

Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22

June 1992

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

About the Life Membership in Perpetuity Plan:

The Grand Lodge of Virginia has now published the instructions for obtaining voluntary "Life Membership in Perpetuity" in the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The law has been published in Section 5.00, Life Membership in Perpetuity Plan, of the Methodical Digest of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of the Commonwealth of Virginia. To obtain life membership in our Lodge, the following is required: Fill out the appropriate application form which is provided by the Grand Lodge through the Lodge Secretary, pay one years dues and Grand Lodge tax in advance, which now totals \$35.00, and pay the life membership fee of \$525.00. The completed application with a check made payable to: "Grand Lodge of Virginia - LMIP," in the amount of \$560.00 will be provided to the Secretary who will then forward the application and fee to the Grand Lodge of Virginia Life Membership Committee.

Obtaining life membership **IS A VOLUNTARY ACTION** and not a requirement in any way. Life membership benefits any Mason who plans to be a member of the Lodge for fifteen (15) or more years or any Mason who wants to leave a legacy to the Lodge by the Lodge receiving the amount of his annual dues, in his name, for all of eternity after the brother has finished his earthly labors and transcended to the all perfect, glorious, and celestial Lodge above.

The provisions of the plan also provide for a partial payment option. In this regard, each applicant may submit any amount of money to the Secretary of the Lodge with his application. Partial payments will be made to the Lodge. The Lodge Secretary will maintain a Life Membership in Perpetuity work sheet on each member who is making partial payments, record each payment, and deposit the partial payment with the Treasurer. When the amount required for a Life Membership has been accumulated, the Secretary will, within 30 days, forward the application and fee to the Grand Lodge of Virginia Life Membership Committee as set forth in the procedures.

You may address any questions about the "Life Membership in Perpetuity Plan" to me or the Secretary and we will be pleased to assist you. I hope many of the Brethren will join me in taking out a Life Membership in the Lodge.

Membership in the Scottish Rite:

The 1992 Spring Reunion Class for the Valley of Alexandria Scottish Rite is now behind us. Congratulations are in order for the three members of our Lodge who became Scottish Rite Masons in this class; Brothers Edward Kenneth Arndt, Albert Wayne Pierce and Edward Eric Lamb.

The 1992 Fall Reunion Class will be conducted on two Saturdays, - October 17 and 24. The deadline for petitions for this class is Friday, September 11, 1992. We have, at present, two members who will receive their degrees in this class. If you would like to join them, I would be pleased and honored to sign your petition as Master of the Lodge. You can obtain a petition from me or the Secretary. I hope to see you in this class.

Major events for the month of June:

On Thursday, June 4th, we will make an official visit to William L. Elkins Lodge #646, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It has been many years since our Lodge has made an official visit to Elkins Lodge. I will report on the outcome of the visit in the next bulletin.

The Grand Master will make his official visit to Districts 1A and 1B on June 19th, at the Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple. Attendance at the dinner requires a ticket but all Master Masons are invited to the Lodge meeting at 6:00pm, and can attend the entertainment at 8:00pm without a ticket.

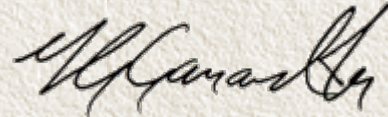
On Sunday, June 21, we will attend a Saint's John Religious Service at the Saint Michael's Episcopal Church, 1132 North Ivanhoe Street, Arlington, Virginia. The service will begin at 10:30am. If you need transportation, please contact me.

Future events which must be planned now and preparation completed at the earliest possible time:

On Saturday, October 10, 1992, we will celebrate Ladies Night with our Ladies and guests from Elkins Lodge #646. For this event, we will attend the West End Dinner Theater to see the show "The King and I." I have reserved 150 tickets for this show. The tickets are \$35.00 per person. I will assign the seating locations on a "first request first serve basis." I am now accepting payment for these tickets. If you will be attending our Ladies Night, please send me your request for tickets as soon as possible. Make your check payable to "Alexandria-Washington Lodge" and send it to my home address.

