Board Members Steer Future of Memorial

President Warren D. Lichty welcomed the Board of Directors to the third Semi-Annual Board Meeting held at The George Washington Masonic National Memorial on August 14. The meeting was a success with record attendance. Board Members focused on ways to increase funding including approving a second mailing for this year’s Direct Appeal campaign. The feasibility of producing a calendar was discussed and the concept was approved. And Board Members once again supported the actions of the Executive Committee in striving for Grand Lodges to institute a per-capita contribution to the Memorial.

The Board of Directors is the governing body of the Memorial and is responsible for its operation and perpetuation. They are a valuable source of experience and talent and the Semi-Annual Meeting helps to increase their involvement in the financing and operation of the Memorial and provides a second opportunity for the Memorial to benefit from their direct input. Prior to the meeting, Board Members and their spouses were given a private tour of the Memorial to familiarize them with this wonderful tribute to Brother George Washington, to which they have dedicated their term to serve.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on February 19, 2005 in Calgary, Alberta during the Conference of Grand Masters of North America.
Greetings From The President, continued from page 1

Another item of interest was the introduction of the new Memorial lapel pins. They are a shiny gold color and feature the Memorial building and Washington’s face. These pins will be available in the Gift Shop. They do not replace the bronze pins showing the Memorial building only, which are given to those who donate at least one hundred dollars.

The Board also made arrangements to acquire at least two more small tabletop displays for use at Masonic meetings. We keep getting requests to have a presence at Grand Lodges and other Masonic functions.

After the Board Meeting, the Officers and Board Members joined their ladies for dinner at the Mount Vernon Inn. Servers dressed in colonial costume served a delicious meal and afterwards the group was escorted to Washington’s beloved mansion where we were all given a private, candlelight tour. It was a great ending to a wonderful day.

In Memoriam


M.W. Ellis was a lifelong resident of Seaford, Delaware. He was raised in Gethsemane Lodge No. 28 by his father in 1954. In 1968, he was elected Worshipful Master, an office held by his great-grandfather, the Charter Master, his grandfather, father, brother, four uncles and several cousins. He served as Grand Master of Delaware in 1972. His numerous Masonic affiliations include the Scottish Rite, the York Rite, and National Sojourners. He was also active in community affairs having served as President of the Seaford Lions Club and on the Seaford Chamber of Commerce.

M.W. Ellis graduated from the University of Delaware and the University of Maryland School of Law. He also attended Oxford University. He served in the U.S. Army and attained the rank of Captain. He was awarded the commendation medal for meritorious service. He has served as Attorney for the Delaware State Senate, Deputy Attorney General for Sussex County and Assistant County Solicitor of Sussex County. In 1973, he was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Sussex County where he served until his retirement in 1996.

The Society of Washington Lodges

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is pleased to announce the founding of The Society of Washington Lodges on July 4, 2004. To join the Society, Lodges must be named after George Washington or Mount Vernon, with the exception of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 in Virginia, St. John’s Lodge No. 1 and Holland Lodge No. 8 in New York, Federal Lodge No. 1 and Potomac Lodge No. 5 in the District of Columbia, American Union Lodge No. 1 in Ohio and St. John’s Lodge No. 3 in North Carolina. These Lodges each have a direct historical connection to Brother George Washington. The enrollment fee is $2,500. The enrollment fees will be used for the preservation and upkeep of the Alexandria-Washington Replica Lodge Room and the Memorial.

The Member’s Lodge name will be cast in bronze and displayed in the anteroom of the Replica Lodge Room and published in The Messenger and in the Memorial’s Annual Report. In addition, Member Lodges of the Society will receive the following:

- Certificate of Membership signed and sealed by the Memorial Association
- Gavel and base made from wood from George Washington’s Mount Vernon
- Print of the Hattie Burdette portrait of George Washington
- Video: Two Hundred Years of George Washington’s Masonic Heritage
- Invitations to Alexandria-Washington Lodge’s annual George Washington Birthday celebration and annual wreath laying ceremony at the tomb of George Washington

For information, please contact George D. Seghers, Executive Secretary-Treasurer at 703-683-2007 or gseghers@gwmemorial.org.

