LIGHT of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA · VOLUME 32 · NUMBER 1 · 2026

Freemasons at War Exhibit Grand Opening

TELLING THE STORIES of Freemasons who served in our nation's many armed conflicts is the goal of the Memorial's newest exhibit. Dedicated on July 1st with a small ceremony, the new Freemasons at War exhibit tells a compelling story of courage and perseverance.

Through three large cases filled with artifacts — ranging from equipment, weaponry, survival manuals, service medals, and personal items of veterans who served in various conflicts — the exhibit traces how generations of Freemasons have answered the call to serve while honoring the organization's core ideals of brotherhood, tolerance, and relief amid the realities of war. From George Washington's early military experiences and traveling military lodges during the Revolutionary War, through Civil War battlefields, to service in the World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and the modern conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, the display illuminates shared values of duty, honor, and fraternity that transcend the battlefield.

"Brother George Washington led the way in fighting for his country," said Executive Director Matthew T. Szramoski. "And in every conflict since the American Revolution, Freemasons have been found fighting shoulder to shoulder with their fellow citizens in defense of liberty and for the security of the United States. This exhibit demonstrates the personal stories of many of those brothers."

This special exhibit has been made in collaboration with National Sojourners, Inc., and the Foundation for Collingwood Library and Museum on Americanism, with additional items on loan from the Motts Military Museum in Groveport, Ohio. The exhibit was made possible by a contribution from Colonel USAF (Ret.) Thomas N. Moe and his wife, Christine Hayes Moe.



Executive Director Matthew T. Szramoski addresses the attendees at the opening ceremony for Freemasons at War, a new exhibit that highlights the role of American Freemasons in armed conflicts over three centuries, from the French and Indian War to the Global War on Terror.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Lasting Light

by Thomas K. Sturgeon



During 2026, Americans everywhere have been united in the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. I find myself reflecting often on the quiet strength that has carried this Memorial forward for more than a century. Brother Washington's example still guides us — not only in the great moments of public service, but in the patient, steady work of caring for what has been entrusted to us.

This past year has been especially rich in such work. In July we opened the Freemasons at War exhibit, a moving collection of artifacts that reminds every visitor how generations of our Brethren have answered the call to serve while remaining true to the principles of our brotherhood. The stories gathered there — from the Revolution to the present day — are personal and powerful, and I am grateful to my friends Colonel Thomas Moe and his wife, Christine, for their sponsorship of this educational exhibit.

I'm also proud to announce that we've completed the work being done to preserve the President Washington Family Bible for future generations. The new exhibit being built to high-

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light this key artifact of our American heritage is now in the final phases of completion.

I'm also proud of the work being done on the building and grounds. In this newsletter, you can learn about our Seal the Envelope campaign and all of the great work that has been completed and is planned. We are steadily returning the entire site to the condition its founders envisioned.

None of this work happens alone. To every donor, every member of the George Washington Memorial Society, and every Brother and friend who has given time, talent, or treasure, I offer my sincere thanks. Together we continue the work Washington began: preserving a living reminder of character, duty, and the enduring light of Freemasonry for generations yet to come.

As I speak to my Masonic Brothers and also to my fellow Americans, let me say that in my personal and Masonic life, nothing has been more enjoyable to me than the efforts that I have given in memory of one of our greatest Freemasons and also one of the greatest leaders of the greatest country in the world – the United States of America! It has been a tremendous privilege and a High Honor. When I view the tremendous staff of dedicated employees it gives me great satisfaction. We have brought forth a great Executive Director who will lead those committed employees to future greatness.

In closing let me say that my time on this Board of Directors has been a great privilege and I am very pleased to see the existing Executive Committee that is dedicated and extremely gifted to secure the future of our Memorial. Thank you to the many Freemasons who have given me the opportunity to secure the work and memory of George Washington, the Freemason!



Tickets Now Available for Our Washington's Birthday Gala, February 26 & 27, 2027

An Exclusive Reception for George Washington Memorial Society

The festivities begin on Friday evening, February 26, with a special formal reception for members of the George Washington Memorial Society, one of the Memorial's most important support programs. Held in Memorial Hall, this is an opportunity for our Association's President and members of the Board of Directors to personally thank those who have joined the GWMS. For more information about Regular and Life Membership in the George Washington Memorial Society, see page *12* of this edition of *LIGHT*.

The George Washington's Birthday Gala: Reception and Banquet with Auction

On Saturday, February 27, the Gala will begin with a general reception in Memorial Hall, followed by dinner in Grand Masonic Hall. During the Gala, we will hold both silent and live auctions featuring a fascinating selection of celebrity autographed items and more.

