

Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22

September 1979

FROM THE EAST

Brethren.

The month of September has two historical dates of significance to our lodge. They are September 18 and September 24. On September 18, 1793, the corner stone of our National Capitol was laid by George Washington and on September 24, 1779, Dr. Elisha Cullum Dick, the physician who attended Washington and also, Master of our lodge for some ten years, was raised as a Master Mason in Philadelphia Lodge, No. 2.

The following excerpts taken from Brocket's, "The Lodge of Washington," states,

"On Wednesday, one of the grandest Masonic processions took place, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of the Capitol of the United States, which, perhaps, was ever exhibited on the like important occasion.

"The artillery discharged a volley. The Grand Marshal delivered the Commissioners a large silver plate, with an inscription thereon, which the Commissioners ordered to be read, and was as follows:

"This south-east corner-stone of the Capitol of the United States of America, in the city of Washington, was laid on the 18th day of September, 1793, in the thirteenth year of American Independence, in the first year of the second term of the presidency of George Washington, whose virtues in the civil administration of his country have been as conspicuous and beneficial as his military valor and prudence have been useful in establishing her liberties, and in the year of Masonry 5793, by the President of the United States, in concert with the Grand Lodge of Maryland, several Lodges under its jurisdiction and Lodge No. 22, from Alexandria, Virginia. Thomas Johnson, David Stewart, and Daniel Carroll, Commissioners. Joseph Clark, R.W.G.M. protom. James Hoban and Stephen Hallate, Architects. Collin Williamson, Master Mason."

In the book, "Washington The Man and The Mason" by Charles H. Callahan, states,

"No act of General Washington was more historic than this and yet it has found no place in the pages of our country's history. The gavel which he used on the occasion was made from a piece of the marble used in constructing the building and is now the valued possession of Lodge No. 9 (now Potomac Lodge No. 5) of Georgetown, while the little trowel, with its silver blade and ivory handle ... is the cherished property of Alexandria-Washington Lodge. The apron and sash worn by the General during these ceremonies can also be seen in the sanctum of Washington Lodge, having been presented to the Lodge by the General's nephew, Lawrence Lewis, for his son Lorenzo, in 1812."

In the book, "The Lodge of Washington" Brocket gives the following resume of Dr. Dick:

DR. ELISHA CULLEN DICK

was born in Pennsylvania, about the year 1750, and married Miss Hamah Harmon, of that State. He moved to Alexandria prior to 1783, where he resided upwards of forty years. He was an eminent physician, and, as consulting physician, attended WASHINGTON in his last illness.

He had two children, Archibald and Julia - the latter was married to Gideon Pearce, Esq., of Kent County, Md., and was the mother of Hon. James Alfred Pearce, who for a number of years was a United States Senator from Maryland.

In 1794 he commanded a company of cavalry, raised in Alexandria, to suppress what was known as the Whiskey Insurrection in Pennsylvania. (William Veitch, Esq., late Mayor of Alexandria, and Lewis Piles were members of this company.)

Dr. Dick was a member of Philadelphia Lodge, No. 2, as shown by his diploma, issued by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, dated September 24, 1779, and now preserved in this Lodge. He attended the first meeting of this Lodge, February 25, 1783 (then No. 39), for organization, and acted as secretary. He served as Worshipful Master from December 27, 1787, to April 28, 1788, when General WASHINGTON became Worshipful Master. He succeeded WASHINGTON on the 27th of December, 1789, and served until December 27, 1793; and again from December 27, 1797, to December 27, 1799. He presided at the funeral Lodge convened on Monday, December 16, 1799, to make arrangements for the interment of WASHINGTON, and on the following Wednesday (18th) performed the interesting ceremonies of the Order at the funeral.

On the 22d of February, 1800, Dr. Dick delivered, at the First Presbyterian Church, an oration on "The Day and Decease of WASHINGTON." On this occasion the Lodge, accompanied by Brooke Lodge, No. 47, was escorted to the church by the several uniformed militia companies of Alexandria, and a long line of the citizens of the town.

A few years before his death, Dr. Dick made his residence at his farm in Fairfax County, Va., near Alexandria. He died in Alexandria in 1825, leaving a widow, and was buried in the Friends' burial-ground, Queen street. His widow died in 1843.

Less we forget the history of our lodge, we will celebrate these two occasions by having Youth Night on Monday, September 24 and an Educational Program by the U.S. Capitol Historical Society on our Stated Meeting, Thursday, September 27. The Committee planning the program for Youth Night has decided on a Family Pot Luck Dinner honoring our youth at 6:30 p.m. in the dining hall followed by a short and interesting program. The lodge will provide the main dish and beverage. Each family is requested to bring either a vegetable, salad or dessert.

It is our hope we will have a full house on both of these occasions.

The Grand Master in The Grand Lodge News in Massachusetts, Vol. 1, No. 3, June 1979, asked this question: "Have you approached that friend who ought to be a member of your lodge to ask him if he had ever thought of becoming a Mason? Brethren, let us become more aggressive in the days ahead."

