



# The Messenger™

A publication of the George Washington Masonic Memorial

Alexandria, Virginia

Volume 13 • Number 1 • 2007

## Vision for the Future

### Part 3: The Vision of Washington

by George D. Seghers

*“To inspire humanity through education to promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country.”*

This vision statement of the George Washington Masonic Memorial was created and adopted by the Memorial’s Board of Directors less than one year ago. In this short time it has dramatically and effectively changed the way we see ourselves and



*Washington presides over the Constitutional Convention in 1787. His vision for the new nation helped inspire the principles and ideals upon which our country was founded. An engraving by John Waters after Michael Wageman, c. 1850s, courtesy Mount Vernon Ladies Association.*

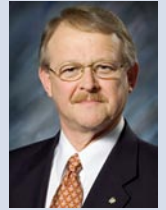
the way our members and the public see us. Washington too had a vision of greatness - a vision for his country, its government and its people - a vision that would help to lay the foundation for the freedoms and ideals that we continue to enjoy today as American citizens.

Washington believed in the Constitutional Republic that was adopted as our form of government. In 1790, he wrote, “...*The establishment of our new Government seemed to be the last great experiment for promoting human happiness by reasonable compact in civil Society. It was to be, in the first instance, in a considerable degree a government of accommodation as well as a government of Laws.*” In his Farewell Address of 1796 he wrote, “...*This government, the offspring of our own choice uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribution of its powers, uniting security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendment, has a just claim to your confidence and your support. Respect for its authority, compliance with its Laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoined by the fundamental maxims of true liberty.* As a nation, we continue to benefit from his vision and understanding of the necessity of a civil society ruled by laws that guaranteed equal opportunity and equal protection for its citizens.

In a *Circular to the States*, written in 1783, he stated, “*The Citizens of America, placed in the most enviable condition, as the sole Lords and Proprietors of a vast Tract of Continent, comprehending all the various soils and climates of the World, and abounding with all the necessaries and conveniencies of life, are now by the late satisfactory pacification, acknowledged to be possessed of absolute freedom and Independency;.... Here, they are not only surrounded with every thing which can*

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## Greetings From The President



**Michael D. Brumback**

The George Washington Masonic Memorial was erected by the Freemasons of the United States to honor a Brother worthy of being an ideal example of the principles of Masonry. John Adams eulogized Washington with these words, “His example is complete; and it will teach wisdom and virtue to Magistrates, Citizens, and Men, not only in the present age, but in future generations.”

His accomplishments become more relevant with time, rather than being diminished. Freemasonry is becoming more relevant again, as well. Public interest in our fraternity and its connections to the founding of this country continue in the press and media.

It is becoming clear that young men are searching for focus in their lives that will provide real moral value. Freemasonry, founded on the basic tenets of brotherly love, relief, and truth, provides a solid foundation for personal satisfaction. George Washington was taught and believed in these same unchangeable tenets. He also practiced the four cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice as he led our forefathers in the pursuit of Liberty. Rather than sounding trite, young men find these truths to be inspiring and are interested in being associated with a fraternity that was relevant to leaders of the

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## Greetings From The President, *continued from page 1*

Revolution, their Grandfathers, and is still relevant today.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial must always be a place that Masons can point to with pride. It is our goal to ensure that the Memorial is maintained in a manner that will continue to inspire all that visit. To that end we are upgrading displays to bring them up to current standards worthy of the dignity that Freemasonry deserves. The Scottish Rite and Imperial Shrine have recently redesigned their exhibits, establishing a standard we will follow for all exhibits.

We have commissioned a design for a new Masonic exhibit that will fulfill a longtime goal to have a major exhibit on Freemasonry. Nearly half of our guests each year are not connected with Masonry. This exhibit will fulfill a need to help the public better understand the fraternity and why we are proud to honor our Brother, George Washington, as a worthy exemplar.

I hope that every Masonic Jurisdiction, every Appendant Body, every Freemason will re-examine their commitment to this Masonic Memorial to George Washington. I hope that you will voluntarily increase your financial commitment to this tribute to the principles of Freemasonry. I hope that this will become a voluntary groundswell of support for this great and good work. This tradition of voluntary support built, and has maintained this edifice for 75 years. May it long continue.

