

LIGHT

of the George Washington
Masonic Memorial



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA · VOLUME 18 · NUMBER 1 · 2012 · *Special Commemorative Edition: Washington's 280th Birthday*

The George Washington Birthday Celebration

The George Washington Masonic Memorial celebrated George Washington's Birthday in grand style with several new events added to the traditional proceedings. After a lapse of many years, the annual celebration was restored this year on the actual date of Washington's Birth—February 22—to commemorate his 280th Birthday and confirmed Freemasonry's prominent role in this important national observance.

Festivities began on the evening of February 21 with a Special Communication of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, where George Washington served as Charter Master when the Lodge transferred its Charter from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1788. This year, with many visiting Brethren in attendance, Worshipful Master Michael L. Bailey conducted a new ceremony that commemorated Washington's service and proclaimed his virtues as a man, a Mason and the Father of our Country. It is hoped one day that Lodges throughout the world will conduct this ceremony. *(If your Lodge would like a copy of the ceremony please e-mail the Memorial Association through our website: www.gwmemorial.org)*

As it has for over 150 years, Alexandria-Washington Lodge assembled early the next morning at Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon. The Lodge was joined by Grand Master
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The return of the George Washington Birthday Celebration drew attendees from across the country who enjoyed a full day of events, which culminated with a Gala Banquet held in Grand Masonic Hall.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Strength and Support

by Roger A. Simmons



In the few years that I have been a member of the Board of Directors I have witnessed

substantial growth and increased support. The Memorial Association continues to get stronger.

The 2012 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors in Atlanta was productive, informative and inspiring. We bade farewell there to Board Members who completed their terms and welcomed newly elected Members. The Meeting was immediately followed by a very successful George Washington Birthday Celebration at the Memorial, held here for the first time in many years. Last August, with the full support of the Board of Directors, this annual celebration was restored. The Board of Directors and the Memorial Staff are committed to holding this outstanding event each February 22 at the Memorial. It is an event that honors and celebrates the great deeds, sacrifices and contributions that George Washington made for the founding of our country.

I am pleased and proud to report that the Brethren of Alabama, my Grand Lodge, adopted the \$1 Per
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President's Message, continued from page 1

Member Annual Contribution to the Memorial. I am also pleased to report that the Brethren of Rhode Island and Indiana have also joined this campaign, and I thank them. (See article, p. 3.) With each Grand Jurisdiction that participates, the Memorial Association grows stronger. The support of the Brethren is essential for the continued existence of the Memorial and we thank you all for your support.

The increased support from our members has helped to fund the many repairs and restorations currently underway at the Memorial. However, contributions have not kept pace with expenses. Our Masonic Forefathers built the Memorial out of the strongest and most durable materials available so that succeeding generations would appreciate its strength and beauty. It is now our duty and our honor to maintain this enduring tribute to a truly remarkable and great man, Brother George Washington.

Thank you for your continued support and may God bless you and your families.

In Memoriam



It is with great sadness that we announce that Warren D. "Duke" Lichty, President of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association from 2002–2005, passed away on May 23, 2012.

Brother Lichty resided in Lincoln, Nebraska. He received a B.S. in Law from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln in 1952 and his J.D. there in 1954, after which he was admitted to the Nebraska State Bar. He was also a member of the American Bar Association. After service in the Army from 1954–1958, he began his law career. He was a member of the U.S. District Court (Nebraska—1954), the U.S. Court of Appeals (8th Circuit—1973) and the State Supreme Court (1979). He served as the Judge for Dawes County, Nebraska from 1958–1968. He was Special Assistant Attorney General with the Nebraska Department of Justice in Lincoln from 1961–1969, and Managing Assistant Attorney General and Chief Counsel for the Nebraska Department of Roads in Lincoln from 1969–1997.

