

LODGE BULLETIN

MARCH 2023

www.AW22.ORG

MASTER'S MESSAGE

Brethren—

Thank you so much for supporting our Lodge during the February Cornerstone Festivities where we celebrated one hundred years of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. This celebration was not only a time to honor our greatest Brother, but it was also a time to revel in the fact that the George Washington Masonic National Memorial is an institution that unites Brothers from across political boundaries. We are the heart and soul of this institution so your participation in receiving the Grand Master, raising a Brother to the sublime degree of Master Mason, laying wreaths at distinguished Brothers' resting places, marching in parades, and being gracious hosts demonstrated virtues Washington espoused and our Craft inculcates. Our Lodge displayed its best qualities and proved we will continue to be the heartbeat of Masonry at our Nation's Masonic Memorial for another century.

We also received our District Deputy Grand Master in February, which was a night to remember. Right Worshipful Hayes is a wonderful Mason and is making a difference in our Craft and District. Also in February, the Lodge Officers attended the Division Leadership Conference where we learned about our Grand Master's three lines of effort: Membership Today, Charity Always, Youth for Tomorrow. I can tell you that the Grand Lodge leadership is pushing Freemasonry forward in our Commonwealth.

As you can tell February was an incredibly busy month for the Lodge. Pulling off the events in February required a tremendous amount of effort from dozens and dozens of Alexandria-Washington Masons. I thank you for your service, commitment, and time. Take some time off, you deserve it.

Now that the big festivities are over, what will we do for the rest of 2023? I have said this several times, but I am most looking forward to the next nine months of Masonic work. We have an opportunity in front of us to continue our momentum. I have laid out fifteen goals that will ensure our momentum continues to grow. Please get involved and help your Lodge achieve its full potential. Will it all be hard work? Absolutely not. We have many fun activities planned ranging from Friends and Family Events to trips to New York and Philadelphia.

Take some time off this month to re-energize yourself. After you are refreshed, come back to Lodge and let's have some fun and put in some Masonic work.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
David G. Bella
Worshipful Master
Master@AW22.org
228-282-0906



FEBRUARY FESTIVITIES THANK YOU

AW22 Birthday Stated with Brother Jim Gilmore
 GW Birthday Parade with AW22 leading the way
 MM Degree with every Lodge in District 1A represented





MARCH 2023

March 9th

18:30 Dinner

19:30 Meeting

Stated Communication:

MM Character Study

March 23

19:00 District Ritual School

Elmer Timberman

March 11

10:00 Public Archives Tour

March 25

19:30 Fellowcraft Degree

March 16

19:30 Entered Apprentice
Degree

March 27

19:30 Fraternal Visit
Arlington Centennial Glebe

March 18

10:00 Friends & Family
National Gallery of Art
(see page 5 for details)

April 1

09:00 Volunteer Event
Willing Warriors
(see page 5 for details)

*The Grand Lodge of Virginia is hosting a One Day
Conferral (ODC) on April 29th. Petitions for ODC
candidates must be submitted at the March stated.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 9 STATED COMMUNICATION

CHARACTER STUDY OF THE MASTER MASON DEGREE

Have you ever wondered about what motivates the characters featured in the Master Mason Degree? Who are they? Where did they come from?

Worshipful Daniel Froggett and Worshipful Andy Vallenga will explore each character's background and will give context that isn't apparent at first pass. Please come out and learn something new.

MARCH 18 FRIENDS AND FAMILY ACTIVITY

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

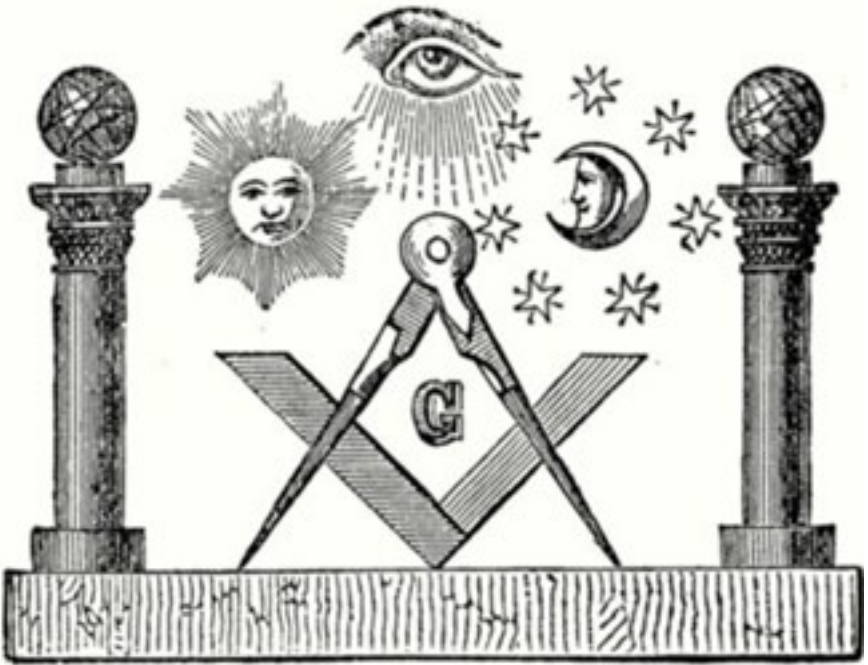
Worshipful David Bella will lead an art tour that examines pieces related to Brother George Washington. After the tour and some unguided exploration, the group will have lunch at the Smith in Penn Quarter at 12:30.

