

LIGHT

*of the George Washington
Masonic National Memorial*



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA • VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 1 • 2014

Celebrating Washington's 282nd Birthday

On February 22, a record number of attendees gathered at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial to celebrate the birthday of American history's most esteemed Freemason. The festivities began on the evening prior, when Alexandria-Washington Lodge N° 22 held a special communication in honor of their Charter Master. This meeting was made especially memorable by the large number of visitors who came from great distances, including a delegation of over 40 Masons and family members from the Grand Lodge of Alaska.

Continuing a longstanding tradition, Alexandria-Washington Lodge and Memorial Association officers and staff participated in the annual wreath-laying ceremony on the morning of the 22nd at Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon. The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association's wreath was laid by Memorial Association President Donald G. Hicks, Jr. This solemn act of remembrance demonstrates the enduring respect that Masons everywhere feel for the Father of our Country.

In the early afternoon, activities began at the Memorial itself, with the annual George Washington Symposium convening in the Theater. Our three guest scholars offered fascinating lectures on Washington's life and legacy. (See page 3 for more information.)

Soon after, an unprecedented number of guests gathered at the Memorial for our Gala in honor of Washington's Birthday. The first event was a special reception for members of the George Washington Memorial Society and their guests, held in the George Washington Museum on the fourth floor (learn about the Society on p. 9). | CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



The rising sun greets the Memorial at dawn on George Washington's Birthday, February 22, 2014.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rich Heritage, Lasting Legacy

by Donald G. Hicks, Jr.



On February 22, Masons and guests came from around the country and even overseas to gather at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in celebration of Washington's Birthday. This event, re-instituted several years ago, is one of the finest events of the Masonic year.

As President of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, it pleases me to note that this year was the largest so far in terms of attendance, thanks in large part to the large delegation of Alaskan brethren who, with many of their ladies, traveled to our nation's capital region to honor the life of Brother George Washington, America's foremost Freemason. Special thanks go to our past Board of Directors member, John R. "Bo" Cline and Grand Master Dave Worel, for inspiring so many to make the journey.

You can read more details about our most recent observance of Washington's Birthday in this issue of *LIGHT*, and I want to encourage each of you to strongly consider attending the 2015 celebration. It is truly an outstanding and mem-

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orable event, one that has been improving year by year. It reminds us of the lasting value of the heritage that we maintain, and strengthens our resolve to support the Memorial and its mission to inspire humanity through the virtues of Washington.

The motto of the Memorial Association, displayed on our beautiful crest, is *In Memoriam Perpetuam*, "In Perpetual Remembrance." Recognizing the importance of that work, it is important to support it in every way we can. That is why I am delighted to announce the Memorial Association's new Perpetual Remembrance program.

We are so grateful to those who, throughout the years, have left significant gifts to the Memorial. Now, we want to make that process easier. Designed for those who may wish to remember The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association in their will, revocable living trust, or other documents, the Perpetual Remembrance program provides support for making the needed arrangements for a planned gift. Your bequest to the Memorial will help us promote our nation's Masonic heritage and inspire future generations with our positive message about George Washington, the Man, the Mason, and the Father of our Country. So, if you would like to find out how to establish such a legacy, please read more about this new program on page 4.

OUR MISSION

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.



At the George Washington Memorial Society reception, President Donald G. Hicks, Jr. (left) and his wife, Nancy (right), presented James Manninen (center) with a certificate declaring that a tree was dedicated to him on the Memorial's grounds.

CELEBRATING WASHINGTON'S 282ND BIRTHDAY, CONTINUED

Then, at 6 p.m., the Gala Reception began in Memorial Hall. Guests enjoyed refreshments and fellowship while live music was performed by classical guitarist Rich Barry. As in recent years, the rarely-seen Mt. Nebo Lodge Apron, recently authenticated as belonging to Washington, was on display near the statue of Washington.

Afterward, our guests entered the Memorial's Theater for the Gala Concert, given by the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association, directed by Ulysses S. James. The Philharmonic performed a number of magnificent works, including the world premiere of an original composition by trumpeter Stanley Curtis, the overture to Mozart's Masonic opera, *The Magic Flute* (see page 10), and Brother John Philip Sousa's patriotic favorite, "Stars and Stripes Forever." Then, in Grand Masonic Hall, attendees gathered for the formal Gala Banquet. The George Washington Memorial Award was presented to scholar Edward G. Lengel, author of *General George Washington: A Military Life*, and *This Glorious Struggle: George Washington's Revolutionary War Letters*. Dr. Lengel gave an address

on George Washington's role in history, inspiring those present by the character and virtues of our Memorial's namesake.