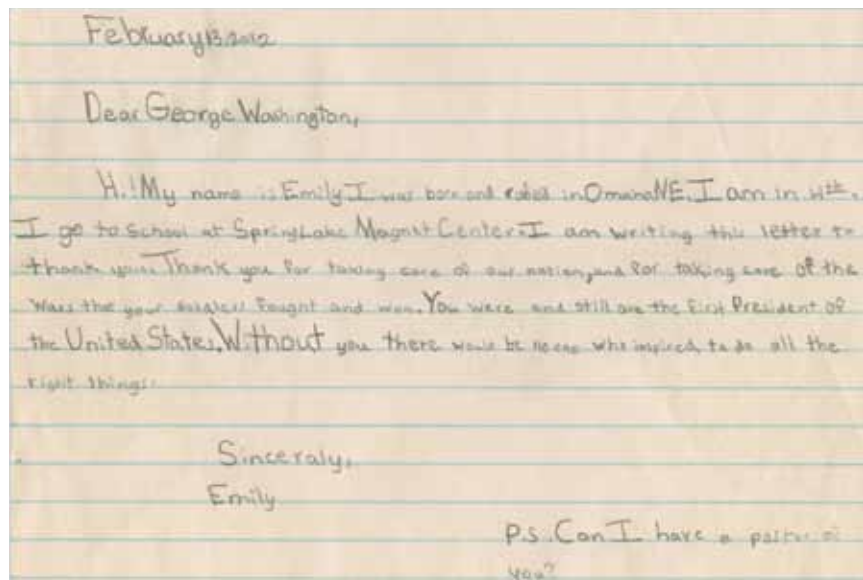
Brother Lichty had a long and illustrious association in the Masonic Fraternity. He served as Grand Master of Nebraska in 1979. In 1981 he became a member of the Nebraska Board of Directors Foundation and served as its President from 1990–2008. He was a 33° Mason and served as the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Nebraska for the Southern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite from 1991–2007. He also served as Grand Chancellor of the Supreme Council. He was the founding President of the Scottish Rite Research Society and also served on its Board of Directors. He was Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine from 2001–2002. The Order of DeMolay made him an International Supreme Council Honoree. He was also a member of the Shriners and the Royal Order of Scotland.

In addition to serving as President of the Memorial Association for three years, Brother Lichty was also a member of the Board of Directors for 13 years. We are eternally grateful for his strong leadership and wise counsel that helped to steer the Memorial in a positive and stable direction. He instituted the Memorial's Annual Contribution Program, which has now evolved into the \$1 Per Member Campaign. To date there are 27 Grand Lodges that participate in annual giving and 20 Grand Lodges, including Nebraska, that contribute \$1 per member.

Brother Lichty is survived by his beloved wife Margaret, with whom he would have been married 50 years this December. He will be greatly missed.

Student Writes to Washington

The Memorial was thrilled to receive this letter from a 4th grade student at Spring Lake Magnet Center in Omaha, Nebraska. This young girl's admiration and astute recognition of Washington's great example is an inspiration to all. The Memorial responded with a letter of sincere appreciation that was read to Emily's entire class. Their teacher said, "they loved it!" The Memorial also sent a print of George Washington in Masonic regalia.



MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDRIA

Permanence and Inspiration

by George D. Seghers



The Memorial is a permanent symbol of the admiration and respect the Fraternity holds for George Washington. It was designed and constructed to stand through the ages. However, time and the elements have taken their toll and we must continue to work to

maintain the Memorial in the grand manner in which it was first built. Through research, trial and error, and study of the original blueprints and plans, we have determined the correct materials and techniques to use to repair and restore the Memorial. All restoration we do is undertaken with permanence in mind and with respect to the concepts and ideals of the remarkable Masons who conceived and constructed this incredible building. The Memorial is an active place with increased use of the building by both the Masonic Fraternity and the public. This is good news indeed, but constant use requires constant maintenance and attention. Your interest in and support of the Memorial at this time are essential for us to ensure the Memorial's future.

