

This issue of *The Messenger* is sponsored by **The Royal Order of Scotland**

Centennial Celebration



New logo combines Washington Family Crest with Masonic symbols

On February 22, 1910, Freemasons from all across the country met in Alexandria, Virginia to create a permanent chartered association for the purpose of building a suitable memorial temple to honor the memory and legacy of America’s foremost Freemason, George Washington. The 100th Anniversary of that historic first meeting and founding of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is fast approaching and the Association will celebrate with a day of festive events on February 22, 2010.

In honor of the occasion, the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, hosted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, will be held in nearby Arlington, Virginia and Conference delegates will attend the Association’s Annual Meeting at the Memorial on February 22, 2010, George Washington’s 278th birthday. At the meeting, a new portrait of George Washington as a Freemason will be unveiled. The portrait, by Virginia artist Christopher Erney,



The first meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association was held at Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 above Alexandria City Hall on February 22, 1910.

was commissioned by the Memorial Association and will present a new interpretation of Washington. Prints of the portrait will be available at the meeting.

Also at the meeting, a new video will be debuted. The video focuses on George Washington as the inspiration for the founding of America and the founding of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. The video is sponsored by the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma and

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Greetings From The President

Anthony P. Wordlow



A Time To Be Grateful

This time of year, we pause to give thanks. In the fall of 1789, President George Washington issued the first Thanksgiving Proclamation. It begins:

“Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God – to obey His will – to be grateful for His benefits – and humbly implore His protection and favour: And whereas both Houses have, by their joint committee, requested me ‘to recommend to the people of the United States a DAY of PUBLICK THANKSGIVING and PRAYER, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favours of Almighty God’ . . .” [sic]

The more one learns about our well-beloved brother, George Washington, the greater is one’s vast esteem, admiration and unequalled awe of him. At his Masonic funeral service, he was simply, yet powerfully, eulogized including these immortal few words deeply embedded in our memory: *“First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”*

We are grateful for George Washington’s remarkable life; he is still first in our hearts.

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Greetings From The President, *continued from page 1*

February 22, 2010 marks the Centennial Celebration of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association. We are grateful for those brothers who courageously pursued their vision to erect this magnificent George Washington Masonic Memorial, even in the face of multitudinous obstacles.

We are grateful for our brothers who followed during these hundred years with continued support to your George Washington Masonic Memorial. We are grateful, too, for the outstanding leadership of the Board of Directors and Staff.

We are grateful that numerous projects are on course for completion by the Centennial Celebration on Washington's birthday and will be ready to welcome the delegates of the Conference of Grand Masters.

Most of all, we are grateful to you for your steadfast support. We invite you to visit your George Washington Masonic Memorial during this special centennial year. You will be delighted and your heart will be filled with pride!

Receive *The Messenger* Via E-Mail

Did you know that you can now receive *The Messenger* electronically? We encourage you to consider an e-mail subscription and help the Memorial save on printing and postage costs. And you'll receive *The Messenger* so much faster than a snail mail subscription. You'll get immediate access to the latest Memorial news and happenings as soon as each edition is completed. It's easy. Just send an e-mail to rmavrova@gwmemorial.org and tell us you want to begin receiving *The Messenger* electronically. *Please also include your name and address.* Let us hear from you today!

The Royal Order of Scotland

The Memorial gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Sir Edward H. Fowler, Jr., Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland, U.S.A., for sponsoring this issue of *The Messenger* and for his continued support of the Memorial. For information on the Royal Order of Scotland visit www.yorkrite.com/roos/.

Semi-Annual Board Meeting



The Board of Directors of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association held their Semi-Annual meeting at the Memorial on August 28 and 29. The major focus of the meeting was strategic long-term planning and long-term

fund raising to meet the financial needs of the Association, and making final preparations for the Association's Centennial Celebration on February 22, 2010. They are pictured here in the North Lodge Room.

