



Lodge Bulletin

March 2025



www.AW22.org

Master's Message

Brethren,

That's another February in the minute books! Every year, February is one of the busiest times for our lodge and this year was no exception. At our regular stated communication on February 13, we had the distinct honor of welcoming Right Worshipful Jason W. Lotz, our District Deputy Grand Master, for his official visit. Right Worshipful Lotz brought warm fraternal greetings from the Grand Master, and presented our lodge with the James Noah Hillman Memorial Award and the Seymour Jonas Levy Blood Program Award for our 2024 activities. The Hillman Award recognizes lodges "which exhibit program excellence by undertaking various activities that support, enhance, and build this great Fraternity by meeting minimum prescribed requirements as well as participating in additional activities that achieve a superior performance level." The Levy Award is granted in recognition of the number of units of blood donated by lodge members. Both honors were received with tremendous appreciation by our lodge.

On a cool and rainy February 15, we braved the elements and marched in the George Washington Birthday Parade, an experience I won't soon forget. Our birthday celebrations culminated on February 22, first by continuing our time-honored tradition of an early morning wreath laying at Washington's Mount Vernon tomb, followed by participating in the 75th anniversary rededication of the Washington statue at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, a second stated communication celebrating his life and Masonic career, and ending in elegance at the annual birthday gala.

As Freemasons and members of the Lodge of George Washington, each of us bears the sacrosanct responsibility of honoring, maintaining and celebrating the enduring legacy of our Charter Master and Most Illustrious Brother. In that regard, last month I was again reminded that each of you are men that rise up and meet the moment.

Read on for what lies ahead in March, and I look forward to seeing you at lodge!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Phillip Adam Smartt
Worshipful Master
Master@AW22.org



Quarry Gems





March 2025

March 5

6:15 PM | Refreshments

7:00 PM | District Instructor of Work School

GWMNM

March 8

6:00 PM | Called Communication

Fellowcraft Degree

GWMNM

March 13

6:30 PM | Fellowship Dinner

7:30 PM | Stated Communication

GWMNM

March 16

3 PM | Quarterly Trustees Meeting

GWMNM

March 29

1 PM | Members and Prospects Social Hour

Alexandria Bier Garden

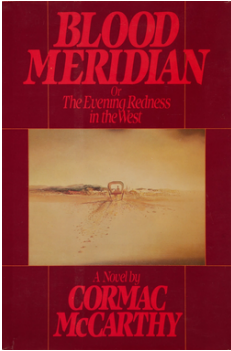
- Catechism Schools are every Thursday night at 6:30 PM and Saturday morning at 10:00 AM unless otherwise noted. Ritual Schools are every Thursday night (except on Stated Communication night) at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted. All Masons are welcome.
- To follow the Master's personal Masonic schedule.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

Ex Libris

Blood Meridian; or, the Evening Redness in the West

Cormac McCarthy

Review by Wor. David G. Bella, PM



“The ultimate trade awaiting its ultimate practitioner.”

- The Judge

The ancient Israeli landscape the twelve fellowcrafts traversed was unforgiving and unanswered. The long slog of exploration, survival, and hunting ground them down into their ashamed primal forms.

The southward band wandered the Negev desert subsisting on shrew and sleeping on the cold desert rock listening to the caracals vibrating screeches in the night.

The eastward made it through the Hebron mountains, the unforgiving rocky hills of their ancestors, and turned around at the Lake of Sodom after inquiring of the salt evaporators.

Those that traveled north turned around at Jenin. They slept on the Samarain plain and wasted the horses that fell in the rodent holes.

The noteworthy westward crew conversed with the sailors at Jaffa after treading through the fertile coastal plains. They walked past the sights of the bordellos, drank from unfamiliar Mediterranean casks of wine, and heard the hedonistic tales from the grey bearded men of the city who had seen every ship come and go.

After their bout of disobedience and their return from wandering in the desolation of the untouched ancient landscapes, all four would submit to the judgement beset on the offenders, there is no question.

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Ex Libris

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Is it a coincidence the most told male exclusive drama revolves around bands of men hunting others in vast landscapes to bring the hunted to a judgement doled out by a spiritual figure which is inevitably carried out in a violent fashion at the hands of men?

I think not.

Blood Meridian tells this tale.

It tells of the primitiveness of the land and the corruption of it by the hands of man and their massacring way. The marauding. The blood lust. The unmentionable evil doled out by man which is far superior to the evil meted out by spiritual forces. It supposes violence is a force that never sleeps and will never die.

It is a great favorite.

We are no exception.



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Perspectives of the Craft

Leading with Light: Servant Leadership in Law Enforcement and Freemasonry

Bro. Daniel R. Gordon

Junior Deacon, Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22

Since being raised to Master Mason, I've often contemplated how my time in law enforcement and my journey through Freemasonry align. What I have found through this contemplation is that I feel a calling to both lead and serve. At their core, both the law enforcement profession and Freemasonry have teachings that service above self is paramount, and that leadership isn't about being in charge; it's about lifting others up and lighting the way, even when things get difficult or have a grim outlook.

As law enforcement professionals, we are entrusted with so much more than just a badge, gun, and uniform. Every day, law enforcement officers around the world are presented with situations where they must make split-second decisions and exhibit varying degrees of leadership in response to situations ranging from the most minor incident to some of the most horrific. To maintain legitimacy with the communities we serve, officers must ensure that their work is consistently conducted with fairness, compassion, dignity, integrity, and equal justice. It is in these situations where a person's true leadership abilities are put to the test.