Just as the Memorial needs constant attention, so do we. As Masons, we need to pay attention to what we do and say; we must strive to improve ourselves daily. George Washington was very much aware of what he did and said. His was a life of continual improvement. His life is a shining example of the heights that

humans can attain and is worthy of our respect, admiration and emulation. In a letter to Henry Lee dated September 22, 1788, Washington wrote "...*Though I prize, as I ought, the good opinion of my fellow citizens; yet if I know myself, I would not seek or retain popularity at the expense of one social duty or moral virtue.*" As our world rapidly changes, it is more important today than ever to remember and follow the example he set as a just, honest and upright man.

We are moving ahead with many projects and programs. *The Family of Freemasonry* exhibit is a great success and has elevated our Appendant Bodies' exhibits to new levels of clarity, professionalism and interest. (See article, p. 6.) The George Washington Memorial Society is expanding rapidly and continues to generate interest in and support for the Memorial. The \$1 Per Member Campaign is growing and expanding. Since the last issue the Brethren of Alabama, Rhode Island and Indiana approved the \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution to the Memorial.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Memorial Staff, I extend our thanks and appreciation for your continued interest in and support of your Memorial. Help us to continue our mission in this 280th year of Washington's Birth to promote the virtues, character and legacy of our Foremost Freemason and our First and Greatest President. Please come and visit the Memorial. We are confident that you will be inspired and uplifted.

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

\$1 Per Member Campaign

The George Washington Masonic Memorial is pleased to announce that the Grand Lodges of Alabama, Rhode Island and Indiana have adopted a \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution to the Memorial. Our sincere thanks and appreciation are extended to Memorial Association President Roger Simmons for his efforts to secure this much-needed support and to the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of Alabama. Brad Barco served on our Board of Directors and we extend our thanks to him for his work and to the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of Rhode Island. We also thank the Grand Master, Officers and Brethren from Indiana, especially our Past President Mike Brumback, for adopting the \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution to the Memorial.

This brings the number of Grand Lodges participating in the Memorial's \$1 Per Member Campaign to 20. The participating Grand Jurisdictions are: District of Columbia, North Dakota, Michigan, Alaska, Virginia, Maryland, Washington, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico,

Wisconsin, Utah, Oregon, Wyoming, Alabama, Rhode Island and Indiana.

The Memorial was conceived and constructed as a permanent Memorial to the virtues, character and legacy of George Washington. The strong and consistent support of the Brethren through the \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution is essential to maintain the Memorial. Your support will ensure that the Memorial will stand through the coming ages as a symbol of our respect and veneration for Brother Washington.

"America...has ever had, and I trust she ever will have, my honest exertions to promote her interest. I cannot hope that my services have been the best; but my heart tells me they have been the best that I could render."

George Washington

Birthday Celebration, continued from page 1
of Virginia William T. Ellison, Jr.; Washington's Mother Lodge, Fredericksburg No. 4; the Association's Board of Directors and Brethren from other Lodges. Wreaths were laid, prayers of thanksgiving were offered and commemorative addresses were given.

Returning to the Memorial, Association President Roger Simmons officially opened *The Family of Freemasonry* exhibit to enthusiastic reviews. The Officers of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon and the Grotto each cut ribbons on their new displays. (See article, p. 6.) Later in the afternoon, the George Washington Symposium was held. Under the theme of "Washington's Leadership," three professors gave presentations in the Memorial Theater: Benjamin Huggins of George Mason University (GMU) examined Washington as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. Rosemary Zagarrri, also of GMU, spoke on President Washington and the emergence of political parties in the 1790s. GMU Professor Emeritus Peter Henriques, winner of this year's George Washington Memorial Award, gave the final presentation based on his book, *Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington*.

Formal celebrations continued that evening, beginning with a champagne reception in Memorial Hall. Charter Members of the new George Washington Memorial Society were treated to a private champagne reception in the George Washington Museum on the fourth floor. The receptions were followed by a concert with local soprano Alessandra Marc, who performed with the Alexandria Harmonizers in the Theater. A Gala Banquet followed in Grand Masonic Hall where several toasts were made to Washington throughout the evening. After dinner President Simmons presented the George Washington Memorial Award to Peter Henriques, who then gave an inspirational talk. A special birthday cake concluded the celebration. Plans are already underway for next year's grand event.