Message From Alexandria



George D. Seghers

For many people, a visit to the George Washington Masonic Memorial represents their first personal encounter with the Masonic heritage of George Washington and the legacy of America. It can also be an enlightening introduction to the importance of historical preservation. The Memorial plays a crucial role in helping the public understand who we are as Masons and as Americans through the inspiring example of George Washington. This is the reason that the creation and perpetuation of the Memorial have been the central focus of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association for the past 100 years.

The Memorial was conceived, financed, constructed and is maintained by Freemasons all across the country – from New England, the Atlantic Seaboard, the South, the Midwest, the Southwest, the Central Plains, the Northwest, the West, indeed, all of America – as an enduring tribute to the memory and legacy of the Father of our Country.

Since the beginning of the new century, the Memorial has in many ways reinvented itself. The Memorial is no longer simply a beautiful building containing artifacts of Washington, but a magnificent, alive, vibrant, active participant in the Alexandria, Masonic and National communities. The Memorial has become a popular venue

for performances, exhibitions and community events, as well as being the epicenter for the study and preservation of George Washington's legacy and the history of American Freemasonry. We are striving not only to present George Washington to the Masonic and non-Masonic worlds, but also to present Freemasonry to all who visit or contact the Memorial.

This vision for the Memorial testifies to the ingenuity, dedication and hard work of the Memorial Staff, Officers and Board of Directors. However, more must be done to ensure the longevity, viability and success of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, especially as we approach our Centennial Celebration.

These are indeed challenging and trying times for the Memorial. However, we know that the Freemasons of America not only value the Memorial as a grand and beautiful temple honoring George Washington, but also for its role in telling the story of Freemasonry in America. We are grateful to those who support our continuing efforts to ensure that we present an authentic, engaging and interesting experience for all who visit the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

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

Memorial Dedicatory Tree Program

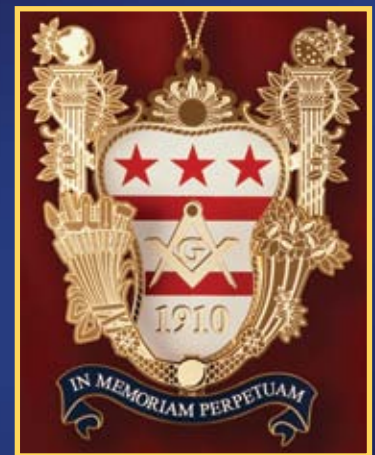
The Memorial grounds encompass 36 acres of one of the last green spaces in the city of Alexandria. One reason for creating the Dedicatory Tree Program in July 2001 was to provide a healthy tree canopy to generate oxygen for the city. Other reasons were to reduce erosion and run-off into the Potomac River, provide a healthy habitat for birds and other wildlife, and to provide a way to honor and remember individuals and organizations. To date, we have planted 351 trees. Our goal next year is to plant 100 trees to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Memorial Association.

Please join us in this program to beautify the grounds of the Memorial and to remember and honor individuals and organizations that share in our personal histories and the history of the Memorial. To participate, please contact George Seghers at 703-683-2007 or at gsegheers@gwmemorial.org or visit the website at www.gwmemorial.org.

Note: Beginning January 1, 2010, donors will be able to locate and view their trees on the website.

100th Anniversary Commemorative Ornament

The George Washington Masonic Memorial is pleased to present the 100th Anniversary Commemorative Ornament: *The George Washington Masonic Memorial Crest*. It combines the Washington Family Crest with numerous Masonic symbols. This Crest was designed as the new logo of the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association to commemorate its 100th Anniversary on February 22, 2010.



*Crafted with pride in America
Historical booklet included*

To order, please contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 703-549-9234 or visit the Memorial's website at www.gwmemorial.org.

