Lodge because he hates to pay dues is cheating himself. There is nothing else that costs so little and gives such great satisfaction, enjoyment, and reward as Masonry.

Is Masonry worthwhile? Consider, then answer for yourself. When you do, you will probably decide to try and do more for the Fraternity because it has done a lot for you... and the more you do, the greater will be your reward - spiritual, better appreciation of human values, financial, or all three.

Brethren, don't you agree that MASONRY IS WORTHWHILE. So don't ever drop out for NON-PAYMENT OF DUES, because that is the same as purchasing merchandise at a store and refusing to pay for it. If in the event you should ever want to leave the lodge, pay up all current and delinquent dues, request a Demit and a statement of good standing. Otherwise, as far as the lodge is concerned you have left a debt unpaid and it will be so recorded throughout the history of the lodge. If you do NOT have a current Dues Card (1979) wouldn't this be a good time, while it is fresh on your mind to write the lodge a check for current and delinquent dues that you owe and mail it to our Secretary. I know he, the Brethren of the lodge and I will be most grateful to all who will comply with this request.

Please save this Trestleboard, because none will be published in August. May you and all those dear to you have a wonderful summer.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE PICNIC ON JULY 8th.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Jason W. Snyder
Worshipful Master

ALEXANDRIA-WASHINGTON LODGE No. 22
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
The George Washington Masonic National Memorial
Post Office Box 4330
Alexandria, Virginia 22303-0330
Memorial Phone: (703) 683-2007 -- Lodge Phone: (703) 299-6122

JULY & AUGUST 1979 - TRESTLEBOARD

Day	Time	Activity
Sun 07/08/1979	10:00 am - 5:00 pm	PICNIC - Fort Hunt Park, Area "A" - Each family please bring a covered dish - Vegetable - Salad - or Dessert
Mon 07/09/1979	7:00 pm	LODGE SCHOOL for Brethren who are NOT Officers
Thu 07/12/1979	7:30 pm	STATED MEETING - Patriotic Night
Mon 07/23/1979	7:00 pm	CALLED MEETING - E.A. Degree
Wed 07/25/1979	7:00 pm	LODGE SCHOOL - Officers ONLY
Thu 07/26/1979	7:30 pm	STATED MEETING - Business - Birthdays - Grand Master's Official Visit
Mon 07/30/1979	7:00 pm	CALLED MEETING - F.C. Degree
Thu 08/09/1979	7:30 pm	STATED MEETING - Business - Shrine Night
Thu 08/23/1979	7:30 pm	STATED MEETING - Business - Birthdays
Mon 08/27/1979	7:00 pm	LODGE SCHOOL for Brethren who are NOT Officers

STATED COMMUNICATIONS: Second and Fourth Thursdays of each month except Thanksgiving, Observance of George Washington's Birthday and December 27th

We meet at 7:30 unless otherwise stated.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC NATIONAL MEMORIAL

CANDIDATE INSTRUCTION: Every Tuesday and Wednesday, 7:00 until 9:00 pm in Alexandria-Washington Lodge Room.

THOSE DESIRING INSTRUCTIONS IN COACHING SHOULD CONTACT THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER. THOSE WILLING TO COACH CONTACT THE JUNIOR DEACON.

OTHER EVENTS IN THIS AREA

Day	Time	Activity
Tue 08/07/1979	11:00 am	Skidmore Daylight Lodge No. 237 - DEO's Official Visit

VISTING LODGE

Day	Time	Activity
Sat 08/18/1979	2:00 pm	Columbia Lodge No. 91 - F.&A.M., Philadelphia, Pa. F.C. Degree

BLUE LODGE SCHOOLS

- July 16 through 19 - John T. Cochran Memorial School at Ft. Defiance, Va.
 - August 12 through 16 - Southwest Masonic School at Blacksburg, Va.
- NOTE: The Lodge will pay for rooms for lodge members and their families, but not for their meals. It is our hope all Officers will attend the school of their choice. This also applies to the Brethren who are interested in learning a lecture degree work.