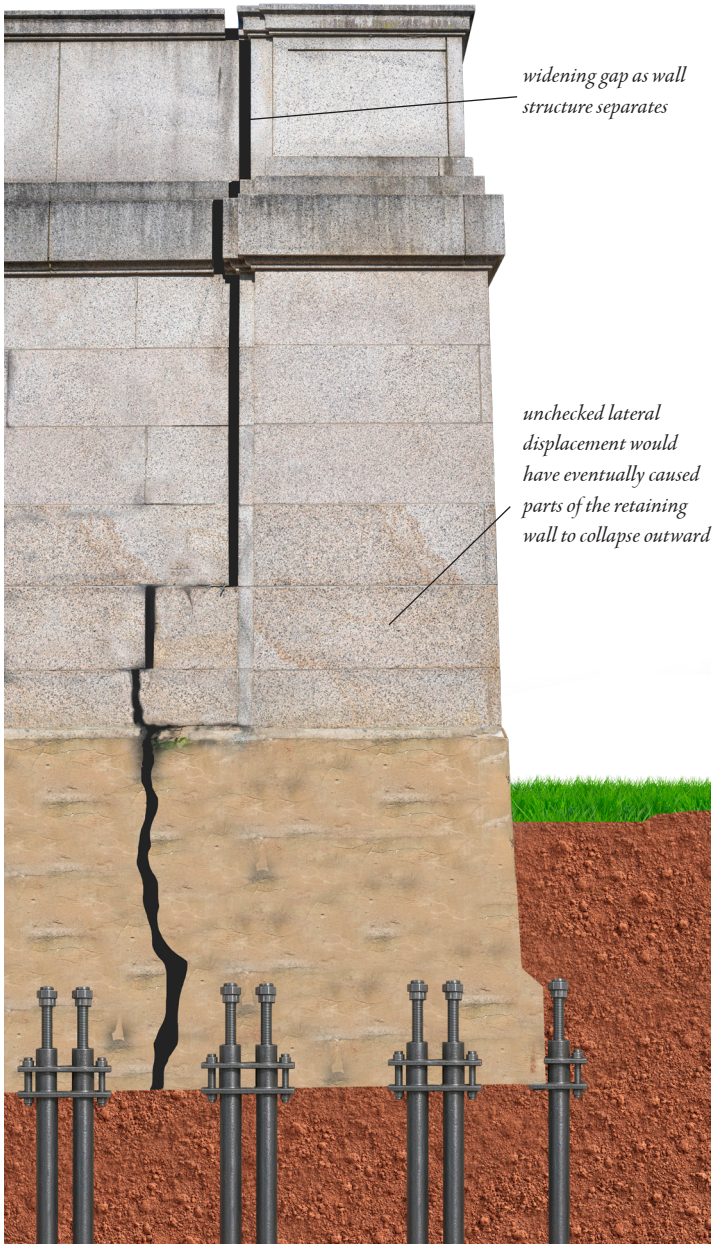
A new feature in 2027 will be the opportunity for a rare after dark tour of the Memorial immediately following the banquet. Please join us for this very special event in honor of our first President and foremost Freemason! Tickets are $275 and are available on our website at *www.gwmemorial.org/gala*. Tables, seating 8, are also available at the same link.



Just one of the exciting items auctioned in 2026 was this gold LP of Abbey Road *by The Beatles, with an autographed photo of Paul McCartney. A new selection of similar items will be available for bidding at our Live Auction at the 2027 Gala.*

Seal the Envelope Campaign Allows for Essential Work to Begin

This year the Memorial launched a major fundraising effort to address dozens of much-needed repairs in and around the Memorial. The Seal the Envelope Campaign has the goal to inspire the donations needed to address many vital issues that affect our building and our grounds. One by one, our aim is to resolve many lingering problems, including: landscaping issues, the walkways and stairs leading from the street to the building, restoration of the building's brass doors, repairs to the roof, restoration of the retaining wall, re-sealing the pyramid level, repairing the Portico's copper roof, and more. We aim to raise $2.4 million to meet these needs. Only with your help will these projects succeed.



This cross-section illustrates both the severity of the damage to the retaining wall as well as the steel push piers used to stabilize the foundation and prevent further motion of the wall.

Sealing the Roof

The flat sealed roofs on the square sections of the building were re-done in 2026, including the 29,000 quare-foot second story roof. The new flexible polyvinyl chloride seal carries a thirty-year guarantee. But we still have some major work to complete on the rooftop. For example, our HVAC systems are 25–50 years old, and reaching the end of their service capacities. They must be replaced. We need to also replace numerous skylights that have shattered glass, as well as several damaged ventilation shafts.

Stabilizing the Wall

Due to an earthquake several years ago, extensive damage was done to the retaining wall surrounding the Memorial. This massive structure comprises 456,940 cubic feet of stone and concrete — around 35,800 tons. All four corners of the wall fractured and over 15 years, have pulled away from their positions. The result is unsightly and dangerous: without intervention, a collapse was inevitable.

A project this summer stabilized the corners to prevent futher displacement using push piers installed at the base of the foundation. The stabilization of the four corners of the Memorial's retaining wall has been completed thanks to a generous contribution from from the Valley of Bridgeport, AASR. While the most critical step has been accomplished, the majority of the work is ahead. Mortar erosion can be seen on all surfaces of the wall, where deferred repointing over several decades has allowed water to enter the wall's internal structure. Freezing and thawing cycles then do damage to the wall's alignment and stability. Finally, the wall must be cleaned. While it is made of the same stone as the Memorial itself, it no longer matches the Memorial in appearance. After all the structural repairs are made, we will restore this beautiful retaining wall to its intended appearance, returning the deserved nobility of the Memorial's exterior.

