



Lodge Bulletin

October 2024

www.AW22.org

Master's Message

Dear Brethren,

As we approach the end of this Masonic year, we will begin the natural transition to the new leadership team. The past year has been marked by significant accomplishments in our operations which is setting our Lodge up for a strong future.

On October 14th, we will gather to for the Masonic Dedication Ceremony of the Mount Vernon Cornerstone. This historic event will be a testament to our Lodge's commitment to safeguarding and sharing the Masonic Legacy of our Brother George Washington. I encourage you to secure your tickets this week and join us for this memorable occasion.

In addition to the Cornerstone Dedication, we will also be holding an Entered Apprentice Degree on October 24th. Your presence in the Lodge room will provide invaluable support to our new candidates and create a memorable experience for all.

As we look forward to 2025, our Senior Warden has been diligently planning out his year. He is eager to hear your ideas and initiatives for 2025. If you have any suggestions or projects you would like to lead, now is the time to reach out to him so he can work it into the schedule.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

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





October 2024

October 10

6:30 PM | Fellowship Dinner

7:30 PM | Stated Communication

Award Ceremony and Past Master Night

GWMNM

October 12

9:00 AM | Inaugural Meeting

College of Past Masters

GWMNM

October 14

Mount Vernon Cornerstone Ceremony

George Washington's Mount Vernon

More Information & Tickets at

<https://law22.org/events/mount-vernon-cornerstone/>

October 22

7:30 PM | Esoteric Corner

Program by Wor. Austin Shifrin

The Chamber of Reflections: Mortality, Morphology, and Meaning

Virtual via Google Meet

October 24

7:00 PM | Entered Apprentice Degree

GWMNM

- 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.

The Scythe

By Bro. Jonathan Siudmak, Junior Warden, Alexandria - Washington Lodge No. 22

With October rolling in and Halloween decorations appearing throughout our neighborhoods, it's a time when many believe the veil between life and death grows thinner. For Freemasons, this time of year offers a perfect opportunity to contemplate one of our Craft's most profound symbols: the Scythe.

Often associated with the Grim Reaper, the Scythe in Virginia Freemasonry represents Time, cutting the "brittle thread of life" and casting us into eternity. Though foreboding, the Scythe serves as a reminder of life's brevity and the urgency to act meaningfully before death claims us all. This symbol, while relevant during Halloween due to its imagery, carries profound lessons about mortality, time, and legacy that remain relevant throughout our lives.

In Freemasonry, the Scythe isn't merely a symbol of death but a reminder of the finite nature of life. It slices through life's stages, delivering every person to the inevitable end— to the "land where our fathers have gone before us, that bourne whence no traveler returns" – yet, in doing so it acts as a bridge between worlds both terrestrial and celestial. However, unlike the fearful Grim Reaper, the Masonic Scythe should not induce terror, instead, it should illustrate that death is a major player on the stage of the natural human experience, not as the one who drops the final curtain but as to transition the performance between acts.

Just as farmers use scythes to harvest crops, making room for new growth, the Scythe of Time harvests us all, clearing the way for future generations to sow seeds nurtured by the Craft. Such

The Scythe

Continued

farming metaphor begets the question, what are we doing presently to ensure this new growth is healthy and sustainable? Knowing the Scythe of Time swings both unpredictably and inevitably, we are called to use our time on Earth wisely. From engaging in charitable works, to contributing to our community, to ensuring that the timeless tenets of the Fraternity are enacted in our daily lives; the more we reflect on what the Scythe has in store for us the greater the importance of our deeds become.

In this sense, the Scythe embodies the concept of legacy. Every cut it makes is a reminder that while our time is limited, the mark we leave behind can be eternal. It challenges us to reflect on how we will be remembered, or if, in the absence of meaningful contributions, how our memory is at risk of fading with the sands of Time.

Brethren, as you revel in the autumnal festivities, let the Scythe be a reminder of the deeper truths it symbolizes—truths about our existence, our end, and our everlasting journey beyond the veil. Let it inspire you to act justly and with compassion toward your fellow man, walking uprightly as equals upon the Level, to make each day count, knowing that each moment passes under the encroaching shadow of the unstoppable Scythe of Time.



Learn how you can make a tax deductible donation today:



MOUNT VERNON CORNERSTONE DEDICATION

Alexandria, VA

October 14, 2024 | 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM



Alexandria - Washington Lodge No. 22
A.F.&A.M.



Learn more by visiting:
www.AW22.org/upcoming-events/

Happy Masonic Birthday



- Bro. Craig Martin Arndt, October 28, 14 years
- Rt. Wor. Paul Martin Bessel, October 28, 37 years
- Rt. Wor. Michael Paul Bible, October 7, 29 years
- Bro. William Harvey Clore, October 4, 29 years
- Bro. Geoffrey Kyle Alban Dunaway, October 27, 31 years
- Bro. Thomas Clifton Etter, October 30, 40 years
- Bro. Louis Enrique Ferreira, October 26, 1 year
- Bro. Lewis Buchanan Gorley, October 22, 23 years
- Bro. Kurt Allen Gustafson, October 25, 29 years
- Bro. Jay Steven Hambacher, October 11, 31 years
- Bro. Jace Christen Harrill, October 19, 5 years
- Wor. Philip John Hays, October 18, 31 years
- Bro. George Blaine Huff, October 21, 30 years
- Bro. Louis Kobus, October 19, 28 years
- Bro. Jonathan Perry Kruger, October 19, 28 years
- Bro. Edward Eric Lamb, October 24, 33 years
- Bro. Kurt Lee Langenwalter, October 15, 17 years
- Bro. Romulo Paredes Maliksi, October 7, 29 years
- Bro. Nicholas John Mayberry, October 26, 1 year
- Bro. Raymond Buford McClure, October 19, 28 years
- Bro. Ryan Joseph McCombie, October 19, 28 years
- Bro. Donald Ray Newman, October 29, 51 years
- Bro. Sean Phillip O'Shea, October 3, 4 years
- Bro. Michael Nicholas Pocalyko, October 19, 42 years
- Rt. Wor. Philip Niemann Rhodes, October 18, 30 years
- Bro. Elmer Michael Smith, October 16, 46 years
- Bro. Iliya Antonio Stanoev, October 27, 4 years
- Bro. Christopher Gared Sterbling, October 3, 4 years
- Mt. Wor. Donald Ellis Strehle, October 19, 30 years
- Bro. Richard Lance Stubblefield, October 14, 14 years
- Mt. Wor. Claire Victor Tusch, October 11, 35 years
- Bro. Theodore Vagias, October 14, 14 years
- Bro. Nestor Fabian Villanueva, October 15, 17 years
- Bro. Jon Edward Wulfekuehler, October 26, 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

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

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