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL AWARD

The George Washington Masonic Memorial presented Peter R. Henriques with the George Washington Memorial Award on February 22, 2012, for his book, *Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington*, published by the University of Virginia Press. The Award was established in 2007 to honor individuals who have promoted the virtues, character and vision of George Washington and the values of Freemasonry. Recipients are presented with a bronze medallion and a monetary prize.

Henriques received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Virginia and is Professor of History, Emeritus, from George Mason University. A member of both the Editorial Board for *The Papers of George Washington* and the Mount Vernon Committee of George Washington Scholars, he regularly conducts Leadership Institutes at Mount Vernon for government and private groups and is involved with teacher seminars conducted by Mount Vernon and other educational institutions, including the Distinguished Lecture Series at Colonial Williamsburg for 2012.



President Roger Simmons (right) presents the George Washington Memorial Award to Peter Henriques.



Clockwise from top left: Second Vice President Ridge Gilmour makes a toast to Washington at the Gala Banquet; A special toasting glass was created for the Banquet; Director of Library and Museum Collections Mark Tabbert (left) welcomes distinguished symposium speakers Benjamin Huggins, Rosemarie Zaggarri and Peter Henriques; Attendees enjoy the reception in Memorial Hall; First Vice President Don Hicks and wife Nancy, Marilyn Braatz, wife of then-Board Member George Braatz (far right) and Second Vice President Ridge Gilmour at a special reception for Charter Members of the new George Washington Memorial Society held in the George Washington Museum; Soprano Alessandra Marc performs with the Alexandria Harmonizers in the Theater; President Roger Simmons (second from right) welcomes Charter Members of the Memorial Society at the reception.

New Exhibit Opens

The Memorial's newest exhibit, *The Family of Freemasonry*, opened to exciting fanfare on February 22 in conjunction with other festivities that day to celebrate George Washington's 280th Birthday. The exhibit, located on the third floor of the Memorial, currently includes displays from the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star (OES); the Grotto and the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America.

Memorial President Roger Simmons welcomed the Grand Monarch, the Supreme Tall Cedar, Eastern Star Officers and Trustees and more than 50 attendees at the opening ceremony, after which each organization cut the ribbon on its display. Particularly poignant was the presence of Margaret Clarke, widow of General Grand Worthy Patron Fred W. Clarke. Fred had selected the OES display as his project. Although he passed way in 2010, his brothers and sisters in the OES contributed all the funds necessary to pay for the display and establish a long-term maintenance endowment.

Prior to the opening of the new exhibit, the space included displays from the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm or Grotto, which were first installed in 1948. Old materials

were removed to house the new exhibit and the space was completely renovated. Pittsburgh-based GC Design created a new state-of-the-art exhibit and MarkeTechs Inc. of York, Pennsylvania, was contracted to fabricate and install the cases. The Tall Cedars moved their display from the ninth floor Observation Deck to the new exhibit. The Eastern Star, never having had a Memorial display, also agreed to take part.

Director of Collections Mark Tabbert worked closely as a curator with the three participating organizations. Each group selected topics and themes they wished to depict, recommended and loaned artifacts for display, and reviewed all designs and labels. The exhibit highlights information from each organization's history, its leadership, and its local, national and charitable activities.

In addition to the three display areas are two costumed mannequins for each group: a parade uniform and a ceremonial outfit from the Grotto, a Supreme Tall Cedar and a King Hiram from an initiation ritual from the Tall Cedars, and a Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron from the Eastern Star. Also there are eight large graphic panels with information on 25 other Masonic organizations.

We have extended invitations to participate to other Appendant Bodies and look forward to having the entire space occupied soon.



Memorial President Roger Simmons welcomes attendees at the opening ceremony of the new exhibit.



Officers of the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm or Grotto cut the ribbon on their new display.



Officers of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America in front of their new display.



Officers and Trustees of the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star in front of their new display.



This lithograph titled “A Bird’s Eye View of Alexandria” was produced in the mid-1800s and depicts Alexandria as a busy seaport. (Courtesy of the Library of Congress with special assistance from the Lyceum in Alexandria, Virginia.)