Restoring the Front Walkways and Steps

Ovet 75 years of exposure to the elements caused the main steps leading up the Memorial's primary walkway to become unsightly. Crumbling concrete on the pylons and steps needed to be addressed. This summer, we contracted with Hibernia Masonry to perform stage one of this important work (see page 4).

"The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is a real national treasure, and rightfully the pride of every dedicated Freemason," remarked Executive Director Matthew T. Szramoski. "Together, we can work together to ensure that the Memorial and its vital purpose are there for future generations."

Contributions to the Seal the Envelope campaign will provide much-needed support for these projects and many more. To learn more about Seal the Envelope and how you can participate, please visit our website at *gwmemorial.org/seal*.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Sealing the Envelope

by Matthew T. Szramoski



We have begun a monumental undertaking for the first time in the history of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial-to address all of the issues on the exterior of the Memorial, the retaining walls and our 36-acre campus. Named the Seal the Envelope Campaign, we will need to raise $2,400,000 to complete the work that remains.

To date, we have replaced the roof on all levels; cleaned and repaired all roof drains; begun restoration of plaster damaged by water penetration; completed repointing on the Memorial building.

Major projects remaining include lifting and bracing the retaining wall surrounding the Memorial which was damaged in the 2008 earthquake; repointing all of the retaining wall; repairing the full length of steps coming up Shuters Hill from Callahan Drive to the Memorial; repairing the Washington frieze (our sign with the George Washington profile) and lights (which have not functioned in decades); repairs to the large square and compass on the hillside; remove more then sixty dead trees and shrubs from the campus; repair the retaining wall along Memorial Drive; resurface the parking lot; replace exterior signage campus wide; and fix underground erosion which threatened to cut off access to our employee parking lot.

When the George Washington National Memorial was constructed, the Association engaged the nationally known landscape architect Carl Rust Parker of Olmsted Brothers. The construction budget for the Memorial was set at $1.5 million, with another $400,000 set aside for landscaping the grounds. This shows two lessons — how the Memorial is not simply the building but the grounds that surround it and how important the founders felt that was. The landscape budget was one-third of the construction budget!

Sadly, we have neglected these areas for decades and they are all in need of restoration. I am asking you to consider supporting us in this important undertaking to restore the full Memorial, building and grounds to all of its glory. There are several naming opportunities and if you would like more information on giving, please contact either Tim Strawn, our Director of Development at *tstrawn@gwmemorial.org* or myself at *mszramoski@gwmemorial.org*.

Just as George Washington persevered through the Winter at Valley Forge so we too must persevere to get this work done and enjoy a new Spring full of beauty and a positive image in fulfilling our vision 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

Sincerely, Matt



Thanks to the support our Seal the Envelope campaign has received so far, the cracked and unsightly concrete pylons at the front of the building have been fully restored.

Naming Opportunities & Gift Ideas for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

OPPORTUNITY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	RECOGNITION
The George Washington Memorial Society	The George Washington Memorial Society comprises a select group who support the Memorial's operations and increase awareness of the our mission.	$1,000 initial gift and $250 per year, or $5,000 for Life Membership	A unique hand-finished membership patent, a specially-produced medal, and a lapel pin. Invitation to the annual reception for members in February.
State/Organization Collection Sponsorship	This donation will cover the cost of restoring a collection of proceedings from a jurisdiction (state) or organization (i.e., Royal Arch). These funds will enable us to add to the collection any missing volumes, repair damaged ones, and maintain them for years to come.	$10,000	Name(s) on a collection's plaque of the donor or someone who is honored/memorialized by the donation. Plaque will be displayed in the library.
Endowment Gift	Part of our $2.5 million by America's 250th Anniversary Campaign (raise by December 2026), this will enable us to build our endowment to ensure the perpetual operation and maintenance of the GWMNM.	$15,000 and up, no upper limit.	Name(s) on a plaque in the board room of the donor or someone who is honored/memorialized by the donation. Recognition on our website.
Repointing the Memorial's main retaining wall	This gift will enable us to repoint the wall as well as repair damage from the earthquake that was experienced several years ago. The wall is badly in need of this repair work.	$800,000	Name(s) on a plaque of the donor or someone who is honored/memorialized by the donation. Plaque will be placed by the North entrance for maximum visibility.
Observation Platform Drain Pipe Replacement	Replacement of drain pipes from the observation platform (top of Memorial) that run down the elevator shaft.	$30,000	Name(s) by the elevator door of the donor or someone who is honored/memorialized by the donation.
The Society of Washington Lodges	The Society is for regular Lodges who are committed to supporting the Memorial and its mission.	$2,500	A specially-commissioned Society of Washington Lodges jewel for the Master of the Lodge to wear and pass to his successor, and a unique hand-finished patent, suitable for display.
6 Passenger Golf Cart	To enable staff to travel throughout the 36 acres of Memorial property for trash pick-up and maintenance work. Transport handicapped individuals at special events such as the Easter Sunrise Service.	$18,000	Name(s) on the golf cart of the donor or someone who is honored/memorialized by the donation.

