

LIGHT

of the George Washington
Masonic Memorial



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA · VOLUME 16 · NUMBER 2 · 2010

Honoring Our Founders

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association's first century of service has been one of inspiration and accomplishment. In preparation for our Centennial Celebration, we established *Founders Hall*, an exhibit that honors the four great Masonic leaders to whom we owe our respect, admiration and thanks for building this magnificent Memorial. The exhibit features busts of these remarkable men.

The visionary behind the creation of the Memorial was M.W. Brother Charles H. Callahan, whose dedication and persistence were invaluable in the early stages of the planning. The inscription on the bust of this prescient leader reads, "*Charles H. Callahan, Founder of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, under whose auspices this Temple was erected and who laid the cornerstone as Acting Grand Master. Presented by his Brethren of Alexandria in appreciation of his distinguished service and untiring efforts for the erection of this Memorial Temple.*"

Our first President, M.W. Brother Thomas J. Shryock, was the driving force behind the organization and formation of the Memorial Association. His bust is inscribed, "*Thomas J. Shryock, President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, February 21, 1911–February 3, 1918. Presented by his Brethren of Maryland to commemorate his unflinching zeal for the Craft and his Dedication to build this Memorial.*"

R.W. Brother Louis H. Watres, our second President, was truly the guiding light and driving force behind the construction of the Memorial. On his bust is written, "*Louis R. Watres, President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, February 21, 1918–June 28, 1937. Presented by his Brethren of Pennsylvania to commemorate his Fidelity and Distinguished Service in Planning and Erecting this Memorial.*"

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Anticipation to Realization to Anticipation

by Anthony P. Wordlow



The Centennial year of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association

was enthusiastically anticipated. Our grand celebration on Washington's Birthday, carefully planned over several years, was fully realized and executed to perfection. It will be fondly remembered by all who attended.

This pivotal year closes the chapter on our first century and opens the chapter of our second. We face our future with great anticipation, just as our Brothers did on Washington's Birthday in 1910. Your continued tax-deductible donations are essential to help us meet the many challenges ahead and are greatly appreciated.

This year has brought many improvements, changes and opportunities for us. Our newsletter is now called *LIGHT*—indeed a meaningful name. The George Washington Masonic Memorial is a beacon that spreads the light of Freemasonry and the legacy of George Washington out to the world.

In 2010, your George Washington Masonic Memorial welcomed an increasing number of visitors. Several

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Founders Hall honors the remarkable Masons that created the Association and built the Memorial.

President's Message, continued from page 1

Grand Masters, accompanied by some of their constituents, have visited during their Grand Lodge designated month. We hope this portends a trend. You are especially invited to visit your magnificent George Washington Masonic Memorial soon. You will feel a profound sense of pride, wonder and satisfaction as you realize the true scope of this classical edifice.

We recall our Brothers who in 1910 anticipated the creation of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. In 2010 we realize their dream. We pray those who follow will assure that the George Washington Masonic Memorial will continue *"To inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country."*

It has been my honor, pleasure, and privilege to serve your George Washington Masonic Memorial Association as a Board Member for 12 years and as President for the last two. I am grateful to have had these opportunities.

I commend our generous benefactors and donors, our Board of Directors, our Executive Director, and our staff at the Memorial. Thank you for your dedication, devotion, cooperation and success.

In addition, I extend special thanks to our Ladies. Your support and love add sparkle and meaning to our Light. You make anticipation and realization much sweeter.

I encourage you to visit your George Washington Masonic Memorial and to join with me in giving ongoing financial support to the one and only National Masonic Memorial, dedicated to the one and only George Washington.

Honoring Our Founders, continued from page 1

The awesome task of completing the Memorial was accomplished by our fourth President, M.W. Brother Elmer R. Arn. The inscription on his bust reads, *"Elmer R. Arn, President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, February 22, 1938–December 24, 1951. Presented by his Brethren of Ohio in appreciation of his extraordinary Services and untiring efforts toward the completion of this Memorial Temple."*

Note that the inscriptions stress service, untiring effort, zeal, dedication and fidelity. The inscriptions are similar, as in many ways were the great men the exhibit honors. They were Masons who shared a vision that stretched over nearly half a century. Their efforts, diligence and shared history reflect their character and their dedication to the memory and character of George Washington, America's greatest citizen and Freemason. They accomplished an extraordinary task under very trying conditions. Just as Washington and our nation's Founding Fathers had the character and strength to build a new nation, these remarkable men had the character and strength to build the only National Masonic Memorial. Now, in our second century, it is our duty and our honor to continue the work of these great men and Masons: to preserve this Memorial that honors the one man who did more and gave more than any other for the creation of this country that we are privileged to live in, Brother George Washington.