## 2006 Annual Meeting

### *New Board Gears Up for 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

The George Washington Masonic Memorial held a very successful Annual Meeting in February in Portland, Oregon during the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. President Brumback gave a PowerPoint presentation that covered the history of the Association, the physical condition of the Memorial, and the past, present, and future financial state of the Association. He stressed the importance of the Grand Lodges funding the Memorial through the \$1 Per Member Campaign. (See article page 4) He also reviewed current and future programs including the Memorial Ambassador program and a joint project with Mount Vernon to put Washington's picture back in the classroom. (See article page 4)

In other business, the officers of the Association were elected for the ensuing year. They are: Michael D. Brumback, President; Anthony P. Wordlow, First Vice President; Roger A. Simmons, Second Vice President; Donald G. Hicks, Jr., Third Vice President and George D. Seghers, Executive Director.

The following were elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors: Michael D. Brumback, Indiana; Robert P. Conley, Michigan; Reese L. Harrison, Jr., Texas; John L. Palmer, Tennessee; Michael A. Sutton, Idaho; Anthony P. Wordlow, California and Frank R. Dunaway, Jr., A-W No. 22 Lodge Representative.

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## Memorial Presents New Award to Celebrate Washington's 275<sup>th</sup>

The George Washington Masonic Memorial celebrated the 275<sup>th</sup> birthday of George Washington with the presentation of the first George Washington Memorial Award on February 25. The new award was created to honor individuals who have promoted the virtues, character and vision of George Washington. New York author Richard Brookhiser received a bronze medallion and monetary prize for his book, *Founding Father: Rediscovering George Washington*. Prior to the presentation, Mr. Brookhiser gave a talk on Washington. In addition, the traditional wreath laying ceremony was also held at the base of the 17 ft. bronze statue of Washington with



*Richard Brookhiser (center) receives the first George Washington Memorial Award from Michael D. Brumback, President of the Memorial Association, (right) and George D. Seghers, Executive Director. (Visit [www.gwmemorial.org](http://www.gwmemorial.org) for more photos of this event.)*

Masonic and city officials presiding. A gala reception was held afterwards with musical entertainment and a 4-tiered birthday cake. The event was free and open to the public and was part of the month-long birthday celebration sponsored by the City of Alexandria which also included the annual George Washington Symposium held at the Memorial on February 11.

## Remembrance at Mount Vernon



Executive Director George D. Seghers represented the George Washington Masonic Memorial at a wreath laying ceremony at the tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon on Washington's birthday, February 22. The annual event is sponsored by Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22.

## Message From Alexandria



George D. Seghers

These are exciting times for the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Under the leadership of President Brumback and the guidance and support of the Board of Directors, we created a new vision, a new strength of purpose and redirected the Association to its original goal of not only honoring and remembering, but also learning from George Washington. To accomplish this, and in preparation for the Association's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2010, we're planning several new projects beginning with an exhibit on Freemasonry this year. Although this will be the first exhibit on Freemasonry installed in the Memorial, the concept is not new. The early history of the Association records that the Memorial was to be created in honor of George Washington and Freemasonry. Unfortunately, this was never fully developed nor completed. This new exhibit will finally realize part of the original vision of the founders. After completion, the first two levels of the Memorial will be dedicated to George Washington and Freemasonry.

In an effort to achieve the founders' full vision, we plan to restore the Memorial to its original plan as when conceived. Assembly Hall will be restored to its original condition and purpose as a Grand Meeting and Event Hall. This will include installing air conditioning and elevators and enclosing the area to allow use of Assembly Hall while other events are taking place in the Memorial. The Memorial is in need of major repairs in many areas. The most urgent at this time is the replacement of the main roofs on the second and third levels. Also, we need to install additional disability ramps and expand the surveillance system.

As part of our vision to save and secure the history of Freemasonry in America, we are proceeding with the Masonic Digital History Project. The Memorial is negotiating the purchase of the license for digitization. Once the license is purchased, the Grand Lodges will only have to pay for the actual digitizing of their proceedings. The Memorial views this project as a service we will provide for the Grand Lodges.

Recently we contacted all our Active Members, the 51 Grand Lodges of the United States and Puerto Rico, and asked for the mailing addresses of the Lodges in their jurisdictions so that we can send each issue of *The Messenger* to every Lodge. If we are to fulfill our vision through education, we must be in contact with the Member Lodges.

Our vision statement declares that we are to “..inspire humanity through education...” In his First Annual Address, January 8, 1790, Washington wrote, “...Knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness.....To the security of a free Constitution it contributes in various ways: By convincing those who are instructed with the public administration, that every valuable end of Government is best answered by the enlightened confidence of the people.”

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of your Memorial.

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

### 2006 Annual Meeting, *continued from page 2*

The following members of the Board of Directors were appointed to the Executive Committee by President Brumback: Anthony P. Wordlow; Roger A. Simmons; Donald G. Hicks, Jr.; Ridgely H. Gilmour; Frank R. Dunaway, Jr. and George D. Seghers, Secretary. The Executive Committee is charged with

the responsibility for the Memorial during the time when the Board of Directors is not in session.