The Association Welcomes New Board Members

Five members were elected to our Board of Directors at our Annual Meeting in Indianapolis earlier this year. Four are new members and one was re-elected. These Brethren will serve until February 22, 2029.



Richard J. Elman, re-elected
Past Grand Master
Indiana



Leonard Heard
Past Grand Master
Pennsylvania, Prince Hall Affiliation



Nikola N. Nikolov
Past Master
Alexandria-Washington No. 22



Michael R. Olegario
Past Grand Master
Arkansas



Steven Adam Rubin
Past Grand Master
New York



OUR VISION

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.

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Editor: Shawn E. Eyer

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Elected February 15, 2025
Thomas K. Sturgeon, *President*
Scott A. Thomas, *First Vice President*
Richard J. Elman, *Second Vice President*
Jon Michael Taylor, *Third Vice President*
Louis J. Castle, *Fourth Vice President*
Matthew T. Szramoski, *Executive Director*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term Expires February 22, 2027
Steven L. Hall, *Idaho*
Michael E. Jackson, *Illinois*
William J. Pogue, *New Mexico*
Matthew J. Ramey, *Wyoming*
Barry Suits, *Virginia*
Theodore C. Wiley, *Iowa*

Term Expires February 22, 2028
James R. Arnhart, *Tennessee*
Richard J. Bautista. *District of Columbia*
Timothy J. Best, *Oregon*
Daniel J. Lawes, *Utah*
Donald E. Strehle, *Virginia*
E. Darren Wilson, *Kentucky*

Term Expires February 22, 2029
Richard J. Elman, *Indiana*
Leonard Heard, *Pennsylvania, PHA*
Nikola N. Nikolov, *A-W Lodge No. 22*
Michael R. Olegario, *Arkansas*
Steven Adam Rubin, *New York*



Dozens of guests attended the Library's grand reopening ceremony prior to the Memorial's annual Gala.

Grand Reopening of the Memorial's National Masonic Research Library

by Shawn Eyer

A major milestone was acheived on February 28, 2026, when the Memorial's sixth-floor Library, closed for decades, was reopened in a special ceremony witnessed by many attendees of our annual Washington's Birthday Gala.

Established in 1931 and formally opened in 1952, the Memorial's Library contains a substantial collection of over 5,000 volumes, including an outstanding selection of Masonic literature and the most complete collection of U.S. Grand Lodges' and other major Masonic organizations' annual proceedings available in the world. Formally known as the Louis A. Watres National Masonic Research Library, the Memorial's collection is one of the most important in the United States.

Within the United States, over 50 Grand Lodges produce annual communications every year, as do Grand Chapters, Grand Councils, and Grand Commanderies. Over the history of our nation, this is a staggering number of volumes of the official transactions of our Fraternity. Since its inception nearly a century years ago, the Memorial's Library has collected these crucial texts and carefully maintained them.

The Louis A. Watres Library is dedicated to the Association's second president who oversaw the Memorial's construction, and set the mission for the library collection in grand terms, saying: "Our Temple will be the center of Masonic information throughout the civilized world." Today, our intention is to ensure that this Library, built high in a tower inspired by the Lighthouse of Alexandria, is a beacon for researchers everywhere.

An Impressive Reopening

The Library's re-opening was made possible by the Turn the Page campaign, which raised over $162,000. These funds were used to make major repairs to the walls, update the Library's restrooms, replace the carpet, and add new shelves. "We've refocused the Library on three key topics," said Executive Director Matthew Szramoski at the 2026 grand reopening ceremony. "Those three focal points are American Craft Freemasonry, George Washington, and the York Rite. All of this is being made possible by our generous donors."



The reopened Library represents an outstanding opportunity for researchers at every level. We encourage anyone who has a relevant research project to inquire about an appointment.



Executive Director Matthew T. Szramoski (left) and Memorial Association President Thomas K. Sturgeon officiated at the Library's grand reopening.

New Exhibit on Masonic Aprons Added

The Library is home to *Garments of Light*, a fascinating exhibit of ten American Masonic aprons. Each of the ten aprons is displayed in its own custom cabinet, and engaging notes accompany each item, based upon careful research. This exhibit may be enjoyed by anyone going on a regular daily tour of the Memorial.

How to Use the Library

The Library is now available by appointment to the public and researchers. Appointments must be made a least 24 hours prior by contacting Director of Collections Tyler E. Vanice (*tvanice@gwmemorial.org*). Our extensive collection of Grand Lodge proceedings is available digitally and may be accessed on our website.