Private Virtues and Public Prosperity

Alexandria and Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, 1883–1910

by Mark A. Tabbert

Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 in 1883 was similar to many small-town lodges celebrating their centennial. At the close of the War for Independence, affluent and active men had formed the Lodge and also established the Alexandria Library Company, the Alexandria Academy and other civic and educational institutions. In 1788, by special request, George Washington agreed to serve as Charter Master when the Lodge’s Charter was transferred from Pennsylvania to the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Like other gentlemen of the time, Washington’s willingness to support the Lodge was articulated in his letter to Rhode Island’s King David’s Lodge in 1790:

“Being persuaded that a just application of the principles, on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded, must be promotive of private virtues and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society and to be considered by them as a deserving brother.”

Patronage of the Craft by aristocrats and statesmen occurred before Washington’s time and continued in many Lodges and

throughout the world. But having the Father of the Nation as its Master gave Alexandria-Washington Lodge a special legacy, if not a unique burden. How this Lodge within Washington’s hometown prospered between 1883 and 1910 tells the story of how a small museum became a national Masonic memorial.

Between Washington’s death in 1799 and 1860, the Lodge was part of a busy seaport. Its museum was officially organized in 1812. Col. Timothy Mountford built and cared for the collection until his death in 1846. Beside the preservation of artifacts related to Washington, the Lodge also acquired local historical objects, natural specimens, exotic items collected by local sea captains, and items from the War of 1812 and Lafayette’s 1825 visit. Before the Civil War, the museum reflected life in a town that relied for its well being on the Atlantic trade with Europe, the Caribbean, South America and China.

As an occupied city during the Civil War, Alexandria experienced neither great destruction nor industrialization, but rather economic stagnation. The war also curtailed Alexandria-Washington Lodge’s labors. It met only twice, to conduct funeral services for departed brothers. Between 1860 and 1866, Master William H. Lambert convinced federal authorities to post guards to protect the museum from thieves and vandals.

Lambert’s vigilance was no help in 1871 when fire swept through City Hall and the Lodge’s apartments. Although many of its curious and exotic specimens were destroyed, most of the valuable

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SHINING LIGHTS

What the Memorial Means to Me



My 30 years in Freemasonry have given me insight into the influences brought to the development of our government by the many Masons who took part in the founding of our country.

In George Washington we have a perfect example of a man who helped to secure our collective destiny with the guidance of spiritual, moral and Masonic principles. He provided us a shining light of character that far outlasted his earthly existence.

Visiting the George Washington Masonic Memorial, with its many historic artifacts and professional exhibits, is an unforgettable educational experience. The Grand Lodges of the United States and indeed every Mason in this country can be proud of what has been built here. But this is not a selfish pride that says: "Look at this—it's all mine." Rather, I feel it's the kind of pride that says, "Look at what our Masonic brothers accomplished, and look at how our Masonic principles are laced within the fabric of our country. We maintain this Memorial not for us, but to preserve George Washington's memory for the world."

Ridgely H. Gilmour
 Charter Member, The George Washington Memorial Society
 Past Grand Master of Utah

*In Memory of **In Honor of

2012 Annual Meeting

Officers and New Board Members Elected

Association Officers and new Board Members were elected at the Annual Meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association held in Atlanta, Georgia, on February 19, 2012. Officers for the ensuing year are: M.W. Roger A. Simmons, President; M.W. Donald G. Hicks, Jr., First Vice President; M.W. Ridgely H. Gilmour, Second Vice President; M.W. Robert P. Conley, Third Vice President and R.W. George D. Seghers, Executive Director.

The following Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters were elected to the Board of Directors: M.W. Richard W. Aydelotte, Delaware; M.W. D. Brook Cunningham, Arizona; M.W. Craig L. Davis, Iowa; M.W. Benny L. Grisham, Illinois; M.W. Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Massachusetts; M.W. Lon W. Kvasager, North Dakota; M.W. Gregory A. Riley, Sr., West Virginia; and M.W. J. F. "Jeff" Webb, Louisiana. The Board of Directors, representing the Active Members, who are the 52 Grand Masters of the United States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, is responsible for the operation and finances of the Memorial Association and the Memorial Temple.