Congratulations to the first New Member of The Society of Washington Lodges:
Washington Lodge No. 20,
Sacramento, California
In the 1790's, when America was a vibrant, new nation, the image and the knowledge of Washington were everywhere. There were paintings and prints, plates, medallions, tapestry's, sculptures, statues and innumerable other items bearing his likeness. These items were made not only for commercial gain, but many of them were created as a form of homage and reverence for Washington. He had been the central figure in almost every facet of the Revolutionary War. He had served at the Continental Convention and as our First President. He was truly the anchor and the center of our nation.

In the 1890's, in preparation for the centennial observance of the death of Washington, there was a renewed interest in and reverence for him. Once again, numerous articles, books, biographies and other items were produced at this time. This revival eventually led to the building of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, a tangible, enduring symbol of the respect, reverence and love of the Freemasons of the United States for our Foremost Freemason, George Washington.

In a significant way, the Memorial reflects the character of Washington. Washington was truly American. He was born and spent his youth in Virginia. He served in the Militia as a young man and in his later years, he dedicated his life to his country's defense and to the establishment of this great nation. His entire life was lived in his own country. There was no foreign education, habits or tastes acquired abroad. His person, character and his greatness were totally American. In turn, the Memorial was constructed entirely of materials from the United States. It would have been inappropriate to import materials from outside our country to erect a Memorial to our First President.

The name of George Washington is instantly recognizable, and his face is still the most familiar of all the historic figures in American history. Yet, as we enter the 21st century, sadly, Americans seem to know less about the remarkable career and character of Washington than at any other time in the history of our Republic. Washington was honest, courageous, and deeply patriotic - qualities that led his contemporaries to call him “The Father of His Country” as early as 1776 (before there was a United States). He consistently established the highest standards for his own actions. His was a life long journey of self-improvement, integrity, honesty and service. His life is an ongoing example of citizenship and statesmanship and an example of the heights that a human can achieve.

In a letter to King David’s Lodge No. 1, Newport, Rhode Island dated August 22, 1790, Washington wrote: “Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic Fraternity is founded must be promotive of private virtue 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.”

Washington was surely a deserving Brother. His example is one we should all follow. At The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, we are working to present the positive and important role that George Washington and Freemasonry played and is 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 - Brother George Washington.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association proudly presents the 2004 Commemorative Ornament of George Washington - Freemason. This bronze toned ornament is a scale model of the heroic bronze statue of Washington located in Memorial Hall. Washington adorns the Masonic Apron, Sash and Jewel he wore at the laying of the cornerstone of the United States Capitol on September 18, 1793.

To order, contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 703-549-9234 or the Memorial Website at www.gwmemorial.org.

Historical booklet included.

The following maintenance and improvement projects have been deferred due to a lack of funding. If you, your Lodge, Grand Lodge or Masonic Organization would like to contribute to any of these projects please contact Georg Seghers at 703-683-2007 or gseghers@gwmemorial.org

- Install Aircraft Warning Lights $15,000
- Install Second Phase of Surveillance System $35,000
- Install Emergency Generators $125,000
- Install Security Lighting on North Parking Lot $9,000
- Structural Survey of the Memorial $35,000
- Install Room Dividers in Dining Rooms $8,000
- Install Air Conditioning and Glass Windows/Doors in Assembly Hall $200,000
- Remove and Reset Front Steps $250,000
- Install Retaining Walls at Square and Compasses $3,500

Our thanks and appreciation to the Grand Lodge of New York for funding the replacement and extension of the sidewalks on the north side of the Memorial.
The Morning After

By Kenneth D. Fuller

A fellow brother shares fond memories about his relationship with his father, Freemasonry and the effect that visiting The George Washington Masonic National Memorial had on both.

My Dad developed an aversion for driving in, or even passing through, Washington, D.C. during my college years. The trip back to New England following my 1969 graduation from Davidson College in North Carolina, during which we found ourselves hopelessly lost on the streets of our nation’s capital, taxed his patience beyond his human limits.

After I was called to be Pastor of a Congregational Church in Washington in 1994, my father never visited me. I visited him in Maine during the summers and in Florida in winter.