Complete information about the Memorial's Library is available online at *www.gwmemorial.org/library.*

Shawn Eyer is the Managing Director of Communications and Education at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Conservation of the Washington's Family Bible Completed

Perhaps the most ambitious museum project the Memorial has begun in many years is the conservation and new exhibit for the President Washington Family Bible. Ellis Conservation of Books & Paper recently completed the conservation treatment. The 1792 volume required extensive work because of age-related leather wear and staining, delaminating and damaged cover boards, torn hinges, broken endbands, a nearly detached title page, prior repairs using thermoplastic adhesive that caused further distortion, and the need to mend tears, creases, and losses on virtually all of its 520 leaves.

The title page (notably bearing George Washington's iron-gall ink signature) was first tested under a microscope for ink stability, then washed in a bath of ethanol and deionized recalcified water while gently rocking the tray to reduce staining and iron salts. For the binding, the corners were reinforced and clamped flat. Previously lifted and poorly trimmed marbled-paper edges were re-pasted and clamped.

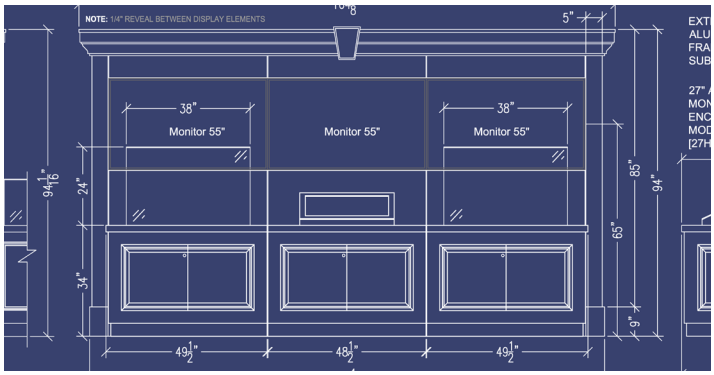
Many interesting things about the book and its binding were discovered during this process. The conservation of the Bible was made possible by gifts from several donors, including the Grand Lodge of Washington, D.C., MESH Charities, David D. Mowry, and a grant from the Historic Alexandria Foundation.

A major new exhibit for the Bible is final development, which will use technology to educate visitors about the features and overall importance of this sacred text.

"This project will add 26 feet of exhibit space to our George Washington Museum and will be the first of our exhibits to utilize digital displays and interactive touchscreens," said Tyler Vanice, the Memorial's Director of Collections and Member Services. "We are excited about sharing one of our most important artifacts with the public in a fresh and up-to-date way."



In her lab, Janice Stagnitto Ellis reviews her work to repair the George Washington's 1792 edition of the King James Bible, the publication of which he helped sponsor. The book is open to the engraved frontispiece and title page bearing Washington's signature.



Schematics for the new Bible exhibit being created on the Memorial's fourth floor.

Two Interns Provide Research for Washington's Bible Exhibit

Recently two volunteers assisted in the research the Memorial is conducting on the identification of sponsors of the 1792 Bible that George Washington owned and used while he was President of the United States.

William Avery Bowers, a graduate of Episcopal High School in Alexandria, and Alyssa Kiffer, an undergraduate at the University of California Los Angeles, each contributed several weeks of effort toward the project.

"We are deeply grateful for the research done by these two young scholars," noted Shawn Eyer, Managing Director of Communications and Education. "Their work will inform our upcoming exhibit of the George Washington Family Bible."



William Avery Bowers



Alyssa Kiffer

Development Update

What a year it has been so far. The excitement began early in the year with our annual Gala in honor of Brother Washington's birthday. The morning began the festivities with presentations about "Life in Alexandria Before the Revolution" by the city's archaeologist, Ms. Eleanor Breen, and "The Relationship between George Washington and James Monroe" by Shelby Chandler of the James Monroe Memorial Society. The afternoon featured the Grand Reopening of the newly refurbished and renovated Library attended by many of our friends. In the evening, the annual reception and banquet were held. Adam Price, a generous planned gift donor, received the George Washington Award. That night also saw the first real fundraising effort at the event, featuring collectible items from entertainers, musicians, and athletes as well as a number of exciting trips, domestic and international, available at auction.

Also early in the year, we received two significant gifts, one from the Daughters of the American Revolution after their entire national leadership, including state representatives, toured the Memorial. The organization's national president's late father was a Mason and she wanted to honor his memory with a tour of the Memorial. The other significant gift came from the Grand Lodge of Illinois Charity Fund thanks to the efforts of our Board Member, Mike Jackson. Together, those gifts enabled us to begin the planning and design of the exhibit which will house the George Washington Family Bible. The conservator has worked painstakingly to repair every page of this sacred volume so it can continue to be our most valued artifact and on display for many years (see the story on page *9*). It is appropriate to share that both the library restoration and the Washington Family Bible projects were accomplished totally with gifts with none of the Memorial's assets or investments being used.

The Memorial was the site of much of the activity of the Grand Lodge of Virginia's special celebration of the country's 250th Anniversary with the Grand Masters of the other twelve original colonies. Placing of a wreath by each of the Grand Masters at Brother Washington's tomb in the morning was followed by a special tour of Mount Vernon and later of the Memorial. The day concluded with a dinner at the Memorial and attendance at Alexandria-Washington Lodge Nº 22's stated meeting, which was the official visitation of the Grand Master of Virginia to the lodge. (Note: If you're not aware, our own Executive Director, Matthew Szramoski, is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.) Another truly historic and memorable day for all in attendance, especially those visiting Grand Masters.