Meet at the King Street Metro Station at 09:00 or the Constitution Avenue entrance of the National Gallery of Art at 10:00. This event is open to everyone! Please RSVP to Master@AW22.org by noon on March 11th in order to save your seat at the Smith. Spots are limited.

APRIL 1 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

WILLING WARRIOR RETREAT

In response to our Grand Master's theme of *Charity Always*, AW22 will perform ten acts of community service in 2023. The first will take place on April 1st. Members and friends of the Lodge will help clean and perform maintenance on the grounds of the Willing Warrior Retreat in Haymarket. Willing Warriors provides a home away from home for our service members after they depart military hospitals in our area. Work begins at 09:00. Please contact our Junior Deacon for full details.



BILL OF FARE

MARCH 9, 2023

CHICKEN PAD SEE EW

CRISPY TANGERINE PEEL BEEF

CRAB RANGOON

VEGETABLE DUMPLINGS

Suggested Donation \$10.00

Please RSVP to Reservations@AW22.org

2023 GOAL UPDATE

Thank you for participating in events that will be referenced for years to come. Think about what we accomplished. In a span of five days the Lodge formally received the Grand Master of Virginia, raised a Brother to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, paid respects to Most Worshipful Callahan, attended the Lodge's Foundation Dinner, walked in the GW Birthday parade, participated in the Cornerstone Ceremony Re-Enactment, laid a wreath at Washington's Tomb, and hosted Brother Jim Gilmore for our Birthday Stated in the Smith Auditorium at Mount Vernon. Incredible. Though I say "the Lodge", I really mean you. You accomplished these feats. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our Lodge.

The year is not over though. We are just getting started. Here are a few updates on the work we are doing to accomplish the fifteen lines of effort that were laid out in the January Trestleboard:

ALEXANDRIA INSTITUTION 1.1

MARCH 11- QUARTERLY PUBLIC TOUR

Come out and support the Lodge's first public tour of 2023. The Lodge will have three stations set up in the Lodge room that will feature pieces from AW22's archives that are usually not on display. Come see what your archives contain and bring a friend! The event begins at 10:00 and ends at 16:30. Volunteers needed.

LODGE OF WASHINGTON 2.1

FEBRUARY 19- DOUBLE AW22 FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT

The AW22 Foundation hosted their first Fundraiser Dinner which was attended by over one hundred guests. Thank you to all who attended, especially the Featured Speaker, Brother Jim Gilmore.

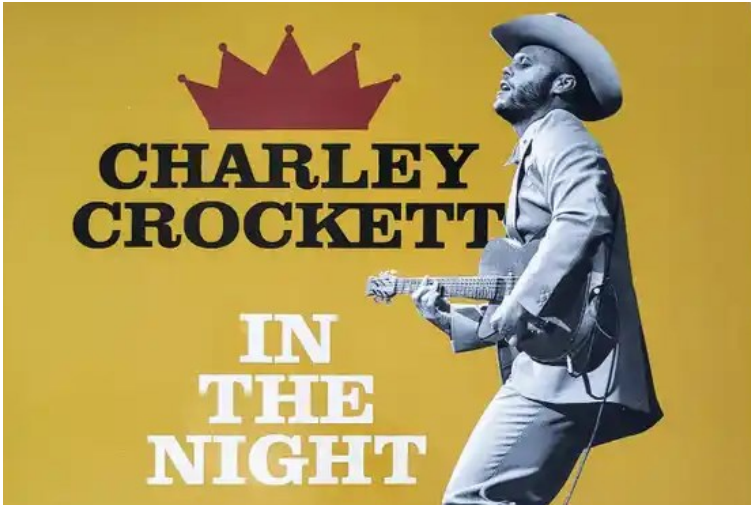
EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY 3.2

MARCH 27- FRATERNAL VISITS TO EVERY LODGE IN D1A

We paid a Fraternal Visit to HKFJB in January and will visit Arlington Centennial Glebe Lodge on the 27th. Come out and enjoy visiting our Brothers in Arlington.