BRETHREN PLEASE NOTE

The Treasurer still has in his possession George Washington birthday celebration ticket money that has not been refunded. If it is not claimed by October 31, 1979, it will be considered a donation to the Lodge and transferred to the General Fund.

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

SEPTEMBER 1979 - TRESTLEBOARD

Day	Time	Activity
Thu 09/13/1979	7:30 pm	STATED MEETING - Business - Degree Work
Mon 09/24/1979	6:30 pm	YOUTH NIGHT - Family Pot Luck Dinner honoring our youth followed by a short Program
Thu 09/27/1979	7:30 pm	STATED MEETING - Business - Birthdays - Program by U. S. Capitol Historical Society
Sat 10/13/1979	7:30 pm	DINNER - LADIES NIGHT - Program for the entire family

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 09/04/1979	11:00 am	Skidmore Daylight Lodge No. 237 - Wardens' Day
Wed 09/05/1979	7:30 pm	Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219 - DIW's Official Visit
Thu 09/06/1979	7:30 pm	Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120 - Railroad Night - Dinner following the meeting
Fri 09/07/1979	7:30 pm	Mount Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 14 - Election and Installation of Officers
Mon 09/10/1979	7:30 pm	Springfield Lodge No. 217 - Wardens' Night
Thu 09/13/1979	7:30 pm	Arlington Centennial Lodge No. 81 - Grand Master's Official Visit
Fri 09/14/1979	6:00 pm	Dinner - Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 - Wardens' Night
Mon 09/17/1979	7:30 pm	Elmer Timbermall Lodge No. 54 - Wardens' Night
Wed 09/19/1979	7:30 pm	John Blair Lodge No. 187 - Wardens' Night
Thu 09/20/1979	7:30 pm	Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120 - Wardens' Night
Mon 09/24/1979	7:30 pm	DISTRICT SCHOOL - Springfield Lodge No. 217
Tue 09/25/1979	7:30 pm	Henry Knox Field Lodge No. 349 - Wardens' Night
Fri 09/28/1979	8:00 pm	Kemper Lodge No. 64 - Wardens' Night
Sat 09/29/1979	5:00 pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	GRAND MASTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO MASONIC DISTRICTS 1-A, 1-B and 54 Family and Friends are invited Entertainment for Ladies in Auditorium Banquet in the Dining Room Program in the Auditorium and Entertainment Scottish Rite Temple 1430 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, Va. Tickets for the Banquet \$7.00 per person

VISTING LODGES

Day	Time	Activity
Sat 09/22/1979	5:30 pm	Ionic Lodge No. 145, Reinstertown, Md. - MM Degree
Sat 09/29/1979	7:00 pm	Bates Lodge No. 33, Wheeling, W. Va. - MM Degree

The Trustees propose the following change in the standing resolutions.

Standing resolution No. 5 - Souvenir Stand.(Page 9 By-Laws & Roster 1975)

IT IS PROPOSED THAT RESOLUTION No.5 - SOUVENIR STAND THAT NOW READS:

"All funds received as the Lodge's share of the net proceeds of the Souvenir stand operated in the George Washington National Memorial shall be deposited in a separate bank account, fifty percent of which shall be assigned to a special Charity fund and fifty percent to a special Archives Fund.

Disbursements from these funds shall be made only for the purpose of Charity at the direction of the Worshipful Master or by vote of the Lodge - and for the maintenance, preservation and purchase of relics and other Archives items upon recommendation of the Committee on Archives and the vote of the Lodge.

Charity shall be defined as relief of a needy brother or family, including hospital expenses, flowers, remittance of dues, or any other expense for the care of a Mason or Profane or his family. (Adopted 8-27-64)"

BE CHANGED TO READ

All funds received as the Lodge's share of the net proceeds of the Souvenir stand operated in the George Washington Masonic Memorial shall be deposited in a separate bank account, and shall be distributed twenty percent to the Charity Fund, forty percent to the Archives Fund and forty percent to the Lodge Special Activity Fund.

Disbursements from these funds shall be made only for the following purposes:

- Charity Fund** For the purpose of Charity at the direction of the Worshipful Master or by vote of the Lodge.
- Archives Fund** For the maintenance, preservation and purchase of relics and other archives items upon recommendation of the Committee on Archives and the vote of the Lodge.
- Lodge Special Activity Fund** For special lodge activities of a recurring intermittent nature, such as fraternal visitation to and from Liberty Lodge, Beverly, MA; Constitution Lodge # 294, Beverley,England; and such other special activities as the Lodge may initiate and direct.

Submitted by the Trustees

by *Earl W. Griffith*
Chairman

This proposed change in Resolution No. 5 was read at the Stated Meeting on August 9 and will be balloted on by the Lodge at our Stated Meeting on September 13, 1979.