In the spring, we visited and spoke to two Grand Lodge Annual Communications: the Grand Lodges of New Mexico and Tennessee. Later in the spring, we were invited to kick off the Valley of New Mexico's 250th Anniversary slate of celebratory programs. We discussed "Patriotism and Freemasonry" and, of course, the Memorial and our Seal the Envelope campaign. In May, we presented the same topics to Trumbull Lodge Nº 22 in New Haven, Conn., at the invitation of long time DeMolay friend, Chris Earle. That presentation resulted in a significant gift from the Valley of Bridgeport, AASR.

On July 1st we dedicated our newest exhibit: *Freemasons at War.* It traces the fraternity's involvement in all the wars in which the United States has been involved. The exhibit came together thanks to a gift from Col. USAF (Ret.) and Ill. Bro. Tom Moe, 33°, and his wife Chris and the collaboration of the National Sojourners. A number of artifacts populate this exhibit, including a piece of wood from Fort Necessity, site of a battle early in the career of General Washington; a Congressional Medal of Honor, presented to Colonel and Bro. Carl L. Sitter, USMC, for his "extraordinary courage and leadership in the Chosin Reservoir campaign in the Korean War," on loan from the Collingwood Library and Museum on Americanism of the National Sojourners; and a collection of items of Brother Calvin Fancher's service in World War II, on loan from the Motts Military Museum in Groveport, Ohio. These items illustrate the involvement of Masonic brethren in the various conflicts, as well as how the principles of the Craft can be a source of strength during the viscissitudes of war. I am sure this exhibit will quickly become one of the favorite features of the tour. This exhibit has also been developed as the result of a gift with no Memorial funds involved.

The day before the exhibit dedication we announced our new Flags Over the Memorial program by which an individual, lodge, Eastern Star Chapter, Masonic Temple, Company, or any other group or friend of the Memorial can buy a new flag which has flown over the Memorial. We've partnered with Allegiance Flag Supply, the well-known (you've seen their commercials) American flag producing company in Charleston, South Carolina. Several options are available: a traditional 3 × 5′ flag; a traditional 4 × 6′ flag and a special 3 × 5′ "Betsy Ross" flag which has thirteen stars in a circle in the blue field. The 3 × 5′ flags are ideal for the individual at home or for the flag in the lodge meeting room; the 4'x6' is more suitable for flying on a flagpole. With four weeks' notice, a flag can be flown over the Memorial on a specific date. What better way to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the country than with a new, "American sown – American flown" flag (made of durable 200 denier nylon) which has flown over this Memorial to Brother Washington. The flags can be ordered *only* online at: *www.gwmemorial.org/flags*, and are $250 each. Note: This purchase is not eligible for inclusion in our donor recognition system.

As you can see, we've been busy! And will continue to be through this very special year. Thanks for your continued support of all that we do to honor Brother Washington.

Timothy Strawn is the Director of Development for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Contributors

Patron

$500,000–$999,999

Grand Lodge of California	CA
Grand Lodge of Illinois	IL
Grand Lodge of Massachusetts	MA
Grand Lodge of Missouri	MO
Grand Lodge of New Jersey	NJ

Cornerstone

$250,000–$499,999

Grand Lodge of Connecticut	CT
Grand Lodge of Kentucky	KY
Grand Lodge of Minnesota	MN
Grand Lodge of Nebraska	NE
Grand Lodge of Nebraska	NE
Grand Lodge of New York	NY
Grand Lodge of North Carolina	NC
Grand Lodge of Texas	TX
Grand Lodge of Washington	WA
Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma	OK
Supreme Council, AASR-NMJ	MA

Craftsman

$100,000–$249,999

Grand Lodge of Arizona	AZ
Grand Lodge of Tennessee	TN
Supreme Council, Grottoes of North America	OH
Grand Lodge of Alabama	AL
Grand Lodge of Arizona	AZ
Grand Lodge of Washington, D.C.	DC
Grand Lodge of Louisiana	LA
Grand Lodge of New Hampshire	NH
Grand Lodge of Oregon	OR
Grand Lodge of Tennessee	TN
Grand Lodge of Wisconsin	WI
Lafayette Consistory, AASR	CT
Andrew Jackson Lodge № 120	VA
Grand Lodge of New Hampshire	NH

Builder

$50,000–$99,999

Daughters of the American Revolution	DC
Grand Lodge of Idaho	ID
Grand Lodge of Nevada	NV
Grand Lodge of West Virginia	WV
Grand Lodge of Wyoming	WY
Robert W. Gregory	CO
Thomas H. Hillery	NV
Plymouth Hill Foundation	NY
York Rite Sovereign College	NC