The evening concluded with toasts to Freemasonry, the United States of America, and George Washington. As always, the Memorial is proud to exemplify and encourage Freemasonry's prominent role in this important national observance.

We are happy to report that our Washington's Birthday Celebration was completely sold out this year. If you wish to join us for 2015, begin planning now.



President Donald G. Hicks, Jr. presents the George Washington Memorial Award to Dr. Edward G. Lengel.

MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDRIA

The Father of Our Country, the Father of Freedom

by George D. Seghers



Freemasonry is a journey on which we work for constant improvement while maintaining the principles upon which our Craft was founded. The Memorial Association is following the same pattern. We are constantly improving the Memorial while maintaining the vision and mission of the Memorial Association, which 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.*

The Memorial was conceived, financed and constructed as a joint project by all the Freemasons of the United States. The Charter of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association boldly states its purpose, “*To erect and maintain . . . a suitable Memorial Temple to George Washington, the Mason; which express in durability and beauty the undying esteem of the Freemasons of the United States for him in whose memory it shall stand throughout the coming years.*” It stands, without question, as one of the most impressive accomplishments of our Fraternity.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is truly a remarkable structure. It was created to honor the memory of a truly incomparable man. In the course of his life, George Washington’s fate became inseparable from the destiny of our nation. By the time of his death, he was identified in the eyes of the world with America as well as with the cause of liberty for which America stood. His greatness was a testament to America’s promise of freedom and justice. In his lifetime, the entire world — not just America — recognized that what he

had accomplished applied beyond our borders, benefiting all of humanity. Here, he was known as the “*The Father of our Country.*” Brother Lafayette, the French general who fought with Washington during the Revolution, called him “*the Father of Freedom,*” and so he was widely known in Europe.

His courage and his moral conviction resulted in the creation of the first truly free society which not only allowed but encouraged advancement, improvement and security. George Washington represents integrity, humility, courage and strict moral conviction. He was unique, not only in the history of the founding of our nation, but in the history of the world.

America is the great nation it is owing to the efforts and sacrifice of Brother Washington and our Founding Fathers. It is fitting and proper that the Freemasons of the United States erected a National Masonic Memorial to this incredible Man and Mason. Symbolically, Brother Washington has been often compared to the Perfect Ashlar, as the true exemplar of the just, honorable, honest, forthright man that all Masons should aspire to be. This Memorial to George Washington is certainly a fitting tribute to the man who said, “*A good moral character is the first essential in a man. It is, therefore, highly important to endeavor not only to be learned but to be virtuous.*”

At the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, we are working to present the positive and important role that George Washington and Freemasonry played and are still playing in this country. Our purpose is to perpetuate the memory, respect and honor of our First Commander in Chief, our First President, the Father of our Country and our Foremost Freemason: General, President and Brother George Washington.

On behalf of the Officers and the Board of Directors, I extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for your continuing support. Please come and visit your Memorial.

Scholars Speak at Symposium

This year’s George Washington Symposium — held annually at the Memorial as part of our observation of Washington’s Birthday — explored the theme, “First in the Imagination of His Countrymen: Understanding George Washington through Popular Culture and Promotional Images.”

Dr. Scott E. Casper, Professor of History and Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, presented “Re-Creating the Hero, Creating the Nation: A Century of Washington Images.”

Dr. Lydia Mattice Brandt, Assistant Professor in the Department of Art at the University of South Carolina, in Columbia, South Carolina, presented her fascinating study titled, “Mount Vernon Makes the Man: The Memory of Washington’s Home.”

Then, Dr. Edward G. Lengel, the Editor-In-Chief of *The Papers of George Washington* at the University of Virginia, offered his perspective on “Understanding George Washington in the Twenty-First Century.” In recognition of his contributions to our understanding of Brother Washington, Dr. Lengel was presented with the George Washington Memorial Award at the Washington’s Birthday Gala later that evening.

The George Washington Symposium is held annually on Washington’s Birthday to provide the public with enlightening contemporary research on the life of George Washington. Mark A. Tabbert, the Memorial’s Director of Collections, serves as the Symposium’s Master of Ceremonies. We thank the outstanding scholars who provided lectures for the Symposium this year.

Announcing the Perpetual Remembrance Program

On July 9, 1799, George Washington signed his last will and testament, a unique document in which he noted that he had “occupied many of my leisure hours to digest it...into its present form...having endeavored to be plain and explicit in all the devises.” He had crafted some fifteen pages which provided for his legacy to his family, his heartfelt gifts to his friends, the care and education of wards in his charge, the preservation of relics of the Revolutionary War, and the founding and funding of educational institutions. President Washington described his final desires with such profound directness and such sincere eloquence, that several patriotic organizations have since published and distributed pamphlets containing transcripts of the document, so that others might benefit from a knowledge of its contents.