The following members of the Board of Directors were appointed to the Executive Committee by President Simmons: M.W. Donald G. Hicks, Jr.; M.W. Ridgely H. Gilmour; M.W. Robert P. Conley; M.W. J. F. "Jeff" Webb; W. Andrew U. Hammer and R.W. George D. Seghers. We look forward to working with the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee to secure the long-term future of the Memorial.

Jay W. Smith	PA	Bryan Casey Craig**	VA
Ken Smith	CA	by Melissa Sergio Craig	
Warren Stevens	MA	Paul K. & Alice R. Edman	CT
William R. Stevens, Jr.	DE	Emil Harsey**	BG
Lemuel O. Teague	MI	by the Grand Lodge of Bulgaria	
Richard G. Thomson	CT	Lawrence B. Koch*	NJ
Samuel B. Thomson	TN	by Washington Association	
James Truscott	MI	of Masons	
Alfred D. Ulvog, Jr.	VA	Charlene Bevis Leigh*	WA
Harvey A. Vogel*	OR	by the Grand Lodge of Washington	
by Martha Vogel		Clinton Lavon Lynn*	TX
William G. Weiss, Jr.	NH	by Alma Lynn Bane	
Jerry A. Williard, Jr.	SC	Mariners Lodge No. 567	NY
Jason Woodland	UT	K. V. Michel*	LA

Bench Dedications

Charlene Bevis Leigh* WA
by the Grand Lodge of Washington

Tree Dedications

Chester H. Clark** NJ
by Ann E. Clark
Ann E. Clark** NJ
by Chester H. Clark

James C. Rees, IV** VA
by the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association
Edward S. Saunders, Jr.** VA
by Martha S. Saunders
The Triennial of George MI
C. Sellars**
by Brenda G. Sellars
Michael S. Sirk** MA
by Cindy & Temo Amezcua

*In Memory of **In Honor of

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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.

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- \$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.

- Other amount enclosed: \$ _____
- Check enclosed made payable to GWMM

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

Private Virtues and Public Prosperity, continued from page 7

artifacts were rescued. Lambert, who was by then Grand Master of Virginia, conducted the dedication of the new building in 1873. The brush with tragedy started the discussion of the need for a separate, fireproof lodge hall. This idea languished through the rest of the century, however, as successive Masters and the brethren were content to remain within City Hall.

Twenty years after the Civil War, Alexandria and the Lodge were still struggling to restore pre-war prosperity. Steamships and railroads that called at great city ports usurped the town's position as a regional market. Although it retained its merchant and professional classes, between 1860 and 1880, Alexandria saw an increase in population of only a thousand. Some manufacturing and new freight railroads supported the city, but Baltimore in the north and Richmond in the south squeezed its long-term prospects.

The fortunes of both Alexandria and the Lodge changed in 1892 with the arrival of the first electric intercity line railroad, which

ran from Washington, D.C. through Alexandria and terminated at Mount Vernon. Within four years the number of annual visitors to George Washington's home rose from less than 36,000 to more than 71,000. The line's Alexandria midpoint station sat at Prince and Royal Streets, only two blocks from the Lodge's museum. Suddenly tourists and weekend day trippers were mingling with farmers, merchants and artisans. America's Gilded Age was characterized by a growing middle class that happily rode passenger trains to attend national conventions, commemorations and, in 1893, the Chicago World's Fair. Tourism became an answer to Alexandria's misfortunes.

In 1893 the Lodge received a letter from Grand Master of Colorado William D. Wright that proposed a national commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Washington's death. Under the direction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Alexandria-Washington Lodge was shaken out of complacency. Seven years of planning culminated on December 13, 1899, when more than 200 brothers from every U.S. Grand Lodge squeezed into the Lodge for a special meeting. Presiding Master John T. Callahan, aged 36, represented a younger generation who were reviving the Lodge. Following the communication, the brothers joined the public at a special service at Christ Church, and concluded the day with a city-wide banquet.