That he agreed to come down and actually stay in D.C. in September of 1998 was truly remarkable. I had known Masonry was important to him, but I had no idea how important it was. He came to sit in Lodge and participate in the Master Mason’s degree. He worked his way in, his District Deputy Apron and Jewel from Connecticut helping his memory, no doubt. Because of his presence I was lucky enough to receive the third degree in full form. I will never forget the look on his face as he gripped my hand and helped me stand.

The next day we drove to The George Washington Masonic National Memorial. It was new territory for each of us. We found our way inside, admired the DeMolay exhibit and statue of Brother George Washington, and took the tour. We visited the various floors and the displays. From the Shrine parade on the first floor to the stained glass chapel in the tower, we were awed by the genius of Freemasonry.

I had been in ordained ministry for nearly three decades at that time, yet still found the Knights Templar Chapel a singular surprise. It was both inspiring and intriguing. I had never heard of the Knights Templar. So I read the literature and decided to find out more. Soon enough, one of my Blue Lodge brothers gave me petitions for Chapter, Council and Commandery.

My Dad died last year. I now have his Masonic aprons and books. The evening and the morning we spent together in Lodge and at The George Washington Masonic National Memorial are certainly among the happiest times I ever spent with him. Happy times were the rule, and not the exception. It was the morning after my raising, a morning we spent as brother masons, as well as father and son, which remains my favorite memory of my Dad.

Kenneth D. Fuller is Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the District of Columbia

Charitable Remainder Unitrusts Help Secure Future of Memorial

A Charitable Remainder Unitrust is an arrangement in which you transfer property, cash, securities and/or real estate to a trust. You and your spouse and/or other beneficiary receive payments from the trust for life or a term of years, calculated as a specified percentage of the trust principal as revalued annually. If the trust earns more than it pays out, the trust principal will grow and the payments will increase proportionately. When the trust terminates, the remaining principal passes to the Memorial.

☐ Please send me Planned Giving information
☐ I have already included the Memorial in my estate plans via
  ☐ my will  ☐ a trust  ☐ other arrangements
☐ I am considering including the Memorial in my estate plans

Comments:

To discuss Planned Giving options, please contact:
W. Scott Stoner
Planned Giving Chairman
717-653-9927
Fax: 717-653-0556
wscottstoner@aol.com

Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone
E-mail

To respond, please fill in your information, tear along perforated line and mail to:

GWMNMA
Planned Giving Program
101 Callahan Drive
Alexandria, VA 22301
Or Fax to 703-683-2163

For additional giving opportunities, please see reverse side
We Invite You to Join the GWMNMA Today!

Yes! I agree that The George Washington Masonic National Memorial is a very important part of our shared Masonic heritage. Together we can ensure that this magnificent Memorial continues to perpetuate the memory of our First President and Foremost Freemason. Enclosed is my GWMNMA membership contribution of:

☐ 21st Century Membership - $1,000 Donation – You will receive a 21st Century Membership Certificate, a Memorial lapel pin, and your name will be cast in bronze and displayed in the main entrance to Memorial Hall.

☐ Platinum Presidential Membership - $500 Donation - You will receive a Membership Certificate and a Memorial lapel pin.

☐ Gold Master Membership - $250 Donation – You will receive a Membership Certificate and a Memorial lapel pin.

☐ Silver Craftsman Membership - $100 Donation - You will receive a Membership Certificate and a Memorial lapel pin.

☐ Other Amount $_________________________ 

☐ Check enclosed made payable to GWMNMA 

☐ Please charge my:  □ American Express  □ Discover  □ Master Card  □ VISA

Account Number __________________________________________________________________________

Expiry Date ________________________________________________________________________________

Signature __________________________________________________________________________________

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

Name ______________________________________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ________________________________________________________________________________

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To respond, please fill in your information, tear along perforated line and mail to:

GWMNMA, Membership
101 Callahan Drive
Alexandria, VA 22301
Or Fax to 703-683-2163