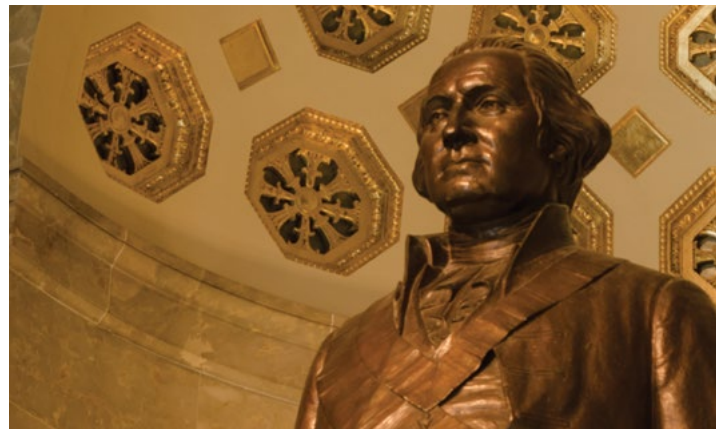
Although he was a founding father whose name was certain to live beyond the grave with no further effort on his part, this great man spent many of his final hours devoted to the careful planning and direction of his lasting legacy. We can surmise that his attention to such detail was in some part inspired by his being a Mason, for our fraternity teaches the necessity of passing on wisdom to the next generations and inculcates the qualities of manhood that enable the memory of our life to survive beyond the grave.

For those who wish to emulate the example of this illustrious patriot, to continue to preserve his memory, and to leave a lasting legacy of their own, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial is pleased to announce its Perpetual Remembrance program. Members wishing to participate in this program can provide a bequest to the Memorial in their last will and testament,

revocable living trust, or other trust document, which will enable the Memorial to continue its mission to honor the memory of George Washington.

Members who participate in the Perpetual Remembrance program will receive a certificate of participation, a lapel pin, and will be honored as such at future events at the Memorial. To be recognized as a contributing member, please mail a copy of the cover page, signature page, and any pages of your estate planning document referencing your bequest to the Perpetual Remembrance Program, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22301.

For more information on planned giving to the Memorial, contact the Memorial’s Director of Communications, Shawn Eyer, by email at seyer@gwmemorial.org, or dial 703-400-4950. Your support now, or your legacy gift in the future, will help the Memorial sustain its vital work.



SHINING LIGHTS

What the Memorial Means to Me



It was 1957, and my father — then a new Master Mason — took our family for its first visit to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. We spent most of the day there, visiting each and every floor. Even though some rooms were still being completed, the Memorial communicated the Masonic story and George Washington’s Masonic career through the many artifacts of Alexandria-Washington Lodge.

This visit was just the first of many. We returned at least once a year. The view from the top was always spectacular, and we felt great pride in the Order of DeMolay’s contribution of the bronze statue of Washington in Memorial Hall. We also knew that our dad belonged to almost every Masonic organization that was represented in the Memorial.

As over half a century has passed since that first visit, the Memorial has evolved. For visitors, it now provides deeper and richer insight into the life of George Washington and the contribution of Freemasonry in helping to shape the character of the man known as “The Father of our Country.”

I must confess that I followed Dad’s lead and have continued to visit this monument to Washington the Man and Mason with my own family. The Memorial is truly a worthy symbol of George Washington: tall, proud, and beautifully dignified. It is open to visitors every day, eager to tell the Masonic story of Washington.

The Memorial is, as it was before my first visit, every year thereafter, and in the years to come, a tribute that is worthy of every American Freemason’s enthusiastic support.

Stephen J. Ponzillo, III

Charter Member, The George Washington Memorial Society

Past Grand Master of Maryland

“Organize, Organize, Organize”: The Memorial Association, 1918–1919

by Mark A. Tabbert

First called to labor in 1910, the The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association formally organized on Washington’s 178th Birthday in 1911. In the succeeding six years, President Thomas Shryock and Local Committee Secretary Charles Callahan had made impressive strides in planning the construction of the great Masonic Memorial that we know today. Two events during that time, however, brought significant challenges to bear on the Association’s mission. The first was global and the second local. On April 6, 1917, Congress declared war on the Central Powers and joined the Allies in the First World War. In its first two years, the fighting had already cost millions of lives. Now, with the commitment of American forces, the Great War would rightly demand the nation’s material and manpower.

The second hardship came just twenty-four days before the Memorial Association’s annual meeting of 1918: on February 3, Most Worshipful Brother Shryock died of pneumonia at his Baltimore home. He had served as Grand Master of Maryland for over 30 years, was an esteemed business and civic leader. [See the detailed features on Brother Shryock in *LIGHT*, Vol. 18, No. 2 & Vol. 19, No. 1. — Ed.] In three short weeks, the Memorial Association would need to elect a worthy successor.