The next morning more than 12,000 people assembled at Mount Vernon to witness Masonic tomb-side ceremonies and hear President and Freemason William McKinley's oration. The crowds returned to Alexandria, Washington, D.C. and elsewhere by steamboat, horse and buggy and electric train.

The national commemoration was the turning point for a Lodge of private brothers who had a small museum. In the new century tourism, patriotism and Freemasonry were on the rise; the brethren of Alexandria-Washington No. 22 were steeped in pride of their Lodge's connection to Washington, and sought to preserve his legacy. One brother, Charles H. Callahan (older brother to John T.), embraced the legacy and led the Lodge toward a memorial to George Washington.

Five years after the funeral commemoration, Callahan petitioned the Lodge. Born in Aquia Mills, Virginia (between Alexandria and Fredericksburg), he grew up working on a farm near Mount Vernon. In the 1880s he moved to Alexandria where he worked as both a bookkeeper and a carpenter. In 1891 he married Mary Appich and together they had four daughters and a son. In 1898 Charles was elected Alexandria's Commissioner of Revenue, a position he held for the rest of his life. At the age of 46, he was raised a Master Mason in Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 and was quickly appointed into the officers' line.

Alexandria's economic prosperity took another major step in 1905. Several railroad companies consolidated and built new freight yards and works west and north of town. The old lines that ran through town were removed and a passenger depot opened at the foot of Shuter's Hill. Named after an early settler, the hill contained the ruins of Civil War Fort Ellsworth and traditionally marked the



During the Civil War, the 44th New York Infantry encamped at the top of Shuter's Hill, current location of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. (Courtesy of Alexandria Library, Special Collections 119.)



A 1910 postcard depicts Alexandria-Washington Lodge when it was located in City Hall. (Courtesy of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22.)



Left: The first meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was held in Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 in 1910. Right: Alexandria-Washington Lodge Worshipful Master Charles H. Callahan (left), instrumental in the creation of the Memorial Association and the building of the Memorial, visits President and Freemason William H. Taft at the White House in May 1911. Taft is wearing an apron and sash formerly owned and worn by Washington and is holding the trowel Washington used to lay the cornerstone of the U.S. Capital. To the right of Taft is the Reverend William J. Morton, rector at Christ Church in Alexandria, where Washington served as a vestryman. (Courtesy of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22.)

city's western boundary. But with the new railroads, the hill was now the starting line for residential expansion. Alexandria's chief tax collector and newly raised Master Mason, Charles Callahan, saw Shuter's Hill as the perfect real estate opportunity the Lodge needed.

In 1907 the Lodge's museum welcomed over 600 tourists; consequently, the Lodge hired Brother Parke C. Timmerman as a full-time custodian. A year later, Junior Warden Callahan welcomed one very important tourist, Oscar Lawler. Assistant Secretary of the Interior and a Past Grand Master of California, Lawler had witnessed the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. He urged the Lodge to build a safe repository for its records and Washington artifacts. But he went further, suggesting a national Masonic memorial to George Washington that would unite all Freemasons in their reverence for Washington and become "...the mecca for the American fraternity."

For 30 years the Lodge had discussed building a new home and had even raised \$30,000 in tentative subscriptions, but no concrete action had ever been taken. Lawler's charge, however, stirred the Lodge to reconsider its duty to its Charter Master, the nation and the Craft. After serious debate, the Lodge concluded "that owning its own temple, and being free from debt, it could not consistently ask the Masons of the United States to contribute to the erection of a more luxurious home..." While an honest assessment, the brethren failed to adopt a plan and the idea nearly faded away.

Zealous in his support of Alexandria, Freemasonry and George Washington, Charles Callahan took the matter in hand. In 1909, as Senior Warden, he personally purchased four lots on Shuter's Hill. Upon placing the deeds on the secretary's desk, he declared the site for a Masonic temple to honor George Washington. The Lodge

affirmed his vision by organizing an exploratory committee to study the feasibility of a national memorial, appointing Callahan as its secretary and purchasing an additional four lots.