Semi-Annual Board Meeting

The Semi-Annual Board Meeting was established to provide the opportunity for our Board of Directors to convene at the Memorial at least once a year. According to our By-Laws, the Annual Meeting of the Association is to be held on Washington's Birthday. Presently our Annual Meeting is held in conjunction with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, which developed out of the Annual Meeting of the Memorial Association. The Conference usually meets the week of Washington's Birthday at various locations around the country. Our Annual Meeting is seldom held at the Memorial, but thanks to the support and cooperation of the Conference, we were able to hold our Centennial Celebration and Annual Meeting at the Memorial this year.

The Semi-Annual Board Meeting of 2010 was held on August 13 and 14. The focus was the adoption of a Long Range Strategic Plan.

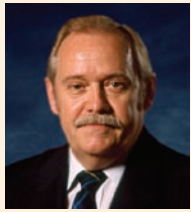


Members of the Board of Directors at the Memorial during the Semi-Annual Board Meeting in August.

MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDRIA

New Century of Service

by George D. Seghers



As our Centennial year is coming to a close and the Memorial Association begins a new century of service to the Masonic fraternity, the fraternity itself is experiencing a renaissance. Following decades of decline in membership and what some might say was

a misdirection of emphasis and energy, the fraternity is beginning to revive. New Masonic research and writings are taking place. New and restored Masonic publications are being produced. The fraternity is attracting a generation of serious individuals who are seeking an experience that is real, meaningful and beneficial to their personal development. The fraternity has refocused on the primary function of Freemasonry: to improve its members in every possible way.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial was created to honor and perpetuate the memory of George Washington, a man whose life was a continuous journey of self improvement. In his midteens, he wrote out by hand 110 *Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation*. From this early exercise and throughout his life, Washington was aware of his relationship to those around him and to society in general. In a letter to Alexander Hamilton dated August 28, 1788, he wrote, "...I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain (what

I consider the most enviable of all titles) the character of an honest man." What a supreme example we have in this, the greatest of the great men who were our Founding Fathers. As human beings, as Americans and most especially as Freemasons, we must follow his example and endeavor to earn the title of "honest man."

George Washington clearly understood that leadership must be by example. The example we strive to present to the public at the George Washington Masonic Memorial is twofold. We present the virtues, character and vision of George Washington as the inspiration for our thoughts and actions. We also present the factual and enlightening history and function of Freemasonry to all those who visit the Memorial and who receive our communications. What we do here at the Memorial is only possible through the participation and support of our members and friends. We are grateful to all those who attended the Centennial Celebration and to all those who visited and supported us during this special milestone year.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial is a Masonic lighthouse, spreading the light of Freemasonry to the world. We look forward in this new century "*To inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country.*" Thank you for your continued support. Please come and visit your Memorial.

George D. Seghers is the Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

COMMEMORATIVE KEEPSAKES

In honor of our Centennial Celebration, the Association commissioned several beautiful keepsakes. Use them with pride, appreciation and remembrance of 100 years of service to the legacy of George Washington and the Masonic fraternity. Order yours today!



- Business Card Holder
- 100% Silk Neckties
- Collector's Medallions
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for full details

2010 HOLIDAY ORNAMENT



This year's holiday ornament is *The George Washington Masonic Memorial Crest*, which was designed as the new logo of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association to commemorate its 100th Anniversary on February 22, 2010. The ornament

combines the Washington Family Crest with numerous Masonic symbols. It was first released at the end of last year.

To order, please contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 703.549.9234 or visit the Memorial's website at www.gwmemorial.org.

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Michie M. Brous** TX
by H. Malvern Marks Foundation
Corrine K. Bush** OR
by The Grand Lodge of Oregon
D. Arthur Bush** OR
by The Grand Lodge of Oregon