On Thursday, October 15, 1992, we will have a called meeting to receive our visitors from Constitution Lodge. During this meeting, we will also receive the Grand Masters of Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Following the meeting, we will have a Festive Board in the Dining Room in coordination with Andrew Jackson Lodge. This will be a very special event so plan to attend.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,



Granville C. Canard, Jr.
Worshipful Master

"VIGNETTE" - by RW John Price Riddell, PDDGM

"Modus Operandi"

Early Masonic Lodges in America experienced considerable difficulty in their formative years. These Lodges strove to grow and flourish and to firmly establish themselves in the communities. The Brethren of the Lodges were sincerely committed to the principles and traditions of Freemasonry as well as the laws which governed their operations. However, a strict, unbending interpretation of the regulations provided little flexibility to adapt to the realities and conditions of the time. Communications and transportation were quite primitive and definitely not conducive to the growth and well-being of Masonic Lodges.

The natural obstacles and somewhat restrictive laws of the Fraternity tended to suppress the growth and efficient operations of the infant Lodges. They managed however, to circumvent these troublesome road block by implementing some neat and creative practices. Among the interesting practices of the day in Alexandria Lodge were the following:

Petitions could be presented orally through some member of the Lodge who was willing to vouch for the petitioner.

All three degrees could be conferred on the candidate the same day. Holding no examination in open Lodge on the catechism of the three degrees.

Dispensing with provisions of the by-laws whenever the circumstance justified; the Lodge granted dispensation to itself without recourse to the Grand Master.

The use of spirituous liquors in moderation at Lodge suppers and other social occasions. In 1792, the Treasurer was ordered to purchase the necessary plates, knives, forks, and table-cloths; also, rum, gin, and brandy. (Happy Masons, I'm sure)

The early minutes of Alexandria Lodge No.39 presented an excellent picture of the "modus operandi" in Masonic Lodges in America immediately following the War of Independence.

Charge of the Month

The A. B. C. of Freemasonry
by Delmar D. Darrah
Copyright 1915

Improving the Fraternity: Doubtless you have noticed many procedures in masonry which are entirely new to you. Perhaps you have noticed some things which do not suit you which you would like to change. This is all very natural for it is a very poor sort of a man who hasn't some ideas of his own. But don't try to improve the fraternity, because if you do you are going to be disappointed. If your knowledge of fraternal organizations has been gained in other societies, this may create a tendency on your part to want to bring into masonry some of the things which found favor with you in your early experience along this line. It doesn't make any difference what the Odd Fellows, Red Men or Knights of Pythias do. They have their rules and regulations adapted to the characteristics of their organizations. Just remember that masonry was in existence many years before these orders were ever thought of, and that its procedures are two or three hundred years old. Its code was prepared in the long ago by some very smart men who collected the old masonic formulas and united them into the splendid system which we today enjoy. The essentials of masonry are practically the same wherever it may be found. Its ritual you will find to be differently worded in various jurisdictions, but the fundamentals upon which it is founded are the same wherever masonry exists. It is quite remarkable that the fraternity should continue in its present form for nearly two hundred years. It is this fact which invests it with a peculiar charm and challenges reverent regard. If it should be changed to meet the whim and caprice of every period it would cease to be masonry.

HISTORICAL NOTE

200 Years Ago
by Rt. Wor. William A. Brown, Lodge Historian

June 1, 1792 - Washington approved the act admitting Kentucky into the Union. This territory had been greatly disturbed regarding the restrictions of Statehood, and nine conventions were held before the people were satisfied. On this day four years later (June 1, 1796) he approved the act admitting Tennessee.

June 19, 1792 - Alexandria Lodge assembled at Gadsby's Tavern very early, and went by stage to the Federal City where they met with Potomac Lodge, after which they attended an open meeting of the Congress of the United States. This meeting with members of Congress was set up by the Committee on Schedules. (In the Congressional Record, there is quiet a bit said about this meeting with a group of citizens from Georgetown and Alexandria, but there is no mention of MASONS or MASONIC Lodges.)