Over the next year Callahan solicited advice and support from many Masonic Lodges, Grand Lodges and important Freemasons. Assisting him was his teen-aged daughter Jessica, and later professional stenographer Elsie Hamilton. Callahan also enlisted two local ladies, Katherine Carlin and Cora Cochran, who held a Masonic bazaar that raised money to cover the committee's expenses.

Elected and installed as Worshipful Master, Callahan's first action was to contact Grand Master of Virginia Joseph W. Egelston. Under the Grand Master's hand, Callahan sent invitations to every U.S. Grand Master to attend a special Lodge communication on Washington's Birthday. On February 22, 1910, representatives from Grand Lodges and other Masonic organizations assembled in the Lodge's room in City Hall. With newly installed Grand Master of Virginia William McChesney presiding, the delegates formed the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. President and Freemason William H. Taft joined the meeting that afternoon. Addressing the assembly, he gave his full support to the project and urged the erection of a memorial worthy of the Father of the Nation.

The Lodge now had the site, an organization, and the highest endorsement to make Grand Master Oscar Lawler's idea into a reality. But it would take Worshipful Master Charles Callahan's "private virtues" to erect a memorial for "public prosperity."

Mark A. Tabbert is the Director of Library and Museum Collections of the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

Grand Lodge of the Month

Participation in Grand Lodge of the Month has been outstanding. The program was initiated to recognize and honor the Grand Lodges that created the Memorial Association and constructed the Memorial. It exemplifies a united effort by the diverse and geographically separated Brethren who support and maintain the Memorial. Each month a state flag is flown on the grounds of the Memorial, Grand Lodge publications are made available to our visitors, information is posted on the Memorial's website and a Grand Lodge display is featured in *The Form and Function of American Freemasonry* exhibit. Many of the participating Grand Lodges visited the Memorial during their month, held Emergent Communications and/or conferred degrees. For additional information contact Mark Tabbert at 703-683-2007, ext. 2012, or mtabbert@gwmemorial.org.

The schedule for 2012 is: January–New York, February–Virginia, March–North Carolina, April–Rhode Island, May–Vermont, June–Kentucky, July–Tennessee, August–Ohio, September–Louisiana, October–Indiana, November–Mississippi and December–Illinois.

The Memorial extends its appreciation to all the Grand Lodges who participate in this program.



The Grand Lodge of Virginia, a participant in the \$1 Per Member Campaign for several years, was honored in February.



The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, a new participant in the \$1 Per Member Campaign this year, was honored in April.

Association Officers

Elected February 22, 2012

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

Board of Directors

Term Expires February 22, 2013

Jack D. Anderson, *Montana*
Robert P. Conley,* *Michigan*
Andrew U. Hammer,* *A-W Lodge No. 22*
Joe R. Manning, Jr., *Oklahoma*
Russell G. Reno, *Nebraska*
Roger A. Simmons,* *Alabama*

Term Expires February 22, 2014

John R. "Bo" Cline, *Alaska*
L. Todd Eastham, *Kentucky*
Ridgely H. Gilmour,* *Utah*
Gale H. Kenney, *Washington*
Barry A. Rickman, *South Carolina*
Rafael B. Acosta Rosario, *Puerto Rico*
Thomas K. Sturgeon, *Pennsylvania*

Term Expires February 22, 2015

Richard W. Aydelotte, *Delaware*
D. Brook Cunningham, *Arizona*
Craig L. Davis, *Iowa*
Benny L. Grisham, *Illinois*
Donald G. Hicks, Jr.,* *Massachusetts*
Lon W. Kvasager, *North Dakota*
Gregory A. Riley, Sr., *West Virginia*
J.F. "Jeff" Webb,* *Louisiana*

*Member of Executive Committee

Frank R. Dunaway, Jr., *Board Member Emeritus*
Donald M. Robey, *Exec. Sec. -Treas. Emeritus*

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George Washington Masonic Memorial



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