With our new vision statement developed, some exciting projects underway, and our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary only three years away, we look forward to working with this new Executive Committee and Board of Directors for the betterment of the Association and the Memorial.



Delegates visit the Memorial's booth at the Conference.

### Vision for the Future, *continued from page 1*

*contribute to the completion of private and domestic enjoyment, but Heaven has crowned all its other blessings, by giving a fairer opportunity for political happiness, than any other Nation has ever been favored with.*” He believed that our nation was founded in a period when the rights of mankind were better understood and more clearly defined than at any other time. Washington believed in the strength, opportunity, and principles of our nation and the ultimate responsibility of the citizens for its enduring and successful future.

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*George D. Seghers is the Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. This is the final article in the series that began with Volume 12, Number 2 last year.*

## Grand Lodge Month Program

This year we started the Grand Lodge Month Program again, and so far, have had excellent participation. January was New Jersey Month. The Grand Lodge of New Jersey held an Emergent Session at the Memorial on January 13. As part of the event, the Grand Lodge, under the leadership of Grand Master Douglas R. Policastro, recognized and honored M.W. Edgar N. Pepler, Past Grand Master and Past President of the George Washington Masonic Memorial for his service to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, to Freemasonry and to

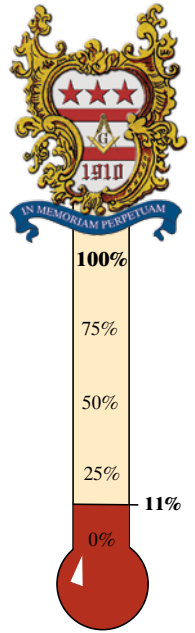


Edgar N. Pepler (1<sup>st</sup> row, second from right) is honored in a formal ceremony at the Memorial for his many years of service to Freemasonry. Also pictured are Memorial President Michael D. Brumback (1<sup>st</sup> row, far right), Grand Master of New Jersey Douglas R. Policastro (1<sup>st</sup> row, 3<sup>rd</sup> from right), Executive Director George D. Seghers (1<sup>st</sup> row, far left) and members of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

the Memorial. Nearly 300 Masons and friends traveled to the Memorial for the event. President Michael D. Brumback presented Brother Ed with a certificate of appreciation from the Memorial recognizing his many years of outstanding service to the Memorial and to Freemasonry. This was the largest event to take place in the Grand Lodge Month Program. February was the Grand Lodge of Connecticut Month. The Grand Lodge installed an outstanding exhibit in Assembly Hall that highlighted the history of the Lodge and its close relationship with the Memorial. March was the Grand Lodge of Maryland Month. Maryland is the most recent Grand Lodge to institute a \$1 per member annual contribution to the Memorial. The Grand Lodge installed an excellent exhibit in Assembly Hall which included a photograph of Past Grand Master Shryock. He was the first President of the George Washington Masonic Memorial and responsible for getting the Memorial building project underway. The program continues with the following schedule: April - South Carolina, May - New Hampshire, June - Virginia, July - New York, August - North Carolina, September - Rhode Island, October - Vermont, November - Kentucky and December - Tennessee. The Grand Lodge Month Program was created to recognize and honor the Grand Lodges that support and sustain the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

## “100% Participation By Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary”

This is the new campaign unveiled at the Association’s Annual Meeting in February to reach the goal of \$1 per member by the Association’s 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2010. Six states have already made this commitment. We hope all other Grand Lodges will come on board to make it unanimous. 100 years ago, the founding members had a vision: build a great memorial to forever honor the memory and legacy of George Washington. Today that vision is realized with this magnificent temple. But they also made a commitment to support that vision by contributing \$1 per member from every Jurisdiction. If they could do that 100 years ago, isn’t \$1 per member, in today’s dollars, trivial by comparison? Get on board. Let’s “inspire humanity” and show the world that “the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country” will be forever preserved for all generations to come. Let all Freemasons unite behind this one symbol of veneration for Washington and let that unity ring out 100% strong by 2010!



## Washington Goes to School

Memorial Partners with Mount Vernon on School Project

The pictures of George Washington have vanished from America’s schools and no effort by the government or by any other organization that we are aware of has been made to replace them. Until now!

To commemorate the 275<sup>th</sup> birthday of George Washington, the Memorial announced an exciting new joint project with Mount Vernon at the Annual Meeting in February to distribute portraits of George Washington to public and private schools.