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Jerry Cottrell* VA
by the Cottrell, Short and
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Phil & Mary Cox** CA
by Tony & Marilyn Wordlow
Richard, Esther, Margaret and MI
Daniel Davis**
by Richard G. Davis
John R. Dunn TX
Eunice Lodge No. 67 NM
Fort Worth Lodge No. 148** TX
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Supreme Council Grottoes of NA OH
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by Walter D. Hanisch
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by The Richard Whiteside
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Krumm, Lashley, Leone-Zwillinger,
May and Ossa
The Grand Lodge of New NM
Mexico**
by Gary M. Deck
The Ossa Family** NJ
by Cristian & Leslie Ossa
Panther City Lodge No. 1183** TX
by H. Malvern Marks Foundation
Pewee Valley Lodge No. 829** KY
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by Jane E. Rausch
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The Washington Scholars VA
Fellowship Program**
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Hollis F. Walker** CA
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by Tony & Marilyn Wordlow
Peter J. Zaluba* IL
by Elizabeth Zaluba
Edward L. Zorn** CO
by Betty R. Ella

*In Memory of **In Honor of

SHINING LIGHTS

What the Memorial Means to Me



The vast magnitude of our magnificent Memorial must be experienced.

I believe the same could be said about the man it memorializes. To fully comprehend George Washington's true greatness requires that one experience the Memorial in person.

You must climb those front steps and enter Memorial Hall yourself; it can't be done for you by another. I challenge each Freemason to make the commitment to visit your Memorial. I believe you will leave a different man. I know I did.

Freemasonry teaches personal responsibility. It is our duty as Freemasons to support and maintain this Memorial built by those with vision and dedication who came before us. They accepted the responsibility of completing this Memorial; we must accept the responsibility of preserving it, maintaining it and passing it on to those who will come after us in better condition than we received it.

Philip G. Buchholz

Past Grand Master, Grand Secretary of Wyoming

New Century Member

We look forward to spotlighting more Members and Friends in future issues. Thank you to all the "Lights" that shine on behalf of the Memorial.

DOVE ORNAMENT REISSUED



The Memorial is pleased to announce that, due to the overwhelming popularity of *Freemasonry—Hope and Peace*, this beautiful ornament has been reissued. In Freemasonry, the *Dove* is a symbol of hope, as it was to Noah, and

the *Acacia* is a symbol of resurrection and the immortality of the soul. In ancient symbolism, the *Dove* also represented purity and innocence and the *Acacia* represented peace and victory.

To order, please contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 703.549.9234 or visit the Memorial's website at www.gwmemorial.org.

Join the GWMM Today!

Yes! Count on me to support our Memorial. Enclosed is my membership contribution of:

- ☐ **\$100 Silver Craftsman:** Your gift will be acknowledged and you will receive a Membership Certificate.
- ☐ **\$250 Gold Master:** Your gift will be acknowledged and you will receive a Membership Certificate.
- ☐ **\$500 Platinum Presidential:** Your gift will be acknowledged and you will receive a Membership Certificate.
- ☐ **\$1000 New Century:** Your gift will be acknowledged, you will receive a Membership Certificate and your name will be cast in bronze and displayed in the main entrance to Memorial Hall.

Patrons

- ☐ **\$5,000 Millennium Architect**
- ☐ **\$10,000 Millennium Master Architect**
- ☐ **\$25,000 Millennium Builder**
- ☐ **\$50,000 Millennium Master Builder**
- ☐ **\$100,000 Millennium Grand Master Builder**

In addition to the above benefits, all Patrons will receive a Membership Plaque and your name will be permanently displayed on a Patrons Wall of Honor recognizing major benefactors prominently located in the Memorial.

Already a Supporter? Great! Since Membership is cumulative, an additional contribution may upgrade your status to the next category.

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Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. All Memberships are gratefully acknowledged, published in the newsletter and permanently displayed in the Memorial.

Mail to GWMM Membership, 101 Callahan Drive,
Alexandria, VA 22301-2751 or fax to 703.519.9270

New Century of Commitment

On February 22, 1910, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was founded to create a suitable memorial to George Washington, the Mason. Despite overwhelming financial challenges, the Founders achieved this momentous task and today the Memorial stands as a symbol of light, spreading the message of Washington's legacy and Freemasonry to the world. But we must continue to preserve what the Founders began. Our mission is *"To inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country."*

Will you join us during this historic Centennial year, and help us to launch a second century of inspiration? Support from individuals like you helps the George Washington Masonic Memorial to inspire so many in the community, our nation and, indeed, around the world. **Will you make a Centennial gift of \$100 or more today?** Your participation is vital since the Memorial is entirely funded by private contributions.

Please help us continue our efforts to ensure that the George Washington Masonic Memorial forever remains to inspire all future generations.