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CONTRIBUTORS

Tree Dedications

** Grand Lodge of Alaska
by Alaska Grand Lodge Officers 2004

Anchorage Lodge No. 17
AK

Glacier Lodge No. 10
AK

** Tanana Lodge No. 3, Valdez
by Fairbanks Lodge No. 4, Fairbanks Lodge No. 12, & North Pole Lodge No. 16
by Alaska Masonic Lodges District No. 1

** Mt. McKinley Lodge No. 5
by Alaska Masonic Lodges District No. 1

** White Pass Lodge No. 1, Mt. Verstovia Lodge No. 18, Ketchikan Lodge No. 19, Mt. Juneau/Gastineaux Lodge No. 21, & Petersburg Lodge No. 23
by Alaska Masonic Lodges District No. 4

** Anvil Lodge No. 2, Matanuska
by Alaska Masonic Lodges District No. 5

** Knudt K. & Opal D. Andersen
by Frank & Glenda Andersen

** G. Wilbur Bell
by his wife, Moneta E. Bell

** Nicole T. Brasigone
by Old Town friends

** Daniel M. Clark
by his parents Chester H. & Ann E. Clark

** Helen L. Clayberger
by Charles S. Clayberger

** Ned E. Dull
by a devoted friend, Moneta E. Bell

** Herbert C. Fairley & Gerald R. AK
by Gerald R. Fairley & Glenda Jeffries

* Glendon Kale Jeffries
by Norma J. Jeffries

* Vernon A. Leeper
by his many friends

** Gail & John C. Liberty
by John C. Liberty, Jr.

* Anna & Walter Loehwing
by Chester H. & Ann E. Clark

* Cameron Lee Long
by his parents, Lee & Ginny Long

** Wilbert J. Newhall, IV
by his son, Paul & family

* Charles A. Reynolds
by his mother, Moneta E. Bell

* Donald W. Sheehan
by his family

** James W. Turner
by Louella S. Turner & Randall S. Limbach

** J. Lewis & Mackie Vaughn
by their family

** Marjorie L. Wilson
by her husband, Gale R. Wilson

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Social Order of the Beauceant

Robert Harold Younger, MD

Correction: In the last issue, under “Tree Dedications,” Bradford Lloyd Barco was listed as being from Massachusetts. He is from Rhode Island.
Memorial’s Museum Receives Important Acquisition
By Dustin Smith

The George Washington Museum, located on the 4th floor of the Memorial, is pleased to announce that it has recently acquired the gold pocket watch that was used to time the pulse of Washington during his final illness. The watch belonged to Dr. Elisha Cullen Dick, one of three physicians attending Washington.

The donor, Robert Lyne, is a descendant of John D. Vowell, who read medicine with Dr. Dick and to whom the doctor gave his watch in later life. The watch had been handed down in the family until now. When Lyne visited The George Washington Masonic National Memorial several years ago, he felt that this was the appropriate location for Dr. Dick’s watch. The watch has both historical interest and aesthetic value. It rests in a sterling silver case, and opens to reveal fine filigree and jeweled works. It is the most significant museum piece since the acquisition of the Washington Family Bible.

The newly renovated Museum was officially dedicated this past February in conjunction with the Conference of Grand Masters. The Museum maintains the same hours as the Memorial, open daily from 9 am to 5 pm except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day.

Dustin Smith is the Memorial’s Librarian and Assistant Curator.

Memorial Hosts WWII Memorial Dedication

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial was a host venue for a simulcast event of the WWII National Memorial Dedication on May 29. In an effort to support the national capital region’s America Celebrates the Greatest Generation initiative, the event was organized for WWII veterans and their families who were not able to personally view the dedication ceremonies on the National Mall.

Over 300 people packed the Memorial Theatre for an impressive program of lively entertainment and presentations from local dignitaries. The pre-ceremony show included a welcome by the Mayor of Alexandria Bill Euille and Congressman Jim Moran, a jazz quartet and the presentation of colors by The Fifes and Drums of Prince William III. One of the highlights was a moving tribute to honor all of the veterans who were present.

The Memorial is privileged to have been part of such an important event in our nation’s history and joins with all Americans in saluting the spirit, sacrifice and commitment of the men and women who served in World War II.