Steward

$10,000–$49,999

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Frederick P. Baerenz	VA
Samuel A. Bishop	NY
George R. Botic	VA
Miriam F. Browning	VA
Alan J. Carlson	CT
Robert C. Chamberlain	MA
Larry R. Christenson	PA
Chester H. Clark	NJ
Krystle M. Dickson	FL
Fellowship Lodge № 236	MI
Alan Friedman	CT
Ridgely H. Gilmour	WA
Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees	PA
Grand Lodge of Hawaii	HI
Grand Lodge of Mississippi	MS
Grand Lodge of Vermont	VT
Arnold S. Grot	CT
Mike Harman	SC
Rex C. Hasty	MS
Bryce B. Hildreth	IA
Paul S. Hollis Trust	TX
Andrew W. Huttner	VA
Frederick E. Kaiser, Jr.	MI
Martha Washington Chapter № 42, OES	VA
Tom Moe	OH
Kenneth G. Nagel	CA
Napa Valley Lodge № 93	CA
National Sojourners, Inc.	VA
Tuoc K. Pham	CA
Red Cross of Constantine	CA
Sheldon B. Richman	VA
Bruce H. Rogove	NJ
Blaine H. Simons	UT
David L. St. Onge	MA
Clifford F. Stamm II	CT
Richard J. Stewart	MA
The Masonic Temple Charitable Trust, Missouri	MO
Scott A. Thomas	AZ
Union Lodge № 7	CO
Frank J. Wagner	NJ
Edward L. Zorn	CO

Companion

$2,000 - $9,999

Acacia Lodge № 315	SC
Arthur E. Allum	SC
American Fundraising Foundation, Inc.	FL
Thomas Ammazzalorso	VA
Ancient Landmarks Lodge № 319	IN
Jack D. Anderson	MT
Arabic Club Foundation Fund	OH
Arnold Family Charitable Fund In Memory of David & Patricia Arnold	CA
Ronald C. Ashman	CA
Michael R. Aulicino	VA
Michael T. Aycock	NC
Vincent L. Baehr	NJ
Paul L. Bailey	CO
Joe Baroudi	DC
Bartimaeus Lodge U.D.	IN
Bryan D. Bechler	WA
Timothy S. Beers	MI
Vincent Benedetto	PA
Timothy B. Bertrand	NY
Lawrence E. Bethune	MA
John K. Bishop	AK
Brian H. Blades	NJ
Bluffton Lodge № 145	IN
Gregory Bodine	AL
W. Eugene Bondurant	SC
George O. Braatz	OH
Robert D. Brink	PA
Michael D. Brumback	AZ
James A. Buckhorn	IN
Arv Burvee	ND
Ronald Butler	NM
Steven A. Campbell	NC
Capital City Lodge № 656	OH
Carson Lodge № 1	NV
Carson Valley Lodge № 33	NV
Earl L. Carter, Jr.	IN
Todd Case	KY
Louis J. Castle II	NV
Clinton J. Christensen	MN
Daniel M. Clark	VA
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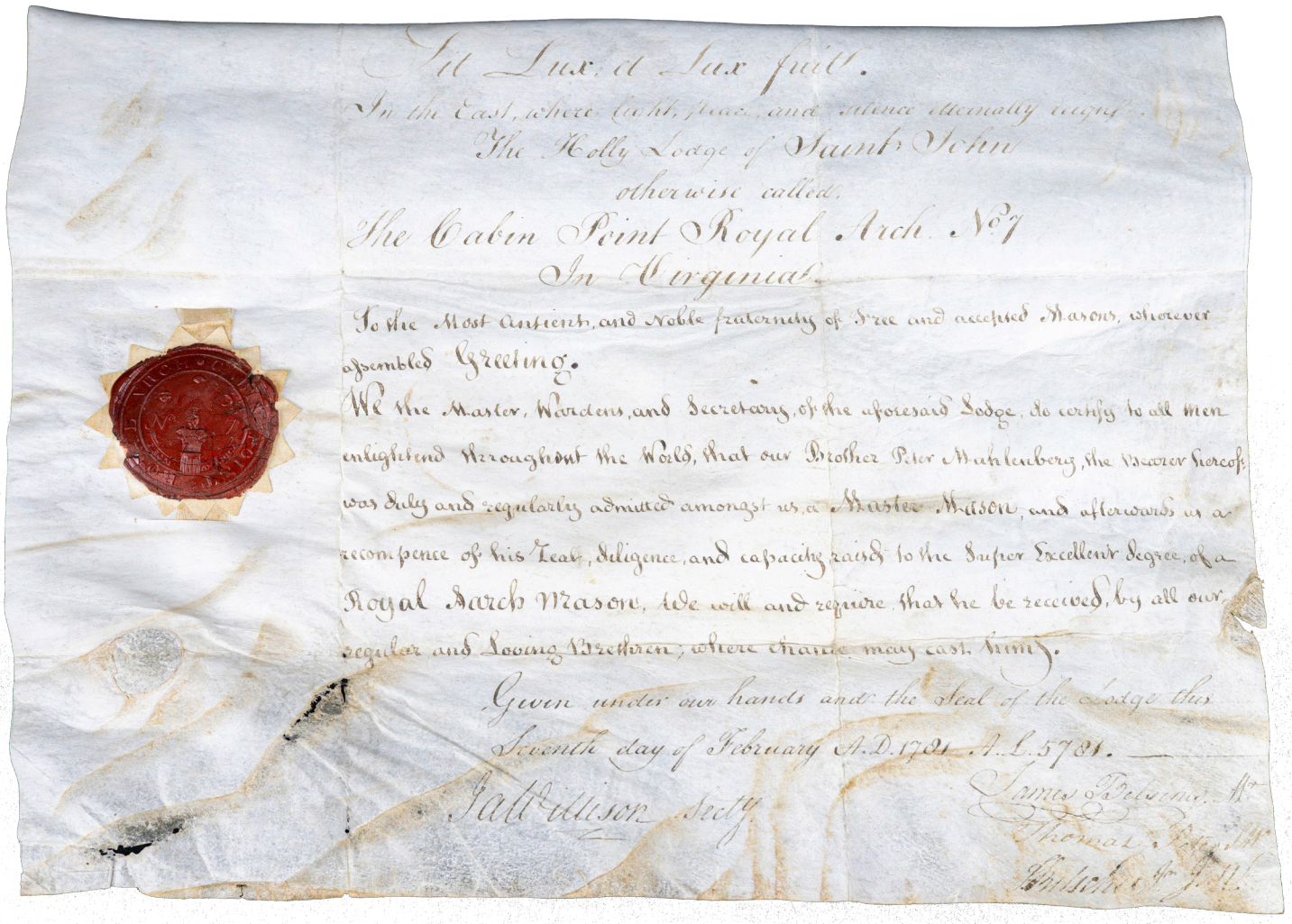
Ancient Landmarks Lodge № 319	IN
Apperson Lodge № 195	KY
Bluffton Lodge № 145	IN
Carson Lodge № 1	NV
Carson Valley Lodge № 33	NV
Converse Lodge № 601	IN
Daylite Lodge № 44	NV
Elmore Lodge № 30	ID
Fellowship Lodge № 236	MI
Hartford Evergreen Lodge № 88	CT
Huguenot Lodge № 46	NY
Indiana Harbor Lodge № 686	IN
King Solomon Lodge № 7	CT
Lebanon Lodge № 346	MN
Mount Moriah Lodge № 77	IN
Nevada Lodge of Research № 2	NV
Nunn-Oden Lodge № 398	AL
Olive Branch Lodge № 542	MI
Pahrump Lodge № 54	NV
Progress Lodge № 22	UT
Rising Sun Lodge № 29	AL
Robert Burns Lodge № 59	NV
Social Lodge № 1	GA
St. John's Lodge	MA
Trumbull Lodge № 22	CT