First Vice President James Johnson (1962–1944), Past Grand Master of South Carolina, became the Acting President during those crucial days. He was a coal merchant in Charleston, an alderman and active in every level of the Fraternity. His first action was to consult with his fellow officers.

Second Vice President James Dillon (1859–1927), Grand Master of Michigan in 1911, was a pharmacist in East Tawas. He was widely respected within the Fraternity. In 1912, Lodge N° 466 in Messick, Michigan, was named in his honor. In 1914, he inspired his Michigan brothers to make the first significant contribution of \$5,000 to the Association.

Third Vice President George Schoonover (1880–1961) was an Iowa banker. Installed as Grand Master in June 1918, he helped establish the National Masonic Research Society and assisted in publishing *The Builder*, one of the best Masonic magazines ever published. In November 1918, he would go on to assist in the formation of the Masonic Service Association (MSA) at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



Last, but never least, was Fourth Vice President Melvin M. Johnson (1871–1957), Grand Master of Massachusetts from 1914 to 1916, Dean of Boston University Law School, and arguably the most influential Freemason of the twentieth century. He played significant roles in the Memorial Association, the MSA, and the Order of DeMolay. He would later serve as Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction from 1933 until his death.

Supporting these men were Secretary Lawrence Lee (1867–1938), Past Grand Master of Alabama, and Treasurer John Cowles (1863–1954), Past Grand Master of Kentucky. Brother Lee was an attorney, state representative and the Reporter of the Alabama State Supreme Court. Brother Cowles was a successful businessman and Spanish-American War veteran who would later

serve for thirty-five years as Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite in the Southern Jurisdiction.

There were many great Freemasons among these brethren. Their task now was to select a new President, a man with the ability to guide the association through times of global war, yet possess the energy, skills and wisdom of Brother Shryock.

A New Leader

By the opening of the eighth annual meeting of the Association, the choice had been made. Acting President Johnson nominated a Past Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Right Worshipful Brother

Louis A. Watres (1851–1938). Brother Watres had not yet held any office or committee appointment in the Association, yet the assembled brethren unanimously elected him President. His biography helps us understand why.

Louis Arthur Watres was born near Scranton, Pennsylvania, in 1851. He left school at age ten and worked as a coal-picker. He married Effie Hawley in 1874, and together they had four sons, including U.S. Congressman L.H. Watres (1882–1964). Self-educated, he read law in a judge's office and was admitted to the Lackawanna Bar in 1878. He was an extraordinarily energetic man who pursued interests in business, military, politics, philanthropy, and Freemasonry with great success.

After founding Scranton's trolley lines, Watres founded the Spring Brook Water Company, which eventually had forty-four subsidiaries. He became president of a number of smaller concerns, including banks, trusts, coal, lumber and railroad companies as well as publishing two local newspapers.

He served as Judge Advocate of the Pennsylvania National Guard and later as colonel of the 13th Infantry Regiment. A Republican, he served in a variety of local, county and state offices, including State Senator (1883–1891) and Lieutenant Governor (1882–1890).

Watres' equally extensive charity work included founding a junior college, financing a South American research expedition, and donating land for the creation of city parks. He served on the board for Scranton's Home of the Friendless, Salvation Army, Boy Scouts, YMCA, and symphony orchestra.

He was initiated into Freemasonry in Peter Williamson Lodge N^o 323 in 1872, and served as its Master in 1877. He served as the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1916 and 1917 and was a member of the Masonic Home Committee, 1908–1917 and 1920–21.

Some may well ask why a sixty-six year old man, even with such accomplishments on his record, would undertake the daunting task of leading the Memorial Association during such a difficult time. After all, it became his duty to ask over two million American Freemasons to build a stately Memorial to George Washington during a world war and amid great social upheaval.

President Watres acknowledged these challenges and responded with solutions and a call to action:

If we had not begun it [the Memorial], that would be one thing, be we have begun it, and Masonry having put its hand to the plow never looks backward. I believe that now is the time to raise money and put up this Memorial. . . . I believe when this war shall have ended, our building should have been well begun. I am inclined to think that there never was a better time to appeal to the Masonic spirit than now. We ought not to wait to organize. Organize, organize, organize

this Association in every Grand Jurisdiction of this country and if we do that it will take no seer to see what will follow as a result.

A Modern Agenda

Watres' first action was to suspend all fundraising efforts for the next twelve months. This would give him time to adjust his life and assess the Association. It would also encourage individual Masons to perform national service.