Yes! I'm proud to join the *Centennial Celebration!*

I have enclosed my Centennial gift of:

☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000

☐ Please accept this gift of: \$ _____

☐ Check enclosed made payable to GWMM

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Mail to Centennial Celebration, 101 Callahan Drive,
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Memorial to Host ICHF Conference



The International Conference on the History of Freemasonry (ICHF) will be held at the George Washington Masonic Memorial on May 27–29, 2011. Since its inception more than six years ago, ICHF has become a premier venue for academics and others interested in Freemasonry.

Following the huge success of the first two conferences, in 2007 and 2009, the 2011 conference will mark a milestone in the growth of the organization: For the first time, ICHF will be held outside Europe and is expected to attract participants from around the world. This is the only international conference at which academics, members of the public, and Freemasons can discuss this highly underestimated social phenomenon.

The tentative theme for the 2011 conference will be "Early Scottish Freemasons in North America," which will make Alexandria, Virginia, a very fitting locale. Scots played an important role in the early development of Alexandria and the region, as they did throughout America.

For more information on ICHF, visit their website at www.ichfonline.org.

California Tree Project

In May of this year, over 200 members of the Grand Lodge of California participated in a ceremony on the grounds of the Memorial to dedicate the future California Grove, a beautification project of Kathy Nagel, wife of then-Grand Master of California Ken Nagel. Mrs. Nagel presented the first of two checks to the Memorial at that time, and a second check to Executive Director George D. Seghers at the Grand Lodge's Annual Communication in September. Mrs. Nagel raised more than \$50,000 from throughout the state to support the Memorial's Tree Program.



Kathy Nagel presents the second of two checks to Executive Director George D. Seghers for the California Grove to help support the Memorial.

H. John Fletcher, California Grand Marshal, 2010

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL

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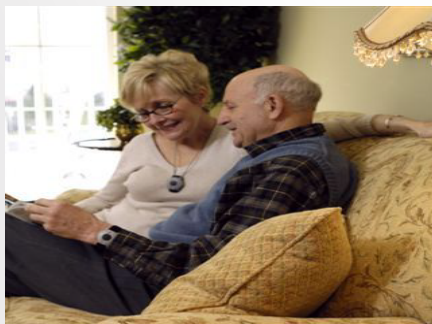
“Masons live better and live longer.”

George Seghers - Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic Memorial

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Alexandria Academy Reinstatement Ceremony

On September 7, 1785, Virginia Freemasons laid the cornerstone of Alexandria Academy—the school founded by George Washington. On September 7, 2010—exactly 225 years from the day the cornerstone was laid—Virginia’s Governor Robert F. McDonnell reinstated the original charter and the Academy opened its doors to a new generation of young Americans.

The Memorial’s Executive Director, George D. Seghers, was a guest speaker at the ceremony. Other distinguished guests and speakers included Virginia’s Secretary of Education, Gerard Robinson; the Mayor of Alexandria, William D. Euille; James C. Rees, President of Mount Vernon and T. Robinson Ahlstrom, Chairman of The Fund for Classical Education.

After writing to Thomas Jefferson of his inclination to endow a school for “poor and orphaned children—especially the descendants of those fallen in defense of their country,” Washington pledged a remarkable gift of \$1,000. He purchased copies of Phaedrus, Eutropius, Sallust, Horace, Terence and several Latin grammars. Accepting the invitation to become one of the Academy’s original Managers, Washington worked to make the school a model for the new nation.

From our nation’s very beginning, the Academy extended a rigorous classical education to women, the very poor and free African Americans. They sat at the same tables and studied the same texts as George Steptoe Washington, Lawrence Augustine Washington and Robert E. Lee, who graduated in 1824.

Today, through its Standards of Conduct & Civility, the Academy teaches more than Latin, logic, rhetoric, literature, architecture, math and science. It instructs each student in manners, morals and the First Principles of self-government.

The Fund for Classical Education plans to establish Washington Latin Schools in cities and towns throughout the United States, wherever parents desire to lay such a foundation for their children.

New Exhibit to Open

Renovations to the third floor of the Memorial are under way for the new *Family of Freemasonry* exhibit, with phase one scheduled to open in May 2011. The exhibit will showcase several Masonic appendant and affiliated organizations and highlight their history, charities and social activities.

Association Officers

Elected February 22, 2010

Anthony P. Wordlow, *President*
Roger A. Simmons, *First Vice President*
Donald G. Hicks, Jr., *Second Vice President*
Ridgely H. Gilmour, *Third Vice President*
George D. Seghers, ** Executive Director*

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George Washington Masonic Memorial
1910–2010 | 100th Anniversary



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of the George Washington Masonic Memorial

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