SHRINE NIGHT SHRINER'S UNWRITTEN LAW

The Shriner's Unwritten Law, hereby quoted, is taken from the March issue of Kena Temple's KENAGRAM.

"A Shriner is expected to display the emblem of the order always, and always recognize it when worn by other men. Formal introductions should be unnecessary between Shriners.

The Fez is his hallmark. He wears it for all Shrine functions. He does not remove his Fez indoors nor in salute to the flag (execute a right hand salute). He does remove his Fez at prayer when the Fez should be held in the right hand over the heart. He must be certain never to wear the Fez anywhere he would not take his wife, mother or daughter.

A Shriner never forgets that while the Shrine is not a branch of the great Masonic profession, he himself is a part of it. However humble that part, it is within his power by misconduct to discredit Masonry. He must remember that in the eyes of the public, the Shrine is Masonry. Differences well known to him are unknown to others.

To a Shriner the emblem of the Shrine worn by a woman places her under his care and protection. He may not avoid the responsibility. The emblem does not license him to speak, but it does compel a constant watchfulness over the wearer's safety and comfort."

REMEMBER

LODGE PICNIC

JULY 8TH - 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

**AT
FORT HUNT PARK - AREA "A"**

**EACH FAMILY TO BRING A COVERED DISH
VEGETABLE, SALAD OR DESSERT
Will Do The Trick**

**COME ONE COME ALL
A DAY OF FUN AND FESTIVITY FOR ALL**

**GRAND MASTER WILL OFFICIALLY VISIT
ALEXANDRIA-WASHINGTON LODGE NO. 22, A.F.&A.M.
JULY 26, 1979**



MOST WORSHIPFUL MATTHEW LYLE LACY, II
135th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia

Matthew Lyle Lacy, II was born at Glade Springs, Washington County, Virginia. He was educated in the Public Schools of Washington and Rockingham Counties, graduating first in the Class of '38 from Mt. Clinton High School. He received the degree of Bachelor of Science from Hampden Sydney College in 1941. He served in civilian capacities as the Post Engineer at Camp Pickett, Virginia in 1942. He taught science and mathematics in High Schools prior to receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Medical College of Virginia in March 1946. His internship was served at Lewis Gale Hospital, Roanoke, Virginia and his residency was served in General Surgery at the McGuire Veterans Administration Hospital, Richmond, Virginia. In 1954 he opened his practice in General Surgery in South Hill, Virginia and has made his home there since that date. He has served as Chief of Staff of Community Memorial Hospital on two occasions and as Chief of the Surgical Service since 1961.

He is a life long member of the Presbyterian Church with present membership in the South Hill Presbyterian Church where he has served on the Board of Deacons and for several years as an Elder.

His military service includes three years as an enlisted man (1943-46) and as a Commissioned Officer, Medical Corps, Army of The United States from 1946 to 1950 at which time he was honorably discharged as a Captain.

Brother Lacy was raised in South Hill Lodge No. 297, August 16, 1956 and served as its Master in 1961. He also holds membership in Archer Bailey Gay Lodge No. 275, Bicentennial Lodge No. 1978, Virginia Research Lodge No. 1777 and honorary membership in Powhatan Starke Lodge No. 124. He was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the 28th District in 1965, served as District Educational Officer of the 28th District from 1969 to 1974, served as Grand Steward in 1971 and on the Board of Governors of the Masonic Home from 1972-74. He has been Grand Representative of Grand Lodge Nationale France near the Grand Lodge of Virginia since 1970.

Brother Lacy's affiliation in other Masonic related bodies include Lunenburg Royal Arch Chapter No. 66 and Olivet Commandery No. 18, Knights Templar. He is a member of Danville Bodies, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Acca Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S. of Richmond and member and past president of South Hill Shrine Club. He is a member of Red Cross of Constantine, Hankley Carmichael Council No. 3, Allied Masonic Degrees, Portsmouth Chapter No. 352 of the National Sojourners and also holds membership in Richmond Court No. 16 Royal Order of Jesters.

Brother Lacy is married to Elise Britte Lacy and they have three sons, Matthew Lyle Lacy, III, Robert Bruce Lacy and John Wilson Lacy and four grandchildren.