Second, he recommended organizing the fifty Grand Lodges under ten administrative divisions. As a middle level of management they would strengthen coordination between the Executive Committee and Grand Lodges. They would also foster friendly competition among Grand Lodges and divisions. In this way, Watres set himself apart from his predecessor Shryock. Although also born in 1851, Watres was not a nineteenth-century Grand Master, but a twentieth-century industrialist. He boldly inspired the Memorial Association to solicit needed support from the Grand Lodges of the United States.

Throughout 1918, as Watres reorganized his affairs and consulted his directors, the Great War reached its crescendo. With more than four million Americans under arms, the great battles fought along the Somme, Lys and Marne Rivers caused over 40,000 deaths and 100,000 casualties. Training, supplying and transporting this vast army transformed the American "home front." Finally, after four years of unprecedented conflict, victory came with the Armistice on November 11, 1918.

In September, while the war raged, Watres held a meeting at his estate, Pen-y-Bryn, overlooking the city of Scranton. The Association's officers and the Ways and Means Committee members attended. After discussing and perfecting the new delocalizing ten division plan, they agreed to establish an Advisory Committee consisting of prominent Freemasons. Brother John Wanamaker (1838–1922) agreed to chair the committee. One of the great American merchants, Wanamaker built famous department stores in Philadelphia and served as Post Master General under U.S. President Benjamin Harrison.

A Renewed Energy

On February 21, 1919, the Association again assembled in the Alexandria-Washington N^o 22 lodge room. Where in the previous year there had been war and uncertainty, now there was peace and confidence.

In his address, President Watres outlined his new organizational plan and set a vision for the future. He affirmed the Association's commitment to build a memorial for not less than \$500,000, with an endowment of at least \$250,000.

The Association approved all of Watres' initiatives. There were ten divisions: New England, North Atlantic, South Atlantic,

Gulf, Central, Great Lakes, Corn Belt, Southwestern, Northern Pacific, and South Pacific. And an eleventh was added: a “Flying Squadron” of Association officers would travel to any grand jurisdiction communication to bolster support. Watres appointed the vice presidents and other Masonic leaders to head the divisions and made them members of the Ways and Means Committee.

The Advisory Board chaired by John Wanamaker was filled by U.S. Vice President Thomas R. Marshall (1854–1925), Speaker of the House of Representatives Champ Clark (1850–1921), U.S. Senators George E. Chamberlain (1854–1928) of Oregon, Thomas S. Martin (1847–1919) of Virginia, and Francis E. Warren (1844–1929) of Wyoming. Army General and Medal of Honor recipient Nelson A. Miles (1839–1925) along

with Navy Admiral George W. Baird (1843–1930) finished the appointments.

In twelve months, Watres transformed the Memorial Association from a collection of supportive Masonic leaders into a modern enterprise of national scope. Directed by the President, through Vice Presidents, division chairs and state chairmen, with an Advisory Committee of highly respected Masonic leaders, the Association was poised for a new era of post-war prosperity. Watres’ genius sensed this age dawning, and wisely organized to meet the rising sun. The next article will examine the Association’s labors and rewards in the 1920s.

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

The Masonic Spirit at Work in Puerto Rico

by George D. Seghers

I am a firm believer in Divine Providence. I believe we are in particular places at particular times for reasons beyond our immediate comprehension. I thought I was going to Puerto Rico to thank the Brethren for their support of the Memorial. I now believe I was there to see first hand what PGM and Past Board of Directors Member Rafael Acosta Rosario and the Brethren of Puerto Rico are doing for the children of Puerto Rico and indeed the Caribbean.

Four times each year, a free clinic is held at the San Juan Veterans Affairs Hospital for the children of Puerto Rico and the surrounding islands. It was a very moving experience to see the hallways filled with children in wheel chairs, on crutches and often carried by their parents.

The free clinic is organized, sponsored and managed by the local Shrine Temple with support and staffing from the Philadelphia and Boston Shrine Hospitals. Noble Francisco (Tato) Carrero and his lady, Elba, provide much of the teamwork that makes the clinic so successful. Tato has been the Clinic Director for the past three years, and Elba is outstanding in running the clinics smoothly and efficiently.

It is the dream and the goal of the Puerto Rico Masons to build a Shrine Hospital for Children in San Juan to provide treatment for the hundreds and perhaps thousands of children in the Caribbean that do not have access to care and treatment.

This experience has enabled me to understand the strong and passionate support the Shriners have their hospitals. We wish Rafi and our Puerto Rican Brothers success in this most commendable and worthy effort.