ALBUM OF THE MONTH

IN THE NIGHT 2016
CHARLEY CROCKETT



Modern Country music is rightly ridiculed for its fluff and lack of artistic direction. But if you know where to look, Country music is having a Renaissance. In the Night shows that Country can be artistically challenging, sonically pleasing, and cool in this millennium.

∴ David

George Orwell once said that “a man wears a mask, and his face grows to fit it.” Masks can communicate a lot about a person that his true face cannot. The true face of a man is what he was born with; what Freud called the “id.” It is his *person* existing in a natural state. A mask speaks to what a man desires to be. A mask represents *persona*—a projection of a particularly hallowed slice of ego that the wearer wishes to present as a false reality to the world. To truly understand someone, it is necessary to know the candor of his *person* and the shroud of his *persona*.

Charley Crockett, if you believe him, is a 38-year-old from San Benito, Texas. He says that he is a distant relative of frontiersman/Alamo defender Davy Crockett, that he was born to a single mother and that he dropped out of high school to hit the road playing a guitar his mother bought him at a pawn shop. “I taught myself how to play and started to write songs immediately, without any chord knowledge or anything,” he said in a 2019 interview. “I didn’t know what key I was in for 12 years, but my ear was really good, and I could play in any key and any chord. I just didn’t know what it was.”

Crockett scratched out a living busking on the streets of New Orleans and Dallas, peddling grass to make ends meet if the tips from passersby weren’t

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IN THE NIGHT 2016
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enough. He hitchhiked and hoboed across the whole country playing gigs in taverns, taprooms, train yards, town squares, honky-tonks, and houses of ill-repute. He rejected a publishing deal with Sony at twenty-six, instead choosing to work as a farmhand in Northern California for three years.

His gypsy spirit then carried him to Paris for a year before brief stints in Spain and Morocco. All the while, he honed his craft as a troubadour, learning everything he could from a host of mentors and hard-worn experiences during his international travels. His story is like a tall tale come to life — an anachronistic bit of vintage Americana from a time when news travelled slowly, and a man was the story and the name he told you.

If you believe him.

For what it's worth, his backing band — the "Blue Drifters" — emphatically claims that Crockett is telling the truth about his background. In reality, the veracity of Crockett's story is unimportant.

Reinvention is a distinctly American trait. So, too, is imagination. Arguably, so are fabrication, obfuscation, and fraudulence. We are a nation of pretenders, faking it 'til we make it and rewriting yesterday in the interest of a better tomorrow, based in the egalitarianism of anonymity. In this national masquerade, there is no such thing as an imposter. In this sense, Crockett is an avatar of the American Dream, which promises success based on merit — independent of caste, lineage, or personal identity.

In the Night is Charley Crockett's 2016 album about love, deception, betrayal, and acceptance. Crockett wears a litany of masks in this album: a rogue's domino with a rose in his teeth; the unshaven, gin-blossomed pancake powder of a clown drunkard; the leer and sneer of a lecher on the prowl; the twisted features of a rage killer. The chameleonic nature of his *persona* is matched in its variety by the musical influences which make themselves apparent throughout the album, from the cobwebbed slide guitars of Hank Williams, to B.B. King's surgically staccato blues solos, to the sinister, voodoo sound of Dr. John. Together, these effects create an album that sounds not only disguised, but also haunted. Crockett is like a necromancer who brings these and other legendary figures into a room to play together.

This album has a sense of movement and inertia with it that carries its thirty-seven-minute runtime. From the first note of the album — a drum shot on the eponymous single that sounds like the first shot of the night slamming home on the oak of an old dive bar — there is no letting up until the last note of "Downtrodden Man," which closes the effort. *In the Night* is a product mostly cavalier in nature, but there are a few exceptions — third on the track-

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list is “I Am Not Afraid,” which is a frank confrontation of the fears that beleague the middle period of a relationship, when “I love you” has been said and reciprocated, but uncertainty still dominates both partners’ minds. Crockett shows his vulnerability in his vocal performance and the lyrics that he sings. Here, the listener is startled because it is a rare glimpse at Crockett without the guise of another superimposed over his creative work. This song represents the *person* of Charley Crockett, as opposed to the *persona* he presents to the world. It is all the more effective because of the unique sincerity of character that Crockett brings to his declaration of love.