The portrait chosen is the Rembrandt Peale painting of Washington done in 1795. It is a striking portrait with Washington in his Continental Uniform. A print of the portrait would be framed to measure 24 x 36 inches, small enough to fit on most walls, and large enough to be clearly seen. A sponsorship of a single portrait is \$275. Five portraits can be placed for \$1,000 and 25 portraits can be placed for \$5,000.

With nearly 12,000 Masonic Lodges across this great nation, we are positioned to serve as a grassroots movement to again make sure that George Washington is honored in every school. Watch for further details on this exciting new project.

# Join the GWMM Today!

**Yes! Count on me to support our Memorial.**

Enclosed is my membership contribution of:

- \$100 - Silver Craftsman:** You will receive a Membership Certificate and a Memorial lapel pin.
- \$250 - Gold Master:** You will receive a Membership Certificate and a Memorial lapel pin.
- \$500 - Platinum Presidential:** You will receive a Membership Certificate and a Memorial lapel pin.
- \$1000 - 21<sup>st</sup> Century:** You will receive a Membership Certificate, a Memorial lapel pin and your name will be cast in bronze and displayed in the main entrance to Memorial Hall.

## PATRONS

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

In addition to the above benefits, all Millennium Members will receive a Membership Plaque and your name will be permanently displayed on a Millennium 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Check enclosed made payable to *GWMM*  
Please charge my:  American Express  Discover  
 Master Card  VISA

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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To respond, please fill in your information, cut along dotted line and mail to:

**GWMM, Membership**  
**101 Callahan Drive**  
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	Jerry Cottrell	VA
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Members</b>	MA Lester A. Culver	GA
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James W. Colgan		

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# Gerald R. Ford, 33° - President, Statesman, Freemason

Along the mezzanine of the Memorial Theater are 14 bronze bas-relief portraits of all the U.S. Presidents who were fellow Freemasons. The last of these great men passed to the Celestial Lodge in December. During his presidency, the Memorial was honored to receive Gerald R. Ford, 33°, 38<sup>th</sup> President, for the unveiling of his portrait on February 17, 1975. He also wrote the introduction to *Maxims of Washington*, published by Mount Vernon in 1989.

Brother Ford was initiated on September 30, 1949 in Malta Lodge No. 465, Grand Rapids, Michigan. He received the Scottish Rite degrees in the Valley of Grand Rapids in 1957. He was unanimously elected an Active Member of the International Supreme



President Ford visits the Memorial in 1975 for the unveiling of his portrait. The ceremony was presided over by Association President Elmer R. Arn (to right of Ford), Executive Secretary-Treasurer Marvin E. Fowler (to right of portrait) and other Masonic officials.

Council, Order of DeMolay and its Honorary Grand Master, at its Annual Session in 1975. Noble Ford joined Saladin Shrine Temple in 1959. But his first services to Freemasonry came well before all this. He was a member of the University of Michigan's undefeated national championship football team and was selected for the Eastern Team on the Shriners East West Crippled Children's benefit classic in San Francisco in 1935.



## Association Officers

*Elected February 19, 2007*

<b>Michael D. Brumback</b>	President
<b>Anthony P. Wordlow</b>	First Vice President
<b>Roger A. Simmons</b>	Second Vice President
<b>Donald G. Hicks, Jr.</b>	Third Vice President
<b>George D. Seghers*</b>	Executive Director
<b>Donald M. Robey</b>	Exec. Sec.-Treas. Emeritus

## Board of Directors

*Term expires February 22, 2008*

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<b>Roger A. Simmons*</b>	Alabama
<b>John R. Quinley</b>	Virginia

*Term expires February 22, 2009*

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*Term expires February 22, 2010*

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<b>Reese L. Harrison, Jr.</b>	Texas
<b>John L. Palmer</b>	Tennessee
<b>Michael A. Sutton</b>	Idaho
<b>Anthony P. Wordlow*</b>	California

*\*Member of Executive Committee*

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Yorktown Lodge No. 205	VA	Georgia DeMolay	GA	by Jerry & Glenn Jones	
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Anderson H. Ziedler, Jr.	CT	Rainbow for Girls		GL of Nevada	
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Allegheny Lodge No. 114	GA	Grottoes of NA (two trees)		** Melvyn B. Stein	CA
* Jon J. "Bubba" Barral	NY	** Barbara J. Jacobs	PA	by Sacramento Scottish	
by Theodore H. Jacobsen		by Columbia-Keystone Royal		Rite Bodies	
* Lawrence L. Beebe	VA	Arch Chapter No. 3		* Vernon Matthew Williams	FL
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John H. Field	MI	by Gary Nordlinger			

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The Messenger