Children awaiting treatment at the Shrine's free clinic in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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New Century

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 Robert E. Gresham, Jr. NC
 Frank L. Hale WA
 Highlands Lodge N° 86 CO
 Highlands Masonic Temple Assoc CO
 Timothy J. & Joan R. Jellison WV
 Frances Ryan Johnson** VA
 by Williams A. Simms
 Evelyn Bell Ryan* VA
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 Leslie Lisle Ryan* VA
 by William A. Simms
 Patricia Ryan Simms** VA
 by William A. Simms
 United American Lodge N° 819 Germany
 Rudolph F. Walter* NJ
 by Frank J. Wagner
 Washington Association of NJ
 Masons of New Jersey

Platinum

Richard C. Brooks FL
 Zivan Cohen MD
 Eighth Masonic District SC
 Anthony & Patricia Fairfield CA
 Robert J. Graveline ND
 Highlands Lodge N° 86 CO
 Hardin T. James, Sr. IL
 Monmouth Chapter N° 251, OES NJ
 Wallace W. Nelson MN
 Robert Pell MI
 Plymouth Rock Lodge N° 7 MI

Steven M. Pomerleau OR
 Elie Rivollier, Jr. FL
 Ronald J. Smith FL
 Robert L. Tripp MA
 Barbara J. Weiss CA

Gold

Benton Lodge N° 26 SC
 Wallace L. Bond VA
 John F. Bonsall MI
 Boyleston Lodge N° 123 SC
 Brandon Lodge N° 279 SC
 A. Harley Clough AK
 Willie D. Coleman VA
 Corinthian Lodge N° 416 SC
 Loren A. Cox, Sr. MN
 Gwynne D. Davis MD
 William Demmers, Jr. CA
 Richard F. Dreher OH
 William Dubose, III VA
 Eclipse Lodge N° 259 NJ
 Thomas O. Eller NC
 Acy & Blair Flora SC
 Herman W. Hale VA
 Leonard P. Keirstead MA
 Frank E. King, Jr. MN
 Jay A. Leonard ID
 Allen Martin VA
 John J. Moore MA
 R. Robert Rasmussen, II VA
 W. Berry Rigdon NC
 Leland F. Ross, Jr. MA
 Earle R. Rowe MA
 Karl O. Schwartz MA
 Seaside Lodge N° 419 SC
 Sinclair Lodge N° 154 SC
 Vance Spencer CA
 Robert E. Sprague WA
 Square & Compasses Club SC
 of the 24th Masonic District
 George R. Ury WA
 Thomas G. Webber VA

Silver

Glenn C. Allen VA
 Amelia Lodge N° 47 FL
 Amity Lodge N° 87 SC
 William Anderson MI
 Ashlar Lodge N° 639 OH
 Batesburg Leesville Lodge N° 138 SC
 Raymond Bettinger CA
 Bishopville Masonic Lodge N° 104 SC
 Joel Thomas Bundy VA
 Camp Creek Lodge N° 317 SC
 Charity Lodge N° 62 SC
 Concord Lodge N° 50 FL
 Jo Neil Smith & Robert P. Conley** MI
 by Fredrick & Karen Kaiser
 David Cooley SC
 Richard A. Crooks ND
 Robert E. De Bruyn WA
 M. Ralph Dieter NH
 John K. Ferguson CA
 Stanley M. Finkelstein MA
 Walter J. Gates FL
 Gateway Lodge N° 384 FL
 Raymond D. Godeke CA
 Calvin B. Hastings MA
 Thomas L. Hauder** NE
 by Russell G. Reno

Heath Springs Chapter, N° 259, OES SC
 Robert J. Holliday IA
 Robert G. Hummon MI
 Jackson Lodge N° 53 SC
 Kershaw Lodge N° 29 SC
 Kenneth B. Kincer VA
 Gerald R. Latham MA
 Leesburg Lodge N° 58 FL
 Lower Richland Lodge N° 406 SC
 Lucknow Lodge N° 212 SC
 Marvin L. Mack MI
 Matanuska Valley Chapter N° 14, OES AK
 Fred A. Meister IL
 Dickran Mgrdechian SC
 Murrells Inlet Lodge N° 368 SC
 David L. Nielsen MT
 Kenji Oomura Japan
 Samuel R. Petry, II OH
 Philanthropic Lodge N° 32 SC
 Jeffrey T. Phillips TN
 Pleasure Ridge Park Lodge N° 959 KY
 Jeffry Ross MA
 Younes Safa CA
 Yosuke Sato VA
 Kenneth Sherman OR
 Dolores B. Soderberg VA
 Solomon Lodge N° 36 DE
 St. John's Lodge N° 260 PA
 Vance Lodge N° 230 SC
 John G. & Alice M. Verret CA
 Wannamaker Lodge N° 329 SC
 Aaron Zwirner VA