Fit Lux, et Lux fuit.
In the East, where light, peace, and silence eternally reigns.
The Holly Lodge of Saint John
otherwise called,
The Cabin Point Royal Arch No 7
In Virginia.
To the Most Antient, and Noble fraternity of Free and accepted Masons, wherever assembled Greeting.
We the Master, Wardens, and Secretary, of the aforesaid Lodge, do certify to all men enlightend throughout the World, that our Brother Peter Muhlenberg, the Bearer hereof, was duly and regularly admitted amongst us, a Master Mason, and afterwards as a recompence of his Zeal, diligence, and capacity raised to the Super Excellent degree, of a Royal Arch Mason, We will and require that he be received, by all our regular and Loving Brethren; where chance may cast him.
Given under our hands and the Seal of the Lodge this Seventh day of February A.D. 1781 A.L. 5781.
J. Allison Secty
James Belsing Mr
Thomas Peter SW
Britsche Jr J.W.

Royal Arch Patent of Revolutionary War Hero Added to Collections

On August 14, 2026, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial acquired a Masonic patent belonging to a highly fascinating soldier of the American Revolution: Brigadier General John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg (1746–1807). The document was issued in 1781 by Cabin Point Royal Arch Nº 7 in Virginia.

In the eighteenth century, traveling Freemasons carried such patents to prove their membership, unlike today's small dues cards. This one is exceptional because it belonged to Muhlenberg, who was the minister of a Lutheran congregation in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley before becoming deeply involved in the Revolutionary cause.

Promoted to brigadier general in 1777, he served under George Washington at Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, and Valley Forge. He returned to Virginia for the Yorktown campaign and was promoted to major general in 1783.

Muhlenberg had joined Philadelphia's Lodge Nº 3 in April 1779. By early 1781, as Benedict Arnold operated in Virginia, Muhlenberg helped organize the Commonwealth's defense and was at Cabin Point when the lodge issued his patent.

After the Revolution, Muhlenberg held posts in Pennsylvania government and served in the U.S. House and Senate. A small national memorial to him (shown right) exists in D.C. Thanks to a generous contribution by Richard F. Schmidt of New Jersey, his certificate has found a permanent home at the Memorial, preserving the story of a heroic General and Freemason who served with George Washington.



The Muhlenberg Memorial in Washington, D.C., is a small park with an expressive statue of Bro. Peter Muhlenberg.