Memorial President Receives 50-Year Golden Veteran's Award

Anthony P. Wordlow, President of the George Washington Masonic Memorial and Past Grand Master of California, received his 50-year Golden Veteran's Award at a gala event on September 20, 2009 hosted by Tehama Lodge No. 3 at the Scottish Rite temple in Sacramento, California. Wordlow joined Tehama Lodge No. 3 in Sacramento in 1959 and served as Master in 1970.

Brent Bayley, Master of the Lodge, presided over the program. Larry Adamson, Grand Master of California, conducted the official Masonic ceremony and gave a moving tribute to Wordlow's long-standing and exemplary service to the fraternity. Wordlow's son Chris, a member of Western Star Lodge No. 2 in Shasta, California, had the honor of presenting the award. George Seghers, the Memorial's Executive Director, also gave remarks on Wordlow's outstanding service and dedication to the Memorial and to Freemasonry and provided a brief overview of the history of the Memorial. In addition, he presented Wordlow with a plaque on behalf of the Memorial acknowledging the achievement.

More than 500 guests enjoyed a sumptuous dinner and were treated to an inspiring musical program. All money collected to attend the event was donated to the Memorial.



Memorial President Anthony P. Wordlow (left) receives a plaque from Executive Director George D. Seghers commemorating his 50 years of outstanding service to Freemasonry and to the Memorial. Affectionately known as "Tony the Tiger" to California Masons, his official mascot in full Masonic regalia is also a fond reminder of the many programs carried out successfully by "Tony's Tigers" during his term as Grand Master of California, as Potentate of Ben Ali Shrine and as head of other Masonic organizations.

2009 Holiday Ornament

The George Washington Masonic Memorial is pleased to present the 2009 Commemorative Holiday Ornament: *The Crown and Cross of the Masonic Knights Templar*. Membership in this fraternal organization consists of people from all walks of life, all of whom profess a belief in the Christian religion. The tenets of the Knights Templar are "Integrity, Obedience and Courage."



*Crafted with pride in America
Historical booklet included*

To order, please contact the Memorial Gift Shop at 703-549-9234 or visit the Memorial's website at www.gwmemorial.org

Grand Lodge Month Program

The Grand Lodge of the Month Program continues to successfully generate interest in and involvement with the Memorial. Several Grand Lodge Officers have visited the Memorial to inaugurate their respective Months and to unveil their exhibits. The Form and Function of American Freemasonry Exhibit includes a display case dedicated to the Program. The Program not only involves Grand Lodges directly with the Memorial, it also provides exposure and information about the Grand Lodges to the many thousands of visitors to the Memorial. The schedule for 2010 is:



Minnesota was the featured Grand Lodge of the Month in July.

January - North Dakota, February - The George Washington Masonic Memorial, March - South Dakota, April - Montana, May - California, June - West Virginia, July - Idaho, August - Wyoming, September - Oklahoma, October - New Mexico, November - Arizona and December - Alaska.

Join The GWMM Today!

Yes! Count on me to support our Memorial.

Enclosed is my membership contribution of:

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

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 Patrons will receive a Membership Plaque and your name will be permanently displayed on a Patrons Wall of Honor recognizing major benefactors prominently located in the Memorial.

Already a Supporter? Great! Since Membership is cumulative, an additional contribution may upgrade your status to the next category.

- Other Amount \$ _____
- Check enclosed made payable to GWMM
- Please charge my: AMEX MC VISA DISC

Card 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 (As it appears on card) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

- Yes. I would like to receive *The Messenger* via e-mail.