Tree Dedications

Louis H. & Lena F. Davenport** VA
 by their Family
 Rosemary Mae Eyer** OH
 by Shawn E. Eyer
 Wilson "Grump" Harvey** OR
 by Parkrose Lodge N° 179
 Waverly Lodge N° 174
 Cornerstone Lodge N° 157
 Donald P. Jackson** CA
 by Joan Jackson
 Robert A. & Martha L. Lavity* AZ
 by the Mavity/Read Family
 James A. Manninen** MA
 by Donald & Nancy Hicks
 Pasadena Lodge N° 272 CA
 Louise Gates Seghers** VA
 by George D. Seghers
 Ralph W. Smith, Jr.* VA
 by Henry Lodge N° 57
 South Pasadena Lodge N° 290 CA
 D. Margaret Studley* CA
 by the D. Margaret Studley Foundation
 Charles L. VanOver** VA
 by the Association of Consulting Foresters
 Wisdom Lodge N° 202 CA
 Robert E. Mansell** VA
 Lorraine & Marinn Mansell
 The Men, Women and Families VA
 of the United States Armed Forces**
 by the Military Officers Association of America
 David & Patricia Arnold** CA
 by James Arnold

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George Washington Memorial Society Membership

At the 2013 annual meeting of the Memorial Association, the Board of Directors voted to approve extending the opportunity to become a Charter Member of the George Washington Memorial Society. The Society comprises a select group of members dedicated to supporting the Memorial and its mission.

CHARTER MEMBERS are those who donate \$1,000 or more to the Memorial with their original membership application, and \$250 or more per year thereafter. Charter Members will receive a unique patent signifying their membership in the Society and a high-quality medal and lapel pin. Charter Members will be named on a permanent plaque in the Memorial and displayed on our website. Charter Members will also be invited to a reception at the gala celebration of George Washington's Birthday at the Memorial each year. A list of the Charter Members to date may be found on page 8 of this edition of *LIGHT*.

REGULAR MEMBERS are those who make an initial donation of \$500 or more to the Memorial with their membership application and donate \$250 or more per year thereafter. Regular Members will receive a patent signifying their membership in the Society, plus a specially produced lapel pin.

Membership is for individuals only. Applications for both types of membership are available on the Memorial's website, gwmemorial.org. For more information about the George Washington Memorial Society, contact the Memorial's Executive Director George D. Seghers at 703-683-2007 or gseghers@gwmemorial.org.



Support the GWMNMA Today!

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

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

Patrons

- ☐ \$5,000
- ☐ \$10,000
- ☐ \$25,000
- ☐ \$50,000
- ☐ \$100,000

In addition to the above benefits, all Patrons will receive a plaque and their names 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: \$_____
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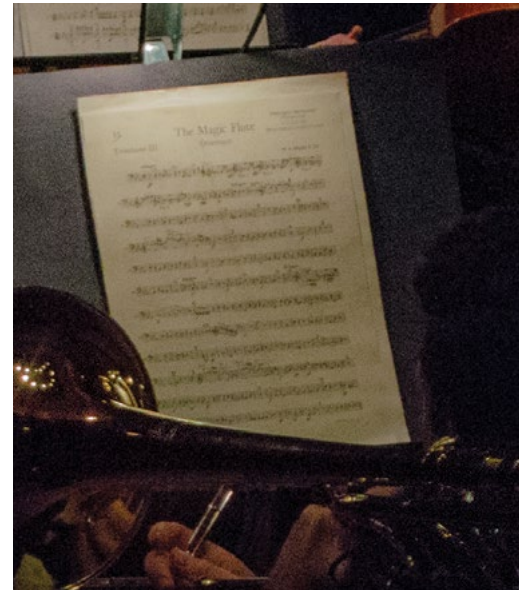
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The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent permitted by law. All Memberships are gratefully acknowledged, published in the newsletter and permanently displayed in the Memorial.

Mail to GWMNMA, 101 Callahan Drive,
Alexandria, VA 22301-2751 or fax to 703-519-9270



Mozart at the Memorial

A rare Masonic engraving of 1755 depicts a Tiler guarding the portal of a Masonic temple, above which are written the Latin words *Pulsanti Aperietur*, “Knock and it shall be opened.” I thought of this image when the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association, performed at our Gala Concert in honor of Washington’s Birthday on February 22.

With three measured and distinct pulses, sonorous notes separated by pensive silence, signaled the beginning of the Philharmonic’s rendition of the overture from Brother Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s *Die Zauberflöte*. First performed in 1791, *The Magic Flute* is considered one of Brother Mozart’s greatest achievements, composed during a creative surge that came during the last months of his too-short life.

In fact, Mozart wrote the entire opera while ill with the disease that would soon overcome him. The overture, which the Washington Philharmonic performed for us, was written in a single day: September 28, 1791, just two days before the premiere.

