

# Lodge Bulletin

# November 2024

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# Master's Message

Dear Brethren,

As we start to close out this Masonic year, I am filled with optimism and excitement for the future of our Lodge. The past year has been marked by significant accomplishments, and I am grateful for the dedication and hard work of every member. You are incredible men and dedicated Masons; I am so grateful to have you in my life.

Looking ahead, we have the opportunity to continue to build upon our successes and create an even brighter future for our lodge. Warden's Night is a special occasion to recognize the contributions of our officers and to inspire them to continue their exemplary work. I encourage all members to attend and show their support and hear as the Senior Warden shares his thoughts for 2025.

Together, let us commit ourselves to fostering a strong and vibrant lodge community. By embracing the timeless principles of Freemasonry and living up to our obligations, we can make an increasingly positive impact on our community and the world.

May this year be one of growth, fellowship, and service.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

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





# November 2024

November 4 6:30 PM | Fraternal Visit Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 Fredericksburg, Virginia

November 7-9 Grand Annual Communication Richmond, Virginia

*November 14* 6:30 PM | Fellowship Dinner 7:30 PM | Stated Communication Wardens Night GWMNM

November 17 3:00 PM | Archives Committee Meeting GWMNM

November 16 10:00 AM | Called Communication EA Catechism Return \*We will practice the EA Degree following the called communication GWMNM

> November 21 7:00 PM | Called Communication 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 Two Pillars

*By Bro. Rob Swansons, Lodge Education Officer, Alexandria - Washington Lodge No. 22* 

The candidate, after taking their FC obligation, is escorted to the porch of King Solomon's Temple. Before the entrance stands Two Brazen Pillars known as Jachin and Boaz. They provide an essential piece of symbolism that the candidate is introduced to before they can proceed. A reminder that before proceeding further they must have made suitable proficiency in the preceding Degree.

Allen E Roberts provides a description of the Pillars and their symbolism thus "Boaz, the right-hand pillar, can also symbolize power, Jachin, choice or control. In the process of becoming a FellowCraft, you passed between these pillars of your own free will. This signified that you are no longer a youth, but a man. You now have the essentials for success, achievement, and happiness. If you pass these pillars with understanding, if you realize that power without control is dangerous, you have learned the lesson taught by the symbolism of the pillars. You are ready to begin your journey up the winding stairs to the Middle Chamber."[i]

It holds true that before knowledge has been obtained by oneself, it is inadvisable to go further down the initiates path. It is there at the threshold of the next step in the Craft to remind the Apprentice that before proceeding further they should ensure they have learned all the lessons inculcated in the 1st Degree. It is there not as a warning, but a reminder, establish a firm base, begin hewing the Rough Ashlar that is your mind, and devest yourself of enough superfluities that the lessons found in the Fellowcraft Degree will make sense, and only then can you build upon your foundational knowledge.

"the newly-obligated Fellow Craft is conducted to a site representing the porch of King Solomon's Temple. Thereupon, the first objects to

# The Two Pillars

#### Continued

which his attention is drawn are the Brazen Pillars, Jachin and Boaz, which are said to be representations of those that stood on the porch, flanking the entrance to the Temple." [ii]

The Pillars hold a symbiotic relationship with each other and with the candidate. Strength without control is chaos, and Control without strength is meaningless and tyrannical. As you approach King Solomons Temple attempting the ascent to the Middle Chamber you are reminded that in all things there is balance. As a Fellowcraft you must learn to achieve this balance, or all progress will be halted. As a Fellowcraft you have mastered the implements of an Apprentice. Now comes the arguably harder lesson found in all of Masonry, the lessons of the 2nd Degree. In days long past a student had to learn rhetoric, grammar, history etc. via rote memorization, there was no scantron multiple choice, nor could they be an automaton either, reciting without understanding was not allowed. After they have proven proficiency in memorization, they were required to defend and explain what it was they had expounded. So too must the candidate learn all that is found in the Fellowcraft Degree. If they fail to do so, the mysteries of the 3rd shall elude them.

[<u>i</u>] The Craft and its Symbols, Allen E Roberts, page 45, and 46 [<u>ii</u>] Jamie Paul Lamb Approaching the Middle Chamber page 50



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# Mount Vernon Cornerstone Dedication October 14, 2024

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event a success!



# Happy Masonic Birthday

Bro. Lauri Ahola, November 1, 4 years Bro. Nathaniel Ambler. November 14, 17 years Bro. Richard Blair, November 10, 68 years Bro. Gordon Brady Jr., November 7, 41 years Rt. Wor. Granville Canard Jr., November 22, 56 years Wor. Frank Dunaway III, November 28, 31 years Bro. Mark Gabriel, November 31, 3 years Bro. Trevor Garmey, November 1, 4 years Bro. Daniel Hamilton, November 2, 5 years Bro. Garland Isdell II, November 29, 32 years Bro. Ivan Ivanov, November 1, 4 years Bro. Gregory Kelly, November 5, 39 years Bro. Morgan Kesecker, November 1, 4 years Bro. Abdullah Khodadad, November 1, 4 years Wor. Kerry Kirk, November 17, 20 years Bro. Paul Konschak, November 1, 4 years Wor. James Landerkin, November 16, 19 years Bro. Jeffrey Lehmkuhl, November 1, 4 years Bro. Christopher McBride, November 18, 21 years Wor. Jesse McMahan V, November 21, 24 years Bro. Michael Mikolaitis, November 24, 27 years Wor. Earl Million, November 5, 39 years Wor. David Morgan, November 28, 62 years Bro. Ronald Paterson, November 10, 44 years Bro. Daniel Paulson, November 14, 48 years Bro. Hans Pawlisch, November 25, 28 years Bro. James Pratt III, November 18, 52 years Bro. Jason Reardon, November 1, 4 years Bro. Robin Richardson, November 7, 41 years Bro. Troy Seletos, November 2, 5 years Bro. Jonathan Siudmak, November 2, 5 years Bro. Phillip Smartt, November 2, 5 years Rt. Wor. Howard Sobel, November 10, 44 years Bro. Graham Stroud, November 17, 51 years Bro. Michael Sutila, November 27, 30 years Bro. Luis Then, November 9, 12 years Bro. Tyler Vanice, November 2, 5 years Bro. Jackie Wilson, November 15, 49 years Bro. Cody Wright, November 1, 4 years Bro. Christopher Zaylah, November 1, 4 years

### 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, David Gabriel Bella, PM - Secretary Pro Tempore 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