When listening to the album, it almost fits a loose, conceptual narrative that mimics the infatuation, cooling, and eventual violent destruction of a doomed relationship. The album begins with “In the Night,” which serves to vignette the following tracks within a period of reminiscence. Then, “Baby 1-2-3” is the surge of sexual flirtation which ignites a physically-driven relationship. “I Am Not Afraid,” then, is a false devotion upon which so many failed relationships are predicated. The deliberately slippery discordance of the guitar solo on “Look What You Done” and the subsequent emotional distance suggested by “I’m Workin’” (which also speaks to prioritization and identity issues with the narrator) are an ode to the end of a honeymoon period between the two lovers (this song also paraphrases “House of the Rising Sun”; instead of a “father” who was a gambling man in New Orleans, Crockett sings of an “uncle” — suggesting himself as a new branch of the American songwriting tradition). Songs like “Silver Dagger,” “What’s Made Milwaukee Famous,” and “Cry for Me Baby” all suggest an alcohol-driven downward spiral, leading to the morose, closing-time-suicide blues of “Out of Bad Luck,” which is led through a sleepwalk by a maudlin horn.

The album climaxes with “Wasted Days and Wasted Nights,” which turns Freddy Fender’s hound dog lamentation into a two-minute, Zydeco crime of passion. The album ends with “After Laughter,” a meditation on the destruction of the narrator’s relationship coinciding with the dawn, and “Downtrodden Man,” in which the narrator must come to grips with his new reality.

All of these events and ruminations take place *In the Night* — a single night. A single night haunted by the phantoms of the masks we wear, and the inescapable foibles of the person we will always be, no matter how desperately we run away from that identity. Charley Crockett has released twelve studio albums in seven years, and shows no signs of slowing down. It seems that he has more masks to try on yet.

HAPPY MASONIC BIRTHDAY

- Jeffrey Loren Adelman March 29, 30 years
- Nicholas Richard Beltrante March 6, 54 years
- Rami Khail Chehade March 22, 18 years
- Brian Patrick Fleming March 5, 14 years
- David Rhine Gehr March 15, 50 years
- Lowell Gene Gilliland March 30, 31 years
- Charles Richard Hix March 24, 48 years
- Edgar Bruce Holley March 23, 68 years
- Jerry Dean Owen March 1, 22 years
- Robert Darrell Pollock March 27, 9 years
- Paul Mckinley Rhodes March 1, 50 years
- Pablo Alejandro Rocha March 23, 31 years
- Kenneth Ian Scroggie March 17, 26 years
- George Douglas Seghers March 19, 33 years
- Daniel Hufford Surface Jr. March 27, 27 years
- Robert Andrew Tennis March 26, 12 years
- David Shepard Webber March 22, 50 years
- Todd Mitchell Zelnick March 8, 39 years

2023 LODGE OFFICERS

Wor. David Gabriel Bella.....	Worshipful Master
<i>Mobile: 228-282-0906 Email: Master@AW22.org</i>	
Bro. Nelo Allen Hamilton, Jr.....	Senior Warden
Bro. Phillip Adam Smartt.....	Junior Warden
Wor. Michael Lee Bailey, PM.....	Treasurer
Wor. Daniel Elias Froggett, PM.....	Secretary
<i>Phone: 703-549-9234 Email: Secretary@AW22.org 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria, Va. 22301</i>	
Rt. Wor. Granville Clayton "Jack" Canard, Jr., PDDGM.....	Secretary Emeritus
Bro. Jonathan Joseph Siudmak.....	Senior Deacon
Bro. Ronald Earl Craft, Jr.....	Junior Deacon
Wor. Denislav Valeriev Dantev, PM.....	Chaplain
Bro. Christopher Gared Sterbling.....	Senior Steward
Bro. Robert Andrew Tennis.....	Junior Steward
Bro. James Henry Ferguson.....	Marshal
Wor. Pablo Alejandro Rocha, PM.....	Tiler

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rt. Wor. Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM.....	2023
Bro. Jeffrey W. C. Conn.....	2024
Wor. James Berkely Stone, PM.....	2025
Wor. Jesse T. McMahan, V, PM.....	2026
Wor. Nik N. Nikolav, PM.....	2027

LIVING PAST MASTERS ON THE ROLLS

1975	Donald M. Robey, PGM	2004	Frank S. Skwirut
1976	James B. Stone	2005	Jesse T. McMahan, V
1988	William A. Jones	2006	Thomas G. Little
1991	Earl C. Million	2007	Robert G. Watkins, PDDGM
1992	Granville C. Canard, JR, PDDGM	2009	Heber C. Willis, III
1995	George D. Seghers, PDDGM	2011	John P. Olson
1996,18	Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM	2012	Michael L. Bailey
1997	Walter L. Margeson, II	2013	Joshua D. Adler
1998	Philip J. Hays	2014	Robert T. Weston
1999,17	Michael P. Bible, PDDGM	2016	Stephen J. Pezzetti
2000	Terry L. Gigure	2019	Nikola N. Nikolov
2001	Brent N. Campbell	2020	Daniel E. Froggett
2002	Daniel M. Clark, PDDGM	2021	Michael T. Huff
2003	James M. Stevenson	2022	Denislav V. Dantev