My e-mail address is _____

Mail to:

GWMM, Membership
101 Callahan Drive
Alexandria, VA 22301-2751
Or Fax to: 703-519-9270

CONTRIBUTORS

New Century Members

Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10	NJ	Edmund J. Cunningham	MA
Terry Bryce Bridges	MI	David R. Doan	MI
Robert P. Conley	MI	Robert L. Dominick	CA
Richard Davis	NY	Leonard S. Ferguson	VA
James S. Jones, III	VA	Jaime R. Fernandez	WA
W. Lee Long	VA	Maurice Floyd	FL
Masonic Kilties of New Jersey	NC	William A. Fyfe	TX
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Herbert H. Sherry *	HI	Walter J. Gaylord, Sr. *	WA
by his Children and Grandchildren	FL	by Manasseh Lodge No. 182	VA

Platinum Presidential Members

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Bluffton Lodge No. 145	IN	Harry B. Green	DC
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Harold E. Gay	VA	Olle E. Haggstrom	CT
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Michael A. Sutton	NJ	Robert K. Johnston	MA
George & Markella Walrath	NJ	Alfred L. Jones	VT
	NJ	J. Douglas Jones **	VA
	ID	by James S. Jones, III	
	CA	R. Timothy Jones **	VA
		by James S. Jones, III	
		James S. Jones, IV **	VA
		by James S. Jones, III	

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W. Eugene Bondurant	SC	Barney McCoy Landry	OH
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Ernest A. Phillips	CT	Earl T. Myers, Jr.	PA
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Leonard Y. Safrin, Jr.	NC	Knight Masons of USA	
John F. Stucke	MA	Timothy T. Palmer	MD
James D. Westfall	CA	James W. Parker	VT
Ray & Joyce Whitaker	CA	Philip Pendleton	TN
Robert Wiseman	AK	David M. Petto	MA
		Lawrence A. Phillips	MD

Silver Craftsman Members

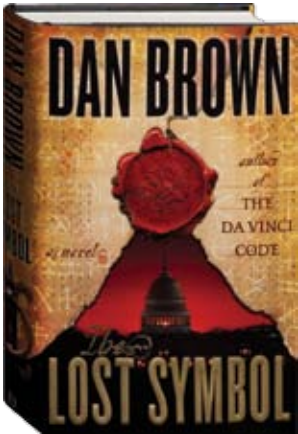
AASR of Maryland	MD	George L. Poyer	FL
Roger D. Ainley	TN	Earl E. Ramsey	TN
Ronald E. & Janet M. Allen	CA	Fred Reichert	IL
Ralph P. Appleby	TN	Frank E. Rich	CT
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Donald E. Beese	MN	William C. Robinson	VA
Lester D. Beisner	IL	Allen G. Russell	DE
Tim Bodey	TN	Charles W. Saarela	FL
Bart J. Bodnar	CA	Barbara Schierenberg	CA
Robert M. Bohn	CO	Michael & Priscilla Sellick	CA
Frank Booth	CT	Warren S. Simpson	ME
George O. Braatz	OH	Leon H. Small	MA
Robert J. Cameron	VA	John B. Smith	VA
Frank S. Chalmers	DC	Theodore Smith	MA
Russell T. Clements	VA	Fred Sorsabal	CA
Frederick A. Coleman	TN	Rex Stiffler	IN
William R. Conary, Jr.	MA	Gary L. Summers	IL
Paul W. Corbett, Jr.	NH		

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The Memorial And *The Lost Symbol*

By Mark A. Tabbert

With over six million books published and over three million sold shortly after its launch on September 15, Dan Brown's new novel, *The Lost Symbol*, promises to be a worldwide blockbuster. Within its 509 pages, the Memorial gets a nice mention. Chapter 78 begins:



"The George Washington Masonic Memorial stands atop Shuter's Hill in Alexandria, Virginia. Built in three distinctive tiers of increasing architectural complexity from bottom to top—Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian—the structure stands as a physical symbol of man's intellectual ascent..."

Inside the spectacular marble foyer sits a massive bronze of George Washington in full Masonic regalia, along with the actual trowel he used to lay the cornerstone of the Capitol Building..."

The Memorial is observed by CIA agents as they fly by in a helicopter. They are pursuing the hero Robert Langdon and his partner Catherine Solomon who are traveling to the Memorial by subway. Expecting to intercept Langdon at King Street Station (right across the street from the Memorial) the agents land the helicopter on the Memorial's front lawn and run across Callahan Drive to the station.