Throughout my Masonic journey, I've found that there are many similarities between the symbolism of the working tools and the principles I strive to embody professionally as a leader. As we are taught, the square isn't just a tool, it's a symbol guiding us to square our actions by aligning them with fairness and precision. Every day in my work activities or reflecting on my decisions of the day, I remind myself that the choices I make must be balanced and measured, just as the square demands.

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Perspectives of the Craft

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This simple lesson reminds me to approach every interaction with the unwavering integrity and consistency that true servant leadership requires.

The level is a reminder that every individual deserves equal respect and treatment. In law enforcement, this means putting aside personal biases and ensuring that every person is treated with dignity no matter the circumstances. Whether it's a routine interaction or a challenging confrontation, this lesson reinforces a commitment to impartiality. In the lodge and out, this principle of equality is a cornerstone of servant leadership which fosters trust and connection between people from all walks of life.

The plumb calls for uprightness and integrity and serves as a final and potent reminder of what it means to lead by example. It tells us to stand firm in our values even when pressures of the moment may tempt us to stray. In both law enforcement and Freemasonry, adhering to this principle is non-negotiable as it builds credibility, strengthens community bonds, and ultimately lights the way for others. It's a call to be honest and transparent, ensuring that every decision, no matter how small, is rooted in moral courage.

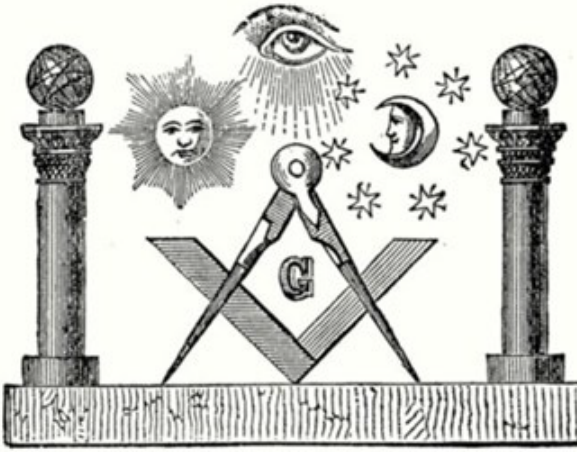
The similarities between law enforcement and Freemasonry underscore a profound truth that servant leadership is not about wielding power but about sharing light. Whether navigating unpredictable professional challenges or the reflective rituals of the lodge, our shared mission is to illuminate the path for others. Every decision made with care, every act of fairness, and every moment of empathy contributes to a legacy that extends far beyond our individual roles.

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Perspectives of the Craft

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By embracing these values, we not only forge stronger communities but also create a ripple effect, one that inspires others to serve, to listen, and to lead with both heart and conviction. In a world that often feels divided and uncertain, this commitment to servant leadership offers a beacon of hope, reminding us all that the true measure of leadership lies in our willingness to uplift and empower those around us.



Bill of Fare

March 13

Entrée

Beef Tenderloin
Lemon Garlic Chicken

Sides

Slider Rolls
Fruit Bowl and Mixed Vegetables
Mac and Cheese
Baked Potato Salad
Deviled Eggs

Dessert

Irish Shortbread Cookies

Suggested Donation: \$10

Please RSVP to reservations@AW22.org

Happy Masonic Birthday



RW Edgar Bruce Holley, March 23, 70 Years
Bro. Paul McKinley Rhodes, March 1, 52 Years
Bro. David Rhine Gehr, March 15, 52 Years
Bro. Charles Richard Hix, March 24, 50 Years
Bro. Todd Mitchell Zelnick, March 8, 41 Years
RW George Douglas Seghers, March 19, 35 Years
Wor. Pablo Alejandro Rocha, March 23, 33 Years
Bro. Lowell Gene Gilliland, March 30, 33 Years
Bro. Jeffrey Loren Adelman, March 29, 32 Years
RW Daniel Hufford Surface, Jr., March 27, 29 Years
Bro. Kenneth Ian Scroggie, March 17, 28 Years
Bro. David Shepard Webber, March 22, 28 Years
Bro. Jerry Dean Owen, March 1, 24 Years
Bro. Rami Khail Chehade, March 22, 20 Years
Bro. Brian Patrick Fleming, March 5, 16 Years
Bro. Brian Mark Williams, March 17, 14 Years
Bro. Robert Darell Pollock, March 27, 11 Years
Bro. Dusan Arsenijevic, March 18, 3 Years
Bro. Zavier Hobson, II, March 28, 1 Year
Bro. Michael James Hubbard, March 28, 1 Year



2025 Lodge Officers

Wor. Phillip Adam Smartt - Worshipful Master

Mobile: 423-505-7704 Email: Master@AW22.org

Bro. Jonathan Joseph Siudmak - Senior Warden

Bro. Ronald Earl Craft, Jr. - Junior Warden

Wor. Michael Lee Bailey, PM - Treasurer

Wor. David Gabriel Bella, 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. Jakob Aonghus Zilinski - Senior Deacon

Bro. Daniel Ryan Gordon - Junior Deacon

Bro. Thomas Harrison Lynch - Chaplain

Bro. Naaren Juloori - Senior Steward

Bro. Brian Mark Williams - Junior Steward

Bro. Jon Edward Wulfekuehler - Marshal

Wor. Pablo Alejandro Rocha, PM - Tiler

Board of Trustees

Wor. James Berkley Stone, PM - 2025

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

Wor. Nikola N. Nikolov, PM - 2027

Bro. Gene Vincent Giordano - 2028

Bro. Paul Edward Korschak - 2029

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 S. 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

2024 - Nelo A. Hamilton, Jr.