



Lodge Bulletin

February 2024

www.AW22.org

Master's Message

Brethren,

The month of February holds profound significance for AW22 and is traditionally a very busy month for our Lodge. This year is no different. This is a moment when our focus converges on celebrating the birthday of our cherished Brother. The theme this year is "Washington and Lafayette: The Impact of a Chosen Family." This is a special time when our lodge unites to commemorate the birthday of our esteemed Brother, George Washington, and to champion his enduring Masonic legacy. Within the framework of this chosen family, we gather to honor not only Brother Washington but also the strong bonds of fraternity that define us as a lodge.

Brotherhood is not just a word we use; it's a principle we embody. It is through our collective efforts, the bonds we forge, and the shared commitment to our craft that we continue to strengthen the foundation laid down by our forebearers. Just as Washington led the charge for a young nation, we, too, have the responsibility to lead with wisdom, compassion, and a sense of duty.

As we face the challenges of our time, remember the strength that lies in our unity and the power of our shared principles. By embodying the tenets of Freemasonry in our daily lives, we honor the legacy of George Washington and contribute to the ongoing story of our lodge.

May this February be a time of reflection, celebration, and recommitment to the values that have the potential to make our lodge a beacon of light in the world and our community. Together, let us continue to build a legacy that future generations of brethren will look upon with pride and inspiration.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Nelo Allen Hamilton, Jr
Worshipful Master
Master@AW22.org
202-856-4686





February 2024

February 4

3:30 PM Archives Committee Meeting
George Washington Masonic National Memorial

February 8

6:30 PM | Fellowship Dinner
7:30 PM | Stated Communication
Official Visit of Right Worshipful John Thomas Hubbell
District Deputy Grand Master for Masonic District 1A

February 10

9:00 AM | Division Leadership Conference
Alexandria Scottish Rite

February 19

George Washington Birthday Parade
Details will be emailed out to the members.

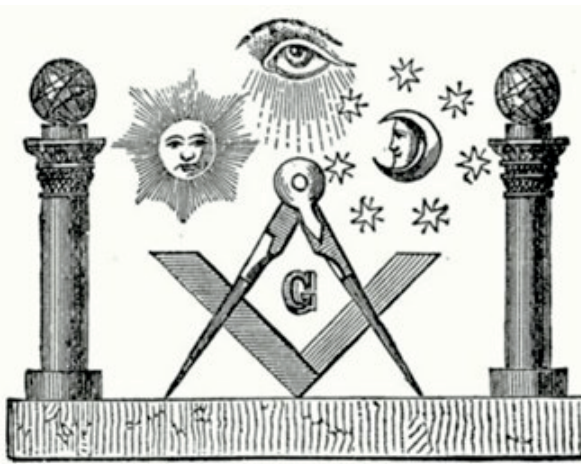
February 22

George Washington Birthday Events
7:30 AM | Gather at the Traffic Circle at Mount Vernon
8:00 AM | Wreath Laying Ceremony at Washington's Tomb
6:00 PM | George Washington Birthday Dinner (Details will be distributed)
7:30 PM | George Washington Birthday Stated Communication
Official Visit of Most Worshipful Jack Kayle Lewis
Grand Master of Masons in Virginia

February 24

1:00 PM | George Washington Symposium, GWMNM Theatre
5:00 PM | Birthday Gala, Grand Masonic Hall, Tickets \$225 Per Person

- Catechism Schools are every Thursday night at 6:30 PM and Saturday morning at 10:00 AM unless otherwise noted. Ritual Schools are every Thursday night at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted. All masons are welcome.
- To follow the Master's personal Masonic schedule. Please view the Master@AW22.org shared Google Calendar.



Bill of Fare

February 8, 2024

Beef with Broccoli

Chicken Pad See Ew

Vegetable Dumplings with Ginger-Scallion Sauce

Steamed Rice

Ginger Salad

Suggested Donation: \$10

Please RSVP to Reservations@AW22.org

Symbolism of the Level

By Adam Smartt, Senior Warden

*We meet upon the Level, though from every station come,
The king from out his palace, and the poor man from his home;
For the one must leave his diadem outside the mason's door,
And the other finds his true respect upon the chequered floor.*

- MW Robert Morris. "The Level and the Square." 1854.

In perhaps his most well-known work, nineteenth century poet and Freemason Robert Morris lauded the symbolic importance of the three jewels worn by the stationed officers of a Craft lodge. Arguably only surpassed in Masonic prominence by the square and compasses, the plumb, level and square offer a similar admonishment in how we are to conduct ourselves as just and upright Masons. While the square and compasses offer an inward instruction to temper our passions, show reverent and faithful obedience to our Creator and always seek to act in a just and upright manner, the plumb, level and square offer guidance on how we are to act towards our fellow man, more especially if he be a Mason.

As the jewel of the Senior Warden, I've reflected on the tremendous duty that is commanded by the symbolic meaning of the level. As the Tiler protects the room of the Lodge from all cowans, eavesdroppers and uninvited interlopers, the level symbolically guards the body of the Lodge from everything that must remain without the door in order for peace and harmony to prevail within. By it, we are charged to leave behind all politics, piques and prejudices, divest ourselves of any rank, title and professional prestige we so often seek in external life, eschew the dogmatic divisions that have fractured societies from time immemorial, and thereby be enabled to truly embrace our brethren as equals.