Back in the real world, the Memorial began getting media attention three months before the book's arrival. In early June, a Boston magazine writer contacted the Memorial and subsequently published an article titled "The Dan Brown Code." In August, a Hollywood production company filmed at the Memorial. The piece aired on the Discovery Channel on October 25. Reporters from *The Washington Post* toured the Memorial and did a Sunday feature on various local Masonic sites that were likely to be mentioned in the novel.

Dan Brown, on the other hand, personally recommended that *Today Show* co-host Matt Lauer visit the Memorial. As part of his "Where in the World is Matt" series, he was filmed in front of the Ark of the Covenant display in the Royal Arch Chapter Room. This segment was aired on the day before the book was released.

Later in the week, I was interviewed in the Royal Arch Room for the *NBC Nightly News*. A third NBC crew returned two weeks later to film a stonemason carving a Masonic emblem in a stone pyramid. This segment was edited into *Dateline's* feature on *The Lost Symbol* that aired October 16.

For two weeks after the book's release, journalists contacted the Memorial nearly every day. A British reporter visited from New York. Her story first appeared in the UK

before being printed into other languages. A Masonic brother sent a link appearing in a Swedish online newspaper. An Indian reporter e-mailed questions and our responses appeared in *Open* magazine, published in New Delhi.

By October 15, one fast month after the book's release, the press had gone on to other stories, new books and the coming holiday season's new products. We have happily seen a marked increase in visitors and hits on our website, but we are just as grateful to return to our mission. However, we'll be anticipating a visit from the film crew that is bound to make *The Lost Symbol* into a blockbuster movie!

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

Website Answers Questions



Although Dan Brown's treatment of Freemasonry is overwhelmingly positive in *The Lost Symbol*, he does take artistic license for the sake of his plot. Unfortunately, readers are not always aware of the difference between fact and fiction. A website was created as a joint project of the Memorial, the Masonic Society and the Masonic Service Association of North America to help provide factual information. Visit the site at www.freemasonlostsymbol.com.

Contributors continued from page 6

Frank J. Tansley	FL	Lester & Jenny Kell *	NY
Robert Thornborough	NJ	by Arthur W. Pierson	
Herbert A. Turner, Sr.	VA	James A. Kirk *	OR
Noah Vaught	VA	by Joan P. Kirk	
George E. Wall	NH	Newton C. Landis *	PA
James B. Wall	KY	by Red Cross of Constantine	
Charlie Ward	WA	Nana Bhai, Nanu, Dada	VA
Washington Lodge No. 3	VT	Bhai, Dadu and Sitto *	
Bruce Widger	NY	by Rumi & Cindy	
Wisdom Lodge No. 202	CA	W. Mason Payne *	VA
William R. Wuostenfeld	IN	by his Children	
Roy E. Yoerger	FL	Elizabeth Sutton Payson *	VA
LeRoy Zimmerman	IL	by her Family	
		Edward Payson, Jr. *	VA

Bench Dedications

Richard Burditt Baldwin *	VA	O. D. "Russ" Russell *	CA
by his Officers and		by Tehama Lodge No. 3	
Department Commanders,		Virgil R. Shoemaker	CA
Grand Encampment of		Supreme Council,	OH
Knights Templar USA		Grottoes of NA	
		Byron F. Van Hollen *	WI

Tree Dedications

100th Anniversary of	VA	Earl Milton Voorhees *	CA
the GWMM **		by Margaret Voorhees	
by the Masons of Nevada		and Family	
Richard Burditt Baldwin *	VA	Anthony P. Wordlow **	CA
by his Officers and		by Henry & Maxine Clayton	
Department Commanders,		Anthony P. Wordlow **	CA
Grand Encampment of		by Tehama Lodge No. 3	
Knights Templar USA		Marilyn Wordlow **	CA
(3 trees)		by Haworth "Al" Clover	
C. E. Boswell	AR		