Facts about the Masonic Home of Virginia

Located in eastern Henrico County just outside Richmond, the Masonic Home of Virginia offers lifetime care to Master Masons age 65 and over who have been a member of the Craft at least fifteen years, the last five years consecutively in a Virginia lodge, their wives and their widows.

Recent expansion of the facility and changes in the rules of the Virginia Free Masons extend provision of the facility to paying residents. Residents care for their personal needs and enjoy the privacy of their own rooms as well as the fellowship and camaraderie of shared meals and planned activities.

The Home is managed by a nine member Board of Governors on rotating three year terms. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Virginia serve ex-officio. Daily operation of the Home is the direct responsibility of the Administrator, whose residence is on the campus.

Funding for the Home comes from the Endowment Fund, and annual assessment of all Virginia Free Masons, and contributions of the resident. In 1986, the Board of Governors developed a multi-phase Master Plan to prepare for the future of the Home. The Critical Care Center is now under construction and future expansion will be accomplished as more funding becomes available. Your individual contributions to the home are tax deductible as charitable contributions and are welcomed at any time. Further information about the Home is available from the Lodge Secretary.

Brethren, if you have not made a recent visit to our Masonic Home, I encourage you to do so. You will find it a very uplifting experience to see how well our senior members are cared for. While you are there, stop in and visit with our members, Brother Julius Phil Persiani and Mrs. Beatrice Robinson.

IN MEMORIAM

Edward William Johnson - March 31, 1992
Louis Lynwood Armistead - May 6, 1992

May they rest in peace

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

JUNE 1992 - TRESTLEBOARD

Day	Time	Activity
Mon 05/01/1992	7:00 pm	CALLED COMMUNICATION - Degree Work in the EA, FC or MM Degree
Wed 05/03/1992	7:00 pm	Trustees Committee meeting, Lodge Anti-room
Thu 05/04/1992	7:00 pm	Alex-Wash Lodge No. 22 official visit to William L. Elkins Lodge No 646 in Philadelphia, Pa
Thu 05/11/1992	7:30 pm	STATED COMMUNICATION - Patriotic Night. Program presented by Wor. Archibold William Lyon, PM
Fri 05/19/1992	6:00 pm	GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT to Masonic District 1A & 1B at the Alexandria Virginia Scottish Rite Temple: Tiled Lodge at 6:00pm, all Master Masons invited; Dinner at 7:00pm, for Masons and Guests, tickets required; Program at 8:00pm, all invited
Sun 05/21/1992	10:30 am - 12:00 pm	SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST RELIGIOUS SERVICE to be held at Saint Michael's Episcopal Church, Arlington, Virginia
Sun 05/21/1992	2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	VISITING LODGE, International Order of DeMolay, Legion of Honor Ceremony to be held in the Lodge Room
Mon 05/22/1992	7:00 pm	CALLED COMMUNICATION - Degree Work in the EA, FC or MM Degree
Thu 05/25/1992	7:30 pm	STATED COMMUNICATION - Saint's John Night. Program by MW Stewart Wilson Minor, Past Grand Master of Masons in Virginia and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of DC. Masonic Birthday recognition

+ LODGE RITUAL SCHOOL - conducted every Sunday at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted in the Trestleboard. This school will cover work in all degrees and in catechisms. The school is for all members of the Masonic Community and ALL are invited and encouraged to attend.

+ OFFICER PLANNING MEETINGS - conducted in conjunction with the Sunday Night Ritual School.

+ MASONIC BIRTHDAYS - recognized on second stated unless otherwise noted.

+ STATED COMMUNICATIONS - second and fourth Thursday except Thanksgiving; Observance of George Washington's Birthday and Installation on Saint John Day, December 27th.

+ OTHER MEETINGS AT GWMNM - Alexandria-Washington Chapter, Order of DeMolay meets the first and third Monday at 7:00pm in the North Lodge Room; Bethel No. 22, I.O.J.D. meets the first and third Wednesday at 7:00pm in the North Lodge Room.