In *The Craft and Its Symbols*, Allen Roberts notes the mild confusion many new Entered Apprentices may experience when they learn the plumb, level and square are defined as "immovable" jewels. Why, then, are they worn by those who are constantly standing and sitting during a meeting, to say nothing of the complex choreography of degree work? The short answer is that each is only ever worn by a specific officer, all of whom must be present for a lodge to open. Therefore, if a lodge is at labor you will always find the immovable jewels present. However, this is Freemasonry, so a short answer will never suffice.

Much like our working tools which have both operative and speculative uses, Roberts offers a second, more symbolic definition for what arguably

Symbolism of the Level

Continued

makes the level “immovable.” He suggests that the guidance it offers and the lesson it imparts is of such great moral and Masonic importance, the level that is worn over our heart must also be symbolically deposited within it, and never removed.

Early in my Masonic career, I struggled with memorizing the vast array of titles and styles of address I would hear exchanged in the lodge room or, inducing even greater anxiety, when Grand Lodge Officers were present. Manners maketh man, after all. In nervously stealing furtive glances at regalia as someone approached or straining to overhear how another had addressed them, it seemed that all Masons are equal, but some are more equal than others. It was a kind Past Master - or perhaps one who had simply tired of my frequent inquiries - who quickly, correctly and charitably disabused me of the notion. “If you aren’t sure how to greet me,” he said, “you can never go wrong with ‘brother.’”

With all due respect our beautiful ritual, excellent lectures and the tomes of scholarly work that fill Masonic libraries, it was in that simple moment that I truly understood the meaning of the level.



Learn how you
can support:



Happy Masonic Birthday



Bro. Edward Kenneth Arndt Feb. 19, 73 years

Bro. Franklin Jay Pepper Feb. 24, 64 years

Rt. Wor. Sheldon Barnett Richman Feb. 15, 56 years

Bro. Carlus Wayne Breland Feb. 2, 54 years

Bro. Chadwick Rene Gore Feb. 25, 39 years

Wor. Walter Leverne Margeson II Feb. 3, 32 years

Bro. Robert Frank Feldman III Feb, 14, 24 years

Bro. Michael Franklin Salva Feb. 13, 23 years

Bro. Peter George Lincoln Cutler Feb. 19, 22 years

Bro. Brendan Malcolm Burns Feb. 3, 21 years

Bro. Thomas Walter Meissgeier Feb. 3, 21 years

Bro. Oliver Olrog Harris Feb. 24, 20 years

Rt. Wor. David Benjamin Browning Jr. Feb. 8, 19 years

Wor. Stephen Joseph Pezzetti Feb. 3, 13 years

Bro. Chris Besmir Ruli Feb. 1, 8 years

Bro. Richard William Wilson Feb.18, 1 Year



2024 Lodge Officers

Wor. Nelo Allen Hamilton, Jr - Worshipful Master

Mobile : 202-856-4686 Email: Master@AW22.org

Bro. Phillip Adam Smartt - Senior Warden

Bro. Jonathan Joseph Siudmak - Junior Warden

Wor. Michael Lee Bailey, PM - Treasurer

Wor. Daniel Elias Froggett, PM - Secretary

Phone: 757-656-1838 Email: Secretary@AW22.org 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria, VA 22301

Rt. Wor. Granville Clayton "Jack" Canard, Jr, PDDGM - Secretary Emeritus

Bro. Ronald Earl Craft, Jr - Senior Deacon

Bro. Jakob Aonghus Zilinski - Junior Deacon

Wor. Denislav Valeriev Dantev, PM - Chaplain

Bro. Daniel Ryan Gordon - Senior Steward

Bro. Thomas Harrison Lynch - Junior Steward

Bro. James Henry Ferguson - Marshal

Bro. Naaren Juloori - Musician

Wor. Pablo Alejandro Rocha, PM - Tiler

Board of Trustees

Bro. Jeffery W. C. Conn (Chair) - 2024

Wor. James Berkley Stone, PM - 2025

Wor. Jesse T. McMahan, V, PM - 2026

Wor. Nikola N. Nikolov, PM - 2027

Wor. David G. Bella, PM - 2028

Living Past Masters on the Rolls

1975 - Donald M. Robey, PGM

1976 - James B. Stone

1991 - Earl C. Million

1992 - Granville C. Canard, Jr. PDDGM

1995 - George D. Seghers, PDDGM

1996,18 - Mark W. Underwood, PDDGM

1997 - Walter L. Margeson, II

1998 - Philip J. Hays

1999,17 - Michael P. Bible, PDDGM

2000 - Terry L. Gigure

2001 - Brent N. Campbell

2002 - Daniel M. Clark, PDDGM

2003 - James M. Stevenson

2004 - Frank Skwirut

2005 - Jesse T. McMahan, V

2006 - Thomas G. Little

2007 - Robert G. Watkins, PDDGM

2009 - Heber C. Willis, III

2011 - John P. Olson

2012 - Michael L. Bailey

2013 - Joshua D. Adler

2014 - Robert T. Weston

2016 - Stephen J. Pezzetti

2019 - Nikola N. Nikolov

2020 - Daniel E. Froggett

2021 - Michael T. Huff

2022 - Denislav V. Dantev

2023 - David G. Bella