Those three distinct pulses that Brother Mozart used to begin his overture are, of course, a musical rendition of the three distinct knocks that symbolize to every Freemason the passage from darkness to Light. And that is exactly the story of *The Magic Flute*. It was first intended only to be popular entertainment that would dazzle patrons with exotic costumes and fantastic sets. But Brother Mozart and his librettist, Brother Emanuel Schikaneder, delivered far more than that. The words and music of this opera are laden with the symbolism of Freemasonry. At times, this is heavily disguised. But often, the borrowing is quite direct. For example, when it is suggested that protagonist Tamino may not have the fortitude for initiation, being a prince, the Master responds, “He’s *more* than that — he is a man!” This was a truly Masonic and revolutionary idea, one whose time had come.

Music writer David Foil points out that instead of creating only an “escapist trifle,” Mozart “transcended the action of mere plot to plumb the depths and reach the heights of human longing and nobility.” That is why the story of *The Magic Flute* is outlandish and comical, yet strikes us simultaneously as serious and profound — especially in historical context. When the curtains first went up on this spectacular production, the world was changing in ways that had never been witnessed before. The successful American Revolution was inspiring new dreams of freedom around the world. Thinking men everywhere were debating the ideas of Thomas Paine’s, *Rights of Man*, hot off the press. The United States was in the process of adding the Bill of Rights to the Constitution, securing untold liberties for its citizens. And Brother George Washington was engaged in planning the new American capital city and the district that would contain it. The world was watching, and many realized that wherever these great changes were happening, the Masonic Brotherhood thrived.

The opera’s final act culminates in the victory of the temple initiates over the Queen of Night, as a chorus joyously intones the final, Masonically-inspired, words of the libretto:

*Strength has triumphed, and grants as due wages
To Beauty and Wisdom its perpetual crown!*

Hearing a selection from this amazing Masonic masterpiece in the Theater of our beautiful Memorial — erected in Wisdom, Strength and Beauty to inspire humanity with the virtues of the Father of our Country — was a moving experience I cannot forget.

Shawn E. Eyer is the Director of Communications of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

MEMORIAL GIFT SHOP FEATURED ITEMS



NEW – Pewter Medallion

This attractive memento features the Memorial’s eastern face on the front, and the crest of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association on the verso.
1¼” diameter. \$20. (Nº 803)



George Washington Cufflinks

These beautiful cufflinks feature Washington’s profile encircled by a laurel wreath.
¾” diameter with swivel-bar fasteners. \$45. (Nº 431)



100% Silk Centennial Ties with Memorial Crest

Choose from 1) Navy blue with red and gold stripes, with black Square & Compasses in silk-screen (left, Nº 699), 2) Navy blue with white stripes and black silk-screened George Washington profile (center, Nº 639), 3) Navy blue with red and gold stripes, and large gold Square & Compasses (right, Nº 700). \$38 each. More styles available online.



Martha Washington Butterfly Pin

Featuring an exact replica of a painting that, according to Washington family tradition, was painted by Martha Washington. 2½” wide. \$20. (Nº 328)

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LIGHT

of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

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2014 COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT Erected in Strength and Beauty

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is pleased to present the 2014 Commemorative Holiday Ornament: *Erected in Strength and Beauty*. In the 1920s, the local Memorial Committee of Alexandria emphasized the relationship of the Memorial's design to classical idealism: *"The Memorial to Washington, in its colossal form would typify the power and strength of Masonry. The graceful outlying and proportions would symbolize the beautiful tenets of the institution and would express the unfeigned loyalty and devotion of the American Mason to the ideals of Washington."*

Accordingly, the Memorial Association's charter states that our purpose is *"To erect and maintain . . . a suitable Memorial Temple to George Washington, the Mason; which expresses in durability and beauty the undying esteem of the Freemasons of the United States for him in whose memory it shall stand throughout the coming years."* Historically, temples have been situated on hilltops or mountains, and from ancient times have been deemed sacred.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial reaches 333 feet into the sky atop the highest hill in Alexandria, Virginia. The choice of this location for the Memorial to George Washington was symbolic, being true to the ancient tradition of erecting temples and memorials in dignified and uplifting places. The Memorial was designed to carry the message of human brotherhood, and perpetuate the attributes of self-denial, patriotism, love of country and of fellow men, typified by the master builder of our nation.

To order your 2014 ornament, call 703.549.9234, visit our website at <http://gwmemorial.org/shopping/>, or use the order form on page 11 (Item No 825, \$25).



Association Officers

Elected February 22, 2014

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Ridgely H. Gilmour, *First Vice President*
Robert P. Conley, *Second Vice President*
J. F. "Jeff" Webb, *Third Vice President*
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