* In Memory of ** In Honor of

OES Celebrates Centennial At Memorial

In September, the Order of the Eastern Star celebrated the 100th Anniversary of its International Headquarters building, the beautiful Belmont Mansion in Washington, D.C. Members from all across the country traveled to the nation's capital to commemorate the occasion with a weekend of exciting events including a dinner and concert at the George Washington Masonic Memorial with hundreds in attendance. In her welcoming remarks, RW Grand Secretary Alma Lynn Bane thanked the Memorial for its help and



RW Grand Secretary Alma Lynn Bane at the podium recognizes Executive Director George Seghers (second from left) along with MW Grand Matron Barbara Benton and MW Grand Patron William Owen. (Photograph by Michael H. Feit)

cooperation and recognized Executive Director George Seghers with a special certificate of appreciation presented by MW Grand Matron Barbara Benton and MW Grand Patron William Owen. The Belmont Mansion was the former home of Washington socialites Perry and Jessie Belmont at the turn of the century. In 1935, Mr. Belmont, a Mason, sold it to the General Grand Chapter. Several Tiffany vases, oil paintings, Louis XIV and XV furniture, china and oriental rugs were included with the purchase and are still on display for members and guests to enjoy.



1910 - 2010
100th Anniversary

Association Officers

Elected February 15, 2009

Anthony P. Wordlow	President
Roger A. Simmons	First Vice President
Donald G. Hicks, Jr.	Second Vice President
Ridgely H. Gilmour	Third Vice President
George D. Seghers*	Executive Director
Donald M. Robey	Exec. Sec.-Treas. Emeritus

Board of Directors

Term expires February 22, 2010

Robert P. Conley*	Michigan
Frank R. Dunaway, Jr.*	A-W Lodge No. 22
Reese L. Harrison, Jr.	Texas
John L. Palmer	Tennessee
Michael A. Sutton	Idaho
Anthony P. Wordlow*	California

Term expires February 22, 2011

Neal I. Bidnick	New York
Ridgely H. Gilmour*	Utah
J. B. Van Hollen	Wisconsin
James G. Kelley	Nevada
John S. Ryan	New Jersey
Roger A. Simmons*	Alabama
Claire V. Tusch	Maine

Term expires February 22, 2012

Jimmie A. Berkey	New Mexico
George O. Braatz	Ohio
Philip G. Buchholz	Wyoming
Donald G. Hicks, Jr.*	Massachusetts
Thomas C. Jackson	Minnesota
Dennis D. Johnson	Oregon
Calvin K. Keyler	Vermont
J. F. "Jeff" Webb	Louisiana

**Member of Executive Committee*

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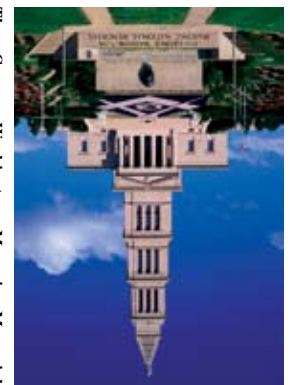
Missouri Lodge Takes Washington To School



Past Master of Sedalia Lodge No. 236 H.H. Luetjen and his wife present a portrait of George Washington to Robert Abney, Student Council President, and Terry Lorenz, Principal, at Smithton High School. The portrait will be located in the main entrance foyer. Mr. Luetjen is an alumnus of the school.

Sedalia Lodge No. 236 presented portraits of George Washington to two high schools on October 3, 2009, one during the dedication ceremony of the new Smith-Cotton High School in Sedalia, Missouri and the other to Smithton High School in Smithton, Missouri. A joint project of Mount Vernon and the Memorial, the goal is to distribute portraits of Washington to every school in America. The Memorial recognizes and thanks Sedalia Lodge No. 236 for participating in this worthy program.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial
101 Callahan Drive Alexandria, VA 22301-2751



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• Holiday Ornaments

The Messenger